

ARCADIAN

Thursday, October 24, 2013 - 24 pages / 50 cents



A section of the Sun



The Lemur Conservation Foundation opens its doors Saturday for a glimpse of their efforts.

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Lending a helping hand

By STEVE BAUER
ARCADIAN ASSISTANT EDITOR

Editor's note: This is part two of a three-part series exploring DeSoto County's struggles to attract visitors, businesses and new residents to the area, and what local residents and organizations are doing to counter the problems.

Off the top of your head, how many

homeless individuals would you guess call DeSoto County home? Maybe 50, 100, or even 500? If you answered yes to any of the latter, keep counting.

In a January 2013 survey conducted by several charity organizations operating in the county, the number approached a whopping 1,500. To put it in perspective, that's nearly 25 percent of Arcadia's population. Of that number, nearly 400 of them were of school age. Although the number

can fluctuate wildly throughout the year, there is no doubt the county has a serious issue on its hands.

"If the county or city doesn't get creative with a solution to this, I don't know what we're going to do," said Valerie Gilchrist, founder of the DeSoto County Homeless Coalition. "There are no jobs here, an increasing number of the adults we see

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BRICK BY BRICK

DeSoto volleyball celebrates its seniors



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY DANA CLAUSING dana@clausingphotography.com

Casey Hall (14) and Tishonna Riley (13) join Jillian Deriso (11) and the rest of the team in celebration of their win over Lake Placid Thursday night. • Turn to page 14 for more photos.

County Commission mulls fire station options

By STEVE BAUER
ARCADIAN ASSISTANT EDITOR

The DeSoto Board of County Commissioners unanimously approved placing ozone generators in Fire Station 1 as a temporary solution to remove mold that has contaminated the building.

City Administrator Guy Maxcy informed the board the modular living structure currently used to house firefighters at the station was in a

"state of crisis" after a wall had been compromised with water and mold was found growing in the ductwork. He said employees were complaining of respiratory issues and suggested the board adopt an action plan that would include the construction of a new fire station.

"This is an issue we need to address immediately, and staff's suggestion is either to construct a new fire station, or have a new modular brought on site as a replacement," he said.

Commissioner Bob Miller said his

main concern was the health of the firefighters. "The emergency here is not building a new fire station, it's the potential respiratory issues involved," he said.

Several commissioners then asked what it would cost to bring in a second module, and County Purchasing Director Cindy Talamentez said the company that build the first structure would have to customize a new one, which would take up to a month. "Other issues are that set-up and tear-down

would be roughly \$4,500, and because of changing conditions rent on the new module would go from \$515 per month to \$1,100," she said.

Interim Fire Rescue Chief Larry Taylor said the biggest problem he has now is to find a location able to hold structures large enough for both his staff and vehicles. "I don't have any way to put them and our equipment at the same location," he said. He continued

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Arcadian 50c



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Georges to appear on 'Shark Tank'

By **SUSAN E. HOFFMAN**
ARCADIAN EDITOR

The bright lights of Hollywood can turn heads. Some people, blinded by their glow, allow themselves to become someone they're not.

But Arcadian Johnny Georges is determined to stay true to himself, and not let his experience in L.A. turn his head.

Georges, who owns GSI Supply and holds patents on the Tree T-Pee, was invited to appear on ABC's popular TV program, 'Shark Tank.' On the show, venture capitalists hear proposals from inventors who are seeking investments for their products. The investors, or "sharks," listen to pitches from entrepreneurs, and a very few are chosen.

Georges will be appearing on Shark Tank on Nov. 1 making his pitch to a panel of investors. To find out if he was successful, you'll have to watch the show.

Georges is inviting family, friends and fellow Arcadians to join him to watch the show at Pine Level United Methodist Church. The evening will start with a barbecue dinner from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., and then the program will be screened at 9 p.m. in the church's social hall.

Georges said when he first heard of 'Shark Tank' he "thought it was one of those fish tank shows." But he filled out an application, and after some initial contact, they send him tickets to travel to Los Angeles in June.

Georges said, "My eyes were wide when I landed in L.A. — there were millions of people. Being from a small town like Arcadia, everything seemed so big."

Even at the malls, Georges said,

everything was big. "The food court alone — they have a hundred restaurants there, with all kinds of food."

Georges was filmed as he made his pitch to a panel of five investors to see who might be interested in his product, the Tree T-Pee. The device, made out of recycled plastic, fits around the base of a young citrus tree, directing water from micro-irrigation jets directly to the root zone. It prevents evaporation and helps conserve water, as well as directing fertilizers to the tree without waste. It also protects tender trees from frost damage.

Asked if he was nervous as the venture capitalists questioned him, Georges said, "No — nervous is being questioned by a panel from Swiftmud (the Southwest Florida Water Management District). Those people are scientists. They ask hard questions and want real answers." His presentation to Swiftmud had lasted more than two hours, during which he had to demonstrate the environmental and agricultural benefits of his product.

"So when I was at 'Shark Tank,' I pretended I was standing before Swiftmud," he said.

Mostly, Georges said he just wanted to be himself. He tried to stay relaxed and give the same answers he does every day in his work. "I've been in this business 30 years so I know my product."

Following the filming, the 'Shark Tank' crew called him to visit him at his home. They spent a day in DeSoto County, following and filming him through a full day of work, at his home, talking with family members, friends and business associates.

"They interviewed Felton Garner," Georges said. "I suggested him because he has family that goes way back



PHOTO COURTESY OF ABCMEDIANET.COM

On Nov. 1, an entrepreneur from Arcadia, Florida, is pitching a tented root cover for newly planted trees that he claims will save farmers thousands of dollars in fuel and water. Here is a scene of Johnny Georges on the set of "Shark Tank."

in Florida: his ancestors fought in the Seminole Wars and his family has a rich history in citrus and cattle here." There they saw the Tree T-Pees in use in the groves.

Still, Georges wasn't certain he would actually appear in 'Shark Tank' until he saw a video trailer the show posted online, and there was a brief shot of him partway through the clip. And most recently, he got a call telling him he will appear in the Nov. 1 episode.

"I'm excited about the opportunity to represent Arcadia and DeSoto County," he said. "It's an honor to represent my home town on national TV, and put the town in a positive light."

Georges isn't permitted to give away

anything that happens on that episode so people will just have to tune in to ABC to find out. He said he's hosting his viewing party at his church because "the people there are genuine, hard-working country folk who love Jesus, and would help anybody."

Georges credits Walt Brewer with influencing him to work hard. "He once asked me, 'What will your legacy be?'" That inspired him to look for ways to improve the original Tree T-Pee designed by his father, Rick, and to adapt it to promote water conservation and environmental protection. That, he said, would be his legacy.

"But no matter what happens," Georges said, "I'll still be me."

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DeSoto County School District to implement bus tracking system

By **SUSAN E. HOFFMAN**
ARCADIAN EDITOR

The DeSoto County School Board voted Tuesday to purchase a transportation system that will calculate the most efficient bus routes, help save fuel costs, and track when children get on and off the bus.

The system, called Trapeze, will cost the district an estimated \$72,950 but is expected to save a lot of time and money, and to help ensure students' safety.

The system includes the installation of GPS trackers and a scanner on each bus. The GPS scanner informs the home office of the bus's current location, and can track the time the bus arrived at and left any given stop, the time it took for the bus to go from one stop to the next, how fast it was going, and display all these data in real time on a computer screen at the district.

A key element is the scanner. Each student will be issued a pass with an electronic code. As the student enters or leaves the bus, the scanner notes the time and location. The district

will know when and where a student boarded and exited.

Purchasing specialist Rene Barnard said, "The student cards can also be used for other purposes, such as the library or food service." If a student forgets his card, the school bus driver will note that by hand so the student can be accounted for.

Trapeze will also coordinate with the county's system. The school district can be alerted if a route needs to be reconfigured due to construction or some hazard, and the program will figure out the most efficient way. Trapeze will also help the district capture data that has to be reported to the state Education Department. "Now we have to tabulate it by hand," Barnard said, "and it's easy to make mistakes."

Superintendent Karyn Gary said by capturing and compiling accurate data on students, the district can save money as well as get funding to which it is entitled.

The Trapeze system is expected to be installed and implemented before the end of the year.

Purchasing savings

Barnard also explained a new purchasing method the district will be implementing. It's called "reverse auction," and it's similar to an online auction such as eBay, except that the

lowest bidder will be the winner.

With this system, the district can set the requirements for what it needs to purchase — say several new vehicles. The list goes online and businesses throughout the state, including local vendors, can make bids. They can't see other vendors' bids but they will know if theirs is lowest or not, and can submit another bid if they choose.

One benefit is that this program will allow the school district to receive bids from local vendors, which presently they cannot do for items bought through the state's system. "We'll have a training session for the local vendors, and we hope to start this up in January," Barnard said.

Board members also briefly discussed whether they want to change the school's districts in light of the county's redrawn district lines. Because school board members, unlike county commissioners, are elected at large, it may not be necessary for them to revise their districts. Board Chairman Rodney Hollingsworth suggested they each speak with Supervisor of Elections Mark Negley to learn more about the process and advise whether they want redistricting to be included on the next meeting agenda.

The board was treated to a musical concert by students from the Early Childhood Center, under the direction of Dr. Sharon Goodman.

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SUN NEWSPAPERS

Chamber is groovin' to the music

Martha Jo Markey rides in the psychedelic VW Beetle with School Superintendent Karyn Gary while they were Groovin' With the Chamber Saturday night.



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY JOHN BLACK, photoke@gmail.com



DeSoto County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Ashley Coone, with her sister, Maria Coone, sport flashy '60s-style headbands and flash the peace sign: groovy, baby!



Cassie Boudreaux, Amy Bredfeldt, Acashia Scott, Maurice Gray and Karen Gray pose by the iconic '60s-era VW bus painted with a Grateful Dead theme. Groovin' with the Chamber was the theme for this year's Chamber of Commerce membership meeting.



Philip Nedley, Kristie Jones and Gabriel Quave enjoy the music during the Chamber's membership dinner Saturday. Word is they might have been listening to Iron Butterfly's In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida.



Amanda Davis, Michelle Williamson, Penny Kurtz and Chad Kurtz found their best hippie garb for Groovin' with the Chamber Saturday night at the Elks Lodge.



George and Johnny Lempenau from Peace River Campground, wearing matching tie-dye shirts, pose by the psychedelic VW Beetle at the Chamber of Commerce membership dinner Saturday.

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VIEWPOINT

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www.sunnewspapers.net Arcadian | Page 4 E-mail letters to letters@sun-herald.com

OUR VIEW

The view from outside

Our position: Be the change you want to see (or not).

Last week's opening story in the series "Brick by Brick" was meant to encourage conversation.

It did just that.

People called us on the phone, or stopped us on the street to tell us what they thought of the story.

Several people commented on our own Facebook page as well as other pages.

Our story did exactly what it was supposed to do: it got you talking.

Some of you agreed that the images of dilapidated, overgrown buildings might turn off prospective businesses and investors. Others thought the buildings were picturesque, symbolic of the easy-going, rural lifestyle.

Some took the position that if you didn't like it, you didn't have to look at it.

We agree the rusted roofs, overgrown vines, peeling clapboard and faded graffiti have a certain charm, a certain aesthetic, somewhere between shabby chic and beautiful decay.

But we do believe there's a point at which, after you've passed by it many times, it ceases to register. It becomes part of the background, just another piece of scenery that doesn't warrant attention.

But the point of the story was whether those decaying structures might be giving outsiders the wrong impression of DeSoto County.

"Let the outsiders go home if they don't like it," some said. It's the love-it-or-leave-it attitude.

But how many young people have loved and left, because there are no jobs for them here?

How many potential investors have left because they were turned off by their first glimpse?

How many possible jobs never came when investors decided to go down the road to a place that didn't look as run-down, scary or apathetic?

That was the point of the story — to have you look at the buildings with an outsider's eyes and see what they see.

Then you can decide whether or not you might want what an outsider could offer.

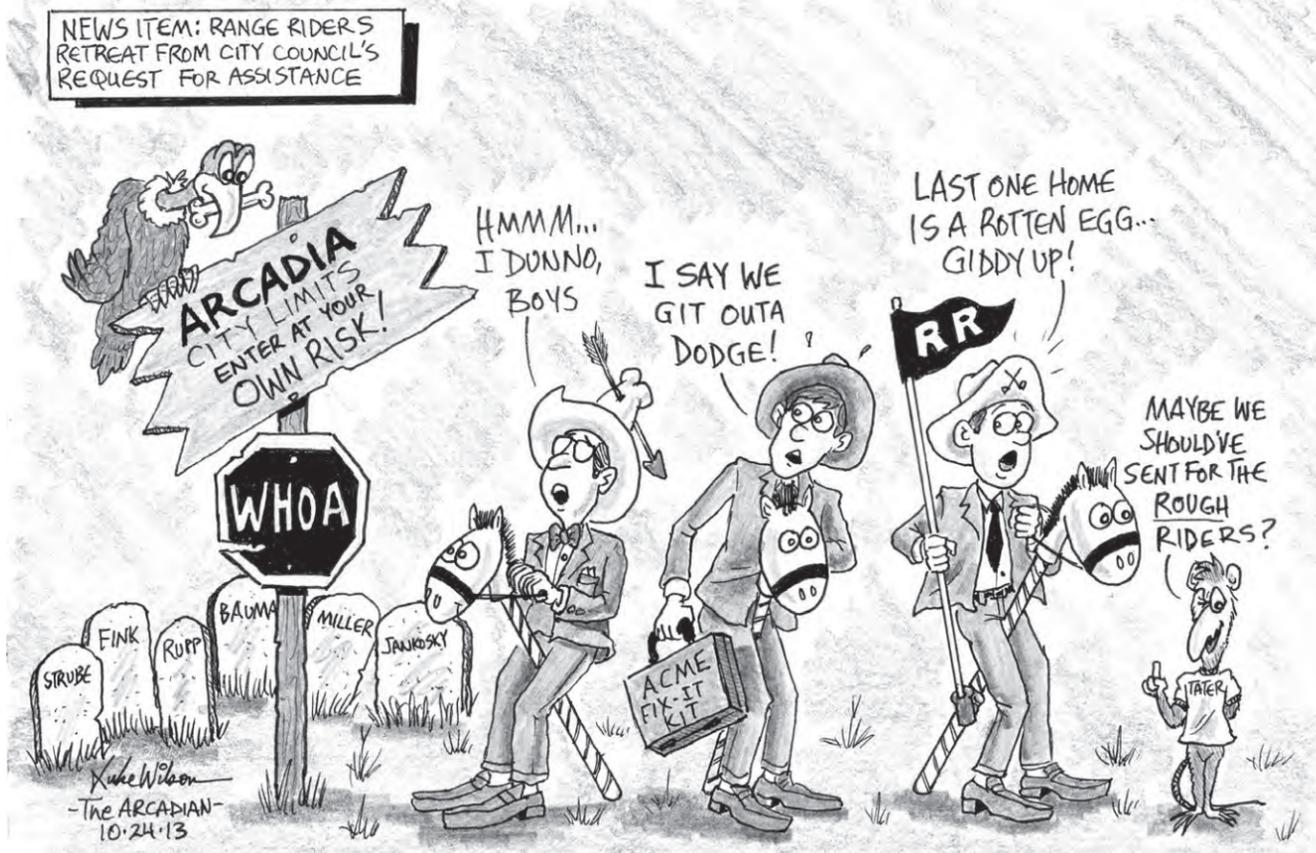
If you're happy not having a lot of quality jobs, if you're happy with our youngsters moving out of town for work, then let's just leave things as they are.

But if you're not ... let's think about what we, as a community, could do to change it. Maybe it starts with something as simple as a fresh coat of paint, a good mowing, or a clean-up day.

If we want to make things better, it has to start with us.

LETTER POLICY

Letters are welcome on virtually any subject, but we do have some rules. Please keep them to less than 250 words. Letters will be edited to length as well as grammar and spelling. All letters must be signed with full name - not initials. An address and telephone number must be included; they are not for publication, but must be provided so we may verify authorship if necessary. Due to the number of letters received, we reserve the right to run only one letter per person per month. The Letters to the Editor section is intended as a public forum for community discourse and the opinions and statements made in letters are solely those of the individual writers. *The Arcadian* takes no responsibility for the content of these letters. Please send or bring correspondence to the *Arcadian*, 108 S. Polk Ave., Arcadia FL 34266, or fax to 863-494-3533. Readers with access to the internet may e-mail letters to the Editor at shoffman@sun-herald.com.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

We need to live in the present

Editor:

I would like to say thank you to *The Arcadian* for all the coverage in the past several months you have given to the people of Arcadia about the city and the council. So many things have been covered up for so long, I'm glad to see the eyes of the people in Arcadia being opened.

I have been attending the city

meetings for the past couple of years. I have noticed that if the city council approves something at one meeting, a few meetings later they bring it up again and re-resolve it before they ever try what they approved the first time. They need to follow through with the first ruling before they bring it up again.

It's time the city council starts working together and stops being bullied by outside sources. They need

to stop living in the past and stop with the "good ol' boys" syndrome. What worked 30 years ago may not work today. Instead of living in the past, we need to live in the now and prepare for the future. We need to leave the city of Arcadia strong for our children and grandchildren.

Again, thank you for the coverage.

Charles Conklin
Arcadia

GRITS & PIECES

Wondering, a little much

It's getting close to Halloween, so I thought I'd scare up a column about stuff to wonder about.

No, this isn't something I found in a routing e-mail or on Facebook. I keep a notebook with me most of the time to jot down column ideas because my forgetter is often much more active than my rememberer, and lots of stuff I try to hang onto mentally winds up in the great black hole of my head, never to be recollected again. So when my mind gets to wondering (and wandering) about stuff, I hurry up and jot that down. Here's a sampling.

For decades now, we've heard about the elusive critter known as "Big Foot." He goes by other monstrous monikers like sasquatch, yeti, abominable snowman, skunk ape, and sometimes even ex-spouse. What I wonder is, would you call more than one Big Feet or Big Foots? And if they had a baby, would we call it a Little Big Foot? A Footling? Footette?

Here's one for you. We hear someone refer to an experience as being "a little much." If much is more than less, how can it be little? I realize that if the word "too" was worked into that phrase, it would make more sense. But we omit it for some reason, further confounding anybody trying to learn the English language. One last thought — would "a little much"



Grits & Pieces

Luke Wilson

troubador55@embarqmail.com

be the same as "a lotta little?"

Imagine if a mockingbird was raised in a henhouse, where he was only exposed to chicken sounds. Would he still dart around, channel-surfing with his endless collection of bird calls, or would he only cluck, cackle and crow? I suspect the latter. I'm thinking he'd walk kinda funny too.

Will cell phones eventually create an ailment known "Texter's Thumb?" And since cell phones can do so many things these days, how much longer can it be before they're crossed with a Swiss Army knife and be able to dispense toilet paper?

Why does Superman need a costume? He certainly doesn't require a cape to fly or a logo for bullets to ricochet off of, right? Maybe it's for photo ops in the paper, so he can be distinguished from others in the picture? I can totally get that, but why spoil the whole tough guy image by wearing your underwear outside your tights?

How much do they pay workers to put those twist ties on loaves of bread? And what position could you get promoted to? I can hear the boss at a retirement party now. "Ol' Clem here has spent 40 years with us and has took home the Twister of the Month Award 247 times during his illustrious career. Today we wish him the best and present him with this coveted Gold Twist Tie. Y'all come by and shake that overly-muscular right hand of his, but be careful not to let him tweak your cheek, or else you might get half your face twisted off!"

We've all heard of the Three Musketeers. If we haven't seen them in the movies, we've at least eaten one of their fluffy candy bars. How come they don't have muskets, if they're musketeers? Maybe because "The Three Swordateers" doesn't roll off the tongue quiet so easily? I think they should update their weaponry somewhat. Then they could be "The Three Bazookateers," or even "The Three Glockateers."

Going back to Halloween for a minute, why are a vampire's clothes invisible in the mirror too? And how does one of them know if he's having a bad hair day, if vampires have no reflection? Do werewolves strap on a flea collar before the full moon rises?

Sometimes I wonder if I wonder a little much.

Finding courage within yourself

By **MARK L. FUSCO**
FULL CIRCLE ACADEMY

Courage is not something we develop. We are all gifted with it at birth. This is a hard-won secret that comes to me from my own bully battles, facing danger as a military pilot, and through helping my students deal with bullies. It is something I learned from Vice Admiral Stockdale's talks while I attended the US Naval Academy. The Admiral was a prisoner of war in North Vietnam for over seven torture-filled years.

I spent a lot of time under the false belief that you develop courage. The courage that we all need is already inside us. The problem with courage, though, is that she often hides herself from us.

When we're picked on, made fun of, gossiped about or bullied — whether physical, verbal or cyber bullying, it often feels like our courage has deserted us. This is true of old and young, big and small, mean and nice, or good and bad. Real courage, not puffed-up bravado, can be a shy creature that must initially be coaxed out of us.

Children will think about a bully's taunts, texts or pushes, and will agonize over what should have been done if only they had had the courage. Reassure your

children (or yourself) that courage is not an automatic response to bullying. Let them know that although courage may seem to be hiding right now, there are ways to discover it.

Finding courage is a little like uncovering the corner of a treasure chest buried in the sand. You think it contains something good, but you won't know for sure unless you're willing to do a little honest digging.

The courage it takes to ride a bike, catch a ball or play in a concert for the first time all comes from the same treasure chest. We can use its contents to face bullies or achieve our dreams. Once we learn how to find that treasure chest for one challenge, we can keep coming back every time we need some courage.

Amazingly, if bullying motivates your child to tap into this courage, it could profoundly change his or her life for the better. After all, the greatest things we achieve in life all require courage to obtain. As ironic as it seems, my bullies helped me find the courage that I have used to chase every dream in my life. I have found the same to be true of others time and time again.

So, what is this treasure chest? Let me give you an example. Not that long ago, I decided to speak at a public forum. If

speaking publicly and on record were not scary enough, I knew there was an individual present who might decide to come after me for my words.

Before going to the meeting, I was looking to connect with some courage, because I knew that my stand could hurt my business and family members' jobs. I went over to a shelf that held my grandfather's compass from World War I. He had this compass on him when making charges into machine-gun fire, and when he was injured by poison gas. This compass is a treasure for me. When I hold it, I can imagine how scared my grandfather must've been. I think about what he had to face. I know that he found courage, and if he can survive that, I know that I have the courage to face my situation.

Find your two types of courage

This is one of two types of treasure chests that are easiest for a child to start with: using an object, a story or both to help us relate to someone else's courage. Courage knows courage. When we are truly touched by someone else's brave act, it brings our courage to the forefront. If we can meet this person, understand

what he or she did, watch video of their actions, or touch artifacts, it makes the courage in us feel almost tangible. This is why visiting historical sites, museums or seeing an inspirational movie can have such a profound effect on us.

The second type of treasure chest is one that contains a memory about when your child showed courage. It could be the fear of talking in a school play or the first time at bat. Any experience that made your child nervous, but was overcome successfully, is a proof of courage. This proof can become a powerful self-statement for your child. When they are scared, children can recite to themselves about when they have shown courage and state that this courage will serve them now.

These were methods I learned early on. My mom taught me the first, and my dad the second. I used both when I was facing the possibility of death on a daily basis flying for the Navy. I believe in them wholeheartedly. If they can work for me, then they will work for your family too!

— Mark Fusco is the owner of Fusco Full Circle Jiu-jitsu and Karate and the anti-bullying website istopbullies.com. His bullying expertise is sought out on local and national levels.



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Arcadia's COMMUNITY CALENDAR

NOTICE: The Lettuce Lake Boat Ramp will be closed starting Nov. 1 for up to six months, through May 1, while the new boat ramp is constructed.

NOTE: All area codes are 863 unless otherwise indicated.

■ TODAY

- On Oct. 24 and March 28, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tour the Lower Peace River: Florida Master Naturalist Rick Fried will lead a paddle past phosphate dock ruins, through alligator habitat, with lunch at the Nav-A-Gator Restaurant and return by a different route. Participants must provide personal flotation device, water craft and be able to swim. Free to the public. Voluntary donations to the local Charlotte Harbor Sierra Club accepted. By reservation: call Rick at 941-637-8805.
- Caregiver support group meets at 1:30 p.m. at DeSoto Memorial Home Health Care at DeSoto Memorial Hospital Medical Plaza, 1006 N. Mills Ave., Arcadia. For more information, call DeSoto Memorial Home Health Care at 494-8432 or Hospice of Southwest Florida at 993-0662.
- Drop-in Yoga Class every Thursday, 5 p.m.-5:15 p.m., registration and yoga tea; 5:15-6:15 p.m., yoga class. Held in the Health Dept. conference room, 34 S. Baldwin Ave. Drop-in \$7/class, 8-class package \$40 (\$5 per class). Bring your own mat. For more information, call Christine at 244-1925.
- DeSoto County Library story time is at 3 p.m. at 125 N. Hillsborough Ave., Arcadia. Call 993-4851 for more information.
- Faith Mission provides free lunches for anyone in need, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 1109 S.E. 9th St., Arcadia. Donations gratefully accepted.
- Arcadia Quilt Club meets from 9-11:30 a.m. at the Palace Dance Hall, 1627 N.E. Floridian Circle, Arcadia.

■ FRIDAY

- Bluegrass Bash will be held at Craig's RV Park Oct. 25-26. Events begin at 1 p.m. Oct. 25. Free for members of the Heartland Bluegrass Assoc., or \$7 donation for nonmembers. For information call 941-467-2051 or visit www.heartlandbluegrass.org
- The AA G.I.R.L.S. Anniversary Night is at 6 p.m. on the fourth Friday of the month at St. Edmund's Episcopal Church, 327 W. Oak St.
- City Takers for Christ will be giving away free meals on the last Friday of every month, starting at 12:30 p.m. until everything has been distributed, at 607 S. Orange Ave.
- Faith Mission provides free lunches for anyone in need, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 1109 S.E. 9th St., Arcadia. Donations gratefully accepted.
- Sabbath service begins at 8 p.m. at Temple Beth El, 3840 S. Biscayne Dr., North Port. Oneg Shabbat follows.

■ SATURDAY

- Oak Hill Baptist Church has had to cancel its Fall Festival set for Saturday, Oct. 26.
- The Women's Ministry "WOW" Women of Worship will host Round 2 of the Fight Against Cancer and Domestic Violence aqt 10 a.m. Oct. 26 at the Freedom Fellowship Christian Ministries, 1528 N.E. Turner Road. Come learn the latest information on breast and skin cancers, as well as domestic and sexual violence. Free and open to the public. A light lunch will be served.
- Nav-A-Gator Grill & Marina hosts a Coconut Decorating Contest Oct. 26 & 27 to benefit the Peace River Wildlife Center. \$3 entry fee; prizes awarded 2 p.m. Oct. 27. For details call 941-627-3474
- Fit DeSoto meets the fourth Saturday of the month for a free exercise class and run/walk at Morgan Park. High energy and fun! Arrive by 10 a.m. in workout clothes, running shoes with a towel and water. Children must be accompanied by an adult.
- Sabbath service begins at 9:30 a.m. at Temple Beth El 3840 S. Biscayne Dr., North Port. Kiddush will follow.
- The NAACP meets at 6 p.m. every fourth Saturday of the month at Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church, 319 S. Lee Ave.
- Arcadia Youth Rodeo Association holds its monthly rodeo on the fourth Saturday of the month. Timed events start at 10 a.m. and continue until completed. Rough stock events start at 7 p.m. For more information, call Renee Hanners at 239-872-5697.

- The Sarasota Y/Safe Children Coalition and Family Partnership Center will sponsor the 15th Annual Peggi MacArthur Foster/Adoptive Family Picnic from noon to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26, at the GT Bray Park, Amphitheatre area in Bradenton. Call 941-371-4799 ext. 110 for details.
- DeSoto County Library story time is at 10:30 a.m. at 125 N. Hillsborough Ave., Arcadia. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Call 993-4851 for more information.

■ SUNDAY

- Telephone Reassurance and Friendly Visitors available to those over 55 and homebound. Phone Senior Friendship Centers at 863-494-5965 to sign up for these free services, staffed by trained volunteers who have had background screenings. Phone also if interested in becoming a volunteer for either program.

■ MONDAY

- Alzheimer's Support Group - every 2nd Sat. & 4th Mon. at Arcadia Oaks ALF. 11 am, complimentary lunch.
- DeSoto County Historical Society board meets at 5:30 p.m. fourth Mondays monthly at the Ingraham Seed House on W. Gibson St., Arcadia.
- Women of Worship "WOW" Women's ministry meets at 6:15 p.m. Monday at Freedom Fellowship Christian Ministries, 1528 N.E. Turner Ave. All are welcome.
- A women-only G.I.R.L.S. AA meeting is held at St. Edmund's Episcopal Church at 6 p.m. on Monday at 327 W. Hickory St.
- Alcoholics Anonymous Second Tradition meets at St. Edmunds Episcopal Church at 8 p.m. Monday at 327 W. Hickory St.
- Al-anon, offering help for families of alcoholics, meets at 7:30 p.m. on Mondays at Fort Ogden Methodist Church, 6923 S.W. River St. in Fort Ogden. Alcoholics Anonymous meets at the same time. For information call 941-426-7655 or visit www.district13soflal-anon.org.
- The DeSoto County Homeless Coalition Community Resource Center is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday at 1425 Martin Luther King St. The center provides referrals for mainstream resources, elderly food stamps (by appointment) and computer service. Salvation Army has office space on Wed. by appointment. For more information, call 491-5683.
- A faith-based addiction recovery ministry meets at 7:30 p.m. every Monday at the Nocatee Baptist Church (red brick church) on U.S. Highway 17 in Nocatee.

■ TUESDAY

- Nature Walks: Environmental Learning Lab, 8:30 a.m. Oct. 30. With Gil MacAdam. Free.
- Freedom Fellowship Christian Ministries Support Group meets at 7 p.m. Tuesday at 1528 N.E. Turner Ave.
- The DeSoto Amateur Radio Club meets at 8 p.m. Tuesday (except the third Tuesday) of the month, on the 147.075, W4MIN repeater with a pl of 100. All amateurs are invited to participate.
- Faith Mission provides free lunches for anyone in need, at 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 1109 S.E. 9th St., Arcadia. Donations gratefully accepted.
- DeSoto County Library holds story time at 3 p.m. Tuesdays at 125 N. Hillsborough Ave., Arcadia. Call 993-4851 for more information.
- Alcoholics Anonymous Second Tradition meets at 8 p.m. at St. Edmund's Episcopal Church, 327 W. Hickory St.

■ WEDNESDAY

- The AA Serenity Group Anniversary Night is held at 8 p.m. on the last Wednesday of the month at Grace Lutheran Church, 1004 W. Oak St.
- DeSoto Arts and Humanities Council Artist Group is now meeting on Wednesday mornings, 9 a.m. to noon at the Arcadia Village Cantina Clubhouse. Call Linda at

■ SPECIAL

- From Oct. 18 through Oct. 26, State Farm Insurance is conducting Celebrate My Drive, and giving DeSoto County High School a chance to win a grant of \$25,000 or \$100,000, or a concert by Kelly Clarkson! Visit www.celebratemydrive.com and enter to choose our high school. And visit every day Oct. 18-26 to improve our chances of winning.
- Your clutter may be someone else's treasure, so please donate your gently used items to the DeSoto County Historical Society for its annual Yard Sale, from 8 am. to 2 p.m. Nov. 9 at the DeSoto County Fairgrounds Exhibition Building, 124 Heard St. Drop off your donations on Thursdays before 1 p.m., at the Howard and Vedlma Melton Historical Research Library at the Ingraham Seed House, 120 W. Whidden St., or call 494-6607 or 494-4325 to arrange pick-up or drop-off. Proceeds benefit the society's efforts to preserve and promote DeSoto County's history for future generations.
- The DeSoto County Literacy Council will hold its annual Yard Sale in November. They are collecting donated items (books, household items, electronics and small appliances) now, and will accept clothing starting in November. Donations can be brought to 1365 S.E. Airport Road.

494-7734 for more information. Free and open to the public.

- Hour of Power Prayer time is held at noon at Freedom Fellowship Christian Ministries, 1528 N.E. Turner Ave.
- AA "Brown Bagger" meetings are offered every Monday at noon at Trinity United Methodist Church, 304 W. Oak St.
- The Arcadia Eagles, 150 S. Polk Ave., now offers Bingo from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday evenings.
- Alcoholics Anonymous Serenity-Big Book meets at 8 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, W. Oak St. (State Road 70).
- Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion at Trinity Methodist Church, 304 Oak Street.
- "Art for Kids" is at 3 p.m. every Wednesday in the DeSoto County Library's children's wing. This program, sponsored by the DeSoto County Arts and Humanities Council, is for elementary school-aged children.

■ THURSDAY

- The annual Turner Center Trick or Treat takes place at the Turner Center from 6-8 p.m. Oct. 31. Kids' costume contest (age 12 and under) at 6:45 p.m., youth costume contest (ages 13-17) at 7 p.m., and adult costume contest (18+) at 7:15 p.m.
- AA Second Tradition Anniversary Night is the last Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. at St. Edmund's Episcopal Church, 327 W. Hickory St. Potluck/barbeque before the meeting.
- AA Second Tradition Anniversary Night is the last Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at St. Edmund's Episcopal Church, 327 W. Hickory St. Open speaker.
- Drop-in Yoga Class every Thursday, 5 p.m.-5:15 p.m., registration and yoga tea; 5:15-6:15 p.m., yoga class. Ave. Drop-in \$7/class, 8-class package \$40 (\$5 per class). Bring your own mat. For more information, call Christine at 244-1925.
- DeSoto County Library story time is at 3 p.m. at 125 N. Hillsborough Ave., Arcadia. Call 993-4851 for more information.
- Faith Mission provides free lunches for anyone in need, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 1109 S.E. 9th St., Arcadia. Donations gratefully accepted.
- Alcoholics Anonymous Second Tradition meets at 7 p.m. at St. Edmund's Episcopal Church, 327 W. Hickory St.
- Arcadia Quilt Club meets from 9-11:30 a.m. at the Palace Dance Hall, 1627 N.E. Floridian Circle, Arcadia.

PUBLIC NOTICE TO CITY OF ARCADIA WATER CUSTOMERS

On Saturday, November 1, 2013, the city of Arcadia Water Treatment Plant will switch from Chloramines to Free Chlorine Disinfection. This change is a routine maintenance to optimize water quality in the distribution system. The City of Arcadia Water Treatment Plant will switch back to chloramines on Nov. 15, 2013.

Users of kidney dialysis machines and owners of aquatic life are urged to contact their respective industries for more information about water testing and treatment that may be appropriate for Chloramines rather than Free Chlorine.

For more information, please contact City of Arcadia Water Treatment Plant 863-494-1626 or A. J. Berndt 863-558-2091.

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Family Album



FAMILY ALBUM PHOTOS

Send us a photo to celebrate a birth, birthday, engagement, wedding, anniversary, etc. *The Arcadian* will run it free. We must have it no later than noon on Monday. Bring your photo to the office or e-mail to Arcadian.editor@gmail.com

Hospital auxiliary honors volunteers



PHOTO PROVIDED BY JANE POWERS

Awards were presented to volunteers in the DeSoto Memorial Hospital Auxiliary in October. From left: Mike Brazil - 1,500 hours; Ruth Gebeau - 10 years; Keri Medici - 2,500 hours; Norma Foye - 500 hours. Not pictured: Nellie Zeis - 100 and 200 hours.

Corrections

- In the Oct. 19, 2013 issue of *The Arcadian*, the FFA was erroneously identified as the FAA on page 7.
- In the Oct. 10, 2013 issue of *The Arcadian*, the headline of a story about missionaries on page 10 erroneously stated five missionaries were coming to Arcadia; it should have stated there are four missionaries.
- A photo in the Oct. 17 issue mentioned Strolling 4 A Cure. The walk will take place Nov. 2 at Brookside Bluffs Community — not at the golf course, as was stated in the caption. Look for a story on this event in the Oct. 31 issue of *The Arcadian*.

Thank you

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church Women Ministry, under the leadership of Rev. Louis C. Anderson Jr., acknowledges its sponsors for helping to make its Cancer Awareness Program on Oct. 19 a memorable event. Thanks go out to Beef O'Brady's, Charlotte State Bank and Trust, Walmart, Winn-Dixie, and Wendell and Geri Williams.

Thank you

I would like to take the time to thank some people who made the spaghetti dinner benefit a success. Winn Dixie in Arcadia for the gift card; Winn Dixie in Port Charlotte for water and soda; Walmart in Arcadia for the gift card; Fussell's meat market for the hamburger; K&P produce for the lettuce and tomatoes; Slim's for donating the "to-go" boxes; *The Arcadian* for running my story; Judy Beier for the great cookies and helping us cook everything; Rebecca Hankinson for helping in serving and clean up; Lisa Thornsberry for helping serve and clean up; Diana Angelico for helping serve and clean up; Jennifer Stillwell for delivering a ton of "to-go" orders; little Miss Abigail Angelico for helping her grandma with clean-up; Gabby Mendoza for helping her grandma serve and clean up, along with her friend Bianca Avalos; all the people who came and bought dinners; and a big thank you to my husband Alan Angelico for doing all he does to help with the fundraisers and at home.

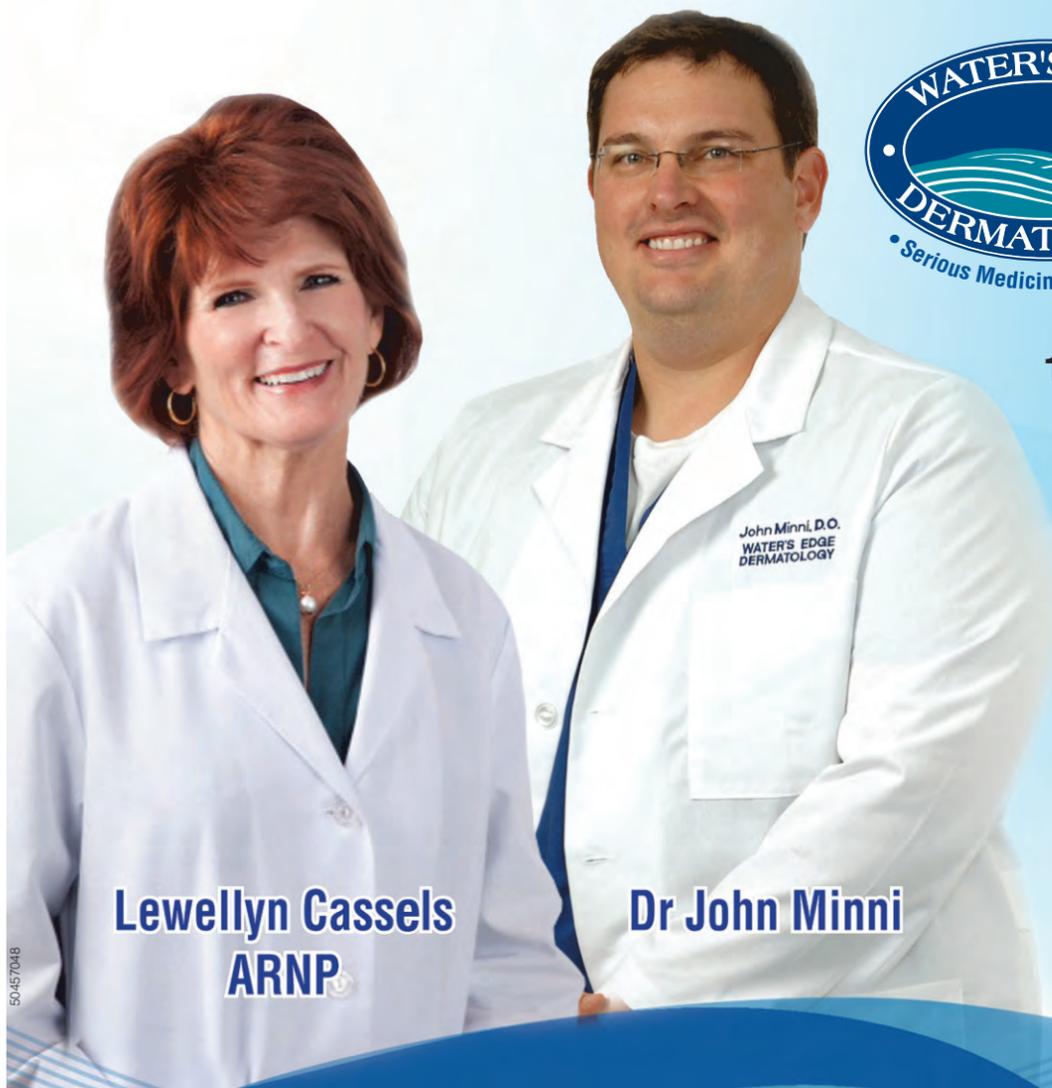
None of this would have happened, however, if First Baptist Church of Fort Ogden wouldn't have let me use their kitchen and Fellowship Hall, along with sponsoring the event, and I give praise to God for being in my life to help us through all of this. Also, I want to give a big thank you to anybody I might have forgotten. Thank you and God bless you all!

Jackie Angelico and family

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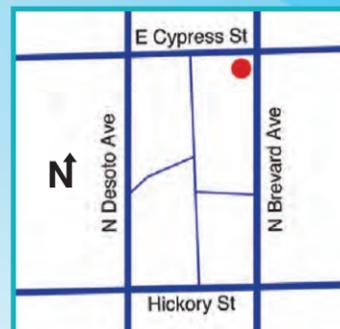


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Two Arcadians charged with separate sex crimes

Two Arcadia residents were charged with separate sex crimes, one in Florida and one in Nebraska.

According to the DeSoto County Sheriff's Office arrest report, Timoteo Eusebio Cortes, 28, of the 2500 block of S.E. Corosella Ct., Arcadia, had a relationship spanning several months with a girl age 16 or 17.



CORTES

The relationship came to light when the school called the girl's mother to report her absent from school. The mother discovered the girl had been messaging with an older man online and had plans to meet at a specific location. The girl's messages suggested concern that she was pregnant.

When confronted, Cortes initially denied being romantically involved with the girl and denied they were sexually involved.

The girl admitted they had a relationship since May, and that he would sometimes pick her up near her school. She also admitted they had unprotected sex in a vehicle. She said he had told her he was 23, although he is actually 28.

Timoteo was arrested on charges of sexual assault and battery by a person 24 or older with a victim age 16-17. He is being held on \$100,000 bond.

Nebraska kidnap, rape

Several online reports indicate a 52-year-old man, Terry Turner, reportedly a cab driver from Arcadia, was arrested on charges of abducting and raping a 13-year-old middle school girl in Omaha, Neb. last week.



TURNER

Based on reports from TV station WOWT in Nebraska and published reports from the Omaha World Herald newspaper, Terry Turner met the girl online and the two communicated for several weeks, allegedly through an online dating site.

Turner reportedly drove to Nebraska last week and picked the girl up at her school. He allegedly then drove her across state lines to Missouri.

The girl was tracked via her cell phone, giving authorities her likely location. Law enforcement from Missouri cooperated and the two were eventually located near Odessa, Mo., about three-and-a-half hours from Omaha, the reports state.

The girl was returned to her mother and Turner charged with kidnap and rape. WOWT reported that Omaha police are expected to file additional charges against Turner including child enticement and child pornography.

Turner is being held on \$100,000 bond and was expected to have his first court appearance Wednesday.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Deputy Tim Hilgeman presents an American flag to Sheriff Will Wise. The flag was flown over the main entry control point on June 1, 2013, of the 376 Expeditionary Security Forces Detachment 1 at Mazar-e-Sharif,

DCSO receives flag for supporting US troops abroad

SUBMITTED BY MAJ. JAMES VITALE

The DeSoto County Sheriff's Office recently had the good fortune of welcoming Dep. Tim Hilgeman back to work. In addition to being a valued member of the Sheriff's Office, Hilgeman also serves with the U.S. Air Force reserves and was deployed to Afghanistan. On Oct. 17, he presented Sheriff Will Wise and the DeSoto County Sheriff's Office with the U.S. Standard that was flown at his base in Afghanistan.

The flag that was presented was flown over the main entry control point on June 1, 2013, of the 376 Expeditionary Security Forces

Detachment 1 at Mazar-e-Sharif, Camp John Pratt in Afghanistan. The flag was presented to Sheriff Wise in appreciation of the dedication and support of the DeSoto County Sheriff's Office.

The Air Force Security Forces members stationed at the Mazar-e-Sharif base provide installation security for the U.S./Coalition logistical mission stationed at the Transit Center at Manas, Kyrgyzstan.

Arrangements are underway to display the flag in the Sheriff's Office lobby, along with other plaques and Standards which have been flown at other overseas bases by members of the DCSO.

The DeSoto County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests:

- Kevin Michael Caffery, 39, Toms River, NY. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.
- Kenny Eugene Chambers, 62, Lakeland, Fla. Charge: Failure to support spouse or child. Purge: \$2,000.
- Carl Lee Crawford, 50, Lakeland, Fla. Charge: failure to support spouse or child. Purge: \$400.
- Regina Marie Damico, 35, 4500 block of N.E. Cubitts Ave., Arcadia. Charge: failure to appear. Bond: none.
- Danny Long Floyd, 58, 1000 block of S.E. Olive St., Arcadia. Charges: battery and trespass. Bond: \$5,250.
- Phillip Karl Gant II, 21, 700 block of N. Lee Ave., Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.
- Glenda Lynn Lowe, 42, Inverness, Fla. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: turned over to Dept. of Corrections.
- Dustin David Meckley, 25, 200 block of N. Rogers Ave., Arcadia. Charge: petty theft between \$100-\$300. Bond: \$2,500.
- Daniel Thomas Morrison, 64, Myakka City. Charges: DUI with alcohol or drugs and driving without a valid license. Bond: \$620.
- David Franklin Morrison, 65, 3800 block of N.E. Pineapple St., Arcadia. Charge: out-of-county warrant. Bond: none.
- Gerald Bryant Owens, 39, no address, Arcadia. Charge: battery. Bond: \$2,500.
- Shane Patrick Parker, 38, North Port. Charge: out-of-county warrant. Bond: none.
- Richard Wayne Prentess, 52, Orlando. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.
- Kenyatta Omar Redden, 32, 1200 block of S.E. Carnahan Ave., Arcadia. Charge: battery. Bond: \$750.
- Jesse Castro Rodriguez, 50, 100 block of S. Rogers Ave., Arcadia. Charge: failure to appear. Bond: \$2,000.
- Daniel Allen van de Mortell, 27, Punta Gorda. Charge: failure to appear. Released on recognizance.
- Leeann Marie Chiasson, 27, 2400 block of N.W. Haile Dean Road, Arcadia. Charge: out-of-county warrant. Purge: \$920.
- Mark Allen Garner, 49, Fort Pierce, Fla. Charges: possession or use of drug equipment and possession of less than 20 grams of marijuana. Bond: \$240.
- Armando Beyaber Hidalgo, 34, 2600 block of S.W. Daytona St., Nocatee. Charge: driving without a valid license. Bond: \$120.

POLICE BEAT

The information for Police Beat is gathered from police, sheriff's office, Florida Highway Patrol, jail and fire records. Not every arrest leads to a conviction and guilt or innocence is determined by the court system.

- Martin Escmilla Mandujano, 70, 3rd Ave., Arcadia. Charge: trespass. Bond: \$250.
- Terry Lee Shaver, 36, 2200 block of S.E. Pointer Ave., Arcadia. Charge: out-of-county warrant. Bond: \$670.
- Jessica Marie Human, 30, Sarasota. Charges: possession or use of drug equipment, possession of less than 20 grams of marijuana and driving while license is suspended. Bond: \$360.
- Gregory Williams, 48, 100 block of S. Watson Ave., Arcadia. Charge: failure by sex offender to register address change. Bond: none.
- David Franklin Morrison, 65, 3800 block of N.E. Pineapple St., Arcadia. Charge: out-of-county warrant. Bond: none.

The Charlotte County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests:

- Kyle Travis Robertson, 23, 7400 block of S.W. Oak St., Arcadia. Charges: petty theft \$100-\$300, and resisting a merchant in retail theft. Bond: \$6,000.
- Kristen Ann Hooks, 21, 7400 block of S.W. Oak Creek Road, Arcadia. Charges: possession or use of drug equipment, possession of a controlled substance without a prescription and petty theft \$100-\$300. Bond: \$4,000.
- Miguel Angel Angel Perez Jr., 25, 500 block of N. 12th Ave., Arcadia. Charges: possession of less than 20 grams of marijuana, and possession or use of drug equipment. Bond: \$2,000.
- Chad Everett Barnes, 41, 10500 block of S.W. Park Ave., Lake Suzy. Charge: felony battery. Bond: none.
- Damon Dwight Daughtrey, 34, 6700 block of Kings Highway, Arcadia. Charge: failure to appear. Bond: \$3,000.

The Sarasota County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrest:

- Victor Mendoza, 50, Zolfo Springs. Charges: knowingly driving while license is suspended, failure to register vehicle and failure to have vehicle liability insurance. Bond: \$360.

— Compiled by Susan E. Hoffman

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106.9 The Bull Canoe Outpost Beef O Brady's Medsol CRC Chili's Bits N' Pieces Kingsway Baptist Church Tammy Mayfield Photography DeSoto Sign Company St. Edmunds Church DeSoto County Sheriff's Office	Mosaic The Arcadian Pizza Hut Hand of Angels Bullz Eye Red Cross Reef & Beef Girl Scouts Animal Ark Red Roof	Desoto County BOCC Desoto County Fire Rescue Full Circle Academy DeSoto County Extension Sweetbay Supermarket DeSoto County Parks Klassy Kuts Peace River Campground Nocatee Baptist Peace River Delectables Home Owned McDonalds
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106.9 The Bull Costume Contest
Kids Costume Contest 12 & under - 6:45pm
Youth Costume Contest 13-17 - 7:00pm
Adult Costume Contest 18+ 7:15pm

Happy Halloween!

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OBITUARIES

Barbara Taylor Kalnas

Barbara Taylor Kalnas, 79, passed away Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2013, surrounded by her loving family, in Palmetto, Fla.



She was born in Arcadia, Fla., to Aubrey and Willie Jane Melton.

Her family has been a part of DeSoto County, Fla., since 1894. Barbara was a founding member of the Myakka Family Worship Center in Myakka City, Fla. She retired from GPW Hospital after 31 years of service as a unit treatment rehabilitation supervisor; however her biggest accomplishment was her family. Barbara enjoyed reading and writing scripture, crocheting, and volunteered her time with the 4-H. She was a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Barbara would like to be remembered as a woman of prayer and unselfish devotion to others.

She is survived by her son, Keith (Cindy) Keene of Arcadia; daughter, Kathy (Lynn) Howell of Myakka City; uncle, Austin (Myrtle) Hollingsworth of Fort Myers, Fla.; six grandchildren, January (James) Hill, David (Carly) O'Steen, Ashley (Brett) Wheeler, Hank (Brandi) Brewer, Justin Keene and Phillip (Jessica) Keene; and seven great-grandchildren, Morgan and Chandler Hill, Madison and Liam O'Steen, and Destiny, Paisley and BreAnn Keene. Barbara was preceded in death by her son, Billy Keene.

A visitation, followed by funeral services, took place Friday, Oct. 18, 2013, at the chapel of Ponger-Kays-Grady Funeral Homes, Arcadia. Pastor Lynn Howell officiated. Inurnment will be private at a later date at Oak Ridge Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family request donations to the ministry or charity of your choice. Online condolences can be made at www.ponger-kaysgrady.com.

Arrangements are by Ponger-Kays-Grady Funeral Homes.

Shirley J. Oliver

Shirley J. "Nancy" Oliver, 75, a resident of Lake Suzy, Fla., passed away Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2013, peacefully at her home.



She was born Aug. 2, 1938, in Kingston, Jamaica, West Indies, to Nellie and Vincent May.

Shirley was a retired Registered Nurse for many years. She was a wonderful wife, mother, sister, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt and friend, and will forever be missed by all who loved and knew her.

She is survived by her beloved husband of 42 years, Charles Oliver; daughter, Heather Brinkley; sister, Sonia May; nephew; grandchildren; great-grandchildren; nieces; and nephews.

The family invites you to share in the celebration of Shirley's life at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 26, 2013, at St. Nathaniel's Episcopal Church, 4200 S. Biscayne Drive, North Port, Fla. Committal services followed by inurnment will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2013, at Venice Memorial Gardens in Venice, Fla. The Rev. Jean Hite will officiate. Friends may visit online at www.robersonfh.com to sign the guestbook and extend condolences to the family.

Arrangements are by Roberson Funeral Home & Crematory Port Charlotte, Fla., Chapel.

Gwendolyn Garner Johnson

Gwendolyn Garner Johnson, 95, beloved mother, grandmother and local farmer, died Saturday, Oct. 19, 2013.

She was a fourth-generation DeSoto County native, who lived her entire life in the Owens, Fla., community. Gwendolyn was a citrus grower and cattle rancher who loved the land, a true cowgirl. Known for her determination, honesty and generosity, she served as the first committee chairwoman of the Farm Service Agency in the United States and the first woman committee member in Florida. Gwendolyn also served on the board of the Farmer's Home Administration.

Her life was a testament to hard work and resilience, and she survived drought, pests, canker and several hurricanes. Throughout her life, Gwendolyn supported her fellow farmers and participated in efforts to make positive changes in the agricultural community.

She deeply loved her family and is survived by a son, Richard "Dick" (Karen Ames) Johnson of Lakeland, Fla.; two granddaughters, Ginny (Stephen) Inman of Greensboro, N.C., and Alice (Chip) Nuttall of Nashville, Tenn.; two great-grandsons, Eli and Samuel Inman; and her brother, Felton Garner of Arcadia, Fla. Gwendolyn was preceded in death by her husband, Richard Hardee Johnson; and her parents, Rosa Alice Morton Garner and Daniel Whitley Garner.

A memorial service to celebrate Gwendolyn's life will be held at 3 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25, 2013, at The Church of St. Edmund Episcopal, 327 W. Hickory St., Arcadia. Burial will follow at the Mt. Ephraim Cemetery. A gathering of family and friends will be held following the service at the family home in Owens. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Tidewell Hospice, 919 N. Arcadia Ave., Arcadia, FL 34266, or charity of your choice. Online condolences may be made at pongerkaysgrady.com.

Arrangements are by Ponger-Kays-Grady Funeral Homes.

Mary L. Viselli

Mary L. Viselli, 83, of Lake Suzy, Fla., passed away Friday, Oct. 18, 2013, with her loving family by her side.

She loved to travel and take trips to casinos.

Mary is survived by her daughter Helen (Richard) Viselli-Noonan. She was preceded in death by her parents, John and Wanda Conville; her husband, Frank; and a sister, Helen.

A private cremation was held. To light a candle in Mary's name please visit www.kays-ponger.com.

Arrangements are by Kays-Ponger Useton Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Port Charlotte Chapel.

Words of Comfort

Let us be like a bird for a moment perched on a frail branch while he sings, though he feels it bend, yet he sings his song, knowing that he has wings.



- Victor Hugo

For more Words of Comfort, go to www.inheavenhome.com



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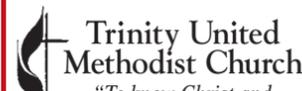
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May the Lord fill your heart with love.

Two men and their military manuals

I was 20-something when I found myself seated beside a weapons expert on a plane; he appeared to be 40-ish. We were both flying to the Moline-Rock Island, Illinois area: he to do business with an arms supplier and I to preach 16 sermons in a two-week evangelistic conference at a country church, a common feat then but one that is almost unknown in this period of vanishing Sunday night and midweek services.

After getting acquainted, this authority on weaponry asked if I would like to see his military weapons manual and, upon my answer of interest, he produced a large catalogue of war equipment. The Korean conflict was just behind us and his knowledge of arms so captivating that I listened intently as my adjoining-seat teacher took me on a fascinating photo journey of war lore. Then I asked if he'd ever seen a minister's manual.

"No," he replied, apparently surprised that one existed.

"Here it is!" I said, showing him my Bible and sharing a few verses from it.

Explaining then my mission for the next few weeks, I opened my



Roger Campbell

briefcase and produced the 16 sermon outlines I intended to use during the upcoming meetings.

Now it was my fellow flyer's turn to be fascinated, being especially impressed with the amount of work these outlines and their coming use represented. Sensing his surprise and immediate interest, I seized the moment and explained the content of the sermons for the remainder of our flight, seeing him as the first attendee of the evangelistic conference, which, in my mind, had already begun.

What could an authority on war have in common with a minister? Actually, I learned, a great deal.

We both carried manuals intended to bring victory in battle and

produce peace.

Some think beginning a life of faith ends all spiritual conflict, but often the opposite is true. What, then, are the benefits of believing? People of faith have the believer's military manual that enables them to win over faith's foes. "Put on the whole armor of God," wrote Paul, describing then the importance of growing faith, consistent living, prayer and sharing the good news of God's love (Ephesians 6:10-18).

Peace flows from knowing the manual and grows through church attendance.

"What church do you attend?" I asked some people we met at a park on the shore of Lake Michigan. "We don't!" said one, adding: "This is my church!" And red flags began waving in my mind. Nature's beauty can be inspiring, but worshiping creation rather than the Creator is sure to bring defeat when in the heat of life's battles.

Embarking from the plane, the military man and I went our separate ways. I've wondered about his life after

our meeting. Perhaps he's helped keep peace and protect us all. His expertise may have brought freedom to some in political bondage.

I've written many sermon outlines over the years. Over 800 of them are included in the eight volumes of my "Preach for a Year" books, hopefully helping pastors build faith and bring peace to the hearts of the members of their congregations.

A minister and an arms expert working for similar goals? How strange is that? Maybe not so strange after all.

— Roger Campbell is an author, broadcaster and columnist who was a pastor for 22 years. He can be reached at rcministry@ameritech.net.



From a Senior Viewpoint

Lois Hendricks

loistom@embarqmail.com

Better than pumpkin pie

A new season ... time for a new taste? Probably our all-time favorite dessert for this Fall season has always been pumpkin pie, but I have found a new version of that old favorite that we like even better. You can label it Pumpkin Brownies, or perhaps Spicy Pumpkin Squares, but the taste is the important ingredient that we, and I hope you, will enjoy.

You'll need 24-30 gingersnaps, crushed, for the crust. And to make that procedure easy: put the gingersnaps in a plastic bag and zap in your microwave for 1 minute and you'll find they're much easier to crush. Then add ¼ cup melted oleo and 1 tablespoon of sugar to the crushed gingersnaps, stir well and arrange in the bottom of a sprayed pie plate. Refrigerate while making the filling.

In a saucepan, whisk 2 tablespoons of cornstarch and 2 tablespoons of sugar. Stir in one egg and ¾ cup milk, stirring constantly over low heat until slightly thickened. In large bowl, blend one can of pumpkin, 2/3 cup brown sugar and ½ teaspoon of pumpkin pie spice. Stir in milk mixture and pour over prepared crust.

Bake in 350-degree oven for 50 minutes or until filling is set. Serve with a dollop of whipped cream and you have a tasty new seasonal dessert. Enjoy.

Service to welcome Richardson set for Sunday

By SUSAN E. HOFFMAN
ARCADIAN EDITOR

This Sunday, Arcadia will reopen some painful wounds in hopes that closure and healing can finally take place.

On Oct. 25, 1967, seven little children began dying horrible deaths that left Arcadia shaken and one man in death row.

Teachers at their school first noticed the children in distress around lunchtime, and as word spread, frightened parents were worried the kids might have eaten something at the cafeteria

that would sicken all the children.

It wasn't long before investigators determined the sick kids were the children of James Joseph Richardson and his wife, Annie Mae, who worked as crop pickers. By the following morning, all seven had died. They were found to have died of pesticide poisoning, specifically parathion. James Richardson was soon arrested and charged with their murder.

Richardson was convicted and sentenced to death in 1968. When the death sentence was struck down in 1972, he was given a life sentence. But an investigation in the 1980s, headed

by then-State Attorney Janet Reno, concluded that evidence had been suppressed that, if disclosed, might have exonerated Richardson.

After 46 years, Richardson is returning to Arcadia to visit the graves of his seven children at Oak Ridge Cemetery, followed by a 6 p.m. service at Mount Zion AME Church, 256 South Orange Avenue. Richardson's return was arranged by his lawyer, Robert Barrar.

Dr. Sharon Goodman announced Richardson's visit during last week's city council meeting. She said it had

WELCOME | 18

Missionary trip heads to Cuba

STAFF REPORT

Three local missionaries from the Fort Ogden United Methodist Church will be heading to El Ramon, Cuba on a humanitarian trip. The church is taking part in the Cuba/Florida Covenant, a partnership between Methodist churches in Florida and Cuba. El Ramon is on the north coast in the eastern part of Cuba.

The trio will spend a week in the county from Nov. 5 through Nov. 12.

They'll be working with local church members in Cuba to assess the needs of the community in this historically depressed area.

The three will be taking along eyeglasses, vitamins, aspirins and Neosporin as basic assistance for residents there. A part of their purpose will be to determine what the community lacks, so that on their next visit, they can be more specific in helping out those in need.

There will be a dinner starting at 5:30

p.m. on Oct. 25 to help raise money for this journey. The keynote speaker will be District Superintendent Dr. Rini Hernandez, a Cuban émigré, who will describe the situation in Cuba. The price for the sit-down dinner is \$20 per person and it will be held at the church. The public is welcome to attend to learn more, and donations are gratefully accepted.

For more information, or to give donations to help with the mission, call the pastor's office at 863-494-3881.

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Special Event: October 19, Buddy Walk - www.ManasotaBUDS.org

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Lemur facility opens doors for rare glimpse at cute (but endangered) animals

By **SUSAN E. HOFFMAN**
ARCADIAN EDITOR

They're furry. They're playful. They're awfully darned cute. And they are endangered. But you will have a chance to see some lemurs up close on Nov. 2, when the Lemur Conservation Foundation in Myakka City holds a fundraising open house. Although LCF is usually not open to the public, the staff wants people to know about the work they're doing there and to give people a chance to see the

animals. The open house is set for 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Nov. 2, but make sure you're there by 5 p.m. to see the "parade of lemurs" as they come in for their dinner. The facility has two large fenced enclosures that serve as a natural habitat for many of the animals. It gives them a realistic free-ranging experience. Every day the staff call the lemurs in to feed, and then they are put safely in their night quarters. The feeding time is your best chance to see the individuals who live in the woods. LCF also has some individuals in

buildings, where you'll be able to observe lemurs up close. Pattie Walsh, director of Research and Operations, said, "We're having the open house because we want people to see what we're doing. Maybe someone will be interested in becoming a volunteer." They also hope people will be generous with donations, because that will allow them to continue their work. Lemurs, a type of primate, are native only to Madagascar, an island country off the eastern coast of Africa. In fact, 90 percent of the animals found there exist

nowhere else on earth. Of the 103 species of lemurs that exist in the wild, all but nine are deemed endangered; 25 of them are categorized as "critically endangered." Hence, efforts to preserve and protect lemurs are essential. Lemurs are threatened in their homeland by illegal logging and consequent loss of habitat. Harvesting of rosewood is especially hard on the furry critters, because rosewood trees grow too slowly to be raised profitably. Instead, rosewoods are harvested only from native forests, causing habitat destruction for the lemurs

and other animals who live there. LCF is certified by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, and it participates in breeding programs with other certified facilities. One of the main reasons for LCF's existence is to breed several species of lemurs in captivity so that some day, they might repopulate wild areas. "All our animals have a known genetic pedigree," Walsh said. "We are part of a managed breeding program." She said they operate under a Species Survival Plan, which dictates which animals should mate with which individuals.

That allows them to control and strengthen genetic diversity. "It's like match.com for lemurs," she said. Lemurs can live into their 20s in captivity. Gestation takes about 4 months, and depending on the species, they may have from one to four young at a time. LCF has 44 individuals representing six species. As cute as they are, Walsh says, "They make horrible pets. They get into everything, and they're not respectful of your personal space." They can become aggressive, she said, and they are "not very clean."

The program there is thriving; on your visit, you'll probably catch a glimpse of a mama Ring-tailed lemur with her two seven-month-old babies, along with a couple of her older offspring who stick around for a few years. You'll get a chance to hear their vocalizations, which vary from a cat cry to a purr, chirp or moan. Lemurs frequently chatter with each other. The 13-acre facility also has a research and library facility, and a gift shop. The open house is free, but donations are gratefully accepted.

IF YOU GO:
Lemur Conservation Foundation
Open House — 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Nov. 2
42500 73rd Ave. East
Myakka City
Directions: Take State Road 70 west to Myakka City. Turn right onto Myakka-Wauchula Road. Turn right onto 73rd Ave. East. (It is a dirt road.) LCF is on the right side. Approximately 28 miles; about 45 minutes from Arcadia.
For more information call 941-322-8494 or visit www.lemurreserve.org.



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY DANA CLAUSING, dana@clausingphotography.com

This Ring-tailed lemur mother and baby are weighed to monitor the development of the young animal. Each animal has a radio collar to monitor their movements within the compound.



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY DANA CLAUSING, dana@clausingphotography.com

Pattie Walsh, director of Research and Operations at the Lemur Conservation Foundation in Myakka City, is greeted by a curious Red Ruffed Lemur inside of the 10-acre enclosure at the facility. As primates, lemurs enjoy climbing and hanging from tree branches.



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY SUSAN E. HOFFMAN, shoffman@sun-herald.com

Some of the lemurs at the Lemur Conservation Foundation are kept in large cages, for instance if they are sick or breeding. The 13-acre facility also has two open forested areas in which lemurs can live in groups much as they would in the wild.



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY DANA CLAUSING, dana@clausingphotography.com

A Ring-tailed lemur clings to a tree branch at the Lemur Conservation Foundation in Myakka City. The facility presently is home to 44 lemurs of several species, and has an active breeding program at the site.



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A Ring-tailed lemur is given a raisin treat by Dr. Alison Grand to entice the young lemur to the field scale to monitor the growth and health of the animal. The Lemur Conservation Foundation is holding a public open house on Nov. 2.



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY DANA CLAUSING, dana@clausingphotography.com

Inset: This Red Ruffed Lemur is inquisitive about the photographer inside of the large forest habitat. Lemurs are found only in Madagascar and some species are critically endangered.

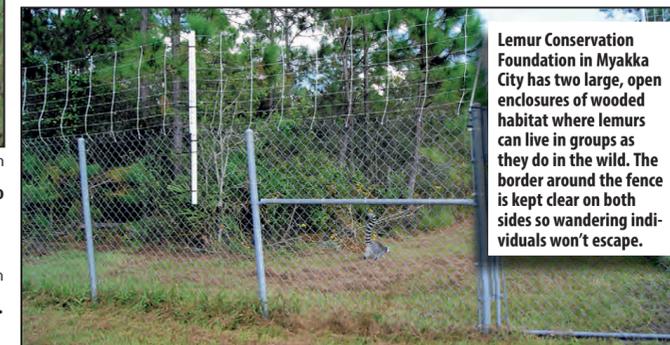


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A Red ruffed lemur hangs from a tree branch in the forested compound at the Lemur Conservation Foundation. Two such natural compounds exist there, and the borders are kept clear so inquisitive individuals won't be able to escape.



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY SUSAN E. HOFFMAN, shoffman@sun-herald.com

Lemur Conservation Foundation in Myakka City has two large, open enclosures of wooded habitat where lemurs can live in groups as they do in the wild. The border around the fence is kept clear on both sides so wandering individuals won't escape.



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY DANA CLAUSING, dana@clausingphotography.com

A Ring-tailed lemur watches the activity inside of its forested enclosure at the Lemur Conservation Foundation in Myakka City, where they can roam in a setting similar to their natural habitat.

Right: Pattie Walsh, director of Research and Operations at the Lemur Conservation Foundation in Myakka City, gets the attention of a Red Ruffed Lemur living in a forested enclosure.

The junior varsity Lady Bulldogs shut out North Port 2-0 in a rematch that had DeSoto looking for revenge.



Lady Bulldogs notch two wins

By STEVE KNAPP

ARCADIAN SPORTS DIRECTOR

The DeSoto County Bulldogs won their Oct. 15 match at North Port with consistency and balance. The games were so consistent, in fact, that after the first set 25-20 win they just pushed the replay button for the final two games.

They spread the scoring around, as Josie Deriso put away the first game with a kill shot to stop a comeback bid by the Bobcats. The DeSoto County 2013 Homecoming Queen, Casey Hall, took care of the second game with a screaming shot that hit the floor on the Bobcat side of the court to secure the second

game 25-20.

Bethany Bonville took her turn with the final point of the third set to wrap up the match with another 25-20 win. All three sets were so similar that you could have left after the first set and you would only have to replay it in your mind two more times to have seen the entire match.

DeSoto County would get off to a big lead only to let North Port back into the game. In the first set, the Bobcats scored five of the final six points and five of the last seven points in the second game to create the 25-20 final scores. They then outscored the Bulldogs 12-9 in the final contest to come up with the 25-20 score.

"Sometimes I think we are too nice and just let the other team back into the game," Head Coach Laura White said. "We lose focus and the killer instinct needed to finish the other team off. The last couple of games we have kind of been playing on the back of our heels. I don't know if it's the end of the season blues or what it is."

Tishonna Riley led the Dawgs with 13 kills while Hall added seven and Micaela Roberts chipped in with six. Bonville led with 22 assists while the team



DeSoto County senior Casey Hall buries the ball on the North Port side of the net during the final game of the match. Hall had seven kills and 13 digs in the victory over the Bobcats.

spread around the aces, with four different players getting one each. The digs were spread around too, as four players hit double figures. Lucero Perez had a team-high of 18, Hall

and Bonville each had 13 and Datasia Wallace had 11. Riley missed double figures with nine digs.



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

The Bulldogs' Lucero Perez saves a long serve as she passes the ball back to the middle of the court. Watching alongside her is Martha Pelham. The Bulldogs won all three sets 25-20 over North Port Oct. 15.

WINS | 22

Seniors take charge

Jillian Deriso was escorted by her parents, Joel and Susie Deriso, during senior night at Thursday's volleyball game against Lake Placid.



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY DANA CLAUSING dana@clausingphotography.com



Tishonna Riley was escorted by her parents, Victor and Taneisha Blandin, and sister Victavia Blandin during senior night at Thursday's volleyball game against Lake Placid.



Casey Hall was escorted by her parents, Don and Cynthia Hall, during senior night at Thursday's volleyball game against Lake Placid.



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Big plays doom Bulldogs

By **STEVE KNAPP**

ARCADIAN SPORTS DIRECTOR

The DeSoto County Bulldogs lost 42-25 to the Southeast Seminoles in a District 5A-13 contest Oct. 18 in front of a loyal but disappointed crowd at Bulldog Stadium.

The disappointment felt by many of the fans came when the Bulldogs held an 18-14 lead at the half, but saw the Seminoles outscore DeSoto 21-0 in the third quarter to put the game out of reach.

The much maligned Bulldog defense really didn't play as badly as the score would indicate, especially in the first half of play. The Seminoles scored twice

in the first half, once on a 48-yard pass against the Bulldogs defense while the other touchdown came against the punt team on a 63-yard return for a touchdown.

DaWayne "Pooh" Hearn put the first points on the board with a five-yard pass from Kari Williams with less than six minutes remaining in the first quarter. A 24-yard touchdown run from speedster Tajahs Jackson gave the Bulldogs a 12-7 lead at the end of the quarter.

Williams added to his area-leading 14 touchdown passes when he hooked up with Dequan Richardson for 33 yards in

BULLDOGS | 23



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

The Bulldogs' Kari Williams gives the ball to Taj Jackson as Terrell Gordon (34) provides the lead block in the first half of the Oct. 18 loss to Southeast. Jackson scored on a 24-yard run, Gordon scored on a six-yard play and Williams threw two touchdowns.



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

Bulldog quarterback Shawn Brown is off to the races on a 65-yard touchdown run in the second quarter. Brown rushed for 121 yards and passed for 57 more in the season-ending loss to Port Charlotte.

Young Bulldogs grow during tough season

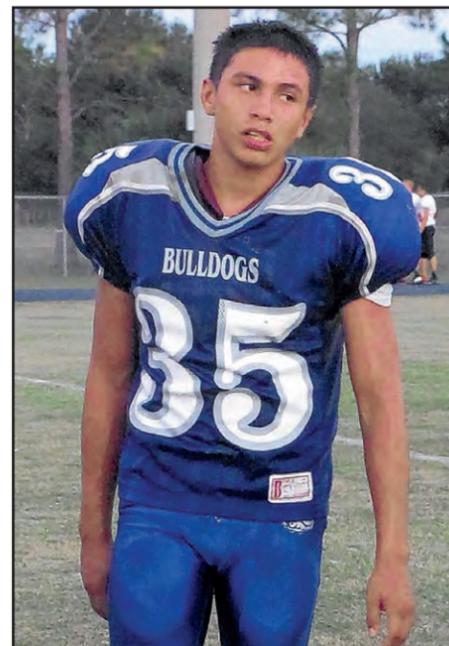
By **STEVE KNAPP**

ARCADIAN SPORTS DIRECTOR

At the beginning of the junior varsity football season the DeSoto County Bulldogs didn't look very good, and that's being kind. There were only a few players who had played before and it showed. They couldn't block or tackle and there was no teamwork involved. Many players didn't appear as if they even wanted to be out there.

Now that the long season is over, the guys left on the team are the ones you'd want at your back while walking down a dark alley. The players still standing after the season finale 33-12 loss to Port Charlotte Oct. 17 have grown as players and young men. They've been through the battles of practice and games and while they were beaten up, they never quit. They came through the season much closer as a team and they know who they can trust to stick out a commitment that was made when they went out for the team.

GROW | 17



Jermiah "Superman" Castillo takes a breather at halftime as the Bulldogs prepare for a second half comeback. Castillo blocked a field goal, recovered two fumbles, made several big tackles and rushed for 14 yards along with a big 18-yard catch for a first down for DeSoto County.



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JV Bulldogs shut out North Port

By **STEVE KNAPP**
ARCADIAN SPORTS DIRECTOR

There could have been a little over-confidence going into the final road match of the season for the DeSoto County JV volleyball team. They were in North Port to face a team that they had beaten in the first match of the season way back on August 27.



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

Cassidy Furr pushes a shot over the net for another Bulldog point against North Port Oct. 15. Furr had a seven-point run from the service line in the second game.

In that first match the Bulldogs never trailed in either set and rolled to a pair of easy wins. Fast forward to Oct. 15 in the "Bobcats Cage" in North Port. The much improved Bobcats got off to an early lead as Cassidy Furr's first serve went long. That started a series of long serves and attacks that went past the end line. Before the Bulldogs could get their aim down, they were looking at the short end of a 10-6 score.

The Dawgs rallied to tie the score at 16 and even took a two-point lead at 19-17. The pesky Bobcats came back to tie the score at 21. Jayla Cowell stepped to the service line and rattled off 4 straight points as the Bobcats had trouble with her serves to pull out a 25-21 win.

In the second set, the ladies from Arcadia didn't take any chances of a Bobcat comeback as they stormed ahead to a 10-3 lead. Behind Furr's 7 straight service points, they rolled to a comfortable 25-18 win.

Cowell had a productive night as she led the Bulldogs in digs with 8, tied Furr with 3 aces and had 5 kills. Lexi Williams led the team with 10 kills while Sarah Bennett had 14 assists.

Several of the players talked about what the team has improved on during the season. Williams, Cowell and Furr all agreed that the team has gotten better at passing, talking and blocking, while serving and coverage and knowing where to be are still areas for improvement.



Lady Bulldogs' Sarah Bennett taps the ball over the net for a point in the win over North Port. Bennett led the team with 14 kills in their final away game of the season.

Head Coach Nora Cail said, "Lexi (Williams) had another nice game for us tonight. She has really come on this season and has learned a lot. You couldn't tell it by tonight's game but our passing has really gotten better through

JV | 22



By **STEVE KNAPP**
ARCADIAN SPORTS DIRECTOR

- The varsity football team lost to Southeast 42-25.
- The junior varsity football team lost to Port Charlotte 33-12.
- The varsity volleyball team had a very good week, beating North Port 3-0 and Lake Placid 3-1.
- The JV volleyball team finished their season with a 14-12 record. They defeated North Port 2-0 and finished their season with a 2-1 win over Lake Placid.
- The DeSoto County Middle School continues to roll as they beat Lake Placid 30-6. Shawn Campbell ran for a touchdown and threw one to Jonshae

ROUNDUP | 22

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GROW

FROM PAGE 15

Coach Leroy Butler talked about the growth of the team. "When you're winning you get a lot of fans at the games and everything is fun and easy. When you lose like we were losing and you still come out to practice every day, that shows a commitment to yourself and the team," he said. "When you face adversity like we did this year and the same 23 guys are at practice every day,

that shows these are men."

The Bulldogs played the Pirates to a standstill after the Pirates exploded for 21 points in the first quarter. It would have been easy for the Bulldogs to hang their heads and give up, but they battled back and stayed even with the Pirates 12-12 over the final three quarters.

Port Charlotte finished their season with only one loss and that came at the hands of Manatee, which is not only a state powerhouse but boasts a varsity squad known as one of the best in the country.

Going into the second quarter and

with the Bulldogs looking at a 21-point mountain to climb, the Pirates scored on a 61-yard run to open up a 27-point lead. DeSoto quarterback Shawn Brown then raced 65 yards for a touchdown to bring the halftime score to 27-6.

Brown scored on a 17-yard scamper in the final quarter for the other Bulldogs TD that brought the final tally to 33-12. Brown led the Bulldogs with 121 yards on 11 carries as part of the 168 total yards the Bulldogs ground game picked up.

Brown went four-for-nine in the Bulldogs aerial attack for 57 yards, including a third quarter performance where he went three-for-five for 52 yards. Two of those completions went to Joshua Taylor for 34 yards, while Jeremiah "Superman" Castillo had 18 yards on a big third down and long conversion to keep a drive going.

The Bulldogs offense totaled 225 yards against a good Port Charlotte team. Earlier in the season the Bulldogs had at least one game where they never even crossed the midfield stripe. Varsity Coach Darryl Nicklow spent time during the week with the JV team and installed some new plays that were effective in the game.

Defensively, Castillo had another big game. The hard-nosed, versatile player blocked a field goal attempt and recovered two fumbles, one of which was deep in Bulldog territory. He also made several big hits on defense and carried the ball six times for 14 yards to go along with his 18-yard pass reception.

"It could have been better. I could have done a better job running the ball but it just didn't happen tonight," Castillo said. "It was a long year, but we could have

progressed more through the season. We finally came together and became a family and that's what I care about."

One of the highlights for the defense came in the first quarter when the Pirates, who were leading 14-0, had a first-and-goal on the Bulldogs' one-yard-line. They had four shots at the end zone but the Bulldogs' defense played old-fashioned, smash-mouth defense DeSoto used to be known for. The Pirates failed to punch it in and actually fumbled on the final attempt.

"That was amazing," Head Coach Cole Conners said.

Taylor showed his versatility as he carried the ball five times, along with 34 yards through the air. He also kicked off and played defense the entire game.

"At the beginning of the season we didn't start out so well but we worked hard and made progress," Taylor said.

Brown said the Bulldogs came together as a team in the past two weeks and the results have shown. "I felt comfortable tonight. We played pretty good," he said.

Conners said the teamwork has gotten so much better as the squad is now filled with individuals who want to play.

"Our running game has improved so much, especially when you consider our leading rusher (Julio Gaitan) was promoted to varsity," he said. "Shawn (Brown) was working out this week with the varsity quarterback (Kari Williams) and he learned a lot from him. I'm really proud of the team but I'm very happy with the leadership and development of Shawn. He came full-circle this season. He worked hard, his grades went up, he won the starting job at quarterback and became the leader of the team."



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

DeSoto County's Joshua Taylor picks up a tough four yards on this run against the Port Charlotte Pirates in the season finale Oct. 17. The Bulldogs lost 33-12.



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Rats! Dealing with roof rats

Every fall we begin to hear questions and complaints about damaged citrus fruit. The answer is often roof rats, also known as citrus rat, fruit rat, black rat, or gray rat. *Rattus rattus* is the worst and most abundant rodent pest in Florida. The cotton rat or palmetto rat is also found in our area. The Norway rat is rare in Florida.

The roof rat gets its name because they are an arboreal rat and spend most of their time above ground. They are native to southern Asia, and enjoy a tropical climate. They probably arrived here with the first Spanish explorers. When temperatures dip below 70 degrees they often seek shelter in attics or out-buildings. They are rarely seen during the day, but may be sighted at night running along electrical wires or roof rafters.

They look more like a large mouse than a rat. Adults are about 12 to 14 inches long and weigh 5 to 10 ounces. The tail of a roof rat is longer than the head and body. Color may be quite variable — black back with a slate gray belly, gray back with lighter gray belly, and brownish gray above with a white or cream colored belly. Palmetto rats are slightly chunkier with a shorter tail, and are usually brownish gray.

Both will make a hole about the size of a quarter or half dollar in citrus fruit and then hollow out the whole fruit. The roof rat will damage fruit right on the tree, while palmetto rats go after fallen fruit. Both love fruit and will eat large sections out of peach, tomato, carambola, banana, pineapple and mango. They'll also eat smaller fruits such as blueberry, fig, grape, strawberry, lychee, Surinam cherry and loquat. Picking up fallen fruit and harvesting ripe fruit regularly is about the only way you can limit their food source. These agile climbers are also good jumpers, and can easily jump four feet or more. Trees that are well spaced may be protected by a metal collar at least 24 inches high around the trunk of the tree. But if there is a point from which the rat can jump to the tree canopy, a



Over the Garden Gate

Al & Karen Smoke

ksmoke@embarqmail.com

collar is useless.

They'll also eat livestock feed, pet food and bird seed, contaminating and damaging much more than they actually eat. Store bulk feeds in metal containers, and don't leave animal feed out at night.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY COMMONS WIKIMEDIA.ORG (H. ZELL)

The roof rat gets its name because they are an arboreal rat and spend most of their time above ground. They are rarely seen during the day, but may be sighted at night running along electrical wires or roof rafters.

A female roof rat can have four or five litters of five to eight pups each per year. Breeding activity peaks in spring and fall. They usually nest above ground. In nature, they'll nest in piles of debris, hollow trees and the skirts of old fronds on palm trees. The real problem is when roof rats enter dwellings and take up residence in attics or walls. Rats will chew insulation and leave behind piles of droppings that are about ¼ to ½ inch long. They are particularly fond of chewing electrical wires in both homes and automobiles. Often the first sign you've been invaded by roof rats is the sound of scurrying feet during the night. They are attracted to the warmth and safety from predators. Once you've had a rat problem, other rats will be attracted to the scent that may persist for a long time.

Prevent rat invasions by sealing any openings in soffits or around pipes. These crafty creatures can squeeze through crevices as narrow as a half



PHOTO PROVIDED BY COMMONS WIKIMEDIA.ORG (FOREST AND KIM STARR)

Distinctive tooth marks on this unripe persimmon are from roof rats. On soft fruits such as citrus, rats will make a hole about the size of a quarter or half dollar and the hollow out the whole fruit.

inch. They'll easily chew through window screening and aluminum flashing. Use heavier galvanized metal.

Poison baits are effective, but sometimes poisoned rats die within walls or attics, creating another problem. And, poisons need to be placed where other creatures, including children, will not have access to them. Various live traps, glue traps or spring traps may be used, but these crafty creatures are wary of new items. One method is to put spring traps out for several days before setting them. If you place traps outdoors, only set them at night to avoid trapping other creatures. Since rats use horizontal runs, secure rat traps to horizontal members of chain link fences or board fences. Set traps indoors along walls or secure to open rafters. If traps are placed along known runways, it is not necessary to bait them.

Quite often if rats have invaded your home, you may need to resort to a professional exterminator.

Natural predators of roof rats are our many snakes, including the black racer, yellow rat snake, and corn snake. Hawks and owls, especially barn owls, are very effective at killing roof rats. Foxes and bobcats also help keep them in check. People believe that cats and dogs will keep rats out of their yards and fruit trees, but because these rats are arboreal they quickly learn to elude pets. Cats will occasionally kill juvenile rats, but are rarely able to handle an adult roof rat.

WELCOME

FROM PAGE 10

been arranged through the Ministerial Association.

Goodman herself plans to sing "How Great Thou Art" at the service — the same song she sang solo as a 10-year-old at the funeral service for the little children. She recalls seven child-size caskets arranged in a crescent.

"It was very scary for me to sing at

that funeral as a 10-year-old," she said. "I had been singing at church since I was 6, so I was accustomed to singing in front of people. But these children were younger than me."

Standing before a crowd at Smith-Brown Gym, Goodman said, she was nervous, but Coach Richard Bowers gave her the encouragement she needed to finish the hymn.

Sunday's service will be open to the public and, Goodman hopes, will be a welcoming event with a positive message. Richardson, who is now 78,

lives in Kansas and has only been back to Arcadia once since charges against him were vacated. That time, Goodman said, there were many TV cameras and reporters and he felt he did not get closure. This time, she hopes, will be a better experience. Goodman also asked city council to welcome him back and give him the symbolic keys to the city as a gesture of friendship.

Goodman said Richardson is expected to say a few words during the service.

Richardson unsuccessfully sought compensation from the State of Florida

under a 2008 bill enacted to pay people who had been wrongfully incarcerated. Richardson's appeal was denied because he had not proven he was innocent, as the 2008 law required.

A new bill, SB-194, has been drafted by State Sen. Geraldine Thompson of Orange County to award Richardson \$3 million because, since the charges were dropped and he was unable to prove his innocence in court, he could never qualify under the 2008 law. A similar bill died in the Judiciary Committee last session.

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NOTICE OF ACTION 3116

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CASE NO.: 13DR603
 DIVISION:
 James T. Galliher, Petitioner and
 Lisa Rose South, Respondent.

NOTICE OF ACTION FOR Temporary Custody By Extended Family
 TO: Lisa Rose South
 Last known address: 12001 Belcher Rd. Apt G101, Largo, FL 33771
 YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Temporary Custody has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on James T. Galliher whose address is 4810 NW Hwy 72, Lot 134, Arcadia, FL 34266 on or before November 25, 2013, and file the original with the clerk of this Court at 115 East Oak St. Arcadia, FL 34266 before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. **If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition. Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request. You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Notice of Current Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed to the address on record at the clerk's office. WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Fail-**

NOTICE OF ACTION 3116

ure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.
 Dated October 23, 2013. MITZIE W. MCGAVIC
 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
 By: /s/ N. Daughtrey
 Deputy Clerk
 Published 10/24/13, 10/31/13, 11/7/13 & 11/14/13 131159 2955581

Employ Classified! NOTICE TO CREDITORS 3120

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
 File No. 2013CP000081AXMA
 Division Probate
 IN RE: ESTATE OF MARJORIE T. GOIKE
 Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 The administration of the estate of Marjorie T. Goike, deceased, whose date of death was August 27, 2013, is pending in the Circuit Court for DeSoto County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 115 E. Oak Street, Arcadia, FL 34266. The names and addresses of the personal representatives and the personal representatives' attorney are set forth below.
 All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM. All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED. The date of first publication of this notice is October 24, 2013

Attorney for Personal Representatives:
 Guy S. Emerich
 Attorney for Co-Personal Representatives
 Florida Bar Number: 126991
 Farr, Farr, Emerich, Hackett and Carr, P.A.
 99 Nesbit Street
 Punta Gorda, FL 33950
 Telephone: (941) 639-1158
 Fax: (941) 639-0028
 E-Mail: gemerich@farr.com
 Secondary E-Mail: mlavine@farr.com
 and probate@farr.com
Personal Representatives:
 Judith E. Goike
 12320 SW Austin Avenue
 Lake Suzy, FL 34269
 Christine C. Sheran
 12222 SW Austin Avenue
 Lake Suzy, FL 34269
 Published 10/24/13 & 10/31/13 114849 2955027

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 3120

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
 File No. 2013-CP-078
 Division Twelfth
 IN RE: ESTATE OF William Gaylord Welles, IV a.k.a. Kayo Welles, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 The administration of the estate of William Gaylord Welles, IV a.k.a. Kayo Welles, deceased, whose date of death was August 6, 2013, and whose social security number are xxx-xx-8563, is pending in the Circuit Court for DeSoto County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 115 East Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida 34266. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below. All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF THE COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM. All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED. The date of first publication of this notice is October 17, 2013.
 Attorney for Personal Representative:
 Eugene E. Waldron, Jr.
 Primary Service E-mail: Service@eewj.com
 Secondary Service E-mail: Ewaldron@eewj.com
 Florida Bar No. 0794971
 Eugene E. Waldron, Jr., P.A.
 124 N. Brevard Ave
 Arcadia, Florida 34266
 Telephone: (863) 494-4323
 Personal Representative:
 Sandra W. Welles
 3779 SE County Road 760
 Arcadia, Florida 34266
 Published 10/17/13 & 10/24/13 228541 2950310

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE 3122

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 12TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CIVIL DIVISION:
 CASE NO.: 14-2010-CA-000849
 WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL SYSTEM FLORIDA, INC., Plaintiff,
 vs.
 CATHY L MILLER; LESTER MILLER; UNKNOWN TENANT(S); IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE 3122

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 12TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CIVIL DIVISION:
 CASE NO.: 14-2010-CA-000029
 JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 BOURQUE, STEPHEN P., et. al., Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE 3122

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated the 27th day of September, 2013, and entered in Case No. 14-2010-CA-000849, of the Circuit Court of the 12TH Judicial Circuit in and for Desoto County, Florida, wherein WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL SYSTEM FLORIDA, INC. is the Plaintiff and CATHY L MILLER, LESTER MILLER and UNKNOWN TENANT(S) IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY are defendants. The Clerk of this Court shall sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the, SOUTH DOOR OF THE DESOTO COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 115 EAST OAK STREET, ARCADIA, FL 34266, 11:00 AM on the 7th day of November, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit: **LOTS 1 AND 2, THE NORTH 33.0 FEET OF LOT 3, AND THE WEST 1/2 OF LOT 15, BLOCK 58, ORIGINAL SURVEY OF ARCADIA, FLORIDA, A SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA. ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE.** Dated this 11th day of October, 2013.
 By: Carri L. Pererya
 Bar# 17441
 Submitted by:
 Choice Legal Group, P.A.
 1800 NW 49th Street, Suite 120
 Fort Lauderdale,
 Florida 33309
 Telephone: (954) 453-0365
 Facsimile: (954) 771-6052
 Toll Free: 1-800-441-2438
 DESIGNATED PRIMARY E-MAIL FOR SERVICE PURSUANT TO FLA. R. JUD. ADMIN 2.516
 eservice@cleagalgroup.com
 Published 10/17/13 & 10/24/13 107507 2951469

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 12TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA.
 CASE No.
 14-2013-CA-000029
 JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 BOURQUE, STEPHEN P., et. al., Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Final Judgment entered in Case No. 14-2013-CA-000029 of the Circuit Court of the 12TH Judicial Circuit in and for DESOTO County, Florida, wherein, JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff, and, BOURQUE, STEPHEN P., et. al., are Defendants, I will sell to the highest bidder for cash at, DESOTO COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 115 OAK STREET, ARCADIA, FL 34266 www.desotoclerk.com, at the hour of 11:00 A.M., on the 5th day of December, 2013, the following described property:
LOT 7 OF AIRPORT ESTATES, AN UNRECORDED PLAT ALSO BEING DESCRIBED AS: BEGIN AT THE NW CORNER OF SW 1/4 OF NW 1/4 OF SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 38 SOUTH, RANGE 25 EAST; THENCE N 82°33'05" E ALONG NORTH

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE 3122

LINE OF SAID TRACT, 1564.28 FEET TO P.O.B.; THENCE CONTINUE SAME LINE, 92.30 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 150.0 FEET; THENCE S 82°33'05" W, 92.30 FEET; THENCE NORTH 150.0 FEET TO P.O.B. TOGETHER WITH A 1978 HOME MOBILE HOME ID#20620286AL AND 20620286BL, FLORIDA TITLE #15004988 AND 15004987. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. DATED this 30 day of September, 2013. Mitzie McGavic Clerk Circuit Court By: /s/ B. Wynn Deputy Clerk Submitted by: GREENSPOON MARDER, P.A.,

IMPORTANT

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Clerk of the Court's disability coordinator at DESOTO COUNTY JURY OFFICE, 115 EAST OAK STREET, ARCADIA, FL 34266, 863-993-4876 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711. Published 10/17/13 & 10/24/13 146548 2951475

Great Deals in the Classifieds!

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 12TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION: CASE NO.: 2012CA000830 WELLS FARGO BANK, N. A. SUCCESSOR TO WACHOVIA BANK, N.A., Plaintiff, vs. HON YUENG LAM; SIEW FUN LAM; UNKNOWN TENANT; IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated the 27th day of September, 2013, and entered in Case No. 2012CA000830, of the Circuit Court of the 12TH Judicial Circuit in and for Desoto County, Florida, wherein WELLS FARGO BANK, N. A. SUCCESSOR TO WACHOVIA BANK, N.A. is the Plaintiff and HON YUENG LAM, SIEW FUN LAM and UNKNOWN TENANT (S) IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY are defendants. The Clerk of this Court shall sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the, SOUTH DOOR OF THE DESOTO COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 115 EAST OAK STREET, ARCADIA, FL 34266, 11:00 AM on the 7th day of November, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit: **LOT 13 OF JOSHUA CREEKWOOD SUBDIVISION, A SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, PAGE 42, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE.** Dated this 11th day of October, 2013.

By: Carri L. Pereyra Bar# 17441 Submitted by: Choice Legal Group, P.A. 1800 NW 49th Street, Suite 120 Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33309 Telephone: (954) 453-0365 Facsimile: (954) 771-6052 Toll Free: 1-800-441-2438 DESIGNATED PRIMARY E-MAIL FOR SERVICE PURSUANT TO FLA. R. JUD. ADMIN 2.516 eservice@clelegalgroup.com Published 10/17/13 & 10/24/13 107507 2951466

NOTICE OF SALE 3130

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO.: 14 2008 CA 000470 SEC.: CITIMORTGAGE, INC., Plaintiff, v. TODD ZELLARS A/K/A TODD R. ZELLARS ; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order on Plaintiff's Motion to Reset Foreclosure Sale dated October 1, 2013 entered in Civil Case No. 14 2008 CA 000470 of the Circuit Court of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit in and for DeSoto County, Florida, wherein the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest bidder for cash on 10th day of December, 2013, at 11:00 a.m. at the South door of the DeSoto County Courthouse, 115 East Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida 34266, in accordance with Chapter 45 Florida Statutes, relative to the following described property as set forth in the Final Judgment, to wit: LOT 18, BLOCK 7, SECTION 1, SUNNYBREEZE HARBOR, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGES 83, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

ATTENTION: PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact: **DeSoto County Clerk's Office 115 East Oak Street Arcadia, FL 34266 Phone: (863) 993-4876** At least seven (7) days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711. DATED AT ARCADIA, FLORIDA This 3rd DAY OF October, 2013 By: /s/ N. Daughtry MITZIE W. MCGAVIC CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA Published 10/17/13 & 10/24/13 276862 2953988

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 142011CA000153 JUDY M. OWENS Plaintiff, vs. MOHAMMED M. RAHMAN and MD Z. ABEDIN, and their unknown assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, or other claimants by, through, under or against said Defendants, et al. Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure entered in the above styled cause and number case, Mitzie W. McGavic, Clerk of the Circuit Court, DeSoto County, Florida, will sell the property situated in DeSoto County, Florida, described as:

The North 149.54 feet of Lot 4 of GENE'S LITTLE ACRES, an unrecorded plat more particularly described as: The North 149.54 feet of the following described lands: Begin at the NE corner of the SW 1/4 of NE 1/4 of Section 28, Township 37 South, Range 24 East; thence S 00°24'33" W, 102.98 feet to a point on Southerly right-of-way line of State Road 70; thence N 89°46'20" W along above said right-of-way, 420.44 feet to Point of Beginning; thence continue N 89°46'20" W, 243.22 feet to a point; thence S 00°23'50" W,

NOTICE OF SALE 3130

249.54 feet; thence S 89°46'20" E, 243.20 feet to a point; thence N 00°24'10" E, 249.54 feet to P.O.B., Less 33.00 feet of the West side for road right-of-way. Parcel Number 28-37-24-0164-0000-0040 at public sale, to the highest bidder for cash, at the South door of the DeSoto County Courthouse in Arcadia, Florida at 11:00 A.M. on November 21, 2013. MITZIE W. MCGAVIC Clerk of the Circuit Court By: /s/ B. Wynn As Deputy Clerk Published 10/24/13 & 10/31/13 120581 2955206

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA Case No: 2013-CA-000211 Division:

U.S. BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF MID-STATE TRUST XI BY GREEN TREE SERVICING LLC, A FOREIGN LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA AS SERVICER WITH DELEGATED AUTHORITY Plaintiff, vs. MARCUS W. DODD A/K/A WAYNE DODD A/K/A MARCUS WAYNE, et al, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the judgment of foreclosure entered in the above cause, the clerk shall offer for sale the property situated in DeSoto County, Florida, described as: BEGIN AT THE NW CORNER OF SE 1/4 OF SW 1/4 OF SECTION 18, TOWNSHIP 39 SOUTH RANGE 24 EAST, DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA; THENCE N 89°59'55" E ALONG NORTH LINE OF SAID TRACT 449.25 FEET TO POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE SAME LINE, 150.00 FEET; THENCE S 00°19'27" W 180.00 FEET; THENCE S 89°59'55" W 150.00 FEET; THENCE N 00°A9'27" E, 180.00 FEET TO POINT OF BEGINNING. ALSO INCLUDED A 30-FOOT EASEMENT ALONG NORTH SIDE AND ALSO SUBJECT TO RESERVATIONS, RESTRICTIONS AND EASEMENTS OF RECORD.

at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, on December 3, 2013, at 11:00AM at www.desotoclerk.com. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. **IF YOU ARE A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY WHO NEEDS ANY ACCOMMODATION IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING, YOU ARE ENTITLED, AT NO COST TO YOU, TO THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN ASSISTANCE. PLEASE CONTACT THE DESOTO COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE, 115 EAST OAK STREET, ARCADIA, FL 34266, (863)993-4876 AT LEAST SEVEN (7) DAYS BEFORE YOUR SCHEDULED COURT APPEARANCE, OR IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIVING THIS NOTIFICATION IF THE TIME BEFORE THE SCHEDULED APPEARANCE IS LESS THAN SEVEN (7) DAYS; IF YOU ARE HEARING IMPAIRED CALL (TDD) 1-800-955-8771, IF VOICE IMPAIRED, CALL 1-800-955-8770, OR YOU MAY ALSO CALL 711.** Dated: 10/21/13. Veschio Law Group, LLC By: /s/ Mark D. Smith Bar No. 0069698 2001 W. Kennedy Blvd. Tampa, FL 33606 Phone (813) 258-8741 Email: foreclosure@vlgfl.com Published 10/24/13 & 10/31/13 114982 2955054

TAX DEEDS 3132

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that **US BANK, AS C/F FL DUNDEE LIEN INC LLC** the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: Certificate Number: 1365 Issuance Date: MAY 28, 2010 Tax Deed File #: 13-33-TD

TAX DEEDS 3132

Description of Property: BEGIN AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTH 3/4 OF THE NE1/4 OF THE NE1/4 OF SECTION 7, TOWNSHIP 39 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST, DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA; THENCE S 89 DEGREES 35'51" W ALONG NORTH LINE OF SAID TRACT, 1129.15 FEET TO THE WEST LINE OF THE RYALS PROPERTY AS RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 273, PAGE 584, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA; THENCE CONTINUE ALONG SAME LINE, 15.06 FEET; THENCE S 00 DEGREES 37'26" W, 249.50 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE S 00 DEGREES 37'26" W, A DISTANCE OF 249.50 FEET; THENCE N 89 DEGREES 41'14" W, A DISTANCE OF 174.56 FEET; THENCE N 00 DEGREES 00'25" E, AS DISTANCE OF 249.50 FEET; THENCE N 89 DEGREES 35'51" E, A DISTANCE OF 174.56 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

Names in which assessed:

ANDRE POLK PO BOX 1546 NOCATEE, FL 34268

All of said property being in the County of DeSoto, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the South Courthouse Door on NOVEMBER 6, 2013 at 11:00 a.m.

Dated this 11th day of OCTOBER, 2013. MITZIE W. MCGAVIC CLERK OF COURT DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA By:CRYSTAL HENDERSON, Deputy Clerk Publication Dates: 10/17/13, 10/24/13, 10/31/13 & 11/7/13 112132 2951477

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that **TC TAMPA 1, LLC; PNC CUS TC TAMPA 1, LLC** the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: Certificate Number: 1028 Issuance Date: MAY 27, 2011 Tax Deed File #: 13-41-TD

Description of Property: THE WEST 114 YARDS OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED TRACT OF LAND: BEGINNING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE NW1/4 OF THE NE1/4 OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 38 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST; RUNNING THENCE EAST 138 YARDS; THENCE NORTH 70 YARDS; THENCE WEST 138 YARDS; THENCE SOUTH 70 YARDS TO THE POINT OF THE BEGINNING. BEING A PART OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 38 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST, DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA. SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF SHORES AVENUE ALONG WEST SIDE AND MIXON ROAD ALONG THE SOUTH SIDE.

Names in which assessed:

ANDREW P FIRK 2460 SW MIXON STREET ARCADIA, FL 34266

All of said property being in the County of DeSoto, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the South Courthouse Door on NOVEMBER 6, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. Dated this 27th day of SEPTEMBER, 2013. MITZIE W. MCGAVIC CLERK OF COURT DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA By:CRYSTAL HENDERSON, Deputy Clerk Publication Dates: 10/3/13, 10/10/13, 10/17/13 & 10/24/13 112132 2946124

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that **TC TAMPA 1, LLC; PNC CUS TC TAMPA 1, LLC** the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: Certificate Number: 1027 Issuance Date: MAY 27, 2011 Tax Deed File #: 13-42-TD

TAX DEEDS 3132

Description of Property: BEGIN AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE NW1/4 OF THE SW1/4 OF THE NE1/4 OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 38 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST, DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA; THENCE SOUTH 127 FEET FOR THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE SOUTH 225.07 FEET; THENCE WEST 150.14 FEET; THENCE NORTH 230.90 FEET; THENCE EAST 150 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, ALL LYING AND BEING IN SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 38 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST, DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA. TOGETHER WITH A 1973 CHAM SINGLE WIDE MOBILE HOME. IDENTIFICATION #0439694904D. TITLE #5595633. RP#R581868.

Names in which assessed:

MILTON T. SHIRLEY PO BOX 1292 NOCATEE, FL 34268

All of said property being in the County of DeSoto, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the South Courthouse Door on NOVEMBER 20, 2013 at 11:00 a.m.

Dated this 7th day of OCTOBER, 2013. MITZIE W. MCGAVIC CLERK OF COURT DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA By:CRYSTAL HENDERSON, Deputy Clerk Publication Dates: 10/17/13, 10/24/13, 10/31/13 & 11/7/13112132 2951479

OTHER NOTICES 3138

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA

JUVENILE DIVISION Case No. 14012DP000100 IN THE INTEREST OF: D.B., 07/01/1999 H.B., 03/18/2004 D.B., 12/08/2005 Child(ren).

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: Rebecca Bonilla a/k/a Rebecca Bennett, mother James Fain, father Alberto Bonilla a/k/a Alberto EspinoBarros Bonilla, father and/or any UNKOWN PARENT father/mother

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition for Termination of Parental Rights on **D.B.; H.B., D.B.**, has been filed against you. You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Brian L. Gillis, Esq. of the Department of Children and Family Service, Petitioner's attorney, whose address is 805 North Mills Avenue, Arcadia, Florida 34266, on or before **November 14, 2013 at 9:00AM** and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Petitioner's Attorney or immediately thereafter. **Failure to appear at this hearing constitutes consent to the termination of parental rights of this child (or these children).** Pursuant to Sections **39.802(4)(d) and 39.082(6)(g), Florida Statutes, you are hereby informed of the availability of private placement with an adoption entity, as defined in Section 63.032(3), Florida Statutes** WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL of this Court on this 30th day of September. Mitzie W. McGavic As Clerk of the Court By: Jo Rowan Deputy Clerk Published 10/3/13, 10/10/13, 10/17/13 & 10/24/13 322378 2946636

ARCADIA AREA GARAGE SALES 6001

FRI.-SAT. 8-3 Church Yard Sale 3144 NE Turner Ave. Plants and lots of stuff!

ADVERTISE!

SAT 8-3 SUN 12-5 HUGE MOVING SALE Fishing, tools, golf, horse tack & lots of hsd. goods. 8550 SW Horse Creek Rd. LOOK FOR SIGNS! **EVERYTHING MUST GO!**

ARCADIA AREA GARAGE SALES 6001

★ **ESTATE SALE ★** **Thurs, 10/24; Fri, 10/25; Sat, 10/26, 9am to 4pm** **523 E. Magnolia St, Arcadia**

ANTIQUES + Antique Writing Desk; Colonial Grandfather Clock; Blanket Chest; Pennsylvania House Hutch; Twin Beds; Upright Piano & other Furn. Vintage Jewelry, Linens, Boy Scouts items, Dolls. Kitchenware; China; Pottery; Glass. Books + Records. Game Table & Chairs; Pool Table w/Ping Pong Top. Lrg Rock Collection! Shop/Tools/Fishing Equip. **See pics at www.estatesales.net** ★ **DEALERS & COLLECTORS COME ★** **Two Friends Estate Sales** Debbie Suzanne 863-381-4032 863-464-0912

PUNTA GORDA GARAGE SALES 6007

SAT.-SUN. 8-? 30221 Holly Rd. tools, furn, linens books, pressure washer, Q Elec. adjust bed, black wood table w/6 chairs and matching side board, cherry wood dresser w/mirror, 6 drawer 2 bed tables, gas grill, white tv stand with doors on bottom, 36" TV, if you want something I think I have it Ridge Harbor off HWY 17.. follow the balloons

FURNITURE 6035

Your Hometown Furniture Store Quality Furniture at affordable prices! Best Prices Anywhere! 126 S. Parker Ave. (one blk S. of Moose Lodge)

Seize the sales with Classified!

TREES & PLANTS 6110

University Of FL R&D **PEACH TREES** \$15 & \$20 per tree, 3 gallon cont. Open Fri. & Sat. Weekly 863-494-6933

CATS 6232

FREE to Good Home, Tuxedo Kitten, Male, 5 to 6 mths old, Friendly 863-993-9049

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WE BUY & PICK UP JUNK CARS 941-661-1928

BOATS-POWERED 7330

1986 HONDA 17.5' 805HP byno. 115mph+ runner bottom. 10hrs on motor \$18,500 Call 941-685-5867

CYCLES/MOPEDS/SCOOTERS 7360

2005 GXSR 600 Motorcycle, Runs great, clean \$3500 863-990-8716

MOTOR HOMES/RVs 7380

'02 GEORGETOWN 34' 2 slides, 5.5 generator. Can be seen at Horizon Coach, Arcadia call 863-993-1600.

DeSoto awarded emergency food/shelter funds

PROVIDED BY
SISTER ANN DiNICOLO

DeSoto County has been chosen to receive \$12,591 to supplement Emergency Food and Shelter Programs in the county. This amount is determined by the number of people in the population who claim unemployment. The selection was made by a National Board that is chaired by the Department of

Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency and consists of representatives from the American Red Cross; Catholic Charities, USA; National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.; The Salvation Army; United Jewish Communities; and the United Way of America. The Local Board was charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and

shelter programs in high-need areas around the country.

A Local Board made up of members of the above agencies will determine how the funds awarded to the county are to be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local service agencies in the area.

The Local Board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds and

any additional funds available under this phase of the program.

Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, local agencies chosen to receive funds must: 1) be private voluntary non-profits or units of government; 2) have an accounting system; 3) practice nondiscrimination; 4) have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs; and 5) if they are a private

voluntary organization, they must have a voluntary board. Qualifying agencies are urged to apply.

DeSoto County has distributed Emergency Food and Shelter funds previously with Catholic Charities participating. This agency was responsible for providing rent and or mortgages for 34 families, and assisted one household with a utility bill.

Public or private voluntary agencies

interested in applying for Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds must contact Sister Ann De Nicolo at 863-494-1068 for an application. The deadline for applications must be received by Nov. 1, 2013.

Unemployment applications can be filled out at the Heartland Workforce One-Stop Center at 2160 N.E. Roan Avenue in Arcadia. Hours are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

OPTIONS

FROM PAGE 1

that the compartments on the vehicles have no locks, so finding a secure way to store the department's equipment would be another obstacle.

Although all the commissioners expressed concern for the health of the firefighters at the station, some were upset the conditions at the building had gotten so bad in the first place.

"This problem didn't start yesterday; this has been a problem since 2004," said Commissioner Elton Langford. "We obviously have to do something, and we certainly can't afford to build a new fire station. This all falls back to maintenance issues. It's embarrassing that with some routine repairs we could have prevented this problem in the first place."

Commissioner Buddy Mansfield also wondered if the mold in the ducts was even dangerous. "Not all molds are bad, and if it's black mold then whatever health issues the firefighters have sustained can't be reversed," he said. "We need to find out what kind of

mold is in there."

Taylor said an air quality check was recently completed and he would have the lab results by the end of the week. "If it's black mold, then my crew is out of there immediately," he said.

After further discussion, the board accepted a suggestion from Facilities Director Richard Metzger to place ozone generators in the module, which would temporarily remove the mold and provide the firefighters a safe environment. Once the air quality results are received, Taylor will present them to the Fire Committee, which would then make further recommendations for a permanent solution.

"We have to fix this once and for all," Langford said. "If we put a band-aid on this it will be a spot where there already is one."

Emergency line of credit

In other business, the board approved a request from Administrative Services Director Linda Nipper to open a \$2 million line of credit with SeaCoast Bank. Nipper explained the move was necessary as an "if and when" insurance policy in the

event the county runs short of funds for operational expenses until tax revenues begin coming in around mid-November.

"This is something I didn't want to do; it was a last-second solution to enable us to have the funds needed to run the county in the event that expected revenues don't come in on schedule."

Commissioner Bob Miller commented that he wasn't happy it would cost the county approximately \$9,000 just for the paperwork to secure the loan. "That seems like an awful lot of money just to have an insurance policy in place," he said. "We just received this information this morning. I would have liked more time to study this."

Commissioner Gabriel Quave agreed the \$9,000 price tag Seacoast was charging the county to complete paperwork was too steep. "This certainly doesn't sound like a good deal for us," he said. Quave then asked Nipper how much money the county sends in deposits to Seacoast. She said it was between \$40 million to \$55 million yearly.

"That's extortion in my opinion," Quave continued. "Next year I'd like to

see our deposits go out to bid."

The board also unanimously approved the adoption of an ordinance to establish administrative and technical requirements allowing DeSoto County landowners to qualify for federally subsidized flood insurance. They also unanimously approved an ordinance that extends the moratorium on pain clinics (pill mills) for an additional year.

Exhibit opens



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY JOHN BLACK

Gordon "Mac" Martin poses with artist Larry Hudson in front of one of his paintings. Hudson's art, depicting cowboy scenes and landscapes, is on exhibit at the Martin Gallery through Nov. 14.

HELPING

FROM PAGE 1

are computer illiterate and we have too many children worrying more about where they are going to sleep at night or get their next meal than they do about doing their homework."

Sister Ann DeNicolo of the Catholic Charities of DeSoto County agrees. "When G. Pierce Wood and the juvenile detention center shut down, that devastated a lot of families in this community," she said. "And there haven't been any new jobs to come in and replace those, yet we see utility bills going up and many elderly and disabled individuals with fixed incomes are severely in need."

According to recent U.S. Census Bureau statistics, 26 percent of DeSoto residents live below the poverty line, placing it third among 67 Florida counties.

"When people come to us looking for help finding a job, the majority of those available are part-time or temporary," said Brenda Campbell, a volunteer at the DCHC. "There's just nothing out there right now."

Homelessness and hunger

With the county's high poverty levels and homeless numbers comes a large demand for food donations. According to Gilchrist, in partnership with All Faiths Food Bank, DCHC distributed nearly 80,000 pounds of food to needy residents in 2012. "We're serving an average of 230-250 families per distribution, and the numbers keep growing," she said.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE

Contact the DeSoto County Homeless Coalition at 244-8734 or Catholic Charities at 494-1068. Other organizations include the Arcadia Center for the Needy at 558-1683, the Arcadia Housing Authority at 494-4372 and the DeSoto County Department of Health/Social Services at 993-4859.

Although Catholic Charities has a small amount of food for those in need, DeNicolo says its is reserved for emergency situations, but there are resources for free food distribution every day of the week in the community. "When someone shows up asking for food, we will help them one time but we also give them a sheet of paper that lists places they can go to get food every day." These resources include organizations such as the Center for the Needy, DCHC, Hot Meals Faith Mission and Jesus' Hands Extended.

Both organizations also have various clothing, toiletries and other items that are available, along with listings for other resources that can help as well. "It is all about us working together and getting the word out that there are a lot of resources out there, but people just aren't aware of so many of them," Campbell said.

Turning the tide

The main mission for both organizations, however, is to help those in need become independent and able to provide for themselves.

At Catholic Charities, for example, the organization focuses on helping individuals with budgeting, finding housing, obtaining good health care,

and fair employment practices.

"We see so many people who are not even high school graduates, and don't have a developed set of work skills," DeNicolo said. "Or there might be someone who has a felony on their record and are have a low chance of employability, so our goal is to empower them to get the training or education needed to get them going in the right direction. If you are unemployed, the first place we will suggest you visit is Workforce Services, and it's up to the individual to follow through on it." She added that she is constantly amazed at the number of people who arrive in the county completely unprepared to care for themselves.

"They will show up and they won't have anything, from silverware to soap and toilet paper and everything in between," she said. "They don't have a plan, they just expect someone will help them. That's a mindset we are looking to change."

Gilchrist agrees, saying the goal of each organization in the county is to break the vicious mentality among those in need that they can't better their lives. "This is what we focus on most, pointing people in the direction of other places where they can take back control of whatever situation they are in," she said. "This mentality that these individuals are beyond help is ridiculous; it's a stigma we see every day that people in the community attach to some of these individuals, and it couldn't be farther from the truth."

The focus at Catholic Charities is similar, where individuals are provided the resources to better themselves so they no longer have to rely on handouts from others. "We are helping

people break the cycle of poverty here," DeNicolo said. "There are lots of excellent resources here, but people have to be made aware of them in order to use them."

Both Catholic Charities and DCHC agree that the more support provided by the community, the better the situation in the county will become.

For DCHC, a severe lack of funding prevents the organization from extending its services. Gilchrist says DCHC's funding comes strictly from donations and state and federal grants, but the recent economic downturn has severely hampered the group. "We have a building out by Lake Katherine we are hoping to turn into a homeless shelter, but the costs associated with tearing it down and rebuilding it are way beyond our means," she said. "Any support we can receive from those in the community would allow us to do so much more, but we are limited in what we can accomplish at the moment."

DeNicolo agrees community support is key in finding a solution to the growing poverty issues in the county, and that turning a blind eye to the situation will result in bigger problems in the near future.

"In a small town like Arcadia, it's important for people to come together and help," DeNicolo said. "Help can be provided much quicker and more efficiently in a small-town setting than it can in a Detroit or Chicago. Watching this community come together after Hurricane Charley is a great example. Everyone chipped in and we were able to solve so many problems because we came together as a community. This situation is no different: if we are going to make a change it has to be because of the effort of all."

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WINS

FROM PAGE 14

Senior Night victory

Being the last regular game of the season, senior night, and playing a strong volleyball rival in Lake Placid all added up to a pretty emotional evening for three seniors. Tishonna Riley, Casey Hall and Jillian Deriso were all huddled around their pictures before the game, describing the placement of the pictures as one was an outside hitter, one middle and one right side. They all felt it was a pretty bittersweet moment as it was somewhat sad the year was coming to an end, but sweet that they were the number one seed in the district and hopefully hosting a few more ball games. It got even sweeter for the seniors as DeSoto defeated Lake Placid 25-15, 25-14, 25-21 and 25-14.

The night started off with Lake Placid making all the plays, while DeSoto made one unforced error after another. The Dragons had runs of eight and six points during the set and cruised to a 25-15 victory. DeSoto could manage only five kills in the set, and had six attack errors. Lake Placid had beaten district rival Sebring earlier in the week,

so the DeSoto fans were wondering if this might be a sign of how things were going to go next week in districts.

The Bulldogs put their minds at ease fairly quickly in the second set. With the score tied at eight, Datasia Wallace came up to the service line and scored 11 straight service point before a service error made the score 19-9 and DeSoto cruised to a second-set victory 25-14. This time DeSoto had 14 attack kills and two errors in the set. The third and fourth sets saw similar attack-to-error ratios and except for a small Lake Placid rally near the end of the third set, the Bulldogs were pretty much in command of the match the rest of the night.

All three seniors admitted they might have had a little too much senior night in their heads at the start of the match. "We went from tense to frustrated in the first set," Riley said. "After that we just settled down and played our game."

Coach White had a slightly different view. "It might have been due to senior night, but then this team has done this all year long," she said. "We can look great one set and then just terrible the next. It was good to see them play pretty strong the final three sets as we head into districts."

Sports Writer Dave Bremer contributed to this story.



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

The DeSoto County JV volleyball team has completed their season and finished with a 14-12 record. They showed a lot of improvement this season as they beat the teams in the second half of the season that they lost to in the first half.

ROUNDUP

FROM PAGE 16

Reed, Nehemiah Hillard and Elijah Arthur each scored on a touchdown run. Kendhal Stuart ran in three two-point conversions.

Upcoming games

•The volleyball team will host Lemon Bay at 7 p.m. tonight for the district

championship. Come out to give your support and see this very good team as they prepare for regional action.

•The varsity football team has a bye this week but will return to the gridiron Nov. 1 as they travel to Hardee to continue the state's oldest football rivalry.

•The DeSoto County Middle School softball team will play their final game of the season Monday as they host Lake Placid.

•The Panthers football team will play their last game of the season Tuesday as they host Hardee.

JV

FROM PAGE 16

the season. We still need to learn where to be on the court during play and transition."

Hannah Lambright echoed Cail's thoughts. "Our passing and teamwork have gotten better. We still need to know where to go when we are on the court."

Briana Harris thought the team had gotten better at the talking part of their game, but said they still needed to work on listening so they can make adjustments during the game. "I have gotten so much better on my serves this year. At the beginning of the year I couldn't get the ball over the net and now I can do it with no problem.

Lambright and Harris talked about the time-out curse. "It seems like whenever we are going good and scoring a lot of points, the other coach calls time out and then we always mess up on the next serve," they both explained.

"They do that on purpose to stop the emotion and momentum of the game and give you a chance to break your concentration," I told them.

Another lesson learned for the young Bulldogs.

JV end season with win over Lake Placid

For the third straight match, the junior varsity volleyball team defeated a team they had lost to earlier in the season. The final victory was a season-ending home thriller over Lake Placid 27-25, 25-23, 16-14.

The first set saw both teams very determined and focused, resulting in long rallies and great saves. Getting the ball back with a 26-25 lead, a service ace by Lexi Williams gave the Bulldogs a first-set victory.

The second set saw both teams lose some of their intensity, not looking as sharp as they had earlier. It was a close game, with the biggest lead by either team was three throughout the match. Down 23-20, the Bulldogs tied the game 23 on a kill by Sarah Bennett, forcing a Lake Placid timeout. Lake Placid came out of the timeout scoring the final two points, giving them the 25-23 victory.

The third set saw the Bulldogs take an early lead of 12-8 and it looked like they were on their way to an easy



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

Hannah Lambright serves the final point of the match for DeSoto County, as the Bulldogs swept the North Port Bobcats 2-0.

victory, but Lake Placid made some key digs and safe drop shots to the middle of the Bulldogs court and suddenly found themselves ahead 14-13 before Sarah Bennett could come to the service line for the Bulldogs. The cool captain of the JV team served deep to Lake Placid, forcing them to make a couple of mistakes.

Her serves, along with a Tay Blanding kill, gave the Bulldogs a 16-14 set and match victory to end their season not only with a victory, but showing vast improvement through the season.

All three of the talented freshman front row hitters — Cassidy Furr, Jayla Cowell, and Lexi Williams — said they were sad to see the season end, but excited about the future and anxious to get started playing club and off season ball.

Cassidy, who played club ball last year, said, "I'm ready to start."

Jayla and Lexi both said, "Yes, I want to play during the off-season."

Coach Cail praised the team on their improvement as the season progressed.

"They improved in all phases of the game, and it showed tonight," Cail said.

It looks as if the volleyball program is looking good for years to come at DCHS.

— Sports writer Dave Bremer contributed to this story.



Briana Harris stretches for a shot by North Port in the first game of the match. The Bulldogs beat North Port 2-0 Oct. 15.

BULLDOGS

FROM PAGE 15

the second quarter. Southeast matched that with a 48-yard touchdown pass to give the Bulldogs their four-point halftime lead.

The third quarter saw the Seminoles put up 21 unanswered points to give them a lead that the Bulldogs never challenged. The punt team allowed a 65-yard return for a score and the defense gave up a 71-yard scoring run. They also surrendered a 15-yard touchdown that was set up by a 77-yard pass.

Terrell Gordon added a six-yard touchdown run with 11 seconds left in the fourth quarter. Gordon rushed for 93 yards to add to his area-leading total. He needs just 36 yards to crack the 1,000-yard mark.

Six Seminoles scores, with five of them coming from 48 yards or more, shows the vulnerability of the DeSoto defense. They had to gamble and take chances in a defensive scheme that paid off when it worked but allowed big plays when it faltered.

"The trick is to play a whole game. That means special teams and everybody. I finally saw some things that were right, but then we start to go



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

Senior receiver/running back Dequan Richardson tells his teammates about his 33-yard touchdown pass from Kari Williams. Richardson had five carries for 32 yards to go along with his lone reception. Ernest Robinson is number 50.

back into our funk every once in awhile," Coach Matt Egloff told his team after the game. "We have two weeks to prepare for Hardee and we took a big step forward today."

Big defensive lineman Deionte (Juice) Turner was at a loss for words. "Man, I don't know what's going on," he said. "We started out positive and everything and one mistake just brought us all down."

Austin Tompkins is the leader of the linemen. The big senior is the only returning starting lineman from last year's squad. He missed several games at the beginning of the season due to a knee injury he received

on the last play of the summer camp game. He also suffers from a lingering shoulder injury sustained last season. Tompkins also has had to leave a game earlier this season due to high blood pressure.

"I go out there with fire. I play with the fire all of the time. I was born for this but I just don't know what's going on with us," Tompkins said.

The Bulldogs cut their penalties down to just four during the game from a season high of 15 just a few weeks earlier. The Seminoles only managed nine first downs but when a team scores on big plays, they won't have any sustained drives that typically produce a number of first downs.

The Bulldogs had 321 yards of offense on 65 snaps, with 209 coming on the ground. Meanwhile Southeast had 394 on just 42 offensive plays. With 50 percent more plays, the Bulldogs managed to gain 73 fewer yards. Southeast fumbled eight times compared to the Bulldogs' six. Both teams lost three fumbles.

The rivalry continues

The Bulldogs have a bye week this Friday before traveling to Hardee Nov. 1 to continue the longest running rivalry in the state. The Wildcats lead the district with a 2-0 record



DeSoto County linebacker/running back Oscar "The Cuban Assassin" Alfonso goes through the gauntlet of backs as they practice holding onto the ball before the loss to Southeast 42-25.

and are 6-1 overall. They have averaged 26 points per game compared to the Bulldogs' 29.

The big difference lies in the defense, as the Wildcats have given up an average of just eight points a game and the Bulldogs have allowed 34 per game. Hardee beat Bayshore last week 46-13. That's the same Bayshore team that beat the Bulldogs three weeks ago 33-14.

How are the Bulldogs going to salvage the season with an upset over Hardee? The Wildcats can't match the Bulldogs for speed and they like to battle it out between the tackles. DeSoto County has to turn it into a track meet rather than try to slug it

out in the trenches.

They will have to use their speed to get deep and produce big plays for themselves rather than having the opposite result as they did last week. They will have to gamble on defense and hope it pays off better in this game. Teams are keying on Gordon every time he gets the ball so they have to figure a way to get him into the open field. Finally, somebody has to step up on defense and make plays; it's hard to win when you give up 34 points every game. This might be the game for the coaches to dig deep into their bag of trick plays and throw everything at the Wildcats.

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DeSoto County High School Bulldog Football



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Aug. 23	Port Charlotte	Away	7:00pm	15	19
Aug. 30	Lake Region	Away	7:00pm	18	19
Sept. 6	Lehigh Acres	Away	7:30pm	36	35
Sept. 13	East Lee County	Home	7:00pm	47	28
Sept. 20	Booker	Away	7:30pm	17	37
Sept. 27	North Port	Home	7:00pm	28	35

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME	Us	Them
Oct. 4	Bayshore	Home	7:00pm	14	33
Oct. 11	Frostproof	Home	7:00pm	21	61
Oct. 18	Southeast	Home	7:00pm	25	42
Nov. 1	Hardee	Away	7:00pm		
Nov. 8	Braden River	Home	7:00pm		



Photo by: Karen Edsall

DeSoto County coach Darryl Nicklow gives Dwayne Hearn a chest bump after Hearn's touchdown in the first period put the Bulldogs ahead last Friday night.



Photo by: Steve Knapp, SbigdaddyKnapp@aol.com
DeSoto County junior Zack Beeles hangs his head in the final few minutes of the game.



Photo by: Steve Knapp, SbigdaddyKnapp@aol.com
Caleb Lewis sadly watches the end of the game while teammate Arturo Ramirez looks away from the action.



Photo by: Steve Knapp, SbigdaddyKnapp@aol.com
Terrell Gordon stands by the water tank and gives a blank stare as the game winds down.

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