



# OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 103 No. 39

Friday, March 30, 2012

50¢ Plus tax



**Young angler's wish comes true**  
... Page 4

**Man sentenced to 25 years for molestation**  
... Page 5

## Lake Levels

**12.43 feet**

Last Year: 11.50 feet



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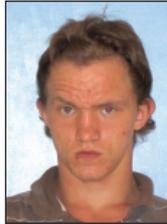


## Teen's arson arrest raises suspicions

Other fires in Pine Ridge Park and Treasure Island areas are still under investigation

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News

When Dallas Wayne Parker was arrested, law enforcement's job did not become any easier because now they have to wonder: was he involved in other suspicious fires in Okeechobee County?



**Dallas Wayne Parker**

Although he is only charged with arson in connection to one fire, investigators are now

Parker, 18, was arrested Tuesday, March 27, on one count of first degree arson in connection with a Feb. 27 mobile home fire in the Pine Ridge Park subdivision.

Because he had plans in place to move to Alabama, Parker is being held in the Okeechobee County Jail without bond.

wondering about the teen's possible connection to eight other fires in the Pine Ridge area as well as a number of suspicious fires in the Treasure Island area in 2008.

The basis for their suspicion is that Parker lived in both areas where, and when, the fires were occurring.

At the time of his arrest, Parker was living on N.E. 11th Lane in the Pine Ridge subdivision.

Even though they are suspicious about Parker's possible involvement detectives are quick to point out that, at this time, that's all

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Special to the Okeechobee News

## Teen anglers

The Big O Teen Anglers brought in plenty of a fish at their tournament held from the Lock 7 boat ramps. Drew Wanczak took first place in the 15-18 age group with 10.57 lbs of fish. For more on the story, see page 18.

## Taylor Creek Lock to be closed for renovation

Lock will be closed from April until October

The S-193 Navigation Lock on the north shore of Lake Okeechobee at Taylor Creek will undergo a renovation to ensure decades of continued reliable service.

The lock, which is nearly 40 years old, will be out of service beginning April 1. The work is scheduled to be complete in October.

During the renovation process, the lock gates will be removed and refurbished. Concrete will be reinforced throughout the lock chamber, and wiring and other utilities will be replaced.

While the lock is out of service, boaters can launch into Lake Okeechobee at Jaycee Park (Lock 7) near the intersection of U.S. Highway 441 and State

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# Wildlife refuge project acquires first property

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

A huge wildlife refuge that could eventually include a large part of Okeechobee County officially came into existence on Jan. 18. On that date the Nature Conservancy donated 10 acres of pine flatwoods near Haines City to the Everglades Headwaters National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area. That was the first acquisition for a refuge that could eventually include up to 150,000 acres. Plans call for up to 50,000 acres being purchased outright by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and 100,000 acres being protected by conservation easements which would restrict development on the property.

The goal is to conserve one of the last remaining grassland and longleaf pine savanna landscapes in eastern North America.

The refuge will help with Everglades restoration and provide habitat for endangered species such as the Florida panther.

Throughout the initial process, which included public meetings to gather input and representatives of the FWS meeting with city and county officials, it has always been stressed that the FWS would deal only with willing buyers, there would be no condemnation.

"We've received a lot of interest from landowners in Okeechobee County," refuge manager Charlie Pelizza said.

In April and May he said FWS officials would hold meetings with interested landowners to explain the acquisition process. Then they will start accepting applications. "They have to express an interest," he asserted. Mr. Pelizza said interested landowners would submit a package expressing their

interest in either selling their property or selling a conservation easement. Then the FWS would rank the applications. Those properties with the highest priority would then be appraised and an offer would be made to the landowner based on that appraisal.

Because of the size of the refuge, Mr. Pelizza said it would take several years, maybe longer to acquire the desired property.

The property in Okeechobee County being considered, roughly 54 square miles in area, is in the northern part of the county immediately south of the Osceola County line between U.S. 441 N. and the Kissimmee Prairie Refuge State Park and south of the park between Viking and the Kissimmee River. The 25 square miles of Viking will not be part of the wildlife refuge.

The two largest single properties in the county are each about 12,000 acres. One

is owned by the Okeechobee partnership whose mailing address is a post office box in Wachula. It is on the Osceola County line west of U.S. 441. The Pat J. Corrigan Family Limited Partnership, with a mailing address in Vero Beach, owns 11,991 acres south of Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park and east of the Kissimmee River.

West of the Okeechobee Partnership is the 2,261 acres owned by Powell Brother who have a barge terminal in Dania. Abingdon Holdings, LTD of Fort Pierce, 3,634 acres south of the Powell Brother Property that the wildlife service is interested in. About, 2,000 acres under consideration are owned by the Harvey family.

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

# Owner demolishes mobile home for scrap metal

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

Don't think you can get away with ignoring code violations. Just ask Alice Faye

Moctezuma who, until recently resided in a mobile home in Oak Park on U. S. 441 S.E. She thought she could demolish her mobile home and sell the scrap metal. She got a permit to demolish her carport but ended up

demolishing her entire mobile home.

To complicate things there is a lien on the mobile home. Code enforcement officer Mike Gehring persuaded her to get a demolition permit for the mobile home. However, once it was demolished she sold the metal for scrap and was apparently going to leave the remaining material from the mobile home piled on the lot.

Ms. Moctezuma is currently facing sen-

tencing on three drug charges. Mr. Gehring said he would talk to the prosecutor if she did not clean up the remaining material. Therefore Ms. Moctezuma cleaned up the mess,

The lienholder will have to go civil court to claim damages.

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

## Summer employers needed for local youth jobs program

Workforce Solutions is seeking employers for summer work experiences that will begin April 23. Private, non-profit and public companies are urged to pledge short-term, meaningful work experiences for youth participants. Youth are compensated at no cost to the company and workers' compensation will be covered. Work experiences are 32 hours per week for a period of four to twelve weeks.

Career Planners will be assigned to each participating youth to monitor progress and manage payroll. An informational meeting providing an overview of the program will be held at Workforce Solutions, 209 S.W. Park Street on Wednesday, April 11, at 2 p.m. For more information prior to the meeting, call 772-408-1260, ext. 524 or email to [drew@tcjobs.org](mailto:drew@tcjobs.org).

## ARC Thrift Store requests donations

The ARC of Okeechobee Thrift Store is currently requesting donations of household items, dishes, kitchen appliances, furniture and clothing. The store is open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All items can be dropped off at the thrift store location, 403 N.W. 2nd Ave. in Okeechobee. For further information, call 863-763-2419.

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Special to the Okeechobee News/OSWCD

### Land judging

Okeechobee students (above) did well at the Okeechobee Soil and Water Conservation District Land Judging Contest, held March 8 at Grassy Island. Pictured are FFA Advisor Bryan Dryden and the first place Okeechobee Brahman Team-Mary Baker, Jaymee Johnson and Brandon McKee (high score individual). In the photo to the left, Students evaluate soil pits for homesite evaluation, land characteristics, movement of air and water in the soil, erosion and other factors determining land class.



Special to the Okeechobee News

### Tuesday's puppies

Tuesday, a terrier mix, arrived at the Okeechobee Humane Society Pet/Rescue ready to give birth to seven very adorable puppies. The puppies are now ready for new homes. Adoption fee is \$175, which includes spay or neuter and current shots. They are available for adoption at Okeechobee Humane Society/Pet Rescue on Highway 98, next door to the Livestock Market. For more information, contact Humane Society Pet Rescue Florida, at 863-357-1104. To see more available animals go to [petfinder.com](http://petfinder.com). Homes are also needed to "foster" animals who are waiting for a permanent adoptive home.

### Okeechobee Forecast

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**Friday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 86. South wind between 3 and 7 mph.  
**Friday night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 64. South wind between 5 and 8 mph.

#### Extended Forecast

**Saturday:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms after 2pm. Mostly sunny, with a high near 86. West wind between 3 and 6 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%. New rainfall amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch, except higher amounts possible in thunderstorms.  
**Saturday night:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms before 8 pm. Partly cloudy, with a low around 61. West northwest wind around 6 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%. New rainfall amounts of less than a tenth of an inch, except higher amounts possible in thunderstorms.

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### The Okeechobee Community Choir

Under the Direction of Sandy Perry,  
 Will Present its 13th Annual Easter Cantata Concert,  
**Christ Arose!**

Easter Favorites & Handel's Hallelujah! Chorus  
 During which audience participation is encouraged!

Friday, March 30 <sup>th</sup> 7pm	Saturday, March 31 <sup>st</sup> 7pm	Sunday, April 1 <sup>st</sup> 3pm
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First United Methodist Church - 200 NW 2nd St - Okeechobee  
 (Northwest of Walgreen's at the intersection of US 441 & SR 70)

The 40 voices comprising this season's choir represent singers from Thirteen local churches who began rehearsing in February. Composer, Concert Pianist, Director of Music & Arts at Good Shepherd United Methodist, West Palm Beach and Special Guest Accompanist, Frank Carter, Composed his second Easter Cantata, *Christ Arose!* Especially for the Okeechobee Community Choir!



*Soloists: Chris Askeland, Betsy Cheney, George Clement, Bobby & Debby Huntley, Lonnie Kirsch, Sue Kohltfarber, Tommy Markham, Allen Patterson, Cameron Patterson, Elsie Ratliff, Leah Suarez, Victoria Williams and Mike Zierden.*

*Special Guest Soloist: Joseph McColly, trumpet, Good Shepherd UM Frank Carter, Accompanist Nicolle Wood, Narrator Sheila Brown, Sound*

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**I: "THE HUNGER GAMES"**  
 Fri., Tues. & Thurs. 7:00 & 9:20, Sat., Sun. & Wed. 2:00, 4:20, 7:00 & 9:20, Mon. 3:00 & 7:00 **PG-13**

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

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

Movie Tickets: Adults - \$6.50 • Children 12 & under - \$5.00  
 Senior Citizens - \$5.00 all movies • Matinees - \$4.50

## Public Forum/Speak Out

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

### Stand up for the flag

• Perhaps for the next parade, some Boy Scouts or other patriotic group could walk in front of the parade with a sign "Please stand up for the flag!" Not a subtle hint, but it might take explicit directions to get some of these folks' attention. What is really ironic are these guys wearing T-shirts with all kinds of patriotic sayings about how they love their country and love the flag and what it stands for, and they sit there like bumps on a log when the color guard passes at the front of the parade.

• Those who fly the flag at home and at their businesses might also want to review their flag display rules. If you fly a flag, you should keep it in good repair. Look around town and see how many flags are faded and tattered. No one forces you to fly a flag. So if you do fly one, please show respect for what the flag stands for by keeping it in good repair. Flags that are no longer serviceable should be taken to the American Legion. They have a special flag disposal ceremony in which they decommission flags that are worn out and too damaged to repair. The Legion saves the old flags until they have enough to warrant the special ceremony.

• I usually stand for the whole parade since I don't seem to ever get there early enough to get a front row seat. It seems to me there is always a Color Guard at the front of the parade and most everyone stands for that. The problem is that there are flags on every float, band, buggy, car, garbage truck, horse and everything else in the parade. If you're seated on the front row curb or chair and get up for the Color Guard leading the parade is it really necessary to get up, sit down, get up for the whole rest of the parade?

• You are supposed to stand when the flag comes by at the beginning of the parade. You don't have to jump up and down every time there is a flag on a float.

### Airplanes

• I have had the misfortune to fly four times this month. If you want food (because the flight goes through lunch or dinner time) you must buy it extra at a high price. If you want anything except one drink, you must buy it. Basically, after having to dump all of your stuff out in the bins at the security check point and then put it all back together you should shut up and take a small seat and live through a couple of hours of torture. Now, if you want to ask something from the flight attendant you can't because she refers you to the in-flight magazine for the answer. Saw that happen and it wasn't pretty. Even the workers are going ballistic.

### Music

• It is interesting that the music in the supermarket has changed from country to pop. It is sad to see a unique Okeechobee experience change. I hate to see us lose that tiny part of our country culture.

### Garments as symbols

• Is there no end to what evil minded people can do to turn around a perfectly innocent and sometimes beautiful object or scene. I have always gone out of my way to go outside and look for a rainbow when it is raining the same time the sun is shining. But, lo and behold, if you buy a used T-shirt with a rainbow on it, you are now announcing to the world that you are a homosexual. My kids informed me of the connection. Guess I'm going to have to rip up the T-shirt and use it for dusting. Same as the one with the marijuana leaf on it. I wasn't paying attention, I guess. I was only going through the 10 cent box at the thrift store looking for white t-shirts to do my work in, so I wouldn't get bleach spots on my colored ones.

• Can someone tell me what is the point of wearing a hoodie with the hood up if it is not cold or rainy? Doesn't that just make it more difficult to see, since it blocks your peripheral vision? We have all seen the surveillance videos of robberies where the robbers pull the hoods up to hide their faces. If people don't want to be perceived as suspicious, why do they wear their hoods up like that on a warm day?

### WaterFest

• I just want to congratulate the WaterFest organizers on a job well done.

## Letters to the Editor

### A special wish come true

Thank You Okeechobee for making Max's wish extra special

The Make-A-Wish Foundation made arrangements to bring Max, an 18-year-old young man, and his family from Morristown, New Jersey, to have Max's wish come true at the Bassmaster Elite/WaterFest F.U.N. event March 22-25. Max's Wish was to meet Pro-Angler Kevin VanDam who was fishing in the tournament. There was short notice of this special guest arriving, making arrangements for his meeting with Kevin VanDam and receiving one of the ProAngler's shirts. With that I thought it would be nice for Max to receive some Okeechobee shirts and gifts in a Welcome Basket to help him remember his wish came true in Okeechobee County. An e-mail was sent to as many contacts as I could to ask for items. In the short time there was to pull this together a drop off location in front of the Okeechobee County Historical Courthouse between 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday was arranged. Max's wish came true in Okeechobee and thanks to the wonderful contributions from this community he received not a Welcome Basket but a Welcome Tub. Due to the incredible amount of gifts a basket big enough could not be found. The tub was stuffed from bottom to top!

To let you know how much it was appreciated I have included the picture of Max that says a thousand words. His family was overwhelmed by the generosity of the community with these gifts and hospitality throughout the event. B.A.S.S. arranged time for Max to personally receive the gifts and the cost to ship them home for him. Mallory Conger, Project Coordinator for Make-A-Wish asked me to extend a thank you to the community for MAKING MAX'S WISH EXTRA SPECIAL. For further coverage of Max's story visit <http://www.bassmaster.com/blog/wishes-0>.

I know if there would have been more time it would have taken a Semi-Truck to get his gifts home. I am proud to be a part of a community that comes together whenever it is needed, even at the last minute, to show kindness, generosity and hospitality. Thank you to the following for your contributions to Max's Welcome Tub ... ARC of Okeechobee, Baughman Family, Big O Teen anglers, Bill and Gail Saum, Brown Cow Sweetery, Butch's Redneck Yacht Club, Century Link, City of Okeechobee, City of



Special to the Okeechobee News  
**Okeechobee businesses and individuals donated shirts, hats and other souvenirs to make up a gift basket to make Max's visit more memorable. They had so many donations they could not find a large enough basket and had to use a tub.**

Okeechobee Police Department, Commissioner Bryant Culpepper, Economic Council of Okeechobee, Florida Wildlife Commission, Hampton Inn, Missy Barletto, OK Corral Gun Club, Okeechobee County Board Of County Commission, Okeechobee County Sheriff's Department, Okeechobee County Tourist Development Council, Okeechobee KOA, Okeechobee Main Street, Okeechobee News, Okeechobee Paddle & Peddle Rentals, Okeechobee The Magazine, Rut N' Strut N' Taxidermy, Sea Coast National Bank, Stitchin' Post, Teez 2 Pleez, Waste Management, WOKC.

**Kathy Scott**  
Tourism Coordinator  
Okeechobee County Tourist  
Development Council

# OKEECHOBEE NEWS

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### We Pledge...

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- To correct our errors and to give each correction the prominence it deserves.
- To provide a right to reply to those we write about.
- To treat people with courtesy, respect and compassion.



# Okeechobee man gets 25 years for molestation

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

A 47-year-old Okeechobee man was sentenced to 25 years in prison on March 19 in Martin County on charges of molesting a child over a period of five years while he lived in Indiantown.

Lewis Dodge was originally arrested by the U.S. Marshal's Service on April 28, 2011, in Okeechobee.

The 29 felony charges initially filed against him in-

cluded sexual battery on a child under 12, and lewd and lascivious molestation on a victim under 12.

Dodge entered a plea of no contest to two felony charges of attempted sexual battery of a child under 12 and lewd and lascivious molestation of a child under 12 by a person over 18.

Circuit Judge William Roby placed Dodge on sex offender probation and constant monitoring should he ever be released from prison.



Lewis Dodge

# Identity of pedestrian killed in traffic accident released

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News

Police have released the identity of a pedestrian who died late last week after he was reportedly struck by two different vehicles.

According to police Maximino Pacheco, 53, died Friday, March 23, when he apparently stepped in front of oncoming traffic in the 1000 block of S.R. 70 W. near N.W. 11th Ave. Mr. Pacheco's last known address was

N.W. Fifth St. in Okeechobee.

Detective Bill Saum, of the Okeechobee City Police Department (OCPD), said the incident occurred at 9:22 p.m. when the man was crossing S.R. 70 from the south side to the north.

The detective said Mr. Pacheco stepped into the westbound lane of the highway in front of a 2007 Chevrolet sports utility vehicle driven by Jennifer Jones of Okeechobee. The front left portion of the SUV struck the

man and he was knocked to the ground as the vehicle stopped.

An oncoming 2009 Dodge passenger car driven by Roman Jaimes was unable to stop and also struck the man.

Detective Saum said just when Mr. Pacheco died is not known.

The OCPD investigator added that the incident appears to be accidental and that no charges are forthcoming.

# Beachgoers asked to be aware of nesting shorebirds

With nesting season under way for shorebirds like the snowy plover, black skimmer and American oystercatcher, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) asks beachgoers to take care not to disturb their nests. Well-informed, courteous beachgoers can provide needed relief to these stressed species.

The snowy plover, for example, nests along Gulf Coast beaches through August, and its population has shrunk to as few as 200 pairs in this state. Increased human activity and development on coastal barrier island beaches are among the key reasons that snowy plovers and other beach-nesting species are listed as threatened or endan-

gered. Shorebird nesting continues through August.

"By recognizing the warning signs that you have entered an area of beach where shorebird nesting is taking place, you can save chicks and eggs from a needless death," said Nancy Douglass, who works on shorebird conservation at the FWC.

# ARSON

Continued From Page 1

they have -- suspicions.

Detective Ted Van Deman, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), stressed that he and State Fire Marshal's Office investigators have no evidence to link Parker to the other fires.

"It should be noted that Dallas Parker lived near all the victim homes and was a listed suspect in these fires. His involvement in these fires was never proved," wrote Detective Greg Gilkey, of the Fire Marshal's office, in his arrest report.

According to Detective Gilkey's report, witness statements led to Parker's arrest in connection with the mobile home blaze on N.E. 30th Terrace. A witness reportedly told investigators that Parker made a statement that he could break into that home then "... set it afire to cover his tracks on the burglary."

A witness reportedly told Detective Gilkey that they saw Parker behind that home on Feb. 27 and then saw the orange glow of a fire at the back of the home. The witness then told the detective that they saw Parker run toward his home, continued the report.

When Detective Gilkey spoke with Parker on Feb. 29, the teen reportedly told the investigator that he was with his mother at a hospital and that he never went to the scene of the fire.

Detective Gilkey and Detective Van De-

man then spoke to another witness on March 26 who stated they heard a loud bang on the night of the fire. When the witness stepped outside to check on the noise they saw Parker behind the burning home, added the report.

As the witnesses spoke to the investigators they both, independently, gave the same description of the clothing supposedly being worn by Parker.

Following the teen's March 27 arrest, the detectives and Sheriff Paul May met with Pine Ridge residents and told them they had a suspect in custody.

"He (Parker) just moved up to our number one suspect in the rest of these (fires)," Sheriff May told the residents. "I believe y'all can rest easy."

Sheriff May went on to say investigators followed every single tip they received and that their probe is continuing.

"Do not think this is over," he said.

When Detective Gilkey stepped up to address the residents, he echoed the sheriff's statement.

"We're working the other cases. We're working them hard," he told the crowd. "Hopefully, this (arrest) will end the nightmare out here."

Along with Sheriff May, the investigators urged the residents to contact them if they have information regarding the fires. Detective Gilkey can be reached at 561-640-6704 and Detective Van Deman can be contacted at 863-763-3117.

## Special Easter Blood Drives planned

In remembrance of the greatest sacrifice ever made, The Big Red Bus will be in the parking lot by Pueblo Viejo, (near Publix) on Good Friday, **April 6**, from 11 to 5.

Your donation of one pint of blood could literally save three lives. Such a small sacrifice to make so that others may live. Okeechobee is known for its donation generosity, but all donors will receive a free Movie Ticket, a Pueblo Viejo Gift Card and a free lunch of either a hot dog or fish sandwich. Please come.

## LOCK

Continued From Page 1

Road 78. Other navigation options include launching on Henry Creek and entering the lake through the G-36 lock, or launching into the Kissimmee River just north of Lake Okeechobee at C. Scott Driver Jr. Recreation Area or Okee-Tantie Recreation Area.

Boaters are asked to use caution when navigating near the lock due to ongoing construction.

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**OKEECHOBEE NEWS**

## Community Events

### North VFW plans weekend of fun

The North VFW Post #4423, 300 N.W. 34th St. has a weekend full of fun planned. Friday The Grill will be open 5-9 p.m. with karaoke hosted by Just-Us 7-10 p.m. On Saturday, there will be hamburgers on the grill 12-2 p.m. for a donation of \$2 and bar bingo at 1 p.m. There will also be a fish/shrimp dinner 5-7 pm with karaoke hosted by Sandoone 7-10 p.m. On Sunday, Lori will be cooking fried chicken from 2-4 p.m. with karaoke hosted by Lisa 6-9 p.m. Stop by and join in the fun and support your veterans. Donations go towards Veteran's Assistance Programs.

### Moose Lodge announces special weekend plans

The Okeechobee Moose Lodge, 159 N.W. 36th St., will hold bingo on Friday at 6:30 p.m. with bonanza start at 5 p.m. On Saturday, dinner will be 5:30-7:30 p.m. with karaoke hosted by Lisa 7-10 p.m. On Sunday, breakfast will be served 8-11 a.m. Donations go towards Moose charites.

### Cypress Eagles to host dinner night

Friday, March 30, from 5:30-8:30 p.m., the Cypress Hut Eagles, will be serving Steak \$12, Fish \$8 or Shrimp \$12 dinners. Music by Jimmy & Debra Harper. All proceed go to Community Charity Fund. Public is welcome.

### Easter Cantata planned

The Okeechobee Community Choir, in its 13th year under the direction of Sandy Perry, will present the Easter Cantata, Christ Arose! and other seasonal favorites on Friday, March 30 and Saturday, March 31, at 7 p.m. and on Sunday, April 1 at 3 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 200 NW 2nd ST. 40 singers representing 13 local churches will be singing. Frank Carter, a very talented concert pianist, arranger, and composer, is the Director of Arts & Music at Good Shepherd United Methodist in WPB, and has again composed the cantata for the Okeechobee Community Choir as he did for Christmas. Nicolle Wood will again share her unique talents as our inspiring narrator. A variety of musical styles will be included in the concert. Singers from the audience will be invited to join the choir in singing the final selection, Handel's Hallelujah! Chorus. A love offering will be taken to cover advertising costs. For more information, call Sandy at 863-634-7714.

### BBQ dinner for Chobee Steelers at Martha's House

On Friday, **March 30**, Martha's House Outreach will sponsor a barbecue chicken dinner to benefit the Chobee Steelers Steel Drum Band, at 4134 U.S. 441 N., from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., for a \$7 donation. Call 863-763-2893 for your tickets. Will deliver with 10 or more orders.

### Church features gospel singers

There is a gospel sing at the Seventh Day Christian Church, at 912 N.W. Park St. and Hwy. 70 West, at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, **March 30**. Featuring: The Cannon Land Gospel Singers.

### Barbecue benefits Special Olympics

The Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) will host a barbecue Friday, **March 30**, to benefit Special Olympics and the OCSO Relay for Life team. Gilbert Snapper, 315 S. Parrott Ave., will host the event from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. The cost is \$8 per plate and the menu will consist of one-fourth of a chicken, baked beans, cole slaw, roll and dessert. For advanced tickets, or to schedule a delivery, contact Michele or Ronda at 863-763-3117.

### County coalition to discuss lake

The next meeting of the County Coalition for Responsible Management of Lake Okeechobee, St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee Estuaries and Lake Worth Lagoon will be held on Friday, **March 30**, at 10 a.m. at the Judge William L. Hendry Courtroom of the Okeechobee County Courthouse, 304 N.W. Second St.

### Pet Rescue hosts its first Spring Festival

Humane Society Pet Rescue will host its first "Fun and Frolic" Spring Festival on Saturday, **March 31**, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Have your four-legged friend or child be an artist for the day, with water-based paint and canvas using paw prints or hand prints. Or, make an Easter bonnet and have their picture taken with the Easter Buddy! Enjoy free hotdogs and chips and soda, cotton candy and more surprises. Pet Rescue is located at 1203 Hwy. 98, N. (next to the Livestock Market.)

### Rotary plans L.O.S.T. Ride

Anyone interested in cycling or walking is invited to ninth annual L.O.S.T. Ride on **March 31**, at 8 a.m. The L.O.S.T. (Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail) is a great trek for people of all ages, skills and abilities. With rides of 12, 20, 40 and 54 miles as well as a 5K walk there is something for everyone. The L.O.S.T. trail itself is world-renowned for its stunning vistas and numerous forms of wildlife. It has become a world-wide destination for bird-watching and world class fishing. This great fundraising event promises to be fun for all. All entrants are provided a goody-bag with a commemorative t-shirt and much more. Also, there is a BBQ meal provided afterwards for all entrants as well as a 50/50 and a raffle with a of ton of great prizes. All proceeds benefit the charities of the Rotary Club of Okeechobee. For more information visit [www.okeechobeerotary.org](http://www.okeechobeerotary.org) or email [OkeechobeeRotary@live.com](mailto:OkeechobeeRotary@live.com) or call 928-4-ROTARY.

### Softball tourney benefits scholarship

The annual coed softball tournament in memory of Devon Venables (June 15, 1989 - Aug. 1, 2009) will be held **March 31** at the Adult Softball Fields in Okeechobee starting at 8 a.m. The \$250 registration fee is to be paid at the field. Bring your own balls 44 Core-ISA Rules. Brackets will be determined by number of teams registered. All proceeds will go towards the Devon Venables Memorial Scholarship. Donations can be made directly to the Okeechobee Education Foundation with a notation in the "memo" of your check "Devon Venables Memorial Scholarship." For information contact: Kim Hilliard 863-634-3620 or Jill Rogers 863-634-0870.

### Women of the Moose to honor Kathy Baker with ceremony

Okeechobee Chapter Women Of The Moose will hold their Green Cap Activities Afternoon celebrating their own Junior Graduate Regent, Kathy Baker, on Sunday, April 1. The ceremony will start at 2 p.m. with a reception to follow at the Moose Lodge located at 159 N.W. 36th St.

### Freedom Outreach Ministry hosting April 1 yard sale

A yard sale will be held by the Freedom Outreach Ministry, 912 N.W. Second St., (two blocks West of the Meat Shoppe on Second St.) Sunday, **April 1**, beginning at 9 a.m. Furniture, electronics, tools, clothing, toys, knick-knacks, home accessories, and more.

### Cypress Eagles to host Sunday dinner

On Sunday, April 1, from 1-5 p.m., the Cypress Hut Eagles will be having a Fried Chicken Dinner. \$6. per dinner. All proceeds go to Community Charity Fund. Public Welcome.

### REA plans to meet April 2

The Okeechobee Retired Educator's Association (OREA) will be meeting on Monday, **April 2**, beginning at 11:15 a.m. in the meeting room of Beef O'Brady's. Any retired educator is encouraged to attend. We will be having the drawing for our Kindle Fire raffle, Walmart gift card and purses at this meeting. The funds from this raffle will be used to fund our OHS scholarship.

### Easter services planned

The Okeechobee Ministerial Association will host an Easter Sunrise Service on Sunday, **April 8**, from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. at the Okeechobee Lock 7 Pier (where U.S. 441 meets State Road 78). The services will include congregational singing and special music by the Okeechobee Community Choir Men's Quartet. Donations will be accepted for Faith Farm ministries. Participants are encouraged to bring their own chairs, blankets, coffee and hot chocolate.

### 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. We now provide pillowcases to St. Mary's, Palms West and Lakeside Hospital in Belle Glade. The next ConKerr Cancer "sit & sew" will be held on Tuesday, **April 3**, 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 child-friendly fabric and sew with other ladies in our community who want to help make a difference to a sick child. For more information, please call Joan at 863- 467-0290.

### Hospice hosts monthly yard sale

Hospice of Okeechobee will be having their next yard sale on **April 4 and 5**. Hospice of Okeechobee is currently having weekly Grief and Loss Groups, Tuesdays at 10 a.m. and Thursdays at 5:15 p.m.

### Living with Diabetes presentation planned

Living With Diabetes will be presented by Wanda Haas, RN CDE at Grand Oaks Assisted Living Community, 203 S.E. Secnd St., on Wednesday, **April 4**, at 1:30 p.m. The presentation will be given in the Center's Activities Room. This seminar is offered by the Visiting Nurses Association.

### Healthy Start Coalition to meet

The Board of Directors of the Okeechobee Healthy Start Coalition will meet on Wednesday, **April 4**, at 11:30 a.m., in their office, located at 575 S.W. 28th St. in the New Endeavor High School Building. This meeting is open to the public. The Okeechobee Healthy Start Coalition is part of a statewide network of coalitions responsible for planning and implementing services for pregnant women and infants. The Okeechobee Healthy Start Coalition is made up of citizens interested in promoting healthy families and healthy outcomes for babies in Okeechobee. For more information about the Coalition, please contact Executive Director, Kay Begin, at the Coalition office, 863-462-5877.

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# Alert neighbor alerts deputies to burglary

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News



**Tom Douglas Hoover**

Thanks to the help of a concerned neighbor deputies were able to thwart a burglary and arrest a local man at the scene.

Tom Douglas Hoover, 23, N.W. 304th St., was arrested Monday, March 26, on felony charges of burglary, grand theft auto, criminal mischief and possession of burglary tools. He was also charged with trespass, a misdemeanor.

Okeechobee County Jail records indicate that Hoover is being held there on \$31,000 bond.

An arrest report by Deputy Cari Arnold, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), stated that Hoover was caught inside the fenced compound of a local automotive repair business. In fact, stated the deputy, Hoover was caught inside a Ford pickup.

According to the deputy's report, a neighbor heard glass breaking and some noises at the business around 9:18 p.m. so they contacted the sheriff's office. When Deputy Arnold arrived at the scene she checked different doors and windows at the business and they all seemed secure.

But when she approached the fenced area where some vehicles were sitting she

heard a vehicle running. She was then able to determine that it was the diesel engine in the Ford pickup she heard, her report stated.

Deputy Arnold then stated she saw a man lean up from under the pickup's steering wheel.

The deputy drew her weapon and told the man to get out of the truck and walk towards her. However, after he got out of the truck he ran to the fence and tried to escape by climbing it, the report stated.

But his alleged escape attempt came to an abrupt halt when he saw the neighbor with his dog standing on the other side of the fence.

The deputy said Hoover had apparently used a hammer to break out the window in the passenger-side door. Then, once inside the 2002 truck, he dismantled the steering column with two screwdrivers and started the vehicle, added Deputy Arnold.

The business owner estimated the damages to the truck at \$1,250.

When Deputy Arnold asked Hoover why was trying to take the truck, he reportedly said: "I wanted to get home."

The report indicates that a hammer and two screwdrivers were found inside the pickup.

## 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).

- Christopher Jermaine Allen, 32, Fort Pierce, was arrested March 27 by Deputy Greg Popovich on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with violation of probation - possession of cocaine with intent to sell/deliver and violation of probation - sale of cocaine. He is being held without bond.

- Tavares L. Whitehead, 34, N.E. 13th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested March 27 by Sergeant Dawn Wendt on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with violation of probation - possession of hydrocodone, violation of probation - possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and violation of probation - driving under the influence. He is being held without bond.

- Taylor Ross Osceola, 21, Josie Billie Ave., Hollywood, was arrested March 27 by Deputy Greg Popovich on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with violation

of probation - burglary of a dwelling. He is being held without bond.

- Brandy McKinney, 25, N.E. 138th St., Okeechobee, was arrested March 28 by Deputy Greg Popovich on an Okeechobee County warrant charging her with violation of probation - possession of methamphetamine and violation of probation - possession of marijuana under 20 grams. She is being held without bond.

- Joseph Daniel Miley, 57, N.E. Seventh St., Okeechobee, was arrested March 28 by Deputy Corporal Aric Majere on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with the felony of driving while license suspended - permanently revoked. His bond was set at \$5,000.

- Cesar Aguilar Hernandez, 28, U.S. 441 S.E., was arrested March 28 by Trooper T.D. Burk on a felony charge of fraud - possession of similitude identification card (two counts) and a misdemeanor charge of no valid driver's license. His bond was set at \$10,400.

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

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Special to the Okeechobee News/Judy Jones

## Central Elementary students participate in Science Olympics

Students participated in the second annual Science Olympics at Central Elementary. The events were coordinated by Mrs. J. Jones (Science Chairperson) who teaches second grade at Central. Each group of students was given a specific hands-on activity relative to their grade level curriculum. Supplies and directions were distributed to each classroom, the day of the competition, as to be fair to all. Prior knowledge and higher leveled thinking skills were essential for completing their task. Kindergarten built paper cup towers; first grade made aluminum boats to discover displacement; second grade built marshmallow towers, testing engineering; third grade built/launched rockets for propulsion; and, fourth grade made marshmallow fliers, to test force. Students competed first in a classroom competition, where first, second and third place ribbons were awarded. The first place winner in each classroom advanced to the final competition against others in their grade level. First place winners received a science medallion presented by Mr. Paulson, principal of Central Elementary.



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## Sports News in Brief

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

- Okeechobee High School's baseball team struggled on offense as they fell to South Fork 3-1 Tuesday night in Tropical Farms. Tyler Finney scored the Brahms only run on a passed ball in the third inning. Starting pitcher Timmy Farrell threw a strong game for Okeechobee (7-8) as he pitched into the sixth inning. Farrell had just one bad inning as the Bulldogs strung together some hits in the fifth to score all three runs. Brad Coleman had a double for Okeechobee. Okeechobee had five hits in the game. Christian Crews pitched 2/3rds of an inning of scoreless relief.

"We only had one bad inning. Unfortunately we couldn't answer back and respond on offense," Brahman Coach Jeff Blackstone said, "We are still working and trying to improve."

- The Brahms played at John Carroll on Wednesday night and host Martin County on Friday. They also scheduled a make up game with Sebastian River due to a rain out earlier this month. The teams will play on April 4 at 6 p.m. at Brahman field.

- The Lady Brahman flag football team fell at Seminole Ridge 34-0 on Tuesday night. Brooke Kelly threw for 218 yards and five touchdowns for the Hawks, (3-0).

- The OHS tennis team scheduled their annual banquet for April 12, at 6 pm at the OkeechobeeHigh School cafeteria.

- Okeechobee Parks & Recreation is seeking softball officials for the adult slowpitch softball league. Games are Monday-Friday between 7-10 p.m. starting April 16. Pay is set at \$15 per game. Those with a current ISA, ASA, NSA (or equivalent) certification shall receive an additional \$5 per game. An ISA umpire certification clinic will be offered prior to season. Please call 863-763-6950 for more information.

- Saturday, March 31, is the first 'Worth Baseball' Golf Scramble at the Okeechobee Golf & Country Club. Money will be used to support the 12 and under Worth Baseball team's trip to Cooperstown, N.Y. this summer. The event starts at 8 a.m. You may sign-up on the day of the tournament. Call 863-634-7841 with for information. Prizes will include free rounds of Golf for the winning team at an exclusive club in Indian River County. There will be Raffles for two new Hybrid clubs. Youth players are welcome with adult partners - bring your son/daughter.

- The Okeechobee County Recreation Department will hold registration for the Shockwaves competitive swimming team on April 15 and 16 at the Sports Complex Pool, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$15 for the league fee and \$60 for the team fee. This is a competitive swim league for ages 5-18 practice is held three days a week in the afternoons until summer and then goes to five days a week with morning practice. Meets are held on Saturdays. The team travels to meets in other counties and to the regional finals.

# Organization helps Okeechobee's disabled

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

"What we do makes a difference," said Angela Van Etton, "but there is so much more to be done."

Ms. Van Etton is coordinator for Treasure Coast Services for the Coalition for Independent Living Options (CILO). She and her two staff members serve Martin, St. Lucie, Okeechobee and Indian River counties providing a wide variety of free services to persons with disabilities.

The organization, which is a member of the Collaborative Council of Okeechobee, helps people with disabilities file for Social Security benefits, MEDICAID benefits and they assist in fair housing issues. They help people register to vote. While the CILO cannot provide financial assistance, they can refer clients to other organizations that can. They provide training in disability sensitivity and identity theft to various other groups. The organization provides classes in parenting special needs children. They coordinate with other organizations that provide needed services to their clients such as food stamps, mental health services, medical services and support groups.

Among her many duties Mary Verga op-

erates the equipment lending closet which lends out such things as wheelchairs and walkers. She also teaches class once a week at the Welcome House in Okeechobee on independent living skills.

Wendy K. Holcombe, crime victim practitioner, helps clients with disabilities deal with the court system. Some people are unfamiliar with the court system and are intimidated by being in court. Ms. Holcombe understands the court system and is available to attend court and explain to the clients what is happening. She can also help clients file for any compensation due to them as a victim of crime.

The CILO program has been in Palm Beach County for seven years. It was established in October in 2010 on the Treasure Coast. The organization is always in need of financial assistance. They are continually applying for grants to expand their services. To find out more about CILO or to apply for services call 772-878 3500 or go to [www.cilo.org](http://www.cilo.org).

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

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## Descuentos en Servicio de Teléfono Disponibles para Clientes de CenturyLink

La Comisión de Servicios Públicos de Florida ha designado a CenturyLink como un Proveedor de Telecomunicaciones Elegible dentro de su área de servicio con fines de servicio universal. Las tarifas del servicio básico local de CenturyLink para líneas de teléfono residencial son \$18.80 al mes y para servicios de negocios son \$26.50 a \$31.00 al mes. Las tarifas específicas se proporcionan a solicitud.

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Si usted vive en un área de servicio de CenturyLink, por favor llame al 1-800-201-4099 o visite [centurylink.com/lifeline](http://centurylink.com/lifeline) si tiene alguna pregunta, o para solicitar una aplicación para el programa Lifeline.

\*Programa Internet Basics de CenturyLink - Sólo para clientes residenciales que califiquen tras cumplir con los requisitos de nivel de ingresos o de elegibilidad para la participación en el programa, y requiere permanecer elegible durante el periodo completo de la oferta. La primera factura incluirá los cargos por el primer mes completo de servicio facturado por adelantado, cargos prorrateados por servicio a partir de la fecha de la instalación hasta la fecha de la factura, y cargos y tarifas de una sola vez como se ha descrito anteriormente. Los clientes que califiquen pueden mantener este programa durante un máximo de 60 meses después de la activación del servicio siempre que el cliente mantenga su elegibilidad durante ese tiempo. La tarifa de Internet de Alta Velocidad indicada de \$9.95/mes aplica durante los primeros 12 meses de servicio (después de lo cual la tarifa se revertirá a \$14.95/mes durante los siguientes 48 meses de servicio), y requiere un contrato a término de 12 meses. El cliente debe rentar un módem/router de CenturyLink por un cargo mensual adicional o comprar un módem/router de CenturyLink por un cargo de una sola vez, y aplica un cargo de una sola vez por activación de Internet de Alta Velocidad. Un cargo único por instalación profesional (si es seleccionada por el cliente) y un cargo de una sola vez por envío y manejo se aplican a los clientes de un módem/router. General - Servicios no disponibles en todas partes. CenturyLink puede cambiar o cancelar los servicios o sustituirlos por servicios similares a su entera discreción y sin previo aviso. Oferta, planes y tarifas indicadas sujetos a cambio y pueden variar según el área de servicio. Un depósito puede ser requerido. Aplican restricciones adicionales. Términos y Condiciones - Todos los productos y servicios indicados se rigen por las tarifas, términos de servicio, o términos y condiciones publicados en [centurylink.com](http://centurylink.com). Impuestos, Cargos y Sobrecargos - Impuestos, cargos y sobrecargos aplicables incluyen un cargo por el Servicio Universal del proveedor, sobrecargos de recuperación de costos del proveedor, cargos locales y estatales que varían por área, y ciertos sobrecargos dentro del estado. Los cargos por recuperación no son impuestos o cargos por uso exigidos por el gobierno. Impuestos, cargos y sobrecargos se aplican sobre tarifas con una base mensual estándar, no promocional.



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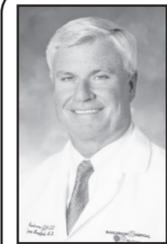
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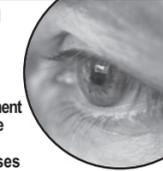
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## Bill Casian Lost 33 pounds in 30 Days!

By Bill Casian Testimonial with Physicians Weight Loss Centers fantastic...better than I did 10 years ago! It has changed my lifestyle and the way I eat. You don't have to "diet"

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Submitted Photo/Physicians Weight Loss Centers  
Bill Casian, right, lost 33 pounds in 30 days! Also pictured is Connie Lowe, owner of Physicians Weight Loss.

forever, you just have to "cook and eat healthier!" So if you would like to lose a few pounds and get healthier, I highly recommend Physicians Weight Loss Centers.

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# OHS Lady Brahmans flag football team blanks Glades Central, 25-0

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

Kyla Hargraves threw for 228 yards and four touchdowns and Paige McCrary caught two touchdown passes as the Lady Brahman flag football team defeated Glades Central 25-0 at home on Wednesday.

Maci Thomas added a 77 yard touchdown reception and E.J. Edwards grabbed a 41 yard touchdown pass for the Lady Brahmans (2-1).

The defense played well as they held the Lady Raiders to under 100 yards in offense. They also had three interceptions in the contest.

McCrary had three catches for 70 yards and Thomas had three catches for 91 yards. Jaryaca Baker had an interception, a sack, a tackle for loss, and a pass deflection for the defense. Sha'Dajia Williams had a pair of QB sacks. Destiny Nunez had two interceptions. Aubrey Robertson had an interception nullified by a defensive penalty. Morgan Crawford had two pass deflections.

Coach Bruce Jahner said he felt the offense really clicked and Hargraves did a good job picking out open receivers. He said the team really wanted to play well after a loss at Seminole Ridge Tuesday, 34-0.

"We kind of broke down mentally last night. We regrouped tonight and played a lot better," he added.

He also praised his defense as they put a lot of pressure on the Raider QB. The Raiders were forced to leave three people in the backfield to stop the pressure which limited the amount of receivers who could run routes downfield.

"We pretty much put the clamps on them. We would give them a few yards but no big plays and eventually they would either punt or throw an interception," Jahner said.

Thomas said the team was anxious to get back on the field after a poor effort at Seminole Ridge. She said the girls were down on themselves and weren't ready to lose another game.

"I feel like we did really well. We definitely played a lot harder tonight. I feel we have a very strong offense with a lot of tall girls. We also have a good QB who works hard," she said.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
OHS Lady Brahmans Flag Football player, Brooke Snyder (left) tries to knock down a pass while on defense against Glades Central at Wednesday's home game where they walked away with a shutout game, 25-0. The next home game will be held on Tuesday, April 3 against Palm Beach Central.

Thomas might have broken a school record for longest flag football play on the 80 yard field. She said she really didn't know she hadn't lost her flag after she caught a short pass in the flat at around the 10 yard line.

"I didn't know (if I was tackled), I'm glad I had my teammates around. I caught the ball and they said, 'go, go, go' so I kept running and didn't turn around," she explained.

Thomas and the flag team played at Royal Palm Beach on Thursday. They have another home game on Tuesday, April 3 against Palm Beach Central.

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# Freshman Campus students celebrate Heritage Day



Special to the Okeechobee News/OFC

On March 16, the students, faculty, and staff members of the Okeechobee Freshman Campus celebrated the student body's rich and diverse cultural heritages: African American, Florida Cowboy, Latino, and Seminole. Students check out Leatherworking as one of the displays set up at the event.



Special to the Okeechobee News/OFC

Students get a look at Early Florida Pioneer antiques and artifacts (left) while Cayli Watt gets her face painted by Arnecia Murphy at the African American station.



Special to the Okeechobee News/OFC

Victor Nunez and Jorge Garcia (above left) help our DJ at the Latin American station

## Spring softball registration and signup is now open

Parks & Recreation Dept. is accepting registration for the Spring Adult Softball League. The deadline is 5 p.m. on Thursday, April 5. League fees are: Men-\$375, Women-\$325 and Co-ed-\$325. There is an organizational meeting for all interested players, managers and officials on Wednesday, March 28, at 7 p.m. at the Civic Center on Hwy. 98 N. Registration is conducted at the Recreation Dept. at 640 N.W. 27th Lane (Sports Complex). For more information, call 863-763-6950.

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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.

When you want something sold, advertise in the classifieds.

**Merchandise**  
For more listings, go to [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

## Collectibles

**WANTED - Highwaymen**  
Oil Paintings. H. Newton, A. Hair, R.A. McClen-don, G. Buckner, 1715 Fleet Treasure Coins. Big \$\$  
Call 772-562-5567

## Wanted To Buy

**CASH FOR CARS** - No Title Needed, Any Condition. FREE TOWING. (863)484-2012

Your next job could be in today's classifieds. Did you look for it?

**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](http://www.newszap.com)

## Farm Feed/Products

**Alfalfa Hay** for sale  
70lb. bales  
\$16.00 a piece.  
Call 863-634-7051

## Horses

Unable to ride, had a horse but no longer. We have 30 Morgan's and training facility for barrel riding, obstacles, mounted shooting, pole bending. Need riders with experience, desperate to ride and train with no horse of their own you can pick a horse to train or play with, need you on **w e e k e n d s .** 561-386-5283 text in evening with info and experience.

**READING A NEWSPAPER MAKES YOU A MORE INFORMED AND INTERESTING PERSON.**  
**No wonder newspaper readers are more popular!**

## FOR RENT Rentals

For more listings, go to [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

## Apartments

**2 BR, 1BA** - apartment, \$550/mo + utils. Located in city, NW section. Call John (863)697-0413 or (863)357-8769

**DIXIE RANCH** - 1br apt. completely furnished with utilities. \$500/mo, 1st, last & sec. (863)763-7032

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

**KINGS BAY** Nice Twnhs. 2 br/1ba, Tiled floors. Incls Water. \$675/mo. + dep. Pool & Tennis Court. 863-697-6428 or 561-358-8128

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

## Condos/Townhouses Rent

**Hotel/Motel Alt.** - 1br, 1ba. Fully furnished, ground floor, tile, pool, & boat dock. Weekly/Monthly/Yearly rates avail. 863-634-0663.

**TAYLOR CREEK** - 2br, 1ba, fully furnished, incls water & power. Ground floor, pool and dock, tile, W/D, Avail April 1st. \$850/mo, (863)634-0663

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

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

## Houses - Rent

**FOR RENT: ONE & TWO BEDROOM FULLY FURNISHED DUPLEX OR MOBILE HOMES. EITHER IN KINGS BAY WITH HEATED SWIMMING POOL - TENNIS COURT - GARAGE AND WASHER AND DRYER OR WATER FRONT ON RIM CANAL OR KISSIMMEE RIVER, AVAILABLE BY THE DAY-WEEK-MONTH OR YEARLY LEASE. RATES VARY BY LENGTH OF STAY. MOST MAJOR CREDIT CARDS EXCEPTED. CALL TODAY (863)467-4371**

Looking for a place to hang your hat? Look no further than the classifieds.

## Office Space Rent

**OFFICE SPACE AND STORE FRONT FOR RENT: DOWNTOWN OKEECHOBEE**  
PARK STREET OFFICE SUITES LLC.  
STARTING @ \$350.00/MONTH UPSTAIRS & \$1500.00/MONTH DOWNSTAIRS, 1200 SQ FT  
STORE FRONT  
CALL 863-634-7622

**Real Estate**  
For more listings, go to [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

## Lots - Sale

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

## Lots - Sale

**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

**Mobile Homes**  
For more listings, go to [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

## Mobile Home Lots

**LOT FOR RENT:** Big "O" RV PARK: Yearly only. Avail. May 1st \$225 mo. (863)357-3830

## Mobile Home Rent

**1BR 1Bath** fully furnished from dishes to linens... DWMH for rent \$650. + electric. Boat Ramp/marina with access to Kissimmee River  
863-763-8548

**\$695 - Steal**  
3/2 Furnished Double wide Built in 05, Mint Condition, City Water and Sewer. 1st, Last and Credit Check  
Call 863-801-1739

## Mobile Home Sale

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

**PALM HARBOR HOMES**  
Red Tag Sale  
Over 10 Stock Units Must Go. Save up to \$35K  
800-622-2832 ext 210

## Mobile Home Sale

**CASABLANCA PARK** - 3BR, 1.5BA, Fully furnished, W/D, screen room, Florida room, newly remodeled and painted. \$16,000 OBO (219)384-3407

**Furnished Mobile**  
Home with dishwasher, Fl. room, roof-over, 2 yard sheds, quiet 55+ park in town, great neighbors.  
Call 467-7996

**TREASURE Island** - Nice 2005 Doublewide w/lot. Large 3BR/2BA w/fireplace & fenced back yard. \$89,900 Will lease \$850 month. Nice 2006 Singlewide w/lot. 3BR/2BA \$69,900 Will lease \$750 mo. 863-634-9119

**Recreation**  
For more listings, go to  
[www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

## Boats

**Inflatable Boat**  
9' 3 Person, 705lb capacity, 9.9hp, solid wood deck, as new never in water.  
Google SEABO MS-81275  
Cost \$1,150 Sell \$550.00  
772-359-9550

## Campers/RVs

**36.6' Coachmen**  
Santara, 49K miles, 1 slide, Dual Air, Tag Axle. Will Consider Trade for Buildable Lot.  
\$17,000  
Call 863-467-2550

**Wanted all Travel Trailers, Motor Homes and Fifth Wheels.** Any Condition, Cash paid on the spot.  
Call 941-347-7171

## RV Space Rent

**RV lot** for rent \$400. Sewer, electric and water included. Boat ramp/marina with access to Kissimmee River  
863-763-8548

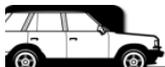
**RV Lot** in Sportsman Village, Moore Haven. 55+, Clubhouse, Pool, Lots of Activities. Beautiful Large Lot \$250 mo. Plus Electricity  
Call 239-218-6079

## Fifth Wheels

**2006 King** of the Road 5th Wheel, 3 axles, washer & dryer, ice maker, vacuum system, auto satellite locator.  
Price?  
618-727-2240 or  
618-727-0279

## Sports Vehicles/ATVs

**1997 SeaDoo** 'speedster', twin 85 hp rotax, with trailer, white, yellow, purple color scheme -- seats 5, rear trunk storage, and in good condition. Was used on Lake Michigan before moving to Lake Okeechobee (Fresh water use) \$3900 863-763-8548



## Automotive

For more listings, go to  
[www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

## Vans

**1997 CHEVROLET ASTRO VAN** - White cargo-style van in good condition. Approx 145k miles. \$2,000 /or best offer (863)801-6344



## Public Notices

For more listings, go to  
[www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

## Public Notice

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the City Council of the City of Okeechobee will meet in Regular Session on **Tuesday, April 3, 2012, at 6:00 p.m.**, at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Rm 200, Okeechobee, Florida. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE AND BE ADVISED that no stenographic record by a certified court reporter will be made of the foregoing meeting. Accordingly, any person who may seek to appeal any decision involving the matters noticed herein will be responsible for making a verbatim record of the testimony and evidence at said meeting upon which any appeal is to be based. Please contact City Administration at 863-763-3372, or website [www.cityofokeechobee.com](http://www.cityofokeechobee.com), to obtain a copy of the agenda.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the City Clerk's Office at 863-763-3372 for assistance.  
by: James E. Kirk, Mayor  
Lane Gamioeta, CMC, City Clerk  
413744 ON 3/30/2012

## Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners RFP 2012-13

Okeechobee County hereby requests PROPOSALS from qualified bidders for the rehabilitation of one (1) single-family home located in unincorporated Okeechobee County as a part of the State Housing Initiative Partnership (S.H.I.P.) program.

Proposals are due no later than 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Monday, April 23, 2012 and delivered or mailed to: Okeechobee County SHIP Program, 304 NW 2nd Street Room 105, Okeechobee, FL 34972 (the County will not assume any responsibility for mail being received on time). Any and all proposals received after this time and date will not be opened or considered.

Proposals should be submitted in separate sealed envelopes marked State Housing Initiative Partnership (S.H.I.P.) Program - LOUIS

For specific project information contact: Stephany DuPree at (863) 763-9312 or by fax at (863) 763-0118 or email [sdupree@co.okeechobee.fl.us](mailto:sdupree@co.okeechobee.fl.us). Bids will be opened at 3:05 p.m. on April 23, 2012, in the BOCC Clerk's office Room 222 at the above address.

**A MANDATORY meeting for review of this project will be held on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the property located at 1837 NE 2nd Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972.** Any firm who is not in attendance at this address by 10:05 a.m. will be unable to bid.

The County reserves the right to waive formalities or informalities in proposals, to reject any and all proposals, or to negotiate further with any or all proposers and accepts no responsibility for the expense of preparation or delivery of proposals to the County. Okeechobee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer actively seeking Minority Contractor participation and promotes Fair Housing.

Margaret Garrard Helton  
Okeechobee County Commission  
413673 ON 3/30/2012

## Post Your News



The 24-Hour Community 'Wire Service.' Post press releases or news items or catch up on the latest postings.

## Have a website? Get a free link!

Every organization, school, place of worship, sports team, writer/blogger and local business is invited to request a free link at [newszap.com](http://newszap.com). It's a community service that can drive visitors to your website!

## Public Notice

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

2012TD021

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that **JOSEPH ZACHARY GAZZA** the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No: **2157** Year of Issuance: **June-01-2009**Description of Property: **CONNERS HIGHLANDS LOT 6 BLOCK 27**

**1-09-37-35-0020-00270-0060**  
Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida

Name in which assessed:  
**LARS H ROLFSEN**

Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, Jury Assembly Room, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida **10:00 A.M.**, on the **10th day of May, 2012**.  
SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT  
Okeechobee County, Florida  
/s/ Robin R. Parrish  
Deputy Clerk

**NOTICE REGARDING THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990;** In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administration no later than seven days prior to the proceeding at 250 NW Country Club Drive, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986, 1.772.807.4370 within two working days of your receipt of this notice. IF YOU ARE HEARING IMPAIRED CALL 1.800.955.8771; IF YOU ARE VOICE IMPAIRED CALL 1.800.955.8770. 412420 ON 3/30/4/6,13,20/2012

## NOTICE

On **April 14, 2012**, there will be sold to the highest bidder  
At the premises of SABAL PALM SELF STORAGE, 14040 Hwy 441 N, Okeechobee, Florida 34972 (Landlord) the contents of storage spaces rented by Tenants, for failure to pay rent due on the spaces. Sealed bids will be accepted until the day of the sale. The contents of the spaces consist of personal property including household goods, furnishings, clothing, boxes, bags, and totes, and other miscellaneous property. The names of the tenants whose property will be sold are:  
1. Lisa McMurtry, Unit #C-CC16  
Minimum Bid \$280

Sabal Palm Self Storage  
863-357-1110  
413636 ON 3/30/4/6/2012

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

2012TD020

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that **WILLIAM B BREWER** the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No: **714** Year of Issuance: **May-30-2008**Description of Property: **LOT P OF TRACT 14 E1/2 OF E1/2 OF S1/2 OF S1/2 OF TRACT 14 22 345 33E**

**1-22-34-33-0A00-00014-P000**  
Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida

Name in which assessed:  
**PAULINE P HAMM  
RAYMOND H HAMM**

Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, Jury Assembly Room, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida **10:00 A.M.**, on the **10th day of May, 2012**.  
SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT  
Okeechobee County, Florida  
/s/ Robin R. Parrish  
Deputy Clerk

**NOTICE REGARDING THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990;** In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administration no later than seven days prior to the proceeding at 250 NW Country Club Drive, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986, 1.772.807.4370 within two working days of your receipt of this notice. IF YOU ARE HEARING IMPAIRED CALL 1.800.955.8771; IF YOU ARE VOICE IMPAIRED CALL 1.800.955.8770. 412419 OK 3/30/4/6,13,20/2012

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

2012TD005

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that **NEAL KEYS TRUSTEE** the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No: **1142** Year of Issuance: **June-01-2009**Description of Property: **LOT G OF TRACT 27 W1/2 OF E1/2 OF S1/2 OF N1/2 OF TRACT 27 17 345 33E**

**1-29-34-33-0A00-00027-G000**  
Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida

Name in which assessed:  
**JAMES R REYNOLDS**

Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, Jury Assembly Room, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida **10:00 A.M.**, on the **12th day of April, 2012**.  
SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT  
Okeechobee County, Florida  
/s/ Robin R. Parrish  
Deputy Clerk

**NOTICE REGARDING THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990;** In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administration no later than seven days prior to the proceeding at 250 NW Country Club Drive, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986, 1.772.807.4370 within two working days of your receipt of this notice. IF YOU ARE HEARING IMPAIRED CALL 1.800.955.8771; IF YOU ARE VOICE IMPAIRED CALL 1.800.955.8770. 410732 ON 3/16,23,30/4/6/2012

## Public Notice

## LEGAL NOTICE

A public auction of stored personal property, from **Okeechobee Store-N-Lock** to be conducted at **4129 Hwy 441 South, Okeechobee, FL** will be held to pay unpaid storage fees (pursuant to Section 83.806, Florida Statutes). Public Auction to be held on **March 31, 2012** beginning at **10:00 am**. The personal property in the following units will be auctioned. All payments must be made in full, CASH ONLY, by the date/time of auction.

**JOHN & SHANDA RAINWATER**, Unit #44  
**DEBRA S. BURNEY**, Unit #49  
**JONATHAN A. DRYDEN**, Unit #52  
**VICKY HAMNER**, Unit #87  
**JOSEPH PAPASSO IV**, Unit #91  
**DAWN PRESSLEY**, Unit #136  
**AMANDA ADAMS**, Unit #124  
413076 ON 3/23,30/2012

Shop here first!  
The classified ads

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

## Public Notice

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

2012TD018

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that **JOSEPH ZACHARY GAZZA** the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No: **101** Year of Issuance: **June-01-2009**Description of Property: **LOTS K & L OF TRACT 17 E/2 OF W1/2 OF N1/2 OF S1/2 OF TRACT 17 & W1/2 OF W1/2 OF N1/2 OF S1/2 OF TRACT 17 09 345 33E**

**1-09-34-33-0A00-00017-K000**  
Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida

Name in which assessed:  
**DELSA LOPEZ COLLAZOS**

Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, Jury Assembly Room, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida **10:00 A.M.**, on the **26th day of April, 2012**.  
SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT  
Okeechobee County, Florida  
/s/ Robin R. Parrish  
Deputy Clerk

**NOTICE REGARDING THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990;** In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administration no later than seven days prior to the proceeding at 250 NW Country Club Drive, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986, 1.772.807.4370 within two working days of your receipt of this notice. IF YOU ARE HEARING IMPAIRED CALL 1.800.955.8771; IF YOU ARE VOICE IMPAIRED CALL 1.800.955.8770. 412007 ON 3/16,23,30; 4/6/2012

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF A COUNTY ORDINANCE

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Board of County Commissioners of Okeechobee County, Florida, will hold a public hearing on **April 12, 2012, at 9:00 A.M.**, in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room (the William L. Hendry Courtroom), at the Okeechobee County Courthouse located at 304 N.W. 2nd Street, Okeechobee, Florida, for the purpose of receiving comments and suggestions in consideration of the adoption of a proposed Ordinance. The title of said proposed Ordinance is:

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE VIII, CONSTRUCTION DESIGN AND IMPROVEMENT STANDARDS, OF THE CODE ORDINANCES OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY; REPLACING SECTION 8.01.00 OF THE OKEECHOBEE COUNTY CODE TO ADOPT NEW OKEECHOBEE COUNTY WIND SPEED DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS; ADDING A NEW SECTION 8.01.01 DEFINING THE LOCATION OF THE APPLICABLE WIND SPEED LINES FOR EACH BUILDING CATEGORY; PROVIDING FOR APPLICABILITY, CODIFICATION, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

A copy of this Notice of Intent will be available for public inspection at the County Administration office, Okeechobee County Courthouse at 304 N.W. 2nd Street, Okeechobee, Florida each week day, Monday through Friday, except holidays between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., beginning on **March 30, 2012**.

If any person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board of County Commissioners with respect to any matter considered at said hearing, that person will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based.

MARGARET GARRARD HELTON, CHAIR  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
413665 ON 3/30/2012

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

2012TD019

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that **JOSEPH ZACHARY GAZZA** the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No: **510** Year of Issuance: **June-01-2009**Description of Property: **LOT G OF TRACT 26 W1/2 OF E1/2 OF S1/2 OF N1/2 OF TRACT 26 17 345 33E**

**1-17-34-33-0A00-00026-G000**  
Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida

Name in which assessed:  
**IRMA EARLEY  
SUSAN OCONNOR**

Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, Jury Assembly Room, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida **10:00 A.M.**, on the **26th day of April, 2012**.  
SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT  
Okeechobee County, Florida  
/s/ Robin R. Parrish  
Deputy Clerk

**NOTICE REGARDING THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990;** In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administration no later than seven days prior to the proceeding at 250 NW Country Club Drive, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986, 1.772.807.4370 within two working days of your receipt of this notice. IF YOU ARE HEARING IMPAIRED CALL 1.800.955.8771; IF YOU ARE VOICE IMPAIRED CALL 1.800.955.8770. 412010 ON 3/16,23,30/4/6/2012

## Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CASE NO. 47-2011-CA-000370

WELLS FARGO BANK N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR CARRINGTON MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST SERIES 2006-NC2 ASSET-BACKED PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
TINDA H. MARS, ET AL.  
Defendants

## NOTICE OF ACTION

To the following Defendant(s):

TINDA H. MARS  
(CURRENT RESIDENCE UNKNOWN)  
Last known address:  
10025 NE 7TH ST,  
OKEECHOBEE, FL 34974  
Additional address:  
12450 NE 26TH AVENUE,  
OKEECHOBEE, FL 34974  
Additional address:  
1200 STATE ROAD 70,  
OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972

UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF TINDA H. MARS  
(CURRENT RESIDENCE UNKNOWN)  
Last known address:  
10025 NE 7TH ST,  
OKEECHOBEE, FL 34974  
Additional address:  
12450 NE 26TH AVENUE,  
OKEECHOBEE, FL 34974  
Additional address:  
1200 STATE ROAD 70,  
OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property:

**PART OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH, RANGE 36 EAST, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE NORTH-WEST CORNER OF SECTION 15 RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 32' 15" EAST ON THE WEST BOUNDARY LINE OF SECTION 15 A DISTANCE OF 2970 FEET; THENCE RUN EAST PARALLEL WITH THE BOUNDARY LINE OF SECTION 15 A DISTANCE OF 1308.45 FEET FOR THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE EAST A DISTANCE OF 165 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 00 DEGREES 32' 15" WEST PARALLEL WITH THE WEST BOUNDARY LINE OF SECTION 15 A DISTANCE OF 264 FEET; THENCE RUN WEST A DISTANCE OF 165 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 32' 15" EAST A DISTANCE OF 264 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. A/K/A 10025 NE 7TH ST, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34974**

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to C. Tyler Loucks, Esq. at VAN NESS LAW FIRM, P.A., Attorney for the Plaintiff, whose address is 1239 E. NEWPORT CENTER DRIVE, SUITE #110, DEERFIELD BEACH, FL 33442, within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice in the OKEECHOBEE NEWS 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. This notice is provided to Administrative Order No. 2065

**It is the intent of the 19th Judicial Circuit to provide reasonable accommodations when requested by qualified persons with disabilities. If you are a persons with a disability who needs an accommodation to participate in a court proceeding or access to a court facility, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact: Court Administration, 250 NW Country Club Drive, Suite 217, Port Saint Lucie, FL 34986; 711, if you are hearing or voice impaired.**

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this 16th day of Feb., 2012.

SHARON ROBERTSON  
CLERK OF COURT  
By: /s/ Linda F. Young  
As Deputy Clerk  
413187 ON 3/23,30/2012

## Post Your Photos

Have a digital camera? Want to share your photos with your friends and the community? Create a gallery of your photos for free at [newszap.com](http://newszap.com). Update it as often as you'd like.



## Post Your Opinion



Have an opinion you want to get off your chest? Introduce a topic for discussion in the Public Issues Forums. Or read what others are saying!

The Ultimate  
Community Website!

**newszap.com**  
Community Links.  
Individual Voices.

**Public Notice**

**Public Notice**

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

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (Department) gives notice of its intent to issue a Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Plan Lake Okeechobee Protection Permit Modification (NEEPP/LOPP) (File No. 0259591-003), in accordance with Section 373.4595 Florida Statutes (F.S.), for operations activities for the existing Phase I (10 cfs) components, and for the construction of the Phase II (20 cfs) and Phase III (30 cfs) expansion components of the Grassy Island Hybrid Wetland Treatment Technology (HWTT) project. The application is available for public inspection during normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, at the Department's Office of Ecosystem Projects, Program Coordination and Regulation Section, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS-24, Tallahassee, Florida, 32399-3000, telephone number (850) 245-3166.

The purpose of the Grassy Island HWTT is to reduce total phosphorus (TP) concentrations in the surface waters from Taylor Creek, which ultimately enter Lake Okeechobee through the S-133 structure. This HWTT Project, along with the other projects in the Lake Okeechobee Phase II Technical Plan, is designed to achieve load reductions consistent with the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for TP developed for Lake Okeechobee by the Department in 2001. The construction of Phase II and III will allow for an increased treatment capacity of 20 cfs and 30 cfs respectively. The Grassy Island HWTT Project is located within the following property descriptions in Okeechobee County: The site is bounded by Taylor Creek to the east and Hillard Road to the west (Section 20, Township 36 South, Range 35 East).

The Department's proposed agency action shall become final unless a timely petition for an administrative hearing is filed pursuant to sections 120.569 and 120.57 of the Florida Statutes before the deadline for filing a petition. The procedures for petitioning for a hearing are set forth below.

A person whose substantial interests are affected by the Department's proposed permitting decision may petition for an administrative proceeding (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 (received) in the Office of General Counsel of the Department at 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station 35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000.

Petitions filed by any persons other than those entitled to written notice under Section 120.63(3) of the Florida Statutes must be filed within 21 days of publication of the notice or receipt of the written notice, whichever occurs first. The petitioner shall mail a copy of the petition to the applicant at the address indicated above, at the time of filing. The failure of any person to file a petition 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 discretion of the presiding officer upon the filing of a motion in compliance with rule 28-106.205 of the Florida Administrative Code.

A petition that disputes the material facts on which the Department's action is based must contain the following information:

- a) The name and address of each agency affected and each agency's file or identification number, if known;
- b) The name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner; the name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner's representative, if any, which shall be the address for service purposes during the course of the proceeding; and an explanation of how the petitioner's substantial interests will be affected by the agency determination;
- c) A statement of when and how the petitioner received notice of the agency decision;
- d) A statement of all disputed issues of material fact. If there are none, the petition must so indicate;
- e) A concise statement of the ultimate facts alleged, 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 on which the Department's action is based shall state that no such facts are in dispute and otherwise shall contain the same information as set forth above, unless modified by rule 28-106.301.

Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the filing of a petition means that the Department's final action may be different from the position taken by it in this notice. Persons whose substantial interests will be affected by any such final decision of the Department on the application have the right to petition to become a party to the proceeding, in accordance with the requirements set forth above. In the event the issuance of this permit is subjected to a request for hearing pursuant to section 120.569 of the F.S., the permittee may, pursuant to section 403.088(2)(g), F.S., move for an order authorizing the interim construction phase of the facility.

Mediation is not available in this proceeding.

Any party to this order has the right to seek judicial review of it under section 120.68, F.S., by filing a notice of appeal under rule 9.110 of the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure with the clerk of the Department in the Office of General Counsel, Mail Station 35, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000, and by filing a copy of the notice of appeal accompanied by the applicable filing fees with the appropriate district court of appeal. The notice of appeal must be filed within thirty days after this order is filed with the clerk of the Department.  
413655 ON 3/30/2012

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Okeechobee Utility Authority will meet in regular session on Tuesday, April 10, 2012 at 8:30 A.M., at the Okeechobee Utility Authority Offices, 100 SW 5th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, any person decides to appeal any decision made by the Authority with respect to such meetings, he or she will need a record of proceedings and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made; which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based. Such person may provide a court reporter, stenographer, or tape recorder for such verbatim record.

BY ORDER OF THE OKEECHOBEE UTILITY AUTHORITY  
John F. Hayford, P.E.  
Executive Director.  
413034 ON 3/30/2012

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**Public Notice**

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CASE NO. 47-2011-CA-000443**

SPRINGLEAF HOME EQUITY, INC. F/K/A AMERICAN GENERAL HOME EQUITY, INC.  
Plaintiff,  
v.  
THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, GRANTEEES, DEVISEES, LIENORS, TRUSTEES, AND CREDITORS OF WILLIAM DANIELS A/K/A WILLIAM EUGENE DANIELS, DECEASED, ET AL.  
Defendants.

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, GRANTEEES, DEVISEES, LIENORS, TRUSTEES, AND CREDITORS OF WILLIAM DANIELS A/K/A WILLIAM EUGENE DANIELS, DECEASED, AND ALL CLAIMANTS, PERSONS OR PARTIES, NATURAL OR CORPORATE, AND WHOSE EXACT LEGAL STATUS IS UNKNOWN, CLAIMING BY THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST WILLIAM DANIELS A/K/A WILLIAM EUGENE DANIELS, DECEASED, OR ANY OF THE HEREIN NAMED OR DESCRIBED DEFENDANTS OR PARTIES CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN AND TO THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED

Current residence unknown, but whose last known address was: 2826 S.E. 36TH AVENUE, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34974

TO: HEATHER D. DORSEY, and all unknown parties claiming by, through, under or against the above named Defendants, who are not known to be dead or alive, whether said unknown parties claim as heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, spouses, or other claimants

Current Residence Unknown, but whose last known address was: 2826 S.E. 36th Avenue UNKNOW, UNKNOW, FL 00000

**YOU ARE NOTIFIED** that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Okeechobee County, Florida, to-wit:  
**LOT 48, TREASURE ISLAND UNIT NO. 2, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 39, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TOGETHER WITH A 2005 FLEETWOOD SINGLEWIDE MOBILE HOME HAVING VIN #GAFLS07A541005C31 AND TITLE #95182422.**

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on DOUGLAS C. ZAHM, P.A. Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 12425 28th Street North, Suite 200, St. Petersburg, FL 33716, within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice of Action, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court at 312 Northwest 3rd Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972, 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 petition. WITNESS my hand and seal of the Court on this 20th day of March, 2012.

Sharon Robertson  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
By: Arlene Nealis  
Deputy Clerk

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES NEEDING A SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING SHOULD CONTACT COURT ADMINISTRATION NOT LATER THAN SEVEN DAYS PRIOR TO THE PROCEEDINGS AT 250 NW COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE, PORT ST. LUCIE, FL 34972 OR CALL 1-772-807-4370 WITHIN TWO WORKING DAYS OF YOUR RECEIPT OF THE NOTICE. IF YOU ARE HEARING IMPAIRED CALL 1-800-955-8771 (TDD); IF YOU ARE VOICE IMPAIRED 1-800-955-8770 (V); VIA RELAY SERVICE.**

**NOTICE**

On April 21, 2012, there will be sold to the highest bidder At the premises of SABAL PALM SELF STORAGE, 14040 Hwy 441 N, Okeechobee, Florida 34972 (Landlord) the contents of storage spaces rented by Tenants, for failure to pay rent due on the spaces. Sealed bids will be accepted until the day of the sale. The contents of the spaces consist of personal property including household goods, furnishings, clothing, boxes, bags, and totes, and other miscellaneous property. The names of the tenants whose property will be sold are:  
**1. Michael Leighton, Unit #C-11**  
Minimum Bid \$350.00

Sabal Palm Self Storage  
863-357-1110  
413747 ON 3/30/4/6/2012

# Law office hosts OKMS Mixer Night

The Law Office of Philip DeBerard, Injury Attorney, 1120 S. Parrott Avenue, stepped up and hosted the February Okeechobee Main Street Mixer. Staff rolled out the Red Carpet and chose the lights, action, and bling of the Hollywood Scene! Over 80 Main Street members and community partners truly enjoyed their opportunity to network with friends and business partners while enjoying the beauty of the historic White House Plaza, built in 1921 and now a historic landmark. Visitors enjoyed a vast array of hors d'oeuvres and drinks catered by Golden Corral as Main Street President Kathleen Shatto introduced Courtney Moyett, Main Street Secretary and a member of the DeBerard team. Courtney thanked the guests for attending then introduced Attorney Philip DeBerard, Bonnie Kinchen from the Okeechobee office and Natasha Pereira and Michelle Churchill from the Stuart office. Attorney DeBerard has been an Injury Attorney for over 30 years and has maintained an office in Okeechobee for over 23 years. His practice deals with personal injury, medical malpractice, nursing home abuse or neglect and a variety of other similar concerns. In addition to his practice, the Law Office has also been very involved in our community. Tickets were then drawn for 95



Special to the Okeechobee News/OKMS  
**Main Street President Kathleen Shatto, MS Volunteer Director Frank DeCarlo, MS Secretary and DeBerard Okeechobee Community Liaison/Marketing Coordinator Courtney Moyett, Attorney Philip DeBerard, DeBerard Stuart Community Liaison/Marketing Coordinator Michelle Churchill, MS Art and Culture Director Bridgette Waldau and DeBerard Senior Litigation Paralegal Bonnie Kinchen.**

prizes contributed by the Law Office and member businesses for several lucky guests. The March Main Street Mixer will be hosted by TD Bank, 1506 S. Parrott Avenue on Thursday, March 29, from 5-7 pm. Okeechobee Main Street welcomes the entire community to monthly mixers. Take

advantage of this opportunity to meet community leaders! For more information contact the Okeechobee Main Street Executive Director Cindy Birdshaw at 863-357-6246 or stop in the Main Street office at 111 Northeast 2nd Street.

# Florida businesses to get free websites

**By Pete Gawda**  
Okeechobee News

On Tuesday, March 27, Governor Rick Scott announced a partnership with Google that would help small businesses in Florida set up a free website.

"Any business in Florida would benefit from this program," said Tara Minton Rowley of the Economic Council of Okeechobee. She said she was amazed to learn that 97 percent of Americans look online for local products or businesses.

"We would promote this if a member didn't have a website," said

Terry Burroughs of the Chamber of Commerce of Okeechobee County. "It makes it real simple," Mr. Burroughs said of the programs offered by Google. He said the governor's program would be perfect for a business starting up. However, he went on to say, "The devil is in the details." Even though the program is advertised as being free he thought there still might be a cost somewhere down the line.

For the next year, participating Florida businesses can go to [www.floridagetonline.com](http://www.floridagetonline.com) to get a free website as well as free tools, training

and resources to help their business succeed online.

"Small businesses are the backbone of Florida's economy," the governor said in the announcement. "This initiative is aimed to help these businesses grow in Florida."

"Once again, Florida is taking the lead to find creative solutions that will help our small businesses grow and create jobs," said Congressman Tom Rooney in a press release.

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

# Florida Trail Association launches outdoors festival

Florida Trail Association, is launching their first ever eco-tourism event of the Northeast Everglades Natural Area (NENA) called the Ocean to Lake Hiking and Outdoor Festival. Starting on March 30 thru April 1 in Jupiter, the weekend of festivities celebrates the outstanding wild lands, wildlife habitat and wildlife that can be found in the region. The festival is advertised for residents, visitors and weekenders from southeast Florida.

The Ocean to Lake Hiking and Outdoor Festival is an exclusive opportunity for nature lovers and outdoor enthusiasts of all ages. Bird-

watching, butterfly watching, hiking, paddling and star gazing are on the menu. Included with the exclusive dinner is Florida's foremost nature photographer Clyde Butcher who will regale the public with his presentation, Florida: Where Water, Earth and Heaven Meets.

Other events for the weekend include: tours of a historic battlefield, kayaking/canoeing, educational workshops, exhibits and visits to Loxahatchee River. The main events will be held in the West Jupiter Community Center and accommodations can be arranged upon registration

set to launch on Feb. 10, at [www.floridatrail.org](http://www.floridatrail.org).

The Florida Trail Association is a nonprofit volunteer organization that protects, maintains, and promotes a network of hiking trails throughout the state, including the unique Florida National Scenic Trail. With its 19 chapters and other partners, it provides educational opportunities to learn about the beauty and importance of conserving Florida. Furthermore, the organization provides meaningful volunteer work and hosts recreational hikes and camping trips for the public.

# Big O Teen Anglers host February tourney

The Feb. 25, tournament for the Big "O" Teen Anglers, Inc. was held out of Lock 7. We had 20 anglers bring 72 fish to the scales with a total weight of 105.89 lbs.

The winners in the 11-14 age group were:

- 1st place - Josh Hiler with 8.79 lbs.;
- 2nd place - Jose Hernandez with 7.67 lbs. and Big Fish of 2.81 lbs.; and,
- 3rd place - Nathen Center with 6.54 lbs.

The winners in the 15-18 age group were:

- 1st place - Drew Wanczak with 10.57 lbs.;
- 2nd place - Ryan Edwards with 9.39 lbs.; and,
- 3rd place - Keith Chamberland with

8.38 lbs.

Big Fish prize went to Ty Riva with 3.33 lbs.

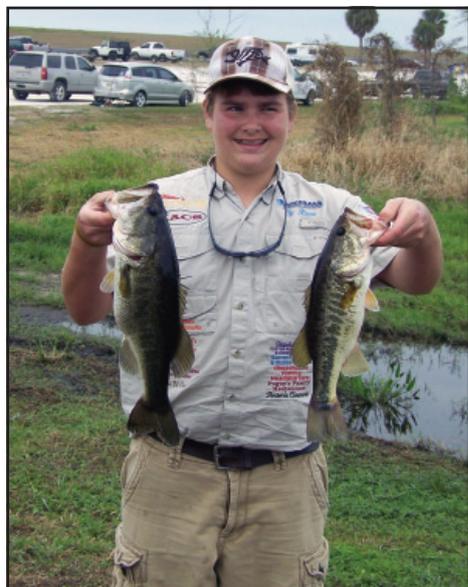
The anglers would like to thank our boat captains Leroy Bauer, Mike Ingram, Robert Haff, Richard Stiglitz, Larry Wise, Matt Johnson, Blake Marsocci, Kenny Farmer, Roger Bohannon and Mike Zubricky. Thank you to all the volunteers who assisted with the 2012 Elite Series Power-Pole Slam.

The group would like to remind anglers that the monofilament recycle bins are mounted at most boat ramps. Please recycle your used fishing line in these bins.

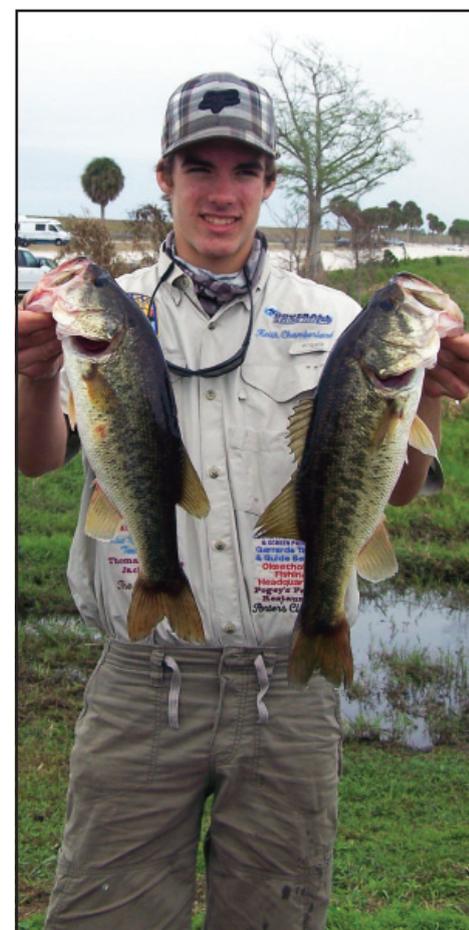
Please keep George DuPont in your thoughts and prayers. He's part of our fishing family and needs our support.



Special to the Okeechobee News/Big O Teen Anglers  
On the left, first place winner in the 11-14 age group was Josh Hiler with his total weight catch at weigh-in of 8.79 lbs. On the right is Jose Hernandez whose 2.81 lb single catch brought him the Big Fish award for the 11-14 lb age group and his total weight of 7.67 lbs earned him the second place title in the 11-14 age group.



Special to the Okeechobee News/Big O Teen Anglers  
Big Fish hunter, Ty Riva (left) earned him the coveted "Big Fish" title with his single catch that weighed 3.33 lbs. in third place in the 11-14 age group was Nathen Center (right) with 6.54 lbs of fish at weigh-in time.



Special to the Okeechobee News/Big O Teen Anglers  
Second place winner in the 15-18 year old age group was Ryan Edwards, (left) a long time Teen Angler with a total weight catch of 9.39 lbs. Fellow Angler, Keith Chamberland (right) took the third place spot with his total catch at weigh in of 8.38 lbs. The next Big O Teen Angler Tourney is this weekend March 31.



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and click on ZapHomes

# OHS tennis team sweeps Port St. Lucie

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

The OHS tennis teams enjoyed a sweep of Port St. Lucie at their final home match of the year on Wednesday at the Okeechobee Sports Complex.

The boys won 7-0 as none of the players were really pushed to the limit. Otto Ramirez defeated Dione Quiroga 6-0 and 6-1. Brendon Jonassaint defeated Time Hunter 6-1 and 6-1. Cody Walker defeated Sami Quebain 6-1 and 6-3. Lucas Penido defeated Roland Jacobsin 6-1 and 6-2. Colt Root won by default.

In doubles play, the Brahman team of Walker and Jonassaint defeated Quiroga and Hunter 8-3. The team of Root and Penido defeated Quebain and Jacobson 8-2.

Jonassaint had some long rallies in his match with Hunter but did a great job of covering the court, showed off an improved serve, and used his long reach to dominate at the net.

"I felt I played pretty well. I got my serves in and used by strokes. My opponent was pretty good and it's always nice to win against a player of his caliber," he added.

Jonassaint appears much more comfortable on the court this year. At 6'2 and in excellent shape, he is an imposing figure on the tennis court. He has learned to use his athletic ability more and his long wing span. He said he likes tennis because it keeps him active and in shape and also helps him by improving his foot work and speed for basketball. He is (8-2) in singles this year.

"Overall I think the team has done really well and we are really solid from top to bottom. We'll lay it all on the line at districts next week. I'm pretty confident," he added.

In the girls match the Lady Brahmans really dominated. Samantha Rivero shut out Jessica Cash 6-0 and 6-0. Jessica Luna shut out Carolyn Chonoles 6-0 and 6-0. Vanessa Watt defeated Juliet Grofton 6-0 and 6-0. Jenna Rath and Alley Lopez lost only one game in their straight set victories.

In doubles match the team of Rivero and Watt defeated Cash and Bernard 8-1 while the team of Rath and Luna defeated Grofton

and Chonoles 8-0.

The tennis teams will compete in the district tournament next Monday and Tuesday at Halpatokee Park in Stuart.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
**Lucas Penido had an easy time in his singles match with Port St. Lucie as Okeechobee swept the Jaquars 7-0 on Wednesday.**



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
**Tennis Coach Morgan Benion (left) congratulates Jessica Luna, the only senior on the tennis squad this year, before Wednesdays final home match of the season with Port St. Lucie.**

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