

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 101 No. 29

Sunday, March 7, 2010

75¢ Plus tax

Spring flag football: OHS girls take to field



Okeechobee High School's Brittany Freeman looks for room as Kelsey Hammack (left) grabs for her flag during a recent spring flag football practice. For more, see Page 20.

Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy

County staffing positions shrink

Jobs cut through attrition and layoffs

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

Like private corporations, during these hard economic times our county is looking at reducing personnel costs.

As a cost saving measure, this past year the county has laid off some employees and left some vacant positions unfilled.

The number of employees under the board of county commissioners had risen from 152 in

March of 2005 to a high of 169 in March of 2009. By March of this year that figure had dropped to 153. These figures exclude employees of the constitutional officers—the clerk of the court, the supervisor of elections, the tax collector, the property appraiser and the sheriff.

Last year the building department was cut from 14 to six employees. That department is funded in part from building permits and other fees. As a result of the building slump, those fees were not coming in at the rate originally

See COUNTY — Page 2

Lake Levels

13.58 feet

Last Year: 12.62 feet

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

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Eagle Scout

Boy Scouts like Ethan Kersey are making a difference in the Okeechobee community. For more on Scouting, see page 10.

Census affects federal funding

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

This month the U. S. Census Bureau is mailing out census forms. It is important for everyone to answer the 10 short

See CENSUS — Page 2



Special to the Okeechobee News/Sandra Pearce

Queen of the rodeo

The Okeechobee County Cattlewomen's Association hosted the 2010 Miss Rodeo Okeechobee Contest on Thursday at the Cattlemen's Arena on US 441 N. Left to right are Miss Rodeo Okeechobee Sweetheart Donnielle Harper, Miss Teen Rodeo Okeechobee Amanda Sheffield, Miss Rodeo Okeechobee Brittany Nethers and Miss Rodeo Okeechobee Princess Cali Pearce. For more, see page 9.

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Okeechobee News/Diana Whitehall

Kiwanis Club learns about local school

The Thursday, March 4, Kiwanis meeting was held at the American Legion Building in Okeechobee. In the photo from left to right are: Jim Vensel, President of the Kiwanis Club; Carly and Sherri Enfinger; Madison and Heather Hancock and Nick Reynolds, the speaker. Heather Hancock, Mr. Reynolds spoke about Okeechobee Christian Academy.

CENSUS

Continued From Page 1

questions on that form and return it in the mail. In the last census, 54 percent of the forms sent to Okeechobee County were returned. This time census officials have set a goal of 75 percent.

Floridians learned in the 2000 presidential election that every vote counts. Likewise, every census form counts.

The information derived from these forms has a wide range of uses. The number of seats a state has in the U.S. House of Representatives is determined by the latest

census. The 2010 census will help communities receive federal funds for such things as hospitals, job training centers, schools, senior centers, public works projects and emergency services. Local governments use census information for evacuations and planning purposes. There are at least 50 ways census data are used.

It is estimated that most people can complete the form in 10 minutes. Local assistance centers will be set up for those needing help.

The information on the forms is confidential. By law, the Census Bureau cannot share responses with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement agencies.

COUNTY

Continued From Page 1

anticipated.

During this fiscal year, three firefighters retired. Those were funded positions and those employees were replaced. Currently another firefighter is out on medical leave and a firefighter/EMT has been hired to temporarily fill this position. County administrator Lyndon Bonner said this was cheaper than paying overtime.

After the layoffs at the building department, a licensing specialist was hired whose salary is being paid by a Workforce Solutions grant. The salary for a funded facilities maintenance position was offset for a time by a Workforce Solutions grant.

The property appraiser currently has 15 employees and he plans to lay off one at the end of this fiscal year. In the last fiscal year he laid off three employees. The sheriff's office currently has 234 employees. According to Undersheriff Noel Stephen that number is necessary to maintain a satisfactory level of service. The tax collector has eliminated one unfilled position. That officer currently has 12 employees and has had that number since at least 2001.

The clerk of the court has 43 employees and nine unfilled positions.

As a result of cutting the Emergency

Medical Services' assessment and exempting non-profits, \$915,105 had to be removed from the landfill trust fund to make up the difference.

On May 28 of last year commissioners voted to set a floor on the landfill trust fund of \$8 million. That means it cannot be allowed to go below that amount. If all goes well, according to the projected budget, at the beginning of the 2010/2011 fiscal year that fund will be at \$8.3 million. So it will be of little help in balancing the budget.

The amount of money coming into the landfill host fund had increased until about two years ago when it started dwindling, in part because other counties are taking their trash to other sites beside the county landfill. That fund was used to balance the 2008/2009 budget. Before that time it was used in small amounts to help fund some accounts.

Correction

A word was omitted from a statement attributed to Okeechobee County Commissioner Ray Domer in an article appearing on page 13 of the March 3, Okeechobee News under the headline "Commissioners concerned about budget." What Commissioner Domer said was that he did not want history to record him as being on the board of county commissioners that caused the county to go broke. We apologize for the error and for any inconvenience it may have caused.

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H5402_QHP1318 FU (11/09)

OCI visitor arrested on drug charges

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

A Lauderdale woman was arrested Saturday, Feb. 27, when she was allegedly caught with over 200 grams of suspected marijuana in the parking lot of the Okeechobee Correctional Institution (OCI). Jerika Laqyanda Sharpe, 27, was charged with the felonies of introduction of contraband into a state prison and possession of marijuana with intent to distribute. She was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail under a bond of \$10,000. An arrest report by Darrell R. Grabner, a senior inspector with the Florida Department of Corrections (DOC), states that Sharpe and her 19-month-old son were at the prison to visit an inmate. During a contraband interdiction operation all vehicles



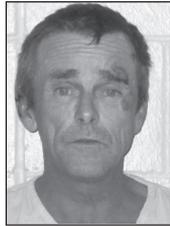
Jerika L. Sharpe

parked in the facility's parking lot were screened. Inspector Grabner said fellow DOC inspector Bruce Montanez and his K-9 Dillon screened the 2007 white Kia Sportage driven by Sharpe. During this screening K-9 Dillon alerted to a bag in the rear of the vehicle. Inside the bag were six quarter coin rolls with a quarter at each end. When the quarters were removed from the rolls, it was discovered that each roll was filled with a green leafy substance, stated the inspector's report. A field test was done. The total weight of the suspected pot was 203.8 grams, the report stated.

Man climbs into ceiling to hide from cops

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

An Okeechobee man was arrested Saturday, Feb. 27, on a domestic battery charge that turned out to be his second arrest in two days and on the same type charge. William Leslie Thomas, 44, S.W. 11th St., was arrested on a charge of felony domestic battery and a misdemeanor charge of violation of injunction against repeat violence. He was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail where he is being held without bond. According to an arrest report by Officer Russell Cale of the Okeechobee City Police Department (OCPD) Thomas was arrested after witnesses reported seeing him beat the female victim. Then, as the victim tried to run away, Thomas allegedly grabbed her by the hair and



William L. Thomas

neck and "... drug her across the ground and into his yard." Another arrest report by OCPD Officer Kelley Margerum indicated that she arrested Thomas on Thursday, Feb. 25, for hitting and choking the same victim. In that report, Officer Margerum stated that while she and OCPD Sergeant Justin Bernst searched for Thomas in his home they heard a loud noise in the kitchen. When the two officers entered the kitchen they found Thomas lying on the floor and laughing. Officer Margerum said Thomas had been hiding in the attic and fell through the ceiling. The officer stated in her report that the victim had blood on her face, a cut to her upper lip and dark red marks on both sides of her neck. Officer Margerum also stated in her report that Thomas has been arrested and convicted of misdemeanor battery four different times, which is why he is currently charged with felony battery.

Okeechobee's Most Wanted

The following people are among Okeechobee's Most Wanted persons. There are active warrants for each of them. The criteria for making Okeechobee's Most Wanted top five is based on the severity of the crime in conjunction with the age of the warrant. If you have any information on the whereabouts of any of Okeechobee's Most Wanted you can call the Treasure Coast Crime Stoppers at 1-800-273-



Marcel Bates



Jamie Samperio

TIPS (8477). If you call Treasure Coast Crimes Stoppers, you have the option of remaining anonymous. You can also receive a reward if the information results in an arrest. **Marcel Bates**, DOB 10/13/1976, Failure of Sexual Offender To Report To DHSMV, Bond \$10,000. **Jamie Samperio**, DOB 7/14/1982, 5'7", 190 lbs. FTA - Fraudulent use of personal ID - No Bond.

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THEATRE III: "COP OUT"
Fri. @ 7:00 & 9:00, Sat., Sun. & Wed. @ 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00, Mon. @ 3:00 & 7:00, Tues. & Thurs. @ 7:00 & 9:00 **R**

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

Public Forum/Speak Out

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

Meth

- Meth can rip a family apart, all it takes is ONE time, it is that addictive. Let me say it again, all it takes is one time. Those caught selling or manufacturing meth, should be locked away without parole. It completely changes a person, and it affects everyone around them. A meth user will ALWAYS crave meth. A user can be helped, but they have "triggers" that will always be there. There are signs that someone is using meth, but those closest to them do not realize it until it is too late. It not only takes a family to help meth users, but an entire community.

Ecotourism

- Sounds like Hendry County has figured out how to promote ecotourism with their Big O Birding Extravaganza drawing bird watchers from all over the country. They stay in a hotel in Clewiston and go on different outings every day. Instead of just promoting bass tournaments, I think Okeechobee County should come up with some ideas like that—something to bring folks to Okeechobee and spend some of that tourism money here.

- There was an endurance race around the lake last weekend, which started at Okee-Tantie. It probably didn't contribute much to the local economy but every little bit helps. There's probably not too many people who can run 118 miles. Hats off to those who tried. The Rotary is going to have their annual run-ride-walk event this month also and that brings cyclists, runners etc. from other places to participate.

- I am amazed that those people ran around the lake. I cannot imagine even walking 118 miles, let alone running it in less than a day. And what a surprise that a woman not only was the winner, but beat the best previous time which was set by a man.

- I think we have enough tourists here already. Have you tried to drive downtown?

Earthquakes

- A 7.0 earthquake hits Haiti and in its wake leaves an estimated 300,000 dead. Then in the news an 8.8 earthquake hits Chile, and although they say half a million homes were damaged or destroyed, the death count is between 700 and 800. Obviously, the structures in Haiti were already of very poor quality for so many people to be killed. On the news I saw an apartment building in Chile that had been twisted by the quake so that it was slanting sideways, and yet no one who was in it during the quake had died.

- The quake in Haiti was relatively small in the area that it shook, and it was extremely shallow. These two things are huge factors in how much destruction they will leave behind. Think of it like hurricanes ... sometimes, even though a Cat 4 can hit, the area that receives the Cat 4 wind speeds may be very very small. In the Chile quake, nobody experienced the extremely violent shaking that millions of the people in Haiti experienced. The way they rate earthquakes is not just how powerful the shaking is, but the area of the shaking as well, and that is what gave it a higher rating than the Haiti quake. And then there is the fact that Chile is very prepared for earthquakes. Their building codes require earthquake safe structures.

- The people in Chile obviously invested a lot of money in their infrastructure and in maintaining their building codes. While hundreds of thousands of buildings were damaged or destroyed in that massive earthquake, less than 800 people died because at least the buildings stood long enough for the people to get out. I think people in Florida should take a lesson from that. We can build structures that can survive hurricanes. Most people just don't want to spend the money. But it would be better to build a smaller, stronger home than a larger home that will fall down in a high wind.

- The people in Haiti were living in poverty even before the quake hit. I think it is time the media started giving the public the background on the reasons for their plight. It goes back to the way France punished Haiti by forcing them to pay reparations to punish them for seeking their independence.

Cookie shortage

- I bought more than a "few" boxes of Girl Scout cookies when the girls were at the stores, but my supply is running out. Any more boxes out there?

Reflections from the pulpit

By Chaplain Wendy Schaffer
The Pregnancy Center of Okeechobee

New Life

In one more week this cold winter will be over. It will be Spring. The days will be warmer and the plants will begin to grow. In fact, Webster defines Spring as, "that season of the year which follows Winter, in which flowers grow...a period of beginning. The month, in the Bible, that begins in March is called Nisan. Nisan is the beginning of the calendar of sacred feasts and start of the barley harvest. Nisan means "month of the opening ears." I pray this Spring that we open our ears and our hearts to all the new life around us.

Life is defined by Webster as meaning "that property which makes it possible for them to take in food, get energy from it, to grow. The word "them" means plants, animals and people. I take this opportunity to remind the readers that "people" includes the precious lives of the unborn children. These unborn children receive nourishment and food from their mothers and they continue to grow for nine months until their birth from the womb.

The Bible places great value on life and on the unborn children. "God created man (all people) in His own image." (Genesis 1:27 KJV) The Lord God formed man... and man became a living soul." (Genesis 2:7 KJV) Further on in the Scripture, the Lord came to Jeremiah saying: "Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee, and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee." (Jeremiah 1:5 KJV) Isaiah states: "The Lord hath called me from the womb; from the bowels of my mother." (Isaiah 49:1 KJV) David inspired by God eloquently wrote: "For thou hast possessed my reins; thou hast covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well. My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret...Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfected, and in thy book all my members were written." (Psalm 139:13-16 KJV)

God's Word clearly reveals the value of each life, and that life begins in the womb. God is the true source and giver of life. God truly nourishes each life and His Word and His presence covers each life.

As Spring approaches, we notice new buds on the trees and we see flowers blossoming forth, I ask that we each take a moment to pray, and continue to pray, for the new lives of the unborn children. Pray for their well-being. Pray for support for the mothers. Pray for their mothers to love and value them. Pray for mothers to care for themselves. Pray that the mothers seek God and are drawn into a closer relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ for if the moms are living in God's will, then their babies will "have life and have it more abundantly." (John 10:10 KJV)

Okeechobee Forecast

Today: Sunny, with a high near 74. North northwest wind around 5 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 44. Northeast wind around 5 mph.

Extended Forecast

Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 75. North northeast wind around 5 mph.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 47. East wind around 5 mph.

Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 73. East northeast wind around 5 mph.

Tuesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 48. East southeast wind around 5 mph.

Wednesday: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 80. East southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Wednesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 60. Southeast wind around 5 mph.

Thursday: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 80. South southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Lotteries

Florida Lottery — Here are the numbers selected Thursday in the Florida Lottery: **Cash 3:** 7-0-7; **Play 4:** 0-5-8-5; **Fantasy 5:** 3-8-13-21-33; **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 Friday, **Cash 3:** 5-6-0; **Play 4:** 2-9-8-0.

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

To Reach Us

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To Submit News

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

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

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OF:



Okeechobee students do well at Regional Science Fair

On Feb. 17, 114 students from Okeechobee County participated in the Heartland Region Science and Engineering Fair. The Heartland Region includes Okeechobee, DeSoto, Hardee, Hendry and Glades counties. This year the fair was held at the Seminole Tribe's Veterans Building at the reservation. Below is a list of Okeechobee students who participated in the fair and results.

Senior Division: Behavioral And Social Sciences, Medicine And Health, Microbiology And Zoology

Daniel Jansen, Aubrey Robertson, Kylie Shirley, Katlyn Haymond, Darby Jones, Matthew Saucier, Jessica Smit, Danielle Crane, Judd Harris, Alex Guido, Monica Hernandez, Benjamin Kielbasa, Emily Raulerson, Elise Scott, Sierra Story, SECOND PLACE: Kylie Shirley, Darby Jones, Alex Guido, Benjamin Kielbasa FIRST PLACE: Daniel Jansen, Monica Hernandez

SENIOR DIVISION: BOTANY: Frank Adamo, Nick Flood, Summer Howard, Audrey Metcalf, Shelby Pollack, Brittany Serrano, Zach Willie

SENIOR DIVISION: CHEMISTRY: Sarah Davis, Taylor Fulford, Kayla Harrison, Dalton Hodges,

Jesus Jaimés, Jessica Jimenez, Brendon (BJ) Jonassaint, Nicholas Methner, Tyler Milrot, Carma Rowlett, Krista Ward SECOND PLACE: Kayla Harrison FIRST PLACE: Carma Rowlett, Sarah Davis

Senior Division: Computer, Earth And Space Science, Engineering, Environmental Sciences, And Mathematics

Brittney Ball, Joseph Chandler, Dayla Ferneau, Jason Rucks, Damien Womble, Macy Gamiotea, Kailey Hoover, Jenna Rath, Richard Donegan, Timothy Farrell, Tyler Finney, Dustin Houston

THIRD PLACE: Kailey Hoover

SECOND PLACE: Jason Rucks

FIRST PLACE: Brittney Ball, Joseph Chandler

SENIOR DIVISION: PHYSICS: Claresha Blair, Casey Hurst, Tyler Nelson, Krista Pope, Samantha Rivero, Margaret Ruede-McKane, Daniel Ruiz, Jami Sanchez, Cade Stokes, Alexis Torres

THIRD PLACE: Krista Pope, Samantha Rivero

SECOND PLACE: Casey Hurst

FIRST PLACE: Margaret Ruede-McKane

Junior Division: Behavioral And Social Sciences, Biochemistry, Medicine And Health, Microbiology

Brandon McKee, Daron Jones, Tyler Elliott, Jacob Stewart, Brittany Milrot, Rafe Fisher, Anali Torres

THIRD PLACE: Jacob Stewart

SECOND PLACE: Daron Jones, Tyler Elliott FIRST PLACE: Brandon McKee, Rafe Fisher

JUNIOR DIVISION: BOTANY: Odon Benitez, Hannah Bostwick, Irfan Chaudhary, Brittany DeWitt, Jorge Gallegos, Nicholas Kielbasa, Jake Menendez, Shayla Pendrey

SECOND PLACE: Odon Benitez, Irfan Chaudhary, Shayla Pendrey

JUNIOR DIVISION: CHEMISTRY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE: Alyssia Boldin, Hunter Boshell, Taylor Boyett, Sean Chauhan, Kirsten Doney, Emmanuel (Manny) Goana, Khrysta Herndon, Ana Huerta, Ben Levins, Carley McCoin, Jaycee Palomino, Hannah Raulerson, Samuel Rogers, Colton Rusinko, Jaisalyn Santiago, Saiti Sawka, McKayla Snow, Leticia Soriano, Marshall Tommie, Ivette Vega, Karyna Villalpando, Destinee Villarreal, Cody Walker, Macy Watt, Sha'dajia Williams, Kaitlyn Wilson THIRD PLACE: Leticia Soriano

SECOND PLACE: Samuel Rogers, Jaisalyn Santiago, Saiti Sawka, Taylor Boyette

FIRST PLACE: Kirsten Doney, McKayla Snow

Junior Division: Earth And Space Sciences, Engineering, Environmental Sciences And Mathematics

Braydon Kassella, Adam Davis, Alec Ernmonds, Lynn Romer, Tristan Mavroides, Avery Plemons, Hannah Sadler, Filipe Soto, Chris Joles, Miriam Mojica

THIRD PLACE: Avery Plemons, Filipe Soto

SECOND PLACE: Braydon Kassella, Hannah Sadler.

FIRST PLACE: Tristan Mavroides.

JUNIOR DIVISION: PHYSICS: Selena Bowman, Caleb Crews, Michael Daniel, Erik Gaitan, Kayla Orr, Ryan Reister, Alexis Strippling, Cassidy Watford

Third Place: Selena Bowman, Michael Daniel, Alexis Strippling

Second Place: Ryan Reister.

First place: Kayla Orr, Cassidy Watford

Special Awards were given to the following Okeechobee students:

American Psychological Association presented a certificate of award to the project that demonstrates outstanding research in psychology to a senior project in behavioral and social sciences. This certificate went to Daniel Jansen. ASM International Foundation provided a certificate and a medallion to the student with the best materials engineering project. This award went to Joseph Chandler. Association for Women Geoscientists provided a certificate to a student whose project exemplified high standards of innovativeness and scientific excellence in the geosciences. Special consideration was given to projects that increase the public awareness of the geosciences, illustrate the interdisciplinary nature of the geosciences or promote the sensitivity to the earth as a global system. This award went to Macy Gamiotea. Intel Excellence in Computer Science Award provided a certificate and a check for \$200 for the most challenging, thorough and creative investigation of a problem involving Computer Science in the Senior Division. This award went to Brittney Ball. International Sustainable World Energy, Engineering, and Environmental Project (I-Sweep) provided an opportunity for a top high school project in Energy, Engineering or Environmental Science whose project displays outstanding work in the theme of environmental sustainability and innovation. The student may have an opportunity to participate in an I-SWEEP conference in Houston, if chosen to participate. The Outstanding Sustainability Award went to Joseph Chandler; the I-SWEEP recognition certificate went to Jason Rucks. Mu Alpha Theta provided a certificate for the most challenging, thorough and creative investigation of a problem involving modern mathematics in the Senior Division. This certificate went to Tyler Finney. RICOH Sustainable Development Award provided a certificate of achievement and an opportunity to participate in a drawing for a digital camera for a project that has principles and technical innovations that offer the greatest potential for increasing our ability to grow environmentally friendly and socially responsible businesses. This award went to Kailey Hoover. Stockholm Junior Water Prize provided three certificates for outstanding water related research at the high school level. The Okeechobee winner was Macy Gamiotea. Yale Science and Engineering Association, Inc. provided a certificate for the most outstanding 11th grade student exhibiting in the areas of Computer Science, Engineering, Physics or Chemistry. This award went to Carma Rowlett. United States Air Force provided an award certificate, a Connections Computer Accessories Kit, A Slazenger Sport Deluxe Sling and a Magnetic Floating pen/pencil set for outstanding science fair achievement. This year's awardees were Monica Hernandez and Daniel Jansen. United States Navy and Marine Corps provided certificates, medallions and for Senior

Division winners, a gift certificate for \$50. These awards went to the most outstanding projects in the Senior and Junior Division. These awards went to Monica Hernandez, a Senior Winner receiving a certificate, medallion and \$50 gift certificate, and Brandon McKee, a Junior Winner receiving a certificate and medallion. United States Army has provided a certificate, a presentation folder, and a polo shirt bearing the Army's science fair logo for the most outstanding projects in the Senior Division. Awards went to Joseph Chandler, Brittney Ball, and Monica Hernandez. The most outstanding of the five winners to receive the Bronze Medallion was Monica Hernandez.

The twenty-four students from the region selected to attend the Florida State Science and Engineering Fair in April included the following students from Okeechobee: Senior Division students Daniel Jansen, Sarah Davis, Carma Rowlett, Brittney Ball, Joseph Chandler, Margaret Ruede-McKane, Monica Hernandez, Kayla Harrison, and Benjamin Kielbasa; Junior Division students include Brandon McKee, Kirsten Doney, Tristan Mavroides, McKayla Snow, and Cassidy Watford.

Monica Hernandez was one of two Senior students selected to represent the region at the International Science and Engineering Fair in San Jose, California this May.

Special thanks are extended to the Seminole Tribe for hosting the fair, and to all of the teachers, administrators, judges, and parents who supported this outstanding academic competition.



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Softball tourney to benefit Devon Venables memorial scholarship

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 regis-

tration 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.

Former local predator arrested in Stuart

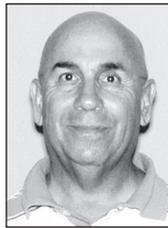
By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

A registered sexual predator who had lived in Okeechobee at one time has been arrested in Stuart and charged with raping an 18-year-old homeless man.

Steven Nelson Curl, 58, 950 S.E. Federal Highway, Stuart, was arrested Tuesday, March 2, on charges of sexual battery and false imprisonment. He is being held without bond in the Martin County Jail.

Curl was released from the Glades Correctional Institution (GCI) Oct. 19, 2000, following his 1996 conviction of lewd and lascivious assault on a child under the age of 16.

According to an arrest report by Detective Michael Rice of the Stuart Police Department (SPD) Curl met the victim Sunday, Feb. 28, at a gas station on S.E. Federal Highway. Detective Rice said the unnamed victim told Curl he had just been kicked out of his halfway house



Steven N. Curl

and did not have a place to sleep.

Curl, who was employed at the Howard Johnson's Motel at 950 S.E. Federal Highway as a desk clerk, then reportedly told the victim he could stay the night in Curl's motel room. Curl was allowed to stay in room 126 as part of his payment for working there.

Detective Rice's report goes on to state that the victim became drunk and after he laid down on the floor to go to sleep the 5-foot-7-inch, 185-pound,

Curl jumped on his back and sexually assaulted him.

The alleged incident occurred around 1 a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 28, but due to fear and shame the victim did not file a report until Tuesday, continued the report.

Records at the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) indicate that Curl was initially arrested in Palm Beach County in 1989 on a charge of lewd and lascivious assault on a child under the age of 16. His next arrest was a similar charge in 1996.

Those same OCSO records indicate that upon his release from GCI, Curl went to the Prison After Care Treatment Center (P.A.C.T.) located on U.S. 441 N. He first registered as a sexual predator in Okeechobee County in 2000.

On July 12, 2003, Curl was arrested on charges of sexual activity with a minor and contributing to the delinquency of a minor in Okeechobee County, but those charges were later dropped by the state.

Curl worked as a desk clerk at the Holiday Inn in Okeechobee from 2005 to 2006. In October of 2006 he reported that he was working in Stuart but living in his car in Okeechobee County. OCSO records show that he would report his whereabouts by calling the local sheriff's office.

Records also indicate that Curl was arrested in August of 2009 in Martin County on a misdemeanor charge of trespassing. He was arrested again on Feb. 5, 2010, for having an open container of alcohol—also a misdemeanor.

Dixie Melody Boys to perform at Church of the Nazarene

One of Gospel music's most popular quartets, The Dixie Melody Boys, will be featured at the Okeechobee Church of the Nazarene, 425 S.W. 28th St., on Thursday, March 25. The Dixie Melody Boys will share their unique, four-part harmony during this musical event beginning at 7 p.m.

Since organizing over four decades ago, The Dixie Melody Boys have enjoyed much success, including a Grammy nomination and numerous Fan Award nominations from The Singing News Magazine, Southern Gospel Music's leading fan and trade publication. Hit releases have flowed their way in bunches,

including recent releases such as "I'll Be Living That Way," "I Won't Compromise," "Welcome Home," "Antioch Church Choir," and "I'm One of Them." Their goal of delivering a first-class performance filled with excitement energy and lots of great traditional, Southern Gospel Music are traits which have been instilled in each member by group leader Ed O'Neal, a 45-year Gospel Music veteran, who was inducted into the Southern Gospel Music

Association Hall of Fame in 2004. These characteristics, united with their desire to never compromise their responsibility to spread the Gospel through Southern Gospel Music in a professional manner have allowed The Dixie Melody Boys to firmly establish a place at the forefront of Southern Gospel Music.

For more information, call 863-763-3519 or 863-763-7113.



Special to the Okeechobee News
The Dixie Melody boys are featured at the Okeechobee Church of the Nazarene on March 25.

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Pesticide applicators: Do you need to renew?

By Dan Culbert, horticulture agent

Extension Service, Okeechobee

Pesticide applicators that need to renew their licenses may be interested in registering for a FREE class to be offered at the Okeechobee County Extension office. The class will be held at the UF/IFAS MFREC in Apopka, but will be able to be viewed here in Okeechobee using an Internet-based conference system (Polycom). Training time will be from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, March 30.

Current applicators that hold valid licenses may earn up to 6 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) in several different pesticide license categories including aquatic weeds,

tree crop, row crop, ornamental and turf, pest control operator (lawn and ornamental), and limited certificates for landscaping professionals.

Statewide experts from UF will be presenting information on herbicides used in agricultural and natural area management situations. Specific topics will include how herbicides work, plant anatomy, new herbicides, managing herbicide resistance, new weeds, biocontrol, herbicide selection and minimizing non target herbicide effects.

Attendance is limited to the first 30 persons who register. Please contact Extension secretary Monica Markham by calling 863-763-6469 or sending an email to Extension agent Dan Culbert indianco@ufl.edu, giving

your name, address, telephone and license number.

Persons who do not have licenses may contact this office to learn about other programs available to obtain a Florida Pesticide applicator license.

For more information, contact the Okeechobee Extension office at 863-763-6469. A flyer with more complete information about this program is available on the Okeechobee web page, <http://okeechobee.ifas.ufl.edu>. Local residents can stop by our office at 458 Hwy. 98 North in Okeechobee. Go Gators!



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

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

It's turkey time! Florida turkeys are abundant

By Tony Young

Better start brushing up on your turkey calling, because spring gobbler season's here. Whether you prefer to use a mouth call, box call, slate or any combination, March means it's time to start talkin' turkey.

One of the most coveted and sought-after game species in Florida is the Osceola turkey, also known as the Florida turkey. This unique bird is one of five subspecies of wild turkey in North America.

The Osceola lives only on the Florida peninsula and nowhere else in the world, making it extremely popular with out-of-state hunters. They're similar to the Eastern subspecies (found in the Panhandle) but tend to be a bit smaller and typically are darker with less white barring on the primary flight feathers of their wings.

The National Wild Turkey Federation and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) recognize any wild turkey harvested within or south of the counties of Dixie, Gilchrist, Alachua, Union, Bradford, Clay and Duval to be the Osceola subspecies. Eastern turkeys and hybrids are found north and west of these counties into the Panhandle.

The highly anticipated spring turkey sea-

son runs March 6–April 11, in the South Hunting Zone and March 20–April 25, in the Northwest and Central zones. The exception is Holmes County, where the season runs March 20–April 4.

Hunters may take bearded turkeys and gobblers only, and the daily bag limit is one. The season and possession limit on turkeys is two, except in Holmes County, where the season limit is one. Shotguns are the best choice when hunting turkeys, but if you're so inclined, you may use a rifle, muzzleloader or handgun, or you can try your luck with a bow or crossbow. Shooting hours on private lands are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset, but on wildlife management areas (WMAs), you must quit hunting at 1 p.m.

To participate in spring turkey hunting, you'll need a Florida hunting license and a turkey permit. If you plan to pursue a gobbler on one of Florida's many WMAs, you also must purchase a management area permit. All of these licenses and permits are available at county tax collectors' offices, most retail outlets that sell hunting and fishing supplies, by calling toll-free 888-HUNT-FLORIDA (486-8356) or online at www.wildlifelicense.com/fl.

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Okeechobee Livestock Market Report

March 1 & 2, 2010

	Med #1	Steers	Hfrs
Cows	170-200	160-210	150-175
Breaking	\$52.00 \$60.00	200-250	145-170 120-155
Cutter	\$47.00 \$48.00	250-300	135-150 117-125
Canner	\$37.00 \$47.00	300-350	131-140 110-119
		350-400	119-135 105-112
		400-450	117-128 99-109
		450-500	113-126 99-107
		550-600	115-120 97-103
		600-650	100-110 92-98

	Monday	Tuesday	Med #2	Steers	Hfrs
Bulls			200-250	110-140	100-135
1000-1500	\$61.00	\$72.00	250-300	110-135	100-125
1500-2000	\$65.00	\$75.00	300-350	110-120	90-114
			350-400	105-116	94-110
			400-450	95-114	97-107

Calves	266	393	Small #1	220-235	130-150
Cows	109	482	220-235	130-150	114-116
Str	19	6	350-400	114-116	
Hfrs	23	11			
Bulls	48	25			
Yrlngs	20	14			
Mix	7	0			
Total	492	931			

Not much of a run this week. I guess due to bad weather on Tuesday. That's what is keeping the prices so high. Cows and bulls are still pretty high and calf prices have gone sky high. Good 500# steer 115-120. Wolf Creek topped the calf market with a high of \$2.05, bought by Curtis Wilson. Lightsey Cattle topped the cow market with a high of \$60.50, bought by Central.

Don't forget, we're selling on Mondays all year long and pregnancy checking is available on Mondays. See ya next week, Todd

Cattlemen's spring rodeo set for March 13-14

The Okeechobee County Cattlemen's Association Spring PRCA Rodeo will be March 13 and 14 at the Okeechobee County Agri-Civic Center.

Mutton Bustin' for the little cowboys and cowgirls will begin at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 13 and Sunday, March 14. All cowkicks from ages 3-5 can enter to win a shiny western belt buckle. Advance registration is required. Please call the Okeechobee Livestock Market at 863-763-3127 to register.

The Okeechobee County Cattlemen's Rodeo will feature contestants competing to win cash prizes and points toward a PRCA (Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association) circuit championship.

The rodeo will include traditional rodeo events such as; calf roping, saddle bronc, steer wrestling, bareback riding, team roping, ladies' barrel racing and bull riding.

"We are proud to host two annual PRCA Rodeos every year right here in Okeechobee," says Dudley Kirton, Cattlemen's Association President.

This year's rodeo will bring some of the nations top cowboys to show their talents and compete. Participants come from all over the United States and Canada to compete for their titles.

Jerry Todd will return to Okeechobee to serve as Master of Ceremonies for the 2009 Spring Rodeo. Rodeo tickets may be purchased in advance at Eli's Western Wear, 907 NW Park Street, Okeechobee or at the gate. Premier tickets (for the best view of the bucking chutes) are \$18 in advance and

\$20 at the gate. Children under 12 are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the gate. Reserved seating tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the

gate. Reserved seating tickets for children 12 and under are \$6 in advance and \$8 at the gate.

For ticket information, call Eli's Western Wear at 863-763-2984 or visit: www.okeecheebecattlemansassociation.com.



The 2010 Miss Rodeo Okeechobee Contest Contestants were: (back row L-R) Katie Brummett, Janae Brawell, Hannah Saddler, Sierra Coward, Megan Mullin, Brittany Nethers, Amanda Sheffield, Cassie Colgan, (front row L-R) Sierra Weaver, Donnielle Harper, Hannah Boshell, Cali Pearce and Hunter Boshell.

Special to the Okeechobee News/Sandra Pearce

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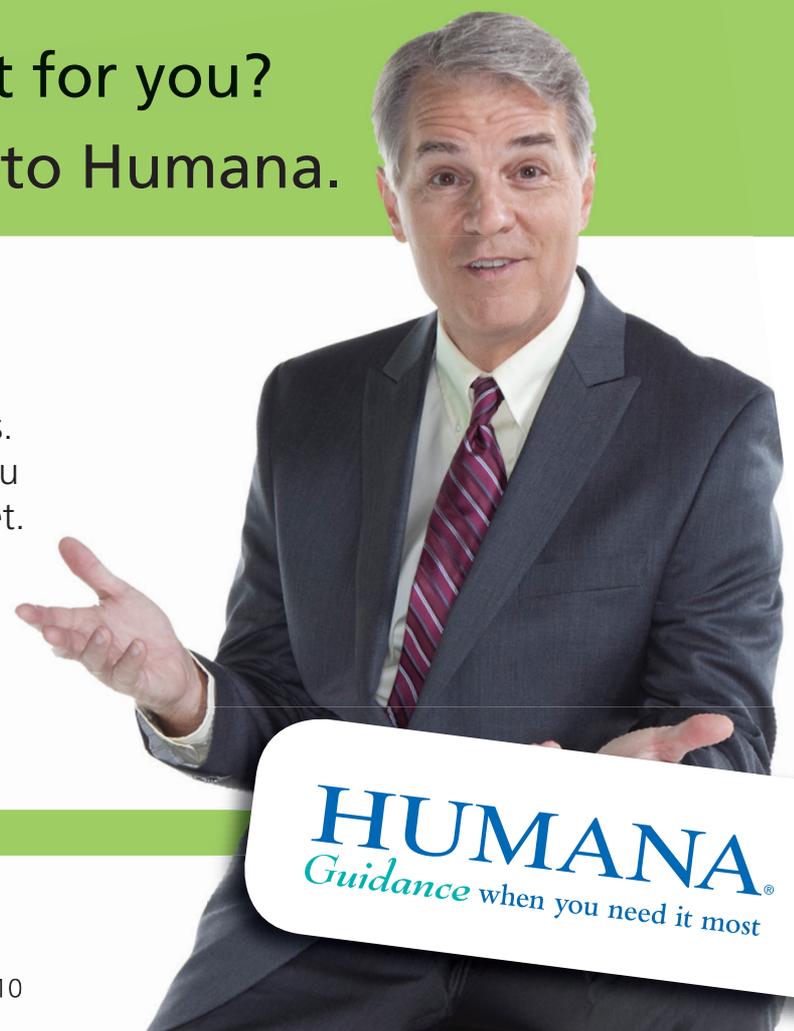
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Special to the Okeechobee News/Ray Worley
 Left to Right, Kurt Jansen, Scout Master Troop 955, Ray Worley Chairman Big Lake District, Eagle Scout Ethan Kersey, Troop 955, Judge William L. Hendry Chairman Big Lake District, Eagle Review Committee and David Fox, Big Lake District Membership Chairman.

Local Scout goes before District 'Eagle' committee

On March 3, Ethan Kersey, of Okeechobee met with the Eagle Committee of the Big Lake District of the Boy Scouts of America. The Eagle Committee consists of Chairman Judge William L. Hendry; David Fox, Big Lake District, Membership Chairman and Ray Worley, Chairman of the Big Lake District.

Led by Judge Hendry who received his Eagle Scout Badge in 1943, the committee met at the Troop Sponsor's facility and evaluated Ethan on the merits of all the work he had completed to become an Eagle Scout.

The Troop sponsor is Sacred Heart Catholic Church and they Chartered Troop 955 nine years ago. Scout Master Kurt Jansen said, "We started with six Scouts and four parents. We have had our share of boys come and go but we always managed to have around 15 boys. The boys have had the opportunity to attend several summer camps and many of our own campouts. The camp outs have given us the opportunity to experience the outdoors, learn new skills and create many memories. Our meetings,

where we would learn the Scout ways, earn merit badges and build leadership, have always been on Monday nights from 6:30 to 8 p.m. I have seen four young Scouts grow into young men and earn their Eagle rank. I hope to see many more achieve this honor with Troop 955."

If you would like to get involved with Troop 955 you can call Kurt Jansen on his cell 561-722-8668.

Ethan made a difference in our community with a project that brightens an otherwise somber occasion. Over a six weeks period he and his troop members cleaned and painted the entryway monuments at all three of our county cemeteries. Ethan noticed the deteriorated condition of these monuments and decided to do something about it. An Eagle Scout makes a difference in his community and the Big Lake District is proud to award Ethan Kersey the Eagle Scout honor for a job well done. Shake this young man's hand and say congratulations if you see him.

OCA kids gather items for Easter Baskets

Okeechobee Christian Academy is organizing an Easter basket give away for children of families financially struggling in our community. Each class will be participating by collecting items such as baskets, snacks, candy, small toys, stuffed animals, coloring books, crayons, cellophane to wrap up the baskets, etc. We also need items donated from the community. Our goal is to share a little piece of God's love with as many children as possible this Easter! The student body will be assembling the baskets and then the baskets will be

distributed. The number of baskets that can be assembled depends on the amount of donations received. All items must be collected by March 21, in order for the students to prepare the baskets and get them distributed before spring break arrives. Donations can be made at Okeechobee Christian Academy located at 701 S. Parrott Avenue. If you are interested in helping out or if you have any questions please call the school office at 863-763-3072. You can also visit our website at: www.okeechobeechristianacademy.net



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Special to the Okeechobee News/Rotary Club

Well Worth It: Helping Haiti

In carrying out its "Service Above Self" creed The Rotary Club of Okeechobee is working diligently to start an international foreign aide project that will begin with the installation of wells in Haiti. The Rotary Club along with local business partners American Drilling Services, Superior Water Works, The Well Worth It Foundation, and More 2 Life Ministries will embark on a reconnaissance mission in April to determine the priority for well placement. The portable well rig pictured was purchased by American Well Drilling and will be modified to withstand current terrain conditions. Once transported to Haiti the drill team will work with two local non-profit organizations YWAM and CARHA who currently provide care for 6,000 Haitian natives who are temporarily housed in a make-shift "tent city." Due to the earthquakes in January many wells that produced potable water are now collapsed. Viewing the rig are Linda Bridges, Donna Gaiser, Frank DeCarlo, Kyle Reno, Tabitha Trent, Mike Costopoulos, Lyle Fried, Kristy Crawford, Jeanette Miller and Jim McInnes. If you are interested in volunteering, providing monetary support or even sponsoring a well, please contact Tabitha Trent 863-824-6700.

Local church food bank needs donations

The food bank at Living Word of Faith Church in Okeechobee is in desperate need of donations for the shelves. The economy has affected many more families this year

and the food items go quickly. If you can donate any items, please call either Brenda at 863-484-2766 or Mary at 863-697-1335 to make arrangements for drop off.



Special to the Okeechobee News/OMS

Students of the Week

The most recent Students of the Week selected at Osceola Middle School are (left to right) Tyler Winner, Levi Boney, Anupsinh Chauhan, Jesus Yanez, Omar Gazga, Jennifer Baker, Daniela Jiminez, Hayley Palmisano. These students were commended by their teachers for being model Warriors for the week of March 1-5! They are excelling at being respectful, responsible, and safe. While feasting on pizza furnished by Domino's, they discussed plans for their upcoming Spring Break and hoped that Florida weather will return soon!

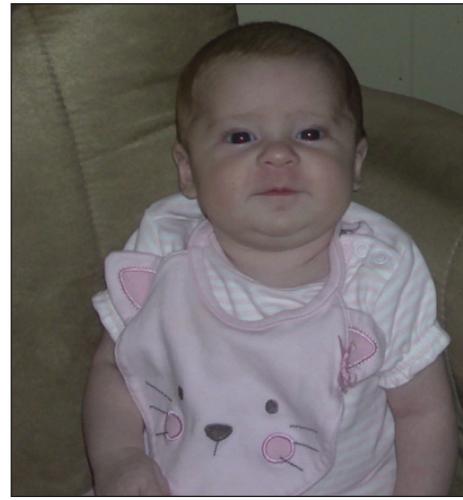
BIRTHS

KAY MARIE SHIREMAN

Mark and Heather Shireman of Okeechobee are the proud parents of Kay Marie Shireman. Kay came into the world at Saint Lucie Medical Center in Port Saint Lucie on January 4, 2010 at 10:49 p.m. She weighed eight pounds and nine ounces, and measured 21 and a half inches in length.

She is blessed to have Ray and Norneta Bartoe of Okeechobee, as her maternal grandparents, as well as Artie and Candace Shireman of Okeechobee, as her paternal grandparents. One great grandmother, Pauline Pearson of Tennessee.

Kay was welcomed home by her big brother Kyle, 15, and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.



BIRTHS

ANABEL NUNEZ

Anabel was born at 10:35 AM on January 5, 2010 in St. Lucie Medical Center. She weighed 8.00 pounds and was 19 1/2 inches. She is the daughter of Mario and Cristal Nunez. She was welcomed home by her 2 year old brother, Mario Devon. Her maternal grandparents are Sandra and Javier Martinez of Benton Harbor, Michigan and Abel Tehandon of Sprucepine, North Carolina. Her paternal grandmother is Margarita Nunez of Okeechobee, Florida.





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Special to the Okeechobee News/YMS

Off to State

Okeechobee Middle School students selected for the Florida State Science and Engineering Fair include: (Front Row) McKayla Snow; In the back row from left to right: Cassidy Watford, Kirsten Doney, Tristan Mavaroides, and Brandon McKee.



Special to the Okeechobee News/Raulerson Hospital

Prize winner

Dr. James Bradfield of Raulerson Gynecology presents Leah Suarez a beautiful floral arrangement she won at Dr. Bradfield's booth at the Okeechobee Health and Safety expo.

City code enforcement board to hear 5 cases

When they meet Tuesday evening the city code enforcement board will hear four new cases and could take further action on an old case.

Serafin Cervantes was cited because the property at 209 S.W. Seventh Ave., does not meet standards for single family dwellings.

According to code enforcement officers, the S.E. Seventh St. and the S.E. Tenth St. properties of David Black do not come up to general cleaning and beautification standards.

Wendi Snow was also cited for the same reason because of the condition of her 810 S.E. Sixth Court property.

Bank of America has been accruing a fine on 301 S.E. Third St. for over 90 days.

Therefore, the board will determine what further action, if any, to take.

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

If you go:

What: City of Okeechobee Code Enforcement Board

When: 6:30 p.m, Tuesday, March 9

Where: Council Chambers, Okeechobee City Hall, 55 S.E. Third Ave.

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Edward Jones moves up in rankings

The financial-services firm Edward Jones, which has a branch office that serves the Okeechobee area, once again has been named a top company for training, ranking No. 31 on Training magazine's 2010 Training Top 125 list. Edward Jones has made the list for 10 years in a row, dating back to the debut of the Training Top 50 in 2001.

"What a great honor it is to be recognized again for our training programs," said Sharon Ming, an Edward Jones financial advisor in Okeechobee. "Training is an investment in our workforce, one we continue to make. Investing in good people and helping them

to develop is one reason this firm serves clients so well. We are proud to be recognized for a principle we strongly believe in."

Edward Jones not only moved up the ranking dramatically—from No. 64 in 2009 to No. 31 this year—but also received special recognition for achieving one of the top scores in the evaluation and business metric section of the firm's application. Only four companies were recognized for top scores in this area.

The firm has consistently earned high marks as an employer of choice in other national rankings. For the 10th year, Edward

Jones was named one of FORTUNE magazine's "100 Best Companies to Work For 2010." The firm took the No. 2 overall spot in the ranking and also was named to the No. 1 spot for large companies. For the 17th consecutive year, Registered Representative, a trade magazine, rated Edward Jones No. 1 among the nation's leading brokerages in its anonymous survey of financial advisors from the nation's five largest brokerages.

Edward Jones provides financial services for individual investors in the United States and, through its affiliate, in Canada.

Pristine Properties welcomes Pinson and Townes

Stephen Jara, president and managing broker for Pristine Properties International, a participant with Cabela's Trophy Properties, is pleased to announce that Debra Pinson and Jayla Townes have joined the firm as realtors. Mrs. Pinson's professional Real Estate career began in 1999 by acquiring her Mortgage Broker's License and then obtaining her status as Sales Agent in 2003 then obtaining her Brokers License in 2009. Debra worked at the Palm Beach County Courthouse in the foreclosure department as well as launching a foreclosure research company. Debra's knowledge of local properties and her customers needs is of the up-

most importance. Ms. Townes' professional background includes Real Estate Appraisal, Real Estate Sales Associate and a graduate of Mortgage Broker Class. Jayla specializes in Residential and Recreational and Sporting Properties for this global real estate firm. Jayla loves to spend time with her family in any outdoor adventure from land to water.

"I am pleased to welcome Debra and Jayla to our Full-Service Global Real Estate Company," said Mr. Jara. "I am confident that they will add to the success of our International Team." Debra can be contacted on her cell phone at 863-801-9163 or Debra@PristineFlorida.com and Jayla can be

reached on her cell phone at 863-634-0095 or Jayla@PristineFlorida.com. Pristine Properties currently has offices in Delray Beach, Jacksonville and Okeechobee.

Pristine Properties International is the Cabela's Trophy Properties participant for Florida specializing in Sporting and Recreational Properties. Pristine Properties offers a unique opportunity with its affiliation with Cabela's Trophy Properties assisting buyers and sellers. "Our team of professionals not only understands sporting and recreational real estate, they love and live it," Mr. Jara said.

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Community Service Through Journalism

County fair needs volunteer help

The Okeechobee County Fair needs some volunteers who don't mind doing a little work and having a great time! The fair is just around the corner and organizers could still use some help.

The Okeechobee County Fair opens March 12 and runs through March 21. It will be held at the Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center (entrance is off SR 710).

If you are interested, please contact Linda Woloski at 863-357-1866 or you can e-mail her at lwoloskienp@tds.net.



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There's some good news for Florida parents looking for an affordable opportunity to keep their kids healthy.

Florida KidCare is offering health insurance benefits to children under the age of 19 for less than a trip to the movies. Children have access to preventive care such as regular doctor's visits, immunizations, dental and vision checkups. In addition, families are protected against catastrophic financial loss in the event of a serious medical issue.

The majority of families enrolled pay nothing at all; others may pay premiums that range from \$15 to \$159 per month. Children receive coverage under the program's four components - MediKids, Children's Medical Services Network, Healthy Kids and Children's Medicaid.

To date, approximately 1.6 million children are enrolled and the program is open to accept thousands more. In the last two months alone, 50,000 previously uninsured children began receiving preventive care such as regular doctor visits, immunizations, dental check-ups and prescriptions through Florida KidCare.

It's now even easier for families to access Florida KidCare benefits through a more streamlined enrollment process. An increase in funding will also expand the program to cover more children, helping to make sure no child in Florida goes without health insurance.

To continue toward this goal, the Governor's Office and six state agencies are working with dozens of community and business partners to implement a statewide push to reach families with uninsured children. Okeechobee County School District is actively involved in this effort, providing resources and manpower to get families enrolled in Florida KidCare.

Families can apply for Florida KidCare online at www.floridakidcare.org or by calling 1-888-540-5437 to receive an application by mail.

Florida KidCare Application Information Families are encouraged to apply online at www.floridakidcare.org

Enrollment applications can be downloaded off the Internet at: <http://floridakidcare.org/print-application.html>

Families can also call 1-888-540-KIDS (1-888-540-5437) to receive the enrollment application by mail:

To complete your application, you will need to have your most recent federal income tax return, wages and earnings statements OR your last four weeks pay stubs.

You can check the status of your application and make a payment at www.floridakidcare.org

To submit an application you can: Apply online at: www.floridakidcare.org. Mail it to: Florida KidCare P.O. Box 980 Tallahassee, Fla. 32302-0980 or Fax it to: 1-866-867-0054

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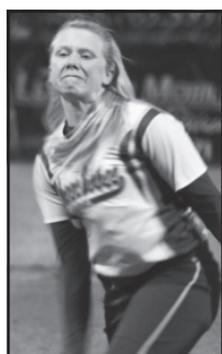
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Girls softball holds off Lincoln Park

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee High School's softball team improved to (7-0 overall and 3-1 in district) with a 7-5 victory over Lincoln Park at a frigid Brahmaan field Thursday night.



Samantha Harrell releases a pitch during the second inning of the game.

It was a back and forth game as Lincoln Park held two leads in the game, 1-0 in the second and 3-2 in the fifth. Brahmaan Coach Kim Hargraves said her team continues to make silly mistakes, and she has been surprised that it has been veterans making the miscues. "Some of the older girls aren't doing the things they should

be doing. They are making horrible mistakes on routine plays. Some of them have gotten too comfortable. I'm not the one who will sit around and let them make mistakes over and over. I'll put in some of the younger girls who are hungry."

Okeechobee trailed 1-0 until the bottom of the third when they scratched across two runs. Key hits included a single by Sarah Davis and RBI singles by Ashtyn Brown and Victoria Blevins. Lincoln Park went back on top in the fifth thanks to a walk and two singles against Brahmaan starter Samantha Harrell who was battling an ankle injury. She still pitched five solid innings.

Okeechobee went ahead for good with two runs in the fifth thanks to three walks and a two run double by Courtney Wilson.

Okeechobee padded the lead with three runs in the sixth as Davis singled, Brown had an RBI single and LeAnna Cotton had an RBI double. LPA made it interesting in the seventh as the Brahmans dropped a fly ball

that might have ended the game. Two runs scored on the play. Katarina Suarez was able to get the final out on an infield pop fly to end the game. Coach Hargraves said she isn't afraid to use her bench if the outfield play continues to struggle. "You want to be relaxed as a ball player but when you miss balls hit right to you, I have an issue with that." Hargraves said LPA is an improved team that always fights to the bitter end.

The Brahmaan JV hosted a tournament Saturday at the High school. The JV has played well this week with big wins over South Fork 17-0, and Lincoln Park 16-2.

Softball team defeats South Fork

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee High School managed a 5-2 win over South Fork at home Wednesday but weren't that impressive as they struggled at the plate and in the field.

Coach Kim Hargraves said her team did just enough to win. "Unfortunately, I don't think we played a typical Okeechobee softball game. The girls did what was needed but that's about it." Hargraves was not happy with the defense as she noted the girls made a number of errors which hasn't been the case for much of this season. She challenged them to have a better attitude for future games. She noted the team had beaten South Fork 10-0 earlier in the year and that might have been a factor in the rematch. "It's a young group of girls. I think they were more relaxed tonight. To me I would have liked a bigger margin and a bigger mercy rule. That's the mentality the girls should have. When you have a team down and the knife in you've got to twist it." Hargraves said the girls need to remember that you don't let up and say we have a few runs on the board let it go. She said the killer instinct is something the team needs to work on to make it further in the post season this year.

Katarina Suarez was solid on the mound for Okeechobee, (6-1). She allowed five hits and

struck out six. At the plate LeAnna Cotton hit a home run in the second inning. Naomi Stephens had two hits. Suarez was able to work herself out of some jams. After she allowed two runs in the third to see the game tied, she wiggled out of a two on two out jam in the fifth. Ashtyn Brown scored on a throwing error in the fifth as the Brahmans put two runs on the board. Courtney Wilson scored on an RBI ground out by Megan Clements to finish the scoring. Clements also made a diving stop with the tying run at the plate in the seventh inning.

South Fork fell to (2-4) on the year. The varsity team's next home game is Thursday, March 18, against Fort Pierce Central.



Okeechobee News/ Charles Murphy Katarina Suarez pitched well in the Okeechobee win over South Fork Wednesday.

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Girls tennis team shutout by LPA

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee High School's girls tennis team ran up against a talented Lady Greyhound tennis squad Thursday and fell at home 8-0.

Okeechobee played mostly competitive matches but were unable to break through against Lincoln Park, 5-1.

Michelle Sabado and Samantha Rivero of Okeechobee squared off in a match among USTA players and they slugged away at each other for almost 90 minutes before Sabado prevailed 8-4. Nidhi Patel defeated Katherine Ragamat of Okeechobee 8-1 in the second seed match. LeeAndrea Jones defeated Jenna Rath in the third match, 8-4. Allison Gosney defeated Liz Turner at number four, 8-3. Kaylie Eible finished off the sweep with an 8-2 win over Vanessa Watt.

In doubles play, Abby Dixon and Neha

Reddy defeated the team of Ragamat and Turner 8-4. Kailey McGarity and Jennifer Gosney teamed up to defeat Rath and Watt 8-4.

Liz Turner battled Allison Gosney in an entertaining singles match. The two played a lot of long rallies and Turner trailed only 3-2 midway through the pro set.

"I think the match went pretty well. I still have things to work on. She was really good but I was good too. She just won today," Turner said.

Turner said Gosney was good at covering the court and made her run. Turner said the wind was tough for both players. "I continue to work on my game during the weekend. I need to improve my serve and volleys. I think my season is going pretty well."

Rath, who began to play tennis four years ago with Rivero, said her opponent hit the ball hard and kept her off balance.

"I made a lot of unforced errors. She hit with a lot of power. If I floated a shot she just took it," she added.

Rath trailed only 4-3 midway through the set as she made a number of nice shots. Her opponent did have a few double faults on serve.

"I made more errors down the stretch. I should have hit with less power at times," she added.

This was the first time Rath played as the number 3 seed. Okeechobee missed two of their starters, Heather Lanning, who is nursing a shoulder injury, and senior Katie Walker.

"It was fun and I love tennis now. I hope to make it top number 3. It's a lot tougher match than the number 5 matches," she added.

The girls tennis team travels to Fort Pierce Central next Thursday. The teams next home match is Thursday, March 18, against Sebring.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Jenna Rath played a competitive match against LPA.

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

Boys tennis team shutout by Greyhounds

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

It was a long afternoon for the Okeechobee High School Brahmins boys tennis team as they were walloped by the Greyhounds of Lincoln Park on their home court, 8-0, on Thursday.

Zach Fowler, Max Norman and Jonathan Hudoff all lost their matches by shutout, 8-0. Austin Willard and Chris Wegmann managed to win one game.

LPA also swept the doubles. Willard and Hudoff were defeated for the first time this year as they fell to Kethan Rao and Andrew Blair 8-4.

Lincoln Park (5-1) has a number of USTA players. Rohan Reddy, their top seed, looked good as he dismantled Fowler in a quick match.

Brahman Coach Bryan Van Camp said he is impressed with the improvement his team has made despite Thursdays results. He praised Wegmann for improvement and being much more competitive in his matches.

"Lincoln Park is a very deep and talented

team. The boys competed to the best of their ability but we were over matched," he added. Van Camp said the team is still gaining valuable experience by playing a tough non district schedule this year.

The boys tennis team travels to Fort Pierce Central next Thursday, March 11.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
vMax Norman and the boys team had a rough afternoon against LPA Thursday.

Track team ready for successful season

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee Track coaches Derek Stewart and Jenna Shook have been working for a couple of weeks with a large contingent of athletes who comprise the Brahman track team.

The team has a number of returners which has made it easy for the coaching staff to get the team ready.

"We have some people coming back in key spots. It is good to have experienced people," Stewart said.

The team appears strong in long distance runners on the boys side with cross country runners like Adrian Leon, Shawn Horvath and Lionel Jones, and also return state qualifier Ricky Nieto in the high jump. Kyle McGee should do a solid job in the field events that include the shot put and the discus.

"Were excited. The number of kids has increased this year. It seems like there is more interest. We have some football players that will compete," he noted.

The girls team also has a number of veterans as seniors Monica Koger and

Markeisha Youmans return along with Calandra Youmans. Janezzka Koger will also help in sprint races.

Other athletes to watch include Alonzo Coleman, Deforest Shanks, and Jesse Thomas in the running events. Tyronte Files and Mike Minondo will help out in the 4X100 meters.

The 4x400 relay team includes Lionel Jones, Shanks, Roger Dugue and Marcos Fonseca. The girls 4x100 relay team includes Koger, the Youmans sisters and Esence Williams, a newcomer to track.

The girls 4x400 relay team includes Koger, Markeisha and Calandra Youmans and Keighly Stewart. Koger will also compete in the long jump. The Youmans specialty is the 200 meters. Janezzka Koger will compete in the 100 and 200 meters.

Stewart said the area that might need some work is the sprint teams. He said there are a lot of newcomers in those races. Stewart said the community has been a great help to the track team. They were able to purchase new hurdles this year. They also hope to host a track meet or two next year. There are no meets scheduled for Okeechobee this year.

Okeechobee Cancer Center

Board Certified Radiation Oncologists

Alan S. Krimsley, M.D.



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

Ronald H. Woody, M.D.



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

CyberKnife™ Robotic Radiation Surgery Now Available!

Our State-of-the-Art Treatments Include:

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

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

New Patients Welcome

Serving Treasure Coast & Okeechobee

Lawnwood Cancer Center 1231 N. Lawnwood Circle Ft. Pierce, FL (772) 464-8121	Mid-Florida Cancer Center 604 W. Midway Road White City, FL (772) 468-3222	Okeechobee Cancer Center 301 NE 19th Drive Okeechobee, FL (863) 357-0039	Pt. St. Lucie Cancer Center 1780 SE Hillmoor Dr. Port St. Lucie, FL (772) 335-2115
--	--	--	--

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

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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>

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AUCTION

Thursday • March 18th • 4 p.m.

4 Oak Tree Place Condo's
&

1 Ancient Oaks RV Park Unit

Auction Location: Oak Tree Place, 2355 SW 28th Street
Okeechobee, Florida



OAK TREE PLACE

4 Units:

- 70A - 1 Bedroom - leased \$595 (8/01/10)
- 70C - 2 Bedroom - townhouse - vacant
- 70H - 1 Bedroom - leased \$595 (9/01/10)
- 40G - 1 Bedroom - leased \$595 (2/01/11)

All units recently updated to new

2355 SW 28th Street

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ANCIENT OAKS RV RESORT

RV Unit #111, Lot 7, Block 19

- 1 Bedroom Mobile Home
- Screened Florida Room
- Double Carport
- Leased \$550 monthly until 8/01/10

6657 SE 51st Lane



To be sold
from
OAK TREE
PLACE

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- ✓ An active 55+ community
- ✓ Membership in Condominium Association req'd - \$100 monthly association fee
- ✓ Many recreational facilities - Country Store, rec building, heated swimming pool & spa, laundry facilities, shuffleboard courts, horseshoe pits, and boat basin w/ boat docks
- ✓ Lake Okeechobee access by boat
- ✓ Gated entrance

- ✓ All units have recently refurbished to "like new"
- ✓ New appliances, plumbing, flooring and kitchens
- ✓ Central AC/heat
- ✓ CBS 1st floor, stucco on frame 2nd floor
- ✓ New roofs
- ✓ Vacant unit ready to lease or move in
- ✓ Leased units - earn good income
- ✓ Centrally located
- ✓ HOA membership req'd - \$145 monthly plus annual insurance billing

TERMS: **NO MINIMUM!** • All units sell without reserve! • 10% buyer's premium • Cash to bid
Seller Financing Available!

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Karlin Daniel & Associates, Inc.

Lic R.E. Broker • AB878AU1207

Call for More Information

800-329-0036 Ext 103

www.karлиндaniel.com



Announcements

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

For more listings,
go to
www.newszap.com

Lost

Lost Dog - Yellow Cur;
vicinity of Country
Hills of Okeechobee,
Answers to Jack,
Family Pet Please
Call Jay or Nicole at
(321) 863 -0915
or(352) 494-0108

Lost Dog Small white
poodle mix; vicinity of
NE section of Okeecho-
bee. very friendly; an-
swers to Sissy. Call Bill
863-763-3728.

Garage/ Yard Sales

OKEECHOBEE - 470 SW
87th Terrace, Fri-Sat
March 12th-13th,
8am-2pm. North Lake
Country Estates, Oak
Furniture, Electronics,
Glassware, Home Gym,
Clothes, More, 4 Family
Sale!

Garage/ Yard Sales

1799 S. PARROTT AVE.
STORAGE STALLS
398-403 - Behind Bran-
tley's Junk Yard, Sun.
3/7 10am-3pm, . Huge
Yard Sale!!! Too much
to miss... Tools, Furni-
ture, Mattresses,
Clothes, Small Kitchen
Appliances, Electronics,
Home and Car Audio
and much, much
more...



Employment

For more listings,
go to
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 ex-
perience required. Call
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Employment Medical

HEALTHCARE SPECIALIST

Lincare, leading nation-
al respiratory company
seeks Healthcare Spe-
cialist. Responsibilities:
Disease Management
Program, clinical
evaluations, equipment
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the doctor's eyes in the
home setting. RN, RRT,
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cable. Great personality
with strong work ethic
needed. Competitive
salary, benefits & car-
eer paths. Drug Free
Workplace, EOE. Please
fax resume to Angel,
863-763-5191 or call
863-763-7337



Financial

For more listings,
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Business Opportunities

NOTICE

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

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



Services

For more listings,
go to
www.newszap.com

Boating

For Sale: 1985 16 ft. fi-
berglass boat w/20 hp
Mercury, runs great
w/trailer. \$500 obo
863-447-5221.

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

Excavation

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



Merchandise

For more listings,
go to
www.newszap.com

Building Materials

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



Rentals

For more listings,
go to
www.newszap.com

Apartments

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

VIKING/PRAIRIE Effi-
ciency. 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

Houses - Rent

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

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

Houses - Rent

BUCKHEAD RIDGE - Waterfront, furnished, unique 2 story, small private apt., or mobile home, no pets, background check, 1 person only, \$475/mo (863)763-6086

Land - Rent

NEW - 1/1 MH on 2 acres w/10x25' storage, fenced, private \$600 mo (863)467-6472

Office Space Rent

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT (863)763-8565



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

Houses - Sale

CBS - 4/2 + mother-in-law, like new cond., in ground pool, 20x30 steel shed, fenced, .48 acres, city water & sewer \$138,500 (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.newsap.com

Mobile Home Rent

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

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

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

COUNTRY LIVING

2br, 1ba, single wide MH, on 1.5 acres, 12 mi N of high school. \$650/mo, lawn maint incld., 1st & Last, deposit neg. (863)467-2563 or (863)447-2172

Mobile Home Rent

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

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

Mobile Home Sale

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

For Sale: Park Model w/Fla. Room in Blue Cypress. Includes the lot. Reduced \$45,000 or obo. Call 863-532-9222 or 863-610-0218.

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

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

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



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

Boats

For Sale airboat 12 Ft. Aluminum hull w/trailer, home built, 210 hp Franklin engine. \$3400 obo 863-699-2971.

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

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.

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.newsap.com

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2009 CA 797
DIVISION: Civil Division

LIVE OAK TRUST, INC., A Florida Corporation Plaintiff

v. SAUL A. GUSTAMA AND DANIELLE BERNARD Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: SAUL A. GUSTAMA 1299 E. 93RD STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11236

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

The E1/2 of the E1/2 of the N1/2 of the N1/2 of Tract 32 Section 26 all in Township 34 South, Range 33 East, Okeechobee County, Florida, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 3 A-D, inclusive of the Okeechobee County Public Records. Strap Number(s): 1-26-34-33-0A00-0032-A000

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

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on 2/23/2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON Clerk of the Court

By: Arlene Nealis As Deputy Clerk

MOODY, JONES, INGINO & MOREHEAD, P.A. Attorneys for Plaintiff 1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201 Plantation FL 33324 (954) 473-6605

KENNETH M. JONES Florida Bar No. 142618 347421 ON 2/28;3/7/10

IN THE CIRCUIT OF THE 19th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY Case #2009 CA 000831

BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP f/k/a Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, L.P., Plaintiff,

-vs- Stephanie N. Smith; Unknown Parties in Possession #1; Unknown Parties in Possession #2; If living, and all Unknown Parties claiming by, through, under and against the above named Defendant(s) who are not known to be dead or alive, whether said Unknown Parties may claim an interest as Spouse, Heirs, Devisees, Grantees, or Other Claimants Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF ACTION FORECLOSURE PROCEEDINGS-PROPERTY

TO: **Stephanie N. Smith** Residence unknown, if living, including any unknown spouse of the said Defendants, if either has remarried and if either or both of said Defendants are dead, their respective unknown heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, creditors, lienors, and trustees, and all other persons claiming by, through, under or against the named Defendant(s); and the aforementioned named Defendant(s) and such of the aforementioned unknown Defendants and such of the aforementioned unknown Defendants as may be infants, incompetents or otherwise not sui juris.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action has been commenced to foreclose a mortgage on the following real property, lying and being and situated in Okeechobee County, Florida, more particularly described as follows:
LOT 25, BLOCK 57, BASSWOOD UNIT 5, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED

Public Notice

IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 51, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA. more commonly known as **3758 Northwest 36th Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972.**

This action has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defense, if any, upon SHAPIRO & FISHMAN, LLP, Attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is 2424 North Federal Highway, Suite 360, Boca Raton, Florida 33431, within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this notice and file the original with the clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on the 1st day of March, 2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON Circuit and County Courts

BY: Linda F. Young Deputy Clerk

348069 ON 3/7,14/10

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2009 CA 797
DIVISION: Civil Division

LIVE OAK TRUST, INC., A Florida Corporation Plaintiff

v. SAUL A. GUSTAMA AND DANIELLE BERNARD Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: DANIELLE BERNARD 1299 E. 93RD STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11236

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

The E1/2 of the E1/2 of the N1/2 of the N1/2 of Tract 32 Section 26 all in Township 34 South, Range 33 East, Okeechobee County, Florida, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 3 A-D, inclusive of the Okeechobee County Public Records. Strap Number(s): 1-26-34-33-0A00-0032-A000

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

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on 2/23/2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON Clerk of the Court

By: Arlene Nealis As Deputy Clerk

MOODY, JONES, INGINO & MOREHEAD, P.A. Attorneys for Plaintiff 1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201 Plantation Florida 33324 (954) 473-6605

KENNETH M. JONES Florida Bar No. 142618 347409 ON 2/28;3/7/10

IN THE FAMILY COURT EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT 2010-DR-01

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ABBEVILLE

SUMMONS

South Carolina Department of Social Services, Plaintiff,

vs. Tusha Jacobs Alan C. Foley Defendants

In the interests of: Lovie Jacobs DOB: 11/21/96 Elaine Jacobs DOB: 01/07/98 Minors under the age of 18.

TO: ALAN C. FOLEY, DEFENDANT

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the complaint for termination of your parental rights in and to the minor child(ren) in this action, the original of which has been filed in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Abbeville County, a copy of which will be delivered to you upon request; and to serve a copy of your answer to the complaint upon the

Public Notice

undersigned attorney for the plaintiff at 105 W. Pinckney St. Abbeville, SC 29620 within thirty (30) days following the date of service upon you, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the complaint within the time stated, the plaintiff will proceed to seek to terminate your parental rights to the above-captioned child

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that you have the right to request the appointment of an attorney to represent you, should you be unable to afford an attorney. If you are financially unable to afford legal counsel, then you should apply to the Clerk of Court for the appointment of counsel to represent you, upon proper showing of indigency. YOU MUST APPLY FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF AN ATTORNEY NO LATER THAN THIRTY DAYS AFTER YOU RECEIVE THESE PLEADINGS. IF YOU DO NOT APPLY FOR AN ATTORNEY WITHIN THIS THIRTY DAY PERIOD, AN ATTORNEY WILL NOT BE APPOINTED FOR YOU.

Name: R. Eugene Pruitt, Jr. Attorney for Plaintiff 105 W. Pinckney St. Abbeville, SC 29620 864-366-8900 Fax: 864-366-8902 S.C. Bar No. 4590 Abbeville, South Carolina February 23, 2010 347399 ON 2/28;3/7,14/10

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2009 CA 796
DIVISION: Civil Division

LIVE OAK TRUST, INC., A Florida Corporation Plaintiff

v. SAUL A. GUSTAMA AND DANIELLE BERNARD Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: DANIELLE BERNARD 1299 E. 93RD STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11236

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

The E1/2 of the E1/2 of the S1/2 of the S1/2 of Tract 21 Section 25 all in Township 34 South, Range 33 East, Okeechobee County, Florida, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 3 A-D, inclusive of the Okeechobee County Public Records. Strap Number(s): 1-25-34-33-0A00-00021-P000

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

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on 2/23/2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON Clerk of the Court

By: Arlene Nealis As Deputy Clerk

MOODY, JONES, INGINO & MOREHEAD, P.A. Attorneys for Plaintiff 1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201 Plantation FL 33324 (954) 473-6605

KENNETH M. JONES Florida Bar No. 142618 347425 ON 2/28;3/7/10

It's never too late to find the perfect gift. Look for it in the classifieds.

When you want something sold, advertise in the classifieds.

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

Love the earth Recycle your used items in the classifieds.

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2009 CA 795
DIVISION: Civil Division

LIVE OAK TRUST, INC., A Florida Corporation Plaintiff

v. SAUL A. GUSTAMA AND DANIELLE BERNARD Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: SAUL A. GUSTAMA 1299 E. 93RD STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11236

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

The W1/2 of the E1/2 of the N1/2 of the S1/2 of Tract 7 Section 25 subject to an easement of the North 30 feet thereof for road and drainage purposes all in Township 34 South, Range 33 East, Okeechobee County, Florida, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 3 A-D, inclusive of the Okeechobee County Public Records. Strap Number(s): 1-25-34-33-0A00-00007-J000

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

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on Feb. 23, 2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON Clerk of the Court

By: Arlene Nealis As Deputy Clerk

MOODY, JONES, INGINO & MOREHEAD, P.A. Attorneys for Plaintiff 1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201 Plantation FL 33324 (954) 473-6605

KENNETH M. JONES Florida Bar No. 142618 347359 ON 2/28;3/7/10

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2009 CA 795
DIVISION: Civil Division

LIVE OAK TRUST, INC., A Florida Corporation Plaintiff

v. SAUL A. GUSTAMA AND DANIELLE BERNARD Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: DANIELLE BERNARD 1299 E. 93RD STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11236

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

The W1/2 of the E1/2 of the N1/2 of the S1/2 of Tract 7 Section 25 subject to an easement of the North 30 feet thereof for road and drainage purposes all in Township 34 South, Range 33 East, Okeechobee County, Florida, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 3 A-D, inclusive of the Okeechobee County Public Records. Strap Number(s): 1-25-34-33-0A00-0007-J000

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

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on 2/23/2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON Clerk of the Court

By: Arlene Nealis As Deputy Clerk

MOODY, JONES, INGINO & MOREHEAD, P.A. Attorneys for Plaintiff 1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201 Plantation FL 33324 (954) 473-6605

KENNETH M. JONES Florida Bar No. 142618 347258 ON 2/28;3/7/10

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2009 CA 796
DIVISION: Civil Division

LIVE OAK TRUST, INC., A Florida Corporation Plaintiff

v. SAUL A. GUSTAMA AND DANIELLE BERNARD Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: SAUL A. GUSTAMA 1299 E. 93RD STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11236

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

The E1/2 of the E1/2 of the S1/2 of the S1/2 of Tract 21 Section 25 all in Township 34 South, Range 33 East, Okeechobee County, Florida, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 3 A-D, inclusive of the Okeechobee County Public Records. Strap Number(s): 1-25-34-33-0A00-00021-P000

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

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on 2/23/2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON Clerk of the Court

By: Arlene Nealis As Deputy Clerk

MOODY, JONES, INGINO & MOREHEAD, P.A. Attorneys for Plaintiff 1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201 Plantation, FL 33324 (954) 473-6605

KENNETH M. JONES Florida Bar No. 142618 347428 ON 2/28;3/7/10

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

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!

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

OHS girls flag football team enthusiastic and optimistic

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

There are a lot of new faces on the flag football practice field this year which include new coaches, Bruce Jahner and Todd Jones, and about 40 new players.

Coaches Jahner and Jones agreed to take over the program this spring in addition to the programs they already have done excellent work with, wrestling and volleyball. School officials hope these veteran coaches will have the same magic touch with the struggling flag football program.

"It's been a lot of fun so far," Jahner said. "The girls always come to practice in a good mood. Every day they are excited for practice and even like to run and condition. Nobody is down on this field."

Jahner has been greeted by less than ideal weather in the first week of practice. He said they have 40 girls at practice and will have both a junior varsity and varsity program. The team did not win a game last year and won just one game in the 2007-2008 season.

Jahner said that should not make the team feel they shouldn't strive to win. "Why not? The girls are working hard, everybody puts in a great effort and they are really going to go after it. They want to win as much as anybody, so why not?"

Jahner said flag football is a lot different than regular tackle football. He said he and the girls are actually learning the game together. He recently gave the girls a written test to improve their knowledge and understanding of the rules and the policies of the game.

"Learning the game is the biggest thing. If we have a better understanding of the game I think we'll produce a bit better," he added.

"It's not just handing the ball to the girls and letting them run with it, there's a lot to this game," he said.

Jahner said there are a lot of good athletes on the team but none of the girls have separated themselves from the rest at this point. He said there is a lot of competition for starting positions.

"There are a bunch of go getters on this team. They are pretty aggressive. I think some of them could compete with the boys football team," he quipped.

The team will have six games on their schedule this year and three home games. Teams in their district include Royal Palm Beach, Glades Central, Pahokee, Seminole Ridge, and Wellington.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Ali Nunez runs up the field as Kelsey Hammack reaches for her flag during a recent girls flag football practice.

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and whipped cream
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