

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 100 No. 128

Sunday, October 25, 2009

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Dress code issues leads to firing ... Page 12

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Lake Levels

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Strays a continual problem

More than 3,000 cats and dogs euthanized last year by county animal control

By Pete Gawda
 Okeechobee News

Okeechobee County Animal Control continues to deal with thousands of stray animals each year. During the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, animal control handled a total of 4,536 animals.

Animal control officers operate under a county ordinance that was revised April 9, 2009.

Although animal control does adopt out animals, they are not an animal adoption agency. The duties of animal control officers, as spelled out in the county ordinance are to enforce all animal

regulations, respond to complaints of animals running at large, take charge of neglected, mistreated or injured animals and animals creating a nuisance. They are tasked with apprehending dangerous and vicious animals and they are empowered to issue citations for violations of city and county ordinances. They also work with other animal control organizations.

The animal control ordinance states that a person cannot refuse to surrender an animal upon lawful demand of an animal control officer. Neither can a person hide or conceal any animal under investigation by an animal control officer.

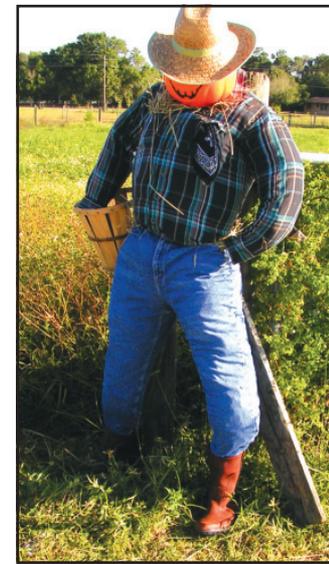
The ordinance provides for stray dogs and cats to be held for five working days. They are routinely checked for microchips. Feral cats are held for two working days.

For those who wish to adopt a pet, animal control often has animals available for adoption. The adoption fee for cats is \$90 and for dogs it is \$105. This includes heartworm tests, rabies shots and spaying/neutering. These tests are done through a local veterinarian. Animal control officers are not licensed to give shots.

The ordinance governing animal control spells out impoundment and adoption procedures. Prospective animal owners are interviewed by animal control. Such things as condition of the property, previous animal offenses, number of animals presently owned and conditions under which the animal will be housed are investigated.

Of the 4,536 animals captured by animal control last year a total

See ANIMALS—Page 2



Okeechobee News/K. Elsen
A scarecrow stands guard in an Okeechobee pasture.

Main Street plans 2009 Halloween Celebration

Okeechobee Main Street, the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office and the Okeechobee County Board of Commissioners will host the fifth annual Halloween Celebration on Saturday, Oct. 31, from 6-9 p.m. at the Okeechobee County Agri-Civic Center.

This is a free, safe alternative to door-to-door trick or treating for the children of the community. There will be haunted houses, pony rides, costume contests, games and activity booths and lots of candy and prizes. Costume contest categories and times are: 0-2 years old

See TREAT—Page 2

Okeechobee girl is rodeo royalty



Submitted photo
Shelby Kirton

KISSIMMEE -- The Miss Rodeo Florida Association is proud to announce the newly crowned 2010 Rodeo Royalty. Miss Rodeo Florida 2010 is Heather Hall of Kennansville. Miss Teen Rodeo Florida 2010 is Cricket Wise of Pensacola. 2010 Miss Rodeo Florida Princess is Shelby Kirton of Okeechobee. She also won Most Photogenic.

The pageant was held Oct. 1-3, at the Osceola Heritage Park, Silver Spurs Arena in Kissimmee Florida. The pageant is open to all Florida residents who qualify for their age groups.

Categories are: Miss Rodeo Florida, 19-25 years of age; Miss Teen Rodeo Florida, 13-18 years

of age; Miss Rodeo Florida Princess, 10-12 years of age; and Miss Rodeo Florida Sweetheart, 7-9 years of age. All age divisions are judged on poise, personality, appearance, photogenic, interview skills, and speech. Additionally, the Miss and Teen divisions are judged on current event knowledge, rodeo and equine knowledge, horsemanship riding skills and horsemanship interviews.

All four new queens have begun planning for their coronation and fund raisers. They are looking forward to everyone's support as they are officially crowned in January 2010. Their fund raising

See RODEO—Page 2

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ANIMALS

Continued From Page 1

of 383 dogs, 471 cats and 99 other animals were captured in the city. Animal control

bill the city each month for animals captured in the city limits.

Outside the city limits, animal control apprehended 1,467 dogs, 1,602 cats and 514 other animals.

Of the total number of animals handled

by Animal Control for the fiscal year that ended in September, 149 were adopted. Another 332 were either found dead or subsequently died of injuries or diseases; 328 were returned to their owners and 360 were turned over to other pet adoption and rescue agencies. There were 77 wild animals that were returned to the wild.

That left 3,297 animal to be euthanized. During the last fiscal year there were 497

complaints and six reported dog bites in the city. In the county there were 3,115 complaints and 117 reports of dog bite.

Those figures are roughly comparable to the previous year.

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

RODEO

Continued From Page 1

events will help finance their journey as they travel to rodeos and events within and possibly out of state. Their primary job will be promoting agriculture in Florida, promoting Florida's western heritage and acting as the official spokeswomen for the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, and the extreme sport of rodeo.

The pageant was exciting and entertaining. All of the contestants were fun, intelligent, and beautiful and did a wonderful job in the competition. The 2010 Miss Rodeo Florida queens will be an asset to our state and we look forward to seeing how they use their new roles in their communities. Photographs will be posted on our website when they are available. Visit our website at: www.missrodeoflorida.com to stay apprised of MRF association news, future pageant dates and queen updates.

TREAT

Continued From Page 1

at 6:45, 3-5 years old at 7:15, 6-10 years old at 7:45 and 11-14 years old at 8:15 p.m. Sign up will be at the Seacoast National Table, so get there early to register your child.

Thanks to a donation from Cowboys BBQ & Steaks, sandwiches and drinks will be available at a minimal price.

Main Street is still in need of activity booths, monetary donations to cover candy and prizes or donations of candy and prizes. It costs nothing to set up a booth. If your business, group or organization is interested in a game/activity booth or you would like

to donate candy or prizes or money to purchase candy or prizes, please call Okeechobee Main Street's Executive Director Toni Doyle at 863-357-6246 or stop by 111 NE Second Street.

Lotteries

Florida Lottery — Here are the numbers selected Thursday in the Florida Lottery: **Cash 3:** 9-7-1; **Play 4:** 1-1-7-3; **Fantasy 5:** 12-22-25-27-33; **Mega Money:** 7-9-34-43 MB 20; **Florida Lotto:** 2-9-13-17-39-44 X 5; **Powerball:** 6-16-34-45-51 PB4 x2. Numbers drawn Friday, **Cash 3:** 2-6-7; **Play 4:** 2-8-8-4.

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Woman accused of attacking ex

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

A local woman was arrested on two misdemeanor counts of battery after she allegedly attacked her ex-husband and his current girlfriend.

Ashlee Nichole Vest, 22, S.E. Sixth Ave., was also arrested Thursday, Oct. 22, on a felony count of burglary of a conveyance. She was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail under a total bond of \$6,000.



Ashlee N. Vest

An arrest report by Deputy Howard Pickering, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Of-

fice (OCSO), states that Vest jumped into her ex-husband's vehicle and began to attack a woman who is apparently now dating her former spouse.

Deputy Pickering stated that the vehicle was parked at a local convenience store at 9:53 p.m. and that the ex-husband was inside the store at the time. When the man saw the attack he ran outside and pulled Vest out of the truck by her feet.

Vest reportedly kned her ex-husband twice in the face and hit him in the face with a closed fist.

Both parties filed complaints against Vest. The deputy's report adds that Vest received scrapes to her arms when she was pulled from the truck and fell to the pavement.

Local tourney raises \$19,000 for Memorial Fund

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

Noel Stephen is grinning from ear to ear, and for good reason.

For 17 years the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) major has spearheaded the Skip Bryant Memorial Golf Tournament and this year was no exception. However, despite the economic downturn the community came through and, after expenses, helped him raise over \$19,000 for the Skip Bryant Memorial Fund. "I'm tickled to death," he said, with a wide grin. "This really makes me feel good and proud to be in Okeechobee."

A full field of 144 golfers took to the links Saturday, Oct. 17, to help raise money for the fund that not only provides scholarship money for children of local law enforcement officers and firefighters but helps families in their time of need.

Skip Bryant was the first and only OCSO

deputy to lose his life in the line of duty. He died in November of 1991 when the plane he was in crashed into Lake Okeechobee during a search and rescue mission.

The fund began with a barbecue chicken dinner and golf tournament in 1992. During its existence, the memorial fund has awarded \$109,495 in scholarships to 47 local students. Madonna Bryant Arnold, Melissa Bryant, Jock Brough and Shannon May have received their four-year degrees with help from the fund. And with the help of the fund Laura Bryant Graisbery will graduate Aug. 4 from Florida Atlantic University, and Danny Thomas has received his master's degree.

The Memorial Fund has also given a total of \$66,050.63 to help 54 local families of law enforcement officers and firefighters in their time of need.

The Gilbert Chevrolet team—Bert Culbreth, Eric Kendall, Kyle Lanier and Blake Marsocci—



Submitted Photo/Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office
(left) Sponsored by Humana—(l to r) Bradley Stark, Brad Stark, Bryan Lowe and Will Davis—shot an 81 to finish 141st out of 144 teams. (right) Seacoast National Bank team placed next-to-last with an 18-hole score of 85. The team—(l to r) John Brazill, Dale Nowlin, Teresa Chandler and Frank DeCarlo.

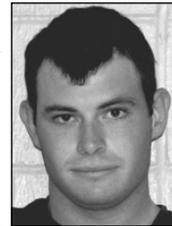


Okeechobee's Most Wanted

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.

Reed Ashton Hair, 20, 6'1" 215 lbs. Martin County Charge - Dealing in stolen property - Okeechobee County escape warrant pending.



Reed Ashton Hair



Huber Ambriz Sierra



Iva Jean Maya

Huber Ambriz Sierra, H/M, DOB 6/13/1965, Burglary Structure, Grand Theft. No Bond.

Iva Jean Maya, W/F, DOB 7/12/1977, FTA - Traffic In Cocaine, Poss. Marijuana Less Than 20 Gr., Poss. Drug Paraphernalia, No Bond.

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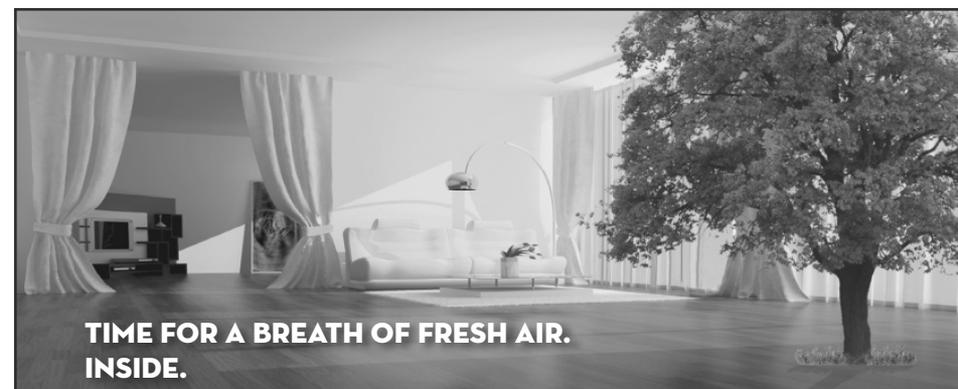
Main office Ft. Pierce

www.stluciecriminallaw.com



won this year's tournament and the \$500 top prize by carding a 14-under-par 58. Finishing in second place in a scorecard playoff was Dr. Norman Koff's team—Dr. Koff, Howard Koff, Matthew Koff and James Kirk—with a 13-under-par 59.

Another money winning position was the next-to-last team sponsored by Seacoast National Bank. The team—made up of John Brazill, Dale Nowlin, Teresa Chandler and Frank DeCarlo—shot 85 on the 18-hole Okeechobee Golf & Country Club course. For their efforts they were awarded a cash prize of \$200, which they donated back to the Memorial Fund.



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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!

Okeechobee ghosts—share your story

• Here is a good story for you. When I was about 10 my great grandmother was very ill and had been in a coma for some time. My mother was taking care of her as she did not want to die at a hospital. The night before she died she came out of her coma and asked for me. I stood beside her bed and she told me that she would never leave me until I was old enough to take care of myself. After she died, I could hear her walking from her bedroom in the front of the house to my bedroom door. She would stand there and then I could hear her walking back to her room. When she was well she did this every night and when she died she continued. One of the strange parts is that the floor of this house was wooden and it creaked as you walked but after she died the floor was carpeted with a 1 inch carpet and a 1 inch pad. You could not hear anyone walking across the floor after that but I could hear the creak of the floor each and every night until the day I married and left. Sometimes even now when I go back to that house I think I can hear my great grandmother walking the floor at night.

• I came to Okeechobee in the late 70s and worked at the old Court House and I can tell you it is haunted. One week we had to have some work done in the office and it could not be done during the day so a few of us agreed to stay over and do it after work on a Friday night. At 5 p.m. we left and went to the old Red Rooster for dinner and was going back to the Courthouse to work. As we left, the lady who cleaned the offices was just coming in to clean. We came back in a hour or so and set to work. Myself and a co-worker were in the front office and there were two co-workers in the back office. We heard things but did not think anything of it as the cleaning lady was there. So, several hours later when she left she came by to

tell us she was leaving and would be locking all the outside doors. We had a key to get out one of the side doors so it was O.K. We asked her what she was moving upstairs earlier and she told us she was not upstairs. She finished cleaning upstairs while we were at dinner. We told her we heard someone moving furniture and she laughed at us. As she left she said "Don't make the spirits mad now." And she left. One of the co-workers from the back office followed her out and locked the door behind her. A couple of hours later, and started to hear someone walking on the second floor. Then we heard chairs or furniture being pushed around and could hear chains. The co-worker and myself went to see if the two in the back office had gone upstairs and found them ready to come see if it was us. This went on for a while and at times was loud. Two of the co-workers went up stairs and checked the offices and found no one. After they came back down stairs it started again. We checked all the doors and they were locked. We did not stay around much longer.

• About three years ago we were working a show at the American Legion on SE Second Street. We had a fairly good crowd -- a bunch of singers. It was a family night and we had a few who had brought their kids in to eat dinner and sing. I was walking around checking that everyone who wanted to was getting up to sing. I was talking with a couple who had a table full of youngsters busily looking in the books for songs when the Dad said "you have a nice crowd here." One of the girls looked up and asked if an ambulance or bus had brought all the hurt soldiers here. I looked around and saw NO soldiers but she saw them. She said they were sitting all around the room just watching the people sing and clapping their hands.

• My 3-year-old granddaughter saw my mother, whom she never met. My mother died before my granddaughter was born.

• I once had a dream about a friend who was in the hospital. In the dream she told me not to worry, that she was fine and happy and no longer in pain. I woke from the dream because the phone was ringing. It was her daughter calling with the news that my friend had died.



Letters to the editor

Blood donors save lives

My congratulations go out to the couple who wrote the letter in the "Letters to the Editor" column about people being blood donors. Thank you for getting the word out about donating blood. It is truly the "Gift of Life" to those in need. I personally have received two units of blood and I was grateful that so many people cared enough to give blood when asked to do so.

I am an organ transplant recipient and I am so grateful for the gift of life that was given to me by the generosity of others through organ donation. Just one organ donor can save the lives of several transplant patients who are waiting on the organ transplant list. I would like to encourage more people to consider being an organ donor. There is no cost to the organ donor for giving the gift of life.

I am now 6.5 years out since my organ transplantation and although since my organ transplantation my donor died from a tragic accident, his two sisters with whom I have met in person have the consolation of knowing that a part of their brother still lives on in so many other organ transplant recipients and it is what their brother wanted as an organ donor.

I would like to close this letter by saying two things, #1 "Please don't take your organs to heaven, heaven knows we need them here. #2 Organ donation - The only cost is a little love.

Robert M. Young
Okeechobee

Many thanks Okeechobee

I have been assigned the task of writing the Editor of the Okeechobee News for Habitat for Humanity, Okeechobee County and expressing sincere thanks to all those who helped in volunteering, construction, donated material and lower cost for our recent home. Cheryl Little, our partner family, has moved in and loves her new home. We want to give a special thank you to Sheriff Paul May, Officer Fox and the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Work Release Program, Harrison O' Connor and the drafting class from Okeechobee High School, Mark McCree and Okeechobee Architects Collaborative, Inc., Carl Maxwell Electrical Contractors, LLC., Quality Air Conditioning and Heating, Echols Plumbing Co., Boswell Septic, Charlie's Lawn Service, Kay Can Siding, Mid-Florida Hardware, Earthwise, Quality Turf,

Nunez Lawn Service, Maguire's Bobcat Service, Inc., Robertson Realty and Appraising, Inc., Charlie's Tree Service, Tap Land, Waste Management, Wooley Sheds, Inc., Accurate Pest Control, Big Lake Roofing, W&W Lumber, R&R Drywall, Tradewinds Surveying, West Coast Insulation, Okee-Tantie Title, Okeechobee Store and Lock, Whirlpool, Square D, Valspar Paint, Yale Locks, Dan Creech Construction, Vest Concrete, First United Methodist Men and Women, Buckhead Ridge Christian Church, Backporch Church, First Baptist, Regions Bank employees, Church of our Savior, New St. Stephens Church, PennySaver, Okeechobee News, All Clean Services, Ed Walpole, Quick Frame Construction, Okeechobee Magazine/Maureen Budjinski, and many more.

We are currently accepting applications for the next two Habitat Homes. If you are interested in applying please call our office at 863-357-1371 and we will return your call. Again, thank you Okeechobee for pitching in!

Eloise Brown, secretary
Okeechobee Habitat for Humanity



Special to the Okeechobee News/Dowling Watford

Kiwanis award

Darrell Enfinger (right) was recently recognized by the Kiwanis Club of Okeechobee for his many years of quiet, dedicated service to the club. A donation was made to the Kiwanis Florida Foundation in Darrell's name. Presenting a plaque from the Florida Foundation is club president Jim Vensel.

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

To Reach Us

Address: 107 S.W. 17th Street, Suite D
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To Submit News

The Okeechobee News welcomes submissions from its readers. Opinions, calendar items, stories ideas and photographs are welcome. Call (863) 763-3134 to reach our newsroom. Items may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed.

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Additional copies of the newspaper are available for 50 cents Wednesday and Friday and 75 cents for Sunday at the office. Home delivery subscriptions are available at \$18.00 for three months.

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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

A.A. Grapevine open meetings will be held at 6:30 p.m. every Monday at Okeechobee Presbyterian Church, 312 N. Parrott Ave.

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

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

GALS need volunteers

The Guardian ad Litem Program has volunteer opportunities for caring persons to advocate for neglected, abused and abandoned children. Volunteers meet on the last Tuesday of the month at 0 a.m. at Gizmo's on Hwy. 441 in the Publix Plaza.

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 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 863-357-4447.

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.

AI-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.

AI-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.

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

The First United Methodist Church, 200 N.W. Second St., will be hosting God's Time -- a morning of free organized Christian activities that includes play, instruction and interaction for parents and their preschool 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.

Okeechobee Forecast

Weather forecast for Okeechobee County from the National Weather Service

Okeechobee Forecast

Today: Mostly Cloudy with a high near 89 and a 30 percent chance of showers. Winds will be calm becoming north northeast around 5 mph.

Tonight: Mostly cloudy with a low around 69 and a 40 percent chance of scattered showers and thunderstorms. Winds will be from the southeast around 5 mph.

Extended Forecast

Monday: Mostly cloudy with a high of 87 and a 60 percent chance of showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm. Winds will be calm becoming south southeast around 5 mph.

Monday night: Mostly cloudy with a low around 73 and a 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Winds will be from the south southeast around 5 mph.

Tuesday: Mostly cloudy with a high near 86 and a 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Winds will be from the south between 5 and 10 mph.

Reflections from the pulpit

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

What Would Jesus Do?

I have been asking myself these questions a lot lately. Am I living my life as Jesus would? Am I doing what He would do if He were here? You know, its sometimes hard to answer these questions, but I think that we who call ourselves Children of God and believe that we are saved need to ask ourselves.

For if we are not living and doing things the way that Jesus would, then we must be doing them the way of the world and that means the way of the Devil, and if that is so, then we are not Children of God and have to be honest with ourselves about who we serve. What is our source of knowledge as to what Jesus would do, and how are we to decide just what Jesus would do? There is only one way that I know of how this can be done and it is to study His Word, and let the Holy Spirit lead us in making these decisions. That means that we will have to give more time to studying the Word, and more time in prayer in order to understand and hear the answers to all of our questions.

We need to be prepared for many things to come that will test us for sure in our faith and trust in our Lord, Jesus Christ. We must be absolutely honest with ourselves, and our true walk with Jesus Christ cannot vary in most of our acts. After we ask the Holy spirit to tell us what Jesus would do and have received an answer to it, we are to act regardless of the results to ourselves. Because your actions to the world may seem crazy to some, and they will not understand why

you have made this choice, still they will see a change in your life, and you will see a change in your walk with Jesus. You will find that making the right choice of what Jesus would do, no matter what man might say, do, or think, you will know that you are walking with the Lord and with you knowing it, then you will lead others to walk with the Lord also.

Many of us have had our world turned upside down, the loss of a loved one, a broken or unhappy marriage, disappointment from a friend, or loss of a job, etc. Life is not always the way we think it should be. The way we deal with these issues is what truly makes the difference. Our highest peaks of often come after our lowest valleys. Don't put a question mark when God puts a period. In the blink of an eye your situation can, and will, turn all around for you. No, you can't have a better past, but you can have an awesome future. Don't stop believing.

So ask yourself before you watch that TV show, or go see that movie, or go to that bar, or talk about your neighbor, or anything you may do, would Jesus do it? If you knew for sure that He was here right now with you, just what would you do? Yes, I will admit to you that it won't be easy to take that first step of faith, but if you will take it, we have the Word of the Lord that He will be there right by our side with the Holy Spirit leading you in the right decision that you must make. Positive thinking produces positive results. I know the path that I chose was right. Do you? Remember. Only God knows if you will have a tomorrow or not, so be sure and take that first step while you still can. Know for your own sake that earth is just a stop-over, but Heaven is forever!

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Community Events

Church to host Gospel sing

The North Okeechobee Church of God will host a Southern Gospel sing with the Reflection Singers of Trenton, FL on Saturday, Oct. 24 and Saturday, Oct. 25, at 6 p.m. and Sunday at 11 a.m. For information, please call 863-634-0344.

Fundraiser at Quail Creek to benefit Big Brothers, sisters

Looking for an opportunity to help young children (K-3rd grade) in Okeechobee read? Big Brothers Big Sisters/Americorp currently serve all of our elementary schools with a reading mentoring program. We can use your help. We are hosting a fund raiser at Quail Creek this Saturday, Oct. 24 - come out and support the event - be a sponsor or come out with a team to shoot! All proceeds benefit our Okeechobee BBBS program! See the attached form or give me a call for more details.

Tourney benefits United Way

Raulerson Hospital is sponsoring the Fifth Annual United Way "Greater Open Golf Tournament" on **Oct. 24**, at the Okeechobee Golf and Country Club. Registration for the event takes place at 7 a.m. and the tournament will begin at 8 a.m. with a shotgun hole sponsorships and door prize donations are welcomed and teams are now forming. Monies raised at this event will remain in Okeechobee helping the United Way support 13 agencies that provide local support to many of our local citizens. For more information or to register for this United Way Fund Raiser golf tournament, please call Marnie Lauter at 863-824-2702 or e mail me at: marnie.lauter@hcahealthcare.com.

Haunted Halloween Night set for DuPuis Management Area

Join DuPuis Management Area on Saturday, **Oct. 24**, from 5:30 until 9:30 p.m. for an unforgettable night filled with ghostly fun at DuPuis Haunted Halloween Night! Enjoy a family-friendly atmosphere with fun games, crafts, candy and even a costume parade! An all-ages hay ride will depart from the visitors' center before sunset. After sunset ride at your own risk on the Haunted Hayride, guaranteed to spook all of its victims. Learn about creepy critters like bats, snakes and spiders on the spine-tingling guided walk through our "Haunted Trail." Bring the whole family and choose your thrill at DuPuis Management Area's Haunted Halloween Night. For more information contact Kim Kanter at 1-800-432-2045 ext 3339 or kkanter@sfwmd.gov.

Masonic Lodge breakfast

The Okeechobee Masonic Lodge will host a Sunday breakfast on Sunday, Oct. 25, from 8-11 a.m. For a \$6 donation, the menu includes eggs, bacon, sausage, grits, pancakes, biscuits and gravy, juice and coffee. The public is welcome. The breakfast will be held at the Masonic Lodge, 107 N.W. Fifth. Donations to benefit Dee Dee Cates will also be accepted.

Meet a GAL(GUARDIAN AD LITEM) for a cup of coffee

Gizmo's Brick Oven Pizza will be hosting the Guardian ad Litem Program's Monthly Recruitment Coffees on the last Tuesday of Monday of each month. Gizmo's located at 3547 S. U.S. Hwy 441 in Okeechobee. Oct. 27, is the date. Remember the time 10 a.m. and the place Gizmo's Brick Oven Pizza. The reason: Volunteering to "Change a Child's Life. The coffee is for anyone interested in knowing more about the Guardian ad Litem Program. Guardians ad Litem are trained volunteers who are court-appointed as child advocates and are involved in court proceedings, giving a voice to victims of child abuse. Volunteers are needed for Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin and Okeechobee Counties. Stop by for a free cup of coffee with a GAL Volunteer and find out how you too can Speak Up for an Abused Child. The GALP offers free training monthly. For more information, contact Patra Dodd at 772-871-7225.

'Dine with the Doctor' on Tuesday Oct. 27

Raulerson Hospital will begin the popular "Dine with the Doctor", A Medical Series on Tuesday, Oct. 27, in the North Dining Room of Raulerson Hospital. Dinner service begins at 5 p.m. followed by a presentation from guest speaker, Dr. James Bradfield, Board Certified Gynecologist at Raulerson Hospital. Dinner is only \$5. The lecture is FREE. The series is held on the last Tuesday of the month. For more information please call Marnie Lauter at 863-824-2702.

Central to host Fall Fest

Central Elementary will be holding their annual Fall Festival on Friday Oct. 30, from 5 to 8 p.m. There will be games, prizes, a haunted train, cakewalk, food and lots of other fun events. Tickets are available the night of the carnival. This has been an annual tradition in Okeechobee for many years and it is a great family event.

'Devils Night at BHR VFW

The VFW Post 9528 Buckhead Ridge Ladies Auxiliary is having a "Devil's Night" on Friday, Oct. 30, at 7:30 p.m. There will be a pumpkin tree and other activities. A 32" flat screen TV will be one of the prizes up for grabs. Food for the evening will be shrimp or fish for a donation. Wear a costume and get a treat. For more information, please call 863-467-2882.

Free memory loss screenings

Appointments are needed for free memory loss screenings on Oct. 30, from 11 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the Visiting Nurse's Association, 208 S.E. Park Street, Okeechobee. Screenings are for anyone, any age concerned about memory loss. Screenings are conducted by staff from St. Mary's Memory Disorder Center. Results from screenings are immediate. Call Donna True, LCSW at 1-800-861-7826 ext. 1.

H1N1 flu hotline open

The Florida Department of Health has launched a toll free number to provide public health information and updates on the H1N1 Swine Flu. This information line will be available from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. 7 days a week, call 877-352-3581.

Main Street to meet

Okeechobee Main Street will hold their Quarterly General Membership Meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 28, at the Brahma Bull Restaurant beginning at noon.

All members or anyone wanting to know more about Okeechobee Main Street are encouraged to attend.

For more information call 863-357-6246.

Substance abuse group plans memorial ceremony

The Okeechobee Substance Abuse Coalition will host their third annual Narcotics Overdose Prevention and Education (N.O.P.E.) ceremony at the Okeechobee County Civic Center on U.S. Highway 98 N., on Thursday, Oct. 29. Refreshments will be served at 5:30 p.m., and the ceremony will start at 6:30 p.m. For information, contact Connie Curry at 863-763-3117 or Lucille Arcuri at 863-261-3685.

CCC meeting date announced

The next meeting of the Community Collaborative Council, a part of the Shared Services Network of Okeechobee, will be Tuesday, **Oct. 27**, at 10 a.m. in the School Board Office.



Special to the Okeechobee News/Vicki Anderson

Breakfast Showcase

The Realtor's Breakfast Caravan Showcased Treasure Island on Oct. 8, with local realtors in attendance included: (Front Row) Amy Davis, Pristine Properties, Wendy Bostwick, Preferred Properties, Jayla Townes, Preferred Properties. In the second row: Jeri Wilson, Pristine Properties, Kathy Godwin, Preferred Properties, Velva Cannon, Exit Realty, Debra Pinson, Preferred Properties. In the third row are: Barbara McClellan, Preferred Properties, Sharon Johnson, Tucker Group, Lynne Price, United Country, Molly Curley, Gil Culbreth Real Estate, Marcia Barber, Preferred Properties, Julie Turner, United Country, Bill Seabolt, Exit Realty, Vicki Anderson, Goolsby Realty, Eric Anderson, Goolsby Realty.

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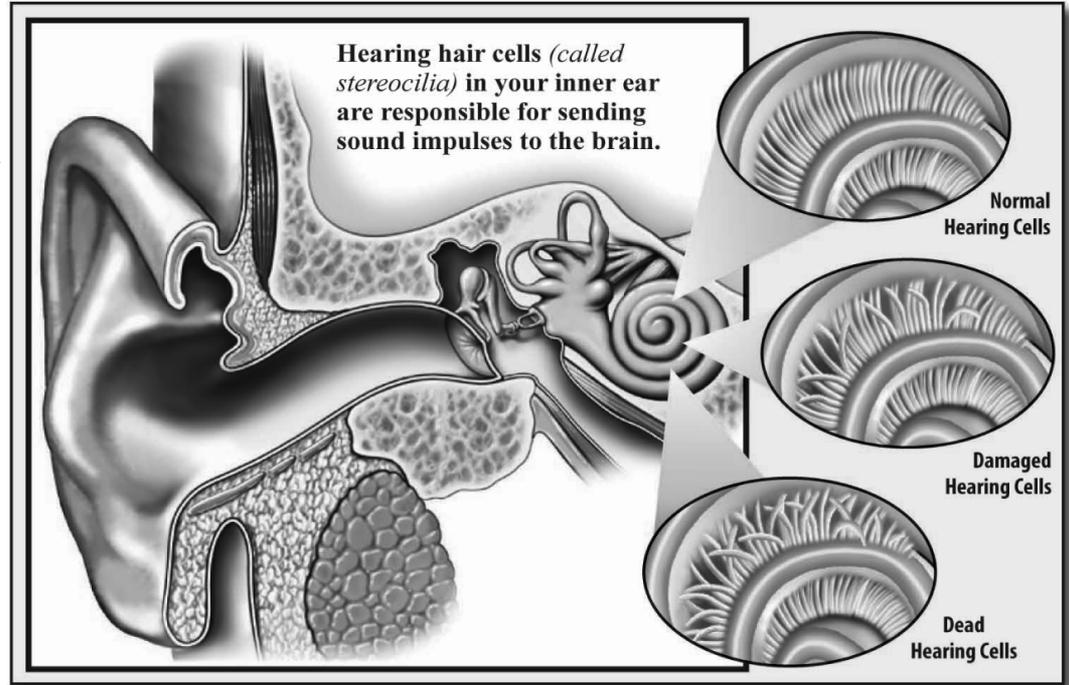
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Until recently, there was no practical way to identify dead regions of hearing cells in the ear.

However, a new British developed procedure using standard test equipment now allows for identification of dead hearing cell regions. The study suggests that the presence or absence of dead regions may have serious implications in the fitting of hearing aids.

This research reveals that amplifying dead cells is a mistake which will result in poorer speech understanding in noise. A new type of digitally programmable microcircuit is now being released from Audibel - the world leader in nano Science technology - that can be programmed to bypass the dead cells. As a result, the patient's unable hearing cells receive amplification, thereby improving speech understanding in noise.

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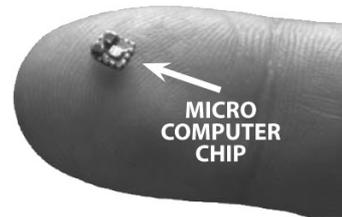


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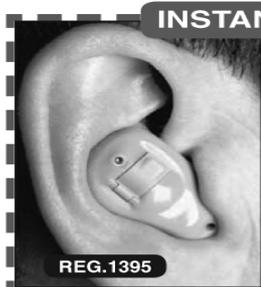
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College Day assists OHS students

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Approximately 30 universities, community colleges, and trade schools were on hand for the annual College Day Monday at Okeechobee High School.

Guidance Counselor Bill Black said invitations go out to a number of schools each year. He commented many out of state schools didn't attend this year due to budget cuts.

The event is mostly for juniors and seniors to get them ready for the next step in their education. "We've also added sophomores, students in Achievement via Individual differences. We're going to take a group to the University of Central Florida in November. We want to make them aware and get them ready for college," said Mr. Black.

He said no actual statistics are kept on how many students go on to college now from Okeechobee High. He noted the guidance office is sending out more transcripts to colleges these days.

"Some kids say they can't go to college, but we try to find other things for them as well," he said.

Senior Josh McCall was among those who helped to organize the event. He said it gives students valuable information.

"There's a lot of colleges you don't really know about it," he said. "You hear the names, but you don't know really know anything about them. This is a good way to find out."

Megan Clements, another senior, wants to become a forensic pathologist. She said that her classmates are very interested in college. "I think that's because you definitely have to get a college degree to get a good job," she said.

Staff Sergeant Victor Rosa, of the U.S. Army Career Center in Port St. Lucie, said the Army is getting more interest from high school students. He mentioned that most kids asked him about the opportunities to get an education.

"Believe it or not the Army is full in the reserves," he said. "We provide economic benefits superior to civilian jobs. We're offering a lot of money for college and opportunities for education."

He noted the Army is also trying to attract more bilingual soldiers from this area, "Were doing very good recruiting. Most of the kids we try to guide them to the right career or situation."

Rebecca Johnson, admission officer for the University of Florida, said her table was pretty busy, "We are popular no matter where we go. We get a lot of questions about financial aid, and the deadline to apply."

Michael Alberto, Admissions Officer for Florida State, said he also got a lot of interest from students, "They want to know the average GPA and the deadline for admissions," he said. "We've gotten a lot of interest."



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Rebecca Johnson, Admissions officer of the University of Florida, answers questions at OHS College day as students Austin Willard and Aaron Suarez look on.

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Special to the Okeechobee News

Officer Elections

The Raisin 'Em Right 4-H Club held their 2009-10 officer elections at their first meeting. Officers elected are as follows: President - Shayla Pendrey; Vice President - Caleb Stewart; Secretary - Cristin Shelton; Treasurer - Ashleigh Ezard; Reporter - Zachary Stripling; Historian - Allison Chandler; Chaplain - Rance Pendrey; and Sergeant at Arms - John Shelton. Congratulations to all who were elected. The Raisin 'Em Right club meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at the Okeechobee County Extension Office, and begin at 7 p.m. If you would like information on this club, call 863-634-0154.



Special to the Okeechobee News/YMS

Yearling Middle School students selected as Students of the Week in the top row are: Christian Cruz, Denise Calzada, and Keri Dixon. In the bottom row sitting are: Fermin Olvera and Felipe Soto. Also in the photo are Mr. Brewer, Mrs. Markham and Mr. Tedders.

S-65D navigation lock to close for one day inspection

Weekend hours for Kissimmee River navigation locks to change on Nov. 1

The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) will close the S-65D navigation lock on the Kissimmee River to navigation for a one-day inspection on Wednesday, Oct. 28. The District is taking this action to ensure the safety of divers who will be working in the lock chamber during the day. The lock will resume normal operation on Thursday, Oct. 29.

Weekend Schedule Changes Nov. 1

From Nov. 1 through Feb. 28, weekend operating hours for S-65D and other navigation locks in the Kissimmee River system change to 5:30 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. Weekend hours for the rest of the year are from 5:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m.

Weekday operating hours remain from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday through Friday throughout the year.

Other navigation locks affected by the change in weekend hours are the S-61, S-65, S-65A, S-65C and S-65E locks. S-61 is in the Upper Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, and S-65 is at the convergence of Lake Kissimmee and the Kissimmee River. The rest of the locks are on the river between lakes Kissimmee and Okeechobee.

For more information, please contact the SFWMD Okeechobee Service Center at 863-462-5260 or 800-250-4200 or the SFWMD Orlando Service Center at 407-858-6100 or 800-250-4250.

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Students of the Week

Central Elementary Students of the Week for the week of Oct. 12, are: Kindergarten: Tiffani Gutierrez, Adolph Torres, Stephanie Yanez, Daisy Torres, Benjamin Shirley and Jose Pineda. In the first grade are: Zachary Reister, Elia Martinez, Seena Fawzy, Chase Pellicer, Josh Jenkins, Cristian Morales; second graders are: Stephanie Martinez, Megan Jones, Rebekah Raulerson, Reed Jones, Cynthia Sandoval, Brighton Bauman, Moises Fernandez. Third grade students are: Blanca Gaona, Antonio Pineda, Martin Bornheimer, Audra Meara, Jesus Gomez and Fourth graders are: Mckayla Skinner, Lauren Bostwick, Kaitly Hoyle, Emily Garrard & Jovanie Bustos.



Special to the Okeechobee News/SES

Students of the Week

Students of the week for Oct. 15, are: Chelsea Hastings, Nabila Rashid, Yiselle Arellano, Penelope Rodriguez, Lyndravious Allen, Chase Beal, Karina Romero Ortega, Alex Valdes, Madison Schneider, Edward Lauth, Amber Marquette, Juliett Navarro-Nieto, Anselmo Garcia, Sydney Hendrix, Armani Gallegos, Matthew Garcia, Hunter Mehrer, Mason Adams, Garrett Causey, Dylan Wooley.

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Wearing pin leads to job loss

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

"I'm standing for what I believe in," said Trevor Keezer. His stand has cost him five days without pay and eventually cost him his job at an Okeechobee business.

Mr. Keezer claims to have been wearing a pin with an American flag and the words "One nation under God, indivisible" for a year and a half on his Home Depot apron. That is almost as long as he had been working at Home Depot.

He said he has received compliments on the button and it did not seem to be a problem until recently.

On Oct. 5 he said he was told he could not wear the pin at work, even on his personal clothing, unless it was worn under the apron where it could not be seen. After that, he was out about two weeks on medical leave. When he returned to work wearing the pin, he was sent home.

On Friday morning, Oct. 23, Mr. Keezer reported for work wearing his pin. He was terminated from his job.

Home Depot policy prohibits local managers from commenting on personnel matters.

Home Depot Senior Manager-Public Relations Craig Fishel issued this statement: "As a matter of company policy, the Home Depot does not comment on specific personnel issues. In general, the company's dress code policy states that, no, we do not allow non-company buttons, regardless of their message or content, to be worn on aprons or other clothing, to ensure a consistent policy for all associates."

Mr. Fishel said that the prohibition against buttons was a long standing policy.

When asked if it is a freedom of speech or freedom of religion issue, Mr. Fishel said it is not.

"I don't feel like I am doing anything wrong," Mr. Keezer said.

Mr. Keezer, who has a brother currently

serving in Iraq, said he is convinced that he is right and is willing to accept whatever consequences result from his action.

"I have faith God will provide," Mr. Keezer said. "I'm standing for what I believe in. Every day our freedoms are disappearing."

Mr. Fischel stated Home Depot supports the United States military, referencing the Home Depot web site which states, "the Home Depot has a rich and proud history of support of the United States Armed Forces through a wide range of scholarships and activities."

According to the web site, Home Depot pledged \$1 million and more than one million service hours to help military families with home repair while their loved ones are away on active duty; equalized pay and benefits for active duty associates who are currently serving our country; and donated \$1 million in tools to support the U.S. Military in Iraq.

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



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda
Home Depot employee Trevor Keezer was informed that wearing his "One Nation Under God" violates his employer's dress code policy.

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Swim teams continue improvement

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

The Okeechobee High School girls swim team won again, this time over John Carroll, 101-61 on Wednesday night.

Sarah Annis won the 200 free with a time of 2:26.30, a personal record. Tessa Delcampo won the 100 fly, and the 400 relay team of Savannah Asmussen, Celena Letcher, Sarah Annis and Jessica Wackler won their race.

The boy's squad fell to the Rams, 112-46. Freshman Alex Buck and Michael Miller both had personal records in their events. Derek Borrotto was also praised for cutting 20 seconds off his personal best time in the 100 backstroke. On Tuesday, the teams were very competitive in losses at Jensen Beach. The girls lost 95-85 while the boys swim team lost 98-56.

Highlights for the girls team included Adriana Mitchell, who had her personal best time in the 100 freestyle, 1:06. Jessica Wackler won the 500 with a personal best time of 6:23. Coach Brian Turner praised both girls for their efforts.

"Both of our swim teams are peaking at the right time," he said. "We will finish our taper this weekend and prepare for the district meet."

Boys golfers excited about regional

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Stay in the now, and don't look ahead, or look behind. That's the advice Okeechobee golfers will get when they hit the tee box at the 2A Region 6 Boys Golf Championship Tournament in Viera. Some of the best teams in the area will be there, and Okeechobee will likely have the chance to make the state tournament if they play to their potential.

"I think we have a good shot going to state as long as we put numbers up," veteran Tyler Platt said during a practice this week.

Brahman Coach Mark Ward said the kids appear to be confident and he's excited about their chances. "The kids are one year older. They have more maturity and the experience of playing with pressure," Coach Ward said, "I will tell them, this is no different than a Saturday morning golf match, play the course, don't pay attention to other golfers and get in a zone."

Ward will have Michael Watson, Richard Donegan, Kodi Stephen and Tim Gray in the lineup on Monday. He still must choose a fifth golfer between Tyler Platt, Tony Devoss, Tyler Finney, and Austin Hamilton. Whoever he chooses, Ward said he's confident that player will produce.

Richard Donegan has been in this spot before. He came to the regional as a freshman last year. His 79 score last week in the district tournament is the main reason Okeechobee advanced. He said last year's experience should help the team. "Coach wants us to stay in the now and stay in the moment. We've been here before and hopefully we'll do a little better."

Tyler Platt said he knows he must play better if the team is to get to the state tournament. He noted his goal is to handle the mental part of the game and not get frustrated "Once I get past that, I think I'll do well. You just can't pay attention to the other players. They might hit 300 yard drives and stick every shot. You just have to get past that and play your game."



Preparation for the regional golf tournament is keeping these fellows busy as Tyler Platt (left) practices his chipping. Kodi Stephen (center, left) practices on the green at KOA. Tony Devoss (center, right) tees off at a recent practice at KOA. Richard Donegan (right) hopes to duplicate his 79 in the district tourney.

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Dwyer shuts out Okeechobee to win district title

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Dwyer scored three touchdowns in the first five minutes of the game and cruised from there to defeat Okeechobee 48-0 to claim the District 15-4A title Friday night.

QB Jacoby Brissett threw for 259 yard and three touchdown passes in the contest against the Brahmans young secondary. He said he knew his team would have guys open in the secondary, "We wanted to make sure that we scored early. It was homecoming and we wanted everybody to play in front of the home fans."

Okeechobee was held to 73 yard in total offense. They did not move the ball into the Panther red zone. Their young QBs were rushed hard all night as Okeechobee went to four and five wide receiver sets to throw the ball and get rid of it early.

Brahman Coach Myron Jackson said he saw some good things from his young quarter-

backs, D.J. Washington and Jack Radebaugh, "I was very enthusiastic about their accuracy. They stood in the pocket and got rid of the ball quickly. We had no interceptions and won the turnover battle."

Dwyer returned the opening kickoff 45 yards thanks to Robert Clark and scored two plays later. Clark caught a 39 yard pass from Brissett for a first and goal, and then scored on a short swing pass in the end zone.

On their second drive, Brissett found Gerald Christian opened down the right side and hit him for a 52 yard score and a 13-0 lead just three minutes into the game, "I saw him open. I knew that pattern would be open and I threw it to him," Brissett said.

He noted he likes to spread the ball around so everyone can score a touchdown.

A bizarre special teams play gave Dwyer their third touchdown less than two minutes later. Walt Fortner's punt was deflected at the goal line and landed in the hands of Layton

Haynes as he stood in the end zone to make it 20-0.

Dwyer scored on their next possession on a 2 play, 46 yard drive. Mike Ruiz grabbed another deep pass for a 39 yard touchdown.

On many of the long passes Dwyer's speed was evident as they had separation from the defensive backs.

"The first three scores we had to get used to their speed," Coach Jackson said, "Then we got used to their speed that they were playing at, and saw we could play with them, and had some opportunities."

Okeechobee kept Dwyer off the scoreboard for the next quarter as they forced a punt and recovered a fumble after a big play. Clark caught a 58 yard pass from Brissett but as he struggled to get to the goal line, Deforest Shanks stripped him of the ball. Shanks returned it 32 yards to the 35 yard line.

Dwyer (6-1) scored on a three play, 80 yard touchdown drive in the second quarter. Matt

Elam ran 35 yards for a score and a 34-0 lead. Another Dwyer drive ended with an interception by Walt Fortner.

Dwyer got one final score before the half set up by a 43 yard pass reception by Christian. Brissett carried four yards for a touchdown to make it 41-0 at the half.

There was a running clock in the second half. Dwyer got a touchdown run from backup QB Bobby Puyol in the fourth quarter to cap a nine play, 58 yard drive.

Coach Jackson said Dwyer was an impressive team, but he thinks Okeechobee can one day compete with them, "We've got to get the same jets they have, the same size, and that will come in the off season. It will take a big time commitment to the weight room."

Volleyball win streak ends at Vero Beach

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee's eight match winning streak was snapped Thursday in a tough, four game loss at Vero Beach.

Okeechobee lost 25-22, 26-24, and 25-23 and won 17-25 against Vero Beach (18-2). The Lady Brahmans, (18-9), played well despite the loss as all of the games were very close.

Okeechobee opens up their district tourna-

ment Tuesday against Fort Pierce Central.

Senior Megan Clements said she feels the team can play well next week, "Hopefully we'll play three matches next week. When we play Jensen Beach we will try to beat them."

Senior Janezka Koger said the team knows how good Jensen Beach is. She noted that Okeechobee has improved too.

Senior Monica Koger said she feels Okeechobee has the ability to be district champs. "We

want to go in there and get the job done. We won't go in big headed, and will go in there and work hard."

Coach Todd Jones said the team will likely meet Suncoast on Wednesday and Jensen Beach on Thursday. He said his team really will have to play better defense against Jensen.

"Their offense is pretty strong. If we can slow it down or stop it, I think we will do much better against them."

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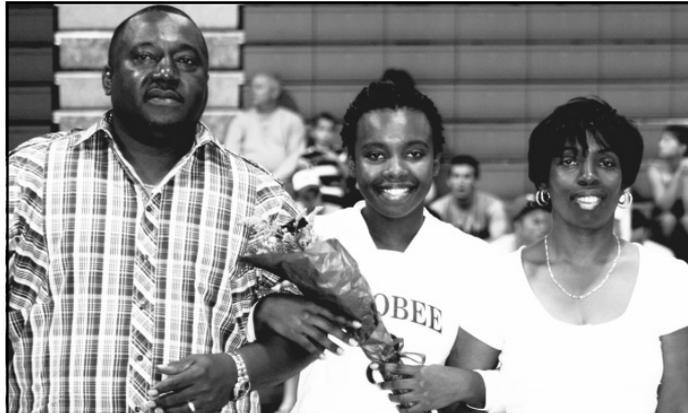
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4 seniors honored at Senior Recognition night



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy

Four Okeechobee High School Volleyball Team seniors were honored Oct. 21 at their game against South Fork. Senior Caitlyn Gaucin is flanked by her parents Joe Gaucin and Cathie Carpenter at senior night



Janezka Koger is flanked by her parents Kelvin and Gwen Koger during the senior recognition at the Oct. 21 volleyball game



Megan Clements is flanked by her parents Lisa and Duke Clements at senior night.



Monica Koger is joined by her parents Nilda Koger and Roger Jones at senior night.

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

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

Ricardo J. Quintero-Herencia, MD



Green Day
 Medical
 Oncology &
 Hematology of Okeechobee

Serving the Treasure Coast

- Specializing in evidence based medicine for the treatment of cancer and blood disorders
- Combined Chemotherapy and Radiation Therapy treatment
- Medicare/Medicaid assignment accepted
- Consulting and Free Second Opinions Regarding Cancer
- All insurance plans accepted and filed
- Courtesy transportation provided

New Patients Welcome

Se Habla Español

1231 N. Lawnwood Circle Fort Pierce, FL 34950 (772) 460-5501
 1006 N. Parrott Avenue Okeechobee, FL 34972 (863) 357-4138

SKIPLACKS 105 SE 6th St 467-0470 FREE DELIVERY

Liar's Menu ... *3pm-5pm M-F
 Our fantastic early bird specials are no fish story!

<p>Early Dinner Platter Served with 2 sides, hushpuppies, and your choice of either Fried, Seared, or Blackened. Choose one of the following : Fish Filet, Dolphin, Shrimp, Catfish, Clams \$9</p>	<p>Soup & Salad Combo Our Garden Salad paired w/ New England Clam Chowder or the soup 'de jour! \$7</p>
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Super Savings Menu!

<p>Fish Wrap Seasoned Skipjack fish fillet tossed in Skipjack sauce, with lettuce, tomato, and cheddar cheese. Served with one side...\$6.50</p>	<p>Skipjack Fish Sandwich Breaded golden fried, seared, or blackened fish fillet, with lettuce, and tomato. Served with 2 sides and your choice of tartar, spicy mayo, or Skipjack sauce...\$6.50</p>
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Soup & 1/2 Sandwich ... \$6.50

10% off your WHOLE check w/this coupon

KIDS MENU!

Online Classifieds



Free Ads
Free Speech

newszap.com

Create Your Own Ads Online! Two weeks FREE ... It's Easy!

Submit Your Free Online Classified Ad Today at WWW.NEWSZAP.COM - Click on Classifieds

Post your ads in any of these newspapers for only \$8 each:

Okeechobee News • Caloosa Belle • Clewiston News • Glades County Democrat • Immokalee Bulletin • The Sun

- Online for 2 weeks - 4 Lines + 8 Photos
- Absolutely FREE!
- Add 4 more lines & more photos for \$4 each
- Post your ads in our papers for only \$8 each

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

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

Employment Full Time

Employment Full Time

SPRINT/NEXTEL

Full/Part Time (Sat/Sun A Must)

Customer Service/Sales

Energetic
Self Motivated
Professional Appearance
Bi-Lingual
a PLUS

Send Resumé to 1418 S Parrott Ave

Full Time Mechanic

Walpole Inc, a family owned and operated company, is seeking a Full Time Truck and Trailer Mechanic.

Work 5½ days per week w/additional rotating on call weekends. Walpole, Inc offers Competitive Wages, Full Benefits and much more.

Apply in person:
269 NW 9th St
Okeechobee, FL

Delivery Assembly Person Needed
Apply in person:
Badcock & Moore
512 Northwest Park St.

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

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

Employment Full Time

FACILITIES MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTOR

Full-Time and Part-Time. Great opportunity to teach carpentry, plumbing, electrical wiring and other building trades to young adults. Five years related trades experience as well as excellent communication skills are needed. A background in training or teaching is preferred. HS diploma or equivalent required, as well as a valid drivers' license. E-mail resume & cover letter to jobs@hbi.org or fax to 202-266-8948. Visit us at www.hbi.org. EOE/AA/M/F/D/V

Insurance agency looking for a **FULL TIME CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE**. No experience required, apply in person at 1500 State Road 70 East Okeechobee, FL 34972, behind the Race Trac gas station.

VST COORDINATOR

Will coordinate cooperation between organizations, ensure student job readiness, manage performance of staff, among other duties. Bachelors degree, 5 yrs exp, strong communication and computer skills required. E-mail resume & cover letter to jobs@hbi.org or fax to 202-266-8948. Visit us at www.hbi.org. EOE/AA/M/F/D/V

Employment Medical

Front Desk - Computer exp. needed. Healthcare exp and bilingual pref'd. Competitive salary & excl benefits. Fax resume to (863) 357-2991 or apply at FL Community Health Centers, 1100 N. Parrott Ave., Okeechobee, FL. EOE/DFWP.

Employment Medical

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

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

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

Medical Center looking for MEDICAL DIRECTOR in the Okeechobee area. Please fax your resume to 1-863-248-8172

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

Employment Part Time

GENERAL LABORER for lawn service. P/T (25 +/- hrs. per wk). Call Rodney 863-467-9004

Join all the people who say, "I sold it in the classifieds."

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

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

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

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.

Services

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Child Care

TCM - Schneider Family Child Care Home. Gentle & Fun! R190K0022 (863)532-9079

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

Top Soil

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

Merchandise

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Air Conditioners

A/C repairs & install
Free est. 24/7 Call TC
863-812-2244
St.Lic CACA 33613

Barns Sheds & Lawn Items

CRAFTSMAN TRACTOR - 19 HP 42in EXCELLENT SHAPE! LEAVE MSG. \$350 (863)357-2891

Shop here first!
The classified ads

Furniture

LOVESEAT AND TABLE - IN GOOD SHAPE \$150 /will sep. (863)763-0380

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

Guns/Supplies

For Sale: Glock 45 mod 38 14" clip \$485. S & W 38 Rev \$485. 863-697-6095.

MARLIN 9MM rifle - Marlin 9mm camp gun never been fired. \$290 (754)422-2725

SMITH & Wesson 38 special - Model 10 (blue) \$250 (754)422-2725

***Wanted* Handguns**
All types.Cash.
863-697-6095

Household Items

****STORE CLOSING****
- Habitat For Humanity! NOTHING OVER \$25.00 Clothes,Furn,Misc.Items 860 Main St. LaBelle Fl. All merchandise must go! Nov.6th,7th,13th&14th 9am-5pm Each day **ALL SALES FINAL!!** (239)652-0388

Agriculture

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Lawn & Garden

CRAFTSMAN TRACTOR - 18 HP BRIGGS,RUNS GREAT! LEAVE MSG. \$150 (863)357-2891

Rentals

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Apartments

GREAT APARTMENTS GREAT LANDLORDS 2BR/2BA, in town, W&D, \$800 mo. + \$500 sec. Call (863) 634-5780

Labor Housing Avail. Nov. 1, 2009. Can be H2A Certified. Call Brandy 863-465-4629

OKEE., 2BR, 1BA New kitchen, bathrm., paint. Laundry. \$625/mo., \$500 sec. dep. 772-215-0098

TAYLOR CREEK CONDO - Furn. 1BR, pool, W/D facil., yearly or seaso. No pets. 502-468-5976.

VIKING/PRAIRIE Efficiency. Vray clean! \$600/mo. Incl. utils. No pets. Call 561-329-8205

Commercial Property

FOR SALE OR LEASE 1574 Sq. Ft. office bldg. @ 210 NE 3rd Ave. Call 863-763-0295

Condos/Townhouses Rent

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

New, In Town - CBS Townhouse, 2/1, \$695 + util., FL&S, lease. 863-801-3081

Houses - Rent

DUPLEX 3BR, 2 BA \$750 mo., Garbage pickup & Lawn included and require 1st & sec. (863)634-5283

FOR RENT - 3/2/2 split plan, W/D Hook-up, Southwest Section. (863) 634-9330 (863)467-2541

OKEECHOBEE - 4br, 2ba, great neighborhood, tile throughout, \$975 & up/mo, 1st & sec move in (561)248-3888 or (863)599-0156

Land - Rent

3b/3ba, furnished. on rim canal-Lake Port, Latinos welcome \$1200 mo FLS 772-285-0127

R.V. LOTS FOR RENT Free Wifi! Weekly \$150 or mo. \$375 incl. elec. Call 863-763-0295

Office Space Rent

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT
(863)763-8565

Rooms To Rent

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

Real Estate
For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Houses - Sale
OKEE. - \$89,900, 3/2, exc. cond., dbl lot, great neighborhood. Call (863) 801-1739

Lots - Sale
VIKING LOTS, \$5,900 Dry, 1 1/4 ac lots, price covers all costs. Call Don 954-290-0861

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

Mobile Home Rent
NEWLY REMODELED - 2BR/2BA Double Wide Stove Frig. W&D. \$725 mo. (863)467-5616

OKEECHOBEE 3BR 1.5BA screened patio, carport, wood floors, dbl. lot, town water/sewer, \$750 mo., no dep. (954)610-5345

Rentals 3BR 2BA \$850 mo. & 1BR 1BA \$585 mo. (863)763-2098 or (863)610-1386

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

DW MH - renovated, 4BR/2.5BA, 1800 sq. ft., fenced 1/2 acre lot, screened porch, shed, Pioneer Estate area, \$89,000. Bank finance avail. (863)610-1600

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

Boats
TRITON TR18DC 1999 - Garaged, Well Maintained, 150 Merk, Trailer, Factory Cover, 24 Volt Trolling Motor, Mounted GPS, Depth Finder, All Cushions, All Batteries. \$7200 (863)763-8132

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

Motorcycles
HD '01 Sportster, 1200 custom. New tires. Detachable windshield. \$3800 (863)634-3912

SUZUKI INTRUDER 1987 - needs some cosmetic work, nothing major. runs good when last used about June of 09 \$1000 /neg. (863)634-9433 (863)634-8925

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

Automobiles
DODGE INTREPID LE, 2000 - Fully loaded with all extras, like new, \$5400. 863-763-2763

Pickup Trucks
2005 GMC 3500 duramax diesel crew cab-flat bed runs & drives great \$10,500. 863-763-4426

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

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION CASE NO. 47-2009-CA-000601

CHASE HOME FINANCE LLC SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO CHASE MANHATTAN MORTGAGE CORPORATION, Plaintiff, VS. LISA KAREN HICKOK, et al, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF ACTION
TO: JACKIE WILSON RAINES LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 20522 NW 286th Street Okeechobee, FL 34972 CURRENT ADDRESS: UNKNOWN

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, GRANTEE, 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:

THE EAST 1/2 OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF TRACT 3, SECTION 28, TOWNSHIP 34 SOUTH, RANGE 33 EAST, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGES 3A THROUGH 3D, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA; TOGETHER WITH A MOBILE HOME LOCATED THEREON AS A FIXTURE AND APPURTENANCE THERETO

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

Motorcycles
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

Public Notice
each week for two consecutive weeks in the Okeechobee News (Independent Newspapers).
WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court on this 19th day of October, 2009.
Sharon Robertson Clerk of the Court By: Linda F. Young As Deputy Clerk 337043 ON 10/25;11/01/09

PUBLIC NOTICE
Okeechobee Utility Authority will temporarily change its method of chlorinating potable water to insure the future safety of our drinking water. The water users may notice an unusual chlorine taste or odor in their tap water after Nov 1, 2009. These conditions will last thru Nov 23, 2009.
These temporary conditions will not be harmful to your health; however, if you are on kidney dialysis, you should consult your physician for special instructions concerning this matter. If you have tropical fish or aquatic animals, you should contact your local tropical fish store for advice and take appropriate action to insure that you have properly treated the water before adding it to your aquarium.
The hydrant flushing during this period may cause the water to become cloudy and discolored. This is a temporary condition and should not last more than a few hours.
We sincerely regret any inconvenience you may experience during this time. Please keep in mind that this is necessary to provide safe water for the customers of Okeechobee Utility Authority.
If additional information is needed, contact Kevin Rogers at 763-3239. We regret any inconvenience that this may cause you. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.
OKEECHOBEE UTILITY AUTHORITY 335739 ON 10/25,28,30/09

Motorcycles
NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE COQUINA WATER CONTROL DISTRICT
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR COQUINA WATER CONTROL DISTRICT WILL HOLD A MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2009 AT 9:00 A.M. AT 17429 NW 242ND STREET, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972 (FIELD OFFICE). A COPY OF THE PROPOSED AGENDA MAY BE OBTAINED UPON REQUEST FROM THE UNDERSIGNED. IF ANY PERSON DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE BY THE BOARD WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT SUCH MEETING; THAT PERSON WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PRECEEDINGS AND FOR SUCH PURPOSED THAT PERSON MAY NEED TO INSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS, WHICH INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED, IS MADE. ANY PERSON WISHING TO SPEAK AT THE MEETING MUST HAVE THEIR NAME AND TOPIC PLACED ON THE AGENDA ONE WEEK BEFORE THE DATE OF THE MEETING. ALL PROPERTY OWNERS WITHIN THE DISTRICT ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, PERSONS NEEDING A SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION OR AN INTERPRETER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PRECEEDINGS SHOULD CONTACT THE DISTRICT'S OFFICES BY CALLING (863)763-4601 AT LEAST TWO (2) DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE MEETING.
NOTICE: COQUINA WATER CONTROL DISTRICT HAS AN ONGOING AQUATIC SPRAYING PROGRAM DISTRICT WIDE.
WILLARD M. BYARS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS 17429 NW 242ND STREET OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972 (863)763-4601 OR (863)634-3166 336877 ON 10/25/09

Public Notice
The classifieds are the most successful salesperson in town.
Earn some extra cash. Sell your used items in the classifieds



Special to Okeechobee News/OHS
Nezzie Koger, a senior on the Okeechobee High School Volleyball team was selected as Female Student Athlete of the Month for September. Nezzie has had 148 service points, 136 digs and 85 kills for the season.



Special to the Okeechobee News/OHS
Kenny Murphy, a senior on the Okeechobee High School Swim Team was selected as Male Athlete of the Month for September.



Special to the Okeechobee News/Raye Duesinger

Supporting sponsor
Vic Lancaster, Business Development Coordinator for Glades Electric Cooperative presents a check to Raye Duesinger, Chairman of the Okeechobee Blood Roundup. This is the third year GEC has acted as a sponsor for the annual blood drive, which this year has a goal of 500 donations in just two days, Nov. 13 and 14.



Special to the Okeechobee News/CES

Student elections
Student Council Elections were held Oct. 9. The representatives are excited and ready for a productive new school year. Student Council Representatives are: President, Hunder Strickland; Vice-President, Kaitlyn Hoyle; Treasurer, Haley Bryner and Secretary, Delaney Jones.

Crossword Puzzle

- Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis
- ACROSS**
1 Overactors
5 In pieces
10 Forget about
14 Object of worship
15 Ladies' man
16 Costa ___
17 Centennial State rock?
20 Pilot's announcement, briefly
21 Frontier bases
22 Wolverine State fire starter?
26 It'll never fly
27 Bud's buddy
28 Wetland
29 One in a "Flying" circus act
32 ___ generis: unique
35 Peach State wide open spaces?
39 Sixth sense
40 Baggage claim item
42 Firm way to stand
45 Guy
46 Without precedent
47 Cotton State sculpture?
51 Italian veal dish
53 Pah preceder
54 Cornhusker State Town Car?
59 Quaint "Holy moly!"
60 John of England
61 Bay of Pigs locale
62 Disney dog
63 Catches one's breath
64 To be, in old Rome
- 7 O'Neill's "___ for the Misbegotten"
8 Blunt rejection
9 Play the piccolo
10 Synthetic fabric
11 "A living faith will last in the ___ of the blackest storm": Gandhi
12 "Rhyme Pays" rapper
13 Old salts
18 Bitter complainer
19 Words before smoke or flames
22 Copy cats?
23 Reflection
24 Bell hit with a padded hammer
25 Auto with a four-ring logo
30 Cut off, as branches
31 Remote batteries
32 [error left as is]
33 Like a 12-a verdict
34 Basketball Hall of Famer Dan
36 Mountain lion
37 Neeson of "Taken"
- 38 When many go to lunch
41 Dolly, the clone, was one
42 Derivatives of it are used in sunscreen
43 Privilege loser, often
44 Bring down on the gridiron
47 Equally yucky
48 "Mercy me!"
- 49 Watery trenches under drawbridges
50 Italian lawn game
51 Like Ogden Nash's lama, in a poem
52 Big name in video games
55 Place to park
56 Connections
57 Barbell abbr.
58 Rob Roy's refusal

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

xwordeditor@aol.com

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62						63					64			

DOWN
1 Juice drink with a hyphenated name
2 Big fuss
3 Minute particles
4 One of the deadly sins
5 Coach
6 Pea's place

By Dan Naddor
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