

ARCADIAN

Thursday, February 27, 2014 - 24 pages / 50 cents



A section of the Sun



Live Oak RV Park celebrates enduring marriages.

PAGE 16

SEW GOOD

Antiques vendor sells old Singer machines

By CRAIG GARRETT

ARCADIAN CORRESPONDENT

For many, a sound transports us to another time – a train whistle, the patter of rain, crickets in the night.

For O.B. Osceola Sr., it's the clattering of sewing machines Native American women used to stitch cotton cloth and patchwork quilting accented with beads. "A constant hum supporting us, clothing our family," he said of the hand-cranked Singer machines used on remote Seminole land in Collier County. Because he turns 80 next month, hand-powered machines were the norm during his youth 75 years ago, he said. "It is a very pleasant hum."

Osceola is explaining this remembrance, a smile on his dark face, as surges of

VENDOR | 18



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY CRAIG GARRETT

O.B. Osceola stands behind one of dozens of manual Singer sewing machines he has for sale at the Fourth Saturday Antiques Fair in Arcadia. The availability of the machines, which did not need electricity to be operated, made it possible for Seminole women to create the intricate, colorful geometric patterns for which they are famous.

County OKs live music at Open Road

By STEVE BAUER

ARCADIAN ASSISTANT EDITOR

The DeSoto Board of County Commissioners unanimously approved a one-year special exception to allow live outdoor music at the Open Road Bar and Grill.

Open Road owner Richard Young requested the exception, which will allow the bar to hold live music events on an outdoor stage on the property either Saturdays or Sundays. Bands will perform, weather permitting, from 12 p.m.-6 p.m. Previously, the bar was only allowed to hold outdoor entertainment by obtaining a special event permit.

Planning Manager Tom Cookingham said the county's Planning Commission had voted 4-2 against recommending the exception, citing potential noise issues and an expansion of the business that didn't conform with the zoning designation. Young quickly disputed the Commission's findings, saying he isn't building any new structures on his property and the bar had proven during a Jan. 8 outdoor event it can control its noise levels.

"I'm not expanding anything; I should be allowed to have outdoor entertainment," Young said. "I'm doing nothing more than growing my business to its fullest extent, and we're trying to make the Open Road a destination for people outside the county. Everyone's watching — they want to see what DeSoto County does in terms of allowing this to go forward and helping businesses grow here."

When board members asked Young about noise complaints about the bar and the Planning Commission's recommendation of the construction of a noise barrier such as a wall, he said all bands that play there would be required not to exceed a specified noise level, and expressed concerns that a barrier will be expensive and ineffective.

"We didn't receive a single complaint during the Jan. 8 event," he said. "I will ensure the noise level stays low; that will be my responsibility. I really don't believe a noise barrier will do any good, but I would be willing to figure something out if that's what it takes. I actually have some ideas of my own I've been tinkering with."

Several individuals spoke in favor of the bar, including former County Commissioner Ronald Neads, who said

COUNTY | 22

DeSoto names 2014 Teacher of the Year

By MARTHA JO MARKEY

EDUCATION FOUNDATION

DeSoto School Superintendent Karyn Gary announced the winners of the Volunteer, Substitute, Support Person and Teacher of the Year at the annual Employee and Volunteer

of the Year event, held Feb. 20 at the Turner Agri-Civic Center. This was the second year the School District and the DeSoto County Education Foundation Inc. joined forces to host the event.

After the DeSoto County High School ROTC presented

the colors, foundation chairperson Ann Ryals welcomed more than 170 people. Gary then introduced the nominees. Teacher of the Year nominees included Julie Chidsey, DeSoto County High School; Jolie' Schanck, Nocatee Elementary School; Jacqueline Harris, West

Elementary; Brittany Hines, DeSoto Middle School; Mary Pete Martin, DeSoto Early Childhood Center; and Stephanie Langford, Memorial Elementary School.

Langford was named Teacher of the Year. A kindergarten teacher at Memorial, Langford said in her application, "My role as a teacher goes beyond reading, writing and math. It also entails teaching life skills, diligence and responsibility ... students are respected and taught to respect ... success is not an option, it is an ambition."

Gary said choosing just one Teacher of the Year was difficult because the district has many qualified teachers. Langford received an iPad from Womack Sanitation, a gift card from Albritton Insurance Services, a gift

TEACHER | 22



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY JOHN BLACK, photeke@gmail.com

Elton Langford, Addy Langford, Bryan Sands and Bailey Sands applaud Stephanie Langford (holding flowers) as she is named DeSoto Teacher of the Year.

Arcadian 50c



INSIDE



Like us on Facebook

STILETTOS AND SPURS: Kicking up their heels at Chamber of Commerce party	3
HOMELESS SHELTER: Guest opinion on why we need one here	4
CHICKENS AND EGGS: Grow your own in your back yard	17

Editorial	4	Family Album	7	Obituaries	9	Sports	14
Calendar	6	Police Beat	8	Religion	10	Agriculture	17

School district reviewing dress code, attendance policies

By **SUSAN E. HOFFMAN**
ARCADIAN EDITOR

Assistant Superintendent Christina Britton said the School District has formed a committee to review the district's dress codes and attendance policies.

"We realized each school had a different policy in their handbook," Britton said. "We want to unify it."

With respect to dress code, Superintendent Karyn Gary said there's a need for clear, objective standards. "A student might go through three-fourths of the day before someone finds their attire inappropriate," she said. "That student has already been seen by several others who didn't think it was wrong."

That will be reviewed before the policies are assembled for the new school year and distributed to students and parents. That way, parents and students will know what is or is not appropriate.

The basic policy can then be expanded for each school level.

As to attendance, Britton said there is a similar need to clarify excused and unexcused absences, so parents will understand what is allowed and what will not be considered excused. "A 10-day cruise with their parents would not be considered 'excused,'" she said.

After a certain number of unexcused absences in the school year, the rules would determine what a student would have to do to make up homework and tests. The policies would also list what kind of documentation would be necessary to verify the excused absence.

Kate Horne, the new Environmental Land Lab instructor, briefed the School Board on changes she is implementing at the Environmental Learning Lab. "We are going to promote good stewardship of the environment," she said. The district is developing comprehensive curricula for students in all grade levels that teachers

can access online. They want to increase utilization of the outdoor classroom by both the district and the community, and more field trips will be planned.

Student achievements

FFA students gave the board a lively demonstration of Parliamentary Procedures which they have successfully performed at competitions.

The School Board welcomed Marilyn Goodman, advisor to the Health Occupation Students of America in DeSoto County High School. With her were three of the students who won at a regional competition and will now compete at the state level.

Andrew Hagen, coach of the DeSoto County High School A-Team (Academic Team), reported the DeSoto team defeated the East Lee County team on Jan. 31 by a score of 245 to 115. The team has also won "friendly" rounds

with Hardee High School's team. Their next challenger will be Lemon Bay next month. Beef O'Brady's of Arcadia set a spirit night for the DeSoto A-Team next Wednesday, with 20 percent of the evening's tabs between 4 p.m. and 10 p.m. being donated to the A-Team. The team has created a special Quiz Night for that evening from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and the public is urged to come out and support the team.

Two public meetings to discuss interest in a charter-type school in the DeSoto district will be held next week: one at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 4 in the School Board chambers, 530 La Solona Ave. The second will be held at 5:30 p.m. on March 6 at the Lake Suzy Academy (formerly Laurel Oaks Academy) in Lake Suzy. It will be an opportunity for parents to learn more about the proposed school. Anyone interested in such a school, focusing on STEM topics, is urged to attend one of the meetings.

Bonnie Molloy of Radio Shack, at right, demonstrates some of the products her store offers to Lanny and Julia Covington of Tennessee who are staying at Craig's RV Park.



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY JOHN BLACK, photete@gmail.com

Expo showcases local businesses



Ken Willis from Sebring, right, talks with the new managers of the Arcadia Sears store, Alaina and Andrew Collier.

NOTICE to Property Owners

March 1 is the DEADLINE to file for:

- DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR FILING EXEMPTIONS**
- Social Security Number
 - Florida's Drivers License
 - Florida Vehicle Tag Number
 - Voter Registration (if applicable)
 - Immigration information (if applicable)
 - Dependent Children School Information
 - Checking/Savings Account Statement
 - Paid Utility Bill with Current Address

- Up to \$50,000 - Homestead Exemption
- \$50,000 - Senior Exemption (Age 65 or older)*
- \$5,000 - Disabled Veteran's Exemption
- \$ 500 - Widow's Exemption
- \$ 500 - Widower's Exemption
- \$ 500 - Disability Exemption
- \$ 500 - Exemption for Blind Persons
- Property Tax Discount for Veterans Age 65 and Older with Combat Related Disability**
- Deployed Military Exemption***
- Exemption for Surviving Spouse of Veteran or First Responder
- All Other Exemptions
- Agricultural Classification

If you have any questions concerning the qualifications for these exemptions, please call the Property Appraiser's Office at

(863) 993-4866

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***Exemption determined by number of days deployed. Deployment orders required

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Friday, March 14, 2014
8:00AM

DeSoto County Extension Office
2150 NE Roan Street
Arcadia, Florida 34266

If special accommodations are required in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals should contact the County Administrator Office by calling 863-993-4800 at least forty-eight hours prior to the meeting. Please note two or more DeSoto County Commissioners may be in attendance at the meeting and may participate in discussion of the issues. For more information, please call 863-993-4800.

Chamber members kick up their heels at Spurs and Stiletto



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY JOHN BLACK

Deborah and Ronald Neads, left, Nancy and Jeff Adams, and Gabriel and Genie Quave enjoy the annual Chamber of Commerce Leadership party, Stiletto and Spurs, on Saturday.

Maria Coone, her sister Ashley Coone, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce, and Lyndsay Turner of Drug-Free DeSoto are decked out in cowgirl attire for the Chamber's Stiletto and Spurs party held at Oaks of Devonaire.



Lyndsay Turner and Andrew Crites pose at the photo booth at the Chamber of Commerce Leadership bash, Stiletto and Spurs, held Saturday.



Nelson Stephenson, DeSoto County High School principal, right, and his father, Franky Stephenson of Naples, enjoy the music of the Kollections at the Chamber Leadership fundraiser Saturday at Oaks of Devonaire.



Robert and Terri Womack enjoy the fun and entertainment at the Stiletto and Spurs party Saturday night.



Tim Vowels, center, shares a few cowboy tales with Lynn and Kevin Shelfer of Joshua Citrus at the Stiletto and Spurs party sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.



Alaina and Andrew Collier pause for a photo op at the Stiletto and Spurs gala sponsored by the Chamber's Leadership Class to raise money for the McSwain Park project.

Center for Family Health holds open house

SUBMITTED BY KRISTEN SPAHR
DE SOTO MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

The Center for Family Health held an Open House on Feb. 20 to introduce Louis Casado, MD and James Folkner, MSN, to the community.

The meet-and-greet was a great success, as the center staff met new and not-so-new patients and had the opportunity to show off.

"My husband and I are really glad we went; we got to meet all the providers and they even came up to us to introduce themselves," said Raynelle Newberry. "Everyone was so friendly and the take-away information and goodies were

items we will find to be useful. And the food was exceptional, too."

The center offered visitors a "Know Your Numbers" card which was used to document weight, blood pressure, body mass index and height. After all the numbers were filled out, staff explained why these numbers are important to an individual's health.

The Center for Family Health offered literature about DeSoto Memorial Hospital and center services, gave away "healthful" goodies, signed up patients for the Patient Health Portal and served refreshments. Visitors were also offered free counseling from Serving Health

Insurance Needs for the Elderly and Healthcare Exchange Navigator Counseling.

"We thoroughly enjoyed spending the evening at Center for Family Health," said Carol Lindemann. "We are especially grateful to have been able to speak with someone in person about the Patient Health Portal. Jessica from Medical Records signed us up and explained how the Portal works."

"We are so pleased the community is showing such great support of The Center for Family Health," said Dr. Gordon Page. "We work so hard to take care of our patients and truly appreciate being here in Arcadia."



PHOTO PROVIDED

The Center for Family Health held an open house last Thursday, with new and existing patients getting an opportunity to meet new members of the staff and sign up for services such as the Patient Health Portal.

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VIEWPOINT

The Sun / Thursday, February 27, 2014

www.sunnewspapers.net Arcadian | Page 4

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

GUEST COLUMN



Rev. Theodore Hanus

We need a homeless shelter in DeSoto County

At any given time there are more than 2,000 homeless people living here in DeSoto County in places and conditions that are unfit for human habitation. The homeless live in cars, under bridges, in our woods and on our parking lots. They struggle with a wide variety of serious problems. And their problems have a significant impact on our hospital, our jail, our churches, our businesses, and all who live in this community.

Local charitable and governmental agencies down through the years have provided wonderful assistance to them with such essentials as food and clothing. Medical providers give emergency care and many individuals volunteer time and resources to provide personal aid to the homeless. It is often lifesaving. But for the homeless it is only a partial solution.

What they desperately need is a safe place to recuperate from crises in their lives and begin to rebuild a future.

The Arcadia Housing Authority (an agency of the US Dept. of HUD) for more than 40 years has provided free housing to thousands of such individuals and families. And it always has a waiting list for its 130 units. But federal statutes forbid accepting anyone who has a drug or felony record. And that affects a significant portion of the homeless population.

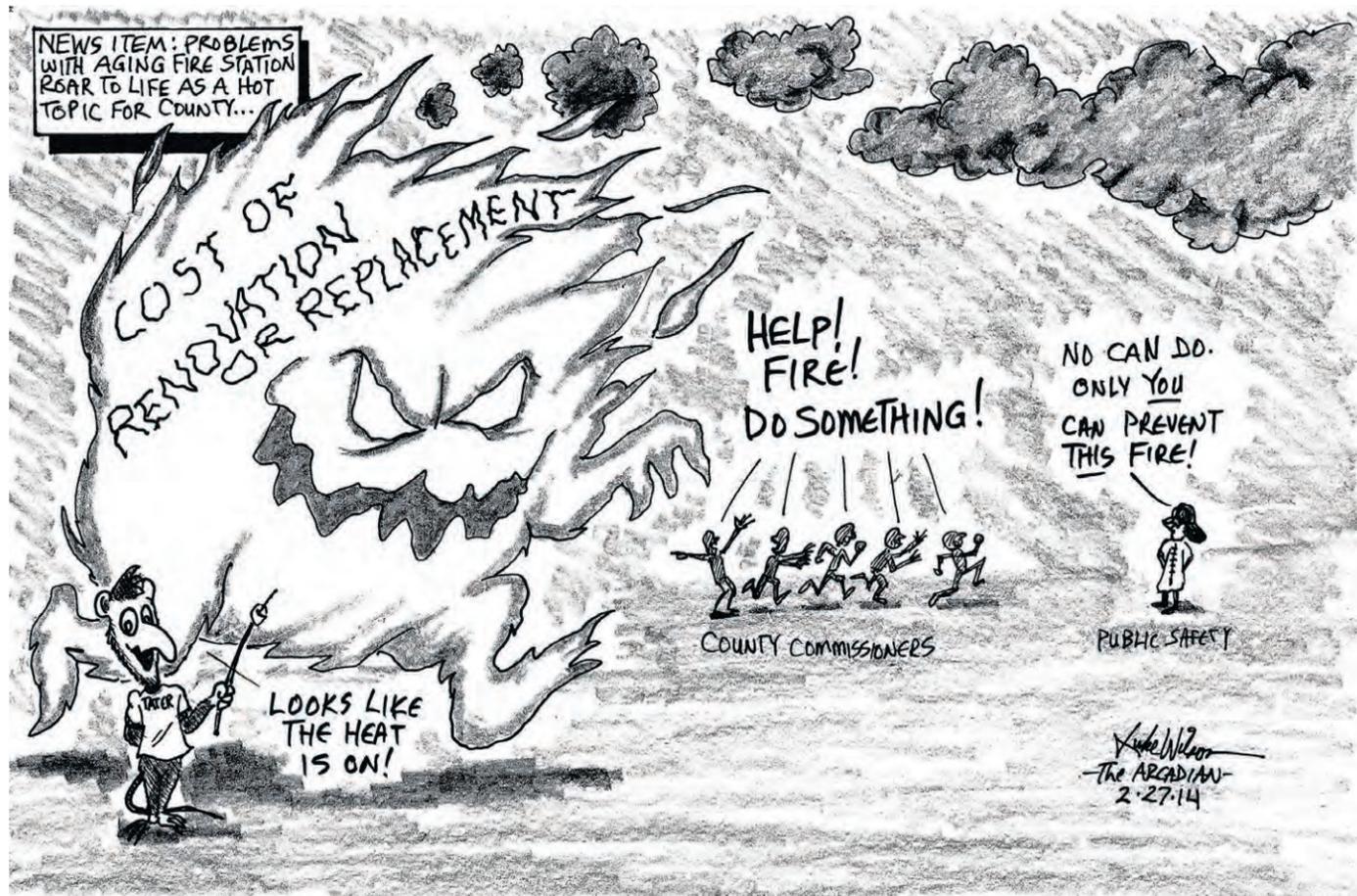
Our local Habitat for Humanity chapter has put more than 20 "homeless" individuals and families into new or substantially renovated homes. But it usually takes a year, a paying job, and the investment of hundreds of hours of sweat equity to complete the process. Again, many homeless can't meet that challenge.

The DeSoto County Homeless coalition was formed over a decade ago to confront the tragedy of homelessness directly. In partnership with the Arcadia Housing Authority, the coalition developed plans for a \$2 million homeless shelter. Architectural plans were approved and funding commitments were received for a 30-bed facility. Then the "great recession" hit, and the State of Florida withdrew its financial commitment.

This past year, with the economy now in recovery, the two partners have resumed work on creating a permanent facility for the county. But the most optimistic date for opening is 3 to 5 years off.

Until that permanent facility is completed we need to create a temporary shelter. There are many different models for such a shelter already in

HOMELESS | 5



GRITS & PIECES

A mistake that just won't go away

Tomorrow will mark 14 years since G. Pierce Wood Memorial Hospital closed its doors after 55 years of providing care for Florida's most vulnerable citizens, the mentally ill. My writing about it is certainly not the only reminder for those who knew of it, for we are reminded weekly, if not daily, of the need for such a facility when we watch the news, read the newspaper, or even pay attention in our communities.

Closing GPW was a mistake and I'll always believe that. It was failure on the part of those who knew better. Those making this decision promised that better care would be taken of residents who called GPW home for many years, if they were transferred to other facilities, integrated into our communities in group homes, and even set up in their own apartments. Quality treatment would come in the form of treatment teams that would monitor their behavior with weekly visits, as opposed to the daily care they received at GPW. Funds would be available for programs and care, and everyone would live happily ever after.

Those funds are rapidly drying up, along with hope for those who trusted our state with their well-being, and their very lives.

Recent articles in the Charlotte Sun newspaper have brought awareness to the plight of those suffering from mental illness who are receiving far less quality care than they were promised. Some receive none, while living in and out of jail or on the streets. Some are even dead now.

Did GPW have a large annual budget? Of course it did, somewhere around \$45 million annually to maintain such a large facility and employ a large



troubador55@embarqmail.com

Grits & Pieces

Luke Wilson

professional staff to care for residents there. Could it have been scaled back a bit? Again, yes. And that would've been the right choice to make. But if this was even considered, I have no knowledge of it.

I don't represent anyone with my thoughts on this subject, but I'm sure I'm not alone in what I say. Even if the scale-back were very large, a working semblance of GPW should've been saved and maintained. The Washington Complex could've served as such, for it is a series of buildings cordoned off. It has three residences (formerly known as wards), as well as an administration building, kitchen and dining room, recreation building, and also a large courtyard for activities and events. At least 60 residents could live there and be cared around-the-clock by a scaled-back team of professionals. And that would be at least 60 lives getting a much better deal than they got in 2012 with the closure.

The Committee to Save GPW consisted of concerned employees of the facility and a few outsiders, including then-State Representative Lindsay Harrington, who introduced a bill to keep GPW and the rest of Florida's mental facilities open. A gauntlet of committees set up by the powers that be in Tallahassee ensured that time

would run out before the bill passed, of course.

Those making all the decisions ignored letters, e-mails, and phone calls from law enforcement officials in GPW's 18-county catchment area that warned of what could and would happen if it were shut down. Their words fell on deaf ears and exactly what was predicted has come true and continues to present itself all around us. Jails have an alarming number of those suffering from mental illness in their care. And that care is not care at all, in regards to the needs of these incarcerated individuals. Irony comes into play, for it is a crime unto itself to confine them there.

Also ignored were letters from concerned citizens and health care professionals who tried to stop this slow-motion train wreck from occurring. A group of GPW employees, ranging from security to psychiatric care professionals, and even a couple of residents themselves, managed to have a private audience with then-Governor Jeb Bush, and carefully explained what could and would happen if the hospital was shut down. I know this for a fact because I was right there with them. He was polite, but unconcerned.

The writing on the wall from those days will not fade away. In fact, it is even more visible and dire than it was then. Mental health cannot be blended seamlessly into society, nor can it be swept under a rug and forgotten.

Meanwhile, the buildings sit vacant and decaying on the GPW property, a somber reminder to us all that we have failed a very special portion of our population.

We most certainly are our brother's keeper.

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.

Hints for a safer, fraud-free 2014

Even though it is late February, almost two months into 2014, it is still not too late to do some things now that will minimize your chances of becoming a victim of a scam or fraud and, thus make the entire year less stressful.

If you have not done so lately, now is the perfect time to program new passwords into computers and any other electronic devices that require them. Experts have recommendations for this, one being to change the passwords regularly. Further, they suggest always using an assortment of upper and lower case letters, numbers and symbols. While longer passwords are more difficult to remember, they are also more difficult for hackers to breach. According to a recent study, a good hacker needs only 10 minutes to guess a six-character, lower case password. Add just one upper case letter and it takes him 23 days. Add to that one symbol and one number, and it will take him 463 years!

Another suggestion is to have different passwords for different accounts, especially if you conduct any financial business online. Sites containing personal, sensitive financial information should have their own passwords, unique from any others. Even though approximately 20 percent of people report their online accounts have been compromised, the majority of people still use the same password for all of their accounts.

There are additional cautions you can take, but my final one today would be to not use the most common password — “password” — or the other common ones — “123456” and “ABC123.”

The second thing you can do for yourself is to decide approximately how much you can afford to donate to charities during 2014 and to which charities you want to give. These can even be charities to which you only give at Christmas time or another specific time during the year.



C.A.S.E. Manager
DeSoto County Sheriff's Office
Phyllis Schwartz

By doing this now and writing it down, you are really making a mental contract with yourself that will allow you, with all honesty, to tell other charities which approach you for donations, that they are not in your giving plan for 2014, but you may consider them sometime in the future. It also helps to know the approximate total amount when making budget calculations and adjustments during the year.

Finally, now would be the time, if you haven't already done so, to request your free credit report from one of the three credit reporting agencies. There are three agencies and you are entitled to one from each of them each year. By requesting one now, you can then space your request from the other two later on — perhaps one in late Spring or early Summer and the third in late Fall or early Winter.

The request can be made by telephone to 1-877-322-8228 (toll-free) or on-line to www.annualcreditreport.com. Be cautious in dealing with other sites. You will need to verify your social security number and other identifying information.

The Communities Against Senior Exploitation (CASE) program is a partnership between the community and the DeSoto County Sheriff's Office to protect the financial resources of all our residents. Should you need more information, or to report any suspicious activity related to a scam or fraud or to learn more about the program, call Sheriff Wise or Lt. Mays at 863-993-4700; they will be happy to assist.

HOMELESS

FROM PAGE 4

existence across the state, so we don't have to reinvent the wheel. They range from tent compounds to congregate living units — along the lines of migrant farmers' housing or Salvation Army shelters. Options range from 12-hour (day or night) or 24-hour operations. Whatever model is chosen, minimum requirements (set by the state of Florida) will include on-site social service staffing, security provisions, and basic health and sanitation facilities.

Two months ago a number of community leaders and concerned citizens gathered at the invitation of the deacon of St. Edmund's Episcopal church to discuss the need for a temporary shelter, and consider some of the available models. At a subsequent meeting the group decided to adopt “DeSoto Cares” as its name, and to pursue the goal of creating a homeless shelter under the corporate umbrella of the DeSoto County Homeless Coalition. On Feb. 4 a petition was submitted to the County Zoning board requesting its assistance with the project, as it is anticipated that any shelter will require a special zoning exemption.

But for this project to become a reality, the business community, the city and county governments, and a broad cross section of our county will have

to step up and express their support for the shelter. Funding for both the construction and operation of the homeless shelter will of necessity have to come from state, federal and private grants — and these funding sources require such widespread support before approval.

Whether it is out of compassion for the veteran who is living in a tent in the woods behind Tractor Supply, or the mother who is raising her infant under a sheet of plastic in the swamp behind the Fiesta food mart; or whether it is the numbers that tell us wherever homeless shelters are constructed, costs for emergency room services, court and police services drop; or whether it is the very simple realization that “there but for the grace of God go I,” every resident in this county has more than ample reasons to support the creation of a homeless shelter.

For more information, or to offer your support for this project email desotocares@gmail.com.

— *The Rev. Theodore R. Hanus is the pastor emeritus of Grace Lutheran Church in Arcadia, and currently serves on the boards of directors for the Arcadia Housing Authority, Arcadia-Desoto Habitat for Humanity, The Arcadia Center for the Needy, and is a former board member of the DeSoto Homeless Coalition. His email address is tedjanhanus@hotmail.com.*

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 Little Big Town Sat. Mar. 1, 7:30 \$40	 Thompson Square Sun. Mar. 2, 3:30 \$25	
 Rascal Flatts "LIVE & LOUD" Tour 2014 Sun. Mar. 2, 7:30 \$55	 Charley Pride Mon. Mar. 3, 3:30 \$15 & \$20	 Josh Turner Mon. Mar. 3, 7:30 \$20 & \$25
 Brenda Lee Tue. Mar. 4, 3:30 \$15 & \$20	 Kellie Pickler Tue. Mar. 4, 7:30 \$15 & \$20	
 Crystal Gayle Wed. Mar. 5, 3:30 \$15 & \$20	 Lee Brice Wed. Mar. 5, 7:30 \$20 & \$25	 Tommy Dorsey Orchestra Thu. Mar. 6, 10:30 FREE
 Oak Ridge Boys 40th Anniversary Tour Thu. Mar. 6, 3:30 \$15 & \$20		
 Third Day Thu. Mar. 6, 7:30 \$15 & \$20	 John Anderson Fri. Mar. 7, 3:30 \$15 & \$20	 Boyz II Men Fri. Mar. 7, 7:30 \$20 & \$25
 Caroline Kole Sat. Mar. 8, 1:00 FREE	 Dustin Lynch Sat. Mar. 8, 3:30 \$15 & \$20	
 Jerrod Niemann Sat. Mar. 8, 7:30 \$20 & \$25	 Easton Corbin Sun. Mar. 9, 3:30 \$15 & \$20	 The Band Perry Sun. Mar. 9, 7:30 \$40

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Feb. 27 - Mar. 2
See website for times

BELLE CITY MIDWAY HIGHLIGHTS

- Thu. Feb. 27 **Ride-A-Thon** - \$20 - Noon - 11 pm
- Fri. Feb. 28 **Publix Super Market Day on the Midway** - Noon - 10 pm. Present any Publix brand non-perishable item at gate Get \$4 off Fun Pack Ride Coupon Book
- Sat. Mar. 1 **Moonlight Magic** - \$20 - 10 pm - 2 am
- Sun. Mar. 2 **Kid's Day** - All Day Free Admission for Kids through High School
- Sun. Mar. 2 **Pepsi Family Day** - \$5 off with any Pepsi brand can product - Ride all day for \$20
- Mon. Mar. 3 **Ride-A-Thon** - \$20 - 10 am - 11 pm
- Tues. Mar. 4 **Ride-A-Thon** - \$20 - Noon - 11 pm
- Wed. Mar. 5 **Ride-A-Thon** - \$20 - Noon - 11 pm
- Thu. Mar. 6 **Ride-A-Thon** - \$20 - Noon - 11 pm
- Fri. Mar. 7 **Tampa Tribune & TBO.com Day** - Noon - 10 pm, \$2 Off Fun Pack Ride Coupon Book. Get Extra \$2 Off same Book with a printed Tampa Tribune or TBO.com Discount Coupon
- Sun. Mar. 9 **Moonlight Magic** - \$20 - 10 pm - 2 am
- Sun. Mar. 9 **Pepsi Family Day** - \$5 off with any Pepsi brand can product - Ride all day for \$20

The Midway opens daily at 12 noon except on Sat., Sun. & Mon., when it opens at 10:00 a.m.

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- The Walker Brothers
- RUNA PACHA "Indian World"
- Robinson's Racing Pigs
- Wild About Monkeys

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Arcadia's COMMUNITY CALENDAR

NOTE: All area codes are 863 unless otherwise indicated.

TODAY

- 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.

FRIDAY

- DeSoto Health and Rehab Open House will be held from 4 p.m.-7 p.m. Feb. 28. Free barbecue.
- The AA G.I.R.L.S. Anniversary Night is at 6 p.m. on the fourth Friday of the month at St. Edmund's Episcopal Church, 327 W. Oak St.
- City Takers for Christ will be giving away free meals on the last Friday of every month, starting at 12:30 p.m. until everything has been distributed, at 607 S. Orange Ave.
- 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

- Pine Creek Chapel will hold a Rummage and Flea Market from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 1. Vendor spaces are \$10. There will also be a bake sale. Located 4 miles outside of Arcadia on State Route 72 (before Kings Highway). For details call 494-6547 or 494-9166.
- Project Graduation will hold its annual benefit dinner at 6 p.m. March 1 at DeSoto Middle School. The dinner will again be sponsored by Mosaic Co. and catered by Slim's Deep South Bar-B-Q. Appetizers and desserts will be prepared by the DeSoto County High School Culinary Arts classes. Door prizes, silent auction. The theme this year is "The '70s." Kay reed will emcee and Pierre Hilaire will entertain. Proceeds benefit Project Graduation, to keep our graduating seniors safe. Tickets are available for \$20 to \$100. Sponsors at all levels are sought. Make checks payable to DeSoto Co. Education Foundation,

Inc., Project Graduation; P.O. Box 2537, Arcadia, FL 34265. For tickets or sponsorships, call or text 990-5601.

- St. Edmund's Episcopal Church, at W. Hickory (State Road 70) and Manatee Ave., is holding a rummage and bake sale from 8 a.m. to noon on March 1. Great bargains on household items, seasonal items, electronics, books, collectibles and more, plus delicious goodies in the Bake Shop.
- The Olde Town Market and Main Street Farmer's Market are held the first Saturday every month in downtown Arcadia from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fresh produce, pickled products, jams, jellies, homemade granola bars, baked goods, fresh and dried herbs, arts, crafts, woodworking, quilts, sewing, plants and other goodies. For vendor info call the Arcadia Main Street office at 494-2020.
- Boaters Get-Together meets at 1 p.m. on the first Saturday of every month at Nav-A-Gator Grill, 9700 S.W. Riverview Circle (off Kings Hwy/C.R. 769). For more information, call 941-627-3474.
- 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

- St. Paul's Knights of Columbus will hold a pancake breakfast from 8-11:30 a.m. Sunday at St. Paul's Parish Hall. Donation is \$6/adult, \$3/child under 12. Open to the public. For details, call Richard Jordon at 444-0082.
- 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

- 4-H county council, leaders and volunteers meet at 6 p.m. the first Monday of each month at the DeSoto County Turner Center extension office.
- The AA G.I.R.L.S. business meeting is held the first Monday at 7:15 p.m. at St. Edmund's Episcopal Church, 327 W. Hickory St.
- The Arcadia Garden Club meets at noon on the first Monday of each month Oct. through June at its office, 1005 W. Magnolia St. Bring a covered dish to share.
- 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. Edmund's Episcopal Church at 8 p.m. Monday at 327 W. Hickory St.
- Al-anon, offering help for families of alcoholics, meets at 7:30 p.m. on Mondays at Fort Ogden Methodist Church, 6923 S.W. River St. in Fort Ogden. Alcoholics Anonymous meets at the same time. For information call 941-426-7655 or visit www.district13soflal-anon.org.
- The DeSoto County Homeless Coalition Community Resource Center is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday at 1425 Martin Luther King St. The center provides referrals for mainstream resources, elderly food stamps (by appointment) and computer service. Salvation Army has office space on Wed. by appointment. For more information, call 491-5683.

TUESDAY

- The DeSoto County School District will hold public meetings from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on March 4 at the School Board Chambers, 530 La Solona Ave., to discuss the possibility of opening a charter or magnet school at the Laurel Oaks location. The school would be under the operation of the DeSoto School District and would focus on STEAM: science, technology, engineering, arts and math. Everyone interested is encouraged to attend.
- Arcadia City Council meets at 6 p.m. at the Margaret Way Building, 23 N. Polk Ave., Arcadia.
- 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.weight-watchers.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,

SPECIAL

- DeSoto County 4-H is starting its third annual citrus tree project. Youth age 5-18 may participate in this project by growing their own citrus tree to learn about the care of the tree, insects and diseases, the citrus industry and much more. If your child is interested, call the DeSoto County Extension Office at 993-4846 or email kpopa@ufl.edu no later than March 6 to reserve a spot.

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

WEDNESDAY

- DeSoto County Homeless Coalition Mobile Pantry is on the first and third Wednesday of each month at the Smith Brown Gym starting at 9 a.m. until the food is gone. The only requirement is to be a DeSoto County resident. Sponsored by the All Faiths Food bank of Sarasota.
- The AA Serenity Group Business Meeting is held at 7:15 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month at Grace Lutheran Church, 1004 W. Oak St.
- The Arcadia Writers Group meets from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month at the Arcadia Village Clubhouse. For more information, call Sarah Hollenhorst at 244-1663.
- The Retired Law Enforcement Association of Southwest Florida meets first Wednesday monthly at the Fraternal Order of Police Hall, 23300 Harper Ave., Port Charlotte. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.; meeting is at 7:30 p.m. For information, call 941-423-0902.
- Hour of Power Prayer time is held at noon at Freedom Fellowship Christian Ministries, 1528 N.E. Turner Ave.
- "Art for Kids" is at 3 p.m. every Wednesday in the DeSoto County Library's children's wing. This program, sponsored by the DeSoto County Arts and Humanities Council, is for elementary school-aged children.

THURSDAY

- The DeSoto County School District will hold public meetings from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on March 6 at the former Laurel Oaks Academy in Lake Suzy, to discuss the possibility of opening a charter or magnet school at the Laurel Oaks location. The school would be under the operation of the DeSoto School District and would focus on STEAM: science, technology, engineering, arts and math. Everyone interested is encouraged to attend.
- The 30th annual Marion High School Florida Multi-class Reunion will be held from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on March 6 at Duff's Original Buffet, U.S. 40 and 60th Street in Bradenton. This is for members of any class of Marion High School in Indiana. For reservations or information, call 941-624-5148, email to MHSFLreunion@aol.com, or mail to Marion Reunion, 11250 Essex Dr., Lake Suzy, Fla. 34269. Include number of persons attending, class year, phone number, address and email.
- Eric Christensen, South Florida State College physics and astronomy professor, invites the public to a star party from 8-9 p.m. March 6. Telescopes will be provided. Lunar observations, the moon and its craters, will be viewed. Star parties are weather dependent and will be canceled in the event of heavy cloud cover or rainy weather. Check the current status at: <http://sfcc-astronomy.wikifoundry.com>. Bring blankets and lawn chairs dress accordingly. The star parties meet in Avon Park near Ridge Area Arc on Baltimore Street, located along College Drive, one mile east of SFSC, or just off Memorial Drive. Parking is on Baltimore Street. For information, call Christensen at 784-7363, or email christee@online.southflorida.edu.
- The DeSoto Arts and Humanities Council Board of directors meets on the first Thursday of the month at 5:30 p.m., at The Arcadian, 108 S. Polk.
- Chamber of Commerce Early Bird Breakfast is at 8 a.m. the first Thursday monthly. Each month's location will be announced.
- The 4-H Stitch in Time sewing club meets every first Thursday at 5 p.m.
- Relaxation Yoga Class every Thursday, 5 p.m.-5:15 p.m., registration and yoga tea; 5:15-6:15 p.m., yoga class. Held in the Health Dept. conference room, 34 S. Baldwin Ave. Drop-in \$7/class, 8-class package \$40 (\$5 per class). Bring your own mat. For more information, call Christine at 244-1925.
- DeSoto County Library story time is at 3 p.m. at 125 N. Hillsborough Ave., Arcadia. Call 993-4851 for more information.

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Sun, MAR 2nd 6:00pm	Struggling with Family Issues?
Mon, MAR 3rd 6:45pm	Sick & Tired of being Sick & Tired?
Tues, MAR 4th 6:45pm	Life Beating you Down?
Wed, MAR 5th 6:45pm	Need Healing in you Life?
	Looking for a Place to call Home?
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Family Album



FAMILY ALBUM PHOTOS

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

Hospital volunteers honored



PHOTO PROVIDED BY JANE POWERS

DeSoto Memorial Hospital's Auxiliary honored several members for their service at a recent luncheon. From left: Becky Grant, 4,000 hours; Cookie Cindric, 100 hours; Bob Siegel, Auxiliary President; Seated: Twighla Russell, 10 years.

Congrats to the graduate



PHOTO PROVIDED

Betty Kathleen Apodaca graduated from the Registered Nurse program at Edison State College on Dec. 12, 2013. She is employed at the State Veterans Nursing Home in Port Charlotte. I'm very proud of you!

Congratulations!

Love,
Mom

Prayer request

To all who reads this,

My name is Timothy Haas and I know you may not know me, but I am asking with a sincere heart for your prayers. Please pray for my family and ask God if He can send us a miracle to save my marriage and my family. I am doing all I can and more, but it just doesn't seem like enough. I feel I need a higher power in this matter, and the more who pray, the better I would feel because I do believe God answers prayers.

Thank you.

Tim Haas

Happy 65th anniversary



PHOTO PROVIDED

Congratulations to Louis and Lois Lowne who are celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary.

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2442 NE Highway 70, Arcadia (across from Walgreen's)

Report: Zolfo Springs man killed at strip club

By **DREW WINCHESTER**
STAFF WRITER

SARASOTA COUNTY — Authorities identified the man who died early Sunday morning at a Sarasota gentlemen's club after an altercation with club's security staff led to a fight.

According to the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office, Donald H. Canary, 35, of the 2100 block of Jack Smith Road, Zolfo Springs, Fla., died after tangling with Brad Stanford, 31, of Bradenton.

According to a report, Canary and two other people — including his wife — were at the Cheetah Club, in the 2900 block of North Washington Blvd., Sarasota, around 12:30 a.m. on Sunday when they allegedly conducted a



STANFORD

"disrespectful act" toward one of the club's waitresses. An altercation erupted between Canary's party and the club staff, and Stanford put Canary into a chokehold and took him to the ground, the report states. Canary tried to get out of the chokehold once on the ground, but Stanford held firm, and another club employee held Canary's legs.

Stanford refused to release Canary, the report states, until authorities arrived, even as Canary's wife and friends asked Stanford to let him go.

Stanford did let Canary go after authorities arrived on scene, but by

then Canary had stopped breathing. Canary's wife, along with law enforcement, tried to revive him using CPR, but he was pronounced dead at the scene. Stanford refused to give a statement at the scene and was taken into custody. He remains at the Sarasota County Jail without bond on a manslaughter charge. Stanford, whose Facebook page lists him as having worked at the Bradenton-based information technology company United Systems, did not show any previous criminal history beyond traffic fines, according to the Sarasota and Manatee County Clerks of Court.

Friends or family of Canary could not be reached for comment on Monday.

Email: dwinchester@sun-herald.com



A photo taken from Brad Stanford's Facebook page.

Arcadia woman charged with fraud in Punta Gorda

The Charlotte County Sheriff's Office arrested Beverly Theresalyn Henry, 37, of the 600 Block of W. Whidden St., DeSoto County, on charges of scheming to defraud the Punta Gorda Housing Authority, a third degree felony.



HENRY

According to CCSO, in 2008 Henry had applied for Section 8 housing in Punta Gorda, listing herself as residing in the 600 block of W. Whidden St., Arcadia. She secured a two-bedroom apartment on Rio de Janeiro Drive in Punta Gorda. The report states her rental payments were subsidized by the Punta Gorda Housing Authority. She reportedly had two children, (now ages 5 and 7).

Initially she contributed some of the rental payment but when she told PGHA she had lost her job, the full rental amount plus money to cover electric charges were paid for her through PGHA.

In 2012, her apartment was reportedly inspected and a woman, who was not Henry, opened the door for him. The inspector reported he found no evidence of children living there: no toys or children's clothing. Although the woman who opened the door initially

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.

said she was there just to let him in, she later said she had been living there since Jan. 2012 and was paying Henry \$500 a month. She also told PCHA that Henry lived in Arcadia with the father of her children, and her children attend DeSoto schools, the report said.

PGHA calculated it had paid out \$30,799 for Henry's apartment from Dec. 2008 through Aug. 2012. At a meeting with PGHA, Henry left temporarily to retrieve keys to the apartment in question, the report states, but she did not come back. She was discovered in the apartment with her boyfriend changing the locks.

The report said a witness said Henry did not use the apartment as her primary residence, but would collect mail there or visit there on weekends. She claimed she had not rented the apartment to anyone for a fee.

Henry was arrested by the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office on two counts of scheming to defraud to obtain property, and two counts of failing to disclose facts to obtain public aid valued at \$200 or more. Bond was set at \$30,000.

Arcadia women injured, Venice woman killed in wreck in Venice

An Arcadian woman received serious injuries in a two-car wreck in Venice Saturday afternoon.

According to the Florida Highway Patrol report, Ralph Van Brunt, 81, of Venice, was attempting to turn left from a southbound lane on U.S. Highway 41 (Tamiami Trail) at Roberts Road in Venice. The Ford pickup being driven by Margaret Niklas, 48, of Arcadia, was headed northbound on US 41 in the same area.

Brunt's Toyota drove right in front of Niklas's truck, and the pickup struck the car on the passenger side. Brunt suffered serious injuries and was transported to Venice Hospital; his passenger, Joy Van Brunt, 76, was killed.

Niklas was also taken to Venice Hospital with serious injuries; one of her passengers, 18-year-old Marie Niklas, also of Arcadia, had minor injuries; and another passenger, Rebecca Planchart of Arcadia, 18, was

not injured.

Brunt was cited for violation of right-of-way.

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

- Casey Lynne King, 34, 5600 block of N.W. Pine Bridge Drive, Arcadia. Charge: failure to support spouse or child. Purge: \$350.
- Phillip Morris McBurney, 24, 1100 block of S.W. Golden Ave., Arcadia. Charges: possession of less than 20 grams of marijuana and possession or use of drug equipment. Bond: \$240.
- Kimberly Ann McDonald, 31, Jacksonville. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.
- Michael Dean Merrell, 47, 1400 block of N.W. Magnolia Terrace, Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.
- Warren Sylvester Payne Jr., 35, 1300 block of N.E. Hickory St., Arcadia. Charge: resisting an officer with violence. Bond: \$1,000.
- Bradley Clayton Sullivan, 25, 3300 block of N.E. Worley Ave., Arcadia. Charge: DUI with BAC .15 or higher or with person under 18, and DUI with property damage. Bond: \$3,500.
- Melissa Kay Teague, 33, 3800 block of N.W. Valencia Ave., Arcadia. Charge: out-of-county warrant. Bond: none.
- Williard Joseph Wilson, 34, 200 block of S.E. Volusia Ave., Arcadia. Charge: disorderly public intoxication. Bond: \$120.

• Marcus Andrew Baker, 23, 2400 block of S.W. Alice Ave., Arcadia. Charge: possession of controlled substance without a prescription. Bond: \$1,000.

• Eduardo Fredy Castanon, 25, 1200 block of 5th Ave., Arcadia. Charge: driving without a valid license. Bond: \$120.

• Richard Earl Evans, 37, 2900 block of Sunflower St., Nocatee. Charges: possession or use of drug equipment and sale of marijuana. Bond: \$5,120.

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

• Christina Lee Lemacks, 28, 6200 block of N.E. Ranch Drive, Arcadia. Charge: driving while license is suspended. Bond: \$120.

• Tecoy Neglish, 55, Boynton Beach, Fla. Charges: resisting an officer without violence and trespass. Bond: \$1,000.

• Kyle Travis Robertson, 24, 7400 block of S.W. Oak Creek Road, Arcadia. Charge: grand theft between \$300-\$5,000. Bond: \$1,000.

• Shavod Tykori Smith, 24, 1300 block of S.E. Vermont Ave., Arcadia. Charge: possession or use of drug equipment. Bond: \$120.

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

• Alfredo Delgado Silva, 32, Sarasota.

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Thieves tow away custom smoker

By **STEVE BAUER**
STAFF WRITER

A DeSoto County man is asking for the community's help to find his custom-made mobile smoker, which was stolen from his property the night of Feb. 13.

Arcadia resident Doug Tanner built the smoker in 2011 after the Nocatee Old Timers group needed a large cooker. It took him five months to complete the smoker, which he says is worth \$2,000.

"They needed something that could handle the 300-plus people they were feeding," he said. "It took me five months to finish it, and now I use it to cook for various charities — the National Wild Turkey Federation, the Old Timers reunion and anyone else who requests it. I loan it out to pretty much anyone. It's really there to benefit the community."

Tanner, who lives



PHOTO PROVIDED

Doug Tanner had his custom smoker stolen from his property sometime during the night of Feb. 13.

off Hog Bay Extension, thinks the thieves knew what they were looking for because his road doesn't receive much car traffic.

"It was pretty brave of them, as the smoker was sitting 75, 80 yards back off the road," he said. "They're either using it to cook with, or they were short on cash and took it apart so they could scrap it."

The theft was reported to the DeSoto County

Sheriff's Office, which says it has no leads on possible suspects. Tanner says he just wants his smoker back, no questions asked.

"All I ask is whoever took it to simply bring it back. I have no interest in pressing charges," he said. "I just want it returned so it can be used by the community as needed."

Anyone who has information on the incident is asked to call DCSO at 863-993-4700.

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OBITUARIES

Veronica L. Jones-Redden

Veronica L. Jones-Redden, 46, passed away Valentine's Day, Friday, Feb. 14, 2014, at her home.



She was born Aug. 5, 1967, in Arcadia, Fla., to Shirley Smith and Glenwood Jones, and is affectionately called "Von" by her family and friends.

Veronica leaves to cherish her memory her mother, Shirley Smith; sons, Elronnie Jones, Michael Phillips Sr., I-Tikman Jones Sr. and Elston Hodge; daughters, TaShari Washington and Mikesha Redden; sisters, Jenella Jones, Glendolyn Jones, Diane Mayhue and Michelle Simons; grandchildren, Lavondra, Jaylen, Dontrevoion, Michael Jr., Ki'Majha, Amirah and I-Tikman Jr.; aunts, Mary (Pastor C.L.) Greene, Elvira Jones, Annie Jones-Ragins, Willie M. Jones and Georgianna Jones; uncle, Roy G. Jones; great-aunts, Queen Evans and Maggie Hartsfield; great-uncles, Jimmy Williams and Howard Williams; several nieces and nephews; an abundance of cousins; best friends, Shalonda Tice, Melody Bingham, Veronica Maxwell and Rochelle Perry; and an abundance of dear friends. She was preceded in death by her father, Glenwood Jones; and her grandparents, U.T. and Fleeta Bell Jones.

Visitation was held Friday, Feb. 21, 2014, at Hickson Funeral Home in Arcadia. The funeral services were held Saturday, Feb. 22, 2014, at Elizabeth Baptist Church, Arcadia.

Arrangements are by Hickson Funeral Home, Arcadia.

Velma Elizabeth Hollinsworth

Velma Elizabeth "Betty" Hollingsworth, 85, of Perry, Fla., died Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2014, at Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare in Tallahassee, Fla.

She was born Feb. 20, 1928, in Arcadia, Fla., to Charles and Mary A. Trump.

Betty was of the Methodist Faith, and in her spare time, she loved growing flowers; fishing; was active in her church with singing; and she enjoyed reading.

She is survived by her daughters, Marilda (Nathan) Smith of Tennessee, Thomasina (Fred) England of South Carolina, and Velma (Ray) Vickery of Perry; sons, Dickie (Belinda) Wheeler of Florida, and Vernon (Amy) Hollingsworth of Sarasota, Fla.; 17 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews; and she was a caregiver to Douglas Wetmore.

You may send condolences to the family at www.joepburnsfuneralhomes.com.

Arrangements are by Joe P. Burns Funeral Home, Perry.

Georgia Jean Haag Beesting Slawson

Georgia Jean Haag Beesting Slawson, 57, of Birmingham, Ala., and formerly of Arcadia, Fla., passed away unexpectedly Monday, Feb. 17, 2014, due to heart complications.



She was born Aug. 7, 1956, on Ashiya Air Force Base in Japan.

Georgia spent most of her life in Florida and Alabama. She was unconditionally selfless, and loving to her children, family, animals, nature, rocks and chocolate.

Georgia is survived by her mother, Marilyn Jean Haag; sisters, Peggy Lee Shockley and Linda Kay Breese; husband, Byron Bart Slawson; sons, Kenneth Michael "Kenny" (fiancée, Jennifer Lyndsey Jones) Beesting and Daniel Robert "Danny" (Alicia Reneé) Beesting; daughters, Katherine Reneé "Katie" (Martin Christopher Avey) Beesting and Emily Rose Slawson; and grandchildren, Danielle Beesting, Hannah Beesting and Michael Beesting. She was preceded in death by her father, Robert Hugh Haag; and her brother, Robert Lowell Haag.

A memorial service was held Saturday, Feb. 22, 2014, at East Lake United Methodist Church in Birmingham. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to a charity that helped their family and many other families of wounded veterans find homes after returning from war: Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 75851, Topeka, KS 66675, or via www.woundedwarriorproject.org — because the greatest trauma is being forgotten.

Douglas Mortimer Knight

Douglas Mortimer Knight, 85, of Lake Suzy, Fla., passed away Thursday, Feb. 20, 2014, at his residence. Arrangements are by Paul Schelm Funeral Home, Lake Suzy.

DEATHS | 21

Words of Comfort

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- Anonymus



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Roger Campbell

God does care

How do you react when trouble comes? Do you become pessimistic? Depressed? Are you difficult to be around because you lash out at others? Do you find yourself angry at God because things haven't turned out as you hoped they would?

Few people have difficulty believing God cares for them when things are going well. But things do not always go well.

This may be one of your difficult days. All the things you feared might someday happen seem to be happening and you don't know how to cope with these disappointments. What can you do to rise above your circumstances?

Try relaxing in God's love. He really cares.

God's care for us is shown in His creation. In his book, "Countdown," G.B. Hardy points out a number of scientific facts about the earth and its relation to its atmosphere and other planets that prove the Creator's care, writing: "We now know the size of our earth could not have been a thing of chance. It is exactly the right size for the existence of life." After listing a number of these "just rights," he contrasts the earth to other planets as follows:

"These dead and dismal moons and planets are a witness to the providence and genius of God. They stand bleak in dazzling light or eternal blackness, in blistering heat or deadly cold. They stand an eternal witness to man of what his world would be like if a loving God had not fashioned it for life and comfort."

Negative attitudes overcome us when despair leads us to conclude that some areas of life lie outside the circle of God's love. This kind of thinking compartmentalizes God and limits our expectation of His care. God's love, so clearly seen in creation and redemption, extends to all areas of life. All things that concern God's children concern their heavenly Father. According to the Bible, "all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28).

On one of his down days, Martin Luther heard a bird singing its evening song; then the sweet singer tucked its head under its wing and fell asleep. Describing this experience, Luther concluded: "This little bird has had its supper and now is getting ready to go to sleep, quite content, never troubling itself as to what its food will be or where it will lodge on the morrow. Like David, it abides under the shadow of the Almighty (Psalm 92). It sits on its little twig content and lets God care."

Are you hurting because of pain or other unwanted trials? Not one of your problems has taken God by surprise.

Tell Him your troubles and leave them with Him.

He understands and cares.

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



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Pastor Jim Wade, left, heads a team of volunteers who help prepare and serve free meals every Monday and Wednesday at Trinity United Methodist Church.

Trinity celebrates five years of meals

SUBMITTED BY JIM TRIPP

Back in 2009, Trinity United Methodist Church had completed a massive renovation and built a new state-of-the-art kitchen. Church member Sue Laubhan had an idea. She approached Pastor Jim Wade and the church congregation with a proposal: "Let's put together a simple free neighborhood lunch ministry program."

Laubhan said, "We have the facility to cook meals, and plenty of volunteers. We can fill a need in our neighborhood so I guess we just need people to show up and enjoy our cooking."

So with Pricilla Mathews and seven

volunteers the Neighborhood Lunch Program started. Laubhan often says, "Well, the lunch program didn't actually start off with a roar. For the first lunch we had prepared enough lunches for 125 people but only 12 hungry people showed up that first Wednesday."

Trinity's lunch ministry is entering its sixth year and times have certainly changed. Karen Hansen has helped to relieve some of the original lunch crew. "Well, we have served almost 62,000 meals these last five years. We prepare food for lunch for Mondays and Wednesdays plus our home lunch delivery. We have about 35 volunteers

who donate their time preparing these meals. All Faiths Food Bank has helped tremendously with food donations and recently donated a three-door stainless steel freezer."

"We are truly blessed by all the people and organizations that have made our lunch program successful through the years," said Pastor Wade. He offers a prayer before each meal, a short message and follows with guitar music.

The lunch ministry is funded by Trinity's church members and donations from the community. It is open to anyone in need at the church, 304 W. Oak St., on Monday and Wednesday.



All Faiths Food Bank recently donated a stainless steel three-door freezer to Trinity United Methodist Church for its free meal program, and a team of volunteers helps prepare and serve the food every Monday and Wednesday.

DeSoto County youth making a better future

By JAMIE PIPHER

ARCADIA GARDEN CLUB

Kristie Popa, DeSoto County 4-H agent, and Ana Beswick, County Extension Office manager, told the Arcadia Garden Club members at the February meeting about the many activities and learning opportunities offered by the 4-H program.

Third graders learn how to grow strawberries and spinach using a portable garden system. "Some students believe food only comes from a store," Popa said. "They never had a fresh green bean from a garden."

Tropicana Speech is a contest for grades 4-6 that helps young people write and deliver a speech. Many life skills are learned through public speaking experience, including use of body language, goal setting, and critical thinking.

On March 7, more than 400 4th graders will meet at the Turner Center for the annual Ag Venture. This program provides hands-on learning stations that focus on local agriculture production. Volunteers are needed.

Two years ago the DeSoto County 4-H program implemented the Citrus Tree Project to encourage older youth to join 4-H. Popa said the project is open to ages

5-18. "We learned a citrus tree can be destroyed overnight if you do not know how to care for it properly," said Zack and Jameson Wells, who recently took part in citrus tree projects.

Beswick explained the importance of soil testing. Information and forms are available at the Extension Office. The \$7 test analyzes soil pH, lime requirements, phosphorus, potassium, calcium and magnesium.

Look for the grand opening in March of the new teaching kitchen. Beswick also discussed hay bale gardening, which helps plants thrive due to the rich organic material and cutting down weeds, diseases and pests. For more information visit the DeSoto County Extension Office at 2150 N.E. Roan Street, or call 863-993-4846.

Hazel Stromsnes reported the annual migration to Mexico of millions of orange-and-black monarch butterflies could come to a halt if the insects' natural habitat is not saved. Scientists, artists and environmentalists are calling on the leaders of Mexico, the United States and Canada to protect butterfly breeding grounds. Hazel asked us to assist with our own local butterfly



Zack and Jameson Wells examine their prize-winning lime tree.

PHOTOS PROVIDED



Ana Beswick demonstrating hay bale gardening at the local Extension Office.

FUTURE | 17

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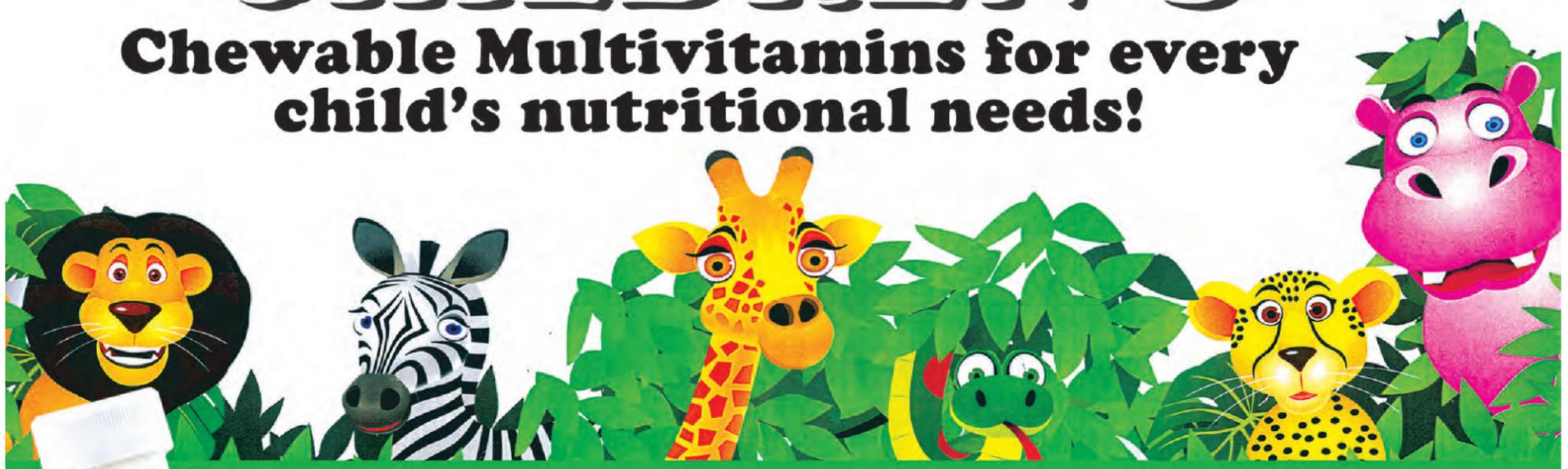
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National Moose leader coming to Arcadia

PROVIDED BY ARCADIA MOOSE

Joseph R. Koons, national Supreme Governor of the Loyal Order of Moose, will speak at Arcadia Moose Lodge No.1327 at 5 p.m. on March 15 as part of his travels across the state of Florida. The lodge is at 1121 West Oak Street in Arcadia. For more information, call the Moose Lodge office at 863-494-4882. Koons rose from the post of Supreme Junior Governor to become the Moose fraternity's chief presiding officer on May 29, 2013, elected by vote of Supreme Lodge delegates to a one-year term as Supreme Governor at

the organization's 125th International Convention in Milwaukee.

Joe joined the Moose in 1970 as a member of Danville, PA Lodge 1133. Joe has served the Pennsylvania Moose Association as District President, Youth Awareness Coordinator, and as Government Relations Chairman. He also served as Association President.

KOONS

Joe retired in 1999 after 36 years of professional service to Pennsylvania and still serves part-time as a

consulting therapist for troubled youth. The Moose organization, headquartered at Mooseheart, IL, consists of nearly 1.1 million men and women in approximately 1,800 lodges and 1,650 chapters throughout the U.S., Canada, Great Britain and Bermuda.

The organization owns and operates Mooseheart, a community and school for youngsters in need, 40 miles west of Chicago; and Moosehaven, a retirement community near Jacksonville. Moose lodges and chapters perform more than \$90 million worth of community service annually. Programs include Tommy Moose, in which lodges

and chapters donated nearly 200,000 plush Moose figures to emergency workers and hospitals for children in stressful situations.

They also run the Moose Youth Awareness Program, bringing together hundreds of bright teenagers for Youth Congresses to discuss the most effective ways to conduct "KidsTalks," communicating positive-life-choice messages to very young children in elementary and preschools, day-care centers, Sunday schools. Moose-trained teens have given KidsTalks to more than 700,000 youngsters across North America since 1990.

Author Lindo-Rice speaks to L & E Club

By SHEILA KNOCHÉ
L & E LITERARY

The L & E Literary Club met at the home of Nancy Ambler on Feb. 4. Co-hostesses were Edith Wildt and Angela Waters. The buffet table was set with Valentine decorations and a delicious sour cream pound cake was served with nuts, chocolate candy and coffee.

The year's theme is "Investigating Area Literary Talent." Jane Adams introduced visiting local author Michelle Lindo-Rice from Port Charlotte. Michelle is a pastor's child, a dedicated Christian, and an energetic educator. She was a teacher in New York. She taught at Laguardia Community College and is currently an Exceptional Education teacher in Port Charlotte. She is also the mother of two teen-aged sons.

Her debut novel, "Sing a New Song," was published in 2013 along with "Walk a Straight Line," released in January.

Originally from Jamaica West Indies, Lindo-Rice calls herself a lifelong learner. She earned degrees from New York University, SUNY at Stony Brook, and Teachers College, Columbia University and Argosy University. As a teen, Michelle discovered a passion for reading and writing and feels blessed to use her talents to bring God glory. She includes the four "Fs" throughout her books ... Faith, Family, Friendship, and Forgiveness.

Lindo-Rice has spoken on numerous radio shows and uses the Internet to



PHOTOS PROVIDED

From left, Jane Adams, author Michelle Lindo-Rice and Mary Ann Treadwell.

spread her messages. She is supported by her family along with mentor and friend, Jane Adams, who is given credit in all of her books.

Lindo-Rice says that the most difficult aspects of writing are networking and publicity. She has done book signings in Miami and New York. Her books can be purchased on Amazon and Nook. At the end of her presentation she gave everyone a colorful bookmark.

For a sample of her books, visit www.MichelleLindoRice.com.

Members attending the meeting were:

Jane Adams, Nancy Ambler, Geraldine Barnwell, Betty Brown, Shirley Cullom, Adie Daly, Muriel Hall, Margaret Hays, Susan Head, Sheila Knoche, Susan Lanier, Sue Maassen, Genie Martin, Sue Overcash, Ann Ryals, Sue Ellen Smith, Kathryn Standard, Mary Ann Treadwell, Nancy Jo Vaughn, Angela Waters, Edith Wildt, and Marlou Zolkos.

The next meeting will be at the home of Genie Martin on March 4. Guest author Paul Holmes will speak. He is a creative story-teller and author with ties to England and the United States.



Marlou Zolkos, left, and Susan Head.



Nancy Ambler, left, and Edith Wildt.

Club learns about 'A Passionate Victorian'

By DARLENE FOSTER
ARCADIAN LITERARY CLUB

The charming Mary Margaret's Tea and Biscuit in downtown Arcadia was the perfect setting for the February Arcadia Literary Club meeting to continue exploring the heritage of a 100-year-old DeSoto County organization. Co-hostesses Sally Aldrich, Susan Barnes and Diane Baxley greeted the members as the Mary Margaret's staff delicious desserts of raspberry crepes, bread pudding, fresh fruit and other luscious offerings.

The club welcomed April Ainsworth, a friend of member Heidi deJong. Secretary Raye Southwell read the minutes from the previous meeting, and Treasurer Sally Aldrich gave her report. Anniversary committee member Theresa Wheeler discussed the coming celebration of the Arcadia Literary Club's 100th year anniversary. Members then settled back to hear a fascinating book review by Beau Carson.

Beau reviewed "A Passionate Victorian" by Margaret Armstrong, about the life of a most fascinating person, Fanny Kemble. In the 1800s, Fanny was born in England into an acting family dynasty. Even though her family acted in Shakespearean plays, acting was still considered a "shady" profession. With her father, Charles, Fanny toured in the theaters throughout England, eventually coming to the United States where they acted in packed performances in New York and Washington, D.C. As well received as she was in acting, she felt this was only a way to earn money. She was



PHOTO PROVIDED

Beau Carson gives a presentation during the Arcadia Literary Club meeting at Mary Margaret's Tea & Biscuit.

more interested in pursuing her love for riding horses bareback and her passion for writing.

Her aunt and mentor told her that a serious actress could never be a suitable mate. But when her aunt passed away, in Fanny's loneliness she fell for a smooth-talking suitor, Pierce Butler. They were an unlikely pair from the beginning as Pierce's family wealth came from his ownership of more 900 slaves, and Fanny felt nothing but empathy for the slaves. Fanny's insightful and poignant journals, depicting life on a plantation, became best sellers when published in the U.S. Thus began the unraveling of a marriage and Fanny's

CLUB | 24

Where traffic is fun



PHOTO PROVIDED

Children at the Redlands Christian Migrant Association Smith-Brown Child Development Center pause on the facility's popular new concrete tricycle path. Funded by a \$4,013 grant, the tricycle path was constructed last month. The grant was awarded by the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, specifically the Evelyn Tucker Fund, in memory of Vera Tucker Gettinger and Dr. Donald Rufus. The children, from left, are Noel Villa-Suarez, Rhylee Daniels (foreground), Tecoy Campbell (background), Guadalupe Ponce-Guzman, Ja'quarion Dennis and Carvaris Hatcher.



Pence represents DeSoto as top STEM scholar

PROVIDED BY FLA. ED. ASSN.

Florida's top performing STEM students were recently recognized as Sunshine State Scholars and given the opportunity to attend a two-day event in Orlando, Feb. 13-14. It was an event that could change the course of their future as they learned why Florida is the best place to learn and pursue an exciting career.

Each school district throughout Florida selected its top 11th grade student based on their academic achievements in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). These students, along with their parents and a teacher chosen by each student, were invited to participate in the annual Sunshine State Scholars program. Eve Pence was chosen to represent DeSoto County schools.

The Sunshine State Scholars program is sponsored by the Florida Education Foundation, in collaboration with the State University System of Florida, the Florida College System, and the Florida Department of Education. It began in 1997 to recognize excellence in Mathematics and Science. Among those being honored this year were



PHOTO PROVIDED

Front Row: Mary Jane Tappen, Allison Farr (Hardee HS, Hardee County), Abigail Austin (UF Lab School), Eve Pence (DeSoto HS, DeSoto County), Jewelisia Fagg (East Gadsden HS, Gadsden County), Sarah Boullard (Vernon HS, Washington County), Donovan Ebersole (Blountstown HS, Calhoun County), Priyanka Patel (Columbia HS, Columbia County), Erin Dady (Bethlehem HS, Holmes County), Magali Salinas (LaBelle HS, Hendry County), Carlie Dennard (Palatka HS, Putnam County), Courtney Strickland (Madison HS, Madison County), Pam Stewart.

Back Row: Michael Daniel (Okeechobee HS, Okeechobee County), Bronson Bass (Moore Haven Jr/Sr HS, Glades County), Stefan Roberts (Jefferson HS, Jefferson County), Rohan Patel (Taylor HS, Taylor County), William Hosford (Liberty HS, Liberty County), Justin Barrier (Wewahitchka HS, Gulf County), Wes Fegely (South Walton HS, Walton County), Chason Tatanto (Franklin HS, Franklin County).

19 students from the small rural school districts participating in the FloridaLearns Stem Scholars Initiative for Gifted and Talented Students. In addition to recognizing their

academic success, the Sunshine State Scholars program gave these STEM students the opportunity to meet directly with highly successful professionals from STEM-related industries in

Florida, and with recruiters from Florida's finest colleges and universities. During the event, the students heard about special programs of study and industry internship opportunities, learned

about some of the latest innovations and discoveries in STEM-related research, were inspired by personal success stories from leaders in Florida's STEM industry, and were actively recruited to

become part of Florida's future talented workforce. The scholars also enjoyed meeting with students from around the state who had similar interests in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Calvary Baptist hosts informative health fair

By JAMIE PIPHER

Calvary Baptist Women's Ministry sponsored a community mini-health fair focused on women's issues on Feb. 13 that included the SunCoast Blood Mobile staff and six other community health-related services. Presentations and resource materials were available for all attendees.

Dr. David Smith, Desoto County Department of Health dentist, said lack of good dental care may contribute to heart disease because of bacteria from infected gums. This gave new meaning to the brushing and flossing rule taught to us by our dentist. More than 90 percent of all systemic diseases, including heart disease, have oral symptoms, research suggests. Gum disease affects over 80 percent of adults. "Prevention is the best medicine," Smith said. We can play a major role in preventing disease by

brushing daily, flossing daily, using mouth rinse, eating a healthy diet and avoiding cigarettes."

"Meth and alcohol are the drugs of choice for DeSoto County teens," said Rob Tabor, prevention coordinator for Coastal Behavioral Health/Arcadia, Inc. Coastal Behavioral Health is a nonprofit mental health and substance abuse agency. Tabor answered questions about substance abuse.

"The most difficult situation for parents is trying to deal with the daily challenges of a world that influence our youth and how best to create a family and community life based on faith, love and Christian values," one participant said. "Too Good For Drugs" (TGFD) is an evidence-based prevention program that is available for use in Desoto County. TGFD focuses on developing personal and interpersonal skills to resist peer pressures, goal setting, and having



PHOTO PROVIDED

A nurse takes a blood pressure reading as part of an overall health check.

respect for self and others. It provides information about the negative consequences of drug use and the benefits of a drug-free lifestyle. For more information on how to access this program, email Rob Tabor

at rtabor@coastalbh.org.

Dr. Wael Alokeh provided two nurses who conducted blood pressure screenings and discussed heart disease. Lisa Wright, grief liaison with Tidewell Hospice, described

the impact of losing a loved one and provided tools on dealing with grief. Tidewell Hospice offers emotional and spiritual support for anyone experiencing a loss. Ashley Brown, a Weight Watchers representative, examined the merits of a healthy life style as the means of losing weight. Samples of Weight Watchers snacks were distribute. Teresa Taft, from SunCoast Blood Bank, thanked the nine people who donated blood and said 150 units of blood are needed daily for this area. Leota Fussell, Women's Ministry prayer coordinator, discussed the importance of spiritual wellness in our daily lives and the role of prayer as an important indicator of our spiritual wellness.

Calvary Baptist Women's Ministry was grateful for the community response and plans to sponsor a more comprehensive health fair in the future.

Varsity boys can't catch Pirates

By **DAVE BREMER**
 SPORTS WRITER

After going 2-1 in their preseason games, the varsity Bulldog baseball team was confident but knew they had a lot of work in front of them. The squad is full of young players, starting only three seniors. The inexperience showed as they struggled on the mound and at the plate, falling 10-5 to Port Charlotte.

The Pirates scored three runs in each of the first two innings, while the Bulldogs countered with two of their own. Sophomore pitcher Will Nelson got the first out to start the game and then struggled with control, walking and hitting the next two batters. He then allowed a pair of RBI singles before getting out of the inning. DeSoto got men on early in the bottom of the first inning with a lead-off single by Tony Lalonde and a walk by Brad Roberts. It looked like both runners might be left stranded before two wild pitches by the Pirates gave the Bulldogs two runs.

After his early struggles, Nelson's pitch count had climbed beyond DeSoto Coach Trey Hill's comfort level, and he brought Senior Bay Hale out



Coach Trey Hill talks to his team between innings during the game against Port Charlotte. The Bulldogs lost 10-5.

in relief. Hale retired the first batter in the inning before a fielding error, two doubles and a single brought in three more runs for Port Charlotte. Hill told

his pitchers they were simply giving too good of pitches with a two-strike count. "You don't throw the ball down the middle of the plate with two strikes on the hitter," he said.

The bottom of the second, the Bulldogs knew they needed runners, and the Pirates obliged by pitching up 15 straight balls and handing the Bulldogs a run and loading the bases for Roberts, who singled to drive in another run. Bad luck came for DeSoto on the rally, however, as Nelson lined

out to the shortstop, doubling Lalonde off second base.

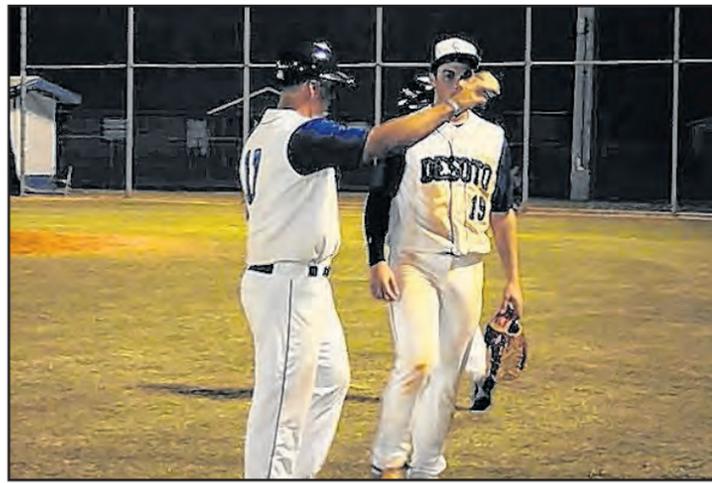
Dawgs can't catch up

Port Charlotte started the third strong with three hits, but were only able to score three on what could have been a huge inning. The Bulldog bats were quiet in the third, but the team felt confident they were still in the game with Sophomore Casey Ritenburg coming in to pitch. Ritenburg allowed just one hit in the fourth, but the Bulldogs could only get one walk during their chance at the plate. Both Ritenburg and Port Charlotte's pitcher worked around doubles in the fifth inning. Ritenburg retired the side on 10 pitches to start the sixth.

The Bulldogs had a great inning started as Lalonde doubled in a run, leaving two men on and one out for Roberts. Another line drive double play for the Pirates left the Bulldogs scoring only one run and trailing 9-5 going into the seventh inning. Ritenburg allowed his only run of the game, giving up three straight singles after retiring the first two batters. The Bulldogs went down drawing only a walk in the inning to end the game with the final score of 10-5.

After the game, Pitcher Bay Hale said his change-up was inconsistent the entire game. "Usually my change-up goes inside," he said, "Tonight it went straight too many times."

Assistant coach McCloud said, "They're good kids, we'll get it worked out."



Coach Hill talks pitching strategy with Casey Ritenburg between innings of the game against Port Charlotte.



The Bulldogs get ready for the pregame lineup announcement before their first regular season game. The Dawgs lost to Port Charlotte 10-5.

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JV boys blanked by Pirates

By **DAVE BREMER**
SPORTS WRITER

With only three returning players on the junior varsity baseball team, it was no surprise the boys looked a little nervous during the pregame practice before their season opener against Port Charlotte.

"It's not like we have a farm system like the St. Louis Cardinals" said Coach Ryan Fullerton. It was the first time many of the players had taken the field in a long time. Yet, the young Bulldog team held their own against the Pirates, allowing no more than one run in any inning in a 5-0 defeat.

Pitcher Tyler Bost started strong for the Bulldogs, getting the first two batters to fly out before he ran into control problems, loading the bases on two walks and a hit batter. A harmless pop out ended the inning however, and the Bulldogs were coming to bat with a chance to get on the scoreboard first.

DeSoto's first three batters all made contact, but the ball never left the infield on two pop outs and a ground out. The second inning again had Bost getting the first two batters out before a communication error in the outfield allowed one unearned run to score. Chase Higgins started the Bulldog's half of the second inning with a base hit, but it was quickly wiped out on an unsuccessful hit-and-run attempt, and the team could only get one more runner on base before the side was retired.

The Pirates got one more run in the third with a walk and a double. Down just 2-0, Coach Fullerton talked to the team before their half of the third, telling the hitters to wait on the curveball and then go with the pitch. Lead-off batter Logan Stephens reached base on a Port Charlotte



PHOTOS BY DAVE BREMER

The JV baseball team looks on before they take the field for the first time this season. The Bulldogs lost to Port Charlotte 5-0.

error, but again he and another basemen were left stranded. The Pirates got one more run in the fourth with a couple of base hits, but some fine fielding by third baseman Hunter Browning limited the damage.

Neither team scored in their next at-bats, and after Bost allowed a base hit to start the sixth inning, Fullerton brought on Levi Osceola in relief. After allowing only three runs (one earned) in five innings, Bost was happy with his performance. "It's been a long time since I pitched, but I was pretty pleased overall," he said.

The Pirates were able to score the leadoff hitter with a passed ball, but that was all they could manage off the strong fastball of Osceola.

The Bulldog bats remained quiet for the last two innings, and the Pirates scored one run in the seventh to end the game at 5-0. After the game, Fullerton was pleased with his team's play. "You could tell they were pretty nervous before their first game," he said. "I was very happy with the way they played, especially their fielding. The curveball gave us problems, as many of the hitters had not seen that in a while, but we'll work on that before we go over there and play them again in two days."



Chase Higgins gets the first base hit of the season during the game against Port Charlotte. The Bulldogs lost the game 5-0.

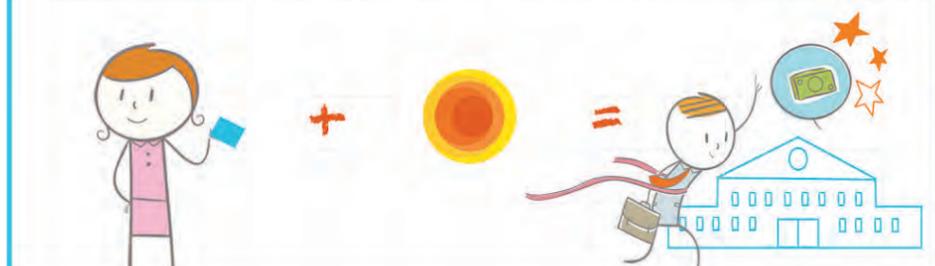


Coach Fullerton gives Colby Scott advice on hitting a curveball. The Bulldogs lost to Port Charlotte 5-0.

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Live Oak toasts lasting marriages

Sam and Norma Scimeca haven't lost that lovin' feeling even after 64 years of marriage, as they take a spin on the dance floor.



Red roses show love is in the air for Jack and Marlene Stears, married 61 years. They were among the many couples at the Live Oak RV Park party to celebrate long, happy marriages.



Lew and Jo Tingley, married 51 years, can still cut a rug. They met when they were 9 and 10 on the school bus and have been together ever since.



Bob and Fran Manson, married 52 years, take a turn on the dance floor at Live Oak RV Park.

ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY KELLEY BAKER, skfshowcattle@aol.com

Lee and Dottie Garrett have been married 64 years, and have the honor of cutting the anniversary cake to honor couples married for 50 or more years.



"It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing." Even after 50 years of marriage, these couples still got it!

Tim and Peg Ellens, married 52 years, enjoy the party Saturday at Live Oak RV Park, held to honor couples married for 50 or more years.



Jerry and Evelyn Jones have been married 57 years, and celebrate with a dance at the Live Oak RV Park party.

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Raising backyard poultry

Irresistible chicks are available at local feed stores now. A small flock of layers will keep you supplied with eggs, plus provide entertainment. Poultry keeping is on the rise across the country. Concerns about food safety, how caged birds are treated, and where food comes from are some of the reasons people raise their own flock.



Over the Garden Gate

Al & Karen Smoke

ksmoke@embarqmail.com

Chickens are a logical complement to gardening, but be wary of turning your hens loose. Chickens love anything green — from weeds to tender vegetable plants. We've read about using chickens to keep your garden bug-free, but the reality is they'll devour everything. Only give your flock free access to the garden at season's end.

Chickens are a great project to teach children responsibility, but chicken farming is not for everyone. There are noise levels (even hens make a raucous cackling), odors and flies to contend with. Before you decide to keep chickens, there are two things you must do.

The first is making sure your zoning allows poultry. Not everyone finds chickens appealing and sooner or later neighbors may object to your flock. Number two is providing a safe place for your flock to live. Predators love fresh

chicken. The peep-peep chicks emit is a siren call to snakes and hawks. Raccoons, bobcats and free-roaming dogs are also a threat to all fowl.

You'll need both a place to raise your baby chicks and a secure place to accommodate the full grown flock. Free range hens may be appealing — but the flock should always be in a predator proof pen at night.

Keep new chicks separate from an adult flock to avoid possible disease contamination. For the first four weeks, keep chicks in a brooder, large cardboard box, or a pet crate. Allow plenty of room for feeders, water fonts and chicks — about 1/2 square foot per bird. The best arrangement is a wire mesh floor that allows droppings to fall to a pan below. The wire will also help strengthen chicks' feet. If you don't use wire, use a fine litter

of paper or pine shavings, but not cedar or hardwood shavings.

In nature chicks hover close to the mother hen for warmth. Day-old chicks should be kept at 95 degrees. Each week the temperature may be reduced by 5 degrees. Once chicks begin to grow true feathers they don't need supplemental heat.

Always provide plenty of clean starter feed and fresh clean water. A medicated formula helps prevent coccidiosis, a common disease among young birds.

Young chicks soon outgrow the brooder, but are still tempting morsels to predators. At about four weeks move them outdoors, but provide protection from extreme cold and drafts. The chick house should be screened with 1/2 inch hardware cloth.

By three months of age pullets will be ready to move into the larger flock house. A Florida henhouse needs a roof and at least two sides for protection from rain, wind and summer heat. Allow about 3 square feet per bird. A 2 x 2 inch board will provide a roost and you'll need one nest box for every three or four hens. A coop with a raised floor of hardware cloth allows droppings to collect below on wood shavings or leaves. Chicken manure makes



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY AL SMOKE

Some folks like to keep a rooster or two. Fertilized eggs are nutritionally not different and a rooster is not necessary to maintain production. Dual-purpose birds such as these Rhode Island Reds are popular for back-yard poultry flocks. They're hardy and lay an average of 17 to 20 dozen eggs per year.

an excellent fertilizer, but may burn plants if used fresh.

Part of the coop area may be a fenced run area enclosed with 1 x 2 inch mesh wire. "Chicken wire" is not the best choice as it only lasts a few seasons and raccoons can tear it apart. Use welded wire fencing, galvanized after welding for best rust resistance. We further reinforced our run area with aluminum panels buried 12 inches into the ground.

Hens will begin to lay at about 20 weeks and should be switched to layer feed which contains the high amount of calcium hens require. Scratch, a mixture of ground corn and other grains, may be



Chickens are a logical complement to gardening. Chickens love to turn compost and they'll devour any insects that may be harboring in the finished compost.

fed as an occasional treat, but should not be the sole ration.

Provide your chickens with "greens" also. Routinely dump a bucket

of weeds or spent vegetable plants in the run area. Chickens love to turn compost too. When

POULTRY | 18



Irresistible chicks are available at local feed stores now. Before you bring chicks home — learn what care they require, and what you'll need to do to provide a home for them. Also be sure your zoning allows poultry.

FUTURE

FROM PAGE 10

population and migration by putting out water and planting plants for butterflies.

Barbara Ames was acknowledged for her work on the Garden Club book. Ellen Myers was recognized for the outstanding content and quality of the programs. Mary Ellen Zeeders remains hospitalized. Cards and visits are encouraged.

DeSoto County Pioneer Day is March 15 at Veteran's Park. Garden Club members will be selling homemade strawberry shortcake. Be sure to come early before they sell out.

Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program will hold its next Environmental Education Program on May 30 at J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel. It is free but participation is limited to 100. To

register go to www.eventbrite.com, search for CHNEP with the location of Sanibel.

A new rose virus has been confirmed in Florida. Rose rosette virus (RRV) has infected Knock Out roses in three counties in Florida (Alachua, Gadsden and Levy.) Symptoms include severe thorn proliferation, multiple stems and unusual reddening of the leaves. There is no cure at this time for RRV and infected plants must be destroyed.

In November Florida voters will decide if conservation funds should be a part of the state constitution. For more information about this and other conservation issues, go to www.thefloridacurrent.com and click "environment."

The next meeting of the Arcadia Garden Club will be noon on March 3 at the Garden Club building. Visitors are welcomed. Darlene Phypers from Happiness Farms in Lake Placid, the world's largest caladium farm, will discuss caladiums.

Oak Hill Baptist Church Proudly Presents The Nelons in Concert



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50456659

POULTRY

FROM PAGE 17

compost piles have worked, turn chickens loose and they'll scatter it and devour any insects that may be harboring in the finished compost.

Chicken breeds are classified as layers, meat birds, or dual purpose. Layers turn out the most eggs, about 20 to 23 dozen eggs in their first year of production. At about 14 months they'll molt and stop producing for a few weeks. After the first molt they'll lay fewer eggs, 16 to 18 dozen per year.

Meat producing birds are efficient at converting feed to meat. Every 2 pounds of feed consumed will produce about a pound of weight gain. These broad-breasted breeds are larger than layers. They're ready as broiler-fryers at 3 1/2 to 5 pounds and as roasters at 6 to 8 pounds.

Most keepers of small flocks opt for dual-purpose hens — hardy breeds such as Rhode Island Red, Plymouth Rock, New Hampshire, Sex Link, Wyandotte, Orpington and Amerucana. Most of these breeds lay brown eggs; the Amerucana lay pastel-tinged eggs.

Some folks like to keep a rooster or two. Fertilized eggs are nutritionally not different and a rooster is not necessary to maintain production. Gather eggs daily. If allowed to accumulate hens may become broody and decide to set on eggs. Raising your own chicks is fun, but presents management problems when you have chickens of various ages.

Tending your chickens takes only a few minutes a day and you'll never have to remember to put eggs on the shopping list, or have to open cartons at the grocery store to check for broken eggs.



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY CRAIG GARRETT

A row of antique manual Singer sewing machines is displayed at O.B. Osceola's booth during last Saturday's Antiques Fair. Osceola, a member of the Seminole Tribe, specializes in repairing, restoring and selling the antique sewing machines that are so prominent in Seminole history.

VENDOR

FROM PAGE 1

visitors inspect the collectible sewing machines at his vendor booth in the Tree of Knowledge Park at the Fourth Saturday Antique Fair. Seller and buyer share stories, nod together in a common refrain, because most everyone has a sewing machine story. Like an automobile, sewing machines are a metaphoric thread binding cultures together.

In Osceola's case, the sound he recalls

is of a Singer machine set into motion by cranking a handle with the right hand as cloth is fed into a bobbling needle with the left hand. Singer introduced an updated Edison electric motor machine around 1880. But Osceola's family continued to use hand-powered machines well into the 20th century, in part because they could not afford the costlier electric machines.

Osceola tells his stories amid a dozen or so Singer machines he is selling on this Saturday. He has more Singer machines in his truck, dozens more in Naples where he restores machines that date back to the 1870s. It is a hobby supplementing his income for the last year. It is his first visit to Arcadia. "These machines take me back to a simpler time," said Tina Marie Osceola, helping her father sell and move the heavy machines fastened to wood mounts. "A happy time." The patchwork clothing, the symbolic accenting, even the beadwork and language, are Seminole traditions that remain alive.

trade. Piecing the small strips of cloth required precision, patience and a good eye for design. The manual sewing machine helped the Seminole women to design and execute intricate, beautiful patterns.

When Isaac Merritt Singer first formed I.M. Singer & Company with New York lawyer Edward C. Clark, the pair couldn't have known how quickly they would succeed. The Grasshopper model in 1850 sold 3,000 units. By 1863 more than 20,000 sold worldwide, and just 17 years later some 500,000 units sold. Of course, there were, and are, dozens of other manufacturers, but the Singer brand was most widely recognized. As stores expanded across America, the extreme numbers left a subsequent legacy, many machines gathering dust for decades in garages and back rooms. Literally thousands survive. One man in Arcadia shared with Osceola that he had two dozen collectible sewing machines that he would part with, some working.

Historic designs

The intricate patterns and colors of the clothing for which the Seminoles are known arose in the late 1800s. Initially working with solid-colored cotton, they began experimenting with mixing different colors of fabric. When sewing machines became available, women began designing multi-color patchwork patterns. Soon, the geometric designs — many of which represent elements in the environment such as rain, alligators or a man on horseback — began showing up on their own clothing as well as items made for

Prices for a sewing machine sampling at the Arcadia Antique Fair ranged from \$200 to \$700. The key, and why Osceola is successful, is finding parts and repairing them, he said, because owners want to use them. "I remember that rhythmic sound, the high winding pitch of the (bobbin)," said Bill Bergman, a Punta Gorda man surveying Osceola's collection, which had some original owner manuals for the heavy, cast machines. "I remember my mother, all day long, making pillow covers and bedding. Wow, hadn't thought of that in years."

For more information, you may reach Tina Osceola at tmosceola@yahoo.com.

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NOTICE OF ACTION 3116

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 3120

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 3120

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE 3122

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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 McGavic
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 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 McGavic, Clerk of Court
By: /s/ M. Harris
Deputy Clerk Published 2/6/14, 2/13/14, 2/20/14 & 2/27/14 367740 2998386

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 14-000005-CP
IN RE: ESTATE OF MARY ELLEN CUTTER
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Mary Ellen Cutter, deceased, whose date of death was July 27, 2013, is pending in the Circuit Court for DeSoto County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 115 E. Oak Street, Room, 101, Arcadia, FL 34266. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below. All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM. All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED. The date of first publication of this notice is 2/27/14.

Attorney for Personal Representative:

A. Jill C. McCrory
Florida Bar Number: 0551821
MCCRORY LAW FIRM
150 Lashley Court Suite 122
Punta Gorda, Florida 33950
Telephone: (941) 205-1122
Fax: (941) 205-1133
E-Mail: jill@mccrorylaw.com
Secondary E-Mail: jenny@mccrorylaw.com
Personal Representative: Scott Stephen Boulware
2134 East 5th Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28204-3304
Published 2/27/14 & 3/6/14 315372 3008369

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

File No. 14CP010
Division Probate
IN RE: ESTATE OF GWENDOLYN GARNER JOHNSON, a/k/a GWENDOLYN G. JOHNSON,
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of GWENDOLYN GARNER JOHNSON, a/k/a GWENDOLYN G. JOHNSON, deceased, whose date of death was October 19, 2013, is pending in the Circuit Court for DeSoto County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 115 East Oak St., Room 101, Arcadia, Florida 34266. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below. All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file

their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM. All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED. The date of first publication of this notice is February 20, 2014. Attorney for Personal Representative:

Abel A. Putnam
Attorney for Personal Representative
Florida Bar Number: 024090
Putnam, Creighton & Airth, P.A.
Post Office Box 3545
Lakeland, Florida 33802-3545
Telephone: (863) 682-1178
Fax: (863) 683-3700
E-Mail: aap@putnampa.com
Secondary E-Mail: aapservice@putnampa.com
Personal Representative: Richard Whitley Johnson
404 Palmola Street
Lakeland, Florida 33803
Published 2/20/14 & 2/27/14 250326 3004808

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE 3122

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 12TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL DIVISION
CASE NO. 142008CA001197
BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO BAC HOME LOANS SERVICING, L.P. FKA COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS SERVICING, L.P. Plaintiff,
vs.
ARNOLD MELE; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ARNOLD MELE; JOHN DOE AND JANE DOE; Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated December 23, 2013, and entered in Case No. 14 2008 CA 001197, of the Circuit Court of the 12th Judicial Circuit in and for DESOTO County, Florida, wherein BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO BAC HOME LOANS SERVICING, L.P. FKA COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS SERVICING, L.P. is Plaintiff and ARNOLD MELE; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ARNOLD MELE; JOHN DOE AND JANE DOE; are defendants. I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash AT SOUTH DOOR OF COURTHOUSE, at 115 EAST OAK STREET, ARCADIA in DESOTO County, FLORIDA 34266, at 11:00 A.M., on the 18 day of March, 2014, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit: LOTS 14 AND 15, BLOCK "H, AW GILCHRIST'S SUBDIVISION OF THE SE 1/4 OF THE NW 1/4 OF

SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH RANGE 24 EAST, DESOTO COUNTY, 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 63 AND IN PLAT BOOK C-5, PAGE 52. A person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Dated this 30 day of December, 2013.

MITZIE MCGAVIC
As Clerk of said Court
By: /s/ B. Wynn
As Deputy Clerk

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 provisions of certain assistance. Please contact the Desoto County Clerk's Office, 115 East Oak Street, Arcadia, FL 34266, Phone No. (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. Submitted by:
Kahane & Associates, P.A.
8201 Peters Road, Ste.3000
Plantation, FL 33324
Telephone: (954) 382-3486
Telefacsimile: (954) 382-5380
Designated service email: notice@kahaneandassociates.com
Published 2/27/14 & 3/6/14 221363 3008266

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

CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.: 2010CA000164
DIVISION: 1
PNC MORTGAGE, A DIVISION OF PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO NATIONAL CITY MORTGAGE, A DIVISION OF NATIONAL CITY BANK, Plaintiff,
vs.
LEWIS N. RACKLEY, et al. Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned Clerk of Court of DESOTO County, will on the 25th day of March, 2014, at 11:00am, EST at 115 E. Oak Street, Arcadia, FL 34266, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash, the following described property situated in LAKE SUZY, Florida:

LOT 9, BLOCK 3, FIRST REPLAT IN PEMBROKE SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, PAGE 80, PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA.

pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered in Case No. 2010CA000164 of the Circuit Court of the TWELFTH Judicial Circuit in and for DESOTO County, Florida, the style of which is indicated above.
WITNESS MY HAND and seal of this Court on February 2, 2014
Mitzi W. McGavic
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: /s/ B. Wynn
Deputy Clerk
RCO Legal, P.S.

PUT CLASSIFIEDS TO WORK FOR YOU!

FIND A JOB! BUY A HOME! BUY A CAR!

HOMES FOR RENT 1210

ARCADIA Adult quiet country living house w/screen porch on pond, No Pets \$550 1st, Last & Sec. 863-494-1950

APARTMENTS FOR RENT 1320

WOOD PARK POINTE APARTMENTS

Now taking applications for 1 bedroom apartments. Come enjoy the tranquil atmosphere and beautiful landscaping. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Residents must be 62+ years, handicapped or disabled. Income limits apply. 600 West Gibson St., Arcadia 863-494-3230 - TDD 711



COMMERCIAL/ INDUSTRIAL PROP 1620



ARCADIA 5.26 ac By Owner! House & Shop, 800 ft. Hwy 17 Frontage, Zoned Comm. Info. 863-494-5540 or 863-244-3585

PROFESSIONAL 2010

CITY ADMINISTRATOR POSITION
ARCADIA, FLORIDA
FOR JOB DESCRIPTION AND SALARY GO TO
www.arcadia-fl.gov
or call Penny Delaney at 863-494-4114 or pdelaney@arcadia-fl.gov

CLERICAL/OFFICE 2020

SECRETARY P/T Basic office skills (Word, Excel etc.) 8am-1pm shift, flexible. 25hrs/wk. Aquatic Weed Control, Inc. Send resumes to: PO BOX 1453 Arcadia, FL 34265

SP-206-48

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE 3122

1587 Northeast Expressway Atlanta, Georgia 30329
**** See Americans with Disabilities Act ****
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact DeSoto County Jury Office, 115 East Oak Street Arcadia, Florida 34266, (863) 993-4876, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
 Published 2/27/14 & 3/6/14 368469 3008387

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO. 142013CA000252CAAXMA JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff, vs. JAIME FLORES, ADELA FLORES, UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION 1, UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION 2, Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure filed January 24, 2014, entered in Civil Case No. 142013CA000252CAAXMA of the Circuit Court of the TWELFTH Judicial Circuit in and for DeSoto County, Arcadia, Florida, the Clerk of Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the south door of the DeSoto County Courthouse, 115 East Oak Street, Arcadia, FL 34266 in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes on the 20th day of March, 2014 at 11:00 AM on the following described property as set forth in said Summary Final Judgment, to-wit:

Lot 22, Block "D", Forest Pine Estates, 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 20.
Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens, must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Dated this 29th day of January, 2014.
 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT As Clerk of the Court
 BY: /s/ N. Daughtrey Deputy Clerk

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in a court proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance: Please contact DeSoto County Jury Office, 115 East Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida 34266. Telephone: (863) 993-4876. If you are hearing or voice impaired, please call 711. Published 2/27/14 & 3/6/14 338038 3008325

NOTICE OF SALE 3130

Pursuant to the provisions of the Florida Self-Storage Facility Act (Statute 83.801-6) notice is hereby given that Secure Public Storage, 8890 NE Highway 17, Zolfo Springs, FL will conduct a sale or otherwise dispose of the unknown contents of:
Unit #15, #43 & #44
Jocelyn A. Evans, Tim & Brenda Rodgers
 Said sale to be held no sooner than 15 days from the date of this notice. Published 2/27/14 & 3/6/14 357619 3006372

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

TAX DEEDS 3132

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, 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
 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

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: 609
 Issuance Date: MAY 27, 2011
 Tax Deed File #: 14-08-TD
 Description of Property: LOTS 4, 5, 6, AND 7, BLOCK "H" A.W. GILCHRIST'S SUBDIVISION OF THE SE1/4 OF THE NW1/4 OF SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH, RANG 24 EAST, DESOTO COUNTY, 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 63.

Names in which assessed:
 CHRISTIANNA SINGLETON & ROGERLINE WAY
 255 W 127TH ST APT 6A
 NEW YORK, NY 10027
 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 APRIL 2, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. Dated this 21st DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2014.
 MITZIE W. McGAVIC
 CLERK OF COURT
 DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
 By:CRYSTAL HENDERSON, Deputy Clerk
 Publication Dates: 2/27/14, 3/6/14, 3/13/14, 3/20/14 112132 3008303

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.

TAX DEEDS 3132

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

OTHER NOTICES 3138

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA JUVENILE DIVISION Case No. 14013DPO00019 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

A Bargain Hunters Delight Check the Classifieds First! A Whole Marketplace of Shopping is right at your Fingertips!

ARCADIA AREA GARAGE SALES 6001

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!!

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

✓✓✓✓✓✓
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

Classified - it's the reliable source for the right results

CAMPERS/ TRAVEL TRAILERS 7370

2011 MONTANA 5th WHEEL
 4 slides w/ fireplace. Retail for \$64k, selling for \$32k @ Toby's RV#78 765-220-6232

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

Where are the big ones biting? Look in the FishFinder every Thursday. only in

ARRESTS

FROM PAGE 8

Charge: driving without a valid license. Bond: \$120.

- Francisco Castro, 24, 3rd Ave., Arcadia. Charges: driving without a valid license, DUI with alcohol or drugs, and DUI with property damage.

- Zachary Frederick Devine, 22, St. Petersburg. Charges: out-of-county warrant and possession or use of drug equipment. Bond: none.

- Jeffery Dean Faircloth, 31, 6800 block of Albritton St., Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.

- Evelio Galeas, 41, Immokalee. Charges: two counts of failure to appear. Bond: none.

- Rigoberto Chirria Gomez, 33, 1200 block of S.E. Granada Drive, Arcadia. Charges: two counts of battery. Bond: \$15,000.

- Jonathan Heath Hall, 37, 100 block of W. Oak St., Arcadia. Charges: 8 counts of unarmed burglary of an unoccupied dwelling, 5 counts of grand theft of dwelling between \$100-\$300, two counts of petty theft, second offense, 21 count grand theft of dwelling between \$300-\$5,000, giving false ID to law officer and out-of-county warrant. Bond: \$87,595.

- Francisco Hernandez, 39, 1500 block of 3rd Ave., Arcadia. Charge: loitering or prowling. Bond: \$120.

- Evelyn Rithann Pifer, 26, 700 block of W. Pine St., Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.

- Morgan Horton Reed, 32, 1400 block of S.E. Airport Road, Arcadia. Charges: possession or use of drug equipment, possession of a controlled substance without a prescription and petty theft, second offense. Bond: \$1,620.

- Curtis Tyrone Turner, 52, 700 block of O'Hara Drive, Arcadia. Charges: two counts of failure to support spouse or child. Purge: \$3,000.

- Marvin Lee Bates, 24, 10700 block of S.W. Kissimmee Road, Arcadia. Charge: battery. Bond: \$10,000.

- Randy Lee Fugate, 53, Wauchula. Charges: possession of less than 20 grams of marijuana and possession or use of drug equipment. Bond: \$240.

- Brian Courtney Howard, 42, Punta Gorda. Charge: out-of-county warrant. Bond: \$2,000.

- Leonard Andrew Ramirez, 33, 7400 block of S.E. Prairie Creek Road, Arcadia. Charge: battery. Bond: \$1,000.

- Oscar Rivera Jr., 35, Zolfo Springs. Charges: possession or use of drug equipment and possession of a controlled substance without

a prescription. Bond: \$5,120.

- Leticia Garcia Rodriguez, 32, 200 block of W. Imogene St., Arcadia. Charge: driving when license is more than 4 months expired. Bond: \$120.

- Resverd Thomas Forde, 44, 13600 block of State Road 70 (FCCC), Arcadia. Charge: failure to appear. Bond: \$2,000.

- Soleah Tammie Huff, 35, 1900 block of S.E. Heron Cove, Arcadia. Charge: battery. Bond: none.

- Gerald Bryant Owens, 35, 700 block of N. 17th Ave., Arcadia. Charges: unarmed burglary of unoccupied dwelling and grand theft between \$100-\$300. Bond: none stated.

- Melissa Jean Wilber, 36, Ormond Beach, Fla. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: \$1,045.

- Robert Guilford, 58, 4400 block of S.W. Tulip Ave., Nocatee. Charges: sale of marijuana, sale of marijuana within 1,000 ft. of church or business, and two counts of possession or use of drug equipment. Bond: \$15,240.

- Pedro Ulices-Ariciaga Munoz Jr., 20, 2000 block of S.W. Reynolds St., Arcadia. Charges: possession of less than 20 grams of marijuana and possession or use of drug equipment. Bond: \$240.

- Richard Mark Fazzone Jr., 48, first block of Glendora Ave., Arcadia. Charges: two counts of battery. Bond: none.

- Theresa Lynn Schlier, 39, 5000 block of N.E. Country Ranches Road, Arcadia. Charge: battery. Bond: none.

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

- Francisco Casas-Diaz, 25, 1900 block of S.E. Heron Cove, Arcadia. Charge: driving without a valid license. Bond: \$2,500.

- Lee Herschel Miller, 28, 13100 block of S.E. Lake Road, Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.

- Melissa Kay Teague, 33, 1400 block of S.E. Sunset Ave., Arcadia. Charge: failure to appear. Bond: none.

- Becky Jean Douglas, 42, 12400 block of S.W. Lexington Place, Arcadia. Charges: possession of a controlled substance without a prescription and possession or use of drug equipment. Bond: none.

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

- Calvin Lamont Brown, 24, 1000 block of S.W. Golden Ave., Arcadia. Charges: two counts of failure to appear. Bond: \$30,000.

— Compiled by Susan E. Hoffman

DEATHS

FROM PAGE 9

Joseph L. Newton II

Joseph L. "Joe" Newton II, 71, a lifelong resident of Arcadia, Fla., passed away Thursday, Feb. 20, 2014.



Joe was born June 12, 1942, and attended school in DeSoto County, Fla.

Upon graduation from DeSoto County High School in 1961, he left for Alabama to attend Troy State, where he "lettered." In 1962, Joe enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. His tour of duty included Okinawa, Japan, and Morocco. Joe drove the M50 Ontos tank destroyers. Once discharged, Joe went back to Troy State, and was in his last semester when his father persuaded him to come home to Arcadia to run the family business. What originally began as Peace River Land Clearing became Newton's Machine Shop in 1972.

Joe was a very smart, hardworking man and stern father. He was as honest as the day is long, and never said a bad word about anyone. Joe lived for the moment and loved adventure. Outside of work, Joe was a very active member of Arcadia Elks Lodge 1524. He was Past Exalted Ruler five times, and held different offices over the years.

Being the taskmaster that he was, Joe was a big driving force in fundraising for the lodge. He was one person capable of raising thousands of dollars through the \$100 club. Joe was also the Florida State Chairman of the Elks Hoop Shoot Association in 1995; a member of the Moose Lodge, the Eagles, the American Legion and the VFW; and a big contributor to the Harry-Anna Crippled Children's Fund. Joe was probably DeSoto County's most devoted Florida Gators fan. Not only did he hold season tickets for the past 40 years, but you also could see him zipping around town in his Porsche, painted royal blue and orange.

Joe is survived by his sons, Joseph S. Newton and Eric (Destiny) Newton of Arcadia; stepbrother, David (Barbara) Bishop of Wauchula, Fla.; and grandchildren, Jordan, Logan, Luke, Stevanie, Laura and Dayton. He was preceded in death by his parents, Lawrence Newton Sr. and Edith Newton; and his brother, Don Newton.

Visitation was held Monday, Feb. 24, 2014, at Ponger-Kays-Grady Funeral Home in Arcadia. The funeral Mass was held Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2014, at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Arcadia. Burial followed at Oak Ridge Cemetery with full military honors, as well as an honored tribute by Arcadia Elks Lodge 1524.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Joe's name to the DeSoto Youth Foundation, 1028 W. Oak St., Arcadia, FL 34266. Online condolences may be made at www.pongerkaysgrady.com.

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

Velda Clarice Walker

Velda Clarice Walker, 59, of Lake Placid, Fla., went to be with the Lord Saturday, Feb. 22, 2014, at her residence, surrounded by her family.

Mrs. Walker was born Sept. 21, 1954, in Sebring, Fla., a native of Lake Placid, to parents Irene (nee McKinnie) and Lewis Pollard, Jr.

A graduate of Lake Placid Senior High Class of 1972, Velda has lived in Lake Placid and Arcadia, Fla., where she was an office manager for a law firm. Velda loved spending time with both her family and

friends who loved her. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Ft. Ogden, Fla.

She is survived by her loving sons, Ryan (Wendy) Walker and Robby (Sara) Walker; seven grandchildren; father, Lewis Pollard, Jr.; and a brother, Vaden Lewis Pollard.

The family received friends Monday Feb. 24, 2014, at the First Assembly of God Lake Placid, Lake Placid, where she was a past member. A funeral service to celebrate her life was held Tuesday Feb. 25, 2014, at the First Baptist Church of Fort Ogden, in Fort Ogden, Fla., with Pastor Wayne Earnest officiating. Burial followed at the Oak Hill Cemetery in Lake Placid. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Mrs. Walker's memory to the First Baptist Church of Fort Ogden Building Fund. Words of comfort to the family and a video tribute of Velda's life can be seen by visiting www.scottfuneralservices.com.

Arrangements are by Scott Funeral Home.

Sandra Joy Howard

Sandra Joy Howard, 73, of Wauchula, Fla., died Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2014, in Wauchula.

She was born in Arcadia, Fla., Aug. 19, 1940, and had been a lifelong Hardee County resident.

Sandra was a Baptist, and had worked at the G. Pierce Wood Hospital as an aide.

She is survived by son, Billy G. Broome Jr. of Wauchula, and David (Diane) Pavolini of Pass Christina, Miss.; daughters, Patricia "Patti" (James) Havens of Ft. Hood, Texas, and Pamela (Brett) Broadnax of Lakeland, Fla.; sister, Shirley Platt of Arcadia; eight grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. Sandra was preceded in death by her parents, Seth Howard and Pawnee Collier; son, Steven Broome; brother, Richard Howard; and sister, Patricia Huerta.

Visitation was held Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2014, at Robarts Garden Chapel, 521 W. Main St., Wauchula, followed by a graveside service at Friendship Cemetery, Zolfo Springs, Fla.

Sonja Barth Moreno

Sonja Barth Moreno, 68, passed peacefully Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2014, surrounded by her loved ones.



She was born to Einar and Ellinor Barth in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Sonja was retired from Nocatee Elementary where she helped many students through the Title One program and continued to support the school through Angel Tree continuously since her retirement. She was a devout Christian and a proud member of both Trinity UMC and Pleasant Hill UMC. Any way she could help those in need in DeSoto County, she was always there. Sonja was president of the Sons of Norway in Port Charlotte, Fla., for the past 15 years and a member since 1996 as she held her Norwegian heritage close to her heart. As a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and best friend to all who knew her, she will be missed deeply.

She is survived by her husband Emigdio Moreno; two sons, Joseph Galicia and Rafael Moreno; daughter, Suzanne Price; three grandchildren, Christopher Galicia, Joseph Galicia and Jennifer Galicia; great-grandson, Joey Galicia; brother, Richard Barth; sister, Ruth MacDonald; and many cousins and dear friends.

In lieu of flowers please consider a donation for her family in her name through Seacoast National Bank, 1601 E. Oak Street, Arcadia, FL 34266.

Marylou Mata

Marylou Mata, 46, of Arcadia, Fla., passed away Sunday, Feb. 23, 2014.

She was born June 11, 1967, in Toledo, Ohio, to Angel Morales and Juana Carmona.

Marylou had lived in Arcadia for the last 34 years. She loved spending time with and cooking for her children, grandchildren and entire family. She was a member of St. Paul's Catholic Church.

Marylou is survived by her father, Angel (Maggie) Morales; mother, Juana Carmona (Efren) Hernandez; sons, Adam (Nancy) Morales, Julio (Maria) Bernadac, Juan (Paula) Juarez and Saul (Nina) Bernadac; daughters, Maria (Freddie) Carmona and Patricia Bernadac; sisters, Mercedes Sanchez, Carmen Valencia, Sally Hernandez and Margarita Rojas; brother, Junior Morales; and numerous grandchildren.

Visitation was held Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2014, at Ponger Kays Grady Funeral Home, Arcadia. Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 27, 2014, at St. Paul's Catholic Church. Burial will follow at Joshua Creek Cemetery. Online condolences can be made at www.pongerkaysgrady.com.

Arrangements are by Ponger Kays Grady Funeral Home.

Shirley Cassady Goodwin

Artist, dancer and beloved mother Shirley Cassady Goodwin passed away in her sleep Feb. 17 at the Punta Gorda home of her son Mark Futch and daughter-in-law Kathy.

Goodwin was born in Arcadia on Christmas Day 1929 to Karl and Allie Zora Cassady, but later moved to Louisville, Ky., where she spent her Depression-era youth. A talented dancer, by age 16 Goodwin had performed with the Louisville Ballet, the Louisville Opera and once worked with the legendary comedienne Gracie Allen. "I made big money for a 16-year-old kid," she said in a 2013 Christmas interview, "about \$400 a week. It was so much fun. I met Gracie Allen and she was wonderful."

Goodwin returned to Punta Gorda, graduating from Punta Gorda High School and named Miss Punta Gorda 1945. She married her high school sweetheart, the late Karl Futch of Charlotte Harbor and Boca Grande, a Florida Highway Patrolman, banker and fishing guide. Fifteen years later, Shirley moved to Clearwater where she channeled her artistic flair into a career in graphic arts. Years later, Shirley turned her keen eye to painting watercolors. She was a member of the Florida Suncoast Watercolor Society and participated in several Florida art exhibitions where she won a number of awards for her portrayals of Southwest Florida landscape, like tarpon fishing boats in Boca Grande Pass or stilt homes in Bulls Bay. Family friend, Florida author, Randy Wayne White gazes often at one of her beautiful Florida scenes in his home and noted she will be remembered in his next Hannah Smith book. Some of her art will be on permanent display at the new Coral Creek Airport.

She married North Carolina native Ben Goodwin and settled in Englewood. In addition to Mark and Kathy Futch, Shirley is survived by David and Sally Futch of Santa Monica, Calif., grandchildren,

Cheyenne, Matt (Marisa), Rey (Christian Urvat) and great-grandson Francis Futch.

There will be a private gathering at the graveside in Indian Springs Cemetery in Punta Gorda where five generations of her family lay in rest. In lieu of flowers, the family requests Shirley's friends and admirers make donations to the Boca Grande Health Clinic.

Donald Lee Butler

Donald Lee Butler Sr., 74, of Rydal, Georgia, passed away February 11, 2014 at his home.



Donald was born September 2, 1939 in Arcadia, Desoto County, Florida. He worked at NAPA Auto Parts for 27

years and then he bought his own garage. He served in the Army National Guard 6 years and was a member of Waleska First Baptist Church in Waleska, Georgia.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lee and Myrtie Butler; a brother, Richard Butler; and a step-daughter, Janda Sanchez.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Jo (Daughterly) Butler; a daughter, Ezzetta Bentham (Stuart) of Goldsboro, North Carolina; two sons, Donald Lee Butler, Jr. (Christy) of Chuluota, Florida and Rance Butler of Rydal, Georgia; son-in-law, Max Sanchez; 10 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and six sisters.

Private graveside services were held at Oak Hill Cemetery in Cartersville. A Memorial Service was held on Sunday, February 16, 2014 at Waleska First Baptist Church.

In lieu of flowers please donate to the American Cancer Society or Hospice of your choice. Sosebee Funeral Home, Canton, Georgia handled arrangements.

Anthony Diliberto

Anthony "Tony" Diliberto, 83, of Arcadia, Fla., passed away Saturday, Feb. 15, 2014.



He was born June 18, 1930, in Roosevelt, Long Island, N.Y., to Bessie Diliberto.

Tony graduated from Freeport High School, where he was a great athlete and received a letter from the school.



In 1950, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps, and met the love of his life, Ruby. He had many jobs, from shoe repair to a carpenter putting up screen rooms; he opened a drive-in-theater; and finally settled on an auction, which he loved.

Tony is survived by his wife of 63 years, Ruby; children, Robert Anthony (Sandy), Daniel Charles, Mary Ann, Patricia Ann (Tony) and Robyn Ann (Marcelo); 14 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his mother and father; sisters and brothers, Franny, Daisy, Betty, Teddy and Isadore; and grandchildren, Samantha and Robert (infant).

OBITUARY POLICY

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

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



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY JOHN BLACK, photeke@gmail.com

Sponsors and nominees for Teacher of the Year pose for a photo. From left: Julie Chidsey, Brittany Hines, Penny Kurtz, Jackie Backer, Jackie Harris, Tim Vowels, Teacher of the Year Stephanie Langford, Terri Womack, Jolie Schanck, Mary Pete Martin, Heather Nedley and Amy Sorrells.

TEACHER

FROM PAGE 1

card from VALIC Financial Advisors Inc., a gift card from Mosaic, a certificate from the DeSoto County Health Department and a personal crafted pen from Tim Vowels of McDonalds. In addition, the school district awards a monetary prize to the Teacher of the Year.

This year the district added an award for Rookie of the Year, for the most exceptional teacher within his or her first three years of teaching. Nominees were Elisabeth Jensen, West; Amanda Yates, Memorial; Jennifer Buonaiuto, DeSoto County High; and Ashley Simser, Nocatee. The winner was Buonaiuto who teaches in the Business and IT Academy at DeSoto County High.

Nominess for Employee of the Year were Amie Rizzo / DCHS; Jorge Cerna/ NES; Gloria Montelongo / WES; Daniel Doran / DMS; Sandra Aquilar / MES; Natalyn Flemming / DECC; Lou McDonald / Finance Department; and Alan Cespedes / IT Department. The winner was Lou McDonald. She received gift certificates from Mosaic, DeSoto County Health Department and VALIC Financial Advisors, along with an iPad from Womack.

Substitute of the Year nominees were Sue Knight, Ann Buchard, Carolyn McKinney and Michelle Griffin. The winner was Sue Knight of DeSoto County High School.

Volunteer of the Year nominees were: Shelby Young / WES; Judith Idle / WES (winner in the adult category); Donna Brown / NES; J. Refugio Tovar / NES (winner in the youth category); Roberto San Luis / FSC (winner in the senior category); Elvia Valdovinos / FSC; Sharon Shatney / DECC and Juan Jimenez / DECC.



Jennifer Buonaiuto, left, named Rookie of the Year, and Teacher of the Year, Stephanie Langford, pose with Superintendent Karyn Gary.



Superintendent Karyn Gary congratulates Lou Macdonald from the school district's Business Department for winning the Apple Award.

COUNTY

FROM PAGE 1

he and his wife frequently travel to Englewood just to enjoy live outdoor music.

"I think this would be a great addition to the community, and it will become a destination for people looking to enjoy this type of entertainment," he said.

Eugene Turner Jr. also spoke in favor of the bar, telling the board, "If ya'll have a tad bit of doubt in your minds, then at least give (Young) a chance to prove you wrong."

After hearing support for the special exception by fellow commissioners, Chairman Elton Langford said he agreed the bar should be allowed a chance, but preferred it to be on a probationary basis.

"We get bombarded all the time about noise, so I'm sensitive to the issue, so I suggest we grant the exception with the knowledge that we attempt a one-year trial," he said. "I've heard from the crowd tonight asking us to give them a chance, and I'm willing to do that, and we'll revisit this issue next year and see how it worked."

Board approves budget contractor

The BOCC voted 4-1 to approve a \$25,000 contract with Milestone Professional Services to assist in preparation and presentation of the 2014/15 annual budget.

County Administrator Guy Maxcy said after staff had entered initial budget numbers into a Microsoft Excel document, it would be submitted to Milestone for approval before the board's July 15 initial budget meeting.

Maxcy said he felt the move was necessary to avoid many of the mistakes made during the previous budget process, and it would provide needed relief to Administrative Services Director Linda Nipper. "We have been short-staffed in the Administration office for the past three or four years, and not only will this help with preparing a more efficient and accurate budget, but will also assist on improving the transparency as well."

Commissioner Bob Miller agreed the move was necessary, saying the previous budget process was unacceptable. "If you recall, last year when we received the first budget packet I found several mathematical errors," he said. "There were a lot of weaknesses in that budget, and I had no confidence in it and that why I voted against it. I think this will also really help with receiving our documents in a more timely manner. There were times during the last process when we were receiving documents 15 minutes before a meeting. It was a catastrophe."

Commissioner Gabriel Quave agreed that the burden on Nipper was too much, but disagreed that contracting the budget out was the answer to the problem. "Everything went way sideways last year, and I think our administrator needs to be more involved in this budget," he said. "I'm worried that if you don't have someone literally digging through each department's file cabinets while budgeting, the red bullseye is going to be on Milestone if a mistake is found down the road. I don't think it's wise to leave knowledge in the hands of a contractor. I don't have a solution but I don't think this is the right decision."

Miller agreed it was not the best solution, but said something must change in the short term. "If I were the administrator I'd have a multi-degreed certified public account who

understood the ins and outs of government, but that's not possible right now," he said. "Gabriel is right, this is simply a band-aid and not a viable long-term fix."

Commissioner Jim Selph agreed any change is a positive from last year's process. "Physically our staff can't do it right now. We can try working with Milestone this year and then make some decisions for the future," he said. "For me, it's mostly about getting the documents in our hands on time, which was a major problem."

Langford and Commissioner Buddy Mansfield agreed it isn't designed as a permanent fix, but will give Maxcy a better idea of what he needs to do in terms of future changes. "It's a small investment to ensure a smoother process this year," Mansfield said.

Utility changes approved

The council unanimously approved a number of fee schedule changes for the Utilities Department. The changes were originally presented in November by Utilities Director Eddie Miller, and the board had asked him to return with clarifications on specific fees such as a new flat late fee for delinquent accounts. Miller proposed the county adopt a \$25 late fee, but after lengthy discussions by board members, it was agreed residents would be assessed a \$15 fee for payments not received by the end of a month, with disconnection of services 15 days after that.

County Attorney Donald Conn said his office had received 40 different issues submitted from county residents regarding possible land development regulation changes. He said he would categorize the issues into nine topics, and the board will hold another LDR workshop before scheduling public hearings and final passage sometime in late May or early June.



J. Refugio Tobar, a fifth grader at Nocatee Elementary School, was named Volunteer of the Year for his kindness, helping in the cafeteria, and other thoughtful acts throughout the year.

Six Gun Country Music Showcase

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\$600 Table seating
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\$35
 Covered stadium seating



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\$50 Ground seating - chairs provided



TICKET OUTLETS

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 STYLE
 308 Sullivan St.
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 941-205-2410

The Polk County Democrat
Barrow's HomeTown Newspaper Since 1831
 190 S. Florida Ave.
 Bartow, FL 33830
 863-533-4183

The Journal
Lake Placid Newspaper Since 1926
 231 N. Main Ave.
 Lake Placid, FL 33852
 863-465-2521

The Lake Wales News
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 120 W. Dearborn St.
 Englewood, FL 34223
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\$5 parking to benefit local boy scouts. No refunds or exchanges. No outside food, beverages or coolers allowed. No re-entry. Price includes tax. If you are in need of special assistance please notify us at time of ticket purchase.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

Alpha-1: are you a carrier?

Friday is Rare Disease Day, and among rare diseases is Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency.

Alpha-1 is a genetic condition that can be passed from one generation to the next, and can cause serious lung and liver diseases. Alpha-1 is the inability of the body to produce antitrypsin, a protein produced in the liver which protects the lungs. Without enough of this protein, lung tissue can be damaged.

Symptoms include shortness of breath, wheezing, asthma which does not respond to treatment, coughing, recurring respiratory infections, and rapid deterioration of lung function. If you or members of your family exhibit these symptoms, genetic testing for Alpha-1 can be performed.

Most people have two copies of the antitrypsin gene to make the protein. People with one good copy and one damaged copy of the gene are considered "carriers" with the potential to pass the condition to succeeding generations. Those with two damaged copies often

exhibit the disease, along with related conditions such as COPD. They may also exhibit cirrhosis of the liver.

To learn more, visit www.alpha1.org.

World Spay Day

Feb. 25 is World Spay Day, and the Venice Cat Coalition has organized a quad-county event to celebrate by promoting more spaying and neutering for local cats and dogs in Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee and DeSoto counties. Veterinarians and animal welfare groups in this area agreed to donate approximately 200 surgeries for cats and dogs this year.

"Participating vets are doing a big service to the whole community. It is clear that more and more animal professionals are realizing that spaying and neutering as many cats and dogs as possible is the number one priority in rescue work," said Theresa Foley, executive director of the Venice Cat Coalition. These surgeries will prevent approximately 900 births of kittens and puppies in 2014, animals that would otherwise overrun local shelters.

World Spay Day is a national campaign

sponsored by the Humane Society of the United States and Humane Society International. Last year's event resulted in more than 50,000 donated surgeries to sterilize cats and dogs around the globe. The Venice Cat Coalition, whose mission is the spaying and neutering of outdoor cats will add dogs to the local effort this year, since the need in the community is so great.

The Venice Cat Coalition will partner with area veterinarians, locating appropriate cats and dogs for surgeries and arranging surgery dates.

Arcadian veterinarians who are participating in World Spay Day by donating surgeries in 2014 include Dr. Kortney Reddick and Dr. Mark Davis of Arcadia Animal Hospital.

Big "O" birding festival

South Florida's Lake Okeechobee region offers some outstanding wildlife-viewing opportunities, judging by the fact the Big "O" Birding Festival is celebrating its 13th year. The counties southwest of Florida's largest freshwater

lake are known for their remarkable bird diversity and charismatic species like the snail kite and roseate spoonbill.

The festival agenda offers birders and other wildlife watchers rare opportunities to join tours on private ranches, as well as on Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission wildlife management areas and other public lands and attractions. There are dozens of different tours available during the four-day event.

The Big "O" Birding Festival, March 9-13 in LaBelle and surrounding areas, is hosted by the Hendry County Tourism Development Council. Headlining the event is legendary birder Greg Miller, the featured keynote speaker and tour guide. Because space is limited for bus tours, register now. To see what tours are available and to register, go to the festival's website: BigOBirdingFestival.com.

To learn more about the Big "O" Birding Festival and other area opportunities, including lodging, go to BigOBirdingFestival.com. For more information on the FWC's statewide and year-round wildlife viewing opportunities, go to MyFWC.com/Viewing.

CLUB

FROM PAGE 13

move back to England.

Throughout her life, Fanny managed to instill a love of the arts in her two daughters and grandchildren, with

her grandson later writing the famous novel, "The Virginian." She continued to write through her later years, completing her last book "Far Away and Long Ago" at age 80. She passed away at age 83.

Bonnie Molloy treated the members to a 1940s depiction of past charter member Nina Carlton. Bonnie even

donned shawls and other articles of clothing from that period and showed some of the handwritten notes and financial logs from Ms. Carlton's era, for a step back in time to meet past members.

Sally Aldrich, Laura Amendola, Susan Barnes, Diane Baxley, Marcia Brown, Beau Carson, Shirley

Cullom, Heidi deJong, Darlene Foster, Shannon Fusco, Muriel Hall, Cheri Holingsworth, Eloise Johnson, Tara Welles-Jones, Lorraine Mohammadbhoy, Bonnie Molloy, Ann Pepper, Raye Southwell, Janie Watson, Theresa Wheeler, and Honorary Life Member Joy Tinsley attended the meeting.

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