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ARCADIAN

Thursday, December 19, 2013 - 24 pages / 50 cents

A section of the Sun

THE GIVING SEASON

Toys for Tots leader Bob Grinis wants to help the county's children.

PAGE 11

City approves new finance director

By STEVE BAUER
Arcadian Assistant Editor

The Arcadia City Council unanimously approved the hire of Beth Carsten as the city's new finance director. Interim City Administrator Tom Slaughter recommended the hire, saying Carsten's advanced degree in financing and years of experience running an office made her an ideal candidate for the position

"Ms. Carsten is a city resident, and we're excited to recommend her hire to the council," Slaughter said.

According to Carsten's resume, she has an associates degree in business administration/accounting from the Utica School of Commerce, and a bachelor's degree in finance from the State University of New York at Utica. Prior to her hire with the city, she served 12 years as a firm administrator for Carlton & Hancock, P.A., and as an office assistant for other companies. Carsten's resume doesn't indicate she has any experience in municipal finance, and as of press time the resumes of other applicants for the position were not available for review.

Addressing the board, Carsten said, "I have lived in Arcadia for some time, and I'm excited to be involved in city government."

Carsten was offered an annual salary of $55,000, with her first day scheduled for Dec. 23. Slaughter said she would work closely during the next week with current director Renee Green, who had promised to delay her October resignation with the city to help the next director transition into the job .

No council members had any questions for Carsten, with Councilman Bob Heine saying, "I'm just happy to have her here." After approving her hire, the council also unanimously approved her request for immediate health care coverage. Mayor Alice Frierson also named John Super as her replacement for Carsten on the Administrator Advisory Board.

Interconnect on hold

The council unanimously agreed to table an interconnect agreement with DeSoto County. The agreement was requested by county Utility Director Eddie Miller, who said having the city's consent for the agreement would allow the county to move forward with funding plans for its expansion plans as part of the U.S. 17 widening project.

"It's a huge plus for us to have the city's approval as we move forward on this," Miller said.

Councilman Joe Fink was concerned that approving the agreement would limit the city's ability to expand its utility services south on U.S. 17, and suggested the matter be tabled until the City Attorney T.J. Wohl and County Attorney Donald Conn could meet to discuss specific boundaries.

"I think it's in our best interests for our staff to come back with a plan for a joint planning agreement, and then get the consensus of the council," he said.

NEW | 23

Holiday Home Tour shows Arcadia's grandest residences

The Dozier Home on West Oak Street features elegant formal living and dining rooms. The annual Holiday Home Tour is organized by Team Arcadia with proceeds going toward its projects such as improvements to Lake Katherine Park. • Turn to page 12 for more photos.

Arcadian 50¢

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Citizens gather to discuss county's homeless

By STEVE BAUER
Arcadian Assistant Editor

In an effort to help curb the growing homeless problem in DeSoto County, a group of concerned community leaders and residents gathered Monday to identify the number and types of homeless in the county, and begin laying the groundwork for possible solutions.

The meeting was led by Robert Vaughn, deacon at St. Edmund's Episcopal Church in Arcadia. Vaughn has experience with the creation and maintenance of homeless shelters, and helped the group focus on specific goals.

During the meeting, the group learned that according to Florida's housing standards, more than 12,000 individuals are considered homeless in the county, most due to overpopulation in housing not designed for large groups. Approximately 400-500 are living in cars, tents or on the streets, and Vaughn said the group's long-term goal should be to move those individuals into adequate housing.

"This is the homeless population we can clearly identify and attempt to help, and it's where our efforts need to be focused," he said.

Vaughn informed the group there are three types of homeless individuals: Chronic, situational and cyclical. Those defined as situational or cyclical are likely to find new housing, whereas chronics typically suffer from long-term disabilities such as drug addiction or mental disease. "From what I have been told and seen for myself, the group that frequents the downtown area would be defined as chronics," he said.

ARCADIAN PHOTO BY STEVE BAUER

A small group of concerned citizens and community leaders gathered to discuss DeSoto County's current homeless situation.

Current solutions

Vaughn then asked representatives from churches and charitable organizations what assistance was currently being offered to the area's homeless, and learned a majority of help comes in the form of food.

"There's no reason anyone in DeSoto County should ever say that they can't get a meal," said Marty Dow.

While Vaughn said the efforts to feed the needy in the county were impressive, it was clear there was a dire need for housing. The only consistent housing source the group identified was through the DeSoto County Housing Authority, which representative Becky Mercer admitted was limited due to rules regarding sexual offenders or convicted felons. "I have 130 units that I turn around as soon as they are available, but we can't bend the rules on individuals who have those marks on their records, and they fall through the cracks," she said.

After further discussion and several ideas such as locating FEMA trailers, obtaining federal housing for mentally disabled or building a "tent city," Vaughn told the group it wasn't necessary to "reinvent the wheel," and that finding a way to construct a traditional homeless facility should be a top priority. He suggested forming two groups: a Direct Assistance Task Force aimed at serving immediate needs such as resolving the homeless population currently camped out on the Heritage Baptist Church property downtown; and a Systemic Structures Task Force to help the community create long-term solutions such as a permanent homeless facility.

"For long-term success, it's been shown that four components must come together: Government, civic/business, churches and charitable organizations," Vaughn said. "Without the assistance of all four, you will find that success will be nearly impossible to obtain." He also suggested the group use the Homeless Coalition as an umbrella organization due to its non-profit status. Coalition Founder Valerie Gilchrist said although the organization did not have sufficient administrative staff to handle any new projects on its own, they would be happy to act as a "parent" organization.

"That is something we would be happy to do, and I think with these new ideas and individuals stepping forward we can accomplish a lot," she said.

Arcadia City Councilman Joe Fink was at the meeting representing the city, and said although the council could not offer financial assistance, they would be willing to help in other ways.

"The city is limited financially, but if there's property we have available to give

HOMELESS | 23

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EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 4TH, 2013

The DeSoto County Board of County Commissioners and the Environmental Services Department are pleased to announce the return of recycling in the Lake Suzy and Ft. Ogden communities.

The new site will be located at:

DESOTO COUNTY FIRE RESCUE STATION 2
8789 SW County Road 761
Arcadia, FL 34266
Monday thru Sunday (8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)

The original three sites are still open to service our residents.

Site 1 — DeSoto County Landfill
Monday — Saturday (7:30 a.m. — 3:30 p.m.)

Site 2 — Turner Center — Gibson Street
Monday — Friday (8:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.)

Site 3 — McKay Street — Driveway next to Animal Services
Monday — Sunday (Anytime)

Materials accepted at these sites are Plastic, Aluminum, Glass and Steel Cans.

If you have any questions please contact us at 863-993-4826.

50457294

Sign, poem donated to Canoe Outpost

Peace River Canoe Outpost received an early Christmas present from customers Ron Palmer and his son, Richard Palmer. Ron had written the poem on the sign about the Peace River years ago but wanted to share it with others. He designed and built the custom sign and came on Sunday to install it. Canoe Outpost-Peace River is proud to display Ron's handiwork by the river at the Canoe Outpost-Peace River Arcadia location. Many thanks to Ron and Richard.

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY BECKY BRAGG

Richard and Ron Palmer pose by the sign they installed at Canoe Outpost, bearing the poem Ron wrote in 1994.

"Keeping the Peace"
Back in time you will be sent
ten thousand years with boat and tent.
Ice age bones encased in lime
the Peace gives up from time to time.
Lay back, relax, enjoy this treasure,
view nature's art, it's hard to measure.

If change occurs by your own hand
unborn eyes will miss God's plan.
For certain he meant all to see
this wonderous place he left for thee.
Your seed can feel this same release
but only if you keep the "Peace."
— Ron Palmer

Kiwanis helps Center for the Needy

PHOTO PROVIDED

Barbara Jackson, president of the Kiwanis Club, and Irene Ochoa of Kiwanis, present the Arcadia Canter for the Needy with a basket of toiletries. The center serves the homesless and disadvantaged citizens of Arcadia with food, clothing, toiletries and other essentials. They depend on the kind donations from individuals and organizations like Kiwanis Club to help them provide assistance to those in need.

County approves utility staffing additions

By STEVE BAUER
Arcadian Assistant Editor

The DeSoto Board of County Commissioners approved a request by the Utilities Department to add three new positions to its current staff.

The approval didn't come without some controversy, however, as Commissioner Buddy Mansfield voted against the request because the proposal and its impact on the budget were not presented by Utilities Director Eddie Miller during the board's budget process.

According to Miller, the cost to add the three positions will be $118,000, which he and Administrative Services Director Linda Nipper say will be easily offset by expected revenue of approximately $283,000 in 2014. Despite the fact the additions would be adequately funded, Mansfield was upset Miller never approached the board about the changes.

"I just can't support this, because I didn't see these changes in past budgets," he said.

Miller responded his department was "never given the time to present our budget to the board," he said. "When the time came for department presentations, we were always behind the sheriff and fire chief, and they would take up the entire meetings."

Commissioner Bob Miller said he was upset Miller was under the impression the board did not have enough time to hear from each department head. "It disturbs me that one of our directors says after the fact he didn't have enough time," he said. Miller then turned to County Administrator Guy Maxcy and said, "Mr. Maxcy, I don't know who to point the finger at on this issue, but any director who wants to be heard should be able to do so; there's no such thing as a time limit for issues like this."

Maxcy told the board he apologized for the confusion, and would ensure the miscommunication wouldn't happen again. "I'll accept responsibility for this," he said. "Back when we were presenting this portion of the budget, these changes weren't in here. We need to make sure that in the future the board is made aware of matters such as this."

Nipper added that because of the Utility Department's rapid growth, its budget will continue to remain fluid. "The utility budget changes daily, and right now they are on fire in a good way," she said. "I'm afraid this department is going to be a constant moving target. We're all new to this, so please bear with us."

Commissioner Jim Selph said it shouldn't have come as a surprise that the staff additions were going to be needed for 2014. "First off, we scheduled the workshops and usually placed them before scheduled meetings, so we actually did limit ourselves timewise," he said. "But if you thought we were going to expand our utilities business but not the staff, I don't know what you were thinking."

Commissioner Gabriel Quave agreed with Selph, and added that he'd be nervous about shorting the department even one staff member knowing the amount of growth that lies ahead. "I'm on the phone with Eddie a lot about this, and I'm not comfortable with anything short of what he thinks is needed to properly run the department," he said.

After further discussion, the board voted 4-1 to approve the additional staffing, with Mansfield casting the lone dissenting vote.

Downtown improvements

Kimley-Horn and Associates Inc. updated the board on plans to improve several intersections in downtown Arcadia. The project is part of a Local Agency Program funded through the Florida Department of Transportation and approved in 2012.

Areas scheduled for improvements include the intersections of West Oak Street with Manatee, Monroe and Polk avenues.

Project highlights include replacing current traffic signals with stop signs to create a more pedestrian-friendly environment; curb improvements; decorative pavers; and increased landscaping.

The design phase is currently 60 percent complete, and work on the intersections is scheduled to begin in mid-2014.

Board approves LDR special exceptions

The board approved two special exceptions under the Land Development Regulations to allow two landowners to store a commercial vehicle (such as a bus to drive workers to and from agricultural fields) on their property in an area zoned Residential Multi-Family Mixed use. The properties, located off County Road 661, are in an area served by privately maintained roads.

Commissioners, however, were dismayed that the applicants were not present during the hearing to answer questions they might have had.

The board also voted unanimously to extend the moratorium of school and county impact fees for another year, as a measure to try to attract new businesses to the county. The board has waived these fees, normally assessed against major new businesses, since 2009.

Quave, however, said he would like to reexamine this in a year. "How much longer will we do this?" Quave asked. "Because it could have an impact in the future."

In other business, the board unanimously approved a policy that would close the Veterans Memorial Park Boat Ramp during flood stage. It also voted 4-1 approving an annual paving project that would include Pembroke Circle, along with a stormwater improvement project at the Golden Melody Subdivision. Selph cast the lone dissenting vote, saying he didn't agree with the county using paving funding for projects such as Golden Melody, which falls under a different budget designation.

—Susan E. Hoffman contributed to this article

Christmas music in the air

Music Director Genie Martin warms up the adult choir on Sunday before the annual Christmas Music concert by the First Presbyterian Church.

Rev. Will Browne opens the evening of Christmas music, with Music Director Genie Martin, left, and Martha Jo Markey. The First Presbyterian Church held its annual Christmas concert on Dec. 15 as a gift to the community.

ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY JOHN BLACK, photeke@gmail.com

The Cherub Choir rehearses for the Christmas concert at the First Presbyterian Church of Arcadia. The conmcert was held Sunday at the church. The children sang with beautiful voices, heard by all as angels from above.

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DeSoto
VIEWPOINT

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Erwin Street is deplorable

Editor:

I invite the people in Charlotte and DeSoto counties to visit Erwin Street that connects Cedar Street and Crenshaw Avenue together. What a shameful travel way to call a street.

I am told that there are people that don't want this street repaired! I am not going to believe. This street can easily be taken by eminent domain the way a lot of right of way is taken over on the new expansion Highway 17.

After Hurricane Charley, the U.S. Postal Department deemed this street unsafe for mail delivery vehicle to travel on, and they therefore had to cluster mail boxes installed on the corner of Erwin and Crenshaw Avenue.

To the people who may come to view this deplorable street, they should drive east on Peace River Street and view the nice picnic tables, restrooms and boat trailer parking. Such a lovely place that was built with the cooperation of DeSoto County. At any time the parking is occupied free by Charlotte County people.

It is my contention, that those that are in the power to do anything, if they are smarter than a fifth grader, then they will see that this deplorable street is taken care of the way that should be, and the taxpayers on Erwin Street and Cedar Street are treated with respect.

Richard Eaton
Arcadian

Thanks for a great paintout

Editor:

The DeSoto Arts and Humanities Council thanks the sponsors who helped with the first Arcadia Plein Air Paintout, held downtown on Nov. 16. We drew more than 25 artists — many from out-of-town — and they painted some beautiful scenes of our wonderful downtown district. The paintings are presently on exhibit at the Martin Art Gallery, 207 E. Magnolia St., through January 4.

Thanks go to Martin Realty, the DeSoto County Tourist Development Council, Art Creations of Arcadia, DeSoto Veterinary Services, Paul Bennett Seusy P.A., Oak Street Deli, Bizarre Bazaar, Arcadia's Olde Town Market, Cafe Italiano, J & R Antiques, Arcadia Antique Association, George & Joyce Chase, Smith's Ranch & Garden, Valley Florist, Oak Park Inn, Magnolia Street Seafood & Grill, Badcock & More, Mary Margaret's Tea & Biscuit, Mosaic Company, Canoe Outpost, Arcadia Main Street, DeSoto Shirt & Hat, Arcadia Printing and *The Arcadian*. With their help, we hosted a fun event and brought many talented artists — and art lovers — to our beautiful city.

Jane Hilton, President
DeSoto Arts & Humanities Council
Arcadia

GRITS & PIECES

Sharing a smattering of Christmas memories

Grits & Pieces

Luke Wilson
troubador55@embarqmail.com

'Tis the season to be jolly, the song says. It's also the season to be shopping, decorating, caroling, cooking, exchanging gifts, worshiping and reflecting. The latter of these is my focus today, so this column is a smattering of random Christmas memories that I'd like to share.

As a little boy, my younger brother Alan was notorious for attacking the Christmas tree, sort of like a cat does, except worse. I don't think it was anything personal; he just did it. You know, like the proverbial answer as to why people climb mountains — because they're there. He'd knock it over, grab it by the top, and drag it behind him through the house, breaking bulbs and ornaments, and scattering tinsel and garland everywhere. Our home pretty much looked like Santa and the Grinch had finally met up and went toe-to-toe.

My friend Cindy had a flying squirrel many years ago that she let have run of the house. At Christmas time, this randy little rodent would retreat into the nicely-decorated tree and hide, possibly relating to living in the wild, which was his nature. I reckon he wanted the tree to be as natural as possible, because he'd un-decorate it. You'd see the tree standing there, and suddenly an ornament would come flying out from within, as he tossed and broke them. This gremlin wannabe met an untimely fate sometime later, and was found in the toilet, having drowned.

Our church choir used to go Christmas caroling in the community back in the 1970s, freezing in the back of a truck filled with hay, or in a trailer being pulled by a truck. One of the places we'd visit would be the local state hospital, where we'd sing to the clients there on several wards. This was done *a cappella*, which means without any instruments making music. One year we got the idea to have my buddy Royce play the piano while we taped the carols. He's a great pianist and did a fine job. Trouble was, with no one singing, he had a tendency to play faster than usual. So we got to the state hospital, the staff gathered up the patients, and somebody pushed the "play" button. Suddenly, we were off to the races, singing stuff like "Silent Night" in double time. It felt like our tonsils were dashing through the snow in a one-horse open sleigh!

One way we used to befuddle our daughters at Christmas, to keep them from figuring out what was wrapped for them under the tree, was to swap their names around, so they'd be shaking each other's presents. Another was to weigh the presents down. It wasn't unusual for them to open a gift Christmas morning and find a can of green beans in there with whatever was wrapped up. Mean? Maybe, but fun. Even jolly, now that I think about it!

Merry Christmas from me and mine to you and yours, with best wishes for a safe and wonderful new year.

LETTER SUBMISSION 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.

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Arcadia's COMMUNITY CALENDAR

NOTE: All area codes are 863 unless otherwise indicated.

■ TODAY

• The DeSoto Amateur Radio Club meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of every month at the DeSoto County Emergency Operations Center, 2200 Roan St., Arcadia. Anyone interested may attend. Talk in for the meetings is at 147.180+ DARC repeater.

• Family Safety Alliance for DeSoto, Manatee and Sarasota counties, sponsored by Department of Children and Families, meets at 4 p.m. third Thursdays monthly at Lakewood Ranch Northern Trust Bank's community room, 6320 Venture Drive, Lakewood Ranch. For information, call Kerri Gibson at 941-316-6129.

• Relaxation Yoga Class every Thursday, 5 p.m.-5:15 p.m., registration and yoga tea; 5:15-6:15 p.m., yoga class. Come enjoy an hour of serenity focused on breathing, gentle yoga poses, peaceful stretching and quiet relaxation. 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. No sessions on Dec. 26 and Jan. 2. Next session Jan. 9.

• DeSoto County Library story time is at 3 p.m. at 125 N. Hillsborough Ave., Arcadia. Call 993-4851 for more information.

• Temple Beth El – North Port Jewish Center, 33840 South Biscayne Drive, North Port,hosts an American Contract Bridge League every Thursday, at 1 p.m. at the temple. The cost is $6 per session. We will be participating in "The Common Game."For reservations call Shelli Wetherson at 941-497-7184.

• Cocaine Anonymous meetings are held every Thursday from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church. The first meeting is scheduled for Feb. 3. For information, call Charles Godwin at 941-357-3945, Mildred Daniels at 993-0373, or Curtis Clark at 263-2935.

• 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.

• Prescription Assistance is at the DeSoto County Health Department Clinic Location: 1031 E. Oak St., Arcadia. Call to make an appointment or for more information, call 491-7580 ext. 256.

• ACCESS office is open from 1-4 p.m. today at Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church, 319 S. Lee Ave., Arcadia. Call for appointments at 494-0320.

■ FRIDAY

• The DeSoto County Chamber of Commerce Network at Noon is Dec. 20 at DeSoto Jewelry.

• On Dec. 20, the DeSoto Memorial Hospital Auxiliary will have its annual bake sale in the Hospital Lobby. No time to bake? Come and buy some homemade goodies. Also check out the Gift Shop and the "Second Time Around" section as well as the wonderful supply of books.

• Toys for Tots will be distributed on Dec. 20 for families already pre-approved. For more information, call Art Creations at 491-0202.

• MAPP committee and VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) meet at 9 a.m. third Fridays at the Family Service Center, 310 W. Whidden St., Arcadia.

• Arcadia Quilt Club meets from 9-11:30 a.m. Fridays at the Palace Dance Hall, 1627 N.E. Floridian Circle, Arcadia.

Square Dancing classes are held at the Palace Square Dance Hall, 1627 N.E. Floridian Circle, from 7-9 p.m. every Friday. Robert at 813-601-1834 or Mary at 941-380-5336 494-2749 for information.

• Friday Night Live — the City Takers for Christ presents "Friday Night Live" with Rev. Troy Rowe, every Friday. Come and experience what God is doing in this season through His word and praise and worship. 37 W. Magnolia St. (across from SunTrust drive-through). For information call 244-4341.

• 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

• The Women's Ministry of the New St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, 5095 Washington Ave., Limestone, will celebrate their annual Night in Red, at 6 p.m. Dec. 21. Other congregations are invited to worship with them. The speaker will be Sister Betty Bynes.

• The Friends of Arcadia Airport are resuming their monthly pancake breakfasts at the airport. Breakfasts will be held 9-11 a.m. the third Saturday of every month (except March when it will be held during Rodeo week). All-you-can-eat pancakes, OJ, sausage and coffee for only $6. There will also be a door prize and a 50/50 raffle with all profits supporting airport projects and our "AV8RS" youth program. Str8 Up Aviation will be offering helicopter rides and aerial tours of Arcadia for only $40. The first one will be held at 9 a.m. Oct. 19. Volunteers to help out are welcome and encouraged. Email FriendsOfArcadiaAirport@gmail.com for more information. If you drive in please do not drive out onto the ramp. Turn left behind the big hangar and go through the two gates and park on the grass.

• MainStreet Farmer's Market is held the first and third Saturday every month in downtown Arcadia from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fresh produce, pickled products, jams, jellies, homemade granola bars, baked goods, fresh and dried herbs, arts, crafts, woodworking, quilts, sewing, plants and other goodies. For vendor info call the Arcadia Main Street office at 494-2020.

• Classic car show in downtown Arcadia, 5 p.m.-9 p.m. the third Saturday of every month. Sponsored by Team Arcadia. Trophies, door prizes, and 50/50 jackpot. For more information call 494-2020.

• 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.

• The Palace Promenaders meet for square and round dance from 7-9 p.m. every Saturday at the Palace Square Dance Hall, 1627 N.E. Floridian Circle. Art Miller, caller, and Jennie Martin, cueing. Call Jennie at 494-2749 or Mary at 941-380-5336 for information.

• Sabbath service begins at 9:30 a.m. at Temple Beth El 3840 S. Biscayne Dr., North Port. Kiddush will follow.

■ 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.

• Alcoholics Anonymous Serenity Group meets at Grace Lutheran Church, W. Oak St. (State Road 70) at 8 p.m. Sunday

■ 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.

• AA "Brown Bagger" meetings are offered every Monday at noon at Trinity United Methodist Church, 304 W. Oak St.

• 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.

• Prescription Assistance is at the DeSoto County Health Department Clinic Location: 1031 E. Oak St., Arcadia. Call to make an appointment or for more information, call 491-7580 ext. 256.

■ TUESDAY

• There will be no garbage collection in DeSoto County on Dec. 24 and Dec. 25 in observance of the Christmas Holiday. Tuesday customers' next service date will be Dec. 27.

■ SPECIAL

• The Center for the Needy, at the corner of W. Pine St. and S. Orange Ave., is desperately in need of food, clothing, household goods (such as blankets, towels, cooking and eating utensils etc.), supplies — anything a person in need might require. The center is dangerously low on food, its shelves are almost bare, and they need to replenish supplies before the colder months. Any donations are gratefully accepted, including cash, to help those in real need in our community. For more information, call 863-444-0499.

• The DeSoto County Literacy Council is looking for volunteers for Adult Literacy and ESL (English as a Second Language), Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m., and 5-8 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. Call 993-1333.

• Christmas Eve — no County Commissioner or School Board meetings tonight.

• 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.

• The Peace River Woodcarvers meet from 9 a.m. to noon every Tuesday, starting Nov. 12, at the Speer Center, U.S. Highway 17 North, Arcadia. For information, contact Bill or Mary Morse at 207-418-4687.

• ACCESS office is open from 9 a.m. to noon today at Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church, 319 S. Lee Ave., Arcadia. Call for appointments at 494-0320.

• Alcoholics Anonymous Second Tradition meets at 8 p.m. at St. Edmund's Episcopal Church, 327 W. Hickory St.

• Prescription Assistance is at the DeSoto County Health Department Clinic Location: 1031 E. Oak St., Arcadia. Call to make an appointment or for more information, call 491-7580 ext. 256.

■ WEDNESDAY

• Merry Christmas from *The Arcadian* staff to all of our readers!

• There will be no garbage collection in DeSoto County on Dec. 25 in observance of the Christmas Holiday.

■ THURSDAY

• 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.

• The Family Safety Alliance meeting for DeSoto, Manatee and Sarasota counties is held the fourth Thursday of every month at 4 p.m. at the McClure Center, 4215 Concept Court, Lakewood Ranch. For information, call 941-316-6009.

• Temple Beth El – North Port Jewish Center, 33840 South Biscayne Drive, North Port,hosts an American Contract Bridge League every Thursday, at 1 p.m. at the temple. The cost is $6 per session. We will be participating in "The Common Game."For reservations call Shelli Wetherson at 941-497-7184.

• 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.

• DeSoto County Library story time is at 3 p.m. at 125 N. Hillsborough Ave., Arcadia. Call 993-4851 for more information.

• Cocaine Anonymous meetings are held every Thursday from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church. The first meeting is scheduled for Feb. 3. For information, call Charles Godwin at 941-357-3945, Mildred Daniels at 993-0373, or Curtis Clark at 263-2935.

• 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.

• Prescription Assistance is at the DeSoto County Health Department Clinic Location: 1031 E. Oak St., Arcadia. Call to make an appointment or for more information, call 491-7580 ext. 256.

• ACCESS office is open from 1-4 p.m. today at Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church, 319 S. Lee Ave., Arcadia. Call for appointments at 494-0320.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE SHED CLEANOUT

THE DESOTO COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION WILL BE HOLDING A HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY.

LOCATION: HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION BARN
LOCATED AT THE DESOTO COUNTY LANDFILL
3268 SW DISHONG AVENUE
ARCADIA, FLORIDA

DATE: JANUARY 11, 2014

TIME: 9:00 AM UNTIL 1:00 PM

ITEMS FOR COLLECTION

PESTICIDES/HERBICIDES	POOL CHEMICALS	PAINTS
SOLVENTS/THINNERS	MURIATIC ACID	BRAKE FLUIDS
ANTIFREEZE	CLEANING FLUIDS	DEGREASERS

NOTE: RECYCLABLE ITEMS SUCH AS USED MOTOR OIL CAN BE DISPOSED OF DURING NORMAL WORKING HOURS (7:30 AM - 3:30 PM) FREE OF CHARGE.

WE WILL NOT ACCEPT ITEMS SUCH AS PROPANE CYLINDERS, INFECTIOUS MATERIALS (MEDICAL WASTES), AND EXPLOSIVES (FIREWORKS, AMMUNITION, FLARES, ETC.)

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS SHED CLEAN OUT IS FOR HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE ONLY. IF YOU ARE A COMMERCIAL USER, YOU MAY CALL FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING PRICES FOR DISPOSAL OF YOUR MATERIALS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CALL:

DESOTO COUNTY
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION
(ASK FOR CINDY) 993-4826

50457360

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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

Happy birthday

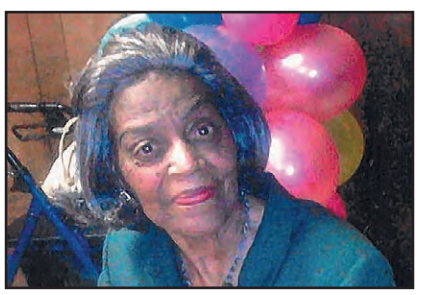

PHOTO PROVIDED

Happy big 80th birthday to Mrs. Verlene Hickson! May God keep blessing you to see many more birthdays.
Love, Faye

Happy 50th anniversary

Happy 50th anniversary on Dec. 21 to Carl Turner and Darlene "Cricket" Turner.

Happy birthday

Happy 74th birthday to my Daddy Johnnie Sr. May God keep you to see many birthdays.
Love, Faye

Arcadia Hardware names a winner

SUBMITTED BY JERRY MUNDELL

The fall season just got a little more golden for Arcadia Hardware and customer Pat Voreis.

Pat was excited about winning the $1,000 giveaway. In fact, when she was told, she asked, "Are you sure?"

Everyone has a few extra chores this time of year, and the store is glad that Voreis will be able to choose whatever tools she wants to get the job done. They thank all those who entered the giveaway for their participation.

Arcadia Hardware, 1705 E. Oak St., has been serving customers in the Arcadia area for eight years. Arcadia Hardware offers a complete line of lumber, plumbing, electrical, hardware, garden and tools for everyone from the do-it-youself homeowner to the professional.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Pat Voreis was the $1,000 winner in Arcadia Hardware's fall giveaway.

The power of math

SUBMITTED BY MEMORIAL ELEM. SCHOOL

At first glance the wall outside of Teresa Stauffer's fifth grade classroom at Memorial Elementary School appears to have been hit by vandals. But upon closer inspection one finds that what at first appears to be graffiti is actually a math wall loaded with information and games to help teach number sense.

Based on some research by Fias and Zarnhofer, Stauffer learned that the development of visual representation, number sense, and movement all takes place in the same part of the brain. She put that research to work with her students. She integrated the brain research into an activity by using graffiti, an art form that actually dates back to the early Greeks, and had her fifth grade class design a huge number line on the side of their classroom wall.

They then broke into small teams and created math games for all ages to use on the number line. To teach other students how to play the newly developed games, each team made a power point

MATH | 10

Happy birthday

Happy December Birthdays! Ma Addie, Candi, Kate, Johnny Jr., Amber, Tan, Brody, and all the December babies. God Bless you all with love.
Love, Faye

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50457353

Report: Woman charged with sale of opiates

The DeSoto County Sheriff's Office reported the arrest of a woman on charges that she allegedly sold and trafficked in opium or an opium derivative.

BATISTA

According to the arrest report, DCSO was told by an informant that Mashia Michelle Batista, 31, was allegedly selling opium. Detectives set up the informant to make a purchase. After checking their vehicle to make sure there was no contraband or money there, detectives gave the informant cash to make a buy.

The informant located Batista, and after a short conversation, Batista went to a nearby car and came back with some yellow pills, at which point the informant gave Batista the cash. The pills were later identified as a derivative of opium.

Batista, of the 1200 block of Cindee St., Arcadia, was arrested some time later, on Dec. 16. She was charged with the sale or delivery of opium or a derivative, trafficking between 4 grams and 30 kilograms of opium or a derivative, and possession or use of drug equipment. According to the police report, she admitted to selling the pills.

Bond was set at $50,000.

Investigation of CR 769 wreck ongoing

No one was injured in a collision Tuesday morning on County Road 769 (Kings Highway), but the Florida Highway Patrol continues to investigate the incident. According to the FHP report, Jeffrey VanArsdale, 34, of Port Charlotte, failed to stop in time when Barton A. Kestner, 59, of Port Charlotte began braking before a driveway. VanArsdale tried to swerve to avoid a rear-end collision, and his car struck the right front of Kestner's pickup. Charges are pending further investigation.

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.

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

• Jose Luis Arvizu-Alvarez, 28, no address, Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.

• Delilah Fitchett, 53, 1200 block of 5th Ave., Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.

• David Arthur Henderson, 43, 3900 block of N.W. Valencia Ave., Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.

• Kynna Lorene Nott, 26, 1500 block of N.E. Lee Ave., Arcadia. Charge: battery. Bond: $250.

• Anthony Jernard Richardson, 30, 600 block of N. Monroe Ave., Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.

• Buck Roan, 37, 1400 block of Birddog Drive, Arcadia. Charges: possession of a controlled substance and possession or use of drug equipment. Bond: $1,120.

• Donna Ruth Sanchez, 46, no address, Arcadia. Charge: disorderly public intoxication. Bond: $120.

• Melissa Kay Teague, 33, 3800 block of N.W. Valencia Ave., Arcadia. Charge: failure to support spouse or child. Purge: $350.

• Tiffany Manees Toepfer, 24, 6500 block of S.W. Pensacola Ave., Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.

• Nicole Colleen Walker, 33, Crystal River, Fla. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.

• Danny Gene Wright, 31, no address, Arcadia. Charge: failure to support spouse or child. Purge: $27,000.

• Andrew Arthur Bogle, 64, 10400 block of State Road 70, Arcadia. Charge: DUI alcohol or drugs. Bond: $500.

• James Elmer Butts, 29, Swain Ave., Arcadia. Charge: battery. Bond: $750.

• Abiner Archila Clemente, 21, Washington Ave., Arcadia. Charge: driving without a valid license. Bond: $120.

• Alberto Marin Cordero, 43, 1400 block of 1st Ave., Arcadia. Charge: trespss. Bond: $250.

• Kathleen Elizabeth Favara, 28, 11400 block of S.W. Orange Ave., Arcadia. Charge: battery. Released on recognizance.

• Amanda Kay Gross, 18, Carlton St., Arcadia. Charge: driving while license is suspended. Bond: $120.

• Colt Winston Harrison, 20, 5600 block of S.E. Taylor St., Arcadia. Charges: DUI alcohol or drugs and possession of less than 20 grams of marijuana. Bod: $620.

• Jose Luis Herrera, 52, no address, Arcadia. Charge: disorderly public intoxication. Released on recognizance.

• Karma Erin Kolb, 43, 2300 block of Gene's Little Acres, Arcadia. Charge: driving while license is suspended. Bond: $2,000.

• Nemo Ortiz Lopez, 59, no address, Arcadia. Charge: disorderly public intoxication. Released on recognizance.

• Eric Prestone Nieland, 29, Lorida, Fla. Charge: failure to support spouse or child. Purge: $1,000.

• Rosa Velasquez Perez, 37, 1200 block of S.E. 7th Ave., Arcadia. Charge: shoplifting, second offense. Bond: $120.

• Brandon Phillip Taylor, 24, 4700 block of N.W. Co. Road 661A, Arcadia. Charges: unarmed burglary of an unoccupied structure and grand theft between $300-$5,000. Bond: $1,000.

• Bobby Tyrone West, 44, 300 block of S. Dade Ave., Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: $975.

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

• Antoin Darren Milner, 25, 300 block of N. 16th Ave., Arcadia. Charge: petty theft, third or subsequent offense. Bond: $1,500.

— Compiled by Susan E. Hoffman

Eagle seeks to back out of guilty plea

Staff Report

Cape Coral real estate developer Greg Eagle asked a federal court to let him withdraw his guilty plea on Dec. 13, according to a report from the Fort Myers News-Press.

EAGLE

Eagle had previously pleaded guilty in a federal case which claimed he used property which was tied up in a land trust as collateral to secure a $17 million loan for his own project. The other investors in the land trust were not aware of Eagle's use of the property as collateral, and Eagle's other deal ultimately collapsed, according to the lawsuit.

Although Eagle, 62, had pleaded guilty last March under an agreement he hoped would result in a lighter sentence, he now wants to withdraw the plea and take his chances with a jury, his attorneys told the court. The News-Press reported that he said he felt he had to cooperate, but now feels it was a bad deal.

On Dec. 3, federal prosecutors told the court Eagle fully understood the consequences of pleading guilty when he agreed to do so, and should not now be allowed to back out of the plea agreement. But Eagle's lawyers maintained he was not entirely clear about the deal he entered into, and did not fully appreciate the potential consequences.

Eagle had once considered building a national security training center here in DeSoto County, and reportedly had been eying the 2 X 4 Ranch property for that project. He had tried earlier to build such a center in Venus, Highlands County, as well as Charlotte County but could not get local approval.

His son, Dane Eagle, is now a Florida state representative for the Cape Coral area.

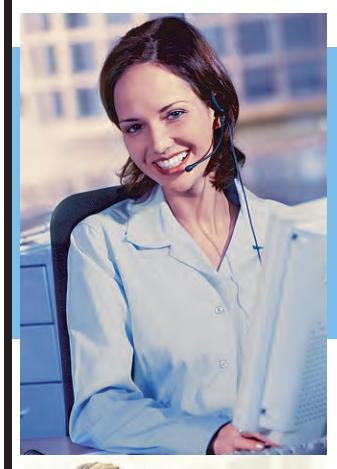
TRUCK WRECK SENDS THREE TO AREA HOSPITALS

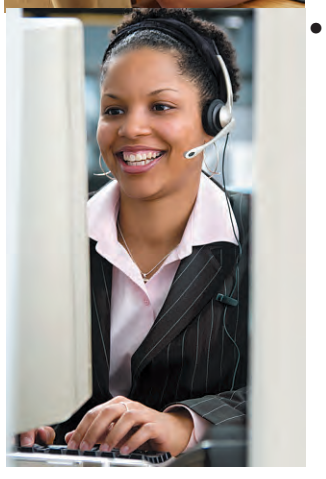
Two trucks collided Monday morning on U.S. Highway 17, sending one driver to the hospital.

According to the Florida Highway Patrol, Dustin L. Stone, 19, of Arcadia, was attempting to cross U.S. 17 at Southwest Senate Avenue in Fort Ogden. Sara Payne, 33, of Arcadia was southbound on U.S. 17 and was unable to stop in time to avoid the collision with Stone's pickup. The front of her Toyota hit the right side of Stone's Ford Ranger.

Stone was cited for violating the right of way of Payne's vehicle.

He was taken to Charlotte Regional Medical Center with minor injuries. His passenger, 19-year-old Shawna Muse of Arcadia, was taken to Lee Memorial Hospital while Payne was transported to DeSoto Memorial Hospital, both with minor injuries.





Administrative Office Specialist Class

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OBITUARIES

Donna Sue Hines

Donna Sue Hines, 61, of Nocatee, Fla., passed away Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2013, with her family by her side.

She was born in London, England, and moved to DeSoto County, Fla., in 1965.

Donna worked as a Medical Records Transcriptionist and was the Medical Records Department Officer Manager at DeSoto Memorial Hospital for many years. She thoroughly enjoyed her job. Donna was a loving woman and very attentive to the needs of others. She was affiliated with North Hillsborough Baptist Church.

Donna is survived by her husband, Glen Hines of Nocatee; son, Glenn (Amy) Hines of Newberry, Fla.; daughters, Glenda (Jeff) Camarda of Land O' Lakes, Fla., and Laura Aldret of Arcadia, Fla.; father, William Kerce; sister, Diane (Earl) Lyons of Nocatee; grandchildren, Caleb Hines, Amber Ruiz, Jose "Mickey" Ruiz, Charles Hines, Brianna Hines, Tianna Hines, Travis Hines, Kyle Neads, R.J. Bellflower, Zachary Aldret and Tucker Aldret; and great-grandchildren, Macy Grace Bellflower and Serenity Hines. She was preceded in death by her mother, Peggy Skates Kerce; and her brother, Richard "Dickie" Kerce.

A visitation was held, followed by the Funeral Service, on Friday, Dec. 13, 2013, at Ponger-Kays-Grady Funeral Home in Arcadia. Pastor Ellis Cross officiated. Burial followed at Oak Ridge Cemetery. Online condolences can be made at www.pongerkaysgrady.com.

Arrangements are by Ponger-Kays-Grady Funeral Home, Arcadia.

David Alton Nathe Sr.

David Alton "Dave" Nathe Sr., 76, of Arcadia, Fla., died Monday, Dec. 9, 2013, at Fawcett Memorial Hospital in Port Charlotte, Fla.

He was born Feb. 13, 1937, in Dade City, Fla., to Alphonse and Loretta Nathe.

Dave was a retired Civil Engineer, having worked for the Florida Department of Transportation; DeSoto County, Fla.; and as an Engineering Consultant. He began his career as a Rodman on a survey party and retired as a professional engineer, and served in the U.S. Army.

Dave was an avid reader, especially history of the American Civil War and Native Americans. He served First Presbyterian Church of Arcadia as an Elder and Deacon, and sang in the choir for over 40 years. Dave was a member of the Arcadia Kiwanis Club for more than 20 years, serving terms as President, Secretary, Director and song leader. His hobbies included cooking, traveling, working in stained glass, collecting antiques, picture puzzles, and tending to his yard.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Jerry Lee Fisher Nathe; daughter, Beverly Winhoven of Arcadia; son, David Jr. of Savannah, Ga.; grandsons, Stephen and Sean Winhoven; and a sister, Alma Hooper of Avon Park, Fla.

Services were held Saturday, Dec. 14, 2013, at First Presbyterian Church of Arcadia. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to First Presbyterian Church of Arcadia.

Catherine L. Spaulding

Catherine L. "Kitty" Spaulding, 86, of Arcadia, Fla., died Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2013, at Tidewell Hospice in Port Charlotte, Fla.

She was born May 5, 1927, in Washington, D.C., and had been a resident of Arcadia since 1990, coming from Great Falls, Va.

Kitty was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Arcadia, and the Pink Ladies Auxiliary of DeSoto Memorial Hospital. She retired in 1988 from the public school system as a cafeteria manager.

Kitty is survived by two sons, R. Stephens (Carol) Clements of Arcadia, and R. Greg Clements of Great Falls; two daughters, Doris "Dee" Sherman of Arcadia, and Mary Suzann Rhodes of Great Falls; sister, Sena Frank of Fairview, Tenn.; 15 grandchildren; and 30 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by two sons, Michael Ross Spaulding and M. Christian Clements; and daughter, Catherine Margaret Goodwin.

Services will be held in Virginia, and are pending at this time.

Arrangements are by Robarts Family Funeral Home, Wauchula, Fla.

Jack V. Bogaert

Jack V. Bogaert, 77, of Zolfo Springs, Fla., and formerly of Indianapolis, Ind., passed away Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2013.

He was born in Moline, Ill., to Frank V. and Helen Gustus Bogaert.

Jack attended Purdue University, and graduated with his bachelor's degree in engineering. He worked as a Sales Representative for John M. Glass manufacturing for numerous years. Thirty-four years ago, Jack met and fell in love with Sharon Judge at the Indianapolis Ski Club, and they soon married. Over the years, Jack and Sharon spent time traveling, including a trip to the Panama Canal, and many visits across the miles to see children and grandchildren. He was a family man; a loving husband, father and grandfather.

Jack enjoyed spending time relaxing and fishing at his lake house on Lake Freeman, Ind., and always found time to take the grandkids fishing. He and Sharon began coming to DeSoto County, Fla., eight years ago, and became full-time residents in 2010. Jack was a fun-loving guy and enjoyed playing golf, cards and being a handyman. Even throughout his 14-year battle with cancer, he always kept going, smiling and exuding pure positivity. Jack was a member of the Foundry Men's Association and the Moose Club in Arcadia, Fla. He was of the Catholic faith, but often attended Sunday services at Toby's RV Park.

Jack is survived by his beloved wife, Sharon Bogaert of Zolfo Springs; sons, Steven (Nancy) Bogaert of Frankfort, Ill., David (Jennifer) Bogaert of Port St. Joe, Fla., and Phil (Michelle) Hale of Indianapolis; daughters, Barbara (Brian) Osborn of Indianapolis, and Dana (Eyal) Tabib of Cooper City, Fla.; sister, Barbara (Dan) VanTrese of Port St. Joe; grandchildren, Christopher, Joseph, Isabelle and Joel Bogaert, Gabriella, Daniel and Samuel Tabib, and Stephen Osborn.

A celebration of life service will be held at a future date. Online condolences can be made at www.pongerkaysgrady.com.

Arrangements are by Ponger-Kays-Grady Funeral Home, Arcadia.

DEATHS | 22

Words of Comfort

Death is the end of a lifetime, not the end of a relationship.
- Mitch Albom

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

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries are accepted from funeral homes only. There's no charge for publishing an abbreviated death notice. Full obituaries and repeat death notices will be subject to an advertising charge.

Obituaries must be submitted to the Charlotte Sun; call 941-206-1000 for details. Please send e-mails to obituaries@sun-herald.com. The American flag accompanying and obituary indicates a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces.

5045/357

DeSoto Church Directory

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11:00am Church Worship
Wednesday 7:00pm Bible Study
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First Baptist Church of Arcadia
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The Wise Men and their after-Christmas gifts

Roger Campbell

Without question, the wise men are the most mysterious characters of Christmas. We're not sure where they come from, though Matthew tells us it was somewhere in the east; nor do we know just when they arrived or how many wise ones made their way to Bethlehem to find the newborn king.

We've assumed there were three wise men because of their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, but three types of gifts could have been brought by any number of wise men. Some estimate there may have been more than a hundred who made their journey from afar following a star. And, according to the Bible, they arrived after Christmas, finding Mary and Joseph and the baby in a house in Bethlehem (Matthew 2:11).

Does it matter? What's important is that when these wise men arrived they worshiped and gave gifts. Their example of gift-giving (even though their gifts were given after Christmas) is remembered by millions. But their worship is often forgotten.

We're missing something important here. Worship was the most important gift of the wise men. It was a gift they needed to give.

While returning from a mall where I had been searching for a gift for my wife, I was involved in a serious accident. A car darted in front of me from a driveway along a five-lane heavily traveled road, attempting to cross three lanes of traffic, and there was no way I could avoid the frightening crash that followed.

The next several hours found me in an emergency room surrounded by sounds of misery and pain and experiencing some of my own, especially in my chest and back, caused by the impact of the accident and the pressure of the seat belt.

Finally, dressed in my skimpy blue hospital gown, I was wheeled into the x-ray department where the temperature seemed barely over the wintry blast outside. But the technician was friendly and the warmth of her smile and her cheerful attitude as she went confidently about her work made the cold more bearable.

"Do you like your job?" I asked.

"I love it," she replied.

Then I asked a question that took her by surprise: "Where do you go to church?"

"It's interesting you've asked," she half-laughed. "I have no religion at all, but I've decided to visit a church."

Upon inquiring where she lived, I was able to recommend a great church near her home and urged here to visit a service there soon.

"I'm going to do that," she promised.

What moved a young woman without any religious background to finally feel her need of learning more about faith in God and how to worship Him? The same heavenly pull that brought the wise men from the east to Bethlehem to present their after-Christmas gifts to the Savior.

A popular bumper sticker says, WISE MEN STILL SEEK HIM. And it's true.

They also give Him the gift of worship … and their hearts.

Wise women do too!

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

A tasty preview for the holidays

From a Senior Viewpoint

Lois Hendricks

loistom@embarqmail.com

With the anticipation of the year-end festivities, our "menu-mind" yearns for those cherished tastes so typical at that time of year. So I've found that the following casserole is a good stop-gap to that yearning.

You'll need one package of stuffing mix. Follow the instructions on the package and set aside. (You'll only need one-half for this recipe, so freeze the other half for a future meal.)

Begin by thin-slicing or chopping one chicken breast. Next precook two cups of frozen vegetables and set aside.

TASTY | 22

Modern Woodmen help Habitat

PHOTO PROVIDED BY JANE POWERS

On Dec. 10, Chapter 16497 of Modern Woodmen of America planted four trees and a bush — a live oak, a holly tree, crape myrtle and avocado trees and one hibiscus — at the latest Habitat for Humanity home in Arcadia. The avocado tree was donated by Dee Oaks Nursery and the others were donated by Modern Woodmen of America represented by Chapter 16497 members. Shown, from left, are "Pete" and Jane Powers, Becky Grant (MWA members) and Junior Bird (Habitat Construction Foreman); not pictured but a tremendous help was Curtis (Habitat volunteer).

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MATH

FROM PAGE 7

explaining the rules of the games and distributed the presentations over the school's email so other teachers could share them with their students.

Scores of Memorial students have been playing the games at the wall and give the experience high marks. Pictured is Stauffer and her class creating the math wall.

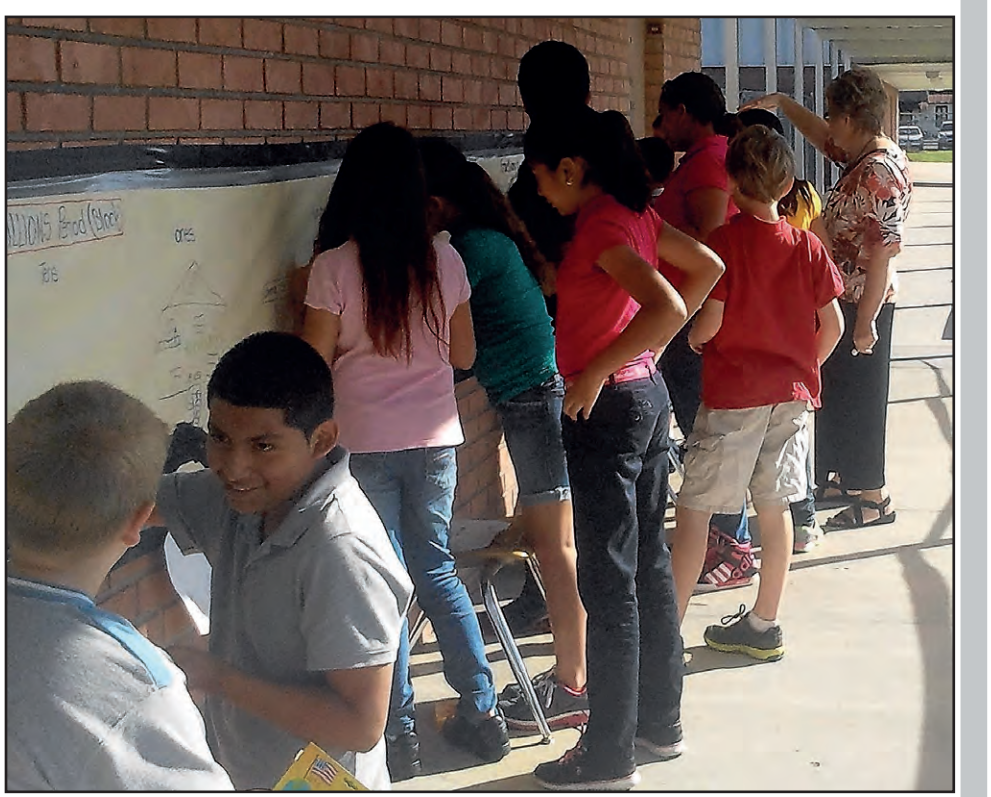

PHOTO PROVIDED

Memorial Elementary School teacher Teresa Stauffer's fifth grade class create a math wall outside the classroom.

DeSoto's true 'Secret Santa'

By STEVE BAUER
Arcadian Assistant Editor

Editor's note: During a time of year many refer to as the season of giving, we decided to take a moment to recognize some citizens who contribute to our community year-round. Although their faces might not be familiar to some, these good Samaritans are constantly working to improve the lives of DeSoto residents.

Sitting at Bob Grinis' desk at the Toys for Tots collection center, it takes a stretch of the neck just to see him over the seemingly endless piles of toys and other goodies stacked around him. As he talks, his wife Beverly moves swiftly around the room, taking inventory on the newest donations and preparing bags for the coming evening's pickup.

"You'll have to excuse our mess," Grinis says as he attempts to clear a spot off his desk , only to have Beverly drop off another pile of toys.

The husband and wife duo, with the help of a select group of dedicated volunteers, have been in charge of the DeSoto County Toys for Tots distribution since 2011, but have been providing toys for needy children since their arrival in the area 15 years ago.

"My wife was a teacher at Nocatee Elementary and Memorial, and we had been somewhat involved in giving out toys then, but about six years ago I answered an ad in the paper for someone to be help with the DeSoto County Sheriff's Office toy program, and it has just snowballed ever since," he said.

And in a county where one-third of the population live below the poverty line, the need for donations continues to increase every year. "In 2012, we handed out approximately 10,000 toys to 2,500 families in DeSoto County, and we're on pace to eclipse that this year," he said. "We used to stop our donations at age 13, but we're finding the need so great out there that we've now increased it to 18. "

Year-round effort

Although the Toys for Tots program is a Christmas-only event, many would be surprised to know it's a year-round job for people like Grinis. When the holiday is over he says he will take a few weeks off, but after that the planning for 2014's campaign begins in earnest.

"We'll take a little time for ourselves, but then we start storing any extra toys we have, completing our year-end reports and begin planning our fundraisers for the coming year," he said. "The amazing thing is that in the entire Toys for Tots organization there are only something like six paid employees; everyone else are volunteers. It's really humbling when you think of all the work that goes into this, the amount of time people give up to help others in need. It's hard to put into words."

Grinis doesn't think twice about the effort he puts into the program, and says he and his wife's main priority has always been to give back for the blessing they have had in their own lives.

"Our objective has to always been to take care of our own, to give back to a community that has given us so much in our lives," he said. "The great thing about Toys for Tots is that 97 cents of every dollar brought into the program stays in DeSoto County. The other three cents are used for administrative costs, etc."

ARCADIAN PHOTO BY STEVE BAUER

Bob Grinis and his wife, Beverly, show off one of the many rooms filled with toys donated to the Toys for Tots Program. The program, which has been in operation for 66 years, provides gifts for needy children who otherwise wouldn't receive presents during Christmas.

Helping DeSoto's youth

Grinis' community involvement doesn't stop at toys, either. Besides providing meals to the homeless at the Tree of Knowledge every Monday, he is stepping down next year as Toys for Tots county coordinator to focus on creating a youth center for DeSoto children, and bringing the youth-oriented Power of Life program to the county as well.

"I'm not leaving the Toys for Tots program, just taking a step back so I can focus on these projects because there needs to be something for the children in this community," he said. "These two projects mean a lot to me and I'd love to have the community get involved. My vision is to have a place where kids in this area can go after school for safety, tutoring and mentoring. They need something to do to get them off the streets, and it's my mission to see this come to fruition."

Grinis says he is looking for individuals interested in helping him turn his idea into a reality, and would like to receive ideas from individuals on raising money, finding a space and recruiting volunteers to help counsel, coach and mentor. He

GIVING | 18

This pile of bags was filled with nothing but Zhu Zhu Pets. The popular toy consists of robotic hamsters that travel through tracks, mazes and other obstacles that can be customized for each child's enjoyment.

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

The glow of Christmas lights warms up the parlor of the Loyless House on Marshall Street. The house was builtin 1927 by Cona and Eliott Butt Loyless, and still has some of the original features (including an old-fashioned ice box in the kitchen).

Team Arcadia hosts annual Holiday Tour of Homes

Margaret Way, left, and Marty Dow chat while waiting for the Holiday Tour of Homes. Dow supplied music in the Tree of Knowledge Park as guests waited to board the tour buses.

Visitors line up to take the annual Holiday Tour of Homes sponsored by Team Arcadia. It's a chance to see inside some of Arcadia's historic homes.

Remus Griffin fund established

Staff Report

DeSoto County native Remus Griffin, 54, passed away Tuesday afternoon after a short battle with cancer.

Griffin was well known in Arcadia and a familiar figure in many circles. He had worked as a rodeo clown, a long-distance truck driver, a land surveyor, investigator, reporter and photographer, among others. He was known for his inquisitive mind, uncanny intuition and powers of observation. He especially liked delving into unsolved crimes. He is known for helping to secure documents surreptitiously in the 1967 James Richardson case in which a man was charged with murdering seven of his children. Although initially sentenced to die, Richardson was released two decades later following a state investigation, in which the files obtained by Griffin were pivotal.

GRIFFIN

Griffin was known for his sharp wit and sense of humor. In recent years he took up photography and, as one of a team of *Arcadian* photographers, shared a second-place Florida Press Club award for rodeo photography in 2010. He branched out to photograph four-wheeling and mudding events and built a reputation for photography at the Redneck Yacht Club. He often remarked, "A picture is worth a thousand words" and his photos expertly captured the essence of the scene or event.

Griffin had no insurance. To help his family with burial expenses, a bank account has been set up at the Seacoast National Bank, 1601 East Oak St., Arcadia under the name "Remus Griffin Fund." Donations are gratefully accepted.

The owners of the Dozier Home on West Oak Street retained some of the old-fashioned features, such as the open shelving in the kitchen, but also incorporated more modern elements such as the wine refrigerator, for an eclectic blend of old and new.

Clerk's office helps with Christmas cheer

The Deputy Clerks of Court donated funds and held a fundraiser breakfast to help serve abused and neglected children of DeSoto County through the Guardian Ad Litem Program. Funds collected were spent on Christmas gifts of clothing and toys. "I am very proud of my Deputy Clerks; they were very generous and worked hard in order to provide a nice Christmas for those less fortunate," said Mitzie McGavic, Clerk of Courts. "We appreciate everyone who came out for breakfast and donated so generously to help us help someone else. The true spirit of Christmas was in our hearts."

PHOTO PROVIDED

BOYS LOSE THRILLER

The boys' varsity basketball squad fell in heart-wrenching fashion to Lemon Bay in recent district action.

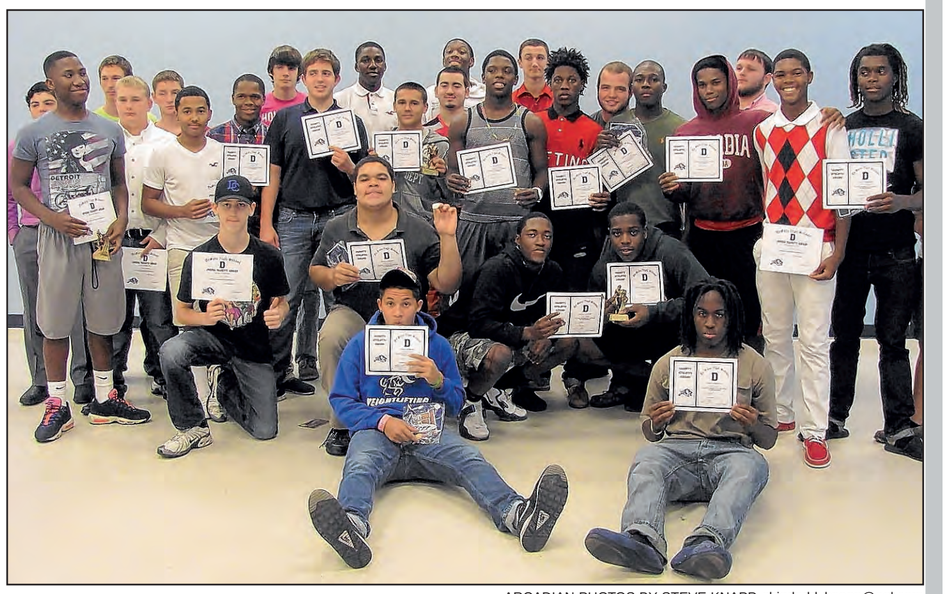
PAGE 14

DeSoto County High School honors fall sports players

By STEVE KNAPP
Arcadian Sports Director

The fall sports teams gathered together for one final time this season with a reception to honor the teams and players. The reception was held at the high school cafeteria Monday, Dec. 9.

Listed below are the award winners for each sport along with the academic awards. Interestingly, six of the seven students who achieved a 4.0 grade point average were on the volleyball team. The volleyball team had the deepest run in post-season play, getting bumped out in the second round of regionals.



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

The varsity and junior varsity football players show off their awards from the reception held at the high school on Dec. 9.

Fall Sports Reception 2013

Sportsmanship
Girls' Cross Country - Alondra Morales
Volleyball – Jillian Deriso
Boys' Cross Country – Dionicio Ordonez
Girls' Golf – Fayth Warren
Boys' Golf – Justin Dameron
Football – Bay Hale

Girls' cross country
MVP – Kaylyn Castro
Most Improved – Vivianna Maldonado
Coach's Award – Elizabeth Montero

Boys' cross country
MVP – Lisandro Cisneros
Most Improved – Germane Brown
Coach's Award – Nathan McGill
Heart Award – Juan Barajas

Junior varsity girls' volleyball
Captain's Award – Sarah Bennett
Most Valuable Player – Lexi Williams
Most Improved Hitter – Jayla Cowell
Most Improved Server – Briana Harris

Varsity girls' volleyball
MVP – Tishonna Riley
Coach's Award – Casey Hall
Most Improved – Josie Derios

Girls' golf
MVP – Fayth Warren
Most Improved – Lindsay Olive

Boys' golf
MVP – Brad Bonville
Most Improved – Bailey Turner
Most Consistent – Zack Wells
Most Dependable – Clayton Cassels

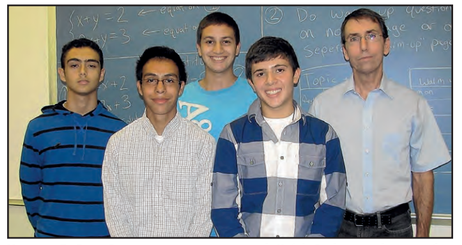
Junior varsity football
Coaches Award – Julio Gaitan
MVP Defense – Garrett Little
MVP Offense – Hunter Browning
Most Improved – Shawn Brown

Varsity football
Offensive MVP – Terrell Gordon
Defensive MVP - Deionte Turner
Team MVP – Kari Williams

Academic 4.0
JV Football – Devin Johnson
JV Volleyball – Sarah Bennett
JV Volleyball – Hannah Lambright
JV Volleyball – Briana Harris
JV Volleyball - Kayli Harrison
Varsity Volleyball – Josie Deriso
Varsity Volleyball – Jillian Deriso

DeSoto County boys' golf coach Charlie Hall poses with the team MVP Brad Bonville.

The district champion varsity Bulldogs volleyball team relax together after the awards were presented.



Veteran DeSoto County cross country coach Keith Carlton and some of the runners of his team.

Some of the junior varsity volleyball team members gather at the awards ceremony Dec. 9.

Cathie Schaper, coach of the girls cross country team, stands with some of the girls on her team.

Dawgs lose wild one to Lemon Bay

By STEVE KNAPP
Arcadian Sports Director

Before the junior varsity basketball game started at Lemon Bay Dec. 10, I told JV coach Darby Ellis that based on what I'd seen from both teams so far this season, his team should win by a big amount and they did. I told varsity coach Richard Koonce his game would probably go down the last shot and end up a two- or three-point game, and it did. How it got to that point was exciting and unpredictable.

With 15 seconds left in the game and the score tied at 57, a Lemon Bay steal and basket put them up 59-57. The proper coaching move would be to call timeout and design a play for the final shot, which is what Koonce did.

One official heard his request, but the roar of the Manta fans after the basket that put them ahead drowned out his whistle. The players kept on playing and leading scorer Kari Williams nailed a three pointer with three seconds left to give the Bulldogs an apparent 60-59 win.

"I was mad because I thought we won the game but we didn't," Williams said. Coach did what he was supposed to do with the timeout but we never heard the whistle."

During the timeout, the Bulldogs drew up a shot to win the game. That shot was never taken as a three-second violation was called against DeSoto County. That put an end to the Bulldogs' chance to win the game and gave them a 60-57 district loss.

DAWGS | 24

ARCADIAN PHOTO BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

Chris Montgomery comes down with an offensive board and goes right back up for two of his 14 points in the loss at Lemon Bay Dec. 10.

ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

The Bulldogs' Jordan Lawson draws a foul from Lemon Bay's Tom Morgan (2) as he splits the Manta defense. Lawson finished the game with nine points as DeSoto County won 52-34.

Third quarter flurry propels JV boys

By STEVE KNAPP
Arcadian Sports Director

The Lemon Bay junior varsity boys basketball team hosted the DeSoto County Bulldogs Dec. 10. The teams had several things in common, including losses to Sebring and each team beat Hardee for their first win of the season.

The Mantas pulled in front 7-2 in the first six minutes of play as both teams had trouble finding the bottom of the net and also struggled with turnovers. The scoreboard got a workout, however, as nine points were scored in the final two minutes and the teams were knotted at nine heading into the second period.

Nirion Washington's free throw put the Bulldogs ahead 10-9, and with another Washington bucket and a three pointer by Jordan Lawson the Bulldogs went ahead 15-9. The Bulldogs never trailed again as they outscored the Mantas 20-11 in the period.

Washington led with nine points at the half, including three-for-four on free throws. Caleb Blackwood had six points, Shawn Brown had five and Lawson contributed four.

Earl Grace puts up a shot for the Bulldogs in their 52-34 win over Lemon Bay Dec. 10.

Taking charge after halftime

The second half opened with the Bulldogs in their zone press, which put pressure on the Mantas and caused

FLURRY | 24

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By STEVE KNAPP
Arcadian Sports Director

DeSoto County High School

• The boys' basketball teams split against Lemon Bay, with the junior varsity team winning 52-34 and the varsity losing a close battle 60-57.

• The varsity boys then lost another three-point game against the Tenoroc Titans out of Lakeland 65-62.

• The girls' basketball teams hosted Lemon Bay, with the JV team escaping with a 28-27 win while the varsity team lost 55-46.

• The girls' JV team also played Community Christian and tamed the Mustangs 41-15.

• The soccer teams did well against Booker, as both the boys' and girls' teams beat the Tornadoes by the same 8-0 score. The teams didn't fare as well against Cardinal Mooney, however, as the girls lost 8-0 and the boys lost 4-3.

PHOTO BY DAVE BREMER

Malyssa Jeter fights for a ball against a a Hill-Gustat player. Jeter was named Beef O'Brady's Athlete of the Week after scoring 24 points in two games.

DeSoto County Middle School

• The boys' basketball team defeated Sebring 41-14, while the girls lost their game against the Blue Streaks 21-20. The girls team also defeated Hill-Gustat 12-9.

• The Lady Panthers scored 32 total points in their two games, with 24 of them coming from Malyssa Jeter. For her outstanding efforts on the court, Jeter won the Beef O'Brady's Athlete of the Week award. As part of the honor, the Arcadia Beef O'Brady's rewarded Jeter with a $10 gift certificate to the restaurant.

Upcoming games

• The boys' basketball team (varsity only) will host New Beginnings at 7:30 p.m. tonight. Both the JV and varsity squads will visit Lake Placid tomorrow night.

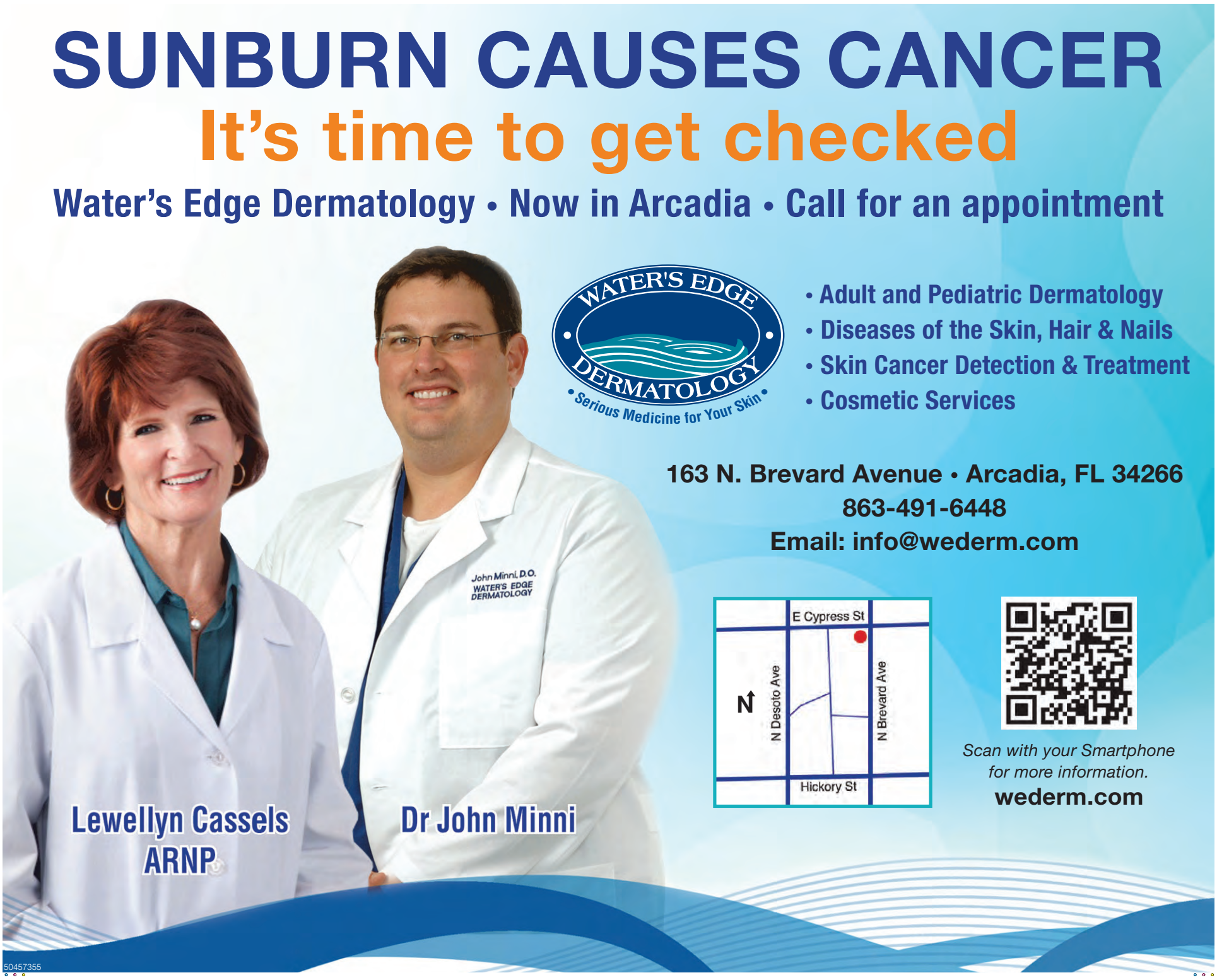
• The girls' JV and varsity basketball teams will visit Braden River tonight.

• The soccer teams are finished until after the new year.

JV girls roll past Community Christian 41-15

ARCADIAN PHOTO BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

The junior varsity Lady Bulldogs' Esmerelda Mar drives toward the basket in a game against Community Christian Dec. 12. Mar led the team with 10 points as DeSoto County dominated the Mustangs 41-15.



Memorial chorus sings in the holidays

PHOTO PROVIDED

The Memorial Elementary School Chorus performed their holiday concert for students and parents last week. The chorus, under the direction of Music Teacher Luke Jones and staffing specialist Shannon Rhea, helped establish a festive holiday spirit at school as everyone began to look forward to the winter break and Christmas. The chorus is made up of more than 80 fourth and fifth grade students. Pictured is the full chorus with Jones directing.

Donations, chorus highlight Auxiliary holiday luncheon

Three rooms at the Kingsway Golf Club were filled with presents donated by the Kingsway Woman's Auxilary. The toys and other items are for needy and special needs children from Arcadia.

PHOTOS BY JOHN BLACK, photeke@gmail.com

The Desoto Middle School girls' show chorus performed for the Women's Auxiliary at the Kingsway Golf Club. The choir is directed by Carrie Guffy.

Members of the Women's Auxiliary enjoyed the wonderful harmonies of the. Desoto Middle School Boys Show Chorus directed by Carrie Guffy.

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Growing culinary and ornamental kale

Over the Garden Gate

Al & Karen Smoke

ksmoke@embarqmail.com

Kale is probably one of the most nutritious greens. There are varieties of kale grown for culinary use, and others grown as ornamentals. Both are known as Brassica oleracea. The frilly leaves of both are often used as garnish, but kale is such a super food, it should be a regular part of your diet.

The American Cancer Society recommends increasing intake of kale, cabbage and other brassicas. Steaming kale helps release the antioxidant, anti-inflammatory and anticancer compounds and makes them more readily available. With 7 grams of fiber per 100 calories, kale is a good source of fiber. Kale can also provide you with some special cholesterol-lowering benefits.

Although collards are still the preferred southern green, it is estimated one in 10 Florida gardeners grow kale. There are smooth leaf varieties and curly leaf forms. We find aphids are less of a problem on the curly kale such as 'Blue Curled Scotch.' 'Red Russian' develops a magenta hue after frost.

Kale is an easy cool-season crop. It will thrive in full sun to half shade. Kale may be seeded or transplanted September through March, but best results will be during the coolest months. You can begin picking leaves from kale in about 30 days. Snap leaves from the stem by pulling downward, leaving the central bud leaves to continue to grow. Harvest entire plants to thin out to about 8 inches between plants, and your kale will continue to grow until warm weather. Like other members of this family, cold weather sweetens kale.

Ornamental varieties have been developed for their showy rosettes that resemble flowers. Color may be combinations of green, purple, blue, red, pink and white. Varieties with ruffled leaves are called ornamental kale; those with smoother leaves are sometimes called ornamental cabbage. While not a true flower, they offer long lasting color with an unusual look. Growing ornamental kale from seed would be difficult in Florida, as it takes about 2½ months of cool weather with temperatures in the 50s for the plants to develop the showy rosette. The central leaves lose their chlorophyll as temperatures drop. But you'll find ornamental kale and cabbage plants at garden centers already at "blooming" stage.

Ornamental kale makes a good border plant and plants should be spaced about one foot apart. Or it may be grown in a container. Potted plants may be root-bound; repotting to a larger container and adding some pelleted slow release fertilizer will prolong the life of your plant.

Although the ornamental varieties are edible, some are not palatable. Plant growth regulators are sometimes applied to ornamental cabbage and kale grown as non-food crops. Plus, nursery grown plants may have been treated with pesticides not labeled for use on food crops. If you haven't grown it yourself, it is best not to eat it.

Butterflies are attracted to all members of the Brassica family, because many caterpillars use these plants as food. Caterpillars will eat holes in the leaves, making them less attractive. Hand-picking them is usually adequate. Flea beetles, whiteflies, thrips, slugs, and aphids occasionally bother ornamental kale. Root maggots may be a problem in some areas. Potential disease problems include leaf spots, blackleg, black rot and yellows. Both culinary and flowering kale can tolerate 15 to 20 degrees, although tips of leaves may be damaged. Tip burn may also be caused by a lack of calcium.

When buying culinary kale, look for firm deeply colored leaves without signs of wilting. Smaller sized leaves are more tender. Do not wash kale before storing as water will promote rot. Store kale in a plastic storage bag for up to five days. Kale becomes bitter when stored longer. Wash whole kale leaves well before cooking. Cook kale by steaming. Cut or tear into pieces. Let the kale sit while you bring water to a boil in a steamer pot. Sprinkle with a bit of lemon juice if desired. Steam for five minutes, stir so all leaves are evenly cooked. Don't drain the cooking water down the sink — use it for soup stock.

Some simple ideas for serving kale: Braise chopped kale and apples. Before serving, sprinkle with balsamic vinegar and chopped walnuts. Combine chopped steamed kale, pine nuts, and feta cheese with whole grain pasta, drizzle with olive oil. Or enjoy the Irish dish colcannon — add steamed kale to mashed potatoes.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY COMMONS WIKIMEDIA.ORG (KIRK INGO FRANKE)

Kale is probably one of the most nutritious greens. Steaming kale helps release the antioxidant, anti-inflammatory nutrients and anticancer compounds and makes them more readily available. With 7 grams of fiber per 100 calories, kale is a good source of fiber. Kale can also provide you with some special cholesterol-lowering benefits.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY COMMONS WIKIMEDIA.ORG (RASBACK)

Kale is an easy cool-season crop. It will thrive in full sun to half shade. Kale may be seeded or transplanted September through March, but best results will be during the coolest months.

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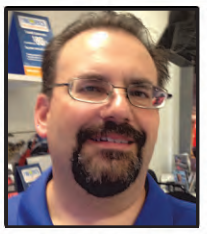

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THIS WEEK IN DESOTO COUNTY

Compiled from back issues of *The Arcadian*

Hayley Mercer
hayleymariemercer@gmail.com

1963:

• Bob G. Martin, in his second session as football coach for DeSoto High School, has been named Ridge Conference Coach of the Year. Martin brought a team, selected to finish fifth in the preseason pool of coaches, to the championship. This was the team who finished last year with a 5-5 record and tied for third place in the conference. This year the team finished undefeated in the conference and suffered a lone defeat at the hands of Punta Gorda in 10 games.

• Other business on hand at the banquet was the selecting of the All-Conference Team. Selected for the fist team were Joe Waldron, back; Robert Womack, back; and Jim Yarbrough, tackle. On the second team were end Billy Nicholson and guard Dickie Johnson.

• Howard Melton, and daughter Miss Patti Melton, both students of Travecca Nazarene College, Nashville, Tennessee, arrived Saturday to spend the holidays here with his mother, Mrs. J.T. Melton and other relatives.

1968:

• Despite being marred by injuries the All Florida Saddle Club completed its last Showdeo of the year and awarded trophies to the high point winners for the year. Laren Harmon led the senior riders and Evelyn Twiss was junior champion. In the first event of the day the Starnes family dominated the Pee Wee barrel race with Susie Starnes first, Jack Starnes, second and Jenny Starnes, third. Amy Welles paced the junior barrel runners. Runt Smith was the winner in the jackpot calf roping and Ralph Carlton of Nocatee followed with second place.

• **TO THE EDITOR:** Present days records indicate that Acadia and Wauchula football teams have played 48 games but one game does not appear in that record. The game not on record was played on a Friday afternoon back in Oct. 1909. Wauchula was then in DeSoto County, the teachers were holding a meeting in that town, so the students had a holiday. Thus a football game was scheduled here in Arcadia. Arcadia won the game 21-0. I played fullback and did the kicking for the Wauchula team. One of the punts I remember to this day. We had very little equipment. Some of the players had nose guards but I don't remember any helmets. I had nothing but my uniform. A fellow later gave me a helmet. The fellow? Dana X. Bible, who during his early life spent about a year in DeSoto County. As you know he went on to become one of the leading figures in football, as head coach at Texas A&M, Nebraska, and the University of Texas. BERT CLOSE

1973:

• Although the 93 DeSoto High School students who made the honor roll by getting all As & Bs for the first nine-week grading period were announced last week, an even more exclusive group was omitted from the official release. These were the nine students who received As in all of their subjects during the period according to Principal Glen. E. Gray, who lists them on a special roll. These students were: Michelle Garner, Layne Guidry, Holly Gulla, Patricia Schoknecht, Alex Walker, John Harmon, Shawn Johnson, Deborah Clody and Patti Kay Hamrich.

• John Walson Parker has been retired since 1957. Officially, that is. But certainly no one who knows John and is acquainted with his activities would put much credence in the accuracy of the statement. After all, a man who operates one of Arcadia's busiest real estate firms, owns approximately 100 homes within the city, owns and operates a complex of 18 deluxe apartment units and is planning to add 20 more units really doesn't sound very retired.

• Michael Wade Ritch celebrated his first birthday anniversary with a party given by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Ritch Jr., at their home in Brownsville. Guests were Beth Ann Browning, Robbie Reed, Julie Reed, Brian Burtscher, Jake Murphy, Kim Murphy and Michael Kelly.

• A new fast-food restaurant, the Wantaburger, opened for the first time at 4 p.m. last Wednesday. The manager, Harley Jenkins, said over 800 large hamburgers were sold the first evening, as well as so many of the smaller size that count was lost.

• **Dear Santa:** I like you very much and I would like you to bring me all to me, please if you will. This is what I want please. I want some skates and a Barbie (with some clothes to) and that is all. Love, Julie Sorrells

• Arcadia's radio station, WAPG, was knocked off the air for more than 30 hours last weekend by a fire that broke out about daybreak last Thursday, gutted most of the firm's building on West Asbury St. and destroyed much of the equipment.

1983:

• Airman Carl Watson has been assigned to Lowry Air Force Base, Colorado, after completing Air Force basic training. The airman will now receive specialized instruction in the munitions and weapons maintenance field. Watson is a 1983 graduate of DeSoto High School.

• U.S. Army P.F.C. D. L. Brantley is now stationed at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma. His basic training is in the artillery. Ronnie Brantley is stationed at Ft. Lewis, Washington. He is studying generator and diesel mechanics.

• Congratulations to Carolyn and Robert Hoyt who will celebrate their 22nd Anniversary on December 22.

USDA reduces citrus crop estimate

Provided By Florida Citrus Mutual

The U.S. Department of Agriculture now forecasts the 2013-2014 Florida orange crop at 121 million boxes, down 3 percent from its initial estimate in November.

The USDA estimated early-mid orange varieties at 56 million, down 2 million, and Valencia at 65 million, also down 2 million from November. The USDA blamed the decrease on fruit drop and smaller sizes.

"HLB continues to rear its ugly head and this decrease can be directly attributed to the stress caused by the disease," said Michael W. Sparks, executive VP/CEO of Florida Citrus Mutual. "This small crop size shows how damaging HLB, or citrus greening, can be and that growers are in a fight for their lives."

The USDA makes its initial estimate in October of each year and revises it monthly as the crop takes shape until the end of the season in July. However, the federal government shutdown delayed the initial estimate until Friday Nov. 8.

The USDA's estimate of the 2013-2014 Florida grapefruit crop is now 16.7 million boxes down 1.1 million from November. Specialty fruit is now at 4.6 million boxes, down 150,000. The yield for frozen concentrate orange juice is up slightly to 1.61 gallons per 90-pound box.

During the 2012-2013 season, Florida produced 133.6 million boxes of oranges.

During the 2011-2012 season, Florida produced 146.6 million boxes of oranges.

GIVING

FROM PAGE 11

says the idea is a result of some the negative situations he's seen when assisting families through Toys for Tots, adding that more attention needs to be given to the community's youth. He says that if you're thinking about volunteering your time to the community, he could use all the extra hands he can get.

"I know there are a lot of great people in this community who want to help, but don't know where to start," he said. "We have a great need in DeSoto for people to help our children here, and this would be a chance to really make a difference. It really doesn't take much of your time to make a world of difference out there, and it's a gift you can give that is truly priceless to those who receive it."

Thanks!
For Your Support

Be sure and stop in and thank these local businesses who believe that a well-informed citizen is important for our community:
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GENERAL 2100

39 workers needed for Car Two to harvest citrus, 11/18/13 to 6/30/14, workers are paid various piece rates, but will be guaranteed $9.97 per hour, job location is in Center and South Florida, this job opportunity is temporary, 36 hours per week guaranteeing at least 3/4 of the time offered, free housing is provided to workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of the work day, transportation and subsistence expenses to the work site will be provided by the employer upon completion of the 50% of the work contract, tools, equipment and supplies will be provided at no cost, workers interested can apply for this job at the nearest State Work Agency with job order FL9818797

47 workers needed for Becerra Enterprises to harvest citrus, 11/24/13 to 5/24/14, workers are paid various piece rates, but will be guaranteed $9.97 per hour, job location is in De Soto County Florida, this job opportunity is temporary, 36 hours per week guaranteeing at least 3/4 of the time offered, free housing is provided to workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of the work day, transportation and subsistence expenses to the work site will be provided by the employer upon completion of the 50% of the work contract, tools, equipment and supplies will be provided at no cost, workers interested can apply for this job at the nearest State Work Agency with job order FL9822976

Great Deals in the Classifieds!

99 workers needed for Car Two to harvest citrus, 11/18/13 to 6/15/14, workers are paid various piece rates, but will be guaranteed $9.97 per hour, job location is in Center and South Florida, this job opportunity is temporary, 36 hours per week guaranteeing at least 3/4 of the time offered, free housing is provided to workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of the work day, transportation and subsistence expenses to the work site will be provided by the employer upon completion of the 50% of the work contract, tools, equipment and supplies will be provided at no cost, workers interested can apply for this job at the nearest State Work Agency with job order FL9818788

GENERAL 2100

UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA
The University of Florida, Range Cattle REC at Ona, is currently seeking short term employment - primarily building and repairing fence. Tractor and farm equipment operation with experience working on a farm or ranch required. Salary $11.00/hr. To apply call 863-735-1314

NOTICE OF ACTION 3116

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL DIVISION
CASE NO. 2013CA000758
Earl L. Carpenter and Diane VanSickle,
Plaintiffs,
vs
Susan M. Creameans, her unknown spouse, heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, successors in interest, assignees, lienors, trustees, beneficiaries, and all other parties claiming by, through, under, or against her,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: Defendant, Susan M. Creameans, her unknown spouse, heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, successors in interest, assignees, lienors, trustees, and all other parties claiming by, through, under, or against her; all unknown natural persons if alive, and if dead or not known to be dead or alive, their several and respective unknown spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, and creditors, or other parties claiming by, through, or under those unknown natural persons; the several and respective unknown assigns, successors in interest, trustees, or any other person claiming by, through, under, or against any corporation or other legal entity named or described as a defendant; and all claimants, persons or parties, natural or corporate, or whose exact legal status is unknown, claiming under any of the above named or described defendants, or parties claiming to have any right, title, or interest in the property hereafter described, except for parties claiming by, through or under these Plaintiffs, and ALL OTHERS WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to Quiet Title on the following real property in DeSoto County, Florida:

Parcel 12: Begin at the NE corner of NE 1/4 of NE 1/4 of Section 8, Township 37 South, Range 25 East, thence N 89° degrees 40' West along North line of said tract 245.0 feet; thence South and parallel to East line of said tract 467.0 ft.; thence S 0° 01" degrees 01" West 55.0 ft. to P.O.B.; thence continue same line 68.0 ft.; thence N 89° degrees 40' West 248.63 ft.; thence N 68.0 ft.; thence S 89° 40' East 248.65 ft. to P.O.B.

a/k/a 5104 NE Sandy Road, Arcadia, Florida 34266.

Parcel Identification Number: 08-37-25-0100-0000-0120.

Subject to reservations, restrictions and easements of record. has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Sandra Sanders, the plaintiffs' attorney, whose address is P.O. Box 903, Arcadia, Florida 34265, on or before January 12, 2014, and file the original with the clerk of this court either before service on the plaintiffs' attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

Dated on December 9, 2013.
MITZIE McGAVIC
Clerk of the Court
By: /s/ N. Daughtrey
as Deputy Clerk Published 12/12/13, 12/19/13, 12/26/13 & 1/2/14 203886 2976475

NOTICE OF ACTION 3116

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 13DR765
DIVISION:
Yolidabeth Ferrer,
Petitioner
and
Santos Degollado, Jr.,
Respondent.

NOTICE OF ACTION FOR Temporary Custody By Extended Family

TO: Santos Degollado, Jr.
Last known address:
Bonita Springs

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 Yolidabeth Ferrer whose address is 115 East Oak Street, Arcadia, FL 34266 on or before January 13, 2014, 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. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.**

Dated December 11, 2013.
MITZIE W. MCGAVIC
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
By: /s/ Marlene Harris
Deputy Clerk
Published 12/12/13, 12/19/13, 12/26/13, 1/2/14 131159 2976684

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2013CA757
DIVISION: CIVIL
D. D. GERACI and CHARLES KING, as Co-Trustees of the Geraci-King Ranch Trust dated July 27, 2005,
Plaintiffs,
v.

NOTICE OF ACTION 3116

MILLARD H. STOVER, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, KAREN TINKER, DIANE BEECHAM, KENNETH HOLMAN HUFFINES, DANIEL BIGRAS, FERN BIGRAS, ELON COLLEGE, a North Carolina Non-Profit Corporation, JOHN G. MUNROE, KATHLEEN MUNROE, HOWARD EDWIN PERRY as Administrator of the Estate of Leon Irving Perry, LEON IRVING PERRY, FAITH L. WILEY, GLORIA WILEY a/k/a GLORIAWOLF, LEON IRVING PERRY, BEN H. BELL, ALBERT E. BRINK, JR., IRVING SCHLOSSBERG, JEANETTE SCHLOSSBERG, UNKNOWN TRUSTEE OF THE SCHLOSSBERG FAMILY TRUST, VOLUSIA WHOLESALE LAND & PROPERTY, JAMES KELLY, JOHN DOE AND JANE DOE,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: Defendants Millard H. Stover, United States of America, Karen Tinker, Diane Beecham, Kenneth Holman Huffines, Daniel Bigras, Fern Bigras, Elon College, a North Carolina Non-Profit Corporation, John G. Munroe, Kathleen Munroe, Howard Edwin Perry, as Administrator of the Estate of Leon Irving Perry, Leon Irving Perry, Faith L. Wiley, Gloria Wiley a/k/a Gloria Wolfe, Leon Irving Perry, Ben H. Bell, Albert E. Brink, Jr., Irving Schlossberg, Jeanette Schlossberg, Unknown Trustee of the Schlossberg Family Trust, Volusia Wholesale Land & Property, James Kelly, John Doe and Jane Doe (the latter two names being fictitious to account for unknown defendants), and each of the foregoing defendants' unknown spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, and all other parties claiming by, through, under, or against any of the foregoing defendants, and all unknown persons who may otherwise have an interest in the property hereinafter described, and their unknown spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, and creditors, or other parties claiming by, through, or under those unknown persons, and the several and respective unknown assigns, successors-in-interest, trustees, or any other person claiming by, through, under, or against any corporation or other legal entity named as a defendant, and all claimants, persons or parties, natural or corporate, or whose exact legal status is unknown, claiming under any of the above named or described defendants or parties or claiming to have any right, title, or interest in the property hereinafter described, except for parties claiming by, through or under this Plaintiff, **and ALL OTHERS WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to quiet title on real property in DeSoto County, Florida, has been filed against you. The property is described as: Tracts 55, 86, 257, 300, 440, 688, 703, 707, 719, 724, 1050, PEACE RIVER ESTATES, SECTION 1, according to the map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 10, Page 1, of the Public records of DeSoto County, Florida, less all gas, oil and mineral rights. You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses to the lawsuit, if any, on Paul Bennett Seusy, Esquire, the plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 203 West Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida 34266, on or before January 10, 2014 and file the original with the Clerk of this court at 115 East

NOTICE OF ACTION 3116

Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida 34266, either before service on the plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition. Dated 9, 2013. MITZIE MCGAVIC
Clerk of the Court
By: /s/ Marlene Harris Deputy Clerk Published 12/19/13 & 12/26/13 325434 2978648

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 3120

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
File No.: 13-CP-000091AXMX
IN RE: ESTATE OF
JOSEPHA CASTILLO
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of JOSEPHA CASTILLO, deceased, whose date of death was August 2, 2013; File Number 13-CP-000091 AXMX, is pending in the Circuit Court for Desoto County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 115 East Oak Street, Arcadia, FL 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 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 PERIOD SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
Derek B. Alvarez, Esquire - FBN: 114278
dba@gendersalvarez.com
Anthony F. Diecidue, Esquire - FBN: 146528
afd@gendersalvarez.com
GENDERS, ALVAREZ, DIECIDUE, P.A.
2307 West Cleveland Street
Tampa, Florida 33609
Phone: (813) 254-4744
Fax: (813) 254-5222
MARIA ELENA CASTILLO
Personal Representative
311 N. 10th Avenue
Arcadia, FL 34266
Published 12/19/13 & 12/26/13 103980 2976210

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO: 13CP088
IN RE: The Estate of:
WILLIAM I. BOGGESS,
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of William I. Boggess, deceased, whose date of death was September 16, 2013, and the last four digits of whose social security number are 5557, is pending in the Circuit Court in and for DeSoto County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 115 E. Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida 34266. The name and address 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 THREE MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY 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 the decedent's estate must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THREE 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 the first publication of this Notice is December 19, 2013.
GREEN SCHOENFELD & KYLE LLP Attorneys at Law
Attorneys for Pers. Rep.
1380 Royal Palm Square Blvd.
Fort Myers, Florida 33919
(239) 936-7200
BY:/s/BRUCE D. GREEN, ESQUIRE For the Firm
Florida Bar No. 260533
Diane J. Boggess, Pers. Rep.
P.O. Box 2
Fort Ogden, Florida 34267
Published 12/19/13 & 12/26/13 106443 2978639

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2013-CP-092
Division Twelfth
IN RE: ESTATE OF
Richard W. Biehl
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of Richard W. Biehl, deceased, whose date of death was October 25, 2013, and whose social security number are xxx-xx-6867, 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 WITHING 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 December 12, 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:
Kathy Biehl
9401 SW Lipe Road
Arcadia, Florida 34269
Published 12/12/13 & 12/19/13 228541 2976226

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE 3122

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
Case No.:
14-2012-CA-000814
Section:
BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.
Plaintiff,
v.
UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, LIENORS AND OTHER PARTIES TAKING INTEREST UNDER RANDALL C. HOPKINS; AND MARY L. HOPKINS.
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF ACTION FOR FORECLOSURE PROCEEDING-PROPERTY

TO:
UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, LIENORS AND OTHER PARTIES TAKING INTEREST UNDER RANDALL C. HOPKINS, ADDRESS UNKNOWN BUT WHOSE LAST KNOWN ADDRESS IS:
UNKNOWN
Residence unknown, if living, including any unknown spouse of the said Defendants, if either has remarried and if either or both of said Defendant(s) are dead, their respective unknown heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, creditors, lienors, and trustees, and all other persons claiming by, through, under or against the named Defendant(s); and the aforementioned named Defendant(s) and such of the aforementioned unknown Defendants and such of the aforementioned unknown Defendant(s) as may be infants, incompetents or otherwise not sui juris. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action has been commenced to foreclose a mortgage on the following real property, lying and being and situated in DeSoto County, Florida, more particularly described as follows: LOTS, 15,16,17 AND 18 OF HORSE CREEK ACRES, A SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, PAGES 45A AND 45B, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA. COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 7912 Southwest Horse Creek Road, Arcadia, FL 34266 This action has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defense, if any, such Morris Hardwick Schneider, LLC, Attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is 5110 Eisenhower Blvd, Suite 302A, Tampa, FL 33634 on or before January 13, 2014 and file the original with the clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately there after; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. 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, Florida 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 or voice impaired, call 711.** WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on the 2nd day of December, 2013.
Mitzie W. McGavic
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By:/s/ B. Wynn
Deputy Clerk Published 12/12/13 & 12/19/13 329037 2976256

NOTICE OF SALE 3130

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.: 2009-CA-000630
DIVISION:
THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK,AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF CWALT, INC., ALTERNATIVE LOAN TRUST 2004-36CB MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2004-36CB,
Plaintiff,
vs.
DAVID G. FAN A/K/A DAVID GIA FAN, et al,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated November 26, 2013, and entered in Case No. 2009-CA-000630 of the Circuit Court of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit in and for DeSoto County, Florida in which The Bank Of New York Mellon f/k/a The Bank Of New York,as Trustee For The Certificateholders Of CWALT, Inc., Alternative Loan Trust 2004-36CB Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2004-36CB, is the Plaintiff and DAVID G. FAN a/k/a DAVID GIA FAN, MYLOAN THI NGUYEN, are defendants, the DeSoto County Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in/on the DeSoto County Courthouse, 115 Oak Street, Arcadia, FL 34266; DeSoto County, Florida at 11:00AM on the 9th day of January, 2014, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure:
ALL OF LOT 5 AND THE NE 1/2 OF LOT 4, BLOCK H, OF RIDGEWOOD SUBDIVISION, A SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 85, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA.
A/K/A 235 MACON RD, ARCADIA, FL 34266
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 in Hillsborough County, Florida on this 4th day of December, 2013.
/s/ Erik Del'Etoile
Erik Del'Etoile, Esq.
FL Bar # 71675
Albertelli Law
Attorney for Plaintiff
P.O. Box 23028
Tampa, FL 33623
(813) 221-4743
eService:
servealaw@albertellilaw.com
11-68845
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the DeSoto County Court's ADA Coordinator at 115 E. Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida 34266, (863)993-4876 for voice or (800) 955-8771 for hearing impaired, within two working days of your receipt of this document. TDD users may also call 1-800-955-8771 for the Florida Relay Service. To file response please contact DeSoto County Clerk of Court, 115 E. Oak Street, Room 101, Arcadia, FL 34266, Tel: (863) 993-4876; Fax: (863) 993-4669. Published 12/12/13 & 12/19/13 272484 2974546

IN THE CIRCUIT CIVIL COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY
CIVIL DIVISION
Case No.
14-2011-CA-001003
Division 1
SUNTRUST MORTGAGE, INC.
Plaintiff,
vs.
MARILYN K. VAN DYK A/K/A MARILYN VAN DYK , LAKE PEMBROKE HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., SUNTRUST BANK , AND UNKNOWN TENANTS/OWNERS,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Final Judgment of Foreclosure for Plaintiff entered in this cause on November 25, 2013, in the Circuit Court of Desoto County, Florida, The Clerk of the Court will sell the property situated in Desoto County, Florida described as:
LOT 20, BLOCK 8, LAKE PEMBROKE SUBDIVISION , AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, PAGES 85 THROUGH 85B , OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA. and commonly known as: 12750 SW KINGSWAY CIR, LAKE SUZY, FL 34269; including the building, appurtenances, and fixtures located therein, at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, **on front steps of the DeSoto County Courthouse**, on January 9, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. Any persons 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 27th day of November, 2013. CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT Mitzie W. McGavic
By: /s/ B. Wynn
Deputy Clerk
Invoice to:
Edward B. Pritchard
(813) 229-0900 x1309
Kass Shuler, P.A.
P.O. Box 800
Tampa, FL 33601-0800
ForeclosureService@kasslaw.com Published 12/12/13 & 12/19/13 101348 2974529

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
Case No.:
14 2009 CA 000696
Section: _____
PENNYMAC CORP.
Plaintiff,
v.
JOSEPH PURSELL; 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, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC.; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE; JOHN DOE N/K/A PEDRO MARTINEZ; JANE DOE N/K/A MARCH E. FOX-MARTINEZ,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order of Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure dated December 11, 2013 entered in Civil Case No. 14 2009 CA 000696 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 27th day of March, 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 AND THE SOUTH 1/2 OF LOT 16, BLOCK 4, TIER 4, A.W. GILCHRIST`S EAST END ADDITION TO ARCADIA, AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 27, AND RE-RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK C-5, PAGE 48. 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.
AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in a court proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance: Please contact DeSoto County Jury Office, 115 East Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida 34266. Telephone: (863) 993-4876. If you are hearing or voice impaired, please call 711. Dated at ARCADIA, Florida this 12th day of December, 2013
By: /s/ B. Wynn
Mitzie W. McGavic
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
DeSoto COUNTY, FLORIDA
Published 12/19/13 & 12/26/13 276862 2978351

IN THE CIRCUIT CIVIL COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY
CIVIL DIVISION
Case No. 14-2012-CA-000513
Division
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WACHOVIA BANK, N.A.
Plaintiff,
vs.
ULISES HERNANDEZ AND UNKNOWN TENANTS/OWNERS,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Final Judgment of Foreclosure for Plaintiff entered in this cause on June 24, 2013, in the Circuit Court of Desoto County, Florida, The Clerk of the Court will sell the property situated in Desoto County, Florida described as:
PARCEL 'A' OF CHAPMAN SUBDIVISION AS RECORDED IN MINOR PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 147, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN AT THE SE CORNER OF SECTION 21, TOWNSHIP 39 SOUTH, RANGE 25 EAST, DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA; THENCE WEST ALONG SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 21, 680.78 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE SAME LINE, 651.34 FEET TO THE SW CORNER OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SE 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 21; THENCE N 00 DEGREES 01'22" WEST ALONG WEST LINE OF SAID TRACT, 802.21 FEET; THENCE EAST AND PARALLEL TO SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 21, 651.34 FEET; THENCE S 00 DEGREES 01'22" E, 802.21 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SUBJECT TO A 10 FOOT DRAINAGE EASEMENT ALONG THE WEST SIDE AND LESS RIGHT-OF-WAY TO COUNTY ROAD NO. 763 ALONG THE SOUTH SIDE AND ALSO RESERVATIONS, RESTRICTIONS, AND EASEMENTS OF RECORD. and commonly known as: 11826 SE COUNTY ROAD 763, ARCADIA, FL 34266; including the building, appurtenances, and fixtures located therein, at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, **on front steps of the DeSoto County Courthouse, on January 7, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.** Any persons 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 9 day of December, 2013. CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT Mitzie W. McGavic
By:/s/ B. Wynn
Deputy Clerk
Published 12/12/13 & 12/19/13 101348 2976221

Seize the sales with Classified!

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.:
14-2012-CA-000640
DIVISION:
JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,
Plaintiff,
vs.
BURMA W. WHITMIRE, et al,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated November 18, 2013, and entered in Case No. 14-2012-CA-000640 of the Circuit Court of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit in and for DeSoto County, Florida in which JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, is the Plaintiff and Burma W. Whitmire, Tenant # 1, Tenant # 2, The Unknown Spouse of Burma W. Whitmire, are defendants, the DeSoto County Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in/on the DeSoto County Courthouse, 115 Oak Street, Arcadia, FL 34266; www.desotoclerk.com, DeSoto County, Florida at 11:00AM on the 21st day of January, 2014, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure:
18, BLOCK 'B, DESOTO PEACE RIVER HEIGHTS, AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOFRECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FORDESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 63. A/K/A 10350 SW RIVERVIEW CIR ARCADIA FL 34269-7070
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 in Hillsborough County, Florida on this 16th day of December, 2013.
/s/ Erik Del'Etoile
Erik Del'Etoile, Esq.
FL Bar # 71675
Albertelli Law
Attorney for Plaintiff
P.O. Box 23028
Tampa, FL 33623
(813) 221-4743
(813) 221-9171 facsimile
eService:
servealaw@albertellilaw.com
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 Court's ADA Coordinator at 115 E. Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida 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. To file response please contact DeSoto County Clerk of Court, 115 E. Oak Street, Room 101, Arcadia, FL 34266, Tel: (863) 993-4876; Fax: (863) 993-4669. Published 12/19/13 & 12/26/13 272484 2978794

NOTICE OF SALE 3130

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION
Case No.13CA000481
NEW SEASON PROPERTIES, L.L.C,
Plaintiff
V.
NEW SEASON DEVELOPMENT OF DESOTO COUNTY, INC.,
Defendant
NOTICE OF SALE
Notice is hereby given pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure for Plaintiff entered in this cause, in the Circuit Court of DESOTO County, Florida, I will sell the property situated in DESOTO County, Florida described as:
Lots 1 through 11, Block S;, and Lots 4 and 5, Block J; Lot 21, Less the East 15 feet and Lots 11 and 22, Block C; Lots 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23 and 24, Block H; Lots 6, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16, 18, 20, 21, 22 and 23. Block I; Lot 1, Block W; Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, Block V; and Lots 5, 6, and 7, Block U, EL DORADO PARK SUBDIVISION, as per map or plat thereof recorded in the Office of the clerk of the Circuit Court in and for DeSoto County, Florida, in Plat Book 5, Page 71. At public sale, to the highest and best bidder for cash, on the South steps of the Courthouse, 115 E. Oak Street, Arcadia, FL 34266., on January 16, 2013, at 11:00 A.M.
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 DeSoto County Jury Office, 115 East Oak Street Arcadia, Florida 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. DATED this 27th day of November, 2013.
MITZIE W. MCGAVIC
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
By: /s/ B. Wynn
Deputy Clerk
Published 12/12/13 & 12/19/13
119616 2974593

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.
2013-CA-000510 AXMA
JMP SOLUTIONS, INC.,
a Florida corporation,
Plaintiff,
vs.
JAMES O'LEARY d/b/a
U-ING OIL,
Defendant.

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

Notice is given pursuant to a Final Judgment in Foreclosure filed December 12, 2013 in Case No. 2013-CA-000510 AXMA, of the Circuit Court of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit in and for DeSoto County, Florida, in which JMP SOLUTIONS, INC., a Florida corporation, is the Plaintiff and JAMES O'LEARY, d/b/a U-ING OIL is the Defendant, I will sell to the highest bidder for cash at the DeSoto County Clerk's Office, on the Courthouse steps, 115 E. Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida, at 11:00 A.M. on February 6, 2014, the following described property set forth in the Final Judgment in Foreclosure:
STRAP #:
23-38-24-0000-0182.0000
COMMENCE AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER of Section 23, Township 38 South, Range 24 East, DeSoto County, Florida; thence North 89 degrees 28'52" West along the North line of said Section 23, 1688.47 feet to the West Right-of-Way of new alignment of State Road 35 (US #17) for Point of Beginning; thence continue same line, 279.29 feet to the East Right-of-Way of the SCL Railroad (Old Atlantic Coast Line Railroad); thence South 21 degrees 15'07" West along said East Right-of-Way, 515.48 feet; thence South 70 degrees 40'03" East, 483.12 feet to the West Right-of-Way line of new alignment of State Road #35 (US #17); thence North 19 degrees 19'57" East along said Right-of-Way, 215.76 feet; thence North 70 degrees 40'03" West along said Right-of-Way, 201.49 feet; thence North 19 degrees 20'01" East along said Right-of-Way, 389.50 feet to the Point of Beginning. 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 filed herein, must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. DATED on December 12, 2013. MITZIE W. McGAVIC
As Clerk of said Court
By: /s/ B. Wynn
Deputy Clerk
J. Jeffrey Rice
Goldstein, Buckley, Cechman, Rice & Purtz, P.A.
P.O. Box 2366
Fort Myers, Florida 33902
(239) 332-9425 Published 12/19/13 & 12/26/13 285272 2978947

TAX DEEDS 3132

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: 1065
Issuance Date: MAY 27, 2011
Tax Deed File #: 13-46-TD
Description of Property:
LOTS 1 AND 2, BLOCK 20, FLORACADIA SUBDIVISION, AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 2. TOGETHER WITH A 1993 SKYLINE BUDDY MOTOR HOME. IDENTIFICATION #42611034F. TITLE #64101975. RP# 0553341.
Names in which assessed:
ARCHIE L MACINNIS ESTATE
2419 SW CHARLOTTE ST
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 JANUARY 22, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.
Dated this 16TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2013.
MITZIE W. McGAVIC
CLERK OF COURT
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
By:CRYSTAL HENDERSON,
Deputy Clerk
Publication Dates: 12/19/13, 12/26/13, 1/2/14 & 1/9/14
112132 2978374

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that **US BANK AS CF FL DUNDEE LIEN INV 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: 1727
Issuance Date: MAY 27, 2011
Tax Deed File #: 13-48-TD
Description of Property:
LOT 9, BLOCK 17, KING AND BAKER, AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 105 AND PLAT BOOK C-5, PAGES 63. TOGETHER WITH A 1973 FLEETCRAFT SINGLE WINDE MOBILE HOME. IDENTIFICATION #5L202H2S16831. TITLE #5795049. RP#R0665249.
Names in which assessed:
HOWARD P MILLER ESTATE
1327 SE ADEL ST
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 JANUARY 22, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.
Dated this 11TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2013.
MITZIE W. McGAVIC
CLERK OF COURT
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
By:CRYSTAL HENDERSON,
Deputy Clerk
Publication Dates: 12/19/13, 12/26/13, 1/2/14 & 1/9/14
112132 2978390

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that **US BANK AS CF FL DUNDEE LIEN INV 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: 843
Issuance Date: MAY 28, 2010
Tax Deed File #: 13-49-TD
Description of Property:
THE EAST FIFTY (50') FEET OF LOT 10, BLOCK 3, HENDRY'S SUBDIVISION, LYING IN THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE SW1/4 OF SECTION 1, TOWNSHIP 38 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST, AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 11. **Names in which assessed:**
HOWARD P MILLER ESTATE
1327 SE ADEL ST
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 JANUARY 22, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.
Dated this 11TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2013.
MITZIE W. McGAVIC
CLERK OF COURT
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
By:CRYSTAL HENDERSON,
Deputy Clerk
Publication Dates: 12/19/13, 12/26/13, 1/2/14 & 1/9/14
112132 2978409

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that **US BANK AS CF FL DUNDEE LIEN INV 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: 100
Issuance Date: MAY 27, 2011
Tax Deed File #: 13-50-TD
Description of Property:
LOTS 58, AND 59, PEACE RIVER ACRES SUBDIVISION, AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 68.
Names in which assessed:
HOLY GHOST CHURCH OF GOD PURCHASED WITH HIS BLOOD INC.
PO BOX 35339
ST PETERSBURG, FL 33705
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 JANUARY 22, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.
Dated this 11TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2013.
MITZIE W. McGAVIC
CLERK OF COURT
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
By:CRYSTAL HENDERSON,
Deputy Clerk
Publication Dates: 12/19/13, 12/26/13, 1/2/14 & 1/9/14
112132 2978420

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that **US BANK AS CF FL DUNDEE LIEN INV 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: 506
Issuance Date: MAY 27, 2011
Tax Deed File #: 13-51-TD
Description of Property:
LOT 3, WINDY PINE MANOR, AN UNRECORDED PLAT ALSO DESCRIBED AS: BEG AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE NW1/4 OF THE SE1/4 OF SECTION 33, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST; THENCE S 00 DEGREES 06'E ALONG EAST LINE OF SAID TRACT, 336.93 FEET TO NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF STATE ROAD NO. #72; THENCE S 56 DEGREES 50' W ALONG SAID RIGHT-OF WAY, 200 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE SAME LINE, 100.0 FEET; THENCE N 33 DEGREES 10'W, 200.0 FEET; THENCE N 56 DEGREES 50' E, 100.0 FEET; THENCE S 33 DEGREES 10'E, 200.0 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SUBJECT TO A 3 FOOT EASTMENT ALONG THE NORTH BOUNDARY FOR UTILITIES. ALL LYING AND BEING IN DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA.
Names in which assessed:
ELLA MAY BEAVER
930 CASTLE WAY
LAKELAND, FL 33803
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 JANUARY 22, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.
Dated this 11TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2013.
MITZIE W. McGAVIC
CLERK OF COURT
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
By:CRYSTAL HENDERSON,
Deputy Clerk
Publication Dates: 12/19/13, 12/26/13, 1/2/14 & 1/9/14
112132 2978428

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that **US BANK AS CF FL DUNDEE LIEN INV 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: 378
Issuance Date: MAY 27, 2011
Tax Deed File #: 13-52-TD
Description of Property:
LOTS 9 AND 10, BLOCK "B", A/W/ GILCHRIST'S SUBDIVISION IN THE SOUTH1/2 OF THE SW1/4 OF THE SW1/4 OF SECTION 25, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH, RANGE 25 EAST, AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 65.
Names in which assessed:
PATRICIA GLADFELTER ET/AL
11497 58TH ST N
PINELLAS PARK, FL 33565
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 JANUARY 22, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.
Dated this 11TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2013.
MITZIE W. McGAVIC
CLERK OF COURT
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
By:CRYSTAL HENDERSON,
Deputy Clerk
Publication Dates: 12/19/13, 12/26/13, 1/2/14 & 1/9/14
112132 2978484

OTHER NOTICES 3138

NOTICE OF INTENDED AGENCY ACTION RE: LETTER MODIFICATION TO MOSAIC FERTILIZER LLC WATER USE PERMIT20011400.026 SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) intends to approve a modification of a water use permit issued to Mosaic Fertilizer, LLC, 13830 Circa Crossing Drive, Lithia, FL 33547. Application Number: 20011400.026. Application received: September 20, 2013. Predominant use type(s): industrial/commercial and mining/dewatering. The modification is to make administrative changes in permit conditions and to request technical/operational changes. The modification application does not seek an increase in the total quantities of 69,600,000 average daily gallons per day or 87,000,000 peak month average gallons per day authorized in the current permit, which will be withdrawn from 418 withdrawal points. The proposed modifications meet rule criteria. The facilities are located in Hillsborough and Manatee, southwest Polk, western and central Hardee and western DeSoto Counties in portions of Sections 26-28 and 32-36 of Township 29 South, Range 22 East, Sections 26-29 and 31-35 of Township 29 South, Range 24 East, Sections 1-4, 9, 11, 12, and 24-36 of Township 30 South, Range 22 East, Sections 7-11, and 14-36 of Township 30 South, Range 23 East, Sections 1-17 and 20-35 of Township 30 South, Range 24 East, Section 30 of Township 30 South, Range 25 East, Sections 25-28 and 33-36 of Township 31 South, Range 21 East, Sections 1-3, 9-14, 21-28, and 31-36 of Township 31 South, Range 22 East, Sections 1-30, 35 and 36 of Township 31 South, Range 23 East, Sections 4-10, 15-22, 27-34, and 36 of Township 31 South, Range 24 East, Section 31 of Township 31 South, Range 25 East, Sections 1-4, 9-16, 22-28, and 33-36 of Township 32 South, Range 21 East, Sections 1-36 of Township 32 South, Range 22 East, Sections 1, 5, and 9-36 of Township 32 South, Range 23 East, Sections 1-36 of Township 32 South, Range 24 East, Sections 3, 7, and 9-36 of Township 32 South, Range 25 East, Sections 3, 4, 8-10, 14-22, and 27-34 of Township 32 South, Range 26 East, Sections 1-4, 9-16, 23, 24 and 26 of Township 33 South, Range 21 East, Sections 1-4, 7, 9-16, 24 and 36 of Township 33 South, Range 22 East, Sections 2-23, and 29-32 of Township 33 South, Range 23 East, Sections 1-18 and 21-24 of Township 33 South, Range 24 East, Sections 1-19, 22-27, and 34-36 of Township 33 South, Range 25 East, Sections 5-8, 18, 19, and 30 of Township 33 South and Range 26 East, Sections 1,2 11-14, 19-31, 33 and 34 of Township 34 South, Range 22 East, Sections 4-20, 22-31, 35 and 36 of Township 34 South, Range 23 East, Sections 14-23, and 26-36 of Township 34 South, Range 24 East, Section 1 of Township 35 South, Range 21 E, Section 6 of Township 35 South, Range 22 East, Sections 1-3, 5, 8-17, 20-24, and 26-30 of Township 35 South, Range 23 East, Sections 1-23, 27-29, and 34 of Township 35 South, Range 24 East, Section 7 of Township 35 South, Range 25 East, Sections 25, 26, and 31-36 of Township 36 South, Range 22 East, Sections 19, and 30-33 of Township 36 South, Range 23 East, Sections 1-16, 21-29, and 32-34 of Township 37 South, Range 22 East, Sections 1, 2, 4-24, and 26-34 of Township 37 South, Range 23 East, Sections 4-11 and 16-20 of Township 37 South, Range 24 East and Sections 4-6, 8, and 9 of Township 38 South, Range 23 East. The application is available for public inspection Monday through Friday at the SWFWMD Tampa Service Office located at 7601 US Hwy. 301, Tampa, Florida 33637-6759.

NOTICE OF RIGHTS

Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the District's action regarding this matter may request an administrative hearing in accordance with Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and Chapter 28-106, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), of the Uniform Rules of Procedure. A request for hearing must (1) explain how the substantial interests of each person requesting the hearing will be affected by the District's action, or proposed action; (2) state all material facts disputed by each person requesting the hearing or state that there are no disputed facts; and (3) otherwise comply with Chapter 28-106, F.A.C. A request for hearing must be filed with and received by the Agency Clerk of the District at the District's Brooksville address, 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604-6899 within 21 days of publication of this notice. Failure to file a request for hearing within this time period shall constitute a waiver of any right such person may have to request a hearing under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S. Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the filing of a petition means that the District's final action may be different from the position taken by it in this notice of agency action. Persons whose substantial interests will be affected by any such final decision of the District in this matter have the right to petition to become a party to the proceeding, in accordance with the requirements set forth above. Mediation pursuant to Section 120.573, F.S., to settle an administrative dispute regarding the District's action in this matter is not available prior to the filing of a request for hearing. Published 12/19/13 346377 2979156

Notice
Physician Office Closing

Please be advised as of December 31, 2013 DeSoto Memorial Hospital will no longer staff a physician's office specializing in OB/GYN services at 1012 N. Mills Avenue in Arcadia, Florida. Dr. Durfee resigned her position as of September 30, 2013 and we have been using temporary physicians to care for her patients since her departure.
As the patient you are entitled to retain a copy of your personal medical record. Please contact Mrs. Janet Page if you would like your medical records sent to another provider. Mrs. Page can be reached at (863) 494-8401 or 888 N. Robert Avenue in Arcadia.
If you desire to continue to be seen by a local physician Dr. Teodorescu and Dr. Mohammadbhoy are available and may be contacted at Community Care Family Health Clinic located at 1110 E. Gibson Avenue, Arcadia, Florida 34266, Telephone number 863-494-1918. Both Dr. Teodorescu and Dr. Mohammadbhoy have served this community for many years and would be happy to provide you with quality healthcare services.
If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Janet Page at (863) 494-8401. Thank you for your dedication and loyalty to DeSoto Memorial Hospital.

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DEATHS

FROM PAGE 9

George Mann

George Mann, 94, of Arcadia, Fla., passed away Thursday, Dec. 5, 2013, in Westerville, Ohio.

He was born Oct. 3, 1919, in Louisville, Ky.

George's life was forever built around the love of his life, Margaret. They were married for 65 years when she passed away in 2007. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II in the Pacific theater, and as part of the occupation forces in Japan. Following the war, George and Margaret moved to Tampa, Fla., where George became president of Thurow Electronics, the largest electronic parts distributor in the South. Following his retirement, he had a successful second career in commercial real estate development.

When fully retired, George and Margaret first moved to Pine Island, Fla., into a lovely home he built with his own two hands. They later moved to Arcadia, continuing to grow their extended family. Throughout his life, George was a church leader, teaching, preaching and demonstrating Christian love to others. He will forever be remembered for his integrity, leadership, devotion to family, sense of humor, and the countless persons whose lives he touched.

George is survived by sons, Les (April) Mann of Westerville, and Doug Mann of Ormond Beach, Fla.; brothers, Bill (Helene) Mann of Marshall, Va., and Jim (Ardis) Mann of Brooksville, Fla; grandchildren, Tiffany (Karrick) Sherrill of Westerville, and Greg Mann of Berkeley, Calif.; great-granddaughters, Savannah and Cambryn Sherrill of Westerville.

A celebration of life service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 21, 2013, at Church of the Messiah United Methodist, 51 N. State St., Westerville. The family will be available for greeting one hour prior to the service and during a luncheon to be served following. In lieu of flowers, friends who wish may contribute to the Alzheimer's Association, Central Ohio Chapter, 1379 Dublin Road, Columbus, OH 43215, in George's memory.

Arrangements are by Hill Funeral Home, Westerville.

Robert Remus Griffin Jr.

Robert Remus Griffin Jr., 54, lifelong resident of Arcadia, Florida, passed away December 17, 2013.

Remus was born June 26, 1959 in Arcadia and attended school in Desoto County. He worked as a truck driver in the cattle industry, enjoyed fishing, bullfighting, photography and freelance investigating for a variety of newspapers and news agencies.

Remus is survived by his two daughters, Laura Griffin of Avon Park, Florida, and Chelsey Griffin of Tampa, Florida; brother, R.L. Griffin of Arcadia, Florida; sister, Kay (Marcus) Harrison, of Lake Placid, Florida; three grandchildren; nieces, Casey Harrison and Tamera Turtle; and nephew, Todd Harrison. He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert Remus Griffin Sr. and Norma Jean Cutchen Griffin; brother, Charlie Griffin; and nieces, Kimberly Malnory and Jennifer Kay Griffin.

No services have been scheduled at this time. Arrangements are by Ponger Kays Grady Funeral Home, Arcadia, Florida. Online condolences can be made at http://www.pongerkaysgrady.com/

Opera House Artist: Vickie Randall

By Becky Van Pelt

Vickie Randall is the featured Opera House artist for December.

Randall has been painting since her early years in Iowa, but had to withstand interruptions along the way as "life" happened. Since moving to Florida in 2003, she has been able to spend all the time she wanted painting, at the same time learning application techniques.

Instructions from the late Alex Alexander, a Nuremberg sketch artist and lifelong artist for CBS, introduced her to new skills and color blending. Randall is heavily influenced by the Highwaymen's work, their vibrant trees and spectacular sun sets.

For several years, Randall has been a regular participant at the Red Hat Studio in Punta Gorda, having her art critiqued by Liz Hutchinson. Randall has traveled to Europe on painting excursions with Margaret Egli, studying the Neo-Impressionism style of painting.

Randall paints in oil and acrylic, producing beautiful realist-style -art. Some of her work is on display and can be purchased at the Opera House gallery on West Oak Street in downtown Arcadia.

You may also see samples of Randall's art on the Opera House Gallery's web site, www.arcadiaoperahouseartists.com.

PHOTOS PROVIDED

A typical Florida scene reveals Randall's skills in her lifelike depiction of the tablecloth and ceramic plate.

Randall's work tends toward realism, but with a bit of an impressionistic touch. Her work can is on display at the old Arcadia Opera House.

Vickie Randall has been influenced in painting Florida lnadscapes and scenery by the Highwaymen artists. "House in Placida" reflects the rich colors of local architencture against an impressive sky.

Chamber breakfast honors student scholars

ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY JOHN BLACK, photeke@gmail.com

Penny Kurtz, president of the DeSoto Chamber, leads the Early Bird Breakfast in December.

DeSoto County High School Students of the Month were honored at the Chamber's December Early Bird Breakfast. From left, they are Miguel Rangel, Sarah Sewey, Abigail Smith and Donny Stiner. Also awarded, but not pictured, were DeSoto Middle School Students of the month: David Jimenez-Gonzalez, grade 6, son of Floriela Gonzalez; Selena Dominguez, 7th grade, daughter of Dolores Dominguez; and Julieta Trejo-Nuevo, grade 8, daughter of Audencia and Angela Trejo.

Arcadia Marshal Matt Anderson, left, DCI Assistant Warden Patrick Murphy, Sheriff Will Wise and DCI Warden David Lawrence join the Chamber's Early Bird Breakfast in December at Peddler's Boutique.

Linda Williams and Pam Ames celebrate 12 years of doing business at Peddler's Boutique by hosting the monthly Chamber breakfast.

Peddler's Boutique holds a lively crowd of Chamber members for the monthly Early Bird Breakfast.

TASTY

FROM PAGE 10

Mix chicken with ½ jar (about 6 oz.) of fat free gravy and ¼ cup chicken broth plus 1 tablespoon of flour. Then stir in drained vegetables. Put in greased baking dish and top with ½ of the prepared stuffing mix.

Bake for 30-40 minutes in 350-degree oven.

And, to make this even more festive add some sweet potatoes and a dish of cranberries, which is classified in the world's healthiest fruit category,

Now all you need is a pumpkin dessert and you have a perfect prelude to the holidays.

NEW

FROM PAGE 1

Councilman Keith Keene suggested the council approve the agreement provided by staff, saying there was nothing in the wording of the document he could see that would restrict any city expansion. He also noted the agreement would benefit both the county and city, allowing for an emergency backup of water flow in case of pipe failure "All I see in front of me is a request for us to approve an interconnect agreement where the county would already have a water line," he said.

Fink then cautioned the council not to act too quickly and to gather as much information on the agreement as possible before making a decision. "The county pantsed us at Walmart because we didn't have the proper information provided to us, and I don't want to see that happen again."

Wohl and Slaughter agreed with Fink that staff should evaluate the agreement to ensure it is cost-beneficial to the city. Keene then asked Slaughter, "Staff recommended approving this agreement tonight; did you not foresee any of this coming?"

After further discussion, Wohl recommended the council approve the theory of the interconnect agreement, without stating a specific location of connection. He said he would meet with county staff in the next month and would return with a revised agreement by the council's Jan. 21 meeting.

Homeless ordinances advance

The city unanimously approved the first reading of two ordinances aimed at curbing the increased presence of homeless individuals in the downtown area. The ordinances, which have previously been discussed by the council, are designed to halt aggressive solicitation at specific locations in the city, as well as prevent camping or storing private property on public property or sleeping in the right-of-way. The council will conduct the second reading of the ordinances at its Jan. 7 meeting, and if approved it will become law.

In a related subject, Fink reported on the results of the homeless meeting that took place among local residents on Monday. Fink volunteered to be the city's representative at the meeting, and said he was pleased with the result of the formation of two groups designated to address both the short- and long-term problems with the county's homeless population. He did, however, criticize the county's lack of representation at the event.

"There was some great discussion and ideas brought forth, and it was very civilized," he said. "I was miffed that there was no county representative there. If you look at their financial records, the county is a half-step behind us in financial security, and like us they can't simply provide money to fix the problem. It behooves us to ask the county to be involved; this is something we all need to be a part of."

HOMELESS

FROM PAGE 2

to the Homeless Coalition, I'm sure the council would be open to that," he said. "I also believe we would be willing to help expedite any building permits that might be needed, or with zoning exemptions. We certainly would be willing to offer assistance in other areas."

Future plans

Vaughn then asked for volunteers to form both the long- and short-term groups. Kellie Trujillo offered to coordinate the "Direct Assistance" Task Force, while Sandie Carlton volunteered to lead the "Systemic Structures" group.

Both groups will meet separately, and then will report any updates at a future public forum meeting, which Vaughn said he would plan for after the Christmas holiday and announce on the "What's Doing in DeSoto" and "Let's Hear it Arcadia" Facebook pages.

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FLURRY

FROM PAGE 14

them problems getting the ball up court. Gardi Emmanuel scored two points early in the period, but the Mantas went scoreless until Tom Morgan scored a bucket with 44 seconds left in the period.

Meanwhile the Bulldogs scored 17 points to lead 46-24 entering the final eight minutes. Lemon Bay outscored the Bulldogs 10-6 in the final period but the damage was already done.

Blackwood was already on Facebook entering his stats just moments after the game had ended. He led the Bulldogs with 14 points and never shot a free throw. "At halftime our coach talked about defense and told us to move our feet and stay out of foul trouble and we'd be alright," he said. "We know we have the capability to score a lot of points."

The team went 10-for-23 on free throws, including Brown who went two-for-six from the line. "I got to work on those," Brown said. He finished with 11 points, and Washington and Lawson scored nine apiece.

DAWGS

FROM PAGE 14

Koonce was pleading his case to the referee. "Come on, let the kids decide the game!" he exclaimed. You haven't called that all night and you want to call it now?"

It had been an exciting game and the rematch in Arcadia Jan. 17 is one you'll want to circle on your calendar.

The game was tighter than bark on a tree. There were 11 lead changes and six ties. The Bulldogs held a one-point lead after the first period and a 30-28 lead at the half. Another one-point lead after three periods set up the exciting conclusion.

Learning the hard way

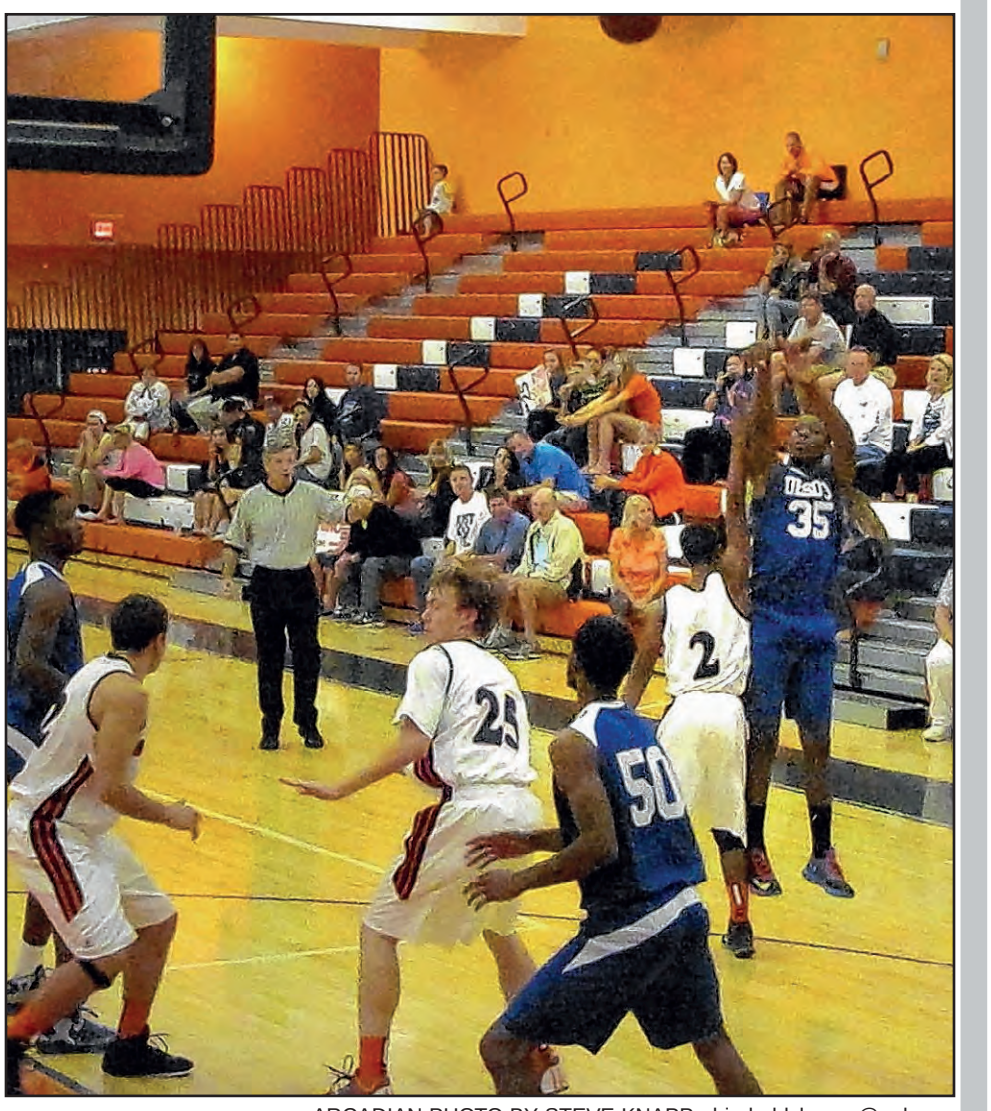
After the Hardee win a week earlier, Koonce told the players to watch games on TV to increase their basketball knowledge. He told them they need to know when to foul and when not to foul. The Bulldogs had a critical and very unwise foul just before the half. With the Mantas' Montrel Jackson launching a desperation shot at the buzzer from mid-court, he was fouled. He went to the line and sunk two of his three shots. That was a two-point gift the Bulldogs couldn't afford to give.

Couple that with a foul on Williams in the last minute of the game where he only made one of his three free throws and there's the difference in the game. "The ball was wet and I kept trying to dry my hands on my shirt but I couldn't get them dry," Williams said.

Without that foul just before the half, the game would have been completely different as the Mantas would have trailed by two points rather than being tied in the final 1:30 of the game.

The Bulldogs still have a lot of learning to do. Physically they are as good as any team they have on their schedule, but they need to learn the mental aspect of the game.

Chris Montgomery had a breakout game for the Bulldogs. He led the team in scoring in the first half with nine points, followed by Reggie Jones with eight. By the end of the game Williams led with 15 points, followed by Montgomery with 14 and Jones with 10.



DeSoto County's Kari Williams led the Bulldogs with 15 points and was deadly from this spot on the court. This is where his apparent game-winning shot was made from. Without the bucket the Bulldogs lost to Lemon Bay 60-57.

ARCADIAN PHOTO BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

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