

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 100 No. 89

Sunday, July 26, 2009

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School board considers budget ... Page 12

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Day of the American Cowboy: Cattle drive, rodeo honor heritage



Okeechobee News/Katrina Elsen
 Okeechobee celebrated the Day of the Cowboy on Saturday, starting with a cattle drive (photos above and below) from Flagler Park in downtown Okeechobee to the Agri-Civic Center on State Road 70. The events were organized by the Okeechobee County Cattlemen's Association and Okeechobee Main Street. One participant (photo at right) got a lot of attention for riding an ox instead of a horse. 17-year-old Kyle Kodrowsky from the Florida Sheriffs' Boys Ranch said the Jake (the ox) was originally part of a pair of oxen used to pull a wagon. When the other ox died, they decided to try putting a saddle on Jake. At the Agri-Civic Center, The Day of the Cowboy celebration continued with a barbecue cookoff, mounted shooting demonstration and a ranch rodeo. For more on these events, see the Wednesday edition of the Okeechobee News.



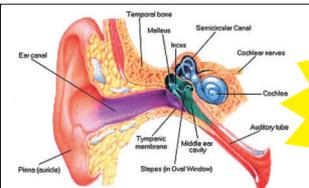
Vote early for special Senate election

Portions of Okeechobee County will have a Special Senate Election Tuesday, Aug. 4 to elect a new state senator to replace Senator Ken Pruitt who is retiring from the Senate before he completes his term. The special election includes

all of Martin County and parts of Palm Beach, St. Lucie, Indian River and Okeechobee counties. In Okeechobee County the election involves only three precincts - Precincts 5 and 15, both located at VFW Post 10539, 3912 U.S. 441

S.E. and Precinct 9 at New Testament Baptist Church 535 N.E. 28th Ave. Early voting begins Monday, July 27 and will continue through Saturday, August 1 at the Supervisor of Elections Office, 307 N.W. Second St. across from the historic

courthouse. Early voting hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. To request a ballot by mail or get more information, call the elections office at 863 763 4014 or go to www. VoteOkeechobee.com.



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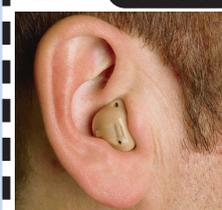
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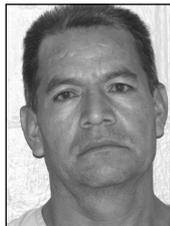


AUDIBEL
 Hearing Care Centers

Perez gets 10-year prison sentence

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

An Okeechobee man charged with hitting another man in the head with a claw hammer entered a guilty plea in circuit court this week and was subsequently sentenced to prison.



Anastacio Dominguez Perez

Anastacio Dominguez Perez, 48, S.W. Second Way, entered into a plea deal with the state Tuesday, July 21, and was found guilty of attempted first degree murder by Circuit Court Judge Lawrence Mirman.

Judge Mirman then sentenced him to 10 years in prison. Perez was looking at a maximum prison term of 30 years.

Although he will serve no probation, the native of Mexico could face deportation.

Perez was also ordered to pay court costs and fees totaling \$1,095.

Perez was arrested April 4 after he attacked Jorge Vasquez Flores with a claw hammer, according to arrest reports by Detective Sergeant Brad Stark of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO).

In that report Sgt. Stark stated that Perez told him that he hit Mr. Flores many times because he wanted him dead.

Mr. Flores has apparently recovered and is doing well.

The arrest report states Mr. Flores went into the home where Perez was living and began arm wrestling with a man identified as Pancho. For some reason, Mr. Flores became angry and threw a beer bottle at Perez. Perez then picked up a claw hammer and struck the victim in the head and about the body.

Both men were apparently intoxicated. Perez will receive credit for the 109 days he has already served in jail.

In another plea deal heard by Judge Mirman Tuesday, Shelby Ramon Willis was found guilty of the sale of cocaine and possession of cocaine with intent to sell. Those charges stem from a

Nov. 19, 2008 arrest. Judge Mirman sentenced him to a term of 36 months in prison. He will also have to pay court costs and fees totaling \$720.

Willis, 26, of Belle Glade, was also found guilty of possession of cocaine with intent to sell based on a May 20, 2008 arrest. He was also sentenced to 36 months in prison on that conviction, and was ordered to pay court costs and fees on this conviction totaling \$595.

Both sentences are to run concurrently. His driver's license will also be suspended for a period of two years.

Willis was facing a maximum sentence of 15 years on each charge.

Upon his release from prison, Willis will not be required to serve probation.



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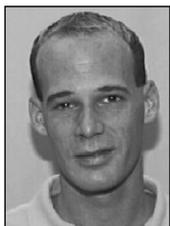
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Okeechobee Most Wanted

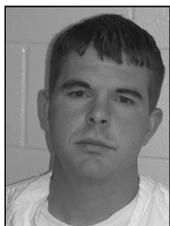
The following people are among Okeechobee's Most Wanted persons. There are active warrants for each of them. The criteria for making Okeechobee's Most Wanted top five is based on the severity of the crime in conjunction with the age of the warrant.

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.

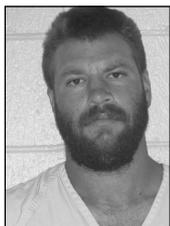
Brandon Wayne Ellis, DOB 4/11/1984, 5 ft, 6 in., VOP - Grand Theft Auto, Burglary structure, grand theft.



William David Helms



Brandon Ellis



Jesse Lyng



Felicia Pringle

William David Helms, DOB 2/11/1977, 5 ft 11 in - Third Degree Grand Theft.

Jesse James Lyng, DOB 2/9/1983, 6 ft, 1 in, 210 lbs - Possession Carisoprodol, Resisting w/o violence.

Felicia Jean Pringle - DOB - 7/23/1987, 5 ft 5 in, 130lbs - VOP - Grand theft, possession of hydrocodone, possession Alprazolam.

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Public Forum/Speak Out

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

Gas prices

The gas in Ft. Pierce is 2.37; West Palm Beach 2.39. Okeechobee big dogs, you have finally done it. We have to work out of town to make a living, and we shop, eat, go to the doctors, the hospitals and now we can buy all our gas over there also. Tell me, what roads are being worked on with all that gas taxes that you are getting?

• I travel from Vero to Ft. Myers with my job. Gas in LaBelle is \$2.64 a gallon. I can't see gas tax as the blame for such a huge gap. I get it before I leave Vero or in Ft. Myers at \$2.39.

Wild horses

• These horses should be left in the wild. They have a \$25 adoption fee, WOW anyone can go get one then after a few months turn it loose. I know several people who have adopted these mustangs over the last few years and they have yet to see anyone from the BLM at all. Two mustangs that I know of were turned to pasture and almost dead when found were BLM horses and if they had been checked on them as they say then they would have never fallen into harm's way.

• I know someone who adopted a horse five years ago, and the BLM people did come to check on the horse -- which did great -- twice during the year, both times unannounced. After the first year, the adopter was given title to the horse. The adoption program can be done properly and work, but the way the economy is all the government offices are hurting for funds. If they have dropped the adoption fee from \$125 to \$25, that tells you they are having trouble finding homes for the horses. And if someone can't even afford the \$125, how are they going to afford to feed and take care of the horse?

• I understand that they round up the mustangs to thin the herds so that they don't over populate and starve to death. But it seems to me that it would be kinder to just shoot them where they stand than to put them through all the stress of being rounded up, sedated for vet checks and hauled across the country just to wind up starving to death in someone's pasture. It would also be a lot less expensive for the taxpayers. If the program doesn't have enough funding to check up on the horses the way it is supposed to, then they should just discontinue it and find other ways to keep the wild horse population at a manageable level.

Impact fees

• I am glad to see that both the county and the city have rejected the idea of suspending the impact fees. Those fees make growth and new construction pay for the costs associated instead of sticking the taxpayer with them. I can see giving a new business a tax break if they will employ a certain number of people, and we already have a way for the local governments to do that. But we need to keep the impact fees in place. As for construction of new housing, we don't need more new housing to add to the already vacant housing all over the place. More housing will make it even harder to sell what is already sitting empty. For once the county commissioners and city councilmen stood up to the pressure and I am glad they did.

• What a shameful day at the county commissioner meeting. One commissioner takes the work that staff has done that justifies not stopping the impact fees and ignores it. If those impact fees are not collected the tax payers will be the ones who have to make it up in the end. When zero out of five counties show no improvement in construction by stopping the impact fees, what would make you

think that Okeechobee would be any different? Thank you Hoover and Domer for looking at the facts and trying to be fair to everyone and not just looking out for one special group. Stopping impact fees will not boost our economy and will only end up costing all tax payers in the end.

• It took so long for our local elected officials to grow backbones and vote in the

impact fees, we need to fight to keep them now. Those fees protect the taxpayers. Before impact fees, the developers made the big bucks and left the taxpayers to foot the bill for the additional expenses that their developments created.

Lawn mower thefts

• I had a lawn mower stolen a few years back. I've been a little more worried about these trash night sifters that drive up and down the streets looking through outgoing trash. I didn't mind it until back in May. I came out to my front patio to find a man holding my \$80 cooler that I had just rinsed out and left to dry on the steps. I asked him if I could help him find his way back to his truck, and he asked if I was throwing the cooler away. I said "does it look like I'm throwing it away?" No reply. I took a picture of his tag, and asked him not to stop by in the future. I understand some people are looking for items they might be able to use or sell in the trash, but there are boundaries when coming up onto someone's property and if you're going to sift through peoples trash, don't throw it all over the place and then leave. I have seen this a lot lately.

• Okeechobee County officials are warning the public about a rash of lawn mower thefts. I heard a rumor that they ship them out of the county, as they used to do with stolen cars. Be on the lookout if you have an expensive lawn mower!

• As an alternative to the expensive lawn mowers that are being stolen, I have a self operating, "riding" lawn mower that no one will steal. It even has an anti-theft device built in since he runs away if anyone gets close. He also has a pretty mean kick. The only problem is that the self-fertilizing device does not evenly spread the fertilizer over the yard, and if you leave the gate open my "lawn mower" will wander out and mow anywhere else the grass looks greener.

• These lawn mower thefts make me appreciate my old push mower. It's great exercise and I don't have to worry about anyone stealing it.



EMS fees

• As a homeowner who does not own a business, I can still understand the complaints from the business folks who think it is unfair to charge the EMS tax on their business, since they and all of their employees and probably their customers too, already pay the EMS tax on their homes. Same for the churches. The churchgoers already pay the EMS tax on their homes, why on the church too? But to really be fair you would have to charge per person. So a house with 10 people living in it should pay more than a house with one person, since the 10 people are more likely to need EMS. And that is not practical and will not happen.

• As I understand it, we were using the landfill money to help pay for the Emergency Medical Services. They do charge when you call the ambulance, but Medicaid and even insurance companies will only pay a certain amount and it does not cover the actual cost of keeping the EMS service open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The landfill tipping fees are down because there are more landfills available and that means more competition. And people are throwing less stuff away as they have to make do with what they have as they can't afford new. So that means they either have to cut the service or find a new revenue source. I would rather pay the \$75 or \$100 a year than face losing the EMS service. Like others have said, I hope I never have to call them but I sure want them to get here on the double if I do call them.

• We have 10 percent unemployment in this county. People are losing their homes because we can't afford the mortgage. People are having to move in with family members and friends or they would be homeless. And what does the county do for us to improve the situation? They tax us some more. Well you can't get blood from a turnip. And I don't know how they think they will get more taxes from people who are already broke.

• Instead of paying the county EMS tax, why doesn't the city have their firefighters train as EMTs too and then they could handle the emergency medical calls in the city limits.



OKEECHOBEE NEWS

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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 the prominence it deserves.
- To provide a right to reply to those we write about.
- To treat people with courtesy, respect and compassion.



Community Calendar

Sunday

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

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

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

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

Monday

Foster Parent Orientation will be hosted by the Hibiscus Children's Center on the last Monday of every month from 6 until 7 p.m. The orientation is for those interested in fostering or adopting in Okeechobee County. It will be at the IRSC Okeechobee Campus, 2229 N.W. Ninth Ave. For information, call the Foster Care Program at 1-800-403-9311.

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

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

meeting.

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

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

Tuesday

Civil Air Patrol set to meet

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

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

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

New A.A. Meeting in Basinger: There is now an A.A. meeting in Basinger on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Basinger Christian Brethren Church on 700-A, north

off U.S. 98. Beginners are welcome.

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

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

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

Family History Center meets from 1 until 5 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 310 S.W. Sixth St. Anyone interested in finding who your ancestors are is welcome to attend. For information, call The Family History Center at 863-763-6510 or Richard Smith at 863-261-5706 for special appointments.

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.

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

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. 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.

Freedom Ranch Al-Anon 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.

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 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.

New Beginnings **Narcotics Anonymous** meets at The Gathering Church, 735 SW 24th Ave, at 7 p.m. in the youth building behind the church. For information, call Monika at 801-3244 or Rocy at 610-0975. information call 863-357-3053.

Reflections from the Pulpit

'Growing up, not old'

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

The first day of school our professor introduced himself and challenged us to get to know someone we didn't already know. I stood up to look all around, when a gentle hand touched my shoulder. I turned around to find a wrinkled, little old lady beaming up at me with a smile that lit up her entire being. She said, "Hi handsome, my name is Rose. I'm 87 years old. Can I give you a hug?"

I laughed and enthusiastically responded, "Of course you may."

She gave me a giant squeeze.

"Why are you in college at such a young, innocent age?" I asked.

She jokingly replied, "I'm here to find me a rich husband, get married and have a couple of kids."

"No, seriously," I asked.

I was curious what might have motivated her to be taking on this challenge at her age.

"I always dreamed of having a college education and now I'm getting one!"

After class we walked to the student union building and shared a chocolate milk shake. We became instant friends. Every day for the next three months we would leave class together and talk nonstop. I was always mesmerized listening to this "time machine"

as she shared her wisdom and her experience with me. Over the course of the year, Rose became a campus icon and she easily made friends wherever she went. She loved to dress up and she reveled in the attention bestowed upon her from the other students.

She was living it up. At the end of the semester we invited Rose to speak at our football banquet. I'll never forget what she taught us. She was introduced and stepped up to the podium. As she began to deliver her prepared speech, she dropped her three by five cards on the floor. Frustrated and a little embarrassed she leaned into the microphone and simply said, "I'm sorry I'm so jittery, I gave up beer for Lent and this whiskey is killing me! I'll never get my speech back in order so let me just tell you what I know."

As we laughed she cleared her throat and began.

"We do not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing."

"There are only four secrets to staying young, being happy and achieving success. You have to laugh and find humor every day. You've got to dream. When you lose your dreams, you die. We have so many people walking around who are dead and don't even know it! There is a huge difference between growing older and growing up. If you are 19 years old and lie in bed for one full year and don't do one productive thing, you will turn 20 years old. If I am 87 years

old and stay in bed for a year and never do anything, I will turn 88. Anybody can grow old. That doesn't take any talent or ability. The idea is to grow up by always finding opportunity in change. Have no regrets.

"The elderly usually don't have regrets for what we did, but rather for things we did not do. The only people who fear death are those with regrets."

She concluded her speech by courageously singing "The Rose." She challenged each of us to study the lyrics and live them out in our daily lives. At the year's end Rose finished the college degree she had begun all those years ago. One week after graduation Rose died peacefully in her sleep. Over 2,000 college students attended her funeral in tribute to the wonderful woman who taught by example that it is never too late to be all you can possibly be. When you finish reading this, please send this peaceful word of advice to your friends and family. The true story has been passed along in loving memory of Rose.

Remember, growing older is mandatory, growing up is optional. We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give. God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage. If god brings you to it, he will bring you through it.

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Obituaries

Rita Mae Taylor, 90

OKEECHOBEE — Rita Taylor, died July 23, 2009, at her home.

Born March 2, 1919 in Rhode Island to the late William and Anna Landry, she was a homemaker of the Baptist faith. She came to Okeechobee from Homestead 15 years ago. She loved Bingo and playing cards.

Mrs. Taylor was predeceased by her husband, Jack Taylor and her grandson, Troy Adams. She is survived by her son, Zachary Taylor (Sandra) of Biloxi; daughters, Elaine Sills (Jack) and Connie Stanley both of Okeechobee; 8 grandchildren; 18 great grandchildren and 2 great great grandsons.

Visitation will be 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday, July 26, 2009 at Bass Okeechobee Chapel. Graveside funeral services will be 11:30 a.m. Monday, July 27, 2009 at Palms Woodlawn Cemetery in Nararaja, Florida with Pastor Don Leon officiating.

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.

Thomas 'Tommy' O. Rimes, 66

OKEECHOBEE — Thomas 'Tommy' O. Rimes, died Thursday, July 23, 2009, at Florida Hospital in Lake Placid.

He was born November 17, 1942 in Arcadia, and was a member of the Sandy Baptist church in Arcadia. Mr. Rimes has been a resident of Okeechobee since 1966 and enjoyed spending time with family, horses, fishing and farming.

Tommy is preceded in death by his wife Mickey and sister Maxine. He is survived by his daughters Stephanie Davis (Willie) of Venice, Valerie Rimes of Okeechobee, Melanie "Pud" Acree (Mickey, Jr.) of Williston; eleven grandchildren, and 6 great grandchildren. He is also survived by his brother Mack Carver, Jr. (Joanne) of Ona; sisters Ayris Combs of North Ft. Myers, Nelbeth Williams of Donaldsonville, Ga.; as well as several nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends on Tuesday, July 28, 2009 in the Buxton Funeral Home chapel from 5-8 p.m. Services will be held graveside at the Fort Drum Cemetery on Wed. July 29, 2009 at 9 a.m.

In lieu of flowers the family asks for donations to be made to Hospice of Okeechobee, PO Box 1547, Okeechobee, FL 34973.

Friend may place online condolences at www.buxtonfuneralhome.com.

All arrangements are under the direction and care of the Buxton Funeral Home and Crematory.

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.



Jack M. Long, 86

OKEECHOBEE — Jack M. Long, died Thursday, July 23, 2009, at the Hamrick House of Hospice.

He was born on October 27, 1922 in Johnstown, Pa. to Merle M. Long and Elizabeth Faust. He was preceded in death by his first wife Jeanne Farrar and sister Wanda Heinz.

Mr. Long obtained a Master's degree from Penn State University, and retired after numerous years with the East Penn School District. He was actively involved with the Trombone Brass Choir in Emmaus Moravian Church, and was a life member of the Trinity United Church of Christ in Saxton, Pa. He served honorably in the United States Army Air Corp during WWII. Mr. Long was a member of the Masonic Lodge in Altoona, PA. He was the first musical director of the Okeechobee Community Theater and was also in the original Okeechobee Brass Quintets in which he played the Trombone. Mr. Long was a member of the Moose Lodge, enjoyed fishing, hunting and table tennis.

He is survived by his wife of 23 years, Janet; one son Jack (Shirley) Long of Forestville, Calif.; daughter Jill Tressel (Thomas) of Newtown, Pa; three Grandsons, Matthew Long (Megan) of Denver, Colo., Christopher Long of Santa Rosa, Calif., and James Tressel of Phil., Pa. Also surviving Sarah Tressel of Cambridge, Mass.; great grand-daughter Mallory Long of Denver, Colo.; and sister, Maxine Shea (Gordon) of Lake Worth, Fla. The family also acknowledges his being survived by his CAN and close family friend Maryanne Melchiorre. A memorial service will take place upon the completion of the Washington Crossing Veterans National Cemetery in Newtown, Pa.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Okeechobee P.O. Box 1548 Okeechobee, Florida 33497. Condolences may be made at www.buxtonfuneralhome.com.

All arrangements are under the direction and care of the Buxton Funeral Home.

Brahman Theatre

July 24th - July 30th **MOVIE LISTINGS**

For Info, Call 763-7202

THEATRE I: "THE PROPOSAL"
 Fri @ 7:00 & 9:00., Sat., Sun., Tues., Wed. & Thurs. @ 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00. Mon. @ 3:00 & 7:00. PG-13

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

THEATRE III: "HARRY POTTER"
 Fri @ 7:00 only, Sat., Sun., Tues., Wed. & Thurs. @ 2:00, 5:00 and 8:00 only, Mon @ 3:00 and 7:00 PG

Tickets: Adults - \$6.50 • Children 12 & under - \$5.00
 Senior Citizens - \$5.00 all movies • Matinees - \$4.50

Dianne Lyn Rennie, 57

OKEECHOBEE — Dianne L. Rennie, died at The Hamrick Home at Hospice of Okeechobee on July 23, 2009.

Dianne Lyn Burrell Rennie was born on Nov. 5, 1951 in Carthage, NY to the late John Burrell and the late Madeline Dionne Burrell Davidowski (Edward). Mrs. Rennie enjoyed writing, travel, gardening, playing cards and deep sea fishing.

Following graduation from E. Granby High School, E. Granby, CT, in 1969, Mrs. Rennie was briefly married to a three-year high school sweetheart, Vittie Latonie, in 1970, which ended amicably in 1972. Following high school, Mrs. Rennie attended the University of Hartford for computer-related courses.

Mrs. Rennie had a very distinguished 15-year sales career with Connecticut General Life Insurance Co. (CIGNA) in Hartford, CT and was transferred to San Diego, CA in 1977. She received many outstanding achievement awards as an Account Executive, in the employer and employee group benefits field. She and her husband William retired to Florida in 1995. Dianne also held a Florida Real Estate License.

She is survived by her loving husband, William Rennie, of 24 years (O.M.D.-"Oh My Darling"); and four adult step-children, William Rennie, III of Nevada City, Calif., Susan Rennie Ashton of Pocatello, Idaho, Geoffrey Rennie (Donna) of Colfax, Calif., and Matthew Rennie of Franklin, Tenn.; seven step-grand-children, Jennifer Ashton (Jeff), Samantha Hartley (Billy), Jessica Armstrong (Scott), Micha Ashton, Roseanna Rennie, Michael Rennie and Amanda Rennie; and three step-great grandchildren, Danny Spears, Adrien and Isabella Armstrong; one sister, Paula Burrell Siegel (Paul) of Clay, N.Y.; two brothers, Thomas Burrell of Okeechobee, and James Burrell (Donna) of Reno, Nev. Mrs. Rennie also leaves several Aunts and Uncles, (especially Doris Dionne Keddy of Carthage, N.Y.) and the late Earl Kimball of Okeechobee, Fla. who had jointly raised her, during their marriage, since the age of 12); In her younger years, she was raised by her late loving Grandmother Kitty Dionne of Carthage, N.Y.; Mrs. Rennie also leaves one niece, Tracey DeOrdio and one nephew, Travis DeOrdio (Tracie), both from upstate N.Y. and several cousins. She also leaves four like-step brothers and a like-step sister, Jeff Kimball (Barb), Crystal Kimball Loomis (Jeff) of Carthage, N.Y., Richard Parady of Rome, N.Y., David Parady Kimball (Sherina) of Orting, Wash., Jerry Kimball (Bonnie) of Mexico, N.Y. and a like-sister, Judy Burrell of Key West, Fla.. Mrs. Rennie also leaves her oldest living friend, former boss and lifetime mentor, from 1969, Carnie Ives Lincoln (Walter) of Mt. Tom, Conn.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Big Lake Cancer Center, 1115 N. Parrott Ave., Okeechobee, 34972 to assist our locally and medically uninsured who are undergoing cancer treatments, or Hospice of Okeechobee & The Hamrick Home, 411 SE 4th Street, Okeechobee, FL 34974.

A "Celebration of Life" service will be held at Church of Our Saviour, 200 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, FL by very dear friend and neighbor, Mr. John Campbell, and Fr. Edward Weiss 2 p.m., Wednesday, July 29, 2009.

Arrangements are entrusted to the care of Bass Funeral Home & Crematory.

Guest book may be signed at <http://www.bassokeechobeeffuneralhome@comcast.com/>.

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Candidate visits local summer camp

On Friday July 17, Wagon Wheel Horse Farm, had a special Graduation Day guest for lunch. Bill Ramos and his family visited the camp and enjoyed the children as they learned about horsemanship and computers.

Bill Ramos is the Democratic candidate for the Florida Senate, District 28 in the Special Election coming up on Aug. 4.

Wagon Wheel Horse Farm, LLC is located in Okeechobee and partnered with the Green Pages, LLC to host these unique summer camps. Wagon Wheel Horse Farm is owned and operated by Michelle Harper, a lifelong resident of Okeechobee with 25 plus years of horsemanship skills and is a member of the Certified Horsemanship Association of America. The



Submitted photo/Michelle Harper
Local Candidate Bill Ramos visited Wagon Wheel Horse Camp on Friday, July 17. He is joined by his wife Carlyn Ramos, Michelle Harper and Ray Worley while doing some shopping at Eli's Western Wear .

Farm specializes in basic riding lessons, pony rides and trail rides.

Okeechobee Livestock Market Report

July 20 and 21, 2009

	Med #1	Steers	Hftrs
Cows	200-250	142-145	
Breaking	\$48.00	\$50.00	250-300
Cutter	\$42.00	\$51.50	300-350
Canner	\$35.00	\$44.00	350-400
			400-450
			450-500
			550-600
			600-650
Monday	549	1231	
Tuesday	101	287	
Calves	4	14	
Cows	3	8	
Str	9	36	
Hftrs	6	39	
Bulls	672	1615	
Yrlngs			
Total			

Prices were pretty good this week, although numbers were done. Feeder calves were \$1-2.00 higher especially on 500-600# calves. Slaughter cows and bulls were steady to \$1 lower. Robbie Norvell topped the calf market this week with a high of \$1.65, bought by Curt Wilson. Ru Mar and Sy Hart topped the cow market with a high of 52.00, bought by Central. Jeff



Submitted photo/Michelle Harper
Children enjoy the Wagon Wheel Horse Farm during a recent visit from local Senate Candidate, Bill Ramos

Lotteries

Florida Lottery — Here are the numbers selected Thursday in the Florida Lottery: **Cash 3:** 2-5-3; **Play 4:** 8-5-1-2; **Fantasy 5:** 11-13-17-18-27; **Mega Money:** 7-14-18-29 MB 6; **Florida Lotto:** 4-10-11-17-18-29; **Powerball:** 4-6-16-22-32 PB11 x2. Numbers drawn Friday, **Cash 3:** 1-1-1; **Play 4:** 0-5-6-4.

Community Brief

Career Center

The One Stop Career Center, 209 S.W. Park St., has services available at no charge to help people in their search for the right employee or job. Web site www.tcjobs.org; or call 863-462-5350.



Sales:
Monday at 12 p.m.
Tuesday at 11 a.m.

Okeechobee Livestock Market
 U.S. 98 North, Okeechobee
(863) 763-3127

Okeechobee Cancer Center

Board Certified Radiation Oncologists

Alan S. Krimsley, M.D.



Dr. Krimsley graduated from Yale University and trained at New York University Medical Center.

Ronald H. Woody, M.D.



Dr. Woody graduated from the University of Florida and trained at University Hospital in Seattle and at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston.

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 (772) 468-3222

Okeechobee Cancer Center
 301 NE 19th Drive
 Okeechobee, FL
 (863) 357-0039

Pt. St. Lucie Cancer Center
 1780 SE Hillmoor Dr.
 Port St. Lucie, FL
 (772) 335-2115

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Community Service Through Journalism

PROPOSED MILLAGE LEVY:

OPERATING FUND:	
LOCAL EFFORT	5.571
DISCRETIONARY	0.748
ADDITIONAL DISCRETIONARY	0.250
DEBT SERVICE FUND:	0.000
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND:	1.500
TOTAL	8.069

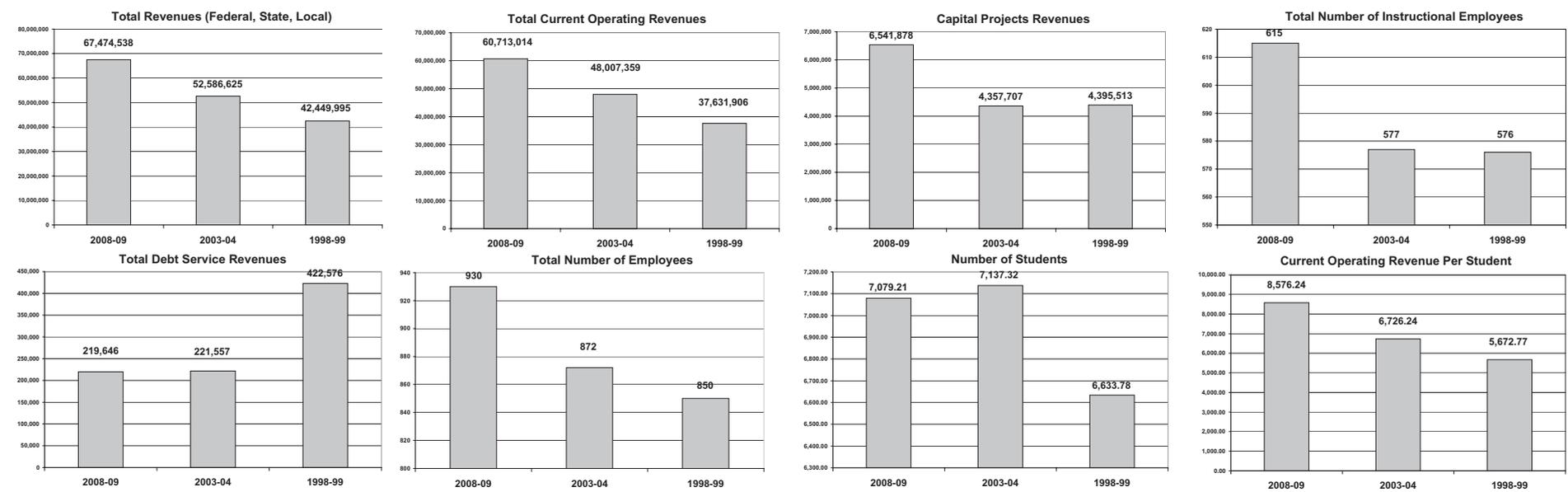
**BUDGET SUMMARY
OKEECHOBEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD**

**THE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET EXPENDITURES OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA ARE 2.26 PERCENT LESS THAN LAST YEAR'S
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES
Fiscal Year 2009-2010**

ESTIMATED REVENUES:	OPERATING GENERAL FUND	DEBT SERVICE FUND	CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	ALL FUNDS
FEDERAL SOURCES	50,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50,000.00
FEDERAL THROUGH STATE	175,000.00	0.00	0.00	12,692,879.43	12,867,879.43
STATE SOURCES	32,436,771.00	219,645.60	171,729.00	60,000.00	32,888,145.60
LOCAL SOURCES	13,281,145.00	0.00	3,024,630.00	1,056,702.82	17,362,477.82
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	186,502.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	186,502.74
TOTAL REVENUES	46,129,418.74	219,645.60	3,196,359.00	13,809,582.25	63,355,005.59
TRANSFERS IN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FUND BALANCE JULY 1, 2009	8,021,298.02	46,273.74	7,580,714.96	512,711.18	16,160,997.90
TOTAL REVENUES & BALANCES	54,150,716.76	265,919.34	10,777,073.96	14,322,293.43	79,516,003.49

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES:	OPERATING GENERAL FUND	DEBT SERVICE FUND	CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	ALL FUNDS
INSTRUCTION	31,631,207.35			6,363,563.62	37,994,770.97
PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES	1,935,069.80			1,330,609.40	3,265,679.20
INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA SERVICES	658,743.60			10,000.00	668,743.60
INST. & CURR. DEVELOPMENT SERV	645,117.91			676,877.81	1,321,995.72
INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF TRAINING SERV.	98,263.36			1,259,687.88	1,357,951.24
INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY	409,122.00			47,754.84	456,876.84
SCHOOL BOARD	665,571.00			0.00	665,571.00
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	1,633,666.21			194,888.53	1,828,554.74
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION	3,379,599.38			0.00	3,379,599.38
FACILITIES ACQUISITION/CONSTRUCTION	203,374.00		10,777,073.96	0.00	10,980,447.96
FISCAL SERVICES	416,490.28			0.00	416,490.28
FOOD SERVICE	0.00			3,808,121.02	3,808,121.02
CENTRAL SERVICES	363,527.60			0.00	363,527.60
PUPIL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	3,167,032.03			401,381.00	3,568,413.03
OPERATION OF PLANT	4,093,517.36			22,019.11	4,115,536.47
MAINTENANCE OF PLANT	1,323,790.27			0.00	1,323,790.27
ADMINISTRATIVE TECHNOLOGY SRVS	594,128.84			0.00	594,128.84
COMMUNITY SERVICES	342,500.00			0.00	342,500.00
DEBT SERVICE	0.00	217,718.75		0.00	217,718.75
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	51,560,720.99	217,718.75	10,777,073.96	14,114,903.21	76,670,416.91
TRANSFERS OUT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FUND BALANCE JUNE 30, 2010	2,589,995.77	48,200.59	0.00	207,390.22	2,845,586.58
TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND BALANCES	54,150,716.76	265,919.34	10,777,073.96	14,322,293.43	79,516,003.49

THE TENTATIVE, ADOPTED , AND/OR FINAL BUDGETS ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED TAXING AUTHORITY AS A PUBLIC RECORD



NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The Okeechobee County School Board will soon consider a budget for fiscal year 2009-2010. A public hearing to make a **DECISION** on the budget AND TAXES will be held on:

July 30, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

At

Okeechobee County School Board,
Room 303, 700 SW Second Avenue
Okeechobee, Florida 34974

Publish: 072609, Okeechobee News

NOTICE OF TAX FOR SCHOOL CAPITAL OUTLAY

The Okeechobee County School Board will soon consider a measure to impose a 1.500 mill property tax for capital outlay projects listed herein.

This tax is in addition to the school board's proposed tax of 6.569 mills for operating expenses and is proposed solely at the discretion of the school board.

The capital outlay tax will generate approximately \$2,864,630 to be used for the following projects:

CONSTRUCTION AND REMODELING

School Classroom Construction
Remodel School Locker Room

MAINTENANCE, RENOVATION, AND REPAIR

HVAC Replacements and Upgrades
Communications Cabling Projects
Paving Improvements
Drainage Improvements
Carpet Replacements
Floor Repairs/Replacements
Lighting Replacements and Upgrades
Electrical Upgrades
Window Replacement Projects
Boiler Replacements

MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES

Purchase of (6) School Buses

NEW AND REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT

District-Wide Furniture and Equipment
District-Wide Computer Hardware and Software
Playground Equipment

All concerned citizens are invited to a public hearing to be held on July 30, 2009 at 6:00 P.M., at the Okeechobee County School Board office, Room 303, 700 SW Second Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34974.

A **DECISION** on the proposed CAPITAL OUTLAY TAXES will be made at this hearing.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

20 years of service

Deputy public service director recognized

At the July 23, meeting of the Okeechobee County Commission, Chairman Clif Betts, left, honored Deputy Public Safety Director David McCain, right, for 20 years' service to the county. Mr. McCain started his career in architecture but changed his field to fire science. He came to Okeechobee County Fire/Rescue in May, 1989 as a firefighter/EMT. Since that time he has received his paramedic, fire-inspector, haz-mat technician, rescue diver, certified fire instructor, and flight-medical certification. He also has degrees in fire science and emergency medical technology. Mr. McCain was promoted to training officer in December, 2002 and promoted to deputy public safety director in March, 2008. He is also a part-time instructor for the Indian River State College Paramedic/EMT Department.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

Safe driver

Okeechobee County Commission Chairman Clif Betts, left, presents a certificate to John Bogaert, right, in recognition of 5 years of service to the county. Mr. Bogaert retired from GEM Industries in 2002 and works part-time driving Okeechobee County veterans to the West Palm Beach VA Hospital. He has previously worked as a machinist and served in the U.S. Army. The presentation took place at the Thursday, July 23, commission meeting.



Submitted photo

Water Safety Orientation

Water Safety Orientation Camp participants for the week of July 13-16, included Devin Hilliard, Dalton Hillard, Tristen Anderson, Cody Carden, Ares Hernandez, Jacob McKee, Trenton Gainer, Payton Byrd, Byron Byrd, Sebastian Dyals, Joshua Hiler and Sarah Leitner. The camp is sponsored by the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office and the NSW Trident. During the camp, children learn water safety and boating safety with training at the Okeechobee County Sports Complex pool, Lake Okeechobee and in the ocean. The camp also includes a visit to the UDT SEAL Museum in Fort Pierce.



Submitted photo

Okeechobee Forecast

Today: A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Partly cloudy, with a high near 91. Calm wind becoming east around 5 mph.

Tonight: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 11pm. Partly cloudy, with a low around 74. East southeast wind around 5 mph.

Extended Forecast

Monday: A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 91. Calm wind becoming east around 5 mph.

Monday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 74. East wind around 5 mph becoming calm.

Tuesday: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 91. East southeast wind around 5 mph.

Tuesday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 74. East southeast wind around 5 mph.

Sea Cadets

In the top photo, Sea Cadet campers in the Water Safety Orientation program, hosted by the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office Marine Unit, learned how to properly wear and use life jackets as part of the camp training. The training was put to the test when campers went to the ocean for boating safety drills. In the bottom photo, staying together and staying afloat is important if a boat capsizes. Children in the Water Safety Orientation program practiced this on land and then in the ocean as part of their week long training program.

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Roadshow Comes to Okeechobee!

By Jason DeLong
Treasure Hunters Roadshow
STAFF WRITER

Clean out your attics, closets and lock boxes, because the Roadshow is coming to **Okeechobee**. Roadshow experts are in town examining antiques, collectibles, gold and silver.

While the Roadshow will accept anything that's old, they will be focusing on gold and silver coins made before 1965, military items, toys and trains, musical instruments, pocket and wrist watches. Scrap gold is expected to be a popular category this week due to soaring gold prices.

"U.S. coins made before 1965 are most sought after by collectors. Coins made before 1965 are 90% silver and valuable because of the silver content or could be worth even more if one happens to be a rare date."

Expert buyers for the Roadshow have noticed a tremendous increase in the amount of gold coming to the Roadshow and for good reason. Record gold prices have Roadshow guests cashing in on broken jewelry or jewelry they don't wear anymore with our "fair and honest" purchase offers.

Got Gold? This week, visitors can cash in on antiques, collectibles, gold, silver, coins or just about anything that is old.

The Roadshow encourages anyone planning a visit to take a minute and examine their jewelry box or their lock box at the bank and gather anything that's gold. If a guest is not sure if something is gold, bring it anyway and the Roadshow staff will test it for free. Other gold items of interest include gold coins, gold ounces, gold proof sets and dental gold.

Other types of items Roadshow experts hope to see include old toys and train sets. Archie Davis, roadshow toy expert spoke about some of the top toys getting great offers. "Old tin windup toys from the late 1800's through the 1960's are in great demand now," said Davis, "Especially those that are character related. Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, the Flintstones or any character toys are sought. Old Buddy L toys from the 1920's to 1960's are in demand." Basically

any toys made before 1965 are wanted. Train sets made by Lionel, American Flyer, Marklin and others have the potential to fetch high prices. Davis also stressed, "Toys with boxes and in mint condition bring sensational prices. Most of the toys that

come to the Roadshow are not in perfect shape but can still bring good prices from collectors."

When expert Tom Fuller was asked what he enjoyed most about working at the Roadshow, he was quick to answer "Old coins and paper currency. For as



Above • Jane and JoAnn Meridith sit with a Roadshow expert. Along with some rare collectibles they cashed in a large bag of broken and unwanted gold and jewelry. The sisters left with checks totalling over \$425.00

long as I can remember I have been fascinated with collecting coins. I would go through the change in my parents grocery store looking for rare dates and errors. Once, I found a silver quarter that I sold for \$300.00. Not bad for an 8 year old."

Fuller went on to explain that any U.S. coins made before 1965 are most sought after by collectors. Coins made before 1965 are 90% silver and valuable because of the silver content or

"If you go to the Roadshow, you can cash-in your items for top dollar. Roadshow representatives will be available to assess and purchase your items at the Holiday Inn Express, Tuesday through Saturday in Okeechobee."

could be worth even more if one happens to be a rare date. "We help people sort through their coins for unique dates. We buy all types of coins at the Roadshow from wheat pennies to buffalo nickels, which are valuable from one coin to an entire truckload. See you at the Roadshow," said Fuller.

Highest prices paid for 1950's and 1960's Era Electric and Acoustic Guitars

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- Gretsch
- Rickenbacker
- National
- And Others

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Tuesday - Friday 9 AM - 6 PM and Saturday 9AM - 4PM

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Directions (863) 357-3529 Show Info (217) 636-7900

Is your family attic filled with old and forgotten memories?

Most pre-1964 bisque, china, paper mache, wood, and wax dolls are considered desirable by collectors.

Many toy cars, robots, Tonka and trains made before 1964 are wanted by International Collectors Association members as well.



Silver and Gold Prices Up During Poor Economy. All are welcome to this event. Admission is free.



The entire process only takes a few minutes

- Gather items of interest (as explained below) from your attic, garage, basement, etc. There is no limit to the amount of items you can bring
- No appointment necessary
- If interested in selling, we will consult our collector's database to see if a buyer exists. 90% of all items have offers in our database
- The offer is made on the spot on behalf of our collectors making the offer
- If you decide to accept the offer, we will pay you on the spot and ship the item to the collector. The collector pays all shipping and handling charges.
- You get 100% of the offer with no hidden fees

Gold and Coin Prices High, Cash In Now

"It's a modern day gold rush," said Roadshow President, Jeff Parsons.

Gold is now trading near 40 year highs, and you can cash in at the Treasure Hunters Roadshow. All types of gold are wanted, including gold coins, Kruggerands, Maple Leafs, and other gold bars, etc. All gold jewelry, including broken jewelry is accepted.

We have been directly involved in millions of dollars worth of rare cash and coin sales over the past 15 years.



Roadshow representative Eric Helms inspects a large gold and coin collection

Cash in with the power of the International Collectors Association. Members are looking for the following types of items!

• **COINS** Any and all coins made before 1965. This includes all silver and gold coins, dollars, half dollars, quarters, dimes, nickels and pennies. All conditions wanted!

• **GOLD & SILVER PRICES AT 40 YEAR HIGH!** for platinum, gold and silver during this event. Broken jewelry, dental gold, old coins, pocket watches, Kruggerands, Gold bars Canadian Maple Leafs, etc.

• **JEWELRY** - Gold, Silver, Platinum, diamonds, rubies, sapphires and all types of stones, metals, etc. Rings, bracelets, necklaces, all others including broken jewelry. Early costume jewelry wanted.

• **WATCHES & POCKET WATCHES** Rolex, Tiffany, Hublot, Omega, Chopard, Cartier, Philippe, Ebel, Waltham, Swatch, Chopard, Elgin, Bunn Special, Railroad, Illinois, Hamilton, all others.

• **TOYS, TRAINS & DOLLS** All types of toys made before 1965 including: Hot Wheels, Tonka, Buddy L, Smith Miller, Nylint, Robots, battery toys, Mickey Mouse, train sets, all gauges, accessories, individual cars, Marklin, American Flyer, Lionel, Hafner, all other trains, Barbie Dolls, GI Joe, Shirley Temple, Characters, German, all makers accepted.

• **MILITARY ITEMS, SWORDS** Civil War, Revolutionary War, WWI, WWII, etc. Items of interest include swords, badges, clothes, photos, medals, knives, gear, letters. The older the swords, the better. All types wanted.

• **ADVERTISING ITEMS** Metal and Porcelain signs, gas companies, beer and liquor makers, automobile, implements, etc.

Okeechobee County School Board considers budget

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee schools will have fewer dollars to spend in next year's budget. The near \$79.5 million plan includes a reduction in local taxes of close to \$1.5 million.

Despite the reductions the tax rate will increase by just over 4/10th of a mill to 8.069 mills.

Superintendent Dr. Patricia Cooper said the millage the local school board can control will not change this year. The increase is the local taxes that are required by the state.

"It is the state raising it, I want to be sure people know that," she told the Board.

Okeechobee schools will get less state aid per student, a reduction of nearly \$332 per child.

The County tax roll is down close to \$315 million from last year and that had a major impact on this year's spending plan.

Tax dollars for capital improvements were also reduced by just over \$1 million.

"We will collect less taxes largely due to the decrease in property values. As a taxpayer I'm going to be paying less this year," she said.

The district also expects enrollment to decline an estimated 248 students. Dr. Cooper said the Charter School in Brighton plans to add a sixth grade this year. The school could add 7th and 8th grade in the next few years further depleting local enrollment.

The state aid in the operating fund decreased by \$3.7 million. Overall revenue from local, state and federal sources, was reduced by just over \$4.42 million.

"We were expecting a huge reduction in revenue this year and here it is," Dr. Cooper noted.

The district will also pull more money from reserves this year. They still will have 3.9 percent in reserve accounts, however

the recommended level is five percent.

"Our allocations are bare bones. We will not have funds to increase this fund balance next year," she added.

There are no salary or benefit adjustments reflected in the proposed budget.

The capital projects to be finished are the addition to Seminole Elementary, the construction of the Okeechobee Achievement Academy, and completion of the MIS computer building.

The capital project budget also includes \$565,000 for the purchase of new buses, \$1.06 million for heating ventilation and air conditioner upgrades at Osceola Middle School.

A public hearing on the spending plan will be held on Thursday, July 30, at 6 p.m.

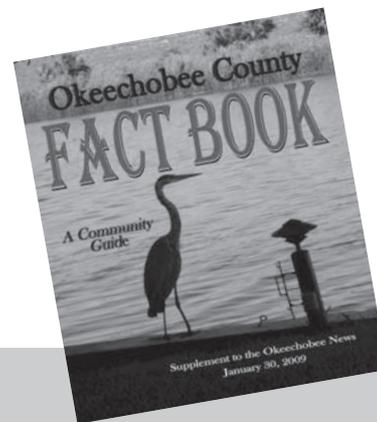
The Board also approved a memorandum of agreement with the Okeechobee County Education Association to change the Cafeteria Insurance Plan for both the instructional and Classified bargaining units. The district will provide all regular, full time instruction personnel who work 7.5 hours per day with the present level of coverage and benefits. The board contribution will decrease from \$315 to \$300 per employee. Union officials said a vast majority of employees voted in favor of the change.

There are four instructional and eight non instructional vacancies in the district.

Community Brief

Elder Affairs SHINE program seeks volunteers

The Florida Department of Elder Affairs, along with the Area Agency on Aging Palm Beach/Treasure Coast, invites you to join the award-winning SHINE team of volunteers. This program helps elders make informed decisions about Medicare, health insurance and prescription drug plans. SHINE volunteers provide individual counseling and assistance to elders and their caregivers about Medicare, Medicaid, Medicare plan choices, long-term care planning and prescription discount drug programs. Volunteers may also make educational presentations to community groups and participate in local health fairs, senior fairs and other outreach and educational events. If you would like additional information about this exciting opportunity and would like to become a SHINE volunteer in Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, and St. Lucie Counties, please call our Elder Helpline at the Area Agency on Aging at 1-866-684-5885.



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Post community calendar listings online

The www.newszap.com Web site now has improved community calendars.

To access the community calendar online go to www.newszap.com and click on the name of your community (such as "Okeechobee.") That will take you to your community homepage. Scroll down to the bottom of the screen for the community events calendar—where it states "Okeechobee Events Calendar."

Click on the calendar and you will see a listing of community events scheduled for the coming days. For more information about any of these events, click on the event name. You can even click on a map for the event location.

Okeechobee News staffers started the calendar with some of the items submitted for publication in the paper. Local clubs and organizations are encouraged to add their own special events and meetings.

You do not have to register as a member to use this web site or to use the calendar. To submit an item for the calendar, click on "submit event" at the top of the calendar screen.

To start, you must fill out the Authentication window. This is a security measure. Just type in the characters you see in the window, then click on "click here to confirm."

Next put in your name and email address. This will not appear on the calendar. It is for administrative use only, should there be a question about a calendar listing.

Next put in event details. There is a spot for the title of the event and then a block for

a description and any other information you wish to share. There is plenty of space for all the details you want to include.

Next you set the event date. You may have already put the date in your narrative paragraph—it's fine to duplicate the information. But the date must be set on the "event date" in order to place the event on the calendar.

There is a spot to set the start and ending time for the event. If there is no set ending time, click on "no end time."

If it is a recurring event, you can set it up to run repeatedly. First check if recurring, then check daily, weekly or monthly. If you check weekly, a screen will ask you to check which day of the week. If monthly, it will ask you to set which day of the month, such as "first Wednesday." Finally it will ask "recurs until" and you must set an ending date. For example, you may want to run your listing through the end of the year or until the date your club has their annual reorganizational meeting.

The "click here to confirm dates" option lets you double check the dates you have set.

Next the calendar asks if there is advance registration.

As you scroll down, the calendar will ask you in which communities you want the event advertised. You may only want it listed in Okeechobee, or you may want to also include other nearby communities such as Buckhead Ridge.

Next comes "location information."

You can skip the "look up location" option—this will only apply to locations that are already in the computer data base.

Entering location information allows the data base to offer a map with the listing.

Finally there is a place to put in event contact names, phone numbers and email addresses.

If you are in a hurry, you don't have to fill out all of the options—just the ones with an orange asterisk.

When you are finished hit "submit event." If you missed any of the required fields, the screen will tell you which ones.

Your calendar item goes immediately on the calendar.

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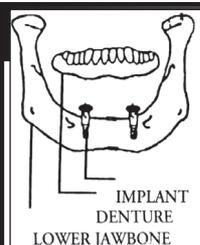
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Report: Charge against Bohannan founded

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

A state investigation revolving around a female corrections officer caught having sex with a male inmate has been concluded and the accusation has been substantiated.

A report released by the Department of Corrections (DOC) indicates that Betty Bohannan was having sex with convicted murderer Michael C. Skinner in her office at the

Okeechobee Correctional Institution (OCI). In that investigative report by the Office of the Inspector General, four male officers walked into Bohannan's OCI office and caught the couple. According to statements by two of the officers, when they walked into Bohannan's office at 5:15 p.m. on May 8 she was heard to say "Oh, ..., we're busted!"

All of the men -- Classification Supervisor James Licata, Sergeant James Pittman, Ser-

geant Dustin Durrance and Captain Charles Vandercook -- stated in their reports that when they tried to open the door to Bohannan's office it was locked. Capt. Vandercook then knocked on the door twice but when no one answered he opened the door with a key. According to their statements, when they opened the door they saw "inmate Skinner attempting to pull his boxer shorts up. Inmate Skinner had no other clothing on and Officer Bohannan was attempting to pull up her pants; her boots were off and her hair was in disarray."

In his statement, Capt. Vandercook said he had received information about Bohannan meeting with Skinner prior to May 8.

On Saturday, May 9, Deputy Donald Ellis and Detective William Maerki, both from the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), were called to Raulerson Hospital at 9:25 p.m. Their reports indicated that Bohannan was at the hospital demanding that a sexual assault kit be performed to prove that she had not had sex with anyone.

In his report, Deputy Ellis stated that Bo-

hannan, 34, said that two male inmates were in her office moving a desk when the door to her office was accidentally closed. She told the deputy that the door locks automatically when closed. She went on to tell the deputy that her captain and two other officers came into the office and accused her of having sex with the inmates. Detective Maerki wrote in his report that because there was no ongoing criminal investigation the sexual assault kit could not be performed.

According to the reports by the four men, the only inmate in her office was Skinner.

Bohannan was "extraordinarily dismissed" May 11. The investigative report goes on to state that Skinner refused to make a statement, and attempts to contact Bohannan for a statement were unsuccessful.

JoEllyn Rackleff, a DOC public information officer in Tallahassee, said Bohannan had 21 days to file an appeal but did not do so.

Skinner, 31, was sentenced to life in prison following his 2003 conviction of first degree murder in Polk County.

Women charged with drug possession

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

Two women were arrested on felony drug charges after they reportedly ran a stop sign early Friday morning.

Arrested were Michelle L. Henderson, 37, S.E. 42nd Place, and Keyha M. Osceola, 22, S.E. 38th Ave. Henderson was charged with possession of a controlled substance (xanax) and possession of a controlled substance (roxycodeone). She was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail under a bond of \$10,000. Osceola was charged with possession of a controlled substance (xanax). Her bond was set at \$5,000.

An arrest report by the Okeechobee



Michelle L. Henderson



Keyha M. Osceola

Narcotics Task Force indicates that a traffic stop was initiated after a gold Mazda sedan ran a stop sign at the intersection of S.E. 34th Ave. and U.S. 441 S.E. shortly after midnight. The car was reportedly being operated by Henderson.

According to the report four 30mg roxycodeone pills were found on Henderson, as well as two xanax tablets.

Then, during a pat down, a task force detective allegedly found three xanax tablets and one partial xanax tablet on Osceola.

During a search of the Mazda 11, 30mg roxycodeone pills were found in a cigarette cellophane wrapper under the front passenger seat.

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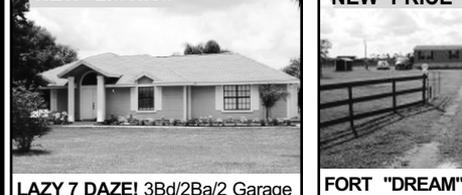
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Betts and Chandler are certified Advanced County Commissioners

Florida Association of Counties graduates Chandler and Betts from secondary certification program

COLLIER COUNTY, FL—The Florida Association of Counties (FAC) presented Okeechobee County Commissioners Noel Chandler and Clif Betts, Jr. with the Advanced County Commissioner (ACC) designation following their completion of a comprehensive study program developed by the association. Commissioners Betts and Chandler received the designation along

with 16 other county commissioners during an awards ceremony held at the FAC Annual Conference in Collier County, Fla.

Launched by FAC in 2006, the Advanced County Commissioner (ACC) education program, "The Florida Forum for County Leaders," is an advanced leadership program designed for graduates of the Certified County Commissioners (CCC) program. This year, the program has been held in Gainesville and will see 18 commissioners graduate in June with a total of 72 graduating since the inception of the program in 2006.

The ACC program is organized as a series of three seminars, with 27 hours of course work. The course content focuses on leadership with an overarching theme of growth and development in Florida. Participating

Commissioners must commit to fully participate in all three seminars in order to graduate. Seminars include: Leadership Skills in Florida's Growth Environment; Strategic Visioning and Implementing that Vision, and Understanding and Working with Stakeholders in Florida's Growth Environment. This year, the University of Florida/IFAS Extension sponsored the program in Alachua County.

"This certification allows our citizen electorate to become experts in county government improving their communities," said FAC Executive Director Chris Holley. "Through FAC's education programs we are able to teach commissioners how to advance their policies through the complexities of government bureaucracies."

Following are the names of the county

commissioners who received their ACC designation in 2009: Bob Abbott, Flagler County; Clif Betts, Jr., Okeechobee County; Minor Bryant, Hardee County; Noel Chandler, Okeechobee County; Doug Conkey, Clay County; Wesley Davis, Indian River County; Bob English, Polk County; Barbara Fitos, Marion County; Joe Flescher, Indian River County; Jack Mariano, Pasco County; Peter O'Bryan, Indian River County; Joel Pate, Washington County; Jean Reed, Polk County; Stacy Ritter, Broward County; Ron Sanchez, St. John's County; Chereese Stewart, Clay County; J.C. Dvis Stoutamire, Liberty County; and, Cliff Thael, Leon County.

For more information about the ACC program and courses, visit the FAC website at www.fl-counties.com.

Arrest Report

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

- Johnathan Sills, 18, N.E. Second St., Okeechobee, was arrested July 23 by Deputy Cari Arnold on a juvenile take and hold warrant charging him with two counts of grand theft. He was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail then taken to the Department of Juvenile Justice Detention Center in Fort Pierce.

- Jessica Marie Carroll, 20, 56th Ave., Bradenton, was arrested July 23 by Deputy Harold Hancock on an Okeechobee County warrant charging her with violation of probation - robbery and violation of probation - felony battery. She is being held without bond.

- Michael James Davis, 52, W. Shell Point Road, Ruskin, was arrested July 23 by Deputy Harold Hancock on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with violation of probation - grand theft (two counts). He is being held without bond.

- Sharod Fitzgerald Kelly, 20, N.E. 12th St., Okeechobee, was arrested July 23 by Deputy Jason Hickman on a felony charge of burglary of an occupied dwelling. He was also arrested on a misdemeanor charge of domestic battery. His bond was set at \$3,000.

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

Rentals King's Bay

Town Home \$650.00
Duplex \$750.00
(863) 610-1980

Pritchard's GMAC Real Estate

1804 S. Parrott Ave. • Okeechobee
 (863) 357-4622

Community Events

Pet Rescue seeks volunteers

The Humane Society Pet Rescue will be having an open meeting at the Clock Restaurant, Hwy 441, on Monday, July 27 at 7 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering please come and sign up. Volunteers are needed! For more information call 863-357-1104.

Play Group—Healthy Start Coalition

Healthy Start Coalition is hosting a play group for infants through age 3 on Mondays

through July 27. Ages 4 months-12 months will meet from 9:00-10:30 a.m.; Ages 13 months-3 years will meet 10:30-12 noon. Location is the Presbyterian Church. The facilitators of the group will be promoting play activities that will stimulate the infant brain in areas that foster proper growth and development. Call 863-462-5877 to register.

Community Collaborative Council meeting set

The Community Collaborative Council of the Okeechobee County Shared Services

Network will conduct their monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 28, at 10 a.m. in the board room of the Okeechobee School Board Office. The purpose of the meeting is to allow the community to identify issues, collaborate and share information regarding services for children and families.

Guest speakers for this meeting will be Lyle Fried of Okeechobee Coalition for the Hungry and Homeless and Mitch Smeyskal of the Okeechobee County Health Dept. The public is invited to attend. For more information, please call Sharon Vinson at 863-462-5000.



David Hazellief • 863-610-1553 Betty Hazellief • 863-610-0144
 Sharon Prevatt • 863-634-7069 Dee Reeder • 863-610-2485

(863) 763-2104

Hazellief & Prevatt Realty, Inc. **Se Habla Español**

•CALL FOR A LIST OF FORECLOSURES•

	1010-H: 3 Bedroom 2 Bath home with potentials located in NW 11th Street. \$77,500 Make offer! MLS# 202927		3000-M: Fully furnished 3/2 DW, MH in Treasure Island. Waterfront property with Lake access. MLS# 202482
	4003-M: Buckhead Ridge 3/2 mobile home with appliances, open patio, fenced, large shed with electric, dock and paved driveway. \$125,000 MLS#202189		4004-H: BHR lake access home on a large cul-de-sac. Home with lots of potential attached carport, metal roof, paved driveway, water on both sides, boat slip and seawall. Call today to see! MLS# 202218
	5000-H: Fixer upper in Dixie Ranch Estates. 3 Bedrooms 1 Bath CBS home with patio and fenced back yard. \$49,900 MLS# 202964		5008-H: Basswood (3488 NW 34th Ave) 4 bedroom 2 bath with attached garage. MLS# 202733

ACREAGE / LOTS: • Playland Park (4702 NW 11th DR) .45 almost half an acre **\$10,000** MLS# 202780 • Foreclosure R-Bar (2136 N.E. 54TH WAY) 1.50+/-acre Make Offer **\$36,900** MLS# 202818 • Basswood (NW 35th Ave) 2 side by side each **\$15,000** • Foreclosure Sun creek Ran (SE 56th CIR) 20+/- acres **\$125,000** MLS# 202422

1200 S. Parrott Ave. www.century21okeechobee.com
 Email: century21okeechobee@earthlink.net



Patricia Louise Goolsby,
 Licensed Real Estate Broker
634-5588
 FULL SERVICE REALTOR patgoolsby@embarqmail.com

FOR THESE LISTINGS, CALL VICKI ANDERSON 863-634-4106.

	WATERFRONT - CANAL OFF RIM CANAL - well kept and maintained 3/2 Frame with Stucco home with many new amenities. Furnished, just bring your toothbrush. Boat house. MLS #202762, \$119,900.
	LOCATION LOCATION LOCATION. Prime location in City of Okeechobee. It has tremendous potential. The building is CBS/Frame structure. This is a large building and comes with a house. MLS #201877, \$150,000.
	WELL-KEPT NEIGHBORHOOD ON LAKE HARMONY. New 3/2 DWMH on a large lot. Adjoining lot for sale, \$25,000. Open concept, spacious. Category 3 hurricane construction. Private fishing dock MLS #202774, \$140,000.
	3/2 DWMH ON CAPTURED LAKE. Turn key home. Dock w/double sink for fish cleaning, water, and electric. Automatic sprinkler system. The boat may be bought for \$5,000. MLS #202782, \$129,900.
	2/2 TWO STORY TOWNHOUSE. Golf course location on the "14TH TEE BOX." Active community w/clubhouse, pool, and many other activities. Maintenance free. MLS #202816, \$120,000.
	HUGE CORNER CUL-DE-SAC LOT. Improved property: water, sewer, septic, and electric. WATER ON 2 SIDES. Seawall needs work. CBS 2 car garage. PRICED TO SELL!! MAKE AN OFFER!! MLS #202951 \$69,900

863-763-5588 • 21442 E. SR 78, BHR
 Across Kissimmee River next to Fire Station & Glades County Building.

Classifieds



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Published 3 weeks in all of our Florida papers: Caloosa Belle, Clewiston News, Glades County Democrat, Immokalee Bulletin, Okeechobee News, and The Sun
 * Ads will run in the Wednesday Okeechobee News and weekly publications.

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

DEADLINES
 ✓ Wednesday 11 a.m. Tues. for Wed. publication
 ✓ Friday 11 a.m. Thurs. for Fri. publication
 ✓ Sunday 10 a.m. Fri. for Sun. publication

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

Announcements

Important Information: Please read your ad carefully the first day it appears. In case of an inadvertent error, please notify us prior to the deadline listed. We will not be responsible for more than 1 incorrect insertion, or for more than the extent of the ad rendered valueless by such errors. Advertiser assumes responsibility for all statements, names and content of an ad, and assumes responsibility for any claims against the Delaware State News. All advertising is subject to publisher's approval. The publisher reserves the right to accept or reject any or all copy, and to insert above the copy the word "advertisement". All ads accepted are subject to credit approval. All ads must conform to Delaware State News style and are restricted to their proper classifications. Some classified categories require advance payment. These classifications are denoted with an asterisk *.

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Employment

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Employment Full Time

ADMINISTRATIVE/ Financial Assistant with benefits. Fiscal experience, computer, writing, office & organizational skills required. Bilingual a PLUS. Fax resume to Healthy Start Coalition 863-462-5878. Resume must be received before 5:p.m. August 3, 2009.

GIRL FRIDAY NEEDED - Live on ranch. Do housework & yard work. (863)763-5321

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

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Lost

PEKINGNESE - older, lost vic of Dixie Ranch acres, family misses dearly (863)824-0808

Giveaway

KITTENS - Free to good home. (863)610-7824

Garage/ Yard Sales

Don't Miss This One OKEECHOBEE - Sun 7/26, 8am-3pm, 2802 SE 34th Ave, Treasure Island. Clothing, HH goods, and much more

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

HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATORS NEEDED - Experience required. Apply in person 25820 SW Kanner Hwy., Canal Point. (561)924-9100

~TEACHER~
 Certified Teachers needed for year-round middle and high school in juvenile justice programs near Okeechobee. 50 pd days off annually. \$34K-36K + benefits depending upon areas of cert. Please indicate areas of cert when applying. Email resume to hr@hsainc.org EOE/DFWP

VPK LEAD TEACHER
 For Christian PreSchool. Must have a CDA or Degree in related field. Call between 2pm and 5pm. (863)763-8800 or send resume to: christians@embarqmail.com

Employment Medical

MEDICAL ASSISTANT Must have 1 yr. exp. Bilingual Spanish/English pref. Competitive salary and excellent benefits. Fax resume to: 863-357-2991 or apply at FL Community Health Centers, 1100 N. Parrott Ave., Okeechobee, FL Email: hr@chcinc.org EOE/DFWP

Financial
 For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Business Opportunities

NOTICE

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

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

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

Services

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Caregivers

ASSISTED LIVING for elderly. By experienced Registered Nurse at much less than nursing home rates. TLC in very nice family home. Only one opening now. (863)763-2334

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

Cleaning

PAULINE'S CLEANING SERVICE
 Homes, Taylor Creek 20 Yrs Experience (863)467-6379
 References Available

Excavation

CLEARING & HAULING
 Dump Truck, Back Hoe & Bobcat Services... by Jason Summerford (863)634-7771

Handyman Services

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

? NEED HELP? CALL GEORGE CARTER

Painting, Repairs, Carpentry Power Washing FREE CONSULTATION (863)763-4775

Merchandise

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Antiques

Grandfather Clock Rare Gold/Unusual/Gave \$800 asking \$300 863-634-4273

Shop here first! The classified ads

Furniture

HOUSE FULL OF FURNITURE, Treadmill, Rare Grandfather Clock, Desk and End tables, (863)634-4273

Guns/Supplies

CZ52 Auto Russian made lots of ammo \$400 S & W Revolver snub 357 nose \$400. 863-697-6095

Pets/Supplies

TOY BREED PUPPIES Maltese, Shih Tzu, Papillon, Designer Breeds, all papered. \$400 and up. (720)936-0298

Agriculture

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Horses

MUSTANG MARE - Green Broke, \$500 neg (863)634-4707 or (863)261-6781

Livestock

Tifton 85 Horse Hay square bails 55 lbs. \$8 round rolls 1000 lbs. \$75 Locally grown, fertilized & completely weed free. 863-697-2180.

Seeds/Plants/Flowers

MESA PLANT WORLD Exotic Fruit Plants Tropicals & Traditionals (863) 673-7280 Lic. # 48006674

Rentals

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Apartments

BEAUTIFUL SAMANTHA'S GARDEN APTS - In Town, 2br/2ba, W&D, \$850 mo. + \$500. sec. (863)634-5780

GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIZED apts for rent in Okeechobee. Must meet eligibility requirements. Please call 863-467-2079. TTY 1-800-233-6694.



IN TOWN - 2/2 very clean, w/d, lawn maint included, \$800 + \$300 sec. Call (863) 634-3572

OAK LAKE APTS - 2 BR, 1 1/2 BA, \$800 mo. 1st mo's rent & \$500 sec. Will neg. 863-227-6074

OKEE - Huge, Clean, 2br, 2ba \$725 mo. Call 772-215-0098

OKEECHOBEE, In Town 1BR, 1BA, \$550 mo, 1st & last mo. sec. No pets. (863)467-8705

Condos/Townhouses Rent

KINGS BAY Nice Twnhs 2/1, New flr tile. Inclds Water, Elec. \$800 mo. + sec. 863-697-6428

Oak Lake Villa #53- 2/2 furn., TV, W/D, Linens, etc. Immaculate, \$950 + Dep (863)634-3313

Houses - Rent

AFFORDABLE NEW HOUSES - 3/2/2 and 3/1/1, tile floors, jacuzzi tub, Bring Pets, Large Yards (561)723-2226

CBS - 3BR/2BA, wood flrs., granite counter-tops, privacy fence, great location, \$1100 mo. (863)610-0794

IN TOWN - 2BR, 2BA, W&D, porch, lawn serv. small pet ok, Non-smk. env., \$800 mo. + \$500 sec. 941-504-3954

IN TOWN - 3BR/2BA, laundry rm., porch, garage, lawn svc., non-smkg. env., small pet OK. \$1,000 mo. + \$800 sec. (941) 504-3954

LOG CABIN - Rim Canal. 2BR, 1BA, Fully furnished including bedding, linens & cookware. Weekly & monthly 561-234-0277

New, Large 1/1 CBS in town, \$595, FLS, appl's, lease, plus utilities. (863)801-3081

OAK LAKE VILLA 17 - for rent or sale, clean 2/2, all appl's, \$800 mo. or \$92k. (863)467-5965

OAK PARK - Charming 2/1, C/A, carport, screened room, large fenced yard, \$700/mo + 1st, last sec. (561)632-7547

OKEECHOBEE - 3BR/1BA Duplex, DW, W&D Hookup, central a/c & heat. \$725 mo. + \$500 sec. (863)763-4414

OKEECHOBEE - 4br, 2ba, great neighborhood, tile throughout, \$1000 & up/mo, 1st & sec move in (561)248-3888 or (863)599-0156

Okeechobee 3BED/2BA, 2BED/2BA/4CAR & 2/2 Townhouse for rent. Starting at \$800 mo. Call Roland 863-634-7722

SE 8TH AVE - 3 br, 2 ba, on water. \$1000/mo (863)634-1000

Houses - Rent

VIKING - 3/2 house, barn, fence, 1.25 acres. Call (561)718-1212 or 863-763-3631

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

Rooms To Rent

OKEE, Furn. Rm. Single occ., priv. entrance, w/d. \$140/wk & dep., utils incl. (863)763-7331 msg

OKEECHOBEE - Private room & bath, nicely furnished, 3br home in TC, no alcohol or drugs, (561)644-4242 or (863)634-4273

Real Estate

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Condos/Townhouses Sale

Wow! 2bd 1 1/2 bath Townhome in Oaklake Apts. \$750 mo. Only first and small security. Call 561-398-2794.

Houses - Sale

CBS - 4/2 + efficiency, completely remodeled, in ground pool, fenced, metal roof, .48 acres, 2,000 + s.f., 20X30 steel shed, \$149,900 (561)801-3002

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

OKEECHOBEE - 3/1, CBS w/metal roof, completely remodeled. Hwy 70 East. \$79,000. Call Brandi at (863)634-3407 Okeechobee Real Estate Co.

Mobile Homes
For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Mobile Home Rent

BHR - RVs for Rent, starting \$300-\$500 & 1BR/1BA Cabin, 55+ park, seasonal or yearly. (863)763-7164

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

FOR RENT: 2/1 apartment. Best value in town! Unit newly remodeled. Located 12 miles north of Okeechobee on Equestrian Ranch. Monthly water, trash & lawn maintenance included. No Pets! \$510 - Move in special. M-F (863)467-2982

LARKEE LAKES AREA- 2br, 1ba, 2 sheds, add on room. For rent or Sale (863)634-4742

OKEECHOBEE - 2br, 1ba with large back porch & front porch on large scenic, wooded, fenced lot. \$700 mo. Also a 1 br, 1ba \$500 mo. Call 863-634-3451

SINGLEWIDE - 2BR, 1BA, on 15A. Large screened in porch. \$600 mo. includes electric. 1st, last & \$300 sec. dep. (863)610-7824

WATERFRONT - On Rim Canal, 2 beds, near shopping, \$350/mo. (863)763-7262

Wow! 2bd 1 bath mobile home, No first last or security! \$550 month. Call 561-398-2794.

Mobile Home Sale

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

OKEECHOBEE - 2/2, \$700/mo or purchase \$40,000, nice, clean (772)597-2098

Recreation
For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Boats

Nautical Flea Market & Seafood Festival Sept. 18th - 20th Martin & Co. Fairgrounds, Stuart, FL. Vendor Space Avail. Call 954-205-7813

Boats

PONTOON TRAILER 2005 - NEW COST 3600 USED ONCE, 2 AXELS \$2400. (863)824-0801

Campers/RVs

MINI-MOTOR HOME - 28', '92 TravelMaster, Cls. C, 31k mi., 302 hrs. on generator, slps. 6, new tires, everything works, located in Okee. \$11,500. 772-359-9550 (863)763-7164

Motorcycles

SUZUKI 650CC 1999 - windshield, new seat, must sell asking \$1800. (863)824-0801

Automotive
For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Automobiles

JEEP LIBERTY 2002 - 2002 silver Jeep Liberty Limited Edition. New tires, leather seats, lots of extras, good condition. 95,000 miles. \$6900. (863)763-7849 (863)242-8075

Public Notices
For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Public Notice

Love the earth Recycle your used items by selling them in the classifieds.

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

OKEECHOBEE UTILITY AUTHORITY REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ADVISORY SERVICES

The Okeechobee Utility Authority (OUA) is soliciting statements of interest and qualifications from professional financial advisory firms to provide financial advisory services. Firms responding must demonstrate a history of providing expert advice to independent special districts, water & wastewater utilities and governmental agencies. Services to include, but not limited to analysis of the financial feasibility of potential water and wastewater projects, issuance and servicing of tax exempt debt and investment of available assets in legally permissible interest yielding accounts and paper.

A financial advisor qualification package will be available July 27, 2009 in either electronic or traditional paper media. Those interested in receiving the RFP are asked to contact the OUA by telephone at (863) 763-9460.

Final firm responses must be received by 4:00 PM EST, on August 12, 2009, at 100 SW 5th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34974-4221, to be eligible for consideration.

Questions concerning this financial advisory services RFQ shall be directed to John F. Hayford, Executive Director, Okeechobee Utility Authority, 100 SW 5th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34974-4221, (863) 763-9460. 328505 ON 7/26,29,31/09

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION CASE NO. 47-2009-CA-000098

CHASE HOME FINANCE LLC, Plaintiff,
vs.
BLUE BISHOP A/K/A BLUE C. BISHOP, et al, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: **ASHLEY GARCIA**
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 2276 NW 6th ST 4 Okeechobee, FL 34972
CURRENT ADDRESS: **UNKNOWN**

TENANT #1
N/K/A CHARITY HOPE LEE
N/K/A CHARITY HOPE LEE
N/K/A CHARITY HOPE LEE
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 2874 NW 35th Avenue Okeechobee, FL 34972

CURRENT ADDRESS: 2874 NW 35th Avenue Okeechobee, FL 34972

TENANT #2
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 2874 NW 35th Avenue Okeechobee, FL 34972
CURRENT ADDRESS: 2874 NW 35th Avenue Okeechobee, FL 34972

ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSE, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS

LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: UNKNOWN
CURRENT ADDRESS: UNKNOWN

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in OKEECHOBEE County, Florida:

LOT 47, BLOCK 51, BASSWOOD UNIT 5, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 51, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses within 30 days after the first publication, if any, on Florida Default Law Group, P.L., Plaintiffs attorney, whose address is 9119 Corporate Lake Drive, Suite 300, Tampa, Florida 33634, and file the original with this Court either before service on Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint or petition.

This notice shall be published once each week for two consecutive weeks in the Okeechobee News (Independent Newspapers).

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court on this 20th day of May, 2009.

Sharon Robertson
Clerk of the Court

By: Arlene Nealis
As Deputy Clerk
327663 ON 7/19,26/09

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO: 47-2009-CA-000349

NATIONAL CITY BANK SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO HARBOR FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK PLAINTIFF
vs.
MINAKOEMARIE BOEDJARATH, ET AL DEFENDANT(S)

NOTICE OF ACTION - CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: **MINAKOEMARIE BOEDJARATH; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MINAKOEMARIE BOEDJARATH; DONALD G. MCLISH** whose residence is 3852 NW 42ND WAY, COCONUT CREEK, FL 33073.

and who is evading service of process and the unknown defendants who may be spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, and all parties claiming an interest by, through, under or against the Defendant(s), 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 described in the mortgage being foreclosed herein.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property: A PARCEL OF LAND LYING IN SECTION 22, TOWNSHIP 34 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 22;

THENCE NORTH 88°08'58" EAST, ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 22, A DISTANCE OF 3579.67 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING;

THENCE CONTINUE NORTH 88°08'58" EAST, ALONG SAID SOUTH LINE, A DISTANCE OF 1280.51 FEET;

THENCE NORTH 00°06'16" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 1448.79 FEET TO POINT C ON THE CENTERLINE OF THE 70.00 FOOT WIDE INGRESS, EGRESS AND UTILITY EASEMENT AS SHOWN ON MAP OF SIMONE ESTATES, DATED JUNE 21, 2004;

THENCE SOUTH 79°04'16" WEST, ALONG SAID CENTERLINE, A DISTANCE OF 1250.15 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT WITH CAP STAMPED ALMOND PSM 5081;

THENCE SOUTH 88°10'43" WEST, ALONG SAID CENTERLINE, A DISTANCE OF 90.17 FEET TO POINT E ON SAID CENTERLINE;

THENCE SOUTH 01°51'02" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 1250.91 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, on DAVID J. STERN, ESQ. Plaintiffs attorney, whose address is 900 South Pine Island Road, Suite 400, Plantation, FL 33324-3920, (no later than 30 days from the date of the first publication of this Notice of Action) and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default 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 21st day of July, 2009.

SHARON ROBERTSON
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
By: Arlene Nealis
DEPUTY CLERK

NOTICE REGARDING THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990 In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administration no later than seven days prior to the proceeding at 250 NW Country Club Drive, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986 or call 1-772-807-4370 within two working days of your receipt of this Stunmons/Notice to Appear. If you are hearing impaired call 1-800-955-8771. If you are voice impaired call 1-800-9558770, via Florida Relay Service.

LAW OFFICES OF DAVID J. STERN, P.A.
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF
900 South Pine Island Road Suite 400
Plantation, FL 33324-3920
328201 ON 7/26;8/2/09

Public Notice

Crossword Puzzle

- Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis
- ACROSS**
- 1 Malicious rumor
 - 7 Wave away, maybe
 - 11 Homer's father
 - 14 1998 All-Star Game MVP
 - 15 French ___
 - 16 MBA, e.g.
 - 17 Shredding evidence of one's mistake?
 - 19 "___ you serious?"
 - 20 Damascus is its cap.
 - 21 Boo follower
 - 22 Exhorts
 - 24 Work period most prone to robberies?
 - 28 Lily Munster portrayer Yvonne
 - 31 (In) conspiracy
 - 32 College town on Maine's Stillwater River
 - 33 Whisperer's target
 - 34 Grace that starts with amen?
 - 42 Confederate
 - 43 ___, meenie ...
 - 44 Go before
 - 49 Court
 - 51 Bird that helps cattlemen?
 - 53 "Live at the Acropolis" musician
 - 54 Fake it
 - 55 Letterman letters?
 - 58 Letters for someone with just one given name
 - 59 Physical exam rating?
 - 64 IBM rival
 - 65 Carry
 - 66 "No Exit" dramatist
 - 67 Bard's "prior to"
 - 68 Zipped
 - 69 Extra number
- DOWN**
- 1 Musical Mama
 - 2 One on your side
 - 3 Bleak genre
 - 4 Rock blaster
 - 5 Writer Santha Rama ___
 - 6 Popular advice show
 - 7 Quaked
 - 8 Kind of hwy. lane
 - 9 Bend's st.
 - 10 Charge
 - 11 Samuel Barber's ___ for Strings"
 - 12 Deprived
 - 13 Casts out
 - 18 Designer Chanel
 - 23 Campus letter
 - 24 Sensible
 - 25 Walked
 - 26 Golden State sch.
 - 27 Peel
 - 28 Abbey title
 - 29 "___tu": Verdi aria
 - 30 Watergate prosecutor
 - 33 Flow partner
 - 35 Pakistani language
 - 36 Barely audible sound
 - 37 Professional leader?
 - 38 Astin who played Sam in "Lord of the Rings" films
 - 39 Place to stay
 - 40 Robertson of CNN
 - 41 "Really!"
 - 44 Hawthorne's adultress
 - 45 Gadabout
 - 46 Special Olympics founder Shriver
 - 47 "___ Newsroom": cable show
 - 48 Official orders
 - 49 Relax on the porch
 - 50 Dense
 - 52 Beat really fast
 - 55 Roman statesman
 - 56 "It's c-c-c-cold!"
 - 57 ___-Ball
 - 60 I follower?
 - 61 Aou't's season
 - 62 Bad review
 - 63 "Happy Days" nickname

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

SCHMO DEAF BIDS
ORATE IFFY AGE
BERMUDATR IANGLE
ETE VIPS WAYIN
RESERVE LEON
PEARL ISLANDS
DALIS OATS OIL
OPEC CHARD BONO
TON MOOD SENSE
SPANISH STEPS
PINTO EDITORS
TRIBE CAAN NEE
YELLOW SUBMARINE
KALLE ELBA COOED
ERST BRAG HONEY

xwordeditor@aol.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
14						15					16				
17					18						19				
20					21				22	23					
24	25							26	27						
28	29	30						31							
32							33								
34															
35	36									37	38	39	40	41	
42										43					
44	45	46	47	48				49	50						
51								52							
53								54					55	56	57
58						59	60	61				62	63		
64												66			
65															
66															
67															
68															
69															

By Jack McInturff
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SUDOKU

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

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

ANSWER:

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

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Laura Serrano earns athletic scholarship

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Brewton Parker College in Mount Vernon, Ga., is quickly becoming the next step for Okeechobee High School athletes.

Laura Serrano, 18, recently signed a letter



Submitted photo
Laura Serrano signed a letter of intent for a Georgia school.

of intent to run college cross-country at the Georgia school. She is the third Okeechobee athlete to sign with the school this summer.

Ivan Torres signed to play soccer, and Misael Alvarado will run men's cross country.

Serrano said she intends to study criminal justice in college.

"I'm pretty excited. I started cross country my sophomore year. I got into it and liked it a lot because of the coaches and the atmosphere. I just wanted to experience it in college," she said.

Serrano started running as a way to stay in condition for soccer season. She played four years of soccer for the Lady Brahms,

three on varsity. She ran track, mostly the 3200 meters, and competed in cross country for three years.

"I just enjoyed the Coach Nathan Owen. He helped the program a lot. I just liked being around people who enjoy running. It was really fun and I liked the family, team atmosphere."

Serrano found time to learn the drums and was a percussionist for the Brahman marching band.

She noted travelling hundreds of miles away for college is a scary proposition. She said she is pleased she'll have two friends around to ease in the transition, "It's a long

way from home. Even though it's nice to meet new people, it's going to be nice to have people I know there.

Serrano grew up in Okeechobee. She has two younger sisters, and her parents are Jose and Narcedalia Serrano.

Serrano said she plans to work hard and do the best that she can in college, "I hope I'll do well. The guys went up there for soccer and Misael told me they were starting a new cross country program. I called the coach, Dan Robertson and he liked my times. I'm hoping I can do really well," she said.

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Submitted photo/Josephine O'Malley

Sand volleyball winners

Top, Members and friends of Big Lake Juniors Club Volleyball including, Rachel Jones, Todd Jones, Darby Jones, Maci Thomas and Diego Fonseca won first place in the Summer in the Sand Volleyball Tournament on Sunday, July 19. Bottom, First place for the Softball Men's Rec. 2 Division - Jitta Bug Mobile Detailing. On Monday, July 20, they outscored the Hurricanes 15-14 to win the championship title.

Some come by bike. Some come by car.
Others come by jet.



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