

MAY 26, 2020



Peace River

S H O P P E R

Serving DeSoto, Charlotte and Hardee Counties

FREE Compliments Of Our Advertisers

2020

GRADUATION KEEPSAKE AVAILABLE JUNE 2, 2020

Find out where to pick it up on page 4



Featured Article by **Carol Mahler**, carolmahler3@gmail.com

**CELEBRATE MAY AS
NATIONAL HISTORIC
PRESERVATION MONTH
GO VIRTUAL**

Read It On
Page 24

**NEWS
and
MORE**
EST. 1996

For display advertising, contact Sales: **863.990.9813** or sales@dancollins.biz
FREE Classified Line: 863.491.6800 or prs@dancollins.biz



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Your **FREE SUBSCRIPTION** is now available! Be the first to read The Shopper from your inbox on Monday afternoon. Email: angie@dancollins.biz

Town & Country PROPERTIES

of Florida, Inc.



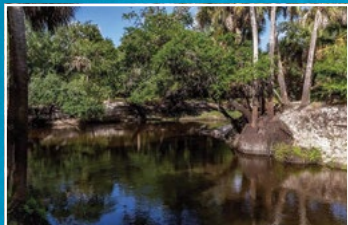
Ronda Woppman
Broker
863.990.0768
Se Habla Español



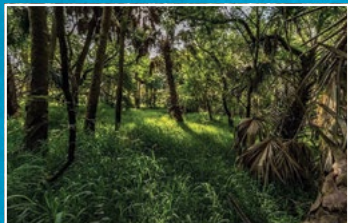
Voted #1 Real Estate Brokerage Two Years Running!

(863) 494-1739 • 521 E. Hickory Street • Arcadia, FL 34266

NEW LAND LISTING



Gorgeous 20 acre parcel with Prairie Creek frontage. Located on a dead end county road with few homes the privacy is blissful. Centrally located with easy access to HWY 31 makes for a quick commute to Fort Myers (Lee), Charlotte or DeSoto County.



\$275,000

FOR RENT



Welcome to 11 isolated acres in south Florida. Sitting at 7000+ square feet. This property boasts two separate buildings, the main house has an open floor plan and vaulted ceilings. The second building is the perfect space for you to create your ultimate "man cave" or "she shed".

\$4,400 per month



**** REDUCED ****

Remarkably maintained 2 bedroom 2 bathroom home featuring over 1500 sq. ft. of living space on just under an acre of land

\$149,900



YOUR HOMETOWN TEAM REALTORS



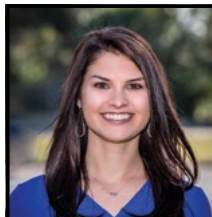
Chris Woppman
Realtor
863.494.1739



Tracy Hay
Realtor
239.398.6087



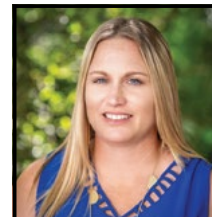
Sarah Whidden
Realtor
863.205.7261



Ciara Mercer
Realtor
863.244.3024



Shayla Ramirez-Shannon
Realtor
863.244.1355



Katie Bryan
Realtor
863.445.0601

www.townandcountrypropertiesflorida.com

Family owned and operated, serving Desoto County and surrounding areas since 1956

Se Habla Espanol



TURNER REALTY COMPANY, INC.

Eugene H. Turner "Brother", Broker

863-494-4777

105 S. Brevard Avenue • Arcadia, FL 34266



For a complete list of properties for sale, please visit:
WWW.TURNERREALTY.COM



Ready to move in fabulous 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath home with carport

\$167,000 C7428913



Beautiful four bedroom two and an half bath colonial/ranch brick home on gorgeous five acres with green belt views.

\$349,900 C7423572



Warm and inviting brick home with 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and garage

\$226,500 C7428477



3 bedroom, 2 bath country home situated on 1.5 acres with a caged in pool located in the Joshua Creek area.

\$299,900 C7428540



Build your Dream Home and have your very own Country Estate!

\$214,900 C7426626



21+/- acres of pastureland with road frontage

\$199,500 C7251376



2 Houses and one Price! This is a great opportunity to own your own home while making your mortgage payment with rent proceeds from the second house

\$174,900 C7426948 + C7426986 BOTH!



We have agents ready to assist you **SEVEN DAYS A WEEK!**



Ashley Grimaldi
C: 813.546.0337
O: 863-494-4777



Kay Mercer
C: 863.990.7001
O: 863-494-4777



Kayla Shelfer
C: 863.303.4898
O: 863.494.4777



Maribel Carrillo
C: 863-990-2853
O: 863-494-4777



Ted Zolkos
C: 863-990-2888
O: 863-494-4777



Peace River SHOPPER

DeSoto County's Weekly Publication

MAY 26, 2020

2020 GRADUATION KEEPSAKE IS COMING SOON!!!

Available June 2, 2020

The 2020 Graduation Keepsake publication will be available on Tuesday, June 2, 2020. This year's edition will be unlike any in the past. The printing will be provided by the newest member to the Peace River Shopper family, Peace River Media Group. This is the same company that printed this year's programs for the DeSoto County Fair as well as the Arcadia Rodeo Association. The Graduation Keepsake will be almost 80 pages, magazine quality, full color gloss and not newsprint as the previous years have been.

Where to pick up your copy:

DeSoto High School

1710 E Gibson St, Arcadia, FL 34266

DeSoto County School Board Office

530 N La Solona Ave, Arcadia, FL 34266

The Peace River Shopper / Collins Management & Realty Building

223 E. Oak St, Arcadia, FL 34266

@Peacerrivershopper

DEADLINES

Standard weekly cutoff times for ads apply to the week prior to each issue's release day. Printed issues are released each week on Tuesday:

- Space reservation: *Wednesdays, 5pm*
- Camera-ready ads: *Fridays, 5pm*
- Copy and graphics for ads requiring design: *Wednesdays, 5pm*
- Classified Ads: *Thursdays, 5pm*

REMINDER: From the beginning, our Shopper's policy is not to publish anything negative about anyone. Please remember this when placing advertisement with us. We admit mistakes have happened, however we will strive to prevent this in the future. We reserve the right to use our discretion in selecting, editing and determining the duration of publication of all advertisements. The Peace River Shopper is not liable for omissions, misprints, typographical errors or the condition of any advertised items. The Peace River Shopper assumes no liability for any misinterpretation of the advertisements in this publication. Information printed in this Shopper does not necessarily reflect our opinion or values.

SALES INQUIRIES

sales@dancollins.biz
863.990.9813

CUSTOMER SUCCESS/GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Jackie Bierman
jbierman@dancollins.biz
863.491.6420

OPERATIONS/GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Jonathan Bruch | jonathan@dancollins.biz

OFFICE MANAGER

Angie Duckett | angie@dancollins.biz

Contact us today to place your

FREE CLASSIFIED!

Call 863.491.6800

or email prs@dancollins.biz

Upgrade your classified and add a picture or logo for only \$15 per week! Email ads to ensure accuracy. Limit 20 words per ad and two ads per household. Runs for 2-4 weeks (space permitting).

PAID CLASSIFIEDS

Paid Classifieds are for businesses, paid services, employment or classifieds over 20 words. Paid classifieds are \$15/week for 35 words or less. 15¢ per word over 35.

ONLINE PHONE BOOK

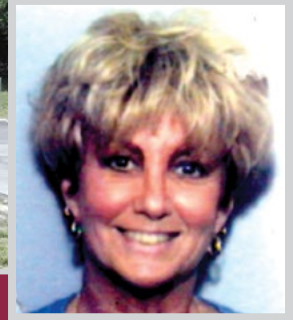
SENT VIA EMAIL!

Contact Angie Duckett 863.993.7979 or email: angie@dancollins.biz for rates and more information

Peace River SHOPPER

DESOTO | CHARLOTTE | HARDEE

223 E. OAK ST. STE. 1B, ARCADIA, FL 34266



Jean Lee Vitali

Contact this agent:

 863.990.5106

 jean1711@gmail.com

 www.jeanvitali.com

NEW LISTING

IN ARCADIA

Asking \$179,000

4 Bedrooms

2162 total sq ft

2 Bathrooms

.39 acre CORNER lot

- Storage shed
- Kitchen with appliances
- Detached garage
- Breakfast bar
- Indoor laundry
- Brick Patio
- Well & septic
- Front & side yard fenced
- Landscaped
- Large living room
- Family room/dining combo
- Large Oak trees
- Rear enclosed porch
- Some furniture

Concrete block home with metal roof and priced to sell.

MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY

Make your appointment today!

 Like us on: **facebook**®

@jeansellsrealestatefl

COLLINS 
MANAGEMENT & REALTY INC.

 863.494.6181

 223 E. Oak Street
Arcadia, FL 34266



ARREST REPORT 5/17/20 - 5/21/20
DESOTO COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

GLENDAMARIE GARCIA:

Robbery-Residence-Home Invasion With Firearm Other Deadly Weapon, Kidnap, Cocaine-Possess-With Intent To Sell/Manufacture/Deliver, Etc., Amphetamine-Traffic-Or Methamphetamine 14 Grams Or Over, Marijuana-Possess-Not More Than 20 Grams, Drug Equipment-Possess-&/Or Use.

LEODEGAIRO MEJIA

GUTIERREZ: Battery-Touch Or Strike.

CHARLES RICHARD HENDRY:

Drugs-Possess-Controlled Substance Without Prescription, Drug Equipment-Possess-&/Or Use, Vehicle Theft-Grand Theft Of Motor Vehicle.

PATRICK GORDON KING:

Burglary-Unoccupied Structure Unarmed, Stolen Property-Deal In, Larceny-\$300 Less \$10,000 From 65 Years Of Age Or Older.

MIGUEL ANGEL LOPEZ:

Burglary-Unoccupied Conveyance Unarmed, Larceny-Grand Theft \$300 Less Than \$5,000, Larceny-Petit Theft \$100 Less \$300.

JUAN ESTEBAN MARTINEZ:

Robbery-Residence-Home Invasion With Firearm Other Deadly Weapon, Kidnap, Aggravated Assault-With Deadly Weapon Without Intent To Kill, Drugs-Possess-Controlled Substance Without Prescription, Possession Of Weapon-Or Ammo By Convicted Florida Felon, Drug Equipment-Possess-&/Or Use.

MARCOS MARTINEZ:

Probation Violation.

THOMAS JAMES

MCPHERSON: Probation Violation, Drugs-Possess-Controlled Substance Without Prescription, Drug Equipment-Possess-&/Or Use.

DEMETRI LUCAS SCOTT:

Probation Violation.

ANTONIO QUINTANA RIVAS:

Traffic Offense-DUI Alcohol Or Drugs, Nonmoving Traffic Violation-Drive While License Suspended.

TOUSSAINT DESHOMMES:

Nonmoving Traffic Violation-Drive While License Suspended.

RANDY MICHAEL JOHNSON:

Fraud-Utter False Bank Bill/Note/Check/Draft.

TIFFANY ALLEN

MCCLELLAND: Fraud-Utter False Bank Bill/Note/Check/Draft.

JOSEPH ALAN PELHAM JR:

Drugs-Possess-Controlled Substance Without Prescription, Drug Equipment-Possess-&/Or Use.

MIGUEL ANGEL PEREZ:

Trespassing-Property Not Structure Or Conveyance, Drug Equipment-Possess-&/Or Use.

LILDRECO SAVYON

TOMPKINS: Aggravated Assault-With Deadly Weapon Without Intent To Kill, Carrying Concealed Weapon-Firearm.

MARGARET ANN VIVEROS:

Battery-Touch Or Strike.

LARISSA DONNETTA

WILSON: Drug Equipment-Possess-&/Or Use, Marijuana-Possess-With Intent To Sell Etc. Within 1,000 Ft. Specified Area.



SHERIFF JAMES F. POTTER

PROUDLY INTRODUCES THE DESOTO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE MOBILE APP



1-800-780-TIPS
(8477)

FEATURES INCLUDE:

- Submit A Tip
 - Inmate Search
 - Crime Alerts
 - Sex Offender Lookup
 - Crime Prevention Tips
- & MORE!**

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FOR FREE**



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1471 SW Hwy 17 Arcadia, FL 34266
PH 863-494-0164 • FX 863-494-0318

hwy17autobrokers.com

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"The Folks You Know and Trust"

Quality Vehicles for almost any Budget!



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financing
+
Multiple
Outside
Lenders**

Our vehicles are inspected, road tested and any issues corrected before the Sale



**LOWEST
"CASH"
PRICES
AROUND!**



2008 Nissan Pathfinder
Clean! 3-row seating.
Excellent condition.



2008 Chrysler Aspen
Fully Loaded



2007 Dodge Dakota
Very Nice and
Runs Great



DEACON

Visit our website at hwy17autobrokers.com for more info & vehicles

YOUR *Desoto County*
2020 CAMPAIGN MARKETING **HEADQUARTERS**

PLAN YOUR *Custom* POLITICAL CAMPAIGN TODAY!
CALL 863.336.1250

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CAMPAIGN BRAND DESIGN
CAMPAIGN MATERIAL DESIGN

10
for
\$95

H-Frame Included!

COROPLAST SIGNS
4mm Coroplast - 2 Sides

2
24x18
\$85

VEHICLE MAGNETS
Glossy Heavy Duty 30mil Magnetic Sign

\$3.50
per
SqFt

BANNERS
13oz Scrim Vinyl Outdoor

STICKERS
Eggshell, Semi-Gloss,
White/Clear BOPP Stickers

POSTCARDS & RACKCARDS
16pt Matte or Gloss UV Coated

POSTERS
Blockout or Photogloss

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EDDM & Direct Mail.
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ADDITIONAL PRODUCTS AVAILABLE:

- ✓ Bumper Stickers
- ✓ Presentation Folders
- ✓ Door Hangers
- ✓ Political Business Cards
- ✓ Banner Stands
- ✓ Table runners & Covers
- ✓ Buttons
- ✓ Hats
- ✓ **AND MANY MORE!!**

SPECIAL POLITICAL AD RATES AVAILABLE



INCREASE YOUR BRAND AWARENESS

ADVERTISE IN THE **PEACE RIVER SHOPPER!**

YOUR *#1 Source* FOR LOCAL ADVERTISING!



A new member of the Peace River Shopper family.

863-336-1250

sales@peacrivermediagroup.com
223 E. Oak St. Arcadia, FL 34266

★ HAPPY ★ Memorial Day

7 MORE PROPERTIES SOLD!!



Congratulations to Mr. Scott on the sale of his property!



Congratulations to Mr. Gilmore on the sale of his property!



Congratulations to Mr. Scott on the sale of his property!



Congratulations to Mr. Manriquez on the purchase of his property!



Congratulations to Ms. Phillips on the sale of her property!



Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Boodram on the sale of their property!



Congratulations to Mr. Diaz on the purchase of his property!

FOR RENT



Two bedroom, two bathroom home. \$1200 per month



**Michelle Williamson
Broker**



**Brandi Long
Broker Associate**



**Erica Bautista
REALTOR®**



**THE WILLIAMSON
GROUP REALTY, INC.**

1007 East Oak Street

thewilliamsongrouprealty.com

Follow us on:



(863) 494-9009

R RadioShack **IS OPEN**

Yes, we are here to help you keep your Cell Phone, Computers, Internet and other essential electronics up and running! We also are continuing our daily UPS mailing service, our appliance repair department, and New appliances with FREE delivery, to ensure you have these essential services available during these unprecedented times!

Please call us if we can be of any assistance.

Stay safe..... **WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER!** -Bonnie

863-494-4949 - 707 N. Brevard Avenue Arcadia, FL 34266

Monday - Friday 9:00-5:30 • Saturday 9:00-2:00

Arcadia Hearing

Thank you Arcadia for voting me the Best Hearing Instrument Specialist in DeSoto County for 2013!
I greatly appreciate your loyalty and support!

- Linda Foster



I have been serving DeSoto County since 1988. I am an approved Medicaid and insurance provider with **FREE** Hearing Evaluations.

110 W. Oak St. (In with Valley Florist)
(863) 494-2342

WE ONLY SMOKE AFTER MEALS.

When you smoke, it's like they're smoking.

Help protect them from the dangers of secondhand smoke.

It's everyone's responsibility.

Visit tobaccofreeflorida.com to find free ways to quit!



Of DeSoto County



228 East Oak St., Suite 3, Arcadia, FL 34266
863-318-7848 / www.TFP-DeSoto.org

ANTIQUES/COLLECTIBLES

WWII models. Professionally painted plastic helicopters, tanks, planes. \$25 and up. 863-494-0167

JB Van Sciver antique dining set. 10 pieces. \$1200.
941-286-7315

APPLIANCES

Whirlpool Dishwasher. White. Clean. Works perfect. \$85.
716-374-2950

Dryer, Electric, White, Admiral, Large capacity. Look sand runs great. \$120.
716-374-2950

Microwave, Panasonic, stainless steel. Like new. \$45
716-374-2950

Dryer, Electric, White, Kenmore Large Capacity. \$120.
716-374-2950

Whirlpool, black smooth electric stove. \$200.
863-266-7369

30gal Hot water heater. \$50. Works well.
863-245-9898

Refrigerator G/E. Side-by-side. Cream color. Water/ice, glass shelves. \$225.
716-374-2950

Electric dryer. Kenmore Elite. White. Looks and works great. \$125
716-374-2950

Dishwasher. Whirlpool, white, like new. Works perfect. \$95
716-374-2950

AUCTION

AUTO PARTS/SUPPLIES

92 Ford F150 Parts Truck. \$400.
920-495-5060

301 chevy and 302 chevy hp all forged short blocks, new trw and brc 11.5 pistons both balanced, \$1500. and \$1800. Ft.Ogden
802-380-5777

Four (4) Ford Mustang racing rims and tires. Good condition. \$1500
OBO. 863-231-4441

Camper Shell. Fits Chevy S10 Extended cab. Glass excellent condition. Needs paint job.
510-904-8570

BABIES/CHILDREN

BIKES/BICYLCES

BOATS/EQUIPMENT

14' Boat and trailer for sale. Husband sick and can't use. \$300.
941-613-0303 or 863-266-1655



PREFERRED REAL ESTATE ARCADIA, LLC
 MICHAEL S. MANWARREN BROKER/OWNER
 OFFICE: 863-494-2424 CELL: 863-303-1133
 mike@preferredarcadia.com preferredarcadia.com
 facebook.com/preferredarcadia

We will list any property for only 4% of the selling price.

We will credit buyers up to 2% of the purchase price, toward closing costs; when you purchase property with us.

We will assist homeowners, who wish to sell their own property.

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We accept Medicare, Medicaid, Blue Cross and all major medical plans

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Full Optical Boutique • Contact Lenses

Our Board Certified physicians are committed to not just meeting your expectations but exceeding them!

We accept Medicare, Medicaid, Blue Cross and all major medical plans



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Hablamos Español
 (24 Hour A Day
 Emergency Eye Care)
www.7eeye.com

Ronald O. Sevigny, O.D.
 Mark D. Sevigny, O.D.
 Robyn Russell, O.D.
 Daniel Welch, M.D.

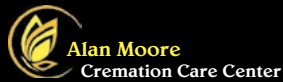
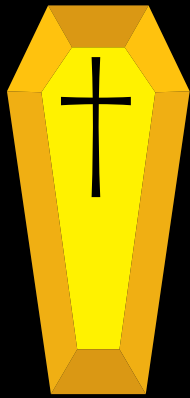


Dr. Mark D. Sevigny

Dr. Ronald O. Sevigny

863.491.7777

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



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See page
19
For more info

Cremations starting at **\$695**
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Schedule Your Exam Today!
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Arcadia Family Optometry
122 N Brevard Ave., Arcadia, FL 34266

mcr.health

Set of used tires and wheels. 18". Fits Ford F150 6-lug.
863-266-7369

2011 15'4" Gheenoe, (flat bottom canoe), w/ galvanized trailer and 5 h.p. Suzuki outboard.
\$1,500 OBO
863-990-0273

9.9 Mercury outboard under 20 hours, one year old Continental trainer, 12' MirroCraft aluminum boat, \$2,000. Call
863-990-7551

BUSINESS FOR SALE

DeSoto Shark Tank

Got An Idea For A New Business. Or Need Help With Your Current Business. Let's make money together!

Email: dan@dancollins.biz
(attn: DeSoto Shark Tank)

CAMPERS/RVS

2000 Nomad trailer 2 slide outs on Linville River and Lake James, N.C., private gated RV park
863-699-2268

\$7000 1993 35ft RV. Little Willies Arcadia. Lot rent \$320
810-223-4382

Small Camping Trailer. Resembles a tear drop camper. Sleeps two.
863-303-7180

CLASSES AND LESSONS

CLOTHING

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

COMPUTERS/ELECTRONICS

32" Samsung television, 1080, \$50. Window flat tv antenna \$10.
863-558-6115

CRAFTS

CYCLES/ATVS/CARTS

Cash paid for your unwanted, unused golf carts
Call before 3 PM only.
941-276-3891

2003 Honda VTX 1800

Motorcycle/Cruiser.
\$3000 OBO.
863-990-2434

1999 Honda Gold Wing

50th Anniversary Model - loaded. 28580 miles. Arcadia
419-569-2086

Yamaha Golf Cart

Gas powered, seats 2 people. lights and windowshield. Good





All Faiths Food Bank DeSoto Food and Resource Center

Receive:

- Free emergency food
- Free application assistance for **SNAP** (formerly known as food stamps), **Medicaid** and **TANF**

For the health and safety of our staff and community, food provided will be pre-boxed items to grab and go.

If you attend any All Faiths Food Bank Mobile distributions, there must be a 14-day gap of services in order to receive food at the DeSoto Food and Resource Center.

May Hours:

Mondays: 2:00 – 6:00 pm | May 11, 18

Wednesdays: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm | May 6, 13, 20, 27

Thursdays: 2:00 – 6:00 pm | May 7, 14, 21, 28

1021 E. Oak St, Arcadia FL

Mobile Food Distributions

You can also receive food at our mobile food distributions. For locations and times, visit allfaithsfoodbank.org/foodfinder or call **941.379.6333**

Mobile Distributions supported in part by Mosaic

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

condition. \$1000.

863-993-0170



COLDWELL BANKER
GAMIOTEA REALTY

707 E. Hickory St. Arcadia, FL 34266

863-494-3600

Each Office Is Independently Owned and Operated

Theresa Hanusch
863-990-8143

Nancy Boyland
863-244-9230

Karen Schuller
863-444-0280

Lori DeLoach
863-558-2111

Bobby Horta
863-202-5490
Se Habla Español

Michael Daniel
941-681-5762
Mwen Pale Kreol Tou

Shirley Brown
863-244-1381

Kathey L. Gamiotea
Broker/Owner
863-990-1000

www.arcadiafloridarealty.com

LAKE FRONT

RED BRICK HOME, REMODELED, 2500+ SF LIV AREA, 2 FIREPLACES, 2 BR, OFFICE AS 3RD BR, 2.5 BATHS, FORMAL DIN RM & LIV RM, FAM RM, TV RM, LANAI, DBL GARAGE. ALL NEW KITCHEN & BATH RMS, NEW SS APPLIANCES, NEW FLOORS, NEW WALLS, NEW AC, CITY WATER. \$274,500. H-2313

35 ACRES

KINGS HWY, APPROX 35 ACRES OF BEAUTIFUL PASTURE LAND WITH SCATTERING OF OAK TREES. MANY GREAT HOME SITES ON THIS PROPERTY. STORAGE BARN IN THE PASTURE, WATER AND ELECTRIC. PROPERTY CAN BE DIVIDED. \$12,000 PER SURVEYED ACRES. A-290

PUNTA GORDA

3 BR 3 BATH HOME, MAIN HOUSE HAS 2/2 AND GUEST APT HAS 1/1 WITH PRIVATE ENTRANCE. CORNER LOT 24X25 METAL BARN WITH OVERHEAD DOOR FOR ALL YOUR "TOYS". MINUTES TO DARST PARK AND PUBLIC BOAT RAMP ON THE PEACE RIVER. H-2339

INDUSTRIAL ZONING

HWY 70 EAST, INDUSTRIAL LIGHT ZONING, 395 ACRES, ZONED FOR MANUFACTURING, COMMERCIAL, WAREHOUSE, STORAGE, MANY TYPES OF BUSINESS. APPROX 300 FT HWY FRONTAGE, HIGH TRAFFIC COUNT. \$249,900. C-082

SOLD

4 BEDROOM, 2 BATH REMODELED HOME WITH CITY SERVICES, NEW TILE AND VINYL PLANK FLOORING. NEW KITCHEN AND BATHROOMS CABINETS, NEW TILE WALLS IN BATHROOMS, PAINTED IN-OUT SIDE, NEW ROOF, NEW AC. \$124,900. H-2339

KINGS HWY

10 ACRES, 3 BR 1.5 BATH HOME ON KINGS HWY, OVER 1600 SF OF LIVING AREA, FORMAL DINING RM, OFFICE, SINGLE GARAGE. 30X50 BARN/WORKSHOP WITH CONCRETE FLOOR. PASTURE, FENCED, ADDITIONAL ACREAGE CAN BE PURCHASED. \$299,000. H- 2298

COMMERCIAL ZONING

4+ LOTS, 153 ACRES, ZONED COMMERCIAL GENERAL ZONING. FRONTAGE ON 3 ROADS, CORNER PROPERTY, LOCATED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE BUSINESS AREA ON CARLSTROM FIELD RD. \$265,000. C-081

HWY 31

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING LOT. NATIVE FLORIDA TREES ON THE PROPERTY, JUST ABOUT HALF-ACRE LOT. \$19,900. L-416

SUNNYBREEZE

2 HOME BUILDING LOTS, .36 ACRE EACH LOT. LOTS ARE SIDE BY SIDE. MINUTES TO PEACE RIVER PUBLIC BOAT RAMP & SUNNYBREEZE GOLF COURSE. \$19,900 EACH LOT, L-421

SUNNYBREEZE

BEAUTIFUL 3 BR 2 BA HOME ON 2 LOTS. BACK LOT IS FENCED, HAS A "HE" SHED, VARIETY OF PLANTS AND FRUIT TREES. HOME HAS 17X20 LIVING RM PLUS DINING RM AND KITCHEN W/BREAKFAST BAR. OVER 1500 SF LIVING AREA. SOME FURNITURE STAYS. LANAI, CARPORT, "SHE" SHED, LANDSCAPED. MOVE-IN READY. \$149,900. M-477

DOW REALTY, INC.
863-494-6062



Mary Dow
 Broker/Owner

Serving Arcadia Since 1975
 Family Owned Personal & Friendly Small Town

On Highway 760A

3 Bedroom 1 Bath home with Central H/A,
 Stove & Refrigerator, Fenced Back Yard,
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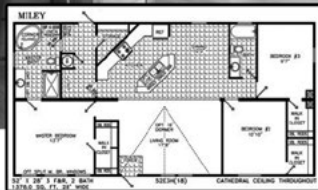
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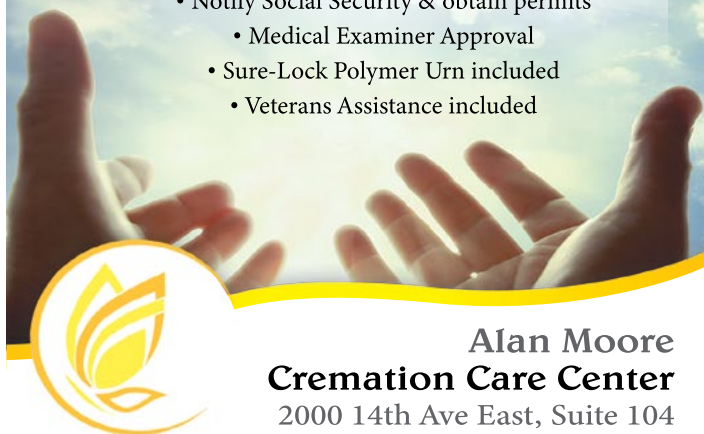
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Celebrate May as National Historic Preservation Month

GO VIRTUAL!



CAROL MAHLER
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This May, the National Trust for Historic Preservation presents an “entirely virtual” National Historic Preservation Month: “Unlock a Piece of History of Every Day” at <https://savingplaces.org/preservationmonth#XrFtnS2ZOt8>. There’s still time to join in the fun!

In response to the pandemic, many historic sites are closed to the public, so the Trust is hosting daily virtual tours: “You’ll wander the rooms of iconic houses, roam wide-open spaces, and peek behind the scenes at some of your favorite historic sites—all at your own pace.”

For example, May 1 featured a tour of the Pope-Leighey House in Alexandria, Virginia, completed in 1940. This National Trust Historic Site “exemplifies Frank Lloyd Wright’s Usonian homes, a series of single-story, modestly sized residences that reflect the architect’s desire to design an affordable and well-designed home for the average American.”

May 16 presents an original play performed at “The Shadows,” a National Trust Site in New Iberia, Louisiana. American Playwright Ifa Bayeza wrote a new one-act play entitled “Bunk Johnson—Out of the Shadows: A Blues Poem” that “chronicles Johnson’s life in New Iberia and explores his place in music history.”

In 1949, President Harry Truman signed into law legislation forming the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The Trust began National Historic Preservation Week in 1973, and it became a month-long observance in 2005.

In Arcadia and DeSoto County, historic preservation provides economic development, live-ability, revitalization,

and sustainability. It maintains the unique character of our communities and boosts the pride that residents feel in their neighborhoods.

The DeSoto County Historical Society’s John Morgan Ingraham House Museum is also closed to the public. However, the Society is observing National Preservation Month by posting historic photographs and information on the Society’s Facebook page and Web site: historicdesoto.org.

In addition, the Society partnered with South Florida State College to make an online, self-guided, mobile-friendly tour of downtown historic Arcadia, Florida. It features maps, historic photos, and brief histories of structures in Arcadia’s historic business district. A QR (“Quick Response”) Code is posted around town to access the tour or go online at http://libguides.southflorida.edu/florida/desoto_walking_tour.

The Helen C. Washington (HCW) Foundation also features history on its Facebook page. The Foundation—a 501c3, not-for-profit, all-volunteer organization—was founded by Charles Washington (1951-2018) to honor his mother, Helen Copeland Washington (1925-2003), “by establishing a permanent historical record of African-American settlers and their culture in DeSoto County.”

An integral part of that “permanent historical record” is the Smith-Brown School, and the Foundation is raising funds to install a Florida Historical Marker at the school’s last location. Founded in 1892, under Florida’s “separate but equal” segregation laws, the school originally offered only elementary education. In 1921, it became a junior high school, and in 1937-1938, a senior high school with the first class of three graduates.

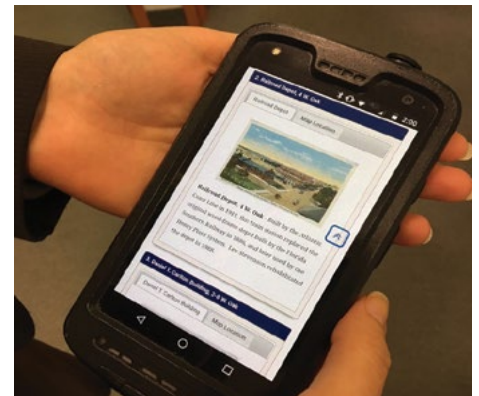
In 1946, a new building was constructed on Orange Ave. from more than 8,000 cement blocks made by the teachers, students, and parents. After

integration, the school was closed in 1970. Hurricane Charley damaged the long-vacant structure in 2004, and it was demolished.

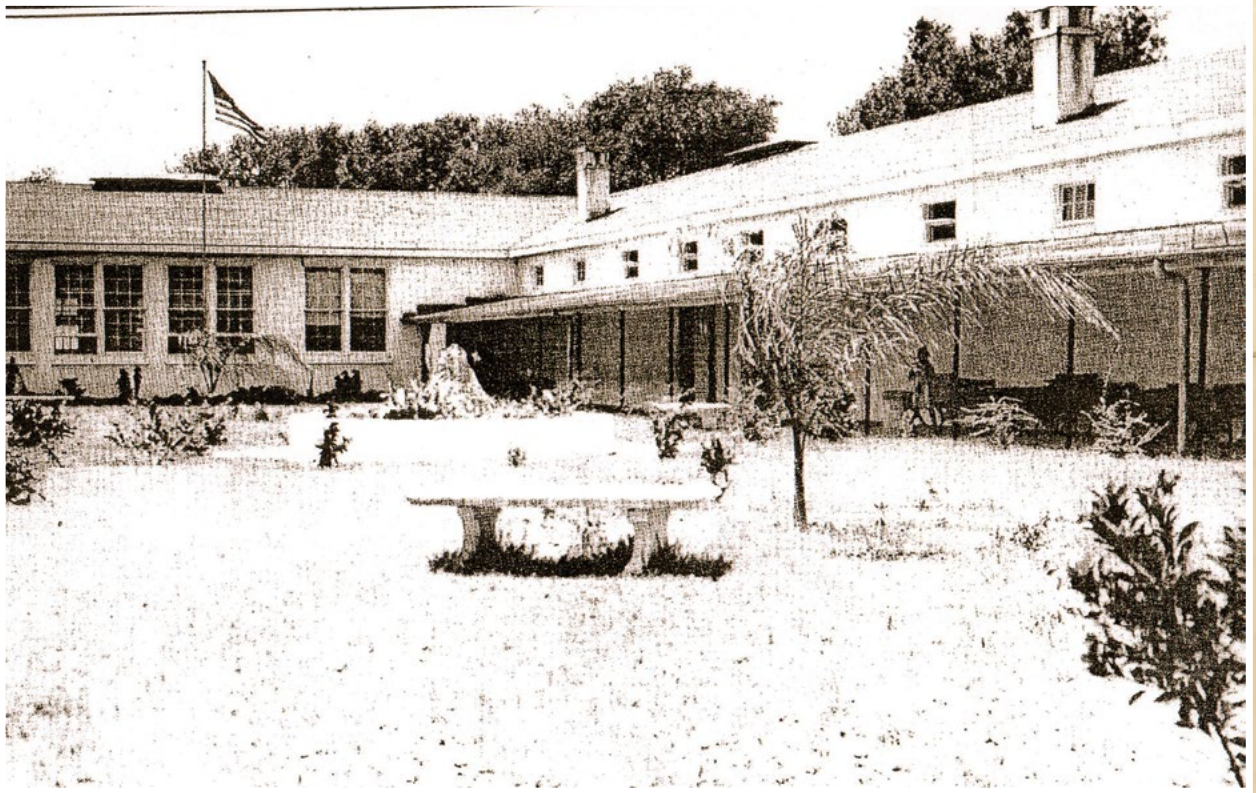
Seven Florida Historical Markers currently identify historic sites in DeSoto County: Arcadia City Hall, Arcadia Historic District (in the Tree of Knowledge Park), DeSoto County (on the courthouse lawn), Fort Ogden (in front of the post office), Owens Community School, Florida Baptist Orphanage (at the southwest corner of N. Arcadia Ave. and W. Winifred St.), and Site of Old Pine Level (9827 NW Pine Level St.).

The Florida Division of Historical Resources notes that its Historical Marker Program is one of its “most popular and visible public history programs. It is designed to raise public awareness of Florida’s rich cultural history and to enhance the enjoyment of our historic sites by citizens and tourists.” More information is available online at <https://dos.myflorida.com/historical/preservation/historical-markers>.

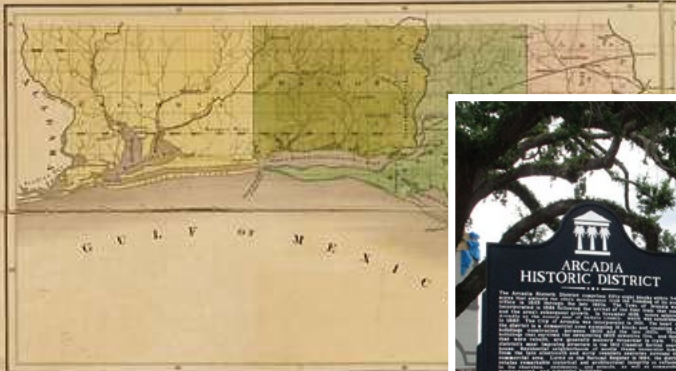
Contact the HCW Foundation, at 863-494-0043 or helencw2003@gmail.com. Contact the DeSoto County Historical Society at 863-266-5774 or historicdesoto.org.



The DeSoto County Historical Society partnered with South Florida State College to make an online, mobile-friendly, self-guided walking tour of historic downtown Arcadia.



The HCW Foundation is raising funds for a Florida Historical Marker for the Smith-Brown School that was built as a quadrangle with an interior courtyard. Photograph courtesy of the DeSoto County Historical Society.



The Historical Society and Peace River Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution partnered to install a Florida Historical Marker for the Arcadia Historic District located in the Tree of Knowledge Park.

No Cost to Ride

Effective March 23, 2020, all fares are suspended until further notice. Cost to ride is FREE.

We have enhanced cleaning frequency and disinfectant products are being used to sanitize the vehicles. In keeping with CDC guidelines, please limit or postpone any unnecessary trips and when riding please practice social distancing when possible.

Many businesses, restaurants, senior centers, and adult congregate meal sites are closed or have limited availability. Please contact your location prior to traveling to verify if they are open.



New schedule effective May 18, 2020

Service Hours

7:00 AM to 7:00 PM, Monday - Saturday

Walmart	Goodwill Plaza	Save-A-Lot Plaza	Health Department	Library	Community Health Center	Career Source Heartland	DeSoto Memorial Hospital	Wood Park Point	W. Harris & Orange Ave	Casa San Juan Bosco	DeSoto Landing Apts.	Publix
1	Flag Stop	Flag Stop	Flag Stop	2	Flag Stop	Suspended	3	4	5	6	7	Flag Stop
7:00 AM	7:04 AM	7:08 AM	7:11 AM	7:15 AM	7:18 AM	7:20 AM	7:25 AM	7:30 AM	7:37 AM	7:45 AM	7:52 AM	7:55 AM
8:00 AM	8:04 AM	8:08 AM	8:11 AM	8:15 AM	8:18 AM	8:20 AM	8:25 AM	8:30 AM	8:37 AM	8:45 AM	8:52 AM	8:55 AM
9:00 AM	9:04 AM	9:08 AM	9:11 AM	9:15 AM	9:18 AM	9:20 AM	9:25 AM	9:30 AM	9:37 AM	9:45 AM	9:52 AM	9:55 AM
10:00 AM	10:04 AM	10:08 AM	10:11 AM	10:15 AM	10:18 AM	10:20 AM	10:25 AM	10:30 AM	10:37 AM	10:45 AM	10:52 AM	10:55 AM
11:00 AM	11:04 AM	11:08 AM	11:11 AM	11:15 AM	11:18 AM	11:20 AM	11:25 AM	11:30 AM	11:37 AM	11:45 AM	11:52 AM	11:55 AM
12:00 PM	12:04 PM	12:08 PM	12:11 PM	12:15 PM	12:18 PM	12:20 PM	12:25 PM	12:30 PM	12:37 PM	12:45 PM	12:52 PM	12:55 PM
1:00 PM	1:04 PM	1:08 PM	1:11 PM	1:15 PM	1:18 PM	1:20 PM	1:25 PM	1:30 PM	1:37 PM	1:45 PM	1:52 PM	1:55 PM
2:00 PM	2:04 PM	2:08 PM	2:11 PM	2:15 PM	2:18 PM	2:20 PM	2:25 PM	2:30 PM	2:37 PM	2:45 PM	2:52 PM	2:55 PM
3:00 PM	3:04 PM	3:08 PM	3:11 PM	3:15 PM	3:18 PM	3:20 PM	3:25 PM	3:30 PM	3:37 PM	3:45 PM	3:52 PM	3:55 PM
4:00 PM	4:04 PM	4:08 PM	4:11 PM	4:15 PM	4:18 PM	4:20 PM	4:25 PM	4:30 PM	4:37 PM	4:45 PM	4:52 PM	4:55 PM
5:00 PM	5:04 PM	5:08 PM	5:11 PM	5:15 PM	5:18 PM	5:20 PM	5:25 PM	5:30 PM	5:37 PM	5:45 PM	5:52 PM	5:55 PM
6:00 PM	6:04 PM	6:08 PM	6:11 PM	6:15 PM	6:18 PM	6:20 PM	6:25 PM	6:30 PM	6:37 PM	6:45 PM	6:52 PM	6:55 PM

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to customers.

Y L A L O

--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Loyal

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to cars.

T M O O R

--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Motor

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HENRY BLOSSER, *Owner*

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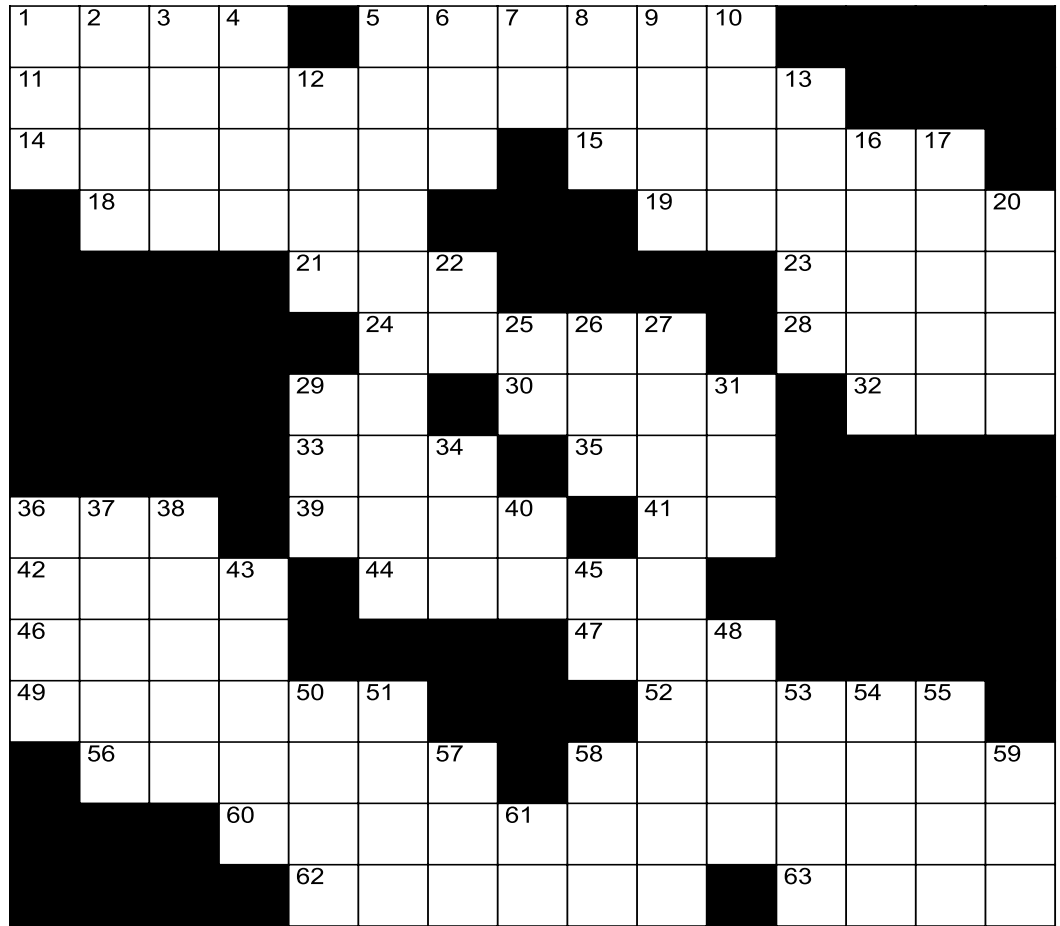
10 South Polk Ave.
Arcadia, FL 34266

863-494-0615

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Expression of sorrow or pity
5. Not bad
11. NYC Mayor
14. Essays
15. Walk lightly
18. Those who utilize
19. Actress Judd
21. One-time community of nations
23. Norwegian river
24. Unconscious states
28. Make muddy
29. Unit of volume
30. Consciousnesses
32. Envision
33. When you aim to get there
35. Electronic data processing
36. Passports are some
39. Snakelike fish
41. Military flyers (abbr.)
42. Popular computers
44. Ecological stage
46. Wings
47. Used in combination
49. Laid back
52. Princess's headgear
56. Musical composition
58. Famed Falls
60. Reiterations
62. Eras
63. Track event



- this
13. Further
16. Variety shows
17. Supernatural
20. A university in Connecticut
22. Atomic #27
25. Of I

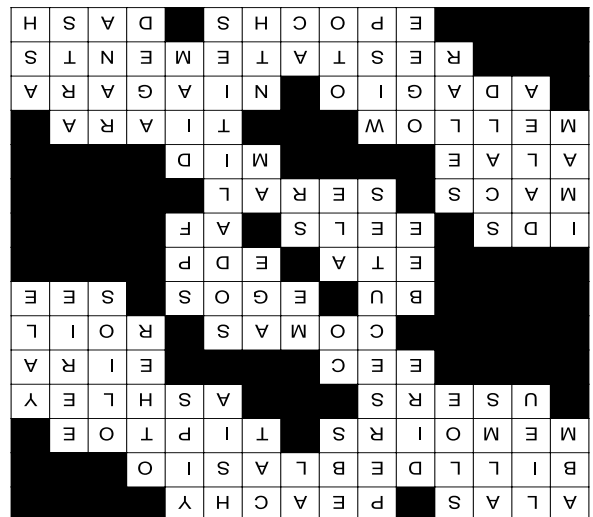
51. Small bunch of hay
53. Ripened
54. Crater on Mars
55. Humanities
57. Of the ears
58. To the __ degree

59. Wood
61. Cools your home

CLUES DOWN

1. Defensive nuclear weapon (abbr.)
2. Instead
3. Gifts for the poor
4. A type of gin
5. Torments
6. One point south of due east
7. Actor Pacino
8. Feline
9. Chinese dynasty
10. Short cries for help
12. Straits can sometimes be

26. We all have one
27. Religious guilds
29. This can sting
31. Sunscreen rating
34. Brew
36. Religious leader
37. Indigo bush
38. Burn with a hot liquid
40. Jr.'s father
43. Ray-finned fish genus
45. Morning
48. Straight line passing from side to side (abbr.)
50. S-shaped line





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FEAR OF CONTRACTING COVID-19 FROM HOSPITALS IS LEADING TO MORE SERIOUS ISSUES

Fear of contracting the COVID-19 virus from hospitals has kept many residents from seeking needed medical care at not only our facility, but hospitals across the nation. In truth, any potential COVID-19 patients are segregated from the rest of the hospital's population and secured in designated negative pressure rooms. The Director of Nursing, Lori A. Colucci of DeSoto Memorial Hospital stated, "All of our staff and our patients are screened upon entry to the facility and required to wear a mask at all times. We also use state of the art equipment to disinfect every area of the hospital. The real fear should be the consequences of delaying care whether that be getting routine lab-work, a mammogram, or going to the Emergency Room."

"Before the Coronavirus started making its way to the United States, we saw approximately 50-60 patients on an average day in our Emergency Room. Currently, we are treating roughly 30 patients per day in the E.R. More people are hesitating to seek treatment and when they finally do gather the courage to go to the hospital, their symptoms are much more severe than if they came initially. Wounds are getting infected, blood sugars are at dangerously high levels, and things that need immediate treatment are having lasting

damage. People are rationalizing their symptoms as something minor so they don't come here and risk catching Coronavirus, when the reality is, they're making themselves worse by staying home." – Amanda Gleockler, Director of DMH Emergency Room.

Jason Newton, Stroke Coordinator for DeSoto Memorial Hospital says, "We went from an average of 15-18 strokes per month; now we are down to 3. When patients do come in, they are usually beyond the treatment window. They've hesitated to seek care out of fear of contracting COVID-19. The treatment window for a stroke is up to 24 hours depending on symptoms that are presented. The majority of our patients are coming in 48-72 hours after onset of symptoms. Patients that arrive within a 4.5 hour window after their symptoms begin can receive a clot busting drug to help alleviate 90% of stroke symptoms if they meet criteria. If a patient presents to the ER within 24 hours and they have a 'large vessel occlusion' they could be eligible for surgical intervention. Beyond that, the treatments are limited to physical, speech, and occupational therapy. In short, the faster you call 911, the better your chances are for reversing permanent disabilities from a stroke. In preparation for our upcoming Primary Stroke

Center Certification, we teach our community "B.E.F.A.S.T." You should check for the following symptoms: **B-Balance**, **E-Eye deviation**, **F-Facial drooping**, **A-Arm weakness**, **S-speech abnormalities**, and **T-time** (don't waste any time seeking treatment)."

For more information you can go to www.stroke.org or you can call our ER directly at 863-494-8479 and our Advanced Stroke Life Support Certified nurses can answer any of your questions about strokes.

The CEO of DMH, Vince Sica added, "The Coronavirus pandemic has been a once in a lifetime event. As the community begins to recover we will have new challenges; establishing the "new normal" is a work in progress. Everyone associated with DeSoto Memorial Hospital is committed to providing patients and visitors with the safest environment possible. We are here to serve you and we will protect all of our patients to the best of our ability. Remember, we are all in this together. Stay safe."



DESOTO MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

900 N. Robert Ave.
Arcadia, FL 34266

KNOW YOUR WORTH

Source: all over the internet, but not sure of origin



A father, before he died, said to his son: "This is the watch your grandfather gave me and this is more than 200 years old. Before I give it to you go to the watch shop on the first street, and tell him I want to sell it, and ask how much they offer".

The son went and after several minutes, he came back to his father and said, "The watchmaker offers to pay \$5 because it's old and has a lot of scratches." He then asked him to go to the coffee shop.

The son went and after an hour or so, he came back and said: "The coffee shop owner offers \$5, father."

"Go to the museum and show that watch".
He went ahead and then came back happily. "They offered me a million dollars for this piece."

The father said: "I wanted to let you know that the right place values your value in a way right, don't put yourself in the wrong place and get angry if you get treated like trash. Those who knows your value are the ones who appreciates you, don't ever stay in a place that doesn't suit you."

Know your worth.



Leadership DeSoto is a program through the DeSoto County Chamber of Commerce formed in 2009. It seeks to educate, challenge and develop a select group of leaders who live or work in DeSoto County. Class members attend monthly sessions focused on different community topics and have the opportunity to hear from leaders and businesses throughout the area.

PROGRAM DATES:
AUGUST 2020 - MAY 2021

Class members will host the annual Leadership DeSoto fundraiser to help continue the transformation of McSwain park. Get a behind the scenes tour of local businesses and organizations

APPLICATIONS WILL BE DUE BY:
WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2020

For more information, contact the chamber at:

863.494.4033

CHAMBER@DESOTOCAMBERFL.COM

www.desotocountychamber.com



Arcadia Church Of God

Pastor Lonnie Stewart
1423 NE. Oak St., Arcadia, FL
464-4717 Church
494-2313 Parsonage

Sunday School 10:00am
Sunday Worship 11:00am & 6:00pm
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00pm

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Baldwin Avenue
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863-494-1128

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Worshop 10:45 & 6pm
Wednesday 7pm

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Wednesday Bible Study - 7:00pm

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Fort Ogden Community Church

Sunday Worship - 10am
Children's Church - 10:15am
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Sunday School 10:00am
Church Service 11:00am
1004 W. Oak St.

Pastor:
Anthony Arias

Pine Level United Methodist Church

Sunday Contemporary Service 9am
Sunday School 10am
Sunday Traditional Service 11am
Wednesday Dinner 6pm
Wednesday Services 7pm
Friday Celebrate Recover 7pm

863-494-0044
9596 Pine Level St., Arcadia
www.pinelevelchurch.com

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Saturday AM Worship Service - 11am
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Diane Burrough

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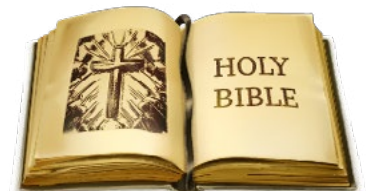
863-494-0485
Sundays at 8am & 10am
Misa en español Dom 7:00pm
www.EpiscopalArcadiaFL.com

Trinity United Methodist Church

304 W. Oak St.,
Arcadia, FL 34266
863-494-2543
www.TrinityArcadia.com
Sunday Worship - 9:30am
Sunday School - 11:00am
Sunday Youth - 3:00pm
Sunday Bible Study - 6:00pm
Pastor Louie Mabrey



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*I believe in the sun even if it isn't shining. I believe in love even when I am alone.
I believe in God even when He is silent.*

OBITUARIES

ZACKARY AAREN CARLSON



Zackary Carlson, age 21 was a beloved son, brother, uncle, family member and friend who passed away in an accident on Friday, May 8, 2020 on his way to work. He was born July 27, 1998 in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. He resided in Hobe Sound, Okeechobee and currently lived in Arcadia, Florida since 2017.

To those who knew Zack, even just the slightest, lost a shining light that brightened their lives. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, and working on his four-wheel drive trucks. Zack was always smiling and happy.

Zack will be missed and loved every day by his Father, Timothy Carlson (Teresa) of Arcadia, FL; his mother, Kimberly Carlson of Okeechobee, FL; his sister, Chrystal Carlson and niece, Nataleigh Carlson both of Arcadia, FL. He

is also survived by many aunts, uncles and cousins, and loving friends.

The family will be holding a Celebration of Life on May 30, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at the Royal Park Estates Community Park, Gator Trail, Arcadia, FL. All are welcome to attend.



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- The Pool Connection
- DeSoto County School District
- Mosaic

Photos by Steve "Big Daddy" Knapp

LIBBY, NOT CASEY AT THE BAT

"While I see about 200 games a year, there are a couple of games that stand out in my memory. This softball game against Southeast was one of them. The Bulldogs didn't even hit the ball in the first inning and didn't even foul off a ball until the second. They trailed 5-0 and didn't look like they were going to hit the Seminoles' pitcher. I started thinking of a headline for the game as the Bulldogs got down to their final 3 at bats. DeSoto started hitting the ball and their confidence grew as the game went on. This is my poem about that comeback win. My apologies to Ernest Thayer who I believe wrote the original "Casey at the bat".



by Steve "Big Daddy" Knapp

Things weren't looking good
for the hometown club
trailing 5-0 in the fifth
and not likely to get the dub.

Shante got the first hit
to knock in a run,
the Bulldogs still trailed
with the score 5-1.

The Bulldogs tallied
another run in the inning
it wasn't much but at least
it was a beginning.

With one more in the 6th
their hopes began to soar,
but still trailing in the last inning
and 5-3 was the score.

Omar walked to
start the frame,
four pitches to Bordner
and she did the same.

Kali got on
so the bags were juiced,
Libby came up to bat
it was time for her to produce.

The first three at bats
the pitcher had her number,
Libby had failed to get a hit,
her bat was in slumber.

The pitcher threw the ball past her
like it was shot from a gun,
Libby wasn't worried at all
as the umpire shouted "strike one"!

The next pitch came in
straight and true,
the fans became worried
as the umpire said "Strike two".

Libby was cool
and as sly as a fox,
She tightened her grip
and stepped back in the box.

The pitcher wound up
and gave the ball a fling,
Libby thought,
"Now is a good time to end this thing".

She had a good swing
and hit it with all of her might,
the fans began to cheer
as the ball took flight.

Over the outfielder's head
the ball flew,
by the time she got it,
the Bulldogs had already scored two.

Coach Wallace was waving
the winning run to the plate,
The throw was a good one,
but just a moment too late.

Sadness engulfed the other team
as each player dropped her mitt,
They had learned a valuable lesson,
the DeSoto Bulldogs never quit.

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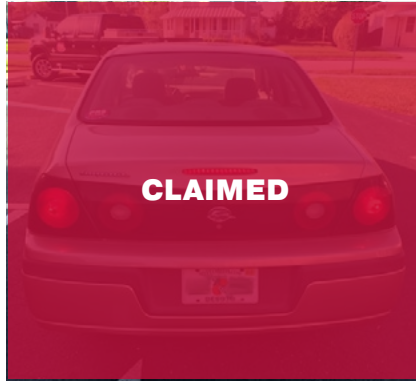
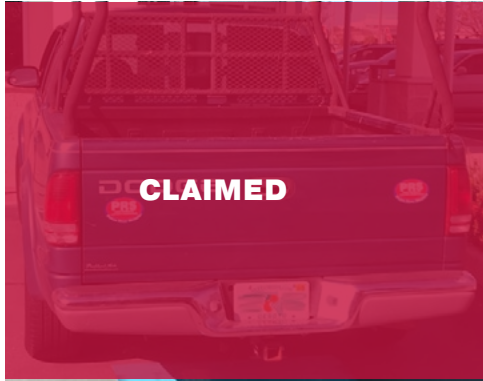
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GARDEN VEGETABLE HUMMUS

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|--|
| 1 | 19-ounce can chickpeas, drained and rinsed (preferably no-salt added) | 1/4 | cup chopped fresh basil or Italian parsley |
| 3 | to 4 cloves garlic | 2 | tablespoons extra virgin olive oil |
| 1/2 | green bell pepper, cut into chunks | 2 | tablespoons lemon juice (preferably fresh) |
| 1/2 | red bell pepper, cut into chunks | 2 | to 3 tablespoons tahini |
| 4 | green onions (or 1 medium onion, cut into chunks) | | Salt and freshly ground black pepper |
| | | | Chopped fresh parsley for garnish |

- Combine all ingredients except parsley in a food processor fitted with the steel blade. Process with quick on/off's to start, then let the motor run until the mixture is very smooth, about 2 minutes, scraping down the sides of the bowl as needed.
- Transfer the hummus to a serving bowl and sprinkle with parsley. Cover and chill for 1 to 2 hours before serving. (Hummus will thicken when refrigerated.)
- Note: The tahini in the hummus is a very nutrient-dense ingredient because it has a very low moisture content. It is an excellent source of mono- and polyunsaturated fats, which are good fats, as well as an excellent source of protein, magnesium, zinc, manganese fiber, and potassium. Chickpeas are legumes that are also high in protein and fiber.



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ALLERGIES OR COVID-19?

As winter gave way to spring, nature did not give any signs in relation to what the people of the world were going through. As trees and flowers bloomed just like they do every spring, the people accustomed to witnessing the awe-inspiring transformation on display each spring were experiencing a transformation of their own.

Social distancing measures enacted during the COVID-19 outbreak in late-winter 2020 forced many people to stay home, only venturing outside to run routine errands like buying groceries or filling prescriptions. People were urged to stay home to help prevent the COVID-19 virus from spreading, and those recommendations included people exhibiting mild symptoms of illness.

As spring hit its stride and pollen counts climbed, many people wondered if certain symptoms they were experiencing were byproducts of seasonal allergies or the COVID-19 virus. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention note that it's easy to mistake common allergy symptoms for COVID-19, and that's especially so given the level of concern many people have about the novel coronavirus that has already claimed thousands of victims

across the globe. But it's important that people recognize the symptoms of allergies and COVID-19 are different. The following are some symptoms of allergies and some of COVID-19, courtesy of the CDC and the Mayo Clinic.

Allergy symptoms

- Itchy eyes
- Stuffy nose
- Sneezing

Doctors advise people who are exhibiting potential allergy symptoms to pay attention to their body temperatures. People with allergies very rarely experience fever, so the absence of fever, even if other symptoms of allergies are present, might indicate that a person is suffering from allergies and not COVID-19. In addition, allergy symptoms tend to be mild and recur year after year around the same time, such as when plants bloom in spring and summer. So if symptoms that are currently present are the same ones a person confronts every year, then he or she is likely suffering from allergies and not COVID-19. People can err on the side of caution by discussing their symptoms and history with their physicians.

Coronavirus symptoms

- Shortness of breath
- Fever
- Cough

Some asthma sufferers experience shortness of breath as a result of allergies, so people with asthma should consider that before assuming they have COVID-19. Discussing shortness of breath with a physician can help asthma sufferers gain more clarity on their condition.

While symptoms of allergies and COVID-19 are different, the CDC notes that people suffering from the flu may experience the same symptoms experienced by people with the coronavirus. Symptoms such as fever, fatigue, body aches, and cough can affect both flu and COVID-19 sufferers, so people experiencing these symptoms should contact their physicians.

It's easy to mistake common allergy symptoms as indicative of the presence of the COVID-19 virus. But the symptoms of each condition are quite different. Learn more at www.cdc.gov.

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CHAPTER 10

By now I was starting to believe that Junior just might actually tell me the whole story. Junior continues with what happened to him 10 years ago when he first ran into the people from somewhere else, as he called them. He began with how the little one was the one that came up to him and started talking. He told me that the voice sounded kind of mechanical, like it was on a computer or something. But, he was able to completely understand what he was saying. He began to tell me that they had come up with a drug that would help you to live longer. That this drug could help you live a little longer, maybe a lot longer. They had invented this drug way up in the mountains of the Netherlands and were working with some people here in Florida and that the people they were working with were good people and wanted to test this drug a little more before they let it out. But, that someone had told some bad people what they were doing and the bad people wanted the drug. The difference was, the bad people were willing to kill to get it. What the good people wanted someone to do was to get this drug to the right people, not the bad people. They explained that if he would help them that it would be worth a lot to them. So, of course he said that he would and so it began. He would pick up the drug and carry it to a certain location, drop it off and go home. Simple right? Well, except for the part about the bad people wanting the drug and were willing to kill him for it. That part was very scary. Junior began to explain to me that the bad people did not know who he was. The good people were always watching him as he took the drug to the drop off point. But, they couldn't watch him all the time so when he needed them to send a signal for help. That he would do what he had just done with the bright yellow and white lights. They would always give

him two containers. One was the drug the other was his payment. But he had been warned not to spend any of this money because it could be traced to them. That they would always watch him but if the bad people found out it was him, they were not sure he would be safe with or without them. Junior had not asked for that much, but he did want one bottle of rum and one carton of cigarettes each week along with his money. They were eager to give him what he wanted just to be sure of their delivery. Why Junior? I don't know. I can't even think of why they would want a crazy man like Junior to carry this important drug. As we were waiting for the good people to come, I asked Junior had he ever opened up the containers with the drug in it? He said, absolutely not. That they had made a fair deal and he did not want to break it. Within just a few minutes I hear a swooshing sound coming from the woods about 100 ft. away. I couldn't make out what it was but it sounded like it was something big. Real big. As it got closer, bright lights began to appear. The area was now bright and you could see everything around you. Then we saw something or someone in a funny suit. It reminded me of the suit that Junior had explained to me. But there was only one man. Junior turned to me and said it was the little one. I guess that is the only name he had given him was the little one. As he came toward us, Junior and I walked toward him. The suit did look funny. It was a full suit. A very big head was sitting on top and the feet were enormous. Everything was just like Junior had said, right down to the mechanical sound he made as he came closer. You sure could not see inside the face mask, it was way too shiny for that. But I could hear him talking. I was very surprised, but I could understand every word he was saying.

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