



OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 99 No. 270

Sunday, October 26, 2008

75¢ Plus tax

Briefs

Kids Fishing tournament today

The 23rd Annual Kids Day Fishing Tournament will be sponsored by the Taylor Creek Bass Club on Oct. 26 at the Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center from 1 to 3 p.m. The tournament is free and open to children ages 4 to 14. The event is sponsored by the Taylor Creek Bass Club.

OHS reunion - 1950 through 1959

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

Moose Lodge sells 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.

Drought Index

Current: 496
Source: Florida Division of Forestry
Local Burn Ban: None

Lake Levels

14.88 feet
 Last Year: 10.20 feet

Sponsored By:

Pogey's Family Restaurant
 1759 S. Parrott Ave.
 763-7222

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

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Amendment 2 defines marriage

Fourth in a series

By Chauna Aguilar
 Okeechobee News

Of the six amendments to the Florida Constitution on the ballot for the general election, Amendment 2, entitled the Florida Marriage Protection Amendment has received the most attention from citizens in Florida after the other controversial education amendments were taken off the ballot.

A summary of the amendment from the Florida League of

Cities reads that "Amendment 2 would place into the Florida Constitution language that defines "marriage" as "the legal union of only one man and one woman." The amendment would further prohibit the state from recognizing any other legal union that is treated as marriage or the equivalent of such a relationship."

This amendment was proposed by a citizen initiative by means of a petition and is sponsored by the Florida4Marriage.org.

Other Supporters are the

Florida Family Association and www.yes2marriage.org.

Opponents to Amendment 2 include the Florida Red and Blue, Florida American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) of Florida, Unitarian Church, Florida Professional Firefighters, and generally the gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and trans-gender community, and www.sayno2.com.

According to the Florida League of Cities, arguments for the amendment are as follows:

- Marriage must be defined as the union of one man and one woman in the Florida Constitution because the courts could one day rule that Florida laws defining marriage are unconstitutional;
- Amendment 2 does not prevent the government or private companies from providing certain employee benefits.

Arguments against Amendment 2 are as follows:

- Amendment 2 would limit the rights of domestic partnerships and their ability to share health-care and pension benefits;
- Amendment 2 is an unnecessary intrusion into the private lives of Floridians;
- Amendment 2 allows the government to make decisions that are best left to individuals and their families; and
- Same sex marriage is already illegal in Florida law.

According to a press release See **Marriage** — Page 2

These horses need homes: And love



Maggie, a 14 year old thoroughbred who suffered from severe neglect needs a good home. However, due to the condition of her health it will be a while before she is able to be adopted.

Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

Local horse rescue seeks adoptive homes for equines

By Pete Gawda
 Okeechobee News

Horses are among the victims of the current economic crisis.

Horse owners are feeling the pinch of problems with the economy and the rising cost of animal feed. The price of corn rose sharply in the past two years due to the use of corn for ethanol production. Other grains also became more expensive when more farm land was switched to production of corn for ethanol.

Some folks who simply can no longer afford to care for their horses are surrendering them to horse rescue and horse adoption groups.

The maintenance of a horse can cost \$75 to \$100 a month. It has become more difficult to sell horses, as more horse owners put their animals up for sale.

With feed bills rising, more and more people are surrendering their horses to horse rescue organizations such as the one run by Sue Bonham in Viking properties.

"They are a product of our environment," Mrs. Bonham said of the horses. "We have made them dependent on us."

Mrs. Bonham has been keeping rescue horses for about one year. Before that she worked -- and still works -- with a friend who has a horse rescue organization in Fellsmere. Together they have placed more than 100 horses in new homes.

She does it out of the goodness of her heart and love of the animals. Some people surrender their horses voluntarily when they see they cannot properly care for them. Some horses are surrendered after threats of turning the owners over to animal control for animal cruelty.

"The most important thing is attention, they feel they can't trust people," she said of horses that have been mistreated by humans.

Mrs. Bonham's goal is to have unwanted horses adopted. The adoptions are free. The person wishing to adopt must

See **Horses** — Page 13

IRS has unclaimed money for some local residents

Refund checks returned as undeliverable

The U.S. Internal Revenue Service has recently released lists of names of persons whose income tax refund checks as well as in some cases, government stimulus checks have been returned as undeliverable. These funds have been sent to "dead mail" with no one to claim them.

Seventy-five Okeechobee County residents were listed by the IRS as residents of the

county, at least when they filed for their income taxes for 2007. The average amount of each of the local checks is \$525 with a total amount for the county of \$29,907.

The names and zip codes listed below should contact the IRS to collect their refund/stimulus checks.

- Abueqab, Ali, N. - 34974
- Alderman, Cynthia G. - 34972
- Bass, Crystal L. & Bruce - 34972
- Bass, Nathan R. & Causetta L. - 34974
- Benites, Pedro - 34972

- Brown, Molly S. - 34974
- Burton, Amanda N - 34974
- Carranza-Ugalde, Candelario - 34972
- Chavez, Manuel - 34972
- Chivari, Edward - 34972
- Conn, Jarelle N. - 34974
- Crosby, Joe G. Sr. - 34974
- Crum, Andy D. - 34974
- Curry, Jody M. - 34974
- Draughon, John D. - 34974
- Ekstein, Daniel J. - 34974
- Elder, Joshua - 34972
- Faison, Derrion V. - 34972
- Ores, Jose - 34972
- Fonseca, Ayana - 34974
- Fox, Michelle A. - 34974

See **IRS** — Page 2

Schools plan Veterans Day observances

By Chauna Aguilar
 Okeechobee News

Students in the Okeechobee County School district will be attending school on Tuesday, Nov. 11, Veterans Day due to the make-up day that was approved by the school board at their meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 9.

Make-up days due to Tropical Storm Fay were scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 11, and Wednesday, Nov. 26. Two school days were missed due to Tropical Storm Fay which required shelters to open in two of the district schools on the second and third days of school. These days were previously scheduled off for Veterans

Day and a Fall Break Day prior to Thanksgiving respectively.

There has been some community concern about the students attending school on Veterans Day, rather than having the day off to be able to attend ceremonies to honor veterans.

Veteran Ricky Greene was injured in the current war. "This is a disgrace to all that have been in the war and are in the war and those with family and/or friends in the war," he stated. "This holiday should be recognized and honored."

School officials counter that while Veterans Day should defi-

See **Veterans** — Page 2

Horner wants lower taxes less government

By Eric Kopp
 Okeechobee News

"I think the less government in people's life the better," said Mike Horner, the Republican candidate for the District 79 House of Representatives seat being vacated by Frank Attkisson.

Mr. Horner will be facing Okeechobee County resident Ray O. Worley (D) for the seat

in the Nov. 4 election. District 79 consists of Osceola, Okeechobee and a portion of Polk counties.

The Osceola County resident said he's also against more taxes and wants to see illegal immigrants handled more sternly.

Mr. Horner, a husband and father of a young son, said in an interview that one of the first

See **Horner** — Page 13



Submitted photo/Teresa Chandler

Teen dance

Don Patel, Pier II Resort hosted the teen dance organized by Teresa Chandler on Oct. 19. Teens enjoyed hip hop music, pizza, soda and smoothies. Games included a hoola hoop and "wrap your partner in tissue" contests. Over 80 children attended raising close to \$500. All proceeds will benefit the American Red Cross. A special thank you to local businesses for their generous support: Publix, Dominos Pizza and Ding-A-Ling Deli. Thanks also goes to DJ Billy Dean and all of the volunteers who made it run smoothly! For more information on future local fundraiser events, please call 863-697-6819.

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Marriage

Continued From Page 1

by the League of Women Voters of Florida, they oppose the "so-called Florida Marriage Protection Amendment," because it would: (1) Prohibit all domestic partnerships (between opposite sex and same sex partners), as well as gay marriage; (2) Discriminate against life partners who wish to enjoy the legal, economic and administrative benefits of a legally recognized relationship but cannot or do not wish to marry; (3) Contravene accepted League of Women Voters principles of social, economic and health justice. They go on to explain that "the language of the 'Marriage Protection' amendment precludes recognition of any legal union that is 'treated as marriage or the substantial equivalent thereof' other than heterosexual marriage. By its terms, this language prohibits legal recognition of both gay marriage and any form of domestic

partnership, whether between persons of the same or opposite sex."

President Dianne Wheatley-Giliotti states that "The League of Women Voters has held that no person or group should suffer legal, economic or administrative discrimination. The League of Women Voters of Florida believes that all life partners in Florida should be able to advocate for their loved ones in health care settings and participate in end-of-life decisions. By prohibiting recognition of any legal union that is treated as marriage or its substantial equivalent, the so-called 'Marriage Protection' amendment would prevent this."

Vice-President Terry A. Coble stated, "The League believes that our government should promote social and economic justice. Both marriage and domestic partnership confer significant economic and legal benefits. The 'Marriage Protection' amendment would prevent people from entering into private relationships that protect them economically and legally."

According to the Yes2Marriage.org web-site, "Amendment 2 does one thing and one thing alone. It defines marriage as the union of one man and one woman, but it does not prohibit the government or private companies from extending benefits to whoever they wish."

The site goes on to explain that the Florida Supreme Court has ruled that Amendment 2 concerns the "single subject" of marriage and simply takes the existing state marriage law and places it into the constitution having similar effect. "Most amendments do something new. Amendment 2 does nothing new but simply protects something long-standing, something precious, and something beautiful," says the Yes2-Marriage organization.

The organization states that due to actions such as in Massachusetts and in California, where activist judges have re-written marriage laws and ignored the will of the people by legalizing same sex marriages, now there is a national movement to do this

all over the country which is why 27 states have passed state constitutional amendment to protect marriage.

Also, in the next six months, four of the seven members of the Florida Supreme Court will be replaced by Governor Charlie Crist completely changing the make up of the Florida high Court. What happened in California could easily happen here in Florida over the next year according to proponents of this amendment. Amendment 2 protects the definition of marriage from activist judges.

Proponents of the amendment also believe that Amendment 2 does not take away any rights or benefits from Florida's domestic partnerships or any other shared living arrangement. They explain that homosexuals already have full contract rights under Florida law and access to estate planning tools just as every other citizen. Amendment 2 does not affect these existing rights.

Source: www.Yes2Marriage.org; www.flcities.com; and www.lwvfla.org.

Veterans

Continued From Page 1

initely be honored as a holiday for our current, former and fallen Veterans, many times children are not an overwhelming presence at the official Veterans Day Ceremony in Veterans Park. By having school on this day, this allows children to be placed into the environment to learn about Veterans Day and its importance.

District schools are busy organizing events and creating displays to celebrate Veterans Day.

The Okeechobee High School will hold their Veterans Day program on Tuesday, Nov. 11. The program will be coordinated by the FFA Chapter and also includes the participation of the OHS JROTC Cadets.

Due to planning and scheduling the event prior to the scheduled change the Okeechobee Freshman Campus will hold their program at the R.O.C. on Friday, Nov. 14. They had previously scheduled the use of the facility prior to the make-up days being scheduled.

Yearling Middle School has their Veterans Day program scheduled for Monday, Nov. 10. Osceola will have a school-wide presentation of a DVD on Tuesday, Nov. 11, that they received from Veterans Affairs in Washington D.C.

North Elementary School is creating a school-wide display made up of forms that students have filled out to tell about a person they know who has served in the armed forces. They will be

able to add pictures, branch of service, etc.

South Elementary School is also honoring friends and family members of their students by placing their names on red, white and blue hands and creating a display in the cafeteria as a salute to all Veterans. Individual classrooms are also doing other activities such as learning about symbolism of flags, reading "Someone to Thank" and other projects.

SES will also have a short play which will be put on by the South Singers and the Student Council on Veterans Day at 2:10 p.m. in the courtyard for the entire school.

Central Elementary School is also taking part in honoring the family members of their students who are Veterans by inviting them to lunch and adding their names to red, white and blue stars to be placed on their "Hero's Wall of Honor." The Student Council will also offer a special tribute on the morning news.

Everglades Elementary School will have their Veterans Day Program at 2:15 p.m. on Veterans Day. Seminole Elementary School will hold their Veterans Day pro-

gram which is conducted by their Student Council officers and their music teacher and guidance counselor. During the program students read poems, sing songs and hold a moment of silence for fallen Veterans.

Parents are also generally invited to these programs at the schools so that they too can show their support to their children on Veterans Day.

According to the Veterans Affairs web site, "because there is no legal requirement that schools close on Veterans Day, individual states or school districts are free to establish their own policies on school closings. Most schools that do not close for Veterans Day schedule assemblies or other activities to honor America's veterans on Veterans Day and throughout the week that includes Veterans Day."

According to the Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Ken Kenworthy, districts are required to provide 180 days of instruction causing the need to designate make-up days. Sept. 1, was also designated as a holiday, however, being within two weeks of the storm the Superintendent did not

have time to seek official permission from the Board to alter the calendar to utilize that day as a make-up day.

The make up days needed to be scheduled in the first semester to meet the number of instructional hours for one half credit according to Mr. Kenworthy. The semester ends on Dec. 19. Extending the semester would have caused students to return after the winter break to face final examinations. The district officials felt it was not a sound instructional practice to subject students to exams when they were out of school for seven-teen days.

Also, Winter Break is not just for students and families to have a break from school. It is also necessary for maintenance work to be done as well as deep cleaning of carpets, waxing floors, and other jobs that cannot be done when students are present.

Okeechobee Forecast

Today: A 30 percent chance of showers, mainly before 2pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 78. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 59. Calm wind becoming northwest around 5 mph.

Extended Forecast

Monday: Sunny, with a high near 81. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 51. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 74. North northwest wind around 10 mph.

Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 47. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 75. North northwest wind around 5 mph.

Lotteries

Florida Lottery — Here are the numbers selected Friday AM in the Florida Lottery: **Cash 3:** 8-7-5; **Play 4:** 2-3-9-2; **Mega Money:** 2-36-42-43 MB 20; **Fantasy 5:** 1-2-19-24-31. Numbers selected Friday PM in the Florida Lottery: **Cash 3:** 3-7-4; **Play 4:** 4-5-7-2.

Brahman Theatre

Oct. 24th thru Oct. 30th

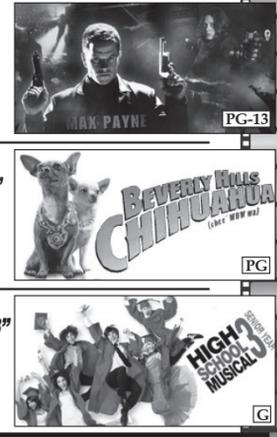
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THEATRE II
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Fri. @ 7:00 & 9:00. Sat., Sun. & Wed. @ 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00. Mon., @ 3:00 & 7:00. Tues. & Thurs. @ 7:00 & 9:00.

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



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

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Okeechobee News

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- Maynard, Gregory C. - 34974
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- Williams, Clinton C. Jr. - 34972
- Wilson, Robert E. - 34972

Local residents on the list or those who know where to get in touch with someone on the list, are asked to contact the IRS online at www.irs.gov or by phone at 1-866-234-2942 for Government Stimulus Checks or 1-800-829-1954 for income tax refund checks.

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Submitted photo/Toni Doyle

Local Mixer

This Month's Main Street Mixer was hosted by Annie's Consignment and Mike's Okeechobee Guns. Others at the event are Paulette Whipple, Gail Adams and Annie Gibbens of Annie's Consignment. Mike O'Connor of Mike's Okeechobee Guns, Main Street Executive Director, Toni Doyle, President, Maureen Burroughs, Dr. Trini Garcia and Maureen Budjinski enjoyed all the fun of this month's Main Street Mixer.

Local realtors gather for monthly meeting



Submitted photo

Local Broker/realtors gathered on Oct. 9, over breakfast to discuss the best way to help area sellers/buyers in the real estate crunch.

Okeechobee Brokers and Realtors gathered on Oct. 9, for their monthly breakfast meeting. The group has taken a proactive approach in representing local sellers and buyers. A comment form used at each of the local show-cased homes has begun to show some results. Those in attendance at the breakfast meeting included:

Vicki Anderson, Goolsby Realty Co., Julie Turner, United Country, Lori Mixon, Tucker Group, Velva Cannon, Exit Realty, Max Ayala, Preferred Properties, Carol Cooper, Chobee Realty, Kathy Lancaster, Chobee Realty, Kathy Godwin, Preferred Properties, Pat Goolsby, Goolsby Realty Co., Eric Anderson, Goolsby Realty Co., Barbara Yates-

Glover, Exit Realty, Jayla Townes, Preferred Properties.

Dave' to anchor 'Growl News'

Asha Dave', daughter of Rohit and Janet Dave' and lifelong resident of Okeechobee, will be anchoring this year's Growl News Live. GNL is a part of Gator Growl, the University of Florida's Homecoming pep rally. It is the largest student-run pep rally in the nation, and brings together over 60,000 Gator alumni, students and future Gators each year.



Asha Dave'

Gator Growl 2008: Road to the Swamp will feature the Steve Miller Band and comedian Jon Reep.

Asha is currently a junior at the University of Florida studying Telecommunications. She is also involved in the Baptist Collegiate Ministries and is Vice President of the National Broadcasting Society.

Asha was selected to anchor GNL out of over 60 hopefuls. She is excited and honored to anchor Growl News Live, Friday, Oct. 24 at 7 p.m. in The Swamp. Let the Gator Growl.

Births

Bryleigh Rhea Skelton

Lacey Bruner of Okeechobee and Cody Skelton of Chiefland are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Bryleigh Rhea Skelton.

She was born Sept. 30, 2008 at North Florida Regional in Gainesville. She weighed 8 lbs 1 ounce and was 20 1/2 inches long at birth.

Bryleigh was welcomed home by friends and family.

Maternal grandparents are: Pam and James Bruner of



Submitted photo

Bryleigh Rhea Skelton

Okeechobee.

Paternal grandparents are: Bill and Cindy Skelton of Chiefland.

Great grandparents are: Martha and Charlie Murphy (Old Town), Elsie and George Wix (Trenton) Phyllis Skelton (New York).

Bobby Allen Staton

Crystal Lynn Hayes and Charles Adam Staton are proud to announce the birth of their son Bobby Allen Staton.

He was born Oct. 19, 2008 at Martin Memorial in Stuart. He weighed 8 lbs 11 ounces and was 19 inches long at birth.

Bobby was welcomed home by his big brother, Marcus Austin Staton; Aunts, Sursha Ann Hayes, Allison Louise Hayes, and Kelly Staton; uncles, Donald Austin Hayes Jr., Kenneth Matthew Staton and Jason Marcus Staton; cousins, Shane, Jorden, Diego, Brandon, Jasmine, Serenity, Han-



Submitted photo

Bobby Allen Staton

na, Autumn and Jayla.

Maternal grandparents are: Helen Louse Hayes and Donald Austin Hayes Sr.

Paternal grandparents are: Vicki Hill-Staton and Marcus Lenard Staton.

Engagements

McDowell - Chance

Artley Curt and Deborah McDowell of Okeechobee are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter Brittney Dawn McDowell to Richard David Chance Jr. of Okeechobee.

The prospective groom is the son of Richard Chance and Dina Kay of Okeechobee.

The wedding is planned for Nov. 1, 2008 in Okeechobee.

The bride-to-be is a 2006 graduate of Okeechobee High School. She attends Indian River State College.

The groom is a 2002 graduate of Okeechobee High School. He



Submitted photo

Brittney Dawn McDowell and Richard David Chance, Jr.

attended Indian River State College. He is employed as a delivery driver with Southern Eagle Dis-

tributing. After the wedding the couple will reside in Okeechobee.

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CHOOSE LOVE

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

BIG LAKE HOSPICE has been a wonderful choice for my mother and us. Mother is able to continue living at home with the care she needs. They have done more than care for her, they have shown love and compassion for our whole family. Big Lake Hospice is not just about dying—it is more about living and coping with a terminal illness of someone you love.

-JuDeane Garrett
Daughter of Mary Helen

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After 20 Years in Okeechobee, GENE THOMPSON of THOMPSON JEWELERS is Retiring...

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Speak Out

Speak Out has moved online, where it is quicker and easier to share your ideas and converse with others. Go to www.newszap.com, click on the community name and your local or state Public Forum. There, you can create new topics or comment on existing topics. You can also e-mail comments to okeenews@newszap.com 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!

HALLOWEEN: Okeechobee has killed Halloween. Most people do not prepare for trick-or-treaters because they figure they will all go to the Ag center. Which is a total pain, standing in line to trick or treat. I was born in Miami, even there no kid ever got a razor blade in an apple, candy laced with drugs, or any of those urban legends you hear about. Do you think that something has changed that there are suddenly more child molesters looking to just grab kids off the streets out there now than there was 20-30 years ago? No, there are the same percentages we just hear about it more now. The information age. It is a shame that in a few years kids in Okeechobee will have no idea what trick-or-treating is.

HOLIDAY: There is an easy way to help bring back the fun of the Halloween holiday. If you want trick-or-treaters to come to your door, put a Jack O'Lantern out. If you don't want to carve one, you can get a plastic one that lights up. If the kids see a Jack O'Lantern, then they know they are welcome to trick-or-treat at your house. If they don't see one, they go on to the next house. And anyone who does not want to celebrate Halloween with trick-or-treaters, just don't put out a Jack O'Lantern. And when you run out of candy, or want to go to bed, blow out the candle or turn off the light.

FESTIVAL: I see no reason why we can't have the festival at the Agri-Civic Center and trick-or-treating too. Not everyone has transportation to go to the Agri-Civic Center. It's more fun to just walk around your own neighborhood. For those who don't have any houses close by, or if your neighbors don't celebrate Halloween, going to the festival is probably a better choice. Let each neighborhood and each family decide what they want to do.

ELECTORAL COLLEGE: My first beef with the Electoral College system is that it was created for a different time. As I said on another thread, the Founding Fathers created it as a fail-safe against the will of the people whom many feared could be too easily swayed. Originally, the Senators were also not directly elected by the people but rather by the state legislatures - again another example of the FF's wish to protect the elite and the good of the nation as they saw it. Strike one against democracy. Second, in most states the slate of electors do nothing more than vote for the candidate for whom they were chosen. They serve no purpose because they are usually picked by their loyalty to the party or the candidate. There has not been one election where the electors changed their vote to give it to another candidate. So that begs the question, why have them? Which leads to point three - the one I see as the biggest reason. We have had three elections in which the people's choice for president lost to the winner of the electoral college system -- 1876, 1888, 2000 because of the mathematical anomalies that exist within the system. The winner of the electoral college won because of an "error" existent in the system - not because the people wanted it that way. Strike two against democracy. Point 4. And what if no one reaches a majority of electoral votes? It goes to the House/Senate to decide, in other words, not to the people. These politicians then get to decide, based on party loyalty of course, who will be President/Vice President. There is no runoff. Strike three against democracy. Point 5. Candidates attempt to focus only on small segments of a state's population in order to win the state's electoral votes, leaving out many states and their respective populations which are seen as "solid" for one side or the other. This also allows a minority slice of a state's population to dominate the state's popular vote outcome. Strike four against democracy. Point 6. There are better alternatives out there that can ensure the people have their say.

A REPUBLIC: Emphatically, the Founding Fathers did not want and hoped to forever prevent the creation of a democracy in America. The merit of our Constitution is that it does not promote democracy, but checks it. Why? As Alexander Hamilton wrote in "The Federalist No. 15" - "the passions of men will not conform to the dictates of reason and justice, without constraint." They heeded the warning of the Roman statesman Cicero that without checks and balances, a monarchy becomes despotism, aristocracy becomes oligarchy, and democracy becomes mob rule, chaos and dictatorship. On May 31, 1787, Edmund Randolph told the members of the constitutional convention that their object was "to provide a cure for the evils under which the United States labored; that in tracing these evils to their origin every man found it in the turbulence and trials of democracy..." Likewise, Alexander Hamilton stated to the convention, "It has been observed that a pure democracy, if it were practicable, would be the most perfect government. Experience has proven that no position is more false than this. The ancient democracies in which the people themselves deliberated never possessed one good feature of government. Their very character was tyranny; their figure deformity." James Madison wrote: "...democracies have ever been spectacles of turbulence and contention; have ever been found incompatible with personal security, or the rights of property; and have in general been as short in their lives as they have been violent in their deaths." After having experienced the abuses of a monarchy followed by the abuses of democracy, it was the intent of the Founding Fathers to benevolently restrain the will of the people. They did so by placing checks upon democracy in the prescribed manner of choosing the representatives of the people. In the original Constitution, the members of the House of Representatives are chosen by the People; the members of the Senate by the state legislatures; and the President by the Electoral College. While all political power ultimately derived from the people, each branch of government answered to an essentially different constituency from that of the others, and was thus considered less liable to fall victim to the same errors, the same impulses, or the same corrupting influences. The word "democracy" does not even appear in either the Declaration of Independence or the U.S. Constitution. More so, Article 4, Section 4 of the Constitution states: "The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government." The Pledge of Allegiance likewise states "...and to the Republic for which it stands..."

SIDEWALKS: People complain about kids walking in the road. But there are no sidewalks. They are forced to walk in the road to get to the school bus stop. I think the county should require all new developments to include sidewalks, and also start a program to add sidewalks to all existing subdivisions. With the high price of gas, people will have to walk more, ride bikes, etc. Make sidewalks mandatory on all new subdivisions. Besides, a community just looks so much more inviting when there are sidewalks.

OBAMA: What Joe Biden said about Obama being tested in his first six months, and how things are going to happen that we won't like really bothers me. It's like he knows something that the rest of us don't and he's trying to send a message in code or something. I am really worried about what is going to happen to this country after this election.

COACHES: Regarding the comments on how the coaches dress at the games, when did Okeechobee get fashion police? Are these folks watching a little too much of the Bravo channel? Get over it and watch the game. The Brahmins are doing a great job. It's a football game, not a business meeting and not a fashion show. Go Brahmins!

TAX LOOPHOLES: I think it was great that Mr. Sherman has reclassified these 7 properties from ag exemption back to normal tax base. I do not know if you people realize it, but just the two properties on 441 SE have put more than a \$2 million back on the tax rolls. Now that the appraiser has set a precedent, I think it is our job as taxpayers to investigate any other properties in your area that are suspicious. The appraisers office does not have the time or man power to look into this problem. With the help of <http://www.okeechobeeopa.com> we can investigate any property. If we pitch in maybe the county can keep their high level of service and attract new employees with higher pay. Along the way we could possibly reduce our property taxes.

PROPERTY TAXES: I think it is great that we are seeing the system in action. Citizens pointed out the problem. The newspaper, tipped by the citizens, investigated and wrote articles, letting the community know what was going on. The newspaper readers, alerted to the problem, put pressure on their elected officials. The elected officials resolved the problem. This is not the time to stop. Keep research-

ing and when you find things that need to be investigated, post on newszap.com or email Mr. Gawda at the newspaper or both. We all know that due to the economy, the paper had to cut back on the number of editions they print each week. But they have shown that they will go after important issues like this with a little help from the community.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME: In 2008, daylight time begins on March 9 and ends on Nov. 2.

AMENDMENT 1: Back in the day, when Chinese immigrants were being brought in to do things like build our railroads, they were told they would never be eligible for citizenship. Folks wanted to be sure they wouldn't stick around, so they passed laws that said that anyone who is ineligible for citizenship could never own real property (real estate). Every other state in the nation has either removed their similar law or amended their constitution to get rid of it. It has never been enforced against anyone but Chinese, and has not been enforced in the last hundred years or so. It's embarrassing to be the only state in the nation with such a stupid rule. It has absolutely nothing to do with today's immigration policies. The amendment deserves a Yes vote.

GREEN MARKET: Okeechobee Main Street's Farmer's Market is up and running. Every Thursday from November through April. So make plans to attend. The time is from 4 - 7 p.m. So stop by Flagler Park to shop for your fresh vegetables, honey, fresh seafood, fresh squeezed orange juice and a variety of other items. If you are hungry, we have some terrific conch fritters, seafood dinners, Seminole pumpkin bread and much more. So get in your car and join us and your neighbors in the park and shop. If you would like to participate in the Farmer's Market please call OKMS 863-357-MAIN.

JOBS GONE: Day by day America is sinking, everybody want's riches -- a big home they can not afford, new cars, living above our means, and then when we hit bad times, the very rich oil, banks, mortgage companies are not making big profits, start crying, and who do they ask for help? The working class -- the ones they have been ripping off, and do we have any say in the outcome? No.

BAILOUT: I don't know why they are blaming McCain for the bailout of the banks. Obama voted for it too. The Democrats and the Republicans did that together.

ELECTORAL COLLEGE: I think it is time for a change. I am in favor of going to straight popular vote and requiring the winner receive 50 percent plus one vote. If there are three candidates and no one gets 50 percent plus one, then have a run off. This country was not founded on the two-party system. I think it would be healthier to have more choices. A popular vote with a runoff could help accomplish that.

MAHONEY: Regarding Mahoney and his affairs, I am more concerned about the fact that he doesn't even live in the district he represents -- he used a horse barn in Glades County as his primary residence address to qualify to run in this district. His home is in Palm Beach Gardens which is not in our district.

AMENDMENT 2: I prefer not to encourage discrimination. I will be voting NO NO NO!!

TOUR OF HOMES: Do you enjoy decorating your home for the Christmas season? Do you like going overboard with your decorations and would like to show them off to those who enjoy the Special Tour of Homes program at Raulerson Hospital? I am looking for two more holiday show homes for the program. If you are interested or would like more information, Call Bill Casian at 824-2702 or e-mail william.casian@hcahealthcare.com.

ELECTORAL COLLEGE: If I recall correctly, in his first election Clinton had less than 50 percent of the popular vote although he had enough electoral votes -- had that race gone to a runoff, the results might have been different. Was that race decided by the "will of the people"?

Reflections from the Pulpit

By Elder John Garner
More 2 Life Ministries

Recently, I was informed about a disease that is affecting fruit bearing trees in a large portion of the U.S. Apparently, the problem is a root problem. You see, on the surface, the tree appears to be healthy, but, underneath where you can't see, the root of the tree is being attacked; eventually disconnecting the tree from its root system. Unless someone takes the time to do a careful inspection of the fruit the tree produces, it could take years to detect the problem. Too long a delay in dealing with the affected tree could mean that the tree will not be able to produce fruit at all. If the tree is not treated, it will finally die from this disease.

This illustrates very well one of the real problems affecting the church today. The church of America has a serious root problem. For the church has become so preoccupied with determining what its purpose is and making sure that it can appeal to the ever-widening religious options that present themselves that it has become disconnected from the "root" or core of what the church is all about, which is and must always be Christ.

Jesus made it very clear that those who would chose to be His

disciple to "follow" Him, must be willing to "lose" their life. There is a fundamental truth in Christianity that demands that we have to give it all to Christ, seeking only to live for Him and through Him. Jesus demands that we accept the loss of all things so that we can gain the life that Christ wants to give to those who will sell out completely to Him. This is the only way that we can stay connected to the root or core, Jesus. Disconnected from Christ will mean no fruit for the Christian, and eventually death.

So what does that mean in practical terms? It means that we must seek only to do what Christ calls us to do. We have to stop worrying about building the biggest and the best and start making sure that we are attending to the needs of the people here in our mission field of Okeechobee. It means that we have to make our top priority being right before a righteous God.

Let me say it as simply as I know how: "We must seek to be men and women of God! We must seek to live for Christ and Him only. This is the only way we will produce the fruit that will allow the church to flourish and those who need Christ to desire to seek Him for Who He really is and not the sad imitation we present way too often.

Community Calendar

Sunday, Oct. 26

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

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

Just for Today Club of Okeechobee, 101 N.W. Fifth Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972

(Behind Napa Auto Parts), **A.A.** weekend noon meeting OD-Open Discussion; SS-Step Study; BT-Basic Text; SP-Speaker **The Just for Today Club of Okeechobee is not affiliated with any 12 step fellowships.* **N.A.** Sickest Of The Sick (OD) 7 p.m. OD-Open Discussion; SS-Step Study; BT-Basic Text; SP-Speaker **The Just for Today Club of Okeechobee is not affiliated with any 12 step fellowships.*

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

Foster Parent Orientation will be hosted by the Hibiscus Children's Center on the last Monday of every month from 6 until 7 p.m. The orientation is for those interested in fostering or adopting in Okeechobee County. This meeting requires no RSVP and is a question/answer forum. It will be at the IRCC Okeechobee Campus, 2229 N.W. Ninth Ave. For information, call the Foster Care Program at 1-800-403-9311.

Narcotics Anonymous meets at 7 p.m. for open discussion at the Just for Today Club, 101 Fifth Ave. For information call 863-634-4780.

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

Monday, Oct. 27

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

Just for Today Club of Okeechobee, 101 N.W. Fifth Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972 (Behind Napa Auto Parts), **N.A.** Sickest Of The Sick (OD) 7 p.m. Open Discussion; SS-Step Study; BT-Basic Text; **The Just for Today Club of Okeechobee is not affiliated with any 12 step fellowships.*

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

VFW #10539 Ladies Auxiliary lunch and bingo will start at noon at the Post, 3912 U.S. 441 S.E. Auxiliary members and their guests are invited. Please R.S.V.P. to 863-763-2308.

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

Tuesday, Oct. 28

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

The Lighthouse Refuge Support Group is for women who are hurting, homeless or been abused. They meet on the first and third Tuesday of every month from noon until 2 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 401 S.W. Fourth St., and on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month from 6:30 until 8:30 p.m. at the Red Cross, 323 N. Parrott Ave. For more information call Donna Dean at 863-801-9201 or 863-357-2106.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Wednesday, Oct. 29

Martha's House support groups meet each Wednesday. Spanish groups meet from 7 until 8 p.m. at the Okeechobee Christian Church, 3055 S.E. 18th Terrace. Ana Romero is the group facilitator. Another group meets in the Okeechobee County Health Department, 1798 N.W. Ninth Ave., from 5 until 6 p.m. with Irene Luck as the group facilitator. There is another meeting from 6 until 7 p.m. with Shirlean Graham as the facilitator. For information, call 863-763-2893.

Just for Today Club of Okeechobee, 101 N.W. Fifth Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972, (Behind Napa Auto Parts) **A.A.** Grapevine Group Open Discussion at 6:30 p.m.; **N.A.** Nowhere Left To Go Group 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 Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 701 S.W. Sixth St. It will be a closed discussion.

N.A. meeting at 8 p.m. at the Just For Today Club of Okeechobee, 101 Fifth Ave. For information call 863-634-4780.

Bingo at the Buckhead Ridge Moose Lodge. Food will be served at 5 p.m. and bingo starts at 6 p.m. Public is welcome.

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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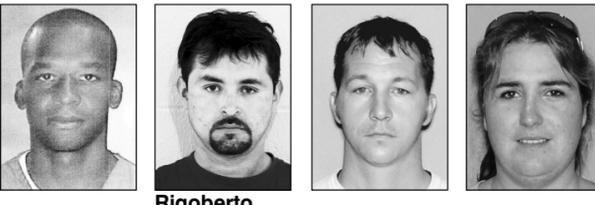


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For More Information See At Your Service On Page 2

Okeechobee's Most Wanted



Alieta Aleen **Rigoberto Gama Chavez** **David Yoder** **Becky Cook**

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

If you have any information on the whereabouts of any of Okeechobee's Most Wanted you can call the Treasure Coast Crime Stoppers at 1 (800) 273-TIPS (8477). If you call Treasure Coast Crimes Stoppers, you have the option of remaining anonymous. You can also receive a reward if the information results in an arrest.

Alieta Aleen, 31, aka Brian

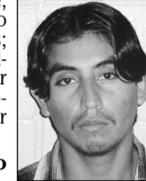
White, Manford Clifford White; Black male; No known address; Wanted for failure to appear on bail - robbery with other weapon.

Rigoberto Gama Chavez, 31, Arson.

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

Becky Cook, 28, Third Degree Grand Theft.

Estavan Villegas-Urbina, 21, Robbery.



Estavan Villegas-Urbina

Alleged speeder charged with felony

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

An Okeechobee man was arrested on a felony drug charge Thursday after a deputy tried unsuccessfully to stop him for speeding.

Jose Angel Tapia Solis, 21, S.W. 18th Ave., was arrested on a felony charge of possession of cocaine. He was also arrested on a misdemeanor charge of no valid driver's license.



Jose Angel Tapia Solis

Solis was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail under a bond of \$6,000.

Around 11:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 23, Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) deputies Augustin Saucedo and Paul Jackson reportedly saw a white Chevrolet truck traveling south on U.S. 98 at a speed of 50 to 60 mph in a 35 mph zone.

As the deputies tried to stop the truck bearing Kentucky plates,

it continued to S.R. 70 where the operator of the vehicle tried to turn onto S.R. 70. However, the vehicle was going so fast that it went through the intersection and into an abandoned parking lot, said an OCSO arrest report.

It was later learned that the vehicle was being operated by Solis.

Deputy Saucedo stated in his report that the truck then turned onto S.W. 19th Ave., then ran a

stop sign at the intersection of S.W. Second Way and S.W. 18th Ave.

The vehicle then turned into a driveway on S.W. 18th Ave and the driver, Solis, stepped out and began walking toward the deputy despite orders to stay in the vehicle, stated the report.

Solis was eventually subdued and arrested.

As the deputies searched the man for weapons, they reported-

ly found a plastic baggie containing a suspicious substance in his pocket. When the substance was field tested, it indicated a positive result for the presence of cocaine, stated the arrest report.

Deputy Saucedo stated in his report that the suspected cocaine weighed .5 grams.

The deputies report did not indicate if Solis was issued traffic citations for speeding or failing to stop at a stop sign.

State has increase in concealed weapon permits

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

The State of Florida reported a large increase in the number of people that hold concealed weapons and firearm licenses in the past year in a report issued by the Florida Department of Agriculture last week.

There are 1,278 permits issued to Okeechobee residents. The State reported they received 142 new applications from Okeechobee residents between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008. There were 46 new applications from July 1, 2008 until Septem-

ber 30, 2008.

The state report stated only three of the applications were denied.

Sheriff Paul May and Under Sheriff Noel Stephen said they could not recall any crime in Okeechobee that involved a holder of a concealed weapons permit.

Glades County has 197 permits issued. The state has reviewed 10 new applications since July 1. Between July 1, 2007, and June 30, 2008, the state received 24 new applications from Glades County.

Law Enforcement Calls

The Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office received the following calls from Friday, Oct. 17, through Thursday, Oct. 23:

- Oct. 17
- child abuse in the 2800 block of U.S. 441 N.
- burglary in the 4700 block of U.S. 98 N.
- theft in the 6600 block of N.W. 30th St.
- Oct. 18
- theft in the 4200 block of S.E. 42nd Place
- theft in the 3800 block of S.E. 12th Drive
- assault in the 2700 block of N.W. 34th Ave.
- vandalism in the 1100 block of N.W. 102nd St.
- sexual battery in the 3000 block of S.E. 20th Court
- burglary in the 32000 block of U.S. 441 N.
- Oct. 19
- stolen vehicle in the 3500 block of U.S. 441 S.
- burglary in the 4000 block of S.E. 26th St.
- Oct. 20
- theft of copper in the 10000 block of N.E. Third Ave.
- theft of air conditioner on S.E. 42nd Place
- assault in the 1100 block of

N.E. 39th Blvd.

- burglary in the 4700 block of S.E. 30th St.
- burglary in the 1900 block of S.E. 43rd Trace
- assault in the 3900 block of N.W. Seventh St.
- Oct. 21
- fraud in the 3700 block of N.W. First St.
- vandalism in the 500 block of N.W. 27th Lane
- theft in the 3200 block of S.E. 33rd Terrace
- Oct. 22
- theft in the 12000 block of N.E. 120th St.
- burglary in the 2100 block of S.E. 24th Blvd.
- Oct. 23
- assault in the 1700 block of U.S. 441 N.
- forgery in the 700 block of N.W. 36th St.
- larceny in the 4700 block of S.E. 30th St.
- burglary in the 1600 block of U.S. 98 N.
- theft in the 400 block of U.S. 98 N.

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

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).

Jeffery Dennis Hewitt, 30, N.W. 30th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Oct. 21 by Deputy Sergeant J. Royal on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with violation of probation - driving while license suspended (felony). He is being held without bond.

Shawn Pyber, 34, S.E. 20th Court, Okeechobee, was arrested Oct. 21 by DOC's Joseph Crachiola on a charge of violation of community control - driving while license suspended (habitual offender). He is being held without bond.

Dawn Robinson, 47, S.E. 62nd Drive, Okeechobee, was arrested Oct. 22 by DOC's Melissa Spencer on a charge of violation of probation - possession of cocaine. Her bond was set at \$5,000.

Manuel Solis, 30, S.E. 38th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Oct. 23 by Deputy John Ashby on a charge of driving while license suspended -habitual offender. His bond was set at \$750.

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.

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Community Events

Orchid club to meet

The Okeechobee Orchid Club will meet on Monday, **Oct. 27** at 7 p.m. at the Okeechobee County Extension Service. They will have show and tell at this meeting and request that you bring in an Orchid to show or bring in a problem Orchid for Harry to diagnose. Introduce your favorite Orchid and tell how it grows. At these meetings you will meet other Orchid enthusiasts and share problems and solutions, enjoy refreshments and networking and there will be an Orchid drawing as a fundraiser. Please bring questions and program ideas. Let them know what subjects and speakers are of interest. The Garden Club meets in the same location at 6 p.m. For more information call 863-763-6469.

BHR VFD to host spaghetti dinner

BHR VFD will be hosting a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, Nov. 1. Donation of \$5. Call 863-532-9015 or 863-467-8220 for information.

United Way sponsors Day of Caring

United Way of Okeechobee members and many community volunteers are sponsoring a "Day of Caring" on **Nov. 1**, at 8 a.m. in Okeechobee. This is a day the United Way has set aside to thank the Okeechobee Community for supporting them and to bring awareness to our community that United Way is here. United Way members have chosen a home in Okeechobee that is in need of painting and landscaping. Also planned on the same day is a group of Community in Schools partners will paint the skate board office at the Skate Board Park. For more information please call 863-634-0915.

First United Methodist Women sponsor Bazaar

The First United Methodist Women of Okeechobee invite you to attend our Annual Bazaar on Saturday, **Nov. 1** from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the fellowship hall, 200 N.W. Second St. in Okeechobee. There will be a variety of crafts, quilted items, knives, nuts, baked goods, white elephant items and a silent auction. A lunch consisting of soup, sandwiches and desserts will be available from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Proceeds will go to Mission projects local and abroad. For information call 863-763-4021.

Friends of the Okeechobee Library Board Election

The election of officers for the Friends of the Okeechobee Library Board for the coming year will be held on Tuesday, **Nov. 4** at 4:30 p.m. in the library board room. The nominations are as follows: Marion Davis, President; Jan Fehrman, Vice-President; Hazel Parnis, Secretary; Renee Witter Treasurer, Janet McKenna, Membership Chairman. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor. The public is invited to attend. The board meets the first Tuesday of the month at 4:30 p.m. in the Okeechobee Library Board Room and is open to the public.

Obituaries

Obituaries should be submitted to the Okeechobee News by e-mailing 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.

Michael H. Awbrey

PIONEER — The family of Michael H. Awbrey, sadly announce his passing.

Mike spent the day with his wife, son, and grandson and peacefully died after a long, hard-fought battle with cancer.

Mike and Maude McGill were married for 42 years. Mike is Veteran of the U.S. Marine Corp, serving during the Vietnam War.

Mike had a life-long career as a Tool-Man. He worked for Snap-On, Sun Electric and Mac Tools and spent his life talking and helping out the mechanics in his area.

Mike is survived by his beloved wife, Maude; his two sons, Michael and Robert; his daughter-in-law, Jerri; and the light of his life, his grandchildren, Michael, Brooke and Dylan.

We will miss his strength, his love and his stories forever.

There was a gathering for friends and family Saturday, Oct. 25, 2008, at the Akin Davis Funeral Home in LaBelle.

Arrangements were handled by Akin-Davis Funeral Home - La Belle Chapel.

OHS Class of 1979 plans reunion

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

Book Club plan to meet

Friends of the Okeechobee Library Book Club will meet on Thursday, **Oct. 30**, at 7 p.m. in the Okeechobee County Library Board Room. The group will suggest titles for the next six months and vote on them. Everyone is encouraged to bring their favorite Halloween cookie. For more information call Jan Fehrman at 863-357-9980.

Class of 99' reunion planned

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

Wildlife Center holds open house

Arnold's Wildlife and Rehabilitation Center will hold an open house on Saturday, **Nov. 8**, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. It will be held at 14895 N.W. 30th Terrace. Adult tickets are \$10 and children under twelve years of age are \$5. Be sure to visit the half-acre free-roaming butterfly garden. There are also thirty different species of native and exotic animals for you to see and photograph. A lunch of hot dogs, chips and a drink will be available for a donation. There will also be activities for the children. Go north on 441 until you get to the flashing light. Turn left and go west for about two miles and look for the Arnold Wildlife sign. For more information or directions please call Sue Arnold at 863-763-4630.

Chamber luncheon planned

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

Friends of the Library host book sale

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

OCEA has membership meeting

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

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, 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 plans yard sale

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

YMS collecting printer cartridges

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

Down home breakfast planned

On Sunday, **Oct. 26**, 8 a.m. to 11 a.m., The Okeechobee Chapter No. 128 Order of the Eastern Star and Okeechobee Lodge No. 237, F&AM will host a breakfast at the Okeechobee Masonic Lodge, 107 NW 5th Ave., Okeechobee. Breakfast will consist of biscuits and sausage gravy, eggs, hash brown casserole, sausage, bacon, grits, fruit and orange juice and plenty of hot coffee.

Sour Orange Fest has new date

Lakeport will have the Sour Orange Festival on Saturday, Jan. 10, (new date for 2009). They are looking for vendors, volunteers, and patrons. If interested call 863-227-4323 or attend the next Lakeport Community Association meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 4, at 7:30 at the Community Center.

Low cost spay/neuter available

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

Historical limited edition ornaments on sale

The Okeechobee Retired Educators will be selling their third limited edition ornament for Christmas 2008. Ornaments are 24k gold on brass, includes a numbered certificate with historical information. Ornaments are \$15. Proceeds fund their scholarship. The 2008 ornament is the Old County Courthouse. They will also have 2007 and 2006 ornaments available in a limited quantity for those who wish to get those. To purchase an ornament call Gay Carlton at 863-763-5755, Kay McCool at 863-763-2829, Paulette Whipple at 863-467-2487, Marion Davis at 863-763-3991 or Regina Hamrick at 863-763-8865.

State Veterans nursing homes

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

Historical Society collects info for book

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

Ladies Auxiliary Spaghetti Night

The VFW Post 10539 Ladies Auxiliary will hold a Tuesday night spaghetti night. All you can

eat spaghetti, garlic bread and salad for a \$5 donation. The dinner starts at 5:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information call 863-763-2308.

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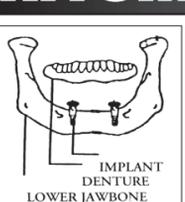
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Bill VanDusen, Meteorologist

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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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Rotarians honor OHS student

By Chauna Aguilar
Okeechobee News

The Okeechobee Rotarians honored their student of the month for October, Bille Jo Freeman at their luncheon on Tuesday, Oct. 21.

Ms. Freeman is a senior at Okeechobee High School. She is a varsity football cheerleader, varsity competitive cheerleader and plays flag-football. She has coached cheerleaders at local organizations like the Chobee Bulls and currently is involved with the X-Plasion Competitive Cheerleading squad. She has over 272 volunteer hours working with children in the community.

She enjoys helping other cheerleaders by assisting in creating routines, teaching cheers and helping the squads become better leaders and examples for their community. She encourages them to join together with teamwork.

Due to her work and the work of other cheerleaders, Ms. Freeman believes that their leadership achievements have brought forth a positive view of the Varsity Cheerleading Team.

In volunteering her time to the community she realized that helping people made her feel like a better person and this extended into her career of choice to work to become a Registered Nurse.

Ms. Freeman is currently taking courses in the Health Occupations program and is involved in Health Occupational Students of America (HOSA). She explained that through her courses in health science she has realized that helping others helps her have a positive attitude towards her own life.

Science teacher Catherine Hyde nominated Ms. Freeman



Okeechobee News/Chauna Aguilar
Rotarian October Student of the Month, Bille Jo Freeman (center) was honored for her achievements at the Okeechobee Rotary Club where she was accompanied by her father Mike Freeman (right) and the OHS principal Toni Wiersma (left).

for this award explaining that she "is the type of student that every teacher dreams about. She is very meticulous and takes her school work very seriously."

Even with all of the extracurricular activities, Ms. Freeman maintains a 3.8 grade point average.

The Rotary Student of the Month program is a project where the Okeechobee Rotary Club honors one OHS senior each month who presents character centered on the Rotary International mot-

to, "Service Above Self."

This award is not based on academic performance alone, but rather a student's commitment to their community.

As a Rotary Student of the Month, one of the students will be chosen to receive one of the Rotarian college scholarships that they present at the end of the academic year.

The Rotary Student of the Month is chosen by staff at OHS for their outstanding achievements especially regarding "Ser-

vice Above Self."

Rotary International is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders that provide humanitarian service encourage high ethical standards in all vocations and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

For more information on joining the local Okeechobee Rotary Club, contact Maureen Budjinski at 863-484-0110.

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

Planning board meets Tuesday

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

The Okeechobee County Planning Board/Board of Adjustments and Appeals will be facing a short agenda of only two items when they meet Tuesday evening.

David Arnold has requested permission to install a used dwelling unit in an agriculture zoning district on N.W. 141st Street. According to the staff report the

What: Monthly meeting of the Okeechobee County Planning Board/Board of Adjustments and Appeals

When: 7 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 28

Where: Okeechobee County Health Department Auditorium, 1798 N.W. Ninth Ave.

2001 double-wide manufactured home meets all requirements and staff recommends approval. If ap-

proved, a certificate of occupancy will not be issued until skirting is installed.

In the other item on the agenda, Rukhmani Powmesany, property owner, and Mark Kornovich, applicant, have requested a special exception to allow a sales lot for new or used recreational vehicles including park models in a heavy commercial zoning district on U. S. 441 S.E. The applicant also operates sales lots in Ocala and Lake

Wales. The property in question has been used as a sales lot for manufactured homes and park models in the past. Staff notes that all criteria have been met and recommends approval, subject to the usual conditions. If approved, the property would be limited to no more than seven recreational vehicles at one time.

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

Code magistrate may impose fines

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

As a result of Okeechobee County Special Magistrate code violation hearings held on Tuesday, Oct. 21 the owners of six properties could be fined up to \$250 a day for every day of non-compliance if they do not clean up their properties by Nov. 13. Special magistrate Lois Nichols also recommended reduction of one fine that had previously been imposed.

The properties of Javier Tinajero and Felix Tinajero were found to be in compliance and those cases were not heard. The case of Edward Boyd was not heard because of lack of proper notification. The case against N & A Real Estate was continued until next month as was the case of Andres Sanchez and Yudaisy Miranda, the case of the Cumber Trust and the case of Everett Lawson.

Code Enforcement Officer Beth Albert cited Elbert Kline for having a derelict RV, debris and unregistered vehicles on his N.E. 16th Street property. She said the property is in foreclosure. Ms.

Nichols decreed the owner has until Nov. 13 to come into compliance or be fined up to \$250 a day. Ms. Nichols asked that if the property changes hands that the new owner be cited for the same violation.

Kenneth Goyens of Tampa was cited for doing construction work without a permit at his N.E. 11th Street lot. Mrs. Albert stated that Mr. Goyens was working with a contractor to obtain the permit. He was given until Nov. 13 to obtain a permit.

According to Code Enforcement Blanca Saucedo, Lawrence Szafraniec of Royal Palm Beach has overgrown, unlicensed/inoperable vehicles and junk on his S.E. 32nd Street property. He was given until Nov. 13 to come into compliance.

Titus Sweat was charged with operating a lawn mower sale and repair business in a residential area on N.W. Sixth Street. He claims he does not have a business. He said things piled up because the price of scrap metal is down. Ms. Nichols found him in noncompliance and he was given until Nov. 13 to come into compli-

ance. The last case under the heading of new business was that of Charles Crates who was cited for outdoor storage on his U.S. 441 S.E. property. Mrs. Albert said he had done a lot of cleanup since the original citation. He was given until Nov. 13 to finish clean up.

In a case that has been going on for some time, Nix & Nix, Land I LLC has acquired the necessary permits for construction of a building they are renovating on U.S. 98 N.

Because of progress being made, Donald Bastura was given until Dec. 11 to come into compliance on his N.W. 80th Court property.

Timothy Crews and Angela Cross had been given until Oct. 16 to remove a derelict mobile home and all debris from their N.E. 12th Lane lot. Mrs. Albert said that some cleanup has been done and they have obtained a demolition permit. They were given until Nov. 13 to come into compliance.

Gilberto and Gladys Sanabria had accrued a fine of \$35,575 because of the condition of their N.W. Sixth Street lots. The fine

began on Oct. 20, 2004 and ran for 1,423 days at \$25 a day until the property came into compliance on Sept. 12, 2008. Mr. Sanabria claimed he did not know of the fine and discovered it when he tried to sell the property. The county attorney, Laura McCall, stated she saw no reason for a reduction as most of the trash could have been placed curb side for removal by Waste Management and that there are companies in Okeechobee that would have removed the disabled cars. Ms. Nichols recommended that the Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners reduce the fine from \$35,575 to \$30,000.

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NASDAQ: SBFC

Edible spiders are a great Halloween treat



This week as I was babysitting 11-year-old Katie Muldoon we discussed my future. I asked her what she thought I should do, be a journalist or go to culinary school? Katie said she loved to use her imagination and that you can really use it a lot if you write.

Then she said but you can also use it when you cook. You can decorate cookies and cakes any way you want. Then she tilted her head and said you can also change the tastes of food so that they tasted totally different then they looked like they should. Like chocolate flavored spaghetti, or cookies that tasted like dirt, and pickles that tasted like cake. That would be really cool, she said. We decided to make spiders, edible spiders. She shared the following recipe with me.

Utensils needed: microwave, spoons, microwave safe bowl,

Okeechobee Livestock Market Report

October 20 and 21, 2008

Cows	Breaking	\$52.00	\$60.00
Cutter	\$47.00	\$56.00	
Canner	\$37.00	\$49.00	

Bulls	1000-1500	\$58.00	\$63.50
	1500-2000	\$63.00	\$69.00

	Monday	Tuesday
Calves	744	1328
Cows	136	303
Str	28	14
Hfrs	104	11
Bulls	28	35
Yrlngs	40	58
Mix	0	35
Total	1080	1784

Med #1	Steers	Hfrs
150-200		
200-250	115-160	
250-300	110-128	
300-350		82-95
350-400	95-108	78-85
400-450	91-98	74-84
450-500	86-93	72-80
550-600	77-80	67-76
600-650	74-78	67-74

Med #2	Steers	Hfrs
150-200		
200-250		78-88
250-300		74-75
300-350	80-98	72-77
350-400	85-95	72-77
400-450	73-90	63-76

Small #1	Steers	Hfrs
150-200		
250-300		
300-350	95-100	77-86
350-400	81-84	71-76
450-500	79-90	72-76
600-650		

Prices were about the same this week with the "bright spot" being good cows and bulls, which were \$2-\$4 higher. Still, good calves are holding their value as plainer calves sure seem harder to sell at any price. Pat Tyner of Okeechobee topped the calf market with \$160.00. A. Duda and son of Melbourne had the high cow price this week with 60.00. Lemmon Angus Oct. 24 Little Creek Brangus/Jorgensen Angus Oct. 31.

See ya next week, Todd

measuring cups, wax paper, cookie sheet
 1 cup semi sweet chocolate chips
 3/4 cup crispy rice cereal
 chow mien noodles, licorice cut into pieces, pretzels, or whatever you have on hand to resemble legs
 cinnamon candy, cut gum drops, M & Ms, frosting, melted white chocolate, candy dots, whatever you have for eyes
 chocolate sprinkles (optional)
 Line cookie sheet with wax paper. Place chocolate in a microwave safe bowl. Microwave on medium (50%) for 2 minutes. Stir if not completely melted microwave and additional 20 to 30 seconds. Stir again. Mix in crispy rice cereal until well blended. Drop by teaspoons onto wax paper to form spider bodies (leave bumpy for textured appearance). You can even use chocolate sprinkles for the appearance of hair. Stick in whatever you chose for legs. Remember spiders have 8 legs. Add eyes remember also that spiders have anywhere from 6 to 8 eyes. Some even have fangs. Refrigerate for about 15 minutes or leave at room temperature for an hour.

Store extras in covered container.
 Makes 12 spiders
 Serving size: 1
 Approximately 100 calories
 If you would like to share your

stories and your favorite recipes please contact me at Kitchen_talk@yahoo.com.

Fly your native flag

By Dan Culbert
 Extension Horticulture Agent

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA IFAS EXTENSION

It's getting close to Election Day, and many more flags are appearing all over our area. Actually, I'm not talking about Old Glory, that symbol of patriotism - even though there appear to be more numerous in our community. I'm referring to a native wetland plant with large leaves. Known as Fireflag or Alligator Flag, it is fairly common in local wetland areas pastures. Recently I've noticed a few more are popping up in more urban areas in roadside swales. An especially nice looking clump caught my eye recently, and suggests that this plant may have a use in making stormwater protection areas a little more attractive.

emerge on top of a tall flower stalk. Multiple small purple to pink flowers hang from the bracts. Each individual flower will have three petals. When I recently stopped by a roadside clump to take a closer look, I was able to see the small attractive purple to pink flowers emerging from a broad panicle. It blooms from summer to fall, and seed will hang on the upright stick-like stalks through the winter. This is a perennial plant that will emerge from thick underground rhizomes; occasionally the seed can find their way into moist areas and also serve to spread the plant.

Fireflag is a large emerged plant - it grows above the water level from a thick underground rhizome. Almost all of these plants are naturally found in swamps and wet ditches from the Florida peninsula west to the central panhandle of Florida. It is also found throughout freshwater wetlands the American tropics from Central America to Brazil in South America.

Cattle producers may consider this a plant weed, as it takes the place of other more nutritious forage plants. Larger wildlife, including black bear, are known to consume this plant. A review of nurseries that specialize in native habitat restoration plants shows that sometimes this plant can be purchased in containers. At the UF North Florida Research Center, Fireflag was one of several plants that were added to a wetland demonstration project. One UF entomologist found a chinch-bug like insect (I. variegates) on this plant, but no significant pests are known to be of concern when this is part of a water garden.

After the first frost, the large flat bright green leaves quickly turn into an even light shade of tan. Then in the spring, when wetlands dry up and wildfires rage in open areas, the plant is subject to rapid destruction from grassland fires. The ash remaining will serve as fertilizer and renourish the emerging plants in the spring.

Given that many of our urban stormwater areas are often a boring mess of cattails and pepper trees, it would be interesting to see if this patriotic Native American has a place in our Florida Yards.

Plant Description

Fireflag is a member of the Arrowroot family, and this is also a common name sometimes given for this plant. Botanists call it *Thalia geniculata*. Some references call it Alligator Flag, as it is a common plant found around gator holes. The large simple leaves on long stalks are among fire flag's most notable features. The leaves are broadly lance-shaped, with broadly rounded bases. Inside the leaf stalks are lots of large air holes that help supply the plant with air and serve to keep it erect when water levels are high. Leaves can be up to eight inches wide and more than 2 1/2 feet long. Several leaves grow together and are sheathed at the base. Fire flag flowers are paired; that is, two flowering bracts

I've placed more information on our Okeechobee web page, <http://okeechobee.ifas.ufl.edu>. A good reference including a video of this plant can be found at: <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/node/447>. If you need additional information on Fireflag, please email us at okeechobee@ifas.ufl.edu or call us at 863-763-6469. Local residents can stop by our office at 458 Hwy 98 North in Okeechobee, and visit our Okeechobee County Master Gardeners from 1 to 3 p.m. on Tuesday afternoons.



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November 21, 24

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South Elementary School plans 'Learning Safari'



Submitted photo/South Elementary
Students of the Week at South Elementary for the week ending October 17 included: Alex Miller, Kendrick Forlifer, Jarrett Farley, Alek Betscher, Kyle Barrett, Meghann Hotmire, Aubrey Pearce, Elana Rodriguez, Rick Willet, Carlos Hernandez, Devon Johnson, Jeny Hernandez, Ariel Nichols, Justin Shepherd, Verenise Lopez, Danny Willet, Cody Louthan, Kevin Hawthorne, and Anjelique Miller.

South Elementary School students in every grade are preparing for the Parent/Teacher Organization meeting that will be held on Oct. 28, at 6 p.m. Parents are invited to receive an update on PTO business, prepare for the upcoming Winter Carnival and hear information about the new reading series. We will have a Learning Safari following the PTO business part of the meeting. You will be able to learn about the new reading series, reading at home with your child, 100 Book Challenge, and how students are researching in social studies. You will see many displays through-out the hallways. The Book Fair will be open in the media. Each family that attends will receive a learning activity and students will receive special Safari items. Please mark your calendars and come out for an hour of fun and learning. The SAC meeting for October will be held prior to the PTO meeting.

South Elementary is preparing for the Winter Carnival. If you have small, glass baby food jars, please bring cleaned ones in to the front office. These are used in our Sand Art booth. Winter Carnival is always a fun evening for South families and the community. We are currently seeking donations of new items for our Silent Auction. If you have items or gift certificates that your business would like to donate, please contact Mary Paulson at 863-462-5087. Our carnival would not be a success without the support of the community. Thank you for all you do to support South as it strives to achieve excellence every year.

Kindergarten just finished their first nine weeks of school. This week the Kindergarten classes are learning the letter T! They have done many fun arts and crafts that begin with the letter T, including turtle hats. The word,



see, was also learned this week. As of right now, Kindergartners should be able to recognize, name and produce the sound for the letters: Mm, Aa, Pp, Ss, Tt! They also should know the words: can, like, I A, see, the, we! This past Friday is a special event where all students with a PBS bracelet got

their faces painted. Students who had not earned a PBS bracelet had the opportunity to purchase a ticket to the face painting activity for 40 Eagle Tokens.

Oct. 27-31 is Red Ribbon Week. During this week students are encouraged to stay away from drugs. Every day is a different Spirit Day to demonstrate the students' commitment to say no to drugs. On Monday, all students are encouraged to wear red in support of Red Ribbon Week. On Tuesday, students are asked to wear camouflage or Safari clothing. Wednesday students are asked to wear sunglasses. Thursday students can wear a Jersey from their favorite team. On Fri-



Submitted photo/South Elementary
The students who received the Student of the Week Award from South Elementary for the week ending Oct. 24. included: Arena Haywood, Jael Gomez, Xander Blackwood, Itzel Lombera, Kameron Allen, Kailee Pasley, Jonathan Rivera, Megan Jones, Kaitlyn Williams, Dylan Smith, Jalen Pryor, Sydney Hendrix, Brenda Aguilar, Hunter Smith, Chandler Pearce, Jermaine Moore, Brianna Roundtree, Jonathan Buck, Zachary Mullin, Joshua Wall, Sabrina Moreno, Hannah Fralix, Caitlin Sheffield, Chancy Thomas, and Shyane Adkins.

day, students are asked to wear their South Spirit shirts and they can purchase the right to "Put a Cap on Drugs" and wear a cap. They can purchase the ticket that allows them to wear the cap on Friday morning in the cafeteria from 7:30-8:05. There will also be a door decorating contest. The classroom that has the best decorated door that exemplifies the theme "Believe, Achieve, Succeed drug free" will win a prize.

Yearbooks are on sale now. Presale price for the yearbooks is \$17. Spring price will be \$20. Purchase yours now and save!

Yearbook ads will be going on sale soon. Please watch for the Monday Reports to see the latest updates.

Students have worked very hard during the first nine-weeks. They have adjusted to new teachers, new classmates, and new reading materials. Awards ceremonies will be Monday and Wednesday of this week. Monday, Oct. 27, third and fourth

grade will receive their awards, at 8:30 and 9:30 a.m. respectively. On Wednesday, second grade awards will begin at 8:30, first grade awards will be at 9:15 and Kindergarten awards will be held at 10. We look forward to recognizing our students who have done their best during this first nine week period.

Go, Eagles, Go!



Submitted photo/OHS
Students of the week Wesley Mims, Justina Stokes, Houston Foulke, Maria Olvera, Juan Garcia, Wayne Guldansen, Billie Jo Freeman, Grabiela Borja, Olga Hernandez, Vanessa Reyes, Mindy Gowler, Ricardo Herrera, Marcus Martin.

Okeechobee District School Menus

Breakfast: Elementary

Monday, Oct. 27: Sunshine pancakes, assorted cereal, Y/M/CStk second choice breakfast, breakfast grab and go # 1- Monday, fruit juice, fresh fruit, milk.

Tuesday, Oct. 28: Breakfast PBJ, assorted cereal, Y/M/CStk second choice breakfast, breakfast grab and go # 2- Tuesday, fruit juice, fresh fruit, milk.

Wednesday, Oct. 29: Biscuit and sausage patty, assorted cereal, Y/M/CStk second choice breakfast, breakfast grab and go # 3- Wednesday, fruit juice, fresh fruit, milk.

Thursday, Oct. 30: Waffles, Eggo, Mini-Cinn, assorted cereal, Y/M/CStk second choice breakfast, breakfast grab and go # 4- Thursday, fruit juice, fresh fruit, milk.

Friday, Oct. 31: Breakfast sausage pizza, assorted cereal, Y/M/CStk second choice breakfast, breakfast grab and go # 5- Friday, fruit juice, fresh fruit, milk.

Secondary

Monday, Oct. 27: Sunshine pancakes, assorted cereal, breakfast grab and go # 1-Monday, fresh fruit, fruit juice, milk

Tuesday, Oct. 28: Breakfast PBJ, assorted cereal, breakfast grab and go # 2- Tuesday, fresh fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Wednesday, Oct. 29: Biscuit and sausage patty, assorted cereal, breakfast grab and go # 3- Wednesday, fresh fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Thursday, Oct. 30: Egg and cheese biscuit, assorted cereal, breakfast grab and go # 4- Thursday, fresh fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Friday, Oct. 31: Breakfast sausage pizza, assorted cereal, breakfast grab and go # 5- Friday, fresh fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Lunch Menus: Elementary

Monday, Oct. 27: Beanie weenies, goldfish pretzels, barbecue chicken sandwich, yogurt fruit and cheese plate, fresh fruit, fruit juice, coleslaw, pineapple chunks, tossed salad, milk.

Tuesday, Oct. 28: Oven roasted Baja chicken, country style biscuit, egg roll with fried rice, chef salad, fresh fruit, fruit juice, baked beans, baked apple crisp, tossed salad, milk.

Wednesday, Oct. 29: Beefaroni, garlic breadsticks, deli turkey on bun, yogurt fruit and cheese plate, fresh fruit, fruit juice, broccoli florets with lemon,

fruit with gelatin, tossed salad, milk.

Thursday, Oct. 30: Salisbury steak with gravy, honey wheat rolls, hot ham and cheese sandwich, chef salad, fresh fruit, fruit juice, mashed potatoes, mandarin orange sections, tossed salad, milk.

Friday, Oct. 31: Cheese or pepperoni stuffed crust pizza, baked potato with chili/cheese, cornbread from mix, tuna salad plate, fresh fruit, fruit juice, seasoned corn, fruit cocktail, tossed salad, milk.

Middle School

Monday, Oct. 27: Beanie weenies, goldfish pretzels, yogurt fruit and cheese plate, pizza basket, fresh fruit, fruit juice, coleslaw, pineapple chunks, tossed salad, milk.

Tuesday, Oct. 28: Oven roasted baja chicken, country style biscuit, egg roll with fried rice, chef salad, turkey sub grab and go, fresh fruit, fruit juice, baked beans, baked apple crisp, tossed salad, milk.

Wednesday, Oct. 29: Beefaroni, garlic breadsticks, deli turkey on bun, yogurt fruit and cheese plate, pizza basket, fresh fruit, fruit juice, broccoli florets with lemon, fruit with gelatin, tossed salad, milk.

Thursday, Oct. 30: Salisbury steak with gravy, hot ham and cheese sandwich, chef salad, ham and cheese grab and go, fresh fruit, fruit juice, mashed potatoes, mandarin orange sections, milk, tossed salad.

Friday, Oct. 31: Cheese or pepperoni stuffed crust pizza, baked potato with chili/cheese, cornbread from mix, tuna salad plate, cheeseburger basket, fresh fruit, fruit juice, seasoned corn, fruit cocktail, tossed salad, milk.

High School

Monday, Oct. 27: Beanie weenies, goldfish pretzels, barbecue chicken sandwich, yogurt fruit and cheese plate, pizza basket, chicken fingers and toes, fresh fruit, fruit juice, coleslaw, pineapple chunks, tossed salad, milk.

Tuesday, Oct. 28: Oven roasted Baja chicken, country style biscuit, egg roll with fried rice, chef salad, turkey sub grab and go, macho nacho meal, fresh fruit, fruit juice, baked beans, baked apple crisp, tossed salad, milk.

Wednesday, Oct. 29: Beefaroni, garlic breadsticks, deli turkey on bun, yogurt fruit and cheese plate, pizza basket, hot wings basket, fresh fruit, fruit juice, broccoli florets with lemon, fruit with gelatin, tossed salad, milk.

Thursday, Oct. 30: Salisbury steak with gravy, hot ham and cheese sandwich, chef salad, ham and cheese sub grab and go, Caribbean pork/rice/beans, fresh fruit, fruit juice, mashed potatoes, mandarin orange sections, tossed salad, milk.

Friday, Oct. 31: Cheese or pepperoni stuffed crust pizza, baked potato with chili/cheese, cornbread from mix, tuna salad plate, cheeseburger basket, chicken with potato bowl, fresh fruit, fruit juice, seasoned corn, fruit cocktail, tossed salad, milk.

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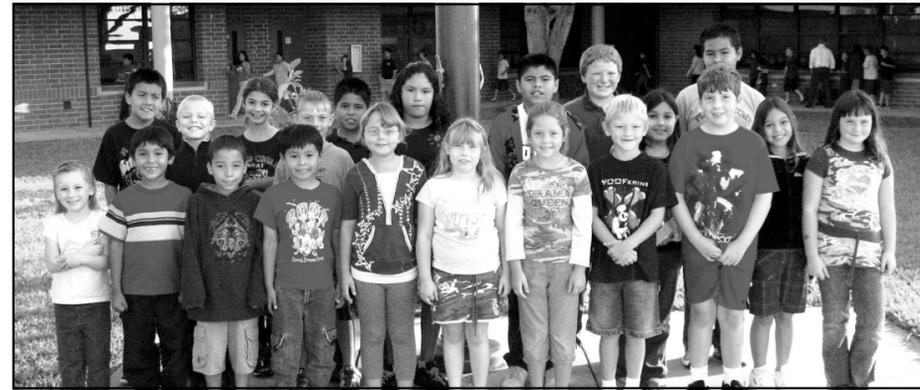
Everglades students having a great year

First Grade: Congratulations to Mrs. Hollin's first grade class at Everglades Elementary school. They had the highest attendance at the October PTO meeting. They were treated to a donut snack and will have "Gary Gator" on display in their room through out the month.

Third Grade: Mrs. Tilton would like to thank parents for coming in to share their favorite books with her students. A big Everglades thank you goes out Nicholas Lynch, Tabitha Lopez, Wayne Hunt, Kimberly Wojcieszak, and Karen Alicea. These parents took time from their busy schedules to share their favorite children's book with our third graders. As a final project in our science chapter on force and energy, Mrs. Tilton's class has built and launched stomp rockets. We had a "blast" measuring, converting, and graphing the flights. In math we are counting money and making change. Keep practicing those basic subtraction facts. We will be bringing flags that represent Florida's history in social studies and in writing we are creating stories with a seasonal theme. Ricky Lopez and Malcom Williams have met their first goal for 100 Book Challenge. They have read for 100 steps, which equals 25 hours of reading. Great job!

Mr. Viens class is learning about simple machines in science. We are also counting bills and coins in math to become familiar with money. Congratulations to George Marshall and Perla Orozco our most recent students of the week. Keep reading for 100 Book Challenge. These steps will help to earn you a Pizza Hut Book it pizza certificate.

Mrs. Reno's class is finishing their chapter on Subtraction and are moving on to money. You can count money at home and at the store to help build your child's money skills. In reading, keep looking for our home/school connection booklet. This will let



Submitted photo/EES

Here is the list of students who are achieving excellence in the classroom at Everglades Elementary School. Kindergarten: Carigan Sweat; **First grade:** Eliel Esquivel, Edwin Reyes, Josmar Estrada, Searina Boatright; **Second grade:** Carley Ostavitz, Mariah Good, Codie Safewright, Jonathan Johnson, Jessica Sulzer; **Third grade:** James, Cunningham, Kyle Morgan, Margarita Elias, Roy Perez, Mariyah Mendoza, Nina Nunez; **Fourth grade:** Nelson, Liberato, Marie Eshleman; **Fifth grade:** Ariel Burgos, Nicholas Steen, Isaac Estrada. Congratulations to our many outstanding students!

you know our vocabulary words, spelling words, and the skills of the week. We are working hard on facts and opinions, and main idea and details. Be sure to talk to your child about these skills. In social studies, we are learning about different forms of government and the up-coming election. What does it take to become the President? Well we're finding out! Mrs. Reno's third graders are writing expository papers about the beautiful fall season. Keep reading at home for 100 Book Challenge and be sure to attend the PTO meeting on Nov. 11, where third grade will be performing. Finally, congratulations to our Students Of The Week for the first nine weeks, Alexandra Jacobo, Jennifer Fairtrace, Keith Morgan, Maryjane Bolling, Alisha Howard, and Kyle Morgan!

Fifth Grade: The fifth grade

would like to thank Tony Powell of Glades Electric Cooperative for coming on October 21st to discuss energy with our students. Mr. Powell talked to the students about where energy comes from, how energy gets from the power plant to their homes, and how to stay safe around electricity!



The Reading Leadership Team is very excited about preparing for our school wide read, Are You Smarter Than A Flying 'Gator by Kevin Kremer, a Florida author. We will start this book on Nov. 12. Each classroom teacher will have a copy to read aloud to their students. Members of the team are coming up with vocabulary words from the story and with comprehension questions to help the students better understand the book. These vocabulary words and questions will be spotlighted

on the morning announcements and the students that can correctly answer the questions and use the words correctly will be awarded a small prize! Also, during the week of Nov. 10, we will celebrate National Children's book Week. We are currently inviting people from the school and community to come in and video tape their favorite children's book. This tape will be played over the ITV through out the week for the children to enjoy. Also, we will recognize Veterans on Nov. 11. The student will participate in a Veteran's Day program in the morning. Miss Shofner would like to remind everyone that they need to be reading their 100 Book Challenge books each night. Remember that every 15 minutes equals one step. Our goal is 11 steps a week, 44 steps a month and 100 steps in nine weeks.

Dates to remember:

- Oct. 31: Student Of The Week Luncheon, Halloween Parade.
- Nov. 11: Veteran's Day celebration, PTO meeting.

SEM students celebrate Red Ribbon Week



Submitted photo/SEM

This weeks Seminole Spotlight is Mrs. Colleen O'Bannon, she is a Second grade teacher at Seminole Elementary School. Mrs. O'Bannon's students recently studied soil. They enjoyed eating Mrs. O'Bannon's "dirt pie" which was made with pudding, Oreo Cookies, and Gummy Worms. She believes in bringing lessons to life as evidenced by her recent field trip to the Ft. Drum Crystal Mines where her students sifted through soil looking for crystals. Thank you, Mrs. O'Bannon, for your dedication to our students.

Red Ribbon Celebration brings millions of people together to raise awareness regarding the need for alcohol, tobacco and other drug and violence prevention, early intervention, and treatment services. It is the largest, most visible prevention awareness campaign observed annually in the United States.

Students at Seminole Elementary School will be celebrating Red Ribbon Week by participating in daily activities to remind them of this important message.

On Monday, the theme is Believe, Achieve, and Succeed Drug Free. The students will wear red to school and receive red ribbons and a pencil.

On Tuesday, the theme is Team Up Against Drugs. The students will wear their favorite team shirt.

On Wednesday, the theme is Put a Cap on Drugs. The students will wear their favorite cap or hat.

On Thursday, the theme is Fight Against Drugs. The students will wear camouflage.

On Friday, the theme is Sock it to Drugs. The students will wear crazy socks to school.

In addition to Red Ribbon Week, we'll also begin our canned food drive this week. Please help those in need by donating canned food and sending it in to school



with your children. The class that brings in the most canned goods wins a pizza party. The collected food will be donated to families in Okeechobee. Thank you for your support.

Special Areas: Mrs. Waldron's art classes at Seminole have been engaged in painting pears, pumpkins, apples, dragonflies, and self portraits. They have been utilizing various mediums such as, tempera paint, watercolors, oil pastels, graphite pencils, and chalk to create and develop their artistic skills. Art is way of self expression and provides practice in fine motor skills necessary for handwriting and for students with disabilities.

Third: Third grade would like to recognize our Students of the Week." For the week of Oct. 7, we have Ariana Colon in Mrs.

Padgett's class, Bryan Pinon in Mrs. Reed's class, Pricila Garza in Mrs. McCranie's class, Mercedes Garcia in Mrs. Johnson's class, and Rachael Wireman in Mrs. Coldiron's class. For the week of Oct. 13, we have Ashlyn Griffith in Mrs. Padgett's class, Lici Lara in Mrs. Reed's class, Kristian Albritton in Mrs. Johnson's class, Carlos Garcia in Mrs. McCranie's class, and Kevin Crosby in Mrs. Coldiron's class. We are so proud of these students for their hard work and good behavior.

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Submitted photo/Seminole Elementary School

Seminole Elementary School students from Mrs. O'Bannon's second grade enjoyed the field trip to the Crystal mine on Oct. 16.

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Lost 0135

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Health & Reducing Equipment 0620

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Houses - Rent 0930

BRAND NEW- Rent or Buy 3br/2ba, 1700 sq ft, laundry, tiled, \$1100/mo. rent. \$5,000 applied to purchase of \$149,900 after 1 year. 3429 NW 40th Dr., Basswood. (561)718-2822

IN OKEECHOBEE CITY: 4 Br/2Ba, \$1100 mo. + 1st, last, sec. & rets. Call Barry for more info. 772-216-1461

KINGS BAY, 2/2 1 CBS home, W&D, comm pool \$1000/mo. + 1st, last & sec. 863-801-9163

NEW 2 bed/2 bath/2 car garage All appliances included, and many extras. Great neighborhood; A Must See! \$1,000.00/mth + sec. (863)634-7722

NEW DUPLEX - 3/2, in the city limits, Avail Immediately, \$900/mo + 1st, & deposit. (863)465-0053

NICE NIEGHBORHOOD - 3BR, 2BA, pool, extras. Must see! 1401 SE 8th Dr. 1st & sec. Call (863) 885-1347

OKEECHOBEE - 3 BR, 1 BA Duplex, DW, W/D connector, C/A & heat, \$750 mo. + \$500 sec. dep. Call (863) 763-4414

OKEECHOBEE - 3br, 1ba, closed in carport, \$850/mo, 1st, last, \$700 sec. (321)262-9278

OKEECHOBEE - Clean 2/1 House w/ C/Air. 310 NE 4th Ave., \$700 mo., 1st, last & \$500 sec. (863)467-5965

OKEECHOBEE, 3br, 1ba, Lg yard, inside city limits, \$900. mo. + Util., 1st & Last mo. sec. dep. (863)697-6098

Rent to Own - 4/2 \$1000 mo. new, ready now. 863-599-0156 or 561-248-3888

SW Okeechobee- 1600 SW 3rd Ave, CBS House Close to library, Close to everything, 3BR/1.5BA extra room Nice fenced yard, \$900 a month \$2000 to move in, year lease. (863)634-0512

SW Section- 2200 SW 3rd Ave. CBS, 3BR/1BA, Close to Wal-Mart, Nice yard, Carport, \$850 mo., \$2000 moves in (863)634-0512

When you want something sold, advertise in the classifieds.

Office Space Rent 0937

Great Location! OFFICE SPACE
Upstairs & Downstairs Available
863-763-4740

Roommate 0950

ROOM MATE WANTED - Utilities included. \$550. mo. Non smoking/drinking environment. Quiet individual who like cats. Call (863)610-1077

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saves you money by providing information about best buys.

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Real Estate 1000

- Business Places - Sale 1005
- Commercial Property - Sale 1010
- Condos/ Townhouses - Sale 1015
- Farms - Sale 1020
- Houses - Sale 1025
- Hunting Property 1030
- Investment Property - Sale 1035
- Land - Sale 1040
- Lots - Sale 1045
- Open House 1050
- Out of State - Property - Sale 1055
- Property Inspection 1060
- Real Estate Wanted 1065
- Resort Property - Sale 1070
- Warehouse Space 1075
- Waterfront Property 1080

Condos/Townhouses Sale 1015

WPB Condo-Very nice 2/2 will trade for home in Okeechobee. Call 561-662-4563

Houses - Sale 1025

TAKE YOUR PICK

4 bd/2ba CBS, tile floors, architectural shingles, dbl. garage, appliances
\$215,000 including lot
Ready now
FIXED RATE
Financing Available

3bd/2ba, CBS, tile floors,
IMPACT WINDOWS, huge porch, garage.
Almost ready
\$199,000 including lot

WILL BUILD HACIENDA MODEL 4BD/2BA \$154,500 including lot

CAROL model 3BD/2BA \$149,000 including lot

Call 863-357-3313 Neal Long Construction Co.

CBC125170 CMC124343 CFC058088
Okeechobee
www.NealLongConstruction.com

For Lease or Sale Okeechobee Indian Hammock 3/2 House Gated Community 1800 sq. ft., 2.5 acres. Includes barn w/2 horse stalls, fenced, great condition. Available furnished or unfurnished. Contact Brandy at (863)467-0831

NEW! 4/2 - 1450 Sq. Ft., Concrete w/ vaulted ceilings, jacuzzi tub. Make Offer. Asking \$120,000. Leader waiting to lend you money. 3698 NW 7th St. 863-484-0809

OKEE - 2/1, 3405 NW 2nd St., totally renovated, corner lot. New septic. \$89,000 Sale By Owner. (239)707-5155

OKEE - 3/1, oversized lot, totaly remodeled CBS, Tile, Oak cabinets, 21 x 24 enclosed Fla room. Room to add Master bath, 309 SW 10th Ave. 863-357-0391 \$159,900, Flyers.

Houses - Sale 1025

Two Homes for sale in Kissimmee River Shores # 44 & 48 Boondock Rd. Leave msg if no answer (863)763-2346

Mobile Homes

2000

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

Mobile Home Rent 2015

Commuters- For Rent/Sale 2/2 MH furnished, W/D, off of 15A, \$850 month + \$600 sec. (863)634-2953

FOR RENT: Nice 3bd/2ba on 2 lots, \$750/mo, 1st, last & \$500 sec. to move in. Call (863)634-4480/228-0580.

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

NICE 2 BR, 2 BA MOBILE HOME. All appl. W&D. Completely furnished. \$600 mo. (812)989-3022

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

OKEE.. New 2br/2ba on private lot, on water, \$650/mo. 1st & sec. Avail Now. No pets Call (561)767-6112

Mobile Home Rent 2015

OUSLEY ESTATES - 3BR, 2BA, 925 SW 39th Lane. Call 863-610-1092 or 863-763-2098

RANCH SETTING - 3 BR, 2 BA, No pets. Available now! Very clean, \$650 mo. + sec. (863)467-1717

RIVER RUN-2br/2ba furnished, carpet & laundry room, large florida room, includes water & elec, \$800 month (863)357-4164 til 5pm & leave message or (863)610-9465 after 5pm and weekends

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 Angels 561-721-2230

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 for appt.

Pine Ridge Park-2/1 SW Mobile Home asking \$10,500 OBO (863)634-5965

Mobile Home Sale 2020

GREAT SHAPE! 2002 - 2/2, Moore Haven or Okeechobee \$25,000 Set Up & A/C (863)983-8106

MOBILE HOME - 14 X 70, 2BR, 2BA, newly remodeled, Florida room, workshop, carport, handicapped entrance, 55+ Park, \$20,000 cash or \$27,000 on land contract. Must sell ASAP. Call (863)763-1492

~NEW 3/2 DOUBLEWIDE~ \$42,900 Set Up, A/C & Skirting, EZ Financing. (863)983-8106

OKEECHOBEE - 14x60, 2br, 2ba, Fla Room, Util Room, workshop, carport, River Bend Lot 32, \$25,000 or best offer (863)824-0473 leave message.

Motorcycles 3030

BSA BANTAM 1952 - Have title, serious inquires only. \$3000. (863)675-3714

Automobiles 4000

Automobiles 4005
Autos Wanted 4010
Classic Cars 4015
Commercial Trucks 4020

Construction Equipment 4025
Foreign Cars 4030
Four Wheel Drive 4035
Heavy Duty Trucks 4040
Parts - Repairs 4045
Pickup Trucks 4050
Sport Utility 4055
Tractor Trailers 4060
Utility Trailers 4065
Vans 4070

Automobiles 4005

CHEVY LUMINA Sedan, 1999 - 123K, good on gas, a/c blows cold, runs excellent, \$3,500. Call 863-634-0779

DODGE INTREPID 2000 - RUNS EXCELLENT, COLD A/C, NEEDS NOTHING \$2500. (863)673-4851

OLDSMOBILE CUTLESS SUPREME 1991 - new tires A/C cold runs good \$1300/or best offer. (863)675-5090

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

Parts/Repairs 4045

If You Bought Your Tires Somewhere Else... You Probably Paid Too Much!

Compare the Total Price!

Mon - Fri 8am-5pm • Sat 8:00am-12pm
10173 Hwy 441 North, Okeechobee
A Couple of Miles North of the High School. It's Worth the Trip!
May the Lord Bless Us & Guide Us in the Right Direction!
(863) 467-8600

We are now able to do all phases of mechanical work. Full time mechanic on duty. Stop by and give us a try!!!!

ST. LUCIE BATTERY & TIRE
198 US Hwy 98N • Okeechobee • (863) 357-2431 • www.slbtc.com

Four Wheel Drive 4035

FORD F150 4X4 1987 - 6-cyl, 4-spd. See at 2337SE 32ND ST. Okeechobee \$1895. (863)467-9999

Golf Carts 4037

EZGO ELECTRIC 1981 - 3-Wheel, Runs good, Chg, Win & Lights, Good rubber. \$600. (863)673-4660

EZGO ELECTRIC 2002 - Good cond. 36v, accessories (LAD-BELLE) \$1350. (863)673-4660

Pickup Trucks 4050

CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 '03 - 4wd, white, bedcover & liner, \$6300 (863)673-4579

FORD F-350 1997 - Flatbed Dually Runs Great. Needs minor repair. Cold A/C \$2200/neg. (561)718-8580

Parts/Repairs 4045

Four Wheel Drive 4035

Sport Utility 4055

FORD EXPLORER XLT 4X2 1999 - New front end & new battery, Good tires & ice cold AC \$4000. (863)673-4952

Public Notices 5005

5000

Public Notice 5005
State Public - Legal Notice 5500

Public Notice 5005

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

The Workforce Development Board of the Treasure Coast - Region 20 and the Treasure Coast Job Training Consortium announces a public meeting to which all persons are invited:

Date & Time: Wednesday, October 29, 2008 - 8:00 a.m.
Place: Workforce Development Board of Treasure Coast 584 University Blvd., Suite 100 Port St. Lucie, FL 34986

PURPOSE: To discuss matters concerning the Workforce Investment Act, Workforce Employment Opportunities, the Welfare Transition Program, One-Stop Career Centers and the Workforce Development Board. A copy of the agenda may be obtained by contacting:

Workforce Development Board of the Treasure Coast
584 NW University Blvd., Suite 100
Port St. Lucie, FL 34986

Should any person wish to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the above referenced meeting, they will need to ensure a verbatim recording of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based, in order to provide a record for judicial review.

297859 ON 10/26/08

It's never too late to find the perfect gift. Look for it in the classifieds.

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

Public Notice 5005

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

IN THE INTEREST OF:
K.O. DOB: 12/1/03
M.Q. DOB: 1/22/06
Father of the minor child:
Michael Quarles
TO: Father of K.O., Michael Quarles
Father of M.Q., Michael Quarles
Residence and Address Unknown

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

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

FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT THIS ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS OF THIS CHILD. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED, YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS AS A PARENT TO THE CHILD NAMED IN THE PETITION ATTACHED TO THIS NOTICE.

BE ADVISED THAT YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT YOU IN THIS MATTER. IF YOU CANNOT AFFORD AN ATTORNEY, ONE MAY BE APPOINTED FOR YOU. WITNESS MY HAND AS CLERK OF SAID COURT AND THE SEAL THEREOF, THIS 30th DAY OF JULY, 2008.

SHARON ROBERTSON
CLERK OF COURT
By: Kimberly J. Sarras
DEPUTY CLERK

296653 ON 10/19/26;11/2/08

ADVERTISE
and Get Results

Mobile Home Rent 2015

FOR RENT: Nice 3bd/2ba on 2 lots, \$750/mo, 1st, last & \$500 sec. to move in. Call (863)634-4480/228-0580.

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

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Recreation 3000

Boats 3005
Campers/RVs 3010
Jet Skis 3015
Marine Accessories 3020
Marine Miscellaneous 3025
Motorcycles 3030
Sport Vehicles/ATVs 3035

Marine Accessories 3020

MERCURY O/B MOTOR - 4 hp. engine w/kill switch. Recently serviced. Exc. cond. \$495 (863)467-9800

Automobiles 4005

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DODGE INTREPID 2000 - RUNS EXCELLENT, COLD A/C, NEEDS NOTHING \$2500. (863)673-4851

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SHARON ROBERTSON
CLERK OF COURT
By: Kimberly J. Sarras
DEPUTY CLERK

296653 ON 10/19/26;11/2/08

Horner

Continued From Page 1

things state legislators will have to face when the session begins is the budget.

"We'll have to make additional cuts in state government, but I oppose additional taxes," he said.

In cutting the budget, Mr. Horner believes this will bring about opportunities to see where government can be more efficient and how it can utilize the private sector.

If elected, Mr. Horner said one of his top priorities would be doing something about Citizens Insurance.

"I look at Citizens Insurance as a Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac -- the government is intervening in

the private sector," he said. "The state is now the single biggest underwriter of residential property insurance. This is the single greatest threat to the state of Florida. If we get hit with a major storm the state doesn't have anywhere near the reserves necessary to cover these policies. We could see significant tax increases or even cuts in services.

"With Citizens, you can either pay now or pay later. I want to be the private sector back. I would like to see Citizens reduced, and possibly done away with," he added.

Mr. Horner, the head of the Kissimmee-Osceola Chamber of Commerce for the past 10 years, said the state also needs to get tougher with those who are being illegally. He is emphatically against giving illegals a state driv-

er's license and blames the state for allowing illegals to adversely impact local and state services.

"I would deport illegal immigrants if they are convicted of a crime and I am against giving illegal immigrants benefits," he said.

On their impact of illegals on local schools and services, he said the first thing to prevent this additional economic load is to discourage that activity.

"We've set up a system that almost encourages this," said Mr. Horner. "If individuals who make that decision knows it won't be tolerated you won't have that impact on schools and services."

The former lieutenant in the U.S. Army said he is acutely aware of the many issues facing veterans and vows to do what he can to help those who have so valiantly served this country and alluded to

state legislation brought about by Representative Attkisson.

"Frank Attkisson spearheaded a bill to waive property taxes for soldiers serving overseas," he said. "I thought that was outstanding legislation. I have been a champion of veterans issues."

As he's stumped his way through Okeechobee County, Mr. Horner said it's become very apparent that people are concerned about jobs.

"Economic development is important for Okeechobee County," he said. "I've spent quite a bit of time here and people are concerned about jobs. Economic development is at the top of my list and to bring industry and jobs to Okeechobee County. I think I can be an ally in helping Okeechobee County improve its economy."

On the economy, Mr. Horner

pointed to his 10 years in Osceola County and how he, through the chamber, has helped increase wages there. When he began working there, Osceola County was the only county in the region with declining wages. But through hard work and an economic development program, Osceola County has been among the top three counties in the state in terms of increased wages for the last five years.

"We turned that ship around," he said. "I think that is the type of leadership Okeechobee County needs."

Mr. Horner said he is also in favor of finding renewable resources because Florida is in "a unique position" for solar energy, biofuel and tidal energy.

Basically, Mr. Horner describes himself and his political beliefs as

small government, lower taxes and pro family.

While on the pro-family issue, he indicated that U.S. Congressman Tim Mahoney should step down from his 16th Congressional office after the revelations of multiple affairs with other women.

"He's betrayed the public trust," said Mr. Horner.

In short, Mr. Horner said he believes he brings something to the table to help everyone in the 79th district.

"I want to be an active participant in Okeechobee County," he added.

For more Mr. Horner's background, political thoughts and endorsements go to www.gohorner.com.

empty from the ordinance.

For single family, two family and three family units, one tree would have to be planted or preserved for every 1,000 square feet of new dwelling or addition. For multifamily units of four or more families, one tree and five shrubs would have to be planted or preserved for every 1,000 square feet of impervious surface, then for every 5,000 square feet of impervious surface after the first 40,000 square feet.

For multifamily units a landscaped buffer would be required between parking areas and adjoining streets.

Requirements for nonresidential property would be basically the same as for multifamily.

Except for single family residences, a registered landscape architect would have to design

the landscape. Removal of oak trees greater than 48 inches in circumference at 4.5 feet above the ground would be prohibited. However, single family units and agricultural users on parcels greater than 10 acres would be exempt from the oak tree removal provision.

The proposed ordinance also contains a list of plants which are considered a nuisance and could not be planted in the county.

Before adoption of the ordinance a second public hearing will be held at 5:01 p.m. on Nov. 6 in the Okeechobee County Health Department Auditorium, 1728 N.W. 9th Ave.

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

For more information call 863-763-6959.
*** Post your opinions in the Public Issues Forum at www.newszap.com.**
Reporter Pete Gawda can be reached at pgawda@newszap.com.

Babson Park man arrested on local warrant

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

A man has been arrested on Okeechobee County warrants following a February 2007 incident in which he reportedly tried to drive head-on into oncoming traffic on U.S. 441 N.

David Edward Taylor, 37, Babson Park, was arrested Oct. 23, 2008, on a warrant charging him with the felony of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. The warrant also charged him with willful and wanton reckless driving.

Taylor was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail under a bond of \$10,000.

Records at the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) indicate that Taylor has posted bond.

Taylor was arrested on the warrants after he was released from the Moore Haven Correctional Institute in Moore Haven where he had served 16 months after being convicted on Polk County charges of burglary, grand theft and trafficking in stolen property.

The Okeechobee County war-

rant calling for Taylor's arrest was issued in March of 2007.

An OCSO report by Detective Rosemary Farless states that the incident in Okeechobee began on Feb. 23, 2007, when Taylor apparently tried to hang himself in a local home. When that attempt failed, he got into a red Chevrolet S-10 pickup and fled the scene, continued the report.

A short time later Deputy Sam Thomas saw the truck and tried to stop it, but Taylor refused to stop. The report stated that he was traveling at speeds around 60 mph at this time and was continuing northbound on U.S. 441 N.

Detective Farless stated in the report that she continued to follow Taylor in her unmarked OCSO unit, while OCSO Corporal Randy Thomas followed her.

Several times, she wrote, Taylor crossed the center line when southbound traffic approached.

When Taylor was approximately one-quarter mile south of the county line he swerved into the other lane and forced a southbound vehicle driven by Michael Ryan Wise, now 22, of Okeechobee, onto the shoulder of the highway.

Taylor also left the pavement and continued to drive straight at the other vehicle, stated Detective Farless. Mr. Wise and his vehicle was about 20-feet off the roadway but Taylor was still driving straight toward it, stated the detective.

Mr. Wise was able to avoid the collision, stated the detective's report.

According to the report, as Taylor entered Osceola County he continued to swerve into the path of oncoming traffic and on at least five occasions southbound vehicles had to swerve to avoid a head-on collision.

Her report goes on to state that Taylor also tried to hit several vehicles head-on in Osceola County.

Taylor was finally stopped in Polk County when deputies deployed stop sticks.

County may require landscaping

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

Landscaping of residential and commercial lots in Okeechobee County may soon be regulated by county ordinance. On Thursday, Oct. 23 Okeechobee County Commissioners held the first of two public hearings to gather input on a proposed landscape ordinance.

The proposed ordinance would apply to single family, multifamily and nonresidential properties and would set requirements for such things as the number of trees and the amount of ground cover, screening and buffer strips. The proposed ordinance would also promote water conservation and use of existing native vegetation.

Farm buildings would be ex-

Puzzles

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

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

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

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

ANSWER:

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Pepper et al.: Abbr.
5 His second book is subtitled "Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream"
10 Order in the court
14 Dog follower
15 Bedouin's mount
16 Engine with dome-shaped combustion chambers
17 Fastenmak heroine
18 Lock
19 "Give this priority"
20 Wardrobe stolen by actor Lane?
23 Alabama rival
24 Phil's slugger Chase
25 Like Mr. Potato Head with fabric lips?
30 Mantra word heard in "My Sweet Lord"
31 "Hooray!"
32 Ultra _____ detergent brand
33 Big runway name
35 "S a request": "To a Mouse!"
38 More revealing, maybe
39 Frat letters
40 Attire for reactor inspectors?
44 "The Name Above the Title" autobiographer
45 Sycophants
46 Goldbricks in the men's department?
51 Bypass
52 Got off the ground
53 Formal denial
55 Point at the dinner table?
56 "A Bar at the Folies-Bergere" artist
57 CXXI quintupled
58 M.I.T. grad
59 They're often evaluated by doctors
60 Grey Goose alternative

DOWN

1 Cardinal's insignia
2 In tiny pieces
3 Mountainous region of Afghanistan
4 Piece of legislation
5 Station identification?
6 Word with storm or burner
7 Iowa straw poll city
8 Dove-tail
9 What's more "Huh...?"
11 Fix, as a pump
12 Conceptualized
13 High
21 Regal letters
22 Alexander the Great, to Aristotle
23 Dental concern
26 Arab League member
27 Moliere's Harpagon, e.g.
28 Off-the-wall piece on the wall?
29 Bars on market shelves
33 Related to the soft palate

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

S	M	E	L	L	E	G	G	O	W	E	T	S		
T	O	M	E	L	L	I	G	I	R	D	A	L	A	I
Y	O	U	N	G	O	G	O	D	R	A	I	N		
T	H	I	S	I	S	I	M	P	L	E				
O	C	T	E	T	S	S	A	T	S	O	W			
W	H	O	N	E	E	D	S	E	R	A	S	E	R	S
N	O	G	R	E										

OHS plans homecoming celebrations all week

Homecoming celebrations at Okeechobee High School are in full swing beginning Monday, Nov. 3.

This year's theme is "Bright Lights, Big City."

On Monday, Nov. 3, students will dress with "Clash" clothing, wearing mixed-match clothes. During lunch there will be a tricycle race competition of classes.

Tuesday, Nov. 4, brings out the "Cowboys and Indians" with students wearing traditional cowboy and Indian attire. During lunch as a fundraiser, Principal Toni Wiersma will be taped to a wall by the student body who will purchase a foot of duct tape for \$1. This will also count towards their class competition. To get some ideas visit <http://www.ducttape-guys.com/walltapings/>.

On Wednesday, Nov. 5, students will dress in "60s' attire." During lunch the student body will vote for Homecoming Queen which will be announced at the Homecoming Game on Friday.

Thursday, Nov. 6, is school spirit day and each class will have their own dress code. Sophomores will dress in gold; Juniors will dress in Purple; and Seniors will dress in the traditional camouflage.

The Homecoming Pep Rally with a Carnival begins at 6 p.m. in the OHS football stadium with the bonfire following the festivities. There will be a large obstacle course and other small games that will allow classes to earn points for how well they do at the

games and how much money their class raises at the carnival. Tickets for the carnival will cost \$1 per ticket or 6 for \$5; 13 for \$10; 25 for \$20.

On Homecoming Day, Friday, Nov. 7, each class will dress according to their chosen city for the "Bright Lights Big City" theme. Seniors will dress portraying Las Vegas; Juniors will dress portraying Hollywood; and Sophomores will dress portraying New Orleans.

The Homecoming Parade line-up will begin at 2:15 p.m. on

the south side of U-Save with the parade beginning at 3 p.m.

Pre-game activities will begin at 7 p.m. and the Homecoming Court and Queen will be announced during half-time.

OHS students will attend the Homecoming Dance on Saturday, Nov. 8.

A reminder to students and parents: student dress and participation must be in accordance with OHS rules. Shorts can be worn any day this week, as long as it is in connection with that day's dress theme. Anyone violating school rules

will be sent to the office and points will be taken from his/her class' score.

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Submitted photo/Everglades

Parent involvement

As part of Parent Involvement Week, Mrs. Wojcieszak graciously consented to be a guest reader in Mrs. Tilton's third grade class at Everglades Elementary. Her story of a scared little monster was enjoyed by one and all!



Submitted photo/OFC

OFC Top 12

On Thursday, Oct. 23, Okeechobee Freshman Campus assistant principal, Matt Koff, drew names to determine the most recent Top 12 students for the 2008-09 school year. The students were entered into the drawing if they received five positive signatures in the last three weeks. The winning students from the class of 2012 received a book or t-shirt and candy. In the top row are: Michelle Dorta, Allison Chandler, Josh Clemons, Marissa Damico. Students in the middle row included: Stephen Courson, John Boswell, Marco Raya, Garrett Folbrecht, Mr. Koff and in the bottom row are: Hector Torres, Christian Bernhard, Tyler Crenshaw, Veronica Navarro.



Submitted photo/Raulerson Hospital

Tourney thanks

The golf tournament was held this past weekend on Saturday, Oct. 18, at the Okeechobee Golf and Country Club. All funds raised support the United Way of Okeechobee. Every year, many organizations in Okeechobee step up to the plate as a sponsor, helping the United Way provide grants to the many agencies seeking their help. A special thank you goes out to Raulerson Hospital, Accardi/Milrodt Dodge Chrysler Jeep, Indian River State College, Home Depot, Wal-Mart, Mr. Frank Irby, Lloyd's Pest Control, St. Lucie Medical Center, Gateway Medical Group, Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office, Golden Corral, Beef O'Brady's, Jersey Mikes, A Barber Shop, Carolyn's Coiffures, Walgreens, Seacoast National Bank, WOKC Radio AM & FM, and the many organizations that sponsored a golf team, making this past Saturday a great event.



Submitted photo/YMS

Students of the Week

Students at Yearling Middle School are achieving excellence everyday. Students of the week are: Felipe Soto, Mikeshia Tillman, Vicky MacAllister, Macy Watt, Julie Sharpe, Audrey Metcalfe, (not pictured) Tabatha Henry. They are accompanied by Mr. Brewer, Mrs. Markham and Mr. Tedders. Congratulations to our outstanding students!

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Okeechobee loses district showdown to Panthers



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Chris Tullio had a tough assignment blocking Westwood defenders like Luther Robinson at Thursday's football game.

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee High School's hopes for their first district football championship suffered a major blow Thursday as the Brahms lost to perennial district powerhouse, Fort Pierce Westwood, 27-14 at Lawnwood Stadium.

Okeechobee scored early and late but didn't get much offense in the middle of the game as Westwood scored 27 unanswered points.

"7-1 sounds good, 3-0 in the district sounds even better, in the driver's seat and controlling our own destiny sounds better than everything else," Panther Coach Waides Ashmon said afterward.

His team threw the ball a lot in the first half with a varying amount of success. After the break they went to the ground game and kept Okeechobee's talented offense off the field.

Ashmon said his goal was to control the ball and keep Lonnie Pryor off the field. After the victory he was proud of this defense which held Pryor to 134 all purpose yards.

"The longer we could keep Lonnie Pryor on the sideline, the better we were going to do. We got his number and I'm glad he's gone," he noted.

Pryor got his team going on the opening kickoff as he picked up a loose ball and ran 41 yards downfield to give Okeechobee great field position.

Okeechobee drove 32 yards in nine plays to score thanks to a pass play from Garrett Madrigal (10-16 through the air) to Sam Dixon. Okeechobee had the early momentum but that wouldn't last long.

On Westwood's first set of downs QB Isaac Virgin hit a streaking Leon Shorter down the sideline for a 62 yard gain and a first and goal on the Brahms seven yard line. Four plays later Jerrell Washington, (132 yards rushing), made it in on a one yard run to tie the game.

After the tie scoring, the game turned into a defensive struggle. Luther Robinson of Westwood was dominant for the Panthers. He had several tackles behind the line of scrimmage. Whenever Okeechobee appeared to have something going, Robinson would make a big play.

Coach Ashmon said Robinson is an all state caliber player and he challenged him to play a strong game against another top player, Lonnie Pryor.

"I owe him a large pepperoni pizza. I've waited all season for this Luther Robinson and he showed up and showed out tonight. He was fantastic," Ashmon noted.

Robinson thanked his teammates and his coaches for helping him play well, "I feel good. Our defensive coordinator put me in a position to make plays. Our game plan was to stop Lonnie Pryor. We practice hard all week and we came out to play."

Okeechobee seemed to have it

going after they took over at midfield in the second quarter. Pryor ran for a first down but on the next play the Brahms fumbled a snap and Westwood recovered.

The Panthers then drove 62 yards in 13 plays to take the lead for good. Key plays on the drive included 32 yards in rushes by Virgin, and a 12 yard run by Washington. Westwood scored on a beautiful play action pass from Virgin to Khalil Mack to make it 13-7.

In the second half Westwood changed from a four wide receiver set to a tighter run formation. The strategy change seemed to work as the Panthers controlled the clock and the scoreboard.

A quick 80 yard drive late in the third gave Westwood control of the game. Washington broke loose for a 32 yard run and Virgin hit Shorter on a well thrown 35 yard post pattern which broke Okeechobee's backs. The 39 yard touchdown gave Westwood a 20-7 lead.

Westwood's final drive covered 73 yards and was helped along by a costly defensive pass interference call. Westwood run the ball down the Brahms throat with simple off tackle plays. Washington rushed for 39 of the yards on this drive. A third down conversion at the Brahman 30 yard line was the difference. Walt Fortner grabbed Westwood's Travarius Copeland which earned him the pass interference call. Washington ran the final two yards to put Westwood on top 27-7.

Okeechobee suddenly showed some life on offense on their next drive as they threw the ball very successfully. The 62 yard drive featured four straight Madrigal completions which covered 36 yards. Nate Pollard caught a nine yard touchdown pass from Madrigal to cut the Panther lead to 27-14.

Okeechobee tried an onside kick but Westwood was able to recover and they kept the ball until the final minute.

Okeechobee's last desperate drive ended when Madrigal was forced out of the pocket and was intercepted by Willie Henton.

Okeechobee (5-2) still has an inside track on a playoff berth if they can beat Martin County and Jensen Beach at home in the next two weeks.

Game notes

Okeechobee converted a fourth down on their first drive, but were stopped on another fourth down attempt in the first half when Shane Taggart was stood up on two consecutive running plays. Taggart played a great game on defense, with several big stops.

Justin Conrad and Shane Taggart combined to stop Virgin for a five yard loss in the first half.

Westwood running back Cameron Toombs, who had rushed for close to 500 yards this year, was injured in the first half and did not return.

Kareem Jones had a QB sack for Okeechobee. He also dropped Washington for a three yard loss in the second quarter.

Tony Kibler left the game with an arm injury. He dropped Washington for a four yard loss in the third quarter. Leland Schoonmaker tackled Washington for a two yard loss in the fourth quarter.

Luther Robinson had two QB sacks for Westwood.

Final score

Okeechobee 7 0 0 7-- 14
Westwood 7 6 7 7-- 27

How they scored

First Quarter

Okeechobee Dixon 4 yard pass from Madrigal. (Najara Kick) 7-0. 7:15.

Westwood Washington one yard run. (Sierra kick) 7-7. 4:51.

Second Quarter

Westwood Mack six yard pass from Virgin. (kick failed) 13-7. 9:22.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
The two head coaches chat before the game, Westwood's Waides Ashmon (right) and Okeechobee's Chris Branham (left).

Third Quarter

Westwood Shorter 39 yard pass from Virgin. (Sierra kick) 20-7. 6:00.

Fourth Quarter

Westwood Washington three yard run. (Sierra kick) 27-7. 5:56.

Okeechobee Pollard 11 yard pass from Madrigal (Najara kick) 27-14. 1:57.

Team statistics	Okee	FPW
First Downs	10	12
Third Downs	1-7	3-10
Penalties	6-51	9-88
Punts	4-135	4-151
Punt returns	0-0	1-6
Kick returns	3-66	2-33
Interceptions	0-0	1-10
Fumbles/lost	2-1	0-0

Okeechobee

Passing	Att	Comp	Yds	TD	Ints
Madrigal	16	10	79	2	1
Pryor	1	0	0	0	0
Totals	17	10	79	2	1

Rushing

No.	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD
Madrigal	3	8	2.7	1
Pryor	17	73	4.3	12
Taggart	2	1	0.5	0
Fortner	1	4	4.0	4
Totals	23	68	2.9	12

Receiving

No.	Yds	Avg	Lgk	TD
Dixon	1	4	4.0	4
Jones	1	10	10.0	0
Fortner	1	12	12.0	12
McQueen	1	1	1.0	1
Pollard	2	20	10.0	11
Minondo	2	15	7.5	10
Pryor	2	19	9.5	12
Totals	16	79	5.0	12

Westwood

Passing

Virgin 16 6 125 2 0

Rushing

Virgin 12 35 2.9 12 0

Washington 23 132 5.3 32 2

Toombs 1 2 2.0 2 0

Shaw 4 8 2.0 5 0

Totals 40 177 4.4 32 2

Receiving	No.	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD
Washington	1	7	7.0	7	0
Shorter	2	101	55.5	62	1
Copeland	1	5	5.0	5	0
Jackson	1	6	6.0	6	0
Mack	1	6	6.0	6	1
Totals	6	125	20.9	62	2

Area scores

Clewisto 35	Pope John Paul 12
Pahokee 41	John Carroll 6
Dunbar 40	Labelle 13
Avon Park 34	Bartow 27
Desoto 48	Sebring 12
Sebastian 16	Fort Pierce 7
South Fork 21	Treasure Coast 15
Bayside 47	Port St. Lucie 13
Glades Day 42	St. John Neumann 0
Evangelical 50	Moore Haven 38
Vero Beach 29	Jupiter 6
St. Edwards 27	Coral Springs Charter 18
Jensen Beach 23	Martin County 20
Melbourne 31	St. Lucie West 7
Glades Central 50	Arch Bishop McArthy 0

District 13-4A Standings

Team	W-L	All	PF	PA
Westwood	3-0	7-1	246	118
Okeechobee	2-1	5-2	249	153
Sebastian R.	2-1	4-3	126	130
Fort Pierce	1-2	2-4	138	212
Jensen Beach	1-2	3-4	137	194
Martin County	0-3	0-7	108	242

Player of the week: Willie Meyer of Jensen Beach. His 41 yard field goal gave Jensen a 23-20 victory over Martin County.

How Okeechobee opponents fared: Jupiter Christian defeated Boca Raton Christian 55-6, Avon Park defeated Bartow 34-27, Sebring lost to Desoto 48-12, Sebastian River defeated Fort Pierce 16-7, Glades Day defeated St. John Neumann 42-0, Fort Pierce fell to Sebastian River 16-7, Westwood defeated Okeechobee 27-14, Martin County lost to Jensen

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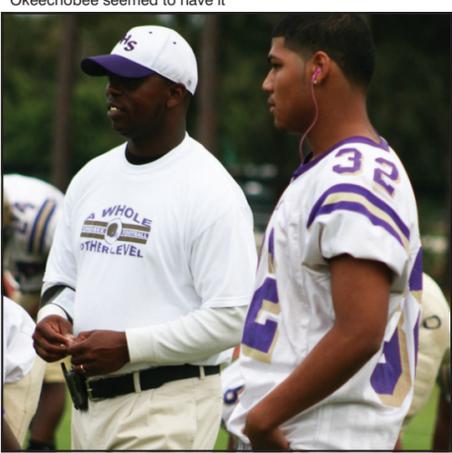
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Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
An injured Louis Ruiz watches his teammates as assistant coach Darryl Allen supervises at Thursday's game with Westwood.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Shane Taggart played another inspiring game on defense. He left the game with leg cramps in the fourth quarter.

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Alligator bites man's thumb

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

An Okeechobee man was injured after he tried to capture and relocate a 9'11" American Alligator located on property owned by Larson Dairy, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission reported.

Investigator Chris Harris reported he responded to Larson Dairy at 1520 N.E. 64th Drive and found the man, Jacob Larson, 28, injured.

Larson, who holds a permit with the state wetlands alligator harvest program was attempt-

OHS golf finishes eighth at regional

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

It wasn't the scores they were after but a young Okeechobee High School golf team will certainly take them.

Okeechobee competed in the Region 6 Class 2A golf tournament at the Majors County Club in Brevard County Tuesday and scored 342 as a team. Corey White led the way with a seven over par, 79. He finished in the top 20 individually. Tim Gray shot an 86. Tyler Platt shot an 87. Richard Donegan had a round of 89. Mike Watson shot a 98.

"I sensed that their youth had an impact Tuesday as they were a little nervous," Brahmans Golf Coach Mark Ward said. He noted the team had played a practice round Monday and appeared to be very relaxed and experienced beyond their years. It didn't transpire to great scores Tuesday, but the team certainly held their own. "Anybody competing in any sport will say they could have shot better. They could have made a putt here or a chip there." The golf course was the toughest the team had played this year, Ward noted. The wind was whipping up and the fairways were narrow, while the greens were faster. Still the team didn't give up and got some valuable experience for the future.

"We know we were going to be better next year. I think the future of Brahma golf is pretty exciting," Ward said. Ward praised senior golfer Corey White for his leadership this year. White shot 88 last year in the regional. This year he shot a solid 79.

"Corey is going out in style, he has the red carpet laid out for these other guys due to his strong leadership," he said. Ward said the goal next year will be to get to this level and beyond. He noted this experience should inspire the kids to work harder and reach the state tournament.

"They were disappointed at first, and you could see the long faces, but after they put it into perspective you could see the kids were high fiving each other and giving each other hugs," he stated.

Martin County and Dwyer were the only teams that advanced to the state tournament next week. Martin County shot 297 and Dwyer 299. Will Davenport of Martin County won the individual championship as he shot a 69.

Sports Briefs

Board of Realtors to host golf tourney

The Okeechobee County Board of Realtors will be holding their 15th Annual Golf Tournament on Saturday, **Nov. 1**, at the Okeechobee Golf and Country Club. The money raised will be used to present local high school seniors with scholarships towards furthering their education.

Registration will begin at 7 a.m. Hole sponsor, tee sponsor and green sponsor's are available and the teams consist of 4 golfers. Lots of prizes available: Closest to Pin, Longest drive and Hole-in-one. Call Kathy Godwin 863-763-8222 or 863-634-7728 for details. Hope this will be a great event.

Signups planned for Upward Basketball

The First Baptist Church of Okeechobee will be hosting upward basketball and cheerleading for grades first through sixth, boys and girls. Registration is open. The cost is \$65 through **Oct. 26** and \$75 if signup occurs between Oct. 27 and Nov. 4.

The deadline for registration will be Nov. 4. To register, come to the ROC or the church office. For more information, please call 863-467-7625 or 863-763-2171.

Raulerson Hospital/United Way has benefit tourney

Gateway Medical Group, LLC. took first place honors at the Raulerson Hospital/United Way Greater Open Golf Tournament this past Saturday, Oct. 18, at the Okeechobee Golf and Country Club. All contributions benefit the United Way of Okeechobee. A field of 20 teams enjoyed the great weather, the numerous prizes given away, and a great lunch. Prizes for first, third, and second to last place, Closest to the Pin, the Most Accurate Drive, and a Hole in One for a vehicle, provided by Accardi/Milroth Chrysler Dodge Jeep, highlighted the day.



The Gateway Team included John Smith, Dr. Arif Shakoor, Sam Smith, Hamad Ahmed. Submitted photo/Raulerson Hospital

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An HMO with a Medicare contract available to anyone enrolled in both Part A and Part B of Medicare through age or disability. Enrollment period restrictions apply, call Metcare for details. Plans may be renewed annually. Copayment, service area, and benefit limitations may apply. You must continue to pay your Medicare applicable premiums if not otherwise paid for under Medicaid or by another third-party. A sales representative will be present with information and applications. ¹Other plans are available. Benefits differ by plan. ²An HMO plan with a Point-of-Service (POS) option. Higher copays may apply. ³Because of the processing time with the Federal Government, you will not see additional funds in your Social Security check for several months after the effective date. However, when the U.S. Social Security Administration completes the process, you will see a total reimbursement in your next check retroactive to your enrollment date in the plan. After that, you will see a standard increase in your monthly Social Security check.

