OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 100 No. 21 | Wednesday, February 18, 2009 | 50¢ Plus tax

Briefs

Florida Building Codes meeting

On Feb. 18, Okeechobee County Planning and Development Department will sponsor the 2007 Florida Building Codes Educational Meeting from 10 a.m. until noon at the Okeechobee County Civic Center, 1750 Hwy. 98 North. There is no charge for this meeting. For more information call 863-763-5548.

Mainstreet Mixer planned

Okeechobee Main Street's February Mixer will be hosted by Pristine Properties located at 1120 South Parrott Avenue from 5–7 p.m. on Thursday, **Feb. 19**. The public is invited to come join us for networking, refreshments, door prizes and a chance to win our Mega 50/50 drawing. For more information contact Main Street's Executive Director Toni Doyle at 863-357-6246.

Dine with Doctors

Did you ever wonder what procedures are followed in an emergency room? The next "Dine with the Doctor," a medical series, is scheduled for **Feb. 24**, in the dining room of Raulerson Hospital. Dinner services starts at 5 p.m. with the physician presentation at 5:30 p.m. The dinner is only $5 for the entree, salad, roll and butter, beverage, and dessert... the physician presentation is FREE. This month's presentation, "What Happens in the Emergency Department," will be presented by Jonathan Adelberg, M.D., Emergency Department Medical Director at Raulerson Hospital. Please R.S.V.P. to Bill Casian at 863-824-2702 for a reserved seat.

Deadline nears for tax exemptions

Applications for Homestead exemption, Additional Senior Exemption for person's 65 years or older, Agriculture Classification and all other exemption applications should be filed with the Property Appraiser's Office by March 1, 2009. Agriculture renewal cards (green cards) are also due March 1. The property appraiser's office is located at 307 N.W. Fifth Avenue in the Alderman Building. Exemption for seniors 65 and older is subject to income limits. For more information contact the office at 863-763-4422.

Drought Index

Current: 653
Source: Florida Division of Forestry
Local Burn Ban: None

Lake Levels

13.09 feet

Last Year: 10.12 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

Index

Classifieds 10-11
Lifestyles 2
Community Events 6
Crossword 4
Obituaries 6
Opinion 4
Speak Out 4
Sports 13
Sudoku 11
Weather 2

See Page 2 for information about how to contact the newspaper.

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Council approves rate schedules

City officials set rates for documents, inspections, and plan reviews

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

Thanks to two resolutions passed by the Okeechobee City Council on Tuesday evening, Feb. 17 interested citizens now have all fees for copies of public documents, inspections and plans reviews in one place for easy reference. City Clerk Lane Gamiotea said the fees for public records have not gone up. They are set by state statute. Fire Chief Herb Smith said the inspection fees are comparable or maybe even conservative as compared to other areas of the state. The biggest change is the inclusion of newer forms of records such as CDs and DVDs.

The Visiting Nurses Association (VNA) was granted their request to close S.E. Park Street between Second and Third Avenues on April 18 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for VNA Family Sports Day.

Turning to board positions, Frank Irby was re-elected as a regular member of the Okeechobee Utility Authority Board of Directors while Devin Maxwell was re-elected an alternate member of the board. Councilman Mike O'Connor was appointed to the Main Street Board of Directors in place of Dowling Watford and he was also appointed an alternate to the Central Florida Regional Planning Council.

In other action the board presented Belen Reyna with a Five Year Service Award and vice mayor Dowling Watford proclaimed the week of Feb. 15-21 to be National Engineers' Week in the City of Okeechobee.

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

New football coach: Happy to be here

Okeechobee News/**Charles Murphy**
New Coach Jeremy Beckham meets Marcus Martin, a key returning player. David Carr (middle) looks on.

Community welcomes Beckham

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Jeremy Beckham already feels at home in Okeechobee.

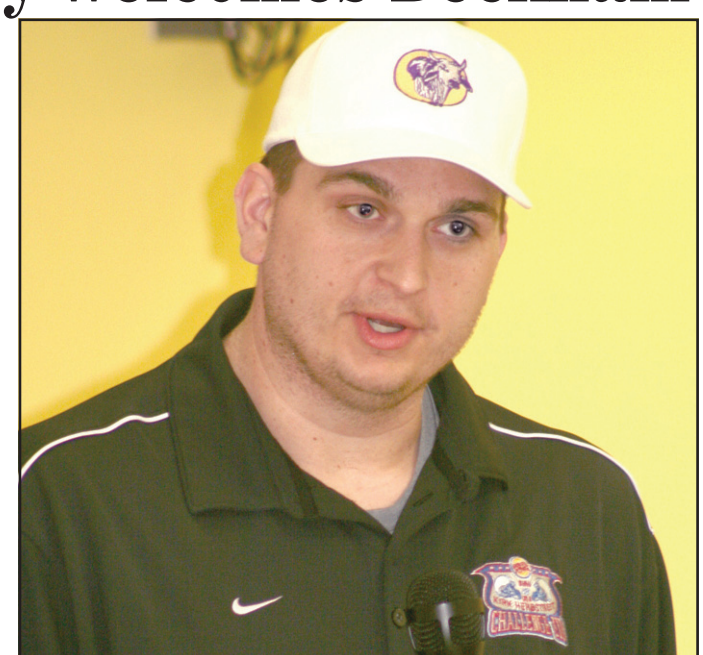
The new coach at Okeechobee High School was greeted warmly at a reception at the high school Friday night that was attended by top school administrators, School Superintendent Dr. Patricia Cooper, members of the Brahman booster club, and players and coaches.

"Its overwhelming and amazing. Everyone has opened up their arms to me in Okeechobee. I'm very happy and excited. I just want to work as hard as I can and make them proud of Brahman football," he said.

Superintendent Dr. Patricia Cooper said she was very impressed with the reports she received on Beckham. She noted he brought a book with him about Okeechobee football that really showed he cared and did his homework.

Head of the search committee Sean Downing said Beckham had a lot of experience in football and that the committee was very satisfied with their selection.

Beckham promised that his team will play hard, play fast, and get after it. "I promise all of you that you will get my best effort. We will have a lot of fun. We'll have a wide open offense and a hard, aggressive defense."



Okeechobee News/**Charles Murphy**
Football Coach Jeremy Beckham speaks to the crowd at Friday's reception.

Beckham had a full weekend of events on tap as he visited with players on Saturday afternoon and held a community meeting on Saturday night.

He also spend Saturday interviewing possible assistant coaches. He said he will work hard to assemble the best possible staff.

"I will do my due diligence and make sure we bring in the highest quality of person first, somebody who knows about football and can teach fundamentals so our players are successful. I'm looking forward to talking to everybody and see

See **Coach** — Page 9

State Farm no longer to insure property in Fla.

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

On Friday, Feb. 13 Florida Insurance Commissioner Kevin McCarty conditionally approved State Farm Florida's request to withdraw from the Florida property insurance market.

According to the conditions placed on the withdrawal, State Farm Florida shall not place any of its policies with Citizens, the state run insurance company, and State Farm Florida agents are ordered to direct their clients to other private insurance companies. Prorated refunds shall be given to policy holders who wish to cancel or not renew a policy. State Farm shall also consider all offers to assume all or part of its business.

Local State Farm agent, David Hester, said State Farm officials are reviewing the conditions of the approval. He has no indication yet as to how they will react. They could either accept all the conditions, reject all the conditions, or try to negotiate some of the conditions. They have 21 days to reply.

Currently State Farm agents, under the terms of their contract with State Farm, can only write State Farm policies. That is a common practice with many insurance companies. However, under Florida law, any agent that is licensed to sell insurance in Florida is allowed to write policies for any company licensed in Florida.

Another condition states that State Farm Florida is to surrender its Certificate of Authority within 30 days. Mr. Hester said that if the company did so, it would be giving up the right to service current policy holders. That could be a conflict with the condition that State Farm agents transfer their clients to other insurance companies.

The commissioner's conditional approval does not specifically address State Farm's request to be allowed to phase out policies over a two year period.

"State Farm intended to

See **Insurance** — Page 9

City Planning Board to discuss historic preservation ordinance

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

When it meets tomorrow evening, the City Planning Board will consider allowing a commercial indoor recreation facility to be built in connection with the planned commercial complex Jerry Suarez is developing on the west bank of Taylor Creek north of the S.R. 70 bridge.

The board will also consider any additional requests for amendments to the city's land development regulations.

After the conclusion of the regular meeting the board will go into workshop session to discuss a proposed sign ordinance as well as a proposed historic preservation ordinance. Another topic of discussion will be commercial corridor designation. The board will also review methodology of the 2010 evaluation and appraisal report relating to the comprehensive plan.

No official action can be taken at a workshop.

If you go ...

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

When: 6 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 19

Where: City Council Chambers, Okeechobee City Hall, 55 S.E. Third Ave.

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

CAP cadets fly model planes

The Okeechobee Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol tried their hand at flying Radio Control Model Aircraft by invitation of the Okeechobee Model Airplane Club at their local flying field l on N.E. 80th Avenue. Captain Joe Papasso, Squadron Commander and David Fox, President of the Okeechobee Model Airplane Club saw this as a great opportunity to bring both groups together, have some fun and promote aviation education within the community.

Captain Papasso explained it was originally intended to be a cadet activity, but before the first engine was ever started, the Model Club was generous enough to offer the senior officers and parents the opportunity to also take the controls of a model aircraft.

The model aircraft are similar in shape and function to the Cessna 172 the Civil Air Patrol flies, so the cadets were already familiar with the basic aircraft design and control functions. In fact, most of the Cadets have already had the controls of the CAP 172 in their hands in flight while participating in the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Orientation Flight Program.

With the model planes, the cadets had the opportunity to experience flight from another perspective, outside the aircraft where they can actually see how the aircraft reacts to the control inputs.

While flying full size planes, pilots rely on small visual clues looking outside the aircraft as well as feelings and sensations from their body as it is acted upon by the forces of the aircraft in flight. Model aircraft pilots rely solely upon visual clues; it is a totally different perspective and type of flying as the cadets and CAP pilots learned.

The Model Aircraft are individually owned by members of the Okeechobee Model Airplane Club, who generously donated their time, equipment and fuel for use by the Civil Air Patrol Members. These aircraft are all high wing configurations and considered "trainers" in the Radio Control Model Airplane Sport. They are constructed of balsa wood with a tricycle

See **CAP** — Page 8

Submitted photo
Members of the Civil Air Patrol learned how to pilot model aircraft with help from the Okeechobee Model Airplane Club. Left to right are Dan Groden, Dan Boggs, Ike Nelson, Mike Miller, Joey Allen, Heather Lowry, Bob Bales, David Fox and Gene Bartz.

Engagement

Lamoureux-Stevens

Dana Broderick of Okeechobee and Joseph (Bert) Lamouruex of Ocala, are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter Danielle Lamouruex to Joseph Stevens of Okeechobee.

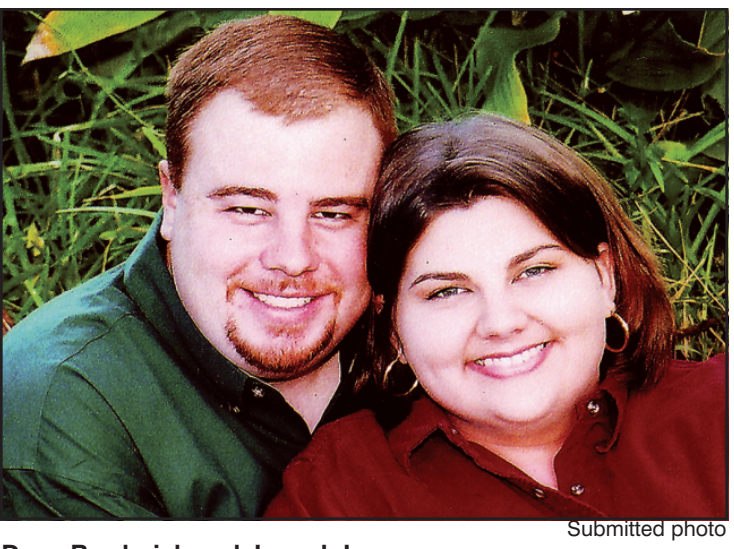
The prospective groom is the son of Jake and Janis Stevens of Okeechobee.

The wedding is planned for March 21, 2009.

The bride to be is a 2004 graduate of Okeechobee High School. She is employed as a Health Support Technician with Okeechobee County Health Department.

The groom is a 2003 graduate of Okeechobee High School. He is employed as a store manager with Original Equipment.

After the wedding, the couple will reside in Okeechobee.



Submitted photo

Dana Broderick and Joseph Lamouruex

Wedding Announcement

Pharr-Polley

Leesa Marie Pharr and Chad Franklin Polley were joined in marriage on Nov. 14, 2008.

The bride is the daughter of Laurie Pharr of Okeechobee and the late Dr. Wayne M. Pharr.

The groom is the son of Craig and Louise Polley of Odessa.

The wedding was held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. The Very Rev. Timothy Shaw officiated at the ceremony. The bride was given away by her mother.

The church was decorated with garnet and gold bows and sunflowers.

The bride wore a strapless full length dress with a veil. She carried a bird of paradise and sunflowers.

The maid of honor was Kim Carpentar Herring of Old Town. Bridesmaids were Kristi Mackin Hardy of Okeechobee, Mary-Louise Stanton Fitzgibbon of Okeechobe, Michelle Pharr Coleman of Okeechobee, MaryEllen Pharr Curran of Okeechobee, Jill Pharr Turlington of Okeechobee, Kayla Michelle Curran of Okeechobee.

The best man was Michael Schmid of Tampa. The groomsmen were Brian Polley of Riverview, Adam Mueller of West Palm Beach, Chad Peterson of Wesley Chapel, Josh Dixon of Riverview, Chris Garrie of Rochester, N.Y., and Mark Turlington of Okeechobee. The ushers were Kevin Coleman and Rob Curran, both of Okeechobee.

The flower girls were Raylee Michelle Coleman of Okeechobee, daughter of Kevin and Michelle Coleman and Kate Elizabeth Turlington of Okeechobee, daughter of Mark and Jill Turlington. The ring bearers were Luke and Dylan Fitzgibon of Atlanta, Ga., sons of Jim and MaryLouise Fitzgibbon. Following the ceremony a reception was held in the parish hall at St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

After a honeymoon trip to Jamaica, the couple is at home in Tampa. The groom is employed as a Chiropractor in Tampa. The bride is employed as a retail sales manager with Kraft Foods.

Submitted photo

Mr. and Mrs. Chad Franklin Polley

Submitted photo

Lucky winners

The Republican Party of Okeechobee had a drawing at the Speckled Perch Festival. The winners were Wanda McNeil with a Bath Basket; Tom Hodapp, Cocoa Basket and Karen Hodapp, Coffee Basket. Tom and Karen had a great day considering they are married and both took baskets home!

Okeechobee Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny with a high near 79 and winds from the south between 5 and 15 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy with a low around 58. Winds will be from the southwest around 10 mph.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: Mostly cloudy with a high near 78 and a 40 percent chance of showers, mainly after 1 p.m. Winds will be from the west southwest between 10 and 15 mph with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Thursday night: Partly cloudy with a low around 44 and a 20 percent chance of showers before midnight. Winds will be from the west northwest between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday: Sunny with a high near 66. Winds will be from the north northwest between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday night: Mostly clear with a low around 36 and winds from the north northwest around 5 mph.

Lotteries

Florida Lottery — Here are the numbers selected Monday in the Florida Lottery: **Cash 3:** 7-6-5; **Play 4:** 5-4-3-7; **Fantasy 5:** 2-4-7-23-35; **Florida Lotto**: 8-12-19-26-34-45; **Powerball:** 2-8-9-33-45 PB5 x5. Numbers drawn Tuesday, **Cash 3:** 2-8-8; **Play 4:** 8-5-2-7.

At Your Service

Okeechobee News

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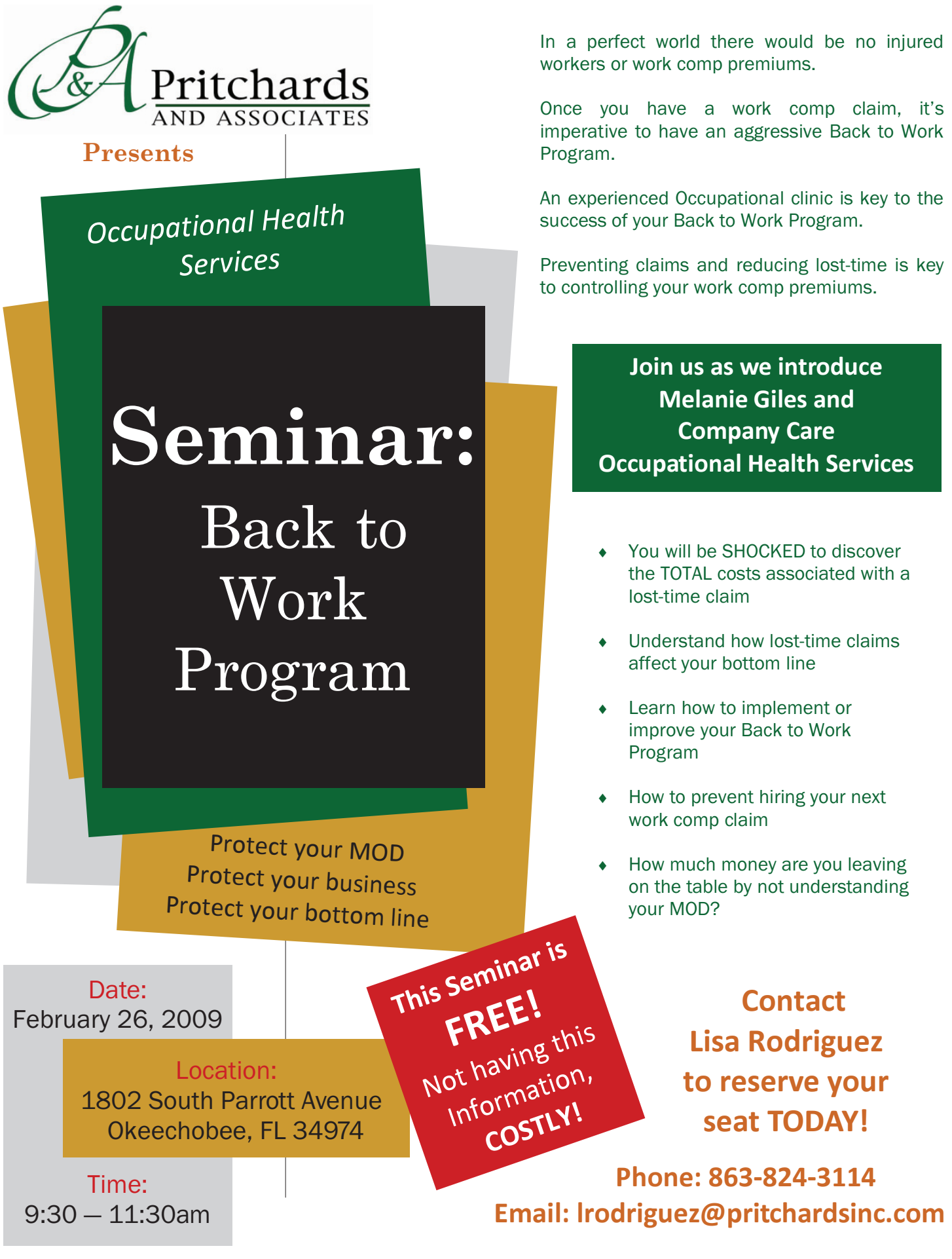


RN charged in theft of morphine

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

A registered nurse has been arrested on state-issued warrants that charge her with stealing morphine from her employer, Raulerson Hospital.

Lisa Lynn Husted, 40, Smith Ave., Stuart, was arrested Monday, Feb. 16, in Stuart on warrants that charged her with 16 counts of possession of a controlled substance without a valid prescription and one count of grand theft.

She was taken into custody by Deputy Harold Hancock, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), at the Martin County Jail and transported to Okeechobee. Husted was then booked into the Okeechobee County Jail under a total bond of $85,000.

Lisa Lynn Husted

The felony grand theft charge came about because the amount of morphine Husted allegedly took exceeded $1,000.

The nurse was first arrested on Jan. 12 by detectives from the Okeechobee Narcotics Task Force. She was charged with one count of possession/delivery of a controlled substance - morphine. Husted was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail then released on her own recognizance at her first appearance hearing.

Her arrest Monday was on warrants filed by the State Attorney's Office in Okeechobee.

A task force detective's arrest report dated Jan. 12 states that while conducting an investigation into some missing morphine from the hospital, it was learned that "... all of the missing narcotics were checked out under her name."

The report goes on to state that Husted was able to get the morphine by taking it for patients that were under her care. She also used the names of patients who were not being cared for by her to get the medication, continued the report.

While she would get the medication on duty, she would sometimes go to the hospital on her day off to access the morphine dispensing machine if she ran out, the report added.

According to Deputy Hancock's Feb. 16 arrest report, Husted is now unemployed.

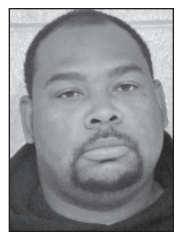
Husted was issued her RN license on Sept. 4, 2008, according to the Department of Health web site. That same site indicates that she received her licensed practical nurse (LPN) license on June 8, 1992.

EYA counselor accused of selling crack

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

A counselor at Eckerd's Youth Alternatives, Inc. (EYA) has been arrested and charged with selling crack cocaine during an undercover drug operation.

Roosevelt Futch, 32, N.E. 15th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Monday, Feb. 16, and charged with possession of cocaine with intent to sell and the sale of cocaine. He was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail, but his bond had not been set as of newspaper deadline.


Roosevelt Futch

Futch was arrested at 11:50 p.m. Monday after he allegedly sold .5 grams of a substance that, when field tested, indicated a positive result for the presence of cocaine.

According to an Okeechobee Narcotics Task Force arrest report, the transaction between Futch and the undercover personnel was monitored both visually and audibly.

The report states that Futch met with and sold a 'yard' to the "buyer." A yard is a street term for $100 worth of cocaine, the report explained.

Futch then left the buy site and was stopped a few minutes later and placed under arrest. The task force report states that detectives searched the man's vehicle and found an additional .4 grams of a substance similar to that which he had sold. The second substance was also field tested and it, too, indicated a positive result for the presence of cocaine.

Futch was also found to be in possession of currency that had been recorded and used specifically in the drug deal, stated the task force report.

Man faces felony battery charge

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

An Okeechobee man is being held in the Okeechobee County Jail for violating his parole after his arrest Sunday, Feb. 15, on a charge of felony domestic battery.

Melvin Leon Brown, 29, N.E. 14th Ave., is being held in the county jail under a bond of $25,000 on the felony domestic battery charge. He was also charged with the misdemeanor of resisting a law enforcement officer without violence. His bond on that charge was set at $2,500.

Following those arrests, he was charged with violating his parole -- based on an original charge of burglary of an occupied dwelling -- and is being held without bond on that charge.

According to an arrest report by Deputy Donald Ellis, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), Brown was first arrested Sunday on a charge of domestic battery. After doing a criminal background check Deputy Ellis learned that Brown had a previous domestic battery conviction, which was a misdemeanor. Because of that prior conviction, Sunday's arrest was enhanced to a felony.

Melvin Leon Brown

The deputy's arrest report states that a car pulled up next to Officer Larry Parzygnat, of the Okeechobee City Police Department (OCPD), while he was in the parking lot of a North Parrott Avenue business. A woman in the car reportedly told the officer that she had been struck by Brown, her live-in boyfriend. As the officer went to the car to speak with Brown, the man got out and fled east on foot, stated Deputy Ellis.

Brown was caught a short time later at a fast food restaurant on S.R. 70 E by OCPD Officer Kelly Margerum. Officer Margerum charged Brown with resisting a law enforcement officer without violence.

The deputy stated in his report that he spoke with the 44-year-old woman who said that the 6-foot, 220-pound, Brown had hit her in the right jaw during an argument. She said Brown then made her get in the car and threatened her with additional bodily harm, indicated the report.

While she was driving she saw Officer Parzygnat at the business and pulled into the parking lot, where she got out of the car and ran up to the officer for help. When the officer went to the car to speak with Brown he fled, the deputy's report stated.

Deputy Ellis said after the victim had filed a complaint she drove herself to Raulerson Hospital. The deputy said she was complaining of pain in her jaw and neck area.

Fire guts storage shed

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

An estimated $3,000 in damage was reported on Feb. 12, after a fire broke out in a storage shed at 11553 Highway 441 SE, Okeechobee County Fire Rescue reports show.

A fire report from Paramedic Dale Fulwider stated that four units and seven firemen and volunteers responded just after noon and found the 10 by 10 foot shed completely involved with flames. Pressurized gas bottles near the shed had also exploded.

Firemen immediately made an attack on the north side of the shed and had the flames under control in just a few minutes. Approximately 1,500 gallons of water was used to douse the flames.

Fulwider said the owner of the shed, Leroy Williams, was using a cutting torch to work on a boat motor in the shed when he noticed the gas tanks on fire. He was unable to shut the tank off before the fire spread. He was not injured.

An adjacent building also suffered minor heat damage.

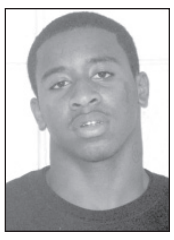
EYA client charged with battery

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

A client at Eckerd's Youth Alternatives, Inc. (EYA) is facing adult charges after he reportedly grabbed a female counselor and pulled out some of her hair.

Courtney Sweeting, 17, was arrested Saturday, Feb. 14, on a charge of battery on detention staff. He was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail where he is being held without bond.

An arrest report by Deputy Cari Arnold, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), indicated that the incident began as the counselor was walking another juvenile to his dorm. Sweeting, stated the report, was walking beside the counselor but on the opposite side of a fence and calling the 30-year-old counselor derogatory names.


Courtney Sweeting

The counselor, Stacy Alicea, ignored the remarks and continued to the dorm.

After reaching the juvenile's dorm, the counselor tried to close the door behind her but Sweeting reportedly put his foot in the door. At this point, Ms. Alicea called to other staff members at the dorm but no one responded.

Deputy Arnold said Sweeting then grabbed a pen from the counselor's shirt pocket. Then, as Ms. Alicea again called for help, the deputy said Sweeting grabbed two hairclips in the woman's hair and pulled them from her head -- along with a hand full of hair.

As Ms. Alicea tried to back away, Sweeting was holding her by the head, continued the report.

Finally, another woman -- identified as Amanda Kerwin -- came to Ms. Alicea's aid.

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Workforce Solutions Provides Answers for Jobseekers

Many Treasure Coast jobseekers are looking for a new employment solution. Workforce Solutions has the answers for these individuals whether they are a displaced worker, new to the marketplace, or interested in making a career change.

As the public employment and training resource for businesses in Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee and St. Lucie County, Workforce Solutions provides many services that are paid for by government grants and available to jobseekers at little or no cost. Services include job placement assistance, access to communication technology, resume services, interview skills training, educational and training programs, scholarships, placement testing and career planning assistance.

Educational and training programs, such as the Work Certified® program, ensures job candidates are work ready, setting them apart from other applicants. On-the-job training enables workers to learn and earn with a local employer. And, computer training provides instruction on basics while more advanced computer skills training may be funded through scholarships.

"We are dedicated to high-quality, on-time delivery of programs and services that meet the needs of the community"

– Gwenda Thompson, President/CEO, Workforce Solutions

Career development services assists jobseekers with options through videos, the Internet and books. Trained professionals provide guidance and information about career choices and scholarships that can cover the cost of tuition, books and other fees for occupational training at approved facilities for eligible candidates.

Additionally, Workforce Solutions offers a Professional Placement Network (PPN) Workshop uniquely designed to assist the professional jobseeker with finding employment in the next "right" job. This 12-hour, self-directed course focuses on effective job searches, goal setting, proactive action plans, networking strategies, key-word resume development, writing marketing and cover letters, individual career coaching and mock interviews.

Find new employment through Workforce Solutions. Visit the new website at yourworkforcesolutions.com or the toll-free hotline 866-4U2-HIRE (866-482-4473) to learn how and where you can find an employment solution that is right for you.

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Speak Out/Public Forum

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. What follows is a sampling of some of the discussions currently taking place.

Thanks for participating!

Speckled Perch parade

PARADE: I really was amazed that no one said anything about the Speckled Perch Parade. Where were the high school band and the middle school bands? This parade used to last a long time with floats and all sorts of marchers, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, even the Red Hat ladies. Even most of the horse units were missing. What happened? It was less than 30 minutes long and the only music were the Irish fellows. Thanks for that anyway.

FESTIVAL: It seems with the rodeo now part of the County Fair, the Speckled Perch Festival is losing momentum. Most of the out-of-town folks apparently come for the rodeo. What could the festival add to bring more people into town and generate some excitement? Maybe they should bring back the lawn mower races and the bed races.

CONTEST: If they want to generate some excitement about the local parades and get more people involved, they need to have trophies for the best float, best marching unit and best mounted unit. If there was something to win, and perhaps some bragging rights, more businesses might actually build a float. The chamber used to give out trophies and people got very excited when they won. And of course the winners got their photos in the paper.

Pregnant 14-year-olds in public schools

WHAT IS WRONG: Recently I was informed by a few other parents and kids attending my child's school that there are a few 13 -14 year old girls walking school grounds pregnant. I am mortified and disgusted by this! Obviously the "abstinence only" process is not working. What is wrong with these parents that they would allow this to go on and let their young daughters ruin their lives with having a child? What kind of message is this sending these kids? "Oh we prefer you abstain from sex but if you do you still can come to school and expose other young minds into believing that this is OK?" This district has an alternative school for kids with issues and in my book being pregnant at 14 obviously proves there are some issues. They won't let these kids color their hair any "unnatural" color but they don't think being a young teen mom is "unnatural?"

EDUCATION: All children under the age of 21 are entitled to a free public education. It's illegal to discriminate against them because they are pregnant.

MORAL STANDARDS: To allow them in school could give the impression to other girls that it's just a run of the mill thing that can happen. When I grew up, if a girl got pregnant, she 'went to live with family' or some other excuse, until it was over, then she came back. Everyone knew what was going on, but it was a degrading thing to endure. The humiliation alone was enough to scare the other girls into using some sense. There seem to be no moral standards anymore.

STAY IN SCHOOL: As far as the pregnant children are concerned, the school is doing their job. They are required to provide an education to all students. Don't turn your frustrations on them when they are just educating students. The children themselves and the parents to some degree are responsible for the children getting themselves into this situation. Personally, I'd rather have them in school getting an education so I don't have to spend my tax money supporting them. If they stay in school, then they have a chance at a decent life.

FACE THE PROBLEM: Hiding a problem, and ignoring facts are how Okeechobee has managed to get into this situation in the first place. The best defense against this problem is education. And not just sex education, but education in general. Where would these pregnant teens go if not to public school? If they drop out of school they have an increased risk of having a second child while a teenager. If they go to a school designed for pregnant teens, they have a decreased chance at getting into college.

PARENTS: No one wants their beautiful precious little girls to grow up and become teenage parents. The only thing you can do to try to prevent this from happening is to stay close to them. Teens do have minds of their own and in the end they are going to do what they want to do. These girls deserve a chance, ultimately they will be the ones responsible for the babies and bringing up their children.

Having children in today's society

OCTUPLET MOM: I think the problem with the octuplet mom is that she couldn't take care of the kids she had financially already, and then she knowingly had eight more. This is why I wish they would put a time limit on welfare handouts. Those eight have an increased risk of medical problems and learning problems. A couple with no kids already would have a hard time with that.

SIX IS ENOUGH: I really am shocked by the story of the woman who already had six kids, and was on public assistance for some of them due to health problems, who went to a fertility specialist to have more children. When you already have six kids and you can't even afford to take care of the ones you have, fertility clinics should not help you bring even more children into this world. That isn't God's will. That's humans playing God for their own selfish purposes. Instead of spending money at a fertility clinic, she should have used that money to take care of her kids.

Summer

SLOW SEASON: Things are bad in Okeechobee already. What is going to happen to us when the winter people go home for the summer. Look at how many places are cutting back on staff because they have fewer customers now.

Outraged by lenient courts

INTIMIDATED: What is wrong with our Fourth District Court of Appeals, overturning a drug conviction because the man claimed he was intimidated by the presence of a K-9 dog? And that he saw other passengers in his vehicle being searched and that made his subsequent handing of the drugs to a deputy "the product of an imminent pat down and not the result of an independent act of free will." This is the most ridiculous reasoning I have ever heard, especially from individuals who are supposed to be intelligent. The cops are doing their jobs and risking their lives for us all. While the court system is making a mockery of their efforts. What is wrong with this picture? Have the powers that be lost their minds? Illegal use of drugs is at an epidemic level. In order for our society to be safe from muggings, robberies and murders, we all must do what we can to eradicate illegal substance abuse from our society. Most all crimes can be traced back to this activity. And if our judges and court system, are lenient on this behavior, the end result will surely be death.

Letter to the Editor

Family appreciates support

The family of Sarah Frances McCrary Price would like to thank the friends and family who supported and encouraged us through her illness and passing. We are grateful to Paul and Matt Buxton and their family and staff for all they did for us.

We appreciate Sheriff Paul May and Ronnie and Juanita White, Gary Ritter, Missy Barletto and others for taking time from their busy schedules to pay their respects at her viewing and memorial service. To the ladies of the Okeechobee Chapter DAR with whom she served proudly.

To Connie Burke, Sherry Jarriel, Grace Larson, Phoebe Raulerson, Dee Reeder and Diane Spann for the food they provided. To Dr. John Garrison of Oakview Baptist Church and Pastor Johnny Jarriel of Victory Baptist Church for the wonderful memorial service they presented. To Pat McCoy for singing so beautifully during the service.

And to everyone who sent condolences, flowers and/or donations to Alzheimer's research, cancer research, Gideons International and/or Oakview Baptist Church building fund in her memory.

Kent, Harold and Sharon Price, Terry, Ben and Kenna Price Noonan

February is American Heart month

By Barbara Godejohn, LPN
Healthy Communities, Healthy People Coordinator

Heart disease is the #1 leading cause of death in the United States and in Florida. Coronary heart disease is caused by a narrowing of the coronary arteries that supply blood to the heart, and often results in a heart attack. However, this disease is usually preventable. Here are some modifiable risk factors including smoking, high total cholesterol levels and low HDL (good cholesterol) levels, a body mass index of 25 or higher and lack of physical exercise. Of all the risk factors, elevated cholesterol levels play a larger role. Coronary heart disease is rarely found in persons without high cholesterol. To reduce the risk of this disease, you should stop smoking, exercise and eat a healthy diet.

Barbara Godejohn

Some of the signs and symptoms of a heart attack are as follows, uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness, or pain in the center of the chest that lasts more than a few minutes or goes away and comes back. Pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw, or stomach. Shortness of breath could occur with or without chest discomfort. And other signs such as breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea, or light-headedness. If you have any of these symptoms, DO NOT drive yourself to the hospital, you should call 9-1-1 immediately or contact your physician.

For Okeechobee County according to the Florida Community Health Assessment Resource Tool Set (CHARTS) in 2007, adults who have ever had a heart attack, angina or coronary heart disease accounted for 14.2 percent of those surveyed, compared to 9.3 percent of those surveyed for the state of Florida.

Friday, Feb. 6, was National Wear Red Day—a day when Americans nationwide toke women's health to heart by wearing red to show their support for women's heart disease awareness. On this day, women and men across the country wore red to unite in the national movement to give women a personal and urgent wake-up call about their risk of heart disease. Every year the staff at the Okeechobee County Health Department is encouraged to wear red on this day and show support for the awareness of this disease. For more information regarding heart disease, its signs and symptoms or how to decrease your risk, please call or stop by the health department, 1728 N.W. Ninth Ave or 863-462-5819.

Crossword

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS
1 School basics
5 Talks hoarsely
10 Bread basket choice
14 In the __: part of the inner circle
15 Part of UHF
16 New York canal
17 Cue wielder
19 Beavers' creations
20 Heaven's gatekeeper
21 Thanksgiving gravy ingredient
23 Corn serving
24 Stadium
26 Homes for some swallows and owls
29 __-cone
30 Uncouth
34 All-purpose vehicle, for short
35 One with a specific sweet tooth
37 Confront
39 Earlier conviction
40 "Peter Pan" pooch
41 Fairy tale suitor under a spell
43 "Three __ and a Baby"
44 Burn superficially
45 DDE's WWII command
46 Kitty cries
48 Jobs
50 A.L. or N.L. segment
51 Philippines capital
54 Spray can emission
58 Wee energy source
59 Hopeful demand of 17-, 35- or 41-Across?
62 Raw spot on the skin
63 Bride's partner
64 Jazzy Fitzgerald
65 Practice in the ring
66 Red Sox rivals
67 Piggy bank opening

DOWN
1 Swiss mountains
2 Military footwear
3 Hen pen
4 Anatomical source of ill humor?
5 Foot-long school tool
6 Banned apple spray
7 Farmyard enclosure
8 Opposite of post-
9 Beetle Bailey's boss
10 Snoopy's foe
11 Spoken
12 Twist in a gimlet
13 Out of concern that
18 School fund-raising gps.
22 Division on a 5-Down
24 Applies holy oil to
25 Ornate 18th-century style
26 Aficionados
27 Gaming trailblazer
28 Scout's info-gathering assignment
29 Scream
31 Texas shrine to remember
32 Tendon
33 Reads, as a bar code
35 EMT's forte
36 Lode load
38 Board game gadget
42 Church bell sound
46 "Look!" to Luis
47 Brings to mind
49 Droopy
50 Considers
51 Catholic ritual
52 How the cherry rests on the ice cream soda
53 Mrs. Nick Charles
54 Frenzied way to run
55 Cat's resting spot
56 Scandinavian capital
57 Future DA's exam
60 Later-yrs. nest egg
61 Work-wk. opener

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

W	A	I	T	S	O	N			A	G	E	O	L	D
A	T	B	O	T	T	O	M		S	U	E	F	O	R
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	C	H	L	O	R	O			P	A	R	A		
G	R	O	A	N		R	O	A	R			K	E	N
Y	O	U	C	A	N	N	E	V	E	R	T	E	L	L
R	I	S	E	T	O		D	I	G	A	H	O	L	E
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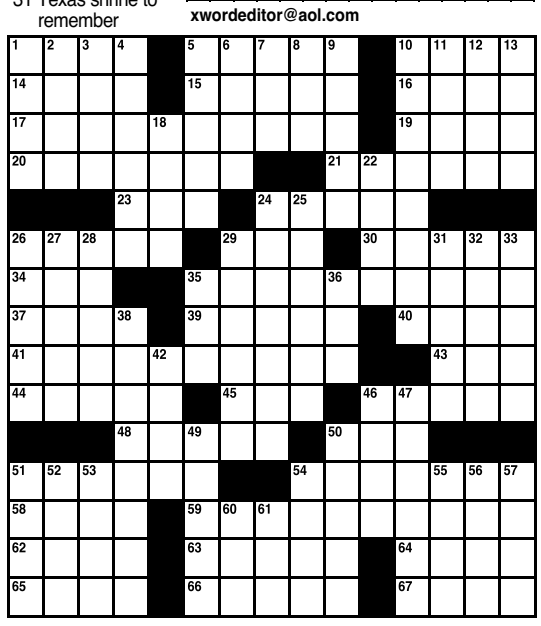
xwordeditor@aol.com



By Andrea Carla Michaels & Myles Callum
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Okeechobee News

Our Purpose...

The Okeechobee News is published by Independent Newspapers of Florida. Independent is owned by a unique trust that enables this newspaper to pursue a mission of journalistic service to the citizens of the community. Since no dividends are paid, the company is able to thrive on profit margins below industry standards. All after-tax surpluses are reinvested in Independent's mission of journalistic service, commitment to the ideals of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and support of the community's deliberation of public issues.

We Pledge ...

- To operate this newspaper as a public trust
- To help our community become a better place to live and work, through our dedication to conscientious journalism.
- To provide the information citizens need to make their own intelligent decisions about public issues.
- To report the news with honesty, accuracy, purposeful neutrality, fairness, objectivity, fearlessness and compassion.
- To use our opinion pages to facilitate community debate, not to dominate it with our own opinions.
- To disclose our own conflicts of interest or potential conflicts to our readers.
- To correct our errors and to give each correction to the prominence it deserves.
- To provide a right to reply to those we write about.
- To treat people with courtesy, respect and compassion.

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For More Information See At Your Service On Page 2

Community Calendar

Wednesday

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) 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 noon until 1 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 200 N.W. Second St. It's an open meeting.

A.A. meeting from 8 until 9 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 701 S.W. Sixth St. It will be a closed discussion.

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.

Thursday

Okeechobee Stitchin' meets every Thursday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Okeechobee Presbyterian Church, 312 North Parrott Ave. Bring your sewing project and join in on the fun. All types of sewing is welcome, such as quilting, applique, embroidery, crocheting, knitting, serging. Bring your sewing machines if you like to sew. For more information call Belinda Boyle at 863-357-0166 or Corry Geissinger at 863-467-2231.

Cancer Support Group will meet on the third Thursday of the month to help and encourage women who have been diagnosed with cancer. The meeting will be held at the American Red Cross office at 323 N. Parrott Ave. from 5:15 until 6:15 p.m. For information, call Janet Topp at 863-824-2899.

Just for Today Club of Okeechobee, 101 N.W. Fifth Street Okeechobee, FL 34972 (Behind Napa Auto Parts) **N.A.** Sickest Of The Sick Group (Basic Text) 8 p.m. **The Just for Today Club of Okeechobee is not affiliated with any 12-step fellowships.*

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

Tantie Quilters meet every Thursday from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Historical Society Museum on U.S. 98 N. For information call Margaret at 863-467-8020, or Marie at 863-357-0868.

Cowboys for Christ Range Rider for Jesus Ministries will meet for a pot luck supper at 6 p.m. with services at 7 p.m. at the Basinger Civic Center. For information, call Doyle McDuffie at 863-763-2285.

Grieving parents support group is a nondenominational group of parents who meet every Thursday from 7 until 8:30 p.m. at the Red Cross building classroom, Court Plaza, 323 N. Parrott Ave. To help support and comfort one another after the loss of a child through shared experience. For information call Georgene at 863-763-2957 or Melanie and Tony at 863-763-4149.

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 The Family History Center at 863-763-6510 or Richard Smith at 863-261-5706 for special appointments.

Prayer Group meets at 10 a.m. at the Community Center at 412 N.W. Sixth St. For information, call 863-763-5996.

Christian Fellowship Prayer group meets at 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall at 412 N.W. Sixth St. For information, call 863-763-5996.

Kiwanis Club of Okeechobee will meet from noon until 1 p.m. at the American Legion Post 64 501 SE Second St. All Kiwanis and the public are welcome. For information, contact Frank Irby at 863-357-1639.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly No. 47 will meet from 5 until 6:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 200 N.W. Second St. Please join us or ask questions. Call Phyllis at 863-467-8636, or Hazel at 863-763-4920, for information.

Martha's House Inc. sponsors weekly support groups for women who are, or have been, affected by domestic violence and abusive relationships. The support groups are held every Thursday at 6 p.m. For information call 863-763-2893, or call Shirlean Graham or Irene Luck at 863-763-2893 or 863-763-0202.

Free **Adult Basic Education/GED** and English as a second language classes from 7 until 9 p.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 701 S.W. Sixth St.

Ongoing Caregiver Support Group Hospice of Okeechobee and the Area Agency on Aging sponsor a caregiver support group every Thursday at 2 p.m. Anyone who is caring for an ill family member is welcome. The group is facilitated by social workers and provides an opportunity for caregivers to give one another support, information and ideas. The meetings are held at Hospice at 411 S.E. Fourth St. For information, call 863-467-2321.

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.

Narcotic Anonymous (NA) meets at Believers Fellowship, 300 S.W. 6th Ave. at 7 p.m. For information call Monika at 863-801-3244.

Classic car show at Beef O'Brady's, 608 S. Parrott Ave., from 6:30 until 8 p.m.

Okeechobee Contractors Association will meet every third Thursday from noon until 1 p.m. at Beef O' Bradys. All contractors are welcome. For more information, contact Scott Chapman at 863-634-7532.

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

Friday

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

Just for Today Club of Okeechobee, 101 N.W. Fifth Street Okeechobee, FL 34972 (Behind Napa Auto Parts) **N.A.** Sickest Of The Sick (OP, SP) 8 p.m. **The Just for Today Club of Okeechobee is not affiliated with any 12 step fellowships.*

A.A. meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 200 N.W. Second St. It's an open meeting.

A.A. meeting from 8 until 9 p.m. at the Church of Our Saviour, 200 N.W. Third St. It will be an open speaker meeting.

IRSC to hold business owners seminar

Learn the how to have the best year ever — in both business and in life.

Business Owners and Entrepreneurs who are looking to get motivated to take on the New Year and succeed will want to come and be a part of a FREE National Entrepreneurship Week seminar "Secrets of How to Have the Best Year Ever!" on Thursday, Feb. 26, at Indian River State College as the Corporate and Community Training Institute at IRSC hosts this special opportunity presented by Spectrum Industries, Inc.

The day starts at 7:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast and networking opportunities from 8-10 a.m. at the Kight Center for Emerging Technologies in Room V110 on the IRSC Main Campus in Ft. Pierce.

The Keynote Speaker will be Paul DiGrigoli, successful Business Owner & Entrepreneur. DiGrigoli has personally experienced success and failure in the game of life. In his presentation, Paul will share the best strategies for developing a successful game plan in business utilizing these main components: Leadership Skills, Effective Sales & Marketing Techniques, and Motivational Factors in a business environment.

Each of Paul's seminars has been built from personal experience and accumulated wealth of business knowledge. Time and time again, his presentations have effectively helped organizations of any size to redefine a clear path to success.

Sign up now as seating is limited. For more Information Contact the Corporate and Community Training Institute at IRSC toll free at: 1-888-283-1177 or visit the CCTI website at www.irsc.edu/ccti.

Used car lot opens

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

Looking for a good pre-owned vehicle? Lake Motors has opened at 147 U.S. 441 S.E. Owner Ivan Lujan and his two salesmen invite you in for what they claim are the lowest prices around. Mr. Lujan has been a resident of Okeechobee for the past 15 years. To see the available vehicles, stop by or call 863 467 5243. The hours are Monday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

Okeechobee News/**Pete Gawda**
Ivan Lujan, right, owner of Lake Motors, Inc. shakes hands with satisfied customer Pete Dixon, left.

The Mainstreet Clipboard

By Toni Doyle

A great big welcome goes to our newest Friend Member, Karen Buske.

The February **Main Street Mixer will be held this Thursday, Feb. 19,** at Pristine Properties located at 1120 South Parrott Avenue. Main Street Mixers are a great networking opportunity. Come join us from 5-7 p.m. for refreshments, door prizes and the mega 50/50. Invite a friend!

Submitted photo

Business women

At the Jan. 22, meeting of the Women of Tomorrow Chapter of ABWA, President Karin Ammons presented Vice-President Cecilia Elliott with recognition for achieving Inner Circle in membership recruitment. At the same meeting, Cecilia was selected Chapter Woman of the Year for her many contributions to the business of the organization and to community events. The chapter is also currently planning the second Annual Golden Oldies Dinner Dance to be held April 18, at the KOA. Mark the date on your calendar and be prepared to dance your saddle shoes off!

Call to Artists for the 2009 **Top of the Lake Art Fest! Deadline is Feb. 20**, for both the Adult and Student Division. Applications and instructions may be picked up at the Okeechobee Main Street Office 111 N..E Second Street, Okeechobee or online at www.mainstreetokeechobee.com.

The **Top of the Lake Art Fest takes place on Feb. 28 and March 1.** Call Bridgette at 863-467-7300 or email at: bridgette-mainstreet@earthlink.net for more information.

This year's Art Fest will feature two days of entertainment featuring Grammy Nominated Jeanie Fitchen, winner of the 2001 Florida Folk Festival Heritage Award, Nationally recognized flutist Carl Adams, The award winning Sounds of Sebring Barbershop Quartet and on Sunday afternoon, South Florida's premier contemporary musician and entertainer Billy Bones will be in concert.

For Artist information call Bridgette at 863-467-7300 or email: bridgette-mainstreet@earthlink.net. Or call Okeechobee Main Street Executive Director Toni Doyle at 863-357-MAIN (6246)

The **Okeechobee Business Women's Referral Networking Group will hold their next luncheon meeting this Friday, Feb. 20,** at the Brahma Bull Restaurant. Networking starts at 11:30 a.m., lunch is at noon. All ladies are invited to join us bring flyers, brochures, samples and a small gift to exchange. No dues and no pressures. It's a girlfriend thing, come join us!

The Shared Services Network of Okeechobee County and FDLRS invite you to a **Free Grant Writer's Workshop: GRANTS 101. The workshop will be held Thursday, Feb. 26, 9-11:30 a.m.,** at the Freshman Campus Auditorium, 700 S.W. Second Avenue, Okeechobee. Space is limited to the first 30 registrants, so hurry! Registration deadline is **Feb. 20**. Call 863-462-5000 Ext. 257 for registration information.

You're invited to have **breakfast with Congressman Tom Rooney on Friday, Feb. 20, from 8–10 a.m.** Breakfast will be held at the Williamson Conference & Education Center at IRSC. Tickets are $25 and can be purchased at the Republican Party's new office 401 N.W. Fourth Street. Call 863-357-4111 for more information.

You're invited to attend a **FREE "Back to Work Program" seminar.** Pritchards & Associates introduces Melanie Giles and Company Care Occupational Health Services. Discover the shocking costs associated with a lost-time workers comp claim and how you can take control. The seminar will be held **Feb. 26**, at Pritchards & Associates, 1802 S. Parrott Ave., from 9:30 – 11 am. To reserve your seat contact Lisa at (863) 824-3114 or email Lisa at: lrodriguez@pritchardsinc.com.

Standing Head

Grand reopening planned

On Saturday, Feb.21, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Superior Water Works in Okeechobee will host a grand reopening/customer appreciation day. The business has been in operation for 24 years.

Bank names cause confusion

There are several banks in Florida that have the word 'Riverside' in their names. Each of the banks is independently owned and operated. Each operates in separate geographical areas of the state through separate branches and other facilities, and each has separate charters, separate employees and management teams, and separate boards of directors — even different products and services. One of these banks — Riverside Bank of the Gulf Coast based in Cape Coral, Florida, was recently closed by regulators. Riverside National Bank is based in Fort Pierce and has not closed. Customers of Riverside National Bank will not be affected by the closure of a completely different bank."

Comcast adds service hours

The Okeechobee and South Bay offices of Comcast will now be open Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Comcast Okeechobee is located at 107 N.W. 7th Avenue. For information, call 863-763-2187. Comcast, South Bay, is located at 450 E. State Road 80. For information, call 561-996-8455.

Public Issues Forums: Join the discussion!
newszap.com
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2 New York Strip Dinners
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Community Events

Civil Air Patrol meets weekly

The Civil Air Patrol is "America's Air Force Auxiliary, building the nation's finest force of citizen volunteers - performing Missions for America" Our Mission is to "perform Homeland Security and humanitarian missions for our communities, states, and nation; developing our country's youth; and educating our citizens on the importance of air and space power." The Civil Air Patrol meets every Tuesday at the Okeechobee County Airport at 7:30 p.m. No experience is required, we provide the necessary training. If you are interested in Supporting your Community, Emergency Services, Aircraft, Radio Communications or our Cadet Program please stop by, guests are always welcome. For Information please call Captain Joe Papasso at 561-252-0916 or Lt. Greg Gernat at 863-697-9915.

2010 Lake Okeechobee Calendar Photo Contest

Calling all shutterbugs! The South Florida Water Management District's Okeechobee Service Center is seeking Lake Okeechobee, Lake Istokpoga and Lower Kissimmee River Basin area digital photographs for the 2010 Lake Okeechobee Area calendar. Winning images will be published as the featured monthly photos. Entry forms and contest rules are available on our website at: www.sfwmd.gov/okee -- select "Info & Education." This contest is open to amateur photographers only; individuals may submit up to three digital photos until July 31, 2009. Please call 863-462-5260 with any questions.

Memorial fund set up for family of Cancer victim

A special fund has been set up for the family of Julie Ann San Miguel Ming of Okeechobee who recently lost her battle with Cancer. Donations can be made at any Riverside Bank branch on deposit account #10000434310 under the name of Angela Borkowski, the victim's daughter.

Yard sale to aid OCSO dispatcher

A yard sale and dinner will be held Saturday, **March 14**, on property on U.S. 441 S. at S.W. 21st St. to help defray medical costs incurred by Harry Slayton, a dispatcher with the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO). The yard sale will begin at 8 a.m. and the chicken dinner will start at 11 a.m. Each dinner is $7. For information, of if you have something to donate for the yard sale, contact Major Noel Stephen, Robyn Cook, Juanita White or Tonya Jewell at the sheriff's office, 863-763-3117.

Benefit planned for family of crash victim

A benefit is planned to help the family of crash victim, Gabe Painter who died as a result of an auto crash on Feb. 7. The benefit event will be held at the softball field near Yearling Middle School and will feature horseshoes, softball games, a drawing, food and more. All donations are welcome. All proceeds will benefit the family. Donations can also be made to a special account set up at Seacoast National Bank under the name of Marquita Fruge, the victim's mother. For more information, please contact Tina at 561-718-2043 or Amanda at 863-697-3107.

Arts and Crafts Show set for Lakeport

An Arts & Crafts Show will be held at the North Lake Estates Clubhouse from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, **Feb. 21**. North Lake Estates is located at 12044 East State Road 78, Lakeport. Twenty-one tables will feature hand-crafted arts and crafts, including jewelry, fabric creations, bird carvings, crochet work, wood-turned bowls, hand-decorated glassware, stationery, ornaments... and more. A light lunch will be available for purchase from 11 a.m. through 1:30 p.m. For more information, contact Mary Leigh Crumpler at 804-898-1717 or Kay Cronk at: 864-946-0699.

Fancy ME! (machine embroidery) meeting

If you have an embroidery machine, plan to buy one or are just interested in the concept, please join us at our next meeting. It will be held on Saturday, **Feb. 21**, from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. in the Red Cross classroom, 323 N. Parrott Ave. Bring your machine and lunch for a fun-filled day. We will be trying our hand at 'thread painting' so bring a machine that has the capability of dropping the feed dogs. Also bring a round embroidery hoop and material. For more information, please call Joan at 863-467-0290 or Corry at 863-467-2231.

Library Book Club to meet

The Friends of the Library Okeechobee Book Club will meet on Thursday, **Feb. 26** at 6 p.m. at the library. The book for discussion is *Robinson Crusoe* by Daniel Defore.

Orchid Club to meet

The Okeechobee Orchid Club will meet on Monday, **Feb. 23**, at 7 p.m. following the Garden Club at 6 p.m. at athe Cooperativaae Extension Office at 458 Highway 98 North, 863-763-6469. The program will be the showing of a new orchid DVD produced by the University of Florida. President Harry Hoffner will assist anyone who has a problem with their orchids.

CCC to meet

The Community Collaborative Council of Okeechobee County Shared Services Network will conduct their monthly meeting on Tuesday, **Feb. 24,** at 10 a.m. in the board room of the Okeechobee School Board Office. Guest speakers will be: 211-Rhonda Throop; Port St. Lucie Behavioral Hospital - Pamela Springer and Hibiscus Children's Center - Angela Lowe. The public is invited to attend. For more information, call Sharon Vinson at 863-462-5000 ext. 257.

Back to work seminar set

Pritchard's Insurance and Raulerson Company Care will present a "Back to Work" program on Thursday, **Feb. 26**, at 1802 South Parrot Avenue, from 9:30 until 11:30 a.m. There is no charge for the seminar. Guest speakers will discuss topics that deal with issues concerning returning to work after occupational injuries. Anyone is invited to attend this informative seminar. For more information, please call Lisa Rodriguez at 863-824-3114 or by email: lrodriguez@pritchardsinc.com.

Adoption orientation session planned

Considering Adoption? Please join the Children's Home Society of Florida at our monthly Adoption Orientation session. The Adoption Orientation session will take place at 415 Avenue A, Suite 100, Fort Pierce, from 5:30-6:30 p.m., Thursday, **Feb. 26**. Anyone interested in learning more about adoption is invited. This fun, casual and FREE open house-style orientation will provide an overview of adoption and answer all questions related to adoption and CHS' adoption process. Please help us raise adoption awareness in our community as we try to find additional permanent, loving homes for children in foster care. To RSVP or for more information, contact Children's Home Society's Adoption information line at 772-489-5601, ext. 277.

Church holds third bi-annual quilt show

The Women's Ministry of Buckhead Ridge Baptist Church will sponsor their third bi-annual quilt show on Saturday, **Feb. 28** from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. The show will be held in the fellowship hall of the church, 1731 Hunter Road. Admission is free, there will be refreshments and door prizes. For more information or to enter items call Wilma 863-763-2047 or Goldie 863-763-1049.

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.

Abbie A. Smith, 86

OKEECHOBEE — Abbie A. Smith, of Okeechobee, entered into the presence of the Lord Feb. 14, 2009. She was 86.

She was born on Dec. 7, 1922, in Urbana, Iowa.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Gerald L. Smith.

She will be deeply missed by her loving and devoted children, Gerald L. Smith Jr., William E. Smith, Sue Mangold (Duane); and eight grandchildren, Billy, Joshua, Stefanie, Brittany, Courtney, Jeff, Jason and Jill; plus four great-grandchildren.

She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and friend of many people and all who had the opportunity to know her will never forget her great spirit to enjoy life.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to a charity of your choice.

Graveside services will be 11 a.m. Thursday in Evergreen Cemetery in Okeechobee.

Guestbook may be signed at www.bassokeechobeefh.com.

All arrangements are entrusted to the loving care of Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home and Crematory, 205 NE 2nd St., Okeechobee.

Frederick 'Erick' Charles McDaniel, 44

OKEECHOBEE — Frederick "Erick" Charles McDaniel, of Okeechobee, formerly of Fredericksburg, Va., died suddenly in his home on Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2009. He was 44.

Erick had worked for Entegra Roof Tile for the past two years. He enjoyed fishing, boating and motorcycle riding. He loved to travel and had spent a few years in Arizona and in Belfast, Ireland.

Erick is survived by his mother, Jan Lyn Fleming Nye; step-father, Michael Thomas Nye of Okeechobee; sister, Sarah Elisabeth Bell; brother-in-law, Wayne Bell; nephew, Christopher Bell; and nieces, Jennifer A. Bell and Rebecca E. Bell all of Fredericksburg.

Arrangements for a memorial service are incomplete at this time.

Leona Fox Albritton, 97

OKEECHOBEE — Leona Fox Albritton, age 97, of Okeechobee died Feb. 15, 2009, at Raulerson Hospital.

Born Sept. 19, 1911, in Madison to the late Lonnie and Ellen Fox she was a homemaker.

She enjoyed painting and crafting and she was affiliated with the Abundant Blessings Assembly of God.

She was preceded in death by her sister, Mary Fox; and three sons, Cecil Albritton, Ceylon "Buck" and Sailon "Doc."

She is survived by her sister, Lula Johnson of Lake Wales; many grandchildren; great-grandchildren; great-great-grandchildren; and other family members.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the family account at SunTrust to offset funeral expenses.

Graveside services will be 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 20, at Evergreen Cemetery with Pastor Gene Roddenberry officiating.

Friends may sign the guestbook at www.bassokeechobeefh.com.

Arrangements by Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home and Crematory, 205 NE 2nd St., Okeechobee.

Herbert Lee Shaffer Jr., 44

OKEECHOBEE — Herbert Lee Shaffer Jr., of Okeechobee, died Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2009, in Raulerson Hospital. He was 44.

Born June 16, 1964, in West Palm Beach, he had been a lifetime resident of Okeechobee.

He is survived by his sons, Herbert Lee Shaffer III of Okeechobee, Warren Matthews of Kentucky; daughter, Melanie Mae Shaffer of Okeechobee; sister, Carol Shaffer of Okeechobee; and two nieces.

The family will receive friends on Saturday from 2 p.m. until service time of 3 p.m. in the Buxton Funeral Home Chapel, 110 NE 5th St., Okeechobee.

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

View obituaries from the past month at http://www.legacy.com

Local churches plan special events

Places of Worship

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

Wednesday, **Feb. 18** is the last night of a Gospel Meeting sponsored by **Okeechobee Church of Christ,** 1401 S. Parrott Ave. Rev. James Watkins from Tennessee will be preaching. The service begins at 7 p.m.

The Pentecostals of Okeechobee, 405 S.W. 10th Ave, will sponsor a yard sale on Friday, **Feb. 19** and Saturday, **Feb. 20**. All proceeds will go to youth activities. For more information call 863-467-1611 or 863-634-4554 or 863-697-6422.

Brighton Baptist Church, 24050 S.R. 70 W. will be hosting the movie "Facing the Giants" at 7 p.m. on Friday **Feb. 20.** They will have concessions to purchase and a free will offering will be taken to help send vitamins to the children in Haiti. The women of the church put together a cookbook that will be for sale with all proceeds going toward the vitamin ministry. For information call 863 763 3063.

Saturday, **Feb. 21** will be an exciting day for kids and adults alike at **Abundant Blessings**, 4550 U.S. 441 N. Eight inflatable bouncers will be set up for the kids, and there will be free food and a yard sale. This will be the new pastor's way of saying to the community, "Let's get acquainted." The hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. On Saturday, **April 4—**the day before Palm Sunday. The public is invited to join Abundant Blessings in a dinner theater beginning at 5 p.m.

On **Feb. 20** the youth of **Peace Lutheran Church**, 750 N.W. 23rd Lane, will travel to the Riverside Retreat Center in La Belle for their second annual Heartland Circuit Spring Youth Retreat. They will get to know youth from other churches in the area, spend time in God's Word, and participate in activities such as kayaking, volleyball, archery, basketball and cycling. Call the church office for more information. The Fl-Ga District 2009 High School Youth Gathering with the theme "Connected " will be held **March 6-8** at the Wyndham Riverwalk Hotel in Jacksonville, Fla. This is a great opportunity to spend time with old friends, meet new friends, and grow closer to God. They will connect the community to Christ through several high energy, high-impact service projects and enjoy great music, speakers and fellowship. All interest youth are invited to call the church office for more information.

Oakview Baptist Church, 677 S.W. 32nd St.**,** will be having "Oak-Fest" on Friday, **Feb. 27,** from 6–8:30 p.m. Please make plans to join them for a night of fun for the whole family with inflatables, games, horses, food and live entertainment. Best of all it's FREE! For more information please call 863-763-1699.

First United Methodist Church, 200 N.W. Second St., is sponsoring Mother's Morning Out as a service to the community. The church has openings for Tuesday mornings, 9:30 to noon. Contact Nancy Vaughan at the church office for more information, 863-763-4021.

The Annual West Virginia Day covered dish dinner will be held in the fellowship hall of **First Baptist Church**, 410 S.W. Fourth St. from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, **Feb. 28.** For more information call Ray or Phyllis, 863 467 8636 or 863 634 1427.

Treasure Island Baptist Church, 4209 U. S. 441 S.E. will be hosting a program by the Driven Quartet, on Saturday, **Feb. 28** at 6 p.m. The church will also sponsor a Gaither style concert celebrating the 15th anniversary of Okeechobee's own Trust Quartet at 6 p.m. on Saturday, **March 7.** That concert will feature the Gulf State Quartet, Chapter Three Trio and soloist George Shelton, Jr. Refreshments will be served afterward. A donation of $6 will be requested at the door.

Country Gospel recording artists Ron and Sharon Frazier will be in concert **March 1** at 1 p.m. at **Westside Christian Church,** 8082 S.R. 70 W. Ron's country type voice shows a passion that reminds on of the prodigal son come home! Sharon has a joy and enthusiastic spirit in her presentation of gospel music. The couple is known to this area as well as the Indiana and Kentucky areas. A free will offering will be received. For more information call 863-467-2278.

Grace Camp, 19566 U. S. 98 N., is hosting a weekend retreat **March 6-8 —** a reflection of "The 12 Steps" and "The Journey to Freedom" led by people in recovery. Accommodations are first come, first serve. There are four cabins, bunkhouse style and bath house, four RV spaces and tent camping. Bring your own linens. Suggested donation of $40 covers accommodations, meals, retreat and instruction. Reservations are required. Non-refundable deposit of $20 needs to be paid by **Feb. 27.** Make check payable to Basinger Ministries, 19655 U.S. 98 N., Okeechobee, Fl 34972. Space is limited so make reservations early. For more information contact Jeff and Debbie Clemmons, 863-634-1152, 863-763-6987 or email jeffptd@hughes.net.

Okeechobee Missionary Baptist Church, 4212 U.S. 441 N., will be having a revival **March 9-15** with services at 7 p.m. each evening. The evangelist will be Rev. John Hancock, an Okeechobee High School graduate. On **March 15** the church will be celebrating Homecoming with Sunday school at 9:45 a.m., worship at 10:45 a.m. and dinner after church.

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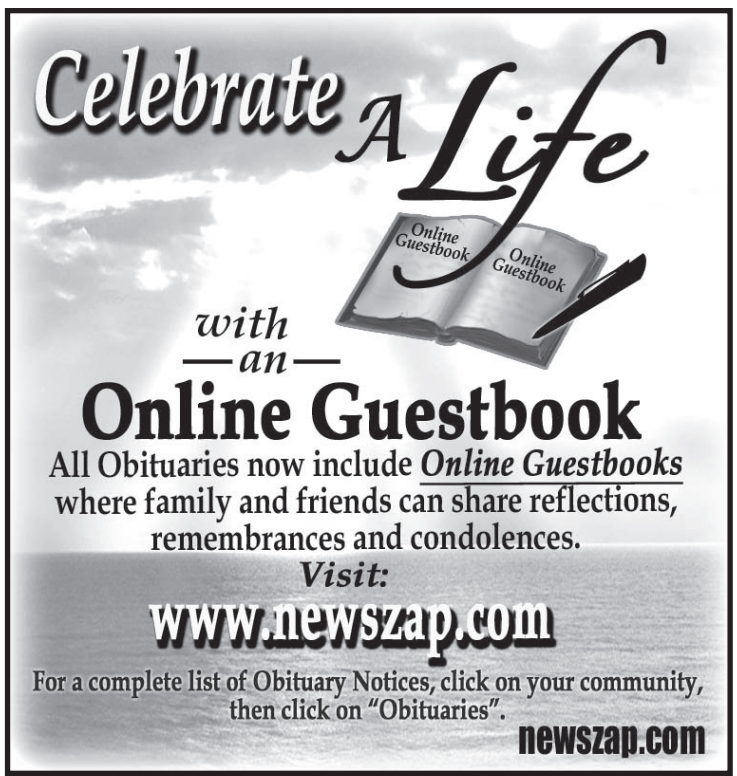

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4-H foundation provides opportunities for children

By Chauna Aguilar
Okeechobee News

The Okeechobee Kiwanis Club learned about the local 4-H clubs from Debbie Clements, the UF/IFAS Extension Office agent, at last week's Kiwanis meeting.

Mrs. Clements expressed that she truly loves her job where she works with the youth of Okeechobee on a regular basis including running summer programs and coordinating the 4-H clubs. She has been involved in 4-H for 44 years where she started as a 4-Her herself.

4-H Youth Development is the non-formal educational program for the youth of the University of Florida IFAS Extension and Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Each state has a formal university that supports the local 4-H as a part of the land grant university system. This provides 4-Hers with access to the most current knowledge and research provided by UF. Programs are based on current, defensible and unbiased research.

Mrs. Clements explained that every quality youth development program should have: sustained, positive adult-youth relationships; skill building activities; and youth participation and leadership. 4-H has all of these and more, including community service through giving back to the community.

4-H is a positive aspect in many youth's lives in Okeechobee and across the U.S. In a comparison of non-4-H members to 4-H participants and non-active youth, 4-H members are more likely than other kids to show positive behavior: succeed in school, getting more As than other kids; be involved as leaders in their school and the community; be looked up to as role models by other kids; and help others in the community.

It has also been reported by 4-H kids that they are less likely than other kids to exhibit the following risky behaviors: three times less likely to shoplift or steal; two times less likely to use illegal drugs of any kind to get high; and two times less likely to damage property for the fun of it. They are also less likely to: ride in a car with someone else who has been drinking; smoke cigarettes; skip school or cut classes without permission.

4-H children are also more likely to take leadership roles in their school and community and volunteer in class to lead activities than other youth. 4-H youth were also more likely to say that if they have "an important concern about drugs, alcohol, sex and any other serious issue," they would talk to their parents or guardians about it compared to those who were not 4-H members.

These statistics stem from the eight critical elements that are necessary for positive youth development which are present in every 4-H club:

- positive relationships with caring adults;
- opportunities for self-determination;
- an accepting and inclusive environment;
- opportunities to contribute through community service;
- a safe environment for learning and growing;
- opportunities to develop skills and mastery;
- engagement in learning; and
- opportunities to be an active participant in life, now and in the future.

In Okeechobee the 4-H and FFA work together. There are currently 20 active 4-H clubs in Okeechobee not including judging teams and the drill team. 4-H is not just agricultural. There are leadership clubs and various other areas as well.

Clubs run strictly on volunteers which spend countless hours with the youth and participate in many activities in the county and statewide.

Through 4-H students learn marketing skills, public speaking and responsibility. They participate in the South Florida Fair and Florida State Fair. There are several individuals right now that are going on beyond the state level to the Southeast Alabama National Fair. Lindsey Rucks has received several high honors outside of the state in Harrisburg, Pa. and has been invited to Scotland for the Royal Highlands Show this summer. The show is a two week trip and 4-H will be conducting some fundraising activities in the near future to assist her family in attending this honorable event.

Okeechobee News/**Chauna Aguilar**
Kiwanis member Sherri Enfinger (left) invited 4-H coordinator Debbie Clements (center) to speak at Kiwanis about the importance of 4-H to our community and beyond. Members such as Kiwanis President Jim Vensel (right) learned about the many opportunities that are available for the youth of Okeechobee.

For more information about local 4-H clubs contact the local UF/IFAS Extension office at 863-763-6469.

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

O.G. & C.C. Weekly Results

P.I.G.S. League - Feb. 9: First place - Billy Crum. Second place - Russ Adams, Sr., Last place - Ken Wilder. Closest to the pin - Frank noble, Jack Forde, George Earl Goudy (2).

O.L.G.A., Low Field - Feb. 10: First place - Kay Deball, Second place - Vonnie Maines, Third Place - Nancy McAlinden. Chip-ins, Eilene Hammond #7 and Fran Dierig #17.

P.I.G.S. League - Feb. 11: First place - Terry Atkinson, Second place - Tina Outrich (aka Geo. Guydosh daughter), Last place - Ron Tanner. Closest to the pin - Harry White, Geno Decerio, Geo. Earl Goudy, and Tina Outrich.

O.L.G.A., Ts and Fs, Feb. 12: First place - Nancy McAlinden, Second place - Vonnie Maines, Third place (tie), Paula Fisher and Janice Rhyne.

P.I.G.S. League - Feb. 13: First place - J.W. Cain, Second place - Geno Decerio, Last place - Sunni Adams. Closest to the pin - Kenny Curran (2), Bill Crum and Bill Kinney.

Gold Tee League, Feb. 13: First place - J. Norfolk, Second place - D. Bockoras, R. Foss, K. Mueller.

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CAP

Continued From Page 1

landing gear configuration and wing spans of approximately 50 inches. Power is provided by a one cylinder internal combustion model engine operating on glow fuel. The engine is similar to an internal combustion gas engine, but glow fuel is safer and a less volatile fuel source than gasoline.

Submitted photo

Heather Lowry takes a turn piloting a model aircraft. At right is Dan Groden.

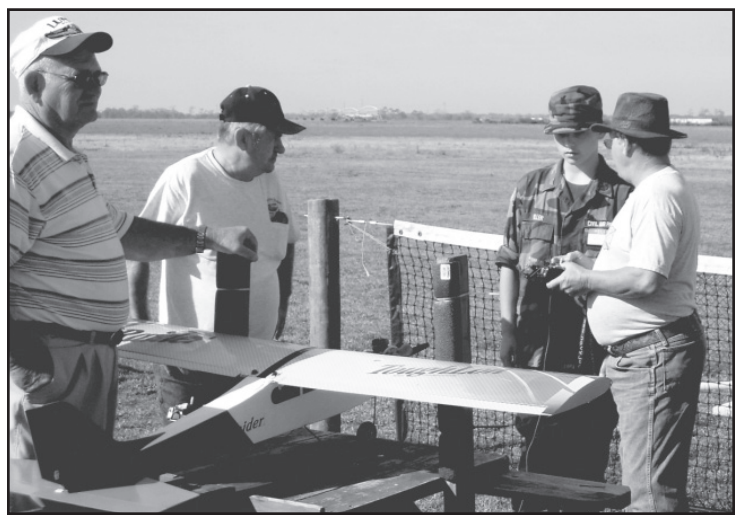
Secondary aircraft control was provided by a radio transmitter known as a "buddy box." This buddy box is connected to the instructor's transmitter or primary transmitter by a data cable through a spring loaded switch located on the primary transmitter. By pressing and holding that switch, the instructor allows control inputs from the secondary transmitter in the student's hands to be sent directly to the aircraft. By releasing that switch the instructor immediately gains full control of the aircraft from the student in the event the student allows the aircraft to get in an unsafe or unusual attitude.

The weather cooperated perfectly and the day was a success, including a surprise air show with two miniature jet type aircraft, an aerobatics aircraft and a flying wing. Participation for both organizations was at an all time high. There were over 56 members, guests and spectators on the field for the morning event. Civil Air Patrol members who were not familiar with model aircraft gained some hands-on experience and a new respect for the skills of being a pilot no matter what the size of the aircraft. Okeechobee Model Aircraft Club Members gained an understanding of what the Civil Air Patrol is and a respect for what they do while having the opportunity to teach the CAP Members about their sport. A common bond of aviation was established between the two organizations today and the universal language spoken was airplane talk.

On behalf of the Okeechobee Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol, Captain Papasso extended their thanks and appreciation to the Okeechobee Model Aircraft Club for the invitation, their expertise, use of their equipment and most of all the overall experience.

If you are interested in Model Aviation, contact information for the Okeechobee Model Airplane Club can be found on their website located at http://omac.embarqspace.com/#. Meetings are the first Monday of the month (Oct to May) at 7 p.m. to about 8:30 p.m. at the Peace Lutheran Church Youth Hall, 750 N.W. 23rd Lane, Okeechobee.

If you are interested in the Civil Air Patrol or any of the many fascinating opportunities it offers to Cadets or Adults please contact Capt. Joe Papasso at 561-252-0916, Lt. Joe Ragon at 954-695-8000 or Lt. Greg Gernat at 863-697-9915. Meetings are every Tuesday at 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the Okeechobee Airport, T-Hanger #1. Please call for directions and gate access.



Submitted photo

Civil Air Patrol cadets enjoyed learning to fly model aircraft. They learned that a preflight briefing is important even for radio-controlled craft. Left to right are: Gary Keller, Gene Bartz, Mike Miller and Bob Bales.

Political debate ends with arrest

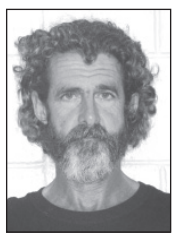
By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

Discussing politics can often times end up in an argument, or more, as a local man learned when another man threatened to kill him with a machete.

Guillermo Martinez, 51, Okeechobee, was arrested Friday, Feb. 13, on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. He was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail under a bond of $10,000.

Martinez, a native of Cuba, reportedly became incensed over statements made about Fidel Castro by Wenses Lao Anselmo as they drank beer outside the La Fiesta Market on S.R. 70 W.

A report by Deputy Bart Potter, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), states that Martinez didn't like what Mr. Anselmo had to say so he left the store only to return a short time later with a machete. Martinez then told the man he was going to kill him and swung the machete at Mr. Anselmo, continued the report.



Guillermo Martinez

At this point Mr. Anselmo, 53, ran for the front of the market with Martinez chasing him, the report added. Deputy Potter said when Mr. Anselmo went inside the market, Martinez stopped.

In his report, Deputy Potter said the store manager told him that Martinez remained outside the business "... swinging the machete around and scaring everyone."

The deputy's report goes on to state that Martinez was ordered several times to drop the machete. When he finally did, three other deputies had to forcibly take Martinez to the ground. The deputies then searched Martinez and reportedly found a hunting knife with a 6-inch blade concealed in the small of his back.

Mr. Anselmo apparently told Deputy Potter that Martinez did not hit him with the machete but that "... he was in fear of his life thinking that Guillermo was going to kill him."

Okeechobee 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).

• Dawn Michelle Voltz Robinson, 47, S.E. 21st Court, Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 12 by Deputy Corporal Randy Thomas on an Okeechobee County warrant charging her with violation of probation - possession of cocaine. She is being held without bond.

• Sara Guillen, 25, N.W. 46th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 12 by Deputy Lieutenant Keith Murrish on a warrant charging her with violation of probation - grand theft. She was released on her own recognizance.

• Kiwana Jasmine Jones, 23, N.E. 15th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 12 by Deputy Sarah Green on an Okeechobee County warrant charging her with uttering a forged instrument. Her bond was set at $2,500.

• Eric Allen Douglas, 25, N.W. 86th Court, Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 12 by Deputy Patricia Massung on a warrant charging him with failure to appear - driving while license suspended/revoked - habitual offender and failure to appear - leaving the scene of an accident with property damage. He is being held without bond.

• Dallas Roger Brown, 48, N.W. 12th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 12 by Deputy Lt. Keith Murrish on a warrant charging him with possession of cocaine with intent to sell within 1,000 feet of a church. His bond was set at $35,000.

• Richard Ortega, 43, N.W. 36th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 12 by Deputy Lt. Keith Murrish on a warrant charging him with violation of probation - driving under the influence. His bond was set at $500.

• Lloyd Bubba Beagling, 39, N.W. 168th Court, Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 17 by Deputy Howard Pickering on a charge of aggravated assault (domestic). His bond had not been set as of newspaper deadline.

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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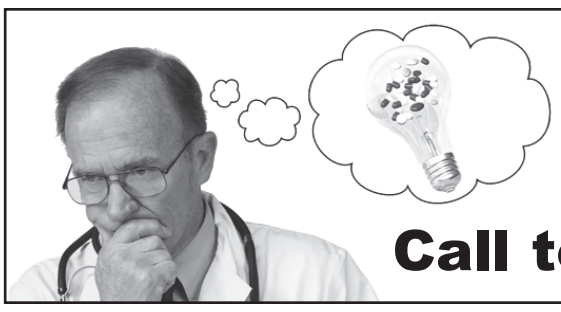

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Use this interactive site to browse through articles and advertisements on our updated Newszap website

Coach

Continued From Page 1

what piece of the puzzle they fit into."

Beckham has his work cut out for him as his team will return fewer than 10 varsity players. They also have scheduled some tough teams this coming fall including Vero Beach, William T. Dwyer, Clewiston, and Bartow.

One of Beckham's biggest tasks Friday was a chat he had with all-state football player Tony Kibler. He transferred to Glades Day for his senior season. Beckham said he would love to see Kibler reverse course and come back to Okeechobee next year.

"The biggest thing is when you start your career as a Brahman you should finish your career as a Brahman. They should start their legacy and finish their legacy at OHS. It shows his interest by the fact that he's here, and waited around and talked to me. There's a chance he wants to remain a Brahman. We certainly would welcome him back."

Kibler is one of four Brahmans to earn all state status in the past 10 years. The others were Lonnie Pryor, Leshawn Henderson and Tim Williams.

Okeechobee News/**Charles Murphy**

Sean Downing, head of the search committee, and his wife Tracy were joined by their children, Mason, Regan and Max to welcome the new Okeechobee football coach Friday.

OKeechobee News/**Pete Gawda**

National Engineers' Week

At the Feb. 17 Okeechobee City Council meeting vice mayor Dowling Watford proclaimed the week of Feb. 15-21 to be National Engineers' Week in the City of Okeechobee. Mr. Watford, left, presented a copy of the proclamation to Marcos Montes De Oca, P.E.

Insurance

Continued From Page 1

dump all of its customers into Citizens; and that is not acceptable for their customers or for the people of Florida," Commissioner McCarty said in a press release.

Mr. Hester called that statement "speculation" on the part of the insurance commissioner. He said that State Farm has never mentioned transferring their customers to Citizens. Mr. Hester said his associate, Gretchen Robertson, was licensed to write Citizens' policies but that she rarely did so, only when she could not place them with State Farm.

Mr. Hester said that he will continue to write automobile, life and other types of insurance under State Farm Florida's parent company, State Farm Mutual. He said he and Mrs. Robertson were considering forming a separate independent insurance agency that would allow them to write property insurance for other companies.

Mr. Hester said that Hurricane Andrew hit State Farm heavily and the insurance company had to be bailed out by the parent company. In the ensuing years he said that not enough reserves were built up to handle recent insurance claims. State Farm paid out more that \$4.4 million in claims for the eight hurricanes that struck Florida in 2004 and 2005. Since 2000 the insurance company claims that it spent \$1.21 in claims and expenses for every \$1 taken in for premiums. The Office of Insurance Regulation recently turned down State Farm's request for a 47.1 percent rate increase. As a possible solution to the insurance dilemma in Florida, Mr. Hester suggested separating hurricane insurance from property insurance.

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

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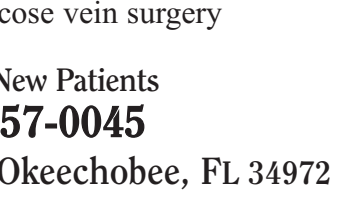

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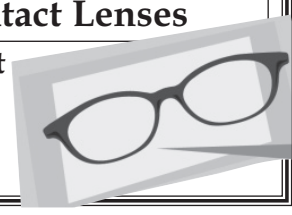

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I will do simple returns for $50-$100.
(863)467-7999

Top Soil

JACK'S TOP SOIL
Fill Dirt/Shell Rock & Bob Cat work.
Call 863-467-4734

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

Employment Full Time 0205

Glades Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Okeechobee
Member Service Representative

Glades Electric Cooperative is seeking a qualified individual to take charge of the front counter at it's Okeechobee office. The position reports to the District Office Supervisor. We seek an individual with strong oral and written communication skills, a professional demeanor and must be comfortable with change in the work environment. The successful candidate should have a minimum of 3-5 years experience in Customer Service. We offer an excellent salary commensurate with experience and an outstanding benefit package.

Employee Applications may be obtained at any GEC Office. Resumes may be e-mailed to ***ybradley@gladesec.com*** or faxed to (863)946-6266. GEC is an Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action Employer and a Drug Free Workplace.

Merchandise 500

Air Conditioners 505
Antiques 510
Appliances 515
Appliance Parts 520
Beauty Supplies 525
Bicycles 530
Books & Magazines 535
Building Materials 540
Business Equipment 545
Carpets/Rugs 550
Children's Items 555
China, Glassware, Etc. 560
Clothing 565
Coins/Stamps 570
Collectibles 575
Computer/Video 580
Crafts/Supplies 585
Cruises 590
Drapes, Linens & Fabrics 595
Fireplace Fixture 600
Firewood 605
Furniture 610
Furs 615
Health & Reducing Equipment 620
Heating Equipment/Supplies 625
Household Items 630
Jewelry 635
Lamps/Lights 640
Luggage 645
Medical Items 650
Miscellaneous 655
Musical Instruments 660
Office Supplies/Equipment 665
Pets/Supplies/Services 670
Photography 675
Plumbing Supplies 680
Pools & Supplies 685
Restaurant Equipment 690
Satellite 695
Sewing Machines 700
Sporting Goods 705
Stereo Equipment 710
Television/Radio 715
Tickets 720
Tools 725
Toys & Games 730
VCRs 735
Wanted to Buy 740

Air Conditioners 0505

FOUR TON - A/C Heat unit for mobile home. $700 or best offer. (772)260-6852

Appliances 0515

KENMORE - Full size dishwasher only used 6 mo. $100 or best offer (863)467-4567 or 467-6865

Refrigerator - Kitchen Aid, Stainless Steel 24.5 cubic ft. side by side. Very good $700 (863)467-9048

STOVE - Ge,white electric very good condition. $125. (239)410-6870

WHIRLPOOL WASHER with FREE DRYER - Big Tub Washer 3 years old $150. (863)675-3693

Appliances Small 0521

FREEZER - Kenmore upright freezer. Med size, good condition come see. $80/or best offer. (863)467-5680

FRYER - Electric, removable tub, 2 Sm., 1 Lg. Basket. Easy to use/clean. Almost new. $30 (863)532-8180

PANINI MAKER / GRILL By: Wolfgang Puck. New (gift) So nice! New $69, Sell now for $35 (863)467-8140

Appliances Small 0521

ROTESSERIE, SHOWTIME - NEW! Complete w/extra's. Was $190, Sell now $135 FIRM. (863)467-8140

SMALL Microwave Oven, $10.00 - 1536 Hwy 441 S.E. Lot 7 Seminole Village. East of Bowling Alley. (863)467-4567

Barns Sheds & Lawn Items 0522

CRAFTSMAN-RIDING LAWN Tractor 18.5 HP , 42" - $400. (239)340-5278 (239)633-3601

JOHN DEERE L-130 GARDEN TRACTOR - 48CUT 23hp KHOLER, NICE $1000. (873)467-1358

Bicycles 0530

EXCELLENT Ladies TREK bike has balloon tires, cost $400 asking $275 (863)763-3796

MENS AND LADIES ROADMASTER MT SPORT 5X BICYCLES - BRAND NEW MENS-BLACK AND GREY WOMENS- BLUE AND WHITE PAID $200 FOR BOTH $125/neg. (863)763-0380 (863)697-9521

MOTORIZED BICYCLE - 2 cycle engine. Cost $900 asking $400 (863)467-4551

Children's Items 0555

CRIB SET (POOH) - 10 Pc crib set, GREAT cond. 7 Free pooh toys, call for info [Okee] $80. (863)261-2604

CRIB W/MATTRESS - Spindle-Jenny Lynn. Light Maple Colored. Good Condition. $50. (863)634-3324

EDDIE BAUER Adventurer Stroller/Car Seat - used only a few times. Paid $329.00 $150. (863)675-0104

EDDIE BAUER convertible Baby Travel Bed - Used only one time. Paid $249.00 $100. (863)675-0104

FISHER PRICE CRADLE SWING - Swings 2 ways, 6speeds +ALOT MORE Pd 150$! $80. (863)261-2604

NEWBORN TO 26 lbs - Several white snap t-shirts/onsies. Clean, spotless, excel cond. (Okee) $12. (863)763-6131

STEP TWO Cabin Play House - Excellent Condition. $60/firm. (863)634-3324

Earn some extra cash. Sell your used items in the classifieds

Clothing 0565

BIG MANS 2X black leather jacket - Gently worn with zip out lining and hood. $125/or best offer. (863)763-0722

BLACK LEATHER Motorcycle Jacket - Size 40, gently worn $50/or best offer. (863)763-0722

Computer/Supplies 0580

COMPUTER - Desktop Family Computer, Xp Pro.,Games Etc. Complete. $75. (863)517-2782

PRINTER - Lexmark 3150, also prints & copies photo's $25. (863)763-1997

Photography

Florida Photo IDs
Elliot's Quik Foto
419 W S Park St • (863) 763-5553

Crafts/Supplies 0585

SCRAP BOOK SUITE CASE - Like new. Black. On wheels w/handle. 20"x20". Pd. $90 Asking $45 (863)763-7953

Furniture 0610

BED - Queen size w/Mirror, 2 night stands. Solid wood. Excellent condition. $500 (863)843-0759

BR SET - king size bed, frame, mattress, springs, older dresser w/mirror & chest, $100. (863)467-7139

CHAISE CHAIR - sits 2 people comfy great shape $100/or best offer. (863)447-0965

COLOR TV - 13" color TV in good condition. $15. (863)467-5299

DINETTE SET - FREE dropleaf table & 4 chairs. U haul $0. (954)629-6766

FRENCH PROVINCIAL By Lexington. Bdrm. & more 11 pcs. $1500 for ALL! (863)532-8180

KING SIZE bed and matching armoir - Solid wood headboard, footboard and wooden side rails. Armoire has 1 removable shelf and 3 drawers. $350. (863)634-7291

LIVINGROOM - Sofa, love seat, wing chair, coffee table, 2 end tables $1000 or best offer. (863)763-5334

LOVESEAT & SLEEPER SOFA-Converts to a twin bed - floral, $250. (863)357-6997

NEW FURNITURE FOR LESS !! DRIVE A LITTLE SAVE ALOT

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

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

QUEEN SIZE Broyhill poster bed - includes headboard, footboard, and wooden side rails, beautiful and in great condition $200. (863)634-7291

SEALY POSTUREPEDIC BED - like new, Twin size, $75 or best offer (863)357-2233 Okeechobee area

SECTIONAL - Brown in excellent condition. $350. (239)410-6870

SMALL BLACK Computer Desk - 2 Shelves, Kidney Shape $20. (863)467-7996

SOFA BED - flips down into double bed, 72", color med.blue, new cond. $175. (863)763-1997

Golf Clubs/Equipment 0618

Must See!

CLUB CAR - Used, Good condition, charger, $900 or best offer. (863)697-1350

Guns/Supplies 0619

COLT AR15 Match Target - 24" Stainless Bull Barrel 2.5X10 Scope (TRADE) $2000. (772)461-8822

MAUSER CARBINE Sporterized - Model 1895 7MM Bolt Action $200. (772)461-8822

RUGER 357 Magnum special, stainless steel. New. $400 firm Call after 6 pm 863-675-3255 LaBelle

S/W 44 Mac 2" Barrel 5 shot - New $500 863-634-4758

Guns/Supplies 0619

RUGER 45 ACP - S.S. with 3 S.S. magazines. Excellent shape. $425. (863)673-3893

SAVAGE O/U 30-30, 20 GA. Mod 24V Checkered Stock w/Scope $400 Call 863-634-4758

Health & Reducing Equipment 0620

SCHWINN EXERCYCLE-UPRIGHT - Sturdy, w/reading stand, comfortable adj seat. $45/neg. (863)381-6273

Household Items 0630

BEIGE MOBILE Home Tub Surround - New In Box $40. (863)467-7996

TANNING BED Wolff Systems 16bulb Dark Tanning - $1000. (863)517-1965

Jewelry 0635

14KT WHITE gold & diamonds - 2 rings, 2 pair of earrings, "Infinity" necklace & Diamond tennis bracelet. $8,000.00 value! It's a steal! $2000/will sep. (239)707-1235 (863)674-1600

Outdoor Furniture 0648

NEW BENCH SWING 5ft - Comfortable w/heavy duty frame & support $275. (863)675-7306

Medical Items 0650

POWER WHEEL chair 2006 - for extra large person. Like new condition. $1200/or best offer. (863)634-5225

SCOOTER - Merits S541 Pioneer $695 (863)983-7949

When you want something sold, advertise in the classifieds.

Miscellaneous 0655

BOWFLEX POWERPRO - Never been used. Includes leg attachments. $550. (863)763-7750

FIREPLACE - charming, moveable, faux, w/heater & faux lit logs, 1950s? $250. (863)675-4098

MOBILE HOME - Has lot rent $300 month includes utilites GREAT DEAL!! $3000. (863)801-1551

OUTBOARD MOTOR - 70 hsp parts only,trim $150. (561)261-0682

SEWING MACHINE - Antique Singer electric sewing machine in swing out cabinet / table. $100. (863)467-5299

WHEELS - {4} - 6 LUG, 16IN. STOCK WHEELS FOR TOYOTA TACOMA 4X4 $200. (863)634-1161

Musical Instruments 0660

Brighton Baptist Church has a CABLE Spinet Piano for sale, 41 inches high, no bench, no broken strings, nice cabinet. $450 (863)763-9377

CLARINET - Black color with silver lining and like brand new. $200/or best offer. (863)610-1545

Pets/Supplies 0670

FEMALE SHIHTZU - Black & White, short haired, playful, great with kids, mostly indoor dog. $400 (863)467-8743

FREE 1YR INSIDE SPAYED BOSTON TERRIER/BLUE HEALER - W/ROOM TO RUN $0. (863)697-6690

KITTENS - 1 blk male,1 blk/wht female,14 weeks/litter trained $0. (863)634-0567

MALE Apple head tea cup chihiua - 12 wks old, crate trained, good with kids. Has papers $700 (863)235-1739

Pets/Supplies 0670

REGISTERED Boston Terrier puppies, 8 wks old, ready for good home. Parents on site $400 or best offer (863)634-3420

Sporting Goods 0705

SOLOFLEX HOME Gym - Bench, lever arm, butterfly, dip bar, leg ext, guide. $185/neg. (863)381-6273

TREADMILL - Owned for less than a year. Automatic incline. In excellent condition. Padded track. $400/neg. (239)707-1235 (863)674-1600

Stereo Equipment 0710

SONY SURROUND Sound System - Sony system with dvd player.Call after 5 $250. (863)763-4493

SPEAKERS - 2 15" Kicker CVR speakers in box with 2000 watt amp $600. (863)697-9014

Tools 0725

METAL LATHE - 6"X18" Manual feed with lots of tooling. Very good shape. $450 (863)357-5754

TOOL BOX - UWS DIAMOND PLATE W/TOP RAIL....FITS 2002 TOYOTA TACOMA. $100. (863)634-1161

Toys & Games 0730

LITTLE TYKES Swingset - CALL FOR INFO/PICS $350. (863)634-1897

Vacuums/Carpet Cleaners 0732

VACUUM - Kirby, very good condition, all attachments included. $60. (239)410-6870

Video/Audio 0737

IPOD TOUCH - After 4:00 pm everything you need $150. (863)467-2423

Agriculture 800

Christmas Trees 745
Farm Equipment 805
Farm Feed/Products 810
Farm Miscellaneous 815
Farm Produce 820
Farm Services Offered 825
Farm Supplies/Services Wanted 830
Fertilizer 835
Horses 840
Landscaping Supplies 845
Lawn & Garden 850
Livestock 855
Poultry/Supplies 860
Seeds/Plants/Flowers 865

Farm Feed/Products 0810

HAY - Fertilized. Argentina Bahia 4x5 Round Bales. $30ea or $25 for 4 or more. South Basinger (863)228-0073

Horses 0840

PONY Carmelo/White mare 7 yrs old rides good. Miniature horses 1 filly, 1 stud, 1yr old buckskin & paint $1200 or will seperate (772)260-6852

Lawn & Garden 0850

(BUNTON) - ZTR Commerical mower, 50" cut, 25hp Kohler, ready to go! $2500/neg. (863)697-2032

BUSHHOG - 7', 3pt., hevy duty, like new, $1300 or best offer. (863)517-0470

CHIPPER - Shredder - Craftsman 5 hp. with bag. Very Good Condition. $125. (863)674-0467

FERTILIZER SPREADER - Wilmar, rebuilt to like new, stainles steel, tandem axle, $1950. (863)517-0470

RIDING MOWER - like new, 42" cut, 22 HP Kohler motor, less than 20 hours $995/or best offer. (409)423-0520

RYOBI Weed Eater with lg spool trim- Brand new, used only 2 hours. Paid $129.00 asking $75 for both. (863)532-1054

Rentals 900

Apartments 905
Business Places 910
Commercial Property 915
Condos/Townhouses - Rent 920
Farm Property - Rent 925
House - Rent 930
Land - Rent 935
Resort Property - Rent 945
Roommate 950
Rooms to Rent 955
Storage Space - Rent 960

Apartments 0905

OKEECHOBEE, 2BR, 1BA, Near town. ***$700*** mo. Annual Lease Sec-8 OK. 561-255-4377

VIKING/PRAIRIE Efficiency. Very clean! $600/mo. Includes utilities. No pets. Call 561-329-8205

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

Condos/Townhouses Rent 0920

OAK LAKE VILLAS #17- 2/2, lrg bdrms, W&D incld, $800/mo, 1st, last & $500 sec. (863) 467-5965

Houses - Rent 0930

FT DRUM - 1/1 on four acres, new cabinets and carpet $625 mo. (912) 224-4658 or (734) 637-2697

OKEE - 2/1 by 15B, clean furnished, carpeting, new a/c, enclosed porch, W/D. Shed, $825/mo incld water (786) 201-0306

OKEECHOBEE - New 3BR, 2BA, garage, Northwest 6th Street, $995/mo. + sec. Call Albert at 863-634-7460.

OKEECHOBEE, 3br, 1ba, Lg yard, inside city limits, $800. mo. + Util., 1st & Last mo. sec. dep. (863)990-3294

TREASURE ISLAND- furn, seasonal, wkly/monthly. 2/2, boathouse, covered dock, remodeled interior, new kitch, (772)287-7407

WATERFRONT - lg. 3BR/2BA, w/d, Fla. rm., den, garage, carport, boathouse, ramp, dock, fruit trees, river access, $900 mo. (970)728-8011

Office Space Rent 0937

PHYSICIAN OFFICE for long term lease call (863)467-9500 for more information.

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

Land - Sale 1040

FIVE MOBILE HOMES IN PARK, All need removed. Will sell or trade for motor home or boat. (863)634-1193

VIKING ESTATES - 2.5 Acres may be split $22,500 Clemons Real Estate Inc. (772)287-8600

WOODED 4.4 ACRES - With a private 3/2, w/d, jacuzzi & lg deck. $850/mo, 1st, last & sec req'd. (863)467-6472

Automobiles 4005

LAKE MOTORS INC
147 Hwy 441 SE • Okeechobee
Best Prices in the Lake Area! **863-467-5243** se habla español

'98 Chrysler Sebring ..only $3495 — Conv, loaded #U9758
'99 Honda LX Civic ......$4995 — 4 Dr. AT, Ac, #U2205
'92 Lexus ES 300 .....only $2895 — Loaded, low miles, 1 owner U1262
'02 Landrover Discovery SD . NOW $4995 — 4x4, at, V8, loaded #U8501
'00 Toyota Solara .... NOW $4695 — 2dr, auto, loaded#U6933
03 GMC Sonoma King Cab ..$3695 — 3dr, 6 cyl, auto, ac, loaded, fiberglass topper #U2124
'99 Ford Ranger King Cab .$3795 — auto, 6 cyl, ac, #U0919
'00 Eclipse ....$3995 — 6 cyl, 5 spd, moon roof, A/C #U6268
'97 Jaguar XJ6 ....$5995 — one owner, low miles, x-clean #U3517
'99 Subaru Outback ......$3995 — AWD, loaded, auto, ac #2078
2-'03 Taurus ....$4995 — V6, AT #U8310 #U5719
'98 Toyota Corolla ....$3995 — one owner #U8247
'98 Ford Explorer XLT .....$3995 — Loaded, #U6717
'94 E350 12 Passenger Van . NOW $3695 — Dual AC.#U2589
'97 Toyota Avalon .....only $3995 — Moon roof, leather, loaded #U1574

Waterfront Property 1080

BHR - Furn Modular home 3/2 w/Fl Room, Incl 3 HD TV's. Just updated plumbing, elect, new sod & sprink sys, fenced, boat ramp, dock, conc drive, car port, shed. $138.500 OBO (561)818-2348

LAKEPORT- Lake Okeechobee access 2/1 CBS, fully furn, 2 boat-boathouse w/1.5 bath, laundry, shop w/auto doors, fish cleaning screenroom. Too many extras to list, includes Bass boat and air boat $250,000 Bill Smith (941)772-8898 or (941) 448-0367

Reading a newspaper helps you understand the world around you. No wonder newspaper readers are more successful people!

Mobile Homes 2000

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

Mobile Home Rent 2015

BEST VALUE IN TOWN! For Rent: 2/1 apartment. Unit newly remodeled. Located 12 miles north of Okeechobee on Equestrian Ranch. Monthly water, trash & lawn maintenance included. No Pets! $495 - Move in special. M-F (863)467-2982

MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT
1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms
Low Deposits &
Reasonable Payments
863-983-3554

OKEECHOBEE-2Bd/1.5 ba, Central Heat & Air, Screen room, $650 mo. Will lease with option @ $59,000. (863)634-3451

ON RIM CANAL: Small, 1 Bdrm., $450 mo. (includes utilities). + $300 sec. dep. (863)697-0214

PLATTS BLUFF - 4 BR, 2 BA DW on 5 acres. $500 mo. + $1000 sec. dep. Call (863)697-1648

WATERFRONT. 2br/1ba, completely furnished, non smk. env., no pets $750 mo.+1st & sec. 772-285-5856

WATERFRONT near Public, $400 per month + utilities. Adults only. Call (863) 763-7262 for info.

Mobile Home Sale 2020

Bank Repo. 4br/2ba doublewide, over 2,000 sq ft, excellent condition $49,900 set-up on your lot. Set-up & a/c included (863) 357-4848

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

KINGS MH PARK - 48 x 12 Furn 1/1 w/21' concrete porch & roof, in good cond. On rented lot. Must see to appreciate. Reduced $7000 (863)467-8773

KRFR- Adult Park, Lot 90, 2/1.5, furn., Fl. rm., carport, boathouse, workshop, $25,500 neg 763-8382

Lowest prices in south Florida. No money down on your lot. Very easy financing. 2, 3, & 4 bedroom models avail (863)357-4848

~MOBILE HOME SALES~
Huge 4BR/3BA
32x80 Set up on Your
Lot - $550 Monthly
800-330-8106 or
863-467-6622

MOBILE HOMES
Need your mobile home moved? We have 28 years experience. Call for your Free Quote! (863)983-8106

New 3br/2ba doublewide $49,900 setup & a/c included. Very easy financing (863) 357-4848

OKEECHOBEE - Db Wide, on canal, elec boat lift, lg attached Util Room, lg Util shed, golf car, furnished, Exc cond., 1307 S Parrot, #40, Riverbend Mob Home Pk, (217)652-1238

OLD RIVER RUN - 2 Park models w/direct lake okee access, 2 docks 863-467-8146 or 863-467-0473

S/W Mobile Home - 14x50, 2BR/1BA, 12x22 screened vinyl room, newly refurbished, lake access w/dock, Treasure Island, in park @ 3425 SE 36th Ave., $24k neg. (772)318-8218

Grab a bargain from your neighbor's garage, attic, basement or closet in today's classifieds.

Recreation 3000

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

Boats 3005

AIRBOAT HULL - Apache, 12', with good trailer & cage works, no motor, $1500 or best offer. (863)357-5754

MERCURY - 6 cyl, 175 hp merc on 17.5' hydra sport bass boat Trailer included. $3200 (863)467-2267

PONTOON BOAT Select - 20 Foot Pontoon Boat for sale. In good condition. $800. (239)229-2974

SEARS 14'BOAT Select - TRAILER INCLUDED $475/or best offer. (863)675-1111

V-Bottom alum boat w/ trailer, 15 hp evenrude motor. $1,550 (863)946-3377 or 863-228-6636

Campers/RVs 3010

COACHMAN 1985 - 28 Ft. Pull Behind. $1800 or best offer. (863)675-7105

COMPLETE SET Tie-Downs for slide-in Camper, new 16" spare tire - 6 hole rim w/fold down, Blue ox hitch for car pulling $450 for all or will sperate (863)763-5062

DUTCHMAN, 2000 RV - 26', sleeps 6, $5,000 or best offer. Call 863-675-0077 or 863-674-1333.

FORD F250 White Super Duty 4x4 w/towing pkg. 32,000 miles, Excellent condition with 2005 27 ft Coachman 5th wheel, 2 slides, King size bed, excellent condition $26,500 for both. (863)357-4827

SPARE TIRE CARRIER, for 4 inch square bumper, like new $25.00 or best offer (863)357-6703

VINTAGE 1970 DODGE MOTORHOME - 318 eng., fiberglass body, $1500 or trade (863)801-3667

Marine Accessories 3020

PONTOON TRAILER - 22 foot galvanized pontoon trailer. In great condition. $1000. (239)229-2974

Marine Miscellaneous 3025

FOR SALE - 1982, 150 hp Evenrude outboard, complete less prop $75 or best offer (863)763-1370

Motorcycles 3030

GEELY 49CC GAS SCOOTER - low miles, New $1200 asking $ 800 (863)467-4551

HARLEY DAVIDSON SPORTSTER 883 - 1998, Low miles, nice condition $4500 (863)430-6987

HONDA REBEL 2006 - black and chrome excellent cond $2500. (239)707-8606

SUZUKI RM 125 2000 - needs a rear fender, runs good, A must see. $1000/or best offer. (863)763-6297

Yamaha Star 03-650. 8,000 miles. Extras $3,000 firm 863-673-4341 cell

Sports Vehicles/ATVs 3035

CLUB CAR ELECTRIC 2003 - New batteries, side curtains, reconditioned $2495/or best offer. (863)843-0062

SUZUKI 80 CC 4Wheeler - Very good condition. $1100 (863)634-7021 Okeechobee

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

CADILLAC Fleetwood 96, Rebuilt Trans & new tires, Lifetime Aamco warr,very sound $800 FIRM (863)634-5914

FORD EXPLORER 1994 - White,new tires,runs good. $1700. (239)657-4348

Parts/Repairs 4045

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.slbt.com

Automobiles 4005

CADILLAC SADAN DEVILLE 1994 - FAIR CONDITION, NEW BRAKES,POWER WINDOWS LEATHER INTERIOR. HUNTER GREEN WITH FLAKES ALSO LOW MILAGE, CD, air bags, anti-lock brakes, heated seats, a/c, auto. Cc, rear defrost, V-8. FOR MORE INFORMATION FEEL FREE TO CALL. ** MUST SELL MOVING** $1200/or best offer. (863)634-6843

CHEVY MALIBU - 2001, white, cold a/c 30 mpg. $2200 (812)989-3022

CHRYSLER PT CRUISER 2001 - Ltd. Edition, 5-spd, 4-cyl, original owner. $2500. (231)675-3615

FORD F250 1993 - 4-wd, auto. V-8, Runs Good. $2500/or best offer. (863)763-6297

FORD MUSTANG 1998 - SALEEN BODY KIT, FAST CAR & STRONG SOUND ENGINE, STAGE 2 HAS PROGRAMMER SUPER CHIP AND READY TO UPGRADE ENGINE, LEATHER SEATS, LOW MILEAGE, RUNS GREAT, EXCELLENT CONDITIONS. CD, a/c, tinted windows $15000/or best offer. (561)993-2280

FORD MUSTANG GT 1990 - V-8, 5-spd, a/c, CD, 67k mi. $2500/neg. (863)634-4636 (863)697-0136

FORD TAURAS XL 1997 - 4drs 70,000 org miles great car, a/c, 1 owner $2300/or best offer. (863)447-0965 (863)447-0941

Ford Taurus - 1995, Auto, a/c, clean, good condition $2000 (863)763-2858

GRAND MARQUIS - 1996, Leather, V8, auto,alloy whls, cold a/c, antilock brks, power $2300 (863)763-8027

HONDA CIVIC 1995 - runs good $3000. (863)201-3492 (863)261-1181

JAGUAR XJ6 SOVEREIGN 1991 - JAGUAR XJ6 Sovereign. Loaded. 6V. 116,000 miles. $3,500 Neg. Call (863)484-0499. $3500/neg. (863)447-0796

PONTIAC FIREBIRD '90 - black, V6, exc. cond., $1900 or best offer (863)634-7254/467-0913

Classic Cars 4015

FORD BRONCO CLASSIC 1978 - Antique, 6 cyl, roll bar, grill guard, magwheels $5600. (863)763-3966

Four Wheel Drive 4035

FORD F150, '77 - 4 wheel dirve, stepside truck, Must See! $5,000. Call Pete (863)697-3766

Golf Carts 4037

CLUB CAR ELECTRIC 2003 - New Batteries, Side Curtains, Reconditioned $2995/or best offer. (863)843-0062

GOLF CART - Club Car, 48 volt, elect, sun roof, used , Excellent cond. $1750 or best offer (863)467-2824

Heavy Duty Trucks 4040

TOYOTA UHAUL BOX 1990 - 1Ton rear drive,aluminum box,cold ac $2650. (561)261-0682

Parts/Repairs 4045

18" FORD RIMS - 18" FACTORY FX4 FORD RIMS $400/or best offer. (863)634-1545

MUD TIRES - 5 BRAND NEW BFG MUDTERRAIN TIRES 35*12.50*15 $600/firm. (863)697-8696

MUSTANG PARTS 94-98 - 2 hoods, doors, door mirrors, 2 wings (1 is roush wing) $600/or best offer. (561)993-2280

OFF ROAD tires in good condition 4-15" - 1/2 new price $160. (863)675-6314

R/C REPAIR - Repair for all types of R/C, Traxxas, Duratrax, HPI, Etc. Call Chris $20. (863)801-1683

TOOL BOX, Cross Over, Diamond Plated. Full Size. $125 (863)357-3635

TRUCK RIMS & Tires - Off a Chevy Z71. 265/75/16 A/T's Make Offer $125/or best offer. (863)634-4557

Pickup Trucks 4050

CHEVY 1 TON DUALLY '77 - 454 eng., 4 speed, great to restore or farm use, $1750 or trade (863)801-3667

DODGE D100 1984 - 6cyl, 4spd, runs good, many new parts, tires & body fair. $850/neg. (863)763-3669

DODGE RAM PICKUP 1998 - Great running truck. A/c, alloy whls. CD, auto. Loaded $4800. (863)763-3966

FORD - 1992 F-250, 7.3 L, Diesel 5 speed, Good work truck. $2500 or best offer (863)835-3251

FORD F-150 1984 - Tan color,300 eng,4sp,70,000 miles on the engine,cold ac.Runs and drives like new or better.Super clean not for work,custom steering wheel,dont miss this one. $2400/or best offer. (561)261-0682

Parts/Repairs 4045

Pickup Trucks 4050

FORD F-150 1997 - 2 F-150's One 4x4 Runs.One 2wd for parts. $2000/neg. (863)634-0556

FORD RANGER 1997 - 4-cyl, air bags, 1 owner, a/c, 5-spd. $300. (863)673-1087

FULL SIZE Truck Topper Black, good condition. For long wheel base truck. $150 (863)532-1054

ISUZU PICK UP 1994 - 4-cyl, 5-spd, teal color, runs good, nice dependable, Gas efficient work truck $1300. (863)612-5923 (863)675-4139

OTHER Select - Delta Packer Sport tool box for full size pick up like new $100. (863)675-1690

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Sport Utility 4055

BRIDGESTONE DUELER - 4 Used Tires - P245/65 R17, All weather, excellent tread, $60 for all. (863)610-0575

NISSIAN FRONTIER 2000 - White. AC, CD, 4 cyl., 22 mpg., bumper hitch. $2700 (863)357-6113

RANGE ROVER 1995 - runs good, clean, 4x4, power windows/locks, 6 disc changer. $4000/neg. (863)228-7102

Utility Trailers 4065

UTILITY TRAILER - single axle ENCLOSED 6x12 vent,lights,side,rear doors. $2000. (863)634-2303

UTILITY TRAILER - Single axle ENCLOSED 6x12 vent, lights, side, rear door. $2300. (863)634-2303

Vans 4070

DODGE CARAVAN - 2000 Power windows, a/c Runs Great $2500 FIRM (863)763-3036

DODGE CONVERSION VAN 2000 - asking $4700 (863)675-0077 /674-1333

DODGE RAM 50 1996 - V-6, a/c, loaded, blue, conversion. $950. (863)763-3551 (863)467-1358

Public Notices 5000

Public Notice 5005
State Public - Legal Notice 5500

Public Notice 5005

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL DIVISION
CASE NO. 2009-CP-27

IN RE: The Estate Of
MICHAEL A. BARNES,
Deceased

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of MICHAEL A. BARNES, deceased, whose date of death was December 23, 2008, is pending in the Circuit Court for Okeechobee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 312 N.W. 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972. The names and address of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

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

ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

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

The date of first publication of this notice is February 11th, 2009.

Personal Representative:
JACKIE S. BARNES
7525 NE 4th Street
Okeechobee, FL 34972

Attorney for Personal Representative:
COLIN M. CAMERON
200 N.E. 4th Avenue
Okeechobee, FL 34972
(863) 763-8600
Fla. Bar No. 270441
310309 ON 02/11,18/09

LEGAL NOTICE

Public Auction will be held at Johns Towing Service storage lot located at 704 Northeast 2nd Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34972 on MARCH 6, 2009, at 9:00 A.M. Pursuant to Florida Statute 713.78 for unpaid towing and storage charges. Year, make, model and VIN are as follows.

1998 Saturn S Series
VIN#1G8ZK5274WZ200614
2004 Toyota Corolla
VIN#1NXBR32E14Z327302
1988 Dodge D100 Pickup
VIN#1B7FD04Y9JS620138
1999 Pontiac Sunfire
VIN#1G2JB5247X7567128

Terms of sale are cash, and no checks will be accepted. Seller reserves the right of final bid. ALL SALES ARE FINAL! NO REFUNDS WILL BE, MADE! Said automobiles will be sold in "As Is" condition with no guarantee's.
311138 ON 2/18/09

Public Notice 5005

AMENDED LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) -- PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

THE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE, pursuant to Section 287.055, Florida Statutes, the State of Florida's Consultants Competitive Negotiations Act and the State Requirements for Educational Facilities 1999, will consider the contracting of an architect/engineer for providing professional services for the following project(s):

The project(s) will consist of: Minor Projects College Wide

The Professional Services requested include the following disciplines:

- Architecture
- Civil
- Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing
- Structural
- Surveying
- Geographical Information Systems
- Geotechnical & Materials Testing
- Environmental
- Commissioning Services

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

1. Letter of Interest
2. GSA Standard Forms 254 and 255
3. Consultant Questionnaire Form – which can be obtained by calling the IRSC Facilities Planning Office at 772-462-7360, or preferably by e-mailing your request to pivey@irsc.edu
4. Three (3) Letters of Recommendation from owners with whom you have had experience in the past three (3) years
5. Copy of your firm's current Florida Professional Registration License
6. If your firm is a corporation, please provide a copy of your firm's current Florida Corporate Charter

Business entities interested in providing architectural/engineering services for Indian River State College (IRSC) for Minor Projects are hereby notified that submittal documents will be accepted at the Indian River State College Facilities Planning Office, Building 'S', Room #233, 3209 Virginia Avenue, Fort Pierce, FL 34981-5596 until 12:00 Noon on Tuesday, March 3, 2009. Submittals received after that time/date will not be considered.

IRSC reserves the right to waive any informality in the selection process and to reject any and all Requests for Qualifications.
310517 ON 2/18,25/09

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION
CASE NO.: 47-2008-CA-112

CITIMORTGAGE, INC.,
PLAINTIFF
VS.
HUMBERTO GUTIERREZ; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF HUMBERTO GUTIERREZ, IF ANY; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES OR OTHER-CLAIMANTS; JOHN DOE AND JANE DOE AS UNKNOWN TENANTS IN POSSESSION
DEFENDANT(S)

RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Order Granting the Motion to Reset Foreclosure Sale dated January 21, 2009 entered in Civil Case No. 47-2008-CA-112 of the Circuit Court of the 19th Judicial Circuit in and for OKEECHOBEE County, Okeechobee, Florida, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Jury Assembly Room, 2nd Floor of the OKEECHOBEE Judicial Center, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida, at 11:00 am on the 4th day of March, 2009, the following described property as set forth in said Summary Final Judgment, to-wit:

LOTS 25 AND 26, BLOCK 28 OF CONNERS HIGHLANDS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE(S) 21, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

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

Dated this 5th day of February, 2009.

SHARON ROBERTSON
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
BY: /s/ SANDRA L. CREECH
DEPUTY CLERK

NOTICE REGARDING THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990
In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administration no later than seven days prior to the proceeding at 250 NW Country Club Drive, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986 or call 1-772-807-4370 within two working days of your receipt of this Summons/Notice to Appear. If you are hearing impaired call 1-800-955-8771. If you are voice impaired call 1-800-955-8770, via Florida Relay Service.

DAVID J. STERN, P.A.
900 SOUTH PINE ISLAND ROAD
SUITE 400
PLANTATION, FL 33324-3920
(954) 233-8000
310441 ON 2/11,18/09

IN THE CIRCUIT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY
Case #2008-CA-000659

CitiMortgage, Inc.,
Plaintiff,
vs
Donna H. Lee a/k/a Donna Lee and Shannon P. Lee a/k/a Shannon Lee; Unknown Parties in Possession #1; Unknown Parties in Possession #2; If Living, and all Unknown Parties claiming by, through, under and against the above named Defendant(s) who are not known to be dead or alive, whether said Unknown Parties may claim an interest as Spouse, Heirs, Devisees, Grantees, or Other Claimants
Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION FORECLOSURE PROCEEDINGS-PROPERTY

TO: Shannon P. Lee a/k/a Shannon Lee:

Residence unknown, if living, including any unknown spouse of said Defendants, if either has remarried and if either or both of said Defendants are dead, their respective unknown heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, creditors, lienors, and trustees, and all other persons claiming by, through, under or against the named Defendant(s); and the aforementioned named Defendant(s) and such of the aforementioned unknown Defendants and such of the aforementioned unknown Defendants as may be infants, incompetents or otherwise not sui juris.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action has been commenced to foreclose a mortgage on the following real property, lying and being and situated in Okeechobee County, Florida, more particularly described as follows:

LOT 21, 22, 23 AND 24, BLOCK 50, SUBDIVISION OF A PORTION OF OKEECHOBEE PARK, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 28, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

more commonly known as 631 Northwest 28th Avenue, Okeechobee, FL 34972

This action has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defense, if any, upon SHAPIRO & FISHMAN, LLP, Attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is 2424 North Federal Highway, Suite 360 Boca Raton, Florida 33431, within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this notice and file the original with the clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately there after; other wise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on the 5th day of Feb., 2009.

SHARON ROBERTSON
Circuit and County Courts
By: /S/ Linda F. Young
Deputy Clerk
310090 ON 2/11/09

Your next job could be in today's classifieds. Did you look for it?

How fast can your car go? It can go even faster when you sell it in the classifieds.

One man's trash is another man's treasure. Turn your trash to treasure with an ad in the classifieds.

Public Notice 5005

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION
CASE NO.: 472008CA000503CAXXXX

NATIONAL CITY BANK SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO HARBOR FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK
PLAINTIFF
VS.
HARRY JEAN-MICHEL; JUDITH ROCHE; MARIE-ANGE JEAN-MICHEL; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MARIE-ANGE JEAN-MICHEL IF ANY; JOSEPH BLANCHARD; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF JOSEPH BLANCHARD IF ANY; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; NYSOLA GRANT; JOHN DOE AND JANE DOE AS UNKNOWN TENANTS IN POSSESSION
DEFENDANT(S)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated January 29, 2009 entered in Civil Case No. 472008CA000503CAXXXX of the Circuit Court of the 19th Judicial Circuit in and for OKEECHOBEE County, Okeechobee, Florida, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash on the Jury Assembly Room, 2nd Floor, Okeechobee County Judicial Center, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida, at 11:00 a.m. on the 11th day of March, 2009, the following described property as set forth in said Summary Final Judgment, to-wit:

A PARCEL OF LAND LYING IN SECTION 19, TOWNSHIP 34 SOUTH, RNAGE 36 EAST, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCE AT THE NORTH ONE-QUARTER CORNER OF SAID SECTION 19; THENCE SOUTH 00° 48' 47" WEST A DISTANCE OF 33.00 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF N.E. 304TH STREET; THENCE SOUTH 89'34'13"EAST, ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 76.54 FEET, TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE EAST LINE OF PARCEL A OF SOUTHERN HOMESTEADS UNIT 1 AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 73 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA AND THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE SOUTH 00° 48'47" WEST, ALONG SAID EAST LINE, A DISTANCE OF 1594.30- FEET, TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF LOT 20 OF SOUTHERN HOMESTEADS UNIT 2 AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGES 88 AND 89 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA; THENCE SOUTH 77°04'39" WEST, ALONG SAID SOUTHERLY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 960.55 FEET, TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE EAST LINE OF THE 100' RETENTION AS SHOWN ON SAID PLAT OF SOUTHERN HOMESTEADS UNIT 2; THENCE SOUTH 17° 48'29" EAST, ALONG SAID EAST LINE, A DISTANCE OF 97.50 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 17° 54'03" EAST, ALONG SAID EAST LINE, A DISTANCE OF 250.28 FEET; THENCE NORTH 79° 39'18" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 1532.05 FEET, TO POINT B ON THE CENTERLINE OF A 70.00 FOOT WIDE INGRESS, EGRESS AND UTILITY EASEMENT AS SHOWN ON THE MAP OF SOUTHERN HOMESTEAD RANCHES UNIT 1, DATED NOVEMBER 15, 2004 AS PREPARED BY JAMES R. ALMOND, PSM, FLORIDA LICENSE NO. LS 5081; THENCE NORTH 04° 19'31" EAST, ALONG SAID CENTERLINE, A DISTANCE OF 1864.17 FEET, TO THE INTERSECTION WITH SAID SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF N.E. 304TH STREET; THENCE NORTH 89° 34'13" WEST, ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 795.67 FEET, TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

SUBJECT TO AND TOGETHER WITH THE RIGHT OF INGRESS, EGRESS AND PUBLIC UTILITIES UNDER THAT CERTAIN EASEMENT AND ROAD AGREEMENT RECORDED MARCH 8, 2005 IN O.R. BOOK 555, PAGE 1935, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY,, FLORIDA.

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

Dated this 5th day of February, 2009.

SHARON ROBERTSON
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
BY: /S/ SANDRA L. CREECH
DEPUTY CLERK

LAW OFFICES OF DAVID J. STERN
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF
900 SOUTH PINE ISLAND ROAD
SUITE 400
PLANTATION, FL 33324-3920
(954) 233-8000
(954)233-8705
08-90581

NOTICE REGARDING THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990
In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, person needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administration no later than seven days prior to the proceeding at 250 NW Country Club Drive, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986 or call 1-772-870-4370 within two working days of your receipt of the Summons/Notice to Appear. If you are hearing impaired call 1-800-95-8771. If you are voice impaired call 1-800-955-8770, via Florida Relay Service
310487 ON 02/18,25/09

LEGAL NOTICE

A public auction will be held at BMJ Towing, Inc. Lot at 414 South Parrott Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34974 on Friday the 6th day of March, 2009 from 10:00-11:00 A.M. Pursuant to Florida statute 713.78 for unpaid towing and storage. Year, Make, Model & Vin's as follows:

01 Red Pontiac Grand Am
1G2NF52T21M574588
1984 White Jeep CJ7
1JCCE87A4ET027122

Terms of sale are cash, and no checks will be accepted. The seller reserves the right of final bid. All sales are final. No refunds will be made. Said automobiles will be sold in "AS IS" with no guarantees.
310882 ON 2/18/09

Buying a car? Look in the classifieds. Selling a car? Look in the classifieds.

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

Public Notice 5005

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 07-000244-CA

HSBC BANK USA, N.A., AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE FOR THE REGISTERED NOTEHOLDERS OF RENAISSANCE HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST 2005-3, RENAISSANCE HOME EQUITY LOANASSET-BACKED NOTES, SERIES 2005-3,
Plaintiff
vs.
JEFFREY A. BARKLEY; MICHELLE A. BARKLEY; AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; CARROLL COLLINS; AMERICAN BANKERS INSURANCE COMPANY N/K/A NATIONAL FINANCIAL INSURANCE COMPANY; UNKNOWN TENANT#1 IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY; UNKNOWN TENANT#2 IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY;
Defendant(s).

RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated **December 26, 2007**, and Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated January 30, 2009 and entered in Case No. 07-000244-CA, of the Circuit Court of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit in and for OKEECHOBEE County, Florida. HSBC BANK USA, N.A., AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE FOR THE REGISTERED NOTEHOLDERS OF RENAISSANCE HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST 2005-3, RENAISSANCE HOME EQUITY LOANASSET-BACKED NOTES, SERIES 2005-3, is Plaintiff and JEFFREY A. BARKLERY; MICHELLE A. BARKLEY; AMERICAN BANKERS INSURANCE COMPANY N/K/A NATIONAL FINANCIAL INSURANCE COMPANY; CARROLL COLLINS; UNKNOWN TENANT#1 IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY N/K/A VIRGINIA HATHWAY, are defendants. I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in the **Jury Assembly Room, 2nd Floor, Okeechobee County Judicial Center, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972 at 11:00a.m., on the 11th day of March, 2009,** the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

Lot 34, DEER PARK ACRES, an unrecorded plat, a parcel of land lying in the South 1/2 of Section 32, Township 33 South, Range 35 East, Okeechobee County, Florida being more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the Southeast corner of said Section 32, marked by a hewed lighterwood post, bear South 89 degrees 33 minutes 31 seconds West, along the South line of said Section 32, a distance of 2317.56 feet to the P.O.B.; thence continue along aforedescribed line a distance of 659.97 feet; thence North a distance of 340.09 feet; thence bear North 89 degrees 19 minutes 08 seconds East a distance of 660.00 feet; thence bear South a distance of 342.86 feet to the P.O. B. subject for road purposes, the West 25 feet TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN 1994 DOUBLE-WIDE MOBILE HOME, SERIAL # OF DWMH:FLA567491, VIN#317360H31

NOTICE REGARDING THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990; In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in the proceeding should contact Court Administrator no later then seven days prior to the proceeding at 250 NW Country Club Drive, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986, 1-772-807-4370 within two working days of you receipt of this notice. IF YOU ARE HEARING IMPAIRED CALL 1-800-955-8771; IF YOU ARE VOICE IMPAIRED CALL 1-800-955-8770

Dated this 3rd day of February, 2009.

SHARON ROBERTSON
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

BY: /S/ Sandra Creech
As Deputy Clerk

Van Ness Law Firm, P.A.
1239 E. Newport Center Drive
Suite #110
Deerfield Beach, Florida 33442
Phone (954) 571-2031
Fax (954) 571-2033
309965 ON 2/18,25/09

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
Case No.: 2009 DR 33

CINDY F. MOORE
Petitioner
and
KEVIN F. MOORE,
Respondent

NOTICE OF ACTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE

TO: KEVIN F. MOORE
3633 N.W. 21st Avenue
Okeechobee, FL 34972

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to Cindy F. Moore, 3633 N.W. 21st Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34972; on or before March 4, 2009; and file the original with the clerk of this Court at 312 N.W. 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972; before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. **If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.**

Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit's Court's office. You may review these documents upon request.

You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Notice of Current Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed to the address on record at the clerk's office.

WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.

Dated: January 30, 2009

SHARON ROBERTSON
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

By: /S/ Vicki Rogers
Deputy Clerk
309458 ON 2/4,11,18,25/09

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES OF THE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE WILL MEET TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2009 IN ROOM 302 OF THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING AT 3209 VIRGINIA AVENUE, FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA 34981-5596.

PHYSICAL PLANT COMMITTEE - 2:30 P.M.
FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE - 2:45 P.M.

ANY PERSONS SEEKING TO APPEAL THE DECISIONS OF THE BOARD WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT SUCH MEETING WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS, AND FOR SUCH PURPOSE MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDING IS MADE.
311139 ON 2/18/09

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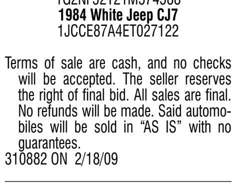

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Public Notice 5005

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO. 47-2008-CA-137

HSBC BANK, USA AS TRUSTEE FOR CMLTI 2007-SHL1,
Plaintiff
vs.
CATHY ANN SCOTT, et al,
Defendant(s)

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated January 21, 2009 and entered in Case No. 47-2008-CA-137 of the Circuit Court of the NINETEENTH Judicial Circuit in and for OKEECHOBEE County, Florida wherein HSBC BANK, USA AS TRUSTEE FOR CMLTI 2007-SHLI, is the Plaintiff and CATHY ANN SCOTT; THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF CATHY ANN SCOTT N/K/A TONY MOLANO; are the Defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM, 2ND FLOOR, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY JUDICIAL CENTER, 312 N.W. 3RD STREET, OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA 34972 at 11:00AM, on the 4th day of March, 2009, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

LOT 5, BLOCK 51, BASSWOOD, INCORPORATE, UNIT NO. 5, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 51, PUBLIC RECORDS, OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

A/K/A 3381 NW 37TH AVENUE, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972-0000

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

WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of this Court on January 29, 2009.

Sharon Robertson
Clerk of the Circuit Court

By: /S/ SANDRA L. CREECH
Deputy Clerk
309527 ON 2/11,18/09

ADVERTISE and Get Results

NOTICE OF MEETING
Okeechobee County Construction Industry Licensing Board

The Okeechobee County Construction Industry Licensing Board will hold a public meeting on Tuesday, March 3, 2009, @ 3:30 P.M. The public meeting will be held at the Okeechobee County Health Department Auditorium, located at the 1728 N.W. 9th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida. For more information, contact Barbara Cash at the Planning and Development Department, 499 N.W. 5th Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972; (863) 763-5548.

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

Barbara Cash, Secretary to Board
Okeechobee County Construction
Industry Licensing Board
310422 ON 2/11,18/09

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners will hold its Regular Session on Thursday, February 26, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. at the Health Department Auditorium, 1728 NW 9th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida.

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

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Florida Statute 286.26, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Betsy Sheffield or Paula Poskon, no later than two (2) working days prior to the proceeding at 863-763-2131, ext. 2100. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call TDD 1-800-222-3448 (voice) or 1-888-447-5620 (TTY).

Clif Betts Jr., Chairman
Board of County Commissioners
Okeechobee County, Florida

Sharon Robertson, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
Okeechobee County, Florida
311049 ON 2/18/09

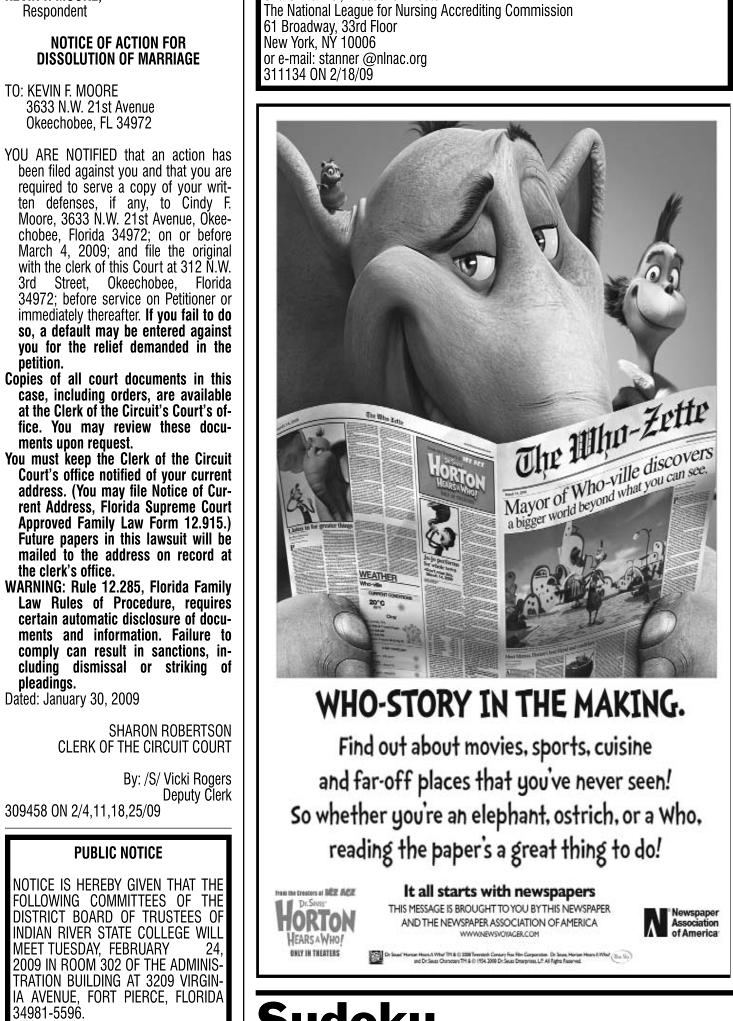
PUBLIC NOTICE OF UPCOMING ACCREDITATION VISIT BY NLNAC:
Announcement

Indian River State College Nursing Program will host a site review for initial accreditation of its Bachelors Degree Program and continuing accreditation of the Associate Degree Nursing Program.

You are invited to meet with the visiting team and share your comments about the programs in person at a meeting scheduled for Wednesday March 11, 2009 at 4:00 . 5:00 pm at the Main Campus, 3209 Virginia Avenue, Fort Pierce in H-106. You can reach the Nursing Department by calling 772-462-7570 or by e-mail at dcamacho@irsc.edu.

Written comments are also welcome and should be submitted directly to:

Sharon Tanner, Executive Director
The National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission
61 Broadway, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10006
or e-mail: stanner @nlnac.org
311134 ON 2/18/09



Sudoku

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

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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!

ANSWER:

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

Brahmans rally to defeat Glades Day

Okeechobee News/**Charles Murphy**

Mark Weir watches a fly ball in the first inning of Okeechobee's victory Saturday.

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Jonathan Crawford hit a long homerun and pitched three solid innings on the mound to lead Okeechobee High School to a 7-6 win over Glades Day in boy's baseball action Saturday.

The Brahmans did well in the pre-season classic as they won both of their games over Port St. Lucie and Glades Day. John Carroll won the other two contests over Glades Day and Port St. Lucie.

Brahmans Coach Dylan Tedders said he tried to get all of his players into the game Saturday and had them work on various situations. All of his players got at least one at bat in the game.

"That's the good thing about pre season games," said the coach. "I got the bench some work and the team came back. We worked on situations that will help us in the regular season."

Crawford was a big reason the Brahmans won the game. He hit a long homerun early in the game that gave Okeechobee a three run lead. Okeechobee led 5-1 and appeared to be cruising before the Gators came back against the Brahman bull pen.

Okeechobee fell behind 6-5 in the top of the seventh as Glades Day rallied to score two runs off Brandon Farless and Austin Hamilton.

Okeechobee wasn't fazed as they scored twice in the bottom of the inning to win it. Mark Weir led off with a double, Brice Buckner walked, and Dustin Stokes tied the game with a line drive single to center field. After Adam Tewskbury popped out, Crawford was intentionally walked to load the bases. Cameron Tewksbury followed with a line drive single to win the game.

"It shows the team that they are capable of coming back if they work together," Tedders noted.

Crawford said it felt pretty good to play well early in the year. He said he is working on his mechanics on the mound so he can be more consistent this year.

"I'm just trying to enjoy myself and not put the pressure on myself," Crawford said. "That's probably why I did so bad last year was I put a lot of pressure on myself."

On the homerun, the second by a Brahman in two games, Crawford said the pitcher hung a curve ball and he hit it out. He said he was more relaxed at the plate and admitted he was disappointed when Glades Day pitched around him in the seventh inning.

"Cameron got a shot and he hit it good. I think we are more of a team than ever before," he added.

The Brahmans return home on Thursday to play Treasure Coast. They travel to Port St. Lucie on Friday afternoon.

OHS softball team wins home opener over Glades Day

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Naomi Stephens drove a fastball from Kayle Voss deep into the night to give Okeechobee a 6-5 come from behind win over Glades Day in girl's softball action Friday night.

The home opener was once again a success as the team sport that has seen the most success in recent years held their annual golf ball drop fundraiser, courtesy of the City Fire Department ladder truck, and a barbecue dinner fundraiser. The hundreds of spectators on hand were also treated to a classic game.

"That was an awesome game, an absolute awesome game to start the year on. Glades Day has a great team. They came out early and swung the bats. The first pitch goes over the wall and the last pitch over the same tree. That tree appeared to have a bulls eye on it tonight," Brahmans Coach Kim Hargraves said.

Okeechobee had to rally from two, two run deficits to defeat the improved Lady Gators. Breanna Loman hit a homerun to start the game and Amanda Bock added an RBI single in the top of the first off Brahman starting pitcher Katarina Suarez. They could have had more but an excellent relay from the outfield cut a run down at the plate.

Okeechobee had a chance to score in the first as Taylor Douglas doubled and tried to score on a single by Megan Clements. Center fielder Caitlin Barningham threw her out at the plate to end the inning.

Okeechobee finally got three runs across in the third to take the lead.

Samantha Harrell came out of the bullpen to relieve Suarez and the Brahman pitchers tossed four shutout innings to preserve the lead until the sixth inning.

This was Harrell's first varsity game at home and she said she really enjoyed it.

"It feels very good," she said. "I'm excited for the season this year. It was awesome, we played great defense. I love it. I was nervous at first but then I got into it after a few innings. It felt awesome to come back like that and win."

Glades Day went back ahead with three runs in the sixth. Amanda Bock had a two run single and Barningham added an RBI single. A couple of walks helped the Gators rally.

Okeechobee wasn't done as they quickly scored twice to knot the game at 5. Taylor Kinman drove home Emily McCullough with a double and she scored on a throwing error at third base.

Coach Hargraves was impressed with her teams ability to fight back, "We're young, if they have that kind of fight to them now that will mean great things down the line. They had the bases loaded they didn't score, that shows a lot."

Okeechobee also got out of a bases loaded jam in the seventh inning as reliever Courtney Wilson struck out Jordan Hawkins and retired Bock on a fly ball to left field.

Naomi Stephens led off the seventh and promptly hit the first ball she saw over the left center field fence to send the home fans into a frenzy.

"People count OHS out and think we can't bring in athletes. We have some special athletes. Many people compare Naomi to Kelley Smiley, a junior college All American this year. She has that much potential and even more," Hargraves said.

The girls hosted American Heritage on Saturday afternoon.

Girl's softball drops home game

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

A day game after a night game was a hard adjustment for the Lady Brahmans softball squad Saturday as they fell at home to American Heritage, 3-1.

A pair of Heritage pitchers, Aimee Chapdelaine and Rebekah Kiser held Okeechobee to three hits as they won their first game of the year. Okeechobee fell to (1-1).

Sam Harrell, who won her first career decision on Friday night, lost in her second appearance on the mound. She pitched a complete game and allowed just one clean hit. Okeechobee made four errors in the game.

"They had one earned run," Coach Kim Hargraves said. "We kind of have a bitter sweet feeling. We played the number five ranked team in the state tough, but we made too many errors and that is why they beat us."

Chapdelaine struck out seven Brahman hitters. Shena Coffey had a triple, and a run scored for American Heritage.

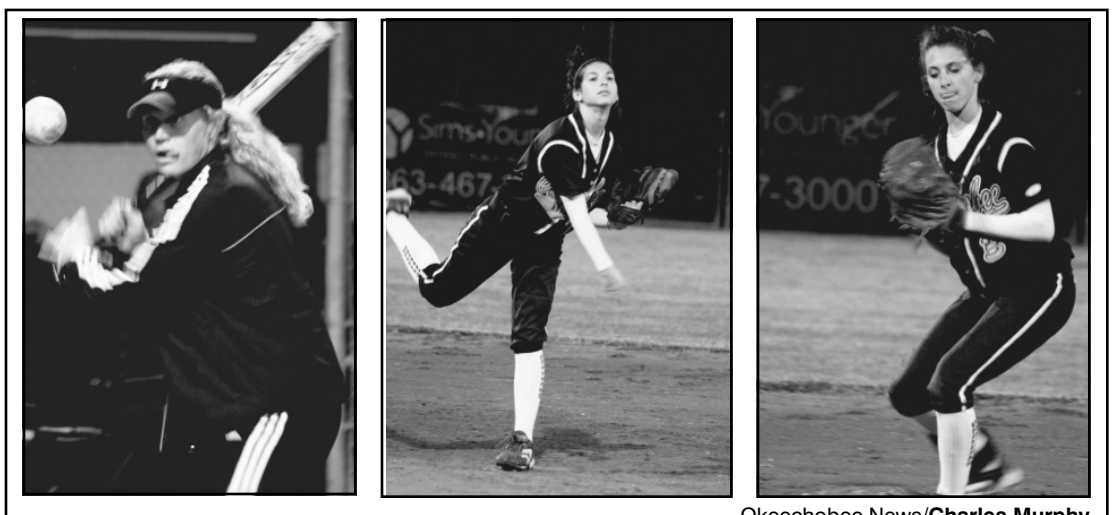
Naomi Stephens led off the game for Okeechobee with her second home run in as many at bats. After that the Brahman bats were pretty quiet. Okeechobee had four hits. Ashtyn Brown, Megan Clements and Courtney Wilson had the other base hits for the Lady Brahmans

Coach Hargraves said she intends to work on the defense this week, especially outfield defense. "The mistakes are definitely stuff we can correct. It's only the second game of the season, so the girls did pull some positives from this game," she said.

Hargraves said her girls didn't lose because of the early start to the Saturday game after a late night Friday. She said that really wasn't a factor in the loss.

"We dropped some balls in the outfield. Fundamental plays like that have to be made. Those are a given. We need some work in the outfield. However, holding the number five team in the state to three runs isn't too bad. However we don't feel they are any better than us," she said.

The girls will host Westwood on Friday night at 7 p.m.



Okeechobee News/**Charles Murphy**

(Left) Coach Kim Hargraves was impressed with her team's play Friday. (center) Ashtyn Brown played solid defense at 2B in the game versus Glades Day. (right) Naomi Stephens helps turn a double play in the early innings. Her homerun won the game for Okeechobee.

Wrestlers finish ninth at regional

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Three Brahman wrestlers qualified for this week's state tournament after they finished in the top four in their weight class at Saturday's regional wrestling meet at Martin County High School.

Josh Gruber at 119 pounds, Donny Bush at 145 pounds, and Tyler Hayes at 152 pounds all qualified to the state tournament.

Bush and Hayes have reached the state for four consecutive years. They are also four time defending district champions. Gruber qualified for his first state appearance.

"I think three wrestlers is a pretty good shot for us," Brahmans Coach Bruce Jahner said, "We'll head up to Lakeland on Thursday and give it our best shot."

Hayes was upset in the semifinal round and finished third. He won the consolation match over John Kidd of St. Thomas Aguinas, 15-0.

"He had a rough semi final match, we weren't able to finish some moves and he lost by one point," Coach Jahner said.

Bush continued his string of success as he dominated the 145 pound division. He defeated Joe Munao of South Fork 5-1, his fifth win over Munao this year.

Gruber finished fourth as he was pinned in the consolation final by Kyle Joseph of Forest Hill.

Okeechobee finished ninth at the regional. St. Thomas Aquinas won the title with William T. Dwyer second, and Olympic Heights third.

Boys basketball season ends in Belle Glade

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Glades Central came out ready to play and Okeechobee didn't and that was all the Raiders needed to wallop Okeechobee in boys hoops action Friday night, 83-50.

Glades Central advanced to play Jensen Beach in the District 14-4A title game on Saturday. Okeechobee ended their season at (13-14).

Clive Walford had 25 points and Rantavious Wooten added 15 points for Glades Central. David Jeune had 17 points and 13 rebounds for Okeechobee.

Glades Central jumped out to a 26-7 lead after the first quarter and increased the lead to 43-19 at the half. Okeechobee played better in the third quarter but still trailed 64-39 as they entered the final quarter.

Matt Skipper and Corey White each had eight points in a losing cause for Okeechobee.

In the other district semifinal Jensen Beach defeated Fort Pierce Westwood 43-39 to earn a spot in the finals.

The game marked the final high school game for Okeechobee's David Jeune who should sign with a division one team later this year. He was nominated to play in the McDonalds All American game this year.

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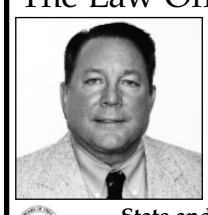

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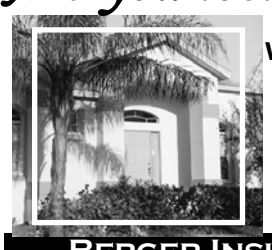

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Community Service Through Journalism

Okeechobee News/**Charles Murphy**

(Left) Jim Coatie slides home with a run that put Glades Day ahead, 6-5 on Saturday. Catcher Justin Morgan looks on. (Right) Mark Weir watches a fly ball in the first inning of Okeechobee's victory Saturday.

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