

PHOTO COURTESY OF BLOOMINGDALE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



Without a doubt the Bloomingdale Senior High School Calendar Couples for 1991 have been selected. Hosted by the FHA/LEADERSHIP CLUB and Vocational Home Economics Department, this annual event provides a service to the school as well as a money-making project. Pictured here is the couple who will appear on the cover of the 1991 calendar: Melissa Rodrigues and Scott Edgin (Bloomingdale Resident). A photo of all the couples, plus a complete listing of the winners, appears on page 15.

## Plumbing leaks plague Bloomingdale

by Art Bleau

Costly leaks in water pipes are dampening the spirits of many Bloomingdale residents who are looking for answers to their plumbing woes.

According to a county official and a local plumber, the pin-hole leaks being experienced by many residents were caused by the rapid population growth of the 1980's in Brandon as well as the drought plaguing the area for many years.

Those two factors forced the county to divert minimally-treated water from 58 area wells into a distributive system, which required 100 pounds of water pressure per square inch to supply homes with sufficient pressure.

Mike McWeeny, director of the Hillsborough County Public Utilities Department, said the situation was corrected about 18 months ago when the Lithia Well Field became operational, providing residents with much less "aggressive" water, meaning water with a much lower mineral content that will be much less likely to damage copper water pipes.

Three Bloomingdale residents contacted the *Gazette* recently complaining about a rash of recent water leaks. Julio Alvarado of Sandy Creek Drive in West said

he has had five leaks in four years at his six-year-old home.

"I knew the water was bad down here [in Florida] but it can't be that bad," he said.

Alvarado said he has broken through the floor twice on the second level of his home as well as having a leak in the main pipe coming into his home.

"I'm from New York where I lived in a 100-year-old house and I never had these kinds of problems," he explained.

Besides the pin-hole leaks, Alvarado said he has also had to replace the element in his water heater since moving into the house.

Roy Penlin of Briarlake in East said he has had five leaks in his plumbing in the eight years he has lived in his 11-year-old house. He said he has been told by plumbers that the copper used in the home was the lowest grade that qualified under the county building code.

Penlin said four of the five leaks he has experienced have been inside the concrete slab and that three of the leaks have been in the past year.

Two of his neighbors, the disgruntled

PLUMBING see page 4

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### Section B

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All Area CLASSIFIEDS

## We want to print your past Holiday photos on the December front page

Each year, *The Bloomingdale Gazette* carries a holiday theme on the front page as an alternative to news. This year we would like to print four photos from a Bloomingdale Resident's past Christmas or a special family gathering that occurred at this time of year. The best four photos will become our front page for the December 15 issue. Any photo which is lent to us will be returned in perfect, untouched condition. The photo can be from any past December holiday no matter how long ago—black & white or in color, any size. We are unable to use slides.

To submit your photo, we suggest that you hand carry your photo to our office in Bloomingdale Square, or call our office at 681-2051 to make arrangements for one of our staff members to receive your photo in the evening or on a weekend. If you are secure with the postal service, you are welcome to mail it to us at 857 E. Bloomingdale Ave., Brandon 33511.

Photos will be judged on clarity/printability, family togetherness, originality, and how well it depicts the holiday spirit. You may enter as many as you wish, but only one photo can be a finalist from any one household. Professionals and amateurs alike are invited to enter. The deadline for entering your photo is Tuesday, November 27 at 2:30 p.m.

### Have you sent in your survey & dues?

The annual statement of dues for the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association was delivered on the door of every home in the Bloomingdale Subdivision in a plastic door knob bag over the weekend of October 20/21. If you did not receive your statement, or you lost it, or you need another one,

please call our offices at 681-2051 and leave a message.

The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association wishes to thank all of those residents who have responded so far and would like to encourage those who haven't to do so.

- Deadline for submission is November 27 at 2:30 p.m.
- Mail, carry, or call at 857 E. Bloomingdale Ave., Brandon 33511 (next door to Publix) 681-2051
- Anyone can enter
- Black & white or color — any size
- Judged on clarity/printability, family togetherness, originality and depiction of holiday spirit

The Bloomingdale Gazette has a new look

Hope you like it!

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PERMIT NO. 85

857 East Bloomingdale Avenue  
 Bloomingdale Square  
 Brandon, FL 33511  
 Telephone (813) 681-2051  
 Hours of Operation:  
 Monday-Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

**Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc.**  
 Publisher

**Susan L. DeLuca**  
 President/General Manager

**Pamela Liguori**  
 Secretary/Treasurer

**Bonnie R. Abrado**  
 Assistant Manager

**Editorial**

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**Circulation**

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**Legal Counsel**

**Services provided by:** John P. Holsonback, attorney; Melendi, Gibbons, and Holsonback, P.A., 228-0853.

**Statement of Operation**

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

The Bloomingdale Gazette is published monthly with occasional special editions and is delivered in door-knob bags directly on the door of every residence within the area governed by the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc., plus other selected areas at no charge. It is also mailed to approximately 300 recipients including public officials. Circulation varies from 4,400 to 4,600; actual figures are available upon request.

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

The entire content of *The Bloomingdale Gazette* is the property of The Bloomingdale Gazette, Inc., and is not reproducible in any manner without express written permission from the President of The Bloomingdale Gazette, Inc.

Services provided by The Bloomingdale Gazette, Inc., include: Typesetting, typing services, advertisement design and layout for other publications, display advertising, classified advertising, display classified advertising, business card advertisements, and delivery of inserts and circulars. Restrictions apply and discounts are available for Participating Members of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, advertising agencies, and other non-profit organizations. Rate cards are available upon request.

# Community Telephone Directory

**BLOOMINGDALE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.**

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

- President** David Lees 681-3999  
**Vice President** Russ Lembke 689-2513  
**Treasurer** Carl Stickeler 689-5556  
**Secretary** Joyce Morris 689-7019  
**Directors**  
 Thomas Brophy 684-0865  
 Susan DeLuca 689-4972  
 Carmen Forestier 685-4376  
 Dave Fraser unlisted  
 Bill MacKinnon 684-8524  
 Bill Povilus 654-4917  
 Ron Schall 653-2170  
 Chuck Walsh 689-9688

**BLOOMINGDALE SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT**

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

- President** Peter Aluotto 685-0727  
**Vice President** Joe Liguori 681-9655  
**Treasurer** Pam Mabe 684-8924  
**Recording Secretary** Ron Delavan 685-1711  
**Corresponding Secretary** Wingfield Hughes 685-1946

**Trustee--Errol Whitfield** 681-7462  
**Trustee--Position Available**

**PROPERTY MANAGER**

Bobby Cole 685-2239

**BLOOMINGDALE MOBILE WATCH**

857 E. Bloomingdale Ave.  
 Brandon, FL 33511

**Core Committee**

- Coordinator** Hal Labkon 681-6853  
**Secretary/Scheduler** LaWayne Wyatt 685-2072  
**BHA Liaison** Chuck Walsh 689-9688  
**Treasurer** John Britton 681-1553  
**Equipment Mgr** Steve Schneider 685-8378  
**Distribution** Ed Holzman 681-2548  
 David Guy 681-5943  
 Chris Pheils 681-9026  
 Paul Kelmer 681-9701  
**Technical Advisor--** Paul Truesdell 653-1725

**BLOOMINGDALE OAKS SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT**

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

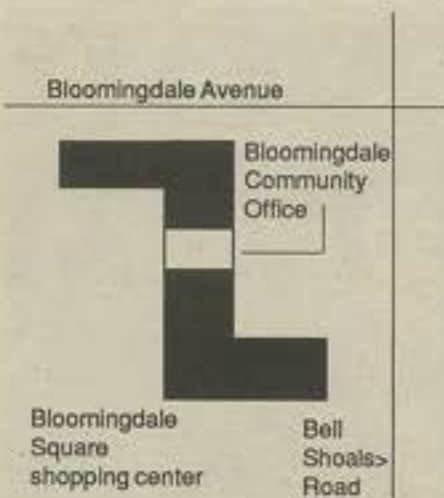
**President** Linda Hagan 681-6223

**BLOOMINGDALE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION**

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

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

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



Office space donated by the Paragon Group

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

## IMPORTANT COMMUNITY MEETINGS

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

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

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

**BHA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
 Occur five times per year in September, November (elections), January, March, and May. The next meeting will be November 15 which is the annual meeting and elections.

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

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

### Bloomingdale's "Everything you ever needed" Form

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_

**I/We would like:**

- To become a Participating Member in the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association: Dues \$10/year; Nov. 1 to Oct. 31.
- To make a donation to:  
 \_\_\_\_\_ BHA Legal Fund  
 \_\_\_\_\_ BHA Scholarship Fund  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- To join \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Watch \_\_\_\_\_ Neighborhood Watch.
- To be placed on waiting lists or volunteer lists for:  
 \_\_\_\_\_ BHA Board of Directors  
 \_\_\_\_\_ STD Board of Trustees  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Committees as needed
- To report a code violation such as unmowed lots, junk cars, safety hazards, etc. (Your name remains confidential, but MUST be on this form at the top.) Call the office if the problem is not cleared up within 2 weeks of sending in this notice.

Location & nature of suspected violation--  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

- To be contacted regarding advertising in *The Bloomingdale Gazette*.
- To make a comment about:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED \$** \_\_\_\_\_

# CAST YOUR VOTE ON NOVEMBER 15

The annual meeting of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc., will be November 15, at the Bloomingdale Community Office, at 857 E. Bloomingdale Ave., beginning at 7:30 p.m. with a quorum established at 8 p.m. The purpose of this meeting is the annual election of 1/2 of the Board of Directors for whom you may vote from the ballot below.

## BHA By-Laws regarding the annual meeting and elections

Section 1.1 ANNUAL MEETING. The annual meeting of the Members of this corporation, hereinafter "Corporation," shall be in November of each year or at such other time and place designated by the Board of Directors of the Corporation. Business transacted at the annual meeting shall include the election of Directors of the Corporation.

Section 1.8 MEMBERS AND VOTING. The Members of the corporation shall be individuals who reside in the subsections of Bloomingdale subdivision known as Bloomingdale East Bloomingdale West, Bloomingdale Estates, Bloomingdale Oaks and Bloomingdale South, all contained in Hillsborough County, Florida, or as more accurately described on a map on display at the corporate office. Those Members who pay their annual dues shall be entitled to one vote per adult member of their household, with a maximum of two votes per household, for each matter submitted to a vote at a meeting of Members.

Section 1.10. PROXIES. Members may vote either in person or by proxy executed in writing by the Member or his duly authorized attorney-in-fact. The proxy will state clearly its purpose and intent and may only be issued in writing by the Board of Directors for signature and execution by the Members.

Section 1.14 VOTING BY BALLOT. Voting on any question or in any election may be by voice vote unless the Board of Directors directs or the presiding Officers order or any Member demands that voting be by ballot. In the event voting is by ballot, ballots may only be accepted on the day of the meeting predicated upon: (1) such ballots are received prior to the conclusion of the vote taken during the Membership meeting as directed by the President; and (2) proof of residency and payment of dues is provided.



**JERRY HOFFMAN**

Jerry Hoffman has lived in Bloomingdale for six years, having been impressed by the family atmosphere and good schools. He also saw a lot of respect for property in this growth-oriented area. He liked the fact that Bloomingdale is self-sufficient yet close to Tampa.

He would like to see the development of county parks department sponsored activities in the two Bloomingdale parks. Jerry is a major developer/builder in the area.

Residing in Bloomingdale Oaks, Jerry lives with his wife Loretta and three children--Jennifer, age 9; Joe, age 6; and Katy 2.



**TONY INTERDONATO**

Tony Interdonato was attracted to Bloomingdale by the family atmosphere he noticed as well as the younger, more professional people who are residents of the area. His family moved to East in 1988.

Tony enjoys community activities which allows people to get to know one another. Both the picnic and flea market made him feel a part of the community and he would like to see more such activities in the future which would allow families to meet families.

Currently, he is the president of the Tampa Advisory Group, an investment company, and lives with his wife Melinda and sons Anthony, age 5, and Christopher, age 2.



**RUSS LEMBKE**

Russ Lembke is currently Vice President for the BHA Board. He has been a resident of Bloomingdale for about 2 1/2 years after realizing that Bloomingdale home prices offered more for the money compared to some other areas. He and his family were also impressed with the well-kept homes.

Russ was pleased to see the installation of sidewalks throughout the area and continues to be happy with the general maintenance of the area.

He is a medical administrator at McDill AFB Hospital.

His wife is Chris and they have three children: Sherill, Dana, and Eric.



**GRACE LEWIS**

Grace Lewis has lived in Bloomingdale East since July, 1987. She found that the Bloomingdale area was well-maintained with good property values and an excellent school system.

Grace would like to see the security issue finally resolved one way or the other. She would also like to see an accounting of how the BHA spends its money and a better sense of direction for the board as a whole.

As a CPA, she is not only the manager of an accounting group in Tampa, but also has an accounting business at her home. She is married to Al and has two children, Kristen, age 5, and Alex who is 19 months old.



**BILL POVILUS**

Bill Povilus is a current board member who has been a resident of East for three years. He chose to live in Bloomingdale because of the excellent schools and overall quality of life. He would like to see increased security, road improvements, and the general maintenance of property values.

Bill is a retired Air Force colonel and presently is a pilot for Eastern Airlines. He has a wife named Pris and three sons--Eric at Arizona State, Jeff at Syracuse University, and Mike, at Bloomingdale High.



**LAWRENCE RIVERS**

Lawrence Rivers moved to Bloomingdale East last May and is residing in the Erin Arbor area.

He moved here due to the schools, country atmosphere, and proximity to Tampa. He also found the weather made it ideal for retirement.

Lawrence would like to see road improvements made to remedy the 30-minute drive sometimes necessary to reach Highway 301.

He is retired from AT&T and lives with his wife Patricia. They have a daughter named Laura.



**RON SCHALL**

Ron Schall has been a resident of Bloomingdale for two years, having moved to Erin Arbor because of the wooded environment he found there.

He would like to see Bloomingdale continue to build and grow.

He would also like to see more community involvement of a greater number of people, rather than continual involvement of just a few people.

Ron is an account manager for Jujitsu. His wife's name is Beth and his 15 year old son is named Ronnie.

### How to Vote Cast your ballot by...

1. Checking off five (5) of the following nominations.
2. Signing the ballot.
3. Placing your ballot in the ballot box in the Bloomingdale Community Office on November 15 ONLY from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

OR

Placing your ballot in the ballot box during the General Membership Meeting on November 15 no later than 8:30 p.m.

OR

By giving this signed ballot to a member of the Board of Directors and signing it over as a proxy for the Board Member to vote your ballot.

Extra ballots are available at the poll.

- Jerry Hoffman
- Tony Interdonato
- Russ Lembke
- Grace Lewis
- Bill Povilus
- Lawrence Rivers
- Ron Schall

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Print your name \_\_\_\_\_

home owner said, have been forced to spend nearly \$2,000 to have their homes replumbed because of continual leaks.

Ginger Hays of Orange Point Road in East complained about four leaks at her 10-year-old home, including three in the past two weeks. She, too, was looking for answers as to why she was plagued with the expensive repairs.

Bill Grable, owner of Grable Plumbing Co., echoed the statements of McWeeny about the basic problems for the leaks. The plumber told the Gazette that the combination of minerals in the water from the earlier system formed "electrolites" which "tends to eat up the pipes."

Grable said many of the wells used in the early 80's were "very aggressive" meaning they were heavily laden with the minerals that attacked the pipes.

Grable emphasized that at no time was the water ever unsafe to drink.

"Biological and chemical pollutants have never been a problem," he said, adding that the combination of the minerals and Ph level were the real culprits that destroyed the pipes.

"The copper pipes in Bloomingdale have literally been put through h---" over the past 15 years, because of the pressure and minerals eating away at them, Grable said.

After working on numerous homes in Bloomingdale, the Brandon native said he has a large pile of damaged copper pipe in his shop.

"About half of it is aggressive in nature and the rest is caused by normal things," such as lightning and construction damage, he said.

Another "real serious problem" Grable pointed to in area homes is lead in the pipes that finds its way into the water some people use for drinking.

He said the lead was discovered in the

water and prompted the county to issue a cautionary instruction to all its customers advising them to flush the cold water pipes each morning for about three minutes before drinking any water from the tap.

Grable said he expects a shipment very soon of "fairly inexpensive" filters that mount under the sink which would eliminate any lead in the water.

Both Grable and McWeeny said the lead comes from lead solder that was used in plumbing until a few years ago when it was outlawed by the Environmental Protection Agency and replaced by silver solder.

For relief from both the lead and the leaking problems, Grable said "the newer the house the better" because it would not have had as long a time for the minerals to have been eating away at the pipes.

Both experts also said they had no explanation why one older house might be experiencing leaks while another equally old home might not have a problem for many years longer.

"Copper normally is expected to last about 20 years," Grable said, but he would expect only about 10 years out of the pipes exposed long-term to the aggressive water.

"There was no real wrongdoing. It was

just growing pains," Grable said.

McWeeny said he has not heard of any reports of lead poisoning attributed to the lead solder in the pipes but his agency issued the cautionary directive after the lead level was detected in the water.

He emphasized that the lead solder was used in the individual plumbing in the homes and not in the plumbing from the home to the wells.

"The lead has never exceeded the contaminant level allowed by the EPA," he pointed out. His agency periodically moni-

tors the water for lead and copper and hundreds of other compounds to insure they meet the EPA guidelines.

Unfortunately, no one could offer a solution to the problems facing residents who are experiencing the pin-hole leaks.

Although those with newer homes may be spared the expensive prospects of repairs now, Grable warns "continual development will cause the problem to reoccur" as the demand for water outstrips the production level of the existing system and it becomes more and more aggressive again.



JACKIE TUCKREY

These file photos taken three years ago are still indicative of the types of problems residents are facing in homes over 18 months old. On the left, leaks are developing in walls and necessitating cutting holes plus, if they are upstairs, going through ceilings in some cases. On the right, many homeowners have complained about having to go through the cement to repair pipes.



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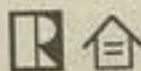
&

Mary Ann Schmidt

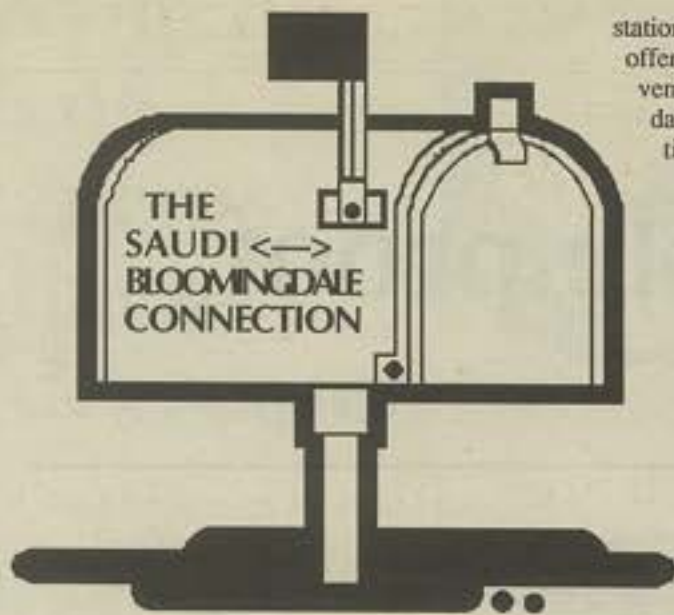
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If your property is currently listed with a real estate broker, please disregard this offer. It is not our intention to solicit the offerings of other real estate brokers. We cooperate with them fully.



stationed in the Middle East. This offer is only good through November 16 which is the cut-off date for holiday parcels destined for Saudi Arabia as designated by the U.S. Post Office.

In respect for the Islamic Saudi government, U.S. Post Office officials have requested that liquor, food, pork, photographs with nudity, and Christian and Jewish items not be sent to the Middle East. Aerosol products and items that will melt in the heat should also be avoided.

### Crisis Centers help to deal with the absence of a parent

To a young child, having a parent gone for an extended length of time not only brings on questions of where and when, but also a type of grief evolves for the absent parent. This grieving process can sometimes be more effectively dealt with through crisis centers. To help those children in public schools going through this process, many of the local schools are sending counselors to special sessions to help children cope. Ask at your public school for assistance with this program.

### Are you wearing your red, white & blue ribbon?

If not, stop by the Bloomingdale Community Office and pick one up. They are being provided free of charge by the Desert Shield Family Support Group.

### Support group meetings

The Brandon Desert Shield Support Group usually meets on a Saturday night with the next meeting scheduled for November 10. For more information, call 684-4490.

### Next Month...

Islamic Customs & Culture

### The Bloomingdale Gazette to be received in the desert

The Bloomingdale Gazette, in conjunction with the local support group known as the Desert Shield, has made arrangements for this newspaper to be received by those Bloomingdale Residents who are stationed in the Middle East. Therefore, if you have a greeting, some information, an announcement or something you would like to say to someone stationed overseas, submit it to this newspaper (857 E. Bloomingdale Ave., Brandon 33511) no later than the 20th of the month for the next month's issue.

### Bloomingdale Presbyterian Church provides aid

Reid Isenhart, pastor for Bloomingdale Presbyterian Church has offered to allow the church building to be used at no charge for meetings of the military support groups. According to Isenhart, the church is also offering free counseling to anyone in need. For more information call 654-3699.

### Operation Desert Santa

Beginning immediately, Mail Boxes, Etc., in Bloomingdale Square will offer free postage on the first two pounds of holiday packages designated for military personnel

# Bloomingdale girls softball take 2nd place for the State

by Tom Peterson

The Bloomingdale Little League takes pleasure in acknowledging the accomplishments of their 1990 Little League major and senior girls (fastpitch softball) allstar teams.

The competition, which began in late June, was a part of the annual little league world series. The double elimination tournaments are divided into district, sectional, state and regional levels.

The major girls (ages 11 & 12) proceeded undefeated through both the district and sectional tournaments. They took the state runner-up position, however, when the defending world champions from Naples stopped them in Ft. Myers. (Bloomingdale played Naples to a scoreless tie through six regulation innings in their second meeting; but Naples managed to win in extra innings!) Naples went on to an easy win in the regional competition and placed third in the world series in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

The senior girls (ages 13 through 15) earned the district championship and were runners-up in the sectional championship. The nucleus of the senior team played on Bloomingdale's 1989 major girls allstar team which also placed second -- to Naples

-- in state competition.

Bloomingdale's minor girls allstar softball team -- and their minor boys allstar baseball team -- (ages 9 & 10) each won the district championship in a separate (district only) tournament.

Manager Eric Strutz  
Coach Pam Buchanan

Allstar Roster  
Erin Biada  
Heather Bowers  
Heidi Buchanan  
Lindsay Fatta  
Kelly Hagee  
Deborah Hughes  
Mary Anne McDowell  
Alissa Montgomery  
Tanya Miguel  
Rachel Peterson  
Kelly Sambuchi  
Erica Strutz  
Melissa Thompson  
Layne Walters

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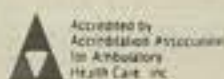
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206 E. Brandon Blvd.  
(Hwy. 60, east of Parsons)  
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# Reader asks for tangible proof of the BHA's accomplishments

**C**oncerning last month's editorial (September, 1990, President's Point of View) in reference to the apathy shown by Bloomingdale homeowners toward civic responsibility with respect to collective security, I take umbrage as a Bloomingdale Oaks resident to the criticism for the following reason:

I, for one, would gladly pitch in to the community if I felt I was getting value for money from the homeowner's association. The association has shown little or no interest in pursuing deed restriction violations unless the violation contravenes a county ordinance. I can enumerate several examples of satellite dishes, boats in the driveway, untended lawns and pools in my subdivision and have yet to see any action taken on the part of the Association to enforce rectification of these problems. The standard answer is that it costs unbudgeted legal fees. Failure to rectify these problems has a detrimental effect on house prices.

I am confident more people would take an active interest in community problems such as crime prevention if there was more visible evidence of tangible achievements by the Association.

Michael Reedy

Dear Mr. Reedy:

Because I have been on the Board of Directors for seven years this January, I have chosen to answer your letter myself.

Sometimes when I look around my home and think about how I have spent my entire day cleaning and picking up after three children, I feel as if I cannot see anything tangible from all the work that was done for over 16 hours. And yet I know that I worked without stopping very, very hard.

The same is true of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association; sometimes it is difficult to see the results of the many who spend unlimited hours, not for themselves, but unselfishly for the entire community. But their families can tell you of the sacrifices.

Some of the results you can see, but you have to look. So let's take a tour, shall we?

When the local residents walk to Bloomingdale Square shopping center, they walk on the sidewalk on Bell Shoals that was donated by Paragon. They donated this \$10,000 sidewalk because the BHA asked for it.

As you get to the corner of Bell Shoals and Bloomingdale Avenue in your car, you stop at the stop light that

the BHA had put in for your safety. The county wanted fatalities first before it would install one--the BHA found that unacceptable.

While you drive your car on Bell Shoals Road you'll find the speed limit is 45 mph. We had that changed--it used to be 55 mph. And that pedestrian cross walk? We put that in, too.

When you walk or drive into Bloomingdale Square, you are there, again, at the courtesy of the BHA. Bloomingdale Square shopping center was not slated to be built until 1990-1992. The then developer came to the BHA and asked us to help him switch the zoning with another parcel. Where the big wall is now was to have been an office complex built four years ago. The BHA worked with the developer and the BOCC and we got the timing and zoning switched so you can now go shopping in your community.

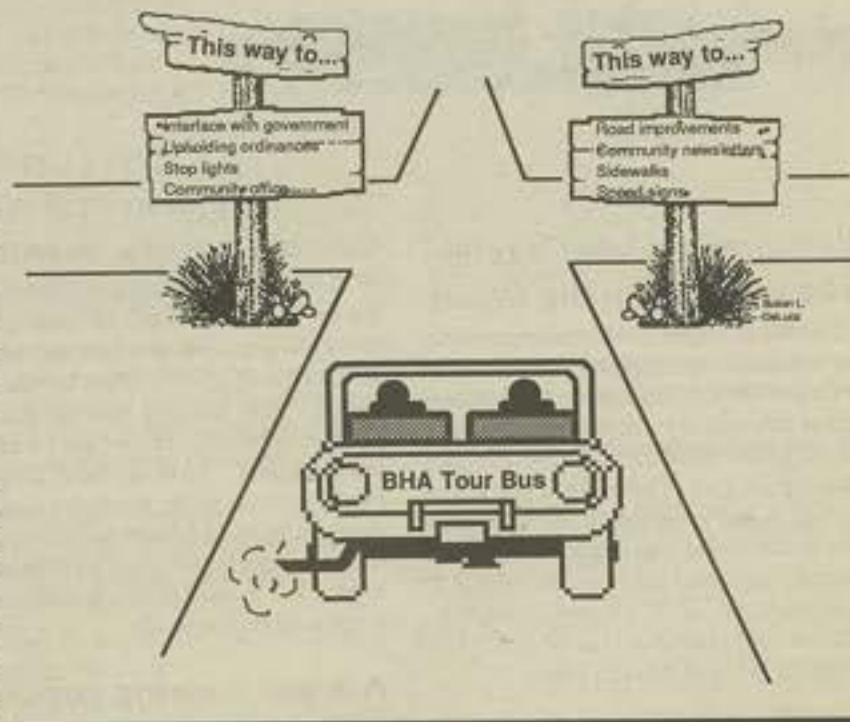
Did you happen to notice at the corner by the TECO substation that the "used car lot" is gone? That's because the BHA asked TECO to put up the no trespassing signs so that the Sheriff's Deputies can ticket any vehicles parked at the corner.

And have you noticed that there are street lights? That's because the BHA worked with the county lighting department to create one lighting district so that we can all benefit rather than small pockets of sporadic light.

Sidewalks, stop lights, crosswalks, signage, speed limits and a shopping center and that's only on one street. Rather tangible--wouldn't you say? Let's see what else the BHA has done. Let's go into the shopping center to the Bloomingdale Community Office...

Everyday the Community Office handles five hours of non-stop telephone calls and visits from Bloomingdale Residents both old and new. The Bloomingdale Community Office, although the space is rent free, is paid for by a combination of the BHA and the Gazette. The maintenance, electricity, telephones, security, insurance, and personnel costs are about \$1,000 per month. What do you get for that? A centralized place for information, a crisis center, a newspaper office, a meeting place, and much more.

Each day, the Community Office hosts residents with problems such as their builder who won't honor their



warranties (or are slow to honor them); finds lost keys, dogs, cats, and kids; handles hundreds of complaints regarding code violations; teaches new residents all about Bloomingdale and spends time with them so they feel welcome; coordinates volunteers and their activities; consoles residents when they lose a loved one or their home; and in and amongst all this, we even put out a monthly newspaper.

Most of those items are intangible to you, but very tangible to the individual people whom the BHA has helped.

Let's drive back into the subdivision, into Bloomingdale Oaks to be exact. Open your windows and take a deep breath. You can do that now in your area. Thanks to the volunteers in Oaks, like Lil and Ed Coughlin along with the BHA, the Bloomingdale wastewater treatment plant was kept under control and now is history. The old site of the plant may become a park courtesy of the work the BHA is currently doing with the county's parks department. And speaking of Bloomingdale Oaks, did you know that your friends and neighbors petitioned us to become a part of the BHA five years ago? They felt it was worth their time and energy--especially when they brought a petition to the BHA with over 80% of your area in favor. Needless to say, you were annexed in and have been an integral part of the BHA ever since.

Across the street from Bloomingdale Oaks is Bloomingdale High School. Did you know that in the last four years the BHA has been able to help eight high school seniors with their college tuition costs? They were awarded over \$4,000 total cash gifts to help them with their education.

That's the hard part, the easy part is donating the window of our office each year so they can paint their homecoming pictures. This year we were blessed with the creative efforts of the honor society. By the way, after the students are done, members of the BHA (this year Hal Labkon and others) judge the windows and even present the ribbons at their homecoming pep rally.

(As a side note, this tour you are taking was also arranged for the Board of County Commissioners and for the County Administrator and his staff. They found this in-person tour, conducted by the BHA Board, to be highly informative and our communications with the county since then have been extremely good.)

Now we come around the corner to Alafia Elementary school. Seen the PTA newsletter lately? We typeset their newsletter for free for them, just like we do for the cub scouts and other groups in the area. Have you noticed the Mobile Watch car that keeps an eye on the students in the morning as they walk to Alafia? The Mobile Watch is one of the many parts of the BHA. They have over 200 volunteers on their roles and are an extremely well-organized volunteer mobile patrol. Their funding comes from the BHA as well as from sponsors derived from the Gazette. They are so good, that the Sheriff's Department uses them as the model for the creation of other Mobile Watches in Hillsborough County.

As you drive your car around East, look down at the street and you'll see two things: lines and markers.

# Reader speaks his mind about our local politicians

As I write this letter (October 26), I'm witnessing one of the most cataclysmic fiascos in our great nation's history -- the inability of our elected senators and congressmen to develop a satisfactory budget and deliver it to the president for signature. I'm sure many of us will let our elected officials know how dissatisfied we are with their performance (or lack of it) next November 6.

As a Bloomingdale homeowner, I'm especially interested in whether state and local elected officials support the interests of Bloomingdale residents. For example, how many residents know that Florida State Senator Malcolm Beard has been their representative to the state senate for ten years and is currently serving as chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee. Yet, Brandon (especially Bloomingdale) has some of the most congested, narrow, and dangerous roads in the state. How many residents know James "Big Jim" Selvey, our representative to the Hillsborough County Commission, narrowly escaped prosecution recently during an ethics investigation into his questionable business practices with a land owner in southeastern Hillsborough County. Ever wonder why the Route 301 widening has long been completed and we sit in traffic on Bloomingdale Road each morning and evening?

To better inform the residents of Bloomingdale how their elected representatives are supporting them, recommend each issue of *The Bloomingdale Gazette* keep a running box score of proposed bills/laws affecting the residents and how each elected official votes. The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association should also be able to describe the degree and type of support it expects on each issue. Printing local addresses and phone numbers of each official would also be very beneficial. With this information, residents of one of Hillsborough County's fastest growing areas will be able to track the performance of each official and vote accordingly.

Charles R. Vanderford

# Watch Log events have decreased



## A Mobile Watch Monthly Report

by LeWayne Wyatt

The number of events recorded in the Mobile Watch log has again decreased. As of October 23 we had recorded 24 events. One reason for the decline was the presence of several deputies in the Bloomingdale area on a regular basis. Their presence is greatly appreciated, but, hey may not be here continuously if their services are required elsewhere in the county.

Recorded events included a cat burglar, cars and teens in partially developed areas, cars in the Parks after hours, a burglary, several suspicious vehicles, reckless driving, speeders, cars in and out of The Spot, teen parties in partially developed areas, and vandalism.

The most serious event was a report of

two attempts by strangers to pick up kids during the afternoon when they arrived home from school. I personally noticed that many parents met the school buses at the beginning of the school year. During the past several weeks the number of adults present at bus stops has declined. Perhaps those parents that are home need to start meeting the school buses again. We certainly don't need a kidnapping, molestation or worse.

The Mobile Watch is still in need of more volunteers. We lost four more members in October with no gains. Although we don't want to, if the volunteers continue to decline, we may be forced to cancel patrols one or more nights a week.

## Stray dogs mean big headaches for residents

by Alexa Hrvatin

So you have stray dogs in your neighborhood? This is a problem throughout all of Bloomingdale. Recently a Bloomingdale Resident called the Bloomingdale Community Office very concerned about a stray dog that had recently had puppies and was living in an overgrown field. She had called the field's owner, the County Commissioners, and Animal Control for help. Animal Control came out and tried to chase the animals and catch them, but they went deeper

into the woods and could not be caught. In frustration she called the Community Office and asked if we could help.

The Gazette spoke with Lynn Goldie, operations manager at animal services, about the incident. She explained that six workers spent two and a half hours tracking the dog after an attempt to tranquilize the animal sent it running off into the woods instead. The area, located behind "The Greens," has 12 foot high weeds and thick vines choking the ground. As a result, the dog was not apprehended and a dog trap has been set for it now.

When the county is unable to catch a dog, they will deliver a trap for a "mostly refundable" fee of \$50. Goldie indicated that most strays are easily apprehended and that this situation was unusual.

# Don't waste your money on curbside address painting

by Alexa Hrvatin

Once or twice every year Bloomingdale residents are solicited by various companies to allow them to paint the house address in reflective paint on the curb. Homeowners may make their own choice, but be aware that the county does not recommend the practice and it does not meet 9-1-1 criteria. As soon as a vehicle parks on the street, that address is no longer visible to rescue personnel.

The Hillsborough County Street Naming and Numbering Ordinance states that an address must be clearly legible from the street. The numbers should be "affixed to the building front or to a separate building structure such as a mailbox, fence, wall or post."

What are the penalties for violation of the ordinance? The county will issue a non-compliance notice allowing thirty days to correct the situation. Further violations can be punished by a maximum fine of \$500 or 60 days in jail.

The right way to show your address, plus some not so right ways are shown below.

## WRONG



## WRONG



## RIGHT



## Use this coupon to save money on your Christmas tree from the Scouts

Boy Scout Troop 11 of St. Andrews United Methodist Church will be conducting their annual Christmas tree sale at the church in evenings and on weekend starting the day after Thanksgiving.

For sale will be Noble Pines and Douglas Firs raised in Oregon and cut just before shipment. A \$5 discount will be given to buyers who present a 1991 BHA membership card and/or the coupon below.

\$5	<p><b>Christmas Tree Sale</b></p> <p>Evenings and Weekends after Thanksgiving at the</p> <p>St. Andrews United Methodist Church, Bloomingdale Ave.</p> <p>for Troop 11, Boy Scouts of America</p> <p>Noble Pines...Douglas Firs...Freshly cut in Oregon</p> <p>Present Coupon for Savings</p>	\$5
\$5		\$5

### The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association's Crime Programs

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# The Ci came t

Comparing the Barnum and Bailey Circus to the Roberts Brothers Circus is like comparing apples and oranges and yet it's very hard not to do so. Given the choice between the two, Roberts Brothers would win in a heartbeat. It's hard not to become a part of their circus family, not in actuality, but by the cozy warmth they constantly emitted. Their smiles were real and their touch on their animals was soft and kind.

As they put up their big top in Bloomingdale's Park West, and the multitude of smaller displays at 7 a.m., they worked as a synchronous team. They smiled, nodded, and joked with the residents who came to watch and never was a harsh word spoken or were the residents made to feel like they didn't belong there. It was hard to tell the difference between the circus folks and the residents as everyone stood around and casually chatted.

This warmth became a part of their performances later that afternoon. Not only did the audience get to sit so close you could almost touch them, but, as one resident put it "you could tell these were real people."

The circus performers hail from many parts of the country. One fascinating lady has a home in New York where she has lived over 32 years. When she isn't charting the routes of the circus, she is a private-duty L.P.N. The same is true of many of the circus performers. They travel with the circus 7 months per year of which they perform 7 days a week. For their efforts, they get two days off per month. Then, from the end of October through the beginning of March, they go on hiatus. Their equipment is stored and refurbished in Arcadia where the animals are well cared for. At one time, the Earl family (owners of the circus) used to bring Lisa, the elephant, home with them to their Sarasota residence, but zoning laws have now stopped this practice.

"Great!"

—Barbara Golden, 6 years old

"I think it's terrific for the homeowners association to do something like this."

—Tim Golden

"It was neat!"

—Kristen Lewis, 5 years old

"It was fun!"

—Julio Alvarado

"I thought it was great! Perfect length of time."

—Anne Marie Fraser

"I've never been so close to the real people before."

—Jim Laughlin



TOP: At the 3 p.m. performance, Circus goers were invited to dress up and become clowns for a day. Winning that distinction from left were: Kimberly Northup, Auburn Watson, Sabrina Baptista, and Lauren Kelly. It was Kimberly's 11th birthday party at the Circus!

ABOVE: These young ladies found that the best way to see a Circus is with your best friend and some cotton candy.



ABOVE: Each of the performers were seen in many acts and even sold popcorn and cotton candy at intermission. This bright cheerful lady above sold souvenirs just outside the big top.



ABOVE: The crowd oohed and ahhed as the magician pulled the chair out from under this hypnotized young lady. He also cut her in half, stuffed her in a box to make her disappear, and stabbed her with swords! Shirley Earl, the lady assistant, stated before the show that her young daughter finds the act so real that she can't watch her mom get cut in half.

UPPER RIGHT: Andy Scalafani is directing traffic as part of the Mobile Watch effort to organize the tremendous amount of traffic generated by the event. Some of the residents along the parking "trail" asked that the path be changed next year. Their patience was highly appreciated!

RIGHT: Trained rabbits? Yes, and they are the only ones performing in a Circus, too.





# Circus to town

Photos and story by SUSAN L. DELUCA

"Lisa and I have grown up together," said Jeff Earl, son of the late owner and founder of the Roberts Brothers circus, Robert Earl. "When I was this high, Lisa was this high, too," he said as he pointed to his chest.

Jeff, who was once part of the performing group, is now the manager. His holding only one position in this circus is rather unique. Shirley Earl (a cousin), who led residents on a tour of the circus at 9 a.m., gets cut in half by a magician, spins like a top 40 feet off the ground, swings from the top of the big tent upside down, helps the clowns, and makes over seven entrances into the big top doing a different job each time. She, however, is only like all the other performers who pitch tents, perform, and hawk their wares. The only thing that changes each time is their costume.

The 3 p.m. crowd was happy, jubilant and filled the tent. From an estimated count, there appeared to be about 800 in attendance for this first performance. Each of the residents who were interviewed after the show stated that the circus was worth the time and money and that they thoroughly enjoyed the show. The 5:30 p.m. performance brought similar responses. There is a possibility that this may become a yearly event.

The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association would like to thank the following sponsors for their participation:

Paul Moffit, Rainbow Food Mart

Frank DeVito, Frankie D's Sports Pub

Assistant Superintendent for Schools, Pete Davidsen

Representative S.L. "Spud" Clements

G.T.E.

Sheriff's Department

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Lois Kessler, Parks Dept.

Longeberger Baskets

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Scott Laramy Insurance

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Primary Prep Preschool

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Bloomingdale Painting

Bloomingdale Travel

Grable Plumbing

Pat & Mike's Nursery

Chris Corr

Robert Morris, P.A.

A thank you also goes to the following volunteers from the Bloomingdale Mobile Watch who donated their time to helping with traffic control and the well-organized parking:

LaWayne Wyatt, Overall coordinator

Hal Labkon

David Labkon

Tom Murman

Tony Interdonato

Ed Holzman

Errol Whitfield

Mark Whitfield

Bob Hauerstein

Chris Pheils

Gerald Fournier

Rick Sopka

Jim Matthews

Paul Kelmer

Ted Evans

Andy Sclafani

David McPeake

Joe McDonald

David Guy

Robert Francis

Another round of thanks goes to the following Bloomingdale Residents who assisted with ticket sales, banner sales, organization, and overall participation:

Dale Wozniak

Carl Stickeler

Susan DeLuca

Doris Pence

Bill McKinnon

Ron Schall

David Lees

Martin Andersen

Russ Lembke

Bill Povilus

Sheila Jackson

Dave Fraser

Chuck Walsh

Tom Brophy



TOP RIGHT: Robin was called from the audience at the 3 p.m. show to help a clown with a peanut butter and jelly magic act. She even got to keep the sandwich.

RIGHT: This dangerous high-wire act was performed 40 feet above the ground while more than 800 members of the audience sat on the edge of their seats.



## How to make a Circus

- 1 First you lay out all the pieces (which took up most of Park West). Stakes are pounded in by a machine mounted on a truck.
- 2 Next you lace all the sections together by hand.
- 3 The tent takes 50-75 people 2.5 hours to put up and 1.5 hours to take down. It is a "Push-Pull" style of tent. The poles are pushed from underneath, while workers pull them from the top.
- 4 The finished tent is 40' high, 170' long, 70' wide and holds 1,250 seats.

2



3



4



The yellow lines were put there by the BHA in conjunction with the road department. A lot of residents were complaining that cars, especially those driven by teenagers, were not staying on their side of the road--hence the lines.

The markers are for the many races we hold. Have you had a chance to participate in the 5k Summer Sizzle and the Bloomingdale Sports Festival? If not, watch for one next year. Not only does the BHA provide a safe competitive sports outlet for our extra energies, but it's just plain fun getting together with our friends and neighbors. And don't forget, the funds from these social events go to college funds and other special projects. If running and sports are not your bag, what about the Santa House the BHA sponsors each year? Did you know that every class at Alafia Elementary School participates in the decorating of Santa's House? Santa Claus, Easter egg hunts, circuses, and many other things are just a few of the social aspects we bring to Bloomingdale.

As we are driving through Bloomingdale, let's take a look at the well maintained walls, median strips, entrance ways and grassy areas. Did you know that on December 18, 1985, the BHA created the first home-rule special taxing district in Hillsborough County? Each year \$80 of your taxes goes to the maintenance of Bloomingdale and is then expended on your behalf by a volunteer board of Trustees--the organization of which was created by the BHA, but is now separate due to governmental regulations.

And although the Special Taxing District (STD) is very good about cutting the grass here in Bloomingdale, there are residents and builders who don't do as well. So one time per week you'll see Allan Frankel, code enforcement officer for Hillsborough County, make his Bloomingdale rounds. In his hand he has from 5-20 complaints initiated by residents and followed through by the BHA. Uncut grass, cars parked over sidewalks, long boats in driveways, satellite dishes too close to set-back lines, appliances outside, junk cars, unattended garbage, and motor home violations are just a few of the many violations the BHA handles on an everyday basis. Because of the BHA's initiative, we are part of a pilot program for the county to judge the effectiveness of a centralized location for code complaints and inspections. So far, it is very successful. I would guess the BHA and county code

enforcement officers have cleared up over 300 violations in two years. But like so many things the BHA does, unless you are the one affected by the code violation and its rectification, you may not be aware of the tangible results.

Due to a code violation involving a builder's setback lines, the BHA reported this aberration based on the negative impact to property values in the Bloomingdale South area. The legal cost to the BHA was over \$6,000 to defend your legal rights. The BHA felt that it was important to protect the integrity of the community and that the money was well spent. And although we've won the first two rounds, the final verdict is not yet in. And, no, the legal debt is still not paid off yet. We have another two years to go on the loan.

Did you know there is commercial property inside of Bloomingdale? Two spots to be exact. One is across the street from Park East and the other is just inside the entrance of Bloomingdale West by Rosemeade. Both of these commercial areas have preschools next to them. Did you know the BHA stopped a convenient store and a car wash from going into those two spots? That would have certainly taken a bite out of your home investment! Can you imagine having beer and wine sales on Nature's Way across the street from our children's park? Or how about a 24 hour/day car wash in the back yards of the residents living in West? The BHA led the vanguard in the car wash fight and assisted Bloomingdale Residents in their fight against the other. Both fights were successful.

So why haven't you told us all this before, you say? We have, but not in so many words. Sometimes the lives the BHA touches are on a very personal level and it doesn't belong in the newspaper or broadcast to the community. Other times we do broadcast our achievements--loud and clear, but you have to be willing to listen.

Through the medium of this newspaper we can talk to each other and communicate with the outside world. Not only can you speak your dissatisfaction, but others can hear it and respond. And yes, Mr. Reedy, this, too, has been brought to you by the BHA.

You ask us to enforce deed restrictions. I agree. This is something the BHA must undertake...and soon. Yes, it is going to take money. If someone calls in a deed restriction

violation, we must first research 52 sets of deed restrictions with legal descriptions. Then a physical examination of the restriction violation must be made. After that, notification must be sent to the owner after a search at the courthouse finds out who the property owner is. If the owner doesn't comply, the issue must then be taken to court. Money, time and people--all of which are in short supply. And then on top of this is the question as to whether or not the BHA has the legal right to enforce deed restrictions at all. We have to test it in court to see. Deed restriction violations are a matter that you, as a resident, are required to enforce. It is not fun or easy, but the developers left us with no other choice. Did you read the BHA survey that just went out? One of the questions asked is whether or not residents would be willing to donate to a deed restriction enforcement fund. The results should be interesting. I don't have an answer to your deed restriction issue now. Just as I don't have an answer to why people commit crimes or children vandalize mail boxes. But don't give up on us--not yet.

Mr. Reedy, I have given you but a drop in the bucket of all the tangible and intangible things the BHA has not only done for you, but for all of us. And we aren't done yet. You say you don't feel you are getting value for your money. But how do you put a monetary value on the smile of a child at the BHA circus? Or the comfort we give when a resident has lost their home? Or the feeling of security knowing the Mobile Watch is patrolling our community? Or the fact that no matter what should happen, we are all here for you and your family?

We can't be everything to all people; after all, wasn't it Lincoln who gave us the statement about pleasing all the people...? But still we try anyway. We put in the 50-60 hours per week and weekends and evenings. And you know what? In the end it is worthwhile and if we accomplish nothing else, the BHA has at the very least accomplished a sense of community unity and pride. Join us, won't you?

Susan L. DeLuca  
President/General Manager of  
The Bloomingdale Gazette, Inc.  
Member of the Board of Directors of the  
Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc.

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# New commercial construction in Bloomingdale .....

Photos, graphic, and story by Susan L. DeLuca



## A Goodyear store and Ace Auto Parts on Bell Shoals Road

This wooded area on Bell Shoals Road is in the process of undergoing a change, according to Greg Berlin, Draftsman for Ferris Constructors. Located between Southeast Bank and the GTE switching station on the east side of the road, it is slated to become a full-service Goodyear franchise and an Ace Auto Parts store.

"Right now we are waiting for Goodyear's approval," said Greg, "but the plans are done and in for permit." Once approval has been granted, the guesstimate on construction completion time will be five months.

This new Goodyear, part of the already established chain of Long Goodyear stores, will have eight bays and an alignment bay. It will be located at the south end of the building. The building itself will be single story masonry construction with a brick veneer front. The total square footage will be 11,000 square feet.

## Burger wars hit Bloomingdale

Look out Bloomingdale--on January 22 when the new Burger King opens, we can surely expect the burgers and French fries to fly as McDonald's and Burger King square off to fight for Bloomingdale's burger business.

Located directly across the street from McDonald's on Bloomingdale Ave., Burger King will be opening this 3,000 square foot establishment approximately the first of February, according to Mike Carey, the property's developer. The new Burger King is being developed by a Lakeland partnership, Shimp and Ruenheck, who also own many other area Burger King's. A store manager at the Burger King on Lumsden, confirmed that the partners hope to open the store on January 22 and that a playground will be included for younger customers.

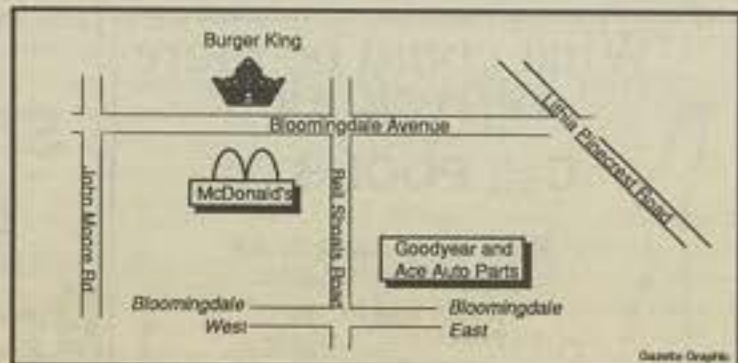
Burger King, which is owned by Grand Metropolitan, a British company, does not trade on the New York exchange, but rather is part of the entire company traded on the London exchange. McDonald's, on the other hand, does trade on the New York stock exchange and continues a steady climb.

McDonald's domestic sales are enduring "brutal competition" due to overbuilding within the restaurant industry. McDonald's has had success with its Happy Meal promotion and will most likely step up similar promotions in the future.

Joseph D. DeLuca Jr. CFP and Alexa Hrvatin contributed to this article.



This map illustrates the location of the new construction along Bloomingdale Ave. and Bell Shoals Road.



## Bloomingdale Business

by Bonnie Abrado



### Little Professor Book Center

Children's Book Week will be celebrated by families, students, teachers, and other book lovers all across the country this

November 12 - 18. Little Professor Book Center plans to make it easy for adults to help children learn to love reading. They are planning special activities to involve children with books and to acquaint adults with

new books destined to become children's classics. Recent Caldecott and Newbery Award-winning books will be featured.

Many adults, however, are uncertain about what books their children will like best. Little Professor owner Joe Pacula reports that adults are correctly concerned about making the mistake of assuming kids will like the same books they did, or buying books which are too difficult, thereby discouraging young readers.

Says Pacula, "We can help adults match the abilities and interests of their children to appropriate titles. The selection is fantastic, with many new books being published each year, but the possibilities can be overwhelming. That's where we come in. We can help adults quickly choose books their kids love."

### Prudential Florida Realty

Congratulations to the Prudential Florida Realty who recently celebrated their grand opening of a new Brandon branch. This new office is located at 1101 W. Bran-

don Blvd.

### Donna's Deli

Bloomingdale has a new deli, Donna's Deli. At 3501 South Bell Shoals road; it has just opened in the former Phillips 66 gas station across the street from Wal-Mart. Donna is a Bloomingdale resident. She will have sandwiches made to order, fresh salads, daily homemade desserts, and party trays made to order as well.


### Cachet Cleaners

In the very near future, Cachet Cleaners in Bloomingdale Square will be offering a new coupon book with lots of discounts. Watch for the sign in their window and you can receive a coupon book FREE just by asking.

### Mail Boxes Etc.

Mail Boxes Etc. will be opening another annex for Christmas season beginning December 1 and running through the Holidays.

**BUSINESS see page 16**



## Who says it has to hurt to work?

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626-0601

Tu	Th
4:45	4:45
6:00	6:00

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M	I	W	Th	Fr	Sat
9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:30
8:00	6:00	6:00	6:00	6:00	
7:30	7:30	7:30	7:30		

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- Little Mermaid
- Caricatures
- New Kids on the Block

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**Tues & Wed Double Tokens**

5

FREE TOKENS

# STD Assumes Erin Arbor Maintenance

Plus other STD monthly news

by Art Bleau

The Bloomingdale Special Taxing District voted at its October meeting to take over the maintenance of the common areas of Erin Arbor located in Bloomingdale East, Section JJ.

In a split vote, the board agreed to a request by the Erin Arbor Homeowners Association to take over a majority of the maintenance of Section JJ. Residents from this area were upset with what they believed was double taxing by the STD and Criterion Corporation, developers of several housing sections in Bloomingdale East.

The board voted four to two in favor despite Erin Arbor's being about \$500 short of the break-even point on assessments usually required for the district's board to act.

Newly elected board president Peter Aluotto insisted that the board action would be an exception to the break-even rule rather than a precedent for other housing sections to use with similar requests.

Outgoing president, Errol Whitfield, and Trustee Pam Mabe voted against the motion to take over the maintenance. Neither indicated why they were voting against the measure.

Aluotto pointed out that the STD's budget would have to be restructured and put off any action on that until the board's November meeting.

The board agreed that whatever budget amendment was decided, it would not go into effect until January 1 when the

district will officially take over the maintenance.

The board voted unanimously to prepare the needed budget amendment for the next board meeting.

Because portions of the common wall surrounding Erin Arbor may be on private property rather than straddling the county easement line, the board decided to look into the legal aspects of its ability to maintain the wall before formalizing the agreement next month.

Dale Wozniak, a representative of Erin Arbor Committee of Homeowners (EACH) said the problems with the maintenance arose last March when Criterion announced that it was assessing \$120 per property owner for the maintenance. Homeowners were already paying the \$80 per unit assessment to the STD, which by law the district collects from each homeowner, regardless of who is performing the maintenance paid for by the assessments.

Wozniak said the committee of Homeowners has nearly



SUSAN L. DELUCA

Erin Arbor is located on the north side of Erindale road just in from the Lithia entrance into Bloomingdale East.

completed negotiations with Criterion which would set the assessments in that area at about \$50 to cover such things as management fees, insurance, common area property tax and other miscellaneous charges.

## In other board business

The district elected new officers for the year. Besides

STD REPORT see page 16

The Post Office Alternative

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Associate Brandon
- \* Former Naval Officer

# School NewsBeat

**Calendar couples are finalized...  
Window painting...Walk-A-Thon...  
Sports winners...Computer tapes...  
Radon is gone...**

by



Ginny Wong Barbara Ling  
with contributions by Alexa Hrvation,  
Susan DeLuca and Mandi Oros

## Bring your Publix receipts to the Bloomingdale Community Office

Publix grocery stores have begun a repeat of last year's campaign *Apples for the Students*. Once again parents, relatives, and friends will be able to help the school of their choice, simply by collecting register tapes, which may then be redeemed by the school for computers and software. This year the tapes are canary yellow and the program is slated to end February 6, 1991. Tapes can be turned in at the Bloomingdale Community office and will be evenly distributed to all area schools attended by Bloomingdale's children.

As a result of last year's program, 17,000 pieces of software and 9,000 pieces of equipment were placed in public and private schools throughout Florida. Publix has allocated \$2 million for *Apples for the Students* this year. According to Susan McNeill, coordinator of the program for Publix, some of the equipment has been upgraded and receipts from other parts of the state will be accepted—these are about the only changes from the first year program.

McNeill stated, "Community response has been wonderful. Last year we had 53% of all register receipts turned back in to Publix."

## Terrific Kids for September

The "Terrific Kids" program is underway once again. Sponsored by the Greater Brandon Kiwanis Club, each month students in all grades are selected and recognized for showing improvement in behavior, peer relationships, attendance, academics and other school related areas.

A member of the Kiwanis Club presents to each Terrific Kid a certificate, bumper sticker and food coupons from several businesses. The students are also featured on a special Television broadcast.

### Alafia Elementary School: Kindergarten

Jennifer Shriner  
Anthony Interdonato  
Ben Brockert  
David Daniels  
Keelan Haworth  
Scott Giacomini

### 1st Grade

Justin Wade  
Tiffany Waller  
Jennifer Vasser  
Benjamin Yeater  
Amy Power  
Morgan Courty  
Marcus Madison  
John Ogorek

### 2nd Grade

Katharine Bero  
Erin Nikitas  
Seth Moss  
Michael Andreas  
Anna Csobanczi  
Christopher Ryan  
Keith Wolfenden

### 3rd Grade

Sean Elkins  
Chris Ellan  
Garrett Oakes  
Ryan Dean  
Niki Green  
Michael Venet  
Ahmad Watkins  
Virginia Johnson

### 4th Grade

Joshua Snyder  
Zachary Krueger  
Leonard Livingston  
Patrick Pogue  
Jennifer Waller  
Peter Yates

### 5th Grade

Andy Cox  
Christy Wood  
Danielle Schumaker  
Jason Brinson  
Justus Fuentes  
James Holland  
Hillary Girard

### 6th Grade

Marsha Hobbs

### Brooker Elementary School:

Aliya Alleyne  
Marianne Alluto  
Greg Anderson  
Reese Barillari  
Bobby Bass  
Ashley Becker  
Brooke Brown  
Bonnie Burnett  
Patrick Cindrich  
Brennen Coker  
Taneha Elliott  
Maite Estrada  
Melissa Faria  
Katie Fowke  
Brian Gervais  
Bobby Goetzinger  
Tessa Governor  
Evelyn Hall  
Justin Hamilton  
Justin Hansen  
Jason Hendrix  
John Herbstritt  
Tracey Johnson  
Andrea Joyce  
Megan Kiehl  
Amy Kohlbecker  
Jill Kohlbecker  
Amanda Long  
Kevin Matheny  
Christopher Mestre  
Tammy Rene' Nasworthy  
Matthew Nicholson  
Rosangela Pena  
J.P. Petrina  
Marlena Porter  
Jessica Scott  
Zack Sonneborn  
Ashlee Stahl  
Shirita Tyson  
Gina Webb  
Amanda Williams  
Heather Wright

## Officers elected at Burns

On Friday, October 12, the 8th grade officers were elected. The winners were president, Bobby Bailey; vice-president, Mike Davis; secretary, Katy Brunny; and treasurer, Summer Messer.

—Mandi Oros

## Gizmo teaches children about handicaps

Foster mother, Pam Labkon and her 2 year old South American Capuchin monkey, Gizmo, were invited by Mrs. Amy Zilbar and her 1st graders to visit all the first grade classes at Brooker Elementary School.

Mrs. Labkon is a Bloomingdale Resident and a foster mother for the Helping Hands Institute which trains these special monkeys to be aides to quadriplegics. Mrs. Labkon and Gizmo go almost everywhere together and it isn't unusual to see them shopping in Publix in Bloomingdale.

Mrs. Zilbar's class prepared for Gizmo's visit: They practiced what it would be like to only move their head and not their bodies, they discussed how each person is unique and special, and also how to compensate for things they can't do. They learned what being disabled meant.

The first graders had many questions for Mrs. Labkon and they seemed to really enjoy meeting Gizmo. Mrs. Zilbar's students each donated a special toy to the Helping Hands program. Every graduating monkey will get to choose one toy for himself at the completion of the Helping Hands training program.

## No more Radon at Brooker Elementary

NO MORE RADON in Brooker Elementary School! Radon, A derivative of uranium, is an odorless radioactive gas emitted through the soil. It is found in unventilated buildings and homes throughout the United States. According to the department of Health, with a reading of .02

working levels (4 p.C.I. -1), it would take 70 years, 18 hours a day to cause health problems.

This summer, radon was discovered in Brooker's two newer buildings, the Kindergarten Pod and the Media Center. Radon Reduction and Testing of Atlanta, Georgia, constructed an extraction system of PVC piping in the ceilings, interior and exterior walls. An air pump was installed to create a vacuum and lower the air pressure, thus suppressing the radon.

Mr. Milton Lovelace, Principal of Brooker elementary, was assured of the school's safety by Mr. Terry Hall, the engineer of the project, Reduction and Testing tested the two buildings daily for three weeks after completing the job, and will continue to check them monthly.

## PTA reaches 100% at Brooker

The Parent-Teacher Association of Brooker elementary is pleased to announce they have reached 100% membership this year! This is the fourteenth year for Brooker and all the students will celebrate with ice cream parties!

## Safety patrols sworn in at Brooker

A special group of 5th grade students were sworn in as Brooker's 1990-91 School Safety Patrols. Major Steve Saunders of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office performed the ceremony, Tuesday evening, October 9, at the Brooker Elementary School.

Mrs. Vicki Landerville, Safety Sponsor and a kindergarten teacher assisted Princi-

—SCHOOL see page 14

## Painting windows at Bloomingdale Square for homecoming.

It's homecoming time again and what better way to celebrate than to paint a window! This version of what could be done with an Osceola Warrior was painted by Holly Alexander, Bridget Cecchini, Jay Butler, Grant Heston, and Kurt Selko. These students from Bloomingdale High School are all members of the National Honor Society. Their creation and others from other societies at BSHS, showed off their skills at Bloomingdale Square shopping center during homecoming week October 22 to 26.

The winning window was done by Student Government and was displayed in the window of The Cove.

Second Place went to the Senior Class Council whose window was displayed at Little Ceasars, while third place went to the Junior Class Council

displayed at The Tale of the Elephant's Trunk.

The criterion for judging was based on spirit, originality, neatness, and was to display certain information such as the date, time, place, names of both teams, the club names, and finally the homecoming game.

Thanks goes to Mobile Watch members Hal Labkon and Sandy Truesdell for their judging talents. The awards were given out at a pep rally at the high school on October 26 by Hal.



SUSAN DELUCA

GINNY WONG

pal Milton Lovelace and Major Saunders in handing out patrol badges to the 53 students (see photo at right). A full house of proud parents applauded the children after they finished taking their oaths.

The Safety Patrols are fine, committed students who keep the rest of the student body safe on their way to and from school. They come to school very early in the morning and leave late in the afternoon. Neither rain nor heat nor chilly mornings will keep them from their special duties!

The Patrols celebrated with a huge cake and punch after the ceremony.



## Roller skating parties at Brooker are a stormy success

Brooker Elementary's second roller skating party was a huge success in spite of tropical storm Marco! Two hundred fifty students and parents skated at Skateland in Brandon to the Top 40 rock tunes with colored lights and glittering mirror balls sparkling throughout the rink.

Congratulations to Brandon Gallman, a Kindergardener in Mrs. Kay Prader's class, with his mom won the Roller Die game and was awarded a Skateland certificate and complimentary pass.

The Forensic Speech and Debate Team recently hosted a district Student Congress with a total of 280 students attending. Gary Weisman and David Rich were elected best presiding officers.

The Student Advisory committee (SAC) has installed its officers. The 1990-91 SAC officers are: Carla Thurman, President; Sylvia Maldonado, Vice President; Cory Richardson, Secretary; Wesley Alden, Assistant Secretary; Kavita Philip, Treasurer; Victor Diaz, Parliamentarian; and Kelly McElheny, historian.

## Homecoming even involved "Kissing a Pig"

Student Government once again has sponsored the Spirit Window Contest. Designed to form a link between Bloomingdale and the community while at the same time providing a fun visual outlet for school spirit, it was one of last year's most successful endeavors.

The Jazz Band under the direction of Mr. Ted Hope put warmth into the chilly stadium air during Homecoming activities.

SCHOOL see page 15

## Recycling works at Brooker

Recycling is working at Brooker! The P.T.A.'s bimonthly aluminum can collection helps the students and the environment. Working together, teachers, students, and parents have helped bag 35,472 cans and redeemed almost \$500, according to the program chairwoman, Elaine Schelling.

Mrs. Hall's second graders once again had the highest can count Friday -- 1308 cans! They will celebrate with an ice cream party in class.

The proceeds of the can collection will be recycled back into the environment by the students. They will have the opportunity to vote on an environmental program they would like to adopt.

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# The BSHS calendar couples for 1991

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Cover</b><br>Melissa Rodrigues/Scott Edgin  | <b>August</b><br>Julie McCandless/Mika McCandless  |
| <b>January</b><br>Erika Allen/Warren Bowers    | <b>September</b><br>Teri Bauer/Erin McCray   |
| <b>February</b><br>Jennifer Leto/Kevin Whitney | <b>October</b><br>Laura Farmer/Huble Almond  |
| <b>March</b><br>Kelly Boatenhammer/Rob Webster | <b>November</b><br>Heather Stock/Jason Toy   |
| <b>April</b><br>Amy Viduna/Chris Perkins       | <b>December</b><br>Kim Maxwell/Jack Fenn   |
| <b>May</b><br>Kyle McFarland/Brian Knappe      | <b>Feature</b><br>Heather Cleveland/Brian Cecchini<br>Kelly Rhodes/Tim Sullivan<br>Dawn Rutherford/Matt Taylor<br>Kara Sezke/Eric Hall |
| <b>June</b><br>Dina Janicke/Scott Kinsey       |  |
| <b>July</b><br>Bethany Lemanski/John LeMans    |  |

Photo courtesy of Bloomingdale Senior High School

## SCHOOL from page 14

The honor for the "Kiss a Pig" contest was bestowed upon teacher Donna Stewart.

Students of Bloomingdale set some fine traditions throughout their Spirit Week Activities:

- The Horn of Plenty Drive raised \$300.
- Windows were painted at Bloomingdale Square with first place going to Student Government.
- A new feature was the float contest; DCT won.
- The Queen is Colbie Edwards and King is Sonny Selko.
- The Homecoming Dance was "Escape to the Orient."
- At the game, the Bulls BEAT the Osceola Warriors 15-3.

**National Education Week  
is November 13**

## Fun & fitness at the Alafia Halloween Walk-A-Thon

Over 1,100 students participated in the Alafia Elementary Halloween Walk-A-Thon to raise funds for the PTA. Debbie Lambert, Vice President of Ways and Means, was in charge as students walked an average of 10-15 laps in a 25 minute timed period on a 220 yard course. On hand were many parents who also walked with their children and the Alafia Alligator mascot played by Vickie Melton, a parent volunteer.

"We had great support by all PTA and parent helpers," said Coach Dugan. And support was especially appreciated from local merchants who donated various items. Specifically, they were: Bob's Farm Market; Balloons to Go; J.C. Printing; Wal-Mart; Dirty Moe's Oyster Bar; Kash 'n Karry of Bloomingdale; Rainbow Engraving; Highland Farms; and Majik Touch Cleaners.



Volunteers stamp "lap cards" so students can collect their donations.

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# Special Taxing District Treasurer's Report for September, 1990

Submitted by: Joe Liguori - 10/6/90

## Opening Balances:

Checking	258.91	
MMA	21,888.20	
CD #1560	12,500.00	
CD#1620	40,000.00	
CD#1630	5,000.00	
CD#1700	7,500.00	
CD#4680	60,000.00	
<b>Total Opening Balance:</b>		<b>147,147.11</b>

## Revenues:

Interest on MMA	97.45
Interest on CD #1560	84.93
Interest on CD#1620	271.79
Interest on CD#1630	33.97
Interest on CD#1700	50.96
Interest on CD#4680	369.45
Interest on CD#4680	95.34
Interest on MMA	63.64
Proportionate Share of Interest Distributed from County Tax Collections	24.64
	<b>1,092.17</b>

**Total Opening Balance plus Revenues** 148,239.28

## Expenses:

Description	Ck#	Amount
Hills. Cty PUD	722	325.49
Tampa Tribune	723	16.17
Terrace Electric	724	79.50
Brandon Supply	725	82.40
Central Florida	726	5,804.00
TECO	727	83.84
Bobby Cole	728	1,808.34
TECO	729	41.81
TECO	730	50.00
Hills. CTY PUD	731	75.00
All Florida Sod	732	234.00
Central Florida	733	4,930.33
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>13,530.88</b>

**Total Opening Balance plus Revenues** 148,239.28  
**Less Expenses** 13,530.88  
**Total Balance** 134,708.40

## Closing Balances:

Checking	6,728.03	
MMA	12,980.37	
CD #1560	12,500.00	(Note 1)
CD#1620	40,000.00	(Note 2)
CD#1630	5,000.00	(Note 3)
CD#1700	7,500.00	(Note 4)
CD#1210	50,000.00	(Note 5)
<b>Total Closing Balance</b>		<b>134,708.40</b>

## Footnotes:

- Note 1 - Dedicated to Irrigation project. Due 12/6/90  
 Note 2 - Dedicated to Wall Replacement. Due 12/6/90.  
 Note 3 - Matures on 10/29/90. It will be combined with CD #1700. Both CD's dedicated to fence maintenance (up to 1000 linear feet).  
 Note 4 - Dedicated to fence maintenance. Due 10/29/90  
 Note 5 - Replaces CD#4680 which matured on 9/30/90.  
 Used in conjunction with general funds to draw down into MMA and then into checking account as needed.

BUSINESS from page 11

They will be located three doors west of their present location at 813 E. Bloomingdale. This will be the main receiving area for packages that are all wrapped and ready to be shipped. There will be no waiting in lines for customers who are using the wrapping and packing services.

The main location will have an express line for Fax, Western Union and stamp sales to further speed customers along. They will be selling greeting cards, stamps and money orders at the new location also.

## Pro-Line Golf

Pro-Line Golf opened its doors at 813 East Bloomingdale Avenue in the Oakwood Plaza. Owner Steve Duemig is a resident of Bloomingdale.

Duemig, who has thirteen years experience with the PGA, is selling only Pro-Line goods at his retail outlet. The store is open from 9:30 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, and from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturdays. Stop by soon for a look around the store.

## STD REPORT from page 11

Aluotto assuming the presidency, Joe Liguori was elected vice president; Pam Mabe, treasurer; Ron Delavan, recording secretary, and H. Wayne Hughes as new board member and corresponding secretary. Whitfield remains a trustee of the board.

As a final act as treasurer, Liguori read his closing treasurer's report indicating the district had a year-end balance of \$134,708.40. He said the balance was clear except for two outstanding bills for mowing and attorney's fees, totalling less than \$5,000.

in a neighborhood  
full of kids  
isn't it nice to know  
your neighbor is...



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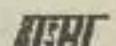
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