

ARCADIA

THE COMMUNITY

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

PRS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY PEACE RIVER SHOPPER NEWS & MORE

Local

DESOTO COUNTY
REMEMBERED 9/11



STEVE KNAPP

sports@peacerivershopper.com

DESOTO COUNTY
SPORTS

PAGE 4



The sun highlighted the oversized U.S. flag displayed on a ladder truck at 8:45 a.m., the time that American Airlines Flight 11 crashed into the North Tower of the World Trade Center complex in New York City on Sept. 11, 2002.



CAROL MAHLER

Independent Contractor
carolmahler22acl@gmail.com
Photos provided

Firefighters, paramedics, and law enforcement officers—plus their families, friends, and others in the community—gathered in the shade on the east lawn of the courthouse to remember Sept. 11, 2001—called by some “the deadliest terrorist act in human history.” The tragedy was certainly the deadliest incident in U.S. history for firefighters and law enforcement personnel—340 and 72 killed, respectively.

Ron Jones, Sr., commander of American Legion K-Post 11, posted the U.S. flag, and City Administrator Terry Stewart sang the National Anthem. The Rev.

Lonnie Walker, pastor of the Nocatee Church of God, led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and said a prayer.

After calling for Sheriff Jim Potter and Marshal Quinn Jones to stand beside him, Public Safety Director Chad Jorgensen said, “We live in troubled times, so it’s even more important to remind ourselves of what happened 22 years ago.” He chronicled how at 8:45 a.m., American Airlines (AA) Flight 11 crashed into the North Tower of the World Trade Center complex and at 9:03, AA Flight 175 slammed the South Tower. Firefighters worked to extinguish the blazes, and some who had worked in the North Tower before it fell, then worked in the South Tower knowing that it would probably go down as well.

SEE REMEMBERED PAGE 2 >>



GET YOUR
PUBLIX
WEEKLY
ADS
INSIDE!

GOVERNMENT
MEETING SCHEDULE

CITY	
CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS OCCUR THE 1ST AND 3RD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED	
Margaret Way Building 23 N. Polk Ave., Arcadia, FL 34266	
SEPT 14	DESOTO COUNTY TENATIVE BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING FY23-24 desotobocc.com/calendar/event/2566
THUR 6:30P	COUNTY ADMIN BLDG 201 E. Oak St., Arcadia, Suite 103
SEPT 16	DESOTO COUNTY MCR HEALTH FAIR FREE EVENT desotobocc.com/calendar/event/2601
TUE 10A	TURNER AGRI-CENTER 2250 NE Roan St., Arcadia
SEPT 22	DESOTO COUNTY 4H LIVESTOCK SHOW desotobocc.com/calendar/event/2602
TUE 8A	TURNER AGRI-CENTER 2250 NE Roan St., Arcadia
SEPT 26	DESOTO COUNTY COUNTY COMMISSIONER REGULAR MEETING desotobocc.com/calendar/event/2582
TUE 3P & 6:30P	COUNTY ADMIN BLDG 201 E. Oak St., Suite 103, Arcadia

Active dates and times are subject to change.
County: <http://desotobocc.com/calendar>
City: <https://arcadia-fl.gov/events/>

HELP SUPPORT ARCADIA’S NEWEST PUBLICATION!

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US IN MAKING OUR COMMUNITY BETTER, TOGETHER!

For advertising, contact Angie Duckett: sales@peacerivershopper.com or call 863-990-9813

To participate as a Community Contributor, email: editorial@peacerivershopper.com

SALES INQUIRIES:
SALES@PEACERIVERSHOPPER.COM
863.990.9813

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

SALES / OFFICE MANAGER
Angie Duckett

CREATIVE DIR / AD DESIGN
Jackie Bierman

OPS / PRODUCT DESIGN
Jonathan Bruch

REMEMBERED
FROM PAGE 1 >>

After AA Flight 77 hit the Pentagon at 9:37 a.m., causing a partial collapse of the structure, Jorgensen recalled his thought: “Something extraordinary is happening.” At 10:03, passengers on United Airlines Flight 93 who had heard of the other attacks, forced the pilots to crash the plane into a pasture. Jorgensen said, “They were true heroes in my opinion.” In all, 2,977 people died in the attacks.

Battalion Chief Tim Allen read the “Firefighter’s Prayer,” written by Alvin William “Smokey” Linn (1924-2004) after not being able to rescue some children from a burning apartment building.

A recording of the song “Where Were You When The World Stopped Turning” by Alan Jackson was played, and then Lt. Chase Redman tolled the bells—a tradition since the mid-nineteenth century—when a firefighter dies. He played five strikes in a series of four on the bell mounted on the bumper of the ladder truck displaying the huge U.S. flag. Then a recording of a piper performing “Amazing Grace” was played.

K-Post 11 Honor Guard: Ray Dennison, David Fonger, Bob Grinis, and Commander Ron Jones gave a gun salute followed by Arthur Southwell playing “Taps.”

Rev. Walker said the closing prayer after reminding us that firefighters and law enforcement officers “take care of us and protect us.” He suggested that as we thank those who serve in the U.S. Armed Forces, so, too we should thank those who serve DeSoto County and each one of us.



American Legion K-Post 11 Honor Guard presented the colors and fired a gun salute during the remembrance ceremony last Monday: from left, David Fonger, Bob Grinis, Commander Ron Jones, Sr., Art Southwell (who played “Taps”), and Ray Dennison.



From left, Public Safety Director Chad Jorgensen and Pastor Lonnie Walker listen to City Administrator Terry Stewart sing the National Anthem at the start of the ceremony last Monday.



Public Safety Director Chad Jorgensen and Tim KilKelly both worked at the Iona-McGregor Fire Station in Fort Myers 22 years ago when the terrorist attacks occurred. KilKelly said the two plus ten more from their station participated in the St. Patrick’s Day parade in New York City in 2006: they called it their “12-man march.”



Battalion Chief Tim Allen read the “Firefighter’s Prayer” written by A. W. “Smokey” Linn in 1958 after he and other firefighters were unable to rescue some children from a burning apartment building.



DeSoto County law enforcement officers and Marshal Quinn Jones gathered before the start of the remembrance ceremony on the east lawn of the courthouse last Monday: from left, Captain José Vitali, Officer Tim Hilgeman, Major Andrew Proudfit, Jones, and Sheriff Jim Potter.



Using the bell mounted on the bumper of the ladder truck displaying the giant U.S. flag, Lt. Chase Redman “tolled the bell”—a tradition since the mid-nineteenth century—for the firefighters who died in the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

KEENE AND WERTZ-STRICKLAND
RECEIVE FLC GOLD CERTIFICATES
OF EXCELLENCE



CAROL MAHLER
Independent Contractor
carolmahler22acl@gmail.com
Photos provided

At the Sept. 5 council meeting, City Administrator Terry Stewart congratulated both Deputy Mayor Keith Keene and Council Member Wertz-Strickland for receiving Gold Certificates of Excellence from the Florida League of Cities (FLC) University’s Certificate Program for Elected Municipal Officials (flicities.com/certificate).

The FLC University offers best practices, educational programs, resources and tools to assist municipal officials with their responsibilities and tasks. The certificate program recognizes elected officials for their commitment and dedication to continuing education and training with three levels: bronze certificate of merit, silver certificate of leadership, and gold certificate of excellence.

Keene and Wertz-Strickland participated in FLC University training

events that included monthly webinars, online orientation, the Institute for Elected Municipal Officials, State-Mandated Continuing Education in Ethics, as well as FLC’s Annual Conference and legislative events. FLC’s magazine “Quality Cities” and Annual Conference will feature those who received certificates at any level—including Keene and Wertz-Strickland.

“FLC University offers a variety of in-person and virtual educational opportunities to help municipal officials learn about the latest issues, trends, and best practices,” said the City of Port St. Lucie’s Vice Mayor Jolien Caraballo, who is also FLC President. “This achievement is a testament to Florida’s municipal elected officials’ commitment to the cities and residents they serve. On behalf of the Florida League of Cities, I applaud these hardworking elected officials for taking the time out of their busy days to participate in these valuable programs.”



At center, City Administrator Terry Stewart congratulates Deputy Mayor Keith Keene, left, and Council Member Judy Wertz-Strickland on receiving FLC University’s Gold Certificates of Excellence. Photograph courtesy of Carol Mahler.

PORT CHARLOTTE GUN SHOW

CHARLOTTE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
2333 EL JOBEAN RD. • PORT CHARLOTTE, FL 33948

SEPTEMBER 16TH & 17TH

SATURDAY 9AM-5PM & SUNDAY 9AM-3PM

UPCOMING

SARASOTA GUN SHOW

SEPTEMBER 23RD & 24TH

ROBARTS ARENA

3000 RINGLING BLVD. • SARASOTA, FL 33948

SAT 9AM-5PM & SUN 9AM-3PM

**WE ARE THE BEST COMBINATION OF FFL
DEALERS AND PRIVATE COLLECTORS AROUND!**

All Federal, State , and local laws must be obeyed.
Guns, knives, accessories, ammo, parts, and so much more. Come
ready to buy, sell, or trade. We have new, used, and antique items.
And as always, **FREE PARKING!**

CHILDREN (16 and Under)
2-Day Admission

Free

ACTIVE Miliarty or LEO
2-Day Admission

Free

Veteran OR Retired LEO
2-Day Admission

\$1⁰⁰ off

ADULT (17 and Over)
2-Day Admission

\$10⁰⁰

WE HAVE TONS OF GUNS AND AMMO AVAILABLE!

Tickets sold at the door, Cash or Check Only, limit 1 discount per person

Saturday AND Sunday

Come and go as you please on both days!



2 GUYS
GUN SHOW



727-776-3442 • 2GuysShows.com



THANK YOU TO OUR
BULLDOG YOUTH SPONSORS!

- DESOTO COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD (PRS)
- MOSAIC



PEACERIVER
SPORTS

BROWN, KEITH LEAD BULLDOGS TO 28-12 WIN



The DeSoto County Middle School Bulldogs led by Jacob Tanner and Devion Brown charge onto the field with their big game against Hardee.



STEVE KNAPP
Sports Writer
sports@peacriver shopper.com

Kemarion Brown gained nearly 100 yards rushing in the first half and scored both touchdowns for the middle school Bulldogs. Andre Keith owned the second half with a pair of touchdowns to provide all the scoring DeSoto would need to run through Hardee 28-12 in their opening game of the season.

The Wildcats needed just 5 plays to take a 6-0 lead on the opening drive of 65 yards. DeSoto answered as Brown ripped off runs of 32, 8 and 10 yards in an 8 play drive to tie the game. A two point conversion gave the Bulldogs the lead that they never lost.

The Wildcats faced a 4th and 7 when the Bulldog defense stood tall and sacked the quarterback to give DeSoto the ball. Keith ripped off a 20 yard run to the Hardee 45. Brown went the next 22 yards. Kolten Bullards took the pigskin the next 22 yards to the Wildcat 1 where Brown punched it in giving the Bulldogs a 14-6 lead.

Bullards' carry looked as if he had crossed the pylon in bounds but he was ruled out on the one. Hardee responded with a 59 yard touchdown with 1:42 left in the half. The two point conversion failed. DeSoto moved the ball to the Hardee 34, but a dropped pass and costly penalty on a run to the Wildcats' 8 yard ended the half with DeSoto on top 14-12.

Keith scored on a 25 yard run with 5:17 remaining in the third quarter. A two point pass to Bullards, who was all alone in the end zone, gave the Bulldogs a ten point lead 22-12. Brown set up the final touchdown with a 27 yard carry which put him well over 100 yards for the game. Keith went the final 7 yards with 1:42 left in the game for the final score. It was the same time that the Wildcats had scored at the end of the first half.

Kemarion Brown and Kaden Gatlin celebrate Brown's first touchdown of the game as the Bulldogs rolled over hardee 28-12.



Andre Keith sees a big hole on a two point conversion attempt. The hole closed quickly and he was denied at the one.



Devion Brown tip toes down the sideline before he was pushed out of bounds in the DeSoto 28-12 win over Hardee.



Kolten Bullards was called out of bounds on this 22 yard run even though it appears as if he has knocked over the pylon and was still in bounds.



Kemarion Brown throws a stiff arm as he picks up 32 yards around the left side.

DESOTO COUNTY

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Sponsored by:
Mosaic

KEMARION BROWN & ANDRE KEITH

KEMARION BROWN & ANDRE KEITH SHARE AWARD

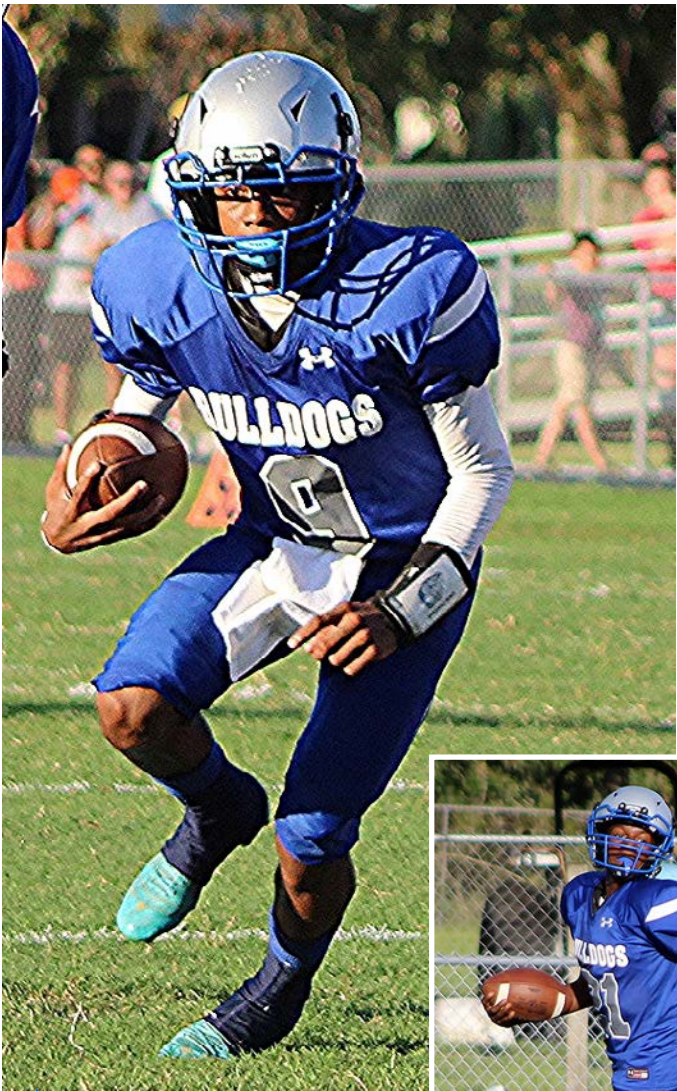
For the second time in three weeks, the DeSoto County Athlete of the Week award goes to members of the middle school sports program. Also for the second week in a row it is a shared honor by two football players.

Andre Keith scored two second half touchdowns and ran in a two point conversion along with passing for a two point conversion in the 28-12 win over Hardee. It was the first win over Hardee in over ten years at the middle school level.

Head coach Matt McCray said, "Andre joined our team this year as an eighth grader. He has emerged as our starting quarterback as a first year player. Andre has become a natural leader of our team."

Brown picked up 50 yards rushing on three carries in the first Bulldog drive to put DeSoto ahead. He had another big run of 22 yards in the second drive and had another big gain of 27 yards later in the game as he crossed the century mark in rushing. He scored both first half touchdowns to give the Bulldogs a 14-12 lead at halftime.

McCray had this to say about Brown. "Kemarion started at fullback and carried a heavy load to pick up the win over the Wildcats. He led our backs in yardage and with two touchdowns."



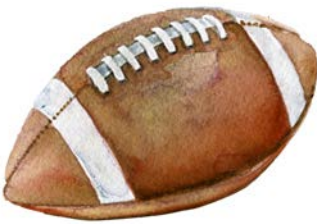
Andre Keith looks for a running lane in the 28-12 win over Hardee. Keith scored two second half touchdowns and threw for a 2 point conversion along with running in a two pointer.



Kemarion Brown has his eyes downfield as he picks up another big gain for the Bulldogs.



Kemarion Brown gets into the end zone with nobody in sight in the 28-12 win over Hardee.



PROGRESS MADE IN BULLDOGS' LOSS



The DeSoto Bulldogs take the field against George Jenkins.



STEVE KNAPP
Sports Writer
sports@peacerrivershopper.com

DeSoto football coach Jeff Lee said they had a couple of very good practices during the week and the results showed on the field. The Bulldogs lost to George Jenkins 46-7 but they did make progress in the rebuilding of the team.

They had a 41 yard, 7 play drive to start the game highlighted by Braden Moran's quarterback keeper on the first play for 17 yards. The drive ended on a failed fourth down attempt at the Eagles 30 yard line.

The Bulldogs' second drive went 48 yards to total 89 yards in the first quarter alone compared to the 103 they got in the entire game the week before at Mariner.

When the Eagles took a 6-0 lead, the Bulldogs didn't roll over and quit. They answered with their first touchdown of the season ending a 9 quarter drought. Hunter Zirkle skirted the left side for 33 yards to give the Bulldogs their first lead of the season 7-6. That lead lasted 55 seconds as the Eagles came right back to score to take a 12-7 lead.

A turnover filled second quarter put the game out of reach as the Eagles took a 32-7 lead into the locker room. DeSoto failed to recover an onside kick and coughed up the ball on a fumble and two picks to aid the Eagles.

The Bulldogs recovered an Eagle fumble when the receiver made a catch and Rylan Unruh laid the lumber to him causing a fumble that Hayden Ames came up with. It wasn't enough as DeSoto fumbled it right back.

George Jenkins scored once in

both the third and fourth quarter to account for the 46-7 final. Moran had an interception in the third quarter to halt an Eagles drive at the Bulldogs' 14.

DeSoto played a much cleaner game with just 3 penalties in the game and all came in the second half. The Eagles had 7 in the first half and nothing in the second half. There was a 7 man referee crew working the game which was unusual.

Lee told the team in the locker room, "We took some steps in the right direction and played hard. There were some good things out there and we will see on the film how those turnovers came back to bite us in the butt."

The Bulldogs have a bye tomorrow night.



Rylan Unruh and Jamil Brown enjoy a happy moment when the Bulldogs took a 7-6 lead.

DeSoto
quarterback
Braden
Moran kept
the ball on
the first
play of the
game and
picked up 17
yards.





DeSoto's Iram Rodriguez (11), Jake Owens (54) and an unidentified player all get double teamed on the line that created some big running lanes for the Eagles.



Sophomore Rylan Unruh made a couple of big hits including one that caused a fumble. This tackle stopped a touchdown for George Jenkins.

BULLDOGS GET EXPERIENCE AT TOURNAMENT



STEVE KNAPP
Sports Writer
sports@peacervershopper.com

The DeSoto JV volleyball team participated in the Charlotte High School Fish Bowl tournament last week. While they started off strong with a win over Port Charlotte, they fell to eventual champion Riverview in their second game. They finished their bracket games with an uninspired loss to Inspirational Academy.

Bulldogs' coach Danielle Taylor talked to the team before they faced ODA in the playoff game. They lost to ODA but they played a much better and more inspired game so even without a win, they finished the day on a high note. They also played 4 games to give them more experience for the rest of the season. Savannah Willis was named the Most Valuable Player for the Bulldogs.



Jarrett Zolkos, working as an advisor for the team, talks to Lilly Fullerton during a timeout.

Jo Duke, with the grace of a ballerina, punches the ball back into play to save the point for DeSoto.



Danielle Taylor gives some advise to Taylor Baker between plays.

Izaria Anderson attacks the ball at the net in the tournament at Charlotte High.



With hustling plays like this save, Savannah Willis was named the MVP of the tournament for the Bulldogs.

Kirra Hoffmeier gets her finger tips on the ball against Inspirational Academy.



“FEMALE FOCUS” HONOR FLIGHT INCLUDES COLLINS



CAROL MAHLER
Independent Contractor
carolmahler22acl@gmail.com
Photos provided

Since Naomi Copeland became president of Southwest Florida Honor Flight (SFHF) 18 months ago, her passion has been to have an all-women Honor Flight. The upcoming flight on October 10 has a “female focus” because it will transport more women veterans than ever before—around 40—including Council Member and Veteran Amber Collins.

Born in West Virginia, Collins moved—at age four—with her family to Charlotte County, Florida. After graduating from high school, she joined the U.S. Army and served in the 82nd Airborne Division. Now a registered nurse (RN) and resident of Arcadia since 2018, she was elected to the City Council last year.

Copeland said, “We want to recognize women veterans because sometimes we fall a little short in honoring them. I admire the women who served and want to say ‘thank you.’” She, Treasurer Hank Carter, and Medical Director Alex Davenport were in Arcadia on Sept. 5 to accept from Mayor Bob Heine, Jr., a proclamation about SFHF, a not-for-profit 501(c) (3) organization dedicated to safely transporting veterans to Washington, D.C., “to be honored at their memorials and receive the welcome home they deserve.”

Priority is always given to World War II and Korean War veterans as well as any veteran with a terminal illness. A mother of two U.S. Navy servicemen, Copeland said, “It’s super important to honor the women and men who have served in our armed forces.”

SFHF serves the counties of Charlotte, Desoto, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Sarasota, and surrounding areas. About 49,000 veterans live in those six counties. Since 2007, SFHF has transported about 2100 veterans who were flown to D.C. to visit the World War II Memorial, Korean War Veterans Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall, Military Women’s Memorial, and Arlington National Cemetery where they witnessed the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Besides transportation and meals, the veterans also enjoyed surprises throughout the day—plus a huge “welcome home” when the aircraft landed at the Punta Gorda Airport. The one-day trip is free for all veterans.

As Medical Director, Davenport ensures the health and safety of all those on the trip. He noted that veterans from World War II and the Korean War are becoming scarce, so he explained that SFHF will also take the burial flags of those veterans who have not participated in an Honor Flight and

photograph them at their memorials. In the John Morgan Ingraham House Museum, the DeSoto County Historical Society displays the burial flag of Eugene “Gene” Melton (1922-1943), brother of Howard Melton, local historian and published author. A U.S. Marine training to be a gunner on a bomber, Gene was killed when his aircraft crashed in the Mohave Desert. His flag will be transported to the World War II Memorial on Oct. 10.

Many non-combat, female, and Desert Storm veterans feel that “the older guys should go first,” Carter said. However, he encourages those who say that “to prioritize themselves. . . we do not want to have them wait.” Veterans interested in the trip should complete the application form at www.SWFLHonorFlight.org or print, fill out, and mail it, or call 941-268-3925 and ask for Hank. DeSoto County’s Veterans Service Officer Steve Rickard, U.S. Army Retired, also has copies of the application available from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Mon. through Fri. in the DeSoto County Administration Building, 201 E. Oak St., Suite 202.

Davenport said that the organization welcomes donations and volunteers. The SFHF Website has a secure portal where people may donate. A donation of any size—even \$1.00—is welcomed. Donations can also be set up to be recurring. For example, one person donates \$12.00 every month.

Copeland also said that the first corporate sponsor has donated \$3,000.00 to SFHF. She welcomes donations from businesses, individuals, plus legacy bequests and corporate sponsorships. In addition, the SFHF holds fundraisers, such as the upcoming golf tournament on Sat., Oct. 28, at Riverwood Golf Club in Port Charlotte. The deadline for sponsorships is Sept. 15, and more details are available online at swflhonorflight.org.

SFHF meets on the fourth Wed. of every month at the Punta Gorda Fire Station, 1410 Tamiami Trail, and volunteers are welcome to attend.



From left, Medical Director Alex Davenport, President Naomi Copeland, and Treasurer Hank Carter of Southwest Florida Honor Flight visited Arcadia on Sept. 5 seeking veteran, donations, and volunteers. Photograph courtesy of Carol Mahler.



Collins will be one of about 40 women veterans on the Southwest Florida Honor Flight “with a female focus” scheduled for Oct. 10. Photograph provided.



Veteran and City Council Member Amber Collins will fly on the Southwest Florida Honor Flight on October 10. With her will be the burial flag of Swanson Eugene “Gene” Melton who died during World War II. Photograph courtesy of Carol Mahler.



After graduating from high school, Collins served in the 82nd Airborne Division of the U.S. Army specializing in parachute assault operations. Photograph provided.



From left, at the council meeting on Sept. 5, Mayor Bob Heine, Jr., presented the proclamation to the Southwest Florida Honor Flight officers: President Naomi Copeland, Medical Director Alex Davenport, and Treasurer Hank Carter. Photograph courtesy of Carol Mahler.



EVANGELIST, LEWIS TAYLOR

SEND THE RAIN MINISTRIES
HEALING
FOR
AMERICA
TENT REVIVAL & AWAKENING

PRAYING FOR **HOLY GHOST REVIVAL** TO SWEEP THROUGHOUT THE LAND
BECAUSE **GOD** IS THE **ONLY HOPE** FOR **AMERICA**

ANOINTED SINGING BY



LOGAN TAYLOR



THE SHIREYS



COREY CLARK

October 6th - 15th
Mon. - Fri. 7PM
Sat. - 6PM
Sun. - 11AM & 6PM

TURNER AGRI CIVIC CENTER
2250 NE ROAN STREET • ARCADIA, FL • 34266

#HEALINGFORAMERICA

#SENDTHERAIN

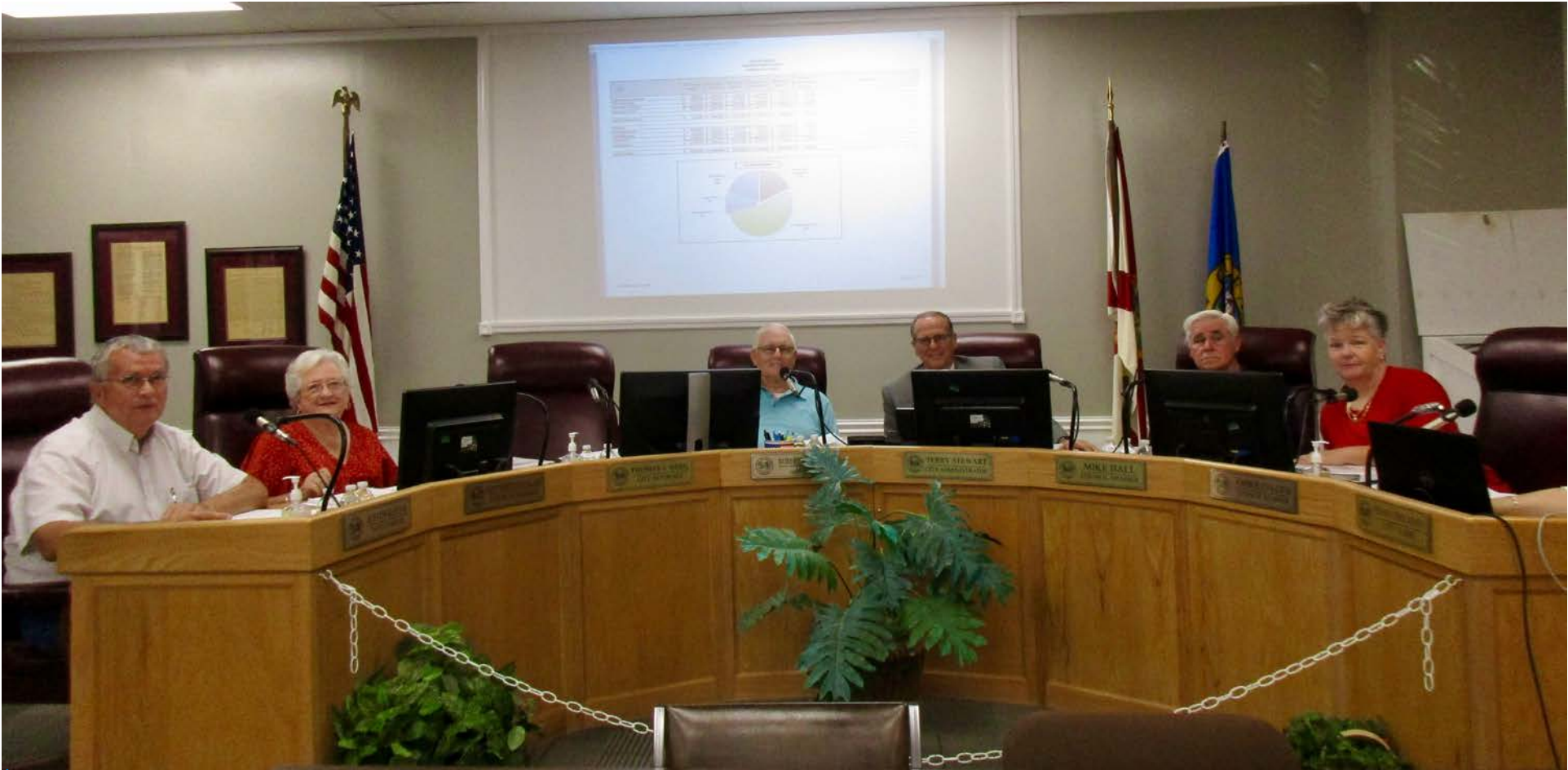


LIVE

@SENDTHERAINMINISTRIES

FOR MORE INFORMATION - WWW.SENDTHERAIN.ORG

COUNCIL ADOPTS TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE AND BUDGET



From left, Deputy Mayor Keith Keene, Council Member Judy Werta-Strickland, Mayor Bob Heine, Jr., City Administrator Terry Stewart, Council Member Mike Hall, and Council Member Amber Collins adopted the tentative millage rate and budget at the Sept. 5 public hearing.



CAROL MAHLER
*Independent Contractor
carolmahler22acl@gmail.com
Photos provided*

At a public hearing at 5:01 p.m. on Sept. 5, the Council passed two resolutions concerning fiscal year 2023-2024: 2023-08 adopting the tentative millage rate of 7.9000 and 2023-09 adopting the tentative city budget of \$49,328,550.00. Council Member Mike Hall opposed the latter. The final public hearing for the millage rate and budget will be at 5:01 p.m. on Sept. 19.

The Council passed Ordinance 1098, on second reading, amending the Police Officers' and Firefighters' Retirement System Sections: 2-184 Finances and Fund Management, 2-187 Pre-Retirement Death, 2-196 Minimum Distribution of Benefits, 2-206 Military Service Prior to Employment, 2-207 Prior Police Service, and 2-211 Supplemental Benefit Component for Special Benefits.

On first reading, the Council approved Ordinances 1099 and 1100, amending the Future Land Use Map and Official Zoning Map, respectively, to allow a strip of property east of 12th St. to be rezoned from Public Buildings and Grounds / B-2 Central Business to R-1B Single Family Residential. This change will allow properties to the east of the parcel to have a driveway access to 12th Street.

THE COUNCIL ADOPTED TWO RESOLUTIONS:

- **2023-7** extending the Code Enforcement Lien Waiver/Amnesty Program for an additional six months from Sept. 1 to Feb. 29, 2024: "The Program may likely also

- stimulate the sale of abandoned properties that might otherwise be unmarketable as a result of being encumbered by code lien(s) which have accrued to an amount that exceeds the market value of the property; and
- **2023-12** extending the State Revolving Fund Loan Agreement DW140131 with principal forgiveness from Aug. 15, 2023, to May 15, 2024, so that construction may be completed by March 11, 2024, with the date of the first loan payment to be Nov. 15, 2024 instead of Feb. 15, 2024.

EXPENSES

As required by ordinance, both Marshal Quinn Jones and City Administrator Terry Stewart asked for the same 10% increase to their salaries as was approved for all city employees. Jones noted that in Nov., he will have worked in the police dept. for 23 years. Stewart based his request on his 4.4 out of 5 performance evaluation and that he had not accepted a raise since 2021. Collins and Hall were opposed.

The Council concurred with the emergency work completed by Andrew Sitework in the amount of \$69,418.00 for the cleanup and rehab of the Bridle Path/Cemetery ditch. The swales were repaired; trees and other vegetative debris removed from the ditches; and sod added as needed.

City staff presented the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) list for spending the nearly \$4.2 million received in 2022. Of the ARPA Priority List approved in Feb. 2022, close to \$1 million was spent. Projects now include the following by department:

- **Airport:** construction of three shade hangars for \$150,000.00;

- **Golf Course:** remove existing and install new irrigation system for \$400,000.00;
- **Parks:** build the pavilion at the park on Martin Luther King St. for \$180,000.00;
- **Public Works:** rebuild the infrastructure and road on Volusia Ave. for \$898,000.00; other road paving/milling projects for \$700,000.00 as well as storm water improvements (ditch clean out) for \$375,000.00;
- **Utilities:** rebuilding the East clarifier for \$150,000.00; connecting the golf course ponds for \$50,000.00; building a lift station for 12th Ave. for \$200,000.00; and Smart Manhole Covers for \$50,000.00.

Police Capt. Kevin Joens requested additional funds added to the \$20,000.00 on the list to construct a metal training building at the gun range. The 40' x 60' cement slab is in place, but no contractor will assemble the metal building that was donated.

The Council voted to add \$80,000.00 to the project: they moved the \$50,000 slated to connect the golf course ponds to the training building and added \$15,000.00 each from the road paving/milling and the storm water improvement projects, for a total of \$100,000.00 to construct the training building. Collins voted against the change.

SEE COUNCIL PAGE 18 >>



On her first day as Arcadia Main Street's Interim Director, Pam Ames stands with Code Enforcement Officer Carl McQuay to ask that the Council withhold approval for the special event permit for the Membership Banquet as the date had been changed.

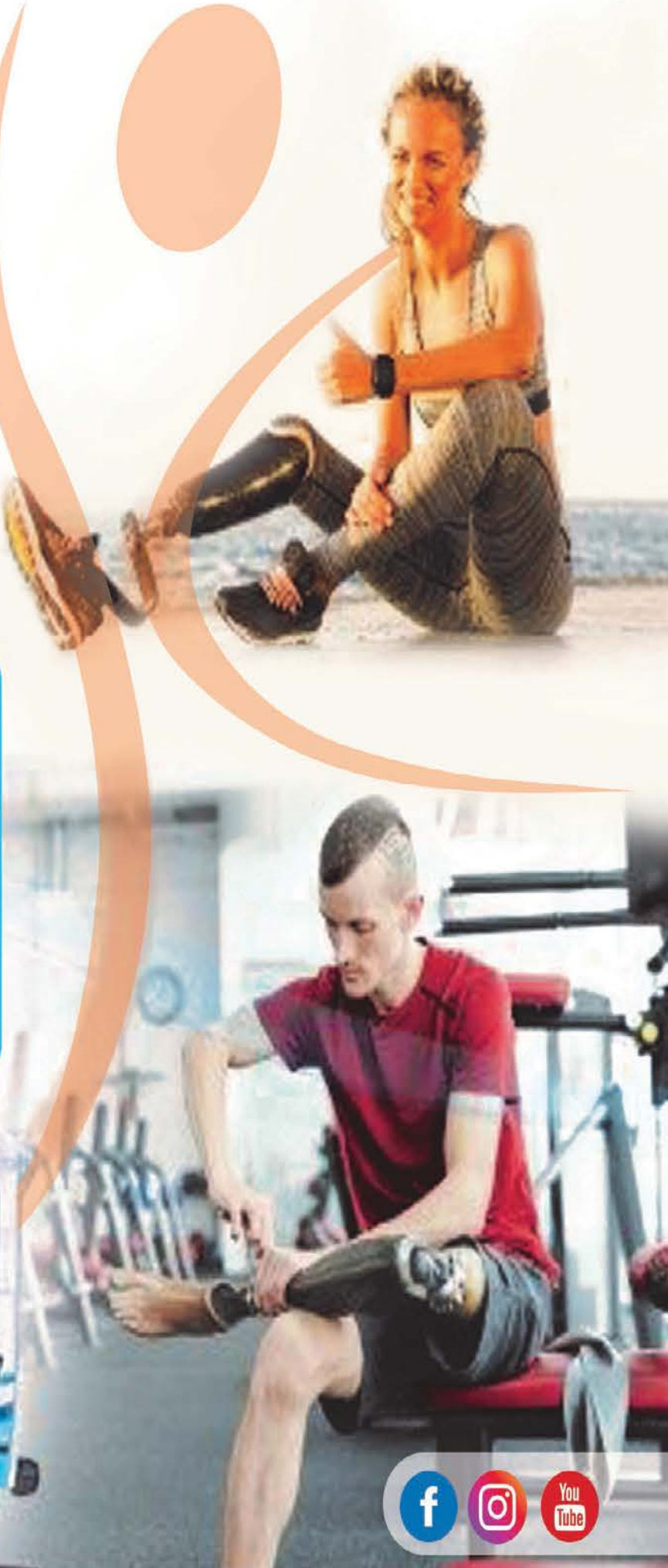


We are following - and exceeding
all CDC guidelines on cleanliness.

Offices Throughout South Florida
ALL INSURANCES ACCEPTED

Designed with YOU in mind, our prosthetics
are made by the best and supported with
ongoing care. Our free shuttle is an extension
of that care!

With our transportation service,
we will safely and punctually
deliver you to and from your
doctor appointments!



PLUS, ask about our in-home care programs!

TRANSPORTATION INCLUDED

By Appointment:

855.958.1777 | SouthBeachOP.com

Arcadia

301 N Brevard Ave. Suite B
Arcadia, FL 34266

863.658.1291



DESOTO COUNTY

SHERIFF'S OFFICE



9/1/23 - 9/7/23

Aparicio, Alexis Lopez:
Traffic Offense - Dui Alcohol Or Drugs,
Traffic Offense - Refuse To Submit
Dui Test After Lic Susp, Marijuana-
Possess - Not More Than 20 Grams

Avila-Avila, Bryan:
Nonmoving Traffic Viol - Operate
Motorcycle Wo License

Badeau, Elie Louicidor:
Flee/Elude Police - Fail To Obey Leo
Order To Stop

Beachem Jr., Gary Dwayne:
Out Of County Warrant

Blades, Micheal Bronson:
Amphetamine-Smuggl - Or
Methamphetamine Capital Imp 400
Grams More, Possession Of Weapon -
Or Ammo By Convicted Fla Felon (X2),
Drug Equip-Possess - And Or Use

Bloom, Jonathan Fitzgerald:
Synth Narcotic-Sell - Wi 1000Ft
Public Housing Sch Iii, Drug Equip-
Possess - And Or Use

Bunseelal, Jeetendra:
Prob Violation

Campbell, Natalie Ann:
Out Of County Warrant (X2)

Childs, Dejohn Taquavious:
Drugs-Possess - Cntrl Sub Wo
Prescription, Resist Officer - Obstruct
Wo Violence, Drug Equip-Possess
- And Or Use, Failure To Appear -
Written Promise To Appear (X2),
Trespassing - Fail To Leave Property
Upon Order By Owner, Resist Officer -
Obstruct Wo Violence

Colon, Brandy:
Drug Equip-Possess - And Or Use,
Drugs-Possess - Cntrl Sub Wo
Prescription

Comer Jr., John Edsel:
Nonmoving Traffic Viol - Drive While
Lic Susp 1St Off, Drug Equip-Possess
- And Or Use

Corbitt, Jeffrey Llwenllyne:
Battery - By Person Detained In
Prison Or Jail Facility

Daley, Curtis:
Nonmoving Traffic Viol - Operate
Motor Vehicle Wo Valid License

Davis, Tiara Jenena:
Battery - Touch Or Strike, Resist
Officer - With Violence

Downing, Shianna Vontraille:
Synth Narcotic-Sell - Wi 1000 Ft Of
Specified Area Sched Iii, Drug Equip-
Possess - And Or Use

Endzinas, Matthew Michael:
Nonmoving Traffic Viol - Drive While
Lic Susp 1St Off

Flores, Jose Felix:
Disorderly Intox - Disorder Intox
Public Place Cause Disturbance

Garcia Vanegas, Ezequiel:
Dui-Unlaw Bld Alch - .15 Or Higher
Or With Person Under 18 1St Off,
Nonmoving Traffic Viol - Operate
Motor Vehicle Wo Valid License

Garcia-Alvarez, Luis Gustavo:
Aggrav Asslt - Weapon - W Deadly
Weapon Without Intent To Kill (X2)

Garza, Ruperto:
Nonmoving Traffic Viol - Drive While
Lic Susp 1St Off

Gonzalez, Yosbel:
Prob Violation (X5)

Jones, Amy Janelle:
Failure To Appear - Written Promise To
Appear (X2)

Kendrick, Elliot Alexander:
Larc - Petit Theft 2Nd Degree 3Rd
Subsq Offense

King, David Scott:
Drugs-Possess - Cntrl Sub Wo
Prescription, Drug Equip-Possess -
And Or Use

Lofton, Preson Elijah:
Prob Violation

Longino, Samuel:
Aggrav Battery - By Person Detained
In Prison Or Jail Facility

Martinez, Joseph Thomas:
Drugs-Possess - Cntrl Sub Wo
Prescription, Drug Equip-Possess -
And Or Use

Mink, Sandra Ann:
Marijuana-Sell - Wi 1000 Ft Of
Specified Area Sched I, Drug Equip-
Possess - And Or Use

Perez, Jason:
Amphetamine-Traffic - Or
Methamphetamine 14 Grams Or Over,
Drug Equip-Possess - And Or Use

Prusinski, Jamie Lee:
Drugs-Possess - Cntrl Sub Wo
Prescription, Drug Equip-Possess
- And Or Use, Burgl - Unoccupied
Dwelling Unarmed, Larc - Grand Theft
5K Less Than 10K Dols

Rodriguez Meizoso, Yamil:
Nonmoving Traffic Viol - Operate
Motor Vehicle Wo Valid License

Salinas-Avila, Jimi:
Failure To Appear - Written Promise To
Appear

Templeton, Sara Gay:
Out Of County Warrant

Torres, Nicholas:
Burgl - Unoccupied Conveyance
Unarmed, Larc - Grand Theft 300
Less Than 5K Dols

Vicente-Ramos, Brayan:
Nonmoving Traffic Viol - Drive Wo Lic
Causes Death/Serious Injury W Veh

Wooten, Colby Ward:
Drugs-Possess - Cntrl Sub Wo
Prescription, Drug Equip-Possess -
And Or Use, Amphetamine-Smuggl
- Or Methamphetamine Capital Imp
400 Grams More, Possession Of
Weapon - Or Ammo By Convicted
Fla Felon, Amphetamine-Traffic - Or
Methamphetamine 14 Grams Or Over,
Drug Equip-Possess - And Or Use

Information on this report is provided for informational purposes only from the public Inmate Records of the DeSoto County Sheriff's Office. While every effort is made to ensure that the posted information is accurate, it may contain factual or other errors. Arrest information may not reflect the current information. An arrest does not mean that the individual has been convicted of a crime. The information on this report should not be relied upon for any type of legal action. Unauthorized or illegal use of the information is strictly prohibited.



Ensuring a Safe Ride:

CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY WEEK



SHERIFF POTTER
DeSoto County Sheriff

Dear DeSoto County,

In the third week of September, DeSoto County Sheriff's Office is proud to address an annual recognition week that serves as a crucial reminder of the importance of safeguarding our most precious cargo when on the roadways – our children.

As your Sheriff, I am committed to the safety and well-being of our community, especially our youngest members. From September 17 – September 23, 2023, we will come together to raise awareness about the vital steps we can take to ensure our children are protected when traveling in vehicles.

The Importance of Child Passenger Safety

Car crashes are a leading cause of death for children, as 710 children under 13 were killed in passenger

vehicles in 2021, and more than 100,000 were injured. In 2021, more than 36% of children under 13 who died while riding in passenger vehicles were unrestrained. It is our collective responsibility to reduce these statistics and ensure every child in our community is safe when they are inside a vehicle.

Choosing the Right Child Safety Seat

Selecting the appropriate child safety seat is the first step toward ensuring a safe ride for your child. Factors such as age, weight and height should all be considered when choosing the right seat. Infant seats, convertible seats and booster seats are designed to provide the necessary protection for children of varying ages and sizes. I advise you to always follow the manufacturer's guidelines and ensure a snug and secure fit for your child.

Proper Installation is Key

Even the most advanced safety seat will only be effective if it is

installed correctly. This is where many caregivers inadvertently put their children at risk. I urge each of you to take the time to read your vehicle and child safety seat manuals carefully. If you have any doubts about installation, consider seeking assistance from a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician, or visit the DeSoto County Sheriff's Office.

Seat Belt Safety for Older Children

As our children grow, it is essential to transition them to the appropriate type of restraint system. Seat belts play a critical role in protecting older children and adults. Ensure that your child is tall enough to fit comfortably without a booster seat and understands the importance of always wearing a seat belt.

Lead by Example

Our children look to us for guidance, so it's crucial to always try and set the best example. Always wear your seat belt and ensure that all passengers in your vehicle are

buckled up. Teaching our children the importance of seat belt safety from a young age creates lifelong habits that can save lives.

Child Passenger Safety Week is an excellent opportunity to refresh our knowledge about child safety seats and seat belt safety. I encourage you to take this time to educate yourself and others about the latest safety recommendations and laws in our state. Stay informed and spread the word about the importance of child passenger safety.

Be Kind, Be Safe and God Bless.
Sheriff Jim Potter



September 1, 2023

To our valued Customers and Business Partners,

We are pleased to announce the expansion of our Crown Florida Arcadia plant through the investment on an additional state-of-the-art production line. The project includes the construction of a new 45,000 square foot building dedicated to receiving the new equipment. The facility will have a fully automated high-efficiency production line that will use the most advanced technology available worldwide and will be dedicated to producing our new Windsor flat tile. Construction of the plant is already in progress, and production will be starting by the beginning of 2024.

The project is a multi-national coordination of supply partners from Sweden, Denmark, Germany, and U.S.A. companies. The expansion will ultimately create around 30 - 35 skilled and semi-skilled jobs in engineering, production, and maintenance. DeSoto County, where the company is located, has always been very supportive of us and we are pleased to give back through additional investments that will provide new jobs and additional economic benefits to the local community.

This year investments in facilities upgrades, product quality, and production streamline projects added to the new capacity expansion will represent a total capital expenditure of over \$30 million. The additional production capacity obtained from these projects will provide an increase of over three times our current capacity. This will enable us to improve the quality of our roof tiles and successfully reduce our lead times to meet the rapidly growing demand for our products.

We sincerely appreciate your business and support over the years and look forward to partnering together in this new and exciting phase for our company! If you have any questions or comments, please contact your local representative.

Sincerely,

Juan Prestamo
Chief Executive Officer
Crown Roof Tiles

Crown Building Products of Florida, LLC
6018 SW Hwy. 72, Arcadia, FL 34266
T. 844.642.7696 F. 863.993.4008
www.crownrooftiles.com



OBITUARIES



COLETTE MARIE RODGERS



Colette Marie Rodgers Dupuis, age 56 passed away Friday morning, July 7, 2023. She was born March 13, 1967 in Tampa, Florida to John Tucker and Colata Williams Tucker.

She graduated at Desoto County High School class of 1986. Colette enjoyed caring for animals, loved to be around water, and had an open door and heart for anyone that needed it.

Colette’s family will remember her as a loving and kind soul, putting everyone’s needs before

her own.

She is survived by her husband Donnie Dupuis, children John (Danielle) Taylor, Nicolette Herbert (Josh Brown), Kole Payne, Dewey Dupuis (Jodi Drymon), Rustin Dupuis, Ramsey Dupuis (Dawson Gause) and Rylan Dupuis (“Chuy” Manriquez). Adopted sons Dereck Manley and Bryce Freshwater. Brother Lonnie Rodgers (Debbie) and Debbie Taylor (wife in law), and four grandchildren Kylee Taylor, Karlee Taylor, Audrie Herbert and Laramie Brown, and two nieces and

four nephews.

Colette is preceded in death by her mother Colata “Katie” Tucker and brother Jimmie Rodgers.

Services are to be determined at a later date.

Online condolences can be made at:
www.pongerkaysgrady.com
Ponger-Kays-Grady Funeral Homes & Cremation Services has been entrusted with the arrangements.

SUSAN M. DAZEY



Susan M. Dazey, age 77 passed away Thursday morning September 7, 2023, in Sebring, Florida. She was born November 3, 1945, in Elkhart, Indiana to C. Robert Guard and Frances Arnold. Susan is of Baptist Faith, and she loved spending time with her grandchildren.

Susan is survived by her daughters Debra (John) Latimer and Cheryl (Jack) Keller. Siblings Gary (Mary) Guard, Randy Guard, Bobbie Erickson and brother-in-

law John Tanner. 3 grandchildren Joshua Dazey, Cacee Keller and Jamee Keller and 3 great grandchildren Nehemiah Camarillo, Scarlett Camarillo, and Savannah Camarillo.

She is preceded in death by her husband Edward L. Dazey, her parents, sister Karen Tanner, and brother-in-law Paul Erickson.

Graveside Service was held at Oak Ridge Cemetery on Saturday, September 9, 2023, at 1030 am.

Online condolences can be made

at www.pongerkaysgrady.com.
Ponger-Kays-Grady Funeral Homes & Cremation Services have been entrusted with the arrangements.



PENNY LYNN SOUTH



Penny Lynn South, age 60 passed away peacefully on Thursday, September 7, 2023 in Arcadia, FL. She was born on January 15, 1963 in Norfolk, VA to the late Billy and Linda Eakin Quesenberry. Penny was of the Baptist faith.

Penny was a very loving and caring wife, mother and granny! She will be missed beyond measure! Penny was the family matriarch, the glue that held everything together! She always felt that her family was her biggest and most cherished accomplishment. Penny was a very selfless but strong and resilient person, so much so, that just last year, after losing her husband (her lifetime partner, her best friend) she still chose to sacrifice and fight the hard battle just to be able to spend more time with her family. Her family

is so very grateful for that.

Penny worked hard her entire life spending over 30 years working for the State of Florida before retiring. In her spare time if she wasn’t surrounded by family and grand babies, she enjoyed bingeing her tv series and playing her Temu.

She is survived by three sons Payton A. South, Matthew R. (Lisa) South all of Arcadia, and Joshua B. (Regina) South of Port Charlotte. One sister Polly (Rodney) Thomas of Indiana, two brothers Jesse Bradley and Billy Quesenberry both of Virginia, Nine grandchildren, Devin, Levi, Payton, Angie, Clayton, Kimber, Harlynn, Joshua and Jaxen.

Penny was preceded in death by her husband Payton I. South and her parents.

Remembrance of life will be held on Saturday, September 16, 2023 at 11:00. At the chapel of Ponger-Kays-Grady Funeral Homes, 50 N. Hillsborough Ave., Arcadia. Services will be held by Rev. Ellis Cross of N. Hillsborough Baptist Church officiating. Burial will follow after at Oakridge Cemetery, Arcadia.

Online condolences can be made at www.pongerkaysgrady.com (http://www.pongerkaysgrady.com/) Ponger-Kays-Grady Funeral Homes & Cremation Services have been entrusted with the arrangements.

Our Father,
who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done in earth,
As it is in heaven.
Give us this day,our
daily bread.
And forgive us
our trespasses,
As we forgive them that
trespass against us.
And lead us not
into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
The power, and the glory,
For ever and ever.
Amen.

While I Breathe I Hope

Realtor Showcase





United Country
Real Estate
GULFLAND REAL ESTATE

Mac Martin, ALC, GRI, BA
BROKER/OWNER
863.494.2100
landpanther@gmail.com
2019 Florida Land Realtor

**National Marketing,
Local Expertise®**
FOR YOUR Lifestyle Property

www.gulflandrealestate.com

Your Hometown Realtor



Jean Lee Vitali

Contact this agent:
☎ **863.990.5106**
✉ jean1711@gmail.com
🌐 www.jeenvitali.com

**ONE CALL
DOES IT ALL!**



COLLINS
MANAGEMENT & REALTY

Dan Collins, Broker

☎ 863.494.6181
📍 223 E. Oak Street
Arcadia, FL 34266

**Make Your
Appointment Today!**






RMZ Realty Inc

Oralía Ramirez, *BROKER*
863.494.2702
oraliamirez@gmail.com

www.rmzhomez.com




DOW Realty Inc.

Been a Realtor for 45 years in Arcadia

Mary E. Dow *BROKER/OWNER*
863.494.6062
marymarydow@gmail.com

4-B West Oak St. Arcadia, FL 34266



WELCOME BACK!

Mosaic would like to welcome back students, faculty and staff and wish them another successful school year. Thanks to every parent, community member and business supporting education around the county.

Every Fall, Mosaic employees look forward to partnering with our local schools on academic and extracurricular initiatives from 4H & FFA to furthering innovative STEM learning.

Let’s continue working together to cultivate the most valuable crop of all - a bright future.

We help the world grow the food it needs.

MOSAICFLORIDAPHOSPHATE.COM



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



South Florida State College hosted the September 7th Early Bird. The following were recognized as Student of the Month.

DESOTO MIDDLE SCHOOL:

- 6th grade - Kennedy Scribner
- 7th grade - Michelle Albor Ortiz
- 8th grade - David Todd

DESOTO HIGH SCHOOL:

- 9th grade - River Rhodes
- 10th grade - Christopher Vinalay Mayo
- 11th grade - Jamil Brown
- 12th grade - Naomi Castellanos-Carde

Quality Sheds!

CALL 863-491-8700

FOR YOUR DREAM SHED

Are you yearning for more space? A space where you can neatly store your bicycles, tools, and conquer the chaotic mess of kids' toys? Or perhaps a secure haven for your valuable sports gear, yard equipment, or even a home office setup? Get ready, because your dreams of saving space are about to become a reality!

Check out our double 22" x 69" High Quality Aluminum Ramps!

Prepare to be dazzled by the remarkable features of every shed in our lineup
Crafted with attention to detail, built to endure the test of time

- Fearlessly tackles fierce winds, withstanding speeds of up to 160 mph
- Rest easy with a generous 10-year warranty, securing your investment
- Experience the thrill of complimentary delivery, right to your doorstep
- Let our experts work their magic with seamless installation, leaving you worry-free

YOUR SATISFACTION IS OUR HIGHEST PRIORITY!

And the perks don't stop there! Our skilled craftsmen will apply their expertise to construct a custom shed just for you, ensuring a seamless and stress-free experience or you can choose a ready made shed for quick delivery. We are not just any ordinary business; we are a close-knit family committed to delivering exceptional service.

Prepare to be amazed by the remarkable features of every shed in our lineup. We take pride in ensuring your satisfaction is our highest priority. If you find even the slightest hint of dissatisfaction with your shed installation, consider it solved. Our dedicated team will swiftly resolve any issues, ensuring your smile stretches from ear to ear.

For those seeking flexibility, we offer a rent-to-own program. With a mere \$99 down payment, the doors to your dream shed are opened, providing you with the ultimate convenience.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to transform your space and organize your belongings with our top-notch sheds. Visit us today and witness the exceptional quality and service that sets us apart.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE!
DON'T MISS OUT ON THESE
FANTASTIC PRICES.

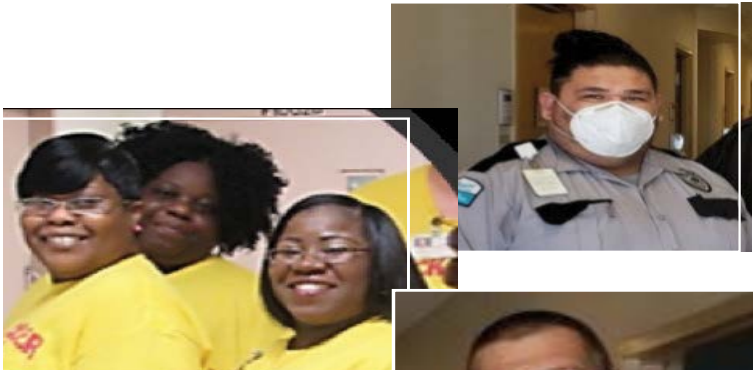
CALL NOW ON
(863) 491-8700

Embark on a journey to secure these quality sheds for you!

> 1460 SW Price Child St, Arcadia FL 34266 <

Design your shed at Shed4me.com

Join the Mission to Keep Florida Communities Safe



We provide evidence based
Forensic Treatment.



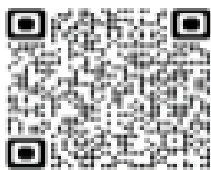
Walk-in interviews every Wednesday 9am-noon

Wellpath Recovery Solutions/Florida Civil Commitment Center
13619 Hwy 70 Arcadia, Florida 34266 (10.5 miles east of Walmart)
(863) 491-4800 To apply please visit [Wellpathcare.com/careers/](https://www.wellpathcare.com/careers/)

We have jobs and careers in security (\$21), nursing (\$23-38), direct care (\$15-16), mental health therapist, maintenance, food service and more...

We find the best fit for applicants based on their work history, attitude, education and interests. New employees receive intensive training and OTJ support.

YOU have choices! We offer DailyPay, regular paychecks, various health care plans (health, dental, vision), 401K, sponsorship for the Correctional Academy, full time and PRN, some sign bonuses are up to \$2000, air conditioned work environment, tuition reimbursement and more...



Florida Civil Commitment Center
13619 SE Hwy 70, Arcadia FL 34266 (863)491-4800

DHS HEALTH SCIENCE ACADEMY EXPANDS CAREER CERTIFICATIONS WITH GRANT FROM THE DESOTO COUNTY EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC.

Seventy-four (74) students enrolled in the Health Science Career Academy at DeSoto County High School were awarded an opportunity to complete an extra certification in Trauma Informed Career/Resiliency. Initially, most students were less than enthusiastic about the added curriculum. Then, they related what they were learning to their own lives and their friends. Now these young adults have the skills to be more empathetic and supportive of others in their personal and future work lives.

This additional certification course was made possible through support from a multi-year grant awarded the DeSoto County Education Foundation (DCEF). The program is funded by a Delucca Health Care Grant. Congratulations to these students for their additional health career certification!

For more information on DCEF and how you can support the students and teachers in the school district visit www.DeSotoEducationFoundation.com



COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 10 >>

The renewal of Florida Blue Health Insurance Benefits for City employees, with no change in coverage, was approved by the Council. Human Resources Director Patty Coram praised Assistant City Administrator Beth Carsten for negotiating the proposed 14% increase down to 5.9% with a primary agent commission of 2%.

The Council declared the following equipment as surplus and approved the proposed disposal: Mack garbage truck, laminated AV cart, wood two-shelf bookshelf, Janitor II sweeper, office desk, office chair, DeWalt and Power Ex air compressors, two 48" ditch buckets, 11 curb inlet grates, single axle military trailer, EC 3200 crane, EZE-Go golf cart, 45 Mueller/Kennedy fire hydrants, and a miscellaneous scrap metal pile.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Council approved items 3 through 8 on the Consent Agenda.

- No application fee but deposit required for the following annual parades: All-Florida Championship Rodeo Association, Chamber of Commerce Christmas, DeSoto County High School Homecoming, Independence Day (July 4), Juneteenth, Martin Luther King Day, and Veteran's Day; plus the following annual events: DeSoto County Fair, DeSoto County Historical Society's Holiday Tour of Homes, and DeSoto County Special Olympics Golf Competition.

- Special events permits for the following: Fisher and Roes Auctioneers auction of farm equipment from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Sept. 23, at the Fairgrounds, 100 Heard St.; Classic Wrestling Association will hold a CWA7 pro wrestling match from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Sept. 23 at Rattlers, 111 W. Oak St.; DeSoto County Fair Association will have a Fall Festival "Walk of Fear" featuring food, games, music, spook walk, train rides, zombie paint ball and more from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Oct. 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, and 28 at the Fairgrounds, 100 Heard St.
- Minutes for the Aug. 15 budget workshop and meeting.

COMMENTS

Allen Reesor reported that Hurricane Idalia had toppled a tree in front of the McSwain Cultural Arts and Learning Center, and he thanked the City and Public Works Director Steve Underwood for cleaning it up the next day. He reported rentals for the McSwain Center; dance classes continuing and working towards a winter holiday performance; yoga class on Sat. morning for \$20.00 a week or \$45.00 for the month; and a new Farmers Market starting on Sept. 22.

Collins voiced five concerns as follows: the old police dept. building is not ready to rent; the company hired to reinstall the stop and street signs throughout the city went out of business, so a new Tampa-based company was hired to complete the job;



Chelsea Palmer thanked the Council and Public Works Director Steve Underwood for the Jordan Branch clean out. "I'm so excited that [my property is] not going to flood," she said.



Roseann Collins thanked the Council for cleaning out Jordan Branch as Hurricane Idalia was the first time since 2009 that her yard was not flooded after a storm.



From left, Connie Bateman and Emily Morris presented the details for Season 7 of the Saturday Night Lights program with free movies and family fun downtown on the second Sat. of the month from October 2023 through January 2024.

the picnic tables will be permanently installed on the old tennis court--now the base for the new pavilion in the park on Martin Luther King St.; the pavers

will be laid at the York Tennis Courts; and Stewart agreed to pressure-wash the downtown sidewalks.

⊙ ** ☐ ☺ ⌘ ~ ● ♫ ✧ * ❄ × ❁ + ≡ ❁ ▲ ☾ * ♂ ☆ ≯ ℏ ∓ Ω ⬆
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

CRYPTO FUN

☐ ☾ Ω ✱ ♂ ≍ ≈ ★ +
Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to immunizations.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 18 = **E**)

A. 14 12 11 11 25 15 18

Clue: Protects against illness

B. 10 19 11 23 19 9

Clue: Medical professional

C. 15 18 18 10 3 18

Clue: Pointy instrument

D. 16 9 19 23 18 11 23 25 19 15

Clue: Provides safeguards

Answers: A. vaccine B. doctor C. needle D. protection

QUIT TOBACCO
with **GROUP QUIT**

There's never been a more important time to quit.

Free expert-led sessions to help you quit all forms of tobacco.



Virtual Group Sessions -OR- In-Person Group Sessions



Develop your personalized quit plan.



FREE nicotine replacement patches, gum, or lozenges.*



**More than
DOUBLES your
chances of success!**

*If medically appropriate for those 18 years of age or older

Pre-registration is required.

CALL TODAY:

866-534-7909



Sponsored by:

GULF COAST SOUTH
AREA HEALTH
EDUCATION CENTER



Florida
HEALTH

Learn more about all of Tobacco Free Florida's tools and services at
www.tobaccofreeflorida.com/quityourway

For All Your Water Needs



Water Treatment Sales & Service

• **Pumps** • **Tanks** • **Aerators** • **Salt Delivery**

863-494-6548 *Serving Desoto and
Surrounding Counties*

***Serving Desoto and
Surrounding Counties***

Newberry A Trusted Name in the Water Industry for Over 50 Years.
Owned & Operated by a SWFWMD. Licensed Water Well Contractor. License #2881



charlotte advanced
ORTHODONTICS

"On that final day of treatment when a patient looks in the mirror and sees his or her perfect smile, it has all been worth it"

Dr. Christina Pepper



**BRACES &
INVISALIGN®
FOR ALL AGES**

 Hablamos español
Arcadia location at 930 E Gibson St, Arcadia
941.629.2221

DeSoto

“Solutions to Actions”

Dive into Discovery

OCTOBER

10

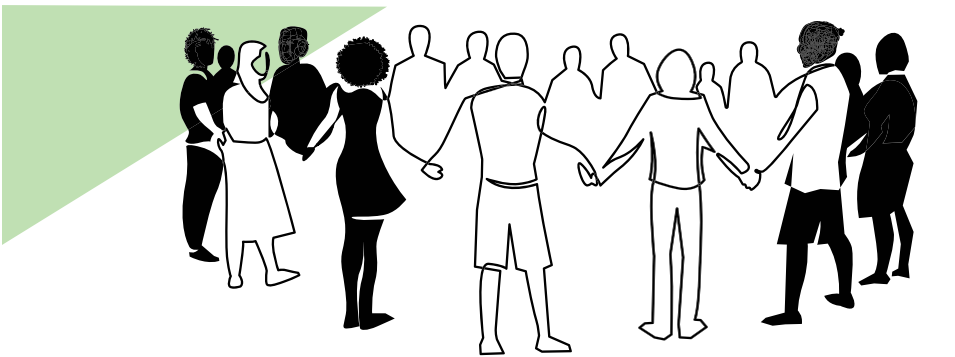
2023

Celebrate DeSoto and Register Now!!!

CELEBRATING 8 COMMUNITY THEMES

Small Projects to Big Actions

- Learn about *your* eight community theme aspirations
- Hear from *local* community neighbors and leaders
- Celebrate *community-wide* changes forging a brighter future
- Connect with organizations *invested* in DeSoto County during the resource fair
- Dive in and discover your *aspirations in motion* for the future of DeSoto County



Date: October 10, 2023
4:30p – 6:00p
Connect at resource fair / dinner
6:00p – 6:30p
Event Program
6:30p – 7:00p
Further networking with exhibitors
Location: Turner Agri-Civic Center
Address: 2250 NE Roan St.
Arcadia, FL, 34266

Dive Into Discovery will showcase community organizations, valuable resources, and meaningful presentations by various community changemakers. The event aims to foster connections, promote learning, encourage the exchange of ideas, and ensure that each person leaves with a renewed sense of hope and inspiration, as well as steps to propel positive change within our community. *Dinner is provided thanks to the generosity of The Patterson Foundation.

ALL ARE WELCOME



People



Organizations



Communities