

# OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 101 No. 28

Friday, March 5, 2010

50¢ Plus tax

**FREE**  
CLASSIFIED ADS  
**ONLINE**  
NEWSZAP.COM

**High school student  
accused of selling  
drugs at school**  
... page 3

## Index

Classifieds.....	18-19
Community Events.....	6
Crossword.....	19
Obituaries.....	6
Opinion.....	4-5
Speak Out.....	4
Sports.....	16-17, 20
Weather.....	4

## Lake Levels

**13.56 feet**  
Last Year: 12.65 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

**newszap.com**  
Free Speech Free Ads



Special to the Okeechobee News/OCT

## 'I'll never die ...'

**June Sanders (Stephany Dupree) does her own version of sign language for the hearing impaired, as her sister, Denise (Nikki St. Pierre) sings, "I'll Never Die, I'll Just Change My Address," one of the nearly 30 Bluegrass flavored gospel favorites in "Smoke on the Mountain," a gospel comedy. The play will presented Friday and Saturday in the Okeechobee Freshman Campus Auditorium. For more, see page 5.**



Okeechobee News/P. Gawda

## 100th birthday

**Victoria Jones celebrated her 100th birthday on March 2, at Golden Corral surrounded by her three sons, their families and friends of the family. See page 12 for more.**

## Raided 'pill mills' linked to local cases

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News

Two of the three pain clinics raided Wednesday in Palm Beach County can be directly linked to at least five local cases, said a detective with the Okeechobee Narcotics Task Force.

Federal and county agencies raided the "pill mills" March 3 and seized boxes of records from the American Pain Clinic in Lake Worth, and from East Coast Pain Management and Executive Pain in West Palm Beach. No arrests were made.

The local detective is very famil-

## Informed choices can help solve many health problems

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

Awareness and communications are the two major tools Frank Kruppa, administrator of the Okeechobee County Health Department is using to improve the county's quality of life.

Mr. Kruppa believes that individuals, especially young people, making informed choices are the key to solving our public health problems. Many of the problems he faces, such as obesity, teen pregnancies, and the effects of smoking, drugs and alcohol can be solved by people making the right choices.

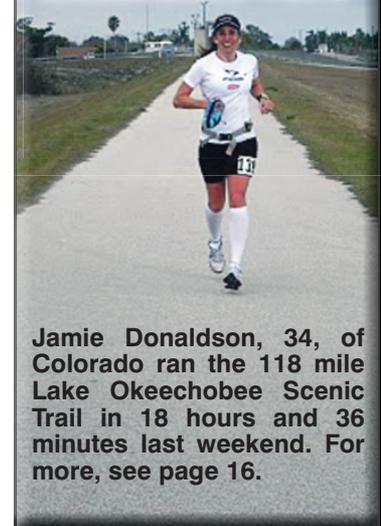
A major focus of the health department is on helping children of all ages. Care begins before birth, includes toddlers and small children and continues through the school years using school nurses.

One of the problems the health department deals with is obesity which causes such things as high blood pressure and cardiopulmonary diseases. There are various programs that teach proper nutrition.

"We should start talking about nutrition before intercession is necessary," Mr. Kruppa said.

See HEALTH— Page 14

## Runner sets new record in 118-mile LOST endurance race



**Jamie Donaldson, 34, of Colorado ran the 118 mile Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail in 18 hours and 36 minutes last weekend. For more, see page 16.**

See PILLS— Page 14

**Open 9 a.m. until ???**

**Tuesday Night - Fish Fry 6 pm**  
**Wednesday Night - Pizza 6 pm**  
**Saturday Night - Dinner 6 pm**  
**Sunday Night - Fried Chicken 6 pm**

**TRIPLE SEVEN'S**  
**ARCADES**  
Must be 21 and over

**Over \$5,000 weekly in Give-A-Ways**

**Treasure Island Plaza**  
3651 SE Hwy 441  
**863-824-0777**

SUNRISE FORD'S

# MUSTANG MANIA & SUPER DUTY SELL-DOWN!

**2011'S ARE ON ORDER!**  
MANAGEMENT SAYS  
CLEAR OUT ALL 2010  
MUSTANGS & SUPER DUTIES!



## NEW 2010 FORD MUSTANG GT



MSRP .....\$29,890  
Factory Rebates .....\$1,500  
Dealer Discount.....\$2,400

310 HP, 18" ALLOYS, FULL PERFORMANCE PACKAGE, 5 SPEED & MORE! #10262

**SAVE \$3,900**

**FINAL PRICE \$25,990**

**20 TO CHOOSE**

## NEW 2010 FORD F-250 SUPER DUTY



MSRP .....\$35,695  
Factory Rebates .....\$4,000  
Dealer Discount .....\$1,700

POWER EQUIPMENT GROUP, XL PLUS & DECOR PKGS., TRAILER TOW & MORE! #10487

**SAVE \$5,700**

**FINAL PRICE \$29,995**

**25 TO CHOOSE**

## PREOWNED

### '05 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER

TOURING EDITION, CONVERTIBLE, CLOTH TOP, BRIGHT SILVER, 4 CYL., AUTO., #10307A

**\$8,995**



### '05 TOYOTA COROLLA LE

CACTUS METALLIC, 4 DR., AUTO., FULL POWER, EXTRA NICE! #10301A1

**\$9,995**



### '04 CHEVY MONTE CARLO SS

RED, LEATHER, MOONROOF, RARE FACTORY SUPERCHARGER! #10024A

**\$12,995**



### '05 CHEVY SILVERADO 2500

LS. CLOTH TRIM, WHITE W/ TAN TWO TONE, CHROME WHEELS, V6, AUTO., #10468A

**\$12,995**



### '05 DODGE DAKOTA SLT 4X4

CREW CAB, 4.7 V8, 4 DR., AUTO., BRIGHT SILVER, 1 OWNER, NICE! #P3673A

**\$14,995**



### '07 JEEP LIBERTY SPORT 4X4

BLACK, GRAPHITE CLOTH, V6, AUTO., ALLOYS, 27,300 MILES, #P3640

**\$15,595**



### '05 CHEVY 3500 BOX TRUCK

DIESEL, AUTO., HYDRAULIC LIFT GATE, EXTRA CLEAN! #9415A2

**\$16,395**



### '07 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE

LAREDO, STEEL BLUE METALLIC, FULL POWER, CHROME WHEELS, 16,500 MILES, #P3622

**\$17,995**



## NEW 2010 FORD SPORT TRAC & EXPLORER



**18 TO CHOOSE**

## NEW 2010 FORD FUSION & FOCUS



**36 TO CHOOSE**

## NEW 2010 FORD F-150 - F-350



**65 TO CHOOSE**

## NEW 2010 FORD EDGE & ESCAPE



**17 TO CHOOSE**

**#1 VOLUME FORD DEALER ON THE TREASURE COAST!\***

# SUNRISE FORD

*"From Our Family To Yours For Over 75 Years."*

5435 U.S. 1 South, Fort Pierce • 1/2 Mile South of Midway Road on U.S. 1 • Ft. Pierce 461-6000  
**CALL TOLL FREE OUTSIDE ST. LUCIE COUNTY 877-251-FORD (3673)**



**SHELBY & ROUSH MUSTANGS IN STOCK! CALL NOW!**



Monday-Friday  
8am-8pm  
Saturday  
9am-5pm  
Se Habla Español



OKEECHOBEE RD.

MIDWAY RD.

ST. LUCIE WEST



\*Based on 2009 Ford Motor Company annual sales data for total new retail vehicle sales registrations for the 4-county area of Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River and Okeechobee counties. All prices plus tax, tag and \$289 dealer fee. Offers valid through 3/31/10. Must take delivery by 3/31/10.

Your Internet Representative Hank Basile at [Sunrise-Ford.com](http://Sunrise-Ford.com)



## Public Forum/Speak Out

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

### Trail riders

• With all the horses in Okeechobee County, are there any trail riding clubs? I asked about Big Lake Trail Riders, but they only have horse shows. Apparently they started as a riding club who went on monthly trail rides and also had shows and eventually they just quit going on the trail rides and concentrated on the shows only. I don't care about being in shows but would like to find a group to trail ride with.

### County fair

• I notice that this year the county fair has added horse events scattered throughout the fair dates. There are a lot of local young people who compete in speed events such as barrel racing, poles, etc. who are very excited to have a local competition at the fair. And in the past we have had several award winning equestrian drill teams who traveled around the state to other fairs and horse shows, but since there were no local competitions, most Okeechobee folks never got to see them perform. This year the county fair has an equestrian drill team competition.

### A new way to report problems

• Has anyone tried the new option to report a problem in the community? <http://fl.newszap.com/okeechobee/seeclickfix.html> You click on the map of Okeechobee and describe the problem. And, it is supposed to send an email to the appropriate officials.

• This site is used by communities all over the country. I think it is a good idea because it is anonymous and so you don't have the issue of retaliation. And if enough people hit the "I want this fixed too" button, then it gets more attention. Also, many people see something that needs to be fixed -- like a pothole or a dead animal on the side of the road -- but don't know who to contact and don't have the time to research who to contact. So they can just put a note on the map.

### Rodeo queen

• I am glad the Okeechobee Cattlemen's Association has decided to have a rodeo queen. All these years I have seen other rodeos introduce their rodeo queens and I always wondered why Okeechobee did not have a queen of the rodeo. I think this is a great tradition to start, and it is a lot more than a beauty contest since the girls must compete in horsemanship events.

• I think it is great they are doing this. I don't know if they have a lot of entries or not. But, I'm sure it will be a positive experience and the start of a great tradition.

• I think this is a great idea. I like the way it will be judged.

• I know that they had a rodeo queen back in the early 70s. I tried out for it. Back then, if your family didn't have money, you were overlooked. Hopefully, it will not be that way now.

### FSB lawsuit

• Now that the judge has ruled the former inmates of the Florida School for Boys cannot sue the state for the abuse they suffered in the 1940s, 50s and 60s. It seems these men are once again the victims of the system. It's too bad they can't at least prosecute the wardens and guards who were involved in the abuse, but most of them are dead now, or very old men.

### Teen accused of shooting at vehicle

• In the Wednesday Okeechobee News there is an article about a teenager accused of shooting at an occupied vehicle. It seems some kids were going after him and he went and got a gun and it escalated. It is very lucky none of these kids were hurt. It sounds like the kids in the truck went to Fort Drum looking for a fight. I am wondering what we can do to curtail the violence. Even in middle school it seems some of the kids are always trying to get someone else to fight them. Any kid who refuses to fight is bullied and called a freak.

### Drug abuse

• If you care about Okeechobee children and are concerned about drug use, get involved. The Okeechobee Substance Abuse Coalition's next meeting will be March 9 at 11:45 a.m. in the fellowship hall of the United Methodist Church, 200 N.W. Second St. in Okeechobee. Lunch will be provided.

## Letters to the editor

### Happiness of Easter

It's almost Easter and everyone is getting ready for another "Spiritual Holiday." Actually for some it's only a "Ritual Holiday."

Too much worry about what to wear or what to serve for dinner or who to invite to enjoy it all with you. All well and good.

On the other hand, Mary and Joseph didn't worry about all that stuff that day, they were too busy celebrating the resurrection of their son. Yep, that's what Easter is all about. A celebration of our risen Savior. How many of us can say that we were born to die and rise again so that others may live because of it? Confused? Don't be, it's simple. Jesus was born as a little baby, just as we were. No one ever really listened to God because they couldn't 'see' Him. So He sent His Son, looking just like us, only he was born without sin and we were not. God loves us so much He gave His only Son to die for our sins, past,

present and future. And Jesus knew He had to die in order for this to happen and He did it willingly because He loves us and doesn't want us to suffer in eternity. Eternity is forever, time on earth is not. You can live in eternity in God's house or you can share the devil's labyrinth in a suffering, never-ending death. Where you spend eternity depends on you. Either you believe Jesus came and died for you and accept Him as your Lord and Savior and follow His commandments or you can deny Him and go the other way. I don't have the space to tell you everything, but if you would read your bible and read the book of John, he explains it very well, especially John 3:16.

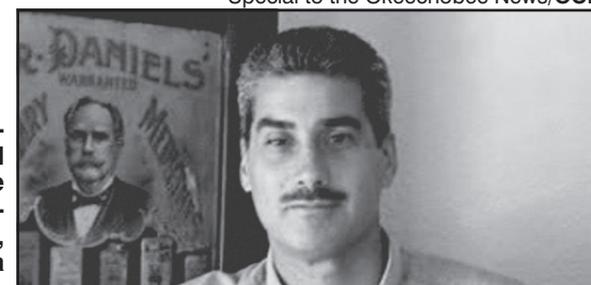
I wish everyone a Happy Easter and many blessings, but don't miss out on the greatest blessing of all—salvation through the blood of Jesus. Remember, He loves you....and so do I.

**Cheryl Gawda**, Okeechobee

## Library program

**Dana St. Claire will present a program, "The Real Florida Cracker!" at the Okeechobee County Public Library on Saturday, March 6, at 2 p.m. Being a Native Floridian, Dana St.**

**Claire was immersed in the Cracker lifestyle at a young age and became one of the first Historians to share with others the positive values of the Cracker Culture such as "self-reliance, self-sufficiency, honesty, and a simple, direct approach to people and problems" (Dr. James M. Denham, FSC). St. Claire plans to share Cracker stories and traditions, as well as feature live "whip-cracking" by renowned Whipmaker and Whipcracker, Gordy Peer, and Bluegrass music by Harley Arnold and Collette Osborn. The Historical Society of Okeechobee will provide Cracker style light refreshments following the program. This program is made possible by the Florida Humanities Council and is free and open to the public.**



Special to the Okeechobee News/OCL

## Okeechobee Forecast

**Today:** Patchy frost before 8 a.m. Otherwise, sunny, with a high near 66. Wind chill values as low as 29 early. North northwest wind around 10 mph.

**Tonight:** Mostly clear, with a low around 36. North northwest wind around 5 mph.

### Extended Forecast

**Saturday:** Sunny, with a high near 69. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Saturday night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 39. North northeast wind around 5 mph.

**Sunday:** Sunny, with a high near 72. North northeast wind around 5 mph.

**Sunday night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 44. Northeast wind around 5 mph.

# OKEECHOBEE NEWS

### To Reach Us

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

**Website:** [www.newszap.com](http://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](mailto:okeenews@newszap.com)

### To Place A Display Ad

**Phone:** 863-763-3134  
**E-Mail:** [okeeadsales@newszap.com](mailto: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](mailto:classads@newszap.com)

### Billing Department

**E-Mail:** [billteam@newszap.com](mailto:billteam@newszap.com)

### To Start or Stop A Paper

**Phone:** (800) 282-8586

**E-mail:** [readerservices@newszap.com](mailto: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:



# Letter to the editor

## Taxes in the Viking

In the past two years, my property taxes have gone from less than \$500 a year to over \$1,100 a year. I have lived here for 10 years and I am at the point of having to give up my place and give it back to the county.

I am luckier than most as I have a very small mortgage and no credit card debt. I own my 10 year old pick up. I do not have cable or satellite TV and live as simply as I possibly can. My cell phone is pay as you go. When I use my air conditioner, it's set at 80 and my heat is set at 68 and I turn off my water tank every day. I have always paid my bills on time however, I have not received a raise from my job in over 2 years. It takes me three months to save up enough to cover my quarterly property taxes.

Two years ago I went to the County Commissioner's meeting and asked if they could help. I, along with many other homeowners in the Viking brought a class action suit against Coquina Water Management. Both of the avenues were to no avail.

Every time we have a heavy rain, my property floods, and it stays flooded for weeks, partially due to my neighbor having filled in his drainage ditches and partially due to the fact that Coquina's road ditches do not drain to the canals properly. The County Com-

missioner's answer was, "I have ten acres, so what if some of it stays under water, live with it." I went as far as getting the Dept. of Environmental Protection involved, also to no avail.

Last month, I spoke to a gentleman by the name of Russ in your department, as I was trying to see if putting my property under an agricultural exception would help me with my taxes. He was extremely helpful but unfortunately could not see where getting an ag exception would help me much as he said I was better off leaving the property under homestead.

I am asking the Okeechobee County Taxing Authorities to step in and help those of us who are on the verge of giving up. Many of us have lost our jobs, we cannot sell our places because of the non-existent housing market, the prices of fuel, food and electricity have all gone up, as everyone is well aware of.

Someone should consider speaking to Coquina Water Management. I pay them over \$600 a year to hold their water on my property.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Wendy Gray**  
Okeechobee

## No child should be forgotten is being heard

Thank you Treasure Coast and Okeechobee!

We are pleased to introduce our newest Guardians ad Litem to the Treasure Coast! The volunteers pictured here heard and are determined to do something about the plight of abused and neglected children. This class of thirty newly certified Guardians ad Litem will provide a voice in Dependency Court for sixty Okeechobee County children.

Guardians ad Litem (GALs) focus exclusively on the child. They advocate for things the law says a child is entitled to, like a permanent home within a year. GALs conduct an independent investigation as to the child's current situation and make recommendations about what is in a child's best interests. GALs visit the children regularly to understand their wishes, needs and explain the dependency system in a way they can understand.

The 19th Judicial Circuit Guardian ad Litem Program, representing the Treasure Coast and Okeechobee, still needs volunteers. Approximately 300 children are without a volunteer advocate.

If you would like to join the wonderful citizens featured in this picture, please call Pattra Dodd at 772-871-7225 or e-mail her at: Pattra.Dodd@gal.fl.gov for more information and an application. You may also visit the website at www.GuardianadLitem.org.

Volunteer training is free and held monthly in the Guardian ad Litem office located in Port Saint Lucie.



Special to the Okeechobee News/GAL  
**At the recent swearing in ceremony for new volunteers in the Guardian ad Litem program were Frank Licata, Honorable Chief Judge Steven Levin, Marlene Burns, Sharalyn Browning.**

## Lotteries

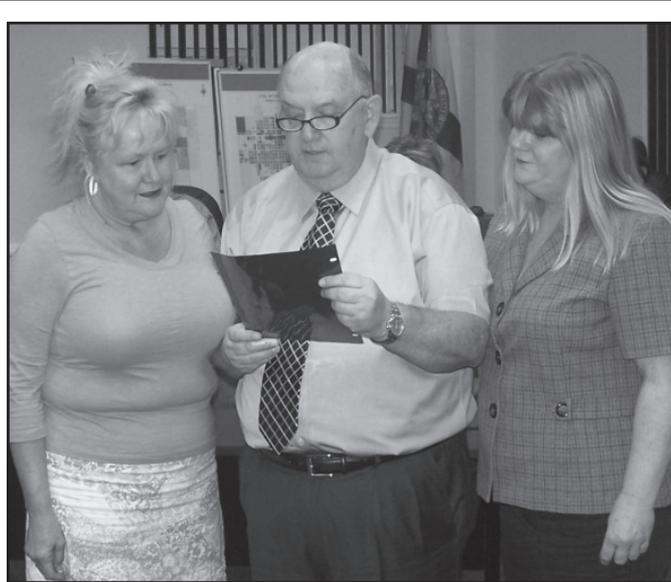
**Florida Lottery** — Here are the numbers selected Wednesday in the Florida Lottery: **Cash 3:** 7-9-7; **Play 4:** 7-8-9-1; **Fantasy 5:** 3-24-26-29-31; **Mega Money:** 1-3-5-18 MB 3; **Florida Lotto:** 21-33-34-38-43-44 X 4; **Powerball:** 7-9-14-45-49 PB23 x4. Numbers drawn Thursday, **Cash 3:** 6-2-6; **Play 4:** 7-0-1-2.



Special to the Okeechobee News/OCT

## Community Theater presents "Smoke on the Mountain"

Dennis Sanders (Daniel Womble), part of the 1930s gospel group, the Sanders Family Singers, gets some pointers from church pastor, Mervin Oglethorpe (Jim Clark), before beginning his sermonette. The scene is from the Okeechobee Community Theatre production of the gospel music comedy, "Smoke on the Mountain," which will be performed on Friday and Saturday nights, March 5, 6, 12 and 13 at the Freshman Campus Auditorium on S.W. Second Avenue, just west of Golden Corral Restaurant. Reserved seat tickets are just \$12 each and are on sale at the Chamber of Commerce. Tickets will also be sold at the door before each performance if seats are still available. The curtain goes up each night at 8 p.m. If the performance is not already sold out, the box office will open each night at 7 p.m.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

## Mayor's Proclamation

At the Tuesday, March 2 meeting of the Okeechobee City Council, Mayor Jim Kirk, center, proclaimed the month of March to be American Red Cross Month in the city. Receiving the proclamation were Debbie Riddle, left, and Julie Shook, right of the local Red Cross chapter.

## Financial Services Workshop

On **March 10**, the Business Development Board of Okeechobee and Economic Council of Okeechobee are hosting a financial services workshop. Speakers will include Tom Johnson of RSM MCGladdey who will be speaking on Enterprise Zone tax credits, and Vince Lopresti of the Small Business Administration who will be speaking on SBA loan programs. Session One will be from 10 to 11:30 a.m., and will be limited to financial services professionals only (bankers, accountants and insurance professionals). Session Two will be from 1 to 2:30 p.m. for all interested persons. There is no cost to attend, but advance registration is required. To register, please contact Brian Cartland at 863-467-6246, Brian@theOkedc.com, or Tara Minton at 863 4657 0200 executivedirector@ecookeechobee.com.



*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

### Fraternal Order of Eagles plans dinners and events

The Fraternal Order of Eagles #4137, 9985 Hwy 441 North will host a Steak Night beginning at 5:30 p.m. on **Friday, March 5**. The dinner includes, steak, salad, baked potato or sweet potato, garlic bread and dessert for a donation of \$12. Live entertainment will be provided by Rick and Julie from 7 until 11 p.m. Come out on **Saturday, March 6**, for the barbecue cook off beginning at 11 a.m. and on **Sunday, March 7**, the Ladies' Auxiliary will host their Sunday Breakfast from 9 until 11 a.m. for a donation of just \$5, come and enjoy your Sunday breakfast with us and help us to help others.

### BHR VFW Post to host annual Casino Night

Buckhead Ridge VFW Post 9528 on Hwy. 78 W. will host the upcoming Casino Royale on Saturday, **March 6**, from 6 until 10 p.m. The annual event will include Casino games, door prizes, grand prize drawing, an auction and food. All proceeds donated to the Children and Families in Need Fund. The event is produced and directed by VFW Men's Auxiliary and VFW Ladies Auxiliary.

### Business Women's group host dinner dance

The American Business Women's Association (ABWA) Women of Tomorrow Chapter has scheduled their "Third Annual Oldies Dinner Dance" for Saturday, **March 6**, 7 to 11 p.m. at the KOA Convention Center. This year's musical entertainment will be provided by the "Nightlife" band. Dinner dance tickets are \$25 per person or \$200 for a table of 8. Businesses wishing to purchase a table will be recognized as Event Sponsors in future media as well as at the event. Mark your calendars and plan to attend this great party! Tickets are available by calling Marilyn Rinear at 863-697-1807 or Kathleen Shatto at 863-467-4663. Proceeds benefit the enhancement & education of women in business and local scholarships for future businesswomen.

### St. Patrick's Festival

**Sacred Heart Catholic Church**, 700 S.W. Sixth, St., will have their annual St. Patrick's Festival on Saturday, **March 6**. Beginning at 11:30 a.m. Corned beef and cabbage will be served for \$6. At 2 p.m. live multicultural entrainment will begin featuring the Rondeau School of Irish Dancer, Bolivian Dancers, Okeechobee Steelers Band, Mexican entertainers and martial arts exhibition. There will be a variety of booths featuring a bake sale, miscellaneous crafts, liquid refreshments and Mexican food.

### Church Yard Sale

The youth group of First Baptist Church, 401 S.W. Fourth St., will have a yard sale on **March 6** beginning at 7 a.m. to help pay for their mission trip to Kosovo.

### Barbecue Cook Off planned

Show off your "Grill Skill" at the upcoming **March 6**, Barbecue Cook off! This event is for amateurs only with first prize set at \$800, second place is \$500 and third prize is \$300. The event will be held at the Fraternal Order of Eagles, 4137, 9985 Hwy. 441 N. Judges will be from the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office. Call 863-697-2443 or 863-634-3958 for applications. Fraternal Order of Eagles event organizers are not permitted to participate in the event. Twenty entries are required to hold the event or it will be cancelled and fees will be returned.

## 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.*

### Evelyn Recenello, 83

OKEECHOBEE — Evelyn Recenello, age 83, passed away at home on Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2010, in Okeechobee.

She was born on March 2, 1927, in New Jersey. She is survived by six daughters and two sons. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Kathryn Barnett who passed away on Dec. 29, 2003.

A memorial service will be at a later date.

May God free mom from all her cares, and give her happiness and peace.

### Lavon M. Whitaker, 89

OKEECHOBEE — Lavon M. Whitaker, age 89, of Okeechobee, passed away March 3, 2010, in Okeechobee.

Born April 16, 1920, in Bainbridge, Ind., to Ernest and Nora Michaels she was a homemaker of the Christian faith.

Mrs. Whitaker is survived by her children, Sandra and Angelo Pirre of Okeechobee, Tom and Carol Whitaker of Hallandale, Tim and Gayle Whitaker of Miramar, Michael and Linda Whitaker of Leesburg; nine grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and sister, Ilene Lampher.

Visitation will be noon until service time at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 7, 2010, at Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home.

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

Arrangements by Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home and Crematory, 205 NE 2nd ST, Okeechobee, FL 34972.



### Shrine Club to host

### Spaghetti Dinner Night

Okeechobee Shrine Club will host their weekly Spaghetti Dinner Night on Tuesday, March 9, from 4 until 7 p.m. For a donation of just \$5, you can enjoy a spaghetti dinner with all the fixings, including salad, roll and spaghetti with meat sauce. Music will begin at 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. Come to 1855 S.W. 53rd St. (Hwy. 78 W.) and enjoy a bit of Italy...for dinner! Call 863-763-3378.HIV/AIDS

### Mildred Elberta Jones, 90

OKEECHOBEE — Mildred Elberta Jones, age 90, of Okeechobee passed away March 4, 2010 in Okeechobee. Born April 9, 1919 she was a homemaker having come to Okeechobee in 1947 from Wauchula. She was a charter member of the Church of Our Savior, Episcopal. She was a 50 year member of Eastern Star.

Mrs. Jones is survived by her husband of 66 years, Roger Jones; daughter, Toni (Bill) Wiersma; son, Donald (Judy) Jones, all of Okeechobee; and grandchildren, Helen Wiersma, Jo Anna Wiersma, Kendra Jones, and Nick Jones.

Visitation will be 4:30 to 7 p.m., Sunday, March 7, at Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home. Funeral services will be 3 p.m. Monday, March 8, at Church of Our Savior with Father Edward Weiss officiating. Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Okeechobee Educational Foundation Scholarship, 700 SW 2nd Ave., Okeechobee, FL 34974.

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

Arrangements by Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home and Crematory, 205 NE 2nd ST, Okeechobee, FL 34972.



*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

# A REAL <sup>No</sup> BRAINER!

**If you're looking to save money -- and who isn't these days? -- subscribing to the Okeechobee News is a real *no brainer!***

And if you enroll today in our **EZPay** subscription plan, you'll not only save **REAL** money, but you'll **s-t-r-e-t-c-h** every cent. Plus we'll give you a **complimentary e-Subscription**, so you can read **YOUR** newspaper anywhere via the Internet.



That's a value of **\$72 -- Yours for FREE if you act NOW!**

(\*Value based on annual subscriptions)

## SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

For **ONLY \$6.00** a month

EZPay is simplicity personified. It is the most convenient way to pay for your subscription. Once it's set up, it's automatic every month. And with no bills, no checks and no mail, EZPay is kind to the environment.

Act now! Limited time offer!

Visit:  
<https://circulation.newszap.com/>

Email:  
[readerservices@newszap.com](mailto:readerservices@newszap.com)  
Call: 800-282-8586

*It's all about you, your news, your neighbors, your life*

**OKEECHOBEE NEWS**



Special to the Okeechobee News/OCT

### Smoke on the Moutain

Vera Sanders (Joy Tuscani) performs, "There is a Fountain Filled With Blood," and presents her hilarious testimony, as part of the Okeechobee Community Theatre production of, "Smoke on the Mountain." Despite the comedy, the salvation message gets through. The play will be presented Friday and Saturday in the Okeechobee Freshman campus auditorium at 8 p.m. Tickets are available at the Chamber of Commerce office or at the door.

## Scholarships available for low income students

The fall application period for low-income K-12 scholarships in Florida will begin Monday, March 8. The program, known as Step Up For Students and authorized under a state law called Florida Tax Credit Scholarships, provides annual scholarships worth up to \$3,950 that can be used at more than 1,160 K-12 private schools statewide. To qualify, new applicants must meet the household income guidelines for the federal school lunch program. For a family of four, that income limit for the 2010-11 school year is \$40,793. Students must also be entering

either kindergarten or first grade or have attended a public school this year. Beginning Monday, applications will be available online at <http://www.stepupforstudents.org> and a toll-free hotline, 877-735-SUFS, will be available for assistance. The program was created in 2001 by the Florida Legislature to provide education options for economically disadvantaged children. The scholarships are financed by corporations that receive a dollar for dollar tax credit for contributions up to a total statewide of \$118-million. Currently, the program serves about 27,600 students.

## 'Pennies saved' help youth program

Riverside Bank believes a solid family atmosphere is the foundation to building hope and shaping character in today's youth. In support of such an essential facet of life Riverside Bank donated \$500 to an All Star cast.... "The Strength Team." The Strength Team's motto is "A Bridge to Families, the Community and the World." The Strength Team's heart is to serve the local church. The Strength Team is a group of professional athletes who are ministers with the specific gift of evangelism. The Team has grown numerically and in spiritual maturity with fifteen members, three of which are Senior Pastors that provide spiritual leadership. With our distinctive blend of evangelists and pastors The Strength Team is equipped to serve your church(s) to reach the lost in

your community. The ministers come from various athletic backgrounds such as college football; professional football; body building, power lifting even professional bull riding! The team members perform the most intriguing and exciting program that is sure to draw the communities' attention. The "Feats of Strength" are merely the "tool" that gives the Strength Team a platform to share a life changing message to all ages. The \$500 donation is possible because of Riverside Bank's coin counting machines. Each time someone pours coins into the self-serve machines, five cents of every dollar converted is donated to local non-profit organizations. "Every penny, nickel and dime can really add up when it comes to supporting charities," said Tabitha Trent.

WWW.PUEBLOVIEJORESTURANTE.COM

Happy Hour  
3-6pm & 9-10pm

Draft Beer & Well Drinks  
2 for 1

WELCOME TO PUEBLO VIEJO

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

Now Making  
Homemade  
Flour & Corn  
Tortillas

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

### Absolutely Incredible Kid Day is March 19

Mark the day with a Special Occasion announcement in print and online! Your child deserves some recognition. Let your friends and neighbors know how proud you are.

Submit your good news today at [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

FOR A MODEST CHARGE, EACH PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- An announcement in the newspaper of your choice
- An online listing at newszap.com
- Online guestbook for friends and family
- Online photo gallery for up to 10 photos

## Celebrations

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

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

Each Celebrations package includes:

- A print announcement in the newspaper of your choice.
- An online listing at [www.newszap.com/celebrations](http://www.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 [www.newszap.com/celebrations](http://www.newszap.com/celebrations)

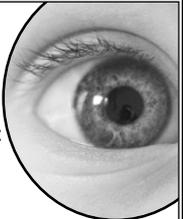


# MEDICAL

Health &  
Fitness  
Directory

## OPHTHALMOLOGY/ OPTOMETRY/OPTICAL

Comprehensive Eye and  
Contact Lens Exams  
Advanced Cataract  
Microsurgery  
Diabetic Eye Exams  
Glaucoma Evaluation & Treatment  
State of the Art Complete  
Optical Laboratory  
Eyeglasses and Contact  
Lenses



**Optical Gallery**

**763-4334**



Silviano Matamoros, M.D. Richard L. Soldinger, O.D.  
Board Certified Eye David J. Underhill, O.D.  
Physician & Surgeon Board Certified Optometrists

**357-4899 763-3403**

Medicare/Medicaid and Most Vision Plans Accepted  
520 S. Parrott Ave. • Okeechobee

## INTERNAL MEDICINE

### The Berger Clinic

Jay S. Berger, M.D., MPH

Specializing in  
Complete Adult  
Healthcare

Okeechobee Medical Park  
1713 Hwy 441 North, Suite D  
(863) 467-1117

(on the south side of the OLD rodeo grounds  
across the street from the hospital)

## HEALTHCARE



Glades Health Care Center

120 BEDS

Skilled Long & Short Term Care Facility  
Caring for Those You Care About

- Specialized Wound Care
  - Full Time Medical Director
  - Dialysis Support
  - Alzheimer's Support Groups
  - Intravenous Therapy
  - Resident & Family Council Groups
  - Specialized HIV Care
  - Physical, Occupational & Speech Therapy
  - 24 hour Registered Nurse Staffing
  - Therapeutic Activities
  - *Jody Carter, Assistant, C.E.O.*
- 230 South Barfield Hwy • Pahokee  
**561-924-5561** • www.floridacare.net  
Other facilities in Gainesville & Bradenton

## PERSONAL CARE

### Shirley's

Personal Care Services, Inc.

- Live In
- Companions
- C.N.A.



**Home Care  
In Your Home**

1 Hour Per Day up to 24 Hours a Day

Bonded & Insured

316 NW 5th St • Okeechobee  
863-467-6399 • Lic # NR30211249

## UROLOGY

### DAVID A. SIGALOW, M.D.

Board Certified In Urology



Specializing in:  
Adult & Pediatric  
Urology

Bladder & Kidney Infections  
Impotence/Implants  
No Scalpel Vasectomy

215 N.E. 19th Dr.  
Okeechobee  
(863) 763-0217

## RADIATION ONCOLOGISTS

### Big Lake Cancer Center

Ramesh Kumar, MD William Crook, MD Julie Santelli, MD  
Board Certified Radiation Oncologists

### FREE Patient Education Seminar Series

“Know the Facts About  
Twice a Day Radiation for Cancer!”  
Followed by a Q&A on **ANY** issues regarding cancer and  
cancer treatment

Friday, March 5th, 12th and 26th

**Big Lake Cancer Center**  
1115 N. Parrott Ave Okeechobee

Registration 11:00 -11:30 am.

Guest Speakers and Program 11:30am-12:30pm

Lunch and refreshments provided.

Limited seating. Reservations call 863-467-9500

**The Key to a Successful  
Business is**

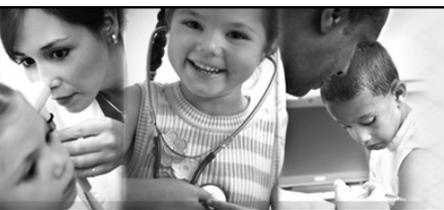
**Advertising!**

**Call 763-3134 today!**

**KEECHOBEE NEWS**

The 2009 - 2010 Medical Information Guide is available online at  
<http://specialsections.newszap.com>

Use this interactive site to browse through articles and advertisements on our updated Newszap website



# MEDICAL

Health & Fitness Directory

## ENDOCRINOLOGY

### Gabriel Guerrero, M.D.



### Endocrinology Internal Medicine

- Residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Miami
  - Fellowship in Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism at the University of Miami
  - Board Certified in Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism
  - Board Certified in Internal Medicine
- "Specialized in the care of Diabetes, Thyroid, Cholesterol, Osteoporosis and other Endocrinologic conditions"*

202 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave.,  
Ste. 3 & 4, Okeechobee  
(863) 467-2159

## REHAB THERAPY/NURSING HOME

### We Love to Care!

- Family Owned & Operated, OHFC has been Providing Care to Elderly Citizens of Okeechobee and Surrounding Counties Since December 1984
- Long-Term Nursing Care Available 7 Days a Week/24 Hours a Day
  - Secure Dementia/Alzheimer's Memory Care Wing
  - Dietician-Planned Meals
  - Rehab, Physical, Occupational, Speech and Out-Patient Therapies
- Stimulating & Fun Daily Activities*

**Okeechobee Health Care Facility**  
1646 U.S. Highway 441 North  
★★★★★ Five-Star Rated 863-763-2226

## 3D - 4D ULTRASOUND

### Jackson Diagnostic Imaging, Inc.

101 NW 5th Street  
(Next to 5th Street Pharmacy)  
Okeechobee, FL

**3D/4D ULTRASOUND**  
By Appointment Only

Walk-Ins Welcome for Gender Determination at 16 weeks & up.

Picture Me- 3D-4D Ultrasound  
Sarelyn Jackson, Sonographer  
Call for Appointment at (863) 357-0057

## HEARING CARE CENTER

### Better Hearing Starts Today!



**FREE** Hearing Aid Cleanings  
All Makes  
AUDIBEL

Call (863) 467-5333

**AUDIBEL**  
Hearing Care Centers  
3545 Hwy 441 S • Okeechobee

## MRI

### The Best is Right Here!

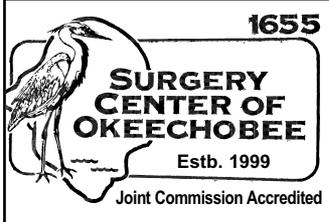
**OPEN MRI OF OKEECHOBEE**

### OKEECHOBEE'S FINEST OPEN MRI

115 NE 3rd St. Suite A  
**863-824-6736**

SPECIALTY TRAINED/BOARD CERTIFIED RADIOLOGISTS  
2 Blocks North of CVS Drugstore

## SURGERY CENTER



- Anesthesiology
  - Gastroenterology
  - General Surgery
  - Gynecology
  - Ophthalmology
  - Oral Surgery
  - Orthopedics
  - Otolaryngology (ENT)
  - Pain Management
  - Plastic Surgery
  - Podiatry
  - Urology
- 1655 Hwy. 441 North, Okeechobee, Fl 34972  
(863) 357-6220 • Fax (863) 357-6230

## DERMATOLOGY



# 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.

## HEALTH

# LOSE 3-5 POUNDS A WEEK!!!



FRAN LOST 41 LBS & 59 INCHES! NOW SHE'S MAINTAINING ON OUR MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Bob and Fran did it as a team!  
It has been proven that dieting is 30% more effective when you are dieting with a partner. So bring a friend or spouse in and take advantage of our Free Medical Cost for March!

**DON'T MISS OUR PRE-SPRING SAVINGS!**



BOB LOST 51 LBS & 44 INCHES! AND HE'S STILL LOSING!

Physicians WEIGHT LOSS FREE CONSULTS! Centers 863-357-9967  
414 S PARROTT AVE OKEECHOBEE, FL 34974

# Glades County life inspires artists at library show

by **Nena Bolan**  
INI Florida

The wildlife, sub-tropical landscapes and diverse culture of Glades County has a profound impact on artists, and moves them to create beautiful work. The easiest way to get a look at their art is to attend festivals and art shows held during the winter months.

The Glades County Public Library in Moore Haven recently held a Mixed Media Art Show, Feb. 13. Exhibitors from Glades County included Arwana Schoemer, watercolor paintings; Barbara Brown, acrylic paintings; Sandra Lundy, oil paintings; Larry Frogge, photography; Frances Cooksey Bryant, beadwork; and Aaron Sigers, oil paintings.

Lee County artist, Maxine Fream-Gash displayed her oil and porcelain paintings. Exhibitors from Hendry County included Sue Corbin, oil paintings; Teresa Hamil, photography; Delores Duncan, oil paintings; Eleanor Walborn Schlager, acrylic and oil paintings; Bill Heflin, wood projects; and Mary Nelle Corbin Thomas, oil paintings.

Lakeport's quilt club had a show and raffle, Jan. 9 and Jan. 18, at the Sour Orange Festival. About 45 large, small and mini quilts were on display. The intricate sewing creations are a popular exhibit that is set up annually at the festival. The Sour Orange Festival also has art and photography vendors.

Brad Phares, rancher and Cracker Cowboy artist, set up a booth at the Brighton Field Day Festival, Feb. 18-21. His oil paintings focus on the ranching and cow hunter history of central and southwest Florida. Mr. Phares lives in northeast Glades County near the Okeechobee County line. Some of his artwork can also be seen at Deriso Hall at the University of Florida.

Bradley J. Cooley and son, Bradley Owen Cooley, are known for their commissioned monuments and life-size bronze sculptures. They live in the Tallahassee area and have recently completed work for the Seminole Tribe of Florida's Veterans Building in Brighton. Their work at the Brighton building features life-size statues of United States military figures. The Cooleys displayed a great variety of their sculptures at the Brighton Field Day Festival. Bradley Owen Cooley demonstrated his skill to spectators by working on a model of Brittany Smith, Miss Florida Seminole 2009-2010.

Artist Guy LaBree, Arcadia, celebrates the life and mythology of the Seminole Indian in his artwork. His oil paintings have been on display at the Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota and at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. His work can currently be seen at the Ah-ta-thi-

ki Museum in the Big Cypress Reservation. On Feb. 18-21, his creations were on display at the Brighton Field Day Festival.

Art, craft and photos of bird life can be seen at the Big "O" Birding Festival on March

25-28. This is a Glades/Hendry County cooperative event by the southwest bank of Lake Okeechobee. For more information go to [www.bigbirdingfestival.com](http://www.bigbirdingfestival.com).

Nena Bolan can be reached at [nenabolan@yahoo.com](mailto:nenabolan@yahoo.com).



INI/Nena Bolan  
Brad Phares, northeast Glades County, displayed his cow-hunter paintings during the Brighton Field Day Festival, Feb. 18-21.



(above) The Lakeport Quilters club displayed their work at the Sour Orange Festival, Jan. 9. This colorful quilt was created by Doris Rutherford, Lakeport. (top left) Barbara Brown, Moore Haven, entered her acrylic paintings in the Glades County Public Library Art Show, Feb. 13.



(bottom left) Bradley Owen Cooley, right, is a bronze-sculptor from the Tallahassee area who demonstrated his skill at the Brighton Field Day Festival, Feb. 18-21. His model is Brittany Smith, Miss Florida Seminole 2009-2010. Photo/INI/Nena Bolan



**\$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



INDOOR COMFORT SYSTEMS  
Innovation never felt so good.™

**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

# Okeechobee County courthouse renovations continue

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

What an article in the April 7, 1977 issue of the Okeechobee News by Max Weatherly called it “an architectural prize.” The Okeechobee County Courthouse, will soon be restored to its original luster.

One of the major features of the renovation is the restoration of the central breezeway which originally ran north and south through the center of the first floor. For air conditioning purposes, it will be enclosed with glass at each end. The clerk’s office and the tax collector’s office opened off that breezeway which was lined with benches.

The ledger of the contractor who built the courthouse, now in the possession of his grandson, Judge William Hendry, has an interesting entry of materials from Decatur Cornice and Roofing, Co, Albany, Ala. for “Material for dome support.” The original plans called for a dome. However that feature was eliminated to save money.

As part of the restoration process as many of the original furnishings as possible, such as doors, signs and the vault doors to the clerk’s office, will be reused. The main courtroom on the second floor is being equipped as the meeting room for the county commission.

Originally there was a circular drive from the street to the main entrance. About 1957 that drive was eliminated.

About 1970 an addition was put on either end of the back side of the east-west ground

floor wing of the building. According to Mr. Weatherly, the type of roofing for these new additions caused quite a controversy. One group, in order to save money, proposed using a tin roof for the additions. Another group, at whatever cost, wanted to match the original Spanish title. The latter group won out.

In the mid 1980s a second set of additions was added to the rear of the first floor. That second set of additions has been removed as part of the restoration process.

The renovation should be complete and the building open for business at around the end of March. In spite of construction delays, the project is still currently scheduled to finish under budget.

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



Original fixtures such as this door and sign will be used as much as possible in the restoration of the Okeechobee County Courthouse.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

This set of vault doors, once used to gain entrance to the clerk’s office in the Okeechobee County Courthouse will be restored to use during the courthouse renovation process.

## Summer Activity Guide invites programs

The Shared Services Network (SSN) will release the 2010 Summer Activity Guide in early May to every student in the Okeechobee County School System. Their hope is that this guide will assist parents in finding activities to keep children safe, supervised and active this summer.

If you would like to submit activity information for children/families; camps, VBS, free children’s meals, discounts for children, park information, etc., please call Sharon Vinson 863-462-5000 ext. 257, Shared Services Network of Okeechobee. Deadline to submit information, March 30, no charge and space is limited.

# Consistent speed all day, every day.

**Direct connection**  
to our network that is 100% yours, 100% of the time.

**Go consistently fast**  
all day, every day.

**2 years. 1 price.**  
The price you sign up for is the price you pay.

**Call** 866.948.6104  
**Click** [centurylink.com/highspeed](http://centurylink.com/highspeed)

Para oír ofertas en español  
marque al 866.948.6104.

CenturyLink™  
High-Speed Internet

**\$14.95**  
a month when you bundle\*

EMBARQ is now CenturyLink.

CenturyLink™  
Stronger Connected™

\*Offer ends 3/31/2010. Offer applies to new Residential High-Speed Internet activations only. The listed High-Speed Internet monthly rate of \$14.95 requires a 24-month term agreement (after which the rate reverts to the then-current standard rate) and subscription to CenturyLink™ Unlimited Calling plan. Listed rate applies to up to 768 Kbps High-Speed Internet service. An additional monthly fee (including professional installation, if applicable) will apply to customer's modem or router. Terms and Conditions – Residential customers only. All products and services listed on this form are governed by tariffs, terms of service, or terms and conditions posted at [www.centurylink.com](http://www.centurylink.com) ("Website"), incorporated here, and provided to customer by the CenturyLink local operating company serving their location. Taxes, fees, and surcharges – Applicable taxes, fees, and surcharges include a Carrier Universal Service charge, National Access Fee surcharge, a one-time High-Speed Internet activation fee, state and local fees that vary by area and certain in-state surcharges. Cost recovery fees are not taxes or government-required charges for use. Taxes, fees, and surcharges apply based on standard monthly, not promotional, rates. Call 866.960.7089 for a listing of applicable taxes, fees, and surcharges. General – Services and offers not available everywhere. CenturyLink may change or cancel services or substitute similar services at its sole discretion without notice. Offer, plans, and stated rates are subject to change and may vary by service area. Requires credit approval and deposit may be required. Additional restrictions apply. Monthly Rate – Monthly rate applies while customer subscribes to all qualifying services. If one (1) or more services is cancelled, the standard monthly fee will apply to each remaining service. High-Speed Internet (HSI) – Early termination will result in customer being responsible for payment of the applicable monthly recurring service fee multiplied by the number of months remaining in the minimum service period, up to \$200. Professional installation of modem or router kits is available for an additional monthly fee. Performance will vary due to conditions outside of network control and no speed is guaranteed. Consistent speed claim as well as claim that your connection to CenturyLink's network is 100% yours is based on CenturyLink providing HSI subscribers with a dedicated, virtual-circuit connection to the CenturyLink central office. Unlimited Calling – Applies to one (1) residential phone line with direct-dial local and nationwide voice calling, designated calling features, and unlimited nationwide long distance services; excludes commercial use, dial-up Internet connections, data service, facsimile, conference lines, directory and operator assistance, chat lines, pay-per-call, calling card use, or multi-housing units. International calling billed separately at rates listed at Website. To receive long distance plan rates, customer must choose Embarq Long Distance, Inc. as their IntraLATA and InterLATA toll carrier. ©2010 CenturyTel, Inc. All Rights Reserved. The name CenturyLink and the pathways logo are trademarks of CenturyTel, Inc. All other marks are the property of their respective owners.

# Taylor Creek Isles resident celebrates a century of living

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

"It feels like 100 years," was the reply of Victoria Jones when asked what it is like to celebrate a 100th birthday. She credits her long life to the Florida climate. Mrs. Jones moved to Florida 50 years ago for her health. Up until about two months ago, she lived by herself in Taylor Creek Isles. Now, she is a resident of a nursing home.

Mrs. Jones was surrounded by family members and long time family friends who gathered at the Golden Corral restaurant on Tuesday, March 2 for the special occasion.

Joining Mrs. Jones were her three sons and their spouses: Ted and Barb from Parkersburg, W.Va, Larry and Mary from Parma, Ohio and Richard and Geri of Okeechobee. Her daughter Helen Kasler of Athens, Ohio was not present but was expected later in the week. Another son, Frank Lee, a Korean War veteran, passed away at the age of 51. Also present was grandson Ric Jones and his wife, Michelle from Fairfax, Va., who organized the party, and numerous other relatives and long time family friends.

Richard presented his mother with birthday cards from friends and family. She seemed to get special amusement from his card which he insisted she read first. The outside of the card read: "It ain't over 'till the fat lady sings." When she opened the card, sure enough, the fat lady sang. It was a musical card.

To show her mental alertness Mrs. Jones recited a humorous poem, "Farmer Jones," that she memorized 90 years ago.

"That's some cake isn't it," she said as she viewed her birthday cake. Instead of using 100 candles, the cake had sparklers shaped into the number "100."

Mrs. Jones works crossword puzzles every day. She and Richard work puzzles together over the telephone. For this special occasion the family created a unique crossword puzzle with events from her life. On display was a photocopy of her autobiography, handwritten in 1977.

The room was decorated with family photographs and an oil portrait of Mrs. Jones and her late husband. Richard had the painting made from a small photograph while he was serving in Vietnam.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda  
The Jones boys, left to right, Ted, Richard and Larry joined with other family members and friends to help their mother, Victoria Virginia Jones, seated, celebrate her 100th birthday on March 2.

Victoria Virginia (Winters) Jones was born March 2, 1910 in Letart Township, Meigs County, Ohio. She graduated from Ohio University with a teaching degree and taught in Ohio schools for over 20 years. In 1931 she married Frank Jones who was a mailman in the Athens, Ohio area.

Teaching seems to run in the family. Mrs. Jones has one son who was a teacher for 10 years as well as two granddaughters and two great granddaughters who are teachers. Great granddaughter Jessica Jones, who was at the party, also wants to be a teacher.

William Howard Taft was president when Mrs. Jones was born. His great grandson, Bob Taft, is now governor of Ohio. Governor Taft sent Mrs. Jones a letter of congratulations. Among other things, the governor commended her for her service in teaching in Ohio's schools.

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

## Traveling Memory Flag Field honors children lost to abuse in Florida

CASTLE is honoring the memory of the children who have lost their lives last year, in the State of Florida, as a result of abuse and neglect. 198 white flags, each bearing the name of one of the precious lives lost, has traveled throughout the Treasure Coast and is now located at the CASTLE main office on Midway Road.

This traveling Memory Flag Field is a stark reminder to all who see it, that child abuse is a very real problem within our own

neighborhoods that cannot be ignored. We must work together to eliminate this horrendous tragedy that affects the most innocent—our children. The field will be set up in Flagler Park in Okeechobee next week.

A dedication ceremony to pay respect to those precious children who paid the ultimate price for child abuse with the loss of their lives, will be held on Tuesday, March 9, at 5:30 p.m. in Flagler Park in Okeechobee.



To add your church to our listings, contact us at  
863-763-3134 or email: [okeeadsales@newszap.com](mailto:okeeadsales@newszap.com)

### NON-DENOMINATIONAL

#### THE GATHERING

A Church of Restoration



"Care and Share" Groups  
Throughout the week

Come As You Are

SUNDAY 10:30AM

Children's Church & Nursery Provided

1735 SW 24th Ave • 357-4418  
[www.thegatheringchurch.us](http://www.thegatheringchurch.us)

### CHRISTIAN CHURCH

#### Okeechobee Christian Church

Non-Denominational

3055 SE 18th Terrace

(Corner of Charles Harvey Highway and SE 18th Terr.)

Sunday School: Adult & Children 9:30am

Sunday Morning Worship Service 10:30am

Wednesday - Carry-In Dinner 6pm;

Bible Study 7pm

Youth Class Available during Worship

• Nursery Available at all services

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 1:30 -4:30pm

(863) 467-7858

Minister Jim McCutchen

### YOUR CHURCH HERE

Add your  
church to our  
listings today!

Contact us at

863-763-3134

or email:

[okeeadsales@newszap.com](mailto:okeeadsales@newszap.com)

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

#### Okeechobee Church of Christ

1401 South Parrott Ave.  
Okeechobee, FL 34974

Sunday Morning Bible Study: 9:30 A.M.

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 A.M.

Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00 P.M.

Monday - Wednesday Nights: 7:00 P.M.

We have no head but Jesus.

We have no creed but the New Testament.

We speak where the Bible speaks  
and silent where the Bible is silent

EVERYONE WELCOME!

### PENECOSTAL

#### Bible Church of God

"Your Place of Destiny" - Jeremiah 29:11

3666 E. Hwy 70 • Okeechobee  
(Old Elks Lodge)

Sunday School - 9am

Sunday Worship - 10am

Tues. & Thurs. - 7:30pm

Prayer Service, Tues. & Thurs. 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Nursery Available at All Services

Office Hours:

Mon. 9am - 12 noon

Tues. - Fri. 9am - 5pm

(863) 357-2264

Bishop Robert J. Banks, Jr., Pastor



### PENECOSTAL

#### Living Word of Faith Church

1902 S. Parrott Avenue  
Okeechobee

Pastor Lee Minton • (863) 697-8517

Sunday Worship Service

11am

Sunday School 11am

Sunday Night Service 7pm

Wed. Night Bible Study 7pm

# YMCA update highlights Community Collaborative meeting

**By Charles M. Murphy**  
Okeechobee News

Presentations about the progress YMCA has made in Okeechobee and on the Big Brothers and Big Sisters Program highlighted the agenda when the Okeechobee Community Collaborative Council met Tuesday.

Melodee Daniello of Big Brothers and Big Sisters explained the program in Okeechobee County. It focuses on reading and mentoring. The program is currently in Everglades, North and Seminole Elementary.

They are constantly in need of mentors. Mentor Cathleen Blair was involved for two years. She assisted a kindergarten student in Seminole Elementary for one year, and a retained first grader for another year. She said it was very exciting.

"It really is a nice time to be able to get to know a little child that is struggling. They look forward to you coming," she said.

Ms. Daniello said the mentoring is just as important as the reading. She explained these are kids that don't get the one-on-one time with their father or mother and the mentor makes them feel special.

Pam Harwas, another mentor, recalled her experience with a young girl. She explained that at the beginning of the year her student wouldn't tell her name or look at her. At mid year, she blossomed, talked and became much more involved. "This program is very important. I saw a little girl change. She had the confidence to tell me come look at what I did. It's a great program," she said.

Ms. Daniello said anyone who can volunteer time or knows of someone who can dedicate some time, would be welcome to join Big Brothers and Big Sisters.

"This is a way to catch children that might slip through the cracks of other programs," she added. She noted mentors often get more out of the program than the student.

Brandon Tucker, the Vice Chairman of the Board of the YMCA of the Treasure Coast and a member of the steering committee that has attempted to bring a YMCA to Okeechobee gave an update on progress that has been made with that project.

He said Christian principals are put into practice at the YMCA to create healthy minds and body.

Tucker was raised in Okeechobee, and graduated from Okeechobee High School in 1983. He has lived in Palm City since he graduated from Florida State University and became involved in the YMCA in Stuart. He said the YMCA in Indiantown has 800 members. He said that fact proved to him that Okeechobee can support a YMCA.

Mr. Tucker said most of the problems for Okeechobee youth remain the same since he was a teen. Teenage pregnancy and other issues with young people has not changed in the past 15 years, he explained. "What I like and see about the YMCA is we have a full gymnasium, swimming pool, and all the programs, pre school, for all ages," he continued.

He said the entire family can attend a YMCA program which makes it very convenient.

In a YMCA survey with 180 people in Okeechobee, 97 percent would like to see a YMCA in Okeechobee. Eighty seven percent would be a volunteer, 42 percent would donate, and 83 percent want to keep informed of the progress that has been made, the study showed.

In the last two years, a lot of background work has been done. YMCA National Officials interviewed members of the community to get their perspective on what is needed in the community. A feasibility study is also in the works. The study costs about \$18,000 to conduct. That will tell the committee what kind of facility to build, the size of the gym, the pool, and even the size of classrooms. The study should be completed in about 60 days.

The YMCA will also implement a summer camp program this summer. The Okeechobee Christian Academy could potentially be used as the location. The committee also hopes to raise \$20,000 to provide scholarships for children that want to attend the summer camp. The nine-week camp costs \$100 per week.

A YMCA fun day has been scheduled for next month, Saturday, March 27, to help raise funds for the effort.

The YMCA has also discussed a lease agreement with Okeechobee County to build the YMCA at the Sports Complex. The pool at the complex could be used for some YMCA programs.

A YMCA project would cost up to \$5 million. It would be built in phases.

"I'm a person of faith. I believe it is God's will for Okeechobee to have a YMCA. I know

that he can accomplish that," he said. "There is a lot of energy in the community and people are excited about this project," he added.

For more information on the YMCA call Brandon at 863-763-4010.

In other business, the Shared Services Network is in the process of building the summer activity guide for children. Information can be forwarded to Sharon Vinson by the end of March to be printed in the guide. 9,000 copies are printed and are given to each child in the Okeechobee School system.

The third annual Health and Safety Expo had over 2,000 people and over 115 vendors attend the event this year.

Ms. Vinson also emphasized the importance of the 2010 census. Communities in Schools intends to hold skate board camps again this summer. A Sheriff's Youth Camp for different age groups is also in the works.

The Department of Juvenile Justice Okeechobee committee has worked on a strategic plan to address issues that impact the youth in the community. The committee's next meeting is March 17, at Beef O'Brady's Restaurant at noon.

The Children Services Council recently donated \$120,000 to fund Okeechobee summer camps and programs.

The Chobee Steelers, a steel drum band comprised of local children, recently competed in Jacksonville and earned first place in their division. About 1,000 kids attended the event.

Theresa Alexander was recently named the new Executive Director of Martha's House.

## FREE Automotive Classified Ads!

400 Words + 4 Photos Online for 4 Weeks Absolutely FREE!



**Example: Chrysler Convertible 2009, Excellent Condition, Heated Leather Seats, Front-Wheel Drive, Satellite Radio. \$0,000. Call 555-5555.**

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

### www.newsap.com

click on Classifieds

Plus...post your ads in these Florida newspapers for as low as \$8 each!  
Okeechobee News, Caloosa Belle, Immokalee Bulletin, Clewiston News, Belle Glade Sun & The Glades County Democrat

## WATER'S EDGE DERMATOLOGY

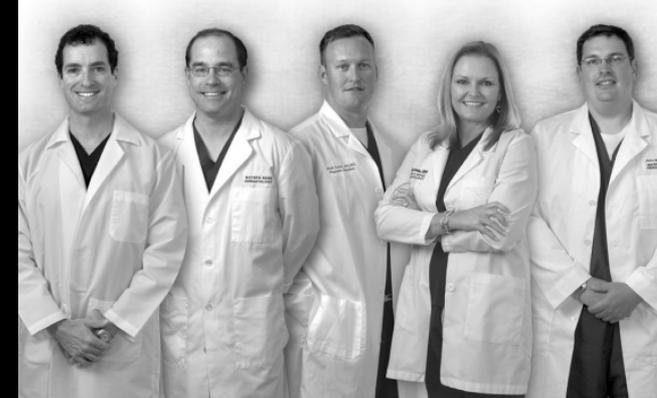
**Ted Schiff, M.D., Dwayne Montie, D.O., Mark Leach, R-PA, Sharon Barrineau, ARNP, and John Minni, D.O.** lead the Water's Edge Dermatology team of skin care professionals. They will provide you with high quality medical and cosmetic skin care services in a personal and caring environment.

**NEW PATIENTS WELCOME**

**OKEECHOBEE 467-6767**  
301 NE 19th Drive (Next to the hospital)

**CLEWISTON 805-0030**  
112 S. WC Owens Ave.

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



**Adult and Pediatric Dermatology**

- Acne • Psoriasis • Eczema
- Skin, Hair & Nail Disorders
- MOHS Skin Cancer Surgery
- Skin Allergies and Rashes
- Laser Vein Treatments

**Anti-Aging Treatments**

- Evolence® • Botox®
- Juvéderm™ • Radiesse®
- Restylane® • Perlane®
- Permanent Make-up

**Removal of:**

- Hair • Moles
- Brown Spots • Warts
- Tattoos • Skin Tags



MEDICARE AND MOST INSURANCE ACCEPTED.



Ted Schiff, M.D. Dwayne Montie, D.O. Mark Leach, R-PA Sharon Barrineau, ARNP John Minni, D.O.

# PILLS

Continued From Page 1

plying Kentucky and West Virginia with prescription pills.

"They can come out of here (Florida) with 10,000 pills. Around here they (oxycodone pills) are going for around \$15 each. The street price in Kentucky is \$40 a pill," said the task force detective.

According to the detective, people from Kentucky and West Virginia will spend several days in Florida hitting pill mills from the Keys to Palm Beach. While the detective said he's aware of this pipeline, it does not fall under his jurisdiction.

State statistics show that nearly all of the

top 50 prescribers of oxycodone in the U.S. are located in Florida, and South Florida pill mills are the top prescribers of illegal prescription drugs.

While the task force detective is a seasoned investigator, he's very wary of these clinics—especially the American Pain Clinic.

"I was just there in January," said the detective.

In an earlier interview on these clinics, the detective was not shy in talking about being concerned for his safety when he goes in them.

"When I walk into one of these centers I make sure my badge is exposed and my gun is showing because I'm nervous. I normally don't go around armed, but these lobbies

"It's a balancing act." Mr. Kruppa said. The goal of the health department is to give the best care to the greatest number of people.

In a recent report of county health rankings, overall scores for the county were not too good as compared to Florida's other 66 counties. Okeechobee ranks 56 in health outcomes and 66 in health factors. Health outcomes deal with length of life and quality of life. Health factors include health behaviors such as tobacco use, diet and exercise alcohol use and unsafe sex.

"This isn't a health department report," said Mr. Kruppa. "It's a county ranking. The health department, by itself cannot affect the necessary changes."

"We want our number to be as high as possible," he said. However, Mr. Kruppa went on to say that the goal of the report is to create awareness of the problems and create interest in solving them.

One of the ways Mr. Kruppa interacts with other organizations is to attend county commission meetings to see what is going on in the community. From those meetings he learns the goals and problems of other organizations and how the health department can better serve the community.

The county health rankings do show that Okeechobee ranks 18 out of Florida's 67 counties for physical environment. Mr. Kruppa said most people agree we live in a beautiful community. He said it is a great place for fun, healthy outdoor activities for children.

spook me," he said. "I see people 18 to 25 years of age that are ready to slit my throat to get my wallet."

He went on to say that "patients" show up at a pain clinic three to five in a car and they will have appointments at different clinics all day.

The number of drug overdose deaths in Florida went up 77 percent from 2003 to 2008. Locally, at least seven people died of prescription drug overdoses last year, said the task force detective.

Taking part in Wednesday's raid were agents from the Drug Enforcement Agency, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Internal Revenue Service and law enforcement personnel from the sheriff's offices in Broward and Palm Beach counties.

# HEALTH

Continued From Page 1

The number of teen pregnancies in the county is staggering. A task force made up of representatives of many different organizations is working on this problem. Mr. Kruppa sees a glimmer of hope in the fact that repeat teen pregnancies are very low. He said that with repeat pregnancies there is a greater chance for health problems with the child and as well as the mother.

School board member Kelly Owens is working on an alcohol prevention program in the schools.

Mr. Kruppa wants to send a positive message to teens, not a message of "Don't do this."

"We've got to connect with the kids,' he asserted.

He is encouraged that a local student is on the state advisory board for SWAT (Students Working Against Tobacco).

Mr. Kruppa sees a strong community effort to improve conditions. He pointed to the recent health and safety expo with 100 vendors and 2,000 visitors.

He said that in the next 12 months there will be a community health needs assessment that will prioritize health needs.

Access to health care is a big issue because of the large number of uninsured people. Therefore, preventative measures are very important. The health department struggles to use its limited resources to balance the level of care with the number of people served.

**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.

**REDUCED**  
 2/1 SWMH w/huge florida room. Huge workshop 2 car carport attached. Boat house is nice and it has a CBS shed. This is a huge lot with water on two sides. YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS ONE!!! MLS#203784, \$94,900.

**WELL KEPT MOBILE HOME.** Corner lot. 2 huge screen porches. Spacious workshop w/sink, bathroom and fridge. Upgraded electrical in 2005. Concrete foundation with tie downs. Office/Den area. MLS #203135, \$69,900.

**DRASTICALLY REDUCED**  
 Reduced 5+ Acres - Bring your horses! 22 frame house on 5+ acres, 2nd kitchen w/separate entrance. Updated elec service, pole. New pump. Truly country living, spacious area with wild life. This house comes fully furnished and ready for living. MLS # 93200, \$118,000.

Very nice newer, hardly lived in 3/2 DWMH. large lot w/captured lake, furnished. Butcher block Kitchen Island. Sprinkler system needs updating with pump house on lake. RV Parking with dumping, electric, water. MLS #203348, \$89,900.

2/2 House on 20 beautiful acres with fruit trees & mature pines. Annual income from cell tower. Two nice ponds 20' deep stocked with fish. Fenced w/Pole Barn. MLS# 202744, \$599,000.

**HUGE SWMH WITH MANY AMENITIES** - 3/3 w/huge florida room. Two car garage, workshop, Hurricane shutters Electric on front deck, fish house, and garage. Boat ramp, huge deck, etc. MLS #202857, \$118,000.

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

**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

**Century 21**  
 Hazellief & Prevatt Realty, Inc. **Se Habla Español**  
 David Hazellief • 863-610-1553 Betty Hazellief • 863-610-0144  
 Sharon Prevatt • 863-634-7069 Dee Reeder • 863-610-2485  
**(863) 763-2104**

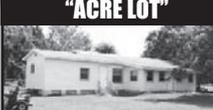
## CALL FOR A LIST OF FORECLOSURES

 <b>PRICE REDUCED</b>	<b>1012-H:</b> 4/2 CBS home in town conveniently close to everything on a large Lot. Chain link fenced. Call today for further info. \$115,000 MLS# 203380	 <b>NEW LISTING</b>	<b>2001-M:</b> Taylor Creek MH. New skirting, wooden dock, Two sheds, furnished, new appliances, screened porch. \$62,000 MLS #203697
 <b>PRICE REDUCED</b>	<b>4004-H:</b> Buckhead Ridge Lake Access home on a large cul-de-sac Lot with a lot of potentials. Water on both sides, partial seawall. \$89,000 MLS #202218	 <b>PRICE REDUCED</b>	<b>5000-H:</b> 2-Story 5 Bedrooms 2 Bath home located on a little over 1/2 acre. On HWY 441 South. \$99,650 MLS #203524
 <b>FORECLOSURE</b>	<b>5009-H:</b> 3/2 home on 4.65+/- acres. Needs some work. Screen porch. Located in Edwards Subdivision (NW 172nd CT) \$54,500	 <b>FORECLOSURE</b>	<b>5024-M:</b> Mobile home on 1+/- acre with Pole Barn, shed, partial fenced on paved street. \$50,000 MLS #202873

www.century21okeechobee.com • Email: century21okeechobee@earthlink.net

# 1200 S. Parrott Ave.

**Kathy Godwin Lic. RE Broker** **Preferred Properties** Of Okeechobee Realty Inc.  
 Registered to Sell "HUD Owned Homes" Call One of Our Agents for Info

 <b>MOVE IN READY</b> New Listing	 <b>"MUST SEE"</b> New Listing	 <b>"PRICED RIGHT"</b> New Listing	 <b>"ACRE LOT"</b> New Listing
2 Bd 2 Ba move in ready. Has a great seawall and boat dock with a party room on the water. Some furniture is included. Also addition the to mobile. Great space. Come take a look!! #203785 \$80,000 Call Ann Hancock 863-447-2254	2 Bd 2 Ba, This one has it all Screen Porch, Gas Fireplace, Office, Den, Eat in Kitchen. Large Open Livingroom. Well cared for. Must see!!!! #203777 \$89,900 Call Marcia Barber 863-634-1229	This 2BA/2BA SWMH with additions on four lots has beautiful cedar trees that line one side of property and some fruit trees.. #203345 \$50,000 Call Wendy Bostwick 863-697-6716	This 3BA/3Ba home is on a beautiful fenced acre lot with detached garage. Large living room and master suite. #202998 \$85,000 Call Barbara McClellan 863-634-7547

**863-763-8222 • 3126 Hwy 441 S. Okeechobee • Se Habla Español • No Transaction Fees!**

# March for Babies tomorrow

Saturday, March 6, Okeechobee residents will put on their marching shoes in support of the March of Dimes' mission to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth, and infant mortality. The March of Dimes carries out this mission through programs of research, community services, education and advocacy to save babies' lives. With community support, the March of Dimes can continue to fund research and programs to help all babies.

As always, March for Babies begins and ends in Flagler Park #4. The Schedule is as follows:

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. A light breakfast will be available, sponsored by the Law Office of William J. Wallace.

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Late registration and late money turn in.

7:30 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. Team pictures to be taken by Sandra Pearce Photography.

8:15 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Warm-up exercises.

8:30 a.m. March for Babies begins at 10 a.m. Awards ceremony. Also, Cowboys' BBQ and Steak Restaurant is sponsoring lunch for all walkers.

Awards will be given out include the following: Top Fundraising Individual, Favorite Team T-shirts, Favorite Spirit Station, First To Finish, Outstanding New Team, Team with the Most Walkers at March for Babies, and Top Ten (10) Fundraising Teams.

The walk is a bit less than 4 miles, so even novice walkers will be able to participate. There will be "Spirit Stations" along the way, at which walkers can get refreshments, such as water, juice, fruit, and candy. Spirit Station Sponsors include Bank of America, Publix SuperMarket, and Wemmer Family Orthodontics.

The following teams are registered for March for Babies 2010: Bank of America,

Central Elementary, Everglades Elementary, Fadley Law Office, Gilbert Chevrolet, Healthy Start Coalition, Law Office of Cassels & McCall, New Endeavor High School, North Elementary, Okeechobee Board of Realtors, Okeechobee Food Services, Okeechobee Freshman Campus Key Club, Okeechobee School District, Okeechobee High School Beta Club, Okeechobee Workforce Solutions, OJOCC, Osceola Middle School, Peach Lutheran Youth Group, PNC Bank, Publix SuperMarkets, Regions Bank, Riverside National Bank, Seacoast National Bank, Seminole Tribe of Florida, Seminole Elementary, South Elementary, Stepping Stones Academy, Walpole, Inc., Wemmer Family Orthodontics, and Yearling Middle School.

Premier Sponsors for March for Babies '10 are Publix SuperMarkets, Seacoast National Bank, and the Seminole Tribe of Florida. Remaining sponsors are: Cowboys BBQ and Steak Restaurant, Florida Floors & More, Law Office of William J. Wallace, Law Office of Cassels & McCall, Law Office of Glenn J. Sneider, Los Cocos Mexican Restaurant, Okeechobee The Magazine, Walpole, Inc., Wemmer Family Orthodontics, and Women's Health Specialists.

Come out on Saturday to walk, to cheer on a favorite team, to congratulate award winners, or to just join in the fun. What better gift is there to give than that of a healthy, full-term birth? You can make it happen by participating in March for Babies 2010. Individuals, as well as teams, can still sign up and participate. Just show up at the walk tomorrow and go to the registration table. Each participant is asked to raise a minimum of \$25. For more information about joining March for Babies 2008, call Cindy at 772-562-0115 or Laura McCall at 863-763-3131.

## City administrator receives good grade

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

Brian Whitehall will be serving the City of Okeechobee for another two years, thanks to action taken by the Okeechobee City Council Tuesday night, March 2.

The council voted to approve a two-year contract with Mr. Whitehall beginning June 1. The new contract does not contain a specific salary but states that the salary will be based on the applicable base step level of the city employees' salary plan.

It was also time for the annual evaluation of the city administrator and the city attorney by the council. Mr. Whitehall received a 4.875 out of a possible 5 points. He said he appreciated the vote of confidence from the council. City attorney John Cook received a score of 3.45 with 3.0 being average. Mr. Cook advised councilmen that if they had any problems with him they could approach

him any time during the year. They did not have to wait until evaluation time.

The council heard some good news from their insurance provider. Andy Cooper, vice president of World Risk Management, told councilman that there would be no increase in premiums when the policy is renewed on April 1.

The council granted two temporary street closings requested by the chamber of commerce. For the Labor Day Festival Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Avenues in Flagler Park will be closed from 7 a.m. on Sept. 3 until 4:30 p.m. on Sept. 6. Those same streets will be closed from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Dec. 11 for the Christmas Parade.

In other action, Mayor James Kirk proclaimed the month of March to be American Red Cross month in the city.

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

## HIV/AIDS Awareness Prayer Vigil planned

There will be a HIV/AIDS Awareness Prayer Vigil on Tuesday, March 9, downtown in the park at 7 p.m.

This serves as an opportunity for all

pastors, ministers, and laymen to come together to offer prayer and support for those who have been impacted by HIV/AIDS.

## Stop In For All Your Show Feed & Sullivan Show Supplies!!



Walpole Feed & Supply Co.

763-6905

Hwy 98 North



Available 24/7



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

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

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

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

## AFFORDABLE DENTURES!

1 Day Denture Repairs & Relines  
"While You Wait" - With Our In-House Lab!

NEW DENTURES \$359  
STARTING AT

Extractions Start at \$25 each (D7140)  
With Denture Purchase • New Patients Only • Exp. 3/31/10

D5110  
D5120  
EA.

APPEARANCE IMPLANTS & FAMILY  
DENTISTRY OF JUPITER

(561)741-7142

443 School House Rd, Abacoa  
Military Tr at Donald Ross Rd

Call Toll Free at  
1-888-FL-IMPLANTS  
Open Evenings & Saturdays  
by Appointment

FREE Consultations & Digital X-Rays

(D9310)  
(D0330)

THE PATIENT AND ANY OTHER PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYMENT HAS THE RIGHT TO REFUSE OR PAY, CANCEL PAYMENT OR BE REIMBURSED FOR ANY 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. DN1847

# Records shattered in LOST endurance race

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

A member of the U.S. National 24-hour team set a new record in the fourth annual Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail 118-mile endurance run Saturday and Sunday.

Jamie Donaldson, 34, a teacher in Littleton, Colo., ran the course in 18 hours and 36 minutes, to easily win the women's division. That time shattered the former record set in 2009 by Garth Peterson, 46, of Georgia, who covered the course in 21 hours 52 minutes.

## OHS girls tennis team falls in close match to Sebring High

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee High School had to play without top singles player Heather Lanning Tuesday in their match with Sebring and as a result fell 4-3 to the Lady Blue Streaks.

Samantha Rivero was once again solid as a rock as she swept past her opponent Kelsie Johnson 6-0 and 6-0. She also teamed with Katherine Ragamat in doubles to defeat Johnson and Kaley Walter 8-6.

"Samantha showed her potential to be a leader in the years to come with wins at #1 singles and doubles," Coach Amanda Van Camp said.

## Softball team finishes third in Caloosa tourney

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee learned a tough lesson last weekend as they finished third in a tournament that featured tough opponents from Broward and Palm Beach County. After a big win over Jensen Beach, Okeechobee might have come in a bit over confident as they lost to American Heritage Delray, 5-3.

Coach Kim Hargraves said it was an unfortunate loss as the girls didn't have the fire they showed the night before against Jensen. "Some losses you must take a lesson from and if they do then it's okay."

Okeechobee also defeated Royal Palm Beach 1-0 and Boca Raton 5-1. Hargraves said the girls did much better in those games and that third place was not a bad showing.

Still the loss to Delray Beach did have an impact on her, "We sat back and thought we could come back and win. It was a bit of a learning experience for them."

Hargraves scheduled a number of tournaments this year. They will play top teams like Gulliver Prep, Ida Baker and defending state champion Palmetto in one tournament and Sanford and Countryside in a tournament in two weeks at Sebastian River.

They also intend to play in the prestigious Kissimmee Tournament in April.

The men's division was won by Chris Pettit, 37, of Cummings, Ga. His time was 19 hours and 10 minutes.

The race had 28 runners from 14 states and Canada compete this year. 15 runners, a record high, were able to finish the grueling race.

The top 10 included Rob Gryfe, 43, of Toronto, in third, Claude Hicks, 49, of Fort Worth, Texas, in fourth, Bob Oberkehr, 55, of New Jersey in fifth, and Joe Ninke, 40, of Sebastian, in sixth.

In other matches Katie Walker lost to Kaley Walter 6-2, and 6-2. Ragamat lost to Shana Bassett 6-3, and 6-3. Jenna Rath lost to Joy Donglasan 6-4 and 6-4.

Vanessa Watt of Okeechobee won her singles match 7-5, 4-6, and 12-10 over Lauren Taylor in a battle that exhausted both players.

"Vanessa had an impressive varsity tennis debut. She stayed calm and didn't let the wind get to her," Van Camp added.

The team of Walker and Rath lost in the number 2 doubles match to Bassett and Donglasan 8-5.

The two teams meet again in Okeechobee on Thursday, March 18.

Rounding out the top 10 were Shane Sampson, 46, of Ohio, Monica Scholz, 42, of Ontario, Michael Whelan of California, and John Turner, 51, of Ontario.

Organizers said the race is gaining in notoriety around the globe. They expect the number of runners to increase next year.



Special to INI  
Jamie Donaldson (left) and LOST Race Director Scott Maxwell.

# Your news is our news.



Some newspapers seem to take pleasure in the bad news. Not us.

We do print "bad" news. (It IS newsworthy when things go wrong, and citizens need to know about problems.)

Still, we give most of our attention to good news - the kind you clip and tape to your refrigerator door. (This isn't difficult. The vast majority of what happens in our community IS good.)

How are we doing?

Let us know by emailing [feedback@newszap.com](mailto:feedback@newszap.com) or calling your editor.

## OFFICIAL NOTICE

of the  
Glades Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
ANNUAL MEETING

March 27, 2010

Glades Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s 2010 Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 27, 2010 at the Lake Placid Middle School in Lake Placid, Florida. The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to elect trustees and hear annual officers' reports. Registration, Entertainment and Voting will begin at 8:00 a.m. The Business Meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m.



Join us for great entertainment, fun, and prizes including a 1998 Chevrolet Cheyenne 1/2 ton 4 x 4 Pick-up truck for one lucky member!

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND!

**GLADES**  
Electric Cooperative, Inc.

"Neighbors Working for Neighbors"

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

# OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Community Service  
Through Journalism

# OHS boys baseball team gets bats off the shelf



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
Brice Buckner tossed three shutout innings for the Brahman's Tuesday.

**By Charles M. Murphy**  
Okeechobee News

Brice Buckner pitched three solid innings and went 2 for 4 at the plate with an RBI double to lead Okeechobee High School's baseball team to a 7-1 win over Fort Pierce Westwood in a District 14-4A game Wednesday night.

The game was postponed Tuesday due to the weather but conditions were only slightly better on Wednesday with temperatures dipping into the upper 40s during the game.

Okeechobee's bats had their most productive game of the season as they knocked around Westwood starter Kardell Hamilton, knocking him out in the fifth inning.

"Eight of our nine hitters had hits tonight and we came out swinging the bat," Brahman Coach Dylan Tedders said, "We hit the ball hard and drove the ball into the gap for doubles and triples."

Tedders was also pleased with his pitchers. Brice Buckner kept the Panthers off the board for three innings, Austin Hamilton allowed one run in three innings and Noah Wilcox pitched a scoreless seventh inning.

Okeechobee jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first as Mark Weir reached after the Panther catcher couldn't handle a third strike. Brice Buckner drilled a double to left to plate Weir. He scored on a bloop single by Derrius Bauer.

Okeechobee added single runs in the second and third, and then broke it open with a three run fifth. Key hits included a single by

Bauer, an RBI double by Richard Donegan, and an RBI triple by Cameron Tewksbury.

Donegan said it felt good to get the bats going, "We hope to keep it going through the district games. Everyone is doing their jobs. We want to win districts and host the regional again."

Donegan admitted the cold weather has been tough on the hitters. He said the key is to stay warm and stay loose. Donegan also has impressed with his work ethic and hustle.

"You got to hustle. There are a lot of players out here trying to find a spot. You never know when you'll be put in or taken out," he added.

Tedders said he has also been impressed with his young pitchers and says he is getting more confidence in them. "We knew Austin could come in and get outs. Noah has come in and been a pleasant surprise. I didn't know he was ready. He's getting better everyday. I'm very happy with the sophomore class."

Tedders also has the team work on bunt plays. He said if the team is not hitting, they'll have to bunt more and put the pressure on the defense.

That is our recipe, put the ball in play and make things happen. We didn't get out of the gate great tonight but we turned it on the second and third time through the order," he added.

Aaron Suarez added a double for Okeechobee who had 10 hits as a team.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
Mark Weir (left) leads off first as Westwood's Rob Bourne holds him on.

Okeechobee travels to Suncoast on Saturday for a double header. The Brahman's next home game is Saturday, March 13, at 1 p.m. against Boynton Beach. They will hold their annual barbecue contest and fund raiser that day at Brahman field.

## Fishing tourney set

A Freedom Outreach Fishing Tournament will be held on March 28. The \$80 cash entry fee for each tournament in the series includes the Big Fish Pot and the Classic Fund, with a 70 percent payback. For information, call 863-634-3790 or 863-634-9889.

## Boys tennis loses to Sebring

**By Charles M. Murphy**  
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee High School's boys tennis team ran up against a talented and experienced Sebring Blue Streak team Tuesday when they took the 50 mile trip to Highlands County.

The Blue Streak won all but one match in a 6-1 win on their home courts.

"Our non district schedule is very tough," Tennis Coach Bryan Van Camp said, "We ran into a very talented and experienced Sebring team."

Zach Fowler lost to Mike Reed in straight sets 6-2, and 6-0. Jonathan Hudoff also lost to Kyle Komisar 6-2, and 6-1. Austin Willard was defeated by Nikhil Raghuvuera 6-1, and 6-0. Max Norman lost to Brian Miller 6-0 and

6-4. Chris Wegmann lost to Andrew Midence 6-2 and 6-3.

Okeechobee's only win came in doubles as Hudoff and Willard defeated Miller and Komisar 8-6.

Fowler and Norman lost the other doubles match 10-8 to Reed and Andrew Kieth.

Despite the results Coach Van Camp said he saw some improvement, "Our singles play is improved. The kids are getting valuable experience for our district matches later this year."

Van Camp was very pleased with the doubles results. He stated that Willard and Hudoff remain unbeaten this year.

The tennis teams hosted Lincoln Park on Thursday. They travel to Fort Pierce on Thursday, March 11.

## Okeechobee Golf & Country Club

### Gold Tee Winners

First place - G. Goudy  
Second place tie - G. Guldosh, C. Hendren, H. White.

### P.I.G.S.

First place - Harry White  
Second place - George Guldosh  
Last place - Jerry Dupree.

### Closest to the Pins

Jerry Dupree (2)  
George Guldosh (2)

### P.I.G.S.

First place - George Earl Goudy  
Second place - Bo  
Last place - Max Sherry.

### Closest to the Pins

Kenny Curran (2), Jim, George Earl Goudy.

# FREE Automotive Classified Ads!

400 Words + 4 Photos Online for 4 Weeks Absolutely FREE!



Example: Chrysler Convertible 2009, Excellent Condition, Heated Leather Seats, Front-Wheel Drive, Satellite Radio. \$0,000. Call 555-5555.

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

**www.newszap.com** click on Classifieds

Plus...post your ads in these Florida newspapers for as low as \$8 each!  
Okeechobee News, Caloosa Belle, Immokalee Bulletin, Clewiston News, Belle Glade Sun & The Glades County Democrat

# Online Classifieds



Free Ads  
Free Speech

newszap.com

## Create Your Own Ads Online! Four 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 as little as \$8 each:

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

• Online for 4 weeks - 400 words + 4 photos  
• Absolutely FREE!  
• Post your ads in our papers for as little as \$8 each  
www.newszap.com  
click on classifieds

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

### Lost

**Lost Dog** Small white poodle mix; vicinity of NE section of Okeechobee. very friendly; answers to Sissy. Call Bill 863-763-3728.

### Garage/Yard Sales

**1799 S. PARROTT AVE, STORAGE STALLS** 398-403 - Behind Brantley's Junk Yard, Sat. 3/6 8am-3pm, Sun. 3/7 10am-3pm. Huge Yard Sale!!!! Too much to miss... Furniture, Mattresses, Clothes, Kitchen appliances, electronics, home and car audio and much, much more...

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

### Garage/Yard Sales

**Estate/Yard Sale** - Sat 03/06; 8 a.m. until; Furniture, clothes, tools, antiques, glassware, etc. No early birds. 1003 Sw 5th Avenue.

**KINGS BAY** - 4229 SE 49th Ct, FRI 3/5, 8AM. HUGE 3 Family, Tools, Doors, Beds, Boating, Fishing, Clothes, Household items

**Multi-family; furniture, clothes, sports equipment, and other misc. items.** 5890 NE 56th Pkwy. R Bar Estates.

**OKEECHOBEE** - 2168 nw 4th st, 3/5 & 3/6, 8.00 am till?. misc.stuff 2006 honda 500 210 hrs

**OKEECHOBEE** - 2580 SE 25th Drive, Taylor Creek, May 6, 2010, 9 - 2. Yard/Estate sale. Clothes, 2 washers, 1 dryer, dishes, etc.

**OKEECHOBEE** - 2580 SE 25th Drive, Taylor Creek, May 6, 2010, 9 - 2. Yard/Estate sale. Clothes, 2 washers, 1 dryer, dishes, etc.

### Employment

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

### Employment Full Time

**PARROT FARM CARE-TAKER/GIRL FRIDAY** needed Tues.-Sat., 8:30am-4:30pm. Bird exp. a plus. Background Check. 863-467-8686

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

### Employment Medical

#### HEALTHCARE SPECIALIST

Lincare, leading national respiratory company seeks Healthcare Specialist. Responsibilities: Disease Management Program, clinical evaluations, equipment setup & education. Be the doctor's eyes in the home setting. RN, RRT, CRT licensed as applicable. Great personality with strong work ethic needed. Competitive salary, benefits & career paths. Drug Free Workplace, EOE. Please fax resume to Angel, 863-763-5191 or call 863-763-7337

### Services

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

### Excavation

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

### Merchandise

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

### Building Materials

**Scaffolding** - 5 Ft. and 6 Ft. Scaffolding sections \$25.00 each. Call (863)610-2206.

### Pets/Supplies

**Maltipoo** - Very TINY 10 wk. sweet female, black and white, all shots, worm-free \$ 4 5 0 . 0 0 . (863)801-6144

### Rentals

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

### Apartments

**ON RIM CANAL:** newly furn., 1br/dr, screened porch, \$150/week (772)359-1640

**VIKING/PRAIRIE** Efficiency. Very clean! \$500/mo. Incl. utils. No pets. Call 561-329-8205

### Condos/Townhouses Rent

**Taylor Creek Condo** 1/1 Furnished, Pool, W&D, water & elec. \$900 mo + sec. 863-824-0981

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

### Houses - Rent

**3/2 CBS** in town with fenced in yard. \$950 p/mo. First, last & security. 863-634-7725.

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

**CENTER OF TOWN:** 2BR, 1BA Duplex, All appl., C/Air, W&D. \$700 mo. (863)634-9899

**DIXIE RANCH** - 3br, 2ba. Large jacuzzi on screened back porch. Fenced back yard. Too many extras to mention. \$900/mo (863)634-8007

### Real Estate

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

### Houses - Sale

**CBS** - 4/2, for sale, rent to own or rent, completely remodeled, in ground pool, fenced, metal roof, .48 acres, 2,000+sf, 20X30 steel shed, \$149,900 Rent \$1050. (561)801-3002

**R Bar, 2007 CBS, 3/2/2** \$234,000. Debra Pinson, Pristine Properties 863-801-9163

### Land - Sale

**THE PRARIE LAND DIVISION** - 1 1/4 - 2 1/2 acres, High and dry, 282 Second St. For Sale By owner (772)664-3779

### Mobile Homes

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

### Mobile Home Rent

**BHR - 2/2** Furnished, on water w/dock. Very clean. \$750 mo. + sec. dep. (863)824-0981

**BUCKHEAD RIDGE** - Dbl. Wide 3 BR, 2 BA, C/Air. \$700 mo. No pets. \$300 sec. dep. (863)763-4031

**For Rent:** 2 Bedroom, 1 bath - Nice Park \$500 per month. 812-989-3022.

**RV with added on living room.** Utilities incl. \$400/month + deposit. Call 863-763-3762

### Mobile Home Sale

**Avail. now, furnished, adult park, SWMH, 2/1** w/d, freezer, sunroom, storage shed, awning. \$14,500 419-271-3850

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

**For Sale MH 12x38** 1br/1ba Furn., w/Fl room New flooring & gutters \$8000 neg. 317-910-9182

Get a quick response to any item you may be selling with a classified ad.

**OKEECHOBEE- 1981** dbl wide on water, porch, lg edition, boathouse, \$1,00,000 (863)763-0474

### Recreation

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

### Campers/RVs

**2005 National RV TROPICAL LX - 3 Slides, 14900 miles, 37 ft, full paint, caterpillar 350 hp, must see \$84,500.00 (863)6343183-3183**

**2006 25' 2 axle Camper trailer;** 1 slide out. 863-610-2206.

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

**BLUE CYPRESS RESORT** - furn trailer, Florida room, W/D, Lot #14, \$37,000 or best offer (618)375-2365 or (618)599-2135

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

### Public Notices

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

### Public Notice

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

### Public Notice

#### LEGAL NOTICE

Public Auction will be held at Johns Towing Service storage lot located at 704 Northeast 2nd Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34972 on MARCH 22, 2010, at 9:00 A.M. Pursuant to Florida Statute 713.78 for unpaid towing and storage charges. Year, make, model and VIN are as follows.

**2003 Saturn L300**  
VIN #1G8JW54R13Y565589

Terms of sale are cash, and no checks will be accepted. Seller reserves the right of final bid. ALL SALES ARE FINAL! NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE! Said automobiles will be sold in "As Is" condition with no guarantees.  
347972 ON 03/05/10

### CITY CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD MEETING

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the City of Okeechobee Code Enforcement Board will be meeting on **Tuesday, March 9, 2010, at 6:30 p.m.**, City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Rm 200, Okeechobee, Florida. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE AND BE ADVISED that no stenographic record by a certified court reporter will be made of the foregoing meeting. Accordingly, any person who may seek to appeal any decision involving the matters noticed herein will be responsible for making a verbatim record of the testimony and evidence at said meeting upon which any appeal is to be based. Please contact Sue Christopher, 863-763-4423, or website [www.cityofokeechobee.com](http://www.cityofokeechobee.com), to obtain a copy of the agenda.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Fire Department at 863-763-4423 for assistance.  
by: Jamie Gamiotte, Code Board Chairperson  
347850 ON 3/5/10

### PUBLIC NOTICE

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** THAT THE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE WILL HOLD A REGULAR BOARD MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2010 AT 3:30 P.M. IN ROOM D-128 IN THE SCHUMANN CENTER ON THE INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE MUELLER CAMPUS AT 6155 COLLEGE LANE, VERO BEACH, FLORIDA 32966. NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN THAT AT 9:00 A.M., TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2010, AN AGENDA MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE BEN L. BRYAN ADMINISTRATION BUILDING ON THE MAIN CAMPUS, 3209 VIRGINIA AVENUE, FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA 34981-5596. ANY PERSONS WISHING TO PLACE BEFORE THAT BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION ARGUMENTS CONCERNING ISSUES OF LAW OR POLICY OR PRESENT EVIDENCE OF ANY PERTINENT FACT THAT MAY BE IN DISPUTE MUST NOTIFY THE PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE AT LEAST SEVEN DAYS BEFORE THE SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES. ANY PERSONS WISHING TO APPEAL THE DECISIONS OF THIS BOARD WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT SUCH MEETING WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS, AND FOR SUCH PURPOSE MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE.  
347845 ON 3/5/10

### NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that pursuant to an order issued by the Circuit Court of Okeechobee County, Florida, on the 4th day of August, 2009, in the cause wherein HOLMES E. BOYD & DEBRA L. BOYD being Plaintiffs and LEFTY SUMMERFORD being Defendant, being Case No. 2009-CA-251 in the said Court, I Paul C. May, as Sheriff of Okeechobee County, Florida shall offer the following property for sale in Okeechobee County Florida to wit:

#### DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

**PARCEL ID: 1-15-36-35-0010-0150**

**Legal Description:**  
LOT 15, BLOCK 11, OKEECHOBEE LITTLE FARMS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 100, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA. PROPERTY ADDRESS: 1144 NW 98TH STREET, OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA.

I shall offer the above described property for sale subject to all prior liens and encumbrances if any, on the 6th day of April, 2010 at 11:00AM or as soon as possible thereafter at the OKEECHOBEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, 504 N.W. 4th STREET, Okeechobee, Florida and will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, all right, title and interest, in said property. Dated at Okeechobee, Florida this 2nd day of March, 2010.  
Published: March 5, 12, 19, 26, 2010

Paul C. May, Sheriff  
Okeechobee County

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing a special accommodation to participate in the proceeding should contact Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office not later than seven days prior to the proceeding at 863-763-3117, ext. 2225.  
347790 ON 3/5, 12, 19, 26/10

**Public Notice**

**Public Notice**

**IN THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT  
IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
CASE NO.: 2009-CA-843  
PARCEL(S): FL-OKEE-004  
FL-OKEE-036WS

**FLORIDA GAS TRANSMISSION COMPANY, LLC,**  
a Delaware limited liability company,  
Petitioner,  
v.  
**NORMAN B. SPECK, et al.,**  
Defendants.

**FOR PUBLICATION**  
**SUMMONS TO SHOW CAUSE AND NOTICE OF EMINENT  
DOMAIN PROCEEDINGS**

**IN THE NAME OF AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF  
FLORIDA:**  
**TO ALL THE SHERIFFS OF THE STATE AND TO ALL WHOM IT MAY  
CONCERN:**

**YOU ARE COMMANDED** to serve this summons and a copy of the Petition in Eminent Domain, the Declaration of Taking, Notice of Lis Pendens, and Petitioner's Motion for Order Limiting Service of Papers upon: All defendants named in the attached party list and all persons claiming interests by, through, under or against the named defendants; all persons having or claiming to have any right, title, or interest in the property described in **EXHIBIT "A"** and the unknown spouses of the above-named defendants, if any, and their heirs, devisees, assignees, grantees, creditors, lessees, executors, administrators, mortgagees, judgment creditors, trustees, lienholders, persons in possession, and any and all other persons having or claiming to have any right, title or interest by, through, under or against the above-named defendants, or otherwise claiming any right, title, or interest in the real property described in this action.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE DEFENDANTS NAMED IN THE **ATTACHED PARTY LIST** AND TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, INCLUDING ALL PARTIES CLAIMING ANY INTEREST BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE NAMED DEFENDANTS; AND TO ALL HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE, OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE Petition, that Petitioner has filed a Petition in Eminent Domain and Declaration of Taking to acquire certain property interests in Okeechobee County, Florida as described in the Petition. Each Defendant and any other person claiming any interest in, or having a lien upon, such property is required to serve a copy of written answer and defenses to the Petition upon **BRENDAN T. FRANZONI**, of the law firm of Brickleyer Smolker & Bolves, P.A., 500 East Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 200, Tampa, FL 33602, attorney for Petitioner, and to file the original of the answer and defenses with the Clerk of this Court, on or before **March 20, 2010**, showing what right, title, interest, or lien the defendant has in or to the property described in the Petition and to show cause why that property should not be taken for the uses and purposes set forth in the Petition. If any Defendant fails to do so, a default will be entered against that Defendant for the relief demanded in the Petition.  
Dated this 18th day of February, 2010.

**SHARON ROBERTSON**, Clerk of the Circuit Court  
By: Linda Young, Deputy Clerk

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT ASSISTANCE:** IT IS THE INTENT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT TO PROVIDE REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS WHEN REQUESTED BY QUALIFIED PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES. IF YOU ARE A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY WHO NEEDS AN ACCOMMODATION TO PARTICIPATE IN A COURT PROCEEDING OR ACCESS TO A COURT FACILITY, YOU ARE ENTITLED, AT NO COST TO YOU, TO THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN ASSISTANCE. PLEASE CONTACT: COURT ADMINISTRATION, 250 NW COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE, SUITE 217, PORT SAINT LUCIE, FL 34986; (772) 802-4370; 1-800-955-8771, IF YOU ARE HEARING OR VOICE IMPAIRED.

**PARTY LIST**

**Parcel FL-OKEE-004**  
**Ana Quiros Leandro**, 14020 SW 144th Parkway, Okeechobee, FL 34974

**Parcel FL-OKEE-036WS**  
**Fleet Mortgage Corp.**, an inactive South Carolina corporation f/k/a Fleet Real Estate Funding Corp., c/o Michael J. Torke, as President, 1333 Main Street, Columbia, SC 29201

**EXHIBIT "A"**  
**LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS**  
**FL-OKEE-004**

**PERMANENT EASEMENT** - A 50 FOOT WIDE STRIP OF LAND, LYING IN AND BEING A PART OF SECTION 19, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, BEING A PORTION OF THAT PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 524, PAGE 64, PUBLIC RECORDS OF SAID COUNTY, THE CENTERLINE OF SAID STRIP BEING DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE SOUTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF STATE ROAD 70 WITH THE NORTH-EASTERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID PROPERTY; THENCE S 35°23'54" E, ALONG SAID NORTHEASTERLY BOUNDARY, 81.71 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE S 63°57'03" W 185.85 FEET TO THE EAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF SOUTHWEST 144TH PARKWAY AND THE TERMINUS OF SAID CENTERLINE. THE SIDELINES OF SAID EASEMENT ARE TO BE EXTENDED OR SHORTENED TO TERMINATE IN THE WEST AND EAST BOUNDARIES OF SAID PROPERTY.  
CONTAINING 0.213 ACRE (9,293 SQUARE FEET), MORE OR LESS.

**EXTRA TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT** - BEING AN ADDITIONAL 50 FOOT WIDE STRIP, ADJOINING AND PARALLEL WITH THE SOUTHEASTERLY SIDELINE OF THE ABOVE PERMANENT EASEMENT.  
CONTAINING 0.251 ACRE (10,927 SQUARE FEET), MORE OR LESS.

**EXTRA TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT** - BEING AN ADDITIONAL 50 FOOT WIDE STRIP DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE SOUTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF STATE ROAD 70 WITH THE NORTHEASTERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID PROPERTY; THENCE S 35°23'54" E, ALONG SAID NORTHEASTERLY BOUNDARY, 157.72 FEET; THENCE S 63°57'03" W 84.89 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE S 26°02'57" E 50.00 FEET; THENCE S 63°57'03" W 174.53 FEET TO THE EAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF SOUTHWEST 144TH PARKWAY; THENCE N 00°01'07" E, ALONG SAID EAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE, 55.66 FEET; THENCE N 63°57'03" E 150.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.  
CONTAINING 0.186 ACRE (8,111 SQUARE FEET), MORE OR LESS.

**FL-OKEE-036WS**  
**TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT** - A PARCEL OF LAND, LYING IN AND BEING A PART OF SECTION 19, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, BEING A PORTION OF THAT PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 617, PAGE 1259, PUBLIC RECORDS OF SAID COUNTY AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE EAST-ERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF STATE ROAD 700 AND THE NORTH BOUNDARY OF SAID SECTION 19; THENCE S 39°18'06" E, ALONG SAID WESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE, 433.15 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE N 50°05'40" E 220.85 FEET; THENCE S 39°54'20" W 25.00 FEET; THENCE N 50°05'40" E 101.14 FEET; THENCE N 39°54'20" W 25.00 FEET; THENCE N 50°05'40" E 171.22 FEET; THENCE N 88°33'30" E 67.42 FEET TO THE SOUTHEASTERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID PROPERTY; THENCE S 50°23'02" W, ALONG SAID SOUTHEASTERLY BOUNDARY, 546.55 FEET TO SAID EASTERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF STATE ROAD 700; THENCE N 39°06'46" W, ALONG SAID EASTERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE, 39.18 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.  
CONTAINING 0.425 ACRE (18,517 SQUARE FEET), MORE OR LESS.  
347245 ON 2/26;3/5/10

**Public Notice**

**Public Notice**

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTING  
A CITY ORDINANCE**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Okeechobee, Florida will on Tuesday, March 16, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter possible, at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave., Okeechobee, FL conduct a PUBLIC HEARING on and thereafter to consider final reading of the following Ordinance into law: **NO. 1057: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA AMENDING THE CITY OF OKEECHOBEE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, ORDINANCE NO. 635 AS AMENDED, BY REVISING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP ON A CERTAIN TRACT OF LAND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN FROM SINGLE FAMILY TO COMMERCIAL; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION OF ORDINANCE AND REVERSED FUTURE LAND USE MAP IN THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The Ordinance regarding Small Scale Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map Amendment Application No. 10-001-SSA, submitted by property owner, Shirley Baker, to change the Future Land Use designation from SF to C for property located at 200 SE 3rd Street, Legal Description: Lot 6 of Block 208, 1st Addition to Okeechobee, and is approximately 0.162 acre(s). The proposed use is for a home health care nursing office.

A copy of the agenda may be obtained from the City website [www.city-okeechobee.com](http://www.city-okeechobee.com), or contact Administration, (863) 763-3772 x 212. A copy of the entire application is available at the City Clerk's Office.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE AND BE ADVISED that if any person desires to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, or hearing will need to ensure a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. City Clerk media are used for the sole purpose of back-up for the department.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Administration Office at 863-763-3772 for assistance.  
- Lane Gamotta, CMC, CITY CLERK  
347851 ON 3/5/10

**LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT**

The Workforce Development Board of the Treasure Coast - Region 20 and the Treasure Coast Workforce Consortium announces a meeting of the Executive Committee to which all persons are invited:

**Date & Time:** Friday, March 12, 2010 - 8:00 a.m.

**Place:** Workforce Development Board of the Treasure Coast DBA, Workforce Solutions 584 NW University Blvd., Suite 100 Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986

**PURPOSE:** To discuss matters concerning the Workforce Investment Act, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA, Federal Stimulus Funding), Work-

force Employment Opportunities, the Welfare Transition Program, One-Stop Career Centers, and the Workforce Development Board - DBA, Workforce Solutions. A copy of the agenda may be obtained by contacting:

Workforce Development Board of the Treasure Coast 584 NW University Blvd., Suite 100 Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986

Should any person wish to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the above referenced meeting, they will need to ensure a verbatim recording of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based, in order to provide a record for judicial review.  
347779 ON 3/5/10

**Reading a newspaper makes you a more informed and interesting person.**

*No wonder newspaper readers are more successful!*



**SUDOKU**

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

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

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

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

ANSWER

**Hunting season set for reptiles of concern**

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is offering a special chance for hunters to capture and remove reptiles of concern from state-managed lands around the Everglades. From March 8 to April 17, those with a hunting license and a \$26 management area permit may take 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 and Francis S. Taylor, Holey Land and Rotenberger wildlife management areas (WMAs). The specially created season, established by executive order, follows the close of small game season on the three WMAs, and continues during a period when the nonnative snakes are likely to be

encountered. During cooler months, cold-blooded reptiles sun themselves on levees, canal banks and roadways to warm up. This makes them easier to spot, capture and remove. "We are once again engaging our stakeholders, in this case, the hunting community, to help us reduce the number of reptiles of concern in the Everglades," said FWC Chairman Rodney Barreto.

Reptiles of concern may be taken by all legal methods (including shotguns, rimfire rifles and pistols) used in the taking of game animals; however, the use of centerfire rifles is prohibited. 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 by visiting [MyFWC.com/ROC](http://MyFWC.com/ROC).

**Crossword Puzzle**

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Journalist
  - 5 Take by force
  - 10 Fix
  - 14 Word repeated before "Born is the king of Israel"
  - 15 Games immortal
  - 16 Lou's "La Bamba" costar
  - 17 Certain something
  - 18 Clinch the deal, slangily
  - 19 Love and war, to some
  - 20 Like some dads
  - 22 PGA Champions Tour standout
  - 23 Blackjack holdings
  - 24 Shakespeare contemporary
  - 25 Maryland Air Force base
  - 26 Slanted, in a way
  - 27 Pod fillers
  - 28 Nutritional regimen since the 1970s
  - 31 Ich liebe dich : German :: \_\_\_ : Spanish
  - 32 Prince classic
  - 37 Houston MLBer
  - 41 One might keep you from going out
  - 42 Ring in a crib
  - 44 Like mercenaries
  - 45 California's Highway 1, for one
  - 47 Farm lands
  - 48 Riviera attraction
  - 49 Staffs
  - 50 View from Gibraltar
  - 51 Frau's refusal
  - 52 Prefix meaning "peculiar"
  - 53 They may be sheepish
- DOWN**
- 1 Quickly
  - 2 Ordinary
  - 3 Open porch
  - 4 TV's Buffy and Faith, e.g.
  - 5 Kayaking challenge
  - 6 Kodak's home
  - 7 Keep an \_\_\_
  - 8 Loses, in a way, with "down"
  - 9 Dijon dome?
  - 10 Lead
  - 11 Begin, e.g.
  - 12 Wood of Hollywood
  - 13 Analyze
  - 21 Consumed
  - 22 Liq. measures
  - 26 By some measure
  - 29 Kipling python
  - 30 Doing, so to speak
  - 32 Like much
  - 33 Not prepared
  - 34 Nadia Comaneci's homeland
  - 35 Persevere
  - 36 Was on top
  - 37 Leaves high and dry
  - 38 "Civil Disobedience" author
  - 39 Come to understand
  - 40 2007 A.L. batting champ
  - 43 Handy abbr.
  - 45 Dried coconut meat
  - 46 Station sign
  - 48 In-box contents: Abbr.

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**

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

[xwordeditor@aol.com](mailto:xwordeditor@aol.com)

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13						
14																				
17																				
20								21												
23																				
25																				
27																				
32	33	34	35	36																
41																				
44																				
47																				
49																				
52																				
55																				

# Okeechobee Sports Network

## Featured team: Girls have fun in OCRA cheerleading

The O.C.R.A. (Okeechobee Citizens Recreation Association) cheerleading program has been a successful program for the Okeechobee community for many years. O.C.R.A. cheerleading includes girls from ages 5-14. The season begins in September and ends with playoffs in December.

The cheerleading program accepts all girls who wish to participate. This is a "non try-out" type of league, said Teresa Chandler, Cheerleading Coordinator. All of the girls are accepted. Each team has approximately 10 girls who practice twice a week and have games once weekly and on Saturdays. At the end of the season, the girls are invited to an end of the year celebration where they mingle with the football players and other coaches.

Allison Chandler has been cheerleading since the age of 5. She is a cheerleader for Okeechobee High School including football, basketball and competitive cheerleading. For the past three years, Allison has volunteered as a youth cheer coach for O.C.R.A. Allison takes pride in coaching the younger cheerleaders in the association and has won



Special to the Okeechobee News/OCRA  
**The Okeechobee Citizens Recreational Association (OCRA) Seminoles team is enouraged by their cheerleading sqad.**

two cheer off competition with her team of 14 girls.

Allison's team has six returning girls who are comfortable with Allison's fun style of cheering. Her team calls her Ms. Allie. Although Allison's style is fun, she does teach discipline. If the girls are being goofy or not paying attention, they are awarded a lap around the field. She also has the girls sign a contract at the beginning of the season to agree to abide by the rules of arriving on time, being a team player, having a good attitude and having fun!

The Youth coach program started three years ago with two youth coaches and has grown into six for 2009. The youth coaches are ages 15-16 and have cheerleading expe-

rience. Each youth coach must be accompanied by an adult age 18 or older during practices and games. The youth coaches are also permitted to teach pyramids and stunts as long as they are experienced. For more information on the O.C.R.A. programs, please call Heather Parker at 863-634-2484.

All of the coaches for the program are volunteers.

**Want your team profiled? Sign up for a free team web page on the Okeechobee Sports Network!**

Go to [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com), click on "Okeechobee" and then click on "Sports" at the top right of the Okeechobee page. For informaiton, call Renee Hawley at 888-853-7904, ext. 323.

## OSN welcomes local teams

Recently, Okeechobee News launched the "Okeechobee Sports Network."

OSN is a sports website designed to provide extensive visibility for local sports action in the Okeechobee area. It's fun, interactive, and it is free to participants of all ages. OSN provides the opportunity for local sports teams, organizations, and school athletic programs to display their team results and individual accomplishments for all to see – and various content each week will be extracted from the site to be printed in the Friday edition.

The new online sports directory has been developed as a convenient online platform for schools, park and recreational facilities, sports clubs and academies, leagues, and traveling organizations to share activity and program details.

From baseball to basketball, football to soccer; fishing to swimming; cheerleading to yoga - if you offer a youth or recreational sport or activity feel free to contact Renee Hawley at [rhawley@communitysportsdesk.com](mailto:rhawley@communitysportsdesk.com) or call 888-853-7904 ext. 323 to register your program. The directory can be accessed simply by going to [newszap.com](http://newszap.com), then click on the Okeechobee community tab, then click SPORTS on the upper right part of the page and select Okeechobee Sports Network. Once in the site click on the "directory" tab in the top menu. Submit your information by clicking the button on the bottom of the page. Please note directory content must be approved before it appears in online.



Okeechobee News/Katrina Elsen

## Prize for best submitted sports photo

This 'best sports photo of the month' on Okeechobee Sports Network was submitted by Josephine O'Mallan, Program Specialist at Okeechobee County Parks and Recreation. Okeechobee News Publisher Tom Byrd presented her with the prize. Josephine announced she plans to donate the award, a \$25 Ultimate Gamer gift card, to use as a giveaway prize at the Parks and Rec Easter Extravaganza to be held in April.

## Sports News in Brief

### Club Soccer Indoor League

Registration for the Youth Indoor Soccer League will be held Friday, **March 5**, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Yearling Middle School Gym. Boys and girls in grades 6th-12th will practice and compete in a 5-on-5 small arena setting. The fee is \$30 per person and will include uniform shirts. The season will run March 8 through May 27. Games will be played at the Yearling Middle School Gym some weeknights between 4-8 p.m. For more information, call Brian King at 863-610-0084.

### Real Life Children's Ranch plan benefit tournament

Real Life Children's Ranch will hold their annual fund raising golf tournament on **April 17**, at the Okeechobee County Golf and Country Club. The entry fee is \$50 per person or \$200 per team and includes coffee, donuts, 18 holes of golf with cart, lunch and door prizes. There will also be an opportunity to win a new car in the Hole-In-One contest. For more information, contact Darlene Mayers at 863-634-4200 ([darlene.mayers@rlcr.org](mailto:darlene.mayers@rlcr.org)) or Bill Casian at 863-697-0211 ([pepper@strato.net](mailto:pepper@strato.net)).

### Tourney to benefit memorial

A co-ed softball tournament fundraiser will be held in memory of Devon Venables on **March 13**, at the Adult Softball Fields and will begin at 8 a.m. Early registration is \$200 if paid before March 5, \$250 registration at the field. Bring your own baseballs, 44 Core-ISA Rules. All proceeds will go towards the Devon Venables Memorial Scholarship. Donations can be made directly to the Okeechobee Education Foundation with a notation in the memo of your check -- "Devon Venables Memorial Scholarship." For more information, contact Dainae Venables 863-634-8035 or Jill Rogers 863-634-0870.

### L.O.S.T. ride-run-walk set

Rotary Club of Okeechobee is having their Seventh Annual L.O.S.T. Ride-Run-Walk Event on Saturday, **March 27**. Registration from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. at Scott Driver Boat Ramp. Registration fee is \$20/adult and \$15/children 10 & under and children 5 and under are free. Bicyclists may choose to ride round-trip courses of 12, 20, 40 or 54 miles. Runners and walkers will follow a 5K course. For more information or downloadable registration forms visit: [www.OkeechobeeRotary.org](http://www.OkeechobeeRotary.org).