



EAA reservoir site leased for farming

By **Katrina Elsen**
Lake Okeechobee News

The South Florida Water Management District's (SFWMD) Governing Board voted Nov. 8 to approve an eight-year lease with Florida Crystals on 16,150 acres of state land in the footprint of the future site of the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) reservoir. After 20 months, SFWMD can terminate the lease with four months' notice, if SFWMD is ready to start construction of the reservoir.

The plan will immediately terminate the lease on 560 acres of state land, so that SFWMD can start some site work before the design work for the reservoir even starts.

Although SFWMD officials maintain this plan will expedite construction of the EAA reservoir while following the dictates of the 2016 Florida Senate Bill 10 (SB 10), the agreement immediately drew criticism from the Everglades Foundation, Congressman Brian Mast and Florida Audubon.

"This Governing Board is in agreement that a year like 2018 was a travesty for South Florida waterways. Directing staff to take the next steps to prepare the project site puts us one step closer to providing relief for the northern estuaries and sending additional clean water to the Everglades once federal funding is secured," said SFWMD Governing Board Chairman Federico Fernandez. "I have read comments in the press that all parties would like to see work begin on the EAA Reservoir in March 2019. With this vote, our board is saying why wait until then? Let's begin the process now."

The Florida Legislature authorized the reservoir through the passage of SB 10 as a partnership with the federal government. The Florida Legislature has committed to funding the state's half of the estimated \$1.6 billion cost. The U.S. Congress authorized the project last month, but Florida is still waiting for the federal government to commit to funding its share of the project cost.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has estimated engineering and design work will take about three years, and construction will take another four years. The corps won't start work until the federal share of the project budget is appropriated.

The state already owns the land it plans to use for the reservoir. Most of it was purchased two decades ago. A small piece of property adjacent to state property was acquired within the past year. Most of the land has been leased for farming, in accordance with state law. Leasing the land to farmers keeps the land on the tax rolls until the state is ready to use it. The farmers also manage the land, which would quickly be overrun with invasive plants if left fallow.

At the Nov. 8 SFWMD Governing Board meeting at the University



A continuing series

of Miami, Brian Accardo, SFWMD general counsel, explained that in regard to leases that will expire during fiscal year 2018-19, Florida law requires "the district shall execute, renegotiate, extend or amend agreements, including reasonable notice and termination provisions, so that the land does not sit fallow and provides maximum public benefit. Any such agreements shall provide that agricultural operators shall be permitted to continue to farm on a field-by-field basis until such time as the agricultural operations are incompatible with site preparation, on-site investigation or construction for an Everglades Agricultural Areas reservoir project, as reasonably determined by the lessor.

He said new leases will reflect a transition from use of the land for agriculture to use for water storage.

"This reflects a policy decision by the legislature," he said.

"It's actually good practice to keep the ag operations on there until we are ready to construct," he explained. He said ceasing agriculture

See EAA — Page 2

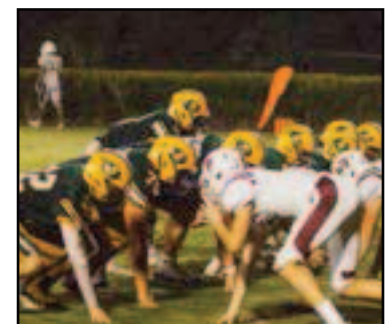


Special to the Lake Okeechobee News/SFWMD

The EAA Reservoir and stormwater treatment area will be built on the A-2 parcel, which was already in state ownership, and 490 acres of land just west of the A-2 parcel purchased in April 2018 from Seventh Day Adventist Church Memorial Fund. Most of the land is currently leased for farming. Site work will start this week to begin storing rock on 590 acres so that construction materials will be ready when design and engineering work is complete.



3 Costumes add to Halloween fun



13 Area football playoffs heat up

Lake Levels

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EAA

Continued From Page 1

use and allowing the land to go back to its natural state could impede the eventual construction of the reservoir.

Mr. Accardo said taking it down on a field-by-field basis saves the state the cost of managing the land until they are ready to turn dirt. SFWMD staff proposes to do site work on a parallel path with the USACE design, he explained. In the next 90 days, the corps has been directed to go back and address questions dealing with dam safety and water quality cost share. The state is authorized to bond up to \$800 million for this project. He said they will use 560 acres to store rock and fill so it will be ready when construction begins.

"We are proposing to immediately work within our existing contracting mechanism to start moving rock," he said. SFWMD will "immediately take down 560 acres of the existing leases right now for site work."

He said they hope design work can start early in 2019, but the corps can't start the design work until the project receives a federal appropriation.

"We are proposing eight-year leases on approximately 16,150 acres of state-owned land. The land will be fully available for unrestricted construction after 20 months, with a four-month notice to vacate upon construction award.

"Eight years is not random. Eight years is what your staff thinks is an optimistic but reasonable construction schedule," he said. "If our wildest dreams are realized, and we can start constructing this reservoir, with the full design and a full federal partner ... within two years we can get out of the entire lease. The reason why we picked 20 months is that with your most optimistic and reasonable path to design, it's going to take two years to design this project."

"While this lease is in effect, we will receive about \$1 million in annual revenue," said Mr. Accardo. That money could be used for control of exotic vegetation in the wildlife refuge.

Celeste De Palma of Audubon Florida said she was disappointed with the way the item was posted to the SFWMD agenda the night before the meeting.

"This is a badly needed project," she said. She said the lease limits the way the district can move water around within the

system.

"The leases you have on this land do not expire until March 2019," she said. "What is the rush?"

U.S. Rep. Brian Mast, R-18th District, asked the SFWMD to postpone the vote on the lease. He said he attended the meeting as a member of Congress and as a representative of Republican gubernatorial candidate Ron DeSantis.

"These leases do not end until March. The governor-elect as well as federal legislators would like to be briefed and be able to know we are not putting in place additional hurdles to bringing this reservoir to fruition. We want to know that any new land leases ... are not something that are going to be impossible to get out of," said Rep. Mast.

Mike Collins, of the Water Resources Analysis Coalition, said SB 10 is very specific: The law states SFWMD is to keep agriculture on the land as long as possible until work on the EAA reservoir starts. "You are going to lose at least a year if you don't obey the legislature," he said.

Mr. Collins said the people who are now trying to delay the leases are the same people who 10 years ago tried to block the original construction of the EAA reservoir. (Construction of the EAA reservoir initially started as part of Gov. Jeb Bush's 2004 Acceler-8 plan. Construction of the reservoir halted in 2007 after environmentalist groups filed a lawsuit. That reservoir plan was abandoned after then-Gov. Charlie Crist took office and promoted his own 'River of Grass' plan.) "We were half-finished with

the reservoir. We would have had it done by 2010," said Mr. Collins.

"We make our living in agriculture. I encourage you to follow what the Florida Legislature directed in SB 10," said Tammy Jackson-Moore of Guardians of the Glades. "It is discouraging that there are some who just want to ignore Senate Bill 10."

Mr. Accardo said delaying approval of the changes to the leases would delay the EAA reservoir project. The new lease makes it possible to start using the 560 acres immediately for mining and storing rock for the reservoir. If they wait until spring (and the looming wet season) to vote on the lease, they won't be able to do that, he said.

The governing board also directed staff to move forward with geotechnical work on the site. This is necessary for finalizing the project design by drilling, soil sampling and testing the foundation materials around the proposed reservoir's 17.6-mile perimeter.

Eva Velez, SFWMD's director of Everglades policy and coordination, said removing agriculture before they are ready to build the reservoir would delay the project because invasive plants would quickly take over if the land is not actively managed.

She said with the C-43 reservoir project, because the land sat fallow, threatened and endangered species moved in, "that were not there inside of the project in the beginning," causing delays and additional cost.

"This lease agreement ensures the EAA reservoir is implemented as the Legislature instructed under SB 10 by keeping farmland in agricultural production until the project

is ready for construction," said Gaston Cantens, vice president of Florida Crystals Corp. "Keeping the land in farming not only protects Florida's rural jobs and food supply but also continues to generate tax revenue for Palm Beach County and the Everglades Trust Fund. Losing more than 16,700 acres of farmland will be challenging, because it supplies 10 percent of the sugarcane to our mill, but we have always been good partners with the state in helping implement restoration projects, and we are committed to continuing to do so. Florida Crystals has a successful track record managing land and water for the district under similar agreements, including for the current STA-1W expansion, until they are ready to transition to restoration projects."



WEEKLY HAPPENINGS

SUNDAY Bingo ~Doors Open 5PM
Starts 6:30 PM - Kitchen 5:30 - 7:30

MONDAY 5 Card Bingo 1-3PM
LUNCH served at 12:30 PM

TUESDAY S.A.L. Sons of American Legion
\$1.50 Bloody Mary Lunch & Dinner all day

TACO WEDNESDAY 11-6 **MUSIC** by
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THIRSTY THURSDAY Food 11-6
Register for a \$20 bar tab

FRIDAY - Fish Fry \$6 5-8PM
Music by D & K 6-9PM
R.E.D. shirt FRIDAY

SATURDAY~ Euchre 11-2PM
Food Served

November 20th
Quarter for a Cause
Doors Open at 6pm
Auction 7pm

Okeechobee Forecast



Today: A slight chance of showers between 7am and noon, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon.

Tonight: Showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 69.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: Showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm. Mostly cloudy, with a high

near 82. Calm wind becoming west northwest around 5 mph in the morning. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

Thursday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers before 11pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 54. North northwest wind around 10 mph.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 69. North northwest wind around 10 mph.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 50. North wind 5 to 10 mph.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 74. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 55. North wind 5 to 10 mph.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 78. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph.



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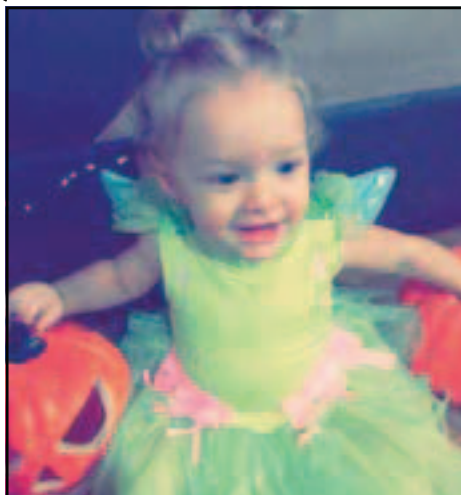
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Life Around the Lake

2018 Halloween Contest Winners



Special to the Okeechobee News/Kyrstin Usher The Lake Okeechobee News invited readers to email Halloween photos, which were placed online in galleries for Okeechobee, Moore Haven, Belle Glade/Pahokee and Clewiston. Readers “voted” by liking photos on Facebook. In the Okeechobee contest, Harper Grace Usher placed first with 393 likes as the Cabbage Patch kid.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News/Vanessa Sanchez Isabella Brito glowing in her Tinkle Bell attire was the winner for the Belle Glade Halloween Contest with 194 likes.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News You can't be Colonel Sanders (Jimmie Hill) without a bucket of chicken. Colonel Sanders received 171 likes to win the top spot for Moore Haven entries.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News The Incredibles Family received 193 likes.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News/Alyson and Matt Gammill The 80s workout girls Emma and Grace Gammill of Okeechobee placed second with 362 likes.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News/Juana Guerrero Isabella Gutierrez and Itzel Sanchez working for candy received 225 likes, placing third.



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Pulse of the Community

Letters to the Editor



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News/Jeff McMillan
Breezy McMillan catches a bass on Lake Okeechobee near Clewiston.

Join anglers for Lake Okeechobee to solve multiple water problems

There is no other place in the world I prefer to be than out on Lake Okeechobee. This lake is not only the lifeblood of my family and my community, but also of the Florida Everglades, and for far too long my home lake has been ignored.

Instead of being treated as a world-class fishing destination, or as a natural water resource, Lake O has become a storage tank for runoff from communities as far north as Orlando, causing high lake levels, nutrient pollution and algal blooms, particularly during the torrid summer months.

There are many voices out there advocating for the estuaries, but Anglers for Lake Okeechobee (AFLO) will focus on finding ways to stop nutrients from ever entering the lake in the first place — because while this problem may be complex, it is fixable.

In order to solve this, we must slow the flow of water entering from the northern watershed into Lake Okeechobee. As the Kissimmee River was channelized, the Chain of Lakes lowered, and the Orlando region rapidly developed, too much water

from that basin now makes it way much too quickly into Lake O.

We need to expedite the planning efforts by both state and federal agencies to find quicker ways to store more water north of the lake and start to slow the flow. By slowing the flow of this water and finding ways to help clean it, we can help keep both the nutrient level and lake level under control. This would also reduce the need for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to make damaging releases to the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee estuaries.

As an angler and a Floridian, I would like to see Lake O protected and cared for and the damaging releases to the coastal estuaries stopped. We can help make this happen by slowing the flow from the north, but we need everyone to come together and make this a priority. The beauty of AFLO is that it can be a catalyst for change that helps all South Florida fishing destinations touched by the lake.

Slowing the flow is Anglers for Lake Okeechobee's No. 1 mission. I encourage anyone who cares about the future of South Florida to join AFLO and sign the Slow the Flow petition online at slowtheflowfl.com. To learn more about our mission and how you can become a member of AFLO, free of charge, please visit our website at anglersforlakeo.org and our Facebook page at facebook.com/AnglersForLakeO.

Breezy McMillan
Belle Glade

Breezy McMillan is a founding member of Anglers for Lake Okeechobee.

Congratulations to commissioners

I would like to personally congratulate the commissioners who were reelected to the Clewiston City Commission. Incumbents Mayor Mali Gardner and Commissioner Kristine Petersen were once again chosen, and newly elected was Melanie McGahee.

I would also like to give great thanks to past Commissioner Phillip Roland for his six

years of service to the city commission. His passion for this community is unmatched by many, and I thank him for his leadership and all the knowledge he shared with me over his tenure with the city.

To the candidates who were unsuccessful in their campaigns, thank you for your interest in serving our great community, and I encourage you to please share your ideas for positive change with me anytime. My door is always open for new ideas to improve the City of Clewiston. "Public service is about serving all the people, even the ones who are not like you" — Constance Wu.

Al L. Perry,
City manager of "America's Sweetest Town"

Your vote mattered!

When people say voting doesn't matter, they are absolutely wrong. Every vote matters in Florida.

Results tabulated and released on Saturday by Florida's 67 county supervisors of elections showed Nikki Fried leading Matt Caldwell in the race for Florida commissioner of agriculture by a margin of only 5,326, or 0.07 percent, of the 8 million votes cast throughout the state. The statewide margin translates to a change of only 2 votes in Glades County, 6 votes in Hendry County, and 7 votes in Okeechobee County.

The difference between victory and defeat in the U.S. Senate race contested by Bill Nelson and Rick Scott is similarly small: 6 changed votes in Glades, 14 in Hendry, and 17 in Okeechobee. For the Florida governor's race, the DeSantis statewide margin of victory depended on 16 votes in Glades, 36 in Hendry and 46 in Okeechobee. Recounts will determine the final victors, but what will not change is the significance of your vote and that of every other registered Floridian in these important races that determine the policies and directions of our state.

The narrow margins of this year's contests is not unusual for Florida. The 2010 and 2014 Florida governor elections

won by Rick Scott were both decided by differences of around 1 percent. In the year 2000, a comparably tiny number of votes in Florida determined who would become president, and thus, who would be making the momentous decisions regarding war in Iraq and the economic crisis of 2008. Similarly critical to our shared fate is the professionalism and integrity we rely upon in our county supervisors of elections.

The 2018 election attracted 2.5 million more voters compared with the 2010 and 2014 gubernatorial races, in which approximately 5.5 million Floridians voted. This demonstrates that more people are taking an interest. But it also means that 5 million other registered voters in our state simply couldn't be bothered with the relatively easy task of requesting, marking and mailing in a ballot.

So, the next time someone asks if you are registered to vote or if you plan to vote, and you begin to answer in a dismissive way, stop and think about the historical facts. In Florida, every vote matters. Each individual vote has the potential to shape the destiny of our community, state, nation and world. Casting an informed vote is the responsibility, obligation and privilege of every United States citizen.

John Capece, vice chairman
Glades County Democrats

Fire/Rescue offers blood pressure checks

Okeechobee County Fire/Rescue offers free blood pressure checks from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday at:

- Fire Station #1, 504 N.W. Sixth Street,
- Fire Station #2, 3511 S.E. 38th Ave.,
- Fire Station #4, 1199 N.E. 168th St.

Please understand that if you stop by a station and there is no staff there, they are out on an emergency call. Please stop back later.

Lake Okeechobee News

To Reach Us

Address: 107 S.W. 17th Street, Suite D
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To Submit News

The Lake Okeechobee News welcomes submissions from its readers. Opinion, calendar items, story ideas, and photographs are welcome. Call (863) 763-3134 to reach our newsroom. Items may be mailed or emailed.
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The Okeechobee News is published by Independent NewsMedia Inc, USA. Independent is owned by a unique trust that enables this newspaper to pursue a mission of journalistic service to the citizens of the community. Since no dividends are paid, the company is able to thrive on profit margins below industry standards. All after-tax surpluses are reinvested in Independent's mission of journalistic service, commitment to the ideals of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and support of the community's deliberation of public issues.

We Pledge...

- To operate the newspaper as a public trust
- To help our community become a better place to live and work, through our dedication to conscientious journalism
- To provide the information citizens need to make their own intelligent decisions

about public issues

- To report the news with honesty, accuracy, purposeful neutrality, fairness, objectivity, fearlessness, and compassion
- To use our opinion pages to facilitate community debate, not to dominate it with our own opinions
- To disclose our own conflicts of interest or potential conflicts to our readers
- To correct our errors and to give each correction the prominence it deserves.
- To provide a right to reply to those we write about.
- To treat people with courtesy, respect, and compassion

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Your COMMUNITY NEWS



Okeechobee County

Ribbon cutting planned

OKEECHOBEE — There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony at Okeechobee Primary Care, 500 N. Parrott Ave. for Dr. Muhammad Syed on Wednesday, **Nov. 14** at noon. Dr. Syed and his staff will be there to speak and light refreshments will be served.

Gilbert to host celebration

OKEECHOBEE — Gilbert Chevrolet, 3550 U.S. 441 S., is hosting an 85th Anniversary Celebration on Thursday, **Nov. 15**, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. There will be live music and refreshments. For more information, call 863-824-3636.

Farm Bureau hosts luncheon

OKEECHOBEE — Florida Farm Bureau will celebrate Farm-City Week (Nov. 14-21) with a luncheon on Thursday, **Nov. 15**, at 11:30 a.m. at the KOA, 4276 U.S. 441 S. Tickets are \$10 at the door.

Businesswomen to meet

OKEECHOBEE — The Okeechobee Businesswomen's Referral Network will meet Friday, **Nov. 16** at 11:30 a.m., at Lakeside Grill, 1111 S Parrott Ave. Through this group, you will get your message out to others about your business, product or event. Please bring a small exchange gift. For information call Raye, 863-467-2557.

Freedom Ranch yard sale set

OKEECHOBEE — Freedom Ranch, 11655 U.S. 441 S.E., will hold a big yard sale on Friday and Saturday, **Nov. 16 and 17**, from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Spaces are available. For information, call 863-763-9800.

Join the Girls Scouts

OKEECHOBEE — The Girl Scouts of Southeast Florida will hold a S'mores and a Movie event, for girls interested in joining Girl Scouts, on Friday, **Nov. 16**, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at Flager Park, 55 S.E. Third Ave. For information email sseme@gsssef.org or visit gsssef.org.

Masons sell turkeys

OKEECHOBEE — Okeechobee Masonic Lodge No. 237, 107 N.W. Fifth Ave., is taking orders for fully cooked turkeys, 18 to 20 pounds. The turkeys are \$30 each. Orders must be placed by **Nov. 16**. Pick up turkeys Thursday, Nov. 22 between 9 and 11 a.m. at the Masonic Lodge. For information, call Hugh Alger 863-532-1097.



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Glades County

Turkey Trot schedule

MOORE HAVEN — The Moore Haven Middle High School Track will hold their annual Turkey Trot on Thursday, **Nov. 15**. Registration will be held at 6 p.m. and the trot starts at 6:30 p.m. Trot by yourself or trot with a team. All participants will be entered in a drawing for prizes. For information call 863-946-2083 or 863-265-6055.

Lions Club meeting set

MOORE HAVEN — The Moore Haven Lions Club will meet on Thursday, **Nov. 15**, at 5:30 p.m., in the offices of the Sheriff's Department of Glades County, 1297 S.R. 78. The club is selling tickets on an Apple I-Pad to be given away at the Christmas on the Caloosahatchee program in early December. See any member to purchase your tickets. For information, call Kirby Sullivan 863-946-2556.

Library presentation set

MOORE HAVEN — The Friends of the Library meeting will present a high-definition video of Catherine the Great's Palace in St. Petersburg, Russia. The meeting will be held on Monday, **Nov. 19**, at 2 p.m. in the conference room of the Glades County Public Library, 201 Riverside Dr. This meeting is open to the public.

Eagles host bingo

MOORE HAVEN — The Fraternal Order of Eagles, 101 Ave. J in Moore Haven, will hold bingo on Tuesday nights at 7 p.m. For information, call 863-946-1523.

Seeking teens for Explorers

MOORE HAVEN — Sheriff David Hardin is looking for ways to offer opportunities to the youth of Glades County. He is considering starting a Florida Sheriff's Explorers' Chapter. The Explorers will be trained in law enforcement techniques, traffic control, basic law and principles along with fire-arms training. If anyone between the ages of 14 and 18 is interested, please contact Leslie Smith at 863-946-1600, ext. 2100.

Art Contest open

MOORE HAVEN — The Glades County Public Library, Glades County Library Advisory Board and Glades County Friends of the Library announced the start of Students Around The Lake Art Contest for 2019. It is open to all students around the lake. Cash prizes will be awarded for the winners and their work will be exhibited during Art in the Park on **Jan. 26**, 2019. The Glades County Public Library is located at 201 Riverside Drive. For information, call 863-946-0744.

Toys for Tots set

MOORE HAVEN — Toys for Tots has arrived and residents can drop their donations off at Florida Community Health Centers, 1021 Health Park Circle. Glades County residents who wish to sign up for toys for their children can do so at Florida Community Health Centers through **Nov. 20**.

Hendry County

Blood drive scheduled

LABELLE — The Big Red Bus will be parked at the Firehouse Community Theatre, 241 North Bridge St., on Saturday, **Nov. 17**, from noon to 6 p.m. for blood donations. Donors will receive a OneBlood Fleece Blanket and a wellness checkup.

Bazaar set for Nov. 17

CLEWISTON — The Community Presbyterian Church, 407 Royal Palm Ave., of Clewiston will hold a Baked Goods and More bazaar on Saturday, **Nov. 17**, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bean and vegetable soup, and Sloppy Joe sandwiches will be available for purchase. Bazaar items will include sewing material, baked goods, jellies and crafts

Thanksgiving meal set

CLEWISTON — New Beginning Ministries Holiness Church is holding its annual Thanksgiving dinner on Wednesday, **Nov. 21**, from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Harlem Civic Center, 1182 11th St. Any voluntary help with serving, cooking or cleaning will be appreciated. For more information, call Pastor Lee at 863-983-4737.

Chamber dinner scheduled

CLEWISTON — The Clewiston Chamber of Commerce will hold its 70th annual Chamber Dinner on Tuesday, **Dec. 4**, at 6 p.m. at the John Boy Auditorium, 1200 South W.C. Owen Ave. in Clewiston. For information, call 863-983-7979.

Palm Beach County

Turkey Shoot returns

BELLE GLADE — The annual Belle Glade Rotary Club Turkey Shoot returns on Wednesday, **Nov. 14**, from 6 to 10 p.m. at 628 N.W. Avenue L. All shells are provided and guns will be available for use.

Thanksgiving give away

PAHOKEE — The Anquan Boldin Foundation invites residents to its annual Thanksgiving event at 4 p.m. on Thursday, **Nov. 15**, at the Anquan Boldin Stadium, 1204 Larrimore Road.

Lions host dinner/auction

BELLE GLADE — The Belle Glade Lions Club will hold a dinner/auction on Saturday, **Nov. 17**, in Jameson Hall at the First Community United Methodist Church, 401 SW 1st St. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m., with a menu of sirloin beef tips, rice, cesar salad, and dessert; and the auction will begin at 7 p.m. Tickets for the dinner are \$15.

Health festival set

BELLE GLADE — Palm Beach County HIV CARE Council will hold the 2nd Annual Community Wide Health and Wellness Festival on Saturday, **Nov. 17**, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Loading Ramp, 524 S.W. Ave. C Place. There will be entertainment, prizes, and lunch. As well as HIV and HCV testing.

Thanksgiving feast set

BELLE GLADE — New Birth Deliverance Baptist Church, 1650 S. Main St., will be celebrating its 18-year Love Agape Feast on Saturday, Nov. 17, from noon to 3 p.m. There will be free Thanksgiving dinners.

Obituaries

Lois Jane Kelly Kneer, 94

OKEECHOBEE — Lois Jane Kelly Kneer, of Okeechobee, formerly of Chillicothe, Ill., passed away, 9 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 3, 2018 at Lawnwood Regional Medical Center. She was born Sept. 11, 1924, in Laura, Ill.



Lois is survived by two sons, Ronald (Nikki) Kneer of Okeechobee and Richard (Joyce) Kneer of Monmouth, Ill.; daughter-in-law, Kaye Kneer of Okeechobee; seven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers; two sisters; husband, Sandy Kneer; and son, Victor Kneer. She was loved and cherished by all and will be greatly missed.

Services will be held at a later date.

Condolences may be shared online at www.okeechobeseawinds.com

Dannie Kilpatrick, 95

MOORE HAVEN — Dannie Kilpatrick passed away at home Nov. 11, 2018.

She was born June 15, 1923 in Moultrie, Ga., to the late James Ivie and the late Maggie (Blanton) Ammons. She was a few months old when her family moved to a farm in Madison County Florida. Dannie married the love of her life D.R. Kilpatrick on July 14, 1948. They lived around the Okeechobee area before moving to Clewiston in 1959, then moving to Moore Haven in 1980. She received the Citizen of the Year award in 1994 and was a member of various Cattle Associations and other organizations such as Friends of the Library and the Eastern Star. Dannie proudly became an honorary Glades County Deputy for her 95th Birthday. Dannie was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and friend to many people and will be greatly missed.

Dannie is survived by her children, James Russell Kilpatrick, Troy Wendell Kilpatrick, Ann Akin and Drayton Kilpatrick; eight grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, D.R. Kilpatrick; children, Linda Sue Lucey and Laurlene K. Mims; and grandchildren, David Kilpatrick and Jimmy Kilpatrick.

Visitation will be Thursday, Nov. 15, 2018 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Akin-Davis Funeral Home, Clewiston.

Funeral services will be held Friday, Nov. 16, 2018 at 12 p.m. at the Ortona Cemetery Pavilion, Moore Haven with Pastor John Booher officiating.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made in memory of Dannie to: Glades County Library, P.O. Box 505, Moore Haven, FL 33471; Real Life Children Ranch, 7777 US Hwy 441 SE, Okeechobee, FL 34974 www.RLCR.org or to David Kilpatrick Memorial Scholarship, checks may be made payable to: Moore Haven High School Scholarship Organization, P.O. Box 795, Moore Haven, FL 33471

Arrangements by Akin-Davis Funeral Home - Clewiston.

Alice Edenfield Platt, 69

It is with both great sadness and joy that the family of Alice Edenfield Platt announces her graduation from this earth into the arms of our wonderful Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. On Wednesday, Nov. 7, 2018 Alice stepped across the threshold of eternity receiving her PHD and Wings in the twinkling of an eye.



Alice was born in Ft Pierce and spent most of her childhood years growing up in Okeechobee.

At the age of 69 years old, Alice is survived by her husband, Rev. Kenneth E. Platt of Okeechobee; two children, daughter, Ann Marie Platt of Ocala (44 years of age); and son, Donald Platt of Kansas City, Mo. (42 years of age); and her 7 wonderful grandchildren.

Alice will be remembered as a virtuous wife, loving mother and grandmother, and as a possessor of a golden heart.

Memorial/Celebration service will be held at Brighton Baptist Church, Saturday Nov. 17, 2018 at 4 p.m., 24050 SR 70 West, Okeechobee, FL 34974

Sandra L. Osceola, 66

Sandra L. Osceola passed away on Saturday, Nov. 3, 2018 at her home in Palmdale, Fla. She was born on Nov. 15, 1951 to the late Morris C. and Billie S. Hacker Ivey in San Antonio, Texas. She met and married Mike Osceola in her late teens, then moving from Texas and Louisiana in the early 1970's. She was of the Baptist faith and a member of Palmdale Baptist Church in Palmdale, Fla.

Sandra was a very loving person; she was always ready to help family, friends or anyone that was in need. She will be sorely missed by those who knew her. She was a past County Commissioner of Glades County, Fla. and a member of "First Responders" and an EMT Instructor. She retired from Seminole Tribe of Florida Brighton Casino.

She is survived by three sons, Bryant S. (Stacey) Osceola of Tomball, Texas, Michael Corbitt of Stanton, Ky. and James W. Osceola of Milton, Fla.; two daughters, Judy Corbitt of Stanton, Ky. and Deanna Osceola of Houston, Texas; two brothers, Billie D. Ivey of Porter, Texas and Johnny E. Ivey of Houston, Texas; one sister, Connie (Joe) Stevenson of Kilgore, Texas; special friend, Mary Helton of Palmdale, Fla.; five grandchildren, Jeremy Osceola, Andrew Osceola, Emily Osceola, Kaitlyn Osceola and Warren Osceola; numerous great-grandchildren and nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Mike Osceola; son, Kevin "Fatman" Osceola; and her parents.

Graveside services were held on Saturday, Nov. 10, 2018 at Oak Grove Cemetery, Zolfo Springs, Fla. at 10 a.m. Her son Bryant S. Osceola officiated.

Online condolences can be made at pongerkaysgrady.com

Ponger-Kays-Grady Funeral Home & Cremation Services have been entrusted with the services.

Obituaries should be submitted to the Lake Okeechobee News by emailing obits@newszap.com. Customers may also request photos and links to online guestbooks. A link to the obituaries is available at lakeokeechobeenews.com.

Jack Irvin Kidwell, 87

OKEECHOBEE — Jack Irvin Kidwell died Nov. 5, 2018. He was born Jan. 11, 1931 in Springfield, Ohio. He proudly served our country in the United States Navy. A resident of Okeechobee for 34 years, he was a member of Peace Lutheran Church. He was an avid golfer and fisherman. He was General Manager of the Florida Dairy Coop for 45 years.



Mr. Kidwell is survived by his wife of 34 years, Joy Kidwell, of Okeechobee; sons, Marty Kidwell (Susan) and Keith Kidwell (Nancy-Lynn), all of Pompano Beach; daughter, Gina Fyke (Tim), of Stuart; seven grandchildren; and stepsons, Brad Goodbread, Keith Goodbread, and Mark Goodbread.

Memorial services will be at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2018 at Peace Lutheran Church.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Okeechobee, PO Box 1548, Okeechobee, FL 34973.

Those wishing to leave a message of condolence may sign the register book at www.OkeechobeeFuneralHome.com

All arrangements are entrusted to the direction and care of the Buxton & Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home, 400 North Parrott Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34972.

Marla Lee Johnson, 44

MOORE HAVEN — Marla Lee Johnson died Nov. 11, 2018. She was born Dec. 5, 1973 in Aspen, Colo. A resident of Moore Haven since 1988, she was well known for her skills in decorating and organizing events. She was fun-loving, would tell it like it was, and had a devotion for doing things the morally right way.



Mrs. Johnson is survived by her husband of 20 years, Daiton Johnson; daughter, Elizabeth Johnson; mother, Kathleen Carper (Dale), all of Moore Haven; stepson, Daiton Ashley Johnson, of Lehigh Acres; brothers, Chad Burtchaell, of Okeechobee, and Dustin Wilson, of Pensacola; sisters, Rhonda Casarez, of West Palm Beach, and Blaze Gott, of Lehigh Acres; and second parents, Terri and Tim Smith, of Moore Haven.

Visitation will be 11 a.m. until services at 12 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 15, 2018 at Buxton & Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home.

Those wishing to leave a message of condolence may sign the register book at www.OkeechobeeFuneralHome.com

All arrangements are entrusted to the direction and care of the Buxton & Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home, 400 North Parrott Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34972.

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Washington Park sewer grant request goes to state

By Chris Felker

Lake Okeechobee News

MOORE HAVEN — The Glades County Board of Commissioners approved an agreement for community development block grant engineering services for the Washington Park Improvement Project with Craig A. Smith (CAS) Governmental Services Inc. on Nov. 13.

County Manager Martin Murphy brought forward the county's grant application for the project, which will eliminate aging and/or failing existing septic systems and lift stations that leach into and pollute the Caloosahatchee River, which flows west into Lee County, and Lake Okeechobee that flows south into the Everglades system from the Caloosahatchee.

The request is being made to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for a Glades County Caloosahatchee River & Estuary Area Wastewater Grant of \$891,848. That would pay for replacing systems between Avenues N, O, S and Fourth Street from the Eighth Street Canal to Riverside Drive that affect the Caloosahatchee and the lake. Design and permitting for the overall master project was completed in 2016, but some components may need updating due to recent construction on Avenue R and Fourth Street, the staff report said.

Mr. Murphy explained Tuesday that the county board was being asked to join in the overall agreement as a party to it but that the Moore Haven/Glades City-County Public Works Authority (CCPWA) would take over the project from here, except for any necessary amendments that might need approval later. Glades County's wastewater system is operated through that partnership with the municipality.

"The CCPWA continues to address sanitary and sewer needs through removal of old, failing septic tanks and aging lift stations, as appropriate, that are directly leaching into Lake Okeechobee, the Caloosahatchee River Basin and Estuary and the Everglades West Coast Watersheds (Fort Myers area) and, ultimately, south into the

Florida Everglades. The project addresses life, health and safety issues with the removal of pollutants entering endangered state waters by the removal of old, failing septic systems and aging lift stations (in favor of switching) to a regional wastewater system. The project also will provide for additional conveyance capacity for additional homes and businesses," the report said.

The breakdown of costs is \$749,755 for construction, \$112,008 for project management, \$26,541 for preconstruction activities and \$3,544 for bidding services.

Commissioner Donna Storter Long noted that the paperwork needed to be changed to indicate the project manager is County Manager Murphy. Asked for anything she had to add, Connie Vanassche of CAS Governmental Services said the application would be submitted to Tallahassee to be executed through the DEP secretary, "and then we'll get notice to proceed." Commissioner Tim Stanley's motion, seconded by Commissioner Long, passed unanimously.

On a related agenda matter, the commissioners also voted to approve an amendment to their agreement with Craig A. Smith & Associates covering the Washington Park project that, County Attorney Richard Pringle explained, "will incorporate appropriate contract provisions to protect Glades County." He said in view of the fact that the county's financing is limited, the obligation to pay CAS "is contingent upon receiving the agreed amount as a grant." Mr. Pringle said he was unsure whether CAS had all of its figures in the current version of the contract yet, and said "the guaranteed maximum price provision protects Glades County" in this event.

Board Chairman John Ahern noted that the board's actions "will just get it started" because the process will take years. The grant agreement would expire in 2021 but could be extended.

In other actions, commissioners:

- Passed a resolution officially conveying two lots in Moore Haven to the Charlotte County Habitat for Humanity, where that

organization is planning to build its first two houses in Glades County within a few months. The transfer had been approved back in September, and this was to give official board ratification.

- Voted 5-0 to disapprove a contribution of \$3,047 requested to fulfill its 6 percent

federal financing match requirement by the Early Learning Coalition and to send a letter to the organization explaining the county's inability to contribute that amount and requesting a waiver. The county has done this in each of the past three years.

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Children Singers Wanted

Children ages 6-10 interested in singing in a small children's group are invited to come to the Okeechobee Health Care Facility on Saturday, Nov. 17 at 10 am. The group will be featured during the upcoming Okeechobee Community Choir's annual cantata concert, which will be held the weekend of December 14th-16th. The facility is located at 1646 US Hwy 441 N.

The children will be singing songs that range from B-flat below middle C to the D above the C above middle C. Some of the selections will include non-melody notes sung in harmony with the choir.

Children will sing Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star after warming up on scales. Please text Sandy Perry at 863-634-7714 if you have any questions.

The performances will be the evenings of Friday and Saturday, 12/14 & 12/15 and in the afternoon of Sunday, 12/16.

AMVETS Ladies to serve spaghetti at BHR VFW

BUCKHEAD RIDGE – The Ladies AMVETS will serve a spaghetti, salad, garlic bread and dessert dinner on Wednesday, Nov. 14, at 5 p.m. at the Buckhead Ridge VFW Post 9528, 29012 State Road 78 East.

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Applications, full descriptions, additional requirements, and other information may be obtained from and submitted to the Office of the City Clerk at 55 SE 3rd Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida, 863-763-3372 x 9814 or downloaded from the City Clerk's Office page of the website cityofokeechobee.com.

By: City Clerk Lane Gamiotea, CMC

Voters choose judges and legislators

By Chris Felker
Lake Okeechobee News

These are results, as reported unofficially on election night by the Florida Department of State's Division of Elections (floridaelectionwatch.gov), in state judicial circuit, state legislative and U.S. House races in the region around Lake Okeechobee:

20th Judicial Circuit state attorney

Republican Amira Fox received 403,609 votes (100 percent) for this position. Joseph Hoffman was a write-in candidate and received zero votes. The circuit covers five counties: Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee.

State House District 80

For state representative in District 80, Republican Byron Donalds took 37,856 votes (62.1 percent) vs. Democrat Jennifer Boddicker's 22,185 (36.4 percent). Dustin Alex-

ander Lapolla (no party affiliation) received 931, or 1.5 percent. The district covers all or parts of Collier and Hendry counties.

State House District 82

In this district covering parts or all of Martin and Palm Beach counties, Republican MaryLynn Magar took 48,633 votes (62.1 percent) to 29,628 (37.9 percent) for Democrat Edward Francis O'Connor.

State Senate District 25

Gayle Harrell, Republican, received 116,919 votes (54.4 percent), defeating Democrat Robert Levy, who won 98,122 (45.6 percent). This district takes in all or parts of Martin, Palm Beach and St. Lucie counties.

State Senate District 26

Republican Ben Albritton took 117,719 votes (65.1 percent) to defeat Democrat Catherine Price, who got 63,100 (34.9 percent). This district covers all or parts of eight counties: Charlotte, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee,

Highlands, Lee, Okeechobee and Polk.

State Senate District 28

Republican Kathleen Passidomo won 138,186 votes (65.5 percent) to 72,913 (35.5 percent) for Annisa Karim, Democrat. The district covers all or parts of Collier, Hendry and Lee counties.

19th Judicial Circuit, Group 19, circuit judge

Robert (Bob) Meadows took 144,245 votes — including 6,997 in Okeechobee County — against Nirlaine Smartt's 95,108 (2,759 in Okeechobee County). This circuit also takes in Indian River, Martin and St. Lucie counties.

Federal races

17th Congressional District

The race for U.S. representative in the 17th

Congressional District of Florida was between Greg Steube, Republican, and Allen Ellison, the Democrat named by the county party chairmen to replace April Freeman, who died after winning the August primary. Mr. Steube won election with 193,013 votes (62.3 percent) to Mr. Ellison's 117,006 (37.7 percent). The district covers all or parts of nine counties in Central Florida, including Glades, Highlands, Lee and Okeechobee.

18th Congressional District

Republican Brian Mast took 54 percent of the votes (185,453) against 46 percent for Democrat Lauren Baer (155,746) in this district, covering all or parts of Martin, Palm Beach and St. Lucie counties.

Next up

The supervisors of elections had until the Saturday deadline (Nov. 10) to report all final, canvassed results to the Division of Elections. A recount is under way, with a Thursday 3 p.m. deadline (as of Tuesday afternoon).



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DHCAC presents final Living Christmas Tree



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News/DHCAC

The final Living Christmas Tree will be held on Sunday, Dec. 3.

Special to the Lake Okeechobee News

BELLE GLADE — It's hard to believe that it has been 30 years since the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center and the Glades Campus of Palm Beach State College presented the very first Living Christmas Tree. Back then, the set was very basic ... a rugged tree structure that held only a few choir members with some risers on the stage for the rest of the choir. Over the years, that tree evolved into a beautiful engineer-designed structure that held the entire choir and then into a charming village set. This year, the beautiful large tree will return for this 30th and final production and many audience favorites from the past 30 years will fill the program.

Once again, the Young Singers of the Palm Beaches' Choir in the Glades will join with the adult choir to present "30 Years of Favorites," under the direction of Carol Schmidt and accompanied by Karen Carbin-Wheeler. Bring your family to share

in the joys of the season in this traditional Glades holiday classic! The performance will be on Sunday, Dec. 3, at 3 p.m. and tickets are only \$5!

Prior to the show, enjoy 22 beautifully decorated trees and wreaths in the Dolly Hand's 13th annual Festival of Trees! Twenty local businesses, individuals, schools and organizations have contributed to the success of this event by providing the decorations and the manpower to put those decorations on the trees and wreaths! They are the Bank of Belle Glade, the Belle Glade Chamber of Commerce, Belle Glade Elementary School, Belle Glade Lions Club, Belle Glade Woman's Club, Carol Brown, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Erickson Farm, Food for Families of Clewiston, Glade View Elementary School, Glades Day School, Gove Elementary School, Holiday Creations & Crafts, Laureate Gamma Zeta chapter of Beta

Sigma Phi International Sorority, the Palm Beach County Property Appraiser's Office, Palm Beach State College Cosmetology Department, PNC Bank, Attorney Shannon J. Sagan, The Shepherd's School, U.S. Sugar Corp., Xi Iota Alpha chapter of Beta Sigma Phi International Sorority and the Iota Omicron Zeta chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

The trees and wreaths will be sold through a silent auction that closes after the performance of Celtic Angels Christmas on Thursday, Dec. 6, so the purchasers will have them in their homes to enjoy for the holidays. The Bank of Belle Glade's tree is decorated with \$200 worth of Florida

Lottery scratch-off tickets, which will be raffled off during the performance intermission. Raffle tickets are \$1 each and can be purchased at the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center at any time. You do not need to be present to win. All proceeds benefit the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center.

The DHCAC is located on the Belle Glade Campus of Palm Beach State College at 1977 College Drive. For tickets, call the box office at 561-993-1160 or visit dollyhand.org (service charges apply). Visit the box office in person Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. or Friday from 9 a.m. to noon to purchase with no service charge.

Christmas Toy Drive donations accepted

Big Lake Missions Outreach is sponsoring its 24th annual Toy Drive for the agency's underprivileged clients in Okeechobee County. Families are screened, and the parents wrap and place the gifts under the Christmas tree. They are in need of gifts for children from infants to age 17. Gifts may be in the form of gift cards, gifts or checks made out to Big Lake Missions Outreach. Pick-up and receipts are available. Individuals or groups may also adopt a family. They would like to have early requests. For information, call 863-763-5725.



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**The 30th Annual Living Christmas Tree
Sun, December 2, 3:00 PM**



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Lake Okeechobee News/Richard Marion

Glades Day junior Anthony McPhee launches a 50-yard touchdown pass shortly before taking a hit from a First Baptist Academy linebacker. McPhee took multiple hits all night but still kept making plays in what his coach Eric Pitts called a "Favre-like" performance.

Gators put bite on Lions

By Richard Marion
Lake Okeechobee News

BELLE GLADE — The Glades Day Gators overcame two fumbles early in the first quarter and held on to beat the First Baptist Academy Lions 49-39 in the regional quarter-final playoff on Nov. 9.

Glades Day junior quarterback Anthony McPhee had 132 yards on the ground with three rushing touchdowns along with 188 passing yards and three more touchdowns through the air.

The Glades Day offense put on a great show for the packed home crowd in Belle Glade that came out to support their Gators in the playoffs. But it was the Gators' defense that would put Glades Day on the board first.

The Lions opened up the game with a long, time-consuming drive and looked poised to march methodically down the field and jump out to an early lead. But, once again, McPhee showed off his play-making ability, this time at cornerback. McPhee made a great break on a pass thrown by Lions sophomore quarterback Brady Dean and jumped in front of senior Lions wide receiver Kyle Batiato to intercept the ball and rumble into the end zone for a 48-yard touchdown run.

McPhee had plenty of help from his wide receivers in the game. Sophomore Jacob Camacho, senior Stefano Napolitano and junior Lane Collins showed great concentration on their catches, many of which

were contested by a Lions defender. And the Glades Day offensive line did an admirable job in opening up running lanes for McPhee after starting running back junior Lorenzo Powe went down with an ankle injury in the first half.

Glades Day head coach Eric Pitts was proud of the way his team overcame the early mistakes to pull out the victory.

"We knew this game was going to be a war," said Pitts. "Our kids came out and made a few mistakes but they kept fighting and never gave up. When Powe went down, Rett Lohmann stepped up and ran the ball all night while playing linebacker on defense. Kicking and special teams were good, and Anthony McPhee took over the game at quarterback."

The victory means Glades Day will move on to regional semifinals, where they'll face the 9-1 St. John Neumann Celtics. Neumann has dominated most of their opponents this year, winning by 40-plus points in multiple games. But they barely scraped by against Moore Haven, 21-20, winning on a missed extra-point kick by the Terriers. And the Gators-Terriers game this year was neck and neck until the final whistle, when Moore Haven pulled off the 22-21 win. So the game between the two teams should make for a competitive match-up.

Glades Day travels to Naples to take on St. John Neumann Catholic High School at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 16.



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Big Lake Athlete of the Week: Anthony McPhee

By **Richard Marion**
Lake Okeechobee News

Glades Day junior Anthony McPhee is this week's Big Lake Athlete of the Week for his performance in the Gators playoff game against the First Baptist Academy Lions on Nov. 9.

McPhee had a total of 320 yards on offense and six touchdowns with 132 of those yards coming on the ground and 188 passing yards. The touchdowns were split evenly between running and passing with three each.

McPhee also returned an interception for another touchdown early in the first quarter, bringing his total touchdown count for the day to seven. It was an all-star performance by the quarterback and cornerback, and head coach Eric Pitts says that if McPhee is having a good day, then Gators are going to be tough to beat.

"He was on that night," said Pitts. "He ran well, too. When they thought he was going to hand it off, he would take it back and run up the sideline. Whenever the Lions would get back into the game, McPhee would make a play for us and put us where we



Lake Okeechobee News/Richard Marion

Glades Day junior Anthony McPhee sits on the sideline after running for a 43-yard touchdown in the fourth quarter of the regional quarterfinal on Nov. 9.

needed to be. He's a big-time player."

McPhee took some big hits from the Lions defense at times, but was still able to continue making clutch plays throughout the game.

"He would get hit and get right back up," explained Pitts. "That's some Brett Favre kind of stuff. After taking a hit as quarterback he'd have to get back up and play on defense against the Lions' best wide receiver. He's just a tough-minded guy and he gets better every week."

This is McPhee's second time being named Athlete of the Week. He also earned that title for his performance

against the Jupiter Christian Eagles back on Oct. 5

In that game, Glades Day had a total of 200 yards on offense, with 81 yards coming from passing and 119 coming on the ground. The Gators put up six touchdowns against the Eagles, and McPhee had a hand in four of those scoring plays.

If you have someone you'd like to nominate for Big Lake Athlete of the Week, email Lake Okeechobee News sports reporter Richard Marion at rmarion@newszap.com.

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Football playoffs heat up as semifinals begin

By **Richard Marion**

Lake Okeechobee News

Moore Haven, Pahokee, Glades Central and Glades Day are all still in the thick of the playoffs as the regional semifinals kick off on Nov. 16. While Moore Haven and Pahokee enjoyed first-round byes last week, Glades Central and Glades Day fought for their right to remain in the championship hunt.

- The Glades Central Raiders steamrolled the 7-1 Coral Springs Charter Panthers on Nov. 9, 55-10. The Raiders scored early and often; in fact, Glades Central scored 48 points in the first half alone. The regional quarterfinal match-up was essentially over at halftime. Now, the Raiders will be making the trip to Miami to face the 5-5 Booker T. Washington Tornadoes at Traz Powell Stadium on Nov. 16.

- The Glades Day Gators outscored the First Baptist Academy Lions 49-39 in their match-up in Belle Glade on Nov. 9. The win means the Gators will move on to face the



Lake Okeechobee News/Richard Marion
The Glades Day offense lines up on the Lions' 1-yard line. Quarterback Anthony McPhee would score on a quarterback sneak on this play.

St. John Neumann Celtics on Nov. 16. The two teams look evenly matched on paper, and it could come down to which team can make that one extra play on the field. The winner moves on to the regional final.

- The Pahokee Blue Devils will be hosting the Wildwood Wildcats on Nov. 16. Wildwood barely survived its playoff game against Frostproof on Nov. 9, winning after Frostproof came up inches short on a

two-point conversion that would've given them the lead in the final seconds of the game. Pahokee should be well rested after their bye but will need to shake off the bad mojo that comes with losing the Muck Bowl against rival Glades Central in the last game of the regular season. Kickoff is at 7:30 p.m. in Pahokee.

- The Moore Haven Terriers will get another crack at the Champagnat Catholic High School Lions on Nov. 16. The Lions ended both the Terriers' playoff run and undefeated season last year. The Lions would go on to win a state championship after defeating Moore Haven. The Terriers were also dealing with a surprise injury to their starting quarterback John Cox in the days leading up to the playoff game last year. But now, coming off a bye week, Moore Haven should be well rested and ready to give the Lions their best shot. The Terriers have found ways to win all year, and you have to imagine they're going to pull out all the stops during the regional semifinal. Kickoff is at 7:30 p.m. in Moore Haven.

Big 'O' Hike set for Nov. 18-23

OKEECHOBEE — The Florida Trail Association will host the Big "O" Hike, **Nov. 18-23**, the Loxahatchee Chapter of the Florida Trail Association (FTA) will lead six days of hiking on the Lake Okeechobee dikes for the 27th annual Big "O" Hike.

The base camp will be at the

Okeechobee KOA. More information and registration forms may be found at loxtrail.org or at meetup.com/Florida-Trail-Association-Loxahatchee-Chapter-PBCounty. Questions may be directed to shotgun.mgc@gmail.com.

Make holiday cards for veterans at library

OKEECHOBEE — Throughout November the Okeechobee County Library, 206 S.W. 16th St., will have a craft station set up for patrons to make their own holiday cards for veterans. These will be collected and delivered to local veterans along with a box of holiday treats. All supplies are free.

Pre Black Friday Sale Save: **UP TO** **\$1300** **off** Regular Retail Only Good thru November 21st.

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Employment - Full Time



Full-Time Faculty Positions Fall 2019

Palm Beach State College is committed to academic excellence and is seeking outstanding faculty candidates who are devoted to innovative teaching and a dynamic learning environment to apply for full-time teaching positions in the following disciplines:

- Accounting
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Computer Science
- EMS
- English (multiple positions)
- Fire Science
- Information Management
- Mathematics (multiple positions)
- Nursing
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Speech
- Sociology
- Supervision and Management

These positions are located within the following campuses: Belle Glade, Loxahatchee, Boca Raton, Lake Worth, and Palm Beach Gardens.

Requirements: Applicants must have the ability to work a flexible schedule including nights and weekends, and on multiple campuses if needed. Occupational experience recognized and teaching experience required. Must have the ability to demonstrate the use of technology in the classroom. Must demonstrate cultural competency to engage and work with a diverse student and employee population.

All applications must be submitted by December 9, 2018.

A complete application package must be submitted, which must include an electronic application, resume, and cover letter, documentation of any required license or certification, and official or college-stamped student copy of transcripts. **Transcripts produced through web-based student systems will not be accepted.** Applications without attached official or college-stamped student copies of transcripts will not be considered. Palm Beach State College offers a highly attractive benefits package and encourages qualified candidates to apply. For more information and to apply online please visit:

www.palmbeachstate.edu/employment

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Seasonal

Seasonal

Seasonal

H2A Complete II, Inc. – 16 Temporary workers needed in Immokalee, FL. From 12/9/2018 – 04/01/2019. **WATERMELON** – Workers will perform assigned duties as instructed by their supervisor. Must be 18 years or older. Perform manual labor to hand cut and pack watermelons. Use hand tools such as shears and knives. Duties also include cleaning, loading and unloading harvested products. Duties will also include operating forklift, assisting mechanic, and pulling weeds. Grade and sort products according to factors such as color, species, length, width, appearance, feel and quality to ensure correct processing and usage. Discard inferior or defective products and/or foreign matter, and place acceptable products in containers for further processing. Weigh products or estimate their weight, visually or by feel. Place products in containers according to grade and mark grades on containers. Measure, weigh and count products and materials. Examine and inspect containers, materials and products to ensure that packing specifications are met. **Vegetables** - Shovel, haul, spread manure, and dig holes, ditches and trenches. Manually plant, cultivate, harvest, count, load and unload vegetables, horticultural specialties and field crops (cantaloupes and cucumbers). All tools, supplies and equipment will be provided at no cost to the worker. Cell phone can only be used during breaks and emergencies. Due to possible Date of Need changes, worker is required to purchase travel insurance if available. We will reimburse the worker for transportation cost (including travel insurance) and subsistence to the employers work site from the place of recruitment upon completion of 50 percent of the contract period. Transportation payment will be no less (and is not required to be more) than the most economical and reasonable common carrier transportation charges for the distances involved. If the employee is unable or unfit to perform the duties listed after the 14 day pretrial, the employee will receive warnings, hours may be reduced to the minimum allowed in the certified petition or terminated. A copy of the work contract or a copy of the ETA 790 in lieu of a work contract, and any modifications, will be provided to the worker on or before the day, the work commences. Employer may conduct criminal background checks on all new applicants for employment. General Farm Labor will be paid \$11.29 per hour or applicable piece rates depending on crop activity. There is a possibility of earning a higher piece rate. Three fourths guarantee, 35 hours per week. Housing equipment and transportation provided at no cost to workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of each workday. Employee does participate in the E-Verify program and workers must have a valid identification for I-9 preparation when they report to begin to work. Complete job description can be found at your local SWA/Job Center. Apply for this job at the State Workforce/Job Center Office in your area or call your nearest office. FL 866-482-4473, AL 256-259-1835, GA 404-656-6000, MS 662-842-2175 using job #FL10814399.

Financial

Business Opportunities

NOTICE

Independent Newspapers will never accept any advertisement that is illegal or considered fraudulent. In all cases of questionable value, such as promises of guaranteed income from work-at-home programs - if it sounds too good to be true, chances are that it is. If you have questions or doubts about any ad on these pages, we advise that before responding or sending money ahead of time, you check with the Better Business Bureau at 772-878-2010 for previous complaints.

Some 800 and 900 telephone numbers may require an extra charge, as well as long distance toll costs. We will do our best to alert our reader of these charges in the ads, but occasionally we may not be aware of the charges. Therefore, if you call a number out of your area, use caution.

Rentals

TIRED OF STAYING IN A MOTEL, WORKING IN OUR AREA- FULLY FURNISHED 1 and 2 BEDROOM PROPERTIES. WEEKLY, MONTHLY AND SHORT TERM RATES AVAILABLE (863) 467-4371

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How do you find a job in today's competitive market? In the employment section of the classifieds

Condos/Townhouses - Rent

OKEECHOBEE
2BD/1BA FURNISHED TOWNHOUSE, WITH STACKABLE W/D, COMMUNITY POOL AND MORE. WATER/LAWN INCLUDED, NO ELECTRIC \$875.00/MO. REF. & BACKGROUND REQUIRED FOR MORE INFO CALL 863-634-8331

Houses - Rent

OKEECHOBEE 3BD/2BA
\$1,000.00 A MONTH.
NO PETS, REFERENCES REQUIRED. F/L/S 863-634-2820

OKEECHOBEE 4BR/3BA, 2 STORY HOME \$1200 MO., 1ST, LAST & SEC. AVAILABLE DEC. 1ST 863-357-3313

Find it faster. Sell it sooner in the classifieds

RIVERFRONT large corner lot 2BR, 3BA, 2 Car Garage, Florida Room, private end of the road walk to golf, marina and restaurant \$1100/mo. Credit check req. 970-708-9993.

Real Estate

Houses - Sale

OKEECHOBEE- FOR SALE IN TOWN 2 BLOCKS FROM ALDI'S, 316 SW 3RD ST, 2BD/1BA ZONED FOR DUPLEX OR OFFICE \$109,000.00 CALL 305-922-7645

PALM CREEK ESTATES
WATERFRONT HOME FOR SALE 2BR/2BA 1800SQ. FT. BOAT-HOUSE, SEAWALL, CBS CONSTRUCTION, NEW ROOF. CALL 276-646-5071 FOR INFO OR APPT. TO SEE.

Land - Sale

MOORE HAVEN
Frontage
- on Rt. US #27,
DEVELOPMENT SITE 2 ACRES
ENTIRE
CITY BLOCK
Zoned commercial.
Adjacent to court house, high school, etc.
APARTMENT SITE (8 units) Near river.
Walk to school.
Townhouses or Rental Apartments.
Call owner for details
863-673-5071

Lots - Sale

BUILDABLE LOTS FOR SALE OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, AG/RES. GREAT INVESTMENT! OWNER FINANCING \$110 MONTH NO CREDIT CHECK 866-820-6523 VIKING ESTATES

Mobile Homes

Mobile Homes - Rent

3/2 DW - Renovated.
Furnished. Palm Village Ranch 55+ Community. Seasonal \$1600 mo. + sec. dep. NO PETS. 863-610-1600

BEAUTIFUL, NEWLY REMODELED, 2BD/1RM ON LARGE LOT, SCREEN ROOM, COVERED CONCRETE PATIO, CARPORT OVERLOOKING PRIVATE LAKE \$850.00/MO. PLUS SEC., LAWN SERVICE INCLUDED 863-467-2784

FOR RENT UNFURNISHED 3/2 MOBILE HOME WITH DETACHED GARAGE IN KISSIMMEE RIVER ESTATES- SMALL PET CONSIDERED \$800 MONTHLY Plus Utilities (863) 447-0742

Mobile Homes - Sale

3/2 2005 MOBILE HOME - ZONE 2. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MOVING IT OFF PROPERTY. CALL 863-634-3051 TO SEE IT.

Recreation

Campers / RVs

Wanted all Travel Trailers, Motor Homes and Fifth Wheels. Any Condition, Cash paid on the spot Call 954-595-0093

Public Notice

Public Notice

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR DESIGN AND PERMITTING SERVICES FOR CURVE SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS ON CR835 IN HENDRY COUNTY

Financial Project # 438372-1-38-01 RFQ No. 2019-04

Opening Date and Time: December 5, 2018 @ 2:00 p.m.

Hendry County is seeking engineering firms interested in providing professional services in design and permitting in connection with curve safety improvements on CR835 in Hendry County, Florida. Firms submitting must have expertise in roadway safety improvements and permitting services and any other requirements that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) may impose in the Local Agency Participation (LAP) Agreement for this project. Proposers shall have all services available in-house or may propose multiple firms, which have joined together to provide the various required disciplinary services in order to offer a complete submission. Individuals and firms properly registered in the State of Florida are encouraged to submit their qualifications for consideration. All submittals (see Section IV Submission Requirements) received in response to this RFQ will be reviewed by a County Evaluation Committee. In order to be considered, submittals must be received by the Board of County Commissioners at the C. E. Hall Building (Clerk's Office) in the Hendry County Courthouse Complex, 25 E. Hickpochee Avenue, LaBelle, Florida by 2:00 p.m., December 5, 2018, at which time all responses to this request will be recorded in the presence of one (1) or more witnesses.

A copy of the Instructions and RFQ Documents can be obtained from the Hendry County website, www.hendryfla.net under the Public Information tab, by email at konan@hendryfla.net, or by calling (863) 612-4727.

The solicitation does not commit Hendry County to award any contracts, to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of a response to this RFQ, or to contract for any services. The County reserves the right to reject any or all submittals received as a result of this solicitation, or to cancel in part or in its entirety this RFQ, if it is in the best interest of the County to do so. The County may re-procure at the discretion of the Board.

Hendry County is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer:

Si necesita la asistencia de un interprete que hable español para participar un esta reunion, por favor pongase en contacto con Veronica Gonzalez al (863) 675-5324.
298267 CN 11/7,14,22,29 CB 11/8,15,22,29/2018

INVITATION TO BID CONSTRUCTION SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE FORT DENAUD ROAD IMPROVEMENTS, ROADWAY REHABILITATION FROM FORT DENAUD BRIDGE WAY TO HUGGETTS ROAD, HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA

FINANCIAL PROJECT NO. 436652-1-54-02

Bid No. 2019-05

OPENING DATE AND TIME: December 5, 2018 at 2:00 P.M.

Sealed Bids will be received by the Board of County Commissioners of Hendry County, Florida, for "Construction Services in connection with the Fort Denaud Road improvements, roadway rehabilitation from Fort Denaud Bridge Way to Huggetts Road, Hendry County, Florida". In order to be considered, bids must be received by the Board of County Commissioners, c/o the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Attn: Barbara Butler, at the C.E. Hall Building, Room A-226, Hendry County Courthouse Complex, 25 E. Hickpochee Avenue, LaBelle, Florida by **December 5, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.**, at which time all responses to this request will be recorded in the presence of one or more witnesses.

A copy of the Instructions and Bid Documents can be obtained online at www.hendryfla.net under the Public Information tab, or from the Hendry County Engineering Department, located at 99 E Cowboy Way, LaBelle, Florida (for pick up), or by calling (863) 675-5222.

Firms are encouraged to attend the **Pre-Bid Conference on Tuesday, November 27, 2018, at 9:00AM** at the Engineering Department, 99 East Cowboy Way, LaBelle, Florida 33935.

The solicitation does not commit Hendry County to award any contracts, to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of a response to this RFQ, or to contract for any services. The County reserves the right to reject any or all submittals received as a result of this solicitation, or to cancel in part or in its entirety this RFQ, if it is in the best interest of the County to do so. The County may re-procure at the discretion of the Board.

Hendry County is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer:

Si necesita la asistencia de un interprete que hable español para participar un esta reunion, por favor pongase en contacto con Veronica Gonzalez al (863) 675-5324.
298347 CN 11/7,14,21,28 CB 11/8,15,22,29/2018

NOTICE

The public is hereby notified that the City of Clewiston Code Enforcement Special Magistrate will hold a public hearing on **September 19, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.** The hearing will be held in the Commission Chambers, 115 West Ventura Avenue, Clewiston, Florida pursuant to Chapter 26 of the City of Clewiston's Code of Ordinances. All interested persons are invited to attend.

In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, any person needing a special accommodation to participate in this matter should contact the City Clerk by mail at 115 West Ventura Avenue, Clewiston, Florida 33440, or by telephone at number (863) 983-1484, no later than three (3) days prior to the hearing or proceeding for which this notice has been given. Clewiston City Hall is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. The City of Clewiston is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Notice is hereby given, that any person wishing to appeal any decision made by the Code Enforcement Special Magistrate with respect to any matter considered at the meeting or hearing that is the subject of this advertisement/notice, will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to insure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

CITY OF CLEWISTON, FLORIDA

Debbie McNeil, Code Enforcement Officer
299120 CN 11/14/2018

Sign guestbooks at
<http://www.legacy.com>

Public Notice

LEGAL NOTICE

Applicant, Bonnie R. Driggers who owns Lot 107A (S14-42-32-002-0000-107A) of "Bowdens Waterfront Lots" in Glades County Florida intends to apply to the Board of County Commissioners to vacate a 15'x60' portion South of lot 107A of Cove Street (Road that has not been used or maintained by Glades County). The parcel ID of said road is S14-42-32-002-0000-0020.

299321 CN 11/14/21/2018



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Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: TMS TOWING & RECOVERY gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on 11/30/2018, 10:00 am at 74 S INDUSTRIAL LOOP LABELLE, FL 33935, pursuant to sub-section 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. TMS TOWING & RECOVERY reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

1GKDS13S862112786
2006 GMC
1GNKRLED0B394700
2011 CHEVROLET
1HGCG56691A132575
2001 HONDA
6A64C275249
1966 FORD

299750 CN 11/14/2018

Time to clean out the attic, basement and/or garage? Advertise your yard sale in the classifieds and make your yard a breeze!

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Public Notice

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE BY CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

Pursuant to the final decree of foreclosure entered in a case pending in said Court, docket number: 47-2018-CA-000067 the style of which is:

WILLIAM T. SANTIAGO and MIRNA E. SANTIAGO, husband and wife, Plaintiffs,

vs.
ESTATE OF GEORGE GONZALEZ, deceased and all other heirs, persons or parties claiming by, through, under or against George Gonzalez of the Estate of George Gonzalez, deceased, ALICIA L. GONZALEZ, CECILIA GONZALEZ and GEORGE GONZALEZ, Defendants.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, SHARON ROBERTSON, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller of Okeechobee County, Florida, will on the 12th day of December, 2018, at 11:00 A.M., at the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, 312 Northwest 3rd Street, Jury Assembly Room, Second Floor, Okeechobee, Florida 34972, in the City of Okeechobee, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash, the following described property situated in Okeechobee County, Florida, to-wit:

LOT 83, TREASURE ISLAND, UNIT NO. 6, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 57, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA TOGETHER WITH A 1963 WHITE MOBILE HOME WITH ID # GAW1506 AND TITLE # 9804205 WHICH IS FIRMLY AFFIXED AND LOCATED THEREON. ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE. WITNESS my hand and the official seal of said Court, this 31st day of October, 2018.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact Corrie Johnson, ADA Coordinator, 250 NW Country Club Drive, Suite 217, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, (772) 807-4370 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

SHARON ROBERTSON, Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller of Okeechobee County, Florida
By: Sandra L. Crech DEPUTY CLERK

Law Office of Cassels & McCall John D. Cassels, Jr., Esquire
Post Office Box 968 Okeechobee, Florida 34973
298093 CN 11/14/21/2018

NOTICE OF INTENT TO USE UNIFORM METHOD OF COLLECTING NON-AD VALOREM SPECIAL ASSESSMENT

GLADES COUNTY, FLORIDA (THE "COUNTY") HEREBY PROVIDES NOTICE PURSUANT TO § 197.3632(3)(a), FLORIDA STATUTES, TO ALL LANDOWNERS IN GLADES COUNTY OF ITS INTENT TO USE THE UNIFORM METHOD OF COLLECTING A NON-AD VALOREM SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE LEVIED FOR THE FIRST TIME WITHIN THE COUNTY FOR THE COST OF PROVIDING FIRE SERVICES (FIRE PREVENTION, FIRE PROTECTION, FIRE SUPPRESSION, AND STANDBY READINESS TO PROVIDE FIRE PROTECTION AND FIRE SUPPRESSION SERVICES) AND/OR EMERGENCY RESCUE SERVICES (EMERGENCY RESPONSE, EMERGENCY MEDICAL, AND EMERGENCY TRANSPORT SERVICES) COMMENCING FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 1, 2019, AND CONTINUING ANNUALLY THEREAFTER UNTIL DISCONTINUED BY THE COUNTY. THE COUNTY WILL CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION ELECTING TO USE THE UNIFORM METHOD OF COLLECTING SUCH ASSESSMENT(S) AUTHORIZED BY § 197.3632, FLORIDA STATUTES, AT A PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD AT 9:00 A.M. ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2018, AT THE COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING ROOM, 2ND FLOOR, GLADES COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 500 AVENUE J, MOORE HAVEN, FLORIDA. SUCH RESOLUTION WILL STATE THE NEED FOR THE LEVY AND WILL CONTAIN A LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF THE BOUNDARIES OF THE REAL PROPERTY SUBJECT TO THE LEVY. COPIES OF THE PROPOSED FORM OF RESOLUTION WHICH CONTAINS THE LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF THE REAL PROPERTY SUBJECT TO THE LEVY ARE ON FILE AT THE OFFICE OF THE GLADES COUNTY CLERK, 500 AVENUE J, MOORE HAVEN, FLORIDA. ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

IN THE EVENT ANY PERSON DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION BY THE COUNTY WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER RELATING TO THE CONSIDERATION OF THE SUBJECT RESOLUTION AT THE ABOVE REFERENCED PUBLIC HEARING, A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDING MAY BE NEEDED AND IN SUCH AN EVENT, SUCH PERSON MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PUBLIC HEARING IS MADE, WHICH RECORD INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE ON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, PERSONS NEEDING A SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION OR AN INTERPRETER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING SHOULD CONTACT GLADES COUNTY, ATTENTION: COUNTY MANAGER, AT (863) 946-6000, PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE HEARING.

299111 GCD 11/14, 21, 28; 12/05/2018

NOTICE OF PROCUREMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) -- PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Pursuant to Section 287.055, Florida Statutes, the State of Florida's Consultants' Competitive Negotiations Act and the State Requirements for Educational Facilities (SREF), the District Board of Trustees of Indian River State College desires ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES for:

Minor Projects College-Wide

Firms desiring to provide Professional Services for the discipline described above shall submit one (1) original, five (5) copies, and one (1) flash drive clearly indicating the request for qualifications (RFQ) for which you are submitting. Please submit the following information in the order listed:

- Letter of Interest.
- GSA Standard Form 330.
- Request for Qualifications Form - may be obtained at the Purchasing Department page on the IRSC website (www.irsc.edu) or by contacting Don Windham, Purchasing Director, at dwindham@irsc.edu.
- Three (3) Letters of Recommendation from owners with whom you have had experience in the past three (3) years.
- Copy of your firm's current Florida Professional Registration License.
- If your firm is a corporation, please provide a copy of your firm's current Florida Corporate Charter.

Business entities interested in providing Architectural services for Indian River State College (IRSC) for Minor Projects College-Wide are hereby notified that submittal documents will be accepted in the IRSC Purchasing Department, 3209 Virginia Avenue, Building S, Room 229, Fort Pierce, Florida 34981, at 12:00 p.m. on December 5, 2018. Submittals received after that time/date will not be considered.

IRSC reserves the right to waive any informality in the selection process and to reject any and all Requests for Qualifications.
298196 CGS 11/7,14/2018

Public Notice

GLADES COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RE- ADVERTISING THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL AND RFP DEADLINE OF DEMOLITION & RECONSTRUCTION OF ONE (1) HOME

Due to the lack of timing of the ORIGINAL ADVERTISEMENT of the 1st Mandatory meeting, it was decided to have a SECOND MANDATORY meeting and EXTEND the RFP deadline to accommodate any Contractors that were unable to attend the 1st meeting due to our error. The Glades County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) requests that interested parties submit formal sealed proposals for the above-referenced project. This project will be undertaken as part of the Glades County SHIP Program. Contractors must be qualified to bid on SHIP projects. If not pre-qualified, the Contractor's Application Documents may be obtained from the SHIP Administrator or <http://www.myglades.com/departments/communityservices/ship.php>

An additional mandatory meeting and contractor review of this project will be held on **Wednesday, November 21st, 2018 at 3:30 p.m.** at 1450 Linda Drive, Okeechobee, FL (Buckhead Ridge) 34974.

Any firm not represented at this meeting will not be able to bid. All potential bidders must be in meeting no later than 4:00 p.m. in order to participate in these RFPs.

The specifications and requirements informational package must be obtained from Cindy Ridker, SHIP Administrator 863-946-6124, cricker@myglades.com

Due date/time: **December 7th, 2018, 2:00 p.m.** EST. All responses **One (1) Original and Six (6) copies** shall be placed in one sealed envelope clearly indicating on the outside: **GLADES COUNTY SHIP PROGRAM - RFP#2018-DEMO/RECONSTRUCTION-5-Gillette** with delivery to the Clerk of Court's office at Court House, Moore Haven, no later than deadline time of 2:00 p.m. RFPs received after such time will not be accepted and will be returned unopened. Responses delayed for any reason shall not be considered. Faxed and electronically mailed responses will not be accepted.

CONTRACTORS SELECTED TO BUILD NEWLY CONSTRUCTED HOMES MUST PURCHASE PERFORMANCE/SURETY/BONDS FOR THE ENTIRE AMOUNT OF CONTRACT. Be sure to include this amount in your bid proposal.

All prospective respondents are cautioned not to contact any member of the BoCC. All questions should be directed to Cindy Ridker, SHIP Administrator, 500 Avenue J, (P.O. Box 1527) Moore Haven FL 33471 Phone 863-946-6124. EMAIL cricker@myglades.com.

It is anticipated that the qualified responses to this RFP will be considered and a decision on the selection of a qualified responder will be made by the BoCC. The County reserves the right to reject any or all responses in its sole discretion. The County also reserves the right to waive irregularities and technicalities, to re-advertise for additional responses, and to select the responder, who, in the BoCC's sole opinion, is in the best interests of Glades County.

Glades County does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, or marital status. Glades County is an Equal Opportunity Employer, actively seeking Minority Contractor Participation and promotes Fair Housing.
299112 CN 11/11 GC 11/14/2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO. 18000046CAAXMX

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO BANK OF AMERICA NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR RESIDENTIAL ASSET MORTGAGE PRODUCTS, INC., MORTGAGE ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-RP3, Plaintiff,
vs.
ROBERT L. JONES; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ROBERT L. JONES, et al. Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated August 13, 2018, and entered in 18000046CAAXMX of the Circuit Court of the NINETEENTH Judicial Circuit in and for Okeechobee County, Florida, wherein U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO BANK OF AMERICA NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR RESIDENTIAL ASSET MORTGAGE PRODUCTS, INC., MORTGAGE ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-RP3 is the Plaintiff and ROBERT L. JONES; are the Defendant(s). Sharon Robertson as the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell the highest and best bidder for cash at the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, Jury Assembly Room, 2nd Floor, 312 Northwest 3rd Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972, at 11:00 A.M. on December 12, 2018, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to-wit:

LOT 6 AND THE EAST 1/2 OF LOT 5, BLOCK 5, GRANADA TERRACE, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 63, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Property Address: 1937 NE 2ND ST OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.
Dated this 14th day of August, 2018.

Sharon Robertson
As Clerk of the Court
By: Sandra L. Crech
As Deputy Clerk

IMPORTANT

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact Corrie Johnson, ADA Coordinator, 250 NW Country Club Drive, Suite 217, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, (772) 807-4370 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
282271 CN 11/14,21/2018

South Florida Water Management District 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406 permits@sfwmd.gov NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, that the application(s) for permit described below has been received for project(s) in Glades County. The application(s) and future additional application documents can be obtained by any of the following methods: 1) Accessing the District's website (www.sfwmd.gov) and clicking on Application/Permit Search on the ePermitting page; 2) Submitting a written request to the South Florida Water Management District, Attn: Registration Division, 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406; or 3) Submitting an electronic request at permits@sfwmd.gov

Seminole Tribe of Florida Holdings LTD (Seminole Tribe of Florida Holdings LTD Clicks Properties) 6300 Stirling Road, Hollywood, FL 33024, has submitted Application Number 181029-16 for modification of Water Use Permit 22-00053-W to irrigate 260 acres of agricultural lands. The water will be withdrawn from the South Florida Water Management District Canal (C-41) and the project is located in Sections 12,13, Township 40 South Range, 32 East.
299627 GCD 11/14/2018

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION CASE NO.: 16000419CAAXMX

LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC,
Plaintiff

vs.
THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST ELIJAH MURPHY JR A/K/A ELIJAH MURPHY, DECEASED, et al., Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated July 24, 2018, and entered in Case No. 16000419CAAXMX of the Circuit Court of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit in and for Okeechobee County, Florida in which Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC is the Plaintiff and The Unknown Heirs, Devisees, Grantees, Assignees, Lienors, Creditors, Trustees, or other Claimants claiming by, through, under, or against Elijah Murphy Jr a/k/a Elijah Murphy, deceased, Melissa Mae Mitchell-Murphy a/k/a Melissa M. Mitchell-Murphy a/k/a Melissa Mae Murphy a/k/a Melissa M. Murphy f/k/a Melissa Mae Mitchell f/k/a Melissa M. Mitchell, as an Heir of the Estate of Elijah Murphy Jr a/k/a Elijah Murphy, deceased, Melissa Mae Mitchell-Murphy a/k/a Melissa M. Mitchell-Murphy a/k/a Melissa Mae Murphy a/k/a Melissa M. Murphy f/k/a Melissa Mae Mitchell f/k/a Melissa M. Mitchell, Corners Gables Homeowners Association, Inc., Ethel Catherine Murphy a/k/a Ethel C. Murphy, as an Heir of the Estate of Elijah Murphy Jr a/k/a Elijah Murphy, deceased, Joyce Elaine Smith Wade f/k/a Joyce Elaine Smith f/k/a Joyce E. Smith, as an Heir of the Estate of Elijah Murphy Jr a/k/a Elijah Murphy, deceased, Melissa Mae Mitchell-Murphy a/k/a Melissa M. Mitchell-Murphy a/k/a Melissa Mae Murphy a/k/a Melissa M. Murphy f/k/a Melissa Mae Mitchell f/k/a Melissa M. Mitchell, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Elijah Murphy Jr a/k/a Elijah Murphy, deceased, Unknown Party #1 n/k/a Zhane Henry, Unknown Party #2 n/k/a Charles Milton, Any And All Unknown Parties Claiming by, Through, Under, And Against The Herein named Individual Defendant(s) Who are not Known To Be Dead Or Alive, Whereto Said Unknown Parties May Claim An Interest in Spouses, Heirs, Devisees, Grantees, Or Other Claimants are defendants, the Okeechobee County Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in the Jury Assembly Room, 2nd Floor, Okeechobee County Judicial Center, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972, Okeechobee County, Florida at 11:00AM on the 12th day of December, 2018, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure:

LOT 1 AND THE NORTH 3.00 FEET OF LOT 2, BLOCK 5, A RE-VESTING AND ADDITION TO PLAT OF CONNERS GABLES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 15, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

A/K/A 1031 SE 39TH TERR, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34974

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

Dated in Okeechobee County, Florida this 24th day of July, 2018.

SHARON ROBERTSON
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Okeechobee County, Florida
By: Sandra L. Crech
Deputy Clerk

Albertelli Law Attorney for Plaintiff
P.O. Box 23028 Tampa, FL 33623 (813)221-4743
(813) 221-9171 facsimile
eService: service@albertelli.com

In Accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact Corrie Johnson, ADA Coordinator, 250 NW Country Club Drive, Suite 217, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, (772) 807-4370 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
277429 CN 11/14,21/2018

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE PERMIT Permit File Number 365289-001-WC

The Department of Environmental Protection gives notice of its intent to issue a permit to Liberty Shores Subdivision, Steve Heintz, Owner, to construct 40,000 GPD reverse osmosis (RO)/aeration treatment system located at 2865 CR. 78, 1.75 miles east of the Ft. Rauda Bridge Road in Hendry County, Florida.

A person whose substantial interests are affected by the Department's proposed permitting decision may petition for an administrative proceeding (hearing) in accordance with sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S. The petition must contain the information set forth below and must be filed (received by the Agency Clerk) in the Office of General Counsel of the Department at 3000 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station 35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000. The petitioner must mail a copy of the petition to the applicant at the address above at the time of filing. Failure to petition within 14 days of the date of this publication constitutes a waiver of any right such person has to request a hearing under sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S., and to participate as a party to this proceeding. Any subsequent intervention will only be at the approval of the presiding officer upon motion filed pursuant to Rule 28-106.205, F.A.C.

A petition that disputes the material facts on which the Department's action is based must contain the following information:

- The name and address of each agency affected and each agency's file or identification number, if known;
- The name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner; the name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner's representative, if any, which shall be the address for service purposes during the course of the proceeding; and an explanation of how the petitioner's substantial interests will be affected by the agency determination;
- A statement of when and how the petitioner received notice of the agency decision;
- A statement of all disputed issues of material fact. If there are none, the petition must so indicate;
- A concise statement of the ultimate facts alleged, including the specific facts the petitioner contends warrant reversal or modification of the Department's action;
- A statement of the specific rules and statutes the petitioner contends require reversal or modification of the Department's proposed action, including an explanation of how the alleged facts relate to the specific rule or statutes; and
- A statement of the relief sought by petitioner; stating precisely the action petitioner wants the Department to take.

Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the filing of a petition means that the Department's final action may be different from the position taken by it in this Notice. Persons whose substantial interests will be affected by any such final decision of the Department on the petition have the right to petition to become a party to the proceeding, in accordance with the requirements set forth above.

The application is available for public inspection during normal business hours, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, at the Department's South District Office, 2295 Victoria Avenue, Suite 364, Fort Myers, Florida 33901. Phone: (239) 344-5600, or electronically at http://webapps.dep.state.fl.us/DepNews/public/electronicdocuments/50841_16/facilitysearch
299473 CN 11/14/2018

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Administration of Estates

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION CASE NO. 2018-CP-0161

In re: Estate of
CHESTER W. HENDREN, JR.
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of CHESTER W. HENDREN, JR., deceased, whose date of death was July 14, 2018, and whose social security number is XXX-XX-1062, is pending in the Circuit Court for Okeechobee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 312 N.W. 3rd Street, Suite 101, Okeechobee, Florida 34972. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against the decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM. All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOT WITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of the first publication of this notice is November 7, 2018.

Personal Representative:
KIMBERLY LUBECK
2136 SE 31st Street
Okeechobee, FL 34974

CONELY & CONELY, P.A.
P.O. Drawer 1367
Okeechobee, Florida 34973
Telephone: (863) 763-3825
Primary E-Mail Address:

tconey@conelyandconely.com
Secondary 1 E-Mail Address:
blanier@conelyandconely.com
Secondary 2 E-Mail Address:
service@conelyandconely.com
By Tom W. Conely, III
Florida Bar No. 096482
297608 CN 11/7,14/2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION CASE NO. 2018-CP-190

In re: Estate of
BRUCE ALAN WETHERINGTON,
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of BRUCE ALAN WETHERINGTON, deceased, whose date of death was September 27, 2018, and whose social security number is XXX-XX-6508, is pending in the Circuit Court for Okeechobee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 312 N.W. 3rd Street, Suite 101, Okeechobee, Florida 34972. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against the decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM. All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOT WITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of the first publication of this notice is November 14, 2018.

Personal Representative:
HAZEL WETHERINGTON
523 NE 138th Street
Okeechobee, FL 34972

CONELY & CONELY, P.A.
P.O. Drawer 1367
Okeechobee, Florida 34973
Telephone: (863) 763-3825
Primary E-Mail Address:

tconey@conelyandconely.com
Secondary 1 E-Mail Address:
blanier@conelyandconely.com
Secondary 2 E-Mail Address:
service@conelyandconely.com
By Tom W. Conely, III
Florida Bar No. 096482
299144 CN 11/14,21/2018

Public Notice

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners will hold a Regular Session Tuesday, November 20, 2018 at 9:00 am at the "Judge William L. Hendry Courtroom" at the Historic Courthouse, 304 NW 2nd Street, Okeechobee, Florida.

Any person deciding to appeal any decision made by the Board of County Commissioners with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purposes, he or she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of such proceedings is made, which record shall include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the County Administrator's Office not later than four (4) working days prior to the proceeding at 304 N.W. 2nd Street, Room 123 Okeechobee, Florida 34972, or call 863.763.6441. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call TDD 1-800-222-3448 (voice) or 1-888-447-5620 (TTY).

Terry W. Burroughs, Chair
Board of County Commissioners
Okeechobee County, Florida

Sharon Robertson, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
Okeechobee County, Florida
/s/ Paula Poskory/ Deputy Clerk
296059 ON 11/14/2018

HENDRY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS NOTICE OF BOARD MEETING CHANGES

The Hendry County Board of County Commissioners' November 27, 2018 meeting has been canceled. The regularly scheduled meeting of December 11, 2018, will be held at 5:00 p.m., at the Hendry County Courthouse, Commission Chambers, 25 East Hickpochee Avenue, LaBelle, Florida. The December 25, 2018 meeting has been canceled.

Meetings are open to the public. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Hendry County Commission with respect to any matter considered at such a meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Please note that matters may be discussed at a meeting which are not on the prepared agenda for the meeting. If you have a disability that will require special assistance or accommodation for your attendance at a meeting, please contact Hendry County Administration at (863) 675-5220; hearing impaired: Florida relay 7-1-1; or e-mail:myhnr@hendryfla.net.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Si necesita la asistencia de un interprete que hable español para participar en esta reunion, por favor pongase en contacto con Myra Johnson al (863) 675-5240. ON 11/14 CA 11/15/2018

LEGAL NOTICE

A public auction of stored personal property from Okeechobee Store-N-Lock to be conducted at the following locations in Okeechobee, FL: WEST - 2701 Hwy 70 West and SOUTH - 4129 Hwy 441 South. The auction will be held to pay unpaid storage fees (pursuant to the Florida statutes, Section 83.306). Public Auction to be held on November 28, 2018 beginning at 9:00AM at the WEST location. We will then proceed to the SOUTH location. All payments must be made in full, CASH ONLY, by the date/time of auction.

WEST
ROBERT DYCE, Unit # 7-11
STEPHANIE PERKINS, Unit # 8-22

SOUTH
JOHNNY LEACH, Unit # 33
TRAVIS MAKRIS, Unit # 38
ELEDEN FONSECA, Unit # 69
300095 ON 11/14,21/2018

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Hendry County
Legals

Hendry County
Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE

2018 HENDRY COUNTY VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD TO ALL PROPERTY OWNERS AND TAXPAYERS OF HENDRY COUNTY

Please be advised that hearings before special magistrates of the 2018 Hendry County Value Adjustment Board (VAB) will be held to consider petitions appealing the denial of exemptions/classifications, appealing portability issues, appealing determinations regarding changes of ownership or control and qualifying improvements, appealing the denial of tax abatements, and appealing the assessment of real and tangible property values in Hendry County as provided under Florida Statutes. Said hearings shall commence at 9:30 a.m. on December 3, 2018, and shall continue thereafter until all petitioners are heard, in the Hendry County Commissioner's Board Room on the First Floor of the Hendry County Courthouse Administration Building, 25 East Hickpochee Avenue, LaBelle, Florida.

The Hendry County Property Appraiser maintains a list of all applicants for exemption who have had their applications for exemption wholly or partially approved or who have had their exemption denied. Said list(s) are available to the public, in Room A329 of the Hendry County Courthouse Administration Building, 25 East Hickpochee Avenue, LaBelle, Florida, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The types of exemptions which are included in the aforementioned list(s) are: homestead - all categories; disability - all categories; widow's and widower's exemptions; tangible personal property; institutional - charitable, religious, scientific, literary, educational; government property; parcels granted economic development; historic property; and land dedicated in perpetuity for conservation purposes.

All hearings are recorded and open to the public. Interested citizens are invited to attend. If a person decides to appeal a decision made by the Hendry County VAB with respect to any matter considered at the aforementioned hearing(s), a record of any such proceeding will be needed for such purpose, and such person will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, to include the testimony and evidence upon which any such appeal is to be based. If you have a disability that will require assistance or accommodations for your attendance at this meeting, please contact the VAB Clerk at (863) 675-5216.

Barbara S. Butler, Clerk of Court
As Ex-Officio Clerk of the Value Adjustment Board
Hendry County, Florida.
298976 ON 11/14/2018 CB 11/15/2018

REQUEST FOR BID (RFB) NO. 6000000939 BOMA Interim Storage Basin 2 and 3 AGI Repair Seed and Sod Installation and Maintenance, Okeechobee Field Station, Glades County, Florida

The Procurement Bureau of the South Florida Water Management District, B-1 Building, 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, Florida 33406, will receive sealed bids up to the 2:30 p.m. opening time on December 17, 2018 for seed and sod installation and maintenance services in the BOMA Interim Storage Basins 2 and 3 located in Glades County, Florida.

An OPTIONAL PRE-BID CONFERENCE & SITE VISIT will be on Thursday, December 6, 2018, at 8:30 A.M. at the Okeechobee Field Station Main Conference Room, located at 1000 NE 40th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida, for all interested respondents.

All bids must conform to the instructions in the RFB. Interested respondents may obtain a copy of the complete RFB (1) at the above address; (2) by downloading the solicitation from our website at www.sfwmd.gov/procurement; (3) by calling (561) 682-2011, or (4) by calling the 24-hour BID HOTLINE (800) 472-5290. The public is invited to attend the bid opening. Further information on the status of this solicitation can be obtained on our website - www.sfwmd.gov. 300103 ON 11/14 GCD 11/22/2018

Time to clean out the attic, basement and/or garage? Advertise your yard sale in the classifieds and make your clean up a breeze!

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Crossword Puzzles

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Jellied garnish
 - 6 Northwestern pear
 - 10 Farm youngster
 - 14 Good, in Granada
 - 15 Chorus syllables
 - 16 Give __ to: approve
 - 17 Trader for whom a northwest Oregon city was named
 - 18 __ impasse
 - 19 Texas flag symbol
 - 20 Part of the Three Little Pigs' chant
 - 23 Baby beaver
 - 24 Mouse-spotter's shriek
 - 25 Extremely well-pitched
 - 26 Gray shade
 - 27 Multilayered, as cakes
 - 30 Clean Air Act administrative gp.
 - 33 Heads, in slang
 - 36 Persian Gulf cargo
 - 37 The "Original Formula," soda-wise
 - 41 " __ go!"
 - 42 French 101 verb
 - 43 Pot contents
 - 44 Bakes, as 50-Acrosses
 - 46 "Star Wars" staples
 - 48 Exit poll target
 - 50 Breakfast food
 - 51 "Pow!"
 - 54 Provincetown rental
 - 57 Roast, in Rouen
 - 58 Antelope Island state
 - 59 Lesson at the end
 - 60 Arabian Peninsula port
 - 61 Went by skateboard
 - 62 Take in
- DOWN**
- 1 One way to be taken
 - 2 Japanese finger food
 - 3 __ four: teacake
 - 4 Privy to
 - 5 Eye part
 - 6 Subject for Stephen Hawking
 - 7 Promise
 - 8 Killed, as a dragon
 - 9 Is unable to
 - 10 Supermarket employees
 - 11 Like the Sherman Act
 - 12 Deal with interest
 - 13 New Deal pres.
 - 21 Basic question type
 - 22 Spanish girl
 - 28 Falco of "Oz"

- 29 Prefix with pod
- 30 They record beats per min.
- 31 Friend of Tigger
- 32 Switched on
- 34 Compete in a box
- 35 Braking sounds
- 38 Medication used for dilating pupils
- 39 Bistro offering
- 40 "Unhand me!"
- 45 Tie tightly
- 47 High-ranking NCO
- 49 Turbine blade
- 51 Industry honcho
- 52 Wide open
- 53 Runs down the mountain, maybe
- 54 Musical finale
- 55 Man Ray genre
- 56 Commotion
- 57 Wet behind the ears

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

A	S	I	F		I	S	E	E		F	E	T	E	D		
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xwordeditor@aol.com

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By Clive Probert

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ATTORNEYS

Rebecca Boldt Hamilton, P.A.

REBECCA H. BOLDT, Esq.
RICHARD W. SEYMOUR, Esq.
Board Certified Criminal Trial Lawyer

863-467-1894

Rboldthamilton@aol.com 180 NW 3rd Ave. Suite C, Okeechobee FL

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FDOT A toll-free service of the Florida Department of Transportation. Standard mobile phone minute, text message and data charges may apply.

For the *Health* of it!

Parents reminded to check on children's mental health

Special to the Lake Okeechobee News

Florida KidCare reminds parents that checking in on a child's mental well-being is critical but does not have to be intimidating. While often less thought of, behavioral or mental health is just as important as a child's cardiovascular health, weight and other physical developmental benchmarks. Particularly following stressful situations, such as natural disasters like Hurricane Michael, children often feel as much stress as adults, although their symptoms may be subtle.

Being a kid today comes with a lot of pressures. According to research by the National Alliance on Mental Illness and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, one in every five kids sitting in a classroom today has or will have a mental or behavioral health condition at some point during his or her life. That is why starting the conversation early is key. Mental illness is like any other disease: The earlier it is identified and treated, the better the health outcomes. To address this statistic, Florida KidCare reminds parents to consider their child's pediatrician or family doctor a partner in starting an important mental health conversation.

Pediatric professionals know what to look for and are keeping a strong watch on a child's behavioral milestones and developmental benchmarks, and their established relationship with a child makes them a great resource for initial questions parents may have. Behavioral health does not have to be a scary topic. Parents are encouraged to share any concerns they have — the sooner the better, as early treatment improves outcomes.

A few keys signs to be mindful about include:

- If your child is having trouble sleeping or having loss of appetite;
- If your child is reluctant to cooperate;
- If your child is angry or irritable;
- If your child's grades are suffering;
- If your child becomes less interested in an activity he or she once enjoyed.

For more information on promoting emotional wellness in children, check out the

American Academy of Pediatrics website.

"Florida KidCare is unique in its kids-only health and dental plans, and we believe a child's mental health is just as important as their physical health," said Florida Healthy Kids Corp. CEO Rebecca Matthews. "We strive to serve as a support system for parents in providing the best head-to-toe care possible."

"As a doctor, I'm always monitoring a child's growth and development to ensure he or she is meeting healthy benchmarks," said Dr. Jeffrey P. Brosco, Florida Healthy Kids Corp. board member and professor of clinical pediatrics and associate director of

the Mailman Center for Child Development at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine.

"As kids today face more and more challenges in their daily lives, we continue to see rising statistics when it comes to child mental health disorders. The good news is that resources are available to help identify and address behavioral health issues earlier than ever, which allows children and parents to get the support they need."

"Providing quality healthcare services to our children could not be done without our partners and assistance from local communities," said Department of Children and

Families interim Secretary Rebecca Kapusta. "We are grateful for Florida KidCare's vital role, offering many healthcare benefits and access to services that meet each child's specific needs."

Current Florida KidCare families may contact their plan today to take advantage of mental and behavioral health benefits, including: member advocacy meetings; counseling services such as telehealth consultations; support group meetings and online tools and resources.

For more information on Florida KidCare's free or affordable health insurance, visit floridakidcare.org to apply for free today.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News/WGS

WGS goes pink

West Glades School (WGS) went pink during the month of October for breast cancer awareness. Numerous fundraisers including T-shirt sales, Think Pink Walk, Jeans and Pink Month, and pink ribbon sales helped them surpass their goal of \$2,000. With last-minute donations, WGS was able to donate \$2,419.50 to Lee Health to help with wig purchases for those who have lost their hair due to chemo treatments and are unable to afford to purchase one on their own. Thanks to everyone who participated in the many activities so WGS could Pay It Forward! To view more photos visit <https://gladescountydemocrat.com/schools/west-glades-school-goes-pink>.

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For the *Health* of it!

This is Parental Involvement Month

By Jane Kaufman

Family coordinator

Children's Mental Health System of Care

In a fast-paced world like ours, it can sometimes feel easy to become robotic — melding and compressing our schedules. At times we limit the duties and tasks, just to make it through the day thinking about how to de-stress our lives for ourselves and our kids. The thought of adding any additional responsibility to our already busy schedules feels overwhelming, especially when that addition involves education.

Fortunately, even though it may seem like just one more daunting task to add to the pile, studies show that when we take the time to truly become a part of our children's education, the results are overwhelmingly positive.

"The most accurate predictors of student achievement in schools are not family income or social status, but the extent to which the family creates a home environment that encourages learning, communicates high yet reasonable expectations for the child's achievements, and becomes involved in the child's education at school." (National PTA, 2000)

Our children's home lives are like moons orbiting their education. Not only can they shine a light when situations seem dark, but they can work as a force of nature

— affecting the tides — changing the flow of a child's future when implemented with fidelity.

While all of this may feel astronomical, the good news is that this doesn't have to be hard.

"In the past, parent involvement was characterized by volunteers, mostly mothers, assisting in the classroom, chaperoning students and fundraising. Today, the old model has been replaced with a much more inclusive approach: school-family-community partnerships now include mothers and fathers, stepparents, grandparents, foster parents, other relatives and caregivers, business leaders and community groups — all participating in goal-oriented activities, at all grade levels, linked to student achievement and school success." (National Education Association, 2008)

Being involved in your child's education does not mean that you need to volunteer in their classroom on a daily basis or organize their school's next large-scale fundraiser. Start small — sit down with your children as they do their homework, take turns reading stories to each other before bed, go for a walk as a family and talk about your day. Write notes of encouragement that can be slipped into a backpack or lunchbox. Ask about upcoming school meetings. Most local elementary schools offer APPT (Academic Parent Teacher Team)

meetings three times a year where families can learn about their children's progress compared with students their age and learn strategies to use at home directly from their child's teacher. Additionally, every school in Okeechobee hosts family nights throughout the year. Some of these events focus on specific areas of education and some are simply fun evenings to enjoy with your children — all encourage families to interact within their child's school.

The more you value your child's education with your words and actions, the more likely they are to succeed in school. Rather than speaking negatively about your child's learning environment, negating teaching styles or school policies online or in your home, attend PTO, SAC or school board meetings. Join conversations with policymakers and school leaders in a forum where opinions can be discussed and, when necessary, changes made.

November is Family Engagement month in the State of Florida. Make a bold statement for your child's future by standing together and vowing to be involved in their education. We will all be standing with you.



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Run/walk raises money to provide health care

OKEECHOBEE — On Nov. 17, Open Hands Health Center will host the Third Finger Lickin' 5K Kickin' Fun Run/walk. The \$25 registration fee provides \$287 worth of medical care (which is up to about five office visits with labs) for someone who needs help. Register by Oct 31 for a free T-shirt. Run starts/finishes at Oakview Baptist Church, 677 S.W. 32nd St. On-site registration will be \$30. Race begins at 7 a.m. Register at active.com or at 309 N.W. Fifth St., call 863-357-1257 or email at openhandsrx@gmail.com for sponsorship information. First five winners receive a turkey, and second five win a dessert. For every non-perishable item brought for Oakview's community Thanksgiving basket, a raffle ticket will be given. Let's show we care by Opening Our Hands to the 7,000 in our community without health insurance.

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For the *Health* of it!

Health News

Head Start meeting set

BELLE GLADE — Head Start in Palm Beach County is considering expanding its Early Head Start services by serving children from 6 weeks to 3 years of age in the Glades. Please participate in an informational meeting on Wednesday, **Nov. 14**, at Peppi Head Start, 301 S.W. Eighth St, from 10 to 11 a.m. to learn more.

Ribbon cutting planned

OKEECHOBEE — There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony at Okeechobee Primary Care, 500 N. Parrott Ave. for Dr. Muhammad Syed on Wednesday, **Nov. 14** at noon. Dr. Syed and his staff will be there to speak with attendees and light refreshments will be served.

Patch meeting set

BELLE GLADE — The Glades PATCH (Planned Approach To Community Health) will hold a meeting at The Glades Initiative, 141 S.E. Ave. C, on Tuesday, **Nov. 20**, from 9 to 10:45 a.m. and is open to all who wish to join.

Health festival set

BELLE GLADE — Palm Beach County HIV CARE Council will have its second Community-Wide Health and Wellness Festival on Saturday, **Nov. 17**, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Loading Ramp, 524 S.W. Ave. C Place. There will be entertainment, prizes and lunch, as well as HIV and HCV testing.

Health program scheduled

BELLE GLADE — The Community United Methodist Church, 401 S.W. First St., will host a Diabetes Self Management Program on Sunday, **Nov. 18**, from 3 to 5:30 p.m. For information or to enroll, call Robin Nierman at 561-300-3227 or email mierman@ymcaspbc.org.

Documentary set Nov. 19

BELLE GLADE — Residents are invited to see the award-winning documentary "Toxic Puzzle" narrated by Harrison Ford on Monday, Nov. 19, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Sierra Club, 136 S. Main St. This film explores the link between toxic blue-green algae and neurodegenerative disorders such as ALS, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. RSVP is required. For information or to RSVP, contact Diana Umpierre, diana.umpierre@sierraclub.org, or 561-983-8655.

Medicare assistance offered

A licensed insurance agent will be at Hope Connections from 9 a.m. to noon to help with Medicare options at the following locations:

- CLEWISTON — 101 W. C. Owen Ave. on Thursday, Nov. 29
- MOORE HAVEN — 682 State Road 78 West on Thursday, Nov. 29

Bereavement Group meets

OKEECHOBEE — Hospice of Okeechobee offers weekly Bereavement Support Group meetings each week on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. in the Volunteer Building, 317 S.E. Third Ave., Door #1. Hospice counseling is available to anyone in Okeechobee County. For information, call 863-467-2321.

Cancer Support Group meets

OKEECHOBEE — The Christ Fellowship Church, 701 S. Parrott Ave., will hold a Cancer Support Group on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Group sessions will be a resource for encouragement, education and support. For information, call Judy at 863-532-1721 or email CancerSupportCF@gmail.com.

Support group to meet

OKEECHOBEE — A support group for parents whose children have attempted suicide meets on the last Tuesday of the month from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Church of God, 912 N.W. Park St. in Okeechobee. Everyone is welcome.

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Sweet Life in Hendry County

Clewiston FFA team enjoys visit to Indiana

Marco Sanchea

Future Farmers of America

This October, the Clewiston High School's FFA officer, team and advisors attended and participated in the 91st national FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Ind. from Oct. 22 to Oct. 27. The team flew from Ft. Myers to Indiana early Monday morning and temporarily traded in hot, sunny Florida weather for the chill of a northern climate.

They kicked off the week of adventure by zip lining at White River Zip Lines. They toured several different Indiana agricultural farms and ranches throughout the week to observe how agricultural operations in other states differ from agricultural operations in Florida. One of the tours included visiting an aquaculture farm where they grow various types of fish such as koi and goldfish, ranging in size from miniature to monstrous, and learned how they ship them all across the United States by mail and ground transportation.

The team also explored the vast Indiana jungles by visiting the Exotic Feline Rescue

Center, where they were able to observe ferocious lions and tigers. During the national convention the group attended several different workshops where it learned how to improve leadership skills and how to relate agricultural subjects to peers. The team also spent much of the day volunteering at a local food bank where they helped package boxes of goods to be distributed to children in schools across the United States. Towards the end of the week, they even had the privilege of attending a Garth Brooks concert.

Marielena Frenes wore her blue corduroy FFA jacket for the last time as she received her American degree, which is the highest award bestowed by the national FFA organization to its members. All in all, the chapter officers and advisors are very thankful for this opportunity to learn about not only the national FFA family, but also for being able to experience so many opportunities to learn as a team.



Special to the Okeechobee News/FFA

Clewiston High School's FFA team includes (from left to right) Olivia Williams, Marco Sanchez, Marielena Frenes, Damien Rivera, Caroline Sweet and Mark Faulk.

Commissioners, city bid officer Taylor fond goodbye



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News/City of Clewiston

Assistant Police Chief Marci 'D'Huynslager presents retiring police officer Julius Taylor with an inscribed crystal marker to recognize his years of service to the Clewiston Police Department.

By Chris Felker

Lake Okeechobee News

CLEWISTON — City commissioners and staff roundly applauded one of Clewiston's own on Monday night, Nov. 5, in marking his retirement.

"We're so happy to recognize the retirement, for his happiness and well-being as a family, of our Clewiston police officer Julius Taylor!" said Mayor Mali Gardner in calling him and family members to the dais.

"As Julius and Jeannie come forward, I met Julius many, many moons ago when he actually worked at the sheriff's department, and I tell you this man has a heart for our community, for service, for law enforcement and, most of all, for his family," the mayor stated. "His abiding love for his wife and his children has been an example to many who have known them, and so we're so thankful for them, knowing that their next season of life begins, and many, many more happy days."

Commissioner Kristine Petersen commended him, saying, "You've had an impact on a lot of people." Then she told a story about when she first joined the sheriff's office and went on the road.

"You were kind enough to take me

under your wing, and have me apply the steps appropriately for traffic stops, and it was from you that I learned how to give someone a traffic ticket and have them say 'Thank you!' to me when I was done, and I always appreciated that! I thank you," Ms. Petersen said.

She now teaches in Clewiston High School's Public Safety Academy, where she passes along inherited real-life lessons like that. "I've never forgotten it," Commissioner Petersen added.

Mayor Gardner said she always looked forward to seeing officer Taylor driving his patrol car through town, smiling at everyone and waving hello. "Such a wonderful example. You know you'll be missed, but I know I'll see you in the community. We're so thankful for your service to the City of Clewiston," she told Mr. Taylor.

He had a few remarks. "I appreciate the time I spent here in the City of Clewiston, 12 years," he said. Officer Taylor also served with the Hendry County Sheriff's Office for 15 years. "I'm going to miss it, but it was just my time," Mr. Taylor said, adding that he would miss all "my brothers" on the police force.

Snake sets SFWMD python program record

Special to the Lake Okeechobee News

WEST PALM BEACH — A record-setting catch earlier this week is moving the South Florida Water Management District's (SFWMD) Python Elimination Program closer to another significant milestone.

Kyle Penniston, of Homestead, made the solo capture of a 17-foot, 5-inch female Burmese python while hunting on SFWMD lands in Miami-Dade County late Monday night. The mammoth snake weighed in at 120 pounds. It's the third caught as part of the program that measured more than 17 feet.

With the record catch, SFWMD's python hunters have now eliminated 1,859 of the

invasive snakes on district lands, stretching a combined length of more than 2 miles and collectively weighing more than 11 tons. Mr. Penniston is currently second among the hunters, with 235 snakes eliminated. Brian Hargrove, a Miami native, has dispatched the most, with 257.

"Just six months after eliminating the first 1,000 pythons from district lands, this program is about to double that total because of a true team effort," said SFWMD scientist Mike Kirkland, project manager for the Python Elimination Program. "With the governing board's unwavering support, district staff and a dedicated group of hunters are working to help control this invasive

species and protect native wildlife."

Eliminating invasive species such as Burmese pythons is critical to preserving the rare Everglades ecosystem. Florida taxpayers have invested billions of dollars to restore the water quality and hydrology of the Everglades. Reducing the populations of invasive plants and animals is necessary to ensure this investment results in meeting the shared goals of the overall restoration plan.

SFWMD's Python Elimination Program facilitates the elimination of the invasive snakes on district-owned land. The SFWMD Governing Board has financed the program for the entirety of the 2018-19 budget year. A similar, successful program is managed by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Python Removal Contractor Program. This program pays qualified individuals to survey other specific areas of state-owned land for the pythons, humanely euthanize each python they catch in the field (according to American Veterinary Medical Association guidelines) and then deposit them at designated drop-off locations.

Elected officials and celebrities ranging from U.S. Rep. Francis Rooney, R-Fla., to superstar chef Gordon Ramsey have taken part in the hunts, bringing international

awareness to the issue of this invasive species and efforts to eradicate them. Python hunters were also featured in a Discovery Channel television special highlighting the program.

A team of professional python hunters was selected from more than 1,000 applicants and given access to district-owned lands in Miami-Dade County for the pilot phase and later in Palm Beach, Broward and Collier counties as the program expanded. These independent contractors are paid \$8.25 per hour, up to eight hours daily, to hunt in the Everglades. Depending on the size of the snake presented, hunters can also receive additional payments of \$50 for pythons measuring up to 4 feet and an extra \$25 for each foot measured above 4 feet. An additional \$200 is given for each eliminated python nest with eggs.

The invasive Burmese python, which breeds and multiplies quickly and has no natural predator in the Everglades ecosystem, has decimated native populations of wildlife. The more that can be eliminated, especially females and their eggs, the better chance future generations of native wildlife will have to thrive in the Everglades ecosystem that Floridians have invested billions of dollars to restore.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News/SFWMD
Kyle Penniston, of Homestead, made the solo capture of a 17-foot, 5-inch female Burmese python while hunting on SFWMD lands.

Firehouse Community Theatre seeking volunteers

The Firehouse Community Theatre (FCT), 241 N. Bridge St. in LaBelle, is seeking stage managers, back stage assistants, set designers, directors, lighting and sound technicians, props, costume design, concessions, ushers. any volunteer-time is greatly appreciated!

Please call the theatre and leave a message with your contact information. Call 863-675-3066 or write to the theatre at: P.O. Box 958, LaBelle, FL 33975 or stop by the theatre to check it out.

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Special to the Lake Okeechobee News
Mariah McInnis, of FWC, shared this 2013 image of aquatic plants in the Monkey Box on Lake Okeechobee. She said without chemical spraying, nonnative plants will grow quickly into large mats that impede navigation, block sunlight from the water column and crowd out native vegetation.

Lake level critical to improving aquatic vegetation

By **Katrina Elsken**
 Lake Okeechobee News

Maintaining the lake level below 15.5 ft. is key to restoring native aquatic plants in Lake Okeechobee according to a Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC) report.

Mariah McInnis, of FWC, explained the use of chemical herbicides for aquatic plant management on the lake. She said the aquatic spraying is sometimes blamed for the loss of aquatic vegetation in Lake Okeechobee, but the real threat to the native vegetation has to do with lake levels.

“There has been a significant loss of submerged vegetation,” she said. “This was caused by high water events that have deprived the plants of sunlight.”

She said turbulent conditions also damage aquatic plants and when the lake is deeper, there is more turbulence.

“More water, more wave action,” she said.

The ideal water level is 12.5 to 15 ft., she said. High water events are harmful to lake vegetation.

The lake lost thousands and thousands of acres of submerged vegetation in Lake Okeechobee due to the deep water levels in 2016 and 2017, she said.

Another issue, she said is the high nutrient load in the water entering the lake.

In the last water year, 1,000 metric tons of phosphorus flowed into Lake Okeechobee; Florida Department of Environmental Protection has set the target

limit for phosphorus at 105 metric tons a year (plus 35 metric tons from atmospheric loading).

Because Lake Okeechobee has a heavy influx of nutrients in the water flowing into the lake, some of the plants grow very quickly. In some cases, even native plants can grow so rapidly that they become a hindrance to navigation.

In some cases cattails, which are native, become so thick they become a problem and are treated on a case-by-case basis, Ms. McInnis said.

Water lettuce and water hyacinth are treated pretty much year round on Lake Okeechobee, she explained. She said these are non-native plants, although water lettuce was documented in Florida as early as 1765.

Ms. McInnis said left unchecked, these floating plants create mats so dense they block out sunlight and reduce the oxygen in the water. They also provide prime habitat for mosquitoes to breed.

She said she creates a weekly spraying schedule based on observations by airboat and helicopter.

“Our applicators use a variety of herbicide that are each used in different situations. Some of these are highly selective and we actually use the highly selective ones the most often,” she said.

Work is assessed post treatment, Ms. McInnis continued.

“Part of my job, when I go out on my airboat surveys, I am assessing post treatment,” she explained.

FWC uses three different contractors on the lake right now: Applied Aquatic, AVC and Lake and Wetland, she explained. They are divided into regions.

Work is assigned weekly and is publicly available, she said.

“They send me their GPS tracks weekly,” she said.

Contractors have to be licensed by Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and must complete additional training annually.

Applicators are paid hourly not by the amount of herbicide used, she said. “There is no incentive for them to dump chemicals.

“I believe our contractors are trained and skilled and have every tool to get the job done well, but they are human and are not exempt from humor error,” she said.

She said she encourages anyone who sees a problem with spraying of aquatic vegetation to take photos and/or video and contact her at 352-601-1367.

She said they are working with stakeholders to try to limit spraying in critical areas during spawning season.

Ms. McInnis said they are also willing to work with the tourism board to prevent spraying in designated areas right before a large bass tournament.

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Man injured in traffic crash

Special to the Lake Okeechobee News

A Clewiston man received minor injuries in a Hendry County traffic crash on Nov. 9.

A Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) press release stated that at 7:45 a.m. a 2012 KIA Forte operated by Anthony Coppler, 20, of Clewiston, and a 2005 Dodge Ram, operated by Charles Colton, 18, of Felda, were traveling southbound on State Road 29 at the same time.

The Dodge stopped at the east entrance of 2786 on South S.R. 29. The KIA failed to stop, resulting in the front of the KIA colliding with the rear of the Dodge in the

southbound lane.

Upon impact, the Dodge came to rest in the southbound lane of S.R. 29. The KIA came to a controlled stop on the west grassy shoulder, south of the area of the collision.

It was reported that Mr. Coppler was transported by Hendry County EMS to Hendry Regional Medical Center in Clewiston with minor injuries.

Mr. Coppler was reported not to have been wearing a seatbelt. Mr. Colton was wearing a seatbelt.

The traffic accident was investigated by Trooper T. Parks.

Community members share Halloween photos




Special to the Lake Okeechobee News
The Lake Okeechobee invited readers to send in Halloween photos, which were posted in a gallery on our Facebook page. First place winners of the 2018 Halloween Costume contest with 247 “likes” were Francisco Espinoza, Francisco Espinoza Jr., and Celeste Castaneda of Clewiston.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News/ Lorena Espinoza
Dulce Almaras, of Clewiston, received 186 votes dressed as Boo from Monsters Inc.




Special to the Lake Okeechobee News/Leyda Cardenas
Jesiah Davis, of Clewiston, as Chucky received 118 likes.



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Dr. Alphonse R. Tribuiani, DPM, FACFAS*
*Diplomatic American Board of Podiatric Surgery Board Certified

525 West Sagamore Ave. Suite A, Clewiston, FL 33440
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Dr. Alphonse R. Tribuiani, DPM, FACFAS has been in practice in Southwest Florida for

over eighteen years and has been one of the leaders in anti-fungal/anti-bacterial skin and nail treatments. Dr. Tribuiani formulated and created Deep Cover System® treatment, which was the first fashion line to help cure unsightly nail fungus and skin disorders. These products were sold throughout the United States.

He received a Bachelor's of Arts degree from Rutgers University in Camden, New Jersey and his Doctor of Podiatric Medicine at Temple University in Philadelphia. He completed a one year surgical and medical residency at the John F. Kennedy Memorial Hospital in Philadelphia followed by a two-year surgical residency at Crozer-Keystone Health System where he received extensive training in trauma and re-constructive surgery of the foot and ankle with special emphasis on diabetic limb salvage, Charcot reconstruction and wound care management. To schedule an appointment please call **863-983-2341**. We are located at

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Local youth leadership group takes Lake O learning adventure

By Chris Felker

Lake Okeechobee News

CLEWISTON — Hendry Glades Youth Leadership members were treated Thursday, Nov. 8, to an educational field trip aboard pontoon boats out on Lake Okeechobee, courtesy of Roland & Mary Ann Martin's Marina and Resort and its general manager, Ramon Iglesias.

He said he'd been approached by adult leaders of the troupe who asked if they could bring the youngsters out to the marina and visit Lake O. Always welcoming of chance to educate people about the lake and the community-sustaining tourism opportunities it provides in the counties bordering its southern end, Mr. Iglesias said, "Sure."

So, with the help of some of the resort's staff and local fishing captains, he and

Ms. Martin took the group out on several pontoon boats for a wide-ranging lesson that included frank talk about the realities of its ecological conditions, its thriving plant, animal and, yes, microscopic life (including the infamous algae). But Mr. Iglesias and the guides also explained how reliably great the fishing has been on the Big Lake despite the continuing unflattering portrayals of it from coastal media sources — and that algae is a global phenomenon, present in every body of freshwater in the world and basically responsible for the air we breathe.

Their visit lasted around 90 minutes, and Mr. Iglesias declared it a wonderful and rewarding exercise for both the adults and the students.

Tuesday Tritt, a leader of the Hendry Glades Youth Leadership organization, also said the kids had a great time.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News/Martin's Marina and Resort

General Manager Ramon Iglesias (far left) and resort co-owner Mary Ann Martin (far right) "had a great field trip on the lake discussing tourism and Lake Okeechobee with the Hendry Glades Youth Leadership group," they posted on the marina's Facebook page.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News/FDOH

Girl Scouts learn to prepare

Hendry County Emergency Management and the Florida Department of Health in Hendry County teamed up on Thursday, Nov. 1, to educate Girl Scout troop 1017 about preparedness. EM Director, Rick Lehmkuhl, and FDOH Public Information Officer and planning/preparedness coordinator, Brenda Barnes, facilitated a tour of the Emergency Operations Center. The Girl Scout troop learned about preparing for all hazards such as hurricanes, floods, fires and pandemics. Pictured are: LaBelle Girl Scout Troop 1017, along with Troop Leader, Nicole, Co-Leader, Jessica Ivy.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News/Helen Mead

Kiwanis Club has delightful visitors

LABELLE – On Tuesday, Nov. 6, the LaBelle Kiwanis welcomed Lighthouse of SW Florida. Sandy Burk and Amy Turner brought, Ms. Vee, a service dog to talk about the free services the organization offers to enable people of all ages living with a visual impairment or blindness to remain independent, active and productive. They are pictured here along with Kiwanis Club president Carole Schroeder.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News/FDOH

Nursing students learn preparedness

The Florida Department of Health (FDOH) Preparedness staff members John Gountas and Brenda Barnes, coordinated a Preparedness Day event for Florida Gulf Coast University Nursing students at the Hendry County Emergency Operations Center. Discussions of the day included emergency management, public health preparedness, active shooter awareness and response in healthcare settings, opioid epidemic and the dangers of inhalants, Emergency Support Functions and Incident Command. The students were given a tour of the Emergency Operations Center and also given a briefing in the situation room. Pictured: Brenda Barnes (FDOH), Taylor Haines, Carson Emery, Amanda Avarello, Julian Haerle, Analese Carlucci, Nicole Denham, Hannah Crespo, John Gountas (FDOH), and FCGU instructor, Tina Ellis.

Help make Florida a safer place for manatees

Guest Commentary

By **Janice Nearing**

Save the Manatees Club

November is an annual celebration and a dedication to manatee conservation in Florida. As manatees seek warm water sites during the cooler winter season, residents, visitors, and the boating community are reminded to watch for manatees and help safeguard them as they freely move about Florida's shallow, slow-moving rivers, bays, estuaries, and coastal water ecosystems.

Record watercraft mortality this year along with more than 180 manatees lost to red tide remain two of the greatest threats to the manatee population. Red tide acts as a neurotoxin in manatees, giving them seizures that can result in drowning without human intervention. Manatees may exhibit muscle twitches, lack of coordination, labored breathing, and an inability to maintain body orientation.

If rescued in time, most manatees can recover, so report a sick manatee immediately to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Hotline at 1-888-404-3922, or send a text message or email to Tip@MyFWC.com. Use VHF Channel 16 on a marine radio.

In total, 703 manatees have died so far this year from Jan. 1 through Oct. 12 from

all causes. Cold stress during the winter months takes a toll on the manatees as they are a subtropical species and cannot tolerate prolonged exposure to water temperatures below 68 degrees Fahrenheit. Other causes of human-related mortalities includes ingestion of litter, fish hooks, and monofilament line; entanglement in crab trap lines, and being crushed and/or drowned in canal locks and flood control structures.

Many seasonal manatee zones in Florida come into effect in November, and boaters are urged to pay close attention to posted signage indicating slow or idle speeds. Waterway users should also keep their distance from migrating manatees or manatees congregated at warm-water sites during the winter to avoid possible harassment.

Never separate a mother from her calf as calves depend on their mothers for up to two years.

Check out the videos, tips, and resources for boaters at savethemanatee.org/boatertips.

The public can be actively engaged in manatee and habitat protection by obtaining the club's free waterway signage, boating banners and decals, waterway cards, and educational posters. The shoreline property signs warn boaters

to slow down for manatees and feature the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission's hotline number (1-888-404-3922) to report sick, injured, orphaned, or harassed manatees.

The club also produces family-friendly outdoor signs for state, municipal, and county parks, marinas, and other sites where human/manatee interactions are a problem. View the free public awareness resources at savethemanatee.org/freematerials.

To obtain any of these materials, email education@savethemanatee.org or call 1-800-432-JOIN (5646) and request these resources.

The public is also encouraged to visit Save the Manatee Club's Blue Spring webcams at ManaTV.org to see manatees in real time once manatee season is underway or on archived video.

The webcams have become popular with viewers across the globe and have allowed the club to monitor manatee behavior for research and health-related conditions.

The site also features researcher Wayne Hartley's daily blog on manatees visiting the spring.

Hartley is the club's manatee specialist and a former park ranger at Blue Spring State Park. He has been researching the

Blue Spring manatees since 1978.

Another way to help is by joining the club's Adopt-A-Manatee® program. Each "adoptive parent" learns about the species by following the real, living manatee they've chosen through adoption materials and follow-up newsletters the club provides. To learn more, visit the adoption page of the web site at savethemanatee.org/adopt.

Save the Manatee Club is an award-winning 501(c)(3) international nonprofit organization established in 1981 by singer/songwriter Jimmy Buffett and former Florida Governor and U.S. Senator Bob Graham. The club's mission is to protect manatees and their aquatic habitat for future generations.

To accomplish its mission, the club works closely with federal, state, and local governments, the media, and the public, and supports policies that are based on the best scientific data available.

The club raises public awareness; educates; sponsors research, rescue, rehabilitation, and release efforts; supports land acquisition and aquatic habitat protection; advocates for improved on-the-water protection measures, and also supports education and conservation efforts in other countries.



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Big O Teen Anglers host tournament on Lake O



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News/Courtesy photo
Tyler Scott placed first in the 11-15 age group with 16.33 pounds.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News
Trent Nelson placed second in the 11-15 age group with 12.40 pounds.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News
Cody Wojcieszak placed second in the 16-19 age group with 14.44 pounds got the big fish at 4.10 pounds.

Special to the Lake Okeechobee News
Raith Sales placed third in the 11-15 age group with 6.73 pounds.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News
Wyatt Cannon caught 5.70 pounds and the big fish at 3.60 pounds.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News
Cody Wojcieszak placed second in the 16-19 age group with 14.44 pounds got the big fish at 4.10 pounds.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News
Taylor Nelson placed third in the 16-19 age group with 14.41 pounds.

By Danielle R. DeWitt
Big 'O' Teen Anglers, Inc.

The Big O Teen Anglers held their second 2-day tournament of the year out of the Okee-Tantie Recreation Area on Lake Okeechobee on Oct. 27 and 28. The weather was absolutely beautiful both days and many nice, healthy bass were caught. The angler's caught a total of 91 bass with only one loss and the largest bass caught over all goes to angler Cody Wojcieszak in our 16-19 age group with a 4.10 pound fish. Wyatt Cannon caught the largest in our 11-15 age group with a 3.60 pound fish. Way to go ... only one loss!

This month the anglers had 20 anglers catch a total weight of 133.94 pounds. First place in the 16-19 age group went to Justin Hevey with a 2-day great catch of 18.11 pounds and Tyler Scott placed first in the 11-15 age group with a 2-day catch of 16.33 pounds. Great catch boys!

11-15 age group:

- First place - Tyler Scott with 16.33 pounds;

- Second place - Trent Nelson with 12.40 pounds;
- Third place - Raith Sales with 6.73 pounds; and,
- Big Fish - Wyatt Cannon at 3.60 pounds.

16-19 age group:

- First place - Justin Hevey with 18.11 pounds;
- Second place - Cody Wojcieszak with 14.44 pounds and big fish at 4.10 pounds; and,
- Third place - Taylor Nelson with 14.41 pounds.

The anglers extend thanks to the following boat captains who volunteered their time to take our youth anglers out for two beautiful days of fishing: Robert Haff, Ian Rodriguez, Terry Seabolt, Roger Bohannon, Larry Wise, Dan Powell, Herman Parker, Daniel Parker, Dale Craig, Billy Ellerbee and Jim Newell.

The anglers also thank The Melette family for providing the after-tournament lunch.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News/Courtesy photo
Justin Hevey placed first in the 16-19 age group with 18.11 pounds.

Clewiston Library events

Tutoring program - (this program is also offered at the Florida B. Thomas Library in Harlem. Times may be different at this location so please call to verify.)

- Monday, Nov. 26, from 4 to 6 p.m. (closed on Nov. 19 as school will be out).
- Public and Preschool Storytime on Nov. 14, 15, 28 and 29, from 10 to 11 a.m.
- Adult Coloring Club on Tuesdays, Nov.

13 and 27, from 10 to 11 a.m.

- Family Movie Night - Incredibles 2 on Monday, Nov. 19, from 5 to 7 p.m. Popcorn will be served.

- The library will be closed Thursday through Saturday, Nov. 22-24 in observance of Thanksgiving. The library will reopen on Monday, Nov. 26, at 9 a.m.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News/WSE

WSE recognizes Teacher of the Year

Westside Elementary recognizes Teacher of the Year, Tiffany Clinard VanderBaan, for the 2018/2019 school year. Tiffany poses with her class and Hendry County Superintendent Paul Puletti.

Rotary hosts golf tournament

Special to the Lake Okeechobee News
CLEWISTON — The Rotary of Clewiston presented their 31st Annual Campbell & Frances Nall Scholarship Golf Tournament Nov. 10. There were 90 players in the tournament.

The winners from the tournament are:

- Closest-To-Pin:
#2 Martin Crawford, 4'6";
#9 Fred Waid, 9 inches;
#13 Brandon Pena, 3'0";
#15 Richard Carter, 7'7".
- Long drive #11 Women:
Katrina Summers
- Long drive #8 Men:
Damien Rende.
- Closest-To-Line #16

- Vicky Middleton.
- Third flight:
Second - Brian Walker, Seth Walker, Larry Owens.
First - Tommy Morrell, Travis Dyess, Joey Miller.
- Second flight:
Second - Gus Dominguez, Dwight Hatfield, Pablo Sanchez;
First - Haitham Kaki, Pete Walker, Nasser Halum.
- First flight:
Second - Tommy Spears, Trini Reyes, Darryl Moore;
First - Brandon Pena, Skip Crawford, Martin Crawford.

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