

## DeLeon Springs Community Association, Inc.

### Accomplishments for 2014

#### JANUARY:

Hosted our annual visioning meeting, receiving input and direction from members for projects they wished to pursue during 2014 which included: continue festivals; work toward purchase of property for a community center; the possibility of a library; beautify the medians; build an educational partnership and scholarship program for local students

The DeLeon Dispatch Newspaper Winter Edition printed with our first ever Annual Sponsors

Updated the DSCA, Inc. website, adding additional tabs and items such as newsletter edition downloads, festival photos, news items, etc.

Festivals Board met to plan the Second Annual Art Among The Trees Juried Fine Arts and Music Festival focused on local fine arts, crafts, music and McInnis student art.

Exhibited the DSCA, Inc. Traveling Historic Display at DSSP's Day in Florida History

#### FEBRUARY:

Created the first annual "Ride into Reading" program in conjunction with McInnis Elementary School's third grade "Reading Counts" program, with an award of new bicycles to the top boy and top girl reader.

Monday Men created and hosted their First Annual Valentine's Day Tea for the ladies of DeLeon Springs, which was a smashing success, complete with tea, scones and handsomely attired wait service

#### MARCH:

Attended the first Latino Subcommittee meeting with local leaders at McInnis Elementary School

Met with Councilman Pat Patterson to discuss the possibility of Volusia County donating a parcel of land to the DSCA, Inc. for construction of a long needed Community Center

Attended Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuges 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Attended the West Volusia Chamber's "State of the Region" Mayor's Luncheon

#### APRIL:

Hosted the Second Annual Art Among The Trees Fine Arts, Fine Crafts, Old Time and Bluegrass Festival with 45 exhibitors including McInnis student artists, with an attendance of over 2,000 and \$100 awards for Best of Show, Best Fine Art and Best Fine Craft

Applied for and was awarded the Wells Fargo Community Partner Grant

Hosted the First Annual "Don Malmborg Roast" fundraiser with over 100 in attendance

Universal Solutions and Southland Construction began the process for the long awaited underground fuel plume clean up, setting up barricades, moving power lines, etc. to begin excavation under all four lanes of U.S. Highway 17 North

#### MAY:

Received the Wells Fargo Community Partner Grant of \$1,000 at a May 20<sup>th</sup> breakfast hosted by Wells Fargo and held at the DeBary Golf and Country Club

Presented the DSCA, Inc. Merit Scholarship in the amount of \$600 to Taylor Middle High senior and DeLeon Springs resident Kristal Gonzalez

#### JUNE:

Presented brand new Ride into Reading bicycles to winners Luis Paulino and Yazmin Verdinez, with safety helmets donated by Hidden Valley Mobile Home Park. Honorable Mention went to Elias Real who received a \$25 gift card

Published the Summer Edition of the DeLeon Dispatch Newspaper

Began discussions with Volusia County for Community Center property located on Burts Park Road

### **JULY:**

Helped sponsor the Town of Pierson's July 4<sup>th</sup> Family Celebration

Requested and received a \$2,000 donation from Volusia County to the DSCA, Inc. to purchase and install coontie ferns for our Median Beautification Project

DSCA, Inc. membership voted to pursue the Burts Park Road parcel, requesting it be increased to 4+ acres

Festival Board met to begin planning for the Second Annual Autumn in the Oaks Arts, Old Tyme and Bluegrass Music and Crafts Festival, featuring the Second Annual Ponce DeLeon Look Alike Contest

### **AUGUST:**

Southland Construction began the excavation of the underground fuel plume located under the northbound lanes of U.S. Highway 17 North, shifting traffic to the southbound side as single lanes

### **SEPTEMBER:**

Celebrated the two year anniversary of the DeLeon Dispatch Newsletter with the Fall Edition and an unprecedented 700 copies, distributed at the Taylor 5K, DSSP, River of Lakes Heritage Corridor meetings, Autumn In the Oaks Festival, etc.

Sponsored the Second Annual Taylor High Wildcat 5K September 27<sup>th</sup> with a donation large enough to have our logo in their t-shirts

Launched the Second Annual Ride into Reading Program September 30<sup>th</sup>, expanding the program to include monthly gift card incentives

### **OCTOBER:**

Median Beautification Project, coordinated by Dr. Mac Steen was completed by over 15 volunteers, including Councilman Pat Patterson on October 4<sup>th</sup> by planting 150 Coontie fern in seven medians

Participated with VCSO and McInnis Elementary School in the International Walk to School Day on October 8<sup>th</sup> with a \$100.00 gift card donation to the McInnis Art Department for purchase of art supplies so students could create works to be displayed at the Art Among the Trees Festival in April.

Attended the River of Lakes DVD launch premiere at the Athens Theatre in DeLand on October 8<sup>th</sup>

Southbound lanes of U.S. Highway 17 N. were excavated, shifting traffic to the northbound side, and repaving, new sidewalk installation, road striping began

DSCA, Inc. Board received the initial draft lease agreement for review and revision. Returned to Volusia County for revision, accepted the final draft of the lease agreement for Volusia County Council approval

Hosted the Second Annual Autumn in the Oaks Arts, Old Tyme & Bluegrass Music and Crafts Festival, featuring the Second Annual Ponce DeLeon Look Alike Contest on October 25<sup>th</sup>. An estimated 2,000 attendees enjoyed a day of fun with over 60 exhibitors, old tyme blacksmith and engine displays, and live Bluegrass, Gospel and Old Tyme bands playing and picking throughout the day. First Place \$500 award went to Gary Tallacksen; Second Place \$300 award went to McInnis Elementary teacher Elis Rodriguez and Third Place \$200 award went to Thomas Liles of Orlando

### **NOVEMBER:**

Raised funds to create and donate 19 \$50.00 Thanksgiving Food Baskets to the DeLeon Springs Head Start program.

Burts Park Land Lease was approved by Volusia County Council on November 20<sup>th</sup> for an initial 30 years, with completion of the Community Center building to be accomplished within five years

**DECEMBER:**

Monday Men entered their Spanish Galleon in the DeLand Christmas Parade for the second year.

Members donated gifts and contributed funds to the Great Kids Angel Tree Program to give Christmas gifts to children in need in DeLeon Springs

Hosted our Annual Covered Dish Dinner on December 9<sup>th</sup> to thank everyone for their generous volunteer efforts *To Make DeLeon Springs A Better Place to Live, Work and Play*