

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 104 No. 108

Sunday, September 8, 2013

75¢ Plus tax

Man accused of selling fake 'meth' ... Page 10

Exams help catch cancer early ... Page 8

OHS golfers win ... Page 7

Labor Day celebration is a success... Page 4

Brahmans to face Blue Streaks ... Page 15

Lake Levels

15.53 feet

Last Year: 14.42 feet



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

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No easy answer for area's water woes

By Katrina Elsken
Okeechobee

The need for public education about the complexity of the environmental issues facing the Kissimmee River and Lake Okeechobee watershed was highlighted in discussion at the County Coalition for Responsible Management of Lake Okeechobee, St. Lucie and Caloosa Estuaries and Lake Worth Lagoon meeting Friday in the historic Okeechobee County Courthouse.

"I hate when we have these sound bites," said Lee County Commissioner Tammy Hall.

"I don't want people to think if we bought the U.S. Sugar property that all our problems would be solved."

Ms. Hall was referring to recently televised meetings and protests in which those concerned about the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie Estuaries called for the state to send the excess water from Lake Okeecho-

bee to the south, instead of to the coasts.

The environmental issues are not that easy to address, she said. The land that the State of Florida has an option on south of the big lake is not the exact area where water flow south could be restored. The plan which was put in motion by former Governor Charlie Crist was to buy that property from U.S. Sugar and then swap portions of it for other property, she said.

"It's hard to explain that in 10 seconds or less," she added.

Paul Gray, of Audubon Florida, said much of the media coverage also gives a slanted image of Lake Okeechobee.

While there is a problem with muck in the center of the lake, the marshes are doing very well, he explained.

"Right now the lake is at 15.5 feet and that is almost a perfect level for Lake Okeechobee at this time of year," he said.

See WATER — Page 5



Special to the Okeechobee News/SFWMD
To help relieve critically high water levels impacting South Florida, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) this week deployed heavy equipment to excavate a flood control channel through the Old Tamiami Trail. The emergency project will move water south from Water Conservation Area 3 and allow more water Lake Okeechobee to flow south. For story, see Page 5.

School board plans to reduce taxes

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

The Okeechobee School Board set a millage rate of 7.463 mills, which represents a tax decrease of 7.95 percent for residents this year at the final public hearing on the proposed 2013-2014 spending plan Thursday night.

The tax rate will raise a total of \$11.26 million from local taxpayers, a reduction of \$527,148 from the 2012-2013 budget. This millage is broken down into 5.215 mills for the required local effort, 0.748 mills for the discretionary local effort, and 1.5 mills for capital improvements.

The approved budget totals \$65.24 million this year, a slight increase of \$330,424 from 2012-2013. The school system projects to have

120 fewer students this year. The base student allocation per student did increase from \$3,582 to \$3,752, or by \$169.

The budget includes \$37.9 million for the district's various school campuses, the district office, juvenile justice programs, support services, and operations. Most schools saw a decrease in funds this year with the exception of Everglades Elementary, which was forced to extend their learning day by one hour due to low reading scores. While school funding was down, the administrative district office saw an increase of just over \$300,000, an increase of over six percent. The district office funds 21 full-time positions and 1 part-time position for a total of \$2.38 million. The budget does include \$1.08 million for teacher salary hikes.

The budget includes an increase in capital project funds from \$2.74 to \$3.39 million.

Twenty students who received perfect scores on their FCAT exam in 2013 were honored by the school board. Students honored included Lauren Sills, Josef Steiert and Holly Younger of Central Elementary School, Haley Conrad, Callie Rucks and Trenton Stuart of North Elementary, Dylan Deckard, Maria Sanchez Virto and Brooke Wolf of Seminole Elementary, Jake Bessey, Gavin Cashwell and Austin Wright of South Elementary, Daniel Hotmire, Sarah McNitt, Cristian Rios of Osceola Middle School, Mariah Casanova, Christine Groso, Shelby Johnson and Jared Phares of

See SCHOOL — Page 5

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Special to the Okeechobee News

Battlefield Friends meet

State Representative Dr. Cary Pigman met with members of the Okeechobee Battlefield Friends on Tuesday, Sept. 3, at the Okeechobee Battlefield Historic State Park. Rep. Pigman wanted to see the site and to learn some of the history behind the area in order to promote possible funding which would allow the site to be developed and open to the public year 'round. The Battlefield Friend members gave a brief history on the acquisition of the site, the monument and the plans for development. The annual re-enactment will be held Feb. 22 and 23, 2014, at the site.

Pictured in front of the Battle of Okeechobee Historic Monument are Mark Nelson, park manger; Shawn Henderson, president of Battlefield Friends; State Representative Dr. Cary Pigman; Dowling Watford, Okeechobee City councilman and treasurer of Battlefield Friends; Magi Cable, secretary of Battlefield Friends; Su George, board member, and Libby Maxwell, Rep. Pigman's district secretary in Okeechobee. Not pictured is Gary Ritter, vice president of Battlefield Friends.

Okeechobee Forecast

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Today: Partly cloudy with a chance of a thunderstorm and a chance of rain. High of 90F. Winds from the NE at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 20%
Tonight: Partly cloudy. Fog overnight. Low of 70F. Winds less than 5 mph.

Extended Forecast

Monday: Partly cloudy with a chance of a thunderstorm and rain in the afternoon. Fog early. High of 90F. Winds from the ENE at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 40%.

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

Tuesday: Partly cloudy with a chance of a thunderstorm and rain in the afternoon. Fog early. High of 88F with a heat index of 95F. Winds from the ENE at 5 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 40%.

Tuesday Night: Clear. Fog overnight. Low of 70F. Winds from the ENE at 5 to 10 mph.

Wednesday: Partly cloudy with a chance of a thunderstorm. High of 88F. Winds from the ENE at 10 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 40%.

Wednesday Night: Clear with a chance of a thunderstorm. Fog overnight. Low of 68F. Winds from the NE at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 20%.

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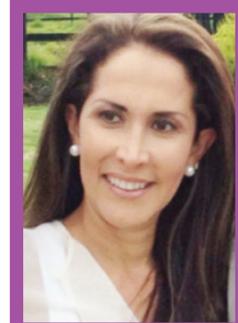
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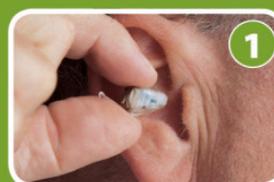
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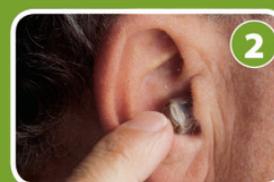


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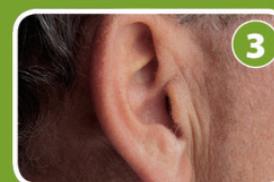
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Public Forum/Speak Out

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!

Jail

• Well, if things keep going the way it looks, the sheriff will probably give the jail back to the county to run and the county will take bids to privatize it. The only way I can see that would save money is that a private contractor will not have to pay into the state retirement account. But a private contractor is also going to want to make a profit where the sheriff was just trying to break even.

• Lawyers are already looking into how the new high profile, newly sentenced to life inmate managed to hang himself. Even though the guards did inspections. Not funding the OCSO budget is just lawsuits waiting to happen. What will they be saving then?

• Regarding the Ohio guy who kidnapped those three women who hung himself with a bed sheet—if someone is determined to commit suicide, they will find a way to do it. This guy was facing the rest of his life in prison and apparently decided to end it. Most of those in the county jail are awaiting trial. They haven't been sentenced yet. Even so, we have had suicides at the county jail in the past. And there have been lawsuits. But no jail can control the mental state of an inmate.

• The sheriff and the county are already being sued by inmates and deputies, which is not going to change. I'm sure they have insurance to cover lawsuits just like any business or homeowner does. As for myself I personally receive very little county services for my taxes; they mow the side of my road. I know that if the total tax rate was even lower we could be more competitive with other counties to attract new businesses here which would help us all. Businesses pay more taxes than a resident so then we could afford to have better services while our tax rate continues to stay low.

Store hours

• If a store has a sign that says open 9-4 shouldn't they be open 9-4? They are closed Saturday and Sunday. I have stopped there many times around 3:15 to 3:30 p.m. and they are closed. What a way to run a business. Guess they don't need our business. If you have a business and post your hours, keep it open for us.

Crime prevention

• Crime prevention? Citizens taking responsibility? Just got two ferocious, ravens for human flesh, crazed, suitably inbred, mentally unstable, psycho, and motivated giant pit-bull Rotweiler mixed Cujos. Nice doggies! I lock my gate now when I leave, and have a sign posted requesting that trespassers leave a copy of their will and testament when they come for my stereo. Cheaper than an additional taxing alternative.

• If anyone needs a good dog, try the Humane Society/Pet Rescue. They have some big dogs. Just seeing one of those big dogs in the yard can make a potential burglar change his mind about going over your fence. And is it karma that some of the dogs there have been trained at the prison program in Moore Haven?

• I certainly approve of the guard dog method but am curious about how much your homeowners insurance will increase with them. Every home insurance app wants to know if you have a dog. Maybe the fact that they are fenced in and a warning sign would make a difference.

• I believe it depends on what kind of dogs you have. Personally, I don't go for the pit bull mixes and I have heard there can be insurance issues with them. I like the shepherds or labs. And I do believe that "good fences make good neighbors." Never had a problem with my dogs leaving the yard.

• I have done the research and, according to my homeowners insurance, the requirement is that I have a properly installed and maintained fence with wire mesh (not greater than 4" square), minimum of 4'6" high, and posted signs, if required by ordinance, etc. We have no children or grandchildren under the age of six, and no children under the age of six live or stay on the property. It seems that the biggest headache with insurance are pools.

Reflections from the pulpit

Intelligence and wisdom

by **Mark Mayers, LMFT**,
CAP of Real Life Children's Ranch

People often talk about and consider how smart someone is. Modern psychology has developed testing in an attempt to determine a person's intelligence. From academics to IQ testing and college entrance exams our modern world continues to find and recognize those people who are the "smartest." Although intelligence is important and no doubt a gift from God, it is not the sole factor in making sound decisions or to be successful.

God's word talks of another characteristic that is often confused with intelligence ... wisdom. Dictionaries often define wisdom as "the ability to discern or judge what is true, right, or lasting; insight; common sense; good judgment. Henry David Thoreau said this about wisdom, "It is a characteristic of wisdom not to do desperate things." God's word has much to say

about wisdom. In Exodus 28:3 God says that He gives us wisdom to serve Him. 3 Tell all the skilled workers to whom I have given wisdom in such matters that they are to make garments for Aaron, for his consecration, so he may serve me as priest. Unlike the word self-centered ideas about intelligence, God gives us wisdom to glorify Him.

Regardless of what the world says, especially in higher education, knowledge and intelligence without godly wisdom is useless. In 2 Chronicles 1:10 God tells us that wisdom is necessary to be a success and a leader, "10 Give me wisdom and knowledge, that I may lead this people, for who is able to govern this great people of yours?" As a nation we need to pray that we as a people will rest in God's wisdom so we will be able to discern and judge what is true, right, and lasting; to have necessary insight; common sense; and good judgment. As Henry David Thoreau so eloquently said, "Wisdom will help us not to do desperate things."

Letters to the editor

Labor Day a success

It is with a generous heap of Okeechobee "yee - haw" that Okeechobee Main Street says thanks to the community for the overwhelming support of the 2013 All-American Labor Day Celebration. This three-day festival, including the Labor Day Festival; Labor Day Parade, sponsored by the B.R.A.T. Club; and the Annual Labor Day Rodeo, sponsored by the Cattlemen's Association provided enough entertainment, games, competitions, corn hole, pumpkin bread, rodeo, fundraising and the like to say good bye to summer with zeal!

Okeechobee Main Street recognizes that the support and labors of our loyal volunteers and community partners are crucial to the success of every event. It all begins with our advertising partners, the Okeechobee News, the Pennysaver, and WOKC radio. We truly appreciate their continual efforts to share our events with the community!

A big thanks as well to those who provide services and sponsorships. Waste Management, 3D Ice and Henderson's Sani Services always are available to help with our events and Labor Day was no exception. Their support is very much appreciated. Thank you to the staff of American Drilling Services who assisted in setting up the parks and with the children's games and a huge fundraising campaign.

We would like to thank our sponsors of those contests—MidFlorida Credit Union who sponsored the "Top Dog" hot dog eating contest and gave the winner a \$50 gift card. Applebee's who sponsored the third annual Corn Hole

Competition. No event is complete without the support and labor of dedicated volunteers and community partners. Okeechobee Main Street would like to extend a BIG thank you to the following organizations who provided entertainment for the crowds during the festival. Extra special thanks to DP Productions (Steve and Joseph) who provided the sound system and expertise for our entertainment, as well as the music throughout the event and the Humane Society for reminding us that there are pets that need homes. We would also like to recognize our vendors who work tirelessly to help make the event exciting and fun!

The Board of Okeechobee Main Street, our corporate members, as well as our wonderful volunteers continue to work hard to improve each festival! Great Big thanks to those who volunteered their time and efforts to ensure that the Labor Day Festival was a success: Mr. and Mrs. Culpepper, Frank DeCarlo, Maureen Burroughs, John Creasman, Terry Burroughs, Angie Griffin, Pat Shepherd, Dowling Watford, Cheryl Daniels, Marilyn Hadley, Raye Deusinger and many more. Thanks, too, to the Okeechobee Main Street Board of Directors for their unending support and encouragement.

Our final BIG THANKS goes to the City of Okeechobee and R.E. Hamrick Testamentary Trust, the Okeechobee City Police and Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office for use of the Flagler Parks and their assistance and support throughout the entire event.

Thank You!!!

Sharie Turgeon, Okeechobee Main Street

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

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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
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- 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.



WATER

Continued From Page 1

"The lake is absolutely beautiful right now if you go out to the marshes," he said. "It's got clear water, wading birds and a lot of fish."

"If a lot of rainfall comes and it gets two or three feet deeper, we could lose that beautiful marsh," he said. "It took years to get to this point. It could be destroyed very quickly."

The current lake operation schedule is good for the environmental health of the big lake, but that concern was secondary to public safety when the schedule was adopted, he explained.

"The water isn't being released to protect Lake Okeechobee," he said. "It is being released because of the concerns about the Herbert Hoover Dike."

The problems with the high volume of water coming down the Kissimmee River—and the high levels of nutrients in that water—affect the entire watershed.

"When we look at our water problems, they are really very big," said Mr. Gray.

SFWMD cuts gap in old Tamiami Trail

MIAMI—To help relieve critically high water levels impacting South Florida, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) this week deployed heavy equipment to excavate a flood control channel through the Old Tamiami Trail. The emergency project will move additional water south from Water Conservation Area 3 (WCA-3) in Miami-Dade and Broward counties, where months of above-average regional rainfall have raised water levels and forced wildlife such as deer onto levees and tree islands.

"The Tamiami Trail channel project is one of several efforts the District is undertaking on an emergency basis to help relieve high water levels," said Tommy Strowd, SFWMD Assistant Executive Director of Operations, Maintenance and Construction.

SCHOOL

Continued From Page 1

Yearling Middle School and Lucas Penido of Okeechobee High School. Each of these students also received a certificate courtesy of State Representative Dr. Cary Pigman, represented by Okeechobee Office Head Libby Maxwell.

Ryan Tedders, an 11th grader at Okeechobee High School, was honored for competing in the Ayn Rand Novels International Essay Contest.

In other business, the district ratified an amendment to their health insurance agreement with employees. Members of the Okeechobee County Education Association #1604 ratified the agreement 168-6. The main change is a \$75 per month discount for employees on their health insurance costs provided they participate in a wellness initiative. Health insurance costs remain the same this year. Employees must attend the clinic and complete a health risk assessment to qualify for the reduction.

Board member India Riedel said this was a wonderful program and she said the goal is to have healthier employees.

The problems are the results of decades of development and changing governmental priorities.

There are no easy solutions, he said. "It takes a lot of solutions and a lot of work."

"People get frustrated that it will take 20 years to rebuild the system," he said.

"But the issue is not when will we get done. It's when we start."

Billions of dollars in water storage and water quality projects have been proposed or planned. Some have been funded. Some are waiting for funding.

The coalition agreed that is important for all those who live in South Florida and those who care about South Florida to keep the pressure on both the State of Florida and the federal government to continue the funding for these projects.

The coalition prioritized the following projects:

- Herbert Hoover Dike repairs;
- Completion of the Kissimmee River Restoration;
- Building the C-44 reservoir project to store excess water before it reaches St. Lucie Estuary and the C-43 to store water before it reaches the Caloosahatchee Estuary.

Water levels in the 921-square-mile Water Conservation Area 3 have remained high following the wettest April-through-July period on record in South Florida since 1932. Water flow south out of WCA-3 is constrained by several factors, including the barrier created by remnants of the Old Tamiami Trail, which ran from Miami to Naples.

By cutting a 35-foot gap in the old roadway about 30 miles west of Miami, District crews from the Okeechobee and Miami field stations were able to open a flow-way capable of moving approximately 800 to 1,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) of water from WCA-3 into the L-67 Extension Canal, creating a previously unavailable option for moving water south.

The board ratified the appointment of Bryan VanCamp as assistant principal at the Okeechobee Freshman Campus, and Cynthia Weigum as administrator on special assignment for food service.

The school board also approved a banking services agreement with Harbor Community Bank.

The board deleted the position of director of grants and special programs and changed it to coordinator to that program. The move will save the district about \$10,000 this year.

Board member Joe Arnold said he was opposed to the decision to create the position of administrator on special assignment because he felt it was not financially feasible to create another administrative position in tough economic times. He voted against the agenda item to create the two positions and delete the director position.

Arnold was appointed to represent the school board on the Okeechobee Economic Council as an ex-officio member.

Board member Gay Carlton said 19 mentors from the Big Brothers and Big Sisters Program are now assisting Okeechobee Schools. The Okeechobee legislative delegation meeting will take place on Oct. 4 at the county courthouse at 2 p.m.

Okeechobee Utility Authority

Budget Summary

Recap For Newspaper

Fiscal Year October 1, 2013 to September 30, 2014

WATER UTILITY REVENUE	\$ 5,872,487
SEWER UTILITY REVENUE	3,645,228
OTHER GENERAL REVENUE	320,147
CAPITAL CONNECTION REVENUE	346,721
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (CIP) FUNDING	4,703,020
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 14,887,602

EXPENSES (Not Including Depreciation or Amortization)

OPERATING EXPENSES-WATER DEPT	\$ 1,143,368
OPERATING EXPENSES-MAINTENANCE DEPT	1,776,313
OPERATING EXPENSES-WASTEWATER DEPT	958,110
OPERATING EXPENSES-ADMINISTRATIVE DEPT	2,221,823
OPERATING EXPENSES-METER READER DEPT	262,204
DEBT SERVICE-INTEREST PAYMENTS	1,153,259
DEBT SERVICE-PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS	2,167,825
TRANSFERS & RESTRICTIONS	5,204,701
DEBT FUNDED CIP EXPENDITURES	-
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 14,887,602

BUDGETED SURPLUS OR (DEFICIT) \$ -

BUDGETED DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS (DETAIL)

BB&T SERIES 2010A PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS	\$ 960,000
BB&T SERIES 2010A INTEREST PAYMENTS	391,210
BB&T SERIES 2010B PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS	105,000
BB&T SERIES 2010B INTEREST PAYMENTS	359,960
SRF #1 PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS	514,896
SRF #1 INTEREST PAYMENTS	167,966
SRF #2 PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS	449,627
SRF #2 INTEREST PAYMENTS	187,616
SRF #3 PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS	138,302
SRF #3 INTEREST PAYMENTS	46,507
TOTAL BUDGETED DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS	\$ 3,321,084

Other General Revenue Includes:

Penalties & Late Charges	\$ 116,878
Miscellaneous Unrestricted Revenue	50,000
Total Unrestricted Interest Income	59,268
Total Restricted Interest Income	22,000
Fire Hydrant Fund Fees	72,000
Misc Restricted Revenue	-
Contributed Capital	-
Total Other General Revenue	\$ 320,147

Capital Improvement Projects:

Proposed Capital Projects	\$ -
Funded From External Sources:	
Proposed other CIP Expenditures	
Funded From Internal Sources	4,500,000
Proposed Departmental Capital Expenditures	
Funded From Internal Sources	203,020

Total Proposed Capital Improvement Project Expenditures \$ 4,703,020

Community Events

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Bits & Spurs Club to meet

Bits and Spurs 4-H Club will hold their organizational meeting on Sunday, **Sept. 8**, at 11:30 a.m. at Mi-Cin Ranch. You must provide your own horse with a negative Coggins test if you plan on riding with the club, however if you just want to learn more about horses and share our club's love for these animals, please come by and find out the many ways that you can participate. Contact Laura, 863-801-3599 or come to Mi-Cin Ranch, 1000 N.W. 50th Drive in Okeechobee.

Retired Educators to meet

The Okeechobee Retired Educators will be meeting on Monday, **Sept. 9**, in the meeting room at Beef O'Brady's beginning at 11 a.m. Any retired educators are invited to attend. The Historical Ornaments will be available for purchase at this meeting. Hope to see everyone there!

Business breakfast to be held

On Monday, **Sept. 9**, at 8 a.m. at Hampton Inn. This is a Christian Business Breakfast where anyone is encouraged to attend. Hearing the word as Brandon Tucker shares is free. If you want to enjoy breakfast at the same time, it's only \$5. You won't be able to find a better way to start your Monday morning. See you there.

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.

Hospice hosting yard sales

Hospice of Okeechobee's September yard sales will be Wednesday, **Sept. 11**, and Thursday, Sept. 12, from 8 a.m. until noon. The yard sale is located at the corner of Southeast Fourth Street and Southeast Third Ave. For information, call 863-467-2321 or see our web page www.hospiceofokeechobee.org and click on the Events tab.

VFW hosts free luncheon

Big Lake VFW Post, 10539, will host a free lunch of sandwiches and soft drinks on Wednesday, **Sept. 11**, for first responders, members of law enforcement, firefighters and EMTs are welcome from noon until 3 p.m. at the pavilion. For information, call 863-763-2308.

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.

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.

Democrats meet at library

The Okeechobee Democratic Executive Committee will be meeting on Thursday, **Sept. 12**, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the meeting room of the Okeechobee Public Library. Any interested Democrats are invited to attend.

Elks meet twice monthly

ELKS Lodge 2871 will again have two meetings a month starting Thursday, **Sept. 12**, and again Sept. 25 at 7 p.m. at the VFW on U.S. 441 S.E. Our 26-week club event starts in September.

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. Tickets and sponsorship information are available at The Gun Shop; by calling 863-634-8678; or, online at www.friendsofnra.org.

Family movie night slated

A family movie night fundraiser will be held for a local Relay for Life team Friday, **Sept. 13**, at 7:30 p.m., on the lawn of Cowboys Restaurant. Bring blankets or chairs. Showtime will be approximately 7:45 p.m. Admission is \$1 and refreshments will be available for \$1. No coolers or food allowed. Proceeds will benefit the Susan G. Komen 3-Day Walk to fight breast cancer. For information or to donate, contact Melisa Jahner at 863-634-8844.

Board meeting scheduled

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. The public is invited. For information, call Sharon Vinson 863-462-5000, ext. 257.

BRAT to host teen dance

The Okeechobee B.R.A.T. Club (Building Relationships Among Teens) will host a Teen Dance Party at the Okeechobee Freshman Campus, 610 S.W. Second Ave., Saturday, **Sept. 14**, from 7 to 10 p.m., for students ages 12-16. The cost is \$7 and includes pizza, soda and chips. For information, contact Allison Chandler at 863-697-9096.

Obituaries

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

Lt. Col Jeffery W. Riddlebarger, 47

OKEECHOBEE — Lt Col Jeffery W. Riddlebarger went home to be with the Lord on Aug. 14, 2013. Born in 1966 in San Antonio, Texas, Jeff grew up primarily in Ohio and Florida, played baseball at every opportunity, and graduated from Okeechobee High School, Okeechobee in 1984.

After high school, Jeff entered the United States Air Force Academy where he excelled on the field as a varsity baseball player and off the field as well, earning the Fay Award as the outstanding member of the USAFA Protestant Cadet Religious Council. Jeff graduated from USAFA in 1988 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Middle Eastern History and a minor in the Arabic language. Following graduation, Jeff attended pilot training at Columbus AFB, Mississippi where he met and married Lynn (Anderson) in 1989.

After graduating from pilot training, Jeff flew F-15s at Holloman AFB, NM, Langley AFB, VA, and Tyndall AFB, FL. Jeff transitioned from Active Duty to the Air Force Reserves in 1998. He began his civilian airline career with United Airlines and continued to serve in the military as an AT-38 Instructor Pilot at Columbus and Moody Air Force Bases. In 2004, Jeff helped lead the stand-up of the first-ever Reserve unit at USAFA, Detachment 1 to the 302d Airlift Wing, which later transitioned to the 70th Flying Training Squadron. While serving as the Soaring Flight Commander and TG-10/TG-16 Flight Examiner, Jeff began teaching Cross Country and Aerobatic Soaring to the cadets, which quickly became his passion in the aviation world. He holds the distinction of having the longest glider flight duration in USAF Academy history, of 7.2 hours. Jeff was wholly dedicated to helping others in his church and community. In 1998, Jeff earned his Master's Degree in Missions from Regent University. His visionary leadership made him ideal to be the Missions Director at Castle Rock Christian Fellowship leading a mission trip to New York, participating in a mission trip to Lebanon, and serving as the School Board President at Castle Rock Christian School. Jeff was a wonderful man of God who upheld the same priorities that he encouraged tirelessly to everyone he met; Faith, Family and Hard Work. Jeff will be dearly missed.

He is survived by his wife, Lynn; and their three children, Sarah, Jonathan, and Nathan; his mother, Linda Roy of Okeechobee; and his sister, Jodi Brown of Jacksonville, Fla.

He was buried at the Air Force Academy Cemetery, in Colorado Springs, CO, one of the places he loved to be most.



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Brahmans split lane matches with Jaguars

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

The Lady Brahmans got their season off to a positive start with a 7-0 victory over Port St. Lucie on Tuesday in high school bowling action at Lucky Lanes.

The boy's team battled back and forth with the Jaguars before falling in a close match, 4-3.

For the Lady Brahmans, Jessica Olney had 608 over three games, 201, 206 and 201. Kirsten Doney shot a 161 and Meghan Davis had a game high of 158. Taylor Chaney led the Lady Jaguars with a 172 high game and a series score of 431.

Brian Chapman rolled 203 and 200 in his two-game series. Austin Walker had a high game of 194 and Samuel Rogers rolled a high game of 189. For Port St. Lucie, Paul Loua had a high game of 167 with a 323 series. Bryan Reed had a high game of 168 and Edward Tanner had a high game of 162.

Coach Carol Olney said it was a great match throughout as both teams were very evenly matched. She noted the teams rolled two regular games and three baker games with each team winning one of the regular games. Each of the matches came down to the last frame before being decided. The bowling teams travel to Stuart to tangle with Martin County on Monday, Sept. 9.

Raulerson's 42 lifts OHS to links win at St. Lucie W.

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

The Lady Brahman golf team defeated St. Lucie West Centennial and Fort Pierce Central in impressive fashion on Wednesday at the PGA Country Club at St. Lucie West.

Okeechobee shot 204, Fort Pierce shot 240 and Centennial shot 256.

The Lady Brahmans were led by Hannah Raulerson who shot 42. Cameron White shot 52, Danyelle Sheffield shot 53, and Kirsten Doney shot 57.

Kim Smith led Centennial with a score of 60. Fort Pierce was led by Margaret Martzoff and Kayla Diefendorf who both shot 48.

OHS coach Bruce Conrad said he was really impressed with freshman Natalee Trim-

ble who shot a 63 in her first match ever. He said this was an example of how far a golfer can progress in a short time.

"Coach Hank Raulerson and myself are looking forward to the match where all six of our players shoot the round they are capable of," he noted.

The Lady Brahmans travel to Clewiston on March 11 for a tri-match against the host school and Oxbridge Academy of West Palm Beach.

The next tentative home match is set for Sept. 19.

The OHS golf program will hold a fundraiser golf tournament on Saturday, Sept. 14, at the Indianwood Country Club in Indiantown. Entry is \$200 per team. The event starts at 8 a.m. with a shotgun start.

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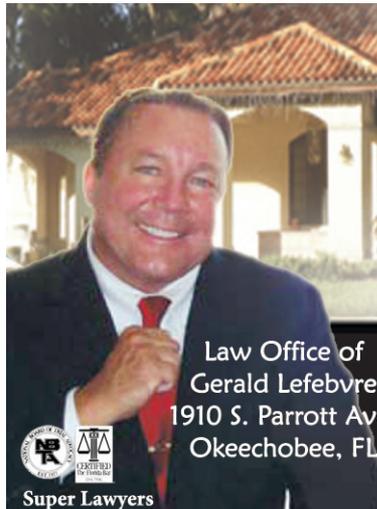
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Special to the Okeechobee News

Administrators sworn In

Seminole Elementary celebrated Labor Day by sponsoring "Western Day" at the school. Mrs. Sickels' class had a ropin', ridin', brandin', hoopin' and hollerin' day as they took a trip back to the Wild, Wild West. After these pint-sized deputies "swore in" their new Principal, Matt Koff, and their Assistant Principal, Brian Barrett, the students had a real "Round-up" in their "Old West" classroom where they feasted on Chuck Wagon Beans, drank Sasparillas and ate cow patties. Then, they had a rootin' tootin' good time as they sat around the old campfire and told "tall tales"!

Clinical breast exams, mammograms are important and preventative tools

Your yearly checkup should include a clinical breast exam. This exam may be done by a gynecologist, family doctor, nurse practitioner, or specially trained nurse. Yearly breast exams help to ensure that breast conditions are found early.

The frequency of your clinical breast exams depends on your age. Starting at age 20, you should have a clinical breast exam every 1 to 3 years. After age 40, you should have a clinical breast exam every year. If you're at higher risk for breast cancer, you may need more frequent exams. Risk factors for breast cancer may include:

- Being over 50 or postmenopausal
- A family history of breast cancer
- Having had no pregnancies or a first pregnancy after age 30
- Obesity
- Heavy alcohol use

Your clinical exam is also a great time to ask questions about a breast self-exam (BSE). You can find out whether you're doing the BSE in the most effective way. Or you may want to ask how pregnancy, breast implants, or breast reduction surgery affects the way you should examine your breasts.

If a clinical exam reveals a breast change, you may have other tests to find out more. These tests may include:

- Mammography, low-dose x-rays used to create pictures of the breast.
- Ultrasound, using sound waves to create a picture of the breast.
- Biopsy, the removal of a small amount of breast tissue by needle or incision. The tissue is then examined under a microscope.

Raulerson Hospital provides these diagnostic services for men and women in a comfortable environment, using the latest technology. Raulerson Hospital Radiology Department is accredited by the American College of Radiology in: CT Scan, Digital Mammography, MRI, Ultrasound and Nuclear Medicine.

In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness month, Raulerson Hospital is hosting a Women's Health Luncheon on Wednesday, Oct. 9, at IRSC's Okeechobee Campus. Various physicians will present information on the latest in women's health, while attendees enjoy a complimentary lunch. Space is limited. To RSVP or for a physician referral call Consult-A-Nurse at 863-763-9228.



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Join Raulerson Hospital for an informative community presentation about Sepsis:

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4-H Club focused on photography

The Okeechobee County 4-H Picture Perfect Club is a club for photographers and videographers, ages 12 to 18.

The club meets on the third Monday of each month. The September meeting will be on Sept. 16, at 7 p.m. at the Okeechobee County Extension Office.

Club activities include photo shoots and participating in photography contests. Club members have won honors at the county fair, Top of the Lake Art Festival and the State 4-H Photography Contest.

As an ongoing community service project, the club photographs dogs at the Humane Society. The photos are used online and in the newspaper to promote adoptions.

The club is sponsored by the Okeechobee News and some photography and computer Photoshop training sessions are held in the office of the Okeechobee News.

Members should have a camera suitable for the type of project they wish to pursue, but there are no restrictions on the type of camera used—last year one club member used her cell phone.

Anyone interested in joining the club is welcome to come to the next meeting. For more information, see the club page on facebook at www.facebook.com/Okeechobee4HPicturePerfect or call club leader Katrina Elsken at 863-763-3134.



Okeechobee News

Picture Perfect 4-H Club members were among those honored at the 4-H Awards Banquet in August at Okeechobee High School. Left to right are Andrew Smiley, Katie Muldoon and Kaylie Corby.

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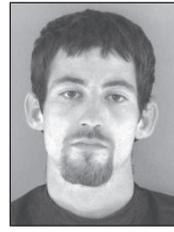
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Man charged with selling fake meth

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News



Jake Alexander

An Okeechobee man has been arrested for reportedly selling a substance during an undercover drug operation that was supposed to be methamphetamine but wasn't. Jake Joseph Alexander, 24, N.E. 128th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Sept. 5 on a felony charge of sale of a substance in lieu of methamphetamine. He is being held in the Okeechobee County Jail on \$25,000 bond.

Alexander sold the substance to a confidential source during an undercover drug operation, stated an arrest report by a detective with the Okeechobee Narcotics Task Force. The report stated that the confidential source purchased a substance—purported to be methamphetamine—that weighed 0.8 grams from Alexander during the operation staged a few months ago.

When detectives performed a field test on the substance, that test reportedly indicated a positive result for the presence of meth.

The substance was then sent to a lab for further testing. The detective was notified Thursday, Sept. 5, that the substance tested negative for the presence of meth. The detective's report did not indicate what that substance actually was. Despite Alexander's arrest, the investigation is continuing.

OCSO Investigations

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

- ASSAULT**
- 7200 block of U.S. 441 N.
 - 2700 block of N.W. 53rd Terrace
- BURGLARY**
- 15000 block of N.W. 280th St.
 - 5800 block of S.E. 94th Trail
 - 11000 block of N.E. 51st Court
 - 3000 block of S.E. 24th St.
 - 300 block of S.W. 85th Ave.

- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF**
- 8100 block of S.W. Ninth St.
 - 8100 block of S.W. Ninth St.
 - 6600 block of U.S. 441 S.E.
 - 8000 block of S.W. Ninth St.
 - 7800 block of S.W. Ninth St.
 - 8200 block of S.W. Ninth St.
 - 7800 block of S.W. Ninth St.
 - 8100 block of S.W. Ninth St.
 - 8200 block of S.W. Ninth St.

- FRAUD**
- 9300 block of S.E. 61st Drive

- THEFT**
- 1600 block of S.R. 70 E.
 - 9900 block of S.W. 40th Terrace
 - 3300 block of N.W. Fourth St.
 - 200 block of N.E. 14th Ave.
 - 2500 block of S.E. 30th St.
 - 8100 block of S.E. 57th Drive
 - 600 block of S.E. 26th Drive
 - 2200 block of S.W. 19th Lane
 - 600 block of N.W. 34th St.
 - 1700 block of U.S. 441 N.
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Our package includes: 401K, paid training, safety bonuses, paid vacations, professional uniforms, uniform cleaning service, boot program & more!



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Experienced Only - Pipe Layers

Please fax resume to 863-763-6337 or apply in person @ Close Construction, 301 NW 4th Ave, Okeechobee, FL 34972.

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

Employment

Employment Full Time

TRUCK/TRAILER MECHANIC



walpole
 EOE/DFWP
 seeking an experienced Truck/Trailer Mechanic

- Must have own tools & a strong desire to excel
- Knowledge of Pacar Engine a plus
- Compensation based on experience
- Company offers paid uniforms, paid vacation, paid insurance, boot allowance

Call Ryan at (800) 741-6500 or apply in person or online www.walpoleinc.com

LOCAL & REGIONAL DRIVERS

Walpole is looking for local and regional Class A company CDL drivers with a minimum of two years driving experience and a clean driving record.

Our package includes: 401K, paid training, safety bonuses, paid vacations, professional uniforms, uniform cleaning service, boot program & more!



Call Cassie at (800) 741-6500 or apply online www.walpoleinc.com

Experienced Only - Pipe Layers

Please fax resume to 863-763-6337 or apply in person @ Close Construction, 301 NW 4th Ave, Okeechobee, FL 34972.

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

Employment Full Time



Seminole Tribe of Florida

Surveillance Specialist (Seminole Brighton Casino)

Maintain constant surveillance throughout the casino. Ensure integrity of gaming, banking, count room & cash handling procedures. HS diploma/GED.

Fax Resumes to: 954-967-3459

MECHANIC

Lykes Citrus Division has an opening for a full time mechanic at its Basinger Grove Shop. Duties include diagnosing, repairing and maintaining company vehicles, tractors and equipment. Need some experience in diesel & gasoline engines, hydraulics, air conditioning, and automotive electrical. Welding and fabrication experience is a plus, but not required.

Lykes offers competitive wages, benefit package and paid holidays.

Interested applicants should apply in person at:
 Lykes Citrus Division
 7 Lykes Road
 Lake Placid, FL 33852

Affirmative Action Employer/Drug-Smoke Free Workplace/M/F/D/V Equal Employment Opportunity Employer

Employment Full Time

CLASS A - CDL DRIVER needed, must have DOT medical, clean driving history and 2.5 yrs. tanker endorsement. Call 863.467-9800. M-F 9:00 to 4:00.

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

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

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

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

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

Employment Full Time

Grade A- Mechanic/Service Tech
 Location: Okeechobee
 Job Description:
 Technician is responsible for repair and maintenance of a variety of agricultural and construction equipment. Candidate will be required to demonstrate a variety of skills from basic mechanical to complex technical diagnostics of modern computerized systems. Must provide own basic tool kit. Must be able to navigate product support software, computer programs for work order maintenance and write reports for customers invoicing. Will be required to exercise good customer relations and handle customer complaints as well as maintain working relationship with fellow employees. Must always follow safety practices.

Job Qualifications:

- Experience working on equipment; preferable in Agricultural or Construction
- Valid Florida Drivers License
- Mechanical knowledge
- Certification in automotive air-conditioning
- Read hydraulic schematics and diagnose hydraulic system faults
- Read electrical schematics and diagnose electronic faults
- Experience in diagnosing and repair of diesel engines
- Experience with telematics, desirable
- Strong communication skills, great sense of humor preferred
- Must be able to maintain files
- Basic Data Entry and write reports
- Must be able to work in a fast paced, extreme environmental conditions and meet deadlines
- Team builder
- Self motivated, over achiever

This position offers a very competitive benefits package; including medical and dental coverage, 401k and other benefits.

Experience Requirement: 3-5 years of mechanic experience

Travel Requirement: As needed to achieve success

Please send resume to: dpadron@evergladesfarmequipment.com or fax to: 561-996-8367

Employment Full Time

REGISTERED NURSE
 Clinic Setting, Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm, Excellent Benefits. Spanish speaking preferred.

Please apply MyFlorida/People First website at: <https://peoplefirst.myflorida.com>

The state of Florida is an Equal Opportunity Employer/ Affirmative Action Employer and does not tolerate discrimination or violence

Shop here first! The classified ads

The classifieds are the most successful salesperson in town.

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

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

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

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

When you want something sold, advertise in the classifieds.

Earn some extra cash. Sell your used items in the classifieds

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

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

Reading a newspaper provides the opportunity to get involved in your community.

No wonder newspaper readers are more popular!



Employment Full Time

Houses - Rent

Houses - Rent

NOW HIRING in OKEECHOBEE, FL!

Remember why you chose healthcare? For the chance to help, to comfort and to heal. That's exactly what Wexford Health offers. We're a leading medical provider for correctional facilities, and we can help you make a difference every day. After all, that's why you do what you do. And that's why you should choose Wexford Health.

Wexford Health has exceptional full time opportunities to join our team of healthcare professionals at OKEECHOBEE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION in OKEECHOBEE, FL.

- **Health Services Administrator**
- **RNs**
- **LPNs**

To learn more and apply, please contact Kim Keenan at 1-800-903-3616 ext. 219 or email: kkeenan@wexfordhealth.com

OR visit us online at: jobs.wexfordhealth.com/search/okeechobee

EOE



INTERVIEWING IMMEDIATELY!

Okeechobee Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram is looking to increase its sales staff. Due to an increase in sales volume and traffic, it is now necessary for us to add an additional four more people to handle the flow of customers.

Okeechobee Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram is a family oriented business. We offer health insurance, paid vacations and an impressive pay plan. Be proud to work for a company that gets involved with the community and local charities. Look forward to coming to work each morning knowing that you are selling some of the most impressive vehicles on the market today, including the 2013 Motor Trend Truck of the Year Ram 1500.

Experience is not necessary but is preferred. We offer training for those with less experience. We want people who are financially motivated and competitive. If financial security is important to you and a CAREER is what you seek, come in and visit with us today and let's talk about you getting started on your new profession.

Come into the showroom and ask for Jim Rider or Brian Monaco, Monday through Friday, 9am - 7pm.

4224 Hwy 441 S. • Okeechobee, FL • 863.357.0500 • EOE/DFWP

Shopping Center Daily Janitorial/ Maintenance Person

needed. Duties to include exterior debris pick up, cleaning, mowing, weed control, and light repairs as needed. Must able to perform physical outdoor duties, be dependable and have your own tools. 561-996-8080 x77

Employment Part Time

Equipment Operator (Part-time)

Responsible for the daily equipment operations at our compost facility in Okeechobee. Operate front end wheel loader, mixing of compost or wood chips, process and load products onto customer vehicles using front end loader or Skid Steer. Maintenance of machinery. 3 years related experience preferred. Must be able to lift 50lbs, work in extreme weather conditions and operate heavy equipment. Candidates can apply on line at careers@garick.com

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

Employment Part Time

Grand Oaks Assisted Living Community

- *Part Time Maintenance Person
- *Part Time Cook
- Level II Background check required.
- Apply in Person M-F 203 SE 2nd Street

READING A NEWSPAPER HELPS YOU GET INVOLVED IN THE COMMUNITY.



No wonder newspaper readers have more fun!

Financial Services

Business Opportunities

NOTICE

Independent Newspapers will never accept any advertisement that is illegal or considered fraudulent. In all cases of questionable value, such as promises of guaranteed income from work-at-home programs - if it sounds too good to be true, chances are that it is. If you have questions or doubts about any ad on these pages, we advise that before responding or sending money ahead of time, you check with the Better Business Bureau at 772-878-2010 for previous complaints.

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

Find it faster. Sell it sooner in the classifieds

Excavation Services

LESIE SUMMERFORD EXCAVATING LLC.

Call us for your excavation needs; land clearing ponds, hauling of fill dirt, shell, millings (when available) transportation of heavy equipment. Call Leslie for excavation needs. (863)763-9330 or (863)634-7659.

Health Care

EGG DONOR

Loving couple seeks a caring FEMALE to give the gift of life by becoming an EGG DONOR. Excellent compensation of \$6,000.00. Must be between the ages of 18-29 In Good health and Drug free. Please contact Boca Fertility @ 561-368-5500

Shop here first! The classified ads

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

Merchandise

Air Conditioners

USED A/C UNITS FOR SALE

Good condition, many sizes and types available. 467-1545 Quality A/C and Heating

Furniture

OAK TABLE 4 CHAIRS, LIGHT FIXTURE \$350 CALL 863-634-3169

Rentals

Apartments

2bdm/1bath Duplex in town. Walking distance to stores, NO PETS, First, Last & Security \$550.00 a month 863-634-2820

NW OKEE: 2 BR Apts available on quiet street. Pets welcome. \$600mo., and \$650mo. 1st, last & \$500 sec. 561-346-1642.

Apartments

FURNISHED TWO BEDROOM TWO BATH DUPLEX - ONE CAR GARAGE - SCREENED PORCH - WASHER & DRYER - WALK IN CLOSET - NICELY EQUIPPED KITCHEN - COMMUNITY POOL, & TENNIS COURT. LONG OR SHORT TERM - WITH OR WITHOUT UTILITIES - FURNISHED TWO BEDROOM ONE BATH ALSO AVAILABLE - 863-447-0742 OR 863-467-4371

OKEE - 3/2 House with fenced in back yard. Immaculate Condition. 211 SE 5th Ave. \$1300/month 1st, last \$1300 Security. Pets allowed upon approval. Call 863-634-3312.

Find it faster. Sell it sooner in the classifieds

Land - Sale

SURPLUS STATE PROPERTY DEP #DSL13-007 Okeechobee County: S06, T36S, R34E Approximately 77 +/- acres Sold by quitclaim deed "AS IS, WHERE IS" Contact Ann Henson - 850-245-2785 or Ann.henson@dep.state.fl.us Bid Deadline is September 27, 2013, 10:30 a.m. EDT

FOR SALE LAND IN TAYLOR COUNTY GA. BETWEEN MACON AND COLUMBUS. 8.5 ACRES \$17,000 POSSIBLE OWNER FINANCE 863-763-8589 LET'S TALK.

OKEE- 2/1 - First class property 12 miles N.E. of town center. Lawn, pest, trash and water included \$ 498.00 mo. Call for details. Mon -Fri. No Pets 863-467-9800.

Earn some extra cash. Sell your used items in the classifieds

AFFORDABLE new house - 3BR, 2BA, full size 2 car gar. 2200 sq. ft., full appliances w/dishwasher, lg. M/BR with walk-in closet, 4 person Jacuzzi tub, 300 sq. ft. Italian tile walk-in shower, lg. kit. w/cent. island bar, \$1395/mo. 1st, last & sec. Call (561)723-2226

Beautiful, Clean 3bd/2.5ba In the Oaks. Near Blue Heron Golf Course, Double car garage, screened patio, 2,500 sq. ft. under roof, a/c, sprinkler system, appliances, large yard, Oak and Palm trees, Quiet Street, \$1,260.00 mo. plus security. Call 863-467-9250/ 519-746-4844 or e-mail d.mcara@hotmail.com

CANAL FRONT - UNFURNISHED THREE BEDROOM TWO BATH WITH LARGE FLORIDA ROOM - NICELY EQUIPPED KITCHEN - WALK IN CLOSETS - LAUNDRY ROOM - FENCED & CROSS FENCED - BOAT HOUSE - SHED - & CARPORT. (863) 447 -0742 OR (863) 467-4371

OKEE - 1002 SE 8th Dr. Newly Remodeled. 2 br. 1 ba. \$650. All appls., tile floors, hurricane windows. Immediate occupancy. Last, sec. & ref. Chris 863-447-3282

OKEE - 3/2 House with fenced in back yard. Immaculate Condition. 211 SE 5th Ave. \$1300/month 1st, last \$1300 Security. Pets allowed upon approval. Call 863-634-3312.

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Earn some extra cash. Sell your used items in the classifieds

OKEECHOBEE - Country Hills Estates. Unique post and beam house on private 5 acre lot. 2bd one in loft, 2 ba., lrg. screen room, screened balcony with hot tub, all appliances, include W/D, \$1400. mth. 708-218-8227.

ON RIM CANAL - Modern brick w/tile, 3BR, 2.5 BA, use of boat dock. \$750/mo. Call 772-359-1640.

OKEECHOBEE CITY - 3BD/2BA CLOSE TO EVERYTHING, 905 SW 2ND AVE. BACK SCREENED PORCH, TILE FLOORS. \$850 A MONTH \$2,000 TO MOVE IN, REFERENCES REQ. 863-634-0512

UNFURNISHED TWO BEDROOM ONE BATH HOUSE IN PRIVATE SETTING - SCREEN PORCH, ONE CAR GARAGE, COMMUNITY POOL & TENNIS COURT - 1ST & SECURITY YEARLY LEASE - \$800-00 MONTH - 863-447-0742



Houses - Sale

2BD/2BA BLOCK HOME BUILT 2002, 1,472 SQ. FT, SW SECTION OF TOWN, FENCED YARD, LARGE SHED, CLOSE TO SCHOOLS, QUIET NEIGHBORHOOD. \$127,000.00 CALL FOR DETAILS 863-634-1833

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

Land - Sale

SURPLUS STATE PROPERTY DEP #DSL13-007 Okeechobee County: S06, T36S, R34E Approximately 77 +/- acres Sold by quitclaim deed "AS IS, WHERE IS" Contact Ann Henson - 850-245-2785 or Ann.henson@dep.state.fl.us Bid Deadline is September 27, 2013, 10:30 a.m. EDT

FOR SALE LAND IN TAYLOR COUNTY GA. BETWEEN MACON AND COLUMBUS. 8.5 ACRES \$17,000 POSSIBLE OWNER FINANCE 863-763-8589 LET'S TALK.

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

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

View our special sections online
specialsections.newszap.com

REAL ESTATE DIRECTORY

Introducing
Joe Stas
Licensed Realtor
(863) 261-4141
JStas@MixonGroup.com
to:



Lori Mixon - Lic. R.E. Broker
Office: (863) 763-6000
www.MixonGroup.com
1306 SW 2nd. Ave., Okeechobee, FL 34974



1,280 +/- ACRE RANCH
In Eastern Okeechobee County



\$3,400
Per Acre!

Call Brandon Tucker- Lic. R.E. Broker (772) 201-8722

Office: (863) 763-4010
Toll Free (888) 874-2945

Offered Exclusively by:



104 NW 7th Ave, • Okeechobee FL, 34972

MOTIVATED SELLER



CUSTOM BUILT

COMFORT IN THE OAKS - CBS Custom Built home 3/2/1 with a beautiful fireplace, crown molding throughout, pocket doors, custom arches, Oak hardwood floors, solid maple cabinets with chocolate glaze, cultured marble bathrooms, insulated colonial windows, two wells on property, sprinkler system on timer, motion sensor flood lights outside.
THIS IS A BEAUTY!!



Vicki Anderson
Lic. RE Broker
863-634-4106
For more Information




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

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

Find your dream home here!
Location, Location, Location

Is it time to sell your home? Let the community know! It might be the perfect location for one of our readers

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
NEW LISTING 	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	NEW LISTING 	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**

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



Advertise here!

OKEECHOBEE NEWS
863.763.3134 • okeeadsales@newszap.com

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

2BD/1BA Nice Park, nice unit, central air, Fully furnished \$400 monthly, part of utilities paid Call 812-989-3022

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

FURNISHED ONE BEDROOM ONE BATH PARK MODEL TRAILER LOCATED AT RIVER BLUFF FISHING RESORT ON KISSIMMEE RIVER - THREE TO CHOOSE FROM - STARTING AT \$750 A MONTH -OR \$200. WEEKLY - RENT INCLUDES - BOAT SLIP - ELEC -WTR - & SATELLITE -LONG OR SHORT TERM 863-467-4371 OR 863 - 447 -0742

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

Palm Harbor Homes 4/2 Stock Sequoia 2,200 sq ft \$12K off! FOR FREE PHOTOS... John Lyons 800-622-2832 ext 210

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

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

Recreation Campers/RVs

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

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

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

Public Notice

LEGAL NOTICE
A public auction will be held at BMJ Towing, Inc. Lot at 414 South Parrott Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34974 on Friday the 30th day of AUGUST, 2013 from 10:00-11:00 A.M. Pursuant to Florida statute 713.78 for unpaid towing and storage. Year, Make, Model & Vin's as follows

2003 Hyundai Accent 4 DOOR WHT KMHC645CX3U456261

Terms of sale are cash, and no checks will be accepted. The seller reserves the right of final bid. All sales are final. No refunds will be made. Said automobiles will be sold in "AS IS" with no guarantees. 452101 ON 9/8/2013

READING A NEWSPAPER HELPS YOU GET INVOLVED IN THE COMMUNITY.



No wonder newspaper readers have more fun!

Public Notices

Public Notice

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES
In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, notice is hereby given that the Okeechobee County School Board will consider amendment of the School Board policies listed below at their meeting on Tuesday, October 8, 2013, at 6:00 p.m., in Room 303 of the School Board Administrative Office at 700 S.W. Second Avenue, Okeechobee. A copy of the proposed amendments are available in the Superintendent's Office, Room 307, 700 S.W. 2nd Avenue, Okeechobee.

Amendment of Board Policy 4.20 Student Progression Plan

- I. This policy provides guidelines for maintaining the District's Student Progression Plan.
- II. The proposed amendment updates the policy to comply with legislation, State Board Rules, and updates from the Florida Department of Education.
- III. Legal authority for this policy is F.S. 1001.41, 1001.42. Laws implemented are F.S. 1001.43, 1002.3105, 1003.4156, 1003.428, 1003.4281, 1003.429, 1003.43, 1003.437, 1003.49, 1008.25; State Board of Education Rule 6A-1.0941.
- IV. This policy amendment will not affect individuals from an economic standpoint.

Amendment of Board Policy 7.101 Accounting and Control Procedures

- I. This policy provides general direction and responsibility for financial records and accounts of the School Board
- II. The proposed amendment addresses the reporting of fund balances and is recommended by the Auditor General's Office.
- III. Legal authority for this policy is F.S. 1001.41, 1001.42. Laws implemented are F.S. 215.85, Chapter 668, 1001.43, 1001.51, 1010.11, 1011.60, 1011.62; State Board of Education Rule 6A-1.001.
- IV. This policy amendment will not affect individuals from an economic standpoint.

Ken Kenworthy
Superintendent of Schools
452009 ON 9/8/2013

SURPLUS STATE PROPERTY DEP #DSL13-007
Okeechobee County: S06, T36S, R34E
Approximately 77 +/- acres
Sold by quitclaim deed "AS IS, WHERE IS"
Contact Ann Henson - 850-245-2785 or
Ann.henson@dep.state.fl.us
Bid Deadline is September 27, 2013, 10:30 a.m. EDT
450806 ON 9/8,15,22/2013

Public Notices

Public Notice

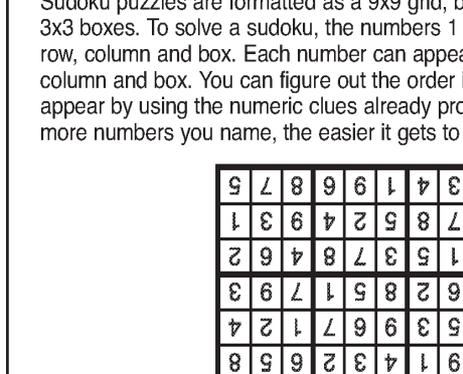
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No wonder newspaper readers have more fun!



Special to the Okeechobee News

Summer Reading Program rewarded
Participants in Seminole Elementary School's Summer Reading Program were treated to a real old-fashioned summertime barbecue to reward them for all of their hard work. Reading during the summer is extremely important and these students are to be commended for their commitment.

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**
- 1 Yawn-inspiring birds
 - 6 "Arabian Nights" birds
 - 10 Big name in razors
 - 14 Alpaca kin
 - 15 Pop singer Brickell
 - 16 Washerful
 - 17 Word on a French postcard
 - 18 Laura of "Jurassic Park"
 - 19 Forever, so to speak
 - 20 Shareholder's bonus
 - 23 Dir. from Memphis to Nashville
 - 24 Something to grind
 - 25 Throw easily
 - 26 Phone bk. info
 - 29 Kitchen island material
 - 32 Spinning sound
 - 35 "It's a Wonderful Life" studio
 - 36 Brief fisticuffs
 - 37 It has lots of slots
 - 38 Invite to one's penthouse
 - 41 Some necklines
 - 42 Macaroni shape
 - 44 "I could win on my next turn!"
 - 45 Bk. before Job
 - 46 Wrap for leftovers
 - 50 ___-Tiki
 - 51 Wimple wearer
 - 52 Window units, briefly
 - 53 Mud bath venue
 - 56 Laundry convenience
 - 60 Empty room sound
 - 62 Roll of fabric
 - 63 Garlicy sauce
 - 64 In ___ of: replacing
 - 65 Everyone, to Ernst
 - 66 Stops bleeding
 - 67 Sail support
- DOWN**
- 1 Little shaver
 - 2 Troublemaking chipmunk
 - 3 Too trusting
 - 4 Madame's "mine"
 - 5 Two-seated carriage
 - 6 Jeff Foxworthy jokes about them
 - 7 Piggid out (on)
 - 8 Word with sewing or traffic
 - 9 Lisbon mister
 - 10 Actor Baldwin
 - 11 Created a study aid in class
 - 12 Was on the ballot
 - 13 Program breaks
 - 21 One in a crowd scene
 - 22 Goes back to sea?
 - 27 Large wedding band
 - 28 Smidge
 - 29 Witch craft?
 - 30 Balderdash
 - 31 Flat
 - 32 Inflict, as havoc need
 - 33 Nametag greeting
 - 34 How grapes grow
 - 39 Remove the chain from, say
 - 40 Doggie
 - 43 Skid row regular
 - 47 Crunchy snack
 - 48 Not at all sacred
 - 49 "Compromising Positions" author Susan
 - 53 Gazpacho eater's need
 - 54 Furrier's stock
 - 55 Hop out of bed
 - 57 Boorish sort
 - 58 Jazzy
 - 59 ___ High City: Denver
 - 60 Shade source
 - 61 "The Bourne Identity" org.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

A	L	O	H	A	S	O	L	O	S	T	E
L	I	L	A	C	T	I	E	R	B	I	O
F	R	E	S	H	M	A	N	S	E	N	A
S	A	G	A	A	R	K	S	O	N	C	L
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By Gail Grabowski and Bruce Venzke
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Blue Streaks still defeat a determined Brahman team

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Giovanni Jenkins rushed for 143 yards and two touchdowns and Sebring rushed for over 270 yards as a team as they defeated a determined Okeechobee 17-0 in high school football action Friday night.

The game was delayed by nearly two hours by a rain and lightning delay. Okeechobee, 0-2, was held to only 59 yards in total offense by the stubborn Blue Streaks defense.

The vaunted Okeechobee run game was held to only 14 yards on 21 carries on the night.

Sebring Coach Lavaar Scott said his team must correct the mistakes they made in penalties. He also stated the team knew they would have to be physical to beat a good team like Okeechobee. He also praised his running backs for their determined efforts.

“Our defense was steady and we want to keep it up. We knew EJ Neal would be a threat for them and I felt our guys did a good job on him, we wanted to keep everything in front of us,” he added.

Brahman Coach Chris Branham said his team has been hurt by a lack of practice time due to lightning and rain. He said they haven’t been able to simulate what happens in games and that hurts a young team.

“It shows offensively. Right now we need to start clicking and show that we’re coming around and know assignments. It’s almost like we’re getting worse and it’s my job to get them better,” he added.

Okeechobee played Sebring to a draw in the first half. Okeechobee gave up some long runs on defense but didn’t allow any points. Sebring drove the ball 50 yards on their first drive but it stalled thanks to two penalties. Sebring reached the Okeechobee 2 yard line on their third drive but a center snap sailed over the head of QB Connor Cook. Two plays later, Laurence Gilchrist misfired on a 38 yard field goal attempt.

Coach Branham said he felt the team went into the locker room inspired and thought

they might get something going. “The defense gave a much better performance than the past two weeks. They played inspired football. Offensively we just couldn’t get anything clicking at all.”

Sebring got a turnover on an interception by Breon Jones early in the third quarter at the Okeechobee 35-yard line and took advantage to score their first touchdown. Jenkins bulled down the field for a 30-yard run for a first and goal at the two-yard line and scored two plays later on a hand off over the left guard and tackle. Sebring took advantage of great field position in the second half. At one point the Blue Streaks took over in Okeechobee territory on four consecutive drives. Their second touchdown drive covered 27 yards in two plays after a big punt return. Jenkins scored on a 26-yard run to make it 14-0 early in the fourth quarter.

A 21-yard run by Willie Allen set up a Sebring 20-yard field goal in the final four minutes of the game. Sebring covered 51 yards in eight plays to put the game away.

Coach Branham said the offense didn’t have a single first down in the second half and put the defense in a bad spot by forcing them back onto the field. “It starts to wear on them and big plays started to happen in the fourth quarter. It was really unfair to the defense. I thought they did a fantastic job and played an inspired game but we put them in a spot where they were exhausted.”

Game notes

Antywyn Fludd had a 23-yard kick return for OHS. E.J. Neal caught five passes for 29 yards. Quarterback Cory Surls was a perfect 5-5 in the first half. Luke Ancrum, Jacquae Peart and Devon Durham were constantly in the Brahman backfield causing havoc for the Sebring defense. Peart had a key sack for Sebring. Fludd, E.J. Neal, Juan Yae Ford and Arthur Woodruff had tackles in the backfield for OHS. Okeechobee plays on Thursday night this week, Sept. 12, at Martin County, who lost to Vero Beach, 49-0.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Mitchell Madrigal #39, and Arthur Woodruff #42 were around the ball a lot for the Brahman defense on Friday.

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