



# OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 99 No. 278

Friday, November 14, 2008

50¢ Plus tax

**Briefs**

**Okeechobee Blood**

**Roundup today**

The Okeechobee Blood Roundup, five months in the planning, will be held Friday and Saturday, Nov. 14 and 15 at First United Methodist Church, 200 N.W. Second St., over a period of 17 hours. This drive is seeking to draw 450 units of blood in just two days. There will be seven buses each day with all registration and screening done inside the church.

There are more than \$6,000 in prizes to be awarded donors. Each donor will also receive a 'goodie bag' containing a 2008 tee shirt, discount certificates and advertising trinkets donated by local merchants and a half-off ticket for 4 to Universal Studios.

**What's your opinion of the election?**

When you come, be sure to sign in for your organization, club, RV park, church, etc. The organization which brings in the greatest number of donors will receive a prize of \$500, with other awards of \$300, \$200 and \$100.

What does the recent presidential election mean to you? Okeechobee News readers are invited to share their thoughts, opinions, hopes and fears in letters to the editor. Letters may be emailed to okeeneews@newszap.com or mailed to Letters to the Editor, Okeechobee News, 107 S.W. 17th Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34974. Letters should be 350 words or less due to space limitations. The editor will not edit or change anything in your letter without prior approval, so please include a contact phone number in case there is any problem. All letters must be signed. Unsigned letters will not be published. Shorter, anonymous comments may be made to Speak Out. These can be emailed to okeeneews@newszap.com or posted on the forum at www.newszap.com.

**Drought Index**

**Current:** 567  
**Source:** Florida Division of Forestry  
**Local Burn Ban:** None

**Lake Levels**

**14.62 feet**  
Last Year: 10.33 feet

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

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## Convicted murderer denied new trial

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News

Circuit Court Judge Lawrence Mirman Wednesday denied a motion for a new trial by convicted murderer Jerry Leroy Jones.

Jones, 51, was found guilty March 27 of killing his roommate Edwin Dennis Swint with a 30/30 rifle. He was also convicted of possession of cocaine and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Jones was sentenced May 19, to life in prison on the first-degree murder conviction. In addition, he was sentenced to five years in prison on the cocaine charge and 15 years on the firearm possession charge.

Defense attorney Russell 'Rusty' Akins argued Nov. 12, that the outcome of his client's trial may have been different if it had been made known that an arrest warrant had been issued for one of the state's chief witnesses.

The Port St. Lucie attorney told Judge Mirman that no one was told that a warrant had been issued for the arrest of Sheila Nell Core. Core, Jones' girlfriend and the owner of the mobile home where the killing took place, was wanted on charges of grand theft and dealing in stolen property.

"I'm not supporting any intentional act on Mr. Albright's (Assistant State Attorney Ashley Albright) part, but because he is the supervisor of that office he should have known about the warrant," Mr. Akins told the judge. "Our theory of the defense was that she was lying the whole time. She wanted my client out of the house."



**Jerry Leroy Jones**

Mr. Akins argued that the woman testified against her former boyfriend "to gain favor with the state."

"The significance of this new evidence warrants a new trial," stated Mr. Akins.

In his argument, Mr. Albright told Judge Mirman that he was aware that Core was under investigation by the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office but he did not know that a warrant calling for her arrest had been issued.

Mr. Albright went on to say that Don Richardson, another assistant state attorney in the Okeechobee office, approved and signed the warrant in March of 2007. Mr. Richardson left the office shortly thereafter and went into private practice. He returned to the state attorney's office in January of this year.

"She did call my office prior to trial and asked if there was a warrant for her," Mr. Albright said. "I looked on the computer but I could not find it and told her no warrant had been issued."

He went on to tell Judge Mirman that Mr. Akins had impeached Ms. Cole's testimony due to her former drug problem.

See **Murderer** — Page 11

## YMCA: May be in Okeechobee's future



Okeechobee News/Chauna Aguilar

**Local citizens (back row-left to right) Brandon Tucker, Ted Kelchner, YMCA President John Lass, Melissa Arnold, Sam Smith, (front row-left to right) Teresa Chandler, Allison Chandler, Cindi Fairtrace, Cathleen Blair, Mary Hurley, and YReads Director Kathleen Snore went on the tour of the YMCAs in Indiantown and Stuart to get an idea of how Ys work and how Okeechobee will benefit from a Y.**

## Local committee tours area YMCA facilities

By Chauna Aguilar  
Okeechobee News

Nine local citizens from the Okeechobee YMCA planning committee attended a tour of the Indiantown YMCA, Stuart YMCA and YMCA Sports World on Tuesday, Nov. 11, with the YMCA of the Treasure Coast president John Lass and the Stuart YMCA YReads director Kathleen Snore.

Local members of the community have been gathering together recently to begin to formulate ideas of what Okeechobee needs in a local YMCA and possible locations and things a YMCA can offer local citizens.

The YMCA of the Treasure Coast currently has six locations throughout their district and are



Okeechobee News/Chauna Aguilar

**The YMCA in Stuart and Indiantown both have a state of the art fitness center where members are welcome to come work out with the convenience of a YMCA Child Watch system for people with children.**

looking to expand programs into Okeechobee County.

Mr. Lass explained that, "If you've been in one YMCA,

you've only been in one YMCA."

All YMCAs are unique and cater

See **YMCA** — Page 2

## Coquina hears landowners' requests

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

The Coquina Water Control District Board of Supervisors heard requests from two property owners at their monthly meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 13.

First there was Steven Howard who lives next to one of the canals in Viking. He wanted to put gates across each end of the canal easement on his property. He said he could find nothing in his deed restrictions about putting up a gate. Mr. Howard expressed concern about pit bulls attacking his cats and four wheelers invading his property. He said he would not block legitimate access to the ease-

ment and was willing to leave the gate open during the day and close it at night to protect his property.

Board attorney Tony Young said that Coquina would have to have free access to the public easement. He said it would be the same as putting a gate on a public roadway.

It was suggested that Mr. Howard fence the easement off from the rest of his property. He said that if he fenced off the easement his house would be too close to the fence.

The board expressed concern about setting a precedent for the other property owners who have easements and took no action on Mr. Howard's request.

Later in the meeting the board took action to send letters to other property owners who had fences across a canal easement where Coquina was preparing to do some work.

The second landowner, Terry Vittoe, was successful in his request. He requested that the board put in a culvert on a road giving access to his property. Without a culvert he said he would have to use his neighbor's property for ingress and egress.

The board was agreeable to the request. It was noted that with the installation of the requested culvert, Coquina could use the road for hauling dirt

See **Coquina** — Page 11

## Planning board recommends zoning changes

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

The City of Okeechobee Planning Board/Board of Adjustment and Appeals heard two requests for zoning changes when they met Wednesday evening Nov. 12.

While the board recommended city council approval for both, the first was rather routine and the second provoked considerable discussion.

Gianinna Mitchell requested a change in zoning from residential single family to heavy commercial for property located at 909 S.W. Second Ave. The purpose of the change is to allow for an accounting office

on the property.

City planner Bill Brisson noted that the surrounding properties are zoned heavy commercial and the intended use is compatible with surrounding uses.

The second request dealt with the commercial complex David and Anita Nunez are planning to build on N.E. Seventh Avenue at the Taylor Creek Bridge on S.R. 70. They requested a change in zoning from holding and residential to heavy commercial for a portion of the property.

Mr. Brisson expressed con-

See **Zoning** — Page 11

## Willis gets life back on track

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News

When Lewis Willis walked out of the Okeechobee County Jail a free man he was able to touch and hug family members for the first time in 11 months.

"Touching my mom, my girlfriend, and hugging everyone was pretty cool -- it was an amazing feeling. For 11 months I could only talk to them through a phone," said Mr. Willis in a

telephone interview.

Mr. Willis, 43, was arrested Aug. 1, on charges of lewd or lascivious molestation and capital sexual battery. On Oct. 30, a six-member jury of his peers acquitted



**Lewis Willis**

See **Willis** — Page 2



Submitted photo/South Elementary

## Spirit hands

South Elementary students took red hands home last week. They asked their parents to help them write the names of Veterans they had in their family. When they returned the hands to school, the Spirit Committee, chaired by first grade teacher Tammy Thomas, put them up in the cafeteria to form the red stripes and the flag pole of an American flag. One hundred sixty-five hands were returned. Some hands had more than one name on them. The students are proud of their family members who have served in the Armed Forces.

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# Willis

Continued From Page 1

his peers acquitted him of the lewd and lascivious charge. And instead of capital sexual battery, the jury found him guilty of simple battery -- a misdemeanor.

Mr. Willis was sentenced to the county jail but, when credited with the time he'd already served, he was set free that day.

"The jury saved me. They saw through the lies," he said.

Mr. Willis, accused of fondling a young girl, said a purported witness lied to raise his stature in the family.

"He was in the process of being asked to leave the house," said Mr. Willis, of statements made by the girl's uncle. "He had a motive to lie and he was protecting himself so he had somewhere to live. It sure took the attention off him real quick."

Spencer Bryant Siegel, Mr. Willis' defense attorney, agreed.

"His motivation for this entire thing was to raise his standing in the home. He attempted to make himself a hero by coming up with the story," said the Boca Raton

lawyer. "I don't think he thought about it -- it was a knee-jerk reaction."

Mr. Siegel went on to say that the uncle's story changed each time it was told, as did the alleged victim's.

"I think the most compelling evidence was the child's testimony," he said. "Her testimony was coached and her story vacillated wildly."

The jury agreed.

"I knew the jury had paid attention when they wanted to see the evidence a second time," said Mr. Willis. "I knew the jury was smart. My attorney even said 'they understand what's going on.' I want to thank them for paying attention."

The verdict left Mr. Willis feeling happy and relieved.

"I was relieved that they saw through the lies," he said. "I knew I didn't do this. You could literally pick (the stories) apart. We're talking about 16 people in the home at the time."

"But they (the state and law enforcement) still pursued it. I don't understand why they pursued me so hard and tried to put me away for life. My story hasn't changed from day one. I hope they learned

a lesson and look more closely at their cases," he added.

Mr. Willis said what the girl's uncle saw was nothing malicious -- it was merely him playing with the children in the house. In fact, some of the girl's family testified on behalf of Mr. Willis.

"It was an every day interaction with the children," he said. "There was nothing to it. It was due to a ruckus and carrying on with the other children."

He went on to say an apology to his girlfriend over the telephone was also misconstrued as an admission of guilt.

"There was no apology for a specific action. It was a man trying to get back with his girlfriend. He was trying to shore up his relationship," said Mr. Siegel.

That summation of the call was echoed by Mr. Willis.

"I was being accused of a horrendous thing and they wouldn't let me talk to her face to face," Mr. Willis explained. "I was apologizing to her, basically, for the whole situation. But they chose to take excerpts and took it out of context."

Mr. Willis said he and his girlfriend are together again and hope to be married soon.

"Maybe sometime after Jan. 1," he said.

But before that can happen, Mr. Willis is trying to get his life back on track. He's living with a family member now, but he recently got his old job back and is trying to save money to not only pay off his attorney but to simply have a life. He said he's enjoying not being told when he can use the bathroom or having to continually watch his back.

"It feels really good to just sit down and watch TV," he said.

As he reflects upon the day he walked out of the county jail, he remembers the actions of some corrections officers.

"It was amazing. The guards were shaking my hand," he said. "It was a hell of a moment, I gotta tell you."

Mr. Willis said despite all he's been through -- the incarceration and the accusations -- he harbors no ill will. He wants to get on with his life, marry the woman he loves and begin building a new life.

But even with all the good that lies ahead, there is still the 11 months of his life that were lost.

"I can never forget that I was there," he said softly.

# Okeechobee Forecast

**Today:** Friday: A 20 percent chance of showers after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 88. Southeast wind around 5 mph.

**Tonight:** A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 68. East southeast wind around 5 mph becoming calm.

**Extended Forecast**

**Saturday:** A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 86. South southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Saturday Night:** A slight chance of showers before 4am. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 56. Northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Sunday:** Sunny, with a high near 71. North northwest wind around 10 mph.

**Sunday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 48. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Monday:** Sunny, with a high near 73. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Monday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 48. North northwest wind around 5 mph.

**Tuesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 73. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

# Lotteries

**Florida Lottery** — Here are the numbers selected Wednesday in the Florida Lottery: **Cash 3:** 0-9-4; **Play 4:** 2-9-5-5; **Lotto:** 7-11-20-30-45-53; **Fantasy 5:** 5-9-19-21-23; **Mega Money:** 2-3-12-19 MB 1. Numbers selected Thursday in the Florida Lottery: **Cash 3:** 2-0-0; **Play 4:** 8-5-3-7.

# YMCA

Continued From Page 1

to the needs of the community which supports them. YMCAs are funded through program fees, membership fees and fundraising.

All monies that go through a YMCA are private funds other than any grants or funds from organizations such as Children's Services Council, United Way or any other organization which supports their local Y.

YMCA receives NO funds from ad valorem taxes.

When opening a new YMCA the community leaders involved have to show that they are mission-focused with presenting the need for a Y and that it will be financially viable.

Just what will it cost to bring a YMCA to Okeechobee? According to Mr. Lass it will take \$1.5 million endowment to open the YMCA planned in Okeechobee and \$8 to \$10 million to build it. It will also take continued community support through utilization of the facility in order to maintain the programs and membership of the facility.

The estimated operating budget of the facility would be \$1.5 million.

Mr. Lass is the President, CEO of the YMCA of the Treasure

Coast which serves Martin, St. Lucie, Okeechobee and Indian River counties. Throughout the counties, they strive to "build strong kids, strong families, and strong communities."

The creation of a strategic planning committee of Okeechobee officials, parents, and other influential individuals in the community to get input on what specific needs are prevalent in Okeechobee County.

Despite its name, the YMCA is not just for the young, not just for men and not just for Christians. It is, however, as their history illustrates, an association of members who come together with a common understanding of the YMCA mission and a common commitment to the YMCA's vision of building strong kids, strong families and strong communities.

According to their web-site, across the U.S., 20.2 million members are part of 2,663 local YMCA associations. Each association is different, reflecting the needs of the local community. A Y may have a facility with a gymnasium, pool, child care center or even a school. It may be a storefront operation delivering community-based programs such as job training or youth and government. It may be a camp, or it may be a satellite program in a local school. It may be all of these things and more.

Whatever the facilities, what-

ever the programs, what doesn't change are the people. What every YMCA has in common is a dedicated group of people: volunteers, staff, members and donors—all of whom are committed to the YMCA mission. It is the people of the YMCA who build strong kids, strong families and strong communities.

The nation's 2,686 YMCAs respond to critical social needs by drawing on their collective strength as one of the largest not-for-profit community service organizations in the U.S.

Today's YMCAs serve children and adults of all ages, races, faiths, backgrounds, abilities and income levels.

YMCAs are committed to helping:

- Children and youth deepen positive values, their commitment to service and their motivation to learn;
- Families build stronger bonds, spend time together and become more engaged with their communities; and
- Individuals strengthen their spiritual, mental and physical well-being.

For more than eight decades, YMCAs have offered Adventure Guides and similar programs that bring parents and children together.

YMCAs are collectively the nation's largest providers of health and well-being programs and

are always working to promote healthy living for millions of Americans through YMCA Activate America®.

In addition to the programs offered to communities, there are also financial assistance programs—made possible annually by more than \$1.6 billion in public and private support—opens all YMCA programs to those in need who could not afford to provide these opportunities to their children and their family.

YMCA is volunteer founded and volunteer led, YMCAs depend on the generosity and dedication of their 548,926 volunteers across the U.S.

One local student, Allison Chandler also attended the tour due to her realization of the need of a YMCA while completing a project in her Osceola Middle School gifted class with teacher Deanna Kielbasa last year. They were assigned the task of finding a problem in the community and a way to address that problem.

Some of her reasons for needing a YMCA in Okeechobee were: teenage pregnancy; lack of supervised activities; strengthening family bonds; provide additional volunteer opportunities; and just a general happy, well-being for all.

For more information on how you can be involved please contact Brandon Tucker at 863-763-4010.

## At Your Service

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# Two juveniles charged in break in

**By Eric Kopp**  
Okeechobee News

Shoep prints led to the arrest of two local juveniles for their alleged connection with a break-in at the Okeechobee County Health Department.

Henry Lee Linsley, 15, N.W. 22nd Lane, and Chase Whytt Weeks, 14, N.W. 15th St., were both charged with the felonies of burglary and grand theft. Each juvenile was also charged with the misdemeanor of criminal mischief.

After being booked at the Okeechobee County Jail on Wednesday, Nov. 5, the two boys were taken to the Department of Juvenile Justice Detention Center in Ft. Pierce.

An arrest report by Deputy Marcus Collier, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), states that Linsley and Weeks were not only charged with breaking into the health department, but for taking a Kodak Easy Share digital camera valued at \$300.

The deputy's report states that

the sheriff's office was notified around 7:24 p.m. of a burglary in progress at the health department. Upon arrival law enforcement found a window had been broken out. Although no one was found inside, shoe prints were found and the OCSO Crime Scene unit was called to process the scene.

A witness told Deputy Collier that two individuals were seen standing at the northeast corner of the building. The witness went on to say that two individuals were later seen inside the health

department. But because it was dark, the witness could not provide investigators with a physical description of the two individuals or what they were wearing.

The investigation eventually led law enforcement to Linsley and Weeks, who were subsequently linked to the burglary by the tread on their shoes which "closely resembled" the shoe prints at the crime scene, stated Deputy Collier's report.

Deputy Collier's report goes on to state that the camera was recovered later.

# VisionQuest client charged with battery

**By Eric Kopp**  
Okeechobee News

An 18-year-old client at the VisionQuest Juvenile Center was arrested Tuesday after she reportedly struck a staff member in the face with her fist.

Meleana McDaniels was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail on a felony charge of battery on detention staff. She was later trans-

ported to the Department of Juvenile Justice Detention Center in Ft. Pierce.

An arrest report by Deputy Joseph Hall of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) stated that a fight erupted outside a



Meleana McDaniels

classroom at Vision Quest around 11:45 a.m. on Nov. 11. McDaniels attempted to leave the classroom to help a friend involved in the fight but was kept from doing so by staff member Isaac Wimes, 26.

At some point, continued the report, McDaniels hit Mr. Wimes in the mouth. Deputy Hall went on to state that the inside of the man's upper lip was cut.

The report went on to say that

McDaniels apparently pushed a female staff member which caused her to fall against a wall. According to the report, the fall injured the back of Pasheena Bonnick, 33. However, the juvenile was not charged for pushing Ms. Bonnick because the female staff member told the deputy that McDaniels did not intentionally push her into the wall.

# Lakeport man accused of forging script

**By Eric Kopp**  
Okeechobee News

A Lakeport man was arrested Wednesday and charged

with forging a prescription, according to an Okeechobee Narcotics Task Force arrest report.

Matthew Cole McCrosson, 27, was arrested Nov. 12 and charged with prescription forgery. He was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail then released on his own recognizance.

The arrest report states that McCrosson was in the office of a local dentist when he saw a prescription pad and then took two blank prescriptions. He then filled out one of the blank prescriptions for 60, 10mg Lortab and signed the dentist's name, continued the report.

McCrosson reportedly had a friend take the bogus script to a local pharmacy.

The task force report goes on to state that McCrosson apparently destroyed the second blank prescription.

# Mulch machine manufacturer sued for over death

**By Charles M. Murphy**  
Okeechobee News

A wrongful death claim was filed against Chromascape, Incorporated, the manufacturer of an Amerimulch Mega-Mite machine that was involved in a fatal industrial accident in Okeechobee on Oct. 10, 2006.

The estate of Juan Leon Pantoja filed the suit in U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida in October.

Pantoja was working on the machine at Earthwise Mulch

at 1208 N.W. 10th Avenue in Okeechobee when he was killed.

The lawsuit claimed Mr. Pantoja was standing on the machine using a pitchfork to loosen the mulch when he became entangled into the machine and lost his life.

The litigation claimed Chromascape placed the mulch machine into the stream of commerce knowing that the product would be used without inspection for defects. It also claimed the machine was in a defective and unreasonably dangerous condi-

tion when it entered the stream of commerce and at the time of this accident.

The litigation also claimed the machine was defective in design because it lacked safety guards to disable the machine properly, and lacked safety rails that prevented people from standing on the hopper or conveyor system.

Attorney Hiram Montero also wrote that the machine lacked proper warnings to users. He claimed the wording of the warnings on the machine did not adequately convey the nature and

extent of the risks of serious personal injury and death associated with it.

Three of Pantoja's children, ages 14, 16, and nine, were named as potential beneficiaries of his estate.

The litigation seeks damages for loss of earnings, medical and funeral expenses, loss of parental companionship, mental pain and suffering and other claims.

The jurisdiction of the court is \$75,000 and above.

# Seizure caused death of jail inmate, report claims

**By Charles M. Murphy**  
Okeechobee News

A 23-year-old inmate died from a seizure at the Glades County jail on June 20, an investigation into the death determined. His death was ruled natural by the 20th Circuit Medical Examiner.

Valery Joseph was found face down on his cell bunk by

jail personnel at about 10 a.m., four hours after he was last seen alive. Jail officials attempted to revive the inmate but after 40 minutes of CPR attempts he was pronounced dead.

The investigation also found that Joseph had a history of seizures and that jail medical staffers had worked to keep the levels of Dilantin in his system, stable.

There were no signs of trauma or injury on the inmate's body, the report concluded.

The Medical Examiner found that the cause of death was a seizure disorder and probably polymicrogyria. The medical examiner also stated that Mr. Joseph had previous symptoms of psychosis, and a prior suicide attempt.

Joseph had been taken to

Hendry Regional Medical Center on March 22, after an apparent seizure. He was found on the floor of the jail on March 21 and complained of soreness in his neck and drowsiness.

The autopsy toxicology report found traces of several prescription drugs in his system.

# Arrest Report

The following individuals were arrested on felony or driving under the influence (DUI) charges by the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), the Okeechobee City Police Department (OCPD), the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP), the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) or the Department of Corrections (DOC).

- Willard Anthony Melear, 22, S.E. 24th Blvd., Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 10 by Officer Chad Troutman on a felony charge of possession of a controlled substance. He was also charged with the misdemeanor of possession of drug paraphernalia. His bond was set at \$5,500.
- Fernando Herrera, 19, N.W. 39th Circle, Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 10 by Deputy Patricia Massung on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with aggravated battery with a deadly weapon. His bond was set at \$10,000.
- John Robert Sharp, 20, S.W. 10th Drive, Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 10 by Deputy Lieutenant Keith Murrish on a warrant charging him with burglary of a conveyance. His bond was set at \$2,500.
- Jeffrey Michael Mosteller, 45, N.W. Seventh Court, Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 11 by FWC Officer Christopher S. Douglas on a charge of trespass by projectile. He was released on his own recognizance.
- Robert J. Hosier, 41, Palm Court, Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 12 by Deputy G. Popovich on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with violation of probation - grand theft (seven counts). He was arrested on a second warrant charging him with violation of probation - forgery (five counts) and violation of probation - uttering a forged instrument (five counts). He was held without bond.
- Douglas J. Hansen Jr., 23, U.S. 441 S.R., was arrested Nov. 12 by Deputy Sergeant J. Royal on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with possession of a firearm after being found

delinquent. His bond was set at \$15,000.

- Robert Cohran, 37, Albany Road, Fort Myers, was arrested Nov. 12 by Deputy Sgt. J. Royal on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with violation of probation - worthless check (over \$150). He is being held without bond. He was also arrested on a second Okeechobee County warrant charging him with violation of probation - battery. He is being held without bond.

*This column lists arrests and not convictions, unless otherwise stated. Anyone listed here who is later found innocent or has had the charges against them dropped is welcome to inform this newspaper. The information will be confirmed and printed.*

# Glades County jail annex to open

A ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of the Glades County Jail Annex, 599 Avenue J, will be held Monday, Nov. 24, at 3 p.m.

The annex is the site of the old Glades County Jail, which has been renovated and will now house juvenile and female inmates.

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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](http://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](mailto:okeenews@newszap.com) or call 863-467-2033, but online comments get posted faster and not all phone calls can be printed. What follows is a sampling of some of the discussions currently taking place. Thanks for participating!

**DEMOCRATS:** The majority of the Okeechobee County voters chose the Republican candidate in the presidential election. I thought this county had a lot more Democrats than Republicans. What happened to the Democrats?

**AUTO INDUSTRY:** As the auto industry problems were being discussed on TV, one guy pointed out the success of the automakers in the south, which are non-union shops. It was also mentioned that GM, on the brink of bankruptcy is building a new HUMMER. Jeez, I thought they were supposed to be turning out fuel efficient vehicles. I wonder who can buy ANY new vehicle anyway.

**NEWS:** In response to the letter from the woman who was upset the Okeechobee News didn't have a big front page story all about Obama, it occurs to me that the newspaper probably handled the election coverage the same way as they would have for McCain. But if McCain had won, no one would have even commented about the newspaper coverage. So they are saying this election is more important simply because of the color of the man's skin. I thought the whole point was that race was not supposed to be important. I think this election proved that voters don't care about that. They care about the issues and in this election, the main issues were the economy, the price of gasoline, the war in Iraq and taxes.

**ELECTION:** I know a lot of people in this town who voted for McCain and I know a lot who voted for Obama. Throughout the campaign, I listened to both sides. The top concerns were the economy, the energy crisis and the war. The color of the candidate's skin was not that important. I hope and pray that 100 years from now history will show Mr. Obama's presidency was a great one because of the things he does in office, and that the fact that he was the first president of African descent is just an interesting footnote. When John Kennedy was elected, there was much made of the fact that he was the first Catholic president. But that is not what people remember about him now. And when Joe Biden was chosen as Obama's VP pick, the fact that he is a Catholic was barely mentioned. It wasn't even a factor to consider. Fifty years ago, for many Americans, it was unthinkable that a Catholic could be president. Now it is no big deal. I hope that Obama will prove himself to be a great leader and a great American.

**MARRIAGE AMENDMENT:** I've said over and over, if a gay couple wish to pledge their love for each other and call it a "Union" or a "Blessed Event" or anything but a "Marriage," no one that I know of would complain in the slightest. The couple could (and would) have all the rights of which they want. BUT it's the old story of the, "in your face" thing. If it MUST be called a marriage the best compromise leaves both sides unhappy, so why don't we shoot for that?

**FINALLY OVER:** The elections are finally over. So how about removing all these signs? If you were a winner, CONGRATULATIONS, if you lost you have my CONDOLENCES. But let's get the signs down. Don't give our visitors the impression that we're a bunch of red-necks.

**ELECTION COVERAGE:** After reading today's paper, Nov. 12, having read the letter to the editor about presidential election coverage, I've come to the conclusion that the writer must not own a television set, because the only thing we could get on ours for the past few weeks was all about the election and on election night the election event was on almost every channel. We couldn't get anything else. The sad part is, we just donated two television sets a couple of weeks ago and we would have gladly given her one. I wouldn't deprive anyone from missing any of that malarkey. As for it not being in the Okeechobee News, all I can say is, "Thank You, Okeechobee News." But for those who can not get enough about elections there are other news publications for sale in Okeechobee. I for one am glad the whole thing is over.

**STREET PAVING:** As I speak they are paving our street here in Buckhead Ridge. They started working a little after 7 a.m. Nov. 10. I needed to go to the doctor's office and could not get out as they are in the process of paving and had whole street blocked. I asked one of them why they don't do one side like they do on the highways and was told they used to do that. Luckily, my wife was able to get out before they started the paving. They should have given people notice that they were going to be paving so you could get out before they started the paving. What would they do if there was an emergency such as a fire or paramedics for someone having a heart attack? I hope someone from the Buckhead Ridge Home Owners Association reads this.

**LOCAL NEWS:** I just wanted to say I like the new format of the newspaper with all the local news. We get our state and national and international news on television but the Okeechobee News is our only source for what's going on in Okeechobee. So I am glad to see all the local news in there, instead of just repeating what was already on television. When the paper was a daily, it seemed to me all of the state and national news that was in it was old stuff I already saw on television.

**PRAYER:** For all our sakes, we pray that Obama's administration is successful in getting this country back on track. We are all facing some tough times in this country and we all need to work together.

**HOME RULES:** If you sleep on it, make it up. If you wear it, hang it up. If you drop it, pick it up. If you eat out of it, put it in the sink. If you step on it, wipe it off. If you open it, close it. If you empty it, fill it up. If it rings, answer it. If it howls, feed it. If it cries, Love it.

**VETERANS DAY:** There simply are not enough words or strong enough words to show our appreciation or those of you whom have made incredible sacrifices out of love for and devotion to this country. You fought to defend our freedom and have done far more than swear your allegiance. You have literally put your lives on the line. Many have given their lives or suffered in untold ways, so that we could live soundly and safely in our homes. We will never forget what you have done for us. We honor you now and always.

**OBAMA:** The co-chair of Barack Obama's Transition Team, Valerie Jarrett, appeared on Meet the Press this weekend and used, shall we say, an interesting statement to describe what she thinks Barack Obama will be doing in January when he's officially sworn into office. "Obama is prepared to really take power and begin to rule day one." Obama plans to bypass Congress and RULE by executive order. Obama is reviewing executive orders... as he works to undo policies enacted during eight years of Republican rule. There's a lot that the president can do using his executive authority without waiting for congressional action. He feels like he has a real mandate for change.

**ROOFING COMPANY:** I would like to know if the story is true, that a roofing company from Okeechobee, took 16 men to Houston, Texas and did not pay them the full amount that they were supposed to and ended up leaving some of them there stranded?

**WASTE MANAGEMENT:** I would like to just give Waste Management of Okeechobee a compliment. We live in Kings Bay and our cans are always placed back on the curb. They do not leave them in the middle of the drive way or in the middle of the road. They take the time, even if its just a second to place the containers back out of the way in the yard. I think with all of the complaints that they hear, I just want to give them a compliment. In the Kings Bay area, they do a really good job.

**BUSH:** I am just wondering if anyone can read or listen to the news? One time President Clinton signed the bills that has got this economy in the way that it is today. And I'm sure that there will be some bills signed by President Bush that will take affect several years later. People do not pay attention to what a President is in control of. Bush is not the worst President we ever had, but he is not responsible for what is going on today.

**ARTICLE:** This is in response to an article on Nov. 5, about the Glades County Sheriff's Department. I kind of take offense to him saying, he is tickled to death to spend all of this free money. There is no such thing as free grants. They are all paid for with the taxpayers money, so how can he say that it is free, when we are paying for it?

# Letters to the Editor

## No Marine Stands Alone

The No Marine Stands Alone project and the Furphy Family of Okeechobee would like to thank the Gathering Church for their generous donations to the No Marine Stands Alone Project.

The church donated money and goods to make 15 goody bags for newly graduate Marines at Parris Island, S.C. The goody bags go to any new Marine who graduates and has no family attending the graduation.

The bags are distributed by Marine Moms attending and given to any Marine standing alone.

Approximately 10 percent of all new Marine graduates have no family or friends who can attend their momentous accomplishment and graduate. The project is made up of Marine moms who collect items and put together goody bags to distribute on Graduation Day.

There is always a note inside congratulating the new Marine.

The latest graduation on Oct. 24, had approximately 30 Marines with no family.

The Gathering Church's generosity made it possible for 15 young men to get a treat. The remainder was made up from other moms around the Country.

The local Marine mom who coordinated this project was Alice Furphy who's son graduated on Friday, Oct. 24.

Thank you again,  
**The No Marine Stands Alone Project and the Furphy Family**

## Ready for 2012 election

Hello Okeechobee! That last time I wrote a letter was over a year ago, now let me explain why.

Since my last letter I have been called to serve in John Kerry Land. That's right, Massachusetts,

but I still miss the best city in our land, "Okeechobee." And yes I am speaking for the Independent voter up here too!

First of all as a true southerner living up here I miss that ole n hospitality and warmth, there are some good points, but I had to dig deep.

Wish Kerry would have won in 04' now? But that is all water under the bridge now, right? This is what I can tell you and that is John Kerry is a terrific Senator and family man who serves the citizens of Massachusetts and the military veterans like myself, he is awesome, his staff is even assisting me in my disability claim personally. But personally, I think we need Lou Dobbs as president and myself as running mate by 2012 and here's why I say that.

First of all we both are outsiders when it comes to Washington politics as usual.

Second, we are both Independent to the bone.

Third, we are both free thinkers who would fight for all American Citizens especially the middle class which whether you accept it or not has had a class war imposed on it.

Let me explain, what this country really needs is a dynamic duo to get us out of this mess with no special interests in corporate levies, political agendas and will stand up for what is right for all classes of Americans.

Citizens of Okeechobee, all Americans have to wake up and smell the smoke, because we are on fire.

We need to fight terrorism smartly, bring our government to full transparency, and make sure all Americans are treated fairly in Health care, wage earnings, and no more predatory credit lending and that is just scratching the surface. I miss the simpler times in Okeechobee, but I have been called up here for a reason.

Is America ready for a real change? Well, we will see after four more years of the same ole

bull, no pun intended.

In 2012 vote for Lou Dobbs, J.K. Murray III or Joe the Plumber, anything but the same corrupt politicians.

Miss y'all and God Bless.  
**J.K. Murray III**  
**Fall River, Mass.**  
**Former resident of Okeechobee**

## You asked for IT

There used to be a T.V. program called "You asked for IT". People would write in to see about different things in the world, where they came from, how they were made, how they worked, what they looked like. And the investigators on the program would travel all over to find whatever it was that was asked about. They would always begin and end the program by saying, "Remember, you asked for IT".

It was fascinating to watch because you never knew what was going to be on. It showed everything from the atomic bomb to the first artificial heart, from the first set of known conjoined twins to rare multiple births, both human and animal; how nomads can live in deserts and the people of the rain forests survived. Why the earth didn't float off somewhere, how the stars formed in the constellations, why fish can live in water and birds can fly and we can't. There was so much they could tell you about anything, except God.

I don't ever remember them speaking about God creating the world and all that is in it and above it.

In Genesis 1:1 it affirms that all that exists came forth simply and solely at the free and sovereign command of God. V:31 says "and God saw everything He made and behold it is good." No evil was laid upon the world by God's hand. So where did it come from?

"IT" came from the Free will of man. God gave man free will and man chose to commit sin. With sin came the consequences of sin. All the bad things are the result of sin. So, I guess we asked for "IT".

But the good news is we don't have to live with it like a millstone around our necks. God has offered us a redemption plan. An insurance plan you might say that can guarantee us a safe passage to a better world. Once again, God solely and freely created a sinless way to better our existence. He gave us His only son to be the propitiation for our sins. He offered us His grace and showed up as undeserved mercy by giving us Jesus Christ and all we have to do to receive this wonderful gift is to "ASK FOR IT!"

I don't know about you, but it's the best insurance policy I have. Want a policy like mine? It's a manual called the Holy Bible, under John chapter 3 verse 16. If you can't understand the wording we have some great interpreters that can explain everything, word for word, in plan English. They're called ministers of the Word of God. You can find on in just about any church that teaches the Word of God. You see, God uses them to reach us when we ask for "IT".

I thank God for the church I belong to. We have four ordained ministers of the Word of God. Everyone of them has a unique position in their teaching. Pastor Randy is our Senior Pastor who interprets the word of God from

God, so we can understand and grow. Pastor Steve teaches us the compassion and love of God for the elderly and widowed, and he's very funny. Pastor Dave directs us in music worship through the most beautiful hymns and songs that leave you filled with joy and Pastor Mark has the greatest love for children I've ever seen. How he does it can only be through God.

If you have to see "IT" to believe "IT" then "ASK FOR IT." This is not the perfect world He originally created, but He is a perfect God and He created us, so won't you open up your heart and let Him in? All you have to do is "ASK FOR IT."

**Cheryl Gawda**  
**Okeechobee**

## Kindness appreciated

The words "Thank You" do not even come close as to the way we feel towards each and everyone who has helped us through this difficult time.

The kindness shown by so many is greatly appreciated.

As a token of our gratitude - Thank you for everything.  
**Vernon and Pam Arnold**  
**Parents of Vernon "Michael" Arnold**

## In memory of Mrs. Wells

In June of this year, the Okeechobee County School Board and the community lost a beacon of light in the sudden passing of Mrs. Valerie White-Wells. She dedicated her life to education and gave guidance to those students who had seemingly lost their way. I had the privilege of working side by side with this awe inspiring woman for the past seven years. I can't begin to tell you how many lives she touched during her lifetime, but she made an effort to be a positive influence on all those around her. Her students always knew she cared and she went above and beyond for those in the greatest need. She was an active member of her church, the First Missionary Baptist Church Deans Court, the Secretary for the Intermediate and Junior Women's Kissimmee Valley Association and served on the board of Hospice in Okeechobee. She encountered many hardships along the way and used them for strength to achieve her goals. We would like to honor her memory by establishing a scholarship fund to continue helping those students enlightened by her. If you would like to join us in our endeavor, you can make a contribution to the scholarship fund to be awarded to a former student touched by her loving hands. It will be presented by two of her children on scholarship night, John Williams, of Atlanta, GA and Sharonda Irvin, of Daytona Beach, FL. Checks should be made out to the Okeechobee Educational Foundation, Inc. Please send all donations to Cathie Carpenter at Osceola Middle School, 825 S.W. 28th Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34974. By working together, we can keep Mrs. White-Wells' dreams alive.

**Sincerely,**  
**Cathie Carpente**

# Community Calendar

## Friday, Nov. 14

**Tops Take off Pounds Sensibly #669** meets at 9 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 200 N.W. Second St. The public is invited. Anyone interested in a sensible approach to losing weight and becoming a part of a caring group is welcome to come and see what we are all about. For information, contact Ollie Morgret at 800-932-8677.

**Just for Today Club of Okeechobee**, 101 N.W. Fifth Street, Okeechobee, (Behind Napa Auto Parts) **N.A.** Sickest Of The Sick 8 p.m. The Just for Today Club of Okeechobee is not affiliated with any 12 step fellowships.

**A.A.** meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 200 N.W. Second St. This is an open meeting.

**A.A.** meets from 8 until 9 p.m. at the Church of Our Saviour, 200 N.W. Third St. This is an open speaker meeting.

Compulsive overeaters are invited to a weekly meeting. **Overeaters Anonymous (OA)** meets at the Okeechobee Presbyterian Church, 312 N. Parrott Avenue on Fridays, 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.

## Saturday, Nov. 15

**Just for Today Club of Okeechobee**, 101 N.W. Fifth Street Okeechobee, FL 34972 (Behind Napa Auto Parts) **A.A.** weekend noon Open Discussion; **N.A.** Sickest Of The Sick Group Step Study meeting 7 p.m.; **N.A.** Nowhere Left To Go Group (OD) 8 p.m. \*The Just for Today Club of Okeechobee is not affiliated with any 12 step fellowships.

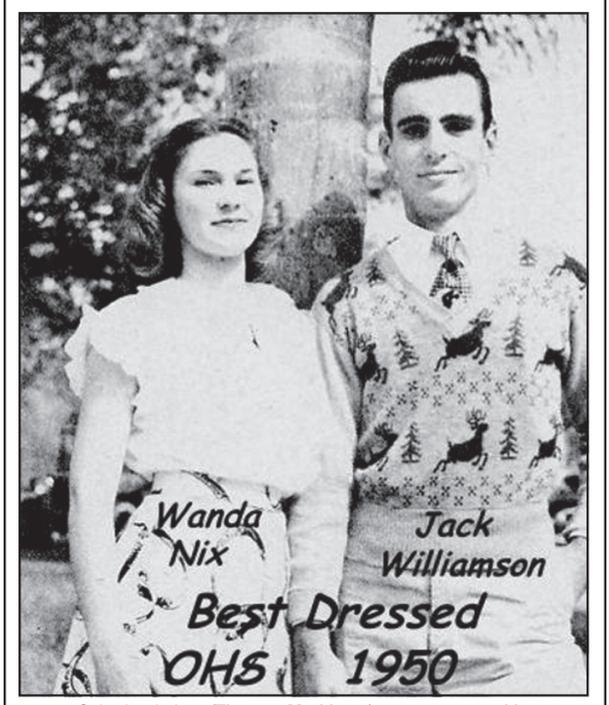
**A.A. meeting** from 8 until 9 p.m. at Grace Christian, 701 S. Parrott Ave. It will be a closed discussion.

## Sunday, Nov. 16

**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 Saviour, 200 N.W. Third St.

**Just for Today Club of Okeechobee**, 101 N.W. Fifth Street Okeechobee, FL 34972 (Behind Napa Auto Parts) **A.A.** weekend noon meeting Open Discussion meeting. \*The Just for Today Club of Okeechobee is not affiliated with any 12 step fellowships.



Submitted photo/Thomas Markham/www.tommymarkham.com

## Looking back ...

This photo from Okeechobee's past shows the Okeechobee High School students voted "best dressed" in 1950, Wanda Nix and Jack Williamson. Do you have an old photo to share? Email it to [okeenews@newszap.com](mailto:okeenews@newszap.com) or bring it by the newspaper office in Fountain Square, 107 S.W. 17th Street (next door to the Brahmam Movie Theater).

# 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

# Let in the holiday cheer with play, special events

## By Chauna Aguilar

Okeechobee News

The Holiday spirit is in the air down at the **Okeechobee Community Theatre's** holiday production of **'Christmas Belles'** this weekend. Christmas Belles opened on Friday, Nov. 7. If you missed the Christmas sounds, there are two more performances, on Friday, Nov. 14 and Saturday, Nov. 15. The play will begin at 8 p.m. each night at the Okeechobee Freshman Campus Auditorium. Tickets are available at the Chamber of Commerce for \$12 each or they can be purchased the night of the play at the theatre's box office window. For more information, call Ron and Jaque Hayes at 863-763-1307.

After two years of issues and planning the **Speckled Perch Steakhouse** is reopening the Bream Room this weekend. After a tremendous amount of hard work, sweat and obstacles, Neil

Nix is excited to open the Bream Room inside the locally renowned Speckled Perch Steakhouse. The Bream Room allows the new and old generations of Okeechobee to relive an era of times gone by. The newly renovated Bream Room possesses its original honky-tonk atmosphere and character which was home to many



## Your Weekly Entertainment Guide

Share your news and photos for this column by email to [caguilar@newszap.com](mailto:caguilar@newszap.com)

## Obituaries

Obituaries should be submitted to the Okeechobee News by e-mailing [obits@newszap.com](mailto:obits@newszap.com). Customers may also request photos and links to online guest books. A link to the obituaries is available at [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com).

## Derwin E. Hamric, 85

HUNTSVILLE, AL — Derwin E. Hamric, passed away Friday, Nov. 7, 2008, in Holmes Regional Medical Center. He was 85.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret Rucks Hamric; sons, Roger (Lynne) Hamric, and Bill (Elena) Hamric; and step-daughters, Larnell (Mike) Merchant, Jeanne (Darrell) Enfinger, Carla (Rich) Boggs, and Nancy Beth Rucks.

Visitation was 1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 10 at Valhalla Funeral Home in Huntsville, Ala. Funeral service followed at 3 p.m. Burial was in Huntsville.

There will be a memorial service in Okeechobee at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested contributions be made to the First United Methodist Church of Okeechobee, in Mr. Hamric's memory.

## Helen Louise Haight, 67

OKEECHOBEE — Helen Louise Haight, died Monday, Nov. 10, 2008, in Jackson Memorial Hospital. She was 67.

Born June 5, 1941 in Peekskill, N.Y., she had been a resident of Okeechobee for the past 18 years and enjoyed sewing, reading, and board games. She was a member of the United Methodist Church in Peekskill, N.Y.

She is preceded in death by a son, Howard Kenneth Haight; parents, Norman and Georganna Haight; and brother, Norman Edward Haight.

She is survived by her husband, Howard Haight, of Okeechobee; daughters, Brenda L. Carney (George), of Okeechobee, Hope Louise Fisher (Charles), of Meridian, Miss.; brother, Raymond Haight (Linda), of Rinebeck, N.Y.; sisters, Dorothy Delia (Dominick), of Poughquag, N.Y., and Muriel Jean Work (Raymond), of New Windsor, N.Y.; grandsons, George E. Carney, of Okeechobee, and Corey A. Fisher, of Brandon, Miss.; granddaughters, Heather L. Fisher, of Okeechobee, Kari A. Carney, of Okeechobee; great-grandsons, Acea Austin, and Anthony Austin; and great-granddaughter, Brianna Carney, of Baltimore, Md. In addition, she is survived by a host of nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15, 2008 in the Buxton Funeral Home Chapel.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Skip Bryant Scholarship Fund, 504 N.W. 4th Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972.

All arrangements are under the direction of the Buxton Funeral Home and Crematory, 110 N.E. 5th Street, Okeechobee.

## Diabetes increases other health risks

### By Bill Casian

The American Diabetes Association asks, "Why should you care about Diabetes?"

It is the leading cause of heart disease, stroke, kidney disease, blindness, and amputation, yet nearly 25 percent of people who have it don't even know it. This November, during American Diabetes Month®, the American Diabetes Association (ADA) is asking "Why should you care about diabetes?"

Chances are, you – or someone you love – has been affected by diabetes in some way. But even if you haven't been affected by diabetes, you need to know that diabetes is the biggest public health crisis of the 21st century, and it continues to grow to epidemic proportions. Nearly 24 million children and adults have diabetes. The death rate for diabetes has continued to grow since 1987,

while the death rates due to heart disease, stroke and cancer have declined.

Having diabetes places a person at increased risk for a number of serious, even life-threatening complications, including:

- Heart disease and stroke - Adults with diabetes have heart disease death rates about 2 to 4 times higher than adults without diabetes.
- Blindness - Diabetic retinopathy causes 12,000 to 24,000 new cases of blindness each year making diabetes the leading cause of new cases of blindness in adults 20-74 years of age.
- Kidney disease - Diabetes is the leading cause of kidney failure, accounting for 44 percent of new cases in 2002.
- Amputations - More than 60 percent of nontraumatic lower-limb amputations occur in people with diabetes.

Remembering the 'ABCs of

There will be a slow drag race, weenie bite contest, drawing prizes, live music, and more. Tickets are available at Barracudas for \$20, includes: t-shirt, drawing ticket and ride. All proceeds will be donated to Military Order of The Purple Hearts. Run leaves Barracuda's a noon sharp. For more information call 863-801-6268.

The 17th Annual **Waldau Junior Golf Tournament** to benefit Junior Golf will now be held on Saturday, Nov. 15, at the Okeechobee Golf and Country Club. (The date changed due to weather.) It's an 18 Hole, four-person Scramble. Complimentary lunch starts at 11 a.m. with scramble shotgun start at noon. The hole in one prize on a designated par-3 is \$10,000.00 cash plus other hole in one prizes on the other par 3s. Each golfer will also receive a coupon for a FREE golf bag.

After the tournament and awards, it's Waldau's Famous Dance Party with D.J. David Padgett. All entry, sponsorship forms and information can be obtained by visiting [www.floridajuniorgolf.org](http://www.floridajuniorgolf.org). Or you can call Bridgette

Waldau at 863-467-7300 or the Golf and Country Club at 863-763-6228.

If your organization or busi-

ness has some entertaining events coming up please forward them along to [caguilar@newszap.com](mailto:caguilar@newszap.com).

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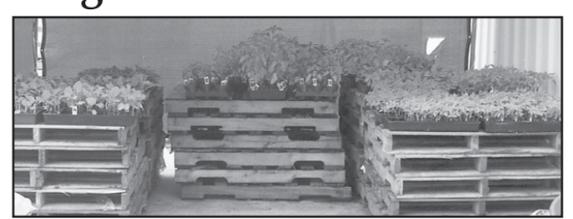
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## Happy Holidays

### Turkeys available for Thanksgiving

The Masonic Lodge is selling holiday turkeys. Place orders at Porter's Cleaners, 1700 S. Parrott Ave. for your fully cooked whole roasted turkey 18-20 pounds. Turkeys are \$30 each. Order by Nov. 22, pick up on Thursday, Nov. 27, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Okeechobee Masonic Lodge. (Limited to the first 75 orders).

### Bake Sale planned to benefit Healthy Start

How many days left until the holiday? Do you have company coming? Order your tasty baked treats soon and pic them up on the morning of Saturday, Nov. 15, at Pizza Heaven. Selections include Guavas, \$1 each, plain cheese pastries, also \$1 each, apple cinnamon \$2 each. Delicious quiche will also be available in Ham, Spinach/Tomato and plain cheese, each for just \$10. All proceeds from the sale will benefit the local Healthy Start program serving mothers and babies. For more information or to order, please call Becky 863-462-5877 or email to: [hsci4@okeechobee.com](mailto:hsci4@okeechobee.com).

### Moose Lodge selling Koeze Nuts

The Okeechobee Loyal 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.

### Christmas trees are headed to Shrine Club

The Okeechobee Shrine Club will have Live Christmas Trees snow-fresh from Michigan. Douglas Fir and Scotch Pine will be available beginning Friday, Nov. 28, (day after Thanksgiving) in Flagler Park. 5-8 ft. trees will be available. All proceeds will benefit the Okeechobee Shrine Club and Amara Shrine Temple. For more information call the Okeechobee Shrine Club at 863-763-3378; Kip Gardner at 863-610-6659; or David Pittard at 863-801-1678. Come early for the best selections.

### Main Street has Holiday ham sale

Main Street is once again offering Honey Baked Hams for the holiday. Spiral hams, boneless hams, whole smoked turkeys, side dishes and desserts are available. The pick up date is Tuesday, Nov. 25, after noon at Syble's Flowers, 119 South Parrott Ave. To place an order or for more information call 863-763-2225 or 863-357-6247.

### Tree lighting ceremony Dec. 2

The City of Okeechobee's Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony will be Dec. 2, beginning at 5:30 p.m., in the City Hall Park. Okeechobee County Schools' Chorus Group will perform. Santa will arrive to visit with children.

### Christmas window contest open

Okeechobee Main Street has announced their Third Annual Christmas Window Decorating Contest. Businesses will need to have windows decorated before the City's Tree Lighting ceremony on Dec. 2. Judging will be on Dec. 13. The winner will receive a plaque. For information please contact Okeechobee Main Street 863-357-MAIN.

### City Hall Park to hosts Santa

Santa will be at City Hall on Dec. 2, following the Lighting Ceremony; December 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16 and 17 from 6 to p.m. Stop by for a picture with Santa!

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## Joseph Phillip Kuprian, 83

OKEECHOBEE — Joseph Phillip Kuprian, died Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2008, in Raulerson Hospital. He was 83.

Born March 23, 1925 in Brooklyn, N.Y., he had been a resident of Okeechobee for the past 10 years.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Louise Kelly Kuprian.

He is survived by his daughter, Jody K. Bunn (Ronnie), of Okeechobee; son, Michael Kuprian (Joanne), of Griffin, Ga.; grandchildren, Joseph Phillip Kuprian, and Joshua Andrew Kuprian; great-grandchild, Logan Bryce Kuprian; and numerous other grand and great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be 1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 17, 2008 in the Buxton Funeral Home Chapel.

All arrangements are under the direction and care of the Buxton Funeral Home and Crematory, 110 N.E. 5th St., Okeechobee.

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# Community Events

## Annual Turkey dinner planned

Saturday, **Nov. 15**, from 4 until 7 p.m. the Okeechobee Masonic Lodge will hold their Annual Turkey Dinner. Suggested donation is \$8 per adult and \$4 per child under 10. Proceeds will benefit the Lodge building fund. For more information call Jim Green at 863-634-4401; Jose Verano at 863-634-2071; or Kip Gardner at 863-357-0427.

## Hospice to host 'Bag Sale'

Hospice of Okeechobee is having a two-day Bag Sale. New Donations have arrived. They need to make room for The Festival of Trees. on Friday, **Nov. 14**, 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. Fill a bag for \$1. It will be held at the Hospice Blue Volunteer Building on S.E. Fourth Street next to The Hamrick Home. Everything must go so that we may set out new items that have arrived. All proceeds benefit patient care in Okeechobee and services offered in The Hamrick Home. For more information call 863-467-2321.

## Barracudas presents 'Ride for the Troops'

On **Nov. 16**, Barracudas will present "Ride for the Troops." There will be a slow drag race, weenie bite contest, drawing prizes, live music, and more. Tickets are available at Barracudas for \$20, which includes: t-shirt, drawing ticket and ride. All proceeds will be donated to Military Order of The Purple Hearts. Run leaves Barracuda's a noon sharp. For more information call 863-801-6268.

## Healthy Start 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.

## S.A.L. Sponsor steak dinner

The Sons of the American Legion will sponsor their monthly ribeye steak dinner on Sunday, **Nov. 16** from 3 until 6 p.m. at the American Legion Post 64. Dinner includes: steak, baked potato, salad, roll, iced tea or coffee and dessert for \$12 donation. Steak cooked to order by Dan Hood. Live entertainment provided for your enjoyment. The public is welcome.

## 'Controlling Garden Pests' workshop planned

Are Bugs bugging you? There are over ten thousand insects in Florida but only about ten that are harmful to plants. Small in number, but they can cause lots of destruction. Come to our garden pest workshop on Monday, **Nov. 17**, from 1 until 2:30 p.m. or from 5:30 until 7 p.m. at the Okeechobee County Extension Service, 458 Highway 98 North and learn easy and sensible ways to control the terrible ten without poisoning the planet.

We'll show you how to prevent pests and also good ways to deter them when they do show up. The workshop will be presented by Angela Sachson, Florida Yards & Neighborhoods. Space is limited and pre-registered is required. Call 863-763-6469 to sign up.

## Guest reader day at CES

Central Elementary School is synonymous with "Achieving Excellence through Literacy." On **Nov. 17**, local members of Okeechobee are invited to read a book to a child. Would you like to read a book to a child? For further information, contact Mrs. Sherion Jennings or Mrs. Peggy Friend at 863-462-5077. Please state the grade level or name of classroom teacher and time. Spanish speaking persons are invited to participate also during this important literacy event.

## Cowboys for Christ sponsors event

On **Nov. 20**, Nashville Recording Artist Tommy Brandt will be at the Okeechobee County Basinger Civic Center. A covered dish supper will begin at 6 p.m. at 7 p.m. Christian Country Music Artist Tommy Brandt. This event is sponsored by Cowboys for Christ. For information call Doyle McDuffie 863-763-2285; Kim Davis 863-467-2855; or David Eng 863-634-3360.

## Winter book discussion list posted

Friends of the Library Book Club List for Spring.

The Friends of the Okeechobee Library Book Club will meet at the Okeechobee Library in the board room this winter and spring at 6 p.m. to discuss the following books: The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald, Thursday, **Nov. 20**, Playing for Pizza by John Grisham, Thursday, Dec. 18; The Doctor Prescribes Dancing at Daybreak by Connie Titus, Jan. 22; Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe, Feb. 20; A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini, March 26; Luncheon of the Boating Party by Susan Vreeland, April 23. For more information please call Jan Fehrman at 863-357-9980.

## Farm City Week Luncheon planned

The Kiwanis Club of Okeechobee and the Okeechobee Area Agri-Council will be co-hosting the 15th Annual Kiwanis/Ag Council Farm City Week Luncheon at the Okeechobee KOA. The luncheon is scheduled to begin at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, **Nov. 20**. Tickets can be purchased in advance at Farm Credit 863-763-6466, Berger Insurance Services 863-763-6411, or Farm Bureau 863-763-3101. They can also be purchased at the door on the day of the luncheon.

## Clerk's office closed for lunch

The Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court will be closed from noon until 1 p.m. on Friday, **Nov. 21**, for our annual Holiday Lunch.

## Walk around Lake Okeechobee

On **Nov. 22**, hikers will gather at the Pahokee Marina to kick off the 17th Annual Big O Hike. Since 1992, the 109 mile Florida Trail circuit walk known as the Big O Hike has pumped tourism dollars into small towns around the lake while encouraging hiking for fitness, drawing visitors from as far away as Ontario and California. Although flat and open, the trail offers outstanding scenic views, especially at sunrise and sunset. The hike passes through five counties around Lake Okeechobee where hikers experience the quiet side of South Florida. As one of the Florida Trail Gateway Communities, Pahokee is an ideal kickoff point for the Big O Hike. Join the group on November 22 at the Pahokee Marina at 8 a.m., or at any point along the hike for an interesting and educational walk. Learn more, including details of stops along the way at [Lox.floridatrail.org/big\\_o](http://Lox.floridatrail.org/big_o).

## Order of the Eastern Star holds breakfast

Sunday, **Nov. 23** from 8 until 11 a.m. the Okeechobee Chapter No. 128 Order of the Eastern Star will sponsor a breakfast at the Okeechobee Masonic Lodge, 107 N.W. Fifth Ave., Okeechobee. Breakfast menu is as follows for a \$7 donation: Homemade biscuits and sausage gravy, scrambled eggs, hash brown casserole, sausage and bacon, grits, orange juice and coffee.

## Seacoast to host benefit yard sale

Seacoast National Bank will hold a yard sale on Saturday, **Nov. 15**, from 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The sale will have office furniture, kitchen items, ceiling fans, desks, clothes, etc. The address

is 1835 Hwy. 441 S.E. across from the driver's license bureau. All proceeds will benefit one of our employees who has been diagnosed with cancer. For more information, please contact Theresa Cline at 863-357-5200.

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# U.S. Sugar deal modified

By Jose Jesus Zaragoza  
INI Florida

CLEWISTON -- There is a new deal on the table regarding the sale of U.S. Sugar to the state. Despite initially offering all of its land and production facilities, the company is now keeping the mill and the railroad and citrus plants out of the sale.

The news was made public by Governor Charlie Crist on Tuesday, following initial reports.

Under the terms of the sale, the company is offering 182,500 acres land to the South Florida Water Management District -- 4,500 acres less than the initial deal. U.S. Sugar will maintain its primary mill in Clewiston, its railroad and citrus operations.

The original terms called for a \$1.75 billion buyout of U.S. Sugar. The new sale is in the neighborhood of \$1.34 billion.

The change poses some interesting questions as the matter heads toward the governing bodies of the company and the South Florida Water Management District for final approval.

With U.S. Sugar keeping just about 2.5 percent of the land it owns, the question is whether the company can sustain the profits it has become accustomed to when it has operated with a much larger area of production.

The fate of the 1,700 jobs is still uncertain. When the sale of the company was announced earlier this year, Carol Wehle, the district's executive director, assured residents that there were no plans to shut down the mill. The district unable to operate such a facility, the general consensus seemed to be a sale of the production facilities to another agricultural company.

Whether U.S. Sugar plans on continuing its operations well into the future, or if its executives simply believe that they can sell the production portion of their company at a higher value privately is yet to be resolved.

The original announcement was met by shock that the long-time company, and the backbone of the local community, would close its doors.

Environmental groups hailed the news as a milestone for Florida, as polluted water feeding into the Everglades could be filtered naturally, providing a renewed lifeline to the unique eco-system.

But locals wondered if it was in the best interest for Clewiston -- a town that is synonymous with the sugar giant.

Following the release of information, some were hopeful that the sale would free up lands that were off-limits to development, and open up new enterprises.

Work has already begun at the local level to identify new industries, including a plan by Hendry County to serve as the site of an ambitious inland cargo project.

Earlier this year, the company took advantage of a smaller crop to refine Mexican sugar through NAFTA. The raw sugar was shipped in barges to the Port of Tampa and transported to Clewis-

ton for processing.

In August that partnership worked so well that the company announced that the streamlined mill had broken several production records. For the first time in its history, buoyed by the partnership with Mexican companies, the refinery easily surpassed its total refinery output -- overshadowing the record set in 2006. With less land to work with, there is the possibility that the company may head more in this direction.

"It is important to note that this imported sugar has enabled us to process and sell additional sugar -- above and beyond the sugar sold contractually for this year," Robert Coker, senior vice president, public affairs said in September. "The Refinery's record pace allowed U.S. Sugar to turn NAFTA's open border between the United States and Mexico into an opportunity."

# OHCF damaged in small fire

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

An early morning fire caused about \$7,000 in property damage and disrupted the patients at the Okeechobee Health Care Facility on Nov. 11, Okeechobee City Firemen said.

The staff at Okeechobee Health Care Facility quickly responded to a small fire early Tuesday morning that originated in a resident room on the rehab unit. Staff members evacuated 46 residents to safety while the Okeechobee City Fire Department contained the smoke and fire at its origin.

Fire Crews responded to the nursing home at 1646 Highway

441 north just before 3 a.m. and found smoke coming out of the west doors of the facility.

A report from Lt. Robert Banfield of Okeechobee County Fire Rescue stated that heavy smoke could be seen when firemen arrived.

The building sprinkler system and fire extinguishers were used to put out the fire which was confined to one resident room.

Okeechobee Health Care Facility has a double sprinkler system throughout the building.

Heavy fans were used to remove the smoke from the building.

City firemen said one patient was taken to the emergency room by staff for possible burns.

The State Fire Marshall will determine the cause of the fire.

Lt. Glenn Hodges report said firemen were on the scene for about two hours. Four units and 16 firemen and volunteers responded to the call.

Maintenance and Housekeeping staff reported to work early to clean up the affected areas. By 6:30 a.m. residents had been returned to their rooms and were ready for breakfast.

Health Facility administrators would like to thank the Okeechobee City Fire Department for their quick response and the facility staff for their dedication in meeting the challenge of an emergency.

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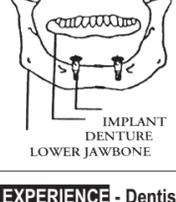
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**T.A. Aliapoulos, D.D.S.**  
License #DN1847

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.



**Jonathan 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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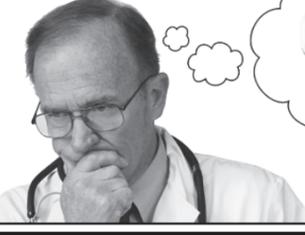
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# Teen Anglers are at it again

By Teresa Mataushek  
Okeechobee News

Regardless of the weather, members of the Big O' Teen Anglers Inc., do not let that stop them.

They held their monthly fishing tournament on Oct. 25, at Okee-Tantie and because of a cold front, were presented with a challenge.

Due to the cold weather the fishing was a little tougher, but the anglers did their best.

Ryan Edwards, 12, was the only one to place in the 11-14 age group, but made sure that he placed well, with a 3.52 pound fish, which won the big fish award as well as first place.

For the 15-18 age group Garrett Farmer, 17, came in first place with 2.44 lbs., as well as winning the big fish award with a 2.44 lbs., 'Big Fish.' He was followed in second place by Kyle Monti, 16, with total fish weight of 2.06 lbs.

The Big O' Teen Anglers, Inc. is currently selling tickets for a chance on a brand new digital Motorguide 70 lb. trolling motor. The drawing will be held on Dec. 15 and all proceeds will benefit the junior bass club. For more information call Charlie Hays at 863-763-2332.

The Big O' Teen Anglers, Inc. would also like to extend their sympathy to the family of Joseph Alton O'Dell of Okeechobee by saying, "Roy O'Dell, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family."

Don't forget, the Christian Team Trails monthly fishing tournaments held on the first Saturday of every month out of Okee-Tantie. The cost is \$75 per boat. The monthly tournaments are hosted by Oakview Baptist Church, you may register at the church office before the tournaments or at Okee-Tantie the day of the event. Tournaments will begin at safe daylight. For more information please call 863-763-1699.

This weekend is the Bass Busters Classic on Nov. 15, and 16, for qualifying teams. Please visit the official website and look on the 2008 standings page for qualifying team names.

The 18th Annual Toys for Kids Fishing Tournament will be held on Sunday, Dec. 14, in Clewiston on Lake Okeechobee. The entry



## Outdoors

Share your news and photos for this column by email to okeeneews@newszap.com

fee is \$50 and two unwrapped toys; the tournament runs safe-light to 3 p.m. The event features 100 percent pay-back with cash and prizes. For more information or to get entry forms for these events please contact Chris Fickey at 941-232-9539 or go to: www.bassbustersflorida.com and we look forward to seeing you at the ramp.

## Kids recommend osprey to be new state bird

The osprey is the winner in a statewide vote of fourth through eighth graders to be Florida's new official state bird. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Department of Education teamed up to conduct the election as a civics lesson for the kids.

Students across the state participated in campaign activities at their schools, researching their favorite candidates, designing posters and participating in debates regarding the bird they would most like to have considered for Florida's state bird as an alternative to the current state bird, the mockingbird.

The civics lesson for the kids doesn't end with this vote. They also will have the opportunity to follow this initiative as the students' selection will go through the legislative process to decide if the osprey should become the new state bird. The FWC will prepare a bill for introduction for the 2009 Legislative Session. The bill



Submitted photo/Big O' Teen Anglers Inc.

Ryan Edwards, 12, took first and the big fish award in his age group at the Oct. 25, Big O' Teen Anglers fishing tournament at Okee-Tantie. He had a big fish and total fish weight of 3.52 lbs.

must be approved by the House, the Senate and Gov. Charlie Crist before the osprey is officially designated as the state bird. Teachers and students can follow this process at www.vote4bird.org.

"This project gave students the chance to participate in the democratic process in a very meaningful way," said Judy Gillan, outreach coordinator for the FWC. "They learned about exercising their vote, and they will learn about bills becoming laws. It also gave them an opportunity to learn about some of Florida's greatest species of birds."

After the osprey, in popularity, were the snowy egret, great egret, brown pelican and black skimmer. More than 77,000 students voted in Florida, with fourth, fifth and sixth graders casting the most votes. Students in all counties in Florida were represented in the vote.

If you would like to share any information with the Okeechobee News about an outdoors event please email Teresa Mataushek at tmatoushek@newszap.com or call 863-763-3134. We welcome news on all sporting events, outdoors activities, nature inspired hobbies and with hunting season nearing, please send in pictures of your prize kills. Please include your name, phone number and specific dates of the events. The Okeechobee News Outdoors column will run every Friday so please be sure to have all your information into the office no later than 5 p.m. Wednesday.



Submitted photo/Big O' Teen Anglers Inc.

Garrett Farmer, 17, came in first place in his age group at the Oct. 25, tournament held in Okee-Tantie. He also won the big fish award with a big fish weight of 2.44 lbs.



Submitted photo/Big O' Teen Anglers Inc.

Kyle Monti, 16, placed second in his age group with a total fish weight of 2.06 lbs. at the Big O' Teen Anglers Oct. 25, fishing tournament at Okee-Tantie.



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**"LOOK NO FURTHER"**

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**"SOUTHERN CHARM"**

Southern style 4/2/2 energy efficient home by the golf course. Home has Hardy Plank siding, whirlpool tub in master bath. Higher walk-in closets. Upgraded Schrock kitchen cabinets, 10' ceilings in main part of home, plant shelves and lots of other upgrades. This home looks like a model home. #201263 \$249,000.

**"BRING THE FAMILY"**

**"ROOM TO ROAM"**

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# Hunters, residents warned of possible virus outbreak

## Dogs exposed to wild hogs could be at risk for Pseudorabies

Two Everglades Regional Dog Hunters Association members had dogs die last weekend from a disease with symptoms the same as Pseudorabies. JW Corbett Biologists are currently examining the dogs to confirm Pseudorabies. ERDHA has received reports of 13 other dogs that died during dog training from a disease believed to be PRV. Please be advised that exposure to wild hogs in this area could be fatal to dogs. If your dog becomes infected with PRV please call FWC Corbett Biologist Jim Schuete at 561-722-9263.

Pseudo Rabies Virus (PRV), also known as "mad itch," is not really a form of rabies. The virus attacks the nervous system, and it can be acquired by biting an affected animal. The infection is fatal in nearly all animals that become infected, except pigs. Humans are resistant to infection. Cattle, fur-bearing animals like raccoons, rats, bears, deer, dogs and cats (including panthers) can be infected. Pigs sometimes do not display observable symptoms because they have become well adapted to the virus.

Dogs have developed PRV after biting or being bitten by infected pigs. It takes anywhere from 3-6 days for symptoms to show; once symptoms show, progression is rapid rarely lasting longer than 48 hours, until death.

The initial sign seen by the dog owner is a change in behavior such as inactivity, sleepiness, indifference, even aggression or restlessness. Difficulty breathing, diarrhea, and vomiting are occasionally seen. Normal or abnormal body temperature and excessive salivation are common findings. The most characteristic sign is intense itching, usually occurring in the head region, but also in other areas, such as neck and shoulders. One side of the head and neck may become swollen. The dog may violently scratch their faces and ears, rub their heads and bit themselves. Self mutilation may result in redness, skin abrasion, and ulceration of skin and underlying tissues. The scratching becomes increasingly more frantic and may end up in generalized convulsion. In some cases, the itching may be absent.

Paralysis of the limbs is sometimes noted shortly before death.

Treatment of PRV is generally futile since the disease is almost always fatal. Heavy sedation and anesthesia may lessen or relieve the itching and convulsions; however, nothing can alter the outcome of the disease.

Prevention is the most important means of control of PRV in dogs and cats. Contact with pigs and especially feeding animals raw pork should be avoided. It is possible to vaccinate small animals against PRV. Consult your veterinarian for more information.



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- Basswood lots from \$25,000-\$33,000
- 7 Acres HWY 68 \$110,000
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**OKEECHOBEE NEWS**

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# Service Club News in Brief

## The American Legion Post 64

501 S.E. Second Street, Okeechobee  
Office 863-763-2950 - Lounge 863-763-5309  
We can accommodate meetings, weddings and parties of any size.  
The public is always welcome unless it's a members only event.  
Our kitchen is open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and 1 to 8 p.m. on Sunday.  
Sunday: Open 1 to 8 p.m. - Regular Bingo from 6:30 p.m.  
Monday: Open 11-8 p.m. - Social Bingo 1 PM  
Tuesday: Open 11-8 p.m.  
Wednesday: Open 11-8 p.m. - "Taco Day" 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Tacos - \$1.50  
Music with Jim Elders 2-6  
Thursday: Open 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. - Social Bingo 6 p.m.  
Friday: Open 11 a.m. until 8 p.m. - Karaoke from 6 p.m. Hosted by BP Productions. (Anyone wishing to perform in the Lip Sync Programs see Bobby and Penny)  
SAL Steak Dinner third Sunday each month \$12 donation.  
Legion and Auxiliary meet the second and fourth Tuesdays at 7 p.m.  
The fourth Tuesday meeting includes a carry in dinner at 6 p.m.  
SAL Meet the third Tuesday at 7 p.m.  
Friday night dinners resume on Nov. 7.

## Am-Vets #2001

Am-Vets No. 2001 will hold a regular informational meeting on the first Saturday of the month at the Buckhead Ridge VFW Post #9528, 2002 U.S. 78 W., at 10 a.m. Applications for new members are available. Call Helen James at 863-824-7644 or Lou Eder at 863-357-0467.  
Am-Vets Ladies Auxiliary meetings are the first Saturday of the month at 10 a.m. Contact the Post at 467-2882 for information.

## Eagles Aeries #4137

Eagles Aeries #4137 is located at 9983 U.S. 441 N. For information on events, call 863-763-2552.  
Every Tuesday bingo at 1 p.m. Food will be available for a donation.  
Wednesdays: bar bingo starting at 4 p.m. Food will be available.  
Every Thursday: washer toss at 1 p.m.  
First and third Thursday: Auxiliary at 6 p.m.; Aeries at 7 p.m.  
Fridays: steak night (16-oz.) starting at 5 p.m. for a \$12 donation. Music will be by Jimmy Harper.  
Saturdays and Sundays: music at 7 p.m.



Submitted photo/Anton Silva III

## Army

Resident Edith Vincent, age 86/U.S. Army, was escorted by Cindy Bowman, Activities' CNA, to the OHCF 2008 Veterans' Day observance.

First and third Sunday: breakfast cooked to order from 9 until 11 a.m. for \$5 donation.

## Okeechobee Masonic Lodge #237

The Okeechobee Masonic Lodge is located at 107 N.W. Fifth Ave. For information about the club and events, call Jose Verano at 863-634-2071.  
The Masonic Lodge holds their meetings on the second and fourth Monday of each month starting at 7:30 p.m.

## Order of the Eastern Star - Chapter #128

The Order of the Eastern Star has many fun activities planned on the first and third Tuesday of each month. For upcoming activities, contact Mary Ann Holt at 863-634-8087.

## B.H.R. Moose Lodge

The lodge is located on U.S. 78 W. in Buckhead Ridge. The Lodge's phone number is 863-763-2250.  
Sundays: breakfast will be served from 9 until 11 a.m. With many items to choose from.  
Mondays: WOTM Chapter meeting the first and third Mondays of every month 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesdays: Bingo and food, food served at 5 p.m. and bingo starts at 6 p.m.  
Thursdays: dinner will be served from 5 until 7 p.m. Call the Lodge for the menu.  
Thursdays: Music for dancing at 7:30 p.m. Call to see who is playing.  
Thursday: 5-Card Bingo at 6 p.m. food available at 5 p.m.  
Fridays: dinner served from 5 until 7:30 p.m. Music for dancing at 7:30 p.m. Call to see who is playing.  
Saturdays: dinner starting at 6 p.m.  
Saturdays: Prime Rib Dinner served from 6 until 8 p.m. the first Saturday of the month.

## Moose Family Center #1753

The Moose Family Center #1753 is located at 156 N.W. 36th St. in Okeechobee. Please call the Lodge at 863-763-4954 for further information, sudden changes and menus. Guests are invited to enjoy the activities and consider membership.  
Every Sunday breakfast from 8 to 11 a.m.  
Horseshoe practice every Sunday at 2 p.m. and Thursday Evening.  
Every Monday, Pool tournaments - sign up, 7 p.m. Food is served.  
Women's meeting second and fourth Tuesday at 7 p.m.  
Officers meetings first and third Tuesday at 7 p.m.  
Men's meetings, second and fourth Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.



Submitted photo/Fred Alger

## Gang free bike rally

Okeechobee Masonic Lodge #237 members participated in the Gang Free Bike Event held this past weekend. Lodge members participating included Dave Lucas, George Williams, Hugh Alger, Jim Green, Rick Holt, Fred Covert, Tom Jolly and also, Jim Lazano (not pictured). The bike rally was held in Okee-Tantie Park on Saturday and Sunday.

Moose Legion meetings third Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.  
Bar Bingo Thursday at 1 p.m. and Friday night at 7 p.m. - Food Served. (you must be a member to play bar bingo)  
Dinner and music almost every Saturday night.

## VFW Post #4423

\* Music by the 'Saxman' at 5-9 p.m. North VFW members and friends welcome Sunday, Nov. 16.  
The VFW North Post #4423 is located at 300 N.W. 34 St. The Post phone number is 863-763-0818.  
Happy hour Monday through Thursday 4 until 6 p.m.  
Mondays: 50-cent hot dogs.  
Tuesdays: Washer toss at 1 p.m.  
Wednesdays: Pizza and Grill 5 until 7 p.m.  
Fridays: Bingo at 1 p.m. Pizza and Grill 6 until 9 p.m. Karaoke 7 until 11 p.m.  
Saturdays: Bar Bingo at 1 p.m. Karaoke 7 until 11 p.m.  
Sundays: Dinner 2 until 4 p.m.  
Post and Ladies Auxiliary meetings third Sunday of every month at 11 a.m.  
Men's Auxiliary Meeting 3 Monday of every month 7 p.m.  
Big Screen TV and Pool Table

## VFW Post #9528

The VFW Post #9528 is located at 2002 S.R. 78 W. in Buckhead Ridge. For information, call 863-467-2882. Post opens at noon, Monday through Sunday.  
We are taking applications for new members for the VFW, Ladies Auxiliary, Male Auxiliary, AMVETS and AMVETS ladies auxiliary.  
Wednesday: Ladies Auxiliary dinner and Men's Auxiliary or AmVets. Music will be available.  
Every Thursday is bar bingo at 12:45 p.m. Lunch will be available.  
Every Friday a steak dinner with baked potato, salad and rolls will be served from 5:30 until 7 p.m. for an \$11 donation. Dancing immediately follows the dinner.  
Membership meetings are held on the second Saturday of the month beginning at 10 a.m. The House Committee meeting is on the fourth Saturday.  
For information, contact Commander Robert Hare at 863-467-2882.  
All games and special events are shown on three televisions. The game room has a regulation-size pool table.  
\* VFW Post 9528, in Buckhead Ridge, is having an open mic night with Nellie from 6 until 9 p.m. every Tuesday evening. Come on out and support her by singing your favorite songs.

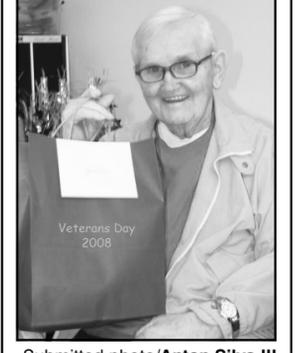
## VFW Post #10539

Post hours are 10 a.m. Monday through Saturday and 1 p.m. on Sunday. Closing times are discretionary and dependent on the number of patrons but usually not before 8 p.m. on weekdays and 11 p.m. on weekends.  
Happy hours: 10 to 11 a.m. and 3 to 6

p.m. Monday through Thursday. Noon to 2 p.m. on Saturdays.  
Monday: Card Bingo at 6 p.m.  
Tuesday: Ladies Auxiliary all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner \$5 donation beginning at 5:30 p.m.  
Wednesday: Bar Bingo at 12:45 p.m. Lunch by Ladies Auxiliary. Kitchen open from 5 until 8 p.m. Evening music.  
Thursday: Music, kitchen open from 5 until 6 p.m.  
Friday: Music, kitchen open from 5 until 8 p.m.  
Saturday: Noon, dollar hotdogs, \$1.50 Polish Sausage, both with Chili and all the fixings. Card bingo at 5 p.m. Music and dancing at 7 p.m. \$50 gas card giveaway.  
Scheduled meetings: VFW First Sunday at noon, Ladies Auxiliary second Monday at 7 p.m., Men's Auxiliary second Wednesday at 7 p.m.  
Do you have a family member serving overseas? We send packages of urgently needed supplies to them. We accept donations for this worth cause. Contact Cheryl Beniot at 863-697-2930.  
For further information call 863-763-2308.

## Shrine Club

The Okeechobee Shrine Club, S.R. 78 W., members will meet the first and third Thursday of each month at 8 p.m. The club is also available for weddings and parties. For information call the club at (863) 763-3378.  
They are now open three days a week. Weekly specials are:  
Tuesdays: Noon until 9 p.m.: Spaghetti dinner - donations only, music from 6 until



Submitted photo/Anton Silva III

## Navy

Jim Price, age 84/U.S. Navy, received his gift bag from the VFW Ladies' Auxiliary Unit # 4423. Mr. Price also sang a stirring rendition of the Navy Anthem for the audience.



Submitted photo/Anton Silva III

## Coast Guard

Shirley Stephen, age 87/U.S. Coast Guard, proudly received her VFW Ladies' Auxiliary gift bag.

9 p.m.; happy hour 3-6 p.m.  
Thursdays: Noon until 9 p.m.: Fried Shrimp dinner or clams \$6 donation; happy hour 3-6 p.m.; shrimp skewers 2 for \$3.  
Fridays: Noon until 9 p.m.: Catfish dinner \$6 donation; happy hour 3-6 p.m.

## Cypress Hut

## Eagles #4509

The Cypress Hut Fraternal Order of Eagles post #4509 located at 4701 U.S. 441 S.E. is now open to members Monday-Saturday from 10 a.m. until 10 p.m., Sundays from 1 to 10 p.m. Information can

be found by visiting www.foe4509.com, or calling 863-467-1154.  
Food is served several evenings a week.  
Aerie meetings are at 7 p.m. on the first and third Wednesday of each month at the old Cypress Hut flea market restaurant.  
FOE Auxiliary meetings are at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month.  
Friday night: 16 oz rib eye steak dinner with the trimmings beginning at 5:30 p.m.  
Editor's note: To add listings or make changes to the service club news, please email okeeneews@newszap.com.

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Submitted photo/Anton Silva III

## OHCF celebrates Veterans Day

Arlen Cook, Pastor of Northside Baptist and US Air Force veteran, was the guest speaker at the Okeechobee Health Care Facility (OHCF) 2008 Veterans' Day celebration.

FULL SERVICE REALTOR

## Goolsby REALTY CO.

Patricia Louise Goolsby,  
Licensed Real Estate Broker  
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patgoolsby@embarqmail.com  
Vicki Anderson • 863-634-4106  
Eric Anderson • 863-634-4107



**FISHING PARADISE** Adorable Park Model on a deep private canal. New metal roof. Water softener and purifier. Condo, just move in a Turn Key unit, completely furnished right down to the dishes. MLS#94421, \$124,900. Call Vicki at 863-634-4106.



**A NICE NEIGHBORHOOD**, mobile home with open floor concept, breakfast area in kitchen, Pergo floors easy to maintain. Office area for your business. MLS #201321, \$82,500. Call Vicki at 863-634-4106.



**WATERFRONT PROPERTY**. Well maintained DWMH. Beautiful backyard nicely landscaped w/waterfall, bridge over sheds running through backyard. Two nice sheds, fish cleaning station w/dock. Large private well stocked lake. MLS #201595, \$94,900. Call Vicki at 863-634-4106.



**WELL BUILT CBS HOME** on a beautiful waterfront corner lot. A fenced in area on side yard. Large stone fireplace and a wagon wheel chandelier. Mural painted by Egretta Wells '81. Great starter home. Needs a little TLC. Vacant lot is included in sale. MLS #201596, \$120,000. Call Vicki at 863-634-4106.



**LARGE WATERFRONT HOME**. It has mature oaks and a nice boat dock. The home is a well maintained home and ready to move in. MLS #201606, \$150,000. Call Vicki at 863-634-4106.



**WELL-MAINTAINED MOBILE HOME** close to the rim canal and locks. This package comes complete with a boat. It is a nice large lot with an assortment of trees. MLS #201939, \$107,578. Call Vicki at 863-634-4106.

**Platinum Performance Realty LLC.** Tel: 863-467-1933

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[platinumperformancerealty.com](http://platinumperformancerealty.com)

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Published 3 weeks in all of our Florida papers: Caloosa Belle, Clewiston News, Glades County Democrat, Immokalee Bulletin, Okeechobee News, and The Sun

\* Ads will run in the Wednesday Okeechobee News and weekly publications.

BUSINESS HOURS Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

DEADLINES Wednesday 11 a.m. Tuesday for Wednesday publication Friday 11 a.m. Thursday for Friday publication Sunday Friday 10 a.m. for Sunday publication

GUIDELINES FOR PLACING FREE ADS!

- All personal items under \$5,000 ABSOLUTELY FREE when placed online. Ads phoned in subject to charge. Price must be included in ad. Private parties only. 2 items per household per issue.

### Announcements

100

Important Information: Please read your ad carefully the first day it appears. In case of an inadvertent error, please notify us prior to the deadline listed. We will not be responsible for more than 1 incorrect insertion, or for more than the extent of the ad rendered valueless by such errors. Advertiser assumes responsibility for all statements, names and content of an ad, and assumes responsibility for any claims against Independent Newspapers. All advertising is subject to publisher's approval. The publisher reserves the right to accept or reject any or all copy, and to insert above the copy the word "advertisement". All ads accepted are subject to credit approval. All ads must conform to Independent Newspapers' style and are restricted to their proper classifications. Some classified categories require advance payment. These classifications are denoted with an asterisk. Independent Newspapers will never knowingly accept any advertisement that is illegal or considered fraudulent. In all cases of questionable value, such as promises of guaranteed income from work-at-home programs or other offers to send money in advance for a product or service - we advise you to check with the Attorney General's Consumer Fraud Line at 1-800-220-5424, and/or The Better Business Bureau, 800-464-6331 for previous complaints.

- Auctions 105 Car Pool 110 Share a ride 115 Card of Thanks 120 In Memoriam 125 Found 130 Lost 135 Give Away 140 Garage/Yard Sale 145 Personals 150 Special Notices 155 900 Numbers 160

### Adoptions

Are you Pregnant? Considering adoption? A single woman seeks to adopt and needs your help! Financial security. Expenses paid. Call BECKY or Adam. (800)491-8064. FL Bar# 0150789.

### Auctions

FORECLOSED HOME AUCTION FLORIDA STATEWIDE Auction starts Feb 7th 1000 Homes MUST BE SOLD! Free Brochure (800)491-8064 USHomeAuction.com REDC.

### Lost

BULLDOG MIX - Male, Beige Brindle, Vic. of Viking, Micro Chipped. Dearly missed! Please call (863)357-0791

### Giveaway

DOG - non-biter, will bark at strangers, fixed, 3 yrs. old, gentle w/kids, to good home only. (863)634-0198

DONATE YOUR VEHICLE RECEIVE \$1000 GROCERY COUPON UNITED BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION Free Mammograms, Breast Cancer Info www.ubcf.info FREE Towing, Tax Deductible, Non-Runners Accepted, (888)468-5964.

GINZY PIG - Friendly, short black hair, loves to eat, 1 1/2 years old. Needs a good home (863)763-3722

### Garage/Yard Sales

ESTATE SALE, Taylor Creek Isle-2581 SE 25th Dr- Thur, Fri & Sat 1/29, 30 & 31 from 8am-3pm. Hunting, Fishing, Camping, Welding, Automotive, Tools, Furniture, Appliances & Collectable's.

HUGE MULTI-FAMILY SALE OKEECHOBEE - Fri., 1/30 & Sat., 1/31, 8am til 1pm, 2741 NE 54th Trail, R-Bar. Hot Tub, Go Cart, Boys Sports Equipment, Purses, Jewelry & Clothes

KISSIMMEE RIVER FISHING RESORT Park Wide Yard Craft & Bake Sale Fri & Sat., 30th & 31st, 8am-7, 15601 SR 70 West, Bame 1st right across Kissimmee River Bridge on 70. Something for everyone, see you there!

Christian Preschool has openings for Food Prep/Kitchen Position and Classroom Substitutes. Call (863)763-8800

### Special Notice 0155

CASTLE The Parenting Professionals Support our fight for the prevention of child abuse Call (863) 467-7771

### Garage/Yard Sales 0145

OKEECHOBEE - 1-29-2009, 8 to 2, 2910 SE 23rd St. Treasure Island, Huge Yard Sale - Thurs, Jan 29th Only - Lots of Old Stuff, Newer Stuff Too - 100's of Fishing Items, Old Dolls, Antiques, Books, Old Baseball & Basketball Cards, Glassware & More - Truly Something for all.

TREASURE ISLAND - SAT & SUN - Opens at 8:30 am, 3102 SE 34th Ave. Furniture, fish tank, antique cast iron fireplace & misc.

### Personals 0150

ROOMMATE WANTED - \$550 monthly all utilities and cable included. (863)634-4102

### Special Notice 0155

Run your ad STATEWIDE and SAVE \$\$\$! Run your classified ad in over 100 Florida newspapers reaching over 4 MILLION readers for \$475 - that is less than \$4 per newspaper. Call this newspaper or (866)742-1373 for more details or visit: www.florida-classifieds.com.

Find it faster. Sell it sooner in the classifieds

### Employment 200

- Employment - Full-Time 205 Employment - Medical 210 Employment - Part-Time 215 Employment Wanted 220 Job Information 225 Job Training 227 Sales 230

### Employment Full Time 0205

### CUSTOMER SERVICE REP

Must have: • Attention to detail • Excellent organizational, verbal and written skills • Strong customer service and communication skills are needed in order to handle customer orders, provide information and resolve issues. Computer experience required.

Fax resume to 863-467-0045 or email astacy@rooftile.com EOE/DFWP

Now Accepting Management Applications for Pizza Hut. Please fax resume to 1-973-276-7473

RECEPTIONIST NEEDED in a busy cardiology office. Medical knowledge & exp. needed. Exc. benefit plan offered. Fax resume to 863-467-8708 or call 863-467-9400

TELLERS Experienced tellers for community bank. Good communication, cash-handling and computer skills, customer service. Fax resume 772-597-4159, or email general@fbci.com.

Tire Repair and Auto Repair experienced only apply. Drug Free Work Place (863)512-6673

### Employment Part Time 0215

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### Job Information 0225

13 DRIVERS NEEDED Sign-On Bonus 35-41 cpm Earn over \$1000 weekly Excellent Benefits Need CDL- A & 3 most recent OTR (877)258-8782 www.mel-tontruck.com

\$600 Weekly Potential \$\$\$ Helping the government PT. No Experience. No Selling. Call: (888)213-5225 Ad Code: M

Driver- Join PTL today! Company drivers earn up to 38 cpm. 1/2cpm increase every 60K miles. Average 2,800 miles/week. CDL-A required. www.ptl-inc.com Call (877)740-6262.

EARN Extra Income Mailing Brochures. Weekly pay check! Free 24 hour information. (877)220-4470.

Help Wanted. Join Wil-Trans Lease or Company Driver Program. Enjoy our Strong Freight Network. Must be 23. (866)906-2982

HVAC Tech Training! GET TO WORK! Avg. Tech earns \$40K/yr. No Exp. Needed. EPA & OSHA Certified 3-5wks. Local Job Placement and Financing available. (877)994-9904

Post Office Now Hiring! Avg Pay \$20/hr or \$57K/yr including Federal Benefits and OT. Placed by adSource not affiliated w/USPS who hires. Call (866)713-4492.



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300 Business Opportunities 305 Money Lenders 310 Tax Preparation 315

100% RECESSION PROOF! Do you earn \$800 in a day? 25 Local Machines and Candy \$9,995. (888)629-9968 B02000033 CALL US: We will not be undersold!

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

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

No wonder newspaper readers have more fun!

### Employment Full Time 0205

The Okeechobee County Health Department currently has the following openings

Physician Requisition # 64085603-51236146-20081229110139 / Closing date-open until filled

Distributed Computer Systems Specialist Requisition # 64084356-51235973-20090115164137 / Closing date 1/29/2009

The State of Florida offers a competitive salary and a wide array of benefit and retirement options. Monday-Friday Work Schedule: Day Hours (8AM-5PM Core Hours), NO WEEKEND SCHEDULE; 9 Paid Holidays, 1 Personal Holiday per year; Paid Time Off Earned Monthly: Annual & Sick Leave; Retirement Plan, Deferred Compensation, Direct Deposit, Jury Duty and Beverement Leave, and other Administrative Leave Available; Tuition Waiver Program available upon immediate hire for State Universities and Community Colleges; Educational Leave with Pay Opportunity and Nursing Student Loan Forgiveness Program Available

View the job announcement and apply online at https://peoplefirst.myflorida.com/logon.htm For assistance with the People First website, you may contact the applicant customer service via telephone at 1-877-562-7287, TTY users call 1-866-221-0268.

Employer Drug Testing, Background screening and fingerprinting required EEO/AA/VP

### Services 400

- Babysitting 405 Child Care Needed 410 Child Care Offered 415 Instruction 420 Services Offered 425 Insurance 430 Medical Services 435

### Child Care

BRIGHT FUTURES Preschool Childcare Center 1811 SW 2nd Ave Okeechobee 863.467.5000

DEE'S MINOR REPAIR & Pressure Washing Cool Sealing, Painting, Carpentry & Much More! No Job Too Big or Small. (863)467-2917 or (863)261-6425 License # 5698 & #1126

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### Air Conditioners 0505

CARRIER 2 1/2 ton condenser unit. Good condition \$150. 863-675-1218

CENTRAL A/C unit - 4 ton unit 3 yrs old great shape for Mobile home \$600 or best offer. (863)532-9841

### Antiques 0510

COUCH, newly reupholstered, sage green with a light blue stripe \$900 (863)763-8956

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Employer Drug Testing, Background screening and fingerprinting required EEO/AA/VP

### Services 500

- Air Conditioners 505 Antiques 510 Appliances 515 Appliance Parts 520 Beauty Supplies 525 Bicycles 530 Books & Magazines 535 Building Materials 540 Business Equipment 545 Carpets/Rugs 550 Children's Items 555 China, Glassware, Etc. 560 Clothing 565 Coins/Stamps 575 Collectibles 575 Computer/Video 580 Crafts/Supplies 585 Cruises 590 Drapes, Linens & Fabrics 595 Fireplace Fixture 600 Firewood 610 Furniture 615 Furs 615 Health & Reducing Equipment 620 Heating Equipment/Supplies 625 Household Items 630 Jewelry 635 Lamps/Lights 640 Luggage 645 Medical Items 650 Miscellaneous 655 Musical Instruments 660 Office Supplies/Equipment 665 Pets/Supplies/Services 670 Photography 675 Plumbing Supplies 680 Pools & Supplies 685 Restaurant Equipment 690 Satellite 695 Sewing Machines 700 Sporting Goods 705 Stereo Equipment 710 Television/Radio 715 Tickets 720 Tools 725 Toys & Games 730 VCRs 735 Wanted to Buy 740

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### Antiques 0510

COUCH, newly reupholstered, sage green with a light blue stripe \$900 (863)763-8956

### Appliances 0515

SMALL REFRIGERATOR - Haier, 3 cu ft, like new, all manuals, paid \$91 sell for \$60 (863)763-0853

### Bicycles 0530

BOYS BIKE - Boys 12" red bike with training wheels. In great condition. In LaBelle \$15. (239)691-9121

### Books & Magazines 0535

NEW - Hardback Patricia Cromwell book Scarpetta \$15.00 (863)763-7165

### Building Materials 0540

FRENCH DOOR 36" - Brand new 36"x80" Maple wood Glass french door. \$100/neg. (863)357-2611

METAL ROOFING. 40yr Warranty-Buy direct from manufacturer 30/colors in stock, w/all accessories. Quick turn around. Delivery available. Gulf Coast Supply & Mtg. (888)393-0335 www.Gulf-CoastSupply.com

OVER THE fridge cabinet - 36"x12" natural solid oak over the fridge cabinet. \$30/neg. (863)357-2611

STAIR GLIDE STAIR LIFT - 15 ft, Rail - new power cord, new seat \$1500 Call (863)467-2482

### Children's Items 0555

CRIB SET (POOH) - 10 piece + free toys, everything great cond. call for info \$80. (843)271-0733

FISHER PRICE CRADLE SWING - Pd 150\$ Swings 2 ways, 6speeds +A LOT MORE! \$80. (910)546-2367

HUGE STUFFED animals - 30" Elmo, 42" Eeyore, 28" & 30" Bears. Like New (Okee area) \$20/will sep. (863)763-6131

LITTLE TIKES basketball/hoop set, musical sit-n-spin, play-doh table - Excel Cond, Okee \$40/will sep. (863)763-6131

POOH SWING - Days of hunny infant swing. Like new, must see paid \$110 asking \$50. (843)271-0733

### Clothing 0565

CLOTHING - Girls' pageant dresses. White, size 10 slim and Fuscina size 12 slim. \$150. (863)558-0085

LADIES suits, dresses & pantsuits sz 14 to 3X. also tops, pants & shorts sz med & up. \$200 or sill separate (863)763-7165 or 697-0206

### Collectibles 0575

ARIZONA CARDINALS 8x10 Upper Deck certified autograph by Antrel Rolle - \$45. (239)590-5721

ARIZONA CARDINALS Larry Fitzgerald Certified Jersey Card 39/50. - \$55. (239)590-5721

FOOTBALL CARDS - 3000 + cards in box/great gift \$60. (863)634-2131

PORCELAIN CHRISTMAS village - and accessories \$700/will sep. (863)467-0290

COMPUTER - Dell P4, 1GB Ram, DVD RW, New "19 LCD! Call Tony \$299. (863)517-2782

COMPUTER - Fast Dell Desktop, XP loaded Call Jose \$125. (561)261-1772

COMPUTER SCREEN - COMPAQ 10" COMPUTER SCREEN \$20. (863)261-2511

### Furniture 0610

BEDS (2) - Complete, full size, new sheets/bedspread & 2 electric blankets, \$250/will sep. Call 863-357-6229

DINING ROOM Table - Beautiful 42x42 table with extension plus 4 matching chairs. \$200. (863)675-3516

DINING TABLE - Round wood/iron table w/4 chairs. anytime \$150. (863)634-4945

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER-HOLDS 36" TV. - 53" wide, 3 shelves, light color \$50. (863)467-2456

GLASS TABLE - white iron & glass table & 4 chairs on casters. LaBelle \$50. (836)675-2653

LEATHER COUCH & SEAT - good quality, antique rose, smaller size for smaller living room \$300 (863)675-4098

L-SHAPE SECT. - off white, w/teal/beige throw pillows. Sm Enter Ctr, holds 32" TV \$250 neg. (863)675-6422

NEW FURNITURE FOR LESS!! DRIVE A LITTLE SAVE A LOT

Lamps \$17. 100 Barstools \$39 up, 50 Desks \$97 up, 3Pc Dropleaf Dinette \$197, 50 Table and 4 Chairs \$397 up, 200 Recliners \$297 up, 50 2pc Sofa & Loveseat sets \$687 up, 50 TV Ent. Centers \$167 up, 2 Pc Queen Bed set \$297 up, 50 4Pc Bedroom sets \$387 up, 3Pc Livingroom tables \$97 up, 100 headboards \$79 up.

HIGHPOINT FURNITURE OUTLET STORE 2346 U.S. 27 N Sebring, FL (Next to Lowe's & across from Home Depot)

OFFICE CHAIRS - 2, large wingback, brown leather, good condition \$25 each (863)467-4537

ROCKING CHAIR - Wood and wicker. LaBelle \$20. (863)517-1663

SINGLE BED bedroom sets (2) - with chest of drawers & dresser with mirror, new mattress covers, sheets and blankets all included. \$200. (863)467-0234

SLEEPER-COUCH - 1yr old Black cloth.Good condition-call before 9 pm leave message \$400. (863)763-8562

SOFA SLEEPER - Queen size, excellent condition very clean \$150 or best offer. (863)357-7065

WHITE WOOD queen/full headboard only in good condition. - \$75 or best offer. (863)357-6315

WOODEN Ent center, couch, loveseat, end table, lamp, coffee table, all for \$775 or sperate (863)634-3859

### Golf Clubs/Equipment 0618

GOLF CLUBS - 4 sets, 1 left handed, metal woods, irons, putter, bag, balls, \$390 will sell sep. (863)946-3123

### Guns/Supplies 0619

12 GAUGE side/side - Stevens 12 gauge 18.5 double barrel from 1970s \$375/neg. (954)933-6864

MAK 90 - includes 20 mags and 1200 rnds. \$1200/neg. (863)673-3893

### Health & Reducing Equipment 0620

GOLD'S GYM squat bar comes w/300 lb of weights & olympic bar. Excellent condition. \$900/neg. (863)697-1247

ORBITREK ELLIPTICAL - Exc. cond. tracks time, distance & spd. For home use. \$300 best offer. (863)697-1247

### Wanted To Buy 0740

We Buy Scrap Gold, Silver and Coins

Elliot's Pawn Shop 419 W S Park St • (863) 763-5553

### Heating Equipment/Supplies 0625

KEROSE

### Mobile Homes

**2000**

Mobile Home - Lots 2005  
 Mobile Home - Parts 2010  
 Mobile Homes - Rent 2015  
 Mobile Homes - Sale 2020

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### Mobile Home Rent 2015

**BEST VALUE IN TOWN!** For Rent: 2/1 unique Loft unit and/or 3/2 home. Both units newly remodeled. Located 12 minutes north of Okeechobee on Equestrian Ranch. Monthly water, trash & lawn maintenance included. No Pets! \$550 / \$650 - Move in special. M-F (863)467-2982

---

**HOTEL/MOTEL ALT.** - 2 Bdrm., 2 Ba., w/full kitchen, W&D, \$250 wk. \$300 sec. dep. (863)824-0981

---

**Kissimmee River Est.** - 2/1, 2 car gar on private lot \$550 per mo. + Dep 863-467-8062

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**MONTHLY \$999**  
 Waterfront, Clean & Quiet, Okeechobee's Nicest, 1 Bedroom & 2 Bedroom furnished & unfurnished (772)215-0010  
 KIB'S FISH CAMP

---

**OKEECHOBEE ON RIM CANAL** - 2br, 2ba, nice large yard. Small pet okay. \$850/mo. (863)467-6309

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**WATERFRONT.** 2br/1ba, completely furnished, non smk. env., no pets \$600 mo. + 1st & sec. 772-285-5856

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**Mobile Home Sale 2020**

**ADULT PARK** in Okeechobee. 8'x24' w/10'x20' attached family rm. 8'x8'6" Shed w/W&D. \$4000 863-381-7835

---

**BANK REPO'S MOVE TO YOUR LAND**  
 Mobile Home Angles 561-721-2230

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**Double Wide Mobile Home** - 55' x 23' w/ fireplace, no title, you move \$1000 OBO (863)357-3567 After 5pm

---

**DOUBLEWIDE TRAILER** - 3BR, walk-in closets, 2BA, den, LR, DR, appls, ceiling fans, roof-over, covered front/back porches, CA/H, fenced back yard, pole barn, 2 car driveway, 1 car carport, located at 4232 SE 22nd Court, Treasure Island, \$95,000 863-467-7911 or for app.

---

**FLEETWOOD 1999** - 16x70, 3BR, 2BA. Great condition. \$13,000 or best offer. (772)233-9863

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**55+ La Belle, Florida**  
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 Classic Cars 4015  
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 Construction Equipment 4030  
 Foreign Cars 4035  
 Four Wheel Drive 4040  
 Heavy Duty Trucks 4045  
 Parts - Repairs 4045  
 Pickup Trucks 4050  
 Sport Utility 4055  
 Tractor Trailers 4060  
 Utility Trailers 4065  
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**Commercial Trucks 4020**

**Tires** - 6 245/70 R 19.5 6K miles \$850. OBO (863)697-9713

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**Pickup Trucks 4050**

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### Public Notices

**5000**

**Public Notice 5005**  
**State Public - Legal Notice 5500**

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**Public Notice 5005**

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**Change in School Board Meeting Date**

The regular meeting of the Okeechobee County School Board for November will take place on Tuesday, November 18, 2008, at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of this meeting is the annual reorganization of the School Board and consideration of regular School Board business. The meeting will be held in Room 303 of the School Board Administrative Office located at 700 S.W. 2nd Avenue. The meeting is open to the public.

Patricia G. Cooper, Ed.D.  
 Superintendent of Schools  
 297148 ON 11/7, 14/08

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**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION**  
 File No.: 08-CP-217  
 Division Probate

IN RE: ESTATE OF CHARLES B. ARRANTS  
 Deceased.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

The administration of the estate of Charles B. Arrants, deceased, whose date of death was April 30, 2008, is pending in the Circuit Court for Okeechobee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 312 NW Third Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is November 7th, 2008.

Personal Representative:  
 Beverly A. Arrants  
 2095 SW 28th Avenue  
 Okeechobee, Florida 34974

Attorney for Personal Representative:  
 Elizabeth Maxwell  
 Attorney for Beverly A. Arrants  
 Florida Bar No. 210895  
 Maxwell & Maxwell, P.A.  
 405 NW 3rd Street  
 Okeechobee, FL 34972  
 Telephone: (863) 763-1119  
 Fax: (863) 763-1173  
 299456 ON 11/7, 14/08

---

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION**  
 File No. 08-CP-208  
 Division Probate

IN RE: ESTATE OF ROAN CLARK MATTSON  
 Deceased

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

The administration of the estate of ROAN CLARK MATTSON, deceased, whose date of death was August 17th, 2008, and whose Social Security Number is 594-90-3024, is pending in the Circuit Court for Okeechobee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 312 Northwest Third St, Suite 125, Okeechobee, FL 34972. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is November 14th, 2008.

Personal Representative:  
 TRISTIA MATTSON  
 1375 N.E. 80th Avenue  
 Okeechobee, FL 34974

SWANEY & HARRIS, P.A.  
 Attorneys for Personal Representative  
 401 Dal Hall Boulevard  
 Lake Placid, FL 33852  
 Telephone: (863) 465-2811  
 Florida Bar No. 278629  
 300507 ON 11/14, 21/08

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**NOTICE OF SALE To Satisfy Owners Lien**

70 West Sell Storage  
 2190 SR70 West  
 Okeechobee, FL 34972  
 Sat. November 22, 2008 @ 9:30 AM

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The 19th Judicial Circuit is offering an Invitation to Negotiate for Digital Court Recording. Information is available on our website [www.court19.org](http://www.court19.org) or through Court Administration, 250 NW Country Club Drive, Suite 217, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, 772-807-4386. Deadline for submission is December 12, 2008 @ 2:00 PM. 300663 ON 11/14/08

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The 19th Judicial Circuit is offering an Invitation to Negotiate for Spanish Language Interpreter. Information is available on our website [www.court19.org](http://www.court19.org) or through Court Administration, 250 NW Country Club Drive, Suite 217, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, 772-807-4386. Deadline for submission is December 12, 2008 @ 2:00 PM. 300664 ON 11/14/08

### Public Notice 5005

**NOTICE OF AN OKEECHOBEE COUNTY PLANNING BOARD / BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS AND APPEALS MEETING**

NOTICE: The Planning Board/Board of Adjustments and Appeals will hold their next regular meeting on **Tuesday, November 25, 2008 at 7:00 pm** in the Commission Meeting Room, Okeechobee County Health Department Auditorium, 1728 NW 9th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida. In the event that all items scheduled before the Board are not heard, the meeting shall be continued to Wednesday, November 26, 2008 at 7:00 pm in the Commission Meeting Room, Okeechobee County Health Department Auditorium, 1728 NW 9th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida.

ALL INTERESTED PARTIES SHALL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD AT PUBLIC HEARINGS. Any person deciding to appeal any decision by the Board of Adjustments and Appeals with respect to any matter considered at this meeting or hearing will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made and that the record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal will be based. Planning and Development tapes are for the sole purpose of backup for official records of the Department.

William D. Royce, Planning Director  
 300360 ON 11/14/08

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### STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NOTICE OF APPLICATION

The Department hereby announces the receipt of an application for a Lake Okeechobee Protection Permit pursuant to 373.4595(7), Florida Statutes, (File No. 0287326-001) by the South Florida Water Management District, 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, Florida 33406, for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Lakeside Ranch Stormwater Treatment Area (STA)-Phase I. The Lakeside Ranch STA-Phase I is a component of the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Construction Project-Phase II Technical Plan. The Project will include the construction, operation, and maintenance of three treatment cells, conveyance structures, L-63/L-64 Canal Improvements.

Lakeside Ranch STA North with its associated structures are located within a 2,700 acre parcel of land in southeastern Okeechobee and western Martin Counties adjacent to U.S. Highway 441 and U.S. Highway 98 east of Lake Okeechobee. The Lakeside Ranch STA North is located within Sections 19, 20, 29, 31, and 32, Township 38S, Range 37E, and Section 4, 5, and 6, Township 39S, Range 37E. The L-63/L-64 Canal Improvements and the access road to the inflow pump station are located with Sections 13 and 24, Township 37S, Range 36E.

This application is being processed and is available for public inspection during normal business hours, 8am to 5pm, Monday-Friday, except legal holidays, at the Department's Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration, Restoration Planning and Permitting Section, 2600 Blair Stone Road, Room 568C, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400, telephone (850) 245-8346. 300659 ON 11/14/08

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### TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Technical Review Committee of the City of Okeechobee will meet in Regular Session on **Wednesday, November 19, 2008, at 10:00 a.m.**, City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Rm 200, Okeechobee, Florida. The public is invited and encouraged to attend. A copy of the agenda will be available on our website [www.cityofokeechobee.com](http://www.cityofokeechobee.com), or contact the General Services Department (863) 763-3372 x 218.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE AND BE ADVISED that if any person desires to appeal any decision made by the Technical Review Committee with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, such interested person will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose may need to ensure a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Media are used for the sole purpose of back-up for the General Services Office.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Florida Statute 286.26, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Lane Garnotea, no later than two (2) working days prior to the proceeding at 863-763-3372 x 214; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call TDD 1-800-955-8770 (voice) or 1-800-955-8771 (TTY).

by: Brian Whitehall, City Administrator  
 Betty Clement, General Services Coordinator  
 298527 ON 11/14/08

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### REQUEST FOR BIDS

**LAWN MAINTENANCE CONTRACT**  
**KING'S BAY HOMEOWNERS ASSOC.**

Service Period: One (1) year, renewable upon mutual agreement.

Bids Accepted Through: December 23, 2008.

Instructions: Bids may be mailed to King's Bay Homeowners Assoc., 4466 SE 50th Ave., Okeechobee, FL 34974 or they may be hand delivered to drop box located on King's Bay Office door.

Service Requirements: This contract will be for full service lawn and tree maintenance of designated areas within King's Bay. Contract requires available at [www.kingsbay.com](http://www.kingsbay.com) or call our office for further information: (863) 763-3878. 298882 ON 11/14, 13, 23/08

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners will hold its regular session on **Thursday, November 20, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.** at the Health Department Auditorium, 1728 NW 9th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida.

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

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Florida Statute 286.26, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Lynn Shain or Betsy Sheffield, no later than two (2) working days prior to the proceeding at 863-763-3372, ext. 2100. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call TDD 1-800-222-3448 (voice) or 1-888-447-5620 (TTY).

Cliff Betts Jr., Chairman  
 Board of County Commissioners

Sharon Robertson, Clerk  
 Board of County Commissioners  
 300569 ON 11/14/08

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### CITY COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Okeechobee will meet in Regular Session on **Tuesday, November 18, 2008, 6:00 p.m.** at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Rm 200, Okeechobee, Florida. The public is invited and encouraged to attend. A copy of the agenda will be available on our website at [www.cityofokeechobee.com](http://www.cityofokeechobee.com), or contact City Administration at (863) 763-3372 x 212.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE AND BE ADVISED that if any person desires to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, such interested person will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose may need to ensure a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. City Clerk media are used for the sole purpose of back-up for the Clerk's Office.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Florida Statute 286.26, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Lane Garnotea, no later than two (2) working days prior to the proceeding at 863-763-3372 x 214; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call TDD 1-800-955-8770 (voice) or 1-800-955-8771 (TTY).

by: James E. Kirk, Mayor  
 Lane Garnotea, CMC, City Clerk  
 298524 ON 11/14/08

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### NOTICE OF HEARING

Okeechobee County Code Enforcement  
 Special Magistrate

The Okeechobee County Special Magistrate will hold a public meeting on Tuesday, November 18, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. The public meeting will be held at the Okeechobee County Health Department Auditorium, located at 1728 N.W. 9th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida. For more information, contact Faye Huffman at the Planning and Development Department, 499 N.W. 5th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34972. (863) 763-5549 ext. 3001.

All interested parties shall have the opportunity to be heard at this public meeting. Any person deciding to appeal any decision by the Code Enforcement Special Magistrate with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made and that the record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal will be based. Code Enforcement tapes are for the sole purpose of backup for official records of the Department.

Faye Huffman, Secretary to the Code Enforcement Special Magistrate  
 300587 ON 11/14, 16/08

### SUDOKU

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!

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

Level: Intermediate

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!

9	8	6	1	8	4	7	7	
4	1	2	9	9	8	6	6	
6	8	2	8	4	7	9	9	1
1	2	9	1	8	7	8	6	9
7	4	9	6	9	7	8	2	9
8	9	6	7	6	2	1	4	9
6	1	9	9	9	8	2	7	4
9	6	7	2	6	9	1	8	9
2	9	4	8	7	1	6	9	6

By Jack McInturf  
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# OHS volleyball season ends with regional semifinals game

By Charles M. Murphy  
 Okeechobee News

Okeechobee couldn't get over the hurdle that was Jensen Beach this year.

The Falcons defeated Okeechobee for the third time this year in three straight games to reach the Region 4 Class 4A final Tuesday night.

Jensen won 25-16, 25-16, and 25-19 to end Okeechobee's season.

"We got off to good starts in every game and actually had the lead, but they made big runs," Brahman Coach Jacque Robinson mentioned.

This will likely be Robinson's last match as Okeechobee Head Coach. She will be moving to Daytona Beach for personal reasons and won't be back as coach next year.

"There are no hard feelings. The girls understand. I would love to have had another year working with my girls because we have a great time together. My leaving wasn't planned," Robinson said.

Robinson came from Gainesville and brought the success of the Florida Gators with her. The former Gator volleyball player worked hard with the girls and they responded with their first visit to the state playoffs in five years.

Okeechobee (16-8) just couldn't get past the defending state champions.

"Jensen Beach is always tough. I think we did a really good job Tuesday night. They were better at the net and their blocks were the difference," Robinson stated.

Jensen improved to (25-4) and they will move on to play Fort Lauderdale Cardinal Gibbons on Saturday in Fort Lauderdale.

Monica Koger had 14 kills and 12 digs. Megan Clements had 20 digs, and Kari Berger had 24 assists to lead Okeechobee.

"We held our own for the most part, we started strong and we finished strong, its just we didn't have an answer for them in the middle of the match," Robinson added.

The team got a lot of support from Okeechobee for this match. Many of the player's parents, and siblings attended along with casual fans and school administrators.

# Memorial bowling benefit held



Submitted photo/Bobbi Poole  
**McKayla Snow, Dawn's 11 year old daughter, opened the Dawn Snow Memorial Bowling Tournament.**



Submitted photo/Bobbi Poole  
**Elbert Snow is the organizer of the Dawn Snow Memorial Bowling Tournament, which raises money for a scholarship.**

Bowling tourney held to benefit Dawn Snow Scholarship fund

By Bobbi Poole

"Crack" that is the sound heard over and over from the bowling lanes for the Dawn Snow Memorial Scholarship Fund. Many teams were present helping to raise money for the next up and coming deserving nursing student

to receive it, along with the beautiful hand made beaded stethoscope.

Dawn's father, Elbert and his wife, Judy, are primarily responsible for managing this event each year, since Dawn passed away five years ago due to a tragic car accident.

Dawn's 11-year-old daughter, McKayla, threw the very first bowling ball down the lanes. She is the one who gives the scholarship away during the ceremonies at Okeechobee High School.

This annual bowling tournament is a family event, giving of themselves for a much missed daughter.

Many local businesses donated several lovely items to be given away during the course of this bowling tournament.

Many thanks to them. Los Cocos, Joey's Pizza, Kahootz, Golden Corral, Village Square, Beef O' Brady's, Badcock Furniture, Fantasy Lighting, The Clock Restaurant, Lunker's, Gladys', The Tropics Tanning, Oil Can, Kevin and Jennifer, Big Lake Eye Care, Best Buds Floral shop, 14 K Gold Store, Good Spirits, Countryside Cafe', Rhinestone Cowgirls, Elbert and Judy Snow, The Seminole Tribe.

# Murderer

Continued From Page 1

"No questions were asked if she was under investigation by the defense," he continued.

The prosecutor went on to state that once he found out about the warrant, he contacted Mr. Akins. Mr. Akins confirmed that action.

Mr. Albright also stated that he did not become aware of the arrest warrant until July of this year.

Under oath, Mr. Richardson testified that he was told by Mr. Albright in

July that Core had been arrested and that he was to handle the case like any other felony.

"He (Mr. Albright) made a mistake," said Judge Mirman. "It came to light after the trial and the state disclosed it on their own."

The judge said that he found no reason to believe Jones did not receive a fair trial and denied the motion for a new trial.

Jones killed Mr. Swint after a brief confrontation in the kitchen of the singlewide mobile home owned by Core where all three were living.

According to trail testimony, Jones and Core had first argued about him

smoking crack cocaine in her home. Then, after she had gone to bed, Jones began to complain about what she had said.

At some point, Mr. Swint got out of his bed and went to the small kitchen where Jones was sitting at a small table.

"Are you through bitchin'?" he asked Jones.

Jones then said "You want some of me ...?" and shot Mr Swint in the upper left abdomen.

# Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

<b>ACROSS</b>	<b>DOWN</b>	<b>ACROSS</b>	<b>DOWN</b>
1 Semimonthly tides	1 Chilly	35 Select, with "for"	49 100 bucks
2 Daily paper fare	2 Delo starter	36 Norms: Abbr.	50 "Fiddler on the Roof" matchmaker
3 Hull projection	3 Aeon of "Purple Noon"	38 Removed, as a bargain from a bill	51 Actor's dream
4 Relative acquired at the altar	4 Pilot or Treo maker	39 Bargain with the D.A.	52 Words on a cereal box
5 Memorial	5 Climbing legume	44 U.K. record label	54 "Comin' ___ the Rye"
6 Across item	6 ___ Dame	45 Jet traveler's affliction	55 Coarse file
7 The left one is for passing	7 Online novel	47 Stood up	56 IHOP drinks
8 "Positive thinking" advocate	8 Thin trail of smoke	48 San Francisco NFLer	57 French king
9 Napoleon's second exile isl.	9 Napoleon's second exile isl.		
10 Clumsy sort	10 Clumsy sort		
11 Simple	11 Simple		
12 Finish	12 Finish		
13 Grazing expanse org.	13 Grazing expanse org.		
21 Paid player	21 Paid player		
22 Ipanema's city	22 Ipanema's city		
26 Hit back, say	26 Hit back, say		
27 Knights' women	27 Journalist		
28 Journalist			
	Kupcinet and sportscaster		
	Cross		
	29 Retold stories		
	31 Starts to receive customers		
	32 Largest Greek island		
	33 Like fast Internet connections		
	34 Richard of "Chicago"		

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**

S	T	P	E	T	E	R	F	A	T	C	A	T					
A	I	R	T	O	A	I	R	S	T	E	R	O					
C	L	E	A	N	P	Y	O	U	R	O	O	M					
S	E	E	D	E	E	R	I	R	O	N	S						
M	O	P	E	R	B	A	S	I	N	S							
L	A	P	S	E	P	I	C	K	S								
A	T	H	E	L	E	A	S	T	R	A	G						
B	R	E	A	K	I	N	T	O	A	S	M	I	L	E			
S	A	D	E	V	E	N	S	T	E	V	E	N					
			S	E	T	I	N	E	R	E	C	T					
			E	N	A	M	O	R	O	S	T	E	R				
			S	T	O	L	I	O	T	R	A	B	O	X			
			W	H	O	S	G	O	N	N	A	M	A	K	E	M	E
			A	N	K	A	R	A	S	N	O	W	E	D	I	N	
			P	O	S	S	E	S	G	A	N	G	S	T	A		

cern about the intensity of the development and the impact on nearby River Bend Mobile Home Park. He preferred light commercial to protect adjoining neighbors.

Sandy and Ann Brown, who live on

# OHS Brahmans to battle Clewiston Tigers

**By Charles M. Murphy**  
Okeechobee News

Two playoff teams will do battle tonight in Clewiston and both expect to treat this as another playoff game.  
Clewiston Coach Joe Roth said this team would love to enter the playoffs on a winning note.  
"We just feel Okeechobee is a great team and if we play well and get a win, we'll feel good about the playoffs and with beating a good team," he said. "Okeechobee is impressive."

Okeechobee has won only once in Clewiston (7-2) but they did walloper the Tigers last year, 48-20. This year, the Tigers have improved while Okeechobee has kept a high standard.  
"Clewiston is much improved," Okeechobee Coach Chris Branham said, "They are fast and aggressive on defense. They are back to their old form."  
Key players for the Tigers are running back Darris Hughes who has rushed for 1,666 yards and 16 touchdowns. There QB Isandro

Marquez has thrown for 571 yards and five touchdowns.  
Okeechobee counters with Lonnie Pryor who has rushed for 2,014 yards and 18 touchdowns. QB Garrett Madrigal has thrown for 1,066 yards and 15 touchdowns.  
"It's a tough assignment for any defense to stop these backs," Coach Roth said. "For me personally any Big Lake game is a big rivalry game because of the history of Big Lake football."  
Leonard Newton and Alan

Trevino will lead the Tigers defense. Okeechobee's defense played much better last week as they had six takeaways against Jensen Beach. They also played much more aggressively. Coach Branham singled out Carson Williams and Curtis Everett for their efforts on defense last week.  
"We must get stops on defense. I think this will be a throw back game with two very physical teams playing for regional pride," Branham said, "This game means a lot to both teams. There is no better way to finish the season than with a rivalry game."  
Both coaches said they will play some underclassmen but will keep their starters in for most or all of the game. In other words, they aren't resting players for the

playoffs.  
"This will be a playoff atmosphere," Roth said, "We are going in to win and not sitting guys. We aren't thinking of the players. We want to get better every week."  
Clewiston faces Mulberry in the playoffs next Friday while Okeechobee travels to William T. Dwyer.  
Okeechobee (7-2) will be without Walt Fortner who has an ankle injury. Terrance Allen and Curtis Everett will split time in the secondary to replace Fortner. Pablo Cardenas will also be limited on the offensive line. Justin Conrad will start at offensive guard and Chris Tullio will start at center.  
Pryor is 197 yards shy of 5,000 yards for his career. The team is also 35 points shy of the school

record for points in a season that the Brahmans set last year.



## Scouting Report

Share your news and photos for this column by email to okeeneews@newszap.com

## Golf team celebrates success

**By Charles M. Murphy**  
Okeechobee News

Corey White earned the most valuable player award for the boy's golf team, while Paige Arnold took home the award for the girl's team Tuesday night at the annual Okeechobee High School Golf banquet.  
Mike Watson won the Brahman award for the boy's team and Emily Raulerson won the award for the girl's team.  
The Okeechobee Golf and Country Club, the KOA golf course, and Waldau Junior Golf were also honored for their assistance to the teams this year.  
Golf Coach Mark Ward praised both squads for their accomplishments this year. The boy's team reached the regional and was the runner up in their district this year. The girl's team was very young and even though they didn't win any matches, showed a lot of improvement during the season. Ward said the girls have potential and are good athletes.  
"If the girls go out like the

guys did and work at the KOA this summer, they have a chance to be special," Ward noted. There were four freshmen on the golf team this year.  
Members of the squad included Samantha Harrell, Taylor Fulford, Raychel Rabon, scholar athlete Emily Raulerson, Sarah Payne, Paige Arnold, and Shyanne Prescott.  
The boy's team continued their ascent to the top of the high school golf world. They showed improvement in the team scores from previous years. Ward predicted the boy's team could be the next squad to go to state if they continue the hard work.  
"The challenge is to go back and reach state. There is more pride in the team. If they work at it they could be the next team. I'm excited I think the guys are on track," he added.  
Members of the boy's team included Tyler Platt, Tony Devoss, Corey White, Austin Pluscott, Tim Gray, Michael Watson, Tyler Finney, Timmy Farrell, Richard Donegan, Devon Hartwell, Billy Childers and Justin Morgan.

Corey White was praised for his senior leadership this year. He explained he enjoyed having good golfers on the team this year that were dedicated to the game, "The team was very close. We had a lot of fun this year and all of the guys worked hard," he said. "I will definitely come back and watch these guys. They have a good start going for them."  
Bridget Waldau of Waldau Junior Golf said she enjoyed watching the players grow into good players. She also praised White for his leadership this year.  
"He has respect for his teammates and the game and the people around him. The team made us proud," she said.  
Waldau Junior Golf will hold their annual tournament this weekend at the Okeechobee Golf and Country Club. It will be a fundraiser for college scholarships and supports the local junior golf program.  
Next year Waldau said they will hold a pre golf season camp for both teams to prepare them for the upcoming season.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
Corey White (right) stands next to golf coach Mark Ward and shows off his MVP award.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
Emily Raulerson won the Brahman award for girl's golf with golf coach Mark Ward.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
Paige Arnold took home the most valuable player award for Lady Brahman golf.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
Michael Watson (right) poses with the Brahman award for boy's golf with coach Mark Ward.

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# Boy's basketball expects to use teamwork to win

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

Talent didn't get the Okeechobee High School Brahmans Basketball Team to where they wanted to be last year as they finished (11-16). This year they hope to use talent and more teamwork to get to the Promised Land.

Okeechobee opens up their schedule next week when they host a preseason tournament on Thursday and Saturday nights. Coach Jon Enrico said although he lost a lot of seniors, he is still optimistic and excited about his returning players.

Chief among them is 6'7" center David Jeune, who is being highly recruited by college programs. He noted his motto this year is go hard or go home.

"I feel pretty good about this season, were feeling pretty good," he said.

Jeune played a lot in the off season as part of the Florida Elite program. He travelled around the country and was a big reason why the squad went 52-6. Enrico thinks that experience will rub off on his younger players.

"They worked hard in the summer in the weight room, and they are one of the hardest work-

ing teams I've had," he said. Corey White will also return. He'll be counted on for scoring this year. In the past he played a power position inside. Now he can move to the outside where his solid jump shot can be an asset to the team.

"I'm looking forward to the season. This could be one of the best teams we've had here in a while," the coach continued. "This is a much better passing team. In the past we had stars who took the spotlight, now we have good passers and we should have balanced scoring."

The team suffered a set back when Ricky Nieto broke his leg in a freak accident. He is likely to miss the first few weeks of the season.

A wild card for this season will be Troy Harper a transfer from Port St. Lucie. His father played for Okeechobee High School and played football at the University of Kansas.

The team must apply with the Florida High School Athletic Association to find out if Harper will be eligible this year. They'll find out in early December.

Other players on the team will be Matt Skipper, Austin Willard,

Ryan Osceola, Aaron Suarez, Terrance Allen and Joey Voss.

The district will be tough again with Glades Central usually at the top. Other teams are Suncoast, Fort Pierce Westwood, Forest Hill, and Jensen Beach.

Enrico said he thinks Okeechobee can compete with all of those teams and finish in the top four in the district.

"We're always here to win and get a district title that's the first goal and the most important. The kids have set realistic goals for themselves and they want to win 20 games," he said.

The team will play in two holiday tournaments in December, the Kennel Classic in West Palm

Beach, and the Rock Hill Holiday Classic in Orlando.

Enrico said if the team works together and plays smart, they can compete with most teams, "We've averaged 14 wins per year over the past three years. We will have more continuity on offense and will share the basketball, find the open man, and play a lot smarter than before," he said.

Jeune echoed those sentiments. He said he has some high goals for himself and the team this year.

"I want to be the best player in the area. We're more of a team this year. We work together and do everything together. We are more of a family."



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
Matt Skipper drives to the basket during a recent boys hoops practice.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
David Jeune battles underneath with Matt Skipper during a recent practice.

# Girl's basketball opens with a victory in Sebring

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

It was quickness against size, and quickness won.

The Okeechobee High School Girls Basketball team opened their season with an exciting 48-46 victory over the host school Tuesday night at the Sebring Pre-Season Tip-Off Classic in Highlands County.

Okeechobee led all the way thanks to excellent performances by Essence Williams, 20 points, and Dorothy Burkhardt, 19 points, but had to withstand a late Sebring charge to win.

"They were a very good team, we just had quickness, and built enough of a lead to hold them

off," Coach Anthony Sherlock said. His team was out rebounded 40-10, but had a huge edge in steals and turnovers.

"I wouldn't want to play them again, they are a good team," he added.

Williams opened her varsity career with an excellent effort. Her two free throws were the final two points of the game.

Okeechobee built as much as a 14 point lead but watched Sebring claw back to tie the game at 39 with just over four minutes remaining. From there it was back and forth.

Hannah Shoop led Sebring with 14 points.

Okeechobee's first home game is Nov. 24.

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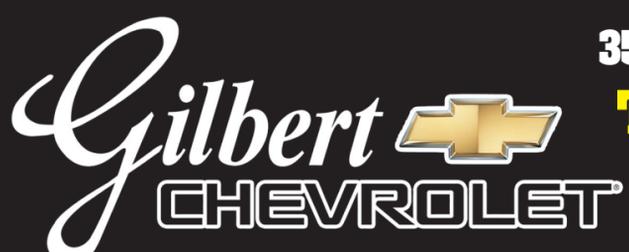
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