



OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 103 No. 26

Wednesday, February 29, 2012

50¢ Plus tax

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Lake Levels

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Arson suspected in Pine Ridge Park

Reward of up to \$15,000 offered for information leading to arrest of arsonist

By Katrina Elsken
Okeechobee News

Is an arsonist targeting mobile homes in the Pine Ridge Park area?

Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office investigators responded to a report of a possible arson on N.E. 30th Terrace at 10:21 p.m. Monday.

Three brush fires and two structure fires over the weekend in the Pine Ridge Park already had residents worried.

On Monday night, Deputy Corporal Randy Thomas responded to the report of a suspected arson attempt at the home of Daniel Lamb II and Cara Lee Close.

Mr. Lamb said he was sitting in his living room when he saw a light coming through the window from the backyard. He said they went outside to investigate and heard the chain link fence rattle. He walked around to the

See FIRE — Page 8



Special to the Okeechobee News
A Pine Ridge Park resident posted this photo on the Okeechobee News www.newszap.com web site.



Special to the Okeechobee News/OCT

The Diary of Anne Frank

Thirteen-year-old Anne Frank (Blaire Law) is delighted with the gift of a diary from her father, Otto Frank (Michael White), just as the family goes into hiding to try to escape from the Nazis in occupied Amsterdam during World War II. The true account she writes of the daily lives of the eight people who live for more than two years in those cramped quarters is the basis of the Pulitzer Prize-winning play being performed on March 2, 3, 9 and 10 at 8 p.m. by the Okeechobee Community Theatre. For more on the story, see page 3.

Residents advised to stay vigilant

An Okeechobee resident may have saved his own home from fire Monday night because he was vigilant. Daniel Lamb noticed a light in his backyard and went to investigate. He heard his chain link fence rattle and saw a tall figure walking away. He smelled something burning. After carefully checking all around his home, he found flames coming from plastic box between the shrubs and the side of his residence. He was able to extinguish the fire with a garden hose and alert officials.

Local officials are advising other area residents to follow that example. After two mobile home fires and three suspicious brush fires in that same neighborhood within three days, plus the attempted arson of Mr. Lamb's residence, local and state agencies are working together to find the person or persons responsible.

What can the homeowners do?

"Be vigilant," said Okeechobee County Fire

See ADVICE — Page 8



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Special to the Okeechobee News/YMS

Students of the Week

Yearling Middle School is pleased to announce the Students of the Week for Thursday, Feb. 23, including: front row seated, Yessica Hernandez, Rosa Ponce and Maria Jamines-Saucedo; in the second row seated are: Jose Chavez and Gustavo Medellin; in the back row standing are: Cory Surls and Damian Deck.

Okeechobee Forecast



Weather forecast for Okeechobee County from the National Weather Service



Local Forecast

Wednesday: Areas of fog before 8 a.m. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 85. East southeast wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Wednesday night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 62. South southeast wind around 5 mph.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 86. South southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Thursday night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 63. West southwest wind around 5 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 87. South wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 63. South wind around 5 mph.

Speckled Perch vendor applications available

Okeechobee Main Street is currently taking applications for the Annual Speckled Perch Festival, to be held in Flagler Park on March 10 and 11, and the Speckled Perch Parade on March 10 at 11 a.m. Applications for booth space or parade participants are available at the Main Street office, 111 N.E. Second St., directly behind C.V.S., and can also be found on the Main Street website at www.mainstreetokeechobee.com. Main Street is gearing up for this very exciting event, to be held in conjunction with the Spring Rodeo. For further information, please contact Cindy Birdashaw at 863-357-6246.

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Community Theatre's "Diary of Anne Frank" opens Friday

Sixty-eight years after her death, the words recorded in a diary by a young Jewish girl still have the power to move her readers as she describes what it was like for eight people to hide out in a cramped attic for more than two years to try to escape Nazi tyranny in Europe during World War II.

The Pulitzer Prize-winning play based



Special to the Okeechobee News/OCT
Ashamed that he has been caught stealing from the small amount of food available for the five adults and three young people in hiding from the Nazis, Mr. Van Daan (John Garner) is comforted by his wife (Laurie Garner) in a scene from "The Diary of Anne Frank."

upon that diary has lost little of her original message of man's inhumanity to man, or of the resiliency of spirit which helped Anne Frank to endure such trials and tribulations.

Okeechobee audiences have a rare opportunity to see this powerful drama live on stage, as the Okeechobee Community Theatre (OCT) presents "The Diary of Anne Frank" for a four-night run. Performances are set for Friday and Saturday nights, March 2, 3, 9 and 10, at 8 p.m. at the theatre on the Okeechobee Freshman Campus, one block west of Golden Corral restaurant.

Reserved seat tickets are now on sale for \$12 each Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the office of the Pennysaver, 111 N.E. Second Street, just north of CVS Pharmacy.

Despite the dark nature of the subject, the play also relates the sometimes light-hearted—even funny—circumstances as two families and an extra individual deal with the normal stresses of living together in forced confinement. Since the story is told through the eyes of a young teen, it is suitable entertainment for audiences of all ages.

The state of Florida has considered the details of the holocaust, in which more than six million Jews were executed, to be impor-

tant enough to be required curriculum in all Florida public schools.

The OCT cast turns in riveting performances as they portray the true events in the lives of these real people. Blaire Law appears as Anne, who goes through the processes of maturing physically and intellectually, while dealing with the loss of both her freedom and her friends during the stage of life when they are so highly valued.

Her slightly older sister, Margot, played by Madeline Bean, is the quieter of the two girls.

She tends to deal with the challenges in a more inward manner, and, in doing so, becomes sick.

Ever the peacemaker, their father, Otto Frank, portrayed by Michael White, does his best to keep everyone's spirits up by looking at the bright side of each new problem. White, a veteran OCT performer, has been seen previously in the important roles of Atticus Finch in "To Kill a Mockingbird," and as George Bailey in "It's a Wonderful Life."

Mrs. Frank, a quiet woman who holds in her feelings, finally allows her rage to get the best of her when the welfare of the children is threatened. She is played by OCT newcomer, Sharon Wallace.

The other talented actors in the production include John Garner as Mr. Van Daan, Laurie Garner as Mrs. Van Daan, Andrew Hall as Peter Van Daan, Mike Zierden as Mr. Dussel, Matt Garner as Mr. Kraler, and Kisha Law as Miep Gies. Each of them approaches his or her very dramatic role with just the right balance of humor.

"The Diary of Anne Frank" will conclude the 33rd season of musicals, comedies and dramas by the all-volunteer theatre group. The Okeechobee Community Theatre is a member of the American Association of Community Theatre, and the Florida Theatre Conference. For more information on the theatre and its activities, call Ron or Jacque Hayes at 863-763-1307, or visit the theatre website, www.okeechobeecommunitytheatre.com.



At the end of World War II, Otto Frank, seated at left, relates the fate of the other seven people who hid for more than two years in an attic in Amsterdam to keep from being shipped off to a Nazi death camp. The two individuals who provided for them during that time listen with empathy. The performers in the Okeechobee Community Theatre production include, left to right, Michael White, Kisha Law and Matthew Garner.

Local teen injured in two-car crash

By Eric Kopp

Okeechobee News

An Okeechobee teen was listed in critical condition at a Fort Pierce hospital as a result of a two-car crash on U.S. 441 S.E. late last week.

A Florida Highway Patrol accident report stated that the two vehicles collided Friday, Feb. 24, at 5:10 p.m. when a 1997 Nissan Altima driven by Kari Michelle Nicholas, 17, of Okeechobee, turned in front of an oncoming 2004 Chevrolet Tahoe driven by Andrea Carlyne Hansen, 38, of Okeechobee.

FHP Trooper Ryan Yunas stated in his report that Ms. Nicholas was southbound on U.S. 441 S.E. when she made a left-hand turn onto S.E. 33rd Terrace in front of Ms. Hansen's vehicle, which was northbound on U.S. 441.

The trooper stated that Ms. Hansen was unable to stop in time and the front of her sports utility vehicle struck the right side of the Nissan.

A passenger in the Nissan, Todd Logan Fowler, 18, was taken to Lawnwood Regional Medical Center in Fort Pierce where he was listed as being in critical condition, stated the FHP report. Mr. Fowler, of Okeechobee, was not wearing a seat belt, added the report.

Two other passengers in the Nissan—Alyssa Alexandra Alvarado, 17, and Gabriel Chapman, 17, both of Okeechobee—suffered minor injuries, indicated Trooper Yunas.

Ms. Hansen and a passenger with her—Bailey Nicole Hanson, 11—were not injured, the trooper added.

According to the trooper's report damage to the Nissan was estimated to be \$7,500, while damage to the Tahoe was estimated at \$5,000.

Trooper Yunas went on to add that the others involved in the accident were wearing seat belts.

The report does not indicate if any citations were issued.

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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!

On being handicapped

• To the male person who is going to “teach those cripples a lesson.” Evidently you don’t know that some people who have a physical problem don’t show their handicap, if they can help it. They don’t want pity. At times they may need some assistance when confronting stairs, doors and other barriers. One thing they surely don’t need is someone to put a dent in their car because they are trying to act normal. If they could, they would gladly walk another 100 feet beyond Handicap Parking. Don’t ever get a Handicap Parking card because there is probably someone like you that will deface your pick-up and you certainly don’t need that additional burden. To you—have a normal life and don’t get handicapped.

Fires

• I live in the Pine Ridge Park area of Okeechobee right behind Bill’s Mini Mart and I am becoming increasingly disturbed by the recent fires that have been starting right across the street from my home. The fire department has been awesome about responding quickly, but I am afraid that one of these nights no one will be awake to call them and that these fires will end up spreading to my house or the neighbors and that they will end up killing someone.

• Take normal precautions for fire safety. For example, make sure you have working smoke detectors in your home (have you changed the batteries in the past year?) Clear out dry brush that is close to any structures. Anyone who has information on the suspicious fires is encouraged to call the state’s Arson hot line at 1-800-342-5869.

Republican candidates (except Ron Paul)

• So these guys will let a foreign leader dictate our foreign policy? I can see why people would vote for them.

• You ARE referring to us standing by, letting Obama get re-elected, right?

• I’m referring to Gingrich stating that he will listen to Israel and not our Chief of Staff.

• Hey, let’s go with Iran! Yeah, that’s the ticket! They want us dead but that’s okay ‘cause we don’t like ourselves anyway. We keep apologizing for everything because. Besides, they don’t want to kill me, they want to kill other people down the street. We, in our house, will be safe. We should be ashamed of our nation and our beliefs. We really should. Let’s let someone come in and tell us when to bow down...hey, maybe every hour. Yeah. Then we could get rid of our guilt for breathing and someone could tell us what else to do. You voted for something out of guilt and “Hope and Change” in 2008 and now this? Go over there and live. Do it. Rid yourself of this Pox of America.

The cost of war

• It seems like we are mired in never ending hostilities in the Middle East. With the unrest over the Koran burning ordeal, Syria, Libya and the push to attack Iran looms over our heads. It looks as if it will never end. I think it’s time to put a stop to this and use the resources we are wasting on foreign soil to rebuild America and quit sending our soldiers off to die in undeclared wars.

• Nobody likes having our soldiers sent across the pond to fight in any wars, declared, or otherwise, but I think it is being done to prevent the maniacs from coming over here. Even so, they use their evil means to do so, “peacefully.” What should we do, wait for them like sitting ducks? Unfortunately, we are in the position of having to keep them engaged over there, as well as watch out for them entering our country at the same time. I wish the wars fought overseas could be done all automatically with unmanned aircraft. Maybe someday it will be.

• Read Machiavelli. Then you will realize that what is happening now is stupid. Perception is everything. We are now perceived as weak. Who is creating that perception?

Father’s message on Facebook

• Regarding the father who shot his daughter’s laptop because she posted a rude message on Facebook, sounds like the kid was spoiled and had it coming. Now If only more parents were like this!

• Well too bad he did not just delete all the information on the laptop and then in front of her give it away to some young person who would use it in a responsible manner.

• You could tell this Dad was not only mad but also hurt and disappointed.

Letters to the editor

CLC update

The current state of affairs with contract negotiations with instructional personnel is only a symptom of the much greater problem facing organized labor today. There is a driving force in the country to break the back of the unions and give businesses an inexpensive labor force, which is just grateful to have a job. The early 19th century was marked by great strides for organized labor. Now, close to 100 years past the movement and the pendulum has swung back toward business. The progress made in the last century is at great risk of being lost in this one.

Think for a moment about what is going on in Tallahassee right now. There was one bill being pushed through committee that gives the legislature authority to privatize any correctional facility with no impact study, no cost savings analysis and no public notification required until after the contract is signed. A second, and very similar bill would have given the legislature the authority to privatize any state agency, or part of a state agency under the same conditions as the first bill. These two bills would allow the legislature to privatize your entire state government without having to notify you until it’s all over and done. Many of you are shocked now that you are seeing what the legislative slaughterhouse did to the education system last year. The legislature and ALEC (I’ll talk about them in a moment) are using all their power and influence to strip away your promise of democracy and freedom.

While all of us are worrying about what our elected officials are going to do to us next, it is a great opportunity for the anti-labor movement to slip in a law that would weaken organized labor even more. Organized labor is standing at the front of the line working to prevent, what I consider to be a fascist take-over of our nation. I invite anyone to compare the last two legislative sessions to a definition of fascism. You’ll be amazed at the similarities.

As the dust starts to settle following the defeat of the privatization bills, the next wave of attacks looms on the horizon. This all out blitzkrieg is seemingly coming from many directions, however, there is one group behind it all. The American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) is a corporate-sponsored conservative think tank that is committed to limiting government. Their goal is to draft “boiler plate” legislation that can be introduced in all 50 state legislatures. Privatization, school reform and digital learn-

ing are just a sampling of their plans for the future. It’s not so surprising once you realize that ALEC’s members include Exxon-Mobil, State Farm, Koch Industries, Walmart, Pfizer and Kraft Foods that there is legislation being introduced that would cut the minimum wage for food service workers nearly in half. Does that seem fair? Does it make sense to you that a waitress should make \$2.13/hour instead of \$4.65 because she earns tips? Does it seem fair that this lower wage will be used as a justification for lower tax rates to large corporations, such as Chili’s and Out-back Steakhouse? I’m sure their corporate profits aren’t suffering.

Put all of this in the light of today’s work environment and you can see where the sentiment comes from that “you should just be grateful to have a job.” Where is our American dream? Where is the promise of our forefathers? Where is the promise from The Declaration of Independence? We are endowed by our creator with life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness! We can’t sit by and let the corporations prosper at our expense. We need to follow the voting record of our elected officials, and hold them accountable for the decisions they make. We need to stay educated on the issues of our times and expect our representatives to represent us and not their biggest corporate donors. Democracy and freedom are both tender infants that need to be guarded and nurtured, lest they will whither and die.

Tom Bonasera
Okeechobee

Free tax preparation and e-filing help offered

AARP Taxaide volunteers will be available to provide free income tax preparation and e-filing from now through April 17, at the American Legion, 501 SE 2nd Street, on Mondays and Tuesdays from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Those who need help with their tax forms must bring photo ID, Social Security cards for dependents, last year’s tax return and all 2011 financial statements. No appointment is necessary. First come, first served. Doors open at 8:45 a.m. Please DO NOT call the American Legion. For more information, please call 863-357-1694 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

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

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

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Our Purpose...

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

We Pledge...

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

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

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Area churches plan special events

Life Community Church, 701 S. Parrott Ave., will have their FREE family movie night, Friday, March 2, at 7 p.m. The movie "Welcome to Paradise" starring Brian Dennehy, Crystal Bernard and Bobby Edner is an inspiring movie about acceptance, forgiveness and changed lives in a small town called Paradise. The public is invited.

The **Okeechobee Church of God** is having a Community Yard Sale with a concession stand on Saturday, March 3 at the church, 301 N.E. 4th Avenue. Have you wanted to have a yard sale and don't have enough room? Come join us with a table for just \$10 or a space without a table for a \$5 donation. What you make is yours to keep. Call to reserve your space with Norma at 863-634-2930. The ladies ministry will do the advertising.

The **First United Methodist Church** located at 200 N.E. 2nd St. will be hosting a Smoked Chicken Dinner on March 9. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. (eat in or take out) and dinner will be served from 4:30-6:30 p.m. (eat in or take out). Dinners are \$7. For more information, please call 863-763-4021.

Oakview Baptist Church is having a revival Sunday, March 11 at 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. and also from Monday, March 12 through Wednesday, March 14 at 6 p.m. Dr. Bob Pittman, a full time Evangelist from Alabama, will be our guest speaker. James Garrison, from Nashville, Tenn. will be our Music Evangelist. Please make plans to join us – and bring a friend! We are located at 677 S.W. 32 Street. For further information, please call 863-763-1699.

St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Catholic Church will host a Fish Fry on Friday, March 2, from 4:40 to 6:30 p.m. at the church hall, State Road 78 West at Chobee Loop. Suggested donation is \$8 for adults; \$3 for children. Take out is available. The church will sponsor a regular Friday night Fish Fry throughout the Lenten season.

Church of the Nazarene, 425 SW 28th Street, Okeechobee will host a Southern Gospel Concert - "Soul'd Out Quartet" on Friday, March 2 at 7 p.m. A love offering will be taken. For more information, please call Floyd Selph at 863-763-7113.



Places of Worship

Share your news and photos for this column by email to okeenews@newszap.com

Church of God of Prophecy has an Open Arms Ministry, at 102 N.W. 10TH Street. The Hurting Women's Ministry meets on the second and fourth Friday of each month at 7 p.m. This is a ministry for women of all ages who are going through or have been through crisis in their lives. For more information, please call 863-254-8304.

The Gathering Church, 1735 S.W. 24 Ave., is hosting weekly "growth groups" on Wednesday night. Each group will focus on a different area of need as well as interactive Bible studies; such as, Financial Freedom, Fit for a King (weight loss group), Men's Bible Study, Single Women's Group. Meet in the main sanctuary at 7 p.m. and be dismissed to the group of their choice. For information, call the church office at 863-357-4418. Everyone welcome.

There is a **Community Gospel Sing** at the **Seventh Day Christian Church**, at 912 N.W. Park St. (S.R. 70) every Tuesday at 7 p.m. Anyone can participate in singing or

playing guitar, banjo, mandolin, fiddle, dobro, and harmonica—come and enjoy!

New **St. Stephen AME (African Methodist Episcopal) Church** is in the process of building a new sanctuary at 1050 N.E. 16th Avenue. The church is seeking both monetary donations and donations of equipment and supplies. Items sought include a sound system, landscaping, folding tables, office chairs, a fax machine, a refrigerator, computers, file cabinets, industrial cleaning supplies, tents and a copying machine. The mailing address is P.O. Box 836, Okeechobee, FL. 34973. For more information, contact Rev. Pauline Livatt at 305-389-1280, Tony Delagall of the Building Committee at 863-801-1716 or treasurer Willie Welch at 863-697-697-8924.

A "Faith Community Nurse" basic preparation course and retreat will be offered by the **Interfaith Health and Wellness Association** this summer. Developed within an interfaith model, this educational course and personal growth retreat prepares Registered Nurses to deliver wholistic care in faith communities. The program provides 33.5 contact hours and includes materials, lodging, meals, snacks, International Parish Nurse Resource Center (IPNRC) pin and certificate of attendance. Participants develop the knowledge necessary for practice & have an experience of a life-time. For more information, call 561-379-1972 or go online to www.ihwassoc.org.

Believers Fellowship Church at 300 S.W. 6th Ave., will have a yard sale on Saturday, March 3, starting at 8 a.m. until—they have everything, from toys to tools, clothes and all kinds of odds and ends.

Cornerstone Baptist Church, 18387 U.S. 441 N., is having free barbecue, music, and the movie, "Courageous" on Saturday, March 3, from 3 to 8 p.m.

Okeechobee Missionary Baptist Church will host a Revival on April 19-23, at 7 p.m. nightly. Evangelist Dough Wisersma will be the guest speaker. For more information please call 863-763-7743.

The Okeechobee News welcomes news from area churches for this column. E-mail okeenews@newszap.com.

IRSC offers Hospitality Specialist Certificate

Hospitality is one of Florida's most diverse and exciting industries. Those interested in careers involving hotel or restaurant operations, travel services and special events planning will benefit from completing the new 12-credit Hospitality Specialist Certificate program offered by Indian River State College. Classes are offered back-to-back in short 8-week "mini-semesters" on Monday nights on the Main Campus in Fort Pierce that will allow for the completion of the entire program in just four months.

The Hospitality Specialist Certificate program offers a complete study of the skills needed to excel in the hospitality industry.

Topics include treating customers as guests, effective communication and interpersonal skills, processes needed to achieve objectives and more.

Starting March 5, enroll in "Introduction to Hospitality and Tourism" (HFT 1000, Ref. 169376) to learn techniques for success in the hospitality industry followed by "Professional Development" (MNA 2930, Ref. 169377) which will explore creating profitable customer and guest relationships.

Beginning May 7, take "Management of the Hospitality Industry" (HFT 2002, Ref. 169381) which will teach teamwork, productivity and interpersonal challenges in

the workplace followed by "Salesmanship" (MKA 2021, Ref. 169382) which will provide instruction on effective presentation and sales techniques.

The 12-credit IRSC Hospitality Specialist Certificate program transfers to an Associate Degree in Business Administration, so taking the next step in continuing education is easy for those who complete the program. For registration and information, visit www.irsc.edu or call the Information Call Center at 772-462-4772 or toll free at 866-792-4772 ext. 7660.

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OKEECHOBEE NEWS

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.

Aubrey 'Jean' Richardson, 85

OKEECHOBEE — Aubrey 'Jean' Richardson, died Monday, Feb. 27, 2012, at the Hamrick Home.

Born in Clay, Ky., Jean spent the majority of her adult life in Louisville, Ky. and relocated to Okeechobee 15 years ago. She enjoyed square dancing, card games, and camping and was a member of the Red Hat Society.

Jean is survived by her husband of 31 years, Kenneth Richardson of Okeechobee; sons, David (Debra) Roby of Clinton, Tenn., Kenny Richardson, Jr. of St. Louis, Mo., Michael (Jackie) Richardson of Louisville, Ky., Ronnie (Dana) Richardson of Union, Ky.; daughters, Diane (Darrell) Hylar of Howard, Kansas, Darlene Roby of Louisville, Ky.; ten grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and her sister-in-law, Margie Price of Horse Cave, Ky.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, March 1, 2012, at the Buxton-Seawinds Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations in Jean's name be made to Hospice of Okeechobee, P.O. Box 1548, Okeechobee, Florida 34973. Friends may send online condolences to www.buxtonseawinds.com.

Arrangements are under the care of Matthew and Paul Buxton of Buxton-Seawinds Funeral Home, 3833 SE 18th Terrace, Okeechobee, Fla.

Harvey 'Smoky' Jenkins, 79

Harvey 'Smoky' Jenkins, of Okeechobee, passed away Feb. 21, 2012, at the Hamrick Home. He was born August 16, 1932 in Stredor, Illinois to George and Helen Jenkins.

He was an electrician for 42 years. He came to Okeechobee from Morris, Illinois in 1987. He was a member of the Shrine Temple Lodge Number 826, Moose Lodge, and Eagle Club. He was an avid NASCAR fan and loved his Harley motorcycle.

Mr. Jenkins is survived by his loving wife of 27 years, Maria S. Jenkins; stepdaughter, Danusia (Danny) of Nevada; stepsons, Janusz (Katie) of Germany and Zbyszek (Molgorzata) of Poland; loving sister, Juanita (Richard) Morris of Illinois; brother, AR (sister-in-law, Aleda) of Morris, Illinois.

The family would like to offer a special thanks to Dr. Arif Shakoor and Dr. David Sigalow for their service and professional help. Also thanks to Lydia and William Johnson, Lynn and Kay Trayner and all the neighbors and friends for their assistance in our time of need.

Private funeral services were held. Memorials may be made to Hospice of Okeechobee, PO 1548, Okeechobee, FL 34973. Friends may sign the guest book at www.BassOkeechobeeFH.com.

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



Howard Micco, 78

OKEECHOBEE — Howard Micco, age 78, died at the Hamrick Home on Sunday, Feb. 26, 2012.

Born July 23, 1933, on the Brighton Seminole Indian Reservation, Howard was a lifetime resident of the Okeechobee area.

He spent his life doing God's work and served as pastor at Trail Baptist Church, Big Cypress Baptist Church, and at First Indian Baptist Church of Brighton. Recently he had been attending Oakview Baptist Church.

Howard thoroughly enjoyed and could often be seen riding his tractor, motorcycle or scooter on the Reservation.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Lois Johns Micco. Survivors include his daughter, Leta Micco (James) Choquette of Okeechobee; step-daughter, Leah Minnick of the Brighton Reservation; numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren and a host of nieces and nephews.

A visitation was held last night, Feb. 28, 2012, at Buxton-Seawinds Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held today, Wednesday, Feb. 29, 2012, at 10 a.m. at the Brighton Veterans' Building on the Brighton Reservation.

Friends may send online condolences to www.buxtonseawinds.com

Arrangements are under the care of Matthew and Paul Buxton of Buxton-Seawinds Funeral Home, 3833 SE 18th Terrace, Okeechobee, Fla.

Thomas 'Danny' Allison, 57

OKEECHOBEE — Thomas "Danny" Allison, age 57, of Okeechobee, and formerly of Vero Beach, died Monday, Feb. 27, 2012, in Ft. Pierce at the Treasure Coast Hospice.

He was born July 3, 1954, in Live Oak, to George V. and Patricia M. Allison. Mr. Allison was a technician with Everglades Farm Equipment and was a Baptist by faith. He enjoyed model building and racing cars.

Mr. Allison was preceded in death by his father, George Vernon Allison; and a brother, George Vernon Allison Jr.

He is survived by his loving wife of 29 years, Sharon; sons, Tommy (Missy) Allison of Ocala, Justin Allison of Vero Beach; daughters, Jessica Allison, Arianna Allison, both of Okeechobee; mother, Patricia (Roger) Doughty of Sanford; and step-mother, Gwen Allison of Vero Beach; two granddaughters and a large and loving extended family.

The family will receive friends on Friday, March 2, 2012 from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Buxton Funeral Home Chapel, 110 NE 5th Street, Okeechobee. Services will be held on Saturday, March 3, at 1 p.m., in the First Baptist Church of Okeechobee with Pastor Larry Johnson officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Prostate Cancer Foundation at www.pcf.org.

All arrangements are entrusted to the loving care of the Buxton Funeral Home and Crematory, 110 NE 5th Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972. On-line condolences may be made at www.buxtonfuneralhome.com.



Rena Plants, 96

OKEECHOBEE — Rena Plants, age 96, of Okeechobee, and formerly of Grand Rapids, Mich., passed away Sunday, Feb. 26, 2012, after a brief illness. She passed away peacefully at her residence under Hospice Care.

She is survived by her children, Forrest and Judy Plants of Okeechobee, Karl and Pearl Fohlbrook of Lowell, Mich., Vernon and Sue Plants of LaBelle; 12 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

Cremation has taken place and private services will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Okeechobee, P.O. Box 1548, Okeechobee, Florida 34973.

All arrangements are entrusted to the loving care of the Buxton Funeral Home and Crematory, 110 NE 5th Street, Okeechobee, Florida. Online condolences may be made at www.buxtonfuneralhome.com.

Community Events

Eagles North to host Bingo Night

Wednesday, **Feb. 29**, Yep it's Leap Year Again, Eagles North will have Bingo starting at 4:30 p.m. until?, 9985 U.S. 441 N., Okeechobee.

Proceeds go to the F.O.E. community benefit fund.

VFW Auxiliary hosts breakfast

The Buckhead Ridge VFW Ladies Auxiliary 9528 will have their monthly Wednesday night dinner on **Feb. 29**, starting at 5:30 p.m. For more information, please call Buckhead Ridge VFW at 863-467-2882.

Worried about your memory?

Many people are worried about their memory as they grow older and wiser in years, but do not know what to do about their worries. The Alzheimer's Association - Florida Gulf Coast Chapter will be at the Buckhead Ridge Community Center, 300282 Hwy. 78 East, Buckhead Ridge, with their "Memory Mobile" from 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, **Feb. 29**. Learn about the signs, symptoms and causes for memory loss. If interested in taking a 15-minute memory screening by Lisa Rodriguez, Program Specialist for the Alzheimer's Association, on **Feb. 29**, please come visit the Memory Mobile between 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. or for more information, please call 863-385-3444 or 863-763-2404.

SRT raising money for Special Olympics

Area residents are being asked to Tip a Cop as members of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office Special Response Team (SRT) will volunteer as celebrity waiters Thursday, **March 1**, to raise money for Special Olympics. The deputies will be waiting on customers at the Golden Corral Restaurant, 700 S. Parrott Ave., from 5 until 8 p.m. Advanced tickets are available. For information, contact Michele Bell at 863-763-3117.

Club Soccer offers spring training

Okeechobee Club Soccer will have an informational meeting Saturday, **March 3**, at 3 p.m. at the Sports Complex Pavilion. All interested parents and players are encouraged to attend. Spring training will be open to youth ages 7-16. Boys-only and girls-only teams will be offered as long as a minimum of 12 players register for that division. Try-outs will be held at the soccer fields across North Elementary from 5-6:30 p.m. as follows: ages 7/8, 9/10, 11/12 - Monday and Wednesday, March 12 and 14; 13/14, 15/16, - Tuesday and Thursday, March 13 and 15. If you have questions, call Lupe Serrano at 561-719-5585. Se habla espanol.

Looking ahead - Alumni Soccer Games Saturday, March 24, at OHS Stadium open to ages 16 & up. Games start at 4:30 p.m. OHS alumni interested in playing should call (women) Dawn Fox at 863-697-1641 or (men) Manuel Sanchez at 863-532-1145.

Wrestling Club begins registration

Okeechobee Wrestling Club is beginning its youth season for ages 5-18. Registration is **March 1**, 6 and 8 at O.H.S. gym. Practice is Tuesday and Thursday Elementary 6-7 p.m., Middle and High School 7-8 p.m. If you have any questions please contact Coach Jahner at 863-634-9411.

Cypress Eagles to host Friday steak/fish night

On Friday, **March 2**, from 5:30-8:30 p.m., the Cypress Hut Eagles, 4701 U.S. 441 S.E., will have a steak/fish/shrimp dinner. Music by "Carl Cable." All proceeds go to community charity fund. Public welcome.

Cypress Eagles to host March birthday bash

The Cypress Hut Eagles, 4701 U.S. 441 S.E., will host their March Birthday Bash on Saturday, **March 3**, at 5 p.m. with food. Music will be by "Cowboy." All proceeds go to community charity fund. Public is welcome.

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Deputy: Man breaks girlfriend's nose in fight

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

An apparent homeless man has been arrested after being accused of beating his girlfriend to the point of breaking her nose and blacking her eyes.

Samuel Hendrix, 22, Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 26 on a felony charge of domestic battery by strangulation and a misdemeanor charge of giving false information to a law enforcement officer. He is being held in the Okeechobee County Jail under a bond of \$32,500.

An arrest report by Deputy Bryan Holden, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), stated Hendrix is homeless and lives with a parent part-time. The remainder of the time he apparently lives in a tent at the Okeechobee Campground, added the deputy's report.

According to the deputy Hendrix and his girlfriend were fighting Sunday evening about their



Samuel Hendrix

living conditions. The woman, stated the report, did not like having to live in a tent.

At some point the woman reportedly told Hendrix to leave her alone. At this point the 5-foot-11, 180-pound, Hendrix allegedly started punching the woman in the face and head, stated the report. The deputy stated that Hendrix beat the woman for several minutes.

Hendrix then allegedly started to strangle the woman but stopped when he saw the woman was bleeding from her ear, Deputy Holden stated.

The woman was taken to Raulerson Hospital where she was reportedly treated for a broken nose, bruised and swollen eyes and an injury to her lip. Deputy Holden pointed out that the woman was returned to the tent where she planned on spending the rest of the night, and that she planned to contact a family member to come get her the next day.

Hendrix had been placed under arrest by this time. Hendrix initially told Deputy Holden that he had been sitting by his campfire when a woman, supposedly covered in blood, walked by his campsite. He reportedly told the deputy he tried to help the woman but she walked away and got into a dark-colored sports utility vehicle.

However, the deputy went on to state that he saw blood on the man's leg, a second chair at the campsite and items that would belong to a woman—such as a purse. The deputy said when he first saw the woman her "... eyes were severely swollen and starting to turn black and (she) was bleeding from her bottom lip, nose and left ear."

Couple charged with domestic battery

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

A local couple were arrested when a night of beer drinking led to an argument that ended with the man allegedly being cut twice with a knife and the woman supposedly being choked.

Jorge Luis Gomez-Hernandez, 32, N.E. 24th Ave., and Rebecca Lopez-Arias, 41, of the same address, were both arrested Saturday, Feb. 25, on a felony charge of aggravated domestic battery.

Okeechobee County Jail records show that they are being held on \$5,000 bond each.

An arrest report by Deputy Tammy Serafini, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), stated that Gomez and Lopez share a home together and had been drinking beer all night when the argument broke out around 2:38 a.m.

Deputy Serafini stated that a witness told her he was awakened by the couple's arguing and when he looked out he saw Gomez try to hit Lopez with a beer bottle. The witness went on to say that Gomez reportedly threw the bottle at Lopez, added the deputy.



Jorge L. Gomez



Rebecca Lopez

According to the deputy's report Lopez armed herself with a knife and slashed Gomez on the left side of his abdomen. As Gomez tried to run away Lopez cut him again, stated the deputy. This wound was to the man's right hip area.

Deputy Serafini estimated the wound to the man's abdomen to be about 4 inches in length and the cut on his hip to be about 3 inches long.

Gomez reportedly told Deputy Serafini that after she cut him, Lopez ran into some woods near the home.

OCSO deputies Brian Cross, his K-9 Barco, and Steven Pollock and Leland Schoonmaker arrived on the scene and began to search for Lopez. The arrest report stated that they found the woman passed out in the woods.

Lopez reportedly told Deputy Serafini that Gomez tried to choke her then tried to break her arm. The deputy's report goes on to state that the woman did have marks on her neck and some bruising on her left arm.

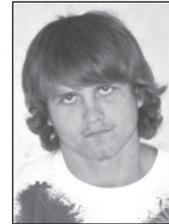
The knife has not been found, pointed out Deputy Serafini.

Teen accused of store burglary

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

A local teenager has been accused of the alleged burglary of a downtown business and the theft of \$700 worth of cigarettes.

Darin Dewayne Courson, 16, S.W. Third St., was arrested Monday, Feb. 20, on a felony charge of burglary of an unoccupied structure. He was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail then taken to the St. Lucie Regional Detention Center in Fort Pierce.



Darin Courson

The report also indicated there was damage done to the telephone line by someone trying to disable the alarm.

Around 4:03 a.m., OCPD Sergeant Justin Bernst stopped and talked with a young man who was wearing a bright red shirt, jeans and no shoes. That young man, added the report, was Courson.

According to the detective, Courson was located Monday afternoon and was wearing a dark gray and light gray oversized jacket. He was placed under arrest at that time.

Detective Saum stated that a search of Courson's home failed to turn up any evidence of the burglary.

However, added the detective, a witness came forward and reportedly told the detective that they had seen Courson with a plastic garbage bag filled containing packs of cigarettes. That bag was the same type of bag found at the burglarized store.

The detective said the stolen cigarettes have not been recovered.

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FIRE

Continued From Page 1

backyard and saw a tall figure walking in the neighbor's yard.

He described the suspect as approximately 6 feet tall. The person was walking away from the neighbor's shed which is approximately 6 feet from the fence line.

Mr. Lamb said he then smelled rubber or plastic burning. He searched the area around his home and saw a flame coming from a plastic box. The box was sitting on the east side of the home between the home and some shrubs. He yelled for Ms. Close to call 9-1-1 and used a garden hose to extinguish the flame.

Neither Mr. Lamb nor Ms. Close could think of any reason they would be targeted.

Deputies then searched the area.

Deputy Matt Crawford used his K-9 Nero to attempt to track the suspect. He started in the area where Mr. Lamb had seen the unidentified figure. K-9 Nero tracked someone from near the shed, along the north fence toward N.E. 31st Terrace and then north of N.E. 31st Terrace. He lost the track on N.E. 31st Terrace.

Cpl. Thomas questioned the homeowner of the residence where the K-9 lost the track. The homeowner stated that no one from the residence had been outside during the time in question and that he had not seen anyone outside the residence.

Cpl. Thomas stated that he did not touch the box that had been on fire. Deputies turned the investigation over to State Fire Marshal Detective Greg Gilkey.

"Everyone is frightened," said a N.E. 30th Terrace resident.

According to Melissa Yunas of the Florida Forest Service, the three suspicious brush fires were small. The largest was 1.5 acres. She said they were deemed suspicious because they started at night. Brush fires are most likely to ignite in the afternoon when the vegetation is driest, she explained.

She said the investigation of the brush fires has been turned over to the Florida Department of Agriculture - Law Enforcement Division.

Okeechobee County Fire/Rescue (OCF/R) Chief David McCain said there was "nothing extremely out of the ordinary," about the two structure fires, but proximity of the fires did rouse suspicion.

Investigation of the structure fires has been turned over to the State Fire Marshal's Office.

According to OCF/R reports, the department was busy over the weekend.

- OCF/R responded to a brush fire in a pasture on N.E. 32nd Avenue on Feb. 25 at 10:49 p.m. They found approximately 1.5 acres burning. Firefighters contained the fire and advised dispatch to notify the Forestry Service.

- On Feb. 26, OCF/R was dispatched to another brush fire on N.E. 32nd Avenue at 12:47 a.m., approximately four blocks from the previous fire. The fire burned 0.4 acres of open land. The fire was extinguished and the scene turned over to the Florida Forest Service.

- At 2:12 a.m. on Feb. 26, OCF/R responded to a structure fire on N.E. 30th Avenue. The structure was vacant at the time of the fire. Damages were estimated at \$45,000 to the structure and \$10,000 to the contents. The residence had been vacant for about seven months according to Chief McCain.

- OCF/R responded to a report of small brush fire on N.E. 32nd Avenue at 9:30 a.m. on Feb. 26. Upon arrival they found an area of approximately 50 feet by 20 feet of heavy brush and palmettos burning along the edge of the road, next to the area that had burned the previous night. They extinguished the fire and soaked down the area with water. The cause of the fire is listed as "unintentional."

- Later on Feb. 26, at 10:41 p.m., OCF/R responded to another brush fire on N.E. 32nd Avenue. They found 0.2 acres of heavy brush burning. City of Okeechobee firefighters and Florida Forestry Service also responded.

- On Feb. 27, at 1 a.m., OCF/R responded to a mobile home fire in that same area, this time on N.E. 30th Terrace. The structure was empty at the time of the fire. Damages were estimated at about \$40,000 to the structure and \$10,000 to the contents. When firefighters arrived, the mobile home was completely engulfed in flames. According to the report, the owner of the residence told OCF/R she left the mobile home around 1 p.m. on Feb. 25, and that to her knowledge no one had been in the mobile home since that time.

The N.E. 30th Avenue home that burned early Sunday morning is owned by a woman who has been living out of the county, the Pine Ridge Park resident said.

"I know the electricity was turned off to that home. She told me she turned it off when she left. The other fire was right across the street from me," she continued. "That fire went so fast, that no one could have gotten out of it. Thank God no one was home."

"A lot of the houses out here are only occupied in the winter. Nothing like this has happened before. All of the neighbors are

worried," the woman said. (She asked that her name not be used in print for fear of reprisal.)

If residents see something suspicious in the neighborhood, they should call the sheriff's office at 863-763-3117, or if they feel it is an emergency, call 9-1-1.

The State Fire Marshal's Office, Okeechobee County Fire/Rescue, the Forestry Service, Florida Department of Agriculture - Law Enforcement Division and the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office are working together to solve the case.

On Tuesday, signs were posted in the area offering a reward of up to \$15,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the fires. The reward is offered by the Florida Advisory Committee on Arson Prevention.

State firefighters from the Florida Forestry Service were in Okeechobee on Monday, posting "Arson Alert" signs in the area. The signs read: "Everyone loses when wildland arsonists strike! If you have information about a wildland fire believed to be set by an arsonist, call your local Florida Forest Service Office or 1-800-342-5869. Callers may remain anonymous."

Local officials advise residents to leave their porch lights on at night and to report any suspicious persons in the area.

Local American Red Cross volunteers responded to the Feb. 27 fire to help coordinate relief for the firefighters. Red Cross also assisted the one adult who was displaced by the fire by providing food, lodging, clothing and recovery supplies.

For fire prevention tips, go online to www.Firewise.org.

ADVICE

Continued From Page 1

Chief David McCain. "Be alert. Be aware of your surroundings."

If you see something suspicious, call the Sheriff's Office at 863-763-3117.

If it is an emergency, call 9-1-1.

He said residents are also advised to leave their porch lights and outside lights on at night.

He said local fire and law enforcement agencies are out in full force interviewing area residents and following up leads in the case. He encouraged residents to call in any information that might be related to the fires. Even something small can wind up breaking the case, he said.

He said there are a lot of rumors going around and they are following up on all of them.

There will be a lot of strange vehicles in the Pine Ridge Park area because many of the agencies use unmarked cars, he cautioned. However, the dispatchers will have a list of the investigators in the area. So if a resident is concerned about a strange car, it's better to call it in, he said. The dispatcher will be able to check the list to determine if the vehicle belongs to one of those investigating the fires.

The State Fire Marshal's office has not yet released any information on the cause or causes of the two structure fires. The case is still under investigation.

NOTICE TAX IMPACT OF VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD COUNTY OF OKEECHOBEE TAX YEAR 2011 MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

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Business Owner within the school district

Citizen Member: Bill Dover

Homestead Property Owner

The Value Adjustment Board (VAB) meets each year to hear petitions and make decisions relating to property tax assessments, exemptions, classifications and tax deferrals.

| Type of Property | Number of Parcels | | | | | Reduction in | | Shift in | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|------|----------------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | Exemptions | | Assessments* | | Both | County Taxable Value | Shift in Taxes | Due to Board Actions | Due to Board Actions |
| | Granted | Requested | Reduced | Requested | | | | | |
| Residential | | | | 39 | 11 | \$ 0 | \$ 0.00 | | |
| Commercial | | | | 21 | 19 | \$ 0 | \$ 0.00 | | |
| Industrial and miscellaneous | | | | 3 | 3 | \$ 0 | \$ 0.00 | | |
| Agricultural or classified use | | 15 | | | 13 | \$ 0 | \$ 0.00 | | |
| High-water recharge | | | | | | \$ | \$ | | |
| Historic commercial or nonprofit | | | | | | \$ | \$ | | |
| Business machinery and equipment | | | | 8 | 8 | \$ 0 | \$ 0.00 | | |
| Vacant lots and acreage | | | | 6 | 4 | \$ 0 | \$ 0.00 | | |
| TOTALS | | 15 | | 77 | 58 | \$ 0 | \$ 0.00 | | |

All values should be county taxable values. School and other taxing authority values may differ. *Include transfer of assessment difference (portability) requests.

If you have any questions about these actions, please contact the Chair or the Clerk of the Value Adjustment Board, Honorable Joey Hoover, at 863-763-6441 • Sharon Robertson, 863-763-2131 ext. 2100
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Lady Brahman basketball team honored at banquet

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Ami Edwards and Carley McCoin shared the most valuable player award and senior Cavell Campbell won the Brahman Award at the annual Lady Brahman basketball banquet held Feb. 23 at the Okeechobee High School cafeteria.

Edwards averaged a double-double with points and rebounds, while McCoin quickly became one of the best players on the Treasure Coast this past year as the Lady Brahmans posted a (10-14) record, a four-game improvement over 2010-2011.

Coach Erin Morrow said the team has moved in the right direction as the team became closer off the court, were more acceptable to coaching, and showed a desire to learn this year.

She challenged the girls to improve their commitment to the game and the program and to show more leadership in 2012. "I don't want you to be content. I want you to work hard and get better," she told the group.

Morrow insisted many of the parts to a successful program are already in place. They include strong administrative support, strong parental involvement, and on the court talent. She said if the kids completely dedicate themselves 100 percent every day, the team can have a winning record.

McCoin provided a real spark to the team this year coming from the middle school level where she dominated. She didn't miss a beat as she was often the best player on the court.

"I had confidence I could play. I think I'm as good as most of the girls. The MVP award is really cool," she added.

McCoin said she wants to see more leadership from the girls and noted some of the girls need to be more serious about basketball. "I plan to become more of a vocal leader and I want to make our record better. I can't do it all by myself and the girls need to be more committed," she said.

Edwards said she feels the team improved this year. She will play with the Treasure Coast Lady Bombers in the off season to improve her skills. She said the girls must return next year in the right frame of mind because the team has an opportunity to win.

"I love to play the game of basketball. I'm not concerned with my statistics I just like to play the game," she concluded.

Campbell was praised for her effort and positive attitude this year. She was a solid contributor at forward with rebounds, defense and a solid jump shot. Campbell said she enjoyed encouraging the girls to do their best. She intends to seek a career in the military and perhaps enter the military.

"I was excited to win the Brahman Award. I got my grades up this year and I tell all the girls to try hard and not give up," she noted.

Coach Morrow thanked all of the parents and volunteers, statisticians, and even the OHS book keeper for helping the program this year. She also thanked the High School Administration and Jim McCoin for providing team dinners.

Morrow said next year the team can't use the excuse that they are young and inexperienced. She said the talent is there to start a strong program but it is up to the girls individually.

"I see no banners in the gym and all our trophies are dusty. I'd like to see that change but it starts with the players. We need better leaders and players who can show you how to be a good leader and teammate," she added.

Morrow said she will count on McCoin and Edwards to lead by example next year.

The Brahman JV had a strong season with a (10-5) record and several of the younger players are expected to move up and provide a boost to the varsity in 2012.

Scholar Athletes this year included Carley McCoin, Bethany Stuart, Shamarah Shanks and Cavell Campbell.

Stuart won the sixth man award for being a contributor off the bench. Jade Micco was honored with the Vocal Leader Award. Lexi Manson was given the Hustle Award for effort. Emily

Worth was honored with the Dedication Award for never missing a practice. Taylor Trent won the Most Improved Player Award.



Cavell Campbell won the Brahman Award for her senior leadership and attitude. She was honored by head coach Erin Morrow (left) and assistant Morgan Benion.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Carley McCoin is flanked by OHS coaches Erin Morrow and Morgan Benion (right). McCoin was named the team's co-MVP.



Junior center Ami Edwards is flanked by OHS coaches Erin Morrow (left) and Morgan Benion after she won the co-MVP for girls hoops at the team's awards banquet last week.

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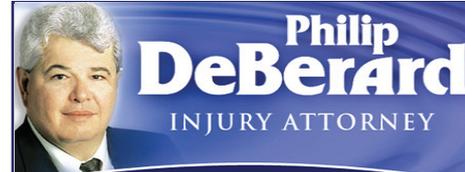
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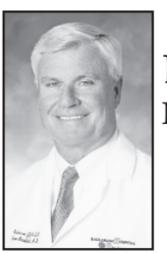
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Heart health tips no matter the weather

The weather and temperature outdoors can have a large impact on energy levels and motivation to exercise. Warm, sunny weather can beckon one outdoors, while cold or rainy weather could keep one hibernating inside -- which is not good for the spirit or the body, including cardiovascular health.

Staying active when the weather seems to be pitted against you can be challenging. However, there are many things you can do to make the best of things and still get the exercise needed for a healthy heart. Here are a few ideas to get you started.

- **Head outdoors:** Instead of the regular workouts you do, consider something that makes the most of the weather outdoors. If it's hot outside, consider walking by the seaside where the ocean mist can keep you cool, or having your feet in the laps of water reaching the sand. Unless you are the Wicked Witch of the West, a little rainfall will not make you melt. Don a raincoat and take a brisk walk around the neighborhood. If it's cold outdoors or if there's an residual snow sledding or skiing remain fun ways to burn calories. All of these activities count as moderate to vigorous exercise, which is recommended daily for most people.

- **Workout indoors:** This doesn't necessarily mean heading to the nearest gym. It's possible to get recommended exercise at home or at another location. Walking briskly around a mall is good exercise and you can window shop in the process. Lift heavy items around the house

in place of dumbbells. Doing regular household chores with more vigor is another way to get blood flowing and your heart pumping.

- **Eat right:** It's far too easy to indulge in comfort foods, but they tend to be fattening. Eating the right foods to maintain a healthy weight goes a long way toward protecting the heart. Be sure to eat breakfast every day, and choose fruits and vegetables as snacks over sweet and salty items. Canned varieties are just as healthy as fresh produce and can offer a variety of flavors when certain foods are not in season. Be sure to include plenty of foods high in fiber. Not only will they help keep cholesterol levels in check, but it also helps you feel full faster and longer.

- **Dress appropriately:** Weather is often unpredictable. Therefore, dress in layers so you can remove or add clothing as needed to remain comfortable. Children and older adults are more susceptible to the effects of cold weather. According to Jersey Shore University Medical Center, when temperatures are low your heart works harder to keep the body warm. Dressing warmly can help avoid taxing the heart. The same caution applies when the temperature is extremely warm. It's easy for the elderly to overheat and become dehydrated. Dress in light clothing and remember to drink plenty of water.

Before starting any exercise regimen, it is important to discuss your plans with a physician. He or she can determine if you are physically capable of moderate exercise or if any illnesses may impede your ability.

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Okeechobee Arrest Report

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

- Roy Williams, 48, was arrested Feb. 24 by Deputy Greg Popovich on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with smuggling/possession of a communication device in a state facility. His bond was set at \$2,500.

- Joel A. Ramirez, 22, Bayridge Lane, Port Orange, was arrested Feb. 24 by Deputy Leland Schoonmaker on a Volusia County warrant charging him with violation of probation - giving false information to a pawnbroker (two counts). He is being held without bond.

- Timothy Lefebvre, 27, S.W. 87th Terrace, Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 24 by DOC's Melissa Spencer on charges of violation of probation - possession of oxycodone and violation of probation - possession of alprazolam. He is being held without bond.

- Juan Carlos Rodriguez-Hernandez, 26, S.R. 70 W., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 25 by Deputy Tammy Serafini on charges of driving under the influence and no valid driver's license. His bond was set at \$600.

- Casey Torria Casen, 32, N.E. 14th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 25 by Deputy Justin Akins on a felony charge of introduction of contraband into a county detention facility. He was also charged with the misdemeanors of trespass after warning, possession of marijuana under 20 grams and possession of drug paraphernalia. His bond was set at \$2,500.

- Lester Marshall Cordes, 47, S.E. 28th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 25 by Deputy Joe Gracie on a charge of driving under the influence. His bond was set at \$250.

- Juan Trejo, 18, N.W. 37th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 25 by Deputy Steven McKinley on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with violation of probation - possession of oxycodone with intent to sell within 1,000 feet of a school, sale/delivery of oxycodone within 1,000 feet of a school, possession of marijuana with intent to sell within 1,000 feet of a school, sale/delivery of marijuana within 1,000 feet of a school, possession of hydrocodone with intent to sell within 1,000 feet of a school and delivery of hydrocodone within 1,000 feet of a school. He was released on his own recognizance.

- Timothy Deshon Williams, 22, N.W. First St., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 27 by Deputy Corporal Eric Majere on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with failure to appear - possession of oxycodone. He is being held without bond.

- James Thomas Gainer Jr., 21, N.W. 312th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 27 by Deputy Cody Hurst on a warrant charging him with violation of probation - giving false information to a secondary metal recycler, violation of probation - grand theft and violation of probation - burglary of an unoccupied structure. He is being held without bond.

- Dylan James Adams, 18, Reservation Road, Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 27 by Deputy Anthony Kibler on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with violation of probation - possession of marijuana with intent to sell within 1,000 feet of a school (two counts) and violation of probation - sale/delivery of marijuana within 1,000 feet of a school. He is being held without bond.

- Leve Arnold Jr., 52, S.E. Eighth St., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 27 by Deputy Matthew Crawford on a charge of driving while license suspended - habitual offender. His bond was set at \$2,500.

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.

Teen charged with hitting, scratching police officers

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

An Okeechobee teen has been placed in a Department of Juvenile Justice detention center after she allegedly tried to hit a police officer in the face, then kicked a second officer.

Beckie Dailey, 17, N.E. Eighth Ave., was arrested Saturday, Feb. 25, on felony charges of battery on a law enforcement officer and resisting a law enforcement officer with violence.

She was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail then taken to the St. Lucie Regional Detention Center in Fort Pierce.

An arrest report by Officer Chad Troutman, of the Okeechobee City Police Department (OCPD), stated that he came in contact with Dailey on a routine call but the teen became confrontational.

"Leave me alone or I'll beat your ass," Dailey reportedly said to the officer as she was walked away from him.



Beckie Dailey

The officer stated that he then got in his patrol unit and drove ahead of the teen so he wouldn't have to chase her on foot.

When he tried to talk to the girl, Dailey allegedly repeated her initial threat as she continued walking.

According to Officer Troutman, he grabbed her right arm to stop her but Dailey wheeled around and tried to hit him in the face. The officer stated that he blocked her attempt.

The officer went on to state that he took Dailey to the ground and tried to place handcuffs on her, but she resisted him by kicking and scratching him.

By this time OCPD Sergeant Russell Cale arrived on the scene but when he tried to help the other officer, Dailey apparently started to kick him.

The officer's report indicated that leg restraints were put on the girl because she not only tried to kick the officers but also tried to kick out the window in his patrol car.

Officer Troutman stated that both he and Sgt. Cale sustained scratches to their hands and wrists as well as marks from where Dailey had kicked them. None of their injuries required medical treatment, he added.

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OHS rodeo team competes in Ocala

The Okeechobee High School rodeo team traveled to compete in Ocala on Friday, Feb. 17, and Saturday, Feb. 18. The Florida High School Rodeo Association had a great turn out of support from the community with approximately 1500 rodeo fans each day. Okeechobee should be proud, our local group did very well there.

The Okeechobee Rodeo Team placed as follows:

Friday, Feb. 17 (slack and performance combined):

- Justin Mills placed second in Bareback Riding, second in Saddlebronc Riding, and first in Bull Riding.

- Josh Keese placed sixth in Steer Wrestling and third in Tie Down Roping.

- Dalton Boney placed fourth in Tie Down Roping and first in Team Roping-header.

- Jarrod Sparks placed sixth in Tie Down Roping and fifth in Team Roping-header.

- Joshua Lea placed ninth in Tie Down Roping and first in Team Roping-healer.

- Nat Stratton placed first in Saddlebronc Riding and fifth in Team Roping-healer.

- Josie Stratton placed second in Barrel Racing.

Saturday, Feb. 18 (slack and performance combined):

- Justin Mills placed first in Bareback Riding and second in Bull Riding.

- Austen Holmes placed fourth in Bareback Riding.

- Raylee Holmes placed 10th in Goat Tying and second in Breakaway Roping.

- Josh Keese placed sixth in Steer Wrestling, third in Tie Down Roping, and 10th in Team Roping-healer.

- Dalton Boney placed eighth in Tie Down Roping.

- Jarrod Sparks placed 10th in Tie Down Roping and seventh in Team Roping-header.

- Nat Stratton placed first in Saddlebronc Riding and seventh in Team Roping-healer.

- Josie Stratton placed fourth in Barrel Racing.

- Makenzie Tomlinson placed sixth in Team Roping-header.

- Allyson Trimble placed sixth in Team Roping-healer.

The Okeechobee High School Rodeo Team would like to thank Eli's Western Wear, Cowboys BBQ, and Quality Tees for their support and helping the OHS Rodeo



Dalton Boney during one of his Tie Down Roping events.

Special to the Okeechobee News/Julie Rogers

Team to obtain team shirts which they got to wear in Ocala.

The rest of the season schedule is:

- March 3-4 – Williston
- March 24-25 – Okeechobee
- April 14-15 – Kissimmee
- May 3-6 – Okeechobee (STATE FINALS)

The public is invited to attend any of these rodeos to help support and cheer on these hard working young men and women.

OHS baseball team loses to South Fork

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Two teams combined for 25 runs, over 30 base hits, and a lot of drama Friday night at Brahman field as South Fork defeated Okeechobee, 13-12, in a District 12-7A game.

It was not a good night for Brahman pitchers and their fielders left much to be desired, but their never say die attitude and solid work with the bats, still left a smile on head Coach Jeff Blackstone's face.

"I'm definitely pleased with the rally. I'm always pleased with our effort. These guys battle and that is what we want to see. We put ourselves in an eight-run hole and you aren't going to win many games in your last at bat down by eight runs," he said.

It was a back and forth game early on but South Fork was able to add two runs or more on the board in five innings. A five-run fifth was a big rally for the Bulldogs, (4-1). Cole Snyder had three RBIS and James Vonnessler added two runs batted in.

A dropped fly ball in right field in the first helped give South Fork a two-run lead. Randy Roun and Snyder delivered runs batted in against Brahman starter Alex Estremera.

Okeechobee responded though with two runs in the bottom of the inning when Billy Childers reached on an infield hit and Jesse Stebbins clobbered a home run over the left field wall. Dalton Murray followed with a triple but was left stranded.

A hit batter, and an infield error helped lead to two more South Fork runs in the second as Roun had an RBI double.

The Brahmans scored seven times in the bottom of the seventh as they sent 10 men to the plate. Brad Coleman had a two-run double, and Murray a three-run triple. A key defensive play by Roun at short stop, as he robbed Childers on a line drive, was a key point in the inning.

Coach Blackstone said he felt the defense really was the main reason the team lost the game "We haven't anywhere close to the kind of baseball we are capable of playing. We have a lot of things to clean up and a lot of work to do," he explained.

Estremera pitched four strong innings for Okeechobee giving up several unearned runs.

The Brahmans travel to Martin County on Friday night.

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Keith Bass & the Florida Bluegrass Express will be performing live Saturday, March 3, 2012 @ 5:30 pm at the Okeechobee KOA. This will be their last performance at the KOA for this season. Cost is \$10 per person at the door 12 years old

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Business Opportunities

NOTICE
Independent Newspapers will never accept any advertisement that is illegal or considered fraudulent. In all cases of questionable value, such as promises of guaranteed income from work-at-home programs - if it sounds too good to be true, chances are that it is. If you have questions or doubts about any ad on these pages, we advise that before responding or sending money ahead of time, you check with the Better Business Bureau at 772-878-2010 for previous complaints.

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

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

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

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

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

Merchandise
For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Antiques

Vast selection of PRIMITIVES FURNITURE, SEWING MACHINES, KITCHEN/MISC. Located behind Dairy Queen at 1214 SW 2nd Avenue, Open 10-4 Tuesday through Friday.
CO-OP ANTIQUES
1214 SW 2nd Avenue
Beth and Judy (Okeechobee Pickers)
863-634-1552 or 863-532-9138

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

Miscellaneous

Old good sewing machine, custom cabinet base, Rodney Brand \$125.00
Round Oak table or Old Drop Leaf, choice \$150.00
Call 863-763-2358 or 863-320-8813

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

Wanted To Buy

- CASH FOR CARS
We buy cars in ANY condition, no title needed.
Free pick up 7 days.
Highest prices and cash on the spot.
863-484-2012.

Need Cash???
We Buy Cars
We Pay Top Dollar \$\$ Okeechobee Dodge 4224 Highway 441 S. Contact: Rick Proverb 863-357-0500

Agriculture
For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Farm Miscellaneous

COW HAY ROUND BALES FOR SALE
\$40 Each. 863-634-9111

Lawn & Garden

Craftsman riding mower - 12.5 HP Briggs and Stratton motor, 28" deck, new blade on mower and spare blade backup. 1 year old used 8 times. \$900.00/neg. (863)467-1708 or (863)801-5038

Rentals

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Apartments

IN TOWN Efficiency Apt. Nice area. Utilities included. \$650/mo. 1st & \$300 sec. Non smoking environment. No pets. 863-610-0861.

OKEECHOBEE - Cottage on Rim Canal. Lrg. Studio/kitchen/new bath, beautiful modern furniture. Includes utilities. \$125 wk. (772)359-1640.

Very Lrge Apart. non smoker and quite. 1 cat only, furnished dishes, linens and etc. washer & dryer, electric and cable. \$525 mo. plus \$300 security SE Hwy 441 Call 863-467-4449

VIKING/PRAIRIE Efficiency. Very clean! \$550/mo. Incl. utils. No pets. Call 561-329-8205

Houses - Rent

3 Bedroom/1 1/2 Bath in SW section Okeechobee across from public library 1600 SW 3rd. \$875.00 a month \$2,000 to move in (863)634-0512

AFFORDABLE - New Houses. 3/1/1 for \$900, 3/2 for \$1000. Large yards. Bring pets. Call 561-723-2226.

Home Realty Services, LLC
Diane Dangremond,
Licensed Real Estate Broker
(863)801-4498

Ancient Oaks-1br/1ba park model, fully furnished, addition and screened room, washer & dryer. Short term rental available. \$625.00 mo. includes; pool, lawn, cable, water & sewer.

River Run -2br/2ba, large kitchen, shed, laundry. \$750.00 mo. 1st & security.

King's Bay -3br/2ba, 1 car garage, screened room, tile floors. Lawn included \$775.00 mo. 1st & security

OKEE - On Water, fully furnished, laundry, screened room, Incl. Priv. Dock, utilities & Dish TV. WI FI & local phone service. \$550 mo. + sec. (863) 467-1950.

Office Space Rent

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT
(863)763-8565

Real Estate

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Lots - Sale

2 WATERFRONT vacant lots in Taylor Creek Isles. Both on canal with sea walls. Each \$35,000 OBO. Call (239) 898-7084.

FOR SALE - RESIDENTIAL BUILDING LOT CLOSE TO BLUE HERON 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

RV Lot in Sportsman Village, Moore Haven. 55+, Clubhouse, Pool, Lots of Activities. Beautiful Large Lot. \$29,995 Call 239-218-6079



Mobile Homes

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Mobile Home Rent

2/1 Furnished, Turn key, boat house and lift, dock on the water. \$600 a month or \$800 a month with utilities included. Call 561-262-1390

2BR, 1.5BA, BHR, Quiet on lake access canal. Fenced yard. W/D. Large screen porch. 10x10 shed. \$650 mo. (863)357-3830

The classifieds are the most successful salesperson in town.

\$600 monthly 3/2 Double wide, built in 05, excellent condition. 2/2 Double wide, remodeled excellent condition, city water \$525 monthly Call 863-801-1739

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

Mobile Home Sale

BANK REPO'S
Starting at \$15,000
Mobile Home Angels
561-721-2230

Older Single Wide in 55+ Park, w/screened room, porch and dock on Taylor Creek. 1/2 mile from Walmart \$7,500. Call 828-208-0980

Palm Harbor Homes
New Home Stimulus
5K For Your Used Mobile Home - Any Condition
800-622-2832 ext 210

Single Wide 46' MH w/10x40 Fla. room, utility room, fully furnished, washer & dryer. Fronts on Taylor Creek. 516 SE 4th St Lot#36 \$21,500 Available 4/15/12 863-763-2358 or 812-320-8813



Recreation

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Boats

14 ft. Alumnumcraft Boat 4 stroke electric start motor, lights plus extras and heavy trailer. Also (2)16x10 culverts for sale call 357-3329 9369 SE 57th Drive

Boats

2000 Ranger Bass Boat R83VS, Ranger Boat Cover, Spare Tire w/cover, Mercruiser 150 EFI Engine, Ranger Trailer, Garmin Fish Finder 100. \$14,000 or Interesting Trade. Call 863-675-4163 or 304-667-7855

RV Space Rent

RV Lot in Sportsman Village, Moore Haven. 55+, Clubhouse, Pool, Lots of Activities. Beautiful Large Lot \$450 Plus Electricity Call 239-218-6079

Fifth Wheels

35' 5th Wheel 2000 Spinnaker by Forest River, 3 slides, ready to travel or live in located in Okeechobee area call 772-532-0041

Automotive

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Four Wheel Drive

1997 Ford F-250
Four Wheel Drive
Call 863-467-4419

Public Notices

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2009-CA-232

BEVERLEE G. STEVENS, Plaintiff,
vs.
NATHAN BELL and THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF NATHAN BELL, Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to the FINAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE entered by Judge Schack on December 13, 2010 in Case No. 2009-CA-232 in the Circuit Court of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit, in and for Okeechobee County, Florida, in which Beverlee G. Stevens is the Plaintiff and Nathan Bell and the Unknown Spouse of Nathan Bell are the Defendants, I will sell the property to the highest bidder for cash at the Jury Assembly Room, 2nd Floor, Okeechobee County Judicial Center, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida, at public sale at 11:00 a.m., on March 28, 2012, in accordance with Section 45.031, Florida Statutes, the following described property set forth in the above referenced order:

The West 1/2 of the East 1/2 of the North 1/2 of the South 1/2 of Tract 30, Section 26, Township 34 South, Range 33 East, according to the plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 3A-D of the Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida, subject to an easement of the North 30 feet thereof for road and drainage.

ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE

Public Notice

PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE.

IF YOU ARE A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY WHO NEEDS ANY ACCOMMODATION IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING YOU ARE ENTITLED, AT NO COST TO YOU, TO THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN ASSISTANCE. PLEASE CONTACT CORRIE JOHNSON, ADA COORDINATOR, 250 NW COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE, SUITE 217, PORT ST. LUCIE, FL 34986 (772) 807-4370 AT LEAST 7 DAYS BEFORE YOUR SCHEDULED COURT APPEARANCE, OR IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIVING THIS NOTIFICATION IF THE BEFORE THE SCHEDULED APPEARANCE IS LESS THAN 7 DAYS; IF YOU ARE HEARING OR VOICE IMPAIRED, CALL 711.

SHARON ROBERTSON
Clerk, Circuit Court

Sandra L. Creech
Deputy Clerk
410122 ON 2/22,29;3/7/2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2007-CA-239

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF THE CWABS, INC., ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-23, Plaintiff,
vs.
JESSIE POTTS, et al, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated January 31, 2012 and entered in Case No. 2007-CA-239 of the Circuit Court of the NINETEENTH Judicial Circuit, in and for OKEECHOBEE County, Florida, wherein THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF THE CWABS, INC., ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-23, is the Plaintiff and JESSIE POTTS; STERLE L. MCNEIL; DOLL ANN MCNEIL; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; are the Defendants, The Clerk of the Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM, 2ND FLOOR, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY JUDICIAL CENTER, 312 N.W. 3RD STREET, OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA 34972 at 11:00AM, on the 28th day of March, 2012, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

ALL THAT CERTAIN LAND SITUATE IN OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, VIZ: LOT 20 AND THE EAST 1/2 OF LOT 19, BLOCK 36, SUBDIVISION OF A PORTION OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, AT PAGES 28 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

A/K/A 2489 NW 4TH STREET OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale.

WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of this Court on February 3, 2012.

Sharon Robertson
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: Sandra L. Creech
Deputy Clerk

Florida Default Law Group, P.L.
P.O. Box 250118
Tampa, Florida 33622-5018
F07023949

****See Americans with Disabilities Act Florida Rules of Judicial Administration Rule 2.540 Notices to Persons With Disabilities - If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact Corrie Johnson, ADA Coordinator, 250 NW Country Club Drive, Suite 217, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, (772) 807-4370 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711. 409685 ON 2/22,29/2012**

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2011-CA-127

ANCIENT OAKS R.V. RESORT CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, INC., Plaintiff,
vs.
PAUL J. CORMIER a/k/a PAUL CORMIER, UNKNOWN PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE, SPOUSE, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING BY THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF PAUL J. CORMIER a/k/a PAUL CORMIER, DECEASED, AND ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS OR PARTIES HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE, OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 6615 S.E. 56th STREET, OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA 34974; UNKNOWN TENANT #1 and UNKNOWN TENANT #2, Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION
TO: **JASON DAVID CORMIER**
236 S.E. 1st Avenue, #2, Roselle, New Jersey 07203

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to enforce a lien on the following property in Okeechobee County, Florida:

Lot 1, Block 9 ANCIENT OAKS RV RESORT NO II, A CONDOMINIUM, according to the Declaration of Condominium as recorded in O.R. Book 267, Pages 1857-1885 and amendment thereto as recorded in O.R. book 269, Page 1177-1291, Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida and all subsequent amendments as recorded in the Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida,

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Thomas E. Rossin, Esquire, St. John Rossin Burr & Lemme, PLLC, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Centurion Tower, Suite 700, 1601 Forum Place, West Palm Beach, Florida 33401, on or before April 2, 2012, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney, or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

DATED: February 24, 2012.

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK
OKEECHOBEE CLERK OF THE COURT
BY: Linda F. Young
As Deputy Clerk

Thomas E. Rossin, Esquire
St. John Rossin Burr & Lemme, PLLC
1601 Forum Place, Suite 700
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401
411149 ON 2/29;3/7/2012

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY
2011 BRIDGE REPAIRS PROJECT
BID # 2012-05
CAS PROJECT NO: 00-0903-193

INVITATION TO BID
Sealed BIDS will be received by Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners until **2:00 PM on March 27, 2012** at 304 NW 2nd Street, Room 122. They will be publicly opened by the County Clerk or designee and read aloud. Any BIDS received after the time specified will not be accepted.

The BIDS shall be based on furnishing all materials, equipment, and labor for the 2011 BRIDGE REPAIRS PROJECT; OKEECHOBEE COUNTY BRIDGE NUMBERS # 914022, 914023, 914025. BID # 2012-05.

All materials furnished and all work performed shall be in accordance with the Drawings, Specifications and Contract Documents as prepared by Craig A. Smith & Associates and/or pertaining thereto, which may be examined at or obtained from:

Engineer
Craig A. Smith & Associates
7777 Glades Road, Suite 410
Boca Raton, FL 33434
Phone: (561) 314-4445; Fax: (561) 791-9818

Or
Owner
Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners
304 NW 2nd Street, Room 123
Okeechobee, FL 34972
(863) 763-6441

A non-refundable deposit of **\$175.00** will be required for each set of Construction Plans, Specifications and Contract Documents. Checks are to be made payable to Craig A. Smith & Associates. Contract Documents may be obtained by express mail upon receipt of vendor's check and express mail account number.

Bidders will confine their bids to the project in its entirety. Partial bids will not be accepted. Each bidder will submit with this bid evidence that the bidder is licensed to perform the work and services or qualified by examination to be so licensed. Bidders who fail to include proper evidence of licensure will be considered non-responsive and their Bid will not be considered.

Each bid must be submitted in **TRIPPLICATE (ONE ORIGINAL & TWO COPIES)** and accompanied by an acceptable Bid Bond or Certified Check, in an amount equal to at least five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid payable to Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners, as a guarantee that if the bid is accepted the bidder will execute the contract and file acceptable performance and payment surety bonds equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price within fifteen (15) days after written notice of the award of contract.

Contractors currently in default on a construction contract or currently in Litigation with Okeechobee County or another municipality may not submit a Bid Proposal for this Contract. Contractors submitting a bid under any of the circumstances mentioned will be rejected as being non-responsive.

No bidder may withdraw their bid for a period of ninety (90) days after date set for opening of the bids.

There will be a **NON-MANDATORY** pre-bid conference on **March 14, 2012 at 10:00 AM** at Okeechobee County Administrative Office, 304 NW 2nd Street, Room 201, Okeechobee, Florida 34972.

The pre-bid conference is being conducted for the intention of describing the nature and scope of the project, the proposed bid award process and project details. The County reserves the right to award one or more bridges to an individual bidder(s). The County encourages attendance of the pre-bid conference such that, bidders shall understand the project and bid award process. Questions shall be received and written responses will be provided to all bidders. Written questions shall be submitted to the Engineer no later than March 20, 2012 at 3:00 PM.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids, waive informalities in any bid, and delete any portion of the project, whenever such action is in the interest of the Owner.

If in the opinion of the bidder, inconsistencies appear to exist in the specifications, it is the bidder's responsibility to seek clarification from the Engineer. Additionally, it is incumbent upon all bidders to conduct a personal investigation as to requirements of the Owner.

The Owner has the right to accept or reject any or all bids. Bids must be sealed and the outside of the envelope MUST be marked: **"BID - OKEECHOBEE COUNTY - 2011 BRIDGE REPAIRS; CAS PROJECT # 00-0903-193, BID # 2012-05. 411258 ON 2/29/2012"**

Public Notice

NOTICE OF INTENT TO PETITION OKEECHOBEE COUNTY TO VACATE A PORTION OF THOROUGHbred ESTATES SUBDIVISION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Okeechobee Estates, LLC intends to apply to the Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners to request that the county vacate a portion of Thoroughbred Estates subdivision. Thoroughbred Estates subdivision is located on the north side of NW 240' Street. That portion of the subdivision requested to be vacated is more particularly described as follows:

A PARCEL OF LAND BEING ALL OF LOTS 14 THROUGH 27 AND 41 THROUGH 73 AND THOSE PORTIONS OF NW 132ND PARKWAY (A/K/A GRIFFIN RANCH ROAD) RIGHT-OF-WAY THAT WERE EXPANDED BY THE PLAT OF THOROUGHbred ESTATES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGES 8 TROUGH 21 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND THOSE PORTIONS OF CLYDESDALE BOULEVARD RIGHT-OF-WAY, MUSTANG AVENUE RIGHT-OF-WAY, PONY TRAIL RIGHT-OF-WAY, SHETLAND WAY RIGHT-OF-WAY AND PARCEL 1B (50' STRIP DEDICATED FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY) AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT OF THOROUGHbred ESTATES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGES 8 TROUGH 21 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, SAID PARCEL OF LAND LYING IN A PORTION OF SECTIONS 29 AND 32, TOWNSHIP 34 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 29; THENCE SOUTH 01°32'39" WEST ALONG THE EAST BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID SECTION 29 AND ALONG THE EAST BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID THOROUGHbred ESTATES, A DISTANCE OF 4717.31 FEET TO THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 14 OF SAID THOROUGHbred ESTATES; THENCE NORTH 88°27'21" WEST ALONG THE SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE AND THE WESTERLY EXTENSION OF THE SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID LOT 14, A DISTANCE OF 738.12 FEET TO THE WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF N.W. 118TH TERRACE (A/K/A CLYDESDALE BOULEVARD) SAID POINT BEING ON A CIRCULAR CURVE TO THE RIGHT, CONCAVE TO THE WEST, AND BEARS FROM THE CENTER OF THE CIRCLE NORTH 89°40'18" EAST; THENCE SOUTHERLY ALONG THE ARC OF SAID CURVE HAVING FOR ITS ELEMENTS A RADIUS OF 765.00 FEET, A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 01°09'27" A DISTANCE OF 15.46 FEET TO A POINT OF COMPOUND CURVATURE OF A CIRCULAR CURVE TO THE RIGHT, CONCAVE TO THE NORTHWEST, AND BEARS FROM THE CENTER OF THE CIRCLE SOUTH 89°10'15" EAST; THENCE SOUTHERLY ALONG THE ARC OF SAID CURVE HAVING FOR ITS ELEMENTS A RADIUS OF 10.00 FEET, A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 53°40'19"; A DISTANCE OF 9.37 FEET TO A POINT OF REVERSE CURVE OF A CIRCULAR CURVE TO THE LEFT, CONCAVE TO THE EAST, AND BEARS FROM THE CENTER OF THE CIRCLE NORTH 35°29'55" WEST; THENCE SOUTHERLY ALONG THE ARC OF SAID CURVE HAVING FOR ITS ELEMENTS A RADIUS OF 65.00 FEET, A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 106°13'24"; A DISTANCE OF 120.51 FEET TO A POINT OF REVERSE CURVE OF A CIRCULAR CURVE TO THE RIGHT, CONCAVE TO THE SOUTHWEST, AND BEARS FROM THE CENTER OF THE CIRCLE NORTH 38°16'40" EAST; THENCE SOUTHERLY ALONG THE ARC OF SAID CURVE HAVING FOR ITS ELEMENTS A RADIUS OF 10.00 FEET, A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 53°07'48"; A DISTANCE OF 9.27 FEET TO A POINT OF TANGENCY; THENCE SOUTH 01°24'29" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 227.63 FEET TO A POINT OF CURVATURE OF A CIRCULAR CURVE TO THE RIGHT, CONCAVE TO THE NORTHWEST, AND BEARS FROM THE CENTER OF THE CIRCLE SOUTH 88°35'31" EAST; THENCE SOUTHERLY ALONG THE ARC OF SAID CURVE HAVING FOR ITS ELEMENTS A RADIUS OF 765.00 FEET, A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 33°29'18"; A DISTANCE OF 447.13 FEET TO A POINT OF TANGENCY; THENCE SOUTH 01°53'47" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 136.08 FEET TO A POINT OF CURVATURE OF A CIRCULAR CURVE TO THE LEFT, CONCAVE TO THE SOUTHWEST, AND BEARS FROM THE CENTER OF THE CIRCLE NORTH 55°06'13" WEST; THENCE SOUTHERLY ALONG THE ARC OF SAID CURVE HAVING FOR ITS ELEMENTS A RADIUS OF 835.00 FEET, A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 53°01'53"; A DISTANCE OF 78.18 FEET TO THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 74 OF SAID THOROUGHbred ESTATES; THENCE NORTH 57°02'08" WEST ALONG THE NORTHERLY BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID LOT 74, A DISTANCE OF 523.11 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID SECTION 29; THENCE SOUTH 89°47'33" WEST ALONG THE SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID SECTION 29, A DISTANCE OF 3611.33 FEET; THENCE NORTH 17°29'41" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 5054.06 FEET; THENCE NORTH 64°31'53" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 1243.19 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE NORTH BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID SECTION 29 AND THE NORTH BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID THOROUGHbred ESTATES; THENCE NORTH 89°20'52" EAST ALONG SAID NORTH BOUNDARY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 2539.03 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. CONTAINING ±508.74 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

AND
A PARCEL OF LAND BEING ALL OF LOTS 28 THROUGH 40 AND THOSE PORTIONS OF NW 132ND PARKWAY (A/K/A GRIFFIN RANCH ROAD) RIGHT-OF-WAY THAT WERE EXPANDED BY THE PLAT OF THOROUGHbred ESTATES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGES 8 TROUGH 21 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, SAID PARCEL OF LAND LYING IN A PORTION OF SECTION 29, TOWNSHIP 34 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 29; THENCE NORTH 01°36'22" EAST ALONG THE WEST BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID SECTION 29 AND ALONG THE WEST BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID THOROUGHbred ESTATES, A DISTANCE OF 5325.98 FEET TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 29 AND THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID THOROUGHbred ESTATES; THENCE NORTH 89°20'52" EAST ALONG THE NORTH BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID SECTION 29 AND ALONG THE NORTH BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID THOROUGHbred ESTATES, A DISTANCE OF 2709.69 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 64°31'53" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 1156.82 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 17°29'41" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 5091.78 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID SECTION 29 AND THE SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID THOROUGHbred ESTATES; THENCE SOUTH 89°47'33" WEST ALONG THE SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID SECTION 29 AND ALONG THE SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID THOROUGHbred ESTATES, A DISTANCE OF 283.70 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. CONTAINING 133.45 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

A public hearing to consider the request will be held before the Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners on March 8, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission Meeting Chambers, Room 270, Historic Courthouse, 304 NW 2nd Street, Okeechobee, Florida.

A copy of this notice will be available for inspection at the Okeechobee County Planning and Development Department, 1700 NW 9th Avenue, Suite A, Okeechobee, Florida, each weekday except holidays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

All interested parties and citizens shall have the opportunity to be heard at this public hearing. Any person deciding to appeal any decision by the Board of County Commissioners with respect to any matter to be considered at this public hearing will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made and that the record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based. County Clerk tapes are for the sole purpose of backup for official records of the Clerk.
410555 ON 2/22,29/2012

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No wonder newspaper readers enjoy life more!

Public Notice Public Notice Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE AIR PERMIT

Florida Department of Environmental Protection Southeast District Office Draft Air Construction Permit Project No. 0930001-007-AC Okeechobee Asphalt and Ready Mixed Concrete, Inc. Okeechobee County, Florida

Applicant: The applicant for this project is Okeechobee Asphalt and Ready Mixed Concrete, Inc. The applicant's authorized representative and mailing address is: Christopher Lynch, President, Okeechobee Asphalt and Ready Mixed Concrete, Inc., 503 NW 915 Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972.

Facility Location: Okeechobee Asphalt and Ready Mixed Concrete, Inc. operates the existing Okeechobee Asphalt and Ready Mixed Concrete, which is located in Okeechobee County at 503 NW 9th Street, Okeechobee, Florida

Project: The applicant proposes to construct a new 250 tons per hour ALmix Drum Mixed Asphalt Plant, Model 8840 OUF, and incorporate to the facility a 500 tons per hour Recycling Asphalt Plant (RAP) Crushing Operation with a 350 horsepower diesel engine to provide power to the crushing operation plant. The new 500 TPH asphalt plant will replace the old 100 TPH Drum Mix Plant (Emission Unit 001). The asphalt plant will produce conventional surface mix or reclaimed asphalt pavement. The reclaim materials feed system is enclosed at the top and in all non loading sides by corrugated sheet steel cladding to control fugitive emissions and at the same time exclude the rain from the operation.

The 500 ton per hour RAP Crushing Operation System to be incorporated in the facility can be owned by different companies under the authority of an air general permit for a relocatable nonmetallic mineral processing plant, and can be brought to Okeechobee Asphalt and Ready Mixed Concrete site to crush RAP into smaller sizes to be used in the manufacture of new hot mix asphalt. Okeechobee Asphalt and Ready Mixed Concrete, Inc., is required to have an air construction permit for the crushing operation pursuant to Rule 62-210.310(5)(e)5, F.A.C.

Details of the project are provided in the application and the enclosed Technical Evaluation and Preliminary Determination.

Permitting Authority: Applications for air construction permits are subject to review in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 403, Florida Statutes (F.S.) and Chapters 62-4, 62-210 and 62-212 of the Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). The proposed project is not exempt from air permitting requirements and an air permit is required to perform the proposed work. The Permitting Authority responsible for making a permit determination for this project is the Department of Environmental Protection, Southeast District Office. The Permitting Authority's physical and mailing address is: 400 North Congress Avenue, Suite 200, West Palm Beach, Florida 33401. The Permitting Authority's telephone number is 561/681-6600.

Project File: A complete project file is available for public inspection during the normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (except legal holidays), at the physical address indicated above for the Permitting Authority. The complete project file includes the Draft Permit, the Technical Evaluation and Preliminary Determination, the application and information submitted by the applicant (exclusive of confidential records under Section 403.111, F.S.). Interested persons may contact the Permitting Authority's project engineer for additional information at the address and phone number listed above. In addition, electronic copies of these documents are available on the following web site: http://www.dep.state.fl.us/air/mission/apds/default.asp.

Notice of Intent to Issue Air Permit: The Permitting Authority gives, notice of its intent to issue an air construction permit to the applicant for the project described above. The applicant has provided reasonable assurance that operation of proposed equipment will not adversely impact air quality and that the project will comply with all appropriate provisions of Chapters 62-4, 62-204, 62-210, 62-212, 62-296 and 62-297, F.A.C., The Permitting Authority will issue a Final Permit in accordance with the conditions of the proposed Draft Permit unless a timely petition for an administrative hearing is filed under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S. or unless public comment received in accordance with this notice results in a different decision or a significant change of terms or conditions.

Comments: The Permitting Authority will accept written comments concerning the proposed Draft Permit for a period of 14 days from the date of publication of this Public Notice. Written comments must be received by the Permitting Authority by close of business (5:00 p.m. a. on or before the end of the 14-day period. If written comments received result in a significant change to the Draft Permit, the Permitting Authority shall revise the Draft Permit and require, if applicable, another Public Notice. All comments filed will be made available for public inspection.

Petitions: A person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed permitting decision may petition for an administrative hearing in accordance with Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S. The petition must contain the information set forth below and must be filed with (received by) the Department's Agency Clerk in the Office of General Counsel of the Department of Environmental Protection, at 900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Stop 05, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000 (Telephone: 850/245-2241). Petitions filed by any persons other than those entitled to written notice under Section 120.60(3), F.S. must be filed within 14 days of publication of this Public Notice or receipt of a written notice, whichever occurs first Under Section 120.60(3), F.S., however, any person who asked the Permitting Authority for notice of agency action may file a petition within 14 days of receipt of that notice, regardless of the date of publication. A petitioner shall mail a copy of the petition to the applicant at the address indicated above, at the time of filing. The failure of any person to file a petition within the appropriate time period shall constitute a waiver of that person's right to request an administrative determination (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S., or to intervene in this proceeding and participate as a party to it. Any subsequent intervention (in a proceeding initiated by another party) will be only at the approval of the presiding officer upon the filing of a motion in compliance with Rule 28-106.205, F.A.C.

A petition that disputes the material facts on which the Permitting Authority's action is based must contain the following information: (a) The name and address of each agency affected and each agency's file or identification number, if known; (b) The name, address and telephone number of the petitioner; the name address and telephone number of the petitioner's representative, if any, which shall be the address for service purposes during the course of the proceeding; and an explanation of how the petitioner's substantial rights will be affected by the agency determination; (c) A statement of when and how the petitioner received notice of the agency action or proposed decision; (d) A statement of a disputed issues of material fact. If there are none, the petition must so state; (e) A concise statement of the ultimate facts alleged, including the specific facts the petitioner contends warrant reversal or modification of the agency's proposed action; (f) A statement of the specific rules or statutes the petitioner contends require reversal or modification of the agency's proposed action including an explanation of how the alleged facts relate to the specific rules or statutes; and, (g) A statement of the relief sought by the petitioner, stating precisely the action the petitioner wishes the agency to take with respect to the agency's proposed action. A petition that does not dispute the material facts upon which the Permitting Authority's action is based shall state that no such facts are in dispute and otherwise shall contain the same information as set forth above, as required by Rule 28-106.301, F.A.C.

Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the filing of a petition means that the Permitting Authority's final action may be different from the position taken by it in this Public Notice of Intent to Issue Air Permit. Persons whose substantial interests will be affected by any such final decision of the Permitting Authority on the application have the right to petition to become a party to the proceeding, in accordance with the requirements set forth above.

Mediation: Mediation is not available for this proceeding. 411144 ON 2/29/2012.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners will hold its Regular Session on Thursday, March 08, 2012 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 411309 ON 2/29/2012

IN THE CIRCUIT CIVIL COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY CIVIL DIVISION Case No. 2009CA000183

HSBC BANK USA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST SERIES ACE 2006-HE1 Plaintiff VS.

MARIE E. FENTON UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MARIE E. FENTON ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEE OR OTHER CLAIMANTS, CONNERS GABLES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. JOHN DOE N/K/A SERGE CYRILS, JANE DOE N/K/A ODDILE FENTON, AND UNKNOWN TENANTS/OWNERS. Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Final Judgment of Foreclosure for Plaintiff entered in this cause on September 24, 2009, in the Circuit Court of Okeechobee County, Florida, I will sell the property situated in Okeechobee County, Florida described as:

LOT 14, BLOCK 23, A REVISED AND ADDITION TO CONNERS GABLES, SECTION 24, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH, RANGE 35 EAST, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 15 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Public Notice

and commonly known as: 484 SE 36TH TERRACE, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34974; including the building, appurtenances, and fixtures located therein, at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, the sale will be held in the Jury Assembly Room, 2nd Floor, Okeechobee County Judicial Center, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida, on March 21, 2012 at 11am.

Any persons claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

Dated This 1st day of February, 2012.

SHARON ROBERTSON Clerk of the Circuit Court By: Sandra L. Creech Deputy Clerk

Edward B. Pritchard (813) 229-0900 x1309 Kass Shuler, P.A. P.O. Box 800 Tampa, FL 33601-0800 409187 ON 2/22,29/2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROBATE DIVISION CASE NO. 2011-CP-193

In Re: Estate of BETTIE ALICE BASS, a/k/a BETTIE BASS, Deceased

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of BETTIE ALICE BASS, a/k/a BETTIE BASS, deceased, whose date of death was November 20, 2011, and whose social security number is XXX-XX-0677, is pending in the Circuit Court for Okeechobee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 312 N.W. 3rd Street, Suite 101, Okeechobee, Florida 34972. The personal representative's and the personal representative's attorney names are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH IN THE FLORIDA STATUTES WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The first publication of this notice is February 22, 2012.

Personal Representative: CLAUDIA ARNOLD 14627 N.W. 34th Terrace Okeechobee, Florida 34972

Attorney for Personal Representative: CONELY & CONELY, P.A. Post Office Drawer 1367 Okeechobee, Florida 34973 By: Tom Conely III Florida Bar #096482 Telephone: (863) 763-3825 410310 ON 2/22,29/2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION CASE NO.: 47-2008-CA-000539

CITIBANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR THE HOLDERS OF STRUCTURED ASSET MORTGAGE INVESTMENTS II INC., BEAR STEARNS ALTA TRUST, MORTGAGE PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2006-4, Plaintiff, vs. DANIEL REARDON A/K/A DANIEL E. REARDON, et al, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated February 14, 2012, and entered in Case No. 47-2008-CA-000539 of the Circuit Court of the NINETEENTH Judicial Circuit in and for OKEECHOBEE County, Florida wherein CITIBANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR THE HOLDERS OF STRUCTURED ASSET MORTGAGE INVESTMENTS II INC., BEAR STEARNS ALTA TRUST, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2006-4, is the Plaintiff and DANIEL REARDON A/K/A DANIEL E. REARDON; CATHERINE REARDON A/K/A CATHERINE L. REARDON; GUENTER GOERTZ; TENANT #1; TENANT #2; TENANT #3; TENANT #4 are the Defendants, The Clerk of

Public Notice

The Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM, 2ND FLOOR, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY JUDICIAL CENTER, 312 N.W. 3RD STREET, OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA 34972 at 11am on the 4th day of April, 2012, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

LOT 2, GREEN HILLS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 94, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

A/K/A 5851 SE 128TH AVENUE, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date "Din Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale.

WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of this Court on February 17, 2012.

Florida Default Law Group, P.L. P.O. Box 25018 Tampa, Florida 33622-5018 F08071454 COUNTRY-CONV B/C-Team 2 **See Americans with Disabilities Act

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROBATE DIVISION CASE NO. 2012-CP-017

Public Notice

Florida Rules of Judicial Administration Rule 2.540 Notices to Persons With Disabilities - If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact Corrie Johnson, ADA Coordinator, 250 NW Country Club Drive, Suite 217, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, (772) 807-4370 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711. 410554 ON 2/29;3/7/2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROBATE DIVISION CASE NO. 2012-CP-017

In Re: Estate of HERBERT EDWARD BRINGGER Deceased

Public Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of HERBERT EDWARD BRINGGER, deceased, whose date of death was (found) November 6, 2011, and whose social security number is XXX-XX-0677, is pending in the Circuit Court for Okeechobee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 312 N.W. 3rd Street, Suite 101, Okeechobee, Florida 34972. The personal representative's and the personal representative's attorney names are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST

Public Notice

PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH IN THE FLORIDA STATUTES WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The first publication of this notice is February 22, 2012.

Personal Representative: KIMBERLY A. BRINGGER 5101 S.E. 43rd St. Okeechobee, FL 34974

Attorney for Personal Representative: CONELY & CONELY, P.A. Post Office Drawer 1367 Okeechobee, Florida 34973 By: Deborah M. Hooker Florida Bar #0897582 Telephone: (863) 763-3825 410238 ON 2/22,29/2012

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Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 They may be indoor or outdoor
5 Star with rhythm
10 Angel dust, for short
13 Yearn (for)
14 Like a supportive crowd
15 Come as you
16 China flaw
17 Far from dense
18 Source of rays
19 "West Side Story" duet
21 Prepare to seal, as an envelope
23 Classic Welles role
24 Whopper
25 Screenshot letters
27 7-Down's "Casta diva," e.g.
29 UN workers' gp.
30 Fab rival
31 Agt. under Ness
32 Hose
36 Playwright Hart
38 Place for a bracelet
40 Suit
41 Like some conditional statements

- 6 George's musical partner
7 Bellini opera
8 *Pioneering Frank King comic strip featuring Walt and Skeezix
9 1990s "Inside Edition" host
10 Shells, e.g.
11 Unusual companion?
12 10-Down type
17 *Award-winning author of "The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian"
20 Tiny biter
22 Lifted
24 Sleeveless summer wear, or what each answer to a starred clue might be said to have
25 Climbing lane occupant
26 Univ. employee
28 John in Scotland
33 *Trendy place for a breather?

- 34 Hard-to-find clownfish
35 Picketer's bane
37 Vertical passage
39 Captain Kirk's record
42 Stays away from
44 Pricy
49 Staff symbol
50 Drab color
51 1990s-2000s Braves catcher
Javy

- 52 Ed of "Up"
54 Rumble in the Jungle setting
56 Netflix shipments
57 Actress
Rowlands
58 ___ poll
61 "Go Simpsonic With the Simpsons" composer
Clausen

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

Grid of crossword puzzle answers: M A Y A S K Y E A C T E D, D U E L T R A C M O O L A, S N A G R O N A A I R E D, T H E J A C K S O N F I V E, R E T S H A D E, C E N S U S R A D A R S, T H E O S M O N D S G I T, H O R N E P E E P E R C E, A S I T H E B E E G E E S, W E E D E R S A R G E S, E L E C T S C H, B A N D O F B R O T H E R S, A T E U P S I N E A E O N, N O N C E T B A R D A D A, S P E E D V E N N S P A M

xwordeditor@aol.com

12x12 crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-66 indicating starting positions for clues.

DOWN

- 1 Warsaw
2 Bounce
3 "Heads up!"
4 Dark brown pigment
5 Mesmerized

By Michael Sharp and Angela Olson Halsted (c)2011 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

Community Events

Okeechobee County Fair seeking creative participants

The Okeechobee County Fair Association is seeking adult and youth contest participants for the upcoming fair March 13-18. The contests consist of quilting, sewing, leatherwork, painting, drawing, photography, horticulture, and woodworking. There will also be food competitions such as home baking and canned goods, as well as a vegetable competition featuring garden vegetable, fruit and vegetable and largest vegetable categories. This year the Lego Building contest will be open to both youth and adult exhibitors. This year we will again be having the educational posters and educational displays competitions. Individual youths may enter the Educational poster contest and 4-H Clubs or FFA Chapters may enter the Educational Display contest. The top three club/chapter displays will win awards of \$250, \$150 and \$100 for their programs. New for this year's fair there will be four new categories: scrap booking, jewelry making, cake decorating and heirloom quilts. You may download the entry forms and rules at the Okeechobee County Fair Web site, www.okeechobee-countyfair.com, or pick up copies of the 2012 Premium Book at the Okeechobee County Extension Office at 458 Highway 98 North. The deadline for entries is March 2. If you have questions, please contact Dianne Spann at 634-3327.

4-H Club will host March 3 Rabbit and Poultry clinic

The Feathers & Furs 4-H Club will hold a Rabbit and Poultry Care Clinic on Saturday, **March 3**, at Jones Supply & Feed, 801 S.W. Park St., (south of Advance Auto). There will be a drawing for a rabbit and feed for only a \$1 donation per ticket. Contacts: Cathy Arthur at 863-763-1512 or Cathy Corby at 772-216-8669.

OCA hosting barbecue and rummage sale

You do not want to miss this! Okeechobee Christian Academy will host a rummage sale from 8 a.m. to noon on **March 3**, and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., smoked pork dinners can be purchased for \$8 per plate. Dinners will include smoked pork, baked beans, potato salad and a roll. All proceeds will benefit Okeechobee Christian Academy. This event will take place on the school campus located at 701 South Parrott Ave. Advanced tickets can be purchased at the school office or by calling 863-763-3072.

Style Studio presents

LP Foundation fundraiser

March 3, Good Spirits Banquet Room at 245 U.S. 441 S.E. LP Foundation is a non-profit organization Helping Extreme Youth Athletes and families in need across the U.S. Pool Tournament- Food-50/50-Door Prizes-Auction-Music. Donations of clothing, non-perishable food, toys and any type of athletic equipment is very much appreciated. Vendors wanted, join us and have a great time! If you have any questions, call Sheryl Tanner 863-634-9514.

Car wash to benefit student travelers

The OHS International Club will host a car wash on March 3 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Tractor Supply parking lot. Please come out and help the students raise funds for their upcoming trip to Europe.

DAR to meet March 3

The Okeechobee Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution will hold its March meeting at the Golden Corral at 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 3. All members and prospective members are invited to attend. Contact Kenna Noonan 863-634-5669 for further information.

ConKerr Cancer "sit & sew"

ConKerr Cancer's mission is to provide children with cancer or other life changing illnesses a feeling of warmth, love and a smile through the simple gift of a pillowcase. The next ConKerr Cancer "sit & sew" will be held on Tuesday, March 6, from 10:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Join us at the Okeechobee Presbyterian Church, 312 N. Parrott Ave. Bring your sewing machine (or serger) and fabric and sew with other ladies in our community who want to help make a difference to a sick child. The group received a generous donation of material so this month they will be sewing pillowcases for the upcoming Easter holiday. For more information, please call Joan at 863-467-0290.

Shared Services Network to meet

The Executive Roundtable of the Shared Services Network of Okeechobee County will conduct its bi-monthly meeting at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, March 9, in the board room of the Okeechobee County School Board office. This forum provides a mechanism for dialogue and problem solving in our community through the collaborative efforts of our local decision makers. The public is invited to attend. For more information, please call Sharon Vinson (863) 462-5000, Ext. 257.

Fundraising opportunity offered

Okeechobee County Cattlemen's Association is offering ticket sales fundraising opportunity for local clubs. For more information please contact Heather Hancock @ CenterState Bank 863-763-5573. Okeechobee County Cattlemen's Annual Spring Rodeo, March 10 and 11 at 2 p.m., Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center.

Girl scouts needed

Calling on all adult Girl Scouts! If you were a girl; girl scout or worked with girls as an adult, we would like to have you join us in marching in the Speckled Perch Parade in Okeechobee on March 10, to celebrate our 100th anniversary! Contact Laurie Pharr for more information 863-634-0465.

Lakeport Garden Club to host golf tourney at Blue Heron

The Lakeport Garden Club will host their third annual golf tournament on Saturday, March 10, at 8 a.m. at the Blue Heron Golf Club, 1925 S.E. Ninth Ave. in Okeechobee.

The tournament will feature a best ball, shotgun start. Entry is \$40 per golfer. There will be prizes for first, second, third and last place, longest drive and closest to pin. There will also be door prizes. Lunch will be barbecued pork sandwiches with chips. For more information, call Glenda at 863-946-1794.

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OHS softballers shut out Sebastian River, 2-0

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Samantha Harrell tossed a perfect game with 17 strikeouts as Okeechobee shut out Sebastian River 2-0 to win a District 12-7A game on Friday at Okeechobee High School.

Harrell added a sacrifice fly in the first inning as the Brahmans grabbed a small lead and held on against a tough Sharks team.

Sarah Davis hit a fly ball in the fifth that was misplayed near the fence. Carissa LiCata raced around the bases to score an insurance run on the play.

It was a pitchers duel as Okeechobee got singles from Stormy Stokes and Bethany Stuart. LiCata and Kathy Simmons reached base via walks in the game.

Coach Christina Bragman said the girls came out strong and stayed focused for seven innings.

"A little more offense is needed but before this game we performed very well on offense by moving girls around the bases. I expect a lot of low scoring games this year," she explained.

Bragman insisted she has a lot of confidence in Harrell to do her job and wins will come this year.

"She kept them off balance and Kelci Breaux did a great job calling pitches," she added.

Harrell said she has worked on deceiving batters this year with more English and movement on the ball. She also used a change up in some critical moments.

"I felt pretty confident coming into this game and I'm proud of my team for helping me out," she noted.

Harrell had been sidelined for over a week after being hit with a batted ball. The injury didn't seem to affect her at all on Friday as Sebastian had only four balls hit in play.

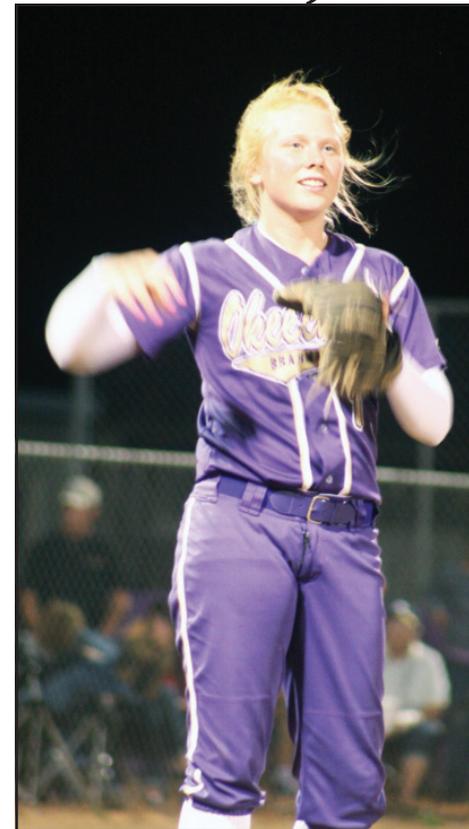
Third basemen Sarah Davis said the lack of work for fielders doesn't worry her because they talk to one another, dance around, and keep their minds on the game.

"It was nice to come out and get a win in front of a large crowd tonight. We have to work on our hitting and be a little more aggressive. It is a big difference playing with the younger girls but once they get older and have some more experience, they'll be just as competitive and just as good as our previous teams," she added.

The Lady Brahmans had three games scheduled this week which included home games against Vero Beach on Wednesday at 6 p.m. and Jensen Beach on Friday at 7 p.m.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Carissa LiCata gets instruction from Lady Brahman coach Christina Bragman during Fridays game.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Samantha Harrell continued her string of unparalleled pitching success with a perfect game on Friday.

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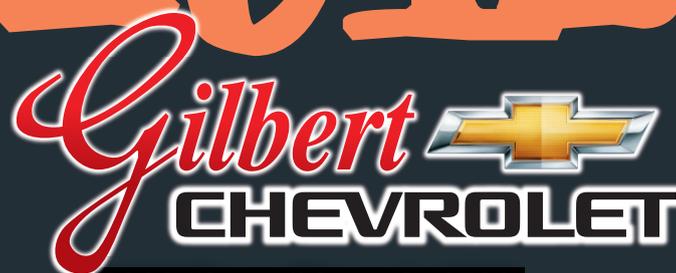
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