

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 104 No. 105

Sunday, September 1, 2013

75¢ Plus tax

Clerk accused of taking credit card ... Page 13

Labor Day events

Sunday, Sept. 1

- Festival in Flagler Park 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Rodeo at the Okeechobee Cattlemen's Arena, U.S. 441 N., 2:30 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 2

- Parade in downtown Okeechobee at 10 a.m.
- Festival in Flagler Park 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Rodeo at the Okeechobee Cattlemen's Arena, U.S. 441 N., 2:30 p.m.

Lake Levels

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Special to the Okeechobee News/Florida Forest Service

Forest ranger battles wildfires in Utah

A local Florida Forest Service ranger recently spent time battling wild fires out west. Squad Boss Tom Hopkins (second from the left) is shown with his crew. For the story, see page 14.

Jobless rates up

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Jobless rates continued to follow summertime trends in Okeechobee and Glades Counties during July according to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

Okeechobee had a rate of 9.4 percent with 1,732 residents collecting benefits while 16,683 residents had jobs during July. Those compare to 1,662 who collected benefits in June. According to the report, 16,811 residents had jobs in June. The jobless rate in June stood at 9 percent. The rate in July 2012 was 11.4 percent.

Okeechobee ranked ninth among the 67 counties in the state last month in unemployment.

See JOBS — Page 5

OCSO employees of the quarter honored

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

Six employees of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) were recently honored for their work ethic and dedication by being named the agency's top employees of the second quarter.

The award recipients come from five different categories: administrative, citizen volunteer, detention deputy, law enforcement and unit citation.

"As always, I am very proud of my employees and the job they do. This time is very hard because one of the employees that won employee of this quarter was in my office two weeks ago and was advised they had won the

award, and was back in my office this past week to be advised they were being laid off because of budget reductions," said Sheriff Paul May. "We are losing some very talented and dedicated employees and I don't believe losing these people is in the best interest of the county."

Because of cuts to the budget, Sheriff May this week announced that 38 of his employees were being laid off as of Sept. 30.

Ashley Bishop was named the employee of the quarter in the administrative division. She was nominated by Detention Deputy Lieutenant Scott Deloney because of her ability to multi-task, prioritize and pride in her work.

See OCSO — Page 5



Submitted photo/OCSO

The Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office unit citation for the second quarter went to Jason Knapp (second from left) and Joseph Smith (second from right) of the internet technology department. Giving them their citation are Sheriff Paul May (far left) and Major Noel Stephen (far right).

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Seacoast Bank hosts monthly Main Street Mixer

On Tuesday, Aug. 27, Okeechobee Main Street greeted more than 40 members, visitors, friends and community partners. Seacoast South branch hit a home run with their baseball theme.

Jon Geitner got the ball rolling when he took time to introduce his team of enthusiastic staff. Main Street Executive Director Sharie Turgeon took home plate to welcome all guests and thanked Jon Geitner for all of their hospitality and great baseball fare food.

Following brief introductions, announcements and updates, tickets were drawn for the door prizes provided by Main Street

member businesses. These great gifts ranged from gift certificates to wine, with even some specialty items such as Salt Water Taffy from New Jersey and chocolate covered bacon from Brown Cow Sweetery.

The public is welcome to attend the September Mixer on Tuesday, Sept. 24, at the TD Bank, 1506 S. Parrot Ave., from 5 to 7 p.m. For a list of mixers for 2013 or for questions or additional information, contact the Okeechobee Main Street at 863-357-6246. If you're in town stop in the Main Street office at 55 South Parrott Ave. (across the street from CVS, in the chamber building).

OCSO Investigations

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

ASSAULT

- 2000 block of S.E. 34th Lane
- 2400 block of U.S. 441 S.E.
- 500 block of U.S. 441 N.
- 1700 block of U.S. 441 N.
- 2900 block of U.S. 441 S.E.

BURGLARY

- 1000 block of N.E. 31st Terrace
- 900 block of N.W. 39th Circle
- 700 block of N.E. 15th Ave.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

- 21000 block of N.W. 288th St.
- 100 block of U.S. 98 N.
- 1400 block of N.W. 47th Terrace

FRAUD

- 800 block of N.E. 31st Terrace

THEFT

- 3600 block of S.E. 26th St.
- 2800 block of U.S. 441 N.
- 3400 block of S.E. 34th Ave.
- 2600 block of N.W. 33rd Ave.
- 4800 block of S.E. 42nd St.
- 1700 block of N.W. 44th Ave.
- 3600 block of U.S. 441 S.E.
- 3100 block of N.W. 20th Trail
- 4100 block of S.E. 28th St.
- 3100 block of U.S. 441 S.E.

- 2800 block of U.S. 441 N.
- 2800 block of U.S. 441 N.
- 3500 block of U.S. 441 S.



Special to the Okeechobee News

Rotary hosts speaker

The Rotary Club of Okeechobee members welcomed Arthur Hodge, president of District 6930, as the speaker on Aug. 20. Mr. Hodge, a member of the Vero Beach Sunrise Rotary Club, is pictured here with Donna Gaiser, Rotary Club of Okeechobee president.



Special to the Okeechobee News/Okeechobee Main Street

Those enjoying the mixer included: (left to right) Mark Bragel, Angie Griffin, Sharie Turgeon, Jon Geitner, Melody Hodges, Frank DeCarlo, Maureen Burroughs, Diane Davies, Terry Burroughs and John Creasman.

Okeechobee Forecast

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Today: Partly cloudy with a chance of a thunderstorm and a chance of rain. High of 90F with a heat index of 95F. Winds from the South at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 50% with rainfall amounts

near 0.2 in. possible.

Tonight: Partly cloudy with a chance of a thunderstorm and rain. Fog overnight. Low of 73F. Winds less than 5 mph. Chance of rain 20%.

Extended Forecast

Monday: Clear in the morning, then overcast with a chance of a thunderstorm and rain. High of 91F. Winds less than 5 mph. Chance of rain 30%.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy with a chance of a thunderstorm and rain. Fog overnight. Low of 73F. Winds from the SSE at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 30%.

Tuesday: Overcast with a chance of a thunderstorm and rain. High of 90F with a heat index of 95F. Winds less than 5 mph. Chance of rain 70% with rainfall amounts near 0.4 in. possible.

Tuesday Night: Overcast with a chance of a thunderstorm. Fog overnight. Low of 72F. Winds less than 5 mph. Chance of rain 20%.

Wednesday: Partly cloudy with chance of thunderstorm. High 90F with a heat index of 99F. Winds 5 mph. Chance of rain 30%.

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Public Forum/Speak Out

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

Will the dike fail?

- The lake needs its natural highs and lows. That is what provides the ecosystem that the fisheries need to prosper. Because we had a "drought" and the water was low for a while, the fisheries are now in good shape. Look at the photos in the paper of all the fish people are catching. If they keep the water level too high for a long time, it will destroy that. I agree with EarthJustice which has been pushing for water conservation and treatment areas north of Lake Okeechobee to clean the water before it enters the lake and to help control the lake level that way. Why doesn't the SFWMD use the thousands of acres of land they purchased in Glades County for water storage? They said that is why they bought it. Why aren't they storing water there?

School Board

- Maybe instead of spending unknown amounts of money on drug testing of our high school students, they could apply that money to salaries. Most data on the drug testing shows that it is not cost effective.
- I hope the teachers keep up the pressure on the union representatives and on the school board to settle the 2013-2014 contract without delay and get those promised raises in place. We have seen the school board does not have to make pay raises retroactive. The teachers worked a whole school year while negotiations were going on and on. Don't let that happen again.

Sheriff's budget

- Government says we are out of the bad times, everything is getting better. Does one of those idiots running this country want to tell these 38 people who just lost their jobs that? Do they want to tell the deputies who are going on calls, some very dangerous without back up, that? How about the citizens of Okeechobee County who don't have the protection needed to be safe? I thank Sheriff May for standing his ground to protect his people.

- I, as many others, think it is a shame that 38 people will be losing their jobs due to recent budget cuts. However, I want to know why the sheriff's line item budget is not online on the web site? The county makes their line item budget available to the public, so why won't the sheriff do the same?

- I think the county and city need to join together and combine their budgets like Palm Beach County did. I see the city getting new patrol cars every year and the county has to deal with what they have.

- I know this has been brought up a lot in the past, but why not try keeping the patrol cars at the sheriff's office instead of letting them go home with the deputies? You would need fewer cars that way and could afford newer ones. Why not at least try it and see how it works? That would also stop any allegations that deputies use the patrol car for personal errands.

- How can they really think the layoffs will save money? Just one lawsuit could put them way over what the budget the sheriff is asking for. I am in one of the higher tax brackets and do not complain about the taxes. I will pay more to keep our community safe, our officers safe and save jobs.

- These people who want the sheriff's office budget passed at the higher level, where is the money going to come from? The only funding source is local taxes. I hope you can pay more because I can't. My taxes are already all I can handle.

- The sheriff's office needs to progress. They cannot progress if they are not attractive to new hires. They cannot progress due to funding. You know the saying "You have to have money to make money?" In order for this agency to run efficiently, it's going to cost in the short run. But, finding grants to support "progress" and upgrading requires spending.

Budget

- The jail is a big expense as the county gets stuck feeding the inmates and covering their medical bills. The judges should consider that when they put people in jail who are not a danger to the community. If they are not violent, why not set bail or put them on house arrest while awaiting trial? For nonviolent crimes, ordering them to pay restitution and perform community service could do more for the community than locking them up. And if the judges would sentence convicted felons to at least "a year and a day" they would go to prison instead of the county having to keep them at the jail.

Reflections from the pulpit

Minute to Win It!

By Nancy Vaughan
First United Methodist Church

A friend told me recently that she enjoyed my writing. Why? Because it was short and sweet! OK. So, I asked her what she meant. "Well," she said, "some of the Reflections articles are so long and 'over her head' that she doesn't even bother to read them."

I'm not criticizing my fellow ministers, I just believe that perhaps, each of us writes for a different audience. Who reads these every Sunday? It is my prayer that most everyone does!

Have you ever watched the TV show, "Minute to Win It?" As I recall, the contestants have just one minute to win the prize. Here goes my minute!

If you have tried everything else...try God. If you have achieved most everything you wished for and still feel empty...try God. If you had done all you can do and nothing is going right...try God. If you are hanging on by a thread...let go and let God. If your last nerve is severed...turn it over and rest in God.

Even scientists say there is a "God gene," whatever that is. I believe there is a God-shaped hole inside of us that only He can fill. To "try God" is simply to trust. Let go and trust. But there is a catch. You must be "all

in." It can be really scary the first time you do this. You think you would like to try. You don't know how to do it. You don't want to get it wrong. AND you don't want to be disappointed.

First, you have to conquer that fear. That's your only part. God actually does the rest. Just commit and say, "OK, God. Let's do this, but show me how!" An awesome way to begin is to confide in someone you know has a great relationship with Him and ask for help. The next step is to pray, hopefully with that committed Christian you have sought out, but if not, by yourself. God already knows your problem. But He wants to hear you say it, acknowledge that you need Him and trust Him for the answer. You really can't "get it wrong" because He knows your heart.

Then comes the hardest part. God's answers to prayers are 2, 3 and 4-letter words. "No," "Yes," and "Wait." Wait is a four-letter word! It is by far the hardest answer to receive. Don't be discouraged. His timing is perfect. Just keep on believing. And remember, "No" is always for our good. Only He sees the big picture. His plans for you are for good.

You just do the trusting, He does the rest. You don't have to try to change anything except to trust Him instead of yourself or others for a change. You do the trusting; He does the changing.

So, are you ready?

AAA offers 'Tow to Go' this weekend

TAMPA—AAA and Bud Light are offering the Tow to Go program for Labor Day weekend. The program is designed to help discourage an intoxicated driver from getting behind the wheel. Anyone, AAA member or not, can call for a Tow to Go ride, Aug. 30 – Sept. 2.

Florida drivers who are too intoxicated to safely drive home can call **(855) 2-TOW-2-GO or (855) 286-9246**.

"This program is invaluable because it brings attention to the dangers of drinking and driving beyond just giving an intoxicated driver a safe ride home," said Gerry Gutowski, Sr. Vice President, Automotive Services, The Auto Club Group.

"The Tow to Go program is an effective way to promote the use of designated drivers and help prevent drunk driving," said Kathy Casso, vice president of Corporate Social Responsibility for Anheuser-Busch.

"We're pleased to partner with AAA and their roadside assistance drivers to help keep our roads safe."

Since its inception in 1998, Tow to Go has safely removed more than 22,000 intoxicated drivers from the roads. The service is designed to be used as a last resort. It is offered based on availability of AAA drivers and tow trucks during times of high call volume. The Auto Club Group has provided the Tow to Go service for more than 15 years because it allows AAA to protect the freedom and mobility of motorists on our roadways.

Tow to Go provides a confidential local ride within a 10-mile radius to a safe location. This service is provided in Florida, Georgia and Tennessee. It is free and available to both AAA members and non-members. The AAA service vehicle takes the driver and their car home.

KEECHOBEE NEWS

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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.

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.





Submitted photo/OCSO

Detention Deputy James Roy Bass (center) was recently picked as the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office employee of the second quarter in the detention deputy division. Deputy Bass is flanked by Sheriff Paul May and Jail Administrator Ronnie White as he was presented his certificate.



Submitted photo/OCSO

The Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office employee of the second quarter in the administrative division was Ashley Bishop (center). She was nominated by Detention Deputy Lieutenant Scott Deloney (left). On hand for the presentation of her certificate was Jail Administrator Ronnie White (right).



Submitted photo/OCSO

Sheriff Paul May (left) shakes the hand of Deputy Sergeant Shannon Peterson (center) who was recently named the employee of the second quarter in the law enforcement division. Also on hand at the certificate presentation was Deputy Sergeant Brian Hagan (right).

OCSO

Continued From Page 1

"She is a great asset not to just me, but to the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office," said Lt. Deloney.

Robert Lee Howard Jr. was nominated as the citizen volunteer by Jail Administrator Ronnie White, who said Mr. Howard has been coming to the jail for many years to provide religious opportunities for all the in-

mates. Mr. Howard is sponsored by Dunklin Memorial Camp.

The top employee of the quarter in the detention deputy category was Detention Deputy James Roy Bass. He was nominated by Detention Deputy Sergeant Randy Worth and Detention Deputy Lieutenant John R. Rhoden.

"Roy deserves the award for his consistent hard work, good personal and work ethics, professionalism, his ability to get along with everyone, his ability to learn and teach, his job proficiency and many other

great traits that make him a great employee and an asset to the department," said Sgt. Worth.

For Lt. Rhoden, Deputy Bass warranted the nomination for his efforts in trying to save a man's life who was found unconscious in the bathroom of a local convenience store. Deputy Bass, and a worker at the store, performed cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on the man until emergency medical personnel had them stop. Their efforts to save the man were unsuccessful.

"Deputy Bass showed no hesitation in acting as a first responder through the training received at this department," said Lt. Rhoden. "It is through his actions that give me faith in his ability to prove himself an asset to this department."

Deputy Sergeant Shannon Peterson was nominated in the law enforcement division by OCSO road patrol supervisor Captain Gary Bell, who said the nomination was warranted because of the deputy's apprehension of

a local "up and coming criminal."

"Your extra efforts are what made this all come together," said Capt. Bell. "This type of police work is what has been effective for many, many years and it's nice to see that it is still effective and used. Job well done."

The unit citation went to Jason Knapp and Joseph Smith of the OCSO internet technology department. They were nominated by Criminal Analyst Connie Curry.

"I nominate Jason and Joseph because of their 'user friendly' approach to employees. Employees are encouraged to call either of them if they have a problem," said Mrs. Curry. "Technical changes in the future will be much easier with Jason and Joseph leading the way."

These winners will now be in the running for employee of the year honors. Employee of the year winners will be selected from the quarterly winners by a special sheriff's office committee.



Submitted photo/OCSO

Robert Lee Howard Jr. was selected as the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office employee of the second quarter in the citizen volunteer classification. On hand for the presentation of his certificate were Sheriff Paul May (left) and Jail Administrator Ronnie White (right).

JOBS

Continued From Page 1

Glades County had a jobless rate of 9.3 percent in July as 463 people collected benefits and 4,533 were employed. The June jobless rate was 8.7 percent with 430 residents able to collect benefits and 4,526 em-

ployed. The jobless rate in July 2012 stood at 10.5 percent. Glades ranked 11th among Florida Counties last month.

Around the region, Hendry County had 15.5 percent unemployment which was the highest rate in the state during July. St. Lucie County reported 10.4, Indian River 9.7, Highlands 9.0, DeSoto 8.8, Martin 7.8, Palm Beach 7.7, and Osceola 7.4 percent.

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Legion offers Sunday bingo

American Legion 64 is hosting Sunday night bingo on **Sept. 1** 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 benefit the American Legion's programs for veterans. The event is open to the public. The American Legion now has free WIFI for its lounge and dining room patrons.

Road Kill Dinner planned

The Buckhead Ridge Moose Club will host a Road Kill Dinner on Sunday, **Sept. 1**, from 3 to 7 p.m. Friday night the menu is always catfish, shrimp and steak from 5 to 7 p.m.

Auxiliary serving hot dogs

On Monday, **Sept. 2**, the Ladies Auxiliary of the Cypress Hut Eagles Club will serve Michigan-style hot dogs with all the trimmings starting at 1 p.m. The public is invited. Proceeds will go to various Ladies Auxiliary charities.

CAC plans benefit

A benefit for Albion Crowell will be held Monday, **Sept. 2**, at the Willy Alderman Football Field, 424 N.E. 15th Ave., starting at 11 a.m. There will be a barbecue dinner, fish fry, games and more. For information, contact CAC of Douglas Park and Deans Court Inc. at 863-484-2350.

City Hall closed on Labor Day

City Hall offices will be closed on Monday, **Sept. 2**, in observation of the Labor Day Holiday.

Top Dog contest planned

The Third Annual Top Dog Competition will be held in Flagler Park 3 on Monday, **Sept. 2**, starting at noon.

Sew-a-thon to be held

September is here and that means it's our annual MOPS (Miles of Pillowcase Smiles) month. ConKerr Cancer's goal is one pillowcase for each child currently in treatment, which means 44,000 pillowcases from all 125 chapters. Last year, ConKerr Cancer's 2012 grand total was 62,198 pillowcases which equaled 29 "miles of smiles." The Okeechobee Chapter contributed 315 pillowcases to that final number. Our next ConKerr Cancer sit and sew will be Tuesday, **Sept. 3**, from 10:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the Okeechobee Presbyterian Church on Parrott Avenue. Bring sewing machine and child-friendly cotton fabric and sew with other ladies in our community who want to make a difference. We have lots of pillowcase kits ready to be sewn if you don't have any fabric. If you are sewing pillowcases at home, you can drop them off this month or on Oct. 1 at our next meeting—they will still count for the MOPS total since they were done in September.

Healthy Start board to meet

Okeechobee Healthy Start Coalition board of directors will meet Wednesday, **Sept. 4**, at 11 a.m. at their office in the White House Plaza, 1132 S. Parrott Ave. The meeting is open to the public. The coalition is made up of citizens interested in promoting healthy families and healthy outcomes for babies in Okeechobee. For information, call 863-462-5877.

Sacred Heart offers bingo

The Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 901 S.W. Sixth St., will host Monday Night Bingo starting **Sept. 9** at 7 p.m. It is open to the public. Doors open at 5 p.m. The kitchen is available for refreshments. For information, call 863-763-3727.

CSC sets budget hearing

The Children's Services Council of Okeechobee will have their first public budget hearing of the year Wednesday, **Sept. 11**, at 5:01 p.m. in the Okeechobee County School Board office, 700 S.W. Second Ave., in room 303.

Support group to meet

A stroke support group meeting will be held at The Heritage Assisted Living Facility, 608 N.E. Second Ave., Wednesday, **Sept. 11**, at 6 p.m. A meeting is held the second Wednesday of each month. For information, call 863-763-1700.

Friends of NRA banquet set

The Okeechobee Friends of NRA will host their 2013 banquet at the Okeechobee KOA on Thursday, **Sept. 12**, at 6 p.m. The Friends of the NRA is a non-profit charitable organization. All of the funds raised will benefit firearm safety and education programs for both youth and adult participants. Tickets and sponsorship information are available at The Gun Shop; by calling 863-634-8678; or, online at www.friendsofnra.org.

Shared Services board to meet

The executive roundtable of the Shared Services Network of Okeechobee County will hold its bi-monthly meeting at 1:30 p.m. Friday, **Sept. 13**, in the board room of the Okeechobee County School Board office. This forum provides a mechanism for dialogue and problem solving through the collaborative efforts of our local decision makers. The public is invited. For information, call Sharon Vinson 863-462-5000, ext. 257.

CAC to honor local man

The Community Action Committee of Douglas Park and Deans Court, Inc., will recognize Jimmy L. McNeil for 40 years of service to the Christian community of Douglas Park and Deans Court. The event will be held Saturday, **Sept. 14**, at the First Missionary Baptist Church, 906 N.E. Ninth Ave. starting at 6 p.m. For information, contact Ossie Fleming 863-484-2350.

Barnyard Buddies to meet

The Okeechobee Barnyard Buddies 4-H small animal club meetings will be held the second Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon. The first meeting will be Saturday, **Sept. 14**, at 10 a.m. in the Okeechobee County 4-H Extension office, 458 U.S. 98 N. The Buddies will elect officers and talk about the coming year. Everyone who would like to be part of the club is invited. You can sign up at the Okeechobee County 4-H Extension office Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. It costs \$1 a year to belong. You may also call the extension office at 863-763-6469.

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.

Peggy Ann Aaron, 68

OKEECHOBOEE — Peggy Ann Aaron of Okeechobee passed away Wednesday, August 28, 2013 at Hamrick Home. She was born July 24, 1945 in Jefferson City, Tennessee. She was a bookkeeper with Okeechobee Utility Authority and member of the First United Methodist Church of Okeechobee.

Ms. Aaron was preceded in death by her father and mother, J. Robert and Arta Ely.

She is survived by her daughter, Kelly Marie Aaron of Okeechobee; brother, Bobby Ely of Sevierville, Tennessee; and her Okeechobee Utility Authority friends and family.

Memorial donations may be made to Hospice of Okeechobee, PO Box 1548, Okeechobee, Florida 34973.

Those wishing to leave a message of condolence may sign the online register book at www.OkeechobeeFuneralHome.com

All arrangements are entrusted to the care of Buxton & Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home, 400 North Parrott Avenue, Okeechobee Florida 34972



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Rally takes aim at discharges from lake

By Melissa Beltz

Special to the Okeechobee News

CLEWISTON—In the wake of July's record rainfall in South Florida and rising water levels in Lake Okeechobee, strategies to save one area from devastation have shifted the water burden elsewhere. As the Army Corps of Engineers sends water from Lake Okeechobee to either coast in an attempt to save the Herbert Hoover Dike from failing under the pressure of too much water, residents on the east and west coasts of Florida are feeling the effects.

It's hard for residents and visitors not to notice the brown water gushing into the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee Rivers, the two bodies of water on the east and west coasts, into which the Army Corps releases excess water from Lake Okeechobee. The nutrients in the water has been blamed for the recent toxic algae bloom in the St. Lucie River. The excess freshwater also ruins the balance of salinity in these estuaries. According to the

South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), the St. Lucie Estuary, which contains major oyster beds located between the U.S. 1 and A1A bridges near Stuart, has a salinity level below five as of Aug. 1, which indicates poor salinity conditions for oysters.

In a letter to the editor sent to The Clewiston News, a resident of Stuart claimed that dead manatees, dolphins, fish and oysters plague the area around the St. Lucie and Indian rivers.

"We just want them to drain south and come up with the billions to do it," the resident wrote.

"Drain south" has become the rallying cry for South Florida residents who are fed up with their dying rivers and coastlines.

The plan some groups have to "drain south" means buying farmland to use to store Lake Okeechobee's excess water, instead of releasing it into the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee rivers. These same groups have now set their sights on sugar farmers,

the same sugar farmers that keep the small town of Clewiston afloat, say many critics of the "drain south" plan.

"If you flood the land, the jobs go away and Clewiston dies," said Clewiston City Manager Al Perry. "Flooding all of Sugar's land is not the answer as far as we're concerned."

Proponents of the "drain south" plan are preparing a rally to be held in Clewiston on Sept. 1 in Sugarland Park beginning at noon. The Sugarland Rally, as it's called, "will unite the east and west coasts of Florida in a peaceful, historic demonstration to speak out against the pollution of our estuaries from Lake Okeechobee discharges," according to the group's Facebook page. The group also specified that it hopes to work "with Florida's sugar industry," not against it.

Judy Sanchez, senior director of corporate communications and public affairs for U.S. Sugar, agreed that plans need to be put in place to address South Florida's water

issues, but believed flooding U.S. Sugar's farmland is not the answer. She also accused the group and other advocates of being "upset at the wrong people."

Her statement comes from SFWMD's data, which shows that southern inflows into Lake Okeechobee, from Moore Haven to Canal Point, accounted for merely 5 percent of all inflows into the lake between 2006 and 2010.

The same data also shows that 5 percent of the phosphorous that entered Lake Okeechobee came from the same area, which includes U.S. Sugar's farmland. In that same period, 49 percent of water inflows and 28 percent of phosphorous inflows came from the Kissimmee Basin north of the lake.

Mr. Perry agreed with Ms. Sanchez and said the Sugarland Rally is being "set up on the wrong side of the lake."

There are plans being worked on to address the water issue that do not involve flooding farmland, and U.S. Sugar is part of those on-going plans.

Most plans include storing and cleaning water before it is sent down the rivers to be discharged, as well as comprehensive plans for storing more water north of the lake, according to SFWMD.

Some plans have already been approved by both the state and federal legislatures, but a 50-50 cost share between the state and federal government means the plans are progressing slowly.

The residents of America's Sweetest Town, however, are worried they are now the target of a problem that affects everyone in South Florida.

"It's unfortunate that most of the people coming out here don't know anything about Clewiston. They don't even know we're out here. These are real businesses out here and they've been here since 1925 when the city was incorporated," said Mr. Perry.

Clewiston Mayor Phillip Roland, who was asked to speak at the upcoming Sugarland Rally, called the water storage issue a "shared adversity" and asked Clewiston residents not to worry about the potential threat of flooding U.S. Sugar's farmland.

"I don't even think about it because it's not going to happen," said Mayor Roland. "It's something I don't want people to be worried about."

Okeechobee Livestock Market Report

AUGUST 26 & 27, 2013

MONDAY SALE AT 12:00PM...TUESDAY SALE AT 11:00AM

				LAST		
	COWS:	LOW:	HIGH:	AVG:	WEEK:	
	800-1000	72.00	- 93.00	77.49	76.78	CLFS 1157 1490
	1000-1200	70.00	- 93.00	78.24	80.20	COWS 161 223
	1200-1400	70.00	- 92.00	81.35	84.15	STRS 23 77
	1400-1600	72.00	- 93.00	81.82	82.50	HFRS 3 88
						BULLS 13 14
						YRLINGS 72 0
						MIX 0 0
						TOTAL 1429 1892
	BULLS:					
	1200-1400	92.00	- 96.00	94.00	96.83	
	1400-1600	96.00	- 106.00	102.00	98.25	
	1600-1800	96.00	- 108.00	102.00	104.60	
	1800-2000	99.00	- 114.00	104.50	97.50	
	STEERS:					
	150-250	200.00	- 295.00	241.54	230.00	
	250-300	190.00	- 265.00	233.48	235.63	
	300-350	167.50	- 255.00	213.19	207.98	
	350-400	145.00	- 225.00	178.88	180.50	
	400-450	140.00	- 192.50	166.73	168.43	
	450-500	135.00	- 182.50	156.00	158.20	
	500-550	130.00	- 167.50	143.95	151.50	
	550-600	125.00	- 167.50	142.98	146.70	
	600-650	122.00	- 150.00	135.88	141.26	
	650-700	115.00	- 150.00	134.34	138.46	
	HEIFERS:					
	150-250	150.00	- 245.00	193.21	192.22	
	250-300	145.00	- 215.00	175.78	178.80	
	300-350	135.00	- 200.00	163.41	162.94	
	350-400	125.00	- 187.50	149.26	150.70	
	400-450	120.00	- 165.00	141.47	143.87	
	450-500	120.00	- 152.50	138.07	140.62	
	500-550	115.00	- 160.00	131.06	136.11	
	550-600	115.00	- 165.00	130.71	133.58	
	600-650	112.50	- 139.00	124.10	133.64	

Prices reported are higher end #1 Quality. For #2's and Brahma type calves adjust down by \$10-\$30.

Prices slid a little this week, unable to sustain the level they reached last week. Cattle on Feed Report was very bullish but corn crop estimate was "tweaked" down some, resulting in some decline in cattle prices. All in all, not bad. Cows and bulls were \$2-\$3 lower. Lightweight calves under 400# sold the best, mostly steady, while calves over 400# were \$3-\$5 lower. I don't see any real reason for prices to fluctuate any lower at this time.

Mark your calendars for our special sales:

Oct. 4 - Bred Heifers
Oct. 11 - Angus Bulls
Oct. 18 - Brangus Bulls
CLOSED for Labor Day - Monday, Sept. 2 - Rodeo

Hugh Williams, Okeechobee, topped the calf market with a high of \$2.95 bought by D & S Cattle.

L-7 Ranch, Sebring, topped the cow market with a high of 93.00 bought by Central Beef.

See ya next week,
Todd

OKEECHOBEE LIVESTOCK MARKET

Sales:

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




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9/11 Memorial tribute at IRSC

Special to the Okeechobee News

Sept. 11, 2001, will long be remembered as a day when heroes were made. The public is invited to remember those heroes at a memorial tribute at the Indian River State College Treasure Coast Public Safety Training Complex, Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. Hosted by IRSC and the Blue Knights Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Chapter X, the event will feature retired NYPD Detectives and first responders Al Hickey and Steve Confino, Christine Hickey and others as they share their experiences from that day. Items and photos from Ground Zero will also be on display. Doors open at 8 a.m. with the program beginning at 8:30 a.m.

"We are pleased to provide this opportunity of remembrance and reflection for our local community and public safety agencies and are honored to partner with the Blue Knights to make this event a success," said Evan A. Berry, Assistant Dean of Public Service Education.

IRSC criminal justice and fire academy recruits will be on hand to take part in the program and will lay a wreath at the eternal flame located at the Public Safety Training Complex in memory of those public safety professionals killed in the line of duty.

The event will take place in the Bailey Auditorium of the Frank and LeVan Fee Physical and High Liability Training Building at the Treasure Coast Public Safety Training Complex, 4600 Kirby Loop Road, Fort Pierce, FL 34981.

The Blue Knights is an international non-profit fraternal organization consisting of active and retired law enforcement men and women who enjoy riding motorcycles. For more information, call 772-462-7150.



Special to the Okeechobee News

Senior Center hosts cooking demo

Almost 100 seniors attended a healthy cooking demonstration at the Senior Center over two days. The event was hosted by Humana.



Special to the Okeechobee News

Grand Oaks tours the Indian River Lagoon

Seniors from the Grand Oaks Assisted Living Facility enjoyed a wonderful morning touring the Indian River Lagoon aboard the "Gator" -- a 37-passenger pontoon boat. Residents were able to see a variety of wildlife and learn about salt and fresh water and the natural flora and fauna. After the boat tour, residents ate lunch at the Tiki Bar.

FEMA has National Emergency Family Locator System

FEMA's National Emergency Family Registry and Locator System (NEFRS) is activated following a Presidentially declared disaster to reunite families that have become separated as a result of the disaster.

Once the disaster is declared, individuals and families can register online at www.fema.gov or by phone at 1-800-588-9822, 24-hours a day, when the system is activated. <http://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-local-state-tribal-and-non-profit/recovery-directorate/national-emergency-family>.

BIRTHDAY CHAD STONE



LORDY LORDY LOOK WHO IS 40!
WE LOVE YOU,
MARGARET, MACIE, RAYMOND,
MOM AND DAD

Hospital hosts health care events

Raulerson Hospital has enjoyed caring for the community for the past 34 years. The community events hosted by Raulerson Hospital are held in a very welcoming environment and offer informative messages regarding the latest in health care today. Whether you are a regular or someone who hasn't ever attended a community health event in the past, the medical staff and employees of Raulerson Hospital are happy to introduce you to these fun and educational classes and programs.

Raulerson Hospital hosts a Better Breathers Support Group monthly for sufferers of COPD and other respiratory related issues. There is no fee to participate in the support group. Each month one of Raulerson Hospital's licensed respiratory therapists teach participants about various respiratory related topics. The group meets in the hospital's in-service classroom on the first Wednesday of each month at 5 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. If you or a loved one would like to participate in the Better Breather's Support Group, RSVP to 824-2702. The next class meets on Wednesday, Sept. 4.

September is the awareness month for Sepsis, a toxic response to infection that kills more than 258,000 Americans each year. Raulerson Hospital is hosting a community presentation about sepsis on Friday, Sept. 20, at 2 p.m. in the cafeteria. Come learn from the Emergency Room's Medical Director, Dr. Peter Spence, about what signs to watch for regarding sepsis. The education will also include what to do if you suspect Sepsis. Light refreshments will be available.

RSVP: 863-763-9228.

This September, Raulerson Hospital resumes its monthly Dine with the Doctor -- physician lecture series. On the last Tuesday of each month, members of Raulerson Hospital's medical staff speak to the public on various health related topics. Prior to the lecture, attendees may purchase dinner from Raulerson Hospital's Cafeteria. Dinner begins at 4:30p.m and is \$5 per person. The physician lecture is free and will begin at 5 p.m. The physicians will entertain a question and answer session following their presentations. The speaker for Tuesday, Sept. 24, is new Family Physician, Dr. Zynab Hassan. To RSVP for Dine with the Doctor, call 863-763-9228.

Raulerson Hospital will honor Breast Cancer Awareness Month on Oct. 9 with the facility's annual Women's Health Luncheon, held at the Raulerson Hospital Auditorium on the Okeechobee Campus of IRSC. The luncheon will feature various speakers highlighting women's health issues, including Dr. James Bradfield- Raulerson GYN. A complimentary buffet lunch will be served beginning at 11:30 a.m. The presentation will begin at noon. There is no fee for this event, and space is limited. Please RSVP for the Women's Health Luncheon by calling: 863-763-9228.

Raulerson Hospital also sponsors a Consult-A-Nurse hotline 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For a free physician referral or answers to a health care question, contact Consult-A-Nurse at 863-763-9228.

Raulerson Hospital's Surgical Services Department performs a variety of inpatient and outpatient procedures for patients everyday.

Surgical Procedures available include:

- Total Knee and Hip Replacements
- Laparoscopic Hysterectomy
- Laparoscopic Appendectomy
- Single-Site Gall Bladder Removal
- Incontinence Therapy (bladder or bowel)
- Pacemaker and AICD Implementation
- And many more minimally invasive procedures

Our highly trained Surgical Services Department utilizes the latest technology and state of the art devices. The patient care they provide is from the heart. Raulerson Hospital has been caring for the health needs of our community for more than 34 years. Trust our skilled medical staff to provide you and your family with the quality care you deserve and expect.

For more information about the surgical services available at Raulerson Hospital, visit our website at RaulersonHospital.com. Our website also includes a health and video library to help you understand and become educated about the conditions that are important to you.

RAULERSON HOSPITAL



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Waste Management Honors Green Workers this Labor Day

Special to the Okeechobee News

This Labor Day, Waste Management of Okeechobee honors workers who serve the environment and reminds those interested in green careers to explore what the company has to offer.

Labor Day, the unofficial last day of summer, is a time for the nation to honor the 155.7 million people in the nation's workforce, a growing number of whom hold green jobs.

According to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, green jobs are those that produce goods or services "that benefit the environment or conserve natural resources," or jobs "in which workers' duties involve making their establishment's production processes more environmentally friendly."

"One of our goals at Waste Management is to extract more value out of the materials we handle and, while we do that, to make our own processes more efficient and more sustainable," said Teresa Chandler of Waste

Management of Okeechobee. "From our drivers who pick up the materials we process to our sustainability experts who advise customers on how to create and maintain the greenest businesses, all of us at WM are working green."

Waste Management recently announced the opening of its 50th natural gas fueling station in North America, solidifying its position as the nation's largest operator of a clean-burning, heavy-duty truck fleet. The company also earned Gold Certification from the Council for Responsible Sport for its socially and environmentally responsible efforts in the planning and execution of the Waste Management Phoenix Open.

"We salute our entire workforce and remind folks that Waste Management is a great place to work and feel good about what you do," Chandler said.

Job seekers can view Waste Management's career page at <http://www.wm.com/careers/index.jsp>.



Special to the Okeechobee News

Compost improves golf club greens

Compost helps growth of greens at Okeechobee Golf and Country Club. The front nine greens were built in 1965 and back nine in 1992. It is standard practice to replace greens at least every 10 years. The greens at Okeechobee Golf & Country Club have never been replaced. Over the past few months, the greens have been dressed with compost material produced by Waste Management. In the past, sand is the only top dressing ever used at the golf course. For a successful growth, the greens need a good sod base. The golf course will continue the process of a top dressing with the compost matter. The compost produced through Garick and Waste Management is completely weed free. For more information on compost material, please call Ray Stamper at 216-956-0949. Pictured are Saba Curren, Ray Stamper of Garick and Terry Lanman, PGA golf professional.



LABOR DAY



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IRSC offering licensing classes in Fort Pierce

Special to the Okeechobee News

Indian River State College will offer the pre-licensing courses for the Florida Real Estate Sales Associate License and the Property and Casualty Insurance License beginning in September.

“Real Estate Principles, Practices & Law 1” (FREC 1 class), REE1040, will teach the theoretical, practical and legal aspects of real estate to prepare students for successful completion of the licensing examination to become a Florida Real Estate Sales Associate. The course will meet on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 to 10:15 p.m. beginning Sept. 3 through Dec. 10 in Building J, Room J-104 at the Main Campus. Cost is \$415.32

for Florida residents.

“Property and Casualty Insurance,” RMI2600, is the state required “2-20” pre-licensing class. Topics include auto, fire and property insurance, liability, workman’s compensation and security bonds. The course will be held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings from 5:30 to 10:00 p.m. from Sept. 6 through Dec. 12 in Building J, Room J-205 at the IRSC Main Campus. Cost is \$1,245.96 for Florida residents.

Registration is now under way. The IRSC Main Campus is located at 3209 Virginia Ave., in Fort Pierce. For information, call toll-free 1-866-792-4772 or visit www.irsc.edu.

Florida sheriffs support Stand Your Ground Law

Florida Sheriffs Association President Sheriff Grady Judd Friday announced, “The right to self-defense is well-established in law. The Florida Sheriffs confirmed this position by voting unanimously, at the 2013 Florida Sheriffs Association Summer Conference, to support the Stand Your Ground law as it is currently written. Our current judicial system is comprised of multiple checks and balances to ensure fair and equitable application of all laws, including Stand Your Ground.”

Florida’s Stand Your Ground Law states: A person who is not engaged in an unlawful activity, and who is attacked in any other place where he or she has a right to be has no duty to retreat and has the right to stand his or her ground and meet force with force, including deadly force if he or she reasonably believes it is necessary to do so to prevent death or great bodily harm to himself or herself or another or to prevent the commission of a forcible felony.

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).

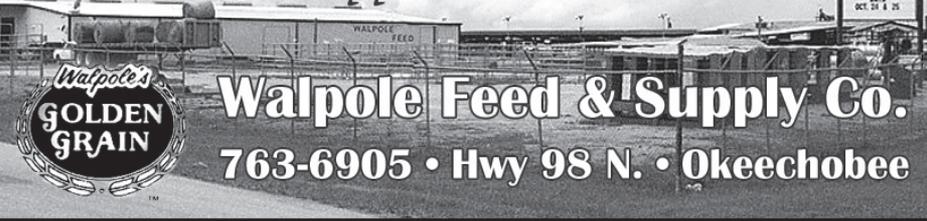
- Shawn Ashley Van Epps, 31, Lake Drive W., Okeechobee, was arrested Aug. 13 by Deputy Cari Arnold on St. Lucie County warrants charging her with the felonies of burglary of an occupied dwelling and grand theft. Her bond on those charges was set at \$30,000. She was arrested on another St. Lucie County warrant that charged her with felony battery. She is being held without bond on that charge.
- Leon Edison Chambers Jr., 14, S.E. 61st Drive, Okeechobee, was arrested Aug. 13 by Deputy Matthew Grumbling on felony charges of grand theft and burglary of a structure. He was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail, then released into the custody of his parents.
- Shelby Ramon Willis, 30, N.E. 15th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Aug. 13 by Deputy Cody Hurst on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with felony battery. His bond was set at \$4,000.
- Danny Anthony Bonilla, 24, N.E. 42nd Terrace, Okeechobee, was arrested Aug. 13

by Trooper T.D. Burk on a felony charge of driving while license suspended - habitual offender. His bond was set at \$2,500.

- Timothy Edward Velez, 45, N.W. 93rd Court, Okeechobee, was arrested Aug. 13 by Deputy Cody Hurst on a Marion County warrant charging him with the felony of failure to register as a career offender. His bond was set at \$5,000.
 - Alfred J. King III, 56, N.W. 46th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Aug. 14 by Deputy Elbert Kline on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with the felony of aggravated stalking. His bond was set at \$2,500.
 - Jimmy Lee Lundquist II, 34, S.W. 15th St., Ocala, was arrested Aug. 14 by Deputy Elbert Kline on a Marion County warrant charging him with the felonies of trafficking in a controlled substance and manufacturing a controlled substance. His bond was set at \$100,000.
 - Claudia Jumper Olivarez, 45, N.W. 30th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Aug. 15 by Deputy Megan Holroyd on misdemeanor charges of driving under the influence and driving while license suspended. Her bond was set at \$1,500.
- This column lists arrests and not convictions, unless otherwise stated. Anyone listed here who is later found innocent or has had the charges against them dropped is welcome to inform this newspaper. The information will be confirmed and printed.*

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Sunday School 10:00 am
Sunday Worship 11:00 am
Sunday Bible Study 6:00 pm
Wednesday Bible Study 6:00 pm

Pastor : Thomas Dees

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Your Medical and Health Care Directory

What is Cyberknife Radiation Therapy?

By Dr. Ramesh Kumar
Big Lake Cancer Center

How many cancer patients would jump up and consider a treatment option that is proven to be highly effective, does not need surgery, painless, completed in 5 days or less, without significant side effects, while continuing to maintain their full

here where Cyberknife would be extremely useful and safe. The following are just a few of them:

Patients with Trigeminal Neuralgia, pituitary tumors and tumors of the acoustic nerve called Acoustic Neuroma can avoid major surgical procedures on the brain by getting treated with Cyberknife.

Patients with cancers of the brain, spine, lung and prostate are but a few of the cancers that can be helped with one to five sessions of Radio Surgery.

An article that was published in the Journal of the American Medical Association in 2010 showed that patients with patients with lung cancer who received Radiosurgery had a survival rate of 55.8% at 3 years versus 20

to 35% for those patients treated with traditional radiation over several weeks.

As one of our patients commented, if it is good for patients at Stanford University, it is good for patients from the Okeechobee area!

If you or someone you know has any form of cancer, please call us so we can explore the possibility of treating it with this cutting edge technology. This 4.5 million dollar machine is available at the offices of Dr. Kumar in Saint Lucie County. Courtesy transportation is available to get to this office for those patients in need. Please call 863-467-9500 for more information.



Submitted Photo/Big Lake Cancer Center
Cyberknife: Cutting edge technology at work for our patients in Okeechobee.

level of activity and function?

Radio surgery is a technique that utilizes specialized machines that allow large amounts of radiation to be delivered with sub millimeter accuracy thereby killing the cancers without damaging surrounding normal tissues. It is as simple as going out to get a chest x-ray!

Cyberknife Robotic Radio surgery system, created at Stanford University over 10 years ago is unique and better than other systems in the fact that it is the only Radio surgery system that can achieve what is called "real-time tracking and killing of tumor."

What kind of patients can be helped by Cyberknife? There are several situations too numerous to mention

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'Water farming' project to help St. Lucie estuary

Special to the Okeechobee News

As part of the broad effort to restore and protect the St. Lucie River and Estuary, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) approved a water farming pilot project to store excess water on fallow citrus land before it can flow to the estuary.

"Working with local landowners to identify property for water storage is an integral part of our strategy to address high flows into the estuaries," said SFWMD Governing Board Chair Daniel O'Keefe. "This pilot project on citrus land highlights the district's expanded efforts to implement near-term solutions that make a difference."

Under the pilot program, Caulkins Citrus Company will pump water onto 450 acres of its property located along the St. Lucie Canal in Martin County. This can capture an average of 6,780 acre-feet of water a year that would otherwise flow along the canal from Lake Okeechobee and surrounding basins into the St. Lucie River and estuary.

The three-year pilot project will provide vital information on the proposed concept of retaining storm water on citrus properties.

With Lake Okeechobee still rising from above-average rainfall, the private landowner on this project is already pumping water onto the property on an emergency basis under an agreement with the district. To date, approximately 200 acre-feet of water have been diverted from the watershed that drains to the St. Lucie Estuary.

The district issued a request for water

farming pilot project proposals in April in close coordination with several partner agencies including the: Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service, Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Five proposals were evaluated and ranked. Caulkins Citrus Company, the first ranked respondent, came to an agreement with the district, which will invest approximately \$1.2 million in the project, or about \$76 per acre-foot per year of storage.

Since 2005, the district has been working with a coalition of agencies, environmental organizations, ranchers and researchers to enhance opportunities for storing excess surface water on private and public lands.

Managing water on these lands, known as the Dispersed Water Management Program, is one tool to reduce the amount of water flowing during the wet season into the lake and discharged to coastal estuaries for flood protection. Private ranchlands in this program currently provide a storage volume of more than 60,000 acre-feet.

Shallow water retention also provides groundwater recharge for water supply, potential for water quality improvements and rehydration of drained ecosystems.

The program encourages property owners to retain water on their land rather than drain it, accept and detain regional runoff or do both.



Special to the Okeechobee News

Caulkins Citrus Grove in Martin County will pump water onto 450 acres of property along the St. Lucie Canal as part of a "water farming" project designed to keep freshwater out of the St. Lucie Estuary. This project can capture 6,780 acre-feet of water over a year. One acre-foot equals 325,851 gallons.

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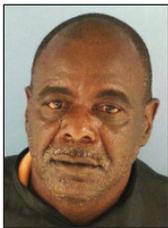
By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

The owner of a Riviera Beach sealcoat company was arrested locally this week when a detective learned the contractor didn't have the proper insurance coverage.

Ezra Charlie Saffold, 60, Ave. H West., Riviera Beach, was arrested Tuesday, Aug. 27, on a felony charge of failure to secure worker's compensation coverage.

He was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail on a bond of \$5,000. Jail records indicate he has been released on bond.

Saffold is the owner of Ezra Saffold Paving & Sealcoat, Inc., stated an arrest report by Detective William Hill, from the state's Department of Financial Services - Division



Ezra Charlie Saffold

of Insurance Fraud.

The report indicated that Saffold and one of his employees were applying sealcoat Tuesday to the parking lot of a business on South Parrott Ave.

The employee reportedly told the detective that he was a mechanic for Saffold and also did sealcoating.

Detective Hill went on to state that the employee was being paid \$100 cash by Saffold.

According to the detective's arrest report Saffold had a copy of an exemption for himself but "... stated he did not have worker's compensation coverage, and stated he was aware it was required."

Detective Hill also indicated in his report that he could find no history of worker's compensation coverage on Saffold's company.

Clerk charged with taking credit card

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

A convenience store clerk was booked into the county jail following her arrest for allegedly taking a credit card and using it to buy Gold Rush lottery scratch-off cards.

Tesha Moore, 37, U.S. 441 Southeast, Okeechobee, was arrested Tuesday, Aug. 27, on felony charges of criminal use of personal identification information (two counts) and misdemeanor charges of obtaining goods by fraudulent use of a credit card.

She was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail on a bond of \$4,000. Jail records show she has been released on bond.

Moore is accused of picking up a credit card that was accidentally left at the store where she worked and then supposedly using it to rack up \$280 in charges.

According to an arrest report by Deputy Matt Crawford, of the Okeechobee County

Sheriff's Office (OCSO), Moore reportedly used the card to buy four Gold Rush cards at a cost of \$20 each.

She apparently won a total of \$70 from those cards.

The card was also used at a local salvage yard where \$200 was spent on some tires, stated the report. However, the deputy continued, the purchaser decided not to purchase the tires and received a refund of \$200 in cash.

Deputy Crawford pointed out in his report that Moore apparently needed the money to pay bills. After using the card, Moore threw it into the garbage at another convenience store, the deputy added.

The card owner realized the card had been used by someone else when he looked at his account online and saw the two transactions.

Deputy Crawford said the card owner canceled the card but not before Moore had charged the two transactions.



Tesha Moore

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).

- Carlie Lanier, 20, S.W. 15th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Aug. 28 by Deputy Bryan Holden on felony charges of grand theft (two counts) and a misdemeanor charge of petit theft. Her bond was set at \$1,750.

- Daniel Morales, 19, N.E. 11th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Aug. 28 by Dep-

uty John Hazy on a felony charge of tampering with evidence and a misdemeanor charge of possession of marijuana under 20 grams. His bond was set at \$1,500.

- Robbie Cleve Loschiavo, 42, S.E. 24th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Aug. 29 by Officer Cesar Romero on a felony charge of driving while license suspended - habitual offender. His bond was set at \$2,500.

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

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Ranger helps battle Utah fires

By **Melissa Yunas**
Florida Forest Service

PALMDALE—Florida Forest Service Forest Ranger Tom Hopkins recently returned home after battling a wildfire in the State of Utah. Forest Ranger Hopkins served 18 days on the State Wildfire as a Squad Boss on a twenty-person wildland firefighting handcrew. The Florida Forest Service established a hand-crew consisting of 20 nationally qualified wildland firefighters who served as the infantry of wildland fire forces. Working side by side, the crew's main responsibility was to construct a "fireline"—a strip of land cleared of flammable materials and dug down to mineral soil—around the State Wildfire to control it and mop up after the fire.

"After the brisk hike up the mountain, the real action unfolded," Forest Ranger Hopkins explained. "Most days we were working in tandem with airtankers and helicopters to help construct containment lines." Retardant and water drops can help reinforce firelines. While retardants do not stop advancing fire, they slow a fire's progress allowing handcrews to do their job. Forest Ranger Hopkins handcrew's day started at sunrise by sharpening their suppression hand tools.

"Every morning during briefing we would obtain our assignment for the day," Forest Ranger Hopkins explained. "Then we would be transported to the base of the mountain, unload our firefighting gear (35 lbs.) and hike several miles to the wildfire. Once we got on scene, we would work for 12 hours digging fireline in brush. Finally, we would hike back and return to camp."

"This was my first experience being Squad Boss of a handcrew," stated Forest Ranger Hopkins. Depending on their qualifications and skill levels, a twenty-person handcrew may be divided into squads (five firefighters each). "As a Squad Boss, I reminded the crew to always keep an eye on the fire, and their mind on safety. I wanted each and every one of my crew members returning home to Florida with me."

Wildfire handcrews exemplify the American spirit; they are self sufficient and are expected to work hard. They often eat and sleep where they work, without luxury. They face danger daily and are the backbone of the "firefighting army" and earn great respect.

Forest Ranger Hopkins said "I was overwhelmed with the outpouring of appreciation from the community. Several people held signs as we drove through town saying THANK YOU FIREFIGHTERS. When the need arises, I will go out on another wildfire assignment again."

Recent rainfall has allowed the State of Florida to provide aid to other states in need. Forest Ranger Hopkins works at the Florida Forest Service Palmdale Site. He is a State Wildland Firefighter; his main tool for fighting wildfires in Glades County and in the State of Florida is a firefighting bulldozer with plow.

For more online go to www.floridaforest-service.com/wildfire.

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Real Estate

Houses - Sale

Owner Financing- 3 bdrm 2 bath 8 year old house on 1 acre \$3,500.00 down \$931.42 a month. Call Beverley 863-634-2820

Lots - Sale

Just Reduced - large fenced lot in Treasure Island with beautiful oak trees. Put a mobile home on lot or build your home \$14,500.00 Call 863-634-2820

Priced to sell - Residential Building lot, adjoining the golf course at the Beautiful Oaks of Blue Heron. \$22,500.00 Call 863-634-2820

Real Estate Wanted

WANTED TO BUY IN PALM CREEK, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY. NOTHING UNDER CONSTRUCTION, NOTHING ON WATER. CALL UR-SULA 561-847-0535 LEAVE DETAILS.

Mobile Homes

Mobile Home Rent

BUCKHEAD RIDGE 2bd/2ba Dble Wide, central air, yearly lease. \$500 mo. plus sec. 3bd./2ba Dble Wide. \$600 mo. plus sec. No pets. Call 863-763-4031

FORT DRUM - 5 acres, small pond/creek, 3BR, 2BA Trailer, Deposit required Rent \$850/mo. (772) 464-9226

OKEECHOBEE - Completely furnished, 3/2, beautiful quiet area, lg car port and screen room, W/D. Short Term or year lease avail. (863)467-2784

Treasure Island Nice, Clean, updated 1bd/1ba, partially furnished. \$130 weekly plus electric and security. No Pets 239-246-6301 or 863-517-5111

Mobile Home Sale

RV with Large Florida room, new A/C unit, Free Wi-Fi. \$2,500 Call 863-532-9105 Low Lot Rent.

Recreation

Wanted all Travel Trailers, Motor Homes and Fifth Wheels. Any Condition, Cash paid on the spot Call 941-347-1711

1989 PROWLER, 29 ft. Travel Trailer. \$2500. 863-610-1276

Motorcycles

2009 Harley Davidson DYNALOWRIDER - black \$8,000.00/firm (863)467-2562 or (863)623-6416

Automotive

Autos Wanted

CASH FOR CARS No Title Needed, Any Condition. 268junk.com Located in Okeechobee Call (863)268-5865

Pickup Trucks

For Sale 2002 Chev. S10, white, 4 cyl., 5 speed, cold A/C, 151K miles, runs great! Narrow box, new tires, new plugs and wires, new battery, 25mpg! \$3,400/ obo Tom 863-467-5435 leave a msg.

Public Notice

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TEXT AMENDMENTS

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held before the City of Okeechobee Planning Board, meeting as the Local Planning Agency on **Thursday, September 19, 2013 at 6 PM** or as soon thereafter as possible, at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Rm 200, Okeechobee, FL, to conduct a Public Hearing to consider and receive input on Text Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Element.

The text amendment to the Future Land Use Element involves defining and allowing limited agriculture within certain future land use categories where agricultural activities have been and continue to be active; and, to more clearly identify uses that are allowed in, and zoning districts that are appropriate to, each future land use category.

This amendment will be forwarded with a recommendation to the City Council for consideration and transmittal to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

All interested parties are encouraged to attend. Please contact General Services at 863-763-3372, or website, cityofokeechobee.com, to obtain a copy of the agenda. The proposed amendments may be reviewed on the City website or at the Office of the City Clerk, during normal business hours, at the address above.

ANY PERSON DECIDING TO APPEAL any decision made by the Planning Board with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need to ensure a verbatim record of the proceeding is made and the record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal will be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), any person with a disability as defined by the ADA, that needs special accommodation to participate in this proceeding, contact the General Services Office no later than two business days prior to proceeding, 863-763-3372.

BE ADVISED that should you intend to show any document, picture, video or items to the Planning Board in support or opposition to any item on the agenda; a copy of the document, picture, video, or item must be provided to the Board Secretary for the City's records.

By: Brian Whitehall, Zoning Administrator
451646 ON 9/1,11/2013

When you want something sold, advertise in the classifieds.

Public Notice

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By: Brian Whitehall, Zoning Administrator
451646 ON 9/1,11/2013

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

Public Notice

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE COQUINA WATER CONTROL DISTRICT

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR COQUINA WATER CONTROL DISTRICT WILL HOLD A MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2013 AT 9:00 A.M. AT 17429 NW 242 ND STREET, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972 (FIELD OFFICE). A COPY OF THE PROPOSED AGENDA MAY BE OBTAINED UPON REQUEST FROM THE UNDERSIGNED. IF ANY PERSON DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE BY THE BOARD WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT SUCH MEETING; THAT PERSON WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS AND FOR SUCH PURPOSES THAT PERSON MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS, WHICH INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED, IS MADE. ANY PERSON WISHING TO SPEAK AT THE MEETING MUST HAVE THEIR NAME AND TOPIC PLACED ON THE AGENDA ONE WEEK BEFORE THE DATE OF THE MEETING. ALL PROPERTY OWNERS WITHIN THE DISTRICT ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, PERSONS NEEDING A SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION OR AN INTERPRETER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROCEEDINGS SHOULD CONTACT THE DISTRICT'S OFFICE BY CALLING (863)-763-4601 AT LEAST TWO (2) DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE MEETING.

NOTICE: COQUINA WATER CONTROL DISTRICT HAS AN ONGOING AQUATIC SPRAYING PROGRAM, DISTRICT WIDE.

THE PROPOSED 2013-2014 BUDGET WILL BE ADDRESSED AND VOTED ON.

WILLARD M. BYARS
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
17429 NW 242ND STREET
OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972
(863)763-4601 OR (863)634-3166
451487 ON 9/1/2013

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

Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

- Gung-ho response
- Delay
- Evans of country
- Buff
- Farm female
- Left
- Village with very little gardening equipment?
- The NCAA's "Runnin' Rebels"
- Lab, for one
- Reject
- Sends
- Jacket label letters
- Get off the shoulder, say
- Entrance purchases for a conditioning program?
- Actor Milo
- Pool game call
- Tiny beef
- Fly on a line
- 39 Gives credit where credit is due
- On the safer side
- Rational ending?
- "... it Art?": Klipping
- 1955 UN joinder
- What Ruth forgot to bring to pool night?
- Morgan Freeman won its 2011 Life Achievement Award: Abbr.
- Morning talker
- Fly over the equator?
- Pleased cry
- Droid, e.g.
- Slip through the cracks?
- Like calls between drudges?
- Run well
- Unsound
- Like Napoleon
- Relaxing locales
- The Hartford logo
- Failures (and in another way, a hint to 17-, 27-, 44- and 57-Across)

DOWN

- Tune carrier
- One-track
- Couturier Cassini
- Med. research agency
- Bar opening?
- Pistons' place
- Last non-priest to be named pope
- "Isn't that cute?"
- Involves mapping
- Gripe
- Reunion attendee
- Stir up
- Off-rd. rides
- Worker with light metal
- Bonkers
- Slush Puppie maker
- Radical '70s group
- acid: vitamin B9
- Amigo on the road
- Crowd starter?
- "Socrate" composer
- Nice compliment
- Zhou
- Happy Meals toy, e.g.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

- Writer of short letters
- Honey
- NYPD notices
- Ones who've got your back, in Internet shorthand
- Future George W. Bush Presidential Library site
- "Hondo" et al.
- Dutch brewery
- A-one
- Food in a memorable "Seinfeld" episode
- Pound of verse
- White partner
- "Etern0": 2004 sports documentary
- Active sort
- Addenda
- Lascivious leader?
- Big name in kitchenware
- Tecs

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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49	50	51				52				53	54	55
56						57	58			59	60	
61						62				63		
64						65				66		

By Bruce R. Sutphin
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David Hazellief, 863-610-1553
Betty Hazellief, 863-610-0144
Sharon Prevatt, 863-634-7069
Dee Reeder, 863-610-2485

NEW LISTING 	5056-H: Sunset Strip - Pristine curb appeal! 3br, 2ba on 5 acres. On the airstrip, open deck, hurricane shutters, fenced and cross fenced, pond, huge workshop and MUCH more! \$259,000 MLS #207153	NEW LISTING 	5061-H: Dixie Ranch Estates Large 3 br, 2 ba CBS, 2652 total sq ft/2284 under air. Large screen back porch overlooking pasture land and more. Offered as a short sale. \$69,900 MLS #207196
NEW LISTING 	5057-H: Larkee Lakes 3 br, 2 ba MH in move into condition. New carpet, fenced yard, open porch, gazebo w/nice pavers. Large open living rm w/fireplace and much more. \$65,000 MLS #207147	NEW LISTING 	5060-H: Okee Hammock Stylish CBS 3BR/2BA, 1951 total sq ft/1393 under air, sky lights, chain link fenced, large garage and concrete driveway. \$119,900
	5008-M: Pioneer Estates 2/2 DW on 1/2 acre with two sheds. Additional 1/2 acre in the back available for \$15,000. \$45,900 NOW \$40,000 MAKE OFFER! MLS #206211		5058-M: Lake Montaza - Investors Special! Two SWMH on 4.88 acres. Both are 2 br, 1 ba, property is fenced. Call today to make arrangements to see. \$65,000 MLS #207176

• Indian Hammock Two 2+/- acre parcels **\$35,000 Make Offer!** • Lot behind SunTrust Bank **\$18,000** • Potter Rd (NW 30th Ter) 5+/- acres **\$38,000** • 319+/- acres on Hwy 441 N **\$4,000,000** • 55+/- acres on SR 710 **\$330,000**. Make Offer! • Foreclosure Taylor Creek Captive Lake Residential Lot **\$9,900 NOW 8,900** • Foreclosure Viking 1.25 acre (308nd St) **\$2,587** • Okeechobee Pk (NW 4th St) Residential Lot **\$6,000** • In town lot (SW 5th St) **\$3,900** MLS #206637 • Fenced 57.80+/- acres on a paved road, used to graze large animals. **\$750,000**

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\$169 /MO.*

\$1,999 DOWN PAYMENT

PURCHASE FOR ONLY
\$17,999

ONE OR MORE AT THIS PRICE

BRAND NEW 2013 NISSAN **ALTIMA 2.5**



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\$1,999 DOWN PAYMENT

PURCHASE FOR ONLY
\$17,999

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SE HABLA ESPAÑOL**



Okeechobee News/Katrina Elskan

4-Hers earn Achievement Awards

Okeechobee County Achievement Awards were presented at the annual 4-H Awards Banquet on Aug. 24 at Okeechobee High School. Winners included (some not pictured) Preston Arnold, Mason Boney, Mackenzie Burks, Jerett Butts, Elissa Casperson, Stacey Chambers, Will Conner, Patrick Corby, Emily Crews, Cody Deloney, Kevin Dryden, Latt Durrance, Blaine Gibson, Maria Grisales, Bailey Harden, Lainey Harvey, Kevin Hawthorne, Carleigh Henson, Dylan Hodges, Jessica Humphrey, Joshua Jenkins, Collin Jones, Delaney Jenkins, JoAllyn Kelly, Chris Lanning, Ross Laskey, Kaitlyn Lawrence, Cady McGehee, Jacob McGehee, John McGehee, Willow Mellete, Natalie Mitchell, Travis Muldoon, Mitch Mulholland, Michael Muros, Alex Pluskot, Kathy Runyon, Edana Scalf, Andrew Smiley, Evan Soto, Felipe Soto, Zachary Stripling, Shelby Sumner, Robbie Talley, Cheynne Thibodeau, Kaylee Whidden and Jenna Wolff. For more 4-H photos online, see the link on the Okeechobee News page on Facebook.



Okeechobee News/Katrina Elskan

4-Hers earn Agriculture Awards

Okeechobee County Agriculture Awards were presented at the annual 4-H Awards Banquet on Aug. 24 at Okeechobee High School. Winners included (some not pictured) Ryan Albers, Shiloh Anuez, Haley Burkhalter, Jessica Burkhalter, Jarred Corby, Clayton Culligan, David Daniel, Cody Deloney, Case Durrance, Jacie Harvey, Dylan Hodges, Aubrie Holmes, Raylee Holmes, Jessica Humphrey, Makalyn Jones, Taylor Jordan, Chris Lanning, Ashely McDuffie, Cady McGehee, Jacob McGehee, Jacob McGehee, John McGehee, Rebecka Mims, Ethan Parriott, John Pearce, Josey Pearce, Rance Pendry, Taylor Poiter, Lauren Raulerson, Catie Rowley, Evan Soto, Felipe Soto, Austin Spano, Colton Stokes, Shelby Sumner, Jenna Thomas, Cole Verano and John Williamson. For more 4-H photos online, see the link on the Okeechobee News page on Facebook. For more information on 4-H clubs, contact the Okeechobee County Extension Office at 763-6469.

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SALE PRICE.....22,695
YOUR DOWN.....-5,000
WE MATCH.....-5,000
YOU PAY AS LOW AS **\$12,695** OR **\$189** Per Mo. BUY FOR AS LOW AS
6 TO CHOOSE FROM AT THIS PRICE

2013 Town & Country
SALE PRICE.....30,990
YOUR DOWN.....-4,000
WE MATCH.....-4,000
YOU PAY AS LOW AS **\$22,990***
OR **\$279** Per Mo. LEASE FOR AS LOW AS
4 TO CHOOSE FROM AT THIS PRICE

2013 300
SALE PRICE.....30,990
YOUR DOWN.....-5,000
WE MATCH.....-5,000
YOU PAY AS LOW AS **\$20,990** OR **\$345** Per Mo. BUY FOR AS LOW AS
6 TO CHOOSE FROM AT THIS PRICE

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RAM

2012 Ram 3500 ST Daily Crew Cab Diesel
SALE PRICE.....49,105
YOUR DOWN.....-8,000
WE MATCH.....-8,000
YOU PAY AS LOW AS **\$33,105***
OR **\$483** Per Mo. BUY FOR AS LOW AS
4 TO CHOOSE FROM AT THIS PRICE

2013 Ram 1500 Crew Cab SRT
SALE PRICE.....36,710
YOUR DOWN.....-7,000
WE MATCH.....-7,000
YOU PAY AS LOW AS **\$22,710** OR **\$313** Per Mo. BUY FOR AS LOW AS
8 TO CHOOSE FROM AT THIS PRICE

2013 Ram 1500
SALE PRICE.....26,065
YOUR DOWN.....-4,000
WE MATCH.....-4,000
YOU PAY AS LOW AS **\$18,065***
6 TO CHOOSE FROM AT THIS PRICE

DODGE

2013 Dart SXT
SALE PRICE.....20,905
YOUR DOWN.....-3,000
WE MATCH.....-3,000
YOU PAY AS LOW AS **\$14,905***
12 TO CHOOSE FROM AT THIS PRICE

2013 Avenger
SALE PRICE.....19,990
YOUR DOWN.....-3,500
WE MATCH.....-3,500
YOU PAY AS LOW AS **\$12,990***
6 TO CHOOSE FROM AT THIS PRICE

2013 Journey SE
SALE PRICE.....20,585
YOUR DOWN.....-2,500
WE MATCH.....-2,500
YOU PAY AS LOW AS **\$15,585***
4 TO CHOOSE FROM AT THIS PRICE

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Jeep

2013 Compass Sport
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YOUR DOWN.....-3,000
WE MATCH.....-3,000
YOU PAY AS LOW AS **\$15,420***
4 TO CHOOSE FROM AT THIS PRICE

2014 Patriot Sport
SALE PRICE.....17,985
YOUR DOWN.....-3,000
WE MATCH.....-3,000
YOU PAY AS LOW AS **\$11,985***
OR **\$168** Per Mo. BUY FOR AS LOW AS

2013 Wrangler Sport
SALE PRICE.....24,185
YOUR DOWN.....-2,000
WE MATCH.....-2,000
YOU PAY AS LOW AS **\$20,185** OR **\$274** Per Mo. BUY FOR AS LOW AS
6 TO CHOOSE FROM AT THIS PRICE

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Mon-Fri 7:30 AM - 6:00 PM
Sat: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM • Sun: Closed

ALL OFFERS FOR WELL QUALIFIED CUSTOMERS. NOT ALL CUSTOMERS WILL QUALIFY. CUSTOMER MUST QUALIFY FOR ALL REBATES & INCENTIVES. DEALER RETAINS ALL REBATES & INCENTIVES. ALL VEHICLES SUBJECT TO PRIOR SALE. MUST PRESENT AD AT TIME OF PURCHASE TO RECEIVE ADVERTISED OFFERS. OFFERS EXPIRE DATE OF PUBLICATION. DEALER NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS OR OMISSIONS. VEHICLE ART FOR ILLUSTRATION ONLY. OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT OR VARYING MODEL MAYBE SHOWN. OFFERS NOT IN CONJUNCTION. OTHER RESTRICTIONS APPLY. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE DETAILS. PREVIOUS SALES EXCLUDED. VEHICLE STOCK QUANTITIES VARY DAILY. RANKINGS BASED ON REGISTERED SALES FOR CHRYSLER CORP. *PRICES PLUS TAX, TAG, TITLE. ALL FACTORY, ALLY BANK AND ARRIGO DISCOUNTS REBATES AND INCENTIVES APPLIED INCLUDING OWNER/LEASE LOYALTY REBATES IF QUALIFIED. **WE WILL BEAT ANY LOCAL, VALID, PRINTED ADVERTISEMENT FROM ANOTHER AUTHORIZED DODGE, CHRYSLER, JEEP, RAM DEALER WITHIN THE SE BUSINESS CENTER ZONE ON ANY NEW, IDENTICALLY EQUIPPED IN STOCK VEHICLE. CUSTOMER MUST PRESENT COMPETITORS AD AT TIME OF PURCHASE AND SUPPLY ACCURATE VIN NUMBER. COMPETITORS AD MUST BE DATED SAME DAY AS THE CUSTOMERS PURCHASE. IF WE BEAT THE COMPETITORS PRICE, YOU MUST BUY THE VEHICLE FROM THE OTHER DEALER. DEALER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO PURCHASE THE VEHICLE FROM THE OTHER DEALER. OTHER RESTRICTIONS APPLY. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE DETAILS. 136 MONTH LEASE, 10K MILES PER YEAR, \$3000 CASH OR TRADE EQUITY DUE AT SIGNING. PLUS TAX, TAG, TITLE, SECURITY DEPOSIT. ALL FACTORY, ALLY BANK AND ARRIGO DISCOUNTS REBATES AND INCENTIVES APPLIED INCLUDING OWNER/LEASE LOYALTY REBATES. PAYMENT PLUS TAX EACH MONTH. OFFER VALID ON SELECT MODELS TO QUALIFIED CUSTOMERS WITH MINIMUM 750 CREDIT SCORE, AND APPROVED THRU ALLY. RESTRICTIONS AND LIMITATIONS APPLY TO MAINTENANCE PLAN AND ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE. FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL AT 3.99% APR. WITH DOWN PAYMENT AND CREDIT APPROVAL. SEE DEALER FOR DETAILS.