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# ARCADIA THE COMMUNITY

JUNE 23, 2022



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Local

## THE COMMUNITY CELEBRATED JUNETEENTH 2022!



Fred Fields, Jr. and Emcee Ida Shuler danced briefly before Fields delivered his motivational speech.



**CAROL MAHLER**  
DeSoto Co. Historical Society  
and the Mrs. S. C. Russell Co. in  
Arcadia, Florida

Shawn Washington of the Building a Village organization credits the success of the Juneteenth Community Celebration last Saturday at the Louis C. Anderson, Sr., Park to Juna Walls, the event coordinator. "It surpassed our expectations," he said.

Walls' assistant, Ashley Brown, served as photographer of the event. She said, "It is so heart-warming to see such a crowd of both our youth and elders."

Juneteenth is a contraction of "June Nineteenth," the day in 1865 when the Emancipation Proclamation was announced in Texas, the last of the Confederate States of America. The first official Juneteenth celebration was held the next year, and celebrations

have spread throughout the United States.

On June 17, 2021, Juneteenth became a federal holiday when President Joe Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act. This year, it was observed on Mon., June 20.

In Arcadia, Ida Shuler emceed the Juneteenth Community Celebration program with music and sound system provided by Ispaz Radio, LLC, of Fort Myers, an internet radio station playing hip-hop and R&B tunes.

The morning program featured praise dances by Tresor Mitchell, Natavia Moore, and Jaleisiah Luther as well as Tomiah Henry and Jaliyah Luther, aka the "Freedom Warriors." Motivational speakers—such as Ernest Simons as "Grandma Faith" and Fred Fields, Jr.—also inspired the audience.

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## GOVERNMENT MEETING SCHEDULE

<b>JUNE 28</b>	<b>COUNTY</b> COUNTY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
<b>TUE</b> 3p & 6:30p	DeSoto County Admin Building 201 East Oak St. Ste 103, Arcadia
<b>JULY 5</b>	<b>CITY</b> CITY COUNCIL MEETING
<b>TUE</b> 6p	Margaret Way Building 23 N Park Ave., Arcadia
<b>JULY 12</b>	<b>COUNTY</b> COUNTY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
<b>TUE</b> 9a	DeSoto County Admin Building 201 East Oak St. Ste 103, Arcadia
<b>JULY 12</b>	<b>COUNTY</b> BUDGET WORKSHOP I
<b>TUE</b> 1p	DeSoto County Admin Building 201 East Oak St. Ste 103, Arcadia
<b>JULY 19</b>	<b>CITY</b> CITY COUNCIL MEETING
<b>TUE</b> 6p	Margaret Way Building 23 N Park Ave., Arcadia

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

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