

## Coming Attractions

### Anniversary Issue

In January, 1980, the first issue of *The Bloomingdale Gazette* hit the streets. Next January, we will commemorate 15 years of Bloomingdale Growth and History with a special Anniversary Issue of *The Gazette*. We are asking residents who have early photographs of the community to please lend them to us for this very special issue. We are also

looking for early "settlers". If you are an original resident of Bloomingdale, please call the Community Office, 681-2051.

North Pole to Bloomingdale. Coming in December, so you better be good!

### Checking Their List

The BHA is pleased to announce the exclusive engagement of Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus, direct from the

### In November Look For

- ....Holiday Shopping Guide
- ....Terrific Turkey Day Stuffing
- ....Reflections of a WWII Veteran

# The Bloomingdale Gazette

Volume XIII, Number 7

Published by the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc.

October 1994

## New STD Trustees Eager To Contribute

by Rozel Sciulli

Fred Upoff, Michaela Sykes, and Peter Aluotto, hope to bring experience, enthusiasm, and fiscal discipline respectively to the STD board of trustees as they begin their terms this month.



Fred Upoff

Upoff, quite literally the fifth homeowner in Bloomingdale East in 1979, has had experience in all areas of community interest. He helped establish the STD and served on its board for the first five years. In addition, he is past president of the Bloomingdale Homeowners' Association, and the first publisher and editor of *The Bloomingdale Gazette*.

Having been out of the loop for a few years, Upoff feels he needs to learn how the present STD operates with their nearly \$300,000 budget, and 3,300 homes.

According to Upoff, his hiatus from community service ended when he felt the STD was straying from its original concept. "It was created to provide services the county government did not provide," he said, "such as landscaping and maintaining the common areas. People's first impression of a community will make re-sale values go up or down.



Michaela Sykes

"I felt the STD was venturing into areas where it did not belong," said Upoff, citing the recent security issue. "We can't be everything to everybody."

Upoff and his wife Joyce moved to the Brandon from Baltimore, and they reside in East.

Sykes begins her three-year term on the STD board as a result of encouragement from her

River Crossing neighbors. The homemaker is treasurer of the Alafia PTA. She and husband John have two children.

She is eager to do whatever she can to benefit all the residents of Bloomingdale and she is anxious to learn how the STD operates.

"I would really like to know where our tax dollars go," she said. "Being very new to this, the smartest thing I can do is sit back and learn."

Aluotto formerly served on the STD board for three years. He hopes to return to the board a sense of fiscal discipline in order to build reserve funds that he says have been depleted.

"Our tax dollars need to be spent more wisely and cautiously," he said. "Depleting the reserves does not make good fiscal sense."



Aluotto was prompted to seek a trustee position when he felt he was "denied an audience with the existing board. As a taxpayer, I felt I had the right to speak and not be limited to three minutes. I figured I needed to join the board in order to be heard."

The only board member from West, Aluotto

## Bratzke Number Retired In Half-time Ceremony



Chad Bratzke was honored with the retirement of his high school jersey. Making the presentation is Booster Club president Tom Scott.

Chad Bratzke, Bloomingdale's first ever NFL draftee, was honored Sept. 23, when his high school football jersey was retired during half-time ceremonies of the Bulls home game against Winter Haven. He becomes the first Bloomingdale athlete to have his number retired.

Number 80 for the Bulls now wears number 77 for the New York Giants where he is a rookie defensive end. Because of an off weekend for the Giants, the South Oak resident was able to return to his alma mater for the presentation.

Bratzke's jersey, framed and inscribed, was presented to the school by All-Sports Athletic Booster Club president, Tom Scott. In addition, Bratzke was honored by students and faculty members during a pep rally held in his honor.

Recent big wins by the football Bulls brought

See BRATZKE, pg. 9

## Residents Want Relief From Floods

by Rozel Sciulli

When Angela Johnson moved to Emberwood Drive in Bloomingdale West a year ago, she did not expect her front yard to flood every time it rained.

Now she and the 20 homeowners who live in the curve of Emberwood and Sweetleaf want Hillsborough County to make improvements to their stormwater drainage system before the next rainy season. Armed with a petition, Johnson and neighbor Larry Brown attended last month's BHA meeting soliciting the group's support in their efforts to move the county to action.

Brown, a five-year resident, said that the flooding of Emberwood makes it impossible to arrive or depart from his



Children play in high groundwater that accumulates at Emberwood and Sweetleaf after heavy rains.

driveway after a heavy rain, explaining that it often takes three to four hours for the sometimes knee-high water to drain.

"The street has always flooded, but it used to drain faster," said Brown, who is fed up with water damage to his and his wife's cars.

High water has also threatened Johnson's home, creeping into her garage and seeping under her front door.

See FLOOD, pg. 4

## BHA Blurbs

### At This Month's Meeting

Joel Jackson of the County Parks and Recreation Department will be the guest of the Bloomingdale Homeowners' Association at their monthly meeting, Tuesday, Oct. 11, at 7:30 p.m., in the Community Office, Royal Oaks of Bloomingdale Shopping Center. He will be presenting the final plans for the new Recreation Center in Park West.

### Put To The Test

Keeping its promise to help residents in dispute over deed restriction violations, the BHA may be on the doorsteps of its first test case. Funds are now available and have accrued on a one-case-per-month basis since the BHA decided to assist homeowners defray court costs should they decide to take a neighbor to court over a deed restriction violation. At this time, the board is awaiting a final decision from the county to cite the property owner with a code violation, but should that fail, they are prepared

### Neighborhood Improvement

Members of the newly formed Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP) are putting the bite on residents whose property is in violation of the county's codes. And their success rate is more than they ever expected. Of the 39 notices mailed, 20 have responded with positive action to correct the cited violation. The 19 which did not comply were referred to the county's code enforcement office.

The call for volunteers has also been good. Hopefully the hard work of the NIP team will result in fewer notices and a more beautiful Bloomingdale.

### Membership Mania

Over 2400 dues statements have been mailed to Bloomingdale residents and the record breaking response has produced 219 new members. In addition, membership chairman Ted Grable says that the BHA has added 620 new addresses to its rolls. He explained that these new residents will be invited to become active members in the BHA. Memberships are still due. Residents who have not re-



# BLOOMINGDALE COMMUNITY PAGE

## The Bloomingdale Gazette

Dear Readers,

How are we doing? From time to time we like to take our pulse and find out how we can improve the newspaper. We would like your feedback.

We strive to make the newspaper the best source of community news and information available to you. We take pride in our ability to report the news that influences your everyday life, from school information to the highway widening projects, and from the new county recreational center in Bloomingdale to the man on the street interviews. We are your community newspaper.

We would appreciate your comments and suggestions. Call or write to us at the community office.

Sincerely,



Rick Oros

## Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor:

Since Sept. 8, 1994, was the final meeting in which Rick Pitrowski served as president of the Bloomingdale Special Taxing District, I wanted to personally thank him in his "official" capacity for his hard work, dedication, and accomplishments during the past 12 months.

His leadership and vision have resulted in completion of our irrigation systems, numerous landscaping projects, the benches program and, of course, those wonderful palm trees. These are just the obvious. What might not be as well known, is his direction in hiring a property man-

ager with landscaping and horticultural experience, his skill in negotiating with contractors, and his tireless efforts in dealing with various Bloomingdale residents.

It has been a very meaningful year, during which I was privileged to serve as his treasurer and learn from him. My best wishes to Rick and his family for continued success in his private endeavors and in continuing public service.

Sincerely,  
Joe Liguori

Treasurer, BSTD, and  
a grateful Bloomingdale Resident

## Time Out Baseball's Debacle, A Nation's Shame

by Rozel Sciulli

I'm not a player, an owner, or a negotiator. Like so many others (and the numbers are probably dwindling everyday) I am a fan of baseball. I do not pretend to understand the intricacies of the game's high finances. I did, however, follow the day-to-day soap opera of the baseball strike and have my own opinions.

On this day, when we should be gearing up for what probably would have been the most exciting play-offs in recent memory, we're left, instead, with thoughts of what could have been. Ken Griffey, Jr. and Matt Williams breaking Roger Maris's single season long-ball record; Greg Maddux earning an unprecedented third straight Cy Young for that finely tuned arm; and the Cleveland Indians (the Cleveland Indians, for goodness sakes!) making the playoffs for the first time in a couple of generations.

The problems of '94 did not begin this year.

The other night I was watching the 40th Anniversary special of Sports Illustrated when a blast from the past hit the screen and it was suddenly clear to me exactly when baseball's

troubles began.

Marvin Miller, that Godfather of all baseball players, made owners an offer they couldn't refuse - the result of which was free agency. It goes back to when people started fooling around with the purity of the game by building domes, installing artificial grass, having night games at Wrigley Field, and allowing designated hitters.

Abner Doubleday would double over in anguish at what has become of his game.

The way I see it, the owners made the mistake many years ago when high salaries were first in demand (enter Marvin). That's when they needed a show of solidarity, and with a united front, refuse to pay a king's ransom to these men playing a boy's game. Now they're trying to crush the monster they created.

Ohio Democrat, Rep. James Traficant, offered the best solution during the strike. "Negotiators should be locked in a room with no windows or air conditioning, and should be fed baked beans, fried cheese, hard-boiled eggs and chocolate Kisses. In eight hours they'll be pleading 'Play Ball!'"

Too late. Too bad. So sad.

## OFFICERS

**BLOOMINGDALE  
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3232 Lithia Pinecrest Road  
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Valrico, Florida 33594  
681-2051

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Jim Wiley	Treasurer	684-7825

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David Lees	681-3999	LaWayne Wyatt	685-2072
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Michaela Sykes	653-0066
Fred Upoff	685-3013
Joe Liguori	Treasurer 681-9655
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Chris Hering	Recording Secretary 654-0235
Sue Boucher	Trustee 653-2018
Greg Atkinson	Administrator 759-6670

### Bloomingdale Mobile Watch

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John Britton	Treasurer 681-1553
Steve Schneider	Equipment Manager 685-8378

### Members

David Guy	681-5943
Paul Kalmer	681-9701
Rick Borling	684-2022

### Bloomingdale Oaks Special Taxing District

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

William Grace	President	685-2817
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## The Bloomingdale Gazette

3232 Lithia Pinecrest Road • Suite 101  
Valrico, Florida 33594  
681-2051

Monday - Friday 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

### Directors

Rick Oros	Pam Liguori
Randy Wolfe	Joe Liguori

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## 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 7:30 p.m.

### BHA Board of Directors

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

### Bloomingdale Oaks Special Taxing District

First Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

### Mobile Watch & Neighborhood Watch

Watch this listing for dates & times. The meetings are held on a per need basis.

## Mobile Watch Report 14 Years of Volunteerism

by LaWayne Wyatt

**Editor's Note:** Since the residents of Bloomingdale have turned down an STD proposal for paid security, perhaps those homeowners still concerned for their safety and that of their family will find time to volunteer time in this worthwhile program.

The Bloomingdale Mobile Watch has been in existence since the summer of 1980. At that time there were only 50 homes in the East along Bell Shoals Road. All 50 homes (100%) participated in the Mobile Watch when it first started. As the community grew so did the Mobile Watch, although, not at the 100% participation rate.

In January, 1990, we reached our all time high of over 200 members even though it was less than 5% of the residents. Today, we have dropped to an active membership of only 82 while the community has increased to over 3300 homes. Since we have several husband and wife teams, our membership really equates to only 57 of the homes being represented.

Some of you may remember the story in *The Gazette* last August which gave the results of the BHA homeowner survey. The article indicated the greatest concern to residents was the issue of crime and safety. The same article indicated over 80% supported the efforts of the Mobile Watch. More specifically 81.3% of the respondents supported our program. Just what does this equate to in raw numbers?

The survey asked the question, "Is the Mobile Watch an important fac-

tor in Bloomingdale safety?" Of the 453 respondents, 201 strongly agreed and 167 agreed. Accordingly, 368 homes support the Mobile Watch. Even if we assume our current membership falls in these two categories, there are still 311 homes that agree or strongly agree with our efforts. Where are they and why haven't they volunteered?

We realize the residents of all 311 homes may not be able to volunteer due to work or family commitments. However, a relatively high percentage should be available for one evening a month. With approximately 210 members, we could field three patrols, seven nights a week. With approximately 280 members, we could increase coverage by adding a fourth patrol. Even if the residents of all 311 homes volunteered only about 11% of the community would be represented.

There is no need to have extensive experience or equipment in order to participate. We provide the equipment, you provide the time and desire to maintain the safety, security, and quality of life of the community. We have a full range of people who have taken an interest - young, married couples, retired couples, military men and women, and civilians.

How about it folks, do you take an active interest in the safety and security of our community, or do you sit back and let the whole program die a slow death?



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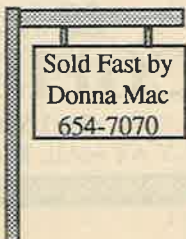
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## Berger-Miller Face Off Tuesday

**Editor's Note:** *The Gazette* invited County Commission District 4 candidates Dottie Berger and Lydia Miller to address Bloomingdale residents. Berger will face incumbent Miller in Tuesday's Republican run-off. The winner will face Democratic candidate Linda Ray Barrow in November.

### Dottie Berger

District 4 is as diverse as the numerous issues its residents must face on a daily basis. Within the District, we have many unique communities which require special attention. Bloomingdale is a perfect example of the type of growing community within District 4 that deserves attention to issues such as growth management, taxes, zoning, and crime. We all want to live in a community in which we can be proud and safe, and to do that, we must get involved to maintain the quality of life we deserve. I believe that we need to take several positive steps together for the betterment of the county, District, and our communities.

First, stop public financing of private-sector projects. Second, analyze the impact of the debt and cost of public services of projects that have already been approved. Lastly, force our county to live within its means without new tax increases by requiring more cost-effective services, introducing competition and involving our communities, such as yours, into the process of re-inventing county government.

Our local law enforcement is dealing with a more violent society than ever before. The single-largest reason for Florida's high crime rate is the increase in juvenile crime, which follows the national trend. There are several positive steps we can take to combat this problem. First, reallocate existing revenue into public/private efforts to deliver prevention and early intervention programs. Making an investment in our children will make for responsible adults in the future. Secondly, leverage our existing school and public park facilities into community action delivery facilities. Lastly, demand that our juvenile criminals who are committing 80% of the crimes from our streets and do it now! We all need to work together to build safer communities and, although there are no easy solutions, we can make a difference through strong action.

I believe we deserve stable, respected, principled, and effective leadership who can work with, not against, county government. The active involvement of the whole community can bring about effective solutions. But, *First Things First*, please vote Oct. 4. I cannot implement changes without your help and your vote. Let's work together and make a difference in our community. Your vote is important.

### Lydia Miller

As your current District 4 Commissioner I have worked for the best interest of all my constituents including the residents of Bloomingdale. Let me encourage you to vote in Tuesday's run-off. Your vote does count.

By returning me to the county office with which you entrusted me four years ago, I will continue to fight for crime prevention, tax reduction, government streamlining, water conservation, child assistance, and balanced growth. I would like to let you know my stand on each of these areas.

**Crime** - I support tough sentences for hard-core repeat offenders, and that community, family and church supported programs can work together to prevent juveniles from turning to a life of crime.

**Taxes** - Residents are burdened with enough taxes, rates, and fees. These should be reduced. In addition, I believe tax incentives ought to be given to businesses that create job opportunities.

**Government** should be more accessible to the people. Agencies should be streamlined by reducing bureaucracy and eliminating duplication and waste. I strongly believe in and support performance audits (efficiency studies) for all agencies.

**Water** - I support research for alternate sources of water. I also believe water can be conserved through incentives not penalties.

**Children** - We can only secure the future of our children by investing in programs for their protection and enhancement.

**Growth** - We must protect our quality of life by maintaining a good balance of growth in our community.

I cannot continue to work for you in these vital areas without your support. Please remember that Tuesday's election will determine the Republican Candidate for the District 4 seat which will be determined in the General Election on November 8.

Send your social news to *The Bloomingdale Gazette*, 3232 Lithia Pinecrest Road, Suite 101, Valrico, FL 33594, or stop by our office in the Royal Oaks of Bloomingdale plaza. Please be sure to include a phone number. Photographs are also welcomed.

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### FLOODS, from page 1

Johnson has contacted the county road department, the stormwater drainage department, and Commissioner Lydia Miller's office. It has been six weeks, and she is still waiting for a response, she said.

After contacting the road department, Johnson said an engineer visited the neighborhood and, wanting to remain anonymous, identified what he believed to be the problem.

According to Johnson, she was told that the underground pipes in her area are smaller than in other areas. The road engineer suggested that the problem could be resolved with the installation of two manhole inlet catch basins each with a capacity of 7,000 gallons and at a cost of \$30,000. The existing basins only hold 500 gallons of water, he said.

Frank Deese, an engineer with stormwater drainage said that his de-

partment is aware that Emberwood is an area that suffers from high groundwater. The county, he said, is in the process of evaluating areas all over the county with similar problems to determine if underdrain needs to be contracted or upgraded, if already in existence. He said he did not know when this evaluation would take place.

The residents of Emberwood and Sweetleaf hope the BHA's input will make the county act more quickly to resolve their problem.

"I felt good that the BHA will stand behind us," said Johnson.

"I'm really pleased with the response from the BHA to assist us by applying whatever leverage they can," added Brown.

The BHA has decided to look into the matter and to send letters to appropriate county personnel.

### F.Y.I.

For your information... Daniel Kleman, Tallahassee's longtime city manager, is Hillsborough's next county administrator replacing Fred Karl who retires Nov. 18.



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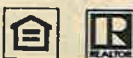
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## Good Neighbors Meet Madonna Fuller

by Mandi Oros

Living in the large community of Bloomingdale, one doesn't really get to know many of the people involved in the make-up of the neighborhood. One of those very important community-involved individuals is Madonna Fuller. Madonna moved to Bloomingdale East seven years ago from her hometown in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Not only did she leave that beautiful city behind, but also her family and close friends.



Madonna Fuller

When asked her preference on places to live, she replied simply, "If I have to be so many miles away from my family, I'd want to live here."

Madonna is a very family oriented woman. She considers family her top priority. Madonna and husband Mike have been married 17 years and have two children. Kevin, a sixth grader, has played baseball for Bloomingdale Little League for six years now, and Madonna gets involved by being Team Mother and a general helper. Her daughter

Marcy, is in ninth grade at Burns Junior High.

Currently, Madonna is a Youth Minister at St. Stephens Catholic Church. Her first three years were devoted to teaching high school and junior high kids at the same time, but now as she enters her fifth year teaching, the groups are separated, and she spends her time with the Junior High youth. She also works part time with Mike at Computer Application Systems Group.

In the little spare time she has, Madonna likes to cook Cajun food with all

the hottest spices. She grew up in a Catholic household, with her mother and father always involved in the benefit of the church. She is the youngest of four brothers and sisters, so it is evident that she has a knack for the teenage life. Madonna, at 41, likes to consider herself a teenager still, and doesn't want to grow up yet. She still has a long, long way to go.

## Person To Person

Each month *The Gazette* will ask your neighbors questions and their answers will appear with their picture in our new Person to Person feature. This month, we asked your neighbors...

What would you like to see the BHA add to its next community picnic?

"Live entertainment would attract more adults." - Cheryl Cart, B'dale West



Cheryl Cart

"More organized activities and more advanced advertising with signs posted everywhere." - Marti Albritton, B'dale West



Donna Cooke Murray

"How about a 'Taste of the Town' where local restaurants contribute food for everyone to sample?" - Donna Cooke Murray, B'dale East



Marti Albritton



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## Life In These Times

## Garage Sale Is True Test Of Marriage

by Daniel Farrer

If you have ever lived in another country after growing up in the United States, you can honestly say we have a very consumer oriented society. Some people might even say we just have too much stuff. Well, after living in Florida and from my own personal observations, I have come to the conclusion that we just don't have too much stuff, we have too much junk!

Like most modern suburbanites, I have finally gone through the ultimate experience of our consumer oriented society. Yes, it's true, I have finally had a garage sale and lived through it.

When I say that I lived through it, I think you know what I mean. If you really want to test the strength of your marriage (even though you've lived through in-laws, sons-in-law, relatives coming to visit Disney World for three weeks, and teenagers) the ultimate test above all others is the garage sale.

The first great test is what I call the "What do we sell and what do we keep" test. If you talk to any good marriage counselor, they can tell you that most relationships are a combination of two different types of people, from the garage sale point of view, that is. There are those who are "heavers" and those who are "keepers". Heavers are relatively organized types who look at objects from a functional viewpoint. Keepers, on the other hand, seem to form more emotional attachments to physical objects.

The next great test is the "How much are we going to sell it for" test. Much to your surprise you may find you

both strongly disagree on the value of that old, raggedy, beat up fishing rod your Uncle Paul gave you, and the lace doilies passed on from Aunt Ann that have just been sitting at the bottom of a dusty box for 10 or 12 years.

Finally, that great day will come and you hope that most of this stuff will be sold so you can finally get the car back in the garage again. You will meet some rather colorful characters at your sale. Friendly people who want to talk and pass some time. Serious buyers who have a real eye for a bargain and there is always the person who wants to get the last word in on the selling price of that old dust buster hand vac.

After it's over you may find yourself enlightened by the experience. You may find you have gained a greater respect and understanding of your spouse's point of view, and you may also come to understand what that old phrase "one man's junk is another man's treasure" really means.

## Ask Your Vet



by Harry Vildibill, D.V.M.

Dear Dr. Vildibill:

My name is Tabatha, I am a cat, three years old. I used to be very beautiful with long hair. I am a calico female; but of course, you know that all of us calico cats are females.

I used to be very healthy and was "up and at 'em" at the crack of dawn. I had the biggest, loudest purr in town and everybody loved me because I was so beautiful and sweet, and had that "big purr".

Then, I got a disease called Feline Infectious Peri-

tonitis. Now I am very sick. My abdomen is full of fluids and I am weak from anemia and am not eating and I am going to die.

My owner could have vaccinated me for FIP, but she didn't know about this disease. No matter what happens to me, I would like to ask cat owners to have their cats vaccinated for FIP.

Sincerely,  
Tabatha

Dear Tabatha:

Yes, FIP is a highly contagious feline disease and it is too bad your owner didn't take you in for your vaccinations. The best precaution is to vaccinate before it is too late. The vaccine is administered by intra-nasal route like nose drops in two doses, three to four weeks apart.

Unfortunately, there is no treatment for this disease

once you have it and it is ultimately fatal. It is spread through the urine or feces of infected cats. The natural route of infection is through the mouth or nose, but it is also possible to have the virus transmitted on clothing, bedding, carpet, feeding dishes, or by insects.

The symptoms are as follows:

Swollen abdomen	Personality changes
Discharge from eyes or nose	Eye Disease
Paralysis of hind legs	Illness, fever, anemia
Weight loss, anorexia	Convulsions

The vaccine is recommended for all cats. It is safe, effective, and not costly.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Vildibill

# Military Review

by Yolanda Boronell  
Navy Birthday This Month

This year marks the 219th year for the United States Navy. Hundreds will celebrate this occasion at a Big Birthday Ball on Oct. 8 at the Hyatt Regency in Tampa. The bash will begin at 6 p.m. with a social hour, followed by guest speaker Adm. William A. Owens, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. For entertainment pleasure, there will be "Discovery", the Orlando Navy Band, and Pensacola's Naval Aviation Choir. For ticket information, contact Mark Yonchak on base.

## Changes In Health Care

Partnership Program coverage has been affected by recent rulings of health care financing administration officials. Medicare-eligible beneficiaries are encouraged to meet with representatives at

the managed care office the last Thursday of each month from 10 a.m. through 2 p.m., for more information on what these rulings mean for you and your family.

## Tutors Needed

Volunteers are needed to serve as tutors during the Saturday Scholar Program. The program begins Oct. 15 and runs through Nov. 12, each Saturday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Those interested in helping should contact Ssgt. R. Bannon on base. An introductory meeting will be held Oct. 6, at 2 p.m.

## West Point Information

Bloomington resident Robert C. Holcomb is this region's admissions field representative for the United States Military Academy at West Point. Prospective candidates for the class of 1999 are asked to contact him at 681-4594.

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9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Weekends/Holidays

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# Church And Synagogue News

by Erin Mulé

Members of St. Stephen's Catholic Church will be cruisin' next month, and they want you to join them. The church is sponsoring a weekend cruise on the Starship Majestic, The Big Red Boat. It sails out of Tampa's Holland Terminal on Friday, Nov. 11, and returns on Monday, Nov. 14, with a 12-hour stop in Key West. Cruise planners invite friends and neighbors to join them.

For special St. Stephen's group rates, contact Walt Sozanski at Brandon Travel, 689-8115. The will be the last opportunity to sail on The Big Red Boat, which will be leaving Tampa in February.

St. Stephen's senior high youth group is now meeting on Sundays after Confirmation class at 7:30 to 9 p.m. This month, the group is working on service projects with SHARE Tampa Bay and the Villa Madonna School in Tampa. They are also planning to attend a Tampa Bay Lightning hockey game. Interested high school students may call the church for further information.

**Immanuel Lutheran Church** is hosting an in-depth adult Bible study of the Apostle John's visions as recorded in the Book of Revelations covering the End Times. Registration is now open and all materials are free. Free activities and supervision will also be provided for children. The class meets Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. Contact the church office at 689-1787 or Pat Cook at 689-7592 for further information and registration.

The church's annual Oktoberfest celebration will be held on October 22 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and will feature German food, games, prizes and a bake sale.

**St. Mark's United Church of Christ** has a busy month planned starting Oct. 2 with World Communion Sunday. On October 22, the Men's Breakfast Club will be serving breakfast at the rummage sale. The sale opens at 8 a.m. and breakfast will be served for \$3 until 11 a.m.

Boy Scout Troop #39 meets at the church on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. Call the church at 685-0998 for further information.

The church will sponsor a blood drive on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The drive is part of an Eagle Scout project by Alfred Taylor and will be administered by the University Community Blood Bank.

**Living Savior Lutheran** will hold their Oktoberfest

on Sunday, Oct. 23, at the church located at the corner of Lithia Pinecrest and Bloomingdale Avenue. German food will be served. Members will also be traveling to the Northdale Lutheran Church in Tampa on Oct. 30, for a Joint Reformation Service. They will discuss the heritage of the Lutheran Church highlighting the hymns and chorales.

**South Brandon Baptist** hosts a Western-style round-up on Sunday Oct. 2, with breakfast at 8 a.m. followed by Bible Study at 9:45 and the service at 11:00. Craft night is Oct. 27 at 7 p.m. Call the church at 681-1045 for further information.

**St. Andrew's Methodist Church** members have planned a night of "BBQ, Beans, and Ben" on Oct. 8. Neil Wyrick, a Miami actor, will perform as Ben Franklin at a casual dinner theater. The dinner is at 6 p.m. with the performance beginning at 7:30 at the church. The cost is \$5, and it is open to the public. Mr. Wyrick will also perform at the Sunday, Oct. 9, services. At the 8:30 service, he will portray Methodist found John Wesley, and at 11 a.m., he will portray Francis Asbury, the first Bishop.

The United Methodist Women will hold their annual Craft Bazaar on Oct. 22, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the church located at 3315 Bryan Road.

## Bits N Pieces

Around Bloomingdale



by Jolene Riley

Halloween is one of my favorite holidays, remembering back when we would plan for days, even weeks, deciding what we wanted to be that year, rummaging through boxes, drawing masks and preparing our special costumes. It was always an exciting challenge to see who came up with the best idea in the neighborhood.

These days it's fairly easy to decide what to be for Halloween. You go to a store and simply buy a costume with a mask, wear it for an hour or so, then throw it away. If you and your child would like to be creative this year and do something a little different, try creating something out of cardboard boxes, such as a race car driver with his car, or a cowboy or cowgirl riding a horse.

For the race car, take a medium box and decide what kind of car you want, then color it any color. Draw racing wheels on the sides and a hood and trunk, then cut a hole big enough to fit your child in it up to the waist. Make two long straps to hold it into place by crisscrossing them in back over their shoulders, and attaching the straps to the opening where they will stand by punching four holes and knotting the other end once you have fed it through the small hole.

Same with a horse; color the horse any color, then draw on a saddle or make one out of large pieces of felt by gluing them into place. Draw the horse's head on a separate piece of cardboard and attach it by making two large flaps at the bottom of the neck and folding it over (one going one way and one going the other), then staple or glue the head to the body, along with a long free-flowing tail.

Paper bag masks are more fun than the ones you buy at the store, and children love to use their imagination. First, put a large grocery bag over their head, cutting out the sides for shoulder room. Have your child point out where their eyes are, then mark the spots before removing the bag and cut small holes so they can see well, then let your child go and let them create. They can glue additional pieces of paper to the mask to make animal faces, big ears, or even long curly hair by taking strips of colored construc-

tion paper and twisting it around their finger, gluing it to the top and sides of the bag.

Happy Halloween to everyone. Think safety first.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Michael Snelling** of Bloomingdale, accepted a scholarship to attend Missouri Valley College. He is a 1993 graduate of Bloomingdale High School and has previously attended Hillsborough Community College. Michael, the son of William and Deborah Snelling, is undecided as of now on his major. MVC is a private, four-year liberal arts college in Marshall, Mo.



Michael Snelling

\*\*\*\*\*

With only 84 shopping days left for Christmas, ladies and gents alike should take Santa's advise and stop by for a visit at a quaint shop called From The Heart. It's located in the Royal Oaks Shopping Center, next door to Tate's Athletics. There, you'll find a large variety of both charming and one of a kind items to choose from with a country ambience that is both quite amicable and gracious in appealing abundance.

Look for more shopping tips in next month's issue. Until then, happy shopping.

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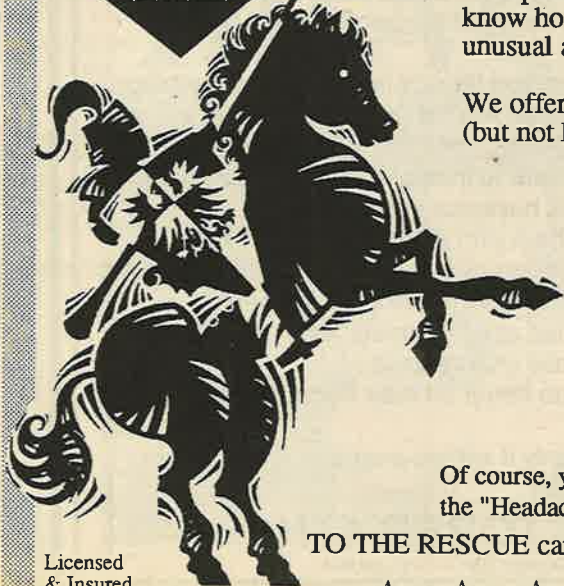
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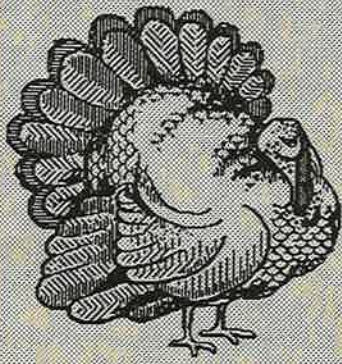
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## Thanksgiving Message



Do you have a humorous anecdote or favorite family tale from Thanksgivings past? If you do, we want to print it in *The Gazette*. Please submit your handwritten or typed story no later than Oct. 15, to 3232 Lithia Pinecrest, Suite 101, Valrico, 33594. Pictures are also welcomed. Please be sure to include your name and phone number on all items submitted. If not now, remember us in the future when *The Gazette* will be looking for monthly story contributions from our residents.

## How The STD Spent Your Tax Dollars In '94

by Rozel Sciulli

Just where does that \$80 a year that residents pay in non-ad valorem taxes go? This year, the answer is trees, walls, and wells. As a new STD board of trustees decides how your tax dollars are to be spent in 1995, outgoing president Rick Pitrowski reflected on all that was accomplished in 1994.

"We strived to make this a lean, efficient governmental unit," said Pitrowski. "We contracted with people who would do quality work for less money."

And saving money, is what the outgoing STD hopes their work this year will accomplish in the long run.

A \$58,000 irrigation project, for example, is expected to save taxpayers \$30,000 a year in county water bills alone. The STD installed four new wells and added new irrigation to West, where it never existed. And to save future boards from this expense, Pitrowski has worked closely with developers to insure that they will include wells, walls and proper landscaping at the entrances to their new subdivisions.

Most noticeable was the aggressive landscaping project that brought 300 new palms to the communities. In addition, seven benches, more oak trees and plant beds were added to enhance the appearance of the common areas.

This was all done under the guidance

and expertise of Greg Atkinson, with whom the STD contracted last winter. Pitrowski felt that finding a property manager with horticultural and landscaping experience was a necessity in making the beautification campaign successful. He added that Atkinson's contract was also at a savings to taxpayers.

Other accomplishments of the outgoing board included contracting with Turf Grass to maintain the common grounds at a savings of approximately \$20,000, according to Pitrowski. The new board is set to begin accepting new bids with improved specifications.

In the early spring, Pitrowski and fellow trustee Joe Liguori, moved the county to action in repairing nearly 30 locations where interior roads were damaged.

Walls where none existed, were added along Canoga Park in Bloomingdale West, and a new wall painting and maintenance agreement was struck, again at a savings from previous years.

After one of the most successful years in recent STD history, Pitrowski, who will not be a member of the new board, said his only regret is that the security measure did not meet with community approval. He added that he hopes the BHA and STD can work closer together for the benefit of all the residents.

## Expansion Of Bloomingdale Begins

by Chris-Ann Phillips

Residents should prepare for months of traffic aggravation as the long-awaited widening of Bloomingdale Avenue begins in two weeks. The \$4.5 million project will expand Bloomingdale from two to five lanes from Bell Shoals to John Moore Road, and is expected to take up to 18 months to complete.

According to Steve Valdez, county spokesman for road engineering and construction, the project will begin at the Bell Shoals and Bloomingdale intersection and move west toward John Moore.

"We already have heavy congestion at Bell Shoals and we didn't want to create another congested area at John Moore, so we want to attack traffic at that point first," he said.

Motorists will be glad to hear that the project will include light signalization at Bryan Road and Bloomingdale.

Starting construction in October will

likely inconvenience holiday shoppers and possibly have an impact on merchants' revenues at this busiest time of the year.

But, says Valdez, the county plans to maintain "clear and safe access" to the shopping district.

Two lanes of traffic will be maintained at all times during construction of the new roadway which will expand to the north and south of the current pavement.

Valdez explained that once the right-of-way is cleared, excavation will begin for the relocation and installation of utilities and stormwater drainage.

Traffic will not necessarily be eased once motorists pass John Moore. The expansion of Bloomingdale from Kings Avenue to U.S. Highway 301 begins in January. The expansion of Bloomingdale from Bell Shoals to Lithia Pinecrest is not scheduled for planning and design



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- Spend a million here and a million there, and soon we are talking real money. I continuously vote against tax & fee increases. I am a fiscal conservative.
- Government does not know how to increase the tax base - let's cut the red tape that restrains business expansion.
- Property rights start in your backyard; behind folio numbers are real people.
- Consolidation of services is not a myth. Good managerial practices shall be implemented at government level. My staff will help you through the maze of bureaucracy.
- "If you tried and failed you are better off than if you had done nothing and succeeded."
- "We make progress if and only if we are prepared to learn from our mistakes." - Karl R. Popper

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## BRATZKE, from page 1

a larger than usual crowd out to see the game and to honor a tremendous athlete. Bratzke's family and close friends were also on hand for the occasion.

A member of Bloomingtondale's class of 1989, Bratzke attended Eastern Kentucky University on a football scholarship. There he received many honors including Ohio Valley Conference Defensive Player of the Year.

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Students at Burns joined others across the country on Sept. 21, for the Nationwide Youth Rally day of prayer entitled "See You at the Pole". Students gathered around the school's flagpole in the morning for student-led prayer.

## Educational Edge

# A Timeline For College Planning

by Ann Kilcline

As students begin high school, it's important to begin planning for further education. Each year, there are things to do that will enable you to maximize your chances of attending the college of your choice. Here are some key steps to concentrate on each year of your high school career.

**Sophomore Year** - Consider taking the PSAT and PACT. The PSAT, taken in preparation for the SAT-I, serves as an entrance criterion for most colleges. Even if the colleges you are considering do not require these scores, the tests will be useful in establishing eligibility for the National Merit Scholarships and certain other scholarships for minority students. The PACT will provide you with useful information concerning your study skills, as well as your plans, needs, and goals for the future. The PSAT and PACT exams are given in October or November.

**Junior Year** - This is the time to start investigating colleges and what they have to offer. You must begin by assessing your needs and goals so that you can find the schools that will best match your interests and abilities. Beginning in September, there are national college fairs at which representatives from various colleges distribute information and answer questions. Attend college night at your high school to learn about the application process and to obtain information on financial aid. In December, begin planning for taking the SAT-I, ACT, AP, and SAT-II exams. In the spring request college catalogues and application forms. Schedule on-campus visits and interviews to attend over the summer.

**Senior Year** - In September, narrow your list of choices to five to seven schools, including one "safe" school to which you are confident about being admitted. Work on your applications, financial aid forms, and essays. Gather letters of recommendation

from your teachers. Be sure to check on deadlines - applications are usually due between January 1, and March 1.

### Visit Your Guidance Counselor

Getting to know your guidance counselor is especially important during high school. In addition to addressing questions about your current curriculum, the counselor will be able to provide you with the necessary information concerning your college agenda. Your counselor will be your most valuable source of information when you begin the involved process of making informed decisions about your future.

Your initial visit will be to establish your goals concerning your education and your future. You should discuss with her your academic interests and the type of school you would like to attend. Part of her job is to help you to set your goals and map out the best possible route to achieve them.

It is important to keep in close contact with your counselor throughout your high school years. She can provide you with registration information for national exams. She can also brief you on the specifics of each of these tests, along with the necessary schedules and registration forms.

When you begin researching the colleges you would like to attend, your guidance counselor can help with directories, reference materials, and can often access on-line databases. Be sure to inquire about the dates and locations of national college fairs.

As a senior, your counselor can help with the application process, including applying for scholarships or financial aid. Or by now, your counselor may know you well enough to write a valuable letter of recommendation for you!

## A Matter Of Principal

# My Perspective of Student Success

**Editor's Note:** From time to time during the school year, *The Gazette* will invite area school principals to share their point of view with our readers on a variety of topics.

by B. J. Stelter

As principal of Bloomingdale High School, I am deeply committed to the role I assume in the lives of hundreds of teenagers. I take these responsibilities very seriously as I consider ways of leading students toward a successful career at Bloomingdale.

Parental support is an integral component in student lives and they can take specific steps to enhance achievement in school. First, parents can praise and value the education their child is working toward. Sit down and share ideas. Examine the syllabus; the assignments. Help them learn to manage time. Set a quiet time for homework...with no phone interruptions. Help establish study habits...and check up on progress.

Second, encourage interaction in school activities. Bloomingdale offers such a variety of opportunities for students. Sports, music, computers, service clubs, special interest clubs, vocational clubs all await interested minds.

Thirdly, promote interaction in the classrooms. Teachers want involved, curious minds. A dynamic classroom depends upon constructive communication. Remember, active communication is a two-way street...in fact it is a process. Ideas flourish when student input, questioning and decision-making is shared.

Yet, no matter how sincerely parents, teachers, and administrators desire young adults to excel in high school, the final

choice rests in the minds of the individual students. When students walk through the doors of a high school they need to determine and develop an image they will hold of themselves. If they perceive themselves as prepared to learn, as involved, as committed, they will be better prepared to act on those thoughts.

Furthermore, personal involvement holds the key to so many inviting opportunities. Involvement is an ACTIVE word...an activity. To get the most out of sports, clubs, music, or class, a teen must consciously select to move from the passive to the active. A successful student consciously selects levels of interaction. The more committed and active, the more benefit from involvement. Another dimension of involvement in school relates to the friends and peers. Select friends carefully. They can be as nourishing as vitamins...or as deadly as poison.

The final phase of success at Bloomingdale will depend upon some very important personal traits. Teens need to consider these questions: Are you kind? Do you demonstrate the golden rule? Do you take time to show concern for others? Are you respectful of differences? Are you a good citizen? These represent some of the fundamental beliefs and concepts learned at home, and then extended to school.

Loving parents and committed teachers, both help provide for a successful school life. But...it is finally up to the student. Academic focus, worthwhile activities, involvement, and positive personal qualities will result in a successful high school career.

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## Gator Tales



### Safe Call Begins

by Kathryn Tracy

PTA volunteers at Alafia Elementary School have begun a Safe Call Program in which parents of absent children are phoned if they have not notified the school of the absence. This combined effort with the school's administration will hope to eliminate parents concerns that their child has arrived at school safely. It is the topic of this month's PTA meeting, "Safe School Climate", on Tuesday, Oct. 18.

On Tuesday, Alafia children are invited to a PTA-sponsored skate party from 3:30 to 5:30 at Skateland. Tickets may be purchased at school for \$2.50, or at the door for \$3.

The PTA would like to remind par-

ents that Oct. 11 is market day pick-up from 4:30 to 5:30. Market Day is a monthly food co-op fundraiser. In September, the PTA had a record breaking order of \$7,000, of which the school earns approximately 10%.

Children's identification may be updated on Oct. 19, through the Kid Safe I.D. Program. Fingerprinting and personal information will be taken.

Alafia's children will be learning about western music and dance leading up to an Oct. 22 Ho-Down. The children will be featured at an assembly line dancing in western attire.

To close out the month, "Red Ribbon Week" will be observed Oct. 23-27. This annual say no to drugs week has various activities scheduled by the PTA and school staff. Each class will adopt a tree on the school property and tie a large red ribbon around it. A "Say No To Drugs" pep rally will close out the week on Oct. 27.

## Lithia Lynx



### PTA Hosts Grandparents

by Donnamarie Kibler

It was a "Grand Day" at Lithia Springs Elementary School on Friday, Sept. 9.

Seventy grandparents were given the "Grand" treatment, complete with a school tour, live entertainment from each grade level and the grandest cookies from the kitchen! Since the response was so positive, PTA has planned several more grand events to continue throughout the school year.

These events include the Great American Teach-In in November, a grandparent reading program to begin the first of the year, and a secret spring func-

tion just for grandparents. The Lithia Springs PTA hopes to build another "Lynx to the Future" with this valuable link to our past!

One hundred pairs of "gently used" shoes were collected at LSES to support the Silent March on Washington, in support of awareness of handgun violence in our communities. Through the Safe Kids Coalition, these shoes will be lined up on the steps of Washington to make a visual impact representing the 38,000 victims of handguns last year. Afterwards, the shoes will continue to make a statement, since

they will be delivered to the needy. The PTA would like to say "Thank you" to everyone who took the time to go through closets and donate shoes.



Lithia Springs children give their grandparents special wishes on the day they were honored at the school.

Mark your

- calendars for these October events:
- Oct. 6 Conference Night
  - Oct. 11 PTA General Meeting at 7:15 p.m.
  - Oct. 18 Skate Party at 6:30 p.m.
  - Oct. 20 Market Day Pick-up at 4:30
  - Oct. 23 Red Ribbon Week (Drug awareness)

## Bulls Eye



by Kathie Bullard

The 1994-95 school year at Bloomingdale is a mix of old traditions and new experiences.

Like the years before, the first few weeks were a fast-paced time of seeing old friends and meeting new ones.

The first pep rally was a success. After the crowd pumping performance by the new cheerleaders, blindfolded teachers and students were lead through an imaginary obstacle course, much to the amusement of the audience.

WBUL, the Bloomingdale morning news show aired for the first time this year. They greeted us in second hour with old and new faces.

A stricter tardy policy was introduced this year. Students must be on time to class or they receive a tardy that will count against them. This, and the amount of students (2,172 to be exact) resulted in having the passing

period moved up to six minutes, lengthening our day by five minutes.

The next big event of the year is Carnibull, an autumn festival held on the school grounds, Saturday, Oct. 28, from 5 to 9 p.m.. Different clubs will create, build, and decorate their own booths. The money raised by the clubs will be kept for their future use in community or school service.

Next up is Spirit Week from Oct. 31 to Nov. 4. Students will dress up to show their school spirit during the week leading up to Homecoming. This year's days include Sports Day, Twin Day, Blast to the Past Day, Career Day, and Spirit Day when students wear their red, black, and white.

Homecoming weekend begins on Nov. 4, with a football game against East Bay. There, the Homecoming Queen will be announced. A dance will be held on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 8 p.m. to midnight, where the entire court and the king will be introduced.

Old and new experiences have created an already different year for students at Bloomingdale.

## Bruin Beat



### Burns Welcomes New Teachers

by Tiffany Waller

This year at Burns Junior High the school year is well underway. Our estimated head count is above 1500. The Burns faculty has also grown by an additional 16 teachers. This year's new faculty members are from various places, including out-of-state, other cities in Florida, and some right out of college.

New to the English Department are Ruthann Anderson, who transferred from South Carolina; Suzy Hall, coming from Jacksonville; and former Burns substitute, Amanda Perryman, who also takes over the school yearbook and morning show.

Lois Riddle-White, an out-of-state transfer, is teaching reading.

The social studies department welcomes Rachel Hardman and Kimberly Menendez, both recent USF graduates; also first-year teacher Donald Middleton and former Burns intern, Joseph Thomas.

Carol Williams transferred from Adams Junior High in Tampa to teach math at Burns, and Michele Bowdish is a new science teacher coming from Land O Lakes High School.

Special area teachers include Larry Bass, who comes from Brandon High to head the new in-school suspension program; SLD teachers Stephanie Boudreaux and Tracy Giles, who comes from Lockhart 6th grade center; EH teacher Darryl Hughey, EMH instructor Katharine Neville, and Roland Garcia, a first-year teacher in the work experience program.

The Bruins wish all of our new faculty and students the best and we hope to have the best year ever!



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## Thanksgiving Message

Do you have a humorous anecdote or favorite family tale from Thanksgivings past? If you do, we want to print it in *The Gazette*. Please submit your handwritten or typed story no later than Oct. 15, to 3232 Lithia Pinecrest, Suite 101, Valrico, 33594. Pictures are also welcomed. Please be sure to include your name and phone number on all items submitted. If not now, remember us in the future when *The Gazette* will be looking for monthly story contributions from our residents.





# Kids Kalendar Rated G

## On Stage

Eckerd Theater Company will present "Peter Rabbit and Other Stories" on Friday, Oct. 21, at 9:30 a.m. at Brandon's Center Place. Merriment and music abound in these fun-filled adaptations of "Jemima Puddle Duck," "A Fierce Bad Rabbit" and "Peter Rabbit". Hostess "beatriz Potter, will take children on an enchanting trip through her wonderful world of talking animals.

Stages Productions will present "Sleeping Beauty" on Thursday, Nov.

3, at 9:30 a.m. and again on Friday, Nov. 4, at 7 p.m. The triumph of good over evil leaves a young audience chering as this musical story unfolds. Three good fairies help beautiful Princess Melisande and her secret playmate Blue Faun, to freak free from the evil fairy and the spinning wheel curse.

Both shows are recommended for children ages four through 3rd grade. Tickets are \$2.50 per person, and must be purchased in advance.



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## This Month's Trivia

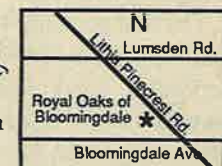
The winner of last month's Trivia Contest was Elise Graham of Bloomingdale East. Thank you to all the residents who submitted answers to last month's puzzle. Here is this month's Trivia. Please submit answers to the Bloomingdale Community Office, 3232 Lithia Pinecrest Road, Suite 101. The individual who is the first to submit all 10 correct answers will be named as the winner in next month's issue of *The Gazette*.

1. Who is Colin Powell?
2. Who played Opie Taylor?
3. What is another name for Brandon Boulevard?
4. How many keys on a standard piano?
5. Who fiddled while Rome burned?
6. What does SCUBA stand for?
7. Where is the Salvador Dali museum?
8. What was Jim Carrey's most recent movie?
9. Where in Tampa can you find minerets?
10. Who is Julia Roberts's husband?

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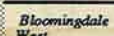
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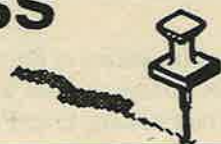
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# Business Notes



## New Owners At Fruit Barn

The historic barn on Bloomingdale Avenue has new proprietors and a new name. Peter and Marcia Alfonso took the long way home, but have finally settled locally to operate the **Berry Barn**, previously Jon and Terri's. Peter, a Tampa native, and Brandonite, Marcia, have returned to the area after many years away helping farmers in Central and South America to improve their skills.

They offer a wide variety of fruits and vegetables, many locally grown. And they have a selection of jellies, mustards, honeys, syrups, and preserves. The new owners also offer new hours to their customers. The Berry Barn will be open Monday through Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

## EXCEL Services

One call does it all, preach the owners of **EXCEL Services**, who specialize in total home care, indoor and out. Original owners, Joe and Frank Aversa, have returned to take over full proprietorship of the business, and they are joined by partner Bob DiDonatis. They provide janitorial services, painting in and out, carpet cleaning, carpet sales and installation, pressure washing and lawn care. Licensed, bonded, and insured, the owners of EXCEL have been Bloomingdale residents for six years, but bring with them 20 years of experience in the business.

## Furniture From The Heart

When Crystal and her sister Kelly took over **From The Heart** craft gallery, they were excited about adding country

furniture to the one-year-old business. They held an open house last month to introduce residents to their new line after expanding into a second suite next door. The expansion made possible the addition of 150 new crafters whose work is displayed in this daily indoor craft show.

The furniture is hand crafted by a local artisan, whose display includes bedroom furniture, tables and chairs, accent pieces, and outdoor furniture. Custom orders are also gladly accepted.

## Kim Hall's Relocates

**Kim Hall** has combined her two dance studio locations to form one large school in the Royal Oaks of Bloomingdale Plaza, 3244 Lithia Pinecrest Road. Offering dance classes in Brandon for 13 years, Hall and her five instructors teach children beginning at age three and all levels of classes through adults. Now with two teaching studios in one location, Kim Hall's is still accepting registrations for the new year in jazz, ballet, tap, and acrobatics, plus adult beginner classes in jazz and tap. Classes are available after school, in the early evening and on Saturdays.

Over the years, the Brandon native has instructed thousands of students, many of whom are now dancing professionally. For further information, residents are asked to call 681-4476.

## Live Sound Recording

A new Bloomingdale business has opened which hopes to offer **Live Sound Recording** to area groups and individuals. Sound engineer, George Papabeis, who has 20 years of experience in the recording industry, will make acoustical recordings and demo tapes of musical or vocal performances, or speech recordings. And because his recording is on-site, performers don't have to go to a studio, but rather, work in a natural environment whether it's a church sanctuary or living room. Papabeis says his experience and professional equipment make the quality of his recordings superior to those attempted by the performers themselves. He said that he will also assist with the duplication process, should groups or individuals want to release copies of their recording. Papabeis can be reached at 684-7805.

## Golf N Games Expands

Fun for the whole family is in store at **Golf N Games** on east Brandon Boulevard diagonally across from Nativity Catholic Church. Featuring a newly-lighted driving range, batting cages, and miniature golf, the facility is under the new management of experienced golf course manager Robbie Warner, a BHS graduate. Golf N Games is open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. and offers weekly specials. Situated on 14 acres, the center's newest addition is its batting cages which are already seeing plenty of action from local Little League teams as well as adults. The cages offer slow pitch and fast pitch softball, plus baseball speeds of 50, 70, 80, and 90 mph.

## Attorney Opens Office

**Jack Kramer** announces the opening of his private law practice at 101 American Center Place, in Brandon. Specializing in family and civil law including divorce, custody, wills, civil litigation, and bankruptcy, Kramer was previously affiliated with firms in Brandon and Tampa. The University of Florida graduate has been practicing law for two-and-a-half years. According to Kramer, he offers a free initial consultation. He is married to the former Belinda Ford, a longtime Brandon resident.

## Kids Celebrate Opening

Kids and adults all over Brandon are finding out how much fun they can have at **Celebration Station**, which opened last month at I-75 and Brandon Boulevard. The colorful amusement park consists of an indoor activity area with pizza theatre and interactive video wall and state of the art video/arcade games, plus indoor soft-play area; and an outdoor play area featuring go-karts, bumper boats, playland rides, miniature golf and batting cages.

Celebration Station offers free parking and free admission. Activities can be enjoyed all for one price. For \$5.99, children under 60 inches in height receive a wrist band good for unlimited activities. Guests who are 60 inches or taller may purchase a wrist band for \$12.99. Group rates and birthday party rates are also available.

Park hours are Monday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Fridays, 11 a.m. to midnight; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to midnight; and Sundays 10 to 10.



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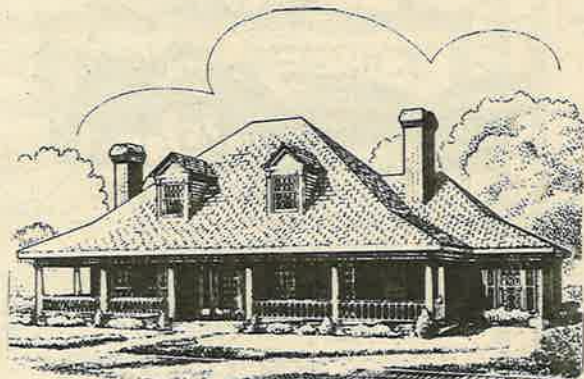
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# Athletic Calendar

October Events for Bloomingdale & Burns

- Oct.1 X-Country Bishop Invite, Brandon
- 4 J.V. Football vs. East Bay  
Bulls Volleyball vs. Leto  
Swimming at Plant City YMCA
- 5 Bruin Volleyball at McLane  
Bruin Football at Turkey Creek
- 6 Swimming vs. Jesuit at BSTC
- 7 Bulls Football at Lakeland
- 8 X-Country at Bullfrog Creek
- 10 Bruin Volleyball at Tomlin
- 11 J. V. Football vs. Chamberlain  
Bulls Volleyball at East Bay
- 12 Bruin Football vs. Dowdell at Tech
- 13 Bulls Football vs. Chamberlain  
X-Country, Gaither Invite
- 14&15 Swimming Conf. Champ. Meet
- 17 Bruin Volleyball at Turkey Creek  
X-Country, Soph. Conference
- 18 Bulls Volleyball vs. Brandon  
Swimming vs. King at BSTC
- 20 Bruin Football vs. Mann at Brandon  
Swimming vs. Gaither at BSTC  
X-Country, Conference at Brandon
- 21 Bulls Football at Lake Gibson
- 24-28 District Volleyball Tournament
- 26 Bruin Volleyball at Dowdell
- 27 Bruin Football vs. McLane at BSHS
- 29 X-Country, Districts at Lake Park
- Nov.2 Bruin Volleyball vs. Mann
- Nov.3 Bruin Football vs. Tomlin at BSHS
- Nov.4 Bulls Football vs. East Bay
- Nov.5 Swimming District Meet  
X-Country Regionals

## Commentary

### Bull Athletes Need Your Support

by Rozet Sciulli

Bloomingdale's All-Sports Athletic Booster Club is making a plea for greater parent support. With parents' and grandparents' memberships they are able to fund some of the extras that the county does not offer the Bulls' athletic teams.

Bloomingdale High School is central to this community and deserves the support of all the residents. You don't necessarily have to have a child attending BSHS to be a supporter of the only high school in town.

Time was when Brandon High School was the focal point of an entire community. Friday night football games, winters in the gym, and spring afternoons around the baseball park were the highlight of everyone's week. The high school environment and excitement it created was the tie that bound an entire town.

The student-athletes at Bloomingdale High School are home-grown. They are your neighbor, your babysitter, the little boy or girl who years ago played in your backyard, the teen who bags your groceries or mows your lawn. They

# Bruin Teams Open Season This Week

by Brian Bergren

The Burns Junior High School fall sports season is nearly underway and the Bruins' football and volleyball teams are ready to show their talent. Burns has enjoyed a tradition of great seasons and winning records, and the 1994 season is expected to be no exception. With only two grades at the junior high level (8th and 9th), an inconsistent talent pool is an ongoing problem, but the Bruin coaching staff always seems to overcome this dilemma.

Coach Bill Agathias will begin his eighth year as coach of the Bruin football team. Also coaching the team this will be assistants Mike McNeal, Bill Rhey, and Melvin Roberts. The team finished the 1993 season with a 4-2 record, but are hoping to go undefeated in 1994. "Since we have so few games in a season, if we lose one game is nearly impossible to win our division," said Coach Agathias. The Bruins lost a number of starters last year, but the incoming freshmen will fill the gaps. Quarterback John Gustafson land runningback Lee Gainer will spearhead the Burns attack, while linebacker Donny Freeman and defensive back Nick McKeller will keep the ball out of the opponents' endzone.

There has been a change in scheduling for the 1994 season. All 9th grade high school teams playing at the junior high level will now exclusively only play other all-ninth grade teams. As a result, the Jefferson game was cancelled and this has disappointed many at the Bruin camp.

"Unfortunately, this is the beginning of the end for junior high football, but we are looking forward to another great season and hope we can do the best that we can in our last years," said Agathias.

Burns will open the season at Turkey Creek on Oct. 5.

need the support of every resident and business in the Bloomingdale community to make their program a success.

Alumni and faculty members may join for \$15; this includes parents whose children are former athletes. Family membership is \$35. Members are entitled to free parking and booster seating at football games.

Century Club membership is a \$100 donation, which provides free parking at any event, booster seating at football games, company or family name on Century Club Board at the stadium, and two home passes to all season sporting events. Lifetime Membership is a \$500 donation which includes all the above plus two lifetime season passes to all sporting events.

Oh, and, by the way, it's not just about football. In case you didn't know, Bloomingdale's entire athletic program was named tops in the county last year by the St. Pete Times for the second year in a row. Now that's something to get in your car and honk your horn about.

Help keep the Bloomingdale athletic program number one. Become an All-Sports Booster. Call membership chairperson Becky Wilson at 685-2253, or sign up at the school. Do it now.

The pride and joy of Burns is set to begin their season. The 1994 volleyball team was selected on Sept. 16 by Coach Tommi Plaire. Erica Perry, Ashley Anderson, Jennifer Busciglio, and Jaime Melton are returning from last year's team that went 5-1 and finished the season in a three-way tie for the Eastern Division title.

The eight starters who graduated from Burns will be replaced by Heidi Buchanan, Gloria McSpaden, Annie Ruiz, Kathy Burke, Dori Carson, Shelby Lynn McBride, Cathy Atkins, and Christina Canelli. Coach Plaire will begin her ninth year at the the helm of the Bruins' volleyball team. She has coached her team to the county championships four times, but has been unsuccessful in her attempts to win the title. Her teams have been Eastern Division champs six times including last year when Burns tied both Tomlin and Turkey Creek for the title. The Bruins' single goal is to improve.

"We hope to have an undefeated season," said Coach Plaire.

Improvement can only mean another championship for this dedicated coach. The team's first match is on the road against McLane on Monday.

Burns athletics is a direct link to the fine athletic program at Bloomingdale High School. The names and faces of both coaches and players at Burns will be around for quite some time.

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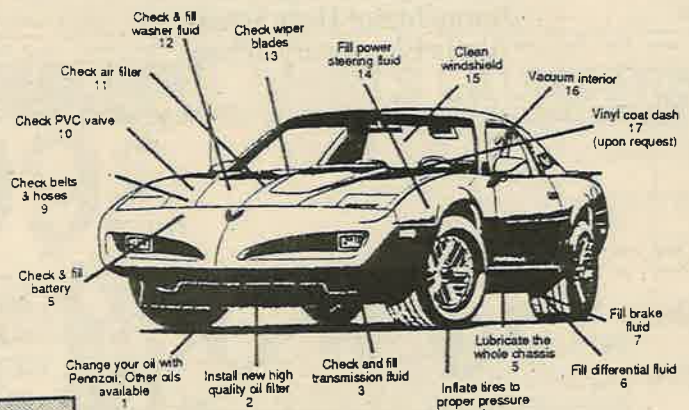
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OIL CHANGE  
\$3.00 OFF  
OUR  
FULL SERVICE  
OIL CHANGE  
REG. \$21.95  
With  
Coupon \$18.95  
PRICE INCLUDES CHOICE OF  
OILS: PENNZOIL 30W, 10/30, 10/40,  
CASTROL GTX 20/50  
Coupon Expires 11/9/94

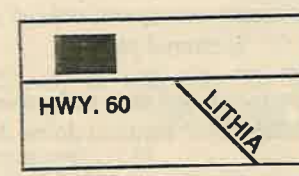
Struts  
or  
Shocks  
\$5.00  
OFF  
Coupon Expires 11/9/94

**BRAKE  
SPECIAL**  
\$49.95 (PER AXLE)  
(MOST CARS)  
INCLUDES:  
✓ NEW BRAKE PADS OR  
SHOES  
✓ RESURFACE DRUMS &  
ROTORS  
✓ REPACK WHEEL  
BEARINGS  
✓ INSPECT & ADJUST  
HYDRAULIC SYSTEM  
✓ SPECIAL SEMI-METALIC  
PADS ARE EXTRA  
Valid only with coupon. Not valid with  
other coupons or on sale items.  
Coupon Expires 11/9/94

- Transmission Fluid Change
- Differential Fluid Change
- Radiator Flush
- Fuel Injection Service
- Brake Service
- Tune - Ups
- Belts & Hoses
- Valve Cover Gaskets
- CV Boots

**314 E. BRANDON BLVD.**  
**684-8705**

ACROSS FROM SCOGGINS



**HOURS:**  
Monday - Friday  
8 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Saturday  
7:30 - 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday  
11 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Owned and Operated by a BI. Resident





**BHA Meeting**

The regular monthly meeting of the Bloomingdale Homeowners' Association will be held Tuesday, Oct. 11, at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Office, 3232 Lithia Pinecrest Road, Suite 101. This month's guest speaker will be Joel Jackson from Hillsborough County Parks and Recreation Department.

**STD Meeting**

The new fiscal year of the Bloomingdale Taxing District begins today and the first meeting of the new board of trustees is set for Monday, Oct. 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Office, 3232 Lithia Pinecrest Road, Suite 101. Bloomingdale residents are invited to attend.

**Vote Tuesday**

Residents are reminded to cast their votes in Tuesday's run-off elections. Polling sites will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**Arts, Crafts at Square**

There will be an arts and crafts festival at Bloomingdale Square this weekend from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Over 50 crafters will have their works on exhibit.

**Carnibull**

The Student Council at Bloomingdale Senior High School will sponsor its annual Carnibull on Saturday, Oct. 28, from 5 to 9 p.m., at Charlie Harris Stadium. Featured will be game booths and activities for youngsters. Club members will use proceeds to fund their various community and school service projects.

**Fall Festival**

Area children are invited to attend the annual Fall Festival at Bell Shoals Baptist Church on Monday, Oct. 31, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The festival is open to children from pre-school through sixth grade. There, they will participate in games, win prizes, and have refreshments. The church, which does not promote Halloween, asks that children dress in costumes that portray a positive image. Children who arrive in scary, ghoulish, or negative attire will not be permitted to attend.

**Craft Bazaar**

Members of the United Methodist Women will hold their annual Craft Bazaar on Oct. 22, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Andrews Methodist Church, 3315 Bryan Road.

**Oktoberfest**

Immanuel Lutheran Church will hold its annual Oktoberfest on Oct. 22 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Living Savior Lutheran Church will hold its festivities on Sunday, Oct. 23, after services. Both celebrations will feature German food. The public is invited.

**Classified**

**TUPPERWARE:** Parties replacement pieces. Call Susan Dickison at 681-5650 10/94

**DRYCLEAN PICK UP:** How would you like your dry cleaning picked up in the morning before work and delivered to your door that evening? \$6. fee weekly/biweekly or once in a while. Bloomingdale resident. Call anytime 653-1704.

**HOMES FOR SALE: Call Donna Mac Giffert 654-7070**

**Lovely caged pool and spa home** 4/2, corner lot, skylights, FP, wet bar & so much more! Call Donna Mac 654-7070

**Impeccable Custom Home!**

4/3, neutral colors, beautiful lot \$147,900. For more details call Donna Mac 654-7070

**Beautiful home nestled among the trees!**

4/2 with lots of tile, large lanai w/river rock, \$164,900. Call Donna Mac for more details 654-7070.

**Gorgeous custom 5/3 home w/den-office.** Beautiful view of

Bloomingdale Golf Course, \$355,000. Call Donna Mac 654-7070.

**VA Non-Qual.**

Immaculate beautiful conservation lot, 4/2 home w/pool \$119,000. Call Donna Mac for more details 654-7070.

**Beautiful large great room plan w/FP.** 3/2 with spacious fenced yard! \$80,500. Call Donna Mac at 654-7070.

**Fabulous Home!** 5/3.5 with 3154 sq. ft. Huge master suite. Enormous eat-in kitchen, lots of tile, \$144,900. For more details call Donna Mac at 654-7070.

**Great secluded setting!** Approx. 2 acres of waterfront river/bay access. 3 FP, 5/3 w/pool, heated jacuzzi, \$439,000. Donna Mac at 654-7070.

**Spectacular! Luxurious! Gorgeous!**

Dramatic entry, high ceilings, enormous rooms. 5/3.5 pool, spa and so much more! \$299,700. Call Donna Mac at 654-7070.

**Gorgeous setting nestled among the trees!** 4/2 pool home, \$147,750. Call Donna Mac at 654-7070.

**Panoramic view of Golf Course!**

Upgrades galore! 3/2, breathtaking view, \$129,900. Call Donna Mac at 654-7070.

**Hard to find, 4/2 w/den.** Caged pool home \$126,900. Call Donna Mac 654-7070.

**South Oak - design and built for total comfort!** Just too many amenities to list. Call Donna Mac 654-7070.

**Mini estate, distinctive, elegant, & beautiful.**

Unbelievable pool home w/swim up bar, outstanding kitchen and so much more. \$590,000. Call Donna Mac at 654-7070.

**An Abundance of extras!** Beautifully designed & decorated 4/3.5, \$375,000. Call Donna Mac 654-7070.

**HOUSECLEANING:**

Give yourself a break! Let Judy clean your home, office, condo, or apartment; reasonable rates, references available. Weekly/bi-weekly. Call anytime 681-5609. License #80356.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:**

**AD REPS:** The Bloomingdale Gazette is now hiring ad reps. P/T or F/T, call now at 681-2051.

**WRITERS:** Part time, freelance writers needed. If you have always wanted to try your hand at writing, this is a great opportunity. Call 681-2051.

**GARAGE SALE:** Fox Run neighborhood garage sale, Sat., Oct. 15, 7:30 - noon. Many families participating, large selection.

*Residents who are . . .*

**CAKE DECORATOR** Flowers, airbrush in many designs; Power Rangers & Lion King. Joan terMors 654-6556.

**BABYSITTERS:** Angela Reiser (18) and Kimberly Reiser (15) 684-6006. Erin (17) and Beth (14) Schlossnagle 653-0453. Stefanie Skubina (12) 681-9496 7/94

**AVON REPRESENTATIVES:** Ruth Calandro, 689-0212. 6/94. Marcy Ringdahl, 654-8630

**MARYKAY CONSULTANTS:** Carol Williams, 689-8076 /94. Barbara Borchers, 653-2509

**ART CLASSES:** Drawing, Colored Pencils, Pastels. Call 689-2087

**PORTRAIT ARTIST:** Children/Adults, Pencil, Pastels, Watercolor. J. Oros, 689-2087

20 YEARS EXPERIENCE

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7 - DAY - 24 HOUR

**PLUMBING SERVICE**

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Lakeland - Winter Haven Paul Sagraves 813-858-0852

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3905 Kristin Place Valrico, FL 33594

(813) 681-4548 FAX 684-1608

**Beautiful Mountain Home For Sale**

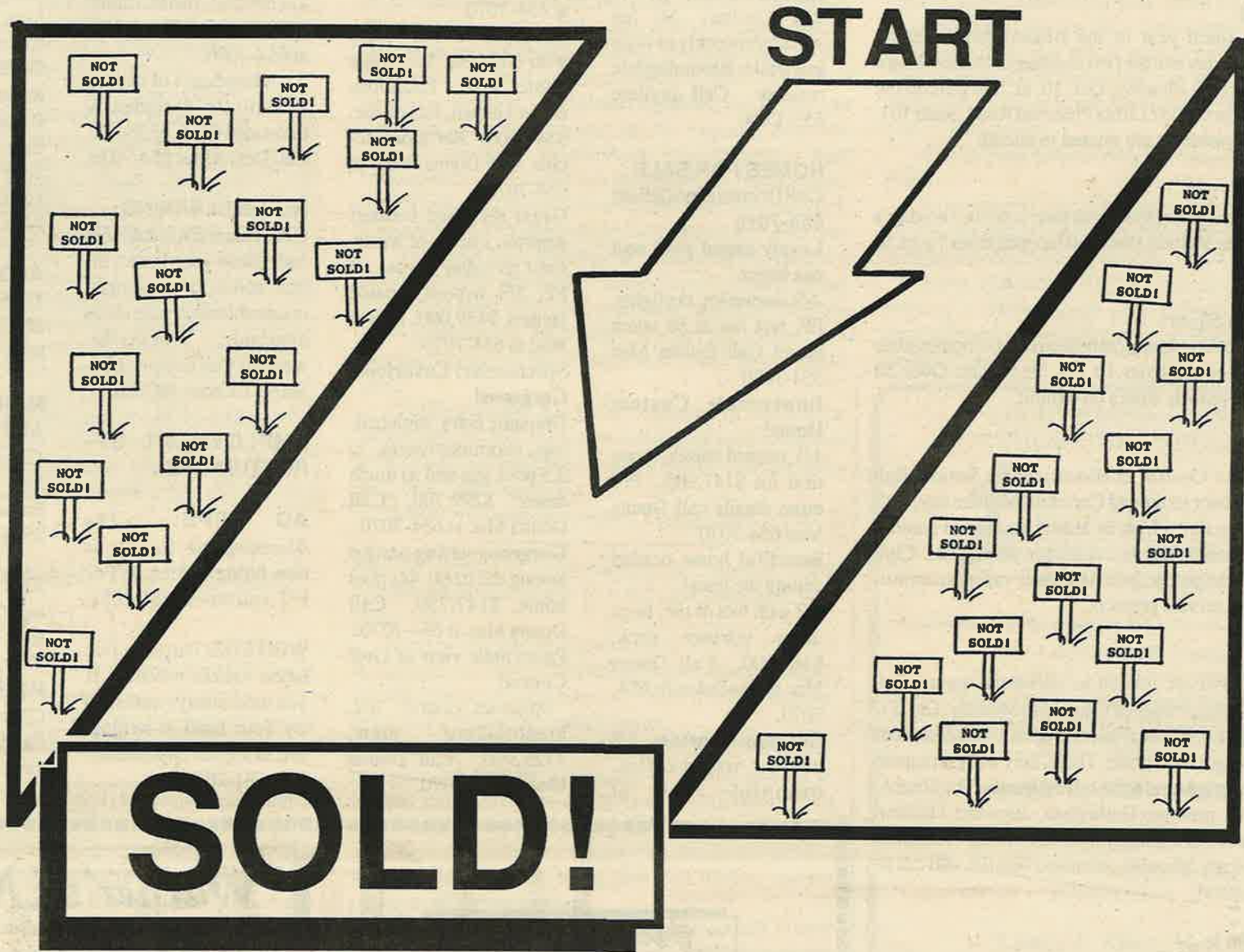
See The Leaves Change in Maggie Valley, N. C. (15 min. from ski slopes)

3/2 Garage, all appliances furnished or unfurnished

**689-5647** evenings




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 It's easy to get from start to  
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