

# ARCADIAN

Thursday, February 20, 2014 - 24 pages / 50 cents



A section of the Sun



See photos from the 76th annual Brighton Field Day on the Seminole Reservation

PAGES 20-21

## Hot topic:

### An inside look at the county's most debated building

By STEVE BAUER

ARCADIAN ASSISTANT EDITOR

Public Safety Chief Larry Taylor doesn't mince words when it comes to his opinion of the current state of Fire Station 1. "It's unacceptable. The staff working out of that facility deserves better," he said.

The facility, on S.E. Carlstrom Field Road in Arcadia, was originally built in the early 1960s to house a car dealership and eventually became the department's main hub. Years of neglect and wear, however, forced staff out of the main building in 2010, and they now use a mobile modular unit as their living quarters.

The module was originally touted by the county as a short-term fix, but remains the station's primary hub as the old building sits empty. "At the time we were told this was a 'temporary' fix, and we'd only be in there a few months," Taylor said. "Here we are five years later, and not much has changed."

#### Budget battle

Taylor inherited the issue from his predecessor, former Chief Glenn Prescott, who'd been campaigning for a new station for years. "I honestly hoped this would have been resolved by now, but I will continue his efforts about educating the public and county officials about the need for a new facility," Taylor said.

As you would expect in one of the poorest counties in the state, the biggest road block to building a new facility is money. In past DeSoto Board of County Commissioner meetings, estimates to build new range from \$800,000- to \$1.5 million, although a specific construction plan has never been completed to give officials an exact estimate.

"There have been a lot of numbers thrown around, and there seems to be a general agreement on what a new building would cost," Taylor said. "But honestly, I don't know where these numbers are coming from because



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

**DeSoto County Public Safety Chief Larry Taylor is charged with protecting the health and safety of DeSoto County residents, as well as seeing to the safety of his staff.**

there's never been any detailed plan conducted on costs."

The BOCC has been particularly focused on the facility since early 2013, with discussions centered around whether the county could build a new facility cheaper than it would cost to rehab the current structure. Opinions from commissioners and staff have swung wildly from one side to the other and back again, creating more confusion than answers in the process. Recently, the board approved

the gutting of the interior of the building, which will allow for a detailed architectural/engineering study that will estimate a specific cost for rehabbing

the building. Several commissioners are hoping the study will show that a rehab project will cost significantly less than a rebuild, but skepticism abounds whether updating the 50-year-old building will result in any cost savings.

"You can rehab any building if you throw enough money at it, but the question is whether that's cost-feasible,

"Honestly, I don't know how this building survived Hurricane Charley."

Public Safety Chief Larry Taylor

STATION | 12

## Council clashes over budget

By STEVE BAUER

ARCADIAN ASSISTANT EDITOR

A discussion over the proposed lease of two new sanitation trucks took an ugly turn Tuesday as council members sparred over responsible spending.

Mayor Alice Frierson and Deputy Mayor Joe Fink engaged in a tense back-and-forth after Frierson chided fellow council members over spending funds not included in the 2013/14 budget. The city would lease the two vehicles for five years each, with a total cost of \$335,000. As part

of the move, the city would sell four obsolete vehicles for \$75,000. At the end of the lease term, the city could purchase the vehicles for \$1 each.

The Sanitation Department had budgeted \$110,000 to install new front-loaders on two of its older trucks. Between the sale of the obsolete vehicles and the amount budgeted for the loaders, the city would not be spending any money during the first year of the lease.

Still, Frierson scolded the council for spending funds irresponsibly.

COUNCIL | 2

## Woodcarvers show off their skills



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY JOHN BLACK, photeke@gmail.com

Wes Warren from Toby's RV Park demonstrates his carving technique for the many spectators who came to the show at the Turner Agri-Civic Center. • Turn to page 23 for more photos.

Arcadian 50c



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# Hospital foundation plans poker tourney

BY ANDREA GRIFFIS

The DeSoto Memorial Hospital Foundation is making plans for its 8th Annual Texas Hold 'Em tournament on March 13 at the Elks Lodge in Arcadia.

The entry fee for players is \$150, which includes both a steak dinner and

\$800 in chips. Individual dinners for non-players are also available for \$20.

The foundation is now seeking sponsors who can contribute monetarily or by donating raffle items or table prizes, or who want to be field a team.

Event Sponsor — For \$500, your name appears on a banner and a dinner table,

and you can have two poker players and two companion dinners.

Royal Flush — For \$250, your name appears on a dinner table and you can have on player and one dinner companion.

Full House — For \$150, your name appears on a dinner table and you will

have two dinners.

This year, the foundation has approved \$94,000 in expenditures to ensure DeSoto Memorial Hospital can grow as a full-service health care facility, using state-of-the-art technology and equipment.

For more information, call 863-494-8402.

## COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

"I wish we weren't having this conversation right now," she said. "We're on the Tallahassee watch list, and we've already handed out raises this year, purchased a vacuum truck and now this. There has to be some fiscal responsibility here and there isn't. If this was a business, we would be much more conservative with our spending, I can tell you that."

Councilman Keith Keene responded to Frierson's remarks by saying the city could privatize garbage pickup if it wanted to. "What we have to decide, and we've discussed this before, is if we're in the garbage business or not?" he said. "There are other ways to pick up garbage, but if we decide to take it on ourselves then we need to have proper equipment to make sure we are efficient at it."

Frierson said the bigger issue was spending money the council doesn't have. "If we go down this road, we'll stay on that watch list. We need to step up and learn how to say no," she said. "If you people know where we can get this money, I'm all ears."

Fink then told Frierson she had previously failed to practice her own advice. "If my recollection is correct, you had the opportunity back in December to cut the Arcadia Police Department's budget and address this issue, but you voted to approve the budget," he said. "I was the only one of us to vote against it."

As Frierson responded, Fink began to speak and was quickly cut off by the mayor. "Excuse me, you had your chance to speak, and I have the gavel, so please let me respond," she said, adding, "If we continue to go down this road then we won't have an APD next year. If this was your business, you wouldn't be so willing to spend."

"It is my business," Fink said. "As a council member this is our business, and this is our money."

When Frierson tried to talk, Fink quickly interjected. "Excuse me, I let you talk so please allow me the same courtesy." He then told Frierson to

come up with an answer to the budget problem. "If you are so worried about this, then give us a suggestion," he said. "You haven't told us what we should do to fix this."

Frierson then asked Sanitation's Steve Underwood whether it would just be cheaper to repair the vehicles in the short term. Underwood said it would, but the risk of a major problem occurring with one of the older vehicles outweighs any potential savings.

"If the council wishes to put these loaders on a 1999 and 2001 vehicles, I'm more than happy to do it," he said. "But if you have an engine die on you, for example, that is a major expense and would cancel out any potential savings."

After further discussion, Frierson addressed Councilman Bob Allen and said, "Well we've heard from everyone on this subject except for you, Bob.

Do you have an opinion on this?" Allen, who had been quiet the entire meeting, simply shook his head no.

Fink then moved to approve the lease of the two new vehicles that included a five-year bumper-to-bumper warranty addition. The council voted 4-1 in favor of the lease, with Frierson casting the lone dissenting vote. After the vote Frierson looked at Underwood and said, "Well, you have your new trucks, Steve."

### Airport, budget updates

The council heard from Mike Moon and Gary Frierson regarding projects taking place at the airport. The two discussed three major areas of focus, which included taxiway lighting upgrades, pavement rejuvenation and updates to the airport master plan.

Finance Director Beth Carsten

provided the council with an update on the city's budget after the first quarter of the fiscal year. Carsten said the city had collected approximately 39 percent of its yearly revenue, and incurred 27 percent of projected annual expenses. Frierson, noting the city's unstable budget situation, asked Carsten to give the council a monthly budget update going forward. Councilman Bob Heine liked the idea, saying, "This is a useful tool for us to stay updated, and I like the idea of being kept aware of our financial situation on a monthly basis."

The council also unanimously approved the first reading of a police department impound ordinance, which would require vehicles confiscated as part of a criminal arrest to be held at APD's lot, as opposed to allowing tow trucks to move the vehicles to their private lots.

## Singing with heart on Valentine's Day



"Shifting Sands," a barbershop quartet from Sarasota, brought a special touch to Valentine's Day Friday when they came to Arcadia to entertain diners in three downtown restaurants. Above, they serenade customers at Mary Margaret's Tea & Biscuit with a selection of old favorites. The group consists of Gerald Goodlett singing lead; Gene Gnuse, bass; John McDermott, tenor; and baritone Bob King.

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

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## NOTICE OF INTENT TO USE UNIFORM METHOD OF COLLECTION FOR NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENTS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF THE INTENT OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION SHOWING THE NEED FOR THE LEVY OF NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENTS AND ITS ELECTION AND INTENT TO COLLECT NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENTS USING THE UNIFORM METHOD OF COLLECTION FOR NON AD-VALOREM SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 197.3632, FLORIDA STATUTES (2009), FOR FIRE PROTECTION, SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL, SOLID WASTE COLLECTION, ROAD AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS, STREET LIGHTING, WATER AND SEWER UTILITIES AND MOSQUITO CONTROL AT A PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 25, 2014 AT 6:30 PM IN THE COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING ROOM, COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 201 EAST OAK STREET, ROOM 103, ARCADIA, FLORIDA. NOTICES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING SHALL BE PUBLISHED IN THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER FOR FOUR CONSECUTIVE WEEKS PRIOR TO THE FEBRUARY 25, 2014 PUBLIC HEARING. ON JANUARY 30, FEBRUARY 6, FEBRUARY 13 AND FEBRUARY 20, 2014. AFFECTED PROPERTIES ARE LOCATED IN DESOTO COUNTY, THE CITY OF ARCADIA (FOR FIRE PROTECTION, AND SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL ONLY), AND IN THE GOLDEN MELODY LIGHTING DISTRICT, HARLEM HEIGHTS LIGHTING DISTRICT, KINGS CROSSING LIGHTING DISTRICT, LAKE SUZY LIGHTING DISTRICT, PEACE RIVER LIGHTING DISTRICT, SPRING LAKES LIGHTING DISTRICT, AND MCCLELLAND DRIVE ROAD DISTRICT.

All interested persons are invited to attend. In the event, any person decides to appeal any decision by the County with respect to any matter relating to the consideration of the resolution at the above-referenced public hearing, a record of the proceeding may be needed. In that event, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the public hearing is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence on which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should contact DeSoto County at 863-993-4800, at least 7 days prior to the date of the hearing.

# Tractor Supply supports FFA scholarships

SUBMITTED BY TRACTOR SUPPLY

Following a successful initial campaign in 2013, Tractor Supply Company has announced the second annual Growing Scholars program in partnership with the National FFA Foundation. Last year, Tractor Supply customers donated \$362,324, resulting in 284 scholarships awarded to FFA members in their pursuit of a college degree.

The Growing Scholars program will be supported nationally by each of the more than 1,245 Tractor Supply and Del's Feed & Farm Supply stores Feb. 14-23, which includes National FFA Week. Tractor Supply customers can donate \$1 or more at store registers during the checkout process to support local FFA chapters and their members. Ninety percent of funds raised through Tractor Supply's Growing Scholars program will be utilized to fund scholarships for FFA members. The remaining 10 percent of donations will

benefit state FFA organizations.

"The funding we received from our customers last year was incredible," said Tractor Supply President and CEO Greg Sandfort. "We're honored to be able to provide critical funding to FFA members who intend to pursue a college degree and local FFA chapters that enrich the lives of young members by teaching life skills, citizenship and leadership qualities. Giving back to our 1,200-plus communities that we serve is very important, and the Growing Scholars program is one of the ways that we support our current and future customers and future team members."

To be eligible for the scholarship program, students must be current FFA members and either high school seniors or a freshman, sophomore or junior college student seeking a two- or four-year degree or other specialized training program. Major areas of study will also be considered when determining scholarship recipients.

"We can't thank Tractor Supply and its customers enough for supporting FFA, student and alumni members and agriculture education in general," said National FFA Foundation Executive Director Robert K. Cooper. "The Growing Scholars program truly makes a difference in the lives of our youth."

In addition to the Growing Scholars program, Tractor Supply and the National FFA Foundation have many other joint initiatives, including the FFA horse evaluation career development event, National FFA Week and the annual National Association of Agricultural Educators Conference. At an individual store level, Tractor Supply continually hosts fund-raising events and works closely with local FFA chapters and high school agriculture advisors to provide resources and leverage synergies.

"Local high school agricultural advisors and FFA chapters feel at home in their local Tractor Supply stores," said John Wendler, senior vice president of

marketing at Tractor Supply. "These groups often host fund-raising events at our stores to raise money for community projects, like building a school greenhouse, a new bridge in a public park or an animal care lab. Our stores also work with local FFA members to support specific programs and proficiencies by providing demonstrations from knowledgeable Tractor Supply employees and our vendor partners, which brings significant value to both organizations."

Tractor Supply has been a sponsor of the National FFA Foundation for 27 years. The National FFA Foundation is the fundraising arm of the National FFA Organization, which provides leadership, personal growth and career success training through agricultural education to 579,678 student members in grades seven through 12 who belong to one of 7,570 local FFA chapters throughout the U.S., Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

## Smoak Foundation aids Links2Success

SUBMITTED BY ASHLEY COONE  
LINKS2SUCCESS

Last month, the Mason G. Smoak Foundation presented a \$1,500 donation to Links2Success of DeSoto County. The donation was part of a successful grant submitted by the local non-profit organization. The funds for

the grant will be used to implement Links2Success' 2014-2015 College and Career Preparatory Program.

The program is designed for DeSoto County High School students and provides them with services that include assistance with several processes including college and career planning, financial aid, test taking preparation,

and more. The program is free for students and programming will be held at the high school.

"We are truly grateful for the support of the Mason G. Smoak Foundation in launching this program," said Links2Success President, Ashley Coone. "We designed this program to provide much needed services to enable our youth in DeSoto to be successful after graduation. Whether they desire to

go straight into a career or post-secondary education, it's important that they plan and understand the process. This program will do just that and because of supporters like the Mason G. Smoak Foundation, it's completely free for students."

For more information about this and other Links2Success programs, call Coone at 863-990-0527 or visit [www.links2success.org](http://www.links2success.org).



PHOTO PROVIDED

Pictured with Micah Scanga are Links2Success board members Ashley Coone and Shasta Grimes.

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# VIEWPOINT

The Sun / Thursday, February 20, 2014

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Derek Dunn-Rankin —

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David Dunn-Rankin —

Suncoast Media Group President

Joe Gallimore — Arcadian Publisher

Susan E. Hoffman — Arcadian Editor

E-mail letters to shoffman@sun-herald.com



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### There is no place like my home — Arcadia

Editor:

On Dec. 17, 2013 I received the devastating diagnosis of breast cancer. As I struggled to come to grips with this reality in my life, the one thing I knew was that I had to beat this monster.

I have always taken good care of myself by eating healthy, maintaining a good weight, having annual exams, exercising and trying to stay free of stress.

This thing happened between annual mammograms. Last year's

mammogram was good. This year's mammogram lead to a sonogram, which lead to a biopsy that confirmed the cancer.

Then came the Moffitt experience and on Feb. 3, I underwent radical surgery with a double mastectomy with reconstruction. I am now cancer free ... no radiation recommended, but probably chemotherapy. I am not afraid of the chemotherapy anymore. I know it is a rough treatment, but with your continued prayers and mine, I will make it through.

The doctors and teams at Moffitt have complimented me on how well I

am tolerating this process. I contribute it to my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and to my remarkable family and home town community. There were prayer chains formed, calls made, cards sent, Facebook posts all sending get well wishes and reminding me that prayers were going forth for me. I had to survive! This is a testament to our community that we are a good people who know that when we stick together as one and call on the name of the Lord, He will answer. He has heard your prayers and He has delivered me. I am getting stronger day by day.

Keep on praying Arcadia, keep on

believing and I will keep on living cancer-free.

P.S. To every woman reading this: please keep current on your mammograms and self breast exams. To every man reading this, make sure that the women in your life keep current with their checkups.

Cancer does not have to be a death sentence. I choose life.

For every card, floral bouquet, call, visit, prayer, and thought sent to me, I say thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Sharon Thomas Goodman  
Arcadia

## GRITS & PIECES

### May your circles be unbroken

Do you ever get the feeling you're running around in circles? Well, unless you're confined somewhere like prison, you actually are, for we all move in circles of some sort.

We have family circles, work circles, social circles and more, which not only keep us busy, but ensure that we do have a life of some sort. Such is the great Circle of Life, comprised of so many little circles.

We were introduced to circles early on in life, such as the game Ring around the Rosie (trivia fact — the game was originally called "Ring a Ring o' Roses"). Then we played Duck, Duck, Goose, struggled with hula hoops, played with marbles in circles drawn in the sand, and even turned in endless circles on merry-go-rounds. We also learned from watching old Western movies and TV shows how important it was to circle the wagons to defend



### Grits & Pieces

Luke Wilson

troubador55@embarqmail.com

ourselves against attack, a tactic we all still practice to some extent. I'm guessing this business of going around and around may have even led to teenage drivers wanting to "spin donuts" in their first vehicles.

As life progressed for us, we ventured further out into it, becoming a part of various groups, functions, and activities, which of course provided enrichment and entertainment. Each of those is a circle with its own purpose and personality, and gives us a sense of

being and belonging.

Circles are everywhere. Preachers often use the analogy of a circle having no end when speaking about wedding rings when they're marrying a couple. Those who work with wood use circular saws, we sometimes circle answers when taking tests, and even circle around the parking lot, looking for a place closer to the store. And if we don't bathe for awhile and stand still long enough, we might look up to see a wake of buzzards circling overhead.

The seasons of the year form a circle as well — spring, summer, fall and winter. I think they make the perfect metaphor for the stages of our lives as well, coming together to represent the time between birth and death, and the changes we experience.

Circles are good things. If you need more fulfillment in your life, get out there and find a new circle to be

involved with. If some of the circles you move in aren't enriching your life, it may be time to seek another one. The important thing is to get something positive out of each, and to contribute as well. There's no such thing as a perfect circle, and even artists and draftsmen who try to draw them will tell you that.

Represent the circles you move in well by being the best part of its arc that you can. That being said, I think I've come full circle with all this, and will leave you with the chorus of a song that's a favorite of mine — "Circle," that the late Harry Chapin often closed his performances with:

"All my life's a circle; sunrise and sundown/ The moon rolls through the night time till the daybreak comes around/ All my life's a circle, and I can't tell you why/ The seasons spinning 'round again, the years keep rolling by."

## 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.

# Writers Group completes novel in a month

By **PATTY RAMOS**

ARCADIA WRITERS GROUP

Members of the Writers Group of Arcadia were among 343,000 novelists world wide who participated in the annual month-long writing binge sponsored by the National Novel Writing Month. National Novel Writing Month was established in 1999. It is a nonprofit that believes stories matter

National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) is a fun, seat-of-your-pants approach to creative writing. On Nov. 1, participants begin working toward the goal of writing a 50,000-word novel by 11:59 p.m. on Nov. 30. Of the more than 343,000 participants who started the challenge of writing a novel in a month for the contest this year, 14 percent finished the project. The Arcadia Writing Group had an amazing 100 percent completion rate among its participants.



Members of the Arcadia Writing Group, Elise Zarli, Linda Callahan, Patty Ramos, Penny Hunt and Sarah Hollenhorst, show off the 'winner' shirts received from the National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo). Sarah Hollenhorst and Penny Hunt are holding the shirt received by Penny Hunt for her first novel in 2012.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Elise Zarli said, "I believe we did so well as a group because we supported and encouraged each other throughout the month. I'm sure that's why we all completed a novel in a month."

Penny Hunt reminded the group that when she wrote her first novel, the group was very encouraging, even pretending they were still working on a novel to keep her going until she completed her book.

The group is teaching a class for the Lifelong Learning Institute at South Florida State College in Arcadia beginning in January. "Everyone has a story they want to tell," said member Patty Ramos.

"Everyone can write. We want to encourage people to put the two things together, and next year who knows how many writers we may have that complete a novel for National Novel Writing Month."



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# Arcadia's COMMUNITY CALENDAR

NOTE: All area codes are 863 unless otherwise indicated.

## ■ TODAY

- Nature Walks: Environmental Learning Lab, 8:30 a.m. Feb. 20. Free.
- Peace River Audubon meets at 6:30 p.m. at First Alliance Church, 20444 Midway Blvd., Port Charlotte. Speakers are Peace River Wildlife Center volunteers Lorraine Anderson and Linda Hefty. For details, visit [www.PeaceRiverAudubon.org](http://www.PeaceRiverAudubon.org).
- 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.
- DeSoto County Library story time is at 3 p.m. at 125 N. Hillsborough Ave., Arcadia. Call 993-4851 for more information.
- Faith Mission provides free lunches for anyone in need, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 1109 S.E. 9th St., Arcadia. Donations gratefully accepted.

## ■ FRIDAY

- The Friendship M.B. Church invites the community to celebrate their Black History Month program at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 21. Some characters are acted out. Come join them to give praise and thanks to God and to celebrate Black History.
- 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 7:30 p.m. at Temple Beth El, 3840 S. Biscayne Dr., North Port. Oneg Shabbat follows.

## ■ SATURDAY

- Vietnam Brotherhood Echo Co. is holding a fundraiser on Feb. 22 for Debra "Dejay" Wilson who needs kidney surgery. It starts with a Poker Run at 9 a.m., also a Bike Run, Karaoke, food and raffle, to be held at Amvets Post #60. For details or to donate, call Jackie Tucker at 993-0083.
- The Chamber of Commerce Leadership DeSoto Class V will hold its annual McSwain Park fundraiser, Stilettoes and Spurs, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Feb. 22 at Oaks of Devonaire, 1423 S.E. County Road 760A. Cost is \$35/person or \$60/

couple. Live band - silent auction food raffles. For tickets and sponsorship opportunities, call 494-4033.

- Sunnybreeze Christian Fellowship, 7049 S.W. Liverpool Road, holds a concert with the The Taylors, a family quartet from North Carolina, sharing their passion for the Gospel through music, at 7 p.m. Feb. 22. Love offerings are appreciated. For information call 494 3273.
- DeSoto County Literacy Council has a yard sale, Feb. 22 to benefit the Read-to-Me Literacy Program and the Barbara B Whidden Tuition Scholarship Fund. Donations can be dropped off at 1365 SE Airport Rd., before the sale. Call 993-9049 for more information.
- Peace River Audubon hosts a field trip to Celery Fields in Sarasota on Feb. 22. Meet 7 a.m. behind McDonald's at Peachland Mall in Port Charlotte to carpool. For details, call Eleanor at 941-624-4182 or visit [www.PeaceRiverAudubon.org](http://www.PeaceRiverAudubon.org).
- Second Seminole War Reenactment of the Battle of Okeechobee, Feb. 22 and 23, at Okeechobee Battlefield Historic State Park. The reenactment commemorates the largest and fiercest battle in the Seminole Wars. Gates open 10 a.m., battle starts 2 p.m. Admission \$10/car. Also alligator demonstration, artisans, Seminole and other exhibits, children's horse rides, Irish folk music, Seminole food. With Guy LaBree, historical artist. For details, visit [www.okeechobeebattlefield.com](http://www.okeechobeebattlefield.com).
- The Antique Fair takes place in downtown Arcadia on the fourth Saturday of every month starting at 8 a.m. Dozens of dealers line the sidewalks on and around West Oak St. For information, visit [www.ArcadiaFLantiques.com](http://www.ArcadiaFLantiques.com); to inquire about booth space, call 993-5105.
- The NAACP meets at 6 p.m. every fourth Saturday of the month at Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church, 319 S. Lee Ave.
- Fit DeSoto meets the fourth Saturday of the month for a free exercise class and run/walk at Morgan Park. High energy and fun! Arrive by 10 a.m. in workout clothes, running shoes with a towel and water. Children must be accompanied by an adult.
- DeSoto County Library story time is at 10:30 a.m. at 125 N. Hillsborough Ave., Arcadia. The first Saturday of every month is Book Buddies, when children read to dogs. 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

- Feb. 24, 8:30-11 a.m. Deep Creek Preserve Hike: With Florida Master Naturalists John Phillips and Jamie Reynolds through pine flatwoods, wetland marshes and hardwood hammocks. Voluntary donations to Sierra Club are gratefully accepted. Reserve: 941-639-7468.
- 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.

- The 4-H Stitch in Time sewing club meets every fourth Monday at 5 p.m.
- 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.district13sofial-anon.org](http://www.district13sofial-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.
- 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

- On Feb. 25, Magnolia Street Grill will donate 10 percent of the bill for your meal to the family of Jeff Sikes, a family of five including three young children. Jeff, 33, a lifelong Arcadian and employee of Big Tree RV Park, has been diagnosed with cancer and is beginning the long and difficult process of radiation and chemotherapy.
- DeSoto County Commission Board meets at 3 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. in room 103, County Administration Building, 201 E. Oak St., Arcadia.
- DeSoto County School Board meets at 5 p.m. (earlier than its usual 5:30 p.m. meeting) today in the School Board meeting room, 530 La Solona Ave., Arcadia. The board will hear presentations by several student groups, and the new director of the Environmental Learning lab. The regular meeting will be followed by a special workshop to review the board's policy manual.
- Freedom Fellowship Christian Ministries Support Group meets at 7 p.m. Tuesday at 1528 N.E. Turner Ave.
- Every Tuesday night, line dance class at the Palace Dance Hall (17N). Beginners welcome. \$3 donation. For more info, call Jennie Martin at 494-2749.
- Weight Watchers meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Church, 1509 E. Oak St. For details visit [www.weightwatchers.com](http://www.weightwatchers.com) and "find a meeting" or call 800-651-6000.
- The DeSoto Amateur Radio Club meets at 8 p.m. Tuesday (except the third Tuesday) of the month, on the 147.075, W4MIN repeater with a pl of 100. All amateurs are invited to participate.
- Faith Mission provides free lunches for anyone in need, at 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 1109 S.E. 9th St., Arcadia. Donations gratefully accepted.
- DeSoto County Library holds story time at 3 p.m. Tuesdays at 125 N. Hillsborough Ave., Arcadia. Call 993-4851 for more information.
- 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.
- Suncoast Community Blood Bank is open from noon to 6 p.m. today at 710 N. Brevard Ave. (U.S. 17 North), Arcadia. For more information, call 993-9366.
- Been There Ranchers' and Farmers' Club meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday. at 1 p.m., first clubhouse inside South Entrance of Arcadia Village Country Club. North of Walmart, Highway 70. Call Max R. Fitzpatrick at 863-494-6257. Free. Tours, speakers, conversation, friends, fun — all welcome.
- The AA Serenity Group Anniversary Night is held at 8 p.m. on the last Wednesday of the month at Grace Lutheran Church, 1004 W. Oak St.
- Hour of Power Prayer time is held at noon at Freedom Fellowship Christian Ministries, 1528 N.E. Turner Ave.
- AA "Brown Bagger" meetings are offered every Monday at noon at Trinity United Methodist Church, 304 W. Oak St.
- The Arcadia Eagles, 150 S. Polk Ave., now offers Bingo from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday evenings.

## ■ SPECIAL

- The DeSoto County Historical Society is looking for people who can demonstrate a traditional skill or craft such as weaving, chair caning or whip-making, for the 10th Annual Pioneer Day March 15. Call Bebe Bradbury at 494-6607 or email [bebebradbury@gmail.com](mailto:bebebradbury@gmail.com) for details.
- AARP needs tax volunteers in DeSoto County from Feb. 1 through April 14. Training is available. For details, visit [www.AARPFoundation.org](http://www.AARPFoundation.org) and click on "Tax Aide Volunteer."
- 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), and GED tutors, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m., and 5-8 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. Call 993-1333.

- Alcoholics Anonymous Serenity-Big Book meets at 8 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, W. Oak St. (State Road 70).
- Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion at Trinity Methodist Church, 304 Oak Street.
- "Art for Kids" is at 3 p.m. every Wednesday in the DeSoto County Library's children's wing. This program, sponsored by the DeSoto County Arts and Humanities Council, is for elementary school-aged children.
- 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.

## ■ 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.
- 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/barbecue 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.
- 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.
- 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.

## ■ COMING EVENTS

- DeSoto Health and Rehab Open House will be held from 4 p.m.-7 p.m. Feb. 28. Free barbecue.
- First Presbyterian Church will hold a flute and organ concert of sacred and classical music, presented by Ellen Sutfin and Charles Durr, at 3:30 p.m. Feb. 23 at the church, 209 W. Hickory St. Open to the public.

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## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

### DeSoto Health and Rehab holds open house

DeSoto Health and Rehabilitation is holding an open house on Feb. 28 for the community to come see the changes that have been made.

New owner Louis Badenhorst, RN Rick Bruno and the team want the community to experience the "smell test" to confirm the attention to cleanliness, and to feel the compassion as they care for your loved ones as if they were part of the family.

The staff adds a personal touch to the specialized, individualized nursing and therapy that everyone deserves. The staff finds it personally rewarding

to provide excellent care and wish to share it with the community.

The open house begins at 4 p.m. Feb. 28. Barbecue and refreshments will be served, and free Wi-Fi is available for all residents and their guests.

The facility is 475 Nursing Home Drive, Arcadia, next to DeSoto Memorial Hospital.

### Lipizzans to perform

Herrmann's Royal Lipizzan Stallions will give a special dress performance on March 9 to benefit the Myakka City 1914 School house.

The Lipizzans are magnificent white horses trained to perform ballet-like

movements. Originally bred during the Haps burg Empire as war horses, they were rescued from the Russian front during World War II by a contingent headed by Gen. George Patton. Col. Ottomar Herrmann Sr. assisted in the operation, and later brought the magnificent horses to the United States.

The special event allows visitors to see the horses up close and learn about the daring rescue of these horses. Guests will also be able to enjoy special treats such as fried green tomatoes, gator bites, funnel cakes, ribs, chicken, pulled pork, homemade ice cream, children's games and more.

Bring your own lawn chair and arrive by 4 p.m. for this thrilling show. Tickets

are \$12 for adults, \$6 for children, and all proceeds will help restore the historical 1914 school house in Myakka City.

Herrmann's Lipizzans are at 32755 Singletary Road in Myakka City. For more information, visit [www.hlipizzans.com](http://www.hlipizzans.com) or call 941-322-1304 or 941-322-1035.

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# CONGRATULATIONS

to the 4-H and FFA students who participated in the DeSoto County Youth Livestock Show.

Mosaic congratulates the 4-H and FFA students who worked tirelessly to make the DeSoto County Fair's Youth Livestock Show a success. We also salute the community members and other businesses that turn out annually to support youth ag.

This year, Mosaic was able to donate more than 1,100 pounds of meat from the show to All Faiths Food Bank to help those in need in DeSoto County. Livestock re-sales benefited the DeSoto County 4H, 4H Swine Club and DeSoto Middle School FFA. Mosaic also donated pork to the DeSoto County Youth Baseball program.

We're proud to carry on this tradition of supporting local agriculture and hunger-relief efforts in the communities where our employees live and work.

**We help the world grow the food it needs.**



[mosaicco.com/florida](http://mosaicco.com/florida)  
[mosaicindesoto.com](http://mosaicindesoto.com)

# Four arrested on drug charges

The DeSoto County Sheriff's Office reported several arrests on Tuesday connected to sales of illicit drugs.

According to several DCSO arrest reports, DCSO's Drug Task Force worked with confidential informants going back to last October. In each of the cases, the informants were given investigative funds whose serial numbers had been recorded. The informants then would meet with the suspected drug dealer for the purpose of making a buy, and after receiving the requested drugs, the informants met up with deputies and handed over the purchases.

Some of these transactions reportedly took place in the vicinity of S.W. Sunflower Street, S.W. Holly Avenue, S.W. Tulip Avenue, and S.W. Aster Street. Others were reported to have taken place at or near the Citgo gas station and Family Dollar Stores on South Brevard Avenue in Arcadia, and the Fiesta Food Mart on W. Magnolia Street in Arcadia.

Among those arrested on Tuesday were:

— Kevin Leroy Gooden, 40, first block of Park Place, Arcadia,



GOODEN



MAYBELL



SESSIONS



TYLER

## 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.

charged with possession of cocaine, possession or use of drug equipment, three counts of distribution of hallucinogen within 1,000 feet of a church or business, and possession of less than 20 grams of marijuana. Bond was set at \$31,360.

— Richard Terry Maybell, 34, 400 block of N. Monroe Ave., Arcadia, charged with sale of marijuana within 1,000 feet of a church or business, and possession or use of drug equipment. Bond was set at \$10,120.

— Tyrone Andre Sessions, 29, 2900 block of S.W. Sunflower St., Nocatee, charged with two counts each of sale of cocaine, sale of marijuana and possession or use of drug equipment. Bond was set at \$15,240.

— Jaishri Damoor Tyler, 28, 4400 block of S.W. Tulip Ave., Nocatee, charged with three counts each of possession or use of drug equipment and three counts of sale of marijuana within 1,000 ft. of church or business. Bond was set at \$30,360.

## Report: Man brandishes machete, bottle at deputies

The DeSoto County Sheriff's Office responded to a call about a man running down S.E. Third Avenue, threatening people with a machete.

According to a witness in the neighborhood, Ruben Hernandez, 27, of the 1500 block of Esmeralda Drive, Arcadia, was acting "crazy." He approached one house and banged loudly on the door, yelling in Spanish. He broke the door, according to the arrest report, and entered the house. He brandished the machete and frightened the two men inside.

The report said he returned to the street, waving the machete at another man, who ran to his own house to call police. Witnesses agreed they believed Hernandez was drunk as he had been seen drinking all day.

When the first deputy arrived, Hernandez told him he had the machete because "I need to defend myself." He then reached into his waistband and grabbed it, and would not let go when ordered. He also was holding a bottle of liquor in his other hand, and made a move as if to swing the bottle.

At that point, deputies forced him to the ground, cuffed him, and removed the machete. As the man fell, the bottle also fell and shattered.

Hernandez, 27, was charged with assault with a deadly weapon without intent to kill, assault on an officer or firefighter, carrying a concealed



HERNANDEZ

weapon, criminal mischief with under \$200 damage, disorderly public intoxication and armed trespass of a structure. Bond was set at \$12,240.

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

• Richard Foster Badger, 36, 2800 block of S.E. Timber Drive, Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.

• Timothy John Collins, 31, 2200 block of N.W. Garvin Ave., Arcadia. Charges: criminal mischief (breaking a fence, second offense) and trespass. Bond: \$370.

• Kenny Garcia, 21, Gainesville. Charge: driving without a valid license. Bond: \$120.

• Howard Wayne Horton, 27, 1100 block of S.E. Hargrave St., Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.

• Rafael Juarez, 37, Zolfo Springs. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.

• Joquin Salas Lopez, 22, 1300 block of 1st Ave., Arcadia. Charges: battery and violation of probation. Bond: none.

• Thomas Maldonado III, 21, 500 block of N. 10th Ave., Arcadia. Charges: fraud (uttering false bank note or check) and grand theft between \$300-\$5,000. Bond: \$3,000.

• Warren Sylvester Payne Jr., 35, 1300 block of N.E. Hickory St., Arcadia. Charge: failure to support spouse or child. Purge: \$500.

• Jeremy Christopher Valdiviez, 30, Melville, Del. Charge: unarmed burglary of unoccupied structure and grand theft between \$300-\$5,000.

• Camron Logan Anderson, 21, Gator Trail, Arcadia. Charge: DUI with BAC .15 or higher or with person under 18, driving while license is suspended, and improper exhibit of firearm or dangerous weapon. Bond: \$2,120.

• Ruben Hernandez Castillo, 43, 4700 block of S.E. Apache, Arcadia. Charges: two counts of criminal mischief with damage between \$200-\$1,000, and directing a missile into a dwelling, vehicle, structure or aircraft. Bond: \$6,000.

• Jean Guiny Dhaiti, 42, 1800 block of S. 2nd Ave., Arcadia. Charge: brawling or fighting in public. Bond: \$220.

• Victor Fernando Gil-Gil, 20, 9th St., Arcadia. Charge: hit and run without leaving ID and driving without a valid license. Bond: \$620.

• Angela Rose Grillo, 28, 2500 block of S.W. U.S. Highway 17, Arcadia. Charge: trespass of an occupied structure or conveyance. Bond: \$500.

• Michelle Renea Guthrie, 44, Candler, N.C. Charge: driving while license is suspended. Bond: \$120.

• Aurelio Hernandez, 32, Lehigh Acres, Fla. Charge: driving without a valid license. Bond: \$120.

• Shelia Jane Machado, 55, first block of Glendora Ave., Arcadia.

Charge: driving while license is suspended. Bond: \$120.

• Jose Martinez, 22, first block of S. Manatee Ave., Arcadia. Charge: driving without a valid license. Bond: \$120.

• Rosa Velasquez Perez, 37, 1200 block of S.E. 7th Ave., Arcadia. Charge: failure to appear. Bond: \$2,000.

• Gerard Anthony Pondo Jr., Avon Park, Fla. Charge: DUI with drugs or alcohol. Bond: \$500.

• Armanda Resendez, 34, 1900 block of Hargrave St., Arcadia. Charge: driving while license was expired more than four months. Bond: \$120.

• Adelfo Sanchez Rivera, 36, 1300 block of 2nd Ave., Arcadia. Charges: DUI with BAC .15 or higher or with person under 18, driving without a valid license and DUI with property damage. Bond: \$3,620.

• Charles Wilburn Simes, 30, 7000 block of S.W. Fugate St., Arcadia. Charges: producing drugs (methamphetamine) and trespass on property. Bond: \$5,250.

• Terry Lavone Bing, 25, S. Dade St., Arcadia. Charges: possession or use of drug equipment, possession of less than 20 grams of marijuana, driving while license is suspended, second offense, and resisting an officer without violence. Bond: none.

• Michael Brent Hazen Jr., 23, 2300 block of N.W. Brownville St., Arcadia. Charge: grand theft between \$300-\$5,000. Bond: \$1,000.

• Damian Ruiz Rincon, 29, 1300 block of 1st Ave., Arcadia. Charge: failure to appear. Bond: \$500.

• Alfredo Delgado Silva, 31, Sarasota. Charge: driving without a valid license. Bond: \$120.

• James Lawrance Channel, 30, 3100 block of S.W. Dove Ave., Arcadia. Charge: kidnap or false imprisonment of adult or child under 13. Bond: \$3,500.

• James Allen Richardson III, 26, 4400 block of Tulip Ave., Nocatee. Charges: sale of marijuana within 1,000 feet, of church or business, and possession or use of drug equipment. Bond: \$10,120.

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

• Lona Phyllis Devalencia, 60, 500 block of Oak St., Arcadia. Charge: petty theft between \$100-\$300. Bond: \$2,500.

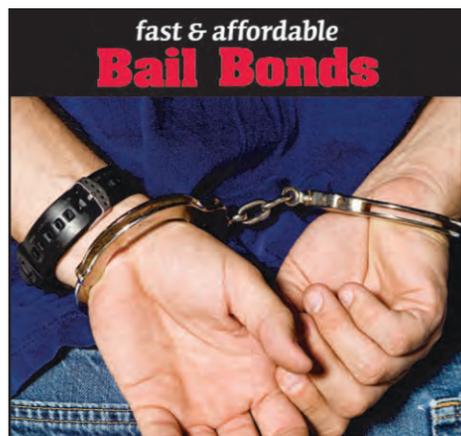
• Andrea Rea Rance, 40, 700 block of N. Lee Ave., Arcadia. Charges: possession of a controlled substance without a prescription, possession or use of drug paraphernalia and failure to return driver's license/registration when insurance was canceled. Bond: \$8,000.

• Kenneth Lamar Armstrong, 32, 300 block of N. 16th Ave., Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation or community control. Bond: none.

— Compiled by Susan E. Hoffman



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## A word to the wise ... from Sheriff Wise

**SHERIFF WILL WISE**  
DCSO

A scam that periodically appears has once again surfaced on the east coast of the state, which means it is only a matter of time before we will likely see it here. I am referring to unscrupulous individuals who are contacting people claiming they are from the local court district. These individuals then threaten those contacted with fines or even jail for failing to appear for jury duty. They further intimidate by

debit card numbers or other personal, sensitive financial information over the phone, as the means to satisfying the supposed "failure to appear for jury duty" charges.

Be aware, courts do not make requests by phone for payment of fines, nor do they request sensitive information by phone.

Should you receive such a call, do not make any payment or provide any information. Do call our local DeSoto County Court Clerk at 863-993-4876 to inform them of the call and ask any questions you may have regarding your

own jury duty status.

The C.A.S.E. program is a partnership between the community and the DeSoto County Sheriff's Office to protect the financial resources of all our residents from scams and frauds.

If you belong to a group that meets throughout the year, consider a C.A.S.E. program. For more information about C.A.S.E. or about scheduling a presentation, call me or Lt. Curt Mays at 863-993-4700. DCSO will be happy to assist you and put you in touch with our Volunteer C.A.S.E. Manager, Phyllis Schwartz.

## OBITUARIES

### Shirley M. Jacobs

Shirley M. Jacobs, 78, passed away Monday, Feb. 10, 2014, in Port Charlotte, Fla.

She was born Jan. 9, 1936, in Toledo, Ohio, and moved to Arcadia, Fla., 38 years ago from Ohio.

Shirley was of the Baptist faith. She was a very loving wife, mother, grandmother and sister, and will be greatly missed. Shirley enjoyed gatherings with her family, and spending time with her grandchildren. She loved playing bingo and computer games, and making crafts.

Shirley is survived by her loving husband of 39 years, Ralph C. Jacobs of Arcadia; two sons, David L. (Bonnie) Snyder of Arcadia, and Donald A. (Janet) Snyder of Texas; three daughters, Debra I. (John) O'Neal of Oregon, Ohio, and Diane L. (Donald) Bryant and Dawn M. (Willie) Pyles, both of Arcadia; three brothers, Gene (Margaret) Shank of Curtis, Ohio, Homer (Mary) Shank of Toledo, and Richard C. (Thelma) Shank of Versailles, Ky.; sister, Patsy (Bob) Guthrie of Genoa, Ohio; nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, Forrest H. and Thiriba Latta Shank; and brother, Forrest H. Shank Jr.

Visitation and funeral services were held Saturday, Feb. 15, 2014, at the chapel of Ponger-Kays-Grady Funeral Homes, Arcadia. The Rev. Doug King officiates. Burial was private Monday, Feb. 17, 2014, at Restlawn Memorial Gardens in Port Charlotte. Online condolences can be made at [www.pongerkaysgrady.com](http://www.pongerkaysgrady.com).

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

### Karen Christiansen Sherman

Karen Christiansen Sherman, 57, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2014, in her home.

She was born May 12, 1956, in Passaic, N.J.

Karen grew up in Owego, N.Y., and, in 1981, moved to Arcadia, Fla., with her family. She was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Arcadia, where she sang in the choir, played in the Handbell Choir, and worked with the church youth group. Karen was a member of the Branscomb Lady's Church Group, and participated in many church functions, including several seasonal church plays.

She is survived by her daughter, Rebekah Lynn (Darren) Moeller of Auburn, Wash.; mother, Dolores Christiansen of Arcadia; sister, Diane Wolcott of Arcadia; grandson, Kelan Moeller of Auburn; niece, Dr. Katharine (Matthew) Markell of San Antonio, Texas; three nephews, Thomas (Dr. Susan) Wolcott and Benjamin Wolcott, all of North Port, Fla., and Jonathan (Jacqueline) of Arcadia; and several nieces and nephews. Karen was preceded in death by her father, Gordon N. Christiansen.

A memorial service will be conducted at a future date at Trinity United Methodist Church in Arcadia. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Trinity United Methodist Youth Group or Handbell Choir. Online condolences can be made online at [www.pongerkaysgrady.com](http://www.pongerkaysgrady.com).

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

### Edward Weir Haig III

Edward Weir "Ed" Haig III, 72, of Arcadia, Fla., passed away Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2014, in Tampa, Fla.

He was born July 27, 1941, in Philadelphia, Pa., to Edward W. Haig III and Mildred Lescher Haig.

Ed attended high school in New Jersey, where he met and shortly later married his best friend and soul mate, Doris M. Jones. Together, they raised three

children. Ed worked as a commercial electrician for 30 years. He was a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW). His love for camping and hunting in Colorado was all it took to relocate the family there, where they not only lived off the grid, but off the land. Ed generated their own electricity, boiled their own water, and worked their ranch of buffalo, pigs and cattle.

Over the years, they also called Arizona, New Jersey and Pennsylvania home, before moving to Florida in 1997. Ed was very knowledgeable of automobiles and how they operated, and enjoyed going to NASCAR races. He was such a loving and caring husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, and will be deeply missed.

Ed is survived by his beloved wife of almost 52 years, Doris Haig; son, Todd (Bonni) Haig of New Jersey; daughter, Leona (Mark) Czwartacki of New Jersey; daughter-in-law, Amy Haig of New Jersey; brother, Robert Haig of Cape Coral, Fla.; grandchildren, Olivia, Eddie, Mark, Brynne, Kimberly and Jaid; and great-grandson, Jackson. He was preceded in death by his parents; his son, Edward Haig IV; and sisters, Jane Kalnas and Virginia Haig.

Online condolences can be made at [www.pongerkaysgrady.com](http://www.pongerkaysgrady.com).

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

### Linda Louise Darling

Linda Louise Darling, 64, of Arcadia, Fla., passed away Saturday, Feb. 15, 2014.

She was born in Laconia, N.H., and graduated from Inter Lakes High School. Linda made her living as a seamstress. She moved to Arcadia seven years ago, and enjoyed traveling, cooking, fishing and the ocean. Linda was of the Catholic faith.

She is survived by her husband, Donald Darling of Arcadia; father, Charles Bonner; daughter, Jennifer Bonner Blair of Arcadia; brothers, Charles (Beverly) Bonner of Meredith, N.H., and Joseph (Cheryl) Bonner of Laconia; sister, Carol Huckins of New Hampton, N.H.; and grandchildren, Cassidy Lane, Dakota Bonner and Damon Blair. Linda was preceded in death by her mother, Catherine Lutz.

Online condolences can be made at [www.pongerkaysgrady.com](http://www.pongerkaysgrady.com).

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

### Edna M. White

Edna M. White, 86, of Arcadia, Fla., passed away peacefully, Sunday, Feb. 16, 2014, with her daughters by her side.

She was born in Garrard County, Ky., and moved to Florida in 1968 from Indiana.

Edna has called Arcadia home for the past 25 years. She leaves behind a legacy of placing God first in every aspect of her life. Edna received the most pleasure from volunteering 15,000 hours as a DeSoto Memorial Hospital Auxiliary Member. She was a member of Pleasant Heights Baptist Church in Indiana, as well as First Baptist Church of Arcadia.

Edna is survived by her daughters, Brenda (Walter) Martin of Plainfield, Ind., and Jacqueline (Phil) Murray of Greenwood, Ind.; brother, "Bug" (Fairy) Hawley of Lexington, Ky.; grandchildren, Chuck, J.R., Stacy, Deana, Larry and Sarena; 19 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, Samuel and Dorothy Cheek Hawley; brothers, F.H. Hawley, Bob Hawley, Vernon Hawley and Joe Hawley; and husband, Herbert White.

Funeral Services will be held at Hall Baker Funeral Home in Plainfield.

Online condolences can be made at [www.pongerkaysgrady.com](http://www.pongerkaysgrady.com).

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

## 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](mailto:obituaries@sun-herald.com). The American flag accompanying an obituary indicates a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces.



# DeSoto Church Directory

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Celebrative Worship  
Challenging Bible Study  
Connection With People  
Sunday: Life Groups - 9:30 AM  
Morning Worship: 10:45 AM  
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10:45 - Morning Worship  
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AWANA & YOUTH

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Sunday School 9:00am  
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West on SR 70, left on SR 72, left on CR 661, 3.5 miles on right  
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Wednesday Evening: 5:30pm

### North Hillsborough Baptist Church

(253 N. Hillsborough Ave.)  
Pastor Ellis Cross  
**863-494-3455**  
Worship 11:00 AM  
Evening Worship 6:00pm  
Wednesday 6:30pm  
Thursday Youth Group 6pm



5104 NW Oak Hill Ave.  
**863-494-6224**  
Pastor Dr. Howell Upchurch  
Sunday School 9:30 am  
Sunday Worship 10:45 am and 6:00 pm  
Wednesday 6:30 pm for Prayer Group, Youth & Children

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Morning Worship 11 AM  
Children's Church 11 AM  
Wednesday Adult, Youth & Children's Programs 7 PM  
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[www.pinelevelumc.com](http://www.pinelevelumc.com)

### St. Edmund's Episcopal Church

327 W. Hickory Street  
(70 W at Manatee)  
**863-494-0485**  
[www.EpiscopalArcadiaFL.com](http://www.EpiscopalArcadiaFL.com)  
**HOLY EUCHARIST Sunday 8 & 10 am**  
Misa en español Dom 6pm

### Trinity United Methodist Church

"To know Christ and to make Him known"  
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Sunday School 10:45 am  
Sun. 4:30 p.m. UMYF  
Wed. 6:30 pm Bible Study  
Nursery Available  
Pastor Jim Wade  
View Service at: [trinityarcadia.com](http://trinityarcadia.com)

May the Lord fill your heart with love.

# Send all the bouquets upstairs

Dr. Kenneth Wuest, who taught Greek, was my favorite college professor because he always brought something beyond the day's lesson to the classroom to inspire his students; some insight that could change the day and leave a lasting and enlightening impression. He called these day brighteners "golden nuggets" and authored a book by that title, a copy of which still occupies a prominent place in my library.

In addition to his stimulating nuggets of truth drawn from the Greek New Testament, Dr. Wuest frequently quoted what must have been his favorite sage advice for preventing pride to grow due to too many compliments over our accomplishments: "Send all the bouquets upstairs."

Joe Gibbs was head coach of the Washington Redskins from 1981 to 1992. During that time, the Redskins won



Roger Campbell

three Super Bowls, played in three NFC Championships, won four division titles and made six playoff appearances. In the book, "The Greatest Lesson I've Ever Learned," by Bill and Vonette Bright, Gibbs tells about learning that money, position and power are not important compared with relationships. During one of those winning football seasons he awoke thinking about how important he was. Then his wife reminded him to pick up his socks and bathrobe and started telling about a problem with one

of their children.

"Why is she bothering me with this?" Joe thought. "After all, I'm an important guy on the verge of winning the NFC championship." So he stormed out of the house, slammed the door and left in a huff, but on his way to work this proud coach suddenly realized the price of his pride. Joe had developed a habit of praying in his car on the way to work and as he talked to the Lord the truth of what he had done grabbed him, prompting, in his words, the following conclusions: "When I leave this earth, I thought, it will not be the football games or the fact that I am the head coach of the Washington Redskins that will count. All of that will wind up in an ashtray some day. But the influence I have on my wife and two children, on those I've worked with or helped, and the investments I've made in someone else's life will last forever."

Upon arriving at work, Joe called home and apologized to his wife. Pride had tripped him up, but humility lifted him up. "I'm sorry for the way I acted," he said, assuring her of his love for her and their children.

Wise Solomon said pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall (Proverbs 16:18), adding a man's pride will bring him low.

Solomon was right.

Ask Joe.

How can we avoid pride's pitfalls? By remembering that every gift, talent and ability we have is given to us by the Lord. Whatever we have achieved is the result of His goodness and grace. If we have performed well in any area of life it is because He has made it possible. So when praise and recognition come our way because of what others see as our accomplishments, it's time to send all the bouquets upstairs.

## A tasty winter meal

Our Northern relatives weren't impressed not too long ago as we reported our unusually low temps, actually in the mid-30s. To combat the unseasonal Florida temps, I converted my meal schedule to include casseroles, soups and crockpot meals.

One favorite is crockpot chili, a simple recipe, so I got out the ingredients. I started with my little skillet, and browned 8 ounces of ground turkey in a tablespoon of canola oil, then stirred in 1/2 cup diced onion and 1/4 cup green pepper.

While that was simmering, I got



From a Senior Viewpoint

Lois Hendricks

loistom@embarqmail.com

out the crockpot, and added a can of undrained chili beans (and noted the large variety of spices included), 1 can of black beans, drained and rinsed,

MEAL | 11

## Martin joins board of All Faiths Food Bank

All Faiths Food Bank welcomes three new members to its Board of Directors. Keith Monda, Rich Cautero, and Mac Martin will serve on the board for a three-year term. Monda will also chair the Development Committee. Led by President John Nicholas, they join 13 others who currently make up the Food Bank's Board of Directors.

"What a wonderful addition to our hard-working board," said Sandra Frank, CEO of All Faiths Food Bank. "We look to them for guidance not only because of the leadership and philanthropic experience they bring, but also for their unwavering compassion for the people we serve."

Gordon "Mac" Martin is an Accredited Land Consultant, GRI real estate professional and broker, accomplished musician, and serves on the Community Advisory Board of the Mosaic Company that has supported the Food Bank for years. A resident of

Arcadia, he has spent much of his adult life supporting efforts to help families in need in DeSoto County, including serving on the board of the DeSoto Memorial Hospital Foundation for close to a decade.

Monda retired in 2008 as the President and COO of Coach Inc. As a current member of the Board of Directors of Feeding America, he is active in food banking at the national, state and local level. He and wife Linda have been longtime supporters of All Faiths and are passionate about feeding and educating children. The Mondas established several college scholarship funds in Ohio and New York, and locally at New College of Florida.

Cautero is the former Vice President of Finance with Altria Group World Headquarters. Rich has held numerous key executive positions at Kraft Foods including Chief Financial and Operating Officer of the Maxwell House Coffee Division at Kraft. Rich will be joining the Finance Committee of All Faiths Food Bank.



**7th Annual Project Graduation Benefit Dinner & Silent Auction**

**Saturday, March 1st, 6:00PM**

**At the DeSoto Middle School  
420 East Gibson St., Arcadia**

**Food provided by Slim's and the DHS Culinary Arts Classes.**

**Entertainment by Pierre Hilaire**

**Cash and Door Prizes!**

**Sponsorships**

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leslie.bickett@desoto.k12.fl.us**

**Make Checks Payable to: DeSoto Co. Education Foundation, Inc., Project Graduation; P.O. Box 2537, Arcadia FL, 34265. You do not have to be present to win. Purchase or contribution not necessary**

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**\*\*\*\*CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENT\*\*\*\***

**Effective March 10th, 2014**

**Englewood Home Health Care**

**License # 20328096**

Patient's requiring further services will be assisted in transfer process to another agency of patient choice.

Further questions, please call

**1-941-249-4347.**



# Family Album



## Welcome to the world



PHOTO PROVIDED

Welcome to the world, Miss Skylar Paige Santilli. Born January 20, 2014 to proud parents James and Shalina Santilli, sister Hailey Santilli, brothers Jayden Twohig, Dylan and Isaiah Santilli. Grandparents are Mary and Tommy Nolan, Rodger Drawdy, Brenda and James Santilli Sr. Great-grandparents include Gladys Drawdy, Peggy Jo Walker, Hubert Clark and Dorothy Davis.

## Happy anniversary



PHOTO PROVIDED

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Herbert celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on Dec. 11, 2013. The couple celebrated with a trip to Vero Beach, Fl.

They have three children and five grandchildren.

## In loving memory



PHOTO PROVIDED

Willie B. McKie

March 7, 1915 — Feb. 18, 2005.

Forever loved and missed

Vernita, Adrienne and Derek

## 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](mailto:Arcadian.editor@gmail.com)

## Happy birthday



PHOTO PROVIDED

Look who's turning 8!

Happy birthday, Jayden.

Love you always,

Mom, James, Hailey, Skylar and Grandma Gladys

## Thank you

To everyone who came out to help me celebrate my retirement of 35 years and my 58th birthday, to everyone who wished me well, thank you.

Sandra Lewis

## MEAL

### FROM PAGE 10

and 1 can of diced tomatoes. Then I added the turkey mixture and stirred thoroughly. Because of the seasoning in the chili beans, I didn't add chili powder, but that's according to your taste.

Then let the crockpot take over ... simmer for 3 or 4 hours. When I made this recipe on a recent Saturday, I started it in early afternoon because we were planning on attending late afternoon church services. And what a pleasant smell awaited us when we returned home. We each had a large bowl of chili, with seconds for Tom, and enjoyed it thoroughly.

Of course no meal is complete without a bit of dessert, so I got out a whole wheat hamburger bun, separated it and topped with frozen strawberries and a dollop of whipped cream, a pleasing taste contrast.

So the winter winds can blow even in Florida, but with a tasty bowl of chili, we don't mind.



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

The building at Fire Station 1, which was vacated in 2010 and stripped down in recent months, shows signs of corruption and mold, for example, near this ceiling vent.



Deterioration of the old building (originally an auto dealership) is one reason the county commissioned a study to evaluate whether Fire Station 1 can be saved or would have to be rebuilt.



The common areas of Fire Station 1 are barely adequate for all the firefighters who work there in a typical shift.



The living quarters at the new fire station on State Road 72 west are far from luxurious, but are comfortable for the men and women who work there. The facility offers a kitchen to prepare and eat meals, and sleeping quarters that offer some privacy — unlike at Station 1 where multiple beds are crammed together in every corner.

# STATION

FROM PAGE 1

and we'll be able to answer that question soon," said Robert Taylor of Alliance Design Group. The county paid his firm \$4,900 for a comprehensive feasibility study that is expected to be completed by the end of the month. Alliance conducted a smaller-scaled study of the building in 2012, at which time it recommended the county tear it down due to structural weakness in multiple areas. What was not addressed in the initial report, however, was a cost analysis. "The biggest unknown we have with the fire station is the specific costs associated with either rehabbing or starting from scratch," said County Administrator Guy Maxcy. "We're finally at the point where we'll have the answer to that shortly, and from there the

board will have to decide the best options for funding construction."

## Unfit quarters

Regardless of the financial outcome, there is no question the module and adjoining vehicle bays are unsuitable for staff operations. The module itself is cramped and outdated, with barely enough room to house a staff of seven who occupy the building 24 hours at a time. A back wall was recently replaced due to water damage and mold from heavy summer rains, and the module's air ducts were cleaned after mold was discovered in them. Bunks are scattered throughout three rooms in the building, with little to no privacy between beds. "If you're trying to sleep and someone's snoring, there's no getting away from that other than earplugs," Taylor said. "If you're looking for privacy the only place you're going to find it is in the bathroom."



Turn-out gear and other equipment and supplies have to be kept in the rear bay at Fire Station 1 — not in a separate, climate-controlled room as is the norm in modern facilities — because of space limitations.



Some vehicles at Fire Station 1 have to be parked outside under a canopy because there is not enough space for them to be driven inside the building. Because of that the equipment is kept locked.



Corrosion of the Fire Station 1 building is evident to the point where you can see daylight through holes along the floor. The building was vacated in 2010 and was recently stripped down to determine whether it was structurally sound.



Lack of maintenance is evident from the plants sprouting in the drain gutters along the edge of the roof.

The staff must share a tiny cluttered room that has a single computer and chair for filling out fire reports. Any other open crannies are filled with three refrigerators, a washer and dryer and various equipment. Small and out-of-place living and dining areas fill the remaining space in the unit. Outside, the vehicle bay facing State Road 70 is covered but not enclosed, meaning an ambulance and a collection of tanker and brush trucks are left exposed to the elements. The vehicles are also easy targets for potential vandals or thieves, and the area is a constant source of worry for Taylor. "These vehicles are locked at all times, but there is valuable equipment in them that is certainly vulnerable," Taylor said. "I worry a lot about potential damage to these vehicles; it is such an unsecure area. The back bay houses the county's \$1 million ladder truck, but it is also home to the staff's equipment, uniforms and any other item that



The roof of the old fire station building (formerly a car dealership) shows deterioration along the edges. Patches on the roof indicate where features were removed and repaired.

requires secure storage. "We have our uniforms sitting out in the open here, when they should be stored in an enclosed room, environmentally controlled room that will not allow possible toxins or carcinogens to be inhaled by the staff or visitors," he said. "We have that type of storage at Fire Station 4, and it makes a huge difference." "Honestly, I don't know how this building survived Hurricane Charley," Taylor said. In the event of a future major storm, current protocol mandates that all of Station 1's staff, vehicles and equipment must be relocated to the Turner Center. Taylor acknowledges the plan is far from ideal, but says it's the best option to protect his crew and equipment. "There is no way I can justify allowing any of my staff to operate out of this station in the event of a hurricane," he said. "I would rather deal with working out of the Turner Center than having the entire station immobilized because the

building or module were destroyed."

## A model of success

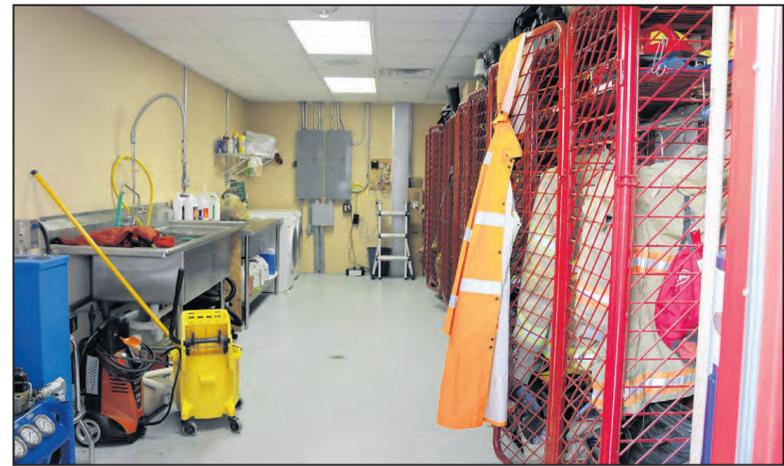
Taylor points to the Fire Station 4 facility as a model of what he'd like a new structure to emulate. That building, located on State Road 72 and built in 2011, is the county's only fire facility that was originally designed for use as a fire station. Station 4's bay doors can be closed and locked, and there is ample space for large vehicles to turn around. The bay also features two rooms designed for uniform and equipment storage, and medical supply storage. Inside, a sensible layout separates sleeping quarters from the living-dining area, along with ample space for the crew of four that spends its shift there. Taylor said the building, which is smaller than a new Fire Station 1 would need to be, is a great example of a modern facility that meets the needs of the staff, but is still modest



The ceiling of the canopy where vehicles are stored shows significant rust.



The building at Fire Station 4, on State Route 72 west of town, can securely house the fire and rescue vehicles inside and allows ample space for large trucks to turn around.



The newest of DeSoto's public safety facilities, Fire Station 4 features secured areas where turn-out gear and other vital equipment can be safely stored.

in its design aspects. "If you tour this building, it's pretty obvious that I'm not looking for the construction of the Taj Mahal," he said. "Fire Station 4 has few frills, but it is actually designed as a fire station and therefore perfectly fits our needs." Taylor said he'd ideally like to combine Fire Station 1, Fire Station 3 and the department's administrative offices into one building. He said the former Coca Cola bottling site — which was purchased from the city for the purpose of building a new fire station there — would be an ideal location for the construction of a new station. "That site is centrally located, and would allow us to merge a few units together for a more efficient operation. It would really streamline things and allow us to do our jobs at a higher level." For those who have their own questions about Fire Station 1, or are just interested in viewing the facility, Taylor welcomes the public to come visit and see for themselves.

"I encourage any member of the public interested to come tour the facility and make their own judgments," he said. "We're certainly not trying to hide anything, and there's no better way for someone to know the truth about the situation than to see up close and personal." Taylor said he's hopeful the county will come to a conclusion soon on the issue, and that by improving the living and working conditions for his staff, in the end everyone will benefit. "My guys and girls are dedicated to serving this community, and if you spend any time around them you will see that right off the bat," he said. "Ultimately the decision is up to the county, but we're not asking for anything over the top. We just want a safe and healthy environment to live and work in, and we'll continue to do our best for the residents of this county, new building or not. We are certainly ready for a change, however, and hope the commissioners and public realize that something has to be done."

More than 40 female golfers gathered at the Arcadia Golf Course recently to help raise money for breast cancer research.



## Bayshore blanks Lady Bulldogs 10-0

By DAVE BREMER  
SPORTS WRITER

DeSoto County High School varsity softball coach Billy Hines knew the game against



PHOTOS BY DAVE BREMER

DeSoto's Shelby Cross warms up at third base before the Bulldogs' game against Bayshore. DeSoto lost the contest 10-0.

Bayshore was going to be a good early season test for his young team. They had lost to the Bruins in a preseason game by more than 20 runs, and with this being their fifth game of the season, it was an opportunity to see if they had made any progress.

"We're still growing in some areas," Hines said before the game. And although the 10-0 final score might seem like a disaster for the Bulldogs, the loss gave the DeSoto girls something to build on for the future.

On a cold night, Bayshore got hot in a hurry, collecting four hits (including a home run). The Bulldogs committed two miscues and felt fortunate to get out of the inning only trailing by four. It looked like DeSoto was going to return the favor in the bottom of the first when Debi Brown led off with a solid double to left-center field. She could only advance to third, however, as the next three Bulldog batters went down swinging.

### Struggles continue at the plate

Bayshore took advantage of the wind that was blowing out to right field and added a three-run homer, while DeSoto continued to struggle at the plate with all three batters striking out to end the second inning. Neither team scored in the third and it looked like the Bulldogs might make a game of it, but three runs off two hits, a walk and an error gave Bayshore a 10-0 lead. Chelsea Whitmore led off the Bulldogs' half of the fourth inning by reaching on an error, but again the next three batters struck out. DeSoto held Bayshore scoreless in the fifth, but the Bulldog offense sputtered yet again and the game was called after five innings on the 10-run rule.

Hines and his daughter, Assistant Coach Brittany Hines, talked to the players for some time after the game. Having no games the following week, the team was going to



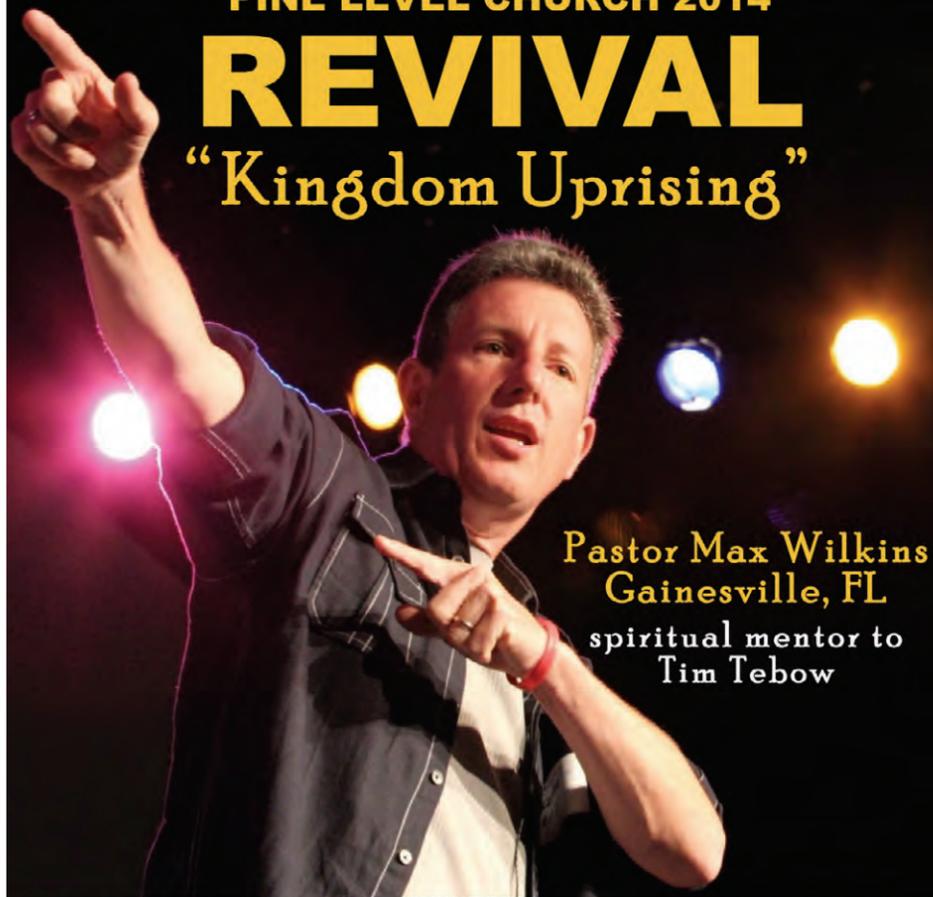
Leadoff hitter Debbi Brown cracked a double to left-center in the first inning. Unfortunately there wasn't much offense to follow as the Lady Bulldogs fell 10-0 to Bayshore.

take the opportunity to work on fundamentals, especially in the hitting department.

"I pretty much set the schedule this way knowing it would be a good spot in the season to evaluate and see what we

needed to work on," Hines said. "It's not how you start, it's how you finish in high school sports. The girls can't give up; I certainly haven't given up on them. They're a great group of girls."

## PINE LEVEL CHURCH 2014 REVIVAL "Kingdom Uprising"



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Gainesville, FL  
spiritual mentor to  
Tim Tebow

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## JV girls cruise past Bayshore

By DAVE BREMER  
SPORTS WRITER

Win, lose or draw, a top priority for the junior varsity softball players and coaches is to have fun, and so far this season that goal has been



PHOTOS BY DAVE BREMER

Taylor Day prepares to scoop up a Bayshore grounder. The Bulldogs defeated Bayshore 16-0 in three innings of work.



Jayla Cowell winds up for one of her strikeout pitches against Bayshore. Cowell allowed only one Bayshore hit in DeSoto's 16-0 victory.

accomplished. When asked how she likes pitching for the Bulldogs, standout freshman Jayla Cowell said, "It's fun, I like it."

First baseman Cassidy Fur had a similar response when asked about her experience playing on the team. "Yeah, it's fun. I was going to catch today, but my arm is sore so I'm playing first base," she said.

Coach Huckaby does a great job of mixing advice with humor during the game, keeping the girls loose and attentive. The Bulldogs were certainly all smiles after the game as they defeated Bayshore 16-0 in three innings.

After a three up, three down first for Bayshore, DeSoto put the scoreboard operator to work as nine of the first 10 batters got on base, forcing Bayshore to change pitchers with the Bulldogs leading 6-0. In all, DeSoto sent 14 batters to the plate in the inning en route to a 9-0 lead.

The second inning was much of the same with Bayshore again going down in order, and the Bulldogs putting runners on base with walks and hits. With five walks, two hits and four runs already across the plate, Cowell scorched a bases-loaded triple down the left field line, driving in three more runs and capping a seven-run inning for the Bulldogs.

Bayshore managed only one hit in the top of the third, and the game was called after reaching the time limit. The Bulldogs had 11 walks and eight hits in the game. Cowell allowed one hit and struck out three of the 10 batters she faced. Taylor Day also had a couple of key put outs at shortstop.

Huckaby talked to the girls at length after the game about working on skills to make them better players and changing bad habits into good muscle memory.

# DCYB bringing another state tourney to town

**SUBMITTED BY NICOLE ADAMS**  
DESOTO COUNTY YOUTH BASEBALL

This past summer the DeSoto County Youth Baseball board, along with the staff at the Brewer Sports Complex, worked to improve the complex's fields to meet Dixie Youth state-level baseball tournament requirements. Their efforts paid off in July when DCYB played host to the Major League State Tournament.

The tournament was a tremendous success. DeSoto County hosted 12

teams from around the state for the week-long tournament. Hundreds of people filled Brewer Complex daily and feedback from players, coaches and State officials was overwhelmingly positive.

This year, DCYB made it their goal to bring another state-level tournament to the area. President Ben Adams and Vice President Wes Roe recently traveled to Lake City to bid for the Minor League Tournament. During the bidding process, each league is asked

to make a presentation that represents the best of what their town has to offer, along with the conditions of the facility where the tournament will be held. At the conclusion of the meeting, DeSoto was awarded the tournament.

### Major economic impact

The Minor League Tournament begins July 11, and will bring 16 baseball teams to DeSoto County. Some teams will stay two days, while others will

spend the entire week here (along with their families and fans). Statistics show that, on average, the economic impact for a single team on a local community during one of these tournaments is around \$5,000 per team. They will eat, sleep, shop and play here. That's approximately \$80,000 worth of local business that will be brought into our hometown in a single week!

Among the many benefits of hosting,

DCYB | 17

## Shockers 15U team wins state tournament

STORY PROVIDED

The Shockers 15U travel softball team finished as USSSA Champions in the North Florida Fall State Tournament recently in Jacksonville. The team went 7-0 in the tournament and won the championship game 8-7 over Florida Select. It was a total team effort with great defense, pitching and hitting.

The team is led by Head Coach Joe Sinness and Assistant Coaches Doug Holcomb and Tom Lipe. The team is composed of girls from Arcadia, Avon Park, Port Charlotte, Sebring, Moorehaven, Parrish and Hardee.

Members of the team are Emily Bible, Hannah England, Olivia Everett, Alyssa Hairston, Kyria Holcomb, Destinee Jackson, Malysa Jeter, Dekoda Johnson, Shea Lipe, Johneisha Rowe, Kristen Schwartz, Jade Sinness, Sarah Welch and Stephanie Whitmore.



The Shockers 15U travel team celebrates after winning the North Florida Fall State Tournament.

PHOTO PROVIDED

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# Lady golfers raise funds for breast cancer cure

STORY PROVIDED

More than 40 women golfers gathered at the Arcadia Golf Course recently for A Rally for the Cure fundraiser. The golfers competed in various challenges, and attended a luncheon afterwards. There was a 50/50 drawing which was won by Margo Kavanaugh, with an extra \$70 given by personal donations. In total, the event raised \$1,045. The Arcadia Women's golf league would like to thank all those who contributed to the Rally to make it such a success.



These ladies won prizes for being on the par three hole challenge.

PHOTOS PROVIDED



Estelle Adams won a golf bag for finishing first in the closest to the pin contest.



From left, MaryAnn Bergert won for straightest drive; Mo Clereux won for high game; Cindy Fields won for low game; and Mereline Gagnon won for longest drive.



Jeanette Clark, left, and Louise Pantenaude won for most birdies, with both recording two apiece.



From left, Susan Leighty, Carol Dean and Diane Crevier each recorded chip-in shots during the event.

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## JV

FROM PAGE 14

"You always worry about a game like this, with the girls getting positive reinforcement from bad habits," he said. "It takes time and repetition to learn a

new skill, especially when it comes to a player's hitting stroke."

Practice took a back seat to vacation, however, when Huckaby gave his team a long weekend off for Valentine's Day and President's Day. Judging by the smiles on the girls' faces after he made the announcement, the team's "fun factor" is stronger than ever.



Coach Huckaby gives hitting instructions to Tiffany Burhands before the team's game against Bayshore. The Bulldogs won 16-0.

PHOTO BY DAVE BREMER

# Growing wildflowers from seed

Attendees at the Conservation Landscaping Workshop held on Feb. 1 were given a seed packet of "Flower Power Florida Meadow Mix" containing 10 species of wildflowers that should do well in DeSoto County. The seeds may be planted at any time, but fall to winter is ideal. The Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program sponsors a workshop annually to promote Florida-friendly landscaping and encourage the planting of native plants. This is the first time seeds have been given out.

The seeds are from the Florida Wildflower Cooperative. Visit the [www.floridawildflowers.com](http://www.floridawildflowers.com) website for more information on planting and to purchase additional seeds. There are also images of what the various seedlings look like, most helpful as wildflowers are easily mistaken for weeds at their early stages. Another useful site is the Florida Wildflower Foundation at [www.flawildflowers.org](http://www.flawildflowers.org).



Over the Garden Gate

Al & Karen Smoke

[ksmoke@embarqmail.com](mailto:ksmoke@embarqmail.com)

Growing wildflowers from seed requires a bit of planning — but mostly planning what you're not going to do! The most important consideration is the planting site. Choose a site that gets plenty of sun. It is not necessary to plant where you have an irrigation system — in fact, too much water may be a problem for these plants that are drought-tolerant. You could plant the seeds in an existing flower bed, but if you are used to a formal look, sowing wildflowers may not be advisable. Some of the

varieties reseed prolifically, others spread by underground runners.

Choose a location that can become a permanent wildflower meadow. You might want to start with a linear site such as along the edge of a lawn or fence line. You'll want a site where the wildflowers won't have competition from lawn grasses or weeds of difficult to eradicate plants such as Caesar weed. Wildflowers will grow in natural soil without a lot of amendments — in fact, the recommendation is to just barely scrape the soil with a rake and then scatter the seed and tamp it into the surface. The soil should be damp but not soggy at planting. A spot that is mostly bare, with soil that is sandy with just enough organic matter that it will stay damp for several days, would be ideal for planting wildflowers. If you don't have a suitable spot, cover existing vegetation with cardboard for several weeks to kill it, then rake gently and sow the seeds. Do not cultivate the



PHOTO PROVIDED

Blanket flower is one of our most colorful and reliable wildflowers. It blooms nearly year-round and reseeds prolifically.

soil deeply as you would for a vegetable garden as that will expose weed seeds that will crowd out the wildflowers.

fertilizer, or any other soil amendments or mulch. Many of the seeds require light to

It is not necessary to add

WILDFLOWERS | 24

## DCYB

FROM PAGE 15

the DCYB Minor League All-Star team will receive a bye into the tournament. For most of these children, playing in a

state-level tournament is a once-in-a-lifetime experience and DCYB wants to make it as memorable as possible.

DCYB made a point of putting DeSoto County's best foot forward during last year's event. They used as many local goods as they could get their hands on in the welcome bags for the players;

advertised locally owned shops and restaurants in the programs; they collected pamphlets from Discover DeSoto and many local businesses to distribute to every player; and worked tirelessly to ensure the Brewer Complex left a lasting positive impression.

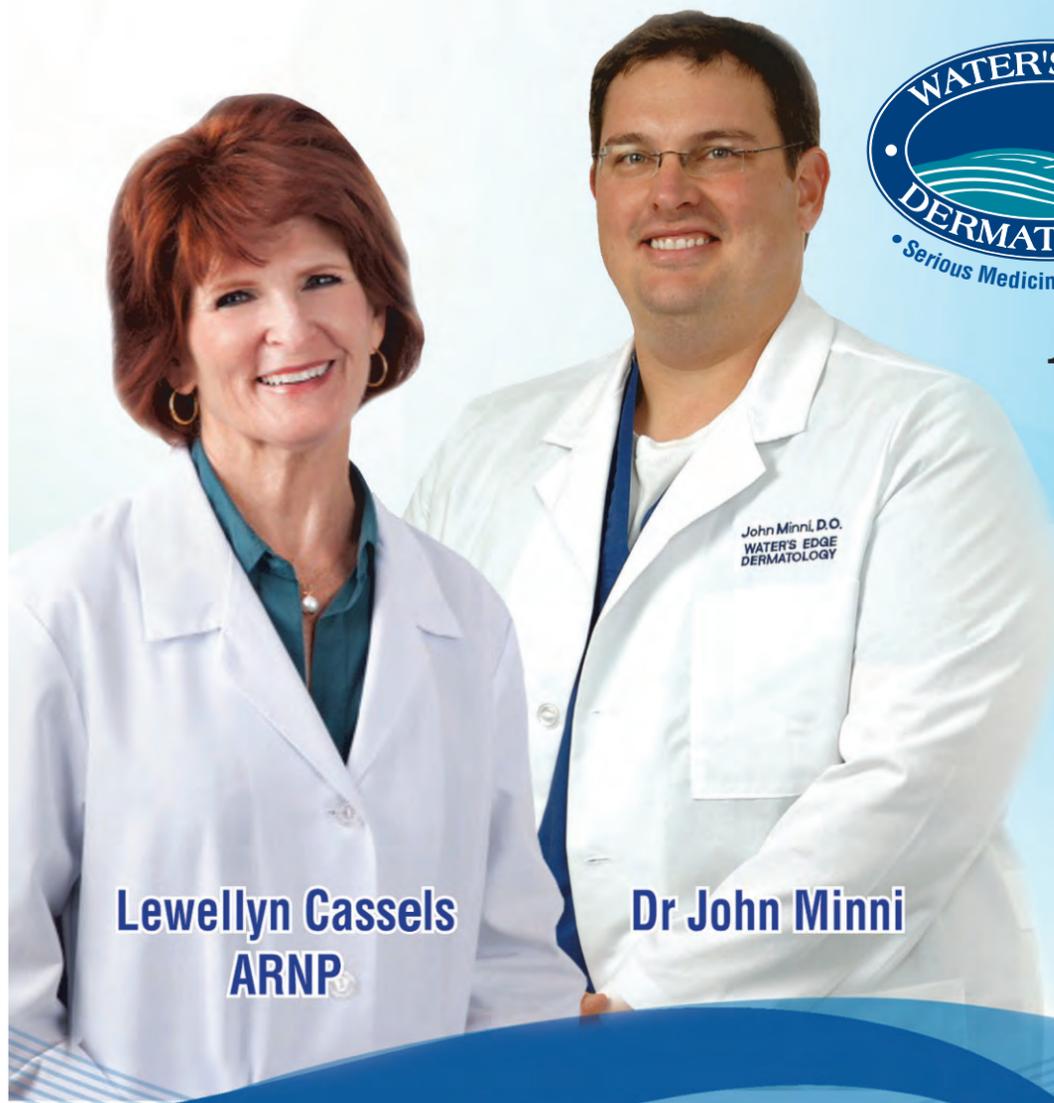
These tournaments can't succeed

without volunteers and sponsors. DCYB will be asking for spring team and sign sponsors in the upcoming weeks. If you would like to be involved or make a donation, call Nicole Adams, DCYB Director of Public Relations, at 863-990-2369 for more information.

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PHOTOS PROVIDED

Craig's RV Park held its first dog show recently. There were 16 dogs who brought their owners with them to face the judges.

# Owners, pets take part in Craig's dog show

Winners in the first-ever dog show held at Craig's RV Park were, from left, in third place, Gizmo with owner Nanch Barbish; in second, Rascal brought by owner Linda Roch; and first place, Sadie owned by Dave Broner.



## Carlton to retire from citrus association

PROVIDED BY PRVCGA

Barbara Carlton is planning to end her 20-year career with Peace River Valley Citrus Growers Association, setting June 1 as her departure date.



CARLTON

Carlton said she will miss working for such a great group of people. "It has been my honor to serve the outstanding individuals that make PRVCGA such a dynamic organization. I will dearly miss everyone and being a part of an organization

focused keenly on the well-being of local citrus growers. Being a part of this membership has provided me with so many personal highlights to hold dear."

Carlton is the second Executive Director of PRVCGA, taking the helm in 1994. Cal Cobb, the first executive director, left the association after six months to return home to New York State. Carlton left a 10-year career at

Farm Credit of Southwest Florida to accept the new challenge. She accredits her time there for giving her a strong foundational knowledge of the members and their businesses, multi-tasking and organizational skills and a belief in notable customer service. "There is no substitute for a personal relationship, even in today's high tech world," she said. "I have been blessed with many."

Plans are under way to ease the transition and the board is actively engaged in assuring her departure is seamless. Carlton has been working with the board for the past year planning her exit, leaving the leadership time to make necessary plans. In response, the 2013 and 2014 Board of Directors have made significant strides

in assuring the association is prepared for this new chapter.

They appointed a Long Range Planning Committee charged with looking at all aspects of the association, and recommending the best path for the association in the coming years. Committee members examined the association structure, set future goals and made recommendations to achieve them.

An Executive Director Search Committee has created a job description, prioritizing the duties of the new executive director, and will be accepting resumes through March, with an anticipated start date in mid-May. For more information visit [www.prcv citrus.org](http://www.prcv citrus.org) or email [prcitrusapplications@gmail.com](mailto:prcitrusapplications@gmail.com).





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**FICTITIOUS NAME**  
3112

**Notice Under Fictitious Name Law Pursuant to Section 865.09, Florida Statutes**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of Maassen Berry Patch located at 2490 NW Owens Ave, in the County of Desoto, in the City of Arcadia, Florida 34266 intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida. Dated at Arcadia, Florida, this 14th day of February, 2014.  
/s/ John Samuel Maassen III, Emily Sue Maassen Published 2/20/14 353119 3003943

**NOTICE OF ACTION**  
3116

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION  
Case No. 14-2007-CA-001097  
Bank of America, N.A.

**NOTICE OF ACTION**  
3116

Plaintiff, vs. The unknown spouse and all unknown heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, legatees, lienholders, creditors, trustees or otherwise, claiming by, through, under or against Annette Robinson, deceased, and all other parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in and to the property under foreclosure herein and \_\_\_\_\_ Robinson, unknown spouse of Annette Robinson, if married; \_\_\_\_\_ Robinson, Unknown Spouse of Annette Robinson, if married; James D. Robinson a/k/a James B. Robinson; Desoto County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida; United States of America; State of Florida Department of Revenue; John Doe and Jane Doe n/k/a Lukechua Myrle; Sharon Martin Defendants.

**NOTICE OF ACTION CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE**

TO: Sharon Martin  
Last Known Address: 415 North 14th Ave, Arcadia, FL 34266  
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in DeSoto County, Florida: S 1/2 OF LOT 16 AND ALL OF LOT 18, BLOCK 4, TIER 5, OF GILCHRIST'S EAST END ADDITION, A SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 27 AND RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK C5, PG 48, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA. has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Kathleen Pierrilus, Esquire, Brock & Scott, PLLC., the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 1501 N.W. 49th Street, Suite 200, Ft. Lauderdale, FL. 33309, on or before March 21, 2014, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court 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 on February 7, 2014.  
Mitzie McGaviv  
As Clerk of the Court  
By: /s/ N. Daughtrey  
As Deputy Clerk Published 2/20/14 & 2/27/14 349911 3004769

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DE SOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CIVIL DIVISION  
CASE NO.: 2011-CA-000859  
DIVISION: GMAC MORTGAGE, LLC  
Plaintiff,

v. THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE, HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING AN INTEREST BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF HENRY L. FILEMAN, JR., DECEASED; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR GMAC MORTGAGE CORPORATION D/B/A DITECH.COM; SCOTT PATRICK FILEMAN; VILLAS OF KINGS CROSSING CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, INC.; UNKNOWN TENANT #1; UNKNOWN TENANT #2; ALL OTHER UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY,

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**NOTICE OF ACTION**  
3116

THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAME UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS, Defendant(s),

**NOTICE OF ACTION TO: RICHARD D. FILEMAN**

Last Known Address: 105 Louise Lane Oroville, California 95965  
Current Address: Unknown  
Previous Address: Unknown

**TO: ALL OTHER UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAME UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS** whose residence is unknown if he/she/they be living; and if he/she/they be dead, the unknown defendants who may be spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, and all parties claiming an interest by, through, under or against the Defendants, who are not known to be dead or alive, and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described in the mortgage being foreclosed herein YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in De Soto County, Florida, has been filed against you: **UNIT F-1, VILLAS OF KINGS CROSSING, A CONDOMINIUM, ACCORDING TO THE DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM, RECORDED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 313, PAGE 603, AND ALL EXHIBITS AND AMENDMENTS THERETO, PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

This property is located at the street address of: 12623 SW Kingsway Circle, Lazy Suzy Florida 34269. YOU ARE REQUIRED to serve a copy of your written defenses on or before February 14, 2014 a date which is within 30 days after the first publication, if any, on Elizabeth R. Wellborn, P.A., Plaintiff's Attorney, whose address is 350 Jim Moran Blvd., Suite 100, Deerfield Beach, Florida 33442, and file the original with this Court either before service on Plaintiff's Attorney, or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint or Petition.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the court on February 5, 2014.  
MITZIE W. MCGAVIC  
CLERK OF THE COURT  
By: /s/ N. Daughtrey  
Deputy Clerk  
Attorney for Plaintiff:  
Rashida Overby, Esq.  
Arlisa Certain, Esq.  
Elizabeth R. Wellborn, P.A.  
350 Jim Moran Blvd., Suite 100  
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442  
Telephone: (954) 354-3544  
Facsimile: (954) 354-3545  
Primary E-mail:  
roverby@erwlaw.com  
Secondary E-mail:  
servicecomplete@erwlaw.com

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE**

**NOTICE OF ACTION**  
3116

**AMERICAN'S 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 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. Published 2/13/14 & 2/20/14 296930 3002061

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CIVIL ACTION  
Case No. 2013CA783  
FENARD PROPERTIES, LLC, a Florida Limited Liability Company, Plaintiff.  
vs.  
ALFRED N. DOVICH and PATRICIA J. DOVICH, Defendants.  
**NOTICE OF ACTION**  
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to quiet title to the following property in DeSoto County, Florida: Lot 43 Horse Creek Acres, 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 9, Page 45.  
Property Address: 7221 Southwest Horse Creek Rd. DeSoto County, Florida.  
Property ID: 11-38-23-0197-0430-000. has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Guy A. Flowers, the plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 12653 SW County Road 769 Suite A, Lake Suzy, FL 34269, on or before 30 days from the date of the first publication of this notice and file original with the clerk of this court 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.  
Dated on January 29, 2014.  
Mitzie McGaviv, Clerk of Court  
By: /s/ M. Harris  
Deputy Clerk Published 2/6/14, 2/13/14, 2/20/14 & 2/27/14 367740 2998386

**TAX DEEDS**  
3132

**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: 1670  
Issuance Date: MAY 27, 2011  
Tax Deed File #: 14-04-TD  
Description of Property: LOT 4, BLOCK "U", EL DORADO PARK, 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. TOGETHER WITH A 1988 LIBE SINGLE WIDE MOBILE HOME. IDENTIFICATION #10L20265. TITLE#65872869. RP#R0553466. NOTE: THE MOBILE HOME TITLE IS IN THE NAME OF "RAMIRO GONZALEZ VILLA".

**Names in which assessed:**  
JORGE JANARO RAGOYA VARGAS  
1241 SE MAPLE DR  
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 MARCH 5, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. Dated this 28TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2014.  
MITZIE W. MCGAVIC  
CLERK OF COURT  
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA  
By:CRYSTAL HENDERSON,  
Deputy Clerk  
Publication Dates: 1/30/14, 2/6/14, 2/13/14 & 2/20/14 112132 2995296

**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: 1499  
Issuance Date: MAY 27, 2011  
Tax Deed File #: 14-02-TD  
Description of Property: LOTS 1 AND 2, BLOCK "D", OAK CREST SUBDIVISION, AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA,

**Names in which assessed:**  
SHIRLEY A GRIFFIN L/E  
C/O 15 W OAK STREET  
LAKE PLACID, FL 33852

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 MARCH 12, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. Dated this 3RD DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2014.  
MITZIE W. MCGAVIC  
CLERK OF COURT  
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA  
By:CRYSTAL HENDERSON,  
Deputy Clerk  
Publication Dates: 2/6/14, 2/13/14, 2/20/14 & 2/27/14 112132 2999157

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Certificate Number: 1670  
Issuance Date: MAY 27, 2011  
Tax Deed File #: 14-04-TD  
Description of Property: LOT 4, BLOCK "U", EL DORADO PARK, 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. TOGETHER WITH A 1988 LIBE SINGLE WIDE MOBILE HOME. IDENTIFICATION #10L20265. TITLE#65872869. RP#R0553466. NOTE: THE MOBILE HOME TITLE IS IN THE NAME OF "RAMIRO GONZALEZ VILLA".

**Names in which assessed:**  
JORGE JANARO RAGOYA VARGAS  
1241 SE MAPLE DR  
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 MARCH 5, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. Dated this 28TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2014.  
MITZIE W. MCGAVIC  
CLERK OF COURT  
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA  
By:CRYSTAL HENDERSON,  
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**TAX DEEDS**  
3132

IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 17. TOGETHER WITH ANY INTEREST IN THAT CERTAIN STREET KNOWN AS SUNRISE AVENUE LYING DIRECTLY TO THE SOUTH LOT 1, BLOCK "D" BY VIRTUE OF THAT CERTAIN RESOLUTION OF STREET VACATION AS RECORDED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 196, PAGE 1062, PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA.

**Names in which assessed:**  
SHIRLEY A GRIFFIN L/E  
C/O 15 W OAK STREET  
LAKE PLACID, FL 33852

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MITZIE W. MCGAVIC  
CLERK OF COURT  
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By:CRYSTAL HENDERSON,  
Deputy Clerk  
Publication Dates: 2/6/14, 2/13/14, 2/20/14 & 2/27/14 112132 2999157

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CLERK OF COURT  
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA  
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**Names in which assessed:**  
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ARCADIA, FL 34266

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MITZIE W. MCGAVIC  
CLERK OF COURT  
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA  
By:CRYSTAL HENDERSON,  
Deputy Clerk  
Publication Dates: 1/30/14, 2/6/14, 2/13/14 & 2/20/14 112132 2995296

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Issuance Date: MAY 27, 2011  
Tax Deed File #: 14-02-TD  
Description of Property: LOTS 1 AND 2, BLOCK "D", OAK CREST SUBDIVISION, AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA,

**Names in which assessed:**  
SHIRLEY A GRIFFIN L/E  
C/O 15 W OAK STREET  
LAKE PLACID, FL 33852

**TAX DEEDS  
3132**

description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:  
Certificate Number: 1428  
Issuance Date: MAY 27, 2011  
Tax Deed File #: 14-05-TD  
Description of Property:  
LOTS 27 AND 28, BLOCK 3, TIER 6, A.W. GILCHRIST'S EAST END ADDITION TO ARCADIA, FLORIDA, 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 IN PLAT BOOK C-5, PAGE 48.

**Names in which assessed:**  
1ST INTEGRITY INVESTMENTS LLC  
1083 N COLLIER BLVD  
STE 334  
MARCO ISLAND, FL 34145

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 MARCH 5, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. Dated this 28TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2014.

MITZIE W. McGAVIC  
CLERK OF COURT  
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA  
By:CRYSTAL HENDERSON,  
Deputy Clerk  
Publication Dates: 1/30/14,  
2/6/14, 2/13/14 & 2/20/14  
112132 2995340

**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: 6  
Issuance Date: MAY 27, 2011  
Tax Deed File #: 14-06-TD  
Description of Property:  
LOTS 13-19, INCLUSIVE, BLOCK "E", KELLISON-BERRY FIRST ADDITION TO PINE LEVEL, 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 49.

**Names in which assessed:**  
CHARITY DESEAR-CARBO  
532 37TH STREET CT W  
PALMETTO, FL 34221

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 MARCH 5, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. Dated this 28TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2014.

MITZIE W. McGAVIC  
CLERK OF COURT  
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA  
By:CRYSTAL HENDERSON,  
Deputy Clerk  
Publication Dates: 1/30/14,  
2/6/14, 2/13/14 & 2/20/14  
112132 2995318

**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: 1429  
Issuance Date: MAY 27, 2011  
Tax Deed File #: 14-07-TD  
Description of Property:  
LOTS 29 AND 30, BLOCK 3, TIER 6, A.W. GILCHRIST'S EAST END ADDITION TO ARCADIA, FLORIDA, 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 IN PLAT BOOK C-5, PAGE 48.

**Names in which assessed:**  
1ST INTEGRITY INVESTMENTS LLC  
1083 N COLLIER BLVD  
STE 334  
MARCO ISLAND, FL 34145

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

**TAX DEEDS  
3132**

South Courthouse Door on MARCH 5, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. Dated this 28TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2014.  
MITZIE W. McGAVIC  
CLERK OF COURT  
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA  
By:CRYSTAL HENDERSON,  
Deputy Clerk  
Publication Dates: 1/30/14,  
2/6/14, 2/13/14 & 2/20/14  
112132 2995357

**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: 1570  
Issuance Date: MAY 27, 2011  
Tax Deed File #: 14-09-TD  
Description of Property:  
LOTS 207 AND 208, ELLER AND TURNER ESTATES, AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 78. TOGETHER WITH A 1982 SKYLINE SINGLE WIDE MOBILE HOME. IDENTIFICATION #H33770G. TITLE #20785730. RP#12175990.

**Names in which assessed:**  
ANGEL MANUEL ROLON ESTATE  
2080 SE E & T CIRCLE  
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 MARCH 26, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. Dated this 13TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2014.

MITZIE W. McGAVIC  
CLERK OF COURT  
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA  
By:CRYSTAL HENDERSON,  
Deputy Clerk  
Publication Dates: 2/20/14,  
2/27/14, 3/6/14 & 3/13/14  
112132 3004750

**Find your Best  
Friend in the  
Classifieds!**

**OTHER NOTICES  
3138**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA  
JUVENILE DIVISION  
Case No. 14013DP000019  
J.H., 11/11/2002  
M.H., 04/13/2005  
Child(ren).

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

TO: Jose Manuel Hernandez, father and/or any UNKNOWN PARENT father/mother

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** that a Petition for Termination of Parental Rights on **J.H. & M.H.**, has been filed against you. You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Brian L. Gillis, Esq. of the Department of Children and Family Service, Petitioner's attorney, whose address is 805 North Mills Avenue, Arcadia, Florida 34266, on or before **March 25, 2014 at 9:00AM** and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Petitioner's Attorney or immediately thereafter. **Failure to appear at this hearing constitutes consent to the termination of parental rights of this child (or these children).** Pursuant to Sections 39.802(4)(d) and 63.082(6)(g), Florida Statutes, you are hereby informed of the availability of private placement with an adoption entity, as defined in Section 63.032(3), Florida Statutes  
WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL of this Court on this 31st day of January, 2014.

Mitzie W. McGavic  
As Clerk of the Court  
By: Jo Rowan  
Deputy Clerk  
Published 2/6/14, 2/13/14,  
2/20/14 & 2/27/14 322378  
2999181

**ARCADIA AREA  
GARAGE SALES  
6001**

**FRI.-SAT. 8am-1pm**  
Downsizing furniture, toys, tools, antiques, kitchen stuff & much more. 9061 Lipe Rd. 8 miles past I-75 on Kings Hwy.

**GARAGE & BAKE SALE**  
Sat. 2/22/14 8am-2pm  
DeSoto Village 4810 NW Hwy 72 Lunch Available

**RUMMAGE/FLEA MARKET**  
Pine Creek Chapel 4 mi. out Hwy 72 Sat. Mar. 1 8-3, Spaces available \$10, Bake Sale & Refreshments 863-494-9166 or 863-494-6574 COME JOIN US!!

✓✓✓✓✓✓✓  
**IN THE CLASSIFIED YOU CAN.....**

- ✓Find a Pet
- ✓Find a Car
- ✓Find a Job
- ✓Find Garage Sales
- ✓Find A New Employee
- ✓Sell Your Home
- ✓Sell Your Unwanted Merchandise
- ✓Advertise Your Business or Service

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**HOUSEHOLD GOODS  
6030**

**2 KOHLER TOILETS** Can email pics \$40 863-491-1404

**LIGHTING** 1 dining room light and 1 entryway light. Can email pics \$45 863-206-5966

**FURNITURE  
6035**

**GIRLS PINK** youth bed w/ matching sheets & quilt. \$150 863-494-7856

**AUTOS WANTED  
7260**

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

**A Bargain Hunters Delight Check the Classifieds first! A Whole Marketplace of shopping is right at your fingertips!**

**Stars come out for Seminole rodeo**



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY CRAIG GARRETT

Three-time world champion hoop dancer Dallas Arcand demonstrates the skills and meaning of the traditional hoop dance.



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

Rough stock events including bareback and saddle broncs are featured at the Seminole rodeo in Brighton, capped by Xtreme Bulls on Sunday evening.



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY CRAIG GARRETT

Cowboys wait their turns at the rodeo, featuring traditional rodeo all three days and Xtreme Bulls on Sunday night.



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

Florida State University's mascot Osceola and his mount, Renegade, bring the flaming spear into the rodeo arena to open the show Saturday. The FSU Marching Band also performed in the parade and the rodeo.

Steer wrestling or bulldogging is a fast-paced event featured at the rodeo during Brighton Field Day. A rider jumps off his horse to wrestle a steer to the ground.



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



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

Uncle Si Robertson, Martin and Godwin of TV's Duck Dynasty draw large crowds happy happy happy to line up and wait their turn for autographs.



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY CRAIG GARRETT

Snake handling is one of the more dangerous demonstrations — along with alligator wrestling — that have become a tradition at the Brighton Field Day at the Seminole reservation near Okeechobee.



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

Handling up to 20 rings at a time, Dallas Arcand, a Cree Indian, demonstrates why he is a three-time world champion hoop dancer.

# Brighton Field Day features native culture, great rodeo



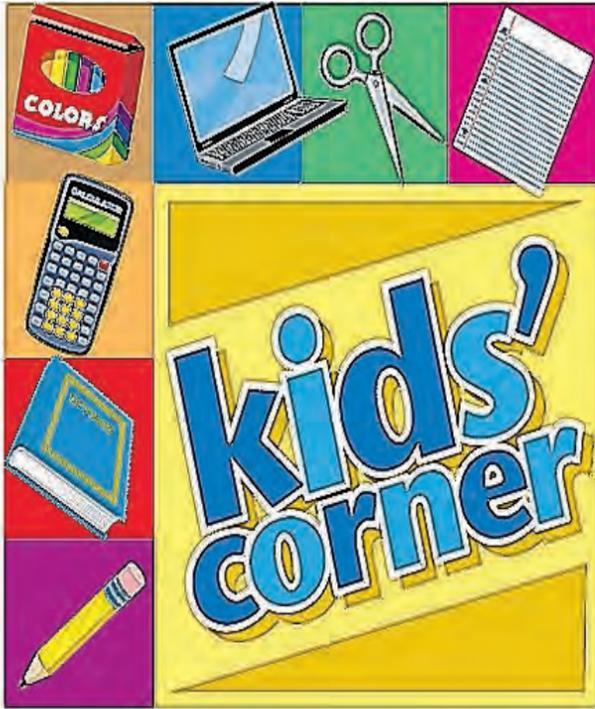
ARCADIAN PHOTO BY SUSAN E. HOFFMAN, shoffman@sun-herald.com

Indian dancers in traditional regalia catch their breath to pose for a photo Saturday during the Brighton Field Day at the Seminole reservation. The three-day event celebrates traditional native culture.



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

Traditional Seminole clothing, meticulously pieced together with utmost precision, is displayed at the Brighton Field Day. The Seminole reservation hosts this annual event to showcase the unique traditions and culture of the Seminole tribe.



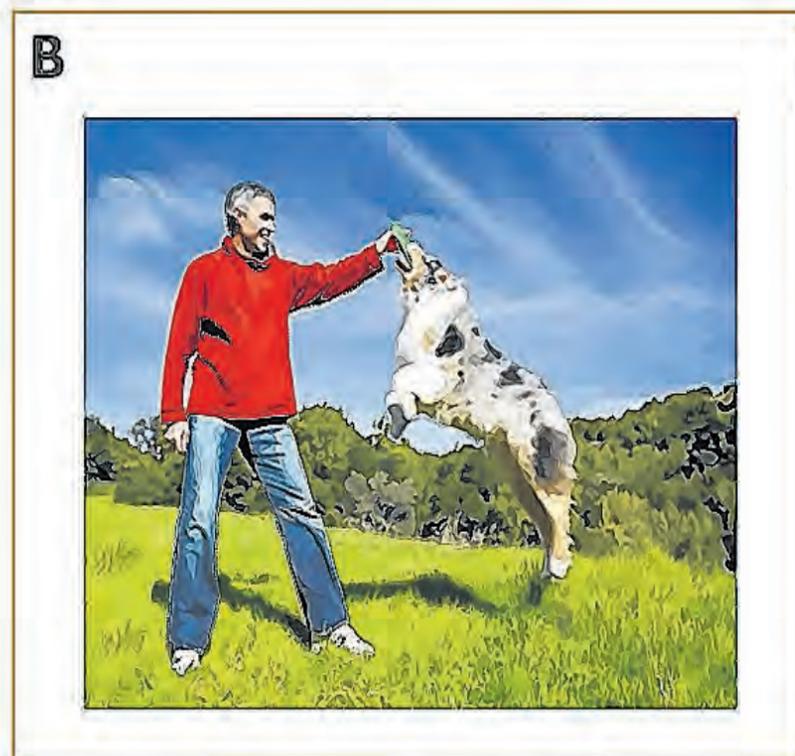
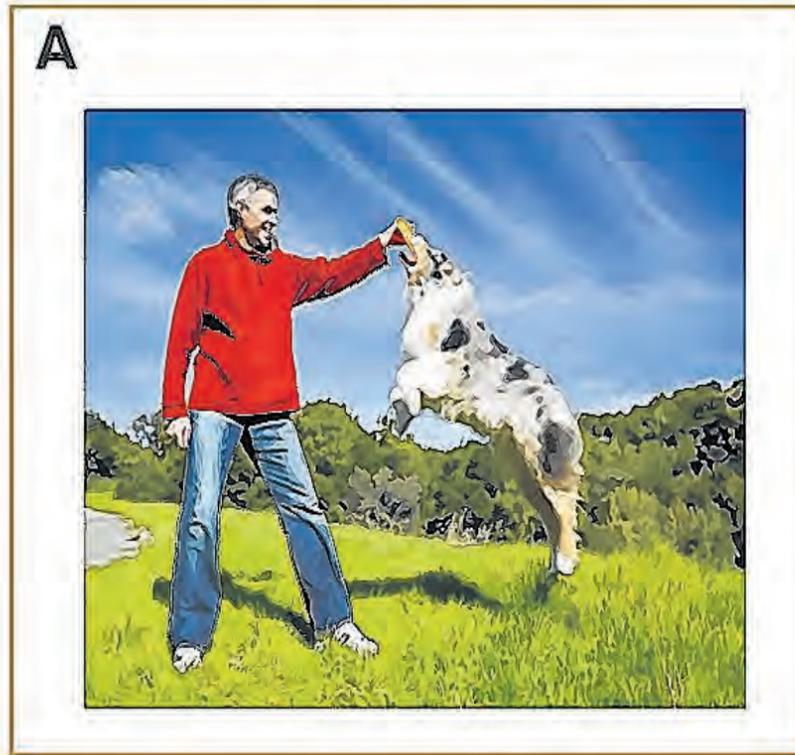
## SCIENCE FACT!

THIS IS THE PERIOD OF TIME IN THE SPRING WHEN THE HOURS OF DAY AND NIGHT ARE EQUAL.

ANSWER: VERNAL EQUINOX

## What's the Difference?

There are four things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?



Answers: 1. Missing path 2. Missing cord on sweatshirt 3. Frisbee is green 4. Different cloud pattern in sky

## THIS DAY IN...



## HISTORY

- 1638: SWEDISH COLONISTS ESTABLISH THE FIRST EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT IN WHAT IS NOW DELAWARE.
- 1973: THE LAST U.S. TROOPS LEAVE VIETNAM.
- 2002: ISRAEL LAUNCHES OPERATION DEFENSIVE SHIELD AGAINST PALESTINIAN MILITANTS.



**gusty**

windy and blowing

## How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Windy
- SPANISH:** Ventoso
- ITALIAN:** Ventoso
- FRENCH:** Venteux
- GERMAN:** Windig

## Did You Know?

IN SPRING, WARM TEMPERATURES CAUSE MOISTURE TO RETURN TO THE ATMOSPHERE AS WATER VAPOR. THAT INCREASES THE CHANCE FOR RAIN OR OTHER PRECIPITATION.



## GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: TULIPS

# Carvers create art from wood



A large crowd turned out Saturday for the Peace River Wood Carvers Exhibition. Several expert carvers gave lessons, and in addition to finished pieces, raw materials and tools were available for purchase.



Bud Evans, from St. Augustine, is a self taught wood carver, originally from New Jersey. He started carving in 1980 and specializes in decoys and shorebirds. He was one of many woodcarvers represented at the show held Saturday at the Turner Center.



Helene Mellow from Lake Placid carved a beautiful wetland scene highlighted by a pair of colorful ducks.

ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY JOHN BLACK, photoke@gmail.com

John Juliano, from Port Charlotte, specializes in carving decoys and shorebirds, and uses driftwood to enhance the realism of his carvings.

## AUCTION

6 PM • THURSDAY • FEBRUARY 27TH

### 545± TOTAL ACRES OF CITRUS GROVE OFFERED IN 4 PARCELS

- Located in the Gerber Groves Subdivision
- 5500 1st Road, LaBelle, Florida
- Parcel Sizes:
  - Parcel 1 - 160.02± Acres
  - Parcel 2 - 203.23± Acres
  - Parcel 3 - 146.51± Acres
  - Parcel 4 - 35.36± Acres
- Irrigated by low volume jets or seepage
- Powered by diesel centrifugal pumps
- 341± Net Tree Acres of Valencias
  - 60± Acres of 7 year olds
  - 281± Acres of mature with mixed age resets
- \*This year's Valencia crop included in sale
- 140± Net Tree Acres of Hamlins
  - 3 years old or less

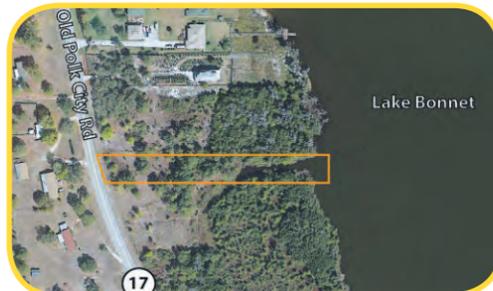
**Auction Held at:**  
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# WILDFLOWERS

FROM PAGE 17

germinate. At most, you could add a very light dusting of finely mulched leaves to help conserve water.

Once planted, do not mow the wildflower site! You may want to protect it with a barrier of logs or other natural material. It may look untidy at first — but as the plants begin to bloom and you learn to recognize them, you can begin eliminating the plants that are not wildflowers. Avoid disturbing the soil by pulling undesirables as you'll only expose more weedy seeds.

Instead cut them off close to ground level. Use an old pair of pruners and cut right into the crown or growing point—and most will be discouraged. After the second year, an annual mowing with the mower set as high as possible will both help spread seed and eliminate unwanted weeds. Mow in winter, after most plants have flowered and set seed.

The species in the "Flower Power" mix have mostly white, yellow or lavender-purple flowers. Some bloom just about year round, while others are fall blooming. The height of plants varies from about a foot to more than six feet, but in the first year plants will probably reach about three feet.

Depending on the soil and other conditions of your site some species may be more successful than others. Over time you can add other species, such as ageratum for its lovely blue color and wild salvia for a touch of red.

The mix contains some wildflowers commonly found in our area such as blanket flower (*Gaillardia pulchella*), tickseed (*Coreopsis leavenworthii*), goldenrod (*Solidago fistulosa*), partridge pea (*Chamaecrista fasciculata*), and two species of blazing star or gayfeather (*Liatris chapmannii* and *L. gracilis*).

The mix also contains lopsided Indian grass (*Sorghastrum secundum*) which has spikes of gold-tan seeds on

one side of the stalk from late summer to early fall. Jointweed (*Polygonella polygama*) is in the buckwheat family. It grows to about two feet and has loose spikes of tiny fragrant white to pinkish flowers in summer and fall. Frostweed (*Verbesina virginica*) and Mohr's thoroughwort (*Eupatorium mohrii*) both have branching heads of many small white brush-like flowers in late spring through summer and fall.

Florida has a state roadside wildflower program. Plantings in DeSoto have been moderately successful. Do a little backyard research, and perhaps you'll discover a combination that will thrive and beautify our community.

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