

# OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 101 No. 84

Wednesday, July 14, 2010

50¢ Plus tax

## School districts challenge FCAT scores

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

The Okeechobee County School District sent a letter to the Florida Department of Education Monday which challenged the va-

lidity of this years FCAT scores, administrator Sharon Suits said.

Ms. Suits, Director of Testing and Accountability for the Okeechobee County School District, said five large schools in the state and several others have been very

concerned with the low FCAT scores they received in June from the state. The results were weeks behind schedule and Ms. Suits said there were sharp declines in student performance in many schools this year.

She said the school challenged the va-

lidity of students' scores where there were significant drops in scores in math and reading.

"We don't feel this represents what the

See FCAT — Page 14



Special to the Okeechobee News/Okeechobee County Parks and Recreation Department

### Recycling helps protect wildlife

Participants in the YES program helping to recycle monofilament fishing line include: (back from left to right): John Cassidy, Tyler Elliott, Ryan Folsom, Logan Bohannon, Audrey Shablom, Timothy Shablom, Chase Assmusen, Melissa Floyd and Charles Eaton. In the front are: Jose Hernandez, Megan McLemore, Michael Shablom, Janice Floyd and Chris Easton. For the story, see Page 2.

## Local man accused of attempted murder

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News

The search for an Okeechobee man wanted in connection with last week's shooting of another man in the Douglas Park area ended early Tuesday morning.

Lavoski Jackson, 31, N.W. 10th St., was arrested shortly after 3 a.m. July 13 on a charge of attempted second-degree murder with a firearm. He is being held in the Okeechobee County Jail under a bond of \$250,000.

Jackson's girlfriend, Sheretta S. McNeil, 28, N.E. 11th St., Okeechobee, has also been arrested. She was charged with attempted murder-accessory after the fact. She is being held on a \$200,000 bond.



Lavoski Jackson

"She actually helped him (Jackson) get out of the county," said Detective Ted Van Deman of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO)

Jackson was arrested by OCSO Sergeant Brian Hagan as he and other deputies were keeping watch for a stolen F-250 pickup out of Belle Glade.

"Our deputies did an excellent job of apprehending him as he tried to sneak back into town," said Sheriff Paul May. "We're thankful for the help of the community, and I'm very happy to have this young man in jail."

According to an arrest report by OCSO Detective M.D. Faulkner, Jackson is accused of shooting another Okeechobee man Thursday, July 8, during a verbal altercation. The detective's report said Jackson and some other men were standing

See SHOOTING — Page 14

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

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8 16510 00024 5

County commission meets in new chambers

... Page 19

OUA faces \$400,000 deficit, considers budget cuts

... Page 15



Slow pitch softball league popular with adults ...Page 10

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# Monofilament recycling program helps protect local wildlife and boaters

By Josephine O'Mallan  
Okeechobee Parks and Rec

On Saturday, July 10, participants ranging in age from 6-45 were introduced to a new way to recycle as part of the YES program (Youth Engaged in Service). They learned about the importance of recycling used fishing line through the Monofilament Recovery & Recycling Program (MRRP). John Cassidy from Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission (FWC) gave an enlightening presentation about the effects of exposed fishing line in the wild. He explained that monofilament is mostly non-biodegradable and can last up to 600 years. If it is not disposed of properly, it could be problematic for animals, boats and even humans. Entanglement hinders mobility; which results in animals becoming weak or starved and often fall prey to predators. Manatees are especially affected by misplaced monofilament due to ingestion causing intestinal problems or a false "full" feeling and can lead to starvation.

Currently, there are 12 fishing line collection bins throughout the county for MRRP. Two are indoor bins located at the USDA Service Center and Okeechobee Fishing Headquarters. The majority are outdoor bins placed at popular marinas and boat ramps. The program was initiated by the FWC, which relies on partners to carry out the program within their respective county

boundaries. Okeechobee Soil and Water Conservation District serves as the MRRP County Coordinator for Okeechobee. Having 12 sites around the county is very labor intensive, not only because of the mileage between sites, but also due to vandalism. Over the past year, four bins were stolen or destroyed and at least six others needing repairs.

Despite these setbacks, Okeechobee County residents and visitors have recycled about 10 lbs. of line and spools. In terms of fishing line, this is a substantial amount. According to John Cassidy, who has rescued over a dozen entangled manatees, "education is the key" to success. Members from the local Boy Scouts and Big "O" Teen Anglers Inc. were among those learning about MRRP for the first time. Participants helped construct 14 new bins and received hands-on experience installing a collection bin at the recently restored Istogpoka Boat Ramp. There are numerous ways you can help control the amount of monofilament in the environment by not leaving your line behind. If you would like a map to the MRRP indoor and outdoor sites, please call 863-763-3619. Together we can help keep our county's wildlife and boaters tangle-free.



John Cassidy from FWC helps the group of young people participating in the YES program's monofilament recycling program at the July 10, event held where more recycling collection bins were made by the group.

## Clarification: Shattered Childhood series

The five-part series on juvenile sex offenders entitled "Shattered Childhood," which ran in the July 2, 4, 7, 9 and 11 editions of this paper, included comments from interviews with Gary Pettit and Connie Delguidice of Hibiscus Children's Center. In their comments, Mr. Pettit and Ms. Delguidice were not referring to or speaking about any specific cases. Other health and legal professionals quoted in the stories were also not commenting on any particular cases. Their comments were in response to questions about issues involved in juvenile sex offender cases in general.

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# Man accused of threatening his ex-girlfriend

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News

Apparently jealous and upset that their relationship had ended, an Okeechobee man allegedly threatened to kill his former girlfriend while holding a knife.



Mauro Seca, Jr.

Mauro Seca Jr., 25, N.W. First St., Okeechobee, was arrested Sunday, July 11, on felony charges of burglary, aggravated assault and kidnapping. He was

also charged with the misdemeanors of battery and criminal mischief.

He is being held in the Okeechobee County Jail without bond.

Deputy Joseph Hall of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) stated in his arrest report that Seca entered the home of his former girlfriend by breaking out the glass in a back door. When he found she wasn't home, he took a shower and went to bed, the report added.

When the victim returned home she was confronted by Seca in the kitchen of her home. The deputy's report stated that Seca

pushed the woman into a wall, hit her in the face with some roses, slapped her in the head then threatened to kill her with a large knife.

Deputy Hall went on to state that he then grabbed the woman and started dragging her upstairs. The victim reportedly told the deputy that she believed Seca was going to kill her because he not only had the knife but also a roll of medical tape.

Thinking quickly, the woman grabbed the stair railing then told her alleged attacker that she was willing to work things out and to resume their relationship. This reportedly

placated Seca, who then took the woman to the living room where they began to talk.

She next agreed to take Seca to his brother's home so he could get his belongings.

The report goes on to state that when Seca got out of her car, she drove away and called law enforcement.

Seca was arrested later at a relative's home. According to the report, he was found hiding in a shower behind the shower curtain.

Deputy Hall's report does not indicate if the woman needed, or received, medical treatment.

## 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).

- Carla Denise Rush, 44, N.E. 14th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested July 9 by Deputy Lieutenant Keith Murrish on an Okeechobee County warrant charging her with fraudulent use of a credit card, criminal use of personal identification information and grand theft. Her bond was set at \$22,500.

- Lydia Lois Rosemann, 50, N.E. 11th St., Okeechobee, was arrested July 9 by Officer Scott Morgan on a felony charge of possession of methamphetamine and the misdemeanors of possession of marijuana under 20 grams and possession of drug paraphernalia. Her bond was set at \$8,500.

- Dustin Chad Puckett, 20, Gulf to Lake Drive, Inverness, was arrested July 9 by Deputy Lt. Keith Murrish on a warrant charging him with possession of oxycodone and possession of alprazolam. His bond was set at \$20,000.

- Casey Byron Sammons, 21, U.S. 98 N., Okeechobee, was arrested July 9 by Sergeant Dawn Wendt on charges of trafficking in illegal drugs and possession of a controlled substance without a prescription (two counts). His bond was set at \$45,000.

- Jorge Morales, 21, N.E. 32nd Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested July 9 by Deputy Raul Marrero on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with burglary of a dwelling. His bond was set at \$10,000.

- Oreste Salazar, 31, N.W. Fourth St., Okeechobee, was arrested July 9 by Deputy Raul Marrero on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with violation of probation - battery. He is being held without bond.

- Adam Mowery, 32, N.W. 53rd Terrace, Okeechobee, was arrested July 9 by Deputy Greg Popovich on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with fleeing and eluding a law enforcement officer. His bond was set at \$2,500.

- Tanya L. Law, 25, S.W. 30th Terrace, Okeechobee, was arrested July 9 by Deputy Lt. Keith Murrish on an Okeechobee County warrant charging her with grand theft and uttering a forged instrument. Her bond was set at \$12,500.

- Brannon Wayne Jenkins, 38, N.E. Seventh Lane, Okeechobee, was arrested July 9 by Deputy Lt. Keith Murrish on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with uttering a forged instrument and grand theft. His bond was set at \$15,000.

- Timothy Crews, 34, S.E. 26th St., Okeechobee, was arrested July 9 by Deputy Raul Marrero on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with scheme to defraud. His bond was set at \$2,500.

- Joseph William Inman, 27, S.E. 21st Court, Okeechobee, was arrested July 11 by Detective Rick Durfee on a charge of burglary. His bond was set at \$500.

- Ruben Eric Collins, 36, S. Parrott Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested July 11 on a Lake County warrant charging him with violation of probation - driving under the influence. He is being held without bond.

- Donald Richardson Casselton, 19, N.E. 65th Terrace, Okeechobee, was arrested July 11 by Deputy Michael Hazellief on a Highlands County warrant charging him with grand theft. His bond was set at \$5,000.

- Timothy Wade Moore, 53, S.E. 24th Blvd., Okeechobee, was arrested July 11 by Deputy John Ashby on a felony charge of driving while license suspended with knowledge - habitual offender and a misdemeanor charge of obstruction by a disguised person. His bond was set at \$3,500.

- Ronnie Dale Robbins, 41, N.W. 207th St., Okeechobee, was arrested July 11 by

Deputy Anthony Kibler on a felony charge of tampering with a victim and a misdemeanor charge of battery. His bond was set at \$1,500.

- Ladell LaDarius Wheeler, 19, N. 10th Ave., Pensacola, was arrested July 12 by Deputy Mark Margerum on an Okaloosa County warrant charging him with felony battery. Wheeler is currently housed in the Level 10 Juvenile Detention Facility.

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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## Public Forum/Speak Out

*Speak Out has moved online, where it is quicker and easier to share your ideas and converse with others. Go to [www.newszap.com](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!*

### Town Hall meeting

- Regarding grant writers, why doesn't the county hire them on a contract basis where they get a percentage of any NEW grants they research, write, obtain and maintain? If they don't get any grants, the county pays nothing. I understand this is how many places handle it and it seems to make sense. It is very expensive to hire a grant writer who is any good, and if you hire one that is not very good then you don't get many grants.

- I think they need to hold more town hall meetings but have it be about the whole budget. The last one was advertised primarily as being about law enforcement and so most of the people there were from the sheriff's office, and I think it sort of intimidated anyone else from making comments about the sheriff's office budget. Maybe it was just the way it was advertised that was the problem. I think people do care about the budget. But they need to hold the meetings in the evenings when folks can actually attend. I can't take off work to go to a hearing during the day. I can't afford to lose the work hours.

- Every business still in operation has had to make cuts. The county is no different. They need to look at the productivity of every employee—and not who they are related to—and lay off the ones who do the least work. That is what every other business had to do in order to stay in business. The county cannot operate at a deficit. They have to balance the budget. The only way to balance the county budget is to spend less and/or raise taxes. Probably they need to do a little of both. They need to cut some expenses and also raise taxes a bit. Neither option is going to be popular, but it has to be done.

### Fire assessment

- The majority of the fire department is in the city limits and they can't respond in time to help. I chose to live in the country but why must I pay for something I get no benefit from?

### County faces \$4 million budget deficit

- Not all citizens affected by the current issues are able to attend the BOCC meetings. This is not for lack of sincere concern and it is unfair to tag them as such. Those who have attended these meetings might better serve the residents of Okeechobee with less ugly banter and more informative facts. If you want to see change eliminate personal emotion with actual voting records of those in office. These are elected officials, use your voice to provide the voters the knowledge you have attained by your attendance which is appreciated.

- The county has to balance the budget. The only way is to raise taxes. I think we should levy all of the sales tax that is allowed by law because everyone pays sales tax. That is a more fair way to raise money than the property taxes. Thanks to the homestead exemptions, there are people who don't pay any property tax or only pay very little. Yet these people certainly use the services the property taxes fund.

### Flooding

- Why is it every time we have an amount of rainfall over 1 or 2 inches the parking lot at the shopping center floods? I have never seen so much water that does not seem to drain anywhere.

- I believe it is DOT that you can thank. When that shopping center was built, 441 was a two lane road with deep ditches on each side. When it was 4-laned the ditches were covered up and now the water stands in the parking lot.

- The county planning department needs to drive around the county and see where the flooding is and then do some investigations. In some cases, places are flooded because a property owner put in a lot of fill dirt to stop the flow of water, and back up the water on his neighbor, which is illegal.

### It takes a village

- The recent stories in the news about small children being abused and neglected, and the stories about juvenile sex offenders reinforce the idea that it takes everyone to keep children safe. If you suspect abuse, report it. Don't look the other way. Don't assume someone else will report it. Children are being hurt every day because no one will step up and report what they see and hear.

## Letters to the Editor

### Sewing Camp a success

From June 14-25, a group of girls and instructors including instructors, Reba Folsom and Judy Watts worked with students, Maddie, Rebekah Hall, Natalie Alt, Josie Lopez, Thania Liberto, Julia Aguirre, Rachael Galvan and Shelevah Barber. Also, instructors Patricia E. Brown, Martha Scott, and Christina Smiley met at My Aunt's Closet from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. to learn how to sew. Four of the girls, Shelevah Barber, Rebekah Hall, Kimberly Mullins and Christina Smiley have participated in Sewing Camp for three years. So, this year, they were taught how to adjust, lay out and cut a pattern. They all did a fabulous job! Not only completing their project on time but with time to spare and are now working on a community project. The girls are making lap quilts to give to the Okeechobee Health Care Center for their patients.

Our beginners, Natalie Alt, Julia Aguirre, Rachael Galvan, Thania Lopez and Josie Lopez caught on so fast that we had a hard time keeping enough projects going to keep them busy. They started by learning how to hand sew. They decorated a tote bag with buttons, bows and beads. They did so well that we taught them how to use the sewing machines and they cut and sewed a large pillow that says, "Friends come in all sizes." Their next project was a "Pillowcase dress."

### Bloodmobile visits planned

To donate blood is to help save lives. This month the Okeechobee community celebrated our country's birth, 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:

Friday, July 16 - Seacoast Bank on Hwy. 441 South, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and donors will receive a free T-shirt, a food coupon to a local restaurant and an ice cream sundae!

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.

They had to first make the pillowcase and then turn it into a dress. They finished all three projects and are now meeting with us on Wednesdays to work on the lap quilts for the O.H.C.C.

We instructors, Reba Folsom, Patricia Brown, Martha Scott and Judy Watts had a great time with these girls. We laughed and learned at the same time. We took pride in our students as they so willingly and eagerly learned new skills.

We hope to hold the "Sewing Camp" again next year, after school is out. So, if you are interested, call "The Closet" at 863-634-2306 and get on the list to be called for the time and date for next year.

Thank you,  
**Reba Folsom, Patricia Brown,  
Martha Scott and Judy Watts**  
Instructors of Okeechobee Sewing Camp

## Okeechobee Forecast

**Today:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a high near 91. Calm wind becoming east around 5 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.

**Tonight:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 11 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 74. East southeast wind around 5 mph.

### Extended Forecast

**Thursday:** A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a high near 91. Southeast wind around 5 mph.

**Thursday night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 10 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 74. East wind around 5 mph.

**Friday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 90. East southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Friday night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 74. East wind around 5 mph.

## Lotteries

**Florida Lottery** — Here are the numbers selected Monday in the Florida Lottery: **Cash 3:** 6-8-8; **Play 4:** 7-8-7-0; **Fantasy 5:** 4-9-10-12-25; **Mega Money:** 2-7-10-29 MB 9; **Florida Lotto:** 11-22-39-40-48-49 X 3; **Powerball:** 20-21-27-28-56 PB 4 x4. Numbers drawn Tuesday, **Cash 3:** 5-8-5; **Play 4:** 1-2-7-3.

# OKEECHOBEE NEWS

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### Our Purpose...

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

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

### MEMBER



# FWC teaches children how to fish at summer camps

"As I See It"

By FWC Chairman Rodney Barreto

## Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

The children of this state are the future of hunting and fishing. They are the ones who will become the next generation of sportsmen and continue the traditions we enjoy today.

To make sure these kids are introduced to fishing, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is holding summer fishing camps that will teach students how to be self-sufficient fishermen.

During these camps, the children go

through a series of biology lessons that include the scientific procedures of fish dissection, how to determine the age of fish as well as scaling, skinning and filleting their catch. They learn fish facts that include fish identification, distinguishing characteristics, habitats, feeding preferences and bag limits.

Rod and reel assembly, cane pole use, tackle types, knot-tying, bait selections for specific species of fish, and catch-and-release techniques round out the fishing lessons. The students also receive boating safety information and get a tackle box of their own, which they use when they are taught how to fish from the bank and a boat.

The FWC surveys each camper before and after the program. All parents have agreed to have their child participate in this

study, which includes revisiting the child throughout the year as part of efforts to document again that children who go through this program have increased self-esteem and make better grades in school.

One thing I want to emphasize here is that hunters and anglers helped pay for these fishing camps when they purchased their fishing and hunting licenses. Everyone who purchases a license has the opportunity to donate for the purpose of developing youth programs.

I am very proud of our dedicated staff who are making this happen, but the credit belongs to all the hunters and anglers who contributed. They are investing in the future of wildlife and fisheries conservation.

Unfortunately, many people don't know

about this program. I've spoken to people who admitted they declined to donate because they didn't believe the money would be spent on youth programs. Folks agree that if they had known programs like ours would receive the money, they would have given.

These donated dollars are going to good use. Eight camps were held in June. Here are the dates and locations of the remaining camps:

- July 19-23 and July 26-30 – Beau Turner Youth Conservation Center (BTYCC) in Monticello.

- July 26-30 – Oldsmar, City of Oldsmar Parks and Recreation.

- July 26-30 and Aug. 9-13 – Ocala/Horse-shoe Lake, Marion County Parks & Recreation.

There are spots available for campers at the BTYCC camps. The Oldsmar and Ocala camps have been filled.

For the \$200 registration fee, kids between 9 and 15 years old get a week at the day camp, a rod and reel and a tackle box loaded with the things they'll need to get started. To sign your child up for one of the camp sessions, call Rae Waddell at 850-933-4322.

To help support the camps, just say "yes" when a license vendor asks if you'd like to donate \$5 to the FWC's youth education programs.

Let's make sure that our future fishermen get the chance to learn their craft.

## Scholarships awarded to OHS seniors



Special to the Okeechobee News

Daniel Fennell presented Deanna Davis with the American Legion Post 64/ROTC Scholarship on OHS Scholarship Night 2010 held May 20 at the OHS Lecture Hall.



Special to the Okeechobee News

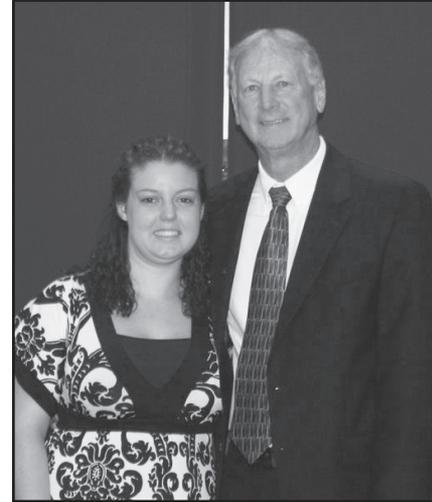
On May 20, 205 seniors received scholarships at Okeechobee High School. Local scholarships received totalled \$748,013. Daniel Fennell presented Laura Fox, Kenny Murphy, Tesa Warthen and Jeshua Power with the American Legion Post 64 Scholarship on OHS Scholarship Night 2010 held May 20 at the OHS Lecture Hall.



Marilyn Buxton and Matthew Buxton presented Sarah Murrow with the Buxton-Seawinds Funeral Home Scholarship on OHS Scholarship Night 2010 held May 20 at the OHS Lecture Hall.



Lonnie Kirsch presented Samantha Rexroad with the Delta Kappa Gamma Scholarship on OHS Scholarship Night 2010 held May 20 at the OHS Lecture Hall.



Bill Black presented Jackie Jones with the Demarius Hazellief Memorial Scholarship on OHS Scholarship Night 2010 held May 20 at the OHS Lecture Hall.



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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).

### Royce D. Upthegrove, 85

FORT MEADE — Royce D. Upthegrove, 85, of Fort Meade, passed away on Sunday, July 11, 2010, at his daughters residence in Bartow.

Born in Okeechobee, on Dec. 9, 1924, he resided in Fort Meade

and Okeechobee both before becoming a permanent resident of Fort Meade in 1974. He worked as a Drag Line Operator in the Construction Industry. Royce served in the United States Marine Corp for Seven years and was a WWII and Korean War Veteran. He also attended the New Beginnings Church in Fort Meade.

Royce was preceded in death by his parents, Harley and Murray Upthegrove; brother, Gordon Upthegrove; and a sister, Doris Upthegrove.

He is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Martha Lee Upthegrove of Fort Meade; six children; son, Robert Upthegrove and wife Joyce of Plant City; son, Royce Jr. "Tiny" Upthegrove and wife Deanna "Dee Dee" of Fort Meade; daughter, Roxanne Upthegrove of Bartow; son, Rocky Upthegrove and wife Linda of Bartow; son, Danny Upthegrove of Lake Wales; and son, Reese Upthegrove and wife Wendy of Bartow; one sister, Wanda D'Agostina of Atlanta, Ga.; also 17 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

The visitation will be held Wednesday July 14, 2010, from 6 to 8 p.m. at McLean Funeral Home, 306 East Broadway, Fort Meade, FL 33841. Funeral services will take place on Thursday at 10 a.m. at the New Beginning Church, 3920 Hwy 98, East Fort Meade, FL 33841. The committal service with military honors will follow at 2:30 p.m. at Florida National Cemetery, 6502 S.W. 102nd Ave., Bushnell, FL 33513.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Disabled American Veterans 303 South Veterans Ave. Lakeland, FL 33815. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.mcleanfuneralhome.net](http://www.mcleanfuneralhome.net).

### James 'Jim' Walter Elder, 66

OKEECHOBEE — James "Jim" Walter Elder, age 66, of Okeechobee, passed away Friday, July 9, 2010, in Raulerson Hospital.

Jim was born March 8, 1944, in Lynchburg, Va., to Lewis and Mary Elder.

He was preceded in death by three brothers, Charles, Allen and Jesse; two sisters, Alice and Barbara. He is survived by his son, Shane and special daughter-in-law, Casey. In addition he is survived by brothers, Lewis (Vadie), Steve, Mike (Lynn); two sisters, Mary Atkins (Gary) and Nancy Wilcox (Buddy). He leaves behind a host of nieces, nephews and families who will always cherish memories of their "Uncle Jim."

The family would also like to recognize and thank Jim's special friend and loving companion, Nancy Phelps and his good buddy, Bobby Gibson.

Jim loved singing and entertaining and touched many people with his songs, wit, and his compassion. The final curtain call closed for Jim on earth. His next booking is singing with the angels the show will go on.

A celebration of life will be held for Jim in Okeechobee and Lynchburg, Va.

The celebration of life memorial in Okeechobee will be held on Sunday, July 18, 2010, at 2 p.m. in the Shrine Club, Okeechobee.

All arrangements are entrusted to the loving care of the Buxton Funeral Home and Crematory, 110 NE 5th Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972. On-line condolences may be made at [www.buxtonfuneralhome.com](http://www.buxtonfuneralhome.com).

### Kathleen C. Roseberry, 87

OKEECHOBEE — Kathleen C. Roseberry, age 87, died July 7, 2010, at her residence.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Elbert O. Roseberry; son, Dale Roseberry; parents, Troy and Sarah Conn; sister, Dorothy Harris; brothers, Donald Conn, Von Ray Conn, and Ralph Conn; and grandsons, Christopher Luke and Ronald G. Luke, Jr.

She is survived by her son, Donald Roseberry; stepson, Ronald (Patricia) Luke, all of Okeechobee; and sisters, Joyce Meador of California, and Pauline Lapoltshamer of Lewiston, Idaho.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, July 17, 2010, at 3 p.m. at Ft. Drum Community Church with Pastor Fred Hodges officiating.

All arrangements are under the care and direction of Matthew and Paul Buxton of Buxton-Seawinds Funeral Home, 4550 Hwy. 441 N., Okeechobee, Florida, (863)357-7283.

Sign guestbooks at  
<http://www.legacy.com>

## Community Events

### Cypress Hut invites members to meetings tonight

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

### Hospice to host Special Yard Sale

Hospice of Okeechobee (411 SE Fourth Street) will hold a Gigantic Yard Sale on Thursday, **July 15** and Friday, **July 16**, from 8 a.m. until noon. 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.

### Spaghetti Dinner and Karaoke

Okeechobee Moose Lodge 1753, 159 N.W. 36th St. will be serving a spaghetti dinner on Thursday **July 15**, at 6 p.m. Karaoke starts at 7 p.m. Members and guests are welcome. The event is sponsored by the sports committee.

### American Legion holds Karaoke

The American Legion Post 64 will have karaoke with Wayne Eubanks on Friday, **July 16** from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. The public is welcome. Call 863-763-2950 for details.

### Airboaters open house

Florida Airboat Association's Airboaters Appreciation Open House is set for July 16-18 in Okeechobee. On July 16, there will be a manufacturer's summit and cracker style gathering at Pier II Resort. Saturday, July 17, the FAA Airboater Appreciation Awards, FFA's Curry Island Unity Rally will take place at Harney Pond Canal in Glades County at 11 a.m. Sunday morning FAA will host a President's Breakfast Meeting for Airboater Unity and Fellowship for all involved in the airboating business.

### FAA to host President's breakfast for Airboaters

Airboaters Appreciation open house set for **July 16-18**, in Okeechobee. Sunday morning FAA will host a President's breakfast meeting for Airboater Unity and Fellowship for all involved in the airboating business.

### Eagles hold steak night

The Fraternal Order of Eagles, 4137, located at 9985 Hwy. 441 N. will hold a steak night beginning at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, **July 16**. Dinner includes steak, baked potato or sweet potato, salad and dessert. Live entertainment, "Wesley James" from 7-11 p.m. For further information, call 863-763-2552.



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# Cowboys for Christ meets tomorrow night

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

**Cowboys for Christ of Basinger** will meet at the Basinger Civic Center on U.S. 98 N. on Thursday evening **July 15**. A potluck meal will be served at 6 p.m. followed by a service at 7 p.m., led by Brother Charlie Watts of Venus. For more information call Doyle McDuffie at 863-763-2285.

**Peace Lutheran Church**, 750 N.W. 23rd Lane, will celebrate our nation's independence and our freedom to worship our Lord with a barbecue and pool party on **July 15** from 5:30 to 8 p.m. They will have dinner and devotion at a pavilion by the wooden jungle at the county sport complex. You are invited to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided. Tuesday night Bible study is held in the conference room at 6:30. The schedule for youth ministry at Peace Lutheran has changed. Activities begin on Monday



## Places of Worship

nights at 6 p.m. and will include group activities, snacks and Bible study. Activities are planned for middle school and high school youth. Parent pick up time is 8 p.m.

## American Cancer Society seeks volunteers

The American Cancer Society is recruiting volunteers interested in making a difference in the fight against cancer.

Volunteers with the American Cancer Society's Florida Division participate in programs that support research funding, educate the community, deliver services to patients and advocate for policies that help defeat cancer.

The American Cancer Society's Martin-Okeechobee Unit is in immediate need of volunteers willing to:

- Answer telephones, perform light office work and assist cancer patients in our Resource Boutique at office located at 217 S.W. Park Street, Okeechobee.
- Drive patients to and from cancer treatments and help with coordination of rides.

- Work with health care providers to promote the American Cancer Society's patient programs and services (Preferable sales background).

- Identify community resources to help patients through their cancer journey.

- Help with recruiting volunteers for ACS programs.

To get involved, call Tracy Henkes at the American Cancer Society at 772-287-7467, ext. 115.

ABOUT THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY: We save lives and create more birthdays by helping you stay well, helping you get well, by finding cures and by fighting back. To learn more about us or to get help, call us any time, day or night, at 1-800-227-2345 or visit cancer.org.

**Believers Fellowship**, 300 S.W. Sixth Ave., will host Vacation Bible School through **July 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.

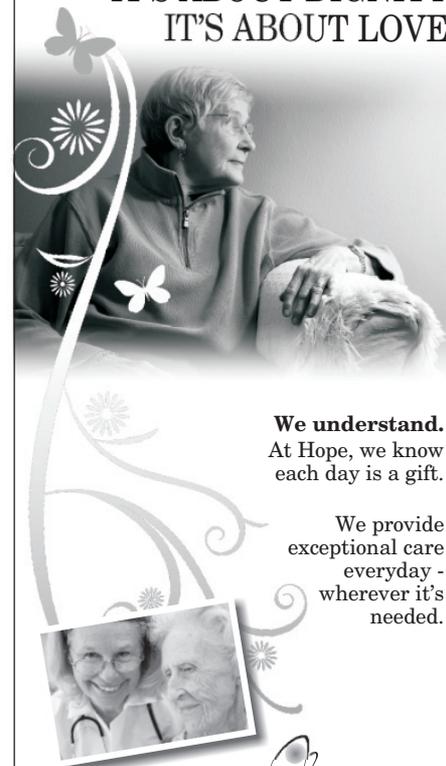
**First Baptist Church**, 401 S.W. Fourth St., will sponsor "Saddle Ridge Ranch" Vacation Bible School through **July 16** in the mornings from 8:30 to noon for children from kindergarten through fifth grade.

**Everglades Baptist Church** and **Treasure Island Baptist Church** are jointly sponsoring Vacation Bible School **July 26 through 30** for children 3 years old through recent high school graduates. The theme is "The Egypt File." It will be held at Treasure Island, 4209 U.S. 441 S.E., each evening from 6 to 8:30 p.m. You can register online at [www.answersvbs.com/vbs/Everglades-BaptistChurch](http://www.answersvbs.com/vbs/Everglades-BaptistChurch). Registration will also open at 5:15 p.m. on July 26. Call 863-801-1414 for more information.

**Faith Alive Fellowship** will be having Vacation Bible School **July 26 through 30**, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each day. The theme is "High Seas Adventure." A snack and lunch will be provided. For more information call Jennifer at 863-634-2048.

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. The deadline to receive information to appear in Wednesday's column is 5 p.m. the Monday before.

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## FHREDI meeting date set

A public meeting of the Board of Directors for Florida's Heartland Rural Economic Development Initiative, Inc. and Florida's Freshwater Frontier Inc. is set for Monday, July 19, at 10 a.m.

The meeting will be held at Heartland Education Consortium, 1096 U.S. Highway 27 North, Lake Placid.

For more information, please call 863-531-0444.

FHREDI/FFF and other related board issues.

All interested persons are invited to attend. One or more county commissioners may be present at the meeting. For more information, contact Lynn Topel at 863-385-4900.

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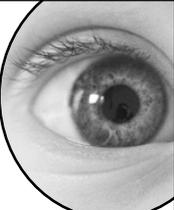


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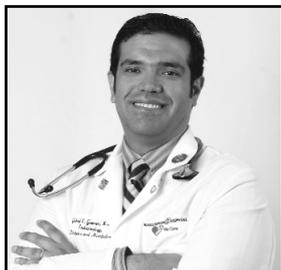


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# It's a hit! Slow pitch softball is a favorite among adults

Slow pitch softball is among the preferred "things to do" for adults here in Okeechobee. Many generations have played in one or several softball seasons organized by the County's Parks & Recreation Department. Some people play to compete and others simply enjoy the comradery. Still, they will all agree that winning a division championship comes with more than just bragging rights...it also comes with a free t-shirt.



Special to the Okeechobee News/Parks and Rec  
**The wooden bat tournament winners, the Cobras include team members, (in the back from left to right) Travis Conrad, Tony Lamb, Howard Harrison, Jason Lamb, Rodney Arnold and Billy Brady. In the front are team members, Scott Kuipers, Donnie McWhorter, Kevin Barbough, John Mericle, Travis Bough, and Josh Campbell. Not shown: Scott Deloney, Brett Boswell and Frank Coker.**

For the past two seasons, the adult softball league has seen a decline in the number of registered teams. Like any business that has been around a long time, trying something different is one way to spark interest. This summer, the Recreation Dept. hosted a wooden bat tournament to raise funds for field improvements. Although wooden bats aren't exactly a novel thing, playing an entire game with them can be considered uncommon these days. For the five teams that stepped up to the plate, it wasn't an easy run. After being rained out three days in a row, teams were finally able to play ball.

because it made the game even. On Thursday, July 8, Chobee Outlaws, Berto's Back Bumpers and Cobras entered a playoff series to break a 3-way tie. Cobras showed that they possessed the skill to score points and win games the old fashioned way. They beat Berto's Back Bumpers 12-6, and won 11-10 against Chobee Outlaws to be named champions of Okeechobee's first wooden bat tournament. Although they were bummed to learn they didn't win a t-shirt this time around, Cobras were happy about getting free entry into the next season.

On Tuesday, July 6, players quickly realized they had to adjust their game. Base hitting and tough defense proved to be the ticket. Players said they enjoyed the wooden bats

The upcoming summer softball league will continue with wooden bats for men, women and co-ed. All those interested in putting a team in should call the Recreation Dept. at 863-763-6950. The entry deadline is Friday, July 16.

## GAL program kicks off Kits4Kids for back to school

Guardian's For New Futures (GFNF), the non-profit advocate organization supporting the Guardian ad Litem program on the Treasure Coast has kicked off its second annual school supply program. It is seeking help and support from the public to provide back to school supplies to abused, abandoned and neglected children within the 19th judicial district. The "Kits4Kids" program is designed to provide fresh new school supplies to approximately 1300 children currently within the district, which includes Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin and Okeechobee counties. The GFNF has been working tirelessly to raise enough funds to provide each child with a backpack and supplies required to attend public school. These are children who have been removed from their home and are in the care of a children's home, foster care or a relative.

supply drives within the community; however, those supplies are distributed to children who are a part of organizations and agencies that are not "secret or confidential" to the children's circumstances. Guardian ad Litem children's identities are extremely confidential and often the GAL children are overlooked in agency and organization charity drives. GFNF needs to ensure each child receives what it deserves and needs.

A \$20 donation to "Kits4Kids" provides a full kit with the basic supplies. To sponsor a child or children mail a donation in any amount to Guardians for New Futures, 584 N.W. University Blvd., Suite 600, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986. Or, donate through the website [gfnf4kids.org](http://gfnf4kids.org) pay pal program. For more information, call 772-785-7804. If a business or organization would like to host a "Kits4Kids" drive they may contact [grosi@gfnf4kids.org](mailto:grosi@gfnf4kids.org) for a sponsorship form.

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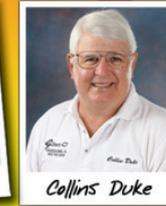
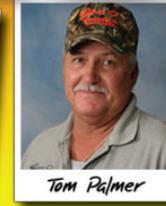
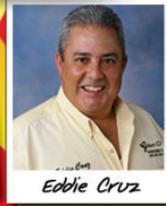
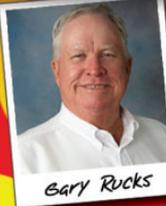
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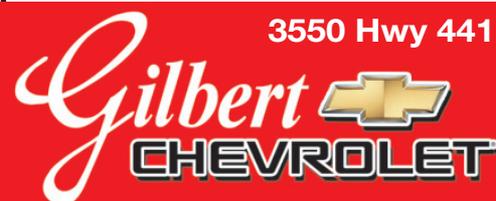
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# In the military ...

## Quesada graduates

Air Force Airman Arnold A. Quesada graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

He is the son of Daphne Quesada of Okeechobee.

Quesada is a 2008 graduate of Okeechobee High School.



Air Force Airman Arnold A. Quesada

# IRSC to offer Auto Service Management classes

Get ready to jump start career options in one of the fastest growing career fields on the Treasure Coast. Those interested in preparing for a career in automotive service management will want to attend a special IRSC information session on Tuesday, July 27, at 6:30 p.m. in room B120 at the Indian River State College Main Campus at 3209 Virginia Avenue in Fort Pierce to find out more about this in-demand career field.

IRSC offers automotive training that builds increasingly sophisticated skills in all aspects of automotive repair, maintenance and service. Students can complete courses in transmissions, steering and suspension, braking, engine overhaul and more. IRSC programs are certified in all eight categories by the National Institute of Automotive

Service Excellence (ASE), and students gain valuable skills for ASE certification.

Students can begin the Automotive Technology program at any time or choose the degree program in Automotive Service Management. Upon completion, graduates are ready for employment in a variety of positions in dealerships, independent repair shops, or fleet maintenance facilities. The Automotive Technology program meets in the Auto Lab at Martin County High School, and students can take advantage of flexible scheduling. The degree program is offered at the IRSC Main Campus.

For more information, call the IRSC Information Call Center toll-free at 1-866-792-4772 or visit [www.irsc.edu](http://www.irsc.edu).

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# Dixie Jr. Boys compete in state tournament

By Charles M. Murphy

Okeechobee News

Okeechobee bowed out of the Jr. Dixie Boys State Tournament in Marianna this weekend after tough losses to Crystal River and Tri-Cities.

The Okeechobee 13-year-old all star team competed in the tournament along with eight other teams from around the state.

Saturday Okeechobee fell to Crystal River 7-4. Sunday Okeechobee fell to Tri-Cities 11-5.

Okeechobee fell behind in both games and late rallies weren't enough to secure a win.

Coach Dudley Kirton said the team faced some tough teams and worked hard and never gave up, "We did alright. We just had one bad inning in both games and got behind and couldn't recover," he said.

"I felt the kids played well other than those bad innings."

Saturday Crystal River scored five runs in the top of the first inning and never trailed. Trenton Hickman hit the first batter and then walked two more. A couple of infield errors behind him also hurt Okeechobee. Casey Pernell added an RBI single and Ryan Johnson added a sacrifice fly.

Okeechobee scored one run in the bottom of the first as Paul Jackson singled,

stole second and scored on a single by Otto Ramirez.

Okeechobee made it 5-2 in the second as Justin Fletcher's single scored Tough Durrance. Crystal River responded with single runs in the top of the third and fourth innings. Ryan Johnson's single scored Dalen Rogers in the third and a catcher's interference call and a throwing error allowed one run in the fourth inning.

Okeechobee scored two runs in the bottom of the sixth as Fletcher delivered another RBI single. Jackson added an RBI hit that scored Arthur Woodruff.

Hickman, Ethan Revels and Jackson pitched for Okeechobee in a losing cause. Derrick Rogers was the winning pitcher as he pitched solid ball into the sixth inning for Crystal River.

Sunday Okeechobee again fell behind, this time by seven runs, as they took on Tri-Cities. Kevin Coleman had a rough first inning on the mound as he allowed three singles and walked two batters after an infield error to start the game. Okeechobee trailed 5-0 before Ethan Revels relieved Coleman. Ryan Danford had a two run single for Tri-Cities. Cody Henson and Matthew Jernigan added RBI singles.

Tri-Cities made it 8-0 in the third as Antoine Johnson scored Danford who had walked. They made it 9-0 in the fifth as Henson walked and scored on another RBI hit by Jernigan.

On the mound Jernigan kept Okeechobee scoreless for the first four innings. He

allowed two out singles to Trenton Hickman and Otto Ramirez in the first and then retired nine straight batters.

Okeechobee reached him for two runs in the fifth as Bailey Kirton singled and scored on a throwing error. Evan Faulk reached on a fielder's choice, stole a base, and scored on a ground out by Logan Choate.

Okeechobee scored another run in the bottom of the sixth inning as Justin Fletcher singled and scored on an infield error. Tri-Cities responded with two runs in the top of the seventh against reliever Michael Daniel. Jernigan and Cade Hall singled and were able to score on some Okeechobee miscues.

Okeechobee scored two runs in the bottom of the seventh as Kirton doubled and scored on an RBI ground out by Choate. Paul Jackson's single scored Durrance for the final run. Okeechobee had two runners on base when Hall retired Fletcher for the final out.

Coach Kirton said Tri-Cities pitcher was very impressive as he kept his hitters off balance and threw into the seventh inning. He said a key problem for Okeechobee was leaving too many runners on base.

"It was good for the kids to play some top teams. A lot of them will play fall ball this year and I think they'll improve," he added.

Okeechobee Assistant Coaches were Don Cleghorn and Chris Hickman. Art Woodruff won the homerun hitting contest on Friday night for Okeechobee and earned a special wooden bat.

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A legitimate role for the press is that of "the public's watchdog." Most citizens can't spend the time necessary to personally observe their public officials at work, or to determine how well public institutions are carrying out their public mission.

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## Gordie Peer programs held at the library another week

Gordie Peer will be available Saturday, July 17, from 11:30 to 4 p.m. to show film, rodeo and ranching photos from his albums and answer questions. His programs begin at 5 p.m. at the library: Tuesday, July 20-The Origin of the Cowboy; Wednesday, July 21- Guns of a Bygone Era; Thursday, July 22, The Cowboy and his Rope; Friday, July 23-The Bull Whip. These programs are free and open to the public. For more information call the library at 863-783-3536. Showtime is at 5 p.m. Come help celebrate the American Cowboy culminating in the National Day of the American Cowboy on Saturday, July 24, at the Agri-Civic Center, 4601 Highway 710, Okeechobee. Okeechobee County Library, 206 SW 16th Street, Okeechobee. For more information, call 863-763-3536.

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# FCAT

Continued From Page 1

kids actually did on these tests," she added. According to the test scores released last week, only 25 percent of Okeechobee High School's 10th graders scored at grade level in reading.

# SHOOTING

Continued From Page 1

around some apartments on N.E. 13th St. when the shooting occurred around 8:27 a.m.

The 33-year-old victim apparently approached Jackson on the street and after a brief argument Jackson, who is also known as A-low, allegedly pulled a .45 caliber semi-automatic handgun and shot the victim in the upper left arm.

Detective Faulkner said the bullet entered the man's left arm near the axilla and just below the biceps, then exited out the left side of his upper back.

After the shooting, Jackson reportedly ran to a silver Dodge Charger that was being driven by his girlfriend, McNeil. She allegedly drove Jackson away from the scene.

Although a spent .45 caliber shell casing was found, Detective Faulkner said the gun has not been recovered.

The victim was driven to Raulerson Hospital and was later transported by helicopter to Lawnwood Regional Medical Center in Fort Pierce. Detective Faulkner said the man is recovering at an undisclosed location.

While on patrol early Tuesday, Sgt. Hagan saw a Ford F-250 SuperCrew pickup truck accelerate quickly through the traffic light at U.S. 441 S. and S.W. 28th St. He turned around and gave chase but lost the truck in the area of S.W. 24th Ave.

The 2006 truck, registered to Rudolph Hooks of Belle Glade, was later found by OCSO Corporal Paul Ferrell in Oak Lake Villas.

Sgt. Hagan's report stated that three of the

The individual FCAT test scores were mailed out in the past few days and most families should have received them in the mail this week, Ms. Suits added.

The appeal likely means more delays for the district when it comes to adequate yearly progress reports for the federal government and also individual school grades. Ms. Suits said in some of the larger districts in the state scores were reduced significantly.

truck's four doors were standing open and the engine was running. The report added that the ignition had been "punched."

The OCSO sergeant later stopped a maroon-colored Dodge Durango at the intersection of U.S. 441 S. and S.W. 28th St. Sgt. Hagan's report stated that Jackson was a passenger in the SUV and was placed under arrest at that time.

Jackson, who was not armed, was handcuffed and taken to jail without further incident.

Although he is not charged, Detective Faulkner said Jackson "is a person of interest in the stolen vehicle."

The detective said many people came forward with information that helped him identify Jackson as the alleged shooter.

"Many people came forward to get this man off the street," said Detective Faulkner. "I'm very appreciative and pleased with the support of the community in this case, and the courage of those supporters to stand up against the criminal element. The community really stepped forward in this case."

He went on to say that he hopes this support will continue and help law enforcement solve several other violent crimes in the community.

Although Jackson has been arrested, Detective Faulkner said the case is still under investigation.

He went on to praise members of the OCSO road division for their aggressiveness in locating Jackson.

"I'm also very appreciative of their long hours spent putting this case to rest," he added.

If anyone has any information about this or any other case, Detective Faulkner asks that they call him at 863-357-5330.

The Superintendents of Duval, Leon, Miami-Dade, Broward, and Hillsborough county schools sent a letter that outlines the concerns they have. They also asked that school grades be delayed. They also asked that a committee of experts be convened to review the data. The number of students in these districts represent more than 40 percent of the public school populations in Florida.

Florida Department of Education Commissioner Eric Smith will convene a third party to review the accuracy of the data. School officials are very concerned because the FCAT have huge impacts on the amount of funding schools receive from the state and federal government.

NCS Pearson, the firm hired to grade the tests this year, was a month late in the release of the test scores because Pearson's

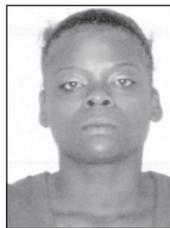
"We don't feel this represents what the kids actually did on these tests ..."

Sharon Suits

database system didn't match up with the files of the state. School officials said that could have impacted the learning gains measured by the test.

Originally school districts were given until noon on Tuesday to have the data submitted by individual schools. The DOE gave the schools another day to have the information emailed to them.

According to a Florida DOE statement, experts at the University of Nebraska have been hired to review the validity of the test scores.



Sheretta McNeil

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# OUA faces a \$400,000 shortfall

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

The Okeechobee Utility Authority is facing a \$400,000 budget shortfall. At the Tuesday, July 13 meeting of the Okeechobee Utility Authority Board of Directors (OUA), board members held their first discussion of the proposed budget for fiscal year 2010/2011.

Executive director John Hayford announced that the way the proposed budget looks right now expenses will exceed revenues by about \$400,000. At this point the budget contains no rate increases. However, that was one of the options discussed to balance the budget. The proposed budget includes a 1.5 percent merit raise for employees and the employee health insurance cap is raised from \$502.12 to \$525.00.

Several options were discussed to cut the deficit. One was to eliminate odor control chemicals in the wastewater collection system. That would save about \$75,000. However, Mr. Hayford cautioned that such a move would result in customer complaints and over time the odor producing gas generated would corrode OUA equipment. Eliminating the proposed pay increase would save around \$45,000. Eliminating the purchase of a truck would save about \$35,000.

## OUA agrees to restore buffer

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

At their meeting on Tuesday, July 13 the Okeechobee Utility Authority (OUA) was occupied with two items involving improvements to property.

Glades Electric recently put in a powerline on the OUA wastewater treatment facility property on Cemetery Road. The powerline is parallel to Cemetery Road. Resident of R Bar Estates, were upset because Glades Electric cut down trees they believed were planted as part of the permit requirements when the plant was built to buffer their subdivision from the treatment plant. The property belongs to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and is leased to OUA. Glades Electric received the easement for the powerline from DEP.

Bob Riedle and Dale Barrett, two R Bar Estates residents, filed a complaint against DEP stating that the vegetative barrier was illegally removed and asked that the powerline be moved and the original buffer replaced.

The reply from DEP said in effect that there were no violations of the permit requirements and they were not required to replace the buffer.

"We don't have a horse in this race," stated board member Tommy Hoover.

"We do own the land. We did not grant an easement to Glades," asserted John Hayford, OUA's executive director. However, he stated the OUA could enact a "good neighbor policy" and restore the vegetation.

Glades Electric agreed to pay \$8,000 to replace the vegetation. The OUA board voted to take that amount and approved spending an amount not to exceed \$8,500 to revegetate the area. However, their revegetation

Furloughs and layoffs are also options. A four-hour furlough program would save around \$300,000. A six-hour furlough would generate approximately \$450,000 in savings while an eight-hour furlough generates approximately \$600,000 in savings. The normal hours of operation would not be effected. Individual furloughs would be spread throughout the week. Each position eliminated would save approximately \$40,000.

"I don't think either one is a consideration," board member Tommy Hoover said of the proposed salary and insurance benefit increases. He said the two combined would be more than a 1.5 percent increase in benefits to employees. He felt the budget should be balanced without those increases.

"One of the last things we would like to look at is anything that affects employees' pay," asserted Mr. Hayford.

"We have looked at several rate increases from zero to 8 percent," he added.

For the current budget year rates were increased 6 percent. However, that 6 percent has been held back to apply to future debt services to cover the shortfall in future years from the failure of developers to keep their original developers' agreements. That money has not been applied to operating

will be between the power line and plant. What the R Bar Estates residents wanted was the power line moved and the original vegetative buffer restored.

Mr. Barrett said he had yet seen the DEP response and had not yet decided on any further action.

The other item involving real estate was for information only but could have far reaching effects. It concerns the 100 acres of the proposed Northshore Village subdivision that Waste Management is proposing to buy from developer Stephen E. Myers, Sr. Waste Management would then present the land to the county to satisfy a contract requirement. That 100 acres is encumbered with a prorated portion of the developer's agreement that covers the entire subdivision.

Board members were supplied a copy of a letter from Mr. Hayford to Okeechobee Landfill Inc., a subsidiary of Waste Management, concerning the property. The letter states that "In the event of a conveyance of the 100 acres to a third party the prorated sums allocable to the 100 acre parcel, which will be payable as part of the tax bill for the 100 acre parcel will be as follows." Then letter goes on state that on each annual property tax bill from 2010 to 2019 \$22,042 will be due as per the developers agreement.

The entire Northshore Village project is allocated a certain number of equivalent residential sewer connections (ERCs) that can be used anywhere on the property at the discretion of the developer. Therefore, even though a third party might pay the \$22,042 a year there is no agreement to provide any ERCs to that particular 100 acres. The county has not yet made a final decision on whether or not to accept the property.

expenses. Mr. Hayford stated that that money could be used to help balance next year's budget. However, that would make meeting debt service payments even harder in the future.

"I think we should endeavor to balance the budget by cutting expenses," stated Devin Maxwell. "Over the long term we need to reduce operating expenses," he added. For example he mentioned that temporary savings could be realized by delaying the purchase of a truck. However, a truck would eventually have to be purchased when it no longer became cost efficient to operate the old one. He suggested not filling vacant positions.

Mr. Hayford stated that several employees were close to retirement and suggested an early retirement program and leaving those positions vacant.

Mr. Hoover suggested that pay cuts might result in more savings to the utility than furloughs.

No action was taken and there will probably be several more discussions before the budget is adopted. The next scheduled discussion is a public meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 28 at 10 a.m. at the OUA building, 100 S.W. Fifth Avenue.

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).

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## Announcements

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

For more listings,  
go to  
www.newszap.com

## Lost

**Lost Dogs** - 4yr old chocolate lab and 8 month old yellow lab ran away together last seen in R Bar Estates on 7/02 please call Bret 863-532-9423

## Garage/ Yard Sales

**OKEECHOBEE** - 2802 SE 18TH TERRACE, 7/15-7/16, 8-5. BDRM, LVG RM, DINING ROOM FURN, ALL KITCHENWARE, SMALL APPLIANCES, LINENS, TABLES, LAMPS, DRESSERS, DECORATIONS, GAMES, SMALL TOOLS, RIDING MOWER, TROLLING MOTOR, PADDLE BOAT, MUCH MORE.



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

## Employment Medical

**LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE** needed to work in a high paced, full service clinic. Please apply at: Workforce Solutions, 209 SW Park Street. 863 462-5350

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

## Financial

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## 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.

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



## Services

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## Excavation

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

## Top Soil

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

## Merchandise

For more listings,  
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## Computer/ Supplies

**DELL OPTIPLEX P4-2.8, 40GB, 512MB INCL. 17" FLATSCREEN** - Windows XP PROFESSIONAL (Up-to-date & Genuine). McAfee Anti-virus Enterprise Virus scan (Perceptual). Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook (Office 2007). Optimized & tweaked for faster performance \$160.00. (954)540-1546

## Miscellaneous

**Guardian Generator** - Ultra source 15000 watt 22500 surge, elec. start can be comm. or resid. used 15 min \$1,700 OBO 863-763-0017 or 561-723-4659

## Wanted To Buy

**3 Bedroom 2 Bath on Water** - We are looking to purchase with owner financing a 3/2 on water in Okeechobee. We are looking for spacious open rooms with screened room on water. Would prefer semi-furnished but will consider all. (813)434-6113 or (863)634-9221



## Agriculture

For more listings,  
go to  
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## Seeds/Plants/ Flowers

**Fruit Plant Sale** - Blueberries, Mammoth Sunflowers \$9.90-\$55 ea. Apples, Fig, Cashews, Jackfruit, Loquat, Plum, Olives, Grapes, Peaches, Sapotes, Guavas, Barbados Cherries, Persimmon, Blackberries, Mamey, Sugar Apples, Pomegranate, Avocado, Mango-We Deliver Lic# 48006674. (863)673-7280



## Rentals

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## Apartments

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

**Efficiency apt,** TCI on water. Completely furnished, includes utilities and cable. \$600 mo, \$300 security. No pets. (863)697-3351

**Apartments**

**IN TOWN** - 2/2 very clean, w/d, lawn maint included, \$800 + \$300 sec. (863) 634-3572

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

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

**Condos/Townhouses Rent**

**KINGS BAY** Nice Twnhs. 2/1, Tiled floors. Includes Water. Community Pool & Tennis Court. \$700 mo. + sec. 863-697-6428

**KEE** - 1 br, furnished, lease available for 12 mos. 1st, last & sec. (407)448-2495

**Summer Special** 1/2 mo. rent free 2bd/1ba call 863-634-8331

**Houses - Rent**

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

**FOR RENT** 938 NW 3rd St. 3 bedroom/2 baths Nice and Clean CBS Home, Fenced Backyard, Screened Porch, Large Kitchen \$850.00 Monthly Call 863-610-1980

**FT. DRUM** - small 1 BR, 1 BA House on 4 acres. Ideal for single/couple, Pets welcome. \$600 mo. + sec. dep. (912)925-2147, (912)224-4658 or (734)637-2697

Get a quick response to any item you may be selling with a classified ad.

**Kings Bay** 2000 CBS Home 2/2/1, W/D, Lawn maint., Pool, Tennis \$900 mo. 1st + \$900 Sec. Call 863-801-9163

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

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

**RIM-CANAL:** Modern 3 BR, 2.5 BA. 2 Living rooms. Rooms that are great for in-laws or guest room. 1 car garage. Rent negotiable. (772)359-1640

**Houses - Rent**

**REMODELED HOME** 3BR, 1BA, Laminat 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**

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

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

**Mobile Home Rent**

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

**Mobile/Florida Room** on water, gracious park, lot rent \$250.00 a/c good call for more info 863-763-8761

**RENT-3BD/2BA** unfurn. D.W.M.H Rent for \$750mo. 1st + sec. \$400 No pets call 863-610-1344

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

**Mobile Home Sale**

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

**FOR SALE** 3 Bedroom/2 Bath Mobile Home On 1 Acre. New custom Kitchen and Bath. New Carpet and Vinyl wood floors. Large trees and fenced backyard. Totally Remodeled Only Asking: \$69,900 863-610-1980

**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

**Mobile Home Sale**

**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

**Recreation** For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

**Boats**

**Big O Bass Boat; 20' 1"** 175Johnson HP, 101 lb thrust Minn Kota TM; 36V system w/3 batteries; on board charger; jack plate trim, tabs, 2 LCR's aluminum dual axle trailer w/fiberglass fenders, mag wheels superior cond. garage kept, 1 owner all service records purch.new from Big O Boats 12-03 call 863-946-1625 (Lakeport)\$14,900.00

**RV Space Rent**

**RV rental-1bd/1ba** everything included except electricity \$400 mo. located in Buckhead Ridge call between 8am and 7pm 863-261-6381

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

**Automobiles**

**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

**Golf Carts**

**For Sale- Club Car Gas** with cover runs good. \$900 obo. call 863-467-9354

**Pickup Trucks**

**1998 FORD RANGER XLT** - 27,600 original miles, 4-cylinder, std 5-speed, cold air conditioning, alloy wheels, one owner, air bags, tinted windows \$5,200 (863)610-1276

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

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

**Public Notice**

**Public Notice**

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
A public auction of stored personal property, from **Okeechobee Store-N-Lock**: to be conducted at **4129 Hwy 441 South, Okeechobee, FL** will be held to pay unpaid storage fees (pursuant to Section 83.806, Florida Statutes). Public Auction to be held on **July 24, 2010** beginning at **11:00 am**. The personal property in the following units will be auctioned. All payments must be made in full, CASH ONLY, by the date/time of auction.  
**DYSHONA Y. McDONALD**, Unit #13  
**HARRIETTE DOSSEY**, Unit #118  
**EDUARDO C. TAYLOR SR.**, Unit #140  
**MICHELLE R. DENNIS**, Unit #60  
**MICHELLE M. MITCHUM**, Unit #56  
360207 ON 7/14,21/10

**OKEECHOBEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD**  
**Amendment of Attendance Procedures and Programs Manual**  
In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, notice is hereby given that the Okeechobee County School Board will consider amendment of the Attendance Procedures and Programs Manual at their meeting on Tuesday, August 10, 2010, at 6:00 p.m., in Room 303 of the School Board Administrative Office at 700 S.W. Second Avenue, Okeechobee. Copies of the proposed revisions are available in the School Board Administrative Office, Room 307.  
1. The Attendance Procedures and Programs Manual provides guidance regarding student attendance and truancy procedures.  
2. Revisions include changes to procedures for on-going attendance problems, coding of absences, and other minor editorial changes.  
3. The legal authority for this policy is F.S. 1001.41, 1001.42. Laws implemented are F.S. 39.01(73)(C), 985.03, 1001.43, 1003.21, 1003.23, 1003.24, 1003.26; and State Board of Education Rules 6A-1.044 and 6A-1.09514.  
4. This policy amendment will not affect individuals from an economic standpoint.  
Patricia G. Cooper, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools 359771 ON 7/14/10

**OKEECHOBEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD POLICY**  
In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, notice is hereby given that the Okeechobee County School Board will consider amendment of the School Board policy listed below at their meeting on Tuesday, August 10, 2010, at 6:00 p.m., in Room 303 of the School Board Administrative Office at 700 S.W. Second Avenue, Okeechobee. Copies of the proposed policy amendment are available in the School Board Office located at 700 S.W. 2nd Avenue, Room 307.  
**AMENDMENT OF BOARD POLICY 5.40 - Student Control**  
1. This policy includes the Code of Student Conduct.  
2. Revisions to the Code of Student Conduct include additions and clarifications as determined necessary by the Code of Student Conduct Committee. Revisions are available in the office of the Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services.  
3. The legal authority for this policy is F.S. 1001.41; 1001.42. Laws implemented are F.S. 120.57(1); 1001.43; 1003.04; 1003.21; 1003.31; 1003.32; 1006.08; 1006.09; 1006.10; 1006.13.  
4. This policy amendment will not affect individuals from an economic standpoint.  
Patricia G. Cooper, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools 359397 ON 7/14/10

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
Public Auction will be held at Johns Towing Service storage lot located at 704 Northeast 2nd Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34972 on July 30, 2010, at 9:00 A.M. Pursuant to Florida Statute 713.78 for unpaid towing and storage charges. Year, make, model and VIN are as follows.  
**1997 Kia Sephia** VIN#KNAF1257V5281453  
Terms of sale are cash and no checks will be accepted. Seller reserves the right of final bid. ALL SALES ARE FINAL! NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE! Said automobiles will be sold in "As Is" condition with no guarantee's.  
360208 ON 07/14/10

How fast can your car go? It can go even faster when you sell it in the classifieds.  
Patricia G. Cooper, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools 358488 ON 7/14,16/10

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

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

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

**Okeechobee County School Board Meetings** July 22 and July 29, 2009

The Okeechobee County School Board will meet on July 22, 2010, at 6:00 p.m., to consider advertisement of proposed millage rates and the proposed budget for 2010-11. The School Board will meet on July 29, 2010, at 6:00 p.m., to consider adoption of tentative millage rates and the tentative budget for 2010-11. Both meetings will be in Room 303 of the School Board Administrative Office at 700 S.W. 2nd Avenue, Okeechobee, and are open to the public.

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

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

When you want something sold, advertise in the classifieds.

**Public Notice**

**Public Notice**

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY FLORIDA**  
**GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION**  
**CASE NO: 47-2009-CA-000704**  
NATIONAL CITY BANK SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO HARBOR FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK, PLAINTIFF, VS. JACQUES J. MORISSET, ET AL., DEFENDANT(S).

**NOTICE OF ACTION CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE**

**TO: NYSOLA GRANT**  
whose residence is unknown if he/she/they be living; and if he/she/they be dead, the unknown defendants who may be spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, and all parties claiming an interest by, through, under or against the Defendants, who are not known to be dead or alive, and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described in the mortgage being foreclosed herein.  
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property:  
**LOT 4:**  
**BEING A PARCEL OF LAND LYING IN SECTION 23, TOWNSHIP 36 SOUTH, RANGE 33 EAST, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 23; THENCE BEAR N87°27'19"W, ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 23, BEING ALSO THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF N.W. 96TH STREET, FOR A DISTANCE OF 2236.25 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE BEAR S00°37'55"W FOR A DISTANCE OF 4068.47 FEET TO THE POINT-OF-BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE S00°37'55"W FOR A DISTANCE OF 817.21 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE BEAR S87°27'19"E FOR A DISTANCE OF 2236.25 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE EAST BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID SECTION 23; THENCE BEAR N 00°37'55"E, ALONG SAID EAST BOUNDARY LINE, FOR A DISTANCE OF 817.21 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE BEAR N87°27'19"W, ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 23, BEING ALSO THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE N.W. 96TH STREET, FOR A DISTANCE OF 2236.25 FEET TO THE POINT-OF-BEGINNING OF SAID CENTERLINE OF EASEMENT; THENCE BEAR S00°37'55"W FOR A DISTANCE OF 5109.24 FEET TO THE POINT-OF-TERMINUS OF SAID CENTERLINE OF EASEMENT.**  
TOGETHER WITH AND SUBJECT TO A 70.00 FEET EASEMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF INGRESS AND EGRESS, LYING IN SECTION 23, TOWNSHIP 36 SOUTH, RANGE 33 EAST, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, LYING 35.00 FEET ON EITHER SIDE OF AND PARALLEL WITH THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED CENTERLINE: COMMENCE AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 23; THENCE BEAR N87°27'19"W, ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 23, BEING ALSO THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE N.W. 96TH STREET, FOR A DISTANCE OF 2236.25 FEET TO THE POINT-OF-BEGINNING OF SAID CENTERLINE OF EASEMENT; THENCE BEAR S00°37'55"W FOR A DISTANCE OF 5109.24 FEET TO THE POINT-OF-TERMINUS OF SAID CENTERLINE OF EASEMENT.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to me 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 30th day of June, 2010.  
SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
By: Linda F. Young DEPUTY CLERK  
LAW OFFICES OF DAVID J. STERN ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF 900 SOUTH PINE ISLAND ROAD SUITE 400 PLANTATION, FL 33324-3920 09-94591 NCM  
**NOTICE REGARDING THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990** In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administration no later than seven days prior to the proceeding at 250 NW County Club Drive, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986 or call 1-772-807-4370 within two working days of your receipt of this Summons/Notice to Appear. If you are hearing impaired call 1-800-955-8771. If you are voice impaired call 1-800-9558770, via Florida Relay Service. 359480 ON 7/7,14/10

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA. CIVIL DIVISION**  
**CASE NO. 462010CA000240XXXXXX**  
GREEN TREE SERVICING LLC, Plaintiff, VS. ALEXIS LEVINRAD; et al., Defendants.  
**NOTICE OF ACTION**  
TO: UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF JOHN W. LUNTSFORD, JR. and JOHN W. LUNTSFORD, JR.  
Last Known Address 1303 EAST NEW ORLEANS TAMPA, FL 33603  
**Current Residence is Unknown**  
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following described property in Okeechobee County, Florida:  
LOT 11, BLOCK 25, UNIT NUMBER 2 BASSWOOD INCORPORATED, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE(S) 28, 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 me on SMITH, HIATT & DIAZ, P.A., Plaintiffs attorneys, whose address is PO BOX 11438 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33339-1438, (954) 564-0071, within 30 days from first date of publication  
and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiffs attorneys or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.  
DATED ON June 29, 2010.  
SHARON ROBERTSON As Clerk of the Court  
By: Kathy Arnold As Deputy Clerk

**IN RE: ESTATE OF JOSE BARRERA MARTINEZ** Deceased.  
**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The administration of the estate of JOSE BARRERA MARTINEZ, deceased, whose date of death was April 2, 2010, and whose social security number is NONE, is pending in the Circuit Court for OKEECHOBEE County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 312 Northwest 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida, 34972. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.  
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.  
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.  
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.  
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, 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

Personal Representative: Leonel Barrera-Martinez 946 Belden Street Gonzalez, CA 93926  
Attorney for Personal Representative: Michele Marie Corcione, Esq Attorney for Lionel Barrera-Martinez Florida Bar No. 52025 Ellis, Ged & Bodden, P.A. 7171 North Federal Highway Boca Raton, FL 33487 Telephone: (561) 995-1966 Fax: (561) 228-0914 359413 ON 7/4,11/10

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**Public Notice**

**FAMILY COURT FOR THE STATE OF DELAWARE**  
**NOTICE OF FAMILY COURT ACTION**

**TO: Jeremy Simpkins, Respondent**  
Petitioner, **Jan Denny**, has filed a Custody petition against you in the Family Court of the State of Delaware for New Castle County on May 19, 2010. If you do not file an answer with the Family Court within 20 days after publication of this notice, exclusive of the date of publication, as required by statute, this action will be heard in Family Court without further notice.

**IF YOU WISH TO BE REPRESENTED BY AN ATTORNEY IN THIS MATTER BUT CANNOT AFFORD ONE, YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO HAVE THE COURT APPOINT AN ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT YOU FREE. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE CLERK OF THE COURT AT FAMILY COURT.**

DATE: 6/9/2010  
Jan Denny  
360094 ON 7/14/10

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION**  
**File No. 2010-CP-068**

**IN RE: ESTATE OF JOSE BARRERA MARTINEZ** Deceased.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The administration of the estate of JOSE BARRERA MARTINEZ, deceased, whose date of death was April 2, 2010, and whose social security number is NONE, is pending in the Circuit Court for OKEECHOBEE County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 312 Northwest 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida, 34972. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.  
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.  
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.  
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.  
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, 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

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA... GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION... CASE NO: 47-2009-CA-00527

Public Notice

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property: LOT 22, LESS THE EAST 100 FEET OF BLOCK I, DIXIE RANCH ACRES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 35, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Public Notice

900 SOUTH PINE ISLAND ROAD SUITE 400 PLANTATION, FL 33324-3920 09-73782 CWF... NOTICE REGARDING THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA... CHASE HOME FINANCE LLC, Plaintiff, vs. JONATHAN RILEY, et al, Defendant(s).

Public Notice

HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE... LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: UNKNOWN CURRENT ADDRESS: UNKNOWN

Public Notice

TOGETHER WITH A MOBILE HOME LOCATED THEREON AS A FIXTURE AND APPURTENANCE THERETO BEARING I.D. NOS. 0050(A/B)JTC16431781

Public Notice

dependent Newspapers). WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court on this 1st day of July, 2010.

Public Notice

ceeding at 250 NW Country Club Drive, Fort St. Lucie, FL 34986 or call 1-772-807-4370 within two working days of your receipt of the Summons/Notice to Appear.

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATE-HOLDERS CITIGROUP MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST INC. ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2007-AMC1, PLAINTIFF;

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;

TO: JONATHAN RILEY LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 3295 E STATE ROAD 64, WAUCHULA, FL 33873 CURRENT ADDRESS: UNKNOWN

ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE

LOTT 16, BLOCK 2, BRINDABAN FOREST, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 25, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

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

Florida Default Law Group, P.L. P.O. Box 25018 Tampa, Florida 33622-5018 F10027857

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

Firemen fight shed, brush fires

By Charles M. Murphy Okeechobee News

Firemen spent nearly four hours in Viking as they fought a large brush fire that grew to 15 acres and threatened structures on Sunday.

Paramedic Justin Hazellief said seven firemen and five units from Okeechobee County Fire Rescue and the Division of Forestry were dispatched to the north west corner of Viking around 11:30 a.m. They found a large column of smoke and about 10 acres of brush on fire.

The fire might have been started by all terrain vehicles in the area. There were no injuries reported.

Monday afternoon firemen battled another yard fire that damaged a shed at 5629 N.E. 2nd Street, Lt. Ron Suit reported.

Firemen found an outside storage shed that was being torn down on fire. They used about 100 gallons of water to put out the flames. Firemen were on the scene for approximately 30 minutes. There were no injuries reported.

The cause of this blaze was listed as accidental, Suits said.

Shoe drive asks for gently worn shoes for school kids

American Drilling Services, Inc. will be accepting donations of new or gently used shoes for school aged children in the community. The shoes can be dropped off at American Drilling Services, Inc. located at 405 S.W. Second Street or call Sarah at 863-763-3221 if you need someone to pick them up.

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REAL ESTATE

Vicki Anderson, Lic. RE Broker Cell 634-4106 Anderson REALTY CO.

ATTORNEYS

HOSKINS, TURCO, LLOYD & LLOYD • Auto Accidents • Social Security Disability • Bankruptcy • Veterans' Disability www.HoskinsTurco.com (863) 357-5800

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# Commissioners to meet in renovated chambers

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee County Commissioners might receive dire news in beautiful surroundings tomorrow. They will have their first meeting in the newly renovated courtroom. Courtroom A has been renovated with theater seats, dark wood paneling and marble counters to serve as commission chambers.

In these stately surroundings commissioners will receive a budget update in which county administrator Lyndon Bonner will probably have predictions of a budget shortfall. In connection with the budget discussion the board will set workshop dates to consider proposed millage rates and establish the date for a public hearing on the tentative budget.

There will be some good news, though, as the information technology department unveils the new county web site. The web address will not change, however there will be new features such as updated programming, unlimited e-mail storage and accounts, department by department administrative access, community calendar, and, best of all, cost savings. Once the new system is operational, citizens will be able to watch commission meetings live on their computers. The new website will be avail-

## If you go ...

**What:** Meeting of the Okeechobee County Commission  
**When:** Thursday, July 15, 9 a.m.  
**Where:** Judge William Hendry Courtroom, Okeechobee County Courthouse, 304 N.W. Second St.

able for viewing midnight tomorrow night.

In other news, the board is expected to:

- adopt a resolution proclaiming the week of July 18 - 24 as Probation, Parole, and Community Supervision Week in the county;
- declare certain items of equipment to be surplus;
- appoint one member to the affordable housing committee;
- receive an update on code enforcement cases involving Michael and Cindy Rucker and Tony G. Huet;
- ratify payment to Curran Electric for work performed on the Okeechobee County Jail emergency generator; and
- appoint two commission members, one citizen member and one alternate citizen member to the value adjustment board.

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DEALER LIST PRICE: .... \$32,791  
REBATES & DISCOUNTS: ... \$7,792†  
**\$24,999\***  
AS LOW AS:

Brand New 2010 Chrysler  
**PT CRUISER**



DEALER LIST PRICE: .... \$19,991  
REBATES & DISCOUNTS: ... \$5,992†  
**\$13,999\***  
AS LOW AS:

Brand New 2010 Chrysler  
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DEALER LIST PRICE: .... \$34,176  
REBATES & DISCOUNTS: ... \$6,177†  
**\$27,999\***  
AS LOW AS:

Brand New 2010 Jeep  
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DEALER LIST PRICE: .... \$23,806  
REBATES & DISCOUNTS: ... \$5,207†  
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AS LOW AS:

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Brand New 2010 Jeep  
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DEALER LIST PRICE: .... \$32,486  
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