

Lake OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 110 No. 39

Sunday, March 31, 2019

75¢ plus tax

President tours Lake Okeechobee

By **Katrina Elskan**
Lake Okeechobee News

CANAL POINT — President Trump visited Lake Okeechobee on Friday, touring the lake by helicopter, and stopping at a construction site on the Herbert Hoover Dike near Canal Point. He praised the work being done by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to rehabilitate the berm that surrounds Lake Okeechobee.

“It’s important in terms of safety,” said President Trump.

“What we’re doing is very, very important.”

“It’s was very dangerous,” he said. “It’s a big project, but it’s a great project for Florida.”

During the brief period of comments on the dike, Gov. Ron DeSantis said the president has committed to supporting the Everglades Agricultural Reservoir, but the president himself did not mention it. He said they are also seeking funding to raise more of the Tamiami Trail.

“The most important issue in Florida is water,” said Sen. Marco Rubio.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News/Mali Gardner
President Donald Trump (in red hat) visited a construction site on the Herbert Hoover Dike on Friday, along with federal, state and local officials.

See **TRUMP** — Page 14



3 Every veteran’s story should be told



8 Medical marijuana seminars set

Lake Levels

11.94 feet

Last Year: 13.95 feet



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Depth given in feet above sea level

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Inspiring Okeechobee:

Delagall tries to follow wherever He leads



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News
Charlotte Delagall is pictured with her great-grandson Channing.

By **Cathy Womble**
Lake Okeechobee News

“If I could do anything for people, I would,” said Charlotte Delagall. “I try to live by the Golden Rule.”

Mrs. Delagall and her husband, Daniel, moved to Okeechobee in 1957 to be closer to their families. She said both sets of parents and her grandparents were getting older and their health was not as good as it once was, so they felt it was important to be closer to them.

Mrs. Delagall taught elementary school and home economics in the public school system before she retired, and Mr. Delagall was the principal of the Douglas Brown

school for many years.

Mrs. Delagall said she considered herself a tough teacher, but it was because she wanted the students to do their best. She knew that one day they would appreciate it. Some of them have come back after they grew up and told her they did.

“I believed in them,” she said. “I think they appreciated that.” As the students got older, sixth grade or so, she began letting them make the rules and the outcomes for breaking those rules for the classroom. “They made harder rules than I did,” she laughed. “It worked out well

See **DELAGALL**— Page 14

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Economic Council visits Rotary

Jennifer Tewksbury (right) of the Economic Council of Okeechobee was the guest speaker for the Rotary Club on March 19. She explained that the Economic Council serves as a catalyst between private and public sectors in the community to promote open dialogue, planning and action as they strive to promote quality economic growth. At left is Rotarian Dawn Hoover.

Okeechobee Weather Forecast

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the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

Monday night: A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 64. Calm wind. Chance of precipitation is 30%.



Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 82. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Tuesday night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 58. West southwest wind around 5 mph.

Today: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 82. Calm wind becoming south around 5 mph in the afternoon.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 61. South wind around 5 mph becoming calm in the evening.

Monday: A chance of showers, with thunderstorms also possible after 2pm. Partly sunny, with a high near 81. Calm wind becoming south around 5 mph in



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Veteran Scott Viens enjoyed the ‘super cool secret’ missions

By Cathy Womble
Lake Okeechobee News

“In hindsight, I probably should have chosen a job that I could have done when I got back home, but I was young and I just wanted to ride around in tanks, shoot things and blow things up,” said Scott Viens. “You don’t think about that when you are young.”

Mr. Viens was born in Connecticut in 1964 and moved to Okeechobee when he was in ninth grade. He graduated from Okeechobee High School in 1982 and was the first of his group of about 20 friends, “the military pack,” to join the army.

His mother was dead set against it, he said, because his grandfather had been killed at Normandy, but he didn’t tell her the recruiter was coming and when he showed up, he explained what they were offering, and she couldn’t refuse. Mr. Viens had scored pretty well on the tests, he said, and they offered him two years in Germany, his choice of just about any job he wanted, \$25,000 for college and a signing bonus. In addition, he would have joined the following year anyway, so his mother finally gave in and signed so he could join even though he was only 17 years old.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News
This is the photo from Scott Viens’ basic training yearbook from Fort Knox, Ky. in 1982.

to Germany immediately following his “one-station” unit training in Fort Knox. He was trained as a reconnaissance scout. He explained, they were considered part of the tank community but they did the reconnaissance for the tanks. They traveled 20 miles ahead of the lead unit. He joked, “We used to tease them that we were just there to find their sleeping places and to make sure no one attacked them while they slept.” He



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News
A very young Scott Viens stands in front of a Bradley Fighting Vehicle.

Every Veteran’s Story



Deserves to be Told!



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News
Scott Viens proudly carries the flag during this march. They marched 25 miles a day for four days and marched 700 miles in preparation for the event.

liked being out in front of everyone and especially enjoyed doing what he called some “super cool secret” missions.

One of his favorite memories was the transition from the old vehicles to the new Bradley Fighting Vehicles, which he said were named after Gen. Omar Bradley. He said when they had motorcycles or dune buggies, they carried them inside and when they were ready to use them, they dropped a hatch on the back and just drove them out. They were much quieter than a tank, he explained.

When he left Germany, he went to Texas for three years. He had applied for ROTC training or recruiting but was hoping to get

ROTC training. He ended up with recruiting, though. He said it wasn’t bad. He had four months of training, which was basically teaching him how to be a salesman. He was a recruiter in a mall for three years, and he said it was not a bad duty, but the only day off you ever got was Christmas.

After that, he was sent to Fort Riley in Kansas where he was back to recon scouting and, soon after, he was sent to Iraq for Desert Storm. He said he was there for six months, but the conflict lasted only four days.

When he left the U.S. to head to Iraq, his wife was eight months pregnant, and she gave birth to their son Zack on the day of the cease-fire, but it took a month for them to find him to tell him the baby had ar-



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News
Veteran Scott Viens is pictured with his wife, Tammy.

rived. He didn’t get to see the baby until he was 5 months old, and that helped Scott make the decision to end his career in the Army, although he did remain in the reserves until retiring after 25 years in the service. The birth of baby Zack and the fact that Mr. Viens was deployed during his birth was featured on the front page of the Okeechobee News in February 1992.

When he and his family returned to Okeechobee, he went to college to become a teacher and taught elementary school for 13 years. He was a dean for three years and is now a behavioral interventionist for all 10 Okeechobee schools. He explained, he “puts out the fires.” He helps anywhere he can with children with behavior issues.

He is married to Tammy, who works as a surgery scheduler at Raulerson Memorial Hospital, and has three children — Brianne, his oldest; Zack, the baby who was born while he was deployed and who is now in dental school; and Jason, who is on active duty in the Air Force and is an interpreter of Middle Eastern languages. He has two stepchildren — Chad and Brenda Ellerbee, 11 grandchildren and one on the way.

In his spare time, he has worked as an auxiliary sheriff’s deputy for the last nine years. He is a member of a band in which he sings. They play classic rock, he says, mostly over on the coast. He is a Mason. He said he became a Mason because they promote making you a better man. He is the county trainer for youth mental health first aid — suicide prevention, and finally, his family has Disney World passes.

“So,” he laughed, “you don’t see us around on the weekends very much.”



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Pulse of the Community

Speak Out

Bass Pro

• "I think an airboat area should be built on the Glades County side of the Kissimmee River, because most of the area of Lake Okeechobee that is popular with the airboaters is on the Glades County side of the river anyway. That way, they would not have to cross the deep Kissimmee River channel. They would have to drive a little farther to get there, but then they would not have to go as far in the airboat to get to the marsh areas they like." — M. Smith

• "Bass Pro is waiting to see how bad the lake is going to get. No lake, no Bass Pro." — David Straight

• "If they don't think the lake is up to snuff, they will probably back out." — Nancy Lowe

• "Do the math, relax, be patient. They have \$400,000 reasons to open. Non-refundable. It just might be a great deal for our community." — H.E. Enfinger

• "The utilities at the Okee-Tantie resort have to be completely redone due to the damage from the 2004 and 2005 hurricanes, and the fact that this damage was not fixed years ago. It's a mess. So it does not surprise me that Bass Pro needs more time to work on their plans. They would not have invested that extra \$100,000 if they weren't still serious about the project. Bass Pro will be a terrific asset to this community; with their marketing, they can get the truth about the lake to fishermen all over the world. They will also be a wonderful ally in the fight to force the state to clean the water before it goes into the lake." — M. Jones

SFWM

• "I listened to a radio interview with the new South Florida Water Management District Governing Board member Jacqui Thurlow-Lippisch, and when the reporter asked about Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR), it was apparent from her answer that Mrs. Thurlow-Lippisch had ASR confused with Deep Well Injection. They are two different things. I am not sure if I am

more concerned that a governing board member doesn't know the difference, or that the reporter didn't correct her and clarify what she was asking about. Either way, it just further confused listeners who were not already knowledgeable." — K. Booker

Lake level

• "When the bathtub is overflowing, you turn off the faucet before you do anything else. The water is coming into the lake too fast. That is why they have to release it east and west. Slow the flow into the lake and clean the water before it goes into the lake. That would solve the water quality issues and also stop the harmful freshwater releases east and west. We need storage and treatment, starting at Orlando. Stop approving all of these new developments in the Orlando area until they have added water storage and treatment in the northern part of the watershed." — Anonymous

• "Posting on social media does not help. If you want your opinion on the lake schedule to count, you need to email or mail a letter to the Corps of Engineers. Email comments to: LakeOComments@usace.army.mil. Submit comments by mail to: Dr. Ann Hodgson, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District, P.O. Box 4970, Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019. The coastal people had a lot of meetings where they got their comments on the record. We only had one meeting in Okeechobee and one in Clewiston. We need more comments on the record to balance out the misinformation given at the coastal meetings. Take a few minutes and at least send an email. Tell the corps that the 12-to-15-foot or 12.5-to-15.5-foot schedule, based on science, is the one we need to keep. It's the healthiest schedule for the lake itself, and the lake is the liquid heart of the system. And tell them they need to put in storage and treatment north of the lake to slow the flow and clean the water before it enters the lake." — S. Jones

Reflections from the Pulpit

By Kay Mueller

Deacon, Church of Our Saviour

Are you staying on track?

Getting off track is easy to do and it may happen for the best of reasons, but we still get off track. We do it all the time — in our actions and in our conversations. God has a track that he wants us to be on and Jesus had a very specific track laid out for him.

In Luke 9:51, the scripture says, "When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem." Picture that imagery in your mind! He was determined, resolute; he was intently, purposefully, tenaciously, unflinchingly, unwaveringly headed for Jerusalem. There was nothing that could stop Him from reaching Jerusalem and fulfilling His purpose of making the way for our salvation.

Remember how Satan repeatedly tempted Jesus in the wilderness (Luke 4:1-13) with challenges of satisfaction, success and superiority to ultimately stop his journey to Jerusalem where he would die for the sins of the world, but Jesus stayed on track. The Pharisees and Herod tried to deter Jesus with threats of death (Luke 13:31-35), but Jesus is not intimidated or diverted by their words. He stays on track, forging ahead with his ministry, casting out demons and healing the people along the way.

Are we like Jesus with our faces set resolutely toward accomplishing the will of the Father and the completion of the task He has set before us? Or, is our goal of this world — financial success, fame, power, popularity, independence? What is the driving force in your life — what track are you on? If the past week of your life, or mine, was replayed for the world to see, what would they see as the driving force or goal of our life? What would they see our face set toward? What track are we on?

The track for Jesus went to one place, the cross. Although we are walking with Jesus toward the cross this Lent, our way is not the cross, but Jesus is our way. The cross should have been our way for it is what we deserved, but Jesus walked that track for us. The way is not just to be understood, or a track that we can feel under our feet, but to know personally. It is a relationship with our Lord and Savior.

He wants to shelter us under His wings of love, protection, and guidance, just as a mother hen gathers her brood under her wings. He desires for us to know him as He knows us — to seek His will in our life and live according to His purpose, sharing His love along the way, staying on track. Hebrews 12:1(b)-2 reminds us, "Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of God."

May Christ Jesus gather us all into the safe wings of His mercy, and may our lives shine His light upon the track of salvation and grace for others. Amen.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

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Lake Okeechobee News

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Our Purpose...

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

MEMBER OF:



Family survives every parents' nightmare

By Cathy Womble
Lake Okeechobee News

Every parent's worst nightmare came true for Flint and Stephanie on what began as a typical Monday morning when they discovered their 16-month-old daughter Hannah Kate had a rash on the back of her legs. Flint said he wasn't too worried at first. He was planning to take her to the pediatrician that afternoon, and they went about their normal routine. Stephanie was a teacher and it was her first day back at school to begin a new year, so he dropped Hannah Kate off at the daycare before heading to work himself. It wasn't long, though, he said before the daycare called to say that Hannah Kate's rash was a lot worse, so he decided to go get her and take her to pediatrician Dr. Anjum Hussein right away.

Dr. Hussein took one look at the rash and sent her immediately next door to the hospi-

tal for blood work, which for a 16-month-old was very traumatic, Flint said. Afterward, he decided to take Hannah Kate out to get something to eat and to calm her down a little, but before they had even gotten there, Dr. Hussein called and told him to come right back. When he got there, she met him at the door herself and told him his baby needed to see a hematologist/oncologist immediately because she thought Hannah Kate had leukemia. She told him to take her back to the hospital right away. Stephanie met them there, and from there they went to Palms West where they met Dr. Michele Singer of Palm Beach Pediatric Oncology.

Dr. Singer said that unfortunately she agreed with Dr. Hussein and believed Hannah Kate had leukemia. She wanted to do a bone marrow aspiration and other tests right away. When the tests came back, it was clear that Hannah Kate had acute lymphoblastic leukemia, which Flint said is the most

common type. Now, said Dr. Singer, it was time to choose a hospital.

A friend, whose son had been treated for an illness at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, suggested they ask the doctor about the possibility of taking her there, so Flint asked her about it. She explained that St. Jude is a research hospital and if she was accepted, it would be a research protocol. It's in Memphis, she said, but it's a great hospital. She called St. Jude, and explained the situation, and they agreed to take Hannah Kate. Now Flint and Stephanie had a tough decision to make. Flint had to work. He had just changed positions within the company where he was employed, and he would not be able to spend much time in Memphis. Stephanie would be up there on her own. Finally, they asked Dr. Singer, who had a 16-month-old son of her own, what she would do, and she said she would choose St. Jude. That settled it, said Flint. He turned to Stephanie and said, "I've heard all I need to hear." Stephanie said, "So have I."

On Wednesday afternoon, he and Hannah Kate were on a Learjet headed to Memphis and Stephanie was on her way home to pack. Flint said when they arrived at St. Jude, he knew immediately they'd made the right choice. "They wheeled her in and started working. They were all so understanding and kind. We met Dr. Tonja Gruber on Thursday morning," he said. "She was very empathetic, competent, smart and personable. You knew she would do a great job for you."

They were there that first time from Aug. 24, 2011, through Dec. 16, 2011. "We went from a normal Monday to living in another

state in three days," he said. It was a very long treatment, but it was successful. They were home after the first round of treatment for only three weeks, then had to go back again. "It was the best decision we ever made in our lives," he said. "Not only was the treatment state-of-the-art, but the care is amazing. They even gave us GROCERY money every week. We never paid one dollar in the three years she was under their care. After her treatment ended, Hannah Kate entered the maintenance phase, which lasted two- to two-and-a-half years. They traveled back and forth periodically for checkups and, in between, she saw Dr. Singer, who collaborated with St. Jude, and deferred to Dr. Gruber in all areas of Hannah Kate's treatment.

Hannah Kate is 9 years old now, and Flint said you would never know anything had ever been wrong. She is living a normal life, and their nightmare is over.

The 10th annual St. Jude Palm Beach Dinner to benefit children with cancer and other life-threatening diseases at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital will be Wednesday, April 3, at Club Colette in Palm Beach. Hannah Kate will be sharing her experience at this dinner. Philanthropic opportunities and tickets to the St. Jude Palm Beach Dinner are available. For more information, contact Ligia Santos at 305-537-1429 or visit stjude.org/palmbeachdinner.

Because of events like these, families at St. Jude never receive a bill for treatment, travel, housing or food — because all a family should worry about is helping their child live.



Lake Okeechobee News/Cathy Womble

Firefighters help fight MD

Local firefighters raised \$5,091 and donated it to help fight muscular dystrophy (MD). The funds are used to help children in South Florida who have muscular dystrophy go to a special camp that is only for children living with this disease. Firefighter Jarrod Akins, who headed up the fundraiser, said the camp not only gives the kids a fun-filled week but gives the family a break from care giving. The funds are also used for things like new wheels for wheelchairs, new batteries, ramps and, of course, research. Mr. Akins would like to thank all the firefighters, both city and county, who participated in the fundraiser, and he would like to express his appreciation for the help of the Okeechobee County Fire Department, the Okeechobee City Fire Department and the Okeechobee Professional Firefighters and Paramedics Union IAFF 2918. Pictured (left to right) are MDA representative Jeaneece Washington with firefighters Jessica Sasser, Cole Owens and Jarrod Akins.

OCSO Investigations

The Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office investigated reports of the following crimes last week:

ASSAULT

- 17000 Northwest 38th Avenue
- 5000 block Northeast 168th Street
- 3500 block Southeast 34th Avenue
- 800 block Southwest 28th Street

BURGLARY

- 3400 block Southeast 38th Avenue
- 2500 block Northwest 16th Boulevard
- 15300 block Northwest 208th Street

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

- 4100 block U.S. 441 South

- 3800 block Northwest Seventh Street

- FRAUD
- 3100 block U.S. 441 South
- 8500 block U.S. 441 Southeast
- 3500 block U.S. 441 South

- HIT AND RUN
- 10400 block State Road 78 West
- U.S. 441 North/Circle K

- THEFT
- 2300 block Northwest 46th Avenue
- 14600 block Northwest 298th Street
- 4200 block Southeast 21st Court
- 7600 block State Road 78 West
- 200 block Southeast 60th Avenue



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Your COMMUNITY NEWS



Moose Lodge hosts events

The Moose Lodge, 159 N.W. 36th St., will host the following events: On Sunday, **March 31**, breakfast will be served from 8 to 9:45 a.m. and then three-card bingo from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Literacy Workshop scheduled

Health Literacy Workshops are three-weekly sessions held during **April 1, 8, 15**; May 6, 13, 20, and June 3, 10, 17 at the Okeechobee Library, 206 S.W. 16th St., from 4 to 5: p.m. Each workshop consists of three-weekly sessions with up to 15 participants. Healthy snacks, giveaways and Certificates of Completion included. For information, call 561-844-4220 ext. 1500 or email info@lorhn.org.

Amvets to hold bingo

Amvets Post 200, 3651 S.E. U.S. 441, Unit 6, will hold bingo on Sunday, **March 31**, from 2 to 4 p.m. and Tuesday, **April 2**, from 2 to 5 p.m. Open to public.

Church to host bingo

Sacred Heart Church, 901 S.W. Sixth St., will host bingo on Monday, **April 1**. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the games begin at 7 p.m.

Register for the swim team

Registration starts soon for the Okeechobee Shockwaves Swim Team. Go to the Sports Complex, 580 N.W. 25th Lane, on Tuesday, **April 2**, and Wednesday, **April 10**, from 4 to 6 p.m., or Saturday, **April 20**, from 10 a.m. to noon. For more information, call Coach Jack Boon at 863-801-1407 or by email at jackdboon@hotmail.com.

Veterans meeting to be held

U.S. military veterans of all branches are invited to attend the monthly meeting of the Okeechobee Chapter of the Vietnam Veterans on Thursday, **April 4**, at Cowboys BBQ, 202 N.E. Seventh Ave. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. Arrive at 6 p.m. if placing a food order.

OCSO to host torch run

The Okeechobee County Sheriff's will host a torch run on Friday, **April 5**. The run will start at OSCO, 504 N.W. Fourth St., at 8:30 a.m. and end at Publix. A BBQ will begin at 10:30 a.m. in the Publix parking lot, and last until 2 p.m. A BBQ rib dinner will be \$10 and a full rack of ribs will be \$20. For advance tickets or delivery, call Michele, Jack or Denise at 863-763-3117.

Disney play to be performed

Okeechobee High School Thespian Troupe 7319 presents Disney's "Beauty and the Beast." It will take place at the high school, 2800 U.S. 441, in the Lecture Hall. The first show is Friday, **April 5**, at 7:30 p.m. Other show dates are April 6, 12, and 13, at the same time, same place. Adult tickets are \$10 and students get in for \$5. For more information, call Miss Raulerson at 863-462-5025 ext. 8011.

Church hosts event

Oakview Baptist Church, 677 S.W. 32nd St., invites you to "Going Beyond Simulcast" with Priscilla Shirer, on Saturday, **April 6**. Doors open at 9 a.m. and the events begins at 10 a.m. Tickets are \$15 if purchased by April 4, and \$20 after. Lunch will be included. Join in and worship with Anthony Evans. For information, call 863-763-1699.

Funeral education event set

Seawinds Funeral Home, 3833 S.E. 18th Terrace, would like you to attend its free "Ducks in a Row" educational program on Friday, **April 12**, at noon. Lunch will be served and you will learn how to go about planning your final arrangements.

Tea party to be held

Our Village Okeechobee is hosting a tea party on Saturday, **April 13**, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Okeechobee High School Cafeteria, 2800 U.S. 441. Wear your favorite princess dress and come have a good time before the play, "Beauty and the Beast." There will be games, food, and fun. Tickets are \$15 per princess and per adult or you can purchase a four-ticket family pack for \$50. Tickets admit you to the tea party and the play. For more information, call Leah Suarez at 863-697-8718.

Ride for Rights event set

The 19th Judicial Circuit Victim's Rights Coalition presents its annual Ride for Rights on Saturday, **April 13**. Ride to benefit the victims of Okeechobee and the Treasure Coast. Riders from surrounding counties can choose to start from Okeechobee County or Martin County. Onsite registration for Okeechobee will be at the Okeechobee Sheriff's Office, 504 N.W. Fourth St., from 9 to 9:45 a.m. Kickstands up at 10 a.m. For those choosing to start in Martin County onsite registration will be at Indiantown Sheriff's Substation, 16550 S.W. Warfield Blvd., from 10 to 10:45 a.m. and kickstands up when all motorcycles arrive at the sub-station. You may download a registration form from www.19JCVRC.org. For more information, call 863-634-0727 or 863-634-0651. You can also email at JJohnson@okeesherriff.com or bstark@okeesherriff.com.

Thrift shop to have sale

SEBRING — A Bountiful Barn Thrift Store, 442 U.S. 27 S., is holding a store-wide liquidation sale going on now through **May 1**. The store hours are from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. The store is right next to Cafe 27.

More Community Events can be found at LakeOkeechobeeNews.com in the Community section.

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.

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AA meetings regularly scheduled in Okeechobee County

OKEECHOBEE — Area churches host AA meetings each week.

- United Methodist Church, 200 N.W. Second St., hosts open meetings at noon, **Monday** through **Friday**.
- Okeechobee Christian church, 3055 S.E. 18th Terrace hosts a closed "Wake up group" on **Mondays** at 6:30 a.m. and a closed meeting at noon on **Thursdays**.
- Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 901 S.W. Sixth St., hosts a closed men's meeting on **Wednesdays** at 8 p.m.
- Presbyterian Church, 312 N. Parrott Ave., hosts a "Heard it through the grapevine" open meeting on **Mondays** at 6:30 p.m. On **Saturdays** a closed "Keep it simple group" meeting is held at 7:30 p.m.
- Church of our Savior, 200 N.W. Third St., hosts a closed meeting at 8 p.m. on **Tuesdays**. On **Thursdays** there is an open women's group at 6 p.m. and a closed Big Book Study at 8 p.m. On **Fridays** there is an open speaker meeting at 8 p.m. Then on **Sundays** there is an open Step Study at 7:30 p.m.

Road Watch

Motorists are reminded to wear safety belts and drive with caution, courtesy, common sense, and patience as they travel through work zones. Remember, speeding fines are doubled in work zones.

• U.S. 441 south from Park Street (S.R. 70) to S.W. 32nd Street: (Maintenance permit project) Crews are repairing sidewalks on the southbound side of South Parrott Avenue. Watch for trucks entering and exiting the site.

• U.S. 441 from south of N.E. 304 Street to the Osceola County Line: (Construction project) Crews are resurfacing the roadway at U.S. 441 between N.E. 304 Street and the Osceola County line. The contractor will also replace the drainage pipe at U.S. 441 and N.W. 358 Boulevard, install signage and pavement markings and improve the road shoulders. Watch for crews and equipment working close to the road. Drivers should expect lane closures on U.S. 441 throughout the project. Flaggers will direct motorists through the work zone in a single lane. Please observe posted speed limits and drive with caution in the construction zone. The contractor is Lynch Paving & Construction Company. Estimated completion is late spring 2019. Crews are resurfacing and placing temporary and permanent striping on U.S. 441. Motorists should expect single lane closures from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on the southbound and northbound lanes of U.S. 441 between the Osceola county line and south of 304 Street.

• U.S. 441 S.E. between canal 59 and S.E. 66th Avenue: (Maintenance permit project) Crews are constructing a new pumping station including a new driveway connection to U.S. 441 Southeast. Watch for workers close to the roadway with shoulder closures. Watch for trucks and equipment entering and leaving the roadway.

• U.S. 441 (S.R. 15) from south of N.E. 98 Street to north of N.E. 102 Street: (Construction project) Crews are adding a northbound left turn lane at N.E. 102nd Street and widening and repaving U.S. 441 from south of N.E. 98 Street to north of N.E. 102 Street. The contractor will also improve the drainage and install signage and pavement markings. Watch for crews and equipment working close to the road. Drivers should expect lane closures on U.S. 441 throughout the project. Please observe posted speed limits and drive with caution in the construction zone. The contractor is American Lighting and Signalization, LLC. Estimated completion is summer 2019.

• S.R. 710 from west of S.E. 67th Way to west of S.E. 48th Street: (Construction project) Crews are resurfacing the roadway at S.R. 710 from west of S.E. 67 Way to west of S.E. 48 Street. Additional improvements include shoulder treatment, drainage improvements and signing and pavement marking. Lane closures on S.R. 710 will be required during construction. Please follow flagger directions and watch for workers in the construction zone. Estimated project completion is spring 2019. The contractor is Lynch Paving & Construction Company.

• S.R. 710 from S.R. 70 to S.E. 40th Ave: (Utility permit project) Utility work will be conducted in the westbound side of S.R. 710. Please use caution in these areas and watch for crews working close to the roadway.

County declares victims' rights week

By Katrina Elsen

Lake Okeechobee News

OKEECHOBEE — The Okeechobee County Commission has declared April 7-13 as National Crime Victims' Rights Week. The action came at their March 26 meeting in the Historic Okeechobee County Courthouse.

Since 1981, National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) has challenged the nation to confront and remove barriers to full justice for all victims of crime. Each year, communities across the country revisit the history of the victims' rights

movement and recommit themselves to advancing the progress already achieved.

National Crime Victims' Rights Week is an opportunity to highlight challenges faced by crime victims and emphasize the ongoing struggle to establish victims' rights. This year's theme — "Serving Victims. Building Trust. Restoring Hope" — underscores the importance of early intervention and victim services in establishing trust with victims, which in turn begins to restore their hopes for healing and recovery. Meeting victims where they are takes resources, dedication, and persistence to establish a welcoming, compassionate,

and supportive environment for all victims to share their stories.

Creating public awareness for NCVRW allows us to engage local members, local organizations, and the public in the important work of providing crime victims in our community with the support they need to recover on their terms.

"Victims don't ask for these things to happen to them. We want to remember them and take care of them," said Okeechobee County Sheriff Noel Stephen.

Okeechobee Livestock Market

MARCH 25 & 26, 2019

MONDAY SALE AT 12:00PM...TUESDAY SALE AT 12:00PM

COWS	LOW:	HIGH:		MONDAY	TUESDAY
800-1600	54.00	58.00	AVG	441	1098
800-1600	59.00	63.00	HIGH	163	239
800-1500	49.00	53.00	LOW	16	23

BULLS:				MONDAY	TUESDAY
1100-2000	78.00	80.00	AVG	620	1360
1100-2200	75.00	87.00	HIGH		
1200-1600	67.00	76.00	LOW		

STEERS MED & LARGE 1:

200-250	220.00	230.00
250-300	217.00	235.00
300-350	202.00	220.00
350-400	192.00	214.00
400-450	170.00	194.00
450-500	158.00	188.00
500-550	148.00	169.00
550-600	139.00	166.00
600-700	128.00	152.00

STEERS MED & LARGE 2:

200-250	200.00	222.00
250-300	205.00	215.00
300-350	188.00	208.00
350-400	176.00	198.00
400-450	166.00	178.00
450-500	150.00	176.00
500-550	138.00	156.00
550-600	132.00	152.00
600-700	126.00	141.00

Well, the market's going in different directions, it seems. Slaughter classes \$3 to \$5 lower, feeder classes \$3 to \$5 higher. We've kinda overloaded the market the last few weeks with slaughter cows and bulls, after prices rose from winter weather, and things have settled back down. The feeder calf market, on the other hand, has taken a spurt. I suppose from good moisture out west and grass season not that far away. Be

	MONDAY	TUESDAY
CLFS	441	1098
COWS	163	239
BULLS	16	23
TOTAL	620	1360

HEIFERS MED & LARGE 1:

200-250	160.00	197.00
250-300	162.00	185.00
300-350	158.00	174.00
350-400	152.00	162.00
400-450	140.00	158.00
450-500	136.00	154.00
500-550	126.00	141.00
550-600	126.00	136.00
600-700	124.00	132.00

HEIFERS MED & LARGE 2:

200-250	170.00	175.00
250-300	150.00	168.00
300-350	140.00	163.00
350-400	142.00	146.00
400-450	138.00	144.00
450-500	126.00	140.00
500-550	118.00	130.00
550-600	118.00	122.00
600-700	114.00	122.00

thinking about our next OkeeVac calf sale coming up on Tuesday, April 16. Could be a good time to sell some!

Lazy H Land and Cattle, Odessa, topped the calf market with a high of \$2.80 bought by D&S Cattle.

Ridgill Cattle, Clewiston, topped the slaughter cow market with a high of \$0.66 bought by Brown Packing.

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Back to Butch's Bar hosts cannabis educators

By Chris Felker

Lake Okeechobee News

OKEECHOBEE — Jeffrey W. Kennedy, who recently reopened Back to Butch's Bar on Southeast U.S. 441, co-founded and created a website about eight years ago to help educate the public about the safety of using medical cannabis as an alternative to pharmaceutical drugs. Now, he's bringing that mission to his bar, planning to offer a series of seminar-type gatherings this coming month at Butch's featuring a variety of speakers, including himself.

"Back To Butch's Bar sponsors a legal, registered nonprofit every month as a way of giving back to this great community we live in," said a note he sent to the *Lake Okeechobee News*. "Back To Butch's Bar will be sponsoring I'mAPatientNotACriminal.org," which is the website he established back when medical cannabis could not be used legally in Florida.

He said he already has had two fund-raisers for local groups. "Trail of Hope, we did over three grand for them; the month before that was the Veterans Council. We raised over \$2,000 for them. The nonprofits, when they come in, they bring the food in on the weekends, and they sell the food for a donation. That way they're able to raise money, and they also do raffles," he said, noting that he wants to do one every month but had no takers in March.

"For the month of April we will be educating the town on medical cannabis," Mr.



Lake Okeechobee News/Chris Felker
Jeffrey Kennedy (left), who runs Back to Butch's Bar on Southeast U.S. 441 in Okeechobee, is a cancer survivor who says he's conquering his illness solely through the use of medical marijuana.

Kennedy's note announced. He explained that he himself is a cancer patient who has eschewed the use of pharmaceuticals and is treating the disease only with cannabis.

Mr. Kennedy will speak each Saturday in April about his experiences, beginning with his August 2009 arrest on drug trafficking charges in Palm Beach County after his home had been burglarized and his "miracle medical cannabis garden" was discovered. Charges were dismissed roughly 18 months later, in May 2011, and in the meantime Mr. Kennedy became a vocal advocate for medical marijuana and its use, also working to assist patients who have been arrested for using it and are fighting charges through his charity organization. Then in 2013, he was diagnosed with a form of leukemia, cancer of the blood, but never has used

pharmaceutical remedies, telling his doctors he wanted to treat it without them, using medical cannabis. They wished him luck.

A few years later, Floridians voted overwhelmingly for a constitutional amendment (in 2016) to legalize medical marijuana use, and the legislature and state Department of Health set up a system to give licensed patients access in 2017.

The seminar lineup is as follows:

- Dr. Ramesh Kumar, a radiation oncologist with an office in the Big Lake Cancer Center in Okeechobee, will speak on consecutive Saturdays, April 6 and 13, from 1 to 5 p.m., including a question-and-answer period. He'll talk about cancer and how cannabis can be effective in treating it.

- Daniel Meara, co-owner of Sunshine

Vape & Coffee LLC in Okeechobee, is the featured speaker April 20, when Mr. Kennedy and Back to Butch's will be hosting a fund-raising barbecue and party with live music from the band Redneck Crazy (1-4 p.m.); Mr. Meara will then explain some observed benefits from and details about the use of cannabidiol or CBD oils, from 5 to 8 p.m. Those are derived mainly from the related hemp plant at present, which people may buy in Florida without a medical marijuana use license. Mr. Meara's shop on South Parrott Avenue sells hemp-based CBD and other products and will have a booth at each of these Saturday events.

- Finally, on April 27, Irving Rosenfeld, one of the longest-living medical cannabis patients still alive, will talk from 1 to 5 p.m. about his experiences. He is a federal government-registered medical cannabis patient for over 30 years, one of only about two dozen ever authorized in the United States, who took on the government back in the 1980s and won.

Mr. Rosenfeld has been receiving free cannabis from the government since then, paid for by federal tax revenue. He'll bring a "tin" of the 30 joints he receives monthly for free from the federal government.

Mr. Kennedy suggested Googling "Jeffrey Kennedy and medical cannabis" for anyone interested in further information.

"Back To Butch's Bar is trying to educate to give others a choice," he explained.

Chris Felker can be reached at cfelker@newszap.com.

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Grand Oaks residents get new Senior Styles Salon

Special to the Lake Okeechobee News

OKEECHOBEE — Grand Oaks Assisted Living celebrated the opening of its new Salon on Tuesday, March 26. The Okeechobee Chamber of Commerce came out to lend the big scissors for the ribbon-cutting.

A "Name the Salon" contest was conducted by the residents of Grand Oaks. The salon will be named "Senior Styles Salon," chosen by the winner of the contest, Ruth Durham. In addition to Ruth's name being

chosen, she won a \$50 credit to the salon.

It was a sunflower theme and is beautifully decorated with a sunflower motif. Everyone who attended was presented with a large, fresh sunflower by the administrator, Randy Kelly.

The new stylist of the salon is Connie Jensen, who is also the stylist at the Grand Oaks in Jensen Beach. She will be at the Okeechobee location every Tuesday to take care of the residents who need her services.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News
Administrator Randy Kelly took the big scissors in hand and did the honor of cutting the ribbon.



Special to the Lake Okeechobee News
Connie Jensen, the new stylist, handed out sunflowers while wearing a sunflower dress.

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3rd Annual ALL VETERANS RIDE

Saturday, April 6th

Festivities begin at 9 am

9am Breakfast
VFW 9528
Buckhead Ridge
11am Kickstands Up
with VIP Escort to
VFW North 4423,
Okeechobee
12pm Memorial Service

Live Music from 2-6
by **Saddle Tramp**

50/50 Raffle
Door Prizes

Rib or Chicken Platter
\$10

Starts at 1pm
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An open to the public fundraising event & proceeds will benefit Veterans in Need

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HURRY!

The Round of 4 will be open for picks on Sunday, March 31 (after the last game of 4) and close at approximately 5pm EST on Saturday, April 6, 2019!

Here's how:

- 1) Log on to lakeokeechobeenews.com/contest (Be sure to sign-up using an e-mail address you check so you see notifications throughout the contest!)
- 2) Log into your current account or create a new one.
- 3) Check back for bracket updates and to see how you do!
- 4) Compete against people all around Lake Okeechobee, plus you can win national prizes too!
- 5) Watch Lake Okeechobee News & your e-mail for prize winner notifications and to see how you do against our local "VIP PICKERS" just for fun!

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VFW 4423



Lake Okeechobee News

Meet Our VIP PICKERS!

After Rounds 1 & 2



Stephanie Larson
Lake Okeechobee News
Score: 124



Rosanne Patsy
Prudential Advisors
Score: 110



Jaime Limoges
Lake Okeechobee News
Score: 104



Mayor Dowling Watford
Score: 94



Richard Marion
Lake Okeechobee News
Score: 92



Bill Martin
VFW Post 4423
Score: 86



Jeff Kennedy
Back to Butch's Bar
Score: 84



Kris Schwartz
Lake Okeechobee News
Score: 76



Jennifer Froman
Lake Okeechobee News
Score: 68



Kay Sheedy
Lake Okeechobee News
Score: 56



Dawn Huddleston
A Barber's Barber Shop & Salon
Score: 52



Tommy Shorter
Lake Okeechobee News
Score: 40



Dakota Marchiano
Tin Fish
Score: 16



Keli Trimnal
Lake Okeechobee News
Score: 16

COLLEGE BASKETBALL Bracket CONTEST

Play against our VIP Pickers online and join the fun!

Round 1

1st Place Winner: Corey Wheeler - Back to Butch's \$10 Gift Card, Ticket for 2 Meals at VFW 4423 North Post's 3rd Annual All Veterans Ride on April 6

2nd Place Winner: Kelley Smiley - \$10 Antique Treasures Gift Card, Ticket for 1 Meal at VFW 4423 North Post's 3rd Annual All Veterans Ride

3rd Place Winner: Sean Tighe - Ticket for 1 Meal at VFW 4423 North Post's 3rd Annual All Veterans Ride

Round 2

1st Place Winner: Cindy Miller - \$10 Tin Fish Gift Certificate, Ticket for 2 Meals at VFW 4423 North Post's 3rd Annual All Veterans Ride

2nd Place Winner: Marlin Jewel - \$10 Antique Treasures Gift Card, Ticket for 1 Meal at VFW 4423 North Post's 3rd Annual All Veterans Ride

3rd Place Winner: Kevin Ballew - Ticket for 1 Meal at VFW 4423 North Post's 3rd Annual All Veterans Ride

16 Team Bracket - Winners to be announced soon! This bracket closed at 6 pm Thursday.
1st Place - Yeti Tumbler, Tin Fish \$10 Gift Certificate, \$10 Antique Treasures Gift Card, \$10 Back to Butch's Bar Gift Card, \$10 A Barber Shop & Salon gift card
2nd Place & 3rd Place prizes, too!

4-Team Bracket - The Round of 4 will be open for picks on Sunday, March 31 (after the last game of 4) and close approximately 5 pm EST on Saturday, April 6, 2019
1st Place - Yeti Tumbler, Tin Fish \$10 Gift Certificate, \$10 Antique Treasures Gift Card, \$10 Back to Butch's Bar Gift Card, \$10 A Barber Shop & Salon gift card
2nd Place & 3rd Place prizes, too!

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lakeokeechobeenews.com/contests

Find updated bracket on our contest page throughout the tournament.

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Lady Brahmans softball team wins three in a row

By Richard Marion

Lake Okeechobee News

The Okeechobee High School Lady Brahmans softball team got a much-needed spark after what had been a somewhat slow start to their season when they stacked three back-to-back wins in the span of six days.

The Lady Brahmans officially got the winning streak started with a 10-1 blowout of South Fork on March 21, but you could make an argument that the positive momentum for Okeechobee really began in the game before South Fork when the Lady Brahmans faced Vero Beach on March 11.

Okeechobee came into the Vero game with an 0-6 record, and when Vero Beach out up five runs early in the first inning it looked like Okeechobee might be heading for another crushing defeat. But the Lady Brahmans would go on to nearly pull off the comeback.

In the third inning Lady Brahman Lauren Sills stepped to the plate with Brooke Santiago and Alex Fulford on third and second base respectively. On a 1-2 count Sills connected on a ground ball that was mishandled by a Vero infielder and brought home Santiago and Fulford. Sills was able to come home on that same error by the Vero infielder to bring the score to 5-3. Vero was able to tack on another run in the fourth inning, but in the fifth Okeechobee took the lead thanks to RBIs by Aleina Micco, Janel Aponte, and Alex Fulford.

Although Vero would go on to win 9-7 thanks to a three-run seventh inning, it was by far the most resilient performance by this Lady Brahmans team, one that could help build confidence as they move on into their season.

And the Lady Brahmans certainly looked confident in their following game against South Fork.

Okeechobee had already lost to South Fork 11-3 earlier this season on Feb. 24, but it didn't take long for South Fork to realize they weren't playing the same Okeechobee team from a month ago. The Lady Brahmans came out of the gate with an explosive five-run inning in the bottom of the first. RBIs by Haley Underhill, Destiny Elliot, Halle McDuffie and Lillian Henry gave Okeechobee the big early lead. It turned out that those five runs would be all the Lady Brahmans would need to win the game as South Fork's offense was completely stymied by the Okeechobee defense and pitcher Haley Underhill. Still, Okeechobee tacked on one run in the

fourth inning and four runs in the fifth to compete the blowout. Underhill pitched for all seven innings and notched eight strikeouts, throwing 13 first strike pitches.

The Lady Brahmans went for a more slow and steady approach to defeating Jensen Beach on March 22, slowly tacking on runs throughout the course of the game to secure the 5-1 victory.

Underhill struck out nine Jensen batters; McDuffie and Aponte each had two RBIs.

The Lady Brahmans kept their positive momentum going when they moved on to

face Suncoast on March 26 in Okeechobee.

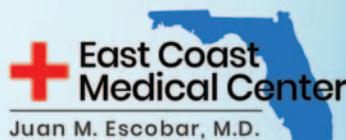
The two teams were able to battle to a 5-5 tie through five innings, but things changed significantly in the bottom of the fifth.

Faith Vest got things started by bringing in two Okeechobee runs on a ground ball to second base, then Elle Thomas brought in another on a grounder of her own. Next Madison Hargraves and Destiny Elliot each brought in a RBI of their own and Brooke Santiago tacked on two more. That monster seven-run performance in the

bottom of the sixth by the Lady Brahmans let Okeechobee cruise to a 12-5 win over Suncoast.

The Lady Brahmans now have a short break before their next game. They won't see the field again until they host Martin County on April 11. Martin County is currently undefeated for their season and beat Okeechobee earlier this year 7-1 on March 7.

Martin County will see if they can top the resurgent Lady Brahmans at 6:30 p.m. on April 11 at Okeechobee High School.



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Volunteers needed

My Aunt's House (The Closet), of Okeechobee, is a nonprofit organization in great need of volunteers. It is in need of individuals for several positions including inventory, tagging and hanging, cleaning, light office work and working with clients. The hours are typically from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Other hours may also be available. If you are interested in volunteering, please call Judy at 863-634-2306 or stop by the location at 202 N.E. Second St.

**319 N Parrott Ave,
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TRUMP

Continued From Page

"You have a chance, Mr. President to go down in history as the Everglade's president, the person who helped save and restore the Everglades," he said.

"The Everglades is very important and very important to me," said the president.

Sen. Rick Scott gave the president credit for helping to obtain the federal funding to expedite the rehabilitation of the dike.

"I shared with the president when we were down by the water that it took us 13 years with the funding that we had to get this project to the halfway point," said Maj. Gen. Scott Spellmon, deputy commanding general for civil and emergency operations, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. "With his leadership and all of the elected leadership from ... Florida, it will only take us three years to get it the remaining 50 percent."

Rubio tweets goals

On Friday morning, Sen. Rubio shared his goals for President Trump's tour of the lake with a series of tweets:

"We secured funds last year to speed up & finish Hoover Dike. Because it came from

disaster money, it freed up Everglades money to advance other restoration projects.

"The ideal outcome is \$200 million a year sustained over period of time to complete full suite of interconnected #EvergladesRestoration projects. The less money we get, the longer it will take. We MUST stay on schedule.

"Single biggest reason I gave up post on Commerce Committee to serve on Appropriations is to fund #Everglades. We will get more \$ than @POTUS budget currently requests. BUT his number is relevant because the higher his number the higher the final funding will be.

"Goal of today's visit is to sell @POTUS on making #EvergladesRestoration a legacy achievement of his Presidency. @realDonaldTrump has a chance to be the #Everglades President. Something that will matter long after all of us are gone."

In February, Sens. Rubio and Scott, and Gov. DeSantis urged President Trump to include a sustained annual commitment of \$200 million in construction funding for South Florida Ecosystem Restoration in his administration's future budget requests to Congress. Sen. Rubio and his colleagues reiterated their position earlier this month after the president's budget was released.

The president's initial budget allocated

only \$63 million for Everglades projects — less than had been in the previous year's budget, and less than a third of the \$200 million a year requested by the Florida delegation to get the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan on track.

About the dike

The Herbert Hoover Dike (HHD) is a 143-mile earthen dam that surrounds Lake Okeechobee, the heart of the Kissimmee-Okeechobee-Everglades system.

The first embankments around Lake Okeechobee were constructed by local interests from sand and muck, circa 1915. Hurricane tides overtopped the original embankments in 1926 and 1928, resulting in over 2,500 deaths. The River and Harbors Act of 1930 authorized the construction of 67.8 miles of levee along the south shore of the lake and 15.7 miles along the north shore. The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers constructed the levees between 1932 and 1938.

A major hurricane in 1947 prompted the need for additional flood and storm damage reduction work. As a result, Congress passed the Flood Control Act of 1948, authorizing the first phase of the Central and South Florida (C&SF) Project. The new dike

system was completed in the late 1960s and named the Herbert Hoover Dike.

By the 1990s, the corps had identified problems with the aging dike. Following the hurricanes of 2004 and 2005, a panel of engineering experts determined the potential for dike failure posed "grave and imminent danger to the people and the environment of South Florida."

In 2007, the corps placed the HHD rehabilitation at the top of the list of dam safety projects in the country.

In 2016, the corps estimated that the dike project — which was fully funded by the federal government — would be complete in 2025. Following high water concerns that resulted in massive freshwater releases from the lake to the Caloosahatchee River and the St. Lucie Canal, then-Gov. Rick Scott proposed adding \$200 million in state funds over a four-year timeline to help speed up the work. In 2017 and 2018, the State of Florida budgeted \$50 million per year to help the corps with the expedited dike rehabilitation.

In 2018, Congress passed the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, which fully funds the project to completion with the expedited schedule using federal funds.

DELAGALL

Continued From Page 1

because I could say I didn't make that rule." Many children in her classes called her "Mama," she continued. "I love children. I didn't care what color, either. They could be purple, and I would still love them."

Mrs. Delagall went to college — Florida A&M University, University of Florida and Florida Atlantic University — and had a career in an age when most women did not do those things, but she said her family believed in education and encouraged each member to go further. If one went for two years, her father wanted his child to go for four. If a niece was in school, the entire family contributed in some way to make it easier for her to be able to go.

"My mother made my dresses from flour sacks," said Mrs. Delagall. "Most people don't even know what that means. Sometimes she would buy two so she could match up the sleeves." She said she even went to preparatory school to learn how to sit and walk properly — how to be a lady, but when her mother became ill, she had to leave school to come home because school was expensive and her mother was no longer able to work so they couldn't afford the school.

She remembers when they first moved to Okeechobee, she went to Padgett's Drug Store. "I didn't know black people were not supposed to go inside the drugstore. They were supposed to go around back and knock on the window," she said. "Mary Padgett didn't say a word, though. She was always a kind woman. Everybody was nice. I didn't find it hard to get along with people here."

The town has changed a lot, though — a complete 360 degrees — she said.

She remembers the old Gilbert Theater on State Road 70, D&D Grocery, Raulerson

Grocery, Raulerson Department Store, the 5- and 10-cent store, which they later changed to the 5- and 10-cent and \$1 store. And she really hated to see the hotel go, she said. The post office was even in there around the back.

The Delagalls raised four children in Okeechobee: her niece Mary Jackson; her sister Joyce Bass; their son Daniel and their son Tony S., who is married to Ethel. Tony S. and Ethel have a son named Tony R. and he is married to Danyta. They have two children, Ciara and Channing. "Along with my brother Tony, my mother has always been my best friend," said her son Daniel. She has unconditional love and wisdom, but most of all, she is unshakable in her faith in God.

One of her sons was the drum major in the high school band, and her sister played in it, so Mrs. Delagall found herself a very active band mom for many years, she said. She was the treasurer of the band association for ten years. "Once," she laughed, "we made uniforms for the band in home economics. The parents bought the pants, but we made the shirts." They also used to make 100 candy apples in home economics to sell on Friday nights, and they even made and sold quilts to support the band.

"I believe I am God's child," said Mrs. Delagall. "God made every one of us." She and her husband always kept extra groceries so they could help if there was ever a family in need. She said it was very common for a family to be burned out because they used pot bellied stoves and fires happened a lot. "Some of the other teachers, like Mrs. Raulerson, used to bring things over for us to store in case of emergency because they knew we were helping people," she said. Each year at Christmas time, they "adopted" a family and took them all the groceries for a Christmas dinner and a gift for each child in the family. "I believe God leads me where He wants me to go, and I try to follow."

SUDOKU

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9	6		1	5				

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
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ANSWER:

Taxpayers should protect themselves from criminals

Special to the Lake Okeechobee News

Taxpayers should protect their personal and financial data from criminals who continue to steal large amounts of informa-

tion. Thieves use the data to file bogus tax returns and commit crimes while impersonating the victim.

All taxpayers should follow these steps to protect themselves and their data.

Florida blueberries stay competitive on the market

By **Samantha Grenrock**
UF/IFAS

This time of year, we're used to seeing Florida-grown blueberries show up at the local grocery store. But things weren't always this way.

The Florida blueberry industry got its start in the 1970s when the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences developed the first Southern Highbush blueberry plants grown commercially in the Sunshine State.

Now, the Florida blueberry industry is worth an estimated \$82 million, according to the most recent statistics from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Andy Frederick started growing blueberries in 1999 and now operates farms in Silver Springs and Arcadia.

"I have gone through many generations of advancements in blueberry variety development with UF plants," Mr. Frederick said. "Each generation has worked to bring larger fruit, earlier ripening, healthier bushes and larger yields. To date, I have areas that have been replanted three to four times in order to leverage the advances that UF has developed with the new cultivars, and I planted two additional farms. UF varieties have helped me with better, earlier and more productive bushes to compete in an international environment and with our northern friends in Georgia."

The goal of the UF/IFAS Blueberry Breeding Program is to develop blueberry varieties that thrive in Florida's climate and soils, while resisting disease and producing the best quality berry. Florida blueberries are available earlier than berries grown in other regions, letting growers command higher prices during the early season window.

All these traits give Florida blueberry growers an economic edge, said Jack Payne, UF senior vice president for agriculture and natural resources. To protect Florida farmers and feed research and discovery, UF patents and licenses Florida blueberry varieties, he said.

"If we don't license our blueberry varieties, there is no limit to who can sell or grow them," Mr. Payne said. "The license lets us limit and control who uses them and prevents international competitors from marketing UF/IFAS-developed varieties to the U.S. during the Florida blueberry season. Licensing revenue then gets reinvested into the breeding program that created the plants in the first place."

Florida farmers are able to start using UF/IFAS varieties a few years before inter-

national growers do, Mr. Payne added.

And the numbers show that these policies work, he said, citing blueberry imports from Mexico.

"UF/IFAS varieties produced in Mexico make up only 1.63 percent of the total volume of blueberries imported into the U.S. from Mexico," he said.

Compared with other land grant universities' licensing practices, UF's policy of reinvesting licensing revenues into plant breeding research is one of the most aggressive in the nation, according to a statement from the Florida Blueberry Growers Association.

"We're proud to work in partnership with the Florida Blueberry Growers Association to make sure licensing protects the Florida blueberry industry and ensures future innovation," Mr. Payne said, noting that UF/IFAS breeders work closely with growers on developing traits that fit growers' needs.

Ken Patterson, who has been growing blueberries in Florida since 1990, has farms in Island Grove and Arcadia. He agrees that licensing helps his businesses.

"Patents and licensing have enabled Florida to be competitive in the global market and make the industry sustainable. Without those protections, Florida varieties would have escaped into the world," Mr. Patterson said. "UF has the number one Southern Highbush blueberry breeding program in the world, and the Florida industry wouldn't be possible without it."

Licensing revenues support the many components of the UF/IFAS Blueberry Breeding Program, from purchasing new lab equipment, to hiring breeders and Extension faculty who advise growers and travel to their farms.

"Recently Patricio Muñoz and Doug Phillips have been added to the UF/IFAS blueberry breeding side and field Extension, and have been awesome in their process to evaluate varieties from an economic perspective, and being proactive on chemical requirements and variety selection," Mr. Frederick said.

This partnership with growers allows UF/IFAS breeders to test new varieties on farms throughout the state, Patterson added.

"Florida's climate varies region to region, so farm trials help growers make sure they are planting the right variety for their location," he said.

Keep a secure computer.

Taxpayers should:

- Use security software that updates automatically. Essential tools for keeping a secure computer include a firewall, virus and malware protection, and file encryption for sensitive data.

- Treat personal information like cash; don't leave it lying around.

- Give personal information only over encrypted and trusted websites.

- Use strong passwords and protect them.

To avoid phishing and

malware, taxpayers should:

- Not respond to emails, texts or calls that appear to be from the IRS, tax companies and other well-known businesses. Instead, verify contact information about companies or agencies by going directly to their website.

- Be cautious of email attachments. Think twice before opening them.

- Turn off the option to automatically download attachments.

- Download and install software only from known and trusted websites.

Protect personal information.

Taxpayers should:

- Not routinely carry a Social Security card or other documents showing a Social Security number.

- Not overshare personal information on social media. This includes information about past addresses, a new car, a new home and children.

- Keep old tax returns and tax records under lock and key.

- Safeguard electronic files by encrypting and properly disposing them.

- Shred tax documents before trashing.

Taxpayers should forward IRS-related scam emails to phishing@irs.gov. They can report IRS impersonation telephone calls at www.tigta.gov.

Tax forms available at Okeechobee Public Library

OKEECHOBEE — Okeechobee Public Library, 206 S.W. 16th St., would like to announce that it now has all tax documents and booklets available for the public. When you walk in you will be able to find them in a marked file cabinet on the right.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Okeechobee Utility Authority will temporarily change its method of chlorinating potable water to insure the future safety of our drinking water. The water users may notice an unusual chlorine taste or odor in their tap water after April 8th 2019. These conditions will last thru April 22nd 2019.

These temporary conditions will not be harmful to your health; however, if you are on kidney dialysis, you should consult your physician for special instructions concerning this matter. If you have tropical fish or aquatic animals, you should contact your local tropical fish store for advice and take appropriate action to insure that you have properly treated the water before adding it to your aquarium.

The hydrant flushing during this period may cause the water to become cloudy and discolored. This is a temporary condition and should not last more than a few hours.

We sincerely regret any inconvenience you may experience during this time. Please keep in mind that this is necessary to provide safe water for the customers of Okeechobee Utility Authority.

If additional information is needed, please contact Kevin Rogers at 763-3239. We regret any inconvenience that this may cause you. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.**

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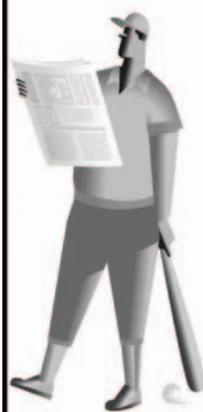
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Public Notice

Public Notice

CITY OF OKEECHOBEE PUBLIC NOTICE CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED ZONING RECLASSIFICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a **QUASI-JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARING** will be held before the City of Okeechobee Planning Board on **Thur., April 18, 2019, 6 PM**, or as soon thereafter as possible, at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Council Chambers, Rm 200, Okeechobee, FL, to consider and receive input on Rezoning Petition No. 19-002-R, submitted by Ms. Anita Nunez as the property owner, Anita's Rental Properties, Inc. The public is encouraged to attend.

Petition No. 19-002-R requests to rezone 1.50+/- acres located at 701 NE 3rd Street, from Light Commercial (CLT) to Heavy Commercial (CHV). The proposed use is a Recreation Vehicle Park.

Legal: **LOTS 7 TO 12, OF BLOCK 116, OKEECHOBEE, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 5, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA; AND A PARCEL OF LAND LYING IN SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH, RANGE 35 EAST, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND BEING COMPRISED OF ONE OF THE PARCELS OF LAND AS RECORDED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS (O.R.) BOOK 645, PAGE 1370, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 1 OF BLOCK 116, OKEECHOBEE, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 5, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA; THENCE RUN SOUTH AND RUNNING ALONG THE WESTERN BOUNDARY OF PARCEL 4 ACCORDING TO PLAT NO. 1 OF TAYLOR CREEK WATERSHED AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 29, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO THE CENTERLINE OF THE 15 FOOT ALLEYWAY IN SAID BLOCK 116 AND THE POINT OF THE BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE SOUTH, ALONG THE WESTERN BOUNDARY OF SAID PARCEL 4 AND THE EAST BOUNDARY OF SAID BLOCK 116, TO THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 12 OF SAID BLOCK 116 AND ALSO BEING THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF PARCEL 3 OF SAID PLAT NO. 1 OF TAYLOR CREEK WATERSHED; THENCE RUN SOUTHWESTERLY, ALONG THE WESTERN BOUNDARY OF SAID PARCEL 3, TO THE CENTERLINE OF N.E. 3RD STREET (FORMERLY NINTH STREET); THENCE RUN EAST ALONG SAID CENTERLINE OF SAID N.E. 3RD STREET (FORMERLY NINTH STREET) EXTENDED EAST, TO THE WESTERN SHORE LINE OF TAYLOR CREEK; THENCE RUN NORTHERLY, ALONG SAID WESTERN SHORE LINE OF TAYLOR CREEK, TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE CENTERLINE OF SAID LOT 15 FOOT ALLEYWAY EXTENDED EAST; THENCE RUN WEST, ALONG THE CENTERLINE OF SAID ALLEYWAY EXTENDED, TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.**

The Petition may be inspected at the address above during regular business hours, Mon-Fri, 8 AM-4:30 PM, except for holidays.

A Public Hearing for a Rezoning Petition is handled as a "Quasi-Judicial" proceeding, meaning a manner similar to a court hearing testimony and questioning presenters who provide substantial and competent evidence. It is the duty of the Planning Board to arrive at sound decisions. A recommendation to approve or deny the Petition will be forwarded to the City Council, tentatively scheduled for 6 PM on May 7, 2019, (First Reading) and Public Hearing on May 21, 2019 (Final Adoption).

ANY PERSON DECIDING TO APPEAL any decision made by the Planning Board with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need to ensure a verbatim record of the proceeding is made and the record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal will be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), any person with a disability as defined by the ADA, that needs special accommodation to participate in this proceeding, contact the General Services Office no later than two business days prior to proceeding, 863-763-3372.

BE ADVISED that should you intend to show any document, picture, video or items to the Planning Board in support or opposition to any item on the agenda, a copy of the document, picture, video, or item must be provided to the Board Secretary for the City's records.

BE ADVISED THAT ONE OR MORE CITY OF OKEECHOBEE COUNCIL MEMBERS MAY BE IN ATTENDANCE AT THIS MEETING. THIS NOTICE IS POSTED TO MEET STATE PUBLIC NOTICE REQUIREMENTS AND SUNSHINE LAWS.

By: Zoning Administrator Marcos MontesDeOca, No. 19-002-R 327864 ON 3/31/2019

CITY OF OKEECHOBEE PUBLIC NOTICE CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED ZONING RECLASSIFICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a **QUASI-JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARING** will be held before the City of Okeechobee Planning Board on **Thur., April 18, 2019, 6 PM**, or as soon thereafter as possible, at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Council Chambers, Rm 200, Okeechobee, FL, to consider and receive input on Rezoning Petition No. 19-003-R, submitted by Mr. Bill Royce on behalf of the property owner, Okeechobee County. The public is encouraged to attend.

Petition No. 19-003-R requests to rezone 0.64+/- acres located at 403 NW 2nd Avenue, from Commercial Professional Office (CPO) to Public Facilities (PUB). The proposed use is a government office building.

Legal: **THE NORTH 93 FEET OF LOTS 1 THROUGH 6, OF BLOCK 107, OKEECHOBEE, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 5, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

The Petition may be inspected at the address above during regular business hours, Mon-Fri, 8 AM-4:30 PM, except for holidays.

A Public Hearing for a Rezoning Petition is handled as a "Quasi-Judicial" proceeding, meaning a manner similar to a court hearing testimony and questioning presenters who provide substantial and competent evidence. It is the duty of the Planning Board to arrive at sound decisions. A recommendation to approve or deny the Petition will be forwarded to the City Council, tentatively scheduled for 6 PM on May 7, 2019, (First Reading) and Public Hearing on May 21, 2019 (Final Adoption).

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By: Zoning Administrator Marcos MontesDeOca, No. 19-003-R 327865 ON 3/31/2019

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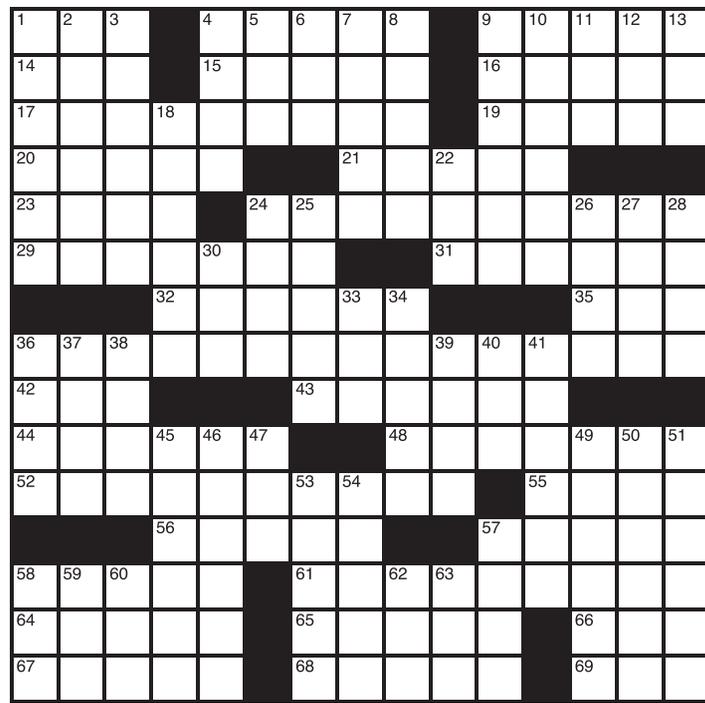
How do you find a job in today's competitive market? In the employment section of the classifieds

Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Half-_: coffee with a little less kick
 - 4 Chocolate-making bean
 - 9 Polynesian people
 - 14 Darth, as a youth
 - 15 Suspect's excuse
 - 16 Muslim religion
 - 17 Single-digit temps, for most
 - 19 Exams for would-be attys.
 - 20 Try to whack
 - 21 Jazz great Blake
 - 23 Cabinet dept. concerned with nukes
 - 24 1984 Prince hit
 - 29 Picket line participant
 - 31 Fierce public protest
 - 32 Jot down
 - 35 Napkin's place
 - 36 Body of water between Connecticut and southeastern New York
 - 42 Skater Midori
 - 43 Muscle injury
 - 44 Small river
 - 48 Tribulations
 - 52 At close range
 - 55 Bushels
 - 56 Ponzi scheme, e.g.
 - 57 Ann __, Michigan
 - 58 California/Nevada resort lake
 - 61 Grandmaster's last word ... and what the last word in 17-, 24-, 36- and 52-Across can be
 - 64 Milky gemstones
 - 65 Breed that's Welsh for "dwarf dog"
 - 66 Fresh
 - 67 George of "Cheers"
 - 68 Trap during a winter storm, say
 - 69 Dozens of mos.
- DOWN**
- 1 Secret supplies
 - 2 Bless using oil
 - 3 Color-altering camera lens accessory
 - 4 Actors in a show
 - 5 European mountain
 - 6 Paris corp.
 - 7 More adept
 - 8 Prepare to shine in a bodybuilding contest?
 - 9 Cultural setting
 - 10 State with conviction
 - 11 Suffix with pay
 - 12 Templeton in "Charlotte's Web," e.g.
 - 13 Cyberchats, briefly
 - 18 Adventurous
 - 22 Rain-__ bubble gum
 - 24 Animals at home
 - 25 Eurasian border mountains
 - 26 Rights advocacy org.
 - 27 "Reading Lolita in Tehran" setting
 - 28 Big Apple law gp.
 - 30 Japanese carp
 - 33 Skin pic
 - 34 Noted 2001 bankruptcy
 - 36 Talk like Daffy
 - 37 Director Preminger
 - 38 More formal "Me neither!"
 - 39 Lacking light
 - 40 Bully in the "Toy Story" films
 - 41 Like challenging push-ups
 - 45 Surround
 - 46 Taking a break
 - 47 Management deg.
 - 49 Capital on the Hudson
 - 50 Thief during a riot
 - 51 Scatters, as seeds
 - 53 Soap star Susan
 - 54 For a specific purpose, as a committee
 - 57 Comparable (to)
 - 58 Aid for a disabled auto
 - 59 Big lug
 - 60 Solo of "Star Wars"
 - 62 Before, in verse
 - 63 Cinematic FX

Puzzle Answers on Page 4



By Gary Larson
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21 Hazellief & Prevatt Realty



COME TAKE A LOOK!

5020-H: DIXIE RANCH ACRES Spacious & Unique CBS 3BD/3BA on 1+/- acre. 3,524 TSF/1,760 under air. Cathedral ceilings, fireplace, open concept & large eat in kitchen. Large back porch overlooks in-ground pool. Lots to offer! **\$265,000** MLS # OK0213189

5062-H: BASSWOOD 4BD/2BA on a good size lot. Open concept w/split bdrm plan, 1,466 Total Sq Ft./1,397 under air, wide hallway, dining area, Lots of counter space w/pantry and fenced back yard. Contact us for a showing! **\$139,000** OK0213184

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KISSIMMEE RIVER GETAWAY! **PALM VILLAGE RANCH**



KISSIMMEE RIVER Getaway! Perfect weekend retreat, right on the river with Okeechobee Lake access. Cypress trees and lush grass give way to a magnificent view of the river. 2 Bd/ 2 Ba - 14' wide SWMH. Cute as cottage. New floors, kitchen redone. New counter tops. 12 x 24 Screened porch on waterside. Carport in back. Front porch and pineapple shutters are simply charming! Later on - Build your DREAM Home.

~PICTURE PERFECT in PALM VILLAGE RANCH. 2016 Palm Harbor Mfg home on TWO lots! 3 Bd/ 2 Ba/ 2 Carport, boatporte. Grand entrance, bright and cheery, Split floor plan, crown molding, drywall interior designer ceilings. Chef's island kitchen, granite counters, SS appliances. 13x15 Master suite with 11x12 Sitting room. Large family room for entertaining. Superb curb appeal. HOA, 55+ Community, pool. FAAA-BULOUS! in EVERY Way!

MLS#OK213655 **\$99,000**
 Call Lori (863) 634-1457

MLS#OK213506 **\$199,000**
 Call Lori (863) 634-1457

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Lori Mixon (863) 634-1457
 Lic. Real Estate Broker LMixon@MixonGroup.com



New Price! Pool Home in SW Section



Northlake Country Estates - 4bed/3bath CBS home w/ 2car garage, in-ground pool, screen enclosure on .50 acre. Features office/bonus rm, living rm, dining & formal dining rm, family/game rm, mud rm for pool area. Upstairs guest rm w/ private bath, Master is downstairs w/ private bath. Kitchen adorned w/solid wood cabinetry, SS appliances, granite counters, eat in bar. Int laundry, hurricane shutters, sprinkler system, rear yard fenced. **UPGRADES:** New roof, pool screen, & shed in 01/2019 & New water system 12/2018 **\$285,000** MLS 213547

Julia Parker
 863.801.3489
 RoyalJewelRealEstate@gmail.com
 1210 SW 2nd Ave, Okeechobee FL 34974

Royal Jewel REAL ESTATE

Renee Box Lic. Real Estate Broker
863.801.2147
 allpropertiesrealtygroup@gmail.com • allpropertiesrealtygroup.com



Laundry Mat (Business ONLY): remodeled as of October 2017. New A/C - 10 Ton rooftop package unit and ductwork installed, washers have been re-piped, all dryers converted to natural gas. **Included:** full on security system, 1992 Chevy van for pick up and delivery service, vending machine (gumball/stick), coin pusher, toy crane, quarter changers, clothes scale and bag machine. Turn key, up and running! Call for further details and to schedule showing! RX- 10508391 **\$120,000**

NEW LISTING 3 bd, 2 ba with additional lot. Parcels 1-05-37-35-0050-00570-0050 and 1-05-37-35-0050-00570-0060 to be sold together. Totaling 0.43 acre. Split floor plan and updated. New Kitchen cabinets, newer appliances, open concept kitchen-dining and living room area. Full master suite. 9 x 20 Covered back patio area great for entertaining or BBQ area. 50 Amp hookup for an RV. Shed 10 x 16 with a cover addition for more storage space. RX- 10504829 **\$170,000**

PENDING

BRAND NEW CONSTRUCTION!
 2018- Palm Village Ranch. 2 Bed 2 Bath-Carport. Master Bedroom has walk in Shower. Granite Counter Tops - also bathroom has granite! Hurricane rated double pane windows. Attic storage. This is a great community for 55+. Home Built by Penrod Construction- THE most recognized builder in Okeechobee County for quality work. This one is a keeper! Possible lot next door for sale; to build a garage or shop. MLS #212832 **\$199,000** Call **Jody 863-634-1285**



ANCIENT OAKS 55+ Community. Active Lifestyles. BRAND NEW - 2017 Chariot Eagle - 1 BED 1 BATH. GORGEOUS!!! Rustic Decor. Living room and dining room furniture stays. Island Kitchen - Pavers on both sides and back patio area under roof. Shed included. Come and enjoy the Beautiful Florida weather! OKEECHOBEE ON MY MIND!! MLS #213586 **\$115,000** Call **Jody 863-634-1285**



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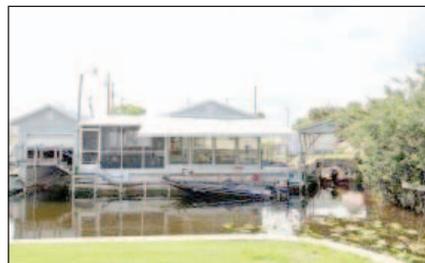


INDIAN HAMMOCK ~ PROMISED LAND down a Winding Road OR Fly in * ESCAPE to QUIET * Aviation * Stables, Arena & Trails * Sport Shooting ** AND 'THE HOUSE' * 8' French Doors * Screen Room * Master on 2nd Floor w/ Balcony to view the Vast Openness & Common Area to the North * Basket-Weave Stone floor in Guest Bath * Pictures are worth 1000 words, LIFE here is PRICE-LESS * ENLARGING PERIMETERS GATHERS GREAT PEACE * Home is LOCATED 2 miles off the Highway to Stillness Street **ML# 219024291 \$398,000**



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MLS 213597 - \$169,000 - LAKE OKEECHOBEE ACCESS - ONE BLOCK FROM LOCKS - 3/2 Lake House. Metal roof, laminate floors fenced yard, doggie run, power at dock with light, screen room and florida room overlooking canal. Boat house with ramp and electric wench, 23' boat fits, plenty of parking, fire pit, fish cleaning station with garbage disposal, deep canal, rubber mulch - no lawn maintenance. It even sports it's own boat gas - 250 lb pig with 50 gal remaining, New A/C 3/2019,
TURN KEY - BRING TOOTHBRUSH!!!

Anderson REALTY CO.
Vicki Anderson,
Lic. RE Broker
863.634.4106

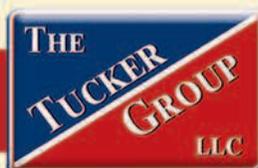
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Philip Y. Berger • Lic. RE Broker
BERGER REAL ESTATE www.cbbergerrealestate.com



LOVELY 3 BDRM, 3BATH REMODELED split bedroom, ranch home in a beautiful oak hammock situated on 2.217 acres. Den could be 4th bdrm. Many improvements and updates including a new metal roof and storm grade/hurricane windows. The interior has also been upgraded. The home is in a natural setting and is perfect for anyone who enjoys nature and privacy while in the city limits. Close to all amenities. Quaint, private backyard enclosed with a chain link fence. This is a must see home! Call Katharine Williams 863-634-1574.

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NEW PRICE
Located on Beautiful "Lake Placid" Lake
INCOME PRODUCER TWO SETS OF DUPLEXES ON ONE PROPERTY located in the quiet town of Lake Placid. Property consist of a two-story two unit building. Bottom unit is a 2Br/1Ba with porch and upstairs unit is 1Br/1Ba, with balcony. Waterfront, with new dock, boathouse, seawall, covered BBQ area, fish cleaning station. Each unit has their own entrance. There is also a two unit duplex on the lot, 1 bd 1 bath on ea. side. Seasonal rentals and stay booked in the summer. The lot across street is also included in the sale for extra parking. Roof 4 years old and AC Units are 3 years old. Please call for details on monthly and weekly rents. **\$389,000** Call Jerri Lynn Hill (863) 634-6796



AIRI ACRES Spacious 4 Br/3Ba with office that could also be used as 5th bedroom. Huge kitchen offering dbl ovens & solid surface counters, attached family room overlooking golf course! Formal dining, living room, foyer, grand master bedroom & bath suite, with plenty of closet storage, huge 2-1/2 car garage & screened porches with a built in BBQ station! Security system, irrigation, & Hurricane shutters. MLS #213413 **\$349,900** Call Priscilla Gonzalez (863) 697-2818



AIRI ACRES- ON THE GOLF COURSE! Beautiful executive home! Split floor plan, 4Br/ 3-1/2Ba with office and upstairs bonus room! 2 full kitchens with granite tops/ stainless appliances, formal dining, breakfast nook, family room, honey maple hardwood floors, fireplace and a large florida room to enjoy the view of the golf course. **\$454,000** Call Priscilla Gonzalez (863) 697-2818



PALM BEACH STYLE POOL HOME! Located in the heart of Okeechobee. 3Br/2.5Ba totally custom remodeled home on almost 1 acre of land is exquisite in every detail. Home contains 3,928 square feet of gross area including attached 2-car garage and large patio-pool. Impact windows, Master suite with separate shower/bath his/her sinks. To see the inside of this magnificent home, visit our website! MLS 213477 **\$429,900** Call Brandon Tucker: (772) 201-8722



BRENTWOOD ESTATES- Dazzling 3Bd 2Ba 2Car garage. Property sits at the end of a cul-de-sac surround by giant oaks. CBS built in 2009 with 1807 under air and 2611 TLA. Solid wood cabinets, granite counter tops, cathedral ceilings. This property offers a huge family room for entertaining, also has screened in back porch. Call TODAY! MLS 213028 **\$245,000** Call Priscilla Gonzalez (863) 697-2818



MOTIVATED SELLER!
TAYLOR CREEK ISLES WATERFRONT POOL HOME- 2Br/ 2Ba 2 Car Garage CBS Home with waterfront on 2 sides with a boat dock. The home has an inground pool over looking the waterfront and a fenced backyard. Tile floors throughout with a spacious split floor plan. Ample storage in the garage. MLS 213374 **\$234,900** Call Katie McFarland (863) 261-8338



POOL HOME WITH 2 GARAGES
LARGE PRISTINE HOME 5,469 total sq ft. 3Br/ 3Ba with large office. Bonus room with separate entrance/bath. Custom kitchen cabinets (built by owner) Huge subzero refrigerator/freezer. Fireplace in living room, formal dining room, two garages, over 3,300 sq ft over garage space. Both garages with roll-up doors and cement floors. In ground screened pool situated on 2.5 acres. **RIGHT IN TOWN! \$475,000** Jerri Lynn Hill (863) 634-6796



NEW PRICE
ON 5 ACRES
LAZY "7" ESTATES 3/2 CBS home. Brand new roof (8/18), new gutters & water heater, New paved driveway, newly screened front porch. Nice screened porch overlooking the pond/pasture. Horse barn with 4 stalls, feed room. Separate storage shed. Tile throughout, updated baths, newer cabinets in kitchen. Spacious living area. 2 car attached garage. New fencing in front & new gate. Comes with mower, washer/dryer. Water treatment system with reverse osmosis inside home. **\$275,000** Call Jerri Lynn (863) 634-6796



RIVER OAK ACRES - 4Bd/2Ba with 1Br/1Ba mother-in-law suite situated on 2 acres with tons of grandfather oaks! Cedar wood home, lots of privacy on a dead end street. 2340 SF 3714 TLA huge workshop on property 1993 with 864 sq ft Heated in-ground pool 28 x 14 with screened patio space. Outside of house has been freshly painted, lots of garage space and metal roof. MLS 212844 **\$305,000** Call Samantha Saucedo (863) 801-2101



WATERFRONT IN TREASURE ISLAND on canal in Lake Okeechobee, Two boat slips with one boat lift. 2Br/ 2Ba with two car carport. House has **extra large bedrooms**, with plenty of living space. Screened back porch overlooking the water. Nice deck around small shed out by water. Fish cleaning area. Concrete driveway with fenced yard and nicely landscaped. This is a must see for anyone would like to have a nice waterfront home! **\$195,000** Call Jerri Lynn (863) 634-6796



RIGHT IN TOWN - 3Br/2Ba Totally remodeled in 2018 This house has everything **NEW!** Brand new metal roof, New drywall throughout. Beautiful new kitchen with lots of cabinet space. New cabinets, granite countertops and brand new stainless appliances. (dishwasher, oven/range and refrigerator). Good size bedrooms, Master is large with a beautifully remodeled master bath. **\$149,000** Call Jerri Lynn Hill (863) 634-6796



MOUTH OF TAYLOR CREEK - 3Br/ 2Ba Remodeled Mobile Home with new flooring, new kitchen, excellent seawall, and boat house. Located on a very quiet street. Large Master Suite, and over sized open living area. Move in Ready! Perfect for a fishing retreat or year around living. Beautiful fenced in yard with brand new front porch. MLS 213332 **\$169,000** Call Katie McFarland (863) 261-8338



OASIS VILLAGE- 2Br/2Ba with large Florida room, a Bonus room, solid wood cabinetry, solid surface counter tops, tiled floors, large soaking tub, double vanities, tons of storage, walk in closet, spacious family room, & dining, shed, Sit outside on the comfortable patio and enjoy the view of the Community lake! This home is in a 55+ community with many amenities! MLS 213351 **\$134,900** Call Priscilla Gonzalez (863) 697-2818



SEMINOLE COVE - NEW ROOF This beautifully manicured 3Br/ 2Ba / 1 car attached carport DWMH comes partially furnished. Seminole Cove is a well maintained neighborhood with a club house, pool, shuffle board courts, and a captive lake! MLS 212578 **\$105,000** Call Katie McFarland (863) 261-8338

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\$6,995

#U2913

2006 FORD F350
AUTO, AC, TRAILER TOW PKG



\$5,495

#U7381

2004 TOYOTA CAMRY XLE
AUTO, AC, LOADED



\$5,495

#U4670

2003 LINCOLN TOWNCAR



\$4,695

#U3078

2006 CHRYSER PT CRUISER
73,971 MILES, AUTO, A/C



\$4,995

#U1379

2009 SCION XD
AUTO, AC, LOADED, NEW TIRES



\$5,995

#U1613

2005 MAZDA TRIBUTE
AUTO, AC, LOADED



\$5,495

#U1511

2008 CHEVY TRAIL BLAZER
AUTO, AC, LOADED



\$6,495

#U3317

2003 CHEVY TRAIL BLAZER
LEATHER INT, AUTO, AC, LOADED



\$5,995

U2118

2003 GMC YUKON
LOADED, 145K MILES, 3RD ROW SEATING



\$6,495

#U7280

2001 CHEVY AVALANCHE
77,773 MILES, AUTO, AC, NICE WHEELS



\$7,995

#U3319

2001 CHEVY S10 SC
AUTO, AC,



\$3,695

#U2602

2002 TOYOTA SEQUOIA
AUTO, AC, TRAILER TOW PKG



\$5,695

U5668

2012 FORD FUSION SEL
AUTO, AC, LOADED



\$5,995

#U3318

1998 FORD F150
AUTO, AC



\$3,695

#U1813

2008 SUBARU OUTBACK
AUTO, AC, LOADED



\$5,995

#U0728

2003 CHEVY 1500 SILVERADO SC
AUTO, AC,



\$5,495

U3339

2003 CHEVY SUBURBAN
LEATHER, 3RD ROW SEATING **4x4**



\$5,995

#U8747

2006 CADILLAC STS
71,639 MILES, LOADED, NEW TIRES



\$6,995

#U2819