

# ARCADIAN

Thursday, April 17, 2014 - 24 pages / 50 cents



Arcadia Sweet Boutique offers a wide selection of treats for even the most discerning tastes.

PAGE 5



A section of the Sun

## Community converstations:

# DeSoto speaks its mind

By **SUSAN E. HOFFMAN & STEVE BAUER**  
ARCADIAN EDITORS

DeSoto County commissioners and staff held a series of "Community Conversations" recently to allow residents to share their thoughts on a wide variety of issues they feel the county needs to focus on in the future. The events were held in four locations representing each district in the county: Nocatee Elementary School; First Baptist Church in Fort Ogden; Turner Center Exhibit Hall; and Kingsway County Club.

Besides giving people the chance to express their concerns in an open forum, it also afforded one-on-one communications with elected officials and staff on important issues. People also studied posters highlighting FEMA's long-term recovery plan for the county after Hurricane Charley in 2004, and they could mark specific areas in the plan they felt deserve more of the county's focus.

"This really was a valuable tool for our staff to pinpoint where county residents'

COMMUNITY | 12



Community leaders and residents take a break during the meeting at the Turner Center Exhibit Hall to chat about various issues.

ARCADIAN PHOTO BY STEVE BAUER

## Youth rodeo finals rock the arena



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY SUSAN E. HOFFMAN

Wyatt Hart is riding high in the Junior Bullriding event, just seconds before taking a spill off the angry animal during Saturday's Arcadia Youth Rodeo Association finals. Watch for more AYRA photos in the April 24 issue of The Arcadian.

## Two admin candidates drop out

By **STEVE BAUER**  
ARCADIAN ASSISTANT EDITOR

The Arcadia City Council scrambled to fill two openings in its city administrator search after two candidates accepted offers for other jobs. City Clerk Penny Delaney informed the council that Michael Standley and Eric Rindfleisch had removed their names from contention, and requested direction on how to proceed with the hiring process.

"I just received notice from Mr. Rindfleisch today, so we are down to only three candidates," she said. "Do you want to just interview the remaining applicants, or add two more to the process?"

Councilman Keith Keene said he would prefer the council choose two more candidates from the Administrator Search Committee's list, taking the next two applicants in order. "If I'm correctly understanding their process, they should have ranked every candidate from No. 1 to No. 29," he said. "So my suggestion is we take the ones ranked No. 6 and 7, and we continue working down that list if those individuals aren't available."

The council then discussed whether the remaining candidates met the requirements set forth by resolution, with Councilman Joe Fink wondering if the position needed to be reposted with a new search process put into place.

"Do we need to reconvene the committee at this point, or perhaps start the

ADMIN | 11

Arcadian 50c



INSIDE



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<b>EASTER "EGGSTRAVAGANZA:"</b> Children gathered at Brewer Park in search of Easter treats .....	2
<b>JUSTICE FOR HOPE:</b> Owner of dog set on fire is charged with arson, animal cruelty .....	8
<b>ON THE MARK:</b> Chamber of Commerce holds annual Tater Hill Fun Shoot.....	22

Editorial .....	4	Calendar .....	6	Police Beat .....	8	Religion .....	10
Pets .....	5	Family Album .....	7	Obituaries .....	9	Sports .....	14

# The hunt for the elusive golden egg



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY JOHN BLACK, photoke@gmail.com  
**Arianna Santos, Little Miss Desoto County, joins Jacob Clausing of Arcadia who found the Golden Egg,**



**Children from all over DeSoto County visited Brewer Park on Saturday, ready for the great Easter Egg Hunt.**



**Avie Pitts and Jordan Merlo meet the Easter Bunny up close and personal during Saturday's Easter egg hunt at Brewer Park.**

## Open house highlights animal success stories

By **STEVE BAUER**

ARCADIAN ASSISTANT EDITOR

Lions, Tigers and Bears is holding its annual Easter Weekend Open House Friday and Saturday. The facility will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and visitors will be treated to free hot dogs and drinks. A minimum donation of \$10 for adults and \$2 for children is requested. Owner Lynn Wittmeier says that the event is one of the organization's prime sources of funding for the year.

"We are a non-profit organization that relies solely on donations from individuals and businesses," she said. "All funds collected go directly into feeding and caring for the animals and upkeep of the facility."

And taking into account that Lions, Tigers and Bears cares for more than 150 animals, ranging from rabbits to lions, the costs are extensive. Wittmeier says typical costs for feeding and upkeep are \$4,500 per month.

Visitors to the preserve will not only get an up-close look at the animals, but are quickly reminded that the facility's residents are there not by choice but

because of humans who have tried to make the animals their pets or used them for moneymaking purposes.

"We do our best to give these animals a good quality of life, but essentially they are imprisoned here because of some very bad decisions by human beings," she said. "When people walk out of this place, I want them to come away with the message that in no situation is it a good idea for people to try to raise these animals as pets. The people can get rid of them, but the animals are the ones who pay the price in the end."

For anyone interested who cannot attend the Easter open house, Lions, Tigers and Bears' regular business hours are from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. In the summer it is open for visits by appointment only. The preserve is located at 9801 N.E. Bahia Court in Arcadia; take U.S. Highway 17 north from Arcadia, turn left at the Arcadia Stockyard and follow the dirt road. Lions, Tigers and Bears can be reached by calling 863-494-0054, or by visiting [lionstigersandbears.us.com](http://lionstigersandbears.us.com).

The following are some of the facility's

most tenured and popular residents visitors will have the chance to meet close and personal this weekend.

### Sampson and Delilah

This brother and sister came to Lions, Tigers and Bears from a breeding facility when they were only six weeks

old. The facility didn't want them to end up in the photo trade, and ended up contacting Wittmeier. Today, the four-year-old pair spend their days lounging in a private pen, complete with a tub and lots of toys.

Sampson weighs in at 600 pounds,

**ANIMAL | 18**



**Bengal tigers Samson and his sister, Delilah, came to Lions, Tigers and Bears when they were 6 weeks old.**

ARCADIAN PHOTO BY SUSAN E. HOFFMAN, [shoffman@sun-herald.com](mailto:shoffman@sun-herald.com)

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# Health Fair gives tips on healthy living

By **CRAIG GARRETT**  
ARCADIAN CORRESPONDENT

We ignore what our bodies tell us. Losing focus, short breath, pressures and aches may be symptoms of something serious. Neglecting these road signs is how we get sick, and in extremes, how many of us board an early train to the afterlife.

To counter the urge to disregard symptoms – or to be unaware of diet, prescription and exercise tips that may help us live longer and happier lives – an Arcadia women’s group hosted at health fair Saturday.

The event at the Mt. Zion AME Church introduced speakers, learning games, recipes and portioning tips, medical tables and prescription advice, spiritual and physical healing, and other activities to help the community understand health choices, said Ernestine Simons, event organizer with the church’s Women in Fellowship Ministry. “(People) need to stop and think before they eat, anything they’re doing to hurt themselves,” she said. “So many (diseases) can be prevented. There’s always a solution.”



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY CRAIG GARRETT

**Eljyn Jones, 2, of Arcadia at the Health Fair on Saturday. Eljyn has juvenile diabetes.**

Fair participants included DeSoto Memorial Hospital, Lighthouse for the Blind, Zumba, Weight Watchers and others with health advice and tips.

Heart disease, stroke and diabetes are killers and disablers, with the victim numbers particularly high in the African American community, said Simons, whose young daughter suffers health issues relating to stroke. Speakers understanding the impact of illness and taking steps to prevent disease spoke at the free health fair. One speaker, Crystal Cooper, lost her sight due to diabetes. “Adults with a family history (of



**Ernestine Simons speaks to friends and neighbors Saturday at the Health Fair sponsored by the Women in Fellowship Ministry of Mt. Zion AME Church.**

diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease) should make sure their kids are checked early,” said Cooper, who went blind at age 28 and needs assistance in getting around. “People need to be educated on symptoms.”

The Arcadia CVS pharmacy had a booth at the Saturday fair. Volunteers shared information about prescriptions that patients should understand doctors aren’t always aware of outside medications that may cause serious health problems when mixing newer

prescriptions, said Kristin Patterson, the pharmacy manager. “We are here to answer questions,” she said.

Simons said this year’s health fair was the Women in Fellowship Ministry’s first, with plans for more events she hopes will attract other of Arcadia’s seventy churches, retail services like grocery, and other health agencies from across the state. “If (you) have something, a disease, what are you going to do with it now?” she said. “You can be the dictionary.”

# Arcadia event highlights sexual assault awareness month

By **CRAIG GARRETT**  
ARCADIAN CORRESPONDENT

It’s not a crime of passion. It’s an act of violence. Victims don’t have to be in the shadows, but must seek help and justice, which are available for the asking, advocates for sexual assault insist.

These and other messages came at an event in Arcadia underlining Sexual Assault Awareness Month, whose genesis began in the 1970s with street protests against violence against women simply walking in their own neighborhoods and towns. Among the 20 or so groups and speakers at the awareness event

Saturday in Arcadia was the DeSoto County sheriff’s office, which is a lead agency in investigating crimes, including sex assault. “Many (people) don’t know their rights,” said Janet Riedel, a sheriff’s department victim advocate at a booth at the outdoor event. “And it’s our job to bring awareness to these and other rights.”

April recognizes Sexual Violence Awareness Month, represented by the color teal and denim cloth. Denim Day symbolizes a European case where an Italian judge overturned a sexual assault because the victim was wearing tight jeans. The Italian Parliament in protest

wore jeans to a session after the judge’s ruling. Denim Day this year is April 23.

The event in Arcadia at the Iglesia Cristiana Pacto de Fe church, which also recognized National Crime Victims’ Rights Week, was meant to attract mostly Hispanics, but families of every background were welcomed – and attended. Many victims of sexual assault “are ashamed, even afraid of deportation” as undocumented workers, said Delia Noyola, DeSoto County advocate with Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center, an outreach group and a sponsor on Saturday. “We want to bring education to the community.”

Groups participating in Saturday’s event included: Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center (SPARCC), Healthy Families, Florida Dept. of Health, DeSoto County Fire Rescue, DeSoto County Sheriff’s Office, Arcadia Police Dept., Coastal Behavioral Inc., Remax/Excel, South Florida State College, H&M Training, Safe Children Coalition, SHINE (Florida Elder Affairs), Navigator Project, Redlands Christian Migrant Association, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Migrant Farmworker Unit, Florida Rural Legal Services, Habitat for Humanity, Seacoast National Bank, Catholic Charities, Florida Baptist Children’s Homes and DeSoto Memorial Hospital.

Thousands of sex crimes are reported each year. But many assaults go unreported, mostly due to embarrassment, family issues or because a victim’s sexual history can be used against her.

Statistically, a family member or friend

is more likely responsible for sex crimes.

For more information, to report an assault or for victim’s assistance, many local agencies can help, including the DeSoto County Sheriff’s Office (863-993-4700) or the Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center (SPARCC) hotline (941-365-1976).



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY CRAIG GARRETT

**Vertrina Burns of the Arcadia Police Department, Delia Noyola of Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center and Janet Riedel of the DeSoto County Sheriff’s Office provided information on sexual abuse at a special event Saturday.**

# PhosChem Supply offers scholarships for DCHS seniors

By **MARTHA JO MARKEY**  
DESOTO EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Realizing that higher education goals are imperative to a productive community and being willing to help the youth of the community reach those goals is sometimes never in the same sentence. But PhosChem Supply Co. of Hardee County is stepping up for the second year to offer multiple scholarships to graduating seniors from DeSoto County High School.

“We want to help the youth of DeSoto be prepared for the jobs of the future,” said Jama Abbott of PhosChem.

“Awarding substantial scholarships to graduating seniors is our way of recognizing a void and doing something about that need.”

PhosChem Supply Company of Mulberry, Fla. was established in 1964 by the late Carl Mears, a fifth generation Floridian. Mears’ father and grandfather were also employed by the phosphate industry which provided most of the jobs in the region during that era. Today PhosChem is owned by two of Mears’ sons, Mark and Skip Mears. The company looks forward to celebrating its 50th anniversary later this year.

PhosChem and its 25 employees

provide products and services for the phosphate mining and operations, such as dragline wire rope, dragline buckets and rigging, lubrication, hydraulics, as well as slurry pumps and parts. These products and services are located at the Mulberry facility. In 2004 PhosChem purchased property and built administrative offices on Main Street in Wauchula.

PhosChem recognizes the importance of involvement of businesses in the local community and works to assist the community and the phosphate industry. A key part of their community involvement has been the funding of scholarships for



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DCHS | 18

# VIEWPOINT

The Sun / Thursday, April 17, 2014

www.sunnewspapers.net Arcadian | Page 4

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## OUR VIEW

### Three cheers for four county conversations

**OUR VIEW:** The open meetings with residents encourage more county/resident dialogue.

DeSoto County commissioners, administration and staff just completed four unprecedented Community Conversations. Over a two-week period, the county held open discussions for the public in four different locations, designed to begin a dialogue between the county and DeSoto residents. It was like four nights of town hall meetings, in which people had a chance to ask questions and get answers.

For example: at the last of the four meetings, held in Lake Suzy, a resident had a question about roads. Right away, Shawn Edwards, director of the Roads and Bridges department, walked over to the person and gave him his card.

Being able to associate a name with a face like that was really helpful for some residents. Making face-to-face contact, with taking down numbers and promises to follow up, went a long way toward generating more trust and approval from residents.

The first meeting, held in Nocatee, had far more staffers than residents. At first County Administrator Guy Maxcy and County Coordinator Mandy Hines questioned whether they should bring that many staff people to these meetings — but then concluded, rightly, that having the right department head present to answer a question was well worth it.

And as the two weeks went on, successive meetings had many more attendees, which meant the county reached a lot of residents.

We are happy to report that there were a few City of Arcadia representatives at the last two meetings. Although there was not much dialogue between city and county, at least each had a chance to hear the other's views and concerns. It was a small step, but a positive one.

We think this experience has been invaluable, both from the county's standpoint by helping citizens understand some of their constraints and limitations, and for citizens to learn how things work and who does what. For instance, Lake Suzy residents said they felt left out of the loop in many cases because they are so far away from the center of action. One asked how they could find out about volunteer opportunities for them in the county.

OUR VIEW | 10

## LETTER POLICY

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

NEWS ITEM: DESOTO SCHOOL DISTRICT RECOVERING FROM 'EGGSPENSIVE' SCIENCE LESSON ON THE HAZARDS OF MERCURY

HAPPY EASTER TO ALL, AND TO ALL, A GOOD NIGHT!

THERE GOES PETER SWABBIN' TAIL, HOPPIN' DOWN THE MONEY TRAIL...



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Why Antiques group limits monthly fair

Editor:

To our distinguished Arcadia City Council,

I feel that it is of some importance to write you this letter. Many of you already know that I am a coordinator, along with Sheri Fink, of the Antiques Association that is responsible for the booming 4th Saturday Antique Fair. I realize that there are people upset with me because of how we run our fair. Please, allow me a moment to explain why it is run in such a strict fashion.

Our organization, along with guidance from former City Administrators and City Council, created the contract for the safety and well being of the multitude of people who are participating in the event. We believe that all of our rules are for the benefit of

the shoppers that we are bringing in to shop. We advertise this "antique" fair on several different television networks and would not want to be misleading to those who visit. Quality is always rewarded and this antique fair has been diligent in maintaining the quality of merchandise. For this reason, we do restrict the presence of reproductions etc. that are allowed to be in any given booth. There are many shoppers that come from Ft. Lauderdale, Tampa, Miami and Collier County for the purpose of buying antiques.

We also have to limit the number of vendors allowed at our show, due to conflicts with other shop owners. While these owners are completely within their rights to refuse use of their store frontage, we can not be flexible on the rules put into place to protect both the city and our organization

from liability. It is for these reasons that our organization will continue to enforce our contract and standards of merchandise. I realize that some people will disagree with our standards and/or contract, but we will only continue to be one of Florida's premier outdoor show venues by doing what has been successful.

Thank you for your time and support.

Flo Rife  
Arcadian

### Current style choices are trashy

Editor:

This may be more of a letter to society in general rather than a letter to the editor reflecting on Arcadia.

LETTERS | 23

## GRITS & PIECES

### Grab your scissors and highlighter

Have you ever met somebody who just needed to get over himself? You know the type, I'm sure. You may work with them or be neighbors or sometimes be kin to them. There's even a chance that it might be you! So today I thought I'd present you with a list of sayings I've been collecting, directed to folks just like that. Why? I'm glad you asked.

This list will not only give you a few chuckles, but will also give you the opportunity to educate some folks about themselves. What I mean is that you can clip it out, highlight the one(s) you think might sound like somebody you know, and then you can present it to them. You may want to do that anonymously, of course. I can't promise it'll do any good as far as them modifying their behavior, but it will at least give you the chance to sound off in your own way.

Oh, and let me preface by saying



Grits & Pieces

Luke Wilson

troubador55@embarqmail.com

that this only applies to folks other than yourself. I, however expect my mailbox will be full of them; they'll be left under the windshield wiper of my truck, e-mailed to me or maybe posted on Facebook. But there's no need to get too excited because it's all in fun. Well, sort of. Anyway, here goes:

Don't take yourself too seriously. After all, nobody else does.

A good way to lose friends is to win all the arguments.

Learn from the mistakes of others.

You won't live long enough to make all of them yourself.

It's good to hold a conversation, but you need to turn loose of it now and then.

Narrow minds are often accompanied by wide tongues.

Many who complain that they're not being paid what they're worth ought to be glad they're not.

You may as well learn to laugh at yourself. After all, everyone else is.

The best way to save face is to keep the lower half shut.

Don't break the silence unless you can improve on it.

Nothing is impossible for the person who doesn't have to do it.

It is better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to open your mouth and remove all possible doubt.

GRITS &amp; PIECES | 10

# Arcadia's Sweet Boutique is the place for special Easter treats

By **CRAIG GARRETT**  
ARCADIAN CORRESPONDENT

Rumor has it that, before heading out on his rounds Sunday, the Easter Bunny will be making a stop in DeSoto County — at Arcadia Sweet Boutique.

Julie Cincotta, the owner of Arcadia Sweet Boutique, sells her confectionery treats — deemed “affordable luxury” in today’s marketing lingo — from a shop scented with the combined aromas of raw chocolate, fresh candy and flowers. Trays of molded and freshly poured delicacies, packaged goodies, treats on a stick, holiday baskets, jellybeans, stuffed animals and knickknacks line the shelves, much of it in preparation for the Easter holiday.

“I love what I do,” says Cincotta from her shop at 1003 Oak Street (within DeSoto Jewelry). “I work hard to keep it fresh and exciting for everyone (entering the store).”

For the novice, a chocolate shop can be intimidating, especially if you’re used to just grabbing a chocolate bar at the



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY JOHN BLACK, photoke@gmail.com

**Baskets prepared especially for Easter are ready for sale at Sweet Boutique this week -- if the Easter Bunny doesn't beat you to them.**

convenience store. Chocoholics are far more passionate and astute about their treats. But ask questions, poke around, see and taste the difference in freshness and creativity in professionally crafted confections over candy that may sit on the shelf for weeks, evens months. Really, why eat factory chocolate when the fresh stuff is so much better?

Millions of us are turning to artisan chocolates, especially as chocolate grows in popularity in health circles. In limited amounts, raw chocolate is deemed good for you. Plus the

stuff just melts in your mouth and tastes amazing. The U.S. confectionery market in 2013 sold about \$30 billion in candy and chocolate products. That figure will jump \$4 billion in chocolate sales in the next five years alone, experts predict.

Exotic and creative chocolate delicacies are highly popular, yet affordable as romantic gifts, bridal and baby showers, business functions, seasonal or special treats for yourself; yummy things like dipped pretzels, turtles, hand-made fudge and truffles, and a hundred

variations in shapes and sizes, swirls and colors and ingredients, flavors spicy and fruity, in lemon and vanilla, banana, strawberries and caramel. Craved and hoarded, even as an aphrodisiac and prized like gold by Aztec kings, chocolate for centuries has been regarded as a key to a happier life.

Our passion for chocolate and treats is why Arcadia Sweet Boutique has created such a buzz in just 14 months. The chocoholic emporium — which also specializes in gift baskets, special functions and parties, Florida taffy and jellybeans — is generating a loyal customer following, especially with social media (Facebook) to help confectionery lovers stay better informed of specials and trends, Cincotta says.

She started on her path to discovery in New England confection shops, at workshops and trade shows and conventions, the route followed by food artisans over the centuries. Cincotta opened a confection shop in Boston with her daughter, then brought her skills and passion



**Julie Cincotta, owner of Sweet Boutique, displays one of the special baskets designed for Easter. She sells handmade candy, chocolate and confectionery treats at her store, inside DeSoto Jewelry.**

to Arcadia a couple of years ago. Her niece, who owns DeSoto Jewelry, invited Cincotta to open her small confectionery in February 2013. The confection shop has since expanded in size and selections.

“Chocoholics want something different, like seasalt and a thin layer of chocolate,” Cincotta says in her distinct New England brogue. “Spicy or fruity. Plus (DeSoto County) needs something new and different. People are very surprised, very excited. And every day, more and more people are stopping in.”

Maybe even the Easter Bunny.

## Pets for Easter — some-bunny to love



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

Tipper, and her sister, Miss Kitty, are 1-year-old calicos who were turned in when their owner passed away. They are Hemingway cats (with extra toes) and get along well with other cats. They have great personalities. Come see them at the Animal Services office, 2048 N.E. McKay Street.



shoffman@sun-herald.com  
Petey is a 2-year-old brown-and-white Jack Russell terrier and is full of energy. He's terrific with kids and families and walks well on a leash. Adoption fees are \$47, which includes \$10 administrative fee, \$25 toward neutering and \$12 for rabies shot, plus free microchipping.



Gabby is a 4-month-old wire-haired Chihuahua who was picked up as a stray. She has a fun-loving personality and gets along well with other animals.



Rocky, a 3-year-old black-and-white Chihuahua, is very tolerant with children and gets along well with other dogs. He is playful and looking for a fur-ever home.



Mocha is a 4- or 5-month old Catahoula Leopard mix, and she would love to be your Easter Bunny. She is calm and attentive with a great personality. She walks well on a leash and is a fast learner. For more information on this sweet girl, call 863-993-4855.



Spot, disguised as the Easter Bunny, would love to hop into your home. He's a 3-year-old Parson Russell terrier with a wonderful personality. He walks well on a leash, is great with other dogs and very people-friendly. To give Spot a home, visit Animal Services weekdays from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.





## Arcadia Sweet Boutique

Fresh fudge • Truffles • Chocolate confections  
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Easter • Administration Week • Mother's Day

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We love to sweeten your day!

# Arcadia's COMMUNITY CALENDAR

NOTE: All area codes are 863 unless otherwise indicated.

## ■ TODAY

• "Books Are Fun" will be hosted by DeSoto Memorial Hospital Auxiliary on April 17 - 18 in the McSwain Room from 7 a.m. - 4 p.m. Cash, check and debit/credit cards are welcomed.

• Peace River Audubon meets at 6:30 p.m. at First Alliance Church, 20444 Midway Blvd., Port Charlotte. Speaker is Mary McMurray, Fla. DEP, speaking on Colonial Bird Nesting Monitoring and Protection Program. Free and open to the public. Visit [www.PeaceRiverAudubon.org](http://www.PeaceRiverAudubon.org) for more information.

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

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

• Relaxation Yoga Class every Thursday, 5 p.m. 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.

• Faith Mission provides free lunches for anyone in need, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 1109 S.E. 9th St., Arcadia. Donations gratefully accepted.

• Alcoholics Anonymous Second Tradition meets at 7 p.m. at St. Edmund's Episcopal Church, 327 W. Hickory St.

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

## ■ FRIDAY

• There is no garbage collection for DeSoto County residents in April 18 in observance of Good Friday. Friday customers' next collection date is April 22.

• The offices of both DeSoto County and the City of Arcadia will be closed Friday in observance of Good Friday.

• On Good Friday at 8 a.m., The DeSoto County Ministerial Association invites everyone to McSwain Park to participate in the Stations of the Cross walk. Pastor Brian Russell of Pine Level UMC and Sr. Ann DeNicolo of Catholic Charities will open the event in the park, then proceed to several stops through town along Oak and Polk Streets, with participants reading verses from the scriptures about the final week of Jesus Christ's life. The walk will end at St. Edmund's Episcopal Church with a celebration of the Savior's resurrection. Then share a time of reflection, fellowship and refreshments by the good folks of St. Edmund's.

• Trinity UMC and Pleasant Hill UMC will hold observance of Good Friday on April 18, from noon to 3 p.m. Feel free to bring a bag lunch at noon, and stay for any or all of the solemn observance.

• Starting today, on the second and fourth Friday of each month from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., at Arcadia Housing Authority's north side parking lot, a truck will bring free fruits and vegetables to low-income clients in Arcadia/DeSoto County. Three to five volunteers are needed each time. If you are interested in helping, call AHA at 494-4343.

• Lions Tigers & Bears open house today and Saturday. See page 2 for details.

• Habitat for Humanity is having a blood drive at the Restore this Friday 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Everyone who donates will receive half off their purchase (appliances excluded).

• Peace River Audubon field trip to Fort DeSoto, St. Pete. Meet behind McDonald's at Peachland Mall, Port Charlotte at 7 a.m. to car-pool. For details, call Eleanor at 941-624-4182. Tolls and gas money should be shared by

drivers/riders.

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

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

• 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

• The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will hold open house on April 19 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the church on E. Gibson St. Come for a tour, and experience the Mormon Tabernacle Choir in concert with the orchestra on Temple Square as they perform Handel's Messiah. This is the first time in 10 years the full Mormon Tabernacle Choir and Orchestra have presented the Easter concert and the first time ever that Choir has publicly performed Messiah in its entirety.

• Lions Tigers & Bears open house today. See page 2 for details.

• The Friends of Arcadia Airport have their last fly-in pancake breakfasts at the airport for the season. Breakfasts are 9-11 a.m. with all-you-can-eat pancakes, OJ, sausage and coffee for only \$6. There will also be a 50/50 raffle with all profits supporting airport projects and our "AV8RS" youth program. Str8 Up Aviation will be offering helicopter rides and aerial tours of Arcadia for only \$40. Volunteers to help out are welcome and encouraged. Email [FriendsOfArcadiaAirport@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsOfArcadiaAirport@gmail.com) for more information.

• Nature Walks: Brownville Park, 8:30 a.m. April 19. With Master Naturalists. Free.

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

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

• DeSoto County Library story time is at 10:30 a.m. at 125 N. Hillsborough Ave., Arcadia. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Call 993-4851 for more information.

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

## ■ SUNDAY

• On Easter Sunday, Pastor Russell will hold a Sunrise service on behalf of the DeSoto County Ministerium Assoc. at Lake Katherine Park beginning at 7 a.m. All are invited. For details, email [pastor@pinelevelumc.com](mailto:pastor@pinelevelumc.com).

• The Nav-A-Gator hosts an Easter sunrise service at 7 a.m. Sunday, at 9700 S.W. Riverview Cir. (off Kings Highway). 941-627-3474.

• Heritage Baptist Church has a sunrise Easter Service at the Tree of Knowledge Park, downtown Arcadia (W. Oak and DeSoto Ave.) at 7 a.m. with breakfast to follow at the church, corner of S. Polk Ave. and W. Hickory St. Call 244-1247 for details.

## ■ MONDAY

• The DeSoto County Republican Executive Committee meets on the third Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Beef O'Brady's.

• The DeSoto County Fair Association meets at 7 p.m. third Mondays monthly in the fair office on Heard Street, Arcadia.

• 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](http://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

• Local poet, story teller, and teacher Carol Mahler will read from her first book of poetry "How do I Follow" at 6 p.m. at the South Florida State College Library, Bldg. Y at the Highlands Campus. For details, call Claire Miller at 784-7305.

• Public hearings on revisions to the county's current LDRs will take place at 6:30 p.m. April 22 and May 27 at the County Commission Chambers, 201 E. Oak St.

• DeSoto County Commission Board meets at 3 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. in room 103, County Administration Building, 201 E. Oak St., Arcadia.

• DeSoto County School Board meets at 5:30 p.m. every

## ■ SPECIAL

• Free Spanish-English class, Monday through Thursday, 9:30-10:30 a.m. at Nocatee United Methodist Church, 4502 S.W. Welles Ave. For information, call 494-3881.

• Habitat for Humanity needs volunteers the first week in April to help lay tile at the new home for Tonya Jackson and sons on Myrtle St. Call Junior at 303-3913 to volunteer. The home will be dedicated April 10.

second and fourth Tuesday in the School Board meeting room, 530 La Solona Ave., Arcadia.

• Temple Beth El, North Port Jewish Center, a Conservative Synagogue, will be honoring Passover by holding services at 9:30 a.m. April 22. Yizkor will be recited. All are invited to attend. All services are conducted by Cantor Lyle Rockler. For information, call the temple at 941-423-0300.

• The DeSoto Amateur Radio Club meets at 8 p.m. Tuesday (except the third Tuesday) of the month, on the 147.075, W4MIN repeater with a pl of 100. All amateurs are invited to participate.

• Faith Mission provides free lunches for anyone in need, at 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 1109 S.E. 9th St., Arcadia. Donations gratefully accepted.

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

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

## ■ WEDNESDAY

• The ELCFH Board of Directors will meet at 10 a.m. April 23 at the ELCFH DeSoto office, 4 W. Oak Street, Suite H as well as via conference call. Call 866-628-8620 and enter participant code 504163#.

• Been There Ranchers' and Farmers' Club meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday. At 1 p.m., first clubhouse inside South Entrance of Arcadia Village Country Club. North of Walmart, Highway 70. Call Max R. Fitzpatrick at 863-494-6257. Free. Tours, speakers, conversation, friends, fun — all welcome.

• "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

• 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.

• Relaxation Yoga Class every Thursday, 5 p.m. in the Health Dept., conference room, 34 S. Baldwin Ave. 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.

• 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.

## ■ COMING EVENTS

• Habitat for Humanity has a free class on "Identity Theft" by Phyllis Schwartz, Volunteer for the DeSoto County Sheriff's Office, April 29 at 6 p.m. at the SunTrust Bank, 2nd floor. Open to the public. Light refreshments served.

• Nature Walks: Morgan Park, 8:30 a.m. May 1. Free.

• May 1 is the Day of Prayer in DeSoto.

• The Chamber of Commerce Early Bird Breakfast Meeting is May 1 at the Family Service Center.

• DeSoto Memorial Hospital is sponsoring a 5K Walk/Run and a 10K Run on May 3 at the Turner Center Exhibit Hall. Entry fee is \$25/person or \$40/2-person team. Entry deadline to assure a T-shirt is noon on April 25.

Registration is 6:30-7 a.m. for the 10K run on May 3, and race starts at 7:15 a.m. Registration for the 5K Walk/Run is 7-7:30 a.m. and race starts at 7:45 a.m. Proceeds benefit the DMH Foundation.

• Nature Talk: Master Naturalist Jamie Reynolds shares information on local wildflowers, 10 a.m. on May 14 at DeSoto County Library. Free.

• A Memorial Day Barrel Race takes place at the Arcadia Rodeo Arena May 25-26.



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# Family Album

## Community band helps school musicians

The Arcadia Community Concert Band has completed its 12th season. The band performed nine concerts around DeSoto and Hardee counties since December. The 30-piece band plays a wide variety of music.

This year the band made a \$1,000 donation to the DeSoto Middle School to help purchase and repair musical instruments.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Arcadia Community Concert Band officers are, from left, Pat Feaster, Emily Morris, administrator Bill Perry, DMS Band Director Christine Cooley and DMS Principal Gary White.



### FAMILY ALBUM PHOTOS

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

### Thank you

The family of Dommie J. Delaney would like to express our sincere appreciation to you for the prayers, cards, flowers, calls and other acts of kindness expressed to us during the illness and passing of our loved one. Words can't express our heartfelt thanks.

May God Bless you,  
The Delaney Family

BAND | 18

### Stalking the legendary Bigfoot



PHOTO PROVIDED

My fearless hunting dogs and I captured Bigfoot.

-- Caroline Gordon

### Children donate to Center for the Needy



PROVIDED BY EILEEN RIGGIN

The children of First Presbyterian Church collect coins from the congregation on the first Sunday of each month to be donated to the Center for the Needy. On April 6, the children presented a check to the center in the amount of \$780.38. This amount represents the coins collected for the past five months. Pictured are James Beckett from the Center for the Needy, and Cullen McManus, Brad Lawrence and Judie Neeley from First Presbyterian Church.

# SUNBURN CAUSES CANCER

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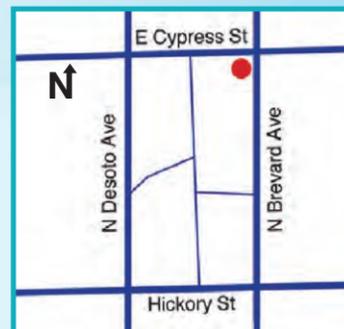
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# Two former jailmates charged with armed robbery

Two men who were once jailed together with a third tried to rob that third man on Friday.

According to the Arcadia Police Department, the victim said two masked men approached him in his back yard. One held what he believed was a gun to him while the other had a knife. They forced him away from his house to a building in back.

The victim recognized the man with the gun as someone he knew as "Taz," later identified as Devonte Mitchell, because he recognized his voice: the victim and Mitchell were once in jail at the same time.

The arrest report states the two men stole the victim's iPod and tried to take a laptop. When the second man's mask slipped down, the victim recognized him, also from prior jail time, as Robbie McGuire. McGuire cut the victim on his hand with the knife, then the two ran off.

Devonte Tevin Mitchell, 20, of the 2000 block of S.W. Hillsborough Ave., Arcadia was arrested Monday; Robbie Lee McGuire, 19, of Jacaranda Trails, Arcadia, was arrested Tuesday. Both men were charged with aggravated battery with a deadly weapon, kidnap, commission of second degree felony wearing hood or mask, and armed robbery. Bond was set at \$185,000 for each of them.

## Facebook feud leads to stabbing

A fight between two women on Facebook led to one of them allegedly stabbing the other on Thursday.

According to the arrest report by the Arcadia Police Department, Chiquitta Yvette Jackson, 36, of the first block of Park Place, Arcadia, had an ongoing feud on Facebook with another woman. The victim was at Louis Anderson Park on Thursday around 8 p.m. when a group of four girls — including Jackson — got out of a car and approached her.

The victim reportedly told Jackson to "get out of my face," when Jackson pushed the victim in her face. Then she pulled a knife out of her bra and stabbed the victim. A witness said



McGUIRE



MITCHELL

## 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.

all the girls in Jackson's group had knives. They all then got back into a car and drove away.

Police responded to the scene but got very little cooperation from potential witnesses, including the victim herself. Eventually they located two women who witnessed the incident and described the events to police.

Jackson was arrested later that evening, charged with aggravated battery with a deadly weapon, and bond was set at \$25,000; she made bail and was released the next day.

## Arrest made in case of burned dog

ARCADIA — The Arcadia Police Department arrested Larry Wallace, 66, on charges of second-degree arson and animal cruelty for allegedly dousing his dog with kerosene and setting her on fire on March 20.

The case has generated worldwide attention, as photos of the 50-pound dog, christened "Hope" by animal rescuers, circulated on the Internet.

Arcadia Marshal Matt Anderson said his office has received phone calls from as far away as Hawaii, Europe and Asia about the case, and thousands of dollars have been donated toward her rehabilitation.

Wallace, of the 100 block of S. Harris Road in Arcadia, was arrested after a detailed investigation was conducted by APD and the State Fire Marshal's Office, and the results were sent to the State Attorney's Office for review. There was initially some question whether Wallace would be charged at all, based on concerns he may have some mental impairment.

Wallace was taken into custody by Lt. Gary Evans and Detective Troy Carillo of APD, and was booked Monday afternoon at the DeSoto County Jail. His bond was set at \$8,500 and he bonded out of jail Tuesday evening. His next court date is May 19.

The crime was discovered by neighbors, who reported it to a city employee who was in the area. The



WALLACE

dog, who was reportedly chained, was brought to the Hardee County Rescue Team because her rescuer volunteers for HART. Hope was eventually taken to BluePearl veterinarians in Tampa, which specializes in trauma and specialty cases. There, she has been treated for extensive burns over 60 percent of her body. Doctors used special laser treatments with equipment donated to the clinic for her care. Rescuers from HART say they have been impressed with the results from laser therapy.

Hope is reportedly healing well and is responding to people who are caring for her. On Tuesday, Dr. Tammy Miller Michau, a board-certified veterinary ophthalmologist with BluePearl and one of the specialists overseeing Hope's care, said Hope's eyes have made significant improvements since last week and are in the best shape she has seen them.

Because of burns to her eyes, some of the tissue had sloughed off of the center part of her left cornea, which caused the tissue underneath it to become more fragile.

"As the eye continues with the healing process, her eye is attempting to grow blood vessels to try to heal the center of her cornea where the most damage was done," Michau said.

Hope is still expected to recover and retain her sight in both eyes. More than \$50,000 has been raised thus far for Hope's treatment.

HART is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations and is accepting donations on Hope's behalf. Visit <http://hardeeanimalrescueteam.weebly.com/index.html> for details, or send checks to: Hardee Animal Rescue Team, P.O. Box 2486, Wauchula, FL 33873. For more information about HART, call 863-773-2424.

Email: [shoffman@sun-herald.com](mailto:shoffman@sun-herald.com)

## Wreck reported on State Road 31

FHP reported a single-car wreck on State Road 31 Thursday around 7 p.m. According to FHP, Jonathan Sattelle, 22, of Ramrod Key, Fla., was southbound on State Road 31 just past County Road 760A when, for unknown reasons, his vehicle began to swerve from side to side. His Ford Exloirer turned over onto its passenger side and struck a tree. Sattelle was air-lifted by Bay Flight to Lee Memorial Hospital and was listed in critical condition.

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

- Michael Wilson Baker, 26, Lehigh Acres, Charges: two counts of failure to appear. Bond: none.
- Jason Adam Brown, 34, 300 block of N. Lee Ave., Arcadia. Charge: willfully defrauding or attempting to defraud a urine drug test. Bond: \$500.
- Alex Castillo, 20, 2200 block of E & T Circle, Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.
- James Allen Chitwood, 49, Englewood, Fla. Charges: two counts of failure to appear, and violation of probation. Bond: none.
- Marcus Alexander Clark, 28, 700 block of W. Pine St., Arcadia. Charge: petty theft. Bond: \$120.
- Austin Levi Game, 20, 4500 block of S.W. Horseshoe Terrace, Arcadia. Charges: possession of marijuana with intent to sell or deliver, possession or use of drug equipment and violation of probation. Bond: none.
- Jamelle Romar James, 24, 400 block of N. 17th Ave., Arcadia. Charge: petty theft, second degree, third or subsequent offense. Bond: \$1,000.
- Christopher Dewayne Law, 30, first block of E. Palmetto St., Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.
- Jennifer Lynn Little, 41, 1100 block of S.W. Mildred St., Arcadia. Charges: possession of less than 20 grams of marijuana, driving on a suspended license and violation of probation. Bond: none.
- Kyle Lynn McCall, 18, 1400 block of N.E. Strickland St., Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation.



PHOTO FROM BLUEPEARL VETERINARY CLINIC

Hope, a 50-pound dog who suffered substantial burns, is recovering at the BluePearl Veterinary Clinic in Tampa. She is reported to enjoy sitting on people's laps, and has ventured outside for brief walks as her injuries heal.

Bond: none.

- Antonio Lamark McPherson, 22, 2600 block of S. Louis Ave., Arcadia. Charges: lewd and lascivious behavior with victim age 12-16, and sexual assault with victim 12 or older with special conditions. Bond: none.
- Kevin Bruce Pelham, 23, 700 block of W. Pine St., Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.
- Oscar Rivera Jr., 35, 8500 block of Chinook Road, Arcadia. Charge: grand theft auto. Bond: \$7,500.
- Cynthia Marlene Shattles, 32, 1000 block of N.W. Girl Scout Road, Arcadia. Charge: battery. Bond: \$120.
- Rachel Myshell Writesel, 26, 2000 block of S.W. Coast Line Terrace, Arcadia. Charges: criminal mischief with property damage under \$200 and violation of probation. Bond: none.
- Robert Alen Clifton Sr., 56, 200 block of Potter St., Arcadia. Charges: possession of less than 20 grams of marijuana and possession or use of drug equipment. Bond: \$240.
- Azari Alain Crucet, 38, 7600 block of State Road 72, Arcadia. Charges: assault and DUI with alcohol or drugs. Bond: \$620.
- Robert Anthony Cullen, 53, 700 block of W. Hickory St., Arcadia. Charge: battery. Bond: \$750.
- Joshua Paul Michael Hartney, 26, first block of W. Walnut St., Arcadia. Charge: battery. Bond: \$1,500.
- Charles Richard Hatcher, 35, 1000 block of E. Baker St., Arcadia. Charge: shoplifting, second offense. Bond: \$120.
- Tiffany Allen McClelland, 25, 2200 block of S.E. Shady Circle, Arcadia. Charge: battery. Bond: \$1,500.
- Shaylin Krisopher McKenzie, 21, 1100 block of N.W. Arcadia Ave., Arcadia. Charge: resisting an officer without violence. Bond: \$750.
- Selena Marie McVey, 29, Perry, Fla. Charge: failure to appear. Bond: \$2,000.
- Deann Nicole Palladay, 35, Port Charlotte. Charges: possession of a controlled substance without a prescription and possession or use of drug equipment. Bond: \$1,120.
- Melinda Sue Rouse, 25, 4800 block of S.W. U.S. Highway 17, Nocatee. Charge: petty theft, second degree. Bond: \$120.
- Ramiro Ruiz Sanchez, 41, 7700 block of State Road 31, Arcadia. Charge: driving without a valid license. Bond: \$120.
- Elizabeth Rose Tschetter, 22, 1100 block of N. Arcadia Ave., Arcadia. Charge: possession of a controlled substance without a prescription. Bond: \$1,000.
- Rockia Tchavailanv Walker, 27, 400 block of Harris Road, Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: released on recognizance.
- Timothy Lawrence Johnson, 48, Riverside RV Park, Arcadia. Charge: out-of-county warrant. Bond: none.
- August Mitchell Jones, 36, 6100 block of S.W. Sable Ave., Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.
- Montell Jamal McCall, 21, 700 block of N. 17th Ave., Arcadia. Charge: resisting an officer without violence. Bond: not stated.
- Herbert Junior Sanchez, 27, 1200 block of 4th Ave., Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.
- Jacob Lee Valdez, 20, first block of W. Walnut St., Arcadia. Charges: giving pawn owner false ownership info for pawned items less than \$300, grand larceny between \$300-\$5,000, violation of probation and resisting an officer without violence. Bond: none.
- Steven Woertz, 23, 2800 block of S.W. Boll Weevil Road, Nocatee. Charges: petty theft between \$100-\$300 and dealing in stolen property. Bond: \$2,000.
- Tiffany Marie Melbourne, 31, 2600 block of Boll Weevil Road, Nocatee. Charge: failure to appear. Released on recognizance.
- James Waldon Westberry, 30, 10800 block of S.W. Kissimmee, Arcadia. Charge: battery. Bond: none.
- Jessica Ann Slagle, 30, 6600 block of N.E. Cubitis Ave., Arcadia. Charges: leaving scene of accident involving injury and driving when license is expired more than 4 months. Bond: \$5,120.

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

- J'Mesa Lestar Gant, 23, 1200 block of S.W. Harlem Circle, Arcadia. Charge: petty theft, second degree. Bond: \$1,000.

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

- Russell Nowicki, 25, 9000 block of S.W. Raccoon Trail, Arcadia. Charges: possession of a controlled substance without a prescription, and contributing to the delinquency of a minor. \$2,000.

— Compiled by Susan E. Hoffman

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## OBITUARIES

### George W. Burnham

George W. Burnham, 79, of Arcadia, Fla., passed away Thursday, March 27, 2014.



He was born Aug. 25, 1934, in Arcadia, to John L. "J.L." and Leota Boatright Burnham.

George attended school in DeSoto County and in 1951 he joined the United States Army. His love for his country placed him in active duty during the Korean Conflict and Vietnam War. While on military leave in the early 1960s he met JoAnn Atkins at Koch Drugs in Arcadia, and they fell in love and married in 1963.

After serving 20 years, he retired as a Sergeant First Class. He then began his career with Florida Dept. of Corrections and worked for DCI, the Work Release Community Center of Bradenton, Fla., a town they would call home for 11 years and the Arcadia Road Prison. George retired as a major after dedicating 20 years with the State of Florida.

When George found spare time, he enjoyed woodworking, working on cars, watching TV and piddling around. He was a jack of all trades. He collected eagles and loved going to McDonald's for morning coffee and talking. George was friendly, outgoing and comical. He was an honest, forgiving, Christian man, a member of Mt. Ephraim Baptist Church. He was a man of integrity, values and morals. George was a loving husband, father, "Papa" and Granddad and will be deeply missed.

George is survived by his beloved wife of 50 years, JoAnn Burnham of Arcadia; daughters, Betty Burnham of North Port, Fla., Georgann Tisdale of Tyler, Texas, Tammy Gross of Arcadia, and Melanie (Clayton) Bonville of Arcadia; sons, Billy Burnham of Mayo, Fla., and Karl Burnham of Arcadia; and grandchildren, Wayne McLelland, Kevin McLelland, Jaime Porter, Kristy Snider, Billy Leer, Michael Gross, Tara Wilson, Lauren Bonville, Bradley Bonville, Bethany Bonville and Madison Bonville. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, John Edward Burnham; and grandson, Robbie Cecil.

A visitation was held Wednesday, April 16, 2014, at Calvary Baptist Church. The funeral service followed with Pastor Rick Hill and Pastor Jonathon Booher officiating. A private burial with full military honors will be held at Sarasota National Cemetery, Sarasota, Fla., at a later date. Online condolences can be made at [www.pongerkaysgrady.com](http://www.pongerkaysgrady.com).

Arrangements are by Ponger Kays Grady Funeral Home, Arcadia.

### Louise Mona Smith

Louise Mona Smith, 77, passed Wednesday, April 2, 2014.

She was born in Trenton, N.J., March 11, 1937.

Louise was married to Russell Peter Smith, who preceded her in death. She resided in Hollywood, Fla., before relocating to Arcadia, Fla., in 2010.

Louise is survived by three children, Raymond of West Palm Beach, Fla., Carl of Arcadia, Fla., and Douglas of Colorado Springs, Colo.; two siblings, William Reimer and Kay Benedetti; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Her final resting place will be with her husband, at the Sarasota National Cemetery, Sarasota, Fla. Condolences may be sent to: Louise Smith c/o Carl Smith, 5344 SW Welles Ave., Arcadia, FL 34266.

### Charles Alexander Ellsworth

Charles Alexander Ellsworth, of Arcadia, Fla., known as "B" by family and friends, passed away Thursday, April 10, 2014.

He was born March 24, 1988, in Arcadia, and was considered a lifelong resident of DeSoto County.

Growing up, Charles enjoyed hog hunting with his Dad and hanging out with friends. He was an adventurous and mischievous "River Rat" who often could be found swimming around and jumping from the Fort Ogden, Fla., railroad truss. He worked as a pipe layer for his Dad's excavating business. Charles enjoyed life and was a member of First Baptist Church of Fort Ogden.

Charles is survived by his mother, Vicki (Daron) Steele of Arcadia; father, Charlie (Jimmie Martin) Ellsworth of North Dakota; maternal grandparents, Cathy and Nicholas Post of Arcadia; paternal grandparents, Kathy Dorminey of Arcadia and Don Ellsworth of Englewood, Fla.; siblings, Ethan Ellsworth of Arcadia, Andria Ellsworth of Arcadia, Jenna Steele of Sarasota, Fla., Alexandra Steele of Arcadia, Hunter Martin of North Dakota, and Alfredo Martin of North Dakota; nephews, Landon and Noah; and numerous cousins.

The funeral service was held Saturday, April 12, 2014, at First Baptist Church of Fort Ogden. Burial followed at Fort Ogden Cemetery. Online condolences may be made at [www.pongerkaysgrady.com](http://www.pongerkaysgrady.com).

Arrangements are by Ponger Kays Grady Funeral Home, Arcadia.

### Pearl M. Worley

Pearl M. Worley, 67, of Lehigh Acres, Fla., died Monday, April 7, 2014, of cancer.

She is survived by sons, Richard and Keith of Arcadia, Fla.; brothers, George, Henry and Russell Mathewson of Lakeland, Fla.; and sisters, Estella Brualdi of Lakeland, Mary Lou Peck of Ohio, and Mable Albohaire of Louisiana.

Services will be announced at a later date.

### Almeta Albritton Frierson

Almeta Albritton Frierson, passed away peacefully Sunday, April 13, 2014, with her family by her side.

Being raised in the Depression era, she worked hard all her life. Almeta worked many years at the former G. Pierce Wood Memorial Hospital in Arcadia, Fla., as a floor charge nurse, and also enjoyed working at a florist shop in Arcadia for a number of years. She was a lifelong resident of the Lily, Fla., community. Almeta was always involved in crafts of some kind, but her favorite pastime was fishing.

Almeta is survived by two sons and one daughter, Earl Frierson of Lily, Mildred Frierson White of the Lemon Grove, Fla., community, and Donald Frierson of Baker, Fla.; sister, Maxine Dawson of Brooksville, Fla.; six grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; nine great-great-grandchildren, with two more on the way; many nieces, nephews and cousins; and special friend, Willie Neal Shine. She was preceded in death by her husband and father of her children, Jim Frierson; parents, the Rev. Sidney Albritton and "Bertie" Albritton; and sister, Vohrees Wiley.

Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until memorial services at 11 a.m. Thursday, April 17, 2014, at Union Baptist Church in Lily. The Rev. Albert Blum will officiate. Interment will be private.

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

## OBITUARY POLICY

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

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



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 Sunday - Worship 10:00am  
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**North Hillsborough Baptist Church**  
 (253 N. Hillsborough Ave.)  
**Pastor Ellis Cross**  
**863-494-3455**

Worship 11:00 AM  
 Evening Worship 6:00pm  
 Wednesday 6:30pm  
 Thursday Youth Group 6pm



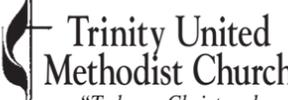
**Oak Hill Baptist Church**  
 Arcadia, Florida

**5104 NW Oak Hill Ave.**  
**863-494-6224**

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[www.EpiscopalArcadiaFL.com](http://www.EpiscopalArcadiaFL.com)  
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*May the Lord fill your heart with love.*



Roger Campbell

## Easter changed everything

A college student had reached a point in his life where he was questioning things taught him by his parents and church: the meaning of life, the reliability of the Bible, how the world began, how to prepare for eternity, to name a few.

Answers kept eluding him so I raised one more question: "Did Jesus Christ come out of the grave alive?" I wanted this passionate seeker to face my question because I knew acceptance of the resurrection would drive away his doubts and change his view of life, death and eternity just as it had for millions who came before him.

In his book, "First Easter, The True and Unfamiliar Story," Dr. Paul Maier called the week of the death and resurrection of Christ "the week that changed the world."

Dr. Maier was especially moved by the impact of the resurrection on the disciples of Christ, writing: "The psychological change of the disciples is certainly striking. What transformed Peter, the man who could be unhinged by questions from a servant girl, into so bold a spokesman for the faith that even the entire Sanhedrin could not silence him? Had the disciples deceitfully tried to spawn a new faith on the world, would they have gone on to give their very lives for it? Clearly, they were themselves convinced that Jesus rose."

It is true that some of the disciples had trouble believing that Christ had risen.

The one called Doubting Thomas said he could believe in the resurrection only if he could place his finger in the places where the nails had pierced the hands of his Lord and thrust his hand into the spear wound in His side. But after one weak week, this doubter became so dedicated to Christ that he spent his life telling others to trust the living One.

The women who had stood last at the cross were the first to arrive at the tomb on Easter morning, but even they came with weak faith, intending to anoint the body of Jesus with spices to preserve it. Their encounter with the risen One, however, dried their tears and drove away their fears.

What happened that made such a dramatic change in this tiny group of discouraged disciples? The resurrection! They were convinced that their Lord had risen from the grave and this assurance overcame any doubts they may have entertained and settled the resurrection issue for them for the rest of their lives.

There are many accepted proofs of the resurrection, including the empty tomb and the existence of millions of believers in spite of the perils of persecution.

The strongest evidence of the resurrection of our Lord, however, may be the changed lives of those discouraged and doubting disciples. After the resurrection, these weak ones traded their fears for faith and their focus from death to life. Those who follow their example will find strength to cope with each problem they face every day.

## Easter Sunday bonnet time

One of my favorite pictures of my late mother was her Easter Sunday dress-up shot. Her special dress, which she probably made, was neatly perfect, topped with her equally perfect Easter hat.

And, at her bidding, my sisters and I also donned our Easter bonnets before heading to Easter Sunday church services, where the congregation would display a plethora of similar hat-wear, to make it a memorable occasion.

Following, there would sometimes be an Easter egg hunt or other excitement before we would return home to Mom's banquet-style ham feast, ending with meringue-topped cream pies, followed with all our favorite Easter candies, especially those yummy chocolate-covered marshmallow rabbits, making it a perfect day.

And, centered on the table were the first flowers of Spring. The Wisconsin frozen "tundra" had finally melted enough for the little tulips to spring to life along with the beautifully scented



### From a Senior Viewpoint

Lois Hendricks

loistom@embarqmail.com

lilac bushes. Suddenly there was a new meaning to life; Winter's cold weather was in the past and the exciting future of Spring beckoned.

As the years have gone by, with Florida now my address, my Easter bonnet has been traded in for a wide-brimmed straw hat to handle that ever-present 90-degree sun. The feasting will continue, of course, as will the attendance at Easter Sunday church services, but some things do change: the chocolate that I so loved is now on a few-only basis, and our menu will be mostly concerned with vegetables and fruit, rather than desserts.

But we don't lack flowers. The many azalea bushes, the "queen of the garden" from January through April, are bursting with color. And, after surveying my little garden, I pursued one of my favorite Spring outings: walking through nurseries or flower department aisles looking for colorful additions, and, of course, there are many. First the basic red geraniums and golden marigolds are a must ... then the brilliant red celosia cockscomb catches my eye, and, for a different color, I select a lavender dahlia, always a favorite in Mom's garden. There will be more varieties and colors added as the season progresses, but this is a good color balance to start with. Now all I need is some cooperation from the rain section in the weather department.

Many pleasant hours will be spent enjoying nature's bounty, the flowers of Spring, and wearing my less than beautiful, but practical, straw bonnet ... Happy Easter!

## Methodists plan Good Friday observation

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH & PLEASANT HILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Trinity UMC and Pleasant Hill UMC are conducting a Good Friday Observation in the sanctuary of the Trinity United Methodist Church in downtown Arcadia on April 18 at 1 p.m. The church will be open at

noon. The public is invited to use the sanctuary at this time for prayer and meditation, or you may wish to bring your own sack lunch and join others to eat in the Fellowship Hall before the service at 1 p.m.

Feel free to drop in between noon and 3 p.m. as your schedule allows, or remain the entire three hours.

This will be a solemn service held in remembrance of Jesus' last words from the cross. Holy Communion will be offered throughout the service for those who cannot stay for the entire time. All are invited to 304 West Oak Street in this observation of Good Friday. For more information, call 863-494-2543.

## Stations of the Cross on Good Friday

DESOTO CO. MINISTERIAL ASSOC.

The Ministerial Association of DeSoto County would like to invite all Christians to unite in prayer on this Good Friday at 8 a.m. in McSwain Park. In the midst of our busy lives we will

walk, pray, and reflect on the suffering journey of Christ.

As we accompany Jesus on his journey to Calvary, let us be mindful of those of us who struggle with our own crosses and challenges today. The streets of our towns are filled with

people who carry their personal crosses, who are bruised, battered and broken. Through these 14 Stations of the Cross, Jesus invites us to journey with him and to reflect on his suffering as it continues in the lives of his people. Please come, walk, pray and reflect with us.

## See Mormon choir's performance of Handel's 'Messiah'

By CINDY SIEGEL

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

The Arcadia Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is hosting an Open House on Saturday, April 19.

Join the members from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for a tour (in either English or

Spanish) and to experience the Mormon Tabernacle Choir in concert with the Orchestra on Temple Square as they perform Handel's Messiah. The Chapel is located on E. Gibson Street.

This is the first time in 10 years that the full Mormon Tabernacle Choir and Orchestra at Temple Square

have presented the Easter concert and perhaps the first time ever that choir has publicly performed Messiah in its entirety.

Messiah is most often associated with Christmas, but it was originally an Easter offering when it debuted in the Musick Hall in Dublin on April 13, 1742. The choir's concert

will hopefully familiarize listeners with the entire oratorio, which tells the story of Christ's life in three sections, from His birth to His death and eventual Resurrection.

You may stay for all or part of the concert and get to know your Mormon neighbors and learn about their faith. All are welcome.

## GRITS & PIECES

FROM PAGE 4

When a man is wrapped up in himself, he makes a pretty small package.

He who is full of himself is likely to be quite empty.

Distance is a great promoter of admiration.

Some people approach every

problem with an open mouth.

It's easy to see through people who make spectacles of themselves.

Send your noble blood to the market and see what it will fetch.

Many people think they have an open mind when actually it's their mouth.

Some people are easily entertained.

All you have to do is sit down and listen to them.

To be conscious that you are ignorant is a great step toward knowledge.

The problem with some folks is that they're educated beyond their intelligence.

Well, there you have a few to get you started. Perhaps multiple recipients of these thoughts come to mind, and of course, they'll be surprised to learn this about themselves.

One thing is for sure — doses of reality may be hard to swallow, but they can go a long way toward fixing what ails us.

## OUR VIEW

FROM PAGE 4

That suggestion prompted *The Arcadian* to offer to publish an occasional list of volunteer groups, listing what they do and what kind of volunteers they are seeking. Watch for this list in your paper in the next few weeks.

We have often praised our snowbirds who get involved in helping the local community while they are here, and we'd like to encourage our Lake Suzy residents to participate, too.

Some other Florida counties — e.g., Sarasota — hold occasional joint meetings with each of their towns, and their school board. Sarasota commissioners will hold a meeting in Venice one month, North Port another, etc.

Having a joint city/county, or joint city/hospital meeting might be a good way to work through some common issues and find ways to help each other. We like the idea and would like to explore that for DeSoto. And what if BOCC would occasionally meet in Lake Suzy to let those residents participate more easily, and make them feel more like one of the flock?

Let's keep the conversations going. . . .

# Carrying a torch for Special Olympics

Jordan Ostromecki passes the torch to David Cross in the last leg of the 5K Torch Run held Tuesday for Special Olympics. The run was sponsored by DeSoto Correctional Institution and coincides with similar torch runs by law enforcement agencies across the state. The event was followed by a barbecue dinner sale at the DeSoto County Sheriff's Office.



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY JOHN BLACK, photoke@gmail.com

## ADMIN

FROM PAGE 1

process over again, telling the current candidates they need not re-apply?" he asked.

Keene said he believed the committee did a good job in finding qualified candidates for the council to consider. "We dedicated ourselves to finding the right committee, and I don't want their efforts to go to waste," he said. "If we asked for five, we should have five, and I have confidence in the backup applicants the committee has provided for us."

Committee member Mary Kay Burns told the board every candidate was

given a ranking, but cautioned that there is a point where several lower-ranked candidates did not meet the qualifications for the position. "My concern is that some people don't qualify for the position," she said. "If we get too far down on the list, there would come a point where we would have to close it and re-open it to new applicants."

Fink then asked Delaney how long it would take to provide the council with the resumes of the reserve candidates, and she said they would be ready within a day or two.

Keene later addressed interim administrator Tom Slaughter, saying, "Tom, I know we agreed to include you among our top five candidates, and I'm OK with that, but I don't know

how you ended up grading out. We're not looking to intentionally drag this out, but this is serious business and we're looking for the best administrator possible." Slaughter was automatically included in the final five because he is serving as Interim Administrator, unlike other candidates who had to be ranked by the committee to be considered in the top five.

Fink added to Keene's sentiment by saying, "I've never felt the amount of pressure or importance (as I feel) with this particular task. This is the most important thing we're going to do as a council."

Keene moved to contact candidates No. 6-9 for potential interviews, and the council approved it unanimously.





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



Community members review the FEMA 10-year recovery plan placards during a break-out session at the Community Conversation in Fort Ogden.

Dale Thomas bought property on U.S. 17 with plans to build a business, but says "much of the rest of the neighborhood needs to disappear" because of dilapidated conditions.

# COMMUNITY

FROM PAGE 1

focus has shifted since this plan was created a decade ago," said County Coordinator Mandy Hines. "We had some great attendance at many of our events, and were thrilled with the wide range of issues that were presented by those in attendance. As we stated in the meetings, we will do our best to ensure every question asked will receive a response from myself or County Administrator Guy Maxcy. We take these issues very seriously and will do our best to rectify them if possible."

The Arcadian was present at each meeting, and we've highlighted some of the more popular issues discussed during each Community Conversation. Hines is expected to make an official presentation to the BOCC at its April 22 meeting, which will detail specific themes from attendees and make recommendations on how the county can address these issues going forward.

## April 2 Nocatee Elementary School

The first Community Conversation, held at Nocatee Elementary School, had the lowest public attendance. There were almost equal numbers of county and state representatives as there were residents.

Several people talked about the appearance of U.S. 17 for visitors coming north into the county. There were also questions about safety and crime in Nocatee. Eva Lowe, who runs an assisted living facility in Nocatee, said she was prepared to invest up to \$2 million to expand her business, but questioned whether Nocatee was the right location. "Am I going to build it here? The options are not looking good."

Some commented on the lack of things for kids to do in DeSoto. One said Brewer Park had some fun activities but needs to have some shade. Some suggested a theater or bowling alley.

County Commissioner Elton Langford asked, "When we had a bowling alley, how often did you spend your money there? How many movies did you see at the theater? How many activities did you go to at the Turner Center? Or use the golf course? We had a bait store downtown, but few people went there: they went to Walmart instead."

County Commissioner Bob Miller said much of the county's ad valorem revenue (from property taxes) depends on citrus. But if greening impacts the citrus industry, county revenues will decline. "We can't continue to rely on it; yet we need a new jail, fire station, ambulances. If we don't do something to bring more revenue into this county, it may be a fire truck breaking down on its way to your house. What is the one thing you would do to make this county better? Where should we focus?"

## April 3 First Baptist Church, Fort Ogden

Several residents complained about

the dangers of Kings Highway between the Charlotte County line and Highway 72, and would like to see the road expanded to four lanes. Others demanded that the DeSoto County Sheriff's Office place squad cars near the intersection of Kings Highway and County Road 761 to monitor speeders in that area. One person had nicknamed C.R. 761 as the "Rollercoaster Highway," and continued that semi-trucks should not be allowed to travel on the roadway, especially along the county's bridges.

Two residents complained about the poor conditions of Arcadia's roads, and wondered if the county could help the city in repairing them.

A resident told county staff the conditions of the railroad tracks were as bad today as they've ever been. He said, "It's time to figure out some way to get them fixed, before someone gets seriously hurt."

There was worry that the county's public safety infrastructure, particularly the state of Fire Station 1 and the Sheriff's jail complex, were inadequate to serve the needs of area residents. "I can't believe we are housing our firefighters there, and it's just a matter of time before we have a major incident at the jail," one resident said.

Animal control was a heated topic during the evening, with one woman complaining that the area between Hull and Oak Street was a popular dump-off location for unwanted animals. She said more money should be budgeted for animal services to hire more employees and more effectively patrol the county.

Before the close of the meeting, several people mentioned the growing drug, alcohol and homelessness issues in the county, and encouraged county staff to become more involved in helping to find a solution to the problems.

As in Nocatee, a large part of the discussion focused on the South U.S. 17 corridor and what plans the county has to improve the area's appearance.

## April 9 Turner Center Exhibit Hall

Several residents noted the importance of cleaning up areas in the both the city and county, and said it was up to individuals and business owners to beautify the area themselves.

A downtown business owner thanked the county for help in getting the bike and pedestrian paths green-lighted for the downtown area, and said the more that can be done to clean up and promote downtown Arcadia, the more the community will benefit.

The current state of the jail was again a topic of concern for residents, who urged commissioners to work together to build a new facility to house the county's inmates.

The topic of greening was mentioned several times, and residents urged the county to hire an extension agent who has training in agriculture and experience helping growers replace citrus crops with other sustainable fruits and vegetables.

The biggest topic of the evening was the lack of jobs in the county, and the domino effect it has on keeping the county's youth close to home. A few younger members of the crowd asked for youth-oriented businesses to come to the area, such as a movie theatre, bowling alley, etc.

One of the most poignant comments of the night came from a resident who was part of a planning board 30 years ago, and he noted many of the discussion items being brought up at the meeting were identical to the ones addressed three decades ago. He urged the county to learn from its past mistakes, and do everything it can to invite growth into the area. As one resident commented, "The time of studies, plans and visions is over. We want something done, and nothing less will suffice."

## April 10 Kingsway Country Club

About 50 people attended the final session held in Lake Suzy. While some of their comments echoed what people said elsewhere in the county, many issues were raised that were unique to Lake Suzy.

With I-75 expanding from two to three lanes each way, does DeSoto have plans to widen Kings Highway? DeSoto is now working with FDOT to study what's needed to four-lane the road, but it will be at least five years before work is under way.

Commenters said the approach to Arcadia from other directions is OK, but coming north on U.S. 17 has a "negative feel." County Coordinator Mandy Hines said, "We recognize it's partly a private property issue and we don't want someone to lose their home, but we want to make this a priority. It's something we've heard at every Community Conversation."

Lake Suzy residents would like a fire station closer to them. "When you call 911, it takes a long time for them to get here." County Administrator Guy Maxcy said we now have an interlocal agreement with Charlotte County and "we're getting pretty good service that way."

One person asked what it will take to get recycling in DeSoto?

One person said she would like to volunteer for some nonprofits to feel more a part of the community, but didn't know what was available. The Arcadian said it could run a list of volunteer choices in the paper, which many people approved.

Dan Presilla, a director on DeSoto Memorial Hospital's board, suggested implementing a half-penny tax to help the hospital.

Some asked for more sidewalks, bike paths and roadway improvements in Lake Suzy. One suggested some kind of community or social building in Lake Suzy where residents could meet.

Watch The Arcadian for more discussions about the Community Conversations after BOCC gets a full report at its April 22 meeting.

ARCADIAN PHOTO BY STEVE BAUER

An attendee studies FEMA's long-term plan for the county's health facilities during the break-out session at the Fort Ogden meeting.



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY STEVE BAUER



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

About 50 residents attended the fourth Community Conversation at Kingsway Country Club in Lake Suzy, and asked about widening Kings Highway, getting more sidewalks and bike paths, and how they can take part in more county activities.



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

Many Hines, DeSoto County coordinator, says the informal meetings are meant not for county staff to talk to residents, but for them to listen to questions and issues the citizens want to discuss.



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

DeSoto County Commissioner Buddy Mansfield said, "I see what the county looks like; I'm not blind," responding to complaints about the appearance of the U.S. 17 corridor south of Arcadia. "We would love to see a 200-acre small industrial complex. But we're not going to kick anyone out of their house."



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

Joanna Drinkwater of Lake Suzy asked when residents would be able to see County Commission meetings on cable TV.



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Sister Cathy Buster of Casa San Juan Bosco Inc., bu Catholic Charities Housing, looks over the poster titled "Revitalize," based on the 2005 FEMA long-term recovery plan. Residents were invited to mark with stickers the tops of most importance or concern to them.



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY STEVE BAUER

Community members gathered to discuss DeSoto's future during the Community Conversation held at the Turner Center Exhibit Hall.



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY STEVE BAUER

The Fort Ogden Community Conversation was host to a large crowd, many expressing their opinions on how to make improvements to the county.

## Bulldogs' bats fall silent against Island Coast

By **DAVE BREMER**  
SPORTS WRITER

The pitching was certainly strong enough, and the fielding was steady, but the varsity Bulldogs' bats remained relatively silent in a 4-1 loss to Island Coast. Senior Bay Hale pitched six strong innings

recording five strikeouts, one walk and scattering seven hits and three runs on the night. Hale received minimal support from his offense, however, as they could only manage two hits in the game.

While Hale faced 21 batters in five innings, Island Coast's Junior Joey

Theune faced 17 batters and surrendered no runs, one hit, three walks and two defensive double plays to give the Gators a 1-0 lead.

### Sixth-inning struggles

Hale ran into trouble in the sixth after throwing 10 pitches to the clean-up hitter Nikko Rodriguez before eventually walking him. Scot Malone followed with a double down the left field line that scored Rodriguez, and it looked like the Gators were ready to pull away. Hale settled down, however, sandwiching two strikeouts between an RBI single to Andrew Nazzario and an inning-ending ground out. The Bulldogs manufactured one run in their half of the sixth. Tony



PHOTOS BY DAVE BREMER

Javier Zamora holds back on a pitch by Island Coast. Hits were few and far between for the Bulldogs, as they dropped the game 4-1.



Robb Adams holds an Island Coast runner on base in varsity action. Island Coast won the game 4-1.

Lalonde hit a one-out double down the left field line and scored on a wild pitch. Another soft ground out then ended the inning.

After throwing 100 pitches, Hale was replaced by right-handed senior Corey Omar. Omar was greeted with a base hit up the middle by Anthony Churlin. Omar then hurt his own cause with an errant pick-off throw to first, sending Churlin to third. He then scored after Omar threw a wild pitch. Omar retired three of the next four batters with a strikeout and two ground outs. The Bulldogs went down quietly in the bottom



Senior Bay Hale delivers the first pitch against Island Coast. Bay pitched well, allowing only three runs in six innings against the Lee County team. The Bulldogs lost the game 4-1.

half of the seventh inning, giving the Gators a 4-1 victory.

With district playoffs approaching, Coach Hill talked about the need to not just hit the ball, but to hit it hard. "Figuring you are going to make contact with the ball 80 percent of the time, our goal is to hit the ball hard 60 percent of the time, forcing the defense to make a play or the ball going in a gap," he said. "Tonight we hit the ball hard three out of 19 times. That's only 16 percent, which isn't going to win many ball games. The boys are playing well, we just have to start getting some better at bats."

## Lady Bulldogs say goodbye to four seniors

By **STEVE KNAPP**  
ARCADIAN SPORTS DIRECTOR

On April 7 four seniors from the DeSoto County softball team played the final home game of their career. The night was filled with emotion as Jillian Deriso, Shelby Cross, Debbie Brown and Victoria Cross walked with their family through an arch of raised bats held by the varsity and junior

varsity softball players.

There were comments such as "I can't believe this is MY senior night," and "This is really kind of sad." This year's seniors were probably four of the most different players on the team.

Shelby Cross has improved every year and is now hitting in the cleanup spot in coach Billy Hines' lineup. She plays

GOODBYE | 17



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

DeSoto County Head coach Billy Hines stands between his four graduating seniors. From left are Shelby Cross, Debbie Brown, Hines, Jillian Deriso and Victoria Cross.

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# 'Hard luck' JV boys lose in extra innings

By **STEVE KNAPP**  
ARCADIAN SPORTS DIRECTOR

A couple of years ago DeSoto County junior varsity baseball coach Monty McLeod called his squad the "best one bad inning team" he'd ever seen.

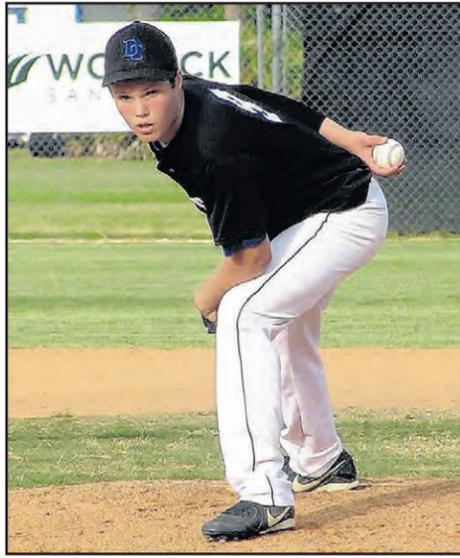
McLeod is now on the varsity coaching staff and hasn't seen the new BOBIT team from DeSoto County. The current JV team has lost several players due to injury and has been getting by with nine or ten players suited up.

The 8-7 loss to Lemon Bay on April 7 was another example of a team not getting the breaks needed to win and making back-breaking mistakes. Not only did they lose the game, but starting pitcher Kolby Scott left the game and was taken to the hospital with a hand injury when he dove into a base.

Lemon Bay scored two runs in the top of the first, but the Bulldogs countered with a run in their half of the inning and took the lead with two more scores in the second. After the Mantas tied it in the fourth, both teams blew scoring opportunities in the fifth.

The Mantas had runners on first and third with no outs, but a fielder's choice and a double play on a hit-and-run pop up got the Bulldogs out of the inning. DeSoto had runners in scoring position at second and third after Peyton Smith's double pushed Hunter Browning to third. A hit batter loaded the bases, but a strike-out and ground out ended the threat.

Logan Stevens singled in a run in the sixth inning to tie the game up again. After both teams went scoreless in the



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

**DeSoto County pitcher Kolby Scott looks to his catcher Hunter Browning for the sign in the Bulldogs 8-7 loss to Lemon Bay.**

seventh, the Mantas scored four times on a couple of walks, bloop hits and a few unusual plays.

## Rally falls short

Entering the bottom of the eighth inning down four runs, a rain storm suspended play for 10 minutes. Had the rain continued, then the game would have gone back to the last full inning of play and the game would have ended in a

EXTRA | 16



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

**McKayla Greene scores the final run of the game to put away Lake Placid 16-1. Greene scored three times.**

# JV girls finish successful 11-4 season

By **STEVE KNAPP**  
ARCADIAN SPORTS DIRECTOR

The DeSoto County junior varsity softball defeated Lake Placid 16-1 in a run-rule game called after McKayla Greene slid into home to create the 15-run lead. The Lady Bulldogs scored four in both the first and second innings and put away the Green Dragons with eight more in the third.

Eight different players scored for DeSoto County as they banged out 11 hits and collected six walks. Katie Game led in hits, going three-for-three on the night. Greene and Hannah Lambright both scored three times, with Cassidy Furr, Jayla



SEASON | 22

**Bre Ray scores for the Bulldogs in the 16-1 romp over Lake Placid to finish the season.**

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# Brown takes her skills to St. Petersburg

By STEVE KNAPP

ARCADIAN SPORTS DIRECTOR

"She's got it all, she's the consummate ball player. She eats, drinks and sleeps softball. She's been with us four years and we're going to miss her," DeSoto County softball coach Billy Hines said.

Debbie Brown has done it all for DeSoto County High School's softball program. This season she's anchored the infield from her shortstop position after moving from third base. She's spent time on the mound, she can hit from both sides of the plate and is a mentor for the young Bulldogs on the team.

Brown is also the last link to the Bulldog team that made it to the final four in the state playoffs. She was a freshman and thought with the team they had, a final four would be something she could count on every year.

"It's been a little disappointing after that first year, I thought we'd be back every year but it hasn't worked out," she said.

Brown, who earned the nickname "Downtown" after her first home run, joked that her nickname should change to "Big Town" since she will be leaving Arcadia and living in the big town of St. Petersburg. She will be testing her skills as a Titan at St. Petersburg College this fall.

Crystal Roberts is the pitching coach and assistant coach for the Titans, and says Brown's intensity and nonstop motor intrigued the Titans' coaches.



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

**Debbie Brown signs her papers to make it official as she becomes a member of the St. Petersburg Titans softball program.**

"The first time I saw Debbie playing I saw her intensity and her willingness to sacrifice her body for the team," Roberts said. "She was at an exposure tournament and I saw a ball hit that I thought no way anyone would get to it. Debbie went back and dove for it. That's when I said 'I want her on my team.' She is more than just a good all-around athlete, she's a good person too."

Roberts added that Brown will have the opportunity to start for the squad. "We search for kids who can start for us in their freshman year, and she is capable of doing that next season," she said.

Brown said the smaller size of the school and the fact that it's close to home were deciding factors in choosing the



Debbie Brown is surrounded by her Lady Bulldog teammates on her signing day.



Proud parents Kim and Hugh Brown are happy to see their daughter Debbie be able to pursue her education and also continue to play softball.

Titans. "I asked if I could get No. 4 to wear and they said I could," she said. "I always liked the way Katelynn Johnson played and her number was five so I wanted something close to her."

## Special memory

Brown's most memorable moment from her high school career came as the result of an injury. She was playing third

base as a sophomore on a cold night at Lemon Bay. One of the Mantas' hitters ripped a bullet at her that hit her bare hand and broke a finger. Less than two weeks later Brown was back in the lineup as a pinch runner. Her right hand was wrapped up like a big club, and she wasn't able to swing a bat or throw a ball, but she was helping the team as a runner.

When she returned to the lineup she could only bat left handed until her finger healed entirely. "When my finger was good again I batted for the first time from the right side in a game against Lake Placid," she said. I hit a grand slam home run my first time up."

Debbie Brown will move to the "big town" next fall but will always be "Downtown" Debbie Brown to DeSoto County softball fans.

## EXTRA

FROM PAGE 15

tie. But even Mother Nature was against the boys from DeSoto County, as the rain stopped and play continued.

Lemon Bay's pitcher struggled with a slippery ball and control problems on the mound, but the Bulldogs gave the Mantas a break when the first batter swung at a ball in the dirt for a strikeout to start the inning. Mikey Daniels walked and Jonathan England hit a slow roller. Rather than taking the sure out at first, the Mantas tried to get the lead runner and came up empty handed. The break put two men on with only one out.

Browning drove in two runs with a sharp single to cut the lead to 8-6, but he rounded the bag too far and was caught in a rundown for the second out.

That brought up Smith, who was batting in the cleanup spot. Smith drew a walk and Cole Roberts came up next in the order. Roberts had the dubious distinction of wearing the Golden Sombrero (four strikeouts in the game). He was hit by a pitch, putting the tying run on base.

Stevens followed and had a good at-bat. After falling behind 0-2, he worked a walk after taking a couple of close pitches just out of the strike zone. That loaded the bases for Chace Higgins. In Higgins' previous at bat, the three-sport star hit a long drive to left that looked like it was going to get out of the park before hitting



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

First baseman Logan Stevens puts the tag on Lemon Bay's Victor Mellor just a little too late on a pickoff attempt from Kolby Scott.

the fence.

"I thought it was gone when it left the bat but it hit halfway up the fence," Higgins said.

The Mantas coach was considering intentionally walking Higgins even though it would have put the tying run on third. After falling behind 0-2, however, Higgins was hit by a pitch, bringing home the third run of the inning. If not for the earlier base running blunder, the game

would have been tied.

Casen Cross then hit a hard ground ball to second for the final out of the game and another close loss for the Bulldogs.

"The boys didn't give up even though they were down by four in that last inning," coach Ryan Fullerton said. "It was a good three-hour game with lots of excitement but we came up a run short. That's baseball."



DeSoto County coach Ryan Fullerton holds up Hunter Browning at third on a double by Peyton Smith in the fifth. The Bulldogs lost 8-7 in extra innings.



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# GOODBYE

FROM PAGE 14

solid defense and is without a doubt the quietest player on the team. She lets her actions on the field speak for her.

On the other end of the spectrum is Victoria Cross, who has had to battle injuries throughout her career and hasn't played a game this season. Cross is the polar opposite from Shelby Cross as far as presence on the

field goes.

Jillian Deriso has had limited time on the softball diamond after having an outstanding volleyball career at DeSoto County.

"Downtown" Debbie Brown has been playing softball since the time she could walk. Her skills have been honed so well that she is going to take the next step and has signed to play ball in college next fall.

Whatever the future brings for these young ladies, they will always be remembered as being true Bulldogs.

Victoria Cross and her sister Micheala lead their parents, Mike and Judi Cross, onto the field for Senior Night.



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

Shelby Cross is escorted by her brother and her parents onto the field for the Senior Night celebration.



Jillian Deriso was escorted by her parents Joel and Susie for the Senior Night celebration.



Debbie Brown walks with her father Hugh and mother Kim as she ends her softball career as a four-year varsity player.



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# ANIMAL

FROM PAGE 2

eating 15 pounds of raw meat per day. Delilah is a tad more svelte, coming in at 400 pounds and snacking on eight pounds of raw meat daily. Wittmeier says the two are very social. "They are extremely playful, and love playing in the water," she said. "As a treat, they love when we give them a bone that has meat on it. After cleaning it off, they'll toss it around and have a blast with it."

## Cody

This 14-year-old American black bear came to Lions, Tigers and Bears via the picture trade. He arrived



Cody, a North American Black Bear, is 14 years old and came to Lions, Tigers and Bears when he was 6 months old.



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

Baja, a male Canadian lynx, and Kayla, a female Siberian lynx, found a home at Lions, Tigers and Bears when their previous owner's house was being foreclosed.

at the facility when he was only 6 months old, and today he weighs in

at a whopping 700 pounds. While 85 percent of his diet consists of vegetables, the rest of his diet is meat-based. He also has a personal pool that he enjoys swimming in with all his toys. "Cody's daily diet consists of 3 pounds of peanuts, 2 pounds of carrots, a half-dozen eggs, 1a half-dozen pieces of fruit and Romain lettuce," Wittmeier said. "His favorite treats are pies and cakes, along with avocados and mangoes."

## Baja and Kayla

Although they are the same species, Baja is a Canadian Lynx and Kayla is a Siberian. They were brought to Lions, Tigers and Bears when their owner in Fort Myers lost her home to foreclosure and could no longer care for them. When the two elderly cats (ages 12 and 10) arrived, Wittmeier was doubtful they'd survive the transition. "When we got them they were in really bad shape," she said. "The came here very stressed, and it was touch

and go for a while. I honestly didn't think they were going to make it." The two are now thriving, eating a pound per day of raw beef and chicken.

## Zipporah

This African Serval cat, affectionately nicknamed "Zippy" by staff, came to the facility from a breeder. "She was probably attempting to cross-breed her to create Savannah cats, but our guess is that she wasn't producing any litters," Wittmeier said. Zippy has not bonded with any members of the staff, and visitors are cautioned to maintain a respectable distance from her. "We've had her for five years; she was seven when we got her and we still can't touch her," Wittmeier said. Zippy is otherwise healthy, dining on raw chicken and beef daily.



The Serval Cat, a native of the African savannah, is a little larger than a housecat, with long legs and a spotted coat.

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# DCHS

FROM PAGE 3

deserving high school seniors. "We look forward to a long and positive

relationship with the School District of DeSoto County and the DeSoto County Education Foundation," said Jama Abbott, Public Affairs with PhosChem Supply Company. "The youth of our community today are the leaders and employees of tomorrow."



PHOTO PROVIDED

PhosChem Supply Co. of Hardee County is offering scholarships to some DeSoto County High School seniors to help prepare them to be leaders and employers in the future.

# BAND

FROM PAGE 7

The Arcadia Community Band is a nonprofit organization and all its members are volunteers. Besides playing and enjoying the fellowship of musicians, the

band uses its resources to promote the arts in DeSoto County. The DMS band director, Christine Cooley, has about 75 students signed up for the music program for next year. Cooley also plays flute with the Community Band. The Middle School would welcome any donations of instruments to help meet the musical needs of aspiring young musicians.

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NOTICE OF ACTION TO: GLENDA WHITLOCK  
Last Known Address: 770 W 4th Street, Jacksonville, FL 32209  
Also Attempted At: 6455 Argyle Forest Blvd, Apt 704, Jacksonville, FL 32244  
Current Residence Unknown  
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property: LOT 19, BLOCK A, GOLDEN MELODY SUBDIVISION, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, PAGE 24, IN 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 Choice Legal Group, P.A., Attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is P.O. BOX 9908, FT. Lauderdale, FL 33310-9908 on or

before May 16, 2014, a date which is within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice in the Arcadian and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator 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. WITNESS my hand and the seal of this court this 9th day of April, 2014.  
As Clerk of the Court  
By: /s/ B. Wynn  
As Deputy Clerk Published 4/17/14 & 4/24/14 107507 3028892

**IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
CASE NO.: 14-CC-34  
FIRST STATE BANK OF ARCADIA, a Florida corporation, Plaintiff,  
vs.  
JASON MICHAEL HANSEL, a/k/a JASON M. HANSEL and MISTY HANSEL, Defendants.

**NOTICE OF ACTION**  
TO: JASON MICHAEL HANSEL, a/k/a JASON M. HANSEL;  
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for replevin and to recover damages resulting from the breach of a promissory note on the following property:  
2003 Chevrolet Suburban Vehicle Identification Number: 1GNEC16Z43J276681  
has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to Connie L. Collins, Esquire, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 124 North Brevard Avenue, Arcadia, FL 34266, on or before May 15, 2014, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint or Petition.  
DATED on: march 25, 2014.  
Mitzie W. McGavic  
Clerk of Court  
By: /s/ N. Daughtrey  
As Deputy Clerk Published 4/3/14, 4/10/14, 4/17/14 & 4/24/14 228541 3023597

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CASE NO.: 14-2012-CA-000747  
LIBERTY HOME EQUITY SOLUTIONS, INC. F/K/A GENWORTH FINANCIAL HOME EQUITY ACCESS, INC.; Plaintiff,  
vs.  
UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF DONALD TENNEY AND MARION TENNEY; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES

CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; BILL TENNEY; UNKNOWN TENANT #1 IN POSSESSION OF THE PROPERTY; UNKNOWN TENANT #2 IN POSSESSION OF THE PROPERTY; Defendants

**NOTICE OF ACTION**  
To the following Defendant(s): **UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF DONALD TENNEY, DECEASED Last Known Address UNKNOWN**

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property: LOT 12 OF CUL-DE-SAC ESTATES, AN UNRECORDED PLAT ALSO BEING DESCRIBED AS: THE N 1/2 OF SW 1/4 OF SW 1/4 OF SE 1/4 OF SECTION 3, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST. SUBJECT TO A 25 FOOT ROAD EASEMENT ON EAST SIDE.  
TOGETHER WITH A MOBILE HOME AFFIXED TO SUBJECT PROPERTY 2005 CLAY VIN# CLA054002TW TITLE# 91968747  
a/k/a **6097 NW CUL DE SAC RD, ARCADIA, FL 34266**  
has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it, on Marinosci Law Group, P.C., Attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is 100 W. Cypress Creek Road, Suite 1045, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33309 on or before May 16, 2014, a date which is within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice in the DESOTO SUN HERALD file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. This notice is provided pursuant to Administrative Order No. 2.065. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in a court proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance: Please contact DeSoto County Jury Office, 115 East Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida 34266. Telephone: (863) 993-4876. If you are hearing or voice impaired, please call 711.  
**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Notice of Filing was mailed to all the parties in the attached mailing list.  
WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this 31st day of March, 2014.  
MITZIE W. MCGAVIC  
As Clerk of the Court  
By: /s/ N. Daughtrey  
As Deputy Clerk  
Published 4/17/14 & 4/24/14

322095 3028854

**Employ Classified!**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 12th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CASE NO. 2014CA-000023  
MIDFLORIDA CREDIT UNION F/K/A MIDFLORIDA FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff,  
v.  
KYLE H. MORSE; JESSICA R. MORSE; TENANT #1; TENANT #2; and ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, AND UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN-NAMED DEFENDANTS WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS, Defendants.  
**AMENDED NOTICE OF ACTION**  
TO: ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, AND UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN-NAMED DEFENDANTS WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS  
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose on the following real property in DeSoto County, Florida: Lot 3, Block C, Richard's Half-Acre, a subdivision according to the plat thereof recorded at Plat Book 9, Page 40, in the Public Records of DeSoto County, Florida. Together with a 1988 double-wide Brooklyn/Fleetwood mobile home, VIN #s FLFL132A10032BF and FLFL132B10032BF.  
ADDRESS: 2172 Richard Avenue N.W., Arcadia, FL 34266  
has been filed against you in the Circuit Court of the 12th Judicial Circuit, DeSoto County, Florida, and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses to the Complaint, if any, to Gregory A. Sanoba, Esq., 422 South Florida Avenue, Lakeland, Florida 33801, on or before May 7, 2014, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.  
DATE: Apr 2, 2014  
MITZIE W. MCGAVIC  
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 this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the DeSoto County Jury Office, 115 East Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida 34266, (863) 993-4876, at least seven (7) days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.** Published 4/10/14 & 4/17/14 369528 3025761

SP20648

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS 3120**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION  
CASE NO.: 2014CP000019CPAXMA  
IN RE:  
ESTATE OF CORNELIUS ANDERSON Deceased.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

The administration of the estate of Cornelius Anderson, deceased, whose date of death was February 4, 2013 and whose social security number is xxx-xx-8597 is pending in the Circuit Court for DeSoto County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 115 East Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida 34266. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF 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 April 17, 2014

Attorney for Personal Representative:  
/s/ Gustavo A. Gutierrez  
Gustavo A. Gutierrez, Esquire  
Florida Bar No.: 738751  
11402 NW 41st Street, Suite 202  
202 Doral, Florida 33178  
Telephone (305) 485-9700  
Personal Representative:  
Melissa Anderson  
1050 SW Prince Terrace  
Arcadia, Florida 34266  
Published 4/17/14 & 4/24/14  
369859 3028395

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION  
File No. 14-2014-CP-0023-CP-AXMA  
Division Probate  
IN RE: ESTATE OF MARIA CRISTINA GARZA Deceased.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

The administration of the estate of Maria Cristina Garza, deceased, whose date of death was March 4, 2013, Social Security Number - xxx-xx-9736, is pending in the Circuit Court for DeSoto County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 115 East Oak Street, 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 ON OR BEFORE 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 April 17, 2014.

Attorney for Personal Representative:  
/s/ James D. Robinson  
James D. Robinson

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS 3120**

Florida Bar No. 818429  
Robinson Pecaro & Mier, P.A.  
5599 S. University Drive #103  
Davie, FL 33328  
Personal Representative:  
Jonathan Torres  
1817 S.E. Desoto Landing  
Arcadia, FL 34266 Published  
4/17/14 & 4/24/14 369871  
3028540

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE 3122**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION  
CASE NO. 2008 CA 000731  
PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO RBC BANK (USA) FKA RBC CENTURA BANK, Plaintiff,  
vs.  
GLENN J. SKENE, DONNA M. SKENE A/K/A DONNA SKENE, JANE DOE, JOHN DOE, KINGS ISLAND ASSOCIATION, INC., Defendants.

**RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered November 18, 2013 in Civil Case No. 2008 CA 000731 of the Circuit Court of the TWELFTH Judicial Circuit in and for DeSoto County, Arcadia, Florida, wherein PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO RBC BANK (USA) FKA RBC CENTURA BANK is Plaintiff and GLENN J. SKENE, DONNA M. SKENE A/K/A DONNA SKENE, JANE DOE, JOHN DOE, KINGS ISLAND ASSOCIATION, INC., are Defendants, 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 1st day of May, 2014 at 11:00 AM on the following described property as set forth in said Summary Final Judgment, to-wit:  
LOT 21 OF KINGS ISLAND, A SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, PAGE(S) 91, OF PUBLICS OF DE SOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens, must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was Mailed this 1st day of April, 2014, to all parties on the attached service list. Dated this 1st day of April, 2014.  
Deputy Clerk  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
As Clerk of the Court  
By: /s/ B. Wynn  
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 4/17/14 & 4/24/14 338038 3027092

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CASE NO: 14-2012-CA-000845  
METLIFE BANK, NA AS SUCCESSOR TO EVERBANK REVERSE MORTGAGE, LLC  
Plaintiff,  
vs.

HAZELAR H. JOHNSON; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF HAZELAR H. JOHNSON; UNKNOWN TENANT I; UNKNOWN TENANT II; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON BEHALF OF SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, and any unknown heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, and other unknown persons or unknown spouses claiming by, through and under any of the above-named Defendants, Defendants.

**AMENDED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**

NOTICE is hereby given that the undersigned Clerk of the Circuit Court of DeSoto County, Florida,

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE 3122**

will on the 29th day of April 2014, at 11:00 AM at 115 East Oaks St, Arcadia, FL 34266, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash, the following-described property situate in DeSoto County, Florida: ALL THAT CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND SITUATED IN BEING KNOWN AS LOT 6 AND N 1/2 OF LOT 7, BLOCK "I" OF GILCHRIST SUBDIVISION OF SE 1/4 OF NW 1/4 OF SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1 AT PAGE 27, AND RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK C-5, PAGE 52, PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA. pursuant to the Final Judgment entered in a case pending in said Court, the style of which is indicated above. Any person or entity claiming an interest in the surplus, if any, resulting from the foreclosure sale, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens, must file a claim on same with the Clerk of Court within 60 days after the foreclosure sale. WITNESS my hand and official seal of said Court this 10th day of March, 2014. **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the DeSoto County Clerk's Office, 115 East Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida 34266, (863)993-4876, at least seven (7) days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.**

Mitzie W. McGavic  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
By: /s/ B. Wynn  
Deputy Clerk Published 4/10/14 & 4/17/14 109392 3025791

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CASE NO: 2013-CA-000635  
JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
Plaintiff,  
vs.

LIZZIE ALLEN; ROBERT ALLEN; UNKNOWN TENANT I; UNKNOWN TENANT II; DESOTO COUNTY, A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA; CITY OF ARCADIA, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA; ASSET ACCEPTANCE, LLC; UNIFUND CCR PARTNERS; MARTHA P. MEEKER F/K/A MARTHA P. LANE F/K/A MARTHA P. JOHNS, and any unknown heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, and other unknown persons or unknown spouses claiming by, through and under any of the above-named Defendants, Defendants.

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**

NOTICE is hereby given that the undersigned Clerk of the Circuit Court of DeSoto County, Florida, will on the 1st day of May, 2014, at 11:00 AM at 115 East Oaks St, Arcadia, FL 34266, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash, the following-described property situate in DeSoto County, Florida: **The E 1/2 of Lot 29 and all of Lot 30, Block 3, Tier 5, of ALBERT W. GILCHRIST'S EAST END ADDITION TO ARCADIA, a subdivision according to the map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 27 and re-recorded in Plat Book C5, Page 48, of the Public Records of Desoto County, Florida.** pursuant to the Final Judgment entered in a case pending in said Court, the style of which is indicated above. Any person or entity claiming an interest in the surplus, if any, resulting from the foreclosure sale, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens, must file a claim on same with the Clerk of Court within 60 days after the foreclosure sale. WITNESS my hand and official seal of said Court this 1st day of April, 2014. **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**

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE 3122**

**contact the DeSoto County Clerk's Office, 115 East Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida 34266, (863)993-4876, at least seven (7) days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.**  
Mitzie W. McGavic  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
By: /s/ B. Wynn  
Deputy Clerk  
Published 4/10/14 & 4/17/14 109392 3025729

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CASE NO. 2014CA000015AXMA  
SEACOAST NATIONAL BANK, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO BIG LAKE NATIONAL BANK, Plaintiff,  
vs.  
EDGAR C. WELLES, III, et al., Defendants.

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated March 31, 2014, entered in Case No. 14-CA-015 in the Circuit Court of the 12th Judicial Circuit in and for Desoto County, Florida wherein Seacoast National Bank is Plaintiff, and Edgar C. Welles, III, Jamie P. Welles and FAL Investments, LLC, are the Defendants. The Clerk of the Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Desoto County Courthouse, 115 Oak Street, Arcadia, FL 34266, beginning at 11:00 am on the 24th day of June, 2014, the following described property in Desoto County, Florida: A PART OF PARCEL "E" OF STEVENSON SUBDIVISION NO. 2 AS RECORDED IN MINOR PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 79 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTH ? OF SECTION 13, TOWNSHIP 38 SOUTH, RANGE 23 EAST, DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 01'44" WEST ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID SOUTH ?, 1525.19 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 33 DEGREES 41'33" EAST, 1015.00 FEET TO POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 06'43" EAST, 879.74 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 09 DEGREES 18'00" WEST, 276.04 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 88 DEGREES 05'40" WEST, 630.68 FEET; THENCE NORTH 33 DEGREES 41'33" WEST, 369.00 FEET TO POINT OF BEGINNING. SUBJECT TO A 66 FOOT EASEMENT NORTHERLY AND SOUTHERLY BY 33 FOOT EASTERLY AND WESTERLY ROAD EASEMENT IN NORTHWEST CORNER. TOGETHER WITH AND SUBJECT TO ROAD EASEMENT AS SHOWN ON PLAT OF STEVENSON SUBDIVISION #2, AS RECORDED IN MINOR PLAT BOOK 1, PAGES 79 & 79-A TOGETHER WITH A 2009 REDMOND DOUBLE WIDE MOBILE ID# FLA 14614964 A & B. 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 1st day of April, 2014.  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
By: /s/ B. Wynn  
DEPUTY CLERK  
Published 4/10/14 & 4/17/14 365872 3025706

**NOTICE OF SALE 3130**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY  
CIVIL DIVISION  
Case No: 14-2010-CA-000284-CAAX-MA  
Division: Civil Division  
CITIMORTGAGE, INC.  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
ASSAD SHAH; SILVIA SHAH; IF LIVING, INCLUDING ANY UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SAID DEFENDANT(S), IF REMARRIED, AND IF DECEASED, THE RESPECTIVE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS,

**NOTICE OF SALE 3130**

LIENORS, AND TRUSTEES, AND ALL OTHER PERSONS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE NAMED DEFENDANT(S); JOHN DOE; JANE DOE; Defendant(s).

**NOTICE OF SALE**

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to a Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above styled cause, in the Circuit Court of Desoto County, Florida, I will sell the property situated in Desoto County, Florida, described as:  
LOTS 14 AND 15 OF DESOTO ACRES SUBDIVISION, A SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, PAGE 9 AND RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK C-5, PAGE 69, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA, LESS AND EXCEPT THE FOLLOWING THREE PARCELS OF LAND:  
PARCEL 1: BEGIN AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 14 OF DESOTO ACRES SUBDIVISION AS PER PLAT BOOK C-5, PAGE 69, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA; THENCE NORTH 57 DEGREES 47 MINUTES 09 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID LOT 14, 145.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 17 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 06 SECONDS EAST, 160.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 57 DEGREES 40 MINUTES 08 SECONDS WEST, 143.92 FEET TO THE WEST LINE OF SAID LOT 14; THENCE NORTH 17 DEGREES 25 MINUTES 11 SECONDS WEST ALONG SAID WEST LINE, 160.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING  
AND  
PARCEL 2: BEGIN AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 14 OF DESOTO ACRES SUBDIVISION AS PER PLAT BOOK C-5, PAGE 69, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA; THENCE NORTH 57 DEGREES 47 MINUTES 09 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID LOT 14, 145.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE SAME LINE, 145.00 FEET TO THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT 14; THENCE SOUTH 16 DEGREES 37 MINUTES 00 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID LOT 14, 160.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 57 DEGREES 40 MINUTES 08 SECONDS WEST, 143.92 FEET; THENCE NORTH 17 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 06 SECONDS WEST 160.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.  
AND  
PARCEL 3: FROM THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 14 OF DESOTO ACRES SUBDIVISION AS PER PLAT BOOK C-5, PAGE 69, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA, RUN SOUTH 16 DEGREES 37 MINUTES 00 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE EASTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 14, A DISTANCE OF 160.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE SOUTH 10 DEGREES 50 MINUTES 49 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 94.22 FEET; THENCE NORTH 81 DEGREES 28 MINUTES 39 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 105.03 FEET; THENCE NORTH 57 DEGREES 40 MINUTES 08 SECONDS EAST, A DISTANCE OF 143.92 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING

at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, South door of the courthouse facing Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida 33821 at 11:00 AM, on May 8, 2014. 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. Witness, my hand and seal of this court on the 1st day of April, 2014.  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
By: /s/ B. Wynn  
Deputy Clerk  
THIS INSTRUMENT PREPARED BY: Law Offices of Daniel C. Con-suegra  
9204 King Palm Drive  
Tampa, FL 33619-1328  
Phone: 813-915-8660  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
**If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the DeSoto County Clerk's Office, 115 East Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida 34266, (863)993-4876, at least seven (7) days before your scheduled court**

**NOTICE OF SALE 3130**

**appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.** Published 4/10/14 & 4/17/14 107236 3026313

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CIVIL DIVISION  
Case #: 2012-CA-000179  
DIVISION: II  
Bank of America, N.A., Successor by Merger to BAC Home Loans Servicing, L.P. f/k/a Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, L.P.  
Plaintiff,  
-vs.-  
Deke Allen Livingston a/k/a Deke A. Livingston; Vanessa S. Livingston a/k/a Vanessa Kay Sykes; Sunshine Savings Bank f/k/a Sunshine State Credit Union; Castle Credit Corporation. Defendant(s).

**NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order rescheduling foreclosure sale, entered in Civil Case No. 2012-CA-000179 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. f/k/a Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, L.P., Plaintiff and Deke Allen Livingston a/k/a Deke A. Livingston are defendant(s), I, Clerk of Court, Mitzie W. McGavic, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash AT THE SOUTH ENTRANCE OF THE DESOTO COUNTY COURTHOUSE, AT 11:00 A.M. on April 29, 2014, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to-wit:  
LOT 150, OF PEACE RIVER ACRES, FIRST ADDITION, A SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 80, IN THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA. **ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator; 2002 Ringling Boulevard, 8th Floor, Sarasota, Florida 34237 (941) 861-7811 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification of the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.**

Mitzie W. McGavic  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
DeSoto County, Florida  
/s/ B. Wynn  
DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT  
Submitted By:  
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF:  
SHAPIO, FISHMAN & GACHÉ, LLP  
2424 North Federal Highway,  
Suite 360  
Boca Raton, Florida 33431  
(561) 998-6700  
(561) 998-6707  
Published 4/10/14 & 4/17/14  
118683 3025749

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY  
CIVIL DIVISION  
Case No: 14-2012-CA-000197-CAAX-MA  
Division: Civil Division  
EVERBANK  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
SANDRA K. ADAMS A/K/A SANDRA K. MUSE; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SANDRA K. ADAMS A/K/A SANDRA K. MUSE; EDISON L. ADAMS, JR.; STEVEN R. MUSE; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF STEVEN R. MUSE; IF LIVING, INCLUDING ANY UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SAID DEFENDANT(S), IF REMARRIED, AND IF DECEASED, THE RESPECTIVE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, LIENORS, AND TRUSTEES, AND ALL OTHER PERSONS CLAIMING



**OTHER NOTICES**  
**3138**

**NOTICE OF FINAL AGENCY ACTION BY THE SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

Notice is given that the District's Final Agency Action is approval of a Petition for Formal Determination of Wetlands and Other Surface Waters on 70 acres to serve Citrus Grove known as MCIVER II. The project is located in DeSoto County, Section(s) 7, Township 39 South, Range 24 East. The permit applicant is James D. Brewer, whose address is Post Office Box 400, Nocatee, FL 34268. The Petition No. is 20010664.003. The file(s) pertaining to the project referred to above is available for inspection Monday through Friday except for legal holidays, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) Tampa Service Office, 7601 Hwy 301 North, Tampa, FL 33637. This Approval does not authorize any construction activities or give conceptual approval for any anticipated projects. Construction, alteration, operation, removal or abandonment of surface water management system requires a permit from the District pursuant to Rule 40D-4.041, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), and Section 373.413, Florida Statutes (F.S.), unless found to be exempt by 40D-4.051, F.A.C. or 373.406, F.S.

**NOTICE OF RIGHTS**

Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the District's action regarding this permit may request an administrative hearing in accordance with Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes (F.S.) and chapter 28-106, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) of the Uniform Rules of Procedure. A request for hearing must (1) explain how the substantial interests of each person requesting the hearing will be affected by the District's action, or final action; (2) state all material facts disputed by each person requesting the hearing or state that there are no disputed facts; and (3) otherwise comply with Chapter 28-106, F.A.C. A request for hearing must be filed with and received by the Agency Clerk of the District at the District's Brooksville address, 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Fl. 34604-6899 within 21 days of publication of this notice (or within 14 days for an Environmental Resource Permit application with Proprietary Authorization for the use of Sovereign submerged Lands; Failure to file a request for hearing within this time period shall constitute a waiver of any right such person may have to request a hearing under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S. Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the filing of a petition means that the District's final action may be different from the position taken by it in this notice of final agency action. Persons whose substantial interests will be affected by any such final decision of the District on the application have the right to petition to become a party to the proceeding, in accordance with the requirements set forth above. Mediation pursuant to Section 120.573, F.S. to settle an administrative dispute regarding the district's final action in this matter is not available prior to the filing of a request for hearing. Published 4/17/14 116689 3028771

**OTHER NOTICES**  
**3138**

whose address is Post Office Box 400, Nocatee, FL 34268. The Petition No. is 20001370.005. The file(s) pertaining to the project referred to above is available for inspection Monday through Friday except for legal holidays, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) Tampa Service Office, 7601 Hwy 301 North, Tampa, FL 33637. This Approval does not authorize any construction activities or give conceptual approval for any anticipated projects. Construction, alteration, operation, removal or abandonment of surface water management system requires a permit from the District pursuant to Rule 40D-4.041, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), and Section 373.413, Florida Statutes (F.S.), unless found to be exempt by 40D-4.051, F.A.C. or 373.406, F.S.

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☐ Saturday, April 19th from 8am to 2pm only at 41 Glendora Ave, lots of stuff.

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ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY JOHN BLACK, photeke@gmail.com

The 5th Annual DeSoto County Chamber of Commerce Fun Shoot took place Saturday. From left: Penny Kurtz, Kathy Browning, Bart Arrington, Heather Nedley, Debby Snyder, Ashley Coone, and Brittany and Brandon Jacobson kick off the morning of the Tater

**Chamber's 5th annual Fun Shoot is a blast**



Arcadian Stockyard and Clean Cuts teams gather and check their guns before the next station.



Representing Joshua Citrus, from left, are Olivia Shelfer, Ashley Dunson, Caleb Shelfer, Daniel Miller, Kevin Shelfer and Lynn Shelfer, waiting for their turn at the Tater Hill Fun Shoot sponsored Saturday by the DeSoto County Chamber of Commerce.



From left: David Wack, Bill Bevis, Kay Wise, Ricky Mercer, Sheriff Will Wise and John Geitner are shooting for Team Seacoast.



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

DeSoto County third baseman Tiffany Burhands gets hit by a pitch in the 16-1 win over Lake Placid. As Burhands walked to first she said, "Wow, that hurt!"

**SEASON**

FROM PAGE 15

Cowell, Allyson Krause and Bre

Ray each scoring twice. The Lady Bulldogs finished the season with a three-game winning streak and earlier had won five in a row. Their season record is 11-4.



DeSoto County pitcher Jayla Cowell throws to Allyson Krause to retire a Lake Placid batter in the final game of the season.

# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 4

An incident in the parking lot at Winn-Dixie prompts the following. I encountered two young men in their late teens or early 20s, both wearing pants with the upper part of their posteriors midway to the crack in their [ ]. It isn't just here, but nationwide. I have been all over the country and this is not unusual, as well as close to naked young women tattooed from their ankles to their necks. An older couple in the parking lot also witnessed this and commented. They felt that this was just an example of poor parenting. A few years ago I might have agreed, but now it's so widespread that it, along with many other examples of a deteriorating society, the future generations are becoming a living example of a human cesspool. What was once a culture of good societal examples with a few exceptions, has slowly become or is becoming giant landfill of human trash. I never thought I would see the day when I would say I'm going out of it and not coming into it, sad but true.

George Pratt  
Arcadia

## Water/sewer rates discourage conservation

Editor: I can relate to the March 20 letter to the editor in reference to the cost of

water/sewer. Under the current billing system, the more water you conserve, the more the cost per 1,000 gallons.

From Aug. 2013 to Jan. 2014, I used 3,000 gallons of water. My bill for these five billing periods was \$309.63 for water/sewer excluding trash. By conserving water, I paid \$103.21 for each 1,000 gallons of water/sewer. My last billing period (Feb.-March), I had many people visiting and used 10,000 gallons of water. My cost was \$135.66 for water/sewer or \$13.56 per 1,000 gallons.

If the city can sell me 10,000 gallons of water at \$13.56 per 1,000, why do I have to pay \$103.21 per 1,000 gallons if I choose to conserve? Those of us on fixed income, trying to save money and conserve water, seem to be paying for those who use the most.

The city should set a rate per 1,000 gallons of water/sewer. A good starting point would be \$13.56 per 1,000 gallons.

Evidently, they are not losing money at this rate or they would have charged me more. They could raise the rate progressively on those who use the most instead of progressively on those who use the least.

James L. Howk, Arcadia

## Cartoon was in poor taste

Editor: After viewing the recent cartoon depicting the plight of DeSoto Memorial Hospital, I feel compelled to express my distaste. As a long-time employee of DeSoto Memorial Hospital and a resident of DeSoto

County, my concerns extend well past the livelihood of DeSoto Memorial Hospital employees to the welfare of our entire community. If a 45-minute trip to an alternate facility becomes necessary, the safety and perhaps the lives of DeSoto County residents will be in jeopardy.

For these and many other reasons, I found the cartoon insensitive, unprofessional and offensive.

Francine Farley  
Arcadia

## Writer appreciates county leaders

Editor: The DeSoto County Board of County Commissioners and Department Directors are to be complimented for holding their series of citizens feedback sessions.

I was pleased to take part in the one held April 10 at Kingsway Country Club in Lake Suzy. It isn't often you have the opportunity to interact with so many county officials in one place

to exchange ideas and viewpoints. It also was a great opportunity to hear from such a broad range of county citizens.

The session was interesting and informative. Most importantly, it brought out many good ideas for addressing county needs.

However, most impressive, for me, were the people. The county is blessed indeed with commissioners, managers and staff who are great people. I think they know what the word "serve" means in their role as public servants.

Also, the citizens demonstrated a desire to do everything they can to help DeSoto government and the many private agencies in the county to do exemplary work.

We may not be the home of the wealthy, but I think we have a lot going for us and that is a caring and involved DeSoto government and citizenry!

George H. Wojtkiewicz  
President,  
Pembroke Property Owners Association, Inc.  
Lake Suzy



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990-2340 For Info.



# Vote for Your Favorites! 2014 Readers' Choice

Here's your chance to give your favorite local businesses the spotlight! Vote in our 2014 DeSoto Readers' Choice contest to help us recognize the best of the best. Just fill in your choice for the best business in each of the categories listed below.

**ENTER TO WIN a \$50 gift certificate to one of the Readers' Choice restaurant picks**  
when you submit your completed 2014 Readers' Choice voting form to us before April 30, 2014.

### SERVICES

- Accountant \_\_\_\_\_
- AC/Heating \_\_\_\_\_
- Auto Body Shop \_\_\_\_\_
- Auto Repair \_\_\_\_\_
- Bank \_\_\_\_\_
- Barber Shop \_\_\_\_\_
- Carpet Cleaning \_\_\_\_\_
- Caterer \_\_\_\_\_
- Cellular Service \_\_\_\_\_
- Check Cashing \_\_\_\_\_
- Child Care \_\_\_\_\_
- Computer Repair \_\_\_\_\_
- Electrician \_\_\_\_\_
- Florist \_\_\_\_\_
- Hairstylist \_\_\_\_\_
- Hotel \_\_\_\_\_
- Insurance Agency \_\_\_\_\_
- Law Firm \_\_\_\_\_
- Lawn Care \_\_\_\_\_
- Mail/Shipping \_\_\_\_\_
- Nail Salon \_\_\_\_\_
- Pest Control \_\_\_\_\_
- Pet Grooming \_\_\_\_\_
- Plumber \_\_\_\_\_
- Realtor \_\_\_\_\_
- School \_\_\_\_\_
- Signs/Banners \_\_\_\_\_
- Tanning Salon \_\_\_\_\_
- Tax Service \_\_\_\_\_
- Veterinarian \_\_\_\_\_
- Window Tinting \_\_\_\_\_

### HEALTH & FITNESS

- Assisted Living \_\_\_\_\_
- Chiropractor \_\_\_\_\_
- Dietitian \_\_\_\_\_
- Dance Studio \_\_\_\_\_
- Dentist \_\_\_\_\_
- Doctor (family) \_\_\_\_\_
- Doctor (pediatrician) \_\_\_\_\_
- Doctor (specialty) \_\_\_\_\_
- Exercise/Gym \_\_\_\_\_
- Hearing \_\_\_\_\_
- Home Health Care \_\_\_\_\_
- Message Therapy \_\_\_\_\_
- Nursing \_\_\_\_\_
- Pharmacy \_\_\_\_\_
- Veterinarian \_\_\_\_\_

### SHOPPING

- Antiques \_\_\_\_\_
- Appliance Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Auto Dealership \_\_\_\_\_
- Bookstore \_\_\_\_\_
- Boutique \_\_\_\_\_
- Bridal Boutique \_\_\_\_\_
- Clothing Store (men's) \_\_\_\_\_
- Clothing Store (women's) \_\_\_\_\_
- Convenience Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Electronics Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Feed/Ranch Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Furniture Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Gift Shop \_\_\_\_\_
- Grocery Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Hardware Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Jewelry Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Liquor Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Produce \_\_\_\_\_
- Shoes \_\_\_\_\_
- Sporting Goods \_\_\_\_\_
- Storage Sheds \_\_\_\_\_
- Thrift Store \_\_\_\_\_

### ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

- Artist \_\_\_\_\_
- Band (local) \_\_\_\_\_
- Golf Course \_\_\_\_\_
- Live Music Venue \_\_\_\_\_
- Camping \_\_\_\_\_
- Canoeing \_\_\_\_\_
- Photography \_\_\_\_\_

### EATS & DRINKS

- Bakery \_\_\_\_\_
- Bar \_\_\_\_\_
- Barbecue \_\_\_\_\_
- Breakfast \_\_\_\_\_
- Buffet \_\_\_\_\_
- Cheap Eats \_\_\_\_\_
- Chinese \_\_\_\_\_
- Coffee \_\_\_\_\_
- Deli \_\_\_\_\_
- Dinner \_\_\_\_\_
- Family-Friendly Eats \_\_\_\_\_
- Fast Food \_\_\_\_\_
- Fried Chicken \_\_\_\_\_
- Hamburger \_\_\_\_\_
- Ice Cream \_\_\_\_\_
- Italian \_\_\_\_\_
- Lunch \_\_\_\_\_
- Mexican \_\_\_\_\_
- Pickling Products \_\_\_\_\_
- Seafood \_\_\_\_\_
- Steak \_\_\_\_\_
- Sweet Tea \_\_\_\_\_

**Have category suggestions?  
Let us know!**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### CONTEST RULES

1. You must be at least 18 years or older to enter.
2. You may only submit one completed ballot, additional submissions will automatically disqualify you from voting in the contest.
3. The questionnaire must be 50% completed or it will be disqualified.
4. All entries must be received in our office by April 30, 2014 at 5 p.m.
5. The winner will be chosen by random drawing.
6. The Readers' Choice Winners will be determined by the highest number of votes from the entries.
7. Contest results do not reflect the views of the Arcadian.

### ENTRY FORM

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail completed questionnaire to:**

"Serving DeSoto County since 1887"

**ARCADIAN**

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863-494-7600