



OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 103 No. 82

Sunday, July 8, 2012

75¢ Plus tax

Jobless rate remains stable in May ... Page 5



Firestix softball team wins state title ... Page 15

Lake water released into river ... Page 8

Lake Levels

12.03 feet

Last Year: 9.82 feet



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



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

newszap.com
Free Speech Free Ads



Property values continue to drop

By Pete Gawda

Okeechobee News

For the fifth year in a row property values in the county have dropped. Each year, on July 1, property appraisers in Florida are required

to prepare a report giving a preliminary total of the combined value of all property in their counties.

Okeechobee County Property Appraiser Bill Sherman's preliminary report shows an overall drop of 7.67 percent in taxable value of prop-

erty in the county as compared to the final total for last year. The total value of taxable school board property declined 7.97 percent and the value of taxable property in the city fell 5.57

See **PROPERTY** — Page 5



Special to the Okeechobee News

Area medal winners at the June 17-23 Florida Police and Fire Games were: (left to right) Sergeant Justin Bernst (Okeechobee City Police Dept.), Haley Bartoe (Lee Co. Sheriff's Office), Detective William Hill (Fla. Dept. of Financial Services), Deputy Jason Hickman (Martin Co. Sheriff's Office), Deputy Tammy Serafini (Okeechobee Co. Sheriff's Office), Deputy Matthew Crawford (Okeechobee Co. Sheriff's Office) and Deputy Corporal Michael Hazellief (Okeechobee Co. Sheriff's Office).

Area competitors win medals at law games

By Eric Kopp

Okeechobee News

Twelve area members of law enforcement and fire departments competed in last month's Florida Police and Fire Games and earned a total of 30 medals.

The annual competition is open to active and retired members of law enforcement, firefighters and the military.

Over 5,000 competitors took part in the June 17-23 games that were held in various venues. The games consist of more than 45 Olympic-style competitions ranging from archery to weightlifting. They also include such team events as basketball, softball and soccer.

This year, competitors from the Okeechobee area brought home 12 gold, 16 silver and two bronze medals. Those competitors represent six different law enforcement and fire/EMS agencies.

Local medalists were:

- Detective William Hill (Florida Department of Financial Services): gold - 3D archery (traditional); gold - practical pistol (concealed); gold - low-light pistol; silver - three-gun match; silver - riot skeet; silver - shotgun; and, silver - field archery (traditional).

- Lieutenant Karl Holtkamp (Okeechobee County Fire/Rescue) in Men's Swimming: gold - 200-yd. freestyle; gold - 200-yd. medley;

gold - 50-yd. breast stroke; gold - 100 yd. breast stroke; silver - 25-yd. freestyle; and, silver 50-yd. freestyle. Lt. Holtkamp also was the high points winner for his age group.

- Officer Jack Boon (Okeechobee City Police Department) in Men's Swimming: gold - 200-yd. freestyle; silver - 25-yd. freestyle; silver - 50-yd. freestyle; and, silver - 50-yd. butterfly.

- Sergeant Justin Bernst (Okeechobee City Police Department): gold - three gun; gold - combat pistol double; master class; gold - practical pistol; and, bronze - combat pistol master class.

- Corporal Michael Hazellief (Okeechobee

See **LAW** — Page 5



Philip DeBerard

FREE CONSULTATION

(863) 467-7100

CALL 24/7

PhilWillHelp.com

SE HABLA ESPAÑOL

Beautification project at VFW



Special to the Okeechobee News/Home Depot
The Okeechobee Home Depot volunteers participated in a beautification project on Tuesday, June 26 at the Veterans Of Foreign Wars, Big Lake VFW Post No 10539. The Home Depot also donated plants and containers. The wind and rain did not hold back the 10 volunteers from the Okeechobee Store 6878. In the top row are: KeKe, Karen, Marlene, Maureen, Hope, Calvin. In the bottom row are: Michelle, Annie, Jessica. Donovan was missing in the photo as he was out to get more plants.



Okeechobee Forecast

Brought to you by:

 "Our Focus Is To Make You Comfortable"
 www.QualityACokee.com 467-1545

Today: Clear in the morning, then partly cloudy with thunderstorms and rain showers. High of 95F. Winds from the ESE at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 30%.

Tonight: Partly cloudy. Fog overnight. Low of 70F. Winds from the SE at 5 to 10 mph.



Extended Forecast

Monday: Clear in the morning, then partly cloudy with a chance of a thunderstorm and rain. High of 90F with a heat index of 95F. Winds from the ESE at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 20%.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy with a chance of a thunderstorm and rain. Fog overnight. Low of 70F. Winds less than 5 mph. Chance of rain 20%.

Tuesday: Partly cloudy with a chance of a thunderstorm and rain in the afternoon. High of 88F with a heat index of 93F. Winds from the SE at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 40% with rainfall amounts near 0.2 in. possible.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy with a chance of a thunderstorm. Fog overnight. Low of 70F. Winds from the SE at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 20%.

Wednesday: Partly cloudy. Chance of thunderstorm. High 88F. Chance rain 50%.

"Always on Top of the Job"



Re-Roofing Specialists

- Metal & Shingle Roofs
- Flats & Leaks Repair

FREE ESTIMATES

State Lic.#CCC1327338

863-357-3838



"The future of OUR COMMUNITY relies upon strong leadership. With our support, I will continue to work for YOU!"



Re-Elect

Margaret Garrard Helton

County Commissioner

Democrats & Republicans will be able to vote for me in the Primary Election on Tuesday, August 14.

Paid by Margaret Garrard Helton, Republican for County Commissioner



Libby Maxwell

for Supervisor of Elections

Dear Voters of Okeechobee County:

Our country was founded upon the desire for freedom, and our election process is the way that we maintain that freedom. The right to vote is one of our most precious American liberties, but with it comes great responsibility. Likewise, the Supervisor of Elections requires a diverse set of qualifications.

I am announcing my candidacy for the open seat of *Supervisor of Elections*, and I would like to share with you the qualities and experience that I believe make me the most qualified:

Community leadership is necessary for the effective and complete performance of this state constitutional officer's duties. In addition to conducting the elections, our Supervisor must work well with the County for budgeting, and must be able to represent at the State level when necessary. She must have access to civic organizations and citizen groups, and must be able to conduct voter education programs in our public schools, and for citizens countywide.

Experience and training in law will be important to the next Supervisor of Elections, who must be able to closely monitor the elections laws that are planned by the State. Since the election of 2000, when the US Supreme Court weighed in on the vote recount, Florida elections laws have been constantly evolving. Florida has become a key swing state in national elections, and we should expect to see our State elections laws continue to change.

Business experience is important to the Supervisor because in addition to managing the permanent office, she must recruit, train, and assign a large temporary staff of poll workers, and contract for and improve polling locations for each election. She also must develop and utilize the technology and equipment that will make the elections process as efficient as possible.

I am an Okeechobee native who answered a calling to public service by returning home as a school-teacher. In order to reach more people, I went back to school and studied law at the University of Florida. While managing my own business, I have given much to public and civic service, and have served in community leadership roles. Please visit my website to review my community leadership experience, resumé, and professional experience, at www.LibbyMaxwell.com.

I would appreciate the honor of serving as Okeechobee's new Supervisor of Elections, and I pledge to perform the duties of the Office with the same devotion to our community that I have demonstrated throughout my life.

VERY TRULY YOURS,
LIBBY MAXWELL

Paid by Libby Maxwell, No Party Affiliation, for Supervisor of Elections

JUST CALL ME "JERRY"

Your Hometown Injury Attorney

Law Office of
Gerald Lefebvre
1910 S. Parrott Ave.
Okeechobee, FL

763-3333

accidentattorneyoffice.com

PHONE ANSWERED 24/7

SE HABLA ESPANOL



Sharon Wallace seeks property appraiser

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News



Sharon Wallace

Sharon Wallace, 51, is running for Okeechobee County Property Appraiser.

Mrs. Wallace has a bachelor's degree in information technology and is a Certified Professional in Geographic Information Systems (GIS). This is a mapping tool used by the property appraiser to help explain assessment changes to property owners. She has over 1,200 hours of continuing education.

Mrs. Wallace has extensive experience in the intergovernmental policy and planning arena. She has administrative, contractual and budgetary experience. The Florida Department of Revenue requires 120 hours of classes for property appraisers. Mrs. Wallace has been working on these classes on her own time and expense.

"My strengths and my experience led me to the desire to run for the office years ago," Mrs. Wallace said. "And now I'm at the point in my life where I can offer my services to our community."

"Along the campaign trail I have learned that our community needs educating about how the mass appraisal system works," she said. "I see this as a primary challenge for this office." Mrs. Wallace believes it is important to promote the work of the property appraiser's office and educate the public as to how this office affects their lives.

She and her husband, Mike, will be celebrating their 24th anniversary next year. They have two grown daughters who are graduates of Okeechobee High School.

Mrs. Wallace has lived in Okeechobee County for more than 23 years and has lived in South Florida all her life.

Her husband's parents came here in the 1980s and raise cattle on a ranch in Basinger.

Mrs. Wallace's daughters have participat-

ed in OCRA, 4-H, FFA, Big Lake Trail Riders, OHS swim team, OHS band and Upward Basketball.

Mrs. Wallace has served on her church's vestry, taught Sunday School, volunteered time in her children's classrooms, and served as president and filled other offices in the Okeechobee Cattlemen's Association. She has participated in the Relay for Life, the Susan B. Komen Race for the Cure, performed in the Okeechobee Community Theatre and participated in the Adam Bryant Minimal Regatta.

Mrs. Wallace will face incumbent Bill Sherman in the Aug. 14 Republican primary. The winner from that race will face Democrat W.S. "Stan" Curren in the general election.

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

Long-time property appraiser seeks re-election

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News



Bill Sherman

Long time property appraiser Bill Sherman, 75, is seeking another term. Mr. Sherman is a native Floridian who was born in Okeechobee. He has eight children, 12 grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Mr. Sherman belongs to the cattlemen's association, the Farm Bureau and also pastors a church in Basinger. Mr. Sherman graduated from Montverd School, a private school in Lake County and attended the University of Florida for two years. He also attended professional real estate appraiser school. Mr. Sherman has been a certified Florida appraiser since 1992. This certification requires 120 course hours and successful completion of four exams. In the past 20 years that he has been in office, Mr. Sherman has taken 480 hours of continuing education courses.

He worked as an independent fee appraiser for 5 years and worked as a review appraiser for a bank for five years reviewing the work of other appraisers. Mr. Sherman has been a licensed real estate broker for over 20 years. Even though he is not active

in that trade Mr. Sherman has kept his license current through continuing education.

Mr. Sherman has served continuously as property appraiser for the past 20 years and has worked in the property appraiser's office for 36 years. He

has served as president and district director of the Property Appraisers' Association of Florida. Currently he serves on several committees for the association.

Mr. Sherman said he believes his many years of education and experience qualify him to continue in office. He said that every year for 20 years he has prepared a tax role that has been approved by the Florida Department of Revenue. "It is impossible for someone without appraiser experience to produce a tax role," Mr. Sherman said.

The biggest challenge he sees to the office of property appraiser in coming years is that big corporations do not want to pay taxes on the same basis as everyone else.

"This will continue because they can afford to fight," Mr. Sherman said.

Mr. Sherman will face Sharon Wallace in the Aug. 14 Republican primary. The winner from that race will face Democrat W.S. "Stan" Curren in the general election.

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

Brakman Theatres

Fri., July 6th - Thurs., July 12th

For Info, Call 763-7202

I: "MAGIC MIKE"
Fri. 7:00 & 9:00, Sat., Sun., Tues., Wed. & Thurs. 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00, Mon. 3:00 & 7:00 **R**

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

III: "BRAVE"
Fri. 7:00 & 9:00, Sat., Sun., Tues., Wed. & Thurs. 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

Better Hearing Starts Now!

Call the professionals at Audibel today!
(863) 467-5333

HEARING AID BATTERIES
BUY ONE / GET ONE **FREE**
Limit 2 packs. Expires 07/13/12

AUDIBEL
HEARING CARE CENTERS

3545 Hwy 441 S, Okeechobee, FL 34974

FARM & RANCH OWNERS

We can insure your farm property and pasture liability. "A" rated companies.
Call us for a free quote.

BERGER INSURANCE SERVICES, INC.
800 S. Parrott Ave. • Okeechobee
www.BergerInsurance.com
(863) 763-6411

Roofing with the name you trust!

BIG LAKE ROOFING & REPAIRS
Residential Commercial

FREE Estimates

Licensed and Insured St. Lic. CCC046939

Don't make a Mistake! Call Big Lake
863-763-ROOF (7663)

www.OKEEAC.com

State Lic # CAC023499

OKEECHOBEE Air Conditioning & Refrigeration
Serving South-Central Florida

24 HOUR SERVICE

REBATES up to \$2500.00

GO GREEN FINANCING AVAILABLE

Will Meet or Beat Any Written Estimates

- Sales, Service & Installation
- FREE Estimates & 2nd Opinions on System Replacements
- Trade in your old A/C \$\$\$\$\$\$

VISA MasterCard DISCOVER

Coupon valid thru July 31, 2012
\$75.00 OFF SERVICE REPAIR
*EXCLUDES DIAGNOSTIC / TRIP CHARGES, NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER DISCOUNTS

Public Forum/Speak Out

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

No fireworks

- I think Okeechobee is getting really cheap. Okeechobee has also lost the meaning of Independence. Every year there is always some kind of excuse—either it's too dry, or ends up raining. This was a perfect year for fireworks. Whatever happened to the money for all the other time fireworks did not go off?

- For many years the fireworks were organized by the Okeechobee Jaycees and they did fundraising all year to pay for the shows. Anything they had left went into the next year's fundraising. But that group is no longer active. The last year that Okeechobee County had fireworks, the show was paid for by a generous individual. The donations taken at that show went to partially defray the cost of the use of the Agri-Civic Center because the county would not waive the fees. So there is no money from a previous show.

- For those who are disappointed that the community did not have fireworks, now is the time to do something about next year. Get your club or organization to sponsor the event and start raising the money for it. Don't complain because no one else made the effort to organize a fireworks show. Get involved and help make it happen. The fireworks in Okeechobee have never been sponsored by or paid for by the government. It takes a group of volunteers to organize it and raise the money.

OUA

- You have to feel sorry for the poor folks at OUA because they had to drop out of the "best-tasting water contest" this last March because of illness. I think they forgot and drank their own water the day before the contest and that was probably the illness that prevented them from attending. OUA in a "best tasting drinking water contest"? ya gotta luv the irony ...

- So now they say they have to raise the water rates again. It wouldn't be so bad if we could actually drink the water. We have to buy bottled water because we cannot stand the taste of the OUA water. Water should not have a taste.

Hospital

- In the August issue of Consumer Reports Raulerson Hospital was rated 9th out of 45 in the state of Florida for hospital safety. We're very lucky our community has such a good facility. Hats off to Raulerson Hospital and staff.

Fire lanes

- All the shopping plazas in Okeechobee have fire lanes. Why is it the rules regarding fire lanes are enforced at all of the plazas except one? Why do the police ignore this plaza even though it is in the city limits? There is a constant problem with cars parked in the fire lanes. Delivery companies even park in front of other businesses. I have called the police about it but the cops just drive by and don't do anything. Why don't they start writing tickets?

Reflections from the pulpit

By Mark Mayers, LMFT,

CAP of Real Life Children's Ranch

There are many definitions of love. Perhaps the most frequent examples of love in our culture are between a man and woman or a parent and their child. Our world often views love as an emotion. Although we can feel love in our hearts for someone, the Bible tells us that love is much more than this. From a Biblical view, love is the very character of God and a series of very specific actions that can overflow from our hearts because of who we are in Christ (if we have accepted Christ).

The greatest act of love is found in John 3:16, "For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life." His love is demonstrated as being so much more than a feeling. In John 3:16 we are told that God "loved" us so much that he was willing to humble himself even to death to save the whole world and provide the gift of eternal life. In this incredible act of mercy God set a reachable standard of living that demonstrates reconciliation and grace rather than anger and selfishness.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 says 4 Love is patient and kind.

Letters to the editor

Graduation night party a success

The 24th Annual Graduation Night Party a Huge Success – "We are all blessed to announce that another GRAD Night party was successful without any alcohol related accidents or deaths of our graduates," said co-chairs Matt Buxton and Teresa Chandler.

Some 338 students signed up to attend the overnight party on Monday, June 11. The party was held at Lucky Lanes bowling alley where attendees enjoyed games, bowling, music and lots of food! Students played table games and earned "Brahman Bucks" to spend at the auction that took place at 5:00 am.

Okeechobee businesses and residents donated to the event. Donations were used to purchase \$14,269.00 in prize items. Students took home Ipads, Ipods, Ipad nanos, laptops, desktop computers, flat screen TVs, Kindles, cookware, microwaves, refrigerators, bicycles, Wii machines and much, much more!

The winner of the jeopardy game received a scholarship to IRSC for one year! And, raffles were held every 15 minutes giving away \$20 to students totaling \$1,000 in cash prizes.

Overall the event was a huge success due to the generous donations from the following businesses and individuals; 5th Street Pharmacy, ABWA, American Drilling, American Legion, Arby's, Barracuda's, Beef "O" Brady's, Berger Insurance, Big Lake Eyecare, Breakthrough Recovery, B.R.A.T. Club Inc., Bruce Homer, Burger King, Buxton-Seawinds, Buckhead Ridge Homeowner's Assoc., Cassels & MCall, CenterState bank, CJ's Whole-

Love is not jealous or boastful or proud 5 or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. 6 It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. 7 Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. In this short paragraph is found an amazing definition of what love should be. Love here is not only a feeling but specific choices regarding how we should interact with other people.

Christ's power in us gives us the ability to demonstrate a supernatural love characterized by forgiveness and humility that is a bright, healing light in an evil and selfish world. Philippians 2: 3-8 says, 3 Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. 4 Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. 5 You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. 6 Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. 7 Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form,8 he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.

sale, Centurylink, City Police Auxiliary, Colin Cameron, Conley & Conley, George & Mary Beth Cooper, Cowboy's, Domer's, Dominos, Don Kelly, Dr. Lechter, E & E Automotive, Eli's Western Wear, Golden Corral, Hungry Howies, Mr. & Mrs. Jackamore, Eastcoast Signs, Fred George, FPL, Gay Carlton, Gilbert Chevrolet, Harbor Community, Joey & Dawn Hoover, J & E Insurance, J & J Auto, Jenny & Carey Pung, Joe Arnold, Karen Rabon, KOA, Ken & Johanna Kenworthy, Gary & Lonnie Kirsch, Kiwanis, Lake Okeechobee Title, Larson Dairy, Louise Piper, Los Cocos, Lunkers, Main Street Salon, McDonalds, Meat Shoppe, Masonic Lodge, Methodist Church, Morgan's Furniture, Gordy & Missy Morgan, Norton's Cleaners, OCEA, Okeechobee High School, Okeechobee Motor Company, Okeechobee County Sheriff's Department, Okeechobee Shooting, Pat Keebler, Pizza Hut, Publix, Pueblo Viejo, Quail Creek Plantation, Raulerson Hospital, Earl & Pheobo Raulerson, Rotary, Sante Fe, Seacoast National Bank, Sharon Ming, Sharon Wallace, Sheriff Auxiliary, Taylor Creek Real Estate, Taco Bell, Teresa Chandler, Theta Omnicron, Thrivent Lutherans, Toni Wiersma, Walpole Inc., Wal-Mart, Waste Management, Wendy's, Williamson Cattle Company and Winn Dixie.

Best wishes to the senior class of 2012 from the GRAD Night Committee: Matt Buxton, Teresa Chandler, Allison Chandler, Mike Costopoulos, Dowling Watford, Jenny Pung, Toni Wiersma, JD Mixon, Tabitha Trent, Gena Davis and Kristy Crawford.

Teresa Chandler, Event Co-Chair

KEECHOBEE NEWS

To Reach Us

Address: 107 S.W. 17th Street, Suite D
Okeechobee, FL 34974

Website: www.newszap.com

To Submit News

The Okeechobee News welcomes submissions from its readers. Opinions, calendar items, stories ideas and photographs are welcome. Call (863) 763-3134 to reach our newsroom. Items may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed.

E-Mail: okeenews@newszap.com

To Place A Display Ad

Phone: 863-763-3134

E-Mail: okeeadsales@newszap.com

To Place A Classified Ad

Call 877-353-2424 to place a classified advertisement from home.

Fax: 877-354-2424

E-Mail: classads@newszap.com

Billing Department

E-Mail: billteam@newszap.com

To Start or Stop A Paper

Phone: (800) 282-8586

E-mail: readerservices@newszap.com

The Okeechobee News is available three times a week via home delivery and is on sale at rack and store locations throughout Okeechobee County. Call the office to find out if your home is within our present home-distribution boundaries.

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

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

Okeechobee News

USPS 406-160

Published 3 times a week: Sunday, Wednesday and Friday by Independent Newspapers, Inc.

107 S.W. 17th Street, Suite D • Okeechobee, FL 34974
Periodicals Postage Paid at Okeechobee, FL 34974
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to

Okeechobee News

Circulation Administration

PO Box 7011 • Dover, DE 19903

Staff

Editor: Katrina Elsen

Circulation Manager: Janet Madray

Publisher: Tom Byrd

Our Purpose...

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

We Pledge...

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

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

MEMBER



Jobless rate stable in May

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

There was little change in the jobless rate in Okeechobee during May as the rate remained at 9 percent, as 1,733 residents collected benefits according to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

Glades County had a jobless rate of 9 percent in May which was an increase from the April rate of 8.3 percent. The report said 458 residents collected benefits in May.

One year ago Okeechobee had 11 per-

cent and Glades County had 9.5 percent unemployment in May.

Around the region, Highlands County had 8.1 percent, Osceola County 9.1 percent, Palm Beach County 8.6 percent, Martin County 8.2 percent, Hendry County 11.7 percent, and St. Lucie County 10.9 percent in May. The state level was 8.5 percent an increase from 8.3 percent in April.

The national level stood at 7.9 percent an increase from 7.7 percent in April.

PROPERTY

Continued From Page 1

percent.

The preliminary total for this year shows a five-year decline as compared to the final totals for previous years. In 2007 the total value of taxable property in the county was \$2.5 billion. In 2008 it fell to \$2.2 billion and has continued to fall every year since then. This year's preliminary total is \$1.5 billion, a \$121 million drop from last year.

Improved industrial property declined 12.55 per cent. Mobile homes declined 7.91 percent in value while single family residences declined an even 5 percent. Improved commercial property came out best of all the categories with only a 0.83 percent decline from last year.

These figures will be used in preliminary calculations by the county, the school board and the city for the coming fiscal year budget. The figures mean the various government entities will have less taxable income to work with. In order to bring in the same amount of money to the governing body as last year, the tax rate will have to increase. To bring in more taxes than last year the rate

would have to increase even more.

At this point city director of finance India Riedle is figuring on an increase from 7.432 mils to 8.2232 mils to bring in the same amount of taxes to the city. "The only good news I can see is that our decrease is getting less," she said.

County administrator Robbie Chartier is considering keeping the county millage rate the same at 8.547 mils. This will bring in slightly less revenue to the county. One mil equals \$1 for every \$1,000 of assessed value.

These figures also mean that many homeowners will continue to be upside down on their mortgages, meaning that they owe more on their houses than the assessed value. This will have an affect on the sales value. However, things may be looking up. "I think the worst is over," said realtor Brandon Tucker. He predicted a slow, steady increase in property values. He said the assessed value usually lagged about a year behind the sales value.

Mr. Sherman emphasized that this is a preliminary report and the final totals could vary slightly. Even though the total value has gone down, in some cases, for various reasons individual property values may have increased.



Special to the Okeechobee News

Area residents brought home a total of 30 medals from last month's Florida Police and Fire Games. Some of those winners were: (left to right) Officer Jack Boon (Okeechobee City Police Dept.), Lt. Karl Holtkamp (Okeechobee County Fire/Rescue), Deputy Dale Hardy (Okeechobee Co. Sheriff's Office), Firefighter Saul Tijerina (Okeechobee County Fire/Rescue) and Lalo Rodriguez (Okeechobee City Fire Dept.).

LAW

Continued From Page 1

County Sheriff's Office): silver - low-light pistol; and, bronze - shotgun (pump).

- Haley M. Bartoe (dispatcher, Lee County Sheriff's Office): silver - practical pistol (concealed).

- Deputy Tammy Serafini (Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office): gold - co-ed softball (gold medal winner for third consecutive year).

- Men's Softball Team silver medal winners: Firefighter Lalo Rodriguez, Okeechobee City Fire Department; Firefighter Saul Tijerina, Okeechobee County Fire/Rescue; Deputy Jason Hickman, Martin County Sheriff's Office; Deputy Matt Crawford, Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office; and Deputy Dale Hardy, Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office.

According to their web site, the Florida Law Enforcement Games were established in 1985.

This year, Okeechobee Shooting Sports hosted the skeet and trap shooting competition.

MEDICAL WEIGHT LOSS • MEDICAL WEIGHT LOSS • MEDICAL WEIGHT LOSS • MEDICAL WEIGHT LOSS •

TAKE OFF POUNDS FOR SUMMER

LOSE up to 20 lbs in 6 weeks[↑]

Physicians**FAST**

WE'LL HELP YOU GET STARTED

6 weeks \$169

ASK ABOUT OUR FAT BURNING LIPOTROPIC B-12 VITAMIN COCKTAIL

Physicians WEIGHT LOSS Centers

Locations Nationwide to Serve You

CALL NOW! 414 S. Parrott Ave., B
863-357-9967 Okeechobee, FL

Allure

Institute for Plastic Surgery

Aldo A Lombardo, M.D.

Board Certified Plastic Surgeon

Improve your appearance, your confidence, and your self esteem. Enhance your breast, flatten your tummy or shed unwanted fat. Let us help you look and feel your very best!

- Tummy Tuck
- Breast Augmentation
- Breast Lift/Reduction
- Endoscopic Brow Lift
- Face Lift
- Nasal Surgery
- Eyelid Surgery
- Liposculpture
- Botox and Fillers

(561) 747-1232

ACCREDITED ASIF SURGERY FACILITY

Community Events

Eagles host District meeting

Cypress Hut Eagles will host a District meeting on Sunday, **July 8**. The District 7 installation of officers will be at 1:30 p.m., with the meeting to follow.

Be a fan of Special Olympics!

Join Special Olympics for a night of bowling and fun to help raise \$1,200,000 to support local athletes. On Thursday, July 12, at 6 p.m., at Stardust (Lucky Lanes), located at 1465 U.S. 441, S.E. in Okeechobee. Families and teams of any size are welcome to play. Games are \$3.25, shoe rental is \$3. RSVP by **July 9**, to TD Bank, Cecilia Elliott at 863-824-6700 or by e-mail, cecilia.elliott@td.com or call Stardust Lanes at 863-467-1800. We look forward to seeing you there.

Church hosting VBS

Vacation Bible School will be at Victory Baptist Church on **July 9 through 13**. Come journey with us as we explore the jungles of life and discover the treasures of serving Jesus! It will be from 6:30-8:30 pm for ages 6-12. Please call 863-763-5067 to register.

Amateur Radio Club meets

The Okeechobee Amateur Radio Club hold their July Business meeting on Monday, **July 9**, at Beef O'Brady's, 608 S. Parrott Ave., in the Club Room. The meal is scheduled for 6pm, and the business meeting will follow at 7 p.m. and usually runs for about an hour. All members of the club are invited to attend, and anyone in the Okeechobee area who has an interest in Amateur radio is also invited to attend and share a meal with the members of the club. Topics of discussion will include the Amateur Radio Field Day participation from two weeks ago, and planning for the annual "Hamfest in the Woods" to take place the Saturday after Thanksgiving. For more information, please contact club president, Tom Timmons at 863-467-5435 and leave a message.

Eagles plan dinner

The Cypress Hut Eagles will serve a pulled pork dinner on Tuesday, **July 10** at 5 p.m. Music will be by Carla and Bobby. All proceeds will go to the community charity fund.

Join commissioner for coffee

Coffee with the Commissioner will be hosted by Commissioner Frank Irby on Tuesday, **July 10**, from 10 a.m. to noon and will be held in Commissioner Irby's office -- room 241 in the Okeechobee County Courthouse, 304 N.W. Second St. Citizens wishing to participate are encouraged to call 863-763-6441 to schedule an appointment.

Eagles to host bingo

The Eagles Aerie North, 9985 U.S. 441 N., will have bingo on Tuesday, **July 10** starting at 1 p.m. and Wednesday, July 11 at 4:30 p.m. The proceeds go to the F.O.E.4137 community benefit fund.

Diabetes program planned

Living with Diabetes will be presented by Wanda Haas, RN, CDE, at Grand Oaks Assisted Living Facility, 203 S.E. Second St., on Wednesday, **July 11** at 10 a.m.

Pool is site for Dive in Movie

Okeechobee County Sports Complex Pool will host Family Night on Thursday, **July 12**, from 6-8 p.m. The entry fee of \$2 includes pool entrance and Dive in Movie. Popcorn and drinks will be available for sale.

Enter now for summer games

Okeechobee County Parks & Recreation is seeking teams for the Okeechobee Summer Games. Teams compete in Olympic-style events with a fun twist. Tentative events include: relay swim, inner tube sprint, basketball shoot-out, ping pong, hubcap hurling, tug-a-war, etc. It is a two-day competition to be held Saturday, Aug 4, at the Sports Complex and Saturday, Aug. 11, at the Agri-Civic Center. The fee is \$100 per team. The deadline has been extended to Friday, July 20. There are two divisions: Junior (ages 14-17) and Adult (18 & up). We need a minimum of 16 combined teams. Call the Parks & Recreation Dept. at 863-763-6950 for more details.

Eagles to host 'hen shoot'

Eagles Aerie North, 9984 U.S. 441 N., will host a 'hen shoot' on **July 14**. The event is open to the public. Ladies are invited to

grab their shotguns and compete for prizes. The first 15 rounds are \$2 per round donation. Men are also welcome. The event will include a bake sale. The proceeds go to the F.O.E. 4137 ladies auxiliary benefit fund. Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Bass tourney dates are set

The Freedom Outreach fishing tournaments will be held on Sunday, **July 15**, Aug. 12 and the championship on Sept. 9 (\$120). The \$80 (cash only) entry fee includes the big fish pot and championship fund. You must fish at least four tournaments to be in the championship event!

All tournaments will be held at Okee-Tantie Marina boat ramp from safe light until 2 p.m. Food and drinks free at weigh in. Pease call 561-719-5989 or 863-634-8127 to register or with questions.

Political forum set for July 16

A political forum will be held on **July 16** in the Osceola Middle School gymnasium, 825 S.W. 28th St., from 5:30 until 10 p.m.

The forum will include candidtes from the following races: U.S. Senator; U.S. Representative District 17; State Representative District 55; Sheriff; Property Appraiser; School Board District 2; and, County Commission Districts 1, 3 and 5. The forum will also be broadcast live on WOKC 100.9 FM and 1570 AM.

Main Street plans mixer

The July Main Street Mixer will be sponsored by the Brown Cow Sweetery, 103 SW Park St., on Thursday, **July 19**, from 5 until 7 p.m. Okeechobee Main Street mixers are free to the public and everyone is welcome to attend.

This is an opportunity to meet fellow citizens and local business owners while you relax and enjoy light hors d'oeuvres and drinks. The theme for this event is a "Tacky Tourist" so bring your camera, hat and shades to fit right in!

For more information contact the Okeechobee Main Street executive director Cindy Birdashaw at 863-357-6246 or stop in the Main Street office at 111 N.E. Second St. (directly north of CVS).

Obituaries

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

Kathryn L. Kenbeck, 89

OKEECHOBEE — Kathryn L. Kenbeck, Okeechobee winter resident, passed away on Thursday, July 5, 2012, at Maple Lawn Medical Care Facility in Coldwater.

Born May 24, 1923, in Fayette, Ohio, she was the daughter of the late Earl D. and Mabel E. (Burkholder) Schmucker. She was a member of Calvary Baptist Church in Quincy. On April 24, 1943, she married the late, John J. Kenbeck who passed away in 1978.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by her brother-in-law, John Koop.

She is survived by two daughters, Karen (Chris) Christensen, of Quincy, and Jeanne (Curtis) Johnson, of Fayette, Ohio; son, Jim (Tamera) Kenbeck, of Okeechobee; sister, Marjory Koop, of Calgary Alberta, Canada; nine grandchildren; and, 14 great-grandchildren.

Interment will be in Pleasant View Cemetery, Fayette, Ohio, on Monday at 9:30 a.m. Funeral service will follow at noon, at Calvary Baptist Church, Quincy, with Pastor Frank Snyder officiating. Visitation is scheduled Sunday from 2 to 8 p.m. at the Eagle Funeral Home-George White Chapel in Quincy. Memorials are suggested to Calvary Baptist Church, Quincy.

Celebrate A Life



with *an* **Online Guestbook**

All Obituaries now include Online Guestbooks where family and friends can share reflections, remembrances and condolences.

Visit:
www.newszap.com

For a complete list of Obituary Notices, click on your community, then click on "Obituaries".

newszap.com

Choose how you want your news published

Put yourself in print! 100 words and one photo for only \$25!



Newszap.com

Publish Your News today!

Just visit www.newszap.com, click on your community, and then on the link for Publish Your News.



florida.newszap.com

Check out these new features:

- Daily Local News Updates
- New interactive and easy to navigate format
- Plus much, much more!

Come see for yourself!



Special to the Okeechobee News

An Okeechobee resident can now become a registered nurse by enrolling in the Associate Degree in Nursing program at the IRSC Dixon Hendry Campus. The Okeechobee RN students, as well as others enrolled in health care fields, are: (front row left to right) Tori Cason, Jetta Frake, Tiffany Peters, Rachel Laskey, Erika Williams and Hayley Davis; (back row left to right) Raquel Torres, Stephanie Summers, Manuel Castrejon, Robert Rodriguez, Victor Gandarilla, Hayley Orr, Jude Fischer and Casander Almazan.

IRSC offers nursing degree at its Okeechobee Campus

Okeechobee residents will be on their way to becoming registered nurses thanks to the introduction of the Indian River State College Associate Degree in Nursing programs at the Dixon Hendry Campus, 2229 NW 9th Avenue, Okeechobee. Classes for the program begin Aug. 23.

The students will complete their general education, laboratory courses and clinical internships in Okeechobee. "We are so excited about this new program which expands

educational opportunities in Okeechobee," said Russ Brown, Provost of the Dixon Hendry Campus.

The eleven RN students are: Casander Almazan, Sherry Douglas, Jude Fischer, Jetta Frake, Rachel Laskey, Hayley Orr, Tiffany Peters, Stephanie Summers, Raquel Torres, Robert Rodriguez and Ann Walters.

IRSC offers four-year Bachelor's Degrees in Nursing, Health Care Management, Biology, Business Administration, Organizational Management, Information Technology, Education, Human Services, Digital Media, Criminal Justice, Public Administration and Public Safety Administration, as well as two-year Associate's Degrees and Technical Certificate programs.

For more information, contact the IRSC Dixon Hendry Campus at 863-824-6000 or visit www.irsc.edu.



Special to the Okeechobee News

Employee of the Quarter

Erin Hess, administrator, Okeechobee County Health Department presents the Employee of the Quarter award to Kathryn Stake.



Sales:

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

Okeechobee Livestock Market
U.S. 98 North, Okeechobee
(863) 763-3127

Colorectal cancer tips

Colon cancer has one of the best survival rates if it's caught early. Health experts urge proper screening to detect colon cancer before symptoms appear. In its earliest stages, the cancer is limited to the inner layer of the intestine or colon and may not cause symptoms. A colonoscopy is one of the best tests used to check for cancer. Early detection led to the decline in colon cancer deaths over the past 15 years.

While there is no single reason that some people develop colon cancer, many times the cancer begins as benign polyps, which can turn into cancer. Researchers have found several risk factors that increase the odds of developing colorectal cancer. Some factors that increase the chances of getting colorectal polyps are beyond our control:

- Age: More than 9 out of 10 people with colorectal cancer are older than 50.
- History of polyps: If your doctor has found adenomatous polyps, you may be more likely to get cancer.
- Inflammatory bowel disease: Diseases that inflame the colon, such as ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease raise your risk of colon cancer.
- Family history of colorectal cancer or inherited gene: You're at higher risk for colon cancer if immediate family members have also been diagnosed with the disease.
- Being of African American descent:

Experts aren't sure exactly why people of certain ethnic backgrounds are more susceptible to colon cancer.

Luckily, there are many risk factors you can control through lifestyle changes and diet. Follow this advice to reduce the risk of developing colon cancer:

- Avoid red meat and processed meat.
- Exercise—being sedentary is unhealthy.
- Lose weight—obesity increases your risk.
- A low-fat and high-fiber diet may be beneficial.
- Stop smoking.
- Drink alcohol in moderation only.
- Manage your diabetes and keep blood sugar under control.

There may also be a link between having testicular cancer and developing colorectal cancer. Health experts aren't certain whether this is because of exposure to cancer treatments such as radiation therapy. Colonoscopies should be a part of your yearly exam after age 50, and depending on your risk factors your doctor may recommend that you start earlier.

Talk to your doctors about health screenings that might benefit you. For more information, visit RaulersonHospital.com or call our Consult-A-Nurse® line at 863-763-9228 to speak with a registered nurse for answers to your health questions or a free doctor referral.



Experience the network of physicians and clinicians dedicated to providing quality healthcare with a personal touch.

Raulerson Hospital's Surgical Services offer expert care right here at home featuring:

Registered Nurses who work exclusively in the Operating Room.
A Surgical Services team who consistently work together on similar surgical cases
A variety of inpatient and outpatient procedures available
Minimally Invasive, laparoscopic, procedures

In addition to the general surgery and laparoscopic procedures available, Raulerson Hospital also provides surgical services in the following fields, courtesy of the Specialists on our Medical Staff:

Colon/ Rectal Surgery	Laparoscopic Surgery
Ear, Nose and Throat Surgery	Pacemaker / defibrillator
Endoscopic Surgery	Implantation Podiatry
Gynecology	Orthopedics
General Surgery	Urology

For a free physician referral or healthcare question, call Consult-A-Nurse at 763-9228.

RAULERSON HOSPITAL

1796 Hwy. 441 North | Okeechobee, FL 34972

Stan Curren is candidate for property appraiser

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

Stan Curren, 52, is vying for the office of property appraiser. Even though there are considerably more registered Democrats than Republicans in the county he is one of only two Democrats out of 20 names that will appear on the ballot for local offices.

Mr. Curren is a native Floridian who has lived in Okeechobee since he was 3. He is

the divorced father of two children, a boy and a girl, Mr. Curren is a 1979 graduate of Okeechobee High School. He has an Associates in Science Degree in electrical engineering and he is a state certified electrical contractor.

Mr. Curren said he grew up in dairy and beef cattle operations and is the owner of an electrical contracting business.

He is a member of the Moose Lodge and

the Masons and has supported various community charities. He has also served on the Okeechobee County Planning Board. "I've given to this community my whole life," Mr. Curren said.

Mr. Curren was on the planning board during the recent building boom and he said he warned against too rapid an expansion of the infrastructure.

When asked why he felt he was qualified for the office, Mr. Curren replied, "I made my money buying and selling real estate." He said he understood the difficulties business owners face.

He says he has nothing to gain or lose if he is elected. If elected, he intends to treat everyone equally. "I believe in fairness to everybody," Mr. Curren said. There should be no 'good ole boys.' I have no special interest—I care about the community as a whole. There are ways of solving problems



Stan Curren

without controversy."

"I understand the past and the present and I want to move forward," he asserted. "We're going forward. The way you move forward is to re-establish the infrastructure." However, he also intends to learn from the past.

"We are just stagnant here," Mr. Curren said. "The taxes are way too high."

"We need growth, vision, creativity," he said. "We have to come up with a business plan."

Mr. Curren said he realizes the country is in recession. However, he said he feels that now is the time improve things.

Incumbent Bill Sherman will face Sharon Wallace in the Aug. 14 Republican primary. The winner from that race will face Mr. Curren in the general election.

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

Corps to continue water release for Caloosahatchee Estuary

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District has begun another release of water from Lake Okeechobee as part of ongoing efforts to reduce salinity (salt-water content) in the Caloosahatchee Estuary.

The new water release began July 5. The Corps is making the release in a pulse-like manner to mimic a rainfall event. The target flow to the Caloosahatchee Estuary for this release is an average of 300 cubic feet per second (cfs) over a 10-day period, as measured at W.P. Franklin Lock and Dam (S-79) east of Fort Myers.

The Caloosahatchee is dependent on occasional fresh-water releases from Lake Okeechobee during dry conditions to offset high salinity in the estuary. The re-

leases also provide circulation of water to prevent stagnation which can lead to algal blooms.

On July 5, the lake stage was 12.01 feet, and has risen over the past month. The lake is currently within the Beneficial Use Sub-band of the 2008 Lake Okeechobee Regulation Schedule (2008 LORS). The Corps and partner agencies will continue to closely monitor and assess system conditions, and may decrease releases if local basin runoff contributes to flows.

For more information on water level and flows data for Lake Okeechobee, visit the Corps' water management page at the following website: <http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Divisions/Operations/Branches/MultiProject/WaterMgt/index.htm>.



BRIGHTON
It's Your Thing!

CATCH A FREE RIDE!

AND ALSO RECEIVE OFFERS**

THE BUS PICKS UP AT:

TUESDAYS

10:30AM • OKEECHOBEE

HAMPTON INN
1200 STATE RD. 70
Casino Departure 5:30pm

WEDNESDAYS/THURSDAYS

2:15PM • OKEECHOBEE

HAMPTON INN
1200 STATE RD. 70
Casino Departure 7:30pm

NO RESERVATIONS REQUIRED, FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE.
ADDITIONAL STOPS AVAILABLE IN OTHER AREAS, CALL 1.800.360.9875 EXT 5655 FOR MORE INFO.



FREE* SENIOR LUNCH

TUESDAYS • 10:30AM-NOON

*Must be 55+ and a Player's Club member. Items subject to change, available while supplies last.

NEW NON-SMOKING SLOT AREA!

17735 Reservation Road
Okeechobee, FL 34974
1.800.360.9875
seminolebrightoncasino.com



Like us
on Facebook



**Offers cannot be combined with new member offers. Must be 18 years old to play Bingo. See Bingo Hall for complete details. Limited Space Available. We reserve the right to cancel at any time. Arrival and departure times are estimated and subject to change based on travel conditions. See Player's Club for complete details. Must be at least 21 years old and a Seminole Player's Club member to participate. Management reserves all rights. Person who have been trespassed or banned by the Seminole Tribe of Florida or those who have opted into the self-exclusion program are not eligible. If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, please call 1.888.ADMITIT.



Highway 721 west of Lake Okeechobee on the Brighton Seminole Indian Reservation

FEATURING NEW CHOICES!

Applebee's

PICK 'N PAIR Lunch



CHOOSE
TWO TO
CREATE
YOUR
OWN
FAVORITE
LUNCH
COMBO

Starting
at
\$7.99

ADD A
Coca-Cola
TO YOUR MEAL.

Free Refills!

1/2 PRICE APPETIZERS 2 for 1
After 9pm (from 11am until 7pm at the bar!!) Drinks All Day

Open 11am - Midnight Sun - Thurs • 11am - 2am Fri, Sat
1210 Hwy 70 E • Okeechobee • 863.357.0141

All Pick 'N Pair combos are lunch-sized portions. Available Monday - Friday until 4pm.

Fireworks may have caused structure fire

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

There was at least one structure fire in the county on the Fourth of July that could possibly have been started by fireworks. At 6:18 p.m. five vehicles and eight personnel of Okeechobee County Fire/Rescue responded to a vacant dwelling fire of undetermined origin at 14294 N.W. 26th Ave. The fire was extinguished, however, the building was consumed by the fire. The estimated property loss was \$10,000. The owner has a

Pennsylvania address. A nearby property owner reported a loud noise that could possibly be fireworks or a gunshot just prior to the fire starting. He also stated that he saw two white males around 13 to 15 years of age leaving the scene on a green four-wheeler. That information was given to deputies on the scene. The cause of the fire is still under investigation. *Post your opinions in the Public Issues Forum at www.newszap.com. Reporter Pete Gawda can be reached at pgawda@newszap.com.*

Pet of the Week

Shadow is a male Catahoula puppy about 13 weeks old. He is calm and sweet with bright blue eyes. Shadow came to us deaf. Deaf dogs can be trained like any other dog just in a little different way. Pet/Rescue has not had him checked by a specialist to see if his lack of hearing is correctable. Adoption/donation fee of \$175 includes his vaccinations up to date at the time of adoption. For more information, contact Humane Society Pet Rescue Florida, at 863-357-1104.



Special to the Okeechobee News

Okeechobee Arrest Report

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

- Preston David Guinn, 28, S.E. 28th St., Okeechobee, was arrested July 5 by the Okeechobee Narcotics Task Force on a felony charge of possession of a controlled substance (oxycodone). His bond was set at \$5,000.

- Luis Delangel, 33, 51st St., Vero Beach, was arrested July 5 by the Okeechobee Narcotics Task Force on a felony charge of possession of a controlled substance (cocaine). His bond was set at \$5,000.

- James Michael Bonea, 33, S.E. 27th St., Okeechobee, was arrested July 5 by Deputy Raul Marrero on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with the felony of dealing in stolen property. His bond was set at \$10,000.

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

Investigations

The Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office investigated reports of the following crimes last week:

ASSAULT

- 1700 block of U.S. 441 N.
- 3200 block of N.E. 168th St.

BURGLARY

- 6900 block of U.S. 98 N.
- 11000 block of U.S. 441 N.
- 1000 block of N.E. 70th Ave.
- 6700 block of N.W. 151st Terrace
- 2200 block of Center St.

THEFT

- 400 block of S.E. Fourth St. (money)
- 200 block of N.E. 14th Ave. (bicycle parts)

- 1800 block of N.E. Third St.
- 3100 block of U.S. 441 S.E. (TV)
- 2000 block of S.E. 28th St.
- 1300 block of S.W. 18th Terrace (license tag/decals)
- 1900 block of N.W. Fifth St. (wallet)
- 3400 block of U.S. 441 S.E.
- 3500 block of N.W. 10th Ave. (metal)
- 13000 block of S.W. 144th Parkway (guns)
- 9200 block of S.E. 60th Drive (jewelry)
- 900 block of N.E. 12th Ave. (tractor parts)
- 6300 block of N.E. Seventh St.
- 13000 block of N.E. Fourth Terrace (identity)
- 30000 block of N.W. Center St.

Professional. Principled. Passionate.



863.467.6570 • 863.467.1968 (FAX)
200 SW 9th Street, Okeechobee, FL 34974
gjs@sneiderlaw.com | sneiderlaw.com

Family Law | Criminal Law | Civil Litigation



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.
GENUINE COMFORT.



LENNOX KNOWS YOU DON'T COMPROMISE. AND NEITHER DO WE.

That's why we dedicate ourselves to product innovation and customer service. So go ahead, get comfortable.

CAC014022
Offers expire 8/24/2012. *See dealer for details. Rebate offer is valid only with the purchase of qualifying Lennox® products. © 2012 Lennox Industries Inc. See your participating Lennox dealer for details. Lennox dealers include independently owned and operated businesses.

RECEIVE UP TO
\$3,300 between
Lennox Rebates, F P & L
Rebates and EWC Discount!*

on qualifying Lennox® Home Comfort System



Emory Walker Co. Inc.
(863) 763-6742

208 SW 5th Avenue, Okeechobee
Okeechobee's Longest-Established Lennox Dealer

Friends and Neighbors

I want to thank all of my many friends and neighbors for all your support in my campaign for re-election as your property appraiser.

It has come to my attention that people are not aware that they must be a registered Republican in order to vote in some of the local races on August 14th, The Republican Primary. "In other words if you are registered as a **Democrat, Independent or No Party Affiliation**, you will not be able to vote in the Republican Primary Races.



THE DEADLINE TO REGISTER OR CHANGE PARTY AFFILIATION IS JULY 16TH.

I need your support in the August 14th election. If you wish to vote in the Republican primary on August 14th please go to the Supervisor of Elections office and change your party affiliation now before it is too late.

REMEMBER THE DEADLINE TO DO THIS IS JULY 16TH.

I thank you again for your support!

Paid by W.C. Sherman, Republican, for Property Appraiser



City code board to consider overgrown properties

By **Pete Gawda**
Okeechobee News

The City of Okeechobee Code Enforcement Board is scheduled to hear four cases

tomorrow night. Of the four cases on the agenda, three are charged with the same offense. Vicki Staton, owner of the property at 1003 N.W. Seventh St., Freddie and Lisa

Phipps, owners of property at 814 S.E. Eighth St. and Foster LLC, owner of property in the 1000 block of N.W. Sixth Ave., have all been charged with public nuisance and need for general cleaning and beautification.

The fine for the N & A Construction property at 406 N.E. Fourth St. has accrued for over nine days. Therefore the board will have to decide what action to take.

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

If you go ...

What: City of Okeechobee Code Enforcement Board
When: 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 10
Where: Council Chambers, Okeechobee City Hall

'Charge On. Charge On.'

An historic picture of the "Battle of Okeechobee" was presented to the Okeechobee Historical Society by three members of the local Daughters of the American Revolution (D.A.R.) The original painting was done by Guy LaBree and titled "Charge On, Charge On."

Pictured are DAR members Su George, Julie Alexander Turner and Betsy Cheney with Okeechobee Historical Society President, Betty Chandler Williamson. Su George also shared with the Historical Society at its May meeting, a video of the re-dedication of the Okeechobee Battlefield Monument.



Special to the Okeechobee News

Available 24/7



Community Guide: <http://specialsections.newszap.com/SS/Page.aspx?&secid=119590&pagenum=1>
Medical Directory: <http://specialsections.newszap.com/SS/Page.aspx?&secid=59786&pagenum=1>
Meet Your Merchant: <http://specialsections.newszap.com/SS/Page.aspx?&secid=56360&pagenum=1>
School Information Guide: <http://specialsections.newszap.com/SS/Page.aspx?&secid=68371&pagenum=1>

Call a PRO *Professional*

An Affordable way to Advertise YOUR business!

Call 863-763-3134

M&M Auto Brokers, Inc.

Buy Here! Pay Here!
As low as **\$500 Down**
Easy Payment **CASH FOR JUNK!**



Call Mitch (863) 763-0330
Cell 954-214-8877
mandmautobrokersinc.com

3565 Hwy 441 N., Okeechobee

An Affordable way
to Advertise YOUR
business!

Call 863-763-3134

JONES EQUIPMENT Est. 1989

4558 US Hwy 441 S.E.
Okeechobee, FL

1-888-683-7853 863-763-5342

Cargo • Auto • Utility Trailers & Parts

Privacy screens & bras Boat tops & covers
5th wheel skirts Repairs & modifications

The Canvas Shop, LLC
On-site service

909 S. Parrott Ave., Ste B
Okeechobee, FL 34974

Carl and Donna Gaiser 863.763.7500
fax 863.763.6754



Lori C. Berger
Exclusive Agent

Allstate

You're in good hands.

24-Hour
Customer Service

AUTO • HOME • LIFE • RETIREMENT

Allstate Insurance
Company
800 S. Parrott Ave.
Okeechobee, FL 34974

Phone 863-467-1265
Fax 863-467-1085
Cell 863-634-8737



300 NW
Park St
Okeechobee

AUTO PARTS

863.763.1141



www.inkwell4ink.com
909 So. Parrott Ave
Okeechobee

863-357-4INK
(4465)

•VIP Discounts
Tattoos & Piercings

Mast Complete

LAWN SERVICE

863.532.1077
Free Estimates

Lic# 1862
Lic# 10355

Licensed &
Insured



Special to the Okeechobee News

Quilt is part of fundraiser

The Tantie Quilters recently completed a slanted star quilt that they are donating to the fund raiser for Louise Davis. Louise is a supervisor of nurses at Raulerson Hospital who is battling breast cancer for the third time in 18 years. The quilt will be auctioned off at Shenanigan's on Saturday, July 14, along with other items. Pictured with the quilt are Tina Muller, Janet Hendrix at the top and Marie Kirchoff and Margaret Smith at the bottom, members of the Tantie Quilters who meet at the Okeechobee Historical Society museum every Thursday from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Anyone interested in quilting is invited to attend.

You Are In Skin Cancer Country Get Your Skin Check Today

Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer, but more than 98 percent of skin cancers can be cured with early detection. Schedule your skin check today if:

- You've ever spent time in the sun for work or play
- You have a spot on your skin that has changed shape or color
- You have a spot that bleeds and never seems to heal



Call to schedule your skin check today



• Serious Medicine For Your Skin •

www.wederm.com

Okeechobee 301 N.E. 19th Drive 863-467-6767
Belle Glade (Across from the old hospital) 561-692-0100
Clewiston 112 South W. C. Owens Ave. 863-805-0030

Most insurance accepted, including Medicare and Medicaid

Call a PRO *essional*

An Affordable way to Advertise YOUR business!

Call 863-763-3134

JUST CALL ME "JERRY"
 Your Hometown Injury Attorney
 Law Office of Gerald Lefebvre
 1910 S. Parrott Ave.
 Okeechobee, FL
763-3333
 accidentattorneyoffice.com
 PHONE ANSWERED 24/7 SE HABLA ESPAÑOL

Sales • Service
 Installation
QUALITY A/C
 "Our Focus Is To Make You Comfortable"
467-1545
 Your Mobile Home Specialists
 www.QualityACokee.com

Rent to Own
 Appliances • TV • Furniture
BUDDY'S HOME FURNISHINGS
 WWW.BUDDYRENTS.COM
JUAN CORTEZ
 Manager
 Office: (863) 357-3301 • Fax: (863) 357-2804
 3389 US Hwy 441 S
 Okeechobee, FL
 manager033@buddysrents.com
 UP TO 6 months same as cash

JC TRACTOR SERVICES
 ● Bush Hog
 ● Level Grading
 ● Light Clearing
 ● Driveways
 ● Trimming
 ● Fencing
 ● Light Dirt Work
 Licensed Insured
Joey Coonfare, Owner (863) 634-6004

St Lucie BATTERY & TIRE
 Home of honest and reliable service
C J Boone
 198 Hwy 98 N. Okeechobee, FL 34972
 (863) 357-2431 • 800-432-1064 • FAX (863) 357-6723
 www.slbatterytire.com

A FULL SERVICE REPAIR FACILITY
Choice Automotive & Custom Exhaust
 Computer Diagnostics • Exhaust • A/C Service • Brakes
 Window Motors • Tune-Ups • Welding • Engine Mechanics
863-467-6633
 Located Behind Rita's Don't Make the Wrong Choice!
 704 NE 2nd Ave. Okeechobee, FL

Tree Locators, Inc.
 "Don't Destroy Nature When You Can Recreate It"
 -Plants -Manufactured Stone
 -Trees -Design
 -Natural Stone -Installation
 -Decorative Gravel -Full Garden Center
 16162 Hwy 441 N. Okeechobee, FL 34974
863-763-7736
 Fax 863-763-8730
 treelocators@aol.com

Grand Oaks
 ASSISTED LIVING BY THE VNA License AL11944
 203 SE 2nd St. Okeechobee
 Phone: 863-824-6770
 Diane Wood, RN Administrator
 www.grandoaks.org

Online Classifieds



florida.newszap.com Free Speech & Free Ads

Create Your Own Ads Online! Four weeks FREE ... It's Easy!

Submit Your Free Online Classified Ad Today at **FLORIDA.NEWSZAP.COM** - Click on Classifieds

Post your ads in any of these newspapers for as little as \$8 each:

Okeechobee News • Caloosa Belle • Clewiston News • Glades County Democrat • Immokalee Bulletin • The Sun

• Online for 4 weeks - 400 words + 4 photos
• Absolutely FREE!
• Post your ads in our papers for as little as \$8 each
florida.newszap.com
click on classifieds

Announcements

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

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Auctions

School District of Okeechobee County Surplus
AUCTION
Wed-Jul 18th-10 AM
Loc: 938 NW 34th St.
Okeechobee, FL
7 SCHOOL BUSES
2 POLICE CARS
Bid live onsite or online!
For details, visit:
www.karлиндaniel.com
10% BP-Cash to Bid
Karlin Daniel & Assoc.
Lic. Auctioneers & RE Brokers
FLAB878AU1207
800-329-0036

Garage/Yard Sales

We Buy Estates
Antiques, Collectibles,
Household, Tools,
Jewelry and etc.
Call 863-697-8906 or
772-519-2463

Personals

Lot For Sale: Basswood Estates, .46 acres, NW 26th Ave, corner lot at the end of the road, owner has culvert in place and survey documents. Asking \$6,000.00 firm. (863)697-0325 or (561)261-9481

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

Services

Golf Cart Batteries, Repairs, Parts, Service and charger repairs. Will buy unwanted carts & chargers pick up and delivery. Call Dan's Golf Cart Repairs 863-610-0479 or 863-763-8318

Employment

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Employment Full Time

Certified Real Estate Appraiser. First Appraisal of S.W. Florida has one opening for a State Certified Appraiser Residential or Commercial. We are a full service appraisal company based in a rural area. Fee split arrangement based on experience. Fax resume to 863-675-1005 or mail to PO Box 219, LaBelle FL 33975

DRIVERS:
Dedicated Account!
Top Pay, Benefits,
Miles, Weekly
Home-Time & More!
Werner Enterprises:
1-888-567-4854

Employment Full Time

Mechanic
Site & paving contractor looking for experienced person to maintain equipment, from motor graders to weed wackers. Please apply in person at: 503 NW 9th Street E.O.E.

R & D Maintenances is currently accepting applications for Electrician Helper position. Requirements include: Knowledge of single and three phase systems, knowledge of JLG lift operation needed. Must be at least 18, have a valid drivers license and pass a drug screen. EEO Apply in person at 475 Ridgeway Road, Clewiston FL 33440 This is a temporary position.

R & D Maintenances is currently accepting applications for licensed Journeyman Electrician. Requirements include: Knowledge of single and three phase systems, knowledge of JLG lift operation needed. Must be at least 18, have a valid drivers license and pass a drug screen. EEO Apply in person at 475 Ridgeway Road, Clewiston FL 33440 This is a temporary position.

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

WILDLIFE TECHNICIAN
Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission has a job opening for a technician at Fisheating Creek WMA in Glades County. For more information and to apply go to: <https://peoplefirst.myflorida.com/logon.htm> or call Pat at 863-946-1194

Employment Full Time

Sales Assistant and Coordinator needed. Immediate opening working in a busy office with account managers to help maintain high levels of customer service. Duties to include processing sales and purchase order entry, answer phones, manage inventory, maintain files and a wide range of customer service and other tasks. Prior experience in sales environment preferred. Proficiency in Excel, Word, Power Point and other common computer programs required. Fax resumes to: 863-692-0100 or email to: positions@mack-farms.com

Get a quick response to any item you may be selling with a classified ad.

How do you find a job in today's competitive market? In the employment section of the classifieds

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

WANTED Lic. Beautician needed for new upscale salon and boutique. Best pay scale in Town. Great location - across street from theater. Call Jim 1-305-923-9270 or 763-6140

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

Reading a newspaper helps you understand the world around you. No wonder newspaper readers are more successful people!

Financial

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

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.

Services

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Bicycle Sales & Repair

ProMobile Bicycle Repair
All Makes, Models
I Come To You!
Now Serving Okeechobee & Surrounding Areas
(561)309-9320

Shop here first!
The classified ads

Merchandise

For more listings, go to 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

Pets/Supplies

Australian Shepard
AKC with papers, 10 weeks old, female, color primarily black, white strip on face and white feet
\$600.00 (Local)
Call 772-634-0396

Agriculture

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Farm Feed/Products

Alfalfa Hay for sale
70lb. bales
\$16.00 a piece.
Coastal and Oat Hay
Mix \$8.00 a bale.
Call 863-634-7051

Rentals

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Apartment

IN TOWN Efficiency Apt.
Nice area. Utilities & lawn included.
\$625/mo. 1st & \$350 sec. Non smoking environment. No pets.
863-610-0861.

Apartments

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

NEW DUPLEX - 3/2, in the city limits. Wood cabinets w/granite countertops. All appl's. W/D Hookup. Available now. 1st & deposit to move in. (863)465-0053

OAK LAKE VILLAS - 2BR, 2BA, Laundry room with Washer/Dryer, large fenced patio. Very clean. \$750 mo., 1st, last, \$600 sec. dep. (863)634-3312 or (863)634-3313

VIKING/PRAIRIE - 1 br. Apartment. Very clean! \$650/mo. Incl. utils. No pets. Call Ron 561-329-8205.

Condos/Townhouses Rent

TAYLOR CREEK - 1/1 Condo on ground floor. Unfurnished. Pool access. Washer, Dryer, Dishwasher. Includes water. \$700/mo. 1st month free.
863-634-0663.

TAYLORCREEK - Condo, 2/2, ground floor, screened porch, tile. \$800/mo. + sec., incls water, & pool.
(863)634-0663

Houses - Rent

3 bedroom 2 bath home for rent, 2 car garage, split plan, ceramic tile.
863-634-9330 or 863-467-2541

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

Kings Bay
CBS Home, 2/2, 1 car garage, W/D, \$900 mo.
Call 863-801-9163

Houses - Rent

OKEECHOBEE 4BR, 2BA, tile throughout, \$1100 month & up. 1st & sec. moves you in. Call (561)248-3888 or (863)599-0156

OLDER MOBILE HOME with nice 12x50 addition. 3BR, 1BA. \$650/mo. incl. all utils, lawn care. Avail immediately Laundry available.
815-412-0639.

TREASURE ISLAND - 1/1, semi furnished all utilities included, on water with boat dock. \$150/weekly. Call (561)262-1390

Real Estate

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Lots - Sale

Great Building Lot
Located in Brentwood Estates. 0.65 acres, water deposit paid, house pad in place to accommodate up to 3500 SQ. ft. home. REDUCED TO \$39,500
CARL @ 863-634-8617

Mobile Homes

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Mobile Home Lots

Mobile Home
Lot for Rent
Off North West 30th Street, close to Elementary School and Hwy 98.
Call for more info.
863-697-1168

Mobile Home Rent

BUCKHEAD RIDGE - Dbl. Wide 2BR, 2BA, C/Air. \$500 mo. Large 3BR, 2BA, C/Air. \$550 mo. No pets. Yearly lease, plus sec. (863)763-4031

Lovely Completely Remodeled 3bd/2ba Mobile Home in Country Setting. Just 15 minutes from Okeechobee and 1 1/2 mile from Kissimmee River boat ramp. For more info Call Stan 863-385-2613

It's never too late to find the perfect gift. Look for it in the classifieds.

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

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

Campers/RVs

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

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

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

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

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

Automobiles

07 Chevy Cobalt 4d, LS Low mileage, great on gas, 25 city, 34 hwy, NADA/Kelly Blue Book \$9,000. Asking \$7,500 obo 772-291-8799

Your new home could be in today's paper. Have you looked for it?

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

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

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

Public Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:

Tina I. Donis-Florian
Last known address:
16637 NW 38th Ave
Okeechobee, FL

James D. Hatfield Jr.
Last known address:
3011 NW 2nd St
Okeechobee, FL

Jennifer A. Leon
Last known address:
604 NW 15th St
Okeechobee, FL

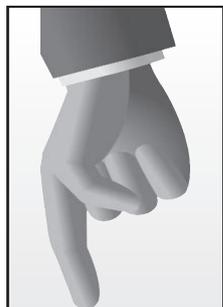
Alice F. Montezuma-Vazquez
Last known address:
1265 NE 55th Trl
Okeechobee, FL

Latisha S. Smith
Last known address:
3523 SE 26th St
Okeechobee, FL

Lisa J. Williams
Last known address:
3760 SE 12th Dr
Okeechobee, FL

You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. You are required to contact the Supervisor of Elections, in Okeechobee, Florida, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of this published notice to receive the information regarding the basis for your potential ineligibility and the procedure to resolve this matter. Failure to respond may result in a determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor of Elections, and your name will be removed from the statewide voter registration system. If further assistance is needed, please contact the Okeechobee County Supervisor of Elections.

Gwen Chandler
Okeechobee County
Supervisor of Elections
304 NW 2nd Street, Room 144
Okeechobee, Florida, 34972
(863) 763-4014
421-414 ON 7/8/2012



ADVERTISE and Get Results
www.newszap.com
click on classifieds

Crossword Puzzle

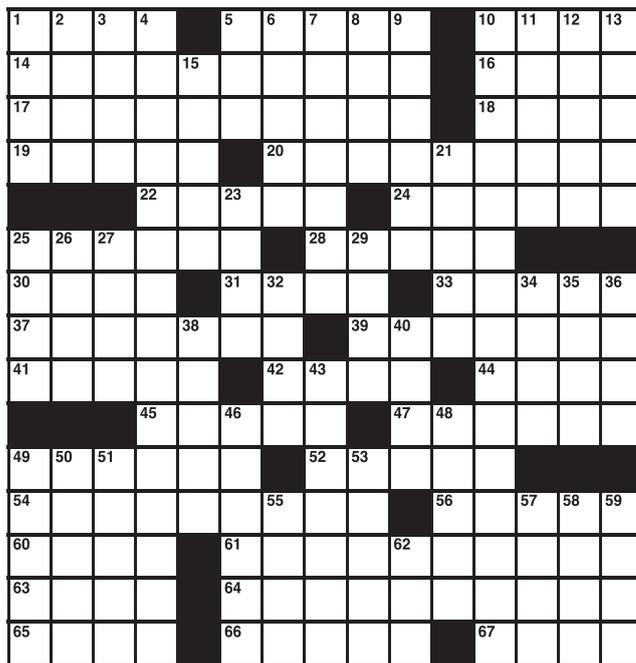
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- | | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------------|--|
| ACROSS | DOWN | 35 You might see one on a woodpile | 50 Personally train Bleachers sign 53 Up |
| 1 Org. distributing a "Close Guantánamo" handbook | 1 Credit Union holding: Abbr. | 36 Singer Williams 38 Rap | 55 Moon goddess 57 XC years from now |
| 5 Cloud | 2 Fish also called a blue jack | 40 Abrasive sound 43 Lays away | 58 Not up |
| 10 Stupefied | 3 Tiki torch setting | 46 Ally | 59 Extinct pigeon relative |
| 14 Geographical border | 4 It's radioactive | 48 Common video game fighter | 62 "___ Buttermilk Sky": 1946 song |
| 16 Native Nebraskan | 5 Sch. associated with the LDS Business College | 49 Jordan's only port | |
| 17 Five-time All-Star second baseman | 6 John of England | | |
| 18 Item used in Wright Brothers experiments | 7 Some bass pieces | | |
| 19 Advertises | 8 Linear, for short | | |
| 20 Salt | 9 Jet creator | | |
| 22 How writers often work | 10 "Seriously" | | |
| 24 Honeysuckle shrubs | 11 Functional | | |
| 25 Algerian quarter | 12 Drive | | |
| 28 Dragging | 13 Cold drafts | | |
| 30 Historical Russian region | 15 Magnetic induction unit | | |
| 31 1987 Costner role | 21 Pain relief brand | | |
| 33 Climber's observation | 23 "This can't be!" | | |
| 37 Classic diner feature | 25 Rabid dog of Castle Rock | | |
| 39 "Private Benjamin" Oscar nominee Eileen | 26 Make ___ for it | | |
| 41 First African-American major-league coach Buck | 27 Interest | | |
| 42 Clinton Transportation secretary | 29 Amazon.com ID | | |
| 44 Encircle | 32 Fair | | |
| 45 Suppressed | 34 Prune | | |
| 47 Way to make it? | | | |
| 49 In | | | |
| 52 Rhino relative | | | |
| 54 Very much | | | |
| 56 Land rover | | | |
| 60 Sphere lead-in | | | |
| 61 Gibberish | | | |
| 63 Toon modeled after Clara Bow | | | |
| 64 One-sided | | | |
| 65 Nice weapon | | | |
| 66 Edit menu command | | | |
| 67 Prank | | | |

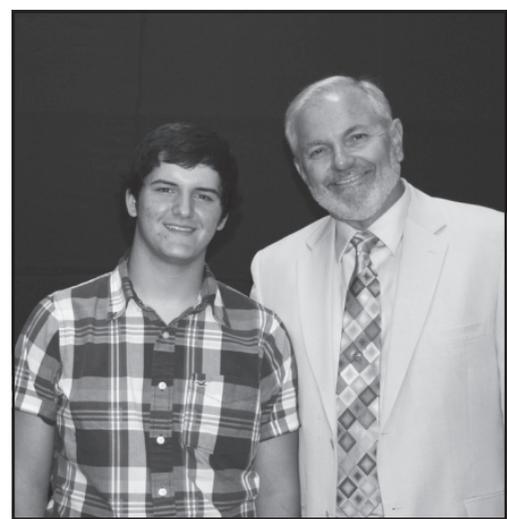
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

M	U	M	S	T	E	P	T	W	O	D	A	Y
A	T	E	N	O	T	A	F	A	K	E	I	D
R	E	D	A	B	I	T	A	L	E	R	T	S
C	R	E	E	P	Y	C	R	U	L	L	E	R
H	O	A	X	K	O	P	A	F	I	R	E	
			A	S	S	E	N	T	S	E	N	T
C	R	U	M	P	E	T	S	O	L	O	G	R
R	U	N	S	A	T		A	B	O	D	E	S
A	B	S	T	H	E	B	U	N	I	L	O	V
V	I	C	I	S	P	O	N	G	E	D		
E	N	A	C	T	I	N	K		I	M	A	M
			T	H	E	S	C	O	N	E	H	E
T	A	H	I	N	I	B	O	L	A	T	O	N
O	B	E	R	O	N	O	W	E	N	E	B	B
T	U	D	O	R	S	S	N	A	G	S	E	C

xwordeditor@aol.com



By Barry C. Silk
(c)2011 Tribune Media Services, Inc.



Special to the Okeechobee News/OHS

Contractors Association Scholarship

The Okeechobee Contractors Association Scholarship was presented to Timothy Farrell (left) at the May 24 Scholarship Awards Night at OHS. Presenting the award was Mark Brandel (right).



Special to the Okeechobee News/OHS

CenterState Bank Scholarship

The CenterState Bank Scholarship was presented to Kristen Barnes (left) and Benjamin Kielbasa (right) by bank representative Tabitha Trent (center) at the OHS Scholarship Awards Night held May 24.

Pet Rescue hosts dog behaviorist, Tibor Feigel

Dog Training Seminar with dog behaviorist, Tibor Feigel of ZEN K-9 is returning to the Okeechobee Pet/Rescue shelter by popular demand on **July 15**, from 1 until 3 p.m. Tibor Feigel lead trainer of Zen-K9 will address owner behavior concerns and behavioral modification during a two-hour seminar. Tickets are on sale in advance at the Pet/Rescue shelter. Seating is limited. Cost is \$25 per person or \$45 per family. Those who adopted dogs from the shelter will get a \$5 discount.

Local Blood Drives planned

Come and give the gift of life to someone in your own hometown. The Big Red Bus will be at the following locations during the month of July.

- July**
 Sunday, July 8 – More to Life Ministries, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
 Friday, July 13 – Walgreen's, 2-6 p.m.
 Sunday, July 15 – Golden Corral, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
 Thursday, July 19 – SFWMD, Hwy 70 Sta., Noon-5 p.m.
 Saturday, July 21 – Publix, Noon-5 p.m.
 Sunday, July 22 – Lodge at the Lake, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
 Friday, July 27 -- Seacoast National Bank, S., 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
 Friday, July 27 -- Okee Health Dept., Noon-5 p.m.
 Saturday, July 28 – Day of the Cowboy, Ag Center, 3 – 7 p.m.
 Saturday, July 28 – Wal Mart, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Local softball teams set for Dixie Youth state tourney

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Four Okeechobee softball teams will travel to Carrabelle next weekend to compete in the Dixie Youth Softball state championships.

The tournament runs from July 12-16, in

the tiny town near the Gulf of Mexico and the state capital of Tallahassee.

The teams, parents and coaches have been visible in the community in the past few weeks in an effort to raise funds to help pay for the costs of the travel to Florida's Panhandle.

Coach Neal Jewell of the Dixie Darlings,

an 8 and under team, said parents have done a great job helping raise funds for the teams. The district tournament was held here in Okeechobee in late June and was well attended. Teams from Avon Park, Sebring and Lake Placid all competed.

The other teams in the state tournament include the Angels 10 and under, Ponytails 12 and under, and Bells 14 and under.

Anyone interested in donating to the

teams can call Mr. Jewell, vice president of OCRA, at 863-697-3212, or the president of OCRA Mickey Slayton at 863-634-0515.

Members of the OCRA Darlings All-Stars include Anayah Baker, Mattie Garcia, Jena Slayton, Morgan Hancock, Faith Vest, Bridgette Curl, Joy Whipple, Elle Thomas, Adrianna Baker, Laurence Sills and Kirstin Nunez.



Special to the Okeechobee News

OCRA Darlings 8 and under district champs: (front row, left to right) Anayah Baker, Mattie Garcia, Jena Slayton, Morgan Hancock and Faith Vest; (middle row, left to right) Bridgette Curl, Kirstin Nunez, Laurence Sills, Adrianna Baker, Elle Thomas and Joy Whipple; (back row, left to right) coaches Mike Slayton, Ty Hancock, Steve Curl and head coach Neal Jewell.

OHS finishes low in FHSAA All-Sports Awards listings

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Despite several district championships and strong seasons across the board in most sports, Okeechobee finished 62nd out of 79 schools in Class 7A in the Florida High School Athletic Association Floyd E. Lay Sunshine Cup All Sports Award standings for 2011-12.

Okeechobee earned 69 points in the annual ratings that earns points from teams that finish in the top 16 in each sport. Richard Donegan won a state championship in golf but the 100 points OHS would have earned for a team sport were not awarded to the high school because it was an indi-

vidual title. Other athletes like Elisia Garcia and John Kemp made the state tournament in weightlifting and wrestling.

The formula also awards schools for post-season championships and gives penalty points for unsportsmanlike conduct and ejections from games of players and coaches.

The Brahman girls softball team finished in the top eight in the state and earned most of the points for the school. The boys soccer team won their district title but was eliminated in the first round of the playoffs. FHSAA tracks 695 schools in this annual evaluation.

MORE POWER TO YOU.

Feeling powerless at your big bank? All banks and credit unions aren't alike – so when it comes to deciding where to bank, take control.

START TODAY!

Earn up to \$327 with

Power
PLAY

GET
\$77
cash

with a new
FREE checking
account¹

FREE
CHECKING

GET
\$200
credit

with your **refinanced loan**
Rates as low as
2.99%² APR

REFI
LOAN

GET
\$50
credit

with a new
Visa Platinum Credit Card³
0% Intro APR on balance transfers
No annual fee

CREDIT
CARD

plus

MIDFLORIDA is here to work with you and your schedule – with features like:

- 7 am to 7 pm Drive-thru and Help Desk Hours
- Saturday Hours
- Free Debit Card with Rewards
- Free Online Banking and Bill Payment ... and More!

MIDFLORIDA
Your community credit union

www.midflorida.com

Toll Free (866) 913-3733

Habla Español (877) 834-6376

OKEECHOBEE 3261 U.S. Hwy. 441 S.



Federally
insured by
NCUA.

Offers valid as of April 10, 2012. A minimum \$5 account is required for membership with MIDFLORIDA and access to these offers. Offers are available for a limited time only and may be cancelled without notice. Existing MIDFLORIDA loans and credit cards do not qualify for the incentive or the special advertised Annual Percentage Rates (APR). Checking incentive is deposited to new checking account. Loan and credit card incentives will be applied to a MIDFLORIDA Visa Platinum credit card. Other rates and terms are available and are based on credit. Visit midflorida.com or see an associate for details.

1. Anyone who has held a checking account with MIDFLORIDA in the past will not qualify for the \$77 incentive. In addition to opening a new checking account, you must accept and open online banking, online bill payment, eStatement, eNotice, direct deposit (\$500 minimum which must post within 30 days of account opening) and a debit card. For RT4T checking accounts, you must make 5 debit card transactions in the first 30 days in lieu of the direct deposit requirement. Freedom accounts do not qualify for this incentive. Minimum to open is \$50. 2. To qualify for the incentive, you must refinance a loan of \$15,000 or more from another financial institution. Loans of \$5,000 to \$14,999 will receive a \$100 credit. 3. Incentive is offered on new credit card accounts only. The introductory Annual Percentage Rate available on balance transfers is valid for the first 12 months on new accounts only. A 1% balance transfer fee will apply.

Firestix crowned tourney champs

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

The Firestix softball program won their first state title in their 8 and under division when they attended a prestigious tourna-

ment last month in Indian River County. Program director Kim Hargraves said the team played seven games at the Vero Beach Tourney and was able to win the title with a 14-8 win over Plantation in the championship game.

“They played their little hearts out in the seven games and the Plantation team was very tough,” she added.

The coaches of the team included Kelley Smiley, Jordyn Nealis and Scott Boyer. The roster included Madi Hargraves, Jenna Stoddard, Haylee Huff, Kaylee Huff, Jillian Johnston, Elle Thomas, Mallory Collier, Cherylynn Bohannon, Chyler Villarreal, Aubee Billie and Iliana Boyer.

Anyone interested in playing Firestix softball this fall is asked to contact coach Hargraves at 863-634-6322.



Special to the Okeechobee News

The coaches and players of the Okeechobee Firestix were pleased with their performance this season. Coaches are Kelley Smiley, Jordyn Nealis and Scott Boyer. The team roster includes Madi Hargraves, Jenna Stoddard, Haylee Huff, Kaylee Huff, Jillian Johnston, Elle Thomas, Mallory Collier, Cherylynn Bohannon, Chyler Villarreal, Aubee Billie and Iliana Boyer.

~Our Priorities are simple...They're Yours!
Lori Mixon
Lic. Real Estate Broker
(863) **634-1457**
LMixon@MixonGroup.com

SECLUDED PARADISE-22 Acres. 2008 Energy efficient, CBS/ Cedar wrapped, 2Bd/ 2Ba/ 4 carport. 2532 SF Under air- 4817 TLA. Country elegance custom home. Open concept, stone fireplace, vaulted pine ceilings, panoramic views, wrap around porch, 200 MPH impact windows. Spectacular master suite, stone double shower, office-sitting room. Beadboard cabinets, tumbled marble counters, bkfst bar, outdoor kitchen, party patio, fire pit, sound system. 40x48 barn-3 bays, 2 stalls, tack rm, dog pens. Private target range. A HOME for Entertaining! \$439,000 Call Lori (863) 634-1457

Visit our website...
www.MixonGroup.com
to view our
Over 100 Listings

Lic. REAL ESTATE BROKER
Office: 863-763-6000

**ALWAYS SAVING
PROPERTY
BUYERS
\$ MONEY!**

**BUYERS ONLY
REALTY CO.**

BILL F. STEGKEMPER,
REALTOR, CRS, GRI, APPRAISER
BK129997

(863) 801-9497 CELL
P.O. Box 1074, Okeechobee, FL 34973
517 S.W. Park St. • Okeechobee

Your Hometown Realtor
Giving you the service you deserve!

**Vicki S.
Anderson,**
Lic. RE Broker

863-634-4106
vic_anderson@earthlink.net
www.andersonrealtyco.com
21442 E. SR 78, BHR • Okeechobee

Xplosion/Brahman Wee Cheer Clinic is scheduled

The fourth annual Xplosion/Brahman Wee Cheer Clinic will be July 9-13. Come enjoy a week of cheerleading and tumbling fun. Okeechobee Xplosions certified and trained staff as well as the Okeechobee High School Brahman Cheerleaders will be hosting this week of cheerleading, stunting, games and tumbling. Camp participants not only receive a camp shirt, and snack but also the opportunity to cheer in the first home game with the OHS Brahman Cheerleaders. Spots are filling up quickly. For more information, contact 863-441-3826 by phone, or email xplosionallstarcheer@yahoo.com.

Century 21
David Hazellief, 863-610-1553
Betty Hazellief, 863-610-0144
Sharon Prevatt, 863-634-7069
Dee Reeder, 863-610-2485

Hazellief & Prevatt Realty Inc.
(863) 763-2104 • Se Habla Español

	5015-H: Beautiful Country home on 10+/- acres zoned Ag. Concrete & brick construction. 2122 SF under air/3196 TSF. Island kitchen, lg 30x60 barn w/3 stalls and workshop, fenced, pond, in-wall pest control. Too many extras to list! \$325,000 MLS #205942	REDUCED 	1007-H: SW Section home with street on two sides. Living Sq ft 2343, large island kitchen, dining room with large Florida room with fireplace, appliances, lrg Oak trees and fruit trees. \$179,000 NOW \$149,000 MLS #205526
LAKE ACCESS 	4004-M: Buckhead Ridge waterfront 2BR/2.5BA with additions. Large FL rm, screened rm, workshop, boat lift, double carport on a lg corner lot with water on two sides. \$85,000 MLS #20552		5009-M: Edwards Sub-division On 1.39+/- acres room for livestock, water to pens, fenced, x fenced, large shed, 904 total SF, has addition for extra bedroom. \$30,000 MLS #205945
FORECLOSURE 	1006-H: In town concrete block home with carport, large back yard, 1,352 SF under air. Lots of shade from large Oak Tree. Nice starter home or investment property with potentials. \$45,000 MLS #205965	FORECLOSURE 	2003-H: Taylor Creek, Lake Access fixer upper. two car garage, long concrete driveway, screened back porch, shed. Some concrete seawall and large garage. \$41,000 MLS #205937

• 20+/- acres NW 72nd Ave. Not Buildable Pasture land suitable for cattle/agriculture. **\$40,000 or better offer** MLS #205495 • **Fenced 5+/- acres** ready for a home and animals. NW 30th Ter. **\$42,000** MLS #205944 • **Blue Heron** Lot S.E. 141 CT. **\$20,900** MLS #205527 • **Basswood Lot** NW 33rd Ave **\$6,000 or better offer.** MLS #205239 • **319 +/- acres** on Hwy 441 North **\$4,000,000** MLS #205562 • **Okeechobee Hammock** Clean corner lot 100x104 (9002 SE 65th Way) **\$5,000** • **Foreclosure** 5+/- acres in Viking **\$11,900**

century21okeechobee@earthlink.net • 1200 S. Parrott Ave. • Century21okeechobee.com

Tucker Group LLC

2739 Acre Ranch in Eastern Okeechobee County

Offered Exclusively by:
The Tucker Group, LLC
Call Brandon Tucker (772) 201-8722

\$7,250,000

104 NW 7th Ave. Okeechobee
863-763-4010 or 888-874-2945
Lic. RE Broker Auctioneer# AU2579.

ZERO

- MONEY DOWN
- PERCENT INTEREST
- PAYMENTS UNTIL LABOR DAY

FOR 72 MONTHS

Only at
Gilbert
CHEVROLET



Bad Credit?

No Credit?

No Problem!

2012 CHEVY CRUZE

38
MPG

LEASE FROM

\$159

PER MO. FOR 24 MO.

- CD / MP3 Player
- Cruise Control
- OnStar
- XM Satellite Radio

We have lenders on site ready to help find a credit solution for you!

2012 MALIBU

33
MPG



FROM **\$179** LEASE FOR / PER MO. FOR 24 MO.

- Automatic
- XM Satellite Radio
- CD/MP3 Player
- OnStar

\$7,500 OFF
ON SELECT VEHICLES

2012 EQUINOX

32
MPG



FROM **\$229** LEASE FOR / PER MO. FOR 24 MO.

- OnStar
- CD/MP3 Player
- XM Satellite Radio
- Bluetooth Wireless

Cruze lease is for 24 months/12,000 miles with \$1,995 due at signing. Malibu lease is for 24 mo/12,000 miles with \$1,639 due at signing. Equinox lease is for 24 months/12,000 miles with \$1,799 due at signing. All prices are plus taxes, tag, and fees. Offers assume qualified credit. Offers may not be used in conjunction with each other. All incentives and rebates to dealer. Dealer not responsible for typographical errors. Pictures are for illustration purposes only. Offers expire 7/31/12.

Looking for more discounts? We offer additional rebates for participating members of Farm Bureau, AARP, USAA & More.

Economy Pre-Owned Vehicles **Under \$10k**

30 days or 1000 mile warranty on all vehicles

Quality Pre-Owned Vehicles

2000 Mercury Grand Marquis Automatic  \$4,750
1996 Mercury Sable \$2,750 Auto Transmission
1997 Mercury Grand Marquis \$4,750 Auto Transmission
2008 Kia Rio \$5,190 Manual Transmission

2002 Ford Escape \$6,250 Auto Transmission
2004 Kia Sorento \$6,750 Auto Transmission
2002 Toyota Avalon \$7,750 Auto Transmission
2004 Lincoln Aviator \$8,750 Auto Transmission
2004 Dodge Dakota \$8,990 Quad Cab, Auto Transmission
2006 Jeep Liberty \$9,750 Auto Transmission

2010 Chevy Silverado 1500 Ext. Cab Sirius XM Radio, Pwr Windows & Locks  \$23,500
2009 Chevy Cobalt 2024A \$10,750 Auto Transmission
2009 Chevy Impala \$11,900 Auto Transmission
2005 Toyota Highlander \$12,200 Auto Transmission

2007 Chevy TrailBlazer \$12,200 Auto Transmission
2006 Toyota Tundra \$12,750 Low Miles, Manual Transmission
2011 Nissan Versa \$12,865 Auto Transmission
2006 Toyota RAV4 \$13,900 Auto Transmission
2009 Chevy Colorado \$14,750 Auto Transmission
2010 Toyota Corolla \$14,750 Auto Transmission

WIPER BLADES
Starting at **\$7.50** per blade
Expires 7/31/2012

Gilbert
CHEVROLET

www.GilbertChevrolet.com
(877) Go-Gilbert or (863) 763-3154
SALES: Mon-Fri 8:30 AM-7:00 PM • Sat. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
SERVICE & PARTS: Mon-Fri 7:30 AM-5:30 PM • Sat. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM
BODY SHOP: Mon-Fri 7:30 AM-5:30 PM • **Closed Sundays**

