



Vol. 104 No. 17

Friday, February 8, 2013

50¢ Plus tax



**Good catch
... Page 5**

**Couple accused
of using stolen
ATM card Page 8**

**City won't allow
mixed drinks to
be sold on
Sunday ... Page 3**

Lake Levels

14.47 feet

Last Year: 13.21 feet

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School board considers drug testing

By Charles M. Murphy

Okeechobee News

Sobering and staggering statistics greeted Okeechobee School Board members at a special workshop Tuesday as they considered the merits of a new policy to mandate random drug testing for student athletes and students at our public schools with certain privileges.

This isn't the first time the district has considered such a policy. The district experimented with random drug tests for student athletes between 1997 and 1999 to provide for health

"Will this policy actually deter drug use? That is a question I don't know if I can answer for you."

— Superintendent of Schools Ken Kenworthy

and safety of all student athletes, and to undermine the effects of peer pressure by providing a legitimate reason for athletes to refuse to use illegal drugs. Another goal was to encourage student athletes who use drugs to participate

in drug treatment programs.

The district also kept statistics for student discipline which involved drug use and or abuse. In 2009-2010, 20 students were disci-

See DRUG — Page 10

Missing angler found in marshy area

82-year-old stranded on lake overnight

By Eric Kopp

Okeechobee News

When Robert Jones launched his boat at the Henry Creek ramp to go speck fishing Tuesday, the last thing he intended to do was spend over 30 hours on Lake Okeechobee.

Mr. Jones, 82, had told his wife Margaret he was going to fish around the mouth of the Kissimmee River. But when he hadn't returned home by later that afternoon she became concerned and contacted the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO).

With temperatures forecast to dip into the

high 40s, officers from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) immediately began to search for the missing Indiana angler. They searched the lake in boats while a helicopter provided aerial support.

Records at the Henry Creek navigational locks indicated that Mr. Jones passed through the locks around 8 a.m. Tuesday.

Some 30 hours later Mr. Jones and his Cajun bass boat were found in thick grass a couple of miles behind Tin House Cove—an estimated 5 miles away from the mouth of the river.

Detective Captain Daryl Lewis, from the Glades County Sheriff's Office (GCSO), used an airboat to navigate his way through the marshy area and found Robert on Wednesday.

"He was dehydrated so we gave him some water," said Capt. Lewis, adding that he ap-

peared to be OK otherwise.

The GCSO detective said Mr. Jones' four-stroke Honda outboard may have blown up when he tried to get out of the thick grass. Then, when he tried to work his way out with the trolling motor, the batteries went dead.

At that point there was nothing left for him to do but hunker down.

"I think he kind of napped after it got dark," said Margaret Jones, who admitted Thursday afternoon she was "slowly coming down."

She said her husband had "quite a bit of stuff with him" in the form of extra clothes and food. But, he didn't have any water or his oxygen gen.

According to FWC Public Information Officer Carli Segelson the man was taken to shore

See BOATER — Page 5

Commission seeks grant for ag center

By Pete Gawda

Okeechobee News

A good bit of the discussion at Thursday's meeting of the Okeechobee County Commission dealt with the Okeechobee County Agri-Civic Center.

While the board was unanimous in deciding on an improvement project that would be funded by a grant, there appeared to be some misunderstanding about the purpose of the agri-civic center advisory committee.

Commissioners were asked to apply for a 2013 Rural Business Development Grant from the United States Department of Agriculture for the agri-civic center. This is the same grant that provided funds for the fans in the arena. It requires detailed plans for a specific improvement project that would increase revenue at the facility. The commission had a list of four projects recommended by the agri-civic center advisory committee.

Terry Burroughs, chairman of the advisory

committee, said his organization looked at revenue generating projects and decided that installing overhead electricity in the barn was the best use for the money. Unlike some of the other suggested projects, this would not require a change in the master plan for development of the agri-civic center. Currently there are no equestrian events scheduled in the summer. The way the stalls are constructed, there is no cross ventilation. Installing overhead electricity

See GRANT — Page 5

Parents help defeat 'Math-a-Phobia' at Yearling

Special to the Okeechobee News

Teams of teachers from all OCSB Title I schools recently participated in a Parental Involvement Workshop and Math-a-Phobia Hotline Training that prepared them to hold their own Family Night/Workshop at their school.

The parental involvement training was "Engaging Families through Fun." Dr. Walker

Main Street hosts chalk art demo

Special to the Okeechobee News

Okeechobee Main Street and the Grand Oaks Assisted Living Facility provided a hearty welcome to Lee Jones, esteemed street chalk artist and President of the Florida Chalk Artists Association. Lee provided an exciting program about the history of chalk art, beginning in the early 1500s to present, including many amazing works that have been completed through the years.

Street painting, or chalk art is a temporary work, subject to weather conditions.



Special to the Okeechobee News
Chalk Artist Lee Jones demonstrates the art while local artist, Kathie Papasso watches. Kathie will be one of the local artists at the Chalk Walk this weekend.

Okeechobee Forecast

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Today: Partly cloudy with a chance of rain. High of 82F. Winds from the West at 10 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 20%.

Tonight: Partly cloudy. Low of 54F. Winds from the North at 5 to 10 mph.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: Partly cloudy. Fog early. High of 79F. Winds from the NNE at 5 to 10 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy. Fog overnight. Low of 52F. Winds from the ENE at 5 to 10 mph.

modeled the process she goes through to incorporate "laugh to learn" techniques when planning training for families. Participants planned the family engagement activity for their individual school setting using the new techniques they learned and practiced. Through the Math-a-phobia Hotline experience, students and families will learn that:

1) Math is used in daily life to solve real-

world problems.

2) Math is nothing to fear: it can be mastered and personally empowering.

3) Math opens up career choices because it is a desired skill in the workforce.

4) Math skills are more relevant than ever, given today's advanced technologies.

5) Their teachers and families are dedicated to making their learning of math a positive experience.



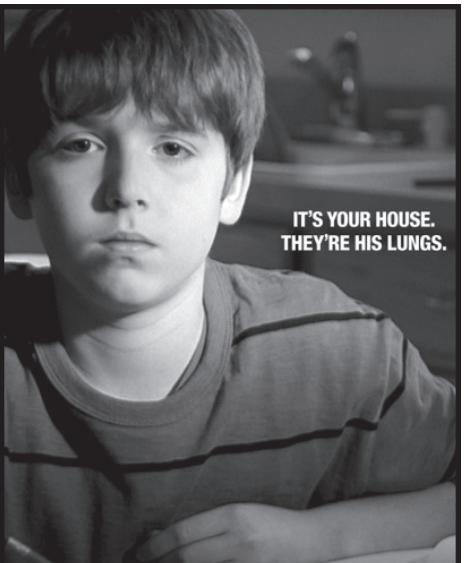
Special to the Okeechobee News
(Left to right) Glenna Rucks, Elizabeth Pearce, from North Elementary and Dr. Angela Walker (with the white boa) enjoyed the workshop.

Yearling Middle School will be the first school to host their event on Tuesday, Feb. 12, with from 5:30-7 p.m. Central, North, South, Everglades and Seminole Elementary Schools are the other Title I schools that will provide this event for their families. Those dates will be announced as they are scheduled. The link below is to the web page for the Math-a-Phobia Parent Night.

http://workshops-in-a-box.com/programs_math.shtml



Sylvia Bandi from Yearling Middle School donned a Superman costume to help fight the fear of math.



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Ban on Sunday sale of mixed drinks still in effect

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

As the result of inaction of the Okeechobee City Council at their Tuesday evening, Feb. 5, meeting, Applebee's will still not be able to sell hard liquor on Sundays.

According to current city ordinance the sale of beer and wine is allowed on Sunday afternoons but not hard liquor. David Sherrill, manager of Applebee's, requested that ordinance be changed to allow his restaurant to sell hard liquor on Sunday afternoons. He said that Sunday sale of hard liquor would allow him to hire six to nine new employees as well as increase the hours of the current employees. He asserted that such a move would also increase sales resulting in more taxes to the city. "I think it would have an impact on the community more positive than negative," he said.

Developer Brad Goodbread said that property owners in the city were treated unfairly in that they pay a premium tax but are limited by current ordinance as to the development of their property.

Ted Denisuk stated that a change in the

ordinance would help bring new restaurants into town.

Arguing the opposite side was Rev. Randy Huckabee, pastor of First Baptist Church, "You can't put a price on family values," he said. "I think we are being very fair." He continued by saying that the sale of beer and wine on Sunday was a compromise. "Let's stay the course," he urged.

Councilman Mike O'Connor voted in favor of Sunday sales of hard liquor when the issue first came up. At that time it was defeated. However, he seemed to have second thoughts when noted that at the first hearing when the matter was previously discussed only one person came to speak for the Sunday sale of hard liquor. At the second hearing he said there were 11 or 12 church people speaking against the issue, but no one at all spoke in favor of it.

"I think there are a lot of things we could look at," Councilman Devin Maxwell said. He suggested that parts of the current ordinance might be in conflict with state law.

Councilman Dowling Watford noted that Applebee's came here aware of the Sunday ban on hard liquor sales. He noted that this

was one of the things that makes Okeechobee special.

"People move here because of our values," stated Councilman Clayton Williams.

Mayor James Kirk stated that it was a hard decision for him the first time the issue came up and that if it were a tie vote this time he would have to vote "no." The mayor directed the city administrator to look at possible conflicts with state law in the current ordinance.

After all this discussion there was no response when the mayor asked for a motion either to reaffirm the present ban or a motion to allow Sunday sales of hard liquor. Therefore the current ordinance stays in effect.

Turning to other action the council approved a revised assignment of lease between the city and Glades Gas Company to FLO Gas for use of an alley. The agreement had been previously approved but had to be revised due to a technicality. They also approved an extension of up to 90 days for

workmen's compensation benefits to city employee Brian Padgett who was injured on the job.

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

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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.

Liquor sales

- Well, it looks like our City Council wants us to remain in 1957 within the City Limits. It is already legal to sell beer and wine on Sunday, but if you want a margarita or any other cocktail, you are out luck. If I remember my younger days clearly, you can get just as drunk on wine and beer as you can Liquor. Liquor sales on Sunday is already legal in the county, just not in the city limits. I was told that three individuals spoke in favor of the change and only one spoke against it. Come on Okeechobee, wake up and enter the 21st Century. I don't want to hear anymore belly-aching from the council members who are against the Sunday sale of mixed drinks about loss of tax revenue and why restaurants don't want to come to this city.

- Faith-based initiatives have to end plan and simple. What is freedom when you are not truly free because of some faith-based decision making.

- I've never understood the logic behind banning the sale of anything based on what day of the week it is. Commerce is commerce and sale restrictions should not be limited to what day of the week the purchase can be made.

- I don't drink, but I really don't care if other people do or not, so long as they don't get behind the wheel of a car when they are intoxicated. Since beer and wine are already allowed, I don't see the point in banning mixed drinks. Beer is cheaper than mixed drinks in restaurants so it seems like it is easier for someone to get drunk on beer. If a religion bans drinking on Sunday, surely members of that church can refrain from drinking even if others are allowed to do.

Censorship

- In regarding to some libraries banning "50 Shades of Gray," the thought I had about good parenting is this: your kid says "mom can I go to the library after school? I need to access some info for an assignment," Mom's reply, "sure, honey." What could be more innocent? Do we need to accompany the kids to the library nowadays? It's not like they need to check out and bring everything home.

- I saw another book there that has murder, incest, homosexuality, bestiality and sodomy. It's called the Bible.

- I may be wrong on this but I think erotic is supposed to be artsy and romantically suggestive and porn is down right dirty stuff. In that context I don't think it is harmful to have erotic books in the library, e.g. a book depicting nude paintings, or some such.

- I am not saying it is right or wrong to have them in the library, but since parents usually figure the library is an innocent and decent place for their kids to be, they may often be unchaperoned while there. Perhaps "50 Shades" belongs in an adult book store.

- No kid is going to go to the library to look for some dirty book or National Geographic when they can sit at home or use their phones to connect to hundreds of porn web sites.

- While I am not worried about what's in the library, I do think parents have a responsibility to know what their children are reading and I do think parents should look at all of the books the kids bring home. I have found some books troubling that were assigned by teachers. For example, a book called "The Giver" is about a society in which babies may be euthanized if anything is wrong with them. My child, who I think was in fifth grade at the time, was very upset by this and had nightmares about it. I had to read the book to understand why she was so upset. From then on, I made sure that I asked the teachers at the beginning of the school year for a list of the books that would be assigned so that I could read them in advance. Of course, usually I find I have already read most of the books on the list, but there are always a few newer ones that I haven't read yet.

OPINION

Letters to the editor

Okeechobee KOA says thanks

Okeechobee KOA would like to thank the following Okeechobee and other out-of-state businesses for donating door prizes to raise funds for KOA Care Camps. All proceeds from these popular events are donated to KOA care camps which are designed especially for children with cancer. All of the events will be held January 2013 through February 2013. Charlie Head, Applebee's, Okeechobee Store-n-Lock, Rochelle's Boutique, Chain Saw Art by Jack C. Ritter, The Closeout King, Sharon's Lovely Linens, Treasure Coast Harley Davidson Of Stuart, FL, The Crystal Queen, Tropical Wall Art Of Stuart, FL, Darice.Com, The Honda Classic, Daytona International Speedway, Todd Everett Flooring inc., Silpada, Marsh Beast Air boat Tours.com, Bealls Outlet, Walgreens Pharmacy, Lightsey's Restaurant, Hawaiian Shoe Shack, Scrubs & More, Maggie Klement

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Okeechobee is a unique community that has treated us well. What a wonderful community we live in as you have touched the hearts of many children that have cancer that are now able to go to camp. We wish you well in your future business endeavors and thank you from our heart for your generosity.

Wendy Woodman,
General Manager

Festival Briefs

Top of the Lake Art Festival Saturday in Okeechobee

The 2013 Top of the Lake Art and Chalk Walk Festival is scheduled for Feb. 9 and 10 in the Flagler Park in downtown Okeechobee, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. The main event will be a juried fine art show with a competition for student artists. This year the newest feature will be a "Chalk Walk" which will include street painters using a chalk medium. For more information, go online to www.mainstreetokeechobee.com.

Puppy Pageant during art festival

Is your dog the fairest of them all? Okeechobee Main Street will host their first "Puppy Pageant" on Saturday, Feb. 9 in Flagler Park. Registration will start at 10 a.m. and the pageant will start at 11 a.m. The pageant will open with a canine parade which will be open to all dogs (not just those in the pageant). This pageant is open to dogs and puppies of all ages and includes competitions for Most Obedient, Best Dressed, Most Adorable, Friendliest, Best Trick and Pet/Parent Look-a-Likes. Those who did not sign up in advance can still register on the day of the pageant. Entry fee is \$10. For more information, call 863-357-6246.

Sour Orange Festival in Lakeport

LAKEPORT—The Lakeport Sour Orange Festival will be held Feb. 9, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Lakeport Community Center, 1239

Red Barn Road, off State Road 78 between Moore Haven and Okeechobee. A \$1 donation is requested for parking. The festival features the traditional sour orange cookoff. An arts and crafts fair will feature local vendors. Plate lunches available will include a rib dinner. The festival will also feature a quilt show, Mr. and Mrs. Bubbles the Clown, a historical display, a photography display, children's games, a display by the Lakeport Fire Department and sour orange pies. Festival visitors are encouraged to bring their own chairs as seating is limited.

Chalo Nitka Fest vendors sought

MOORE HAVEN—March 1 and 2 of 2013 mark the 65th annual Chalo Nitka Festival and Rodeo in Moore Haven. Vendor booth applications for the festival are now available and can be filled out online at www.chalonitka.com.

For more information about becoming a vendor, please call 863-946-0300 or email Emily at erigdon@gladescountyedc.com.

Applications are being accepted from church groups, civic groups, individuals, community associations, and any others interested in participating in the 65th annual Chalo Nitka parade. There is no fee to enter. If you or your group are interested in participating, you may submit an entry form online at www.chalonitka.com. You may also call 863-946-0300 or email Emily at erigdon@gladescountyedc.com and we'll send one to you.

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
110 Galaxy Road • Dover, DE 19901

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Editor: Katrina Elsken

Circulation Manager: Janet Madray

Publisher: Tom Byrd

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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.

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- To report the news with honesty, accuracy, purposeful neutrality, fairness, objectivity, fearlessness and compassion.
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GRANT

Continued From Page 1

would allow for fans in the stalls to cool the horses. It was noted in the discussion that the proposed electricity would make the barn more useful for non-livestock events with the temporary removal of the stalls. Commissioner Joey Hoover stated that it is common for competitors in other livestock events to bring generators.

Once that item was successfully settled, the board spent considerable time discussing the agri-civic center advisory committee itself. That discussion was generated by comments made at the last commission meeting by Commissioner Joey Hoover and county administrator Robbie Charter.

Commissioner Hoover was concerned that the mission statement of the advisory commission might need to be revised or updated. "We have not strayed from the mission statement," asserted Mr. Burroughs. In response to Mrs. Chartier's comments at the last meeting, Mr. Burroughs read into the record a letter signed by most of the advisory board members. The letter disputed information provided by the county administrator. It denied that the committee had been critical of agri-civic center directors and stated that the committee had not exerted improper influence on the directors.

"We serve as liaisons for the citizens of Okeechobee County as well as consultants for the BOCC," the letter stated. The letter did concede that commissioners have not been receiving minutes from the committee meetings since 2009 and pledged that that would be corrected. "The purpose of this letter was to provide the facts to the BOCC so an informed decision could be made regarding the agri-civic advisory group," the

letter stated.

"I am all in favor of continuing the committee," said Commissioner Bryant Culpepper. He expressed gratitude for the efforts of the committee to secure grants.

"We are a passionate bunch," said committee member Frank Cunningham. "We really care about that place. Don't dump us, help us."

The board voted 4-to-1 to advertise for applicants to fill two advisory board seats that have terms expiring the end of this month.



Special to the Okeechobee News

Big bass

A 9 lb. 1oz. bass, 26.5in. long, was caught by Ron Andres on a Bitter's Bait skip shad watermelon red with the help of Norm Tilman on Jan. 28. They were fishing at Indian Prairie on Lake Okeechobee. Mr. Andres is from southern Indiana and enjoys winters at Palm Village Ranch in Okeechobee.

BOATER

Continued From Page 1

by FWC officers where emergency medical personnel were waiting. But Mr. Jones declined medical attention, she added.

FWC also towed the boat to shore.

Mrs. Jones said her husband has been fishing Lake Okeechobee for 23 years but this was the first time he had gone across the lake for quite some time.

"Things didn't look the same and he

got disoriented. It was an honest mistake," she said, adding that her husband couldn't come to the phone because he was catching up on some much needed rest.

Mrs. Jones added that she couldn't say enough about the people who searched for, and found, her husband.

"Those men that helped rescued him, I could not have asked for nicer people. They went way out of their way to keep us informed. They were very polite, considerate and compassionate," she said. "They said it was their job, but they need recognition. I really owe them a lot."

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Community Events

Benefit for Austin Villars set

There will be a barbecue benefit on Friday, Feb. 8, for Austin Villars from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. across from Pizza Heaven on Parrott Avenue. A pork dinner with slaw, baked beans and roll will be \$8. A whole pork butt can be purchased for \$30, but should be ordered ahead of time. Austin Villars is 13 years old. On Feb. 1 he underwent heart surgery for the second time in two years. He has a 75 percent blockage on the heart valve that was operated on two years ago. For information contact: Bobby Steiert at 863-634-6523; or, Sarah Reno at 863-634-2276.

Amvets plan weekend events

Amvets Post 200, 8591 S.R. 78 W., will host karaoke on Friday, Feb. 8, from 7 to 10 p.m. Breakfast on Saturday, Feb. 9, will be from 8 - 11 a.m. On Sunday, Feb. 10, come and am with Wil from 1 to 4 p.m.

Eagles North hosts events

Eagles North, 9985 U.S. 441 N., will host a steak night on Friday, Feb. 8, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9, the Eagles will host a Turkey Shoot starting at 10 a.m. and card bingo at 5:30 p.m. All proceeds go to the FOE 4137 community benefit fund.

Eagles offering dinners

Cypress Hut Eagles will serve choice rib eye steak dinner for \$14, shrimp for \$10, or fish for \$8, starting at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 8. Saturday, Feb. 9, baby back ribs will be served from 4-7 p.m. for dinner for \$10. Music starts at 6 p.m. The public is welcome. All proceeds go to the community charity funds. For information, call 863-467-1154.

Moose hosting bingo, dinner

Okeechobee Moose, N.W. 36th Street, will host Friday night bingo, starting with Bonanza at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 8. Saturday night they will have DJ karaoke starting at 4 p.m. There will be food and dancing. Proceeds go to support Moose Charities programs.

North VFW planning events

The North VFW Post 4423, 300 N.W. 34th St. will host bingo starting at 1 p.m. Friday Feb. 8. The grill will be open from 5-9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9, there will be burgers on the grill from noon to 3 p.m. Bingo starts at 1 p.m. Seafood baskets as well as a full menu will be served from 5 to 7 p.m. Proceeds go towards Veterans Assistance programs.

Benefit aids Martha's House

A comedy game show night is planned for Thursday, Feb. 9, at 7 p.m. at the Okeechobee KOA to benefit Martha's House, a shelter for victims of domestic violence. Participants will have the chance to play a version of "The Price is Right." Grand prize will be \$500. Tickets are \$50 per couple or \$35 per person. For tickets, or more information, call Martha's House at 863-763-2893; or, Center State Bank at 863-763-5573.

Masons hosting hog roast

The Okeechobee Masonic Lodge #237, located on 107 N.W. Fifth Ave., will have a hog roast dinner Saturday, Feb. 9, from 4 to 7 p.m. Eat in or take out with a suggested donation of \$8 for adults and \$4 for children 10 and under. Whole pork butts can be purchased to go for \$30. For ticket information, contact: Hugh Alger at 863-532-1097; or, Jim Lozano at 863-610-1887.

Church hosts turkey dinner

Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus Knights of Columbus, S.R. 78 West and Chobee Loop, in Buckhead Ridge will have a turkey dinner Saturday, Feb. 9, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Take out is available. Dinners are offered for a donation of \$8 for adults and \$3 for children.

Eastern Star plans yard sale

Okeechobee Chapter No. 128, Order of the Eastern Star will hold a yard sale from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 9, at the Okeechobee Shrine Club, 1740 S.W. 53 St. (S.R. 78 W.). Proceeds benefit the various charities supported by the Eastern Star. Contact Cathy Wolford at 863-801-9966, or Mary Ann Holt at 863-763-5210 for information.

Church hosts Feb. 9 yard sale

The youth of the First United Methodist Church, 200 N.W. Second St., will hold their annual yard sale Saturday, Feb. 9, from 8 a.m. - noon.

Bus garage site of yard sale

On, Saturday, **Feb. 9**, from 7 a.m. - 1 p.m. at 3150 N.W. 10th Terrace. Lots of treasures, clothing and goodies will be offered

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.

Darrell 'Doc' Collins, 58

OKEECHOBEE — Darrell "Doc" Collins died Wed., Jan. 16, 2013 in his home.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Richard "Nick" and Shirley A. Collins; and brother, Dana Collins.

He leaves behind a daughter, Melyssa Powell; and three grandchildren, Gauge, Leann, and Alyssa Powell.

We will be holding a memorial in his behalf at Evergreen Cemetery on Feb. 19, 2013 at noon. Anyone that knew him is welcome to come join us in paying our last respects.



Michael Anthony Van Howe, 55

OKEECHOBEE — Michael Anthony Van Howe passed away Feb. 3, 2013. He was born Mar. 10, 1957 in Grand Rapids, Mich. He proudly served our country in the U.S. Navy aboard the U.S.S. Ponce.

He is survived by his wife of 18 years, Angie Van Howe; two sons, Remington Carson and Andrew Martin Van Howe; and five siblings.



Visitation will be 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 8, 2013 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church followed by funeral mass at 11 a.m. with Father Hugh Duffy officiating. Interment will take place at Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell.

Memorial donations may be made to Disabled American Veterans, PO Box 14301, Cincinnati, OH 45250-0301, Attn: Gift Processing.

Those wishing to leave a message of condolence and sign the online register book may do so at www.BassOkeechobeeFuneralHome.com.

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

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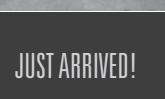
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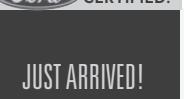


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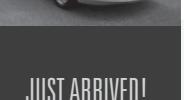


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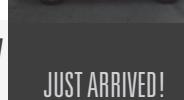


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Local Couple accused of using a stolen ATM card

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News



Stephen Garrett



Cathleen Garrett

A husband and wife are being held on bond in the county jail after they were arrested for allegedly taking a friend's ATM card and using it to withdraw over \$13,000.

Stephen L. Garrett, 52, U.S. 441 S.E., and his wife Cathleen Marie, 48, were both arrested Wednesday, Feb. 6. Stephen was charged with two felony counts of grand theft, while his wife was charged with one felony count of grand theft.

He is being held on \$10,000 bond, while his wife's bond is set at \$5,000.

An arrest report by Detective Susan Morrison, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), indicated that the couple took the victim's card and used it to withdraw cash or buy beer and cigarettes. The couple apparently drained the victim's bank

account, added the report.

According to the detective the Garretts completed over 50 transactions which ranged from small purchases to cash withdrawals up to \$400 each.

"These transactions were made sometimes two or three times daily, and weekly, at all hours of the day. The total over \$13,000," stated Detective Morrison in her report.

The report went on to add that the victim's bank will give her an exact total.

Detective Morrison pointed out that the victim didn't give the couple permission to use the card. In fact, she added, he had never used the card and didn't even know his personal identification number (PIN).

The couple had apparently been in the victim's home on numerous occasions and could have taken the card at any time, stated the investigator.

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).

• Arthur Lee Lane, 48, S.W. 22nd St., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 5 by Deputy Heath Hughes on a DOC warrant charging him with the felonies of violation of probation - uttering forged bills (eight counts) and violation of probation - grand theft. He is being held without bond.

• William Clayton Bass, 30, S.E. 43rd Trace, Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 6 by Deputy Corporal Randy Thomas on a DOC warrant charging him with the felonies of violation of probation - dealing in stolen property (two counts). He is being held without bond.

• Larry Junior Wilson, 52, S.W. 19th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 6 by Officer Jack Boon on felony charges of grand theft and credit card theft. His bond was set at \$100,000.

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.

Health Center holds Valentines Dinner

A Valentines Dinner benefiting Open Hands Health Center, Inc. will be held on Saturday, Feb. 16, at 6 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7 p.m. The minimum dinner donation is \$50 per couple. Tickets must be purchased by **Feb. 10**. A silent auction will be available, for more information, please call Nicole Talley at 863-697-3488 or Beth White at 863-634-8660.

Buckhead VFW 9528 host chicken dinner

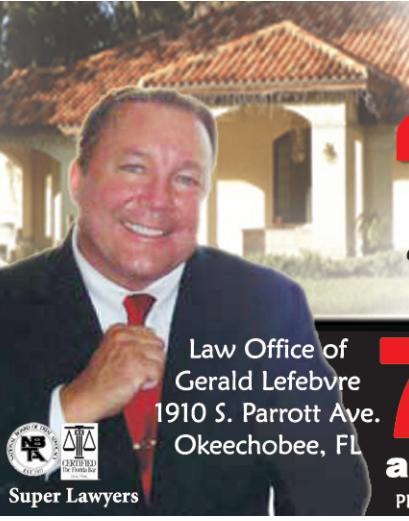
Buckhead VFW 9528 will have a chicken dinner with all the fixins on Sunday, **Feb. 10**, from 2 to 5 p.m. \$7 per plate. The cook is Dale Darling. All proceeds go to homeless vets.

American Legion Post 64 opens Sunday night bingo

American Legion 64 will once again host Sunday night bingo beginning on **Feb. 10** at 6:30 p.m. Doors open at 5 p.m. in the bingo area. The kitchen will offer a limited menu. Payoffs will be determined by player attendance. All proceeds to benefit the American Legion veterans' programs. The event is open to the public.

Masonic Lodge breakfast

The Masonic Lodge located at 107 N.W. Fifth St., will host a breakfast with all the fixins on Sunday, **Feb. 10**, for \$6 per plate. The public is welcomed and carry out is available. Breakfast will be served from 8 a.m. - 11 a.m. All proceeds go to local Mason giving.



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Special to the Okeechobee News

Everglades Elementary School Students of the Week named

Everglades Elementary students achieving excellence in the classroom for the week of Feb. 4-8 include: kindergarten students, Zoe Russell, Nathan Courson, Cassie Lawrence, Isaac Schlosser, Emily Steen, Nevaeh Rodriguez; first grade students, Amanda Crapps, Luke Perry, Mar'lun Scott, Remington Weaver, Natalie Jimenez, Star Phillips; second grade students, Mathew Johnson, Jessy Arriaga, John Roberts, Rebecca Waddell, Kaylee Connely, Bethany Hersey, Rosa Palacios; third grade students, Jaylene Johnson, Colton McPeak, Yonteria Stallworth, Ryleigh Hortman, Princessa Ortega, Dominick Garza; fourth grade students, Casharia Felton, Sierra Sutton, Jesse Nunez, Julbert Laguna-Salmeron; fifth grade students, Skyla Stanley-Chism, Searira Boatright, Jannette Garcia, Noelia Ruiz and Kevin Dryden. Congratulations to the many outstanding students.

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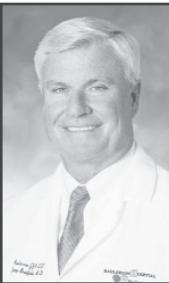
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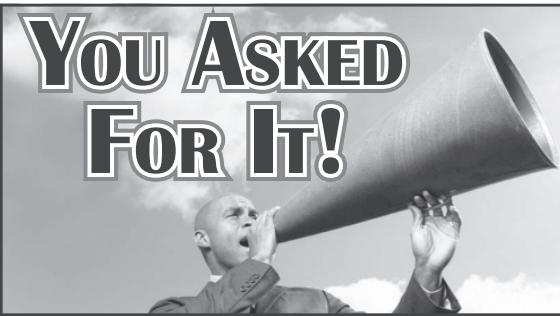
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Unit #48-H Hays Janet, Piano,
Household misc.

CASH ONLY, 48 Hours to remove all goods. \$50.00 and \$100.00 deposit for each unit purchased. Bid amount subject to sales tax or purchaser must provide a valid resale/exemption certificate. Goods sold as is, all sales are final.

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

BUSY CHILD CARE Center looking for self motivated **Preschool Teacher**, offering full and/or part time positions. Must have experience, a CDA, and a level II background screen. Please call Debbie at 863-467-5588.

Employment Full Time

Experienced Cook Needed
for institution cooking
requiring food prepared with
various textures.
Following recipes exactly
is a must.
F/T with benefits
AM & PM shifts. Double on
Sundays.
Apply in person at
406 NW 4th St, Okeechobee
EOE

Employment Full Time



Agriculture

Farm Feed/ Products

HAY - Jiggs Bermuda. Weed Free and Fertilized. Square Bales and Round Bales. Delivery Available. Call For More Information. (863)228-0580

When you want something sold, advertise in the classifieds.

Lawn & Garden

Craftsman DYP 4000 Riding lawn mower 24hp Briggs and Stratton engine, 48" deck, almost new, Sacrifice for \$700.00 Call 270-250-1941

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



Rentals

Apartments

2BR/1BA Duplex in Town. \$625.00 mo. \$625.00 Security No Smoking No Pets, w/d hook up, Background check required Call (352)528-4795 and leave message.

Join all the people who say, "I sold it in the classifieds."

KINGS BAY Nice Twnhs. 2 br/1ba, Tiled floors. Incls Water. \$675/mo. + dep. Pool & Tennis Court. 863-801-7206 or 561-358-8128.

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

Apartments

Apartments

GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIZED APARTMENTS FOR RENT IN OKEECHOBEE AT THE TANGLEWOOD APARTMENTS MUST MEET ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.

PLEASE CALL
863-467-2079.
TTY 1-800-233-6694.



Condos/Townhouses Rent

2bd/1ba Town Home in Kings Bay. Water, sewer and lawn included, w/d. 1st months free with \$700 sec. moves you in 863-634-8331

CLEWISTON
2BR/2BA, Bass & Sun Condo. Pool. Tennis Courts. Boat Ramp. On canal view lake view/access. Furnished. Tile floors. All appl's including W&D. \$950/month short or long term 305-360-2236. cmbultra@terranova.net

Houses - Rent

Basswood - 3 br./2 ba. \$800 month. Security & refs. Call 804-502-0114 or aliciamorales2012@comcast.net

BUCKHEAD RIDGE 2BR/1.5BA CBS, GARAGE, SCREENED PORCH, BOAT HOUSE, LAKE ACCESS, WASHER & DRYER, RANGE & REFRIG. \$800.00 MONTHLY 863-763-5970

Large 2/2, On 5 acres in Ft. Drum, fireplace, horse ready, fenced, surrounded by shady oak tree's and wildlife @ end of private road. Well kept w/lots of room, all appliances, nice tile floors. No smoking. Must have verifiable job/references. Low utility bills. \$975 mo. + security. 772-216-1669 or email theresatravels@hotmail.com

Houses - Rent

Charming 3/1.5 ba. Newer interior and up grades. Water, trash, pest control and lawn service included. No pets, approx. 12 min. N.E. of town center. \$590.00 mo. Call Mon-Fri. 9-4 863-467-9800

FOR RENT: 2 BEDROOM 2 BATH FULLY FURNISHED DUPLEX W/1 CAR GARAGE - WASHER - DRYER, DISHWASHER - AVAILABLE LONG OR SHORT TERM. 863-447-0742.

FOR RENT: 1/1 FURNISHED TRAILER - LONG OR SHORT TERM - ALL UTILITIES INCLUDED - \$750.00. 863-447-0742

OKEECHOBEE - 3BR/1BA Duplex, W/D hook-up, central a/c & heat. \$625 mo. + \$500 sec. (863)763-4414.



Houses - Sale

OKEECHOBEE - 2br./2 ba. Palm Creek waterfront home, Lake access. Gated Comm. Owner financing. Possible option to rent. 863-532-0273.

Houses - Sale

READING A NEWSPAPER...
makes you a more informed and interesting person.
No wonder readers are more successful!



• 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

OKEECHOBEE HOME FOR SALE
\$75,000, Well Maintained 2 bd/ 2 ba home, eat in kitchen, formal dining, living room, Florida Room, additional storage building and 4 car detached garage wired for 220 and 110 Volt Electric, and 3 car carport. Public access dock about 1/2 mile from Community.

For more info Call Optima One Realty @ (239)848-2071 or (352)243-6784

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

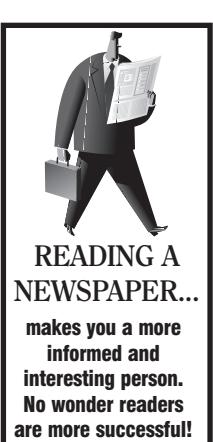
Land - Sale

DIXIE RANCH ACRES
1.5 ACRES, \$700.00 DOWN, OWNER FINANCING CALL FOR MORE INFO 863-824-0944

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

Lots - Sale

BHR - Waterfront double lot for sale on Trout St. 100'x135' w/135' of solid seawall. Ready for your mobile home w/utilities. \$48,000. Call 561-908-1959.





Mobile Homes

Mobile Home Lots

2RV Sites for sale in Quiet Okeechobee 5 Star RV Park. One priced at \$76,000, the other \$91,000 buy directly from owner and avoid Real Estate fees for more info call 701-260-1364

Mobile Home Rent

Treasure Island
For Rent Waterfront 1/1 furnished trailer, Direct Tv and electric included \$125.00 weekly plus security Call 863-517-5111

Mobile Home Sale

24x60 Double Wide w/add ons, 10x60 Front porch & Office, 10x60 Back screened room & utility. Professional brick enclosed, 1/2 acre, hurricane screened swimming pool, adjoining cabana, fenced, shop & storage. Lake Port Fl. I will sell or trade \$149,000 some financing to a desirable buyer. 573-718-8074

36FT RV, FL ROOM, SCREENED PORCH OVERLOOKING WATER, SHED, DOCK ON TAYLOR CREEK IN CITY LIMITS, SENIOR PARK \$18,000 CALL 863-801-4012

FOR SALE
3 Bedroom Mobile Home with 2 lots & access to river.
44 Boondock Rd. \$35,000
Call 863-763-2346 or 863-610-4625

Mobile Home for Sale 2bd, 1 updated bath, 12' by 24' Florida room w/tile floor, windows. Metal roof over, very safe, lots of light. Brand new A/C w/heat strip, new thermostat. Fully furnished, new washing machine, new refrigerator, new microwave, dishwasher, etc. Lots of extras. Brand new kitchen cabinets. Wall hugger recliner/massage couch, loveseat rocker/recliner. Queen size bedroom set in master. 2 yard sheds, 1 w/electric, window and workbench. Long carpet, quiet street, nice neighbors. Asking \$24,000.00 negotiable. Owner financing for half. Call 863-467-7996

Mobile Home Sale

Older Single Wide in 55+ Park, w/screened room, porch and dock on Taylor Creek. 1/2 mile from Walmart \$6,500. or best offer Call 828-208-0980



Campers/RVs

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

Fifth Wheels

5th WHEEL TRAVEL SU-PREME \$15,000 (LAKE OKEECHOBEE) 1998 37' BEAUTIFUL UNIT MUST SEE TO APPRECIATE. UNIT IS SETTING IN ARUBA RV RESORT 1073 OLD LAKEPORT ROAD, MOORE HAVEN ON LAKE OKEECHOBEE CANAL. PARK HAS ALL AMENITIES, HEATED POOL, REC ROOM, EXERCISE ROOM, DAILY ACTIVITIES FOR WINTER SEASON. LOT RENT IS \$2,450 PER YEAR PLUS UTILITIES. THE LOT RENT IS CURRENT FOR YEAR 2013. UNIT CAN BE MOVED! W&D, DISHWASHER, MICROWAVE, ELECTRIC FIREPLACE, WOOD FLOOR IN KITCHEN, CERAMIC TILE IN BATHROOM, CARPET IN LIVING ROOM & BED ROOM, KING SIZE BED, NEW HIDE-A-BED SOFA IN LIVING ROOM, 3 SLIDES W/AWNINGS, OUTSIDE STORAGE BUILT UNDER, TRIMMED LATTICE ALL AROUND AND AN EXTRA LARGE PORCH. PLEASE CALL ANDY 810-577-0431 OR JUDY 810-577-0374



Automobiles

1992 FORD THUNDERBIRD - Air conditioning, automatic transmission, CD, V-6 Runs good, cruise control \$925 /or best (772)597-4190 or (772)985-9417

Autos Wanted

CASH FOR CARS
No Title Needed, Any Condition. 268junk.com Located in Okeechobee Call (863)484-2012

Sport Utility

2007 FORD SPORT TRAC FOR SALE. V-8, 4 DOOR, 38,000 MILES, MINT CONDITION. \$18,500.00 CALL VERN 863-467-0740
BLUE BOOK AND NADA VALUES ARE \$20,000-21,000



Public Notice

Public Notice

LEGAL NOTICE
A public auction will be held at BMJ Towing, Inc. Lot at 414 South Parratt Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34974 on Friday the 22ND day of FEBRUARY 2013 from 10:00-11:00 A.M. Pursuant to Florida statute 713.78 for unpaid towing and storage. Year, Make, Model & Vin's as follows

WHITE CHEV MALIBU SEDAN 1G1ND52M1WY124580

Terms of sale are cash, and no checks will be accepted. The seller reserves the right of final bid. All sales are final. No refunds will be made. Said automobiles will be sold in "AS IS" with no guarantees. 436314 ON 2/8/2013

CITY CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Okeechobee Code Enforcement Board will be meeting on **Tuesday, February 12, 2013** at 6:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter, City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Rm 200, Okeechobee, Florida. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE AND BE ADVISED that if a stenographic record by a certified court reporter will be made of the foregoing meeting. Accordingly, any person who may seek to appeal any decision involving the matters noticed herein will be responsible for making a verbatim record of the testimony and evidence at said meeting upon which any appeal is to be based. Please contact Sue Christopher, 863-763-4423, or website www.cityofokeechobee.com, to obtain a copy of the agenda.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Fire Department at 863-763-4423 for assistance. by: Jamie Gamoteo, Code Board Chairperson 436350 ON 2/8/2013

IN THE COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

CASE NO: 2013-CC-17
JUDGE: JERALD D. BRYANT

IN RE: One (1) neglected chestnut brown gelding horse.

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO: UNKNOWN OWNER OF ONE (1) NEGLECTED CHESTNUT BROWN GELDING HORSE - Publication

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on Monday, February 25, 2013, at 1:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard, the undersigned will bring on to be heard OKEECHOBEE COUNTY'S PETITION FOR DISPOSITION OF ONE (1) NEGLECTED CHESTNUT BROWN GELDING HORSE pursuant to Section 828.073, Florida Statutes, before the Honorable Jerald D. Bryant, at the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, 312 NW 3rd Street, Courtroom D, Okeechobee, Florida.

PLEASE GOVERN YOURSELF ACCORDINGLY.

Law Office of CASSEL & McCALL
By: LAURA ANN MCCALL
County Attorney
Fla Bar No: 389749
Post Office Box 968
Okeechobee, Florida 34973-0968
(863) 763-3131

laura@legionone.com
pleadings@legionone.com

NOTICE REGARDING THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990. In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administration no later than seven days prior to the proceeding or call 1-772-807-4370 within two working days of your receipt of this notice. If You Are Hearing Impaired, If You Are Hearing Impaired Call 1-800-955-8771; If You Are Voice Impaired Call 1-800-955-8770.

LEGAL NOTICE

A public auction of stored personal property, from **Okeechobee Store-N-Lock West (formerly known as Oke Warehouses)** to be conducted at **2701 Hwy 70 West, Okeechobee, FL** will be held to pay unpaid storage fees (pursuant to Section 83.806, Florida Statutes). Public Auction to be held on **February 16, 2013 beginning at 9:00 am**. The personal property in the following units will be auctioned. All payments must be made in full, CASH ONLY, by the date/time of auction.

GAYLE BUTTS, Unit #9-15
RUSSELL PERRY, Unit #4-2
JESSICA MARTIN, Unit #7-36
JESSE ZIPPERER, Unit #7-45
LOUISE & WILLIE KIDD, Unit #8-46

A public auction of stored personal property, from **Okeechobee Store-N-Lock North (formerly known as Galaxy Warehouse)** to be conducted at **3050 SW 3rd Terrace, Okeechobee, FL** will be held to pay unpaid storage fees (pursuant to Section 83.806, Florida Statutes). Public Auction to be held on **February 16, 2013 beginning at 10:30am**. The personal property in the following units will be auctioned. All payments must be made in full, CASH ONLY, by the date/time of auction.

PAMELA ALEXANDER, Unit #80
JESSICA GRINSLADE, Unit #56
JOE LEVY, Unit #11
JEFF ZARELLA, Unit #74
JANICE PETERS, Unit #132

A public auction of stored personal property, from **Okeechobee Store-N-Lock South** to be conducted at **4129 Hwy 441 South, Okeechobee, FL** will be held to pay unpaid storage fees (pursuant to Section 83.806, Florida Statutes). Public Auction to be held on **February 16, 2013 beginning at 12:00 pm**. The personal property in the following units will be auctioned. All payments must be made in full, CASH ONLY, by the date/time of auction.

ANGEL HARDY, Unit #23
CAROLYN PIERCY & HARRY MURPHY, Unit #174
CARRIE B. MILLS, Unit #147
DARLENE F. STAGANI, Unit #141
DORA SHAW, Unit #82
JEROME PERKINS, Unit #14
JESSE J. REYNA, Unit #43
JUSTIN BOLING, Unit #20
MARY D. BROWN, Unit #84
MISSY HUFF, Unit #142
REBECCA JOACHIM, Unit #172
MONICA SMITH, Unit #102
SHARON L. DARI, Unit #75
WHITNEY A. COFFEY, Unit #74

435950 ON 2/8/2013

Public Notice

Public Notice

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

2013TD009

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that TC 10U LLC the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No: **1962** Year of Issuance: **June-01-2010**

Description of Property: **W 1/2 OF NW 1/4 OF NW 1/4 OF NE 1/4 & E 3/4 OF N 1/2 OF NE 1/4 OF NW 1/4 6 33S 35E 20 ACRES**

1-06-33-50A00-00010-0000

Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida

Name in which assessed:

WINDER VI LLC

Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, Jury Assembly Room, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida **10:00 A.M.**, on the **28th day of February, 2013**. SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT

Okeechobee County, Florida

/s/ Robin R. Parrish

Deputy Clerk

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

434638 ON 1/18,25;2/1,8/2013

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

2013TD001

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that TC 10U LLC the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No: **158** Year of Issuance: **June-01-2010**

Description of Property: **LOT K OF TRACT 6 E 1/2 OF W 1/2 OF N 1/2 OF S 1/2 OF TRACT 6 11 34S 33E**

1-11-34-33-0A00-00006-K000

Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida

Name in which assessed:

MICHAEL A ERICKSON

Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, Jury Assembly Room, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida **10:00 A.M.**, on the **28th day of February, 2013**. SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT

Okeechobee County, Florida

/s/ Robin R. Parrish

Deputy Clerk

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

434627 ON 1/18,25;2/1,8/2013

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

2013TD004

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

Certificate No: **1055** Year of Issuance: **June-01-2007**

Description of Property: **LOTS I & P OF TRACT 10 E 1/2 OF E 1/2 OF S 1/2 OF TRACT 10 33 34S 33E**

1-33-34-33-0A00-00010-1000

Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida

Name in which assessed:

CHI HOLDINGS INC

Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, Jury Assembly Room, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida **10:00 A.M.**, on the **28th day of February, 2013**. SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT

Okeechobee County, Florida

/s/ Robin R. Parrish

Deputy Clerk

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

434632 ON 1/18,25;2/1,8/2013

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

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

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

Public Notice

Public Notice

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

2013TD009

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that TC 10U LLC the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No: **1505** Year of Issuance: **June-01-2010**

Description of Property: **LOT D OF TRACT 19 W 1/2 OF W 1/2 OF N 1/2 OF N 1/2 OF TRACT 19 29 24S 33E**

1-29-34-33-0A00-00019-D000

Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida

Name in which assessed:

KIM MCMAHON

ORLANDO SANTA ANA GARCIA

Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, Jury Assembly Room, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida **10:00 A.M.**, on the **28th day of February, 2013**. SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT

Okeechobee County, Florida

/s/ Robin R. Parrish

Deputy Clerk

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

434633 ON 1/18,25;2/1,8/2013

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

2013TD003

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that TC 10L LLC the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No: **634** Year of Issuance: **June-01-2010**

Description of Property: **LOTS I J K L OF TRACT 30 NORTH 1/2 OF SOUTH 1/2 OF TRACT 30 11 34S 33E AND LOTS I J K L M N O P OF TRACT 31 SOUTH 1/2 OF TRACT 31 17 34S 33E**

1-17-34-33-0A00-00030-I000

Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida

Name in which assessed:

DEOCHAND DOODNAUTH

NADIRA RAM

Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, Jury Assembly Room, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida **10:00 A.M.**, on the **28th day of February, 2013**. SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT

Okeechobee County, Florida

/s/ Robin R. Parrish

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.
PROBATE DIVISION
CASE NO. 2013-CP-05

In Re: Estate of
HOWARD C. DAVIS,
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of HOWARD C. DAVIS, deceased, whose date of death was December 14, 2012, and whose social security number is ***-**-1150, is pending in the Circuit Court for Okeechobee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 312 N.W. 3rd Street, Suite 101, Okeechobee, Florida 34972. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

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

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

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

The date of the first publication of this notice is February 1, 2013.

Personal Representative:
LESSIE L. LASSTER
702 Adley Lane
Peachtree City, GA 30269
Attorney for Personal Representative:
DEBORAH M. HOOKER
Florida Bar No. 0897582
Conely & Conely, P.A.

P.O. Drawer 1367
Okeechobee, Florida 34973
Telephone: (863) 763-3825
Facsimile: (863) 763-6856

Primary E-mail Address:
hooker@conelyandconely.com
Secondary 1 E-mail Address:
khayes@conelyandconely.com
Secondary 2 E-mail Address
service@conelyandconely.com
435802 ON 2/18/2013

PUBLIC NOTICE
Awesome Self Storage, 6489 US 44 SE, Okeechobee, FL 34974 will dispose of stored items on Feb. 20, 2013.

Owner Unit #
Booker, Eyonne E682
Hancock, Sonny C328
Maxwell, Brian R. E654

436336 ON 2/8/2013

NOTICE

There will be a meeting of the Tourist Development Council (TDC) of Okeechobee County on Tuesday, February 12, 2013, at 5:30 p.m. in the Tourist Development Council Office located at 2800 N.W. 20th Trail (Airport Terminal Bldg.), Okeechobee, Florida.

Any person deciding to appeal any decision made by the TDC with respect to any matter considered at such meeting will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Kathy Scott, Tourism Coordinator
Tourist Development Council
Okeechobee County
436304 ON 2/8/2013

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.
CASE NO.
472012CA00393CAXXXX

CITIMORTGAGE, INC.
Plaintiff
vs.
GABRIELA M. VICTORIA, et al

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: GABRIELA M. VICTORIA and THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF GABRIELA M. VICTORIA
RESIDENT: Unknown
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 3218 NORTH WEST 33RD AVENUE, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following described property located in OKEECHOBEE County, Florida.

Lot 20, Block 35, BASSWOOD INCORPORATED UNIT NO. 4, according to the Plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 49, of the Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida.

has been filed against you, and you are required to serve a copy to your written defenses, if any, to this action on Phelan Hallinan, PLC, attorneys for plaintiff, whose address is 2727 West Cypress Creek Road, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309, and file the original with the Clerk of the Court, within 30 days after the first publication of this notice, otherwise a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

This notice shall be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in the Okeechobee News.

DATED: Feb. 4, 2013.
SHARON ROBERTSON
Clerk of the Circuit Court
BY: Arlene Nealis
Deputy Clerk of the Court

Phelan Hallinan, PLC
2727 West Cypress Creek Road
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309

Movant counsel certifies that a bona fide effort to resolve this matter on the motion noticed has been made or that, because of time consideration, such effort has not yet been made but will be made prior to the scheduled hearing.

Florida Rules of Judicial Administration Rule 2.540 Notices to Persons With Disabilities. Please contact Corrie Johnson, ADA Coordinator, 250 NW Country Club Drive, Suite 217, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, (772) 807-4370 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

SPANISH: Si usted es una persona discapacitada que necesita alguna adaptacion para poder participar de este procedimiento o evento, usted tiene derecho, sin costo alguno a que se le provea cierta ayuda. Favor de comunicarse con Corrie Johnson, Coordinadora de A.D.A., 250 NW Country Club Drive, Suite 217, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, (772) 807-4370 por lo menos 7 dias antes de que tenga que comparecer en corte o inmediatamente despues de haber recibido esta notificacion si es que falta menos de 7 dias para su comparecencia. Si tiene una discapacidad auditiva o de habla, llame al 711.

KOREYOL: Si ou se yon moun ki kokobe ki bezwen asistans ou aparyou pou ou ka patisane nan prosedu sa-a, ou gen dwa san ou pa bezwen peye anyen pou ou jwen sur seri de ed. Tanpri kontakte Corrie Johnson, Co-ordinator ADA, 250 NW Country Club Drive, suite 217, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, (772) 807-4370 O'mwen 7 jou avan ke ou gen pou-ou paret nan tribunal, ou immediatman ke ou resevwa avis sa-a ou si le ke on gen pou-ou ale nan tribunal-la mwens ke 7 jou; Si ou pa ka tan& ou pale by, rele 711.

436336 ON 2/8/2013

Public Notice**Public Notice****NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**

2013TD002

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that TC 10U LLC the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No: 341 Year of Issuance: June-01-2010

Description of Property: LOT M OF TRACT 22 W1/2 OF W1/2 OF S1/2 OF S1/2 OF TRACT 22 13 34S 33E

1-13-34-33-0A00-00022-M000

Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida

Name in which assessed:

KRYSTYNA DUNIECKI

NOBERT PAUL DUNIECKI

PATRICIA DUNIECKI

ROBERT DUNIECKI ESTATE

TADEUSZ DUNIECKI

Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, Jury Assembly Room, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida 10:00 A.M., on the 28th day of February, 2013. SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT

Okeechobee County, Florida

/s/ Robin R. Parrish

Deputy Clerk

NOTICE REGARDING THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990; In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administration no later than seven days prior to the proceeding at 250 NW Country Club Drive, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986, 1.772.807.4370 within two working days of your receipt of this notice. IF YOU ARE HEARING IMPAIRED CALL 1.800.955.8771; IF YOU ARE VOICE IMPAIRED CALL 1.800.955.8770. 434629 ON 1/18,25;2/1,8/2013

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

2013TD006

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that TC 10U LLC the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No: 1920 Year of Issuance: June-01-2010

Description of Property: FRA MAR RANCHES LOT 8

1-36-36-34-0010-00000-0080

Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida

Name in which assessed:

JOVAN RAUF

Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, Jury Assembly Room, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida 10:00 A.M., on the 28th day of February, 2013. SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT

Okeechobee County, Florida

/s/ Robin R. Parrish

Deputy Clerk

NOTICE REGARDING THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990; In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administration no later than seven days prior to the proceeding at 250 NW Country Club Drive, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986, 1.772.807.4370 within two working days of your receipt of this notice. IF YOU ARE HEARING IMPAIRED CALL 1.800.955.8771; IF YOU ARE VOICE IMPAIRED CALL 1.800.955.8770. 434637 ON 1/18,25;2/1,8/2013

Public Notice**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF****THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL****CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR****OKEECHOBEE COUNTY,****FLORIDA. GENERAL****JURISDICTION DIVISION****CASE NO: 2013-CA-06**

ALS V-CCG, LLC.

Plaintiff,

VS.

THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO

MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE

ESTATE OF EVELYN L. PERDUE, DECEASED; JEANETTE PERDUE; OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA; UNKNOWN TENANT # 1; UNKNOWN TENANT # 2, ET AL

Defendant(s)

NOTICE OF ACTION - CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: THE UNKNOWN BENEFICIARIES OF THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF EVELYN L. PERDUE, DECEASED

whose residence is unknown if he/she/they be living; and if he/she/they be dead, the unknown defendants who may be spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, and all parties claiming an interest by,

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**Okeechobee News****February 8, 2013****Crossword Puzzle**

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

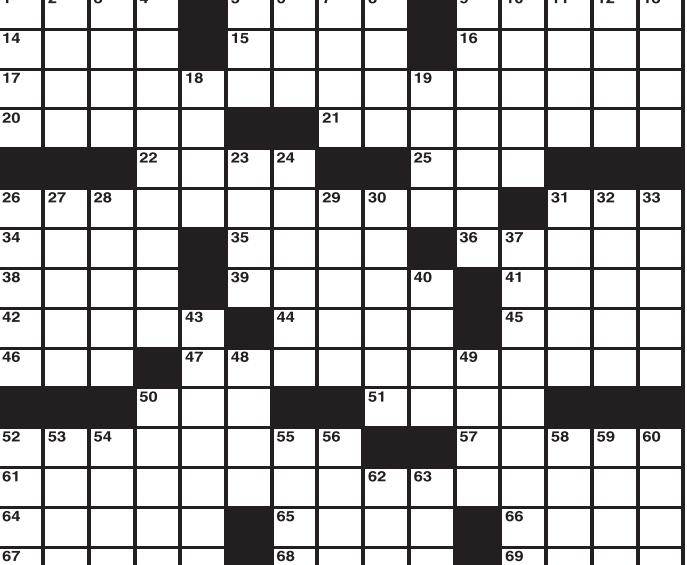
- 1 "Gone With the Wind" plantation
- 3 Cheer (for)
- 4 South Pole continent, with "the"
- 5 Prefix with sonic or violet
- 14 Press, as pants
- 15 Most fit to serve
- 16 Sodas for Radar O'Reilly
- 17 Mechanic's excessively affected gadget box?
- 20 Ready to be drawn from a keg
- 21 First Japanese golfer to win a PGA Tour event
- 22 Rajah's wife
- 25 Damaged, as mdse.
- 26 Fashionable farm nesting?
- 31 Gallantry-in-combat mil. award
- 34 Dryer screen target
- 35 Collaborating group
- 36 Blacksmith, at times
- 38 "The King __"
- 39 Take everything off
- 41 Letters on a cross
- 42 City near Syracuse
- 44 Blade's sharp side
- 45 Wildebeests
- 46 Govt. ID issuer
- 47 Dance contest winner?
- 50 Revival prefix
- 51 Easy gait
- 52 "They'll ambush you if you go in therel!"
- 57 Agreed (with)
- 61 High-kicking dancer at an audition?
- 64 Reveal impulsively
- 65 Cafeteria carrier
- 66 Tar Heel State university
- 67 Fibber of old radio
- 68 Terrier variety
- 69 Emailed or faxed

31 Designer Karan

- 32 Inoculated fluid
- 33 Like well-cooked bacon
- 37 Times when sand castles are destroyed
- 40 Tree fruit
- 43 Film material
- 48 Traffic jam honker
- 49 Mozart's "___ fan tutte"
- 50 Mother-of-pearl
- 52 Long-range warhead carrier, briefly
- 53 Soft mineral
- 54 Like a bug in a rug
- 55 Play divisions
- 56 Amusement __
- 58 Carnegie or Evans
- 59 Thames school
- 60 Fender damage
- 62 Rejecting vote
- 63 Blonde's secret, maybe

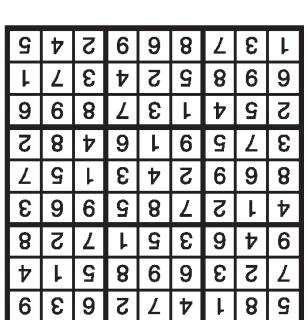
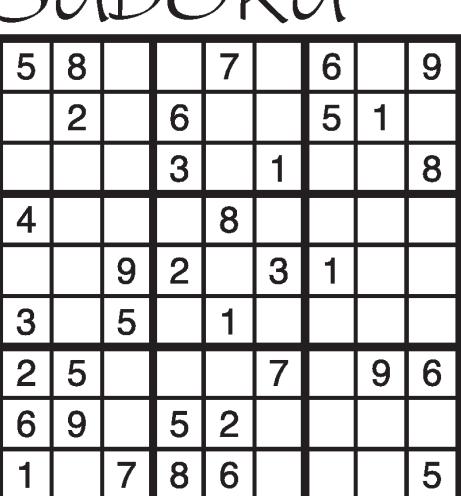


xwordeditor@aol.com



By Jack McInturff

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SUDOKU

ANSWER:

Level: Beginner

Seniors key to OHS baseball success

By Charles M. Murphy

Okeechobee News

Three Okeechobee High School seniors are expected to play big roles if the baseball team is to take the next step toward regional and state tournament competition this year.

Shortstop Alex Estremara recently signed a letter of intent to play baseball at Indian River State College. Tyler Barber has battled some off-season arm woes but still brings a bulldog mentality to the mound. Catcher Dalton Murray has battled shoulder issues, but appears healthy, and could be an impact bat for the team.

Murray said there have been changes in camp this year as the coach has demanded more hustle, attention to detail and more drills. He has gone over the basics, worked on his conditioning, but made big strides in arm strength when he throws.

"I've come a long way and my arm gets stronger every day. I try not to go too fast," he admitted.

Murray broke his growth plate in his shoulder after his sophomore year and the injury has taken a long time to heal. He did not play in the field as a junior.

Murray did hit, and hit well. He joined American Legion Post 358 in Fort Pierce, coached by Andy Wells, as the designated hitter. The team won the District Title and the Florida State Title and competed in the American Legion Post World Series in South Carolina this past summer.

Murray said his dream is to play college baseball. He said he expects to get consideration from college coaches.

"It is something I would love to do but I take it step-by-step. I'm getting back to where I want to be and I improve every day," he said.

Estremara said the Indian River State College opportunity was too good to pass up. He has hopes of going to a four-year school after two years at IRSC. He will lead off for

the Brahmans and also provide a stabilizing force on the infield. Estremara is also a solid pitcher who could work in either the rotation or bullpen.

"I expect to be patient and work the pitcher and help the guys who bat after me, telling them what the pitcher throws. I hope to set the tone for the game," he explained.

Alex also praises coach Jeff Blackstone for his positive attitude and for making the game fun. He said Blackstone also pushes the guys real hard to improve their skills.

Estremara said he also plans to push the other guys real hard and make them better players and lead by example. He said the goal is for the team to win 20 games this year.

He admits that his decision on his college choice also will take a lot of pressure off him and allow him to focus just on baseball.

Barber also improved in the off season as he joined Palm Beach Select in Jupiter. He competed against top competition all over Florida and against out of state teams. He said the better competition should rub off on his skills and make him better.

Tyler also suffered some elbow woes in the off season but worked hard on getting in better shape and his arm has responded. He said he has not been slowed by the injury and his velocity is back up over 80 miles per hour.

"My senior year came fast but I'm prepared for it. I've been waiting for this my whole life," he said.

Barber also realized how far he has to improve when he played over the summer. He said a player who might dominate in OCRA or at Okeechobee High School, might not fare as well against top competition.

"You see yourself in Okeechobee as the stuff but when you play great competition it is an awakening. When you have batters hit back-to-back homeruns against you it makes you want to work harder and put

more dedication into the game," he added.

Barber said he has concentrated on location and mixing up his pitches during camp. He likes to watch Roy Halladay of the Philadelphia Phillies pitch and emulate what he does on the mound. Barber also expects to attract some interest from college recruiters. He also plans to lead by example.

"The younger kids watch your every move. I try to work hard, get in extra running and work hard in the bullpen. That is not the time to screw around. You use bullpen session to hit spots and get better," he added.

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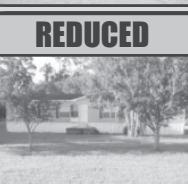
5023-H: Otter Creek Spacious 3/2, double garage, lots of kitchen cabinets, screen porch, beautiful Oak Trees all on 1+/- acre. Built in 2002, 2336 Total Sq Ft/1380 under air. **\$115,000** MLS #206521

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Returning seniors key for OHS lady net team

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

The Okeechobee High School Lady Brahman tennis team hopes to build on a winning season in 2012 thanks to a strong returning group led by seniors Samantha Rivero and Jenna Rath.

The girls will be coached by Morgan Ungerott and Julie Halsey this year. Halsey brings expertise in conditioning from cross country and track and has pushed the girls to get in better shape this year.

Ungerott has three years of experience in coaching tennis at OHS. She played basketball in high school and received her degree from Cleveland State University.

Ungerott said having Rivero back for her senior year is a good start to the squad. She said Samantha improved her serve in the off season and has a chance to do very well at tournament time. "If she can keep her head in the game and learn from her mistakes she can be one of the top players around," she added.

Ungerott also has high hopes for Rath who offers steady play and ground strokes. A key for her will be her improvement in quickness so she gets to more balls.

"Her game is really steady and she keeps balls in plays. If she gets to more balls she can be a contender," she added.

Other girls in the mix include Dayla Fernaeu, Elizabeth Santelices, Alexis Lopez and Kearstin Dorrance.

Coach Ungerott said there are a lot of jobs open on the team and it'll be interesting to see who steps up and takes those spots during practices.

Ungerott said the team is more mature and are great to be around. She said all of the kids get along well and really bond well

together, "I hope their maturity shows on the court because they are a great group of boys and girls. The teams really motivate and cheer for each other and it is great to have that extra support," she added.

Rivero said she looks forward to her senior year. She took some time off this year and was involved in cheerleading. She said that kept her in shape and gave her a mental break from tennis. She intends to enroll at the University of Central Florida and major in accounting with her eye on a master degree so she can become a certified public accountant. She also intends to try out for the college tennis team.

"I probably have the ability to play college tennis. Last year I wasn't 100-percent sure of what I wanted to do and waited too long to get recruited. I think being on a college tennis team would be a great thing to add to my resume," she added.

Rivero said she wants to finish off her high school career with a strong senior year and plans to work hard to make up for the time she took off from the sport.

She plans to be a good leader for the team and encourage the younger girls to love the game of tennis and put their time and effort into the sport.

"We have a pretty old group. I look forward to see how much the girls can improve this year. My goal is to win the district title and I will push to the very end until I can't go anymore," she added.

Rivero said the district plays at a high level with a lot of players that play USTA and have personal coaches so it will be a challenge for all of the girls to be successful.

"This is a very difficult district. The level of play is intense. I won't give up, I plan to push and strive to the end," she added.

Okeechobee Sports News in Brief

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

The Okeechobee High School **Brahman boys basketball** season came to an end with a 71-48 loss in the first round of the District 12-7A Tournament to Fort Pierce Central on Monday night. Okeechobee had played better in recent weeks but were no match for most Treasure Coast teams this year. Sylvester Butler led the Brahmans with 13 points. Brendon Jonassaint added 12 points. OHS finished the season at (8-18). Fort Pierce led 23-5 after the first quarter and was never threatened in the game.

Three **Brahman wrestlers** earned district titles at the District 2A-14 wrestling tournament last weekend in Stuart. Ryan Hagan at 145 pounds, Jake Menendez at 182 pounds and Greg Hernandez at 285 pounds, wrestled very well at the tournament. Okeechobee finished third overall as a team. Coach Robert Olive said the kids wrestled very hard and came close to beating perennial power Olympic Heights for second place. Jensen Beach was the district champion. OHS will have 12 wrestlers at this week's regional in Stuart. "We surprised a lot of people and some personal bests were

shattered and hurdles were leaped," he added. Larry Tabor, 138 pounds, Sebastian Fulleda 152 pounds, Allen Leitner at 170 pounds, were second place finishers. Delfino Garcia, 106 pounds, Cody Griffith 132 pounds, Edwin Robles 195 pounds, Cory Vickers, 220, all finished in this place. Fourth place finishers included Todd Lanning at 120 pounds and Bryan Levins at 160 pounds. Coach Olive said Menendez was the biggest surprise at the tournament and he praised him for really working hard in the last month. He also praised Leitner who defeated his rival from Martin County, Adam Schineis to reach the final. Olive said he was very confident some OHS wrestlers will qualify for the state tournament this year.

The **OHS tennis teams** opened with an impressive victory over Port St. Lucie on Tuesday. The boys' team swept the Jaguars 7-0 while the Lady Brahmans won easily, 6-1. Okeechobee boys lost just one game in singles. Otto Ramirez, Colt Root, Kirby Dobbs and Brandon Ball all won matches by shutout. Colton McCreary dropped just one game. The doubles teams of Ramirez and Root and McCreary and Dobbs lost just one game.

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