

ARCADIAN

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A section of the Sun



Nonprofit organization Precious Pearls enabling local youth to focus on future.

Indigent care tax inches forward

By STEVE BAUER

ARCADIAN ASSISTANT EDITOR

The DeSoto Board of County Commissioners took a baby step Tuesday toward helping DeSoto Memorial Hospital lighten its financial debt. The board voted 4-1 to allow public notice of its intent to consider a 1/2-cent indigent care sales tax referendum on November's ballot, with all taxes collected applied to DMH's mortgage debt.

County Attorney Don Conn presented the board with two versions of the ordinance: one would stipulate that all monies collected go toward all new and existing hospital debt; while the second would allow the revenue to be divided between all facilities in the county that provide indigent care services. A supermajority would be needed to approve

the first option, while a simple majority could approve the second.

Commissioner Elton Langford wondered how long the tax would stay on the books once the hospital's debt had been satisfied. "Will (the tax) go away once all of DMH's debt is gone?" he asked.

"No," Conn said. "But we can certainly add language to the ordinance that places limits on it."

A major sticking point for several commissioners was wording in the language that allowed the sales tax to be used on any new debt the hospital accrues. "I don't like having that term in there," Commissioner Bob Miller said. "I think the word new should be eliminated; otherwise this tax could be indefinite."

Langford agreed, and told DMH board members and executives it was

in their best interest to ensure the public understands the tax isn't permanent. "One of these two options is going on the ballot, and you're asking the public to vote on a new tax they've never paid before," he said. "I know I could better vote for it if I knew that once the debts were paid off, I'll get my penny back. You need to think and about this and figure out how you're going to communicate it to the public."

Commissioner Gabriel Quave said since the hospital is always going to have debt, his recommendation would be to place a specific end date on the ordinance. "The way it's written right now there's no end, and that concerns me," he said. "If we leave it the way it is, the hospital has no reason to come back to us since they will have a continual flow of money. It should concern them how this looks to the voters."

DMH CEO Vince Sica told the board the hospital had no problem removing the term "new debt" from the ordinance. "We believe it's appropriate for that to be left out of the language," he said.

Concerns over hospital's efforts

Miller expressed his concern over the recent resignation of Dan Presilla from the DMH board of directors, and said he still hadn't heard specifics on how the hospital plans to close the estimated \$900,000 deficit that will exist even if the sales tax is approved. Asking Board Chairman Janie Watson to come to the podium, Miller said, "From the very onset of this discussion, I have asked

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Volunteers plan to make Smith Brown Gym a community resource



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

Among those taking part in Thursday's meeting about funding the Smith Brown Gym improvements were, from left, County Commissioner Buddy Mansfield, Alan Johnson of the DeSoto Co. Health Department, City Administrator Tom Slaughter, City Planner Carl McQuay, Smith Brown Gym Foundation's Ashley Coone, City Public Works Director Steve Underwood, DeSoto Co. Building Department Director Lester Hornbake, State Rep. Ben Albritton and Coach Richard Bowers. • Turn to page 12 for more photos.

Arcadian 50c



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City reviews initial budget

By **STEVE BAUER**

ARCADIAN ASSISTANT EDITOR

The Arcadia City Council got its first look at the 2014-15 budget during a workshop Tuesday, and expressed hope they would not have to raise the millage higher than the current rate of 8.669. One mill equals \$1 of tax on every \$1,000 of taxable value.

The Council also discussed a rollback millage rate of 8.8195, which is expected to be formally approved at a July 29 special meeting. The rollback rate is purely a precautionary measure to give the city wiggle room in case final budget numbers fluctuate.

City Administrator Tom Slaughter and Finance Director Beth Carsten presented the budget, which includes proposed revenues of approximately \$4.5 million, a slight increase from

2013-14's projected amount of \$4,330,497.24. The 2013-14 budget is expected to fall \$400,000 short of what was adopted last October, which is largely due to an accounting error that mistakenly included \$252,000 from a 9th cent gas tax. Slaughter said the proposed 2014-15 budget, however, was fairly straightforward.

"Looking at this budget, there are no dramatic changes other than the \$250,000 that was mistakenly included last year as part of the 9th cent gas tax," Slaughter said. "We're working on a budget that's still a little lean and mean. One of the reasons for that is property values remain stagnant, and in fact are down a little." According to documents from the Property Appraiser's office, taxable values on properties fell roughly \$3 million from last year's total of \$176,921,555.

Workshop covers highlights

Since several council members had only received the budget the day of the workshop, Carsten briefed the council on some of the document's highlights. Among them was a jump of nearly \$100,000 in pro shop revenue, which was met with skepticism from Mayor Alice Frierson.

"These look like some real ambitious numbers," she said.

Course Manager Michael Kotzker said the numbers reflect a 30 percent increase in membership fees, and the fact the course is in much better condition.

"What makes you think anyone is going to pay that? Frierson asked.

"I think the course is in much better shape, and we're still the cheapest in the area," he said.

"I wish you well, but I really have doubts you're going to increase it \$100,000, but that's just me," she responded.

Carsten also noted a hike in insurance premiums, saying the county is looking at a 14 percent increase compared with last year, although that number was as high as 34 percent at one point. "Hopefully that 14 percent figure will continue to fall," Carsten said. "I've had discussions with our insurance agents and I'm optimistic we will be able to get that down even more."

The council scheduled three additional budget workshops, with meetings set for July 29, Aug. 12 and Aug. 26. All workshops will be held at 5 p.m. at the council's chambers in the Margaret Way Building in Arcadia.

Brotherhood Ride pedals to Arcadia again

By **SUSAN E. HOFFMAN**

ARCADIAN EDITOR

The Brotherhood Ride will once again make a stop in Arcadia this year as riders from fire, emergency and law enforcement offices pedal their way across Florida.

The riders will arrive around noon on Aug. 4 and plan to stop at the Tree of Knowledge Park for lunch before heading on to the last leg of their four-day journey, ending in Port Charlotte.

The community is urged to visit with the riders as they take a break from pedaling. Several local businesses and organizations are helping to provide lunch and beverages for the riders, and are seeking donations in this endeavor. DeSoto County Fire Rescue, the City of Arcadia, DeSoto County Sheriff's Office, Arcadia Police Department, Glass Antique or Not, and *The Arcadian* are helping to welcome the riders.

The concept of the Brotherhood Ride began when, on June 18, 2007, nine Charleston firefighters lost their lives fighting a major industrial fire. It was organized by Jeff Morse of the North Naples Fire Department. The following year, the Brotherhood Ride—including both firefighters and law enforcement officers—set out from Naples to Charleston, South Carolina, a 600-mile trek on bicycles, to honor their fallen brethren. Through donations and pledges, they raised money for the families of the fallen firefighters.

In the first four years, they rode bicycles over 3,600 miles and through 14 states. Most of the riders have been from southwest Florida, but over the



FILE PHOTOS BY MONICA ALLISON

DeSoto County Fire and Rescue team members show their support for the Brotherhood Riders for the 2011 ride. The group will return to Arcadia August 4.

years riders from other states have also taken part. Collectively, they have raised more than \$100,000 for the surviving families of those who gave their lives.

This year, the 2014 Brotherhood Ride will honor four Florida law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty in 2013. The ride starts in Naples on Aug. 1, and travels to Clewiston, Port St. Lucie, lake Placid and Arcadia before ending in Port Charlotte on Aug. 4.

The four officers being honored are:

- Sergeant Gary Morales, St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office
- Deputy Sheriff Daniel Rivera, Broward County Sheriff's Office
- Master Deputy Sheriff Joseph "Shane" Robbins, Polk County Sheriff's Office
- Sergeant Mike Wilson, Charlotte County Sheriff's Office

For more information, or to make a

donation, call Algie Didlaukies at 863-244-1808, or visit one of the following locations: Glass Antique or Not, 127 West Oak Street; DeSoto Co. Fire Rescue office, 122 North Hillsborough Ave.,

or *The Arcadian*, 108 South Polk Ave. T-shirts designed specifically for this ride are expected to be available for sale at those same locations for several days before their Aug. 4 arrival in Arcadia.



Brotherhood Riders make their way into Arcadia on rain-soaked streets during 2011's Brotherhood Ride.

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Joe Gallimore - jgallimore@sun-herald.com	Steve Bauer - sbauer@sun-herald.com	Jackie Bierman - jbierman@sun-herald.com
Susan Hoffman - shoffman@sun-herald.com	Tami Jewell - tjewell@sun-herald.com	Kyle Gallimore - kgallimore@sun-herald.com

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Gifted student program changes challenged

By **SUSAN E. HOFFMAN**
ARCADIAN EDITOR

Two frustrated women raised issues Tuesday at the DeSoto County School Board meeting over plans to modify the Gifted program.

Superintendent Karyn Gary announced the Gifted program is still included in the district, contrary to some rumors. "We have made some improvements in the Gifted classes," she said. Gary said they plan to have the Gifted teacher work with other teachers to ensure Gifted children in their classrooms "get the maximum Gifted experience."

But School Board member Ronny Allen said, "My phone blew up over the Gifted issue."

"We have contracts with parents of Gifted program children," he said. "Under those contracts, a lot has to happen before we change anything in that program."

The Board's attorney, Bucky Waldron, confirmed that the district is required to have an Education Plan for Gifted children and that a meeting with parents is required. There is also an avenue for parents to challenge decisions if they disagree.

Allen confirmed that no meetings

with parents of Gifted students have taken place yet. "Even if the program meets state requirements, the meeting with parents is still required before we make changes."

Gary acknowledged changes to the EP would trigger a parent meeting. She said those meetings are going to be scheduled.

From the audience, Brooke Hartley, a former Gifted student, said she derived a lot of benefit by being able to work together with other Gifted students as a group. "We could challenge each other." She was "bored" in classes outside of the Gifted program and urged those students be allowed to study and learn together as a group. She was concerned the proposed changes would erase that advantage.

Stephanie Corwin, the mother of a Gifted student, told the School Board, "I'm concerned the students won't have the opportunity to be together in a different atmosphere. This is where these kids who think differently do best." She said her son, who because of his intelligence always felt as though he "had to be the leader," enjoyed the Gifted classes because others were capable of taking over. "He could be himself, he felt comfortable like he belonged; he felt normal."

Corwin said the unstructured curriculum "allows kids to blossom. They don't have to play down being smart" with each other.

Allen also noted many comments about the changes to the Gifted classes were posted on social media such as Facebook. He proposed the District restrict its responses to only its website and its own Facebook page, rather than try to comment on other pages. "We have a tremendously good website. I would like us to use that instead of Facebook. If we have school-related announcements, that's where they need to be."

As to the website, Information Specialist Devin LaCava gave a presentation about changes to the District's website, starting with a new logo. The pages have been better organized, he said, so that information you might want is no more than three clicks away. Bus routes, important documents and contact information all will be included once the site design is completed. Schools will also have a way to upload events to the calendar.

Allen questioned why summer school was only 11 days long. He thought it should have lasted longer.

Gary said the same number of hours were spent in summer school, but the

schedule was condensed. This freed up the schools so the district could do maintenance and sprucing up. She said attendance was high for summer school.

Board member Rodney Hollingsworth said he was concerned with three schools receiving Fs from the State based on FCAT scores. These grades could also affect the economy; "poor schools will deter people from moving here."

Gary answered that, in fact, scores for two of the schools actually went up compared with last year, although not enough to make a difference in the letter grade. She also said the textbooks the schools were using were not aligned with the FCAT and not every student had his own book.

New books have been ordered in English, language arts and math for K through 12, she said, "and I think we'll see improvements."

Gary said the schedules for each school for the new school year have still not been finalized, pending approval at the state level. Because additional instructional time is needed at the elementary schools, their school days have to be a bit longer. That, in turn, affects bus schedules at other schools.

County OKs Nocatee church building

By **SUSAN E. HOFFMAN**
ARCADIAN EDITOR

The DeSoto County Board of Commissioners Tuesday night approved the rebuilding of the Nocatee Church of God on the church's 4.4 acre property.

The original structure, built in 1923, was recently partly demolished to make way for the widening of U.S. Highway 17. Rev. John Stamey told commissioners they want to rebuild on their current property,

part of which is zoned Commercial General and part Residential Single Family. To do so requires a Special Exception under the county's zoning code. Stamey said the church agreed to meet all the requirements for the special exception.

The new facility will include the church and parsonage along with both paved and unpaved parking spaces. While the church currently has well water and a septic system, when utilities are extended down U.S. 17, the church

has agreed to tie into the new utilities.

"This is a no-brainer," said Commissioner Buddy Mansfield. The board voted unanimously to approve the special exception.

The board also approved transmittal of amendments to the Comprehensive Plan pertaining to the Phosphate Mining Overlay. The amendments add or change some definitions consistent with federal and state regulations and will assure permitting standards will be consistent with the Corps of Engineers

requirements. Language was added to clarify Best Management Practices regarding mitigation work. The revisions will be submitted to the Department of Economic Opportunity; once approved at the State level, the BOCC will then adopt the amendments.

The board also approved an amendment to the Future Land Use element of the County's Comprehensive Plan pertaining to utilities (potable water and sanitary sewer) to conform with state regulations.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEF

Drain and cover in mosquito season

The Florida Department of Health reminds residents and visitors that it is important to "Drain and Cover." The department encourages everyone to take simple precautions to protect themselves and their neighbors from mosquito-borne illnesses which have received increased attention recently in Florida.

"A simple and easy way to prevent mosquito-borne illnesses is to follow

the drain and cover method," said Dr. Celeste Philip, deputy secretary for Health. "Drain water from any containers around your home, cover your skin with clothing and mosquito repellent and cover doors and windows with screen to keep mosquitoes out of your home or business."

• Drain water from garbage cans, house gutters, buckets, pool covers, coolers, toys, flower pots or any other containers where sprinkler or rain water has collected.

• Discard old tires, drums, bottles, cans, pots and pans, broken appliances and other items that aren't being used.

• Empty and clean birdbaths and pets' water bowls at least once or twice a week.

• Protect boats and vehicles from rain with tarps that don't accumulate water.

• Maintain swimming pools in good condition and appropriately chlorinated. Empty plastic swimming pools when not in use.

Cover skin with clothing or repellent.

Clothing: Wear shoes, socks, and long pants and long-sleeves. This type of protection may be necessary for people who must work in areas where mosquitoes are present.

Apply mosquito repellent to bare skin and clothing. Repellents with DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, and IR3535 are effective. Use mosquito netting to protect children under 2.

Cover doors and windows with screens to keep mosquitoes out of your house.

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VIEWPOINT

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

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FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

Despite ruling, Confederate flag placement wrong

A three-judge panel of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans has handed a victory to the Sons of Confederate Veterans by ruling that Texas can't refuse to issue the group a specialty license plate with the Confederate battle flag on it.

The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles board of directors had rejected the organization's application for a specialty plate in 2011 — the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War — because those who opposed it had argued that the so-called "Rebel flag" was offensive.

In a 2-1 vote last week, the court said the DMV had engaged in "viewpoint discrimination," and in doing so had violated the free speech rights of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. The judges noted that the DMV had approved plates for other veterans' groups and military actions such as Buffalo Soldiers, Korean War, Vietnam and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The panel's opinion said it "appears that the only reason the board rejected the plate is the viewpoint it represents."

The Confederate battle flag is highly offensive to many people, especially African-Americans, as it is a reminder of slavery. The banner was also resurrected during the 1950s and 1960s as a symbol revered by those opposed to integration and equal opportunity for blacks.

Members of the veterans group say it is an organization that was founded in 1896 to honor the Confederate heritage and that the flag, although considered offensive by some, is their official logo.

Still, the standard does not belong on a state license plate.

The 5th Circuit's decision overturns a ruling by a federal judge in Austin who found that the DMV had the right to reject the license plate.

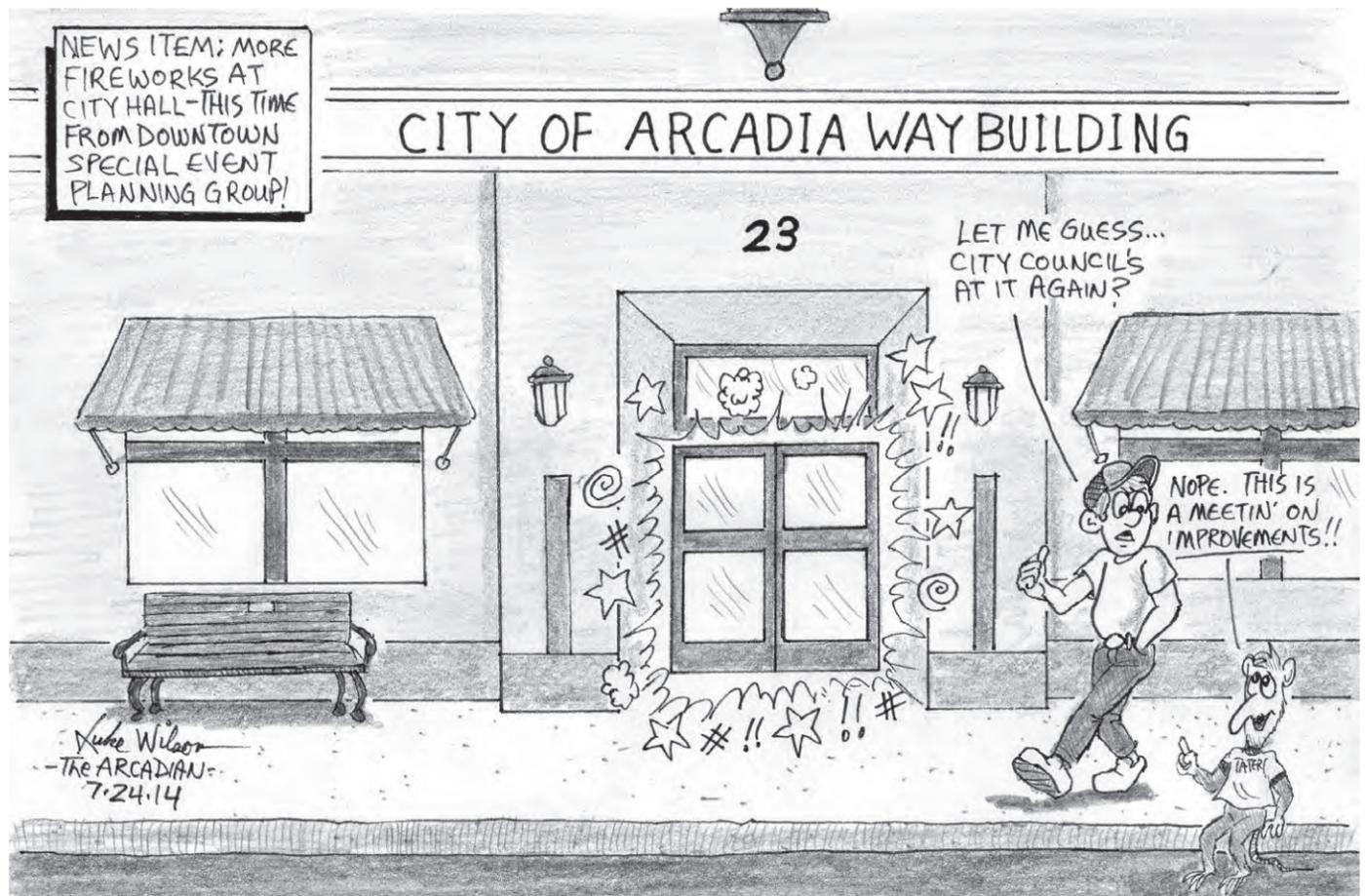
Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott's office, which represents the DMV, has said it will challenge the latest ruling, either by asking the entire 5th Circuit Court of Appeals to hear the case or appealing the decision to the U. S. Supreme Court. That is the right thing to do.

Since specialty plates are issued by a department of the state, it should have the right to approve any design. If that authority is taken away, perhaps the state should get out of the specialty plate business altogether.

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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.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Police patrol is great here

Editor:

I would like to take a few minutes and say thank you to Marshal Matt Anderson of the Arcadia Police Department. Matt, I appreciate your officers and their efforts.

I live in the City RV Park and Officer Angie Allred patrols there. Officer Allred always greets you with a "good morning" or "good afternoon" and "is everything OK."

After Officer Allred patrols the park she sits on Arizona Street for a few minutes, then goes on to protect the rest of the city.

Matt, a job well done should not go unnoticed. My wife, Priscilla, and myself were undecided on who to vote for as Marshal of our great city. We are not undecided anymore.

Butch McDaniel
Arcadia

What has happened to our country?

Editor:

Unemployment stats are in for June. There were 288,000 new jobs created and we only lost 1,040,000 jobs that were added to Unemployment Insurance. We have 80,000,000 Americans out of work and the

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GRITS & PIECES

More recollections for DeSoto Bulldogs

Last week we offered up some memories about good old junior high and high school days, and they were so numerous that I knew there wasn't enough room for them in a single column, so here are some more. I'm sure you have your own, and I hope to evoke some fond memories of good ol' DeSoto High, as well as the students and teachers there.

You might be a DeSoto Bulldog if you recall the staircases in the old building (north and south ends) being designated as up on one end and down on the other, and that you could get in trouble for going the wrong direction. This also kept you from getting trampled to death by the herd of students who might be rushing all the way to the gym to beat the tardy bell for their next class!

You might be a DeSoto Bulldog if you remember which teacher ate the live worm on a dare from a student one day in class. Same goes for whether you ever had to unfold the bleachers in the gym by pulling them out toward the center, and if you recall how loud that echoed throughout the building.

You might be a DeSoto Bulldog if



Grits & Pieces

Luke Wilson

troubador55@embarqmail.com

you remember your baccalaureate service being mandatory, and if you graduated from Fenton Arena, aka the rodeo grounds. Some even called it "the cow palace." If you recall pasture parties and where they were held, you were a part of our generation.

You might be a DeSoto Bulldog if you remember open campus lunches, and being able to walk or drive to eat at places like Wheeler's Café, Country Gentlemen, Arcadia Drugstore, Pine Point, Mr. Mac's, or The Custard Cup. If you can name the instructor/mentor known for confrontational statements like "I'm gonna get on you like a ball of fire!" or "You might be kerosene on me, but I'm gonna be gasoline on you!" you definitely were there.

You might be a DeSoto Bulldog if

you recall how funky the A/V room in the basement of the old building smelled, and how wonderful hand-outs and test papers bearing that purple ink from mimeograph machines smelled. If your memory includes scenes of the high school band known as the Marching Generals, wearing Confederate uniforms and playing "Dixie" as the school song, you certainly go way back as a Bulldog.

You might be a DeSoto Bulldog if, while in the throes of puberty, you gathered in the second-floor auditorium to watch either the eye-opening "Boy to Man" or "Girl to Woman" projected film. Which one you saw depended on which team you were on, of course. That experience not only confirmed some rumors and suspicions, but could make you wonder about some of the crazy stuff offered by bathroom graffiti artists and poets.

You might be a DeSoto Bulldog if you remember doing a P.E. warm-up exercise called "tail gunner," which was sometimes audible and sometimes silent. If you were one of those

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Precious Pearls empowers girls

By SHAMEKA HOLLIMAN
PRECIOUS PEARLS

The summer of 2014 kicked off the beginning of The Precious Pearls Project, a nonprofit organization committed to the empowerment of girls in DeSoto County. The Precious Pearls group targets adolescent girls in grades 6 through 8. This group is geared toward "empowering girls to believe that they are unique, valuable and made for excellence" through exposure to new experiences, developmental workshops, and individual pairing with a mentor.

On June 3, Precious Pearls' founders, Shameka Hollimon and Kameelah Goodman, held the group's informational meeting at Elizabeth Missionary Baptist Church, presenting parents and prospective members with plans for the upcoming summer activities.

To date, the Precious Pearls have participated in workshops focusing on self-esteem, and discussing emotions, bullying and healthy relationships. Last week, the girls volunteered at the local Redlands Christian Migrant Association, reading to the students, completing an art project, and directing activities on the playground.

After reading to a group of students, Precious Pearl La'Trasia Mosley said, "I really enjoyed it, and I think I want to become a teacher when I grow up."

One of the activities planned for the group is to attend a City Council meeting in August.

The group is currently running a crowdfunding campaign via www.fundanything.com to pay for their trip to Sarasota for the Greatness Beyond



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY SHAMEKA HOLLIMAN

The Precious Pearls group helps young women develop self-esteem and confidence by recognizing their own talents and abilities.

Measure Teen Summit. Here, teens from all over the state will be participating in fun, enriching activities and workshops focused on empowerment. There will also be talent competitions, motivational speakers, and an opportunity for the participants to present CEOs with business



Girls share ideas during one of the workshops led by Precious Pearls, a nonprofit organization designed to help young women gain confidence and prepare for their futures.

and product pitches through the "Shark Tank" competition. To contribute to the fundraising campaign, visit the group's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/thevaluableproject.

"I'm very happy with the success of the summer program. We will soon wrap it

up and focus on implementing the year-long Precious Pearls program in the fall and recruiting mentors for the girls."

If you are a woman between 25-40 years old and interested in becoming a mentor, call Shameka Hollimon at 863-244-8482.



Precious Pearls plans a series of workshops and events to help girls in grades 6 through 8 to participate in empowering workshops and teamwork exercises.

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Arcadia's COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TODAY

- The City of Arcadia is holding a special public meeting on outdoor street sales in the antiques district, at 4:30 p.m. July 24 in the Council Chambers in the Margaret Way Bldg., 23 N. Polk Ave.
- 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.
- DeSoto County Historical Society Research Library is open in the Ingraham Seed House, 120 W. Whidden Street: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursdays (except for the second Thursday of the month), and by appointment.
- The John Morgan Ingraham House is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursdays, except the second Thursday, and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the second Saturday of the month.
- Relaxation Yoga Class every Thursday, 5 p.m.-5:15 p.m., registration and yoga tea; 5:15-6:15 p.m., yoga class. Come enjoy an hour of serenity focused on breathing, gentle yoga poses, peaceful stretching and quiet relaxation. Held in the Health Dept., conference room, 34 S. Baldwin Ave. Drop-in \$7/class, 8-class package \$40 (\$5 per class). Bring your own mat. For more information, call Christine at 244-1925.
- DeSoto County Library story time is at 3 p.m. at 125 N. Hillsborough Ave., Arcadia. Call 993-4851 for more information.
- Temple Beth El — North Port Jewish Center, 33840 South Biscayne Drive, North Port, hosts an American Contract Bridge League every Thursday, at 1 p.m. at the temple. The cost is \$6 per session. We will be participating in "The Common Game." For reservations call Shelli Wetherson at 941-497-7184.
- Cocaine Anonymous meetings are held every Thursday from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church. For information, call Curtis Clark at 244-2884 or

Sandra Elmore at 352-476-8520.

- Faith Mission provides free lunches for anyone in need, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 1109 S.E. 9th St., Arcadia. Donations gratefully accepted.
- Alcoholics Anonymous Second Tradition meets at 7 p.m. at St. Edmund's Episcopal Church, 327 W. Hickory St.

FRIDAY

- 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.
- The AA G.I.R.L.S. Anniversary Night is at 6 p.m. on the fourth Friday of the month at St. Edmund's Episcopal Church, 327 W. Oak St.
- City Takers for Christ will be giving away free meals on the last Friday of every month, starting at 12:30 p.m. until everything has been distributed, at 607 S. Orange Ave.
- Arcadia Quilt Club meets from 9-11:30 a.m. Fridays at the Palace Dance Hall, 1627 N.E. Floridian Circle, Arcadia.
- Square Dancing classes are held at the Palace Square Dance Hall, 1627 N.E. Floridian Circle, from 7-9 p.m. every Friday. Robert at 813-601-1834 or Mary at 941-380-5336 494-2749 for information.
- Friday Night Live — the City Takers for Christ presents "Friday Night Live" with Rev. Troy Rowe, every Friday. Come and experience what God is doing in this season through His word and praise and worship. 37 W. Magnolia St. (across from SunTrust drive-through). For information call 244-4341.
- Faith Mission provides free lunches for anyone in need, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 1109 S.E. 9th St., Arcadia. Donations gratefully accepted.

SATURDAY

- DeSoto Youth Football signups take place every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Richard Bowers Stadium through August 16. Registration is \$100, for ages 14U, 12U, 10U and 8U. For details, call Steve Carroll at 244-1218 or Terry Allhouse at 990-8272.
- Bluegrass Concert (live music) 1-4 p.m., July 26, at Craig's RV Resort, 7895 Cubitus Ave., \$7pp or free for Heartland Bluegrass Assoc members. Call 941-467-2051 for details.
- The Antique Fair takes place in downtown Arcadia on the fourth Saturday of every month starting at 8 a.m. Dozens of dealers line the sidewalks on and around West Oak St. For information, visit www.ArcadiaFLAntiques.com; to inquire about

booth space, call 993-5105.

- The NAACP meets at 6 p.m. every fourth Saturday of the month at Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church, 319 S. Lee Ave.
- Fit DeSoto meets the fourth Saturday of the month for a free exercise class and run/walk at Morgan Park. High energy and fun! Arrive by 10 a.m. in workout clothes, running shoes with a towel and water. Children must be accompanied by an adult.
- DeSoto County Library story time is at 10:30 a.m. at 125 N. Hillsborough Ave., Arcadia. Call 993-4851 for more information.
- The Palace Promenaders meet for square and round dance from 7-9 p.m. every Saturday at the Palace Square Dance Hall, 1627 N.E. Floridian Circle. Art Miller, caller, and Jennie Martin, cueing. Call Jennie at 494-2749 or Mary at 941-380-5336 for information.

SUNDAY

- Telephone Reassurance and Friendly Visitors available to those over 55 and homebound. Phone Senior Friendship Centers at 863-494-5965 to sign up for these free services, staffed by trained volunteers who have had background screenings. Phone also if interested in becoming a volunteer for either program.
- Alcoholics Anonymous Serenity Group meets at Grace Lutheran Church, W. Oak St. (State Road 70) at 8 p.m. Sunday.

MONDAY

- Alzheimer's Support Group - every 2nd Sat. & 4th Mon. at Arcadia Oaks ALF. 11 am, complimentary lunch.
- DeSoto County Historical Society board meets at 5:30 p.m. fourth Mondays monthly at the Ingraham Seed House on W. Gibson St., Arcadia.
- Women of Worship "WOW" Women's ministry meets at 6:15 p.m. Monday at Freedom Fellowship Christian Ministries, 1528 N.E. Turner Ave. All are welcome.
- A women-only G.I.R.L.S. AA meeting is held at St. Edmund's Episcopal Church at 6 p.m. on Monday at 327 W. Hickory St.
- Alcoholics Anonymous Second Tradition meets at St. Edmunds Episcopal Church at 8 p.m. Monday at 327 W. Hickory St.
- Al-anon, offering help for families of alcoholics, meets at 7:30 p.m. on Mondays at Fort Ogden Methodist Church, 6923 S.W. River St. in Fort Ogden. Alcoholics Anonymous meets at the same time. For information call 941-426-7655 or visit www.district13sofall-anon.org.
- The DeSoto County Homeless Coalition Community Resource Center is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday at 1425 Martin Luther King St. The center provides referrals for mainstream resources, elderly food stamps (by appointment) and computer service. Salvation Army has office space on Wed. by appointment. For more information, call 491-5683.

TUESDAY

- The DeSoto County School District will hold a special meeting starting at 5:01 p.m. July 29 at the School Board Chambers, 530 La Solona Ave., to discuss the 2014-15 budget.
- Habitat for Humanity offers a free seminar on "How to Live Healthier and Longer" by Dr. Ted Simon. 6:15 p.m. July 29, at SunTrust Bank, 2nd floor conference room. Free and open to the public. Light refreshments.
- 4-H is planning a Cloverbud Camp from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 29. The day includes arts and crafts, cooking and other activities. \$5 for the day. Bring your own lunch. RSVP by July 21 to 993-4846. Maximum 10 kids so get your reservation in early.
- 4-H is planning a Cloverbud Camp from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 29. The day includes arts and crafts, cooking and other activities. \$5 for the day. Bring your own lunch. RSVP by July 21 to 993-4846. Maximum 10 kids so get your reservation in early.
- Freedom Fellowship Christian Ministries Support Group meets at 7 p.m. Tuesday at 1528 N.E. Turner Ave.
- Every Tuesday night, line dance class at the Palace Dance Hall (17N). Beginners welcome. \$3 donation. For more info, call Jennie Martin at 494-2749.
- Weight Watchers meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Church, 1509 E. Oak St. For details visit www.weightwatchers.com and "find a meeting" or call 800-651-6000.
- The DeSoto Amateur Radio Club meets at 8 p.m. Tuesday (except the third Tuesday) of the month, on the 147.075, W4MIN repeater with a pl of 100. All amateurs are invited to participate.
- Faith Mission provides free lunches for anyone in need, at 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 1109 S.E. 9th St. Donations gratefully accepted.
- DeSoto County Library holds story time at 3 p.m. Tuesdays at 125 N. Hillsborough Ave., Arcadia. Call 993-4851 for more information.
- The Peace River Woodcarvers meet from 9 a.m. to noon every Tuesday, starting Nov. 12, at the Speer Center, U.S. Highway 17 North, Arcadia. For information, contact Bill or Mary Morse at 207-418-4687.
- ACCESS office is open from 9 a.m. to noon today at Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church, 319 S. Lee Ave., Arcadia. Call for appointments at 494-0320.
- Alcoholics Anonymous Second Tradition meets at 8 p.m. at St. Edmund's Episcopal Church, 327 W. Hickory St.
- Suncoast Community Blood Bank is open from noon to 6 p.m. today at 710 N. Brevard Ave. (U.S. 17 North), Arcadia. For more information, call 993-9366.

WEDNESDAY

- Agency Meet & Greet — learn about DeSoto County children and family resources. 1-2 p.m., July 30, at SunTrust Bank. Hosted by Kim Barger of Early Steps and Terry West of Hand of Angels. For details, call Kim at 941-487-5429 or email KimBarger@HPCSWF.com.
- The AA Serenity Group Anniversary Night is held at 8 p.m. on the last Wednesday of the month at Grace Lutheran Church,

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

- Walk on the Wild Side with Oak Hill Baptist Church's "Weird Animals" Vacation Bible School, 5:30-8 p.m. July 28 through Aug. 1. Crafts, games, dinner, Bible stories and music. For ages 3 through 5th grade. 5104 NW Oak Hill Ave. Call 990-2340 for details.

SPECIAL

- 4-H is planning a Cloverbud Camp from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 29. The day includes arts and crafts, cooking and other activities. \$5 for the day. Bring your own lunch. RSVP by July 21 to 993-4846. Maximum 10 kids so get your reservation in early.
- The Center for the Needy, at the corner of W. Pine St. and S. Orange Ave., is desperately in need of food, clothing, household goods (such as blankets, towels, cooking and eating utensils etc.), supplies — anything a person in need might require. The center is dangerously low on food, its shelves are almost bare, and they need to replenish supplies. The cupboards have become almost bare now that the snowbirds have gone. Any donations are gratefully accepted, including cash, to help those in real need in our community. For more information, call 444-0499.
- The DeSoto County Library is holding a "Summer Fun" photo contest. Print your photo — either 4 x 6 or 5 x 7, vertical or horizontal — mount it on cardboard or foam core (no border). One free entry per person; additional entries \$1 each. The deadline has been extended: bring your photo to the library by July 19, fill out and attach label. Works will be displayed and the public can vote for their favorites through Aug. 14. Reception is at 5 p.m. August 15. Pick up photos by August 23. Four age groups: pre-K and elementary; middle school; high school; adult. No prizes, just bragging rights. Proceeds benefit DeSoto Co. Library Assoc.
- The DeSoto County Extension Office has a FAWN weather station in DeSoto County, which updates every 15 minutes. Visit <http://fawn.ifas.ufl.edu/> for information.
- Addiction counseling — Narconon can help you take steps to overcome addiction in your family. Call today for free screenings or referrals. 800-431-1754.

1004 W. Oak St.

- Hour of Power Prayer time is held at noon at Freedom Fellowship Christian Ministries, 1528 N.E. Turner Ave.
- AA "Brown Bagger" meetings are offered every Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, 304 W. Oak St.
- The Arcadia Eagles, 150 S. Polk Ave., now offers Bingo from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday evenings.
- Alcoholics Anonymous Serenity-Big Book meets at 8 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, W. Oak St. (State Road 70).
- Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion at Trinity Methodist Church, 304 Oak Street.
- "Art for Kids" is at 3 p.m. every Wednesday in the DeSoto County Library's children's wing. This program, sponsored by the DeSoto County Arts and Humanities Council, is for elementary school-aged children.

THURSDAY

- Tail Waggers Dog Show will be held at the Turner Center July 31-Aug. 3.
- AA Second Tradition Anniversary Night is the last Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. at St. Edmund's Episcopal Church, 327 W. Hickory St. Potluck/barbeque before the meeting.
- AA Second Tradition Anniversary Night is the last Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at St. Edmund's Episcopal Church, 327 W. Hickory St. Open speaker.
- DeSoto County Historical Society Research Library is open in the Ingraham Seed House, 120 W. Whidden Street: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursdays (except for the second Thursday of the month), and by appointment.
- The John Morgan Ingraham House is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursdays, except the second Thursday, and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the second Saturday of the month.
- Relaxation Yoga Class every Thursday, 5 p.m.-5:15 p.m., registration and yoga tea; 5:15-6:15 p.m., yoga class. Come enjoy an hour of serenity focused on breathing, gentle yoga poses, peaceful stretching and quiet relaxation. Held in the Health Dept., conference room, 34 S. Baldwin Ave. Drop-in \$7/class, 8-class package \$40 (\$5 per class). Bring your own mat. For more information, call Christine at 244-1925.
- DeSoto County Library story time is at 3 p.m. at 125 N. Hillsborough Ave., Arcadia. Call 993-4851 for more information.
- Temple Beth El — North Port Jewish Center, 33840 South Biscayne Drive, North Port, hosts an American Contract Bridge League every Thursday, at 1 p.m. at the temple. The cost is \$6 per session. We will be participating in "The Common Game." For reservations call Shelli Wetherson at 941-497-7184.
- Cocaine Anonymous meetings are held every Thursday from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church. For information, call Curtis Clark at 244-2884 or Sandra Elmore at 352-476-8520.
- 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.

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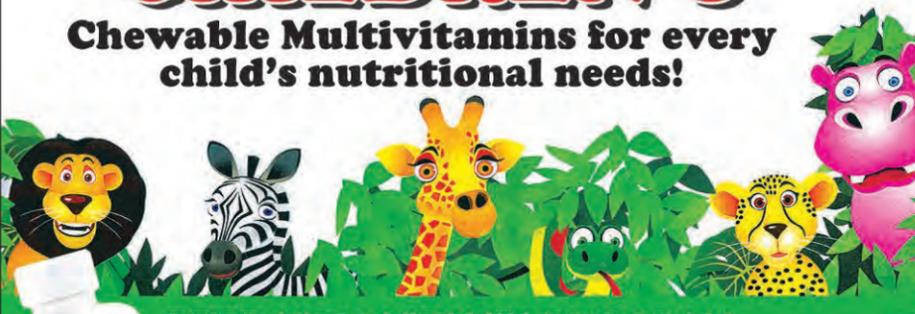
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Not valid with other offers. Parent must come in and sign each child up for a 30 day supply of chewable vitamins.

Pine Level history to be celebrated

By **KAREN SMOKE**

DESOTO CO. ARTS & HUMANITIES COUNCIL

It's not too early to start preparing for the past.

The DeSoto County Historical Society and the Florida Public Archaeology Network West Central Region will host the Pine Level Public Art and Archaeology Day on Oct. 18 to learn more about the community and the people who lived there between 1866 and 1888 and to celebrate its listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Pine Level, Florida was established in 1866 as the new county seat of old Manatee County (formed in 1855). By 1887 the little community grew and had a small commercial center, but because of its remote location it was destined to decline. When the county was divided in May 1887, Pine Level became the seat of the newly formed DeSoto County until Arcadia was chosen in November 1888.

In conjunction with the event, DeSoto Arts and Humanities Council is sponsoring a quilt challenge calling for reproduction quilts reminiscent of the 1866-1900 eras.

Quilters from all over are invited to participate. Proceeds from the challenge will go into a fund to establish a cultural center/museum/gallery in the town of Arcadia.

Quilters are asked to create 30 x 30 inch quilts using fabrics reminiscent of the 1866-1900 time periods. Quilts may be entered as a donation to the sponsoring organizations, or may be entered for exhibit only. Fee for donated quilts is \$5, fee for quilts for exhibition only is \$10, plus quilts submitted by mail to be returned must include return postage. All participants will receive a thank you



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE DESOTO COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S HOWARD AND VELMA MELTON HISTORICAL RESEARCH LIBRARY

Pine Level school with horses and wagons lined up in front.

letter and certificate of appreciation.

Quilts must be received by Oct. 1 and will be displayed at DeSoto County Public Library until the event. On Oct. 18, a sale of donated quilts will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Pine Level United Methodist Church, 9596 NW Pine Level Street, Arcadia. An historical artifact display, hands-on activities for all ages, door prizes and refreshments will also be available. The event is free and open to the public.

For details on the Pine Level Quilt Challenge, email Karen Smoke at desotoartscouncilinfo@gmail.com or call 863-703-0373 and leave a message. For background information on the community go to www.historicdesoto.org/PineLevel.html.



Pine Level school and church.

Habitat for Humanity dedicates another home



PHOTOS BY BRITTANY JARVIS

Rev. Jimmy Collins prays at the dedication of another Habitat home for Lori Belleza and her family. Families who receive a home through Habitat for Humanity must devote a considerable amount of time (their own or through friends) in "sweat equity" toward building the home.

County Commissioner Jim Selph congratulates Lori Belleza at the dedication of her new Macon Road home through Habitat for Humanity.





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Offer code: N200314ARQ

50474680

Lee's plea delayed — again

Former Arcadia Marshal Charles Junior Lee, who was expected to appear at a sentencing hearing today on charges of grand theft, will now have another month before his fate is announced.



LEE

Assistant State Attorney Daniel Yuter and defense attorney Joseph Viacava agreed to delay sentencing a month because Yuter had a scheduling conflict. Judge Kimberly Bonner's clerk confirmed Tuesday she signed an order postponing sentencing to 1:30 p.m. on Aug. 22 in DeSoto County.

Lee was charged with embezzling more than \$150,000 from the Arcadia Police Department over several years, in his capacity as marshal, along with charges of fraud and official misconduct. He resigned suddenly last year when the Florida Department of Law Enforcement initiated an in-depth investigation. Charges against him were filed in September.

At a hearing earlier this year, Lee told the court he was trying to get enough money together to repay what he had taken from the city. The state and city agreed that, if he repaid what he had taken, he would be sentenced to four years in prison with no probation afterward. However, if he did not repay all the money, he would be sentenced to eight years imprisonment followed by 22 years of probation.

Initially, Lee was to repay the money and be sentenced by June; however, he was unable to make the repayment by then, so the parties agreed to give him one more month to pay.

Deer killed at Environmental Lab

Four captive deer at the Environmental Learning Lab were reportedly killed last week by dogs, said site manager David McKean.

He discovered the deer Friday morning when he heard one of the deer bleating. He raced to the deer enclosure to find two large brown dogs, one of which was attacking the deer.

McKean said as he approached the pen, the dogs shimmied underneath the chain link fence to escape.

McKean found three of the deer already dead — the two bucks and a two-month-old fawn. The fourth, a doe, was struggling, and she was transported for treatment to a local veterinarian but died during surgery.

McKean reported the incident to

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.

DeSoto County's Animal Services, which began a neighborhood search for the possible culprits. One of the dogs is described as a large tan dog, possibly a Bull Mastiff or mastiff mix. The dog probably came home covered with blood and with cuts or scrapes from efforts to get into the pen. The other dog was large and brown.

If the dogs are located, they will be quarantined for 10 days to ensure they have no contagious disease, and thereafter would likely be released to their owners.

McKean said the oldest buck had been a resident there for at least seven years. The deer were living at ELL because they were unable to survive in the wild.

During Tuesday's School Board meeting, Board Member Bill Stanko said the dogs apparently got into the pen under the fence where the hard shell base around the fence had eroded over the years.

Anyone with information on this incident or about the dogs involved is asked to call Animal Services at 863-993-4855 or the DeSoto County Sheriff's Office at 863-993-4700.

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

- Tiffany Francis Barfuss, 28, 2300 block of S.E. Daniels, Arcadia. Charges: three counts of possession of a controlled substance without a prescription, trafficking in methamphetamine over 14 grams, possession of less than 20 grams of marijuana, two counts of possession or use of drug equipment, and out-of-county warrant. Bond: \$103,360.

- Chad Alan Cruz, 23, 5900 block of N.W. Pinehurst Drive, Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.

- Jessica Marie Drake, 24, 1400 block of S.W. Rude Ave., Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.

- Eugene James Hoffer III, 29, 1400 block of S.W. 2nd Ave., Arcadia. Charge: felony battery, second or subsequent offense. Bond: \$10,000.

- Alejandro Pineda Olvera, 25, 1100 block of S.W. Anita St., Arcadia. Charges: trafficking in methamphetamine over 14 grams, and two counts of possession or use of drug equipment. Bond: \$10,240.

- Shana Marie Rose, 26, 9900 block of S.W. Levsky Ave., Arcadia. Charge: child neglect without great harm. Bond: \$10,000.

- Arthur James Williams, 71, 300 block of Pine St., Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.

- Ciara Albertina Crenshaw, 29, St. Petersburg. Charges: giving false ID to law officer and driving while license is suspended, second offense. Bond: \$1,000.

- Makeesha Danyel McLaughlin, 33, Punta Gorda. Charge: out-of-county warrant. Bond: \$3,000.

- Chelsea Ann Povia, 18, 10700 block of S.W. County Road 761, Arcadia. Charge: battery. Bond: \$1,000.

- Karen Lorraine Rojas, 31, 3900 block of N.W. Crestwood St., Arcadia. Charge: out-of-county warrant. Bond: \$7,500.

- Joshua MacKenzie Sleeper, 25, 9500 block of S.W. Falcon, Arcadia. Charge: out-of-county warrant.

Bond: \$5,000.

- Nahshon James Smith, 36, Bradenton. Charge: driving while license is suspended, subsequent offense. Bond: \$500.

- Carl Anthony Stewart, 35, 300 block of N. 17th Ave., Arcadia. Charge: habitually driving while license is suspended. Bond: \$1,500.

- Stephen Francis Williams, 46, Garner Ave., Arcadia. Charge: out-of-county warrant. Purge: \$53,842.44.

- Rachel Lou Dickens, 47, 1100 block of E. Maple St., Arcadia. Charge: assault. Bond: none.

- Jason Charles Ross, 35, no address, Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.

- Mikeria Talitha Johnson, 25, 200 block of W. Myrtle St., Arcadia. Charge: contributing to the delinquency or dependency of a minor. Bond: \$500.

- Thomas Jonathan Dennis, 22, Burkesville, Ky. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.

- Brian Lee Loveall, 35, 1400 block of Ohio St., Arcadia. Charges: criminal mischief with property damage between \$200-\$1,000, indecent public exposure, and resisting an officer with violence. Bond: \$2,000.

- Shaylin Kristopher McKenzie, 22, 1100 block of N.W. Arcadia Ave., Arcadia. Charge: resisting an officer without violence. Bond: none.

- Evangelina McMillan, 40, 4500 block of N.W. County Road 661, Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.

- Lonnie Ray Nair, 47, 4600 block of S.W. U.S. Highway 17, Arcadia. Charge: assault. Bond: none.

- Brandon Lawrence Povia, 20, 10700 block of S.W. County Road 761, Arcadia. Charges: three counts each of unarmed burglary of an unoccupied dwelling and grand theft between \$300-\$5,000. Bond: \$25,500.

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

- Michael Neil Stein, 47, 10100 block of S.W. Levsky Ave., Arcadia.

Charge: petty theft between \$100-\$300. Bond: \$2,500.

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

- Shanell Dozier, 29, 300 block of N. Turner Road, Arcadia. Charge: violation of probation. Bond: none.

— Compiled by Susan E. Hoffman

ROADWATCH

East Oak Street from Brevard Avenue (US 17) to Volusia Avenue and Volusia Avenue from East Oak Street to East Magnolia Street (State Road 70 eastbound)

— Crews have closed the on-street parking on the south side of East Oak Street and the west side of Volusia Avenue up to the Chamber of Commerce. The closures are necessary as crews continue installing a new drainage system. This project includes resurfacing, reconstructing curb at the intersection of Volusia Avenue and Magnolia Street, repairing sidewalk and making them ADA compliant. Estimated completion is end of 2014. The contractor is Bun Construction Company.

U.S. Highway 17 from south of SW Collins Street in Fort Ogden to County Road 760A south of Nocatee — Work is under way to expand US 17 to four lanes. Work includes clearing land for two new travel lanes to the east of the existing US 17 travel lanes and drainage activities.

Expect intermittent northbound and southbound lane closures on US 17 between SW Wood Road and County Road 760A while crews are working. Motorists should be aware of work vehicles entering and exiting the roadway during the week. Motorists should also observe the posted speed limit and drive with caution. Expected project completion is end of 2015. The contractor is Ajax Paving.

US 17 between Flanders Street and Joshua Creek — Crews are working on driveways along the roadway. No lane closures are anticipated but motorists should be aware of trucks entering and exiting the highway.

DeSoto Sheriff hosts TASER training

By **LT. CURT MAYS**
DE SOTO CO. SHERIFF'S OFFICE

The DeSoto County Sheriff's Office hosted a course for law enforcement instructors from across the state on June 30 and July 1.

DeSoto's Training Officer, Deputy Cliff Brown, was instrumental in acquiring the training. Law enforcement representatives from agencies throughout the state attend the two-day course by TASER International, a company based in Scottsdale, AZ. The course provided instructors with the skills and knowledge to train officers who carry the Conductive Electrical Device.

TASER devices are a common tool used by law enforcement officers to apprehend aggressive, combative or violent offenders. The instructors were taught how to safely and effectively use the devices, minimizing risk of injury to officers and law violators.

Sheriff William Wise emphasized that hosting this course in Arcadia saved a significant amount of travel expenses and training dollars for his instructors. He added, "This training supports our local community by

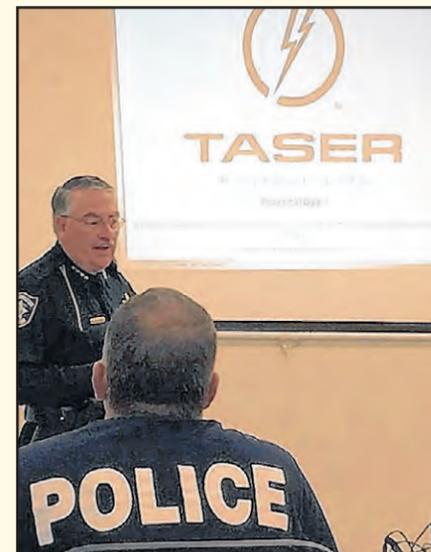


PHOTO PROVIDED

Sheriff Will Wise introduces the TASER training course offered to law enforcement agencies in Florida as well as DeSoto deputies.

bringing in guests who patronize our lodging and restaurant facilities."

Sheriff Wise hopes to offer more training like this in the future and says that it's a "win-win" for everyone.

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THIS WEEK IN DESOTO COUNTY

1974:

• Twenty-six cheerleaders for DeSoto County's three Red Raider football teams were picked for the coming grid season Saturday. The selection followed a week of tryouts. Junior Pee Wees (ages 8-9) will be Michelle Mansfield, Karen Lamb, Marty Jo Boyd, Cathy Adair, Vicky Muse, Alice McLeod, Laura Ann Mansfield, and Tammy Boggess.

• Pee Wee Cheerleaders (ages 10-11) will be Melanie Boggess, Penny Blakeman, Debbie Lamb, Debbie Blackmon, Jody Boyd, Lillie Tew, Susie Blackburn, and Sharla Mansfield. Midget Cheerleaders (age 12-13) will be Barbara Dees, Peggy Ann McLucas, Revae Mansfield, Shelly Blakeman, Tina Lamb, Terri Humphries, Elisha Lamb, Gail Hines and Andrea Martin. Sally McLucas and Pauline Lipe are sponsors.

• DeSoto County's Board of Commissioners gave Circuit Court clerk Delma Allen permission to buy microfilming making and viewing equipment for his office and the use of other county offices. Allen said the microfilmer was necessary because of the lack of storage space for the clerk's office records. The microfilming, he said, would save considerable space.

• No less than five DeSoto High County graduates posted perfect 4.0 averages at the University of South Florida for the Spring Quarter. The local scholars were Virginia A. Fablinger, Nancy L. York, Susan A. Barnes, Robert W. Heine Jr., and John W. Collins.

1979:

• Mr. and Mrs. Reed and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reed of Reed's Jewelry attended the South East Jewelers Conference in Kuai-Honolulu, Hawaii. Around 75 people attended and learned about coral, jade, and pearls. "We had a tremendous time when we were learning and also when we had free time to do as pleased," said Mrs. Reed.

• Just because it's summertime and school's out doesn't mean some projects are going unfinished. Giving up more leisurely activities to renovate the historical bandstand recently moved from Lake Katherine to the DeSoto County Courthouse were Danny Newsome, Mona DeLoach, Harvey Sweeting, John Lipe and agricultural teacher, Jerry Southwell. Renovating the bandstand,



Compiled from
back issues of
The Arcadian

Hayley Mercer

haylemariemercer@gmail.com

they said, is a little something extra they're doing as a worthwhile civic project.

• To The Editor: I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Jack Starnes for saving my life. On a river trip Sunday afternoon, our boat hit a hidden log. I was thrown under the boat and hit by the propeller. Seeing that I was knocked unconscious, Jack drug me up to the shore, thus saving me from probably drowning. On behalf of my Mother, Father, Sisters and friends, thanks a lot, Jack. You are a wonderful friend. Sincerely, Sam McLeod.

• In this week's Arcadian, special historical writer Howard Melton discusses this local history preserved on post cards. Mr. Melton shows a souvenir folder mailed in 1918 in which Arcadia is described as "the aviation city."



FROM THE ARCADIAN (1979)

Howard Melton shows off a strip of postcards featuring Arcadia.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

New laws provide tax breaks

New tax laws were passed by the state legislature this year that will benefit Florida residents.

First is a special back-to-school break from Aug. 1-3 when the following are sales-tax-exempt:

- clothing, footwear, wallets and bags that cost \$100 or less
- school supplies costing \$15 or less
- the first \$750 for personal computers and accessories purchased for non-commercial home or personal use, including tablets, laptops, monitors, input devices, and nonrecreational software.

Energy efficient products bought between Sept. 19-21 may qualify for a sales tax exemption, for the first \$1,500 of the sales price for ENERGY STAR or WaterSense products.

Also reduced to 2009 levels are annual registration fees for motor vehicles, mobile homes and vessels. Savings can range from \$13.55 to \$25.05 for autos and trucks in the higher weight categories. Additional fee reductions include:

- The Florida Real Time Vehicle Information System service fee is reduced by 75 cents;

- The general revenue registration service fee is reduced by \$2.50;
- The registration receipt/decal fee is reduced by \$2;
- The materials processing/retroreflective fee is reduced by \$1;
- Two license tax surcharges are reduced by \$2.80 and \$4.50.

July 31 deadline for crop insurance

The USDA's Risk Management Agency reminds farmers of the July 31 sales closing date for crop insurance in Florida. This sales closing date applies to crop insurance policies for Fresh Market Tomato and Fresh Market Sweet Corn in De Soto and other counties.

The sales closing date is the last day to buy a new policy or change an existing policy's coverage level.

Crop insurance is sold and delivered solely through private crop insurance agents. Contact a local crop insurance agent for more information about the program. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers and on the RMA website at www.rma.usda.gov/tools/agents/.

DeSoto Church Directory

... And Make Your Choice from our Church Directory

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Celebrative Worship
Challenging Bible Study
Connection With People
Traditional Praise
8:30 -9:30 AM
Sunday School/Life Groups
9:45 AM - 10:45 AM
Contemporary Praise
11:00 AM - Noon
863-494-4345
www.cbcarcadia.org

First Baptist Church of Arcadia
1006 N. Brevard Ave.
Loving God, Connecting with People, Expanding His Kingdom
9:30 - Sunday School
10:45 - Morning Worship
6:00 - Evening Worship
Wednesdays 6:00
AWANA & YOUTH
863-494-3622
www.firstbaptistarcadia.com

First Christian Church of Arcadia
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(863) 558-0982
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Sunday Eve. &
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11:00am Traditional Worship
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6923 SW River St.
863.494.3881
Sunday School 9:00am
Sunday - Worship 10:00am
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Mondays - A.A. & Al-Anon 7:30pm
Wednesday - K-12 Ministry 5:30pm
& Bible Study - 6:30pm

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Interim Pastor
Adult Sunday School
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2865 SW Co. Rd 661
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Sunday Prayer Time 9:20am
Sunday School/Bible Study 9:45am
Morning Worship 11:00am
Evening Worship 6:00pm
Wed. Fellowship Meal 5:45pm
Prayer Meeting 6:30pm
West on SR 70, left on SR 72,
left on CR 661, 3.5 miles on right
Office Phone: (863) 494-0307

Nocatee United Methodist Church
Spanish - English Class
Tuesday - Friday
7am- Noon
May 7th - June 5th
info
863-494-3881

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
Pastor Dr. Howell Upchurch
Sunday School 9:30 am
Sunday Worship 10:45 am
and 6:00 pm
Wednesday 6:30 pm
for Prayer Group,
Youth & Children

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10am Sunday School
11am Contemporary Service
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(70 W at Manatee)
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Nursery Available
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May the Lord fill your heart with love.

A time to remember

Memory triggers transport us back in time: an old song, a familiar voice on the phone, going home, driving by a hometown school, revisiting a church attended in our youth. These are only a few moving memory motivators that are likely to return us to nostalgic days of yesteryear.

The Psalmist declared that we are "fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:14) and our ability to remember may be one of the clearest evidences of the accuracy of his conclusion. Memory provides an ever growing mental file of information that leads to inventions and technological breakthroughs that keep astounding each succeeding generation. It is also the fountain from which family and national history flows, causing us to relive pleasant times with loved ones, the feelings of sadness over those who gave their lives in the cause of freedom and the joyous news of battles ending



Roger Campbell

so military heroes can come home in victory and peace.

The miracle of memory enables us to relive special times of commitment. Abraham Lincoln said the memory of promises he had made to his mother when very young equipped him to become President. Others remember similar commitments to parents no longer living that deepen their resolve to keep their word during this time to remember.

Some noted people have had special places to which they have returned to remember past blessings and refresh

their faith. Jacob, the patriarch, returned to Bethel, a place where he had met God in a special way and made promises to him.

John Wesley, whose father, Samuel, was a minister, once wrote about preaching a sermon from his father's gravestone while an angry crowd bloodied his face with stones and other flying objects. The memory of his father's faithfulness so motivated John that, he said later, he just wiped away the blood and kept on preaching.

A church once known for its good work, faithful service to God and patience during tough times fell into decline. Services became mechanical and love was lacking. During this discouraging period, the congregation was told to remember how good things had been in the past, to change directions and get back to basics. Memory was to be the means of bringing this dying church back to life: the members were to return to their former love for God

and each other (Revelation 2:4-5). What good advice for many churches today!

While memory moves some to return to productive faith-filled living, it drives others to despair. Memory can be a wonderful friend or a destructive enemy, helping some and haunting others. What can we do about memories that take away the joy of living?

I suggest a frequent visit to Psalm 103 to focus on its announcement of total forgiveness for past failures. Summing up the freedom he had found, the Psalmist wrote, "As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us."

No cosmic computer holds any record against those who've responded in faith to the offer of full forgiveness through God's amazing grace.

Don't forget it!

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

Do bad things really happen in threes?

There is an old expression that says everything bad happens in threes. I don't know if there is a basis in fact for this saying, but I do know that since my last column, I have been made aware of three scams or frauds of which you should be aware. Interestingly, these are not entirely new ones, but older ones that have reappeared, new and "improved," at least from the criminal's point of view.

The first is an advisory alerting



C.A.S.E. Manager

DeSoto County Sheriff's Office



Phyllis Schwartz

motorists to be cautious if approached, either by an individual or through a

flyer left on the vehicle's windshield, warning that the windshield is damaged. An offer is made to repair it for free. All the owner need do is provide insurance information and the "repairer" will do the rest.

If the repairer is at all able to do such repairs, his tools, parts, products or techniques will most probably not be up to the industry standards of companies specializing in these kinds of repairs. What these criminals really want is your insurance information with which they will file claims against your policy. They may even continue to file additional claims against your auto policy without your knowledge.

If you are approached by any means with any similar scare tactics, just refuse the offer. If, in fact, you suspect a damaged windshield that could prove dangerous, take the vehicle to a reputable glass repair/replacement company and get their opinion.

The next scam involves people who already own home security systems being contacted and told that the company providing the service has gone out of business and the individual/criminal with whom they are now in contact has assumed the business.

This situation is fraudulent for several reasons. The original service provider is not out of business. The criminal offers to upgrade equipment and services, for an additional monthly charge. The homeowner does not require the upgrades, but is frightened by the scare tactics the salesperson uses, so agrees to them. The enticement for the upgrades is that the installation of equipment will be free. The problem for the homeowner is that he must sign a contract for long term service, often longer than an elderly homeowner may even be alive, and the homeowner must agree to have the monthly payments debited automatically from a checking account.

If you already have a home security system and are contacted by someone with the previously described story, decline the offer, contact your current

service provider to determine their business status and report the circumstances to Sheriff Wise's office.

The last scam is one I have warned of before, but since it has occurred again recently in a neighboring county, I am once again sharing it with you. In the Sheriff's Office, we say a scam may not have happened yet in DeSoto County, but if it has happened close by, it can easily move into our midst.

In this case, individuals posing as officers of the Sheriff's Office telephoned residents claiming they ignored a jury duty summons. Unless they paid an enormous fine by the end of the day, they would be arrested. They were instructed to purchase a money card at a local store and provide their officer with the serial number on the back as payment for the fine.

Not only were the callers intimidating and threatening, they bolstered their impression of authenticity by providing a local call-back number. When called, a voicemail message answered with the supposed name and rank of the officer and his affiliation with that county's Sheriff's department.

Should you ever receive such a phone call, hang up immediately. You can then always call the Office of the DeSoto County Court at 863-993-4876 to determine your jury duty status. You can always ascertain whether an individual is an authorized member of the Sheriff's Office by calling 863-993-4700 and explaining the reason for your inquiry. The County Court does not call residents regarding jury duty and the Sheriff's Office does not, ever, phone asking for money or threatening arrest for failure to pay.

The Communities Against Senior Exploitation Program is a partnership between the community and the DeSoto County Sheriff's Office to protect the financial resources of all our residents. To report any suspicious activity related to a scam or fraud or to learn more about the CASE program, call Sheriff Wise or Lt. Curt Mays; they will be happy to help you.



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Remembering Charley

STAFF REPORT

For those who lived through Hurricane Charley in 2004, it may be hard to believe we are approaching the 10-year anniversary of that terrifying day. Yet for some, it may seem almost like yesterday.

You can still see signs of the damage the storm caused in Arcadia. Although the blue tarps and FEMA trailers are gone for the most part, there are still tattered homes and buildings, empty buildings and treeless lots where Charley's power pummeled DeSoto County.

The Arcadian is preparing a special section, "Remembering Charley," to be inserted with the August 7, 2014 issue. Anyone with remembrances, photos, essays, stories or anecdotes to share can get them to The Arcadian by Friday,

August 1. You can email your photos and writing to shoffman@sun-herald.com; or bring printed photos in to the office for us to scan. We'll use as many as we can in our special section, where everyone can share their memories.

Businesses and organizations wishing to place an ad may do so by Wed., July 30. Call Tami Jewell at 863-494-2434.

Mac Martin and the DeSoto Arts and Humanities Council will hold a special Charley Retrospective Exhibit, opening on Aug. 14 at Martin Realty, 207 E. Magnolia St., Arcadia. Martin is looking for photos, artwork, and even artifacts, along with poetry, essays and other writings. A reception will be held starting at 5 p.m. at Martin Realty, and writers will have a chance to read their work to guests. To arrange to bring your items and share your memories, call Martin at 863-494-2100.



ARCADIAN FILE PHOTO

The crumpled Arcadia water tower out by Baldwin Ave. in Arcadia symbolized, in a way, the destruction the entire county felt on that fateful day, Aug. 13, 2004, when Hurricane Charley came to town.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEF

Nominations for 2014 Woman of the Year in Ag Award

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services wants your nominations for the 2014 Woman of the Year in Agriculture Award.

Since 1985, this award has recognized 30 women who have made a significant contribution to Florida agriculture. Recipients of the Woman of the Year in Agriculture award have come from all parts of the industry, including cattle, vegetables, timber, citrus, row crops, equine, horticulture, tropical fruits, sugar cane, dairy, agricultural journalism and agricultural education and

outreach.

The 2013 Woman of the Year in Agriculture, Lynetta Usher Griner, was recognized for her contributions to forestry, environmental stewardship and wildlife conservation. Griner was the first female elected as president of the Florida Forestry Association.

Nominees for the award must be at least 25 years of age, be active in the agriculture industry and have resided in the state of Florida for the past 10 consecutive years. In addition, she must serve her community in some professional or civic capacity and have made some unique or outstanding contribution to the agriculture industry.

The deadline to submit nominations for the 2014 Woman of the Year in Agriculture Award is August 15. The recipient will be honored at next year's Florida State Fair in Tampa.

For more information about the program or to download the 2014 nomination application, visit <http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Marketing-and-Development/Agriculture-Industry/Agricultural-Awards-and-Honors/Woman-of-the-Year-in-Agriculture-Award>.

For more information about the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, visit www.FreshFromFlorida.com.

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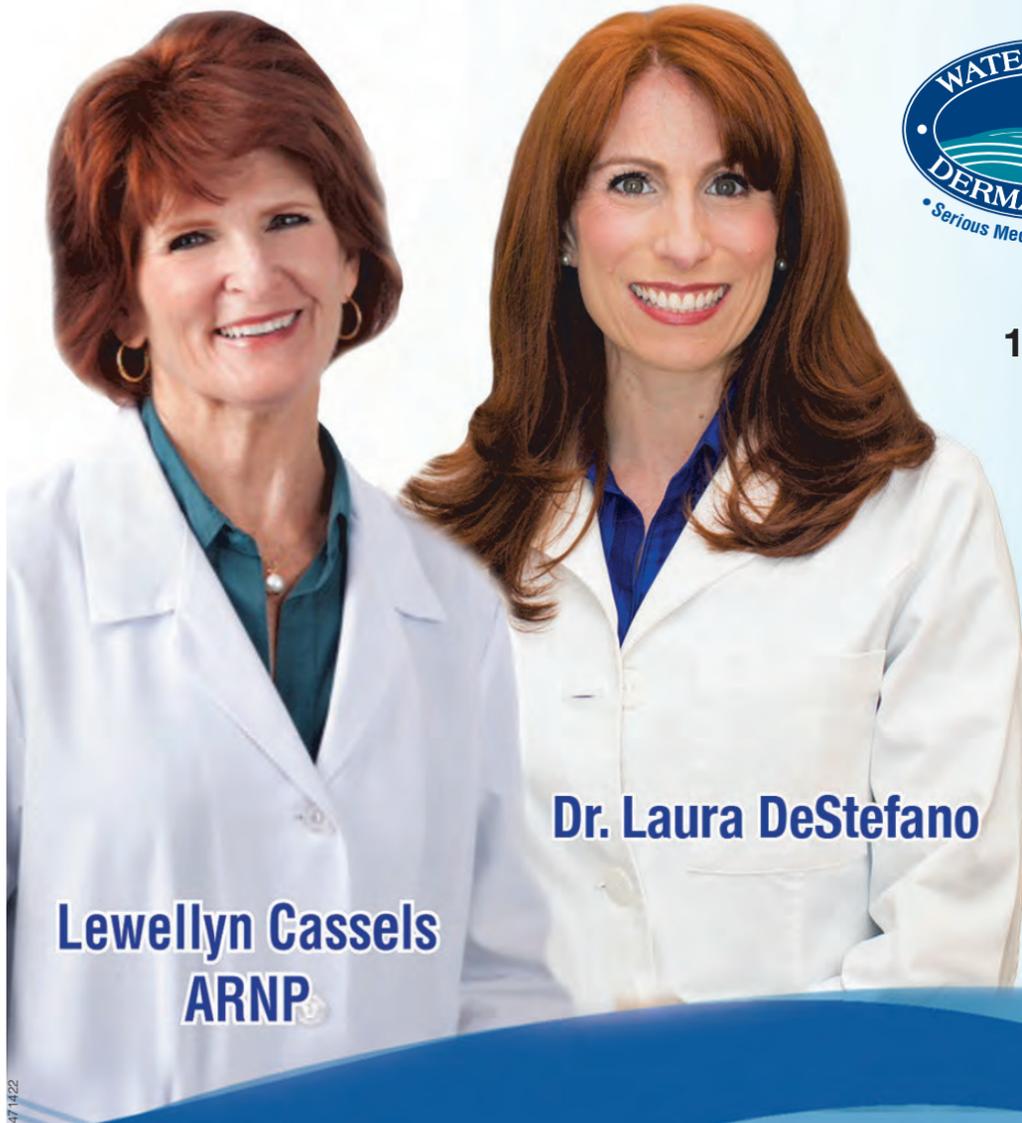


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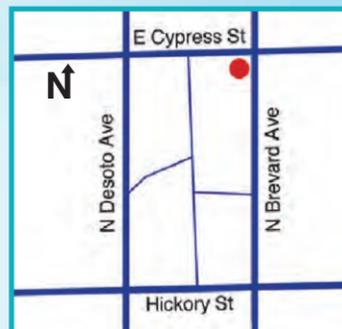


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Smith Brown Gym group seeks funding

By **SUSAN E. HOFFMAN**
ARCADIAN EDITOR

State Rep. Ben Albritton toured the Smith Brown Gym Thursday with members of the Smith Brown Community Foundation. Albritton and District Secretary Karen Whaley were invited by Ashley Coone to tour the gym property and learn what the Foundation hopes to do with the facility. Coone is on the Smith Brown Community Foundation Board and Chair of the Smith Brown Gym Renovation Steering Committee.

Begun by "Coach" Richard Bowers and Bill Hackney in 1998, the Foundation created the Smith Brown Gym Renovation Steering Committee to remodel the gym and related facilities for the community to use.

Meeting in one of the Redlands Christian Migrant Association classrooms, with the grownups sitting in little-kid chairs, Albritton heard details of the group's vision for the site.

Bowers told how it was once the center of the community, and statewide tournaments used to be held at Smith Brown Gym. Bowers now tutors children at the gym, but has visions that it could offer so much more to the community.

Coone said there is a need for programs for youth in the community it would serve, "anything from Boys and Girls Club to local programming such as Links2Success.

"In this area, 80 percent do not have a high school diploma. Unemployment is over 30 percent, and food stamp use is over 40 percent," Coone said. "These students need our help."

Alan Johnson of the DeSoto County Health Department said the gym has "great bones" but needs updating and renovations. They need to add security, fire alarms, new windows and doors, update the electrical system for Internet technology and install air conditioning.

Adrian Cline, on behalf of the group, said, "When I grew up here we had a lot of things to do — we had a theater, a bowling alley. There used to be



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

From left, Jaccarie Simons, Ashley Coone, Justin Carter, Alan Johnson and Rep. Ben Albritton inspect the Smith Brown Gym to see what might need to be replaced.

a youth center by the Chamber of Commerce." The community lacks those things today, and needs some place where young people can hang out and socialize — "maybe like a coffee shop," he said. In his youth, he said "we had a front-porch mentality. If you did something bad, your mother would know long before you got home, because the mother sitting on their front porches would relay the information instantly."

Now, though, people don't socialize as they used to, and youth have very few options for socializing. A renovated gym could offer a place for children to play, have plays and parties, get tutoring, relax and have fun.

Seeking the funding

The cost to build a structure like this brand new is estimated at \$2 million, he said, whereas this could be renovated for half that amount.

Coone told Albritton she hoped, as our State Representative, he could help get the funding they need to make this dream come true.

Albritton said he would first look into what area of

appropriations this might come under. "You've got a wonderful group of people talking about how to craft a better future," he said, and he is enthusiastic about supporting the efforts.

He suggested they also involve State Senator Bill Galvano, because they will need support in both chambers to get funding legislation passed. He added it would be helpful to be as near shovel-ready as possible so when funding comes though, they will be ready to get to work at once.

"The city has supported us all along the way," Coone told him. The city owns the building, and the Foundation would lease it. "We have a Memorandum of Understanding with the city; the press has covered it; and we have a licensed contractor working with us," along with an architect and engineer volunteering with the group. "And we have some very energetic people who want this to succeed."

Albritton said he is eager to help. "These things are always a struggle but I'm willing to fight."

The project would include the main gymnasium building, as well as a smaller building

Foundation at 128 W. Oak St. The steering committee can be reached at smithbrown-foundation@yahoo.com or 863-990-0527.

A barbecue fundraiser is also being planned for August 9 at Veterans Park. Four teams of grillers agreed to a barbecue cook-off to find out who would get bragging rights, including the ABC BBQ team fielded by Ronny Allen and Steve Boggess. Starting at 11 a.m., for only \$5, you will have a choice of either barbecue ribs with beans or barbecue chicken with beans. Judging is at 12:30 to pick the winning team. The event will honor Coach Richard Bowers.

All the food and supplies have been donated, so your purchase will go directly to the Smith Brown Gym renovation project. If you wish to make a donation, make checks payable to the Walt Brewer Foundation with "Smith Brown Foundation" noted in the memo line, and mail to 128 W. Oak St., Arcadia.

For more information, call Ronny Allen at 863-244-7906 or Steve Boggess at 941-628-5871.

behind formerly used for industrial arts. Donations can be mailed to The Smith Brown Community



Ashley Coone shows Rep. Ben Albritton and Justin Carter how the Smith Brown Gym property is connected closely to Louis Anderson Park.



Ashley Coone explains her vision for a much-needed community center at the Smith Brown Gym.



Sitting in the tiny chair at the Redlands Christian Migrant Association classroom, State Rep. Ben Albritton listens to Foundation members explain the planned renovations for the Smith Brown Gym.



Alan Johnson, far left, Adrian Cline and Justin Carter listen to Coach Richard Bowers explain the need for a center where young people can hang out and socialize.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY JACKIE TUCKER

Co-chairman Jackie Tucker, left, and Moose Administrator Carl Gause present the Grand Champion award to Julie Payne and Fire James of the Open Road Bar & Grill.



Winners for Best Horse Units are the All Florida Saddle Club, accepted by Lelani Dorfman, and the DeSoto County Sheriff's Posse, accepted by Ricky McDonald, pictured with Jackie Tucker, parade co-chairman, left, and Carl Gause of the Moose, right. Not pictured are the Florida Cracker Trail Riders.

July 4 parade winners named

SUBMITTED BY **JACKIE TUCKER**
PARADE CO-CHAIRMAN

This year's Independence Day Parade drew many participants with great spirit and a true display of patriotism. The parade was sponsored by the Arcadia Moose this year.

Parade Co-chairmen Jackie Tucker and Ronald Neads thank all the volunteers who helped with the event: Mary Lyne, announcer; Ed Lyne, line-up chairman; Steve Fleming, line-up assistant; and the members of the Arcadia Moose Lodge.

Winners received trophies and bragging rights.



The Most Spirited Award went to the City of Arcadia, being accepted by Marshal Matt Anderson and others. The Most Patriotic Award was given to the DeSoto County School District, accepted by Superintendent Karyn Gary (not pictured).



Jackie Tucker, co-chairman, left, and Carl Gause of the Moose, right, present parade awards to Brett Swallow of the ARC Angels Flag Team for Best Adult Marching Unit; Dotty Bertholf of Personal Ponies for Best Youth Unit; and Anastasia Wilson and McKenna Shatney of the Arcadia Rangerettes for Best Youth Marching Unit.



Awards were presented to, from left: Junior Miss DeSoto County Cassidy Furr for Best non-Profit Float; Susie Coker, tied for Best Commercial Float; Chris Stephens for Best Decorated Vehicle; and Maria Moreno, tied for Best Commercial Float.



The All-Florida Saddle Club took top honors for Best Horse Unit. Accepting the award are Laura Finley, Tara Finley and Kyole Bogart. Brian Burns won Best Decorated Vehicle, and the Open Road, represented by Rick Young, won for Best Commercial Float. With the winners are Mary Lyne, Peter Nicholas, Buddy Mansfield and Jackie Tucker.



Jackie Tucker, left, and Carl Gause, right, present trophies to Tara Finley for Best Youth Rider, and to Angelina Parrish and Reanna Miller for Best Decorated Horses.

DeSoto SPORTS EXTRA

The Sun / Thursday, July 24, 2014

www.sunnewspapers.net Arcadian | Page 14

Comeback keeps Nocatee Baptist winless

By STEVE KNAPP

ARCADIAN SPORTS WRITER

Nocatee Baptist Church coach Jake Safford said in a pregame statement, "We're not a bad team, we just can't play a complete game. We will either start out strong and die at the end or start slow and have to come back late in the game."

In last week's 18-13 loss to Clarke Pest Control in the DeSoto County Adult Athletic Association softball game, NBC started strong and led all of the way until a 7-run uprising in the bottom of the sixth inning gave Clarke their first lead in the game.

Taking a first inning lead on a Shane Lowe's two-run homer, NBC built on that as Lowe had a bases-loaded single to drive in two more in the second. Clarke kept within striking distance but never could catch up



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY STEVE KNAPP, sbigdaddyknapp@aol.com

Jenna Roberts drills a base hit to left for Nocatee Baptist Church in their loss to Clarke Pest Control.

to NBC until the bottom of the sixth inning.

Trailing 12-11, the inning started with Courtney Bonville ending up on third base after her easy one-hopper back to the mound was thrown into right field by losing pitcher Garret Foster.



The 2014 Clarke Pest Control team in the DeSoto County Adult Athletic Association softball league. Players include Courtney Bonville, Karen Boatright, Robert Miller, Chris and Kandice Browning, Kyle Altman, Jamar Jones, Taylor and Logan Browning, Bryan Sands and Brad Roberts.

Bonville scored the tying run and Jamar Jones put the game away with a three-run inside-the-park homer.

League action continues tonight at 7:30 p.m.



Members of the Nocatee Baptist Church co-ed team includes Jobie Bates, Jenna Roberts, Shane and Heather Lowe, Jake and Heather Safford, Candice Jacobson, Josh Safford, Austin Lambricht, Travis Canfield, Dillon White and Garret Foster.



Clarke Pest Control's keystone combination of Bryan Sands and Kandice Browning complete the front half of a double play in the 18-13 win over Nocatee Baptist Church.



Courtney Bonville is safe at first in the sixth inning as first baseman Travis Canfield watches a wild throw sail past him into the right field corner. Bonville went all the way to third base and scored the tying run in the seven-run rally that gave Clarke Pest Control an 18-13 win.



Jamar Jones hustles to beat the throw to Nocatee Baptist first baseman Jobie Bates in the fourth inning. Jones' three-run homer in the bottom of the sixth inning helped Clarke Pest Control to an 18-13 win.

Tobacco Free Partnership of DeSoto County

Would like to congratulate the Arcadia Housing Authority ongoing smoke-free indoors!

On July 1, 2014 the Arcadia Housing Authority (AHA) implemented a policy to ban smoking inside of all AHA units and buildings. This policy also bans smoking within 10 feet of any entry way on all AHA properties.

If you reside in an AHA unit and wish to quit smoking, then you should take advantage of the FREE services offered by Tobacco Free Florida.

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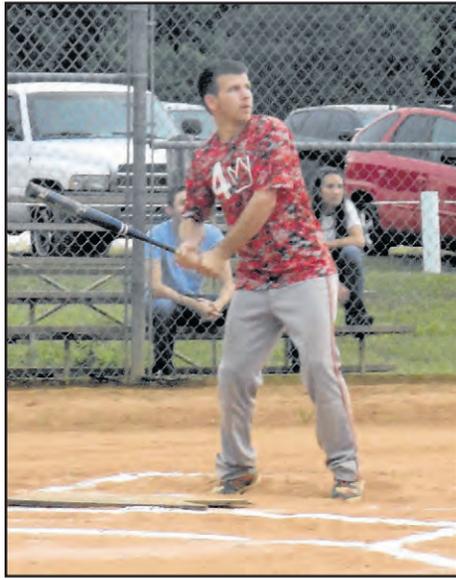
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Pop & Twist outguns 4 Queens



PHOTOS BY STEVEN JEWELL
A Pop & Twist player digs in before swinging in game action against 4 Queens.



4 Queens' Weldon Campell prepares to swing during recent game action. His team fell to Pop & Twist 18-10.



Pop & Twist's Brandon Bierman takes aim at a pitch during his team's game against 4 Queens. Pop & Twist won the game 18-10.



Hayden Lipe stays alert while covering first base for her team. Pop & Twist defeated 4 Queens 18-10 in recent play.



Pop & Twist's pitcher kept the 4 Queens hitters at bay in his team's 18-10 victory in recent game action.



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485348

Local grapplers win medals in Orlando

By **WARREN MARINO III**

FUSCO FULL CIRCLE ACADEMY

The North American Grappling Association held its U.S. Open in Orlando on July 12. The association has more than 200,000 participants worldwide and is considered the ultimate submission grappling tournament. Fusco Full Circle Academy sent two students to compete in this national event.

Tanya Downs, a mother of two, secured a third place medal in the women's masters division. Downs has had many accomplishments at the academy including losing 90 pounds, becoming a cage fitness instructor, and now a NAGA medalist. "Now I know what to expect and where I need to refocus my training — Lakeland, here I come," Downs said.

Glen Mayfield Jr., a black belt and soon to be freshman at DeSoto County High, earned a second place in the teens (14-15) division. This was



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Tanya Downs won third place in a national grappling competition in Orlando this month.

his first time competing in a national level tournament, and he showed great grit and skill.

"I can't wait for the next one in Lakeland. I will be ready," Mayfield said.



Glen Mayfield Jr. won second place at a national grappling tournament in Orlando.

Fusco Full Circle Academy has year-round classes for ages 4 and up and is a licensed

Cage Fitness facility. Visit www.fuscofullcircle.com or call 863-491-5425 to learn more.

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, you have had little luck regarding relationships of late. Rather than focus on what hasn't gone your way, change your perspective and focus on the good things.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, you can be pretty stubborn when it comes to something that matters dearly to you. No matter your feelings, try to behave in a diplomatic manner.

GEMINI - May 22/June 21

Gemini, be a shoulder to cry on for a beloved friend or family member this week. Everything will ultimately work out for the best, but your loved one needs support this week.

CANCER - June 22/July 22

Be mindful of what you say and do this week, Cancer. Your head may be telling you to speak up, but your heart is telling you to stay quiet for a little while longer.

LEO - July 23/Aug 23

Leo, enjoy the noisiness around you this week. This extra hop in your step is refreshing and encourages you to make some bold moves that will pay off in the long run.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, address an issue with a clear head this week. Your advice has been solicited, and you know how to help, but some subtlety is a good thing in this situation.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, adopt an analytical approach to solve a puzzling situation at work this week. This way of looking at things is just what you need to find the right solution.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Your imagination is ready to run wild this week, Scorpio. Enjoy this burst of creative energy and put it to good use. Encourage others to participate as well.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

Your mind is racing a mile a minute this week, Sagittarius. Things may be progressing so fast you can't



even finish one idea before moving on to the next one.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, express yourself when asked for your honest opinion this week. Keeping things close to the vest is not what people want to see, so don't hesitate to offer your insight.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Trust your intuition in a sticky situation, Aquarius. Panicking will only make the situation more complicated, so allow your instincts to take over.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

The time has come for you to make your move, Pisces. You're fully capable of making this transition and more than ready to do so.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

JULY 20

Omar Epps, Actor (41)

JULY 21

Robin Williams, Actor (63)

JULY 22

Don Henley, Singer (67)

JULY 23

Stephanie Seymour, Model (46)

JULY 24

Kristin Chenoweth, Actress (46)

JULY 25

Geoffrey Zakarian, Chef (55)

JULY 26

Sandra Bullock, Actress (50)

SUDOKU

				1				9
			3					
5		7						
7	1							
9	3	4			8			1
							6	
	9				6		2	
		3	7	4			5	
			1					

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

4	7	5	1	8	2	9	3	6
6	2	3	7	4	9	1	5	8
8	9	1	5	3	6	4	2	7
2	5	8	9	1	7	3	6	4
9	3	4	6	5	8	2	7	1
7	1	6	4	2	3	8	9	5
5	8	7	2	9	4	6	1	3
1	4	9	3	6	5	7	8	2
3	6	2	8	7	1	5	4	9

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Guess Who?

I am an actress and animal activist born on July 24, 1998 in Australia. I have been in the spotlight most of my life, as I grew up on TV with my famous "crocodile hunter" dad.

Answer: *Birdi Irwin*

WORD SCRAMBLE

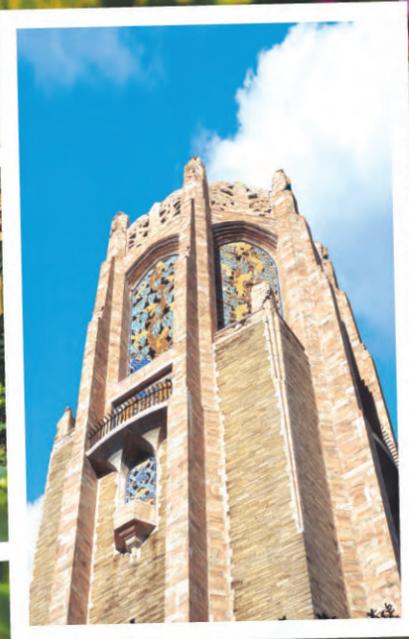
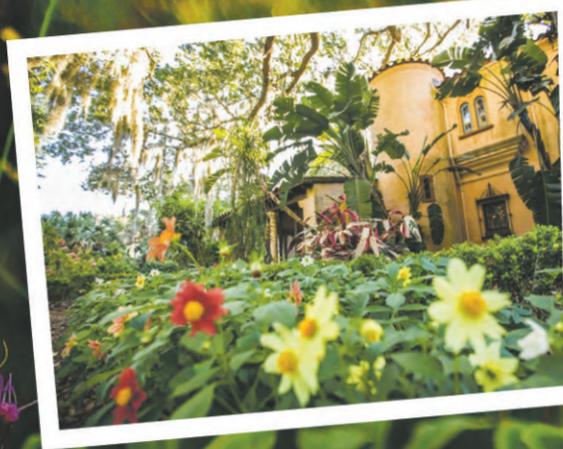
Rearrange the letters in the word to spell something pertaining to vacations.

HELOT

□ □ □ □ □

Answer: *Hotel*

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Sandspurs, sticktights and beggarticks

Plants have developed many different methods of disbursing seeds, from flossy strands that travel on the slightest of breezes to being able to survive the digestive tracts of the creatures that eat the fleshy berry or drupe that encloses the seeds. One of the most interesting methods of seed dispersal is hitchhiking on unsuspecting hosts to carry the seeds to new destinations. Just as we depend on plants for survival, some plants depend on other creatures to help distribute their seeds. Special attachment mechanisms allow seeds to adhere to the fur of animals or man's clothing.

An encounter with sandspurs is an unforgettable experience. This weedy grass thrives in sandy, poorly nourished soils. Sandspur seeds actually grow better in poor soils where nitrogen fertilizer is low. Although sandspurs grow in the same spot year after year, they are an annual plant — which means they take one growing season to germinate and produce seed for the next season. Seeds germinate in spring, and by the end of summer produce several seed heads. It is a thick-bladed grass that blends in with other grasses until we begin to notice the sandspurs in midsummer.

The seed capsule is armed with numerous barbed hooks that cling to clothing or animal fur. When you try to pull sandspurs off, they just embed



Over the Garden Gate

Al & Karen Smoke

aandksmoke@gmail.com

in your fingers. The trick to removing sandspurs is to wet your fingers first — then the barbs won't stick.

One way to manage sandspurs is to encourage the growth of better grasses by mowing, fertilizing and watering appropriately. In areas where sandspurs have been a problem, once growth begins in spring, spot-spray with Roundup before seedheads develop. Or use a pre-emergent herbicide labeled for use on your kind of turf grass before growth starts in spring — followed by improving the soil and irrigating.

Spanish needles is a native plant that thrives in our area. Although it has "sticktight" seeds, it is worth tolerating because the dainty white blooms with



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY AL SMOKE

Spanish needles is a native plant that thrives in our area. Although it has "sticktight" seeds, it is worth tolerating because the dainty white blooms with typically 5 petals and yellow centers attract bees, butterflies and other pollinators. This plant may be found blooming nearly all year round, making it a good mainstay for a native plant area.

typically five petals and yellow centers attract bees, butterflies and other pollinators. This plant may be found blooming nearly all year round, making it a good mainstay for a native plant area.

The stick-tight seeds develop from separate rayless flowers. The seed head has numerous one-seeded fruits called achenes with two to four stiff, slender bristles bearing tiny, sharp, backward-pointing spines. The seeds are eaten by birds and small mammals. Allow it in out of the way areas where it won't get out of hand. With its deep root system it is very drought tolerant and needs no fertilizer.

Coreopsis, our state wildflower, is also known as tickseed because it too has seeds that attach with barbs. It is an excellent choice for the foundation of a wildflower meadow, and does best in full sun. Like other natives, its water and nutrient needs are low. A source for coreopsis seed and other native wildflower seed is www.floridawildflowers.com.

The ubiquitous Caesar weed is an invasive non-native. This member of the mallow family has delicate 3/4-inch pink blooms in the leaf axils that look like miniature hibiscus blossoms. The blooms quickly develop into five-lobed seed capsules, each lobe covered by barbs that cling to animal fur and clothing. Caesar weed thrives in disturbed soil — so pulling it up actually encourages dormant seeds to germinate. We had nearly rid our property of Caesar weed by diligently mowing this invasive before it set seed. After Hurricane Charley new patches

sprang up wherever the soil was disturbed by roots of fallen trees.

In areas where mowing is difficult, cut stems of mature plants at ground level before seeds mature and dispose of the entire plant. Treat area with herbicide. Hand pulling may be effective if you are diligent to remove each generation of plants before they mature; eventually seeds in the soil will be eliminated.

More than 20 species of beggarweed or beggar ticks (*Desmodium*) occur in Florida. Most have trifoliate leaves that are hairy or rough on one or both surfaces. Some are vining and sprawling while others have an upright growth habit. Small pea-like purple flowers are followed by a jointed seedpod called a loment. The seedpods, leaves and stems of most species all have hairs that cling to clothing and animal fur. Seeds readily separate into roughly triangular shaped seeds when you try to remove them.

And of course, we would not have Velcro if a Swiss inventor had not noticed how the small hooks seeds use to attach themselves engaged the loops of threads in the fabric of his clothing after he returned from a hike and found his clothing covered in burrs. It took George de Mestral seven years of research to develop the product we know as Velcro — a combination of the words *velour* and *crochet*.

Next time you find your socks covered with the annoying seeds of these plants, many of which we consider weeds, stop and admire them for their ingenuity.



An encounter with sandspurs is an unforgettable experience. This weedy grass thrives in sandy poorly nourished soils. The seed capsule is armed with numerous barbed hooks that cling to clothing or animal fur. When you try to pull sandspurs off, they just embed in your fingers. The trick to removing sandspurs is to wet your fingers first—then the barbs won't stick.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 4

government is trying to let more foreign workers in. The Labor Department was so excited with these stats, they dropped the unemployment rate from 6.3 percent to 6.1 percent. Evidently, they don't have access to calculators.

Our national debt is \$17.6 trillion. Our unfunded debt for Social Security, free drugs and Medicare is \$122 trillion.

We could take all the assets from every American, give it to our government and they would still be bankrupt. We are close or maybe over the point of no return.

We are in worse shape than Greece, Ireland and other countries we continually hear about. The reason is because we can print money. Actually we save paper by a mouse click that the Fed now uses to send money to our government and Wall Street banks. It comes from the clouds.

Actually the Fed is \$4 trillion in the

hole. They pump \$74 billion into Wall Street banks each month to keep the stock market looking good. But don't worry — they have IOUs from our government and mortgages from Wall Street banks that are backed by our government as security. What could go wrong?

Ever notice how our government uses "smoke and mirrors" to sway our opinion that the economy is doing great and there is no inflation. The pols need to do their own shopping for groceries, gas etc. Inflation has grown

approximately 6 percent per annum over the last six years. Amazing that inflation can only affect one out of 300+ million.

I spent almost 30 years in the military defending this great country and it breaks my heart to see a few idiots destroy it. Even worse is to see the apathy among American citizens who sit on their hands and watch our demise.

CMS James L. Howk
US Army, Ret.
Arcadia



GRITS & PIECES

FROM PAGE 4

who nearly died from the sweltering heat in the old building and thought it was a miracle when the school finally got a few air-conditioned portables, you definitely qualify.

You might be a DeSoto Bulldog if the school cafeteria where you had fish sticks every Friday is now the conference/meeting room of the Family Service Center. Same goes if

you were one of the ones who helped morph the school sporting events chant from "Who, who, our side's ahead!" to "Whoop! Whoop, 'Side the head!"

You might be a DeSoto Bulldog if you remember (or participated in) the bare-all fad known as "streaking." Yes, some did that, and some still remember who got that crazy. Right? "Don't look, Ethel!"

On a somber note, you may remember classmates we lost while we were still in school, or the riots during integration years, or even watching the

evening news for the daily body count from the war in Viet Nam, wondering if you might be drafted to go.

At any rate, there are far too many memories to form a complete list, so enjoy these and any you have yourself, and I hope most of them are good ones. One last one, though — if you couldn't wait to graduate and get out of that old three-story red brick school but now feel a sense of pride when you pass by where it stood and see the commemorative marker erected there you're definitely a DeSoto Bulldog.

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NOTICE OF ACTION 3116

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 12TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION
 CASE NO.: 14-2012-CA-000583
 HSBC BANK USA, AS TRUSTEE IN TRUST FOR CITIGROUP MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST, INC., ASSET BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2004-RP1, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 HATTIE M. BROWN, et al., Defendants.
NOTICE OF ACTION TO:
 CYNTHIA E. BRANCH
 Last Known Address: UNKNOWN
 Also Attempted At: SKIP,
 Current Residence Unknown
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property:
 LOT 19 AND NORTH 1/2 OF LOT 21, BLOCK 4, TIER 4 OF A.W. GILCHRIST EAST END ADDITION, AS SHOWN BY PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA.
 as 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 33310-0908 on or before August 15, 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 DeSoto County Clerk's Office, 115 East Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida 34266, 863-993-4876, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court this 7 day of July 2014.
 Mitzie W. McGavic
 As Clerk of the Court
 By: /s/ N. Daughtrey
 As Deputy Clerk
PUBLISHED 7/17/14 & 7/24/14 107507 3063856

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 12TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION
 CASE NO.: 14-2014-CA-000204
 WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., Plaintiff,
 vs.
 SANDRA CONNORS A/K/A SANDRA L. CONNORS A/K/A SANDRA LOUISE CONNORS A/K/A SANDRA CONNERS, et al., Defendants.
NOTICE OF ACTION TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF MARION VELMA BASS
 Last Known Address: Unknown
 Current Residence Unknown
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property:
 LOTS 1 & 2, BLOCK P, ELDORA-

NOTICE OF ACTION 3116

DO PARK SUBDIVISION AS PER MAP OR PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 71, IN THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA. TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN 1993 SHADOW MASTER DOUBLE WIDE MOBILE HOME IDENTIFIED BY VIN NUMBERS 146M7660A AND 146M7660B.
 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 33310-0908 ON or before August 15, 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 DeSoto County Clerk's Office, 115 East Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida 34266, (863) 993-4876, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court this 7 day of July, 2014
 MITZIE W. MCGAVIC
 As Clerk of the Court
 By: /s/ N. Daughtrey
 As Deputy Clerk
PUBLISHED 7/17/14 & 7/24/14 107507 3063881

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CASE NO.: 2014 DR 0325
 Jayne Odell Brosnihan, Petitioner and
 John Michael Brosnihan, Respondent
NOTICE OF ACTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE
 TO: John Michael Brosnihan
 Last Known Address: 1650 SE Hargrave St. Arcadia, FL 34266
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to the Petitioner, Jayne Odell Brosnihan whose address is, 195 Cherokee Lane, Wauchula, FL 33873 on or before August 4, 2014 and file the original with the clerk of this Court at 115 E. Oak St. Arcadia, FL 34266 before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in this petition. Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request. You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Notice of Current Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915). Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed to the address on record at the Clerk's office. Dated: July 2, 2014
 MITZIE W. MCGAVIC CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
 BY: /s/ N. Daughter
 Deputy Clerk
 Published 7/10/14, 7/17/14, 7/24/14, 7/31/14
 131159 3060200

NOTICE OF ACTION 3116

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CASE NO.: 142014CP000045
 PROBATE DIVISION
 JUDGE: JAMES S. PARKER
 IN RE: THE ESTATE OF **KOLYA S. RENNE, Deceased.**
NOTICE OF ANCILLARY ADMINISTRATION NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 The administration of the estate of KOLYA S. RENNE, Deceased, File No. 2014CP000045, 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 INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:
 All persons on whom this notice is served who have objections that challenge the validity of the Will, the qualifications of the Personal Representative, venue, or jurisdiction of this court are required to file their objections with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM. All creditors of the Decedent and other persons having claims or demands against Decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is served within three months after the date of the first publication of this notice must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM. All other creditors of the Decedent and persons having claims or demands against the Decedent's estate must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS, DEMANDS AND OBJECTIONS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
 The date of the first publication of this Notice is July 24th, 2014.
 PAUL BENNETT SEUSY, P.A.
 Attorneys for Petitioner
 203 West Oak Street
 Arcadia, Florida 34266
 863-491-7285 Office
 888-430-5940 Facsimile
 E-Mail: paul@paulseusy.com
 By: Paul Bennett Seusy, Esquire
 Florida Bar No. 0690252
 Suzanne Renne
 Personal Representative
 3008 Bayview Drive
 Alamenda, California 94501
PUBLISHED 7/24/14 & 7/31/14 325434 3065967

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 3120

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
 PROBATE DIVISION
 FILE NO.: 142014CP000066
 IN RE: ESTATE OF KENNETH JON ABPLANALP a/k/a KENNETH J. ABPLANALP, DECEASED.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 The administration of the estate of KENNETH JON ABPLANALP a/k/a KENNETH J. ABPLANALP, deceased, whose date of death was May 9, 2014, is pending in

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 3120

the Circuit Court for DeSoto County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is DeSoto County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 115 Oak Street, Suite 201, Arcadia, FL 34266. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.
ALL CREDITORS OF THE DECEDENT AND OTHER PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST DECEDENT'S ESTATE ON WHOM A COPY OF THIS NOTICE IS REQUIRED TO BE SERVED MUST FILE THEIR CLAIMS WITH THIS COURT WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
 All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
 The date of first publication of this notice is July 17, 2014
 Attorney for Personal Representative:
 ABLES & CRAIG, P.A.
 202 W. Main Street, Ste. 103
 Wauchula, Florida 33873
 Telephone: (863) 773-0500
 Fax: (863) 773-0505
 E-Mail: service@heartlandfloridawalaw.com
 Secondary E-Mail: bcraig@heartlandfloridawalaw.com
 Brandon S. Craig
 Attorney for RENEE WARHOLIC
 Florida Bar Number: 0085800
 Personal Representative:
 RENEE WARHOLIC
 1595 Singleton Rd.
 Morrisdale, PA 16858
PUBLISHED 7/17/14 & 7/24/14 308190 3063413

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
 PROBATE DIVISION
 IN RE: ESTATE OF LEWIS WADE KEEN
Deceased.
File No. 2014-CP000070AXMA
Division PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 The administration of the estate of Lewis Wade Keen, deceased, whose date of death was May 27, 2014, is pending in the Circuit Court for DeSoto County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 115 E. Oak Street, Suite #101 Arcadia, FL 34266-2412. 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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 3120

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 July 17, 2014.

Cheyenne R. Young
Attorney for
Personal Representative
Florida Bar Number: 0515299
Wotitzky, Wotitzky, Ross & McKinley
Attorneys at Law
223 Taylor Street,
Punta Gorda, FL 33950
Telephone: (941) 639-2171
Fax: (941) 639-2197
E-Mail:
cyoung@wotitzkylaw.com
Secondary E-Mail:
jackie@wotitzkylaw.com
Personal Representative:
Billy Harold Porter
392 Yeager Street
Port Charlotte, Florida 33954
PUBLISHED 7/17/14 & 7/24/14
100738 3063753

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

IN RE: The Estate of ROBERT L. VOTTA, SR., Deceased

Probate No. 14-CP-47
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of ROBERT L. VOTTA, SR., deceased, File Number 14-47 - CP 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, including unmatured, contingent or unliquidated claims, on whom a copy of this notice if served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE 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, including unmatured, contingent or unliquidated claims, must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. The date of first publication of this Notice is July 17, 2014

By: S/J. MICHAEL ROONEY
J. MICHAEL ROONEY
Attorney for Petitioner
Florida Bar No. 157880
Post Office Box 510400
Punta Gorda, Florida,
33951-0400
(941) 639-2591
trabuelaw@yahoo.com
Robert L. Votta, Jr., Pers. Rep.
181 Brightwater Drive #2
Clearwater Beach, FL 33767
PUBLISHED 7/17/14 & 7/24/14
121501 3061197

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

PROBATE DIVISION
CASE NO. 2014 CP 000067

IN RE THE ESTATE OF: RICHARDSON, LULA C. Deceased.

Notice to Creditors
The administration of the estate of LULA C. RICHARDSON, deceased, whose date of death was November 4, 2013, is pending in the Twelfth Circuit Court for DeSoto County, Florida Probate Division, the address of which is 115 East Oak Street, Room 201, Arcadia, Florida 34266. The estate is intestate. 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 DATE 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 SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

The date of first publication of this Notice is July 17, 2014.

By: S/J. MICHAEL ROONEY
J. MICHAEL ROONEY
Attorney for Petitioner
Florida Bar No. 157880
Post Office Box 510400
Punta Gorda, Florida,
33951-0400
(941) 639-2591
trabuelaw@yahoo.com
Robert L. Votta, Jr., Pers. Rep.
181 Brightwater Drive #2
Clearwater Beach, FL 33767
PUBLISHED 7/17/14 & 7/24/14
121501 3061197

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

PROBATE DIVISION
CASE NO. 2014 CP 000067

IN RE THE ESTATE OF: RICHARDSON, LULA C. Deceased.

Notice to Creditors
The administration of the estate of LULA C. RICHARDSON, deceased, whose date of death was November 4, 2013, is pending in the Twelfth Circuit Court for DeSoto County, Florida Probate Division, the address of which is 115 East Oak Street, Room 201, Arcadia, Florida 34266. The estate is intestate. 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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 3120

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 DATE 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 SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of the first publication of this Notice is July 17, 2014.

Attorney for Personal Representative:
Jeffrey A. King, Esq.
Florida Bar No. 342238
1800 Second Street,
Suite 895
Sarasota, Florida 34236
Telephone: (941) 954-5585
Personal Representative:
Thomas A. Richardson
Post Office Box 2876
Arcadia, FL 34265
PUBLISHED 7/17/14 & 7/24/14
121861 3063219

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE 3122

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 12th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 14-2010-CA-000158-CAAXMA

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATE HOLDERS CWALT, INC. ALTERNATIVE LOAN TRUST 2006-31CB, MORTGAGE PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-31CB, Plaintiff,

vs. FRANCISCO I. RAMOS a/k/a FRANCISCO I. RAMOS, JR., SYLVIA M. RAMOS, MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS INCORPORATED, AS A NOMINEE FOR CAPITAL ONE HOME LOANS, LLC, Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated 06/24/2014, and entered in Case No. 14-2010-CA-000158-CAAXMA of the Circuit Court of the 12th Judicial Circuit, in and for DESOTO County, Florida, where in THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATE HOLDERS CWALT, INC. ALTERNATIVE LOAN TRUST 2006-31CB, MORTGAGE PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-31CB, is the Plaintiff and FRANCISCO I. RAMOS a/k/a FRANCISCO I. RAMOS, JR., SYLVIA M. RAMOS, MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS INCORPORATED, AS A NOMINEE FOR CAPITAL ONE HOME LOANS, LLC, are the Defendants, the Clerk of Court shall offer for sale to the highest bidder for cash on August 5, 2014, at the Desoto County Courthouse, at 115 East Oak Street, Arcadia, FL 34266, the following described property as set forth in said Summary Final Judgment lying and being situate in DESOTO County, Florida, to wit:

NOTICE: 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.

ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE.

IF YOU ARE A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY WHO NEEDS ANY ACCOMMODATION IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING, YOU ARE ENTITLED, AT NO COST TO YOU, TO THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN ASSISTANCE. PLEASE CONTACT THE DESOTO COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE, 115 EAST OAK STREET, ARCADIA, 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.

DATED at Arcadia, Florida, on July 11, 2014.

SHD Legal Group P.A.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
PO BOX 11438
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33339 1438
Telephone: (954) 564 0071
Facsimile: (954) 564 9252
Service E-mail: answers@shdlegalgroup.com

By: Michael A. Shifrin
Florida Bar No. 0086818
PUBLISHED 7/17/14 & 7/24/14
105230 3063547

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

CIVIL ACTION
DIVISION:
CASE NO.: 13CA148

WELLS FARGO BANK, NA, Plaintiff,

vs. CONNER, ELBERT et al, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated May 28, 2014, and

entered in Case No. 13CA148 of the Circuit Court of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit in and for DeSoto County, Florida in which Wells Fargo Bank, NA, is the Plaintiff and Elbert L. Conner, The Unknown Spouse of Elbert L. Conner, Tenant # 1 a/k/a Jackie Marcilonis, William Conner, 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 in Spouses, Heirs, Devises, Grantees, Or Other Claimants are defendants, the DeSoto County Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in/on the DeSoto County Courthouse, 115 Oak Street, Arcadia, FL 34266; www.desotoclerk.com, DeSoto County, Florida at 11:00AM on the 5th day of August, 2014, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure:

THE EAST HALF OF LOT 4 OF C.M. LAWRENCE SUBDIVISION, AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA. ALSO DESCRIBED AS: THE EAST HALF OF NORTHWEST QUARTER OF NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 38 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST. TOGETHER WITH A MOBILE HOME LOCATED THEREON AS A PERMANENT FIXTURE AND APPURTENANCE THERETO, DESCRIBED AS A 2005 BHFL HS MOBILE HOME BEARING VIN NUMBERS GAFL435A90060AH31 AND GAFL435B90060BH31.

2481 SE NEVERSAIL ST ARCADIA FL 34266

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

Dated in Hillsborough County, Florida, this 9th day of July, 2014

_____/s/ Ashley Arenas — Ashley Arenas, Esq. — FL Bar # 68141 Albertelli Law Attorney for Plaintiff P.O. Box 23028 Tampa, FL 33623 (813) 221-4743 (813) 221-9171 facsimile eService: servealaw@albertellilaw.com JR 016568F01

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE 3122

SHALL BE ASSESSED AS COSTS. THE COURT, IN ITS DISCRETION, MAY ENLARGE THE TIME OF THE SALE. NOTICE OF THE CHANGED TIME OF SALE SHALL BE PUBLISHED AS PROVIDED HEREIN.

DATED This 1st day of July, 2014.

STRAUS & EISLER, P.A.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
10081 Pines Blvd, Suite C
Pembroke Pines, FL 33024
954-431-2000

By: Arnold M. Straus, Jr. Esq.
Fla Bar 275328
PUBLISHED 7/24/14 & 7/31/14
337549 3064841

NOTICE OF SALE 3130

IN THE TWELFTH CIRCUIT COURT FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA. CIVIL DIVISION

CASE NO. 142013CA000650XXXXX FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff,

vs. MICHAEL W. BREEDEN; FRANCES G. BREEDEN; ET AL. Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Summary Final Judgment of foreclosure dated April 28, 2014, and entered in Case No. 142013CA000650XXXXX of the Circuit Court in and for Desoto County, Florida, wherein FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION is Plaintiff and MICHAEL W. BREEDEN; FRANCES G. BREEDEN; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 1; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 2; and ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT TO THIS ACTION, OR HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED, are Defendants, MITZIE W. MCGAVIC, Clerk of the Circuit Court, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the South Door of the Desoto County Courthouse, 115 E. Oak Street, Arcadia, ,11:00 a.m. on the 26th day of August, 2014, the following described property as set forth in said Order or Final Judgment, to-wit:

LOT 19, VOSS OAKS, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, PAGES 67 AND 64A , 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 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.

DATED at Arcadia, Florida, on July 11, 2014.

SHD Legal Group P.A.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
PO BOX 11438
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33339 1438
Telephone: (954) 564 0071
Facsimile: (954) 564 9252
Service E-mail: answers@shdlegalgroup.com

By: Michael A. Shifrin
Florida Bar No. 0086818
PUBLISHED 7/17/14 & 7/24/14
105230 3063547

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

CIVIL ACTION
DIVISION:
CASE NO.: 13CA148

WELLS FARGO BANK, NA, Plaintiff,

vs. CONNER, ELBERT et al, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated May 28, 2014, and

entered in Case No. 13CA148 of the Circuit Court of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit in and for DeSoto County, Florida in which Wells Fargo Bank, NA, is the Plaintiff and Elbert L. Conner, The Unknown Spouse of Elbert L. Conner, Tenant # 1 a/k/a Jackie Marcilonis, William Conner, 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 in Spouses, Heirs, Devises, Grantees, Or Other Claimants are defendants, the DeSoto County Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in/on the DeSoto County Courthouse, 115 Oak Street, Arcadia, FL 34266; www.desotoclerk.com, DeSoto County, Florida at 11:00AM on the 5th day of August, 2014, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure:

THE EAST HALF OF LOT 4 OF C.M. LAWRENCE SUBDIVISION, AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA. ALSO DESCRIBED AS: THE EAST HALF OF NORTHWEST QUARTER OF NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 38 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST. TOGETHER WITH A MOBILE HOME LOCATED THEREON AS A PERMANENT FIXTURE AND APPURTENANCE THERETO, DESCRIBED AS A 2005 BHFL HS MOBILE HOME BEARING VIN NUMBERS GAFL435A90060AH31 AND GAFL435B90060BH31.

2481 SE NEVERSAIL ST ARCADIA FL 34266

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

Dated in Hillsborough County, Florida, this 9th day of July, 2014

_____/s/ Ashley Arenas — Ashley Arenas, Esq. — FL Bar # 68141 Albertelli Law Attorney for Plaintiff P.O. Box 23028 Tampa, FL 33623 (813) 221-4743 (813) 221-9171 facsimile eService: servealaw@albertellilaw.com JR 016568F01

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 ADA Coordinator at 115 E. Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida 34266, (863)993-4876 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

To file response please contact DeSoto County Clerk of Court, 115 E. Oak Street, Room 101, Arcadia, FL 34266, Tel: (863) 993-4876; Fax: (863) 993-4669. PUBLISHED 7/17/14 & 7/24/14 272484 3062385

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

CIVIL ACTION
DIVISION:
CASE NO.: 142014CA000001

THE FIRST STATE BANK OF ARCADIA Plaintiff,

vs. JERROLD M. GASKINS, ET AL Defendants.

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED CLERK'S SALE PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTES CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS GIVEN that pursuant to a UNIFORM FINAL JUDGMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE dated April 28, 2014, in the above styled cause, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the DeSoto County Courthouse, 115 Oak Street, Arcadia, FL 34266, at 11:00 A.M. on August 26, 2014, the following described property as set forth in UNIFORM FINAL JUDGMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE, to wit:

Begin at the Southeast corner of

the Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 12, Township 38 South, Range 25 East for Point of Beginning; thence North 88 degrees 00 minutes 40 seconds West along South line of said tract, 371.68 feet; thence North 6 degrees 37 minutes 11 seconds West, 921.87 feet to Southerly right of way of County Road # 760 (formerly S.R. # 760); thence North 54 degrees 00 minutes 54 seconds East along said right of way , 460.25 feet to P.C. of curve to right having a cord bearing of North 61 degrees 37 minutes 03 seconds East and a cord distance of 144.57 feet; thence Northeasterly along said right of way on arc of said curve, 144.97 feet to East line of said Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4; thence South 0 degrees 59 minutes 21 seconds West along said East line, 1267.96 feet to Point of Beginning.

LESS AND EXCEPT THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY: Begin at the Southeast corner of the Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 12, Township 38 South, Range 25 East, DeSoto County, Florida; thence North 88 degrees 00 minutes 40 seconds West along South line of said tract, 291.36 feet for Point of Beginning; thence continue same line, 80.32 feet; thence North 06 degrees 37 minutes 11 seconds West, 416.19 feet; thence South 17 degrees 07 minutes 36 seconds East, 435.52 feet to Point of Beginning.

Parcel Id: 12-38-25-0000-0042-0000

Commonly known as: 6463 CR 760 E, Arcadia, FL 34266

Dated this 7 day of July, 2014.

MITZIE W. MCGAVIC, Clerk of Court

By: B. Wynn 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, telephone: (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.

To file response please contact DeSoto County Clerk of Court, 115 E. Oak Street, Room 101, Arcadia, FL 34266, Tel: (863) 993-4876; Fax: (863) 993-4669. PUBLISHED 7/17/14 & 7/24/14 272484 3062385

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

CIVIL ACTION
DIVISION:
CASE NO.: 142014CA000001

THE FIRST STATE BANK OF ARCADIA Plaintiff,

vs. JERROLD M. GASKINS, ET AL Defendants.

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED CLERK'S SALE PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTES CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS GIVEN that pursuant to a UNIFORM FINAL JUDGMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE dated April 28, 2014, in the above styled cause, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the DeSoto County Courthouse, 115 Oak Street, Arcadia, FL 34266, at 11:00 A.M. on August 26, 2014, the following described property as set forth in UNIFORM FINAL JUDGMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE, to wit:

Begin at the Southeast corner of

the Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 12, Township 38 South, Range 25 East for Point of Beginning; thence North 88 degrees 00 minutes 40 seconds West along South line of said tract, 371.68 feet; thence North 6 degrees 37 minutes 11 seconds West, 921.87 feet to Southerly right of way of County Road # 760 (formerly S.R. # 760); thence North 54 degrees 00 minutes 54 seconds East along said right of way , 460.25 feet to P.C. of curve to right having a cord bearing of North 61 degrees 37 minutes 03 seconds East and a cord distance of 144.57 feet; thence Northeasterly along said right of way on arc of said curve, 144.97 feet to East line of said Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4; thence South 0 degrees 59 minutes 21 seconds West along said East line, 1267.96 feet to Point of Beginning.

Parcel Id: 12-38-25-0000-0042-0000

Commonly known as: 6463 CR 760 E, Arcadia, FL 34266

Dated this 7 day of July, 2014.

MITZIE W. MCGAVIC, Clerk of Court

By: B. Wynn 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, telephone: (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.

To file response please contact DeSoto County Clerk of Court, 115 E. Oak Street, Room 101, Arcadia, FL 34266, Tel: (863) 993-4876; Fax: (863) 993-4669. PUBLISHED 7/17/14 & 7/24/14 272484 3063041

NOTICE OF SALE 3130

entered in Case No. 13CA148 of the Circuit Court of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit in and for DeSoto County, Florida in which Wells Fargo Bank, NA, is the Plaintiff and Elbert L. Conner, The Unknown Spouse of Elbert L. Conner, Tenant # 1 a/k/a Jackie Marcilonis, William Conner, 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 in Spouses, Heirs, Devises, Grantees, Or Other Claimants are defendants, the DeSoto County Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in/on the DeSoto County Courthouse, 115 Oak Street, Arcadia, FL 34266; www.desotoclerk.com, DeSoto County, Florida at 11:00AM on the 5th day of August, 2014, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure:

THE EAST HALF OF LOT 4 OF C.M. LAWRENCE SUBDIVISION, AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA. ALSO DESCRIBED AS: THE EAST HALF OF NORTHWEST QUARTER OF NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 26, T

ARCADIA AREA GARAGE SALES 6001

FRI & SAT 8 AM - ? 2903
NW County Road 661A
Some furnitre, lots of misc.

SAT. 7/26 8AM-2PM
Cross Creek RV Resort
Estate & Moving Sale
6837 NE Cubitis Ave.
All Welcome!

FURNITURE 6035

MATTRESS AND Box. New will sell \$100 941-629-5550

BED, QUEEN Mattress and Box Brand New will sell. \$175 Also have KING. 941-629-5550

Adjustable Bed with leather mattress, works good. \$300 863-494-1171

SMALL OFFICE DESK w/nice wood finish, one drawer n bottom, shelf on top. \$60 obo 863-494-1171

Sofa Large Dark Blue \$40 863-494-1171

Turn your trash into cash! Advertise your yard sale!

MEDICAL 6095

HOVEROUND New, never used. Org. \$2495 asking **\$1,100** cash 941-766-1530

FIREARMS 6131

Remington, 16 ga. Model 11-48 28" w/poly choke \$375 941-235-2500 **SOLD**

LIVESTOCK 6235

HORSE BOARDING Very affordable, one spot open. Call for details 863-491-5524

Get the Word out - Advertise in the Classifieds!

APPLIANCES 6250

Electric Stove \$100 863-993-0069

MISCELLANEOUS 6260

34 OLD Pennies Collector 1909 \$300 for set 863-832-2801

PHOENIX BICYCLE Classic Men's 26". Was in storage 30+ yrs. Valued at \$700, asking \$400 863-491-5523

AUTOS WANTED 7260

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



FOOD FACT!

AS A GENERAL RULE, THE HEAVIER THIS DESSERT FOOD, THE TASTIER IT WILL BE. THAT'S BECAUSE IT HAS LESS AIR ADDED.

ANSWER: ICE CREAM

How they say that in...

ENGLISH: Vanilla
SPANISH: Vainilla
ITALIAN: Vaniglia
FRENCH: Vanille
GERMAN: Vanille

What's the Difference?

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

A

B

Answers: 1. Vanilla yogurt is strawberry. 2. The cherry is missing. 3. Chocolate syrup on chocolate ice cream. 4. Two straws in shake.

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY

26

- 1788: NEW YORK BECOMES THE 11TH STATE OF THE UNITED STATES.
- 1852: EVA PERON OF ARGENTINA DIES IN BUENOS AIRES AT THE AGE OF 33.
- 2005: WITHIN 24 HOURS, MORE THAN 39 INCHES OF RAIN FALL IN MUMBAI, INDIA.

New WORD

PREMIUM

of superior quality

Did you know?

"BRAIN FREEZE," OR AN ICE CREAM HEADACHE, OCCURS WHEN THE COLD ICE CREAM TOUCHES THE ROOF OF THE MOUTH AND STIMULATES THE NERVE CENTER LOCATED THERE.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: BUNDAE

TRAVEL TIME WORD SEARCH

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

WORDS	
ADJOINING	HUB
AGENCY	INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT	LEISURE
AVAILABILITY	LUGGAGE
BLACKOUT	MILEAGE
BOARDING PASS	NONSTOP
BUSINESS	OCCUPANCY
CANCELLATION	PASSENGER
CHECK-IN	PASSPORT
CONFIRMATION	PEAK
CONTRACT	RATE
DELAY	RESTRICTIONS
DESTINATION	SCHEDULE
DISCOUNT	SUITE
DOMESTIC	TRANSFERABLE
FARE	TRAVEL
FIRST CLASS	VACATION
FLIGHT	VISA

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to travel. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 3 = c)

Answers: A. ticket B. boarding C. cruise D. vacation

Plenty of rain across state as temps rise

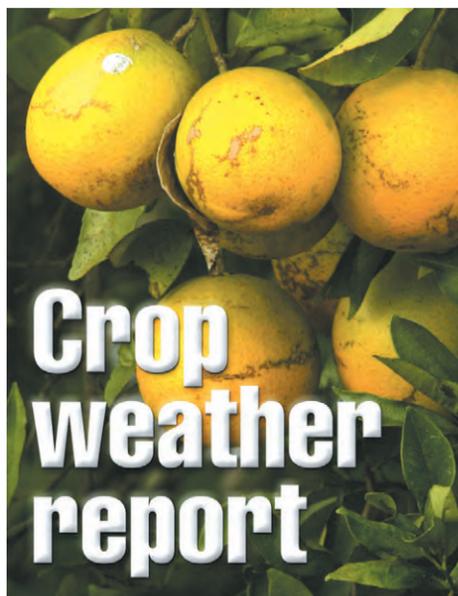
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 13

Weather Summary

According to Florida's Automated Weather Network, rainfall ranged from one half inch to 6.29 inches this past week. Defuniak Springs (Walton County) received the most rain with 6.29 inches, followed by Joshua (DeSoto County) with 5.17 inches, and Jay (Santa Rosa County) with 4.65 inches. Per the U.S. Drought Monitor, last updated July 15, Florida was 97 percent drought free. The highest temperature was 96 degrees at Immokalee (Collier County) and Palmdale (Glades County). The lowest temperature in the state was 61 degrees at Defuniak Springs (Walton County).

Fruit and Vegetables

Farmers in Gadsden County started planting the fall tomato crop. Farmers in Bradford County were planting peppers and lettuce under protective



covers. Fruits and vegetables being harvested in Miami-Dade County included: avocados, okra, boniato, malanga and mangoes. Okra, bitter melon and boniato were also being planted in Miami-Dade County.

Field Crops

There was an average of 6.1 days suitable for field work, down from 6.3 days the previous week. Hay was being cut in the Panhandle, north, and central Florida. Army worms caused some damage in crops in the Panhandle with isolated areas seeing significant pressure. Field corn harvesting began in Dixie County. Peanut pegging was ahead of the previous year and the 5-year average. Peanut condition was mostly good for the state. Some peanut fields were flooded from recent rain. Rice harvest was in full swing in Palm Beach County.

Livestock and Pastures

Statewide, the cattle and pasture condition was mostly good. Pastures in the Panhandle have damage by army worms. Pastures throughout the State have received significant rain and were generally in good condition. Water was still standing in pastures in

St. Lucie County.

Citrus

Rainfall in the citrus producing area this past week was widespread and generally heavy. All stations received more than a half inch of precipitation. Eleven stations received more than two inches and four received more than three inches. Joshua (DeSoto County) received the most at 5.17 inches, followed by Dover (Hillsborough County) with 4.14 inches. Arcadia (DeSoto County) recorded the least with 0.56 inches of precipitation. Daytime high temperatures were warm, reaching the low to mid 90s in all citrus producing counties. As per the U.S. Drought Monitor, last updated July 15, the entire citrus producing region in Florida remained drought free.

Next season's crop was progressing well. Growers and caretakers were applying summer oils, fertilizing, irrigating, and in some cases resetting new trees.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEF

Florida panther update

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission biologists provided an update regarding Florida panther research and conservation programs.

Due to the success of panther-conservation efforts over the past 40 years, the panther population has grown significantly since the 1970s, when the panther was federally listed as Endangered.

Biologists have updated their "population range estimate" to reflect an increase to 100-180 adult panthers in Florida. Based on this estimate and habitat availability, panthers likely have reached their carrying capacity south of the Caloosahatchee River.

Historically, panthers ranged throughout Florida and into seven other southeastern states. Today, most panthers are found south of the Caloosahatchee River in Florida. The FWC and partners such as the U.S.

Fish and Wildlife Service are preparing for the natural expansion of the increasing population.

Because large tracts of land are needed to sustain a healthy panther population, private landowners will be crucial to range expansion.

"Due to the expansive habitat needs of the Florida panther, the continued growth of their population presents a unique challenge to the FWC and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service," said FWC Commissioner Liesa Priddy. "As panther range expands, impacts on private landowners will continue to increase."

With the increasing number of panthers, there also are increasing interactions and conflicts with people. The FWC and partner agencies currently are working with landowners to address the challenges they may face in having panthers on their lands.

"We know panthers can prey upon pets and livestock, and we strive to find solutions that work for people

who experience these very real losses," said Thomas Eason, director of the FWC's Division of Habitat and Species Conservation.

People can help with panther research by reporting sightings at www.FloridaPantherNet.org. Reporting observations can help FWC biologists address panther conservation needs by identifying the areas used by these large cats.

Florida residents can support panther conservation efforts by purchasing a Protect the Panther license plate, available at www.BuyAPlate.com. Fees from license plate sales are the primary funding source for the FWC's research and management of Florida panthers.

To report dead or injured panthers, call the FWC's Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC (3922) or #FWC or *FWC on a cell phone.

For more information on Florida panthers go to www.FloridaPantherNet.org.

LIVESTOCK PRICES

Reported by the Arcadia Stockyard for the week of July 16

Weight	Price per cwt.
Steers - Medium and Large Frame	
175-275	\$390-440 (avg. \$404.14)
275-350	\$320-400 (avg. \$343.11)
350-425	\$265-320 (avg. \$279.08)
425-500	\$235-300 (avg. \$245.11)
500-575	\$215-230 (avg. \$221.57)
575-700	\$208-223 (avg. \$211.07)
Steers - Light and Medium Frame	
175-275	\$325-395 (avg. \$368.95)
275-350	\$275-325 (avg. \$301.91)
350-425	\$237.50-277.50 (avg. \$254.39)
425-500	\$215-240 (avg. \$228.65)
500-575	\$206-220 (avg. \$211.91)
575-700	\$196-209 (avg. \$203.21)
Heifers - Medium and Large Frame	
175-275	\$300-400 (avg. \$333.13)
275-350	\$252.50-330 (avg. \$276.51)
350-425	\$232.50-277.50 (avg. \$241.62)
425-500	\$220-305 (avg. \$228.01)
500-575	\$204-270 (avg. \$216.45)
575-700	\$197-232 (avg. \$205.57)
Heifers - Light and Medium Frame	
175-275	\$250-315 (avg. \$284.97)
275-350	\$222.50-260 (avg. \$242.19)
350-425	\$211-235 (avg. \$224.07)
425-500	\$202-220 (avg. \$212.85)
500-575	\$191-206 (avg. \$198.48)
575-700	\$184-203 (avg. \$192.30)

Slaughter Classes

Cows:	
Boners 1100-1900	\$104-124 (avg. \$112.25)
Lean 850-1200	\$92-110 (avg. \$100.97)
Low Dressing: 800-1100	\$85-105 (avg. \$95.79)
Shells: 650-800	\$61-82 (avg. \$73.30)
Bulls:	
High Dressing: 1300-2000	\$121-139 (avg. \$129.64)
1000-1299	\$94-123 (avg. \$116)
Low Dressing: under 1100	\$94-121 (avg. \$110.40)

Totals: - 3,756; calves - 3,244; cows - 475; bulls - 37
Slaughter cows and bulls were \$3 to \$5 lower. Feeder steers and heifers under 350 lbs. were \$15 to \$20 higher. Feeder steers and heifers over 350 lbs. were \$3 to \$5 higher. Good supply and very good demand.

TAX

FROM PAGE 1

what exactly the hospital was doing to ensure that budget gap is closed. When I see discontent among the board it's disturbing and that set me back in my final decision. I'd like to hear from the board, what are they doing to resolve this?"

Watson said the board is looking at every possibility. "We are working daily to cut expenses, and are doing everything we can to find a solution," she said. "Believe me when I say we are looking outside the box, and exploring every opportunity out there. We're not sitting back and relying on this (sales tax) as our savior."

Sica added that DMH was in talks with a representative from Raymond James' Mergers and Acquisitions Department, and the group will be presenting to the board at the hospital's July 31 meeting. "That's a big step forward," he said. "For lack of a better term, we're going to hire someone to find us a partner."

Commissioner Buddy Mansfield told DMH representatives they had to be prepared to make some hard choices. "There's going to have to be a list of cuts that people aren't comfortable with," he said. "I want to know which items you want to give up to make things right by the voters."

Miller also questioned why the second ordinance option was not being considered. "I don't want us to just focus on one area," he said. "Before I say for sure that I am for either option, I want to look at this second choice and see where we'll be in the future. I'm trying to protect all medical facilities, including the health department."

After further discussion, Conn said any mentions of the term "new debt" will be stricken from the ordinance, and confirmed the board would have the discretion to eliminate the tax any time it deems necessary. The board then voted 4-1 to move forward with pursuing the debt service option, with Miller dissenting.

Board moves forward with fire code amendments

The board voted 5-0 to publish a proposal for comment that would allow residents and business owners to appear before the board for a waiver or modification to the local fire code which requires sprinkler systems for new or remodeled businesses.

As part of the amendments, facilities such as churches, clubhouses and retail stores would be eligible for a waiver. Those which would remain ineligible include schools, restaurants and nursing homes, among others.

Conn said he drafted the ordinance because many people looking to build or expand complained they could not

afford the high cost of a new sprinkler systems. The ordinance, unique in the state, would exempt some smaller-capacity businesses from having to install sprinklers.

"I haven't found this ordinance in any other county," he said. "I drafted this and it's the best I can do with the codes currently in place. I hope this gives the fire chief some relief, because right now it's all on him and that's totally unfair."

Public Safety Chief Larry Taylor, however, was concerned the exemption might sacrifice safety for growth. "As this stands right now I can't support it," he said. "Our major issue is lack of water flow in this county, and our top priority is the safety of DeSoto residents. We want to see growth, too, but we must ensure our residents are safe." Quave advised Taylor to meet with other local public safety chiefs to see how these issues are handled in neighboring counties. "I am nervous that we're considering this," he said. "Please, chief, go meet with someone from another county and see how they're doing this without amending their codes."

Miller said the state fire marshal, in a visit to the board last year, alluded there was wiggle room on enforcing the fire codes. "If things don't change and there isn't growth in this county, there are some county employees who won't be happy, and services that might be affected," he said. "I'm ready to step up and let people who want to come

to this county and build here have the ability to do it."

Langford agreed, and said the county was losing too much money in potential development not to pursue the code amendments. "Chief, this has nothing to do with your department, so please don't take this personal," he said. "This fire prevention code has prevented roughly \$500,000 in new building in an area that desperately needs growth. The way the fire codes read now doesn't make sense, and I'm for making these changes."

The board then voted unanimously to authorize staff to publicly notice the fire code amendments, with formal approval to be considered at the board's August meeting.

Traveling Wall coming to DeSoto in December

By **SUSAN E. HOFFMAN**
ARCADIAN EDITOR

A replica of the The Wall is coming to DeSoto County in December. DeSoto is fortunate to have The Vietnam Traveling Wall here from Dec. 4 through Dec. 7, allowing the county to hold its annual Pearl Harbor Day ceremony next to this replica, a commemoration of our entry into World War II in front of a symbol of the Vietnam War.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial — more commonly just called “The Wall” — has been a destination in our nation’s capital for countless veterans, their families and friends since its dedication in 1982. Commissioned in 1979 to honor service members who died or were missing in action during the Vietnam War, it includes more than 58,000 names engraved on two panels of gabbro (a dark, coarse-grained rock) whose surface is highly polished. Visitors can see their own reflections as they gaze at the names engraved on the wall.

The original Wall is in Washington, D.C. in Constitution Gardens, north of the Lincoln Memorial. While 3 million people visit the wall annually, not everyone can make the trip.

The Vietnam Traveling Wall was designed to be 3/5 the size of the original Wall in Washington, D.C. It is six feet tall and almost 300 feet long from one end to the other. It is made portable so that it can be transported to any place in the country, making it accessible to many. It is sponsored by the Vietnam and All Veterans of Brevard, a nonprofit veterans organization formed in 1985.

HOW TO HELP:

Several fundraising events are being planned. Watch *The Arcadian* for details.

Donations to bring the Wall to DeSoto can be given to DeSoto Co. Veterans Service Officer Lee Gallagher, County Administration Bldg., Room 105, Arcadia FL 34266. Email veterans@desotobocc.com or call 863-993-4860.

Vendors interested in reserving space for the community event can call Jodi Sullivan at the Turner Agri-Civic Center, 2250 NE Roan Street, Arcadia, FL 34266; call 863-993-4807.

Pledge an amount in the Joe Gallimore/Steve Bauer weight loss challenge. Call 990-8099.

The Traveling Wall crisscrosses the United States. Over Memorial Day weekend it was in West Virginia; next it will head to Illinois, then Mississippi, and will be in Ohio over the Fourth of July.

The Traveling Wall accurately represents the original after which it is patterned. Although it is made of materials that are easier to transport, each name carved on the original also appears on the replica.

Bringing the Wall here

DeSoto County’s Veterans Service Officer, Lee Gallagher, said, “We are very fortunate to be able to host the wall over Pearl Harbor Day. A lot of people in the county worked hard to bring it here. But now, we have to raise the money needed to fund it.”

About half of the roughly \$25,000 needed has been raised thus far, Gallagher said. Several fundraising events are being planned and

donations are being solicited. If more funds are raised than needed to display The Wall, the balance will be donated to organizations which help veterans and their families.

Recently, the Open Road Bar & Grill held a 500-mile motorcycle ride fundraiser, bringing in \$5,000 toward the cost to bring The Wall here.

Joe Gallimore and Steve Bauer of *The Arcadian* have embarked on a quest to lose a collective 150 pounds, and are gathering pledges from people promising to pay from a quarter to \$5 per pound as of Nov. 27. Thus far, they’ve secured enough pledges to raise \$7,282 if they meet the goal of losing 150 pounds.

The Wall Experience

“When it arrives in our area, the Traveling Wall will be escorted by the DeSoto County Sheriff’s Office, the Arcadia Police Department and DeSoto County Fire Rescue, along with several motorcycle groups and veterans organizations,” Gallagher said. It will be set up in front of the Turner Agri-Civic Center on Dec. 3 and open for the public Dec. 4 through Dec. 7.

The Traveling Wall will be the centerpiece of what Gallagher anticipates will be a community event. Military vehicles, a car and bike show, and a POW/MIA ceremony will all be part of the occasion, along with a Vietnam-era helicopter display. Other organizations, businesses and vendors can participate as well. A committee of veterans is working on the details, and the Vietnam Brotherhood is coordinating



USED WITH PERMISSION OF WELSH PHOTOGRAPHY

staffing. Gallagher said someone will be at the wall to escort people to see it, and they will be able to help visitors find particular names on the wall. They will also have materials for people to make pencil-and-paper rubbings of names etched on the wall.

“We want to make people aware the freedoms we enjoy are not free,” Gallagher said. They have been paid for by the sacrifices, sometimes the lives of the members of our armed services. The Traveling Wall is a stark reminder of the debt we owe to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice.



LOSE 2 WIN!

Would you please pledge toward our weight loss?
Steve Bauer and I (Joe Gallimore) are losing weight 2 win!

We are a special project planned by Kristen Spahr, Marketing Director of DeSoto Memorial Hospital. She has encouraged and inspired us to participate in a healthier life-style. She has recorded our weight and will monitor each week through November 27, 2014.

Steve and I have a combined goal of 150 pound loss. We seek your support in pledging funding toward the pounds we lose. Your pledge multiplied with our weight loss achieved will be a positive gain for our community/county as **EVERY DOLLAR EARNED BY PLEDGES WILL BE CONTRIBUTED TOWARD DESOTO COUNTY VETERANS APPRECIATION DAYS.**

That’s right, plans are set for several days of festivities while honoring all veterans who have served our nation. This will include the presence of the Vietnam Traveling Wall Memorial.

This will be promoted locally and around the state to invite other community and county residents to come to DeSoto and be part of these days of celebration, respect and honor, December 4-7, 2014.

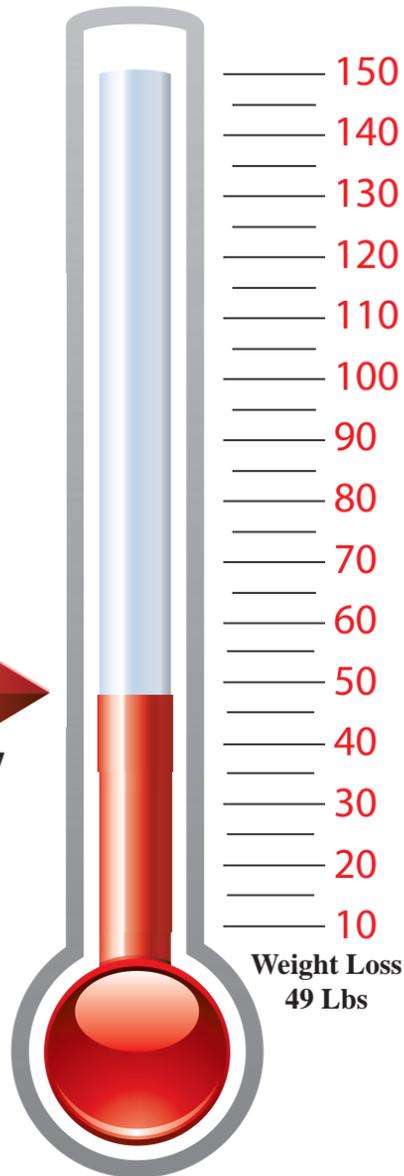
Your pledge is TAX DEDUCTIBLE! Please be a part of this Win-Win scenario.

	Current Weight
Steve’s official starting weight -	322lbs
Joe’s official starting weight -	348lbs
Collectively, We’re determined to	“Lose 2 Win!”

Businesses or individuals pledging per pound:

- Danny Collins \$1
- Alton Shattuck \$5
- David Dunn-Rankin \$2
- Sue Hoffman \$1
- Bob White .25 cent
- Steve Sachkar .25 cent
- Geri Kotz .25 cent
- Carol Moore .25 cent
- Debbie Dunn-Rankin .25 cent
- Purple House of Charlotte County \$1
- Gallimore Family \$2
- Derek Dunn- Rankin \$1
- Mayor-Alice Frierson \$1
- Geo Care LLC \$1
- Chuck & Martha Craven \$2
- Kristen Spahr .25 cent
- Lotela Gold Band \$1
- Frank and Rose Bauer .25 cent
- Lew Ambler .50 cent
- Dick Fazzone \$1
- Ed & Mary Lyne .50 cent
- The Veterans Council \$1
- Wendy Hunter \$1
- Don T. Bench .25 cent
- Dr. Lorenzo Dixon \$1
- George Dickenson .75 cent
- Darrell Suggs .50 cent
- First State Bank \$1
- Plattner’s Arcadia Chevrolet - Buick \$1
- K&J Produce \$1
- Judy Kirkpatrick \$1
- John Drake & Jackie Scogin .50 cent
- California Toe Jam Band \$1
- County Commissioner - Bob Miller .50 cent
- Celebrity Entertainment \$2
- Ed Stone .30 cent
- Don & Mary Finkle .50 cent
- Steve ‘Big Daddy’ Knapp .50 cent
- Patrick Lange .50 cent
- Rhonda Mixon \$1
- Mike Kazyzkowski \$1
- City Administrator Tom Slaughter .50 cent
- Paul Bennett Seusy, “Esq.” \$1
- Jane Fricke Martin \$1
- Dr. Ronald Sevigny \$1
- John & Trudi Super \$1
- County Commissioner-Buddy Mansfield \$1
- Ronnie Jones \$1
- Jan Schmitz \$1
- Seacoast Bank \$1
- Michelle Williamson - The Williamson Group \$1
- Cox Pest Control \$1

GOAL!
150 lbs.



If you wish to make a pledge contact Joe Gallimore by phone at 990-8099 or 494-2434 or email jgallimore@sun-herald.com

Where to find your newest BFF



ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY SUSAN E. HOFFMAN

Fawn is a beautiful female Catahoula Leopard mix, about five months old. She is a light chocolate color with distinctive spots, a white bib and some white on her face. She gets along well with other dogs and walks well on a leash. To adopt Fawn or one of the other available dogs or cats, visit the Animal Services office at 2048 N.E. McKay St.



Bruiser is a strong, athletic Staffordshire Terrier, estimated at 1-1/2 to 2 years old. He was abandoned when his owners moved, but he's a friendly fun-loving guy. He gets along well with other dogs and shows no aggression. (But don't trust him around cats!) Bruiser is very friendly, muscular and athletic and could be a fun-loving companion in the right home.



Buster is a four-month-old domestic shorthair tabby. He's inquisitive, playful and purrs at the drop of a hat. He gets along well with other cats and would make a good companion for a loving home.



Sasha is the sweetest dog. She's female, 2 years old, and a beagle/cur mix. She gets along well with other dogs (although the beagle in her tells her cats are for chasing). You can meet Sasha at DeSoto County Animal Services, 2048 N.E. McKay St.



Zippy is a tricolor Chihuahua/Manchester Terrier mix. He's six months old, and had to be surrendered by his owner. He's a lively little guy and will make a fun companion.



Pumpkin is a 6-month old female domestic shorthair cat, gray and white in color. She is a shy but gentle kitten and gets along well with other cats.



Miracle is a 6-year-old red bone hound mix. She's female and she's been spayed. She gets along with all kinds of animals including livestock, and she loves children. She was reluctantly given up by a loving owner who could no longer care for her. She could be your own miracle if you adopt her.



Lucky Seven is a female medium-haired domestic kitten. She's mostly black but has white toes and a white bib. She's playful and will live up to her name if someone gives her a loving furr-ever home. Call 863-993-4855 for details on Seven or any of the other adoptable animals.

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