

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 101 No. 49

Friday, April 23, 2010

50¢ Plus tax

County audit shows declining revenues

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

A recent audit revealed that the county needs to change some accounting procedures.

The Thursday, April 22 meeting of the Okeechobee County Commission was short for the second week in a row with the budget warning being the most significant topic.

Julie Fowler of The NCT Group presented an overview of the audit her firm conducted on financial practices for the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, 2009. She stated that the county used generally accepted financial practices and that the county received the desired "clean and qualified audit." However, she did caution against some unacceptable practices which could cause problems later on if not corrected.

Over the last five years she stated that there has been a downward trend of revenues and expenditures. However the trend showed revenues going down

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**Wild horses:
Mustangs sold at auction
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OCI guards find stashed cell phones

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

Alert and proactive corrections officers at the Okeechobee Correctional Institute (OCI) apparently halted yet-to-be-determined plans of inmates when they found 28 cell phones and chargers.

OCI Corrections Officer Walter McHargue III and Corrections Officer Joe Gaucin found the phones about 100 yards from the prison's main entrance. The phones were wrapped in electrical tape, placed in sealable plastic sandwich bags, then put into a plastic shopping bag.

"It was quite a find," said Paula Bryant, a public information specialist with the Florida Department of Corrections (DOC). "Cell phones in a prison are a serious problem. They can be sold or bartered—any way that can benefit the person."

DOC Secretary Walter McNeil said cell phones also pose a threat to prison security.

"They're used by inmates to coordinate escape attempts, intimidate witnesses, introduce con-

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Lake Levels

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Fun Day raises money for local YMCA plans ... Page 5



Got milk? NBA Star Anderson visits OHS to talk about healthy eating ... Page 11

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COUNTY

Continued From Page 1

faster than expenditures. Fund balances have also gone down. Standard accounting practices call for fund balances to be greater than two months of operating expenses. As of September 30, 2009, Ms. Fowler said there was less than one month of operating expenses held in reserve in some accounts.

The audit revealed that last year the county was dipping into reserves for operating expenses - not a recommended accounting procedure.

However, Ms. Fowler added: "We feel you are headed in the right direction."

The county has enacted a "floor" on reserves and adopted a policy that would require a four fifth-majority to go below the reserve floor and would require a repayment plan.

"It's not a financial emergency," she said. "It's a financial condition for concern."

The audit recommended that additional monitoring be placed on the emergency medical system bill collecting process.

"We are chasing expenditures with revenues we don't have," commented Okeechobee County Administrator Lyndon Bonner.

"We did make improvements," Mr. Bonner added. "I'm pleased with the audit overall. It could have been a lot worse."

"I think it is urgent," Commissioner Ray Domer said of the financial situation.

Deputy County Administrator Robbie Chartier stated that for the month of March, revenues exceeded expenditures.

On the recommendation of Okeechobee County Fire/Rescue Chief Nick Hopkins, the board accepted a FEMA Assistance to Fire-

fighters Grant in the amount of \$176,400. Chief Hopkins said the grant would be used to purchase an ionic device for disinfecting the ambulances, radio headsets for the ambulances and fire trucks and a computer based tracking system that would allow the safety officer to track all firefighters inside a burning building. This is a 10 percent matching grant with the county's share being \$17,640. Chief Hopkins said this grant was unanticipated and that he had already budgeted \$28,000 to purchase headsets to go with the new radio system. The good news is that these budgeted funds can be used toward the county's portion of the grant and no additional funds would have to be appropriated.

Turning to another item, the board approved receipt of a Federal Aviation Administration Grant of \$78,600 for relocation and replacement of the rotating beacon at the Okeechobee County Airport. This is a match grant with the Florida Department of Transportation and the county each paying two and a half percent. The contract was awarded to ITRAN Partners, Inc. of Naples.

In other action, the board:

- delayed until next meeting adoption of a resolution honoring Judge William Hendry since the judge was not present;

- approved expenditure of \$25,000 in emergency medical service grant funds for two sets of Champion Rescue Tools for emergency medical services;

- granted a request from Chaka Smith to use the Douglas Park Auditorium for a summer camp for eight weeks for \$2,200; and

- declined to declare a particular county owned property in Viking as surplus but directed staff to propose a policy dealing with county owned property in Viking.

specions of items both inside and outside prison grounds that may look innocent, but may contain contraband. Examples of these 'innocent' items include empty drink containers, fast food restaurant bags and other debris.

Ms. Bryant also said that the Department of Inspector General office has two dogs that are trained specifically to locate cell phones.

In fiscal year 2008-09, 1,018 cell phones and 297 chargers were found and seized in Florida prisons. Many times these phones are found by one of the DOC's eight drug detecting canine teams since drugs and phones are often hidden together.

On Oct. 1, 2008, it became a third-degree felony to smuggle cell phones or similar portable communications devices into a state prison. A third-degree felony is punishable by up to five years in prison.

Ms. Bryant said it's not known how the phones were going to be smuggled into the OCI facility, but since they were wrapped in electrical tape, it's possible they were going to be hidden in a body cavity.

She went on to say that the incident is currently under investigation by the inspector general's office.

PRISON

Continued From Page 1

traband like drugs and weapons into the prison and engage in numerous other illegal activities," he said.

Ms. Bryant said no drugs were found with the phones, which were located just outside the prison grounds.

Officer McHargue, who has worked at OCI since January of 1999, became curious when an inmate on his work crew twice asked if he could mow a particular area behind the OCI warehouse.

Officer McHargue and Officer Gaucin, who has been with OCI since September of 2001, then searched the area behind the warehouse and found the phones.

"We don't know how long they had been there, but they had been exposed to the elements," said Ms. Bryant.

While she didn't know what type of phones were found, Ms. Bryant said they are normally "drop" phones which can be purchased at nearly any convenience store.

DOC staff is trained to perform daily in-

April 23, 2010

Attention Riverside National Bank of Florida Customers:

At the close of business on Friday, April 16, 2010, TD Bank, N.A. entered into an agreement with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) to acquire certain assets and liabilities of Riverside National Bank of Florida. This means that TD Bank now stands behind the deposits of Riverside National Bank of Florida Customers, and going forward, we will conduct Riverside's day-to-day operations. As former Riverside National Bank of Florida Customers, you are now Customers of TD Bank. Your deposits are safe, sound and readily accessible. You can continue to conduct your banking exactly as you did with Riverside National Bank of Florida. At this time, your account numbers will remain the same. You can continue using your existing checks, ATM and debit cards, and online banking. You DO NOT have to take any action to transfer your account to TD Bank, and the FDIC insurance remains in effect. If you already have deposit accounts with TD Bank, your new deposits are separately insured by the FDIC for at least six months from April 16, 2010. This grace period gives you time to restructure your accounts if necessary. You can negotiate rates or terms, or withdraw funds from your deposits without penalty until you enter a new agreement with TD Bank, provided you are not using your deposits to secure a loan. TD Bank participates in the FDIC's Transaction Account Guarantee Program which means that through December 31, 2010, all TD Bank Customers' non-interest-bearing transaction accounts are fully guaranteed by the FDIC for the entire amount in the account. Coverage under the Transaction Account Guarantee Program is in addition to and separate from the \$250,000 coverage available under the FDIC's general deposit insurance rules. As a deposit Customer, you will receive a letter via U.S. Mail, sent April 23, 2010, which will include procedures for how to claim your deposits in a "Notice to Depositors" and "Notice of Changes to your Interest Bearing Accounts" as well as notification of any interest rate changes. Your existing interest rates will be in effect until April 23, 2010.

TD Bank will be reviewing the Riverside National Bank of Florida accounts over the next few months and Customers will be notified in advance of changes. In the meantime, if you have questions or need additional information, please stop by, call 1-888-751-9000, or visit www.riversidenb.com

Victor Elliot to present program on Orchids

The Okeechobee Orchid Club will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 26, at the Extension Office, 458 Highway 98 N. Local grower Victor Elliott will present a program on Caring for Orchids in the Spring. He will also bring orchids to sell. The Garden Club will meet beforehand at 6 p.m. For more information please call extension at 863-763-6469.

Vero Beach man killed in crash

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

An investigation into the cause of a single-car fatality accident early Tuesday on U.S. 98 N. is continuing, indicated an Okeechobee

County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) report. Steven Scott Hill, 46, of Vero Beach, was killed when he apparently lost control of the 1996 Nissan Maxima he was driving. He was pronounced dead at the scene by emergency medical personnel, indicated a report by

OCSO Deputy Adrian Rogers. Mr. Hill was the only person in the car, and no other vehicles were involved.

Deputy Rogers stated that Mr. Hill was northbound on U.S. 98 N. around 4:44 a.m. when, for reasons unknown, he ran off the road then over-corrected. The over-correction caused the vehicle to spin around until it slid into a mailbox and into a ditch where it then became airborne.

The car then struck a telephone service box, a fence and then a pine tree.

According to Deputy Rogers, his investigation into the cause of the accident will remain open until he receives the autopsy result and the toxicology report.

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Submitted photo/Okeechobee City Police Department

Officers named employees of the year

Okeechobee City Police Chief Denny Davis (center) recently announced that dispatcher Aurelio Almazan (left) and Officer Scott Morgan (right) had been named as employees of the year at the Okeechobee City Police Department. They were honored for "their hard work and dedication," said Chief Davis.

Okeechobee Arrest Report

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

- Steven Allen Albritton, 20, N.W. 84th Court, Okeechobee, was arrested April 12 by Detective Rick Durfee on a charge of dealing in stolen property. His bond was set at \$2,500.

- Evelyn Carbrera, 49, U.S. 98 N., Okeechobee, was arrested April 20 by Detective Rick Durfee on felony charges of possession of a controlled substance and driving while license suspended/revoked with knowledge - habitual offender. She was also arrested on misdemeanor charges of possession of a legend drug without a pre-

scription and possession of a drug not in a prescription bottle (two counts). Her bond was set at \$5,500.

- Benjamin M. Britnell, 22, S.E. 38th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested April 21 by Officer Charles Green on a charge of driving while license suspended - habitual offender. His bond was set at \$3,000.

- Wayne Powell Woodham II, 30, N.W. Sixth St., Okeechobee, was arrested April 22 by Deputy Thomas Kitchen on a felony charge of leaving the scene of an accident with property damage. He was also arrested on a misdemeanor charge of driving under the influence. His bond was set at \$1,000.

This column lists arrests and not convictions, unless otherwise stated. Anyone listed here who is later found innocent or has had the charges against them dropped is welcome to inform this newspaper. The information will be confirmed and printed.

We are pleased to announce that **Ms. Penny Revels** and **Ms. Deanna Hardin** are the winners of the naming contest for Okeechobee's own assisted living community.

The Heritage reflects our commitment to our community.

We welcome everyone to **Chamber of Commerce Koffee Klatch** on **April 22nd at 8 AM** where representatives will be available to answer questions. **We also invite you to the official ground breaking ceremony** at the site on **608 NE Second Avenue, at 12 noon on April 30th 2010**. For further information, please contact **Lou O'Bannon** at **(863) 697-3813 cell** or **863-467-7865**. Refreshments will be served at both occasions.



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Public Forum/Speak Out

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

Raccoons

• If you live in the Lazy 7 or Sunset Air-strip area, be aware that there are raccoons on the prowl in the area. They look cute, but they can create a lot of mess and they can also carry disease. You can discourage raccoons and other wild animals from coming into your yard by making sure you do not leave anything out that will attract them. Do not leave dog or cat food out at night. Empty the pet dishes or take them inside. Use garbage cans with locking lids. Do not put out garbage in bags or open cans. Raccoons will rip right through plastic bags and they can easily knock over or climb into an open garbage can. If you store pet food in a garage or shed, put it in an airtight container with a locking lid. A raccoon's sharp claws will rip open a paper bag of pet food. Also make sure all of your pets are up to date on their vaccinations, as they might come in contact with a wild animal that could carry disease.

Pain clinics

• Pain clinics are a joke. People "doctor shop" and get several prescriptions of different things and die of overdose.
• Every pain management clinic should test their patients prior to another prescription is written. There should be no reason why a doctor does not drug test his patients on a monthly basis.

Locks closing

• Anybody else wonder why all of the locks on this end of the lake have to be closed for repair at the same time? Last year they were closed just after the end of speck season because of low water and did not re-open until the start of the season, when all of our northern friends began showing up. Now I read in the paper on Sunday, April 18, that the locks at J&S-Henry Creek and Lake Port will be closed until December 2010. There is no way the maintenance crews will be able to work on all at the same time. The people that live here year round should be able to

have access through at least one of the locks. Am I the only one upset about this closure? To be denied the use of these locks until next December is completely wrong. I understand that repair work is necessary, but not all at the same time.

Hurricane tips

• Hurricane season starts June 1. Some tips: Get the trees cut, Trim up anything near the house so it does not blow around, slap and break windows. Maybe this is the year to purchase HURRICANE SHUTTERS for at least some of the windows. Remember that there are all kinds of gizmos to hold plywood over windows, even spring clips that you do not have to drill any holes for. Check your (and you neighbor's) house for loose items, boards, shingles, etc. Be prepared to tie down boats, sheds, etc., make a contact list of land line numbers important to you and your in house siblings, family, friends, doctors, pharmacies. Cell phones may not work. Think about inexpensive walkie talkies if you and family only live a mile or so apart. Plan now for the elderly or special needs persons. Make a plan, know where everyone will be and how to make contact or where to meet if separated. Make a list of needs: water, food, health and sanitary items. Put important papers in zip-lock baggies. If you are riding out a hurricane, put your ID in your pocket.

Property owners beware

• If you have an old steel pipe well that is pulling sand or dirt, most of the time they are fixable by putting in a sleeve. Some well drilling companies will tell you they are not. The truth is, most all this water equipment is fixable at a reasonable price. Ask around. Get a second opinion.

Doctor shopping

• This person accused of doctor shopping who said she didn't know she was doing anything wrong, who does she think she was kidding? When you go to any doctor, they ask what medications you are on before they prescribe anything new. They would not have prescribed more pain pills had they known she already had prescriptions for the same. And she must have known that a pharmacy would not fill more than one prescription for the same medication as she went to a bunch of different pharmacies. People generally use just one pharmacy for all of their medications. The only reason to go to a bunch of different pharmacies is because they won't give you more of the same drug you already have another prescription for.

FWC reaches out to the public

As I see it ...

By Rodney Barreto, chairman
FWC

Keeping the public informed about the activities of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is more than a full-time job. It is a part of every FWC employee's day-to-day duties, as well as the goal of agency outreach activities.

The FWC communicates with the public through a variety of formats, including print, in-person and electronic. Some interactions may be brief, while others may be more in-depth. FWC staff members respond to phone calls and e-mails, distribute news releases, answer questions from reporters, produce publications, present seminars and workshops, post new information on the agency's social media and Web sites and much more.

It is a challenging task to reach everyone who plays a role in fish and wildlife conservation in Florida, especially when the audience includes 18 million Florida residents and the many people who visit our great state. Yet, with an area of responsibility as large as the whole state, and with the diversity of species and habitats that fall under the agency's umbrella, the FWC recognizes that a well-informed public is a vital part of fish and wildlife conservation.

To reach the public directly with information about Florida's fish and wildlife, the FWC hosts and participates in a variety of outreach activities throughout the state. Outreach events such as festivals, trade shows, open houses and fairs provide not only opportunities to display and demonstrate the work conducted by the FWC, but also a venue for distributing resource information to event attendees. These events provide FWC employees the chance to explain their role within the agency, discuss their current projects and answer questions.

The FWC's participation as an exhibitor at the Florida State Fair is a great example of public outreach aimed at creating awareness of the agency and its mission. Each February, the FWC hosts an exhibit in the red barn at the state fairgrounds in Tampa. In 2010, many of the 354,000 fair visitors made their way through the FWC's exhibit during the 12-day event. As they strolled through the red barn, the slogan of "FWC is research, management and law enforcement" informed visitors of the three core agency functions. To emphasize the slogan, portions of the exhibit showcased items related to each of the core areas.

To highlight the FWC's current research projects, interactive question-and-answer panels accompanied graphic displays with photo-

graphs and video. Live largemouth bass and snook, as well as a panther and a black bear, were on display to draw attention to species native to our state and the important management messages relative to them. In addition, a Burmese python, a Nile monitor and a lionfish were present to emphasize the nonnative species issues that face Florida. The role of law enforcement in ensuring compliance with rules and promoting public safety was illustrated with a law enforcement airboat and a video promoting the "Wear-It" life jacket campaign.

The effectiveness of the state fair exhibit was enhanced by the presence of FWC staff from across the agency. While fair goers were definitely drawn to live animals on display, law enforcement officers also drew quite a crowd. These knowledgeable officers took time to answer questions and share their experiences for those who might be interested in pursuing a similar career. Other FWC experts were on hand to share information about the agency's management activities and describe details of scientific studies that enhance knowledge of our state's fish and wildlife. The personal contact with FWC staff helps to "put a face" on the agency and encourages communication between the FWC and the public, which is critical to the success of conservation efforts.

Another outreach event designed to showcase the work of the FWC is MarineQuest. Visitors of all ages can experience science firsthand at MarineQuest, the annual open house of the FWC's Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI). 2010 marks the 16th year of this free event, which will take place Saturday, April 17, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the FWRI headquarters in downtown St. Petersburg.

Visitors to MarineQuest can check out live animals in touch tanks, interact with some of Florida's top scientists and learn about fish and wildlife research in Florida. The science behind the FWC's management is presented for all ages. There are even special activities for children, including wildlife origami, face painting, the Japanese art of "gyotaku" fish painting and "reel" fishing for redfish.

FWRI has what I believe to be the finest staff of researchers in the world. Their passion for their work is clearly demonstrated in their enthusiasm and creativity to make science fun at MarineQuest. More information about this hands-on, interactive event can be found at <http://research.MyFWC.com/marinequest>.

You can view a list of many activities on the FWC's online calendar of events. You may also hear about other activities through local event organizers or your local news media. I encourage you to learn more about the FWC and its outreach activities by going to MyFWC.com.

KEECHOBEE NEWS

To Reach Us

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Our Purpose...

The Okeechobee News is published by Independent Newspapers of Florida. Independent is owned by a unique trust that enables this newspaper to pursue a mission of journalistic service to the citizens of the community. Since no dividends are paid, the company is able to thrive on profit margins below industry standards. All after-tax surpluses are reinvested in Independent's mission of journalistic service, commitment to the ideals of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and support of the community's deliberation of public issues.

We Pledge...

- To operate this newspaper as a public trust
- To help our community become a better place to live and work, through our dedication to conscientious journalism.
- To provide the information citizens need to make their own intelligent decisions about public issues.

- To report the news with honesty, accuracy, purposeful neutrality, fairness, objectivity, fearlessness and compassion.
- To use our opinion pages to facilitate community debate, not to dominate it with our own opinions.
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- To correct our errors and to give each correction the prominence it deserves.
- To provide a right to reply to those we write about.
- To treat people with courtesy, respect and compassion.

MEMBER



Fun Day raised \$38,000 toward YMCA project

The YMCA Family Fun Day was a huge success creating awareness and generating much interest and excitement from Okeechobee! Residents of all ages came out to show their support for the YMCA project and enjoyed the many activities provided by local businesses and volunteers.

This day was made with the hard work of the event committee: Teresa Chandler, Brandon Tucker, John Lass, Shawn Keil, Allison Chandler, Danielle Shockley, Elvie Posey, Chaka Smith, JD Mixon, Margaret Helton, Jim Vensel, Ted Kelchner, Greg Thorgorsen, Raye Deusinger, Keith Walpole, Frank Decarlo, Dale Barrett and Phil Baughman.

Sponsors for the YMCA Event: Platinum (\$1,000 or more) American Drilling Services, Children's Services Council, Cowboy's, Florida Crystals, Lake Okeechobee Digestive Disease Center, Pine Creek Sporting Club, Raulerson Hospital, Seacoast National Bank, SK Services, The Tucker Group, Wal-Mart, Walpole, Inc., and Williamson Cattle Co. Gold

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The YMCA of the Treasure Coast will expand the mission of service this summer in the Okeechobee community beginning with providing a full day of summer camp for sixty to a hundred children. Plans are being

finalized to hold the YMCA Summer Camp on the Grace Brethren Church/Okeechobee Christian Academy campus and offer recreation swim time, swim lessons, sports, field trips, art, literacy training and much more.

At the YMCA, we build strong kids—strong in self esteem, confidence and the character-building values that help children grow into responsible and caring adults. We offer a safe and fun summer camp supervised by mature, responsible and enthusias-

tic staff. The YMCA Camp Team is planning an exciting 2010 summer camp! Our "Wild Earth" theme is filled with a variety of fantastic adventures relating to the earth. Amazing animals, climates, experiences, and locations are all things you will find at our "Wild Earth" camp. Registration, job opportunities and more information can be provided by contacting Shawn Keil at 772-597-3700 or: skeil@ymcatreasurecoast.org or Teresa Chandler at 863-357-5200.



(left photo) Keegan Meenan, 8, wins the overall hula hoop contest. Pictured with Teresa & Allison Chandler. (right photo) Miss Okeechobee, Kathleen Turner attended the YMCA event to volunteer her time.



Special to the Okeechobee News/Teresa Chandler



(left photo) Joey Hoover volunteered to be dunked in the dunk tank. (right photo) K-9 Sgt Jimmy Mills demonstrated the abilities of his partner and explained the use of the dogs in police work.



Special to the Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy



Special to the Okeechobee News/Teresa Chandler
Sheriff Paul and Delores May visit the YMCA event along with event coordinator, Teresa Chandler, Brandon Tucker and John Lass.

Okeechobee Forecast

Today: Sunny, with a high near 85. East southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 61. East southeast wind around 5 mph.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 87. Southeast wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Saturday night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 70. Southeast wind around 10 mph.

Sunday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Partly cloudy, with a high near 90. South southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph. **Sunday night:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 70. West southwest wind around 5 mph.

Lotteries

Florida Lottery — Here are the numbers selected Tuesday in the Florida Lottery: **Cash 3:** 6-1-9; **Play 4:** 2-4-1-5; **Fantasy 5:** 15-23-24-27-28; **Mega Money:** 1-2-8-24 MB 3; **Florida Lotto:** 14-22-27-49-50-52 X 2; **Powerball:** 11-34-41-49-55 PB20 x2. Numbers drawn Wednesday, **Cash 3:** 2-6-4; **Play 4:** 8-8-2-3.

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Obituaries

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Charles W. Dowling, 78

OKEECHOBEE — Charles W. Dowling, age 78, of Okeechobee passed away April 21, 2010, at Raulerson Hospital.

He was born Sept. 18, 1931, in Champaign, Ill., to Walter and Lena Dowling. Mr. Dowling proudly served our country in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He retired after 38 years as a firefighter in Champaign, Ill., and Palm Beach County. He came to Okeechobee from Boynton Beach in 1984. He attended the First United Methodist Church. He was a member of the Western Star Lodge #240 in Champaign, Ill., Ancient Scottish Rites Valley of Danville, American Legion of Okeechobee and the Illinois Association of Retired Firefighters.

Mr. Dowling is survived by his wife of 41 years, Jane Dowling of Okeechobee; three sons, Mike Dowling of Greenbrae, Calif., Jeff Welch of Hayden Lake, Idaho, and Paul Welch of Sidney, Ill.; three daughters, Katherine Babiniec of Littleton, Colo., Missy Hansen of Lago Vista, Texas, and Ellen Dowling of Chicago, Ill.; nine grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and brother, John Dowling of Okeechobee.

Celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made to Humane Society Pet Rescue, P.O. Box 233, Okeechobee, FL 34973.

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

All arrangements are entrusted to the loving care of Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home and Crematory, 205 NE 2nd ST, Okeechobee, FL 34972.

Robert Earl Williams

OKEECHOBEE — Robert Earl Williams, 97, of Okeechobee, formerly of Charlestown, Ind., died April 10, 2010, after a long battle with Alzheimer's Disease.

He was born in Kentucky on Aug. 8, 1912, to the late Thomas Jefferson "TJ" and Minnie Starnes Williams. He was an outstanding student, but left school in the eighth grade to work with his parents on a tobacco farm. He eventually worked at a bakery with thoughts of making it a career.

He met Dorothy Naomi Berry in Evansville and married her on Aug. 13, 1949. They relocated to Charlestown, where they started a Western Auto store with a \$5,000 loan from his brother-in-law, Herman Wade. He was told by the company that the store would never be a success, but they didn't know how determined he could be. He loved the store and the people he served. After 25 successful years, due in no small part to his wife and faithful employees, Juanita Combs and Wilma Mangels, he sold the business to retire. The store would that would never be a success is still open after 60 years.

He was a long time member of the Charlestown Church of God serving as deacon and song leader. Bob and Dorothy were dedicated to supporting many Christian organizations and missionaries. He was a member of and active in many civic organizations including Sheriff's Organization and the Chamber of Commerce.

He was an avid fisherman and had many special friends with whom he shared his passion on the lakes of Canada, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, and Florida. In his earlier years, he was also an avid hunter. He also enjoyed traveling the world with Dorothy, the love of his life.

We love you with all our hearts, Dad. You helped all your children become successes in life because of your love and generosity. We remember you today with memories humorous, fond, and sweet.

Survivors include his daughters, Diana McAfee and her husband John of Carhage, Mo., and Adeline Ashby and her husband Frank of Decatur, Ill.; sons, Henry Williams and his wife Brenda, and Robert Alan Williams and his wife Beverly, all of Evansville; stepson, David Riley and his wife Pat of Lewes, Del.; 18 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren, 15 great-great-grandchildren; his faithful friend and caregiver, Polley Russell of Buckhead Ridge, Fla.; and his little kitty buddy, Charlie.

He was preceded in death by Dorothy, his wife of 54 years, who died Oct. 2, 2003; his parents, TJ and Minnie; brother, Homer; sisters, Lucille Schrode, and Hazel Williams; granddaughter, Kristi Riley McIlwee; and grandsons, Ricky and Alan Williams.

Funeral services were held Thursday, April 15, at Grayson Funeral Home, Charlestown, followed by a graveside service at Charlestown Cemetery.

The family requests that expressions of sympathy take the form of contributions to the Missions Dept. of Grace Point Assembly of God, 1605 Baker Blvd., Carhage, MO 64836; or to North Charlestown Church of God, 1803 Edgewood Drive, Charlestown, IN 47111.



Community Events

Hospice hosts yard sale

Hospice of Okeechobee, 411 SE Fourth Street, will hold a Gigantic Yard Sale on Friday, **April 23**, from 8 a.m. until noon. New specialty items this sale include many new furniture items, clothing of all sizes! We have new items galore offered at extremely reasonable prices. All funds raised will benefit patient care, including services at The Hamrick Home. For information call 863-467-2321.

Eagles to hold steak night

Fraternal Order of Eagles, #4137, will have Steak Night on Friday, **April 23**, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Located at 9985 Hwy. 441 N. Steak dinners will include steak, salad, baked potato or sweet potato, garlic bread and dessert for \$12. Live entertainment by Michael's Memories from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Christian Music Fest presented at Freedom Ranch

Oakfest 2010 will be held on Saturday, **April 24**, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Freedom Ranch, located at 11655 Hwy. 441S.E. The featured artist is December Radio and other groups such as City of David, In The Walk and The Broken. Oak Fest 2010 is an all day, family fun Christian event featuring local, regional and national music artists as well as exhibits, bounce houses, raffles, speakers, animal exhibits, pony rides, face painters, buggy rides, great food and much more. Children under 12 are free. Advance tickets available for \$10. Or get your ticket at the gate on the day of the event for \$15. No pets. For tickets and information call 772-626-7512 or visit the web at www.wscf.com/OakFest/oakfest2010.html where you can buy your tickets online.

Eagles to hold Turkey Shoot

Fraternal Order of Eagles, #4137, at 9985 Hwy. 441 N. on Saturday, **April 24**, will hold a turkey shoot from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and a spring yard sale from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring your items to sell and donate a percentage back to the Ladies Auxiliary.

Basinger School Reunion set

The Basinger School Reunion will be held on Sunday, **April 25**, at the Basinger Community Center at 1 p.m. LeRue Tripp will provide the meat again this year. Please bring a covered dish of your choice. Paper goods, tea and ice will be provided. Please notify anyone you know who attended Basinger School. Call Alta Lee Barber at 863-634-9735 or 863-467-1303 or Beedie Mae Thomas at 863-763-3579 with questions.

Babysitter class planned

The Okeechobee Service Center of the American Red Cross will hold a Babysitter's Training class for ages of 11-15 yrs. The class will be on Saturday, **May 8**, from at 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. and will take place at the American Red Cross, Okeechobee Service Center, 323 N. Parrott Ave. Cost is just \$40. For information or to register, call 863-763-2488. Space is limited. Lunch will be provided.

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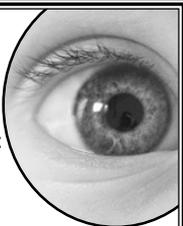


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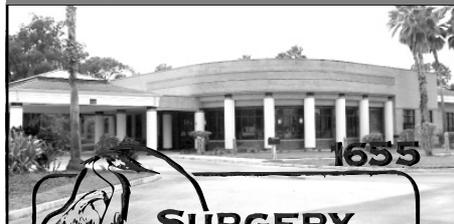
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Special to the Okeechobee News

“Godspell”

Jesus and His disciples in a '70s junkyard is the setting for the popular musical “Godspell” that will be performed by area youth at the First United Methodist Church Friday and Saturday, April 23 and 24 at 7 p.m. The \$5 ticket price includes a dessert buffet. Contact Nancy Vaughan at 863-763-4021 for more information.



Special to the Okeechobee News/SES

Students of the Week

Students at South Elementary School for the week of April 16, were: Nathan Wilson, Summer Smith, Nicholas Barnes, Jalyn Lightsey, Arena Hayward, Sebastian Dodd, Colby Rivero, Clayton Beckham, Sumer Baker, Jayla Newton, Carlos Hernandez Ventura, Emily Beaty, Megan Mitchell, Matthew Garcia, Devon Johnson, Darius Houze, Ariel Nichols, Willie Alexander, and Zackery O'Brien. Congratulations! Go Eagles!

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Kenny Anderson visits high school

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

A long time NBA star, who realized early in life that athletes must put good things into their body, spoke to kids at Okeechobee High School Tuesday about nutrition as part of the NBA Got Milk Campaign.

Kenny Anderson honored Okeechobee football coach Melissa Tomlinson for her work in the encouragement of athletes to have good diets that include milk and chocolate milk.

Okeechobee High School also received \$1,000 from the program for their athletic program.

Tomlinson said she was overjoyed to be one of three coaches nationwide who have been honored this year, "For our kids and this community this rocks. It is hard for us to get anyone to come here. When somebody of this stature comes here it's big for Okeechobee."

Tomlinson said most of the students really enjoyed the experience and love to meet somebody who is famous, "Winning the contest was just icing on the cake, make it chocolate icing in the cake."

Tomlinson is wide receivers coach for the football team. She encourages the kids to have healthy drinks after practice and work outs. She said chocolate milk is very good for you.

"It's always been around. It's inexpensive, it's right here and it's accessible. It's crazy that people don't drink more of it. It's a great way to recover from a workout," she added.

Anderson who played with the New Jersey Nets, Boston Celtics and other teams, said it wasn't memories of playing in the pros and not even an appearance in the College Basketball Final 4 while he played at Georgia Tech, that top his list of sports memories. He said the biggest memory he has is earning a college scholarship.

"My mother couldn't afford to send me to college so I worked very hard to get the scholarship. I was able to attend one of the top schools in the country. It paid off for me. If I hadn't of gone to college there is no telling what might have happened."

Anderson said he also likes to talk to young people to give them positive advice. He said no matter what career they choose, students should give their all to it, and be disciplined.

"I'm trying to reach them. Coach Tomlinson here does a great job preaching to her athletes about nutrition. They should listen if they want to become a good athlete. Life is about choices. I hope and pray these kids take good advice when it is given to them," he added.

Anderson has retired from the NBA after 14 years as a pro. He now works with young people and preaches the nutritional value of

milk products and other drinks. He said it replenishes your body after a workout. "The next day it helps you recover so you're energized and not sluggish. It tastes good, and it helps your body. I preach to these kids to take care of their body. Your body is your temple."

Anderson was getting attention at a young age when he was a basketball player in the Queens, N.Y. He was such a special player that there were recruiters at his games in sixth grade. He made the front page of New York papers when he was 14 years old. In high school he earned three Parade All American Awards, and was the first player in history to be named all city in New York four times.

"I love New York. It can make you or break you. You must have a strong will, and be mentally strong. It has helped me become a stronger person," he added.

Anderson remembered his days with his first pro team, the New Jersey Nets fondly. He was drafted second overall in the NBA draft after two seasons at Georgia Tech. He was the youngest player in the league at that time. He earned an all star berth in 1994. He played with such stars as Derrick Coleman and Drazen Petrovic. The Nets were hurt when Petrovic was tragically killed in a car crash in Europe.

"I think the Nets will rebuild. I was fortunate to play 14 years. I also loved playing for the Boston Celtics for five years. It was a blessing to play for them," he added.

McArthur Dairy provided free milk for all of the high school students at the event.



Kenny Anderson and Melissa Tomlinson show off the \$1,000 check given to OHS sports from the NBA Got Milk campaign.

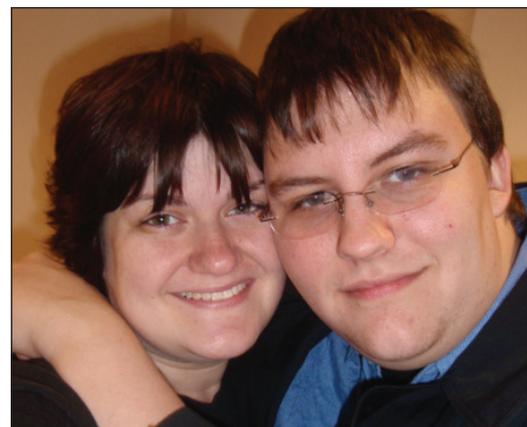
*"Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth -
-Put out my hand and touched the Face of God"*
-High Flight

William Dowling

The Customers & Staff of the Landing Strip Cafe say Goodbye to our Dear Friend Bill and offer our sincere condolences to his beloved wife Jane & family.

ENGAGEMENT
COURTNEY ADLER & TAYLOR VINCENT

Tom and Judy Adler of Okeechobee are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Courtney Adler to Taylor Vincent, son of Matt and the late Kathy Vincent of Monroe, Wis. Courtney is a graduate of Okeechobee High School in 2005 and Taylor is a graduate of Monroe High School in 2005 and is currently attending Edgewood College in Madison, Wis., with a major in English. Courtney currently works at Racetrac in Okeechobee. The two will reside in Madison, Wis., and a wedding will be held in Florida sometime in 2011.



BIRTHS
MATHEW RYAN JOHNSON

Mathew Ryan Johnson was born at 9:12 pm April 13, 2010 at the William Beaumont Army Medical Center in Ft. Bliss, TX. He weighed 7 lbs 5.5 oz and was 19.5 in long Mat is the son of Jonathan and M'Lynn Johnson of Okeechobee County. He is the paternal great great grandson of Edith Joiner of Okeechobee County, great grandson of Johnny Johnson of Okeechobee County, and grandson of Randy and April Johnson of Okeechobee County. He is the maternal great grandson of Harold Hair and Eulalia Stennett of Okeechobee County and grandson of Ruben and Sonia Silvas of Okeechobee County.



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Smoke-free parks proposed for Okeechobee

By Katrina Elsen
Okeechobee News

Should smoking be banned from some areas of public parks? Local representatives of Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) hope to convince local officials to limit smoking to designated areas.

"Second hand smoke seems to be a more serious danger to young children," said Derek Borroto, president of the Okeechobee High School Chapter of SWAT.

Derek and Kimberly Mullin, were guest speakers at the April lunch meeting of the Okeechobee Chamber of Commerce. They shared information on the SWAT program and the dangers of smoking.

Derek explained there is concern about young children being exposed to cigarette smoke at the ball fields. He said they propose adding designated smoking areas so that second hand smoke will not endanger children in the bleachers.

He said they have noticed this seems to be the trend in the large public parks. They don't want to punish the smokers or ban them from the parks, but they do want to protect nonsmokers—especially children—from exposure to second hand smoke.

Kimberly said she saw the dangers of cigarette smoking in her own family. She said her grandfather died from a smoking related illness and her grandmother's health was also affected by smoking.

SWAT clubs are active in the local middle schools and the high schools. The clubs educate young people about the dangers of tobacco use.

"We're not against people who use tobacco," explained Candace Pope, who works with SWAT through the Okeechobee County Health Department. "We want people to be aware of the health issues.

"Big Tobacco tends to target young people," she continued. "We don't tell students what to do. We give them information.

"Most people who smoke wish they had never started. If we can prevent children from smoking, that is our goal."

Mrs. Pope said when smoking is banned in public areas, it sends the message to children that smoking is not something that is acceptable.

The Tobacco Free Initiative of Okeechobee is looking for representatives from local businesses, schools, faith based and young programs, parents and teacher associations, hospitals, health care providers, day care providers, law enforcement, city and county agencies. If you are interested in being part of the team and want to work toward building a healthier tobacco-free community, call 863-462-5235 or 863-462-5781 for more information. The Tobacco Free Initiative meets on the last Wednesday of each month in the Hampton Inn Conference Room from 4 to 5 p.m.



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Mustangs sold at auction

By **Katrina Elsen**
Okeechobee News

Fifteen mustangs captured on public lands near the Kissimmee River have new homes thanks to the efforts of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office, Okeechobee Animal Control, a network of horse rescue agencies and some caring individuals.

The horses, which had been running loose on South Florida Water Management District Lands, were first spotted by fishermen in September. Deputies spent months putting food out for the horses, hoping to lure them into an enclosure. Earlier this month, those efforts paid off, although three mares were too wary to be caught and are still loose on the river, and one of those mares has since given birth.

A network of horse rescue organizations in Florida is familiar with the story of these mustangs. Brogan Horton, of Animal Recovery Mission (ARM) in Miami, explained that Myakka City rancher Larry Jones had intended for the mustangs to live out their days on his LB Ranch. "It was Larry Jones' dying wish the horses stay on his property," said Ms. Horton. "He was in the process of setting up a trust for the mustangs, but he died before it was complete." After Mr. Jones died, his sons decided the ranch could no longer afford the mustangs. A herd of 83 horses—including the mustangs and some ranch horses—was taken off the ranch. The family claims they gave the horses to someone who agreed to take the entire herd.

In July 2008, some of the horses were found running loose on the roadway of Montura Ranch Estates in Hendry County. Aided by local cowboys, deputies were able to round up

17 of the mustangs. A few still remain on the loose on property owned by Alico Inc.

The horses found loose on SFWMD land in Okeechobee County were part of the same herd, according to the sheriff's office.

Ms. Horton said she spent the 72 hours before Thursday's auction online, coordinating donations, trailers and homes for the mustangs. When the ARM group arrived in Okeechobee, they brought enough cash and horse trailers to take all of the horses home. She explained some horses will go to adoptive homes and others to horse sanctuaries.

"We heard the kill buyers in Miami had gotten wind of the horse auction," she said, explaining that on the black market horse meat goes for \$30 to \$40 a cut.

At the auction, ARM purchased ten horses—paying from \$5 to \$155 per mustang—and made sure the rest were going to good homes.

Darlene Stevensen of the South Florida Mustang Club in Loxahatchee was the high bidder of the day, paying \$350 for a pregnant roan mare. Ms. Stevensen, who has also adopted mustangs from the Bureau of Land Management, said she already had eight mustangs.

Kelli Donovan of Buckhead Ridge paid \$75 for a little filly with a club foot. "I wanted her because she needs the most help," Ms. Donovan explained. She said she is a farrier and has the skills needed to care for the horse.

Proceeds from the auction will help offset a portion of the county's expense in catching and feeding the horses. Sheriff Paul May estimated the sheriff's office expended more than \$3,000 in man hours and horse feed.

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Port St. Lucie ruins Brahman senior night

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Corey Reid hit a two run double in the top of the seventh inning to rally Port St. Lucie to a 3-2 win over Okeechobee High School in boys baseball action Tuesday at Brahman field.

Port St. Lucie completed a season sweep of the Brahmans and improved to (13-8) on the season. Okeechobee fell to (14-9).

It was a pitchers duel throughout as both starters were in command from the start. Jonathan Crawford allowed just one run in six innings and went over 200 strikeouts for his career.

The only run against Crawford came in the sixth due to four bases on balls.

Okeechobee's only runs came on a two run double by Brice Buckner in the fifth that was nearly a homerun. The drive to left scored Drew Selvey who singled and Mark Weir who was hit by a pitch.

Brahman Coach Dylan Tedders agreed that his team has bullpen problems in the late innings. "It will be disappointing for the kids because it's senior night and they put extra weight on this. The good thing is we can practice tomorrow."

Tedders said next week the team won't be able to rebound from a poor performance as the District tournament gets underway on Monday at home against Fort Pierce Westwood.

Tedders said Crawford threw a lot of pitches and they didn't want to risk his arm by putting him out there in the seventh. He said another problem has been the team doesn't score at the end of games to pad their lead or come from behind.

"We didn't hit the ball when we needed to hit. We gave up runs late and we had no attack late in the game. That is going to be the story for us. Somebody is going to have to spark us," he added.

Crawford had a long sixth inning as he threw nearly 40 pitches. His wildness was the only reason the Jaguars scored as they had only one hit against the Brahman senior.

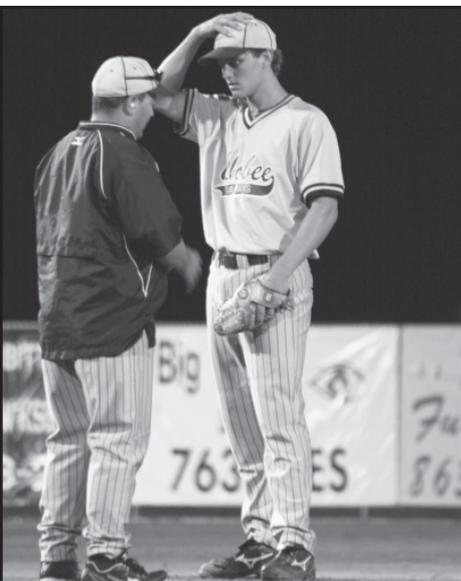
Crawford and fellow senior Cameron Tewksbury both have recorded over 200 strikeouts at Okeechobee High School. Tewksbury struck out 10 on Monday night.

"It's been a long time since we've had two, 200 career guys in Okeechobee," Tedders said, "We just have to give them some offensive support."

Okeechobee played at home Thursday against St. Lucie West Centennial.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Drew Selvey (right) is red hot at the plate this year.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Coach Mark Ward (left) gives advice to Jonathan Crawford during Tuesday's game.

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Girls softball team advances to 14-4A final

By Charles M. Murphy

Okeechobee News

Samantha Harrell pitched a one hit shut-out and struck out 11 to propel Okeechobee High School to the final of the District 14-4A tournament with a 2-0 victory over Lincoln Park Wednesday in girls softball action at OHS.

Ashtyn Brown had two hits as Okeechobee (20-6) advanced to meet long time rival Jensen Beach, (20-5) in a battle between the only area teams with 20 victories. Lincoln park ended their season at (14-9).

Coach Kim Hargraves said she wasn't surprised that the game was a pitcher's duel because both teams hadn't played a game in about 13 days, "Overall the girls did what they needed to. We got the lead and we held the lead and played good defense. We were put in pressure situations and the girls were able to shut them down."

Okeechobee scored single runs in the second and sixth innings to provide the scoring in the game. LeAnna Cotton hit a double down the left field line in the second, moved to third on a ground out by Emily McCullough, and scored on a sacrifice fly by Taylor Kinman.

In the sixth Naomi Stevens tripled to right center and scored on a throwing error by Lincoln Park on a ground ball by Courtney Wilson.

Harrell was in control for most of the game. She allowed only two runners to reach scoring position and didn't allow a runner to third base. Harrell had to be on top of her game because Greyhound pitcher Shannen Marchu allowed just five hits to Okeechobee.

Brahman Catcher Ashtyn Brown said the game was really nerve wracking for her especially when the top of the lineup didn't

produce, "We got nervous but we pulled through. I wasn't as confident as the first time we played them. I knew we'd come together as a team and win it."

Brown stepped in behind the plate when Taylor Douglas was lost for the season. Ashtyn admits catcher wasn't her first choice of a position, "It was not something I was looking forward to but Coach said the job had to be done and I had to do the job."

In the first game Jensen Beach defeated last year's district champ Suncoast, 4-3. Okeechobee defeated Jensen earlier in the year 2-0 but aren't taking anything for grant-



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy

Naomi Stevens tripled late in the game to help score an insurance run for Okeechobee.

ed in the championship game on Friday.

"We expect a battle. This is why I coach. We have a great group of girls and the fun part of the year is the post season. We'll come out Friday and give it all we have. We hope to have a great crowd and a lot of support," Hargraves said.

Game time Friday is at 7 p.m. at OHS.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Ashtyn Brown had two hits in the Brahman's win in the district semi-finals.

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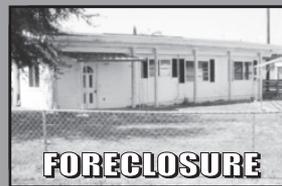
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Apartments

Apartment for Rent
2Bd 1 1/2 Ba In Town, Very clean W/D \$650 mo, 1st, last & sec. 863-697-1129

FURNISHED APT ON WATER - Including all utilities, some restrictions apply, by appt. only. (863)357-2044 leave name and number if no answer.

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

NW OKEE: 2br. quiet St. Pets ok, \$650/\$700, 1st, last & \$500 sec. 561-346-1642

Apartments

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

Commercial Property

OFFICE/WORKSHOP - 1000 sf, on busy intersection. With approx .6 acre vacant lot. Formerly Trailer sales, possibility for boat, RV, Auto, etc. sales/service. Asking \$2000 per month plus deposit. Yearly lease. (863)467-6300

Condos/Townhouses Rent

Taylor Creek Condo 1/1 Furn. \$975 move in, 1ST mo FREE, W&D, water & elec. (863)763-6540

Houses - Rent

3/2/2 in Lazy 7, on 1 acre lot. Ceramic tile floors throughout. Kids & pets welcome. 863-634-9330 or 863-467-2541

BASSWOOD

- 1300 sq ft CBS, 3br,2ba, tile throughout, fenced yard, 10x10 shed, \$1000/mo, 1st, last & Sec. Avail immediately. Call Tony (561)662-9644

Basswood - 3BR/2BA, 1 car garage, tile & carpet, split plan, dishwasher, \$1100 mo. 561-307-2502

Beautiful 2BR/2BA house in Kings Bay. Lakeview, washer & dryer, a/c, swimming pool. \$800/mo. plus utilities. Call 561-255-4377.

Beautiful Country Home in Country Hills Estates - built 2006 on 5 fenced acres, 3BR/2BA, furn., \$1500 mo. (954)326-2083

Houses - Rent

CBS - 3BR, Southwest section, great location, remodeled & upgraded, Corian, marble, Oak cabinets, tile floors, 24/14 encl. FL rm, huge fenced backyard, 12/12 wood shed, landscaped. Move in June 25th. \$900/mo. neg. 1st, last & sec. Credit & background check. 863-357-0391. HURRY!

For Rent Lovely 2bd/1ba with lake access, Fl. room, garage & dock. \$850 mo. sec. deposit reqd. call 863-484-0411

OKEECHOBEE - 3br, 2ba, \$875/mo + sec. Call (772)528-7004 or (863)697-6817

Rental Available - 3bd/3ba CBS home built in 2009. Vaulted ceilings, tile floor on corner lot. Located in Okeechobee Hammock Pritchards Real Estate 863-610-1980

S.E. OKEE: 3 BR, 1 BA., CBS Home. Annual lease. W&D, \$850 mo. 1st. & last sec. dep. (863)697-1129

Office Space Rent

Great Location! OFFICE SPACE
Upstairs & Downstairs Available. 863-763-4740

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT
(863)763-8565

Rooms To Rent

OKEECHOBEE - Looking for 2 roommates, share 4 br hse. \$275/mo (863)634-4771

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

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

Houses - Sale

Oak Lake Villa - one story, 2/2, tile floors, w/d, all appl's incl., exc. cond., \$85,000. 863-634-7139

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

Mobile Home Rent

BHR, 2br/2ba, Furn. W&D. \$975 move in, \$725 mo. 1ST MONTH FREE. Small pets ok 863-763-6540

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

FOR RENT: 3/2 (avail. July) and 2/1 Cottages. Newly remodeled. 12 miles north of Okeechobee on beautiful ranch. Water, trash & lawn maintenance included. NO PETS! M-F. (863) 467-2982

For Rent: Well maintained Treasure Island 2bd/2ba w/lake access, furn. or unfurn., lg Fl. rm, screened in porch, dock must see to appreciate \$800 mo. 1st, last & sec. call 561-202-7213

OKEECHOBEE - 1br, 1ba with large back porch on large scenic, wooded, fenced lot, \$525 mo. Call 863-634-3451

Mobile Home Rent

OKEECHOBEE - 1/1 Park model, 12x36, laundry room, 30x10 CBS building, 150x100' lot, oak trees, 6mi N off 441. \$6+50/mo, 1st & sec. (561)346-4692

ON WATER 2/1, Large yard. Quiet street. No mowing. \$550 mo. (863)226-3436

Mobile Home Sale

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

DW MH - 4BR, 2.5BA, renovated, on 1/2 acre fenced in lot, screened patio, shed, off 710 & 15A. \$85K. Owner finance w/10% down. Call (863)610-1600

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

Recreation

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Marine Accessories

60 hp evinrude - 60 hp evinrude with controls 2.5 years left on 5 year warranty complete rebuild lots of power \$ 2 , 4 0 0 . 0 0 . (561)626-0541 or (561)310-1443

60 hp evinrude - 60 hp evinrude with controls 2.5 years left on 5 year warranty complete rebuild lots of power \$ 2 , 4 0 0 . 0 0 . (561)626-0541 or (561)310-1443

Automotive

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Automobiles

2003 DODGE RAM 1500 - Black, single cab, cloth seats, one owner, V-6, automatic transmission, air conditioning, air bags, CD, cruise control, 109K miles. Please call after 5pm. \$5,000 /neg (863)697-0852

2004 BMW 530i - 04 BMW 530i blue w tan leather int. orig owner, 68K miles, new tires, bluetooth, runs great, all records. \$15,900 /or best offer (863)467-6300

Pickup Trucks

1983 FORD F=250 - 2wd,x-cab,auto good work truck \$1,500 /or best offer (863)801-1151 or (863)763-4475

Utility Trailers

UTILITY TRAILER - heavy duty, single axle, farm hitch, no lights, 13.5' x 6.5' overall (bed 8'x 5.5') Good condition, \$195, Mon.-Fri. 8:30-3:30. 863-467-9800

Vans

FORD PEOPLE MOVER 1998 - 29 Passenger. Great condition. A/C. \$1,500. (863)484-2757.

Public Notices

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

PUBLIC NOTICE
 Awesome Self Storage, 6489 US 441 SE, Okeechobee, FL 34974 will dispose of stored items on May 8, 2010.
 Owner: Cheri Burgin 307 352351 ON 4/23,30/10

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES OF THE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE WILL MEET TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2010 IN ROOM 302 OF THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING AT 3209 VIRGINIA AVENUE, FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA 34981-5596.

FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE -2:15 P.M.
 CLARK ADVANCED LEARNING CENTER COMMITTEE - 3:00 P.M.

ANY PERSONS SEEKING TO APPEAL THE DECISIONS OF THE BOARD WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT SUCH MEETING WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS, AND FOR SUCH PURPOSE MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDING IS MADE. 352234 ON 4/23/10

PUBLIC NOTICE CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTING A CITY ORDINANCE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Okeechobee, Florida will on Tuesday, May 4, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter possible, at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave., Okeechobee, FL conduct a PUBLIC HEARING on and thereafter to consider final reading of the following Ordinance into law: **1063: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA ENACTING A ONE YEAR MORATORIUM UPON THE ACCEPTANCE OF ZONING OR LAND USE AMENDMENTS, IN THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, ORDINANCE 716, AND THE ISSUANCE OF BUSINESS TAX LICENSE UNDER CH. 50 CODE OF ORDINANCES, AND APPLICABLE REQUESTS FOR APPROVAL OF PAIN MANAGEMENT CLINICS, OR DRUG MANAGEMENT CLINICS, AS DEFINED HEREIN; WITHIN THE CITY OF OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA; FURTHER PROVIDING FOR APPEAL AND REVIEW PROCESS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

A copy of the agenda may be obtained from the City website www.cityofokeechobee.com, or contact Administration, (863) 763-3372 x.212. A copy of the entire application(s) is available at the City Clerk's Office during regular business hours, Mon-Fri, 8am-4:30pm, except for holidays.

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

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Administration Office at 863-763-3372 for assistance. Lane Gamiolea, CMC, CITY CLERK 352308 ON 4/23/10

OKEECHOBEE UTILITY AUTHORITY REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR AUDIT SERVICES

The Okeechobee Utility Authority is requesting proposals from qualified firms of Certified Public Accountants to provide annual audit services. The Request for Proposal (RFP) outlines the services desired concerning the auditing of the Authority's general-purpose financial statements and provides the requirements for submitting a proposal.

An audit services RFP package will be available April 19, 2010 in either electronic or traditional paper media. Those interested in receiving the RFP package are asked to contact the OUA by telephone at (863) 763-9460 or by e-mailing bcoulee@ouafl.com

Final firm responses must be received by **3:00 PM EST, on May 14, 2010**, at 100 SW 5th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34974-4221, to be eligible for consideration. 350044 ON 4/18,21,23/10

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO. 472010CA000138XXXXXX

SPACE COAST CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff
 vs.
 BONNIE C. PEER, et al., Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: BONNIE C. PEER AND THOMAS M. PEER
 Last Known Address
 2247 SW 2nd Ct.
 Okeechobee, FL 34974
 Current Residence is Unknown

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following described property in Okeechobee County, Florida:

LOT 6, LEGACY COURT, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 44, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on SMITH, HIATT & DIAZ, P.A., Plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is PO BOX 11438, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33339-1438, (954) 564-0071, within 30 days from first date of publication, and filed the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorneys or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.
 DATED ON 4/9/2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON
 As Clerk of the Court

By: Arlene Nealis
 As Deputy Clerk

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administration no later than seven business days prior to the proceeding at Telephone 772-807-4370 or 1-800-955-8770 via Florida Relay Service. 351490 ON 4/16,23/10

Public Notice

FDIC

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEPOSITORS OF RIVERSIDE NATIONAL BANK OF FLORIDA FORT PIERCE, FL

On April 16, 2010 (the "Closing Date"), the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency closed Riverside National Bank of Florida, Fort Pierce, FL 34954 (the "Failed Institution") and appointed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation as Receiver (the "Receiver") to handle all matters relating to the Failed Institution.

TO THE CREDITORS OF THE FAILED INSTITUTION

All creditors having claims against the Failed Institution must submit their claims in writing, together with proof of the claims, to the Receiver on or before July 21, 2010 (the "Claims Bar Date"). Claims may be submitted via the internet on the FDIC web site, by fax or by mail to the following address:

FDIC as Receiver of RIVERSIDE NATIONAL BANK OF FLORIDA
 7777 Baymeadows Way West, Jacksonville, FL 32256
 Attention: Claims Agent

You can obtain an official Proof of Claim form and instructions at www.fdic.gov or by calling (904) 256-3925.

Under federal law, failure to file a claim on or before the Claims Bar Date will result in disallowance of the claim by the Receiver. The disallowance will be final. 12 U.S.C. Section 1821(d)(5)(C).

NOTE TO CLASS CLAIMANTS: By law, the Receiver will not accept a claim filed on behalf of a proposed class of individuals or entities or a class of individuals or entities certified by a court. EACH individual or entity must file a separate claim with the Receiver.

TO THE DEPOSITORS OF THE FAILED INSTITUTION

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, which insures your deposits in its corporate capacity (the "FDIC"), arranged for the transfer of all deposits - including the uninsured amounts - at the Failed Institution to another insured depository institution, **TD Bank, National Association, 2035 Limestone Road, Wilmington, DE 19808** (the "New Institution"). This arrangement should minimize any inconvenience from the closing of the Failed Institution. **You may leave your deposits in the New Institution, but you must take action to claim ownership of your deposits.**

Federal law, 12 U.S.C. Section 1822(e), requires you to claim ownership of ("claim") your deposits at the New Institution by taking any of the following actions within eighteen (18) months from the Closing Date. If you have more than one account, your action in claiming your deposit in one account will automatically claim your deposits in all of your accounts.

1. Make a deposit to or withdrawal from your account(s). This includes writing a check on any account, having an automated direct deposit credited to or an automated withdrawal debited from any account or closing the account;
2. Execute a new signature card on your account(s), enter into a new deposit agreement with the New Institution, change the ownership on your account(s), or renegotiate the terms of your certificate of deposit account(s) (if any);
3. Provide the New Institution with a completed change of address form; or
4. Write to the New Institution and notify it that you wish to keep your account(s) active with the New Institution. Please be sure to include the name of the account(s), the account number(s), the signature of an authorized signer on the account(s) and a name and address.

Please be advised that Official Items issued by the Failed Institution, e.g., cashier's checks, dividend checks, interest checks, expense checks, and money orders are all considered to be deposits and must be claimed within 18 months from the Closing Date.

If you do not claim ownership of your deposits at the New Institution within 18 months from the Closing Date, federal law requires the New Institution to return your deposits to the FDIC, which may be required to deliver them as unclaimed property to the State indicated in your address on the Failed Institution's records. 12 U.S.C. Section 1822(e). If your address is outside of the United States, the FDIC may be required to deliver the deposits to the State in which the Failed Institution had its main office. If the State accepts custody of your deposits, you will have ten (10) years from the date of delivery to claim your deposits from the State. After 10 years, you will be permanently barred from claiming your deposits.

If the State does not take custody of your deposits after the 18-month period, you may claim your deposits from the FDIC until the receivership of the Failed Institution is terminated. A receivership may be terminated at any time. Once the receivership terminates, you will not be able to claim your deposits.

Publish:4/23/2010, Okeechobee News

Public Notice

Public Notice

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 2010-CP-046 Division: Probate

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF: **KEITH ARTHUR BURLEY**, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

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

You are hereby notified that an Order of Summary Administration has been entered in the estate of **KEITH ARTHUR BURLEY**, deceased, Case Number 2010-CP-046, by the Circuit Court for Okeechobee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 312 North West 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972; that the decedent's date of death was September 25, 2009; that the total value of the estate is exempt from creditor claims, and that the names and addresses of those to whom it has been assigned by such order are:

NAME & ADDRESS
 Douglas Burley
 3626 Windflower Circle
 Colorado Springs, CO 80918

Sandra Dathe
 1300 Welcome Road
 Roopville, GA 30170

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:

All creditors of the estate of the decedent and persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent other than those for whom provision for full payment was made in the Order of Summary Administration must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE.

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

The date of first publication of this Notice is April 16, 2010.

Person Giving Notice:
 Douglas Burley
 Sandra Dathe

Attorney for Person Giving Notice:
 JEFFREY A. FADLEY, P.A.
 Fla. Bar No.: 035667
 Attorney for Petitioner
 807 South West 2nd Avenue
 Okeechobee, FL 34974
 Telephone: (863)763-5733
 Facsimile: (863)763-6199
 351482 ON 04/16,23/10

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 2010 CA-157

MIDFLORIDA CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff,
 v.
 STEPHEN GEARY; JACKIE GEARY; COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS, INC.; TENANT #1; TENANT #2; and ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, AND UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN-NAMED DEFENDANTS WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS, Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, AND UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN-NAMED DEFENDANTS WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose on the following real property in Okeechobee County, Florida:

Lot 33, LAZY 7 ESTATES, a subdivision according to the plat thereof recorded at Plat Book 6, Pages 27 and 28, in the Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida,

has been filed against you in the Circuit Court of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit, Okeechobee County, Florida, and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses to the Complaint, if any, to Gregory A. Sanoba, Esq., 422 South Florida Avenue, Lakeland, Florida 33801, within 30 days of first publication, 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.
 DATED: April 15, 2010.

By: Kathy Arnold
 SHARON ROBERTSON
 Clerk of the Court

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Court Administrator within two working days of your receipt of this Notice. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call Florida Relay Service (800) 955-8770. 351701 ON 4/23,30/10

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

No wonder newspaper readers are more successful!

SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers

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

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

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 appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

ANSWER:

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.: 47-2010-CA-000121

WACHOVIA MORTGAGE CORPORATION
 Plaintiff,
 vs. **WILLIAM J. LAKEMAN, et al,**
 Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: **WILLIAM J. LAKEMAN**
 LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 1777 SE 24th Boulevard, Okeechobee, FL 34974
 CURRENT ADDRESS: **UNKNOWN**
 TO: **JENNIFER LAKEMAN**
 LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 1777 SE 24th Boulevard, Okeechobee, FL 34974
 CURRENT ADDRESS: **UNKNOWN**

ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH,

Public Notice

UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST, AS SPOUSE, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS

LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: UNKNOWN
 CURRENT ADDRESS: UNKNOWN

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in OKEECHOBEE County, Florida:

LOTS 157 AND 158, TAYLOR CREEKISLES, UNIT II, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGES 84 AND 85, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses within 30 days after the first publication, if any, on Florida

Public Notice

Default Law Group, P.L., Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 9119 Corporate Lake Drive, Suite 300, Tampa, Florida 33634, and file the original with 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 or petition.

This notice shall be published once each week for two consecutive weeks in the Okeechobee News (Independent Newspapers).

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court on this 15th day of April, 2010.

Sharon Robertson
 Clerk of the Court
 By: Kathy Arnold
 As Deputy Clerk

Florida Default Law Group, P.L.
 P.O. Box 25018
 Tampa, Florida 33622-5018
 F09117770
 351801 ON 04/23/30/10

Local student presented with scholarship

Tabitha Trent, Riverside Bank's Okeechobee office manager, presented Justin Hoover with \$1,000 in the bank's eighth annual College Scholarship Program.

Students attending either a two or four-year post-secondary school were eligible to apply. Justin was selected based on his academic goals, community service and written essay about why he feels he deserves the money.

Justin will graduate Okeechobee High School in a few months and has already been accepted to the University of Florida where he plans to pursue a Bachelor in Business and a Doctorate of Law with an emphasis on Property Law and Agricultural Land Use.

"Our scholarship program is another example of Riverside's commitment to the town of Okeechobee," said Trent. "Riverside is dedicated to support education. We know this program will make a difference in the life of the scholarship recipient."



Special to the Okeechobee News/Riverside Bank
Dawn Hoover (Mom), Tabitha Trent (Riverside Office Manager), Justin Hoover (\$1,000 Scholarship Winner) and Joey Hoover (Dad).

Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Makeshift bookmark
 - 7 Relax
 - 11 Sta. that might show a Bogie flick
 - 14 "Let me find out"
 - 15 Wash basin partner
 - 16 Romance
 - 17 Colonial fair artisan
 - 19 Baja bear
 - 20 Marquis de
 - 21 "Lord, is ___?": Matthew
 - 22 Stage awards
 - 24 Reasons for an R rating
 - 28 DJ's array
 - 29 It may be roja or verde
 - 30 "The Zoo Story" playwright
 - 34 QB's goof
 - 35 Two-time Indy 500 champ
 - Luyendyk
 - 38 Keep an eye on things
 - 42 DNA part
 - 43 Place to crash
 - 44 Took another plunge?
 - 45 Seder month
 - 47 Tire gauge meas.
 - 49 Lickety-split
 - 55 Old-time actress
 - Bara
 - 56 Galoot
 - 57 Look down
 - 59 Drift (about)
 - 60 Cryptographers' successes (and what can be found in the circles in this puzzle's long answers)
 - 64 "The Loco-Motion" singer Little
 - 65 Mother of Helen of Troy
 - 66 Tennessee team
 - 67 Tennis winner's hurdle
 - 68 Even once
 - 69 Trim

- 3 Maker of Plugins
- 4 County north of Kent
- 5 Two-time loser to DDE
- 6 Put a new book cover on
- 7 Pope during the Battle of Ostia
- 8 "How cute!"
- 9 25% of zero?
- 10 "Misty" composer
- 11 Streak beginning?
- 12 Trig ratio
- 13 Long-headed mammal
- 18 Former Fords
- 23 "Don't take silly chances"
- 25 Served past
- 26 "That ___ fair!"
- 27 Hand-on-the-Bible vow
- 30 "Found it!"
- 31 It stops at each sta.
- 32 Reacted to, as sudden bright light
- 33 Swirled
- 34 Evansville's st.

- 36 Dander
- 37 LAX posting
- 39 Moonfish
- 40 Subside
- 41 The Phantom of the Opera
- 46 Quarter horse quarters
- 47 Plumber's piece
- 48 Sachet emanations
- 49 Three-star mil. officer
- 50 "Monday ___ Friday on my mind": 1967 song lyric
- 51 Senegal's capital
- 52 Wax theatrical
- 53 Situated at a junction
- 54 Ran through
- 58 In ___: actually
- 61 Gun
- 62 Pindar opus
- 63 Kind of engr.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

xwordeditor@aol.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14						15					16		
17	18	19											
20					21				22	23			
24					25				26	27			
28					29								
30	31	32	33			34			35	36	37		
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By Peter A. Collins
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Time to clean out the attic, basement and/or garage? Advertise your yard sale in the classifieds and make your clean up a breeze!

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

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



Flat screen winners

Amara Shrine Club recently held a drawing for two High-Def flat screen TVs. First prize was won by Betty Wilkerson of Okeechobee who took home a 46 inch LCD/HD with surround sound. Second prize was taken home by Judy Hill of Okeechobee. She was excited about her brand new 32 inch LCD/HD TV. Kip Gardner of Amara Shrine represented the Club in presenting the top prizes. Congratulations to the winners!



Special to the Okeechobee News/Shrine Club



Special to the Okeechobee News/Hospice of Okeechobee

Fundraiser event

The Tuckahoe Motorcycle Club of Okeechobee recently held their First Chili Cook Off & Family Fun Day event. It is Tuckahoe MC policy to donate partial proceeds from all events to a not-for-profit organization in their hometown community. The Tuckahoe MC is proud to present Hospice of Okeechobee with a donation of \$1,200. Tuckahoe MC President, Johnny Estes (pictured on right) and club Treasurer/Secretary, Paul Bramlett (pictured on left), presented the donation to Lisa Blackman (center), CEO of Hospice of Okeechobee.



Special to the Okeechobee News/Seacoast Bank

In appreciation

Seacoast National Bank hosts an appreciation luncheon for all city, county and Sheriff's office employees. A luncheon was held at Thomas Park. Pictured here Lucinda Tevlin with Sharon Cotton and Marion Schramm.

Okeechobee Sports Network



Special to the Okeechobee News/Parks and Rec

14 U Basketball Champs

Okeechobee Parks and Rec would like to congratulate the 14U Basketball Champs of New Hope Lodge #450. The Kings finished with a record of 11-1 on March 16. Team members include: (left to right, top) Cory Vickers, Bruce Snell, Jr., Adrian Minondo, Jr., Myrick Puente, Lavonte Spivey, Isaiah Rutherford, Roman Mattson; (bottom, left to right) Coach Matthew Piz, Coach Bruce Snell, Sr. and Zachary Wingfield.

From baseball to basketball
 ...football to soccer
 ...billiards to swimming
 ...cheerleading to yoga

Tell us what you play!

Go to Newszap.com and click on the sports tab which will take you to the Okeechobee Sports Network or call Renee at 888-853-7904 x 323

OKEECHOBEE NEWS **CommunitySportsDesk** Catch our Community at play **newszap.com** Free Specials Free Ads

Sports Network winning photo

This photo of Okeechobee X-Plosion Cheerleading and Dance was chosen as the winner of last month's Okeechobee Sports Network Photo Contest. The photographer will receive a \$25 gift card to Ultimate Gamer. The photo shows the Junior Dynamite Team featuring flyer Kas-side Cloud, bases Crisa Brown and Aalia Murphy and back spot Hanna Bostwick. Anyone who submitted a photo to the Okeechobee Sports Network was eligible for the contest. For more information, go to www.newszap.com, click on "Okeechobee" and then click on the "Sports" tab in the upper right corner of the Okeechobee Community web page. To sign your team up for a free web page on the Sports Network, contact Renee Hawley at rhawley@communitysportsdesk.com or call 1-888-853-7904.



Special to the Okeechobee News/Okeechobee X-Plosion

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HAMMERHEAD'S BILLIARDS, BAR & GRILL

Sun - Thurs. 11am to 9pm
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VIP Room Available
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Okeechobee's Finest Restaurant & Watering Hole

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Santa Fe Eggrolls	Chicken Monterey
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