

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

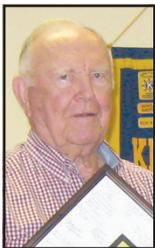
Vol. 101 No. 77

Sunday, June 27, 2010

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Red Larson honored for service to Kiwanis Club

.... Page 11



T-Ball champs head to state tournament
... Page 2

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Sheriff focuses on MSTU option

County meeting set for Tuesday to discuss new tax

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

After having had a couple of days to think about it, Okeechobee County Sheriff Paul May said he was very happy with the way Wednesday night's town hall meeting turned out.

The June 23 meeting was held

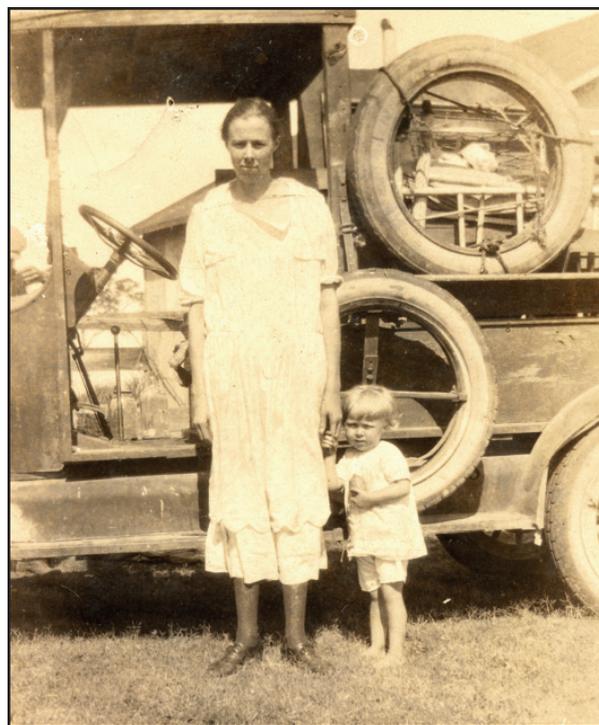
to discuss the sheriff's budget, as well as the 2010/11 spending plan for the Okeechobee County Fire/Rescue Department. However, it was the sheriff's budget and potential personnel layoffs that drew the most comment from the crowd of over 400 people at the Okeechobee County Civic Center.

The sheriff's proposed 2010/11 budget totals \$17,059,651, which is 1.88 percent less than last fiscal year's budget of \$17,385,301.

See MSTU — Page 5



Okeechobee News/Eric Kopp
Okeechobee County Sheriff Paul May told the more than 400 people in attendance at a June 23 town hall meeting that he will never allow money to endanger lives or compromise the safety of personnel at the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office.



Special to the Okeechobee News
Little Sadie, pictured with her mother Nel Sanders, lost her parents at a young age.

Sadie Sanders Stein was Okeechobee native

By Betty Bockoras

Special to the Okeechobee News

Sadie Sanders, born April 12, 1920 in Okeechobee, rarely talked about her past, never boasted about her accomplishments. Before her death on June 4, 2010, she requested there be no funeral, no memorial service, just a simple burial beside her late husband in Ohio.

Having lost both father and mother in early childhood, Sadie was raised by her aunt and uncle, Hardy and Thelma Walker. Her Aunt Thelma called her "my little girl," and her four cousins, Johnny, Aletha, Deretha and Jerry, called her "sister."

Sadie graduated from Okeechobee High School in 1939. After completing her secretarial training at Camp Roosevelt, she returned to Okeechobee to work for Attorney Tom Conley, Sr. She also worked for Bill Hendry, Sr., who at the time was the representative of Okeechobee County

in the Florida House of Representatives.

In the early stages of World War II, the Maritime Commission in Washington, D.C. was looking for employees for the war shipping administration. Sadie applied and was hired.

While in Washington, Sadie roomed with three other girls: Luke (Lucille), Margie, and Ethel. Her friendship with these ladies stayed intact throughout her life. The only one still living is Luke, now 84, who lives in Oklahoma.

In the waning days of World War II, Sadie took advantage of another opportunity at the American Foreign Service Auxiliary. She was issued a uniform and sent to Paris to work at the U.S. Embassy in France. During her stay there, the U.S. Government provided a room for her at the Hotel Crillon.

Although Sadie liked her work at the

See SADIE— Page 5

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Okeechobee T-ball champs head to state tournament

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

An Okeechobee T-ball team will be in Hardee next weekend to take part in the state tournament after their second-place finish in the T-ball South Regional Tournament in Bushnell.

Okeechobee American will open their state tourney play on Saturday, July 3, when they take on Freeport at 9:30 a.m. They will take to the diamond again at 2 p.m. to face Wesley Chapel in the double-elimination tournament. The Okeechobee team won their regional

opener 29-24 against West Seminole on Saturday, June 19. The next day they defeated Bartow 27-16, then later fell to Wesley Chapel by a 14-8 score.

Monday found the Okeechobee team back on the diamond where they faced West Volusia. Okeechobee pulled out a squeaker and won by a 21-20 tally. On Tuesday, June 22, Okeechobee ended tournament play with a double-header against Wesley Chapel. Okeechobee American took the opening game 17-9, but fell 26-19 in the second game.



Submitted photo

The Okeechobee American T-ball team has qualified for the state tournament to be played in Hardee beginning July 3. Team members are: (first row, left to right) Wyatt Friend, Jacob Hardy, Emery Coleman, Dekoya Nunez, Jordan Bobrowski and Joy Whipple; (second row, left to right) Logan Rhoden, Bradley Crews, Ramone Baker, Caylee Rucks, Brayson Craig and Maddie Hilley; (back row, left to right) Coach John Rhoden, Dale Hardy, Donnie Coleman, Tim Craig and Heath Whipple.

Benefit for Jordan Gabor

Sunday, June 27, 2010 ~ 6 to 9 p.m.

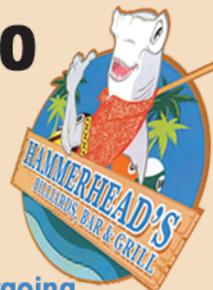
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Detective charges Puckett with theft of .22 cal. rifle

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News



Dustin Chad Puckett

An Okeechobee man has been arrested and booked into the county jail in connection with the theft of a rifle from a Northwest Fourth Street home.

Dustin Chad Puckett, 19, S.R. 78 W., was arrested Wednesday, June 23, on a felony charge of grand theft-firearm. He was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail under a bond of \$10,000.

According to an arrest report by Detective William Maerki of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) Puckett, also known as Little D, took a .22 caliber Chipmunk rifle

from the home in late May. The rifle, valued at \$150, has been recovered.

The detective's report indicates that a witness saw a man with the gun and that the man hid the weapon in someone else's residence. Detective Maerki stated that he later

presented that witness with a photo lineup and that the witness identified Puckett as the man with the rifle.

Even though an arrest has been made, the OCSO detective indicated that the investigation is continuing.

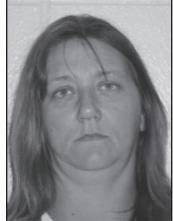
Okeechobee's Most Wanted

The following people are among Okeechobee's Most Wanted persons. There are active warrants for each of them.

The criteria for making Okeechobee's Most Wanted top five is based on the severity of the crime in conjunction with the age of the warrant.



Patsy Torres



Rebecca Ann Blair

If you call Treasure Coast Crimes Stoppers, you have the option of remaining anonymous. You can also receive a reward if the information results in an arrest.

Patsy Torres, W/F, DOB 11/16/1989, 5'3", 147 lbs. Aggravated Battery - Deadly Weapon. Bond \$15,000. 2004 photo.

Rebecca Ann Blair, DOB 9/7/1972, 5'11", 240 lbs. Grand Theft. Criminal Use of ID information. Bond \$15,000.

Okeechobee Arrest Report

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

• Chad Owen Woodham, 26, S.W. 86th St., Okeechobee, was arrested June 22 by DOC's Melissa Spencer on a charge of violation of probation - resisting a law enforcement officer with violence. He is being held without bond.

• Tanya Leigh Law, 24, S.W. 30th Terrace, Okeechobee, was arrested June 22 by Detective William Maerki on charges of uttering a forged instrument and grand theft. Her bond was set at \$10,000.

• Guadalupe Mascorro, 35, Smith Ryals Road, Plant City, was arrested June 25 by Deputy John Hazy on a charge of possession of cocaine. His bond was set at \$10,000.

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

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

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!

Budget deficit

- There has to be job cuts or serious reduction in salaries. Did you really need to restore the old courthouse when you built a \$3 million one? If you want a memory of it, take a picture. The county will still be paying taxes on it, just like the pink elephant known as the illustrious civic center which gobbles up our hard earned tax money while not being able to justify EVER being built. And good ole boy, good ole boy, whoever built it hoodwinked every county commish on the board at the time. A total cost of \$10 million and it's not even AC. For \$10 million it could have had a pool and a spa! Cut about 25 jobs at the county which are useless in the first place and there you go, you're on the right track.

- Before you vote for a county commissioner, check out their votes on county issues. I believe that all the votes on issues are on the county web site if anybody ever wants to know about certain votes.

Smoking in the men's room

- Stores need to supervise the men's bathrooms. My child went to use the restroom and a man was smoking inside and another was drinking a beer. My child has bad asthma and ended up coughing a lot. Okeechobee is a nice place to live. Either respect the law or be arrested and go to jail.

Zombie Apocalypse

- Apparently the Okeechobee Emergency Management Office is prepared for all emergencies. On their web site, a plan for "Okeechobee County Zombie Apocalypse Annex" was found as part of the Okeechobee County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. Does the EOC know something we don't? Are there zombies in Okeechobee planning a takeover? *Editor's note: Mike Faulkner of the Okeechobee Emergency Management Office explained that the*

Zombie Apocalypse plan was written as an emergency management drill. The plan has been on the web site for more than a year, but unless you know to type in Annex Z after the web address, it does not show up, so few of those who visit the EOC web site had ever seen it. It was a creative exercise in planning for a pandemic and/or social uprising, done over many weekends on his own time.

- The way some elected officials act at the meetings, it makes you wonder if there aren't already some zombies here ...

- This has been in the news for weeks. It is just a training exercise, like the fake hurricane they have every year to test EOC readiness. The traffic sign in the picture was hacked in Gainesville and the message changed to "Zombie Attack."

- Once again the TV station from the coast doesn't bother to get the facts. They didn't bother to mention on the TV news that the report on this training exercise was on that web site a year ago. They went on and on about how it is 75 pages and didn't bother to mention that it was a training exercise. They also didn't bother to mention that the University of Florida did a similar training exercise and everyone had a good laugh when their zombie plan was on their emergency preparedness web site last fall. Slow news day indeed.

- Well it's a bit creepy if you ask me.
- Kind of funny how everyone is scared of a little news spoof but nobody is talking about the real news on WPTV about the packed civic center and the discussion by our sheriff.

- I don't see why people say this is a joke. Zombies are going to attack one day.

- The zombie attack emergency plan was just an exercise in creative thinking, and I think Mike Faulkner should be commended for the thought and work he put into it. Doing these exercises makes emergency workers think about what they would do if their standard plan did not fit the circumstances of the emergency. While I don't think we are at a big risk of being overrun by zombies, the threat of pandemic is real. And if people were dropping dead from a highly infectious virus, it would not take long for panic to set in and for society to fall apart if officials were not ready with plans for quarantines, emergency food programs, security plans, etc.



Reflections from the Pulpit

'Bend Me'

By Elder Cary McKee

More 2 Life Ministries

Let me start by saying, I love Okeechobee! I love the people! I love the small town feel! I love the fact that there still seems to be a moral stability in its roots! However, if we are honest with ourselves, our little town, is a mirror of the rest of our nation in the fact that we have been on a downward spiral for years now, and it is time to wake up.

Years ago, there was a general thought that it was the big cities that were full of crime and drug use. Right here in our own town, our law enforcement officers are working overtime in a losing battle against the same things that were once thought to only live in the city. The jails are full, the bars are full, the drug houses are full, and the churches are not. There is an epidemic that runs through the underbelly of our little town of prescription drug use. It has such a grip that I would guess that every one of you reading this article knows of someone close to you, whether family or friend, who struggle with addiction. It is picking people off one by one, destroying families along the way. Something must be done! We are losing a generation!

The answer does not lie in more arrests, or bigger jails, better schools, or more entertainment. The answer does not lie in more education on the subject or even in tighter restrictions being placed on pain management clinics. The only solution is for a great awakening to take place in our homes. That is right, I said in our homes!

We need revival in the worst way. I am not talking about a series of meetings with a guest speaker and special music. I am talking about a true revival in the heart of every believer in Okeechobee. We can't sit back and think ourselves better than anyone else, or judge from our high horse. First Peter 4:17 says that "judgment begins in the house of God..."

We are in a spiritual drought, and we need God's rain! 2 Chronicles 7:13-14 says, "When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the

land or send a plague among my people, if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land." Peter said it another way in Acts 3:19: "Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord..."

The church must examine itself! Awakenings don't happen when the church sits around hoping the rest of the town wakes up and comes to see them. Awakenings happen when God's people return to him. When we see our actions through the eyes of a Holy God, and truly begin to see our lives as He sees us, then we will have the desire to purge ourselves of our sins so that "times of refreshing might come from the Lord." When we return to Him, it says in Hosea 6, "he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth."

For the Christians among you who think that awakening needs to happen only for the lost, then you should begin to ask God about your spiritual pride. For those of you who see the need, hit your knees and pray for a revival of your soul. A man named Evan Roberts was praying with a group of fellow believers one night in Wales in 1904. He listened as he heard the cries for revival in his city, "Bend us Lord, Bend us." God pierced his heart and he began to cry out, "Bend me, Lord, Bend me." Out of that prayer meeting, God sparked a revival that would see a great change come to Wales. Over a hundred thousand people gave their life to Christ over the next year. You can check the public records, crime decreased, brothels closed, jails were empty. Families were reunited, stolen goods returned and feuds were forgotten. I would love to tell you it continued till this day, but we have a tendency to forget God.

In Okeechobee, come and let us return to Him! Begin to cry out with me for a great awakening to begin in our homes, in our churches. But let us not do so by asking God to fix our neighbor, instead ask God to "Bend ME"!

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

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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.

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- 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.



SADIE

Continued From Page 1

Embassy, she longed to see a young man back in the state of Ohio, named Walter Stein. While making plans to visit him on his birthday, Sadie received a letter from Okeechobee; her Aunt Thelma was ailing and needed her help.

Torn between the man she loved and the kind lady who raised her, she took an early discharge from her assignment in France and came back to Okeechobee to take care of her aunt.

Finally, on May 7, 1948, Walter and Sadie were married. They honeymooned in Washington, D.C., and then settled in Warren, Ohio. Walter continued his job as a heavy equipment operator and Sadie worked as a legal secretary.

Although a career woman, Sadie was

quite domestic and a good cook. One day she decided to make a cake for her new husband and left it on the kitchen counter for him. Upon returning home, he asked, "Aren't you going to cut it and serve me a piece?"

"I made it for you," she replied, "and you can serve yourself."

Neither one gave in, and as per Sadie's words years later, "It sat there until it was petrified."

Her husband, whom Sadie called Stein, affectionately nick-named her "my rebel."

In 1975, Stein died of a heart attack, leaving Sadie a widow at age 55. She then moved to Okeechobee to be near family and enjoyed a quiet life of maintaining the orange grove on her 3-acre property, gardening, and bird watching. She was a member of the National Audubon Society.

She took comfort in having her family nearby: her Uncle Hardy and Aunt Thelma,

Those three men—Alberto Aguilera, 25, Armando Gallardo, 20, and Israel Avalos, 31—are currently being held in the Okeechobee County Jail on an array of felony charges.

It's this type of proactive police work that has earned the support and respect of the citizens of Okeechobee County.

Although a large part of the crowd was made up of OCSO employees, Sheriff May said he was very happy at the number of people in the audience who were not members of law enforcement.

"I was very pleasantly surprised that those people took the time to come out and speak about our level of law enforcement," he said. "Some of the people who needed to hear this were there."

He was referring to current county commissioners and those who will be running for a seat on that board.

And while a large part of Wednesday's meeting focused on the sheriff's budget and potential layoffs, there was some talk of an alternative funding option known as a Municipality Services Taxing Unit (MSTU).

A large portion of the sheriff's funding comes from ad valorem taxes, which are paid by property owners. However, due to homestead exemption not all property owners pay these taxes.

But with the MSTU, homestead exemption will not come into play and everyone will then pay their fair share.

For those residents already paying ad valorem taxes, they will see those taxes reduced if the MSTU is put into place.

It was explained that the MSTU can only be used to fund the law enforcement side of the sheriff's office budget which, in the 2010/11 budget, comes up to \$9,161,372.

Because there are still more questions than answers, in regard to the MSTU, county commissioners will hold a special meeting Tuesday, June 29, to discuss this funding option. Sheriff May said he will be there.

"I'll be at Tuesday's meeting, but the MSTU is not my idea and is not something I'm bringing before the commission," he said. "I will be there to listen and to see how it is going to affect the citizens of this county."

That meeting will be held in the Okeechobee County Health Department auditorium, 1728 N.W. Ninth Ave., and will start at 10:30 a.m.

her cousins she grew up with, Johnny and Jerry Walker, Deretha Yoemans and Althea Barnett. Today, the only one of that family still living is Jerry, who was the youngest.

Still living in Okeechobee are Sadie's half-sisters, Alevne Lantz and Patty Hazellief; nieces, Pearl Hazellief and Elaine Davis; nephews, Ronald Bass and David Hazellief.

Cousins living in Okeechobee include Mickey Evans, founder of Dunklin Memorial Camp; Lillian Walker Underwood, retired school teacher; Gil Culbreth of the Chevrolet dealership; Robert Conrad; Lewis (Cosie) Conrad; Suzanne Morton; Sue Caso; and Susie Hoover.

Other living cousins who have since moved away include: Dorothy Conrad, Lou Pierce Lott, Frances Pierce, Eloise Pierce, Lonnie Pierce, and Dink Pierce.

In her mid 80s, Sadie's health began to fail. After she fell and broke her hip she moved into the Okeechobee Health Care Facility. Although she had no children, she had many calls and letters from Luke, her old roommate in Washington, Maggie's son Eddie (Maggie had passed away) and Cecelia whom she met in secretarial school.

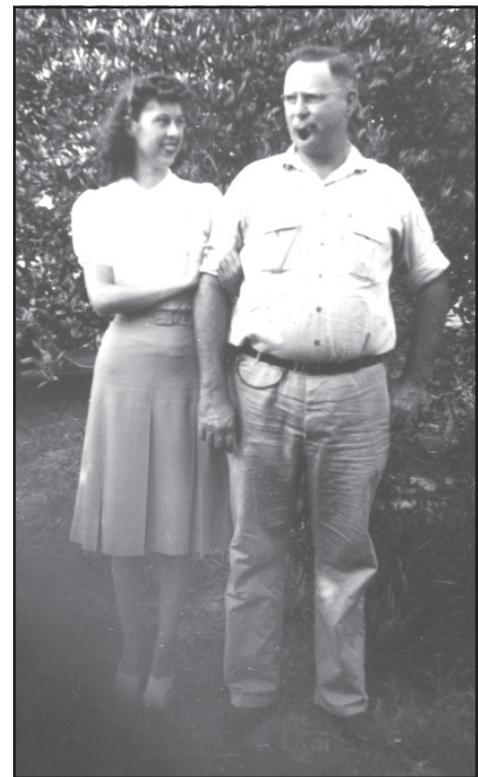
There were frequent visitors, including her half-sisters Alevne and Patty.

Sadie's "angel" came to see her every day. This was the name she gave Jerry's oldest daughter Lisa, who read her the Bible and daily devotions and made sure she had everything she needed.

By the time of her death at age 90, Sadie Sanders Stein had lived a long and prosperous life.

Betty Williamson, of the Okeechobee Historical Society of Okeechobee, is now in

the process of collecting data about Sadie's life as well as the uniform she wore while in the U.S. Embassy. These will eventually be on public display at the Historical Society.



Special to the Okeechobee News
Sadie Sanders was raised by uncle Hardy Walker (pictured here) and her aunt Thelma Walker.

MSTU

Continued From Page 1

"I thought it went well," Sheriff May said Friday. "I thought emotions ran high, but those people who were there were overwhelmingly in support of maintaining our level of law enforcement."

The sheriff is once again being told by the Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners that he needs to cut his 2010/11 budget even more. Including the proposed spending plan, Sheriff May told the crowd Wednesday night that he has cut his budget three years in a row for a total reduction of 7.33 percent.

"I have cut all I can cut without cutting those people on the road or in the jail," he told the audience. "For some of my people, this will be the third year they didn't get a pay raise. To cut their salaries, I will fight it. But before I lay off one person, I will consider that."

Although he was pleased with the support shown by members of his department who attended the meeting, Sheriff May said he was particularly impressed with the backing expressed by residents of Douglas Park and Dean's Court. Those residents resolutely expressed their support of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office, and thanked Sheriff May and his deputies for the attention being paid to those areas.

Residents from the King's Bay subdivision were also on hand to express their thanks to the sheriff's office for heading off what had the potential to become a deadly situation.

On Nov. 6, 2009, two detectives from the OCSO street crimes unit were searching for a fugitive in King's Bay when they noticed a car with Palm Beach County plates zigzagging slowly through the subdivision as if they were trolling to commit a crime.

The detectives—Javier Gonzalez and Bart Potter—used poorly functioning tail lights as a reason to stop the car. In the car the detectives found three handguns and a roll of duct tape.

As they questioned the three Pahokee men, the detectives learned the men were reportedly in King's Bay with the intention of raping a woman—any woman. And, if forced too, they were willing to break into a home to commit the rape.

Okeechobee Forecast

Today: Scattered showers and thunderstorms after 11 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 88. Southeast wind around 5 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50 percent.

Tonight: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 74. South southeast wind around 5 mph.

Extended Forecast

Monday: A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 88. South southeast wind around 5 mph.

Monday night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 75. South wind around 5 mph.

Tuesday: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 90. South southwest wind around 5 mph.

Tuesday night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 77. South wind around 5 mph.

Lotteries

Florida Lottery — Here are the numbers selected Thursday in the Florida Lottery: **Cash 3:** 2-3-9; **Play 4:** 2-7-3-7; **Fantasy 5:** 1-15-22-31-33; **Mega Money:** 1-3-31-44 MB 4; **Florida Lotto:** 1-7-19-22-26-29 X3; **Powerball:** 11-30-45-47-48 PB 10 x3. Numbers drawn Friday, **Cash 3:** 8-8-5; **Play 4:** 6-2-9-7.

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Community Events

Freedom Outreach Fishing Tournament on Sunday

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

Orchid Club to meet

The Okeechobee Orchid Club will meet Monday, **June 28**, at 7 p.m. at the Extension Office, 458 Highway 98N. Local grower Victor Elliott will be our guest speaker. Please bring any orchids you'd like to show or discuss. The Garden Club will meet at 6 p.m. For more information call 863-763-6469.

Alzheimer's Assoc. to host Safe Return program

The Alzheimer's Association of the Treasure Coast will host their Medic Alert/Safe Return program in Okeechobee on Monday, **July 28**, from until 3 p.m. The event will be held at the Okeechobee Senior Services building, 1019 W. South Park Street. The cost for the event is \$54.95 but scholarships are available for families in need. The program registers Alzheimer's patients who could wander away. Patients will receive a bracelet with an 800 number to help them to be returned home safely. For more information, please contact Diane Black at 772-464-8069.

Martha's House collecting used cell phones

Martha's House is collecting used cell phones to return for money. Martha's House can also have them 9-1-1 activated for participants. If you have any used cell phones to donate, call 863-763-2893, or drop them off at their new administrative office on North U.S. 441.

Hospice to host yard sale

Hospice of Okeechobee (411 S.E. Fourth Street) will hold a Gigantic Yard Sale on Wednesday June 30 and Thursday, July 1, from 8 a.m. until noon. The sale will not be open on Friday due to the July 4 holiday. Specialty Items This Sale: children's play clothes. We have NEW ITEMS galore offered at extremely reasonable prices. Funds raised will benefit patient care, including services at The Hamrick Home. If you wish to donate items to the Yard Sale, drop off times are weekdays between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. For information call 863-467-2321.

FPL bill help available for low income seniors

Okeechobee Senior Services has funds available to assist low income seniors (age 60 and over) with their FPL electric bills. Call Kim at 983-462-5180 for more information. The bill must be from Florida Power and Light and the senior citizen must be a resident of Okeechobee County to qualify for this assistance.

Raulerson Hospital to host breakfast event

Raulerson Hospital invites you to breakfast!

Raulerson Hospital invites the public to a free breakfast on Thursday, **July 8**, at 7:30 a.m. in the Raulerson Hospital Cafeteria, 1796 Hwy. 441 N., Okeechobee. The breakfast event is to help to introduce the community to Emergency Room Physician, Dr. Michael Adelberg and the ER staff. Seating is limited and an RSVP is required. Please call Marnie Lauter, Public Relations/Marketing Coordinator at 863-824-2702 to reserve your seat. Don't let an emergency be your first introduction to the Emergency Room.

Steak night set for July 2

The Fraternal Order of Eagles, #4137, 9985 Hwy. 441 North will host Steak Night Friday, **July 2**, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Dinner will include steak, salad, baked potato or sweet potato, garlic bread and desert for a donation of \$12. Live entertainment will be provided by Michael's Memories.

July 4 Barbecue contest set

The inaugural O.L. Raulerson, Jr. July 4th BBQ Contest is set for **July 2 and 3**, at Okee-Tantie Marina, 10430 St. Rd. 78 West, Okeechobee. The contest will feature barbecuing at its finest with backyard barbecuers putting out their best wood and charcoal only barbecue and will include "Anything But" and Sauces. Water and electricity will be provided. Judging for the contest will be Friday, July 2, at 7 p.m. for Pork Butt, Ribs and Chicken and Saturday, July 3 at noon with awards presented for Grand and Reserve Overall. The fee is \$150 for entries in first, second and third category. For more information, please contact Keith Stripling at 863-634-9108, Laurie Raulerson Stephen at 863-634-3462 or Bobby Schoonmaker at 863-634-3910.

Red Cross plans July Health and Safety classes

The Okeechobee Service Center of the American Red Cross will be holding the following Health & Safety classes in July:

- Wednesday, **July 7** - First Aid Basics at 6 p.m.
- Monday, July 12 - Adult CPR/AED at 6 p.m.
- Thursday, July 22 - Infant/Child CPR/AED at 6 p.m.

All classes are held at their Service Center, located at 323 N. Parrott Ave. To register, or for more information call 863-763-2488.

Cypress Hut invites members to meetings

Attention all members of Cypress Hut Auxiliary 4509. They would like to invite all members to attend meetings which are held the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Meetings start at 7 p.m. There will be door prizes for those members in attendance. They will have readings of the by-laws on **July 14** and the final reading on July 28.

Woman at the Well

Woman at the Well, a group home for women in transition is taking applications. For more information call 863-467-1112.



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~ Matthew P. Buxton, L.F.D.

Mosquito-borne illnesses documented in Florida

A horse in Okeechobee County recently tested positive for Eastern Equine Encephalomyelitis (EEE) as has been reported to the Okeechobee County Health Department. The infected horse was euthanized.

There is no effective treatment once a horse contracts the virus leading to the disease but a widely available and inexpensive vaccination can prevent horses from coming down with the virus. It is strongly recommended that horse owners vaccinate their horses as the case-fatality in equines is 80-90 percent. A human vaccine is currently under research.

One or two human cases are reported each year in Florida. People under the age of 15 or over 50 seem to be at greatest risk for severe disease. EEE is not believed to have the potential to cause an epidemic in Florida. The disease is spread by mosquitoes to horses and humans via migratory birds. Once infected, humans and horses are not contagious and can't spread the disease.

EEE infections are less likely to be asymptomatic than other arboviruses. Symptoms develop 3-10 days after the bite of an infected mosquito and begin with a sudden onset of fever, general muscle pains, and a headache of increasing severity. Symptoms can become more severe over 1-2 weeks and infected individuals will either recover or show onset of encephalitis characterized by seizures, vomiting and focal neurological deficits. Severe encephalitic cases often suffer from coma or death. Approximately one-third of people with encephalitis caused by EEE will die from the disease, making it one of the most serious mosquito-borne

diseases in the United States. Of those who recover, many will suffer lasting effects.

Physicians should contact the County Health Department if they suspect an individual may have a mosquito-borne illness. DOH laboratories provide testing services for physicians treating patients with clinical signs of mosquito-borne disease.

DOH advises the public to be diligent in their personal mosquito protection efforts. These should include the "5 Ds for prevention":

- Dusk and Dawn: Avoid being outdoors when mosquitoes are seeking blood, for many species this is during the dusk and dawn hours.
- Dress: Wear clothing that covers skin.
- DEET: When the potential exists for exposure to mosquitoes, repellents containing DEET (N,N-diethyl-meta-toluamide, or N,N-diethyl-3-methylbenzamide) are recommended. Products with concentrations up to 30% DEET are generally recommended for most situations. (It is not recommended to use DEET on children less than 2 months old. Instead, infants should be kept indoors or mosquito netting used over carriers when mosquitoes are present). If additional protection is necessary, apply a permethrin repellent directly to your clothing. Always read the manufacturer's directions carefully before you put on a repellent.
- Drainage: Check your home to rid it of standing water in which mosquitoes can lay their eggs. Elimination of breeding sites is one of the keys to prevention.

Okeechobee Livestock Market Report

June 21 and 22, 2010			Med #1	Steers	Hfhrs	Demand and prices were very good this week. Calves all steady and strong and cows and bulls were \$1-\$2 higher. Allen Bir, West Palm Beach, had a cow weighing 2,025, bringing \$65. Glen Murphy, Avon Park topped the calf market this week with a high price of \$2 bought by Reynolds Cattle. Amtel Farms, LaBelle, topped the cow market with a high of \$67.50 bought by Brown Packing. Closed June 28-July 2. Open July 5.
Cows			170-190	155-195		
Breaking	\$60.00	\$65.00	200-250	160-185	125-140	
Cutter	\$56.00	\$64.00	250-300	145-175	120-135	
Canner	\$44.00	\$54.00	300-350	134-142	115-124	
			350-400	129-140	114-122	
			400-450	122-134	106-119	
			450-500	115-130	104-113	
Bulls			550-600	107-111	103-111	
1000-1500	65.00	70.00	600-650	101-106	96-108	
1500-2000	67.50	76.50				
			Med #2	Steers	Hfhrs	
Monday	Tuesday		150-200	140-170	120-125	
Calves	267	1247	200-250	105-145	110-125	
Cows	83	275	250-300	110-147	100-125	
Str	30	68	300-350	110-135	100-118	
Hfhrs	0	33	350-400	110-129	95-114	
Bulls	10	30	400-450	104-122	95-110	
Yrlngs	16	58	Small #1			
Mix	-	16	300-350		110-120	
Total	406	1727	350-400	115-120	110-114	See ya next week, Pete
			450-500		97-106	



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

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

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June 25th - July 1st

For Info, Call 763-7202

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THEATRE II: "TOY STORY 3"
 Fri. 7:00 & 9:00, Sat., Sun., Tues., Wed. & Thurs. 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00, Mon. 3:00 & 7:00 **G**

THEATRE III: "KARATE KID"
 Fri. 7:00 & 9:30, Sat., Sun., Tues., Wed. & Thurs. 2:00, 4:30, 7:00 & 9:30, Mon. 3:00 & 7:00 **PG**

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

HOLIDAY DEADLINES

The Okeechobee News will be closed *Monday, July 5th* for Independence Day

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7TH DEADLINE

Display Advertising. 3 p.m., Friday, July 2nd

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Low cost spay/neuter program available

Low cost spay/neuter vouchers for dogs and cats. Participating veterinarians in Vero Beach. For information, call United Humanitarians Port St. Lucie volunteer: 772-335-3786. Email: Petscry1@bellsouth.net. Okeechobee veterinarians are invited to participate in this low cost spay/neuter program.

Commissioners hear presentations on business and the environment

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

The business climate and the environment were topics of discussion at the Thursday, June 24 meeting of Okeechobee County Commissioners.

Brian Cartland, director of the Business Development Board of Okeechobee presented an update of his 10-month-old organization's activities. The organization is involved in assisting prospective, new and existing businesses. During the short time his organization has been in operation, Mr. Cartland has handled 67 inbound business calls, made 71 business visits and provided 119 businesses with enterprise zone information. He has formed a Financial Services Network to provide training and workshops to help make businesses financially stronger. There is also a Business Wellness Program which he compared to a person going to a doctor for a checkup. Mr. Cartland has been involved in helping local businesses export their products. He has also been working with other economic development organizations such as Florida's Heartland Regional Economic Development Initiative. The Economic Development Board has also been involved in marketing and public relations through the use of a website, magazine articles and newspaper and radio.

Mr. Cartland said there are 121 new jobs in the area with an average wage of \$31,620. He predicted that new businesses in the county have an impact of \$58,704 on county taxes.

Turning to the environment, Alex Dami-an assistant deputy executive director of operations and maintenance for South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) gave a presentation on his organization's preparation for the rainy season. He described how operational decisions are made and the factors that influence those decisions.

In another ecology related issue, after some discussion the board declined to take action on a resolution supporting South Florida Water Management District's purchase of 73,000 acres of land in the Everglades Agricultural Area owned by U.S. Sugar. While commissioners expressed concern for Everglades restoration, they had reservations about this particular project.

"There's not two sides to this argument," said Commissioner Joey Hoover. "There are about 10 sides."

He was concerned about legal, financial technical and scientific aspects.

Commissioner Clif Betts feared that the 16 counties served by SFWMD would pay for the entire bill when the project will benefit the entire country.

Commissioner Noel Chandler said everyone he talked to was not in favor of the proposal.

In other action, the board:

- approved administrative regulation on commercial sponsorship of county events;
- received banners and posters from the Okeechobee County Health Department Tobacco Prevention Program and Students Working Against Tobacco for display at the

sports complex and soccer practice areas to discourage smoking around children;

- recognized Pat Diles, case manager with senior services, Kenneth Yeo, park maintenance technician with facilities maintenance, Francisco Rodriguez equipment operator with the road department, Faye Albert, equipment operator with the road department and Lester Williams, case manager with senior services for five years' service to the county;

- recognized Jim Threewits, deputy county commissioner, and Jay Curtis, Fire/Medic for 10 years' service to the county;

- recognized Donald Palmer, equipment operator for the road department, for twenty years' service to the county;

- recognized Terry Parrish, Sr., Lt. Fire/Medic and Jack Burkes, Fire/Medic for 25 years' service to the county;

- recognized Anthony Chapman, equipment operator with the road department for 35 years service to the county;

- approved a rental rate schedule for the new band shell at Okee Tantie Campground & Marina effective immediately;

- abandoned easements on property belonging to Williamson Cattle Company;

- awarded a bid to Sisa Construction Services in the amount of \$1,392,669.55 for the Southwest drainage project to be paid for with FEMA and state grants;

- declared repairs to Lamb Island Bridge an emergency and awarded a contract in the amount of \$27,104 Ocean Breeze Construction of Palm Beach Gardens and a contract

in the amount of \$7,000 to Craig A. Smith for engineering and construction management services;

- approved a drainage project along U.S. 98 for Community Development Block Grant application;

- awarded a contract to Diversified Drilling Corporation in the amount of \$73,277 for abandonment of the sports complex injection well; and,

- postponed action on settlement of a right of way dispute on Lofton Road.

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

Raulerson Hospital to host breakfast event

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The breakfast event is to help to introduce the community to Emergency Room Physician, Dr. Michael Adelberg and the ER staff. Seating is limited and an RSVP is required. Please call Marnie Lauter, Public Relations/Marketing Coordinator at 863-824-2702 to reserve your seat.

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Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

Get the message?

Posters and banners reading "Please don't smoke around kids" will soon be seen at the county's ball parks and soccer practice fields. These posters and banners were presented to Okeechobee county commissioners at their June 24 meeting by the Okeechobee County Health Department and Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT). Present for the presentation were, left to right, Deanna and Richard Kielbasa, teachers who work with SWAT, Darrell Enfinger, director of Parks and Recreation, Frank Kruppa, director of the health department, and Whitley Burch, SWAT advisor for the health department.

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Kiwanis Club welcomes Extension Service guest

Red Larson and Dowling Watford honored for service

By D. Hamilton
Okeechobee News

Thursday's Kiwanis Club meeting included much on the agenda including an awards presentation recognizing long-time club members, Dowling Watford for 40 years and also Red Larson for more than 60 years of service to the organization, including 39 of those years here in Okeechobee.

Mr. Larson was also presented with another award through Kiwanis International recognizing his generosity throughout his years of service to community and to the club.

The guest speaker for the meeting, Courtney Davis of the Okeechobee Extension Service, had much to say about the services provided for local children through the Extension Office. She gave a brief history of the Extension Office telling listeners that it began in 1914 as a partnership between state and grant universities, USDA and local county governments.

"Each county, she explained, is part of the Extension Service with 67 of them across the state."

Ms. Davis continued by telling club members that 4-H is a large part of the Extension Service and that it is in its second century having celebrated the 100-year anniversary in 2009.

"In Okeechobee, we have 18 different clubs that focus on livestock, shooting sports, leadership, community services and horses. There are over 300 4-H members in Okeechobee County making it one of the largest enrollments in the state," she stated.

Explaining that 4-H is open to all youth ages 5-18, she added, "4-Hers can be involved in many different areas such as public speaking, horses, fashion design and even dogs."



Okeechobee News/D. Hamilton
Kiwanis Club and club president, Jim Vensel welcomed guest speaker, Courtney Davis, from the Okeechobee Extension Office. She was introduced by club member Jeff Sumner who told club members a bit about Ms. Davis and the offerings of the Extension Office to local kids before she spoke to the group.

Another area of 4-H that club members were informed about was that of activities on a state level for young people to participate in.

"Florida 4-H Legislature, Citizenship Washington Focus and Florida 4-H Congress are all part of activities where 4-Hers get a firsthand look at our state's government," she said. She also added that field trips to Washington, D.C. include older members of 4-H who make the week-long trip learning appreciation, understanding, and involvement in civic responsibility, government operations and current issues. She stated that senior members compete against other district event winners from across the state and scholarships and awards are given at each year's annual banquet.

"Summertime is a very busy time with summer youth camps open to all youth ages 8-18," she said. Continuing, she gave details on a number of the camp possibilities for different interests.

For more information on programs offered by the Extension Service and 4-H, please contact Courtney Davis at the Okeechobee Extension Service Office at 863-763-6469.



The Kiwanis meeting held on Thursday, June 24, had several items on the agenda including the presentation of recognition awards by Kiwanis Club President, Jim Vensel (right) and board member, J.D. Mixon (left) to two long-time key Kiwanis Club members. Club member, Red Larson was recognized for his 60 plus years with Kiwanis and Dowling Watford for his 40 years of service to Kiwanis. Both received standing applause for their achievements.

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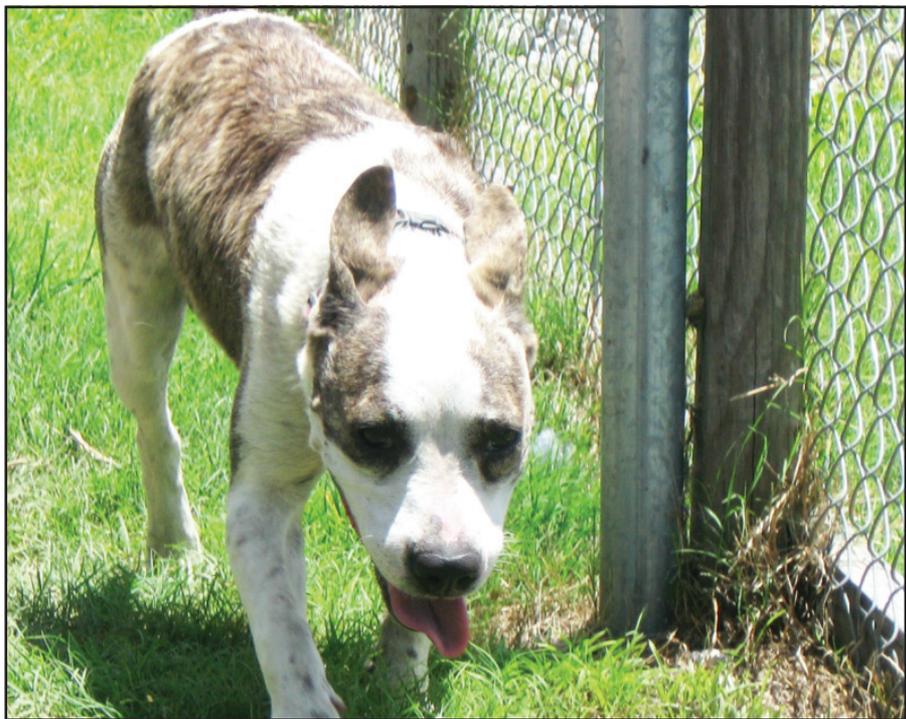
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Special to the Okeechobee News/D. Hamilton

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Misty is a 7-month-old Australian Shepard/terrier mix. She is great with people and is currently working on social skills with other animals. She is a 31 lb., spayed and full of energy girl who would be best suited to a home without young children. She is up to date on all of her vaccinations and the fee for her is \$135. Come to the Animal Shelter/Pet Rescue and meet her or any of our other adoptable pets. Our hours for the summer months have changed to Tuesday-Saturday from 9 until 3 p.m. For more information, please call 863-357-1104 or check our web site at www.animalrescueokeechobee.org.

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FWC approves new rules for Burmese pythons and others

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) approved changes to the classification of Burmese pythons and other constrictor reptiles at a meeting Thursday in Lake Mary.

Under the new rules, Floridians will not be able to acquire Burmese pythons and other reptiles of concern as pets. However, the FWC advises people who currently hold a reptile of concern license for a Burmese/Indian python, reticulated python, green anaconda, Nile monitor lizard, African rock python, or amethystine python that they will be allowed to keep the pet for the life of that animal under the new rules.

These rule changes implement a bill by Sens. Eleanor Sobel and Lee Constantine, and Reps. Trudi Williams and Ralph Poppell. It passed in the Florida Legislature, and Gov. Charlie Crist signed it in June.

All species listed as reptiles of concern in Florida will be removed and placed in the category of conditional species. In addition, African rock pythons will be split into two species: northern African pythons and southern African pythons. Amethystine pythons will be split into the amethystine pythons and scrub pythons. Dealers, breeders, exhibitors and researchers will be permitted to possess conditional snakes and lizards for sale outside Florida. In addition to allowing current reptile of concern pet owners to keep their reptiles, the Commission approved an

extension of the 24/7 amnesty rule to include conditional snakes and lizards. This will allow anyone who can no longer keep these species as pets to turn them over to a licensed dealer. The FWC stresses that no nonnative species should ever be released into the wild.

Burmese pythons in particular have established breeding populations in parts of South Florida, and the FWC, in partnership with state and federal agencies, works diligently to control the current wild population. As a result of this effort, the FWC also approved the take of conditional species in four wildlife management areas in South Florida during established hunting seasons for game animals and alligators by properly licensed or permitted hunters. Guns may be used only during a gun season or during the extended spring season, March 8-April 17. The conditional species may not be removed from the WMAs alive.

The Commission also approved further security measures for commercial reptile dealers in how they transport snakes and lizards in Florida. New rules also require that the nonnative conditional species be held indoors or outdoors only with a fixed, secure roof over the enclosure. All of these animals also must be micro-chipped, unless they will be exported out of Florida within 180 days.

For more information about Burmese pythons, go to MyFWC.com/ROC.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

Ten years service

At the Thursday, June 24, meeting of the Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners, Chairman Cliff Betts, right, honored Deputy County Administrator Jim Threewits, left, for 10 years service to the county.

Mr. Threewits was born in Indianapolis, Ind. His family moved to Florida in 1969.

Mr. Threewits came to Okeechobee County in February of 2000 as deputy county administrator with more than 13 years of diversified local government experience, including fire protection, police protection, public utilities and administration. He currently oversees the operation of six departments which also contain multiple divisions.

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FWC supports 'Operation Dry Water' for second year

It may seem like an oxymoron, but the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) wants Florida waters to remain dry this summer. "Dry," as in free of alcohol, that is. "More than 26 percent of Florida's fatal boating accidents in 2009 were the result of alcohol or drug use," said Capt. Carol Keyser, of the FWC's Boating and Waterways section. "Boaters who have had too much to drink or who are impaired by drugs are a great danger to the boating public."

The FWC is making every effort to decrease the number of accidents to keep Florida waters safe. This weekend, the FWC, the U.S. Coast Guard and state and local law enforcement agencies are participating in "Operation Dry Water" – a nationwide public-education effort aimed at reducing boating under the influence (BUI) incidents and the number of alcohol-related accidents and fatalities.

"We know that increased officer effort reduces boating accidents and saves lives. Saving lives is what 'Operation Dry Water' is really all about," Keyser said.

2009 was the inaugural year for this effort. Agencies in 51 states and U.S. territories participated, and nearly 300 impaired boaters were taken off the water before they could kill or injure themselves or someone else. The program's effectiveness last year led to another year of the "Operation Dry Water" effort this year.

Boating under the influence includes not only the effects of drinking alcohol, but also the effects that drugs – prescribed and other-

wise – may cause. Being under the influence of alcohol or drugs impairs a boat operator's vision and reaction time. Sun, wind, fatigue and other conditions can intensify the effects alcohol or drugs have on a boater. Intoxicated boaters are susceptible to injuries or falling overboard because of impaired coordination and balance.

"Anticipate increased patrols for BUI violators by the FWC and local marine units," Keyser said. "We also will be educating the public about other aspects of safe boating. In addition to remaining sober while operating a vessel, boaters are reminded to abide by all applicable navigation rules, have all the required safety equipment onboard, and to wear a life jacket at all times while on the water.

"If you're caught boating under the influence, you may be fined and jailed, your boat may be seized, and you could lose your boating privileges," Keyser said. "But most importantly, you are risking your life, the lives of your passengers and the lives of other persons out on the water.

"We are setting the tone for the summer. We want everyone to have a great time and stay safe on the water," Keyser said. "Boaters are responsible for making decisions that keep themselves and others safe. Drinking while operating a boat is a careless decision that can result in a tragic ending to an otherwise wonderful day on the water."

For more information, please visit www.operationdrywater.org or MyFWC.com/Boating.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

A quarter century of service

At the Thursday, June 24, meeting of the Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners, Chairman Clif Betts, left, honors Terry Parrish, Sr., right, Lt. Fire/Medic for 25 years of service to the county. Mr. Parrish moved to Okeechobee in 1985 and began his career at Okeechobee County Fire/Rescue the same year. During his tenure with the county he has obtained the following certifications: EMT Certification - 1985, Fire Certification - 1985, Rescue Diver Certification - 1993, Paramedic Certification - 2004, State Certified Company Officer - 1990, Lifeguard Certification - 1999 and Fire Officer I, 2008. Mr. Parrish was promoted to Lt. Fire/Medic in May of this year.

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Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

Service is honored

At the Thursday, June 24, meeting of the Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners, Chairman Clif Betts, right, recognized Fay Albert, left, equipment operator I with the road department for five years of service to the county. Ms. Albert was born in Charlestown, Va. She moved to Okeechobee in 1985 to care for her mother. Ms. Albert worked at the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office for 10 years. In February of 2005 she was employed at the road department as an equipment operator I.

FWC approves new boater safety rules

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) approved changes to two boating rules at Thursday's meeting in Lake Mary.

First, the FWC approved the adoption of a new rule that creates the standards by which it will review and approve local government ordinances related to boating-restricted areas. The rule also ensures that the public has an adequate opportunity to weigh in before the ordinances take effect.

The FWC also approved amendments to another rule pertaining to waterway markers. The revised rule clarifies the information that needs to be submitted to obtain permits, and it spells out any exemptions to permitting.

Last year, the Florida Legislature passed a law requiring the FWC to establish the criteria and procedures for reviewing applications from local governments for boating-restricted areas and to provide for appropriate public notice and participation in the review and approval process. This latest Commission action is aimed at completing that mandate.

At Thursday's meeting, five members of the public spoke, including representatives from the Florida Airboaters Association, Everglades Coordinating Council, Florida Council of Yacht Clubs, Florida Sportsmen's Conservation Association and Boat U.S. All supported accepting the rules, and many thanked FWC staff for spending time to inform the public about this issue.

Please visit MyFWC.com/Boating for more information.

Road Watch

The Florida Department of Transportation has released the following advisory regarding road work planned for the week of June 27 in Okeechobee County. Motorists are reminded to wear safety belts and drive with caution, courtesy, common sense, and patience as they travel through work zones. Remember, speeding fines are doubled in work zones.

- SE 43RD Avenue: Construction project—This project consists of bridge removal and replacement. During construction the bridge will consist of a one (1) lane roadway controlled by temporary traffic signals. Construction will be limited to daytime operations. Motorists show use caution while in this area. The project is expected to be completed in early November 2010. The contractor is Ferreira Construction Co.

- U.S. 441: At various locations: Maintenance project—There will be possible intermittent daytime lane closures on U.S. 98 while crews are removing trees and vegetation along the roadway. Motorists are advised to use caution while in the area and expect possible delays.

- U.S. 441: From north C.R. 68 to north of 168th street: Construction project—This project consists of roadway construction, milling and resurfacing, widening, base work, shoulder treatments, and signing and pavement marking. Work will begin on Monday, June 28, 2010 and is expected to continue through mid September 2010. The contractor is Dickerson Florida.

- S.R. 70: From Berman Road to the St. Lucie County Line: Construction project—This project consists of widening the roadway from two to four lanes separated by a grassed median. For the week of Sunday, June 27th through Sunday, July 4th, the contractor will continue hauling equipment and materials for roadway construction. Traffic is now being shifted to the newly constructed eastbound roadway. Motorists are advised to obey the posted speed limit of 60 mph, use caution while in the area and expect possible delays. The contractor is Sheltra & Son Construction, Inc.

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MINI DACHSHUND - CKC reg puppies, black/tan, 5 mos TINY \$200 (863)801-6144

SHIH TZU male puppy - 9 weeks old, paper trained, 1st set of shots, brindle color. \$ 3 0 0 . 0 0 . (863)983-8909

TOY POODLE PUP - APRI & PEDIGREE PAPERS- FEMALE-SILVER, BORN MAY 14TH, 2010 \$ 7 0 0 . 0 0 / firm. (863)467-7677

Agriculture

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Farm Miscellaneous

BABY GOATS FOR SALE, VARIOUS BREEDS, BORN LATE APRIL. \$37.00 CALL M-F 9 TO 4. (863)467-9800

BRIGGS & STRATTON GENERATOR NEVER USED \$600.00! PLEASE CONTACT TOMMY JENNINGS! (863)673-7890 or (863)673-4599

Horses

Riding Center, Fort Drum - Better than owning your own horse. Come ride with us 8am-11am. www.cpriding.com. (863)763-6282

Lawn & Garden

Craftsman Pull-behind Utility Trailer - Metal lawnmower trailer, 2 tires. Garage kept. \$50.00. (863)763-4598

Rentals

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Apartments

BEAUTIFUL 2BR, Close to town. Newly renovated. Only \$750 mo. includes water. Pets okay upon approval. Call 561-255-4377

IN TOWN 1BR Apt., \$700 mo. Util. included. No pets, smoke-free env. 1st & sec. (863)610-0861

TAYLOR CREEK Condos 1br/1ba, Furnished. \$650 mo. + 1st & sec. dep. 561-352-4243

Commercial Property

FOR SALE OR LEASE 1574 Sq. Ft. office bldg. @ 210 NE 3rd Ave. Call 863-763-0295

Houses - Rent

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

DIXIE RANCH Remodeled. 3BD, 1BA, All appliance including Washer & Dryer. Screened porch. Fenced yard. \$850 mo. 1st, last + \$600 sec. 863-634-3312

FOR RENT: 3/2/2 Split plan, new tile floors & new carpet. Kids and pets welcome. Call 863-634-9330 or 863-467-2541

FT. DRUM - 1 BR, 1 BA Bungalow on 4 acres. Pets welcome. \$700 mo. + sec. dep. (912)925-2147, (912)224-4658 or (734)637-2697

NEW BEAUTIFUL single 3 bdrm, 2 ba home for Rent \$1300. Utilities, cable, air conditioning, laundry, & dishwasher. jamesmalt44@yahoo.com

Houses - Rent

OKEE - 3 bdrm /1 ba on 1/2 ac, laundry, central air/ heat, screen porch, carport. \$925 mo, 1st & last Call (305)458-8659

RENTAL - 3/2, \$700 mo., 2 yrs. old, everything like new, fireplace, granite countertops, dishwasher, spa tub, 1800 sq. ft. living, no pets. (863)467-1234

Land - Rent

R.V. LOTS FOR RENT Free Wifi! Weekly \$150 or mo. \$375 incl. elec. Call 863-763-0295

Office Space Rent

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT (863)763-8565

Rooms To Rent

OKEE, Furn. Rm. priv. entrance, w/d. \$125/wk & dep., utils incl. (863) 763-7331 msg

OKEECHOBEE - Looking for roommate to share 4 br house. All appliances including Washer & Dryer. Located at Four Seasons. \$300/mo Call (863)634-4771

Real Estate

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Houses - Sale

For Sale - 3/2 handyman special on large lot, shed, great location reduced price to 37,500 call for more details 561-932-3285

Mobile Homes

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Mobile Home Rent

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

COUNTRY LIVING - 2BR, 1 BA, \$450.00 monthly, 1st and last. Call 863-763-9207

FOR RENT: 3/2 (avail. July) and 2/1 Cottages. Newly remodeled. 12 min. from town center on beautiful ranch. NO PETS! M-F. (863) 467-2982

Mobile Home Rent

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Automotive

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Automobiles

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2000 ACURA TL 3.2 4 DOOR SEDAN - 246,000 mi with AC, good shape, runs great, \$2,900 /or best offer (863)634-1488

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

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

Public Notices

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Public Notice

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF SEVIER COUNTY, TENNESSEE
STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES,
Petitioner,
vs. No. 10-000197
MARTIN BORNHEIMER, putative father Respondent.

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION
It appearing to the Court from the allegations of the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights, the returned summons, showing no service, and the Affidavit of Diligent Search that the whereabouts of the Respondent MARTIN BORNHEIMER are unknown and cannot be ascertained by diligent search, therefore, the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon MARTIN BORNHEIMER. It is therefore, ORDERED that said Respondent be served by publication of the following Notice for four (4) consecutive weeks in the OKEECHOBEE NEWS, a newspaper published in Okeechobee, Florida.

NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENT: MARTIN BORNHEIMER
The state of Tennessee, Department of Children's Services, has filed a Petition against you seeking to terminate forever your parental rights to DUSTIN HICKMAN. It appearing that ordinary process of law cannot be served upon you because your whereabouts are unknown. You are hereby ORDERED to serve upon Daniel Smithwick, Attorney for the Tennessee Department of Children's Services, 115 Allensville Rd., Suite 105, Sevierville, TN 37876, Phone No: (865) 429-7012, an Answer to the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights filed by the Tennessee Department of Children's Service, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication of this notice, which will be July 7, 2010, or appear personally in the Juvenile Court of Sevier County, Tennessee, at 125 Court Avenue, Sevierville, Tennessee, 37862, on the 8th Day of September, 2010 at 9:00 a.m., to personally answer the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights. Failing to appear for the hearing on this date and time, without good cause, pursuant to Rule 39(c) of the Tenn. R. Juv. P., will result in the loss of your right to contest the petition to terminate your parental rights to the child listed above. You may view and obtain a copy of the Petition and any other subsequently filed legal documents at the Juvenile Court Clerk's Office, 125 Court Avenue, Sevierville, Tennessee 37862. ENTERED this 11th day of June, 2010.

HON. DWIGHT STOKES
SEVIER COUNTY JUVENILE JUDGE

PREPARED FOR ENTRY:
Daniel Smithwick, BPR #, 023900
Assistant General Counsel
Department of Children's Services
115 Allensville Rd., Suite 105,
Sevierville, TN 37876
(865) 429-7012

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

accordance with Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure, I have served a true copy of this Order by placing the same in the U.S. Mail, with sufficient postage to reach its destination, this the 11th day of June, 2010, to the last known address of:

Jeff Stern, Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 5797
Sevierville, TN 37864
Guardian Ad Litem

Greg Bennett, Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 1516
Seymour, TN 37865
(865) 310-5655
Appointed Counsel for Martin Bornheimer

Martin Bornheimer
1010 S.W. 3d St.
Okeechobee, FL 34974

Martin Bornheimer
2266 N.W. 42nd Ave.
Okeechobee, FL 34974
Last known address and alternate address

Daniel Smithwick, BPR #023900
Assistant General Counsel
Department of Children's Services
357999 ON 6/20,27,7/4,11/10

NOTICE OF OUA MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Okeechobee Utility Authority will meet in regular session on Tuesday July 13, 2010 at 8:30 A.M., at the Okeechobee Utility Authority Offices, 100 SW 5th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Okeechobee Utility Authority will hold a Public Hearing as soon after 8:30 A.M. as possible to discuss the preliminary 2011 Budget.

All interested parties for or against the proposed Budget and other changes can be heard at said time and place. The needs of hearing or visually impaired persons shall be met by contacting the Executive Director's Office at 863-763-9460 at least 48 hours prior to the Public Hearing by any person wishing assistance.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Authority with respect to such meetings, he or she will need a record of proceedings and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made; which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based. Such person may provide a court reporter, stenographer, or tape recorder for such verbatim record.

BY ORDER OF THE OKEECHOBEE UTILITY AUTHORITY
John F. Hayford
Executive Director
358491 ON 6/27/10

Public Notices

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Public Notice

Gator hunting permits to go on sale June 30

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) will begin the second phase of accepting applications for a chance to obtain highly coveted permits to participate in the statewide alligator harvest.

Public Notice

Public Notice

comcast

Comcast announces the following channel lineup changes for the customers in the communities of Belle Glade / Pahokee, Clewiston, Okeechobee, and each of its surrounding areas:
Effective Friday, July 30, 2010:
Fox College Sports Atlantic-Central-Pacific are available on the Sports Entertainment Pack, located on channels 723-725.
GENERAL INFORMATION:
After a notice of a re-tiering of a video service, you may change your level of service at no additional charge for a period of 30 days from the effective date of the change. Otherwise, changes in the services you receive at your request may be subject to the upgrade or downgrade charge listed on the annual rate card. Prices are exclusive of applicable franchise fees and related costs, FCC user fees and taxes. For customers with commercial accounts or bulk rate arrangements, some product, pricing and other information may not apply. Upon proper notice, all pricing, programming, channel locations and packaging are subject to change. If you have any questions or concerns, please call us at 1-800-COMCAST. 358733 ON 6/27 CGS 7/1/10

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE PERMIT

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) gives notice of its intent to issue a permit for Davie Dairy Barns 1 & 2, to be issued to Davie Dairy, Inc. The proposed permit authorizes the operation of the waste management system in accordance with the approved Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan, which also limits the herd size and management practices. The permit will also provide coverage under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), as delegated to the state by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The dairy is located at 12550 NE 25th Street / Davie Dairy Rd, Okeechobee, Florida 34974.

The intent to issue and application file are available for public inspection during normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, at the FDEP Southeast District Office located at 400 N. Congress Ave., Suite 200, West Palm Beach, FL 33401.

The Department will issue the permit with the attached conditions unless a timely petition for an administrative hearing is filed under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, within fourteen days of receipt of notice. The procedures for petitioning for a hearing are set forth below.

A person whose substantial interests are affected by the Department's proposed permitting decision may petition for an administrative proceeding (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes. The petition must contain the information set forth below and must be filed (received by the clerk) in the Office of General Counsel of the Department at 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station 35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000.

Under Rule 62-110.106(4), Florida Administrative Code, a person may request enlargement of the time for filing a petition for an administrative hearing. The request must be filed (received by the clerk) in the Office of General Counsel before the end of the time period for filing a petition for an administrative hearing.

Petitions filed by any persons other than those entitled to written notice under Section 120.60(3), Florida Statutes, must be filed within fourteen days of publication of the notice or within fourteen days of receipt of the written notice, whichever occurs first. Under Section 120.60(3), Florida Statutes, however, any person who has asked the Department for notice of agency action may file a petition within fourteen days of receipt of such notice, regardless of the date of publication.

The petitioner shall mail a copy of the petition to the applicant at the address indicated above at the time of filing. The failure of any person to file a petition within fourteen days of receipt of notice shall constitute a waiver of that person's right to request an administrative determination (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes. Any subsequent intervention (in a proceeding initiated by another party) will be only at the discretion of the presiding officer upon the filing of a motion in compliance with Rule 28.106.205, Florida Administrative Code.

A petition that disputes the material facts on which the Department's action is based must contain the following information:

- (a) The name, address, and telephone number of each petitioner; the name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner's representative, if any; the Department permit identification number and the county in which the subject matter or activity is located;
- (b) A statement of how and when each petitioner received notice of the Department action;
- (c) A statement of how each petitioner's substantial interests are affected by the Department action;
- (d) A statement of all disputed issues of material fact. If there are none, the petition must so indicate;
- (e) A statement of facts that the petitioner contends warrant reversal or modification of the Department action;
- (f) A concise statement of the ultimate facts alleged, as well as the rules and statutes which entitle the petitioner to relief; and
- (g) A statement of the relief sought by the petitioner, stating precisely the action that the petitioner wants the Department to take.

Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the filing of a petition means that the Department's final action may be different from the position taken by it in this notice. Persons whose substantial interests will be affected by any such final decision of the Department have the right to petition to become a party to the proceeding, in accordance with the requirements set forth above.

Mediation under Section 120.573, Florida Statutes, is not available for this proceeding. 358576 ON 6/27/10

Those who purchased a permit during Phase I may not apply. Payments for permits awarded in Phase I will be accepted through 11:59 p.m. (EDT) on June 29.

Anyone seeking a harvest permit must be at least 18 years of age by Aug. 15. A permit allows the harvest of two alligators on a designated area.

People can submit applications at any county tax collector's office, license agent (retail outlet that sells hunting and fishing licenses) and at www.fl.wildlifelicenses.com.

Successful applicants must submit payment for an alligator trapping license and two alligator harvest tags, or provide proof of a valid alligator trapping license (must be valid through Nov. 1) and pay the fee for two harvest tags. No other hunting licenses are required.

The cost for a resident alligator trapping license and alligator harvest tags is \$271.50, and nonresidents pay \$1,021.50. All fees are nonrefundable. Tags and permits are nontransferable.

For more information about these alligator hunts, visit MyFWC.com/Alligator.

"Farm to Fuel" summit to focus on biomass resources

Tallahassee—As the nation's worst oil spill in history threatens the Gulf Coast and its energy, tourism and fishing industries, Florida Agriculture and Consumer Services Commissioner Charles H. Bronson is con-

tinuing his efforts to promote the production of renewable energy from Florida's vast biomass resources. Bronson is hosting the 2010 "Farm to Fuel" Summit, August 11-13, at the Rosen Shingle Creek in Orlando to

bring together hundreds of industry leaders in agriculture, energy, academia and government who want to make Florida a leader in the production of renewable energy.

"Florida has the greatest potential for biomass production in the country, and the technology exists to convert our natural resources to clean, renewable energy," Bronson said. "This event will bring together all the stakeholders so we can continue working toward the goal of reducing our dependence on foreign oil while at the same time providing another source of income for our farmers."

For the fifth year in a row, hundreds of industry leaders in agriculture, energy, academia, banking and finance, and government will gather to hear from a broad array of experts. Highlights of the summit include more than 40 speakers and 50 exhibitors. Last July, Bronson's fourth Florida "Farm to Fuel" summit attracted more than 500 participants. Attendees of this year's summit will hear about various feedstocks and technologies for renewable energy production, challenges relating to project financing, permitting and infrastructure, and state and federal energy policy.

"The summit will bring representatives of all of the key industries together so we can move forward as a state in creating renewable energy in Florida," Bronson said. "Thanks to our mild climate, ample sunshine and abundant rainfall, there's no reason why Florida cannot out-produce every other state in renewable energy production and be a model for others to follow."

Florida's "Farm to Fuel" initiative—inspired by the bipartisan national organization "25x'25"—seeks to enhance the market for and promote the production and distribution of renewable energy from Florida-grown crops, agricultural wastes and residues, and other biomass. In the process, it is designed to give Florida agricultural producers alternative crops to grow to keep their farms and ranches viable.

For details about the "Farm to Fuel" Summit, visit <http://www.FloridaFarmToFuel.com>.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

Thirty five years service

Anthony Chapman, left, equipment operator with the road department was recognized by Okeechobee County Commission Chairman Clif Betts, right, at the Thursday, June 24 commission meeting for 35 years' service to the county. Mr. Chapman was born in Ft. Pierce. He moved to Okeechobee in 1972 to be closer to family. He worked with Tree Line Truss Company before coming to Okeechobee County. He became employed with the road department in February of 1975 as an equipment operator III.

Celebrating **30** Years!!

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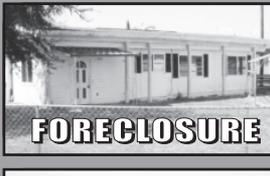
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 MOTIVATED SELLER	1012-H: 4/2 CBS home in town conveniently close to everything on a large Lot. Chain linked fenced. Call today for further info. \$100,000 MLS# 203380	 2000-M: Taylor Creek 3/2 home split bedroom plan, Island Kitchen, extra shed, detached carport w/workshop, fenced back yard, appliances, etc. MLS #203096
 FORECLOSURE	3006-M: Waterfront fenced Doublewide Mobile Home with porch and addition located in Treasure Island. \$27,999 MLS #203898	 5014-M 3/2 DW Mobile Home on 1+/- acre in Edwards Subdivision. Short Sale. \$55,000 MLS #203812
 REDUCED - MOTIVATED SELLER	5027-M: Spot in the Sun 3/2 MH, front & back porch, fenced large Lot. Located at end of street. \$54,000 or better offer. MLS #92463	 8007-A: 55+/- improved fenced pasture acres. Fronts SR 70 and 64th Street. MLS #204068

Acreage/Lots: • 13+/- acres on 70 east \$74,415 MLS #203971 • 2 Waterfront Lots in Lakeport for \$30,000 MLS #204008 • Treasure Island Lot on the water, oversized septic tank, city water, elect, concrete pads for MH or shed. MLS #203548 • Dixie Ranch Lots side by side

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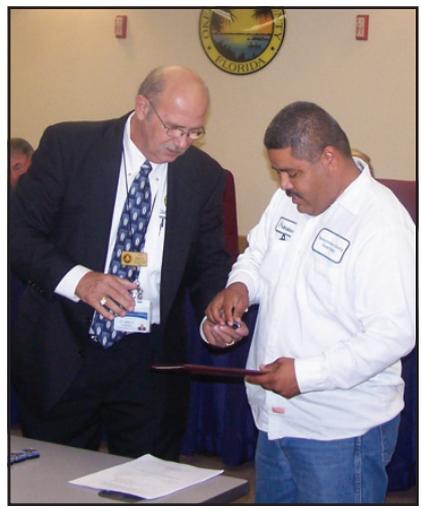
863-763-3749
1126 S. PARROTT AVE.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

Recognition for service

Kenneth Yeo, right, park maintenance technician with the facilities maintenance department was recognized by Okeechobee County Commission Chairman Clif Betts, left, for five years' service to the county. The recognition took place at the Thursday, June 24, commission meeting. Mr. Yeo was born in New York. He relocated to Okeechobee to be close to family. Mr. Yeo is a roofer and carpenter by trade. He has worked for various companies in the area and became employed with Okeechobee County in February of 2005 as a grounds maintenance technician.



Okeechobee News/ Pete Gawda

Employee recognition

Okeechobee County Commission Chairman Clif Betts, left, recognizes Francisco Rodriguez, right, Equipment Operator I with the road department for five years' service to the county. Mr. Rodriguez was born in Guerrero, Mexico, and came to Okeechobee with his family when he was 12. He worked in the farming industry by trade. Mr. Rodriguez began employment with the road department in February of 2005 as Equipment Operator I.



A Keepsake "END OF THE SEASON" Wrap-up



* A special edition in the Okeechobee News

* Coming in July

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 WEST OKEECHOBEE BOULEVARD & THE TURNPIKE



Service:
1-877-666-6709
 SERVICE & PARTS: • MONDAY - FRIDAY: 7:30AM - 6:00PM
 BODY SHOP HOURS: • SATURDAY: 8:00AM - 5:00PM

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