

# OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 100 No. 144

Wednesday, December 2, 2009

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## Food pantries see increase in need

**By Pete Gawda**  
 Okeechobee News

While there are more people in need this Christmas, others have been more generous.

According to Marnie Lauter of Raulerson Hospital Public Relations, 88,000 pounds of nonperishable foods were collected this year in Okeechobee as part of the Food for Families program. That is 3,000 pounds more than last year.

Food for Families is sponsored by WAPT Channel 5 and Riverside National Bank. While the drive covers the entire WAPT viewing area, food collected locally at

the bank and at the schools was brought to Raulerson Hospital for storage and distribution.

That food was distributed to ten local organizations: First Baptist Church, Okeechobee Christian Church, Big Lake Missions Outreach, Real Life Children's Ranch, Fort Drum Community Church, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Oak View Baptist Church, Martha's House, Jesus is Alive Ministries, and the Okeechobee Presbyterian Church.

Some of these organizations have food pantries and most are by appointment only. The Mis-

sion House of First Baptist Church helps people by appointment only. The number is 863-763-2171.

Fort Drum Community Church operates a food pantry with no set hours. A person in need must contact the church at 863-467-1733. Oak View Baptist Church has a food pantry which operates on an "emergency only" basis by appointment only. The church number is 863-763-1699. The food pantry of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 701 SW Sixth St., is open Mondays and Fridays from 9 to 11 a.m. Families are limited to visits once every two months. Big Lake

Missions Outreach distributes groceries by appointment only. The number is 863-763-5725.

The food pantry at Okeechobee Presbyterian Church, 312, N. Parrott Ave., takes walk-ins. They are open from 9 a.m. to noon, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. However, visits are limited to six times a year.

Oak View Baptist has seen some increase in clients in recent months, but nothing dramatic, church officials said. The Presbyterian Church has seen a dramatic

See Food — Page 2

## Bandstand planned for Okee-Tantie

**By Pete Gawda**  
 Okeechobee News

Okeechobee residents received an early Christmas present on Tuesday, Dec. 1. At an emergency meeting Okeechobee County Commissioners unanimously voted to purchase a bandstand type shelter for Okee-Tantie Campground and Marina. The purchase will be paid for entirely from a Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program Grant and no county funds will be involved.

County Administrator Lyndon Bonner called the emergency meeting because of time constraints. The recreation project that the grant is to be used for must be completed by April 30, 2010. Mr. Bonner felt that waiting until the next regular meeting on Dec. 17 would be crowding the deadline. The original grant application was to purchase and install 215 picnic

tables, 215 pedestal grills, 50 fire rings and 24 benches. Because of hurricane damage, there are not 215 rentable sites at this time so the full number of tables and grills is not needed at this time.

"The question always comes to mind is this the best we can do?" asked Mr. Bonner.

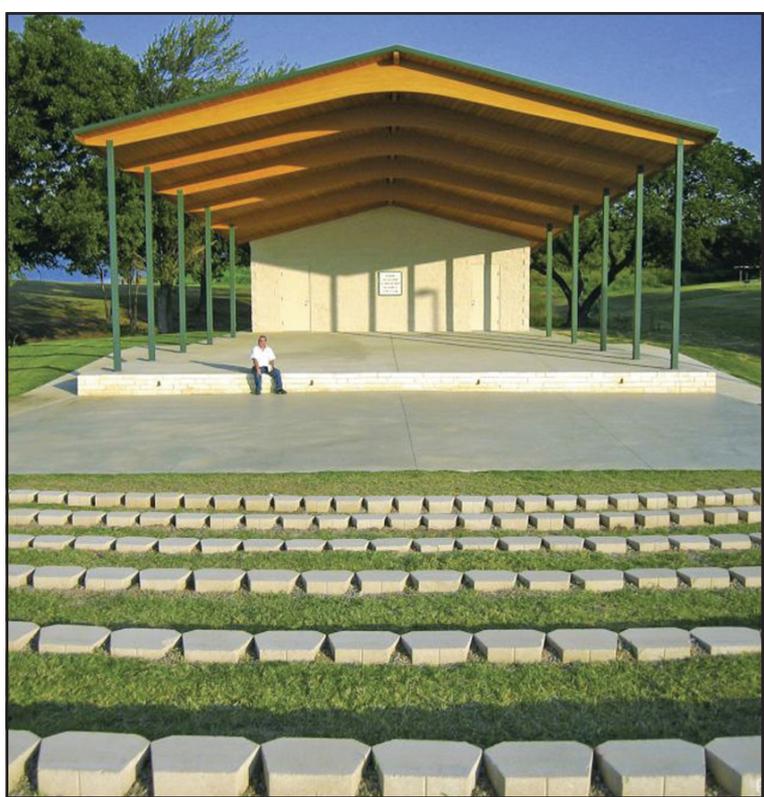
He said he felt the bandstand would be a real addition to the park and would be low maintenance.

"This is going to be one of our premier facilities," the administrator said of the park.

The cost of the bandstand is \$54,927. It is estimated that assembly will cost an additional \$100,000. The balance of the \$200,000 grant will be used for other park amenities.

While the total cost of the project is not known at this time, the board felt that there was enough

See Bandstand — Page 2



Special to the Okeechobee News/RCP Shelters  
**On Tuesday, Dec. 1, at an emergency meeting, Okeechobee County Commissioners approved using a state grant to purchase this type bandstand for Okee-Tantie Campground and Marina.**

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# Bandstand

Continued From Page 1

cushion in the grant to ensure completing the project without using any county funds. The bandstand will be built on a concrete slab raised 24 inches from ground level. It

will be 50 feet wide at the front and about 40 feet deep. The sides will taper back to about 40 feet in width in the back. The metal roof will be supported by metal columns and there will be a wooden ceiling. The roof will be higher in the front than in the back. A storage room at the rear of the open structure will from a backdrop.

After board approval the order was placed that day with a delivery date of Jan. 18. In the meantime, site work and concrete work will be done. It is hoped that the bandstand will be completed in time for the March 3 Okee Tantie Family Festival.

Donnie Oden, capital projects manager

for the county, said he had only seen brochures at that time. He did not have any construction details. At the Dec. 17 commission meeting he should have more details and the project will probably be discussed in more depth.

# Kidnapping suspect returned to Okeechobee

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News

An Okeechobee man has been returned to the Okeechobee County Jail where he is being held in connection with the alleged kidnapping of a woman in September.

Michael Anderson Goins, 40, N.E. Fourth Lane, was returned to Okeechobee County Monday, Nov. 30, where he was booked into the county jail on a felony charge of false imprisonment and a misdemeanor charge of violation of a protective injunction.

His bond has been set at \$55,000.

Goins was also arrested on a Department of Corrections (DOC) warrant charging him with violation of probation - simple battery and violation of probation - assault. He is being held without bond on those charges.

The Okeechobee man has been incarcerated in the Osceola County Jail since his Sept. 20 arrest in Yee Haw Junction after the female victim notified authorities of her alleged kidnapping. The disposition of that case was not known as of newspaper deadline.

Goins was arrested by a deputy from the Osceola County Sheriff's Office after he allegedly abducted the 38-year-old woman from a convenience store on S.R. 70 E. where she worked.

An arrest report by Deputy Sergeant Shannon Peterson, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), states that Goins kidnapped the woman from the store around 7:30 to 8 a.m. as she was leaving to make a bank deposit.

The victim later told Sgt. Peterson that Goins came out from behind a fence and forced her into her Saturn sports utility vehicle. He then took the keys to the convenience store and threw them into a pond, the report continued, and drove away.



Michael A. Goins

According to the sergeant's report, while they were northbound on U.S. 441 Goins pulled the woman's hair and hit her several times. When they reached Yee Haw Junction, the woman apparently told Goins she had to use the bathroom.

After walking into the bathroom at the Pilot Travel Center on east S.R. 60, the woman borrowed another woman's cell phone and called the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office and waited for their arrival. However, a deputy from the Osceola County Sheriff's Office was first on the scene.

That deputy then placed Goins under arrest on a misdemeanor charge of domestic battery without further incident, said Twis Lizasuain, public information officer for the Osceola County Sheriff's Office.

The victim was returned to Okeechobee by OCSO Deputy Sarah Green and the bank deposit was turned over to the woman's supervisor at the store.

Sgt. Peterson indicated in his report that the woman's left eye was swollen.

OCSO records show that Goins was arrested on March 31 on a felony charge of aggravated domestic battery. The victim in this case was the same woman he allegedly kidnapped and assaulted in September.

Goins was again arrested on May 21 on a warrant charging him with assault. Again, the same woman was the alleged victim.

On March 28, Goins reportedly went to the woman's workplace and threatened her with a shotgun. Then, on March 30, an OCSO arrest report indicates he began to cut the woman's shirt off with a pocketknife and when she tried to push him away her fingers were cut.

That arrest report by Deputy Howard Pickering states that the woman was taken to Raulerson Hospital after the March incident where she was treated for a bruise and bite mark on her shoulder, scratches over and under her right eye, a bruised left eye, cuts to her right hand and a sprained left arm.

# OCSO web site now includes inmate info

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News

Information on inmates at the Okeechobee County Jail -- both past and present -- can now be found on the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) web site.

The web site -- www.okeesheriff.org -- is also being expanded to provide other services such as press releases.

"We think this site will better serve the citizens in their search for public information," said Sheriff Paul May. "Our Information and Technology employees will continue to improve and upgrade this web site to better serve the community."

To access this new service—which became available Wednesday, Nov. 25—go to the OCSO web site then choose the 'Corrections' tab. Next, go to 'Inmate Search' on the menu. Once here, you can search for a local inmate by using their name.

Currently, inmate photos and bonds have not been placed on the web site. However, that information is expected to be added soon.

"We're still working on getting the photos and bond amounts (on the site)," said OCSO Detective Ted Van Deman. "But, the site will have an inmate's charges, name, date of birth, booking number, booking date and time, race and sex, place of birth, height, weight, hair color, court case number, if the charge is misdemeanor or felony and whether it was a probable cause or warrant arrest."

# Food

Continued From Page 1

increase. In January of this year they served 260 households. By October, the monthly total was up to 335. At Fort Drum Community Church the numbers have remained about the same. Big Lake Missions Outreach has seen some increase in numbers since last year. They also noted an increase last year from the year before.

While the Food for Families Drive is an annual event, the food pantries welcome donations of nonperishable food year round.

Post your opinions in the Public Issues Forum at [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com). Reporter Pete Gawda can be reached at [pgawda@newszap.com](mailto:pgawda@newszap.com).

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# Local Man cut in fight; three others arrested

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News

Three men were arrested and a knife seized following an alleged fight at a local bar during which a male victim received a cut to the face.

Arrested were: Michael Gonzalez, 39, S.E. Fifth St., Okeechobee; George Tijerina, 33, N.W. Eighth Ave., Okeechobee; and Ruben Tijerina, 39, S.E. 36th Ave., Okeechobee.

Gonzalez and George Tijerina were both arrested on a felony charge of aggravated battery with a deadly weapon and booked into the Okeechobee County Jail under a bond of \$5,000. Ruben Tijerina was also charged with the same felony as well as a misdemeanor charge of resisting a law enforcement officer without violence. His bond was set at \$5,500.

An arrest report by Deputy John Hazy, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), states that two men were leaving



Michael Gonzalez



George Tijerina



Ruben Tijerina

the bar on U.S. 441 S.E. when a verbal altercation started between them and the other three men.

One of the alleged victims was hit by one of the three men and then cut just above the right eye by another man, the report stated. The cut, stated Deputy Hazy, was approximately 3 inches in length.

That victim also had other minor injuries that were not easily discernible due to the blood from the knife wound, continued the deputy's report.

The second victim was reportedly hit in the back of the head but did not see his attacker.

A witness to the fray said one of the three men ran to a white pickup truck and returned with a knife. He then "... began to swing the knife at everyone around him," the witness reportedly told the deputy. According to the arrest report, the witness saw the victim being cut above the eye.

The white truck—occupied by Gonzalez, George Tijerina and Ruben Tijerina—was stopped a short time later in the 3600 block of U.S. 441 S.E. While the men were being detained by other deputies Ruben Tijerina tried to flee on foot but he was quickly apprehended.

Ruben Tijerina, it was later learned, is a convicted sex offender in Broward County.

According to a records check, he was arrested in 1989 and then convicted of attempted sexual battery and four counts of lewd and lascivious battery. And while he is now a registered sexual offender living in Okeechobee County, he is not under any type of court-mandated supervision or restriction.

Ruben Tijerina said he fled because due to his sexual offender status, Deputy Hazy stated.

Deputy Hazy went on to state in his report that a silver pocket knife with a 3-inch blade was found in the pickup truck in which the three men were traveling.

Gonzalez was later arrested on a Hillsborough County warrant that charged him with violation of probation and disorderly intoxication.

## Okeechobee Arrest Report

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

- Nyashia Napre Robinson, 14, U.S. 441 N., was arrested Nov. 25 by Deputy Cari Arnold on a charge of battery on detention staff. After being booked into the Okeechobee County Jail, Robinson was taken to the Department of Juvenile Justice Detention Center in Fort Pierce.

- Ethan Harris, 26, S.W. Ave. E., Belle Glade, was arrested Nov. 25 by Deputy Justin Merriman on a charge of possession of contraband in a county detention facility. His bond was set at \$5,000.

- Adam Lee Scott, 30, Graywood Court, Indianapolis, Ind., was arrested Nov. 25 by Deputy Thomas Kitchen on a charge of driving under the influence. He was released on his own recognizance.

- Cherise M. Lawrence, 21, Phyllis Circle, Eustis, was arrested Nov. 25 by Detective Bettye Taylor on charges of grand theft and giving false information to a pawnbroker. Her bond was set at \$10,000.

- Alfonso Nixon, 50, N.E. Seventh St., Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 26 by Deputy Steven McKinley on a charge of aggravated assault. His bond was set at \$5,000.

- Doug Carl Lambert, 41, N.W. 272nd St., Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 26 by Deputy Mark Shireman on a felony charge of dealing in stolen property and a misdemeanor charge of theft. His bond was set at \$10,250.

- Mark German Perks, 42, Cradley Road, Dudley, England, was arrested Nov. 26 by Deputy Justin Akins on a charge of driving under the influence. His bond was set at \$1,000.

- Edgar Vazquez Delgado, 26, S.E. 10th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 27 by Officer Russell Cale on a felony charge of false imprisonment. He was also arrested on misdemeanor charges of domestic battery

and resisting a law enforcement officer without violence. His bond was set at \$7,000.

- Robert Seigh, 30, N.W. 20th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 27 by Deputy Corporal Aric Majere on a Pennsylvania fugitive warrant charging him with recklessly endangering another person. He is being held without bond.

- Norma Jean Axon, 44, S.W. 13th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 27 by Deputy John Ashby on a charge of driving under the influence. She was released on her own recognizance.

- David Lee Hallback Jr., 25, Madison Chase, West Palm Beach, was arrested Nov. 27 by Deputy Donald Ellis on a charge of grand theft - auto. His bond was set at \$5,000.

- Jose Armando Mendez, 28, N.E. 10th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 29 by Deputy Anthony Kibler on felony charges of false imprisonment and burglary. He was also arrested on a misdemeanor charge of battery. His bond was set at \$5,000.

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.

## Inmate charged with digging hole in cell wall

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News

An inmate at the Okeechobee County Jail awaiting sentencing on sexual battery charges has been arrested for reportedly digging a hole in a wall of his cell.

Eddy Howard Oliver II, 40, was arrested Wednesday, Nov. 25, on felony charges of escape, possession of contraband in a detention facility and criminal mischief. He is being held without bond on the charges.

Oliver was being held in the county jail following his arrest last year on four counts of sexual battery on a child and one count of incest. He has entered a plea of no contest to those charges and is scheduled to be sentenced Thursday, Dec. 10, by Circuit Court Judge Lawrence Mirman.

Assistant State Attorney Ashley Albright said it's unlikely these new charges will have any effect on Oliver's sentencing next week unless he elects to answer to them all at one time. However, Mr. Albright said he

intends to keep the cases separate.

An arrest report by Deputy Mark Margerum, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), states that OCSO Detention Deputy Lisa Outten searched Oliver's cell Wednesday and found a hole in the concrete wall of cell A-60. The hole was about 8-inches x 8-inches and about 4-inches deep.

Deputy Outten also found several pieces of metal that were apparently being used to dig out the concrete, added the report. But he primarily used a metal bar from the bathroom to make the hole, the report indicated.

According to the report, the hole was covered by a piece of paper that had food menus written on it in calendar form, as well as hand-drawn maps depicting the layout of the jail. Also found in the cell was a hand-drawn diagram of Oliver's cell with an 'X' allegedly marking the area where the hole in the wall was in relation to the bed.

Oliver, stated Deputy Margerum, has been in cell A-60 for approximately 16 months.

Damage to the cell wall was estimated at \$600.



Eddy Howard Oliver II

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

### Renters beware

• My daughter is apartment hunting. Being a teenager, working as a waitress leaves not much room for high priced places. I have gone with her several days to help her look. I went with her today to look at a mobile home. As soon as I walked in, I was in shock. The place was disgusting! I opened the 'frig and it was filled with black mold. I went into the bathroom, and the toilet had filth in it. I called the slum land lord and asked if she had any intentions of having the place cleaned. She said yes, I asked her what exactly was going to be cleaned and she was like "well, what do you mean?" I mentioned the toilet and she said "maybe this place is not what your daughter is looking for." Obviously not. What home owner would EVER put an add in the paper for prospective renters to go and look for a place in that type of condition?

• It's a learning experience for the young people. When they find out how much it costs for any apartment, they'll realize just how sweet they had it at home. The landlords will charge as much as the market will bear. If no one rents the place, then the price will come down.

• I find it unfortunate that people find it to be okay to take advantage of those without a lot a money. There are many good people who because of circumstances beyond their control do find themselves in situations where they have to relocate and the housing choices are less than sub standard.

• The free market system works. If the place is a sty, don't rent it.

• Some people do not see dirt. Some see it everywhere. Renting is a responsibility in both ways. To keep it clean for the next person. And keep it clean enough to live in it on your own. Yes, soap is inexpensive. But the knowledge to know how to use it, that is different. Because some people are just too plain lazy to use it. Yes, it is a form of growing up and wanting to leave home. But, as we all know the grass is not greener on the other side.

### Prescription drug abuse

• Drug addiction is rampant in Okeechobee County. If you have a teenager in your home, you might have some knowledge of what goes on. But, I don't think people grasp how much of a problem it is, in Okeechobee and all over small town America. It used to be when we were teenagers, we would go to a party, and we knew we could get a beer. Now you can go to almost any party in Okeechobee where teenagers are and they are offered Oxycontin like it's candy. It's not just little Billy who everyone knew was going to grow up and be trouble—it's our cheerleaders, our football players, our kids that attend church on Sunday. Drug addiction has a face, and it's our youth that are paying the high price for addiction. As a parent, if your kids mention something to you—call the police. You don't have to give your name. Let's try and get this crap off the streets of Okeechobee. I KNOW parents of teenagers in Okeechobee know from their kids who is selling drugs in Okeechobee. A simple phone call might save your child's life, or that of another.

• As long as you have all so-called pain doctors, you are going to have that problem. They prescribe more than they need and they end up selling the rest as extra income.

• Drugs at school used by any type of student is nothing new. I graduated over 40 years ago, and drug use was rampant then. You are not going to stop drug use. You have to educate your kids that it is not cool to be an abuser of any substance. If you use drugs or alcohol yourself, your kid will see you as a hypocrite. Be a good example. No matter what you do, some kids will become users because they choose the life. Unfortunately, the final decision is on each person.

• Parents need to realize that today the most common form of teen drug use is prescription pills that they steal from their parents, grandparents, friends' homes, etc. Do not leave your prescription pills in the medicine cabinet -- it is too easy for anyone who asks to use the bathroom to just help themselves! Keep your pills in a place where you can keep them secure. A teen can easily snag a few pills and you might not realize it if they don't get too greedy. Since pain pills are not a "certain number per day" prescription, you might not use the same number every day. Some days you take more. Some days you might not take any. So it's hard to keep track of how many should be left.

• On Sunday, there was an article in the paper about prescription drug use in the school system. One person was found to already be smoking the prescription drug. At their age (high school) there are only two more steps... shooting the drug up and death. In the article, it was stated that nine deaths have already occurred in Okeechobee County due to over doses of prescription drugs. This will rise, I anticipate, two-fold by next year. Society thinks that this does not effect them directly, but it does. When someone's habit gets out of hand, they turn to crime to support their daily usage. Their habit has already forced them to steal from their family and friends. They have been kicked out of their home at some point. A person addicted to prescription drugs will do anything to get their next fix. What Okeechobee is seeing is just the start of this problem. Do a little bit of research and you will see that hundreds of small towns across America have been destroyed by prescription drug use.

### Rushing Christmas

• Christmas seems to bring out the best in most people. I find that even strangers will smile and exchange greetings MORE often than any other time of the year. So it doesn't matter when you BEGIN the holiday Season ... what I feel matters more is when you END it. Maybe if it didn't end things might be better! Maybe we should give some thought to making that a reality.

• The season of Advent -- four weeks before Christmas -- is supposed to be a time of contemplation and spiritual preparation.

• Rather than put Christmas lights on your house, I think it is more important to keep Christmas in your heart. Instead of spending so much time and money decorating, spend some of that time helping others and put some of that money toward feeding the hungry in our community. If you want to feel the Christmas spirit, focus on giving.

### Remember Pearl Harbor

• I enjoyed the article about the man who was an eye-witness to the attack on Pearl Harbor. Local schools should contact him about speaking to the young people. They need to know what happened, and here's a guy right in our town who was there at the time and saw it with his own eyes.

• Two important stories were on the front page of the paper on Sunday -- one about remembering our past with the anniversary of Pearl Harbor and one about the drug problem that is affecting our present teenage population and the future of this country. Everyone in town should read that paper. Both stories give important information that everyone should be aware of.

### Holiday shopping

• My hope is that everyone thinks safety first. Watch yourselves and the kids. Pick a couple times for one-day shopping trips with your elder family members to shop. This takes time that they deserve. There is no rush. RELAX AND ENJOY. The trucks arrive often so there's always something else to buy for the kids or Aunt Sally.

### St. Nicholas

• Do you tell your children about Santa Claus? Tell them the true story of St. Nicholas. Bishop Nicholas of Myra lived 270-346 in what is now called Turkey. Stories of his good works were spread to many countries by sailors, who regarded St. Nicholas one of their patron saints. "Saint Nicholas" was translated into "SinterKlaus" by the Dutch. He was known for his kindness to children. He had inherited a large amount of money from his parents, and people of the time suspected he was responsible for many anonymous donations given to the poor. After his death, people continued the tradition by making gifts in his name. The tradition of giving gifts anonymously and attributing them to "SinterKlaus" was commercialized in the United States and the story attributed to "Santa Claus" came with it. I think it is sad not only that Christmas has become so commercialized, but also that so many American children have no idea that "SinterKlaus" was a real person.

### Holiday safety

• Okay folks, it's Christmas time again. Celebrate as you please. Watch your purses and wallets. Know where the children are. Put a small blanket in your vehicle to cover your gifts, purses or whatever. Out of sight—out of mind. Use your trunk wisely—it hides everything. Document serial numbers on paper. Take digital photos of the items and their serial numbers. Lock, lock, lock your doors—car doors, truck doors, house doors, shed doors. The thieves know the gifts are being bought.

## KEECHOBEE NEWS

### To Reach Us

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**Circulation Manager:** Janet Madray

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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.



## Letter to the editor

### Thanks for the support

Thanks go to the donors for the VFW fund raising event on Nov. 14, benefitting the Okeechobee Pet Rescue including: Sears-Tools; Stafford's; Barney's; Hungry Howies; Perfect Cuts; Sue's Place, Kathy Sammons; Sue's Place, Sue Rogers; Main Street Salon; Katies Pet Grooming; Love on a Leash; Seacoast National Bank; Golden Corral Restaurant; Sun Trust Bank; Beef O' Brady's; Skip Jack's; Walpole Feed; Clock Restaurant; Affordable Art and Framing; Los Cocos Mexican Restaurant; Mid Florida Hardware; Riverside Bank Employees; The Outpost & Kidz Corner; The Landing Strip (Airport Restaurant); Donna Stiller, Mary Kay Basket; Claudia's Cookies; Happy Trails Spears; Annie's Pet Grooming; Hide Away; Judy Troop; Diane Thrift; Diva's Boutique & Consignment; and Diva's Stork Rental.

**Humane Society Pet/Rescue**



Special to the Okeechobee News/Humane Society Pet Rescue

## Happy Birthday!

**The VFW on 441 SE and Humane Society Pet Rescue joined together for a very successful First Birthday Celebration. It was a great hit with local businesses and people of our community to support the rescued cats, kittens, dogs, and puppies. A huge thanks to all.**

## Community Calendar

### WEDNESDAY

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

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

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

**Moose Lodge** Bingo and food, food served at 5 p.m. and bingo starts at 6 p.m. For information call 863-763-2250. Public is welcome.

### THURSDAY

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

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

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

New Beginnings **Narcotics Anonymous** has moved to 103 S.W. Second Ave. at 7 p.m. For information, call Monika at 801-3244 or Rocy at 610-0975.

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

**Prayer group** meets at 10 a.m. at the

Community Center, 412 N.W. Sixth St. For information, call 863-763-5996.

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

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

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

**Cowboys for Christ** will meet at Dunklin Memorial, 407 N.W. Third Ave. Everyone is invited. For information, call Mike Fletcher at 863-357-6257.

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

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

**Okeechobee Outreach Hope Narcotics Anonymous** will meet from 8 until 9 p.m. at the Church of Our Savior, 200 N.W. Third St. For information, call Hugh Lambert at 863-763-7185.

**Okeechobee Citizens Recreation Association, OCRA** will meet at 7:30 p.m. at Teen Town, 305 N.W. Second St. Anyone interested may attend. For information, contact Frank Coker at 863-467-1941.

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

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

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

**Okeechobee County Cancer Support Group** welcomes all cancer patients, survivors and supporters to attend, support and encourage each other. We meet the first Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 401 SW Fourth St., Okeechobee, (entrance is the door to the W in front of church). Please contact Susie Pickering at 863-467-5831 or First Baptist Church at 863-763-2171 for more information.

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## Okeechobee Forecast

**Today:** A slight chance of showers, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 82. Windy, with a south wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to between 15 and 20 mph. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

**Tonight:** Thunderstorms before 1am, then showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm after 1am. Low around 68. Southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80%.

### Extended Forecast

**Thursday:** Showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm before 1pm, then a chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 76. West southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

**Thursday Night:** Rain likely. Cloudy, with a low around 59. West southwest wind around 5 mph becoming north northwest. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

**Friday:** Rain likely. Cloudy, with a high near 75. North wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70%.

## Lotteries

**Florida Lottery** — Here are the numbers selected Monday in the Florida Lottery: **Cash 3:** 429; **Play 4:** 7514; **Fantasy 5:** 1-3-23-31-32; **Mega Money:** 4-8-12-28-MB18; **Florida Lotto:** 2-7-12-17-28-41-X2; **Powerball:** 26-27-28-46-50-PB21. Numbers drawn Tuesday, **Cash 3:** 452; **Play 4:** 2624.

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## Holiday Happenings ...

### Hospice hosts Festival of Trees through Dec. 5

Hospice of Okeechobee (411 S.E. Fourth Street) will host the annual Festival of Trees starting Friday, Nov. 27 through Sunday, **Dec. 6**. Open daily with no charge for admission. Hours are noon-4 p.m. on the weekends and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on weekdays. While you are there enjoying all the many gloriously decorated Christmas trees, do not forget to shop the Christmas Country Store. Funds raised will benefit patient care, including services at The Hamrick Home. For information call 863-467-2321.

### Holiday tour of homes

Raulerson Hospital is proud to sponsor its 11th Annual Holiday Tour of Homes. Proceeds raised this year will be donated to the United Way of Okeechobee and the Raulerson Hospital Hope Fund. The tour will be on Friday, **Dec. 4** and Saturday, **Dec. 5**, from 6-9 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person to drive through the Tour of Homes in your vehicle or \$25 for the chartered bus tour. Tickets may be purchased at Raulerson Hospital - Front Lobby, Suzie's Hallmark Shop in the Publix Plaza, Seacoast National Bank, Riverside National Bank and First Bank & Trust of Indiantown. For information, call Marnie Lauter at 863-824-2702.

### Santa at City Hall Park

Santa will be available for pictures in City Hall Park on **Dec. 2-3**, 8-10 and 14-15, from 6 until 8 p.m.

### Bike Run to benefit Big Lake Missions Outreach

The Old Men Riders is having a 125 mile bike run around Lake Okeechobee on **Dec. 5**, and is asking businesses, individuals and churches to sponsor each participating bike. All bikes and rods are welcome. The money raised will go to Big Lake Missions Outreach. Participants will meet at the movie theatre parking lot at 8 a.m. For more information call Gene Rodenberry at 863-634-1723.

### OKMS sponsors window decorating contest

Okeechobee Main Street invites you to join in on our annual Holiday Window Decorating Contest. Get your window decorated soon! Winners will be announced on Saturday, **Dec. 12**. If you would like to participate please send your business name and address, contact person and phone number. First place winner will keep our winners plaque in your place of business all year. Email: [okms@mainstreetokeechobee.com](mailto:okms@mainstreetokeechobee.com) or call 863-357-6246 for more information.

### Annual Christmas Parade planned

The Chamber of Commerce annual lighted Christmas parade will be held on **Dec. 12**, at 5:30 p.m. along with craft show in Flagler Parks #2 and 3.

### Annual toy drive under way

The Big Lake Missions Outreach is sponsoring their 15th annual Christmas toy drive for the underprivileged children in Okeechobee County. They are celebrating 15 years of proven ministry, reaching out to the poor and needy in Okeechobee. They are in need of gifts and toys for children one day to teen. They will accept gift certificates, checks made payable to BIG LAKE MISSIONS OUTREACH and cash. Volunteers will then purchase the items needed. Receipts and pickup are available if needed. Also, foods are always accepted through Dec. 21. For more information call 863-763-5725 or 863-697-6433.

### Holiday craft fair planned for Dec. 12 in BHR

Buckhead Ridge Women of the Moose will host a craft fair on Dec. 12. Reserve table for choice of indoor or outdoor space. Food, fun, attendance prizes will be available. Advertising provided. New - Destashers - Swap or sale of unused craft supplies, fabrics, tools, patterns. Clean out your craft stash - call Bonnie at 863-357-1556 or Sandoone at 863-357-0060.

### Santa is coming to the American Legion

Come one, come all. Veterans and their children are invited to visit Santa at the American Legion Post 64 from noon to 4 p.m. for dinner and toys on **Dec. 19**. Toys for veterans will be available Dec. 19-24. Open registration to qualified veterans, both male and female, will be held during Santa's visit. V.A. Reps will be on hand as well, from Palm Beach V.A. Hospital. For more information call 863-763-2950.

### Pictures with Santa

The Kiwanis Santa will be available for photos in Flagler Park #4 on **Dec. 12**, 16-19, and 21-23 from 6 until 8 p.m.

### The Meaning of Christmas

**Oakview Baptist Church**, 677 SW 32nd St., will present a Christmas music celebration "The Meaning of Christmas" on Sunday, **Dec. 13**, at 3 and again at 6 p.m.

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## Obituaries

*Obituaries should be submitted to the Okeechobee News by e-mailing [obits@newszap.com](mailto: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](http://www.newszap.com).*

### Kenneth 'Squirrel' James Richbourg, 25

OKEECHOBEE — Kenneth "Squirrel" James Richbourg, age 25, of Okeechobee, died Friday, Nov. 27, 2009.

Born March 3, 1984, in Ft. Lauderdale, he had been a lifetime resident of Okeechobee. He enjoyed computers, music and singing.

He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Pete Richbourg.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Richbourg; mother, Nancy Kratovil; brother, Jeffery Williams; sister, Heather Richbourg; nephew, Devon Richbourg; grandmother, Nell Richbourg; uncle, Wayne Richbourg, all of Okeechobee; aunt, Donna Lightsey of Ft. Pierce; and father, Randy (Anita) Richbourg of Clewiston.

The family will receive friends from 2 p.m. until service time of 3 p.m., Friday, Dec. 4, in the Buxton Funeral Home Chapel.

All arrangements are under the direction and care of the Buxton Funeral Home and Crematory, 110 NE 5th Street, Okeechobee. On-line condolences may be sent to [www.buxtonfuneralhome.com](http://www.buxtonfuneralhome.com).

### Stuart Howard Powell Sr., 53

PAHOKEE — Stuart Howard Powell Sr., age 53, of Pahokee, died Friday, Nov. 27, 2009, at his residence.

Born Sept. 22, 1956, in Ft. Pierce, he had been a resident of Pahokee for over 40 years. He proudly served in the U.S. Navy.

He was preceded in death by his father, Marion Powell.

He is survived by his loving wife, Vicki D. Powell of Pahokee; sons, Stuart Howard Powell, Jr. (Brenda) of Pahokee, Donald R. Powell (Mariza) of Belle Glade, David L. Powell (Carmen) of Clewiston, Richard W. Powell (Tara) of Pahokee; brothers, Ernest Powell (Lisa) of Wellington, Dennis Powell (Elvia) of Clewiston, Don Powell (Terry) of Clewiston; sisters, Josephine Collins (Derrick) of Palatka, Gretta-Jean Galati (Allen) of Bradenton; and mother, Gretta Alden of Okeechobee. In addition he is survived by 12 grandchildren.

The family will receive friends from 10 a.m. until Masonic service time of noon, today, Dec. 2, in the Buxton Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Jerry Stone of the 1st Baptist Church of Canal Point officiating. Interment will follow in Port Mayaca Cemetery.

All arrangements are under the direction and care of the Buxton Funeral Home and Crematory, 110 NE 5th Street, Okeechobee, FL. On-line condolences may be made at [www.buxtonfuneralhome.com](http://www.buxtonfuneralhome.com).

### Dennis 'Randy' Randall Leitner

OKEECHOBEE — Dennis "Randy" Randall Leitner, age 48, of Okeechobee, died Sunday, Nov. 29, 2009, in the Hamrick Home.

Born March 13, 1961, in Okeechobee, he grew up in Okeechobee before moving to Ohio 13 years ago. He was a member of the Church of God and enjoyed fishing.

He was preceded in death by a brother, James Ray Leitner.

He is survived by his parents, Ray and Norma Leitner of Okeechobee; wife, Lori Leitner of Piqua, Ohio; stepdaughter, Mandy Griffith of Piqua, Ohio; daughters, Trish Levine of Palm Bay and Amanda McMillan of Ohio; brothers, Rodney Leitner, Heath Leitner, Donnie Leitner (Pam), Norman Leitner, Timmy Leitner (Diane); sisters, Denise Garnsey (Jeromy) and Ashley Leitner all of Okeechobee. In addition he is survived by four grandchildren, two great-nieces and one great-great-nephew.

The family will receive friends from 4 to 6 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 3, and services will be 10 a.m., Friday, Dec. 4, in the Buxton Funeral Home Chapel with Paul Buxton officiating. Interment will follow in Evergreen Cemetery.

All arrangements are under the direction and care of the Buxton Funeral Home and Crematory, 110 NE 5th Street, Okeechobee, FL. On-line condolences may be made at [www.buxtonfuneralhome.com](http://www.buxtonfuneralhome.com).

### Shirley Sterner Varner, 80

VERO BEACH — Shirley Sterner Varner, 80, died Nov. 27, 2009, at Harbor Chase of Vero Beach.

She was born in Hanover, Pa., and lived in Okeechobee, for 26 years.

Mrs. Varner was in management of women's retail. She served as the first woman board member of the Hanover Chamber of Commerce and was on the board of Downtown Hanover, Inc. Mrs. Varner was a member of the Hanover Soroptimist Club, Ladies of Okeechobee Elks, VFW, and the Moose, of Okeechobee.

Survivors include a son, Ashley B. Varner of Latrobe, Pa.; a daughter, Pamela S. Varner of Vero Beach; four grandchildren, Ashley B. Varner II, Meg S. Varner, Joseph D. Worley, and Kate S. Worley; one great-granddaughter, Elizabeth N. Varner; and a brother, Herbert H. Sterner.

Mrs. Varner was predeceased by her husband, Ralph H. "Rube" Varner; mother, Queba Arentz Sterner; and father, Herbert S. Sterner.

A private family service will be held at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer/Parkinson Association of Indian River County, 2501 27th Ave., Suite A-8, Vero Beach, FL 32960.

Arrangements are under the direction of Thomas S. Lowther Funeral Home & Crematory, Vero Beach. A guest book may be signed at [lowtherfuneralhome.com](http://lowtherfuneralhome.com).



# Local churches plan events

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

Advent services begin today, **Dec. 2** at Peace Lutheran Church, 750 NW 23rd Lane. Sandwiches will be served at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall with service to follow at 7 p.m.

**Grace Brethren Church**, 710 S. Parrott Ave., will have a free family movie night, Friday night, **Dec. 4** at 7 p.m. The movie "The Christmas Card" with John Newton, Alice Evans, Lois Nettleton, and Ed Asner will be shown.

The men of **First United Methodist Church**, 200 NW Second St., are sponsoring a smoked chicken dinner on Friday, **Dec.**

4 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Take out only. Delivery will be available for 10 or more dinners. They will also serve from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. that same day with dine in or take out service. The menu consists of one quarter chicken, cole slaw, baked beans, roll and dessert for a \$6 donation. Tickets are available at the church office or orders



## Places of Worship

may be faxed to 863 763-2481 by 10:30 a.m. Thursday. Include contact name, phone number and address to deliver dinners.

**Buckhead Ridge Christian Church**, 1167 Linda Drive, will be having their Annual Christmas Craft Bazaar and Book Fair on Saturday, **Dec. 5** from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. There will be homemade crafts and baked good. Lunch will be available. If you have any questions please call Suelynn Richardson at 863 357-6500. The church will present a Christmas Cantata on Sunday, **Dec. 6** at 7 p.m.

*The Okeechobee News welcomes news from area churches for this column. E-mail okeeneews@newszap.com or call Pete Gawda at 863 763-3134, extension 4225.*

# South Florida dry weather causes concern

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

Dry weather is causing a delicate balancing act between the level of Lake Okeechobee and the salinity level of the Caloosahatchee River.

On Nov. 24 South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) issued a news release expressing concern about dry weather and the fact that the level of Lake Okeechobee was 0.74 feet lower than this time last year. It listed several steps SFWMD was taking to conserve water.

On that same day the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers issued a news release announcing an 11 day release of fresh water from Lake Okeechobee to the Caloosahatchee the next morning. The pulse release was intended to counteract poor salinity conditions in the

Upper Caloosahatchee and reduce chloride concentrations in the vicinity of the Olga Water Treatment Plant. October was the fourth driest October dating back to 1932. November was also very dry.

"The beginning of the dry season has been disappointing with regard to rainfall across the region. As a result, conditions are drier than expected, said Susan Sylvester, director of SFWMD's operations control and hydro date management department. "While the climate outlook does indicate a higher chance for above normal rainfall, it is still too early to tell how much of an impact the rain will have on the already dry system."

"A persistent lack of rain over the past several weeks has led to higher salinity levels than we would like to see in the Caloo-

sahatchee Estuary," said Stu Applebaum, COE's deputy for restoration program management. "We will remain sensitive to future water supply needs but at this time we have determined that releases can improve estuary conditions while having a negligible impact on the lake's water level." After the pulse release is completed COE will re-evaluate the situation and coordinate with SFWMD and other affected agencies. A pulse type release resembles the naturally occurring pattern of runoff caused by rain, which normally leads to an increase in flow as rain continues to fall, followed by a gradual decrease as runoff comes to an end.

## Christian Academy to host spaghetti dinner

Okeechobee Christian Academy will host their 14th Annual Spaghetti Dinner this Saturday, **Dec. 5** from 3-7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at 701 South Parrott Ave. The meal includes spaghetti, meat sauce, green beans and roll for a donation of \$5. Tickets are available in the office 863-763-3072 or can be purchased from one of our students or at the door. You may also order lunch on Friday, Dec. 4. Delivery is available on orders of 5 or more to the same address

between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. You may also drive-thru and pick up your lunch. We are still looking for goodies for the Bake Sale and new items for the Silent Auction. Donation pick ups are available. Please call the school office at 863-763-3072. Okeechobee Christian Academy have the **poinsettias back by request**. They can be ordered until 9 a.m. on Dec. 7 and will be delivered here to us on Dec. 9. Please call the school for more information.

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# Hospice hosts annual holiday Festival of Trees

By **Katrina Elsen**  
Okeechobee News

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at Hospice of Okeechobee. The organization's annual Festival of Trees features a hall decked with holiday decorations and a small forest of Christmas trees.

The trees were decorated and donated by local clubs, businesses and individuals. They will be sold in a silent auction with all proceeds going to Hospice.

The trees range in height from tabletop size to seven footers. Decorations range from traditional holiday ornaments to stuffed animals to fishing tackle. Many of the trees follow the theme of the donor organizations. The High School Rodeo Team donated a tree decorated with tiny cowboy boots. The Okeechobee Public Library Afterschool Program's tree

features storybooks. The 4-H Udder Bunch Dairy Club's tree has cow ornaments. And the Red Hat Society's tree is festooned with—you guessed it—tiny red hats.

Some of the "trees" are not really trees but rather tree-shaped stacks of toys, pinecones or other decorations.

The festival of trees runs through Dec. 6. Wednesday through Friday, hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. On Saturday, Dec. 5, and Sunday, Dec. 6, they will be open from noon to 4 p.m.

Those who wish to bid on a tree simply sign their name and put their bid on a list. If someone else wishes to bid on the same tree, they must bid higher than the last bid. On Sunday, final bids may be placed before 4 p.m. At that time the successful bidders will be announced. The winners will be notified by telephone and arrangements will be made for the winners to pay for and pick up their trees.

The Festival of Trees is also a stop on the Holiday Tour of Homes sponsored by Rauler-

son Hospital. For information on the Holiday Tour of Homes, contact Marnie Lauter at 863-824-2702.



The 4-H Udder Bunch Dairy Club's tree features cow ornaments.



A tree donated by Seacoast Bank features some extra "green" for holiday shopping.



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Okeechobee News/Katrina Elsen

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# OHS Girls Basketball Team wins over Labelle

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

Essence Williams and Monica Koger combined for 34 points and numerous steals and assists to lead Okeechobee, (5-1), to a 54-43 victory over LaBelle Monday night.

Okeechobee used their speed and defense while LaBelle used their perimeter shooting to make it a competitive and entertaining affair.

Brahman Coach Tony Sherlock said he saw some things that he liked, and some things that he didn't like, in the game. "When we ran our offense we were unstoppable," he said. "The kids ran what they wanted to do half the night. Labelle made great strides since the preseason. It very easily could have been a different story tonight."

Sherlock said LaBelle shot the ball well, and ran good defenses that confused his girls. "We had an edge in speed but I think they had the edge in ball handling."

Okeechobee built double digit leads in the first half but LaBelle always came back.

The Brahmans led 25-21 at the half. Okeechobee built another 10 point lead, 31-21, only to see LaBelle cut the gap to 31-29 late in the third quarter.

Every time LaBelle would get close, the Brahmans would go on a run thanks to their defense and steals. Williams had numerous points on the transition game and on drives to the basket.

"The girls are unselfish and we pass the ball well. When somebody is open, we got them the ball," she said.

LaBelle got no closer than six points in the fourth quarter. Key buckets by Markeisha Youmans and Jewel Buck helped the Brahmans keep a comfortable margin.

Williams said the team is working on being consistent in each game, "Sometimes we have our ups and downs but I think were getting there. I think we'll have a good team this year," she said.

The Brahman JV was also victorious Monday. Okeechobee travelled to South Fork on Tuesday night and will visit Boynton Beach in a district contest on Thursday.



Monica Koger (left photo) had 15 points in Okeechobee's win Monday. Essence Williams (right) scored a lot of points on drives to the basket against LaBelle.

Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy

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# OHS Boys Soccer team suffers another tough loss



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy

Hunter Pritchard works the ball at midfield for the Brahms during Mondays match.

## Soccer travel team win big at championship

A team of area boys were recently crowned Super Y League North American Champion. Okeechobee County is represented on the team by Hunter Pritchard and Diego Rodriguez.

The United Soccer League's North American Championships is a five-day-long premier elite event that brings together over 130 of the U.S. and Canada's best U13 to U17 boys and girls youth soccer teams. All teams qualify from summer league play and face top competition in the quest to become North American champion.

Schulz Academy arrived at the national championship without their injured captain and sweeper, Marcus Christian. Schulz Academy opened with a difficult 3-2 win over vaunted Chicago Magic. Anchored by their defensive fortress, Schulz Academy did not yield another goal for the championship. The team qualified for the semi-finals with a 5-0 win over New Jer-

sey Rangers. The goal of the match belonged to Midttun, who blasted a 25-yard shot that hit the inside top left corner of the Rangers' post. Schulz Academy used the last preliminary game as a tune-up for the semi-final with a 1-0 win over New Hampshire's Seacoast United.

Schulz downed Canada's Ottawa Fury 2-0 in the semifinal. The combination of Schulz Academy's relentless attack and impenetrable defense proved to be too much for Massachusetts's MPS Bulldogs in the 4-0 final victory. "These boys are one of the most technical and skillful teams that I have coached," remarked Coach Pitu Alvarez. "The defense secured each game until the offense capitalized on its opportunities. Thanks to our boys for giving it their all, thanks to Josef Schulz for giving us the opportunity to play under Schulz Academy, and thanks to our competition for the high-quality championship matches."

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee continues to make mistakes on the defensive end and Monday night a mistake in the final two minutes cost them a home match with St. Lucie West Centennial.

Okeechobee failed to clear a ball in front of their net and Julio Mindo was there to score for the Eagles, (4-0-1), in their 2-1 victory.

"Our guy swung and missed the ball. It's amplified because he's a defender. These offensive guys can get away with that," Brahman Coach Lonnie Sears said.

"They (SLW) were extremely physical in the first half. Most referees don't let you play that physical. I'm okay with it. We have to adjust. In the first half our guys were being pushed around. They didn't want to play that physical. If the refs let you play that way, you must play physical."

James Craddock scored in the first half for Centennial and Diego Rodriguez scored on an

assist by Oscar Garcia for Okeechobee's goal.

Sears also told the team they must capitalize on their scoring chances." We had three chances within six feet of the net wide open and we missed the net. That can't happen. There is no excuse for that."

Sears also scolded his team for not being ready to play in the first half. He said his players must give their maximum effort at all times.

Gustavo Garcia had four saves in the Brahman net. He played very solid and made some nice stops in the first half.

The boys travel to Jensen Beach for a district match on Wednesday. Their next home game is Friday, Dec. 11, against Covenant Christian of Melbourne.

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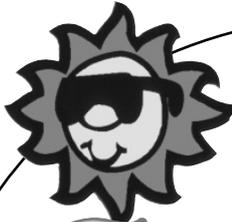
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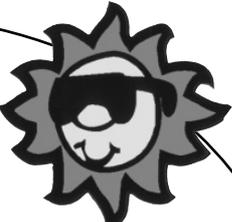
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- Emphasis on quality food, freshness and presentation
- Emphasis on kitchen security and safety
- Above all: the ability to maintain a clean and orderly kitchen with emphasis on Public Health
- Salary: DOE

Email resués to [earrieta@sdbteam.com](mailto:earrieta@sdbteam.com) or fax to 863-467-0610 • EOE

**MANAGER**  
Wanted for condo/rv park with 324 sites. Must have managerial and computer skills. A CAM license is required for the position. Send cover letter and resume to Board of Directors at the following address.  
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Board of Directors  
7950 Highway 78 West  
Okeechobee, FL 34974

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

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

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**OKEECHOBEE- Beautiful** property, Fruit Trees, lots of potential, possible Multi-Family Zoning, Great Winter Retreat approx 1ac on rim canal w/dock. 1br, 1ba, house \$185K, (954)599-5767

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

**Mobile Homes**  
For more listings, go to [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

## Mobile Home Rent

**2 bd 1 bath** Good neighborhood, fenced backyard, lease with option; \$650 p/mo 863-634-3451

**BHR - 20th St, 2/1, Avail** now thru Jan 29th, \$1300 plus utilities, lake access, furnished, 2 persons, Cable, No pets, (863)763-6086

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

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**Treasure Island - 2BR** SW on water, lg. lot, \$550 mo., 1st last & sec. 863-226-3436

## Mobile Home Sale

**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

**For Sale:** Travel Trailer w/2 pop outs. 30'. Two out buildings. Backs up to pasture, Lot rent \$220. Appt. Only. Lot #22 \$8500. 863-467-2589

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**Public Notices**  
For more listings, go to [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

## Public Notice

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROBATE DIVISION**  
FILE NO. 09-CP-68

IN RE: ESTATE OF SAVION JONES, Deceased

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of SAVION JONES, deceased, whose date of death was February 8, 2009, and whose social security number is 769-44-4478, is pending in the Circuit Court for Okeechobee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 312 NW Third Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972. The names and address of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

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

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is November 25, 2009

Personal Representative:  
ANGELA YATES  
1807 S. Parrott Avenue  
Okeechobee, FL 34974

Attorney for Personal Representative:  
LINDA CARGILL SMITH P.A.  
Florida Bar No. 306241  
1320 S. Federal Hwy, #215  
Stuart, FL 34994  
772-219-9157  
339987 ON 11/25 & 12/2/09

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## Public Notice

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROBATE DIVISION**  
FILE NO. 2009-CP-6

IN RE: ESTATE OF TOMAS OLIVERA-SALINAS, Deceased

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of TOMAS OLIVERA SALINAS, deceased, whose date of death was February 9, 2007, and whose social security number is (none), is pending in the Circuit Court for Okeechobee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 312 NW Third Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972. The names and address of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

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

The date of first publication of this notice is November 25, 2009

Personal Representative:  
MARTIN OLIVERA SALINAS  
305 NW Tenth Avenue  
Okeechobee, FL 34972

Attorney for Personal Representative:  
LINDA CARGILL SMITH P.A.  
Florida Bar No. 306241  
1320 S. Federal Hwy, #215  
Stuart, FL 34994  
772-219-9157  
339992 ON 11/25 & 12/2/09

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROBATE DIVISION**  
FILE NO. 08-CP-117

IN RE: ESTATE OF BRANDON HUMPHREY, Deceased

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of BRANDON HUMPHREY, deceased, whose date of death was July 11, 2007, and whose social security number is 492-98-0057, is pending in the Circuit Court for Okeechobee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 312 NW Third Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972. The names and address of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

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

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is November 25, 2009

Personal Representative:  
JONATHAN HUMPHREY  
3009 SE 23rd Street  
Okeechobee, FL 34974

Attorney for Personal Representative:  
LINDA CARGILL SMITH P.A.  
Florida Bar No. 306241  
1320 S. Federal Hwy, #215  
Stuart, FL 34994  
772-219-9157  
339983 ON 11/25 & 12/2/09

## Public Notice

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
CASE NO. 2009 CA611  
DIVISION: Civil Division

LIVE OAK TRUST, INC.,  
A Florida Corporation  
Plaintiff  
v.  
MARTHE LEGER; JOSEPH LEGER;  
AND MARGARETTE PERNIER  
Defendants

## NOTICE OF ACTION CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: JOSEPH LEGER  
1769 GRANTHAM DRIVE  
WELLINGTON FLORIDA 33414

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Complaint for Foreclosure of Mortgage involving real estate located in Okeechobee County, Florida, and legally described as follows:

W1/2 OF THE W1/2 OF THE S1/2 OF THE S1/2 OF SECTION 21 TRACT 6 TOWNSHIP 34 SOUTH RANGE 33 EAST, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGES 3A-D, INCLUSIVE OF THE OKEECHOBEE COUNTY PUBLIC RECORDS.

Strap Number(s):  
1-21-34-33-0A00-00006-M000  
has been filed against you and your are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on KENNETH M. JONES, of Moody, Jones, Ingino & Morehead, P.A., Attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is 1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201, Plantation, Florida 33324, on or before 30 days from the date of first publication and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on the Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on Nov. 19, 2009.

SHARON ROBERTSON  
Clerk of the Court

By: Kathy Arnold  
As Deputy Clerk  
MOODY, JONES, INGINO & MOREHEAD, P.A.  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201  
Plantation, FL 33324  
(954) 473-6605  
KENNETH M. JONES  
Florida Bar No. 142618  
340038 ON 12/2, 9/09

## LEGAL NOTICE

Public Auction will be held at Johns Towing Service storage lot located at 704 Northeast 2nd Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34972 on DECEMBER 18, 2009, at 9:00 A.M. Pursuant to Florida Statute 713.78 for unpaid towing and storage charges. Year, make, model and VIN are as follows.

**2001 Mitsubishi Galant**  
VIN#4A3A46H01E091813

Terms of sale are cash, and no checks will be accepted. Seller reserves the right of final bid. ALL SALES ARE FINAL! NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE! Said automobiles will be sold in "As Is" condition with no guarantees.  
340548 ON 12/2/09

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
CASE NO. 2009 CA611  
DIVISION: Civil Division

LIVE OAK TRUST, INC.,  
A Florida Corporation  
Plaintiff

v.  
MARTHE LEGER; JOSEPH LEGER;  
AND MARGARETTE PERNIER  
Defendants

## NOTICE OF ACTION CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: MARGARETTE PERNIER  
2903 WATERVIEW CIRCLE 29C  
PALM SPINGS, FL 33461

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Complaint for Foreclosure of Mortgage involving real estate located in Okeechobee County, Florida, and legally described as follows:

W1/2 OF THE W1/2 OF THE S1/2 OF THE S1/2 OF SECTION 21 TRACT 6 TOWNSHIP 34 SOUTH RANGE 33 EAST, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGES 3A-D, INCLUSIVE OF THE OKEECHOBEE COUNTY PUBLIC RECORDS.

Strap Number(s):  
1-21-34-33-0A00-00006-M000  
has been filed against you and your are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on

## Public Notice

KENNETH M. JONES, of Moody, Jones, Ingino & Morehead, P.A., Attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is 1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201, Plantation, Florida, 33324, on or before 30 days from date of first publication and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on the Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on Nov. 19, 2009.

SHARON ROBERTSON  
Clerk of the Court

By: Kathy Arnold  
As Deputy Clerk

MOODY, JONES, INGINO & MOREHEAD, P.A.  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201  
Plantation, FL 33324  
(954) 473-6605  
KENNETH M. JONES  
Florida Bar No. 142618  
340036 ON 12/2, 9/09

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROBATE DIVISION**  
CASE NO. 2009-CP-220

IN RE: ESTATE OF MARTHA CRAVEN YORK  
a/k/a MARTHA SUTTON YORK,  
a/k/a MARTHA S. YORK,  
Deceased

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS (Ancillary Summary Administration)

TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE:

You are hereby notified that an Order of Ancillary Summary Administration has been entered in the Estate of MARTHA CRAVEN YORK, a/k/a MARTHA SUTTON YORK, a/k/a MARTHA S. YORK, Deceased, File Number 2009-CP-220, by the Circuit Court for Okeechobee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 312 N.W. 3rd Street, Suite 101, Okeechobee, Florida 34972; that the decedent's date of death was June 4, 2009; that the total value of the estate is \$59,810.00; that the names and addresses of those to whom it has been assigned by such order are: W. MIKE YORK, 129 Vaughn York Road, Staley, North Carolina 27355

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent other than those for whom provision for full payment was made in the Order of Summary Administration must file their claims within this court WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW.

ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER APPLICABLE TIME PERIOD, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The first publication of this notice is November 25, 2009.

Person Giving Notice:  
Jane York Embree  
185 Vaughn York Road  
Staley, North Carolina C

CONELY & CONELY, P.A.  
Post Office Drawer 1367  
Okeechobee, Florida 34973-1367  
(863) 763-3825  
By: Tom Conely III  
Florida Bar #096482  
Attorney for Personal Representative  
340049 ON 11/25; 12/02/09



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## Public Notice

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROBATE DIVISION**  
CASE NO. 2009-CP-217

IN RE: ESTATE OF RICHARD GERARD BURKE,  
a/k/a RICHARD G. BURKE  
Deceased

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of RICHARD GERARD BURKE, a/k/a RICHARD G. BURKE, deceased, date of death October 9, 2009, is pending in the Circuit Court for Okeechobee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 312 N.W. 3rd Street, Suite 101, Okeechobee, Florida 34972. The personal representative's and the personal representative's attorney names are set forth below.

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

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

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH IN THE FLORIDA STATUTES WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The first publication of this notice is November 25, 2009.

Jane G. Burke  
Personal Representative  
21102 Poolside Lane  
Huntington Beach, California 92648  
CONELY & CONELY, P.A.

Post Office Drawer 1367  
Okeechobee, Florida 34973-1367  
(863) 763-3825  
By: Tom Conely III  
Florida Bar #096482  
Attorney for Personal Representative  
340046 ON 11/25; 12/02/09

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROBATE DIVISION**  
CASE NO. 2009-CP-226

IN RE: ESTATE OF FRANCIS PORTER LANSDOWN, Deceased

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of FRANCIS PORTER LANSDOWN, deceased, date of death October 16, 2009, is pending in the Circuit Court for Okeechobee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 312 N.W. 3rd Street, Suite 101, Okeechobee, Florida 34972. The personal representative's and the personal representative's attorney names are set forth below.

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

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

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH IN THE FLORIDA STATUTES WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

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

The first publication of this notice is December 2, 2009.

Beatrice Y. Gies  
Personal Representative  
11613 Ashbury Circle  
Solomons, MD 20688  
CONELY & CONELY, P.A.  
Post Office Drawer 1367  
Okeechobee, Florida 34973-1367  
(863) 763-3825  
By: Tom Conely III  
Florida Bar #096482  
Attorney for Personal Representative  
339814 ON 12/2, 9/09

# IRSC hosts open house for veterans

Veterans are invited to learn all about college, receive assistance registering and applying for financial aid and veterans education benefits with one-stop convenience at the Indian River State College Veterans Open House on Saturday, Dec. 12, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Kight Center for Emerging Technologies at the Main Campus on 35th Street in Fort Pierce.

The Korean War Veterans Association, Treasure Coast Chapter 106, will award four \$500 scholarships at the event to eligible attendees and provide a free continental breakfast.

Information will be provided by a variety of participants, including the Indian River County, St. Lucie County and Martin County Veterans Services, Association of the U.S. Army Space Coast Chapter, Jupiter Veterans Center Readjustment Counseling Service, Workforce Solutions Veterans Services, and the IRSC Veteran's Affairs Office and Student Disability Services. A college orientation session will begin at 11 a.m. followed by assistance in applying to IRSC and applying for financial aid and veterans education benefits. For more information, call toll-free 1-866-792-4772.

# Community Theatre presents holiday classic

The family holiday favorite, "It's a Wonderful Life," will get a unique treatment in a special live stage presentation of the story by the Okeechobee Community Theatre on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 4 and 5.

The local theatre group will turn back the clock to the 1940s as it performs the heart-warming story in the form of a live network radio broadcast. Every effort is being made to recreate it just as it was done by Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reed on the "Lux Radio Theatre" shortly after the release of the motion picture in 1947.

Sixteen live actors in 1940s attire will portray a total of 63 different characters in front of studio microphones. A pair of busy on-stage sound effect artists will provide the soundscape to complete the "mind's eye" pictures of the action of the story.

The play will be presented for three performances only, at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday nights and a special matinee at 2 p.m. on Saturday. The theatre is located on the Okeechobee Freshman Campus, S.W. Second Ave. (one block west of Golden Corral).

Advance reserved seat tickets are on sale for \$12 each until Friday. Available tickets may be purchased at the theatre box office on performance dates beginning one hour prior to showtimes. For more information call 863-763-1307.

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Vicki Anderson, Associate

Cell 634-4106



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Lic. Real Estate  
Broker

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Cheri Stevens

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# IRSC Planetarium announces holiday program

The Indian River State College Hallstrom Planetarium holiday show, Star of Wonder, will be presented during the weekends of Dec. 4 and 5 and Dec. 11 and 12, at the IRSC Main Campus at 3209 Virginia Avenue in Fort Pierce.

A Treasure Coast favorite, the Star of Wonder will recreate the skies as they appeared 2,000 years ago. Viewers will trace what may have been the path of the mysterious star followed by the Wise Men. Star of Wonder will faithfully recreate the night sky of 2000 years ago, showing the constellations and the locations of planets. "What was it in the sky that compelled the Magi to embark on a journey of hundreds of miles across desert and mountains?" asked Jon Bell, Hallstrom Planetarium Director. "This program will bring the audience one step closer to understanding."

Planetarium show times are Friday evenings at 7 and 8 p.m. and Saturday afternoons at 1 and 2 p.m. Tickets are \$3 each and may be purchased in advance or 30 minutes prior to show times at the IRCC Box Office depending on availability. Planetarium shows are recommended for adults and for children over the age of four. The Hallstrom planetarium's temperature is maintained at 72 degrees and visitors may want to bring a sweater.

Tickets for all shows are only \$3 and may be purchased at the IRSC Box Office at the McAlpin Fine Arts Center or by phone with VISA, Discover, American Express, or MasterCard. The McAlpin Fine Arts Center is located on the IRSC Main Campus at 3209 Virginia Avenue in Fort Pierce.

## Holiday Happenings

### Santa to ride on firetruck

Spot Santa on a fire truck in the N.W. and N.E. section of the city on **Dec. 17**, S.W. section on Dec. 18 and the S.E. section on Dec. 19.

### Shrine club holds New Years event

The Shrine Club will have the "Country Tradition Band" with Ted, Sonny, Fred and Charlie to play music on New Years Eve. Tickets will be \$20 each or \$35 per couple. Tickets include dinner and music. For information call 863-763-3378.

## AIRCRAFT

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The staff of The Clock Restaurant has faithfully provided the Okeechobee community with quality service and food for over 5 years.

You'll find the Clock easily takes the gold when it comes to maintaining a nice family atmosphere... We have a variety of Breakfast, lunch & dinner specials.

Do you only have an hour or less for lunch? We'll get you in and out faster than any other full service restaurant in town - and that's guaranteed. For breakfast, the Clock has a breakfast buffet that runs 7 days a week for \$7.19 with just about every breakfast item on it you can think of.

Everyone knows about our famous Touchdown

Breakfast that is always available any time of the day: 2 eggs, 2 pancakes, 2 bacon strips, 2 sausage links for \$4.89.

For lunch you can always try our Lunch Buffet Monday through Friday from 11:30am-1:30pm for a variety of delicious cold cuts to Hot dogs and Hamburgers for only \$7.99.

For dinner, try our all you can eat shrimp & fish for only \$9.99, every Friday and Saturday night.

We also offer our Prime Rib Dinner for only \$9.99, anyday anytime!. You will find the coupon for this and many other specials right here in the Okeechobee News Dining Guide..

DON'T LET THE NAME THROW YOU

**Speckled Perch Steak House**

105 Hwy 98 N  
Okeechobee  
863.763.9983

Open Tues - Sat  
4:30 PM - 10 PM





Happy Hour  
3pm - 6pm &  
9pm - 10pm

Draft Beer  
&  
Well Drinks  
2 for 1

Every Other Tuesday  
MARIACHI BAND  
6 pm to 9 pm

WELCOME TO PUEBLO VIEJO

**GREAT MEXICAN FOOD**

Full Liquor Bar  
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK  
11 am to 10 pm

Now Making  
Homemade  
Flour &  
Corn  
Tortillas

3415 Hwy 441 S., Okeechobee  
(located in the Publix Shopping Center)  
(863) 357-9641



*Hungry*

For New Customers?  
Call 863.763.3134 Today!




**Fri & Sat Nights**  
4PM - 11PM

**Shrimp Fest**  
starting at \$7.99  
All U Can Eat  
Fish or Shrimp  
\$9.99

**Clock**  
Family Restaurants

1111 S. Parrott Ave, Okeechobee  
863-467-2224

**2 Senior Dinners**  
from senior menu  
\$11.59  
Includes Soup or  
Salad Ice Cream  
or Pudding  
Anytime  
7 Days a  
Week



**SKIP JACKS**

105 SE 6th St  
467-0470  
FREE DELIVERY

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

**Early Dinner Platter**  
Served with 2 sides, hushpuppies, and your choice of either Fried, Seared, or Blackened. Choose one of the following:  
Fish Filet \$7.50, Dolphin \$8.50  
Shrimp \$9, Catfish \$8, Clams \$8

**Soup & Salad Combo**  
Our Garden Salad paired w/ New England Clam Chowder or the soup 'de jour! \$6.50

**Soup & 1/2 Sandwich ...\$6.50**

**10% off!** Your WHOLE check w/this coupon

**KIDS MENU!**

**Breakfast Specials**

**Monday - Friday**

- Country Fried Steak, 2 Eggs, Potato & Toast \$5.99
- Waffle Combo, 2 Eggs, 2 Links & 2 Bacon \$5.89
- French Toast Combo, 2 Eggs, 2 Links & 2 Bacon \$4.89
- Touchdown 2 Eggs, 2 Bacon, 2 Links & 2 Pancakes \$4.89
- Sausage, Gravy and Biscuit \$4.89

**Lunch Specials**

**Monday - Friday • \$5.99 Buy your beverage for 99**

Turkey Reuben Sandwich with fries • Patty Melt with fries  
• 1/2 Soup & Sandwich with fries • Grilled Chicken Breast Sandwich with fries • Clock Super Salad

**Specials Served 7 Days 6 AM - 11 PM**

**2 Dinners - Your Choice \$18.59**

- N.Y. Strip Steak
- Grilled Tilapia or Salmon
- Chicken Tenders
- Grilled Pork Chops
- Shrimp Scampi Over Pasta
- Roast Turkey Breast

Served with 2 sides, soup or salad & Pudding or ice cream