OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 102 No. 133 | Sunday, November 6, 2011 | 75¢ Plus tax

OHS Brahmans football ... Page 14

Two accused of stealing metal roofing sheets ... Page 10

SFWMD responds to allegation of breaking state law ... Page 4

March of Dimes plans Walk for Babies ...Page 2

Lake Levels

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Special to the Okeechobee News/CES

The Science and Math of pumpkins

Central Elementary School students such as Casey Perry used pumpkins to learn about Science and Math at a fall festival at the school. For more on the story, see page 8.

Election shaping up

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

Even though the presidential election is a year away, there is already a lot of local interest as evidenced by local party officials and the moving of the date of the Florida Presidential Preference Primary.

Joe Arnold, who represents Okeechobee County on the Florida Republican Committee, is still noncommittal about the large field of Republican presidential candidates. He said it was still too early to make a judgement. Mr. Arnold said he would be interested to hear what any new candidates might have to say.

See **ELECTION** — Page 5

Governments may handle impact fees differently

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

Impact fees might have sounded good at the time they were instituted a few years ago during boom times, but are they now a hindrance to new construction in these tough economic times?

In light of the current economic climate should impact fees be suspended or reworked? Both solutions are being tried locally.

Impact fees are designed so that new construction pays for such things as the additional wear and tear on roads, the additional impacts

See **IMPACT** — Page 5

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Okeechobee County Forecast

Sunday: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 82. Northeast wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Sunday night: A 20 percent chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 61. Northeast wind around 5 mph.

Extended Forecast

Monday: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 82. Northeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Monday night: A 20 percent chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 62. North northeast wind around 5 mph.

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Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 82. North wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Tuesday night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 60. North northwest wind around 5 mph.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 83. Northwest wind around 5 mph.

Wednesday night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 59. West northwest wind around 5 mph.

March for Babies

Above, the March of Dimes "March for Babies" 2012 Kickoff luncheon was held at Cowboys Restaurant on Oct. 24. Members of the community turned out to support the upcoming event. Cheryl from Cowboy's Restaurant (center) sponsored the kick-off lunch and is surrounded by some members of the March for Babies 2012 Committee including: Teresa Chandler, Dr. Patricia Cooper, Pat O'Connor, Magi Cable, Event Chair Russ Brown and Sharon Vinson. (at lower right) Mr. and Mrs. Lafferty attended the event from Publix - the event's top corporate partner.

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Special to the Okeechobee News/**Jan Fehrman**

Book sale

Friends of the Okeechobee Library are gearing up for their fall book sale from 10 to 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 16; 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 17; 10 am to 5:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 18; and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov 19. Books and videos are a dollar a pound. On Saturday, a bag of books is $2 and a box is $5. A 10 percent discount is offered with a Friends of the Okeechobee Library membership card. The sale has been extended an extra day because of the large number of books available for sale. This is the Friends of the Okeechobee Library's major fund-raiser. They have "a ton" of books to sell this time. Friends of the Okeechobee Library from left to right: Carol Mahnkie, Marion Davis, Marilyn Hadley, Hazel Parnis, Janet McKenna.

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Public Forum/Speak Out

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

Buy American

• This Christmas buy American. Everyone would appreciate a gift certificate from a local business instead of buying Chinese junk. Think about it!

• Let's cancel xmas presents so we can buy two gallons of gas at a time. Let the gas sit in the tanks of the oil companies and spend half the money you have been spending. Have TV services cut back to basic, all the other junk is not worth the money. If you think the price is too high for something, don't buy it. Let it rot on the shelf.

Occupy Park Street?

• INEPT0CRACY—This word may well apply to the youth (s) of America who are currently protesting in our streets for something they can't verbalize well at all. They seem to want a continuation of the free ride that mommy and daddy have provided them all their lives. Sorry boys and girls, the real world is about real work and production of something else besides rhetoric and virtual computer games. It's time to grow up and join the producing (working) adults of America.

• What shall we overcome? We won't have to get up and go to work. We will just let the wealthy take care of us. We won't have to hide out at mom's house in case some one wants us to go to work. We can sit around and complain about what we don't have and someone else does. I think they ought to overcome their feeling sorry for their selves and get up out of their tents.

• If the 1 percent would take some of their millions and start some new businesses and hire some of the 99 percent, then maybe the whole situation would settle down. Statistics show that while the middle class has been more productive, we are earning less. And the upper 1 percent takes more and more of the profits. Why should CEOs be paid millions while the workers don't even get a cost of living raise?

Did SFWMD break state law?

• I find it interesting that after being caught not following the state law in regard to bidding, the SFWMD officials now say they will review their policy and put all leases out for bids. How long have they been breaking the law, and just now they decide it might be a good idea to follow state statute.

• I don't blame the ranchers. They didn't break the rules. They took advantage of a good deal that was offered, and I think most people would do the same. But the SFWMD board is required by law to put that out for bids and they didn't. This means the taxpayers got the shaft because had they put it out for competitive bids, we likely would have gotten more money in rent on that piece of public property.

Buy American

• It's not easy to buy American because the stores carry so much that comes from other countries. But if we want American workers to have jobs, we need to make the effort to buy American when we can. Look at the labels. Ask the store owners if they carry American made goods. If they have enough people asking, they might start carrying more American-made goods to meet the demand. Sure the stuff from other countries is cheaper, but that is because they do not pay their workers minimum wage. They might even be using child labor that is illegal in this country. Do a little research and find out where your dollars go and what kind of system you are supporting when you buy various brands.

Bullying

• A teacher in New York was teaching her class about bullying and gave them the following exercise to perform. She had the children take out a piece of paper and told them to crumple it up, stomp on it and really mess it up, not to rip it. Then she had them unfold the paper, smooth it out and look at how scarred and dirt...y it was. She then told them to tell it they're sorry. Now, even though they said they were sorry and tried to fix the paper, she pointed out all the scars they left behind. And that those scars will never go away no matter how hard they tried to fix it. That is what happens when a child bullies another child, they may say they're sorry, but the scars are there forever. The looks on the faces of the children in the classroom told her the message hit home. Share this if you are against bullying.

Letters to the editor

SFWMD responds to headline

A misleading headline in Wednesday's Okeechobee News brought into question South Florida Water Management District's adherence to state law in its land leasing activities.

Land leasing is an important and legally valid land management tool for all five of Florida's water management districts, as described in state statutes. While land leasing issues can be complex, the article unfortunately confused the facts relating to requirements for competitive bidding and public noticing.

First, Governing Board policy allows the District to renew existing leases without competition if the lessee is in good standing, i.e., taxes are paid and all lease conditions are met, and the lessee agrees to an appraisal to establish market rent as well as an annual Consumer Price Index or agricultural commodity index adjustment for future years.

Second, the News reported that three weeks of public noticing are required for all leases. State statute is silent on whether renewal of an existing lease in good standing requires this step. The District's long-standing practice—and those of the other water management districts—has been to publicly notice new leases only.

As the District's new executive director, transparency and public access are important to me—and also to this Governing Board. In recent months, we have been evaluating many of the District's past practices to find opportunities for improvement. Land leasing is no exception.

This month, the Governing Board will specifically consider revising the agency's land leasing policy. They will be looking at policy components such as length of lease term, competitive bidding requirements, public noticing protocols and a number of other options. Their revisions, if any, will be in full compliance with Florida Statutes.

We encourage public participation in these policy discussions. I invite your readers to attend the Governing Board meeting, submit their input to ExecutiveDirector@sfwmd.gov or watch the meeting webcast at www.sfwmd.gov.

Melissa Meeker
Executive Director
South Florida Water Management District

Healthy Start Educational Baby Shower a huge success

Okeechobee is definitely a tight knit community that is always willing to give a hand to take care of their own! The Healthy Start Coalition of Okeechobee County would like to take this opportunity to not only say Thank You to our contributors, but to make sure they receive the recognition they deserve for caring about their community. Without the generosity of our contributors, our educational baby shower would not have been the huge success it was! A huge thank you goes out to the following businesses and individuals:

Okeechobee Dodge Chrysler Jeep, Okeechobee County School Board, Magi Cable, Sharon Vinson, Pat O'Connor, CIS/PAL, Jill Rogers, Amanda Blewett, Courtney Crews, Hungry Howies, Hampton Inn, Subway – Park Street, Lightsey's, Pueblo Viejo VI, Dora Sanchez, Hair Cuttery, Stacy Voss, Robyn Preis, Kelly Colter, Tires Plus, Winn Dixie, Zippy's Wings, Amanda Fuchswanz, William Bussey, Rebecca Bussey, Patricia Hemming, Jeff Begin, Home Depot, Sea Coast National Bank, Lowry Markham, Total Fitness, Walgreens, Lodge at the Lake, Mims Veterinary Hospital, Sue's Place, Cato's, Hallmark, First Baptist Church, Jersey Mike's, Golden Corral.

The purpose of the Healthy Start Coalition Educational Baby Shower is to provide education to the new mothers and mother's to be in our local community. Education is provided regarding safety issues, SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome), Shaken Baby, and daily infant care. Educational groups are formed and exhibits are placed to provide valuable information on prenatal care, crib safety, post-partum depression, and poison control. We also provide education regarding the availability of car seat, parenting, childbirth education classes, and care coordination.

Again, it is the dedication and support of our local community that made this event possible. We Thank You!

Sincerely,
Jennifer McDonald
Community Liaison

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

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We Pledge...
- To operate this newspaper as a public trust
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- To use our opinion pages to facilitate community debate, not to dominate it with our own opinions.
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- 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.

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ELECTIONS

Continued From Page 1

Mr. Arnold said he fundamentally had a problem with moving the Presidential Preference Primary to January from March. He said that the National Republican Party has told Florida Republicans that they will lose half of their delegates to the National Republican Convention in Tampa because of moving the date. He said there was also talk of moving the convention to another location outside of Florida. However, Mr. Arnold thought it was too late to consider moving to another location.

On the Democrat side, Adean Miller, who represents Okeechobee County on the Florida Democratic Committee, was asked if she thought President Obama would be as strong a candidate as in 2008. "I certainly hope so," she replied. "But it takes all of us to get behind him. We have to work with him."

Ms. Miller stressed the importance of getting young people involved in the election process. She said that at this time the other party does not have a strong candidate. She thinks that once the other party has a strong candidate, the election process will change.

Supervisor of Elections Gwen Chandler said that moving the 2012 Florida Presidential Preference Primary from March to January will not affect her budget. She said it would cost the same whenever it is held. However, it does affect the dates that ballots will have to be mailed out. Ballots to citizens living outside the U.S. and military personnel serving abroad must be mailed by Dec. 17. The remainder of absentee ballots will be mailed between Christmas and Jan. 1. However, with the earlier election, there may be fewer absentee ballots to mail out since many winter residents would be gone in March. Under Florida law, only those voters registered as Republicans can vote in the in the Presidential Preference Primary since there are only Republicans on the ballot.

Based on the 2008 Florida Presidential Preference Primary, Mrs. Chandler is guessing that 3,000 people in Okeechobee will vote, the same number as four years ago. However, she predicts the November, 2012 election will be the biggest election of her lifetime. "The more people are concerned about things, the higher the turnout," she said.

Okeechobee will not have to provide bilingual ballots as was once a possibility. Mrs. Chandler said this will eliminate a lot of problems and costs.

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

IMPACT

Continued From Page 1

on corrections, law enforcement, EMS and fire services and the additional burden on the school system. Impact fess in each category are earmarked for a specific project. They are paid at the time building permits are pulled.

The Okeechobee County School Board and the City of Okeechobee have both suspended impact fees for one year. It was previously incorrectly reported that the city suspended impact fees indefinitely.

At their last meeting Okeechobee County Commissioners voted to retain impact fees. At the same time they directed staff to look at simplifying the calculation methods. According to interim county administrator Robbie Chartier that could mean consolidating the commercial categories. Currently under the county impact fee schedule there are 26 different commercial categories listed under three divisions, (1) office institutional and recreation, (2) industrial and (3) commercial/retail. She said the only way fees could go down was if the projects to be funded by impact fees were changed, or in the case of transportation projects, new traffic studies were done to show a different traffic pattern.

The school board suspended impact fees because there were no state funds for school construction and surveys showed that the school population would decrease over coming years. The city decided to suspend impact fees temporarily to see if that would stimulate new construction. Since the city's action there have been two building permits pulled in the city that would have required impact fees, had the fees been in effect.

In the city before the suspension of impact fees the impact fee for a single family residence was $1,506. As with the county, commercial rates varied with the use and size of the building. The impact fee on a 5,000 square foot restaurant would be $2,200.

Since businesses do not generate school students, there were no commercial impact fees for the school system. The school impact fee on a single family residential dwelling was $3,384.

The total county impact fees for a single family residence are $1,790. By comparison a 5,000 square foot restaurant in the county would require $10,150 in impact fees.

Before impact fees were suspended the builder of a single family residential unit in the city would pay a county impact fee of $1,790, a school impact fee of $3,384 and a city impact fee of $1,506 for a total of $6,680. The same structure built in the unincorporated area of the county would require $5,174 in impact fees. With the suspension of city and school impact fees, the builder of a single family residence anywhere in the county now pays only $1,790 in county impact fees.

Since impact fees started, the school board received a total of $651,660 in impact fees. Of that total $440,240 was spent on school construction, mostly on Seminole Elementary School.

Between the time impact fees were implemented in 2007 and their suspension on June 30 of this year, the city collected a total of $112,974 in impact fees. Of that total, to date only $22,412 has been spent. That money was used to help pay for a brush truck for the city fire department. When the Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System (SLERS) becomes operational some of the city impact fee money will be used to purchase radios for the police and fire departments.

Since July of 2007 the county has collected $986,000 in impact fees. None of that money has been spent yet. However, there are plans to use some of the money to purchase radios when the SLERS system becomes operational.

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

Community Events

Ducks Unlimited event set

A Ducks Unlimited event will be held at the Okeechobee Shrine Club on Hwy. 78 West, on Wednesday, **Nov. 16**, at 6 p.m. For tickets: contact Bill at 863-357-1554 or David at 863-227-0659.

Hospice to host Yard Sales

Hospice of Okeechobee's yard sales in November will be Wednesday, **Nov. 16** and Thursday, Nov. 17, from 8 a.m. until noon. The yard sale is located at the corner of SE 4th Street and SE 3rd Ave. Donations are accepted Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to noon. For information call 863-467-2321 or see our web page: www.hospiceofokeechobee.org and click on Events tab.

Farm City Week Luncheon set

The Kiwanis Club of Okeechobee and the Okeechobee Area Agri-Council will be co-hosting the 17th Annual Kiwanis/Ag Council Farm-City Week luncheon at the Okeechobee KOA. The luncheon is scheduled to begin at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 17. Tickets can be purchased in advance at Farm Credit 863-763-6466 or Farm Bureau at 863-763-3101.

Girl Scouts celebrate 100 years

Girl Scouts of Okeechobee County will display Girl Scout history at the Okeechobee County Library until **Nov. 30**. There will be special activities for area Girl Scouts each Saturday afternoon in November from 1 – 4 p.m. For more information contact Claudet at 863-467-6110.

Considering adoption?

Anyone interested in learning more about adoption is encouraged to join the Children's Home Society of Florida, Treasure Coast Division at our monthly Adoption Orientation session. The next meeting is scheduled to take place at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, **Nov. 17**, at the Early Learning Coalition of St. Lucie County office, located at 804 S. 6th Street in Fort Pierce. This casual and free open house-style orientation will provide an overview of foster care adoption and answer all questions related to adoption. Please help us raise adoption awareness in our community as we try to find additional permanent "Forever Families" for local children in foster care. To RSVP or for more information, contact Children's Home Society's Adoption Information Line at 772-429-2001.

Your right to reply.

We are pledged to operate our newspaper as a public trust. Fairness is extremely important to us.

We admit our errors promptly and we don't "bury" the corrections. (If error appears on the front page, that's where we print the correction.)

Sometimes people don't like what has been written about them. In those cases, we offer a "right to reply" and allow them to tell their own side of the story.

How are we doing?

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

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Community Service Through Journalism

Community Events

OHS band to host fundraiser breakfast

Okeechobee High School Band will hold a fundraiser breakfast on Sunday, **Nov. 6**, from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. The breakfast will be held at the Okeechobee Masonic Lodge, 107 N.W. Fifth Ave. Suggested donation for a full breakfast is just $6 with proceeds to benefit Band trip to Washington, D.C. on May 28, 2012. For ticket information, please call 863-467-0038.

Eagles host Sunday breakfast

Eagles North is having Sunday Breakfast from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m., **Nov. 6.** Donation is $5. Proceeds go to Auxiliary benefit fund, and to purchase items for next breakfast. Open to public.

Shrine Club plans dinner

The Okeechobee Shrine Club will offer a delicious spaghette dinner Tuesday, **Nov. 8**. The Shrine now offers SMOKE FREE dining. Dinners begin at 4 p.m. Music is provided from 5 to 8 p.m., for your listening and dancing pleasure. Proceeds go to Shrine benefits. For more information, contact the Shrine Club at 863-763-3378.

Coffee with the Commissioner

Coffee with the Commissioner will be hosted by Commissioner Joey Hoover on Tuesday, **Nov. 8**, from 10 a.m.–noon, and will be held in Commissioner Hoover's office located at the Okeechobee County Courthouse, 304 NW 2nd Street, Room 244. Citizens wishing to participate are encouraged to call 863-763-6441 to schedule an appointment.

Operation Safe Medicine Cabinet II set for Nov. 12

No questions asked! Turn in your outdated and unused medications. Keep prescription medications out of the wrong hands, off the streets and out of the hands of our youth. Join the Okeechobee City Police Department, the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office and your local pharmacies to make your medicine cabinet and home a safer place. Meds will be collected on Saturday, **Nov. 12**, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. across from Okeechobee Skate Park at 307 N.W. 6th Avenue.

OCEA to host meeting

Okeechobee County Education Association (OCEA) will have its second general membership meeting of the 2011-12 school year on Thursday, **Nov. 10,** at 4:30 p.m., in the media center of Central Elementary, 610 S.W. 5th Ave. All OCEA members of the instructional and classified bargaining unit are encouraged to attend. Potential members may join at the meeting. Come hear the latest on the Teacher Evaluation System, contract negotiations and current legislative issues affecting public education employees. Door prizes and refreshments will be available. Now is the time to get involved in your chosen profession.

Guardian ad Litem Volunteer Training planned

Are you ready to make a difference in the life of a child? The Guardian ad Litem Program needs you! We will be hosting our Volunteer Certification Training in Okeechobee in November. Trainings will be held Seacoast National Bank Operations Center located at 1835 Hwy 441 SE, Okeechobee 34974 on Saturday, **Nov. 12** from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. or Saturday, Nov. 19, from 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

For more information on Guardian ad Litem please contact Keri Hughes, 772.785.5804.

Family Fun Fall Fest planned

Come to Okee-Tantie Campgrounds on Saturday, Nov. 12, for a full day of family fun at the Fall Fest for everyone! The fun gets started at 10 a.m. Lots of food, fun, a bounce house, games. Plenty of contests including Corn Hole Competition, barbecue contest, chili cook off, a battle of the bands and more! The event is hosted by Butch's Redneck Yacht Club. Cost for the event is just $5 per carload. Contests have individual entry fees. For more information, please call 863-634-0577. Come one - Come all!

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.

Fundraiser will benefit Early

Lynn Early is the person responsible for bringing the Art Show featuring the "Highwaymen" to Okeechobee each year. Now she needs your help with a serious health issue and no insurance. The fundraiser will be held at Eagles North, 9985 Hwy. 441 N., on **Nov. 12**, from 1–7 p.m. Great food (chicken/ribs), $7 donation. Auction, both silent and called. A 3-ball tournament at 5 p.m. and Lotto Tree, Gift Basket drawing, and more. Please call Melissa at 863-634-3957 for advance sales, donations, or information.

Barbecue dinner to benefit Buddy Mills set for Nov. 12

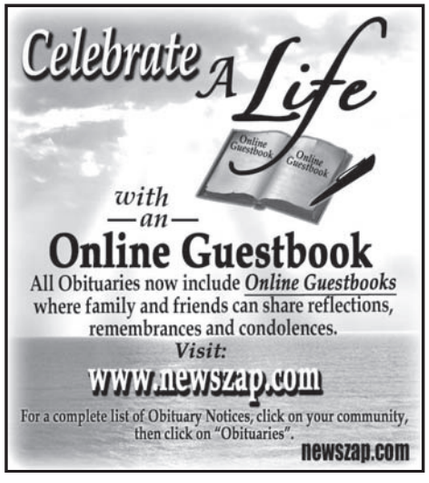
A Barbecue Pork Dinner benefit will be held for Buddy Mills to help offset medical expenses related to cancer treatment. This benefit will be held on **Nov. 12** at the ROC (First Baptist Church), 401 SW 4th Street. Take-out dinners may be purchased for $10 from noon until 3 p.m. and a sit-down dinner will begin at 5 p.m. A silent auction will be held from Noon until 7 p.m. with a live auction beginning at 7 p.m. Advance dinner ticket may be purchased at Eli's Western Wear. For further information or donations please call 863-634-2810.

Family Fall Festival

Butch's Redneck Yacht Club will host a Family Fun Fall Festival on Saturday, **Nov. 12**, starting at 10 a.m. at Okee-Tantie Recreation Area. The festival will include food, music, a bounce house and games. Cost is $5 per car. Battle of the bands will be from noon to 6 p.m. with a $500 first place prize. There will be a corn hole and an amateur barbecue cooking contest. There will also be a chili cookoff. For information, contact 863-467-1570 or 863-634-1802. Proceeds will benefit My Aunt's Closet, the Okeechobee Humane Society/Pet Rescue and other local charities.

Shrine Club plans dinner

The Okeechobee Shrine Club will offer a delicious spaghette dinner Tuesday, **Nov. 15**. The Shrine now offers SMOKE FREE dining. Dinner begins at 4 p.m. Music is provided from 5 to 8 p.m. for your listening and dancing pleasure. Proceeds go to Shrine benefits. For information, contact the Shrine Club at 863-763-3378.



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OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Okeechobee Livestock Market Report

Oct. 31 & Nov. 1, 2011

Cows		
Breaking	64.00	71.00
Cutter	57.00	54.00
Bulls		
1000-1500	78.00	86.00
1500-2000	72.00	77.00

	Monday	Tuesday
Calves	588	1599
Cows	77	315
Str	11	25
Hfrs	9	21
Bulls	22	52
Yrlngs	17	5
Mix	28	64
Total	**752**	**2081**

	Med #1	Steers	Hfrs
	200-250	175-195	140-155
	250-300	170-185	130-145
	300-350	152-175	125-145
	350-400	135-155	117-127
	400-450	127-147	112-123
	450-500	120-138	109-119
	550-600	115-126	106-114
	600-650	115-124	105-111

	Med #2	Steers	Hfrs
	200-250	160-170	120-130
	250-300	135-162	115-125
	300-350	125-150	107-123
	350-400	120-133	105-115
	400-450	108-118	100-108

Rain, rain and more rain, slowed us down a little on Monday, but made up for it on Tuesday with close to 2100 head! Prices continue to remain strong, in spite of the world economy. Cows and bulls were mostly steady, while most all classes of calves were steady to $2 higher. Charletta Knight topped the calf market with a high of $2. Four Winds and Pearce Cattle topped the cow market with a high of $78. No sales Thanksgiving week.

Okeechobee News/**Pete Gawda**

Farm City Week

At the Tuesday, Nov. 2 meeting of the Okeechobee City Council Mayor James Kirk, right, proclaimed the week of Nov. 18 - 24 to be Farm Home Week in the City. He presented the proclamation to David Hazellief, left.

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

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Behind Taco Bell • Casino Departure 5:30pm

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Casino Departure 5:30pm

10:30AM • OKEECHOBEE
HAMPTON INN
1200 STATE RD. 70
Casino Departure 5:30pm

WEDNESDAYS/THURSDAYS

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EAST PORT PLAZA US-1
NORTH OF WALTON RD.
Behind Taco Bell • Casino Departure 6:30pm

12:45PM • VERO BEACH
VERO BEACH RESORT
8800 20TH ST.
Casino Departure 7:30pm

1:30PM • FORT PIERCE
MCDONALDS
7001 OKEECHOBEE RD.
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CES students enjoy Fall Fest with science and math

Special to the Okeechobee News/CES

Central Elementary student, Charlie Van Eman makes his scientific notations at the apple weigh-in station, while Gabriela Orozco gets into cleaning portion at the Pumpkin Exploration station. Students Syleena Lawson, Casey Perry, and Jenna Smith try their hand at the apple "sink and float" exploration station.

Students in Mrs. Howard and Mrs. Garcia's first grade classes were treated to a "Fall Harvest" math and science day. Utilizing the AIMS activities from the district curriculum, teachers and parents provided learning stations for the students to explore math and science in a fun way.

One station provided the chance for the students to sort objects on their ability to sink or float. Students were able to fish out the floating apples in one bucket and determine other objects in the other bucket.

Another station involved comparing pumpkins by their weight. The Pumpkin "weigh" station encouraged the students to use descriptive words such as bigger, heavier, lighter, smaller, compare, and predict.

Students enjoyed dressing up and walking like a scarecrow. We read stories about the role that a scarecrow has in keeping birds away. It was a perfect opportunity for a picture to remember the day.

The measuring station gave the students a chance to eat trail mix by the cup full. There was also a discussion about the nutritional values of the amounts of sugar and sodium in each box.

The pumpkin exploration station allowed students to clean out the inside of a pumpkin. Wondering how many seeds were inside the students used their hands and scooping spoons to dig into the pumpkin shell.

The apple weighing station allowed the students to weigh their apple against the number of teddy bear counters. First, they predicted how many it would take. Then, they dropped the counters into the scale and weighed their apple to see if their prediction was accurate.

The students had one other station that allowed them to experiment with a straw. They tried blowing black Tempera paint across a piece of paper to illustrate a tree with branches. Experimenting by cutting the straws at different lengths allowed the students to blow the paint further on the paper. They decorated their tree with two yellow eyes from a cat they imagined was sitting in the tree.

This opportunity for learning was made possible by parents and staff at Central Elementary.

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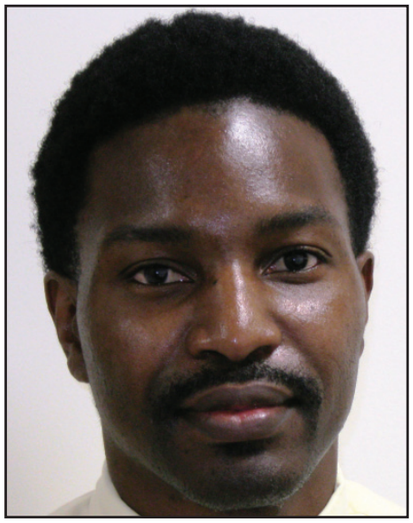
Raulerson Hospital welcomes new lab director

Dr. Chris Ingram is the new medical director for the clinical laboratory



Courtesy photo/**Raulerson Hospital**
Dr. Christopher Ingram

Raulerson Hospital recently welcomed a new member to their medical staff: Christopher Ingram M.D. will serve as the medical director for Raulerson Hospital's Clinical Laboratory. Dr. Ingram attended the University of North Carolina School of Medicine. Raulerson Hospital's Clinical Laboratory is accredited by the College of American Pathologists (CAP).

Pathologists are doctors who diagnose and characterize disease in living patients by examining biopsies or bodily fluids. In addition, pathologists interpret medical laboratory tests to help prevent illness or monitor a chronic condition. The vast majority of cancer diagnoses are made by pathologists. Pathologists examine tissue biopsies to determine if they are benign or cancerous.

Pathology touches all of medicine, as diagnosis is the foundation of all patient care. After making the diagnosis, the pathologist completes a pathology report, and assists with a patient's treatment along with other doctors. According to the College of American Pathologists more than 70 percent of all decisions about a diagnosis, treatment, hospital admission, and discharge rest on the pathology report.

For more information about Raulerson Hospital call 863-763-2151 or visit their website RaulersonHospital.com.

Special to the Okeechobee News/**Teresa Chandler**

Mini-minnies and monster

Natalie Scott, 2, Mason Adams, 12 and Adleigh Schweier, 4, hit the streets for some treats on Halloween!

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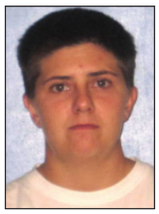
Woman, man charged in theft of metal sheets

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News


Brittany M. Daugherty

William J. Keenan

An Okeechobee man and woman were arrested after they were accused of stealing some metal roofing sheets then sold them to a local recycling center.

Arrested Wednesday, Nov. 2, were Brittany Marie Daugherty, 23, and William Joseph Keenan Jr., 34.

Daugherty, S.E. 34th Lane, was charged with grand theft, dealing in stolen property and giving false information to a secondhand metal recycler. She was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail on $15,000 bond. She has since been released on bond.

Keenan, S.E. 23rd Court, was charged with grand theft. He is being held in the county jail in lieu of $2,500 bond.

Detective Mark Shireman, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), stated that Daugherty and Keenan took four corrugated metal roofing sheets. Each sheet was 23-feet in length and, together, had a total value of $400, he added.

The detective's report stated that the victim had left the sheets in the front yard of a vacant home. The report added that the pair also took an air conditioner that was sitting in the yard at that home.

According to Detective Shireman, the pair borrowed a saw and cut up the metal sheets so that they would fit in the back of a pick-up truck being driven by Daugherty. They also cut up the air conditioner, he added.

Then, according to surveillance video, the metal sheets along with copper from the air conditioner were sold for scrap at a local recycling center. That facility's records indicated that Daugherty was paid $154.51 for the metal and copper, continued the report.

A third man, who was seen on the center's video, reportedly helped Daugherty and Keenan cut up the sheets and load them into the truck. Detective Shireman said the man apparently didn't know the metal was stolen and was not paid for his help.

"He will be listed as a witness in this case," stated the detective's report.

Charges dropped...

Charges against local man dropped

On Wednesday, July 8, a story was published in the Okeechobee News stating that James Henry Schock had been arrested on felony charges of burglary of a structure and dealing in stolen property. According to Circuit Court records, both of those charges filed against Schock were dropped on Tuesday, Sept. 13.

Chamber to host Concealed Weapons class

The Chamber of Commerce of Okeechobee County will hold a Concealed Weapons Permit Class at the Hampton Inn in Okeechobee, 1200 S.R. 70 E., to begin at 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. The first class date is **Nov. 17**. Seating is limited. Class topics will include Basics of gun safety, use of weapon, actual usage of weapon on range. Range training will be concluded on the following Saturday morning. Cost for class is $30. Weapon (.38 Special will be provided for use during the class, ammo is not). Concealed weapon permit package will be provided to each student. For information and to pre-register, call 863-467-6246.

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

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Lost

LOST - Yorkipoo, small male, short curly blonde/brown hair, Lost on S.E. 16th Ave., by the Racetrack. Please call the Ruck's @ (863)763-3274

Need a few more bucks to purchase something deer? Pick up some extra bucks when you sell your used items in the classifeids.

Garage/ Yard Sales

OKEECHOBEE - 1311 N Parrott Ave, Nov. 5&6, 8am-3pm. a variety of great stuff for sale. pool table $200, plus much more

Employment

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Employment Full Time

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Needed for busy office.

We are seeking an individual who is self motivated with excellent office skills including experience with Excel, Microsoft Word and a multi-line telephone system. This is a full time position, with benefits for the right person. If you have the qualifications we are looking for please complete an application at 406 NW 4th Street, Okeechobee

REHAB DIRECTOR

Okeechobee Healthcare Facility is looking for a Physical, Occupational or Speech Therapist who can direct a very active therapy department. If you have experience as a Rehab Director and if you are looking for a full time position with benefits and salary commensurate with your experience, please complete an application at 406 NW 4th Street, Okeechobee. All perspective employees must be able to pass a drug test and level II background screening as a prerequisite to hiring.

GRADING and PAVING CONTRACTOR

Now hiring finish grade operator with experience in roadway and parking lot construction. References required. Call 561-666-7814.

Employment Full Time

Tractor Operator
Laser leveling experience required.
Palm City
Call 772-260-1577

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Employment Full Time

OPS - PARK RANGER
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & CONSUMER SERVICES
FLORIDA FOREST SERVICE
THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED TEMPORARY POSITION SUBJECT TO RENEWAL OF FUNDING WITH NO STATE BENEFITS.
MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:
A high school diploma or its equivalent and be at least 18 years of age. Possession of a valid driver's license is required.
JOB DUTIES
This position involves working with fuels management in wild land areas of Florida to reduce the wildfire threat. Conducting fuels treatment includes primarily prescribed fire and firebreak establishment. Work is performed region wide and requires frequent extended travel away from home. Scheduled work hours for this position are four (4), ten hour days.
For more information or to submit an application please visit the following website: https://peopleflex.myflorida.com/

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Medical Office
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Medical Coder/ Insurance Biller
Medical Office Experience Preferred. Computer skills a must.
Non-smoker
Call 763-0217 or Fax resume to 467-5148

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your hospital

We have immediate openings for the following positions:

- **Engineering Manager,** F/T
- **RN's:** F/T, P/T, PRN
- **Pharmacist:** PRN
- **Ultrasound Tech:** F/T, PRN
- **Occupational Therapist:** PRN
- **Occupational Therapy Assistant:** PRN
- **Physical Therapist:** PRN

We offer competitive wages & excellent benefits

To complete an online application, please visit www.raulersonhospital.com or you may come to Human Resources, Raulerson Hospital, 96 Hwy. 441 N, Okeechobee, FL

Services

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Excavation

CLEARING & HAULING
Dump Trucks, Loader Back Hoe, & Bobcat Services
by Jason Summerford
(863)634-7771

Merchandise

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

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Deer Slayer - Shotgun - 12 gauge. Savage model 210 bolt action like new with scope. $350.00. (863)824-0835 or (863)634-5023

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Pets/Supplies

Weimaraner Puppies - Beautiful, 9 weeks, 3 Males & 3 Females, 1st shots & Health Certs. $400 (772) 349-8676.

Rentals

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Apartments

2 BD/1BA Duplex in town. No Pets! First, Last and Security. $550.00/mo. Call 863-634-2820

APARTMENTS
3/1 Duplex
Center of Town
Painted, Tile, W/D, Very Clean, Corner lot.
$750.00 Moves You In.
No Pets
Call 24/7 Dave
863-634-9899

BEAUTIFUL 2 Bedroom CBS, Large kitchen, new carpet, screen room, utility room. $700 mo. includes water, lawn and garbage. (863)467-2784

Beautiful Samantha's Garden Apartments
2BR/2BA, in town, W&D, $800 mo. + $500 sec. Call (863)634-5780 or (863)467-9250

DON'T MISS OUT
AFFORDABLE APART.
IN TOWN
2BR/1.5 Bath
1 Block north of Walmart
Carpet/Tile All Appliances,W/D on each floor,
Clean/Newly Painted
Call 863-763-8878

NW OKEE: 2 Bedroom Apartments available on quiet street. Pets welcome. Ranging from $650mo., $700mo. and $750mo. 1st, last & $500 sec. 561-346-1642

Apartments

FEMALE BOARDER
Studio Apts. in quiet country setting, 5 minutes from town, furnished, hi-speed internet, 200 channel cable, a/c, electric, all included with private entrance. $125 per week or $450 a month. Reference required 863-763-0675

Oak Lake Apts, 2BR, 1.5BA, 2 story & 2BR, 1BA, 1 story apt., $650/mo + $650 sec. Very Clean, (863)634-3312 or (863)634-3313.

OKEECHOBEE- 2 Cottages, 1 on Rim Canal. Starting $150 week. (772)359-1640.

Commercial Property

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

Houses - Rent

Dixie Ranch - 3 Bdrm/1 bath $700.00 a month. Also 2 Bdrm/1 bath $675.00 a month - FLS. No Pets 863-634-2820

For Rent
2br/1ba $700.00 mo.
3br/1ba $750.00 mo.
1st months and security
Single Family
Non Smoker
Call 863-801-3700

House For Rent
4 BR $675.00 mo.
New Everything, Mint Condition. 1st & Last.
Call 863-801-1739

OKEE - 3/2, $598 mo. or 2/1, $459 mo. Beautiful ranch setting located 12 miles N.E. of town. Water, Lawn, pest, and trash incl. Pasture avail. Recently remodeled. Mon-Fri. 863-467-9800. No Pets.

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

Houses - Rent

OKEECHOBEE - 3 BR, 1 BA Duplex, DW, W/D connector, C/A & heat, $625 mo. + $500 sec. (863) 763-4414

OKEECHOBEE 4br, 2ba, tile throughout, $1000 mo. & up. 1st & sec. moves you in. (561)248-3888 or (863)599-0156

Office Space Rent

Professional office space for rent.
Park Street Office Suites
Down Town Okeechobee
Starting@ $250.00 per month
863-634-7622

Rental Needed

WANTED TO RENT - Refined Senior couple wishes to rent a clean furnished 2br, 2ba trailer or house No pets, Refs available (908)453-3819

Real Estate

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Houses - Sale

Owner Financing- 3 bdrm 2 bath house on 1 acre $3,500.00 down $931.42 a month. 2bdrm/1bath house $2,500.00 down $731.83 a month. Call Beverley 863-634-2820

Land - Sale

OKEECHOBEE 5 Acres $2,000 down. Park your own trailer or house, owner financing $49,000. 863-763-6358

Lots - Sale

Recently Foreclosed, Special Financing Available, Any Credit, Any Income , Vacant Land, located at, 20 NE 363rd Ct., Okeechobee, $59,900. Visit www.roselandco.com/82H Drive by then call (866) 249-0680.

Mobile Homes

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Mobile Home Rent

1 Bedroom Trailer $350 monthly or $100 per week. $550 to move in Call 863-634-8954.

2Bed/1Ba
Mobile Home located in a nice park with central air. $450 monthly Call 812-989-3022

Mobile Home Rent

BUCKHEAD RIDGE - Dbl. Wide 2 BR, 2 BA, C/Air. $495 mo. Large 3 BR, 2 BA, C/Air. $600 mo. No pets. Yearly lease plus sec. (863)763-4031

For Rent
1 Bedroom Trailer
$125 A Week
Call 863-610-4625

LAKEPORT: 3 BR, 2 BA, Bonus Room, Washer & Dryer. Screen Porch. $600 mo. + Security deposit. (573)686-6145 or (573)718-8074

M/H Rentals
2/1 & 3/1
Country Living
$450.00 monthly &
$450.00 Security
Call 863-697-2486

TREASURE ISLAND - 4 /2, tile, fenced yard, lrg. Shed. Move in $850. **1/1,** unfurnished Condo with utilities. Move in $750. Call: 863-634-0663.

Very Nice 2bd/1.5bath MH in TI,C/A/H,W/D hook up,large front screened porch,large attached shed on nice large lot. $600 monthly plus $600 security. 863-357-7409 or 863-447-0616

Mobile Home Sale

BANK REPOS
Starting at $15,000
Mobile Home Angels
561-721-2230

For Sale - 2bd/2ba Double Wide Trailer $15,000. Lot rent $250. Pick-up & Boat $5,000 all in good condition. Call 863-532-9197 or 863-532-9293

MOORE HAVEN - Mobile Home 2br, 2ba, 58 ft, w/40' carport, shed, selling for $1.00 only to someone who needs a home (575)545-0012

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.

Palm Harbor Homes
Has 3 Modular Homes Avail. at HUGH Savings
Over 40K Off
800-622-2832

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Recreation

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

RV Space Rent

* Limited Time Only
* Water Front RV Lots $400.00/mo. Incl. Utilities
* Covered Dockage Incl. W/Lot Rent
* Cabin $500.00/mo. Incl. Utilities
* Call863-763-4417

Public Notices

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE
Curry Island management plan public hearing
Set for December 7, 2011

November 3, 2011
Contacts: Julie Morris (941)485-6001
Jeff Allen, (772)370-5781; or
David Sumpter (813)610-0051

The Lake Okeechobee Habitat Alliance will conduct a public hearing on the proposed management plan for Curry Island. The hearing is scheduled for 6-8:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 7, at the Glades County Courthouse, Commission Chambers, at 500 Avenue J in Moore Haven.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive public comment regarding the development of the management plan for the Curry Island lease obtained from the state of Florida by Lake Okeechobee Habitat Alliance. The meeting will start with a presentation on components of the draft management plan, followed by a question and answer session and public testimony.

A management prospectus for the Curry Island lease is available by going to www.lake-o-habitat.org or by calling Jeff Allen at (772)370-5781.
402220 ON 11/6/2011

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2010 CA 80

RIVERSIDE NATIONAL BANK OF FLORIDA,
Plaintiff,
v.
JOSEPH L. STRONG A/K/A JOSEPH LESTER STRONG; DAVE VAN HORN; AND DELTA PETROLEUM & INDUSTRIAL, INC.,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: DAVE VAN HORN
956 MILL CREEK DRIVE
PALM BEACH GARDENS, FLORIDA 33410

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following described real property in Okeechobee County, Florida:

A PARCEL OF LAND LYING IN SECTION 3, TOWNSHIP 38 SOUTH, RANGE 35 EAST, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCE AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 3;

THENCE N 89°48'48" E, ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 3, A DISTANCE OF 651.20 FEET;

THENCE S 00°07'12" W, A DISTANCE OF 239.03 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE SOUTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF STATE ROAD NO. 15 (CONNERS HIGHWAY);

THENCE CONTINUE S 00°07'12" W, A DISTANCE OF 112.31 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE LEVEE LD-4 RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE;

THENCE S 62°56'48" W, ALONG SAID LEVEE LD-4 RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 136.21 FEET;

THENCE S 25°19'14" E, ALONG SAID LEVEE LD-4 RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 56.75 FEET;

THENCE S 64°39'40" W, ALONG SAID LEVEE LD-4 RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 146.73 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING;

THENCE CONTINUE S 64°39'40" W, ALONG SAID LEVEE LD-4 RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 240.14 FEET;

THENCE N 26°25'11" W, A DISTANCE OF 154.87 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION WITH SAID SOUTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF STATE ROAD NO. 15 (CONNERS HIGHWAY);

THENCE N 63°55'28" E, ALONG SAID SOUTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 240.00 FEET;

THENCE S 26°27'24" E A DISTANCE OF 157.95 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

has been filed against you and Joseph L. Strong a/k/a Joseph Lester Strong and Delta Petroleum & Industrial, Inc., and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Patrick F. Healy, Esq., GrayRobinson, P.A., the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 1795 NASA Boulevard, Melbourne, Florida 32901, on or before thirty (30) days from the date of the first publication of this Notice and file the original with the Clerk of this Court, either before service on the Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Dated on November 2, 2011

SHARON ROBERTSON
As Clerk of the Court
BY: Arlene Nealis
As Deputy Clerk

402202 ON 11/6,13/2011

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

Public Notice

NOW ACCEPTING BIDS FOR LAWN MOWING/ MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

For gated community
(Seminole Cove)
Must have own insurance and be licensed.
Please direct all inquires to
Jack Crayton
At (863) 357-4982
400210 ON 11/2,11/6/11

SPECIAL NOTICE - FLORIDA FOREST SERVICE

Pursuant to Florida Statue 590.125(5), be advised that the Florida Forest Service will be performing prescribed burning and/or other treatments to create fuel breaks in selected parcels within the townships, taxing districts, or subdivisions of Okeechobee County Florida including but not limited to: Dixie Ranch Acres, Viking, Okeechobee Little Farms, Lazy Seven, Four Seasons, Fort Drum, Pineland Estates, Basswood Estates, and Basinger. These projects are to occur during the period of November 1, 2011 through November 1, 2012. These efforts are to reduce fuel loads and wildfire occurrence.

This service is provided at no cost to the landowner.

If you should have any objections or questions contact:
Florida Forest Service
5200 Hwy 441 North
Okeechobee, Fl. 34972
(863)462-5376
402167 ON 11/6, 9, 11/2011

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

Find it faster. Sell it sooner in the classifieds

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners will hold its Regular Session on **Thursday, November 10, 2011** at 9:00 a.m. in the "Judge William L. Hendry Courtroom" at the **Historic Courthouse**, 304 N.W. 2nd Street, Okeechobee, Florida.

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

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

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

Sharon Robertson, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
Okeechobee County, Florida
/s/ Paula Poskon/ Deputy Clerk
402183 ON 11/6/2011

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

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

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

Christmas Festival planned

The 2011 Annual Top of the Lake Christmas Festival and Parade are scheduled for Dec. 10. Main Street is taking applications now for both the festival and the parade. Booth fees are as follows: regular vendor, $50 per space; food vendor, $75; nonprofit, $20 if you are in competition with vendors; there will be no charge for booth spaces for nonprofit organizations.

If you would like to participate, need an application or further information, please call the Main Street Office (863) 357-6246.

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).

• Walnard Fortner, 20, S.W. Ninth St., Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 1 by Deputy Steven McKinley on an Okeechobee County felony warrant charging him with violation of probation - possession of marijuana under 20 grams. His bond was set at $10,000.

• Billy Welch, 49, was arrested Nov. 1 by Deputy Steven McKinley on an Arkansas fugitive warrant as a parole absconder. He is being held without bond.

• Peter Allan Brege, 26, N.W. Fourth St., Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 1 by Deputy Corporal Aric Majere on a DOC warrant charging him with violation of probation - burglary of an occupied dwelling. He is being held without bond.

• William Harold Hardy, 45, N.W. 352nd Court, Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 1 by Deputy Cpl. Aric Majere on a DOC warrant charging him with violation of probation - possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. He is being held without bond.

• Michael Ditas, 29, N.W. 169th Terrace, Miami, was arrested Nov. 1 by the Okeechobee Narcotics Task Force on charges of attempting to obtain a prescription by fraud and criminal use of personal identification. His bond was set at $20,000.

• Tonnette Learn, 48, U.S. 441 S.E., Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 2 by Deputy Greg Popovich on an Okeechobee County warrant charging her with forgery. She was released on her own recognizance.

• William James Cabello, 22, S.E. 17th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 2 by the OCSO Street Crimes Unit on a warrant charging him with interference with child custody. His bond was set at $2,500.

• Shannon Jaudon Underhill, 41, N.W. 33rd Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 2 by Deputy Matthew Hurst on a warrant charging him with grand theft. His bond was set at $2,500.

• Jamie Lailani Tindall, 20, N.E. 56th Parkway, Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 2 by Officer Chad Troutman on a charge of retail theft over $300 in concert with other person. She was released on her own recognizance.

• Sheena M. Egan, 25, N.E. Third Lane, Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 2 by Officer Chad Troutman on a charge of retail theft over $300 in concert with other person. Her bond was set at $2,500.

• Merri Joella Spearow, 42, S.E. 22nd Court, Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 2 by Deputy Max Waldron on an Okeechobee County warrant charging her with violation of probation - possession of a controlled substance (oxycodone) with intent to sell, violation of probation - sale or delivery of a controlled substance (oxycodone) and violation of probation - possession of drug paraphernalia. She is being held without bond.

• Ralph Henry Buchheit, 18, S.E. 26th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 3 by Detective M.D. Faulkner on felony charges of burglary, grand theft and criminal mischief. His bond was set at $15,000.

• Luis Alvarez, 21, N.E. 224th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Nov. 3 by Deputy Paul Jackson on a charge of driving under the influence. His bond was set at $500.

• Norma Miriam Colon, 46, N.E. Linda Road, Jensen Beach, was arrested Nov. 3 by Deputy Patricia Massung on an Okeechobee County warrant charging her with 15 counts of obtaining a prescription by fraud. Her bond was set at $150,000.

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

Volunteer support for Pet Rescue

Community support and volunteers are the backbone of our local Okeechobee Pet Rescue. The are always in short supply but always appreciated. Volunteers are needed to help the Pet Rescue with the upcoming Christmas in the Park event. A float for the parade is planned and creative helpers are invited to make this year's float a big success. Greeters are needed for the Pet Rescue's information and pet supplies table. Do you have some extra time to donate to help a homeless pet? Call the shelter and come give a dog a hug. 863-3357-1104.

Too little, too late–Brahmans lose to Lions

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Will Jackson

John Cleristor rushed for 201 yards and three touchdowns as Olympic Heights secured third place in District 7A-12 with a 21-13 victory over Okeechobee Friday night in Boca Raton.

Okeechobee rallied in the fourth quarter as Jack Radebaugh threw for a touchdown and rushed for a second score, but it wasn't enough. "It was just a little too late," Brahman Coach Myron Jackson said, "In the second half we started to run the ball better. It came down to us getting mentally ready to play and execute."

Olympic Heights used a tight formation with two tight ends and two fullbacks to run the ball nearly at will in the first half. After Okeechobee picked off a pass on the Lions first possession, Eddie Neal returned it 11 yards to put the Brahmans at the Lions 44-yard line. Elijowan Williams, career high 75 yards rushing, rushed for 14 yards and a key off side penalty on fourth down gave Okeechobee a first down at the Lions 22-yard line. The drive stalled however as Okeechobee could not convert a 4th and one from the Lion 13-yard line. From there the Lions went 86 yards in 10 plays to take the lead. Key plays included a 33-yard run by QB Devin McKinney and an 11-yard run by Cleristor. He ran he final three yards to give the Lions a 6-0 lead.

Okeechobee put together another good drive after a 25-yard kick return gave them the ball near midfield. Tyronte Files caught a pass and ran for six yards DJ Washington carried 11 yards for a first down, and Eddie Neal caught a slant pass for another 14 yards during the drive. Okeechobee also got a first down on an off-side penalty. With first and goal at the eight, McKinney slashed through and stopped Washington for a five-yard loss, which proved to be vital for the Lions defense. Okeechobee moved it back to the three-yard line on the next two plays which set up a fourth and goal. Okeechobee went for it by Williams was stopped just inches from the goal line.

Coach Jackson explained he decided not to attempt field goals on those opportunities because he was taught to score touchdowns by FSU Coach Bobby Bowden.

"Where we are right now, even if we get those touchdowns we'd still be behind. We need to score touchdowns. Our field goal kicker can do the job, he's good inside the 30, but three points don't help us, when we get inside the five-yard line, we want touchdowns," he added.

Okeechobee forced Olympic Heights (3-6) to punt four times in the second half and were able to score two touchdowns. A 55-yard drive midway through the fourth quarter was helped along by a personal foul on Olympic Heights and a 15-yard run by Files. Will Jackson caught an eight-yard touchdown pass for the Brahmans first points.

Okeechobee drove 69 yards in 10 plays in the final three minutes of the game thanks to a 19-yard run by Williams, a 27-yard pass from Radebaugh to Neal, and a 13-yard pass from Radebaugh to Files on a second and long.

Radebaugh ran six yards on a quarterback draw to pull the Brahmans to within 21-13. Their last hope failed when Olympic Heights recovered an onside kick with just over a minute left.

Game notes

Files had an excellent night returning kicks with return of 23 and 25 yards. Ricardo Garza had a nice 11-yard punt return. Okeechobee struggled again on third down as they converted only (1-11). Olympic heights converted five of their first six and were (7-13) on third down. Okeechobee fumbled the ball four times but were able to recover all four. Radebaugh was intercepted twice, once on a hail mary at the end of the first half by Maynard Ligeurre, and in the second half by Wesley Innocent. DJ Washington sat out much of the second half due to a leg injury. He had two tackles for loss. Zac Winfield and Juan Garcia also had stops behind the line of scrimmage for the Brahmans. Will Jackson had a QB sack for Okeechobee (2-7).

Okeechobee versus Olympic Heights game statistics

Okeechobee	0	0	0	13----13
Olympic Heights	6	8	7	0----21

How they scored:

First Quarter–Olympic Heights Cleristor three-yard run. (Kick blocked) 6-0. 2:31.

Second Quarter–Olympic HeightsCleristor eight-yard run. (Borofsky pass from McKinney" 14-0. 2:41.

Third Quarter–Olympic Heights Cleristor 53-yard run. (Bein Aime PAT) 21-0. 10:20.

Fourth Quarter–Okeechobee, Jackson eight-yard pass from Radebaugh (El Hendi PAT) 21-7. 6:27.

Okeechobee Radebaugh six-yard run. (Kick blocked) 21-13. 1:22.

Team Statistics	Okeechobee	Olympic Heights
First Downs	16	13
Third Downs	1-11	7-13
Penalties	4-53	7-50
Rushing yards	145	303
Passing yards	85	2
Punts	2-67	4-92
Punt returns	2-9	0-0
Kick returns	3-61	0-0
Fumbles/lost	4-0	0-0
Interceptions	1-11	2-6

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Blood Round-Up gains Main Street support

Florida's Blood Centers hosted the November Okeechobee Main Street Mixer at the Holiday Inn Express on Thursday, Oct. 13. Brightly lit Halloween pumpkins decorated the event with hostess Raye Deusinger, Roundup Chair, welcoming guests by announcing that she "wanted our blood"! Over 80 OKMS members and visitors attended the mixer and enjoyed delicious hors d'oeuvres and snacks prepared by the Golden Corral. Members used this opportunity to network with community partners and Russ Colwell of Florida's Blood Centers reminded everyone of the Okeechobee Blood Round-Up on Nov. 19 and 20, at the Freshman Campus. Previous Round-Ups have netted Okeechobee a high of 571 units of blood and the goal this year is to meet or exceed that amount. Okeechobee Main Street Board President Kathleen Shatto introduced Courtney Moyett, of the Law Office of Philip DeBerard, as the new Secretary for the Board. Executive Director Cindy Birdashaw greeted new members and assisted in distributing door prizes provided by Main Street member organizations. Main Street's MEGA 50-50 drawing will continue at each mixer throughout the year, with a winner being announced during the December event.

Maxwell & Maxwell, P.A., 405 N.W. 3rd Street, will sponsor the November Mixer on Tuesday, Nov. 8 from 5 to 7 p.m. They welcome the public and ask current members to share this event with a friend or fellow business owner. Okeechobee Main Street is a non-profit organization working toward the preservation of our county's heritage through beautification projects, murals, festivals and revitalization of historic structures. Please join us for networking, refreshments, door prizes, and a chance to win our 2011 Mega 50-50. For more information contact the Okeechobee Main Street Executive Director Cindy Birdashaw at 863-357-6246 or stop in the Main Street office at 111 Northeast 2nd St.

Special to the Okeechobee News/OKMS

Okeechobee Blood Round up Chair, Raye Duesinger gets guests at the recent Main Street Mixer "Riled up" for the upcoming November Blood Round up set for Nov. 19 and 20 at the Freshman Campus.

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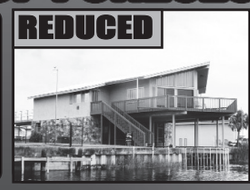
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5020-M: Larkee Lakes Metal roof, remodeled with dry-wall in the kitchen & living rm, new floors, countertops, Too much to list! $80,000 MLS # 205384

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OHS girls basketball team looks for respectability

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee High School's girls basketball coach Erin Morrow enters her second year at the varsity level with new enthusiasm and optimism for her program.

After a rough season last year, the Lady Brahmans return several veteran players and a promising group of freshmen this year.

Coach Morrow has preached focus, hard work, conditioning and team work in the first week of practice.

Leading the team this year is center Ami Edwards who was one of the best rebounders and inside players on the Treasure Coast last year. Other returners are wing player Shamarah Shanks, point guard Thad Sanders, and guard Janet Smith. Back to bolster this group is Senior Cavel Campbell, who started for the varsity two years ago.

Add to this mix freshmen sensation Carly McCoin, and solid guard Taylor Trent and the Lady Brahmans have a corps of players to get excited about.

Coach Morrow said the team must give maximum effort and improve their practice skills because how you perform in practice often determines how you perform in games. She has also emphasized the girls to work together and promotes teamwork.

Okeechobee will play in a tougher district this year as they play teams like Sebastian River, Martin County, and South Fork.

Other schools on the schedule include Treasure Coast, Port St. Lucie, Jensen Beach, Sebring, and Lake Placid.

The season begins on Nov. 10 when the Lady Brahmans meet Bartow at the Sebring Tournament. The first home game will be on Thursday, Nov. 17, against South Fork.

Okeechobee News/**Charles Murphy**

In the left photo, Erin Morrow (right) shows off the proper way to play defense to Cavel Campbell during a recent Brahman girls basketball practice. In the photo on the right, veterans like Thad Sanders (left) and Janet Smith (right) will be counted on to lead the girls basketball team in a tough district this year.

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