

## Four organizations keep Bloomingtondale residents safe and informed

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by Joe Liguori

Have you noticed the palm trees, oak trees, benches, landscaped common areas and the sprinkler systems around Bloomingtondale? These are but a part of what the Special Taxing District (STD) does for the fortunate people who call Bloomingtondale "home." With an annual budget of over \$300,000, administered by a seven-person Board of Trustees, the STD meets monthly to discuss and adjust the Master Plan for our community. Extensive work on the major entryways will be completed by 1999 at a cost of \$20-30,000 per site.

Bloomingtondale Mobile Watch is another organization that serves our residents. Composed of volunteers, Mobile Watch's vehicles patrol major thoroughfares, small streets and dead ends—everywhere—to deter crime and provide a presence that makes Bloomingtondale show one of the lowest statistical crime rates in Hillsborough County.

A third organization that supports Bloomingtondale is the

*Continued on page 12*



Reilly Whyte and Tray Bradshaw enjoy playing at Playtime Pals, a hands-on play program for parents and children. Children ages 3 months to 4 years old do arts and crafts, role playing, bubbles and much more at Playtime Pals, located at 508 Limona Road. Call Marlene at 653-0449 for information.

# Your inside connections

## The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc.

3240 Lithia Pinecrest Road  
Suite 103  
Valrico, FL 33594  
#681-2051  
bloomingdale@juno.com

Randy Wolfe, President	229-3321
Michael Davis, V.P./Treasurer	684-8881
Ted Grable, Comptroller	685-7193
Walter Glenn, Secretary	681-2051
Patricia Radel, Director	651-0210
Luana Russell, Director	662-1610
LaWayne Wyatt, Director	685-2072
Ann Underwood, Director	653-4677
Pam Liguori, Director	681-9655

### Bloomingdale Special Taxing District 684-6667

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

### Bloomingdale Mobile Watch Core Committee

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

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

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

### Meetings

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

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

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

Bloomingdale Oaks Special Taxing District  
First Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

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

*the* **Bloomingdale gazette**  
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Share your news with the community! Write to Kitzi Taylor, Editor, at 220 W. Brandon Blvd., Suite 102, Brandon, FL 33511 or Fax to (813) 654-4745.

# The Best Lawns & Gardens

The Carlins on Bayfield Drive have earned the right to be honored as this month's lawn and garden focus. Carlene Carlin and her husband raised five children in their beautiful Bloomingdale home, and now spend much of their free time visiting with their grandchildren and working wonders in their yard. With such an extensive diversity of shrubbery and trees, from the classic Floridian trademarks to finely-trimmed works of art, the Carlins certainly have massive weekly maintenance work.

The upkeep trouble is worth it, though, for the family happily receives compliments by passers-by all the time. Carlene remarked that "a realtor once said that [the grounds] looked like a park." With one glance at these photos, most will agree with that realtor. The view is even better in person.

The Carlins have lived in Bloomingdale for 16 years and are proud to call Bloomingdale their "home." Fellow residents should be proud to call the Carlins their neighbors.



A summery gazebo adds a southern touch to the back yard which is just teeming with vibrant plant life and well-kept grass.



This is the regal front entrance to the Carlin home. Flowering shrubs line the entry path and two Palmettos provide elegant symmetry.

We're looking for the Best Lawns & Gardens! Send information and photo to Kitzi Taylor, Editor, Bloomingdale Gazette, "The Best Lawns & Gardens," 220 W. Brandon Blvd., Suite 102, Brandon, FL 33511.

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Community Concerns:

# Not enough publicity for the Bloomingdale Classic

by Jim Harbridge

Recently, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Bloomingdale Classic was held in Bloomingdale, starting and finishing at the Alafia Elementary School. The course for the 5K run and other events were on Natures Way. Most importantly, the money raised by this event supports many important activities of the local YMCA. The Classic has been successful in providing financial assistance for YMCA programs only as a result of the combined efforts of a relatively small group of enthusiastic supporters and volunteers, lead by Diane Flagg of Suarez Housing.

The problem I wish to bring out into the open is that this very worthwhile Classic lacks the local support it deserves and requires. Although it did receive a large amount of press from the Tampa Tribune, the Brandon News, the Brandon



The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Bloomingdale Class 5K race brought area runners together to share the thrill of competition and to help support the Brandon YMCA summer programs.

Community News (front page and picture), the Bloomingdale Express (entry forms), the Bloomingdale/Valrico Journal, and a very small listing in the Gazette, there seems to be no "official" awareness of the event by the community of Bloomingdale. This is ironic to me because the new, much needed, South Brandon YMCA will be built within the confines of Bloomingdale where, more than likely, its residents will be the chief recipients of its manifold benefits. Can we, as a concerned community, plan to give the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Bloomingdale Classic a broader base of support and involvement? I hope so.

There are a number of things that can be done, and I have a few ideas, but my suggestion, if you are interested in the Classic's future, is to contact chairperson Diane Flagg at 664-1100 for more information.



Over \$6,000 was raised by the Classic. The YMCA used the money to fund its two-week fun-filled summer camp for deserving area youngsters.

**Ed Rahal, DMD**  
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## Community Concerns:

## The litter problem

by Al Devney

LITTER has infiltrated and continues to corrupt our community at an alarming rate! All the paper, cans and bottles did not fly onto the common areas of Bloomingdale East and West, so who keeps putting it there? The litter apparently multiplies and refuses to relinquish its hold, no matter how thorough our cleaning strategies may be.

The Bloomingdale Special Taxing District has the litter picked up on Mondays and Fridays, plus the maintenance contractor picks up as they mow the area and still the litter is there. Three times a week is needed to basically keep the area presentable.

Every month, 35-40, 30 gallon trash bags of litter are removed from the 13 miles of common area. Some interesting data: of the beer cans distributed and flung about in the area, Bud outnumbers the rest, with Miller Lite and Busch trailing very close behind; the discarded beer bottle division is headed by Bud Lite, Corona and Heineken; alcoholic spirits have a strong showing of their own, with gin and vodka apparently the most popular among litterbugs. McDonald's leads the fast food category, with Taco Bell trash and Wendy's refuse following closely behind. Coke, Pepsi and Surge are the most common soft drink cans to be found littered about. Kent, Winston and Salem cigarette packages are more prevalent than are Marlboro and Camel. Old tires, toilet bowls, diapers, hubcaps and various articles of apparel are a few more interesting items that have been abandoned and retrieved around the community. As an additional incentive, perhaps, and to keep things interesting, a little cash has been found and



*Rick Pitrowski is the president of the Bloomingdale Special Taxing District. He works with Administrator Al Devney and others to solve community problems such as litter control.*

has been returned to circulation.

As you can see, there is a real problem with litter in our subdivision. People don't think twice about rolling down the windows and throwing out whatever they have finished. This makes a real mess for everyone and devalues our neighborhood. The Bloomingdale Special Taxing District works very hard to enhance the appearance of the common areas which, in turn, helps to increase the property value of our homes. However, the litter problem is a constant, very avoidable nuisance which takes money out of our other programs.

If you have concerns you would like to share with the Bloomingdale community, send a letter to Kitzi Taylor, Editor, *Bloomingdale Gazette*, 220 W. Brandon Blvd., Suite 102, Brandon, FL 33511, or call 654-1919.

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Call Alan at (813) 469-8190 or (407) 245-9587. Classes begin as early as September 7th! The Infant/Toddler Swim Program at Lifestyle Family Fitness - because nothing is more important for you and your child.

## South Brandon YMCA Interest Survey: What do you want the future YMCA to offer?

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Business/Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Children? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Ages \_\_\_\_\_ Years in Brandon \_\_\_\_\_

Specific Program Interests (Please, rank in order, 1-10, 1 being most important to you)  
 \_\_\_ Family Activities \_\_\_ Youth Sports \_\_\_ Adult Sports \_\_\_ After School Care  
 \_\_\_ Teen Programs \_\_\_ Aquatics \_\_\_ Aerobics \_\_\_ Martial Arts  
 \_\_\_ Senior Activities \_\_\_ Day Camp \_\_\_ Gymnastics

Facility Interests (Please, rank in order, 1-10, 1 being most important to you)  
 \_\_\_ Aerobic Center \_\_\_ Gymnastics Cntr. \_\_\_ Basketball Gym \_\_\_ Nursery  
 \_\_\_ Swimming Pool \_\_\_ Fitness Area \_\_\_ Locker rooms (Adult & Youth)  
 \_\_\_ Teen/Youth Cntr. \_\_\_ Racquetball Cntr. \_\_\_ Computer Learning Center

Are you currently a member of the Brandon Family YMCA? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_  
 If No, then, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been a member of the Brandon Family YMCA? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

When the YMCA is built in South Brandon, what is the likelihood that you will join?  
 \_\_\_ Not Likely \_\_\_ Somewhat Likely \_\_\_ Very Likely

Would you like to be on a mailing list to receive YMCA information? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Are you interested in volunteering? Yes! \_\_\_

List below any suggestions you might have for the new YMCA.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your help! Please, drop this survey off at the Brandon Family YMCA, or send it to the following address: "South Brandon YMCA Survey" Brandon Family YMCA, 3097 Kingsway Road, Brandon, FL 33511.

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Religion:

## Bell Shoals Baptist offers a unique weight loss program

You may have seen it on *A Current Affair* or read about it in *Woman's Day* magazine...It is "The Weigh Down Workshop," a highly successful, international Christian Weight loss workshop that has changed the lives of participants in all 50 states and in numerous locations outside of the United States. The Weigh Down Workshop uses no food lists, calorie counting or exercise program to help people shed pounds. Instead, it teaches participants to use natural, internal control mechanisms to guide their eating and to recognize and deal effectively with other facts that influence them to overeat. Participants review printed materials and audiocassettes at home, then gather weekly for videotaped instruction, small group fellowship and one-on-one encouragement. This class is open to everyone—men, women and teens.

The 12-week workshop will be conducted at Bell Shoals Baptist Church, 2102 Bell Shoals Road, Brandon, on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. and Tuesdays at 9 a.m. beginning on September 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. For information, contact the church office at (813) 689-4229, ext. 229.



Christian women, men and young adults will gather at Bell Shoals Baptist Church to learn how to lose weight with the aid of fellowship and encouragement.

## Free Bible correspondence course now available to area residents

George F. Raines, a chaplain in the Civil Air Patrol since 1982 and a minister of the gospel since 1953, is now offering to everyone in the area who enjoys studying the Bible in the privacy of his own home a free 30-lesson Bible correspondence course, providing an easy-to-follow step-by-step study. The student is thereby able to follow a systematic plan in learning the basic truths of the inspired scriptures, which are "a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path" (Psalm 119:105) and is made "wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 3:15-17). See also John 3:1-6; Mark 16:15, 16; Acts 2: 36-38; Ephesians 1:7; Romans 6:1-6; Galatians 3:21-29; 2 Peter 1:5-11.

The only textbook the student will need is his own Bible. His lessons will be promptly and accurately graded and returned. Upon completion of the course, he will receive a certificate of achievement suitable for framing. Interested persons are invited to mail their requests for enrollment to the following address: STUDIES IN THE BIBLE, PO Box 743, Celina, TN 38551. Enrollments may also be processed by telephone: (615) 268-0031 or by fax: (615) 243-4640. No one will ever be asked to pay any fees or to make any contributions. Respondents are asked to please allow about three weeks for the arrival of their first lessons.

## Bloomington High School couple wed after six-year courtship

They met in high-school Spanish class: she was in 10<sup>th</sup> grade, he in 11<sup>th</sup>. Whether it was love at first sight, who can say, but six years later, Amy Mantovani married Jay Taylor at a nuptial mass held at Nativity Catholic Church.



Newlyweds Mr. and Mrs. Jay Taylor dance their first dance as husband and wife

Given in marriage by her father, Ugo Mantovani of Fox Run in Bloomington, Amy Margaret wore a princess-style, full-length beaded wedding gown with train. She carried a cascading bouquet of white roses and stephanotis. Maids-of-honor Joann and Elizabeth Mantovani, sisters of the bride, and bridesmaids Melanie and Valerie Taylor, sisters of the groom, wore floor-length lavender satin formals, and carried multi-colored nosegays of carnations and roses. Groomsmen Neil Marr and Charles Noble, and Best Man, Sean Taylor, the groom's brother, sported lavender boutonnières on their black tuxedos.

Marge Mantovani, the bride's mother, wore a beige full-length ensemble of beaded crepe. The groom's mother, Kitz Taylor, wore a custom-made Sandy Frutchev gown of lilac satin.

After a dinner reception at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel, the couple departed for their honeymoon at Lake Tahoe. They will reside in Temple Terrace where Mr. Taylor attends USF Medical School. Mrs. Taylor will teach first grade at Folsom Elementary School.



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## Organizations continued from page 1

Bloomington Homeowners Association (BHA). This voluntary group, asking only a \$20 annual donation from families, maintains projects like continued publication of the Gazette, the Deed Restriction Enforcement Program, the Santa Comes to Bloomington Program, the Neighborhood Involvement Program (NIP) which protects property values by helping the county enforce County Codes and the funding for the Mobile Watch Program. The BHA also works with the County Government for improved services like sidewalks, street lighting and road signs. It was instrumental in building the Community Center in Park West and, recently, adding the lights to Park East.

Finally, the fourth supporting organization is the Bloomington Gazette: the monthly newspaper that you are now reading. This paper is owned by the BHA which makes every dues-paying member of our community an "owner." For almost 15 years, the

Gazette has rallied residents to impending problems (like a proposed carwash for Nature's Way which was withdrawn when the potential owner became aware of its unpopularity), pushed for the widening of Bloomington Avenue and kept residents informed of the happenings and achievements so crucial to our public who has the right to know.

Come to the meetings of the BHA which are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm in the Community Office located in the Royal Oaks Shopping Plaza, beside Raccoons at 3240 Lithia Pinecrest Road. A simple phone call to 681-2051 will put you in touch with the Special Taxing District, Mobile Watch or the BHA. Call 654-1919 with your inputs to the Gazette (especially needed are stories about Bloomington kids and lawn care ideas).

And, when you patronize our advertisers, tell them you saw it in the Gazette.

### Hobbies:

## Orchid Lovers Unite!



*This pink cattleya orchid has just finished blooming.*

The Tampa Orchid Club's 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Orchid Show is on its way. Mayor Dick Greco has proclaimed October 3-5, 1997 to be "Tampa Orchid Club Days." This year's theme is "Tricks and treats." Come visit the show in Westshore Plaza to see first-hand the lavish displays of thousands of blooming orchids. Orchid plants, corsages and arrangements may be purchased at the show, and a potting booth will be available where you can bring in your plants to be potted, repotted or divided. Demonstrations of potting, dividing and cultural tips will be given on the days of the show.

The show times are as follows: Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 12 noon to 5:45 p.m. Admission and parking are free, so come on down and see why so many area residents delight in cultivating and decorating with orchids.

### Golf to raise money for the Bloomington High golf teams

The Bloomington Bulls golfers will put on a golf scramble on September 14 at the River Hills Golf Course in efforts to raise funds for next season. There will be food and prizes for the longest drive, the closest to the pin and a lucky hole-in-one wins you a new car. The shotgun starts at 1:30 p.m., but participants need to check in

by noon. The entry fee is \$50 which includes cart, greens fees and range balls. You must enter by September 10<sup>th</sup>, so contact either Coach Guess at 737-4293 or Coach Peters at 744-8018 as soon as

possible. The scramble will offer a unique chance to meet some of the area's talented young golfers, so, please, make plans to attend.

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Have an interesting hobby? Tell the community about it! Write a column about your interest, or just send your ideas and pictures to Editor, Bloomington Gazette, "Hobbies," 200 W. Brandon Blvd., Suite 102, Brandon, FL 33511.

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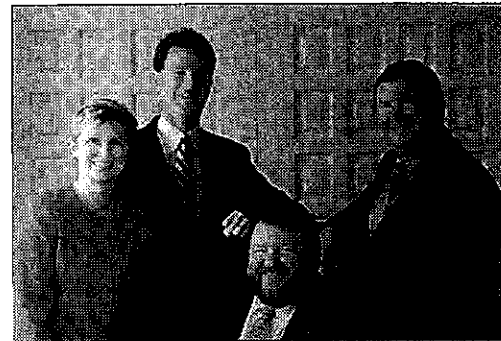
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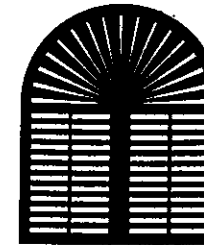


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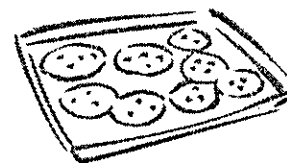
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## Rolling Pin Kitchen Emporium Annual Baking Contest



### THE WORLD'S BEST CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIE

Help us find the world's best chocolate chip cookie and you could win a \$1,000 shopping spree at Rolling Pin Kitchen Emporium. Bring your culinary expertise to Rolling Pin's 5th Annual baking contest on Saturday, September 20, 1997.

Simply go to your nearest Rolling Pin Kitchen Emporium location to receive your entry form and contest rules. Then dig deep into your grandmother's secret recipes for what she considered to be the best chocolate chip cookie this side of heaven - from scratch, of course.

On the day of the contest, bring your recipe to your nearest store, along with at least two dozen cookies for our local judges to sample. Winners from each store will advance to the finals at our corporate headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia.

At that point, another independent panel of judges will sample the recipes to declare the grand prize winner, who will receive a \$1,000 shopping spree at Rolling Pin Kitchen Emporium. The grand prize winner will be announced on October 22.

First, second and third place winners will be awarded prizes at each local store. The cookies will be judged on ease of preparation, flavor and appearance. entry forms are available in all Rolling Pin Kitchen Emporium stores. Start searching for that winning recipe!

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