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RECEIVED
AUG 28 2013
B Bonanno 8:41 am

August 20, 2013

Ms. Sandi Bolser, Bunnell City Clerk,
1769 E. Moody Blvd.,
Bunnell, FL 32110

RE: Position of City Manager

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

I am forwarding my resume for the position of City Manager. I am very interested in serving in this position and feel that in review of my resume you will find I am well suited for this position as I bring over 13 years of public and private management experience and a very high ethic and moral compass that does not waiver under pressure.

I am currently the City Administrator in Arcadia, Florida and have provided a very brief snapshot of the many changes that have occurred during my tenure, starting with balancing the budget and increasing the unrestricted fund balance from $700,000 to $1.2 million this year and rebuilding restricted funds that had been borrowed from as well. The water and sewer fund is still currently -$1.4 million, down from -$3.2 million three years ago, but that will be on the positive side ending 14/15, the first time in over 13 years. I re-organized and hired key administrative staff (planning, human resources, public works director, finance director, golf course PGA professional manager) that was eliminated years ago to save money. With proper budgeting and a re-organization of staff I was able to bring these key positions back with a negligible effect on the budget. And even though we reduced general fund operating expenses by $1.4 million the past three years we changed our approach from being reactive to pro-active budgeting $400,000 in street pavement this year (no streets have been paved in nearly 25 years only cold patched); addressing issues rather than putting on a band-aid only for it to fail a few months down the road. The new finance director and I audited the water and sewer billing and found over $1.2 million in lost revenue due to incorrect bills, broken meters and non-collection of late charges. We also audited our workers compensation job coding in which we received a $21,000 refund and we also received a $6,000 refund and $24,000 decrease in annul costs from CenturyLink by auditing the phone bills. I spent the past three years negotiating a 24% decrease in our health insurance while increasing benefit coverage for the 2010/2011 fiscal year, another 9.5% decrease for the 2011/2012 fiscal year, another 20% decrease in 2012/2013 by amending our retiree health policy and we were just quoted a 2% decrease for 13/14. We have negotiated interlocal agreements with DeSoto County for the County to administer City LAP certification required projects, animal control services, building services, solid waste disposal, sludge disposal and interconnect flush water to supplement our wells while under reconditioning. We are investing $40,000 in capital improvements to the city owned golf course and have already signed up 70 new members which is a minimum of a $70,000 increase in revenue. I also implemented planning and zoning fees which increased that revenue stream by nearly 300% as there was only one minimal fee required before my tenure. I am also the airport director and have obtained over $1.2 million in 100% funded

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grants from FDOT and FAA to fence, recondition the asphalt, provide new non-precision approach (GPS) markings, construct a completely new runway and taxiway LED lighting system along with a new vault and equipment, and to update our master plan/airport layout plan. The airport had not received a grant since 1992 which was for the last master plan.

You may note from my resume that I have held several supervisory, management and executive positions that have provided a solid base in equipping me with the required skills and experience to serve as the City Manager for the City of Bunnell. I highly value my professional reputation as being not only a team player but also a team leader and a professional that pays great attention to detail and promotes effective communication, cooperation, leadership, enthusiasm, *high morale, integrity, honesty* and organization amongst staff and with members of the public, elected officials, other government agencies and community organizations. I have an open door policy and believe in the golden rule of "do unto others as you would have them do unto you" showing respect and care of every person I interact with while maintaining a professional work atmosphere. It is my philosophy that trust begets trust, respect begets respect and customer service is not a department but an attitude that a good leader fosters in every employee in good times and in bad. I have provided six professional references and a few support documents as corroboration of my ability to produce top quality results, promote community, encourage citizenship, and raise a sense of community and involvement.

Commensurate with the desirable requirements for this position, I have earned a doctorate degree in law focusing on administrative, environmental, water, and land use law that provides for a solid base in the administration of policy and decision making processes, effective communication, logical thinking to make sound independent judgments, factual and fair decisions in employee relations, and time and stress management. My education and work experience together have provided me with the leadership and management attributes that promote a healthy community and workplace with increased productivity and positive results for residents and employees alike. I hope that your assessment of my qualifications will lead you to conclude that I am indeed well suited for this position.

I thank you for your consideration and respectfully request the opportunity to elaborate on any questions concerning my work experience, resume, or desire to fill the position of City Manager. My salary expectations fall within the range advertised.

Sincerely,

Judith Jankosky

352-408-2674

Attachments: Resume, Reference Letters, Support Documentation

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EDUCATION, KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

Over 13 years of experience in public and private management
Bachelor of Arts in Growth Management with a minor in Economics – Cum Laude Graduate
Doctorate in Law (J.D.)

EXPERIENCE

City of Arcadia – City Administrator/Airport Director October 2010 – Present

Population of 7,636, 81 FTE, Budget of $9.8 million

Responsibilities:

- City Administrator – Responsible to administer Council established policy and statutory regulations fairly and equally to all citizens. Responsible for the coordination of City departments, and creating and maintaining a working relationship with local community organizations such as Arcadia Main Street, Mural Society, DeSoto County Historical Society, DeSoto County Chamber of Commerce, Antique Association, Beautification Committee, Arcadia Airport Advisory Committee, Arcadia Historical Preservation Commission, and TEAM (Together Everyone Achieves More) Arcadia, local businesses and County departments.
- Airport Director – Direct the development and management of the general aviation airport in accordance with FAA rules and regulations; promote airport, city and county economic development through fly-in events and operational enhancements; coordinating capital improvements that include rehabilitation and expansion of the airport runway to allow small corporate jets to utilize the field; and expansion of utility infrastructure to promote business development and additional T-hangers.
- **Major Achievements:** Increased water and sewer revenue by $1.2 million by auditing the billing for incorrect bills or broken meters. Received a $21,000 refund from work comp by auditing the job coding. Received a $6,000 refund and $24,000 decrease in expenditures from CenturyLink by auditing the phone bills. Negotiated a 24% decrease in our health insurance while increasing benefit coverage for the 2010/2011 fiscal year, another 9.5% decrease for the 2011/2012 fiscal year and another 20% decrease in 2012/2013 by amending our retiree health policy; completed an EAR amendment and submitted a comprehensive plan amendment which establishes standards for new and redevelopment while providing flexibility for development needs; negotiated interlocal agreements with DeSoto County for the County to administer City LAP certification required projects, animal control services, building services, solid waste disposal, sludge disposal and interconnect flush water; increased revenue in the City owned mobile home park; increased revenue at the Golf Course Pro Shop; increased planning and zoning revenue by nearly 300% by implementing a fee schedule; currently reviewing water and sewer fees and every service contract and preparing to RFP to ensure we are getting the most for our money; preparing first set of Land Development Regulations; prepared and managed a RFQ in accordance with CCNA and FAA Procurement Regulations for a

continuing consulting services contract for airport consultants; prepared first Capital Improvement Plan for a small rural general aviation airport that includes $11 million in maintenance projects for the short, mid and long term range; obtained FDOT Aviation 100% funding for over $1.2 million for security fencing and access control, pavement conditioning and marking and a completely new runway and taxiway lighting system; coordinated aviation day events at the airport that produced over 2,000 visitors in 2011 and over 3,000 in 2012 that typically sees 2 – 3 visitors a day; developed a Community and Economic Development website; prepared and submitted USDA Rural grant for parking lot and street lighting improvements; increased public input and consensus by listening and creating a working relationship with the public and community organizations; coordinating fire services and emergency response training in case of a plane crash; evaluated, revised and implemented permit and land use application fees to shift the financial burden from the taxpayer who was subsidizing others permit needs to those that were initiating the application.

Town of Lady Lake - Town Planner April 2007 – October 2010

Population of 14,400, 98 FTE, Budget of $12.8 million

Responsibilities:

- Direct report to the Town Manager; Oversee six staff in Growth Management, Building Services and Code Enforcement; Direct the coordination of Town departments in the development review process; Managed over 150 site plans, modifications to site plans, subdivision developments and land development regulations amendments over three years that resulted in over 200 million dollars of tax base; Point person for coordination with FDOT and Lake County on right-of-way acquisition; Prepare, monitor, and evaluate the Town's Comprehensive Plan, EAR Amendments, Concurrency Management System, Capital Improvement Plan and Water Supply Plan; Prepare and administer budget for Growth Management, Building Services and Code Enforcement; Interpret, monitor and amend the Land Development Regulations and the Town Code of Ordinances in relation to all aspects of land development, comprehensive planning and code enforcement; Serve as a staff liaison, make presentations to, and meet with the P&Z, Town Commission, other department managers, community groups, developers, property owners and attorneys regarding planning and/or code related projects; Prepare and administer grants; Served as Chairman of the Technical Review Committee; Prepare technical reports, progress reports, charts and diagrams, procedure manuals and ordinances and resolutions; Attend and participate in a variety of meetings such as regional and county planning coordination meetings with other governmental entities and applicable agencies to coordinate community development efforts; Prepare water and sewer agreements, easements, deeds, and other legal documents
- **Major Achievements**: Negotiated over $200 million in new commercial and residential development that created over 800 job opportunities and 900 new housing opportunities (balanced, responsible and sustainable development); wrote a ROW reservation and dedication ordinance which requires additional ROW that is needed for road widening projects to be reserved or dedicated prior to an application being completed; reviewed and amended the Land Development Regulations on a continual basis; prepared and obtained an $847,000 Safe Routes to School Grant to construct over 4 miles of new sidewalks and road crossing improvements; streamlined site plan review from an average of 18 months to 4 months; streamlined permitting from 10 working days to 3 working days; and initiated the annual update of fee schedules at the

start of the fiscal year to make sure fees were fair and accurate in accordance with fully loaded salary rates.

Legal Aid of the Orange County Bar Association - Orlando, FL - Attorney
August 2006 – December 2006 – Clinical practice

- Prepare motions; Attend Judicial Reviews, trials, dispositions, emergency hearings; Prepare reports for hearing and trials; Arrange case plan conferences and pre-trial conferences; Receive and review Judicial Review Reports and Assessments; acquired over 200 hours of court room trial experience.

Advanced Environmental Consultants & Planners, Inc. - Lady Lake, FL – CEO/Owner
October 2000 – August 2006

- Hire, supervise and evaluate employees
- Assign case loads and establish work/project schedules, direct and supervise staff, contractors and sub-contractors
- Maintain a thorough understanding of federal, state, and local rules and regulations that cover permit writing and compliance of sanitary and C& D landfills, underground and above ground storage tank removals and upgrades, permit writing and compliance for air and water discharges, wastewater, stormwater, hazardous material and waste (EPCRA/RCRA/CERCLA), and soil, groundwater, surface water and air sampling, monitoring and reporting
- Emergency response consulting
- Perform Phase I & II Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs)
- Prepare and supervise Phase III remedial action plans
- Perform tank closures
- Prepared a FDEP approved agricultural composting plan for several large horse farms
- Permit compliance for public and private wastewater facilities
- Prepare Master Plans and consult for local municipalities on comprehensive plan writing and EAR amendments
- Prepare and/or speak for numerous contract presentations for county, municipality and FDOT RFPs
- Interpret the Florida Administrative Code and the Code of Federal Regulation

REFERENCES

Mr. Bill Vance, City Manager, Pickerington, OH 614-207-1325

Ms. Dana Williams, City Clerk, Destin, FL 850-598-5822

Ms. Deanna Cox, Human Resources, Wildwood, FL 352-342-7696

Ms Gia Lancaster, City Clerk, Arcadia, FL 863-444-1827

Mr. Thomas Goodman, Utilities Director, Lady Lake, FL 352-636-3246

Mr. Marty Dzuro, Grant & Dzuro Engineering & Surveying, The Villages, FL 352-753-6260

Publication: Desoto Sun; Date: Feb 23, 2012; Section: Arcadian; Page: AS12

ActivePaper™

2012 Aviation Day ready for takeoff

By GEORGE PRICE

AVIATION DAY ORGANIZER

The City of Arcadia will host its third annual **Aviation** Day at Arcadia Airport from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on March 3.

Assistant City Administrator, Judi Jankosky, said, "We are pulling out all the stops so that the event will be bigger and better than ever. We will have both the biplane and helicopter rides like last year. We have added rides in a 'light sport' airplane and will have Lance's Classic Cars on site for the auto enthusiasts. And back by popular demand is the Skydiving Demo at high noon."

Come talk to the pilots and airplane builders and learn what **aviation** has to offer you and your family. In addition to the aircraft displayed on the ramp there will be all types of wonderful airplanes doing "fly-bys" and we are sure to have gyrocopters, trikes, homebuilts, experimentals, all types of aircraft from small single place ultralights all the way up to and including very large War Birds like the T-6 & T-28. Take a sightseeing ride in a 1941 Waco Biplane or a Hiller Helicopter or see how easy learning to fly can be with a Discovery flight in an AeroTrek light sport aircraft.

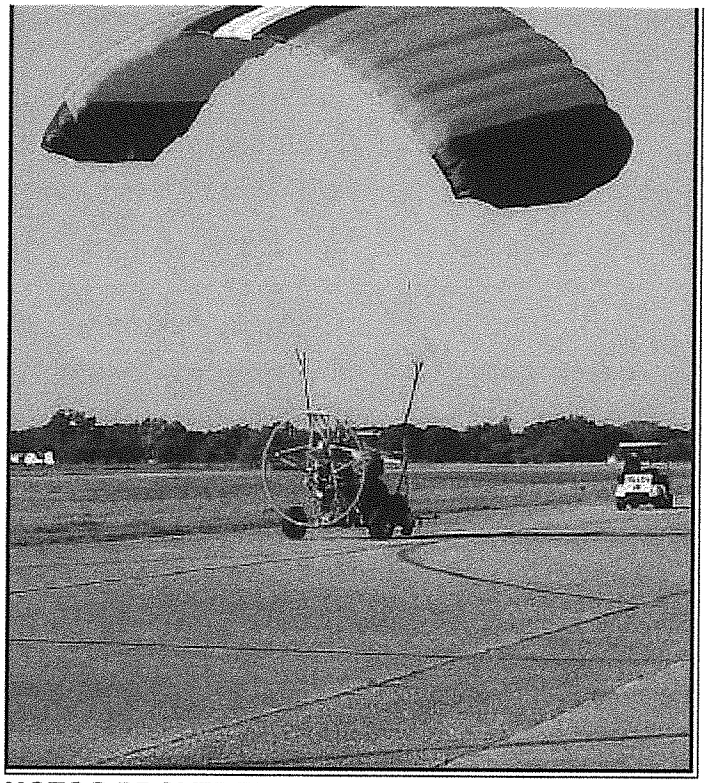
This is a family friendly event so be sure to bring the kids so they can enjoy seeing the airplanes up close. There will also be a pancake breakfast, and hotdogs and burgers in a hangar for lunch.

If you think your airport is of no benefit to you, think again. During emergencies the Arcadia Airport is the meeting point for airborne medical, law enforcement and disaster relief services. During Hurricane Charley Arcadia Airport was a staging area for all types of services,helping our residents by allowing aircraft to quickly and efficiently supply aid to those in need. Best of all, the local airport is self-sustaining. Over the next few years you will notice improvement projects taking place such as fencing and runway improvements, all made possible with no local tax dollars. Remember that a mile of highway takes you a mile but a mile of runway takes you anywhere.

Come out and support the Airport by taking a flight and enjoying a meal or even considering flying lessons. With the new Sport Pilot, Light Sport Airplane rule from the FAA learning to fly is much easier now and also more affordable. For pilots who may not qualify for a GA medical anymore the new Sport Pilot rule could be the answer to getting back in the air. There will be knowledgeable **aviation** specialists on site to answer any questions you may have. So don't miss this opportunity to join in the fun.

Aviation Day is proudly sponsored by Mosaic, Peace River Citrus, Beef O'Brady's, Paj Graphix, Just Right Products, Paul Cartwright Construction & Hanson Professional Services.

The airport is on Airport Road about one mile south of State Road 70. For pilots flying in there will be ramp marshal to guide you. Visit www.ArcadiaAirport.com for more information or email AviationDay@gmail.com.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CEORGE CHASE

Aviation Day includes some unusual and non-traditional types of flying craft.

Aviation Day allows visitors to get up close to experimental planes and other unusual types of aircraft. Visitors can also explore flying lessons.

Print

Publication: Desoto Sun; Date: Mar 8, 2012; Section: Arcadian; Page: AS13

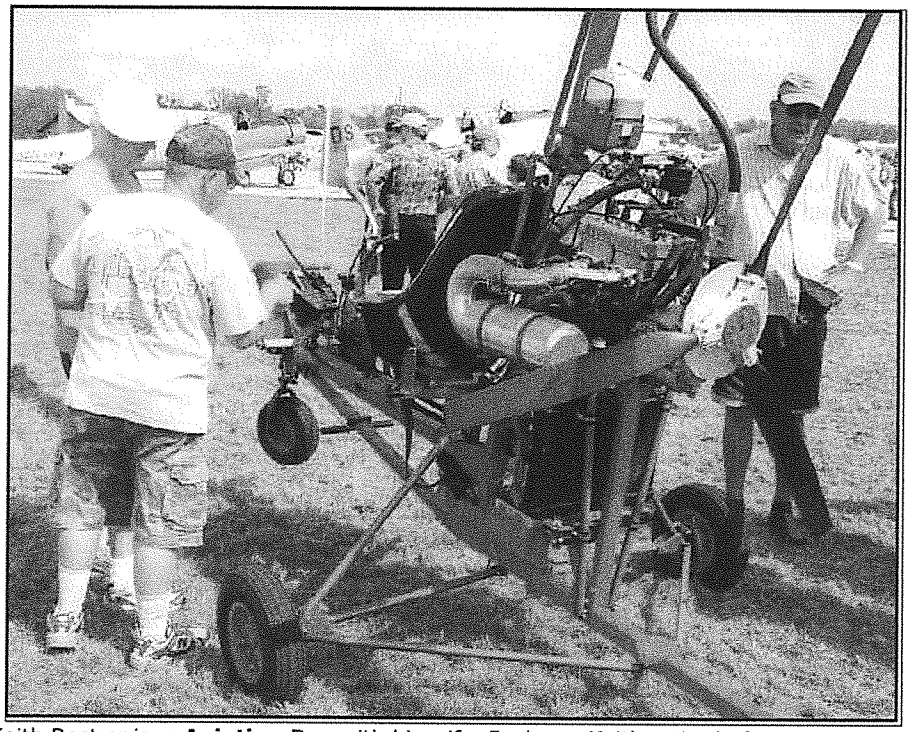
ActivePaper

Aviation Day shows off Arcadia's airport

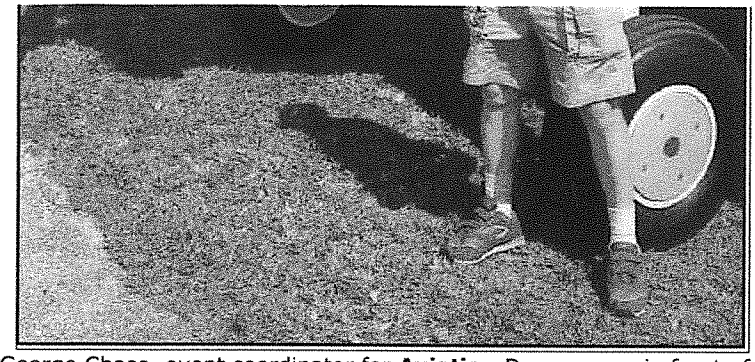
ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY THOMAS SIMMONS, parson34265@embarqmail.com

James Moher enjoys pointing out some interesting features of this Stearnman to his grandchildren David and Randy at Aviation Day in Arcadia.

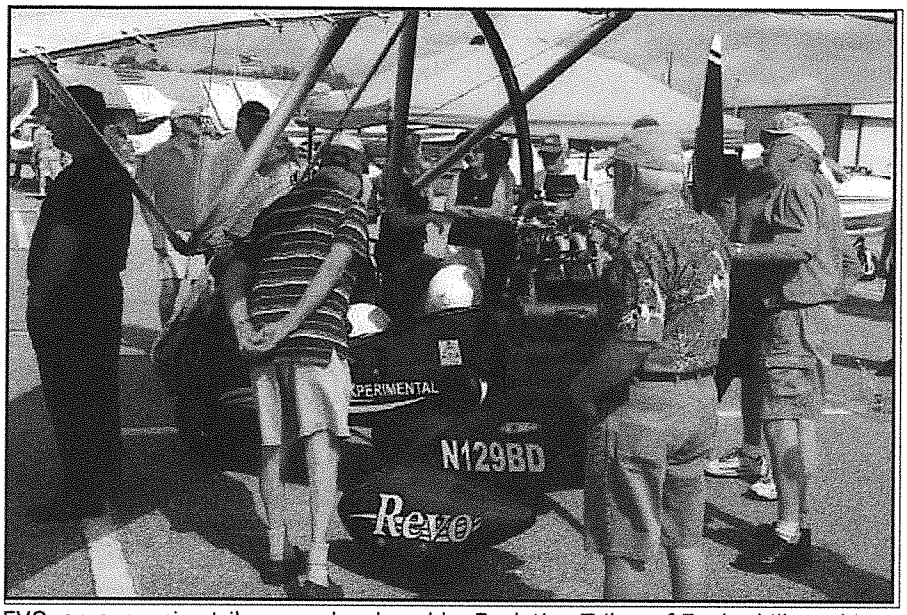
The local Civil Air Patrol provided helpful assistance with plane movement and automobile parking. Lt. Col. Robert Turner and Major Earle Bretz are pictured with Hunter Leboeus, Zack Rachal, Christopher Vaughan, Ben Voll, Jenny Sdrenka and Joey Francisco. Arcadia Police were also on hand to help with crowd control and security.



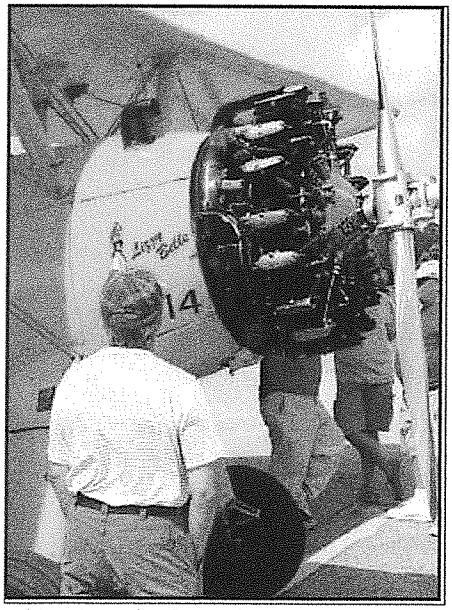
Keith Best enjoys **Aviation** Day with his wife, Barbara. Keith retired after serving his country in the Air Force for 23 years. He flew planes in Vietnam, logging 250,000 flying hours. The Bests live in Maryville, Tenn.



George Chase, event coordinator for **Aviation** Day, pauses in front of a Stearnman Trainer bi-plane as he moves about overseeing the activities of the day.



REVO, an expensive trike, was developed by Evolution Trikes of Zepherhills and is used for recreation flying as well as border patrol. Designer Larry Mednick explains that this experimental model can be modified.



Looking into the face of a 1942 Vultee Valiant, Tom Smith appreciates this close-up view of the Basic Trainer B-15 plane.

Publication: Desoto Sun; Date: Mar 8, 2012; Section: Arcadian; Page: AS1

ActivePaper

Attending the **Aviation** Day event at Arcadia Municipal Airport, spectators were able to purchase lunch and enjoy swapping **aviation** tales with friends.

Print

Publication: Desoto Sun; Date: Mar 24, 2011; Section: Arcadian; Page: AS13

ActivePaper

Aviation Day takes flight

ARCADIAN PHOTO BY JOHN LAWHORNE A light, sporty aircraft prepares for takeoff.

ARCADIAN PHOTO BY JOHN LAWHORNE

BoatPix.com uses this Bell helicopter for aerial photography.

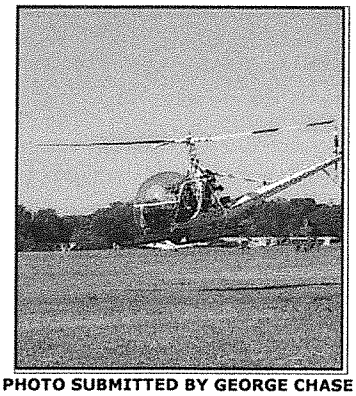
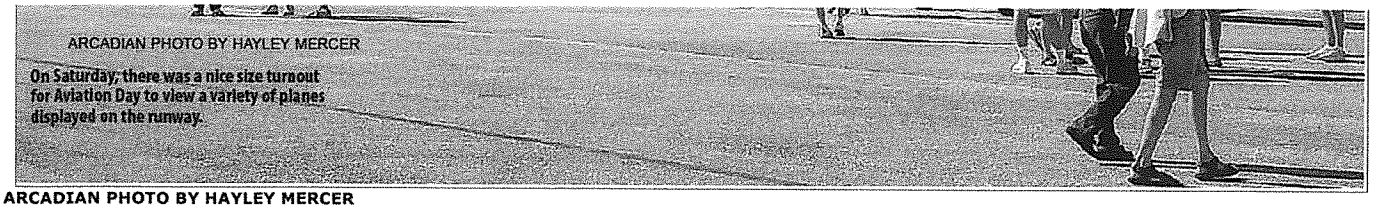


PHOTO SUBMITTED BY GEORGE CHASE

A Hiller helicopter, flown by owner Joanna Gollin, is a three-seat observation aircraft.

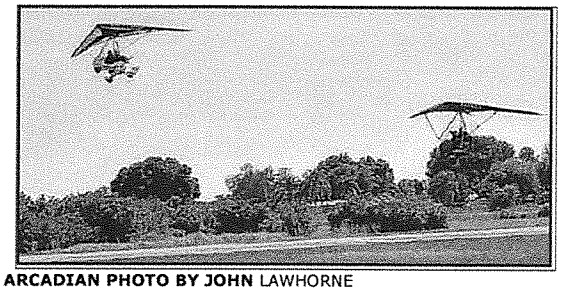


ARCADIAN PHOTO BY HAYLEY MERCER

On Saturday, there was a nice size turnout for **Aviation** Day to view a variety of planes displayed on the runway.

ARCADIAN PHOTO BY JOHN LAWHORNE

At left: A World War I-era bi-plane prepares for takeoff.



ARCADIAN PHOTO BY JOHN LAWHORNE

At left: Para-gliders take off during **Aviation** Day.

ARCADIAN PHOTO BY JOHN LAWHORNE New and unusual aircraft, like this powered para-glider, amazed **aviation** enthusiasts.

ARCADIAN PHOTO BY JOHN LAWHORNE Aircraft lined up near the airport's grass runway.

Print

Publication: Desoto Sun; Date: Mar 24, 2011; Section: Arcadian; Page: AS14

ActivePaper

Planes take the sky

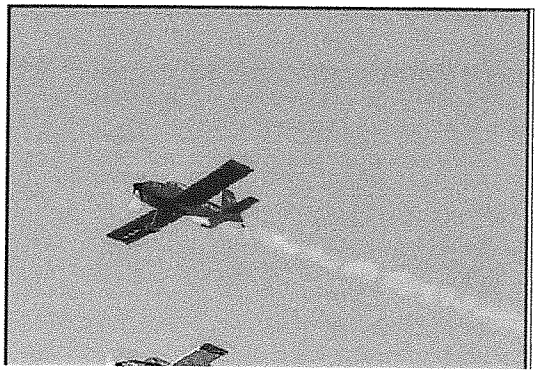
ARCADIAN PHOTO BY JOHN LAWHORNE

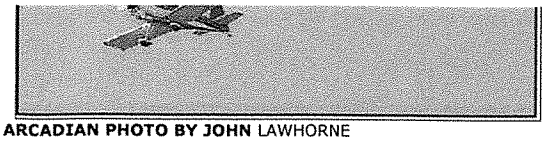
Aircraft from every era were available for viewing at **Aviation** Day.

ARCADIAN PHOTO BY

HAYLEY MERCER

At left: In addition to the ground displays, many visitors at **Aviation** Day decided that an airial view from above Arcadia in this helicopter was the way to fully appreciate the feeling of flying firsthand.





ARCADIAN PHOTO BY JOHN LAWHORNE

Two fliers zip across the sky in a two-person formation trailing a plume of smoke.

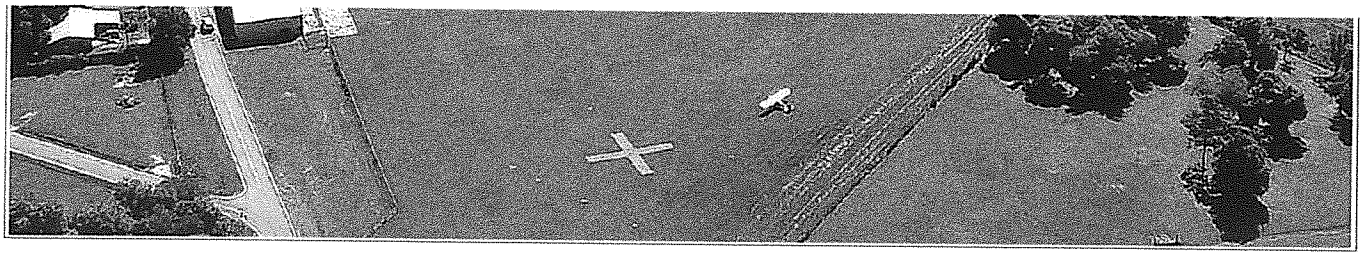
ARCADIAN PHOTO BY

HAYLEY MERCER

At right: Pilots Ernie Maresca, Dave Blair and Craig Hollingsworth from the Charlotte County Civil Air Patrol flew a Cessna 182 Saturday to Arcadia from Punta Gorda to visit with other flying enthusiasts for the second Arcadia **Aviation** Day.

ARCADIAN PHOTO BY JOHN LAWHORNE

A variety of planes used the Arcadia airport's grass take off and landing strip.



Print

Publication: Desoto Sun; Date: Mar 31, 2011; Section: Arcadian; Page: AS4

ActivePaper

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rep. Boehner must grow a spine

Editor:

[I just wrote to Rep. Boehner and I am in hopes you will publish it.] Dear Representative John Boehner (R-OH 8th District) America is heading for suicide by socialism. What can be worse than that? Government shutdown? This government is dysfunctional and it's time to shut it down. Put this patient to bed and keep it there until the causes for suicide have been completely removed. This means: 1) ObamaCareEctomy (cut away the funding and the cancer will die) 2) Treatment for the insane spending that this country has been afflicted by (an immediate deep spending cut of at least $205 BILLION is indicated) 3) Whatever else Doctor Tea Party prescribes. Spending cuts must be an on going treatment.

Representative Boehner, man up! You must grow a spine to administer this treatment. It's a serious operation and if you can't handle it then just leave the operating room and let doctor Tea Party take over.

Andrew Ring - an old fashioned American.

Arcadia

Arcadia's Aviation Day was a treat

Editor:

I was absolutely thrilled to see the activity at Arcadia's Airport on **Aviation** Day, March 19. When I arrived they had many younger adults parking cars and were very helpful in directing me and others where to park etc. The smiles and grins of those that took rides getting out of the cockpits of the various aircraft said it all. They all appeared to have had the time of their life up there. Those that gave rides I believed enjoyed showing off their talents and their aircraft just as much. It was great to know it was not just a guy thing any more or a rich mans dream but was achievable for many with some help from people like those there.

It was quite a treat at so little cost to the public and I see it as a great time for pilots to get together and chat as well as sharing their knowledge and stories to people like myself who could listen forever and certainly ask my share of questions.

I left there wishing I could experience the feeling many had up there in the sky so free and isolated from the world. You couldn't help but wonder what was next at the airport.

It was like a young boy in a candy store for me, as they say. Great job by everyone involved I loved it. Hope to see more of it in the future.

Maurice Brown

Arcadia

Print

Publication: Desoto Sun; Date: Oct 18, 2012; Section: Arcadian; Page: AS4

ActivePaper

GUEST EDITORIAL

'My city: I'm part of it, I'm proud of it'

During the week of October 21-27, the City of Arcadia will join other cities across Florida in celebrating Florida City Government Week. This week has been set aside to recognize the many services city governments provide and their contribution to a better quality of life in Florida. Our theme, "My City: I'm Part of It, I'm Proud of It" pays tribute to the role citizens play in making our cities great.

City government is truly government of, by and for the people. The people who are making the decisions about our community are your neighbors, business owners and community leaders. City government is administered for and by its citizens and is dependent upon public commitment to carry out its responsibilities.

Furthermore, students across the state learn information about state and national government, while information on city government is sometimes barely highlighted. Because city government is the government closest to most citizens, and the one with the most direct daily impact upon its residents, municipal officials feel they have a responsibility to pass along their understanding of public services and their benefits. This is a unique opportunity to teach students and adults about the form of government that affects them daily.

During this week, we want to recognize the role city government plays in our lives from public safety to trash collection to promoting our community's culture and recreation. We hope you will join us in this celebration at 5 p.m. Tuesday at the Margaret Way Building to learn more about your city and how it operates for you. Light refreshments will be served.

— Submitted by Judi **Jankosky,**

Arcadia City Administrator

Print

Publication: Desoto Sun; Date: Nov 22, 2012; Section: Arcadian; Page: AS14

ActivePaper

Celebrating Thanksgiving in Arcadia

By ADRIAN A. FEBLES

ARCADIAN ASSISTANT EDITOR

ARCADIA — Most everybody knows that the Pilgrims celebrated the first Thanksgiving in 1621. But, did you know that the next Thanksgiving was not celebrated the next year, or the one after that? According to historians, that noted Thanksgiving celebration was a one-time event. Decades later, the next generation began celebrating "Forefather's Day," but that was in December. It wasn't until 1827 that a serious lobby began to make Thanksgiving a yearly celebration. Finally, in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln declared the last Thursday of November a national day of thanks giving. Then in 1941, Congress, at the behest of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, changed the date to the fourth Thursday of November.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving today, Arcadians have plenty for which to be thankful. For example, for Sister Ann DiNicola, of Catholic Charities, who received 972 turkeys that were distributed Friday to charitable organizations and individuals.

One of those recipients was the Redland Christian Migrant Association, which received 40 turkeys.

The Rev. Nathaniel Rowe, pastor of City Takers for Christ, was there to lend a hand loading the turkeys.

His organization will serve a free Thanksgiving meal today from 12:30 p.m. until supplies last. They are located at 607 S. Orange Avenue.

The folks from Mental Health Community Centers, who operate out of the Selby House on East Hickory Street, gave their annual meal to their members Friday.

The event was held at the Masonic Lodge.

"The Masons were kind enough to offer us the use of their lodge, which is bigger than our facilities here at Selby House. We are very grateful to them," said the Reverend Theodore Hanus.

Another organization that celebrated Thanksgiving was the DeSoto County Homeless Coalition, which partnered with the All Faiths Food Bank, Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church, DeSoto County School System, Service Groceries, City of Arcadia and many volunteers to serve a hot meal to the homeless, elderly, sick and shut-in. The event began with a brief program consisting of songs, a poem and words of Thanksgiving from Homeless Coalition President and Founder, Valerie Gilchrist, and closed with the blessing of the food. More than 200 people were served this year at the Smith-Brown Center. Each resident also received a bag of fresh fruits and vegetables to take home.

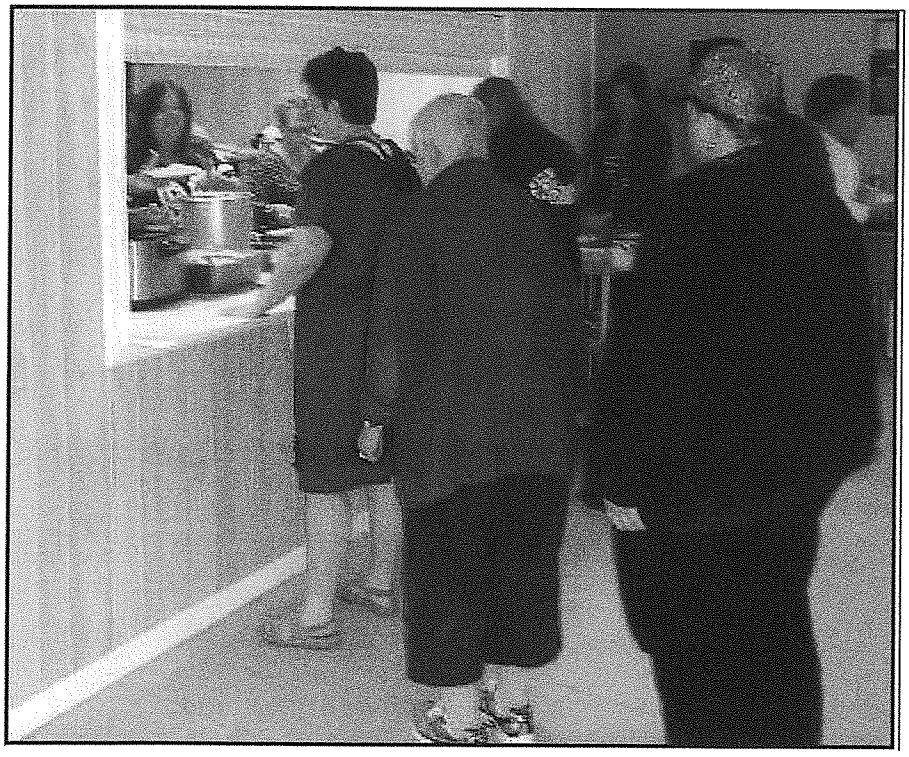
City of Arcadia Administrator Judi **Jankosky** went above and beyond her duty to ensure the success of the event, the coalition's press release stated. The Coalition would also like to give special thanks to the DeSoto County Sheriff's Office for providing inmates to clean the center and to assist in unloading the food.

In other news, Bread of Life Mission will be handing out boxed meals today at noon at Arcadia Plaza, 438 S. Brevard Avenue.

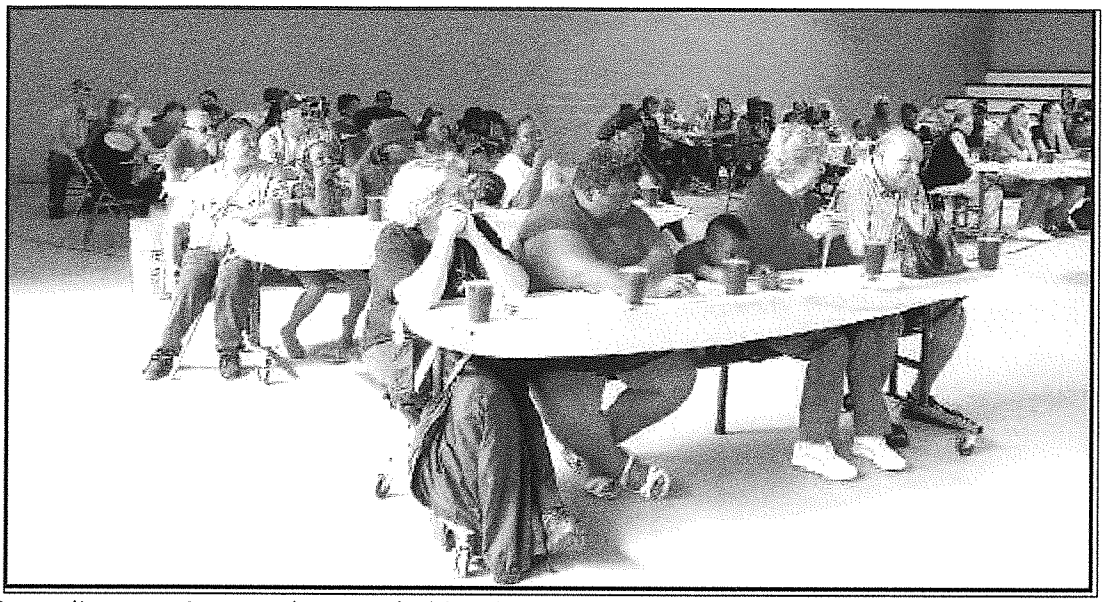
Email: afebles@sun-herald.com

ARCADIAN PHOTOS BY ADRIAN A. FEBLES/afebles@sun-herald.com

Palettes of turkeys sit outside St. Paul's Catholic Church. In total, 972 turkeys were distributed to the needy.



People line up to receive their Thanksgiving meal at the Mason's lodge on Friday.



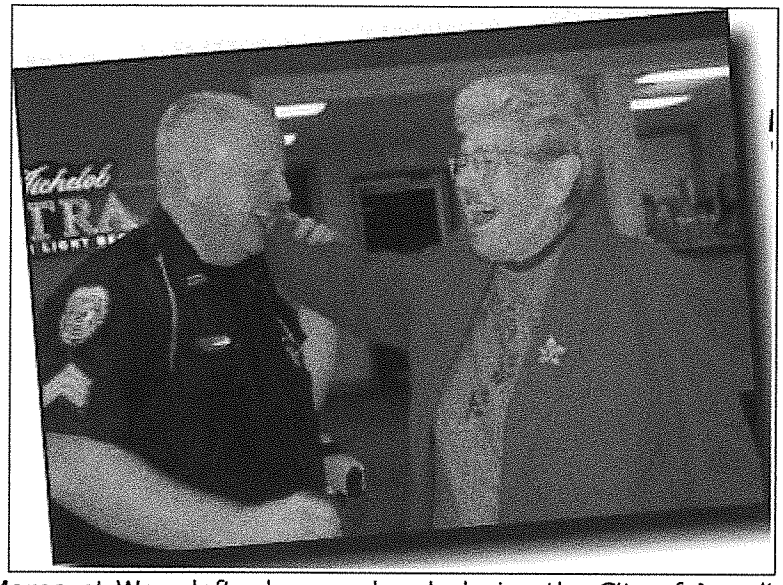
Many diners enjoy meals provided by the Homeless Coalition at the Smith-Brown Gym.

Print

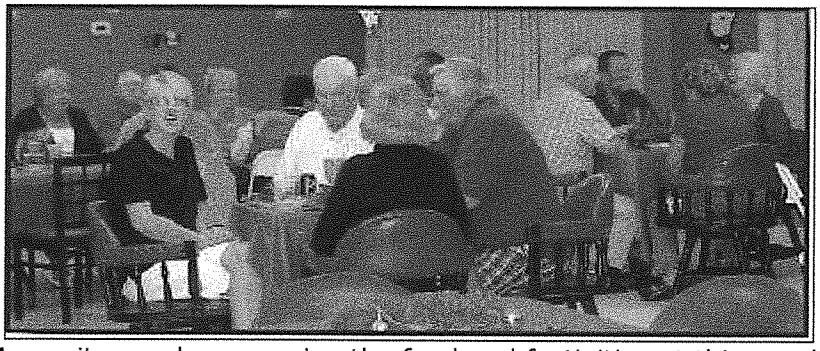
Publication: Desoto Sun; Date: Dec 27, 2012; Section: Arcadian; Page: AS11

ActivePaper™

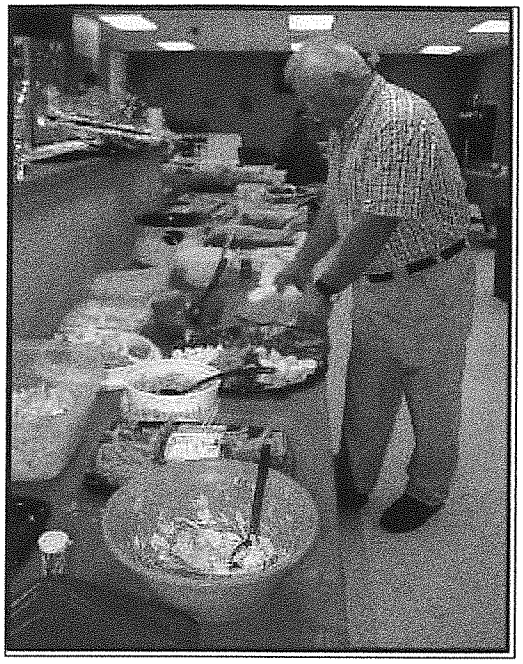
City employees enjoy Christmas festivities

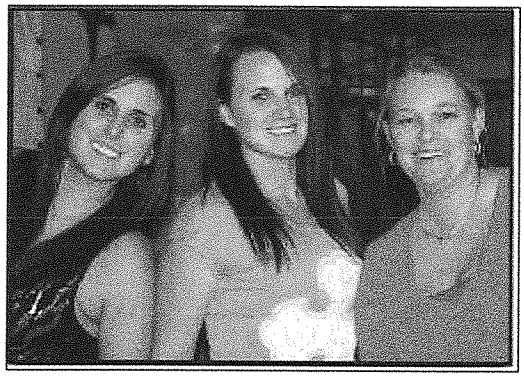


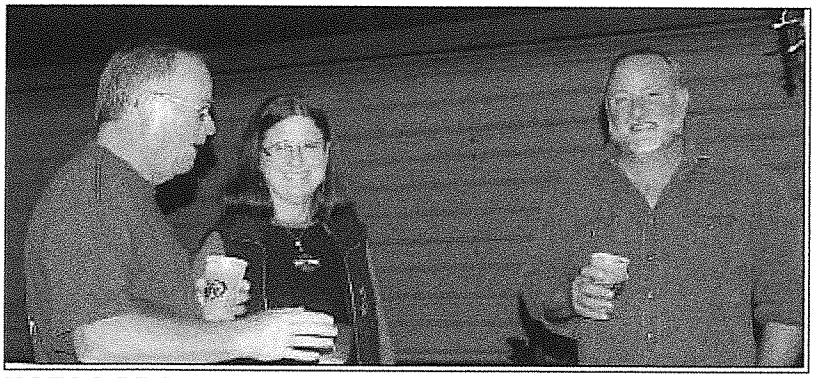
Margaret Way, left, shares a laugh during the City of Arcadia Christmas party.



Many city employees enjoy the food and festivities at this year's Christmas party.







PHOTOS PROVIDED BY JUDI JANKOSKY

Print

Publication: Desoto Sun; Date: Apr 25, 2013; Section: Arcadian; Page: AS7

ActivePaper™

Children plant Earth Day tree

PHOTO PROVIDED

On Saturday, the Discovery Center children planted a magnolia tree at City Hall for Earth Day. The center thanks City Administrator, Judi **Jankosky,** and Dee Oaks Nursery. Discovery Center's character development for April was "citizenship," helping the community, and the children chose to plant a tree to honor that concept.

Print

Publication: Desoto Sun; Date: Jun 13, 2013; Section: Arcadian; Page: AS4

ActivePaper

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

No support

for hospital tax

Editor:

I have great respect for the management and personnel of our DeSoto Memorial Hospital but I can not agree with using property tax funds to support their losses. There are alternatives.

1: The hospital losses stem from uncollectable debt, mainly by uninsured indigent part-time workers. The affordable care act has provisions to require that everyone be insured. To that end Florida was to receive $50 billion of federal money to seed the required insurance expansion. DeSoto Memorial Hospital was to receive $2.5 million this year. Our state legislators voted down acceptance of this provision of the affordable care act and now we are being asked to make up for that wasted opportunity with increased property taxes. Get on the phone, send letters, e-mail, tell our state legislators and the governor to get with it, stop playing politics and accept this phase of the health care act.

2: Like every other business DeSoto Memorial Hospital has competitors and relies on a level playing field to compete. Sadly this is not the case. This is a rural area and agriculture is the major employer. Because of this we have a large population of uninsured indigents and therefore much more uncollectable debt for our local hospital. Since these indigent farmers serve the agricultural sector it would only be fair that any tax support come from agricultural products. A penny or two on each crate or unit of produce would be more fair than taxing the home owner to subsidize the growers.

Joseph McKenney

Arcadia

Hats off to

golf course staff

Editor:

Just a word to support the staff at Arcadia Municipal Golf Course. Should the fees be raised? Probably so, if the money goes back into the golf course and isn't skimmed for other city projects. The perception for years is that money made at the course goes into other city projects. True or false, I don't know, but it has been the rumor for years.

The club house staff and management have always been very friendly and try to encourage the players to have a great round, in spite of some really sour customers. The course superintendent and staff do a remarkable job in spite of not having enough funds to work with. All of the maintenance staff are friendly and really work hard.

It's a big job with a small staff, and with the size of the course they do a great job. I don't think they get enough thanks or encouragement.

Dick Renquest

Arcadia

Thanks for tour

of downtown Arcadia

Editor:

About 75 West Elementary firstgraders took a historic walking tour of downtown Arcadia. I wanted to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone who made this a memorable learning experience.

A special thank you goes to Arcadia City Administrator Judith **Jankosky,** Council Member Alice Frierson, Mayor Keith Keen and Virginia Haas who greeted students in the remodeled City Hall Chambers and had a slide show presentation for them.

Students were enthralled by Luke Wilson's historical accounts of the city's early days. SunTrust Bank employees also gave students a behind-the-teller-counter experience as they greeted drive-through customers and toured the bank.

Thank you for your time, patience and smiles. The kindness you showed Arcadia's students made them feel valued.

Tonya Bordner

Arcadia

Print

Publication: Desoto Sun; Date: Aug 1, 2013; Section: Arcadian; Page: AS3

ActivePaper

New sign, planter box at city airport

By GEORGE CHASE

FRIENDS OF ARCADIA AIRPORT

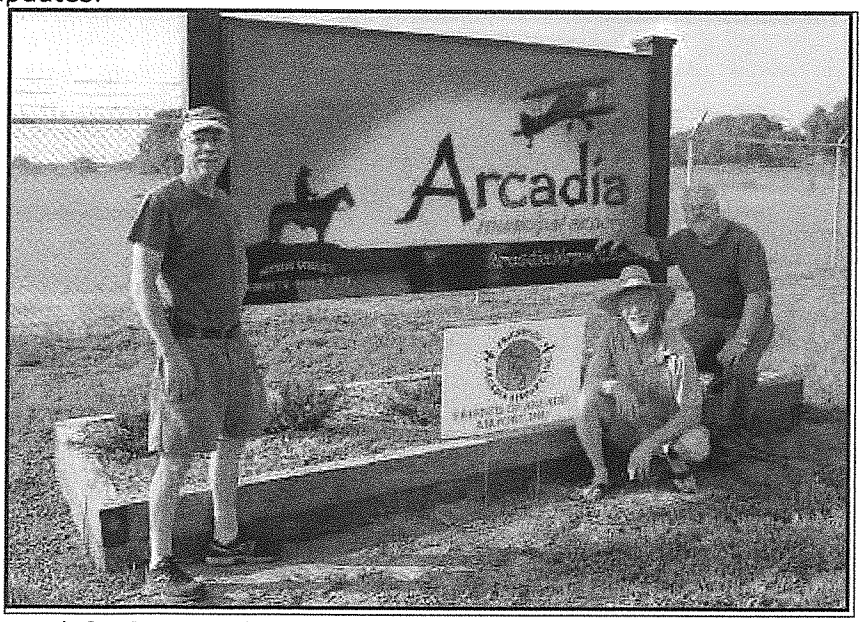
The City of Arcadia recently installed the new airport sign. It was developed by the Airport Advisory Committee under the direction of Arcadia City Administratot Judi **Jankosky,** who also serves as Airport Director.

Friends of Arcadia Airport recently built a planter box around the base of the sign. Last Saturday they finished the job by planting juniper bushes and topping it off with cypress mulch.

This project is one example of the type of things in which Friends will be involved. They are working on a long term plan to make the airport and DeSoto County a destination for pilots and their families. George Chase, president of Friends. said, "We have lots of attractions in our community and the airport has the potential to draw visitors from the entire state into Arcadia for day trips."

Friends is a not- for-profit Florida charitable organization dedicated to supporting the airport and improving economic development. In the months ahead Friends will begin holding monthly pancake breakfasts as well as other airport events. Watch for the announcements and plan on attending and enjoying a day at your airport.

You may reach them at FriendsofArcadiaAirport@gmail.com to be placed on an email list for event updates.



From left, George Chase, Dave Hutchinson and Greg Smith pose in front of the new sign at the Arcadia Municipal Airport. Friends of the Arcadia Airport recently built the planter box. **PHOTO BY NAOMI DAUGHTRY**