

# OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 104 No. 35

Friday, March 22, 2013

50¢ Plus tax

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## Lake Levels

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Last Year: 12.70 feet

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Special to the Okeechobee News/CES

## Spring gardening

Central Elementary School students recently planted a vegetable garden, with the help of students from the agriculture class at Okeechobee Freshman Campus. Working in Central Elementary School's vegetable garden were Avary Manson, Aaliyah Brifil and Jaelyn Lineberry. For more on the story, see page 8.

## Boaters saved from stormy lake

84-year-old suffers broken ribs when boat hits rocks

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News

An 84-year-old Indiana man and his son were rescued from the stormy waters of Lake Okeechobee after their bass boat apparently ran out of gas and was thrown upon some rocks by high winds.

That incident comes on the heels of another accident on the big lake where two airboats reportedly collided Saturday, March 16, while navigating grass trails just south of the Buckhead Ridge area.

"They (the airboaters) couldn't see each other due to high vegetation," explained Carl Segelson, public information coordinator with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). "Both were cited for not having a proper lookout."

See LAKE — Page 11

## Teen again accused of molesting children

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News

A 14-year-old boy arrested last month after being accused of sexually molesting a 7-year-old child has been arrested again for allegedly molesting two more young children.

Joshua Michael Acevedo, N.W. Seventh Lane, Okeechobee, was arrested Wednesday, March 20, on two felony counts of lewd and lascivious molestation offender under 18 years of age and victim under 12 years of age.

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

Detective William Suggs, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), initially arrested Acevedo on Feb. 16 on a felony charge of lewd and lascivious battery. That charge has since been dropped by the State Attorney's Office and a new charge of lewd and lascivious molestation was filed in its place, explained the detective.

Detective Suggs said Wednesday's arrest came about after the mother of one of the victims saw an article in the Okeechobee News about Acevedo's arrest in February. The mother then talked to her children about the teen's arrest and learned that he had reportedly mo-

lesting two of her children, indicated the detective's report.

After talking with her children, the mother then called Detective Suggs and told him she had more information for him.

Those two children are younger than the victim in Acevedo's first arrest, stated the report.

Detective Suggs stated in his report that the victim in Acevedo's first



Joshua M. Acevedo

See TEEN — Page 11



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# Brush fire in Country Hills Estates threatens three homes

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

Quick work by the Florida Forestry Service and Okeechobee County Fire/Rescue prevented damage to three homes in the area of Northeast 131st Trail and Northeast 22nd Ave. in Country Hills Estates on Wednesday afternoon, March 20.

According to the report filed by Fire/Rescue, the fire was started when a backyard trash fire in a fire pit got out of control. They received the alarm at 3:39 p.m. While Fire/Rescue units protected area residences, the forestry service worked to contain the fire.

Fire/Rescue units were placed at all surrounding residences to protect them from the spreading fire. The occupants of one home were evacuated with the fire only 100 to 150 feet from the house and 75 feet from a shed and garage. At least two other homes were threatened. There was a danger from

wind borne burning leaves and twigs igniting the houses, but Fire/Rescue was able to provide necessary protection.

The fire consumed about 10 wooded acres before it was contained by a fire lane plowed by a Forestry Service tractor.

The wind was a major factor according to Melissa Yunas, wildfire mitigation specialist with the forestry service. She said the wind kept shifting, making the firefighters work more.

The last Fire/Rescue unit left the area 7:31 p.m. Approximately 2500 gallons of water were used in protecting the homes.

The forestry service urges residents who live in wooded areas to protect their homes from brush fires by clearing 30 feet of woods around their homes, keeping their yard green and well watered (within South Florida Water Management District water restrictions) and pruning trees away from their homes.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

A brush fire in Country Hill Estates on Wednesday afternoon, March 20, consumed about 10 acres and threatened at least three homes in the area. The fire was contained by the Florida Forestry Service while Okeechobee County Fire/Rescue protected the endangered homes.

## Okeechobee Forecast

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**Today:** Clear in the morning, then partly cloudy. High of 82F. Winds from the ESE at 5 to 10 mph.  
**Tonight:** Partly cloudy. Low of 63F. Winds from the ESE at 5 to 10 mph.

### Extended Forecast

**Saturday:** Partly cloudy with a chance of

rain, then a chance of a thunderstorm and a chance of rain in the afternoon. High of 88F. Winds from the South at 10 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 20%.

**Saturday Night:** Partly cloudy. Fog overnight. Low of 66F. Winds from the SSW at 10 to 15 mph.

**Sunday:** Partly cloudy with a chance of a thunderstorm and rain in the afternoon. High of 84F with a heat index of 90F. Breezy. Winds from the SW at 15 to 20 mph. Chance of rain 40%.

**Sunday Night:** Mostly cloudy with a chance of a thunderstorm and rain in the evening, then overcast. Low of 61F. Winds from the West at 10 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 20%.

## Come Dine with the Doctor

Dine with the Doctor will be held on Tuesday, March 26, at Raulerson Hospital Cafeteria. Dinner is at 4:30 p.m. (\$5 each). Lecture: 5:00 p.m. (free) RSVP: 863-763-9228.

### ACHIEVEMENT

#### HEATHER SILLS

Congratulations to my loving daughter, Heather Sills, the daughter of Timothy & Jewell Sills. Heather came in 4th Place in the 3D at the Okeechobee fair on Saturday, on a wonderful horse named "SUCCESS LADY". Thanks to Ms. Kristan Phillips for taking the time to work with her. Thanks to Tamra for letting her ride "SUCCESS LADY", and Bless all the people at the competition on Saturday.

WE LOVE YOU HEATHER!  
MOM, and DAD.



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## The Okeechobee Community Choir

*Under the Direction of Sandy Perry,*

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### *Exalted One!*

Easter Favorites Concluding with Handel's Hallelujah!  
Chorus, During Which Audience Participation is Encouraged!

Friday, March 22 <sup>nd</sup> 7pm	Saturday, March 23 <sup>rd</sup> 7pm	Sunday, March 24 <sup>th</sup> 3pm
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**First United Methodist Church - 200 NW 2nd St - Okeechobee**

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

The 45 singers comprising this season's choir represent singers from Fifteen area churches who began rehearsing in February.



Composer, Concert Pianist, Director of Music & Arts at Good Shepherd United Methodist, West Palm Beach and Special Guest Accompanist, Frank Carter, composed his third Easter Cantata, *Exalted One!*

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# Bridge repairs will cause traffic delays

Repairs to two Okeechobee County bridges have been scheduled in the coming weeks.

## S.W. 67th Drive

Repairs on the bridge on Southwest 67th Drive (Lazy 7) will be underway March 25 through April 8, weather permitting.

The contractor will maintain a single-lane operation across this bridge during the hours the contractor is working. Otherwise, the bridge will be closed to all traffic during this time.

Drivers should anticipate single-lane operations to begin early each morning and continue until contractor has completed that days' work schedule. The contractor may only work a partial day; some of the bridge repairs must be done in phases.

The contractor expects to work Monday through Friday each week depending upon

what can be accomplished. They may get ahead of their daily schedule and not be able to work the following day. They may also work on Saturday in order to meet their project schedule timeline.

Variable Message Boards will be placed on SR 70, both east and west bound. The message boards will say whether the bridge is closed or a single-lane operation is in place. No work will be done at night. If it is dark, the bridge will be closed. Appropriate detour signage will be in place.

If everything goes according to plan, anticipate bridge closure and/or single-lane operations to be in place through April 2, depending upon weather or other unexpected material delays.

This project was planned during the Okeechobee County Schools Spring Break period in order to minimize the inconvenience on area residents.

## N.E. 39th Blvd.

Bridge repairs are planned on Northeast 39th Boulevard (Cemetery Road) April 9 through July 7, weather permitting.

During this project, this bridge will have a 24-hour/day single-lane operation, which will last, not more than four weeks in length.

A traffic signal system will be established during the single-lane operation period.

Proper construction signage will be in place prior to the start of the project.

The contractor expects to work Monday through Friday each week depending upon what can be accomplished. They may also work on Saturday in order to meet their project schedule timeline.

Two-way travel will be maintained throughout the majority of this project.

# Chamber could soon have full time director

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

The Chamber of Commerce of Okeechobee County could soon have a new executive director. Terry Burroughs, of the chamber, stated recently that his organization had advertised for resumes. Those resumes received were culled down to two. One of those two has since received other employment. The other applicant has had at least 4 or 5 years experience managing chambers and has done quite well. Mr. Burroughs said he would soon be arranging a face-to-face interview with the second applicant.

"We'll see how it goes from there" he said.

It also appears that the chamber could soon be working with Okeechobee Main Street in the restoration of the old train depot. That was a hot topic several years ago. Mr. Burroughs said that CSX Transportation, who owns the building, had made several demands, such as lights, a railing and a yellow line at the edge of the platform. Those demands were met when AMTRAK built the train stop shelter. So, Mr. Burroughs thinks the project may be revived. He said the building appears to be in good condition. The roof on the western end of the build-

ing, which was originally the freight section and more recently housed a livestock feed business, is in good shape. The roof on the eastern end, which originally housed the passenger waiting room, will have to be replaced. However, the walls are concrete block and the floor is concrete so there has

been no water damage.

Mr. Burroughs is hoping to be able to get the help of state and federal elected officials in dealing with CSX.

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



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

## Employee recognition

At their meeting on Thursday, Feb. 28 Okeechobee County Commissioners recognized county employees for their longevity. Pictured left to right are: Frank Byars, road maintenance director, 20 years, Pete Depasquale, road maintenance technician, 5 years, County Administrator Robbie Chartier, Debra Cason, library specialist, 5 years, Misty Friend, administrative secretary, 10 years, Kimberly Rodgers, budget analyst, 10 years, Commission Chair Frank Irby, Josh Borgstrom, firefighter/medic, 5 years, Mike McLeod, 5 years, and Jeremy Smith, firefighter/medic, 5 years. Not pictured: T. J. Parrish, firefighter/medic, 5 years.

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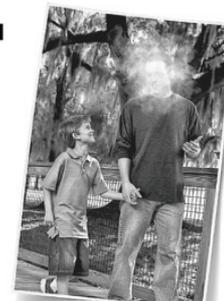
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## Property Tax Bill Payment Deadlines

A reminder from your Tax Collector:

Property tax bills for 2012 become delinquent and begin accruing penalties April 1, 2013.

- Payments made by mail must be postmarked in March to be eligible for the March amount.
- Payments made on our website must be made by midnight EST on March 31.
- If making your payment in our office the March amount will be accepted through April 1, 2013.

To avoid having your property advertised in the newspaper pursuant to FS197.402 (3), your payment must be in our office prior to April 20, 2013.

If you have any questions please call our office at 863-763-3421.

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## Letters to the editor

### Waiting, waiting, waiting

When has any of us gone anywhere in this world that we didn't have to wait?

We'll start with church—you have to wait in line if you want to shake hands with pastor and wife on your way out. You have to wait in line at the grocery store, pharmacy, department store and the airport. Wait for the hostess to seat your party at the restaurant, wait at the car wash, gas station, insurance office, the doctor's office, even when

you make a phone call if you party is busy you have to wait! And on and on!

These are places we all wait on a weekly or monthly basis. Right?

Now WHO is so important that they can't wait a few minutes at the tag or license office? It's only once a year for tag and every four years for licenses.

Everyone does not go in the same day, since there are 12 months in a year. Wouldn't you think the need for these items would be

spread out?

I've been a taxpayer in this county for 41 years. Waiting sometimes yields you new friendships you will cherish for life.

Shred the plans for a new building that the county cannot afford!

**Frankie Russell**

## Public Forum/Speak Out

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

### Buy American

• With Easter coming up soon, be sure to fill your Easter baskets with candy that is made in the good old U.S.A. Read the labels. Some candy comes from overseas. Some candy companies have some products made in Mexico and others in the U.S.A. Also, the same candy product might be made in more than one place so if you read the labels you will find that you can find the same product from the U.S.A. factory at another store, for example at a grocery store. Keep your fellow citizens working by buying American. And read the labels to find out what is in the candy. Is it really chocolate or combination of chemical flavorings?

### Gun control

• If gun control advocates got their way, to the extreme, many normal law abiding citizens will become criminals. The prohibition comes to mind. I wouldn't give my guns up, and as long as I am smart about it, nobody would be able to take them.

### Drivers License Office

• I haven't been there in over 10 years, so I don't know anything about the office. I'm looking at it as a cost savings to the taxpayers. I also don't know how this made it

all the way to final review of the building plans before it was made known that they were planning on building a new building.

• I read all the "letters to the editor" in today's paper about the county considering putting the D/L office at the Daniels building. Where did those people get the idea that the county was considering this? I listened to the meeting where the relocation was discussed and I am pretty sure the only thing that was discussed was by Commissioner Culpepper stating that the owner of the building had approached him about it. I'm also pretty sure that idea died for a lack of interest. I'm not against the idea, but I do find their arguments interesting. e.g. the Daniels building "is safe as the street lights are on at night." Is the driver's license office open at night? Is there a big space available in this building and where is all the parking? Behind the building? Anybody else have an opinion about this location? Any way we look at it, the county got caught trying to build a new building for all the wrong reasons and we taxpayers are on the hook for all the money they wasted hiring a firm to draw up plans.

• It seems the people involved in the Daniels building have started a letter writing campaign, which is fine. They are entitled to put their opinions out there. But I think the Health Department building is not a bad choice. The county already owns it and apparently the state folks approved it for use as a driver's license office. It seems the most cost-effective way to go, which is what we need as they already threw away \$50,000 on plans for a building they don't need. The current driver's license office is not close to downtown so I see no reason for the new one to be close to downtown. That's not really an issue.

## Poison prevention week: Toxic hazards still lurk in many homes

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) celebrates the nation's longest running public health campaign: National Poison Prevention Week (NPPW), from March 17 to 23. As a longtime supporter of NPPW, one of the CPSC's greatest contributions to the effort has been the requirement of child-resistant closures on certain medicines and household chemicals.

When NPPW was launched more than 50 years ago, about 400 children a year died from unintentional poisoning. The most common culprit: aspirin. Today, about 40 children a year die from unintentional poisoning. Although this demonstrates significant progress, CPSC believes that is still too many, which is why the agency continues to identify and address new and recurring poison dangers.

"During National Poison Prevention Week, we celebrate the tremendous success of this public safety campaign," said CPSC Chairman Inez Tenenbaum. "There are still children who need to be protected from household poisoning, so we must not let our guard down. Products that pose a toxic risk to children need to be locked up and put away from their reach."

Recently, CPSC issued warnings about poison dangers involving coin-size batteries and a product new to the U.S. marketplace, single-load liquid laundry packets. Children are attracted to the shapes and textures of these products intended for adults. When these products are left within a child's reach, the results can be tragic. CPSC is encouraged that the coin and button cell industry is developing more secure packaging and taking additional steps to try to keep the products away from young children. However, CPSC seeks design changes that eliminate the serious chemical burn injuries that often occur upon ingestion. CPSC is also encouraged that the manufacturers of laundry packets are developing improved warning labels, making their product packaging less attractive to children, and have committed

to implement a comprehensive multi-year consumer awareness campaign. However, CPSC seeks additional design changes to all types of packages containing laundry packets that will make individual packets less accessible to children.

Young children have required emergency medical treatment as a result of swallowing or ingesting household products. CPSC's message to parents: These incidents are preventable.

Consumers are encouraged to take the following safety steps to prevent unintentional poisonings:

1. Keep medicines and household chemicals in their original, child-resistant containers.
2. Store potentially hazardous substances up and out of a child's sight and reach.
3. Keep the national Poison Help Line number, 800-222-1222, handy in case of a poison emergency.
4. When hazardous products are in use, never let young children out of your sight, even if it means you must take them along when answering the phone or doorbell.
5. Leave the original labels on all products, and read the labels before using the products.
6. Always leave the light on when giving or taking medicine so you can see that you are administering the proper medicine, and be sure to check the dosage every time.
7. Avoid taking medicine in front of children. Refer to medicine as "medicine," not "candy."
8. Clean out the medicine cabinet periodically and safely dispose of unneeded and outdated medicines.
9. Do not put decorative lamps and candles that contain lamp oil where children can reach them. Lamp oil can be very toxic if ingested by children.

# KEECHOBEE NEWS

### To Reach Us

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

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### Staff

**Editor:** Katrina Elsen  
**Circulation Manager:** Janet Madray  
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### Our Purpose...

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

### We Pledge...

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

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



# March for Babies raises over \$44,000

The Okeechobee community raised over \$44,000 at March for Babies 2013, held on March 9, 2013, and money is still coming in.

The mission of the March of Dimes is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth, and infant mortality.

The crowd was welcomed by Co-Chairs, Sheriff Paul May and his wife Delores May, who thanked the participants for their support. Refreshments were provided by the BRAT Club, Waste Management, and the March of Dimes. Sue Williams led the warm-up exercises while Sandra Pearce Photography took the team photos.

Over 400 people took part in the 3.2 mile walk, and were treated to refreshments at the five Spirit Stations along the way, sponsored by Center State Bank, Healthy Start Coalition, Quit Doc Research, Publix Super Markets, and Wemmer Family Orthodontics. The award for Favorite Spirit Station went to Healthy Start Coalition.

The following award winners were recognized: Top Fundraising Individual: Magi Cable; Top Fundraising School: South El-

ementary; Outstanding Team Spirit: Central Elementary; Top Online Fundraising Team: Law Office of Cassels & McCall; Top New Team: Sheriff's Office Supporters; Volunteer Spirit Award: Ronnie White; Favorite T-shirt: Yearling Middle School.

The Top 10 Fundraising Teams were: (1) Sheriff's Office Supporters; (2) Seminole Tribe of Florida; (3) Publix Super Markets; (4) South Elementary School; (5) Central Elementary School; (6) Law Office of Cassels & McCall; (7) North Elementary School; (8) Okeechobee High School BETA Club; (9) Everglades Elementary School; and (10) Gilbert Chevrolet. The Chairman's Club award is given to those teams who did not make it into the Top 10, but who raised at least \$1,000. This year the sole Chairman's

Club award went to the Okeechobee County School District.

Event Sponsors included: Seacoast National Bank, Publix Super Markets, Seminole Tribe of Florida, Children's Services Council, FPL, Okeechobee Healthcare Facility, Quit Doc Research, State Farm Insurance, Women's Health Specialists; Law Office of Cassels & McCall, Everglades Farm Equipment, Golden Corral, and Syfrett Feed Company.

For those who still want to send a donation, checks should be made payable to the March of Dimes and can be mailed to the March of Dimes office at 112 43rd Ave. S.W., Vero Beach, FL 32968 or to Cassels & McCall, P.O. Box 968, Okeechobee, FL 34973.

## AARP offers free tax preparation help

Free tax preparation and e-filing by AARP Taxaide volunteers is available until April 15 at the American Legion located at 501 S.E. 2nd Street Monday and Tuesday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Participants must bring a picture ID, SS cards for dependents, last year's tax return and all 2012 financial papers. No appointment is necessary, first come first serve and doors open at 8:45 a.m. Do not call the American Legion for more information call 863-357-1694 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

## Sports & Recreation News in Brief

### Swimming pool open during Spring Break, March 26-30

The Okeechobee County Sports Complex Swimming Pool will be open during Spring Break, **March 26-30** as follows: Tuesday-Friday, from 1 to 5 p.m.; Saturday, from 7 to 9 p.m. Admission is \$3 per person.

### Bowling tournament to benefit church mission

Lucky Lanes in Okeechobee will host The Okeechobee Open bowling tournament **April 26-27**. This tournament is a handicapped tournament with two divisions. A singles division has a cash prize of \$1,000 (based on entries) to the winner and a four-person team division has a cash prize of \$1,500 (based on entries). This tournament is an "open" tournament meaning it is open to all players male and female, young and older. Call the tournament Director, James Dawson at 863-447-2715, if you would like more information or register for the tournament. The proceeds of this tournament go the mission outreach of children and families in New Orleans. This tournament is sponsored by the First United Methodist Church of Okeechobee.

### OHS Band Boosters host Moonlight Golf Tournament

The Moonlight Golf Tourney is a 9-hole event held entirely within the Okeechobee High School campus on Saturday, **April 6**, at 6 p.m. Full concession services will be available. Tourney check-in at 5 p.m. All proceeds go to the band boosters of Okeechobee County. To register your team, contact Robert Orr 863-634-1381 or Steve Dobbs 863-643-0194.

### Benefit mens softball tournament planned

The 4th annual Men's Softball Tournament, in memory Of "Devon Venables" June 15, 1989 – August 1, 2009. When: Saturday, **April 6**. Where: Adult Softball Fields. Time: 8 a.m. Early Registration is \$200 (if paid by March 23). \$250 registration at the field. Bring your own balls. 44 Core-Isa Rule bracket will be determined by number of teams registered. All proceeds will go towards the Devon Venables Memorial Scholarship. Donations can be made directly to the Okeechobee Education Foundation with a notation in the "Memo" of your check, "Devon Venables Memorial Scholarship." For more information, please contact: Kim Hilliard, 863-634-4553 or Jill Rogers 863-634-0870.

### OHS Swim Team to hold golf scramble for March 23

The Okeechobee High School Swim Team will host a golf scramble fundraiser on Saturday, March 23, from 8:30 a.m. to noon at the Blue Heron Golf and Country Club. Cost for a 4-person team is \$160 (\$40 per person). Mulligans will be sold before tee off! If you are not a golfer but want to help, you can be a sign sponsor or special event sponsor. A company or individual may donate cash or prizes. This is a good chance for OHS swim team alumni to show support. For more information, contact Coach Steven Neafsey at (610) 945-8337 or Team Mom Lane Gamiotea at 863-697-0345.

### Bike/walk planned for April 6

Hope Ministry Centers will host a bike/walk on Saturday, **April 6**, starting at 7 a.m. For more information, call 863-357-1319 or email to Hopeministry@aol.com.

### HMC to host cross country bike ride in June

Hope Ministry Centers will host a cross-country bike ride on **June 8, 15, and 22**. Climax **July 6**. Meet at 5 a.m. at the HMC Fellowship Hall, 1109 S.E. 7th St. For more information, contact First Lady Williams at 863-357-1319 or email to Hopeministry@aol.com.

### Rotary's annual LOST Bike Ride planned for April 20

Rotary's 10th Annual L.O.S.T. Bike Ride (Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail) will be on Saturday, **April 20**, starting at 8 a.m. The L.O.S.T. is a great trek for people of all ages, skills and abilities. With rides of 12, 20, 40 and 54 miles as well as a 5K walk there is something for everyone. The L.O.S.T. trail itself is world-renowned for its stunning vistas and numerous forms of wildlife. It has become a worldwide destination for bird-watching and world class fishing. This great fundraising event promises to be fun for all. All entrants are provided a goody-bag with a commemorative t-shirt and much more. Also, there is a BBQ meal provided afterwards for all entrants as well as a 50/50 and a raffle with a ton of great prizes. All proceeds benefit the charities of the Rotary Club of Okeechobee. For more information, email OkeechobeeRotary@live.com or call Center State Bank at 863-763-5573.

### Register for Shockwaves

The Okeechobee Shockwaves Recreational League Swim Team will have registration **April 15, 16 and 18**, from 5 to 6:15 p.m. at the Okeechobee Sports Complex. Fees are \$60 for registration plus \$15 application fee (the same as last year). Practices will start on April 22 from 4:45-6:30 p.m.

# Your time is precious.



People have so much to do and so little time to do it.

To help you deal with your time constraints, we pack this little newspaper with lots of relevant and useful information.

We want you to learn what you need to know quickly, so you can experience and enjoy your community fully.

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## Community Events

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### Cypress Hut Eagles to host dinners this weekend

The Cypress Hut Eagles, at 4701 S.E. U.S. 441, will serve choice ribeye steak dinners for \$14, shrimp \$10, or fish \$8, starting at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, **March 22**. Music will be by Carl Cable. On Saturday, **March 23**, The Eagles will serve baby back ribs starting at 5 p.m. Music will be by Jimmy and Debbie Harper. On Sunday, **March 24**, the Eagles will serve Southern Fried Chicken from 1 to 5 p.m. for \$6. A dart tournament is planned for Tuesday, **March 26**, starting at 6 p.m. Hamburgers will be served. The public is welcome. Tuesday's proceeds go for the Fraternal Order of Eagles Diabetes Research Center. Proceeds from the other events go to the community and national charity funds. For more information, please call 863-467-1154.

### Eagles plan dinner and benefit

The Fraternal Order of Eagles 4137, 9985 Hwy. 441 North, will host a steak night on Friday, **March 22**, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Proceeds go to the FOE 4137 community benefit fund.

### OHS Swim Team hosts Golf Scramble Fundraiser

The OHS Swim Team will host a golf scramble fundraiser on Saturday, **March 23**, at 8:30 a.m. to noon, at the Blue Heron Golf & Country Club. Four-person golf teams can play for \$40 each (\$160/team). Mulligans will be sold before tee off! If you're not a golfer but want to help, you can be a sign sponsor or special event sponsor. A company (or individual) may donate \$45 (or more), or donate prizes. OHS Swim Team Alumni - this is a GREAT chance to show YOUR Support! Contact Coach Steven Neafsey at 610-945-8337 or Team Mom Lane Gamiotea at 863-697-0345.

### Eagles North hosts a benefit for Margie Shelfer

Eagles North F.O.E. 4137, at 9985 Hwy. 441 North, and the Auxiliary are having a benefit for Margie Shelfer on Saturday, **March 23** starting at 11 a.m. with spaghetti dinners at noon, games, a cake sale and a big auction at 3 p.m. Music will be by Hard Country. Items are still being accepted for an auction. Please contact The Eagles at 863-763-2552. Please join us. Dinners will start at noon. There will also be a poker run the same day starting from the Iron Eagle. All proceeds will go to Margie Shelfer to help pay for her medical bills and needs.

### VFW to host chicken dinner

VFW Post 9528 Buckhead Ridge, will serve Dale's Famous Fried Chicken Dinner, for a \$7 per person donation, on Sunday, **March 24**, from 2 to 5 p.m. The dinner will be cooked by Dale Darling. Proceeds will benefit the Homeless Veterans Fun.

### The B.R.A.T. Club Teen Dance plans "Harlem Shake Video"

The B.R.A.T. Club Teen Dance will be held at the Okeechobee Freshman Campus, 610 S.W. 2nd Ave. Saturday, **March 23**, from 7 - 10 p.m. Teens and 'Tweens from 12-16 are invited to attend. For only \$7, there will be music, costume contest, games and more! A "Harlem Shake Video" will be recorded at this teen dance. Admission includes pizza, soda and chips. For information, please contact Teresa Chandler at 863-801-4996.

### Spring Fling Festival in the Woods to be held Saturday

Alpha Ministries at Freedom Ranch, 11655 U.S. 441 S.E. presents Spring Fling Festival in the Woods, Saturday, **March 23**, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be food, music, buggy rides, an arena show, a cake walk and fun things for the kids to do as well as a 5-acre yard sale. Call 863-763-9800, to reserve a yard sale or vendor booth.

### American Legion Post 64 opens Sunday night bingo

American Legion 64 will once again host Sunday night Bingo beginning on Sunday, **March 24**, 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.

### Okeechobee Moose to host spring fling on Sunday

The Moose will host Spring Fling in the tiki hut at 159 N.W. 36th St. on Sunday, **March 24**, starting at 3 p.m. Music by D & K, and there will be food, games, and horse-shoes. On Thursday, March 21, Bingo 1 p.m. Lunch 12:30 p.m. Friday Night Bingo starts with Bonanza at 6:30 p.m. Food is available. Sunday, March 24, breakfast served 8 - 11 a.m. All proceeds go to support Moose Charities programs.

### Masonic Lodge will host a breakfast on March 24

The Masonic Lodge located at 107 N.W. 5th St., will host a breakfast with all the fixin's on Sunday, **March 24**, for \$6 per plate. The public is welcomed and carry out is available. Breakfast will be served 8 to 11 a.m. All proceeds go to local Mason giving.

### Martha's House to hold a huge yard sale on Thursday

Martha's House will have a huge one-day yard sale on Thursday, **March 28**, at their outreach location, 4134 U.S. Highway 441 N. For more information, call 863-763-2893.

### CCC to meet on March 26

The Community Collaborative Council of the Okeechobee County Shared Services Network will conduct their monthly meeting on Tuesday, **March 26**, at 10 a.m. in the board room of the Okeechobee County School Board office. The purpose of the meeting is to allow the community to identify issues, collaborate, and share information regarding services for children and their families. Everyone is welcome to attend. Call Sharon Vinson at 863-462-5000, Ext. 257. NOTE: Summer Activity Guide submission forms are due March 28.

## 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.*

### Edna Gillispie, 77

OKEECHOBEE — Edna Gillispie passed away Mon., Mar. 18, 2013 at the Hamrick Home Hospice.

She was born Feb. 17, 1937 in Plant City, Fla. to Samuel and Ellen Edna (Miller) Douglas.

She is survived by her sons, Donald Hazellief and family of Fairdale, Ky., Samuel Hazellief and family of Jensen Beach, Fla., Daniel Hazellief and family of Okeechobee, Fla., Bruce Hazellief and family of Okeechobee, Fla.; daughter, Pamela Hills Grove and family of Winter Haven, Fla.; sister, Cathy Yates of Ga. A special thanks to Vickie Murphy for all her love and help.

A memorial service will be held at The Gathering of Okeechobee on Fri., Mar. 22, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. Pastor Mike Brown will be officiating.

All arrangements are entrusted to the loving care of the Buxton Funeral Home and Crematory, 400 N. Parrott Ave., Okeechobee, FL. On-line condolences may be made at [www.buxtonfuneralhome.com](http://www.buxtonfuneralhome.com).

### Irene T. Reeder, 87

OKEECHOBEE — Irene T. Reeder died Sunday, March 17, 2013.

Irene was born in Miami and a resident of the Treasure Coast for 25 years. For health reasons and to be closer to family she recently relocated to Okeechobee. She thoroughly enjoyed the beach and also doing craft work.

Irene was preceded in death by her husband, John W. Reeder; daughter, Diane Kimble; and a brother, John Reeder, Jr.

She is survived by her son, Bill (Dee) Reeder of Okeechobee; daughter, Sherry (Mike) Goodrich of Ft. Pierce; four granddaughters, Linda (Chad) Rucks of Okeechobee, Jessica Reeder of Tamarac, Fla., Debbie (Ron) Hall of Orlando, and Kara (Scott) Miles of Winters, Calif.; eight great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

The family will receive friends on Saturday, March 23, 2013, from 11 am until service time of 12 pm at Buxton-Seawinds Funeral Home.

If friends desire, donations may be made in Irene's memory to Hospice of Okeechobee, P.O. Box 1548, Okeechobee, FL 34973.

Friends may send online condolences to [www.buxtonseawinds.com](http://www.buxtonseawinds.com)

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

### VFW Post to host Easter Egg

### Hunt on March 30

The Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Post 4423, 300 N.W. 34th St., will host an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, **March 30**, at 10 a.m. There will be three divisions: Infant - 4 years; 5 - 8 years and 9 - 12 years. Bring your baskets and have some fun. There will be prizes and hot dogs for the kids. Please contact the post with any questions at 863-763-0818.

### James 'Bennie' Rowell, 61

OKEECHOBEE — James "Bennie" Rowell passed away Tues., Mar. 19, 2013 at his residence.

He was born May 11, 1951 in Alma, Ga. He was a loving father and loved to fish. In addition he was a lifelong truck driver and of the Baptist Faith.

He is survived by his son, Robert Thomas Rowell (Melissa Lucrezia) of Palm City, Fla.; daughters, Renee Rowell (Daniel) of Pell City, Ala., Jolene Natasha Rowell (Chase) of Okeechobee; grandchildren, Ashley, Madisyn, Dalton and one on the way; parents, James Robert and Annie Ruth Rowell of Okeechobee; four sisters and many loving nieces and nephews.

The family will hold a memorial service at the Freewill Baptist Church, 1854 NE 54th Trail, Okeechobee, FL, on Fri., Mar. 22, 2013 at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to help with the cost of funeral expenses.

All arrangements are entrusted to the loving care of the Buxton Funeral Home and Crematory, 400 N. Parrott Ave. Okeechobee, FL.

On-line condolences may be made to [www.buxtonfuneralhome.com](http://www.buxtonfuneralhome.com).

### Edward Samuel Tarleton, 63

OKEECHOBEE — Edward Samuel Tarleton passed away Friday, March 15, 2013 at his residence.

He was born November 5, 1949 in New Orleans, Louisiana to John C. and Florence (Burke) Tarleton. Mr. Tarleton served our country in the Armed Forces and was a long distance truck driver.

There are no public services planned.

All arrangements are entrusted to the loving care of the Buxton Funeral Home and Crematory, 400 N Parrott Ave., Okeechobee, FL. On-line condolence may be made at [www.buxtonfuneralhome.com](http://www.buxtonfuneralhome.com).

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# Clues sought in theft of vintage Dodge Dart

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News

A local detective is seeking the public's help in locating a customized yellow 1972 Dodge Dart that was stolen between 7:30 and 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 12.

Detective Mark Shireman, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), said the vintage hot rod was being driven by the owner when it suffered some sort of mechanical problem. The owner parked the car in the 6300 block of N.W. 240th St. in Okeechobee County and caught a ride to his home from a passerby.

The car's owner did not get the name of the man, who he could only describe as a white male. The car owner could only remember that the man was driving a black pickup truck of an unknown make and model. The owner went to his home to get another vehicle and a trailer, then returned to where he had parked the Dodge Dart. But, by this time, the car had disappeared.

The detective said the car's owner was gone about an hour, and that the vehicle was locked.

Detective Shireman said the car is valued at \$20,000.

OCSO Deputy Robbie Lamb took the initial report on the theft. In his report he stat-

ed that there were no signs that the car had been loaded onto a trailer, nor were there any signs that a window had been broken out to gain access to the car.

Among the customized features of the Dart are: all black, custom-made bucket front seats; a roll bar; a 360 cubic inch Stroker engine; a 727 torque flight automatic transmission; and, a single black stripe that goes around the back end of the car.

Detective Shireman said the car also has an antique Florida license tag bearing the number B17786. The car's vehicle identification number (VIN) is LL23C2R305520.

If you have any information regarding this case, you are asked to contact Detective Shireman at 863-763-3117.



Submitted photo/OCSO  
**Detective Mark Shireman, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office, is seeking the public's help in locating this customized 1972 Dodge Dart. The car was stolen Tuesday, March 12, from the 6300 block of N.W. 240th St. sometime between 7:30 and 8:30 p.m.**

## Okeechobee's Most Wanted

The following person is on Okeechobee's Most Wanted list. There are an active warrants for these persons. The criteria for making Okeechobee's Most Wanted list is based on the severity of the crime in conjunction with the age of the warrant.

Jonna Leight Kimla, 23, is 5'4" and weighs 178 lbs. She has brown hair and hazel eyes. She is charged with Violation of Probation-Grand Theft, and Failure to Appear-Trespass.

If you have any information on the where-

abouts of any of Okeechobee's Most Wanted you can call the Treasure Coast Crime Stoppers at 1-800-273-TIPS (8477). If you call Treasure Coast Crimes Stoppers, you have the option of remaining anonymous. You can also receive a reward if the information results in an arrest. Crime Doesn't Pay, But We Do!



**Jonna L. Kimla**



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Special to the Okeechobee News/CES  
Okeechobee Freshman Campus agriculture teacher Brian Dryden brought ninth grade students to Central Elementary School to help prepare a vegetable garden.



Special to the Okeechobee News/CES  
Central Elementary School students Ella Bostwick, Hailey Rodgers, Marisa Willcuts, Braydon Crawford and Emanuel Baltazar were ready to plant vegetable seeds.

# CES students plant garden

Kindergarten students and teachers at Central Elementary School planted their annual vegetable garden on Wednesday, March 13. The students helped weed, measure, and plant the garden. The students and teachers give a huge thanks to Brian Dryden and the ninth grade Ag students from the Freshman Campus. It is a tremendous task to accomplish in one day, and could not have been

accomplished without all their hard work. They would also like to thank Home Depot for their generous donation of tomato plants and a sprinkler.

All the children had a wonderful experience and will continue to work hard maintaining their garden.

## Salvation Army offers rental assistance

The Salvation Army Service Unit of Okeechobee is currently taking applications for Rental Assistance. Applications can be picked up at the Service Unit office, 1600 # B (New Horizons bldg.) S.W. Second Ave. Mondays and Tuesdays, between the hours of 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. The Salvation Army has FPL (Florida Power and Light) funding available to assist qualified consumers. Please call 1-863-763-6020 for guidelines and information, Mondays and Tuesdays, between the hours of 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

*Brahman Theatres III*

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Fri., Mar. 22<sup>ND</sup> - Thurs., Mar. 28<sup>TH</sup>

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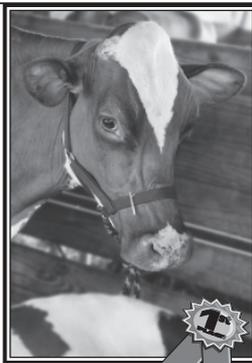
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# Men charged with using bogus SS numbers

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News

Two men have been arrested by a detective with the state's Division of Insurance Fraud for allegedly using bogus Social Security numbers to gain employment with a local business.

Arrested Wednesday, March 20, were Silvestre Hipolito Eduardo and Miguel Angel Garcia-Morales who were both working for Tree Locators, Inc., on U.S. 441 N.

Both men were arrested on a felony charge of fraudulent use of Social Security numbers to obtain employment.

Eduardo is being held in the Okeechobee County Jail on \$3,500 bond. Garcia-Morales is being held on \$2,500 bond.

Arrest reports by Detective William Hill



**Silvestre H. Eduardo**



**Miguel Angel Garcia-Morales**

stated that Eduardo submitted employment documentation to the company on Jan. 15, 2009, that bore the fraudulent number. Garcia-Morales submitted his false numbers on Oct. 1, 2009, added the report.

The detective indicated that he checked with the Social Security Administration and learned that the Social Security numbers submitted by Eduardo and Garcia-Morales did not belong to them.

Because of this information, Detective Hill said Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has placed detainees on both men.

Detective Hill went on to say that Alvin Boshell, the owner of Tree Locators, has been cooperating with him on the investigation.

# Jack Williamson honored by River Acres homeowners

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

River Acres Homeowners President Richard Sweet honored the Okeechobee Sheriff's Citizen on Patrol Observer Program and Officer Jack Williamson, Saturday when he presented the veteran COP regular with an award for his many years of service to that community.

Mr. Sweet said Williamson has done a wonderful job in his volunteer work, is very thorough in his work, and is an asset to the community.

"He is so thorough. When people go back north in the summer months he comes out here and checks their homes and their garages. Our community will miss him," he told the Okeechobee News.

Mr. Sweet presented the award to Mr. Williamson and other members of the Sheriff's Office including Sheriff Paul May and Under Sheriff Noel Stephen during a special event



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
Williamson was recently honored by the River Acres. Left to right are Richard Sweet, Under Sheriff Noel Stephen, Sheriff Paul May, Jack Williamson and County Commissioner Bryant Culpepper.

and barbecue.

He also presented the COP program with a \$200 donation. Each member of the COP was presented with a certificate of appreciation.

"Mr. Williamson was very surprised and very appreciative. We just wanted him to know that he is appreciated," Sweet added.



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The most common cause of chronic hip pain and disability is arthritis. Osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, and traumatic arthritis are the most common forms of this disease.

Hip replacement surgery helps more than 200,000 Americans each year to relieve their hip pain, and get back to enjoying normal, everyday activities. Total hip replacement surgery almost always:

- Stops or greatly reduces hip pain. Even the pain from surgery should go away within weeks.
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hip pain, you'll be able to use your legs more. This will build up your muscles.

- Improves quality of life by allowing you to do daily tasks and low-impact activities in greater comfort.

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Don't let hip pain keep you from what you enjoy doing. You may live for scenic walks, playing doubles with friends or swimming laps in the pool. Don't let hip pain stop you from moving! Get the treatment you need to comfortably move with ease.

Dr. Benjamin Epstein, Board Certified Orthopaedic Surgeon with Orthopaedic Specialists at Raulerson explains "My patients seeking relief from joint pain love having access to great orthopaedic

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# LAKE

Continued From Page 1

She said Robert P. Koedem, of Okeechobee, was the operator of one of the boats. The other boat was operated by Bruce C. Craig, also of Okeechobee.

Ms. Segelson said when the airboats collided, Mr. Koedem's wife, Kandi, was thrown from her seat and hit her head.

Her injury was not serious, added the FWC spokeswoman.

Damages to the boats was estimated at \$4,000 each.

But Indiana native Robert Jones, a winter visitor to the area, wasn't as lucky.

A report from the Martin County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) stated that he suffered some broken ribs and bruises Wednesday evening, March 20, when he was thrown about by 3- and 4-foot waves in his Cajun bass boat.

The report stated that Mr. Jones and his 56-year-old son Michael were on the lake when their boat ran out of gas and began to take on water during a heavy rain storm.

Apparently the men contacted the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office who then called the MCSO around 7:30 p.m. and asked for help in finding the stranded boaters. Michael reportedly told authorities it was dark and raining and he didn't know his location. He added that his father couldn't move due to his injuries.

MCSO dispatcher Louise Richardson then made cell phone contact with the men and was able to coordinate a GPS location on the boat, which was determined to be in the Port Mayaca area.

MCSO Deputy Sergeant John Perez, Deputy Buford Burke, Detective Joe Passanesi and Deputy Robert Calarco spotted the boat from a road. Then, without giving thought to their own safety, Sgt. Perez and Deputy Burke jumped into the lake and swam to the boat. They then grabbed the two men and pulled them to safety, stated the MCSO report.

Even though Michael was not injured, both men were transported to St. Mary's Hospital in West Palm Beach.

Ms. Segelson said the bass boat eventually sank.

# YMCA active in Okeechobee

By Pete Gawda  
Okeechobee News

Even though the movement to raise funds for a YMCA building in Okeechobee has fizzled out because of lack of funds, that organization is still active in the area.

The YMCA sponsors a School's Out

program at South Elementary School during times when school is out such as next week's spring break. For the fourth year the YMCA will sponsor a summer camp at Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

For further information on any of the YMCA programs, call either 863-484-0202 or 772-215-9780.

# TEEN

Continued From Page 1

arrest was threatened by the teen not to talk. Acevedo apparently told that victim he would kill the victim's family if anyone was

told about the incidents.

That victim, stated the detective, may have been molested as many as four times by Acevedo.

The detective's report does not indicate if the most recent victims were threatened by the teen.

# New Federated Republican Women's Club to meet

The Okeechobee County Federated Republican Women's Club will meet Tuesday, **March 26**, at 6 p.m. at Cowboy's in the private dining room. We have a half hour "social hour" before we begin the meeting. For more information, please contact Josie Weeks-Elliott at 863-634-8474.

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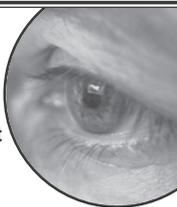
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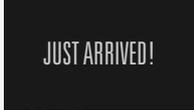
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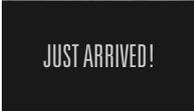
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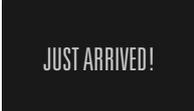
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## Employment Full Time

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## Financial

## Business Opportunities

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

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### Public Notices

### Public Notice

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
The Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners will hold its Regular Session on Thursday, March 28, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. in the "Judge William L. Hendry Courtroom" at the Historic Courthouse, 304 N.W. 2nd Street, Okeechobee, Florida.

Any person deciding to appeal any decision made by the Board of County Commissioners with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purposes, he or she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of such proceedings is made, which record shall include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the County Administrator's Office not later than four (4) working days prior to the proceeding at 304 N.W. 2nd Street, Room 123 Okeechobee, Florida 34972, or call 863.763.6441. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call TDD 1-800-222-3448 (voice) or 1-888-447-5620 (TTY).

Margaret Garrard Helton, Clerk Board of County Commissioners Okeechobee County, Florida

Sharon Robertson, Clerk Board of County Commissioners Okeechobee County, Florida /s/ Paula Poskon/ Deputy Clerk 438147 ON 3/22/2013



### Public Notices

### Public Notice

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
The Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners will hold its Regular Session on Thursday, March 28, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. in the "Judge William L. Hendry Courtroom" at the Historic Courthouse, 304 N.W. 2nd Street, Okeechobee, Florida.

Any person deciding to appeal any decision made by the Board of County Commissioners with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purposes, he or she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of such proceedings is made, which record shall include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

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Margaret Garrard Helton, Clerk Board of County Commissioners Okeechobee County, Florida

Sharon Robertson, Clerk Board of County Commissioners Okeechobee County, Florida /s/ Paula Poskon/ Deputy Clerk 438147 ON 3/22/2013

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION CASE NO.: 2013CA000040**

PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff, VS. MARIA JOYCE LEGEREIT, ET AL, Defendant(s).

**NOTICE OF ACTION**  
To: Maria Joyce Legerreit 3250 US Highway 441 S, Okeechobee, FL 34974-6239 Current Address: Unknown

ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS

Last Known Address: Unknown Current Address: Unknown

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

**LOT 238, TREASURE ISLAND, UNIT 6, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3 PAGE 57, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA. TOGETHER WITH A MOBILE HOME AS A PERMANENT FIXTURE AND APPURTENANCE THERETO, DESCRIBED AS: A 2004 SINGLEWIDE MOBILE HOME BEARING IDENTIFICATION NUMBER FLHMBCS162449833 AND TITLE NUMBER 0089013041 A/K/A 3501 SE 28th St, Okeechobee, FL 34974-6679**

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses within 30 days after the first publication, if any, on Albertelli Law, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is P.O. Box 23028, Tampa, FL 33623, and file the original with this Court within 30 days from first publication service on Plaintiff's attorney, or immediately thereafter, otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint or petition.

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

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this court on this 11th day of March, 2013.

SHARON ROBERTSON Clerk of the Circuit Court BY: Arlene Nealis Deputy Clerk

Albertelli Law P.O. Box 23028 Tampa, FL 33623 CCD - 013993F01

**\*\*See the Americans with Disabilities Act - If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact Corrie Johnson, ADA Coordinator, 250 NW Country Club Drive, Suite 217, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, (772) 807-4370 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711 438797 ON 3/15,22/2013**

### LEGAL NOTICE

Public Auction will be held at Johns Towing Service storage lot located at 704 Northeast 2nd Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34972 on APRIL 5, 2013 at 9:00 A.M. Pursuant to Florida Statute 713.78 for unpaid towing and storage charges. Year, make, model and VIN are as follows.

**1957 CHEVY 4 DOOR VIN #B57A218525**  
Terms of sale are cash, and no checks will be accepted. Seller reserves the right of final bid. ALL SALES ARE FINAL! NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE! Said automobiles will be sold in "As Is" condition with no guarantee's. 439339 ON 3/22/2013

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

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 2009 CA 000514**

JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff, VS. MISLEVDYS EXPOSITO, et al Defendant(s).

**NOTICE OF ACTION**  
TO: MISLEVDYS EXPOSITO and MARIO L. GONZALEZ RESIDENT: Unknown LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 12751 NE 22ND AVE, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972-4813

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

**Lot 5, Block 5, COUNTRY HILLS ESTATES, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 97, 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: 3/11/2013 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**

### Public Notice

con 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 Coordinadora de A.D.A., 250 NW Country Club Drive, Suite 217, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, (772) 807-4370 por to menos 7 dias antes de que tenga que comparecer en corte o inmediatamente despues de haber recibido esta notificaciOn si es que

### Public Notice

falta menos de 7 dias para su comparacencia. Si tiene una discapacidad auditiva 6 de habla, llame al 711. **KREYOL:** Si ou you moun ki kokobe ki bezwen asistans ou aparky pou ou ka patispe nan prosedu sa-a, ou gen dwa san ou pa bezwen peye anyen pou ou jwen on seri de ed. Tanpri kontakte Corrie Johnson, Co-ordinadora ADA, 250 NW Country Club Drive, suite 217, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, (772) 807-4370. Ouwon 7, you avan ke ou gen pou-ou parit nan tribunal, ou imediatman ke ou resewva avis sa-a ou si le ke ou gen pou-ou ale nan tribunal-la mwens ke 7 jou; Si ou pa ka tande ou pale byen, rele 711. 438796 ON 3/15,22/2013

### Public Notice

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
On March 4, 2013, Okeechobee County Emergency Services filed an application for Antenna Site Registration with the Federal Communications Commission, for the purpose of registering a radio tower.  
The location of the proposed tower is 27-14-53.55N Latitude, 80-50-13.66W Longitude, also known as 707 NW 6th Street, Okeechobee, FL 74972.  
This application will be available for public comment on or before March 4, 2013 for a 30 day comment period.  
Members of the public may submit requests for further environmental review if they believe that a proposed tower or tower modification may have a significant impact on the environment. Instructions for viewing applications that are on notice and for submitting Environmental Requests are available on the FCC's website at: <https://wireless2.fcc.gov/ASR/service/nationalNoticeReport.faces>. These requests can be filed online using the FCC Pleadings system. 439312 ON 3/22,24,27/2013

### Public Notice

## Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Religious ritual
  - 5 Bell sound
  - 9 Like freshly washed hair
  - 13 Skip
  - 14 Used cars
  - 15 Jacob's twin
  - 16 Makes an offer more desirable
  - 19 Entertain at one's loft
  - 20 Big rig
  - 21 Lookers
  - 22 Org. that provides handicaps
  - 24 They appear before U
  - 27 Hopelessly ruined
  - 31 Digital comm. method?
  - 34 Santa \_\_\_ winds
  - 35 Dumbbell
  - 36 Stock trader's goal
  - 41 Former country on its own peninsula
  - 42 Little piggy, so to speak
  - 43 Govt. Rx watchdog
  - 44 "Satisfaction guaranteed" catchphrase
  - 49 Ranch handle
  - 50 Votes of support
  - 51 Editor's ruthless overhaul, informally
  - 55 Blog comment
  - 57 Take to the air
  - 58 Editor's "Whoa!"
  - 62 Shock with a stun gun
  - 63 Cookie since 1912
  - 64 Ripped
  - 65 Multicolored
  - 67 Geeky type

- 40 Takes the helm
- 45 Brewery oven
- 46 Long boa
- 47 Keep for later
- 48 Lives
- 52 "Friday the 13th" villain
- 53 Ferrell's partner in "SNL" Spartan
- 54 Harass
- 40 Green shade
- 56 Guest columnist's piece
- 57 2007 signer of the richest contract in MLB history
- 58 Auto additives co. that hints at this puzzle's theme
- 59 Mai \_\_\_
- 60 Long beginning?
- 61 By authority of

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

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	49					50				51	52	53	54
						55	56			57			
58	59						60	61					
62							63				64		
65							66				67		

- DOWN**
- 1 Mideast statesman Dayan
  - 2 Network marketing giant
  - 3 Strainer

# OHS flag football team falls to Martin County

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

Yasmine Queen and Bethany Higgins returned first half interceptions for touchdowns and a third interception led to another Martin County score as the Tigers defeated Okeechobee 21-7 in girls flag football action Tuesday night at Brahman Stadium.

Queen returned a first quarter pass 25 yards for a touchdown. Higgins stepped in front of a receiver and returned that interception 23 yards to build a (14-0) first half lead. Higgins grabbed a third interception late in the first half that led to a short 12-yard drive and a one-yard run by Kaylean Green. Higgins and McKenna Knite caught extra

points as the Tigers built a 21-0 lead.

Okeechobee responded well in the second half as quarterback Kyla Hargraves found Baylee Farless on a 65-yard scoring play in the third quarter. Farless added the extra point to pull OHS to within 21-7.

OHS stayed in the game after a long Martin County drive when Brooke Snyder intercepted a pass near the goal line late in the third quarter. OHS had one more red zone opportunity in the fourth quarter but four passes fell incomplete. The game was delayed about 20 minutes in the fourth quarter due to a player injury.

Farless caught seven passes for 108 yards and a touchdown. Maci Thomas caught four passes for 48 yards. Makayla Root

added two receptions for 10 yards. Sha'Dajia Williams had 15 yards rushing and one reception for six yards. The defense was led by Tiffany Bowers, Kailey Hoover, Destiny Nunez and Kelsie Chartier who had five flags.

The freshman Brahmans lost to Martin County 14-0 and the junior varsity fell 7-0 to the Tigers. Payton Byrd had an interception for the junior varsity. Jessica Mond was stopped just short of the goal line before half time.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
Sha'Dajia Williams had several strong runs for the Brahman flag football team on Tuesday night. OHS fell to Martin County 21-7.

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**5016-H: Viking 3/2** Modular house on 1.25+/- acre. 1508 sq ft under air/2173 TSF, built 2004. Easy to get to right off Pea Vine and easy to show. Offered as a short sale. \$129,000 MLS #206652

**5004-M: Larkee Lakes (SE 58th DR)** MH with additions. Screened porch, open porch in back, power generator, large carport and shed. 1380 Total Sq Ft. Nice location for east cost commuters. \$29,000 MLS #206600

**ON 6.27+/- ACRES**

**5026-M: 3 bd, 2 ba** Doublewide mobile home, 1536 sq ft under air/2112 TSF, fenced and crossed fenced, barn with horse stalls, and pond. \$90,000 MLS #206642

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**5032-M: Otter Creek** 3 bd, 2 ba DWMH on 1+/- acre. 1712 TSF/1512 sq ft under air, screen back porch. Offered as a short sale. \$55,000 NOW \$48,000 MLS #206579

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# OHS girls softball team beats Glades Day, 11-2

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee pounded out 13 hits and scored 11 runs as they overwhelmed the Glades Day Lady Gators 11-2 in girls high school softball action played Wednesday night at OHS.

Freshman pitcher Jacqueline Phares scattered five hits and struck out eight to lead the Lady Brahms, (10-8).

Jordan Lawlis had a key three-run triple and drove in five runs in the game for Okeechobee. Lexi Manson and Kimmy Tinajero both had two hits and scored two runs for OHS.

The game was played in blustery conditions with the strong winds blowing out to right field. OHS broke the game open with three runs in the third, two more in the fourth and five runs in the fifth.

Brahman Coach Heather Gillis said she felt it was a great game for her girls as they played well together and had a good time.

"It was an opportunity to get some other players in the game. The team is as deep as your bench and our bench really isn't a bench. All of the girls are top notch quality kids with great personalities who are a lot of fun to be around," she explained.

Gillis said it is tough to get everyone ample playing time because of the large roster this year. She said they have used this part of the season to see who deserves to play in districts. She said all of the girls show constantly that they can produce. She has emphasized to all of them to be mentally ready and positive at all times because you don't know when you'll get a chance to shine.

"The girls have fed into that philosophy. The kids tonight were very positive and this might be the most fun we've had all season," she added.

Lawlis played flawless at short stop to earn the coaches praise. She said it felt good to have an opportunity.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
**Kimmy Tinjerina was among four Brahms who had two hits in the game as the team pounded out 13 hits in the game.**

"I don't get to play much but going there and hitting like I did really made me feel good and confident," she explained.

Lawlis said the team got a boost on Tuesday when they defeated district rival South Fork who had defeated OHS earlier in the season. She said that pumped the team up for this game.

"That was a big win for us and an important game too. Tonight it felt good after all the close games to just come out here and have fun and not be stressed and relaxed," she added.

Gillis said she is never surprised by any of the kids because they have potential and know what is expected of them. She also praised Phares for a strong game on the mound as she pounded the strike zone with fastballs.

Phares said she felt confident because her defense behind her has played well. She said she has definitely improved this season but still has some things to work on.

"I tried to get pumped up before the game. I wasn't too worried about strategy. I tried to stay confident and believe in my defense," she added.

Phares said the team felt good because they've had a few losses lately and really wanted to get some wins under their belt.

Phares also had two hits and two runs batted in for the Lady Brahms. OHS is scheduled to host Sebastian River on Friday night with junior varsity action at 5 p.m. and varsity at 7 p.m.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
**Heather Gillis encourages pitcher Jacqueline Phares during Wednesday's game. Phares picked up the win with a strong complete game performance for OHS.**

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