



OKEECHOBEE NEWS

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Sunday, April 25, 2010

75¢ Plus tax



OHS Drama Club: ALL SHOOK UP!
 High school students present lively play featuring the music of Elvis Presley ... Page 11

Fate of 2011 American Legion Free Fair in doubt

By Pete Gawda
 Okeechobee News

The fate of the American Legion Free Fair is uncertain. This year's American Legion Free Fair had to close three days earlier than scheduled because of a conflict with the dates of the Okeechobee County Fair. Florida Statute 616.13 states that amusement rides are prohibited "within a 5-mile radius of and within 30 days before or during any public fair or

exposition being operated by a fair association." This year's county fair took place March 12-21. A similar conflict is brewing for next year. The free fair is currently scheduled for February 3-13, 2011, while the county fair is scheduled to start March 11, 2011, - an overlap of three days. At their meeting on Thursday evening, April 22 the fair association board of directors invited American Legion Post 64 officials, the

sponsors of the free fair, to their meeting to discuss the issue. However, no agreement was reached with both sides sticking to their scheduled dates. "They weren't willing to negotiate," said Dan Fennell, first vice commander of the post. The fair association claims they have no choice. While state law allows the fair association to waive the rule, they say their contract with the carnival ride provider specifi-

cally states they must enforce the rule that prohibits any competing carnivals within 5 miles and 30 days. "You have a vendor that dictates what you can't do?" was Mr. Fennell's response. The fair association says their dates are set by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Commerce in conjunction with the youth livestock show and other county fairs. Mr. Fennell responded that the fair as-

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

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Confederate veterans honored in memorial ceremony
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Sheriff's Office Torch Run to benefit Special Olympics
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Confederate veterans remembered

By Charles M. Murphy

Okeechobee News

Nine men buried in Okeechobee County who fought on the side of the Confederate States of America were honored last Saturday during brief ceremonies at the Fort Drum, Basinger, and Evergreen Cemeteries in Okeechobee.

The 16th annual South East Florida Confederate Memorial Day Motorcade normally includes Okeechobee but the local Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp is no longer active. Seventeen cemeteries and 171 veterans will be honored this year.

Commander of the Sons of Confederate Veterans in this area Wesley Frank visited the cemeteries Saturday and placed the rebel flag at each of the grave sites. He said he likes to remember these men as veterans who fought for what they believe in.

"These are our kin folk. These people are the ones that developed what we know as Florida. To have them out here and forgotten is not what I want to see happen," he said. "I'm a veteran and I prefer that we honor these men as veterans."

Buried in Basinger are Shadrack Chandler, William Raulerson, Matthew Underhill, Jeremiah Walker, William Underhill, and Abner Wright. Joel Wesley Swain is buried at the Fort Drum Cemetery. William H. Underhill and William Yeager are buried at Evergreen Cemetery.

According to historic websites, Swain built the first church in Fort Drum which was built on the north side of the old Fort Drum Cemetery. He also built the first school house in Fort Drum and was a teacher there. He was the pastor of churches in Fort Drum and Plant City during his life which began in 1836, and ended in 1900.

Mr. Frank said many of the veterans buried in Okeechobee were cattle ranchers who provided the beef that fed confederate soldiers during the war. The cattle would be driven up from the Kissimmee Prairie to Waldo in Alachua County. South Florida also provided salt to the war effort as ocean water was boiled into salt, shoveled into barrels and brought north.

"These men went off to war to defend their homes and their cattle. Many of the Basinger men were cattle ranchers. Many of them rode with the special cattle guard that provided beef to the Confederacy," he added.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy

Wesley Frank places a Confederate flag on a grave in Basinger on Saturday. Mr. Frank visited three Okeechobee cemeteries on Saturday to honor men who fought in the Civil War.

Mr. Chandler was a part of two Florida cavalry units during the war. He later opened up the Basinger General Store after he settled in Basinger in 1877. William Underhill was instrumental in the establishment of the first school in Basinger. He was a leading cattleman in the area after he moved here from Polk County in the late 1870s. Yeager was originally from Georgia. He fought in the last major battle of the war at Henderson, N.C. under Confederate General Joseph Johnston before he moved to Florida.

The major battle of the war in Florida was the battle of Ulustee on Feb. 20, 1864. Union troops came to Florida to recruit black soldiers, and sever rebel supply lines. 5,000 Confederates under the command of General Joseph Finegan, repulsed a force of 5,300 under the command of General Quincy Gilmore in the battle in Baker County. Frank said it is likely some of Okeechobee's Confederate dead were involved in this battle.

The Seminole Tribe provided 62 soldiers to the Confederate cause during the war, Frank added.

The Florida State legislature set aside April 26, as Confederate Memorial Day. The declaration in Virginia and Mississippi has drawn some protests and controversy in recent years.

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Poker run, hot rod show highlight Bike Fest

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

A poker run, burn-out pit and slow ride competition are just a few of the events to be staged at the Fourth Annual Gang Free Bike Fest.

This year's event will be held in Flagler Park on Saturday, May 8, starting at 9 a.m. when vendor booths open. The motorcycle events will get under way in the park around 1 p.m.

There will also be a balloon toss competition, a hot rod and customized motorcycle show and live entertainment.

The event is free and open to the public. According to Detective Lieutenant Brad Stark, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), the poker run will start at Cowboy's Restaurant with the first bike taking off at

9 a.m. The last bike will leave at 11 a.m. From Cowboy's, bikers will go to Big Mike's Sports Bar then continue on U.S. 441 S.E. to J&S Fish Camp. The next stop will be the Cypress Hut Eagle's Club, which will be followed by stops at the Good Spirits Lounge and the Iron Eagle. The final stop on the seven-stop run will be in Flagler Park.

"They can stop at all seven, or any five stops," said Lt. Stark. "The winner will be the best five cards."

The OCSO investigator said proceeds from the poker run will go the Gang Free Scholarship Fund. That fund gave out four, \$500 scholarships to local graduating seniors last year.

Lt. Stark said the purpose of the annual event is to raise money and awareness to help thwart recruitment of local youth into criminal street gangs. The OCSO investigator, who is charged with documenting and keeping track

of local gang activity, said he has documented 129 gangs locally and is currently working 21 active gangs.

This year, the Okeechobee Chamber of Commerce and Masonic Lodge #237 will be taking part in the Bike Fest. Chamber Executive Director Brenda Appleton said that group will have "festival type" booths in the park that will include arts and crafts vendors.

Food booths will be operated by Lodge members, she added.

These booths will help raise funds for the Chamber as well as the Masonic Lodge, said Mrs. Appleton.

To rent a booth, contact the Chamber at 863-763-6464. Booth rentals will be taken through Friday, May 7.

**ELECTION OF
NEW OFFICERS**

**American Legion Memorial
Post 64**

May 11, 2010 • 12 pm - 7:00pm

- Voters must present a 2010 membership card to receive a ballot
- Absentee ballots can be obtained by contacting **Dallas Creech, Post Adjutant** at 763.2950
- Absentee ballots must be received at the Post no later than 7:00pm on May 11 to count towards election
- Absentee ballots will be at voters' expense for return postage or may be faxed to 863.763.9602 (call first for instructions)
- Results will be published May 12

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).

• Randy Ryan Ramirez, 28, N.E. Ninth Lane, Okeechobee, was arrested April 22 by Deputy Lieutenant Keith Murrish on a warrant charging him with possession of burglary tools. His bond was set at \$5,000.

• Dionicio A. Rodriguez, 31, Okeechobee, was arrested April 22 by Deputy Joseph Hall on an

Okeechobee County warrant charging him with burglary. His bond was set at \$15,000.

• Charles Wayne Suarez, 22, Brinkerhoff Lane, Okeechobee, was arrested April 22 by Deputy Corporal Randy Thomas on a felony charge of possession of a controlled substance. He was also arrested on misdemeanor charges of resisting a law enforcement officer without violence and driving while license suspended with knowledge. His bond was set at \$6,000.

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.

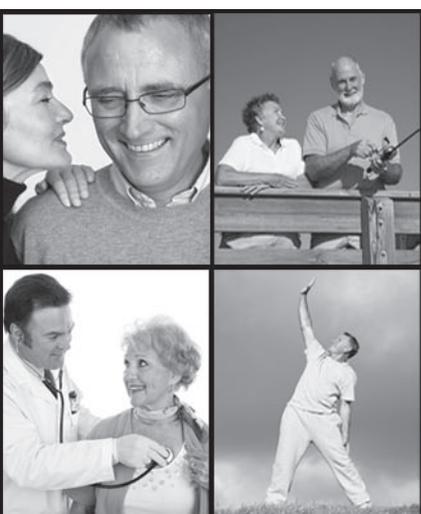
We are pleased to announce that **Ms. Penny Revels** and **Ms. Deanna Hardin** are the winners of the naming contest for Okeechobee's own assisted living community.

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 ques-



tions. 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!

County budget exceeds revenue

- I understand that the county is in need of some changes. However I do not agree with cutting peoples pay or taking peoples jobs. Maybe they should look into using some of the emergency funds they have,
- The county is in need of a million or so dollars to meet their budget. The administrators are looking at cutting pay or positions from its employees. I am against this. The county has several million in emergency funds that a million or so could be gotten from and no one lose anything. I'm in favor of this.
- Say you called 911 and stated you needed an ambulance because you were having really bad chest pains. Answer #1- OK, sir I'll stay on the line with you until the ambulance gets there, and it's on the way. OR Answer # 2- OK sir you're third on the list they will get with you when they have time. How well would you like those employee cuts then??

• How will you feel about budget cuts when you make a call and say "hey someone is breaking into my house how soon can you send a deputy my way?" Everyone always thinks it is useless until you need someone, then they want to complain. But people need to listen now before it is too late! The life you may be saving could be your own! County employees who work emergency services, i.e. firefighters, ambulance service, dispatch, and all law enforcement CANNOT AFFORD TO TAKE A HIT! Truly everyone's life depends on it. Make a cut elsewhere if you have to, but some things are SACRED!

• I do not want to see the county cut the number of officers, EMTs or firefighters on the street serving the public. But I think the county needs to take a hard look at office staff and administration in all departments. There may be some cuts they can make without endangering the public. And any "double dippers" should be first on the cut list.

Mustangs

• I was happy to see the mustangs were taken by people who will take good care of them. I hope the Buckhead Ridge woman who took the little filly with the club foot sends photos in to the paper so folks can see her progress.

• I have one mustang now, she has come a long way. They are different but, in my opinion, well worth the time and effort! I just can't believe they went for so little. I figured the prices would be higher with all the attention this has received, but I guess that just shows how the market is today. I am just glad they are safe and not off to slaughter.

• Watching the television news, I was surprised how many details about the mustang story the reporter got wrong. For example, they said the mustangs came from out west and had been adopted through the BLM program, which was not right. Only one was a freeze branded BLM mustang. The rest were the descendants of BLM mustangs born on a ranch in Myakka City -- not St. Cloud as reported on TV. Maybe the TV reporters should have read the full story in the Okeechobee News last week.

Pain clinics

• Not all pain clinics are jokes and not everyone that goes to one is doctor shopping.

Clean Lake Okeechobee

• Get Big O clean then stock it like they're doing in Lake Trafford. The restoration of that lake is awesome! Why not over here? Whatever happened to the 9-County Coalition's support of cleaning up the lake bottom? Supposedly it was understood by the powers/agencies that be, that even if water was clean flowing into Lake O from the Kissimmee, it would not be clean after flowing thru the big muck bowl that is Lake O when storm winds churn it up.

• They have contributed \$3 million so far to the project. Lake Trafford is only 1500 acres. Lake Okeechobee is 467,000 acres, 311 times the size of Trafford, meaning \$933 million and not finished yet.

• I think de-mucking 467,000 acres would equal about a billion cubic yards of muck. That would make a huge pile somewhere

Reflections from the pulpit

Jesus Loves the Little Children

By Wendy Schaffer

Pastoral Counselor, The Pregnancy Center of Okeechobee

I remember singing an old Sunday School song called "Jesus Loves the Little Children." I pondered on why Jesus loved and spoke of the children. Recently, I was reading some poetry by Edna Abbott that shed some light on the special characteristics of little children.

"I think I may have figured out why Christ loves children so,

"For little folks have lots of love to give away, you know.

"They aren't too busy with their toys to put them down awhile,

"And if you give them half a chance they'll snuggle up and smile."

Edna has touched on some of the precious qualities that Christ loves in children. When the disciples attempted to keep the children from coming to Christ, Jesus said, "Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven. And He laid His hand on them." (Matthew 19:14-15) Jesus used the children as examples for us to follow. "And Jesus called a little child unto Him, and set him in the midst of them. And said, 'Verily I say unto you, except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore humbles himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And who so shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.'" (Matthew 18:2-5) "God has graciously given children to us." (Genesis 33:5) If we, as believers, learn to be modest, to not be prideful, and to be unpretentious, we will remember our rank with God-our Father. Then we "are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus." (Galatians 3:26) In turn, Jesus says, "Ye are my friends." (John 15:1) We are not just servants of God, because God loves us and we love Him. We are to have a relationship with Him. His greatest commandment to us is to, then, love one another. (John 15:12)

Consider the following lines of poetry and ask yourself, if Jesus has a new friend in you. Edna captures the essence of what Jesus is seeking.

"I think that kids are pretty smart, they're sharp as they can be, They know when they are really liked, they're pretty fast to see.

"Right through a grown-up's plans or schemes, and know when they are wrong.

"If you're a phony they can tell, it will not take them long.

"There's something else I like about the small fry that we meet.

"They always have a zest for life, no matter on what street.

"Forgiveness from these little folk is yours upon request.

"They'll give you love at anytime, it's what they do the best.

"So share your love with little kids, and give them a fair shake.

"You'll be surprised how you'll enjoy the new friends that you make."

Okeechobee Forecast

Today: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 88. South wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Tonight: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 66. South wind around 10 mph.

Extended Forecast

Monday: A chance of showers and thunderstorms before 2pm, then a slight chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 85. West southwest wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

Monday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 63. West wind around 5 mph.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 86. West northwest wind around 5 mph becoming calm.

Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 60. West wind around 5 mph.

Lotteries

Florida Lottery — Here are the numbers selected Thursday AM in the Florida Lottery: **Cash 3:** 7-1-3; **Play 4:** 6-7-3-9; **Fantasy 5:** 7-11-13-29-36; **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 Thursday PM, **Cash 3:** 2-6-4; **Play 4:** 8-8-2-3.

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

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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.
- To provide the information citizens need to make their own intelligent decisions about public issues.

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

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Torch run benefits Special Olympics

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

Through hard work and a lot of generosity, the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) has so far raised over \$5,000 through their fundraising campaign for the Special Olympics.

Their campaign will culminate with a Law Enforcement Torch Run on Saturday, May 1, that will begin at the sheriff's office and end at Publix. Once at the supermarket on U.S. 441 S., OCSO runners will be joined by up to 50 local Special Olympic athletes for a lap around the Publix parking lot, said OCSO Major Noel Stephen.

"The (OCSO) Special Response Team will meet at the sheriff's office and carry the torch to Publix, which is one of the national sponsors of the Torch Run and Special Olympics," said Maj. Stephen. "If anyone wants to show support they can be along the route or meet at Publix."

Maj. Stephen said Lieutenant Gary Bell will carry the torch on its first leg, from the sheriff's office to the main traffic light at U.S. 441 and S.R. 70. From there, Sergeant Rob Coleman will run the second leg and carry the torch from the main light to S.E. 21st Street. The torch will then be passed to Sergeant Jimmy Mills who will carry it to its final destination at Publix.

Prior to the run, which is slated to start at 9 a.m., a brief ceremony will be held at the sheriff's office. Maj. Stephen anticipates that the OCSO runners should reach the Publix store by 10 a.m.

Even though this is the first time the OCSO has taken part in the Law Enforcement Torch Run, it has already exceeded everyone's expectations in the amount of money raised for Special Olympics.

According to OCSO Criminal Investigations Division assistant Michele Bell the sheriff's office had raised \$5,464.93 as of Friday, April 23. The money has been raised through the sale of T-shirts and caps, as well as payroll deductions by OCSO employees.

She said it's her understanding that, to date, the OCSO has raised more money for Special Olympics than Palm Beach County.

While some employees pledged \$1 or \$2 per paycheck to Special Olympics, Mrs. Bell said others have donated up to \$5 per paycheck.

"And, we've had well over 60 percent participation," she said.

The payroll deduction program started in January.

Although all of the caps have been sold, Mrs. Bell said she still has plenty of gray Law Enforcement Torch Run T-shirts for sale. The shirts are \$12 each.

"We have quite a few left, and we have all sizes except extra large," said Mrs. Bell, who added that she won't be getting any more shirts to sell.

According to the Special Olympics web site, Eunice Kennedy Shriver held a summer camp in June of 1962 that was the predecessor to the Special Olympics.

In 1968, the first International Special Olympic Summer Games were held in Chicago. The first International Special Olympic Winter Games were held in Steamboat Springs, Colo., in February of 1977.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run was launched in 1981 in Wichita, Kans., by then-Police Chief Richard LaMunyon.

The web site went on to state that the Torch Run now raises \$30 million annually for Special Olympics.

To donate or purchase a T-shirt, contact Michele Bell at 863-763-3117.



Okeechobee News/Eric Kopp

The Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) will stage a Law Enforcement Torch Run on Saturday, May 1, in honor of the Special Olympics. As a fundraiser for Special Olympics, the sheriff's office is taking donations and selling special T-shirts (shown here) for \$12 each. Major Noel Stephen (left) and Criminal Investigations Division assistant Michele Bell (right) said Friday, April 23, that the sheriff's office has raised \$5,464.93 for Special Olympics.

Health Department offers free STD testing

April is STD Awareness Month and the Okeechobee County Health Dept will be offering free STD (Sexually Transmitted Disease) testing on April 27, 28 and 29, from 9 until 11 a.m. to Okeechobee County residents. Please call 863-462-5819 for an appointment to be tested.

There are approximately 19 million new cases of sexually transmitted diseases in the U.S. each year, almost half of them among young people 15-24.

Okeechobee County had 150 reported and treated STD cases in 2009. Of the 150 cases, 134 of those were Chlamydia. Many of those who are infected do not know it because STDs do not have any symptoms. If you are sexually active and have not used a condom for protection, the only way you will know for sure is to be tested. Please take advantage of this free confidential service and know your status.

Mr. Fennell claimed that the Thursday night meeting was the first time the American Legion had heard the dates for the county fair. He said that American legion was not invited to a meeting the month before when fair dates were discussed.

Linda Syfrett, president of the board stated that the dates for next year's fair were posted at this year's fair as well as on their website. She said the dates are always the same.

"If you want a reasonable solution, back your fair up 3 days," was the opinion of Terry

Burroughs, treasurer of the fair association. Mr. Fennell said at this time he did not know what the post would do. He said the executive board of the post would have to meet to decide on their course of action.

There has been some confusion over the dates ever since the first county fair in 2007. Paul Partridge, commander of the post, thought the free fair was grandfathered in since they had been operating around the first Sunday in February for over 40 years. A letter dated Oct. 17, 2006 from Mr. Burroughs to American Legion Post 64 stated: "This letter serves as written consent as required by Florida Statute 616.13; the Okeechobee County Fair Association, Inc., has no problem with the American Legion Post 64 conducting the American Legion Free Fair during the month of February, 2007."

In 2008 and 2009 there was no conflict in dates. In 2008, the Legion fair opened on Jan. 31 and closed on Feb. 10., in 2009 the Legion fair opened Jan. 28. and closed on Feb. 8.

FAIR

Continued From Page 1

association forgot that the American Legion was held in conjunction with livestock show over 40 years ago in connection with the free fair. He said that one year some cattle got out and the America Legion was told they had to have steel pens. Mr. Fennell said that is when the fair moved to the old ag barn on U.S. 441 N.

Golf tourney planned for Chaka's Stars

Tee it up with the stars at the Okeechobee Golf and Country Club on Saturday, **May 8**, for the Second Golf Tourney to benefit Chaka's Stars. The event begins at 7:15 a.m. and is hosted by Channing Crowder and Phillip Merling of the Miami Dolphins. Registration begins with a Continental Breakfast and begins promptly at 7:15 a.m. Scramble with shotgun starts at 8 a.m. \$75 per person, \$300 per foursome. Includes lunch and prize drawings. For more information, please call Chaka Smith at 863-634-7424 or Terry at 863-763-6228.



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Community Events

Freedom Outreach holds Fishing Tournaments

The Freedom Outreach Fishing Tournaments will be held on the following dates: Sunday, **April 25**, May 30, June 27, July 25 and Aug. 29. The \$80 cash entry fee for each tournament in the series includes the Big Fish Pot and the Classic Fund, with a 70 percent payback. The final event, the Classic, will be held Sept. 26. To qualify for the classic, you must have fished at least four events from now to August. The classic will be a one-day event with a \$120 cash entry fee. All tournaments are held at Scott Driver park from safe light until 2 p.m. with Taylor Creek as the alternate in case of low water. Please register early. To get an entry application or for questions, call 863-634-3790 or 863-634-9889.

Basinger School Reunion to be held

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.

Collaborative Council sets meeting date

The next meeting of the Community Collaborative Council, a part of the Shared Services Network of Okeechobee, will be Tuesday, **April 27**, at 10 a.m. in the board room of the School Board Office.

Babysitter class planned

The Okeechobee Service Center of the American Red Cross will hold a Babysitter's Training class. Anyone interested in the class must be between the ages of 11-15 yrs. of age. The class will take place on Saturday, **May 8**, beginning 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 for the class is just \$40. For more information or to register, please call 863-763-2488 as space is limited. Lunch will be provided and participants will receive their Red Cross certification card the day of the training as well as the Babysitter's Training package.

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.

Business breakfast planned

Christian Business Breakfast, Monday, **April 26**, 7 a.m. at Hampton Inn. \$10 cash. Sponsored by Reach FM and The Tucker Group. Come have breakfast, fellowship, introduce yourself and your business and hear Brandon Tucker share from the Word a challenge for our day. If you need more information call 863-467-8080."

Dine with the Doctor

Raulerson Hospital continues the popular "Dine with the Doctor" on Tuesday, **April 27**, in the North Dining Room of Raulerson Hospital. Dine with the Doctor is a medical lecture series held on the last Tuesday of the month. Dinner service begins at 5 p.m. followed by the presentation. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Christopher Mavroides, who is board certified in Internal Medicine. Dinner tickets are \$5, the lecture is FREE. To R.S.V.P. or for more information please call Marnie Lauter, Public Relations and Marketing Coordinator for Raulerson Hospital at 863-824-2702.

OKMS Mixer event set

Okeechobee Main Street's April Mixer will be held on Thursday, **April 29**, from 5-7 p.m. This month's mixer will be co-hosted by the Hampton Inn located at 1200 NE Park Street. Our mixers are a great networking opportunity for the businesses and residents of our area. Whether you have a new or old business, new to Okeechobee or would like to know more about Okeechobee Main Street please join us for networking, refreshments, door prizes and a chance at the Mega 50-50. For more information call 863-357-MAIN (6246).

GAL meeting planned

The monthly meeting of the local Guardians ad Litem (GAL) will be held on Thursday, **April 29** from 2 until 3 p.m. The meeting will be held at Mom's Kitchen in Okeechobee, 909 S. Parrot Ave. New volunteers are always invited to come and find out more about how to help a child. Speak with one of our GALs and get a free cup of coffee!

Dinner event planned to benefit school

Get set for an evening of fine dining and entertainment on Saturday, **April 29**, at the Bream Room of the Speckled Perch, Hwy. 98 North and Hwy. 78 West. The evening will start off with appetizers at 6 p.m. for social hour until 7 p.m. when entrees will be served. A silent and live auction will be held throughout the evening. Tickets for the event are \$50 per person and all proceeds will benefit Peace Lutheran School. Seating is limited for this very special evening event so RSVP early by calling 863-763-7566.

Scouts begin new district event

The public is invited to enjoy an event hosted by the new Big Lake Boy Scout District on May 1, at the Lakeport Community Center. The new district is open to kids from all Lake Okeechobee communities. There will be a Pine Wood Derby Race, horsemanship, contests and games. Come see what scouting means to young people. There are many small things an adult can do to help the new district. The hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. More information about this event will be in the newspaper next week. Call Ray Worley, Big Lake Boy Scout District chairman, 863-447-1114.

Church Bass Tournament

The Church Challenge Bass Tournament will be held at Roland Martin's Marina on Lake Okeechobee **May 7 and 8** to benefit Florida Baptist Children's Homes. For more information contact Stan Drew at wernats@comcast.net or visit www.jump-startchildrensservices.com.



Special to the Okeechobee News/Teresa Chandler

Kiwanis Guest speaker

Joe Hasselbach, regional director, G4S Youth Services, and Tracy Zack, president Urban Tails spoke to the members about an exciting upcoming project for the youth at the G4S facility. Joe and Tracey are working to facilitate the Urban Tails program which will teach the youth respect, caring, empathy, accountability and responsibilities for dogs with one-on-one care. The dogs in the program have been abandoned by owners and rescued by Urban Tails. G4S will be holding a fundraiser to help with the cost of the kennels needed. Pictured here left to right, Jerry O'Bannon, Joe Hasselbach, Tracey Zach and Jim Vensel. For more information, please contact Joe Hasselbach at 863-763-2174.



Special to the Okeechobee News/OKMS

Grand opening

Okeechobee Main Street helped new business owners Richard Sampson and Michelle Crawford celebrate the grand opening of Fly-N-Hi Enterprises on Saturday, April 17. Several hundred people shared in the Ribbon Cutting ceremony that took place at 10:30 a.m. followed by plenty of food & drink, gift drawings and raffles, monster trucks, antique cars, bounce houses and a live DJ. Fly-N-Hi is located at 4375 U.S. 441 South. From left to right are: Okeechobee Main Street's Terry Burroughs and Maureen Burroughs, City Councilman Dowling Watford, Fly-N-High employee Kayla Neswick, Owners: Michelle Crawford and Rich Sampson, Jamie Tindall, Megan Schooley OKMS Executive Director Toni Doyle and City Councilman Mike O'Connor. Not pictured, County Commissioner Noel Chandler.

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Elks Club working to reorganize local chapter

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

The Elks Club is a great organization. It once existed in Okeechobee and, like the phoenix, it could possibly rise again.

Years ago Okeechobee had a thriving Elks Club. According to Ernie Basil, who is trying to reorganize the Elks Club in Okeechobee, the local club folded about 10 years ago as members passed away and moved out of the area. He said the club dwindled down until there were 5 to ten people trying to keep it going.

The Okeechobee Elks Club finally disbanded with those who wanted to remain active attending meetings in other cities. He said some former Okeechobee members went to Stuart and he belongs to an Elks Club in Jupiter. When the local organization disbanded, the building was sold. That money has been kept in an interest bearing account by the Elks organization and would be available for purchase of property and construction of a new building.

Mr. Basil said that in order to reconstitute the club and have access to that money, they must have 125 people signed up. In order to be an Elk a person must be over 21, be a U.S. citizen and believe in God. They would have to pay a \$30 initiation fee which would be held in a guaranteed account. If the

magic number of 125 is not reached, those who paid would have their money refunded. Mr. Basil said that 42 people have signed up and he has contacted 40 or 50 former Elks. The Grand Lodge of the Elks Club has been notifying him of Elks from other areas who move to the Okeechobee area. He has been contacting them to see if they would be interested in joining.

According to Mr. Basil, the Elks Club supports many charities such as the Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts and veterans organizations. In Florida there are two state wide charities supported by the Elks. One is a mobile physical therapy service that sends vans around the state to help children up to 16 years old free of charge. The other charity is a youth camp with 750 acres and 45 cabins. This camp is rated the number one camp facility the country.

The new Okeechobee Elks Club would be more family oriented with a fitness area and a game room. Mr. Basil said they are trying to attract younger members. They would also like to have outdoor space for barbecues. Mr. Basil, who has been an Elk since 1985, said the Elks Club will have a booth in Flagler Park on May 8 for the bike fest to draw attention to their cause. Anyone who is interested in joining the Elks Club can call Mr. Basil at 863-610-0470.

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Special to the Okeechobee News/EES

Achieving excellence

Everglades Elementary students selecting for achieving excellence in the classroom for the week of April 19-23, include: kindergarten students, Madison Lilley, David McFarling, Damian Becerril, Cyla Jenkins; first grade students, Aubrie McWhorter, Kasey Maguire, Alias Wingfield, Holt Jones, Armando Rodriguez; second graders, Estephany Alvarez, Jose Santibanez, Jocilyn Dickhart, Melanie Urvina, Destiney Jones; third grade students, Destiney Deese, Licett Castaneda, Angelina Ames, Ariel Girardi, Zachary Williams, Cheyenne Crum, Brian Sell; fourth graders, Lance Murphy, Kaylan Adams, Keith Morgan, Jeffrey Chapman, Jared Joyner and Erin Holley, Dilmer Larowe, Kasey Durand, Baruc Esquivel, Brittany Stone. Congratulations! to our many outstanding students.



Special to the Okeechobee News/CES

Students of the Week

Central Elementary School students selected as students of the week for April 10, include: kindergarten students, Bryant Rasmussen, Khamari Jones, Alyssa Brooks, Vanessa Johnson, Alexander; First grade, Jerett Butts, Jasmine Lewis, Clayton Culligan, Michael Harvey, Yuliana Licea, Joshua Leulians, Allison Meara; second graders, Matthew Manqold, Jasmin Montano, Elizabeth Casas, Artemio Virto, Moises Fernandez; third grade students, Cristian Suarez, Elana Rodriguez, Paisley Plant and fourth graders, Sally Tijerina, Jessica Trent, Danielle Martinez and Timothy Leitner.

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New Okeechobee Veterinary Hospital opens for business

State-of-the-art clinic goes to the dogs – and cats

Cats and dogs in Okeechobee soon will receive treatment in a new, state-of-the-art health care facility now that the Okeechobee Veterinary Hospital owned by Jim Harvey, DVM and Rene Harvey has received its certificate of occupancy.

Built by Kirchman Construction Co., the two-story, 8,375 sq. ft building was a \$1.66 million project, making it one of the larger privately funded commercial projects in Okeechobee County in the past couple of years. It was completed about 30 days ahead of schedule.

According to Ronnie Kirchman, vice president of Kirchman Construction, the new hospital incorporates a number of special features, including a unique double-door vestibule entrance that allows animals to adjust to the clinic environment before coming into the reception lobby. In addition:

Check-in and check-out stations are in separate areas so that animals can be taken directly out of the building after treatment in-

stead of going through the reception area. The reception area is anchored by a 12-foot high, stone veneer wall that separates the check-in and check-out stations, and boasts a tongue-and-groove cedar ceiling.

There are six exam rooms and a surgical suite with two operating rooms, radiology and prep rooms. The hospital also has 14 dog runs and a separate feline kennel area, and the building is storm-proof, with a Galvalume metal roof and hurricane-rated impact windows and doors throughout.

The building was designed by BDA Architecture of Albuquerque, NM, which is one of the nation's leading designers of animal care facilities, but most of the construction work was done by subcontractors based in Okeechobee County.

"We always try to support the communities we build in by hiring local subcontractors," said Mr. Kirchman, who served as project manager. "In this case, we didn't have to look far, and were able to work with such talented partners as Earnest Electric, Charlie Williams Masonry and Tradewinds Surveyors & Mappers."



Okeechobee News/Katrina Elsken

The new Okeechobee Veterinary Hospital was built adjacent to the old clinic on S.R. 70 W. with new, state-of-the-art features.

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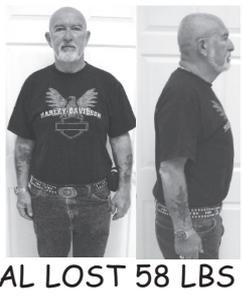
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Elvis lives! OHS Drama Club presents 'All Shook Up'

The students of Okeechobee High School Drama Club and Band will be performing the musical "All Shook Up," which features the music of Elvis Presley.

In the play a roustabout, Chad, played by Judson Harris, busts in to a small midwest town and gets the townspeople dancing and

falling in love all over the place. Lead female, Natalie, played by Jillian Jaynes, falls in love with Chad and goes through a lot to try to get his attention. During all of this all of the other town people are falling in love. With an energetic cast and fun music, this musical will have you dancing in your blue suede

shoes! Cast includes - Judson Harris, Jillian Jaynes, Quirino Rubio, Amanda Jansen, Kylie Shirley, Chris Rodriguez, Emma Marshall, Emilie Legé, George Roberson, Kyle Foster, Matthew Fraser, Nathan Steen, Tim Gray, Dylan Hughes, Isabella Penido, Lauren Fusco, Amanda Lamberti, Tabitha Smith, Er-

icka Klingler, Tamara Rix, Crystal Young, and Shawn Horvath. Show times and dates are April 30, May 7, and May 8, all at 7:30 p.m. Student tickets are \$5 and Adults \$10, you can buy tickets in advance or at the door. Doors open at 7 p.m. each evening.

Jobless rate dips in March

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Unemployment lines got a little shorter in Okeechobee and Glades Counties during March according to the latest report released by the Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation, Labor Market Statistics Center.

Okeechobee had 13.2 percent unemployment in March which compared to 13.8 percent in February. There were 2,435 people out of work last month in Okeechobee and 2,534 during February. In March, 2009, unemployment levels stood at 10.7 percent.

Glades County had 11.5 percent unem-

ployment in March when 523 residents were without a job. In February the jobless rate was 12.1 percent. There were 543 residents out of work in February.

The state unemployment rate decreased from 12.3 percent to 12 percent in March. The jobless rate was 2.5 percent higher this year when compared to March, 2009.

Around the Big Lake area Hendry County had 14.1 percent unemployment, Martin reported 12.7 percent unemployment, Palm Beach County 12.1 percent, St. Lucie 14.6 percent, and Highlands 11.9 percent.

Shrine Club presents Margaritaville Night

Celebrate "Margaritaville Night" every Thursday at the Okeechobee Shrine Club where we will offer Tacos Two "Fer" \$3. Music provided by Jim Elder and Friends. 4-8 p.m. - Smoke Free environment. Proceeds will benefit Shrine activities. For information, contact the Shrine Club at 763-3378. For information regarding this announcement, please contact Kip Gardner at 863-357-0427.



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Deadline extended for ag emergency assistance

Diane Conway, County Executive Director of USDA's Farm Service Agency in Okeechobee County has announced that USDA will accept late-filed applications for the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) for losses that took place in calendar years 2008 and 2009. ELAP sign-up ended on Dec. 10, 2009, for 2008 losses and on Feb. 1, 2010, for 2009 losses. However, because of changes to program eligibility provisions, FSA is now accepting late-filed applications for 2008 and 2009 livestock, honeybees, and/or farm-raised fish losses through May 5, 2010.

"ELAP provides emergency assistance to eligible producers of livestock, honeybees and farm-raised fish that have losses due to disease, adverse weather or other conditions, including losses due to blizzards and wildfires," said CED Conway.

According to CED Conway, ELAP assistance is for losses not covered under other Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance programs established by the 2008 Farm Bill, specifically the Livestock Forage Disaster Program, the Livestock Indemnity Program and the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program. ELAP is being implemented to fill in the gap and provide assistance under other conditions deter-

mined to be appropriate.

ELAP eligibility provisions have been amended for both honeybee and farm-raised fish producers. The modifications include allowing honeybee and farm-raised fish producers who did not replace their honeybees or fish that were lost due to a natural disaster to be eligible for ELAP payments based on the fair market value of the honeybees or fish that were lost. In addition, the requirements to document losses for honeybee producers who suffered losses due to Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) were modified to allow documentation by an independent third party for losses in 2010 through Sept. 31, 2011. Producers can self certify losses due to CCD for 2008 and 2009.

For more information or to apply for ELAP and other USDA Farm Service Agency disaster assistance programs, please visit your FSA county office or www.fsa.usda.gov.

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

Okeechobee Livestock Market Report

April 19 & 20, 2010			Med #1	Steers	Hfhrs	Small #1	
Cows			170-190	160-185	145-175	220-235	110-115
Breaking	\$53.00	\$60.00	200-250	150-155	117-137	300-350	125-140
Cutter	\$49.00	\$59.00	250-300	145-160	115-120	350-400	100-120 101-107
Canner	\$41.00	\$45.00	300-350	135-152	110-120		
			350-400	134-148	109-116		
			400-450	125-138	103-116		
			450-500	114-131	100-110		
			550-600	104-115	98-105		
			600-650	99-108	90-99		
Bulls							
1000-1500	\$62.00	\$68.00					
1500-2000	\$65.00	\$72.00					
Monday	Tuesday		Med #2	Steers	Hfhrs		
Calves	324	797	150-200	120-147	100-125		
Cows	201	411	200-250	124-142	105-115		
Str	21	24	250-300	108-147	106-120		
Hfhrs	5	20	300-350	100-105	100-114		
Bulls	4	16	350-400	105-131	96-110		
Yrlngs	67	51	400-450	102-122	95-106		
Mix	34	40					
Total	655	1359					

Well, cattle weren't any higher this week, for once. Most classes of calves were steady, 4-500# seem to have the most demand. Cows and bulls were mostly steady. Far-Mar Ent. topped the calf market with a high of \$1.90, bought by Curt Wilson. Robert Capote and JB Ranch topped the cow market with a high of \$63.00, bought by Central. We are now broadcasting our sales live on the internet—go to www.imauctions.com and follow directions to view sales every monday and Tuesday.

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Senior is integral part of two teams

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

If you ask two coaches at Okeechobee High School which player would you least like to lose, it is a good bet that their answer would be the same, Aaron Suarez.

The senior has earned praise from team-



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Aaron Suarez gets ready for an at bat during a recent Brahman game.

mates and coaches alike for his emphasis on team work and hard work.

Baseball coach Dylan Tedders said Suarez is all about team. He does the little things that help the Brahms win. He will lay down a bunt. He'll move the runners around by hitting ground balls to the right side. He always hustles, and does a great job on defense at second base.

Suarez said it just feels good to play sports and be around the team, "I just try to be the best teammate that I can be. If a guy makes a mistake I try to help them and lift them up."

Suarez is often seen going to the mound to settle pitchers down. He tries to help the younger pitchers feel comfortable.

"I just go to the mound and relax them by saying something funny or reassuring. I tell them to trust their defense because we always have their back. I just try to make them feel calm," he added.

Basketball Coach Bryan Van Camp also has high praise of Suarez. He said it was very important to the team when Suarez came back after a year off. He praised his leadership on the floor and his ability to make his teammates better.

Suarez said he went back to basketball because his friends asked him to. He said he played with a lot of them in middle school, and in the county recreation league. "My friends kind of talked me into it. I missed playing basketball because it's one of my favorite sports."

Suarez didn't seem bothered by the year off from basketball. He immediately became a factor as he became the starter at point guard by the end of the year. His ball handling skills, knowledge of the offense, tough defense, and accurate three-point shooting, were big assets for the Brahms who won 15 games this year.

"I had to practice a little bit and it took me a little bit of time. About midway through the season I felt good. I just love playing basketball," Suarez said.

And his coaches and teammates loved having him too.

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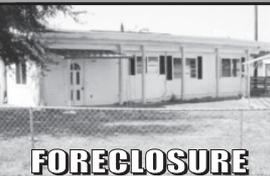
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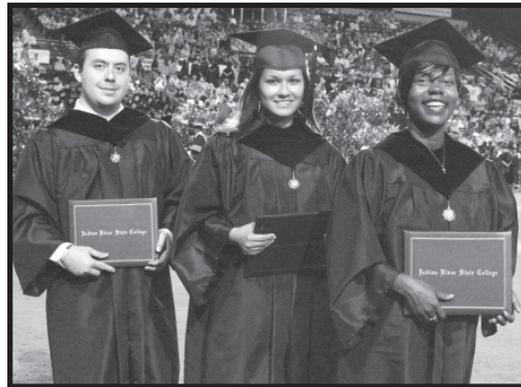
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 REDUCED	1012-H: 4/2 CBS home in town conveniently close to everything on a large Lot. Chain linked fenced. Call today for further info. \$100,000 MLS# 203380	 NEW LISTING	3005-M: Waterfront Mobile home in Treasure Island with concrete seawall, some appliances, walk in closets, shed, screen room, only five years old. Call for further info. MLS #203728
 FORECLOSURE	3006-M: Waterfront fenced Double Wide Mobile home with porch and addition located in Treasure Island. \$44,900 MLS #203898		5005-H: King's Bay 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath home with rear screen in porch, attached garage, Breakfast Bar, and more. \$135,000 MLS #203579
 FORECLOSURE	5010-H: 3 bedroom home in Orange Blossom nice location (NE 2nd Ter). Home will need some work. \$45,000 MLS #203753	 FORECLOSURE	5011-M: 3 Bedroom 2 bath Mobile Home with carport, screened in porch. Needs some TLC. Located in Pine Oaks Village (SE 96th Cir). \$44,900 MLS #203831

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Yard Sale located behind Town Star on Hwy. 70 West Various Items.



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Automobiles

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Utility box, Auto, A/C, 6.0 V8 #U3106
 - 2003 Dodge Ram 1500** Only \$9495*
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V-8, A/C, Leather, TV, Loaded #U6125
 - 1997 Geo Tracker** only \$1995*
5 sp, 4 cyl, new tires, #U2900
 - 2003 Mitsubshi Spider Conv.** only \$6295*
Auto, Leather, Loaded #U2337
 - 2001 VW Jetta** only \$4995*
5 spd, 4 cyl, moon roof, gas saver #U0188
 - 2000 Ford Expedition XLT** only \$5995*
V8, auto, a.c, leather, 3rd row seating, loaded, #U3225
 - 1999 BMW 528i Black Beauty** only \$5995*
auto, a/c, 6 cyl, leather, moon roof, loaded #U1390
 - 2002 Mercury Villager Van** only \$5695*
7 pass, A/C, moon roof, leather interior, loaded #U8436
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Public Notice

NOTICE UNDER FICTITIOUS NAME LAW
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, pursuant to the "Fictitious Name Statute," will register with Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations the fictitious name, to wit:
King Enterprise
Under which we expect to engage in business at:
517 E. Village Street
Okeechobee, FL 34974
In the City of Okeechobee/County of Okeechobee, Florida.
That the parties in said Business enterprise are:
King Enterprise
Dated at Okeechobee, Okeechobee County, Florida this the 22nd day of April, 2010.
Ray Burn King
352402 ON 4/25/10

Public Notice

RFP #2010-08 OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FL INVITATION TO BID POOL CHEMICALS AND BULK TANK BID
Notice is hereby given that Okeechobee County, Florida, hereby requests sealed bids for the supply and delivery on an annual basis of pool chemicals consisting of sodium hypochlorite (liquid chlorine) and non-fuming Aqua Guard Pool Acid to the Sports Complex swimming pool located at 580 NW 27th Lane, Okeechobee, FL. Contractor shall also include the installation of a 1,000 gallon minimum capacity High Density Polyethylene tank if the Contractor cannot supply a visual inspection as specified in 5240.44 of the South Florida Building Code-Hazardous Storage Section for the existing tank. Bids should be submitted on the "Invitation to Bid" summary sheet. Detailed specifications may be obtained from Darrell Enfinger, Parks and Recreation Director, 640 NW 27th Lane, Okeechobee, FL 34972, (863) 763-6950.
Bids are due no later than Monday, May 10, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. and shall be submitted in a sealed envelope and clearly marked "OKEECHOBEE COUNTY POOL CHEMICALS AND BULK TANK BID, RFP #2010-08". Proposals are to be submitted to: Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners at 312 NW 3rd Street, Room 206, Okeechobee, FL 34972. Bids received after the deadline for submission will not be opened or considered.
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER; FAIR HOUSING & HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE JURISDICTION. Okeechobee County reserves the right to waive formalities or informalities, to reject or award any and all bids or part(s) thereof, or to negotiate further with any or all bidders and accepts no responsibility for the expense of preparation or delivery of bids to the County. Responses to the "Invitation to Bid" will be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners on or after May 13, 2010, with recommendation(s) for bid award(s).
Sharon Robertson, Clerk Clif Betts, Jr., Chairman
Okeechobee County, Florida Okeechobee Board of County Commissioners
352444 ON 4/25/10

INVITATION TO BID SIDE ARM TRACTOR MOWER BID NO. PW 03-00-04-10
Sealed Bids will be received by the City of Okeechobee at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Avenue, Rm. 101, Okeechobee, FL 34974, no later than **10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 7, 2010**. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the City Council Chambers. Bids may not be revoked after bid opening. Any BIDS received after the time specified will not be accepted.
Bid packets can be obtained from the Office of the General Services Department, 863-763-3372 x217, during normal hours, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except holidays.
Envelopes should be clearly marked **"Side Arm Tractor Mower Bid No. PW 03-00-04-10"** and may be hand delivered or mailed to the address listed above. Facsimile or emailed bids will not be accepted.
The City has the right to accept or reject any and all bids, with or without cause, to waive technical errors deemed most advantageous to the City. All bids shall remain open for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days from the date of the bid opening.
Donnie Robertson, Public Works Director
352304 ON 4/25/10

Earn some extra cash. Sell your used items in the classifieds

Your next job could be in today's classifieds. Did you look for it?

Sudoku

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

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

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

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

ANSWER:

Yellow journalism? Not us!



In this age of exploitive and trashy media, we're proud to be different. We believe in operating and publishing our newspaper as a public trust.

Fulfilling our public trust requires that we try to bring out the best in our community and its people. We seek the highest common denominators, not the lowest. We don't engage in gutter journalism. We know we can achieve success on the high road.

How are we doing?
Let us know by emailing feedback@newszap.com or calling your editor.

OKEECHOBEE NEWS
Community Service Through Journalism



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

Okeechobee schools are now participating in the "Go Green-Get Green" recycling program sponsored by SP Recycling of Fort Pierce. Getting the program started are, left to right, Renee Geeting, principal at South Elementary School, Brian Greseth, principal at Seminole Elementary School, Vanessa McAllister, assistant principal at Central Elementary School, Mary Paulson, assistant principal at South Elementary School, Randy Paulson, principal at Central Elementary School, Jim Fusco, custodian at Everglades Elementary School, Graceanna Henderson of SP Recycling and Dale Barrett, director of operations for Okeechobee schools.

Okeechobee schools recycle

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee residents will now be able to help the environment by recycling old paper and help the schools at the same time.

All 10 Okeechobee schools are participating in the "Go Green-Get Green" recycling program sponsored by SP Recycling of Fort Pierce. Each school has a red and green dumpster for recycled paper. This is not only for the use of the school but private citizens and businesses are also encouraged to use the dumpsters. Money earned from recycling at each school will be retained in that school's internal account.

Dale Barrett, director of operations for the school system, said that one good thing about this recycling program is that it accepts shredded paper. In the past all shredded paper from the schools had to be sent to the landfill. In addition to shredded paper the Go Green-Get Green program accepts newspapers, magazines and office papers. The program does not accept cardboard,

telephone books or wrapping paper and bows.

If businesses have enough waste paper to warrant their own dumpster, they should contact Graceanna Henderson of SP Recycling at 561-662-4382. A dumpster will be placed at their business and the proceeds from recycled paper will be applied to the nearest school.

For over 28 years SP Recycling has been the leader in recycling newspapers, collecting and purchasing more than one million tons of old newspapers each year. The parent company of SP Recycling, SP Newsprint Company, is the nation's largest producer of 100 percent recycled newspaper. SP Recycling purchases old newspaper through its ten Florida divisions and its other 27 processing facilities in 12 states.

Contact the office at your nearest school to find out where to drop off the paper.

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

Brahman Theatre

April 23rd - April 29th

For Info, Call 763-7202

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THEATRE II: "BOUNTY HUNTER"
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THEATRE III: "LAST SONG"
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