OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 102 No. 148 | Sunday, December 11, 2011 | 75¢ Plus tax

Osceola Middle plays Yearling ... Page 19

Holiday events planned... Page 18

Lake Levels

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Okeechobee News/**Eric Kopp**

Divers recover stolen safe

Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) Deputy John Ashby is handed a small safe Friday afternoon, Dec. 9, by Detective Captain John Rhoden (in water). The safe had reportedly been stolen from an area home Tuesday, Dec. 6, then thrown into Taylor Creek when the alleged burglars found it contained no cash. Two teenage brothers have been arrested in connection with the alleged theft. For more on the story, see page 14.

County says no to bonus for its staff

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee County employees will not receive bonuses, after a plan submitted by Okeechobee County Administrator Robbie Chartier was rejected by Commissioners Thursday.

Full-time employees would have received $750 and part-time workers would have received under $350, under Ms. Chartier's proposal.

Ms. Chartier said that no employees have received a wage adjustment since 2009 and department heads have gone without adjustments since the 2005-2006 fiscal year.

In the agenda item, Ms. Chartier said employees continue to take on additional responsibilities as fellow employees were laid off or had left voluntarily. She praised them for reduction of costs wherever possible in travel, office supplies, and with fewer equipment replacements.

Commissioner Bryant Culpepper made a motion to give the one time-bonuses. The proposal would have

See **COUNTY** — Page 12

Cole Younger in NFL competition

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

A fourth grader at Central Elementary will compete in the NFL Punt Pass and Kick competition at Sun Life Stadium as the Miami Dolphins host the Philadelphia Eagles today.

Cole Younger, 9, son of Paula and Jeff Younger, and grandson of Bobby Bennett, won competitions in Stuart on Sept. 7, and in Greenacres on Nov. 16, to qualify for the competition.

Younger punted a football 82 feet, threw a pass 33 feet, and kicked a football 98 feet at the Greenacres competition.

Cole Younger

Each NFL team hosts a competition at their home stadium and the top four performers will get to perform at the AFC Championship Game in January.

Younger said he has always enjoyed football and baseball. He played OCRA football for one year, and has played OCRA baseball for several years.

He said he will be nervous because he doesn't want any of the Dolphin players to think he's a bad ball player, "I think it'll be really thrilling. I get to meet Dolphin players and watch the game. It's a great opportunity that most 9 year olds don't get a chance to do. It'll be exciting."

His father, Jeff, was a wrestler in high school. He attended Auburn University. His mom Paula, is a CPA in Okeechobee, and a graduate of Florida State University.

His grandfather Bennett played baseball for

See **YOUNGER** — Page 12

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Old Men Motorcycle Riders

The Old Men Motorcycle Riders along with others, rode their bikes about 150 miles last Saturday sponsored by businesses and private sponsors in Okeechobee to benefit the Toy drive for Big Lake Missions. They enjoyed the long ride on a nice day and stopped and had breakfast. Back in Okeechobee, they met at Skull Hill Steel for an auction. Santa and Mrs. Claus even showed up on their bike. Thanks to all the bikers, businesses and private individuals who donated time, toys, money, etc. A special thanks to Gene Roddenberry who spent a lot of time and energy organizing the benefit.

Special to the Okeechobee News/**Big Lake Missions**

Okeechobee Forecast

Today: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 81. Northeast wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Tonight: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 62. Northeast wind around 5 mph.

Extended Forecast

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

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 61. North northeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 80. Northeast wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 56. North northeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, high near 76. North northeast wind around 5 mph.

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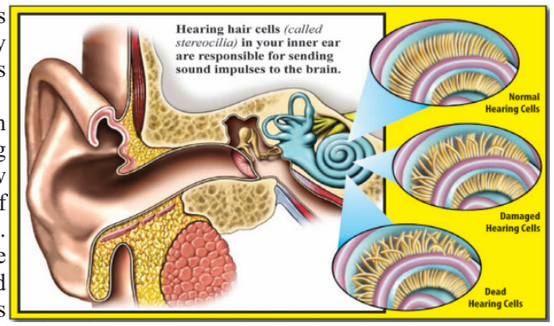
WHY DO I HEAR... BUT NOT UNDERSTAND?
Study by Cambridge University in England Reveals Key Answer

Until recently, there was no practical way to identify dead regions of hearing cells in the ear.



However, a new British developed procedure using standard test equipment now allows for identification of dead hearing cell regions. The study suggests that the presence or absence of dead regions may have serious implications in the fitting of hearing aids.

This research reveals that amplifying dead cells is a mistake which will result in poorer speech understanding in noise. A new type of digitally programmable microcircuit is now being released from Audibel - the world leader in nano Science technology - that can be programmed to bypass the dead cells. As a result, the patient's unable hearing cells receive amplification, thereby improving speech understanding in noise.

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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!

Emergency lights

• I have a friend who used her solar lights inside at night when her current was off during the hurricane. She stuck them in a jar or bottle and said they gave off plenty of 'free light'. She put one in each room and would put them back outside in the daytime and bring them in at night as long as the current was off. They are safe to use and cheaper than batteries. Bring in a solar light one night and test it. Due to a thunderstorm, we lost power for about 5 hours. We were scrambling around in the darkness, looking for matches, candles, flashlights, etc. We looked outside, and noticed our solar lights shining brightly all around our patio, stairs, dock, etc. They were beautiful. My wife walked outside, and brought several of the solar lights inside. We stuck the solar light pipes into plastic drink bottles containers and they made the nicest, brightest, safest, lighting you could ever imagine. The next day, you just take your solar lights back outside and they will instantly recharge and be ready for you to use again any time you need them. Perfect for power outages, hurricanes, etc.

• This also works well while camping. We keep several in our "ditty bag" and at night our camp perimeter is well lit as well as using them inside the tents.

• This is a great idea. I have a collection of oil lamps, but when I light them up I don't like the smell of the oil burning. Could use the idea in the north country if the sun would ever shine.

Spending

• When I saw American money being spent in poor African countries, I wondered why we were sending money there when we had so many poor people here who need help. Then I finally realized that if we don't help the desperately poor people in other parts of the world, the Taliban will. If I was starving, I would befriend anyone who gave me food.

Do you remember Pearl Harbor?

• Sadly, the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association (founded in 1958 with a roster of 28,000, all members of the military who had been on the island of Oahu the morning of the attack) will be forced to concede to the ravages of time and will formally disband at the end of this year.

• We talked about Pearl Harbor at home last week and watched some programs on the History Channel. So when my child got home from school on Dec. 7, I was curious how the topic was handled at school, as I knew my child was well prepared to discuss World War II. I was surprised to learn that none of the teachers even mentioned the anniversary of Pearl Harbor. I guess it is up to the parents to make sure the kids learn about American history and the sacrifices made for their freedoms. We can't count on the schools.

Christmas lighting

• It is nice to see some houses all lit up beautifully but for some reason I am also touched by a single string of lights at some places where it appears that the residents may have a handle on their priorities when it comes to Christmas expenses. And I believe the lighting contests are totally out of the spirit of the season. Does anybody even remember what the season is all about.

• Does anybody ever remember what the season is all about? I guess the ones who do live it year-round. I'm still a work in progress, so I'm not pointing any fingers.

• The Main Street contest is a holiday window decorating contest for local businesses. Last year they really had some pretty windows so I am glad they are doing that again. As for the holiday lights, I prefer the simple displays, especially those with a nativity scene or angels. But it makes me smile to see people decorating to their own tastes, as long as they are having fun doing it.

• If you really want to get into the Christmas spirit, do something for someone in need. Take a bag of canned goods to a food pantry. Buy presents for Toys for Tots. Ask an elderly neighbor if they need any help putting up their Christmas decorations. The season of giving does not have to be expensive presents. Give what you can, and with a cheerful heart.

Reflections from the pulpit

Be Thankful!

By Wendy Schaffer
Pastoral Counselor

Pregnancy Center of Okeechobee

"Be thankful to Him (God), and bless His name. For the Lord is good" (Psalm 100:4, 5). David wrote this song of Thanksgiving. Picture him singing "make a joyful shout to the Lord" (v.1), and "serve the Lord with gladness" (v.2). In fact, thanks is given to God thirty-one times in the Psalms. To David, if you believed in God, you would give thanks. "Surely the righteous shall give thanks in your name" (140:13). But, do we?

As Christians, as believers in Jesus Christ, do we wake up each morning thanking God for breathe in our bodies, a roof over our heads, and food in the pantry and refrigerator? David says our prayers should be set before God like incense, and at night we should lift up our hands to God as an evening sacrifice, or offering up of praise and worship (141:2).

If we do take the time to pray to God, how much of our prayers are giving thanks and praising Him, and how much of our prayers are our wants and desires? Do we send up a daily Christmas list to God or do we truly pray? It is not wrong to ask God for His help or for something you need. I am simply asking if that is the majority content of your prayers. As I write this article, I must examine my prayers. I do remember to pray in the mornings, but I need to work on my evening sacrifice of prayer. I am thankful and pray for others, but I could take more time in praising God.

Psalm 118 opens with "I love the Lord, because He has heard my voice and supplications (an olive branch or peace offering given graciously and earnestly). Because He has inclined His ear to me, therefore I will call upon Him as long as I live." Do we tell God how much we love Him? Do we thank Him for even listening to our prayers? Do we get mad at God when our prayers are not answered as we want and when we want?

As I am writing this reflection I am wondering what it is like for the Executive Director of the Pregnancy Center to go on mission trips to Haiti and what it is like for the people who live there.

We have many who are homeless and poor here, but it is not to the extent that it is in Haiti. I hear stories of how thankful the Haitian children are to receive a gift, and how they smile and play. Are our children grateful and satisfied?

During this season when we celebrate Thanksgiving, let us remember to "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise" (100:4). Let us "come before His presence with singing" really knowing "that the Lord, He is God" (v.2, 3). "Shout joyfully before the Lord" (98:6). "Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at His footstool – He is holy" (98:5) AMEN!

Remember to BE THANKFUL!

Clarifications and corrections

An article appearing on page 7 of the Nov. 23, issue of the Okeechobee News under the headline **"Children's program needs Christmas gifts and volunteers,"** was in error. The Guardian Ad Litem program is a state supported organization and cannot solicit donations. The drive for Christmas presents described in the article is sponsored by Guardians for New Futures, a nonprofit organization which distributes the presents to children in the Guardian Ad Litem program. The article did not make this distinction.

The article in the Dec. 4 edition headlined **"Okeechobee pediatric dentist strives to be kid friendly,"** also contained an error. The phone number for Dr. Melissa Kindell, with Everglades Pediatric Dentistry, is 863-357-7338.

The article headlined **"Wemmer Family Orthodontics unveils new U.S. 441 N. office"** was also in error. The article stated that Dr. Wemmer's practice is "about 35 percent children and 65 percent adults." In fact, Dr. Wemmer's practice is 65 percent children and 35 percent adults.

We apologize for these errors and for any confusion they might have created.

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

Okeechobee News
USPS 406-160
Published 3 times a week: Sunday, Wednesday and Friday by Independent Newspapers, Inc.
107 S.W. 17th Street, Suite D • Okeechobee, FL 34974
Periodicals Postage Paid at Okeechobee, FL 34974
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
Okeechobee News
Circulation Administration
PO Box 7011 • Dover, DE 19903

Staff
Editor: Katrina Elsken
Circulation Manager: Janet Madray
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Community Events

Masons host breakfast

The Mason Lodge at 107 N.W. Fifth (across from Flagler Park) in Okeechobee, will serve a traditional breakfast of eggs, bacon, etc., on Sunday, **Dec. 11**, from 8–11 a.m. for just $6 for adults, and $3 for kids. They do breakfast every second and fourth Sunday. Proceeds go to Okeechobee Youth Programs.

VFW post to host Sunday dinner

Buckhead Ridge VFW Post 9528, S.R. 78 W. will host Sunday dinner on Sunday, **Dec. 11**, from 12:30 until 4 p.m. Dinner will be a delicious ham dinner for $7 donation with proceeds to benefit disabled veterans.

Amateur radio club meets

The Okeechobee Amateur Radio Club will hold its annual business meeting on Monday evening, **Dec. 12**.

The meeting will take place at the Red Cross classroom on North Parrott Ave and begins at 7 p.m. At this annual meeting, new officers will be elected for the year 2012, revisions to the by-laws will be discussed and voted on, and dues for the 2012 year are welcome. An 'after action' report on the 2011 Hamfest in the Woods, and lessons learned will be discussed.

All members of the club are urged to attend this meeting as there is much to do and everyone's voice is important when it comes to making decisions about the club's future. For information, contact Tom Timmons N3RHV at ttimmons@dtimmons.com.

Sign-ups for youth hoop league is now under way

Okeechobee County Parks & Recreation will be conducting sign-ups for the 2012 Youth Basketball League Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. unitl 5 p.m. Dec. 12 through Jan. 6.

Registration is $40 per child and is being held at 640 N.W. 27th Lane (in the Sports Complex).

The league will consist of boys and girls in three divisions: 10 & under, 12 & under, and 14 & under. Birth certificates must be presented when registering. The age determination date is March 15, 2012. For more information, call 863-763-6950. Coaches, sponsors and volunteers are encouraged to inquire.

Shrine Club plans dinner

The Okeechobee Shrine Club will offer a delicious spaghetti dinner Tuesday, **Dec. 13**. The Shrine now offers SMOKE FREE dining. Dinner will be served from 4 p.m. Music is provided from 5 to 8 p.m. for your listening and dancing pleasure. All proceeds go to Shrine benefits. For more information, contact the Shrine Club at 863-763-3378.

Eagles to host bingo

The North Eagles Aerie, 9985 U.S. 441 N., will hold bingo on Tuesday, **Dec. 13**, starting at 1 p.m. Proceeds go to the F.O.E. community benefit fund.

Social Security workshop set

More than Meets the Eye hosted by Sharon Ming at Edward Jones Investments. Join us for this educational seminar where you'll learn. Key facts about the Social Security program on Tuesday, **Dec. 13**, at 11:30 a.m. at Beef O' Bradys, 608 S. Parrott Ave., Okeechobee, including: how benefits are calculated, full retirement age and choosing the right time to file, receiving benefits while working, provisional income and tax implications , options for spouses and ex-spouses. Seated is limited. Participants must RSVP Ana at 863-357-4724.

Weapon permit class offered

The Chamber of Commerce of Okeechobee is hosting a Concealed Weapons Permit Class on Thursday, **Dec. 15**, at the Hampton Inn from 7 to 9 p.m. Range training will be conducted on the following Saturday morning. The cost of the class is $30, and a concealed weapon permit package will be provided to each participant. You do not need to own a gun to attend class. Preregistration is required. Register online at: www.OkeechobeeBusiness.com. Go to calendar of events and click on the Dec. 15 Concealed Weapons Permit Class. Then follow instructions to register online. You may also pickup a registration form at the Hampton Inn. If you should have additional questions, please contact the Chamber at info@OkeechobeeBusiness.com or 863-467-6246.

Democrats to meet

The Okeechobee Democratic Executive Council will be having its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, **Dec. 15**, beginning at 6 p.m. in the Beef O'Brady's meeting room. Any Democrats are invited to attend.

Library to host book signing

Deborah Sharp, former USA Today reporter will be the guest of honor Saturday, **Dec. 17**, at 2 p.m. for an author's tea at the Okeechobee Public Library. The event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served, and she'll discuss her new book, "Mama Sees Stars."

Yard sale aids Relay for Life

Relay for Life Okeechobee Dream Team is hosting a community yard sale on Saturday, **Dec. 17**, from 7 a.m. until 1 p.m. The table fee is $15 (bring own table and/or tent) with all proceeds going to ACS - American Cancer Society. All monies made at your table is yours to keep or you may donate it to ACS. Please call Missy at 863-634-8674 or contact Stafford's Salon at 863-763-3933 to sign-up for your table. So get all your yard sale items together and come join a fun day. It will be held at the Holiday Inn Express parking lot on U.S. 441 S. All donations of items accepted before 7 a.m., the morning of yard sale or contact the numbers above if need to schedule to pick up your donated items.

Retired educators to meet

Attention, OREA members. The regular monthly meeting will be held on Monday, **Dec. 12** at 11 a.m. in the home of Sharlene Avant, 1690 SW 28th Street, Okeechobee. Bring a covered dish to share and canned food items for our food drive.

Eagles to host turkey shoot

The Cypress Hut Eagles, 4509, will host a turkey shoot at 4701 U.S. 441 S.E. on **Dec. 17-18**. All shoots begin at 9 a.m. for $2 per shot. Proceeds go to Christmas for Kids. Guns will be given away at the Dec. 18 shoot. The winner will get their choice of a Winchester Model 1400 12-gauge auto or a Marlin Model 90 12-gauge over/under.

Teen Dance party planned

Come and enjoy the holidays and join us at the Okeechobee Freshman Campus, 610 SW 2nd Avenue on Saturday, **Dec. 17**, from 7-10 p.m. for the December Teen Dance Party. Admission of just $7 includes pizza, soda and chips. Entertainment by DJ Dr. "S." Lots of fun, games and more. For more information, call Teresa Chandler at 863-801-4996.

Bell ringers are needed

The Salvation Army needs help with the annual "Bell Campaign." Help us help others by "Ringing the Bells." If you, your business or employer can spare some time to ring the bells, please call Kip Gardner at 863-357-0427 or his cell at 863-610-6659.

Foster parents needed

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

Volunteer support needed for Humane Society Pet Rescue

Speaking of "dogs" - Are you hungry for a hot dog? Come to George's Hot Dogs, 3603 Hwy. 441 S. (next to Mid-Florida Hardware) through **Dec. 22** and support, "Dogs for Dogs." Make a donation and George will have a hotdog and a drink ready for you! This is the second year for the fundraiser. It was a great success last year with many donations for the pets. 863-357-1104.

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.

Vernon B. Mosier, 92

OKEECHOBEE — Vernon B. Mosier, age 92, died at the Okeechobee Health Care Facility on Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2011.

Born in Glasgow, Ky., he had resided in Okeechobee since 1980. He was a member of Buckhead Ridge Baptist Church. Vernon was a "jack of all trades" and tinkered in a little bit of everything.

Vernon was preceded in death by a step-daughter, Loretta Heigel.

He is survived by Goldie Mosier, his wife of sixteen years; sons, Frank Mosier of Ky., Larry Mosier of Ind.; daughters, Bobbi Smith of Ind., Sandy Mosier of Ind.; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; a brother, Leon Mosier of Ind.; sister, Lucille Mosier of La.; step-daughters, Carolyn Sue Edge of Mich., Mary Jo Yezbick of Cape Coral, Fla.; and a step-son, Bob Inman of Okeechobee.

All services and burial took place in Scottsburg, Ind. If friends wish, they may make donations in Vernon's memory to Buckhead Ridge Baptist Church, 1731 Hunter Rd., Okeechobee (BHR), FL 34974.

All local arrangements were under the care of Matthew and Paul Buxton of Buxton-Seawinds Funeral Home, 3833 SE 18th Terrace, Okeechobee, Florida.

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

Constance Mary Lazaro, 32

MIAMI — Constance Mary Lazaro, 32, of Miami, formerly of Stuart, died Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2011 at Jackson Memorial Hospital.

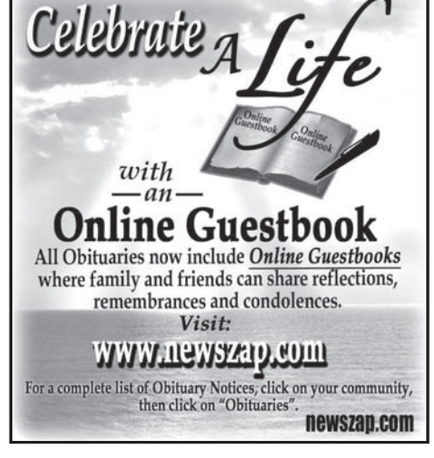
Born in Stuart, she was a longtime resident. She attended Martin County High School. She was of the Catholic Faith.

She is survived by a son, Michael Lazaro; a daughter, Mia Lazaro; her parents, Diane and Lawrence Lazaro all of Okeechobee; a sister, Sarah Lazaro of Port St. Lucie; and a brother, Ron Lazaro of White City.

Services will be at a later date.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Forest Hills Funeral Homes Palm City Chapel.

An on line registry is available to sign and leave notes of condolence at www.foresthill-spalmcityflorida.com .



Lykes Bros. and A. Duda & Sons plan international logistics center

MOORE HAVEN– Florida landowners Lykes Bros., Inc. and A. Duda & Sons, Inc. will implement a master-planned international logistics center on 4,700 acres in central southern Florida and have named the international commercial real estate firm of Cushman & Wakefield to begin marketing the facility. Planned for 30 million square feet of manufacturing and distribution facilities, the center will serve as an integrated logistics hub for trade within the Americas and with Asia and Western Europe.

"We chose Cushman & Wakefield to partner with us on this project because of their well-established expertise in both real estate and logistics, as well as their significant presence internationally," said David J. Duda, president and CEO of A. Duda & Sons. "We believe in this project and see it being of tremendous value to the region and the state."

Cushman & Wakefield is the industry leader in the integration of real estate and supply chain services. Having developed the practice in 1999, the company became the first in the industry to bring this integrated model to the market, and now possesses the leading expertise, experience, and talent within the discipline.

Cushman & Wakefield joins the project's existing team which includes Institute St. Onge, a leading supply chain investment advisory, consulting and engineering company; Ware Malcomb, one of the world's largest industrial master planning and architectural firms; and Rockefeller Group Foreign Trade Zone Services.

"While there are other logistics projects moving forward in Florida, we chose to work on this one because it has so much going for it," said James Underhill, CEO-Americas for Cushman & Wakefield. "From the standpoint of supply chain cost, transportation, and network strategy, it is positioned to be a major facilitator of not only goods coming into the U.S. through Florida's ports, but also as a key component in serving the rising demand for U.S. and Florida exports to Latin America and Asia."

On the outskirts of Moore Haven, Fla., the 4,700-acre tract offers a number of significant locational advantages for logistics companies.

The center is situated to supply more than eight million consumers within the southwest, Heartland and southeast regions of Florida—from Sarasota and Fort Pierce to the north, and Naples and Miami to the south—a number that is expected to grow to 9.5 million by 2020. Planned to capture and enhance the growing trade between North America and South America, Western Europe and Asia, the center will include a combination of distribution centers, warehouses, manufacturing facilities, mixing centers, refrigeration facilities, transload and cross docks, and related logistics uses.

With its central location, the site is rail and road served to several ports, including the Port of Miami, Miami International Airport, Port Everglades, Port Manatee, Southwest Florida International Airport and the Port of Palm Beach. Rail service is provided by CSX and FEC via SCFE.

"Rail service to these major ports is a very important advantage," said Jamie Kishel, director of operations-National Industrial Services for Cushman & Wakefield. "The site is also ideally located for trucking transportation, with easy access to major U.S. and Florida highways.

"The location has great access to competitive labor and distribution markets. Yet companies will be able to move goods in and out efficiently, bypassing Florida's congested coastal residential and tourist areas," said Kishel. "This center is going to play a critical role as an industrial hub and economic driver in Florida's global supply chain infrastructure."

The center will provide users with intermodal opportunities and diverse sustainable transportation and business solutions. The location will additionally benefit from the widening of the Panama Canal, which will open Florida to large Asian container ships.

"All of these factors create an outstanding opportunity for this strategic site to become a key component of Florida's global supply chain infrastructure," said Howell Ferguson, Chairman and CEO of Lykes Bros. "We are very pleased to have an international company like Cushman & Wakefield on board to promote this effort."

Okeechobee Livestock Market Report

Dec. 5 & 6, 2011

Cows		
Breaking	71.00	77.00
Cutter	55.00	61.00
Bulls		
1000-1500	75.00	85.00
1500-2000	77.00	88.00

	Monday	**Tuesday**
Calves	914	1274
Cows	205	248
Str	9	10
Hfrs	11	11
Bulls	36	32
Yrlngs	18	20
Mix	30	21
Total	1223	1616

Med #1	**Steers**	**Hfrs**
200-250	190-215	150-180
250-300	175-215	140-170
300-350	170-210	140-165
350-400	150-180	135-160
400-450	137-160	124-144
450-500	137-160	122-136
550-600	125-140	115-126
600-650	123-137	115-125

Med #2	**Steers**	**Hfrs**
200-250	155-180	130-140
250-300	150-170	120-135
300-350	140-160	120-135
350-400	130-142	110-132
400-450	120-138	110-122

Who would have thought 300# steer calves would bring close to $700!! Well, it happened this week! All calves were higher again $3-5. Cow and bulls were mostly steady, but best yielding ones seemed a bit higher. Only one more regular week of sales before the Christmas Holidays. Slaughter cow sale is on Tuesday, Dec. 27, at 12 p.m. K. L. Joiner, Venus, topped the calf market with a high of $2.20 bought by Rush Cattle. Mills Ranch, Miami, topped the cow market with a high of $79, bought by Central Packing.

See ya next week, Todd

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OHS football team honored at awards banquet

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

D.J. Washington won the Most Valuable Player for offense and Jonathan Kemp captured the MVP for defense at the annual Brahman football awards banquet held on Tuesday night at Okeechobee High School.

Washington was also named to the District 19 All-star team which covers Indian River, St. Lucie, Okeechobee and Martin County players. Washington had over 1,800 in all purpose yards this year to lead the Brahmans. He made the team as a utility player.

Washington said it was a honor to win the award but it really is a team award, "I feel good with the MVP award but I give it to my team, I share it with them, whatever I've been through, they've been through, I'm thankful."

Kemp led the team in tackles and assists and provided quiet leadership throughout his four-year career. He served as captain of the defense and was assigned with knowing formations and calling plays. Only Kemp and Thor Harden were four-year letter earners this year for football.

Kemp said he has a lot of memories to cherish especially a visit to the post season last year.

"I'm very grateful for the award. I came out every day and worked real hard. I think I deserved it. I couldn't have gotten any better without the coaching staff and my teammates around me," he added.

Elijawon Williams won the Most Improved Player Award for the offensive unit while Jose Garcia took home the Most Improved Award for the defense.

Williams became a force on both sides of the ball this year. He became a reliable line backer and was the team's toughest inside runner in several games.

He said he improved because he wanted to improve and took the game seriously, "I hit the weight room a little bit and prepared for this season. When they called me to be running back I had to go out there and do what I needed to do."

Williams admitted he had put on too much weight to be a successful running back so he got back into the weight room, got in shape, and was ready when the chance presented itself. He said that is a great message for his teammates to take to heart.

Cade Stokes won the Brahman Award having earned his way into the starting lineup at linebacker and wide receiver. He said he was very proud of the Brahman award.

"I worked hard and it paid off. When you work at it, you get something back out of it. I learned the position gradually, and got better. The bottom line is hard work," he said.

Seniors honored for their efforts included Ty'Keshe Files, Will Jackson, Raul Piedra, Daniel Beyel, Seth Hedrick, Kemp and Harden.

The varsity team had three freshmen earn letters this year, Daniel Nunez, Ricardo Garza and G.W. Jarriel. Sophomores Eddie Neal, Brent Baughman, Khalil Smith, Bobby Jo Garza, Cody Walker and Cory Vickers also earned letters and certificates. The nucleus of the team, the junior class, included Zachary Winfield, Adel El Hendi, Garcia, Jose Santibanez, Jack Radebaugh, Jose Loredo, Peyton Stokes, Alex Guido, Ty'Ronte Files, Elijawon Williams, Cade Stokes, DJ Washington and Al Morris.

Coach Myron Jackson praised the players for making a commitment to the team and following through on their promises.

He also thanked volunteers, parents, student trainers, school administrators, and local businesses for their generous support of the team this year.

"We have a great base for next year's football team as many of these young men, our top players, will come back next year," he said.

Jackson said his goal is to get more players to stick with the program for four years. He said the way to build a program is to have kids around that you can cultivate and grow with. "With just two kids that play four years that's difficult to build with. Next year I believe we'll have the possibility of having seven young men with four years of football. If we double that number year after year we will improve. One day I hope to have an even playing field against our opponents and dress 23 to 26 seniors."

Jackson said another key will be keeping the kids involved in other sports and stay after them to get in the weight room to improve their strength.

Okeechobee News/**Charles Murphy**
Brahman football coach Myron Jackson (right) awards the Offensive MVP Award to D.J. Washington.

Jonathan Kemp accepts the MVP for the Brahman defense.

OCRA taking coaching applications - 2012 Spring baseball

OCRA is now accepting coaching applications for the 2012 Baseball season. Applications can be picked up at the Okeechobee County Parks and Rec Dept., 640 N.W. 27th Lane (Sports Complex) Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The deadline for returning the applications is Jan. 15, 2012. For questions or concerns please call 863-634-0515 or 863-697-3212.

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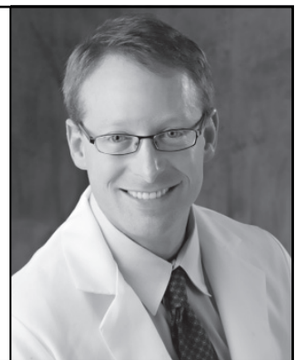

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Okeechobee News/**Charles Murphy**

Cade Stokes was the Brahman Award winner for OHS football in 2011 at the annual football banquet held at OHS Tuesday. Coach Myron Jackson (right) presented him with his award.

Elijawon Williams was all smiles as he took home the Most Improved Player award for the Brahman offense.

Juan Garcia was the winner of the Most Improved Player award at the Brahman football banquet for the OHS defense.

Sebastian River topples OHS

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Ami Edwards had 14 points and 10 rebounds in a losing cause as the Lady Brahmans fell to Sebastian River, 73-23, in girls basketball action Tuesday night at Okeechobee High School.

Brittany Jackson scored 18 points and dished out six assists, and K.P. Pound added 14 points for the unbeaten Lady Sharks, (4-0).

The Lady Sharks jumped out to an early 8-0 lead in the first two minutes of the game and never trailed. They were able to get a lot of easy baskets on fast break points. Taylor Trent scored the Brahmans first basket to cut the lead to six, but the Sharks then went on a 16-2 run to take control. The Sharks led 26-4, and held a 25-point lead at the half.

Cavel Campbell played strong on the defensive end of the floor and Edwards was able to score several baskets on second chance points for Okeechobee (2-5).

The junior varsity game was cancelled.

The Lady Brahmans return home to face the Port St. Lucie Lady Jaguars on Thursday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m.

Okeechobee News/**Charles Muprhy**

Ami Edwards had a double-double Tuesday but it wasn't enough as the Lady Brahmans fell to Sebastian River.

Freshman Carley McCoin continues to play well for the OHS girls basketball squad.

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Common causes of hip pain can be treated

Common causes of hip pain and loss of hip mobility include: Osteoarthritis, Rheumatoid arthritis and traumatic arthritis.

Hip replacement surgery is the most common joint replacement procedure, following knee replacement; both procedures are performed locally by Orthopedic Surgeons at Raulerson Hospital.

The hip is one of the body's largest weight-bearing joints. Recommendations for surgery are based on the extent of your pain, disability and other factors, including age. The American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons (AAOS) states that hip replacement surgery may benefit you if:

- Hip pain limits your everyday activities such as walking or bending.
- Hip pain continues while resting, either day or night.
- Stiffness in a hip limits your ability to move or lift your leg.
- You have little pain relief from anti-inflammatory drugs or glucosamine sulfate.
- You have harmful or unpleasant side effects from your hip medications.

Other treatments such as physical therapy or the use of a gait aid such as a cane do not relieve hip pain.

> Undergoing total hip replacement surgery results in an end or great reduction in hip pain
>
> **— Raulerson Hospital**

Undergoing total hip replacement surgery results in an end or great reduction in hip pain. Even the pain from surgery should go away within weeks.

Hip replacement surgery also increases leg strength. Without hip pain, you'll be able to use your legs more. This will build up your muscles.

One of the greatest advantages of seeking total hip replacement are the years of easier movement. Most total hip replacements last for many years.

Talk to your Orthopedic Surgeon to learn if you are a candidate for hip replacement.

For more information visit RaulersonHospital.com.

This column was provided by Raulerson Hospital.

Special to the Okeechobee News

Blood drive traveling trophy

The Traveling Trophy for the Okeechobee Blood Roundup was won by the Okeechobee Sheriff's Department. In a competition between police and fire departments, the Sheriff's Office turned out more blood donors than the other five departments. This trophy may only be held by the Sheriff's Office for one year, as it may be won by another department in a continuing, four-year competition. Sheriff May, when told he might lose the challenge next year, said "You're not getting this back, ever." Pictured with Sheriff Paul May and Under Sheriff Noel Stephens are (left to right) Roundup volunteers Joan Roden, Maureen Bradley and Nancy Bartholomew.

Health and Safety Expo planned

The Fifth Annual Okeechobee Family Health and Safety Expo is looking for vendors. Vendors can choose booth space inside the Agri Civic Center or set-up outside to share their health and/or safety related service with the community. Booth space is free, but you must register! The Expo will be held Saturday, Jan. 28, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Okeechobee Agric Civic Center. For more information or to pick up a registration form, please call 763-462-5000 ext. 257.

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Dec. 16 & 17 • 7PM • Dec. 18 • 3PM

First United Methodist Church • 200 NW 2nd ST • Okeechobee

(Northwest of Walgreen's at the Intersection of US 441 & SR 70)

The beautiful blend of 48 voices comprising this season's choir represents singers from fifteen local churches.

Frank Carter, a very talented concert pianist, arranger, composer & Director of Arts & Music at Good Shepherd United Methodist of West Palm Beach has once again composed the Christmas cantata as he did for Easter. In addition to accompanying, Frank will sing and play some of his Christmas arrangements.

Nicolle Wood will again share her unique talents as our inspiring narrator.

Singers from the audience will be invited to join the choir in singing the final selection, Handel's *Hallelujah! Chorus.*

A love offering will be taken to cover advertising costs.

For more information, call Sandy at 634-7714

Special to the Okeechobee News

Firestix Girls win Santa Slam tourney

The Chobee Firestix Girls Travel Softball, 12 and under team, won first place at the Santa Slam tournament in Palm Beach at Okeeheelee Park this weekend. The team played three games on Saturday, winning two and losing one, making them the second seed in their pool. On Sunday they played four games winning all four. Pictured are: Coach Brett, Aleina Micco, Alix Blakenship, Miranda McClanahan, Haley Bryner, Kelsey Rimes, Raeley Matthews, Coach Pam, Bailie Shurley, Ariel Girardi, Kassie Weldon, Savannah Mintz, Michelle LaRowe and the mascot - Sydney.

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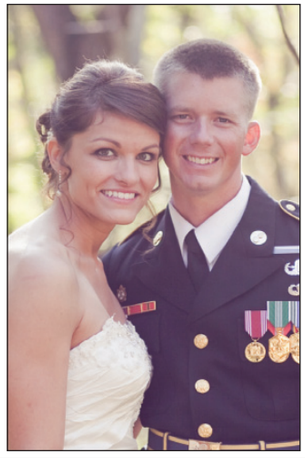

Andrew Jansen and Mallory Cashdollar exchanged marriage vows on October 8, 2011, at St.Clare of Assisi Catholic Church in Clifton, VA.

Andrew is the son of Kurt and Tammy Jansen of Okeechobee, FL. He has served 7 years in Army, 6 of which were in The Honor Guard. Andrew has recently completed EOD technician school and will be stationed at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma.

Mallory is the daughter of Harlan and Anne Cashdollar of Woodbridge, VA. She is a 2009 graduate of Virginia Tech and has recently completed the civilian comptroller program for the Department of the Army. Mallory will be working at Ft. Sill as a Financial Analyst for TRADOC.

Mr. and Mrs. Jansen will be residing in Elgin, Oklahoma.

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Special to the Okeechobee News

The cast of "All is Calm" includes, (back row, left to right) Frank Adamo, David Blount, Deion Hayes, Kaylie Corby, (front row, left to right) Hannah Whiting, Kelsie Chartier and Claresha Blair. Not pictured is Tabatha Henry.

OHS Drama Club to present holiday show

The Okeechobee High School Drama Club will present the holiday children's show "All is Calm" Thursday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m. in the OHS auditorium. All tickets are $5. Cookies, milk and tea will be served after the performance. Santa, Mrs. Claus and elves will meet and greet the students after the performance.

The play tells the story of the Maxwell family. There's something about Christmas that's happy and peaceful—except at the home of the Maxwells. There's something about Christmas that's calm and celestial—except Lucas, who is far from either on this Christmas day, because his world has just slid out from under him—no sled. All year long Lucas had talked of a sled, but on Christmas morning, no sled, and he just can't figure it out. He hinted all year, did everything but draw a map. Well, while Lucas gripes and commotion reigns at the Maxwells, Mrs. Brown and her children, Ian and Paige, drop in for the Christmas basket promised them. While conversing with Ian and Paige, Lucas discovers how happy they are, yet they didn't get a thing for Christmas, nothing but a few nuts. And all they want is to be able to play with all the children—children like Lucas. This makes Lucas think, and with Paige and Ian helping, he flies into his packages and the Christmas spirit reigns again. Here's a timely, down-to-earth Christmas play with laughs, fun, but plenty of logic and common sense.

YOUNGER

Continued From Page 1

OHS and played one year under Coach John Roy Ard.

Bennett said the family is very proud of Cole because he gives his best and loves to play.

"I've always encouraged him to do the best that he can and not get too discouraged when he makes a mistake. We are tickled to death about this event."

Cole said his classmates in Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Fulleda's class have been very supportive and excited for him. He hopes to be on local TV during the halftime competition on Sunday.

"The kids that are interested in sports are really supportive of me and my friend Ed Crews helps me at recess. I'm glad I'm getting this opportunity," he added.

COUNTY

Continued From Page 1

cost the County approximately $108,000.

Commissioner Frank Irby said he would support bonuses based on merit.

Commissioner Ray Domer expressed concern about the improvement of health benefits for employees and urged his colleagues to consider a pay raise for employees when they consider the 2012-2013 budget instead.

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Rustic Star Antiques opens

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

If you are in the market for such things as antique quilts and linens, iron beds, trundle beds, wooden rockers, antique sewing machines, unusual lamps or wooden cradles, check out Rustic Star Antiques at 116 S.W. Fourth Avenue.

Rustic Star Antiques is run by the mother and daughter team of Dorothy and Melinda McDermott. Both ladies have experience with antiques. Dorothy and her husband, Bob, operated a successful antique business in Lafayette, N.J., for many years. Daughter Melinda had a successful antique hat business and sold to high-end boutiques in Pittsburgh, Penn. Melinda also designs and creates beaded jewelry.

"I get tired of staying at home," was Dorothy's reason for opening the shop. "We love this town," chimed in Melinda.

The works of well known local artist Egretta Wells are featured at Rustic Star Antiques

"We have every price range for $1 up," said Melinda.

To help men with their Christmas shopping, Rustic Star Antiques will have a Men's Night on Thursday, Dec. 15, from 5 to 9 p.m. There will refreshments and free gift wrapping. Rustic Star Antiques is open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Okeechobee News/**Pete Gawda**

Antique quilts are a specialty at Rustic Star Antiques, 116 S.W. Fourth Ave. The shop is run by the mother-daughter team of Dorothy McDermott, left, and Melinda McDermott, right.

Chamber of Commerce web site has coupons

The Chamber of Commerce of Okeechobee County has introduced a new web site feature for members. This feature allows the member to place discount coupons on the site for their customers. To find these coupons, just go to www.okeechobeebusiness.com and look for the logo under the member info tab.

Spine surgeon opens Okeechobee office

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

Dr. Pasquale Montesano, orthopaedic spine surgeon, of Palm Beach Spine Specialists, recently expanded his practice from his West Palm Beach office by opening a second office at 1124 S. Parrott Ave in the White House Plaza.

To become a spine specialist a doctor must first become a board certified in orthopaedics then take further specialized training.

"I take care of all types of spinal injuries," Dr. Montesano said. That includes sports injuries, diving injuries, injuries from falls, lower and mid-back pain, broken neck, back deformity and infections and tumors of the spine.

After many years of practice on the west coast Dr. Montesano came to Florida where he is now on the staff at Good Samaritan Hospital in West Palm Beach. The doctor realized that he was getting a lot of patients from the Okeechobee area so he recently opened his new office.

Okeechobee News/**Pete Gawda**

Dr. Pasquale Montesano, left, of Palm Beach Spine Specialists, recently opened an office in Okeechobee. He is assisted by Ty Scrivens, right, who is a Certified Surgical First Assistant.

Dr. Montesano is assisted by Ty Scriven, a Certified Surgical First Assistant, who manages the office. Patients are seen in Okeechobee from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday only. The Okeechobee telephone number is 863-261-8059. The West Palm Beach number is 561-833-4869.

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

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Divers find stolen safe in Taylor Creek

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

Two brothers were arrested Friday after they allegedly broke into an Okeechobee County home and stole a safe, then threw it and its contents into Taylor Creek.

Divers from the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) found the safe and some of its contents shortly after 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9, near a bridge on N.E. 39th Blvd. that spans Taylor Creek.

The brothers—Josh Grossman, 18, and Jeremy Grossman, 16—were arrested earlier Friday on felony charges of burglary and grand theft. In addition, Josh was charged with the misdemeanor of contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Okeechobee News/**Eric Kopp**

Detective Captain John Rhoden, a member of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office dive team, readies to throw a pill bottle on shore Friday afternoon, Dec. 9, that had floated out of a small safe thought to have been stolen from a local home earlier in the week.

Both Okeechobee teens were booked into the Okeechobee County Jail where bond for Josh was set at $5,750. Jeremy was also booked into the county jail, but he was released into the custody of a parent.

OCSO Detective Ted Van Deman said the intruders apparently found a door to the home unlocked Tuesday, Dec. 6. Once inside they apparently went to a bedroom, kicked in the locked door and took a small safe.

The case was initially worked by OCSO Deputy Anthony Kibler who, through the course of his investigation, learned that the brothers had apparently committed the break-in, said Detective Van Deman. Deputy Kibler also gleaned from his investigation that the safe had been thrown into Taylor Creek.

The detective said the safe contained watches, jewelry and prescription medications. The items had a total value of $1,600 he said.

According to Detective Van Deman, when the teens opened the safe and found it contained no money they threw it into the water.

"He (Josh) had no way of fencing the jewelry, so he put it back in the safe then threw it into the water," said the detective.

The investigator went on to say that the sheriff's office received information that Josh was seen diving for the safe in Taylor Creek. Deputies responded to the scene and took Josh and Jeremy into custody.

"He (Josh) wanted to return it to keep from getting into trouble," the detective added.

As OCSO Detective Captain John Rhoden and Deputy John Ashby prepared to dive for the safe, Deputy Kibler brought Josh to the scene so he could give them an idea of where to look.

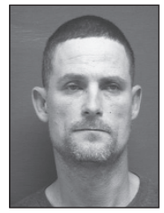
About 20 minutes after entering the black water, Capt. Rhoden found the safe about 15 to 20 feet from the rock-covered shoreline. The medications were still in the small, light metal safe.

The watches and jewelry were not recovered.

Arrests reportedly clear burglaries in Lakeport

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

Two men, including one from Okeechobee, are being held in the Glades County Jail following their arrests in connection with three store burglaries in Lakeport.



Foye E. Crews

Josh Leon Phillips

Arrested Friday, Dec. 2, were: Foye E. Crews, 40, of Okeechobee; and Josh Leon Phillips, 32, Old Lakeport Road in Moore Haven. Each man is facing two felony counts of burglary of an unoccupied structure while unarmed, three misdemeanor counts of criminal mischief and two misdemeanor counts of petit theft.

Crews is being held on $27,500 bond, while bond for Phillips has been set at $25,500.

According to Captain Daryl Lewis, of the Glades County Sheriff's Office (GCSO), the two men committed the multiple burglaries between Nov. 27 and Dec. 2. The businesses are located in Lakeport, he added.

Capt. Lewis said the men allegedly took cigarettes, change and Lottery tickets. The thefts, he added, were under $300.

The men were arrested by GCSO Detective Sergeant Mike Pepitone.

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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).

• Norma Miriam Colon, 46, N.E. Linda Drive, Okeechobee, was arrested Dec. 6 by Deputy DeMarcus Dixon on a warrant charging her with possession of oxycodone with intent to sell/deliver. Her bond was set at $10,000.

• Matthew Ryan Davis, 20, U.S. 441 S.E., Okeechobee, was arrested Dec. 6 by Deputy Paul Jackson on a Jackson County warrant charging him with violation of probation - possession of marijuana over 20 grams. He is being held without bond.

• Pittman Jason Sampson, 37, Knotts Landing Road N.E., Okeechobee, was arrested Dec. 7 by Officer Ryan Holroyd on charges of driving under the influence and driving while license suspended. His bond was set at $3,000.

• Shane Derwin Mears, 39, U.S. 441 S.E., Okeechobee, was arrested Dec. 7 by the OCSO Street Crimes Unit on a warrant charging him with the felony of criminal use of personal identification information and the misdemeanors of fraudulent use of a credit card and obtaining goods with an expired credit card. His bond was set at $6,500.

• Chester Eugene Woodall, 41, N.W. 30th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Dec. 7 by the Okeechobee Narcotics Task Force on a charge of driving under the influence. His bond was set at $500.

• Rebecca Goodman, 29, was arrested Dec. 7 by Deputy Greg Popovich on an amended Okeechobee County warrant charging her with the felonies of violation of probation - battery, violation of probation - burglary and violation of probation - petit theft. She is being held without bond.

• Simon Bryant Boswell, 25, N.W. Fifth St., Okeechobee, was arrested Dec. 7 by Deputy Joe Gracie on a charge of driving under the influence. His bond was set at $250.

• Willard Anthony Melear, 25, S.E. 24th Blvd., Okeechobee, was arrested Dec. 7 by the Okeechobee Narcotics Task Force on a felony charge of possession of a controlled substance (alprazolam) and misdemeanor charges of possession of certain drugs without a prescription (two counts). His bond was set at $7,000.

• Tiffany Michelle Platt, 25, N.E. Sixth St., Okeechobee, was arrested Dec. 7 by Detective Bettye Taylor on a charge of fraudulent use of a credit card. Her bond was set at $5,000.

• Shaneka Necole Ash, 21, N.E. Second St., Okeechobee, was arrested Dec. 8 by Deputy Troy Garrison on a charge of aggravated battery with a deadly weapon. Her bond was set at $2,000.

• Frank Eric Hernandez, 24, N.W. 44th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Dec. 8 by Deputy Mark Margerum on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with failure to return leased property. His bond was set at $2,500.

• Ken Andrew Vargas, 27, N.E. 20th Court, Okeechobee, was arrested Dec. 8 by Deputy Corporal Aric Majere on DOC warrants charging him with violation of probation - dealing in stolen property (two counts). He is being held without bond.

• Linda Mayorga, 28, Notlem Drive, Fort Pierce, was arrested Dec. 8 by Deputy Greg Popovich on an Okeechobee County warrant charging her with violation of probation - possession of amphetamine. She is being held without bond.

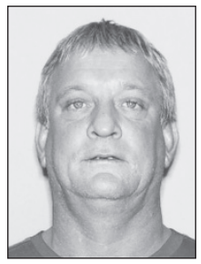
• Cassandra Lynn Moore, 18, N.W. 64th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Dec. 8 by Deputy Tammy Serafini on charges of criminal use of personal identification information and grand theft. Her bond was set at $2,000.

• Gray Curtis English, 64, N.E. Fifth Trail, Okeechobee, was arrested Dec. 8 by the Okeechobee Narcotics Task Force on a felony charge of possession of cocaine and a misdemeanor charge of possession of marijuana under 20 grams. His bond was set at $7,500.

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.

Sexual predator notification

The Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office is disclosing this information to the public in order to enhance the public safety, awareness and protection. This should be used for information purposes only. The individual listed here has served the sentenced imposed by the courts. He is NOT wanted by the police at this time.



Rodney Leitner

Rodney Leitner, a convicted sexual predator, now lives at 5601 S.E. 89 Terrace in Okeechobee. He is a white mail, 45 years old, 6'3", and weighs 230 lbs. He has blond hair and blue eyes,

Leitner was convicted of a lewd and lascivious act on a victim under the age of 12 in Palm Beach County in 2001.

If you have any questions regarding this bulletin, contact Michelle or Connie at the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office, 863-763-3117, ext. 2240 or visit the web site at http://www,fdle.state.fl.us.

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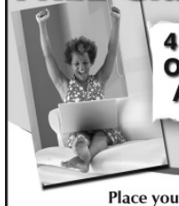

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Some 800 and 900 telephone numbers may require an extra charge, as well as long distance toll costs. We will do our best to alert our reader of these charges in the ads, but occasionally we may not be aware of the charges. Therefore, if you call a number out of your area, use caution.

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Employment Medical

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CKC Mini Dachshund - 5 mos dapple male pup, all shots, wormed, smart, sweet & extremely tiny $350.00. (863)801-6144

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

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Apts. are furnished and all utilities paid. Adult complex, no pets or children. Required sec. dep. + one week rent. A background check will be done, also verify employment. (863)357-2044 Leave name and number if no answer.

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2BR/2BA, in town, W&D, $850 mo. + $500 sec. Call (863)634-5780 or (863)467-9250

Dixie Ranch Acres area, 2 br. duplex. Clean, quiet, $500/mo, $400 security. Includes water and lawn maintenance. NO DOGS Call 863-610-0001

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OKEECHOBEE- Cottag on Rim Canal. Starting $125 week incld utilities. (772)359-1640.

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OAK LAKE VILLA #17, 2/2, clean unit with updated kitchen & appliances. $800/mo. 1st, last, and $500 sec. required. (863)467-5965 leave a message.

Houses - Rent

2 br-2 ba w/den & Florida room. Between Okeechobee & Indiantown. 5 acres w/pond. $990 mo. 772-260-3068.

FORT DRUM AREA 2BR, 2BA w/Washer & Dryer. $600 mo. + sec. & ref's. Call (561)634-0312

Houses - Rent

3bd/1ba, CBS, concrete drive, metal roof, shutters, privacy fence, a/c, tile floors, W/D, no inside pets $825 mo. security deposit $600. Call 863-697-6224

3Bd/1Ba CBS House In SW Section 2200 SW 3rd Ave. Okee. Close to Wal-Mart, Tile Floors. $850 Monthly. $2,000 to move in (863)634-0512

Dixie Ranch Acres area 3 br house, clean, quiet $700/mo, $500 security. Includes water & lawn maintenance. NO DOGS. Call 863-610-0001

For Rent
Remodeled 3br/1ba
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$725.00 security
Single Family
Non Smoker
Call 863-801-3700

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Rooms To Rent

OKEECHOBEE - Looking for 2 roommates to share 4 br house. All appliances including Washer & Dryer. Located at Four Seasons. $300/mo Call (863)634-4771

Waterfront Rentals

For Sale or Rent, BHR Adult community, 1 bedroom Park Model with attached Florida room and deck on the water, Call 863-824-6147

Real Estate

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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

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Houses - Sale

Two Story CBS house on Canal,3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, living room w/fire place. 2 frigs, washer/dryer, 40 ft Car port,Very Clean. $125,000 Call 863-610-0329

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Lots - Sale

FOR SALE - RESIDENTIAL BUILDING LOT CLOSE TO BLUE HERRON IN BRENT WOOD ESTATES. LOT SIZE IS 0.65 ACRES HAS HOUSE PAD IN PLACE TO ACCOMADATE A 3500 SQ. FT. HOME WATER DEPOSIT PAID READY TO BUILD ON. $45,000 OR O.B.O. CALL CARL @ 863-634-8617

Mobile Homes

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Mobile Home Rent

2 Br/ 1 1/2 bath $500.00 mo. includes all utilities. Located in Nice Park and Area. Call 812-989-3022

Double wide - Fully Furnished(bring toothbrush & move in). Pay own utilities $800 mo. & $800 Deposit. Located in BHR Adult Park. Call 863-763-9966

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2008 Silverado
Pick-Up with extended cab, 69,000 miles. Excellent condition $14,000 Call 863-763-8534

Public Notices

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Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
PURSUANT TO F.S. 713.78 ON SAT., DEC. 24, 2011 @ 9:00AM
SILVERMOON'S TOWING & RECOVERY 1006 NW 9TH STREET OKEECHOBEE, FL.
WILL SELL THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES AND/OR VESSELS.
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SELLER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ANY OR ALL BIDS
2002 Chevrolet vin: 1GCEC19T82E292860
404894 ON 12/11/2011

Public Notice

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.
CASE NO.: 2011-CC-247
JUDGE: JERALD D. BRYANT

ADMIRAL DALE'S, L.L.C., a Florida Limited Liability Company,
Plaintiff,
vs.
ROBERTA WHITE, Individually,
Defendant.

COMPLAINT FOR COMMERCIAL EVICTION AND PAST DUE RENT

COMES NOW, the Plaintiff, ADMIRAL DALE'S, L.L.C., a Florida Limited Liability Company, (hereinafter referred to as ADMIRAL DALE'S) and sues the Defendant, ROBERTA WHITE, individually (hereinafter referred to as WHITE) and would allege as follows:

COUNT I

1. THAT this is an action for damages which do not exceed $15,000.00.
2. THAT this is an action to evict Defendant, WHITE from commercial real property located in Okeechobee County, Florida, filed pursuant to Section 83.05, Florida Statutes.
3. THAT Plaintiff owns the following described real property located in Okeechobee County: ADMIRAL DALE'S BAR AND MOBILE HOME PARK at 3201 SE 33' Terrace #33, Okeechobee Florida 34974.
4. THAT Defendant, WHITE has possession of the real property under a written agreement whereby Defendant, WRITE, agreed to pay monthly rent in the amount of $1,000.00, per month on the 1st day of each month. See Exhibit "A" attached hereto.
5. THAT Defendant, WHITE, failed to pay the rent due on October 1st, 2010 and all subsequent payments totaling $12,000.00.
6. THAT by three (3) day written notice dated October 25, 2011, Plaintiff demanded from Defendant payment of the overdue rent payments or possession, but Defendant failed to respond as demanded. A copy of that notice is attached hereto as Exhibit "B".
7. THAT by this Complaint, the Plaintiff does hereby declare the lease in default and terminated pursuant to Section 83.05, Florida Statute.
8. THAT the Plaintiff has had to retain the services of the undersigned attorney to enforce its interest in collecting the amount due, and its obligation itself to pay said attorney a reasonable fee for the service herein,

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff sues the Defendant and demands possession pursuant to Chapter 83, Florida Statutes, and request a Final Judgment of Eviction pursuant to the Florida Rules of Summary Procedure, together with reasonable attorneys, fees and costs and such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

JEFFREY A. FADLEY, P.A.
BY: Jeffrey A. Fadley
Attorney for Plaintiff
Fla. Bar No.: 035667
807 SW 2nd Avenue
Okeechobee, Florida 34974
(863) 763-5733

405021 ON 12/11,18/2011

PUBLIC NOTICE
Awesome Self Storage, 6489 US 441 SE, Okeechobee, FL 34974 will dispose of stored items on December 14, 2011.

Owner	Unit #
Robert Fuller	OP 15
Traci Lee/ Christopher Merritt	E643
Chris Millillo/ Misty Harden	C330
Andrea Ostdick	D484
Luis & Christina Torres	E680

404359 ON 12/4,11/2011

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Holiday Happenings

Santa to visit

Children can visit with Santa Claus in the Okeechobee City Park from 6-8 p.m. on Dec. 12 and 13.

Mission sponsors toy drive

Big Lake Mission Outreach is sponsoring their 16th annual toy drive for the needy children in our community. Donations can be toys, gift cards, gifts suitable for teens or checks should be made out to: Big Lake Missions Outreach. Donations of toys, gifts and food will be accepted through Dec. 20. For more information, you may call 863-763-5725. Pick up and receipts are available upon request.

Christmas Cantata planned

A cantata that was recently composed by Frank & Brooke Carter especially for the Okeechobee Community Choir will be presented at the First United Methodist Church of Okeechobee on Friday, Dec. 16, at 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. and, Sunday, Dec. 18 at 3 p.m. Tickets will NOT be required for admission. For more information, call Sandy Perry at 863-634-7714.

Boat parade set for Dec. 17

The annual Okeechobee lighted boat parade, sponsored by the Yatchette Club, will be held this year on Saturday, Dec. 17 at 5:30 p.m., on Taylor Creek, beginning at S.R. 70 behind Burger King. The parade will travel up Taylor Creek ending at the VFW. Boats should be decorated with a holiday theme. For questions or further information please call Susie at 352-209-9582.

SES to host Winter Carnival

The annual South Elementary School Winter Carnival will be held on Thursday, Dec. 15, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Please come join us for food, games and silent auction.

Historic ornaments on sale

The Okeechobee Retired Teacher's Annual Historic Christmas Ornament is now in and available for your Christmas Tree! This year's numbered and limited edition ornament honors the 1914 Florida East Coast Railroad Station. This station was the reason "Tantie" became "Okeechobee." The ornament will be available in Flagler Park during the Mainstreet Christmas Festival on Saturday, Dec. 10. The cost of the ornament is $15 and previous year ornaments are also available. Drop by the OREA booth and pick one up. You may also purchase an ornament from any OREA member or it's President, Gay Carlton at 863-763-5755.

Santa on the fire truck

The Okeechobee City Fire Department will take Santa on a tour of the area within the Okeechobee City limits on a fire truck Dec. 15-17 to wave to local children. The fire truck will visit the northwest and northeast sections of Okeechobee on Dec. 15; the southwest section of Okeechobee on Dec. 16, and the southeast section of town on Dec. 17. For more information, please call Kim Barnes at 863-763-3372 ext. 222.

Church to host Christmas Around the World event

Children and families are invited to the multi-cultural celebration of 'Christmas Around the World' on the grounds of Sacred Heart Church on Sunday, Dec. 18, from 5 p.m. through 7 p.m. The evening begins with a charming live nativity pageant. The pageant is followed by a variety show of delightful performances by American, Colombian, Mexican, Bolivian, Irish and Filipino entertainers. The evening concludes with Santa Claus delivering gifts to the children 12 and under and everybody joining in a lively version of Feliz Navidad and Joy the World.

Special to the Okeechobee News

Students of the Week

Seminole Elementary would like to congratulate their Students of the Week for the week of Dec. 2: Kaylee Tinajero, Jose Aguilar, Carmen Betancourt, Davian Salazar, Jessie Arellano, Anai Busto, Luis Baltazar, Yesenia Castillo, Niyah Martinez, Michael Thornton, Rosalinda Torres, Allen Gonzalez, Veronica Tenorio, Foy Cunningham, Daniel Aleman, Jose Ascencio, Devin Powers, Chrishaila McKinney, Micheal Lippman, Milagros Baltazar, Bianca Pelayo, Fallon McLean, Naila Roman, Shawn Trujillo, Alex Santibanez, Vilma Mungaray and Liberty Kuschel.

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YMS boys beat OMS

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Juanyae Ford scored 10 points, all in the fourth quarter, as Yearling rallied from a seven-point fourth quarter deficit to shock Osceola, 27-25, in middle school boy's basketball action Thursday at Osceola.

Yearling continued a long-winning streak against the Warriors thanks to some aggressive defense and timely buckets down the stretch.

Coach Efrain Ochoa said the decision to switch to a full-court press in the final four minutes really helped his team pull off the victory.

"We get nervous and commit easy turnovers, so when we started to press we got a couple of quick baskets and we finally took the ball to the hole instead of settling for jump shots," he said.

Antawyn Fludd had six points and five steals, and Francisco Compton added five points for Yearling. Fred Bradley had nine points and nine rebounds, and Chris Epps added seven points and five steals for the Warriors.

The game was tied after the first quarter and Osceola held a 14-12 lead at the break. A bucket by Jajuan Cherry gave the Warriors an 18-15 lead as they entered the fourth quarter.

Things looked good for Osceola midway through the fourth quarter after baskets by Angel Garcia and Epps gave them a 22-15 lead. Ford took over from there with a couple of free throws and two baskets inside. Bradley scored inside to give the Warriors a 25-24 lead with 42 seconds left. Ford's three-point play with 30 seconds left gave Yearling their final advantage. Ford scored his teams final 10 points.

"I just know to go hard and play my hardest. We have beaten Yearling for 10 years in a row and wanted to keep the streak going," he said.

Ochoa said Ford had blown a few layups in prior games but redeemed himself with a great performance tonight. He said Ford really did his job.

Osceola had a chance to tie but Bradley missed a short jump shot with five seconds left. Ford pulled down the rebound and Yearling was able to run out the clock.

Warrior Coach Justin Perman said he was proud of his team's improvement this year but told the kids he was disappointed in how they played.

"I've told them the past two days to hustle, execute and box out. Those are the things we didn't do tonight and it cost us tonight's game," he said.

Perman said Ford outhustled everybody and Osceola didn't match his intensity at the end of the game.

"I can't be more proud of my team. They have improved by leaps and bounds beyond what I could expect. I'm disappointed because I know we could have played better tonight," he added.

YMS girls outlast OMS

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Cheyenne Nunez scored 10 points and Baylee Farless added six points and 15 rebounds as Yearling Middle School outlasted Osceola Middle 18-13 in girl's basketball action Thursday at Osceola.

Laporshe Morris led the Warriors with eight points. Michaela Myers added 14 rebounds and three steals in the game for Osceola.

Osceola missed 25 free throws in the defensive oriented game.

Yearling led 6-3 after the first quarter and 8-6 at the half. The Lady Bulls led 12-8 after the third quarter.

Warrior Coach Josh Stoddard said his girls have focused on free-throw shooting in practice, but will have to go back to the drawing board to improve at the line.

"It was a great game and we played great defense, but when you hit only four of 29 free throws, you don't win many games doing that," he added.

The Warriors were in the bonus for much of the fourth quarter but couldn't take advantage of their opportunities as they missed over 10 free throws in the final minutes.

Morris said the game was very physical but was typical of an Osceola-Yearling game, "One girl kept grabbing me and I thought she wanted a hug."

Both teams were sharp on defense as there were very few open shots for either team.

Yearling Coach Tammy Wright said defense hasn't been the problem for her team. She said right now the team's offensive plays aren't ready to carry the team, "Our offense is not where I want it to be so we had to step up on defense. I keep telling the girls to go hard for four quarters and that is what they did tonight."

Wright praised many of the younger players who got a lot of playing time due to foul trouble for her starting point guard and Captain Cheyenne Nunez.

"Tonight's game showed them what basketball is all about," she added.

Nunez still played a big role in her limited minutes. She hit a key layup off an inbounds pass to give the Lady Bulls a six point lead with 5:30 left. Farless had two rebounds and an assist that led to a Nunez jumper a minute later that gave the Bulls a comfortable eight point advantage.

"We played our heart out and overall we did very well," Nunez said, "Osceola is a good team, and I'm disappointed in myself because I fouled out, but this game was very intense."

Nunez said the Osceola crowd was also a factor as they continuously cheered their team on and made it a tough atmosphere to play in.

"You can't let the fans get to you. I just kept my head and had my mind right. You don't let them get into your head," she added. "We are getting better every day. Our motto is go hard or go home. We went hard tonight and now we get to go home."

The two teams will meet again on Jan. 12 at Okeechobee High School.

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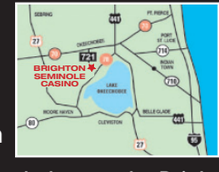

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All Rebates and Incentives apply to the Dealer. Prices good to 12/16/2011. All prices plus tax, tag and fees