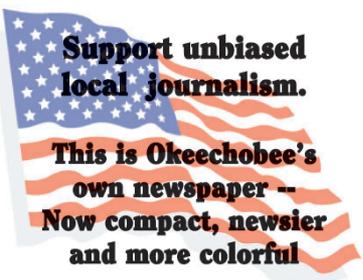


OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 101 No. 5

Sunday, January 10, 2010

75¢ Plus tax



Okeechobee courts have a new judge ... Page 3

Index

Classifieds.....	14-15
Community Events.....	6
Crossword.....	15
Obituaries.....	6
Opinion.....	4
Speak Out.....	4
Sports.....	12-13, 16
Weather.....	2

Lake Levels

13.47 feet
Last Year: 13.90 feet

Sponsored By:

Pogey's Family Restaurant
 1759 S. Parrott Ave.
 763-7222

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

See page 4 for information about how to contact this newspaper.

newszap.com
Free Speech Free Ads



Scammers pose as Census workers

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

As the 2010 Census process gets under way, the Better Business Bureau is warning citizens to be cautious and not become a victim of identity theft.

Over the next 18 months more than 140,000 U.S. Census workers will count every person in the U.S. The data gathered will be used to allocate over \$300 billion in federal funds every year, and to determine a state's number of Congressional representatives.

"Most people are rightfully cautious and won't give out per-

sonal information to unsolicited phone callers or visitors. However, the Census is an exception to the rule," said Michael Galvin, vice president of communications for the Better Business Bureau of Southeast Florida and the Caribbean. "Unfortunately, scammers know that the public is more willing to share personal data when taking part in the Census and they have an opportunity to ply their trade by posing as a government employee and soliciting sensitive financial information."

During the Census period, people will be contacted by mail, tele-

phone or visited by U.S. Census workers who will ask about the number of people in the household. However, scammers know this and are posing as Census workers to get financial information such as Social Security, bank account or credit card numbers.

Law enforcement in several states have already issued warnings about scammers posing as Census takers and asking for donations and Social Security numbers.

Mr. Galvin and the Better Business Bureau offer the following advice:

- If a Census worker knocks on your door they will have a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag and a confidentiality notice. Ask to see their identification and their badge before answering their questions. However, you should never invite anyone you don't know into your home.

- Census workers are currently knocking on doors to verify address information. Do not give your Social Security number, credit card or banking information to anyone -- even if they claim

See Scam — Page 2

OHS Rodeo Team prepares for road trip

OHS Rodeo Team has had a very busy schedule for the past couple of months.

They decorated and donated a Christmas tree for the Annual Hospice Christmas Tree Fundraiser. The teams tree this year was titled "Rodeo or Bust." The kids are very proud to take part in this wonderful event to benefit Hospice each year.

They also have put on a successful BBQ dinner fundraiser, to benefit the end of the year banquet and prizes.

Next they got busy decorating the team's Christmas float for the Lighted Christmas Parade. The float was titled "Cowboy Christmas" which presented a cowboy kneeling in front of a lighted cross with his horse at his side. Other team members along with friends and relatives decorated their horses and followed behind the float. Over the Christmas holidays, there were a number of "jackpot" barrel races and ropings which some of the team members competed in.

Some team members participated in a two-day roping clinic put on by Joe Beaver Buck Daniels Ranch.

In addition to the special events and activities, team members were still practicing and competing in high school rodeo events.

The last FHSRA rodeo placings, which was held in Zolfo on Dec. 5 and 6 are as follows:

- Tie Down Roping - Jacob Anuez placed 1st on Saturday; Garret Rucks 10th on Saturday; and Nat Stratton placed 8th on Sunday.
- Breakaway Roping - Maci Culligan placed 7th and 5th; Shelby Carden placed 10th and 3rd; Shiloh Anuez placed 4th; and Lexi Peaden placed 7th.
- Barrel Racing - Lexi Peaden placed 7th.
- Pole Bending - Carlie Lanier placed 5th; and Raybon Durrance placed 4th and 10th.
- Team Roping - Jacob Anuez placed 6th and 7th which puts him at second place for the state.

See Rodeo — Page 2



Special to the Okeechobee News
Kyle Folsom competes in the Bull Riding events. He and other Okeechobee High School Rodeo Team members are preparing to compete in the high school rodeo Jan. 23 and 24 in Bunnell.

Visit Beltone for the most advanced technology and finest service in hearing care.

With every passing year we've listened more, discovered more, and helped more people hear better, feel better, live better.

Come in for a FREE Hearing Screening
 3268 US Hwy. 441 S., Okeechobee • (863) 623-3070
 (Inside Winn Dixie Plaza)

Hearing Aids Blowout **50% off** MSRP
 Beltone's M-Class Digital Hearing System
Valid on M-Class Systems Only

Not applicable to prior purchases. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 1/31/10

We're 70 years young, & just getting started

Scam

Continued From Page 1

they need it for the U.S. Census. While the Census Bureau may ask for basic financial information -- such as salary range -- it will never ask for Social Security, bank account or credit card number.

- Census employees will never solicit donations.
- Census workers will not harass or intimidate you.
- While Census workers may contact you by phone, mail or in person at home they will never contact you by e-mail. Never click on a link or open attachments in an e-mail that are supposedly from the U.S. Census Bureau.
- You are only required to tell a Census worker how many people live at your address. And while a Census worker may ask for your salary range, you can answer if you

choose but you are not required to answer that question.

• Finally, the U.S. Census Bureau is not working with the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN) on gathering Census information. No ACORN worker should approach you saying he/she is with the U.S. Census Bureau.

The U.S. Census is conducted every 10 years.

If someone should come to your home posing as a Census worker and asking for donations or your personal financial information or Social Security number, contact local law enforcement. If you are in the city, call the Okeechobee City Police Department at 863-763-5521. If you live in the county, contact the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office at 863-763-3117.

For more advice on avoiding identity theft and fraud, go to www.bbb.org.

For information about the 2010 Census, go to www.census.gov.

Okeechobee Forecast

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 51. North northwest wind around 10 mph.
Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 29. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Extended Forecast

Monday: Sunny, with a high near 60. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.
Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 34. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.
Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 65. North northwest wind around 5 mph.
Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 35. North northwest wind around 5 mph.

Rodeo

Continued From Page 1

- Goat Tying - Shelby Carden placed 5th and 9th.

The next scheduled high school rodeo will be Jan. 23 and 24 in Bunnell. Visit www.FHSRA.homestead.com for more information. If you have any questions or comments you may also contact Missie Peaden at 863-634-7825.



Special to the Okeechobee News
Okeechobee High School senior Jesse Cofield competes in break away roping on the Florida High School Rodeo circuit.

**Medicare Recipients Can
 Earn An Extra \$1,156* A Year**
www.qualityhealthplans.com

Okeechobee County

Clock Restaurant
 1111 S. Parrot Ave.
 Okeechobee, FL
 January 13th @ 2pm
 January 20th @ 10am
 January 27th @ 2pm

**Let Quality Health Plans Put Cash
 in Your Pocket!**

Call Today: 1-866-747-2700
 TTY/TDD: 1-866-455-6011
 8 AM - 8 PM 7 Days a Week

Quality Health Plans is an HMO with a Medicare contract available to anyone enrolled in Part B and entitled to Part A of Medicare through age or disability. Members must use network providers except for emergency, urgently needed, or out-of-area dialysis services. *\$96.40 per month is returned in your Social Security check. A Sales Representative will be present with information and applications. For accommodation of persons with special needs at sales meetings call 1-866-747-2700, 8:30AM to 5:00PM, Monday - Friday. Benefits, formulary, pharmacy network, premium and/or co-payments/co-insurance may change on January 1, 2011. Please contact Quality Health Plans for details.
 H5402_QHP1286 FU (10/09)

New Judge begins assignment in Okeechobee

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Robert Belanger wants to sit on the bench in Okeechobee; he lobbied for the assignment.

Judge Belanger became Okeechobee's latest Circuit Court Judge Monday when he began what is likely a two-year assignment in Okeechobee.

Judge Belanger will handle all of the felony dockets and the domestic violence dockets in Okeechobee.

He expects to stay busy, but not quite as busy as he was in St. Lucie County where he handled a very large criminal docket.

"The dockets won't approach those of St. Lucie County, which is a good thing," he said. "It assures the quality of work and is a manageable case load, it will keep us busy, but also allows us to devote the time and attention we need to each of the cases."

Judge Belanger has served five years on the bench. He was a prosecutor before this and worked his way up to become head of the Stuart Office for the 19th Judicial Circuit State Attorney Bruce Colton.

He lives in Palm City and admits he has an easier drive to work than many other judges.

"I love Okeechobee because it's a great place," he said. "I've enjoyed coming out here

to hunt gators before, and it's a nice drive, and pretty convenient for me."



Special to the Okeechobee News
Judge Robert Belanger.

and Don Shula as some of the schools distinguished alumni.

The new judge said criminal case loads haven't been as impacted as civil dockets by the slump in the economy. He noted foreclosures and other civil case loads have been booming, making it tough on judges. On the criminal side, he said the nature of cases could change a bit with more thefts, burglaries, and financial type crimes.

"The criminal docket is pretty recession proof. The volume of crimes is not affected by

Judge Belanger attended college at John Carroll University, a Jesuit School in Cleveland, Ohio. He also attended the Marshall School of Law at Cleveland State University. He listed Tim Russert and Don Shula as some of the schools distinguished alumni.

the economy," he said.

Judge Belanger said his goal in court is to get the cases through as quickly as possible and not waste people's time. He said he tries to be accommodating as possible to attorneys and most importantly prospective jurors.

"I've been told I move the docket very quickly," he said. "I don't cut corners and I do things the way they are supposed to be done. I realize attorneys have other cases and courtrooms to be in so I try to get people in and out of court as quickly as possible."

He implemented some procedural changes to help keep the dockets moving smoothly. He will require all attorneys to file all of their pre-trial motions 14 days before trial. There will be no last minute motions to hear while a panel of jurors is waiting. He also signed an administrative order that will provide copies of court procedures to anyone who requests one who has a role in a case.

He noted often times parents of defendants will call the judges office and ask questions or make requests. He said that is not how the legal system is designed to work. Everything that happens in a case will occur in open court.

Judge Belanger said so far he has been very impressed with how the Okeechobee court system works.

"It has been a great few days," the judge said. "Everyone is very accommodating. The bailiffs and the clerks have made us feel welcome. I asked to come out here. I grew up in a rural area in Ohio and I like the laid back pace. I'm really looking forward to being out here awhile."

The New **Blue Heron Golf Club**

Weekdays \$20
Weekends \$25

Before 8 am
After 2 pm
\$5 OFF
Replay \$10

It's MORE Fun Here!

Sign Up NOW for Fishing/Golf Tournament

SE 9th Ave. Okeechobee
863-467-1651

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 Crime Stoppers, you have the option of remaining anonymous. You can also receive a reward if the information results in an arrest.

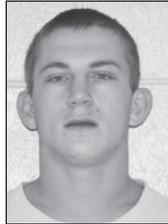
David Thomas Arnold III, DOB 11/21/1984, VOP - Burglary Structure, Grand Theft, No Bond.



Marcel Bates



Lisamarie Lorenze



David T. Arnold III

Marcel Bates, DOB 10/13/1976, Failure of Sexual Offender To Report To DHSMV, Bond \$10,000.

Lisamarie Lorenz, DOB 2/9/1987, VOP - Restraining Arrest with Violence, No Bond.

Cold weather means pythons are sunning

During this cold snap in South Florida, Burmese pythons in the wild may be out sunning themselves in an effort to stay warm. And that means hunters out in four South Florida wildlife management areas (WMAs) should be on the lookout for the unwanted, nonnative species. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) reminds hunters that they may continue to take Burmese pythons and all other reptiles of concern within four South Florida WMAs during the normal course of hunting during the areas' small-game seasons.

All properly licensed and permitted hunters have the authority, if they wish, to harvest pythons and other reptiles of concern (Indian python, reticulated python, northern and southern African rock python, amethystine or scrub python, green anaconda and Nile monitor lizard) on Everglades, Francis S. Taylor, Holey Land and Rotenberger WMAs and Big Cypress National Preserve during specified hunting seasons. Small-game seasons on all four management areas continue through March 7. On Big Cypress, however, the small-game season ends Feb. 1. In all four WMAs, only a Florida hunt-

ing license and management area permit are required to hunt reptiles of concern from now through the end of the small-game seasons.

"During the warm-weather months, Burmese pythons stay hidden out of the sun, but with the temperatures dipping below normal in these areas, they have to find a way to stay warm," said Jenny Tinnell, FWC biologist with the exotic species section. "They may be out in the open more than before to find the warmth of the sun, and we hope hunters, in the normal course of hunting in these areas, will take advantage of the opportunity to help stop the spread of this nonnative species."

Reptiles of concern may not be taken out of the wildlife management areas alive and must be reported to the FWC within 36 hours by calling, toll-free, 866-392-4286, or going to MyFWC.com and selecting "Burmese pythons" in the "Quick Clicks" menu. Hunters may do what they wish with the reptiles' skin and meat. According to the National Park Service, mercury testing on two dozen captured Burmese pythons in Everglades National Park revealed extraordinarily high levels of mercury in the meat - well above levels considered safe.

Aldo Lombardo, M.D., FACS Board Certified Plastic Surgeon



Okeechobee Specials

Breast Augmentation \$3,950

Good Thru 1/31/10

Tummy Tuck \$6,250

(Some Restrictions Apply)

Call us to schedule your consultation in Jupiter!

(561) 747-1232 or (888) 9-ALLURE

www.allureplasticsurgery.com

TREASURE COAST DERMATOLOGY

Specializing in the Treatment of Skin Cancer

BOARD CERTIFIED BY THE
AMERICAN BOARD OF DERMATOLOGY

FELLOW OF THE
AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR MOHS SURGERY

Okeechobee

863-467-9555

Vero Beach

772-778-7782

www.tcdermatology.com



Jonathan Sanders, M.D., J.D.

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!

Cameras catch speeders

- The use of cameras to catch speeders—with the tickets mailed to them—has been done in Europe for more than 25 years. This is nothing new. I think it would be smart for Okeechobee County to do this, if only to slow down the speeders on State Road 70 and State Road 710. Slowing down the speed demons would make those roads a little safer for everyone.

- With the state of the property values and loss of tax income, we can't afford to hire enough deputies to patrol the county. So bring on the cameras. It will get people to pay a little more attention to their driving and slow down.

- This is what we need—NOT. Let's make it like on the coast. How about we fine people who leave their trash cans out after 12:00 on trash day, or when their grass get over six inches, or when they park on the side of the road and don't face the right way. This is not the Okeechobee I want. What we need is tax base, which you gain by attracting new industry to the county which in turn brings new jobs, new homes, and more money spent in the community. Creating a more intrusive government attracts "nothing." You need to question your commissioners as to why no new industry is coming to Okeechobee. Everybody else is creating growth opportunities.

Drivers

- I am glad that our winter visitors have returned because it is a big help for the restaurants and stores to have more customers. But please pay attention to your driving. Do not slow down to a crawl or just stop on the Kissimmee River bridge to look at the water. The drivers behind you do not appreciate the traffic created by those who do this. If you want to look at the water, pull in to Okee-Tantie so you can park and walk around without creating a traffic jam. Thank you.

Dogs

- The problem with dogs running loose is a continual one. The person whose cat was killed by the neighbor's dogs is just the most recent example of how bad the problem is. What is it going to take for the county to put some teeth in the leash laws? Of course the deputies will tell you that if a dog is on your property attacking your pet, you have the legal right to shoot the dog. And maybe it will have to come to that. But most people do not want to shoot dogs. It is not the dog's fault that the owner is not responsible enough to keep their dog off other people's property.

- I have a problem with my neighbor's dog barking for hours on end at night. It usually starts about 4 a.m. and goes on until sunrise. Why own a dog if you are just going to leave him outside to bark non stop for hours? If he is barking at something, go out and see what is wrong. If you don't want to pay attention to your dog, then get rid of him. Your neighbors could use some sleep.

Cold weather

- When the temperatures drop, don't forget your pets. They are not used to cold weather any more than you are. A sudden drop in temperature does not give them time to grow thicker fur, as animals up north would do in the winter. Florida pets need protection from the cold. Bring them inside if you can, or at least make sure they have a dog house or other shelter. And give them some blankets to sleep on to help hold in the warmth. Also, in cold weather, animals need more food as their bodies are using that fuel at an increased rate to help maintain their internal body temperature.

- They were talking about the possibility of snow in Florida on the news. So where did the global warming go? It seems to me it's colder than it used to be, not warmer.

Sports

- I know the school budgets are tight, but I wish they would have a bigger variety of sports or else have more teams so that every child who wants to be on a team can play. We need to encourage the kids, especially the middle school age kids, to be more physically active. But the school teams are only for the players who are the best at tryouts and the other kids are just left out. Some kids do not have a dad or a big brother at home to teach them a sport and practice with them.

Reflections from the Pulpit

You can know His will

By Rev. Tommaso Pasquarella
Pastor, Cornerstone Baptist Church

I don't know where this story came from, but it is a funny one.

Three men were hiking through a forest when they came upon a large raging, violent river. Needing to get to the other side, the first man prayed, "God, please give me the strength to cross the river" and Poof! God gave him big arms and strong legs and he was able to swim across in about 2 hours, having almost drowned twice. After witnessing that, the second man prayed, "God, please give me strength and the tools to cross the river," and poof! God gave him a rowboat and strong arms and strong legs and he was able to row across in about an hour after almost capsizing once. Seeing what happened to the first two men, the third man prayed, "God, please give me the strength, the tools and the intelligence to cross the river," and poof! He was turned into a woman. She checked the map, hiked one hundred yards up stream and walked across the bridge.

This is not a dig toward men, but often we as men and women lose the ability to know God's will because we do not go to where God's will is evident. Knowing God's will is as simple as looking at the instruction manual, Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth.

The instructional manual is the Word of God and it can and does help us to know God's will for our lives. God's will for our lives is to do His will. The question is, can we know God's will or do we just go through life hanging on our own ability?

You can know God's will "Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence" (Ephesians 1:8-9). What did He abound toward us? What does abound mean? It means to be present in large number or lavish. God has lavished on us. He has given us more than we deserve and blessed us in all wisdom and prudence. He made us to know His wisdom. What Solomon asked for instead of riches, honor and material possessions God give to us who know Him and He gives it in abundance. He gives wisdom. He showers us with the knowledge of who He is and He gives us prudence. What does prudence mean? He gives us understanding so that we can apply the wisdom that He gives. We know it is wrong to sin and yet we do it as if it is going out of style. The knowledge that sin is wrong and evil in His sight is not enough. You must understand that sin is against God and is ultimately your wanting to be God and your need to repent.

You cannot do what God desires of you if you do not fear Him and know Him, because when you do not know Him you do not care to do His will. Now God can use anyone to bring about His plan whether they be believers or non-believers. Pharaoh was used to correct Abraham, the man of great faith, who fell short of God's glory in Genesis 12 when he left the land where God had sent him, because he did not rest in the fact that God can provide even in the midst of famine. "Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself" (Ephesians 1:9) He has made known to us the mystery of His will. As true believers we all want to know the will of God, and God has made it known to us already. The mystery of His will is not a mystery when we trust Him. Why do I say that this mystery is not a mystery?

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." (Romans 12:1) His will is that because of God's mercy, in that He did not give you what you deserve, you must present your bodies as a present to Him as a living sacrifice. What does it mean that you must present your body as a living sacrifice? You must die to your desires and live for His desires. This is your reasonable service or your spiritual act of worship. "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." (Romans 12:2) You should not look like this world but you should be transformed.

You should look and act differently from the world around you not because He wants you to be a party pooper, but because He wants you to be conformed to His will.

He wants you to live your life in His good, pleasing, and perfect will. Will it be good in how you view it? Will it be pleasing to the way you think your life shall be? Will you think it is perfect? No, but it will be His good pleasing and perfect will. Before you can do His good pleasing and perfect will, you must know that One who chose you before the foundation of the world, the One who redeems by His grace through His shed blood when He took on your sin, died in your place, was buried and raised to life again. If you have not trusted in Him you are lost and will not know His will, because you are blind to the things of God, but if you were to trust Him He would show you His wisdom, give you understanding and make you to know His will.

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

To Reach Us

Address: 107 S.W. 17th Street, Suite D
Okeechobee, FL 34974

Website: www.newszap.com

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.

E-Mail: okeenews@newszap.com

To Place A Display Ad

Phone: 863-763-3134
E-Mail: okeeadsales@newszap.com

To Place A Classified Ad

Call 877-353-2424 to place a classified advertisement from home.

Fax: 877-354-2424

E-Mail: classads@newszap.com

Billing Department

E-Mail: billteam@newszap.com

To Start or Stop A Paper

Phone: (800) 282-8586

E-mail: readerservices@newszap.com

The Okeechobee News is available three times a week via home delivery and is on sale at rack and store locations throughout Okeechobee County. Call the office to find out if your home is within our present home-distribution boundaries.

Call 800-282-8586 to report a missed newspaper or poor delivery.

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.

Okeechobee News

USPS 406-160

Published 3 times a week: Sunday, Wednesday and Friday by Independent Newspapers, Inc.
107 S.W. 17th Street, Suite D • Okeechobee, FL 34974
Periodicals Postage Paid at Okeechobee, FL 34974
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to

Okeechobee News
Circulation Administration
PO Box 7011 • Dover, DE 19903

Staff

Advertising Director: Judy Kasten
Editor: Katrina Elskan
Circulation Manager: Janet Madray
Publisher: Tom Byrd

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.

MEMBER

OF:



Wanted: Friendly green thumbs to volunteer

By Dan Culbert
Horticulture agent

UF/IFAS Extension Office Okeechobee

People who love plants often enjoy sharing their knowledge and love of horticulture with others. This need to share plays a big part in why I love working as an extension horticulture agent.

The University of Florida Extension Service responds to requests for good plant knowledge using trained volunteers. These volunteers are known as Master Gardeners. Okeechobee County is now looking for a few friendly folks who would like to receive Master Gardener training and then help this community.

While there are lots of gardening answers out there, many are driven by commercial interests or they may rely on limited expe-

rience. The Extension office provides horticulture answers, but with a difference: our answers are backed by research. And when the number of requests exceed the amount of agent time, volunteers are asked to pitch in to help keep the community green.

Would you or someone you know like to join the ranks of thousands of Master Gardeners from all over the world? Being a Master Gardener will involve completing a comprehensive training program and then providing 75 hours of service back to the local community by next year. Trained volunteers will receive plenty of handouts and a shirt. The program fee has been reduced this year to \$100, and will cover the cost of training materials. Half of the fee \$50 will be returned when the volunteer provides 75 hours of service. An additional optional fee can be paid to obtain UF/IFAS reference

publications if the volunteer so desires.

Class begins January 27

The training class will begin on Wednesday Jan. 27, and continue for ten weeks every Tuesday until March 31. Graduation will be held on Wednesday, April 14. Classes will start at 9 a.m. and finish around 4 p.m. We are currently planning our classes in cooperation with the Martin County Extension office in Stuart, with the majority of the classes being taught here in Okeechobee.

Trained volunteers may be asked to answer routine horticultural questions here in our office, or they may be placed with other volunteer groups that need a gardening expert. We will make use of each the volunteer's interests and talents: if you are good at talking to groups, you can anchor our speaker's list; if you are an organizer, maybe you have a desire to help get a local garden

club started.

Near the top of my list is my desire to get kids and plants together. Our 4-H clubs are very active with animal livestock projects. We need 4-H leaders in Okeechobee that can help grow great kids and great gardens. The Junior Master Gardener program can be a lot of fun, but we need some interested committed adults to start this seed to grow here in Okeechobee. A trained Master Gardener can get this growing going.

There is no prerequisite of gardening knowledge for prospective Master Gardeners. However, persons who wish to be volunteers do need good people skills and an enthusiastic attitude.

Get a Sprouting Kit

If you are interested, call me. We can send you a "sprouting kit," or you can view it online at this web page: <http://okeechobee.ifas.ufl.edu/Master%20Gardeners/MG.Sprouting.Kit.htm>. It has more information about the Master Gardener Program, and includes an application. Return the application along with the \$100 program fee, and we will review and schedule an interview. Application must be received by Wednesday, Jan. 20 in order to be a part of the class that begins on Wednesday, Jan. 27.

If you need additional information on the Master Gardener program, or to request a Sprouting Kit and application, call or stop by our office at 458 Hwy 98 North. Our phone number is 863-763-6469, and you can email us at okeechobee@ifas.ufl.edu.

Community Calendar

SUNDAY

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

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

MONDAY

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.

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

Coast Guard Auxiliary of Okeechobee meets the second Monday of each month, at 7 p.m. at the entrance to Okee-Tantie Camp Grounds. We are seeking new members who are, "Semper Paratus - Always Ready."

For information call 863-824-7623

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.

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. Karen Graves, Chapter leader would like to extend a warm welcome to any interested persons to come by and see what they are about. For information call 863-763-6952.

Flotilla 57 - U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. at the Coast Guard Auxiliary Station located at the entrance to Okeetantie on Road 78 on the second Monday of each month. Everyone is welcome to come as a guest and inquire about membership. Do get your safe boat-certificate certification. Call to enroll for course or to inquire about membership 863-763-0165.

TUESDAY

Community Gospel Sing will be held every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Seventh Day Christian Church, next door to Douglas Chiropractic and Fitness Center. The public is invited to participate.

The Genealogical Society of Okeechobee will meet at 1:30 p.m. at the Okeechobee County Public Library, 206 S.W. 16th St. The meeting is open to anyone interested in tracing his or her ancestry. The annual membership is \$10 per per-

son, and \$12 for a family. For information, call Eve at 863-467-2674; or, visit their web site at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~flgso>.

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

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

Okeechobee Substance Abuse Coalition meets the second Tuesday of the month, at 11:30 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church, lunch is provided. For information contact Jim Vensel at 863-697-1792.

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.

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, Call 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.

Christian Home Educators of Okeechobee will meet at the Grace Christian Church Fellowship Hall, 701 S. Parrott Ave. Anyone currently home schooling or interested in home schooling is welcome. For information, call Lydia Hall 863-357-6729 or Betty Perera 863-467-6808.

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

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

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

Grief and Loss Support Group meets every Tuesday at 10 a.m. at the Hospice Building, 411 S.E. Fourth St., in Okeechobee. Everyone is welcome. For information, contact Brenda Nicholson 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 Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast at the Clock Restaurant, 1111 S. Parrott Ave., for breakfast. For information, Darlene Phanco, 863-467-5351 leave message.

The Gathering Church Overcomers Group meets at 7:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall at 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.

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

Okeechobee Substance Abuse Coalition meets every second Tuesday, at 11:30 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church. For information contact Jim Vensel at 863-697-1792.

The Lighthouse Refuge support group meets on the first and third Tuesday at 401 S.W. Fourth Street at First Baptist Church and on the second and fourth Tuesday at Red Cross from 6:30 until 8:30 p.m. Women who need emotional support or someone just to care are welcome. For information call the hot line 863-801-9201 or 863-357-4447.

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.

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

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



ACCIDENT LAW OFFICES OF
Philip DeBerard

*Accident Victims...
Call Us First!*

- Tractor Trailer Crashes
- Auto Crashes
- Motorcycle Crashes
- Wrongful Death

FREE Consultation
Se Habla Español

**Phones answered
24 Hours, 7 days-a-week!**

**114 N. Parrott Avenue
Okeechobee, FL 34972**

467-7100

www.crashinjuries.com

Community Events

Southern Gospel Concert

The English Family will be on concert Sunday, **Jan. 10** at 10:30 a.m. at Abundant Blessings Assembly of God, 4550 U.S. 441 N. The English Family will have the crowd laughing by the time the concert is over. The audience will leave refreshed in their spirit and renewed in their mind. Everyone is welcome.

Benefit for Lisa Burkhardt

Lisa Burkhardt is battling cancer for the second time. She is a breast cancer survivor who is now battling brain and lung cancer. A benefit for her will be held at the VFW Post 10539, 3912 Highway 441 S.E., on **Jan. 10**, starting at 1 p.m. There will be food, music, raffles and more. For information, call 863-697-2930.

Church of the Nazarene hosts concert

Southern gospel recording artists, Brian Free and Assurance will be in concert on Sunday, **Jan. 10** at 2 p.m. at the Okeechobee Church of the Nazarene, 425 SW 28th St. For more information, call Floyd Selph at 863-763-7113.

Obituaries

Obituaries should be submitted to the Okeechobee News by e-mailing obits@newszap.com. Customers may also request photos and links to online guest books. A link to the obituaries is available at www.newszap.com.

Edith Vincent, 87

OKEECHOBEE — Edith Vincent, passed away Friday, January 8, 2010, in Okeechobee Health Care Facility. She was 87.

She owned a florist and decorating shop in Fort Lauderdale. She was a member of ABWA for 25 years; as well, she was a member of the Toastmasters. She was Woman of the Year in 1977 in Fort Lauderdale. Mrs. Vincent enjoyed square dancing and traveling in her motor home. She came to Okeechobee in 1986 from Ft. Lauderdale. She was a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

Mrs. Vincent is survived by her husband of 66 years, Donald R. Vincent; daughter, Allison (Dean) Vincent of Fort Lauderdale; four grandchildren, Christa, Stuart, Brent and Drew; and three great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be 2 p.m. Monday, January 11, 2010, at Bass Okeechobee Chapel. Burial of cremains will take place at South Florida National V.A. Cemetery.

Arrangements are entrusted to the loving care of Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home and Crematory, 205 N.E. 2nd Street, Okeechobee.

Friends may sign the guestbook at www.bas-sokeechobeehome.com.



Eastern Star to host breakfast

Okeechobee Chapter No. 128, Order of the Eastern Star will hold a Breakfast 8-11 a.m. on Sunday, **Jan. 10**, at the Okeechobee Masonic Lodge, 107 N.W. Fifth Avenue. The menu includes biscuits & sausage gravy, scrambled eggs, grits, hashbrown casserole, breakfast ham, coffee and orange juice all for only \$6/person. For information, contact Rick Ellsworth at 863-467-2096 or Mary Ann Holt at 863-634-8087.

OCIA meeting set

Okeechobee Community Improvement Association Members and anyone who is interested are welcome to attend the O.C.I.A. meeting scheduled for Monday, **Jan. 11** at 7 p.m. at First Missionary Baptist Church Social Hall, 906 N.W. Ninth Ave., Okeechobee. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the following: George Roberson, 863-610-0973, Vice President, Bertha Boswell, 863-763-4823, Secretary, Rita Jones, 863-467-0594 or 772-380-3518.

Leona Hawk, 74

OKEECHOBEE — Leona Hawk, passed away Thursday, January 7, 2010, in Raulerson Hospital. She was 74.

Born March 22, 1935 in Lorida, to Lewis and Clemmie Waldron, she was a lifetime resident of Okeechobee. She was a member of First Baptist Church and was a Captain in Corrections Department of the Okeechobee Sheriff's Department.

Mrs. Hawk was preceded in death by her husband, Richard Hawk; her parents, Lewis and Clemmie Waldron; sister, Charlotte Rhoden; and brother, Leland Waldron.

She is survived by her sons, Jimbo Hawk (Patricia) and Bobby Hawk, both of Okeechobee; sister, Wanda Spradlin (Ray) of Mt. Dora; grandchildren, Celeste Hawk, Jennifer Ceballos (Albert) and Chad Hawk; and great-grandchildren, Gracie and Emma Ceballos.

Visitation will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Sunday, January 10, 2010, at Bass Okeechobee Chapel. Funeral services will be 1 p.m. Monday, January 11, 2010, at First Baptist Church of Okeechobee, with Brother Joe Bishop officiating. Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery.

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

Friends may sign the guestbook at www.bas-sokeechobeehome.com.



Healthy Start Coalition Board to meet

The Board of Directors of the Okeechobee Healthy Start Coalition will meet on Wednesday, **Jan. 13**, at 11:30 a.m. in their office, 5757 SW 28th Street (within the New Endeavor High School Building). This meeting is open to the public. For more information contact Executive Director, Kay Begin at 863-462-5877.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day festivities set

There will be a weekend celebration in honor of the contributions by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The celebration will begin on **Jan. 16**, with a banquet at 7 p.m. at the Douglas Brown Community Center, 726 N.E. 16th Avenue, Okeechobee. A March to commemorate the day will be held on Jan. 18 with the line up schedule set for 8:15 a.m. at the Douglas Brown Community Center. The Parade begins at 10 a.m. beside the U-Save followed by a program at the park. After the program, the march will proceed back to Douglas Brown Community Center. There will be food and entertainment for everyone. For more information, please contact Rita Jones at 772-380-3518.

Lotteries

The Florida Lottery: Numbers selected Thursday in the Florida Lottery are: **Cash 3: 2-7-7; Play 4: 2-3-8-9; Fantasy 5: 3-10-26-28-35.** Numbers selected Friday in the Florida Lottery are: **Cash 3: 6-1-6; Play 4: 3-8-1-8.**

Methodist Church sponsors study

The community is invited to a 6 week study by Joyce Meyer, "The Confident Woman" at First United Methodist Church, 200 NW Second St., on Wednesday mornings beginning **Jan. 13** from 10 to 11:30 a.m. There is no cost. Coffee, tea, hot chocolate and snacks will be served. For more information contact Nancy Vaughan 863 763 4021.

Moose Lodge to hold Vegas Night

Buckhead Ridge Moose Lodge will have their annual "LAS VEGAS" night, Saturday, **Jan. 16**, from 5 until 9 p.m. Games, door prizes, food, auction, and lots of fun. Bring your friends and neighbors.

Celebrate A Life



with — an — Online Guestbook

All Obituaries now include Online Guestbooks where family and friends can share reflections, remembrances and condolences.

Visit:

www.newszap.com

For a complete list of Obituary Notices, click on your community, then click on "Obituaries".

[newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

FREE Classified Ads!



4 Lines + 8 Photos Online for 2 Weeks Absolutely FREE!

Place your FREE AD online: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at...

www.newszap.com

click on Classifieds

YOU DECIDE What it SAYS → How it LOOKS → Add your PHOTOS
And before you know it, you've got an ad online!

Plus...post your ads in these Florida newspapers for only \$8 each!

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

FREE!
Absolutely FREE!

ONLINE CLASSIFIEDS

So easy...and it's free!

Search obituaries nationally at <http://www.legacy.com>

Okeechobee Livestock Market Report

January 4 and 5, 2010			Total	716	1296	Small #1 Steers	Hfhrs
Cows			Med #1	Steers	Hfhrs		
Breaking	\$50.00	\$55.00	200-250	140-145		250-300	110-120
Cutter	\$45.00	\$54.00	300-350	117-125	92-96	300-350	97-113
Canner	\$35.00	\$39.00	350-400	110-114	84-92	350-400	75-80
			400-450	103-109	74-82	New Year brought some better prices. Cows and bulls up 3-5.00 higher than three weeks ago. Calves were higher 1-2.00 mostly on better CFS. About steady on the rest. Rebecca Eaves topped the calf market with a high of \$1.50, bought by D&S Cattle. H H Partin topped the cow market with a high of \$6.00, bought by Central.	
Bulls			450-500	92-103	70-80		
1000-1500	\$54.00	\$56.00	550-600		72-75		
1500-2000	\$59.00	\$68.00	600-650	83-91	74-75		
Monday	Tuesday		Med #2	Steers	Hfhrs		
Calves	540	748	150-200	120-130			
Cows	106	422	200-250		85-100		
Str	28	26	250-300	95-120	75-80		
Hfhrs	5	34	300-350	88-117	70-88		
Bulls	18	44	350-400	97-108	75-84		
Yrlngs	7	22	400-450	80-90	68-77		
Mix	12	0					

USDA has new crop disaster assistance program

Tim Manning, Executive Director of USDA's Farm Service Agency in Florida has announced that USDA has implemented the new Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments program (SURE) in accordance with the 2008 Farm Bill.

Mr. Manning also encouraged producers to visit their FSA county office to participate in the program if they suffered crop production losses during the 2008 crop year.

"This program is an important component of the farm safety net and will provide financial assistance to producers who have suffered crop losses due to natural disasters," said Mr. Manning. "Producers will receive payments beginning in January, in time to help them with planning for next year's crop."

SURE provides crop disaster assistance payments to eligible producers on farms that have incurred crop production or crop quality losses. The program takes into consideration crop losses on all crops grown by a producer nationwide. SURE provides assistance in an amount equal to 60 percent of the difference between the SURE farm guarantee and total farm revenue. The farm guarantee is based on the amount of crop insurance and Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on the farm. Total farm revenue takes into account the actual value of production on the farm as well as insurance indemnities and certain farm program payments.

To be eligible for SURE, producers must have suffered at least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance. In

addition, producers must meet the risk management purchase requirement by either obtaining a policy or plan of insurance, under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or NAP coverage, for all economically significant crops. For 2008 crops, producers had the opportunity to obtain a waiver of the risk management purchase requirement through a buy-in provision. Producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for SURE without a policy or plan of insurance or NAP coverage.

In addition to meeting the risk management purchase requirement, a producer must have a farming interest physically located in a county that was declared a primary disaster county or contiguous county by the Agriculture Secretary under a Secretarial Disaster Designation. Regardless of a Secretarial Disaster Designation, individual producers may also be eligible for SURE if the actual production on the farm is less than 50 percent of the normal production on the farm due to a natural disaster. For SURE, a farm is defined as all crops in which a producer had an interest nationwide.

For more information on the new SURE program, please visit your local FSA county office or <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice), or 202-720-6382 (TDD).



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

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

Golf

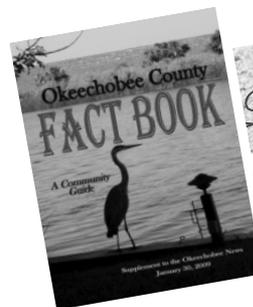
Buy One Get One Free

SUGARCANE

GOLF CLUB
Belle Glade

561-996-6605
2619 W. Canal St. North
Good Thru January 31, 2010

Available 24/7



Fact Book: <http://specialsections.newszip.com/SS/Page.aspx?&secid=65039&pagenum=1>

Medical Directory: <http://specialsections.newszip.com/SS/Page.aspx?&secid=59786&pagenum=1>

Meet Your Local Merchants: <http://specialsections.newszip.com/SS/Page.aspx?&secid=56360&pagenum=1>

School Information Guide: <http://specialsections.newszip.com/SS/Page.aspx?&secid=68371&pagenum=1>

Okeechobee Cancer Center

Board Certified Radiation Oncologists

Alan S. Krimsley, M.D.



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

Ronald H. Woody, M.D.



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

CyberKnife™ Robotic Radiation Surgery
Now Available!

Our State-of-the-Art Treatments Include:

- Ultrasound and CT Based Image Guided Radiation Therapy (IGRT)
- Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT)
- Mammosite Breast Cancer Therapy • High Dose Rate Brachytherapy (HDR)
- 3-D Image Guided Therapy • CT/MRI Fusion Technology

We offer Courtesy Transportation, Mileage Reimbursement, FREE Second Opinions and FREE Prostate Cancer Screenings.

New Patients Welcome
Serving Treasure Coast & Okeechobee

Lawnwood Cancer Center
1231 N. Lawnwood Circle
Ft. Pierce, FL
(772) 464-8121

Mid-Florida Cancer Center
604 W. Midway Road
White City, FL
(772) 468-3222

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

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

CARING PROFESSIONALS • STATE-OF-THE-ART TREATMENT • FIGHTING CANCER

The Law Office of Gerald Lefebvre

"Compare my experience and credentials to any other attorney's"

Practicing Law in Okeechobee Since 1981

Practice Limited to Personal Injury Auto Accidents Defective Products Wrongful Death

State and Nationally Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer Certified Circuit Civil Mediator

Martindale-Hubbell Highest Rating "AV" Voted "Super Lawyer" 2007, 2008 & 2009 Rated "Excellent" by AVO.com

863-763-3333

Se Habla Español 1910 S. Parrott Ave. Okeechobee, FL 34974

www.accidentattorneyoffice.com

35th Anniversary Douglas Fitness Center

916 W. North Park St
Okeechobee
(863) 763-7030

NEW MEMBERS receive 35% off 1st month's membership; \$35.00 off Annual Membership

Good until 1/30/10

CTT holds monthly tourney despite cold weather

Despite the cold temperatures on Saturday, Jan. 3, the Christian Team Trails held their first tournament of the year! There were a total of 48 boats that went out, 11 prize monies were passed out along with free hot dogs and cold drinks, and a good time was had despite the cold weather.

Tim Arnold took first place in the tournament with a total of 14.26 lbs. as well as the first place Big Fish with a big fish weighing in at 5.76 lbs. Coming in second place was Bob Owens with a total of 13.26 lbs. as well as the second Big Fish weighing in at 5.64 lbs.

Third place went to the team of Rick Sasina and Robert Shelter with a total of 11.99 lbs.

The following places also received prize monies of \$120.

Fourth place: Don Van Dyke and Ricker Buttenbach.

Fifth Place: Dave Stout and Geary Adams.

Sixth place: Leroy Bauer and Jo Wozar.

Seventh Place: Kyle Monti and Cody Wright.

Eighth Place: Donny Bass and Steve Ellyson.

Ninth Place: Jack Harrison.
Congratulations to all and see you next time!



Special to the Okeechobee News
Tim Arnold; first place winner at 14.26 total pounds and Big Fish winner at 5.76 pounds.



Special to the Okeechobee News
Fred George and Bob Owens; second place winners with 13.26 total pounds.



Special to the Okeechobee News
Jim Fowler, Tim Arnold and Pastor John Garrison; Tim was the first place winner and Big Fish winner.



Special to the Okeechobee News
Many gathered to participate at the Christian Team Trails monthly tournament. Despite the cold weather a total of 48 boats went out and everyone enjoyed hotdogs and cold drinks.

Out with the OLD and Let's start NEW

Basic Viper alarm w/door locks installed \$199 + tax (vehicles vary, please call)

Alpine 6.5" Type R Speakers starting at \$149.00 Not Installed

Tint Special starting at \$170.00 (vehicles vary, please call)

Monday- Friday 8-6

4443 SW Martin Hwy., Palm City, FL 34990
877-221-1599 • 772-221-1510
www.extreme-performance.biz
http://www.myspace.com/extremepformance07

"It's Performance That Counts."

We Deliver 10-23 tons!

All Feeds Are Available At Our Feed Mill!

Beef Feed	Whole Corn	Layer Pellets
Cracked Corn	All Purpose Pellets	Chicken Starter/Grower

(863) 763-5586
3079 NW 8th Street, Okeechobee FL, 34972
www.syfrettfeed.com



Special to the Okeechobee News/CES

December students of the month

Students of the Month showing exemplary behavior in the area of RESPECT included: Kindergarten: Isabella Calvillo, Adamaris Fernandez-Urieta, Luis Noel Espinoza, Virginia Younger, Kiersten Kennedy and Chloe Carter; First grade: Angel Garcia, Emily Martinez, Michael Orozco, Chase Mangold, Victoria Simmons, Bailey Harden and Lauren Sills; second grade: Malek Alvarado, Eboni Koivunen, Reed Jones, Monica Ordonez, Raith Sales and Amber Hull; third grade: Marissa Chavez, Simran Merchangt, Adon Landaverde, Alexandria Rennie, and Gage Ingram; fourth grade: Carol Flores, Sally Tijerina, Raven Raulerson, Dania Juarez, Jazzmyn Lara and Steven Rusinko.



Special to the Okeechobee News/CES

Students of the Week

Students of the Week of Dec. 14-18 included: kindergarten: Magalie Pineda, Markayla Morris, Ashley Skinner, Destiny Boyer and Samantha Fraix; first grade: Beoynece Garcia, Nataly Solis, Michael Orozco, Josiah Garcia, Hubert Jenkins, Blaze Meras, Pyke Dawson; second grade: Corbin Caballero, Austin Allen, Vincent Hetrick, Brooke Whaley and Janelle Castro; third grade: Qwanaza Dingle, Keondra Rawls, Zamir Duran, Jesus Mojca and Daniela Caballero; fourth grade: Megan Hargraves, Rafe Edwards, Chase Bussey, Katelyn McCorts and Ashley Velasquez.



\$1,500 TAX CREDIT
+\$1,000 UTILITY REBATE
+\$1,000 LENNOX REBATE

\$3,500 TOTAL



BETWEEN THE TAX BREAKS AND THE REBATES, YOU'RE GONNA NEED A BIGGER JAR.

EMORY WALKER Co., Inc.

208 S.W. 5TH AVENUE
 863-763-6742
 CACO42747

LENNOX DEALER SINCE 1975



WIN

up to \$55,000

in Bingo Jackpot Games!

Monday, January 18 – 7pm • \$75 Presale / \$85 at Door
 20 Games - Paying \$1000

Bus Transportation & Group Packages Available

17735 Reservation Road
 Okeechobee, FL 34974
 1.866.2.CASINO
 www.seminolebrightoncasino.com

Highway 721 west of Lake Okeechobee on the Brighton Seminole Indian Reservation

Must be 18 years old to play Bingo Complete rules available in the Bingo Hall. See Player's Club for complete details. Must be a Seminole Player's Club member to participate. Management reserves all rights. Person who have been trespassed or banned by the Seminole Tribe of Florida or those who have opted into the self-exclusion program are not eligible. If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, please call 1.888.ADMIT.IT

Shopping plaza and OUA pay \$850,000 to local woman

A shopping center owner and a water company recently had to pay an Okeechobee woman \$850,000 after they were sued for negligence regarding safety standards.

In February 2004, Patti Simmons' vehicle was parked behind the Okeechobee Plaza shopping center, owned Royal & Sons, Ltd. As Ms. Simmons walked to her vehicle, she unknowingly stepped into an uncovered water meter hole, causing her to fall. A heavy rain storm had flooded the dark parking lot, creating a hazardous situation. The meter

opening should have been covered with a plastic lid to protect pedestrians, but the lid was not properly attached and floated away when the parking lot flooded, according to Ms. Simmons' attorney.

The drain covers were managed by the Okeechobee Utility Authority.

"The property owners have an obligation to keep their property safe," commented Attorney Philip DeBerard. "Just as property owners have a responsibility to prevent dangerous conditions, so too must

land and business owners act when inclement weather creates adverse conditions on a property." Philip DeBerard and Robin A. Blanton represented Simmons in the action against the defendants.

Ms. Simmons suffered years of multiple neck and back surgeries that left her totally and permanently disabled and unable to return to her job as a beautician, stated Mr. DeBerard. The injuries and required medical care forced her to make substantial changes to her lifestyle, he stated.

City code board to hear four cases

When the city code enforcement board meets Tuesday night, they will consider four cases. The NW 12th Street property belonging to Fremont Investment & Loan has been cited as a public nuisance. Wells Fargo Bank's SW 10th Street property as well as Barbara Mills' NW Fifth Street property have both been cited for general cleaning and beautification.

The fine on Arthur Davis' NW Seventh Street property has accrued for over ninety days. The board will have to decide on taking further action.

City of Okeechobee Code Enforcement Board meets at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 12 in the City Council Chambers, Okeechobee City Hall, 55 SE Third Ave.

Road construction to cause traffic interruptions on CR 15B

Construction on Lakeside Ranch STA leads to temporary inconvenience

Project construction managed by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) will cause temporary interruptions to traffic on County Road 15B between State Road 710 and State Road 441 S.E. in Okeechobee County beginning on Monday, Jan. 11 and lasting through late April 2010.

Although a two-lane bypass will be constructed to facilitate traffic in this area, periodic lane closures are expected to continue to occur. This temporary inconvenience is a result of construction activities associated with the creation of a stormwater treat-

ment area on the former Lakeside Ranch in Okeechobee and Martin counties. This project is a feature of the Northern Everglades and Estuary Protection Plan, which is a component of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP).

When completed, the Lakeside Ranch project will improve the quality of water entering Lake Okeechobee by directing stormwater through a large filter marsh, where plants will remove nutrients from the water before it enters the lake.

For more information, please contact the SFWMD Okeechobee Service Center at 863-462-5260 or (800) 250-4200.

You get a health checkup every year--
how about a health insurance checkup?
Free review and no obligation quote.
 We write with **CIGNA, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Aetna, and United Healthcare.**
BERGER INSURANCE SERVICES, INC.
 800 South Parrott Avenue • Okeechobee
 www.BergerInsurance.com
 (863) 763-6411

Brahman Theatre
Jan. 8th - Jan. 14th
For Info, Call 763-7202
THEATRE I: "SHERLOCK HOLMES"
 Fri. @ 7:00 & 9:00, Sat., Sun. & Wed. @ 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:15, Mon. @ 3:00 & 7:00, Tues. & Thurs. @ 7:00 & 9:15 **PG-13**
THEATRE II: "IT'S COMPLICATED"
 Fri. @ 7:00 & 9:00, Sat., Sun. & Wed. @ 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00, Mon. @ 3:00 & 7:00, Tues. & Thurs. @ 7:00 & 9:00 **R**
THEATRE III: "ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS"
 Fri. @ 7:00 & 9:00, Sat., Sun. & Wed. @ 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00, Mon. @ 3:00 & 7:00, Tues. & Thurs. @ 7:00 & 9:00 **PG**
 Tickets: Adults - \$6.50 • Children 12 & under - \$5.00
 Senior Citizens - \$5.00 all movies • Matinees - \$4.50

Free Automotive Classified Ads!

4 Lines + 8 Photos Online for 2 Weeks Absolutely FREE!

Example: Jeep Liberty 2004, Excellent Condition Sunroof, Automatic, CD, \$0,000 (863) 000-0000

Plus 8 Photos

Place your FREE AD online: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at...
www.newszap.com click on Classifieds

Ricardo J. Quintero-Herencia, MD

Green Day Medical Oncology & Hematology of Okeechobee
"A Place for Hope"
 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

National Influenza Vaccination Week announced

The Okeechobee County Health Department announced that in coordination with the Centers for Disease Control, (CDC), and

the Florida Department of Health, (FDOH), the week of Jan. 10-16, as National Influenza Week.

Now that we have begun a new year and Floridians are heading back to work and school settings, it is more important than ever for those who have not yet received their H1N1 flu immunization to consider being vaccinated. More and more H1N1 vaccine is arriving in Florida on a daily basis, and we want to ensure all across our state who want to get vaccinated are able to.

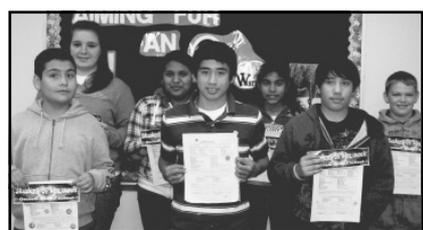
"Pandemics generally come in waves," said Frank Kruppa, administrator for the Okeechobee County Health Department, "although disease activity may have tapered off, now is not the time to let our guard down." People who have not yet been vaccinated should consider vaccination."

There are now several locations in the county for people who wish to be vaccinated to get vaccinated. Numerous retail establishments in the county are now offering the H1N1 vaccine to the general public.

The Okeechobee County Health Department has scheduled vaccination clinics on Fridays throughout January at the Health Department. The Health Department is located at, 1728 NW Ninth Ave in Okeechobee.

You will need to schedule an appointment by calling 863-462-5819 for a vaccination.

For more information or to make an appointment for a vaccination at the Health Department call, 863-462-5819.



Okeechobee News/OMS

Students of the Week

The students pictured were chosen by their teachers as Students of the Week at Osceola Middle School for the week of Jan. 4-8. These students enjoyed Domino's Pizza with Principal Mrs. Bass, Dean Mr. Burk, Guidance Counselors Mrs. Branham and Mrs. McGlamory, and School Resource Officer Deputy Holmes. OMS is grateful to have students such as these who serve as examples to others of good character and hard work. They are doing as all OMS Warriors are striving to do: "Be respectful; Be responsible; and Be safe! Congratulations to each of these model students! From left to right are: Jesus Ordonez, Emily Worth, Erica Ruiz, Daniel Robles, Lynette Casiano, Angel Garcia, and Dylan McClanahan.

WATER'S EDGE DERMATOLOGY

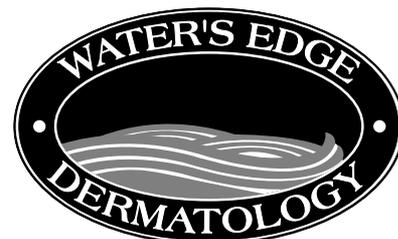
FREE SKIN CANCER SCREENING

We are providing free skin cancer screenings as a way of saying "thank you" to the community for supporting our practice. This year, more than one million Americans will be diagnosed with skin cancer. In Florida, skin cancer is more common because of the intensity of the sun, so please take advantage of this free screening.

Thursday, Jan. 21
and
Friday, Jan. 22

OKEECHOBEE
301 NE 19th Drive
467-6767

Call for an appointment



www.wederm.com

The patient and any other person responsible for payment has a right to refuse to pay, cancel payment or be reimbursed for payment for any other service, examination or treatment which is performed as a result of and within 72 hours of responding to the advertisement for the free, discounted fee or reduced service fee, service, examination or treatment.

Engaged? Just married? Golden anniversary?
Birthday? Holiday? New baby?
Share your news in print and online

Celebrations

fl.newszap.com/celebrations



For a modest charge,
each package includes:

- A print announcement in the newspaper of your choice.
- An online listing at fl.newszap.com/celebrations.
- Online guestbook for friends and family to sign and view.
- Online photo gallery for up to 10 photos.
- Gift registry page
- Profile page

Submit your good news today at
http://fl.newszap.com/celebrations

AFFORDABLE DENTAL IMPLANTS & LUMINEERS

NEW PATIENT OFFER
Lower Denture
2 Implants & Ball Attachments Included
\$1999
NEW PATIENTS ONLY (D6010, D5860)
EXP. 8-15-09

NEW PATIENT OFFER
FREE Digital X-Ray & Exam
Dental Implants
from **\$499** each
NEW PATIENTS ONLY (D6010, D0150, D0330)
EXP. 8-15-09

Starting At

CROWN	\$595.00
ABUTMENT	\$595.00
IMPLANT	\$499.00
Total	\$1689

MOST IMPLANTS ARE PLACED BY A PERIODONTAL SPECIALIST MINI IMPLANTS (TRANSITIONAL) ARE NOT USED

- Implants Are Surgically Inserted & Restored in the Same Office
- Replace Missing Teeth
- Stabilize Dentures or Partials
- Sedation Dentistry Available!
- Immediate Placement Implants
- Same Day Emergencies Welcome!
- Free Second Opinion Consultations
- 100% Financing Available at 0% Interest
- Secure Teeth the Same Day!

APPEARANCE IMPLANTS & LASER

DENTISTRY OF JUPITER
(561)741-7142
1-888-FL-IMPLANTS
6390 W. Indiantown Rd, Jupiter
Chasewood Plaza
New Surgery Suite Location
443 School House Rd, Abacoa
Military Trail at Donald Ross Road
Open Evenings & Sat by Appointment

www.harrouff.com



Michael Paesani, DMD - TA Aliapoulos, DDS - Wade B. Harrouff, DDS - Matthew Fien, DDS - Salvatore V. Melita, DDS

"Our Dentists have over 130 years combined dental experience in Palm Beach County. 20 years implant experience and over 13,000 crowns/implants insertions, and are dedicated to providing you with top quality dental care".

www.freeimplantreport.com

IMPLANTOLOGY IS NOT A RECOGNIZED SPECIALTY BY THE AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION AND FLORIDA BOARD OF DENTISTRY. NEW TREATMENT PROGRAM ONLY. THE PATIENT AND ANY OTHER PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYMENT HAVE THE RIGHT TO REFUSE TO PAY, CANCEL PAYMENT, OR BE REIMBURSED FOR PAYMENT FOR ANY OTHER SERVICE, EXAMINATION OR TREATMENT WHICH IS PERFORMED AS A RESULT OF AND WITHIN 72 HOURS OF RESPONDING TO THE ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE FREE, DISCOUNTED OR REDUCED FEE SERVICE, EXAMINATION OR TREATMENT.

Boys hoops pleased with win at Moore Haven

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee High School's Brahmans Boys Basketball Team continued a long dominance of Moore Haven with an impressive 66-35 victory Wednesday night in



Special to the Okeechobee News/CES

Hockey tourney

Students at Central Elementary took part in the Second CES Hockey Tournament. Games took place the week of Dec. 14-17. Classes competed against one another for glory and bragging rights. Students enjoyed the activities as a lead up to their holiday break. From left to right are: Tommi White; Devin Tijerina; Beatriz Perez; Kennetha McBride; Daniel Fullea; Chandler Smet; and Robert Bigford.

Glades County.

Ricky Nieto had 22 points, which included two slam dunks, and five three point baskets, to lead Okeechobee.

Austin Willard and Troy Harper both had nine points for the Brahmans.

"The two dunks gave us a lot of energy," Coach Bryan Van Camp said, "They came really close together. Ricky also had a chance to set a new school record for three pointers in a game, but he missed a few at the end he would normally make."

It appears Nieto's work in track on the high jump has paid off this year. His ankle injury of last year is no longer an issue and he routinely out jumps taller players.

"It was a good effort for the team especially coming off that district win over Westwood. It was nice to have another game where we played well," Van Camp added.

"It was a fun night for us, Moore Haven continues to struggle, and everybody on our team scored," he said.

The Brahmans are in a key point in their schedule. They are working hard to earn a good seed at the district tournament. Coach Van Camp said the district appears to be wide open this year.

Okeechobee were scheduled to play

Boynnton Beach on Saturday afternoon and that game will have a lot to do with who the Brahmans play in the tournament.

They also play district foes Jensen Beach and Lincoln Park Academy next week. They host Lincoln Park on Tuesday and Jensen Beach next Friday. JV games begin at 5:30 p.m. and the varsity game at 7 p.m.

"The district is still wide open. We gave Westwood their first district loss. Jensen Beach is playing well, and they beat Suncoast a couple of days ago. It looks like everybody is really even," he said.

ALWAYS SAVING BUYERS MONEY!



BUYER BROKERAGE CO. OF OKEECHOBEE

BILL F. STEGKEMPER, CRS, GRI, APPRAISER

(863) 763-2334 • (863) 801-9497 CELL
P.O. Box 1074, Okeechobee FL, 34973
1039 S.E. Everglades Blvd • Okeechobee

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

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

PRICED TO SELL! FORECLOSURE: 2/2 DWMH is a really nice place. Would make anyone a nice place to live. Screened in Porch. Captured lake with a nice yard. MLS #203488, \$65,000.

VERY NICE CBS HOME. It has been updated. New Granite Kitchen countertops. New refrigerator. New roof in 2006. MLS #203362, \$74,900.

A BEAUTIFUL UNIMPROVED 4.77 ACRES IN LAKE MONTAZA. Great price and priced to sell! MLS #203516, \$79,900.

NEWER MH IN BHR. Generator, Hurricane anchors every 3'. High impact windows. Shed - hurricane anchored with chains. Dog house. 5' fence. Close to Kissimmee River Boat Ramp. MLS #203517, \$79,900

UNIMPROVED ACREAGE. Nice building lot. MLS #203364, \$7500

2.5 ACRES. This property is full of hardwood trees. It is high and dry. Very secluded. It has power lines within a 1/4 mile of property. THIS IS UNIMPROVED ACREAGE. MLS #203019, \$189,500.

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

David Hazellief • 863-610-1553 Betty Hazellief • 863-610-0144
Sharon Prevatt • 863-634-7069 Dee Reeder • 863-610-2485
(863) 763-2104
Hazellief & Prevatt Realty Inc. Se Habla Español
CALL FOR A LIST OF FORECLOSURES

 FORECLOSURE	3001-H: Lake Access Treasure Island home needs some tender, loving care on .31 Lot. \$65,000 MLS #203529	 FORECLOSURE	3003-M: Treasure Island 2 bedroom 1 bath MH (SE 23rd CT). Easy to see on lockbox. Call today. \$45,000 MLS #203269
 FORECLOSURE	3004-H: 3/2 home in Treasure Island. Attached garage, pave driveway, large porch. Needs some work. \$70,000 MLS #203368	 FORECLOSURE	5000-H: Two Story 6 Bedrooms, 2 Bath home located on a little over 1/2 acre. \$104,900 MLS #203524
 FORECLOSURE	5003-H: Connors Gables Two Story 3/2 home, Dining room, Family room off the Kitchen area, screened porch, 2 Car Garage. \$128,700 MLS #203530	 FORECLOSURE	8000-A: Oak Water Estates 2 acres of waterfront property on 441 S. On the Rim Canal. NO wetland restrictions. Vacant land MLS #203429

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

Kathy Godwin Lic. RE Broker
Preferred Properties Of Okeechobee Realty Inc.
Everything We Touch Turns To "Sold" NO TRANSACTION FEES!
We are registered to sell "Hud Owned Homes"
Call one of our Agents for info.

 BRINDABAN FOREST	Beautiful 3/2 DWMH many upgrades, open and spacious, above ground pool with very nice wood deck around it. MLS# 203597 \$115,000 Call Wendy Bostwick 863-697-6716	 SEMINOLE COVE	2/2 DWMH with 2 car carport, large FL room with lots of windows, public pool, lawn care, cable. Very nice home. MLS# 203021 \$89,999 Call Marcia Barber 863-634-1229
 WHAT A DEAL	1992 3Bd/2Ba DWMH on Captive Lake in Taylor Creek Isles. Home has new floors, fireplace, screened back porch, hurricane shutters and a lot more. MLS# 203389 \$85,000 Call Sheryl Byrd 863-634-3572	 RIM CANAL	What a combination: Fishing and income producing property! Swim in the pool or fish out your backdoor in this two unit home with bonus singlewide. MLS# 203559 \$250,000 Call Kathy Godwin 863-634-7728
 BEAUTIFUL ACRE LOT	Beautiful acre with 3 bedroom 3 bath home. Home is a converted mobile. New floors, detached garage and lots of trees. MLS# 202998 \$85,000 Call Barbara McClellan 863-634-7547	 WATERFRONT DELIGHT	CBS 3/2 with 1 car carport and nice screened porch to enjoy the water view! Home also has a waterfront buildable lot beside it that comes with the home. Call to set up your showing! MLS# 202500 \$135,000 Call Kathy Godwin 863-634-7728

863-763-8222 • 3126 Hwy 441 S. Okeechobee • Se Habla Español

OHS boys soccer team nips Clewiston

By Charles M. Murphy

Okeechobee News

Oscar Garcia scored on a nice feed from Erick Garcia to account for the only goal of the match as Okeechobee High School defeated Clewiston High 1-0 at a frigid Brahman stadium Thursday night.

Okeechobee has never lost to Clewiston in soccer but the matches have certainly gotten more competitive in recent years.

Thursday Clewiston and Okeechobee battled in a tough, physical, defensive oriented match.

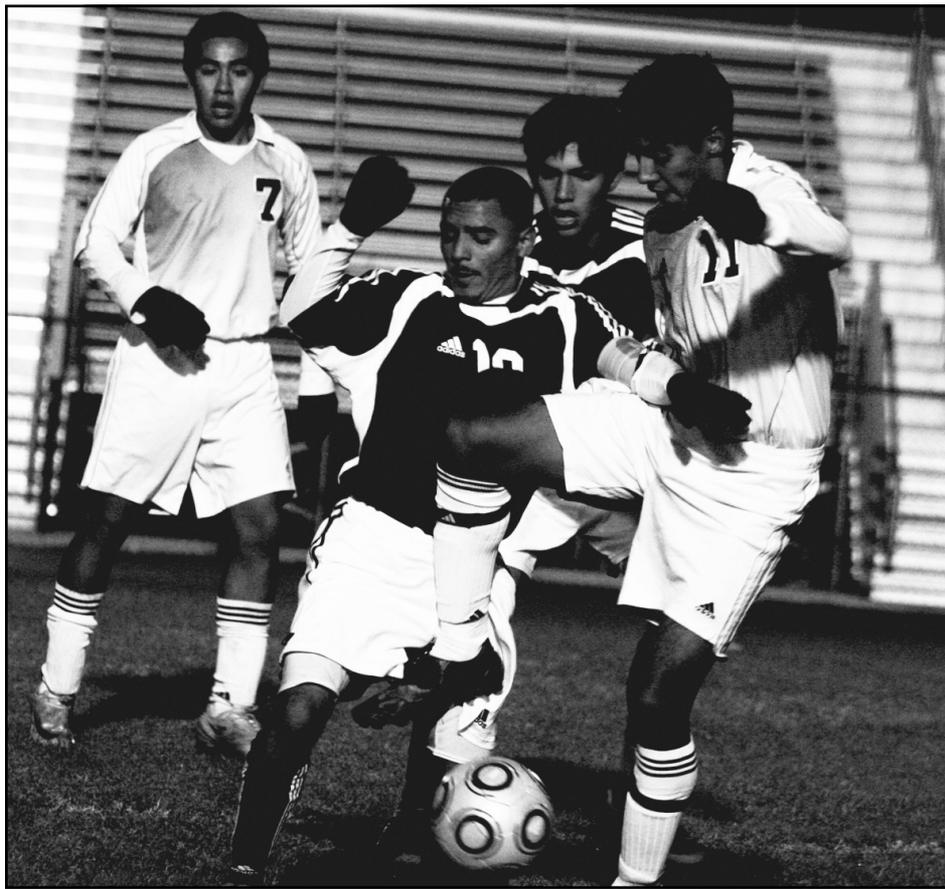
"Our defense has been playing well," Brahman Coach Lonnie Sears said, "We've had four shutouts in the past five matches. Defensively we are starting to come together. If we play defense we are going to win."

Okeechobee has won nine consecutive matches on the season and are making fewer mistakes than earlier in the season.

"Clewiston was hard hitting and aggressive. They were very physical. On defense they were disciplined and smart. We got a couple of chances to score, but the one goal came when their goalie dropped the ball and the shot deflected off one of his defenders," Sears added.

The Brahmans will wrap up their home schedule next week as they are scheduled to host South Fork next Wednesday. They will hold senior night during Friday's match. The Brahmans also travel to meet Treasure Coast next Tuesday in a match up of two of the areas best soccer squads.

"For the most part I think we could have scored more goals against Clewiston. We missed a few opportunities and we had a guy wide open in front of the net. We must hit those passes," he added.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy

Adrian Leon (right) battles for possession of the ball as #7 Eddie Guerrero looks on during the Okeechobee victory Thursday night.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Erick Garcia (left) uses his head in a positive manner during Thursday's match. Garcia had an assist on the only goal scored during the game.

Your paper, not ours.



We pledge to operate our newspaper as a public trust.

We believe journalists are nothing more than guardians of every citizen's right to a free press. We have no authority to compromise, bargain away or dishonor the principles underlying the First Amendment.

We don't play loose with the facts. We give notice to your opinions, not ours. We encourage vigorous discussion of public issues, but try to keep everybody's comments within the bounds of fair play.

How are we doing?

Let us know by emailing feedback@newszap.com or calling your editor.

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Community Service Through Journalism

Coaches - Players - Sports Fans

Get Noticed!



Share your News!

From Baseball to Basketball, Football to Hockey, Soccer to Swimming, Cheerleading to Taekwondo – if you offer or participate in a youth or recreational sport/activity contact us today to join the Okeechobee Sports Network

OKEECHOBEE SPORTSNETWORK

*It's Easy
It's Fun
IT'S YOUR TURN!*

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

HOME

77

YOUR SCORES...
YOUR STANDINGS...
YOUR HIGHLIGHTS...
WITHIN YOUR

OKEECHOBEE SPORTSNETWORK

AWAY

55

Connect with your teammates, fans and the *entire* community

service provided and powered by:

OKEECHOBEE NEWS newszap.com
CommunitySportsDesk
Catch your community at play

To get started contact:
Renee Hawley
Phone: 888-853-7904 x 323
E-Mail: rhawley@communitysportsdesk.com

Online Classifieds

Free
Speech

Free
Ads

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

FREE!
Absolutely
FREE!

• 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



Announcements

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

For more listings, go to
www.newszap.com

Lost

LOST DOG - Brown Brindle female Curr Dog around Dixie Ranch Acres, if found please call (863)261-1674 or (863)697-9779



Employment

For more listings, go to
www.newszap.com

Employment Full Time

QUALITY CONTROL
Earn up to \$100 per day. Evaluate retail stores, training provided. No experience required. Call 888-615-5249

Employment Full Time

SPRINT/NEXTEL

Full Time (Sat A Must)

Customer Service/Sales

Energetic
Self Motivated
Professional Appearance
Bi-Lingual
a PLUS

Send Resumé to 1418 S Parrott Ave

RECEPTIONIST/OFFICE ASSISTANT

Articulate receptionist with excellent communication skills needed for Okeechobee office. Duties include answering phones, greeting visitors and performing general administrative duties. Professional attitude and attire as well as good computer skills are required. Bi-lingual a plus. E-mail resume to astacy@roofile.com or fax 863-467-0045.
EOE DFWP

ACCOUNTANT

Seeking highly motivated mid level Accountant for busy agricultural dealership in Belle Glade, Florida. Accounting degree required. Resumes will be evaluated on a qualitative basis and interviews will be scheduled with our organization. Please fax resume to 561-996-8367, Attn: Comptroller

CARPENTERS NEEDED

Must have social security # and identification. Experience required. Call (863)634-8685

Employment Full Time

Employment Wanted

EXP'D. INDIVIDUAL
Seeking F/T office position. Bi-lingual (Sp); computer literate; book-keeping; excellent oral & written skills; self-starter; available immediately. Contact: karo2009@embarqmail.com

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

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

Bookkeeping

Bookkeeping/
Secretarial Services
by Linda Seder
Okee area.
(772)801-9687

Excavation

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

Furniture

Formal Dining room table fully padded, oval, 65" x 44", Three 12" leafs, 6 cane backed chairs, 863-467-1094.

Top Soil

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

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



Merchandise

For more listings, go to
www.newszap.com

Appliances

GE stackable washer/dryer - 2 years old. Works great. \$175.00. (630)674-1294 or (660)216-6666

Guns/Supplies

SUNCOAST GUN SHOW

January 9th & 10th, 2010
Sat. 9 - 5, Sun. 9 - 4
HAVERT L. FENN CENTER
2000 Virginia Ave, Ft Pierce, FL
BUY - SELL - TRADE
Concealed Weapon Class \$45
Daily 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.
suncoastgunshows.com
For info 772-462-1521

Miscellaneous

15 ft. alum boat w/trailer \$800 ; 15 h/power evinrude \$600; trailer hitch w/receiver \$60. 1 Barbecue grill \$40. 863-946-3377.

Pets/Supplies

AKC Chocolate Labs.
Born 12/05/09. \$700
863-634-1711.

Chihuahua Pups - AKC, up to date on shots, health cert., dewormed, \$350 ea. 863-381-9234

LAB PUPS - blacks, yellows, \$275 each neg. (863)674-0156 or (239)574-4408



Agriculture

For more listings, go to
www.newszap.com

Horses

HORSE PASTURE for rent. 14 acres with horse stalls. Call 863-763-3762

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

Guns/Supplies

SUNCOAST GUN SHOW

January 9th & 10th, 2010
Sat. 9 - 5, Sun. 9 - 4
HAVERT L. FENN CENTER
2000 Virginia Ave, Ft Pierce, FL
BUY - SELL - TRADE
Concealed Weapon Class \$45
Daily 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.
suncoastgunshows.com
For info 772-462-1521

Miscellaneous

15 ft. alum boat w/trailer \$800 ; 15 h/power evinrude \$600; trailer hitch w/receiver \$60. 1 Barbecue grill \$40. 863-946-3377.

Pets/Supplies

AKC Chocolate Labs.
Born 12/05/09. \$700
863-634-1711.

Chihuahua Pups - AKC, up to date on shots, health cert., dewormed, \$350 ea. 863-381-9234

LAB PUPS - blacks, yellows, \$275 each neg. (863)674-0156 or (239)574-4408



FOR RENT Rentals

For more listings, go to
www.newszap.com

Apartments

FURNISHED APT'S
(2) 1 BR & (1) 2 BR
Include electric, water & satellite TV. Seasonal or Annual. Good credit plus deposit. No pets. Starting @ \$595 mo. Call 863-801-9027

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

Newly renovated apt. **2BR/1BA** located in Kings Bay 863-634-9850

NW OKEE: 2br, quiet St. Pets ok, \$650/\$750, 1st, last & \$500 sec. 561-346-1642

OKEECHOBEE- 1br furn. No pets, Seasonal, Brindaban Forest, non-smoking environment. \$800/mo (863)763-7319.

VIKING/PRAIRIE Efficiency. Very clean! \$500/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

OAK Lake Villas - 2/2 W/D, updated appl. \$750/mo. 1st & last. Avl. 2/1. 772-579-7562

TAYLOR CREEK CONDO
1 BR, 1 BA, Furnished. Pool, W&D Facilities. \$700 mo. Call Jerry or Brenda (863)467-0067 or (863)610-1281

Houses - Rent

BHR - 3BR, 1.5BA, fully furn., electric & cable incl. Seasonal rate by month. (561)262-5206

BHR COTTAGE - 1BR, 1BA, furnished, electric, cable & water included. Call (561) 262-5206

CBS HOUSE, 3 BR, 1 1/2 BA, Car Port. 1600 SW 3rd Ave., In front of public library. \$900 mo. \$2000 to move in. No pets. (863)634-0512

DIXIE RANCH ACRES - 2 Bdrm. Duplex. No pets. \$500 mo + \$400 sec. dep. includes water, garbage & lawn (863)610-0001

LAKE PORT - 3 br, 3 ba, unfurnished, on rim canal, all people welcome \$1000/mo 1st. last & sec. (863) 946-1775

Near Taylor Creek Bridge 2BR/1BA w/large den; fenced yd w/shed. \$700 mo 863-610-0371.

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

RIVER ACRES - Cozy cottage 1/1, on the water. Furn. w/Dock, all utils., W&D, Satellite, clean. Yard main. incl. \$700/mo 863-467-1950

Houses - Rent

SEASONAL OR YEARLY
- BHR, 2/2 Waterfront,
plus 1 person Apt. Fully
furn., utilities, cable, No
pets, Non smoking envi-
ron. (863)763-6086

Land - Rent

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**

SUN PLAZA: Approx.
1100 sq. ft. rental spac-
es, avail. now @ 909 S.
Parrot Ave. Great for
Office or Retail. For
more info. Call Jerry or
Brenda (863)467-0067
or (863)610-1281

Rental Needed

WANTED TO RENT - Re-
fined Senior couple
wishes to rent 2br, 2ba
trailer or house for the
month of February. No
pets, Refs available
(908)453-3819

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

Rooms To Rent

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

Real Estate

For more listings,
go to
www.newszap.com

Houses - Sale

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

EXCELLENT move-in
cond., furn., 2BR, 2BA,
garage, screen porch,
in stable neighborhood.
\$110,000 by owner.
Call 352-895-8376

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

OKEE. - Huge 1 Bdrm.
Apt. Tile throughout.
Screen porch. \$435 mo.
+ utilities. 1st, last &
\$200 sec. dep. No
dogs. 863-801-1739

Mobile Homes

For more listings,
go to
www.newszap.com

**Mobile Home
Rent**

Adorable 2/1, Ancient
Oaks, + 55, completely
furnished, with boat
ramp, gated community,
incl. water, cable, lawn
care & w/d, annual \$595,
seasonal \$995 inclds
electric Available immedi-
ately, sec dep, 1 small
pet okay (863)801-9027

BHR - 3/2, Washer, dry-
er, fenced in yard.
\$750/mo utilts not incld.
(863)357-1783

BHR - RVs for Rent,
starting \$300-\$500 &
55+ park, seasonal or
yearly. 1st month's rent
free! 863-763-3134

OKEECHOBEE - 2br,
1ba with large back
porch & front porch on
large scenic, wooded,
fenced lot, W/D \$725
mo. Call 863-634-3451

RV with added on living
room. Utilities incl.
\$450/month + deposit.
Call 863-763-3762

Treasure Island - 2BR
SW on water, lg. lot,
\$525 mo., good place
for boat. 863-226-3436

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

Treasure Island, 2/3BR
furnished & unfur-
nished, from \$650,
(561)262-1390

Mobile Home Sale

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

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

DWMH - 3/2. completely
furn., fenced yard, 3
sheds, \$79,000 or best
offer (863)763-8761

For Sale 60 x 14; 2 bd
2 ba in Adult trailer
park. Lrg kitchen, Fl
room, screened back
porch on canal, util
bldg, boat dock. Many
extras. For information
863-484-0222

OKEECHOBEE - 1981
dbl wide on water, porch,
lg edition, boathouse,
\$100,000 (863)763-0474

SWMH - corner lot, new-
ly remodeled, fenced,
furn., \$45,000 or best
offer (863)763-8761

Recreation

For more listings,
go to
www.newszap.com

Boats

**2008 SUNSET BAY 19'
PONTOON** -
\$ 1 7 , 0 0 0 . 0 0
(863)885-4852

Campers/RVs

PARK MODEL - 35'
10x30 rm, carport, 113
Hickory Crt, Whisper
Creek, 863-675-4475

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

Campers/RVs

For Sale Motor Home
Acces. Never used Cust-
tom Sunbrella cover for
40 ft. w/2 zipper
doors. Custom Ultra
Tyre tire covers; fits
22.5 bus or RV tire.
Tote Along Barker RV
sewer tank; 32 gal.; Flo
Jet RV sewer pump;
Tire Sentry System
Elec. Tire pressure
Monitoring system. Call
863-634-1080.

Motorcycles

Beautiful 650 Yamaha-
Classic with many ex-
tra's; only 16300k. Easy
miles, excellent rubber.
Just serviced; no prob-
lems. 863-467-1094

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

FWC seeks good homes for unwanted nonnative pets

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conserva-
tion Commission (FWC) announces ano-
ther Pet Amnesty Day at the Miami MetroZoo
on Feb. 6 and is looking for potential adop-
ters to provide good homes for pets that are
turned in at the event.

The FWC urges people who have an ex-
otic pet they can't care for anymore to bring
it to Pet Amnesty Day rather than opening
their front door and letting it loose. It's illegal
to release a nonnative animal into the wild
in Florida, and it could be detrimental for
the animal and the environment. Nonnative
Pet Amnesty Day, hosted in conjunction with
the Miami MetroZoo, is one of the FWC's ef-
forts to keep unwanted exotic pets out of
Florida's native habitats.

"We are expecting to get quite a few
nonnative animals that day, so we need to
make sure we have safe homes for them,"
said Jenny Tinnell of the FWC. "Released
pets are a common pathway that allows ex-
otic species into the wild. Often, pet own-
ers don't understand the difference between
native and nonnative species, or they don't
realize the possible effects releasing a non-
native species can have. This event gives pet
owners who can no longer take care of their
pets, or no longer wish to keep them, a leg-
al, ethical option."

Currently, the FWC is looking for poten-
tial adopters in South Florida who are experi-
enced pet owners and are willing to provide
a home for one or more animals. All adop-
ters must fill out the proper application form
before they receive surrendered animals.

"This isn't a free pet giveaway," Tin-
nell said. "We're looking for adopters with
knowledge and expertise in caring for exotic
pets; it's not for people who have always
wanted a pet and think this is an opportunity
to try their hand at owning one they don't
have to purchase."

Pet Amnesty Day will be held Feb. 6, at
the Miami MetroZoo. It's free and open to
the public. Exotic animals can be surren-
dered to the FWC free of charge with no
questions asked and no penalties.

"We will not penalize any pet owners
who choose the responsible option of not
releasing their nonnative pets into the wild,"
Tinnell said. "This is about curbing our on-
going problem of exotic fish and wildlife."

A veterinarian will examine each animal,
and every attempt will be made to place all
healthy animals with qualified adopters. Pet
Amnesty Day is also a family event. There
will be live animals on display, live animal
shows and fun activities. Experts will be
on hand to talk about proper care of exotic
pets, so people who are thinking about pur-
chasing one can learn from credible sources
before they buy. This is a chance for people
to not only see exotic animals, but get up
close and even touch them.

Nonnative pet amnesty events help in-
crease awareness of nonnative species prob-
lems. More than 400 nonnative species have
been observed in Florida, and more than
130 have reproducing populations.

For more information on nonnative spe-
cies in Florida, or to download an adoption
application, visit MyFWC.com/Nonnatives.

Adopters must have knowledge of natu-
ral history and caging requirements and
have proper facilities for the animals they
are interested in adopting. There is no fee
for being an adopter.

Crossword Puzzles

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS	2 Hydrocarbon obtained from petroleum	29 Trattoria offering	40 Serenaded
1 Super	30 Everything, to Ernst	31 Valuable rock	41 Boring things
9 Winged mimics	32 Multipurpose roll	33 It merged with Goodrich in 1986	42 Knight who sings
15 Listening device	34 In an energetic way	35 First name in Western fiction	44 One might precede a tug
16 Where to see saucers	39 Turncoat	52 1988 noir remake	45 Way to the Web
17 Drill		53 Where sts. meet	47 Infielder's cry
18 Turkey appendage			48 Salad veggie
19 Trysting places, perhaps			50 Reunion moniker
20 Sagan's subj.			51 1988 noir remake
22 Sugary ending			
23 Presidential middle name			
24 Needing to reorder			
26 Shrub of the genus Indigofera			
27 Line part: Abbr.			
28 Major artery: Abbr.			
29 It may be fine			
30 God to more than a billion			
31 Kawasaki watercraft			
32 Immigrant's status, perhaps			
36 Detach, in a way			
37 Yellowish brown			
38 Honored formally			
39 O'Connor of "Xena: Warrior Princess"			
40 Slump			
43 Speaker of baseball			
44 German- speaking Swiss city			
45 Manhandle			
46 Yom ____ holiday, in Hebrew			
47 Course with many functions			
48 Dance with a kick			
49 Mate's response			
51 Declared			
54 Picket fence			
55 Space science			
56 Bastille Day party site			
57 London-born supermodel			

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

xwordeditor@aol.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15									16					
17									18					
19								20	21			22		
23						24	25					26		
27											29			
32	33	34							35					
36								37						
38														
39								39				40	41	42
43												45		
46												48		
49														
54														
56														

DOWN
1 Totals

By Barry C. Silk
(c)2009 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

Girls basketball team gets sweet revenge

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

The Okeechobee High School Brahman girls basketball team is ending years of frustration caused by Jensen Beach High School's domination of the basketball court.

The Lady Brahmans played a near flawless first half as they defeated the Lady Falcons 49-24 on Thursday night, avenging a loss earlier in the season.

"I think we played very well," senior Center Jewel Buck said, "We deserved that game. We had more heart in this game. Our team had a lot of mad players and we deserved that win."

It was a physical battle in the first half as Okeechobee showed a lot of intensity on defense. They constantly pressured the ball and picked up steals. Buck held her own against Jensen's best player Hanna Cohen, who had 16 points.

"I know we deserved that game for real. Our team wants to win. They didn't want it as bad as we did," Buck said.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Tight Brahman defense from Essence Williams (center) and Monica Koger (left) played a key role in Okeechobee's win Thursday.

Buck had 15 points and double digit rebounds. Monica Koger added nine points. Essence Williams, Koger and other defenders had numerous steals.

Okeechobee led 15-3 after the first quarter and 30-6 at the half. Jensen got so frustrated with the physical play that one of their players was called for a technical foul late in the half.

Coach Tony Sherlock said he saw a great Brahman team on the court in the first half, but added he wondered where that team went after the break, "The first half was probably the best half of basketball I've seen them play all season. The second half was a total reversal."

Sherlock said the girls reverted to form by letting Jensen dictate the tempo and play their game.

"It shouldn't have been even close. That should have been a running clock game if we do what were supposed to do," the coach said.

Okeechobee led 39-13 after the third quarter and substituted liberally in the second half.

The Brahman JV was also victorious over Jensen Beach Thursday.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Jewel Buck (right) scored 15 points in Okeechobee's win over Jensen Beach Thursday.

Power wheelchairs available

The Senior Wheels USA makes available Power Wheelchairs to Senior Citizens and the permanently disabled at no cost to the recipient, if they qualify. The Power Wheelchairs are provided to those who can no longer walk safely, nor self-propel a manu-

al wheelchair, and who meet the additional guidelines of the program. If the patient's need is for use in the home, please call for more information to see if they qualify. Call toll free at 1-800-246-6010.

THINK THIN FOR 2010!!!

***50% OFF Program Fees**
***FREE B-12**
1st Week of Protein Supplements FREE



Physicians
WEIGHT LOSS
Centers®

FREE
CONSULT!

IN HOUSE
FINANCING

CALL TODAY...START TODAY!

414 S. PARROTT AVE

PH 863-357-9967 FAX 863-357-9969

Clock Family Restaurants

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

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
- Breakfast Croissant with Potato \$4.89

Lunch Specials

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

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

Specials Served 7 Days 6 AM - 11 PM

2 Dinners - Your Choice \$18.99

- 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

Listings Updated Daily

www.Tucker-Group.com



Local:

(863)763.4010

Toll Free:

(888) 874.2945

Lic. RE Broker

104 N.W. 7th Ave. Okeechobee