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South Levy Marketplace finds a new home



In this still shot taken from a video, Inglis Mayor Drinda Merritt (right) waves to a camera in the sky as she stands next to daily news website owner Jeff M. Hardison, who also waves on Saturday morning (April 28).

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Story, Photos and Video

By Jeff M. Hardison © April 29, 2018 at 4:38 p.m.

INGLIS -- The South Levy Marketplace enjoyed its inaugural fourth Saturday (April 28) at its new location in the grassy field in front of the shopping center that is northwest of U.S. Highway 19 and Levy County Road 40 (Follow That Dream Parkway).

<https://youtu.be/hlFvHo2EVdc>

In this silent video, there is an aerial view of the South Levy Marketplace. Then Inglis Mayor Drinda Merritt is seen waving at the camera in the sky as she stands next to daily news website owner Jeff M. Hardison, who also waves. The view then goes up 300 feet and makes a relatively quick pan of 360 degrees, which includes a long-distance view of the Duke electric power plant at Crystal River.

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Carlos Robledo cooks on the grill. He and his family own and operate the food truck that is known as Ladybug Snow Cones and Grill.



Inglis-Yankeetown Lions Club President Steve Norton (seated on the left) and incoming Vice President Rob French, who is membership chairman of the club, man the tent to provide free blood tests as diabetic screening.

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Peter Weiss holds a begonia plant and a marigold plant. These were a couple of the many plants that he and his wife Debra Weiss were selling at the market. They own White Rock Farm. Peter Weiss said the name of the farm comes from Weiss, which is German for 'White.' There are a number of German words for 'white' and "Weiss" is one of them. Peter is 'The Rock' from Jesus' description – (Matthew 16:18 King James Version) – 'And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.' Here, Jesus used the Greek word 'Petros' for Simon and that means 'small rock' from the interpretation in Matthew. In regard to 'Peter' and 'rock,' -- 'And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone.' (John 1:42 – KJV) The Aramaic translated to Greek for stone is not a small stone or a large stone, but is simply a stone. It is the Petros (the man) declaring the Petra (the foundational belief of the Christian Church). It is this belief that Jesus is the Christ and the Son of the living God that will stand against hell and gives salvation to all souls who accept Him. Everything rests on these two points, and by Peter's understanding that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, that is why he became Peter when he was Simon. The name White Rock Farm, though, rests on Weiss as White and Peter as Rock being those two points.

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Ellen Klee and Sally Douglass wear and hold attire that was, is and will be purchased to help support the Friends of the Withlacoochee Gulf Preserve. To learn about the WGP, please go to <https://wgpfl.org/>.

That shopping center includes Buddy and Fred's Hardware, which is the place where residents and visitors of southern Levy County and northern Citrus County buy hardware. And there is a big grocery store in that plaza as well as a store that sells guns and ammunition.

The weather was picture perfect. As for the South Levy Marketplace, not only were those things seen above in the captions at the market, but also available to purchase there were other plants from other plant growers, fresh produce, stone crabs, jams, salsa, marmalade and art.

There was blacksmithing being demonstrated. A Nature Coast Master Gardener volunteer was available to answer questions about plants. Drinda Merritt, artisan and owner of Custom Quilts and More, was on the scene, too. Paul and Anna Gipetto of Gipetto's Cookies and Bakery were there, and Anna Gipetto said they plan to have even more delicious baked goods at the event next month. Also present was a representative of Heidi Beth Boutique of Inglis. That store is located at 14 Follow That Dream Parkway, in Inglis.

In addition to the Lions Club, there were representatives from the Yankeetown Woman's Club there too. They were selling 50-50 raffle tickets. This club helps the community in many ways. The A.F. Knotts Public Library is owned and maintained by the Yankeetown Woman's Club to help the Levy County Public Library System so that it has a branch location in southern Levy County.

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The Yankeetown Woman's Club supports Yankeetown School to a relatively extensive degree. Among this club's most recent donations was a \$900 gift this past week. At the end of the year, the Yankeetown Woman's Club will present seven \$1,000 scholarships (\$7,000 total) to YTS graduates.

And there were other people at the market selling goods and services, and of course there were the wonderful, friendly patrons who are helping this monthly happening continue to progress.

The towns of Inglis and Yankeetown work together to hold the South Levy Marketplace on the fourth Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the local artisan handcrafted work, farm fresh fruits and vegetables, local food vendors, as well as educational exhibits on gardening, quilting and more