FREE VOL. V, NO. 38

ARCADIA COMMUNIO **SEPTEMBER 19, 2024**



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Local

DESOTO COUNTY COMMEMORATES 9/11



American Legion K-Post 11 Honor Guard posted the U.S. Flag and fired a five-gun salute during the remembrance ceremony: from left, Amber Collins; Ron Jones, Sr.; Commander Mike Dempsey; Victor Dennison, and David Fonger.



CAROL MAHLER Independent Contractor carolmahler22acl@gmail.com Photos provided

Public Safety Director Chad Jorgensen convened a commemoration of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks that killed 2,983 people, including 343 firefighters and 60 police officers. DeSoto County's firefighters, paramedics, and law enforcement officers-plus their families, friends, and community members-gathered on the east lawn of the courthouse to remember what some have called "the deadliest terrorist act in human

Jorgensen welcomed everyone and called for a moment of silence. Then Ron Jones, Sr., former commander of American Legion K Post 11, installed the U.S. Flag, and City Administrator Terry Stewart sang the National Anthem.

After calling for Sheriff Jim Potter and Marshal Quinn Jones to stand beside him, Jorgensen briefly



After the gun salute, American Legion K-Post 11 Member Arthur Southwell played "Taps"—a bugle call which is a signal for "lights out" at day's endstanding beside his wife DeAna Southwell.

recounted the history: an aircraft hit the North Tower and another struck the South Tower of the World Trade Center, and a third impacted the Pentagon. Another airplane crashed near Shanksville,

SEE COMMEMORATION PAGE 18 >>

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GOVERNMENT MEETING SCHEDULE

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS OCCUR THE **IST AND 3RD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED**

Margaret Way Building 23 N. Polk Ave., Arcadia, FL 34266

DESOTO COUNTY

REGULAR COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

TUE 3P & 6:30P

Administration Building 201 E. Oak Street, Suite 103 Arcadia, FL 34266

DESOTO COUNTY

PUBLIC HEARING: FINAL BUDGET FY24-25

TUE 6:30P

Administration Building 201 E. Oak Street, Suite 103 Arcadia, FL 34266

DESOTO COUNTY SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

TUE 5:30P **District Office** 530 N. La Solona Ave., Rm 40 Arcadia, FL 34266

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







SALES INQUIRIES: SALES@PEACERIVERSHOPPER.COM 863.990.9813

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

COUNTY POSTPONES CONSIDERATION OF IMPACT FEES



CAROL MAHLER

Independent Contractor carolmahler22acl@amail.com Photos provided

On Sept. 10, during the Impact Fee Workshop presented by Dwayne Guthrie and John Osborne. Commissioner Elton Langford suggested that the County wait to consider impact fees until after the Nov. election or even Jan. 1, 2025. Commissioners Steve Hickox and Judy Schaefer agreed.

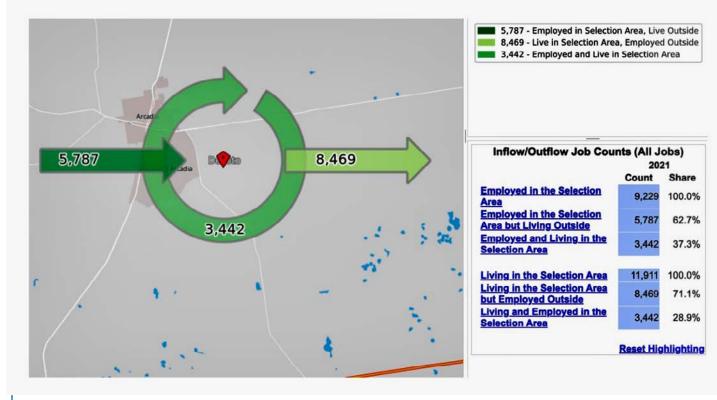
Having adopted impact fees in 2006, the County suspended them in 2008 with the downturn in new construction. If the County wants impact fees, it will need a new impact fee study based on the most recent changes in the Florida Statutes as well as legal decisions; the latest County data and best practices; and updated "cost estimates for improvements that expand capacity needed to accommodate-and provide benefit to-new development." The study price was estimated at \$150,000.00.

Impact fees are based on "police power," meaning necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of residents. Impact fees are often collected prior to development and passed along to end users; however, Floridians pay impact fees when they apply for building permits. The "rational nexus test" must apply to impact fees so that they are used to finance infrastructure and facilities that will benefit new development within six years and are proportional to the actual costs of the new infrastructure.

Changes in the Florida Impact Fee Act necessitate evidence of the need for additional capital facilities generated by new construction, meaning expanding capacity rather than operations, maintenance or replacement. The facilities must have a useful life of more than five years and be fixed assets: for example, a building rather than furnishings or equipment. In addition, the facilities must benefit the new construction and be based on the "most recent and localized data."

If the Board authorizes a new impact fee study, then it will have to decide to utilize the existing consultant or issue a Request For Proposals (RFP). To complete the study, the consultant collects and analyzes data with County assistance; drafts methodology and presents the study to staff; refines the study; holds a work session with the Commissioners and refines the study again. Then the Land Development Code will be updated with the new fee schedule and other details that must be adopted by the Board.

Impact fees may cover the cost of the study and staff time to implement them. The County may adopt all types and



Part of the "Impact Fee 101 and Update Process" presentation, this graphic shows that according to statistics for 2021, DeSoto County is now a "bedroom community" or one in which a majority of residents work elsewhere.



Dwayne Guthrie, PhD, ACIP, of DP Guthrie, LLC, presented "Impact Fee 101 and Update Process in DeSoto County, Florida" during the Impact Fee Workshop on Sept. 10. He explained that impact fees are not a tax on newcomers but provide facilities and infrastructure necessary for new construction.



Having served as Interim Director of the Planning Dept. and now a consultant, John Osborne, AICP, of Green Street Associates Urban Planners, assisted Guthrie with the presentation and answered questions during the Sept. 10 Impact Fee Workshop.



Speaking against impact fees, Jane Watson said that "DeSoto County is like a unicorn" and so could not be compared to other "big" counties



Theresa Hill asked two questions: do impact fees apply to mobile homes and who pays for damage to roads during construction.



Brian Young insisted that impact fees are very important especially as large new developments are planned in the community.





Opposing impact fees, Ed Johnson noted that the single largest tax payer in the County moved here because the County had no impact fees.

amounts of fees at 100% or at a reduced percentage rate or as a phasing-in over time-for example, transportation fees of 50% in Jan. 2025, increased to 75% in Jan. 2026, and to 100% in Jan. 2027. The most common types of impact fees are to fund transportation, public safety, and law enforcement.

Commission Vice-Chairperson J.C. Deriso noted that impact fees seem

more effective in a county the size of Manatee, where Guthrie and Osborne have both worked and gave examples from their experiences.

County Administrator Mandy Hines said that 24 counties currently have no impact fees because it is difficult for a rural county to gather enough impact fee funding "to do something."

Hickox advocated for impact fees

saying "something is better than nothing." He noted that it will be "hard to do roadway improvements" without impact fees.

According to Langford, adopting impact fees will encourage growth in some ways because the number of building permits will increase as people hurry to apply before the iplementation of impact fees.

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STAFF TO PREPARE 10-YEAR GARBAGE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT



CAROL MAHLER

Independent Contractor carolmahler22acl@gmail.com Photos provided

At the "Womack Workshop" presented by County Attorney Don Conn on Sept. 10, the Commissioners directed staff to prepare the Garbage Franchise Agreement with Womack Sanitation to extend the current agreement for another ten-year term or until 2034.

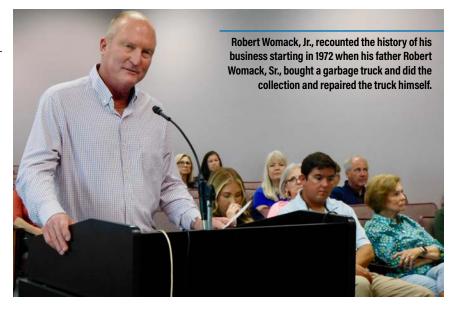
Conn advised, "The County has a legal obligation to extend this agreement for another ten years." He noted that the Commissioners may add conditions to the agreement. so Commissioners Steve Hickox and Judy Schaefer called for an annual external audit of Womack's finances. County Administrator Mandy Hines said she will ask the County auditors-Purvis Gray-to estimate the audit's cost.

County Ordinance 2006-35 for Solid Waste Collection, Disposal, and Assessment "requires the Franchisee to keep uniform books and accounts in accordance with standard accounting practices." After "reasonable notice," the County may audit those books and accounts during normal business hours.

Commissioner Elton Langford also requested that the agreement "set a future board up for success" by inviting qualified companies with a background in solid waste collection to make proposals for curbside collection in year six or seven of the ten-year agreement.

Conn explained that Chapter 287 of the Florida Statutes requires "competitive bidding for services in excess of threshold amounts set forth in Section 287.017 for State agencies rather than counties, cities, and special districts. In addition, the County's Purchasing Policy adopted in 2005 provides "a specific exemption from competitive bidding for Franchise."

In 2005, the County signed a 10-year franchise agreement with Womack and renewed that agreement for another





Although she and her husband considered a garbage-collection business when they first moved to the County, Cynthia Boss said that Womack does a good job.

10-year term in 2014. Although that agreement expires on Oct. 1, 2024, it provides that the agreement be extended for another ten years until Oct. 2034 unless Womack is in default of the Agreement or Ordinance. If so, then notice must be sent and a "cure period" must be provided. As the agreement between the County and Womack is a contract, any unilateral change or termination by either party before Oct. 2034 "may result in a breach or impairment of contract claim."

Although the Code of Ordinances 5-96 through 5-104 covering the Garbage Franchise allows either exclusive or non-exclusive franchises



A resident in River Acres, Michelle Bennett lives on a private road and brings her garbage about two miles to Masters Ave. for curbside pick up.

Margaret Westby is the Certified Public Accountant that handles finances for Womack Sanitation. She noted that no formal audit was done in 2008. Instead, the County Administrator and Director of Finance reviewed Womack's accounts.

since 2004, the Franchise Agreements with Womack have been referred to as "exclusive." In addition, the Franchise includes residential, commercial, and construction and demolition (C&D) collection, specifically waste from land development as well as home improvement projects. Thus, Womack is authorized to provide "roll-offs." In 2006, the Board authorized the fee for "roll-off" service, "and that fee is still in place today."

In his Aug. 22 memo to the Commissioners, Conn wrote, "DeSoto County's franchising of garbage collection is not inconsistent with any provision of law, was enacted in the common interest of the people of DeSoto County and for the purpose of promoting the health and general welfare of the County." He noted that

other counties franchise their garbage collection services, including but not limited to Alachua, Columbia, Highlands, Hillsborough, Indian River, Lake, Lee, Liberty, Monroe, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, Santa Rose, and Sarasota.

Ed Johnson spoke against extending the agreement for another 10 years.

Robert Womack, Jr., had collected 71 names on a petition in favor of extending the franchise agreement another ten years. He said his business makes 10,200 contacts twice a week, so he asked the Board, "How many do you

Vice-Chairperson J.C. Deriso asked for a show of hands of those supporting Womack, and he said, "It speaks volumes" that so many people are here in support of Womack.

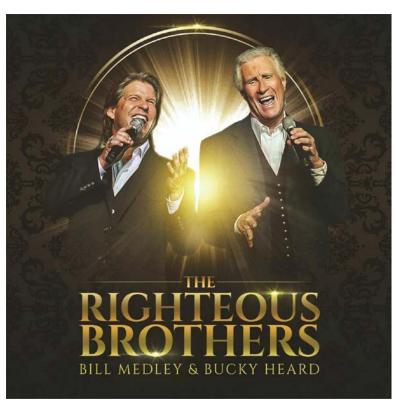
SFSC PERFORMING ARTS SEASON BEGINS ON NOV. 1



AVON PARK, Fla. - Sept. 11, 2024 - The 2024-25 performing arts season at the 1,460-seat Alan Jay Wildstein Center for the Performing Arts at South Florida State College (SFSC) kicks off on Friday, Nov. 1 at 7 p.m. with The Seger Experience. This tribute to Bob Seger is a real rock concert featuring all the huge hits of his storied career. Seger recorded the iconic songs, "Turn the Page," "Against the Wind," "Old Time Rock and Roll," and "Night Moves." The Hall of Famer's concerts are legendary and we bring you that energy and passion with a hint of Detroit soul through the Seger Experience.

Charlotte's Web comes to the stage on Sunday, Nov. 3 at 3:30 p.m. This family-friendly and treasured musical tale of friendship is brought to the stage by the award-winning TheaterWorks USA.

Flor de la Nochebuena comes to SFSC on Sunday, Nov. 27 at 7 p.m. Discover the Mexican legend of the poinsettia told in English and Spanish by two narrators and then sing, dance, and enjoy holiday and popular music from Mexico, Puerto Rico, Dominica, and other Latin countries with Orguesto Caribeano Tropicale. All seats for Flor de la Nochebuena are \$10.



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LETDOWN AT PORT CHARLOTTE IN BULLDOGS' LOSS



STEVE KNAPP

Sports Writer sports@peacerivershopper.com

The DeSoto volleyball rematch at Port Charlotte was building up to be an exciting contest. In the second match of the season the two teams had 5 close exciting sets before the Pirates narrowly escaped with a 3-2 win.

Another exciting match never came about. Like many sequels, the second one didn't match up with the excitement of the original. The firecracker was lit but never exploded as the Bulldogs lost in three sets 25-14, 25-22, 25-21.

DeSoto never got started in the first set as they struggled with the serve receive part of the game. Several Pirate serves ended up behind the Bulldogs' bench as the Bulldogs mishit them.

The second set was the key set of the match. Their serve receive and service improved and provided a very good set. There were two very questionable calls that both went against the Lady Bulldogs that could have given them the set win as they lost by three 25-22.

The final set showed the grit of the girls from DeSoto County. Even those they were facing match point trailing 24-17, they kept on battling. The scrappy Bulldogs rallied for 4 points to make the contest closer but eventually lost 25-21.

"I told the girls to not worry about one point, we're not losing because of one or two calls. There were several reasons why we were losing and those questionable calls wasn't the reason we lost. We didn't play as well tonight as we did when we were home. At home we had several hitters who were on but tonight we only had 1 or 2 that were on," said coach Danielle Taylor.

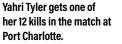
The Bulldogs will be home tonight as LaBelle makes the visit to DeSoto County. DeSoto is 2-6 this season with two earlier games this week with results not known by deadline. They are leading the 4A district 9 with a 1-0 record.

As the team nears the halfway mark in the season, there are several players who are having excellent seasons. Yahri Tyler leads the team in blocks and in kills with 71. Senior Emery Skinner leads the team with 116 receptions and 81 digs. Brighten Long has 11 aces and has 164 assists to lead the team.

Chloe Clemons and Emery Skinner change directions as the ball hit off the rafters on the ceiling of the gym in the loss to the Pirates.



Jordin Campbell reaches the apex of her jump and slams the ball back to the Port Charlotte side of the court.





Freshman Chloe Clemons returns the serve in the loss at Port Charlotte. $\label{eq:continuous}$





sister Brileigh Long in the match at Port Charlotte.

DESOTO COUNTY GAME OF THE WEEK



DYFC 14U BULLDOGS SHUT OUT RED DEVILS 21-0



The 14U DeSoto team was ranked 3 out of 25 teams in the region before their 21-0 win over Avon Park.



Madden Purvis carries the ball for the Bulldogs in their 21-0 win. Purvis just recovered from Covid but managed to score the first two touchdowns for DeSoto.



The 14U cheerleaders shows the crowd what they have been working on.



A big and aggressive offensive line opens up holes for the running backs to get through. Everybody has control of their man on this play.





Kolton Bullard uses a stiff arm to keep the Red Devils away from him. Bullard did a nice job directing the offense for the Bulldogs.



Devion Brown is a load to bring down and picked up a lot of yardage in the 21-0 win over Avon Park.



Malakai Laguerre has good speed and was held up before help could arrive for the Red Devils.

DESOTO COUNTY

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



MARQUEZ ANGELES













STEVE KNAPP

Sports Writer . sports@peacerivershopper.com

Marquez Angeles is regarded as the best boys golfer in the area. He has been named Golfer of the Year and has had several district championships. He has qualified for regional competition and

went on to the state championship match last year. The senior is again leading the DeSoto Bulldogs this season.

Angeles shot a very strong 34 to top the leader board in the win over Hardee last week 154-177. He is foregoing his final soccer season to concentrate on his golf game and earn a golf scholarship.

BULLDOGS MISCUES CONTRIBUTE TO 22-0 LOSS



STEVE KNAPP

Sports Writer sports@peacerivershopper.com

The 22-0 loss to Hill-Gustat was one of those games where it could have been worse than the score indicated and it could have been closer than the final score shows.

The Eagles had two touchdowns called back because of penalties which could have made the game a blowout. However, the Bulldogs shot themselves in their foot several times that could have made the game closer.

After a scoreless first 8 minutes, DeSoto had the Eagles in a 2 and 29 situation. The Eagles picked up a 20 yard run and capped it off with an 11 yard score to get on the board first 8-0 after the two point conversion.

The Bulldogs came back behind some nifty running by Joel Brown on a 25 yard gain to the Hill-Gustat 28 yard line. The next play the ball was coughed up with the Eagles taking possession on their 22 yard

A 78 yard touchdown run with 1:57 left in the first half upped the score to 14-0 after the failed two point conversion attempt. The Bulldogs again lost the ball on a fumble on their own 49 yard line to stop another drive. The score remained at 14-0 at the break.

The second half saw the Eagles return the kick off 86 yards for a touchdown with just 19 seconds off the clock. DeSoto moved the ball well and looked like they may get on the board, but their drive was stopped inside the Eagles 25 yard line.

With less than a minute to play in the third quarter, the lightening horn went off. After a 30 minute delay and more lightening in the area, the game was called with the Eagles getting the 22-0 win.



Captains for the Bulldogs were Rah'monti Watson, Jake Safford, Cael D'Angelo and Joel Brown.



Gatian Unruh (23) was the first Bulldog to reach the ball carrier when Steven **Camble and Rah'monti** Watson came in to help finish him off.

Riley McCray reaches for the Eagle ball carrier in the 22-0 loss. That Eagle player is the one that refused to shake hands with the other Bulldog captains before the game. After the referee said that wasn't very good sportsmanship, he replied, "that's my preference".





Quarterback Jacob Tanner and running back Joel Brown break through the banner to lead the Bulldogs onto the field.



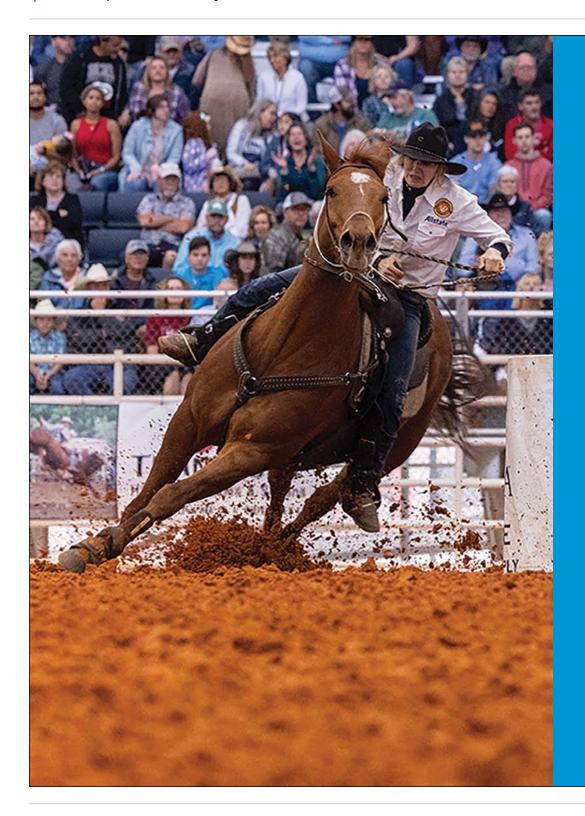
Yshmel Nurse concentrates on the ball carrier and makes the tackle in the 22-0 loss to Hill-Gustat.



It takes more than just a hand to slow down Joel Brown as he slips the tackle from the Eagle defender.



Jacob Tanner has a convoy of blue shirts in front of him as he sweeps the right side in the 22-0 loss to Hill-Gustat.



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ROLLED-BACK MILLAGE RATE AND TENTATIVE BUDGET APPROVED 3 TO 2



CAROL MAHLER

Independent Contractor carolmahler22acl@gmail.com Photos provided

At the Sept. 9 public hearing, the rolled-back rate of 7.6153 mills and the current Law Enforcement Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) of 2.4399 mills were approved for an aggregate total of 9.7643 which is a .59% increase over the rolled-back rate of 9.7071. In addition, the tentative 2024-2025 County budget of \$175,415,592.00 that includes \$26,208,204.00 in grant fundingwas also ratified. Commission Vice-Chairperson J.C. Deriso, Chairperson Jerod Gross, and Commissioner Judy Schaefer voted in favor, and Commissioners Steve Hickox and Elton Langford were opposed.

The tentative budget had been prepared based on a "flat" or unchanged millage rate, so the hearing had a short recess while County Administrator Mandy Hines and Senior Budget Coordinator Brian Wagoner recalculated the amounts based on the rolled-back rate. Earlier in the hearing, Langford had explained that for a property valued at \$250,000.00, the difference between the current millage rate and the rolled-back rate is \$86.64 per year or \$7.22 per month.

Deriso had voiced concerns that the Sheriff's Dept. was receiving a smaller percentage of the over-all budget each year, so he advocated for the 4% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) that the Sheriff had requested for his employees. Although it seemed in contradiction, he also advocated the rolled-back millage rate.

Langford said, "I'm looking at fairness for all our employees. . . We're never going to be able to pay our law enforcement or our firefighters and EMS what other counties do. It's not going to happen. . . . I'm still at the 3%" COLA for all employees.

"Sixth poorest county in the State," Hickox emphasized. He wanted to keep costs as low as possible, including a 3% COLA for all employees.

Ed Johnson said, "I appreciate your



Ed Johnson advocated the rolledback millage rate and cutting the budget. He also objected to raising the curbside collection rate. At the start of his remarks about the collection rates, he said, "I'm going to be the proverbial skunk at the church picnic, but things need to be said."

Speaking on behalf of Womack Sanitation, Attorney Connie Collins noted that the rate increase request is in accordance with Resolution 2023-110 approved on Aug. 15, 2023: "the residential rate shall be annually adjusted for inflation based on an industry specific Consumer Price Index (CPI) not to exceed 6% per fiscal year applied to the hauling rate."

only one-third of property taxes are paid by homeowners whereas two-thirds are paid by agricultural, commercial, and industrial property owners. However, residential tax payers use more County services than do the others, so the key is to bring in industry and commerce.

Deriso agreed. He noted a huge shift in property use over the past few years as orange groves die and are replaced by ranch land with a much lower assessed value.

"I'm not against growth," Langford said. He wants the kind of "good growth" where the proposed use fits the current zoning.

Hines reminded the Board of two future projects: a new jail and improving Kings Highway. For the jail, property must be purchased and then the facility designed and built. Also, although Kings Highway

of Transportation has programed \$15.5 million into their 2027 budget to build two miles of four lanes. However, bids for the project are very high-for one mile of four lanes not including funds necessary to relocate utilities the cost is nearly \$22 million. She said, "We need to put some money away for those big capital projects."

Curbside Collection Rate Raised To \$228.13

Gross, Hickox, Langford, and Schaefer approved the resolution to raise the Residential Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Municipal Service Benefit Unit (MSBU) rate for fiscal year 2024-2025 to \$228.13 which is a \$6.81 increase from the 2023-2024 rate of \$221.32. The resolution will take affect on Oct. 1, 2024, as long as a Garbage Franchise Agreement is in place because the current agreement expires on Oct. 1, 2024.

The agreement was discussed during a workshop on Sept. 10.

Commission Vice-Chairperson J.C. Deriso voted in opposition. He said, "How do we know that he needs [the raise]?" He and the other Commissioners praised Womack Sanitation for excellent service and extra efforts to keep the County clean.

County Attorney Don Conn presented the resolution and noted that only publication in a newspaper of a notice ten days prior to the public hearing to revise the rate is required by Ordinance 9.76, and it was so done 13 days ago. Accordingly, mailing notices to tax payers was not necessary. In addition, Ordinance 9.75 requires adoption of a new rate between June 1 and Sept. 15, and the Sept. 9 public hearing is the only one available before the Sept. 15 deadline.





BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVES: CHURCH MATTERS

KENNY BUTTS

Unashamed Youth Pastor First Baptist Arcadia

Let's take a good long look at who our children will become. What are the main issues and concerns that parents have for their child? Many parents spend all of their resources on setting their child(ren) up for success, and making sure they have all their needs met. Sacrifice is not a strange word or feeling for most parents. Parents go out of their way to invest in their child(ren) because they genuinely care about them. I have seen parents (Me) give up everything for the betterment of their child(ren). Parents spend most of the younger years teaching their children what is right and wrong. A ridiculous amount of money is poured into providing food, shelter, clothing, education, etc. Countless hours are spent going to practices, games, school, recitals, performances, doctors' appointments and much more. But how

much money and time is being spent on their spiritual well-being?

The world is fast at work transforming our youth into its agenda (image). Our youth are bombarded with what the world says is right and wrong constantly through school, social media, tv, etc.... Parents must instill the very best morals and values into their child(ren) in order for them to be productive and successful. These types of morals and values come straight from the Holy Bible. It is not possible to teach what you do not know. That is why church matters. Proverbs 18:1 reads, "A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire; He rages against all wise judgment." Church attendance is about hearing and learning God's Word so that we will know and be able to teach the next generations. The next generations so desperately need

to understand what sin is, what the consequences are for sin, and how to avoid those consequences. Why would a parent teach their child(ren) anything less? We are literally one generation away from a world that seeks out only our selfish desires.

The most important thing you can do for your child(ren) is to make sure they know who Jesus Christ is. Send them to church. In 1 John 14:6, Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." Your child(ren) also needs other people to invest in their lives and to care about them genuinely (Love).

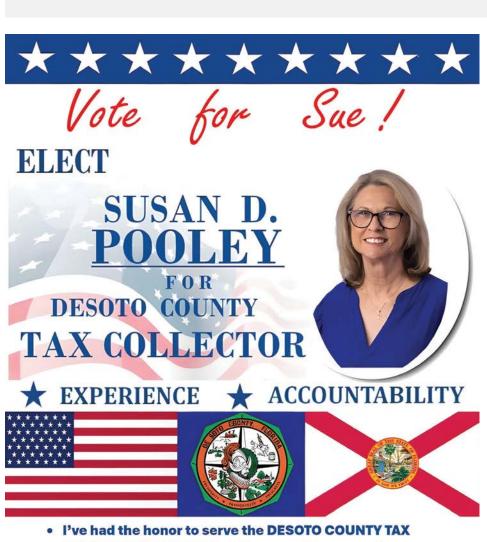
Discipleship and mentorship are imperative for helping our kids understand who they are, whose they are, and what their purpose on earth is. We must

prepare our youth for what is to come after this life. Heaven and Hell are the only two possibilities.

Sin is what separates our child(ren) from God, and Jesus Christ is the only way to redemption. There is not a single teaching of Jesus Christ that is selfish or proud. Jesus calls everyone to love one another; this is totally opposite of what the world teaches our children. "Me, me, me" is the agenda that the world pushes. If our child(ren) accomplishes everything in life but spends eternity in hell, what have we as parents achieved? This is why church matters.

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- 40 years of experience in the accounting and finance fields in various rolls including the construction industry, CPA firm, Ray-O-Vac manufacturing as well as a sole proprietor offering independent bookkeeping service.
- BA DEGREE IN ACCOUNTING from the University of South Florida, Tampa 1978.
- CERTIFIED FLORIDA COLLECTOR'S ASSISTANT

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SFSC

FROM PAGE 3 >>

William Lee Golden and the Goldens will perform on Tuesday, Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. Golden, a member of the Oak Ridge Boys and the Grand Ole Opry, performs country, gospel, southern rock, and holiday music.

Menopause the Musical 2 is on stage on Sunday, Jan. 5 at 4 p.m. This show about cruisin' through the changes is a laugh-out-loud musical that celebrates women and the joys of menopause and friendship.

Always Loretta featuring
Emily Portman is a must-see
intimate evening of songs and stories
by those who knew Loretta Lynn best.
Authorized and approved by Loretta's
family, it features her band, The
Coalminers. This show is on Friday, Jan.
17 at 7 p.m.

The Four C-Notes are four guys with vintage dance moves, who'll take you on a trip down memory lane with the Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons catalog. The evening features "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Walk Like a Man," "Can't Take My Eyes Off You," and "Let's Hang On." They perform on Tuesday, Jan. 21 at 1:30 p.m.

On Saturday, Jan. 25 at 7 p.m., international music icon, Grammy Award-winner, and recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor, Lee Greenwood, celebrates the 40th anniversary of his mega-hit, "God Bless the USA" in his final tour, Lee Greenwood: Farewell Tour.

Turnstiles: The Ultimate
Tribute to the Music of Billy
Joel will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 28
at 1:30 p.m. The Turnstiles' renditions of
Billy Joel's classic songs are certain to
move the casual listener as well as the
hardcore Joel fan to their feet and have
them singing along with all the classics.

This is as close as it gets to seeing the King of Pop live on stage again.

Invincible: A Glorious Tribute to Michael Jackson is the only tribute show personally endorsed by Joe Jackson himself. The performance is on Saturday, Feb. 1 at 7 p.m.

The family-friendly **Mutts Gone Nuts** will be performed on Sunday,
Feb. 2 at 3 p.m. This uproariously funny
canine spectacular features five of
the world's most talented four-legged
performers that will jump, dance,
prance, flip, and skip their way into your
heart.

The Drifters perform on Tuesday, Feb. 4 at 1:30 p.m. You'll hear their classics, "Up on the Roof," "Under the Boardwalk," "This Magic Moment," "There Goes My Baby," "Dance with Me," "Spanish Harlem," and "Stand by Me." One of rock and roll's founding vocal groups is once again touring the United States under the auspices of their original management team.

Broadway, television, and film star Robert Neary returns with his one-ofa-kind tributes to one of the greatest and most successful recording artists in history with **So Good: The Neil Diamond Experience** on Thursday, Feb. 6 at 7 p.m. See for yourself how the tribute show to Neil Diamond is





unlike any you have ever seen or heard before.

On Tuesday, Feb. 11 at 1:30 p.m., **Phat Cat Swinger** performs. From Hollywood, this 11-piece swinging, rockabilly band brings to life everyone's favorite music from timeless eras ranging from Sinatra to Bublé to Disney and everything in between.

The Kings of Queen perform on Saturday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. The hottest Queen tribute in the country today plays to sold-out crowds across the country. Frontman Emo Alaeddin is Freddy Mercury reincarnated and the band performs all of their vocal and instrumental parts live without overdubs or vocal tracks.

Bachelors of Broadway erform on Tuesday, Feb. 18 at 1:

perform on Tuesday, Feb. 18 at 1:30 p.m. Take a trio of dashing men, add soaring melodies from stage and screen, and refine the sound with a contemporary three-part vocal harmony and you've got a ticket to the best of today's Broadway musicals.

Legendary band, **Three Dog Night**, now in its sixth decade, claims some of the most astonishing statistics in popular music. In the years 1969 through 1974, no other group achieved more top 40 hits, moved more records, or sold more concert tickets. Three Dog Night hits the stage on Friday, Feb. 21 at 7 p.m.

Phil Dirt and the Dozers

returns to SFSC Performing Arts on Tuesday, Feb. 25 at 1:30 p.m. America's most popular nostalgic rock and roll band performing the intricate vocal harmonies of the Beach Boys, Four Seasons, the Eagles, and many more.

The family-friendly Tamburitzans returns to the SFSC stage on Sunday, March 2 at 3 p.m. Dazzling audiences across the country and internationally, the **Tamburitzans**, with their elaborate colorful costumes and authentic folk instruments, surprise audiences with songs and dances celebrating international cultures.

One Night in Memphis
performs on Tuesday, March 4 at 1:30
p.m. Get ready for an afternoon of

rockabilly, country, gospel, and pure 1950s rock and roll. This high-energy concert will take you back to Dec. 4, 1956, the night when four of the biggest names in early rock and roll — Elvis Presley, Carl Perkins, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Johnny Cash — gathered together for an impromptu jam session at the legendary Sun Studios in Memphis.

The Righteous Brothers:
Lovin' Feeling Farewell Tour
will be held Friday, March 7 at 7 p.m.
Experience the iconic sounds of the
legendary duo as they take the stage
for a night filled with timeless classics
and unforgettable memories. Don't miss
your chance to see them live in person
and feel the love and nostalgia before
they bid farewell.

The Bronx Warriors perform on Tuesday, March 18 at 1:30 p.m. Winners of four Best of Vegas awards, Vinny and his sons return to the Wildstein Center by audience demand. The show is a nonstop whirlwind of music from Frankie Valli, Dion, Brian Setzer, Queen, and Bruno Mars with heartfelt moments that will leave you feeling like you're part of the family.

For the last 32 years, the family-friendly **Peking Acrobats** have redefined audience perceptions of Chinese acrobats. They perform daring maneuvers atop a precarious pagoda of chairs and display their technical prowess at trick-cycling precision, tumbling, juggling, somersaulting, and gymnastics. They push the limits of human ability, defying gravity with amazing displays of contortion, flexibility, and control. They perform Thursday, March 21 at 7 p.m.

The Rhythm is Gonna Get

You is a high-energy tribute to the Latin pop star Gloria Estefan, who sold over 100 million records during the course of her career. Brace yourself for Estefan favorites like "Get on Your Feet," "1-2-3," "Anything for You," "Rhythm is Gonna Get You," "Conga," and many more. The performance is Saturday, March 29 at 7 p.m.

Two free performances will be available in November and December:

Selwyn Birchwood performs on Friday, Nov. 22 at 7 p.m. Birchwood's meteoric rise from playing small Florida clubs to headlining international festival stages is nothing short of phenomenal. According to Blues Music Magazine, "Selwyn Birchwood heralds a fresh, exciting new direction in blues. Toetapping, hip-shaking, joyful, and inviting ... expansive and focused, exploratory, and time-honored but always original."

The festive **Holiday Traditions Around the World** comes to the
Wildstein Center on Sunday, Dec. 8 at 3
p.m. Discover the Mexican legend of the
poinsettias told in English and Spanish
by two narrators and then sing, dance,
and enjoy holiday and popular music
from Mexico, Puerto Rico, Domenica,
Venezuela, and other Latin countries
with Orquesto Caribeano Tropicale.

The Alan Jay Wildstein Center for the Performing Arts is located on the Highlands Campus of South Florida State College at 600 West College Drive in Avon Park. Tickets, videos, and performance information can be found online at sfscARTS.org. The SFSC Box Office phone number is 863-784-7178.

The SFSC Box Office opens for in-person sales on Monday, Oct. 14 at 11:30 a.m. Single ticket online sales begin Monday, Oct. 7.

Memberships are still available for the \$50 Friend level. Memberships are tax deductible and support our artistic and educational programming and maintenance of the state-of-the-art equipment at the Wildstein Center for the Performing Arts while providing you with special member benefits. Members at the \$50 Friend level receive a coupon book with offers and discounts from local businesses valued at \$300. Plus, your membership gets you access to the best choice of available seats before each show goes on sale to the general public.

Group sales are available for most performances. A group of 12 gets a free ticket plus a generous discount. For group information, go to sfscARTS.org/group.

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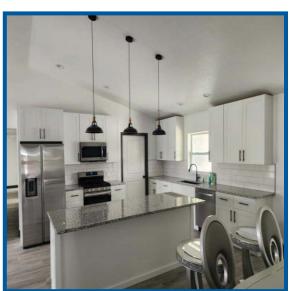


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OBITUARIES

SUSAN SAMS



Susan Sams, age 74, was called

Home by the Lord on Wednesday, July 10, 2024. She was born on November 5,1949 in Colson, KY to Dennis and Minnie Lee Niece.

Susan was so kind, loving, and generous to everyone she met. She always had an open heart and door for anyone in need and will be greatly missed. Susan will always be remembered lovingly by her family and friends.

Susan was the widow of David Paul Sams Sr. She was also preceded in death by her parents and all 4 of her siblings.

Susan is survived by her

four children: Beverly Rife, (Crawfordsville, IN), Samuel Carter Jr., Jeffrey Carter, and Amanda Sams, (all of Arcadia, FL) also leaving behind her 12 cherished grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. Beverly (Craig her "favorite son-in-law") Rife and their family; Cory Rife and his children, Cayden and Brynlee, Samuel (Cynthia) Carter Jr. and their family: Kala (Adam) Burdo and their children, Lena and Jaime Mitchell. Brianne Carter (Manchester, NH), Samuel Carter, Steven (Vanessa) King and their children, Julien,

Christopher, and Carmen. Maranda Webb (Michael Campbell) and their children, Levi and Roland. Jeffrey Carter and his children, Tabitha, David, Sean, and Faith. (Arcadia, FL) Amanda Sams (Stephen Carter), and her son, Jordan Sams.

There were no services, at her request.

Online condolences may be made at: www.pongerkaysgrady.com

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

WILLIAM "BILL" OTTO NICKELWARTH



It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of William "Bill" Otto Nickelwarth, 91, born in Columbus, Ohio on September 16, 1932. Bill departed this life and joined his Lord and Savior on September 8, 2024, in Arcadia, FL. Bill is survived by his wife of

72 years Nellie May Nickelwarth. He is proceeded in death by his daughter Linda Dennison and leaves behind his son Dan (Bridget) Nickelwarth and son in law Robert Dennison. He also leaves behind his grandchildren, Jayme (Carl) Skinner, Stacia Nickelwarth, Kelly (Steve) Eggers, Michael (Desiree) Dennison, Amberly (Larry) Holmes, Michelle Withem, Wyatt Nickelwarth, and his 10 great grandchildren.

Bill's accomplishments in those 91 years on this earth were impressive. Bill was in the Navy Reserves. He was also a retired Firefighter for the Columbus Ohio Fire Department after serving 26 years. Then after retiring, Bill went on to begin his second career in construction. Where he learned he had a remarkable ability to draw plans and execute those plans perfectly.

Bill's passion was wood working where he made incredible life like replicas of fire engines. He loved to build things, and he loved making gifts out of wood for his grandchildren and great grandchildren, from baby doll rocking beds to trains and trucks and so much more.

Bill was the epitome of a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather. He will forever be missed by his family and friends. Please join us in honoring Bill's life on Saturday, September 21, 2024, at 6pm located at Ponger-Kays-**Grady Funeral Home in Arcadia, FL.**

Online condolences may be made at: www.pongerkaysgrady.com

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

Firefighter's Prayer

When I am called to duty, God, whenever flames may rage; Give me the strength to save some life, whatever be its age.

Help me embrace a little child before it's too late Or save an older person from the horror of that fate.

Enable me to be alert and hear the weakest shout,

And quickly and efficiently to put the fire out.

I want to fill my calling to give the best in me.

To guard my every neighbor and protect their property. And if, according to my fate, I am

Please bless with your protecting hand my children and my wife.

to lose my life;

GERALD P. KISER

Gerald P. Kiser passed away on Tuesday, September 10, 2024. Pat was born on February 9, 1969, in Jacksonville, Florida to Gerald Q. Kiser and Constance E.

Carroll. He fought a hard battle with cancer. He was a loving dad to 4 boys that weren't biologically his. His love for the outdoors was known by family and friends.

Pat was preceded in death by his father and survived by his

mother (Constance Horton). He has 3 sister, Lori Ley, Theresa Sanday, and Denise Lagrue-James, 1 brother David Lagrue, wife of 32 years, Joyce Kiser, sons Jeremy DeFilippo, Shawn Bates, Marvin Bates, and Nathan Bates. He has

13 grandchildren and 1 greatgrandchild.

A Memorial Service is being held at First Baptist Church of Nocatee, Florida on Saturday, September 28 at 11 AM with a luncheon to follow.

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.

into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

And lead us not

While I Breathe I Hope



ARREST REPORT

9/6/24 - 9/12/24

Algar, John Nathan:

Failure To Appear - Written Promise To Appear (X2)

Blanding, Ja'Quarius Montreal:

Resist Officer - Obstruct Wo Violence, Public Order Crimes - Tampering With Electronic Monitoring Device, Prob Violation

Brown, Artavious Devone:

Drug Equip-Possess - And Or Use, Marijuana-Possess - Not More Than 20 Grams

Carlan, Tyler Ray:

Amphetamine-Traffic - Or Methamphetamine 14 Grams Or Over, Drugs-Possess - Cntrl Sub Wo Prescription, Marijuana-Possess - Not More Than 20 Grams, Drug Equip-Possess - And Or Use

Diaz, Alexander Avery:

Veh Theft - Grand Theft Of Motor Vehicle, Nonmoving Traffic Viol -Drive While Lic Susp 1St Off, Fraud-Imperson - Use/Poss Id Of Another Person Wo Consent, Drugs-Health Or Safety - Poss Harmful New Legend Drug Wo Prescription, Drugs-Health Or Safety - Poss Harmful New Legend **Drug Wo Prescription**

Faust III, Earnest Harold:

Nonmoving Traffic Viol - Operate Motor Vehicle Wo Valid License

Gomez-Diaz, Jose Antonio:

Nonmoving Traffic Viol - Drive While Lic Susp 1St Off

Guthridge, Ceneca Cajearo:

Prob Violation (X2)

Hoffer III, Eugene James:

Lewd Lascv Behavior - Victim Age 12 To 16 (X2), Resist Officer - Obstruct Wo Violence, Drug Equip-Possess -And Or Use

Hoffer, James Costas:

Lewd Lascv Behavior - Victim Age 12 To 16, Evidence-Destroying - Tamper With Or Fabricate Physical, Marijuana-Possess - Not More Than 20 Grams, Drug Equip-Possess - And Or Use

Kinville, Tiffany Ann:

Drugs-Possess - Cntrl Sub Wo Prescription (X2), Drug Equip-Possess - And Or Use

Longino, Samuel:

Aggrav Battery - By Person Detained In Prison Or Jail Facility

Lugo, Mario:

Prob Violation

Martinez, Pablo:

Nonmoving Traffic Viol - Operate Motor Vehicle Wo Valid License

Morales-Rodriguez, David:

Nonmoving Traffic Viol - Operate Motor Vehicle Wo Valid License

Perez-Juarez, Miguel Angel:

Burgl - Unoccupied Conveyance Unarmed, Larc - Petit Theft 2Nd Degree 1St Offense

Perry, Joseph Dwayne:

Appear (X3)

Ploof, Daniel:

Damage Prop-Crim Misch - 1000 Dols Or More, Resist Officer - Obstruct Wo Violence

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, Amphetamine-Traffic - Or Methamphetamine 14 Grams Or Over, Drugs-Possess - Cntrl Sub Wo Prescription, Resist Officer - Obstruct Wo Violence, Drug Equip-Possess -And Or Use

Raborn, Dylon Lee:

Failure To Appear - Written Promise To Appear

Ramirez-Velasquez, Galdino **Alexander:**

Nonmoving Traffic Viol - Operate Motor Vehicle Wo Valid License

Sanchez-Jiminez Jr., Ramiro:

Failure To Appear - Written Promise To Appear

Sanchez, Autumn Nichole:

Battery - Touch Or Strike

Shadle, Cheri Elise:

Prob Violation (X2)

Sheckells, Shawna Lee:

Failure To Appear - Written Promise To Failure To Appear - Written Promise To Appear (X4)

Shine, Tyronda Shimia:

Prob Violation

Silva, Helder Antonio:

Retail Theft (Value \$100 To \$300) 1St Ofns - Pursuant To 812.015

Silva, Jose Antonio:

Prob Violation

Smith, Tashawna Denise:

Out Of County Warrant

Soliz, Stephen Alfredo:

Resist Officer - With Violence, Battery - Touch Or Strike, Battery - By Person Detained In Prison Or Jail Facility, Disorderly Conduct -**Brawling Fighting Corrupt Public** Moral Decency, Battery - By Person Detained In Prison Or Jail Facility

Wells, Yolanda:

Nonmoving Traffic Viol - Drive While Lic Susp 1St Off, Drug Equip-Possess - And Or Use, Drugs-Possess - Cntrl Sub Wo Prescription (X2), Smuggle Contraband - Introduce Into Detention Facility

Williams, Lugene Charles:

Prob Violation

Zahary, Kimberly:

Battery - Commit Domestic Battery

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.

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

Level: Intermediate

SUDOKU

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

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

ANSWERS:

8	7	6	\rightarrow	7	G	7	9	3
7	ω	9	2	7	8	\rightarrow	6	9
9	7	ļ	ω	6	9	7	8	2
2	8	7	7	9	ŀ	G	3	6
9	۷	3	G	S	6	8	Þ	L
L	6	G	7	8	3	2	۷	9
6	9	2	8	GI	7	3	1	abla
$\overline{\nu}$	_	۷	9	3	S	6	GI	8
3	G	8	6	_	7	9	2	7

SEPTEMBER 2024 USDA FOOD DISTRIBUTION SCHEDULE



SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Additional food assistance sites can be found at https://www.allfaithsfoodbank.org/foodfinder/

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services contracts with All Faiths Food Bank to distribute free U.S. Department of Agriculture commodities.

Eligible residents will receive nine to 12 free commodities.

Distribution will be at these sites; schedules are subject to change:

NORTH SARASOTA COUNTY USDA DISTRIBUTION:

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH:

Thursdays (excluding holidays), 3-4:30 p.m. 1680 18th St., Sarasota, FL 34234 941-955-8834

BOOKER MIDDLE SCHOOL:

September 16, 5-6:30 p.m. 2250 Myrtle St., Sarasota, FL 34234 941-379-6333

BRENTWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:

September 9, 5-6:30 p.m. 2500 Vinson Ave., Sarasota, FL 34232 941-379-6333

CHURCH OF THE PALMS:

Monday-Friday (excluding holidays), 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. September 13 & 27, 5-7 p.m. 3224 Bee Ridge Rd., Sarasota, FL 34239 941-924-1323

First Congregational Church: September 23, 5-6:30 p.m. 601 Honore Ave., Sarasota, FL 34237 941-379-6333

FRUITVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:

September 18, 5-6:30 p.m. 601 Honore Ave., Sarasota, FL 34232 941-379-6333

GLASSER SCHOENBAUM CENTER:

September 6 & 20, 9-11 a.m. 1750 17th St., Sarasota, FL 34234 941-379-6333

GRACELIFE FOOD PANTRY:

Mondays (excluding holidays), 12-1:30 p.m. 1801 N Lockwood Ridge Rd., Sarasota, FL 34234 941-539-9249

GULF GATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:

September 17, 5-6:30 p.m. 6500 S Lockwood Ridge Rd., Sarasota, FL 34231 941-379-6333

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH:

September 26, 4:30-6:30 p.m. 3131 61st St., Sarasota, FL 34243 941-355-4729

RIVERVIEW HIGH SCHOOL:

September 3, 5-6:30 p.m. 1 Ram Way, Sarasota, FL 34231 941-379-6333

SALVATION ARMY TUTTLE:

Food pantry: Mondays/Thursdays (excluding holidays), 12-2 p.m. 1701 S Tuttle Ave., Sarasota, FL 34239 941-364-8846

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH:

Saturdays (excluding holidays), 9-10:30 a.m. 2256 Bahia Vista St., Sarasota, FL 34239 941-955-6479

ST. WILFRED EPISCOPAL CHURCH:

Fridays (excluding holidays), 1-3 p.m. 3773 Wilkinson Rd., Sarasota, FL 34233 941-924-7436

THE HARVEST FOOD PANTRY:

Thursdays (excluding holidays), 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. 3650 17th St., Sarasota, FL 34235 941-953-3559

VAN WEZEL:

September 28, 9-10:30 a.m. 777 N. Tamiami Trl., Sarasota, FL 34236 941-379-6333

SOUTH SARASOTA COUNTY USDA DISTRIBUTION:

7TH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH:

September 10 & 24, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. 4330 S Biscayne Dr., North Port, FL 34287 941-586-1436

ATWATER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:

September 26, 5-6:30 p.m. 4701 Huntsville Ave., North Port, FL 34288 941-379-6333

AWAKEN CHURCH:

Tuesdays/Thursdays/Saturdays, 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; Wednesdays, 3-6:30 p.m.; Fridays, 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. 4940 Pan American Blvd., North Port, FL 34287 941-200-2739

COLONIAL BAPTIST CHURCH:

September 5, 5-6:30 p.m. 2400 Taylor Ranch Trl., Venice, FL 34293 941-379-6333

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE MINISTRY:

Tuesdays & Thursdays (excluding holidays), 9-10:30 a.m. 4365 State Rd. 776, Venice, FL 34293 941-492-6384

ENGLEWOOD HELPING HAND:

Wednesdays & Thursdays (excluding holidays), 8 a.m. -1 p.m.; Wednesday evenings September 4 & 18, 4:30-6:30 p.m. 700 E Dearborn St., Englewood, FL 34223 941-474-5864

FLY AWAY UNTO THE LORD INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES:

September 14 & 28, 2-3 p.m. 12450 Tamiami Trl. Unit F, North Port, FL 34287 941-237-9286

GLENALLEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:

September 19, 5-6:30 p.m. 7050 Glenallen Blvd., North Port, FL 34287 941-379-6333

GOOD SHEPHERD EPISCOPAL CHURCH:

September 4 & 18, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. 1115 Center Rd., Venice, FL 34292 941-497-7286

LAMARQUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:

September 11, 5:30 - 7 p.m. 3415 Lamarque Ave., North Port, FL 34286 941-379-6333

LAUREL CIVIC ASSOCIATION:

September 5 & 19, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. & 4-6 p.m. 509 Collins Rd., Nokomis, FL 34275 941-483-3338

NOKOMIS PARK COMM CTR:

September 11 & 25, 9-10:30 a.m. 234 Nippino Trl., Nokomis, FL 34275 941-379-6333

NORTH PORT CITY HALL:

September 14, 9-3 p.m. 4790 City Hall Blvd., North Port, FL 34286 941-379-6333

SALVATION ARMY VENICE:

Mondays/Tuesdays/Thursdays/Fridays (excluding holidays), 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. & 1-3 p.m. 1051 Albee Farm Rd., Venice, FL 34285 941-484-6227

ST. NATHANIEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH:

September 5 & 19, 10-11:30 a.m. 4200 S Biscayne Dr., North Port, FL 34287 941-426-2520

THE CENTER OF HOPE:

Tuesdays and Thursdays (excluding holidays), 8-11 a.m.

2395 Shamrock Dr., Venice, FL 34293 941-412-9044

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:

Mondays (excluding holidays), 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. 4285 Wesley Ln., North Port, FL 34287 941-426-1734

TRINITY UMC CHURCH:

September 4, 4:30-6 p.m. 4285 Wesley Ln., North Port, FL, 34287 941-379-6333

VENICE MIDDLE SCHOOL:

September 12, 5-6:30 p.m. 1900 Center Rd., Venice, FL 34292 941-379-6333

DESOTO COUNTY USDA DISTRIBUTION:

7TH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH:

September 19, 10-11:30 a.m. 2865 SE Ami Dr., Arcadia, FL 34266 941-379-6333

CATHOLIC CHARITIES DESOTO COUNTY FOOD PANTRY:

Must register separately with Catholic Charities before visit.

Mondays - please call first; walk-in only. September 6 & 20, 9-11 a.m. - last name (A-M) September 13 & 27, 9-11a.m. - last name (N-Z)

> 1210 E Oak St., Arcadia, FL 34266 863-884-2134

DESOTO FOOD AND RESOURCE CENTER:

Mondays & Wednesdays (excluding holidays), 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Thursdays, 2-6 p.m. 1021 E Oak St., Arcadia, FL 34266 941-379-6333

SOUTH FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE:

September 10 & 24, 4:30-6 p.m. 2251 NE Turner Ave., Arcadia, FL 34266 941-379-6333

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Florida Civil Commitment Center

13619 SE Hwy 70, Arcadia FL 34266 (863)491-4800

ARCADIA-DESOTO COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY RECEIVES

\$22,000 GRANT FROM LOWE'S TO SUPPORT HOME REPAIR PROJECTS IN DESOTO COUNTY



Arcadia, FL (September 9, 2024) - Arcadia-DeSoto County Habitat for Humanity announced today it has received a \$22,000 grant from Lowe's to help repair 2 or more homes in DeSoto County, FL.

The funding will support Arcadia-DeSoto County Habitat for Humanity's efforts to make homes safer and healthier and create stronger communities. With the support of the grant, dwelling safety will be restored to 2 or more homes. The first repair recipient for this grant has been chosen and roof, ceiling, and flooring repairs are in the planning process. Arcadia-**DeSoto County Habitat for Humanity** is currently reviewing applications for additional repairs.

Executive Director, Jennifer Bowser stated "The funding provided through this Lowe's grant is a great boost to our home repair program. It will allow families to remain safe and healthy in their homes. We are truly blessed to have Lowe's as a partner in our ongoing efforts."

The funding from Lowe's is part of a two-year, \$6 million donation to Habitat for Humanity International to support home repair and preservation efforts in owner-occupied homes. This year, funding will enable 110 local Habitat affiliates to complete 295 projects and impact nearly 700 families across the U.S. Since 2003, Lowe's and Habitat have worked together to help more than 18,000 people build or improve a place to call home.

ABOUT ARCADIA-DESOTO COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY:

Arcadia-DeSoto County Habitat for Humanity is part of a global, nonprofit housing organization started in July of 2000 operated on Christian principles that seeks to put God's love into action by

building homes, communities, and hope. Arcadia-DeSoto County Habitat for Humanity is dedicated to eliminating substandard housing locally through constructing, rehabilitating, and preserving homes; by advocating for fair and just housing policies; and by providing training and access to resources to help

families improve their shelter conditions. Habitat for Humanity was founded on the conviction that every man, woman, and child should have a simple, durable place to live in dignity and safety, and that decent shelter in decent communities should be a matter of conscience and action for all.

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Amy Smith, Mgr. - 863-303-1406

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PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING **COUNCIL MEETING**

The DeSoto County Public Safety Coordinating Council will be meeting on:

> Thursday, September 19, 2024 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

At the DeSoto County BOCC Boardroom (Administration Building)

> 201 East Oak St. Suite 103 Arcadia, FL 34266

The council meets for the purpose of assessing the population status of all detention or correctional facilities owned or contracted by the county and formulating recommendations to ensure that the capacities of such facilities are not exceeded. Such recommendations include an assessment of the availability of pretrial intervention or probation programs, work-release programs, substance abuse programs, gain-time schedules, applicable bail bond schedules, and the confinement status of the inmates housed within each facility owned or contracted by the county.

If special accommodations are required in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals should contact the County Administrator's Office by calling (863)993-4800 at least forty-eight hours prior to the meeting.



SARASOTA GUN SHOW

ROBARTS ARENA 3000 RINGLING BLVD. • SARASOTA, FL 33948

SEPTEMBER 21ST & 22ND

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

UPCOMING

NEW DATE

LARGO SHOW
OCTOBER 12TH & 13TH
LARGO EVENT CENTER
6340 126TH AVE. N. • LARGO, FL 33773

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

PORT CHARLOTTE SHOW
NOVEMBER 2ND & 3RD
CHARLOTTE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
2333 EL JOBEAN RD.

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

Saturday **AND** Sunday

Come and go as you please on both days!

WE HAVE TONS OF GUNS AND AMMO AVAILABLE!

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



727-776-3442 • 2GuysShows.com

COMMEMORATION

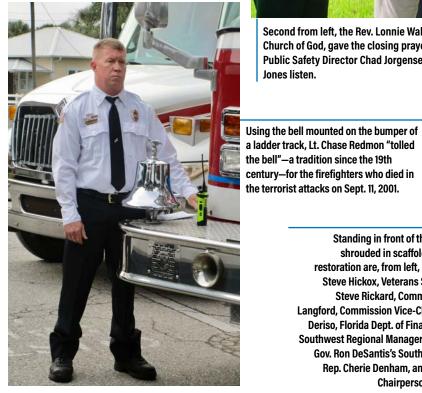
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Pennsylvania, and Jorgensen recalled, "It was later discovered that people on the plane knew what had happened in New York and Washington and decided to take back control of the plane. True heroes."

Battalion Chief Tim Allen read the "Firefighter's Prayer," written by Alvin William "Smokey" Linn (1924-2004), who composed the poem after not being able to rescue some children from a burning apartment building. Jorgensen explained "the tolling of the bells" a custom dating from the 19th century-before radios, pagers, or fire alarms- to announce that "a firefighter had died in the line of duty." As "final honors to departed comrades," Lt. Chase Redmon rang the bell-mounted on the bumper of the County's ladder truck-a series of four with five strikes each.

Two recorded musical selections were played: "Amazing Grace" performed on the bag pipes and "Where Were You When The World Stopped Turning" by Alan Jackson.

The K-Post 11 Honor Guard-Amber Collins, Mike Dempsey, Victor Dennison, David Fonger, and Ron Jones, Sr.gave a five-gun salute, and then Arthur Southwell played "Taps." The Rev. Lonnie Walker of the Nocatee Church of God offered the closing prayer.





After the ceremony, Paramedic Matt Jarvis stands with his family, from left, Ashley Jarvis, Bella Jarvis, and Abby Jarvis, his wife. Matt has worked three years for DeSoto County.



City Administrator Terry Stewart sang the National Anthem while the crowd saluted the U.S. Flag on the east lawn of the courthouse to remember those who died on Sept. 11, 2001, during a 23rd anniversary ceremony.



Second from left, the Rev. Lonnie Walker, pastor of the Nocatee Church of God, gave the closing prayer as Sheriff Jim Potter, Public Safety Director Chad Jorgensen, and City Marshal Quinn Jones listen.



From left, City Council Member Luis Velasco and Arcadia Housing Authority Director Becky Sue Mercer talk with City Administrator Terry Stewart and his wife Vivian Stewart.

century-for the firefighters who died in the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

Standing in front of the courthouse, shrouded in scaffolding during its restoration are, from left, Commissioner Steve Hickox, Veterans Service Officer Steve Rickard, Commissioner Elton Langford, Commission Vice-Chairperson J.C. Deriso, Florida Dept. of Financial Services Southwest Regional Manager Craig Trapani, Gov. Ron DeSantis's Southwest Regional Rep. Cherie Denham, and Commission **Chairperson Jerod Gross.**



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

Level: Intermediate

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

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

ANSWERS:

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8	ヤ	6	3	9	2	L	9	7
7	G	9	1	8	6	Þ	2	S
2	L	3	7	G	7	6	8	9

JOIN THE TEAM!



We're offering a CAREER, not just a job, in addition to......

Competitive wages, Medical, Dental, Vision, life insurance, 401k, Paid-Time-Off, guaranteed Over-Time, and Hands-On-Training

DAY SHIFT 6am - 6:30pm

MOLD CLEANER:

*Temporary 8-week position. Must be able to stand for 12 hours, lift 40-50lbs, attention to detail. Potential for full-time offer, Show us what you're made of!.

MIXER OPERATOR:

State-of-the-art, brand-new batch plant, must be comfortable with computers, as well as hands-on, physical work. Attention to detail a must, and taking pride in your work, hands-on training provided.

FORKLIFT OPERATOR / PLANT SUPPORT:

Assist with forklift duties as needed, and plant machine operators where needed; getting tools, covering lunches, assisting with projects, general cleaning, or maintenance.

NIGHT SHIFT 6am - 6:30pm

EXTRUDER OPERATOR:

Responsible for operating the machine that forms the product into the final shape. Attention to detail and taking pride in your work. Machine/Hand Tool 'know-how' helpful, all training is hands-on. If you have the right attitude and aptitude, we can teach you a lifelong career skill!

LINE PRODUCTION MECHANIC:

Dedicated Shift mechanic. Main goal...keep the line running mechanically; Polycord repair, machine jambs, gearbox/motor troubleshooting and/or installation, Conveyor belt adjustments, sensors out of alignment or malfunctioning, etc. This is a very brief mention of a few items. Please stop by with your application for a plant tour, if selected for an interview!

DAY SHIFT 7am - 3:30pm

PALLET REPAIR:

Here at Crown Roof Tiles, we recycle and re-use our returned pallets, but sometimes they need a board or 2 replaced. Hands-on training provided, prior use of a nail gun, hammer and nails, and/or crow bar are helpful. Must be able to stand 8 hours, and lift 50lbs - 100lbs. Opportunity to cross-train the right person for our yard department for loading trucks. Forklift experience is preferred, but not required for this position.

DAY SHIFT 6am - 4:30pm

YARD FORKLIFT OPERATOR:

Seeking experienced Forklift driver for loading Tile pallets onto flat beds. Other duties include, cleaning, inventory control, product consolidation, etc.

Apply in person at: 6018 SW Highway 72 Arcadia, FL 34266

Any questions, please call: **Human Resources, 863-993-4004 x108**

If you are selected for an interview, please dress appropriately for a plant tour in a manufacturing environment, Close toe shoes, no tank tops. If are applying for a forklift position and are selected for an interview, please be prepared to show off your skills with a 5–10-minute skill assessment.

DESOTO REPUBLICAN OFFICE

Oak Park Inn (2 W. Oak St.) Wednesday - Saturday, 10:00am - 3:00 pm

Come by to register to vote, for ballot information, get your hats, flags, signs or just to visit!

VOTE NO ON PUBLIC MARIJUANA SMOKING AMENDMENT 3

PAID FOR BY DESOTO COUNTY REPUBLICAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

VOTE NO ON FULL TERM ABORTIONS AMENDMENT 4

AMENDMENT 4 IS DELIBERATELY DECEPTIVE

PAID FOR BY DESOTO COUNTY REPUBLICAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE