



See Pages 8 & 9

Give Your Home A Lift



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The Bloomingdale Gazette

Volume XIII, Number 10

Published by the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc.

October

Just What Is Corroding The Water Pipe

by Rozel Sciulli

Pin-hole leaks, dripping hot-water heaters, failed commode plumbing, corroded water faucets - there are few homes in Bloomingdale that have not experienced one or more of these problems. And, while it's easy to point to and suspect poor water quality as the culprit, it may only be one of the contributing factors.

While water's share of the problem may be resolved by next spring, recent studies from as far away as Greenwich, Ct., and as close as Temple Terrace and Orlando, indicate that corrosion can also be caused by poor installation of copper pipes and even lightning.

Bloomingdale Oaks resident Rhonda Loos is tired of finding wet carpeting in her home and after four major repairs, she is looking for other residents who want to band together to fight this problem.

"Whether we have to fight the county or the home builders, something has to be done about this," Loos stated. "I'm afraid to go away for the weekend because I could return and find my house flooded."

In a survey of area plumbers, each had his own theory as to the cause of pipe corrosion, but all agreed that there is a higher incident of calls in the Bloomingdale and Four Winds areas than in other parts of Brandon.

According to Bill Grable of Grable Plumbing, the pipes in these areas are "eaten up."

"I don't know what the common denominator is," he said, "but someone will find it."

He pointed to a long study that has been conducted by the Temple Terrace community. Recently completed, the study showed that the water within the city limits caused premature failure of piping. The city of Temple Terrace, however, was not held liable.

Like the water in Bloomingdale, the Temple Terrace water comes from deep wells.

Bloomingdale receives its water from the Lithia Pumping Station, which serves all of south central Hillsborough County. The pumping station gets its water

from well fields owned by the West Coast Regional Water Supply Authority. Unlike river water which is extensively treated before it can be consumed, well water is essentially ready to drink, according to county engineer Brian Page.

"One component of well water is hydrogen sulfide (the rotten egg odor associated with well water) which is very corrosive," said Page. "A majority of the problems are caused through chlorine treatment of the water."

The county recently completed an extension of the Federal Lead Rule, which requires that corrosion be kept to a minimum.

"Ironically," said Page, "the south central area does not meet the optimal standards of corrosion control. Unfortunately, there is a real problem with copper. Unfortunately, there are no regulatory consequences for copper corrosion."

See WATE

Zoning Hearing Continued, Road Impact Questioned

by Rozel Sciulli

There may be no fighting city hall, but city hall is finally listening. When Bloomingdale residents, county staffers, and representatives of Metropolitan Life all had their say at last month's hearing to determine the fate of two parcels of land in East, the hearing master was not satisfied.

In particular, John Crisp wants to hear more about the traffic impact a proposed commercial development at the corner of Bell Shoals and Bloomingdale will have on the already congested intersection. The applicants now have until Oct. 25 to submit a revised traffic analysis as it applies to level of service. In addition, the homeowners requested that Met Life

submit a site plan for the commercial section of the 35-acre tract.

According to Dan Santos of county planning, the major re-zoning request now has a condition attached that the roads would have to maintain the same level of impact as specified when the land was originally zoned for professional use.

Met Life is planning 172,000 square feet of commercial retail space. This is a change from the current zoning which allows 380,000 square feet of professional office use which has less impact on traffic. According to Santos, road service is currently adequate for this use, which, he added, would be equal to about 100,000 square feet of office space.

See ZONING, page 2



Photo by Gwen Szafanski

Do you parent fooled by smiling at 1 Ala open 1 o Septem

Little League Needs Funds For Capital Improvements

by Rozel Sciulli

Hoping to raise \$20,000 for capital improvements, the Bloomingdale Little League board of directors finds itself between the proverbial rock and a hard place - taking care of a youth sports complex without county financial support and trying to convince the parents whose children play there that their fund raising efforts are necessary.

Their largest fund raising project to date is a concert set for Saturday, Oct. 16, featuring the group Calabash. (see related story).

The league plans to build new bathrooms and make improvements to the concession stand with the proceeds from the event.

Some parents, however, are neither happy with the condition of the complex nor the fund raising efforts that are taking place to improve those conditions. At the center of the controversy is the concert, which some parents believe will attract a "bad element" from other parts of the county.

League president Allen Berry points out that it costs in excess of \$100,000 to operate the league in the fall and spring seasons. These funds do not provide enough money for major improvements to the facility, he said. Last season's projects of building press boxes at each field and a second concession stand in the softball area were made possible through donated materials and volunteer hours.

According to John Sinclair of the county's parks and recreation department, Bloomingdale Little League is the

owned and operated parks such as South Brandon and East Bay, to name those in this county. Thousands of county dollars and materials are spent on improvements to their facility. County crews do off-season maintenance to all of its parks from dug-outs to spreading clay on the infields. Sinclair points out that the county does pay Bloomingdale's Little League which runs approximately \$1500 per month.

The current league property is entrusted to the Bloomingdale Civic Association and cannot be sold. Twenty-six years ago, the association was formed and the property was transferred to it. The property became tax exempt. And according to the terms of the agreement are air-tight.

"It is impossible for the county to even buy the property or to lease it," he said.

As a result, board members at Bloomingdale have long relied on parent volunteers and parents to maintain its complex. While parents have provided many man hours necessary for the day-to-day upkeep of the park, the dollars often run short when major improvements are needed.

According to Berry, there are four ways to raise funds - registration fees, concession profits, donations, and fund-raisers. It is the latter that parents have relied on.

"Fund raising efforts in the past have been piecemeal, a little fund raiser here and a little

BHA Seeks Board Nominees

Residents who are interested in serving on the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association board of directors are asked to submit their names during the month of October. Prospective nominees are asked to call BHA president Randy Wolfe at 684-0079, Rick Oros at 685-0866, or the community office at 685-2051. Nominations will be made at the board's November meeting.

BLOOMINGDALE COMMUNITY PAGE

The Bloomingdale Gazette

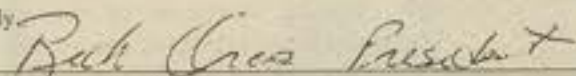
Dear Bloomingdale Residents,

As we acquire more things of quality our interests in protecting them, and in maintaining our environs grows. With more potentially at risk, there is less willingness to take risk and a greater desire to play it safe. In the Bloomingdale area this shift in priorities manifests itself in a number of ways, including increasing expenditures on rehabilitation and remodeling, greater attention to physical security and home protection, and regular immersion in ever larger waves of nostalgia for artifacts of the past. But most important are the dual and complementary tendencies of more residents staying put when once finally settled and to limit the entrance of others to their areas of settlement.

Once settled, people strive to preserve and protect their nest and its location. In the Bloomingdale area, exclusionary zoning to control the type of development that occurs in a town by specifying kinds of construction and sizes of lots, has long been practiced and has specifically upheld by our court system. However, the preceding years has brought rapid growth to a number of areas, improving the lot (and lots!) of many and at the same time threatening that improvement with the consequence of further uncontrolled growth. The response was to slow, even halt, any growth at all, of any type. Entire states also have sought to hold off activities that raised the possibility of disturbing an environment and a life-style that they wished to preserve.

In the future more such actions will be regularized and legitimized, in tacit recognition of a steadily growing preference to preserve and protect what has been attained through greater economic security and more discretionary income. Closely linked to this preference is another which seeks to extend the same protection to life itself.

Sincerely,



ZONING, from page 1
commercial retail use.

Because developers plan to begin the commercial project this year, pending approval of the zoning change, homeowner representative Rick Pitrowski feels the county would be allowing the cart to be put before the horse.

Citing that the widening of Bloomingdale Avenue is not projected to reach the Bell Shoals area for several more years, Pitrowski objects to commercial development moving forward at that intersection.

"They would be placing a burden on an already overcrowded intersection," he said. "The county should put the roads in first."

Pitrowski also pointed to the amount of vacant retail space in the Bloomingdale area. "We don't know what's going in there, but unless it's something really spectacular that we don't already have out here, we're going to be looking at more empty buildings."

Approximately 30 residents attended the Sept. 20 hearing where the applicants requested major zoning changes for two parcels of land known as BL 28 at Erindale and Lithia-Pinecrest and BL 5 at Bell Shoals and Bloomingdale, doglegging back to Springvale.

Met Life, which owns both properties as well as other undeveloped lands in the southern sector of Bloomingdale East, conceded to two changes that homeowners had requested.

Originally requesting that the 18 acres of Erindale property be rezoned for single family attached housing, the property owners have amended their request to allow for the development of not more than 52 single family homes. Met Life is also giving homeowners along Wrencrest, whose property backs up to that land, a 20-foot buffer that residents hope will remain wooded.

Pitrowski's group, Bloomingdale Homeowners for Quality Living, is still

fighting to keep that land zoned municipal commercial which would allow for a library, fire department, or county parks and recreation office.

At the September meeting of the BHA, a packed house was unyielding. Although spokesmen for Met Life showed homeowners how they have made minor modifications to the zoning of other tracts in Bloomingdale that would reduce the total number of single family residences when all land is developed, homeowners remained adamant about maintaining a municipal use for the Erindale land.

"When the plan was made in 1974," said resident Larry Rivers, "they planned for municipal use of the property to take care of the needs of the people in this area. When a business takes from a community, they should give back to the community to add to our quality of life."

Santos said that the county is recommending that the property be zoned for single family housing or municipal commercial. He plans to meet with representatives of appropriate county agencies to determine if they would have a need for that land.

In yet another concession, Met Life agreed to change multi-family attached housing proposed for Springvale from rental apartments to owned townhouses.

Both residential areas would be slowly phased in over a five-year period.

According to Santos there are other areas for municipal use in the future. Three acres at the corner of Glenhaven and Nature's Way could be put to municipal use. He also pointed to two tracts, 11 acres south of Erindale at the end of Moreland and another south of the golf course, that are designated in the original plans for use as parks.

"The homeowners out there are really doing a good job," said Santos. "They should just keep monitoring the property to make sure they don't lose the remaining municipal areas."

OFFICERS

BLOOMINGDALE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
3232 Lithia Pinecrest Road
Suite 101
Valrico, Florida 33594
681-2051

Randy Wolfe	President	684-0079
Russ Lemhke	Vice President	685-7193
Rick Oros	Secretary	685-0866
Jim Wiley	Treasurer	684-7825

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Jeff Campbell	689-9650	Ronda Paramore	654-4475
Ted Grable	685-7193	Walzer Schaffer	654-6651
Ian Horn	681-2051	LaWayne Wyatt	685-2072
David Lees	681-3999		

Bloomingdale Special Taxing District

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Ron Delavan	Vice President	685-1711
Joe Liguori	Treasurer	681-9655
John Gunn	Corresponding Secretary	689-1017
Ron Mabe	Recording Secretary	684-8924
Peter Aluotto	Temporary Trustee	685-0727
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Bob Stalker	Administrator	685-2901

Bloomingdale Mobile Watch

Core Committee

LaWayne Wyatt	Coordinator/Scheduler	685-2072
John Britton	Treasurer	681-1553
Steve Schneider	Equipment Manager	685-8378

Members

David Guy	681-5943
Paul Keimer	601-9701
Rick Boering	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

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Valrico, Florida 33594 681-2051
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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.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Christopher Wilson, the burn victim whose attack in Bloomingdale last New Year's Day, received national attention, has incurred over \$75,000 in medical bills after insurance. A special fund has been established at Nation's Bank to help defray his costs. Residents or service organizations wishing

to make a donation may do so by mailing their contributions to The Christopher Wilson Fund, c/o Nation's Bank, P.O. Box 31590, Tampa, FL 33633-0475. County commissioner Sylvia Kimball has spearheaded this drive to show that "Hillsborough County residents do care."

STD PLANTS TREES



Bob Stalker, Administrator for the STD, checks on the newly planted trees. Some are in shock but soon will return to be green and healthy again.

Another phase of the irrigation and tree planting project of the Bloomingdale Special Taxing District is nearing completion. Forty nine young oak trees have recently been planted along Green Hollow, seventy on Nature's Way, and one hundred and twenty along Culbreath Road according to Bob Stalker, administrator of the STD, who added that all trees were purchased at Bloomingdale Growers.

Residents may have noticed the new water system installed by Brandon Irrigation, which extends from the corner of Bell Shoals down Glenhaven and north on Nature's Way past Briar Lake.



To get a free copy of the Hillsborough County School Report by the National School Reporting Service, Inc. contact *The Bloomingdale Gazette* at 681-2051.

Smiling Faces: Meet Sue Harbridge And The Staff Of Mailboxes Etc.

by Gwen Szafranski

If the moving blues have you down - too many still unpacked boxes, unfamiliar streets, new schools and stores, the intense Florida heat and oppressive humidity - get over to Mailboxes Etc. if you haven't already.

Pop into the mail and packing store at 813 E. Bloomingdale Avenue at Bloomingdale Square, and more than likely the smiling face behind the counter will ask how you are doing. Somehow her kind blue eyes strike a

comforting note, and you find yourself unleashing all the woes of moving to this uncivilized state.

"You sound as if you have a touch of Minneapolis in your voice," says the lady behind the counter who identifies herself as Sue Harbridge. Amazed, you begin a conversation about the glories of the Mid West and sooner than you can count out twenty stamps, Sue has you seeing the bright side of the Sunshine State.

Harbridge, a native of Chicago, has owned Mailboxes Etc. for almost five years and realizes that her business has become more than just a place to make copies, pick up mail, send faxes or buy a gift basket for a relative "up north."

"We've become a friendly support system for newcomers," commented Harbridge. "They need someone who cares to listen to them."

A multi-talented lady with a masters degree in education, Harbridge taught elementary school for six years in Indiana, was a full-time mother for 15 years (PTA, Girl and Boy Scouts) and managed to paint as well as design and create stained glass.

Her husband Jim's transfer to Florida and the chance to buy the Mailboxes Etc. business gave Harbridge a new channel for her creativity and skills. She is constantly testing new systems and methods to make the job easier for her staff.

Harbridge is proud of her staff, who all seem to share her sunny disposition and Mid-Western values.

Nancy Wilcox, originally from Iowa, has been with Harbridge four and a half years. Also an ex-teacher, Wilcox has lived in many areas of the country due to the moving involved with her husband's job at Cargill and can identify with newcomers from any region. She handles the post office and forwarding, enjoys gourmet cooking, and attends St. Andrews United Methodist Church as do co-workers Jessie Pinney and Michelle Stark.

Pinney, whose husband also works for Cargill, hails from Minnesota and has worked for Harbridge over a year. An ex-nurse, Pinney often has words of advice for friendly but anxious customers.

Stark is a former legal secretary who handles the typing and word processing. She is a young mother who enjoys gardening as a hobby.

Karen Adams and Dianne Sonneborn are the newest additions to the staff.

Sonneborn is a busy mother who has travelled extensively with her family as a military wife and is a part-time student at HCC. Terri, her daughter, a senior at Florida State, works in the business during her vacation.

Adams has many years experience in insurance sales and servicing. She also helps her husband Jerry with his fishing show business which appears on the USF television network locally.



Photo by Tim Golden

Standing left to right: Diane, Michelle, Jesse, Sue Harbridge, Nancy; Kneeling left to right: Jim Harbridge, Jr., and Jim, Sr.

(Diapers and desserts, legalese and horticulture - customers will find any topic is fare for exchange with the Mailboxes staff.)

Harbridge also employs son Jim, a senior at Brandon High School, who has worked in the store since he was 14. Bloomingdale High School senior Mike Allegritti rounds out the friendly staff.

Harbridge and husband Jim attend St. Stephens Catholic Church and are members of The Brandon Chamber of Commerce. They keep the business focused on the community by offering area teachers reduced rates on copies and other services and supplies as well as offering area churches a fifty cent Christmas donation on every package mailed by congregation members.

October is designated as "Customer Appreciation Month" when Harbridge will offer two cent copies, \$2 off UPS mailings, and charge fifty cents for sending or receiving faxes. "This is one way we have of thanking our customers," commented the caring and community-oriented Harbridge, who concluded, "We really like and trust our customers - and we've never been disappointed."

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Area Festivals, Activities Ring In Fall Season

by Erin Mule'

October is shaping up to be a very busy month for Bloomingdale area churches. Several of the local churches have fall festivals planned in conjunction with or instead of Halloween. Other churches have different community events coming up.

One of the biggest annual events is the St. Andrews Country Daze festival slated for Oct. 30. Sponsored by the United Methodist Women's guild, this fourth annual event features area crafters on the church grounds at the corner of Bryan and Bloomingdale.

The community project promises a full day of outdoor country fun for all ages. There will be crafts, games, a garage sale, country gospel music, a petting zoo, and, of course, food. A barbecue chicken dinner will be offered for \$4 a plate.

Proceeds last year went to aid victims of Hurricane



Clowns, balloons, and crafts will once again be a part of this month's Country Daze festival at St. Andrews United Methodist Church.

Andrew. This year's proceeds will go to the church's missions and also to aid in the relief of the Mississippi flood areas.

Immanuel Lutheran will host its annual Oktoberfest on Saturday, Oct. 23, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The festival will feature food and games, and the church's guild will offer baked goods. Game tickets are available at a cost of four for \$1. Entertainment will be provided by area dancers and performers.

The annual fall festival at Bell Shoals Baptist Church will be held on Sunday, Oct. 31, from 4 to 6 p.m. on the church grounds. Games and concessions will be organized by the church's youth leadership. Children from around the area are invited to attend.

St. Stephen's Catholic Church will hold its annual parish picnic at Edward Medard Park on Oct. 17, beginning at 1 p.m. The cost is \$2.50 per person.

League officials hope to raise enough money to build new bathrooms at the Bloomingdale complex.

by Rozel Sciuilli

Calabash, a group made up of members of the former Marshall Tucker Band, is coming to Bloomingdale. While it may not be Rod Stewart at the Sun Dome, it is the first major event of its kind in this area. They will appear in concert Oct. 16, at 7:30 p.m. at the Bloomingdale Little League senior field.

The tax-deductible tickets are \$10 each and are available from league members or at the concession stand on Saturdays.

According to organizer and league board member Terry Morehouse, the group plays contemporary progressive rock with a conscience. "No matter how you define it, their music is super. It's music that teens and parents both will enjoy.

"From the minute they started playing we were all awestruck," said Morehouse of the group's debut performance in Tampa.

Songs deal with social issues such as depletion of the ozone layer and anti-drug messages. "Everyone of their songs teaches a lesson," said Morehouse. "Their music is a good message for today's youth."

Two band members, Richard Tucker and John Holland, were formerly members of the Marshall Tucker Band, popular in the early 70's, when Calabash originally got its start. The group split and recently got back together.

"Critics in the area are praising their music. They must be doing something right. They're getting ready to go out on a 58

cities tour. If you're not good, you don't go out and do these things," Morehouse explained.

Band members will be at the field on Saturday, Oct. 2, signing autographs and T-shirts. CD's and other promotional items will also be sold to help raise funds for the Little League (see related story).

In response to concerns from neighbors in Windsor Woods, which backs up to the sports complex, Morehouse stressed that the league is complying with all county and EPC noise regulations. The group is sending out professional technicians and sound people to insure the residents to the rear will not be disturbed by the sound of the music. In addition, the county Sheriff's department will regulate traffic and parking in the area.

"We are dealing with a full-fledged professional production with staging, lighting, and computerized sound," said Morehouse. "not some corner bar-scene band that just cranks out noise."

Morehouse has received financial backing from area businesses so the league will not incur the expenses of staging the concert. Backers include Nations Bank, Valrico State Bank, James Pontiac, David Watson's Florida School of Insurance, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Red's Sporting Goods, and Feldman's Photography. "The list goes on of people who have donated time and money to make this concert take place," he said.

LEAGUE, from page 1

there, and nothing has been done," said Morehouse.

One parent who asked not to be identified said that the registration fee of \$70 is enough. "Our kids shouldn't have to sell candy or raffle tickets."

Berry points out that the rules are not Bloomingdale Little League's rules. "They are the rules of Little League,

period. We have a handbook to follow that governs everything from fund raising to getting team sponsors.

"The board of directors determines a budget for the year and it's up to the general membership to go out and raise those funds."

"What we're doing is for the kids," said Morehouse. "If we can't sacrifice ourselves a little now for their future then we have a problem not only as leaders of the league but as parents."

Sinclair stated that a new Little League complex is in the county's five-year plan and will be possible through a \$20 million bond. That doesn't guarantee Bloomingdale a new field. The county will be looking for property "somewhere

in the South Hillsborough area. That could be anywhere between South Brandon and Big Bend Road (in River-view)," Sinclair said.

"We

have identified the need for a Little League in the South Hillsborough quadrant, but Little League charter ties our hands," he said. "They tell us where they need a complex and our people have to go out and find suitable property."

Sinclair agrees with league officials that it would be more feasible for the county to buy or lease the land on which the current league is situated. "If we could do that," he said, "we could legally come onto the complex and maintain it."



Photo by Gwen Szafanski

League officials hope to raise enough money to build new bathrooms at the Bloomingdale complex.

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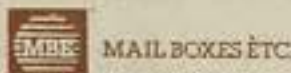
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Kid's Talk

by Sonia Ruiz, M.D.

Dear Dr. Ruiz:

What are your thoughts on vitamins? My sister said they are a waste of money since the nutrients aren't readily absorbed into the child's system. My neighbor insists a vitamin a day keeps her kids healthy.

Sincerely,

Help!

Dear "Help!":

Children's vitamins are needed when you have a child that does not ingest the daily recommended dietary allowances for his or her age. Most parents do not know how best to evaluate how much is enough. The National Academy of Science publishes the RDA (Recommended Dietary Allowances) for fat-soluble, water-soluble vitamins and minerals for children in each age category. By consulting with your pediatrician or dietician, you should be able to individualize your children's nutritional care and thus know when and how much to supplement with vitamins.

Dear Dr. Ruiz:

My son is nine and continually wakes up at night complaining of stomach pains—sometimes for hours. Twice we have driven him to an emergency room because we suspected appendicitis. He mostly complains of a spot right in the middle of his chest. Doctors have ruled out appendicitis. What tests do we do now?

Sincerely,

Perplexed

Dear Perplexed:

The diagnosis of abdominal pain in children requires excellence in diagnostic acumen by physicians. It has been estimated that a full work up for abdominal pain in children can cost over \$3,000 when used indiscriminately or in difficult cases. The best advice to parents is to know how to answer their pediatrician's questions in as much detail as possible.

Abdominal pain in children is categorized by location of pain. Imagine the abdomen divided into six squares—three at the top and three at the bottom. For example, the appendix is located in the lower right quadrant, but the first signs of pain will not always be in that quadrant. However, it is important for the doctor to know where the pain first started, how long it lasted,

whether it was constant or crampy, sharp or dull. The doctor will also want to know if the pain has affected the child's appetite: does food make it better, or does body positioning help ease the pain? The doctor will ask if there were associated symptoms at the same time as the abdominal pain and the length of time that they have been present.

Since there are too many factors involved in evaluating abdominal pain, here are a few guidelines for parents to follow:

1. The younger the child, the faster you should seek medical intervention. With persistent symptoms parents should seek help within 24 hours after the onset of symptoms especially in the presence of fever, and or vomiting and without the presence of diarrhea.

2. When a child's appetite is affected as well as his normal activity level, seek help within 24 hours since many appendixes rupture within the first 24 to 48 hours after the onset of symptoms.

3. Remember the order of the progression of the symptoms since vomiting prior to abdominal pain may be more worrisome than vomiting after the onset of pain.

When in doubt about your child's condition, you should not feel foolish about seeking your doctor's help as early as possible.



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Speech Impediments: A Dentist's View

by Diane Raggard Wright, D.M.D.

Many parents anxiously await their baby's first words, then quickly lose track—unless there's a speech problem.

Dentists often hear about the speech problem first because parents associate speech with the oral cavity. The general dentist often works with a team that might include a speech

pathologist, an orthodontist or an oral surgeon to correct a speech problem.

Vowel sounds are initiated in early infancy and are usually mastered by age three. Consonant sounds are more difficult and are learned a little later. Most children can pronounce all consonants adequately and are 100% intelligible by their eighth birthday.

Lisping

The most common speech defect is lisping, which is relatively easy to correct. Children who lisp cannot pronounce the "s," "z," "sh," "ch," and "j" sounds.

A lisp occurs when children cut off an "s" with the tongue instead of with the front teeth. Prolonged thumbsucking or finger sucking can create an open bite and result in a lisp.

If a child just lost a primary tooth, he or she might start lisping until a new tooth comes in. The worst thing parents can do is overreact to a speech problem, making the child self-conscious.

On the other hand, some children get attention

from adults who think the lisp is cute. The child may prolong the habit if it's getting favorable response from parents.

Other causes of lisping can include impaired hearing, poor ability to discriminate sounds, imitation of a relative or friend who lisps, mental defects or neurologic disturbances.

Cleft Palate

A cleft palate can affect a child's speech dramatically and often requires surgery. In some cases, a general dentist will provide a plastic plate to cover the opening roof of the mouth, allowing the child to develop normal speech patterns.

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Frank & Rebecca St. Pierre

A Coffee Lover's Guide To Brewing Good Coffee

by Cheryl Belli

Experimenting with specialty coffees is much like buying a fine wine; you will be confronted with many different names and descriptions. Once you begin, however, you will enjoy this time of trial and error in finding a coffee to suit your personal taste.

Choosing the coffee beans is the most important part of producing "the perfect cup." If you begin with inferior beans (low grade, badly or unevenly roasted, stale, etc.), you will never successfully brew a good cup of coffee.

Consistency of the coffee bean is what produces a uniform result. Beans should be as fresh as possible. The more recent the roast, the better the end result will be.

There are several types of roast. Darker roasts, such as Viennese, French, and Espresso, are usually a basic Colombian arabica bean roasted longer to bring out a specific trait or taste. Dark roasts are shiny because the coffee oil rises to the surface of the bean.

Each roast has a flavor characteristic. American roast is rich-toned with an acidic snap; Viennese has a slight bittersweet tang and a less acidic snap; French has a bittersweet tang with most acidic tones gone; finally, Espresso has charcoal tones, plus bittersweet tang with all acidic tones gone.

Most straight coffees are roasted medium brown or just enough to accent their distinctive qualities given to them by their growth region. Sumatra is rich, full-bodied and low in acidity. Kenya AA is robust with a distinctive "dry wine" after taste. Mocha Java has a smooth, deep-toned, medium body.

It takes time to decide which of the many straights or blends will be right for you. Some coffee lovers choose a different coffee for different times of the day or different occasions.

Whole beans produce the richest flavor; the bean itself is indeed nature's perfect package. Ideally, you should grind the coffee just before brewing. Once ground, coffee starts to lose flavor and freshness almost immediately with a noticeable difference after just one hour.

Store coffee in an airtight container in the freezer. This prevents oxygen from

robbing the bean of flavor and aroma. It also prevents coffee from absorbing other flavors and smells. Whole beans can be kept this way for one to two months. Follow the same rules for ground coffee, but only buy what you will use within one week.

When choosing a grind, try to achieve the finest grind that your coffee maker will allow. This gives the water more surface contact and extracts full flavors using less coffee to produce a good cup.

Good water is a top priority for good coffee. Remember 99% of coffee is water. Filtered or bottled water is recommended. **Do not use distilled water.** Although chlorine and other chemicals affect taste, some minerals are important in a good way. Coffee is a reaction between the minerals and other miscellaneous chemicals found in both the water and the bean itself.

The coffee maker best suited to you is a matter of choice. The only method which is not recommended is the percolator. This method involves boiling the coffee which ruins it by making it bitter and acid. A brewer with a cone type filter is recommended because it increases the time the water has to contact the coffee "steeping" out the full flavor.

The key factor for any brewer is cleanliness. Coffee stains leave a residue that will taint your fresh coffee with an old coffee taste. Follow the manufacturer's directions using vinegar and water to flush mineral deposits from your brewer at least once a month. Avoid using soap to clean your decanter and filter basket as it will also leave a residue to affect taste. A small amount of baking soda paste will do a good job; remember to rinse well.

Never leave coffee on the brewer's warmer for any length of time. A direct heat source evaporates the water, condensing and damaging delicate flavor oils, giving off that "burnt" taste.

To put these brewing tips to use, try the following gourmet coffee recipes. (Compliments of Whistle Stop Gourmet Coffee Shop)



MINT COOLER

MINT CAPPUCINO COOLER: CHOCOLATE MINT COFFEE BREWED DOUBLE STRENGTH

Place 1 scoop of vanilla ice cream or frozen yogurt into a tall glass. Pour 1/2 cup (4 oz.) of coffee over ice cream. Fill with cold milk. Top with whipped cream and garnish with chocolate mint candy.

(Note: Left over coffee can be refrigerated in a covered container for later use or frozen in ice cube trays for undiluted iced coffee.)

Spiced Coffee:

In bottom of coffee decanter place one large strip of orange peel, one small strip of lemon peel, and 10 whole cloves. Brew coffee as usual. Sweeten to taste with brown sugar or honey.

For Iced Spiced Coffee use this recipe but brew coffee 1 1/2 times normal amount for extra strength. Chill in a closed container with spices. Pour over ice. Top with whipped cream and garnish with ground cinnamon. Add sugar to taste.



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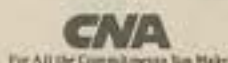
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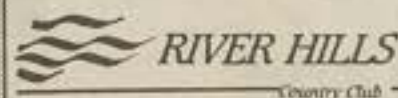
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Bits N Pieces

Around Bloomingdale



Sorority Pledge
Bloomingdale West residents **John and Linda Cvitovich** are proud to announce that their daughter **Jennifer**, a 1993 graduate of Bloomingdale High School, has pledged the Gamma Phi Beta sorority at Florida State University.



Jennifer Cvidivich

A Meaty Subject

The Meatloaf Bake-Off at the Presbyterian Church of Bloomingdale last month had all the appearance of a huge family reunion. Members and visitors ate heartily and chatted away like old friends, showing their approval vigorously as winners of the contest were announced.

Judges **Peggy Argudo**, **Shirley Rivinius** and **Bob Evans** revealed their "ecumenical" tastes as contest winners were announced.

Winner of the first place purple ribbon was **Ellen Abramson** for her barbecue turkey

was **Ellen Abramson** for her barbecue turkey loaf. A traditional meat loaf by **Candy Cary** was judged first runner-up, and a vegetarian loaf cooked up by **Karin Craven** was the second runner-up.

Decorated tables were declared equally winners and each received a citation of merit and spirited applause.

Covered dish pot-luck suppers are held at the church each Wednesday night at 6:30 p.m.

New Baby In The Loos Home

Seven-pound, six oz **Jason Thomas Loos** was welcomed into the world on July 18 at Brandon Hospital. Bloomingdale Oaks residents **Thomas and Rhonda Loos** are the proud parents. Mom **Jason Loos** will get plenty of help from Jason's big sister **Kaitlyn**, three-and-a-half. The grandparents are **James Loos**, and **James and Nyaline Sugen** all of Brandon.



Jason Loos

If you have special news you would like to share with your neighbors in Bloomingdale, please mail your news item or bring it into The Bloomingdale Gazette, 3232 Lithia Pinecrest Road, Suite 101, Valrico 33594. Be sure to include a phone number.

Silk Cigar Quilts Are Tattered Treasures From Tampa's Past

by **Nancy Heston**

The late nineteenth century required young women to be accomplished in many areas of the arts: musical skills were de rigueur; poetry recitations were commonplace; skilled stitchery was mandatory. An adolescent female, when not tending to chores, was practicing those talents which would make her socially polished and a desirable commodity in the marriage marketplace. (Exactly what her male counterpart was doing is not as well documented. One supposes that he spent a certain amount of time in acquiring that air of benign patronage, that slight upward turn of the mouth as his eyes flashed a message of pious superiority... "Only I can vote, hold public office, and sign legal documents, but still I may find you to be a person of some value. Show me your stitches.")

This was long before we even had a Surgeon General and the majority of gentlemen enjoyed an occasional cigar. The cigars were sold in wood boxes with a length of silk bearing the manufacturer's name inside the container. Many colors, logos, and styles of script were used for these silks, and it became fashionable to use them in the practice of sewing skills. Much as our daughters make and collect friendship bracelets, these young women, living in the highly disciplined Victorian era, found amusement and companionship in creating quilts and coverlets out of their fathers' discarded cigar silks.

In the early part of this century, small cigars, or cigarettes, became very popular. The very beautiful and intricate creation of silk from yesterday is demonstrated in this close up of a quilt.



Photo by **June Oros**

Indeed, it was the relatively dainty size of cigarettes that induced women to become smokers also. (However, it took many years before it was considered socially acceptable. You know that, didn't you—from all those Virginia Slims ads?) For a while cigarettes were packaged with silks also. Larger and more detailed than the cigar wrappers, these silks depicted flags of different nations, Edwardian women in bathing attire, and many other lovely designs. Cigarette silks also became a fad of sorts and many unusual coverlets resulted.

Today both of these silk creations, rare and highly prized, are part of a category of antiques known as textiles. Only a very small percentage of these artifacts have survived the rigors of time and "Tide," and those few which have travelled through this past century intact are quite

remarkable. As with samplers and pieced quilts, many of these silks were stitched with the name of the artist and the date of completion. To those of us who revere the handiwork of these long ago young women everything about them, from the hesitancy of the stitch to the misspelling of a month, increases their charm. These antiques truly contain much of the "fabric" of our heritage. Even those coming into our care in less than perfect condition are worthy of notice—we call them tattered treasures.

(Nancy Heston is the owner of New Hope Antiques in Brandon.)

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It's a crafter's dream come true! Craft Gallery, located in Valrico Square on Route 60 East is now open, displaying and selling one-of-a-kind, handcrafted gift selections from over 200 local crafters and artists, all in air-conditioned comfort.

Craft Gallery, a year-round craft show super store, features all the latest in crafting and is currently stocking seasonal gifts for family, friends, or business associates.

We're open 7 days a week, Mon. - Fri., 10 a.m. till 8 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m. till 5 p.m.; Sun., noon till 5 p.m. to serve the local public.

Craft Gallery offers lay-away, gift certificates, and special orders.

Rental spaces available. Phone 654-6545 for more information. A must see!

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Allergy Sufferers Can Now Find Relief

Allergy sufferers can find new sources of relief at the Allergy Relief Stores. The store located at 10047 Adamo Drive in the Brandon Crossings Shopping Center, offers products like the electrostatic air filters for air conditioners which filter out the dust and pollen, that often cause allergic reactions.

The filters can remove up to 95% of household dust, mold spores and pollen that circulates through your air-conditioning system. This is 10 times more effective than regular throw-away filters.

Bedding products, air purifiers, dehumidifiers and products to combat dust mites and control odors are also available. Allergy sufferers are not the only ones that can benefit. Even if you don't have any allergies, most people will benefit from improved air quality.

See us at the Florida State Home Show on October 7 - 10.

Gulf Tile Distributors

Gulf Tile Distributors has been serving the Sun Coast for over 30 years and has the only tile showroom in Brandon. They are distributors for leading brand name products, such as; Florida Tile, Villeroy and Boch, Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block, and many, many more.

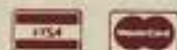
They have just opened a newly remodeled, 2700 square foot showroom, currently the only tile showroom in Brandon. There are 21 various floors installed and grouted at this location. Numerous vignettes and wall displays are on exhibit for decorating ideas. Also in their showroom are a number of diverse tiled counter tops.

October is their grand opening sale. Stop in for further details. Let their experienced decorator help you with your flooring needs.

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Astrid Davies Owner

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Bay Antique and Clock Repair

A trip to the new shop at La Viva Plaza is like a trip to Grandmother's house. The clocks ticking and chiming the hour, the old radios, electric trains, beautiful quilts, unique furniture, glassware, kitchen collectibles, etc. will bring back happy memories.

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Aunty-Q's Antiques

Antiques with a continental flair are featured at Aunty-Q's Antiques in the Shops at LaViva. Owned by long-time area resident and business owner Nancy Hilbert, the new shop is set up as part of the Somewhere In Time showroom. Patrons will find a wonderful collection of small and occasional furniture as well as china, crystal, and silver to add a touch of the old country to your home. English china and French crystal are among Nancy's favorite items, as well as 18th century engravings.

The owner takes pride in her search for pieces that she finds on her travels and from private home visits. She buys directly from owners who want to reduce their holdings. In addition, Nancy keeps a detailed reference file so she can meet the special needs of her clients.

Visit Aunty-Q's from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and from 1 to 6 p.m. Sundays.

Fields Art & Framing

Looking for something special? Fields Art & Framing is not your typical art & frame shop. From the moment you enter the store you are aware that it is different. The walls are covered with many examples of unusual and creative framing projects. The offering ranges from uniquely designed memorabilia (shadow) boxes to intricately prepared decorative mats. The owner, Jerry Fields, and his friendly staff of artists and designers pride themselves on providing the most complete and innovative picture framing service in The Bay Area. When you visit the shop pay careful attention to Fields' mat carving, an exclusive mat treatment that is not available anywhere else in Tampa—using only a craft knife, the mat is carved with delicate scroll work, or cutouts of golfers, teddy bears or any other subject imaginable. You have to see this specialized work to believe it!

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Overcoming Test Anxiety; SAT Preparation

Back to school means, among other things, back to quizzes and tests, those old standards of measurement of knowledge. How many times have you said to your child, "but you knew it all last night when we went over it," after hearing that the test result on the same material was less than satisfactory?

One reason students are not successful on written tests is because of something called "test anxiety".

Anxiety can direct the students' attention away from productive ways to study. As a result, students often become less effective in their study habits. Test anxiety can also cause students to "freeze up" while taking the test, resulting in poor scores that do not accurately represent the student's grasp of the material.

According to Dr. Raymond Huntington it is a problem of attention. "You must help the student to redirect atten-

tion away from fear of failure and toward productive ways to do well on the test."

In order to improve success, these guidelines may be followed.

- ° Studying should be spaced over a period of days or weeks. It should not be left until the night before an exam. Cramming tends to increase anxiety. Material should be reviewed on more than one occasion.

- ° Students should read all directions carefully. Make sure all directions are clearly understood. If not, ask the teacher for clarification.

- ° The entire exam should be looked over briefly to see what types of questions are included and the number of points for each question. This will guide the student to use the time appropriately.

- ° Students should use time to their advantage. If they push themselves to work too fast, they may make careless errors.

- ° Some problems contain unnecessary information that is not needed to solve the problem. Students should cut through these time wasters.

- ° Students should be careful not to spend too much time on any one question. If they don't see a way to solve it easily, then they can make an "educated guess," put a mark next to it, and come back to it later.

Sample tests for study purposes are also recommended.

SAT Preparation

Many high school students nervously await this year's Scholastic Achievement Test day, Oct. 7, at Brandon High

School. The SAT is designed to measure reasoning ability and skills with words and mathematical concepts. The exam puts a premium on the effective use of time and the ability to make intelligent guesses. It does not require every question to be answered. In fact, knowing which questions to answer first and which ones to answer last can save a significant amount of time.

On the verbal portion of the SAT, antonyms should be attacked first, since they usually take the least amount of time to complete. After antonyms, students should attack the analogies and then the sentence completion questions.

Reading comprehension should be postponed until last. To read the passage and answer the five to 10 questions that follow takes too much time. Students should make one complete pass over the rest of the section they are working on before attempting these questions.

Random guessing should be discouraged, while intelligent guessing should be encouraged. For example, if all but two or three answer choices can be eliminated, it often pays to guess.

Some problems, especially math problems, are designed to be time wasters. These should be left until last, when all of the "easier" questions have been attempted. An example of a time-waster question is one that asks, "Which of the following statements is false?" This requires that each of four or five answer choices be evaluated. Put a check next to the question, and come back to it later.

(This article has been provided by The Huntington Learning Center)

Bloomingtondale Students Catch The Homecoming Spirit

by Gwen Szafranski

Student government-sponsored Spirit Week, October 4-7 at Bloomingtondale Senior High School, offers students a variety of activities and opportunities to demonstrate their school spirit. The week of competitions and contests culminate in the Homecoming Game and Dance October 8th and 9th, respectively.

School clubs will again try to out do each other by painting Spirit Windows on the display windows of cooperating local businesses. Clubs can also compete in the Homecoming Banner contest designing banners to promote the school's victory over the Lakeland High School Dreadnoughts. Banners will be displayed along the football field fence, and the Bulls will burst through the winning banner at the game.

Gregarious male individuals are asked to participate

in the Mr. Leggs Contest sporting short shorts to display their hairy gams for pictures on October 1. (Shyer individuals may want to submit photos for the Cutest Baby Contest.)

Everyone should enjoy participating in Double-Trouble Day when students pair up and dress alike.

T-shirts and sweatshirts of favorite colleges and universities can be displayed on College Day.

Country style dress is in order for Western Day, so students should break out their boots and ten gallon hats for a whirl with the Old West.

Spirit Day calls for white, red, and black

dominating student attire. Teachers are invited to join students all week with appropriate costuming to show the Bulls the entire school is cheering them on.



BPW Offers Scholarship

The downtown Tampa Business and Professional Women's Organization is now accepting applications for scholarships. Three scholarships up to \$1,000 will be awarded. The deadline to apply is Wed., Oct. 20th. Contact Stacy Clark at 251-8437 for information.

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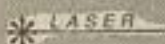
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Lithia PTA Set Goals For The Second Year

By Gwen Szafranski

Lithia Springs Elementary School's new president, Bonnie Ussery, stated that she'd like to continue with the work Kathy Hurner started last year as PTA president, which gave the organization such a good start.

"Our main goal this year is to set up an Outreach Committee to the College Hill area where some of our students live to involve the parents in that area with our activities and help coordinate events between the College Hill community and the school." She cited last year's Sandman Christmas Tree project as one they would like to continue.

Establishing a committee to encourage student participation in the Reflections writing, music, and arts competition is another goal as well as continuing fundraisers such as Burger King Night, skate parties throughout the year, and the Walkathon schedule for November 5.

Ussery's fellow officers include First VP Gayle Turner, Second VP Daphne Rowland, Third VP Barb Kemper, Fourth VP Maureen Carrigan, Treasurer Marta Zarrella, Recording Secretary Suzanne Livingston, Corresponding Secretary Ellen Gates, and City Council Delegate Terri Hicks.

Alafia PTA Announces October Schedule

by Gwen Szafranski

New PTA officers and this year's members begin their busy October schedule at a general membership meeting Tuesday, Oct. 5, with curriculum as the featured topic.

Other October events include a visit by Geoffrey the Giraffe to help kick off Walkathon activities when he visits Oct. 7. Tickets to Busch Gardens and Buccaneer merchandise are among the prizes offered to students in the Oct. 14 Walkathon.

Oct. 12 will be Market Day delivery. Orders can be picked up at Alafia School between 4:30 and 5:30 p.m.

On Oct. 19 the first Skate Party of the year will be held 3:30 to 5:30 at Skateland in Brandon.

New PTA President Susie Wiesenhart commented that her goal this year was to improve the image of the PTA by de-emphasizing fund raising and emphasizing education by involving more parents in school activities through

the PTA and working more closely with the School Improvement team.

Helping Wiesenhart accomplish these goals are Vice President of Volunteers Joy Williams, Vice President of Membership Michelle Colisanti, Vice President of Ways and Means Patti Borchik, Vice President of Programs Tammy Law, Secretary Sue Szabo, and Treasurer Debra Melodini.

(PTA information was provided by Publicity Chairman Sheri Ogorek.)



Photo by Tim Golden

Burns Junior High Bruins Cheerleaders display their skill.

Closeness and Cooperation Characterize Burns Cheerleaders

by Gwen Szafranski

"They are funny, talented, serious about cheerleading, and many of the girls have beautiful styles," answered Lynn Lianzo when asked to describe the current crop of Burns Junior High Bruin Cheerleaders.

"It's good to be back working with cheerleaders again," added Lianzo, who succeeds Karen Snapp as cheerleading coach.

Lianzo, who is starting her sixth year teaching Science at Burns, taught and coached cheerleading in the Broward County school system for 17 years.

"A certain closeness develops among the girls and with the coach, and

cheerleading becomes a cooperative effort. In fact, it involves a three way triangle of cooperation between the girls, the coach and the parents," Lianzo continued, praising parents for their "...100% support for the squad."

The 15 members of the squad must maintain 1.5 grade point averages, and were chosen by Lianzo for their pep and enthusiasm as well as their body control, gymnastic ability, high jumps and good eye contact with an audience.

The new squad previewed their skills at a recent Bruins girls volleyball game. They will continue cheering for boys and girls volleyball games and

throughout the football and basketball seasons.

Parents had a chance to meet the personable squad members when the girls hosted for the Burns Open House September 21. The new members are as follows: Eighth Graders Kristen Fisher, Jill Funkhouser, Renee' Hobson, Noelle Mazur, Carlie Miller, Nicole Sposaro, and Jennifer Turnbow; Ninth Graders Peggy Emminger, Kara Koechlein, Julie Lampman, Chrissy Nichols, Stacy Reich and Nicole Tarter; Co-captain Suzanne Lofreddo, Captain Mandy Miller, Alternate Kim McCoy and Manager Nicole Erni.

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- Karate-kicked in Karated class • Had a visit from Auntie Bear (a professional storyteller) • Learned about the keyboard in Computer Tots • Had a Mickey Mouse Day • Participated in a bike-a-thon!

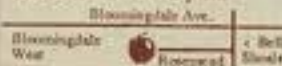
Wait 'til you see what we have in store for October. Why don't you join us?

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Business Notes



by Melanie Plesce

From recreation, to health, to basic automobile care, area businesses are keeping up with shoppers' needs and wants by adding variety to the fall season.

Mailboxes Etc. Celebrates Customer Appreciation Month

"Our aim is to thank the people who have done business with us throughout the year," explained Sue Harbridge, owner of Mailboxes Etc., when asked to explain the exceptional specials offered to customers during the month of October. Located at 813 Bloomingdale Avenue, Mailboxes Etc. will offer copies for \$.02, beating other local prices. Customers can also take advantage of the \$.50 fee for sending or receiving faxes— that's FIFTY CENTS— as well as the \$2 off for UPS packages. So come take advantage of your customer status and enjoy the remarkable savings offered by Sue and Jim Harbridge throughout the month of October.

Smoothie King Offers Healthy Taste

Those who are health conscious will be interested in the arrival of Smoothie King, located at 815 E. Bloomingdale Ave. in Bloomingdale Square. They offer smoothies, an all natural drink with under two grams of fat. Each drink is custom blended and ingredients can be added or taken out according to the customer's preference. Besides smoothies, which come in 38 different flavors, this store also has vitamins and supplements, pasta with a no-fat sauce, Guiltless Gourmet Chips, and frozen smoothies. Breakfast alternatives are also offered in the form of smoothie coffee and muffins. So far, Smoothie King, which originated out of New Orleans, is the only one in Florida. The store's hours are 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday; Fridays until 10 p.m.; Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sundays from noon to 6 p.m.

Little Professor Receives Award

Pat and Dick Miller, owners of the Little Professor Book Center in Bloomingdale Square, were honored with the "Professor's Choice Award" at the second annual national convention of Little Professor Book Centers in August.

The award honors owners who have excelled in each of the six areas of evaluation by the parent company. These areas include marketing, staff management, direct mail, community involvement, financial and inventory management, and support of the franchise organization.

Classic Karate Opens in Bloomingdale

Brandon Classic Karate will open this month in the Royal Oaks of Bloomingdale plaza adjacent to the Winn-Dixie Store and will present a two-level course of instruction. The first level provides a thorough knowledge of self-defense. The second builds self-discipline, self-confidence, self-esteem, self-control, and places emphasis on character building and traditional family values, according to instructor and owner George Papabeis.

Classes will start the beginning of October with flexible schedules for all age groups. This includes Kinder Karate (ages 3-5), children's classes (6-11), and adults. Morning classes are anticipated for those people with "odd" schedules. A cost effective "Trial Program" is available for \$15 which includes a uniform and three free lessons.

Papabeis, a Bloomingdale resident, has been involved in Tang Soo Do since 1978. He is licensed with the US Tang Soo Do, Moo Duk Kwan Federation at the rank of Kyo-Sa (instructor).

CPA Practice Expands

James A. Laughlin, CPA, a successful three-year-old general accounting practice, substantially increased its client list and billings with the acquisition of another Tampa-based accounting practice, Donald L. Brinley, CPA. The new firm, which includes Mr. Brinley, changed its name to Laughlin & Company, P.A. The company relocated in late September to larger offices at 910 Oakfield Drive, Suite 201, in Brandon. Laughlin, a former IRS agent, is available for background and interpretation of Internal Revenue procedures and policies.

Stable Mates Opens Off Boyette

Stable Mates, located at 12015 Browning Road off of Boyette, is a new horse farm with an interesting twist. Owned by Chris and Brad Thompson, Stable Mates allow people to actually rent a horse monthly while learning English-style riding and care and management of the stable. Each horse has up to four "clients," and costs \$175 a month, allowing a customer eight sessions with up to four hours per session. Stable Mates has 10 horses available to both beginners and experienced riders. The stable's hours are Tuesday through Friday 10:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. The lighted ring makes it convenient for those who prefer to ride in the cooler evening hours.

Cassidy's Under New Ownership

A favorite local eatery is now under new ownership and soon will have a new name as well. While Cassidy's still appears on the marquee, the phone is answered "Racoons," but the name change is not official. The owner is, though, and he's Joseph Metz of Valrico.

Some changes are in store but the menu of burgers, sandwiches, salads and wings has remained the same. The prices are lower and a daily lunch special is offered from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Perhaps the biggest change is in the clientele Metz hopes to attract. Formerly a popular spot for the Little League crowd, Cassidy's is now for adults-only after 9 p.m. Hours are 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. Monday through Saturday and Sundays from 1 p.m. to midnight.

Adults who are interested may sign-up for the pub's dart league or pool league.

Antique Shops At LaViva

LaViva Shopping Plaza, located on the corner of Kings Avenue and Lumsden Road is now offering three unique antique shops.

Bay Antique and Clock Repair restores and repairs antique clocks or will build a completely new grandfather's clock from your choice of wood and design. Opened Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Aunty Q's Antiques

Nancy Hilbert, an area resident and business owner for over 25 years, has opened Aunty-Q's Antiques as part of the Somewhere in Time store at the Shops at LaViva, 720 E. Lumsden. Nancy's collection features china, crystal, and silver, small and occasional furniture, art and colored glass, and old engravings, some dating back to the 1700's. The unique shop has an emphasis on continental European pieces. In addition, the shop owner keeps a reference file on client's needs, so she can keep her eye out for special pieces.

Aunty-Q's is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday through Saturday and from 1 to 6 p.m. on Sundays.

Victoria's Attic, owned by Vickie McInnis, specializes in china and glassware but also contains some consignment items such as furniture, toys, jewelry and collectibles as well. Formerly located at the corner of Parsons and Brandon Boulevard, the new location is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily and Sundays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. McInnis also gives sales land estate appraisals all over Florida and into South Georgia.

Somewhere In Time features Roseville Pottery, glassware, and furniture. The large variety and open area of the store make it a pleasant place to shop or browse. Items date back to the late 1800's. Store hours are Monday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The Book Corner is another great addition to this shopping center and carries 15,000 hardcover books and paperbacks. Some specialties are travel/adventure, natural history, children's books and cookbooks. They also carry a good stock of classics under \$8 in hardcover. Books date back to the 1700's with modern authors featured as well.

Pennzoil For A Quick Change

The new Pennzoil Ten Minute Oil Change Center has opened at 3526 Bell Shoals Road behind Wal-Mart. Open Monday through Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., the center does not require an appointment. They offer a 14-point full service check

See NOTES, page 13

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by
Sonia M. Ruiz, M.D.
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WATER, from page 1

He explained that the county is taking a pro-active role in addressing the problem of copper pipe corrosion. Residents can expect that by late spring or early summer a chemical feed will be their pipes with an inhibitory film to protect against corrosion.

Page said that county conducted a study of 100 homes that were built no earlier than 1983 nor later than 1987 which was when the county first approved lead soldering of copper pipes.

Failed pipes were sent to the Copper Development Association in Greenwich, which according to Page, is the authority on what can occur with copper piping. The findings showed

that pin-hole leak patterns were in a direct line with the flux drip down the pipes. Flux is the substance used to prepare pipes for soldering.

"Some builders used a poor quality of flux that is highly corrosive," said Page.

Yet another study was conducted in Orlando, where a builder constructed a home without walls to determine the effects of lightning on pipes within the home.

According to Page, the highest level of copper corrosion occurred during Florida's thunderstorm season. He added that there was little evidence of corrosion during the dry season.

Homes in the Temple Terrace area that had experienced the most corrosion are situated along a belt called

the lightning ridge, said Grable, who plotted 50 homes all in the same area with nothing more in common than their location and the water they receive.

According to Tampa Electric Co., its electricity is ground to the pipes within the walls of homes.

"Stray current can cause deterioration of plumbing," said Page.

Another problem residents face that is related to corrosion is mineral deposits inside piping and on the exterior of fixtures, made up of the magnesium, calcium, carbon (visible on the inside of commodes), chlorates and sulfates.

Although water tests can show that deposit potential is low, said Page, "it does not mean that the water is non-corrosive."

"I'm not going to say water hasn't contributed to the corrosive problems, but 50 percent or more of pipe failures are a direct result of faulty installation and improper soldering."

Next month, *The Gazette* will take a look at the effects of copper corrosion and the chemicals in water on the people who are drinking it. If you are having a water problem, please contact *The Bloomingdale Gazette* at 681-2051.



Crunch Pumpkin Seeds

Pumpkin seeds are good for you, so eat them as a snack whenever you are hungry. A single ounce of kernels supplies 160 calories, 8 grams of protein, 3 milligrams of iron and good amounts of vitamin B.

Materials:

- As many bowls of pumpkin seeds as you think you and your friends can eat
- Vegetable oil
- Salt



Method:

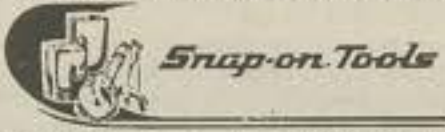
1. Wash the seeds.
2. Steam the seeds for about 30 minutes. This softens the outside part so it isn't so tough.
3. Dry the seeds with a paper towel or dish towel. Spread them out on a cookie sheet.
4. Cover the seeds very lightly with vegetable oil.
5. Sprinkle them with salt.
6. Set the oven for 300°. Roast the seeds for about half an hour or until they are crispy and golden brown.



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NOTES, from pg. 12

while the customer waits. Besides changing oil, other fluid levels are checked along with air pressure, and even washing windows.

Amore Pizza

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reasonable prices, Amore Pizza is located at Bloomingdale Plaza, 133 E. Bloomingdale Avenue. The New York style pizza restaurant is open Mon.-Th., 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Fri. & Sat., 11 a.m. to midnight; and Sunday 12-9 p.m.

Local Florists Adopt New Name

Kathy and Chuck Bingham have changed the name of their business from Floral Decor Florist to Valrico Florist, which they feel is more descriptive of their hometown location. Their growing list of in-town and out-of-town clients can continue to enjoy their floral services at the 4342 Bell Shoals location.



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New Look In Furniture

Unusual art, handpainted furniture, and decorative painted finishes are all specialties of a new shop opening this weekend called Exedra. Owners Gary Hurlburt and Sarah Isaac do all the unique work themselves. The new shop is opening at Oliver's Station one block north of the light at the corner of Lithia-Pinecrest and Bloomingdale. For the first few months, the store's hours will be Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m., and all weekday evenings.



Brandon FC U-19 girls, display their second place trophies during the Labor Day Tournament sponsored by BAYSL.

Holding Our Own: Burns Junior High Begins '93 Football Season

by Gwen Szafranski

Coach Bill Agatheas will be content if his new team "holds their own" throughout their six game season which began September 23. They opened with a 26 to 0 win against a ninth grade team from Plant High School at Plant, followed by a home game against Mann September 30.

"We have quite a variety of talent and levels of skill," commented Agatheas. "Some of the kids are pretty raw; others show some talent after playing in youth leagues, and we have a good eighth grade class this year."

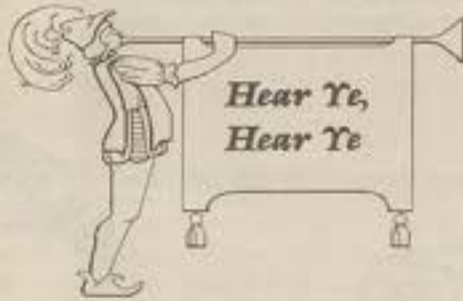
Agatheas cited eighth grader Lee

Gainer, a RB/LB, as showing potential. He also gave a nod to the talents of ninth grader Johnnie Tyson, who will play both RB/CB positions.

Agatheas concluded that he enjoys working with the kids who volunteered for the team. "They're nice kids, and I look forward to seeing them successfully using the skills we taught them and seeing their hard work come out in full view during a game. They really prove something to themselves."

Burns will play out their season in the Eastern Division as follows:

Oct. 6	against Tomlin	at Plant City
Oct. 13	against Dowdell	at Bloomingdale
Oct. 21	against McLane	at Brandon
Oct. 28	against Turkey Creek	at Turkey Creek



Local Actor To Appear

Child star Shane Obedzinski of Bloomingdale who has performed in Edward Scissorhand, My Girl, Cop & 1/2, and Sandlot, will appear at the Video Spot in Bloomingdale Plaza on Saturday, Oct. 23, from 5 to 7 p.m. He will be promoting the Oct. 20 release of Cop & 1/2 and Sandlot.

New Ballet Guild Holds Auditions

The newly formed Brandon Centre Ballet Guild, a regional ballet company, will hold auditions for members on Oct. 3, from 2 to 4 p.m. at 161 E. Bloomingdale Ave. Auditions are open to dancers ages eight through adult. There is a \$5 audition fee, and participants are asked to arrive 30 minutes prior to the audition for registration.

Pre-requisites include two years of ballet training and current enrollment in a dance school. Female dancers must wear black leotards, pink tights, and ballet slippers (pointe shoes if on pointe). Male dancers must wear white t-shirts, black bike shorts or tights, and ballet slippers.

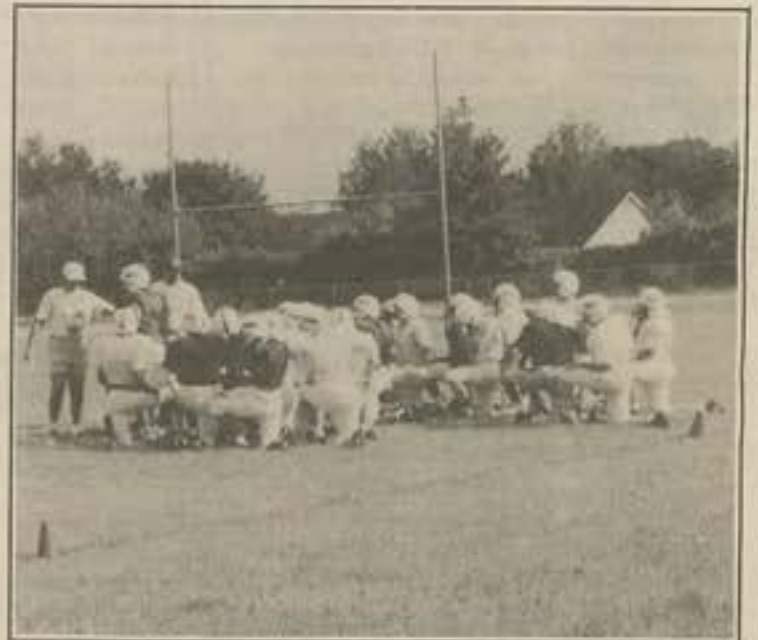
Dancers will receive free instruction in advanced technique, rehearsal and theatre discipline and grooming, and study in ballet and its related fields.

Parents or dancers who are over 18 years of age who are interested in becoming board members of the Guild, are invited to attend a meeting at 4:30 on Sunday.

The Guild is under the artistic direction of Joanne Calsetta-James and Alice Holden Bock.

For more information, please call 684-4282.

See HEAR YE, page 15



Coach Agatheas analyzes the Bruin's strategy before the Plant game.

BHA Meeting

The October meeting of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association will be held at 7:30 on Tuesday, October 12, in the Community Office, 3232 Lithia Pinecrest Road in the Royal Oaks of Bloomingdale plaza.

Local Kiwanis Meeting

The Bloomingdale Kiwanis Club meets at Pat's Place every Wednesday at noon. For more information, please contact Tim Dunn at 654-2108.

Tree Sale at Burns Jr. High

"Noble Firs For Noble Cause" is the theme of this year's Christmas Tree Sale at Burns Junior High. The school's ag department will be taking orders through Oct. 22 for trees and wreaths that will be available on Dec. 4. A six to seven-foot Noble Fir tree sells for \$40, while a seven to eight-foot tree sells for \$50. Wreaths 24-inches in diameter are being sold for \$15. A labor-saving design tree stand is selling for \$15.

Checks and order forms may be sent to Linda Ogden, 2803 Manor Hill Dr., Brandon 33511. Checks may be made payable to Burns FFA Alumni.

Disticks OIL CHANGE

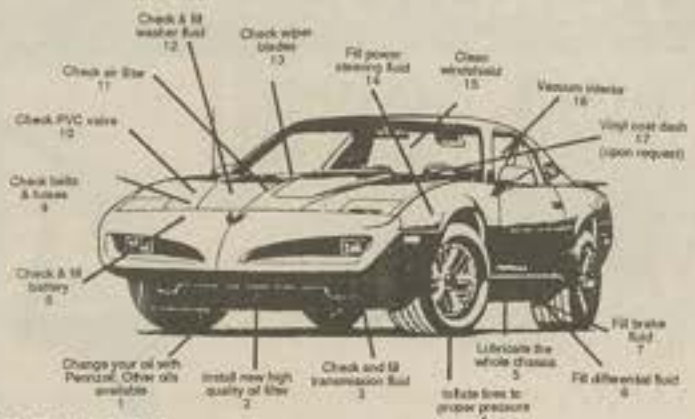


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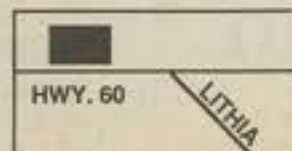
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Hats Off

Lithia Teachers Awarded Ace Grant For Madrigal Dinner

by Gwen Szafranski

The music, art and costumes of the Renaissance will



Photo by Tim Golden

Art teacher, Mary Ellen Houghton, far left, and music teacher, Janice Lancaster, far right, join fellow Lithia Springs staff members in a song at the Medieval Fair they coordinated last spring.

grace the halls of Lithia Springs Elementary School this December as art teacher Mary Ellen Houghton and music

teacher Janice Lancaster direct their students in a "Madrigal Dinner," featuring an authentic menu, holiday musical entertainment, costumes and dramatizations based on the Renaissance period.

Houghton and Lancaster, who worked jointly to help students produce last spring's Medieval Fair, recently received an Arts for a Complete Education (ACE) Teacher Incentive Grant totalling \$840 to achieve their latest project. Grants ranging from \$200 to \$1,000 were awarded to 26 teachers statewide out of 300 applicants.

During the first week in December Lithia Springs students will become "lords" and "ladies" at three special lunch periods extending over three days. Fellow third, fourth and fifth graders will entertain them with sacred and secular music, story telling, dramatizations and puppet shows.

A display of Renaissance-inspired crafts will decorate the school and include mosaics, felt banners, ceramic masks and appropriate period costumes.

PTA parent volunteers in costume will help serve the children at each dinner and will be rewarded when they join other parents for a special evening repeat performance of

the Renaissance entertainment tentatively scheduled for December 9th.

BSHS Teacher Wins Award

The "Best Practices Teaching Award" was presented to Bloomingdale High School instructor **Richard Albertson** last month. He was one of 15 teachers of Technical, Career, and Adult Education in the county to receive this honor. His award winning project was the highly touted "Bloomingdale Nature Trail & Ecological Preserve" toured by many area students last school year. The honorees each received a \$300 cash award from the state.

Local Employee Honored

Heather McCarthy of Valrico, was named one of seven "District Professional Cashiers of the Year" for Winn-Dixie's Tampa division. The award is presented annually to hard-working cashiers who best exemplify the qualities of dedication and customer service that Winn-Dixie strives to provide its customers. Heather works at the Winn Dixie in Royal Oaks of Bloomingdale plaza.

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call for directions

HEAR YE, from page 14 Bloodmobile Coming

Bell Shoals Church of Christ will host the bloodmobile on Oct. 6, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Creative Cooking

"Creative One-Pot Cooking" will be held on Saturday, Oct. 16, at the Presbyterian Church of Bloomingdale. Secrets will be revealed by well-known local cook, Virginia Noland. All materials, utensils, and recipes will be provided. This class is limited, so please call 654-3699 for reservations. The class is free and open to the public.



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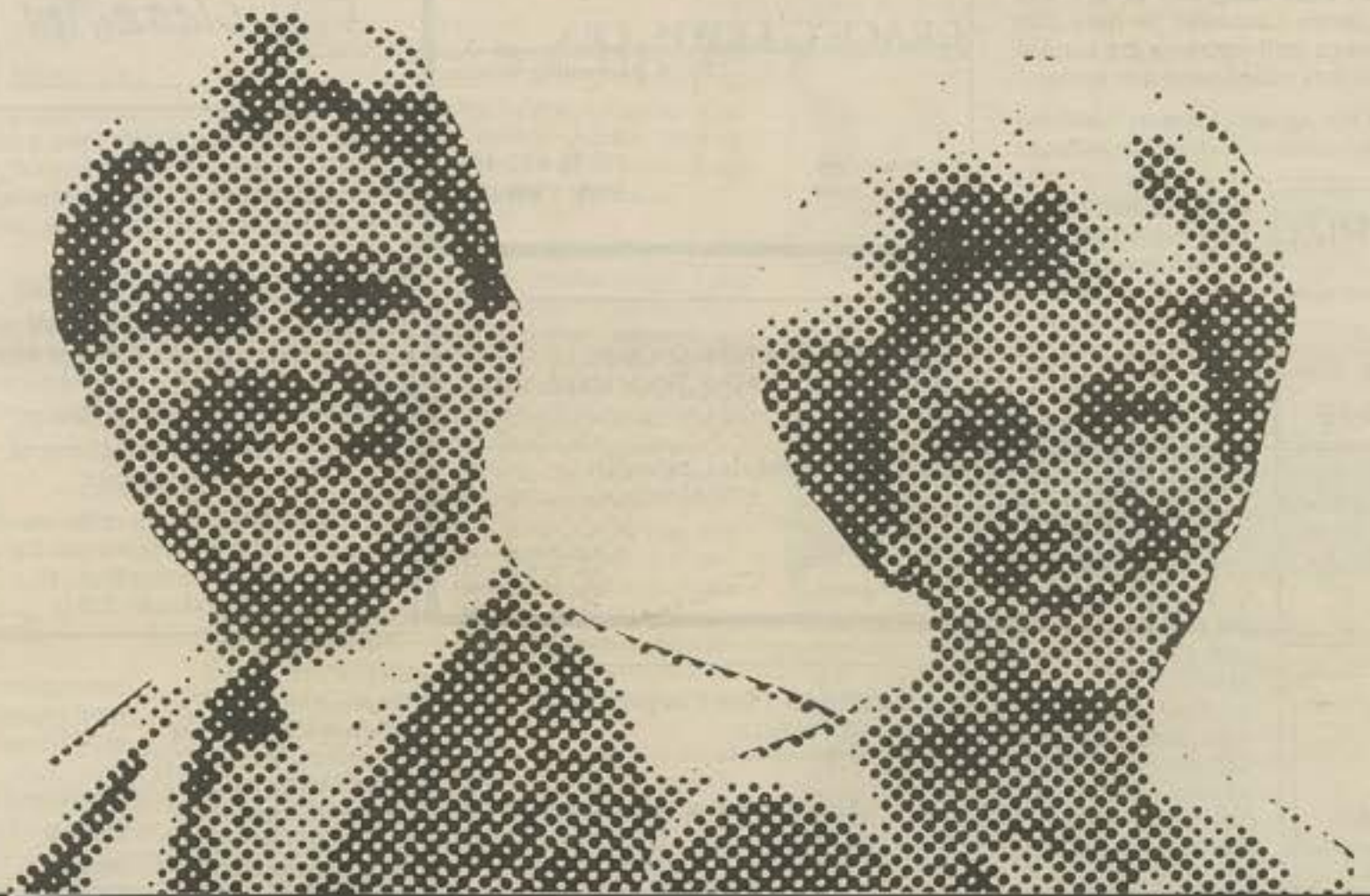
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Residents who are...

BABYSITTERS: Ansley Sculli (13) and Crystal Sculli (13) 681-7065
AVON REPRESENTATIVES: Ruth Calandro, 689-0212, 10/93
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