

# OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 101 No. 78

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

50¢ Plus tax



## Shockwaves: In the swim in Okeechobee

**Cuyler Maxwell was among the Okeechobee Shockwaves Swim Team members to compete in a swim meet in Okeechobee on Saturday. For more photos .... see Page 12**

## County considers new tax

Additional tax to help fund law enforcement could hike tax rate for county's property owners

**By Pete Gawda**  
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee County Commissioners now have another tool in their struggle to balance the budget. At a special meeting on Tuesday, June 29 commissioners unanimously passed an ordinance establishing a Municipal Services Taxing Unit (MSTU) for law enforcement. This action did not automatically impose a tax. What this means is that commissioners now have the authority, if they so desire, to levy a separate tax for law enforcement.

This tax, if levied, would not apply to city residents and would only be used for law enforcement, not jail operation. However, they are not obligated to levy such a tax.

The way the ordinance is written, at any time in the future commissioners can, if they so desire, levy a separate tax for law enforcement.

There has been a widespread misconception,

See NEW TAX — Page 17

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

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**No local community fireworks show planned for this Fourth of July holiday ... Page 16**



**Courthouse renovation ... Page 5**

## Lake Level

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# State officially files adult charges on teen girls

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News

The state has officially charged three Okeechobee teenage girls as adults, who were arrested last month for reportedly burglarizing a local business.

Arrested Saturday, June 26, were: Khadijah Yasmine Murray, 15, N.E. Third St.; Aaliyah Adreanna Palmer, 15, N.E. Third St.; and Tiasha Jerquan Hughes, 15, N.E. Third St.

Murray was arrested on felony charges of robbery with a deadly weapon, grand theft, armed burglary of a dwelling and grand theft-firearm. She was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail under a bond of \$45,000.

Palmer was arrested on felony charges of robbery with a deadly weapon, grand theft, aggravated battery, armed burglary of a dwelling and grand theft-firearm. Her total bond was set at \$55,000.

Hughes was charged with the felonies of robbery with a deadly weapon and grand theft. Her bond was set at \$22,500.

The charges against Murray and Palmer include two separate cases.

The three girls are accused of entering the store on S.R. 70 East and taking an undisclosed amount of cash from the store register, as well as cash from a store employee. They also reportedly took store merchandise that included purses and a hat, said Detective M.D. Faulkner of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office.

Detective Faulkner said the teens first went into the store Tuesday, May 25, and reportedly took some merchandise without paying for it.

"By their getting away with it, they evidently thought it was a pretty easy target," said the detective.

charged three



Khadijah Y. Murray



Aaliyah A. Palmer



Tiasha J. Hughes

The girls went back to the store the next day. According to the detective, they went to the back of the store where they called to the only employee in the store and asked for help. The three girls were wearing bandanas on their faces, added the detective.

When the employee responded, Palmer allegedly struck her in the body with a hammer then gave the hammer to Murray, who then guarded the now-injured woman, Detective Faulkner said. He went on to say that the force of the blow knocked the victim to the floor.

Hughes, he continued, was armed with a razor.

The girls then ordered the employee to open the cash register. Palmer, said the detective, told the employee if she didn't open the register she would shoot her. Although she was not armed, Detective Faulkner said she held her hand in a manner that led the victim to believe she had a gun.

The girls then grabbed the money from the register and Palmer went to the victim's purse and took an undisclosed amount of cash, stated an arrest report.

The girls then fled the store on foot, the report added.

The girls went to Murray's home where they divided up the cash and merchandise, said Detective Faulkner.

Following their arrest by Detective Faulkner, OCSO Detective Rick Durfee charged Murray and Palmer with armed burglary and grand theft-firearm in connec-

tion with the May 12 break-in of a N.E. 16th Ave. home. They allegedly took items totaling \$3,200 that included a shotgun, jewelry, camera, guitar and two DVD players.

The 12-gauge semi-automatic shotgun was reportedly found hidden in some woods near a baseball field.

Detective Faulkner said Hughes and Murray were already on juvenile probation at the time of their latest arrest, and that both girls had been expelled from school.

Palmer is a student at the Okeechobee Freshman Campus.

## Couple charged with selling cocaine

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News

An Okeechobee man and woman were arrested after they were accused of making a cocaine deal in the parking lot of a local fast food restaurant.

Arrested were: Robert Lee Hurt, 65, N.E. 15th Ave.; and Connie Sue Cox, 44, N.E. 15th Ave. Both were arrested Friday, June 25, on charges of sale of cocaine within 1,000 feet of a church and possession of cocaine with intent to sell.

Hurt and Cox were booked into the Okeechobee County Jail under a bond of \$50,000 each.

An arrest report by a detective with the Okeechobee Narcotics Task Force stated that Hurt and Cox were arrested after they reportedly sold crack cocaine to a confidential informant around 9:30 p.m. Friday.

The report states that the informant met the couple in the restaurant's parking lot



Robert Lee Hurt



Connie Sue Cox

and purchased \$100 worth of a substance that, when field tested, indicated a positive result for the presence of cocaine.

The task force detective said the weight of the suspected cocaine was .01 gram.

According to the detective's report the informant gave the \$100 to Cox, who then handed the money to Hurt.

Other detectives from the task force stopped the couple a few blocks away and the \$100 was found in Hurt's left front pants pocket, the report added.

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# Convicted drug dealer is arrested again

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News

A man with three prior arrests and convictions on cocaine charges has been arrested yet a fourth time on a felony drug charge.



Reginald V. Massey

Reginald Vachon Massey, 25, S.W. Third St., Okeechobee, was arrested June 25 on felony charges of possession of cocaine with intent to sell and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. He was also charged with the misdemeanor of possession of marijuana under 20 grams.

Massey was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail at 12:15 a.m. on June 26 under a bond of \$30,500. He was released on bond later that same day.

An arrest report by a detective with the Okeechobee Narcotics Task Force stated that around 12:33 p.m. on June 14 the detective saw a 2003 Jeep fail to stop at a stop sign at the intersection of S.W. 10th St. and S.W. Fourth Ave. When the detective started following the Jeep, Massey was recognized as the passenger. The driver was reportedly unknown to the detective.

Because the Jeep turned around, the detective stated to parallel the SUV on S.W. Ninth St as it traveled west on S.W. 10th St. At one point, the detective lost sight of the

vehicle because houses were in the line of sight.

The report states that Massey was seen reaching toward the floorboard and acting very nervous.

When the detective stopped the vehicle, Massey asked if he could leave. A pat down search was done and Massey was found to have "approximately \$500 to \$600" cash on his person.

At 12:40 p.m. the detective was contacted by Officer Russel Cale of the Okeechobee City Police Department (OCPD) that an individual had found a gun lying on S.W. 10th St. The officer also said he found a sandwich bag containing a suspicious substance.

The OCPD officer stayed with the items until Crime Scene Technician Kathleen Watson, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), arrived and collected both the gun and the suspicious substance. A field test was conducted on the substance and indicated a positive result for the presence of cocaine.

The detective said the suspected cocaine weighed 26.7 grams.

Upon learning of the gun and suspected cocaine, the detective asked the driver if Massey had thrown anything out of the vehicle. The driver, Jermaine Joshua Ricardo Paul, 21, said Massey had something wrapped up in a black shirt and that he had, indeed, thrown something out the window.

Ms. Watson was able to recover partial fingerprints from the 9mm automatic handgun that reportedly belonged to Massey.

The detective found Massey and placed him under arrest Friday, June 25. When arrested, Massey was found to have 3 grams of a green leafy substance in his pants pocket along with \$1,836 in cash. The money, stated the detective, was in "dealer folds, which is consistent with the sale of illegal narcotics."

The substance was field tested and allegedly indicated a positive result for the presence of marijuana.

A check of Massey's arrest record shows that he has been convicted on felony drug charges three times. On March 28, 2005, Judge Robert Makemson sentenced Massey to six months in the county jail after he was found guilty of sale of cocaine in two different cases.

Then, on July 26, 2006, Circuit Court

Judge Sherwood Bauer found Massey guilty of possession of cocaine, possession of marijuana in excess of 20 grams and possession of drug paraphernalia and sentenced him to one year in the county jail on each charge. Those sentences were to run concurrently.

The detective's report goes on to state that he arrested Paul on misdemeanor charges of no valid driver's license and failure to obey a stop sign. Because Paul is not a citizen of the U.S., his bond was set at \$1,000.

A records check indicated that Paul is still being held in the county jail.

## O.G. & C.C. Golf Results

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Second place - K. Mueller

Third place - D. Bockoras

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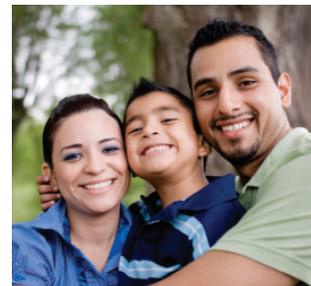
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*Speak Out has moved online, where it is quicker and easier to share your ideas and converse with others. Go to [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com), click on the community name and your local or state Public Forum. There, you can create new topics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

### Local business

• This is the hardest economy to stay afloat in and it is very hard to understand how some business owners don't treat every customer, no matter the size of the job, equally. The economy has a long period of recovery and in the end, only the good companies will survive. It's important that Okeechobee supports Okeechobee. The good companies need that. We just need to watch with our eyes open the familiar business names out there and ask around. Word of mouth is such a huge factor. Business owners need to really be on their toes. Whenever I look through the phone book, I cross off companies that do not impress me or if I have heard terrible things about ...

### Town Hall meeting

• Sheriff May I know your staff has taken deep sacrifices already in the past 3 years in not having ANY raises whatsoever. I know morale has to be low for the officers in the jail and on the road and they probably feel as if they are not appreciated. Let me just tell them, YOU ARE ALL VERY MUCH APPRECIATED BY THE PUBLIC if not the County Commissioners. These people place their lives on the line every day to ensure our safety. Whether it is answering a call when you know someone is prowling around your backyard, rushing to the scene of the accident where precious seconds can mean life or death, or looking for the prowler that just left the window trying to peep on your wife or children, these people are brave enough to answer the call that we as a society have placed on them, with the full knowledge that ANY DAY they don their badge could be the last.

• WAY too many chiefs, not enough Indians. It's safe to say when election time comes around, the person who gets my vote is the one who's not afraid to do away with jobs that are overpaid in the first place.

### Zombie Apocalypse

• The TV folks knew it was a training exercise and not part of the official plan. They said that right at the end. They just had fun pretending it was real at the beginning of the segment to sensationalize it more for TV. They did the same thing in 2009 when the University of Florida had a zombie plan as a training exercise. The TV people are looking for anything to grab the viewer's attention.

• It was a training exercise designed to stimulate some "outside the box" thinking. I think Mike Faulkner did a good job on it -- which he did on his own time, not the county's. This is exactly the kind of person we need in charge in a real emergency -- someone who can think on their feet and adapt as the situation changes.

• To Mike of the OEMO, on behalf of my family and I, we appreciate your dedication to truly thinking "outside the box." We know it must have been overwhelming at times, and you probably more than once just wanted to stop or cut it short, but thanks for going all the way. While they may not attack, (soon), it's fantastic to know we have someone who has the common sense to understand that sometimes the regular "how tos" just don't and won't apply. We all know there are two things in life known to be certain and true; 1. You never know what tomorrow will bring, 2. Never say never. Well, three if you count having to pay taxes. Anyway, thank you again; we appreciate your perseverance; as well as the enthusiasm you employed on this project. It's good to know if a devastating disaster does occur, you've got our backs.

### Flag burning ceremony

I would like to thank the American Legion Post 64 and the Boy Scouts for conducting a breathtaking event June 24. I feel blessed to have witnessed a sacred ceremony, the proper disposal of our American flag. All of the flags that were properly burned had been displayed with pride and had become weathered, worn and some even torn. All flags were properly folded and the Boy Scouts carried each flag to a member of the American Legion to be placed in the fire. This I will never forget. What hurts me was the lack of witnesses to this ceremony. Our grandfathers, fathers, uncles, brothers, mothers, sisters and aunts have or are serving in our armed forces defending our American flag. Some lost their lives. I was appalled at the low turn out.

Additional copies of the newspaper are available for 50 cents Wednesday and Friday and 75 cents for Sunday at the office. Home delivery subscriptions are available at \$18.00 for three months.

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## Letters to the Editor

### A logical decision?

Is it reasonable for the citizens of Okeechobee County to believe the recent actions by three county commissioners agreeing to accept the 100 acres of land offered by Waste Management (WM) as a logical decision? Or, should we wonder if there are other unstated "facts" which influenced the decision.

It is a fact that WM has a contractual agreement with the county, but shouldn't we be asking why now and why this piece of property? Who is to gain from this transaction?

• The land owner who is selling the land to WM;

• The realtor handling the transaction; and,

• WM resolves a contractual liability.

But is it in the best interest of the people of Okeechobee County?

The county gets the 100 acres due it under the contract with WM but does the property meet the county's perceived needs? If there is a county plan showing a need for additional property suitable for commercial or industrial development, why would the commissioners accept land which does not meet the basic criteria for commercial or industrial development:

• The property is not zoned for commercial or industrial development and it will be a difficult and expensive process for the county to get State's approval to rezone.

• There is no existing road access so the county will need to construct a road.

• It is not on the railroad although a spur could be constructed at the county's expense.

• It is close to some housing so is it probable that a request to change the zoning will become controversial.

• It is not on water or waste water lines, therefore the county will need to pay to have utilities installed.

• The transaction will remove 100 acres from the tax rolls thereby reducing income to the county.

Since the county has not done a fair market analysis to determine the true value of this land, are we accepting payment of a debt for pennies on the dollar for an asset we do not need and cannot use?

When one considers the lack of immediate need or purpose for this land and the cost associated with future development of the property, one wonders why three commissioners voted for this deal and chose not

to accept a cash offer of \$1.2 million. If this transaction cannot be explained as reasonable or logical to meet a county need, then one must ask what is driving this decision.

**Frank Irby**

**Editor's note: According to county officials, this land transaction has not been finalized. Stephen Myers, Sr., the owner of the property, has offered a contract to the county. County attorney John Cassels is reviewing the contract.**

**Mr. Cassels is out of town this week. However, before he left, he wrote a letter expressing some reservations, including a concern that the 100 acre parcel is part of a larger parcel of Northshore Village that is encumbered with a developer's agreement. At presstime, it was not known if this matter will be discussed at the July 15 County Commission meeting.**

## Okeechobee Forecast

**Today:** Showers and thunderstorms likely after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 89. South wind around 5 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent.

**Tonight:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 74. South southeast wind around 5 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

### Extended Forecast

**Thursday:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 91. South southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.

**Thursday night:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 76. Calm wind becoming south southeast around 5 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.

**Friday:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 86. Southeast wind around 5 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50 percent.

## Lotteries

**Florida Lottery** — Here are the numbers selected Monday in the Florida Lottery: **Cash 3:** 2-9-1; **Play 4:** 7-1-1-0; **Fantasy 5:** 9-14-16-17-21; **Mega Money:** 21-23-28-34 MB 8; **Florida Lotto:** 6-10-15-24-36-46 X 5; **Powerball:** 13-30-32-38-57 PB 25 x4. Numbers drawn Tuesday, **Cash 3:** 7-2-9; **Play 4:** 9-0-7-6.

# OKEECHOBEE NEWS

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**MEMBER**



# Historic county courthouse renovations complete

## Courtroom dedicated to Judge William Hendry

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

Recognition was paid to a building and to a man last Saturday—both of which have played important parts in the history of this county.

According to the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office, approximately 200 people attended the ceremonies on Saturday morning, June 26 dedicating the renovated Okeechobee County Courthouse and renaming Courtroom A in honor of Retired County and Circuit Judge William L. Hendry.

Judge Hendry's life was intertwined with the history of the courthouse. He grew up about 500 feet from the courthouse. In the early 1930s his father took him to a murder trial at the courthouse. He received his Eagle Scout Award from the Boy Scouts in Courtroom A. As an attorney, county judge and circuit judge he spent a lot of time in the courthouse.

To start the dedication the Boy Scouts presented the colors, American Legion Post 64 led in the Pledge of Allegiance and Virginia Bryant sang "The Star Spangled Banner."

"This investment will pay dividends when our children and their children after them can touch a tangible link to their heritage," said Elizabeth Maxwell, president of the Okeechobee County Bar Association.

"If these walls could talk, they would tell us many stories," said clerk of the court Sharon Robertson.

"We are so proud of the facelift of the most attractive building in Okeechobee County," said Betty Williamson, president of the Okeechobee County Historical Society. She said that in 1951, her high school graduating class of nineteen members walked down the spiral staircases to receive their diplomas. The first two years after her graduation she worked in the clerk's office.

"It is important to preserve our past," said County Judge Jerald Bryant. "Restoring that breezeway is one of the most remarkable things done. It brings back the true character of the building."

Originally there was a breezeway through the center of the first floor. In later years it was enclosed to form a meeting room for the county commission. In the restored breezeway the Okeechobee County Historical Society had several exhibits including a pistol owned by John Ashley, an area outlaw of the early 1900s.

The keynote address was given by Judge Hendry.

"This courthouse has meant a lot to me," the judge said.

He said that in 1917, when the county was formed, a wooden building was rented for \$50 a month to serve as courthouse. By 1925 the rent had increased to \$125 a month. As the county grew a new courthouse was needed. In 1925 a contract for the new building was awarded to Rogers and Duncanson.

"Duncanson was my grandfather," the judge said.

In February of 1927 the county commission accepted the courthouse. But the people were in no mood for a dedication celebration because of the difficult economic times. A few months earlier the Bank of Okeechobee had failed. To furnish the building, commissioners voted to spend "only for items absolutely necessary."

Before the courthouse was air conditioned, the judge said the large windows in the courtroom were kept open most of the year. Sparrows used to fly around the courtroom and attorneys had to weight their papers to keep them from blowing around.

"This historic building is more than a structure. It has heart," Judge Hendry said.

Tom Hammer with Row Architects, who designed the renovation, presented the key to the new building to county administrator Lyndon Bonner. Then Judge Hendry held the ribbon while Clif Betts, Chairman of the Okeechobee County Commission cut the ribbon.

After the ribbon cutting, the ceremony moved upstairs to Courtroom A.

"Your presence is a testimony to Judge Hendry," Mrs. Maxwell told the standing room only crowd. "Judge Henry is a fine gentleman and a guide for all of us to follow."

"We're proud of our home grown judge," said Mrs. Williamson.

"I can't think of anything more fitting than naming this courtroom after Judge Hendry," said Judge Bryant.

"He's been a good friend over the years," Circuit Judge Dwight Geiger said of Judge Hendry.

Local rancher Sonny Williamson told some humorous stories about his old college buddy and their later travels with their wives.

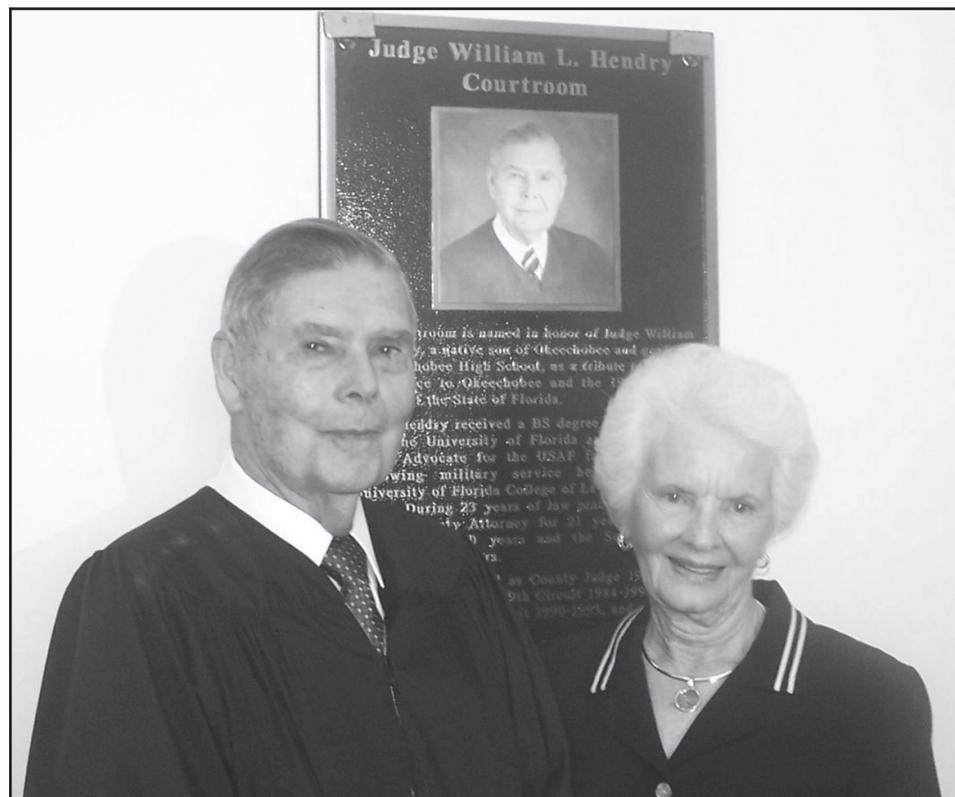
"He is blessed to have Merle as his life partner. They are a great compliment to each other, and the two of them are a great compliment to this community as well."

Judge Mark Cianca from Martin County said that Judge Hendry was the personification of Micah 6:8: "He hath showed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy and to walk humbly with thy God?"

Carl Fox of the Big Lake District of the Gulf Stream Council of the Boy Scouts presented the judge with an award for his service to Scouting.

At the close of the courtroom ceremony, Judge Hendry and his wife unveiled a plaque on the outside wall of the courtroom naming the room the "William L. Hendry Courtroom."

Post your opinions in the Public Issues Forum at [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com). Reporter Pete Gawda can be reached at [pgawda@newszap.com](mailto:pgawda@newszap.com).



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

Retired Judge William Hendry and his wife Merle unveil a plaque renaming Courtroom A at the renovated Okeechobee County Courthouse the "Judge William L. Hendry Courtroom." The unveiling was part of the courthouse dedication ceremony held Saturday, June 26.



Special to the Okeechobee News/David Fanter  
Tom Hammer of Row Architects, right, presents the keys to the renovated Okeechobee County Courthouse to county administrator Lyndon Bonner. The presentation took place during the June 26 dedication ceremony.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda  
One of the features of the newly renovated Okeechobee County Courthouse is the county seal in tile at the front entrance. The renovated building was dedicated Saturday, June 26.



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## Obituaries

Obituaries should be submitted to the Okeechobee News by e-mailing [obits@newszap.com](mailto: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](http://www.newszap.com).

### Ronald J.T. Bass, 62

OKEECHOBEE — Ronald J.T. Bass, age 62, of Okeechobee, passed away June 27, 2010, at his home.

He was born Aug. 5, 1947, in Miami to John Thomas and Veronica Bass. He was raised in Okeechobee and proudly served our country in the US Army during the Vietnam War. He was a member of the VFW and American Legion in Okeechobee and he was an owner/operator in the trucking business.

Mr. Bass is survived by his daughter, Jennifer L. Hale (Timothy); son, Jason C. Bass all of Okeechobee; niece, Prissy Wilkinson of Indian-town; two grandsons, Ryan and Sean Hale; two grandnephews, Cody and River Maupin all of Okeechobee; brother, Oscar Bass of Miami; three sisters, Judy West of Lake Placid, Annie Seagro of Lakeport and Elva Canterbury of North Florida; two aunts, Patty Hazellief and Alavene Lantz both of Okeechobee; two cousins, David and Pearl Hazellief; numerous, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Visitation will be 4 p.m. until service time at 5 p.m. Friday, July 2, 2010 at Buxton Funeral Home Chapel.

Friends may sign the guestbook at [www.bas-sokeechobee.com](http://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.

### Victoria Susanne Wellman, 49

OKEECHOBEE — Victoria Susanne Wellman, age 49, of Okeechobee, died June 4, 2010.

She is survived by her son Jimmy P. Wellman of Okeechobee, daughters Susanne Perez (Jeremiah Tucker) of Okeechobee, Lynne Jones (Christopher) of Pahokee, mother Anita Wellman of Okeechobee, and her companion Mark Stafford of Okeechobee. Mrs. Wellman is also survived by the father of her children Donald Perez of Palm City, sisters Cheryl Wellman of Okeechobee, Cindy Capps (Sean) of Ocala, and brother Bryan Wellman of Deerfield Beach.

The family will hold a private service at a later date.

All arrangements are under the direction and care of Matthew & Paul Buxton of Buxton-Seawinds Funeral Home and Crematory.

### William 'Elton' Crosby II, 36

OKEECHOBEE — William "Elton" Crosby II, age 36, of Okeechobee, died June 24, 2010.

He is survived by his mother, Lynne Rosa (Glenn Messmer) of Okeechobee; sisters Wendi Myers (Randy) of Gobles, Mich., Amanda Messmer of Okeechobee, Melinda Crosby of Ohio; niece, Brooklyn Myers of Michigan; and a great-niece, Caydence Thompson of Michigan. Mr. Crosby is also survived by his aunts and uncles, Lisa and Billy Regan of Lakeland, Sharon and Matthew Warnock of Miramar, Linda Messmer of Plantation, and grandparents Hilde and Bert Messmer of Plantation.

There will be no visitation or services at this time.

All arrangements are under the direction and care of Matthew & Paul Buxton of Buxton-Seawinds Funeral Home and Crematory.

## Community Events

### 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.

### Raulerson Hospital to host breakfast event

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.

### Gordie Peer display begins at local library Thursday

Gordie Peer, former western film stuntman, Wild West entertainer, and local rancher, will display his extensive collection of cowboy and western film memorabilia the month of July at the Okeechobee County Library, 206 S.W. 16th Street. The display runs July 1 through July 31. Call the library at 863-763-3536 for more information.

### 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 Butt" 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.

### Steak Night set for Friday

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.

### Redneck Yacht Club plans benefit

The Redneck Yacht Club will hold their monthly meeting on Tuesday, **July 6** at 6 p.m., at Butch's backyard bar. They will discuss a benefit they plan to host in July to help Rick Knotch, a local musician. Rick had heart surgery and needs our help to pay hospital expenses. Anyone who knows Rick and would like to help with this benefit is encouraged to attend. Hope to see you all there. For questions, call Dot at 863-763-8262.

### Red Cross plans classes

The Okeechobee Service Center of the American Red Cross will hold 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.

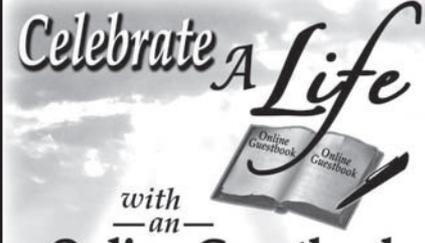
All classes are held at their Service Center, located at 323 N. Parrott Ave. To register, or for more information call 863-763-2488.

### Summer 'Teen Dance Party' set

Another great night is planned for local teens at the next Teen Dance Party set for Saturday, **July 10**, from 7 until 10 p.m. at the Okeechobee Freshman Campus. Live music will be presented by DP Productions. The cost for the dance is just \$7 per person and admission includes pizza, soda and chips! All proceeds will benefit the Real Life Children's Ranch.

### Benefit for School Crossing Guard Alice Sippert

Join us on **July 17** at 11 a.m. at the American Legion for a pork dinner, live music and auction to help Alice Sippert out. Alice has suffered an illness that left her unable to work. Hospital stays, doctors and no medical insurance finds her with bills that keep piling up. The pork dinner is \$8. Auctioneer, Jeff Osborne at 1 p.m. Now accepting cash or donations for auction. Call Jeff at 863-634-7389; Danny at 863-697-0127; or Bruce at 863-634-4652.



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Paul M. Buxton L.F.D. ~ Marilyn A. Buxton  
~ Matthew P. Buxton, L.F.D.

# AAA warns: Don't drink and drive this weekend

## Tow to Go provides free rides and tows to intoxicated drivers and their cars throughout the holiday

AAA Auto Club South and Budweiser will help protect roadways throughout the Independence Day weekend with the 'Tow to Go' program. Tow to Go has safely removed more than 11,400 drunk drivers off roadways since the program began in 1998. Anyone, both AAA members and non-members, can call for a 'Tow to Go' ride, Friday through Monday, July 2 - 5.

'Tow to Go' provides a confidential ride and tow home from any bar or restaurant - free of charge - to anyone who may have had too much to drink by calling 1-800-AAA-HELP (4357). Services are now offered throughout all of Florida, Georgia, and West and Middle Tennessee.

"No one intends to be a drunk driver, it just happens, whether they've had way too

many drinks or just one too many," said Ed Schatzman, senior vice president, Automotive Services, AAA Auto Club South. "Call volume steadily increases every Independence Day weekend and we are happy to get as many drunk drivers off the road as possible so everyone on the road can get home safely to their families."

"Anheuser-Busch and AAA congratulate our great country as we celebrate the birth of our independence this Fourth of July," said Kathy Casso, vice president, Corporate Social Responsibility, Anheuser-Busch. "With our many freedoms comes the duty to be responsible and make safe decisions like selecting a designated driver if we may have had too much to drink. Thanks to Tow to Go, anyone can get a safe ride home for themselves, their family and friends."

"I work the night shift and have provided more tows home for intoxicated drivers than I can count with nothing but good experiences because everyone is usually grateful for a free ride home," said Dan Simpson, Florida Service Technician who has serviced

Tow to Go calls for more than eight years for AAA Auto Club South. "What concerns me is the fact that the majority of people tell me they were going to drive home if Tow to Go wasn't an option and that's not good since many of these people can't even walk, let alone sit upright on a barstool."

In addition to planning your barbecues and Firework Displays, follow these simple tips to make sure that you have a safe Independence Day weekend:

- Select a designated driver before going out to with your friends;
- Preprogram in a few cab service phone numbers in your cell phone;
- Always keep some cash on you for a cab ride home should you need it.

AAA Auto Club South is the third largest affiliate of AAA, with 78 branch offices serving 4.1 million members in Florida, Georgia, West and Middle Tennessee, and Puerto Rico. Since its founding in 1938, AAA Auto Club South has worked to protect and advance freedom of mobility and improve travel safety.

## 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).

- Jarrod Jamell Neal, 24, N.E. 15th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested June 25 by Deputy Justin Akins on a charge of possession of cocaine with intent to sell. His bond was set at \$15,000.
- Katelyn Stevens, 21, N.E. 60th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested June 25 by Deputy Lieutenant Keith Murrish on a Glades County warrant charging her with violation of probation - driving under the influence and violation of probation - driving while license suspended. Her bond was set at \$3,500.
- Shannon June Raulerson, 29, N.W. Second St., Okeechobee, was arrested June 25 by Deputy Paul Jackson on an Okeechobee County warrant charging her with grand theft. Her bond was set at \$2,500.

- Victor Augusto Cano-Ayala, 32, Gerald Hall Road, Plant City, was arrested June 25 by Deputy John Hazy on a felony charge of possession of cocaine and a misdemeanor charge of no valid driver's license. His bond was set at \$10,500.

- Ronald Phillip Milodzik, 45, U.S. 441 S.E., Okeechobee, was arrested June 26 by Deputy John Ashby on a charge of driving under the influence. His bond was set at \$500.

- Tonya Marie Bell, 26, U.S. 441 S.E., Okeechobee, was arrested June 28 by Deputy John Ashby on Okeechobee County warrants charging her with violation of probation - grand theft (two counts), violation of probation - organized fraud (four counts) and violation of probation - fraudulent use of a credit card (two counts). She is being held without bond.

- Rhyann Cecil Farr, 31, S.E. 23rd St., Okeechobee, was arrested June 28 by Deputy Patricia Massung on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with the felony of grand theft from a person 65 years of age or older. His bond was set at \$2,500. He

was also arrested on another warrant charging him with the misdemeanor of violation of probation - failure to appear. He is being held without bond on that charge.

- Lisa Marie Dunson, 28, N.W. Seventh Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested June 29 by Deputy Greg Popovich on an Okeechobee County warrant charging her with failure to appear - possession of cocaine. She is being held without bond.

- Johnny Ray Johnson, 47, S.E. 33rd St., Okeechobee, was arrested June 29 by Deputy Patricia Massung on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with the felony of battery by strangulation and the misdemeanor of battery. He is being held without bond.

*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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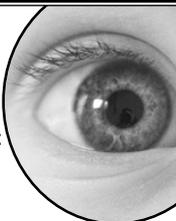
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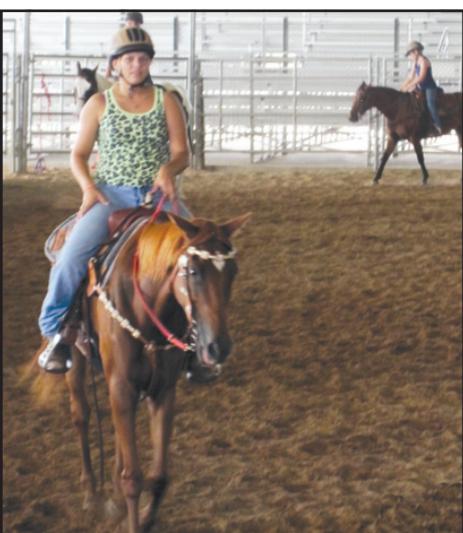
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# 4-H day camp teaches horsemanship skills

Twenty youth from around Okeechobee enjoyed a week-long day camp at the Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center with their horses on June 21-25. Campers learned how to feed, groom, handle, wash, saddle and care for horses. The campers also learned basic horsemanship skills such as how to steer, guide, slow and stop horses. Riding instructor, Stephany Fish of Palm City, helped them develop their riding skill and techniques.

The campers were able to see a horse chiropractor work on some of their horses and explain why and how horse chiropractors help horses perform better. They were also helped



Megan Mullin in the horse back horsemanship contest.

by "Cowboy Bob" who taught the youth some new western riding horse techniques. John Stanley, a horse farrier, came to teach the campers about horse hoof problems and how to correct them and how to prevent them. The campers were also able to go on a trail ride around the Agri-Civic Center. On Friday, the campers had their very own horse show, where they were able to compete against each other to see who has learned the most over the week.

"I definitely recommend coming, it is a lot of fun and you learn a lot," said Teen Counselor Megan Mullin.

The camp allows all Okeechobee youth ages 8-18 to participate in the day camp. Youth ages 14-18 are able to be teen counselors, their job is to help the younger children with their horses. Miss Mullin said, "Horse camp is fun because I really like working with the younger kids."

When asked what their favorite part of



Shiloh Annuez and Jenna Brown were the winners of the Toilet Paper Relay.

camp is the children all quickly replied "Ms. Stephany." All 20 participating youth said that they have learned something this week and would like to come back next year.

Okeechobee 4-H offers three weeks of horse day camp. June 21 - 25 was Horsemanship Week. This week, June 28 - July 2 is Performance Week. July 12 - 16, will be Rodeo Week with barrel racing, pole bending, goat tying and roping. The cost of the camp is \$125 per week, which includes a \$25 stall fee. All riders must

wear a SEI or SEI/ASTM approved helmet while mounted per 4-H rules and Florida State Law.

The "Just Horsing Around" day camp is conducted by the UF/IFAS Okeechobee County 4-H program in conjunction with the Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center and Children's Services Council of Okeechobee County.

Applications are still available for the last week of camp. For more information, contact the Okeechobee Extension Office at 863-763-6469.



Stephany Fish, riding instructor, explains the importance of good hoof care and horse shoes as part of the week-long horsemanship day camp.

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# Church sponsors family night

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

**Grace Brethren Church**, 701 S. Parrott Ave., will have their free family movie night, Friday, **July 2** at 7 p.m. The movie "Split Infinity" is from the Feature Films for Families collection and teaches a moral lesson about having an obsession with money. The public is invited. The church also is the host site for summer YMCA camp in Okeechobee. There are openings for additional children. Call camp director Carlyn at 772-260-7182 for information on registering your child. Scholarships are available.

**Believers Fellowship**, 300 S.W. Sixth Ave., will have Vacation Bible School **July 12-16** from 6:30 to 8:30 each evening for kindergarten through 12th grade. The theme is "Saddle Ridge Ranch." For more information call Micki at 863-467-6654 or Linda at 863-763-2938.

**First Baptist Church**, 401 S.W. Fourth St., is having "Saddle Ridge Ranch" Vacation Bible School **July 12-16**, in the mornings from 8:30 to noon for children from kindergarten through fifth grade.



## Places of Worship

Share your news and photos for this column by email to [pgawda@newszap.com](mailto:pgawda@newszap.com)

*The Okeechobee News welcomes news from area churches for this column. E-mail [pgawda@newszap.com](mailto:pgawda@newszap.com) or call Pete Gawda at 863-763-3134, extension 4225.*



Special to the Okeechobee News/First Baptist Church

### Expressing their appreciation

At the Sunday morning service on June 27 members of First Baptist Church honored their pastor, Rev. Randy Huckabee and his wife, Carlene, for ten years' service to the church.

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Okeechobee News/Katrina Elsen

### Okeechobee hosts swim meet

The Okeechobee Sports Park Swimming Pool hosted a South Florida Recreation Swim League meet on Saturday. The league includes teams from Okeechobee, Vero Beach, Jensen Beach, Palm Beach Gardens and Miami/Dade. Swimmers and fans packed the area around the pool as swimmers competed. The league is open to swimmers ages 5 to 17.



Okeechobee News/Katrina Elsen

Kailey May of the Okeechobee Shockwaves Swim Team was among those competing in the swim meet at the Okeechobee County Sports Park Pool on Saturday. The team practices five days a week during the summer and travels on Saturdays to swim meets hosted by other Florida Recreation Swim League teams.

# HOLIDAY DEADLINES

The Okeechobee News will be closed *Monday, July 5<sup>th</sup>* for Independence Day



## WEDNESDAY, JULY 7<sup>TH</sup> DEADLINE

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Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

### Five years service

Lester Williams, left, case manager with senior services, was recognized by Okeechobee County Commission Chairman Clif Betts, right, for five years' service to the county. The recognition took place at the Thursday, June 24 Okeechobee County Commission meeting.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

### Ten year firefighter

Jay Curtis, Fire/Medic with Okeechobee County Fire/Rescue, is recognized by Commission Chairman Clif Betts for ten years' service to the county. He came to Okeechobee County Fire/Rescue in January of 2000. During his tenure with the county he has obtained the following certifications: Fire Certification - 1944, EMT Certification - 1985, EVOC Certification - 1987, State Certified Company Officer - 1990, Safety Diver Certification and Fire Inspector Certification in 2003, and Paramedic Certification - 2004.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

### Long time employee

Jack Burkes, Fire/Medic with Okeechobee County Fire/Rescue, was honored by Okeechobee County Commission Chairman Clif Betts, right, at the June 24 commission meeting for 25 years' service to the county. Mr. Burkes began his career at fire/rescue in 1985. During his tenure with the county he has obtained the following certifications: EVOC - 1983, EMT Certification - 1984, State Certified Company Officer - 1990, Fire Certification - 1996, Rescue Diver Certification - 1992 and Paramedic Certification, 2004.

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# Chobee All Stars take district tournament title

The Okeechobee AAA All-star Team (9 and 10 year olds) had a great team this season.

They started their district tournament on Friday, June 18, at the Durrah Martin Baseball Complex in Avon Park by playing Lake Placid.

It was a long wait for the game to start due to the rain storms that always come for the district tournaments. It was a battle back and forth for both teams.

Lake Placid started with four unanswered runs against Okeechobee. Okeechobee finally got something going by scoring two runs in the bottom of the third inning before loading the bases with two outs. Then Dustin Mansfield came up and hit a shot to the outfield that brought in another two runs and tied the game 4-4.

Jarrett Faulkner then came up in the fourth inning and hit a double that cleared the bases and put Okeechobee on top 8-6.

Okeechobee came out with a 9-6 win over Lake Placid.

They would come back and play another game on Saturday at 9 a.m. and were on fire and as they mercy-ruled Avon Park 10-0.

The game was called in the fifth inning. Okeechobee only allowed two hits in five innings and racked up 10 runs on just six hits.

Avon Park walked 10 Okeechobee batters, and many of those ended up in runs scored for Okeechobee.

They had to wait until Tuesday for their next outing, and as it turned out they had to play Avon Park again. Avon Park had eliminated Lake Placid from the tournament.

Okeechobee had a rough night with many errors and Avon Park showed up to play their best ball, as Okeechobee fell 15-10.

In the last four innings, Okeechobee made the game close by scoring nine runs. Three of those runs came off the bat of Mansfield and his three-run bomb over the centerfield fence.

The loss forced a winner-take-all rematch between the two teams on Wednesday night.

Okeechobee came ready to play and it was a close game until the fifth inning when Okeechobee scored seven runs and blew the game open.

Avon Park was unable to mount a comeback.

Koby Chapman pitched an awesome game holding Avon Park to only one run.

He pitched to every batter Avon Park had to offer.

Seeing their hurler tiring after throwing over 90 pitches, Okeechobee coaches brought in Gabe Greseth to pitch to the last batter who had a 1-1 count on him with the bases loaded. Greseth threw three pitches and stuck the hitter out swinging.

The boys in purple did a great job and ended up winning 12-1 to become District 8 champions.

Okeechobee pitchers Koby Chapman, Robert Jones, Gabe Greseth and Dustin Mansfield share the coach's offensive MVP for doing an outstanding job in their four tournament games.

Offensive MVPs are: Mason Adams who reached base seven times in 12 at bats and scored six times; and Corey Coleman, who reached base 10 out of 10 times.

Okeechobee played their hearts and souls out during these tournament games. They really lifted each other up and banded together to come out on top.

They will be going to the state tournament Saturday, July 10, in Sebring.

They are hoping to do well and maybe get a chance to go to the World Series in Louisiana the first part of August.



Special to the Okeechobee News  
The Chobee All Stars (9 and 10 year olds) team includes: (front row, left to right) Jarrett Faulkner, Caleb Goodbread, Corey Coleman, Johnny Rodriguez, Mitchell Gaucin, Mason Adams; (Middle row, left to right) Gavin Harden, Dustin Mansfield, Robert Jones, Gabe Greseth, Koby Chapman, Triston Root; (back row, coaches) Assistant Coach Tony Chapman, Head Coach Tommy Harden and Assistant Coach Joey Chapman.



Special to the Okeechobee News  
(Left to right) Jarrett Faulkner, Koby Chapman and Gavin Harden were thrilled with the team's trophy.

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# No community fireworks this year

By Pete Gawda

Okeechobee News

It looks like public fireworks displays in Okeechobee have fallen victim to the economic times. For the first time in more than 20 years, there will be no community fireworks show in Okeechobee.

Over the years, Fourth of July fireworks were organized by various community sponsors.

Fourth of July fireworks in Okeechobee sponsored by the Okeechobee Jaycees were a tradition for 18 years, at Lock 7, then at the Okee-Tantie Campground and Marina and then in 2007 and 2008 at the Okeechobee County Agri-Civic Center. In 2009 the Jaycees tradition ended when the economy forced them to abandon sponsorship of fireworks. For several years the county had donated \$10,000 for fireworks and the use of either Okee-Tantie or the Agri-Civic center. Last year

the county did not contribute toward the fireworks and other sources of donations dried up. Also, in years past the City of Okeechobee contributed \$1,000.

Last year the city did not budget for fireworks. The Jaycees were hoping some other individual or organization would step forward. No one came forward last year and it looked like there would be no fireworks. Then on June 30 of last year David and Anita Nunez learned that no fireworks were scheduled. They sprang into action to make the fireworks happen. While the cost of the fireworks show was donated, the fee for using the Agri-Civic center was \$1,800. The organizers asked for a \$5 donation per car to help with the expense.

Since the Jaycees are a not for profit organization they only paid \$25 for the use of the



facility. Last year Mark Brandel of the Jaycees said that the parking fee donations from the 2008 show would be kept to help put on a future fireworks display by a nonprofit organization.

This year no sponsor stepped forward in time, so there will be no fireworks.

The nearest location for a fireworks show will be at the Brighton Seminole Reservation. A fireworks show is planned for 9 p.m. on Friday, July 2 at the Brighton softball field, 500 Harney Pond Road, which is off State Road 721 (turn at the water tower). Brighton Seminole Reservation is approximately 35 miles from downtown Okeechobee. From Okeechobee, take State Road 70 west to SR 721 and turn left (south) or take State Road 78 West to SR 721 and turn right (north). There is no charge for those who wish to view the fireworks at Brighton. Spectators are encouraged to bring their own chairs or blankets to sit on.

# School system saves by retrofitting

By Pete Gawda

Okeechobee News

Some Okeechobee County students now have a brighter day thanks to retrofitting. As money permits, Dale Barrett, director of operations for the school system, is in the process of retrofitting or installing the most modern, energy-efficient light fixtures in the schools. He said retrofitting provides almost immediate cost savings.

Mr. Barrett said there are two reasons to retrofit. One is to save money. The second reason is for increased lighting.

"You get increased lighting for less costs," he said. "Sometimes with less fixtures."

Retrofitting the mechanical room at the

high school reduced the number of light fixtures from 18 to 7.

Yearling Middle School and North Elementary School have been retrofitted. Currently the high school, with light fixtures dating back to 1966, is being retrofitted. Seminole Elementary School is next on the list.

In addition to installing the latest light fixtures, higher efficient ballasts are used. Occupancy sensors are also installed. When someone enters the room the lights come on. When the room is empty, lights go off. Occupancy sensors are especially helpful to keep lights from burning all the time in closets.

Retrofitting also pays off in rebate checks from Florida Power & Light.

"So far I've had nothing but compliments from teachers," Mr. Barrett said.

As the retrofitting progresses the old light fixtures are recycled.

Light fixtures and electrical equipment are supplied by GrayBar and the work is being done by Gerelco Electrical Contractors of Port St. Lucie.

Post your opinions in the Public Issues Forum at [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com). Reporter Pete Gawda can be reached at [pgawda@newszap.com](mailto:pgawda@newszap.com).

## Portion of scenic trail to be closed

Clewiston—The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District will close a 4.5 mile section of the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail (LOST) to the public from June 30 to August 31.

The trail will be closed from Lake Harbor (Structure 354) to South Bay in order to accommodate delivery of 40,000 tons of armor stone to stockpile sites east of S-354. The stone will be used to reinforce the Herbert Hoover Dike in the event of a breach. The Corps maintains about 15 emergency stockpiles of rock near potentially vulnerable areas of the dike.

"Having this rock available will allow an almost instant response in the event of a breach," said Stephen Schneider, engineering technician who monitors the emergency stockpiles. Signs noting the closure will be posted at access points along U.S. Highway 27 and the levee gates.

This rock is not related to the current rehabilitation of the Herbert Hoover Dike.

For more information on the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail, contact the South Florida Operations Office at 863-983-8101, or go to [www.saj.usace.army.mil](http://www.saj.usace.army.mil).

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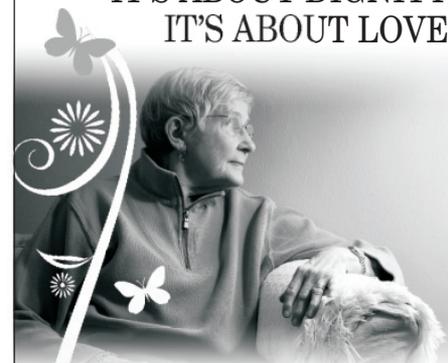
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# NEW TAX

Continued From Page 1

even among commissioners, that homestead exemption would not apply to MSTUs. There are some citizens whose homes are assessed at such a low value that they pay no ad valorem taxes due to homestead exemption but it was believed they would pay an MSTU tax. However, county attorney Laura McCall expressed the opinion that homestead exemption applies to all taxes. **Therefore, citizens who do not pay ad valorem taxes due to homestead exemption would not pay the new municipal services tax either.**

Mrs. McCall based her opinion on Florida Statue 196.031 dealing with "Exemption of homesteads," which states: "Every person who qualifies to receive the exemption provided in paragraph (a) is entitled to an additional exemption of up to \$25,000 on the assessed valuation greater than \$50,000 for all levies other than school district taxes."

County administrator Lyndon Bonner admitted that more discussion was needed before commissioners made a decision to enact a municipal services tax. However, June 30 is the deadline to enact an ordinance authorizing establishment of an MSTU. Commissioner Noel Chandler apologized for not bringing the matter up sooner so there would be time for discussion.

Unlike the emergency medical services (EMS) assessment, which is a fee for services, a municipal services tax is a tax on property. The millage rate set for an MSTU

does not apply toward the 10 mil cap of ad valorem taxes. A municipal services tax can be set as high as 10 mills. Therefore, theoretically, it is possible for people to be taxed a total of 20 mills - 10 mills ad valorem and 10 mills MSTU. However, Mr. Bonner said the goal is to offset the ad valorem milage rate by the MSTU milage rate. That means if the ad valorem rate was 7 mills before a municipal services tax is imposed and the municipal services tax is set at 2 mills, then the ad valorem tax should drop to 5 mills.

There were about 20 people in the audience, some of whom had questions and comments.

Local businessman Keith Walpole asked if a millage increase to 10 mills could be avoided if an MSTU is not enacted.

Mr. Bonner said that without an MSTU, a tax rate of 10 mills would not be sufficient to balance the budget.

"We have to cut spending," Ken Childs said. "It has to be done. Everyone wants to raise revenues and not cut spending."

City councilman Dowling Watford, who also owns a car dealership, said, "In private practice we've made drastic, drastic cuts. We have to look at that on your side also." He said that because of the economy he has had to made huge cuts in employee benefits even though he did not want to.

"The big dollars are not in the county's part of the budget," said Commission Chairman Clif Betts.

While county commissioners provide the budget, or a significant part of it for constitutional officers, each constitutional officer sets their own budget. Commissioners have no control over constitutional officers' budgets.

'This is not my tax,'

## Okeechobee County Sheriff Paul May

Commissioner Betts said the commissioners cut 24 positions from their budget and achieved \$700,000 savings in operating costs.

"The board (of county commissioners) has been the gold standard for reducing costs," said Mr. Bonner. "From this point on any additional cuts will affect services. What services does this community want us to underfund?"

He said the only feedback so far on that topic concerned public safety. The administrator said the people who attended the town hall meeting did not want public safety funds cut.

"I do not want to see an increase in taxes," asserted Commissioner Ray Domer. "We need to make deeper cuts in operations."

He predicted that some time in the future it might be possible to reduce the budget, reduce ad valorem taxes and operate the sheriff's office entirely with MSTU funds. However, he noted that at this time the board of county commissioners could not cut their budget enough to make up for the sheriff's budget.

"This is not my tax," Sheriff Paul May in an interview later in the day. He said he was not advocating an MSTU, that idea was proposed by the commissioners.

**Post your opinions in the Public Issues Forum at [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com). Reporter Pete Gawda can be reached at [pgawda@newszap.com](mailto:pgawda@newszap.com).**

## July Bloodmobile visits planned

To donate blood is to help save lives. As the Okeechobee community approaches the celebration of our country's birth, we can remember those whose lives you've saved. Please keep up the good fight, in our country's honor: The "Big Red Bus" blood mobile will be in the community on the following dates:

Thursday, July 8 - Okeechobee County Health Dept., 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Sunday, July 11 - Golden Corral, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Friday, July 16 - Seacoast Bank on Hwy. 441 South, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Saturday, July 17 - Seminole Cove, 8-10; Publix, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Sunday, July 18 - Knights of Columbus at St. Teresa Catholic Church, BHR, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Wednesday, July 21 - U-Save, 12:30-2:30; IRSC, 4-8 p.m.

Saturday, July 24 - Day of the American Cowboy, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Saturday, July 31 - Wal-Mart, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.



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# Horse owners urged to get their animals vaccinated

TALLAHASSEE —Florida Agriculture and Consumer Services Commissioner Charles H. Bronson is urging horse owners to get their animals vaccinated following an upsurge in the number of Eastern Equine Encephalitis cases. Sentinel chickens that serve as an early warning of the existence of the disease are also being diagnosed with EEE in areas of the state that are not usually affected.

So far this year there have been 16 confirmed cases of EEE in horses. While that is not an unusually high number, seven of the cases were reported on June 23, from counties scattered throughout the state.

“Most of the cases have been in the central and north central part of the state which is normal,” Bronson said. “But we are also seeing increased EEE and West Nile Virus activity in sentinel chickens in the southern part of the state, including Martin County which has not had EEE detected in 30 years. In addition, there has been a confirmed case of EEE in a horse in both Collier and Okeechobee counties. So I want to remind horse owners of the importance of getting their animals vaccinated.”

EEE is a viral disease that affects the central nervous system and is transmitted to horses by infected mosquitoes. Signs of the virus include fever, listlessness, stumbling, circling, coma and usually death. The disease is fatal in horses in 90 percent of the cases.

Mr. Bronson said the majority of cases of EEE and other mosquito-borne diseases can be prevented through proper vaccinations. Horse owners are urged to check with their veterinarian to make sure their animals have received current vaccinations and booster shots against EEE and West Nile Virus, and that these shots are kept up to date.



Special to the Okeechobee News/OKMS

## Ribbon cutting

Okeechobee Main Street was on hand to celebrate the opening of Buxton Funeral Home this past Sunday with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Over 500 attended this celebration to honor families and family memories and to meet the staff of Buxton Funeral Home located at 110 Northeast Fifth Street. Attendees enjoyed barbecue ribs and chicken, while the children also had a fun time on the obstacle course and in the bounce house. The Chobee Steelers Drum Band was also on hand to provide entertainment. Paul Mitchell and Thomas Conway would like to thank all of those who attended to make this Family Fest a true family memory. Pictured are: Main Street President, Maureen Burroughs, Terry Burroughs, treasurer OKMS, Joe Arnold, Okeechobee County School Board, Wesley Mobley, County Commissioner Noel Chandler, William Schad, Becky Barnhart, Toni Doyle, Main Street executive director, Deanna Mitchell, Paul Mitchell, Buxton Funeral Home owners, Thomas Conway Jr, Thomas Conway Sr., Lisa Conway; Jim and Sue Vinsel and in the front, Annika and Zachary Tucker.

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• Post your ads in our papers for as little as \$8 each  
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click on classifieds

### 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](http://www.newszap.com)

### Garage/Yard Sales

**Yard Sale**  
7-03-10, 8am-1pm  
Furniture and lots of household goods  
505 NE 9th Ave

### Employment

For more listings, go to [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

### Employment Full Time

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

**DIRECTOR OF SALES**  
~ No travel ~  
Call 570-972-0637

### Employment Full Time

**Office Help Wanted**  
with exp. in cash handling must have good customer service skills and bilingual, dependable and honest must be able to handle a high volume atmosphere please fax resume to 863-763-7002

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

### Employment Medical

**Prenatal/Infant Health Coalition** seeks **Contract Manager** with experience in contracts, QA/OI, fiscal mgmt, program planning, maternal & child health issues. Bachelor's degree in related field and three years management experience preferred. OR Bachelor's with five years professional experience. Fax Resume to 863-462-5878, or mail to: Healthy Start Coalition, Po Box 2560, Okeechobee, FL 34973. Closing date July 5, 2010.

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

### Employment Part Time

**COOK & SERVER** Need full time for busy restaurant. Must have experience. 863-261-2041

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](http://www.newszap.com)

### 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.

Shop from a gift catalog that's updated regularly: the classifieds.

### Services

For more listings, go to [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

### Excavation

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

### Hunting & Fishing

Looking for land to lease for Archery Only wild hog hunting. Safe, ethical bow hunter (and conservative teacher), no dogs, buggies, or ATV's. (305)766-2926 or (786)360-2927

### 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](http://www.newszap.com)

### Appliances

**Moving Sale** - Frigidaire Stove 30", refrigerator 18 cu., washer & dryer with bases all in good cond. call 863-532-0304

One man's trash is another man's treasure. Turn your trash to treasure with an ad in the classifieds.

**Refrigerator** - Black Side by Side, water and ice in door, works great including ice maker, great condition. Will trade for small welder or small cutting torch set. \$300.00. (863)467-1456 or (772)409-3196

### Pets/Supplies

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

**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](http://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

### Horses

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

### Rentals

For more listings, go to [www.newszap.com](http://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

### Houses - Rent

**AFFORDABLE NEW HOUSES** - 3/2/2 and 3/1/1, tile floors, jacuzzi tub, Bring Pets, Large Yards (561)723-2226

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

### Houses - Rent

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

**DIXIE RANCH ACRES** AREA - 3BR, \$750 mo. + \$600 sec. dep. Includes water, garbage & lawn maintenance. NO PETS. Call (863)610-0001

**For Rent** - 3bd/1ba central air/heat, carport \$850 mo + \$300 security deposit to move in. Call 863-447-9114

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

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

**REMODELED HOME** 3BR, 1BA, Laminait wood flooring, new kitchen, c/air, W&D, semi-furnished. By Rim Canal. Off 441 SE. \$800 mo. + sec. 786-201-0306

### 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

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

**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](http://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](http://www.newszap.com)

### Mobile Home Rent

**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 Sale

**BANK REPO'S MOVE TO YOUR LAND**  
Mobile Home Angels  
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**Lowest prices** on new manufactured homes in south Florida. Call Larry or Sandy for appointment 863-357-4849

**New Homes** of Merit 3 bed, 2 bath closeout sale only \$53,900. Financing available with your good credit. 863-357-4849

**Trade-ins wanted.** Get up to \$10,000 for your old mobile home and get new energy efficient Jacobsen or Destiny Home. No cash down payment needed. Easy financing available. 863-357-4849

### Automotive

For more listings, go to [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

### Automobiles

**1989 FORD F150 XLT LARIAT** - 139,000 mi, one owner, with AC, body and paint in good condition \$2,500 /or best offer (863)634-1488

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

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

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

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

**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

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Join all the people who say, "I sold it in the classifieds."

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

**Public Notices**

For more listings, go to [www.newszip.com](http://www.newszip.com)

**Public Notice**

**IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.**  
CASE NO.: 2009-CC-286

CARL S. MAXWELL, Plaintiff,  
vs.  
MAYNOR R. ROSALES and MARY Y. ROSALES, husband and wife, and any unknown tenants in possession,  
Defendants.

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated May 14, 2010, and entered in Case No. 2009-CC-286, of the County Court of the 19th Judicial Circuit in and for Okeechobee County, Florida, wherein CARL S. MAXWELL is the Plaintiff and MAYNOR R. ROSALES and MARY Y. ROSALES, husband and wife, and any unknown tenants in possession, are Defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the OKEECHOBEE COUNTY JUDICIAL CENTER, 312 NW 3rd Street, JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA 34972, at 11:00 a.m. on the 14th day of July, 2010, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

**LOT 9, BLOCK 33, BASSWOOD UNIT 2, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 28, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Parcel ID: 1-05-37-35-0020-00330-0090

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

Dated the 11th day of June, 2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON  
Clerk of Circuit Court

By: Linda F. Young  
Deputy Clerk

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Disabled persons who because of their disabilities need special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administration no later than seven days prior to the proceeding at 1.772.807.4370, 1.800.955.8771 (hearing impaired)

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.**  
CASE NO. 2010-CA-168

CARLOS AYALA, VICTOR AYALA-RODRIGUEZ, and MARIA MENDOZA, Plaintiffs,  
vs.  
THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM B. ODOM, CATHY ODOM, and PATRICIA DUNNE HELTON, Defendants.

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

TO: PATRICIA DUNNE HELTON

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to quiet title of the following described property in Okeechobee County, Florida, to-wit:

**PARCEL:** Lots 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 Block 21, SOUTHWEST ADDITION TO OKEECHOBEE, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 2, page 7, public records of Okeechobee County, Florida.

Parcel ID: 3-21-37-35-0170-00210-0030

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defense, if any, to it on DEORWIN R. MAXWELL, Esquire, 405 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972 and file the original with the Clerk of the above styled Court on or before thirty days of the first publication otherwise a judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Court on this 8th day of June, 2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON  
Clerk of Circuit Court

By: Linda F. Young  
DEPUTY CLERK

357521 ON 6/16,23,30;7/7/10

**Public Notice**

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
CASE NO.: 2009CA733  
JUDGE: LARRY SCHACK

EDWARD C. BLACKWELL and RICKI B. BLACKWELL, Plaintiffs,  
vs.  
CARLOS DEL CORRAL, DIANNA RENJIFO and UNKNOWN TENANTS, Defendants.

**NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO F.S. CHAPTER 45**

NOTICE IS GIVEN that pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated June 10, 2010, in the above-styled cause, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Jury Assembly Room, 2nd Floor, Okeechobee County Judicial Center, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida at 11 am on the 14th day of July, 2010, the following described property:

**Exhibit A LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

A parcel of land lying in Section 12, Township 35 South, Range 33 East, Okeechobee County, Florida, being more particularly described as follows: Beginning at the Southwest corner of said Section 12, bear North 00 degrees 01' 46" West along the West line of Section 12 to the West one quarter (1/4) corner of Section 12, a distance of 2700.63 feet; thence bear North 87 degrees 25' 26" East, a distance of 1606.33 feet thence bear South 00 degrees 01' 46" East, parallel with the said West line of Section 12, to the intersection with the South line of said Section 12, a distance of 2728.28 feet; thence bear South 88 degrees 24' 35" West, along the said South line of Section 12 to the Southwest corner of section 12 and the Point of Beginning, Less and except the following described parcel of land, for the purpose of a drainage easement: A strip of land 35 feet in width lying East of, parallel with and contiguous to the following described line: Commencing at the said Southwest corner of Section 12, bear North 88 degrees 24' 35" East, along the South line of Section 12, a distance of 675.59 feet for the Point of Beginning of said line. Thence bear North 19 degrees 20' 07" East, a distance of 224.98 feet; thence bear North 05 degrees 20' 18" East, a distance of 231.32 feet; thence bear North 22 degrees 31' 02" East, a distance of 143.63 feet; thence bear North 00 degrees 12' 19" East, a distance of 158.75 feet; thence bear North 23 degrees 39' 29" West, a distance of 286.97 feet; thence bear North 20 degrees 01' 20" West, a distance of 393.01 feet; thence bear North 13 degrees 20' 53" West, a distance of 231.32 feet; thence bear North 01 degrees 24' 50" West, a distance of 1113.41 feet to a point that bears North 87 degrees 25' 26" East from and a distance of 498.21 feet from the said West one quarter (1/4) corner of said Section 12 and the end of said line. Also less and except that parcel conveyed to Okeechobee County, Florida in O.R. Book 609, Page 1609, Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida, more particularly described as follows: The North 33.00 feet (as measured at right angles to the North property line of land described in Official Records Book 282, Page 818 and O. R. Book 579, Page 540, both being of the Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida.

Parcel Identification Number: 1-12-35-33-0A00-00001-0000

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner, as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

Dated this 21st day of June, 2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK  
Clerk of Court

By: Linda F. Young  
Deputy Clerk

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Notice of Sale pursuant to F.S. Chapter 45 has been furnished by United States Mail this 21st day of June, 2010, to Leonard Rutland, Jr., Esquire, 759 South Federal Highway, Suite 218, Stuart, Florida 34994 (TELEPHONE #772-286-6341), Carlos Del Corral, 6300 NW 97th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33178, and Dianna Renjifo, 6300 NW 97th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33178. 358448 ON 6/30;7/7/10

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners will hold its Regular Session on Thursday, July 8, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. in the "Judge William L. Hendry Courtroom" at the Historic Courthouse, 304 N.W. 2nd Street, Okeechobee, Florida.

Any person deciding to appeal any decision made by the Board of County Commissioners with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purposes, he or she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of such proceedings is made, which record shall include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Florida Statute 286.26, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Paula Ponsko, no later than two (2) working days prior to the proceeding at 863-763-4559 or 863-763-2131, ext. 2111. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call TDD 1-800-222-3448 (voice) or 1-888-447-5620 (TTY).

Clif Betts Jr., Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners  
Okeechobee County, Florida

Sharon Robertson, Clerk  
Board of County Commissioners  
Okeechobee County, Florida  
358986 ON 6/30/10

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
PROBATE DIVISION  
CASE NO. 2010-CP-94

IN RE: ESTATE OF SHIRLEY MAY ROGERS a/k/a Shirley Stevens Rogers Deceased

ALL INTERESTED PARTIES ARE NOTIFIED THAT:

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

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

The date of first publication of this Notice is June 23, 2010.

Person Giving Notice: JAMES E. ROGERS, JR.

357521 ON 6/16,23,30;7/7/10

**Public Notice**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONTINUE IMPOSITION AND PROVIDE FOR SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS**

PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTES 197.3632, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the City Council of the City of Okeechobee, Florida, will conduct a public hearing to consider continuing the imposition of annual solid waste collection special assessments for the provision of residential solid waste collection and disposal services within the incorporated area of the City of Okeechobee, Florida.

The hearing will be held at 6:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as possible, on Tuesday, July 20, 2010 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida, for the purpose of receiving public comment on the proposed assessments. All affected property owners have a right to appear at the hearing and to file written objections with the City Council within twenty (20) days of this notice. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at the hearing, such person will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based. City Clerk media are for the sole purpose of backup for official records of the Clerk. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the City Clerk's Office at 863-763-3372 for assistance.

Copies of the Solid Waste Collection, Disposal and Assessment Ordinance No. 784 and all subsequent Assessment Resolutions are available for inspection at the Office of the City Clerk located at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Avenue, Room 100, Okeechobee, Florida, Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. except holidays.

The assessments are a non-ad valorem assessment and will be collected by the Tax Collector in the same manner as your ad valorem tax bill, to be mailed in November 2010, as authorized by Section 197.3632, Florida Statutes. Failure to pay the assessments will cause a tax certificate to be issued against the property, which may result in a loss of title.

By: James E. Kirk, Mayor  
Attest: Lane Gamioete, CMC, City Clerk  
358989 ON 6/30/10

629 NW 36th Street  
Okeechobee FL 34972

Attorney for Person Giving Notice:  
Colin M. Cameron, Esquire  
Florida Bar No.: 270441  
200 N.E. 4th Avenue  
Okeechobee, FL 34974  
(863) 763-8600  
358301 ON 6/23,30/10

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
CASE NO.: 09-CA-347

CLAUDE A. BOWEN and JEWEL A. BOWEN Plaintiffs  
vs.  
OSCAR KIZAR, AFFORDABLE BUILDING CONCEPTS, LLC, a Florida limited liability company, and GREEN CYPRESS GROUP, LLC, a Florida limited liability company, Defendants.

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

TO: Oscar Kizar  
9122 16th Place  
Vero Beach, Florida

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action for Breach of Contract has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defense, if any, to it on DEVIN R. MAXWELL, Esquire, 405 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972 and file the original with the Clerk of the above styled Court on or before thirty days of the first publication, and file the original with the clerk of this court either before service on the plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Court on this 8th day of June, 2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON  
Clerk of Circuit Court

By: Linda F. Young  
DEPUTY CLERK  
357160 ON 6/16,23,30;7/7/10

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
CIVIL ACTION  
CASE NO.: 47-2010-CA-000243

WELLS FARGO BANK, NA, Plaintiff,  
vs.  
YOAN M. PINON, et al, Defendant(s).

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

TO: YOAN M. PINON  
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 3244 NW 35TH AVENUE, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972

CURRENT ADDRESS: UNKNOWN  
CRYSTAL R. PINON  
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 3244 NW 35TH AVENUE, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972

CURRENT ADDRESS: UNKNOWN

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

LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: UNKNOWN

**Public Notice**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONTINUE IMPOSITION AND PROVIDE FOR SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS**

PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTES 197.3632, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the City Council of the City of Okeechobee, Florida, will conduct a public hearing to consider continuing the imposition of annual solid waste collection special assessments for the provision of residential solid waste collection and disposal services within the incorporated area of the City of Okeechobee, Florida.

The hearing will be held at 6:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as possible, on Tuesday, July 20, 2010 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida, for the purpose of receiving public comment on the proposed assessments. All affected property owners have a right to appear at the hearing and to file written objections with the City Council within twenty (20) days of this notice. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at the hearing, such person will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based. City Clerk media are for the sole purpose of backup for official records of the Clerk. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the City Clerk's Office at 863-763-3372 for assistance.

Copies of the Solid Waste Collection, Disposal and Assessment Ordinance No. 784 and all subsequent Assessment Resolutions are available for inspection at the Office of the City Clerk located at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Avenue, Room 100, Okeechobee, Florida, Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. except holidays.

The assessments are a non-ad valorem assessment and will be collected by the Tax Collector in the same manner as your ad valorem tax bill, to be mailed in November 2010, as authorized by Section 197.3632, Florida Statutes. Failure to pay the assessments will cause a tax certificate to be issued against the property, which may result in a loss of title.

By: James E. Kirk, Mayor  
Attest: Lane Gamioete, CMC, City Clerk  
358989 ON 6/30/10

629 NW 36th Street  
Okeechobee FL 34972

Attorney for Person Giving Notice:  
Colin M. Cameron, Esquire  
Florida Bar No.: 270441  
200 N.E. 4th Avenue  
Okeechobee, FL 34974  
(863) 763-8600  
358301 ON 6/23,30/10

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
CASE NO.: 09-CA-347

CLAUDE A. BOWEN and JEWEL A. BOWEN Plaintiffs  
vs.  
OSCAR KIZAR, AFFORDABLE BUILDING CONCEPTS, LLC, a Florida limited liability company, and GREEN CYPRESS GROUP, LLC, a Florida limited liability company, Defendants.

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

TO: Oscar Kizar  
9122 16th Place  
Vero Beach, Florida

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action for Breach of Contract has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defense, if any, to it on DEVIN R. MAXWELL, Esquire, 405 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972 and file the original with the Clerk of the above styled Court on or before thirty days of the first publication, and file the original with the clerk of this court either before service on the plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Court on this 8th day of June, 2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON  
Clerk of Circuit Court

By: Linda F. Young  
DEPUTY CLERK  
357160 ON 6/16,23,30;7/7/10

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
CIVIL ACTION  
CASE NO.: 47-2010-CA-000243

WELLS FARGO BANK, NA, Plaintiff,  
vs.  
YOAN M. PINON, et al, Defendant(s).

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

TO: YOAN M. PINON  
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 3244 NW 35TH AVENUE, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972

CURRENT ADDRESS: UNKNOWN  
CRYSTAL R. PINON  
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 3244 NW 35TH AVENUE, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972

CURRENT ADDRESS: UNKNOWN

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

LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: UNKNOWN

**Public Notice**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONTINUE IMPOSITION AND PROVIDE FOR SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS**

PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTES 197.3632, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the City Council of the City of Okeechobee, Florida, will conduct a public hearing to consider continuing the imposition of annual solid waste collection special assessments for the provision of residential solid waste collection and disposal services within the incorporated area of the City of Okeechobee, Florida.

The hearing will be held at 6:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as possible, on Tuesday, July 20, 2010 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida, for the purpose of receiving public comment on the proposed assessments. All affected property owners have a right to appear at the hearing and to file written objections with the City Council within twenty (20) days of this notice. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at the hearing, such person will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based. City Clerk media are for the sole purpose of backup for official records of the Clerk. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the City Clerk's Office at 863-763-3372 for assistance.

Copies of the Solid Waste Collection, Disposal and Assessment Ordinance No. 784 and all subsequent Assessment Resolutions are available for inspection at the Office of the City Clerk located at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Avenue, Room 100, Okeechobee, Florida, Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. except holidays.

The assessments are a non-ad valorem assessment and will be collected by the Tax Collector in the same manner as your ad valorem tax bill, to be mailed in November 2010, as authorized by Section 197.3632, Florida Statutes. Failure to pay the assessments will cause a tax certificate to be issued against the property, which may result in a loss of title.

By: James E. Kirk, Mayor  
Attest: Lane Gamioete, CMC, City Clerk  
358989 ON 6/30/10

629 NW 36th Street  
Okeechobee FL 34972

Attorney for Person Giving Notice:  
Colin M. Cameron, Esquire  
Florida Bar No.: 270441  
200 N.E. 4th Avenue  
Okeechobee, FL 34974  
(863) 763-8600  
358301 ON 6/23,30/10

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
CASE NO.: 09-CA-347

CLAUDE A. BOWEN and JEWEL A. BOWEN Plaintiffs  
vs.  
OSCAR KIZAR, AFFORDABLE BUILDING CONCEPTS, LLC, a Florida limited liability company, and GREEN CYPRESS GROUP, LLC, a Florida limited liability company, Defendants.

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

TO: Oscar Kizar  
9122 16th Place  
Vero Beach, Florida

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action for Breach of Contract has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defense, if any, to it on DEVIN R. MAXWELL, Esquire, 405 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972 and file the original with the Clerk of the above styled Court on or before thirty days of the first publication, and file the original with the clerk of this court either before service on the plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Court on this 8th day of June, 2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON  
Clerk of Circuit Court

By: Linda F. Young  
DEPUTY CLERK  
357160 ON 6/16,23,30;7/7/10

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
CIVIL ACTION  
CASE NO.: 47-2010-CA-000243

WELLS FARGO BANK, NA, Plaintiff,  
vs.  
YOAN M. PINON, et al, Defendant(s).

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

TO: YOAN M. PINON  
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 3244 NW 35TH AVENUE, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972

CURRENT ADDRESS: UNKNOWN  
CRYSTAL R. PINON  
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 3244 NW 35TH AVENUE, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972

CURRENT ADDRESS: UNKNOWN

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

LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: UNKNOWN

**Public Notice**

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

**PARCEL 12, BRIDLEWOOD RANCHES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 34, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

Has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it, on Marshall C. Watson, P.A., Attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is 1800 NW 49TH STREET, SUITE 120, FT. LAUDERDALE FL 33309 on or before thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice in the (Please publish 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) 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)

Sharon Robertson  
Clerk of the Court  
By: Kathy Arnold  
As Deputy Clerk  
358194 ON 6/23,30/10

**LOT 21, BLOCK 50, BASSWOOD UNIT 5, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 51, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

has been filed against you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses within 30 days after the first publication, if any, on Florida Default Law Group, P.L., Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 9119 Corporate Lake Drive, Suite 300, Tampa, Florida 33634, and file the original with this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint or petition.

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

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court on this 17th day of June, 2010.

Sharon Robertson  
Clerk of the Court  
By: Arlene Nealis  
As Deputy Clerk

Florida Default Law Group, P.L.  
P.O. Box 25018  
Tampa, Florida 33622-5018  
#10031744  
\*see Americans with Disabilities Act 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 the Summons/Notice to Appear. If you are hearing impaired call 1-800-955-8771. If you are voice impaired call 1-800-955-8771. 358052 ON 06/23,30/10

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
CIVIL DIVISION  
CASE NO.: 47-2008-CA-175

SUNTRUST BANK, Plaintiff,  
vs.  
MARC A. RAMER A/K/A MARC RAMER, et al, Defendants.

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

TO: WILLIAM WEST  
Last Known Address: 120 Pottersville Road, Little Compton, RI 02837  
Also Attempted At: Lot 12, Brindlewood Ranches, Okeechobee, FL 34974 and 7140 Southwest 5th Street, Plantation, FL 33317  
Current Residence Unknown

**UNKNOW SPUEST OF WILLIAM WEST**

Last Known Address: 120 Pottersville Road, Little Compton, RI 02837  
Also Attempted At: Lot 12, Brindlewood Ranches, Okeechobee, FL 34974 and 7140 Southwest 5th Street, Plantation, FL 33317  
Current Residence Unknown

**Public Notice**

or 1.800.955.8770 (voice impaired)  
WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this 15th day of June, 2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON  
As Clerk of the Court

By: Kathy Arnold  
As Deputy Clerk  
358194 ON 6/23,30/10

**READING A NEWSPAPER MAKES YOU A MORE INFORMED AND INTERESTING PERSON.**

No wonder newspaper readers are more popular!

Sharon Robertson  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
By /s/ Heather Thomas  
Deputy Clerk  
357606 ON 6/16,23,30;7/7/10

**Public Notice**

**IN THE COUNTY COURT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
CASE NO.: 2010-CC-061

PUBLIC RISK MANAGEMENT, INC., as Subrogee of CITY OF OKEECHOBEE, a Florida municipal corporation, and CITY OF OKEECHOBEE, Plaintiffs,  
vs.  
SANTIAGO VEGA, Defendant.

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Complaint for damages has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses to: DONOVAN A. ROPER, ESQUIRE, plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 116 N. Park Ave., Apopka, FL 32703 within 20 days after publication of this notice and file the original answer with the Clerk of Court either before service on plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter. If a defendant fails to do so, a default will be entered against that defendant for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

DATED ON March 16, 2010.

Sharon Robertson  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
By /s/ Heather Thomas  
Deputy Clerk  
357606 ON 6/16,23,30;7/7/10

**Public Notice**

**IN THE COUNTY COURT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
CASE NO.: 2010-CC-061

PUBLIC RISK MANAGEMENT, INC., as Subrogee of CITY OF OKEECHOBEE, a Florida municipal corporation, and CITY OF OKEECHOBEE, Plaintiffs,  
vs.  
SANTIAGO VEGA, Defendant.

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Complaint for damages has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses to: DONOVAN A. ROPER, ESQUIRE, plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 116 N. Park Ave., Apopka, FL 32703 within 20 days after publication of this notice and file the original answer with the Clerk of Court either before service on plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter. If a defendant fails to do so, a default will be entered against that defendant for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

DATED ON March 16, 2010.

Sharon Robertson  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
By /s/ Heather Thomas  
Deputy Clerk  
357606 ON 6/16,23,30;7/7/10

**Crossword Puzzle**

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

<b>ACROSS</b>	<b>DOWN</b>		
1 Shop-till-you-drop outing	1 Escort	36 Hat material	49 Baby birds?
6 Doorway part	2 Young hen	37 Heart	52 Immoral practices
10 Goes (for)	3 Like many violent films	38 "Dig in!"	53 Month in el invierno
14 Not quite a liter	4 Bobble the ball, e.g.	39 eBay visitors	54 Margarita option
15 Most draftable	5 O'Hare approx.	40 Margar	

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA... CASE NO. 2009-CA-660... RIVERSIDE NATIONAL BANK OF FLORIDA, Plaintiff, v. WILLIAM TROY GARRISON; ARNITA L. GARRISON; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S), WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR LIVING IN G... WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS, Defendants.

Public Notice

SERVICING, L.P., PLAINTIFF, VS. MARY B. EDISON, ET AL., DEFENDANT(S). NOTICE OF ACTION CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE TO: MARY B. EDISON AND UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MARY B. EDISON whose residence is unknown if he/she/they be living; and if he/she/they be dead, the unknown defendant(s) 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 mortgage described in the mortgage being foreclosed herein.

Public Notice

Book 3, Page 86, of the Public Records of St. Lucie County, Florida, TOGETHER with the South-easterly one-half of abandoned alley adjacent to said Lot 2, LESS AND EXCEPTING that part of the above described Lots 1 and 2, which have been taken for the widening of State Road 70 (Okeechobee Road).

Public Notice

Okeechobee County Judicial Center, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972. ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE. Dated this 11th day of June, 2010. Sharon Robertson Clerk of Court By: Linda F. Young Deputy Clerk

Public Notice

E-Mail: rps@mcsuimm.com Attorneys for Plaintiff 357486 ON 6/23/30/10 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 2009 CA 517 Judge Larry Schack RIVERSIDE NATIONAL BANK OF FLORIDA, Plaintiff, v. VERNIE TYE BASS, GLENDA FAYE BASS, ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S), WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR LIVING, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; JOHN DOE AND/OR JANE DOE AS UNKNOWN TENANTS IN POSSESSION, THE NAMES BEING FICTITIOUS TO ACCOUNT FOR PARTIES IN POSSESSION, Defendants.

Public Notice

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45 NOTICE IS GIVEN that pursuant to the Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated March 18, 2010, in Case 2009CA517, in the Circuit Court of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit in and for Okeechobee County, Florida, in which RIVERSIDE NATIONAL BANK OF FLORIDA is Plaintiff, and VERNIE TYE BASS, GLENDA FAYE BASS are the Defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Jury Assembly Room, 2nd Floor, of the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, 312 North West 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on July 7, 2010, the following described property set forth in the Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure, to-wit:

Public Notice

Room, 2nd Floor, of the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, 312 North West 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on July 7, 2010, the following described property set forth in the Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure, to-wit: LOT 20, BLOCK 4, A REVISED PLAT OF FIRST ADDITION TO PINE RIDGE PARK, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, AT PAGE 90, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA. Anyone claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, other than the person who was the record property owner when the Lis Pendens was filed, must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. DATED this 10th day of June, 2010.

Public Notice

Sharon Robertson Clerk of the Circuit Court BY: Linda F. Young Deputy Clerk 358181 ON 6/23/30/10 Earn some extra cash. Sell your used items in the classifieds Need a few more bucks to purchase something deer? Pick up some extra bucks when you sell your used items in the classifieds.

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45 NOTICE IS GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated January 21, 2010, and the Order Re-Setting Foreclosure Sale dated June 8, 2010, in Case No. 2009-CA-660, in the Circuit Court of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit in and for Okeechobee County, Florida, in which RIVERSIDE NATIONAL BANK OF FLORIDA is Plaintiff, and WILLIAM TROY GARRISON and ARNITA L. GARRISON are the Defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Jury Assembly Room, 2nd Floor, of the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, 312 North West 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on July 7, 2010, the following described property set forth in the Final Judgment of Foreclosure, to-wit: Lots 9, 10 and 16, Block 3, a Plat of Dixie Ranch Acres, according to the Plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 35, of the Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida Property address: 7436 NW 89th Court, Okeechobee, FL 34972 Tax ID 1-23-36-34-0020-00030-0090

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property: LOT 3, ROSEWOOD ESTATES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 90, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA. has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on 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 15th day of June, 2010. CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT BY: Kathy Arnold DEPUTY CLERK LAW OFFICES OF DAVID J. STERN ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF 900 SOUTH PINE ISLAND ROAD SUITE 400 PLANTATION, FL 33324-3920 954-62761 CWF

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY AIR CONDITIONING EMORY WALKER CO. INC. Air Conditioning & Refrigeration 7/24 SERVICE FOR OUR CUSTOMERS 208 SW 5th Ave. • Okeechobee Serving the Lake Area for 40 Years! 863-763-6742 CAC042747 CAC014022 CAC057129

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY FEED & SUPPLIES Okeechobee Feed Inc Your One Stop Feed Store Bag, Bulk & Liquid • Tack 763-2123 • Fencing • Pet Supplies • Hardware 1579 Hwy 70 E • Okeechobee

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY LEGAL SERVICES Paralegal Services cleartitle & Legal Services, Inc. Se Habla Español Struggling to make your mortgage payments? Call us, we can help! Real Estate Closings • Title Insurance • For Sale By Owner Transactions • Divorces • Custody Modifications • Adoptions • Name Changes • Quiet Title Proceedings • Evictions • Quit Claim Deeds • Corporations • Wills • Power of Attorney • Contracts 3128 Hwy 441 South, Okeechobee, FL 863-824-6776

Anyone claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, other than the person who was the record property owner when the Lis Pendens was filed, must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. DATED this 11th day of June, 2010. Sharon Robertson Clerk of the Circuit Court BY: Linda F. Young Deputy Clerk 357924 ON 6/23/30/10

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court at OKEECHOBEE County, Florida, this 15th day of June, 2010. CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT BY: Kathy Arnold DEPUTY CLERK LAW OFFICES OF DAVID J. STERN ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF 900 SOUTH PINE ISLAND ROAD SUITE 400 PLANTATION, FL 33324-3920 954-62761 CWF

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY FURNITURE We have furniture you want and credit you can actually get! Badcock HOME FURNITURE & more 512 W. North Park St. Okeechobee (863) 763-3823 Mon. - Fri. 9am to 6pm Sat. - 9am to 5pm

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY HAIR CUTS CITY CUTS LLC 863-467-0418 Tues. - Fri. 9-5:30 Sat. 9-3 & Closed: Sun & Mon. 105 SW 3rd Ave. Cheri Stevens

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY LIQUOR STORE A2Z LIQUORS 515 S. PARROTT AVE. 763-0597 MON - THUR 9-9, FRI & SAT. 9-10 TREASURE ISLAND/DISCOUNT LIQUORS 2305 Hwy 441 SE 763-2955 MON - THUR 8-8, FRI & SAT. 8-8:30

LEGAL NOTICE A public auction will be held at BMJ Towing, Inc. Lot at 414 South Parrott Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34974 on Friday the 16th day of July 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: 2001 Black GMC Sierra 1GTHC23U01F171270

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA. CASE NO.: 2010-CA-084 JUDGE: LARRY SCHACK FIRST PEOPLE BANK, Plaintiff, v. JAMES F. HERNDON, III, PATRICIA A. HERNDON, husband and wife, SUNSHINE INC., a Florida Corporation, and SUNSHINE BUILDERS OF FORT PIERCE, INC., a Florida corporation, Defendants.

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY QUALITY B/A/C and Heating of Okeechobee Serving the entire lake area for 25 years "Our Focus Is To Make You Comfortable" FREE Estimates Sales • Service • Installation 467-1545 St. Lic. CAC029420

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY HEALTHCARE Glades Health Care Center Skilled Long & Short Term Care Facility Jody Carter, Assistant, C.E.O. 230 South Barfield Hwy. • Pahokee Other facilities in Gainesville & Bradenton PHONE: 561-924-5561 www.floridacare.net

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY MARINE SALES & REPAIR LAKESHORE MARINE, INC. 1365 Hwy 441 SE (next to bowling alley) 863-763-4080 SERVING OKEECHOBEE SINCE 1993 STEVE BRANTLEY, OWNER If we can't fix it, it probably can't be fixed. Exceptional Service YOU CAN TRUST!!

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. 359017 ON 6/30/2010

NOTICE IS hereby given that pursuant to the Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the cause pending in the Circuit Court of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit, in and for Okeechobee County, Florida, Civil Action Number: 2010-CA-084 the undersigned Clerk will sell the property situated in said County, described as:

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY ATTORNEYS Hoskins, Turco, Lloyd & Lloyd • Auto Accidents • Social Security Disability • Bankruptcy • Veterans' Disability www.HoskinsTurco.com 212 S. Parrott Ave. (863) 357-5800 Okeechobee, FL 34974

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY HEALTH & READING MATERIAL Christian Books, Bibles and Videos Nature's Pantry 417 W S Park St • (863) 467-1243

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY REAL ESTATE Vicki Anderson, Lic. RE Broker Cell 634-4106 Anderson REALTY CO.

To Whom It May Concern: You are hereby notified that the following described livestock, one Bay Mustang mare approximately 3yr old 14.2hh, one sorrel Mustang mare, approx 14.2hh, 4 white stockings, white blaze, freeze brand left side of neck and left side hip #4221, one chestnut Mustang mare, approx 14.2hh, 2 hind white socks, freeze brand left side of neck and left side hip #6541 and one buckskin Mustang colt approx 6 month 2 hind white socks are now impounded at Okeechobee County Animal Control, 1480 NW 25th Drive, Okeechobee, FL 34972. The amount due by reason of such impounding is \$100.00 The above described livestock, will, unless redeemed within 3 days from the date hereof, be offered for sale at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash.

Parcel 1 OKEECHOBEE COUNTY PROPERTY Lots 11 and 12, Block 150, OKEECHOBEE, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 5, Page 5, of the Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida. TOGETHER WITH all the improvements now or hereafter erected on the property, and all easements, appurtenances, and fixtures now or hereafter a part of the property. Property address: 507 NE Park Street, Okeechobee, FL Parcel 2- ST. LUCIE COUNTY PROPERTY Lots 1 and 2, Block 1, Plat of PALMER TERRACE, according to the Plat thereof as recorded in Plat

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY CUSTOM CANVAS THE CANVAS SHOP Boat Covers RV Covers BBQ Covers Bimini frames 909 So. Parrott Ave. Ste B. 863.763.7500 sunbrella Mon. - Fri. 8:30am-5pm Saturday 9:00am-Noon

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO: 47-2009-CA-000507 BAC HOME LOANS SERVICING, L.P. F/K/A COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS

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**\$3,700 OFF MSRP**

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**\$3,500 OFF MSRP**

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2003 Buick Park Avenue STK#0288A	\$8,700
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2008 Chevrolet Cobalt STK#U2389	\$10,995
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2008 Ford Ranger STK#U0231	\$11,995
2009 Chevy Cobalt 4 Door STK#U3880	\$11,995
2009 Chevy Cobalt 4 Door STK#U5943	\$11,995
2009 Chevy Cobalt 4 Door STK#U0365	\$12,995
2009 Chevy Cobalt 2 Door STK#U3279	\$12,995
2005 Chevy Venture STK#U6482	\$12,995
2006 Dodge Dakota Ext Cab STK#U6489	\$13,995
2003 Chevy Avalanche STK#0369A	\$14,995
2004 Toyota Tundra STK#1728B	\$14,995
2005 Dodge Durango STK#6157A	\$15,995
2006 Chevrolet Trailblazer STK#U5119	\$16,995
2007 Jeep Grand Cherokee ONLY 36K MILES, STK#5932A	\$24,995

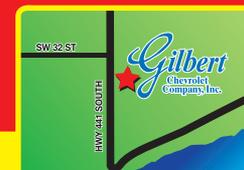
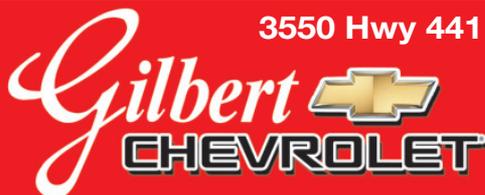
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\* 0% APR IS WITH APPROVED CREDIT. ALL PRICES PLUS TAX, TITLE & LICENSE. ALL VEHICLES SUBJECT TO PRIOR SALE. RATES & REBATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANYTIME. PHOTOS FOR ILLUSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY. DEALER NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS. OFFERS GOOD THROUGH DATE OF PUBLICATION. GICH\_0438

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Special to the Okeechobee News/Raulerson Hospital

# County budget increases faster than population

**By Pete Gawda**  
Okeechobee News

Research over the past 20 years reveals that the budget has increased almost five fold while the population has only increased by a third and the average wages have doubled.

In that same time, the county's property tax rate dropped from 10 mills to 7.5 mills. (One mill equals \$1 in taxes for every \$1,000 of property value.)

In 1990 the population was 30,100 and the budget was \$15.6 million. The millage rate was at the maximum allowed by state law of 10 mills. The average salary in Okeechobee County that year was \$15,288.

In five years' time the 1995 population had increased to 33,300 while the 1995 budget had increased to \$26.93 million. The millage rate had dropped to 8.75. According to the census, the average annual wage had increased to \$18,832.

The county was able to increase spending while lowering taxes due to revenue

from the sale of the county landfill and annual fees paid to the county by Waste Management.

By 2000 the population had increased to 36,147, according to Census figures. During that same 5-year period the budget had grown to \$44.91 million. The millage rate had decreased again to 8.1 while the average annual wage was \$22,772.

The next five years saw an even bigger jump in the budget from \$44.91 million in 2000 to \$104.16 million in 2005. During that same five year period the population had only increased 6.99 percent to 38,673. The 2005 millage rate had jumped up to 8.75 while the 2005 average annual wage in the county was \$27,976.

Over the last five years the population has grown to 40,241. The 2010 population is a 4.05 percent increase from 2005. Economic conditions had caught up with budget and the 2010 budget had dropped by 11.9 percent from 2005. The current budget is to \$91.77 million. The current millage rate is 7.50. The latest annual average wages listed by Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation are for 2008. That figure was \$30,316.

Looking at the entire 20 years period between 1990 and 2000 the population increased by 33.69 percent. However, the budget increased 488.27 percent.

In 1990 the county spent \$518.27 per person. In 1995 that spending increased to \$808.71 per person. In 2000 the county spent \$1,242.43 per person. Five year later in 2005 that spending had increased to \$2,693.35 per person. The economic situation over the last five years caused the 2010 spending per person to drop to \$2,280.51.

## Remembering Florida Nightingale

In observance of the "National Florence Challenge Week" recognizing the centennial year of the passing of Florence Nightingale, the nursing staff at Raulerson Hospital dressed in white promoting the professionalism of nursing. Nurses from right to left Bette, Cheryl, Jessica, Chris, Dorcas, Ana and Barb. (Per hospital policy, nurses' last names are not given out.)

# DINING & Entertainment

Feeling Hungry? You Don't Know Quite What You Want? Try One Of These Fine Establishments Tonight!

## CLOCK Family Restaurant

The staff of The Clock Restaurant has faithfully provided the Okeechobee community with quality service and food for over 5 years.

You'll find the Clock easily takes the gold when it comes to maintaining a nice family atmosphere...

We have a variety of Breakfast, lunch & dinner specials.

Do you only have an hour or less for lunch? We'll get you in and out faster than any other full service restaurant in town - and that's guaranteed. For breakfast, the Clock has a breakfast buffet that runs 7 days a week for \$7.19 with just about every breakfast item on it you can think of.

Everyone knows about our famous Touchdown Breakfast that is always available any time of the day: 2 eggs, 2 pancakes, 2 bacon strips, 2 sausage links for \$4.89.

For lunch you can always try our Lunch Buffet Monday through Friday from 11:30am-1:30pm for a variety of delicious cold cuts to Hot dogs and Hamburgers for only \$7.99. For dinner, try our all you can eat shrimp & fish for only \$9.99, every Friday and Saturday night. We also offer our Prime Rib Dinner for only \$9.99, anyday anytime!.

You will find the coupon for this and many other specials right here in the Okeechobee News Dining Guide..



### Summer Specials

**7 DAYS A WEEK** **Clock** (863) 467-2224  
*Family Restaurants*

**Weekday Breakfast Specials**  
Starting At **\$3.49**  
Served 6 -11 a.m.

**All you can eat fish and shrimp**  
**\$9.99**  
Served Friday and Saturday from 4 to 11 pm

**Shrimp Fest**  
Starting At **\$7.99**

**Seniors**  
7 Days A Week  
**2 for \$11.59**  
From Senior Dinner Menu.  
Includes: soup or salad, ice cream or pudding

**Weekday Lunch Specials**  
only **\$5.99**  
Served 11a.m. -3 p.m.

Add A Soda, Tea Or Coffee Only \$ .99

**2 Dinners -Your Choice For One Price....**

1. N.Y. Strip Steak
2. Shrimp Scampi
3. Country Fried Steak
4. Grilled Pork Chops
5. Chicken Tenders
6. Grilled Mahi Mahi
7. Roast Turkey Breast...

All Specials Served With 2 Sides, Soup Or Salad, And Complimentary Pudding Or Ice Cream....



Special to the News/Southern Style

## Drawing winner

Southern Style Fashions quarterly drawing winner is Vanessa Smith., center. She had her hair styled compliments of Laurie Stephen at Main Street Salon. The outfit that she is wearing is compliments of Southern Style. Vanessa also received a gift certificate to Pogey's Restaurant and a dinner for two from Skip Jacks Southern Seafood Shack.

**HURRY  
LAST  
DAY!**

**ARRIGO**  
DODGE • CHRYSLER • JEEP  
Palm Beach

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**1 WEEK TO DEAL!**

DODGE CHRYSLER Jeep RAM

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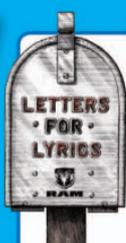
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**Brand New 2010 Dodge RAM 3500 CREW CAB 4X4 DIESEL**



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DEALER LIST PRICE:.....\$32,791  
REBATES & DISCOUNTS: ...\$7,792†

**AS LOW AS: \$24,999\***

**Brand New 2010 Chrysler PT CRUISER CLASSIC**



DEALER LIST PRICE:.....\$19,991  
REBATES & DISCOUNTS: ...\$5,992†

**AS LOW AS: \$13,999\***

**Brand New 2010 Chrysler SEBRING TOURING**



DEALER LIST PRICE:.....\$22,081  
REBATES & DISCOUNTS: ...\$7,082†

**AS LOW AS: \$14,999\***

**Brand New 2010 Jeep WRANGLER SPORT 4X4**



**RECEIVE \$500 IN MOPAR ACCESSORIES WITH PURCHASE!**

DEALER LIST PRICE:.....\$23,806  
REBATES & DISCOUNTS: ...\$5,207†

**AS LOW AS: \$18,599\***

**Brand New 2010 Jeep GRAND CHEROKEE**



DEALER LIST PRICE:.....\$32,486  
REBATES & DISCOUNTS: . \$10,487†

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**6500 OKEECHOBEE BLVD.  
WEST PALM BEACH**  
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

\*PRICES PLUS TAX TAG TITLE DEALER INSTALLED OPTIONS AND FEES. ALL REBATES APPLIED INCLUDING OWNER LOYALTY AND LEASE LOYALTY REBATES. CUSTOMER MUST QUALIFY FOR ALL REBATES AND INCENTIVES. DEALER RETAINS ALL REBATES AND INCENTIVES INCLUDING OWNER AND LEASE LOYALTY. ALL VEHICLES SUBJECT TO PRIOR SALE. MUST PRESENT AD AT TIME OF PURCHASE TO RECEIVE ADVERTISED OFFERS. OFFERS EXPIRE DATE OF PUBLICATION. DEALER NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS OR OMISSIONS. VEHICLE ART FOR ILLUSTRATION ONLY. OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT MAY BE SHOWN. OFFERS NOT IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER OFFERS, OTHER RESTRICTIONS APPLY. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE DETAILS. PREVIOUS SALES EXCLUDED. \*\* WE WILL BEAT ANY LOCAL, VALID, PRINTED ADVERTISEMENT FROM ANOTHER AUTHORIZED DODGE CHRYSLER OR JEEP DEALER WITHIN THE SE BUSINESS CENTER ZONE ON ANY NEW, IDENTICALLY EQUIPPED IN STOCK VEHICLE. IF WE FAIL TO BEAT THE PRICE, WE WILL GIVE YOU OUR VEHICLE AT NO CHARGE. CUSTOMER MUST PRESENT COMPETITORS AD AT TIME OF PURCHASE AND SUPPLY ACCURATE VIN NUMBER. COMPETITORS AD MUST BE DATED SAME DAY AS THE CUSTOMERS PURCHASE. EXCLUDES TAX, TAG, TITLE, DEALER INSTALLED OPTIONS. IF WE BEAT THE COMPETITORS PRICE, YOU MUST BUY THE VEHICLE FROM ARRIGO. DEALER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO PURCHASE THE VEHICLE FROM OTHER DEALER. OTHER RESTRICTIONS APPLY. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE DETAILS. RANKINGS BASED ON REGISTERED SALES FOR CHRYSLER CORP. \*ON SELECT MODELS, TERMS VARY, WITH APPROVED CREDIT TO QUALIFIED CUSTOMERS, RESTRICTIONS APPLY. +REBATES VARY ON SELECT MODELS. \*\* BASED ON JEEP COMMANDER STK#105259. †MINIVAN PLEDGE IN LIEU OF CERTAIN INCENTIVES, RESTRICTIONS APPLY. SEE DEALER FOR FULL DETAILS. CD WHILE SUPPLIES LAST, LIMIT ONE CD PER LETTER. \*\*\* VALID FOR PURCHASE CONTRACTS 60 MONTHS AND LESS, ON SELECT MODELS. MUST BE APPROVED THRU GMAC FINANCE. NOT IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER OFFERS, SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE DETAILS.