

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.

Christmas Surprise

The BHA is pleased to announce the exclusive en-

agement of Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus, direct from the North Pole to Bloomingdale. Coming in December, so you better be good!

Look For October News About

-Halloween Costume Ideas & Child Safety
-New programs in our area schools
-Good Neighbors - a new feature

The Bloomingdale Gazette

Volume XIV, Number 8

Published by the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc.

September 1994

County Gives Bill Of Rights To Neighborhoods

by Joe Chillura, Jr.

In their book, "Megatrends 2000", authors John Nesbitt and Patricia Anderson present their theory that the 1990's will be characterized by what they call the "triumph of the individual." The perception that individuals are not as powerful as government is losing ground; "the individual," they write, "can influence reality by identifying the directions in which society is headed."

In ways both obvious and subtle, we are experiencing the evolution of a new climate of cooperation between individuals and their government. Residents who have walked away frustrated and apathetic after an unrewarding encounter with county officials are surprised to find they have just as much clout as attorneys, developers, and corporate magnates.

In recent years in Hillsborough County, the trend toward increased citizen involvement has meant expanded distance requirements for re-zoning notices, additional advisory committees, the creation of a public awareness program for county construction projects, a residential traffic hearing master program, and the adoption of a public facilities siting ordinance.

On May 1, 1991, as part of the new Land Development Code, the Neighborhood Bill of Rights program

became a reality.

Under this program, residents have more input in decisions regarding re-zonings, alcoholic beverage ap-

Note: At the August meeting of the Bloomingdale Homeowners' Association, County Commission chairman, Joe Chillura, brought news of a "Neighborhood Bill of Rights" which he sponsored in the county. Find out how it can benefit every resident.

plications, land excavation permits, mining permits and other land use changes. The program established a neighborhood registry and requires earlier notice of proposed land use changes than has been done in the past.

Here's how the program works:

Neighborhood organizations are invited to register their geographical boundaries and mailing addresses with the Development Services Center. Applicants for land use changes and permits will have 15 days from the

time the request is filed to notify all associations within a mile of the project. Notices will include general information about the petition and instructions on how to get more details.

Too often, residents believe the only choices they have when a petitioner wants to build a shopping center, serve beer in a restaurant, take fill dirt from a borrow pit, or mine phosphate in their area is to support the original proposal as is, or not at all. But there are many conditions on which a consensus can be reached, such as setbacks, buffers, densities, and allowed uses. And when developers and residents can reach an accord, the project will ultimately be more successful than one which didn't enjoy positive community support.

The goal of the Neighborhood Bill of Rights is not as some have charged, to stymie growth. Instead, my colleagues and I on the County Commission want residents to be part of the process of planning what our community looks like.

Traditionally, neighborhoods claim they're always having to react instead of being pro-active. This new initiative is a way for citizens to participate in land use regulations and to join in determining the density of our community.

STD Wants Residents To Decide Security Issue

by Rozel Sciulli

Residents made it clear that, although a BHA survey indicates crime and security top their list of community concerns, it does not necessarily mean they are willing to foot the bill for additional law enforcement.

Almost 30 homeowners who attended a meeting last month at Alafia Elementary School, turned thumbs down on a proposal by the Special Taxing District to provide paid off-duty deputies to patrol the community. Instead they would like to see residents do their part in monitoring their own neighborhoods and securing their homes properly.

Absent from the forum were residents who have been vocal in support of the STD proposal. At a recent STD trustees meeting, Bloomingdale Ridge Homeowners' Association president, Carl Stickler, announced his strong support for a move that would provide paid security for the area, saying he represented five percent of the homeowners in Bloomingdale.

Because residents are giving mixed messages and neither turn-out suggests a true consensus, the STD is presenting homeowners with one last opportunity to have a say-so on this issue.

"We've held two meetings with totally different responses," said STD president, Rick Pitrowski. "We want to hear from more people, a broader spectrum of the community. This will be their last opportunity to respond to the issue. We will follow the wishes of the majority."

Pitrowski asks that residents complete the attached survey and return it to the community office personally or by mail. A vote will only be counted, he said, if the form is filled out completely with name, address, and telephone number. He indicated the STD may conduct spot checks to make sure responses are valid.

At the August meeting, residents on hand suggested that paid off-duty sheriff's deputies would not only not deter crime, but would give homeowners a false sense of security.

"Security won't stop crime" said a participant in the meeting. "It will make you feel good. If you want to feel good, close your garage door and install sensor lights."

According to Paul White of East, the \$21 per hour it will cost for the service, "is not going to put an armed guard in everyone's backyard."

Stickler, speaking at the June meeting of the STD, See SECURITY, pg. 6



Black, wrought iron benches surrounded by neatly groomed landscaping dot the path at various points along Nature's Way in Bloomingdale East. Five more "rest stops" are planned by the STD, sponsors of the project.

Neighborhood Improvement Program Working

Members of the new Neighborhood Improvement Program are just getting their feet wet as they begin the job of making the Bloomingdale community an even better place to live. Sponsored by the BHA with the county's assistance, the new program involves local residents who make initial observations of county code violations on private property.

Residents who may not be aware they are in violation of a county code are given notice on a postcard and are asked to do their part in keeping the neighborhood safe and clean. This notification helps the resident by allowing them time to correct the problem thereby preventing the county from citing the homeowners with the violation. However, should the resident not comply, within 10 days, the county's code enforcement office will be notified, possibly leading to fines for the resident.

In the NIP's first month, 35 county code violations were cited and notices were sent to homeowners in Bloomingdale East, West, and Estates. These violations include high grass, unsightly debris, and fences that need repair. The rule on fences, according to BHA member Pat Radel, is that you must maintain the fence, repair, replace, or remove it.

All calls taken at the Community Office (681-2051)

will be given to the NIP coordinator, whose aim it is to improve all the neighborhoods and have a better community. Residents must realize many of their concerns are deed restrictions and not county code violations, said Radel. "We'd like to start a deed restriction program soon."

A short list of the most common violations is fences that need repair, high grass, debris around the property, and illegally parked recreational vehicles. Only one R.V. is allowed per property (ie: a boat or camper, but not both). And any R.V. 20 feet in length must keep a 20-foot setback from the front property line. In most cases, this means parking the vehicle in the side or back yard.

Many homeowners may not realize that they are in violation. Residents who have a questions about a county code are asked to call the Community Office, 681-2051. "Please be assured that if you are in violation, and for some good reason you are unable to comply, we will work with you to resolve the problem," said Radel.

The BHA extends its thanks to all the homeowners who help make the community a desirable place to live, and who help maintain and increase property value.

The NIP is still looking for volunteers from Bloomingdale East. Residents who have a few hours to spare each month, are asked to call 681-2051 or 651-0210.

BLOOMINGDALE COMMUNITY PAGE

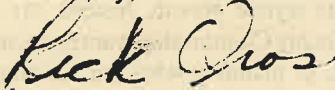
The Bloomingdale Gazette

Dear Readers,

Communication is involved in all human relations. It is the "nervous system" of any organized community or group, providing the information and understanding necessary for high quality products or services. For *The Bloomingdale Gazette* it is a continuous process, a way of life, rather than a one-shot campaign. The management of *The Bloomingdale Gazette*, therefore, recognizes the importance of communication and is asking the residents and readers of the newspaper to respond to the surveys or questionnaires that appear in the publication. We are also asking you to supply the community "grapevine" information to *The Gazette*.

There is no dodging the fact that, as a carrier of local news and information *The Bloomingdale Gazette* does effect the activity in our community. Whether the newspaper is considered an asset or a liability, it is important for you to try to be part of it. For one thing is sure; although you can't control the information, you can influence it. And since it is here to stay, enjoy it!

Sincerely,



Rick Oros
President

OFFICERS

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

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Sue Hadden	Corresponding Secretary	685-6160
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Sue Boucher	Trustee	653-2018
Greg Atkinson	Administrator	759-6670

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

Members
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Paul Kelmer 681-9701
Rick Borling 684-2022

Bloomington Oaks Special Taxing District

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

William Grace President 685-2817

The Bloomingdale Gazette

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

Monday - Friday 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
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Statement of Operation

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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.

Bloomington 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.

Bloomington 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.

School Years Go By Much Too Quickly

Ahhh - they're gone! Summer vacation mercifully ended and the little yard eggs and ankle biters can't whine that they're bor-r-r-red anymore.

The excitement of the first day of school really gets to my kids. They can't get to sleep the night before, yet they're up well before revelee sounds the next

morning. This lasts, maybe two days. As soon as they decide they don't like their first period class, I may as well be trying to wake the dead. After all the new clothes have been sampled, all of a sudden, they don't have anything to wear. There's nothing good for breakfast, and couldn't I please buy different snacks for lunch ("the other kids get to take candy").

Oh, but that the gleam in their young eyes and eager anticipation of that first day would remain with them all year.

The night before school, one of my daughters, a ninth grader, crawled into our bed. It was obvious she had been crying. "First day jitters?" I asked. All I got was a shrug. "We can talk about this," I assured her. It was approaching midnight and when the dog decided to join us, our comfort level was dropping.

Finally, she revealed the reason for her tears, eaking out the words between snuffles.

"I'm only going to be home with you and daddy for four more years."

Oh, but that she will feel this way when it comes time to go away to college.

She went back to bed, and it was my turn to lie awake and cry.

Can You Believe It...

Picking on the county bureaucracy can become habit forming. But their in-

competence continues to amaze me.

I wanted to find Hillsborough County's ranking among counties in the state. Used to be that license plates started with numbers that identified the county of registration. That number also indicated the county's ranking. So, all I wanted to know was if Hillsborough was third or fourth

largest in the state. Our county commissioner's office did not know. The county administrator's office did not know, and he's the head of the whole, entire county. Three other departments had no idea. Finally, the county records librarian, a very nice lady named Shirley, was able to

tell me that Hillsborough had moved out in front of Pinellas and was now third largest in the state.

Something like this, it seems, ought to be common knowledge among county employees. A bragging right, so to speak. I'll bet all the employees in Dade County know theirs is number one, or should I say "numero uno"?

One more...

For our election special, I wanted a list of the polling places in our community. The Election Super's office is very helpful, but they were a little over-zealous this time. There are four precincts in our immediate vicinity that took up one inch of type. The FAX I received was 11 feet long. It used all our FAX paper! I know it costs money to transmit a FAX. If they sent 11 feet of copy to a small town editor of a small town newspaper. Imagine what they must waste on a daily basis? I finally resolved that no matter what the cost - it was worth it, because now, at least, I know where every precinct in the county is located.

You should be so knowledgeable.

Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor:

I am writing in response to comments that were made at the recent meeting on security. I would like to clear up the misconception that the added deputy in Bloomingdale would be here to prevent vandalism and speeding in our neighborhoods.

While illegal behavior and property damage are major concerns, the primary purpose for providing this service is to decrease response time in the event of a true emergency. The addition of a paid off-duty deputy in our community would put an officer at your doorstep within minutes in the event you wake to the sound of an intruder in your home; you discover your child is missing from his play area; or a family member is being assaulted, as in the recent case of a jogger who was attacked

and nearly abducted along Nature's Way, or the mom in The Greens who was accosted in her own driveway.

The increased patrol would deter vandalism and speeding in our neighborhood. The high rate of speed at which some vehicles travel on Nature's Way, Culbreath, and Erindale is definitely a safety concern. However, my family's security is the reason I support this issue.

While our personal property is important, we can certainly put a price tag on it. I can't put a price on my family's safety.

My wife and I would spend \$50 to \$60 going out on a Saturday night for dinner. I'll stay home one night a year to protect my family and yours. Will you?

Sincerely,
Rick Pitrowski
Resident

These Trees Weren't Meant For Nailing

Every Monday, property manager Greg Atkinson has two unpleasant chores - removing garage sale signs from trees and picking up weekend litter.

He has come to expect the litter, most in the form of fast food wrappings.

But signs on the newly planted palm trees, he finds incredulous.

"I can't believe that people would nail a sign to a tree - especially these new trees," said Atkinson.

He explained that the palms are trying to establish themselves since being planted recently, and, ac-

ording to Atkinson, it doesn't help them to pierce their trunk with nails.

In addition, he warned that the nails leave scars on the trunk and this makes most trees, especially the oak trees, susceptible to insects and disease. "Besides," he said, "it's very unattractive."

The county's strict sign ordinance prohibits displaying signs on community property and county right-of-way without a permit. Local deed restrictions also prohibit signs on private property unless they are "professionally lettered

signs for the sale of a home."

Atkinson said he lets the garage sale signs that are posted in the ground stand through the weekend in the hopes that homeowners will remove them at the end of their sale. He didn't expect them to post these signs on the community's trees.

Any signs found on trees will be removed, even if it's before the sale, according to Atkinson. "And guess what? Because the signs give their home address - we'll know who's doing it."

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Sample Ballot
(amended to represent this area)
Primary Election
Thursday, Sept. 8, 1994

Voters are required to vote within their political party during Primary Elections.

Democratic Primary
CONGRESSIONAL
United States Senator

A. Perez
Hugh E. Rodham

Ellis Rubin
Mike Wiley

STATE
Governor and Lt. Governor

Lawton Chiles - Gov.
Jack "Thro" Gargan - Gov.

Buddy MacKay - Lt. Gov.
James H. King - Lt. Gov.

Comptroller

Gerald Lewis

Art Simon

Treasurer

Karen Gievers
Bill Nelson

Fred Westman

Commissioner of Education

John Griffin

Doug Jamerson

COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
District 4

Peter Allen

Linda Ray Barrow

District 5

Ed Crawford
Paddy Moses

John Thibodeau
Gerald White

Republican Primary
STATE
Governor and Lt. Governor

Josephine A. ("Dr. Jo") Arnold - Gov.
Bob Brown - Lt. Gov.

Ander Crenshaw - Gov.
Chester Clem - Lt. Gov.

Bob Bell - Gov.
George Roller - Lt. Gov.

Tom Gallagher - Gov.
Curt Kiser - Lt. Gov.

Jeb Bush - Gov.
Tom Feeney - Lt. Gov.

Jim Smith - Gov.
Barbara Sheen Todd - Lt. Gov.

Kenneth L. Connor - Gov.
Mel R. Martinez - Lt. Gov.

Comptroller

Chris Comstock

Bob Milligan

Treasurer

R. K. (Skip) Hunter

Tim Ireland

Commissioner of Education

Frank T. Brogan
John J. Kager

Bob Morris

COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
District 4

Dottie Berger
David J. Heckman
Lydia Miller

James D. "Big Jim" Selvey
Bob White

District 5

Chris Hart
Rock Roque

Joe Elena Weachter

Non-Partisan Election
Circuit Court Judge
Thirteenth Circuit
Group 12

Adelaide Few
Jim Moody

Dan Perry

County Court Judge
Group 6

Frank A. Gomez

Charlene E. Honeywell

Group 10

Charlotte Anderson
Joelle Ann Ober

Mark Wolfe

Group 12

Raul C. Palomino, Jr.

Andy Steingold

SAMPLE BALLOT continued

Group 13

Greg Holder

Diane Ilene Zuckerman

School Board
School Board Member
District 2

Steve Gavalas
Gerald "Jerry" Minkow

Candy (Ann S.) Olson

District 4

Bill Nelson

Joe E. Newsome

District 6

Carolyn Bricklemyer
Annette G. Delisle
Jim Falsone
Dayle Greene
Sam Horton

Terry D. Morehouse
Valentine Greco Muñoz
Neva Sessums
Bill Wieser

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How Our County Government Operates

County Government

Hillsborough County is the third largest in the state behind Duvall (Jacksonville) and Dade (Miami), and is comprised of three incorporated municipalities of Tampa, Temple Terrace, and Plant City, and unincorporated areas, the largest of which is the Greater Brandon area.

Elected to run county business is a Board of County Commissioners, made up of seven men and women. Four members are elected to represent single-member districts, while three represent countywide or at-large interests.

Board members are partisan and are elected to four-year terms except immediately following a census when districts may be re-aligned. Those posts are then held for two years. And not every commissioner comes up for re-election every four years. This fall, for example, Districts 1 and 6 seats are not up for re-election. Bloomingdale is within District 4, currently represented by Lydia Miller. The countywide seats are Districts 5, 6, and 7, currently held by Jan Platt, Phyllis Busansky, and Joe Chillura.

The board is responsible for approving the county's operating and capital budgets. In addition, the board performs the legislative functions of government by setting policy for the management of the county.

A board-appointed county administrator and his staff are responsible for carrying out the board's policies. The other appointed position is that of county attorney, who is named by the administrator.

The BOCC also serves as the Environmental Protection Commission, and individual members serve on various boards and commissions in county government.

County Commissioners meet the first

and third Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m. in the County Center, downtown Tampa.

There are also constitutional offices within the county. All, with the exception of Chief Judge, are elected by popular vote. Chief Judge of the circuit and county court system is elected by the judiciary. The other offices include Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sheriff, State Attorney, Property Appraiser, Supervisor of Elections, Public Defender, and Tax Collector. These positions are elected for four years during a presidential election year.

School Board

A centralized school board governs all public elementary, middle, junior high, senior high, technical, trade, and adult schools in Hillsborough County. It is the county's largest employer.

Eight board members are elected for district and countywide non-partisan representation. They set school system policies and appoint a Superintendent to carry out those policies. He is assisted by assistant superintendents, area directors of schools, and department or subject area supervisors.

Joe Newsome represents the district which takes in Bloomingdale's schools. In addition, Districts 2 and 6 are at-large posts. Not all positions are re-elected at the same time.

The board meets on alternate Tuesday nights in the Shelton School Administration Building, downtown Tampa.

Area Polling Sites

Precinct

- 801 St. Andrews United Methodist Church
3315 Bryan Road
- 805 South Brandon Baptist Church
4929 Bell Shoals
- 807 Crosswalk Christian Community Church
1603 E. Bloomingdale
(across from high school)
- 809 St. Mark United Church
2914 Lithia Road

Polling locations are open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. on Election Days.

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Military Review

MacDill Bids Farewell To Commander

by Yolanda Boronell

Marine Corps General Joseph P. Hoar stepped down as commander in chief for U.S. Central Command at MacDill Air Force Base last month. General Hoar served for three years, and it was his last assignment as he retires from his 37-year military career.

Gen. Hoar was the fourth commander appointed to this post to oversee all U.S. military activity in 19 nations around the world. He was preceded by General H. Norman Schwarzkopf, General George B. Crist, U.S. Marine Corps., and Lt. Gen. Robert C. Kingston, U.S. Army.

Gen. Hoar has served his country well, and he has earned many awards for dedication, honor, and service. He earned the Bronze Star and Combat "V" and Gold Star, the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal with gold star.

As Hoar steps down, the new commander in chief of U.S. Central Command will be Army General J. H. Binford

Peay III. Prior to this post, General Peay was the Vice Chief of Staff, U. S. Army. MacDill's military personnel and families are sad to see General Hoar leave, but look forward to the leadership of Gen. Peay.

West Point Rep.

Bloomingtondale resident Robert C. Holcomb has been named the new Admissions Field Representative for this region for the United States Military Academy at West Point. He is responsible for seeking out candidates for admission to West Point and for educating candidates, their families, school guidance counselors and the local Congressional offices in this area about West Point's admissions process.

His territory includes Bloomingtondale and Brandon High Schools.

Prospective candidates for the Class of 1999 are invited to contact Holcomb at 681-4594.

Congratulations

Army Private Adrian J. Cortez has completed basic training at Fort Jackson in Columbia, S.C. He has been trained in drill and ceremonies, map reading, tactics, weapons, first aid, military justics, military courtesy and Army history and traditions. Private Cortez is a 1994 graduate of Bloomingtondale High School.



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SECURITY, from pg. 1

commended the efforts of the all-volunteer mobile watch, but added that the community needs more.

Within his own neighborhood of Fox Run and The Greens, Stickler pointed to statistics that show over five percent of the homes have been burglarized and over 30 percent of the homeowners have complained about vandalized vehicles.

Security Survey

YES, I am in favor of an STD proposal going to referendum to approve an increase in assessment of approximately \$55 per year for the purpose of providing paid off-duty sheriff patrol of Bloomingtondale East, West and Estates.

NO, I am not in favor of an STD proposal going to referendum to approve an increase in assessment of approximately \$55 per year for the purpose of providing paid off-duty sheriff patrol of Bloomingtondale East, West and Estates.

NAME _____

Telephone _____

ADDRESS _____

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SELVEY
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SEPT. 8, 1994**

AS A COUNTY COMMISSIONER IN DISTRICT 4:

- ① • Negotiated budget changes to pave 115 miles of dirt roads in the district.
- ② • Negotiated for the utilization of Impact Fee to improve intersections, turn lanes & traffic lights, rather than waiting until enough money was collected in the zone to do a major improvement.
- ③ • Suggested to Chief Judge Alvarez the concept of "Night Court" to better utilize our court rooms.
- ④ • Made the initial suggestion that all throughfares through residential areas be landscaped.

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VOTE JAMES D. "BIG JIM" SELVEY

Republican Primary Sept. 8, 1994

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Bits and Pieces

Editor's Note: Please keep us informed of your comings and goings, club officer installations, and social news; First anniversary or 50th, births, engagements, and weddings; job promotions, college honors, or exotic travels. We want to brag about you. Please call the Community Office at 681-2051 (9:30 to 12:30) or come by to see us at 3232 Lithia Pinecrest, Suite 101.

by Jolene Riley

Raymond Morrison, a tenth grader at Bloomingdale High School, just returned from a two-week stretch at Groton, Conn., where he attended a special Naval Sub School, preparing himself for a career as a Missile Technician on a nuclear submarine.

Twenty cadets from all



Morrison

over the United States drilled in various areas such as the wet trainer, dive and drive, and attended the Basic Enlisted Submarine School. The Secretary of the Navy, Honorable John W. Dalton, was the guest speaker during graduation.

Morrison has been a member of the Naval Sea Cadet Corp. for three years. During his first year in the Sea Cadet Program, he and approximately 500 youths were sent to Orlando for Basic Recruit Training, which is a mini scenario of what the real Navy Basic Training is all about. From there, he has advanced in rank several times with outstanding accomplishments.

As a Petty Officer Third Class, he has had the opportunity to serve upon the USS Forrestal while it was in port at Pensacola. He received a Certificate of Appreciation from Chief Warrant Officer M. K. Jackson for his outstanding service during his various duties upon the carrier before being decommissioned in Philadelphia.

Morrison has also served upon the Coast Guard Cutter Courageous at Panama City, assisting with port maintenance, readying the ship for its next duty assignment. His Sea Cadet group from Tampa, assisted with the commissioning of the USS Typhoon at Harbour Island in downtown Tampa, just this past March.

He is a member of the Color Guard in the Sea Cadets

and had the pleasure to assist in performing for gubernatorial candidate Jeb Bush during one of his campaign stops in St. Petersburg. He also recently performed for an Admiral's retirement ceremony at the Naval Reserve Center in Tampa.

Being a member of the Naval Sea Cadets, he and his fellow cadets have numerous opportunities to visit and learn about almost any job field they are interested in, and they travel to many parts of the United States.

Morrison says he is extremely interested in a career in the Navy, and with the Cadet program of four years or more to his credit, he will be eligible for the advanced rank of E-3 upon completion of Basic Training. After he enlists in the Navy, he will have a better understanding and be more prepared for its offerings as a career in life.

With only 111 more shopping days until Christmas, Bloomingdale women will be looking for unique places to shop to find that one-of-a-kind gift or personal item. Check out The Green Boutique Gift Shop on Bloomingdale just east of Bell Shoals. The Nursery is currently under renovation, but the gift shop is teeming with hidden treasures behind those lilac doors. Look for more shopping tips next month and every month until Christmas.

Church and Synagogue News

Jewish Holy Days Observed

by Erin Mule

September is an especially busy month for area churches and for the Congregation Beth Shalom, which will celebrate two High Holy Days in the next two weeks.

Visiting Rabbi John Rosenblatt will open Rosh Hashanah services in the worship center of Apostles Lutheran Church at 7:30 on Sept. 5. Rosh Hashanah on Sept. 6 will be observed with two services - the first at 10 a.m. and the second a children's service at 1:30 p.m. also at Apostles Lutheran. Babysitting will not be available for the 10 a.m. service.

Yom Kippur celebration will begin

on Sept. 14 with evening services at 7:30 at the Holiday Inn, Sabal Park. A full schedule of events on the 15th begins with 10 a.m. services in the sanctuary of Apostles Lutheran Church. There will be no babysitting available for this service. Then, at 4 p.m., a children's service will be held in the nursery area of Apostles Lutheran, while afternoon services are held in the sanctuary.

Following afternoon services, a break-the-fast meal will be served by the Sisterhood in the social hall of Apostles Lutheran. Babysitting will be available at a charge of \$5 per child. There is a limit of 25 children, and reservations must be made by calling 654-0651.

Bell Shoals Baptist Church

The Women's Ministry will offer a course titled "Smart Women Keep It Simple" (Getting Free From the Unending Demands and Expectations on a Woman's Life!) This course will be offered on Fridays beginning Sept. 9 from 9 to 11 a.m. The course fee is \$10 with an optional

book fee of \$10. This is not just another course on "time management." This study will offer insight on how to "rejoice in your choice" based on the book by Annie Chapman. Child care will be available, but reservations are required one week in advance by calling 653-3875, ext. 171. To register for the course, call 653-3875, ext. 172.

South Brandon Baptist

September will be filled with activities for members of South Brandon Baptist. A family recreation night will be held September 16, at 7 p.m. at the church located at 4929 S. Bell Shoals Rd. Then, on Sept. 18, Mike Reynolds from the Utah missions will give a two-hour seminar on mormonism from 6 to 8 p.m. The junior and senior high youth groups will participate in the nationwide youth rally on Sept. 21 called "See you at the Pole". They will gather at their schools' flag poles before school for a student-led prayer.

Church members will hold a Western Round-Up on Oct. 2, with emphasis on "rounding up the strays from the summer". Everyone will wear western gear for a ranch hand breakfast at 8 a.m. followed by a special children's program at 8:45 and Bible Study at 9:45.

Bell Shoals Church of Christ

The church announces the expansion of the Franklin Christian Academy which meets at the church. This year, the school has expanded to include pre-school (be-

ginning at age 2) through 2nd grade as well as 6th and 7th grades. The fall term has begun with enrollment up and the addition of three new grades.

St. Stephens Catholic Church

CCD classes begin Sept. 12 and are open to children kindergarten through junior high. For more information and registration, contact the church at 689-4900.

Immanuel Lutheran

Friend Day will be held on Sept. 25, with services at 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. open to the public. The evening service will be followed by a concert by the Spiritual Renaissance Singers of Tampa. The non-profit organization was founded in 1989 and is dedicated to the preservation of the African spiritual.

Living Savior Lutheran

The young families of the church will meet on Sept. 24 for a night out at putt-putt golf. They will meet at the church at 6 p.m. For more information, call the church at 681-2375.

Presbyterian Church of Bloomingdale

The 49'ers Plus group will host a slide presentation by Joyce Covington, a representative of the Florida State Fair, on Sept. 24 at 2 p.m. Exciting plans involving senior adults will be discussed. All who admit to being 49 or over are invited to attend. The church is wheelchair accessible and located at 710 E. Bloomingdale across from the shopping center.



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Restaurant Review

Oriental Cuisine To Tempt The Taste Buds

by Elton Dumont

Well, I must admit that even though this fine Oriental restaurant has been in our area for about three years, a recent Friday night was my first experience at Kirin, 706 E. Brandon Blvd. And so, at this point, I must also admit that if I had tried it sooner, I would have been able to return occasionally to try more of the wonderful selections.

Without reservations (although I do recommend them) we were seated immediately, and our hostess pulled out our chairs and then arranged the napkins on our lap, which was the first indication that first class service was in store for us.

The one large dining room and separate lounge were tastefully appointed in Oriental motif, with soothing piped in music. Kirin passed the "chair test". They were sturdy and comfortable. Finally, two large aquariums are very eye catching with unique, colorful fish. We were acknowledged very quickly by our server who offered a selection of exotic drinks and imported beers and wines.

The menu offers over 20 choices of soups and appetizers including spicy Szechuan noodle, crab Rangoon, or crab meat and corn soup. The egg rolls with mustard and duck sauce on the side were not doughy at all and that added to the flavor. The egg drop soup with crushed hot pepper paste on the side was tasty and certainly not bland, but just a tad too thick for my palate. However, I would order it again. The last appetizer selected was a salad with Ginger dressing. All the ingredients were properly chilled and crisp, and the comments on the Ginger dressing ranged from very good to outstanding.

Making a decision on the entre was a chore. In addition to three specials on the board (this night included grouper and salmon), there were six categories to review for selection. The first section, aptly named Chef's Specialties, include Kung Bao Trio which is spicy chicken, shrimp, and beef with peanuts and red chili pepper, or General Tso's Chicken, which is spicy stir fried chicken chunks with a special sauce, as well as eight or nine other possibilities.

Scafood comprised another section and included shrimp curry, braised shrimp with ginger, or scallops with snow peas, plus 15 others. The poultry section included cashew chicken, Moo Goo Gai Pan, and Kung Pao chicken that I would recommend. The remaining sections included beef, pork, and vegetable selections.

The shrimp and lobster sauce that I selected was seasoned just right with a proper balance of vegetables to very ample shrimp boiled to perfection in the sauce. I served it over white rice and found that added to the flavor. Sweet and sour chicken was another choice at our table. It turned out to be chunks of chicken breasts fried in its

wrapper of dough and served with a pungent sweet and sour sauce. This was somewhat disappointing because the dough was too thick and heavy compared to what we are used to with this type of food. But, once again, tasty and worth ordering.

The other selections at our table were sweet and sour shrimp, (here again the doughy wrap, but the smallish shrimp were tasty), and scallops with vegetables. The scallops were very good and the vegetables included an American variety such as carrots and zucchini, plus Bok Choy. It was served with sliced water chestnuts in a brown sauce. This seemed to be everyone's favorite and high on our list for a return visit.

The first class service suffered a bit when our orders were served because the waiter did not recall who had ordered which dish. It turned out to be a minor problem, and the overall service was very efficient.

Since the entrees are priced from about \$8 up to approximately \$14, we thought we could squeeze dessert into our evening. We didn't expect the tantalizing dessert tray that was offered for our inspection. It was so intriguing that we selected an Italian spumoni and a turtle pecan truffle that we all shared. Once again, very good and very fresh. There were three or four other truffles to choose from including a white chocolate specialty, so if your budget and consumption allow, try a dessert.

There is a children's menu, and the side dishes include fried rice, chop suey, and chow mein.

Our total bill including gratuity was \$70 for four including appetizers and dessert. You can certainly get a good meal at Kirin for less if you wish.

Rating Based on 5 Stars

Food ****
Service ***1/2
Ambience ****
Overall ****

Until We Eat Again,
Elton Dumont

Editor's Note: The meal actually cost Mr. Dumont more than he has let on. Because he was at dinner, he was absent from the Elks Lodge when his named was called in a drawing for which he had to be present to win. The prize - \$500.

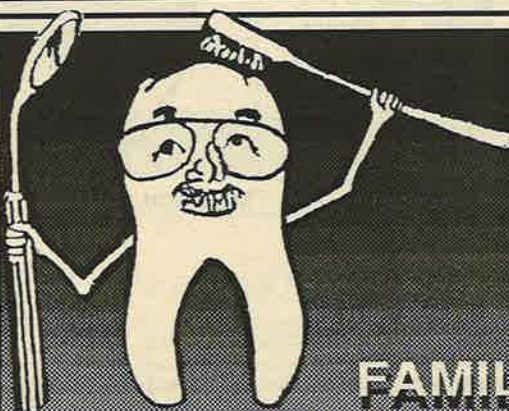
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For Your Information...Hillsborough County has begun adding fluoride to the county's water supply in recent weeks. The Hillsborough County Health Department has termed fluoridation as the most effective, least costly public health measure for preventing tooth decay.

Although fluoridation was approved by the county in 1988, the addition to the water supply was pending completion of the county's capital improvement program for water facilities. That program is now substantially complete.

Because fluorides are naturally occurring in water, the Public Utilities Department is augmenting the natural fluoride level in the community water supply to the optimum level of 0.8 parts per million.

Water customers who have questions should call 272-6680.

Toddlers Battle Nursing Bottle Syndrome

by Diane Raggard Wright, D.M.D.

Babies who fall asleep with a nursing bottle could become victims of "nursing bottle syndrome," a condition that causes severe decay in baby teeth, reports the Academy of General Dentistry.

"The lactose in milk and fructose in juice combine with the bacteria in the mouth to produce acid that decays teeth," according to Dr. Cheryl J. Sheets, spokesdentist for the Academy. If a child sleeps on one side, the teeth on that side will be more decayed since that is where the liquid from the bottle will accumulate. Dr. Sheets noted that the same is true with prolonged breastfeeding.

"Nursing bottle syndrome" affects up to six percent of children under the

age of four.

In very severe cases, baby teeth can decay right up to the gum line. In other cases, a mother brings her child to the dentist, asking why the child's permanent teeth have not come in. The dentist often finds that the teeth came in but were decaying as fast as they were growing.

Parents can detect decay by regularly checking their children's teeth for brown or white spots, in addition to noting missing teeth.

Weaning children from a bottle as soon as possible and proper brushing and flossing at an early age are most important. These simple steps can make a tremendous difference in a child's oral health.



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Southwest Florida Water Management District

Life In These Times Florida's New State Bird, A Cockroach

by Daniel Farrer

I had a conversation with a friend of mine the other day about the benefits of living in Florida. We both agreed that the weather was the best aspect of the state's attributes. That was closely followed by the nice beaches, water sports, and of course fishing.

Having both worked in large metropolitan cities before, we agreed that traffic in the local area wasn't that bad and that drivers were generally courteous and halfway responsible. I know that many locals may not agree with the traffic issue, but compared to five lanes of snail pace gridlock in the Washington or New York areas, Tampa rates as the Indianapolis 500 of commutes.

As you would suspect, we finally ran out of positive things and started to talk about the negative side of the sunshine state. Immediately I said, "cockroach!". He started to laugh and said, "You Got It!!!"

If you've lived here long enough, (about a week) you've had some kind of contact with the little beasties. I don't believe that any other creature in the insect or animal kingdom evokes such feelings of disgust in human beings as la cucaracha. Perhaps it's because they are a relatively unattractive insect, (my wife informed me that there was no such thing as an attractive insect, except for butterflies). Anyway, I decided to do some research on my own to find out just what was going on between humans and the cockroach that places it so high on the yuck scale.

The first large encyclopedia I looked in contained a 600-word article that provided some significant information. I quickly scanned the page and found that the cockroach has been around for 320 million years and that there are over 3500 different species.

Isn't that interesting! All these years I had gotten great satisfaction in thinking all of my stomping, smashing, squishing, and spraying have made a significant contribution to the elimination of these nasty buggies. Now I know who really runs the planet.

Reading on, words like "corruption" and "primitive" were extensively

used. One vivid description of its structure said that "its head is bent downwards and the mouthparts point backwards instead of forward or downward as in the case of most other insects". Notice how they tried to make the poor bug sound uglier or different than other bugs. They must have really gotten close up to observe that much detail.

As the article continued to slam the indefensible cockroach, I decided to change my approach and see what local people think about them. It may come as no surprise that everyone I talked to had nothing good to say.

"Ugly, disgusting, nasty, creepy, and 'expletive deleted' insect," are some responses I received. Some people weren't able to put their feelings into words and just made ugly faces, walking off feeling the question didn't even rate a reply.

Obviously, the cockroach has gotten a bad rap. Nature has given it some rather distasteful features that we don't find particularly appealing. Sure it has those long wiggly antenna and that rather creepy looking head with a mouth that seems to be moving all the time, always searching for something to eat. But hey, they were born that way.

In an effort to foster better feelings about this poor maligned creature, we need to think about changing its image to a more positive one. If it can be done for presidents and suspected criminals, then why not for a bug? Maybe we should start a campaign to have the cockroach designated the new state bird. I've seen more of them than I have mockingbirds. National Cockroach Day has a nice ring to it. Besides, it might get us another day off.

Whatever happens, we can all be sure of one thing. No matter how much we spray, stomp, swat, smash, squish and scream, they will always be there; in the grass, trees and bushes; under the leaves you forgot to rake up last spring; just outside the door waiting to get in!

Oh, by the way, pest control listings can be found on pages 1232 through 1248 in the yellow pages.



On the first day of school, students at Burns wait at morning carline to greet friends they missed over summer break.

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School News

Gator Tales



Local PTA's Seek Active Parent Involvement

After taking the summer off, volunteer parents of the Alafia and Lithia Springs Elementary Schools' PTA's are eager to get their year underway and plans into action.

Suzie Wiesenhart once again leads the Alafia PTA as its president. She said they are looking forward to having the support of their parents, teachers, friends and area businesses.

The first project is membership. For a cost of \$4 per person, even individuals who do not have a child enrolled at Alafia may join the PTA. This enables members to attend meetings and functions, and become familiar with the activities of the neighborhood school.

The theme of this year's PTA is "Back to the Classroom." According to Wiesenhart, computers and technology have their place, but it is the goal of this year's PTA to get back to basics. To reach this goal, teachers, individually or as a group,

have to apply for a mini-grant from the PTA. Eight thousand dollars has been budgeted to spend on whatever the teachers need to teach more effectively - book sets, videos, etc. The mini grants are geared toward helping more students, said Wiesenhart. In their application, teachers must tell how much they need, how many students it will effect, what the purpose is, and can it be used again. Already three requests including a mobile library for a classroom have been submitted. The requests will be considered as they come in until the funds run out.

Funds raised this year through events like Market Day, skate parties, Innisbrook Gift Wrap in the first two weeks of school, will go into the grant fund. In addition, every teacher gets \$50 to spend as they see fit, because of hidden expenses that

they have out-of-pocket, said Wiesenhart.

This year, the PTA has planned a pizza dinner during the school's Open House on Sept. 21 (K-2nd) and Sept. 22 (3rd-5th). A Bike and Safety Rodeo will be held in October, and Market Days will continue once a month. Last year, Market Days raised \$6,000 for the school. The PTA will also



Alafia PTA board members treated teachers to a back-to-school luncheon complete with entertainment.

sponsor the Eagle Explorer Space Shuttle simulator later this fall. The Fun Factory will visit in April with a production stressing positive attitudes in children.

Wiesenhart will be assisted by Nancy Goodman, vice-president volunteers; Patti Borchik, vice president ways and mean; Stacy Hunt, vice president administrative support; Michelle Colesanti, vice president membership; Michaela Sykes, treasurer; and Karen Puryear, secretary.

Their first meeting will be Sept. 20, featuring a program to approve the budget and a panel discussion on the county's gifted program.

Lithia Lynx



Parents at Lithia Springs Elementary have a busy September planned beginning with their membership kick-off. Parents may join the Lithia Springs PTA for \$3 per person.

The PTA will also be sponsoring a "Grandparents Day" activity on Sept. 9, and they will host a Little Caesar's Pizza Night at the school's annual Open House on Sept. 26 and 29. Parents of kindergarten through second graders will attend on the 26th, and third through fifth grade parents will attend on the 29th. Information will be sent home with the students.

Coming up are special plans for a Market Day in October. This is part of the LSES PTA fund raising program. Then, in November, the PTA will be actively involved in American Education Week.

The group sponsors on-going monthly skate parties and also on this year's agenda will be the second annual Bicycle Rodeo and the "Reflections" cultural arts program.

Last year, the PTA donated \$5,000

See Lithia, pg. 12

Vision And Classroom Performance

by Dr. LaRue I. Collins, O.D.

A child's ability to see and to use vision skills effectively can relate to his or her classroom performance. Concerned parents and educators recognize the importance of vision as a factor in the progress and well-being of the developing youngster. In spite of this, there are many children who fall behind in school because of undetected vision problems.

Many schools and parent-teacher groups conduct valuable preventive vision screening programs. However, these screenings should not be confused with a thorough vision examination by a doctor of optometry.

The typical school eye chart is designed to be seen at 20 feet and measures how well or poorly the child sees at that distance. Problems with near vision, eye coordination and focusing ability are among many problems that may not be discovered in this test.

The observant parent or teacher is in an excellent position to pick up any symptoms of vision problems in a young child. If these exist, a thorough eye examination may be in order.

Young children with vision problems often don't know the world is different from the way they see it. They may never have seen clearly, and have not way of knowing their vision is not normal.

Since 80% of learning in a child's first 12 years comes through the eyes, undiscovered vision problems may be the cause of learning difficulties and a dislike of reading.

One in six children between the ages of five and 12 years old has a vision problem that can interfere with learning. Some tell-tale signs include the following:

- squinting, closing or covering one eye
- excessive rubbing or blinking of the eyes
- dislike or avoidance of close work
- short attention span or frequent day-dreaming
- holding books closely when reading
- closing one eye when reading
- complaints of headaches, nausea, dizziness
- turning or tilting the head to one side
- sitting too close to the T.V.



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Ballet Guild Auditions

Brandon Centre Ballet Guild will hold auditions for interested dancers on Saturday, Sept. 10, at 10 a.m., at 161 E. Bloomingdale Ave. In addition, dancers for the holiday classic "The Nutcracker Ballet" will be selected from a second audition held on Sunday, Sept. 11, at 2 p.m., at the same location.

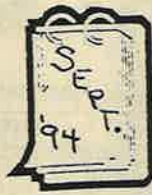
The guild requires dancers ages eight through adult with two years of ballet training and current attendance in a dance school. "Nutcracker" roles are available for ages six through adult.

Female dancers must wear black leotard, pink tights, ballet slippers, and pointe shoes if on pointe. Male dancers are required to wear a white T-shirt with black bike shorts or tights, and ballet slippers. There is a \$5 audition fee, and participants are asked to arrive 30 minutes early for registration.

Further information may be obtained by calling 684-4282.

Auditions for "Godspell"

The Brandon Youth Theatre will hold auditions Tuesday, Sept. 6, from 6 to 8 p.m. or Sunday, Sept. 11 from 3 to 6 p.m. for their fall drama program culminating in the production of "Godspell". The musical, which acclaimed off-Broadway, is based upon the Gospel according to St. Matthew. The program is geared for children in grades four through 12th. No experience is required, but participants will be asked to sing and dance.



"Godspell" will be staged on Saturday, Nov. 19, and Sunday, Nov. 20 at Center Place. Rehearsals for grades four and five will be on Tuesdays from 5 to 6:30 p.m., and for grades six and up, on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m., beginning Sept. 20.

There is a participation fee of \$120 for non-members and \$115 for members of Center Place.

Goldilocks On Stage

The Patchwork Players will present "Goldilocks And The Three Bears" on Thursday, Sept. 22, at 10:45 a.m. for children four years of age through 3rd grade. Tickets must be purchased in advance for \$2.50 per person.

Kids Fall Workshops

Children's classes in various media will be taught this fall at Center Place in Brandon. Just For Kids is a watercolor class beginning Sept. 6, for children in grades one through five. Three-D projects will be the focus of a four week class called Creative Fun For Kids in the same age group, and begins Sept. 7. Sweet Saturday is for children ages six through 10. The arts and crafts class begins Sept. 10. Kids Clay is for children ages six through 12, and meets on Sept. 12 and 26. Finally, Drawing For Kids begins Sept. 29, in two groups - ages eight through 10, and ages 11 and up.

There is a fee required for each class. Further information is available by calling 685-8888.

Lithia, from pg. 11

to the school which then purchased the National Geographic Computer Service that will be on-line this year for students' use.

The Lithia PTA is headed this year by Gayle Turner, president; Maureen Carrigan, vice-president programs; Daphne Rowland, vice-president membership; Belinda Kicak, vice-president ways and means; Suzanne Livingston, vice-president volunteers; Maureen Carney, corresponding secretary; Diane Greschuk, recording secretary; Tim Golden, treasurer; Terry Hicks, county council delegate.



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This Month's Trivia

Each month *The Bloomingdale Gazette* will feature 10 trivia questions. Please submit the answers to the Community Office, 3232 Lithia Pinecrest Road, Suite 101. The individual who is the first to submit all 10 correct answers, will be named the winner in next month's issue.

1. What is the capital of Portugal?
2. What type of candy did Forest Gump always talk about?
3. What is the main ingredient of Borscht?
4. What holiday replaces Washington and Lincoln's birthday?
5. How many contiguous states are there in the U.S.?
6. Who owns *The Bloomingdale Gazette*?
7. Who was Levi Strauss?
8. What are the two planets closest to Earth?
9. Who was the Tampa Bay Bucs number one draft choice in 1994?
10. Who was the author of 1984?

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 2. Patty Lake, Realtor
 3. Mary Reynolds, Broker-Salesperson
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Business Notes



Movie Connection Opens

It's all in the family when it comes to videos for the Montgomery's. Bloomingdale area residents **Don and Deb Montgomery**, have followed in the footsteps of other family members and opened their own video store in Erindale Plaza on Lithia Pinecrest and Erindale. With video stores small and large in virtually every shopping

center in Bloomingdale, **Movie Connection** owners say they offer residents the best prices around - \$1.88 (plus tax) for two days.

Patrons who walk in will get into the movie mood with the smell of freshly popped pop corn. Don says they have over 2100 titles with over 3,000 videos including current releases. They will gladly reserve movies, and besides rentals, they do sell videos.

After 23 years of working for someone else, Don felt it was time to put all his energy into working for himself. "I want to do it while I'm still young enough to make it work." And, he guarantees prompt, courteous, and friendly service.

Store hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 to 10; Friday and Saturday, 10 to 11; and Sundays, noon to 9 p.m.



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Local Realtors Honored

Bloomingdale residents were among realtors who garnered top awards from their respective offices last month. **Luana Russell**, a resident of East, was named Tam-Bay's top closer for the month of June, and **Frank St. Pierre** was named as one of Coldwell Banker's top 25 associates in West Central Florida. He was awarded a Coldwell Banker crystal for his performance as one of the top sales associates out of more than 800 sales personnel in the region.

Crime & Safety Expo

The Greater Brandon Chamber of Commerce and the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department will sponsor a Crime Prevention and Safety Awareness Expo on Saturday, Oct. 1 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Regency Square Shopping Center. Activities will include child identification, auto window etching, and anti-theft device demonstrations. Law enforcement participation includes neighborhood watch, auto security, personal safety, business watch, and special units of the department.

Business owners who wish to exhibit at the expo should contact Barbara Baroni at the Chamber, 689-1221.



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Evening Hours by Appointment

Real Estate Moves

by Michael Davis

Sometimes we forget the value of our basic freedoms in America. As they pertain to real estate, those freedoms are unequaled elsewhere in the world.

In this country you have the right to buy and sell real estate of any kind without asking permission from the government. This means you can choose when to buy and when to sell.

Not only are you free to sell your property, you can also leave it by will to your heirs, lease it, mortgage it, give it away or even abandon it.

When you buy or sell real estate, you are free to negotiate the price best suited to your interests. As a buyer, if the price is too high, you are free to walk away, and find another property. When selling, you are not obligated to accept a price lower than you ask.

You can pay or receive cash, or finance a property. You can even barter for the exchange of real estate.

How does this freedom affect your daily life? How does it translate to a benefit for you and your family?

As a buyer, you are not limited to choosing from one or two homes at preset prices. You can choose from a broad selection of homes, and negotiate the purchase price to your advantage. If one home does not suit your needs, you are free to choose from others.

As a seller, you are not restricted to any government limits on your sale price. You may charge whatever the market will bear. This also means buyers will compare your home with others and make their own value judgements. Overpricing may mean no sale at all.

Free enterprise works well when buying or selling real estate. Don't take it for granted, but do take advantage of its benefits.



VOTE SEPTEMBER 8TH

LYDIA MILLER COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 4 (R)

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- Fight to reclaim the streets and neighborhoods from criminals
- Fight against tax increases • Fight for road improvements
- Continue to fight against the Crosstown Expressway going through neighborhoods

1994 - She continues to . . .

- Fight against tax increases • Fight over-regulation
- Fight for business improvements • Fight for your rights

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LYDIA MILLER SAID . . .

- Government tends to over-regulate. Let the people go the Government, not the Government tell the people "what is good for them".
- 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

VOTE SEPTEMBER 8TH

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Bulls' Teams Hungry For Competition

by Brian Bergren

The Bloomingdale Bulls are ready to stampee their way through the 1994-95 fall sports season and continue their dominance in class 5A athletics. The football, volleyball, swimming, and cross country teams will begin competition in September, but have been holding practices since early August to prepare themselves for the season. There have been some changes in the Bloomingdale coaching staff, but the resilient program will definitely capture some titles for the Red and Black.

Bloomingdale's football team is hoping to improve its dismal 1993 record of 2-8, and if the Spring Jamboree is any indication, the Bulls are ready to win. Bloomingdale's critics were silenced after senior Greg Smith returned the opening kick-off straight up the middle and put six points on the board. Senior quarterback Mike Davis had an incredible game and led the Bulls to a convincing 23-0 win over Armwood. Coach Terry Long will begin his third year as head coach of the Bulls and is impressed with the talent at his disposal. "Our boys worked very hard in the spring and I was encouraged by the Jamboree results," said Long. Some outstanding returning seniors to watch will be Davis, tackle Carlton Genus, linebackers Larry LaPointe and Cody Sherman, and runningback Greg Smith.

There will be a new face both on the volleyball court and in the classroom during the 1993-94 volleyball season. Former Coach Clyde Trathowen was replaced in the off-season by Bonnie Hess. Coach Hess comes to Bloomingdale with some impressive credentials. While coaching at Mann Junior she captured the Hillsborough County Championship and, during her last two years, was undefeated. Hess has an 86.4 winning percentage throughout her 20 years of coaching volleyball. She has also been active in Fellowship of Christian Athletes for 18 years and has had the honor of sponsoring the largest F.C.A. organization in the Southeastern United States.

Hess will have little rebuilding to do as head coach of the Lady Bulls. Amy Funkhouser was the only starter that graduated, and while her presence will be missed, the Bulls are still District contenders. The team consists of 12 returners and outstanding sophomores including six-foot two Kate Taylor. Setting for Bloomingdale will be seniors Megan Eckert and Nancy Hernandez. Leilani Sherman, Wendy Dyar, Chandra Woods, Emily Janns, Stephanie Queen, and Missy Patterson will be hitting for the Bulls in 1994.

After losing to Lake Gibson at Districts in 1993, the Bulls want redemption. They hope to find it on September 24 at the Lake Gibson pre-season tournament. "We would like to go out and prove to Lake Gibson that they are not number one," declared Coach Hess. "If we have a winning season and do well at Districts, then I will consider my first season at Bloomingdale a success."

The swim team at Bloomingdale is often overlooked by the community, but usually achieves the most success. In 1993, Olympic hopeful John Reich captured the state title in the 200 and 500 meter free-style event. The team

placed third overall at the November 10 competition. The men captured the Western Conference and District championship titles while the women took second place honors in the Western Conference in 1993.

Under the watchful eye of veteran Peter Banks, the Bulls have been preparing themselves to make a legitimate run for the state title in 1994. This year's team consists of returners Chris Lee, Reich, Erin Johnson, Tracy Pavlishin, Jennifer Buffington, Christy Hardcastle, Jeff Jacoby, Max Pergament, Jennifer Connely, and Barry Hoey. "We hope that we will have a season that, if not better, is as good as our 1993 season," said Coach Banks. The Bulls' first meet is Sept. 15.

Bloomingdale's cross country team always enjoys a strong season that is full of individual and team titles. Coaches Bill Frank and Dale Bateman will again be at the helm of the very talented team. The Bulls enjoyed a successful 1993 season. The men advanced to the District meet, but fell short of a title. The women, however, competed in the State meet and took second place overall in Class 5A competition.

Returning for the men will be Kevin Bateman, Chris Deen, Chris McCormick, and Tommy Nicholson. Veterans of the women's team are Jennifer Mitchell, who holds the record for the fastest two-mile run with 11:48.8, Kate Mitchell, Karmyn Laverghetta, Stephanie Pientka, and Donna O'Donnell

Coach Frank hopes the men will improve. "If they get in the top six at District then that will be the significant improvement that I am looking for," he said. As for the women's team, he said, "I would love to go back to State and go one notch higher."

The fall sports season is underway and the entire community can feel the excitement. With the extraordinary amount of talent that the Bulls possess, the athletic department is sure to excel. The Bulls are hungry for competition and would love nothing more than to bring home some state titles for Bloomingdale Senior High School.


Athletic Calendar

Bloomingdale Football, Volleyball, X-Country and Swimming This Month

Sept. 2	Football vs. Gaither	Home
Sept. 6	X-Country East Hills. Invite	Brandon
Sept. 9	Football vs. Plant City	Home
Sept. 10	X-Country Winter Haven Invite	Polk CC
Sept. 13	J.V. vs. Leto	Away
Volleyball at Gaither		
Sept. 15	Volleyball at Tampa Tech	
Sept. 15	Swimming vs. Chamberlain	Home
Sept. 16	Football vs. King	Away
Sept. 17	X-Country Leto Invitational	U. S. F.
Sept. 20	J.V. vs. Gaither	Home
	Volleyball vs. Plant, King	Home
	X-Country Raider Invite.	Walden Lake
Sept. 22	Volleyball at Hillsborough	
	Swimming vs. East Bay	Home
Sept. 23	Football vs. Winter Haven	Home
Sept. 27	J. V. vs. King	Away
	Swimming vs. Brandon	Home
Sept. 29	Volleyball vs. Plant City	Home
Sept. 30	Football vs. Leto	Away
Oct. 1	X-Country Don Bishop Invite	Brandon
Burns Bruins Football, Volleyball begin Oct. 5		

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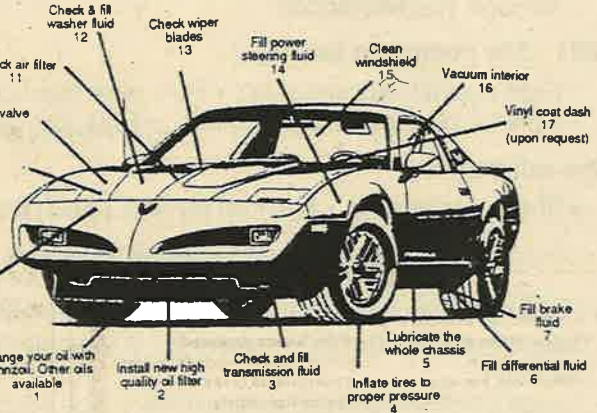
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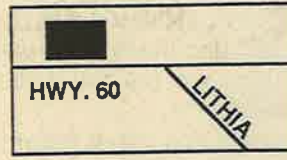
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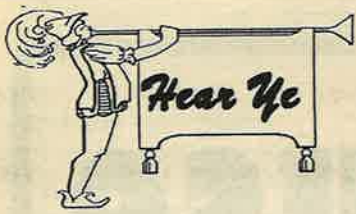
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BHA Meeting

The regular meeting of the Bloomingdale Homeowners' Association will be held Tuesday, Sept. 13, at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Office, 3232 Lithia Pinecrest, Suite 101. All dues paying members of the BHA are invited to attend.

STD Meeting

The monthly meeting of the Bloomingdale Special Taxing District trustees will be held Monday, Sept. 12, at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Office, 3232 Lithia Pinecrest, Suite 101. The meeting is open to all Bloomingdale residents.

Run For Habitat

St. Andrew's United Methodist Men will sponsor the second annual Run For Habitat on Saturday, Sept. 24, at Bloomingdale East Park. The runs will begin at 8 a.m. for

the four-mile event and 9 a.m. for the one-mile run around Nature's Way. There is a \$12 entry fee if postmarked by Sept. 20. There is an entry form on this page which may be cut out and mailed. The cost for children under 12 is \$5, and runners who enter the day of the race will pay \$15. All proceeds will go to benefit Tampa Habitat for Humanity. All participants will receive a T-shirt and refreshments. Awards will be given to the top three finishers in each age group and to the overall male and female winners in each run. For further information, call Jim Allen at 689-5880.

Parenting Classes

Systematic Training for Effective Parenting (STEP) will be taught to parents of children of all ages at Brandon High School this fall. Six weeks of classes begin Tuesday, Sept. 13, from 6:20 to 9:30 p.m. The cost is \$9 per person and there is a book fee. The class emphasizes improving communication skills, understanding children's behavior, and applications of natural and logical consequences as an alternative to rewards and punishment. Interested parents should call 264-3807 to register.

Tax Hike For Libraries Helps Brandon Branch

When residents received their county millage notices

they will find out that there is no increase in

countywide or municipal services tax rates, but there is a slight increase in the library millage rate. County Commissioners voted last month to raise the library tax rate to .6303 mills (63¢ in tax for every \$1,000 of assessed property value). The additional revenue will be used to open new branch facilities and to fund Sunday hours at the Brandon branch library. In addition, the funds will be used to buy more books, videos, periodicals and other materials.

County Seats Open

Hillsborough County Commissioners currently are seeking nominations for several appointed boards and councils that assist in the planning and decision-making process of local government. All nominees must be registered voters. Appointments are voluntary positions.

Positions are open for a City/County Planning Commissioner and Code Enforcement Hear Master, and for the following boards or councils: Consumer Protection Board, Health Council of West Central Florida, Hospital Authority, Human Relations Board, Sign Appeals Board, Hillsborough River Technical Advisory Council, and the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Each position carries certain pre-requisites and qualifications and anyone who wishes to be considered for appointment must submit a completed questionnaire form by Thursday, Sept. 8. Forms are available in the County Center, 2nd Floor, in downtown Tampa.

2ND ANNUAL Run For Habitat

September 24, 1994

Tampa Habitat For Humanity, Inc.
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COST:
\$12.00 Postmarked by Sept. 20
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4 Mile _____ 1 Mile _____ Shirt Size: _____ XL _____ L _____ M _____ S

Name (First) _____ (Last) _____ Age _____ Birthdate _____ Sex _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I know that running a road race is a potentially hazardous activity. I should not enter and run unless I am medically able and properly trained. I agree to any decision of a race official relative to my ability to complete the run or walk safely. I assume all risks associated with running or walking in this event, including, but not limited to, falls, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather, including high heat and/or humidity, traffic, and the conditions of the road; all such risks being known and appreciated by me. Having read this waiver, and knowing these facts in consideration of your accepting my entry, I for myself, and anyone entitled to act on my behalf, waive and release the St. Andrew's United Methodist Men, Bayshore Runners Club, and all sponsors, their representatives and successors, from all claims or liabilities of any kind arising out of my participation in this event. I understand that my entry fee is non-refundable, and if I pre-register and do not show up race day I forfeit my race packet.

Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature (if under 18) _____ Date _____



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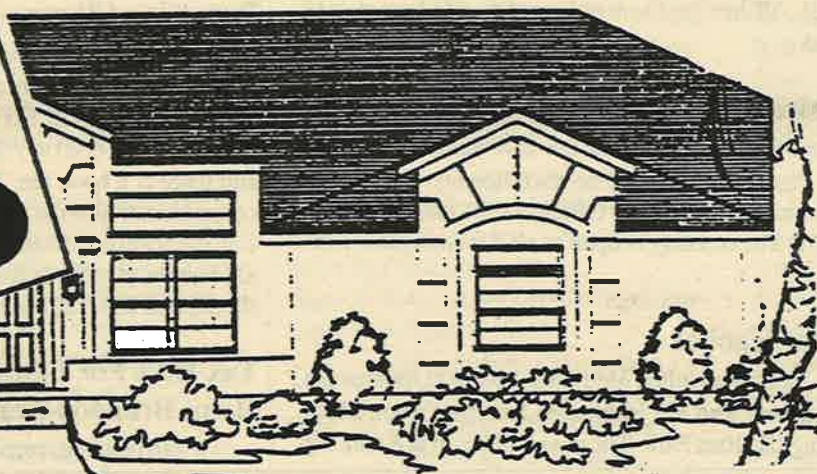
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