



OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 99 No. 273

Sunday, November 2, 2008

75¢ Plus tax

Briefs

Did you remember to change your clock?

Standard time resumed early this morning (2 a.m. Nov. 2). At this time of year, we "Fall Back" from daylight savings time by setting clocks back one hour.

Election is Tuesday

The general election -- which includes national, state and local races, will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 4. Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 7 p.m.

Voting locations are: Precinct 1, Abundant Blessings Church, 4550 Hwy 441 N; Precinct 2, Basinger Comm. Center, 20350 Hwy. 98.; Precinct 3, The Gathering, 1735 SW 24th Avenue; Precinct 4 Oakview Baptist Church, 677 SW 32nd Street; Precinct 5, VFW #10539, 3912 Hwy 441 SE; Precinct 6, Episcopal Church, 200 NW 3rd Street; Precinct 7, First Methodist Church, 200 NW 2nd Street; Precinct 8, Okeechobee Christian Church, 3055 SE 18th Terrace; Precinct 9, New Testament Baptist Church, 535 NE 28th Ave. (New Location); Precinct 10, Corner Stone Baptist, 18387 Hwy. 441 N; 11, Palm Village Ranch, 1200 SW 44th Blvd. (New Location); Precinct 12, Civic Center, 1750 Hwy 98 N; Precinct 13, Catholic Church Pavilion, 701 SW 6TH Street; Precinct 14, American Legion, 501 SE 2nd Street; Precinct 15, VFW # 10539, 3912 HWY 441 SE; Precinct 16, Civic Center, 1750 Hwy. 98 N; Precinct 17, Episcopal Church, 200 NW 3rd Street; Precinct 18, FPL Service Center, 825 NE 34th Avenue.

Low cost spay/neuter available

Low cost spay/neuter vouchers for dogs and cats. Participating veterinarians in Vero Beach. For information, call United Humanitarians Port St. Lucie volunteer: 772-335-3786. Email: Petscry1@bellsouth.net. Okeechobee veterinarians are invited to participate. in this low cost spay/neuter program.

Drought Index

Current: 515
Source: Florida Division of Forestry
Local Burn Ban: None

Lake Levels

14.76 feet
Last Year: 10.33 feet

Sponsored By:
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Source: South Florida Water Management District. Depth given in feet above sea level

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Halloween in Okeechobee: Costumes and Fun



Okeechobee News/Katrina Elsen
The costume contest at the community Halloween party at the Agri-Civic Center brought out all kinds of characters, including a zombie, Harry Potter and a Star Wars Clone Trooper.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda
What is harvest without a tractor? Wyatt Friend, 4, came disguised as a John Deere tractor to the Harvest Hoedown held Friday, Oct. 31 at Peace Lutheran Preschool.



Okeechobee News/Katrina Elsen
Hundreds of local residents got into the holiday spirit to enjoy the Halloween festivities at the Okeechobee Civic-Center.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda
Gay Carlton, dressed as a scarecrow, led the students at Peace Lutheran Preschool in singing "Old McDonald's Farm." The occasion was the Harvest Hoedown held at the school on Friday, Oct. 31.



Okeechobee News/Katrina Elsen
They want your blood ... but they weren't Halloween vampires. These three colorful characters were promoting the upcoming community blood drive.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda
A panther and a clown led the Halloween Parade at Central Elementary School on Halloween.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda
Cheyenne Kerr, 4, came to the Fall Festival at Faith Academy Preschool dressed as a princess complete with scepter. The event took place Friday, Oct. 31.



Okeechobee News/Katrina Elsen
At the Halloween party at the Agri-Civic center, a coffin was turned into a treasure chest for Halloween treats, filled with candy donated by local businesses, clubs and individuals.

Rally on the River

Motorcycle rally features games, food, fireworks

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

Motorcycles, hot rods, games and fireworks will highlight this year's Rally on the River — a two-day event aimed at raising awareness and money to combat the recruiting of youngsters into gangs.

The second annual Gang Free Florida Rod Run and Motorcycle Rally will be held at the Okeechobee Campground on Nov. 8 and 9.

Some of the money raised will also go to the Florida Gang Investigators Association (FGIA).

Founded in 1993, the FGIA's main goal is to effectively and positively impact and ultimately eliminate the effects of gang violence and gang-related crime perpetuated by gang members whose actions adversely affect and constitute a threat to the public.

According to Detective Sergeant Brad Stark, who heads up the gang unit at the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), this year's rally will host many different events as well as many different food vendors. Among the scheduled events are: live music, a burn-out pit, a motorcycle and car show, a tug-of-war, a donut eating contest and a slow ride contest. There will also be a special area just for kids.

Sgt. Stark said the events will shut down at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 8. However, vendors will still be selling food and there will be live music as well as a fireworks show at dusk. The fireworks show, he added, will be held at the back pond.

Also on tap for Saturday will be a poker run. The run will start at Lunker's Bar and Grill on U.S. 441 S. with the first bike leaving at 9 a.m. The run will continue along U.S. 441 to S.R. 70 W. where riders will head for Brighton Reservation. From the reservation they will go south to S.R. 78 and then return to Okeechobee.

Last year 50 riders took part in the poker run, said Sgt. Stark.

Last year's rally was attended by law enforcement personnel from all across Florida, said the detective.

Saturday the rally on the Kissimmee River will run from 9

See Rally— Page 2

Healthy Start fundraiser 'takes the cake'

By Chauna Aguilar
Okeechobee News

The Okeechobee Healthy Start Coalition is currently having a fundraiser which takes the guess work out of finding that perfect gift for the upcoming baby shower or even a housewarming or wedding.

Becky Smith with the Healthy Start is coordinating this event where they are selling Diaper Cakes and Diaper Boats which consist of decoratively placed diapers, receiving

blankets and other baby gifts according to your specific budget. Cakes can range from one layer to three layers according to how much one would like to spend on the gift.

Diaper boats come in two sizes: small with 22 diapers and large with 40 diapers. There are even some gifts for the older child including "my size" eating utensils and a "sippy cup."

They also have a variety of other arrangements for this unique baby shower gift. They

are typically made to order similar to ordering flower arrangements.

In order to expand their orders from just baby gifts, they have also created a "Kitchen Cake" with common kitchen items such as hand towels, measuring spoons, a whisk, salt and pepper shakers and any other item that you wish.

Costs typically range within the \$30 to \$60 range, some

See Fundraiser — Page 2



Submitted photo/Healthy Start
This diaper boat is adorned with many baby items including a stuffed dog, and many other baby items. Okeechobee Healthy Start is making gifts like these "made to order."

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Anniversary

Robert and Frances Snyder

by Rev. Martin in Corsica, Pa.
 Their children are Karen Badger of Lake City, Fla., and Chris Snyder of Texas.
 They have four grandchildren and five great grandchildren.
 A celebration in their honor was held on Oct. 26 at 3 p.m. at the Golden Corral Restaurant and their residence. The event was hosted by Karen Badger.



Robert and Frances Snyder today.



Robert and Frances Snyder on their wedding day, Oct. 25, 1947

Birth

Arden Isabelle Wilderman



Submitted photo
Arden Isabelle Wilderman.

Okeechobee.
 Great grandparents are Joe and Alexa Wilderman of Bonifay, Fla.- Jimmy and Peggy Ard of Charleston, S.C. and Sharon Seaver of Okeechobee.

Engagement



Submitted photo
Richard Martin Davis and Shana Lynn Davis.

Dana-Davis

Edwin Dana and Phyllis Mann of Okeechobee and Palmdale are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter Shana Lynn Dana to Richard Martin Davis of Okeechobee.

The prospective groom is the son of Marty and Robyn Davis of Okeechobee.
 The wedding is planned for Nov. 15, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. at Freedom Ranch, 4655 Hwy. 441 South, Okeechobee.
 After the wedding the couple will reside in Okeechobee.

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Members may pay their bill by mail, take their payment to a GEC office (located in Moore Haven, Okeechobee and Lake Placid) pay by check or money order at a drop box location (listed in Florida Monthly Magazine) or by Western Union Speed Pay®.

We are sorry that economic circumstances have led us to this very difficult decision and apologize to our many honest members who must be inconvenienced.

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There's a wonderful world around us. Full of fascinating places. Interesting people. Amazing cultures. Important challenges. But sadly, our kids are not getting the chance to learn about their world. When surveys show that half of America's youth cannot locate India or Iraq on a map, then we have to wonder what they do know about their world. That's why we created MyWonderfulWorld.org. It's part of a free National Geographic-led campaign to give your kids the power of global knowledge. Go there today and help them succeed tomorrow. Start with our free parent and teacher action kits. And let your kids begin the adventure of a lifetime.

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Over 300 stride to a cure at fourth 'Cancer Walk'

On Saturday, Oct. 4, over 300 Okeechobee residents participated in the Annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer of Okeechobee presented by the Seminole Tribe of Florida. Chaired by Crystal Waldrop and Chrissy Morse, employees of Raulerson Hospital, the walk brought together schools, businesses, friends and family all interested in elimi-

nating breast cancer. Fourteen teams participated in the walk this year: Soaring Eagles 4509, City of Okeechobee, Okeechobee Business Women's Networking Group, Okeechobee High School, FCCD Chapter 11, Seacoast/Big Lake Region, Boobalicious Babes, Physician's Weight Loss Centers, Raulerson Hospital, Team Tindall, Gilbert Team, Lunch Bunch, Team

Seminole, and U-Save. Presenting Sponsor of this year's event was the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

Water Station Sponsors were: Seacoast National Bank, Surgery Center of Okeechobee, and the Seminole Tribe of Florida. Registration Tent Sponsor were: Okeechobee Chamber of Commerce, and Statewide Sponsor was Winn Dixie.

A big thank you to the City of Okeechobee, Waste Management, Dale Barrett, Billy Dean, Darrell Enfinger, Okeechobee News, Okeechobee The Magazine, Mike Mikovsky, Marilyn Renier, the Making Strides Committee: Crystal Waldrop, Chrissy

Morris, Annie Worth, Stephanie Quesinberry, Teresa Chandler, Amy Smith and the participants and donors of Making Strides Against Breast Cancer.

Together they raised over \$29,000 to help fight Breast Cancer!

The American Cancer Society is the nationwide community-based voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy, and service. For more information contact Shannon Martin, Community Representa-

tive at 863-467-2376 or via email: shannon.martin@cancer.org.



Submitted photo

More than 300 Okeechobee residents participated in the Annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer of Okeechobee presented by the Seminole Tribe of Florida, on Oct. 4.



Submitted photo

Cancer survivors were on hand to participate in the Annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer of Okeechobee on Oct. 4.



Submitted photo/Susan Williams

Campaign stop

Senator J.D. Alexander (Rep) (right) is seeking re-election to the Florida Senate District 17 which encompasses a large portion of Okeechobee County. Sheriff Paul May (center) and Jack Wolfe (left) were with Senator Alexander when he made a campaign stop in Okeechobee County on Oct. 14, to attend a fund-raising luncheon hosted by Susan Clemons and Susan Williams. The event was well-attended by many Okeechobee citizens, county commissioners, county and city officials, and members of the school board.

County planning board acted on two items

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

The monthly meeting of the Okeechobee County Planning Board/Board of Adjustments and Appeals on Tuesday, Oct. 28 was very brief with action taken on only two items.

David Arnold was granted permission to install a used dwelling unit in an agriculture zoning district on N.W. 141st Street. According to the staff report the 2001 double-wide manufactured home meets all requirements. A certificate of occupancy will not be issued until skirting is installed.

In the other item on the agenda, Rukhmani Powmesary, property owner, and Mark Kornovich, applicant, were granted a special

exception to allow a sales lot for new or used recreational vehicles including park models in a heavy commercial zoning district on U. S. 441 S.E. The applicant also operates sales lots in Ocala and Lake Wales. The property in question has been used as a sales lot for manufactured homes and park models in the past. The property will be limited to no more than seven recreational vehicles at one time.

Post your opinions in the Public Issues Forum at www.newszap.com. Reporter Pete Gawda can be reached at pgawda@newszap.com.

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Medical assisting program offers versatile career

Health care remains one of the strongest career fields locally and around the state and nation. Medical assisting in particular offers a foundation in diverse areas of health care, enabling those trained in this field to fill clinical, laboratory and administrative roles. In fact, due to the need for multi-skilled health care personnel, medical assistants are in demand for positions in physician offices, clinics, hospitals and emergency rooms.

Indian River State College will hold an information session about its 12-month Medical As-

sisting program on Wednesday, Nov. 5 at 4 p.m. in the Smith Center for Medical Education Room 126. This Center is shared with the Florida State University College of Medicine Regional Campus and is located off 35th Street and Virginia Avenue at the IRSC Main Campus in Fort Pierce.

The information session will provide an explanation of the medical assisting profession, academic requirements and financial aid, certification procedures and job outlook for this region.

The College's Medical Assisting program combines classroom

instruction and clinical practice to prepare students for a repertoire of tasks ranging from examination room techniques to assisting with minor surgery, administering medications, performing diagnostic procedures including drawing blood and electrocardiography, scheduling appointments, maintaining patient files and completing insurance forms. Practicum experiences include internships in a physician's office or other health care facility.

For more information, call the IRSC Information Call Center toll-free at 1-866-792-4772.

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Graduate University of New Hampshire in Zoology and Temple University Dental School. US Air Force Medical Corp. Served as Chair of Council on Dental Health. Formerly of West Palm Beach, he has merged his practice with Dr. Harrouff.

Wade B. Harrouff, D.D.S.
License #DN10761
Graduate University of Tennessee 1977. Author, lecturer who has appeared on TV, radio and print (WPBF/ABC, Palm Beach Illustrated and more) as the authority on implants as well as general dentistry. Member of International Congress of Oral Implantology, American Academy of Implant Dentistry & Misch Institute of Advanced Implantology.

Jonothan M. Royal, D.M.D.
License #DN12061
Graduate of Louisville School of Dentistry in 1989. Practiced privately in Boca Raton and has recently joined Dr. Harrouff's group. Past Vice President of South Palm Beach County Dental Association.

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Speak Out

Speak Out has moved online, where it is quicker and easier to share your ideas and converse with others. Go to www.newszap.com, click on the community name and your local or state Public Forum. There, you can create new topics or comment on existing topics. You can also e-mail comments to okeenews@newszap.com, but online comments get posted faster. What follows is a sampling of some of the discussions currently taking place. Thanks for participating!

BEFORE YOU VOTE: I just ask you to visit the following site, // www.youtube.com/watch?v=EjCXCdXKpt8. Is this what we have to look forward to? And if that isn't enough please read Mathew 7:15. Christians you must band together. May god have mercy on us.

OBAMA: Senator Obama spent an obscene amount of money on an infomercial. Wouldn't that money have been better used if he had given it to the government as he is asking all affluent hardworking Americans to do? Rich giving to the poor. I believe he speaks with a forked tongue.

YOU MIGHT BE FROM OKEECHOBEE: If you carry a pocket knife and use it to cut your steak at the Post dinner because the knives they give you aren't sharp enough. If you've ever ridden a horse through a 'drive thru.' If, when an alligator attacks a tourist, you worry about the welfare of the alligator... If you string lights on your horse so you can ride in the Christmas parade. If you've placed a bet on how long the front of the junkyard will stay cleaned up this time around.

OBAMA CAMPAIGN: I am completely disgusted with the amount of money the Obama campaign is spending. Obama has spent about four times as much money as McCain. If he had taken half of that money and used it to help build houses for the poor, he could still have spent twice as much as McCain, and think how many houses they could have build for \$300 million. Instead of asking people to donate more to his campaign, he should have asked them to donate to charities. It really seems like it is all for his own ego. It is just obscene to throw that much money away on television ads just to have his smiling face all over TV. When the campaign first started, I really liked him and planned to vote for him. But that was before he decided to act like a rock star. Now I am just completely disgusted with him. I am really frightened for this country if he wins.

COMMERCIALS: They spend all this money to tell us the same things over and over and yet McCain and Obama refuse to answer the questions people really want answers to. Why hasn't Obama's college thesis been released? That should not be private? Why won't they give us records of his voting in the legislature? The media seem to be pushing Obama, promoting him instead of investigating him as they would any other candidate. Also, none of the candidates have released their health records. I think we have a right to know if they have health issues. The office of president is more important than their privacy.

GOOD OL BOY: I am a lifetime resident of Buckhead Ridge and I have several issues that are bothering me about the current elections. Why is there a sign in front of the BHR Fire Department that says that the BHR fire department is supporting Stuart Whiddon for sheriff. I think that as a county entity this is not allowed. I am a member of the fire department and I do not support Stuart Whiddon. Why is no one from the county making the fire department take this down? I put a Tony Wilson for Sheriff sign in my yard, when I came home it was taken down. The house next door to me had a Stuart Whiddon for Sheriff sign up that day. Prior to that there was no Stuart Whiddon signs on my street. Only Tony Wilson signs. My next door neighbor lives in Indiana. I called him and he did not authorize anyone to put this sign up. He does not vote here, nor has he ever. Well guess what, he got an absentee ballot. Please print this. The people who are voting need to know these things. *Editor's note: According to the Florida Elections Office, it is not against the law to put political signs on county property so long as the signs are not within 100 feet of a polling place.*

GLADES ELECTIONS: I would like to know why the current Glades County Supervisor of Elections is allowed to conduct our elections. She and her husband are both running for re-election. This seems very unfair.

REPUBLICANS: You are saying that the eight years of Republicans have put this country in dire straits! You are obviously one of the brainwashed sheep that belong to one of the two parties that keep getting voted back in/destroying this country. You seem to forget that the federal Congress has been in control of the Democrats and every time a bill was vetoed by the president, the two parties overrode it. The largest pork/add on earmarks in history was added to the corrupt Agriculture bill by the two parties. Bush vetoed it. The Democrats and Republicans overrode it. Start thinking for yourself, stop helping these two parties destroy this country. Please vote out all incumbent state and federal politicians and judges. Congress at both levels make the laws, not the governor or president.

POWDERPUFF FOOTBALL: What is wrong with the staff at OHS? Why can they not do what is right? Last Friday night was Powder Puff Football. The girls played football and the boys were cheerleaders. Students coached but there was a staff member in charge, I think? It was a lot of fun. Each girl paid \$30 bucks for her jersey. The juniors had practice till 8:30 p.m. almost every night for two weeks. Each adult who went to see them play paid \$5 as a donation to the OHS fundraiser. Some girls had mom, dad, brother, sister, grandma, grandpa, etc. all there to watch. Guess what? At least five junior girls never took the field or only played 1 or 2 plays. I heard their families were upset. Does it not make sense to let every girl play at least one full quarter? Wouldn't that be more fair than letting some girls play the whole game and others never get in? I thought this was for fun! I think those girls should get their money back and their families need an apology?

TIM MAHONEY: Everybody wants to point fingers at representative Mahoney when one of the key issues is that women were involved who knew he was a married man. In my opinion, Mrs. Mahoney should be entitled to sue those multiple affairs that the women participated in. And the woman that received the \$123,000 should have to return it to Mrs. Mahoney. Because obviously she didn't keep her end of the bargain.

AMERICAS FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION: The caller is right, they don't need a minister to tell them how to vote. All the minister is doing is telling you what God says about abortion and about gay marriages. He is relaying to you what God's word says. If you have a problem it is with God's word, not the minister.

CONGRESS: Who is to blame and who do we praise? Clinton with the Republican Congress or Bush with the Democratic Congress? Does anyone really like this Congress we have right now? Does anyone really want more of it? Think carefully about what do you want, vote carefully. Write letters, make calls. If you think it is socialistic, remember Russia was socialistic, Poland's socialistic, Germany's socialistic. We must preserve our democracy. We must take our government back into our own hands and do it the best we can. Please vote carefully, please study your history and let's all work together to help each other.

OBAMA: Someone said that Obama went to Harvard. Yes, his wife also went to Harvard and Princeton. And they have both been paying off their student loans, they probably still have a mortgage on that million dollar house. McCain owns seven houses and 10 automobiles and the automobiles are not all made in the U.S.

AMENDMENT 2: There shouldn't be an amendment to that, everyone knows what marriage should be. So why are we wasting our time and worry about that when we have gangs walking our streets killing people. We have overcrowding in prison. Neither one of these candidates has talked about how much money is wasted into this correctional system that we have. Half the people who are in there do not need to be in there and the other half should never get out, but they let them out. This amendment 2, that is a personal thing. That is between them and God. If they want to get married, let them get married. Who cares? We have bigger fish to fry than that right now in this country. We are fixing to go into a bigger war, we have no money, no one has money and you're worried about who marries whom. You people out there with your little signs, you know what? We have bigger fish to fry than that. God judges everybody, if two people want to get married, let them get married, it doesn't matter. Instead of worrying about Amendment 2, you better worry about these gangs out here that we've got, or this country.

Reflections From the Pulpit

The Kingdom of Heaven is at Hand

Rev. Joshua C. Strunk
Headmaster, Okeechobee Christian Academy

"Now in those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." For this is the one referred to by Isaiah the prophet when he said: "THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS, 'MAKE READY THE WAY OF THE LORD, MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT!' (Matthew 3:1-3)

In the words of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, we live in "a world come of age." Many of the illusions once believed about life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness have been shattered. This is the stark reality that the American Church must come to terms with if it is to fulfill its call to be salt and light. If it does not, then True Christianity may well be lost to this continent within the next few generations.

The Western Hemisphere was once considered the hub of Christendom, but it is no longer. Christians have become "resident aliens" in a world which has appropriately been labeled postmodern and post-Christian. Furthermore, researcher George Barna has observed a most sobering characteristic of the professing Church in America today. According to Barna most self-professed Christians are only dabblers in the Faith lacking any desire for holiness; begging the question of how serious these people are about their faith, and how real their relationship with Christ is.

Thus the Church has become unable to interact with and answer the questions of the culture, leaving people without answers to the most pressing questions, and without the hope that they can even discover the answers. However, we have not arrived here overnight. It has been a long journey marked by the voices of many men warning the American Church of her descent. In 1971 Fundley Edge dealt with the need for some thing to change

in his book, "The Greening of the Church." The pews of our churches may not have been empty at that time, but according to Edge they were "filled with empty people," whose "understanding of what it means to be Christian is so superficial as to constitute a major perversion of the gospel." Even earlier in the 1950s, in the book "The Divine Conquest," A.W. Tozer wrote that, "many churches (even gospel churches) are worldly in Spirit, morally anemic, on the defensive, imitating instead of initiating and in a wretched state generally."

God wants to do a great work in this nation, in this state, in this community. We must stop looking to elected officials to bring the change we need and begin looking to the only One who can save. All the posturing in the world will not hold the darkness at bay. True change will come only when the People of God rise up as one and join God in His redemptive, reconciliatory, and restorative work by living lives full of grace and truth, mercy and righteousness; by seeking the lost,

binding up the broken, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and defending the weak; by prioritizing and protecting our families, nurturing and educating our children. Unfortunately it seems that for most people it's just easier to picket than to pray, to lobby than to love, to ignore the real needs around us than to live incarnate with "those people."

Honest reflection forces us to acknowledge the possibility that much of what we call the American Church may in fact be nothing more than a white-washed sepulchre full of dead men's bones. As in the days of the great missionary to India, William Carey, there is a great need and a great indifference to that need. The time has come, men and women of God must commit themselves to seeking His face on behalf of this community, state, nation, and world; that the Living God might pour out His Holy Spirit on us now, for behold the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.

Guest Commentary

Speak up about slowing down

By Stephen Wallace M.S. Ed.

Amid rising concerns about dangerous teen driving behaviors sits a common threat rarely considered outside of popular depictions in such movies as "Rebel Without a Cause," "Grease," and "The Fast and the Furious": street racing.

Perhaps surprisingly, teens themselves rank street racing as one of the most risky in a slate of driving practices that lead to crashes, injuries, and, too often, deaths (between 2001 and 2006, 804 fatalities have been attributed to street racing, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration).

Indeed, a new study from Liberty Mutual Insurance and SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) reveals that a vast majority of teens (97 percent) feel that street racing is dangerous, listing it above cell phone use, speeding, having more than three passengers in the car, being upset, using a GPS system, and changing clothes while driving.

Nevertheless, the research points out that more than one third of teen drivers (38 percent) say they have engaged in street racing.

That's bad news. So, too, are media accounts of the consequences.

In Eagle Rock, California, four teens were killed (including three from one family) and another was critically injured in what an LAPD lieutenant called "a high speed drag race," according to egnwets.

In Eugene, Oregon, a college football player required 75 stitches to close a gash in his head, the result of speed racing, said the Associated Press.

In Mountainside, New Jersey, an 18-year-old and a 20-year-old were killed after their Chevy Corvette crashed in a street race against a Chevy Camaro, reported My Central Jersey.

And on Staten Island in New York, seven teens were transported to the hospital after a street racing crash that ultimately claimed the life of a 17-year-old who succumbed to what WNBC4 referred to as severe head and internal injuries.

These stories merely scratch the surface of the death and destruction wrought by this alarming activity.

Fortunately, good news can be found in the fact that some states, including California, Massachusetts, and Illinois, are revisiting or introducing laws to better protect teen drivers – and, by extension – other motorists on our roads and highways.

In California, drivers convicted of street racing face prison sen-

tences of 30 days to 6 months and/or as much as \$1,000 in fines, if their offenses resulted in injury for someone other than themselves.

In Massachusetts, a new law effective in February 2008 dictates that convicted street racers be punished with up to 2½ years of jail time or a fine of up to \$1,000. Offenders also get their licenses suspended for up to 30 days for the first offense and 180 days for subsequent violations.

In Illinois, current legislation states that driving privileges be revoked for any person convicted of street racing and that law enforcement may impound the offender's vehicle for up to five days.

As if street racing isn't enough to worry about, teen drivers also report engaging in other high-risk driving behaviors in startling numbers.

Thirty-nine percent say they speed often.

Thirty-seven percent say they often talk on a cell phone when behind the wheel.

Thirty percent say they often text message while driving.

When you take "often" out of the equation, those numbers jump precipitously to 91 percent (speeding), 90 percent (talking on a cell phone), and 73 percent (text messaging) of teen drivers.

Of course, the drivers aren't the only ones in jeopardy. More than one quarter of teens indicate that they are frequently passengers in a car where such unsafe behaviors are taking place.

What's their responsibility?

Research shows that young drivers may be more likely to listen to their friends than to adults — so teen passengers need to be empowered to speak up when drivers are placing them, and others, at risk.

But, ironically, that may be easier said than done.

Despite the fact that so many teens feel that so many behaviors are dangerous, only about half of teens (57 percent) say they would ask a driver to stop engaging in even the most serious behaviors, such as street racing. Sad when you consider that most teen drivers say that if their friends asked, they would stop racing (87 percent), speeding (79 percent), text messaging (80 percent), or talking on a cell phone (68 percent).

Speaking up about slowing down will fuel peer-led persuasion to stop teens from chasing cars.

Stephen Wallace, national chairman of SADD and author of the new book, "Reality Gap: Alcohol, Drugs, and Sex—What Parents Don't Know and Teens Aren't Telling," has broad experience as a school psychologist and adolescent counselor. For more information about SADD, visit sadd.org. For more information about Stephen, visit stephengraywallace.com.

Community Calendar

Sunday, November 2

A.A. meeting from 7:30 until 8:30 p.m. at the Church of Our Saviour, 200 N.W. Third St. It will be an open step meeting.

A.A. open 12 step meeting from 7:30 until 8:30 p.m. at the Church of Our Savior, 200 N.W. Third St.

Just for Today Club of Okeechobee, 101 N.W. Fifth Street, Okeechobee, (Behind Napa Auto Parts) A.A. weekend noon meeting Open Discussion. The Just for Today Club of Okeechobee is not affiliated with any 12 step fellowships.

Monday, November 3

Just for Today Club of Okeechobee, 101 N.W. Fifth Street, Okeechobee, (Behind Napa Auto Parts) **N.A.** Sickest Of The Sick Open Discussion at 7 p.m. The Just for Today Club of Okeechobee is not affiliated with any 12 step fellowships.

A.A. meeting will be held from noon to 1 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 200 N.W. Second St. This will be an open meeting.

Okeechobee Model Airplane Club will meet at the Peace Lutheran Church, 750 N.W. 23rd Lane at 7 p.m. For information, contact Robert Rosada at 863-467-5440.

Okeechobee Senior Singers meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Okeechobee Presbyterian Church, 312 North Parrott Ave. Everyone who enjoys singing is invited. For information or to schedule an appearance for your organization or group, contact Marge Skinner at 863-532-0449.

Artful Appliquers is a recently formed chapter in Okeechobee. This chapter meets at the Turtle Cove Clubhouse, 10 Linda Road, Okeechobee on Mondays from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Turn left at the Moose lodge and go around the curve just past the church. Bring a lunch and join us for a fun day of applique. Everyone is welcome. For more information please contact Karen Graves at 863-763-6952.

Tuesday, November 4

Rotary Club of Okeechobee meets each Tuesday at noon at Golden Corral Restaurant, 700 S. Parrott Ave. The meetings are open to the public. For information, contact Maureen Budjinski at 863-484-0110.

Just for Today Club of Okeechobee, 101 N.W. Fifth Street, Okeechobee, (Behind Napa Auto Parts) **N.A.** Nowhere Left To Go Group Open Discussion at noon. **N.A.** Sickest Of The Sick Group Open Discussion. The Just for Today Club of Okeechobee is not affiliated with any 12 step fellowships.

New A.A. Meeting in Basinger: There is now an A.A. meeting in Basinger on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Basinger Christian Brethren Church on 700-A, north off U.S. 98. Beginners are welcome.

New Beginning's meeting of **Narcotics Anonymous** will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. at Believers Fellowship Church, 300 S.W. Fifth Ave. It will be an open discussion meeting. For more information call Monika Allen at 863-801-3244.

Al-Ateen - meeting will be held at the Church of Our Saviour, 200 N.W. Third St., at 7 p.m. For more information, please call Amy at 863-763-8531 or Dan 561-662-2799.

Al-Anon meeting will be held at the Church of Our Saviour, 200 N.W. Third St., at 8 p.m.

A.A. Closed discussion meeting from 8 until 9 p.m. at the Church of Our Savior, 200 N.W. Third St.

Family History Center meets from 1 until 5 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 310 S.W. Sixth St. Anyone interested in finding who your ancestors are is welcome to attend. There is Census, IGI (International Genealogical Index), Social Security Death Index and military information available. For information, call Mim Kapteina at 863-763-6510.

Gospel Sing every Tuesday beginning at 7 p.m. The public is invited to participate with vocal and/or instrumental music. For information, contact Douglas Chiropractic Center at 863-763-4320.

Widows and Widowers support group meets at 8:30 a.m. at the Clock Restaurant, 1111 S. Parrott Ave., for breakfast. For information, June Scheer at 863-634-8276

The Gathering Church Overcomers Group meets at 7:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall, 1735 S.W. 24th Ave. This is a men's only meeting. For information, call Earl at 863-763-0139.

The Okeechobee Lions Club meets at 7 p.m. at the Golden Corral Restaurant, 700 S. Parrott Ave. Anyone interested in becoming a member is welcome. For information, contact Elder Sumner at 863-763-6076.

Bible study at the Living Word of Faith Church, 1902 S. Parrott Ave., at 7 p.m. Informal and informative discussions bring many Bible truths to life. The public is invited.

Grief and Loss Support Group meets every Tuesday at 10 a.m. at the Hospice Building, 411 S.E. Fourth St. Everyone is welcome. For information, contact Brenda Nicholson at 863-467-2321.

Community Country Gospel will meet at 7 p.m. at the church next to Douglas Clinic on North Park St. Any individual or group that enjoys old time gospel music is invited to participate. For information, contact Dr. Edward Douglas at 863-763-4320.

A.A. meeting will be held from noon to 1 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 200 N.W. Second St. This will be an open meeting.

The First United Methodist Church, 200 N.W. Second St., will be hosting **God's Time** -- a morning of free organized Christian activities that includes play, instruction and interaction for parents and their preschool children. The event will be held each Tuesday from 9:30 a.m. until noon. Child care will be provided for infants during the class. For information, call 863-763-4021.

Haven of Rest Church, 2947 S.W. Third Terr., holds meetings for persons with alcohol and drug related problems at 6 p.m. For information call 863-357-3053.

Compulsive overeaters are invited to a weekly meeting, **Overeaters Anonymous** (OA) meets at the Okeechobee Presbyterian Church, 312 N. Parrott Avenue on Tuesdays, 6 until 7 p.m. (Use 4th Street entrance.) **Overeaters Anonymous** is not a diet club. There are no dues, fees or weigh-ins. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop eating compulsively. For more information call Loretta at 863-763-7165 or 863-697-0206.

Okeechobee News

Our Purpose...

The Okeechobee News is published by Independent Newspapers of Florida. 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 this 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 to 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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For More Information See At Your Service On Page 2

Okeechobee woman doesn't fall for lottery scam

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

It's the same old story — an unsuspecting person gets a letter stating they've won a lottery they didn't play. But this time, the intended prey didn't fall for the scam.

Detective Bill Saum of the Okeechobee City Police Department (OCPD) said instead of falling for the scam a local woman brought the letter directly to him.

"I've never seen this particular one before," said the detective. "I didn't even pull a case number because she didn't lose anything. She was smart enough not to fall for it."

Basically, the latest con game is the same as the Nigerian Scam except that the actual dollar amounts are much less.

The letter to the unidentified Okeechobee woman from Zenith Financial & Trust indicated that she was a winner in an American

Shoppers Lottery. The letter, sent to her from Canada, stated she was entitled to collect \$125,000 and that there were supposedly 72 other winners in the \$9 million game.

Inside the same envelope was a check for \$4,875 U.S. dollars. The letter went on to state that this money had already been deducted from her winnings and was for the purpose of paying "... applicable government taxes..." on her winnings.

The next paragraph states that the tax amount is \$2,875 and should be sent to an address in Canada either by Western Union or in the form of a money gram.

Next the letter tells the victim to not cash the check until the claim agent is called. The phone number for the agent — in this case his name is Larry Benson — is reportedly 1-416-939-69-58.

Detective Saum said the local woman, out of curiosity, called the number.

"A guy answered and asked her some questions — it wasn't her Social Security number or things like that," he said.

The man mentioned five stores to the woman and asked her if she shopped at any of them.

The OCPD detective said these con artists always ask the victim to send money via Western Union or in a money gram because they want to avoid the U.S. Postal Service.

"The U.S. Postal Service has a lot of power, as far as having their own investigators and such," he added.

As with the numerous "Lottery" games, all a person has to remember is: if you didn't play the game, you can't win it.

"And if you did win a contest, they wouldn't ask you to send money back to cover taxes and such," said Detective Saum. "You'd get a check in the mail for the full amount."

The reason people are con-

tacted by these con artists is that they don't pay attention and freely give out their names, which are then legally sold.

The detective said most of us have had our names sold on a list after we have signed such things as a warranty card. The selling of names is legal unless a box on the card is checked telling the com-

pany the name cannot be sold.

"We all make the mistake of sending stuff out and telling them to bill us. Now, not only have you given out your address but you've given people the right to send you stuff like this," said Detective Saum.

It's been said so many times, and in so many ways — if it's too

good to be true, it usually is. Fortunately, the intended victim of this scam stopped to think before acting.

If you or someone you know should receive a similar letter, don't hesitate, contact investigators at the Okeechobee City Police Department of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office at once.

DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO GO ON ELECTION DAY? OKEECHOBEE COUNTY VOTING LOCATIONS FOR NOVEMBER 4TH PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Precincts will be open 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. for Election Day, November 4, 2008.
Questions – Call the Elections Office, 763-4014.

PRECINCT NUMBER	PRECINCT LOCATION	PRECINCT NUMBER	PRECINCT LOCATION
01	Abundant Blessings Church 4550 Hwy 441 N	10	Corner Stone Baptist 18387 HWY 441 N
02	Basinger Comm. Center 20350 HWY 98 N	11	(New Location) Palm Village Ranch 1200 SW 44 th Blvd
03	The Gathering 1735 SW 24 th Avenue	12	Civic Center 1750 HWY 98 N
04	Oakview Baptist Church 677 SW 32 nd Street	13	Catholic Church Pavilion 701 SW 6 th Street
05	VFW #10539 3912 Hwy 441 SE	14	American Legion 501 SE 2 nd Street
06	Episcopal Church 200 NW 3 rd Street	15	VFW # 10539 3912 HWY 441 SE
07	First Methodist Church 200 NW 2 nd Street	16	Civic Center 1750 HWY 98 N
08	Okee. Christian Church 3055 SE 18 th Terrace	17	Episcopal Church 200 NW 3 rd Street
09	(New Location) New Testament Baptist Church 535 NE 28 th Ave	18	FPL Service Center 825 NE 34 th Avenue

Information Provided By: Gwen Chandler - Supervisor of Election - Okeechobee County

Okeechobee's Most Wanted

The following five people are among Okeechobee's Most Wanted persons. There are active warrants for each of them. The criteria for making Okeechobee's Most Wanted top five is based on the severity of the crime in conjunction with the age of the warrant.

If you have any information on the whereabouts of any of Okeechobee's Most Wanted you can call the Treasure Coast Crime Stoppers at 1 (800) 273-TIPS (8477). If you call Treasure Coast Crime Stoppers, you have the op-



Alieta Aleen



Rigoberto Gama Chavez



David Yoder



Becky Cook



Estavan Villegas Urbina

tion of remaining anonymous. You can also receive a reward if the information results in an arrest.

Alieta Aleen, 31, aka Brian White, Manford Clifford White; Black male; No known address; Wanted for failure to appear on bail - robbery with other weapon.

Rigoberto Gama Chavez, 31, Arson.

David Yoder, 26; FTA - Poss Methadone, FTA - DWLS.

Becky Cook, 28, Third Degree Grand Theft.

Estavan Villegas-Urbina, 21, Robbery.

Law Enforcement Calls

The Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office received the following calls from Friday, Oct. 24, through Thursday, Oct. 30:

- Oct. 24
 - assault in the 1500 block of U.S. 441 S.E.
 - Oct. 25
 - vandalism in the 6600 block of U.S. 441 S.E.
 - theft in the 300 block of N.E. 31st way
 - forgery in the 2800 block of S.W. Third Terrace
 - larceny in the 6200 block of S.E. 26th St.
 - larceny in the 9200 block of S.E. 58th Drive
 - assault in the 4600 block of N.W. 11th Drive
 - vandalism in the 3600 block of N.W. 20th Ave.
 - Oct. 26
 - assault in the 7200 block of U.S. 441 N.
 - Oct. 27
 - fraud in the 3500 block of N.W. 30th Ave.
 - theft in the 1200 block of N.E. 11th St.
 - assault in the 2800 block of U.S. 441 N.
 - theft in the 2800 block of U.S. 441 N.
 - theft in the 3800 block of N.W. 18th St.
 - burglary in the 6300 block of S.E. 96th Circle
 - burglary in the 4000 block of S.E. 50th Ave.
 - burglary in the 17000 block of N.W. 33rd Terrace
 - vandalism in the 1100 block of N.E. 16th Ave.
 - theft in the 3000 block of N.E. Seventh Lane
 - Oct. 28
 - theft in the 2300 block of S.W. Ninth St.
 - theft in the 1400 block of N.E. 96th Ave.
 - Oct. 29
 - fraud in the 2800 block of U.S. 441 S.
 - burglary in the 1400 block of N.W. 44th Ave.
 - larceny in the 4100 block of U.S. 441 S.
 - Oct. 30
 - theft in the 200 block of U.S. 441 S.E.
 - stolen vehicle in the 6800 block of Center St.

- Editor's Note: Only calls dealing with either a felony or a potential felony are entered into this column.

Brahman Theatre

Oct. 31st thru Nov. 6th

For Info, Call 763-7202

Monday Night Bargain Night
7pm only • \$1.00 per person

THEATRE I
"QUARANTINE"
Fri. @ 7:00 & 9:00. Sat., Sun. & Wed. @ 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00. Mon., @ 3:00 & 7:00. Tues. & Thurs. @ 7:00 & 9:00.

THEATRE II
"NIGHTS IN RODANTHE"
Fri. @ 7:00 & 9:00. Sat., Sun. & Wed. @ 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00. Mon., @ 3:00 & 7:00. Tues. & Thurs. @ 7:00 & 9:00.

THEATRE III
"HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3"
Fri. @ 7:00 & 9:00. Sat., Sun. & Wed. @ 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00. Mon., @ 3:00 & 7:00. Tues. & Thurs. @ 7:00 & 9:00.

Tickets: Adults - \$5.50 • Children 12 & under - \$4.50
Senior Citizens - \$4.50 all movies • Matinees - \$4.00



Mark Atom Smith, President/Big Lake Region, Seacoast National Bank

Strong Capital Strong Liquidity Zero Sub Prime

As our Nation and the banking industry continue to deal with the current financial crisis we want you to know that Seacoast remains ready and able to meet your business and personal banking needs. For over

80 years we have served our local communities with the banking services you deserve.

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RACES AND AMENDMENTS LISTED BELOW WILL APPEAR ON ALL BALLOTS

PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT (Vote for One)

John McCain Sarah Palin REP

Barack Obama Joe Biden DEM

Gloria La Riva Eugene Puryear PSL

Chuck Baldwin Darrell Castle CPF

Gene Amundson Leroy Pletten PRO

Bob Barr Wayne A. Root LBT

Thomas Robert Stevens Alden Link OBJ

James Harris Alyson Kennedy SWP

Cynthia McKinney Rosa Clemente GRE

Alan Keyes Brian Rohrbaugh AIP

Ralph Nader Matt Gonzalez ECO

Brian Moore Stewart Alexander SPF

Charles Jay John Wayne Smith BTP

Write-in

CONGRESSIONAL

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS DISTRICT 16 (Vote for One)

Tom Rooney REP

Tim Mahoney DEM

STATE

PUBLIC DEFENDER 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (Vote for One)

Diamond R. Litty REP

Don Chinquina DEM

COUNTY

COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 5 (Vote for One)

Margaret Garrard Helton REP

Elvie Posey DEM

NONPARTISAN

JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT
Shall Justice Charles T. Wells of the Supreme Court be retained in office?
 YES
 NO

DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL
Shall Judge Mark E. Polen of the Fourth District Court of Appeal be retained in office?
 YES
 NO

DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL
Shall Judge W. Matthew Stevenson of the Fourth District Court of Appeal be retained in office?
 YES
 NO

DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL
Shall Judge Martha C. Warner of the Fourth District Court of Appeal be retained in office?
 YES
 NO

CIRCUIT JUDGE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, GROUP 4 (Vote for One)

Dwight L. Geiger

Fran O. Ross

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

NO. 1 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ARTICLE I, SECTION 2

Declaration of Rights

Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to delete provisions authorizing the Legislature to regulate or prohibit the ownership, inheritance, disposition, and possession of real property by aliens ineligible for citizenship.

YES
 NO

NO. 2 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ARTICLE I, NEW SECTION

Florida Marriage Protection Amendment

This amendment protects marriage as the legal union of only one man and one woman as husband and wife and provides that no other legal union that is treated as marriage or the substantial equivalent thereof shall be valid or recognized.

The direct financial impact this amendment will have on state and local government revenues and expenditures cannot be determined, but is expected to be minor.

YES
 NO

NO. 3 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ARTICLE VII, SECTIONS 3 AND 4 ARTICLE XII, NEW SECTION

Changes and Improvements Not Affecting the Assessed Value of Residential Real Property

Authorizes the Legislature, by general law, to prohibit consideration of changes or improvements to residential real property which increase resistance to wind damage and installation of renewable energy source devices as factors in assessing the property's value for ad valorem taxation purposes. Effective upon adoption, repeals the existing renewable energy source device exemption no longer in effect.

YES
 NO

NO. 4 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ARTICLE VII, SECTIONS 3 AND 4 ARTICLE XII, SECTION 28

Property Tax Exemption of Perpetually Conserved Land; Classification and Assessment of Land Used for Conservation

Requires Legislature to provide a property tax exemption for real property encumbered by perpetual conservation easements or other perpetual conservation protections, defined by general law. Requires Legislature to provide for classification and assessment of land used for conservation purposes, and not perpetually encumbered, solely on the basis of character or use. Subjects assessment benefit to conditions, limitations, and reasonable definitions established by general law. Applies to property taxes beginning in 2010.

YES
 NO

NO. 6 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ARTICLE VII, SECTION 4 ARTICLE XII, NEW SECTION

Assessment of Working Waterfront Property Based Upon Current Use

Provides for assessment based upon use of land used predominantly for commercial fishing purposes; land used for vessel launches into waters that are navigable and accessible to the public; marinas and drystacks that are open to the public; and water-dependent marine manufacturing facilities, commercial fishing facilities, and marine vessel construction and repair facilities and their support activities, subject to conditions, limitations, and reasonable definitions specified by general law.

YES
 NO

NO. 8 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ARTICLE VII, SECTION 9

Local Option Community College Funding

Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to require that the Legislature authorize counties to levy a local option sales tax to supplement community college funding; requiring voter approval to levy the tax; providing that approved taxes will sunset after 5 years and may be reauthorized by the voters.

YES
 NO

THE RACES BELOW WILL NOT APPEAR ON ALL BALLOTS

IF YOU LIVE IN PRECINCT 5, 9, OR 15, THIS RACE WILL NOT APPEAR ON YOUR BALLOT.

LEGISLATIVE

STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 17 (Vote for One)

JD Alexander REP

Scott K. Thompson DEM

IF YOU LIVE IN PRECINCT 5, 6, 7, 9, OR 18, THIS RACE WILL NOT APPEAR ON YOUR BALLOT.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 79 (Vote for One)

Mike Horner REP

Ray O. Worley DEM

Write-in

THIS RACE ONLY APPEARS ON BALLOTS OF CITY RESIDENTS

MUNICIPAL

CITY COUNCIL (Vote for No More Than Two)

Mike Earnest

James Kirk

William C. Ledford

Mike O'Connor

Francis "Jim" Vensel

A Voter May Vote for All Races Which Appear on His/Her Ballot.

Community Events

Habitat for Humanity holds fundraiser

Habitat for Humanity will hold a 50/50 drawing fundraiser. Tickets are available at Regions Bank, 1 for \$1 or 6 for \$5. The winner will be notified on Dec. 1.

Masonic Lodge holds breakfast

The Masonic Lodge, 107 N.W. Fifth will hold a breakfast on Sunday, Nov. 2, all you can eat. Tickets are a \$5 donation. Call Hugh Alger or Tom Jolly for tickets, 863-467-1491.

OHS Class of 1979 plans reunion

Join in a celebration at the 30 year reunion of the Class of 1979 for Okeechobee High School on Friday, **Nov. 7**. The Class of '79 will gather at the homecoming football game at 7:30 p.m. After the game, they will meet at Kahootz for refreshments and to reminisce with old friends. Saturday, Nov. 8 there will be a dinner dance at Good Spirits special event room. Meet and greet friends at Happy Hour in the Tiki bar at 6 p.m., dinner is at 7 p.m. with dancing afterwards. For information and tickets go to www.OHS1979.ClassQuest.com or call Diane Mitchum Prescott at 863-634-1257. Class of '79 members are encouraged to spread the word about the reunion.

Class of '99 reunion planned

Plans are in motion for the Class of 1999 reunion on the weekend of **Nov. 7-8**. For more information go to www.myspace.com/OHS1999 or email OHS99-GRADS@yahoo.com.

OHS reunion - 1950 through 1959

A reunion will be held for those that graduated or were in Okeechobee High School in the 1950s. The event will be held **Nov. 8** at the Shrine Club. If you know someone who should be invited send that name to Betty Williamson, P.O. Box 248, Okeechobee, FL, 34973. Also if you are eligible and have changed your address in the past five years please let them know so you can have more information sent to you. The occasion is sponsored by the Okeechobee Historical Society and any profit will assist with projects such as two \$500 scholarships given each year to a deserving senior female and male student.

Croppin' Crew to meet

The "Croppin' Crew" scrapbookers will hold an all-day crop on Saturday, **Nov. 8**, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. This month the crop will take place at Peace Lutheran Church, 750 N.W. 23rd Lane. There will be a hands-on demonstration of eyelets and brads to add a little pizzazz to your scrapbooking and cardmaking projects. All levels of scrapbookers are welcome. Please bring a covered dish if you wish to participate in our pot luck luncheon. Bring any scrapbook pages on which you are currently working. For more information call Joan at 863-467-0290 or Corry at 863-467-2231.

Chamber luncheon planned

The new Okeechobee Chamber of Commerce luncheon will be on Wednesday, **Nov. 12**. Sean Moore with the Small Business Development Center will be speaking. Their services include free, confidential one on one counseling for prospective or current business owners. They offer free, monthly, one day seminars on Steps to owning a Business, Business Plans, and Marketing. The Chamber is donating office space to the Small Business Development Center. Do you have a suggestion for a Chamber logo? If so email me at candace7@gmail.com.

Friends of the Library host book sale

Friends of the Okeechobee Library Book Sale will be held at the library on Thursday, **Nov. 13**, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday, Nov. 14, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Saturday, Nov. 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Hardcover books are \$2, Paperbacks are \$1, Library discards are half price. On Saturday a bag of books is \$2 and a box is \$5. For more information please call the library at 863-763-3536.

OCEA has membership meeting

The Okeechobee County Education Association will have its second General Membership Meeting of the 2008-2009 school year on Thursday, **Nov. 13**, at 4:30 p.m. in the Media Center at Osceola Middle School, 825 SW 28th St. They will conduct business, report on the recent annual FEA Delegate Assembly, and also address issues of members. If you are not a member of OCEA, you may join at the meeting. Door prizes and refreshments will be given. Be informed!

Free memory loss screenings

Friday, **Nov. 14** the Alzheimer's Association will be sponsoring free memory loss screenings at the Visiting Nurse Association, 208 S.E. Park St. Appointments are needed and available from 11 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. For more information or to make an appointment please call Donna True at 800-861-7826, ext. 1. Screenings are for anyone - any age - concerned about memory loss. Screenings conducted by staff from St. Mary's Memory Disorder Center. Immediate results.

Healthy Start plans yard sale

Healthy Start of Okeechobee will hold their annual yard sale where they will have a variety of baby items for excellent prices on Wednesday, **Nov. 26**, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Okeechobee County Health Department auditorium.

Moose Lodge selling Koeze Nuts

The Okeechobee Loyol Order of Moose, Legionnaires are again holding their Annual Koeze Nut Fund Raiser for Food Baskets for the less fortunate. Order forms and catalogs may be picked up at The Stitchin' Post, 620 S. Parrott Ave. See Paul at the Lodge, 159 NW 36th Street, or call 863-763-4954. You can also call Paul Diamond P.G. Fund Chairman, 863-467-1484 to order.

YMS collecting printer cartridges

Yearling Middle School (YMS) is collecting empty printer and copy toner cartridges. They are sent in for credits that go toward school supplies to be used by all students. To donate empty printer or toner cartridges, they can be dropped off at YMS, 925 N.W. 23rd Lane or at the Stitchin' Post, 620 S. Parrott Ave. Or call Miss Webb at 863-462-5056 or Linda at 863-467-1484 for free pickup.

OHS reunion - 1950 through 1959

A reunion will be held for those that graduated or were in Okeechobee High School in the 1950s. The event will be held **Nov. 8** at the Shrine Club. If you know someone who should be invited send that name to Betty Williamson, P.O. Box 248, Okeechobee, FL, 34973. Also if you are eligible and have changed your address in the past five years please let them know so you can have more information sent to you. The occasion is sponsored by the Okeechobee Historical Society and any profit will assist with projects such as two \$500 scholarships given each year to a deserving senior female and male student.

State Veterans nursing homes

Are you a veteran in need of a nursing home or assisted living facility? The Florida Department of Veterans Affairs can help you. The Department operates five veterans nursing homes and one assisted living facility throughout the state, with a new nursing home being built near St. Augustine. The basic admission criteria for all of the facilities is an honorable discharge, Florida residency for one year prior to admission and certification of need of assisted living facility or skilled nursing care. The VA Nursing homes are located in Daytona Beach, Land O' Lakes, Pembroke Pines, Springfield (Panhandle) and Port Charlotte with the VA Assisted Living Facility being located in Lake City. For further information on VA nursing homes contact the County Veteran's Service Officer, Betsy Grinslade at 863-763-8124.

Ladies Auxiliary Spaghetti Night

The VFW Post 10539 Ladies Auxiliary will hold a Tuesday night spaghetti night. All you can eat spaghetti, garlic bread and salad for a \$5 donation. The dinner starts at 5:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information call 863-763-2308.

My Aunt's House seeks volunteers

My Aunt's House, Inc. a 501 (c) (3) organization is looking for two to three volunteers to work in our Closet any day, or days, Monday through Friday during the hours of 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. We are also looking for a volunteer to become the director and a board member of The Clothes Closet. The volunteer should communicate well with the public and should be able to seek support from city and county officials, business executives and other organizations. Work days and hours are flexible. Call 863-634-2306 for information.

Historical Society collects info for book

Mrs. Betty Williamson, from the Historical Society is in the process of writing a book about Okeechobee Women. She is looking for all of the Speckled Perch Queens from 1968 to recent. Please call the Chamber of Commerce at 863-763-6464 or Betty Williamson at 863-763-3850 if you are able to help. The Queens will be listed in the book.

Habitat for Humanity holds fundraiser

Habitat for Humanity will hold a 50/50 drawing fundraiser. Tickets are available at Regions Bank, 1 for \$1 or 6 for \$5. The winner will be notified on Dec. 1.

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Comcast

Comcast announces the following channel lineup changes for the customers in the communities of Belle Glade / Pahokee, Clewiston, Okeechobee, and each of its surrounding areas:

Effective Monday, December 8, 2008:
VERSUS, located on Digital Entertainment Tier channel 730, will move to Digital Starter channel 730.

Effective Wednesday, December 17, 2008:
MLB Network will be added to Digital Entertainment Tier channel 741.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

After a notice of a re-tiering of a video service or a rate increase, you may change your level of service at no additional charge for a period of 30 days from the effective date of the change. Otherwise, changes in the services you receive at your request may be subject to the upgrade or downgrade charge listed on the annual rate card. Prices are exclusive of applicable franchise fees and related costs, FCC user fees and taxes. For customers with commercial accounts or bulk rate arrangements, some product, pricing and other information may not apply. Upon proper notice, all pricing, programming, channel locations and packaging are subject to change.
If you have any questions or concerns, please call us at 1-800-COMCAST.

Dear Voter

I am **MIKE O'CONNOR**, a candidate for **CITY COUNCIL**.

I have been a proud resident of Okeechobee for 41 years, owner of Mike's Okeechobee Guns Incorporated since 1982. I was also a Fence Contractor and Cow Pen builder for 10 years, and was a Florida Power and Light lineman in Okeechobee, 1966-1968.

As a former City Councilman (1993-1997), one of my goals if elected will be to promote a better working relationship between City and County Government and the OUA to establish a more productive and economically structured entity.

I will strive to form a more unified partnership with non-profit organizations whose goals and objectives are conducive to the revitalization and preservation of our city.

I will strive to increase our manpower with fire and police to ensure the safety and protection of our citizens.

I will establish "town hall" meetings where our citizens can meet informally with city government to discuss ideas and concerns in an informal environment.

I will strive to utilize our inmate trustees with the public works department in the performance of city maintenance.

As a former City Councilman, I initiated the completion of all but 3 city roads being paved as well as having sidewalks throughout the city and I would strive to complete that goal.

I ask for your support and vote on November 4, 2008 to be given the opportunity to serve you again as your City Councilman

Paid Political Advertisement. Paid for and Approved by Mike O'Connor for City Council, Non-Partisan

Elect

MIKE O'CONNOR

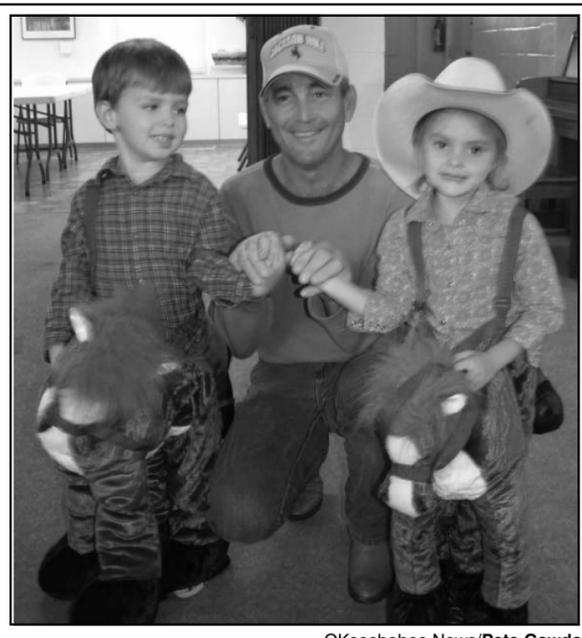
FOR
Okeechobee
CITY COUNCIL



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

Little Lady

Madeline Peterson, 4, was dressed as a little lady complete with hat for the Fall Festival at Faith Academy Preschool on Friday, Oct. 31.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

The littlest cowpokes

Bob Haherlandt, center, escorted cowboy Ryan Conrad and cowgirl Riley Kaye Adams and their horses to the Harvest Hoedown held at Peace Lutheran Preschool on Friday, Oct. 31.

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--	--	--

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Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

Ride 'em cowboy!

Little cowboy Yann DeSantos rides a stick horse at the Harvest Hoedown held at Peace Lutheran Preschool on Friday, Oct. 31.

Okeechobee Forecast

Today: A chance of showers, with thunderstorms also possible after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 78. Northeast wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

Tonight: A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 63. North northeast wind around 5 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

Extended Forecast

Monday: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 84. Northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Monday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 60. Calm wind becoming north around 5 mph.

Tuesday: Partly sunny, with a high near 83. Northwest wind around 5 mph.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 58. Northwest wind around 5 mph.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 82. West northwest wind around 5 mph.

Lotteries

Florida Lottery — Here are the numbers selected Friday in the Florida Lottery: **Cash 3:** 6-1-8; **Play 4:** 0-1-4-9; **Lotto:** 4-8-11-15-46-53; **Fantasy 5:** 11-14-21-32-35; **Mega Money:** 10-37-41-44 MB 15. Numbers selected Saturday in the Florida Lottery: **Cash 3:** 3-9-5; **Play 4:** 0-1-4-9.

Fundraiser

Continued From Page 1

more and some less. They also make little "cup cakes" for \$15 or \$20.

All of the proceeds go directly to benefit moms and babies here in Okeechobee County.

In addition, the Healthy Start will also be holding their yearly bake sale on Nov. 15, where there will be: guava-n-cream cheese, apple and plain cream cheese pastries; and ham, spinach/tomato, or plain cheese quiche to the

menu this year.

Items are baked by Mrs. Smith at the Pizza Heaven all night and are ready to be picked up that morning, Saturday, Nov. 15.

Guava-n-cream cheese and plain pastries are \$1 each (each pastry approx. 3 bites), apples are larger and are \$2 each. Quiche is \$10 per pie. If you wish to order you may e-mail Becky Smith at hsc4@okeechobee.com. Again, proceeds are to benefit local moms and babies with direct services in Okeechobee (education on parenting, car seat education, Lamaze classes, etc).

On Sunday, Nov. 23, at 5 p.m.

the Episcopal Church will host a benefit concert for Healthy Start called "Beginnings and Beyond." This concert will cover several eras of music from the renaissance to the contemporary eras. Musicians will play organ, piano, violin, and guitar as well as voice. Admission for this one hour event is a pack of diapers or a cash donation.

For more information about any of these events or the Okeechobee Healthy Start Coalition call 863-462-5877.

Post your opinions in the Public Issues Forum at www.newszap.com. Reporter Chauna Aguilar can be reached at caguilar@newszap.com.

Rally

Continued From Page 1

a.m. until 6 p.m. Sunday's hours will be from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Tickets can only be purchased at the gate and will cost \$5 per day, per person for everyone over the age of 12. Children 12 and under will be admitted free. Tickets include parking, access

to all events, vendors, music and shows.

Overnight camping and group discounts are available by calling 863-763-2622.

The rally is open to the public. Last year's rally not only raised money for FGIA, but awarded two \$500 scholarships to a pair of Okeechobee High School students.

Some of the funds from last year's event also went to the

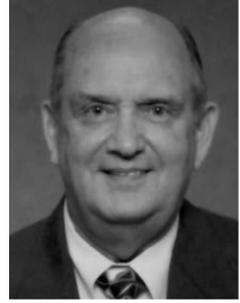
Community Gang Graffiti Eradication Program, and helped sponsor a gang-free program that will be carried out across the state.

For more information on the FGIA, visit their web site at www.fgia.com.

For vendor and sponsorship information, contact either Sgt. Stark or Michele Bell at the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office, 863-763-3117.

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Vote for Greener Okeechobee

By Dan Culbert
Extension Horticulture
Agent

This week is going to witness some very important votes that will change the face of our community forever. Certainly, anyone who has been awake over the past year is aware that national and local elections take place this Tuesday. I hope you have studied the candidates and issues and vote your conscious for what you believe is right.

Another important vote will take place this Thursday. Okeechobee County Commissioners will hold a final hearing on the county's first-ever landscaping ordinance. Today's column will describe some of its features and encourage interested persons to offer their opinions before the final public hearing, scheduled for this Thursday, November 6th.

Why a landscape ordinance?

A couple years ago a community-wide visioning workshop asked our local residents what they wanted to see in their community. One item high on the list was a desire to have a nice looking community with enough attractive landscaping to make this a nicer place to live and work.

Among the ways to do this is to have some minimum requirements for the amount and kinds of vegetation that should be planted around local homes and businesses. Coupled with the need for green are other important issues where plants can impact people, structures and safety. The intent of this ordinance is not to impose an inflexible narrow viewpoint of what is attractive, but to encourage a little more thought into what our community can look like.

This county landscape ordinance is a first step. While there are some people that want it written more strongly, others feel that these regulations are totally unnecessary and add costs and may slow new development. As these rules become implemented, there may need to be changes. The County Planning Board and Commission will be able to take a look at the ordinance as it evolves and make changes to address any new and emerging issues.

What will this mean to me? The proposed landscaping ordinance generally will apply to any new building construction and to locations that are being significantly renovated. All new buildings or renovations that will double the size of the existing floor space will have to include a plan for landscape improvements when the application for a building permit is submitted.

Minimum requirements of this ordinance are not nearly as extensive as other landscape codes that I have seen. For example, a 10 x 100 foot building (1,000 square foot) will need a minimum of one tree and 5 shrubs - either newly planted or kept in place from the existing vegetation. And, a 15 foot area of sod (or landscaped beds) needs to be planted around the building to keep bare soil in place.

There are additional requirements in the code that will ensure that things (like dumpsters and parking lots) are screened from view, and other provisions that will help create a visible green frame (called a buffer strip) around a building. Landscape plans drawn by landscape architects will be reviewed to ensure that these guidelines are followed. Applicants can also submit alternative plans that may differ from some of these requirements if unusual site conditions or hardship cases occur.

The final stage of the building process involves receiving a certificate of occupancy. Getting this move-in document will depend on getting the landscape installed properly. There also is a provision that landscape materials must be kept healthy after the building process is complete.

Other provisions of the code encourage the use of water conservation by using native plants. Properly designed irrigation systems, including the use of drip irrigation and rainfall shutoff devices, are also addressed. (These practices are what our Extension Service's Florida Yards and Neighborhood program is all about - helping people make better choices as they create Florida Friendly Yards.)

What plants are prohibited? There are two major prohibitions included in the proposed ordinance. The first is that certain weedy plants should not be in landscapes. The ordinance has an appendix that lists prohibited plants that cannot be intentionally added to a landscape in the county.

Specifically mentioned are nine trees that present special problems in our community. It also references three lists of many other plants that are already prohibited by the USDA [the Federal Noxious Weed list], the Florida Department of Agriculture [State Noxious weed list], and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection [Prohibited Aquatic Plants]. (If you want to see these lists, we have copies at our office and can provide internet links, too.)

I would note that the ordinance does not demand that prohibited

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plants now on property must be removed. Instead, the provisions apply when a structure is built or renovated. When such a change in the building occurs, prohibited plants will not be allowed to be considered as part of the minimum landscape requirements.

Can I remove a big tree?

A second item to mention is that big oak trees in developed areas can't be removed. In this case "big" refers to a tree with a trunk measuring more than 48 inches in circumference at a height of 4 1/2 feet above the ground.

If you are confused by circumference, this is the measurement around the trunk of the tree. The 48 inch circumference translates to a trunk measurement of a little more than 15 inches across. Since tree trunks are not perfect circles, the trunk could be a little bigger or smaller when considering this removal prohibition.

The County Planning Board considered the idea that in rural areas and single family homes, it may be necessary to remove a tree for various reasons, so this part of the code will not apply in those locations. The intent is to keep persons from removing specimen quality trees whenever construction activities may impact existing natural vegetation. In any case, a variance can be asked for if a big tree needs to be removed.

Public hearing and approval

The second and final public hearing on this county ordinance will occur on Thursday, Nov. 6, 2008. It will begin at 5:01 p.m. at the Health Department Auditorium, 1728 NW 9th Avenue in Okeechobee. At that time, the

Livestock Market Report

October 27 and 28

Cows		
Breaking	\$50.00	\$56.00
Cutter	\$45.00	\$54.00
Canner	\$40.00	\$45.00

Bulls		
1000-1500	\$60.00	\$61.00
1500-2000	\$60.50	\$68.00

	Monday	Tuesday
Calves	666	1263
Cows	152	298
Str	3	10
Hfhrs	5	10
Bulls	23	37
Yrlngs	24	91
Mix	0	0
Total	873	1709

Med #1	Steers	Hfhrs
150-200	165-190	
200-250	125-150	100-110
250-300		90-98
300-350		82-90
350-400	97-105	81-90
400-450	89-99	78-87
450-500	87-96	73-83
550-600	77-83	68-76
600-650	70-77	67-74

Med #2	Steers	Hfhrs
150-200		80-90
200-250	95-118	75-85

County Commission may make changes and move to approve these regulations. The public is invited to pick up a copy of the proposal at the County Planning Department Building or here at our Extension office.

I've placed more information on our Okeechobee web page, <http://okeechobee.ifas.ufl.edu>. If you need additional information on local Florida Friendly landscaping, please email us at okeechobee@ifas.ufl.edu or call us at 863-763-6469. Local residents can stop by our office at 458 Hwy 98 North in Okeechobee, and visit our Okeechobee County Master Gardeners from 1 to 3 p.m. on Tuesday afternoons.

250-300	85-115	65-90
300-350	87-110	70-80
350-400	80-102	75-78
400-450	76-92	52-78
Small #1	Steers	Hfhrs
150-200		
250-300		73-88
300-350	90-105	
350-400	92-100	62-70
450-500	78-85	70-76
600-650	62-66	60-69

Prices held up fairly good on calves. Some classes were \$1-2 higher on better calves. Slaughter cows and bulls were off about \$1. Willard Palmer of Palm Bay, topped the calf market with a \$1.90. Michael Davis of Kissimmee had the high cow price this week with 56.00.

Hopefully, the calf market has bottomed out, but don't expect much change for a while. Don't forget, no sales on Thanksgiving week.

See ya next week, Jeff

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Submitted photo/Marcia Candler

Award winner

Okeechobee Brahman FFA member Nathan Candler was named State Winner for the Diversified Livestock Production Award earlier this year. His application was then forwarded on for national competition. It was announced recently by the National FFA Organization that his project earned a Silver Rating on the national level. Pictured with Nathan Candler (center) is former Florida FFA President Hilary Webb (left) and Okeechobee FFA Advisor Marshall Gerbitz (right).

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Denise GRIMSLEY for State Representative District 77:
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John M. DYESS for Supervisor of Elections
 Your positive response to my campaign has been overwhelming. I deeply appreciate and have enjoyed meeting YOU. When you elect me, I will address your concerns and provide 100% compliance with Florida's elections laws with a total open door policy, instilling public trust. I will make sure the voter registration is current with your accurate address, party affiliation and precinct information along with necessary database updates, and poll workers will receive ample advance training. I will ensure your rights to: 1) cast a secret ballot 2) know it will be properly counted, and 3) know that no non-qualified voter will vote and thus, maintain the integrity of Glades County elections. I will work with our schools to educate our children on the democratic system and the importance of voting. My youthful energy will rejuvenate the office of Supervisor of Elections with enthusiasm, dedication and hard work. I promise to always be available to you. **Please vote for me to serve you.**
 Cell 863.673.0081

Robert A. "Tony" WILSON for Glades County Sheriff:
 If for any reason I have been unable to personally meet with you or to leave a pamphlet at your home, my name is Tony Wilson and I am seeking the position of Sheriff of Glades County. I moved to Glades County in May of 2003 with my wife Debi and son Tyler. I want to be YOUR Sheriff. My future plans are Fair and Equal **Law Enforcement for All** Communities of Glades County with Honesty, Integrity and Community Involvement. I will work for the people of Glades County with their best interest in mind, not special interest groups. I will work for you, the people. My **26 years of Law Enforcement EXPERIENCE** in Administration and Management, Training and Development, Traffic, Civil, Criminal and Homicide Investigations makes me the most qualified candidate to serve as **YOUR Sheriff.** My cell phone 863.227.0315 I will deeply appreciate your consideration, support and vote.

Cannon ELEY for Glades County Commissioner District 3:
 I am promoting Responsible Growth for Glades County. We need to progress forward while protecting the sensitive environment we love. I have the ability to look at issues with an open mind, and to make decisions based on what is best for Glades County, not for just a few, but for ALL of the county. Your vote for me will help return Glades County government to its residents. Elect Cannon Eley, the People's Commissioner. My Cell Phone 863.228.6981

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H5402 QHP0852 FU(09/08)

Everglades Elementary has a Spooktacular week

Kindergarten: At Everglades Elementary School Mrs. Moore's class is learning about pumpkins in science. We have read many books about pumpkins (fiction and non-fiction). We are working on a pumpkin book and have done experiments with our pumpkin seeds. In social studies and writing we have learned about the importance of voting. We are also learning what an important job being President is. The President does many things to help our country. "We are writing about, if I were President I would..."



Miss Snyder's class is building a word wall. As they are learning new letters and sounds and words, they are adding them to the word wall. In math we are counting up to 10. The boys and girls like to pull apart the cube towers and make them into two groups. Algebra is fun when making shape, letter, and number patterns. Did you know that painting is science? Our class learned when you mix red and yellow it changes to orange, red and blue changes to purple, and yellow and blue change to green! We love singing our mixing colors song!

First Grade: The whole first grade is busy working on their family turkey projects. These beautiful turkeys will be decorated by each student and their family with items found in their homes. They will be a beautiful combination of feathers, seeds, yarn, cereal, fabric, and buttons! These colorful turkeys will be on display in the cafeteria. A big thank you to each family that participates. This is a great family involvement project!

Mrs. Laskey's class has been learning all about bats, spiders, and owls. These creepy creatures have gotten us ready for Halloween! We painted our shirts and made spider pins to wear on Halloween day! We are also learning all about graphs in math. We have decided that graphs are easy.

Second Grade: Mrs. Brady's class has had a spooktacular time! We have learned about bones and have put together a paper skeleton. We have had a great Halloween week. We are studying about owls. We are also learning about owls and are writing Halloween stories with Miss Shofner. We are excited to sing our Halloween songs, to walk in the parade and

season. We are also working hard in math learning to add and subtract. We also don't want to forget about all of the reading that we are doing for the 100 Book Challenge! Remember, when we make our goal, we get a BOOK-IT pizza Hut certificate! We are chilling in the nice cool Florida weather and are looking forward to the Thanksgiving holidays.

Ms. Kosinski's class has enjoyed getting to finally work on the Pixie program from the EETT grant. The students are able to create class dictionaries and share their creativity in a class book that is available on our class website. If you would like to view our digital projects please go to: www.okee.k12.fl.us/teacher/Kosinski/index.html. They worked very hard and hope to show improved dictionary skills on our next test. They have also worked very hard

Mr. Wright's class has been working on subtraction, friendly letters, energy, and growing up. We are looking forward to Thanksgiving and Veteran's Day. We are thankful for all of the service men and women who have fought to protect our freedoms. We also want to thank all of the people who have helped to make America a great nation.

Third Grade: Mrs. Koff's class is learning to add, subtract, and compare money in math. In reading we will start our next story "The Planets In Our Solar System". Our skills for this week will be main idea, details, compare and contrast. We will also be learning about possessive nouns! In writing the students have finished and shared their Halloween narrative stories. In science we are reviewing the topic of work and simple machines. The students continue



Submitted photo/EES

Students of the Week

Here is the list of students who are achieving excellence in the classroom at Everglades Elementary School: Kindergarten: Joshua Baldwin, Jalyn Garcia, Sara Vickers, Roger Waugh, Alejandro Alvarez; First grade: Rebecka Mims, Reign Reyes, Mary Beth Sullivan, Luis Santibanez, Oscar Longoria; Second grade: Kayla Volo, David Jennings, Heriberto Gutierrez, Jenna Thompson, Perla Contreras, Alexia Torres; Third grade: Carlos Campos, Diana Urbina, Hannah Hortman, Marissa Delacruz, Elton Pelt; Fourth grade: Jose Serano, Kitana Lapp, Kaitlyn Smith, MacKenzie Delacruz; Fifth grade: Xavier Luviano, Peyton Campbell, Kendra Howling, Kayla Hood, Brianna Green. Congratulations to our many outstanding students!



Submitted photo/EES

Baton Twirlers

Everglades Elementary Pep and Drill Baton Twirlers for 2008-2009 school year are: (back row from left to right) Mrs. Laskey, Vanessa Safewright, Mrs. Rowley, (front row from left to right) Madaline Mungar, Ariel Girardi, Erin Grace, Kassie Weldon, India Coons, Eve King, Kailey McCain, Quinn Nurrenbern (not pictured) Taylor Guinn.

to get into the Halloween spirit by writing acrostic poems about pumpkins and Halloween. We had a great "read-in" on the 31st, everyone brought pillows and blankets, and flashlights. We sat around and read spooky books! Congratulations to Students Of The Week for October; Alexis Torres, Raquel Alvarez, Shian Koebnik, and Jessica Sulzer! Way to go ladies!

Ms. Gumz's class has been reading A Trip To The Emergency

to work on their 100 Book Challenge and are trying to attain their goal!

Ms. Watford's class has been busy working on subtraction problems and learning multiplication facts to "Mondo Math Music." We are looking forward to our PTO Thanksgiving program on November 11th. The students are practicing their speaking parts and practicing singing two special songs for the performance!

Mrs. LaPenna's class is learn-

August! Congratulations to Annabella!

Parent Involvement Committee: Once again we would like to thank the parents in Mrs. Tilton's third grade class who came in and read to her students. Thank you to: Karen Alicea, Kimberly Wojcieszak, Wayne Hunt, Tabitha Lopez, Nicole Lynch,

We would also like to thank all of the parents who were able to attend the Student Of The Week luncheon and share some special time with their child during lunch. It was a special time for everyone! Thank you to Mrs. Linda Robertson for providing beautiful fall decorations for the tables!

Reading Leadership Committee: We are very excited to begin our next school wide read aloud, Are You Smarter Than A Flying Gator?, By: Kevin Kremer. Each classroom has a copy of the book and will read it aloud to the students. Each Tuesday and Thursday, there will be vocabulary words and comprehension questions announced on the AM announcements. The students who can answer these questions will receive a small prize! Happy reading to everyone. We hope that everyone enjoys the adventures of these Florida boys and girls! Thank you to the Reading Leadership Team members that are providing the words and questions!

Science Committee: Our science question for the next two weeks is; Why do leaves turn colors? Please submit your answer to Mrs. Moore.



Submitted photo/EES

Pep and Drill

Everglades Elementary School is proud to announce the Pep and Drill Squad for the 2008-2009 School Year. The members are: (front row left to right) Aeixis Dillon, Maci Collier, Kaley Lowry, Shian Koebnik, Brittany Parker, Lita Landaberde, Ariel Eason, Perla Contreras, Peyton Campbell, and Aleene Romero, (back row left to right) Mercedes Washington, Hannah Collier, Tiffany Marshall, Vanessa Leiva, Jasmine Dillon, Jessica Cason, Shannon Mayes, Briley Sell and Sponsor-Stephanie Murrish, (not pictured) Rebecca Starnes, Kyllie Ramirez, Sonis Delgado, Jennifer Fairtrace, Katelynn Roberts and Sadie Marfil.

to share candy and treats. We are also learning about power, and will start dissecting owl pellets. In math we are regrouping with 2 digit numbers. In language arts we are writing acrostic poems, and READING, READING, READING, and more READING! We just finished reading a chapter book, Back-To-School Fright From The Black Lagoon! Ask your child about it!

Ms. Hunt's class is busy reading lots of spooky stories. We are then using those ideas for our Halloween Acrostic poems. We are also adding 3 digit numbers in math and sometimes finding the missing addends. We are future money moguls and accountants! We are also into the fall spirit. We are reading about the fall holidays coming up. We are also very excited and curious to see the outcome of the Presidential election. Only a few more days!

Mrs. Campbell's class was happy to receive letters and pictures from our pen-pals Illinois. It's great to finally see what our pen-pals look like. It's getting cool in Illinois! We are reading for our 100 Book Challenge steps and BOOK-IT, the pizza is yummy! We have also enjoyed "Red Ribbon Week." We elect to be drug free. We are beginning to learn about "energy for living" in science.

Mrs. Kirby's class is busy getting into the Halloween mood by writing scary stories. We are expressing ourselves through our art work and creative writings. We are enjoying the Halloween

Room and learning about jobs in the hospital. We have also been learning about self-esteem with "Pumsy." Congratulations to our October Student's of The Week, Ariel Eason, Larry Fresolone, Miriah Good, and Heriberto Gutierrez.

ing about time in math and we are also starting to learn our times tables. We are reading the "Magic Tree House" series independently and taking Accelerated Reader tests to improve our comprehension. Annabella Ulyse has read 18 Magic Tree House books since

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WATERFRONT Very nice well-maintained SWMH. Ceramic tile throughout. A nice family rm w/bthrm built on. Boathouse w/electric hoist. Concrete area around the boathouse. A lot of house for the price. MLS #201706, \$112,900. Call Vicki at 863-634-4106.



REDUCED!!! Beautiful 3/1 house w/grandfather oaks. Privacy fence, security lights. New windows 12-05, A/C 7-05, roof 05-06. On a shallow canal goes to Taylor Creek Locks. Close to public boat ramp. PRICE REDUCED, SHORT SALE. MLS #92700, \$120,000. Call Vicki at 863-634-4106.



ADORABLE ONE ROOM WINTER OR WEEKEND RETREAT. Large corner lot with a beautiful view of the water and many trees. Nice carport. Does not have water. Will need to hook up to OUA. MLS #200971, \$85,000. Call Vicki at 863-634-4106.



COUNTRY LIVING Great place to bring your horses and have fun. Property has large extra lot. Main yard is fenced in. Beautiful grandfather oaks and many other trees. Plenty of storage space in the house. YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS OUT ON THIS ONE. PRICED TO SELL!!!! MLS #200723, \$175,000. Call Vicki at 863-634-4106.



A PIECE OF PARADISE Nice home on the waterfront. Galley kitchen. Beautiful landscaping. Pavers for the driveway. A large 2 car carport. 2 decks, on the canal and side of house w/automatic awning. 6x8 new shed. MLS #201024, \$182,900. Call Vicki at 863-634-4106.



WATERFRONT Beautiful fully upgraded DWMH. Pela Windows w/double panes throughout. Oak floors, upgraded kitchen cabinets. One car garage, boat dock. Too many features to include. MUST SEE THIS BEAUTY. MLS #201548, \$149,900. Call Vicki at 863-634-4106

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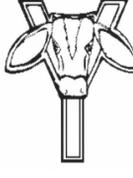
3 1/2 DWT AGR! "LOTS OF UPGRADES" 3/2 CBS on 1 acre priced to sell! Tile floors throughout, stone fireplace, new appliances. 1 acre of oak trees, mangos, avocados, & others. fire pit, 2 sheds and is completely chain linked fenced. Don't wait this one won't last long!! #201614 \$170,000

BRING YOUR FISHING TROLE! "GREAT INVESTMENT" Look at this price!! 2/1 with addition. Utility shed, lots of trees.....some furnishings stay. Pick up this steal and rent it out for some additional income. #200897 \$39,900

MOTIVATED SELLERS! "TAYLOR CREEK LIVING" Nice fenced lot with a 2/2 mobile home. Also has a 10x48 addition. Call for an appointment. #201670 \$75,000

COME SEE THIS! "TIDY ON TAYLOR CREEK" Lovely 1991 Jacobson DWMH shows nicely, it is 3 BR, 2 BA, has a lovely Florida room with a sauna. It is furnished very well, and maintained in a great condition. #200374 \$170,000

Lady Yearlings conclude a perfect season with 10-0 record



Yearling Middle School Volleyball concluded its season on Oct. 15 with a victory over Osceola. The Lady Yearlings had a perfect 10-0 season. Congratulations to Coach Conrad, Coach Gray and the entire Yearling Volleyball Team. The official roster is as follows:



Submitted photo/YMS

Students are achieving excellence at YMS everyday. Student of the Week are standing with Mr. Tedders and Mrs. Markham. Students are: Casey Hurst, Joseph Thornton, Joseph Cabrera, Joe Brown, Eidrit Renteria, German Lopez, and Cody Marsh.

The morning tutorial operates Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 7:10- 8:20 a.m. Transportation will be provided. The tutorial also began on September 9. Please contact Dylan Tedders at Yearling Middle School 863-462-5056 for more information.

8th Grade: Kyla Hargraves, Maci Thomas, Krista Ward, Sarah Davis, Janet Smith, Ami Nunez, Katie Ward.
7th Grade: Taylor Williams, Erin Hudson, Jaide Micco.
6th Grade: Sara Hurst, Ari Nunez, Brooke Osceola, Lexi Ward, Delaney Osceola, Breanna Billie.

Band: The band will be putting on their annual Christmas Concert on Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. in the gym. Please come and listen to our band play various Christmas music. We look forward to your attendance and participation.

Tutorial Programs: Yearling Middle School offers a morning and an after school tutorial program. The after school tutorial program operates two days a week from 3:40 until 5 p.m. (Tuesday and Thursday). Parents must provide their own transportation for the after school tutorial. The tutorial program began on Tuesday, Sept. 9.

FHSA Physical (form available in the office) and a cumulative G.P.A. of a 2.0 or above in order to participate.

The Girl's Team Consists of the following Members:
 Jaryaca Baker, Ami Edwards, Jessica Jaimes, Taylor Lowe, Shamarah Shanks, Alicen Sheeney, Janet Smith, Rosa Urbina, Kiyler Baker, Jaide Micco, Jessi Osceola, Mikeshia Tillman, Carley McCoain, Delaney Osceola, Taylor Trent.

Early Release Day: The 2008-09 school calendar contains 4 days which have been designated as Student Early Release Days. Our second Early Release Day will be Friday, Nov. 14, 2008. The early release is for students only. Employees will work the regular school day hours. The purpose of the days is to provide time for teachers to do academic planning, attend training, and con-

duct parent conferences. School hours for these days will be: 8:55 - 12:15 p.m. Students will be fed a light breakfast and a meal prior to dismissal. Regular bus service (transporting students home) will occur at the Early Release dismissal times. Parents may pick up students at the Early Release dismissal times.

Upcoming Meetings: Our fifth SAC meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 9th at 4 p.m. in the office conference room. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Please join us for our second PTO Meeting of the year on Thursday, December 11, at 7 p.m. in the gym. We will be discussing plans for the year and explaining to parents the current grade promotion requirements. For more information, contact Andrea Mitchum at 462-5056. The meeting will precede the YMS Band Concert in the gymnasium.

North Elementary has tutorial services

Supplemental Educational Services are tutorial services that are offered to North Elementary School students meeting eligibility requirements. Tutorial services are provided through private providers at no cost to the parent. Supplemental Educational Services are available to (K-5) elementary students enrolled in Central, Everglades, North, South and Seminole Elementary. The student must participate in the free and reduced price lunch program. If you are interested, contact your child's school office.

student selects a book for FREE to keep adding to his or her home library collection.

North Elementary Students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade Music classes are enjoying reading and singing through their "Music Express" magazines. We are using non-pitched instruments on some of the songs. We learned about Mexican Independence Day in September and will be learning about "October-fest" in the country of Germany.

Music students in Kindergarten, 1st, & 2nd grades have been using non-pitched instruments to establish steady beats. We have also been learning songs using bean bag movements.

In P.E. students just completed their swimming unit. We are beginning Brahma Ball and the kids are excited. Kindergarten students and 1st graders are working on loco motor skills. Ask your child about all the fundamentals it takes to make a good throw. We have some future hall of famers at this school!

Mrs. Phillips' & Ms. Ungureit's class is studying about animals in science. They are creating animal classification books, and learning how to use animal encyclopedias. Students will be learning about different animals by viewing short internet videos from Animal Planet & National Geographic.

How does a delicious bowl of frog tongues, slime and eye of newt sound? Mrs. Van Deman's 3rd grade class has been brewing



Submitted photo/OMS

OMS Students of the Week

Students are achieving excellence everyday at Osceola Middle School. Students of the Week are: (front row) Daniel Estrada, Trenton Gainer, Tad Norman, Kirby Dobbs, Tyler Eliott, (back row) Chayse Harrell, Maria Jaimes, Anissa Demezier, Arismel Carillo. Congratulations to our Students!

up some very interesting witches' brews for all to enjoy. The students have come up with some strange recipes (without being too gory). Our "cauldron's" are available to all! We are very proud of our AR readers. Right now, Bakari Micco is in the lead with the points he has earned. Everyone, keep on reading!

OHS Cross Country competes in Melbourne

By Charles M. Murphy

Okeechobee High School's boy's cross country team finished seventh and the girl's finished 29th, at the Holy Trinity Invitational in Melbourne last Saturday, Oct. 25.

The Brahman boy's team was led by Eddie Guerrero who finished 22nd overall. Adrian Leon and Reynel Denova finished in the top 50. Misael Alvarado finished 55th, and Lionel Jones and Shawn Horvath finished in the top 100.

Flarunners.com reported that Belen Jesuit won the invitational. Okeechobee was the only Treasure Coast area team in the top 10. Other area schools who competed were Martin County, South Fork, Lincoln Park, Vero Beach, and John Carroll.

The girl's squad was paced by Isabella Penido who finished in 20th place. Also competing for Okeechobee were Natavidad Garcia, Amanda Harrison, Maria Baltazar and Gabbie Rodriguez.

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NORTHWEST 63rd Terrace, 2BR, 1BA, on big lot. \$600/mo. + dep. Call 757-431-0331

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Public Notice 5005

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
 JUVENILE DIVISION
 CASE NO.: 2006-0P-075

IN THE INTEREST OF:
 J.M. DOB: 6/2/06
 Mother of the minor child:
 Angelica Marquez

TO: Mother of J.M., Angelica Marquez
 Residence and Address Unknown

Public Notices 5005

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A PETITION UNDER OATH HAS BEEN FILED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN THE ABOVE-STYLED COURT FOR THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS RELATIVE TO J.M., A FEMALE CHILD, BORN ON THE 2nd DAY OF JUNE 2006. THE CHILD WAS BORN IN THE COUNTY OF HIGHLANDS, IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA. YOU ARE COMMANDED TO BE AND APPEAR BEFORE A JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, JUVENILE DIVISION IN THE ABOVE-STYLED COURT LOCATED AT: OKEECHOBEE JUDICIAL CENTER 312 N.W. 3rd STREET, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972

Public Notice 5005

AT 2:30 PM ON THE 12th DAY OF JANUARY, 2009, IN COURTROOM "D", FOR HEARING AND TO SHOW CAUSE WHY SAID PETITION SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED.

Public Notice 5005

AT 1:30 PM ON THE 1st DAY OF DECEMBER, 2008, IN COURTROOM "D", FOR HEARING AND TO SHOW CAUSE WHY SAID PETITION SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED.

When doing those chores is doing you in, it's time to look for a helper in the classifieds.

Public Notice 5005

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
 JUVENILE DIVISION
 CASE NO.: 2006-0P-083

IN THE INTEREST OF:
 K.O. DOB: 1/22/03
 M.O. DOB: 1/22/06
 Father of the minor child:
 Michael Quarles

TO: Father of K.O., Michael Quarles
 Father of M.O., Michael Quarles
 Residence and Address Unknown

Public Notice 5005

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A PETITION UNDER OATH HAS BEEN FILED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN THE ABOVE-STYLED COURT FOR THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS RELATIVE TO K.O., A FEMALE CHILD, BORN ON THE 1st DAY OF DECEMBER, 2003 AND M.O., A MALE CHILD, BORN ON THE 22ND DAY OF JANUARY, 2006. THE CHILD K.O. WAS BORN IN THE COUNTY OF ST. LUCIE, IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN THE CHILD M.O., WAS BORN IN THE COUNTY OF ST. LUCIE, IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA. YOU ARE COMMANDED TO BE AND APPEAR BEFORE A JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, JUVENILE DIVISION IN THE ABOVE-STYLED COURT LOCATED AT: OKEECHOBEE JUDICIAL CENTER 312 N.W. 3rd STREET, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972

Public Notice 5005

AT 1:30 PM ON THE 1st DAY OF DECEMBER, 2008, IN COURTROOM "D", FOR HEARING AND TO SHOW CAUSE WHY SAID PETITION SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED.

Public Notice 5005

AT 1:30 PM ON THE 1st DAY OF DECEMBER, 2008, IN COURTROOM "D", FOR HEARING AND TO SHOW CAUSE WHY SAID PETITION SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED.

When doing those chores is doing you in, it's time to look for a helper in the classifieds.

Public Notice 5005

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE COQUINA WATER CONTROL DISTRICT

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR COQUINA WATER CONTROL DISTRICT WILL HOLD A MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2008 AT 9:00 A.M. IN THE ADMINISTRATION ANNEX BUILDING, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE, SMALL CONFERENCE ROOM, 458 HIGHWAY 98 N., OKEECHOBEE, FL. A COPY OF THE PROPOSED AGENDA MAY BE OBTAINED UPON REQUEST FROM THE UNDERSIGNED. IF ANY PERSON DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION BY THE BOARD WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT SUCH MEETING, THAT PERSON WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS AND FOR SUCH PURPOSES THAT PERSON MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS, WHICH INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED, IS MADE. ANY PERSON WISHING TO SPEAK AT THE MEETING MUST HAVE THEIR NAME AND TOPIC PLACED ON THE AGENDA ONE WEEK BEFORE THE DATE OF THE MEETING. ALL PROPERTY OWNERS WITHIN THE DISTRICT ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, PERSONS NEEDING A SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION OR AN INTERPRETER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROCEEDINGS SHOULD CONTACT THE DISTRICT'S OFFICES BY CALLING (863)763-4601 AT LEAST TWO (2) DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE MEETING. NOTICE: COQUINA WATER CONTROL DISTRICT HAS AN ONGOING AQUATIC SPRAYING PROGRAM, DISTRICT WIDE.

WILLARD M. BYARS
 CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
 17429 NW 242ND STREET
 OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972
 (863)763-4601 OR (863)634-3166
 298232 ON 11/2/08

Public Notice 5005

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE COQUINA WATER CONTROL DISTRICT

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR COQUINA WATER CONTROL DISTRICT WILL HOLD A MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2008 AT 9:00 A.M. IN THE ADMINISTRATION ANNEX BUILDING, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE, SMALL CONFERENCE ROOM, 458 HIGHWAY 98 N., OKEECHOBEE, FL. A COPY OF THE PROPOSED AGENDA MAY BE OBTAINED UPON REQUEST FROM THE UNDERSIGNED. IF ANY PERSON DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION BY THE BOARD WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT SUCH MEETING, THAT PERSON WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS AND FOR SUCH PURPOSES THAT PERSON MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS, WHICH INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED, IS MADE. ANY PERSON WISHING TO SPEAK AT THE MEETING MUST HAVE THEIR NAME AND TOPIC PLACED ON THE AGENDA ONE WEEK BEFORE THE DATE OF THE MEETING. ALL PROPERTY OWNERS WITHIN THE DISTRICT ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, PERSONS NEEDING A SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION OR AN INTERPRETER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROCEEDINGS SHOULD CONTACT THE DISTRICT'S OFFICES BY CALLING (863)763-4601 AT LEAST TWO (2) DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE MEETING. NOTICE: COQUINA WATER CONTROL DISTRICT HAS AN ONGOING AQUATIC SPRAYING PROGRAM, DISTRICT WIDE.

WILLARD M. BYARS
 CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
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	6		2					
					4		9	5
8	1							
				2	3			
			6				3	7
	9		1					
	3		7					
	2	4	5				6	
7			3		4			2

Level: Advanced

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!

Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

- Target competitor
- 6 Stays out of sight
- 11 Sci-fi computer
- 14 Grammy winner
- 15 Preppy collars
- 16 Altar consent
- 17 Vernon's dancing partner
- 19 Day before a "TGIF" cry
- 20 Crumpets partner
- 21 Program recording device
- 22 Each
- 23 "The Big Chill" actress
- 27 In a taxi
- 30 Broadcast again
- 31 Declare openly
- 32 20 Questions category
- 35 NRC predecessor
- 38 Nixon's 1960 running mate
- 41 White House advisory gp.
- 42 Playful aquatic critters
- 43 Bit of sweat
- 44 "You can't beat me now!"
- 46 Theater divider
- 47 TV doctor played by Hugh Laurie
- 52 Hurt
- 53 Kitchen suffix
- 54 "How satisfying!"
- 57 Batting stat.
- 58 20th century Mexican revolutionary
- 62 Formerly called
- 63 With 8-Down, punctually
- 64 Gas gauge extreme
- 65 Super Bowl highlights?
- 66 Bygone anesthetic
- 67 Valentine's Day dozen

DOWN

- 1 Work up a sweater
- 2 Additional amount
- 3 Word after gray or Bay
- 4 Sprinted

5 What a treatrer picks up at dinner
 6 Hard to carry
 7 "Not to worry"
 8 See 63-Across
 9 Blowup: Abbr.
 10 NNW's opposite
 11 Top 40 lists
 12 Formed just for this project
 13 Jeweler's magnifier
 18 Fig. with a diameter
 22 "Sting like a bee" boxer
 23 Bryn ___ College
 24 Medieval suit
 25 Pout William Butler
 26 Cloud of gloom
 27 Audi route
 28 Saint Laurent of fashion
 29 Hotel staff members
 32 Role player
 33 Smartly dressed
 34 "... will ___ rich?": "Que Sera, Sera" lyric
 36 On a par, in Paris
 37 Surrender, as land

ANSWER:

2	8	4	8	9	3	6	9	5	7	1
3	9	1	6	7	5	1	5	1	8	2
1	5	1	6	7	2	7	8	8	4	9
9	6	2	5	8	1	8	7	1	6	4
7	7	1	3	1	6	4	6	8	8	2
6	4	7	8	3	2	5	9	1	7	7
7	4	1	2	7	2	9	3	1	6	8
5	5	4	6	9	6	1	8	4	4	3
1	8	7	3	1	8	2	9	7	3	1

ANSWER:

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!

Football player makes 'Graceful' exit

By Charles M. Murphy
 Okeechobee News

adult education. He also earned a bachelors degree in criminal justice.

He graduated from Okeechobee High School in 1995 and still remembers fondly his time at Okeechobee. He remembers reaching the second round of the playoffs during his senior year. Okeechobee defeated Immokalee in the first round of the playoffs last year. Edgerrin James, who went on to play professional football in the National Football League, sat out the game because Immokalee felt they could beat Okeechobee without them. Okeechobee lost in the second round in a tough battle with Cardinal Gibbons. Grace said the playoffs, and Okeechobee victories in a Kansas tie breaker over Suncoast and South Fork, which qualified them for the playoffs, were two of his fondest memories in Okeechobee.

"I wasn't super highly recruited in high school. I was recognized at camps, and I grew some in college, thankfully," he noted. Grace thanked Coaches Bostic and Kingery for helping get him a scholarship at Marshall. They were graduates of Marshall and sent the university tapes of him. Grace followed in the footsteps of Cary Parks of Okeechobee, who also went to Marshall. Okeechobee graduates Larry Davis and Curtis Jones followed Grace to Marshall.

Grace played in the Motor City Bowl in Detroit, Michigan, two years in a row in 1997 and 1998. He was named the Most Valuable Player of the 1998 game when Marshall defeated Louisville, 28-3. Grace said he enjoyed playing with Randy Moss, and doesn't understand the negative publicity his former teammate receives, "He was an excellent guy to play with. If the media really knew him, they wouldn't say the things they do. He'd do anything for you." Grace was voted Marshall's defensive MVP in 1998 and 1999. He was also named first team all Mid American Conference during 1998 and 1999. He had 437 tackles during his career, the fifth most in Marshall history. Grace tried out for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers after college but was cut in training camp. That led him to sign with the Canadian Football League, where he played seven seasons. Grace had a wonderful career in the CFL. His first year, his team the Montreal Alouettes, made it to the Grey Cup game, losing to the British Columbia Lions. Although he doesn't remember the score, he remembers one thing about football, winning is everything. "It don't matter what the score was all that counts is the win and the loss. The rest is water under the bridge." Grace was named the most outstanding player for the Ottawa Renegades and was selected to the CFL all star game in 2002. He led the league with eight forced fumbles and five fumble recoveries in 2002. He was traded to the Calgary Stampeders in 2004 and was named player of the week four times and defensive player of the month twice. He was defensive most valuable player in the CFL in 2005. He was western division player of the year in 2004 and 2005. He was team MVP for Ottawa twice, and made the pro bowl on numerous occasions. "Team MVP was very significant to me. In the entire history of the league it is rare for a defender to win that award," he noted. Grace suffered some injuries late in his career that hampered his performance. A pulled hamstring was hampering him in his final year when he decided to retire after just five games. He knew it was the right decision. "The motivation was not there to play football. I miss being around the guys. Athletes are the real life Peter Pans. We never have to grow up. It was time for me to grow up and take on responsibility. My wife was doing too much for one person," he added.

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Courtesy of Montreal Alouettes
John Grace

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Brahman alumnus play for bragging rights

By Charles M. Murphy
 Okeechobee News

uled to be on hand to play in the annual game, dubbed the Turkey Bowl.

"It's a real big deal in the neighborhood," Grace said, "The old guys against the new guys. People get to see some of the high school's best players. It's a blast." Grace noted the older guys usually get the early lead because of their superior game plan. However the younger guys always come back when the old guys lose some steam.

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"It's good to give back to the community and I appreciate the chance to come home," Grace noted. Grace was involved in youth causes while he played in Canada and set up a foundation where he would donate tickets to underprivileged youth to see games. He also helped several boys' schools while he played. He continues that devotion to young people by returning to Okeechobee for Thanksgiving. "I also talk to kids to let them

know what they go through today, I had to go through. Everybody has a story. I always felt helping one kid isn't enough. If you can help more, go do it. There will be Thanksgiving dinner and refreshments served at the event played at the baseball field known as the Alderman complex. Kickoff is scheduled for 11 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day. Anyone interested in donating or volunteering in the event can call Skip Roberts at 813-546-0891.

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Quick casserole is filling



Utensils needed:
 frying pan, spoon, can opener

Ingredients:
 1 lb hamburger
 20 oz. frozen mac & cheese
 12 oz. can creamed soup (mushroom, celery, chicken whatever you have on hand)

milk (optional)
 Brown meat and season to taste. Remove excess fat. Cook mac & cheese according to box. Add mac & cheese, and soup to hamburger. Heat throughout. If too thick, add milk. Makes 2 hefty servings with 1,353 calories per serving. If you would like to share your story, and your favorite recipe please contact me at Kitchen_Talk@yahoo.com.

Habitat announces new directors

Habitat for Humanity Okeechobee County, Inc. announces the addition of three new Board of Directors members. They are pleased to announce the addition of Doc Thrift, Ed Thornton and Cliff Matson.

Cliff Matson has worked with Habitat on our last two houses. He and his wife have been visiting Okeechobee for many years and this year purchased a home here. Soon we will begin construction on our next Habitat home for our next partner family; Cheryl Little and her children. If you have any questions about Habitat for Humanity or would like to become involved please call the office at 863-357-1371.

Doc Thrift is a long time resident of Okeechobee County with many years of construction experience. Ed Thornton has been working with all the homes we have built and is also a longtime resident of Okeechobee County.

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South Elementary students go on Learning Safari

The Learning Safari held on Oct. 28 was well attended and enjoyed by all! Each grade level had a display and an activity to share with parents. It was exciting to listen to the Safari Leaders discuss reading tips with parents. Kindergarten students had studied the various species of Penguins. First grade students had a display of Africa. Second grade students had created a rainforest in their hallway. Third grade students had written essays explaining why their pumpkin should be President. Books and information about Mexico, along with yarn paintings, were also displayed in the third grade hallway. Fourth grade students had researched Asia. There were displays of origami and informational displays about Japan, China, India and Kazakhstan.



some valuable tips as well. Mrs. Hamblen and Mrs. Nichols presented a workshop on 100 Book Challenge and comprehension building skills. Parents were given handouts and tools they could use to help students with comprehension and higher ordered thinking skills. We would like to thank all the parents at South Elementary for being such a vital part of our school community.

Red Ribbon Week brought out the artist in many teachers. The door decorating prize was hotly contested. Mrs. Singleton's first grade door won first place, followed by Mrs. Thompson's in second, Ms. Hewitt's in third, Mrs. Fusco's in fourth, Mrs. Eldred's in fifth and Mrs. Thomas's in sixth place. Student participated in most of the door decorating. Third grade students listed what they would rather do than do drugs! They all have great goals and dreams. Students also wore a jersey from their favorite team, sunglasses, caps and red clothing to show their support of Red Ribbon Week.

Fall fundraiser orders will arrive on Tuesday, November 4th.

These orders will be sent home with the students. Thank you for your orders and support!

The school year is flying by now! As we move toward Winter Break, please remember to save glass baby food jars. You can drop them off anytime. We will store them for use at the Winter Carnival. Also if you have empty ink cartridges, BoxTops points or Campbell's Soup label, you are invited to drop them off in the front office also. Those items are converted into cash or supplies for student activities or programs.

There are many events in November. There will be a short Veteran's day assembly in the courtyard at 1:50 p.m. on Nov. 11. Progress Reports for the second nine weeks will be going home on Nov. 13! The School Advisory Council will meet on Nov. 13. Early Release day is Nov. 14. Career Day for grades 2-4 will be Nov. 17. Grades 3 and 4 will be taking the Kaplan test on Nov. 18 and 19. There will not be any school on Nov. 27 and 28 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Students celebrate Red Ribbon Week

By Chauna Aguilar
Okeechobee News

The Okeechobee Substance Abuse Coalition and schools across the district such as South Elementary have celebrated Red Ribbon Week beginning on Monday, Oct. 27, with an array of activities.

Red Ribbon Week is the nation's oldest and largest drug prevention program in the nation which reaches millions of Americans during the last week of October every year. The OSAC has went around to businesses throughout Okeechobee to encourage them to show their support for Red Ribbon Week.

Through Red Ribbon Week, young people pledge to live a drug-free life and through the program pay tribute to DEA Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, who was a DEA officer undercover in Mexico who was kidnapped in 1985, brutally tortured and murdered by Mexican drug traffickers. His tragic death opened the eyes of many Americans to the dangers of drugs and the international scope of the drug trade.

The National Family Partnership estimates that over 80 million people participate in Red Ribbon events each year.

Shelby Schutt at South Elementary School coordinated the Red Ribbon Week at South Elementary



Okeechobee News/Chauna Aguilar
South Elementary students (left to right) Kaitlyn Williams, Aubrey Pearce, Joseph Lopresti, Jasmine Vickers, Bryce Johnson, Seth Hendrix, Jerome Roundtree and Damian Stephens during Red Ribbon Week at South Elementary School.

ry School where students in each class and grade level competed as they learned about the importance of living drug-free lives.

The theme for the 2008 Red Ribbon Week was "Ask me, See Me, I'm Drug Free, Be Me."

On Monday students wore red, Tuesday they wore camouflage, Wednesday they wore sunglasses, Thursday they wore their favorite team shirts, and Friday they are wearing school colors and "put a cap on drugs" with the purchase

of a sticker in the cafeteria. Classes will also receive prizes for the door decorating contest for each grade.

The Okeechobee Substance Abuse Coalition meets on the second Tuesday of every month at the First United Methodist Church fellowship hall from 11:45 a.m. until 1 p.m. For more information call 863-697-1792.

Post your opinions in the Public Issues Forum at www.newszap.com. Reporter Chauna Aguilar can be reached at caguilar@newszap.com.

Public Issues Forums: Join the discussion!

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Submitted photo/SES

Face Painting

Students who had their faces painted as part of the Positive Behavior Support program are Hunter Smith and Sarina VaVra.

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Thurs., Nov. 13, 2008 7:30 p.m.

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On March 15, 2005, the St. Lucie County Commission and the Public Defender received the results of the \$100,000 jail overcrowding study.

The Kalmanoff Report Findings?

- ★ Delays and a lack of aggressive client advocacy by the Public Defender's Office results in a situation where "cases languish and work and costs mount for all justice system agencies." (p. 104)
- ★ "The Public Defender has been the strongest supporter of new jail beds, repeatedly condemning the idea that improvements in system efficiency could reduce jail crowding." (p. 104)
- ★ Report recommendations: "Seek an independent professional program audit of the Public Defender's Office to provide needed support and input on much earlier and stronger system advocacy." (p. 113)

What was the Public Defender's response to Dr. Kalmanoff's constructive recommendations to improve the criminal justice system?

"He's an idiot"
Palm Beach Post 3-20-05

Accuses "Kalmanoff of being vindictive and said the St. Lucie officials should ask for a refund of the \$100,000 spent on the report"
Palm Beach Post 4-9-05

Files a federal lawsuit against the St. Lucie County Commission and Sheriff over jail crowding.
Palm Beach Post 11-26-07

Vote DON CHINQUINA for PUBLIC DEFENDER

Political advertisement paid for and approved by Don Chinquina, Democrat for Public Defender, 19th Judicial Circuit.

Okeechobee wins against Martin County in overtime

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Lonnie Pryor added to his legend with over 400 all purpose yards Friday but it was two other seniors that made the most unforgettable play in Okeechobee's 43-40 win over Martin County.

Garrett Madrigal hit Kareem Jones with a 17 yard touchdown pass in overtime to give the Brahman a victory that secured them a return trip to the state playoffs this year.

"I was glad he gave us a chance to throw the ball on the last play," Madrigal stated, "I'm surrounded by all around great players. I just do what I can do. I put the ball in the air and make play makers do what they do."

Okeechobee (6-2) had no trouble on offense all night on senior night, but they struggled on defense against a winless team. They allowed 388 yards, 308 of them to the Tigers backup QB Mike Duhart.

"There's no way we should have been in an overtime game with Martin County," Brahman's Coach Chris Branham said, "It got aggravating. Martin County did a phenomenal job of calling plays tonight and no matter what we did, we just weren't going to stop it."

Okeechobee jumped out to a 10-0 lead in the first quarter and seemed to be on their way to an easy win against the struggling Tigers, who came in (0-8). It didn't turn out that way.

Okeechobee scored on their first offensive play as Pryor took a hand over left tackle and was off to the races. He ran untouched for an 80 yard touchdown and a 7-0 lead 13 seconds into the game.

Martin County couldn't move the ball but their punter Eric Strack kicked a wind aided 65 yard punt that backed the Brahman's up at their two yard line. Nothing to worry about.

Madrigal gutted out a six yard run on third and six to give the Brahman's breathing room and the offense promptly moved the ball down field with a 10 play drive. The Brahman's reached the Tiger eight yard line before Madrigal was sacked by Erik Kent on third down. Alan Najara came on and booted a 29 yard field goal for a 10-0 lead.

Martin County wouldn't fold as they answered with a 65 yard touchdown drive. Key plays included Duhart's 12 and 13 yard runs and a third down pass from Austin Larson to Gillie St. Hill (106 yards in receptions). Freshman Tyler Viscount rushed the final three yards to put Martin County back in the game, 10-7, early in the second quarter.

Okeechobee drove 62 yards in eight plays on their next drive to go ahead 16-7. Key plays included a 42 yard run by Pryor. The Brahman's overcame two penalties after they secured a first and goal at the Tiger four yard line. On third down Madrigal (8-10 in the passing game) hit Mike Minondo who caught the ball at the eight, eluded a tackle and dove into the end zone.

Martin County responded with an 80 yard drive and again it was Duhart who made the big plays. He hit Gillie St. Hill on a 10 yard pass for a first down and rushed for another 19 yards. With under a minute left in the half Duhart threw up a beautiful post pattern pass that Hill ran under at the 10 yard line and carried into the end zone. The extra point made it 16-14 at the half.

The Tigers took their only lead of the game on the first drive of the third quarter. They also did it quickly and easily. Duhart ran for 24 yards on the first play and two plays later hooked up with Hill on a 32 yard touchdown pass to make it 22-16 Tigers. The Tigers converted a pass for the two point conversion on a reverse option play. Juvvan Braye hit Matt Diekmann for the conversion.

Okeechobee responded again thanks to Pryor. They drove 80 yards in 12 plays to go ahead 23-22. The big play was a 34 yard run by Pryor. Madrigal was shaken up on the drive but backup QB Terrance Allen took over at the Tiger 10 yard line and ran in a quarterback sneak for the touchdown, his first on varsity.

The Brahman defense, which to that point couldn't stop Martin County, made a big play on the Tigers next drive. The Tigers moved the ball to midfield but on a second and eight pass, Austin Larson had his pass batted up into the air by Allen. Kareem Jones caught the deflected pass and ran 40 yards into the Tiger end zone to give Okeechobee a 30-22 lead.

Jones said it was one of the highlights of his high school career, "I was so happy because that was my first real touchdown. I didn't know what to do. I thank T.J and the other defenders who helped me be at the right place at the right time."

Martin County rallied again with another 80 yard drive. Key plays included a 17 yard pass to Raynes, and a 15 yard run by Duhart. Duhart repeatedly carried the ball with ease against the Brahman defense. Viscount came in to carry the final two yards to tie the game at 30.

Okeechobee responded quickly with a three play 74 yard drive. Pryor raced 68 yards down field on first down and McQueen rumbled in from the six yard line to give Okeechobee a 37-30 lead.

Martin County drove down field with ease again to tie the score at 37. The 80 yard drive included a 14 yard pass to Raynes, and a 25 yard run by Duhart. A pass interference call in the end zone gave Martin County a first and goal. Viscount scored his third touchdown of the game to make it 37-37.

Okeechobee ran out of time in regulation before they could break the tie. They reached the Tiger 33 and could have attempted a long field goal. However on third down Pryor was dropped for a rare loss on third down.

Martin County got the ball first in the overtime. They got off to a bad start with a delay of game penalty and Duhart was stacked up for a three yard rain on first down. Duhart threw long for Hill into the end zone on second down. On third down his pass was perfect by Jamar Spencer dropped a sure touchdown pass. Martin County settled for a 30 yard field goal by Strack to go ahead 40-37.

Okeechobee had their chance and things looked grim when two delay of game penalties pushed the ball back to the 17 yard line. On second down Madrigal stood tough against the rush and hit Jones at the two yard line. He fell into the end zone for the winning touchdown.

"I just threw the ball to the grass and made him go get it," Madrigal stated.

Sixteen senior football players were honored on senior night. Pryor said he will miss his teammates once he goes off to college in the fall. However, he noted he will always have fond memories of this victory.

"I didn't want to lose this game because of the playoff implications. The offensive line told me we'll get the blocks and move it down the field. They said they got me and I had them. We made big plays and did good," he added.

Game notes

T.J Allen played a lot at defensive end due to a hand injury suffered by Sam Dixon in practice. Allen teamed up with Leland Schoonmaker to stop Duhart for no gain in the second quarter.

Jones and Allen both had quarterback pressures for Okeechobee. Pryor was a decoy at the end. He left the game after the final play in regulations due to leg cramps.

Westwood's win Friday over Sebastian River clinched the district 13-4A title for the Panthers. Okeechobee is the runner up.

Homecoming week begins Monday at Okeechobee High School. The pep rally and bonfire will be open to the public this year. Festivities on Thursday begin at 7 p.m.

Final Score

	1	2	3	4	OT
Martin County	0	14	8	15	3-40
Okeechobee	10	6	14	7	6-43

How they scored

First Quarter	
Okee	Pryor 80 yard run (Najara kick) 11:47 7-0.
Okee	Najara 29 yard field Goal 5:31. 10-0.

Second Quarter	
Martin	Viscount three yard run (Strack kick) 11:28.10-7.
Okee	Minondo 16 yard pass from Madrigal. Kick failed. 6:12. 16-7.
Martin	Hill 42 yard pass from Duhart. (Strack kick) 0:50. 16-14
Third Quarter	
Martin	Hill 32 yard pass from Duhart. (Diekmann pass) 10:49. 22-16.
Okee	Allen one yard run (Najara kick) 3:56. 23-22.
Okee	Jones 40 yard Interception return (Najara kick) 2:26. 30-22
Fourth Quarter	
Martin	Viscount two yard run (Tougas pass) 10:29. 30-30.
Okee	McQueen six yard run. (Najara kick) 10:02. 37-30.
Martin	Viscount six yard run. (Strack kick) 4:12. 37-37.
Overtime	
Martin	Strack 30 yard field Goal. 40-37
Okee	Jones 17 yard pass from Madrigal 43-40.

Team statistics		
	MC	Okee
First Downs	20	15
Third Downs	7-11	6-7
Penalties	3-20	11-72
Punts	1-65	0-0
Punt returns	0-0	0-0
Kick returns	2-10	4-97
Fumbles/lost	1-0	0-0
Interceptions	0-0	1-40

Okeechobee		Martin County	
Passing	Att Comp Yds TD INT	Att Comp Yds TD INT	
Madrigal	10 8 89 2 0	Braye	1 1 2 0 0
Rushing	Yds Avg Lg TD	Larson	4 1 17 0 1
Pryor	25 354 14.1 80 1	Duhart	17 7 122 2 0
McQueen	7 27 3.9 9 1	Totals	22 9 141 2 1
Taggart	1 3 3.0 3 0	Rushing	No. Yds Avg Lg TD
Fortner	1 14 14.0 14 0	Duhart	23 186 8.1 25 0
Allen	1 1 1.0 1 1	Spencer	8 17 2.1 5 0
Madrigal	3 2 0.7 6 0	Viscount	7 27 3.9 6 3
Totals	38 401 10.5 80 3	Tougas	1 0 0.0 1 0
Receiving	No. Yds Avg TD	Totals	39 247 6.3 25 3
Pryor	2 11 5.5 0	Receiving No.	Yds Avg Lg TD
McQueen	1 12 12.0 0	Spencer	1 11 11.0 11 0
Minondo	2 18 9.0 1	St. Hill	5 106 21.2 42 2
Jones	2 35 17.5 1	Diekmann	1 2 2.0 2 0
Fortner	1 13 13.0 1	Raynes	2 31 15.5 17 0
Totals	8 89 11.1 2	Totals	9 141 9.7 42 2

Area scores		Spanish River 7	
South Fork 28	John Carroll 10	St. Stephens 7	
Vero Beach 27	Westwood 14	Seminole Ridge 24	
St. Edwards 31	Centennial 49	Sebastian River 7	
Treasure Coast 52	Pahokee 40	Westminster Acadmy 14	
Kings Academy 41	Clewiston 27	Port St. Lucie 26	
Bishop Verot 27	Glades Central 58	Santalucas 13	
Riverdale 41	Desoto 41	Cardinal Newman 0	
Jensen Beach 26	Bradren River 28	Glades Day 7	
	Bishop Verot 27	Inlet Grove 26	
	Jensen Beach 26	Pembroke Pines 6	
		Moore Haven 14	
		Avon Park 0	
		Sebring 11	
		Lake Placid 16	
		Labelle 14	
		Fort Pierce 20	

How Okeechobee opponents fared.
Jupiter Christian was idle. Avon Park lost to Desoto 41-0. Sebring lost to Braden River 28-11. Sebastian River lost to Westwood 14-7. Glades Day lost to Kings Academy 41-7. Fort Pierce lost to Jensen Beach 26-20. Westwood defeated Sebastian River 14-7. Martin County lost to Okeechobee 43-40 in overtime. Jensen Beach defeated Fort Pierce 26-20. Clewiston defeated Inlet Grove 27-26.

District 13-4A standings				
Team	W-L	All	PF	PA
Westwood	4-0	8-1	262	125
Okeechobee	3-1	6-2	292	193
Sebastian River	2-2	4-2	133	144
Jensen Beach	2-2	4-4	173	214
Fort Pierce	1-3	2-6	158	238
Martin County	0-4	0-8	148	285

District player of the week, Kareem Jones of Okeechobee. The senior Defender returned an interception 40 Yards for a touchdown and also caught the winning touchdown pass in Overtime. In the Brahman's 43-40 victory over Martin County Friday.

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Mary Helen and her husband, Dean, at the beach in 1934.

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-JuDeane Garrett
Daughter of Mary Helen

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Limit animal handouts to the zoo; keep wildlife wild

If you feed wild animals, you're asking for trouble. That's the message from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

"You're creating a hazard for yourself, your neighbors and the animals," FWC biologist Anni Mitchell said. "It's a thrill to have animals eat from your hand, but you need to limit that experience to captive animals."

Feeding wildlife can cause animals to become a nuisance and can be harmful to their health,

according to FWC wildlife biologists. Most importantly, it can interfere with their natural survival instincts. FWC officials said feeding wildlife does not help animals and may actually harm them. Also, it is illegal in Florida to feed certain animals, including sandhill cranes, bears, raccoons, foxes, alligators and others.

Wild animals that get food from human hands will start losing their fear of people and their natural ability to hunt or forage for food on their own. They may

become aggressive when they get hungry and do not get fed.

In addition, the balance between food sources and wildlife populations is delicate. In the wild, animals produce as much young as the food source can sustain. If other unnatural food sources become available, such as human handouts, animals may produce more offspring, and that overloads the availability of natural food sources, according to FWC experts.

Fed animals may be "lured"

across roads to artificial food sources, risking dangerous encounters with vehicles.

Sometimes, humans unintentionally feed wild animals. Pet bowls, bird feeders or garbage cans with loose lids can attract animals and cause the same loss of natural instinct as feeding them intentionally, Mr. Mitchell said.

"The FWC has a few suggestions: Store pet food inside and feed pets inside. If you must feed your pet outside, remove the

food dishes and any spilled food immediately after feeding. Use bear-proof garbage containers and set them out the morning of pick-up, not overnight. Remove or relocate bird or squirrel feeders that contain grain, corn or suet blocks. Secure chicken coops, rabbit cages, bird pens, etc. with electric fence.

"Keep wildlife wild," Mr. Mitchell said.

For more information, visit MyFWC.com/wildlife.



Submitted photo

Athlete of the month

Cross country runner Isabella Penido is one of the female co-athletes of the month for September. Her parents are Sylvia Penido & Michael McKuhen. She is in the 10th grade with a 4.0 Cum GPA 4.0. She is a 2 year letterman.

Other sport she participates in high school level are: soccer and track. She also plays in the band. She plans to go to college and get a degree in physics.

Stats for the month: Ranked 7th overall at FLRunners.com Invitational.



Submitted photo

Athlete of the Month

Okeechobee High School male athlete of the month for September was football player, Garrett Madrigal, son of James and Sheila Madrigal. The 12th grade student has a 3.3 Cumulative GPA. He is a three-year Letterman and was 1st Team All Area TC Palm 07. He plans to go to college.

Stats for the Month: 32/54, 542 Yards, 7 TD's, 2 Int., 1 Rushing TD, 59% Comp.

Quote from Coach: "Garrett is the undeniable leader of our offense. His maturity under center this season is the difference between him and any other QB I have ever coached, including when I coached in college."



Submitted photo

Athlete of the month

Volleyball player Monica Koger is one of the female co-athletes of the month for September.

The 11th grader is the daughter of Nilda and Roger Jones. She has a 3.32 Cum. GPA. She has six years in the sport, and is a three-year letterman. Other sports she participates in at the high school level are: basketball and track.

She was 2nd Team All District, in volleyball in 2007. Her future plans include anything dealing with forensics.

Stats for the month: lead the team in kills for month of September, approximately 32 kills in 4 matches.

Quote from Coach: "Monica is an outstanding athlete and her leadership skills on the court can't be matched. Her volleyball IQ has improved greatly. With that, her leadership, love for the game and her power and explosiveness, Monica is a dominating force."

Sports Briefs

Signups planned for Upward Basketball

The First Baptist Church of Okeechobee will be hosting upward basketball and cheerleading for grades first through sixth, boys and girls. Registration is open. Cost is \$75. Deadline for registration is Nov. 4. To register, come to the ROC or the church office. Call 863-763-2171 for information.

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11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Lincoln Park Community Center
1306 Ave. M
Ft. Pierce

November 3, 5, 7, 10, 12, 14, 17, 19, 21, 24, 26
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
Port St. Lucie Community Center
2195 SE Airoso Blvd.
Port St. Lucie

November 3, 6, 10, 12, 14
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
First United Methodist Church
616 Orange Ave.
Ft. Pierce

November 3, 6, 10, 12, 14, 17, 19, 21, 24
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
First United Methodist Church
616 Orange Ave.
Ft. Pierce

November 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20, 25
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Holiday Inn
10120 SE Federal Hwy.
Port St. Lucie

November 4, 7, 11, 13, 14
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Hampton Inn-Suites, PSL West
155 SW Peacock Blvd.
Port St. Lucie

November 4, 7, 11, 13, 20, 25
2:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Holiday Inn
10120 SE Federal Hwy.
Port St. Lucie

November 4, 7, 11, 14, 24, 28
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Kingdom Harvest
2520 Orange Ave.
Ft. Pierce

November 4, 7, 11, 13, 14, 18, 21, 24, 26, 28
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Hampton Inn-Suites, PSL West
155 SW Peacock Blvd.
Port St. Lucie

November 5, 18, 26
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
Port St. Lucie Community Center
2195 SE Airoso Blvd.
Port St. Lucie

November 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Port St. Lucie Knights of Columbus
451 SW Ravenswood Ln.
Port St. Lucie

November 6, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Polish American Social Club
343 NW Prima Vista Blvd.
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