



# OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 102 No. 123

Friday, October 14, 2011

50¢ Plus tax

**OHS plans Homecoming events... Page 18**

**Legislative delegation visits ... Page 3**

**Tips for fall gardening in Florida... Page 12**

**Powder Puff football game is Friday ... Page 19**

## Lake Levels

**11.49 feet**

Last Year: 13.86 feet



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



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

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## Questions surround woman's suicide



Okeechobee News/Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee City Police Department (OCPD) Major Bob Peterson (facing) stands by to protect the integrity of the crime scene Wednesday, Oct. 12, where a woman was found dead in her car of a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. Taking down information on the car is OCPD Detective J.P. Zeigler.

**By Eric Kopp**  
Okeechobee News

The suicide death of a Port St. Lucie woman has left a local investigator with more questions than answers—primarily, why Okeechobee?

Beata Harris, 31, S.E. Berkshire Blvd., was found dead in the front seat of her black Mitsubishi Lancer shortly after noon Wednesday, Oct. 12. According to Detective Bill Saum, of the Okeechobee City Police Department (OCPD), she died of a single gunshot wound to the head from a .38 caliber Smith & Wesson model 642 snub nose revolver she had stolen only a few minutes prior to her death.

Mrs. Harris, who had a history of mental illness and was suffering from depression, had stolen the gun from a local gun shop. Then, while driving west on S.W. 21st St., she loaded the five-shot revolver and within five

blocks from where she stole the gun, she took her life.

Detective Saum said a witness, a postal worker whom he declined to identify, saw the small four-door car rolling slowly along in the 400 block of the two-lane street and thought the driver was going to turn around at the street's intersection with S.W. Fifth Ave. However, the car rolled past the intersection and front end first into the ditch on the westbound lane of 21st Street.

"The witness went over to help her, then called us," said the OCPD investigator. "No one was seen running from the vehicle or anything like that. Everything is where it should be to be a suicide. Everything points to a simple suicide, but it had a whole lot of planning to it."

That 'planning' included the fact that Mrs. Harris knew ex-

See DEATH — Page 2

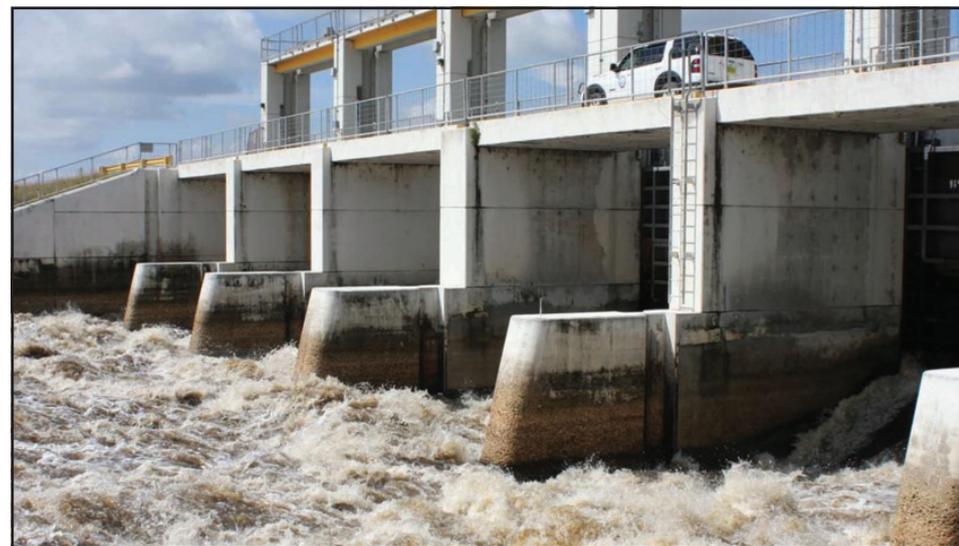
## Record rain in upper basin swells river

**By Pete Gawda**  
Okeechobee News

"The (Kissimmee) river right now is closed to navigation for at least a week." Gary Ritter, director of the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) Okeechobee Service Center, told Okeechobee County Commissioners at their meeting on Thursday, Oct. 13.

"The good news for us is that we are filling up Lake Okeechobee," he added. Mr. Ritter said Lake

See RAIN — Page 2



Special to the Okeechobee News/SFWMD  
Rain from the Kissimmee River basin is flowing into Lake Okeechobee at a rate of 19,000 cubic feet per second.

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# DEATH

Continued From Page 1

actly what type of gun she needed because she already had .38 caliber ammunition in the car.

The detective said she walked into the gun shop and pointed out the specific gun she wanted to see—a .38 caliber stainless steel revolver. When the store employee handed her the gun she muttered something, then walked out of the store. She then got into her car and drove away, said the detective.

By the time the store employee could get around the counter and out the front door, the woman was gone.

An autopsy done Thursday morning at the District 19 Medical Examiner's Office in Fort Pierce confirmed that Mrs. Harris died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

What's left now for Detective Saum is trying to find out why Mrs. Harris killed herself and why did she pick Okeechobee—where she neither lived nor worked.

Detective Saum said the woman's family told him that she was depressed because she couldn't find work. In fact, family members said she was supposed to be in South Carolina looking for work. He also learned that Mrs. Harris was married and that her husband lives in Port St. Lucie, even though they have been separated for the last three years.

The detective said the couple had recently been talking about getting back together.

"She had gone out of the country to several countries in Europe. She was studying religion," said Detective Saum. "She returned to Port St. Lucie and, about a week ago, told her mother that she was going to South Carolina. The family said it was common for her to take off and travel."

Because she was unemployed, the detective said he didn't know where she got the money to travel so extensively.

Mrs. Harris is originally from Poland and was initially identified by the OCPD detective by her passport.

The detective, who was still going over the car Thursday in search of clues and an-

swers, said Mrs. Harris was dressed "very nicely" in black slacks and a "really nice" black and white pullover shirt.

"The car looks lived in—it looks like a person has been on the road for a week. There are a couple of bags (luggage) on the floorboard," Detective Saum said. "There is no (suicide) note, unless she left one to her mother or somebody by e-mail or something. But, there is no note in the car."

He went on to say that he had also not found a sales receipt for the ammunition.

The detective also pointed out that it is rare for a woman to commit suicide with a gun. Normally, he said, they will dress nicely, fix their hair and put on make-up then kill themselves in a non-violent manner and in a place where they can easily be found.

"It's just rare for a woman to use a gun,"

he said.

Mrs. Harris apparently shot herself in the right side of her head, with the bullet passing through her head and then breaking out the driver's side door window in an upward direction.

"We have been unable to find the spent round," the detective added.

Along with the spent round and a suicide note, Detective Saum is still trying to find a reason why Mrs. Harris chose to steal a gun from a local gun dealer and then kill herself on a residential street in Okeechobee.

"This was well planned because she had the bullets. But, (after that) it's all speculation, and the family has no ideas," he said. "The circumstances are odd. She wanted to commit suicide and she did—I don't know what else to tell anybody."



Okeechobee News/Eric Kopp

**Okeechobee City Police Department Detective Bill Saum points to a small piece of glass from the window of the car in which a Port St. Lucie woman shot herself to death Wednesday, Oct. 12, in the 400 block of S.W. 21st St. Detective Saum, along with fellow OCPD Detective J.P. Zeigler, were trying to pinpoint the location where Beata Harris pulled the trigger of a .38 caliber revolver that she had earlier stolen from a gun shop a mere five blocks away.**

# RAIN

Continued From Page 1

Okeechobee is currently rising one tenth of a foot a day and that the upper chain of lakes is close to cresting. Lake Istokpoga is still rising and Mr. Ritter said water managers are discharging water almost as fast as they can.

"Fortunately we have the storage capacity in the lake." Mr. Ritter said that 12 feet is the key number to open the locks on the northern end of the lake and the lake was at 11.4 feet at that time. The Taylor Creek lock is now the only lock open. It is only open on Saturdays and Sundays.

Without last weekend's rain he predicted we would be lucky to be at 12 feet in January. However, he said it is too early to predict the effect of last weekend's rain on the lake level. Mr. Ritter went on to say that no water will be discharged out of the lake.

Navigation locks on the Kissimmee Riv-

er were closed as of 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 11, because of fast flowing water from the weekend rains.

The last time that happened was in August of 2008 due to Tropical Storm Faye.

According to SFWMD meteorologists, Saturday, Oct. 8, was the wettest single day in the upper and lower Kissimmee basins combined in nearly 100 years. On that one day an average of 6.05 inches of rain fell on an area of approximately 3,000 square miles with local maximums up to 14.09 inches. The second wettest day was recorded in 1933.

Only about 1.5 inches of rain fell on Lake Okeechobee over the weekend.

No water is being discharged from Lake Okeechobee into the Caloosahatchee River or the St. Lucie River. Water seen moving through the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie canals is from runoff in those basins.

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



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# Legislative delegation comes to Okeechobee

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

Local government officials and interested citizens found sympathetic ears when the Okeechobee County Legislative Delegation came to town Wednesday, Oct. 12

The state legislative delegation, chaired by Rep. Mike Horner, consists of Rep. Steve Perman, Larry Ford, representing Sen. J. D. Alexander and Cheri Vancura, representing Sen. Joe Negron.

“Our primary purpose is you the citizens of Okeechobee County,” Mr. Horner asserted.

Okeechobee County Commission Chair Margaret Garrard Helton presented the county’s requests which included funding for the driver’s license office or a means to finance that office once it becomes the responsibility of the county tax collector, funding for small county libraries and funding for storm water systems.

“Please continue your support for county transportation projects,” she asked.

“State Route 70 is on the top of my list,” said Mr. Horner.

New this year was a request for sovereign immunity for local governments to clean up property that is in the midst of foreclosure. Commissioner Joey Hoover, who specifically requested this item, said that there is a gray area between the time of the notice of foreclosure and the time the bank gains title to the house. He said the average time in Florida for foreclosure to take place is 758 days. During that time he wanted clarification from the state as to the status of local governments that wish to correct health and safety issues.

District lines for state representation will soon be redrawn to conform to the 2010 census. The county would like to see the its current representation of two representatives and two senators remain the same.

“We have no way of knowing where these lines will be drawn,” said Mr. Perman. However he expressed a desire that the redrawing of the lines would allow him to continue to represent Okeechobee County.

City Councilman Dowling Watford said that S.R. 70 was also on the top of the city’s list. He said he had been making presentations to the legislative delegation for 25 years and that Okeechobee is very unique in that all government entities support each other’s requests.

One request that was dear to Mr. Watford’s heart as a re-enactor is the Okeechobee Battlefield Park. He said he realized there was no funding for that project now, but he asked legislators to keep the park in mind when funding becomes available.

Mr. Watford said the city also wanted to streamline regulations and keep the status

quo as far as representation.

He presented two funding requests. One was for commerce center permit compliance assistance. The other was funding for storm water retrofit projects.

John Hayford, executive director of the Okeechobee Utility Authority, requested that the utility not come under the jurisdiction of the public service commission. He also said the utility would appreciate any help in funding expansion of their wastewater treatment area.

While he said the school system could use additional funding, Ken Kenworthy, superintendent of schools, said he had some concerns that did not involve funding. He asked for flexibility in class size reduction. He said that if a classroom is one student over the maximum it costs the school system about \$4,300 to comply with classroom size reduction laws. “Financially, it is just not feasible,” he said of classroom size reduction. He also asked that there be no unfunded mandates and that public schools and charter schools be held to the same standards.

Mr. Perman asked about extending the length of the school day as a means to reduce classroom size. Mr. Kenworthy replied that was one solution. However, he said a longer school day would end up costing more in teacher salaries,

“We have worked diligently to be consensus builders,” said Mack Worley of the economic development council. He said his organization has been meeting with different groups to find common ground and looks at specific projects that will help the entire community.

The economic development council compiles requests of all the local organizations into notebooks presented to the legislative delegation. Mr. Horner said he found the notebooks to be helpful. He said that other communities were not as focused. However, he said the notebooks forced the legislators to be more accountable in Okeechobee.

“We are going to continue to stretch, but we are at the breaking point,” said Andrew Treadwell of Indian River State College (IRSC). He said IRSC is the third most affordable college in the nation and proceeded to give an update on college projects.

Mr. Perman said he is a big fan of IRSC and noted that the curriculum is directed toward job placement.

Joshua Mixon of the chamber of commerce/business development board said his organization is concerned with transportation, especially improvement of S.R. 70 and extension of S.R. 710 as well as economic development in rural areas.

Kim Nelson, of American Eldercare, Inc. thanked the legislators for health care funding for the elderly.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda  
The Okeechobee County Legislative Delegation met at the courthouse Wednesday, Oct. 12 to hear the concerns of local officials and citizens. The group included (left to right) Rep. Steve Perman, Cheri Vancuri, representing Sen. Joe Negron, Rep. Mike Horner and Larry Ford, representing Sen. J. D. Alexander.

Students from Tobacco Free Partnership made a case for banning candy flavored tobacco products. Mr. Horner said that was a new issue to him. However Mr. Perman was familiar with the issue and mentioned the cost to the state of health related issues deal-

ing with smoking.

Kathy McGee of the Brain Injury Association of Florida urged more funding for her cause.

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

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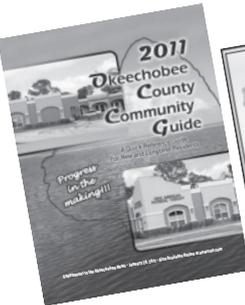


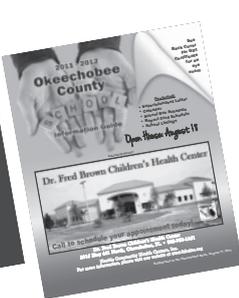
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**Hospice plans 2012 ‘Festival of Trees’**

Hospice of Okeechobee’s annual Festival of Trees will be held Nov. 28 through Dec. 4. Delivery/set up of trees will be from Nov. 14 to Nov. 22.

Hospice of Okeechobee is currently seeking donations of fully-decorated Christmas trees and other Christmas items to display and sell through a silent auction process. This special event is to raise money for the benefit of patient care in the Hamrick Home—a residence and in-patient facility providing 24 hour care.

If you would like to donate a tree or would like more information, please contact Frank Irby 863-467-2321.

## Public Forum/Speak Out

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

### Should churches be taxed?

• What I am down on is someone or an organization that accepts/takes something when they don't necessarily need it. I was taught that type of behavior is considered "greedy." Clean it up however you want but greed is greed. And an answer of "Law of the Land" tells me "because the Government says I can, I will" not willing to stand on their own or help carry the burden .. take it because it's there.

• Churches should not be tax exempt. Churches should pay fire tax and EMS tax as these are services they do need. Most of the county property tax goes to fund the sheriff's department and the churches do need the deputies. They are quick to call for a deputy when there is a theft or vandalism at the church, and the deputies deal with the traffic control when a church has a big function. If churches do not pay but still benefit from the services, that means everyone else has to pay more. In effect, the business owners and homeowners are paying the church's share. Is that right?

• I say let the people decide....then once a decision has been made, there can be no more petty arguments about who's making profit from what right?

• This taxing situation should be interesting, every church claims to be God's house. Now you can only get homestead exemption on your main residence. Which church will God claim as his home for tax purposes?

• Apparently this has been a hot topic for a very, very long time. I think it's time to be brought before "the People" for vote? James A. Garfield, 20th U.S. President (1881) said: "The divorce between Church and State ought to be absolute. It ought to be so absolute that no Church property anywhere, in any state or in the nation, should be exempt for equal taxation; for if you exempt the property of any church organization to that extent you impose a tax upon the whole community."

• I think tax exemption for churches is a bad idea. In taking an exemption, this effectively prevents the church from making po-

litical endorsements, and actively speaking out against the Government on certain issues for fear of losing their exempt status. As far as one person being better than another, all men are created equal in my opinion. I take the "don't bother me, and I won't bother you" stand. I would not like to see religion running the country. All over the middle east, you see examples of countries run by religion, and the problems it creates. However, I have no problem whatsoever with the ten commandments being on public display, manger scenes during Christmas, prayer in school, the pledge of allegiance, ect.

### Debit card fees

• When it comes to dealing with credit card issues there are lots of things we consider in paying all our debts. Some would really find it hard in paying all our expenses but there's this news about how to change credit card fees. Last week a major bank declared that it will be charging customers for utilizing their debit cards. Other financial institutions are thinking about comparable moves to be able to counter brand new federal laws that limit the fees banks may charge retailers for debit card transactions. In a recent AP-GFK poll, 66 percent of Americans interviewed said they would consider changing financial institutions in the light of such a shift. But switching banks comes with its own problems.

### Occupy Park Street

• I do understand that many here may no longer be students, but, just take the cue from the news and get together on Park Street downtown in bustling Okeechobee and protest, protest, protest! Some think the police/deputies are a problem? Make a sign; call all of your friends to join you, and march! Do you think churches and non-profits should pay property taxes? Make a sign, call all of your friends to join you, and march! Think society or the government owes you a job and/or support? Make a sign, call all of your friends to join you, and march! Don't like Obama? Democrats? Republicans? Tea Party folks? Illegal immigrants? Now you know what you can do about it! Make a sign, call all of your friends to join you, and march! Get out in the real world and showing those sniveling youths in New York how to mount a real protest and win a real cause! Play a musical instrument? Bring it! Soon you will be on the news and famous! Saturday morning 7 a.m. sharp, Park and Parrot! Be there!

## Letters to the editor

### It could happen...

After reading Bobi O'Neill's letter to the editor about how her life was saved in part by donated blood, I counted three members of my family who benefited from donated blood – my father, my mother and my step-granddaughter.

Bobi's last sentence echoes my feelings; you never know when you or a family member may need the life saving measure of donated blood. Any one of us could have:

A grandfather hurt in a farm equipment accident;

A grandmother injured in a fall at her home;

A father injured at his workplace;

A mother with a rare type of anemia;

An uncle in a boating accident;

An aunt with leukemia;

A brother in a car accident;

A sister harmed by domestic abuse;

A son injured in a hunting accident;

A daughter with complications during childbirth;

A grandchild struck by an automobile.

Many people are eligible to give blood but most of them do not donate this precious gift of life. Perhaps they would if they would just stop to think how they and every one of their family members could be just one heartbeat away from needing donated blood.

I will be writing stories with local people who benefited from donated blood. If you have a story or know of someone who may want to share their story, I encourage you to do so in a letter to the editor of this newspaper. If you want help with your story, you can contact me at 863-610-1290.

The Sixth Annual Okeechobee Blood Roundup will be held at the Freshman Campus on Nov. 19 and 20, from 9 am to 6 p.m. each day. Please come donate blood and help the Roundup meet its goal of 600 units that will save 1,800 lives. One of those lives could be yours or one of your family members.

**Susan Williams**

### Family Traditions

I've been sick for the past couple of weeks, so I've spent a lot of time in the house. One of the things I occupied my time with was crocheting. I haven't done it in years. As I sat there looping the yarn I thought about all the things I learned in my lifetime, I'm 64 so I've been around a while.

My mom crocheted in her later years and I learned it from her, but I remember as a child going to my Grandma's and watching her do intricate tatting. Everything was so lacy

and pretty. She tried to teach me, but all I did was make knots. She was kind and told me it wasn't for everyone and showed me how to embroider instead. Now that I could do and I did it with a passion. I learned to cover stains on table clothes and blouses by drawing simple designs and sewing (embroidering) the design.

My mom was a great cook and between watching her and my grandma I learned to be one, too. I learned to do everything from scratch.

I learned to sew on my grandma's old treadle machine and how to make patchwork quilts from old clothes so nothing got wasted.

Grandma would wear a dress till it wore out and then buy a new one and turn the old one into an apron to cover the new one.

Several weeks ago during the Labor Day Parade and all the booths in the park were displaying their wares, I saw many people, young and old working and selling their crafts. One couple in particular, Doug and Pat McCoy, caught my attention. Now everybody knows Ms. Pat and that she is the daughter of the late Austin and Joyce Raulerson.

First thing that came to my mind was how much I missed the Raulersons selling their jellies and jams at the fairs. And here stood Pat and Doug and two of their children carrying on the "Family Tradition." It made me feel good to realize that not everyone lets family tradition die.

When I showed my daughter the piece I was crocheting, she said it was pretty, but how come I never taught her how to do it.

I let a family tradition die. I'd like to bring it back. She's willing to learn and maybe together we can pass it on to the grandkids.

Take time to share a "Family Tradition" with your children or grandchildren or even just a neighbor's kid. And not just girly things. I learned a lot about carpentry, hanging wallpaper, painting, fishing, camping and fixing (old) cars from my Dad. And I loved every minute of it, and still do.

But the best thing I learned was how to have a relationship with my Heavenly Father. How to go to Him for all things, how to trust Him to meet my every need, allowing Him to be my comfort in time of pain, and knowing that He loves me so much He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die for my sins so I could spend eternity in Heaven with Him.

Now that's a Family Tradition I've tried to keep passed on. Prayerfully, y'all do the same!

**Jesus Loves You and so do I,  
Cheryl Gawda**

# OKEECHOBEE NEWS

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- 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.



# City code enforcement board forgives fine

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

Once again the City of Okeechobee Code Enforcement Board showed leniency when it appeared a property owner was acting in good faith.

Joseph Gaza appeared before the board Tuesday, Sept. 11 to appeal a fine on his property. Mr. Gaza purchased the tax certificate on property in the 900 block of N.W. Tenth Street. The property had been assessed a fine for code violations. However, as soon as Mr. Gaza gained title to the property he cleaned it up. The fine had accrued to a total of \$5,975 by the time it was cleaned up.

"I want to do the right thing," Mr. Gaza said. "I will keep it clean. I don't like to pay fines."

Because of Mr. Gaza's quick action to clean up the property once he acquired title, the board voted to forgive the fine.

However, he left with a warning.

"Don't come back before us again," board chairman Jamie Gamiotea said. "We won't be this pleasant."

Turning to other business, Super Stop

Petroleum, Inc., owner of a closed convenience store at 610 N.E. Park Street, was cited for being a public nuisance and for general cleaning and beautification. Code enforcement officer Fred Sterling noted that Super Stop Petroleum is a repeat offender and that the company is in bankruptcy. The company was fined \$250 a day for every day of noncompliance beginning immediately after notification. Mr. Gamiotea noted that this offense is especially bad since it is on a main corridor coming into town.

Barbara Mills was fined \$25 a day for every day of noncompliance beginning 30 days after notification because of the overgrown condition of her 406 N.W. Fifth St. property.

"It is a continuous problem," Mr. Sterling said of the 1009 S.E. Seventh Street property of David Back. Mr. Sterling said Mr. Back has let his property get overgrown before but always cleaned it up before a fine could be imposed. Mr. Black was fined \$25 a day for every day of noncompliance beginning seven days after notification.

The board imposed a fine of \$25 a day for every day of noncompliance beginning seven days after notification on Jerry Sher-

"Don't come back before us again. We won't be this pleasant,"

**Jamie Gamiotea, City of Okeechobee Code Enforcement Board Chairman**

er because of overgrowth on his 1115 S.E. Tenth St. lot.

Upon the recommendation of Mr. Sterling, the board voted to postpone until next month the case of J.L. Martin Investments, Inc., which owns the property at 520 S.E. Sixth St.

# Glades community associations work to continue use of buildings

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

MOORE HAVEN—Several representatives of community associations in Glades County appealed to the Board of County Commissioners Tuesday to allow their continued use of community buildings.

Representatives of these non-profit associations said they can't afford to pay for liability insurance, electric and utility bills, and other expenses currently paid by the county.

Representatives asked the commission to hold a workshop with the leaders of these associations to try and iron out some kind of agreement.

Commissioner Bob Giesler said Buckhead Ridge residents were also concerned about these issues. He noted the community building was built by the community, not the county, many years ago.

"We should take care of these people. They are all my age and they need a place to go," he said.

Commissioner Butch Jones said he has no intent to shut down the community associations and the buildings. He said he knows the associations don't have the money to pay for utilities and other expenses.

"I know if you had to pick up those costs, I know it will shut you down," he added.

Mr. Jones said the county used to give these associations \$5,000 per year but due to hard economic times has been unable to donate that money in the past few years.

"I'm not in favor of imposing on you things you don't have the financial ability to maintain," he added.

Chairman Russell Echols said getting a handle on the legal and insurance liability the county faces has been the biggest issue

with the commission. He said the option he favors is the county entering into management agreements with the community associations.

County attorney Richard Pringle said he has no problem with the option that the county continues to pay for the costs of the operation of these community association buildings.

He said the county is responsible for the actions and activities that occur on these properties. "I knew that making any change to the long time standing format would result in some discomfort," he said. "That doesn't mean we shouldn't do it."

He said the community association will still control, operate, and maintain the property but would do so under the guidelines and limits of a management agreement.

"Having an oral agreement and handing over keys is not the best management practices the County could have at this time," he noted.

Commissioner Paul Beck said liability insurance would be too costly for these associations. He said he supports a uniform agreement around the county that can meet the needs of the county and these organizations. He supported a workshop to discuss the issue.

"We want you protected so you can continue your service to the community," he added.

Mr. Pringle should have another draft document for the commission to review on Nov. 8.

New 'Welcome to Lakeport' signs have been purchased by the Lakeport Community Association and will be installed in prominent places in the next few weeks.

**Brahman Theatres III**  
**Oct. 14<sup>TH</sup> - Oct. 20<sup>TH</sup>** **MOVIE LISTINGS**  
**For Info, Call 763-7202**

**THEATRE I: "REAL STEEL"**  
 Fri., Tues. & Thurs. 7:00 & 9:00, Sat., Sun. & Wed. 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00, Mon. 3:00 & 7:00 **PG-13**

**THEATRE II: "MONEYBALL"**  
 Fri., Tues. & Thurs. 7:00 & 9:00, Sat., Sun. & Wed. 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00, Mon. 3:00 & 7:00 **PG-13**

**THEATRE III: "FOOTLOOSE"**  
 Fri., Tues. & Thurs. 7:00 & 9:00, Sat., Sun. & Wed. 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00, Mon. 3:00 & 7:00 **PG-13**

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The City of Okeechobee is pleased to announce the opening of the 2011 CDBG Application Cycle for Housing Rehabilitation Assistance. To qualify, your income, based on household size, must not exceed the following limits:

1 Person	2 People	3 People	4 People	5 People	6 People	7 People	8 People
\$25,400	\$29,000	\$32,650	\$36,250	\$39,150	\$42,050	\$44,950	\$47,850

You must own your home in order to qualify and your home must be within the City limits of the City of Okeechobee. If you feel you qualify, please pick up an application at:

General Services Department  
 Okeechobee City Hall  
 55 S.E. Third Avenue  
 Okeechobee, Florida

Applications are also available online at [www.cityofokeechobee.com](http://www.cityofokeechobee.com) For further information on obtaining an application, please contact the General Service Department at 863-763-3372, extension 217.

Applications will be taken until November 12, 2011. Applications received after this date will be considered only if funding is available.

City of Okeechobee is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

**PUBLISH: 10/12, 10/14, 10/17/2011, Okeechobee News**



## Community Events

### KOA to host sixth annual Boots and Pearls Gala

Okeechobee KOA will host the sixth annual Boots and Pearls Charity Gala on Friday, **Oct. 14**, beginning at 6 p.m., with a social hour. Dinner will be at 7 p.m. with music and dancing by Chris MacArthur and The Florida Cracker boys. Tickets are available at Eli's Western Wear. For more information, please call 863-763-2984.

### Benefit barbecue is planned for Waylon Purvis Oct. 15

A barbecue benefit will be held for Waylon Purvis on Saturday, **Oct. 15**, at the Duck Pub, 1031 Lakeport Plaza, at 2 p.m. until. The dinner consists of rib or chicken with lots of sides to choose from and dessert. An Indian taco plate will also be available for \$8. Entertainment is played by Wayne Purvis. A 50/50 drawing will be held with tickets available in advance. Contacts are: Frankie at 863-261-2001; Amanda at 863-532-2111; and, Joni at 863-697-8395.

### Dinner benefits

#### Animal Adventures

Cypress Hut Eagles will host a chicken dinner to benefit Animal Adventures wildlife sanctuary on Saturday, **Oct. 15**. Food will be served at 3 p.m. Plates are \$6. Music will be by The Harpers. Animals will be on site and there will be activities starting at 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.

### Eagles North to host bingo

The Eagles North at 9985 U.S. 441 N. is having card bingo Saturday, **Oct. 15**, at 4 p.m. Come play and join the fun. Proceeds go to The F.O.E. 4137 community benefit funds. Call us at 863-763-2552.

### Ladies VFW will host monthly breakfast

Ladies VFW Auxiliary Buckhead Ridge 9528, at 29012 E. S.R. 78 will hold their monthly breakfast on Sunday, **Oct. 16**, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. for a donation of \$5.00. We will have sausage, eggs, biscuits & gravy, coffee and juice. Everyone is welcome to join us, open to the public. We would like to thank you in advance. Any questions please call Buckhead Ridge VFW @ 863-467-2882. All monies raised will help the Veterans and their families.

### Freedom Outreach Ministry will hold Oct. 16 yard sale

On Sunday, **Oct. 16**, Freedom Outreach Ministry is having a yard sale at 912 N.W. 2nd Street (two blocks west of the Meat Shoppe) to begin at 9 a.m. Come for furniture, clothing, toys, home decor, electronics, appliances, tools and collectibles, anything and everything. Questions, call Dicky Morse at 863-610-1252.

### Historical Society to meet

The Okeechobee Historical Society will meet on Monday, **Oct. 17**, at noon in the Historical Society Museum Building on Hwy 98. Anyone interested in attending the meeting is welcome! Dues are \$10 per year. Just bring in a covered dish to share.

### Eagles North to host breakfast

The Eagles North, 9985 U.S. 441 north is having breakfast from 9-11 a.m. Sunday, **Oct. 16**, donation is \$5 for everything on the menu if you like. Proceeds go to the F.O.E. community benefit fund. You can call us at 863-763-2552.

### Food Stamp help available

Treasure Coast Food Bank will be at Welcome House Drop-in Center, 1925 Hwy 441 SE, on Monday, **Oct. 17**, from noon to 2:30 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.

### Shrine Club plans dinner

The Okeechobee Shrine Club will offer a delicious spaghetti dinner Tuesday, **Oct. 18**. The Shrine now offers SMOKE FREE dining. Music is provided from 5 to 8 p.m. for your listening and dancing pleasure. Proceeds benefit to Shrine benefits. For more information, contact the Shrine Club at 863-763-3378.

### Eagles North hosting bingo

Eagles North at 9985 U.S. 441 N. is having bingo on Tuesday **Oct. 18**, from 1 p.m. until ? Come play every Tuesday at 1 p.m. Proceeds go to the F.O.E. 4137 community benefit funds.

### Euchre tournament resumes

The Euchre tournament will resume for the season on Mondays and Wednesdays. The next tournament will take place on **Oct. 17 and 19**, at the Village Square Restaurant, at 301 W. South Park St. Play starts at 6:30 p.m. but plan to arrive at 6:15 p.m. Everyone is welcome, even beginners. Call John Munger for information at 863-357-0803.

### Class of '77 holds 35th reunion

The Okeechobee High School 35th class reunion will be held on Oct. 21 and 22. On Friday, **Oct. 21**, 6 p.m. (or come after the game) at the KOA Shanty Bar for appetizers and camaraderie! The cost is FREE for Friday, Oct. 21. On Saturday, Oct. 22, at 6 p.m., the dinner & dance will be held at the KOA Convention Center at 4276 Hwy. 441 S. Cost is \$30 per person and dress is casual. Reservations are required. Please call Karen Williamson Cook, 863-763-5101; Bettye Hart Taylor, 863-634-7572; or Toni Bennett Doyle, 863-634-9491. Hope to see you there!

### Class of '72 reunion planned

The OHS Class of 72 will be participating in their 40th reunion on Friday, **Oct. 21** and Saturday, Oct. 22. On Friday, the members of the Class are asked to come to a reception beginning at 5:30 p.m., in the OHS Drama Room (which is behind the Lecture Hall) before the Brahman Homecoming game. Pre-game festivities begin at 6:30 p.m. Tickets to the game are \$6 for adults and available at the gate. On Saturday afternoon, there will be a cookout at the Okeechobee Civic Center on Highway 98 from 4-9 p.m. This event is being hosted by Daniel Anderson and Carl Swope. A covered dish or dessert will be welcome. We hope members of the class will attend these functions and enjoy their time together.

### Lifelong Learning Center hosting open house

You're invited to an Open House for the Fielden Institute for Life Long Learning at the Dixon Hendry campus on Friday, **Oct. 21**, at 9:30-11 a.m. at the Williamson Center. Share your ideas on growing the program in Okeechobee. Refreshments will be served. The Fielden Institute for Lifelong Learning, IRSC's health club for the brain, is designed for people fifty and better who are interested in exploring shared topics of interest. No pre-requisites, no long semesters, no grades. Programs are peer-driven with members being both students and teachers.

### Annual FFA alumni sporting clays shoot set for Oct. 22

The annual FFA Alumni Sporting Clays Shoot will be held **Oct. 22**, at Quail Creek Plantation. Registration will be at 9:30 a.m. The event will start at 10 a.m. There will also be a turkey shoot while participants wait for everyone to finish the clay shoot. Lunch will be provided to participants. Proceeds will benefit FFA students with activities and education. For more information about the shoot, contact Darryl Boney at 863-634-0642, Dr. Randall Mims at 863-697-2613 or Ray Anuez at 863-610-0219, or email okeechobeeffaalumni@gmail.com.

### Chobee Steelers concert to benefit Martha's House

On Saturday, **Oct. 22**, the Chobee Steelers will present a Concert in the Park from 3 to 5 p.m. at Park #4 downtown in Okeechobee. Bring your chairs or blankets and enjoy the evening. All donations will benefit Martha's House Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services.

### Martha's House holds domestic violence banquet

Martha's House will host the annual Domestic Violence Awareness Banquet on Tuesday, **Oct. 25**, at the Okeechobee Civic Center on U.S. 98 N. at 7 p.m. There is no admission fee. For more information, contact 863-763-2893.

## Obituaries

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

### George V. Hayes, 69

OKEECHOBEE — George V. Hayes, 69, of Okeechobee, went home to be with our Lord Oct. 12, 2011.

He was born May 1, 1942, in Marbury, Ala. He was a resident of Okeechobee since 1957. He was retired from the school board after 24 years of service. He was a member of Freedom Ranch Church and he loved his family.

Mr. Hayes was preceded in death by his parents, George V. and Maudie Hayes; and two brothers, Lewis and Calvin Hayes.

He is survived by his former wife and mother of his children, Kathleen Hayes of Sebring; three daughters, Connie Beagles (Mike) of Sebring, Sandra Barnhill (Randy P.) and Linda Major (Scott); son, George Hayes all of Okeechobee; 11 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; two sisters, Frances Arnott (Don) and Linda Wilson (Dennis); two brothers, Allen Hayes and Jimmy Hayes (Dottie), all of Okeechobee; and many extended family members and friends.

Visitation will be 10 a.m. until services at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 15, 2011, at Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery with Pastor John Glenn officiating.

Friends may sign the guest book at [www.BassOkeechobeeFH.com](http://www.BassOkeechobeeFH.com)

All arrangements are entrusted to the loving care of the Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home, 205 NE 2nd Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972.



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

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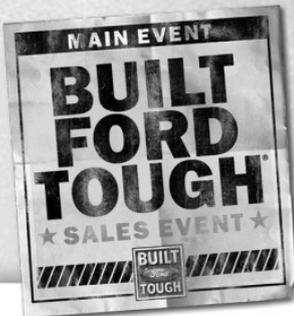
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**2011 FORD RANGER XLT**  
SUPER CAB, WHITE, 4 CYL, MANUAL, STEP BARS, PWR W/L, CD AND MORE #11682

NOW JUST **\$17,364** WAS \$22,050



**2011 FORD ESCAPE XLT**  
STEEL BLUE, 4 CYL, SYNC, VOICE ACTIVATED SYSTEM, MOONROOF, SPORTS APPEARANCE PKG, LEATHER, PREMIUM SOUND, DEMO #11478

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**2011 FORD F150 XLT**  
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**2011 FORD ESCAPE LTD**  
WHITE, MOONROOF, LTD LUXURY PKG, REVERSE SENSING AND CAMERA, 17" CHROME WHEELS, STEP BARS, VOICE ACTIVATED NAV #11395

NOW JUST **\$24,495** WAS \$31,410



**2011 FORD TAURUS SE**  
SILVER, FULL POWER, V6, AUTO #11844  
SEVERAL TO CHOOSE FROM!

NOW JUST **\$24,545** WAS \$26,245



**2011 FORD MUSTANG**  
WHITE, COUPE, V6, 6 SPEED, 3.31 LTD SLIP, ACCESSORY PACKAGE #11324

NOW JUST **\$24,774** WAS \$28,105



**2011 FORD TAURUS LTD**  
GOLD, FULLY LOADED LUXURY, LEATHER AND MORE #11845

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**2011 TRANSIT CONNECT**  
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**2011 FORD E150 CARGO VAN**  
GOLD, V8, CRUISE, PWR W/L, KEYLESS, EXT UPGRADE PKG, TRAILER TOW, ALUMINUM RIMS, CLOTH BUCKETS #11343

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SATURDAY, OCT. 22 FROM 1-3PM  
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# Attention Comcast Cable Customers in Belle Glade, Clewiston, Okeechobee, Pahokee, South Bay, and each of their surrounding areas:

Effective November 15, 2011, the following changes will occur to your channel lineup and service levels:

STANDARD DEFINITION <sup>1</sup>				
CHANNEL NAME	CURRENT CHANNEL NUMBER	NEW CHANNEL NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE)	CURRENT SERVICE LEVEL	NEW SERVICE LEVEL (IF APPLICABLE)
TV GUIDE	16	98	LIMITED BASIC	
BULLETIN BOARD CH. (PAHOKEE ONLY)	23	NOT AVAILABLE	DIGITAL STARTER	NOT AVAILABLE
STYLE <sup>2</sup>	26	84 OR 118	DIGITAL STARTER	
SHOPNBC <sup>2</sup>	32	80 OR 280	DIGITAL STARTER	LIMITED BASIC
CSS <sup>2</sup>	NEW!	32	NEW!	DIGITAL STARTER
C-SPAN	45	97	DIGITAL STARTER	LIMITED BASIC
ABC FAMILY	64	23	DIGITAL STARTER	
SYFY	68	45	DIGITAL STARTER	
BET	69	64	DIGITAL STARTER	
HGTV	70	26	DIGITAL STARTER	
FOOD NETWORK	71	29	DIGITAL STARTER	
EWTN	72	243	DIGITAL STARTER	
COMEDY CENTRAL	73	39	DIGITAL STARTER	
PIN	99	NOT AVAILABLE	LIMITED BASIC	NOT AVAILABLE
WEATHERSCAN	NEW!	101	NEW!	DIGITAL PREFERRED
FOX BUSINESS NETWORK	NEW!	106	NEW!	DIGITAL PREFERRED
COOKING CHANNEL	NEW!	122	NEW!	DIGITAL PREFERRED
ENCORE WEST	151	NOT AVAILABLE	DIGITAL PREFERRED	NOT AVAILABLE
ENCORE ACTION WEST	153	NOT AVAILABLE	DIGITAL PREFERRED	NOT AVAILABLE
ENCORE SUSPENSE WEST	155	NOT AVAILABLE	DIGITAL PREFERRED	NOT AVAILABLE
ENCORE LOVE WEST	157	NOT AVAILABLE	DIGITAL PREFERRED	NOT AVAILABLE
ENCORE DRAMA WEST	159	NOT AVAILABLE	DIGITAL PREFERRED	NOT AVAILABLE
ENCORE WESTERNS WEST	161	NOT AVAILABLE	DIGITAL PREFERRED	NOT AVAILABLE
INDIEPLEX	NEW!	167	NEW!	DIGITAL PREFERRED
RETROPLEX	NEW!	168	NEW!	DIGITAL PREFERRED
FLIX WEST	171	NOT AVAILABLE	DIGITAL PREFERRED	NOT AVAILABLE
RETIREMENT LIVING TV	NEW!	257	NEW!	DIGITAL PREFERRED
HBO2 WEST	308	NOT AVAILABLE	HBO PREMIUM	NOT AVAILABLE
HBO SIGNATURE WEST	309	NOT AVAILABLE	HBO PREMIUM	NOT AVAILABLE
HBO FAMILY WEST	310	NOT AVAILABLE	HBO PREMIUM	NOT AVAILABLE
HBO LATINO WEST	313	NOT AVAILABLE	HBO PREMIUM	NOT AVAILABLE
HBO COMEDY WEST	314	NOT AVAILABLE	HBO PREMIUM	NOT AVAILABLE
HBO ZONE WEST	315	NOT AVAILABLE	HBO PREMIUM	NOT AVAILABLE
MOREMAX WEST	323	NOT AVAILABLE	CINEMAX PREMIUM	NOT AVAILABLE
ACTIONMAX WEST	326	NOT AVAILABLE	CINEMAX PREMIUM	NOT AVAILABLE
THRILLERMAX WEST	331	NOT AVAILABLE	CINEMAX PREMIUM	NOT AVAILABLE
SHOWTIME WEST	343	NOT AVAILABLE	SHOWTIME PREMIUM	NOT AVAILABLE
SHOWTIME TOO WEST	344	NOT AVAILABLE	SHOWTIME PREMIUM	NOT AVAILABLE
SHOWTIME SHOWCASE WEST	345	NOT AVAILABLE	SHOWTIME PREMIUM	NOT AVAILABLE
SHOWTIME EXTREME WEST	348	NOT AVAILABLE	SHOWTIME PREMIUM	NOT AVAILABLE
SHOWTIME BEYOND WEST	349	NOT AVAILABLE	SHOWTIME PREMIUM	NOT AVAILABLE
THE MOVIE CHANNEL WEST	351	NOT AVAILABLE	THE MOVIE CHANNEL PREMIUM	NOT AVAILABLE
THE MOVIE CHANNEL XTRA WEST	353	NOT AVAILABLE	THE MOVIE CHANNEL PREMIUM	NOT AVAILABLE
STARZ WEST	376	NOT AVAILABLE	STARZ PREMIUM	NOT AVAILABLE
STARZ CINEMA WEST	380	NOT AVAILABLE	STARZ PREMIUM	NOT AVAILABLE
HOT CHOICE	551	NOT AVAILABLE	PAY-PER-VIEW	NOT AVAILABLE
IN DEMAND PREVIEWS	554	NOT AVAILABLE	DIGITAL PREFERRED	NOT AVAILABLE
IN DEMAND PAY-PER-VIEW	558 - 561	NOT AVAILABLE	PAY-PER-VIEW	NOT AVAILABLE
TELEFUTURA	NEW!	590	NEW!	DIGITAL PREFERRED OR CABLELATINO
NUVO TV	NEW!	635	NEW!	DIGITAL PREFERRED
TENNIS CHANNEL	NEW!	737	NEW!	DIGITAL PREFERRED
FUEL TV	NEW!	740	NEW!	DIGITAL PREFERRED
CBS SPORTS NETWORK	NEW!	744	NEW!	DIGITAL PREFERRED OR SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT PACK
GRAN CINE	NEW!	621	NEW!	CABLELATINO
SUR TV	NEW!	628	NEW!	CABLELATINO
WAPA AMERICA	NEW!	648	NEW!	CABLELATINO
CARACOL INTERNACIONAL	NEW!	652	NEW!	CABLELATINO
SHOWTIME FAMILY	NEW!	336	NEW!	SHOWTIME PREMIUM
STARZ COMEDY	NEW!	375	NEW!	STARZ PREMIUM
TEN+	NEW!	548	NEW!	PAY-PER-VIEW
NBA LEAGUE PASS	NEW!	751 - 760	NEW!	SPORTS PAY-PER-VIEW
MLS DIRECT KICK	NEW!	751 - 760	NEW!	SPORTS PAY-PER-VIEW
MLB EXTRA INNINGS	NEW!	771 - 784	NEW!	SPORTS PAY-PER-VIEW
NHL CENTER ICE	NEW!	771 - 784	NEW!	SPORTS PAY-PER-VIEW

<sup>1</sup>Digital Device is required to receive this service and additional charges may apply.  
<sup>2</sup>Changes effective on or around 12/15/2011.

HIGH-DEFINITION <sup>1</sup>				
CHANNEL NAME	CURRENT CHANNEL NUMBER	NEW CHANNEL NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE)	CURRENT SERVICE LEVEL	NEW SERVICE LEVEL (IF APPLICABLE)
WGN HD	NEW!	437	NEW!	HD LIMITED BASIC
HALLMARK HD	NEW!	385	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
FSN FL HD	NEW!	401	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
SUN SPORTS HD	NEW!	402	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
GOLF CHANNEL HD	NEW!	405	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
TNT HD	NEW!	407	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
VERSUS HD	NEW!	408	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
PALLADIA HD	NEW!	411	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
TBS HD	NEW!	421	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
CNN HD	NEW!	423	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
TLC HD	NEW!	425	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
FOX NEWS CHANNEL HD	NEW!	428	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
AMC HD	NEW!	429	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
ABC FAMILY HD	NEW!	444	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
DISNEY HD	NEW!	445	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
FX HD	NEW!	451	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
NFL NETWORK HD	NEW!	406	NEW!	HD DIGITAL PREFERRED OR HD SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT PACK
SCIENCE CHANNEL HD	NEW!	446	NEW!	HD DIGITAL PREFERRED
SPEED HD	NEW!	450	NEW!	HD DIGITAL PREFERRED
NFL REDZONE HD	NEW!	390	NEW!	HD SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT PACK
HBO HD	NEW!	301 OR 416	NEW!	HBO PREMIUM
CINEMAX HD	NEW!	319 OR 417	NEW!	CINEMAX PREMIUM
SHOWTIME HD	NEW!	339 OR 418	NEW!	SHOWTIME PREMIUM

<sup>1</sup>Subscription to the corresponding standard definition level of service, HD service, HDTV and HD Set -Top Box are required. Not available on Digital Adapters.

**Attention Comcast Cable Customers in Belle Glade, Clewiston, Pahokee, and South Bay:**  
 Effective November 15, 2011, the following changes will occur to your channel lineup and service levels:

HIGH-DEFINITION <sup>1</sup>				
CHANNEL NAME	CURRENT CHANNEL NUMBER	NEW CHANNEL NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE)	CURRENT SERVICE LEVEL	NEW SERVICE LEVEL (IF APPLICABLE)
UNIVERSAL HD	NEW!	409	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
A&E HD	NEW!	410	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
VELOCITY HD	NEW!	412	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
FOOD NETWORK HD	NEW!	414	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
HGTV HD	NEW!	415	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
USA HD	NEW!	420	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
HISTORY HD	NEW!	422	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
DISCOVERY CHANNEL HD	NEW!	424	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
ANIMAL PLANET HD	NEW!	426	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
SYFY HD	NEW!	427	NEW!	HD DIGITAL STARTER
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC HD	NEW!	413	NEW!	HD DIGITAL PREFERRED
STARZ HD	NEW!	369 OR 419	NEW!	STARZ PREMIUM

<sup>1</sup>Subscription to the corresponding standard definition level of service, HD service, HDTV and HD Set -Top Box are required. Not available on Digital Adapters.

**Attention Comcast Cable Customers in Okeechobee:**  
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NASA CHANNEL	2	NOT AVAILABLE	LIMITED BASIC	NOT AVAILABLE
AZTECA AMERICA (WTVX)	NEW!	611	NEW!	LIMITED BASIC
LA TV (WTVX)	NEW!	615	NEW!	LIMITED BASIC
ESTRELLA TV (WPBF)	NEW!	616	NEW!	LIMITED BASIC
V-ME (WXEL)	NEW!	617	NEW!	LIMITED BASIC
DISCOVERY EN ESPANOL	NEW!	601	NEW!	CABLELATINO
CNN EN ESPANOL	NEW!	602	NEW!	CABLELATINO
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ESPN DEPORTES	NEW!	612	NEW!	CABLELATINO
GOL TV	NEW!	622	NEW!	CABLELATINO
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<sup>1</sup>Digital Device is required to receive this service and additional charges may apply.

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# Paraplegic convicted on cocaine possession charge

By Eric Kopp

Okeechobee News

A wheelchair-bound Eustis man was convicted Wednesday on a felony drug charge and sentenced to 42 months in prison by Circuit Court Judge Robert Belanger.

Jeffery Allen Daniels, 32, was also found guilty by a six-member jury of possession of marijuana under 20 grams -- a misdemeanor -- and was sentenced to a year in the Okeechobee County Jail. The charges will run concurrently.

"The defendant admitted to having the marijuana and cocaine," Assistant State Attorney Don Richardson told the jury in his opening statement at the Oct. 12 trial. "He



Jeffery Allen Daniels

told detectives that he was embarrassed and didn't want to say anymore."

According to testimony by Deputy Brian Cross, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), he stopped a white Chevrolet on U.S. 441 S.E. around 11:35 p.m. on March 5 because the driver was not wearing a seat belt and the windows were illegally tinted.

While on the stand Wednesday morning Deputy Cross told the jury that when the driver of the car, Khadija Cunningham, rolled

down her window he smelled a strong odor of marijuana. The deputy, who is also a K-9 officer, then asked Ms. Cunningham if he could search her vehicle.

After Ms. Cunningham, who is Daniels' caretaker, and two back seat passengers got out of the car, K-9 Ruby began a free air sniff of the vehicle. Because Daniels is a paraplegic, he remained in the front seat on the passenger's side. Deputy Cross told the jury that Barco alerted to both the passenger side front door and the rear door on the driver's side of the car.

By this time detectives from the Okeechobee Narcotics Task Force and OCSO Deputy Corporal Donald Ellis and his K-9, Ruby, had arrived at the scene. Deputy Cross explained to the jury that he had to leave because the Okeechobee City Police Department needed his help with a suspect who had fled from the scene of a burglary.

Deputy Cross said K-9 Barco is also trained to apprehend fleeing suspects and that's why he had to leave. He also explained that Barco did not sniff any of the people in the car because, as an apprehension dog, he may bite.

Because of that K-9 Ruby, a passive-alert dog also trained to detect narcotics, was brought in and allowed to sniff everyone who was in the car.

Cpl. Ellis told the jury that after Daniels was helped out of the vehicle, K-9 Ruby alerted to his lap.

When asked by Mr. Richardson, a task force detective testified that a small amount

of marijuana and "a large chunk of cocaine" was found in Daniels' crotch area. The detective said that 'chunk' of crack cocaine weighed 14 grams.

During a taped interview with a second task force detective, the courtroom could hear Daniels say that he paid \$200 for the cocaine.

"That's a pretty good deal for that much cocaine," replied the detective.

During cross examination defense attorney Roger Azcona asked that detective if Daniels was told their conversation was being recorded, and the detective replied that he did not.

Mr. Richardson explained that members of law enforcement do not have to tell people they are being recorded. But if a private citizen would tape another private citizen, it would be a felony, he added.

Deputy Cross stated in his arrest report that Ms. Cunningham told him that they had just left Belle Glade and were on their way to Lake City. That report also pointed out that Daniels had a total of \$950 in cash in his pants pocket.

Deputy Cross also stated in his report that sometime later the money found on Daniels was placed in an empty paper bag by Cpl. Ellis. Then Deputy Cross took cash out of his wallet and put it in a second paper bag, and an empty paper bag was then placed next to the first two bags.

K-9 Ruby sniffed all three bags and gave a positive alert to the bag containing the cash found on Daniels.

## Edgewater man accused in stabbing

By Eric Kopp

Okeechobee News

An Edgewater man is being held on \$20,000 bond after being accused of stabbing another man in the neck with a steak knife.

Randy W. Hutchinson, 18, Harden Place, was arrested Wednesday, Oct. 12, on a felony charge of aggravated battery with a deadly weapon. He is being held in the Okeechobee County Jail.

An arrest report by Deputy Fred Bradley, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), stated that Hutchinson stabbed the victim Tuesday night, Oct. 11, while the man was arguing with his girlfriend -- Hutchinson's sister.

According to the report, witnesses said the woman and man were having a verbal disagreement in the front room of a home. At some point during that argument, Hutchinson reportedly picked up the knife



Randy W. Hutchinson

and stabbed the victim in the neck.

The witness did not know how Hutchinson got the knife or where it came from, added the deputy's report.

Deputy Bradley's report stated that the victim pulled the knife from his neck and was then taken to Raulerson Hospital. The report did not indicate the severity of the wound, or the victim's condition. Hutchinson then fled from the scene on foot. He was found hiding in a closet in a home on S.E. 74th Way the next day and arrested by OCSO deputies Brian Cross and Yamil Astacio.

The report went on to state that the bloodstained knife was collected and swabs were taken of bloodstains on the floor of the home.

### NOPE to host candlelight vigil - substance abuse awareness

Many lives have been destroyed by substance abuse and the disease of addiction. The NOPE Vigil strives to raise awareness and open the doors to recovery by eliminating the prejudice that has followed the disease of addiction. The vigil is held in memory of the 28,000 United States citizens who die from accidental drug poisoning each year. Please consider supporting the Okeechobee County NOPE candle light vigil on **Oct. 27**, and join NOPE Task Force and many communities nationwide in remembering those lost to and struggling with substance abuse.

## Arrest Report

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

- Cherise Marie Lawrence, 22, S.E. 80th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Oct. 11 by Deputy Matthew Hurst on a warrant charging her with violation of probation - dealing in stolen property (three counts) and violation of probation - giving false information to a pawnbroker (three counts). She is being held without bond.

- Craig Lee Blackman, 52, S.E. 34th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Oct. 11 by Deputy Joseph Hall on a felony charge of aggra-

vated battery. He was released on his own recognizance.

- Henry Austin White, 31, Sparrow Road, Wauchula, was arrested Oct. 12 by Deputy Corporal Aric Majere on an amended DOC warrant charging him with violation of probation - burglary of a structure (two counts) and violation of probation - grand theft. He is being held without bond.

- Paula Spigelmoyer, 34, S.W. Seventh Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Oct. 12 by Deputy Heath Hughes on an Okeechobee County warrant charging her with violation of probation - attempted robbery/no firearm or weapon. She is being held without bond.

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

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Special to the Okeechobee News/CES

## Students of the Week

Central Elementary School is pleased to announce the names of the Students of the Week for the week of Oct. 3 including kindergarten students: Alexis Murphy, Jeshawn Swanson, Skyler Ingram, Jose Ordonez, Zachary Atwell, Imelda Bustos, Estela Rodriguez; first grade students: Edith Morales, Logan Bottari, Kaitlyn Freeman, Ryan Thomas, Kyler Hyslope, Cuyler Maxwell; second grade students: Takiya Jones, Albert McClain, Mackenzie Burk, Arlene Tellez, Jarett Butts, Anna San Martin; third graders: Allison Meara, Angelo Hannon, Junae Davis, Yarie-Ayala Rodriguez, Caleb Tijerina, Pyke Dawson; fourth graders: Erick Vallejo, Makalyn Jones, Edmundo Cruz, Eboni Koivunen and Tyler Arnold. (Some not pictured)



Special to the Okeechobee News/OMS

## Students of the Week

Osceola Middle School's Students of the Week Rule The School! Congratulations to the following students for the week of Oct. 6: Rocky Chauhan, Breanna Hines, Augustin Guerrero, Julie Ybanez, Seairra Moore, Alyssa Romero, Brandon Kobernik, Trisha Digao, Minh Thy Nguyen, Maggie Congdon and Brianna Gomez.

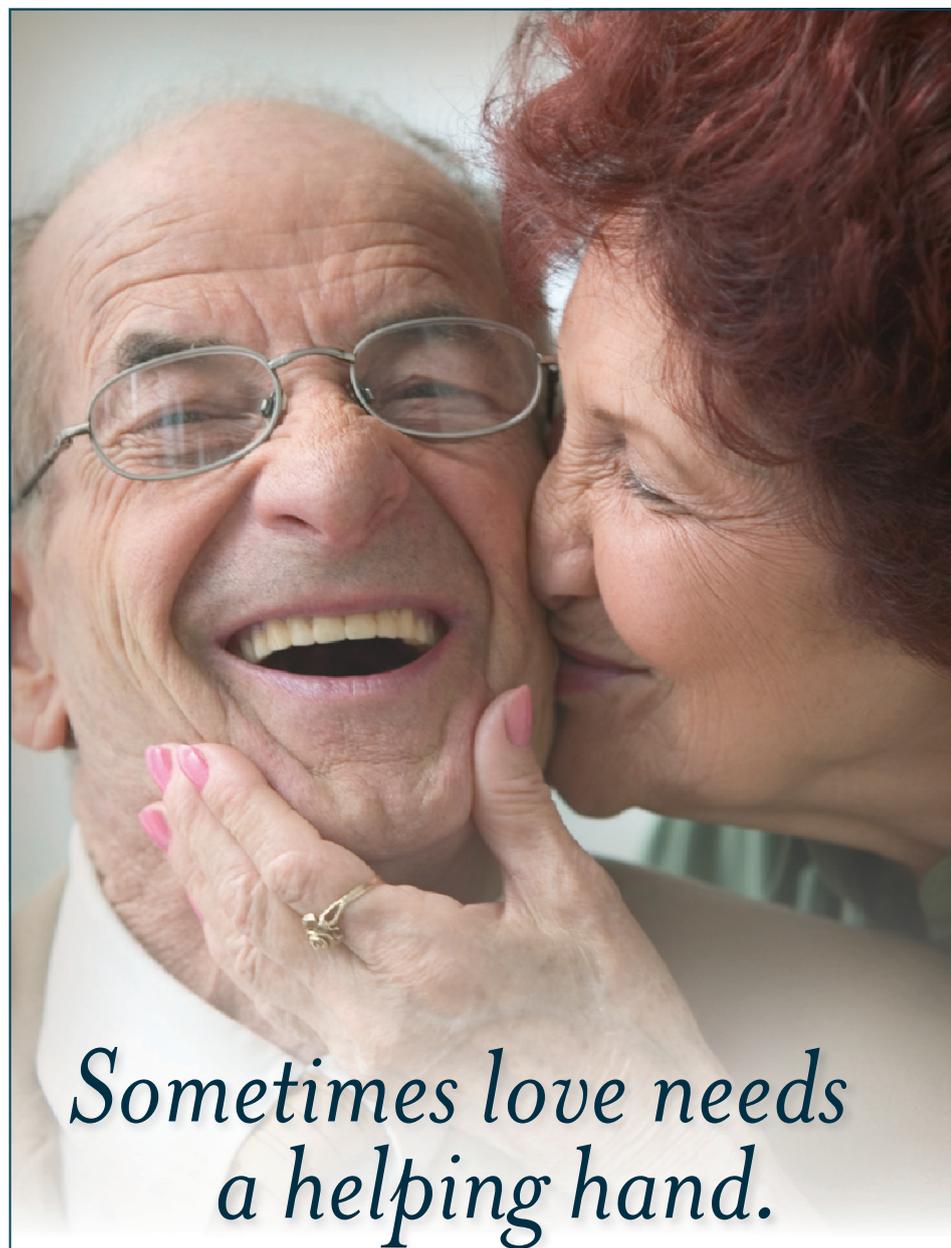


Special to the Okeechobee News/YMS

## Students of the Week

Yearling Middle School would like to congratulate and celebrate their students of the week for the week of Oct. 6. Students selected include: (front standing left to right) Amber Middleton, Ester Garcia, Kysell Merritt-Richardson, Luis Flores; back standing left to right are: Kenson Bastien, Portia Rowe, Tyler Selph, Steven Martienz and Mr. Stuart, Dean of Students.

standing left to right are: Kenson Bastien, Portia Rowe, Tyler Selph, Steven Martienz and Mr. Stuart, Dean of Students.



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# 'Nasty serves' aid Lady Tigers in win

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

Martin County completed a sweep in District 12-7A as they ruined the Okeechobee High School Lady Brahman Senior Night with a 25-14, 25-23 and 25-16 victory on Tuesday night.

Paige McCrary had seven kills, Rebekah Bryan had 11 kills and 13 digs, and Sarah Davis had 21 assists and a kill to lead the Brahmans, (10-6).

Martin County (14-5) was led by Mallori Moffat who had 30 assists, and Nicole Walch who had 22 kills and 16 digs.

Okeechobee hung in early in all of the games but faltered down the stretch. They took advantage of some Tiger service errors and mistakes during the second game to keep the score close.

Brahman coach Todd Jones said Martin County had some very nasty serves and his girls didn't read them quick enough and

didn't pass them very well. He said the girls must be more consistent in how they handle hard hit balls.

"We'll work on that, and must improve our transition and our blocking," he said.

Jones said he purposely scheduled a number of talented teams this year so Okeechobee would match up better with Martin County. He said he felt his girls were ready for this match.

"I thought we were prepared and I do think we are able to beat this team. We will analyze the tape, figure out their weaknesses, and hopefully turn the tide in the district finals," he said.

The Lady Brahmans will compete in a tournament in Orlando this weekend. Okeechobee will compete against Viera, Osceola, Melbourne, Steinbrenner High, Sante Fe University High, Harmony, Pine Crest, Spanish River-Creekside, Florida High, Osceola, Apopka, Cardinal Mooney and Sickels High.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
Rebekah Bryan digs a shot while Krista Ward looks on during the match between Okeechobee and Martin County on Tuesday night.

# YMS gets volleyball wins over OMS and West Glades



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
Trista Osceola prepares to serve for Yearling in their match against West Glades on Tuesday. Yearling won easily.

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

Yearling Middle School continued their strong year with two convincing wins against Osceola Middle School on Monday and West Glades Middle School on Tuesday.

Yearling defeated the arch-rival Warriors 25-16 and 25-16 at the Warriors gym. Coach Bruce Conrad said it was a competitive match and he praised the Warriors for their improvement this year.

"They have some good girls that play well also," he noted.

Conrad said he felt the Lady Bulls weren't at their best in the Osceola match. He said they would play well for a few plays and then make mistakes like letting a ball drop and serve balls out of play or into the net.

"I hate to say we didn't play well but we really didn't look sharp in that match. We play again next week and I hope we play better against them," he added.

The West Glades match was close in the early going but Yearling dominated down the stretch. They won the second game 25-5 and the first game 25-15.

Cheyenne Nunez had four aces and six kills. Rachel Bryan had five aces, seven kills and two assists. Jacie Harvey had seven

aces and 14 kills. Baylee Farless had three aces and two kills.

Conrad said he has not had any trouble keeping the girls motivated this year, "We still practice hard and have worked hard on our serve and our receipt of serve. We have a tournament in Sebastian this weekend and the girls are looking forward to that and still working hard."



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# Plant strawberries and vegetables in the fall

By Dan Culbert

Extension Horticulture Agent

The Okeechobee Garden Club recently met at its office to review a presentation of vegetable gardening. Those in attendance were asked to take a short quiz on their vegetable gardening knowledge, and asked to retake the test after the film. Today's column will look at the questions and I hope it will improve YOUR gardening knowledge as we fall into Florida's gardening season.

## Sweet strawberries for your garden

Are you looking for a fruitful fall and winter? Also announced at the meeting was that orders for strawberry plants are now being taken at our Extension office. A local grower, Mr. M.T. Alden, announced he will have plants available at 50c per plant for those that want to include strawberries in their home garden. Plants must be pre-ordered before of Monday Oct. 3—contact our office if you are interested.

Strawberry plants need to be planted during the fall so that they will produce these luscious fruits in our cooler winter climate. It is often hard to locate sources of strawberry plants, so we make this annual offer to help local gardeners.

Last year our office coordinated the sale of nearly 1,000 plants to home gardeners. The varieties of strawberry plants offered will be Treasure or Festival, and they typically arrive locally during early October from North Carolina.

## Basic vegetable gardening

Extension Specialist Dr. Sydney Park-Brown has recorded a presentation for use with Master Gardeners. Since members of the Garden Club also wanted to learn more about vegetable gardening, I pulled out the video for our monthly program. Besides viewing the video, those attending the meeting were given copies of the "the Guide," a.k.a. the Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide, a University of Florida Extension bulletin that is available on line at: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/vh021>.

Other handouts on how to build a raised bed garden and a list of the Okeechobee Fair's Largest Vegetable Contest records were provided to motivate gardeners to get growing.

## Williamson named to 19<sup>th</sup> Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission

**STUART** – Jennifer L. Williamson of Cray Buchanan has been named to the 19<sup>th</sup> Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission by Gov. Rick Scott. Williamson is a partner at the law firm. She is board certified in real estate and her practice also includes corporate law.

"It's an honor to be selected for such an important public service," said Ms. Williamson, who lives in Okeechobee County. "I will dedicate my time and talents to selecting the best candidates for our circuit court."

## UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA IFAS EXTENSION

### A gardener's test

Before the presentation, I want to see what the audience really knew about Florida-Friendly Gardening, so I created a short test. Want to test your knowledge? Here, then, is the test given at the meeting:

1. A good place for a vegetable garden has well-drained soil, is near a source of water, and gets more than six hours of sunlight.

This statement is true. Garden plants need lots of sun to "produce" produce. You don't want wet soils, and you don't really want to cart water to your garden.

2. The best place to get locally adapted vegetable seeds and plants is the garden centers of the big box stores.

This statement is false, as many of the larger stores return seeds in the fall to make room for holiday merchandise, not realizing that our gardens have only just begun. You may have to order seeds from catalogs, and grow your own if you want quality vegetable transplants.

3. When is the time to plant tomatoes in Okeechobee?

Our tomato planting season in South Florida began in August and will run until March. Planting out of season will often lead to challenges with pests. Check "the Guide" for South Florida planting seasons.

4. When is the time to plant collards in Okeechobee?

Collards are also planted from August through the spring, but planting should be finished by February to avoid pests and beat hot spring temperatures.

5. When is the time to plant spinach in Okeechobee?

Here is a cool season crop that can be started in October, but should be finished planting by January. If you wait later, the plant starts to "bolt" and go to seed.

6. 'Big Boy' is a good tomato to grow in a Florida Vegetable Garden.

False: this is NOT a recommended variety of Tomato for Florida gardens. A complete list of recommended varieties is in the Guide. Recommended Florida tomato vari-

eties include Better Boy Heat Wave II, Cherokee Purple and Red Grape.

7. The best thing you can add to Florida vegetable garden soil is: fish heads, pond water, composted organic material, or chemical fertilizer.

Of these soil amendments, composted organic material will do the most to improve the long-term health of the soil and your vegetables. Make sure it is well composted – not fresh.

8. Flood or drip irrigation will reduce plant disease problems.

True – keeping water off the leaves of the plant reduces diseases – and other pests too. Avoid overhead sprinkling, especially in the late afternoon or evening.

9. Nematodes in the home garden can be controlled by chemical pesticides.

False – there are NO registered chemical nematicides available for home gardens. These microscopic sucking worms are managed through soil organic material, crop rotation, and soil solarization in the off season.

10. The most difficult pests to control in a garden are weeds.

True (mostly): This is a bit of an opinion response, but most vegetable gardeners spend more time and energy weeding the garden than dealing with the other pests. One of the best tricks is mulching that can reduce weeds and solarization that can keep the number of weeds lower.

How did you do? Even with some very knowledgeable gardeners in the audience at the Garden club, no one had a perfect score. But by the end of the evening, everyone there improved their test scores by an average of 47 percent. The Garden Club meets the fourth Monday night of the month at the Extension office starting at 6 p.m. (The Orchid club meets at 7 p.m.) The next meeting will take place on Monday Oct. 24 – why not mark your calendar now!

Additional information on how to grow strawberries or home vegetable gardens can be found in archived news articles on our website. For more information, please contact the Okeechobee Extension office at 863-763-6469, or go to the Okeechobee Extension web page, <http://okeechobee.ifas.ufl.edu>. Local residents can stop by our office at 458 Hwy 98 North in Okeechobee. Go Gators!

## Craft Fair in the Woods planned at Freedom Ranch

Craftsmen and artists will have just the right thing for you or someone on your Christmas list at the 5th annual Craft Fair in the Woods at Freedom Ranch, 11655 Hwy. 441 S.E., on Saturday, **Nov. 12**, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Interested in being a vendor? Contact Pam at 863-763-2678 or Mary at 863-763-9800.

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# March for Babies date set

Premier March of Dimes event signals commitment to healthy babies



**Russ Brown**

and we are committed to reducing its toll," he said. "By engaging more people in our mission, and educating more pregnant women and moms about healthy babies, we hope to reach that goal much sooner."

Brown further explained that March for Babies is a great way to show your community spirit and build camaraderie within your company. "March for Babies gives all of us the opportunity to get involved in helping to ensure the health of our most precious resource—our children," he said. "March for Babies is a fun, family event where we can all celebrate the tremendous strides the March of Dimes continues to make in the health of moms and babies and the role we can all play in making that happen."

Russ Brown has been involved in education in Okeechobee County for many years and now serves as the Provost for Okeechobee County for Indian River State College.

Local Premier sponsors secured thus far are Publix Super Markets, Inc., the number one corporate team in Florida and Seacoast National Bank. Sponsorship opportunities are available by calling 863-763-3131.

The March of Dimes is the leading non-profit organization for pregnancy and baby health. With chapters nationwide and its premier event, March for Babies, the March of Dimes works to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. For the latest resources and information, visit [marchofdimes.com](http://marchofdimes.com) or [nacersano.org](http://nacersano.org).

March of Dimes Treasure Coast Division Director, Pam Crowley is pleased to announce that Okeechobee educator Russ Brown will serve as Chairman for the 2012 March for Babies event. Plans for this March of Dimes signature event are well under way throughout the county, with teams and corporate sponsors already committed to making the 2012 event a huge success. The Okeechobee County walk is slated for Saturday, March 10, 2012 beginning and ending at Flagler Park. The walk is approximately 4 miles long and begins at 8:30 a.m.

"The purpose of March for Babies is to raise funds and awareness to help the March of Dimes continue its work toward the prevention of birth defects, infant mortality and premature birth," said Pam Crowley, March of Dimes Treasure Coast Division Director. "Our dream is the day when every baby is born healthy."

Corporate teams, organizations, family teams and individuals are invited to participate in the walk nearest them. A \$25 minimum donation is appreciated per walker. Interested teams and donors can sign up today by calling 863-763-3131. Money raised through the event will help fund lifesaving research and educational programs aimed at helping moms have healthy babies.

Brown emphasized that the mission priority of the March of Dimes is to fight the growing crisis of prematurity. "Premature birth is the leading cause of newborn death

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# Chamber of Commerce has ambassador program

The Chamber of Commerce has announced the introduction of the Ambassador Program to its wide-range of member benefits. An ambassador is defined as an official representative of high rank with the chamber. They are liaisons for the membership to the chamber board of directors. The ambassadors are the messengers who bring the members' interests, needs and opinions about what is needed for the community to the board. The intent is to serve as a voice for the business, uniting those who realize that through the chamber they can accomplish collectively what no one of them can do individually. Responsibilities include acting as a recruiter and mentor to new members, keeping in contact with members, serving as the hosts/advisory committee to events, assisting with membership drives and consistently having fun as a group by engaging new members and therefore adding value to the membership.

Heading up the Ambassador Program is Maureen Budjinski.

"The ambassador program will provide a different level of service to our members never before offered to the Chamber mem-

bership. We are extremely proud and grateful to each of the people who have offered their valuable time to be an ambassador," stated Terry Burroughs, Interim Executive Director.

The appointed ambassadors are Frank DeCarlo of American Drilling Services, Jim Vensel of the Area Agency on Aging, Holly Mixon of Mixon Real Estate Group, John Creasman of C & B Background Fingerprinting and Paul Mitchell of Bass-Buxton Funeral Homes.

The chamber invites members and non-members to the quarterly investors' luncheon on Thursday, Oct. 27, at Indian River State College, Williamson Conference & Education Center, featuring Keynote Speaker Executive Director of St. Lucie County Economic Development Council Larry Pelton. Networking begins at 11:30 a.m. and lunch will be served at 12:00 noon.

For information on the Ambassador Program, the Chamber of Commerce of Okeechobee County, or to RSVP to the luncheon, call (863) 467-6246 or visit the website at [www.okeechobeebusiness.com](http://www.okeechobeebusiness.com).

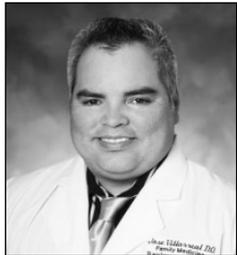
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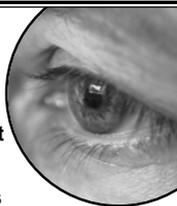
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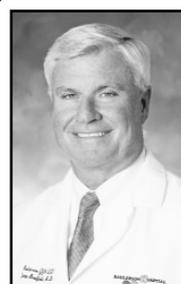
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- 912 NW 2nd Street,  
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2011, at 9 AM. Furni-  
ture, Appliances, Elec-  
tronics, Tools,  
Clothing, Toys, Home  
Decor, and much  
more!

**OKEECHOBEE, Friday**  
& Saturday, October  
14th & 15th, 7am-7,  
3126 Highway 441 S.  
(behind Real Estate Of-  
fice). Furniture, House-  
hold Items, DU  
Collectibles & More!

**Yard Sale**  
Fri. 14th and Sat. 15th  
8:00 am till ?  
1020 9th Street, BHR  
Tools, Household, Alumi-  
num 2 Horse Trailer  
and Misc Items.

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screen porch, applian-  
ces & some utilities in-  
cluded. \$500 sec.  
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Hammock quiet neigh-  
borhood, tile thru-out,  
newer home. \$900  
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Hwy 441 SE newer  
home, tile/carp. et.  
Community pool, ten-  
nis, clubhouse. Lawn  
maint. incl. \$850  
**2/2** BHR waterfront  
w/lake access, remod-  
eled, tile thru-out, car-  
port, shed &  
boathouse. \$900  
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tric/lawn. \$1200  
**Sena Treadway**  
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Also 2 Bdrm/1 bath  
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No Pets 863-634-2820

**Furnished 1/1** or 2/1 in  
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washer and dryer start-  
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3BR/1BA** Duplex, W/D  
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FINANCING**  
**TREASURE ISLAND**  
LARGE 4BR, 2BA, CBS  
house on the water.  
\$159,000  
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w/screened pool, many  
upgrades, on the water.  
\$149,000 or will lease for  
\$1200 mo.  
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Houses - Sale

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Ft Drum 33698 NE 9th Ave 4 acre pasture, with 1 1/2 bd mobile home partially furnished \$400 deposit \$400 monthly. 912-224-4658

Mobile Home Sale 1978 single wide trailer - furnished 2BR 1BA, screen porch, covered carport, w/d, and shed. \$14,000 Pirates Cove. Call Danny 772-589-6727.

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OKEECHOBEE- Lg. 3br/2ba DW, w/14x40 addition, metal roof, FP, 11x20 shop, on Canal. Covered dock & slip. Sprinklers, \$75K O.B.O. 772-321-1835 or 772-664-6799.

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Travel Trailers 33' Travel Trailer With Paneled Room Addition \$1,500.00 Call 863-357-6404

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

Public Notice

CITY COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Okeechobee will meet in Regular Session on Tuesday, October 18, 2011, at 6:00 p.m., at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Rm 200, Okeechobee, Florida. The public is invited and encouraged to attend. PLEASE TAKE NOTICE AND BE ADVISED that no stenographic record by a certified court reporter will be made of the foregoing meeting. Accordingly, any person who may seek to appeal any decision involving the matters noticed herein will be responsible for making a verbatim record of the testimony and evidence at said meeting upon which any appeal is to be based. Please contact City Administration at 863-763-3372, or website www.cityofokeechobee.com, to obtain a copy of the agenda. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the City Clerk's Office at 863-763-3372 for assistance. BY: James E. Kirk, Mayor Lane Gamioeta, CMC, City Clerk 399585 ON 10/14/2011

NOTICE OF CITY PLANNING BOARD MEETING NOTICE: The City of Okeechobee Planning Board will meet at the Local Planning Agency on Thursday, October 20, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible, to consider any proposed amendments, submitted by City Staff or citizens, to the adopted City Comprehensive Plan, which may include amendments to the adopted Land Development Regulations (LDR's). All amendments are forwarded, with a recommendation, to the City Council for final consideration. The meeting will be held at City Hall, 55 Southeast 3rd Avenue, in the Council Chambers, Room 200, Okeechobee, Florida. PLEASE TAKE NOTICE AND BE ADVISED that no stenographic record by a certified court reporter will be made of the foregoing meeting. Accordingly, any person who may seek to appeal any decision involving the matters noticed herein will be responsible for making a verbatim record of the testimony and evidence at said meeting upon which any appeal is to be based. Please contact General Services at 863-763-3372, or website www.cityofokeechobee.com, to obtain a copy of the agenda. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the General Services Office at 863-763-3372 for assistance. BY: Brian Whitehall, Zoning Administrator 399586 ON 10/14/2011

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED SPECIAL EXCEPTION A PUBLIC HEARING will be held before the City of Okeechobee Board of Adjustment and Appeals on Thursday, October 20, 2011 at 6:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as possible, at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Council Chambers, Rm 200, Okeechobee, Florida. The agenda is available on the City website www.cityofokeechobee.com, or contact the General Services Department, bclment@cityofokeechobee.com, 863-763-3372 x 218. Under consideration is Special Exception Petition No. 11-002-SE, submitted by property owner Gustavo Martinez, to allow a car wash within a CHV Zoning District (Ref. Code Book Section 90-283(2)). Property is located at 507 NE Park Street. Legal: Lots 11 and 12 of Block 150, Okeechobee, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 5, Page 5, Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida. All members of the public are encouraged to attend and participate in said hearing. The entire petition may be inspected during regular business hours, Mon-Fri, 8am-4:30pm, except for holidays. The Board of Adjustment and Appeals serves as the decision making body (quasi-judicial), on behalf of the City, to approve or deny Special Exceptions. PLEASE TAKE NOTICE AND BE ADVISED that if any person desires to appeal any decision made by the Board of Adjustment and Appeals with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, or hearing will need to ensure a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. General Services media are used for the sole purpose of back-up for the department. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the General Services Office at 863-763-3372 for assistance. by: Brian Whitehall, Zoning Administrator Petition No. 11-002-SE 397899 ON 10/5,14/2011

Public Notice

SCHOOL BOARD EXECUTIVE SESSION AND NEGOTIATIONS The Okeechobee County School Board will meet in closed Executive Session on Monday, October 17, 2011, at 3:00 p.m. in the office of the Superintendent, 700 SW 2nd Avenue, Okeechobee. The meeting is for School Board members, their attorney, and chief negotiator to prepare for negotiations with Okeechobee County Education Association #1604 concerning the instructional and classified employee contracts/Race To The Top/Senate Bill 736. The School Board and Education Association will begin negotiation of personnel contracts at 4:00 p.m. on same date. Collective bargaining sessions are open to the public and will be held in Room 303 of the School Board Administration Building at 700 SW 2nd Avenue, Okeechobee. Ken Kenworthy Superintendent of Schools 400211 ON 10/14/2011

Public Notice

LEGAL NOTICE A public auction of stored personal property, from Okeechobee Store-N-Lock, to be conducted at 4129 Hwy 441 South, Okeechobee, FL will be held to pay unpaid storage fees (pursuant to Section 83.806, Florida Statutes). Public Auction to be held on October 15, 2011 beginning at 10:00 am. The personal property in the following units will be auctioned. All payments must be made in full. CASH ONLY, by the date/time of auction. AMY A. WILLIAMS, Unit #60 WILLIAM WATSON, Unit #76 DAVID SAMPLE, Unit #81 SARAH R. LINDLEY, Unit #26 CHARLES R. HAWES, Unit #103 BLU BISHOP, Unit #172 AMANDA ADAMS, Unit #124 399671 ON 10/7,14/2011

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Public Notice

Notice Under Fictitious Name Law Pursuant to Section 865.09, Florida Statutes NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of SHADY OAKS RV PARK located at 2017 Highway 441 SE, in the County of Okeechobee, in the City of Okeechobee, FL 34974 intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida. Dated at: Stuart, Florida, this 10th day of October, 2011. Shady Oaks RV Park, LLC 400073 ON 10/14/2011

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION File No. 470211CP000138XXXXX IN RE: ESTATE OF LUCIANO MENDOZA ZAMORA Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the estate of LUCIANO MENDOZA ZAMORA, deceased, whose date of death was June 9, 2011, is pending in the Circuit Court for OKEECHOBEE County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 312 Northwest 3rd Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below. All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claim with this court within 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM. All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claim with this court within 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN

Public Notice

THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED. The date of first publication of this notice is October 14th, 2011.

Personal Representative: SERGIO MENDOZA 15 South Regent Station, #2A Portchester, New York 10573 Attorney For Personal Representative: MICHELE MARIE CORCIONE, ESQ. Attorney for SERGIO MENDOZA Florida Bar Number: 52025 ELLIS, GED & BODDEN, P.A. 7171 North Federal Highway Boca Raton, FL 33487 Telephone: (561) 995-1966 Fax: (561) 228-0914 E-Mail: mcorcione@ellisandged.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 2011-CP-149 IN RE: ESTATE OF CAROL LYNN BEARD f/k/a CAROL L. PELHAM f/k/a CAROL L. SWEATT Deceased

NOTICE TO CREDITORS The name of the decedent, the designation of the court in which the administration of this estate is pending, and the file number are indicated above. The address of the Court is 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are indicated below. If you have been served with a copy of this notice and you have any claim or demand against the decedent's estate, even if that claim is unmaturing, contingent or liquidated, you must file your claim with the court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF A DATE THAT IS 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER YOU RECEIVE A COPY OF THIS NOTICE. All other creditors of the decedent and other persons who have claims or demands against decedent's estate, including unmaturing, contingent or unliquidated claims, must file their claims with the court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. EVEN IF A CLAIM IS NOT BARRED BY THE LIMITATIONS DESCRIBED ABOVE, ALL CLAIMS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN FILED WILL BE BARRED TWO YEARS AFTER DECEDENT'S DEATH. The date of death of the decedent is: July 17, 2011. The date of first publication of this notice is October 14, 2011. Personal Representative: JOHN A. BEARD 195 NE 70th Avenue Okeechobee, FL 34974 Attorney for Personal Representative: COLIN M. CAMERON 200 N.E. 4th Avenue Okeechobee, FL 34972 (863) 763-8600 Fla. Bar No. 270441 400275 ON 10/14,21/2011

Public Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of Free Frog SCUBA Adventures located at 1140 Lakeshore Dr., Suite #204, in the County of Okeechobee, in the City of Palm Beach, Florida 33403 intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida. Dated at Palm Beach, Florida, this 11th day of October, 2011. Kris Petty 400174 ON 10/14/2011

SCHOOL BOARD EXECUTIVE SESSION AND NEGOTIATIONS

The Okeechobee County School Board will meet in closed Executive Session on Monday, October 17, 2011, at 3:00 p.m. in the office of the Superintendent, 700 SW 2nd Avenue, Okeechobee. The meeting is for School Board members, their attorney, and chief negotiator to prepare for negotiations with Okeechobee County Education Association #1604 concerning the instructional and classified employee contracts/Race To The Top/Senate Bill 736.

The School Board and Education Association will begin negotiation of personnel contracts at 4:00 p.m. on same date. Collective bargaining sessions are open to the public and will be held in Room 303 of the School Board Administration Building at 700 SW 2nd Avenue, Okeechobee. Ken Kenworthy Superintendent of Schools 400211 ON 10/14/2011

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

The Department of Environmental Protection gives notice of its intent to issue an Environmental Resource Permit (File No.: 0272794-004) to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the Kissimmee River Restoration - Reach 3 Backfill, Contract 12. The project involves the backfill of approximately 7,700 linear feet of the C-38 canal within Reach 3. The backfilling will start approximately 1,400 linear feet south of the US Highway 98 bridge crossing and continue south. The material used for the backfill of the C-38 canal will be taken from the existing dredged material on the adjacent banks of the canal. The Bass Levee is located east of the C-38 canal and south of US Highway 98. Approximately 18,500 linear feet of the levee will be degraded. The project will permanently impact approximately 200 acres of wetlands and other surface waters and restore over 6,280 acres of Kissimmee River floodplain in Pool D.

The activities are located within, along, and adjacent to the C-38 canal in Reach 3 and the Pool D floodplain. The backfill section of the C-38 canal is located approximately 1,400 linear feet south of U.S. Highway 98 bridge crossing. The degradation of the Bass Levee is located on the east bank of the C-38 canal, south of U.S. Highway 98. All activities are located in Class III Waters, Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 17, Township 36 South, Range 33 East in Okeechobee and Highlands Counties and Sections 32, 33, 34, 35, Township 35 South, Range 33 East in Okeechobee County. The application is available for public inspection during normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, at the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, c/o the South Florida Water Management District, 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406, telephone (561) 682-2664.

The Department will issue the permit with attached conditions unless a timely petition for an administrative hearing is filed under sections 120.569 and 120.57 of the Florida Statutes, before the deadline for filing a petition. The procedures for petitioning for a hearing are set forth below. A person whose substantial interests are affected by the Department's proposed permit decision may petition for an administrative proceeding (hearing) under sections 120.569 and 120.57 of the Florida Statutes. The petition must contain the information set forth below and must be filed (received by the clerk) in the Office of General Counsel of the Department at 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station 35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000. Petitions by the applicant or any of the parties listed below must be filed within 21 days of receipt of this written notice. Petitions filed by any persons other than those entitled to written notice under section 120.60(3) of the Florida Statutes must be filed within 21 days of publication of the notice or receipt of the written notice, whichever occurs first. Under section 120.60(3) of the Florida Statutes, however, any person who has asked the Department for notice of action may file a petition within 21 days of receipt of such notice, regardless of the date of publication. The petitioner shall mail a copy of the petition to the applicant at the address indicated above at the time of filing. The failure of any person to file a petition or request for mediation within the appropriate time period shall constitute a waiver of that person's right to request an administrative determination (hearing) under sections 120.569 and 120.57 of the Florida Statutes. Any subsequent intervention (in a proceeding initiated by another party) will be only at the discretion of the presiding officer upon the filing of a motion in compliance with rule 28-106.205 of the Florida Administrative Code.

A petition that disputes the material facts on which the Department's action is based must contain the following information: a) The name and address of each agency affected and each agency's file or identification number, if known; b) The name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner; the name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner's representative, if any, which shall be the address for service purposes during the course of the proceeding; and an explanation of how the petitioner's substantial interests will be affected by the agency determination; c) A statement of how and when each petitioner received notice of the agency decision; d) A statement of all disputed issues of material fact. If there are none, the petition must so indicate; e) A concise statement of the ultimate facts alleged, as well as the rules or statutes which entitle the petitioner to relief; and f) A demand for relief. A petition that does not dispute the material facts on which the Department's action is based shall state that no such facts are in dispute and otherwise shall contain the same information as set forth above, as required by rule 28-106.301. Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the filing of a petition means that the Department's final action will be different from the position taken by it in this notice. Persons whose substantial interests will be affected by any such final decision of the Department have the right to petition to become a party to the proceeding, in accordance with the requirements set forth above. Mediation is not available in this proceeding. Any party to this order has the right to seek judicial review of it under section 120.68 of the Florida Statutes, by filing a notice of appeal under rule 9.110 of the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure with the clerk of the Department in the Office of General Counsel, Mail Station 35, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000, and by filing a copy of the notice of appeal accompanied by the applicable filing fees with the appropriate district court of appeal. The notice of appeal must be filed within thirty days after this order is filed with the clerk of the Department. 400108 ON 10/14/2011

Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis ACROSS 1 Perform in a play 4 Skilled 8 Check signers 14 1950 Edmond O'Brien suspense classic 15 Sliding 16 Hide out 17 49th state's largest city 20 Parking spot money taker 21 Sly 22 Grating sound 23 1/2 of a min. 25 "Was... hard on him?" 27 E.M. Forster classic set in fictional Candrapore 35 "What... is new?" 36 Washroom, briefly 37 Is ahead 38 "or" for "at" 39 Houses with sharply angled roofs, and what this puzzle's four longest answers literally have in common 42 Point to pick 43 Sam of "The Piano" 45 Dapper guy? 46... about: approximately Classic Italian "farewell" song 51 Far from tanned 52 Conclude 53 Loud crowd noise 56 Community service org. 59 Popeye's creator 63 Two-part drama that won two Best Play Tonys and a Best Miniseries Emmy 66 Freezing period 67 Pesky kid 68 Acne press 69 Clinton press secretary Myers 70 Tax time VIPs 71 Commercials 2 Ice cream holder 3 Diplomat's forte 4 Has a crush on 5 NYC's Bronx, e.g. 6 Bread purchase 7 Thus, to a logician 8 win: go all out 9 Afflict 10 Beginning of time, figuratively 11 Film lioness 12 Korean soldiers 13 Trade 18 "Steppenwolf" writer Hermann 19 Way off the turnpike 24 Young cow 26 Lubricates 27 Hawaii Net rival 28 One with a trade 29 Moving about 30 Needle-toothed fish 31 Give the slip 32 "Hawaii Five-O" nickname 33 Figure of speech 34 Stars, in Latin 39 Thomas Edison 40 Scuff or scratch 41 Suffix with differ 44 Interpret via mouth movements 46 Neatness 48 Paris palace 49 Moore of "Ghost" 50 Maps within maps 53 Vice squad 54 action 55 "The African Queen" co-screenwriter 57 "The Suze Orman Show" channel 58 50-and-over org. 60 City near the Sphinx 61 Word before rain or rock 62 Sewer rodents 64 The "L" in XL: Abbr. 65 Goat's cry

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE: C Y C L E S W A G D U S K B E A L L T O U R O N C E S P R A T A N T I I R A N A M O N G T H E E N E M Y V O L A R E O F F S P A I R A O W N E R L A T I N A C R E E L G A B A M A S S A F O R T U N E R E T I T O T E X T S L A N G C N O T E O E R L E G U M A T R E N D Y A M A T E U R S P O R T S L O V E G D A Y A N I T A O N E S G I L L T A G U P M Y S T Y O K E A S N E R xwordeditor@aol.com

Need to Find a Doctor? Check out our Medical Directory in Wednesday and Friday's Okeechobee News

# OHS plans Homecoming activities

The Okeechobee High School Homecoming Football game will be Friday, Oct. 21, at 7 p.m. Pre-game festivities begin at 6:30 p.m. The OHS Brahmans will play the South Fork Bulldogs.

The Homecoming Dance will be on Saturday, Oct. 22, in the OHS Cafeteria from 8 p.m. to midnight.

## Dress up themes

During the week of Homecoming, OHS students will show their school spirit by dressing in a different theme for each day.

- Monday, Oct. 17, Sports Day: Wear anything sport related but clothing must be school appropriate;

- Tuesday, Oct. 18, Mix-Match Day: Dress in theme "CARTOON MANIA".

- Wednesday, Oct. 19, Super Hero Day: Dress as a superhero or anything related to a super hero.

- Thursday, Oct. 20, Class Day: Seniors wear camouflage or wood hauling team shirts; Juniors wear purple; Sophomores wear gold; Freshmen wear white;

- Friday, Oct. 21, School Spirit Day: Wear purple and gold.

## Lunch activities

Class members may participate in both daily activities and the on-going weeklong activities. Points will be awarded daily for these activities. Money Drop will be a week-long activity. Each class will place a sealed jug in the cafeteria. There will be a deduc-

tion for quarters and dollars.

Monday, Oct. 17, Dance while you drop: Students from each class will place a penny between their knees and try to dance all the way to the other side and drop the penny in a jar while dancing. Points will be award for first, second, and third place. Entry fee is 50 cents per drop.

Tuesday, Oct. 18, Musical Chairs: Chair dance competition to cartoon theme songs. The last person will win points for their class. Cost for each player is 50 cents.

Wednesday, Oct. 19, Three Legged Race: Students from each class will race with a team member all the way to the finish line. Entry fee is \$1 per team of two. Win points for your class. Points will be awarded for first, second and third places.

Thursday, Oct. 20 is Brahman Spirit Day: Students will be preparing for the Homecoming Parade, Pep Rally and Bonfire.

Friday, Oct. 21, Corn Hole competition: Students will throw cloth bags filled with corn at holes in a wooden target. This competition is by class only. Win points for your class at 25 cents per bag.

## Parade, Pep Rally and Bonfire

The Okeechobee High School Homecoming Parade will take place on Thursday, Oct. 20, at 6 p.m. The parade will follow the traditional route starting at the U-Save, continuing down U.S. 441 (Parrott Avenue) to State Road 70 and ending at the end of Fla-

gler Park. Gates to the school will be locked from 5 p.m. until the parade is over. After the parade, the gates will be opened for admission to the Pep Rally and Bonfire.

The Pep Rally will be held at Brahman stadium following the parade. Gates will be locked to the campus at 7:30 p.m. for the Pep Rally and the lighting of the bonfire. All gates to the high school will remain locked until the Pep Rally is over. Admission to the Bonfire and Pep Rally will be \$3 per person. The community is invited to the Pep Rally and will sit on the visitors side of the stadium (east side). Only seniors will be allowed to go on the road by the bonfire.

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Special to the Okeechobee News/RSCA

## Special visitors

Rock Solid Christian Academy Preschool had special visitors to recognize Community Helpers Week. City Firefighter Adam Crum (left) and Sgt. Mark D. Roberts and Deputy Rodney Rucks, both of Okeechobee County Sheriff's Dept. (not in photo) office visited with the center's young children.

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5010-H: Remodeled and multiple upgrades, granite counters, stainless steel appl, whole house generator, fenced/cross fenced, barn/workshop in Quail Woods. Automatic gate. MLS #204669

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# Commissioners hear plans for proposed wildlife refuge

By Pete Gawda

Okeechobee News

Plans for a proposed wildlife refuge that could include a portion of Okeechobee

County are nearing completion.

Charlie Pelizza, of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) presented an update on the proposed Everglades Headwaters National

Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area to Okeechobee County Commissioners at their Thursday, Oct. 13, meeting. Much of the property under consideration for purchase or lease is in Okeechobee County.

Mr. Pelizza stressed that FWS will be working only with willing land owners and that there would be no condemnations. He said the 150,000 acre project would consist of 100,000 acres in leased conservation easements and 50,000 acres to be bought outright. He said anything done in the area of the proposed refuge to improve the environment would help with Everglades Restoration. The area of the proposed refuge also provides habitat for endangered species such as the Florida Panther.

Mr. Pelizza said that none of the land under consideration meets the requirements for wilderness designation. Neither Viking in Okeechobee County nor River Ranch in Polk County are being considered for the refuge.

Mr. Pelizza explained the process by which property is ranked for its desirability as part of the refuge. However, the bottom line is owner willingness. He stressed there would be no condemnation. Property of willing buyers would be appraised and fair market value would be offered.

"It is primarily the development rights that we are interested in removing from the property," Mr. Pelizza said of conservation easements. "He can do everything he was

doing prior to the easement except develop it," Mr. Pelizza said of those who would lease their property. The conservation easement would be paid in a one-time, lump-sum payment and would exist in perpetuity. If the land were sold, the easement would be binding on the new owners.

Money to buy or lease the property would come from the proceeds of offshore oil and gas leases.

Mr. Pelizza stated that for every dollar spent on a refuge by the federal government four dollars enters the local economy. In lieu of property taxes the federal government pays local governments what is called revenue sharing which, he says, generally exceeds tax revenues.

Plans for the refuge are expected to be finalized this winter with final approval some time after the first of the year. The actual establishment of the refuge would coincide with the first property acquisition.

In response to a question from county attorney John Cassels, Mr. Pelizza stated that local governments would not have to make changes to land development regulations or to the comprehensive plan to accommodate the refuge.

"There are no further restrictions I am aware of," Mr. Pelizza said.

## Joni Ard named assistant superintendant

By Charles M. Murphy

Okeechobee News

A veteran education administrator was appointed the new Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services at the monthly meeting of the Okeechobee County School Board on Tuesday night.

Joni Ard replaces Ken Kenworthy in the job as Kenworthy was named School Superintendent over the summer.

Mr. Kenworthy said Ms. Ard is very thorough in her work and her research and is a great leader over finance and human resources.

"I believe she will do an outstanding job in leading this district," he said.

The school board also adopted a moratorium on public educational facilities impact fees through June 30, 2012. This moratorium will be reviewed on an annual basis. The enrollment in the school system has declined by 140 students this year as of Sept. 27 and projections show no significant student growth in the near future.

The district intends to use the funds which remain in this account to complete a remodel project at Yearling Middle School. Two classrooms will be created out of an old home economics section in the school.

Mr. Kenworthy explained the official count for students is this week but there is little change expected. Studies predict a decline in enrollment through 2022.

"Impact fees are only a small portion of what builds a school. You have to have a capital budget to build a building. We don't

have that right now and we're not projected to have it for quite awhile," he noted.

Mr. Kenworthy said the school board should do its part to stir economic growth. Impact fees did help pay for additions at Seminole Elementary and Osceola Middle School.

In other actions the board:

- appointed Traci Brown as the new Assistant Principal at Okeechobee High School;

- recognized Lynda Bass, an ESE bus aide for the transportation department, and Lynn Boak, a guidance clerical aide at Seminole Elementary School, upon their retirement from Okeechobee Schools;

- expelled a student at the Okeechobee Achievement Academy through Sept. 14, 2012 for assault and/or battery on a school board employee.

- proclaimed the week of Oct. 17-21, as National School Bus Safety Week.

- scheduled an executive session of the board to resume contract negotiations with the Okeechobee County Education Association #1604 for Oct. 17, at 3 p.m. Negotiations will resume at 4 p.m.;

- added teacher positions at the Okeechobee Achievement Academy, Central Elementary and Seminole Elementary. They eliminated one permanent sub from both Yearling and Osceola Middle Schools; and,

- scheduled the next board meeting for Tuesday, Nov. 22, at 6 p.m. learned 63 percent of school expenses were spent in Okeechobee classrooms which is an increase of three percent in the past year.

## Okeechobee Sports Notes

By Charles M. Murphy

Okeechobee News

- Yearling Middle School soccer remained unbeaten with a 6-0 victory at Oslo on Wednesday. Wilson Barahona and Logan Laskey had two goals apiece, while Alerto Diaz and Giovanni Garcia had one goal each. Yearling didn't score until the 16th minute of the first half.

- Coach Erick Rios praised Giovanni Garcia for his work at midfield. He also praised Laskey and Barahona for great combination passes. The game was stopped midway through the second half due to inclement weather in Vero Beach.

- Bad weather shortened a swim meet between Okeechobee and Jensen Beach on Wednesday in Jensen.

- Jensen won the boys meet 49-23 and the girls meet 45-27. Highlights for the Brahman boys Ryan Reister who finished second in the 200 freestyle, Dalton Hodges who finished second in the 200 individual medley, Jason Rucks who finished third in the 50 freestyle

- and Brandon Ball who finished third in the 200 freestyle.

- The Yearling volleyball team defeated Oslo Wednesday 25-10 and 25-17. Cheyenne Nunez had five aces, seven kills and two saves. Jacie Harvey had 12 assists and three aces. Rachel Bryant had five aces, six kills, and four assists. Yearling (11-1) plays at Sebastian Monday and hosts Osceola next Wednesday.

- The OHS Brahman girls golf team finished second in a tri match with Vero Beach and St. Edwards at the Moorings Country Club this week. Vero Beach shot 151, Okeechobee 169 and St. Edwards 189. Rachel Rabon led Okeechobee with a 2-over 35. Emily Raulerson shot 43. The Lady Brahmans defeated John Carroll and Fort Pierce Central in a second tri match at the St. James Country Club on Tuesday. Emily Raulerson shot 47 and Rabon shot 48 to lead the Brahmans.

- The annual Powder Puff football game will be played Friday night at 7 p.m., at Brahman Stadium.



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