DeSoto Acres Association, Inc.
SARASOTA, FLORIDA
Country Estates In the Heart of Town
P.O. Box 556, Tallevast, Florida 34270

October 2017

'The best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago. The second-best time is now.' - Chinese Proverb

MANY RESIDENTS OVER THE YEARS have obviously followed the sage advice from the ancients, as our DeSoto Acres flourish with an abundance and variety of trees. Several years ago, a road sign within our Acres on Shade Avenue announced with county pride, that Sarasota was the recipient of the designation, Tree City USA, awarded by the Arbor Day Foundation. Our collective 850+ acres no doubt played a part in the selection of Sarasota County for the honor. And now, whether you are one of our newer residents or an "old-timer", **today** is still a great day to add to our collective green landscape and plant a tree.

Native Trees Are the Best Choice

The County Extension is treasure trove of information on native plants. Acquiring knowledge of our DeSoto Acres soil, drainage and storm season is just a phone call or several clicks away on a computer. Information gathered can make all the difference with your tree purchase living to an old age. A mounting consideration before planting a new tree is, can it withstand a wind storm? Scientists at the University of Florida have determined that the native, sand live oak is the most resistant to hurricane force winds.

Sable palm (aka, cabbage palm), Southern magnolia, live oak, crape myrtle, and bald cypress are also native trees found in our Acres, and are less likely to lose limbs or blow over during storms. Conversely, natives that possess the least wind resistance are the sand pine, water oak and laurel oak. Water oaks locally are particularly stressed because of our recent past bouts of extended dry seasons.

Neighbor Krissi on 57th Street, provides some clues to the origin of the many non-native eucalyptus trees found in the Acres. "Years and years ago, someone came calling to DeSoto Acres selling them cheap with the promise that they grow fast, and they did! And as a result, I am still taking them out. They proved to be a *bad tree* as it grows quite tall and the wood is soft. It breaks in a storm and makes quite a mess." She wishes she'd discovered her favorite, Shady Ladies, twenty years ago instead!

Large properties like our Acres' homes encourage property owners to try and generate landscaping choices that produce edibles. A favorite choice, citrus, has faced a formidable foe the past several seasons in the form of **citrus greening**. Simply put, the disease is caused by bacteria that enters our citrus trees via the citrus psyllid, a sap-sucking bug. Once a tree is infected, there is no cure and infected trees generally die within 3 to 5 years. Our local nursery Drymons no longer relies on citrus as its mainstay. The County Extension no longer encourages residents to replace lost citrus until a cure or cost-effective treatment for citrus greening is found. Federal and state researchers continue to seek pathways to save this Acres favorite, and the entire endangered Florida citrus industry.

Other than citrus, local popular edibles include the avocado, mango, papaya, Florida plum, sweet persimmons, carambola (star fruit), lychee, jackfruit and sapodilla. Most

of these trees can be found thriving on 57th and Shade. Some are not considered native, but all can be found in the Acres. Less notable, but utilitarian edible tree choices include leaves from several types trees. Edible Hibiscus leaves are found in salads and as garnishes. Leaves from the lemon bay are a favorite addition to local cooks' soups and stews. More "bad bug news" to report concerns the bay tree and its close cousin, the avocado. A beetle is spreading a fungal infection which is killing the trees. Sadly, there is nothing one can do to prevent infection or stop its progress once a tree is infected. Red bays support two types of butterflies: palamedes, spicebush swallowtails plus the burmelia moth. Many birds and other animals eat the small blue fruits produced by the bay tree, so this tree's illness and death is a "hit" to our local ecosystem and butterfly hobbyists.

(continued on page 3)

Message from President Bob Heere

Hello and I hope everyone is well with no serious "Irma" damage. I feel 2017 has tested our collective DeSoto Acres' resolve. We endured early dry weather, which brought two fires to our community. Then came the record rains, 20 inches in 2 days! Shortly after the rain saturation came uninvited Irma. Our beautiful neighborhood is now lined with massive piles of storm debris, which I suspect may be with us until early December. Our job now is one of patience. Believe it or not, the County is working on storm debris collection night and day. I encourage all of us to try to keep the vegetative piles contained in the roadside and out of the way of traffic. We were very fortunate the damage was not worse. Irma did delay the completion of our originally scheduled September Newsletter. So again, thank you to all our residents through this storm event and for your patience.

Bob Heere, President
Desoto Acres Association

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(The color newsletter is sent to your email address and available on line at www.DeSotoAcres.org)

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(continued from page 1) Our local pine population has been ravaged by the pine bore beetle. Assn. President Bob Heere knows all too well the signs of a pine tree in trouble. Yellowing of the bark or tree's crown spells doom for the pine tree. In the past 2 years, the Heere family has lost seven stately pines to the beetle; costly in both removal and "time lost" for mature landscaping.

Besides bad bugs and "Irma", another threat to our tree population is the air potato vine. This abundant local vine is an exotic that outcompetes native vegetation and disrupts natural processes. The vine itself is remarkably strong- (think Tarzan swinging through the jungle strong) and gloves must be used when trying to pull the vine out of trees or up from the ground in the initial feeble attempts at control. The vine produces inedible potato-like tubers for its reproductive cycle. Because of the negative impacts to the Florida environment, the U.S. Department of Agriculture started a biological control program of the air potato. After extensive research on its safety and impact, the air potato leaf beetle, *Liliocerис cheni*, was approved for use in Florida.

Currently, the air potato leaf beetle is being reared and released in Florida through a state and federal partnership including the University of Florida (UF). Several Acres' homes have taken advantage of this free service offered from the UF which provides free beetles via mail to be released on private properties near the vines- which apparently look like an all you can eat salad bar to the small red beetles! They munch away at the beautiful heart-shaped (but evil) vine leaf which weakens the plant's reproductive cycle. The nasty tubers produced by the weakened plant are smaller and fewer in number. Neighbors releasing beetles and contiguous properties are reporting great success with the beetles limiting the extensive growth of the air potato. A word of caution: be careful cleaning/clearing out the damaged vines and leaves as the reproductive cycle of the beetle includes egg production on the underside of the damaged leaves. These friendly beetles need our many "zealous grooming gardeners" to exercise patience, so as to replenish further generations of the friendly working beetles. Link to get free beetles: http://bcrcl.ifas.ufl.edu/airpotatofiles/airpotatoforms.shtml

Favorite Trees Mentioned by Neighbors

Meyer lemon * Cinnamon tree * Royal Poinciana * Laurel Oak * Cabbage Palm * Wax Myrtle (an endangered native) * Shady Lady * Mango * Lychee * Jackfruit * Sapodilla * Blue Palm *

Please note that several photos sent in by neighbors appear on our web page. Enjoy!

Also, several neighbors appreciate the look and feel of traveling on our **Canopy Roads** so much that they wish to encourage neighbors to consider cultivating this look.

As happy as residents were to share their favorite trees, it was immediately apparent that the dreaded **Brazilian**

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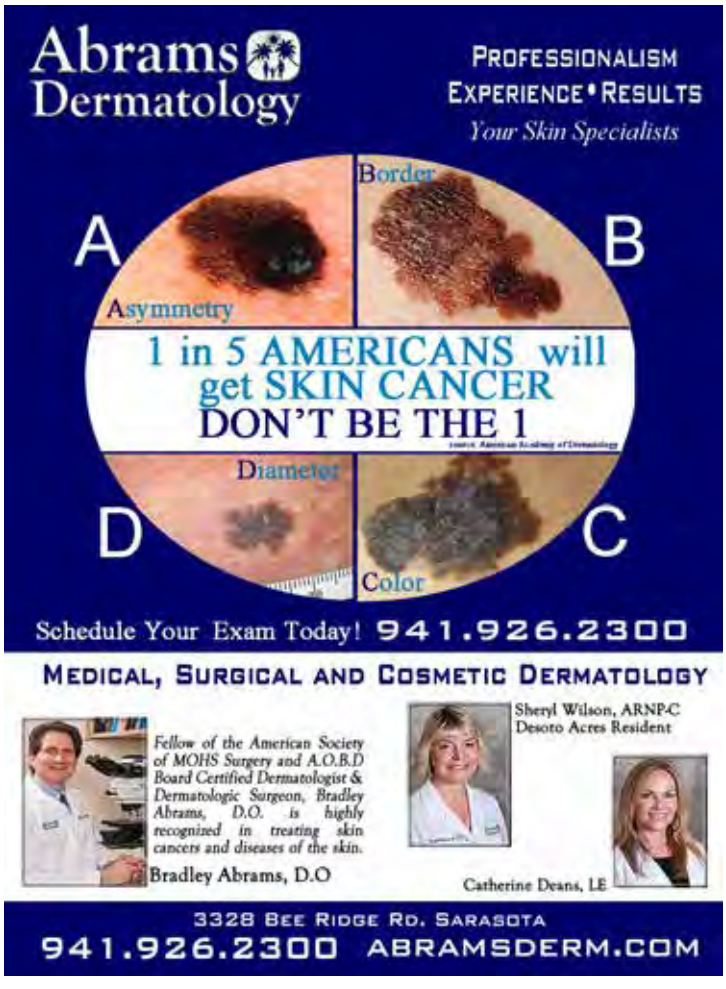

A Stroll Down Memory Lane

You would be hard put to find a friendlier DeSoto Acres' neighbor than Jean on 53rd Street. Originally from Jamaica, Jean's father sent her to California at age 18 for adventure. There, she found love, married, and eventually she and her husband had two children. Daughter Dennese found the smog of LA too difficult to breathe, so the family in 1969 choose Sarasota, Florida as their new home base.

The quiet, dirt road of 53rd street suited animal loving daughter Dennese and son Gary. Looking back, Jean realizes she has made the most of her 53rd street property. She raised her children and a multitude of animals (3 ponies, 3 horses, a goat, a rescued baby pig, a snake, 2 cats and 11 dogs at one time or another) on her acreage. In addition to her daughter's ponies and horses enjoying the large yard, son Gary created a motorcycle path across the acreage amid the bountiful palmettos.

Daughter Dennese and P'dinker on a stroll down 53rd Street in 1975. Notice the dirt road.

P'dinker and Jean's husband were best of buds. P'dinker would follow him as he enjoyed eating a daily cigarette provided by good natured Mr. R.

Later as a single mother, Jean also became the caregiver to her own mother and fashioned a lovely cottage just a few covered steps from the main house. In keeping with her catering/hospitality career, she hosted her daughter, son and grandson's weddings on her well-groomed property.

Close to busy DeSoto Road, good neighbor Jean allowed a gate on her northern property line to allow the safe passage of DeSoto Road school children to pass safely to the bus stop, thereby avoiding busy streets.

But much like the spicy Jamaican peppers she grows and eats with gusto, there is a spicy side to our good neighbor Jean. Years ago, a tired single mom getting ready for work was standing in the hallway, disgustedly surveying the messes that were her children's bedrooms. The doorbell rang, and she was surprised to find a deputy sheriff at her door. "I understand you have a couple of pigs on the property, Mrs. Roberts" the deputy stated. (Then, just as now, pigs and hogs were not allowed on our Acres property.) "Yes, I do." "Can I see them?" "They're in school right now", Momma Jean deadpanned!! And a speechless deputy wandered back to his car.

The Wakes and Horsts are lucky to have this, happy transplanted Island lady as their neighbor. Jean has no interest in moving; 53rd street is her happy forever home.

Jean also wanted you to know she has three wonderful large staghorn ferns for sale to a good home. The oak tree the ferns are perched on has died (that's why after consulting with the county arborist, they had to cut the tree back). Jean is looking to find the staghorn ferns a new home before the tree trunk has deteriorated any further.

Please contact VicePresident@DeSotoAcres.org if you are interested in the staghorn ferns.

Interested in contributing to Desoto Acres Memory Lane?

We are looking for residents to share their memories and / or DeSoto Acres news articles.

Please contact Diana@DeSotoAcres.org.

Thank you.

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DeSoto Acres Real Estate Update

Article By: **Lee Brewer, Broker/Realtor** CDPE, Equator Platinum Certified
with REMAX Alliance Group

The Sarasota real estate market for the first half of 2017 appears to be fairly stable. The inventory levels for resales are very similar to those of last year, although in recent months there have been more sales each month and the median price has risen. County-wide it remains a seller's market and several economists agree this is due to increased demand with available inventory trailing behind demand.

In The Acres, there are currently 4 homes on the market with list prices ranging from $299,777 to $699,000 with an average of 145 cumulative days on market at the time of this writing. There are 2 homes under contract, one a traditional, retail sale and the other a short sale. Nine homes have sold year to date ranging in price from $315,000 to $817,115. In contrast, there were only five sales in the same period of 2016.

In the last few months I have heard a bit of debate about selling vacant properties - To stage or not to stage? It has been my personal experience that showing a home that has been professionally staged helps to keep potential buyers engaged. It seems to help them visualize what can be done with the space (particularly if the floor plan is unique). I believe staging helps the home to sell faster and oftentimes (not always) for more money. Think about it. When is the last time you went to an unfurnished builder's model? They may be on to something.

As always, feel free to call me with any real estate related questions you may have. ***I continue to work with buyers who are looking for just the right house in The Acres. If you're thinking of selling, please give me a call.***

Lee Brewer
941-724-3448
Lee@LeeBrewer.com

*Data sources: Multiple Listing Service, Sarasota Association of Realtors, Sarasota County Property Appraiser which are solely responsible for their accuracy.

** Average instead of median

Sarasota County Single Family	2016 Apr	2017 Apr	2016 May	2017 May	2016 June	2017 June	2016 July	2017 July	2016 Aug	2017 Aug
Homes for Sale*	3,059	3,070	2,977	2,982	2,861	2,841	2,797	2,714	2,243	2,691
Homes Sold*	733	793	753	822	792	785	680	683	755	668
Pending Sales*	586	823	481	753	472	741	460	703	574	506
Average Days on Market*	35	45	44	46	42	51	45	55	39	41
Median Sale Price (000)*	250	272	263	260	248	275	242.5	260	237	253.5
Sold Price vs Orig. List Price %*	95.1	95.2	95.4	95	95.4	95	95.2	95.2	95	95.3
DeSoto Acres Single Family	**2016 Apr**	**2017 Apr**	**2016 May**	**2017 May**	**2016 June**	**2017 June**	**2016 July**	**2017 July**	**2016 Aug**	**2017 Aug**
Homes for Sale*	5	3	2	2	4	2	4	3	6	3
Homes Sold*	2	1	0	2	0	2	1	0	1	1
Pending Sales*	0	3	1	2	1	3	2	3	2	2
Average Days on Market*	22*	5	No Sales	21*	No Sales	59*	465	No Sales	165	13
Median Sale Price (000)*	412*	340	No Sales	583*	No Sales	445	258	No Sales	295	240
Sold Price vs Orig. List Price % *	109*	97.7	No Sales	93.5*	No Sales	95*	89.3	No Sales	98.3	100

DeSoto Acres Home Sales
Jan. 1, 2017 to Aug. 31, 2017

Price	Bd/Bath	sqft
2800's 51st St.		
$817,200	4/3	6,084
3000's 57th St.		
$540,300	4/3	4,050
2300's 61st St.		
$445,000	4/3	4,126
2900's 53rd St.		
$445,000	4/4	3,571
2900's DeSoto Rd.		
$370,000	3/2	3,160
2200's 57th St.		
$370,000	4/3	2,974
4900's Traylor Ave.		
$350,000	4/3	3,782
2900's 53rd St.		
$340,000	3/2	2,785
2300's DeSoto Rd.		
$315,000	2/2	3,006

DeSoto Acres Sales to Bank
Jan. 1, 2017 to Aug. 31, 2017

Price	Bd/Bath	sqft
2100's 59th St.		
$220,000	3/2	3,156

Lee Brewer CDPE

Your DeSoto Acres Real Estate Specialist

A Sarasota native and real estate professional, I have a vast array of knowledge and contacts in the area – **ALL** to help you have the best real estate experience possible.

My in-depth local knowledge can provide you with the information you need on home buying, home selling, financing and owning real estate in Sarasota, FL.

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County Replies to Resident Questions at Annual Meeting

Continued from May Newsletter

At the January 2017 Annual Resident meeting our guest speaker, Mr. Mike Moran was asked a number of questions. Here is the County follow-up to the last of these questions.

Meeting Comment 4: *County Owned Property at Tuttle and MLK PID #0028-08-0001. What is the status of the County's plans to develop this property into a sports park?*

Response 4: The North County Sports Complex (NCSC) is currently an unfunded Sarasota County Capital Improvement Program Project that would design and develop a competitive and recreational sports complex in northern Sarasota County. The County acquired the 114 acre property at the northwest corner of North Tuttle Avenue and Dr. Martin Luther King in 2014. The Parks, Preserves and Recreation Strategic Master Plan (PPRSMP), adopted in 2016, includes a draft concept plan for the site and adjacent Newtown Estates Park. The draft NCSC concept plan envisions 10 lit rectangular athletic fields, 4 diamond fields, concessions, picnic pavilions, playgrounds, trails, restrooms, maintenance areas, wetland habitat restoration, and many parking areas (attached).

At this time, this project has not been placed within the Board's adopted Fiscal Year 18 - 21, 5-year budget plan. Construction of the NCSP has been roughly estimated at a cost of over $40 million dollars.

Meeting Comment 5: *Can you provide a contact for County Forestry Maintenance? Mr. Murray (resident at the intersection of 47th and Tuttle) would like to contact County Forestry Maintenance to know when they will be at his location. He would like their input as to how far back to trim the vegetation inside his property to ensure a clear sight line.*

Response 5: Staff recently did a sight distance study for the intersection and determined that the vegetation at the NW and NE corner must be trimmed. Forestry already trimmed the vegetation at the NW corner. The NE corner was planted by the DeSoto Acres Association outside the road right of way behind the Desoto Acres sign so we would like to request that at least one half of the vegetation be removed by the Association.

Subsequent to this review, the DeSoto Acres Association contacted the resident regarding the DeSoto Acres sign and permission to remove the obstructing vegetation. The resident was very aggregable and removed the obstructing vegetation themselves. Thank you so much to the Baxter / Beers.

An update on our County Right-of-Way contact. Mr Andy Ward has moved on to a private position in Tampa. We thank Andy for all of his help with our roadside questions and follow-up. We will stay in touch with the County for our new Right-of-Way contact.

Meeting Comment 6: *Undefined comment regarding sewer connections in Desoto from December 2016.*

Response 6: Desoto Acres area is identified as a potential septic to sewer area but has a low priority ranking relative to other areas. There are no plans in the foreseeable future for a County initiated project.

The Desoto Acres area was developed 40+ years ago and residents have always relied on the septic systems for waste water disposal. The life expectancy is 30 years for a well maintained septic system but it is highly variable - so a system can last longer or can need replacement sooner. Also, the number of people using the system can influence what is considered failed.

Meeting Comment 7: *Undefined comment regarding sidewalks in Desoto from January 2017.*

Response 7: Staff provided the information below in response to a citizen request:

- The purpose of the Desoto Area Sidewalks Project is to provide improved pedestrian safety by constructing approximately 10 miles of sidewalks in the Desoto Acres area neighborhoods.
- This includes segments of DeSoto Road from U.S. 301 to Longwood Run Boulevard and to University Parkway. [Association Comment: this response was not inline with resident feedback or the Association Letter given at the sidewalk workshops.]
- Sidewalks will also be added between Myrtle Street and University Parkway. The project design started on Feb. 19, 2014. [Association Comment: we assume the county means along Tuttle Ave.]

A second public meeting was held on Sept. 22, 2015, as a follow-up for the communities east of Lockwood Ridge Road. (Continued on Page 14)

DeSoto Acres Gardener

By Sam Miller, & Terry Lipman, DeSoto Acres Residents

Whether you are a "container gardener" or the traditional yard gardener, patience and earnestness are two qualities necessary for Florida gardening. Before you rush out to see the latest in seeds and seedlings, repeat please; there is no rushing in a Florida garden! One must commit faithfully to watering, weeding and nurturing your garden, large or small, to harvest. A couple of local gardeners volunteered to share what they see as necessary to get your fall garden in the ground. Both agree; you must be patient. Right now, our soil is too wet for a traditional garden, but you can begin some of the necessary preparation.

The 5 steps of planning and prepping

1) You need to find where on your property you get 6 to 8 hours of sunlight. This determines the best location for your garden. (Terry says this too is true for container gardens although sometimes on a small lanai, a box with wheels can follow the sun)

2) Once the sun determines your location, check for roots, electrical lines, pipes, etc. to make sure it really is the right spot. You also do not want to plant in a spot that floods. We are experiencing a rough and wet hurricane season! (Not necessary with a container! In fact skip the rest of the prep steps. Just buy some good composting soil and fill your Earth box or one you make! Easier to plant, water and control)

3) Kill the grass! Don't use a herbicide as you will soon be planting in the very same spot. Use visqueen (plastic) to super heat and kill the grass. Then turn the soil, go deep! At least 8" to 12".

4) Many folks test the soil. You can buy a self-test kit at the farm and garden or take a sample to the extension office. IF you are testing for pH they will provide a recommendation of how much lime or sulfur you will need to add to bring your soil pH to around 6.5. At this time, add manure (Not Fresh) from a friendly neighborhood horse, grass clippings (Sam's favorite) and/or compost.

5) Dig your rows in the form of a V. This way you drop your seed or seedling in the base of the V and you have a water trough ready to accept the water rather than the usual run off. Sam prefers to hand water his garden with a watering can to prevent waste.

Containers: Soilless mixtures are composed of bark chips, vermiculate or perlite and peat moss. You can

(Continued on Page 10)

(continued from page 9) find this in garden centers or you can make your own. Check it out online. You will need to add some Dolomite for the Magnesium and Calcium requirements. Terry uses about 1/3 cup mixed in the top 3-4 inches of a 3-gallon container. Then use a cup of a complete 6-8-8 (or similar) fertilizer around the outside edge and cover slightly with the soilless mixture. It is important that the new plant be planted in the center of the container and that it does not come in direct contact with the fertilizer. Then all you need to do is water on a daily basis and be patient.

Traditional garden: If you are a water miser, stick to the garden container method or visits to the farmers' market. A traditional garden takes a lot of water. Never jeopardize your house well as some of our older wells are rather shallow. Sam prefers to hand water and uses water from his rain barrels. Hand watering assures no waste. Rain water is loaded with many of the minerals needed for a successful garden. Weed, weed, weed! Great exercise; bend and pull, or use a hoe for large gardens. Never USE a herbicide! Bee and butterfly safety please . You can use compost, grass clippings, newspaper or cardboard between planting rows to inhibit weed growth and then just till the rotting materials into next year's garden.

Both gentlemen agree, plant what you love, plant what you intend to eat. You have a 90 day grow cycle (September through November) before the drought/ threat of frost days of December through February. Both men believe in a usual 60 day growth cycle, so fertilize at the time of planting and again in 30 days. Go cheap with a fertilizer. Plant choices Greens of all types (mustard, kale, rape, collards, lettuce, and arugula) are easy to grow. Black eyed peas, string beans, Roma beans (a local favorite) okra, all good to grow. Tomatoes grow well, particularly in containers. Holes in your leaves!? Bugs are a fact of life in a Florida garden. One tablespoon of Dawn for dishes or cheap cooking oil and a gallon spray bottle will handle most pests. Also used and approved by butterfly Lady Mrs. Sam is *Conserve Naturalyte* which is touted to be an environment friendly pest control. Sam has had success growing Florida sweet corn, but had to do battle against the cutworm with an eyedropper of olive oil down the stalk of each plant. Tedious work as it takes two separate doses to catch and destroy the reproductive cycle.

Need more answers? Your computer can take you to the extension office and UF without leaving home! The extension office is very good returning phone calls. There is a one day container class October 28 through the adult enrichment classes at the Suncoast Technical College, ace-sarasota.com or phone #941 361 6590.

Gardening is wonderful, except for the days it's not!! So get out there and experience it for yourself. We DeSoto Acres residents certainly have the room.

COP'S CORNER

As Reported by Sarasota County Sheriff's Department
May 1, 2017 to Sept. 30, 2017

Date	Crime Type	Location
06/08/2017	Theft / Larceny	5700's Middle Ave.
06/23/2017	Vehicle Theft	2900's 47th St.
06/23/2017	Vehicle Theft	2700's 51st St.
07/25/2017	Theft / Larceny	3100's 61st St.
07/27/2017	Vehicle Theft	2300's DeSoto Rd.
08/06/2017	Theft / Larceny	3100's 59th St.
08/08/2017	Burglary	2700's 53rd St.
08/10/2017	Theft / Larceny	2800's 61st St.
08/14/2017	Assault-Simple	2600's Johnson Ln.
08/21/2017	Theft / Larceny	3000's 61st St.
09/05/2017	Theft / Larceny	2700's Johnson Ln.
09/29/2017	Theft / Larceny	2700's 51st St.

More information is available at the Sheriff's website, www.sarasotasheriff.org. under Program & Services / Crime Prevention for the Crime Map, Safety Information, and much more.

Please report suspicious individuals or vehicles right away to the Sheriff's Department by calling 911!

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MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Included in Community Yard Sale Map

Membership grants free participation in DSA Association's Community Annual Yard Sale Locator Map.

Free Business Listing in Newsletter & on Association Website

Free Business listing with your membership. Use the form below to send in your company information.

Access to DSA Email Blast Service

As a member, when you need to reach your neighbors to find lost pets or notify of a found pet, you have access to the Association's email "blast" service.

Association Annual Meeting & Voting

Have a say in your Association's annual priorities and elections. With your membership, you vote on many important events and issues that shape the future of DeSoto Acres including your Board of Directors.

Reduced DeSoto Acres Advertising Cost

Reduced newsletter ad space cost for members. Contact vicepresident@desotoacres.org for ad sizes and pricing.

Note: Dues payments between Jan. and Nov. 2017 are recorded as 2017 dues unless otherwise noted.

Thank you for your support!

Calendar Year 2017 Dues are Due

If you received a return envelope to the Association in this newsletter, your 2017 Dues have not been received. Please use this enclosed envelope, fill out the form below, and mail with your check to: DeSoto Acres Association, P.O. Box 556, Tallevast, FL 34270. ***Check your membership dues status below.***

These members have paid 2017:

Abernathy; Alberti / LaChaunce; Anderson; Andres/ Freeman; Andrews; Arvey; Baker; Batista; Baxter/Beer; Berrier; Berthold; Bournival; Byers: Callahan; Cattin; Chambers; Colbert; Coorssen; Crooke; Curtis; Dewald; Dogancay; Dowd; Dunlop Trust; Duong; Dygert; Earl; Eastep; Eavis; Elwood; Fasold; Feikema; Fenton; Fernandez; Forgard; Fox; Friedman; Gabbert; Galloway; Garfinkel; Giacoia; Glanden; Gockley,N&J; Gockley,V; Goodman; Goolsby; Gore; Gregg; Greiner; Grimes; Grosvenor; Gutierrez,A; Gutierrez,K&J; Hafner; Hamm; Handgen; Harvey; Hasselbring; Hayes; Haynes; Heere; Hightower; Honackie; Horst; Hudspeth/Wilson; Hultquist; Hunger; Jackson,J; Jackson,W; Janis; Johnson,G&C; Johnson,M; Jung; Kelln; Kluver; Kneifel; Kocur; Kohrs; Latimer; Lima; Lipman; Lobo; Lonicker: Lovesky A; Mainville, Malinsky; Marrocco; Martin; Mayer; McElroy, McNaughton,M&A; McNeil/Unus; Miller; Moody/Fortsch; Morris; Moser; Murphy; Murray; Neal; Nelson; Noël/ Paquette; Norwood,L; O'Connor; Pace; Pinson; Podgis; Powell; Raskin; Roberts,C&D; Roberts/Kreye; Rochette; Society of Friends; Seyfried; Shinn; Short; Siem; Silvis; Slakans; Snyder; Sparling; Starkey/Lay; Stenglein; Stokes; Taylor/Oppenheimer; Teshima; Torshkoev; Utley; Victors; Wake; Walker; Washer; Welch; White; Willliams A; Williams,J; Wilson; Wittman.

These members have prepaid 2018 or later (see year):

Alberti / LaChaunce; Andrews(2020); Baker;(2020); Baxter/ Beer; Berthold(2019): Colbert; Crooke; Dygert; Fasold (2019); Fernandez; Fox (2020); Gockley,V; Gregg(2019); Grimes; Handgen(2020); Hasselbring; Hayes; Hudspeth/ Wilson(2019); Hunger(2019); Jackson; Janis; Johnson,G&C (2019); Johnson,M; Kocur(2019); Kohrs; Latimer; Lima; Lipman(2023); Lobo(2019); Lovesky,A(2019); Malinsky; Martin; Moser; Nelson(2020); Norwood,L; Raskin; Roberts,C&D; Teshima; Torshkoev; Walker(2019); White; Wilson; Wittman.

DeSoto Acres Association Membership Dues, Business Listing and T-shirt Form

Mail this form & your due's payment to: DeSoto Acres Association, Inc., P.O. Box 556, Tallevast, FL 34270.
Checks payable to: DeSoto Acres Association, Inc.

Apply Dues to year(s): _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Property Address: _____

Mail Address: _____

City: _____

State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Cell: _____

Fax: _____

Work: _____

Email(s): _____

Email(s): _____

Business Directory Listing:

_____
Company Name

_____
Company phone number

_____
Company Tag Line (48 characters / spaces maximum length)

T-Shirt: I want to purchase _____XL _____XXL

T-Shirt at $5.00 each. Payment of $_____ enclosed.

(continued from page 8)

- At this meeting, residents were shown the complete network of approximately 5.4 miles of Phase 1 sidewalk east of Lockwood Ridge.
- Due to concerns from the (DeSoto Acres) community at the public meeting, the design was placed on hold for the Phase 2 sidewalks **west of Lockwood Ridge Road** on Jan. 27, 2015.
- Design completion for the **sidewalk east of Lockwood Ridge Road** is scheduled for the spring of 2016.
    - Right-of-way acquisition is expected from fall of 2016 to summer of 2017.
    - Construction of the first phase is anticipated to begin fall of 2017.
    - Design contract cost: $198,028.
    - Contractor and construction contract costs are still undetermined.
    - Construction is expected to be completed 2018-2019.

This concludes Commissioner Moran's & County follow-up to our questions from the 2017 DeSoto Acres Association Annual Resident Meeting.

DESOTO ACRES COMMITTEES

Association Website
Lance Lobo - Chair

Community Clean-up
Open - Chair
Sam Miller - Co-Chair

Land Planning
Jane Paquette - Chair
Laura Andrews, Pam Bournival
Jim Gregg, Lance Lobo,
Sam Miller

Association Yard Sale
Bob Heere - Chair

Association Advertising
Jane Paquette

Association Newsletter
Jane Paquette - Chair
Diana Harvey

Community Signs
Lance Lobo - Chair

DESOTOACRES ASSOCIATION, INC 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

Robert Heere (2016)
President 941-374-0772
President@DeSotoAcres.org

Jane A. Paquette (2016)
Vice President
941-355-7070
VicePresident@DeSotoAcres.org

Laura Andrews (2018)
Treasurer
Treasurer@DeSotoAcres.org

Jennifer Lay (2018)
Secretary 941-351-3230
Secretary@DeSotoAcres.org

Directors

Vickie Crooke (2018)
Director9@DeSotoAcres.org

Jim Gregg (2018)
941-745-0289
Director3@DeSotoAcres.org

Alberto Gutierrez (2017)
Director8@DeSotoAcres.org

Dale H. Hasselbring (2016)
941-650-6721
Director5@DeSotoAcres.org

Michael Hickmott (2019)
941-580-4852
Director9@DeSotoAcres.org

Terry Lipman (2018)
941-504-4386
Director6@DeSotoAcres.org

Lance Lobo (2017)
941-284-7300
Director7@DeSotoAcres.org

John Murray (2019)
Director4@DeSotoAcres.org
941-706-0430

Celeste Welch (2019)
Director5@DeSotoAcres.org

Board members are elected by the Association Resident Members.

Upcoming Events

DeSoto Acres Association

Fall Clean-up Nov 4, 2016 - Sat. 8:00am
Volunteers contact Sam Miller CommunityClean-up@DeSoto Acres.org or call Diana at 941-351-5713.

General Meeting Jan. 18, 2018 Thur.
6:00pm Business Showcase
7:00pm Annual Meeting

(continued from page 3) **Pepper** was the Acres' least favorite. Two good things can be said regarding the Brazilian Pepper: any tree or hedge between your home and a busy road will provide some degree of sound reduction; which is a good thing! And, if your Brazilian Peppers are the only plants growing along a swale, they can provide not only some privacy, but they can help hold the soil to prevent erosion. However, ITS OK TO WAGE WAR ON THE BRAZILIAN PEPPER! The Brazilian pepper-tree is one of the most aggressive **non-native** invaders. The many pockets of scrub oaks and pine in DeSoto Acres and particularly areas along our deep culverts are affected by this invasive. Our County Extension Office encourages residents to remove and stop the spread of Brazilian pepper-trees. Birds and mammals are the chief means of seed dispersal. Seedlings have a high rate of survival and can be found year-round. The best way to rid your yard of this non-native pest is to identify the base of the tree. This is not always easy as the Brazilian is a shrub or small tree that grows up to thirty feet tall with a short trunk usually hidden in a dense head of contorted, intertwining branches. The trees can be controlled by cutting them down and treating the stumps with herbicide. Cut the trunk as close to the ground as possible. Within 5 minutes, an herbicide that contains the active ingredient glyphosate or triclopyr should be applied carefully to the thin layer of living tissue, called the cambium, which is just inside the bark of the stump. Extreme caution is always encouraged when judiciously choosing to use a herbicide. The best time to cut Brazilian Peppers is when they are not fruiting because seeds contained in the fruits have the capability of producing new trees. In our hurricane yard waste, note that if Brazilian pepper branches have fruits attached, care should be taken not to spread the fruits to locations where they can cause future problems.

Irma has rearranged many of our yards and damaged some of our favorite trees and plants. Time, patience, a bit of money and toil will aid in Mother Nature's will to replace that which has been lost. Among the best advice before purchase or planting your planned new or replacement tree is to visit a reputable tree nursery, call or visit our Sarasota County Extension, and/or pick your successful landscaping friends' brains! Many of our neighbors have beautiful trees and are willing to share their learned expertise. Please visit our website to see photos of neighbors' yards.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

HOME PRODUCTS

Good Earth Pure Soap *941.400.8607*
Handmade Natural & Nourishing Soaps

Decorating Madness, Inc. 941.266.6303
Custom window treatments & bedding

Yellow Barn 941.355.1656
Exclusive handmade items made with personality!

HOME SERVICES

Ace Electric Inc......*941.362.4508*
Leaders in the Service Industry

Andrew's Tree Service *941.351.8195*
Tree Service, Stump Removal & Grinding

Elite Quality Lawn & Tree *941.539.5091*
Expert Tree Trimming / Removal & Landscaping

Gulf & Bay Constructors Inc. 941.351.4268
Constructing with Experience

Mirasol Fafco Solar See ad, pg 12 .....866.997.6527
Lower Your Energy Cost

Professional Plumbing *See ad, pg 11* 941.355.5400
Check out Our "On-time or Free" guarantee

SOl Design Studio llc *See ad, pg 3*.....941.355-7070
Architecture, Interior Design – New & Renovation

Terry Lipman ***The Right Plant Guy***.....941.504.4386
ISA Certified Arborist & Agronomist

Terry's Tree Service See ad, pg 5 .....941.748.4484
ISA Certified Arborist & Agronomist

Veteran's Air.*See ad, pg 9* 941.751.6180
100% Satisfaction Guaranteed! SuperBusinessAward

MEDICAL SERVICES

Abrams Dermatology *See ad, pg 3*.....941.926.2300
Your Dermatology Specialists - 3328 Bee Ridge Rd.

Parkway Ridge Dental *See ad, pg 11*.....941.358.8830
The Fine Art of Gentle Quality Dentistry

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

A Heavenly Touch 941.928.5116
Message Therapy & Facials

Antique Buyers *See ad, pg 10* 941.232.1177
Seeking Quality Art & Antiques

Area Office Machines 941.365.3343
We Service & Sell Office Machines

Barry's Trailers 941.953.3468
Utility, Cargo, & Boat Trailers-Sales-Service-Parts

WWW.DESOTOACRES.ORG
DESOTO ACRES ASSOCIATION WEBSITE
STAY INFORMED AND CHECK
THE DESOTO ACRES ASSOCIATION WEBSITE
FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

CenterState Bank *See ad, pg 8* 941.355.5749
Your locally owned neighborhood bank

Ernie's Truck&Auto Repair *Ad, pg 2*.....941.355.9759
Complete automotive repair service - ASE Certified

Healing From the Heart 941.358.0807
Family Business Consulting, Kathleen Raskin MBA CCH

Print my T's 941.706.0561
Custom Screen Printing and Embroidery

REMAX Alliance Group *See ad, pg 7* 941.724.3448
Call Lee Brewer today! Your local real estate expert

TinWoman Productions, Inc 727.488.6332
Branded Video Content & Video Production

Wayne Eastep Photography 941.355.9605
Fine Art Photography & Custom Commissions

Wayne's World Tennis 248.705.2262
Private Tennis Lessons in DeSoto Acres

RESTAURANTS / HOSPITALITY

Jo-To Japanese Steak House 941.351.4677
Tableside Cooking and Sushi

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

Sarasota Friends Meeting 941.358.5759
57th & Lockwood Ridge Rd.

SARASOTA COUNTY (North County)

County Main Number / Call Center 941.861.5000
211 Referral Line.....211
Agriculture Extension.....941.861.9900
American Red Cross 941.379.9300
Animal Services.....941.861.9500
Building Permits.....941.861.6678
Catholic Charities 941.355.5965
Code Enforcement 941.861.5000
County Commissioners.....941.861.5344
Evacuation Information 941.861.5000
FPL (street light out)..... 800.226.3545
FPL (general number) 800.468.8243
Fire prevention 941.861.2290
Fire Hazards.....941.861.2290
Garbage and Recycling.....941.861.6731
Highway Patrol 941.492.5850
Salvation Army..... 941.954.4673
Sheriff Dept. Non-Emergency Number. 941.861.5800
Sheriff Dept. Emergency Number..... 911
Suncoast Communities Blood Banks.....866.972.5663
United Way.....941.366.2686
Waste Management.....941.493.4100

Desoto Acres Association, Inc.
P. O. Box 556
Tallevast, FL 34270
Country Estates in the Heart of Town

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

DeSoto Acres Association Community Newsletter October 2017

After the Storm in DeSoto Acres

HURRICANE IRMA TOOK A TOLL ON OUR LOCAL VEGETATION. Thankfully not on our families, friends, or homes. Many of us were without electricity. It took more than a week for some residents to regain power. Neighbors with electricity offered assistance to those without, sharing hot drinks & food, showers, phone/battery charging, laundry facilities, etc

FEMA Reimbursement For Storm Expenses

If you purchased a generator to power medically required equipment, if your chain saw was damaged or you purchased/rented a chain saw after the disaster to provide access to or from your home and/or to remove imminent danger to your home caused by the hurricane, FEMA will reimburse your expense.

Please visit the FEMA website at www.disasterassistance.gov for more information and to apply for eligible assistance. If you can't apply on line, you can call 800-621-3362, 7 days a week between 7am to 11pm EST. Expect a bit of a hold time if you call in. If you plan to file an application, do it now, don't delay. FEMA "grants" are to help cover repairs and replacement of essential household items not covered by your insurance.

Per the County's website, individuals and business owners who sustained losses due to Hurricane Irma can meet in person with a FEMA representative at Bee Ridge Park, 4430 S. Lockwood Ridge Road, Sarasota, daily from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Check the County Website for updates or call 861-5000.

County Storm Vegetative Debris Pick-up

Many of our residents are asking when the storm vegetative debris will be removed. The county has set-up an online map with the pick-up date for our area. The date is updated based on how the County progresses, starting in South County and moving North. The address for the map is, scgov.net/government/Irma-storm-debris, click on the link, "Hurricane Irma Storm Debris Collection Map". Our areas is currently scheduled for a Dec 4th pick-up date, yes Dec 4th. The concern the drying vegetation is a fire hazard has been "recorded" with the county. The pick-up date will move up as more trucks arrive to pick-up the vegetative debris in Sarasota County.

NOTE: The county will not pick-up your vegetative debris if anything green is in the pile. In the meantime, the County is now asking residents to start bundling the debris for normal pick-up.

We are glad everyone was safe through this event. Thank you to all who opened up their homes to neighbors in need.