

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 101 No. 57

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

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Pedestrian struck by car on SR 70
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OHS graduates do well in college softball ... Page 16

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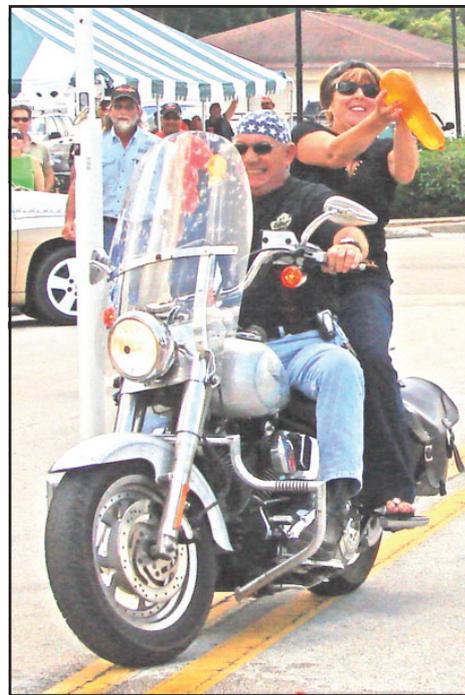
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Fun and Games: Gang Free Bike Fest



Detective Bill Maerki of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office holds his Harley-Davidson motorcycle steady while his wife Ellen Maerki throws and catches a water-filled balloon during the balloon toss game at the Saturday, May 8, Gang Free Bike Fest held in Flagler Park.
... see Page 2

Okeechobee News/Eric Kopp

OUA approves settlement with developer

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

At their meeting on Tuesday, May 11 the Okeechobee Utility Authority (OUA) Board of Directors were presented information on fire hydrants that would have answered a lot of customers' questions had it been available last month. They also approved a settlement with one of the developers that is behind on his developer agreement payments.

Last month the meeting hall was filled with customers who

had questions about fire hydrants the board could not answer. This month the answer to those questions was presented as staff gave a detailed report on fire hydrant installation and maintenance. The board was presented with a chart that showed how much money was set aside each year since 2002 for fire hydrants, how much was actually spent on fire hydrants each year and how many fire hydrants were installed each year. It has been the policy of OUA since 2002 to set aside 50 cents each month from each customer for

fire hydrants. Since 2002 a total of \$494,736 has been collected for that purpose and \$218,245 was spent for a total of 84 fire hydrants. In addition, John Hayford, OUA's executive director, presented maps of the entire OUA system showing the location of existing and proposed fire hydrants. The proposed locations did not cover some subdivisions such as Taylor Creek Isles, Basswood and Oak Park because those subdivisions do not have large enough water mains to support fire hydrants. Adding a fire hydrant every 1,000 feet, Mr. Hay-

ford calculated that 122 additional fire hydrants would be needed at an expected cost of \$698,588. If the 50 cents per bill generates \$55,000 per year it will take almost 13 years to install those proposed 122 fire hydrants.

There were 28 fire hydrants installed in 2009, the largest number of any year. Mr. Hayford said that in the future OUA crews would try to install around 30 fire hydrants a year.

These figures pertain to existing

See OUA— Page 13

Jealous attack led to crash, jurors told

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

The stage was set that March afternoon in 2009 for something bad to happen.

James Mullin and his girlfriend, Angela Gehle, were fighting. They were fighting because Mullin was jealous of Angela's estranged husband, Anthony Richard Gehle—even though the couple had been separated for two years.

When the fighting finally ended, Anthony 'Tony' Gehle, 24, was dead and Mullin was on the run.



James Mullin

See TRIAL — Page 2

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Okeechobee News/Eric Kopp

Bike Fest

(Above) Phil Conroy of Okeechobee thrilled the crowd on Saturday, May 8, at the fourth annual Gang Free Bike Fest as he smoked the rear tire of his Harley-Davidson motorcycle in the burnout pit. Helping Mr. Conroy is Marc Sandlin, who emceed the one-day event. (At right) Taylor Davis shoved 'em in as fast as she could and she went on to win the kids' doughnut eating contest.



TRIAL

Continued From Page 1

In Okeechobee Circuit Court Tuesday, May 11, jurors heard how Mr. Gehle took his daughter, Catelyn, to see her mother on March 12, 2009. They heard how Mullin tried his best to goad Mr. Gehle into a fight but when the much larger man would not take the bait, Mullin hit him anyway.

With blood streaming from a cut over his left eye, Mr. Gehle told his sister-in-law he wanted to get his then-5-year-old daughter out of there. As Mr. Gehle tried to leave Mullin's home in Oak Park, the still enraged Mullin apparently jumped onto the hood of Mr. Gehle's 2004 red Toyota.

"Mullin was trying to punch Tony and trying to hit him in the face," Assistant State Attorney Don Richardson told the jury in his opening statement.

Mr. Richardson went on to call Mullin, who is charged with one count of manslaughter and two counts of culpable negligence with personal injury, a "lunatic."

"He (Mullin) wanted to fight, but Tony wouldn't fight him," testified Mrs. Gehle, now 24, who told jurors that she had been living with Mullin for about six months.

As Mr. Gehle tried to get his daughter away from Mullin, he ran a stop sign at the intersection of S.E. 32nd Ave. and S.W. 21st St. The Toyota was then hit in the driver's side door by an oncoming F-350 pickup pulling a trailer loaded down with irrigation and lawn maintenance equipment.

Because his window was open, Mr. Gehle's head struck the grill of the 1-ton pickup. His death came quickly, testified District 19 Medical Examiner Roger Mittleman. At this point, Mullin, now 37, was no longer on the hood of the Toyota. Once the car had come to rest in the ditch after careening off the guardrail, Mullin returned to the Toyota and

reportedly hit Mr. Gehle several more times for "... still talking ... about me," stated an arrest report by Detective Ted Van Deman of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO). Mullin fled the area and was finally arrested on June 7, 2009, in Pinellas County as he prepared to board the 44-foot Hatteras charter boat "Quality Time" to go fishing in the Gulf.

While Mullin was on the lam, Catelyn was undergoing surgeries for the numerous lacerations to her tiny face. Her aunt, Amber Anthony, suffered a back injury in the crash.

It was pointed out to the jury that Catelyn was not wearing a seat belt when the crash occurred. When queried Tuesday morning, Ms. Anthony told the jury that she had ridden with Mr. Gehle "thousands of times" and that he was always careful to secure his daughter in a seat belt. But on that day, she said there wasn't time because he wanted to get his daughter away from Mullin.

Esdras Gomez, 33, dressed in an orange Okeechobee County Jail jumpsuit, said he had no time to react and plowed into the driver's side door of the red Toyota. Gomez was not charged in the accident. However, he was arrested on Aug. 18, 2009, on charges unrelated to the crash.

While on the stand, Gomez said when he saw the small four-door car run the stop sign no one was on the hood. However, he did say when he first saw the car he saw "... a guy on the hood of the car." He told jurors he saw the man reach inside the open driver's side window, but he couldn't tell if the man was trying to hit the driver or if he was holding onto the car. After the crash, Gomez said he never saw that man again.

Wednesday, jurors will hear from an expert who is expected to testify that DNA from blood drops found on the hood of the car will match Mullin's DNA sample.

"There are 6 billion people on the earth and only one person's DNA matches that found on the car—and that's the defendant," Mr. Richardson told the jury.

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Indiantown man faces sexual battery and burglary charges

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News



Oreste Salazar

An Indiantown man has been arrested and charged with reportedly breaking into a woman's home and sexually assaulting her while her three small children were in the home.

Oreste Salazar, 31, S.W. Reliance St., was arrested Sunday, May 9, on felony charges of sexual battery, false imprisonment and burglary with battery. He is being held without bond on those charges.

Salazar was also charged with the misdemeanor of trespass. His bond on that charge has been set at \$5,000.

According to an arrest report by Deputy Yamil Astacio of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) a burglar went to the woman's mobile home and used a

screwdriver to pry open a door. Once inside, he went to her bedroom and waited.

The report indicates that the man and the woman knew each other.

When the woman and her children returned home, the man reportedly came out of the bedroom and started arguing with her. He then reportedly grabbed her arm and pulled her into the bedroom where he allegedly tried to assault her. However, a vehicle pulled into the yard and the man then went outside, the report added.

The woman then locked the doors to her home. Deputy Astacio said as the man and woman were arguing in the bedroom, the children were crying and could hear everything.

The deputy's report goes on to state that sometime later the woman fell asleep on a

couch. When she woke, Salazar was reportedly standing over her.

At this point, he held the woman down and sexually battered her.

As he was leaving the home, the man told the woman she had better leave town or "... he would make her life hell" and threatened to burn down her trailer, stated the deputy's report.

The OCSO deputy said during his investigation he not only obtained surveillance video from a store that showed Salazar buying a screwdriver, he also photographed

pry marks on the back door of the mobile home.

Deputy Astacio said the woman sustained minor injuries. The deputy went on to state that the victim had told him she had grabbed her attacker about the neck and biceps.

When the deputy later found Salazar, he had the man pull up the sleeves of his shirt. At this point, Deputy Astacio said he could see small bruises on the man's biceps.

The arrest report went on to state that on Jan. 22 Salazar had been trespassed from the property by OCSO Deputy Paul Jackson.

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).

- Efrain Tyson, 19, N.W. 53rd Terrace, Okeechobee, was arrested May 7, by DOC's Joseph Cracchiola on a warrant charging him with violation of probation - grand theft and violation of probation - giving false information for pawned items. He is being held without bond.

- Antonio Hernandez Ramirez, 35, N.E. Sixth Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested May 8, by Deputy Joseph Gracie on charges of driving under the influence with property damage and no valid driver's license. His bond was set at \$1,250.

- Kimberly Ann Roberson, 41, N.W. 82nd Court, Okeechobee, was arrested May 8, by Deputy John Hazy on a charge of driving under the influence. Her bond was set at \$500.

- Jeffery Lee Armstrong, 42, Boys Ranch Road, Waco, Texas, was arrested May 8, by FWC's Michael Davis on a charge of boating under the influence. His bond was set at \$500.

- Chase Everett Zureich, 24, N.E. 96th

Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested May 8, by Officer Jack Boon on Department of Corrections warrants charging him with grand theft and escape. He is being held without bond.

- Thomas Jay Draughon, 20, N.W. 26th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested May 8, by Deputy Mark Shireman on Okeechobee County warrants charging him with violation of probation - criminal mischief and violation of probation - possession of a controlled substance. He is being held without bond.

- Moses Matehula Garcia, 35, N.W. 30th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested May 9, by Deputy Joseph Gracie on a charge of driving under the influence. His bond was set at \$500.

- Mitchell Ray Hatfield, 20, U.S. 441 N., Okeechobee, was arrested May 10, by Deputy Joseph Hall on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with grand theft. His bond was set at \$2,500.

- Matthew Ryan Colavecchio, 31, S.E. 50th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested May 10, by Officer Russell Cale on a charge of grand theft. His bond was set at \$2,500.

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.

Fire damages trailer and RV

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Approximately \$13,500 in property damage was reported after a fire on May 7 at 325 N.W. 12th Avenue, Okeechobee County Fire Rescue said.

A report from Lt. Terry Parrish said firemen found about 35 percent of the single wide trailer engulfed in flames when they arrived just before noon. Firemen acted quickly to protect a nearby RV parked at the north end of the trailer.

Parrish said it appeared an electrical problem in the living room contributed to the fire. The trailer was owned by Laurie Blair and was occupied by Angel Garcia.

Two units and six firemen from the county and city fire department were dispatched to the scene. Firemen were on the scene for over two hours. There were no injuries reported.

Firemen reported the RV suffered some heat exposure. The damage was estimated at \$500. The RV was owned by Donald Peterson, firemen said.

Pedestrian struck by car on SR 70

A Hispanic man is listed as being in critical condition at a Fort Pierce hospital after he was reportedly struck by car while walking across S.R. 70 W. around 9:24 p.m. Sunday. According to a report by Officer Ryan Holroyd of the Okeechobee City Police Department (OCPD), the unidentified man was struck by a 2003 Chevrolet Cavalier that was driven by Ruby Byers, 68, of Okeechobee.

The report indicates that the officer found the man lying on his back in front of the La Placita Supermarket, 1002 N.W. Park St. Officer Holroyd said the man appeared to have severe trauma to his forehead, and that he could smell alcohol on the man.

No identification was found on the man or in a backpack that was found next to him, stated the report. The man was taken to Lawnwood Regional Medical Center.

Officer Holroyd's report went on to add that a witness stated that Ms. Byers was not speeding or driving in a reckless manner when the May 9 accident occurred.

The witness reportedly told the OCPD officer that the victim was walking northbound across S.R. 70 W. from the south side of the road. The accident scene was turned over to OCPD traffic homicide investigators Sergeant Justin Bernst and Officer Phillip Edgings, stated Officer Holroyd.

Okeechobee County Roadwatch

Roadwatch was prepared by Florida Department of Transportation, District One Office, Bartow. For additional information call 863-519-2362.

Road projects under way in Okeechobee County this week include:

- SW 9th Street, SW 11th Avenue and SW 7th Avenue: In the City of Okeechobee: Construction project: This project consists of sidewalk installation at various locations on SW 9th Street, SW 11th Avenue and SW 7th Avenue and drainage improvements. Motorists should use caution while in these areas. The contractor is BNB Engineering.

- U.S. 441: At various locations: Maintenance project—Crews will be working in the right-of-way performing storm sewer videoing and cleaning. Lane closures are possible and delays are expected. Motorists are advised to use caution then approaching work zone.

- U.S. 441: At the Taylor Creek Draw-bridge: Bridge maintenance project—

There will be intermittent eastbound and westbound lane closures on U.S. 441 on Wednesday, May 12 and Thursday, May 13 from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. each day for bridge maintenance. Motorists are advised to use caution while in the area and to expect possible delays.

- S.R. 710: Beginning at the Martin County Line: Maintenance project—Crews will be working on the shoulders of the roadway beginning at the Martin County Line and continuing for two miles. Lane closures are possible and motorists are asked to use caution while in the area and to expect possible delays.

- S.R. 78: Over the Kissimmee River: Bridge maintenance project—There will be intermittent northbound and southbound lane closures beginning Monday, May 10 through Thursday, May 13 from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Motorists are advised to use caution while in the area and to expect possible delays.

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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!

Gangs

• I am not a violent person. Not as an adult and I never was as a child. However... if a group of people came at me with all intent of beating me senseless REGARDLESS of what they felt I may or may not have done. If they followed through on their intent and lay hands on me, I would shoot them to defend myself. Regardless of what you may hear about Okeechobee, beating someone up for any reason, is not legal. That is why there is a court system in this country. A police report is just that. The initial information. Follow an investigation start to finish and you would see once more information is discovered more arrests take place.

All Shook Up

• I would like to thank the audience members who came to see the high school musical "All Shook Up" Friday evening. Our light board died on us before the show started. Maintenance came and worked on it but could never get it going again. We started the play 15 minutes late trying to get the lighting fixed. The audience sat there patiently waiting. The audience was so receptive to the performance, giving the performance a standing ovation at the end. The students have worked very hard on this musical. We have the best, supportive audiences, parents, faculty and staff. Also, a big thank you to the students who adjusted to the last minute changes and gave a great performance even with the technical difficulties.

• It was a great show - everyone involved did a fantastic job. Kudos to all.

• The high school play was great fun for the whole family. Anyone who didn't attend really missed out on a fun evening.

County budget

• All the local businesses are making cut-backs. Maybe it is time for the county to do so as taxpayers cannot afford the bills.

• Is there any more talk of the city and county combing services to save both parties money? I read an article this morning where Palm Beach County is hiring private security companies to save money.

• I believe that a person who makes \$133,000 a year should be able to do a job without two assistants who make \$98,000 and \$83,000. No other county the size of Okeechobee has even one deputy administrator. Food for thought.

• Consolidation of the city and county government would not save money for the county taxpayers -- in fact, it might mean higher taxes for them. Eliminating duplication of services might save money for city taxpayers who currently pay both county and city taxes. But it would not do anything to help those who only pay county taxes now. When this was brought up before it was a non-binding straw vote and the people who lived in the city limits voted for it and the people who lived outside the city limits voted against it.

Bike Fest

• I went to Bike Fest Saturday in Okeechobee. It was great. I hope this will be an every year thing and it grows each year. Keep up the great work.

• I went to the Bike Fest and it was fun. The children's donut eating contest was a blast. Fun times! Good community event.

Immigration

• Maybe it is time to look at immigration by itself. You often hear people say that our country was built by immigrants. While this is all very true, the situation in our country is very different than it was when our ancestors came here with the intention of making this country their own. We have only so much land and resources. What do you do when pouring yourself a cup of coffee? Do you keep on pouring even though you can see it is going to run over? Our cup runneth over, with people, not with resources which are being drained with all the humanity here. Of course there are a lot of "what ifs." What if the people who come here were not sending a large portion of their income back to their relatives in their homeland? They would be spending their money here and building, maintaining our own economy to a healthy state. I would say this applies to legal immigrants as well as illegal.



Special to the Okeechobee News/Kay Duke

NBCT honors Jacinda Walsh

The Okeechobee County National Board Certified Teachers recently held a congratulatory reception to honor Jacinda Walsh, first grade teacher at Everglades Elementary, who recently passed this rigorous process of achieving excellence in her area of expertise. (left) Dr. Patricia Cooper congratulated and presented to Jacinda Walsh, the plaque honoring her accomplishment of earning National Board Certification in Literacy: Reading-Language Arts/Early and Middle Childhood for 2009. Okeechobee County has produced 25 National Board Certified Teachers in various certificate areas. (right) Those attending the event included (left to right) front row: Jeri A. Raulerson, Debra Tilton, Andrea Mitchum, Valerie Henderson, Jane Stough, Vickie Goggins, Kay Duke. In the back row are: Jacinda Walsh, Sharon Whitaker, Michelle Pritchard, Lori Howard, Letta Jordan, Colleen O'Bannon.

Guardian ad Litem training planned

The Guardian ad Litem Program needs volunteers. There are currently 1,280 abused children in Dependency Court on the Treasure Coast. Currently 422 of these 1,280 children do not have a Volunteer Guardian ad Litem. The 19th Judicial Circuit Guardian ad Litem Program will be training volunteers June 1, 3, 8 and 10 at the GAL office located in Saint Lucie West. Volunteer Guardians ad Litem give a voice to children who are victims of child abuse and are involved in court proceedings. Volunteers undergo a background check and certification process.

You can be that voice for an abused child. The Guardian ad Litem Program needs volunteers to represent children in Okeechobee County. For more information, contact Jennifer Manis at 772-785-5804 or visit our website at GuardianadLitem.org.

Okeechobee Forecast

Today: Partly sunny. Highs in the upper 80s. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 60s. East winds 5 to 10 mph.

Extended Forecast

Thursday...Partly sunny. Highs in the upper 80s. East winds 5 to 10 mph increasing to 10 to 15 mph in the afternoon.

Thursday Night...Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 60s. East winds 5 to 10 mph.

Friday...Partly sunny. Highs in the upper 80s.

Friday Night...Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 60s.

Saturday...Partly sunny. Highs around 90.

Lotteries

Florida Lottery — Here are the numbers selected Monday in the Florida Lottery: **Cash 3:** 6-7-9; **Play 4:** 1-6-7-6; **Fantasy 5:** 5-14-15-16-23; **Mega Money:** 13-27-30-38 MB 5; **Florida Lotto:** 1-15-18-21-22-51 X 4; **Powerball:** 5-22-34-41-57 PB31 x5. Numbers drawn Tuesday, **Cash 3:** 3-1-8; **Play 4:** 3-8-6-0.

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

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Okeechobee News

USPS 406-160

Published 3 times a week: Sunday, Wednesday and Friday by Independent Newspapers, Inc.

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

Periodicals Postage Paid at Okeechobee, FL 34974

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to

Okeechobee News

Circulation Administration

PO Box 7011 • Dover, DE 19903

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Advertising Director: Judy Kasten

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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.
- 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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Letters to the editor

Day of Prayer

We just got home from the World Day of Prayer around 1:20 p.m. held here in Okeechobee. I have had that program on my mind all afternoon. I went to the service with a heavy heart, but came home feeling there is a light at the end of the tunnel.

For those of us that were there (and there were many) we witnessed something spectacular. I watched our Superintendent of Schools, get up and pray - without benefit of a paper in her hand. It came from her heart.

I witnessed one of our County Commissioners, get up, and pray from the heart - without benefit of a paper in his hand. I also saw an Okeechobee News reporter, get up and deliver a beautiful prayer, WITHOUT the benefit of a rehearsed paper in their hand. You expect this out of a Minister, or clergy, that does this every Sunday, but - to see these people, in special offices in our little town, be able to pray from the heart - not rehearsed - it gives us HOPE, that our little town can be a light, and is being led by people that are spiritual and still believe in God. We give thanks for these special people. All that got up and prayed for our leaders, be they local or state or federal, are to be commended.

Another thing that impressed me probably even more - was that there were teenagers there - by themselves and listening to everything that went on. And, one of these young gentlemen, had a hat on - but - removed it once the spiritual part of the program started, and kept it off, all during the service. I shook hands with this young man, to tell him how proud I was to see this out of one of our teenagers, and that just because there are a few that cause trouble in this town of ours, there are good ones also and we give thanks for those.

Thank you Okeechobee, for offering this for all of us. Thanks to the Kiwanis Club for their support and all that participated and was a part of this wonderful service.

Carol Dorrel

Urban Tails seeks grant

As some of you already know, Urban Tails has qualified for a \$250,000 Pepsi Refresh Grant! The only way we can win it is by



Urban Tails is a new program for South Florida that allows at-risk and incarcerated youth to rehabilitate homeless shelter dogs and then place the dogs in their permanent homes.

being one of the top two organizations that earns the most votes.

We desperately need this grant to complete construction of our kennel at the Okeechobee Intensive Halfway House, as well as to fund vet bills, food, supplies, computers for the kids and administration costs! You can find out more about our organization at www.UrbanTails.org

It only takes seconds to vote. Just follow the link below, register (you can click on a box to avoid getting emails from Pepsi), and vote for us! Voting lasts until May 31st, and you can vote for us once a day! <http://www.refresheverything.com/urbantails>

Go to the bottom of the page and push "join refresh everything"

Take two minutes to create a password... (no they won't send you spam)

Then go to the upper right hand side of the screen and type Urban Tails (two separate words) Then Vote!

Repeat every day in May

Thanks to all of you who have already voted, we jumped from being ranked #274 out of over 1300 qualifying groups, to #150 today. We can do this!

Look at it like this: if we win the grant, I'll never have to ask any of you for a donation. At least not for a couple of years.

Thanks for helping Urban Tails wag!

Warm Regards,

Robin Geddie
Community Coordinator
www.urbantails.org

County budget too large?

Thank you Pete! Finally, someone other than me has written an article concerning the excessive county spending. I have written many articles, letters to the editor, concerning the waste in the county spending habits with little or no replies. Now you have pointed out some of the issues that I have presented to the tax payers, maybe they will now listen. The county spending is out of control for the services rendered. You mention in your article on May 2, the salaries of certain employees but you neglected to add in the benefits attached to those salaries. For example, the county administrator in 2009, would have some \$34,000 added to his cost for retirement, medical benefits and social security and medicare costs making his salary \$167,171.38. This also applies to other county employees mentioned. There are also other department heads, which in my opinion, do little to deserve their excessive salaries. Let me mention a few, with their benefits based on the 2009 figures, I received from the county at a cost to me of \$67. Capitol Improvement Project Manager - \$100,711.69, Code Compliance Director - \$103,329.35, Facility Maintenance Manager - \$88,127.29, Parks and Recreations - \$100,711.69. And the most outrageous in my opinion, Planning Director at \$118,445.96. This is of course beyond the two assistant county administrators at a total of around, with benefits in 2009 at \$231,647.51

Most of the other department heads make between, with benefits, \$57,000 and \$88,127. The county average according to the article is \$30,295.

Pay your employees twice to five times what you make? How stupid are we?

Now, I just want to mention a couple of other issues I have written about with concerns on the county spending habits. The annual loss at the Agri-Civic Center with an average of \$700,000 loss per year. The cost of the new EOC, Emergency Operation Center of at least \$3.2 million, of which DeSoto County built theirs for less than \$1.5 million for a comparable number of citizens. Anyone want to bet ours will cost more than \$4 million at the end of the project, not to mention additional yearly cost, I don't think so.

And I just want to mention the addition of new drainage in County Hill area of some \$84,000 only one street (avenue), the same street that a county commissioner lives on. The other streets (avenues) did not have any improvements, or little. I have written articles on this also just asking our area be given ditch mowing, cleaning and replacement of culverts due to county equipment damages: no such action taken. Thanks county commissioners. I sent the photos to the Okeechobee News and road maintenance departments.

Look at the salaries, we the tax payers pay, for our part-time commissioners, with the 16 percent benefits, of some \$50,895.84 per year each. So, do you think this is money well spent or just eat out of the food trough for government employees? We, the tax payers pay for with little concept of the waste?

Let me point out one very important thing. Many of our county employees really earn their salaries. They work hard for much less money and are polite, efficient and well-deserving of their salaries. I, in no manner, am casting any reflection on them and their well-deserved salaries, of which some are even underpaid. As for the constitutional elected officials, I find no complaint with them and their employees, which have always provided outstanding service. The county administrations, commissioners, department heads needs to be renovated (removed) to provide, we the taxpayers, a reasonable value and services for our tax dollars, in my opinion.

Tom Murphy



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Okeechobee Main Street clipboard

Okeechobee Main Street's May Mixer will be held on Wednesday, May 19 from 5 to 7pm. This month's mixer will be hosted by Fly-N-Hi Enterprises located at 4375 Hwy 441 South. Mixers are a great networking opportunity for the businesses and residents of our area. For more information call 863-357-MAIN (6246).

The Pregnancy Center of Okeechobee invites all to their 2010 Inaugural Banquet Kickoff Party on Thursday, May 13, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Hampton Inn. This is the best time to reserve your table for the Aug. 27 Banquet that will feature keynote speaker Pam Tebow. For more information call Lisa Lumpkin at 863-634-1185 or Rachel Lookabill at 561-414-8938.

The Okeechobee Business Women's Networking Group will meet Friday May 21, at the Brahma Bull Restaurant, 2405 Hwy 441 SE. Networking will begin at 11:30 a.m.

followed by Lunch at noon. Invite a friend and bring flyers, brochures, and a small gift for the give-a-way drawing!

The Okeechobee Business Women's Referral Network is sponsoring The Florida Blood Centers blood drive. The Big Red Bus will be Friday, May 14 at the Bank of America from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. and at Publix from 2 - 7 p.m.

There will be a Teen Dance Party on Saturday, May 22 at the Shrine Club on Highway 78 west from 7-10 p.m. There will be a live D.J. playing the latest hip hop for ages 12-15. Cost is \$7 and includes pizza, chips and a soda. All proceeds will benefit the YMCA.

The inaugural O.L. Raulerson, Jr. Fourth of July BBQ Contest will be held July 2 and 3 at the Okee-Tantie Marina on Hwy. 78 West. This BBQ Contest is for "backyarders" only. To register or for get more information call Keith Stripling 863-634-9108, Bobby Schoon-

maker 863-634-3910 or Laurie Raulerson Stephen at 863-634-3462.

The Fourth Annual Okeechobee County Junior Golf Championship, sponsored by Waldau's Junior Golf will be held on Saturday, June 5, at the Okeechobee Golf & Country Club. This FREE Tournament is open to Boys and Girls ages 10 - 17 (18 if you are a 2010 OHS Graduate). Sign up by May 29. The event is open to the first 36 players. Tournament begins at 7:15 a.m. with a continental breakfast and required rules clinic. Tee time for 9-hole qualifier is 8 a.m. All juniors will be flighted by their first 9-hole scores. After lunch and a putting contest, the tournament will finish with the 9-hole Championship Round. For more information and to sign up, please contact Terry at OGCC 863-763-6228 or Bridgette Waldau at 863-467-7300.

Obituaries

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

Audrey Mae Dodd, 95

OKEECHOBEE — Audrey Mae Dodd, age 95, of Okeechobee, passed away May 9, 2010, at Okeechobee Health Care Facility.

She was born March 9, 1915, in Winston County, Ala., to William Benson and Della Turner Robertson. She was a homemaker having come to Okeechobee from South Bay in 1974. She was attended the Okeechobee Missionary Baptist Church and loved to travel.

Mrs. Dodd was preceded in death by her husband, Archie Dodd; daughter, Peggy Algood; and son, Clarence Dodd.

She is survived by three daughters, Doyce Wilson (Johnny), Nellie Sprouse, and Judy Curtis, all of Okeechobee; two sons, Gene Dodd of Fort Pierce and Donald Dodd (Carol) of Hobe Sound; 13 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; and nine great-great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be 10 a.m. until services at 11 a.m. today, May 12, 2010, at Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home with Pastor Lindell Selvey and Pastor Gene Roddenberry officiating. Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery.

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.

Jean L. Duncan, 82

OKEECHOBEE — Jean L. Duncan, age 82, of Okeechobee, passed away May 8, 2010, at Treasure Coast Hospice.

She was born Nov. 5, 1927, in Lobelville, Tenn., to William H. Loggins and Wilma DePriest. She came to Okeechobee from Tennessee in 1975. She was a homemaker who enjoyed gardening and raising her family. She attended the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Mrs. Duncan was preceded in death by her husband, Van "Red" Duncan. She is survived by her children, Sherry Clark, Bill Duncan (Sandra) and Vangela McFarland (Brad) all of Okeechobee, Leigh Hart (Chuck) of Tallahassee, Tanya Duncan of Boca Raton; eight grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, three sisters, and two brothers.

Services with burial following will be at DePriest Bend Cemetery, Tennessee.

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.

Belva Fortner, 90

OKEECHOBEE — Belva Fortner, age 90, of Okeechobee, passed away May 9, 2010, at Okeechobee Health Care Facility.

She was born Sept. 29, 1919, in Bridgeport, Ill., to Andrew and Dolly Joiner. She was a homemaker having come to Okeechobee from Venice in 1984. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Okeechobee. She enjoyed church and her Sunday school class.

Mrs. Fortner was preceded in death by her husband, JK Fortner. She is survived by her daughter, Ruby Blazer of Kansas; and grandson, Kelly Staples of Okeechobee.

Visitation will be 1 p.m. until services at 2 p.m. Wednesday, May 12, 2010, at First Baptist Church of Okeechobee with Pastor Randy Huckabee officiating. Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery.

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 D. 'Bob' Burns, 75

OKEECHOBEE — Robert D. "Bob" Burns, age 75, of Okeechobee, passed away May 7, 2010, at the Hamrick Home.

He was born May 8, 1934 in Pittsburgh, Pa., to Paul and Hannah Burns. He worked in sales and rental of automobiles. He came to Florida from Pennsylvania in 1998. Mr. Burns was affiliated with the Zion Lutheran Church in Hollidaysburg, Pa.

He is survived by his brothers, Paul of Chambersburg, Pa., George of Clearfield, Pa., and Tom of Hot Springs, Ark.; long time companion, Dannie Jo Bastianelli of Okeechobee; three children, Bob (wife, Lisa; son, Sean) of Deerfield Beach, Susan of Deerfield Beach and Scott (wife, Linda; sons, Casey and Collin) of Hollidaysburg, Pa.

No services will be held. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society.

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.

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V. Fred George, 81

OKEECHOBEE — V. Fred George, 81, passed away peacefully in Okeechobee, on May 6, 2010, and will be dearly missed as a husband, father, grandfather, and friend.

Fred was born in Lawrence County, Ill., and raised in Chicago. There he fell in love and married Su, his wife of 55 years. Fred and Su moved to Hollywood, Florida in 1955 where they were blessed with a daughter and later moved to Haverhill (West Palm Beach) in 1963 where they were blessed with a son. In 1998 Fred and Su moved to Okeechobee to be closer to the pleasures of two wonderful grandsons.

Throughout his life Fred was an active man of faith and served in the Christian Church, Disciples of Christ. He was the President of the Florida Christian Men's Fellowship (CMF) from 1986 to 1990 and was honored as the Florida CMF Layman of the Year in 1995. He later carried his faithful service to the Okeechobee Presbyterian Church and was active in both the Emmaus and Kairos communities. His desire to serve extended to secular life, as an enlistee in both the Illinois and Florida National Guard, and as an active member of Rotary International for over 25 years.

Fred possessed an entrepreneurial spirit and held many interests. After serving as an art director for Pratt and Whitney Aircraft, his talents as a jewelry designer led him to found Craft House Creative Jewelry, which later expanded to include Craft House Hobby Shop in West Palm Beach. He also founded Specialty Casting and Design. Fred was an artist, a musician, a photographer, a woodworker, and enjoyed vintage cars and aviation.

Fred loved the company of others and brought a delightful sense of humor, empathy, and curiosity to any conversation. Not surprisingly, he was a passionate and talented teacher who strongly believed that knowledge not shared is knowledge wasted. Fred taught within the Chicago Park District, at Palm Beach Community College, and at the Armory Art Center in West Palm Beach. He also taught many private classes in jewelry fabrication and design.

Fred was predeceased by his parents, Verne and Ethel George. He is survived by his wife, Susan "Su" Hindle George of Okeechobee; daughter, Susan Joyce "Joy" Hart (Mark W.) of San Jose, California; son, Frederick "Fred" D. George (Patricia A. "Patty") of Okeechobee; grandsons, F. Kyle George and Hank Schultz; and cousin, Juanita Henry (John) of Angleton, Texas.

A celebration of Fred's life will be held at Okeechobee Presbyterian Church, 312 North Parrot Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 15, 2010.

Memorial donations may be made to the Okeechobee Presbyterian Church (Fellowship Hall), First Christian Church of West Palm Beach, Rotary Club of Okeechobee (Haiti Plus), and/or Hospice of Okeechobee.

All arrangements are entrusted to the loving care of the Buxton Funeral Home and Crematory. On line condolences may be made at www.buxtonfuneralhome.com.

Larry D. Vinson, 55

OKEECHOBEE — Larry D. Vinson, age 55, of Okeechobee, died Friday, May 7, 2010, at his residence. He was born June 6, 1954, in Red Bay, Ala., and was an avid fisherman.

He was predeceased by his father, Rosko Vinson; brothers, Rosko and Roger Vinson; and sister, Patricia Freeman.

He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Sybil L. Vinson of Okeechobee; sons, Michael (Julie) Vinson, Timothy (Amanda) Vinson, James (Deanna) Vinson, all of Okeechobee; mother, Alvleen Canup of Okeechobee; nine grandchildren; brother, Rickey (Sharon) Vinson of Okeechobee; and sisters, Barbara (Rondo) Hardy of White Springs, Ann (Mark) Gessner of Lady Lake, Melissa (Elliott) Thornton of Okeechobee. In addition he is survived by a host of nieces and nephews.

The family received friends on Monday, May 10, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and services were Tuesday, May 11, at noon in the Buxton Funeral Home Chapel.

All arrangements are entrusted to the loving care of the Buxton Funeral Home, 110 NE 5TH Street, Okeechobee, Fl. Friends may sign the guestbook at www.buxtonfuneralhome.com.

Donald Alan Kirkey Sr., 56

OKEECHOBEE — Donald Alan Kirkey Sr., 56, born July 29, 1953, to the late Cecil and Jean Kirkey in Watertown, N.Y., passed away on May 5, 2010.

He resided in Okeechobee for 25 years as an auto mechanic.

He is survived by two sons, Donald A. Kirkey Jr. (Stephanie), and Charles R. Kirkey; one daughter, Leanna J. Kirkey; granddaughters, Rylee Kirkey, Allee Kirkey, and Isabella Kirkey, all of Okeechobee; two brothers, William Kirkey, and Raymond Kirkey; and two sisters, Audrey Heise, and Barbara Ames, all of New York.

Memorial services will be 11 a.m., Saturday, May 15, at 1003 SW 10th Street, Okeechobee.

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Memorial for fallen officers planned for Friday, May 14

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

The Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) will hold a special memorial service Friday morning, May 14, to honor law enforcement officers who have died.

"We're doing this for every officer in Florida and across the country," said Okeechobee County Sheriff Paul May.

"I'm thankful that we haven't had any in our county, even though I know that we could any day."

The services will begin at 9 a.m. and will be held on the front steps of the Sheriff's office at 504 N.W. Fourth St.

There were 126 officers killed in 2009, with eight of those being in the state of Florida.

According to the Officer Down Memorial Page, 61 officers have died across the United States so far this year.

Of that number, two were in Florida: Captain Chad Reed, of the Dixie County Sheriff's Office, was shot to death on January 14; and Deputy James Louis Anderson, of the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office, died in an

automobile accident that same day.

According to the Officer Down Memorial Page, 22 officers have been shot to death this year, while another 16 were killed in automobile accidents. Five officers died of heart attacks.

Last year, 47 officers were shot to death while 34 more died in car crashes and nine died as a result of a heart attack.

In 2009 the average tour of duty among the officers who died was 11 years and three months.

This year, that average is 12 years, 12 months. The average age for those officers killed in 2009 was 39, while that average for this year is 41.

This year, 59 of those killed were men and two were women. Last year, one female officer was killed while 125 men lost their lives.

Texas led the nation in officer deaths last year with 11 while, this year, California and Texas lead the nation with five officers killed in each state.

"Every day we don't have a fatality we're thankful," said Sheriff May.

Church sponsors 'extravaganza'

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

Believers Fellowship Church, 300 S.W. 6th Ave., invites all teens to "The End of the School Year Youth Extravaganza" Friday, **May 14**. The fun begins at 5 p.m. and last until 8:30 p.m. There will be games, activities, food and music. You are guaranteed a fun time. Bring a towel and change of clothes as you might get wet. For more information call Micki at 863-467-6654.

Peace Lutheran Church, 750 N.W. 23rd Lane, is sponsoring a lunch and informative program on identity theft on **May 16** at noon. Reservations are required. Call the church office, 863-763-5042 if you wish to attend. The Youth of Peace Lu-



Places of Worship

theran are planning a canoe trip down the Peace River on **June 5**. All youth, family and friends are invited to participate. Call 863-7653-5042 for more information.

The youth of **Haven of Rest Church** will have a car wash and bake sale on Saturday, **May 22** at 9 a.m. at Family Dollar Store. This is a fundraiser for 2010 Radical Remnant Youth Camp June 14-18 at Camp Denton. For more information on the fundraiser or youth camp call Gabrielle Velie at 863-532-

8546 or 863-357-3053.

The Okeechobee News welcomes news from area churches for this column. E-mail okeeneews@newszap.com or call Pete Gawda at 863 763-3134, extension 4225.

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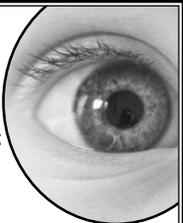


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Special to the Okeechobee News

Football stars visit Okeechobee

Football stars visited Okeechobee for the annual Chaka Star's Foundation golf tournament held on May 8. Players were able to meet the stars and also had the opportunity to eat lunch with them during the awards ceremony. Pictured are: Jacory Harris/Miami Hurricanes quarterback, Deonte Thompson/Fla Gators wide receiver, JD Mixon/board member, Kalani Karrati, Travis Benjamin/Miami Hurricanes wide receiver, Derek Koger/Chaka Star's chair, Jerry Meenan and Teresa Chandler.



Special to the Okeechobee News/CES

Students of the Week

Central Elementary School students selected as Students of the Week for the week of May 3-7, included: kindergarten, Autumn Hortman, Luis Noel Espinoza, Savannah Jones, Wyatt Friend; first graders, Nataly Solis, Beyonce Garcia, Natalia Ochoa, Bailey Harden, Pyke Dawson; second graders, Norberto Juarez, Karen Godinez, Jorge Romero, Joshua Bonilla, Yaire Ayala Rodriguez; third graders, Odalys Sanchez, Antonio Pineda and fourth grade students, Luis Terrazas, Savanna Nease, Jonathan Sanchez, Katelyn McCorts, Briyuna Salazar.

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Special to the Okeechobee News/OMS

Students of the Week

Teachers have selected students who are model Warriors and model citizens. The students pictured are doing their schoolwork and showing consideration for the teachers and students in the classroom. We are all very grateful for students like these. Congratulations, Warrior! Seated, left to right are: Kade Smith, Lynn Romer, Maria Jaimes, Alyssa Romero; standing, left to right: Tyler Elliott, Alanah Mosley, Autumn Wofford.



Special to the Okeechobee News/SES

Tropicana Speech Contest

Seminole Elementary School students participated in the Tropicana Speech Contest. The following students placed in the school contest. In fourth grade, the winners were: 1st place, Janelle Markham; 2nd place, Joanna Rhymes; 3rd place, Mackenzie Martinez. In fifth grade, the winners were: 1st place, Morgan Bolan; 2nd place, Taylor Anuez; and 3rd place, Josianne Griffin. Congratulations, students!



Special to the Okeechobee News/Everglades Elementary School

Students of the Week

Students who are achieving excellence in the classroom at Everglades Elementary School for the week of May 10-14 included kindergarten: Colton Ellerbee, Katelyn Slone, Francisco Hernandez, Harley Derry; first grade: Ashton Mowery, Caleb Reynolds, Catie Rowley, Layne McPeak, Angel Hutchison; second grade: Katrina Townsend, Michayla Bonilla, Araceli Ruiz, Desiree Daniel, Vintasia Rembert, Jordan Cherry, David Cox; third grade: Louis Roberts, Enoc Leon, Jeremy Johnson, Chancy Adams, Alexa Edwards, Raquel Alvarez; fourth grade: Megan Saberniak, Stephen Edenfield, Jose-Mata-Gonzalez, Valentin Perez, Rebecca Starnes; and, fifth grade: Mackenzie De la cruz, Travis Williams, Marcus Ray, Manuel Espinoza.



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Community Events

Healthy Start coalition to meet

The Board of Directors of the Okeechobee Healthy Start Coalition will meet on Wednesday, **May 12**, at 11:30 a.m. in their office located at 575 S.W. 28th Street within the New Endeavor High School building. This meeting is open to the public. The Okeechobee Healthy Start Coalition is part of a statewide network of services to pregnant women and infants. The coalition is made up of citizens interested in promoting healthy families and healthy outcomes for babies in Okeechobee. For more information about the Coalition, please contact Executive Director, Kay Begin, at the Coalition office, 863-462-5877.

Chamber of Commerce to meet

The Okeechobee Chamber of Commerce will meet Wednesday, **May 12** at noon at the Golden Corral Restaurant. Tom Walsh, Met Life Representative, will speak on options for businesses and individuals. All chamber members and anyone who wishes to join the chamber is welcome to attend.

Children's Services Council meeting set for May 13

The Children's Services Council will meet on Thursday, **May 13**, at 5 p.m. in the conference room of the Okeechobee County School Board at 700 S.W. Second Avenue.

Crochet, crochet, crochet group to meet Friday

Buckhead Ridge Craft group **May 14** - 6:30 p.m. at the Buckhead Ridge Moose Lodge. Call Bonnie 863-357-1556.

Fundraiser held for Children's Health Center

A fundraiser will be held on Tuesday, **May 18**, at Golden Corral from 5-8 p.m. to benefit Dr. Fred Brown Children's Health center. It is a guest server benefit with 100 percent of tips going to the center. Tickets for adult meals are only \$10 and include full buffet and drink. Guest servers include Mayor Kirk, Sheriff May, Russ Brown, Under-sheriff Stephen, Dr. Robshaw, Dr. Santelices, Dr. Espinosa and school board member Joe Arnold. To purchase tickets please call, 863-763-1951, 863-467-6120 or 863-763-7481. Or email mferguson@fchcinc.org.

PAID CONTENT

Smith Twin Benefit

Brooke and Morgan Smith of Okeechobee were born on April 8th, 2010 to John and Charlene Smith. They are 3 months premature. A benefit to provide money for their hospital stay, and travel expenses, is being held on Friday May 14th at Everglades Farm Equipment on Hwy 98. We will be serving dinners: a chicken leg 1/4, beans, slaw, a roll, and a tea for \$10. Dinner deliveries to businesses will be made from 11-1, or you can pick up any time between 11-6. There will also be a silent auction from 11-4. Monetary donations or items for the silent auction can be dropped off at Colour Me Crazy Salon, 107 Sw 17th St. Ste G. Okee. You may also purchase tickets at this location. Thank you for your help!

Adoption Support Group to meet

Children's Home Society of Florida will hold it's next Adoption Support Group meeting at 6 p.m. **May 19** at their administration office, located at 590 NW Peacock Blvd., Suite 9, Port St. Lucie. This group is for families who have a finalized adoption of a special needs/foster care child. The support group is open to relative, non-relative and foster parents. The purpose of the support group is to provide education and social interaction among individuals who have adopted, while being able to share resources with, and support for, one another. For further information, please contact CHS Adoption Therapist, Lauren Phelps, MS at 772.429.2001.

YMCA Summer Camp Programs planned

YMCA Summer Camp Expedition for ages 5-13 is a fun-filled day camp which includes arts and crafts, field trips, games, reading, sports, swimming and YMCA Character Development. Campers should wear comfortable clothing and closed toed shoes and bring a lunch, a snack, bathing suit, sunscreen and towel. The camp will be held at Grace Brethren Church, June 14-Aug. 13. Weekly fee is \$90. A \$30 supply fee is paid one time each summer. Financial assistance is available. Registration will be **May 22** and June 5, from 10 a.m. to noon, at Grace Brethren Church, 701 S. Parrott Avenue. Space is limited.

PAID CONTENT

Mark Smith announces promotion of Melody Hodges to Vice President

Mark Smith, President & CEO, Big Lake Region, is pleased to announce the promotion of Melody Hodges to vice president for Seacoast National Bank.



Melody has served as assistant vice president and branch manager for the N. Parrott branch of Seacoast for the past six years. Ms. Hodges is responsible for loan production, deposit growth and daily branch operations.

Her 9-year career in the banking industry is complimented by her performance of maintaining a portfolio of nearly \$10,000,000, one of the largest in the company. "Melody's customer service and work ethic has created a very devoted client base" says Mark Smith.

Melody is a member of the United Way Board of Directors, an Advisory Board member of the Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center and volunteers at the Okeechobee County Fair and Healthy Start Coalition.

The operating arm of Seacoast Banking Corporation of Florida (NASDAQ: SBCF) Seacoast National Bank has 40 offices in Florida and approximately \$2.2 billion in assets, and is one of the largest independent banks headquartered in Florida.

County to consider pain clinic ordinance

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

When Okeechobee County Commissioners meet tomorrow they will look at the city's recently adopted pain pill ordinance to see if it can be modified for adoption by the county. They will also consider a wide variety of topics including budget amendments and updates.

In an item postponed from last meeting, they are scheduled to act on a resolution naming the courtroom in the restored Okeechobee County Courthouse the Judge William L. Hendry Courtroom in recognition of the judge's long years of service to the county.

Deputy county administrator Robbie Chartier will present a mid year budget amendment to true up each fund's budgetary beginning balance and adjust reserves accordingly. Other adjustments will carry forward balances of unexpended grant funds from the previous fiscal year. She will also give an overview of the county's financial situation as of March 21 and April 30.

Larry Davis, director of the Okeechobee County Agri-civic Center is scheduled to present a proposed policy for the sale of mixed drinks and liquor at the agri-civic

WHAT: Okeechobee County Commissioners meeting

WHERE: Okeechobee County Health Dept. Auditorium, 1728 N.W. 9th St.

WHEN: 9 a.m., Thursday, May 13

center. County attorney John Cassels will present an amendment to exempt other governments from county fees and a proposed policy for regulation of citizen board appointments.

Among other things on a long agenda of miscellaneous items the board is expected to:

- consider increasing rates for Okeechobee Campground and Marina and increasing building department fees;
- consider accepting a 100 acre plot of land from Waste Management;
- consider final plat approval for The Cabins at Pine Creek;
- terminate a lease at the Okeechobee County Industrial Park;
- consider a proposal for plugging and abandoning the injections well at the sports complex.

ENGAGEMENT

MELANIE TROENDLE & STEVEN JUSTUS

Melanie Elaine Troendle of Okeechobee Fla., and Steven Michael Justus of Hartford City, Ind., are pleased to announce their engagement and wedding plans.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Daniel Jay Rose of Hooper, Utah, and Penny Mae Chaisson of Okeechobee, Fla.

The prospective groom is the son of Steven Russel Justus of Marion, Ind., and Cynthia Lee Arnette of Hartford City, Ind.

Troendle is a 2009 graduate of Indian River State College and is employed as a Paralegal Specialist for Children's Legal Services of Florida.

Justus is a 2002 graduate of Ball State University. He is a Teacher at Fort Wayne Community Schools.

The couple is planning a morning



wedding ceremony on Sunday, July 4, at The Pentecostals of Okeechobee, 405 SW 10th Avenue, Okeechobee. They plan to make their home in Okeechobee.

Glades County lifts burn ban

By Charles M. Murphy

Okeechobee News

Ordinances to end a ban on outdoor burning, a discussion of fuel sales taxes, and the appointment of a new agriculture extension agent highlighted the agenda when the Glades County Board of County Commissioners met on Tuesday in Moore Haven.

The County and the City of Moore Haven must have an inter-local agreement to decide how to distribute the collection of fuel sales taxes. The County receives 80 percent and the city receives 20 percent. The City Council will have their chance to review the fuel tax agreement. The agreement was approved unanimously, 5-0.

Glades County hired Tycee Beth Prevatt as their new agriculture extension agent. The position has been vacant since January. The University of Florida pays 60 percent of her salary and the County pays 40 percent. She is a certified teacher in Florida and had served as extension agent in Desoto County for three years from 1994-1996.

Glades County has an opening for an animal control officer. The annual salary is

\$35,000. Two current employees are certified to be animal control officers. Deputy County Manager Bob Jones said an applicant has not been selected but he will likely be qualified to train the employee. Jones said the position will be advertised and available to candidates with a high school diploma, who are able to pass a background check. Certifications in animal control and euthanasia would be considered a plus for applicants.

The Commission also lifted the burn ban for outdoor burning that was enacted during the dry season. Jones said there were three large brush fires this year in Glades County which fails to compare to 2008 when close to 71,000 acres burned in wild fires in Glades County. Commissioner Jones said he thought the burn ban has worked well to protect Glades County from larger fires.

County Manager Wendell Taylor said he expected to have a study on proposed new tipping fees for the County landfill in June.

He reported that construction of the new Glades County Health Department building is on schedule. Commissioner Paul Beck said a group of local Boy Scouts enjoyed an outing at Curry Island near Lakeport recently.

OUA

Continued From Page 1

water mains. In new subdivisions, the developer is required to install fire hydrants. The board was also presented with figures on the maintenance cost each year for fire hydrants and the cost of installing fire hydrants on existing and new water mains.

In a related matter the board passed a resolution formalizing the action they have been taking for several years of designating 50 cents a month from each customer for fire hydrants. They also revised the rate structure to subtract 50 cents from the base charge and provide for a 50 cent fire hydrant charge. The end result is that the customer's total bill will remain the same. The breakdown of the payment will now show a base charge that is 50 cents cheaper and a new item - a 50 cent charge for fire hydrants.

Turning to the developers' agreements, the board reluctantly followed board attorney Tom Conley's advice and approved a settlement agreement with Stephen A. Myers, Sr. who has four separate developers' agreements.

While he was not satisfied with the terms of the settlement, Mr. Conley said that if the matter went to court, it would probably have to be settled on the appellate level, costing the OUA a great deal of money.

The agreement will result in a net cost of the OUA of approximately \$770,000. Under the terms of the agreement the approximately \$1.47 million owed per the original agreements will go away. Roughly two thirds of the residential connections reserved in the four developer agreements will go away. The remaining connections can be allocated in any way the developer sees fit. The 2008 tax certificate held by OUA will be paid and the developer will pay \$60,000 a year for 10 years.

"They gave up some stuff, we gave up some stuff," said chairman Frank Irby.

"No one on the board likes this decision," said board member Carl Leonard. "How are we to be assured we will get the money?" He asked.

Mr. Irby replied that the security to back it up would have to be written into an addendum to the original developer agreements.

"We owe it to our rate payers to cut our losses," said board member Steve Nelson.

The terms of the agreement will now have to be written into an addendum to the original developers' agreements. The board will have a special meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, May 24 to approve the new addendum.

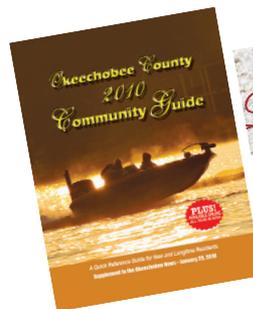
Executive director John Hayford said that at next month's meeting he should have an update on repair of sewer lines and vegetation replacement at the Cemetery Road wastewater treatment plant.

In other action, the board:

- received the finance report for the period ending April 30;
- received without comment an update on federal activities from the lobbying firm of Alcalde and Fay and paid a monthly invoice of \$5,008.11;
- paid \$1,962.19 to the law firm of Melville and Sowerby for the month of April for legal services rendered in connection with Land Ventures of America;
- paid \$7,888.13 to Melville and Sowerby for legal services rendered in connection with Northshore/Stephen Myers, Sr.;
- paid \$2,987.35 to Metzger and Willard, Inc. for work being done for the King's Bay wastewater treatment plant permit renewal;
- paid \$3,180.05 to Metzger and Willard, Inc. for work currently being done for the Everglades wastewater treatment plant permit renewal; and
- paid \$15,000 to Public Resources Management Group for preparation of an updated financial forecast which will focus on the sufficiency of existing rates.

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

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NASDAQ: SBCF

OHS boys soccer team honored at banquet

By Charles M. Murphy

Okeechobee News

Eddie Guerrero won the most valuable player award and Ricardo Herrera took home the Brahman award at the Brahman Boys Soccer Banquet held Friday night at the Okeechobee High School Cafeteria.

Soccer Coach Lonnie Sears said the banquet is about celebrating the team's accomplishments. The team finished (13-9) this year and qualified for the regional playoff as the District 14-4A as runners up.

Eddie Guerrero was also named to the all area soccer team. Javier Garcia earned honorable mention.

Coach Sears called Guerrero the most dynamic player he has ever coached. He praised his creativity and passing ability. Guerrero finished his career with 27 goals and 29 assists. He had 11 goals and nine assists during his senior year.

Guerrero said he still hadn't decided about his college career and whether he will pursue soccer or cross country. "I feel good about the most valuable player award. It's a great award. I've been waiting for awhile to get this award and it's a great accomplishment for me."

Guerrero said his entire family has worked hard to become good soccer players. His older brother Omar holds the school record for goals in a career. Eddie thinks his younger brother Brian could be an even better player. "We have worked very hard and I think my little brother could be an even better player. Hopefully that happens."

Herrera said he worked real hard to help the team this year. He was voted team captain. He was praised for his hustle and dedication to the team.

Ricardo said he ran about 100 miles this summer to get in condition for this season. "If you want to be good at any sport or anything you want to do in life you have to work hard. If you want to be successful you have to be a hard worker."

He plans to attend Indian River State College and wants to one day play college soccer for Florida Gulf Coast University. In the interim he will play club soccer to keep his skills.

Seven seniors were honored at the banquet. They include Guerrero, Herrera, Roger Duque, Oscar Garcia, Adrian Leon, Basilio Ruiz and Chris Spruill. Sears said the seniors had a record of 49-24 over the past four years. They were one of four teams in school history to make the district final. He noted the team had 248 shots on goal and held their opponents to 140 shots.

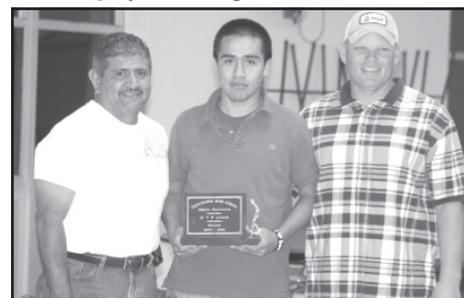
Sears encouraged the kids to work hard in the off season and especially urged them to play soccer together so they learn each others games. "You are never good enough. If you think that then I don't know why you are playing a sport. Look in the mirror and do more work," he told the crowd.

Garcia won the team offensive most valuable player, Adrian Leon won the MVP for midfielders, and Garcia won for defensive MVP. Roger Duque won the team player award. Marcos Fonseca won the most im-

proved player award. Guerrero took home the award for most goals while Erick Garcia and Guerrero took home the award for most assists.

Sears said Okeechobee will host the district tournament next year and will try to take the next step in soccer. "We've been very competitive for the past five or six years. I think these kids can take it to the next level if they put in more work. They truly have the talent."

The team will return eight players that started matches this year. He noted a lot of them play club soccer in Okeechobee or for teams on the coast. He urged them to try and play more together in the off season. "We want them to know each others games and each others style. It takes a long time for us to get them to play our style. They do need to play more together."



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Eddie Guerrero won the Most Valuable player award for boys soccer. Also in picture are soccer coaches Lonnie Sears (right) and David Suarez (left).

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Boys soccer team honored at banquet



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Oscar Garcia won the award for offensive player of the year. He is joined by Assistant Coach David Suarez (left) and Soccer Coach Lonnie Sears (right).



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Marcos Fonseca won the most improved player award from soccer coaches David Suarez (left) and Lonnie Sears (right).



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Roger Duque won the award for the best team player. He is flanked by Coaches David Suarez (left) and Lonnie Sears (right).



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Eddie Guerrero took home the Golden Boot Award for scoring the most goals this year. He is joined by soccer coaches Lonnie Sears (right) and David Suarez (left).



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Erick Garcia won the award for most assists. He is joined by Assistant Coach David Suarez (left) and Soccer Coach Lonnie Sears (right).



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Ricardo Herrera won this year's Brahman award. Also in picture are soccer coaches David Suarez (left) and Lonnie Sears (right).

Teen Dance Party coming!

Teens get ready for another Teen Dance Party! The party starts at the Shrine Club on Hwy. 78 on May 22, from 7 until 10 p.m. The cost is just \$7 for kids from ages 12-15 and includes pizza, chips and drink. A live D.J. will play the latest hip hop and dance music. For more information, please call Latasha Smith at 863-801-3781 or Teresa Chandler at 863-697-6819.

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Brahman alums do solid work in college softball

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Six former Okeechobee High School Brahman softball players played college ball at the junior college and the four year college level during 2010.

Mary Huff and Lauren Throop of Indian River State College recently competed in the Florida Community College Athletic Association District Tournament in Auburndale. Indian River reached the semifinals of the tournament before they lost to eventual state champion Miami Dade Community College. They were 22-16 when they entered the tournament and were able to defeat Daytona State 19-6, Sante Fe Community College 4-3, and Brevard Community College 3-2 before the defeat to Miami Dade.

Huff had a solid year as she won 10 games for the Lady Pioneers. She pitched 89 innings and struck out 55 batters and posted

a solid earned run average of 3.62. Huff was also a threat at the plate as she batted .344 with 26 runs batted in.

Throop finished her sophomore year with a .235 batting average with eight runs batted in. She played in 10 games and posted a solid fielding percentage of .923.

Jordan Marcum played for the Miami Dade team that won the Florida State Championship and has moved on to the National Tournament this month. Marcum batted .227 with 17 runs batted in. She played in 48 games, hit two homeruns, and had a solid on base percentage of .348.

Kelci Breaux played for Florida Gulf Coast University this year. She transferred from Brevard Community College. Kelci continued her success during her junior campaign as the Eagles finished 12-8 in the Atlantic Sun Conference. She had a 3.11 earned run average in 26 games. She pitched 126 innings and had 84 strikeouts. She won nine games

for the Lady Eagles. She also played great defense with only one error in 45 games. The Eagles conference tournament is next weekend.

Rachel Lowe played her junior year with the Stetson Lady Hatters who as of this week owned a 30-19 overall record with a 12-6 conference record in the Atlantic Sun. Lowe has batted .261 with three homeruns and 14 runs batted in. She has a .325 on base percentage.

Lowe and Breaux could potentially meet head to head in the conference tournament which begins May 13.

Kelly Smiley transferred from Indian River State College to Auburn University this year. She has played a lot for the Lady Tigers who were 27-23 as of this week. Kelly has batted .295 in 132 at bats, with eight runs batted in. The SEC tournament will be held May 13-15 at the University of Arkansas.

Invasive plant treatment under way along Kissimmee River

SFWMD working to limit spread of Old World climbing fern, Brazilian pepper

The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) has begun a five-month long effort to control several highly invasive, exotic plants — Old World climbing fern, cogon grass, Brazilian pepper trees and other non-natives — growing along the Kissimmee River.

District staff is spraying herbicides approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on exotic plant populations along the length of the river banks, from Lake Kissimmee to Lake Okeechobee, to limit the spread of these plants. The treatment is scheduled to last through the end of September 2010. Treatment will be primarily applied by helicopter on upland areas and should not impact recreation on the river. Some areas will be sprayed by ground crews.

Since first making its way to Florida in the late 1960s, Old World climbing fern (*Lygodium microphyllum*) and Japanese climbing fern (*L. japonicum*) have become two of the most invasive exotic plants in the state. The climbing fern grows quickly in South Florida without the natural pests and conditions that keep the fern in check in its native areas of Australia and Asia. The fern covers and shades out native plants, eventually killing them.

Brazilian pepper (*Schinus terebinthifolius*) is a South American shrub first introduced into Florida as an ornamental plant in the 19th century. Today, it is considered one of the most noxious, widespread weeds in the state. The peppers readily invade everything from fallow farmland to hardwood hammocks and mangrove forests.

The SFWMD Vegetation Management Division is responsible for managing nuisance and invasive exotic vegetation throughout

the District. Implementation of a vegetation management program helps to ensure the continued use and function of the region's water resources and preservation of South Florida's conservation lands. For more information about the current treatment or about the vegetation management program along the Kissimmee River, please contact the SFWMD Okeechobee Service Center at 863-462-5260.



SUNRISE FORD OFFERS

- ✓ Low Weekly Payments
- ✓ Certified Mechanic Safety Check
- ✓ 12 month/12,000 mile Ltd. Warranty*
- ✓ Report to Credit Bureau
- ✓ 76 Years – Family Owned Dealership

TYPICAL "BUY HERE PAY HERE" OFFERS

- ✗ High Weekly Payments
- ✗ NO Safety Checks
- ✗ NO Warranty
- ✗ NO Credit Reporting
- ✗ Here Today – Gone Tomorrow!

Pre-Owned Vehicles:

'00 KIA SPORTAGE 75K MI, AUTO, PWR WIN/LKS, ALLOYS	\$5,988	'00 FORD RANGER XLT 67K MI, CD	\$6,988
'02 FORD FOCUS SE 76K MI, AUTO, CD, ALLOYS	\$6,188	'02 MERCURY GR. MARQUIS LS, PREMIUM, 87K MI, LOADED, ALLOYS	\$7,488
'97 FORD F-150 109K MI, AUTO	\$6,488	'05 CHEVY IMPALA 105K MI, LTHR, LOADED	\$7,988
'98 FORD CROWN VICTORIA LTHR, LOADED, 79K MILES	\$6,888	'06 CHEVY COLORADO LS AUTO, 82K MI, 4 CYL	\$8,688

SUNRISE FORD

5435 U.S. 1 South, Fort Pierce
1/2 Mile South of Midway Road on U.S. 1
772-468-1360

*See Dealer for warranty info.

Congressman Rooney to speak at Lincoln Day Dinner

The Republican Party of Okeechobee will be hosting the annual Lincoln Day Dinner on Friday, **May 21**, at the Williamson Conference and Education Center at Indian River State College. Social time will be from 6-7 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7 p.m. The keynote speaker will be Congressman Tom Rooney. Dinner will be catered by Golden Corral and tickets are \$40 per person. If you or your business would like to sponsor a table for this event please call Melissa Arnold at 863-610-2280. Seating is limited, so call today.

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Announcements

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

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Auctions

DeMott Auction Co., Inc. would like to personally invite you to our next auction...

Saturday ~ May 29, 2010 ~ 9:00 a.m.

1885 Hwy 441 N ~ Okeechobee, FL 34972
Okeechobee County Cattleman's Association Arena

Consignments Welcome!
Call now to be included in our color brochure.

Sale Site Telephone 800-985-5699

For more info about DeMott Auction Co., Inc. visit our site www.demottauction.com

Become a fan on Facebook www.facebook.com/demottauction

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

Garage/Yard Sales

BIG MOVING SALE - located at 1129 Chobee Loop BHR Thurs, Fri & Sat. 8am-3pm tools-appl. too much to list

Services

Professional Grooming service for your Pet, in your home, over 30 years experience, call Pam 863-697-2114

Employment

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Employment Full Time

CDL DRIVER or TEAM
Over the road, good driving record, HAZMAT Required. (863)697-6468

Your new home could be in today's paper. Have you looked for it?

Auctions

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

Employment Full Time

EDISON STATE COLLEGE
HENDRY/GLADES CENTER

Adjunct Faculty - Hendry/Glades

Edison is looking for qualified individuals to teach part-time at our Hendry Glades Center. We are searching for qualified people to teach all course disciplines for both day and evening classes. Applications now being accepted and scheduled interviews will be held on Thursday May 20th from 4-7 p.m. Minimum requirements: Doctoral or Master's degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education in the teaching discipline. Transcript copies are needed at time of interview to determine eligibility.

To be considered please apply online at: <https://jobs.edison.edu> EA/EO

Employment Part Time

WILDLIFE TECHNICIAN
Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission has a job opening for a part-time wildlife technician at Fisheating Creek WMA in Glades County. For more information and to apply go to: <https://peoplefirst.myflorida.com/logon.htm> or call 561-722-2188.

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

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

Financial

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Employment Full Time

Business Opportunities

NOTICE

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

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

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

Services

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Auto Repair & Accessories

For Sale - CMI White 8ft Truck Cap beautiful cond. lots of windows 4yrs old orig. price \$2,000 asking \$500.00/OBO call 239-248-9756

Excavation

Clearing & Hauling Dump Truck, Backhoe & Bobcat Services By Jason Summerford (863)634-7771

Top Soil

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

Merchandise

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Appliances

REFRIGERATOR - Amana 25 cu.ft side by side ice and water in the door/almond/6+ years old/never any repairs but ice maker doesn't work \$350.00/or best offer. (863)634-3741

Health & Reducing Equipment

ELECTRIC SCOOTER - Merits Electric Scooter, Used only one time, Like Brand New Paid \$1,420.00, PLEASE BRING ALL OFFERS \$800.00/or best offer. (863)634-0786

Medical Items

Electrical lift recliner, brown green \$400, transport chair \$25, wheel chair \$50, Hugo walker \$50, two other walkers -/or best offer. (863)467-8826

Miscellaneous

For Sale - Frederic Remington statues call after 5 pm 863-801-5540

For Sale - Sears Table Saw \$150.00, Frigidaire self defrosting 17 cubic ft. freezer 5 yrs old \$250.00 call-863-634-9783

Rentals

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Apartments

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

Houses - Rent

3/2/2 in town. Ceramic tile floors throughout. Kids & pets welcome. 863-634-9330 or 863-467-2541

BEAUTIFUL 3 Bdrm., 2 Ba., New floors. Basswood Estates. \$925. mo. + dep. & ref's. Call (786)417-2135

Beautiful Country Home in Country Hills Estates - built 2006 on 5 fenced acres, 3BR/2BA, furn., \$1400 mo. (954)326-2083

BUCKHEAD RIDGE - Waterfront, 2BR house, furnished. \$850 mo. 561-352-5977 or 561-746-0448

BUCKHEAD RIDGE- 1 BDRM FURNISHED HOUSE, \$450.00/mo (863) 261-6381

Houses - Rent

HOUSE - 3/2, barn, fence, 1.25 acres. \$800 mo. (561)718-1212 or 863-763-3631

LOG CABIN 2 Bedroom, Waterfront. Fully furnished. Includes utilities & Washer and Dryer. FPL Martin & Loxahatchee workers welcome. (561)234-0277

OKEECHOBEE 4br, 2ba, tile throughout, \$975 mo, 1st & sec. moves you in. (561)248-3888 or (863)599-0156

ON RIM CANAL - 3BR, 2BA, large lot, \$850 mo. + \$500 sec. & electric. (863)697-0214

Rentals Available - Okeechobee Hammock 3bd/2ba CBS home built 2009 asking: \$850.00 Kings Bay: 3bd/2ba CBS home built 2007 asking \$850.00 Pritchards Real Estate 863-610-1980

Three Bedroom, one bath, large Florida room, waterfront home with covered Boat slip - \$800 plus Sec, Call 863-467-0323

Office Space Rent

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

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT (863)763-8565

Real Estate

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

Houses - Sale

TPro Construction NEW CBS Homes 3BD/2BA Starting @ \$97,500 2BD/1BA Starting @ \$84,900 Lots available or can build on your lot (863)467-5188 CRC # 1328235

Mobile Homes

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Mobile Home Rent

SMALL FURNISHED On water, 2/1, Private/Quiet street. Boat slip \$495. mo. (863)226-3436

Mobile Home Sale

IN 55+ Park - Cute, Cute, Cute, completely furnished, turn key mobile home, 2br, 2ba, split plan, Fla room, screened front porch, \$23,500 (863)357-0832 or (863)634-1285

Recreation

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Marine Miscellaneous

FLOATING DOCK 6x16, pressure treated wood, galvanized steel hardware. \$1695, Delivery avail. Also avail. KIT to do it yourself (not including wood). \$1095 (352)343-4108

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



Automotive
For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Automobiles
Toyota Corolla 1998 - 5 speed - \$1,900 - Call 863-801-1877

Utility Trailers
UTILITY TRAILER - heavy duty, single axle, farm hitch, no lights, (bed 8'x 5.5') Good condition, \$123, Mon-Fri. 8:30-3:30. 863-467-9800

Public Notices
For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
Case No.: 2010-DR-136
Division: DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Soly Santos, Plaintiff
vs.
Joyce Ann Santos, Respondent.

NOTICE OF ACTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE

TO: Joyce Ann Santos

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Soly Santos, whose address is PO Box 2964, Okeechobee, FL 34973 on or before June 11, 2010, and file the original with the clerk of this Court at Okeechobee County Judicial Center, Court Operations 1st Floor, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972 before service on a Petitioner or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request.

You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Notice of Current Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.12.19.15). Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed to the address on record at the clerk's office.

WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.

Dated: May 7, 2010
SHARON ROBERTSON
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

By: /s/ HEATHER THOMAS
Deputy Clerk

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
Case No. 2008-CA-298

BARBARA H. ALSTON, ROBERT D. HOPPMANN AND JENNIFER MAILMAN, AS CO-PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ESTATE OF HOWARD E. HILL, Plaintiffs,
vs.
ALLEN A. ROCHEFORT, a single man, Defendant.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, SHARON ROBERTSON, Clerk of Circuit Court of Okeechobee County, Florida, will on the 2nd day of June, 2010, at 11:00 A.M., in the Jury Assembly Room on the 2nd floor of the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Okeechobee County, Florida, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash, the following described property situated in Okeechobee County, Florida, to wit:

The West one-half of the East

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY
CASE NO. 2010-CA-107

PNC MORTGAGE, A DIVISION OF PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff,
vs.
KEVIN E. BLANK, et al., Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: KEVIN E. BLANK
Whose residence is: 302 NE 366TH TRL., OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972 & 2424 SW 2ND ST., VERO BEACH, FL 32962 & OKEECHOBEE COUNTY JAIL, 504 NW 4TH STREET, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972 INDIAN RIVER COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE, 4055 41ST AVE., VERO BEACH, FL 32960

If alive, and if dead, all parties claiming interest by, through, under or against KEVIN E. BLANK and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described herein.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property:

Exhibit "A"
A PARCEL OF LAND 100 FEET ON OSOWOW ROAD OF LOT 2, BLOCK 3, OF THE SUN AND COUNTRY RANGES, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE 98-102, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS, OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY FLORIDA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT THE NORTHEASTERN MOST CORNER OF SAID LOT 2, BLOCK 3, AND PROCEEDING IN A SOUTHWESTERLY DIRECTION ALONG THE PROPERTY LINE ABUTTING OSOWOW ROAD FOR A DISTANCE OF 266.68 FEET THENCE ON A STRAIGHT LINE AT RIGHT ANGLES TO THE OSOWOW ROAD PROPERTY LINE IN A SOUTHEASTERLY DIRECTION FOR A DISTANCE OF 150 FEET; THENCE TURNING 90 DEGREES TO THE SOUTHWEST AND PROCEEDING IN A STRAIGHT LINE IN A SOUTHWESTERLY DIRECTION FOR THE DISTANCE OF 100 FEET; THENCE TURNING 90 DEGREES TO THE NORTHWEST AND PROCEEDING IN A STRAIGHT LINE IN A NORTHWESTERLY DIRECTION FOR 150 FEET, TO OSOWOW ROAD PROPERTY LINE; THENCE IN A NORTHEASTERLY DIRECTION FOR THE DISTANCE OF 100 FEET ALONG THE OSOWOW ROAD PROPERTY LINE, WHICH SAID PARCEL LANDS CONSISTS OF A RECTANGULAR LOT 100 FEET ON OSOWOW ROAD BY 150 FEET DEEP BS/MEP

TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN MOBILE HOME DESIGNATED AS FOLLOWS:
MAKE: GENA YEAR: 2006
TITLE # 95102028 895102060
ID NUMBERS GMHG4A0533596A & GMHG4A0533596B
WHICH MOBILE HOME IS PERMANENTLY AFFIXED TO SAID LAND.

A mobile home with the VIN number VIN N/A sits on the property. a/k/a 302 NE 366TH TRL. OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972

A mobile home has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it, on Jessica Fagen, Attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is 2901 Stirling Road, Suite 300, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312 within 30 days after the first publication of this notice and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this 27 day of April, 2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON
As Clerk of the Court

By: Linda F. Young
As Deputy Clerk

A copy of this Notice of Action, Complaint and Lis Pendens were sent to the defendants and address named above.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a reasonable accommodation to participate in this proceeding should, no later than seven (7) days prior, contact the Clerk of the Court's disability coordinator at 7728074370, 250 NW Country Club Drive, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986. If hearing impaired, contact (TDD) 8009558771 via Florida Relay System. This is an attempt to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used 352972 ON 5/5,12/10

one-half of the South one-half of the South one-half of Tract 25, lying and being in Section 20, Township 34 South, Range 33 East, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 3A-D, inclusive, Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida.

pursuant to the final decree of foreclosure entered in a case pending in said Court, the style of which is: BARBARA H. ALSTON, ROBERT D. HOPPMANN AND JENNIFER MAILMAN, AS CO-PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ESTATE OF HOWARD E. HILL, v. ALLEN A. ROCHEFORT, and the docket number of which is Number is Case No. 2008-CA-298.

ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE US PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE.

ATTENTION PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing special accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administration no later than seven days prior to the proceeding at 250 NW Country Club Drive, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986; telephone 772-807-4370 within two (2) working days of the receipt of this notice; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 800-955-8771.

WITNESS my hand and the official seal of said Court, this 26th day of April, 2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON
Clerk of Circuit Court

By: Linda F. Young
Deputy Clerk

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
Case No. 2008-CA-271

THE HOWARD E. HILL FOUNDATION, INC. Plaintiffs,
vs.
ALLEN A. ROCHEFORT,

Public Notice

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY
CASE NO. 10000191CA

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR RMAC REMIC TRUST, SERIES 2009-9, Plaintiff,
vs.
CHARLES E. BYERS II, et al. Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: CHARLES E. BYERS II
Whose residence is: 30760 NE 21ST WAY, OKEECHOBEE, FL, 34972
TO: PAMELA M. BYERS
Whose residence is: 30760 NE 21ST WAY, OKEECHOBEE, FL, 34972

If alive, and if dead, all parties claiming interest by, through, under or against CHARLES E. BYERS II; PAMELA M. BYERS and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described herein.

EXHIBIT "A"
A parcel of land lying in the Southwest 1/4 of Section 11, Township 34 South, Range 35 East, Okeechobee County, Florida. Being more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the South 1/4 of said Section 11, according to the Plat of the Townsite of Fort Drum, as recorded in Plat Book 2, page 43, public records of Okeechobee County, Florida. Marked by a one inch iron pipe, bear South 89 degrees 42 feet 56 inches West, a distance of 162.76 feet to intersect a curve to the left, on the North R/W of State Road 15-C, having a radius of 1943.08 feet, thence Westerly along the arc of said curve a distance of 315.73 feet to the Point of Tangency of said curve; thence bear North 89 degrees 53 feet 46 inches East, a distance of 161.80 feet; thence bear North 01 degree 54 feet 46 inches East, a distance of 1151.54 feet for the Point of Beginning; thence continue along afore described line a distance of 152.00 feet; thence bear South 89 degrees 55 feet 19 inches West, a distance of 268.80 feet; thence bear South 01 degree 54 feet 46 inches West a distance of 152.00 feet; thence bear North 89 degrees 55 feet 46 inches East, a distance of 268.80 feet to the Point of Beginning. Also described as the South 1/2 of Lot 23, unrecorded plat of Fort Drum Grovettes.

Being all and the same premises conveyed from Elijah Glass to Daniel Glass and Letha A. Glass by warranty deed dated November 25, 1986 in which deed the said Elijah Glass reserved a life estate.

Being all and the same premises conveyed from Daniel Glass and Letha A. Glass, husband and wife to Elijah Glass by quit claim deed dated 23rd day of July, 1993 to which reference is here made to aid in this description and for all purposes.

INDEX: Section 11, Township 34 South, Range 35 East
TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN MOBILE HOME DESIGNATED AS FOLLOWS: MAKE: BAY MANOR YEAR: 2001 VIN # FLHMLCB118523893A/FLHMLCB118523893B WHICH MOBILE HOME IS PERMANENTLY AFFIXED TO SAID LAND.

A mobile home with the VIN number VIN FLHMLCB118523893A/FLHMLCB118523893B sits on the property. a/k/a 30760 NE 21ST WAY OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972

A mobile home has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it, on Jessica Fagen, Attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is 2901 Stirling Road, Suite 300, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312 within 30 days after the first publication of this notice, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

WITNESS my hand, and the seal of this Court this 27th day of April, 2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON As Clerk of the Court
By: Linda F. Young, As Deputy Clerk

A copy of this Notice of Action, Complaint and Lis Pendens were sent to the defendants and address named above.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a reasonable accommodation to participate in this proceeding should, no later than seven (7) days prior, contact the Clerk of the Court's disability coordinator at 7728074370, 250 NW Country Club Drive, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986. If hearing impaired, contact (TDD) 8009558771 via Florida Relay System. This is an attempt to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose. 353080 ON 5/5,12/10

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY
CASE NO. 2010-CA-186

PNC BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff,
vs.
STEPHEN A. AMES, et al., Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: STEPHEN A. AMES
Whose residence is: 6301 SE 96TH CIR. OKEECHOBEE, FL 34974

If alive, and if dead, all parties claiming interest by, through, under or against STEPHEN A. AMES and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described herein.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property:

LOT 7, BLOCK 18, PINE OAKS VILLAGE, SEC. #2, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 21, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA. TOGETHER WITH A 1992 BARR MOBILE HOME WITH ID# FLFLM33A14353BA AND FLFLM33B14353BA.

A mobile home with the VIN number FLFLM33A/B14353BA sits on the property. a/k/a 6301 SE 96TH CIR. OKEECHOBEE, FL 34974

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it, on Jessica Fagen, Attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is 2901 Stirling Road, Suite 300, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312 within 30 days after the first publication of this notice and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

Public Notice

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION
CASE NO. 2009 CA 758

REGIONS BANK, an Alabama Corporation, as the successor to Union Planters Bank, N.A. Plaintiff
v.
EDDIE ACCARDI JEEP CHRYSLER DODGE, INC., a Florida corporation; EDMUND ACCARDI, as guarantor, Defendants.

CLERK'S NOTICE OF SALE UNDER F.S. CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS GIVEN that in accordance with the Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated December 31, 2009 in the above-styled cause, I will sell to the highest bidder for cash on 5/19/2010 at 11:00 a.m. in the Jury Assembly Room, Second Floor, Okeechobee County Judicial Center, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida the following described property: **SEE ATTACHED EXHIBIT A.**

SCHEDULE "A" Legal Description

PARCEL 1.
A PARCEL OF LAND IN THE SOUTH ONE-QUARTER (5/4) OF THE NORTH ONE-HALF (1/2) OF SECTION 33 AND 34, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH, RANGE 35 EAST, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, LYING EAST OF THE EAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF U.S. 441 (PARROTT AVENUE) AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
BEGIN AT THE ONE QUARTER CORNER COMMON TO SECTIONS 33 AND 34 BEAR NORTH 89°17'56" EAST ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF THE NORTH ONE-HALF OF SAID SECTION 34 A DISTANCE OF 313.35 FEET; THENCE NORTH 00°10'04" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 655.14 FEET TO THE NORTH LINE OF THE SOUTHWEST ONE-QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST ONE-QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST ONE-QUARTER (SW¼, SW¼, NW¼) OF SAID SECTION 34, THENCE SOUTH 89°17'29" WEST A DISTANCE OF 310.51 FEET TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST ONE-QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST ONE-QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST ONE-QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 34; THENCE SOUTH 89°13'17" WEST ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF THE SOUTHWEST ONE-QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST ONE-QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST ONE-QUARTER (SE¼, SE¼, NE¼) OF SECTION 33, A DISTANCE OF 349.48 FEET TO THE EAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF U.S. 441 THENCE SOUTH 00°10'04" EAST ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY LINE A DISTANCE OF 656.71 FEET TO THE SOUTH LINE OF THE NORTHWEST ONE-QUARTER (NE¼) OF SAID SECTION 33; THENCE NORTH 89°16'26" EAST ALONG SAID LINE A DISTANCE OF 346.65 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

LESS: A PARCEL OF LAND LYING WITHIN THE SOUTHEAST ¼ OF THE SOUTHWEST ¼ OF THE NORTHWEST ¼ OF SECTION 33, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH, RANGE 35 EAST, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
COMMENCE AT THE EAST ONE-QUARTER CORNER OF SAID SECTION 33, THENCE NORTH 00°04'02" EAST ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID SECTION 33, A DISTANCE OF 455.13 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE NORTH 00°04'02" EAST, 200.00 FEET TO THE NORTH LINE OF THE SOUTHWEST ONE-QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST ONE-QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST ONE-QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 33, THENCE SOUTH 89°32'17" WEST ALONG SAID NORTH LINE, 349.48 FEET TO THE EASTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF U.S. HWY. 441 (STATE ROAD 15); THENCE SOUTH 00°10'04" EAST, ALONG SAID EASTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE 200.00 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89°32'17" EAST, 348.66 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

LESS: A PARCEL OF LAND LYING IN THE WEST ½ OF THE SOUTHWEST ¼ OF THE SOUTHWEST ¼ OF THE NORTHWEST ¼ OF SECTION 34, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH, RANGE 35 EAST, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 34, BEAR N 00°04'02" E, ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SECTION 34 TO THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE NORTHWEST ¼ OF SAID SECTION 34, A DISTANCE OF 2636.72 FEET FOR THE POINT OF BEGINNING. THENCE BEAR N 00°04'50" E ALONG THE SAID WEST LINE OF SECTION 34, TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE SAID SOUTHWEST ¼ OF THE SOUTHWEST ¼ OF THE NORTHWEST ¼ OF SECTION 34, A DISTANCE OF 654.94 FEET; THENCE BEAR N 89°14'59" E ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF THE SAID SOUTHWEST ¼ OF THE NORTHWEST ¼ OF THE NORTHWEST ¼ OF SECTION 34, A DISTANCE OF 310.67 FEET; THENCE BEAR S 00°09'06" E TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE NORTH LINE OF THE SOUTH ½ OF SAID SECTION 34, A DISTANCE OF 655.09 FEET; THENCE BEAR S 89°17'02" W ALONG THE SAID NORTH LINE OF THE SOUTH ½ OF SECTION 34 TO THE SAID SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST ¼ OF THE SOUTHWEST ¼ OF THE NORTHWEST ¼ OF SECTION 34, A DISTANCE OF 313.32 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

PARCEL II:
A PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN SECTION 33, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH, RANGE 35 EAST, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
COMMENCING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 33, THENCE RUN S 89°16'26" W ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 33, A DISTANCE OF 46.65 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE RUN S 00°10'04" E ALONG A LINE PARALLEL TO THE EASTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF STATE ROAD 15, A DISTANCE OF 66.00 FEET; THENCE RUN S 89°16'26" W ALONG A LINE PARALLEL TO THE NORTH LINE OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 33 A DISTANCE OF 300.00 FEET TO THE EASTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF STATE ROAD 15; THENCE RUN N 00°10'04" W ALONG SAID EASTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE A DISTANCE OF 166.00 FEET TO A POINT 100.00 FEET NORTH OF THE SOUTH LINE OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 33; THENCE RUN N 89°16'26" E ALONG A LINE PARALLEL TO THE SOUTH LINE OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 33, A DISTANCE OF 300.00 FEET; THENCE RUN S 00°10'04" E ALONG A LINE PARALLEL TO THE EASTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF STATE ROAD 15, A DISTANCE OF 100.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

If you are a person claiming a right to funds remaining after the sale, you must file a claim with the clerk no later than 60 days after the sale. If you fail to file a claim, you will not be entitled to any remaining funds. After 60 days only the owner of record as of the date of the Lis Pendens may claim the surplus.
Dated: 4/30/2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON, Clerk of Court
By: Linda F. Young, Deputy Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Clerk's Notice of Sale under F.S. Chapter 45 has been furnished by First Class U.S. Mail to David D. Welch, Esq., David D. Welch Law Offices, 2211 East Sample Road, Suite 203, Lighthouse Point, Florida 33064 on /2010.
EUN K. CHANG
Florida Bar No. 58359
RICE PUGATCH ROBINSON & SCHILLER, P.A.
Attorneys for Plaintiff Regions Bank
101 Northeast Third Avenue, Suite 1800
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301
Telephone: (954) 462-8000
Facsimile: (954) 462-4300

353569 ON 5/5,12/10

LEGAL NOTICE

A public auction will be held at BMJ Towing, Inc. Lot at 414 South Parrott Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34974 on Friday the 28th day of May 2010 from 10:00-11:00 A.M. Pursuant to Florida statute 713.78 for unpaid towing and storage. Year, Make, Model & Vin's as follows:

2007 White F150 1FTRF12W07NA39231

Terms of sale are cash, and no checks will be accepted. The seller reserves the right of final bid. All sales are final. No refunds will be made. Said automobiles will be sold in "AS IS" with no guarantees. 354353 ON 5/12/2010

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

Public Notice

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION
CASE NO. 472009CA000600CAXXXX

DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANYS TRUSTEE OF INDMAC RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE-BACKED TRUST, SERIES 2005-L3, RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-L3 Plaintiff,
vs.
ALEXANDER DUQUE; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ALEXANDER DUQUE; MARCOS DUQUE; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MARCOS DUQUE; UNKNOWN PERSON(S) IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY; Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

To the following Defendant(s):
ALEXANDER DUQUE
4581 SOUTHWEST 131ST TERRACE
MIRAMAR, FLORIDA 33027

UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ALEXANDER DUQUE
4581 SOUTHWEST 131ST TERRACE
MIRAMAR, FLORIDA 33027

MARCOS DUQUE
4581 SOUTHWEST 131ST TERRACE
MIRAMAR, FLORIDA 33027

UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MARCOS DUQUE
4581 SOUTHWEST 131ST TERRACE
MIRAMAR, FLORIDA 33027

UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MARCOS DUQUE
4581 SOUTHWEST 131ST TERRACE
MIRAMAR, FLORIDA 33027

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MIRAMAR, FLORIDA 33027

UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MARCOS DUQUE
4581 SOUTHWEST 131ST TERRACE
MIRAMAR, FLORIDA 33027

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO.: 09000509CA

NATIONAL CITY MORTGAGE, A DIVISION OF NATIONAL CITY BANK, PLAINTIFF VS. MIGDALIA R. BONACHEA, ET AL., DEFENDANT(S)

NOTICE OF ACTION CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: MIGDALIA R. BONACHEA AND UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MIGDALIA BONACHEA; RICHARD SIMMONS, LLC

whose residence is unknown if he/she/they are living; and if he/she/they are dead, the unknown defendants who may be spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, and all parties claiming an interest by, through, under or against the Defendants, who are not known to be dead or alive, and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described in the mortgage being foreclosed hereon.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property:

LOT 4, BLOCK 6, COUNTRY HILLS ESTATES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE 97, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on DAVID J. STERN, ESQ. Plaintiffs attorney, whose address is 900 South Pine Island Road #400, Plantation, FL 33324-3920 no later than 30 days from the date of the first publication of this notice of action and file the original with the clerk of this court either before service on Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition filed herein.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court at OKEECHOBEE County, Florida, this 27th day of April, 2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

Public Notice

BY: Linda F. Young DEPUTY CLERK
LAW OFFICES OF DAVID J. STERN ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF
900 SOUTH PINE ISLAND ROAD SUITE 400
PLANTATION, FL 33324-3920
09-69972 NCM

NOTICE REGARDING THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990

In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administration no later than seven days prior to the proceeding at 250 NW Country Club Drive, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986 or call 1-772-807-4370 within two working days of your receipt of this Summons/Notice to Appear. If you are hearing impaired call 1-800-955-8771. If you are voice impaired call 1-800-955-8770, via Florida Relay Service. 353047 ON 5/5,12/10

LEGAL NOTICE

Public Auction will be held at Johns Towing Service storage lot located at 704 Northeast 2nd Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34972 on MAY 28, 2010, at 9:00 A.M. Pursuant to Florida Statute 713.78 for unpaid towing and storage charges. Year, make, model and VIN are as follows.

**1996 Nissan Maxima VIN#JN1CA21D6TT707116
2002 Ford Focus VIN#1FAFP34P32W185553**

Terms of sale are cash, and no checks will be accepted. Seller reserves the right of final bid. ALL SALES ARE FINAL! NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE! Said automobiles will be sold in "As Is" condition with no guarantee's. 354304 ON 05/12/10

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO.: 47-2010-CA-000174

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., Plaintiff, VS. IRIA GABRIELA FERNANDEZ, et al, Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

Public Notice

TO: YORIS E. SANTANA
Last Known Address: 15997 NW 286th Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972
Also Attempted At: 1232 SW Minyo Avenue, Port Saint Lucie, FL 34953
Current Residence Unknown

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property: SEE EXHIBIT "A"

West 1/2 of the West 1/2 of the South

Public Notice

1/2 of the North 1/2 of Tract 8, Section 24 as to the SOUTHERN COLONIZATION COMPANY PLAT of Township 34 South, Range 33 East, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 3-3E, inclusive, Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida.

SUBJECT to a road and drainage easement across the South thirty feet, (30') and the West sixty feet, (60'), of the aforementioned lot.

AND East 1/2 of the West 1/2 of the South

Public Notice

1/2 of the North 1/2 of Tract 8, Section 24 as to the SOUTHERN COLONIZATION COMPANY PLAT of Township 34 South, Range 33 East, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 3-3E, inclusive, Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida.

SUBJECT to a road and drainage easement across the South thirty feet, (30') of the aforementioned lot.

Has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it, on

Public Notice

Marshall C. Watson, P.A., Attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is 1800 NW 49th STREET, SUITE 120, FT. LAUDERDALE, FL 33309 within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice in the OKEECHOBEE NEWS 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.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)

Public Notice

disabled person who, because of their disabilities need special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact not later than seven (7) days prior to the proceeding Court Administration at 250 NW Country Club Dr., Port St. Lucie, FL 34989. Phone 772-807-4370, 1-800-955-8771 (hearing impaired) or 1-800-955-8770 (voice impaired). WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this 5th day of May, 2010.

Sharon Robertson

Public Notice

As Clerk of the Court
BY: Arlene Nealis
As Deputy Clerk
354336 ON 5/12,19/10

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

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Vicki Anderson, Associate

Cell **634-4106**

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Patricia L. Goolsby
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Let it work for you!

Open house to help solve tax problems

FT. LAUDERDALE—The Internal Revenue Service will host a special nationwide Open House on Saturday, May 15 to help small businesses and individuals solve tax problems.

Approximately 200 IRS offices nationwide (eleven in Florida—list below) will be open May 15 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. local time. IRS staff will be available on site or by telephone to help taxpayers work through their problems and walk out with solutions.

"Our goal is to resolve issues on the spot so small businesses and individuals can put any issues they have with the IRS behind them," IRS spokesman, Michael Dobzinski said. "If you have a problem filing or paying your taxes or resolving a tough tax issue, we encourage you to come in and work with us."

IRS locations will be equipped to handle issues involving notices and payments, return preparation, audits and a variety of other issues. At a previous IRS Open House on March 27, approximately two-thirds of taxpayers requested and received assistance with payments and notices.

Locations open on Saturday May 15 in South Florida include:

- Fort Myers—4210 Metro Parkway, Ft. Myers, FL 33916;
- Port St. Lucie—7410 South US Hwy 1, Port St. Lucie, FL 34952;
- West Palm Beach -- 1700 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., West Palm Beach, FL. 33401.

DINING & Entertainment

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NOW MAKING Homemade Flour & Corn Tortillas

PUEBLO VIEJO

Authentic Mexican Food



Full Liquor Bar
Happy Hour: Everyday
3pm - 6pm & 9pm - 10pm

Draft Beer 2 for 1
Well Drinks (House Drinks)
2 for 1

Location:

3415 Hwy 441 South, Okeechobee
In the Publix Shopping Center,
Northlake Plaza

Hours:

11 am. to 10 p.m.
7 Days a Week!

Phone: (863) 357-9641

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Happy Hour
3-7 pm

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Well Drinks

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LUNCH**

buy 1 entree and 2 beverages
receive the second entree of
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Full Liquor Bar
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11 am to 10 pm

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Homemade
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10% off Total Dinner
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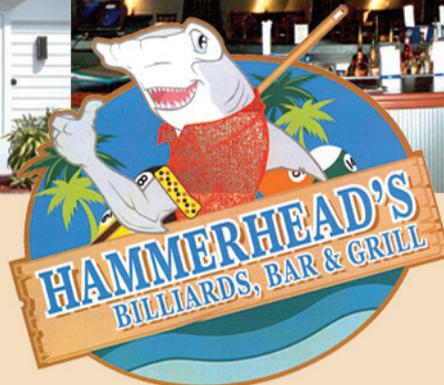
3415 Hwy 441 S., Okeechobee (863) 357-9641
(located in the Publix Shopping Center)

Hungry



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11am to 10pm

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1. Touchdown Breakfast \$4⁸⁹
2 Eggs, 2 bacon, 2 links, 2 pancakes
2. French Toast Combo \$4⁸⁹
2 eggs, 2 links, 2 bacon
3. Bagel with cream cheese \$4⁸⁹
4. 1/2 Sausage & Gravy \$4⁸⁹
with Coffee
5. Eggs, Toast with Coffee \$4²⁹
6. Hot Oatmeal with coffee \$4²⁹

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

1. Any Regular Omelette with Potato, Toast or Pancake
2. County Fried Steak with 2 eggs, \$6³⁹ Potato & Toast

Weekday Lunch Specials

1. Bistro Ham 'N Cheese \$5⁸⁹
2. Patty Melt \$5⁸⁹
3. Jr. Super Salad \$5⁸⁹
4. Grilled Chicken Sandwich \$5⁹⁹
5. Turkey 'n Swiss Melt \$5⁹⁹
6. Soup & 1/2 Sandwich \$5⁹⁹

Buy your beverage for 99 cents

**All You Can Eat
Fish or Shrimp** \$9⁹⁹

- Shrimp Fest**
- Land 'N Sea \$9⁹⁹
 - Shrimp Scampi \$7⁹⁹
 - Shrimp Caesar Salad \$7⁹⁹
 - Sweet 'N Sour Shrimp \$7⁹⁹
 - Sweet Alfredo \$7⁹⁹

**2 Dinners - Your Choice
For the Price of one!** \$18⁵⁹

1. N.Y. Strip Steak
2. Chicken and Shrimp
3. Grilled Tilapia
4. Shrimp Caesar Salad
5. Country Fried Steak
6. Grilled Pork Chops

All Special served with 2 sides. Soup or Salad,
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