



# OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 100 No. 38

Sunday, March 29, 2009

75¢ Plus tax

## Briefs

### Newspaper changes to compact format

Independent Newspapers, publisher of the *Okeechobee News*, plans to convert the size of its six community newspapers from the traditional broadsheet format to a new "compact" format.

Readers will see the change in format beginning with the April 1 editions.

The biggest change will be in the size of the page. The width of the page remains relatively the same, but the height of the page will be reduced from 22 inches to 12 inches.

The new format is meant to appeal to readers and advertisers, in addition to being more efficient and environmentally responsible.

The compact size provides more opportunity for more color throughout the newspaper. Each newspaper's commitment to local news remains the same. In addition to the *Okeechobee News*, Independent Newspapers also publishes the *Glades County Democrat*, *The Sun* (Belle Glade/Phao), *The Clewiston News*, *The Caloosa Belle* (LaBelle), and the *Immokalee Bulletin*.

The *Okeechobee News* publishes three times a week; the others publish once a week.

### Register to play softball

Registration for the 2009 Spring Softball Season will begin **Monday, March 30**, at the Parks & Recreation office on 640 N.W. 27th Lane (Sports Complex parking lot). An organizational meeting for all interested players, managers, and officials will be held on **Wednesday, April 15**, at 7 p.m. at the Okeechobee Civic Center located at 1750 Hwy. 98 N. Team fees are as follows: Men's League -- \$375 + (\$25 ISA fee); Women's League -- \$325; Co-Ed League -- \$325. To participate in these leagues, fees must be paid no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, April 24. All checks must be payable to "B.O.C.C." (Board of County Commissioners). Games are tentatively scheduled to begin the week of May 4. For additional information, please call the Recreation Department at 863-763-6950.

### Drought Index

**Current:** 704  
**Source:** Florida Division of Forestry  
**Local Burn Ban:** None

### Lake Levels

**12.27 feet**  
Last Year: 10.24 feet

**Sponsored By:**  
  
**Pogey's Family Restaurant**  
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763-7222

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

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## Okeechobee history: Bank of Okeechobee



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

**This boarded up building once housed the Bank of Okeechobee for about two and a half years during the Florida building boom of the mid 1920s. The bank went out of business when the building boom burst in 1926.**



Submitted photo/Florida Archives

**Between early 1924 and mid 1926 the Bank of Okeechobee dominated the corner of Park Street and N.W. Fifth Avenue.**

## Local bank failed in 1926

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

A long vacant, boarded up building played a significant, but short lived part in Okeechobee's history.

Across the country many banks failed during the Great Depression. However, the Bank of Okeechobee did not last quite that long. In 1926 it fell victim to the Florida land boom crash, leaving a stately looking yellow brick building on the northeast corner of Park Street and N.W. Fifth Avenue.

According to Retired Circuit Judge William Hendry, Lewis M. Raulerson, who established Raulerson's Department Store on the southeast corner of Park St. and S.E. Fifth Avenue was the town's first banker with L. M. Raulerson and Co., Bankers. When the Bank of Okeechobee was formed in 1914, it bought out Mr. Raulerson's bank. Mr. Raulerson served as vice president and later president of the Bank of Okeechobee.

The yellow brick building on the corner is the third building to house the bank. According to Judge Hendry, the first Bank of Okeechobee building was built in 1914 and was located diagonally across N.W. Fifth Avenue just south of the present day Masonic Lodge. It was a small one story brick or brick fronted building. Then the bank moved a little further south into the building on the northwest

corner of Park Street and N.W. Fifth Avenue that is now called the Boardwalk Building. Judge Hendry said that attorney Tom Conley's father had a law office on the second floor of that building which originally had a two story porch running across the front of it.

The yellow brick building across N.W. Fifth Avenue from the Boardwalk Building was built around the end of 1923. The building first appears on the tax rolls in 1924.

In 1924, '25 and early '26 "things went wild" according to Judge Hendry because of real estate speculation.

The judge said that the bank sold the building in 1925 but continued to do business there.

The Jan. 8, 1926 issue of the *Okeechobee News* contained an advertisement for the real estate firm of Forham and Kirland, which coincidentally was located in the Bank of Okeechobee building. The advertisement listed various acreages around the area for sale and predicted that Okeechobee would soon be the "Chicago of Florida."

In early 1926 the bank appeared to be thriving. The same Jan. 8, 1926 newspaper contained a full page advertisement for the bank. The advertisement spoke of the Florida land boom, boasted of the bank's "Resources over one a half millions" and listed all the bank officers. Mr. Raulerson

was then the bank president. The assistant cashier was John R. Deberry, who developed DeBerry Gardens.

However, the land boom was short lived and the bank failed in late 1926, due to bad loans.

The building eventually came into the hands of the Hunt Brothers. Through the years the one story section to the east continued in use and housed various businesses including a grocery store, drug store, wholesale grocery business and a hardware store. Judge Hendry's grandmother had a jewelry store there at one time.

Around 1980 realtor Gil Culbreth bought the property from the Hunt Brothers. He said he had plans for remodeling the building, but the recent recession caused him to postpone those plans. Lowery Markham, who works for Mr. Culbreth, said that a restaurant and corporate offices have been suggested as uses for the building.

A recent examination of the building revealed its faded luster but sound structural condition. Ornate light fixtures missing the globes hung from a plaster ceiling that had fallen in some places revealing bare wood lathing. However, there was no evidence of the roof leading. Sconces designed to hold electric bulbs graced ei-

See Bank — Page 11

## U.S. Sugar deal may be downsized

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

The purchase of U.S. Sugar by South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) for Everglades restoration may not be as sweet a deal as originally announced.

In response to published speculations that economic conditions have forced the sale to be downsized from 180,000 acres to 75,000 acres, Deena Reppen, SFWMD's deputy executive director for governmental and public affairs, admitted that high level talks are going on.

Her remarks came during the Friday, March 27 meeting of the County Coalition for Responsible Management of Lake Okeechobee, St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee Estuaries and Lake Worth Lagoon. This organization is made up of county

commissioners representing 10 counties in South Florida.

The assembled commissioners also heard a report on the condition of Lake Okeechobee by Susan Gary of SFWMD and a report on the rehabilitation of Herbert Hoover Dike by Ingrid Bon of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE).

Ms. Reppen told the commissioners that they would be informed of any decision made. She also said that any proposed changes would have to be approved by the SFWMD Board of Governors. The sale was to originally consist of all U.S. Sugar's assets of 180,000 acres for \$1.34 billion. Speculation is that the sale would be reduced to 75,000 acres. Lee County Commissioner Ray Judah expressed the opinion that if the sale were reduced to 75,000

See Sugar — Page 10

## Local youth has lofty golfing goals

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

He started golf at the age of three, enjoyed it, and has never looked back. He now is ranked in the state amateur rankings and has the goal of one day playing golf for the University of Florida, and then playing with the best in the world.

Kodi Stephen, 14, remembers when he would tag along with his dad, Noel Stephen, and his grandfather, the late O.L. Raulerson, to learn the game of golf.

"We took him along when we were learning the game and let him hit a ball or two. Then he would putt. He stayed with it and continued to get better," Noel Stephen said.

Kodi is now ranked 60th in the state's amateur rankings. He will play for Okeechobee High School next year and figures to be one of their best players almost immediately. He plays tournaments nearly every month in South Florida, and already has three club championships under his belt at the Okeechobee Golf and Country Club.

"To me, golf was just a fun



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
**Kodi Stephen poses with his father Noel Stephen.**

thing to do. I've always enjoyed it. I never really got mad or frustrated out there. I just liked it and kept on with it," he remarked.

Kodi won his third championship in March and had to come from behind to do it. He trailed by seven strokes entering the day and then shot a blistering 79, just five strokes over par. He made birdie on the par four eighth hole and knew he

See Golfing — Page 11

## Swallow tailed kites return to lake area

Big O Birding Festival starts April 3

By Nena Bolan  
INI Florida

GLADES COUNTY — The largest known gathering of swallow tailed kites in North America occurs in Glades County at the Fisheating Creek Wildlife Management Area, according to a Florida Wildlife Commission report. These

acrobatic birds of prey weigh about 15 ounces, yet have a wingspan of four feet. They are a well-loved species, and area residents are proud to claim them as neighbors.

March signals the return of swallow tailed kites to the southwest bank of Lake Okeechobee. So far, no sightings have been reported and that has gotten the attention of Margaret England, secretary for Hendry-Glades Audubon Society.

"Swallow-tailed kites aren't being reported in Glades Coun-

ty, which is the largest staging area in the United States," she said.

Ms. England has volunteered her birding expertise at Storm Treatment Area 5 in Hendry County, which attracts bird watching visitors and eco-tourists. She has also contributed to the Big O Birding Festival which features bird life in Glades and Hendry Counties.

The southeastern states are a summer breeding ground for the kites. Before 1940, they

See Kites — Page 10



Submitted by Larry Frogge

**Larry Frogge, wildlife photographer, kindly shares his spectacular photos of swallow tailed kites. The graceful raptors are a local favorite in Glades County. Residents can watch them soar for hours.**

# BHR Fire Department helps the needy

Volunteers with the Buckhead Ridge Fire Department have expanded their community service efforts in order to help community members in need. The volunteers, who meet every Tuesday evening at the Fire Department, decided to collect food for the needy. They plan to give the food to individuals in the community who have a special need. The first recipient of their do-

nations is a man they call "Grandpa." The gentleman is a cancer patient and with the cost of medical care, has little money for food. This week they surprised him with groceries. "We collect canned goods and other non-perishable items at the Fire Department," Pat Bell of the Buckhead Ridge Fire Department explained. She said they also accept monetary donations which

are used to buy additional food. On the way to "Grandpa's" house, they stopped at the grocery store where they spent more than \$70 on food, including perishable items such as meat and eggs. She said Grandpa told them he never thought anyone would help him. "He was very thankful," she said.

She said they plan to help more individuals. Donations of non-perishable food and/or cash may be taken to the Buckhead Ridge Fire Department on Tuesdays between 7 and 8:30 p.m. If you know someone in Buckhead Ridge who needs help, contact Pat Bell at 863-357-1364. Ms. Bell said messages may be left on the answering machine.



**Okeechobee Livestock Market**  
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**Sales:**  
**Monday**  
at 12 p.m.  
**Tuesday**  
at 11 a.m.



Submitted photo/Faith Academy

## Hop to it

The students of Faith Academy Preschool hopped until they dropped during their annual Hop-A-Thon last Friday in support of the Muscular Dystrophy Association's Disability Awareness Program. They raised over \$900, (exceeding their \$800 goal), which enables a child with Muscular Dystrophy to attend the MDA summer camp for a week!



Submitted photo

## Champion Brahman female

The 2009 International Senior Champion Brahman Female is Miss Margett Reese 641, owned by Nathan Candler of Okeechobee. The International Brahman Show is held each year during the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo in Houston, Texas. It is the largest gathering of Brahman breeders in the United States.

## Okeechobee Forecast

**Today:** Showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm before 2pm, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms after 2pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 79. Southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70%.  
**Tonight:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 56. West northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

### Extended Forecast

**Monday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 82. North wind around 5 mph becoming east.  
**Monday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 63. East wind around 5 mph becoming calm.  
**Tuesday:** A 20 percent chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a high near 86. Calm wind becoming south southwest around 5 mph.

## Lotteries

**Florida Lottery** — Here are the numbers selected Thursday in the Florida Lottery: **Cash 3:** 8-2-6; **Play 4:** 3-5-0-2; **Fantasy 5:** 1-3-7-14-30; **Mega Money:** 9-14-17-18 MB 17; **Florida Lotto:** 2-6-11-18-38-48; **Powerball:** 10-20-23-47-54 PB26 x2. Numbers drawn Friday, **Cash 3:** 0-4-4; **Play 4:** 1-4-0-6.

# At Your Service

## Okeechobee News

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## Okeechobee Livestock Market Report

March 24, 2009

Cows	Breaking	\$47.00	\$52.50
Cutter		\$42.00	\$47.00
Canner		\$0.00	\$0.00

Bulls	1000-1500	\$55.00	\$58.00
1500-2000		\$50.00	\$53.00

	Monday	Tuesday
Calves	N	579
Cows	O	247
Str		45
Hfns	S	55
Bulls	A	44
Yrlings	L	119
Mix	E	12
Total		1101

Med #1	Steers	Hfns
150-200	120-140	100-110
200-250	115-130	88-100
250-300	111-130	89-98
300-350	106-119	87-94
350-400	102-114	84-94
400-450	99-110	83-90
450-500	95-105	82-86
550-600	89-102	80-84
600-650	85-91	80-85

Med #2	Steers	Hfns
150-200	105-115	80-86
200-250	100-112	80-87
250-300	100-110	75-84
300-350	94-105	78-83
350-400	85-98	78-82
400-450	80-88	75-80

Not many cattle showed up this week and prices stayed steady. For now, things are looking pretty good - rain would be nice. Top cow price goes to Mary Carlton Ranch, Ft. Pierce, for \$53.50, bought by Central Pkg. Top calf price goes to Phil Drawdy, Ft. Pierce, for \$2.10, bought by Foy Reynolds Cattle Co. Brahma Bulls for sale call White Farms 352-493-3322. Ten Angus Bulls are for sale here at OLM.

See ya next week, Todd

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## The Okeechobee Community Choir

under the direction of Sandy Perry, will present the 11th Annual

# Easter Cantata

Alpha & Omega, along with the Holy City, Ladies' & Mens' Ensembles, an Easter Drama, Ave Maria, & Handel's Hallelujah Chorus, where audience participation is encouraged, and more!

Presented at

### The First United Methodist Church

200 NW 2nd Ave., Okeechobee

<p><b>Friday,</b> <b>April 3</b> 7PM</p>	<p><b>Saturday,</b> <b>April 4</b> 7PM</p>	<p><b>Sunday,</b> <b>April 5</b> 3PM</p>
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The 50 Voices Comprising This Season's Choir Represent Singers from Sixteen local Churches who began rehearsing in February. Selections will be accompanied on a stirring 1945 Reuter Pipe Organ or Grand Piano.

**Soloists:** Albert Cauilan, Melisa Eddings, Calex Esperagoza, Bob Hanson, Michael Hutchison, JoAnn Kane, Lonnie Kirsch, John Koepke, Jim Leidy, John Olsen, Anton Silva III, John Sufficool, Willard Suits, Kathryn Wilkinson, Victoria Williams, Cathy Wolford, & Mike Zierden.

**VERY IMPORTANT - NEW! DUE TO STANDING-ROOM ONLY CANTATAS, A TICKET WILL BE REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION. TICKETS ARE FREE AND AVAILABLE FROM MEMBERS OR CAN BE OBTAINED MON-SUN 8:30 AM-7PM FROM THE RECEPTIONIST AT OKEECHOBEE HEALTH CARE FACILITY (OHCF), 1646 HWY 441 N. IF SPACE PERMITS, ATTENDEES WITHOUT TICKETS WILL BE ADMITTED 5 MINUTES BEFORE EACH SERVICE BEGINS. KINDLY RETURN TICKET TO OHCF IF UNABLE TO ATTEND**

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# Baby listed in critical condition

**By Eric Kopp**  
Okeechobee News

A 16-month-old baby who fell into an above-ground swimming pool was listed in critical but stable condition at a West Palm Beach hospital Friday afternoon, said a local investigator.

The baby and his 3-year-old sister managed to get out the back door of their home in the Four Seasons Subdivision around

1 p.m. Thursday, March 26, and then climbed onto a deck on the pool, said Detective Ted Van Deman, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO).

Once on the deck, the baby fell into the pool.

The detective said there was approximately 12 inches of water in the pool. He said the pool had been drained but had collected rain water.

The detective said the child's mother was in a bathroom inside the home at the time, and the grandmother was in bed sick.

When the baby fell into the pool, his sister went into the home and got her mother.

According to Detective Van Deman the mother administered cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) until medical personnel from the Okeechobee County

Fire/Rescue Department arrived and took over.

The baby was taken to Raulerson Hospital, then airlifted to St. Mary's Hospital around 3:15 p.m.

Detective Van Deman said the back door is a metal swinging door, similar to those on a mobile home, and may have malfunctioned.

He went on to say the investigation is continuing.

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# Convicted Ohio sex offender arrested here

**By Eric Kopp**  
Okeechobee News

A man arrested earlier this week on felony charges has had yet another felony charge filed against him.

Daniel Scott Miller, 20, S.E. 23rd Court, Okeechobee, was arrested March 26 on a felony charge of failure to register as a sexual offender. He was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail under a bond of \$5,000.

Miller was arrested Thursday by Detective Rosemary Farless, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), after she learned the man had been in Okeechobee for at least two weeks and had registered.

Her report indicates that he

moved here on March 5.

Detective Farless stated in her arrest report that Miller was arrested in Ohio when he was 16, and that his victim was 12. Miller had been registering in Alliance, Ohio, after his release when he was 18 years old.

According to the detective's report, Miller not only failed to register as a sexual offender when he moved here, he also did not notify law enforcement in Alliance, Ohio, that he was moving to another state.



**Daniel Scott Miller**

OCSO records indicate that Miller was arrested here on Monday, March 23, on felony charges of burglary to a structure and grand theft auto. He was booked into the county jail under a bond of \$10,000.

An arrest report by OCSO Deputy Paul Jackson states that Miller went into a neighbor's home while they were at work and took the keys to their car. A witness reportedly told the deputy he saw Miller and two other men go into the victim's home about 15 minutes after the victim had gone to work.

According to the witness, Miller and the men got into the victim's car and drove away.

The deputy's report states that

Miller was gone approximately 10 to 15 minutes.

On their release from prison or their move to Florida, a registered sexual offender has 48 hours to register with the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) and the sheriff's office in the county where they will be residing.

If an offender just moves from one county to another in Florida they have 48 hours to notify the DHSMV of their new address — they are not required to go to the sheriff's office in that county. DHSMV will notify the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) of the change in address, who will then notify the sheriff's office in that county.

# Man arrested after reporting burglary

**By Eric Kopp**  
Okeechobee News

An Okeechobee man's alleged plan to steal items from his parent's home and trade them for drugs backfired and he was charged with committing the theft.

Emanuel L. Dunn, 23, N.W. 84th Court, was arrested March 25 on a felony charge of grand theft. He was also arrested on a misdemeanor charge of filing a false report to law enforcement. He was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail under a bond of \$4,000.

A second man, Keith G. Woods, 47, N.W. 80th Ave., was also arrested. Woods was charged with the misdemeanor of giving false information to a law enforcement officer. His bond was set at \$500.

According to Detective Marty Faulkner, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), Woods did not



**Emanuel L. Dunn**

take part in the theft.

"Woods was only used to transport the items when he knew Dunn had stolen them," said Detective Faulkner.

The detective's arrest report states that Dunn filed a burglary report on Wednesday, March 25. As OCSO Deputy Mark Shireman took the report he noticed some inconsistencies in the man's story, stated the report.

The deputy's initial report indicated that someone had entered the unlocked home and took a laptop computer, printer, cam-

era, DVD player and a flat screen television. Detective Faulkner said the items had an estimated total value of \$5,000.

Detective Faulkner explained that Dunn reportedly took the items and traded them for 20 to 30 roxycodone pills. Woods, added the detective, allegedly received one pill for providing Dunn with transportation.

The sole motive for the theft, continued the detective, was to get drugs.

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Submitted photo/Okeechobee County Animal Control

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This is 'Dharma' an approximately nine week old, solid white female domestic short hair. Her adoption fee is \$95.00 which includes her spay, a feline leukemia/aids test, a rabies vaccine, FVRCP and FELV vaccine and a County license. All adoptions require a home visit and any other pets to be currently vaccinated against rabies. For more information contact Animal Control at (863) 357 3225.

## Okeechobee's Most Wanted

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

If you have any information on the whereabouts of any of Okeechobee's Most Wanted you

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

**Benji Sanders aka Juan Tapia**, 33, FTA-Poss Cocaine

**Pedro Gonzales**, 46, FTA - Manufacture Marijuana, Poss. Marijuana W/I To Sell, Trafficking Cannabis more than 25lbs, No Bond

**Francis Parker Oswald**, 58, DUI W/Priors. Bond \$5,000.



**Pedro Gonzalez** **Angie Stevenson**



**Benji Sanders** **Francis Oswald**

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- DIVORCE
- CUSTODY
- CHILD SUPPORT
- ADOPTION
- ALIMONY
- PATERNITY
- MODIFICATION
- DEPENDENCY
- PROPERTY SETTLEMENT

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**CIVIL LITIGATION**

- GENERAL LITIGATION
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- QUIET TITLE
- CONTRACTS
- SUBROGATIONS

**Comcast**

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

**Effective Thursday, April 30, 2009:**

**Residential Customers only:**

- MoviePlex, located on Digital Starter will move to the Digital Classic Tier and remain on channel 149.
- Lifetime Movie Network, located on the Digital Classic Tier will move to Digital Starter and remain on channel 119.
- MoviePlex, offered as an a la carte service, will no longer be available.

**Business Class Customers only:**

- Lifetime Movie Network on Digital Classic Tier channel 119 will no longer be available.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:**

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

**If you have any questions or concerns, please call us at 1-800-COMCAST.**

# 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](http://www.newszap.com), click on the community name and your local or state Public Forum. There, you can create new topics or comment on existing topics. What follows is a sampling of some of the discussions currently taking place. Thanks for participating!

## Okeechobee County Board of Commissioners

**SAVE THE TREES:** I have asked, cried and pleaded with the road department for years. Please do not cut my trees over the ditch. Their reply? We keep it trimmed because there may be a hurricane. Give me a break. I love the trees hanging beautifully, not trimmed, over the ditch, giving us privacy. Their theory? The debris will fly. How about all the cut debris not picked up? How about the debris clogging the ditch so the water doesn't flow? We had palmettos and a variety of natural trees lining our property. Had, being the key word. All the trees are chopped with a saw blade all jagged and thin. Not what we wanted for the front of our gorgeous property. If we, the taxpayers are their employer, then why don't they listen to us? If I need you, I will call. I live on 42nd terrace. Please stop cutting my trees!

**PAVING:** I think the rule that you have to pave over the county right-of-way when you put in a culvert is nuts. It's not your land. Let the county pave it if they want it paved. There are hundreds of driveways with shell rock and that does not hurt the county's drainage ditches one bit. I think they are just trying to make work for the paving contractors.

## Don't cut veterans benefits

**BENEFITS:** I am proud to be an American. Most of all, I'm proud of all nations trying to help other countries' freedom. To me an American isn't based on color, it's anyone who lives in our nation. It doesn't matter who we are. Let's fight our government if they ever try to cut any benefits for our Veterans or any of our military people, who have rightly deserved and fought for those benefits. Please people, understand it was said on the news, something about veterans having to pay for their medications, etc. Please realize, we have to stand together.

## Reach out and help

**OKEECHOBEE:** When I think about lying under a tree and just looking up at the sky and the clouds, I think of Okeechobee. I grew up here as a child and though it may not be the perfect place to live, so many people reach out and help those in need. Whether it be a death, an illness or a sickness, this town is full of loving people and giving people. There may be some bad, but the good overrides it. Let's thank all the ones in Okeechobee who give to help the families in need. I hope to be one of those people.

## A day at the county fair

**COUNTY FAIR:** I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board and volunteers for bringing the fair to Okeechobee. I took my granddaughters out to the Ag Center last Saturday morning. The girls were delighted to see so many animals; the rabbits and a calf were the biggest hits! The 4-H and FFA students were very busy cleaning around their areas, I am certain they were working for the Herdsman belt buckle. So many of the participants took time to let the girls pet their show animals, pose for pictures and talk with them about their exhibit. Who knows, perhaps they will one day want to show at the fair because of the kindness of the 4-H and FFA members. After the visit to the show barn, we moved outdoors to the fair. We had a great lunch -- you just have to love fair food! The vendor was kind and the tent neat and clean. The girls rode several of the rides geared towards younger children. The attendants were all courteous. We toured the displays under the big tent. Two young volunteers at the radio booth gave us balloons after hearing the girls ask about them. We were almost finished with our tour and then we saw the corn box! We spent a very long time at the corn box. Thank you Fred and Maria Fanizzi and Syfrett Feed, for providing this for the children. The girls rolled, jumped and filled buckets full of corn. We left the Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center all smiles, a great day right in our hometown.

## COUNTY TO LAY OFF WORKERS

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT:** It was my understanding that all of the county government's jobs were funded from the General Fund. Since when is there a direct correlation between county jobs and the revenue generated within a specific department? Since when is the number of authorized jobs contingent upon generating a specific amount of money? If such is the case, then there should not be any county employees at the Agri-Civic Center. How is this practice fair when some county departments do not generate any revenue; are those employees immune from being laid-off?

**JOBS:** Of course it is, the "lowest paid employees" are laid off. Same thing is being considered in the School System; lay off the aides but forget having anyone in the County Office lose their position. Of course you could pay three or more aides with one administrator's salary.

**LESS WORK TO DO:** Building departments have traditionally been budgeted from revenues in almost every government body. We have a fire department and police agency to protect the public in the event of problems; everyone would be very happy to see fireman and police officers sit around and never be needed. We have public works and road departments because everyone uses the infrastructure. We have financial departments because money always has to be managed. Even the Agri-Civic Center has potential benefits for all residents, like parks and recreation. But, a building department is different -- if no one is building, there is no need for inspectors or plans reviewers.

## Want government assistance? Say no to drugs

**MESSAGE:** Lawmakers in at least eight states want recipients of food stamps, unemployment benefits or welfare to submit to random drug testing. The effort comes as more Americans turn to these safety nets to ride out the recession. Poverty and civil liberties advocates fear the strategy could backfire, discouraging some people from seeking financial aid and making already desperate situations worse. Those in favor of the drug tests say they are motivated out of a concern for their constituents' health and ability to put themselves on more solid financial footing once the economy rebounds. But proponents concede they also want to send a message: you don't get something for nothing.

**GOOD IDEA:** This is a great idea. They should test for alcohol use too.

**ALCOHOL:** I believe that prohibition was officially repealed, while the use of "recreational drugs" is still illegal.

**DRUGS:** I have wanted something like this in the State of Florida for years! I have seen first hand how receiving government assistance only allows individuals to continue to do drugs. Assistance should only be temporary, but in a lot of cases this allows people to sit back and just wait for the check to come in every month. I have seen parents spend their last dime on drugs, with none of the money going to support their family or small children. If you fail a monthly drug test, you should be afforded the opportunity for treatment. If you continue to use drugs, all financial assistance would be terminated. Some might argue that this will take away the financial assistance for food, diapers etc for children. I argue that it will not, as the money is not being spent on the children anyway if you test positive for drugs.

**SOME NEED HELP:** I turned in 13 grueling years as a Food Stamp/Welfare Case Worker. There are legitimate cases of need out there. I would just hate to see them being further made to feel worse just because they may have come into a financial downfall due to no fault of their own. There are legitimate Welfare recipients out there and they should be treated as such and not with suspicion because of select others.

**TARGET FUNDING:** There are so many out there that need this help. Why allow those that don't use the funds for their family and children to continue to receive funds? We have too many hard working law abiding citizens who are hurting right now.

# Reflections from the pulpit

## Are you a Christian?

By Rev. Dr. Paul E. Jackson, Sr. International Prayer Warriors for Christ

I hope everyone had a wonderful week and I wish you all the very best for today. I want to ask you a very important question and that is — Are you really a Christian or not? There are so many people who believe they are a Christian, but in reality, they have never really accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. They call themselves Christian, but show little or no evidence of a life changing experience.

Listen, I want you all to know that I am not, nor will I ever condemn anyone for whatever kind of a life they choose to live. I may not agree, but it is not my place to condemn anyone for that is not my purpose here at all. Our God knows that I also have sinned and that I am a long way from perfect, however, I do want to bring something to your attention and it concerns your eternal life. Ask yourself this question and I mean, really ask yourself seriously, "If I died today or tonight, where would I go?" Heaven or Hell? Most people would say Heaven. Now I am asking you why most people say that. I feel the reason is that most people are inclined to say, "I'm basically a good person, I haven't killed anyone or really hurt anyone and the good I have done outweighs the bad and so God will let me in." I want to tell all of you that there will be thousands of people right now who call themselves Christians of all denominations that are on their way to Hell. Does this surprise you? Well it is true and why is that because just having a religion does not save you from Hell. Belonging to a church does not save you, for anyone can sit in a church pew and go through the motions but this is not doing the good works. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast." (Ephesians 2:8-9) This means that you can't do one thing, no matter how good you think it may be to get to Heaven.

Understand that I am not saying having a religion, or going to church or even doing good deeds helps you make it to Heaven. I am saying that none will get you to Heaven unless you do just one thing and that is to start with Jesus Christ. It is a relationship that He wants with us, for we were meant to have a close fellowship with God but something happened to break off that wonderful union and that was sin.

All of us have sinned, often by choice, and this keeps us from having a relationship with God. What does sin finally lead to? "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

## Letters to the Editor

### Rickards' family says Thank You!

As we come to a year since the marvelous BBQ and auction benefit for Daniel, we want to again say how blessed we are to live in such an awesome community. We are still overwhelmed by the support and generosity of our town. Thank you again to all who organized, donated, helped and prayed. We are grateful. Sincerely,

The Rickards Family

I hear some people that will say to me that God is loving and would never send anyone to Hell. Well that is right, God is a loving God, but He won't tolerate sin. You see people who go to Hell, go on their own, just read John 3:18. "He that believeth on Him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."

God knows how serious sin was and still is. He hates sin because it drives a huge wedge between us and Him, so because of sin we can't have that kind of close relationship and joy we were created for. God also knows that there was nothing we could do in our own power to pay the penalty for sin. So, God decided to provide His own payment which was His Son, Jesus!

I want to shed some light on what it meant for Jesus to die on the cross, for by my reading and studying the Bible a lot, I have learned things that I didn't realize and the more I read it and the more I study it, I learn more and more. I have found where it was a death reserved for criminals that the Romans used for purposes of humiliation. Before Jesus was nailed to the cross with 7 inch nails, He was whipped with a cat o' nine tails, which had sharp bits of embedded bone or metal. After He was beaten with this tool of torture, the skin on His back hung in ribbons. Jesus was also fitted with a very sharp and painful crown of thorns, which must have certainly penetrated His head. Finally, He was forced to carry His own cross, which weighed a hundred pounds or more to the execution site where he died a slow, agonizing death.

Do you now see the kind of love that God has for us? Why in the world would Jesus go through this kind of torture and shame if He did not love us? This was a sacrificial love; to me, this is what love really means, so if Jesus went through all of this for you and me to save us from the consequences of sin, then you have to know that we are loved.

If you sincerely believe that you want to be saved from your sin, you need to ask God for two things — forgiveness and to let Jesus have control of your life. This is not something to be entered into lightly for if you come to this point, you must realize that you are not able to do the same things as you have done before.

When you repent of your sins, you're not just saying "I'm sorry" only to go right back to it, you are making a complete turn around in your life and you are asking the Lord to direct your life according to His will and not your own selfish, sinful desires.

If you are indeed ready to turn your life over to Christ, then from your heart, I ask you to pray this: "God, I ask you to forgive me of my sins for I do believe in Jesus Christ and his death on the cross for my sins. I ask you to enter my life right now and provide me with strength and I commit my life to You this day, for I pray this in Jesus Christ's name; Amen.

If you have sincerely prayed the prayer, welcome to the family of God and you are now a Christian, saved by grace. Now you will have to grow in your faith. Remember when I told you that going to church will not get you to Heaven? Well now that you have a new faith, the church will help you grow, but be sure it is a church that preaches the Word of God and know that you will know a church where Christ is always there. Second, you need to publicly confess your faith and

be baptized. Third, you need to get in the habit of praying, I mean talk to Jesus like you would your best friend. Talk to Him about your hopes, dreams, sickness and health and for others you know and thank Him for your salvation. Understand that your growth as a Christian will have great joys and wonderful moments, but also you will go through dark times like thinking nothing is going right at all, but in those bad times, you must understand two things. One is Satan, he wants you back and the second thing is found in Hebrews 13:5 when God says, "I will never leave you" there is no fear, (Matthew 6:25-34), once again God tells you that there may be bad times when your health is

bad or you can't find a job or you have lost a loved one, still God is always there and He will always provide. Never forget you have a friend that will never leave you, but most of all, remember that you are guaranteed that you will be alive tomorrow. Don't ever let Satan back, for nothing can save you but Jesus Christ.

"I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. (John 14:6) You have the same amount of time that everyone else has and that is 24 hours a day, it's what you do with your time that can really make a difference in your life and in the life of someone else, so A.S.A.P "Always Say A Prayer!"

# Community Calendar

## Sunday

**A.A.** meeting from 7:30 until 8:30 p.m. at the Church of Our Saviour, 200 N.W. Third St. It will be an open step meeting.  
**A.A.** open 12 step meeting from 7:30 until 8:30 p.m. at the Church of Our Savior, 200 N.W. Third St.  
**Just for Today Club of Okeechobee**, 101 N.W. Fifth Street Okeechobee, FL 34972, (Behind Napa Auto Parts)  
**A.A.** weekend noon meeting, Open Discussion; *The Just for Today Club of Okeechobee is not affiliated with any 12 step fellowships.*  
**N.A.** Sickest Of The Sick, Open Discussion, 7 p.m.  
**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.

## Monday

**Just for Today Club of Okeechobee** meets at 101 N.W. Fifth Street (Behind Napa Auto Parts) **N.A.** Sickest Of The Sick, Open Discussion, 7 p.m. *The Just for Today Club of Okeechobee is not affiliated with any 12 step fellowships.*  
**A.A.** meeting will be held from noon to 1 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 200 N.W. Second St. This will be an open meeting.  
**Artful Appliquers** meets at the Turtle Cove Clubhouse, 10 Linda Road, Okeechobee on Mondays from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Turn left at the Moose lodge and go around the curve just past the church. Bring a lunch and join us for a fun day of applique. Everyone is welcome. For more information please contact Karen Graves at 863-763-6952.

## Tuesday

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

## Tuesday

**Civil Air Patrol meetings set**  
The Civil Air Patrol meets each Tuesday evening at the Okeechobee Airport T-Hanger #1, meetings start at 7:30 p.m. For information please call Capt. Joe Papasso 561-252-0916 or Lt. Greg Gernat 863-697-9915  
**Rotary Club of Okeechobee** meets each Tuesday at noon at Golden Corral Restaurant, 700 S. Parrott Ave. The meetings are open to the public. For information, contact Maureen Budjinski at 863-484-0110.  
**Just for Today Club of Okeechobee**, 101 N.W. Fifth Street, Okeechobee, (Behind Napa Auto Parts) **N.A.** Nowhere Left To Go Group Open Discussion at noon. **N.A.** Sickest Of The Sick Group Open Discussion. The Just for Today Club of Okeechobee is not affiliated with any 12 step fellowships.

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

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

**Al-Ateen** - meeting will be held at the Church of Our Saviour, 200 N.W. Third St., at 8 p.m. For more information, please call Amy at 863-763-8531 or Dan 561-662-2799.

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

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

**Family History Center** meets from 1 until 5 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 310 S.W. Sixth St. Anyone interested in finding who your ancestors are is welcome to attend. There is Census, IGI (International Genealogical Index), Social Security Death Index and military information available. For information, call The Family History Center at 863-763-6510 or Richard Smith at 863-261-5706 for special appointments.

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

**Widows and Widowers** support group meets at 7:30 a.m. at the Clock Restaurant, 1111 S. Parrott Ave., for breakfast. For information, June Scheer at 863-634-8276

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Freedom Ranch Al-Alon** meets every Tuesday and is open to all who deal with someone with addictions. There is support with this epidemic. The meetings are Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at the Freedom Ranch, 11655 Hwy. 441 S.E. Contact Jay at 863-467-8683 for questions or concerns.

# 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**

# Yearling Middle School fair booth wins first place



Yearling Middle School is continuing to "achieve excellence" by winning first place for their exhibit at the Okeechobee County Fair. Their unique booth titled "Huntin' for Our fourth A," which is also their school's theme this year, was a palmetto-thatched structure set-up as an authentic "huntin' camp." The decked out display came complete with camp stove, antlers, deer heads, hog skulls,

bear traps, duck decoys, tin can lighting and lots of green and purple camouflage. The achievements and work of Yearling's students, their State Champion F.F.A., their award-winning athletic department and science fair competitors, as well as the many community service projects their students initiate in Okeechobee were proudly displayed.

Yearling is the only school in our District to earn an "A" rating three years in a row and now they are huntin' for another "A" rating this year.

**Brahman Theatre**

**March 27<sup>th</sup> - April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**For Info, Call 763-7202**

**THEATRE I**  
**"MADEA GOES TO JAIL"**  
 Fri. @ 7:00 & 9:00. Sat., Sun. & Wed. @ 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00. Mon., @ 3:00 & 7:00. Tues & Thurs. @ 7:00 & 9:00.

**THEATRE II**  
**"RACE TO WITCH MNTN"**  
 Fri. @ 7:00 & 9:00. Sat., Sun. & Wed. @ 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00. Mon., @ 3:00 & 7:00. Tues & Thurs. @ 7:00 & 9:00.

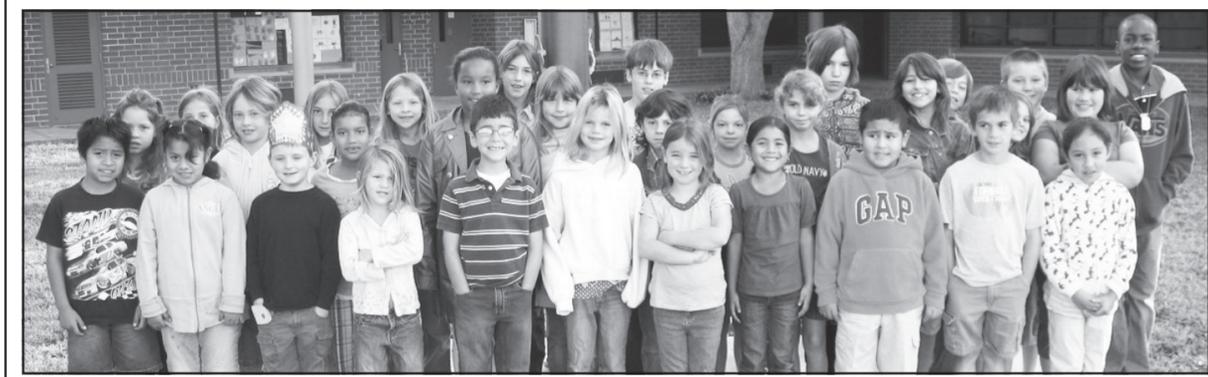
**THEATRE III**  
**"MONSTERS VS. ALIENS"**  
 Fri. @ 7:00 & 9:00. Sat., Sun. & Wed. @ 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00. Mon., @ 3:00 & 7:00. Tues & Thurs. @ 7:00 & 9:00.





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

**MONDAY NIGHT is \$1.00 per person @ 7:00 PM**



Submitted photo/EES

## Students of the Week

Here is the list of students who are achieving excellence in the classroom at Everglades Elementary School for the week of March 23-27. Kindergarten: Fernando Meza, Itzabelly Meza, Rion Ernst, Elizabeth Cox, Jesse Luna-Raya; first: Tayler Craig, Fallon McLean, Chelsea Burgos, Victor Hernandez, Donald Padgett; second: Yessenia Ramirez, Mariah Good, Ki-ana Smith, Mea Creech, Lyndsey Tribbitt, Brooklynn Weeks; third: Ricky Courson, Acey Abner, Marijane bolling, Brooke Brazil, Daysha Vaughn, Kassie Weldon, Destiny Deese; fourth: Brooke Shuck, Briley Sell, Devon Jones, Haven Walters, Alexis Kelly; fifth: Harmony Wallos, Dominic Garcia, Drew Vandergrift, Marcus Rucks.



Submitted photo/SEM

## Music to the ears

The fourth grade students at Seminole Elementary School are participating in Recorder Karate during Mrs. Ellinger's music class. Students learn to read music and perform on the recorder through this program. Jason Clark worked hard to learn nine songs in two weeks. He is the first student to earn his Black Belt in Recorder Karate.



Submitted photo/YMS

## Students of the Week

Yearling Middle School students selected as students of the week for the week of March 23, are: (from left to right) Amanda Kennedy, Khrysta Herndon, Caleb Crews, Ian Macallister, Fernando Gonzalez, Jarred Radford, and Dwyatt Hadley. Also pictured are Mr. Brewer, Mrs. Markham and Mr. Tedders.

# Yearling students excel in Patriot's Pen Essay Contest

A YMS student placed third in the Patriot's Pen Essay Competition, sponsored by the VFW Post 9528. The essay contest was open to high school and middle school students throughout the nation. The theme for middle school students was "Why America's Veterans Should be Honored." Seven students: Brittany Agnew, Miracle Grace, Veronica Garcia, Starlene Hamil, Brandon Hudson, Paige McElroy and Audry Metcalf participated in the essay contest. Veronica Garcia placed third at the District level and first between nine individual posts.

VFW Buckhead Ridge Post 9528 honored all the students that participated. Veronica Garcia was presented on March 15, with a plaque commemorating her achievement and a check for \$100. In addition, the Ladies Auxiliary presented Veronica with an additional check for \$50.

The essay contest was open to all students from sixth to twelfth grade. For more information on future essay contests, contact your local VFW posts.

**Information Hotline**  
 Yearling Middle School offers an Information Hotline to assist students and parents. As of right now, parents and students will be able to call the Information Hotline at 863-462-5066 and listen to their work assignments for the day or week. Please call our school office if the Information Hotline seems incorrect or if you do not have a particular teacher's number.

**SAC Meeting**  
 We will have our sixth SAC Meeting of the year on Tuesday, April 21, at 4 p.m. in the main office conference room. We will be discussing the budget, school discipline and achievement data. Please feel free to come and join us.

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

The morning tutorial operates Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 7:10-8:20 a.m. Transportation will be provided.

**Florida Kid Care**  
 Did you know...Florida Kid-Care consists of the following affordable options for families with children ages birth through age 18.

comprehensive benefits for families with incomes within certain limits which vary with the age of the child.

Medikids - offering the same comprehensive benefits package as Medicaid, but it is not an entitlement program. Medikids is for children who are not Medicaid eligible, ages 1 through 4 years.

Florida HealthyKids - a public/private partnership which provides comprehensive health insurance for school age children 5 through 18.

Children's Medical Services

Network (CMSN) - for children with special health physical and mental care and/or behavioral needs.

Children may be eligible for Florida KidCare if they:

- are under age 19, and
- do not have health insurance (does not apply to Medicaid), and
- have not voluntarily cancelled employer health insurance in the past six months (does not apply to Medicaid), and
- are U.S. citizens or qualified non-citizens, and
- are not dependents of a state employee eligible for family coverage (does not apply to Medicaid), and
- are not in a public institution, and

• meet income eligibility. For example, a family of four (with children ages 7 and 9) who earn \$42,400/year may qualify for HealthyKids. The four programs mentioned above range in price from free, reduced \$15-\$20 or full pay at \$128 (includes dental). The family needs to complete just one application to apply for all the programs for any child under the age of 19.

**Yearling Spelling Bee Winners**  
 The following students will be competing at the county level Spelling Bee: First place - Jackie O'Conner, second Place - Tyler Chartier, third Place - Ronesia Wingfield, and Alternate-Alyssia Boldin.

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# Everglades Elementary School News

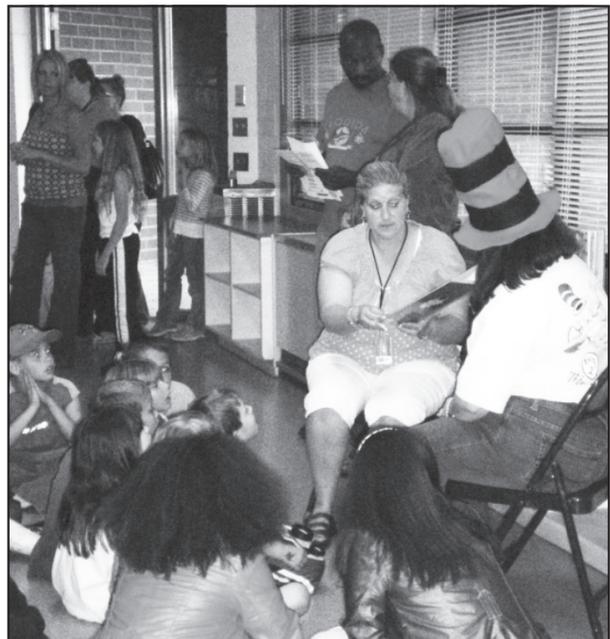
**Kindergarten**  
Mrs. Moore's class really enjoyed Family Reading and Game Night! Thanks to all the parents that brought their children. Remember to practice letters, sounds, and words each night. We are learning about our World in Social Studies and have learned that there are seven continents. We want to thank Miss. Shannon for coming to help us paint rainbows this week. We learned that R.O.Y.G.B.I.V. helps us to remember the seven colors of the rainbow. Ms. Hyde's class would like to thank our FFA guest readers who entertained us on Tuesday! We have been testing on the letters: Gg, Ww, Xx, and Vv. Our words for this unit are: he, has, look. Ms. Hyde is very proud of her ten 100 Book Challenge BLUE readers! Way to go guys!

Mrs. Wright's class made X-rays for the letter "Xx" and will make our own volcanoes that will erupt for the letter "Vv". We have been testing on the letters, sounds, and words. The class has learned a lot!  
Mrs. Dodson's class is Very Excited With all of the great letters we're learning! We are working so hard at learning our letters, sounds, and sight words and we are able to read more words every day! In science we are making model animals using our knowledge of body coverings, and ways of moving. Mrs. Dodson is very proud of each of her students, keep working hard!  
Mrs. Claypool's class is learning all about insects. We are learning the letters Ww and Xx. Our new sight words are: he, she, has, and look. We are doing such a fabulous job on reading! Mrs. Claypool can't believe how well we are able to read! First grade, here we come!

**First Grade**  
Mrs. Hollin would like to congratulate students for their success in 100 Book Challenge! Congratulations to Cassidy Johnson, she is a "500" step reader! The students created "Thinking Maps" for each story and enjoyed making the Cat In The Hat's hat and eating Green eggs and Ham! In science the students enjoyed a lesson on simple machines with our student teacher, Mrs. Coffey.

**Second Grade**  
Mrs. Campbell's class enjoyed our trip to the Manatee Center! We learned some new things about their habitat. Thanks to the families that came to "Family Reading and Game Night"! We had a great time!

**Third Grade**  
Mrs. Kirby's class has been working on their Easter stories and are weaving baskets. They're also looking forward to their trip to the Manatee Center and enjoying the boat ride! We hope to see a Manatee this year  
Mrs. Hunt's class has been very farm friendly with agriculture this



Submitted photo/Everglades Elementary  
**Everglades students enjoy Mrs. Forde and Mrs Brady reading Dr. Seuss during the recent Family Reading and Game Night held at the school.**

er, Mrs. Coffey.  
Ms. Rowley would like to recognize the "Super readers" in our class. We have some great 100 Book Challenge readers. With 100 steps, we have Samantha, Luis, Travis, Kayla, Fallan, and Lindsey. With 200 steps or more, we have Shelby, Tanner, Hailey Marace, and Jason. With 300 + steps, we have Edwin. Brenda has 500 steps and Christian has 600 steps. Our classroom leader is Haley Underhill who has made it to 1,000 steps! That equals 250 hours of EXTRA reading! Way to go Haley! Ms. Rowley is super proud of you! We would like to wish Happy Birthday to our March birthdays, Tyler Tucker turned 7 on March 19, and Hailey Macrae will be 7 on March 27!

**Fourth Grade**  
Ms. Stokes would like to say "thank you" to the Senior FFA members that came to our classrooms for Florida Ag. Literacy Day, on March 24. The book, "These Florida Farmers," educated our young students about the necessities that come from Agriculture. They were very excited to learn about where their "food and fiber" comes from.  
**Reading Leadership Team/Parent Involvement Committee:**

work printed. Congratulations to our students of the week: Nina Nunez, Destiny Deese, and Kyra Pfingston.  
Mrs. Reno's class is adding and subtracting fractions and putting them into their simplest form. In writing, we have joined the "Great Mail Race"! We are excited about writing post cards to the 50 states, hoping to get some in return! In connection to our mail race, we are researching the states and making fun and informative brochures. Congratulations to our recent student of the week, Alexandra Jacobo, Alyssa Howard, Maryjane Boiling, and Baylee Baker.  
Mr. Viens class is starting to add and subtract fractions. We have learned how to make equivalent fractions and create mixed numbers recently. We just finished book 2 in Gregor The Overlander series, and are on to book 3 which is the Prophecy of Blood. Mr. Viens read orally to the class every day and we are working on our illustrations for each book. Congratulations to Kyllie Ramirez and Nate Nicoll, our recent students of the week. Also, Rebecca Starnes and Kyllie Rameraz, our champion spellers that will represent us in the school Spelling Bee!

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Ms. Stokes would like to say "thank you" to the Senior FFA members that came to our classrooms for Florida Ag. Literacy Day, on March 24. The book, "These Florida Farmers," educated our young students about the necessities that come from Agriculture. They were very excited to learn about where their "food and fiber" comes from.  
**Reading Leadership Team/Parent Involvement Committee:**

week. We had special visitors come in from Florida Ag. and read to us an awesome book! Maybe tomatoes and onions aren't so bad after all!  
Mrs. Brady's class enjoyed our guest reader that taught us about farming and agriculture. We had a super time on our field trip to the Manatee Center in Ft. Pierce. While we were there we saw many native Florida animals like dolphins, blue herons, pelicans, and so many others.  
Mr. Wright's class took a pontoon boat tour of the Indian river Lagoon. The mother dolphin and her baby were a great sight to see! Thank you to the people who make this trip possible, and to our chaperones!  
Ms. Gumz's class had an exciting time at the Manatee Center. Thank you to captain Bob for a great boat ride! Remember to reduce, reuse, and recycle to keep our waterways, land, and air clean. Also remember to read, read, read!

**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.*

**Phyllis M. Buchanan Sehon**  
OKEECHOBEE — On March 23, 2009, Phyllis was called home to be with her Lord and Saviour. Phyllis was very much loved by her children and friends. Phyllis had a great love for God, her family, her work with plants and flowers. She also loved her family in Dunklin, where her and Sam called home for 20 years and she never forgot that was her home.  
Phyllis was the first woman to ever become a union carpenter in WPB in 1970s. She was awarded the Golden Hammer for her work.  
She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Samuel Sehon; her mother, Alma Forbes; her father, Phillip Forbes; brother, Ralph Forbes; and sister, Wilma Forbes.  
She leaves behind her children, Cathryn (Luis) Marroquin, C. Dale Buchanan, Chet Buchanan, Chris (Manon) Buchanan, Todd (Desirae) Sehon, Samuel Cole (Ninnie) Sehon, Melanie (Tim) O'Brien; and grandchildren, Amanda, Dale Jr., Luis Jr., Gladys, Jaxen, Rebecca, Ryan, Antonio, Mackenzie, Alex, Nikki, and Cassandra.  
A memorial service is being held 1 p.m., April 2, 2009, at Dunklin Memorial Church in Okeechobee.  
At the family's request in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Dunklin Memorial Church in Phyllis's honor.  
Friends may sign the guestbook at www.bassokeechobeeffh.com.  
All arrangements are entrusted to the loving care of Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home and Crematory, 205 NE 2nd St., Okeechobee, FL 34972.

**Church to host concert**  
Buckhead Ridge Baptist Church will host Stan Shuman in Concert, Sunday, April 5, 11 a.m. Stan Shuman is an internationally known singer/song writer. He was formerly with Jerry and the Singing Goffs, Naomi and The Segos. He is currently with Danny Funderburk and Mercy's Way. Stan has written for The Kingsmen, Gold City, The Anchormen, and many more! His product will be set up for you to view and purchase. Everyone is welcome! Buckhead Ridge Baptist Church is located on Hunter Road, one mile on the left after turning at the Sunoco Station in Buckhead Ridge. For information, contact Pastor Richard Postell, 863-763-3442 or 863-634-6792.

**FOE 4137 hosts Easter party**  
The FOE 4137 Ladies Auxiliary, 9985 Hwy 441 North, will host a children's Easter party on Saturday, April 11, from 2 until 4 p.m. for children ages 0-16. Must be signed up by April 4. For further information call 863-763-2552..

## Community Events

**Dine with the doctor**  
This month's "Dine with the Doctor" medical series presentation will take place at Raulerson Hospital on **March 31**. Dinner serving time is 4:45 p.m. and the doctors presentation will begin at 5:30 p.m. Have you ever wondered what happens in the Radiology Department? Do you know how the process works? If not, stop by for dinner and enjoy Alex Venno's M.D., Board Certified Radiologist, present the radiology process and describe the new State-Of-The-Art equipment at the hospital. Dinner is only \$5 for the entree, salad, rolls, dessert, and beverage. R.S.V.P. to Bill Casian at 863-824-2702 for a reserved seat.

**Annual Hog Roast to be held**  
The Okeechobee Masonic Lodge No. 237 will sponsor their annual hog roast on Saturday, **April 4** from 4 until 7 p.m. All proceeds will benefit their scholarship fund. Eat in or take out is available. Tickets are \$7 per person. For ticket information contact Fred Cover, J.W. 954-818-2558, John A. Bubel, S.W. 863-697-3626 or Jim Green, W.M. 863-634-4401.

**4Hers are celebrity servers**  
The Okeechobee 4-H Bits and Spurs Horse Club's Mounted Drill Team will be "celebrity servers" at Golden Corral on March 31 to 5 to 8 p.m. Tips given the servers will go to help pay for the team's entry fees and equipment.

**Spring break at Lake Denton**  
Lake Denton Camp in Avon Park is having camp **April 1-7**. The cost is \$120. If your spring break is the last week of March, you will arrive April 1 (4-6 p.m.) and depart on April 5 (4-6 p.m.) If your break is the first full week of April, you arrive April 3 (4-6 p.m.) and depart Tuesday, April 7 (4-6 p.m.) Any questions contact Pam Elders at 863-453-3627 or 863-634-9280.

**Autism support group holds bowling night**  
The Okeechobee Autism Support Group will hold a bowling night on Thursday, **April 2**, at 6 p.m. at Stardust Lanes. \$1.75 a game, free shoes, bumpers. For more information email okeechobeeautismsupportgroup@gmail.com.

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Miss Shofner would like to thank the student, parents, and teachers that came to our "Dr. Seuss Reading and Game Night" on March 24. We were pleased to see that over 70 families attended! We had teachers volunteer their time to read their favorite Dr. Seuss books to the students and teachers who played simple games like "Hangman," "Memory" and "Boggle." We read the "Reader's Oath" and promised to read, read, read. As the Oath says, special thanks to these teachers who read and played games: Mrs. Cassels, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Claypool, Mrs. Dodson, Mrs. Hollin, Mrs. Coffey (student teacher) Mrs. Laskey, Mrs. Donna Campbell, Mrs. Brady, Mr. Wright, Ms. Hunt, Mrs. Forde, Mr. Forde, Ms. Emily Campbell (student teacher), Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Stinnett, and Mrs. Weigum.

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<b>"GREAT INVESTMENT!"</b> Frame 2/1 not far from town. Home has been freshly painted, needs some cosmetic work but is a great value and would make a wonderful investment property #202503 \$58,000	<b>"WATERFRONT WONDERFUL"</b> CBS 3/2 w/1 car carport & screened porch to enjoy! Home also has a waterfront buildable lot beside it that comes with the home. This is a great deal! #202500 \$135,000
<b>"WELL MAINTAINED"</b> Nice 3 Bd, 1 Ba home close to town, some remodeling work in progress. Call to see property. #201941 \$70,900	<b>"BREATHTAKING VIEWS"</b> Two story breathtaking 5/3 CBS home Rim Canal in Larado Shores. Balcony to sit on and enjoy. Tile & hardwood floors. New roof in 2006, reverse osmosis water. #94541 \$325,000
<b>"TAYLOR CREEK CUTIE"</b> Lake Okeechobee Access, 2000 3/2 DWMH, split floor plan, eat in bar in kitchen and wood laminate floors. Covered patio & open deck. Property has a dock and seawall. This is worth taking a look at. #201540 \$110,000	<b>"COMMERCIAL INVESTMENT"</b> 441 HWY SE RV PARK, KNOTS LANDING, on Rim Canal w/Lake O access. 26 lots approved for rental. 6 additional lots could be utilized w/County Approval. Bath House, Washer & Dryer, Boat Slips. Owner Occupied 2 Bd 2 Bath Home has Carport. #202278 \$479,900

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

**WATERFRONT** Very nice well-maintained SWMH. Ceramic tile throughout. A nice family room w/bathroom built on. A boat house w/electric hoist and concrete area. This is a lot of house for the price. MLS #201706, \$99,000. Call Vicki at 863-634-4106.

**FISHERMAN'S DREAM:** Well-maintained SWMH w/workshop. Boat House w/electric boat lift, close to BHR locks. All year, all weather FL Rm, Carport with concrete drive. Included is a 16 Tri Hull Larsen, 60hp Johnson. Large lot w/trees. JUST BRING YOUR TOOTHBRUSH!!!! MLS #201939, \$94,500. Call Vicki at 863-634-4106.

**Great opportunity to own waterfront at an affordable price.** Boat ramp and concrete slab with roof over with lights. Fenced in lot. The SWMH is small but cute and clean. THIS IS A MUST SEE. PRICED TO SELL!!! MLS #202115, \$72,900. Call Vicki at 863-634-4106.

**A well-maintained home in a beautifully maintained park.** Clubhouse, pool, shuffleboard, activities daily. It is a safe, fun place to live. Aluminum roof over. MLS #202383, \$69,500. Call Vicki 863-634-4106.

**CBS home on a canal to Lake Okeechobee.** Screened in pool and Jacuzzi, dressing/changing room by pool. Boat launch, 2 Pergolas, 2 sheds, boat house with lift. MLS #202330, \$198,500. Call Vicki 863-634-4106.

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# Central Elementary School News

## Kindergarten Class

Mrs. Vaughn's first grade class had a visit from the Leprechaun. He was a mischievous one. Desks were overturned, book bags were scattered everywhere and the left gold sprinkles everywhere he went. We had barely enough time to clean up after him before the bell rang. He also left us pencils, stickers and candy. We had several students raise \$25 or more for Jump Rope for Heart. They are looking forward to slimming Coach Spearow on Field Day April 3. We are currently raising money for Pennies for Patients to help fight cancer. Happy Birthday to Matthew Mangold, Jonathan Mejia, Orlan Hagins and Jimmy Walls. Congratulations to our Students of the Week Brian Garcia, Saul Mondragon, David Adams, Jordan York.

Mrs. Bostwick's class at Central Elementary School has been learning about objects in the daytime and nighttime sky and how the earth's rotation creates night and day. We learned about the sun, stars, and the phases of the moon! Students of the Week these past few weeks were Amber Hull and Chantavia Baul. Congratulations, kiddos! Keep up the good work!

Miss Shineldecker's first grade class is happy that we've made it through the third nine weeks of school. We are starting our last book of Unit 5 this week. We will be reading "A Fruit Is a Suitcase for Seeds." We are still working on the r-controlled vowels and I think they are catching on rather quickly.

Congratulations to the following students of the week: David Vasquez, Mark Bigford, Jessica Edison, and Brianna Perry. A very HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Leandra Aguilar on March 15.

**Miss Shineldecker  
First Grade**

## First Grade B.A.S.E. News

We've been to the Planetarium in Ft. Pierce and learned all about the awesome galaxy we are a part of. We learned about gravity and how we are all stuck to the earth. The students wrote some great stories about how they would break the gravity line and get to the moon. Congratulations to our students of the week: Joshua Bonilla, Diego Reyna, Laura Rodriguez, Diana Morales



Mr. Klaffer's Super Kids Student of the Week was Lisset Carrillo (Ms. Golden Eyes). Other Student of the Week students were Tristan Courson (Mr. John Deere), Alex Valdes (Kool Kat), & Rebekah Raulerson (Bad Momma Hen). St. Patrick's Day was the only party this month with a sea of green everywhere!

The hard part of the month was teaching the Kids how to recognize the different coins and how to count money. The first pile of real money I let the Kids handle I thought I was going to have a riot! The smallest estimate of the value of that pile of coins came out to a little over \$1,000!

## Second Grade

Mrs. Greseth's class has been enjoying reading different stories during small groups. One group just finished Charlotte's Web! They did a super job. One group is reading Sylvester and the Magic Pebble. We would really like to find a magic pebble and get some wishes like Sylvester! In Science we are learning all about our solar system.

## Second Grade BASE

In Second Grade BASE, we have been as busy as bees! We have begun learning our multiplication songs! We are still checking our gardens and graphing

the growth of our plants and we have also begun writing our bare books in English!

In Language, we have been reviewing parts of speech. I bet if you ask your child, (s)he can find a pronoun, verb, noun, contraction (lazy word), and adjective in this article!

Sra. Rodriguez and Mrs. Johns are so...proud of all of the students who read every night for 100 Book Challenge.

Mrs. Jones' class has been very busy! In Reading this week we learned gardens that grow vegetables are not always as pretty as flower gardens but they serve their purpose. In Science we are studying the Solar System. We really enjoyed painting the phases of the moon. We have completed measurement, and are exploring perimeter, area and volume. Next we are heading into fractions! Congratulations to Mark Holmes, our student of the week. We are looking forward to learning about model airplanes on Monday and to our Survivor Field Day next week.

Miss Miller's second grade class has been enjoying using rulers and their feet to measure objects in math. We have been

working hard on talking about the water cycle and we're now just starting to learn about the solar system. We are excited to see some of our plants are growing; we will be measuring and recording their growth as the weeks go on. Congratulations to the following Students of the Week: Armando Garcia, Chris Rogel, Mariah Raulerson, and Icelia Ibarra. Congratulations to Chris Rogel for reaching 100 steps! Congratulations to the following students for reaching 200 steps: Chyenne Grimes, Andy Simmons, Raeshel Bell, and Mariah Raulerson! Keep reading for 15 minutes every night to earn those steps.

The students in Mrs. White-side's class have been learning about food chains and animal habitats. The students each created their own habitats. Did you know that animals' beaks and teeth are adapted to help them get food? You can tell what kind of food a mammal eats by looking at its teeth.

Congratulations to the Students of the Week, Madisyn Gonzalez and Anali Carmona. Both girls have had fabulous behavior.

Mrs. Entry's class has been working hard! We are learning

about the solar system in science, measurement in math and we read a wonderful story about Ugly Vegetables this week. We are very excited about Survivor Field Day this Friday. Our class tribe name is Mashujaa, it means

champions! Also we are looking forward to Spring Break April 6-13. Congratulations to our Students of the Week Gage Ingram and Colby Burke. Congratulations to Christina Lense, she has 500 steps in 100 Book Challenge!

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# Seminole Elementary News

## Kindergarten

The kindergarten classes enjoyed their trip to the Children's Museum. Favorite attractions were the Publix grocery store where the students filled their carts with great food and then went through the checkout and bagged the groceries and the restaurant where the students dressed in costumes to prepare food from many different parts of the world.

Students from the Freshman Campus came to the kindergarten classes with their teacher Mrs. Duke to tell the children about agriculture in Florida. The students read These Florida Farms and then helped the children make seeds in a glove. The kindergarten students took to planted seeds in the glove home to watch them grow.

## Second

Students in Mrs. O'Bannon's class are sharpening their reading and fluency skills by performing readers theatre. Each group of four students are responsible for learning their speaking parts, gathering props and making the scenery for their group's play. They are learning to do research and then write reports. Their most recent reports have been group projects on the continents. They did a wonderful job on their first attempt at this. This week we are learning about inventors and their inventions and how they changed our lives. In math we are working on measurement. Last week we did linear measurement and this week we are doing capacity. Each student made a "gallon man" to show equivalents. Students are working towards positive behaviors by earning the "Gator Award." Our first person to earn it this year was Thomas Garcia and the second person was Jason Zuliniga. Both boys show exemplary behavior each day. Our most recent Students of the Week were Levi Morse and Maggie Santamarina. Congratulations to all of the hard working students in Mrs. O'Bannon's class.

## Third

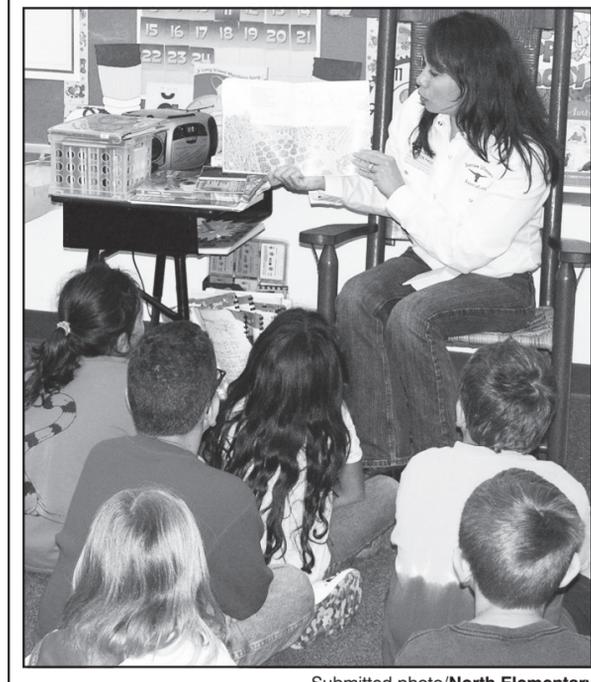
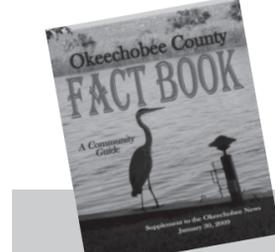
Third grade would like to congratulate their Students of the Week for the weeks of March 19 and March 16. These students are trying their best to be good classroom citizens. From Mrs. Padgett's room: Maria Pinon and Javier Hernandez; from Mrs. Reed's class: Yesenia Hernandez and Bryan Pinon; from Mrs. Johnson's class: Jaclynn Cowles and Rayquan Futch; from Mrs. McCranie's class: Anayeli Montoya and Isaac Kinchen; and from Mrs. Coldiron's class: Dustin Hunt and Johnny Rodriguez. These students continue to put forth their

best efforts from day to day. We will be having our Ice Cream Party with the principal this Friday. The students who attend have demonstrated mastery of their multiplication facts from the 0s to the 9s. They are looking forward to the sweet reward for all the time they have devoted to learning this basic mathematics skill that will be a life long tool.

## Fourth

Fourth graders are working on some upcoming events. We will be having our Class Spelling Bees this week to decide who advances to the School Bee. Everyone needs to practice on those spelling skills. Another event that is coming soon is the Tropicana Speech contest. Each fourth grader will be giving a 1-3 minute speech on a topic of their choice. Each class will have three winners and will go on to the School Speech contest. A first and second place winner will be chosen to represent Seminole at the County Speech Contest. Parents, it would help a great deal if you would practice timing your child's speech. Also, have your child practice giving the speech in front of the family will also help get over some stage fright that students experience.

Mrs. Tomlinson's class is busy working on our Reading. We have started including a novel read as well as the reading book to assist us in our reading skills. We are presently reading, "James and the Giant Peach." The students are enjoying reading the book and discussing various points such as character traits, author's purpose, etc. We will be doing some exciting activities to go along with the novel-making a model, writing a paper about our favorite character, doing a Peach scavenger hunt, etc. We will have a concluding activity of comparing and contrasting the novel against the movie that we will watch as we eat some peaches.



Submitted photo/North Elementary

## Celebrating literacy

Representatives from Okeechobee Soil and Water Conservation District and Okeechobee County Cattlewomen's Association read "These Florida Farms" in honor of Ag Literacy Day March 24, to all the first grade classes at North Elementary School. The book and pre/post test materials are all a part of the Florida Ag in the Classroom Curriculum.



Submitted photo/South Elementary

## South Spellers!

The South Elementary School Spelling Bee was held on March 18. The students competed for nine rounds of increasingly difficult words until finally a winner was declared. From left to right, Donnie Watson and Alex Figueroa tied for second place and Mitch Mulholland earned first place. These three participants will go on to the district Spelling Bee scheduled for April 17.

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✓ Wednesday  
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✓ Sunday  
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### Announcements

#### 100

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#### Special Notice 0155

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#### Auctions 0105

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**Employment - Full-Time 205**

**Employment - Medical 210**

**Employment - Part-Time 215**

**Employment - Wanted 220**

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**Job Training 227**

**Sales 230**

#### Employment Full Time 0205

**Financial 300**

**Business Opportunities 305**

**Money Lenders 310**

**Tax Preparation 315**

#### Employment Full Time 0205

**A/C SERVICE TECH**  
With min. 5 yrs exp.  
Must have clean D/L & own tools. Good pay, benefits.  
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#### Financial 300

**Business Opportunities 0305**

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

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**Babysitting 405**

**Child Care Needed 410**

**Child Care Offered 415**

**Instruction 420**

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**Insurance 430**

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- Beauty Supplies 525
- Bicycles 530
- Books & Magazines 535
- Building Materials 540
- Business Equipment 545
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- Children's Items 555
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- 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
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#### Waterfront Property 1080

#### Waterfront Property 1080

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#### Waterfront Property 1080

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#### Waterfront Property 1080

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#### Miscellaneous 0655

**FLEA MARKET INVENTORY**- large variety, taking offers for entire stock only. Call for appt (863)610-1120

#### Pets/Supplies 0670

**YORKIE PUPPIES** - Registered. 1 Male, 1 Female. Shots & Wormed. \$400 (863)801-1348

#### Tools 0725

**METAL LATHE** - 6"x18" Manual feed with lots of tooling. Very good shape. \$450 (863)357-5754

#### Wanted to Buy 0740

**FLORIDA ART** - A.E. Backus, H. Newton, A. Hair, G. Buckner, Highwaymen Big \$\$ (772)562-5567

**Automobiles 4005**

**LAKE MOTORS**  
147 Hwy 441 SE • Okeechobee  
Best Prices in 863-667-5243 se habla español the Lake Area!

\*6 Cadillac Concours only \$3295\*  
Leather, loaded, low miles #7895

\*00 Honda Accord . . . only \$4995\*  
V6, 2.0, leather, moon roof #17663

\*01 Ford Explorer . . . only \$4895\*  
2 door sport #11861

\*05 Chevy Equinox . . . only \$6995\*  
4 door #2124

\*98 Chrysler Sebring . . . only \$3295\*  
Conv. loaded #19738

\*01 Ford Mustang . . . . . \$4995\*  
V6, AT, #11935

\*02 Toyota Sienna Van only \$6595\*  
7 pass. 4 dr. loaded #13607

\* plus tag, title, tax plus \$199. dealer fee

**Parts/Repairs 4045**

**Parts/Repairs 4045**

**Automobiles 4005**

\*02 FI50, 4x4, LB . . . Only \$4995\*  
auto, A/C, bedliner, V8 #13968

\*04 Ranger . . . . . \$5995\*  
x-cab, 6 cylinder, manual 5 spd, #19655

\*98 Toyota Corolla . . . . . \$3995\*  
auto, a/c, low miles, one owner #18247

\*00 VW Jetta . . . . . Only \$3995\*  
5 spd, A/C, loaded #19990

\*98 Ford Explorer XLT . . . \$3995\*  
Loaded, 4 door #6617

\*03 Ford Taurus SE . . . . . \$4695\*  
Loaded #8310

\*02 Mazda 626 . . . . . \$4695\*  
AT, AC #83705

**STOP IN AND START SAVING!!!!!!**

**30% OFF**  
All in Stock Bed Mats,  
Bug Shields, Bug  
Screens and More.

**St. Lucie Battery & Tire**  
198 US Hwy 98N • Okeechobee  
(863) 357-2431 • www.slbtc.com

**Houses - Rent 0930**

**OKEE** - 2/1, clean furnished,  
carpeting, new a/c, enclosed  
porch, W/D, Shed, \$825/mo  
inclds water (786)201-0306

Looking for a place to  
hang your hat? Look  
no further than the  
classifieds.

**SINGLE FAMILY:** 3/2/1, Split  
plan, patio, master suite, tile,  
D/W, Avail. now \$1100 mo.  
(561)307-2502

**Office Space  
Rent 0937**

**Professional  
Office Space  
for Lease**

Near  
Courthouse.  
Immediate  
Occupancy.  
(863)  
467-0831

**Roommate 0950**

**COMPANION WANTED** - In  
senior community, pool, club  
house, private rm w/bath,  
non smoker (863)763-2990

**ROOMMATE NEEDED** - Master  
Bdrm. w/lg walk in closet &  
attached Den, Master Bath  
w/Lg. Jacuzzi Tub. Access  
to Lg. yard w/fence & back  
porch w/Hot Tub. Newly  
renovated. (863)634-8007

**Rooms To Rent 0955**

**OKEE, Furnished Rm.** Single  
occ., private entrance, w/d,  
\$140/wk & deposit, utilis incl.  
(863)763-7331 leave msg.

Need a few more bucks to  
purchase something  
deer? Pick up some  
extra bucks when you  
sell your used items in  
the classifieds.

**Waterfront  
Rentals 0965**

**HOUSE w/Lake Okee Access,**  
picture perfect 2/2 w/2 car  
carport, boat house/2 slips,  
dock, well landscaped, incl  
lawn svc \$950 mo  
(863)610-1276

**TREASURE ISLAND** -  
3BR, 2BA, with shed. \$800  
move in, \$750/month.  
Call 863-824-0981

**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  
Out of State -  
Property - Sale 1055**

**Property Inspection 1060**

**Real Estate Wanted 1065**

**Resort Property -  
Sale 1070**

**Warehouse Space 1075**

**Waterfront Property 1080**

**Houses - Sale 1025**

**TREASURE ISLAND** - 1981  
SWMH 2/1, \$55,000 Preferred  
Properties, Debra Pinson  
863-801-9163

**Land - Sale 1040**

**RIVER RANCH** Property - 1  
1/4 acres, Polk County, (rec-  
reational), \$3,500 firm. Call  
863-673-2108

**Waterfront  
Property 1080**

**BHR** - Furn Modular home 3/2  
w/FI Room, Incl 3 HD TV's.  
Just updated plumbing,  
elec, new sod & sprink sys,  
finished, boat ramp, dock,  
conc drive, car port, shed.  
\$138,500 080  
(561)818-2348

**Recreation 3000**

**Boats 3005**

**Campers/RVs 3010**

**Jet Skis 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

**BROWNING** - 18' open bow,  
with trailer, inboard/outboard  
Merc cruiser, 175 hp, 4 cyl  
eng. \$2000 neg  
(863)763-5253

**CAROLINA SKIFF** - 40 hp mo-  
tor \$1700 (863)763-8132

**Campers/RVs 3010**

**JOURNEY MOTORHOME** '87 -  
30 ft. Affordable living, drive  
it or park it, \$6000 cash  
(863)763-9377

**Motorcycles 3030**

**HARLEY DAVIDSON** - 1992,  
Soft tail custom, low miles,  
many extra's, great shape  
\$6500 (863)763-8667

**HONDA SHADOW 750** - 2004,  
With trailer, many extras  
\$3000 (863)634-4765

**Automobiles 4000**

**Automobiles 4005**

**Autos Wanted 4010**

**Classic Cars 4015**

**Commercial Trucks 4020**

**Construction Equipment 4025**

**Foreign Cars 4030**

**Four Wheel Drive 4035**

**Heavy Duty Trucks 4040**

**Parts - Repairs 4045**

**Pickup Trucks 4050**

**Sport Utility 4055**

**Tractor Trailers 4060**

**Utility Trailers 4065**

**Vans 4070**

**Automobiles 4005**

**CHEVY LUMINA** - 1997,  
LOADED, NEW TIRES, 135K  
MILES \$1600  
(863)801-5678

**LINCOLN MARK VII**, 1990,  
96k miles, 1 owner, good  
cond. \$4000 firm. call from  
4-8pm (407)436-1266

**PONTIAC GA**, 1992, 66k  
miles, good cond, 1 owner,  
\$2000 firm (407)436-1266  
call from 4-8pm

**USED CUSTOM RIMS** - 20"  
\$700 call (863)697-3524

**Four Wheel  
Drive 4035**

**F250 EXT. CAB** -1988, 7.3 li-  
tre diesel, 1 ton, rear &  
gooseneck ball \$2200  
(863)634-2379

**Golf Carts 4037**

**EZ GO** - W/4"lift, stereo, over  
sized tires, enclosed, head  
lights. \$1500 or trade for  
ponton trl (954)707-2274

**GOLF CART** - Club Car, 2000,  
electric, low hours, Excellent  
cond. \$1450 or best offer  
(863)467-2824

**Heavy Duty  
Trucks 4040**

**DEISEL DODGE RAM** - 1992,  
5 speed, extra tires, excellent  
condition, \$3000 neg  
(863)763-5253

**Pickup Trucks 4050**

**CHEVY** - 1951, Complete 350  
Camaro eng & trans, needs  
hooked up. Body Mint \$3800  
(863)801-9136

**Utility Trailers 4065**

**NOT HOME MADE** - 4'6" x 8',  
front & side rail, spare wheel  
w/tire \$400, 3443 SW 23rd  
st. Oak Park (863)763-3036

**Public Notice 5005**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR  
OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CASE NO. 2009-CA-80  
DIVISION: Civil Division

LIVE OAK TRUST, INC.,  
A Florida Corporation  
Plaintiff  
v.  
JEAN LOUIS SAINT  
Defendants

**NOTICE OF ACTION  
CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE**

TO: JEAN LOUIS SAINT  
3002 SHOMA DRIVE  
WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33414

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Com-  
plaint for Foreclosure of Mortgage in-  
volving real estate located in  
Okeechobee County, Florida, and le-  
gally described as follows:

The W 1/2 of the W 1/2 of the S 1/2 of  
the N 1/2 of Tract 10 Section 25  
Township 34 South, Range 33 East,  
Okeechobee County, Florida, accord-  
ing to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat  
Book 4, Pages 3 A-D, inclusive of the  
Okeechobee County Public Records.

Strap Number(s):  
1-25-34-33-0A00-0001-E000

has been filed against you and you are  
required to serve a copy of your writ-  
ten defenses, if any, to it on KENNETH  
M. JONES, of Moody, Jones, Ingino &  
Morehead, P.A., Attorneys for Plaintiff,  
whose address is 1333 S. University  
Drive, Suite 201, Plantation, Florida  
33324, on or before 4/21/2009, and  
file the original with the Clerk of this  
Court either before service on the  
Plaintiff's attorney or immediately  
thereafter; otherwise, a default will be  
entered against you for the relief de-  
manded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court  
on 3/18/2009.

SHARON ROBERTSON  
CLERK OF THE COURT  
By: Kimberly Samos  
As Deputy Clerk

Moody, Jones, Ingino & Morehead, P.A.  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
1333 S University Drive, #201  
Plantation, FL 33324  
(954) 473-6605  
KENNETH M. JONES  
Florida Bar No. 142618  
314184 ON 3/22/2009

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR  
OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION  
CASE NO. 47-2008-CA-000454

NATIONAL CITY BANK SUCCESSOR BY  
MERGER TO HARBOR FEDERAL SAV-  
INGS BANK,  
Plaintiff  
vs.  
PEDRO GONZALES A/K/A PEDRO GON-  
ZALEZ, ET AL.,  
Defendant(s).

**NOTICE OF ACTION  
CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE**

TO: PEDRO GONZALES A/K/A PEDRO  
GONZALEZ; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF  
PEDRO GONZALES A/K/A PEDRO  
GONZALEZ

whose residence is unknown if  
he/she/they be living, and if  
he/she/they be dead, the unknown de-  
fendants who may be spouses, heirs,  
 devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors,  
 creditors, trustees, and all parties  
 claiming an interest by, through, under  
 or against the Defendants, who are not  
 known to be dead or alive, and all parties  
 having or claiming to have any  
 right, title or interest in the property de-  
 scribed in the mortgage being fore-  
 closed herein.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an ac-  
 tion to foreclose a mortgage on the fol-  
 lowing property:

THE EAST 1/4 OF THE EAST 1/4 OF THE  
 NORTH 1/2 OF TRACT 2, SECTION 25  
 IN THE SOUTHERN COLONIZATION  
 COMPANY PLAT OF TOWNSHIP 34  
 WOUTH, RANGE 33 EAST, ACCORD-  
 ING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED  
 IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGES 3 THRU  
 3E, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE  
 COUNTY, FLORIDA, A/K/A LOT A  
 AND

THE WEST 1/4 OF THE WEST 1/4 OF THE  
 NORTH 1/2 OF TRACT 19, SECTION 25  
 IN THE SOUTHERN COLONIZATION  
 COMPANY PLAT OF TOWNSHIP 34  
 SOUTH, RANGE 33 EAST, ACCORD-  
 ING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED  
 IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGES 3 THRU  
 3E, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE  
 COUNTY, FLORIDA, A/K/A LOT D  
 TOGETHER WITH 2007 MOBILE  
 HOME VIN# GMHGA40634328A AND  
 2007 MOBILE HOME VIN#  
 GMHGA40634328B

has been filed against you and you are  
 required to serve a copy of your writ-  
 ten defenses, if any, to it on DAVID J.  
 STERN, ESQ., Plaintiff's attorney,  
 whose address is 900 South Pine Is-  
 land Road 3400, Plantation, FL  
 33324-3920 no later than 30 days  
 from the date of the first publication of  
 this notice of action and file the origi-  
 nal with the clerk of this court either  
 before service on Plaintiff's attorney or  
 immediately thereafter; otherwise a de-  
 fault will be entered against you for the  
 relief demanded in the complaint or  
 petition filed herein.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this  
 Court at OKEECHOBEE County, Florida,  
 this 18th day of March, 2009.

SHARON ROBERTSON  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
By: Arlene Nealis  
Deputy Clerk

LAW OFFICES OF DAVID J. STERN  
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF  
900 SOUTH PINE ISLAND ROAD  
SUITE 400  
PLANTATION, FL 33324-3920  
08-83177 NCM

**NOTICE REGARDING THE AMERICANS  
WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990**

In accordance with the Americans With  
Disabilities Act, persons needing a spe-  
cial accommodation to participate in this  
proceeding should contact Court Admi-  
nistration 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 Sum-  
mons/Notice to appear. If you are hear-  
ing impaired call 1-800-955-8771. If you  
are voice impaired call 1-800-955-8770.  
via Florida Relay Service,  
314155 ON 03/22/2009

**Kites**

Continued From Page 1

were found in 21 states; but now they  
are only seen in seven states. Some-  
times as many as 2,000 or more may  
share communal nesting sites in the  
Fisheating Creek area. The raptors  
favor the Glades County landscape,  
which includes their preference for  
large trees that stand in water and  
marshes. Here they hunt for insects  
and small reptiles in the tops of trees  
or catch insects in flight. During the  
breeding season, the kites are taking  
on much needed reserves of fat which  
will sustain them as they migrate back  
through the Andes Mountain range in  
South America, according to avian  
experts.

The kites are found not only at  
Fisheating Creek, but in many areas  
within Glades County and the Hendry-  
Glades Audubon Society encourages  
residents and visitors to report any  
sighting of these graceful birds. It will  
help assess the status of the species  
and allow scientists to acquire much  
needed statistics on their biology and  
demographics. If anyone sees a swal-  
low tailed kite, they can contact the  
Center for Birds of Prey and report  
information and location.

There are three ways to contact  
them; Go to www.thecenterforbird-  
sofprey.org and fill out an online form;  
download the form and send it to P.O.  
Box 1247, Charleston, South Carolina,  
29402; or, call 843-971-7474.

**Sudoku**

**SUDOKU**

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

Level: Beginner

**Fun By The  
Numbers**

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

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

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

ANSWERS

**Swallow tailed kite**

The swallow tailed kite is easy to identify with its scissor shaped tail and contrasting white and black plumage. Local experts ask for residents and visitors to report sightings of these slender hawks.

These graceful raptors are easy to identify with their all white heads and bodies contrasting with black wings and tails. The slender hawks seem to hang in the sky and seldom flap their wings. Their scissor shaped tails constantly rotate for quick turns of nearly 90 degrees.

The Big O Birding Festival begins April 3. For information contact Janet

Papinaw at 863-612-4783. For more information on bird watching along the southwest bank of Lake Okeechobee, contact Hendry-Glades Audubon at hga09@hendrygladesaudubon.org For more information about eco-tourism in Glades County, contact Tracy Whirls at 863-946-0300.

Nena Bolan can be reached at nenabolan@yahoo.com.

Submitted by Larry Frogge

**Sugar**

Continued From Page 1

acres, there would not be enough land for water treatment. He said that amount of land would be needed for water storage alone.

Ms. Reppen said the sale is proceeding toward a closing date of Sept. 25.

Of the 180,000 acres under consideration, certain tracts would be available for local government use. Pahokee, Belle Glade, South Bay, Clewiston and the Florida Inland Navigation District have requested tracts of land.

Hendry County Commissioner Kevin McCarthy noted that if the sale were reduced to 75,000 acres, the lands being considered for local government use would not be involved in the sale. If the originally announced 180,000 acre sale goes through, all land in sugar production could be leased back to U.S. Sugar for seven years. Mr. McCarthy said that in that case the lands being considered for local government use are in sugar cane production and would not be available for seven years.

Ms. Reppen addressed the concern expressed about the economic impact of the sale on the area. In this year's budget she said SFWMD has set aside \$2 million from projects and salary to fund capital improvements and infrastructure in the local communities affected by the sale. There is also a potential for other sources of funds to help the communities involved offset the loss of income that would be caused by the closing of U.S. Sugar. The governor's proposed fiscal year 2009/10 budget contains \$5 million to help areas impacted by the land acquisition. The governor's Office of Tourism Trade and Economic Development has visited the area to be impacted and is working to provide economic assistance.

Turning from the acquisition process, Tom Teets, Everglades policy manager gave an overview of the process to develop a plan to use the land once it is acquired. Public meetings were held to get the input of all interested parties. Next modeling will be done to look at different configurations of land possible. In June a draft of possible configurations will be presented to the SFWMD Governing Board. The draft will be refined in July and a final draft of land configuration and preliminary costs will be given to the board of governors in August before the closing in September.

Dr. Susan Gray of SFWMD urged water conservation noting that rainfall in the 16 county area served by SFWMD is below average and more dry weather is expected. She said that Lake Okeechobee has a resurgence of submerged vegetation and the quality of the lake water is improving. She said water quality is fairly good for this time of year. However, she said the salinity levels are increasing in the St. Lucie River.

Turning to dike rehabilitation, Ms. Bon noted that the lake can fill up six times faster than water can be let out. The dike was completed in 1962. In the 1980s COE began to see problems with it. In the 1990s studies were done and in 2005 construction was started on dike rehabilitation. After Hurricane Katrina, further study was done. The section between Port Mayaca and Belle Glade is being rehabilitated now by installing cutoff walls in the center of the dike to prevent seepage. This section is scheduled to be completed by 2013. The Moore Haven to Belle Glade section is scheduled rehabilitation next.

Commissioner Judah expressed his thanks that SFMWD and COE were working together to try to restore the pulse releases to the Caloosahatchee River in response to higher salinity level.

Commissioner Russell Echols of Glades County thanked SFWMD for their help with the Moore Haven and Pierce Canal projects.

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



**Houses - Rent 0930**

**OKEE** - 2/1, clean furnished,  
carpeting, new a/c, enclosed  
porch, W/D, Shed, \$825/mo  
inclds water (786)201-0306

Looking for a place to  
hang your hat? Look  
no further than the  
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**SINGLE FAMILY:** 3/2/1, Split  
plan, patio, master suite, tile,  
D/W, Avail. now \$1100 mo.  
(561)307-2502

**Office Space  
Rent 0937**

**Professional  
Office Space  
for Lease**

Near  
Courthouse.  
Immediate  
Occupancy.  
(863)  
467-0831

**Roommate 0950**

**COMPANION WANTED** - In  
senior community, pool, club  
house, private rm w/bath,  
non smoker (863)763-2990

**ROOMMATE NEEDED** - Master  
Bdrm. w/lg walk in closet &  
attached Den, Master Bath  
w/Lg. Jacuzzi Tub. Access  
to Lg. yard w/fence & back  
porch w/Hot Tub. Newly  
renovated. (863)634-8007

**Rooms To Rent 0955**

**OKEE, Furnished Rm.** Single  
occ., private entrance, w/d,  
\$140/wk & deposit, utilis incl.  
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Need a few more bucks to  
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the classifieds.

**Waterfront  
Rentals 0965**

**HOUSE w/Lake Okee Access,**  
picture perfect 2/2 w/2 car  
carport, boat house/2 slips,  
dock, well landscaped, incl  
lawn svc \$950 mo  
(863)610-1276

**TREASURE ISLAND** -  
3BR, 2BA, with shed. \$800  
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Call 863-824-0981

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**Real Estate Wanted 1065**

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**Warehouse Space 1075**

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863-673-2108

**Waterfront  
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**BHR** - Furn Modular home 3/2  
w/FI Room, Incl 3 HD TV's.  
Just updated plumbing,  
elec, new sod & sprink sys,  
finished, boat ramp, dock,  
conc drive, car port, shed.  
\$138,500 080  
(561)818-2348

**Waterfront  
Property 1080**

**OKEECHOBEE  
AUCTION !!**

2 Lots on the Rim Canal  
(20 Canal Way) 5 mins.  
by boat to the Lake.  
Dock, boat house, county  
water, septic tank. Each  
lot to be auctioned separ-  
ately subject to a bulk  
bid for both.

**SATURDAY APRIL 4th,  
3pm, Preview at 2pm,  
RON RENNICK  
AUCTIONS INC.  
(AB128 AU155)  
772-562-5015**

Directions: Take Rt 78  
to Linda Rd to Canal  
Way.

**Mobile Homes**

**2000**

**Mobile Home - Lots 2005**

**Mobile Home - Parts 2010**

**Mobile Homes - Rent 2015**

**Mobile Homes - Sale 2020**

**Mobile Home  
Rent 2015**

**A 55+**, 2BR/2BA Mobile  
Home in Indianwood, 2 golf  
courses, partially furn., w/d,  
\$550 mo. or sale \$25,000.  
(772)341-6617

**BEST VALUE  
ON MARKET!**

Newly remodeled 3BR/1.5BA  
(or) 2BR/1BA situated on very  
clean equestrian ranch - 14  
minutes from town center.  
Please No Pets. Call for move-  
in special M-F: 863-467-9800

**BUCKHEAD RIDGE** - Dbl. Wide  
2 BR, 2 BA, C/Air. \$500 mo.  
3 BR, 2 BA, C/Air. \$600 mo.  
No pets. (863)763-4031

**HWY 441 SE** - 1/1 Includes  
electric and direct tv \$750  
mo. + Security  
(561)723-6183

**LARKE LAKES**- 2BR/1BA,  
\$550 month & \$300 sec.  
dep. Call (863)467-2156 or  
(863)634-7126

**MOBILE HOME FOR RENT**  
2/2, \$610 mo., 1st, last  
& security, 1st Month Free!  
(863)983-8106

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

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**Public Notices 5005**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR  
OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CASE NO. 2009-CA-80  
DIVISION: Civil Division

LIVE OAK TRUST, INC.,  
A Florida Corporation  
Plaintiff  
v.  
JEAN LOUIS SAINT  
Defendants

**NOTICE OF ACTION  
CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE**

TO: JEAN LOUIS SAINT  
3002 SHOMA DRIVE  
WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33414

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Com-  
plaint for Foreclosure of Mortgage in-  
volving real estate located in  
Okeechobee County, Florida, and le-  
gally described as follows:

The W 1/2 of the W 1/2 of the S 1/2 of  
the N 1/2 of Tract 10 Section 25  
Township 34 South, Range 33 East,  
Okeechobee County, Florida, accord-  
ing to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat  
Book 4, Pages 3 A-D, inclusive of the  
Okeechobee County Public Records.

Strap Number(s):  
1-25-34-33-0A00-0001-E000

has been filed against you and you are  
required to serve a copy of your writ-  
ten defenses, if any, to it on KENNETH  
M. JONES, of Moody, Jones, Ingino &  
Morehead, P.A., Attorneys for Plaintiff,  
whose address is 1333 S. University  
Drive, Suite 201, Plantation, Florida  
33324, on or before 4/21/2009, and  
file the original with the Clerk of this  
Court either before service on the  
Plaintiff's attorney or immediately  
thereafter; otherwise, a default will be  
entered against you for the relief de-  
manded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court  
on 3/18/2009.

SHARON ROBERTSON  
CLERK OF THE COURT  
By: Kimberly Samos  
As Deputy Clerk

Moody, Jones, Ingino & Morehead, P.A.  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
1333 S University Drive, #201  
Plantation, FL 33324  
(954) 473-6605  
KENNETH M. JONES  
Florida Bar No. 142618  
314184 ON 3/22/2009

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR  
OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION  
CASE NO. 47-2008-CA-000454

NATIONAL CITY BANK SUCCESSOR BY  
MERGER TO HARBOR FEDERAL SAV-  
INGS BANK

# Golfing

Continued From Page 1

would have a chance to win. He secured the win with a five foot par putt on the 18th green. "The first day wasn't too good but the second day I finally got everything figured out and played a lot better. I worked on my game Saturday and practiced and hit a few balls. That really helped," he stated.

Kodi plays on a state level golf tour called the Florida junior tour. He also plays different summer tours in South Florida. He has played top courses like the Marisol golf club in Palm Beach Gardens where they played the PGA tour Honda Classic tournament two years ago, the Harmony Preserve,

and the PGA National course. His father said he has gotten a lot of enjoyment watching his son play the game, "I'm just proud of him and the way he has carried his golf level. What I'm most extremely proud of is his etiquette and his manners. His mother and I are complimented on how well mannered and respectful he is." Kodi wants to continue golf until the collegiate level and beyond. He currently is home schooled so he can spend more time on the golf course. He routinely plays five or six hours each day to hone his skills.

"I enjoy it thoroughly, I've always enjoyed it. Next year at OHS, I want to make it to regional and hopefully State," he said. "I enjoy it every day. There is a thrill to playing, its always struck me as something I've loved to do. It's a



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
**Kodi tees off as his father looks on.**

challenge to get better." Kodi thanked his mom and dad for taking him to tournaments every month and for taking him to private lessons with a golf pro in Palm Beach County.

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# Bank

Continued From Page 1

other side of an arched side door leading to the one story section on the east side of the building. The wooden and wire mesh tellers' cages are pushed against one wall. The floor is a patterned tile. In the rear of the main room is the bank vault which was used for only about two and half years.

A glowering lion head appears in the center of the arched pediment above the vault door. Under the lion's head, written in black letters, is the name, "W. J. Connors." Mr. Connors was a land speculator who built Connors Highway, a 1920s toll road that connected Okeechobee and western Palm Beach County. Evidently he was also connected with the bank. The vault door itself bears the inscription "The Mosler Safe Company" in gold letters.

To the rear of the main room is smaller room which may have been used for storage. A wooden staircase leads from the main room to a second floor room which spans the width of the rear of the building. This room was probably some sort of office or meeting room and contains a fireplace at one end. In a closet beside the fireplace is a metal gate which may have guarded the vault during working hours. It bears the words "Bank of Okeechobee" and "Mos-

ler Safe Company" in gold letters. *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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Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

Lowery Markham looks over the interior of the old Bank of Okeechobee building on the corner of Park Street and N.W. fifth Avenue. The once elegant building shows the effects of time but is still structurally sound.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

This teller's cage once served customers at the Bank of Okeechobee during the mid 1920s when the bank occupied the yellow brick building at the corner of Park Street and N.W. Fifth Avenue.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda  
Notice the ornate carvings on the Bank Vault.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

It is not known if Mr. Connors held a position at the bank, but we do know Mr. Connors was a land speculator who built Connors Highway, a 1920s toll road that connected Okeechobee and western Palm Beach County.

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# Local Country Club hosts club championship

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

Three players defended their club championship at the Okeechobee Golf and Country Club last weekend in the annual golf tournament.

Jim Waldau won the men's competition with a score of 154, 10 over par for the two day tournament. Juanita White won the ladies championship with a two day total of 183. Kodi Stephen won the junior championship

with a 21 over par score of 165.

The country club is a par 72 course. Ronnie White, 164, Ron Smet, 105 (gold tee) Maurice Desaulnier, 164 (gold tee A flight) and John Diefenbach (seniors) also won their divisions at the tournament.

Ladies Champion Juanita White said the conditions were tough, with high winds and cold temperatures. She said she tried to focus more and that helped her compete.

"I was one stroke behind after Saturday, and the key for me

was not getting frustrated. If you have one bad hole, that can lose a tournament for you," she commented.

White said her double bogey on the fifth hole Saturday put her behind the eight ball. She explained her closest opponent scored a nine on that same hole on Sunday, and that basically was the difference in the tournament.

"Golf is definitely a mental game, you have to be strong mentally and not get frustrated," she mentioned.

Waldau shot 80 on Saturday and 74 on Sunday to easily eclipse the field by 10 strokes. John Diefenbach finished second. He was consistently good with an 81 on Saturday and an 83 on Sunday. Two holes hurt him, the eighth hole on Sunday where he scored six, and the 12th hole where he carded a seven. Ronnie White finished in a tie for second overall at 164. He shot 84 on Saturday and 80 on Sunday.

Waldau said the first round was pretty competitive as he held only a one or two stroke lead for most of the round. He was able to stretch that out on Sunday.

"The second day I played tee to green really well. I made only one or two birdies but had a lot of birdie putts. I was satisfied and happy about winning. Sometimes you just play better than the other

guys," he stated.

This was Waldau's third club championship. He did win the championship in 2003 and 2004.

Juanita White shot a 92 on Saturday and a 91 on Sunday. Her total of 183 was five strokes better than D. Marshall.

In the junior division Stephen rallied from seven strokes down to win by one stroke. He noted it was an exciting day, "It felt pretty good, it was exciting. I was surprised that I made the comeback that I did," he said. "Every time I win it feels better because it was more of a challenge."

Stephen has won three junior club championships in a row at the Okeechobee Golf and Country Club.

Michael Watson was the runner up in the junior division. He shot 79 on Saturday and had a clubhouse lead of eight strokes. However he struggled with a score of 87 on Sunday. Watson struggled on three holes, the seventh, ninth, and 16th on Sunday where he recorded a score of seven strokes.

Waldau Junior Golf will hold two prestigious golf tournaments

in the next few weeks. On April 25, they will sponsor the Okeechobee County Junior Championship. It will be held at the Okeechobee

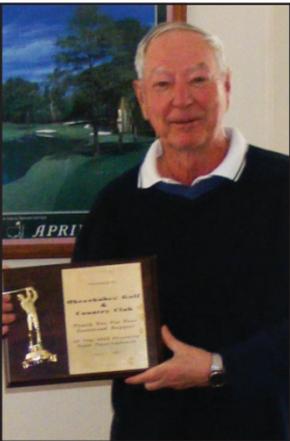
Golf and Country Club. On May 23, they will sponsor the Senior Junior Championship also at the Country Club.



Submitted photos  
Ronnie White scored 164 and won his division.



Ron Smet scored 105 for the Gold Tee Champ award.



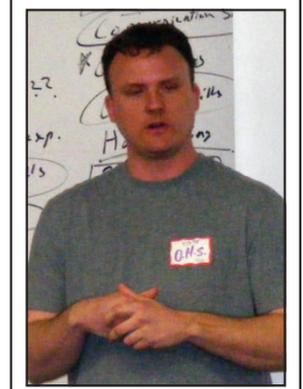
John Diefenbach scored 164 for the Senior Champ award.



Jim Waldau scored 154 for two-days Champ.



Juanita White Ladies scored 183 for the Ladies Champ title.



Submitted photo/OHS

### Accounting

Brad Jackson, a friend of Sean Downing, assistant principal of OHS, spoke to Mr. Roehms' OHS Accounting class on Friday, March 20. He is an accountant with Marathon Oil Company in Ohio and is in Okeechobee on vacation. During his hour-long discussion with Accounting 1 & 2 classes, he informed the students of his career path and his various job duties.



## RAPE

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This publication was made possible by the Rape Crisis Program Trust Fund, administered by the State of Florida, Department of Health (DOH)

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Submitted photo/OHS

### Students of the Week

Osceola Middle School Students of the Week are: Brittany Baker, Kain Sarros, Jordan Watts, Damian Deck, Emily Crews, Sierra Storey, Sierra Taylor, Alexandra Torres, Brandon Breland.

### School News in Brief

**Peace Lutheran hosts kindergarten open house**

Parents of young children eligible for kindergarten during the 2009-10 school year are invited to a Kindergarten Open House at Peace Lutheran Preschool and Kindergarten. Parents may examine the curriculum, view the classroom and meet the teacher from 3:30 until 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 15. Peace Lutheran is located at 750 N.W. 23rd Lane. Appointments may be made on an individual basis for those who cannot attend by calling the school office at 863-763-7566. Refreshments will be served.



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