



OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 102 No. 90

Friday, July 29, 2011

50¢ Plus tax

County considers budget requests ... Page 3



Swimmers go to championships ... Page 12

Brahman football player injured ... Page 12

Lake Levels

10.28 feet

Last Year: 13.93 feet



Pogey's Family Restaurant
1759 S. Parrott Ave.
763-7222

Source: South Florida Water Management District. Depth given in feet above sea level



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

newszap.com
Free Speech Free Ads



Steve Hoskins

YOUR
AUTO ACCIDENT
ATTORNEY

Hosklaw.com

Free appointment
Call 357-5800



Office: 212 S. Parrott, Okeechobee

At the range: Sheriff's office hosts camp



Okeechobee News/Eric Kopp

Gavin Harden (back) and Seth Yeates (front) took their turn kayaking on the small lake at the sheriff's office gun range Thursday, July 28, during the Sheriff's Teen Camp. The week-long camp is sponsored by the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office and the Okeechobee County School District.

Sheriff's office camp is fun, learning event for local teens

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

Despite the 90-degree temperatures, 32 local teens have enjoyed a week learning how to shoot, fish and operate a boat at a teen camp sponsored by the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office.

OCSO Deputy Sergeant Mark Roberts and other members of his school resource officers unit are putting on the camp for teenagers, with the help of many volunteers from other

agencies and the community.

Sgt. Roberts said the week-long camp not only taught teens how to enjoy themselves—and stay safe doing so—but they got to spend quality one-on-one time with adults and cops.

"It gives the kids a chance to work with cops and learn that they're not all bad," he said.

The campers' day gets under way with breakfast at Okeechobee High School. From there, they are bussed to the OCSO gun range

See CAMP — Page 2

Program helps feed the hungry

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Last week community leaders on the Treasure Coast met at Indian River State College in Fort Pierce to develop a comprehensive plan to eliminate hunger in our area.

The Treasure Coast Hunger Free Community Coalition expects the plan to help in efforts to receive grants to help the hungry in Okeechobee and other communities.

Jim Vensel, area representation of the Area Agency on the Aging said Okeechobee received a \$100,000 federal grant last year to help with the hunger problem.

The grant was for food distribution, care giving for seniors and disabled, and mentoring for elementary school children. While volunteer mentors and care givers have been found, food distribution has been the focus in the past 12 months.

"There is a great need in the community," Vensel said, "There are so many people out of work and a lot of people are really hungry."

In Douglas Park some 800 residents are given free meals each month. Meals on wheels provide one meal per day for seniors. Mr. Vensel said many seniors split up that meal eating half of it for lunch, and half for dinner.

Another problem area is the Viking area where Mr. Vensel said there are many families in need. He spoke with business owners that see the poverty and hunger there every day and knows more must be done.

"This job really opened my eyes to how many people are out of work and need help in our community," he said.

Churches in Douglas Park, Fort Drum, and other areas of the county have helped out. The Treasure Coast Food Bank has also

See HUNGRY — Page 8

CAMP

Continued From Page 1

where they stay busy doing a variety of different things until about 4:30 p.m., when they are returned to the high school and their waiting parents.

Before they ever put a gun, or bow and arrow, in their hands the campers first spend time in the classroom where they learn how to handle those weapons safely. Officers from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) are on hand to teach the teens about hunter safety.

While in the classroom, they also learn about water safety and how to operate a boat from members of the OCSO Search & Rescue unit.

And, they also receive their instructions on the day's activities. Even though the campers have fun, they are also cautioned that there will be no "horseplay."

"We go over everything in the classroom to let them know what we're going to do,"



Okeechobee News/Eric Kopp

Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) Deputy Dale Hardy (left) and his son Jacob waited patiently on a tube for OCSO Sergeant Keith Strippling to pull them around the small lake at the sheriff's office gun range with an OCSO Search and Rescue boat. That was just one of the fun events available to local teens this week at the Sheriff's Teen Camp. Deputy Hardy, a school resource officer and certified life guard, rode with the teens when they took their turns circling the lake.



Okeechobee News/Eric Kopp

Fishing was just one of the many activities available to local teens at this week's Sheriff's Teen Camp, held at the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office gun range. And although they weren't always tackle testers, the bream were hungry and gave teens like Zack Mullin plenty of action Thursday, July 28.

said Sgt. Roberts. "We go over every day what we're doing because it can be dangerous."

And, because of the hot weather and sometimes dangerous activities, medical personnel from Okeechobee County/Fire Rescue are on site.

Helping the kids learn how to shoot, and how to safely handle their weapons, were volunteers from the local 4-H Sharpshooters Club. The teens spent time shooting .22 caliber rifles at stationary targets, then moved to a shooting trap with a .20 gauge shotgun.

In between, they spent time learning how

to shoot a compound bow.

While the teens got to spend time outdoors learning new and different things, probably one of the best things about the camp is that it's free.

Sgt. Roberts said the sheriff's office and the Okeechobee County School District make sure the camp is available to local kids.

"The school board takes care of the meals through food services," said Sgt. Roberts. "This year we received a grant from the school board that we used to buy some equipment."



Okeechobee News/Eric Kopp

Justin Denisuk, 13, is taught the proper way to stand while shooting trap Thursday, July 28, by instructor Lori Menendez, who is a member of the 4-H Sharpshooters Club. Ms. Menendez was one of the volunteers helping out at the Sheriff's Teen Camp, held at the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office gun range July 25-29.



Okeechobee News/Eric Kopp

Isa Ortega (far left) removes her ear protection and watches Madison McAllister finish shooting her .22 caliber rifle at stationary targets Thursday, July 28, at the Sheriff's Teen Camp. Teaching the girls marksmanship and gun safety were Brian Bent (second from left) and Detention Deputy Gary Cashwell (kneeling, right). Mr. Bent, a member of the local 4-H Sharpshooters Club, was one of the many volunteers helping at the week-long camp. Deputy Cashwell is a detention deputy at the Okeechobee County Jail.

Philip DeBerard
INJURY ATTORNEY

**Accident Victims...
Call Us First!**

- Tractor Trailer Crashes
- Auto Crashes
- Motorcycle Crashes
- Wrongful Death

FREE Consultation
Se Habla Español

**Phones answered
24 Hours, 7 days-a-week!**

**1120 S. Parrott Avenue
Okeechobee, FL 34974**

467-7100

www.crashinjuries.com

**YOUR ONE STOP SHOP
FOR COOLING**

Emory Walker Company
(863) 763-6742
208 S.W. 5th Avenue
Okeechobee, FL 34974

**Okeechobee's Longest-Established Lennox Dealer
Since 1975**

LENNOX
HOME COMFORT SYSTEMS
Innovation never felt so good.™

Receive up to \$1,300 in Rebates*
with the purchase of a qualifying Lennox® Home Comfort System
AND up to \$500 in Federal Tax Credits**

or
Special Financing through GE Money Bank***

CAC014022

Offer expires 8/26/2011. *Rebate offer is valid only with the purchase of qualifying Lennox® products. **See dealer for details and visit www.energystar.gov for more information. © 2011 Lennox Industries Inc. See your participating Lennox dealer for details. Lennox dealers include independently owned and operated businesses.



WE SELL ENERGY STAR

Commissioners uncertain on funding for youth programs

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

At their budget meeting on Thursday, July 28, Okeechobee County Commissioners discussed at length, requests for funding from private organizations. Commissioners considered requests for funding from 16 private organizations and activities totaling \$332,847. The current budget contains \$343,919 for 15 private organizations and activities.

Commissioner Ray Domer said the justification for some of the funding to private organizations is that the county has always done it and he felt that was not always the best justification. Many of the funds requested are related to the use of the agri-civic center. Mr. Domer suggested three categories of use: events that would use the agri-civic center for free, events that would pay costs and events where the county would want to make a profit.

"We know we have to support the health department," interim county administrator Robbie Chartier said. That organization requested \$173,000, the same as the current budget year. The consensus was to approve that request.

New Horizons, a drug rehabilitation program, received \$45,500 in the current budget. In the proposed budget they are asking for \$50,000. It was suggested by staff that Shared Services, an organization that pro-

vides a variety of social services, be funded at \$7,280, the same amount as last year. That organization requested \$1,413 for the use of the agri-civic center for Shared Services' Health and Safety Expo. Commissioners will make a decision on New Horizons and Shared Services requests at a later date.

Pat Hogue, Okeechobee County extension agent, said he might be able to reduce the requested \$13,475 for the Youth Livestock Show. These funds would go directly to the 4-H club. The current budget contains \$8,122 for the livestock show. In addition \$1,394 for utilities, the same as the current budget, is requested. These funds pay the county's cost for utilities at the Agri-Civic center. Mr. Hogue suggested increasing sales fees to reduce the amount requested from the county. He also gave commissioners a rundown of 4-H Club activities and expenses. The proposed budget contains \$5,000 for 4-H scholarship assistance and \$5,000 in matching funds for 4-H fund raisers. The scholarship funds are used to pay the way of 4-H Club members to travel to out of the area 4-H activities. Those two requests are up from \$4,500 for each in the current budget. At the Thursday meeting, Commissioners expressed several differing opinions and were not agreed on granting these requests.

Commissioners denied a \$1,912 request from Okeechobee Main Street for the National Day of American Cowboy.

However, Commissioners were in favor of the \$2,043 requested by Okeechobee Main Street for the Halloween Celebration at the agri-civic center since they felt it benefited the entire community as well as \$1,238 for use of the agri-civic center for Toys for Tots.

The cattlemen's association requested \$4,068 for the Florida High School Rodeo finals and \$3,124 for a regular high school rodeo. "Those have a direct economic impact back to the county," Mrs. Chartier said of the

high school rodeos. Commissioners agreed and approved the cattlemen's requests.

The board approved \$12,000 for Breakthrough Recovery, a drug rehabilitation program. That organization had requested \$24,000. They also decided to budget \$40,000 for economic development with a determination to be made later as to how these funds will be used.

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

Budget requests from private organizations

	FY 11/12 request	FY 10/11 current
Health Department	\$173,000	\$173,000
New Horizons	\$ 50,000	\$45,500
Shared Services	No official request; budgeted at \$ 7,280	\$7,280
Health and Safety Expo - Ag Center	\$1,413	\$1,413
Okeechobee Main Street	\$ 0	\$6,825
Halloween Party- Ag Center	\$2,043	\$2,043
Day of the Cowboy - Ag Center	\$1,912	\$1,912
Youth Livestock Show	\$13,475	\$8,122
Youth Livestock Show - utility fees	\$1,394	\$1,394
4-H (scholarship assistance)	\$5,000	\$4,500
4-H matching funds for fundraisers	\$5,000	\$4,500
Toys for Tots - Ag Center	\$1,238	\$1,238
High School Rodeo, finals - Ag Center	\$4,068	\$4,068
High School Rodeo, regular - Ag Center	\$3,124	\$3,124
Breakthrough recovery - Drug abuse	\$24,000	\$24,000
Business Development Board	\$40,000	\$54,600
FHREDI & Freshwater Frontier	No official request; budgeted at \$ 9,100	\$9,100

SOURCE: Presentation at July 28 Okeechobee County Budget Meeting

News in brief

Main Street invites Labor Day event participants

Okeechobee Main Street is now taking applications for vendors and parade participants for the 2011 Labor Day Festival in the Parks. The festivities will take place Sept. 3, 4, and 5, with the parade scheduled for 10 a.m. on Sept. 5. Anyone interested in participating, please see Cindy Birdshaw at the Main Street Office, 111 Northeast 2nd St., or call 863-357-6246.

Nar-Anon offers 'Finding hope' program

"Finding Hope," is a Nar-Anon Group program held on Thursday nights. It is a 12-step program for families and friends of a loved one dealing with the disease of addiction. New meeting starting Aug. 4 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at Church of Our Saviour - 300 NW 3rd St., Okeechobee.

Foster parents needed, free classes available

Hibiscus Children's Center Foster Care Program recruits, trains and licenses all the traditional Foster Parents in Okeechobee County. The required 30 hour (MAPP) classes are held one evening a week or on Saturdays and are free. There is a tremendous need for loving and nurturing Foster Parents. For additional information about becoming a Foster Parent or to register for a class please call: 1-800-403-9311 ext. 415.

Brahman Theatre

July 29th - Aug. 4th

MOVIE LISTINGS

For Info, Call 763-7202

THEATRE I: "CAPTAIN AMERICA: FIRST AVENGER"
Fri. 7:00 & 9:00, Sat., Sun., Tues., Wed. & Thurs.
2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00, Mon. 3:00 & 7:00 [PG-13]

THEATRE II: "HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART II 3D"
Fri. 7:00 & 9:00, Sat., Sun., Tues., Wed. & Thurs.
2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00, Mon. 3:00 & 7:00 [PG-13]

THEATRE III: "SMURFS"
Fri., 7:00 & 9:00, Sat., Sun., Tues., Wed. & Thurs.
2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00, Mon. 3:00 & 7:00 [PG]

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2 Tickets: Adults - \$8, Children & Seniors - \$6.50, Matinees - \$6.00
All Other Movie Tickets: Adults - \$6.50 • Children 12 & under - \$5.00 • Senior Citizens - \$5.00 all movies • Matinees - \$4.50

In Loving Memory of Mark Arnold

October 6, 1957 - July 28, 1998

We can never be separated from those we love because God leaves us with memories to hold.

Loved and Missed by
The Arnold Family



GLADES
Electric Cooperative, Inc.

"Neighbors Working for Neighbors"

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Glades Electric Cooperative remains committed to providing our members the highest quality service at the lowest possible rates.

1-800-226-4023 - Okeechobee

1-800-226-4024 - Moore Haven

1-800-226-4025 - Lake Placid

Website: www.gladesec.com

Public Forum/Speak Out

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

National debt

I believe that if the elected officials cannot resolve the budget dilemma by Aug. 2, 2011, they should at the very least place a moratorium on shut off's or late fee charges for ALL Regular Monthly Bills until such time as the checks are issued. (Utilities, water, gas electric, rent, mortgage payments) That would mean that all persons who live month to month, government check to government check will not be penalized because their checks are delayed through no fault of their own. The phones need to ring at the Representatives offices with this request.

The way things look, the debt ceiling will have to be raised, but not to support pet projects, and giveaways. Social security, and care for the elderly must be funded, because they have already paid into the system, and are genuinely entitled to their own savings. After taking care of the necessities, then the federal government needs to look for ways to balance the budget. The federal government works for us, and if we have to live within our means, why do we allow our elected officials to write their own check? All these gov. perks have got to go, congress has health benefits, and retirement packages that are ridiculous, when did the servants begin to get a better retirement deal than their employers? We've let them pull the wool over our eyes for too long, it's time for us to put our collective foot down, and say enough.

It looks like the Teapublicans have retreated into some kind of Save the Rich and Wealthy defense. If the middle class can't pay for it, they want nothing to do with it.

I agree that it will have to be raised (like the other 72 times it was raised) since the money was already spent and we have to take responsibility for the bills we have not yet paid. I also agree that the entitlement programs (SS, Medicare, Medicaid, etc.) should be funded, but there will likely have to be some reform in order to make them sustainable for the long term. What I find interesting is how some people make such

a statement and then lay the blame on the Democrats. The Democrats are the ones who are doing the most to protect the integrity of those programs.

Obama's plan

- Someone explain this to me. We want the economy to grow. We want people to come invest in our country by bringing business/jobs to the U.S. However, we have the second highest tax rate for businesses in the entire WORLD. Please explain to me how hiking taxes are going to help us?

- U.S. taxes are low relative to those in other developed countries. In 2006 U.S. taxes at all levels of government claimed 28 percent of GDP, compared with an average of 36 percent of GDP for the 30 member countries of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

- The "big deal" would end President George W. Bush's tax cuts for individuals earning above \$200,000 and couples earning above \$250,000, beginning in 2013. It also would end special-interest tax breaks for oil and gas companies, hedge funds, private jet owners and others, in exchange for lower income tax rates.

- If a conservative doesn't like guns, he doesn't buy one. If a liberal doesn't like guns, he wants all guns outlawed. If a conservative is a vegetarian, he doesn't eat meat. If a liberal is a vegetarian, he wants all meat products banned for everyone. If a conservative is down-and-out, he thinks about how to better his situation. A liberal wonders who is going to take care of him. If a conservative doesn't like a talk show host, he switches channels. Liberals demand that those they don't like be shut down. If a conservative is a non-believer, he doesn't go to church. A liberal non-believer wants any mention of God and religion silenced. (Unless it's a foreign religion, of course!) If a conservative decides he needs health care, he goes about shopping for it, or may choose a job that provides it. A liberal demands that the rest of us pay for his.

Day of the Cowboy

- I really enjoyed the Day of the Cowboy events on Saturday. It is a shame that more people did not turn out for the cattle drive. I suspect most were scared off by the thunder and lightning. But it did not rain on the cattle drive and we had a nice cool breeze. It was very pleasant weather instead of the terrible heat.

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

To Reach Us

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

Website: www.newszap.com

To Submit News

The Okeechobee News welcomes submissions from its readers. Opinions, calendar items, stories ideas and photographs are welcome. Call (863) 763-3134 to reach our newsroom. Items may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed.

E-Mail: okeenews@newszap.com

To Place A Display Ad

Phone: 863-763-3134
E-Mail: okeeadsales@newszap.com

To Place A Classified Ad

Call 877-353-2424 to place a classified advertisement from home.

Fax: 877-354-2424

E-Mail: classads@newszap.com

Billing Department

E-Mail: bilteam@newszap.com

To Start or Stop A Paper

Phone: (800) 282-8586
E-Mail: readerservices@newszap.com

The Okeechobee News is available three times a week via home delivery and is on sale at rack and store locations throughout Okeechobee County. Call the office to find out if your home is within our present home-distribution boundaries.

Call 800-282-8586 to report a missed newspaper or poor delivery.

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

Okeechobee News USPS 406-160

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

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

Periodicals Postage Paid at Okeechobee, FL 34974

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to

Okeechobee News
Circulation Administration
PO Box 7011 • Dover, DE 19903

Staff

Editor: Katrina Elskan

Circulation Manager: Janet Madray

Publisher: Tom Byrd

Letters to the editor

Day of the Cowboy

Okeechobee Main Street would like to extend a special "Thank-You" to everyone who supported, participated, attended and volunteered for the 2011 National Day of the American Cowboy Event. This two-day event was a huge success, from the cattle drive through the streets of Okeechobee to the Ranch Rodeo and festivities held at the Agri-Civic Center. A crowd of over 3,500 people enjoyed outstanding BBQ, Fair treats, gun-slingers in period costumes, a cowboy "kidnapping" presented by the O.K. Corral Gun Club, and various vendors selling related goods and wares.

OKMS would like to recognize our partner in the event, the Cattlemen's Association, who sponsored the Cattle Drive and Ranch Rodeo. We would also like to recognize the Seminole Tribe of Okeechobee for providing the cattle and wagons used during the Cattle Drive, including a Jail Wagon. Thanks to David Hazellie, president of the Cattlemen's Association, for his assistance and support for this event. BIG congratulations to winner, KISSO Ranch, and to Pete Clemons, who was awarded a 2011 National Cowboy Keeper Award. OKMS would like to extend a huge thanks to our Major Sponsors for this event: Seminole Tribe of Okeechobee, Treasure Coast Dermatology, Seacoast National Bank, Center State Bank, the O.K. Corral Gun Club, Tires Plus, Susan and Pete Clemons, Okeechobee Dodge, Chrysler, Jeep and Waste Management. Thanks also to Event Sponsors: Pueblo Viejo, Century 21, Dr. Bravo, Holiday Inn Express, and Eventure Marketing, Inc.

OKMS relies on the support of the community, including the countless volunteer hours provided by our members. We could not have done it without the following individuals: Keith Stripling, Eddie Lehman, Beth Lehman, Frank DeCarlo, Carl Shumate, Phyllis Shumate, Cali Miller, Tori Hamilton, Linda Woloski, Raye Deusinger, Kathy Corby, Cheryl Zrioka, Lori Edwards, Donna Huth, Merrilee Berglund, Dowling Watford, Brian Cartland, Shawna Dunn, Sursha Hayes, Josie Elliott, Stephanie Brazil, Jenny White, Justin Matteo, and Shelly Doyle. Thanks, too, to our advertising partners, the Okeechobee News, WOKC Radio, the Pennysaver, and the Cowboys Restaurants.

Our final BIG THANKS goes to the staff of the Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center and the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Department

Our Purpose...

The Okeechobee News is published by Independent Newspapers of Florida. Independent is owned by a unique trust that enables this newspaper to pursue a mission of journalistic service to the citizens of the community. Since no dividends are paid, the company is able to thrive on profit margins below industry standards. All after-tax surpluses are reinvested in Independent's mission of journalistic service, commitment to the ideals of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and support of the community's deliberation of public issues.

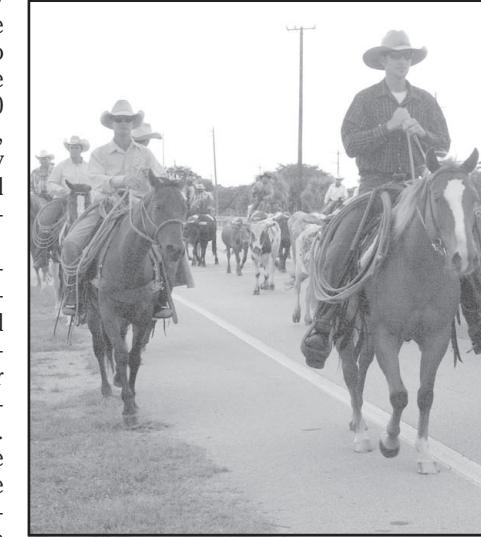
We Pledge...

- To operate this newspaper as a public trust
- To help our community become a better place to live and work, through our dedication to conscientious journalism.
- To provide the information citizens need to make their own intelligent decisions about public issues.

for their assistance and support throughout the entire event!

Thank You!

Cindy Birdshaw,
Executive Director
Okeechobee Main Street



Okeechobee News/Katrina Elskan
The National Day of the Cowboy celebration included a cattle drive from Eli's Western Wear in downtown Okeechobee to the Agri-Civic Center.

Okeechobee Forecast

Today: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 94. Heat index values as high as 103. East wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 74. East wind around 5 mph becoming calm.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 11 a.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 94. East wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Saturday night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 11 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 74. East wind around 5 mph.

Sunday: Scattered showers and thunderstorms, mainly after noon. Mostly sunny, with a high near 94. East wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40 %.

- 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.



2011 Okeechobee High School Scholarship Night



Special to the Okeechobee News

Recipients of the IRSC-Dawn Snow Fertitta Memorial Nursing Scholarship were Savannah Asmussen and Amanda Harrison. Scholarship awards were presented by Sam Smith, Pat Alfrey, McKayla Snow and Elbert Snow in the amount of \$1,000. Scholarship awards were presented at Okeechobee High School's 2011 Scholarship Night on May 26.



Special to the Okeechobee News

The recipient of the Bank of America Scholarship was Kara Harwas. The award was presented by Paulette Wise and Nancy Raddatz in the amount of \$1,000. Scholarship awards were presented at Okeechobee High School's 2011 Scholarship Night on May 26.



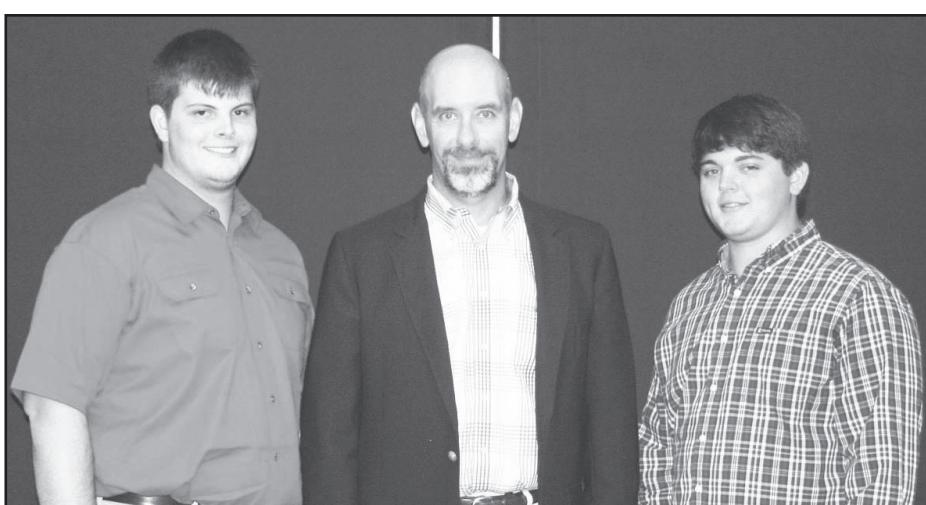
Special to the Okeechobee News

Recipients of the Bubba Helton Memorial Scholarship were Rosendo Cabrera Jr., Ronald Jackson Jr., Joseph Menendez, Harrison O'Conner and Amado Vega Jr. Scholarship awards were presented by Rachel Stinnett in the amount of \$500 each. Scholarship awards were presented at Okeechobee High School's 2011 Scholarship Night on May 26.



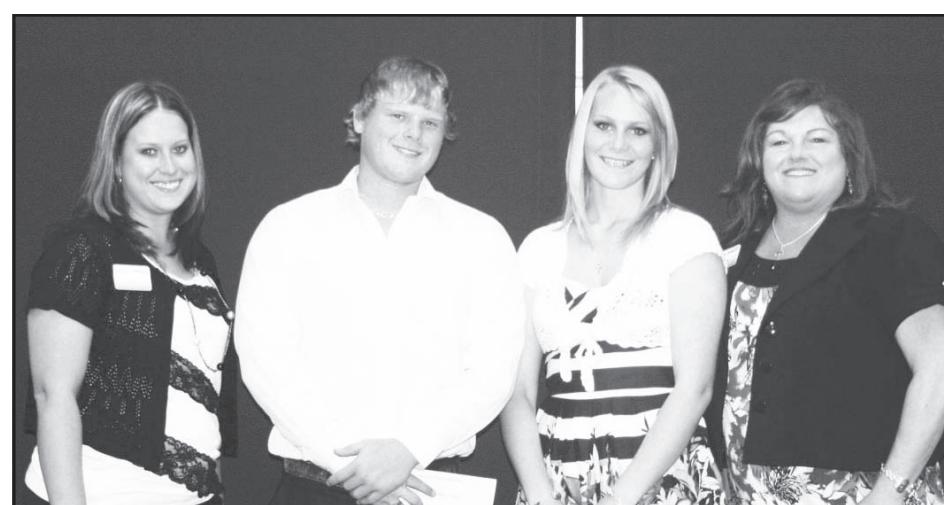
Special to the Okeechobee News

Recipients of the Deke Padgett Memorial Scholarship were David Carter, Altis Crowell, Gabriel Esquivel, Stephen Sorenson, Kayla Sweat and Staycee Washbish. Scholarship awards were presented by Wendy Padgett, Kenny Padgett, Lindsay Padgett and Ryan Padgett in the amount of \$500 each. Scholarship awards were presented at Okeechobee High School's 2011 Scholarship Night on May 26.



Special to the Okeechobee News

Recipients of the Farm City Scholarship were Joshua Radford and James Sharpe III. Scholarship awards were presented by Jeff Sumner in the amount of \$500. Scholarship awards were presented at Okeechobee High School's 2011 Scholarship Night on May 26.



Special to the Okeechobee News

Recipients of the Mid-Florida Credit Union Scholarship were Brent Durrance and Courtney Holmes. Scholarship awards were presented by Angela King and Amy Daniel in the amount of \$500 each. Scholarship awards were presented at Okeechobee High School's 2011 Scholarship Night on May 26.

Community Events

VFW #4423 plans dinners

Join the good folks at VFW Post 4423 on **Friday, July 29**, where the kitchen will be open 5-9 p.m. and XXL Karaoke (Capt. Dennis) will be playing 7-10 p.m. On Saturday, there will be burgers on the grill for a \$2 donation 12-2 p.m. and a spaghetti dinner for a donation of \$5 (5-7 p.m.) and Steve On A Stick (karaoke) will be playing 7-10 p.m. Sunday, Lori will be serving chicken cordon bleu dinner from 2-4 p.m., for a donation of \$6.50 and there will karaoke 6-9 p.m. Hope to see you at the "V."

Eagles hold steak dinner

The North Eagles, FOE 4137, will serve their famous steak dinner with the fixin's on **Friday, July 29**, at 5:30-8 p.m. This dinner is served every Friday. Join us and see for yourself! Call 863-763-2552 for information.

Cypress Hut to host dinner night

Cypress Eagles hosts a steak or fish dinner with music Friday, **July 29**, starts at 5:30 p.m. Music by Phil Eddings.

Moose Lodge to hold catfish dinner

The Okeechobee Moose #1753, at 159 N.W. 36th Street, on **Friday, July 29**, will serve a catfish dinner with french fries, cole slaw and hush puppies, from 5:30-7 p.m. for a \$6 donation. Please join us and enjoy a great meal. Music will follow furnished by Saxman from 7-10 p.m.

Legion Post #64 offers Friday night dinners

American Legion Post 64 will host Friday Night dinner from 5-7 p.m. They are offering fish, chicken strips or a combo of both. They also offer pork tenderloin, or country-fried steak sandwiches. They will also have Karaoke with D&K from 5 to 8 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Chamber of Commerce luncheon is planned

The next Chamber of Commerce Investors Update Luncheon will be **July 29**, at Indian River State College. Networking starts at 11:30 a.m., and lunch will be served at noon. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Margaret Leinen of Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute at FAU. For more information contact Brian Cartland at Brian@OkeechobeeBusiness.com or 863-467-6246. Cost for members is \$10, non-members, \$15.

OCRA signups extended

OCRA football and cheerleading signups have been extended to Saturday, **July 30**, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the sports complex. This will be the last Saturday to sign up your child. For more information you can call 863-634-0515 or check the website at ocrasports.com.

Legion hosting taco day

American Legion Post 64 will host taco day on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. This week they will have music from 3-6 p.m. with Carl Cable. Everyone is welcome.

Women of the Moose will host indoor picnic

The Buckhead Ridge Women of the Moose will hold a STARS family dinner indoor picnic on Sunday, **July 31**, serving at 4 p.m. 'till they run out. Donation, \$8. Members and guests welcome. Buy your tickets in advance as there will be a limited number. For more information, call 863-763-2250.

Freedom Outreach holds fishing tournaments

The Freedom Outreach fishing tournaments will be held on Sundays, **July 31**, Aug. 28 and Sept. 25. The \$80 (cash only) entry fee includes the big fish pot and Classic fund. All tournaments will be held at Okee-Tantie Marina Boat Ramp from safe light until 2 p.m. Scott Driver will be used as a backup if low water occurs. The Classic, on Sunday, Oct. 30, will be a one-day event with a \$120 entry fee, cash only. You must fish three tournaments to be in the Classic. Register early. Please call 561-719-5989 or 863-634-8127 to register or with questions.

American Legion to host NASCAR Sunday

On Sunday American Legion Post 64 will host NASCAR Sunday at 1 p.m. Bring a covered dish and enjoy the race. Everyone is welcome.

Community-wide Fifth Sunday Service

The Okeechobee Ministerial Association presents a Fifth Sunday Community Wide Service on Sunday, July 31 at 6 p.m. at Church of Our Saviour, 200 N.W. Third St. Rev. Bruce Simpson, Senior Pastor of First United Methodist Church will be preaching. A preacher's quartet will be singing. The Okeechobee Community Choir will be singing old fashioned shape note hymns. Members of the ministerial association will also be participating in this unique community service. A love offering will be taken. There will a social after the service.

Planning for MLK weekend

O.C.I.A. will meet on Monday, **Aug. 1**, at 7 p.m. at Douglas Brown Community Center. We are asking all members and anyone who is interested to join us. We will discuss and plan for Martin Luther King weekend next year and if you have any suggestions to make—this is a big event. Please come. The contact person for questions is Rita Jones at 772-380-3518.

Church announces VBS

Attention all cowboys and cowgirls. Victory Baptist Church is having VBS, **Aug. 1-5**, from 6-8 p.m. Come help us round up the Ten Commandments.

American Legion to meet Aug. 2

American Legion Post 64 will have its monthly meeting on **Aug. 2**. Installation of 2011/2012 officers and a meal will be provided.

Food stamp help available

Treasure Coast Food Bank will be at Welcome House Drop-in Center, 1925 Hwy. 441 SE, on Wednesday, **Aug. 3**, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. helping with food stamp applications and recertification. This service is open to the public and no appointment is necessary. For more information please call 772-971-3316.

Healthy Start Coalition announces meeting

The Board of Directors of the Okeechobee Healthy Start Coalition will meet on Wednesday, **Aug. 3**, at 11:30 a.m., in their office, located at 575 S.W. 28th Street within the New Endeavor High School Building. This meeting is open to the public. The Okeechobee Healthy Start Coalition is part of a statewide network of coalitions responsible for planning and implementing services for pregnant women and infants. For more information about the Coalition, please contact Executive Director, Kay Begin, at the Coalition office, 863-462-5877.

Grab-a-Bag clothing sale

The Salvation Army is holding a Grab-a-Bag sale on Saturday, **Aug. 6**, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at 1600 S.W. 2nd Ave. (rear of New Horizons Bldg.). Clothing will be \$5 per bag, shoes \$.50 to \$1 per bag, hats \$.50 and purses \$.50 to \$1. Cash only, no credit cards or checks will be accepted. There will be no refunds, no exchanges, no returns and no credit. All sales are final. Call 863-763-6020 for information.

Ham radio holds August meeting

The Okeechobee Amateur Radio Club will hold its August meeting on Monday, **Aug. 8**. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. and is held at the American Red Cross classroom located at 323 North Parrott Avenue. Current topics being explored at the meeting include the Hamfest in the Woods, scheduled for the Saturday after Thanksgiving and a service project at Arnold's Wildlife Center. If you have an interest in communications, electronics, amateur and short-wave radio, please come to the meeting and get acquainted with members of the club. If you have questions, contact Tom Timmons at ttimmons@dtimmons.com.

Diabetes education program set for Aug. 10

Free Diabetes Education Program - Living With Diabetes will be presented by Wanda Haas, RN CDE on **Wednesday, Aug. 10**, at 1:30 p.m. at Grand Oaks Assisted Living Facility, 203 SE 2nd Street, Okeechobee.

Coffee with the commissioner

Coffee with the Commissioner will be hosted by Commissioner Margaret Garrard Helton on Tuesday, **Aug. 9**, from 10 a.m.-noon, and will be held in Commissioner Helton's office located at the Okeechobee County Courthouse, 304 NW 2nd Street, Room 261, Okeechobee, Florida. Citizens wishing to participate are encouraged to call 863-763-6441 to schedule an appointment.

Free hunter safety class offered Aug. 13

Quail Creek Plantation is hosting a FREE hunter safety class on **Saturday, Aug. 13**, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. You must complete the online course before attending the class. Bring completion certificate with you to class. Lunch will be available for \$6. Open to kids and adults. Limited space available please call or email to sign up.

ARC fundraiser announced

There will be a barbecue dinner **Aug. 17** served from 5 p.m. until it's all gone at VFW Post 3912, U. S. 441 S.E. The cost is \$10. There will also be a poker tournament that evening at the VFW. Registration is at 6 p.m. and the tournament starts at 7 p.m. All proceeds go to The ARC of Okeechobee. For tournament information or to sign up, contact Rhonda Altman at 863-634-6586 or sign up at Pogey's Restaurant, 1759 S. Parrott Ave.

OHS golf team to hold fundraiser

Sponsors and four man teams are welcome to take part in the annual OHS Golf team fundraiser tournament scheduled for **Saturday, Aug. 27**, at the Okeechobee Golf and Country Club. OHS Golf Coach Kenny Buckner said the event is a best ball four man scramble with a shotgun start at approximately 8 am. The cost is \$50 per person and \$200 per team. Hole sponsors cost \$100 and a two hole sponsorships and one entry fee can be purchased for \$200. For more information call Coach Buckner at 863-634-0324 or call OHS at 863-462-5025.

Celebrate A Life



with
an
Online Guestbook

All Obituaries now include Online Guestbooks where family and friends can share reflections, remembrances and condolences.

Visit:
WWW.newszap.com

For a complete list of Obituary Notices, click on your community, then click on "Obituaries".

newszap.com

SIZZLING SUMMER SAVINGS



The Best Place to be Sales Event

2011 FORD F-150 ►
\$20,699
REG.CAB, AUTO, V/6, STX PKG,
#11678



2011 FORD ESCAPE XLS ►
LEASE FOR
\$219 /mo.
\$3,000 DUE AT SIGNING | BUY FROM
\$19,999
4 CYL., AUTO, NICELY EQUIPPED! #11864



NEW FORD F-150
SUPERCREW PLATINUM
\$38,708
WAS \$48,455! SAVE \$9,747!
FULLY LOADED! #10888



2012 FORD FOCUS SE SEDAN
LEASE FOR
\$195 /mo.
\$2,500 DUE AT SIGNING | BUY FROM
\$16,999
4 CYL., MANUAL CONV. PKG, ALARM! #12042



2012 FORD FUSION SE
LEASE FOR
\$210 /mo.
\$2,500 DUE AT SIGNING | BUY FROM
\$19,699
4 CYL., AUTO, PW/PL, NICELY EQUIPPED! #1208



2012 SHELBY GT 500/
ROUSCH RACING
IN STOCK!
3 AVAILABLE!

LOOK!

SAVE THOUSANDS!
NO GAMES! NO GIMMICKS!
JUST LOW PRICES!

LOOK!

2010 FORD FUSION SE
24K Mi. #P4014
ONLY \$17,950



2009 FORD F-150 XLT
SUPERCREW 26K Mi. #P4064
ONLY \$23,950



2004 FORD F-250
SUPER DUTY 74K Mi. #11276B
ONLY \$12,950

JUST ARRIVED!



2010 FORD MUSTANG
CONV. 31K Mi. #P4078
ONLY \$22,550



2010 EXPLORER XLT
W/ LEATHER 29K Mi. #P4006
ONLY \$23,950



2008 FORD MUSTANG
36K Mi. #11787A
ONLY \$16,950



2011 FORD ESCAPE XLT
15K Miles! #P4039
ONLY \$22,575



2010 FORD ESCAPE LTD
28K Mi. #P4065
ONLY \$22,550



2011 FORD TAURUS LTD
28K Mi. #P4000
ONLY \$25,950



2010 FORD ESCAPE XLT
27K Miles! #P4055
ONLY \$18,950



2009 FORD EDGE SEL
36K Mi. #P4004
ONLY \$22,950



2009 FORD EXPEDITION
E. BAUER 27K Mi. #11657A
ONLY \$29,950



2010 FORD EDGE SEL
31K Miles! #P4038
ONLY \$22,550



2011 FORD TAURUS SEL
12K Miles! #P4113
ONLY \$25,650



2010 FORD EXPEDITION
XLT 23K Miles! #P3972
ONLY \$27,550



OKEECHOBEE RD.



MIDWAY RD.

← SUNRISE
FORD

ST. LUCIE WEST

5435 U.S. 1 SOUTH, FORT PIERCE | 1/2 MILE SOUTH OF MIDWAY ROAD ON U.S. 1

www.SUNRISE-FORD.com

772.461.6000 CALL TOLL FREE OUTSIDE ST. LUCIE COUNTY 877-251-FORD (3673)
MONDAY-FRIDAY 8AM-8PM | SATURDAY 9AM-5PM | SE HABLA ESPAÑOL

#1 VOLUME FORD DEALER ON THE TREASURE COAST!** YOUR INTERNET REPRESENTATIVE HANK BASILE

SOME VEHICLE PHOTOS ARE APPROXIMATE LIKENESS TO THE IN STOCK INVENTORY. ALL VEHICLES ADVERTISED ARE SUBJECT TO PRIOR SALE. VEHICLES PRICED AFTER ALL FACTORY REBATES PLUS TAX, TAG AND \$289 DEALER FEE. SOME FACTORY REBATES MAY REQUIRE FORD MOTOR CREDIT FINANCING WAC. *10,500 MILES/YR. 24 MONTHS PAYMENT AND TAX.

Commissioners making progress on budget

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

Things are going much smoother so far in this year's budget negotiations than last year. There has not been the controversy and emotion connected with recent previous budget negotiations. So far, the dreaded "A" word (apportionment) that caused so much heartache last year has not been mentioned.

On Tuesday, July 26 and Thursday, July 28, Okeechobee County Commissioners held two meetings dedicated solely to discussing the budget.

While the reserves are being replenished, interim county administrator Robbie Chartier predicted it would take two or three years to get the reserves back to the required level. The reserves have been reduced recently due to the pay off of the debt on the judicial center and the agri-civic center.

The state attorney's budget has a decrease of \$11,085. The public defender's

budget shows a \$3,798 decrease. The guardian ad litem budget decreased by \$13,213. All areas of these budgets have been cut. Court administration shows a very slight increase.

The proposed budget contains no increase in employee's salaries. However, the furlough days taken this year will be given back to employees. This will amount to an increase of a little less than 3 per cent over the current year. Commissioners did discuss the possibility of a raise in future years. Mrs. Chartier noted that a 3 percent salary increase for board employees would cost \$150,000, including salary and all benefits. Commissioners Bryant Culpepper and Ray Domer noted the necessity for a raise when it becomes possible.

Veterans services show a minor decrease of \$516, but it is basically flat. That department has one full time and two part time employees.

In the proposed budget for the county

attorney the line item for pending litigation was reduced from the current \$56,598 to \$50,000.

The medical examiner's budget shows a 16.77 per cent increase from \$80,013 to \$93,428 due to the workload on the staff.

The budget for emergency management increased from \$117,731 to \$196,128. However, \$146,596 of that amount will be paid from grants, leaving the county to fund about \$50,000. That department has 1.5 full-time employees. The cost of the receptionist in the public safety complex is divided between emergency management and fire/rescue. The extension service budget contains a part time secretary that had been removed this year due to budget constraints. Mrs. Chartier said she would look into that budget further.

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

Your news is our news.



Some newspapers seem to take pleasure in the bad news. Not us.

We do print "bad" news. (It IS newsworthy when things go wrong, and citizens need to know about problems.)

Still, we give most of our attention to good news - the kind you clip and tape to your refrigerator door. (This isn't difficult. The vast majority of what happens in our community IS good.)

How are we doing?

Let us know by emailing feedback@newszap.com or calling your editor.

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Community Service
Through Journalism

Look What's New at Walpole Feed & Supply Co...

Fast Back Ropes & Accessories

New Line for Team Roping
Calf Roping and Ranch Ropes

Walpole Feed & Supply Co.

763-6905 •



Hwy 98 N. • Okeechobee

HUNGRY

Continued From Page 1

provided help to the community.

"We are slowly moving and getting some growth but we have a lot more work to do," he added.

As part of the grant, volunteers over 55 years of age are sought to help with these three projects. Mr. Vensel said there has been a good response as many older residents want something to do and want to help out. Some become phone companions at assisted living facilities.

"They don't just want to play bingo. They really want to help others," he noted.

The Treasure Coast Food Bank distributes food to more than 100,000 residents each week and over half of those who receive help are children.

The Department of Children and Families reported that more than 3 million Florida residents received food stamps in 2010. Okeechobee County had among the highest increase in food stamp cases last year.

For more information about food stamps you can visit www.dcf.state.fl.us/ess/.



Special to the Okeechobee News/Diana Whitehall

Kiwanis Club welcomes guest

Thursday, July 21 Kiwanis Meeting was held at The Lodge at the Lake Family Restaurant. In the photo (left to right) are Kelly Owens, a Kiwanis member who provided the speaker, Cathleen Blair, executive director of the Children's Services Council of Okeechobee County. Cathleen told the Kiwanis members that their organization has been in Okeechobee since 1990; they have 421 programs and they have helped 95,000 children with their mission being to enhance children's lives so they can obtain their maximum potential. The Children's Services Council of Okeechobee County helps local agencies such as Big Brothers Big Sisters; helps with Summer Camps as well as Mental Health Camps for our youth; supports the Okeechobee County Fair and the Annual Halloween Festival held at the Agri-Civic Center and provides Door Prizes at the Annual Health and Safety Expo among a few. Cathleen reminded the Kiwanis members to vote in 2014 to keep the Children's Services Council of Okeechobee County in our community and new members and volunteers are always needed and appreciated.



Special to the Okeechobee News/Debbie Riddle

Celebrity servers

Golden Corral hosted the American Red Cross Celebrity Server night to benefit the "Heroes Campaign." Servers raised over \$1,000 with proceeds going to the local chapter to benefit our community. Thank you to Golden Corral and all the servers who donated their time including Eric Burris, meteorologist, WPBF Channel 25, (right) Robert Lee, CEO Raulerson Hospital, Sheriff Paul May (left), Delores May (center), Major Noel Stephen, Commissioner Margaret Helton, WOKC's Billy Dean, Interim county administrator Robbie Chartier, and Toni Doyle and Terry Burroughs from Okeechobee Main Street.



PENTECOSTAL

Bible Church of God

"Your Place of Destiny" - Jeremiah 29:11

3666 E. Hwy 70 • Okeechobee
(Old Elks Lodge)

Sunday School - 9am

Sunday Worship - 10am

Tues. & Thurs. - 7:30pm

Prayer Service, Tues. & Thurs. 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Nursery Available at All Services



Office Hours:

Mon. 9am - 12 noon

Tues. - Fri. 9am - 5pm

(863) 357-2264

Bishop Robert J. Banks, Jr., Pastor

EPISCOPAL

CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

"Come worship with us."

Sunday

Summer Schedule

Holy Eucharist Mass at 9 a.m.

Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist Service

200 NW 3rd Street

863-763-4843

Visit our website at www.okeecoos.com

PENTECOSTAL

REAPING THE HARVEST

www.okeechobeeccog.com

Okeechobee
Church of God

Sunday Services 8:30 & 10:45 AM

Wednesdays 7 PM

(863) 763-4127 Left on 4th St.

Sunday

Traditional Worship at 8:30am
Sunday School at 10am

Contemporary Worship at 10:45am
Evening Worship 6pm

Wednesday

Mid Week Worship at 7pm

Children and Youth Classes are Available on Sunday Morning and Wednesdays

301 NE 4th Ave. • (863) 763-4127

2 Blocks Behind the McDonalds on SR 70E

BAPTIST



You are welcome to come visit and enjoy the traditional worship and music.

Come and share in the word of God

Trinity Free Will Baptist Church

Sunday School 10:00 am

Sunday Worship 11:00 am

Sunday Bible Study 6:00 pm

Wednesday Bible Study 6:00 pm

Pastor : Thomas Dees

1840 N.E. 39th Blvd (Cemetery Rd)

Okeechobee, Florida 34972

Telephone: 863-763-4962

CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Sunday Worship

10:30am
~~~

Wednesday Bible Study

6:30pm  
~~~

Sunday Evening Service
6:00pm

1167 Linda Rd. BHR

863-357-6500

www.bhrchristianchurch.org

**Add your church
to our
listings today!**

Contact us at

863-763-3134

or email:

okeeadsales@newszap.com



Special to the Okeechobee News/Shared Services

Back to school needs

Members of the Community Collaborative Council, part of the Shared Services Network of Okeechobee County, collected socks, underclothes and shoes for needy children in Okeechobee. In addition, generous financial donations were given by several individual members, Florida Power and Light and Glades Electric Charitable Trust. All items will be given to My Aunt's House (501c3) for distribution in Okeechobee just in time for the start of the new school year.

School News in Brief

2011 Sales Tax Holiday planned for Aug. 12-14

The Florida Sales Tax exemption for clothing, footwear, accessories and school supplies will be in effect from 12:01 a.m., Friday, Aug. 12 through 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 14.

This exemption applies to each eligible item of clothing selling for \$75 or less and to each eligible school supply selling for \$15 or less and applies no matter how many items are sold on the same invoice to a customer.

Back to school drive planned

My Aunt's House (501c3) is gearing up for back-to-school and is need of gently used (new is always welcome too) clothing. If you have any clothing that you would like to donate, please call 863-634-2306 and make arrangements to drop the items off at 202 N.E. 2nd Street, Suite 1 (office building behind CVS Pharmacy).

School supplies BBQ and car wash benefit

A BBQ and car wash benefit will be held at Shenanigans on Saturday, Aug. 6, at 2 p.m., to help families in need with school supplies. There is also a donation drop box at Shenanigans on Hwy. 98N. For information, call Karen at 863-357-6100.

Big Lake Missions to sponsor annual school drive

Big Lake Missions Outreach is currently sponsoring their annual school supplies drive for their needy families. Last year, the group helped many children with their list, but this year, the need is even greater. They

will accept donations up until school starts which is Aug. 22. Most all school supplies are needed. For a complete list, check local stores or call the school. The organization will also gladly accept checks made out to the Mission or gift cards and staff can do the shopping. Call 863-763-5725 or 863-610-1815 for more information or drop off locations.

Third Annual Tween Summit planned

Come one - Come all 'Tweens and parents to the Third Annual Shared Services of Okeechobee County 'Tween Summit.' The event for children ages 10-12 was designed to link parents and children through communication. The Summit is set for Friday, Aug. 19, from 6-8 p.m., at the Freshman Campus Auditorium, 612 S.W. Second Ave. The event is free. The first 100 children (4th and fifth graders) accompanied by a parent/guardian will receive a backpack filled with school supplies. Pizza, soda and cookies will be provided for all who attend. A drawing will be held for a family gift basket. For more information please call Sharon Vinson at 863-462-5000 ext 257.

Pre K accepting applications

The Economic Opportunities Council of Indian River County, Inc., is accepting applications for Okeechobee Northside Head Start and VPK (Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten). Children must have been born before Sept. 2, 2008. Birth Certificate and Social Security number for the child applying and proof of family income is required. Please call the Northside Head Start office at 863-357-8677 for an appointment and additional information. Office hours are as follows, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m., until 4:30 p.m.

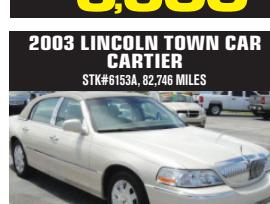
• rogerdeanbuickgmc.com • rogerdean
ROGER DEAN BUICK GMC
JUST SOUTH OF MIDWAY ROAD ON US-1 IN FT. PIERCE
 

USED CAR SELL OFF!

GM CERTIFIED VEHICLES



\$6,500



\$11,900



\$13,900



\$17,300



\$18,900



\$19,300



\$7,900



\$12,900



\$13,900



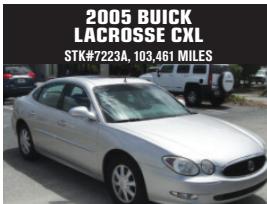
\$16,400



\$17,400



\$17,400



\$8,400



\$13,400



\$16,400



\$17,400



\$33,400

Roger Dean 
5255 South U.S. 1 / Ft. Pierce, FL
rogerdeanbuickgmc.com
SHOWROOM OPEN: MON-THUR 8:30AM-8PM, FRI 8:30AM-7PM, SAT 9AM-5PM, SUN 10AM-5PM
SERVICE, PARTS & BODY SHOP OPEN: MON-FRI 7:30AM-5:30PM, SAT 8:30AM-2PM

Se Habla Español

BAD CREDIT! NO CREDIT!
NO PROBLEM!

CALL JASON

888-745-6709



WE SUPPORT OUR
SERVICE MEN
AND WOMEN!

• rogerdeanbuickgmc.com • rogerdeanbuickgmc.com •

TD Bank helps first-time home buyers make informed decisions

TD Bank is looking to make the first-time home buying process a little less cumbersome. To complement the bank's hassle-free and easy to understand mortgage products, TD Bank has developed a comprehensive First Time Homebuyer Kit to educate first-time home buyers and guide them through every step on the path to making a house a home.

"With interest rates remaining favorable and home values stabilizing, this combination offers a great opportunity for home ownership. However, consumers, especially first-time home buying customers, need to make sure they are well informed and educated on the home buying process," said Michael Copley, Retail Lending, Executive Vice President, TD Bank. The bank is also utilizing social media to educate consumers on its mortgage program by launching live weekly Twitterviews (Q&A). Every Monday in July, Mike Copley, TD Bank's Executive Vice President of Retail Lending will be available for live #mortgagemondays on twitter @TD-Bank_US to answer questions and share tips and advice.

TD Bank developed the First Time Homebuyer Kit to create a rewarding home-buying experience. Available on the TD Bank website (www.tdbank.com/firsthome) as well

as in stores, the kit is designed to take the customer through the process of purchasing a home, providing advice and information needed to choose the house and mortgage to best suit individual needs.

Some things to consider when buying your first home are:

- Determine how much you can afford: By looking at your income and current monthly debts you can determine what you can afford.

- Buying a home isn't for everyone: Know the benefits of owning vs. renting before making any decisions. Also stop to think about what type of home you can afford and which style suits your lifestyle such as single-family homes, town houses or fixer-uppers.

- Narrow the focus of your search: Many factors impact the ideal type of house for each buyer, including desired features and benefits, life stage and how many improvements you are willing to make before moving in.

- Make the mortgage process as hassle-free as possible: From fixed-rate to adjustable -rate, there are several options to fit your needs.

TD Bank is committed to providing a transparent mortgage procedure, providing consumers with what they need to know to

turn a house into a home. TD's hassle-free mortgage application with no hidden fees makes purchasing a home as smooth and worry free as possible. Additionally, TD offers competitive rates on FHA loans and a \$500 service commitment on both same-day

loan decisions and on-time mortgage closings, plus additional discounts to qualified low-to-moderate income borrowers. Same-day loan decisions are conditional upon receiving income and asset verification.

Cook Shack offers down home cooking

By Pete Gawda

Okeechobee News

For home cooked food at reasonable prices head out to the Cook Shack at Butch's Fish Camp, 4870 U.S. 441 S.E.

Debbie Gillis had been cooking for other people for 30 years when she recently decided to open her own restaurant.

"I like what I do," she said. That is obvious as one watches her work at the grill in the Cook Shack.

The menu consists of shrimp, fresh catfish daily, hot dogs, hamburgers made of Angus beef, Philly cheese steak sandwiches which are very popular, chicken strips, onion rings, French fries, mushrooms, cheese sticks, jalapeno poppers and conch fritters. There are also daily specials. A recent day featured specials of either a home made meat loaf sandwich or a prime rib sandwich. On Friday, Saturday and Sunday the menu is expanded to include ribs, chicken and pulled pork which are barbecued on a large outdoor grill. The barbecue comes with beans and slaw.

The Cook Shack is open from 11 a.m. to



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

The Cook Shack, 4870 U.S. 441 S.E. offers home cooked meals all week and barbecue on the weekends.

11 p.m. every day except Tuesday. Orders can be called in at 863-697-8891.

New boutique carries name brands

By Pete Gawda

Okeechobee News

"I'm the consignment shopper queen," said Toni Doyle, owner of Toni's Chic Boutique, 121-123 S.W. Park St. "I'm just a shopper. I'm someone who loves to shop."

When asked why she opened the shop she replied: "It's something I've wanted to do for several years."

While new items make up 98 percent of her inventory, she also handles select items on consignment. She has casual, business and evening wear as well as belts, purses and jewelry. They are all high-end brand names.

The hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

Toni Doyle, right, and her assistant, Jackie Mathis, left, operate Toni's Chic Boutique at 121-123 S.W. Park St.

through Thursday. On Friday and Saturday

she is open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

JUST CALL ME “JERRY”

Your Hometown Injury Attorney

Law Office of
Gerald Lefebvre
1910 S. Parrott Ave.
Okeechobee, FL

763-3333
accidentattorneyoffice.com
PHONE ANSWERED 24/7



SE HABLA ESPANOL



Searching For a New House? Thinking About Moving?

It can be a daunting process, but ZapHomes can make searching for a new home and neighborhood easier than you think. ZapHomes has all the information and tools you need to find your dream house in just the right location.

Our new site allows you to:

Browse listings by city, town or ZIP code • Evaluate the community
See recent home sales, trends and property values • Calculate your mortgage

ZAPHOMES

To get started, visit
www.newszap.com
and click on ZapHomes

Brahman QB injured and could miss several games

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee football hasn't even taken a practice snap for 2011 and already they have lost their starting quarterback to injury.

Jack Radebaugh underwent surgery last week for an injury to his right pinky finger he suffered earlier this summer while enjoying spending time at the lake with some friends.

His dad, Mike Radebaugh, said his 16-year-old son was whittling on a piece of wood at a picnic table at Lock 7 when his hand slipped off the handle of a steak knife and cut his tendon.

He was taken to the hospital and underwent surgery soon afterward.

The teen could miss as many as 12 weeks and as few as eight weeks which would equate to half the season.

Coach Myron Jackson said the team will move on to plan B and get the next kid in line ready to play. Those candidates include D.J. Washington, Cade Stokes and perhaps some long shot candidates.

Big catches still stroke angler egos

Fish Busters

BY Bob Wattendorf
FWC

When humans and fish were evolving together, catching and consuming fish was a matter of survival. Later, catches offered something to barter or sell. Now, most people fish recreationally. Regardless of the purpose behind fishing, big catches stroke the angler's ego.

Today, recreational fishing has an annual \$7.5 billion economic impact in Florida. Habitat conservation and regulations help sustain these fisheries, but with greater demand it is increasingly important to protect and recycle the largest trophy fish by also promoting voluntary catch-and-release.

Florida's "Big Catch" angler recognition program helps stroke the ego of successful anglers by allowing them to show off their prowess. The Big Catch program provides a framable, full-color certificate and window sticker for anglers who catch any of 33 species of listed freshwater fishes that exceed a minimum length or weight. If people catch five qualifying fish of the same species, they are recognized as a Specialist. If they report five qualifying fish of different species, they become a Master Angler, and if they take and report qualifying fish representing 10 different species, they are an Elite Angler.

Young people can enter fish that are approximately 25 percent smaller than adult qualifying sizes.

Big Catch also encourages anglers to fish for a variety of species and to travel to locate them, while promoting appropriate catch and release.

A new set of "TrophyCatch" marks and awards are in the works for trophy bass anglers. The TrophyCatch angler recognition program will be the hallmark of the long-term Florida Black Bass Management Plan, which the Florida Fish and Wildlife

"There is nothing else we can really do or say about it right now," he added.

Radebaugh had started for two seasons for the Brahmans and had shown steady improvement as the team's signal caller. He was particularly effective in the Brahman game against Moore Haven this spring. He has gained in maturity, strength and foot speed in the past year.

Radebaugh underwent surgery on July 20 at the Bone and Joint Center in Wellington. Dr. Veronica Pedro performed the surgery.

From here the high school junior will undergo therapy and will continue to work out with the team.

His dad said his son might gain a lot of insight into the game from the sidelines during the first month of the season.

"I know he is disappointed. He loves the game and he loves competition. I've been very impressed with his determination to rehab as quickly as possible," he said.

Radebaugh could come back as soon as the Forest Hill game on Oct. 7, in the season's sixth week, or after the Brahman bye week which falls on Oct. 21.

"We really looked forward to a big year this year for Jack. Now we can look for a big second half of the season. We hope he comes back strong," Mr. Radebaugh said.

Okeechobee football begins their fall

practice on Monday, Aug. 8. They will play host to John Carroll on Friday night, Aug. 26, at 7 p.m. The regular season opener is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 2, on the road at Gulliver Prep High School in Miami.



Okeechobee News

Shockwaves go to District Championships

The Okeechobee Shockwaves Swim Team will compete in the South Florida District Championships this weekend in Coral Springs. The team is sponsored by the Okeechobee County Recreation Department. Above, team members warm up before the July 16 meet in Vero Beach.

Engaged? Just married?

Golden anniversary? New baby?

Share your news in print and online

Celebrations

www.newszap.com/celebrations



Each Celebrations package includes:

- A print announcement in the newspaper of your choice.
- An online listing at www.newszap.com/celebrations.
- Online guestbook for friends and family to sign and view.
- Online photo gallery for up to 10 photos.
- Gift registry page
- Profile page



Submit your good news today at
www.newszap.com/celebrations

O.G. & C.C. Golf Results

Gold T Winners

Okeechobee Golf and Country Club Gold Tee Winners for last week were:

First place - D. Thomas; second place tie - R. Carbia, V. Johnson and H. White.

SFWMD replacing navigation markers on Kissimmee River

Project accommodates nesting ospreys

The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) began work on Wednesday to guide boaters traveling between the City of Kissimmee and the Kissimmee River by replacing a set of aging navigational markers in the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes.

Special consideration has been given to ospreys that have built nests atop the existing navigational markers. Avian experts will carefully move the nests to special osprey nesting platforms that will be placed adjacent to the markers.

During a six-month period, the project will result in construction of:

Okeechobee woman planning long drive allegedly caught with meth

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News



Charmaine Chapman

A woman who was preparing to drive to Arkansas was forced to make a detour when she was arrested on a felony drug charge.

Charmaine Pitt Chapman, 54, S.E. 26th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Monday, July 25, on a charge of possession of methamphetamine. She was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail under a bond of \$5,000.

- 27 navigational markers along the federal navigation channel stretching from the City of Kissimmee lakefront to the Kissimmee River

- Two directional day beacons, one at the south end of Lake Tohopekaliga and the other at the north end of Lake Kissimmee

- Two navigation barriers — known as dolphins — with floating booms that will replace an aging boat barrier at the flood control structure on Lake Tohopekaliga

The project is expected to be completed by the end of the year. A map of the marker locations is available on the SFWMD website: http://my.sfwmd.gov/portal/page/portal/xrepository/sfwmd_repository_pdf/ma_2011_0727_kiss_navmarkers_update.pdf.

An arrest report by a detective with the Okeechobee Narcotics Task Force stated that a small amount of meth was found during a traffic stop. The detective's report indicated that Chapman was stopped because a headlight on her 1991 Chrysler was not working.

According to the report, about 0.1 grams of meth was found in the woman's purse.

Chapman reportedly told the detective that she is moving to Arkansas and was planning to use the meth to help her make that long drive.

The report went on to state that Chapman was issued a written warning for faulty/unsafe equipment.

FWC to focus on endangered species

The Department of the Interior's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has announced that it is further strengthening a work plan that will allow the agency to focus its resources on the species most in need of protection under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

An agreement announced with a frequent plaintiff group builds on a multi-year work plan that the Service filed in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia on May 10. If approved by the Court, the work plan will enable the agency to systematically, over a period of six years, review and address the needs of more than 250 candidate species to determine if they should be added to the Federal Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants. Consistent with the Service's objectives and biological priorities, today's agreement includes additional scheduling commitments for a small subset of the actions in the work plan, which is available online at: http://www.fws.gov/endangered/improving_ESA/listing_workplan.html.

"For more than 35 years, the Endangered Species Act has prevented the probable extinction of hundreds of species across the Nation and contributed to the

recovery of many others," said Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe. "The ESA represents a commitment to protect and preserve our natural heritage out of a deeply held understanding of the direct link between the health of our ecosystems and our own well-being. This work plan will allow the Service to more effectively focus our efforts on providing the benefits of the ESA to those imperiled species most in need of protection."

In addition to addressing the needs of candidate species, the work plan and today's agreement, if approved by the Court, will provide state wildlife agencies, stakeholders and the public with clarity and certainty about when listing determinations will be made. With today's agreement with the Center for Biological Diversity and the work plan agreement with WildEarth Guardians, the Service would be able to restore balance to its listing program.

America's fish, wildlife and plant resources belong to all of us, and ensuring the health of imperiled species is a shared responsibility. To learn more about the Service's Endangered Species program and tools available to landowners, go to <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/>.

Do you have some news to share?

Publish it yourself! 100 words and one photo for only \$25!



Newszap.com

Publish Your News today!
Just visit www.newszap.com, click on your community, and then on the link for Publish Your News.

Available 24/7



Community Guide: <http://specialsections.newszap.com/SS/Page.aspx?&secid=65039&pagenum=1>

Medical Directory: <http://specialsections.newszap.com/SS/Page.aspx?&secid=59786&pagenum=1>

Meet Your Merchant: <http://specialsections.newszap.com/SS/Page.aspx?&secid=56360&pagenum=1>

School Information Guide: <http://specialsections.newszap.com/SS/Page.aspx?&secid=68371&pagenum=1>

FREE Classified Ads!



**4 Lines + 8 Photos
Online for 2 Weeks
Absolutely FREE!**

Place your **FREE AD** online: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at...

WWW.newszap.com click on **Classifieds**

YOU DECIDE What it **SAYS** → How it **LOOKS** → Add your **PHOTOS**
And before you know it, you've got an ad online!

Plus...post your ads in these Florida newspapers for only \$8 each!

Okeechobee News, Caloosa Belle, Clewiston News, Glades County Democrat, Immokalee Bulletin and The Sun



ONLINE CLASSIFIEDS So easy...and it's free!

MEDICAL

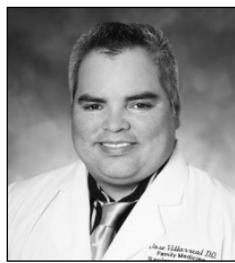
Health & Fitness Directory



FAMILY MEDICINE

RAULERSON PRIMARY CARE

Jose Villarreal, D.O.



Dr. Villarreal is a Family Medicine Doctor who is Board Certified by the American Osteopathic Board of Family Physicians.

New Primary Care Physician

Accepting New Patients & Walk-ins

Evening Hours Available Per Request

**202 NE 2nd Ave
Okeechobee, FL 34972
863-467-2159**
www.raulersonprimarycare.com

OPHTHALMOLOGY/ OPTOMETRY/OPTICAL

Comprehensive Eye and Contact Lens Exams
Advanced Cataract Microsurgery
Diabetic Eye Exams
Glaucoma Evaluation & Treatment
State of the Art Complete Optical Laboratory
Eyeglasses & Contact Lenses



CENTER FOR
EYE CARE &
SURGERY

Optical Gallery
763-4334

Silviano Matamoros, M.D. Richard L. Soldinger, O.D.
Board Certified Eye Physician & Surgeon David J. Underill, O.D.
Board Certified Optometrists

357-4899 **763-3403**

Medicare/Medicaid and Most Vision Plans Accepted
520 S. Parrott Ave. • Okeechobee
Website: www.opticalgalleryeyecare.com

The 2010 – 2011 Medical Information Guide is available online at <http://specialsections.newszap.com>
Use this interactive site to browse through articles and advertisements on our updated Newszap website

UROLOGY

DAVID A. SIGALOW, M.D.



Board Certified In Urology

Specializing in:
Adult & Pediatric
Urology

Bladder & Kidney Infections

Impotence/Implants
No Scalpel Vasectomy

215 N.E. 19th Dr.

Okeechobee

(863) 763-0217

REHAB THERAPY/NURSING HOME

We Love to Care!

Family-Owned & Operated, OHCF has been Providing Rehab & Residential Care to Okeechobee & the Surrounding Communities Since 1984

- Rehab, Physical, Occupational, Speech and Out-Patient Therapy
- Long-Term Nursing Care Available 7 Days a Week/24 Hours a Day
- Secure Dementia and Alzheimer's Memory-Care Wing
- Delicious Dietitian-Planned Meals Stimulating & Fun Daily Activities

**Okeechobee
Health Care Facility**

1646 U.S. Highway 441 North

863-763-2226

★★★★★
Five-Star Rated

VARICOSE VEIN REMOVAL

Symmetry® LASER VEIN CENTER

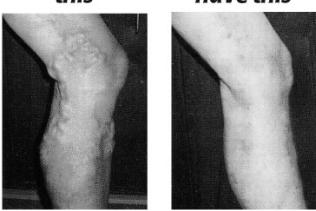
S. Scott Tapper, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Board Certified General Vascular Surgeon

Specializing in the Removal of Varicose Veins



- ◆ Minimally Invasive In Office Procedure
- ◆ Performed more than 1500 Endo Venous Laser Ablation procedures
- ◆ Insurance Accepted

Why look like this *When you can have this*



**2169 S.E.
Ocean Blvd.
Stuart**
772-286-5501
symmetrylaservein.com

RADIATION ONCOLOGISTS

Can Your Skin Cancer be Cured with 5 days of Radiation?

COME IN FOR
FREE INFORMATION

Do YOU NEED TO TALK? CALL

863.467.9500

Big Lake Cancer Center

**1115 N Parrott Ave
Okeechobee**

**FOLLOW US ON
FACEBOOK.COM/
RADIATIONDOCTOR**

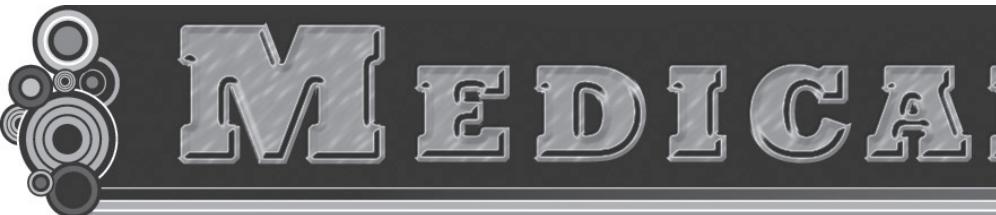
Ramesh Kumar MD, William Crook MD
and Julie Santelli MD
Board Certified Radiation Oncologists



**Visit
us
online
at**

www.newszap.com

**Advertise in the
Medical Directory
Call 763-3134 today!**



Health & Fitness Directory



FAMILY MEDICINE

Yasmin Akhtar, MD

Diplomate American Board of Family Medicine



**Accepting New
Patients!
Most Insurance Accepted**



- Comprehensive Medical & Preventive Care
- Routine Annual Physicals
- Well Woman Exam
- Geriatric Care
- Management of:
 - Hypertension
 - Diabetes Mellitus
 - Menopause
 - Depression
 - Arthritis

202 NE 19th Drive • Okeechobee • For appointments, call (863) 357-6030

HEALTHCARE

Glades Health Care Center
120 BEDS
Skilled Long & Short Term Care Facility
Caring for Those You Care About

- Specialized Wound Care
 - Full Time Medical Director
 - Dialysis Support
 - Alzheimer's Support Groups
 - Intravenous Therapy
 - *Jody Carter, Assistant, C.E.O.*
 - 230 South Barfield Hwy • Pahokee
- 561-924-5561** • www.floridacare.net
Other facilities in Gainesville & Bradenton

MRI

The Best is Right Here!

OPEN MRI OF OKEECHOBEE

OKEECHOBEE'S FINEST OPEN MRI

115 NE
3rd St.
Suite A
863-824-6736



SPECIALTY TRAINED/BOARD CERTIFIED RADIOLOGISTS
2 Blocks North of CVS Drugstore

GYNECOLOGIST



**James E.
Bradfield,
MD FACOG**
Gynecology
Board
Certified

All Major Insurances Accepted



- Resident & Family Council Groups
- Specialized HIV Care
- Physical, Occupational & Speech Therapy
- 24 hour Registered Nurse Staffing
- Therapeutic Activities
- *Jody Carter, Assistant, C.E.O.*
- 230 South Barfield Hwy • Pahokee

Email: drbradfield@earthlink.net

863-763-8000
1713 Hwy 441 N, Suite F,
Okeechobee

DERMATOLOGY



MOHS MICROGRAPHIC SURGERY

TREASURE COAST DERMATOLOGY

Specializing in the Treatment of Skin Cancer

Okeechobee
863-467-9555

Vero Beach
772-778-7782



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

- Board Certified by the American Board of Dermatology
- Fellow of the American Society for Mohs Surgery
- Fellow of the American Academy of Dermatology
- Fellow of the American Society for Dermatologic Surgery

www.TCDermatology.com

HEALTH

Amazing Weight Loss!



Jessica

All New
Enhanced
HCG
Weight Loss
Plans
Safe!
Effective!
Accelerated!



Lost 53
pounds!

HCG Injections Now Available!



Physicians
WEIGHT LOSS
Centers.

FREE Consultations! Call today for more details!

863-357-9967 414 S. Parrott Ave.

www.newszap.com

The 2010 – 2011 Medical Information Guide is available online at <http://specialsections.newszap.com>
Use this interactive site to browse through articles and advertisements on our updated Newszap website

**Advertise in the
Medical Directory
Call 763-3134 today!**

New sunscreen labeling will improve sun safety

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Should your sunscreen have UVA protection, UVB protection or both? What's best – SPF 30 or SPF 100? With dozens of sunscreen bottles vying for shoppers' attention in store aisles, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has finally offered a helping hand to aid consumers with these vexing questions and help them answer the most important question of all: which products provide the best protection from dangerous ultraviolet (UV) rays?

The FDA is implementing new rules to make it simpler for consumers to tell which sunscreens offer the most protection against the rays that can cause melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer. Within a year, the new labeling system will be in place to help consumers easily identify broad spectrum

Florida Highway Patrol identifies remains found near county line

By Charles M. Murphy

Okeechobee News

Skeletal remains found off SW Connors Highway in western Martin County on May 28, turned out to be 69-year old Gayle Clark Moran of Lake Placid.

Florida Highway Patrol Spokesperson Tim Frith said the medical examiners report was still pending in the case.

Moran had been the subject of a nationwide search after she disappeared from her home on July 30, 2009.

A Canal Point man, Billy Jack Cole went to an auto accident site to pay respect to a cousin who had died at that location when he located the skeletal remains, a Martin County Sheriffs report said.

Lt. Frith said it appeared Moran lost control of a Nissan SUV and it travelled into some dense vegetation and woods, a few miles south of the Okeechobee/Martin County line. The woods were so dense that Cole did not see the vehicle a short distance away when he made the discovery of the remains, Martin Deputies said.

Lt. Frith said the woman might not have died right away. "She was found 53 feet away from the vehicle. We believe she survived the crash for a short time because personal items were found next to her remains," he explained.

Authorities suspect she was attempting to return to the road after she pulled herself from the wreckage, he said.

The discovery ended a lengthy search by surviving family members. The original missing persons report filed by her daughter said the woman seemed disoriented and upset when last seen in the early morning hours of July 30, 2009. Her husband was terminally ill and was receiving in-home care when she disappeared.

products that protect against both kinds of dangerous UV rays – UVA and UVB.

"Limiting sun exposure is one of the few ways consumers can control their risk of developing melanoma," said Timothy J. Turnham, executive director of the Melanoma Research Foundation. "The public has waited years for additional guidance on sunscreens. Clearing up the current confusion will help consumers protect themselves from skin-damaging UV rays."

The Melanoma Research Foundation encouraged the FDA to take action on helping consumers better navigate the broad range of sun protection factor (SPF) values. The rules will limit which sunscreens can be considered protective against skin cancer. To meet the FDA's labeling standards, sunscreens must have an SPF value of 15 or higher and block both UVA and UVB rays.

The FDA's new guidance also provides reassurance on the overall safety of sunscreens. Recent reports based on questionable science have generated concerns about the safety of sunscreen ingredients. The FDA statement reinforced the fact that sunscreen ingredients have been safely used for years. On the other hand, there is a clear link between melanoma and UV exposure from sunlight or tanning beds, so it is critical to protect the skin, Turnham said.

The Melanoma Research Foundation recommends people use sunscreen with an SPF of at least 30, but shoppers should be

wary of spending more on sunscreens with the highest SPF values. The FDA is working to restrict the claims sunscreen manufacturers can make at the top end of the spectrum. The FDA has proposed another rule to make "50+" the maximum SPF value on labels.

"There is no need for consumers to shell out extra money to purchase SPF 100 sunscreen – it just doesn't provide the extra benefit the number implies," Turnham said. "You are better off using a broad-spectrum SPF 30 product and reapplying frequently to get protection for your skin."

An ounce of sunscreen – about the size of a shot glass – is needed to cover your entire body. Sunscreen should be reapplied every two hours, or after swimming or sweating, when you are outside, even on cloudy days.

What's the bottom line on sunscreen?

- Look for both UVA and UVB protection.
- Don't use anything less than SPF 15.
- Don't pay extra for anything higher than SPF 50+.
- Reapply, reapply, reapply.

Sunscreen isn't the only way to protect skin from UV rays. Wearing protective clothing and seeking shade also are effective techniques, particular when the sun is strongest between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. More sun safety tips are available at <http://www.melanoma.org/learn-more/melanoma-101/prevention-sun-safety>.

A REAL No BRAINER!

If you're looking to save money -- and who isn't these days? -- subscribing to the Okeechobee News is a real *no brainer!*

And if you enroll today in our EZPay subscription plan, you'll not only save REAL money, but you'll s-t-r-e-t-c-h every cent. Plus we'll give you a complimentary e-Subscription, so you can read YOUR newspaper anywhere via the Internet. That's a value of \$72 -- Yours for FREE if you act NOW! (*Value based on annual subscriptions)

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

For ONLY \$6.00 a month

EZPay is simplicity personified. It is the most convenient way to pay for your subscription. Once it's set up, it's automatic every month. And with no bills, no checks and no mail, EZPay is kind to the environment.

Act now! Limited time offer!

Visit:
<https://circulation.newszap.com/>
 Email:
readerservices@newszap.com

Call: 800-282-8586

It's all about you, your news, your neighbors, your life

 OKEECHOBEE NEWS

FREE Automotive Classified Ads!

400 Words + 4 Photos Online for 4 Weeks Absolutely FREE!



Example: Chrysler Convertible 2009, Excellent Condition, Heated Leather Seats, Front-Wheel Drive, Satellite Radio. \$0,000. Call 555-5555.

Place your FREE AD online: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at...

WWW.newszap.com click on Classifieds

Plus...post your ads in these Florida newspapers for as low as \$8 each!
 Okeechobee News, Caloosa Belle, Immokalee Bulletin, Clewiston News,
 Belle Glade Sun & The Glades County Democrat

Avoid becoming a victim of a tax scam

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service today encouraged taxpayers to guard against being misled by unscrupulous individuals trying to persuade them to file false claims for tax credits or rebates.

The IRS has noted an increase in tax-return-related scams, frequently involving unsuspecting taxpayers who normally do not have a filing requirement in the first place. These taxpayers are led to believe they should file a return with the IRS for tax credits, refunds or rebates for which they are not really entitled. Many of these recent scams have been targeted in the South and Midwest.

Most paid tax return preparers provide honest and professional service, but there are some who engage in fraud and other illegal activities. Unscrupulous promoters deceive people into paying for advice on how to file false claims. Some promoters may charge unreasonable amounts for preparing legitimate returns that could have been prepared for free by the IRS or IRS sponsored Volunteer Income Tax Assistance partners. In other situations, identity theft is involved.

Taxpayers should be wary of any of the following:

Fictitious claims for refunds or rebates based on excess or withheld Social Security benefits.

Claims that Treasury Form 1080 can be used to transfer funds from the Social Security Administration to the IRS enabling a payout from the IRS.

Unfamiliar for-profit tax services teaming up with local churches.

- Home-made flyers and brochures implying credits or refunds are available without proof of eligibility.

- Offers of free money with no documentation required.

- Promises of refunds for "Low Income – No Documents Tax Returns."

- Claims for the expired Economic Recovery Credit Program or Recovery Rebate Credit.

- Advice on using the Earned Income Tax Claims based on exaggerated reports of self-employment income.

In some cases non-existent Social Security refunds or rebates have been the bait used by the con artists. In other situations, taxpayers deserve the tax credits they are promised but the preparer uses fictitious or inflated information on the return which results in a fraudulent return.

Flyers and advertisements for free money from the IRS, suggesting that the taxpayer can file with little or no documentation, have been appearing in community churches around the country. Promoters are targeting church congregations, exploiting their good intentions and credibility. These schemes also often spread by word of mouth among unsuspecting and well-intentioned people telling their friends and relatives.

Promoters of these scams often prey upon low income individuals and the elderly. They build false hopes and charge people good money for bad advice. In the end, the victims discover their claims are rejected or the refund barely exceeds what they paid the promoter. Meanwhile, their money and

the promoters are long gone.

Unsuspecting individuals are most likely to get caught up in scams and the IRS is warning all taxpayers, and those that help others prepare returns, to remain vigilant. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Anyone with questions about a tax credit or program should visit www.IRS.gov, call the IRS toll-free number at 800-829-1040 or visit a local IRS Taxpayer Assistance Center.

For questions about rebates, credit and benefits from other federal agencies contact the relevant agency directly for accurate information.

**ALWAYS
SAVING
PROPERTY
BUYERS MONEY!**



**BUYER BROKERAGE
CO. OF OKEECHOBEE**

**BILL F. STEGKEMPER,
CRS, GRI, APPRAISER
BK129997**

**(863) 763-2334 • (863) 801-9497 CELL
P.O. Box 1074, Okeechobee FL, 34973
1039 S.E. Everglades Blvd • Okeechobee**

*Your Hometown Realtor
Giving you the service you deserve!*

Anderson
REALTY CO.



**Vicki S.
Anderson,
Lic. RE Broker**

863-634-4106

vic_anderson@earthlink.net

www.andersonrealtyco.com

21442 E. SR 78, BHR • Okeechobee

**NEW
LOCATION!**

*We're Growing
Into A Larger Office!*

**1126 South Parrott Ave.
White House Plaza**

(South 441 & 12th Street)

Mixon
REAL ESTATE
GROUP, LLC

Lori Mixon
Lic. Real Estate Broker
(863) 634-1457
LMixon@MixonGroup.com

Office: 763-6000

Buying or Selling?...Let's Make It Happen!

David Hazellieff • 863-610-1553 Betty Hazellieff • 863-610-0144

Sharon Prevatt • 863-634-7069 Dee Reeder • 863-610-2485

(863) 763-2104

Hazellieff & Prevatt Realty Inc.

**Se Habla
Español**

CALL FOR A LIST OF FORECLOSURES

REDUCED



2002-H: Taylor Creek lake access CBS home w/lg addition, lg open back porch, dock, boat lift, seawall, garage, concrete drive. \$139,500 NOW \$120,000 MLS #203697

NEW LISTING



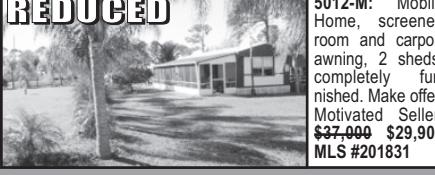
3001-H: King's Bay concrete block home in a nice neighborhood. HOA with pool, clubhouse, tennis courts and lawn maintenance. \$98,000 MLS #205105

REDUCED



5034-M: Four Season Three bedroom 2 bath Double wide. Needs some TLC. Call today for a showing. \$30,000 or better offer.

REDUCED



5012-M: Mobile Home, screened room and carport awning, 2 sheds, completely furnished. Make offer. Motivated Seller! \$27,000 \$29,900 MLS #201831



5011-H: On 1+ acres Four Seasons 3/2, lots of trees, garage, carport, sheds, 2 utility rms., fenced. Remodeled Kitchen. Come take a look. \$120,000 MLS #204677



5023-M: Lake Okeechobee access 2Bdr/2ba RV in Ancient Oaks. Gated RV Resort Park, 55+ community. Lots of activities and amenities to keep you entertained. \$49,900 MLS #204975

- FORECLOSURE Buildable Lots in Oaks at Okeechobee total of 5 sites each \$8,900**
- FORECLOSURE 20+- acres enough room for your dream home and livestock (1139 Cabbage TRL LOT #76) \$69,900 \$39,900 MLS #204700**
- VIKING 6+- acres \$20,000**
- VIKING 10+- acres \$45,000 MLS #2045352**
- 50.4 +- ACRES SR 710 MLS #204068**

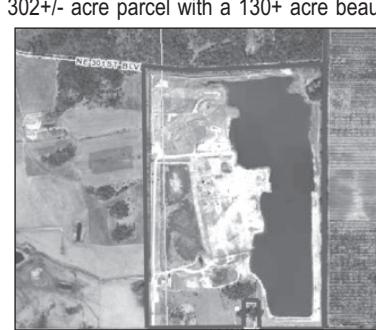
Pet Appreciation Week planned

Come join in the celebration of Pet Appreciation Week sponsored by Tractor Supply and co-sponsored by Science Diet and Pet Finders.com.

The event will take place from Aug. 3-7 at Tractor Supply, 3371 Hwy. 441 S. Bring in your pets for prizes, specials and a grand prize.

There will be nutrition demos and also

A UNIQUE FIND!



302+- acre parcel with a 130+ acre lake that was a former sand/crystal mine. Paved road frontage. Nice home with screen enclosed swimming pool on-site. Zoned Agriculture with an Outdoor Recreation Activity Area Future Land Use/possible RV park on lake. Property is located in NE Okeechobee County just 3 miles east of US 441 North and NE 304th St. Very close to new prestigious Pine Creek Sporting Club

\$1,440,000.

Call Brandon at (772)-201-8722

**Tucker Group
LLC**

**104 NW 7th Ave.
Okeechobee**

**863-763-4010
or
888-874-2945**

Second to None

**Service
Integrity
Experience**

Lic. RE Broker
Auctioneer # AU2579.

Public Notice**Public Notice****PUBLIC NOTICE**

A meeting of the local Emergency Food and Shelter Board will be held on Friday, August 5, 2011, at 5:00 p.m. at the Big Lake Laboratory, 610 N Parrot Ave, Unit B.

Public or private voluntary agencies interested in applying for these funds should call the Chair before above date to apply. Deadline for applications is August 5, 2011 before 5:00 p.m.

A National Board that is chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) consists of representatives from the American Red Cross, Catholic Charities, USA, National Council of the Churches in Christ in the USA, The Salvation Army, and the United Way.

A local board is charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs around the Country.

Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, local Agencies chosen to receive funds must: be private voluntary non-profits or units of government; have an accounting system; practice nondiscrimination; have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs; and if a private voluntary organization, they must have a voluntary board.

Public or private voluntary agencies interested in applying for Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds must contact local board Chair by March 19th to determine eligibility. Local Board Chair, Mary Anne Swinford at (863) 763-5725. 393711 ON 7/29/2011

Public Notice**Public Notice****PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners will resume their Budget Meetings on **Tuesday, August 2, at 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** and **Wednesday August 3, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** in the "Judge William L. Hendry Courtroom" at the Historic Courthouse, 304 N.W. 2nd Street, Okeechobee, Florida.

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

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the County Administrator's Office not later than four (4) working days prior to the proceeding at 304 N.W. 2nd Street, Room 123 Okeechobee, Florida 34972, or call 863.763.6441. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call TDD 1-800-222-3448 (voice) or 1-888-447-5620 (TTT).

Margaret Garrard Helton, Chair
Board of County Commissioners
Okeechobee County, Florida

Sharon Robertson, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
Okeechobee County, Florida
/s/ Paula Poskon/ Deputy Clerk
393642 ON 7/29/2011

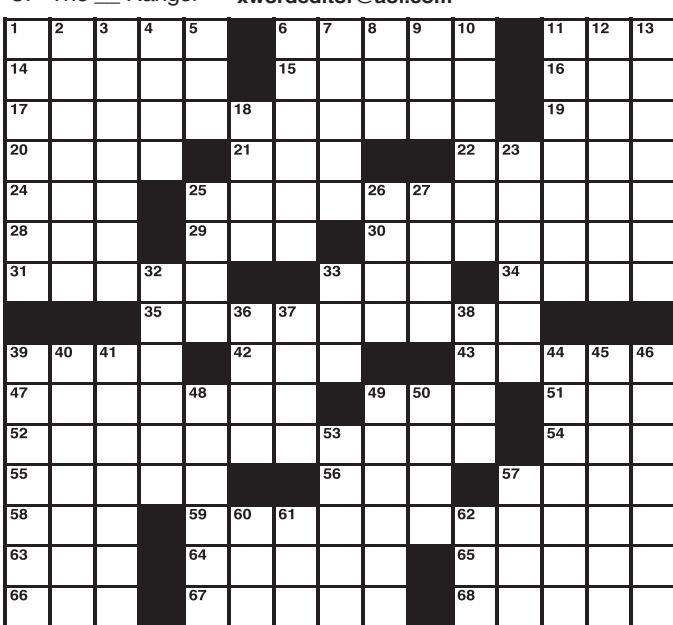
Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Places for chickens
- 6 Teapot feature
- 11 Roman 901
- 14 Comics orphan
- 15 Skier's jacket
- 16 Youthful fellow
- 17 London art museum, as it was formerly known
- 19 Some MIT grads
- 20 Extreme degrees
- 21 LPGA teen phenom Michelle
- 22 Tibet's capital
- 24 "___ you ready for this?"
- 25 Its seat is Jackson, Wyoming
- 28 Oinker
- 29 Proofs of age, briefly
- 30 Ones making money
- 31 Pointy-eared "Star Trek" guy
- 33 Cookie holder
- 34 Small jazz combo
- 35 It shows a book's name, author, publisher, etc.
- 39 Parts of the Rockies: Abbr.
- 42 Boiling
- 43 Kitchen allure
- 47 Norse mariner Leif
- 49 AT&T competitor
- 51 King, in France
- 52 Photographic memory
- 54 Prickly chestnut case
- 55 Blackmore's "___ Doone"
- 56 Paul Bunyan's tool
- 57 Piece of sausage
- 58 Stock mkt. debut
- 59 Multi-flavored ice cream
- 63 Fire, to the French
- 64 Actor Zimbalist Jr.
- 65 "___ the loneliest number": old song lyric
- 66 Ambulance destinations, for short
- 67 Goes bad, as milk
- 68 Strolls in shallow water

- 1 Short snoozes
- 2 Traveling away from home
- 3 Very busy
- 4 Pumpkin desserts
- 5 Part of a line: Abbr.
- 6 Bowler's challenges
- 7 Opposite of neo-
- 8 Source of iron
- 9 Kiev is its cap.
- 10 "Fire and Rain" singer/songwriter James
- 11 Vacuum ___
- 12 Orchestra conductors, formally
- 13 "Sounds about right to me"
- 18 Dumbfounded
- 23 Big game tracker
- 25 torch: patio light
- 26 Twice-monthly tide
- 27 Irene of "Fame"
- 32 Radiologist's procedure, briefly
- 33 Fast plane
- 36 Norse thunder god
- 37 "The ___ Ranger"
- 38 "Passages" author Sheehy
- 39 Insurance company with Snoopy on its blimp
- 40 State cop
- 41 ___ oxide: laughing gas
- 44 Circled the earth
- 45 Canadian cop
- 46 Smooch that even misses the cheek
- 48 Political candidate lineups
- 49 Adages
- 50 First symbol on a musical staff
- 53 Supply party food for
- 57 Pale-green moth
- 60 ET's vehicle
- 61 One-man show about Capote
- 62 Use oars

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

By Lila Cherry
(c)2009 Tribune Media Services, Inc.



Okeechobee News/D. Hamilton

Lucky skunk

This little guy was lucky enough to have someone take him to Arnold's Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Okeechobee when he lost his mother. He will stay at the center until he is old enough and strong enough to be released back into the wild. Arnold's houses sick, injured and abandoned animals and birds until they are well enough to be released. Care for the animals at the center is dependent upon volunteers. If you'd like to help, please call the center at 863-634-6804.


Like us on **Facebook**

Like Us on Facebook and be entered into a drawing for a \$25 gift card from **Ultimate Gamer**



KEECHOBEE NEWS

Search 'Okeechobee News' on Facebook to find us!



**John
Deel**

Service
Manager



**Terry
Miller**

Assistant
Service
Manager

YOUR COMPLETE AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR SHOP

**TRUSTWORTHY
TRANSMISSION
SERVICE & REPAIR**

**WE HAVE 4
TRANSMISSION
TECHS!**



**Transmissions -
Diesel Engines**

**"We Service, Repair,
Rebuild or Replace all
Makes and Models"**

**\$9.95
Oil Change
Every Day!**

Some models may be more due to engine size.

Diesel Engines Start At \$39.95

Okeechobee



CHRYSLER

Jeep



4224 Hwy 441 S. Okeechobee, FL

863-357-0500

MIDFLORIDA
financing available

www.okeechobeedodgechryslerjeep.com

Hours:
Mon- Fri 7:30 am - 7:00 pm
Sat 8 am to 5 pm

