

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 104 No. 131

Friday, November 1, 2013

50¢ Plus tax



FALL BACK

Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday, Nov. 3

OCT to present 'The Drowsy Chaperone'
... Page 12

IRS warns taxpayers about scam ... Page 9

Lake Levels

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Rehab closes; probes continue

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

The doors to the Okeechobee Rehabilitation Facility were closed and locked Thursday afternoon, and its top tier employees were under intense scrutiny.

And, with ongoing investigations by no less than three different state agencies, the doors to

the facility may remain locked.

Because the facility's building is leased from the county for \$1 a year, county leaders will now have to decide if the facility has defaulted on its lease by not providing its intended services.

"I visited there today and rang the bell twice, but no one answered," said county administra-

tor Robbie Chartier in an Oct. 31 phone interview. "The county will review the lease and consider the Rehab's ability to continue the use of the facility for which it was intended."

In that lease, it's stated that the county will lease the property to the rehab facility "... for

See REHAB — Page 5



Special to the Okeechobee News/Raulerson Hospital

At the pumpkin patch

Area children enjoyed decorating their own pumpkins at a party hosted by Raulerson Hospital on Saturday. For more, see page 10.

Local man accused of cattle theft

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

In what appears to be a modern-day version of cattle rustling, an Okeechobee man has been arrested, accused of stealing over \$100,000 worth of cattle from his employer.

Documents obtained from the Martin County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) indicate that Judson Michael Shurley, 39, S.E. 14th Ave., was arrested Oct. 22 on a felony charge of grand theft. He was booked into the Martin County Jail under a bond of \$100,000. He has been released on bond.

Shurley was the manager of an Indiantown ranch known as Pine Ridge Plantation, which is owned by Dave Rorabeck of Lake Worth. When Shurley went to work at the ranch, he managed 246 cows for the ranch.

According to MCSO arrest documents from Jan. 10, 2012, until Aug. 28, 2013, Shurley stole a total of 175 cows and calves then sold them at the Okeechobee Livestock Market and the Arcadia Stockyard on 22 separate occasions.

Shurley, stated those arrest documents, made \$102,802.78 from the sale of the animals.

The cows were apparently sold under the name



Judson M. Shurley

See CATTLE — Page 5

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Sebring park hosting Highwaymen lecture

Gary Monroe is the featured guest speaker at the 28th Annual Civilian Conservation Corps Festival, which is being held at Highlands Hammock State Park, 5931 Hammock Road, Sebring, Fla. The festival will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 9, 2013. Mr. Monroe will present "The Highwaymen: Florida's African-American Landscape Painters" at 1 p.m. in the park's recreation hall. The program is sponsored by the Florida Humanities Council with funding from the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs. Mary Ann Carroll, Al Black, Kelvin Hair and others will be exhibiting and selling paintings. Lisa Stone of Lisa Stone Arts, who promotes contemporary southern artists, will be exhibiting and selling vintage Highwaymen works.

The lecture is free of charge. Park entry fee is \$6 per vehicle (up to 8 people). Other CCC Festival highlights include CCC history, an antique car show, Mountain Dan Chainsaw Artist (Frankie Flowers), traditional frame quilting and antique quilt display, Python Hunter Greg Graziani and reptile exhibit, Cracker Cowboy Poet Hank Mattson, tram rides, children's activities, and the Sebring Model Railroaders. Featured folk and bluegrass bands Back Porch Revival, Wiregrass, Roadside Revue, and Grant Livingston will provide live entertainment all day.

The Highwaymen

The "Open Road" is quintessential to the American Experience. Long celebrated in American culture, it is indelibly stamped in the American psyche and springs forth from the American landscape.

From Walt Whitman's Song of the Open Road to Jack Kerouac's On The Road, the democracy of open spaces and adventure of cross-country journeys define the American character.

The open road beckons irresistibly with the promise of freedom, unbounded optimism, and wild abandon.

One of the most triumphant and uplifting road stories is the tale of the Highwaymen, a group of young, African-American artists from Ft. Pierce who painted stylized picture postcard landscapes influenced by preeminent landscape artist A. E. (Bean) Backus.

Although the Highwaymen have achieved legendary status, they remain unknown to many people.

When art acquisition agent Jim Fitch began researching the paintings in the mid 1990s, he referred to these largely self-taught artists as "highwaymen" because they traveled Florida highways and back roads, selling paintings from the trunks of their cars.

Gary Monroe, author of the seminal book, "The Highwaymen: Florida's African-American Landscape Painters," identifies 26 painters as First Generation Highwaymen.

They include Harold Newton, who was already selling door-to-door and Alfred Hair, a protégé of Backus, who became the catalyst for the group. Hair, equally deft with brush and palette knife, painted quickly and intuitively.

Driven to make money, he devised a system of mass production by working on multiple boards.

Super salesman Al Black and others would then stack them in the trunks before

the paint had dried, hit the road and pitch them to hotels, banks, restaurants, lawyers and medical professionals, homeowners, and the occasional tourist.

This loosely affiliated group overcame enormous social and economic obstacles of a then highly segregated Jim Crow South.

By perfecting techniques to turn out paintings quickly and sell them outside of traditional art galleries, they carved out a unique niche, earning a living and escaping the drudgery of labor in Ft. Pierce's orange groves and packing houses.

Thousands of paintings were sold during the 1950s, 1960s, and the early 1970s. It has been estimated that 100,000 to 200,000 paintings were executed.

With the passing of time and changing tastes, their works were removed and consigned to attics, closets, thrift stores, garages and yard sales.

The painters fell into obscurity and were largely unknown until 1994, when Mr. Fitch wrote about them.

A great deal of publicity followed. Mr. Monroe's book spawned great interest. Articles appeared in the New York Times and other papers. Radio broadcasts and documentaries were produced. Avid art collectors and antique dealers uncovered lost paintings and sought out the artists, who had now re-emerged as the Highwaymen.

Paintings which originally sold for \$25 to \$50, now sold for several hundred to several thousand dollars. Through his lectures and books Gary Monroe has taken the Highwaymen tale on the road and works to ensure their story is known.

He successfully nominated the Highwaymen to the Florida Artists Hall of Fame in 2004. Mr. Monroe's fourth book on Mary Ann Carroll, the only woman in the group, is now at University Press of Florida.

Highwaymen paintings are characterized by intense, vibrant color, red-orange sunsets and soft pastel dawns, verdant greens, stormy skies, solitary pines, spiraling clouds, breaking waves, wind-swept beaches, bending palms, moss-covered oaks and cypress trees, bright tropical foliage, and rivers, sloughs, and inlets reflecting silvery moonlight.

Whether the artists are painting black tea swamp waters or brilliant ocean blues, the elements of light, season, time of day and weather are foremost. They mastered mixing oils so the paintings glisten and an inner glow radiates.

There must surely be a thousand shades of blues and greens in that Al Black. The play of sunlight on a dock warms up the cold pink dawn in a Mary Ann Carroll. Willie Daniel's sinuous, serpentine oaks dance, twist, and braid.

Their influence has been felt, so much so that other Florida artists have been inspired to create works in their style in homage.

The 1950s are often characterized as bland, but beneath the placid veneer, boundary-breaking art, music, and theater were taking place.

Jazz took a decidedly cool turn and Miles Davis would change the sound of the trumpet. West Side Story would change Broadway.

At 29, Lorraine Hansberry would be the

first black playwright to win a New York City Critic's Circle Award for "A Raisin in the Sun." Civil Rights would march forward and mark the beginning of the end of Jim Crow. Bob Dylan's "Blowing in the Wind" would become a 1960s anthem.

While New York Abstract Expressionists argued in Greenwich Village's Cedar Tavern, Bohemian Beanie Backus held late-night jazz parties and kept his studio door open to all, especially to that group of young, gifted, black artists who were quietly breaking boundaries and making history in Ft. Pierce, Fla.

They would create the Indian River regional school of painting and they would preserve forever vanishing Florida landscapes.

Nearly everyday, I take a ride with the Highwaymen when driving Florida's back roads, and if the light is right, there is a Willie Daniels, here is a Harold Newton or an Al Hair... over there a Roy McLendon.

Wind blowing, tires humming, black clouds roiling, cicadas buzzing.

This is their legacy.

Okeechobee Forecast

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Today: Partly cloudy. High of 90F. Winds from the South at 5 to 10 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy. Fog overnight. Low of 70F. Winds less than 5 mph.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: Partly cloudy with a chance of a thunderstorm and a chance of rain in the afternoon. Fog early. High of 86F. Winds from the WSW at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 30%.

Saturday Night: Overcast with a chance of rain. Low of 57F. Winds from the NNW at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 40%.

Sunday: Clear in the morning, then partly cloudy. High of 77F. Winds from the NNE at 10 to 15 mph.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy. Low of 63F. Winds from the NE at 5 to 10 mph.

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ADMIT ONE

Okeechobee County Tourist Development Council Board Vacancies

The Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) of Okeechobee County, Florida is seeking interested applicants for appointment to three (3) vacancies on the Tourist Development Council (TDC).

The TDC, comprised of nine (9) members, serves as an advisory board to the TDC Coordinator and makes recommendations to the BOCC for the effective operation of special projects or for use of the tourist tax revenue and perform other duties as may be prescribed by county ordinance or resolution.

Two (2) of these vacancies must be filled by persons who are owners and/or operators of a motel, hotel, recreational vehicle park, or other tourist accommodations in the county subject to the tourist development tax. One (1) vacancy must be filled by a person who is involved in the tourist industry and who has demonstrated an interest in tourist development. All members of the council shall be electors of Okeechobee County.

All applicants must complete a board/committee application form. Applications may be obtained from the County Administrator's Office at 304 NW 2nd St., Room 123, Okeechobee County Historical Courthouse or download from website at www.co.okeechobee.fl.us/committees.

Applications must be submitted to the County Administrator's Office no later than 4:00 pm on November 22, 2013.



Further information about this Board may be viewed at www.co.okeechobee.fl.us/committees or contact

Kathy Scott, Tourism Coordinator at 863-763-3959.

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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!

Obamacare

• As a licensed insurance agent, who is no longer in the business, I can disclose to you, the TRUTH about the ACA "Obamacare"! All the problems today with healthcare.gov, has to do with ONLY 7 percent of the insurance market! The Employer Mandate, delayed for one year, deals with about 80 percent plus of the insurance market. The problems you are hearing about today, will be 10 plus times worse next year. This system IS a government takeover. The current administration DOES want this system to FAIL. Their goal is for a "single payer" system.

Pulling a gun

• If you pull a gun and point it at a cop, that cop has every reason to believe that you are going to try to kill him and that is justification for him to shoot you. You don't point a gun at someone unless you intend to use it. It is never considered a joke. Everyone should know that.

Stray cats

• In regard to the story about someone shooting stray cats, in a way I can understand it because when cats walk all over your car and leave footprints it gets really annoying. But if you shoot a cat, make sure it is dead, and is not suffering. Leaving any wounded animal to suffer is just cruel and wrong.

• I wish the county would do something about all of the stray dogs and cats that are just dumped and left to fend for themselves. There should be a law with a big fine for anyone who is caught dumping an animal. If you don't want the animal, take it to the animal shelter. I think they even have cages you can leave the animals in if you come when they are not open. Don't just dump it on the side of the road and make other people deal with it. Do the right thing and take that unwanted dog or cat to the animal control shelter.

Letters to the editor

Blood donors needed

In advance of the upcoming Eighth Annual Okeechobee 600 Blood Roundup to be held at the Freshman Campus on Nov. 16-17, I will write stories of how donations of blood save people's lives. For past Roundups, I have sent in stories about my mother and father. Just recently, my sister Debbie Cogswell who lives in Raymond, N.H., recounted her harrowing medical emergency and how she attributes her survival in no small part to the donated blood she received and two strangers whom she calls her angels. This is her story:

"It was a cold and snowy night in Bradford, Mass. on Nov. 11, 1976. I woke up in the middle of the night with a stomach ache and assumed it was food poisoning since I had eaten at a fast food restaurant that evening. The pain became so excruciating that I knew I needed to get to the hospital quickly; however, my car was not working so I could not drive myself and I did not have a telephone so I could not call for help. The only way I could get to the Hale Hospital in Haverhill, Mass. was by walking. Hunched over in pain, I got about halfway across the bridge over the Merrimack River between Bradford and Haverhill when a red car with two young men in it stopped and asked me if I needed a ride. I gratefully said, "Yes" and they dropped me at the ER entrance of the hospital. After being examined by the medical staff, I was sent home from the ER not once but twice that same day because they could not determine what was wrong with me. All they gave me was a handful of pain pills. The pills did nothing for the pain, so a friend who was helping me drove me back to the hospital. When I got into the ER the third time, I told the medical personnel that there was something terribly wrong with me and I was not leaving.

At first, the surgeon was hesitant to perform exploratory surgery because of a severe respiratory infection that required intensive breathing treatments be administered before they could give me anesthesia. My abdomen became extremely distended and painful and, when the exploratory surgery finally began, gangrene due to a ruptured appendix began spurring out of the small laparoscopic incision initially made in my abdomen by the surgeon. I spent two weeks in the hospital with that ruptured appendix. During that time, I had tubes entering and exiting my body: IVs in both arms, blood transfusions, morphine pump, nasogastric tube, catheter and a sump pump in my abdomen to get rid of the gan-

grene. I was really scared when a priest was called into my room to perform the Last Rites ritual.

If it had not been for the two strangers — my angels — in the red car, the hospital staff, and the people who donated the blood that I received during my ordeal, I do not believe I would be alive today to tell this story. Unfortunately, I cannot donate blood due to Hepatitis B antigens in my blood, but I do want to take this opportunity to thank the generous and thoughtful blood donors in the world; without their gift of life — blood — millions of people would not survive their medical emergencies."

Why do I take the time and make the effort to write stories about people whose lives were saved by donated blood? In my own family, three people lived because many people took the time and made the effort to donate blood. My sister Debbie's miraculous recovery was due in part to donated blood. My mother, diagnosed with autoimmune hemolytic anemia, received 50 units of donated blood over a 14-month period to replace red blood cells destroyed by her own body; she succumbed to her disease in 2007 before doctors could determine the root cause of the anemia. My dad, who in 1971 received 17 units of donated blood over a two-week period to replace his own blood lost because of perforated stomach ulcers, is still alive and doing well at 82.

Please take the time and make the effort to donate blood at the 8th Annual Okeechobee 600 Blood Roundup; somebody will be extremely thankful that you did. This year's theme is the "Okeechobee 600" where we are racing to save lives with a goal of 600 units of life-saving blood collected in two days. The main race event will be held on Nov. 16 and 17 at the Freshman Campus. A pre-race event on Nov. 9 at the Ford, Chevy and Dodge dealerships, is open to blood donors who will attend the NASCAR event and, therefore, be unable to attend the Main Event the following week. Tickets to Homestead Miami Speedway will be awarded at the



Debbie Cogswell and Don Cogswell.

Nov. 9 drive. All blood donors at the pre-race and main race events will receive a T-shirt, goody bag and refreshments.

Susan Williams

The fish are biting!

As was written on the first page of a recent newspaper, Okeechobee's beloved lake will have many fishing tournaments to boost and impact the economy here due to the number of fishermen, support staff, spectators, etc., spending money.

YIPPEE!

Now, first of all, I am not an economics major, a scientist, a member of the TDC, not a banker, and not a fisherman (that is for sure). I can barely name one kind of fish.

The question on my mind is this. Over on the coast lately in the news and tearing up our Facebook pages and calling for the governor's attention, are more articles and stories concerning how Lake Okeechobee waters are polluting the waterways over on the east side of the state. Isn't this the same water where the tournaments are being held??

Please tell me, how can the water be polluted for some and a gold mine for others?

Is this being blown out of proportion??

Is this a "fishy" story??

I just don't get it. On the east side they are complaining about the water putting them out of business, no fishing, no boating, can't swim, etc.

Now, two weeks later, we are informed the fishing is going to be GREAT!

So, did we over chlorinate the water to make it safe?? Did we run it down stream to purify it more. Exactly what is the difference between the water now and then?

I'd love to know, as I am just a curious person, reading a story that is totally different from what I have heard from the Jupiter area.

Thank you,
Bobbi Poole

Editor's note: As reported throughout the summer in this newspaper, the fishing has been very good on Lake Okeechobee. According to Dr. Dan Canfield at the University of Florida, the problem in the coastal estuaries was caused by too much freshwater lowering the salinity levels. Dr. Canfield disputed the idea that the water is "polluted." Lake Okeechobee is eutrophic — the water is high in the nutrients that make plants grow — but that does not hurt the freshwater fisheries, as evidenced by the photos of big bass caught by local anglers.

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

To Reach Us

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

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

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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.



REHAB

Continued From Page 1

the specific purposes of developing, using, operating, maintaining and administering a non-profit rehabilitation and education facility”

If the facility's doors are locked and there are no clients, then it is apparently not fulfilling its specific purpose.

Information was released Oct. 16 that three state agencies — the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD), the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Division of Insurance Fraud — all had open investigations into the running of the facility.

The APD also stated on that date that they will cut off the facility's Medicaid funding effective Nov. 15.

As a result of that information being released, as well as other complaints, the facility's executive director Nancy Zeigler, director of marketing Jeannie Bramlett and her husband Paul Bramlett, who transported clients, have been placed on leave.

“They are on administrative leave without pay, pending an investigation,” said Isidoro ‘Sid’ Estrada, chairman of the facility's board of directors, Thursday afternoon.

On Tuesday, Oct. 29, Mr. Estrada announced that Okeechobee County Commissioner Bryant Culpepper will be joining the facility's board. Together, along with other board members, they hope to get the Medicaid funding reinstated and the facility back on its feet.

“We want to get it back in the black. One promise I can make, it will be run honestly and openly,” said Mr. Culpepper. “What we can do ourselves, we're going to do ourselves.”

He went on to say that his joining the board has nothing to do with the Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners, and that it is “completely independent of the county commission.”

The commissioner said both he and Mr. Estrada will work without pay and try to get

all of the facility's debts settled.

It has been learned the facility owes the Okeechobee Utility Authority \$3,400.54; The Alarm Company of Okeechobee \$700; and, is being sued by Creech Construction for \$154,831.34, which the company alleges it is owed for the costs, labor, services and materials on the facility's building at 403 N.W. Second Ave.

Creech Construction has also filed a mechanic's lien against the county-owned building.

Mr. Culpepper said the board will try to negotiate a settlement with the construction company.

“Whatever it takes — we want to make it right,” he said.

He went on to say the facility's attorney, Colin M. Cameron, will file an appeal with the state in an effort to restore its Medicaid funding.

But, according to an APD spokeswoman, that may not be easy.

“They would need to apply to become a provider through AHCA (Agency for Healthcare Administration), then apply to be a waiver provider. Just because they have a new board does not mean they will be approved,” said APD Communications Director Melanie Etters.

Ms. Etters went on to say even if Mrs. Zeigler and Mrs. Bramlett are no longer working at the facility, that will not affect her agency's investigation. While its not known the entire nature of APD's probe, it is known that part of the investigation stems from the facility's hiring practices — namely, the hiring of convicted felons.

It has been discovered that Mrs. Bramlett, along with facility receptionist Glenda Renee Certain, are both convicted felons.

Mr. Estrada explained that Ms. Certain was assigned to the facility by an employment organization and was paid by that organization. He said she will likely be re-assigned.

As for the Department of Agriculture's probe, spokesperson Erin Gillespie confirmed it is still open and ongoing. Mrs. Gillespie said they are investigating Mrs. Zeigler and the facility because they did not reg-

ister with that state agency prior to soliciting contributions from the public.

“Solicitors of contributions must register with the agency every year,” said Mrs. Gillespie, in an earlier interview. “The group (Okeechobee Rehab) was not previously registered at all.”

Regional Captain Vance Akins also corroborated that the Division of Insurance Fraud's investigation is continuing.

“If there are any criminal violations, it (Mrs. Zeigler's suspension) will not alter our investigation,” he said.

He declined to elaborate on the nature of that investigation.

It has also been learned that as of March 3, 2012, the local facility lost its affiliation with the Florida Arc because it had not paid its dues and was told that it could no longer refer to itself as The Arc.

Several telephone calls seeking comment were made to Mrs. Zeigler, but none were ever returned.

Still, with all of this facing them, both Mr. Estrada and Mr. Culpepper vowed to get the facility back to running as it was intended. That includes finding an outside firm to do a complete audit, and to get the local facility back under the umbrella of the Florida Arc.

“Fifty years of community service is something to think about,” said Mr. Estrada, referring to how long the facility has been open.

CATTLE

Continued From Page 1

of Shurley's company, Okapilco Outfitters, LLC.

Those arrest reports also indicate that Shurley took sod from the ranch, then sold it and kept the profits.

A records check indicates that Shurley is slated to be in circuit court in Okeechobee County on Nov. 11 following his arrest earlier this year on five felony counts of failure to return leased property. Those charges were apparently filed May 30, 2013.

Records also show that Shurley, a former member of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office auxiliary, entered into a plea deal with the state in June of 2011 and was found guilty of one felony count of battery on a law enforcement officer and a misdemeanor count of battery.

Those charges stemmed from an Aug. 19, 2010, incident at a local night spot. While OCSO deputies were investigating a situation at that bar, Shurley grabbed Deputy Joe Gracie by the arm and jerked the deputy toward him, stated arrest reports.

Deputy Gracie pulled away from Shurley's grasp and cautioned the man not to grab him at which point Shurley yelled an expletive at Deputy Gracie. Shurley was then placed under arrest.

Shurley reportedly told the court at his plea hearing that he would surrender his law enforcement certification. However, a check of OCSO records showed that he has never been a certified law enforcement officer and only had an auxiliary certificate.

Shurley became a member of the OCSO auxiliary in May of 2006 and was terminated Oct. 23, 2009, indicated OCSO records.

Your news is our news.



Some newspapers seem to take pleasure in the bad news. Not us.

We do print “bad” news. (It IS newsworthy when things go wrong, and citizens need to know about problems.)

Still, we give most of our attention to good news - the kind you clip and tape to your refrigerator door. (This isn't difficult. The vast majority of what happens in our community IS good.)

How are we doing?

Let us know by emailing feedback@newszap.com or calling your editor.

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Community Service
Through Journalism

Peace Lutheran Quilters to host Christmas Bazaar

The Peace Lutheran Church Quilters will host their Fifth Annual Quilt and Craft Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 16. It is from 8 a.m. -until 3 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of Peace Lutheran Church. Breakfast of homemade cinnamon rolls and coffee will be available and the church youth will serve lunch. Local craft vendors will display and sell Christmas ornaments, jewelry, plants, paintings, baby gifts, tree skirts, handbags and more. There will be a bake sale and a big “white elephant” sale. The Peace Quilters will have many handmade quilts of all sizes for sale and two lovely quilts will be given away. Tickets are available at the bazaar. For information, call Dottie at 863-532-8100.

Breast Cancer benefit walk planned for Nov. 16

The inaugural “you will never walk alone” Breast Cancer Benefit and walk for Deborah Brock will be held Saturday, Nov. 16, in Flagler Park across from Zippy's from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. The benefit will start with a 2-mile walk and activities in the park will follow. There will be a barbecue chicken dinner for sale for a \$10 donation. For information, call Kim at 863-623-8840 or Shannon at 863-801-7189.

Republicans plan grand opening of new office

The Chamber of Commerce of Okeechobee County will facilitate a Grand Opening at the Okeechobee Office for the Republican Party on Monday, Nov. 18, from 5 until 7 p.m. The Republican Party's new location is 1126 S. Parrott Ave. in the White House Plaza. There will be refreshments, a ribbon cutting and a chance to meet your representative. For information, e-mail info@okeechobeebusiness.com; or, call 863-467-6246.

Community Events

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Eagles offer steak dinner

F.O.E. Aerie 4137, North Eagles, 9985 U.S. 441 N., will serve ribeye steak dinners from 6 until 9 p.m. Friday, **Nov. 1**. Entertainment will be by Flash. Saturday, Nov. 2, five-card bingo starts at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 5, bingo starts at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 6, bingo starts at 5:30 p.m. Bring a friend or the entire family and enjoy yourselves! Don't forget the yard sale at the Aerie on Saturday, Nov. 2 starting at 10 a.m. Proceeds go to support the various charities of the Fraternal Order of Eagles. Call 863-763-2552 for information.

Moose Lodge hosting dinner

On Saturday, **Nov. 2**, Okeechobee Moose Lodge #1753, at 159 N.W. 36th St., will serve Reuben sandwiches, cole slaw, chips and pickle for a donation of \$5. Dinner will be served from 5 until 7 p.m. with Karaoke by D&K from 6 until 9 p.m. Proceeds go towards Moose Charities.

Eagles plan yard sale

Aerie 4137 North Eagles, 9985 U.S. 441 N., is having a huge yard sale Saturday, **Nov. 2**, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. There will be designer clothing, shoes and handbags, along with cookware and equipment for yard and home. Also included will be a bake sale and five-card bingo starts at 5:30 p.m. Monies go to the FOE community fund.

DAR to meet at library

The Okeechobee Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, will meet Saturday, **Nov. 2**, at the library. The library opens at 9:30 a.m. and the meeting starts at 10 a.m. If you have a patriot in your family, you are invited.

Eastern Star planning luau

Bring your appetite and get ready for a feast like no other. On Saturday, **Nov. 2**, at the Okeechobee Masonic Lodge, 107 N.W. Fifth Ave., our dining room will be transformed into a lush tropical paradise island as Okeechobee Chapter No. 128, Order of the Eastern Star presents a Hawaiian Luau. For the dining pleasure of our ticket holders, we will offer dinner service at 4:30 p.m. and at 6:30 p.m. and will feature Hawaiian, Polynesian and Asian cuisine flavors at both seatings. Tickets are \$12 per person and can be purchased from any Chapter member. Seating is limited and no tickets will be sold at the door. Contact Neicha Spiller at 863-357-7084 or Mary Ann Holt at 863-763-5210 for information or to order tickets.

Class of '94 reunion slated

The Okeechobee High School Class of 1994 reunion is planned for Saturday, **Nov. 2**, at the KOA from 7 to 11 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person. For information, contact Holly Branch Young at 863-634-8262.

Church hosts special guests

Okeechobee Church of God, at 301 N.E. Fourth Ave., will host Loving Hands ministry/singers at the Morning Worship service beginning at 10:45 a.m. on **Nov. 3**. Everyone is welcome. Come for fellowship, prayer, healing and salvation. For information call Reverend Mark Smith at 863-763-4127. Okeechobee Church of God will also host Adam Crabb, gospel singer/minister with The Crabb Family Singers, at the Sunday evening worship service beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 3. Everyone is welcome. For information, call Rev. Smith at 863-763-4127.

Legion opens Sunday bingo

American Legion 64 will host Sunday night bingo on **Nov. 3** 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 will benefit the American Legion veterans programs. The event is open to the public. The American Legion now has free WIFI for its lounge and dining room patrons.

Next sit & sew is Nov. 5

The next ConKerr Cancer sit & sew will be Tuesday, **Nov. 5**, from 10:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the Okeechobee Presbyterian Church on Parrott Avenue. Bring your sewing machine and child-friendly cotton fabric and sew with the other ladies in our community who want to make a difference to a sick child. We will be starting holiday pillowcases to be distributed to St. Mary's, Palms West and Lakeside hospitals. There will be Christmas-themed pillowcase kits available to be sewn at this meeting. For information, call Joan at 863-467-0290.

Hospice to host yard sale

Hospice will hold a yard sale Wednesday, **Nov. 6**, and Thursday, **Nov. 7**, from 8 a.m. until noon. The sale is located at the corner of Southeast Fourth Street and Southeast Third Avenue at the blue building. For information, call 863-467-2321. Come check out the new items and furniture and collectibles. Donation are accepted daily.

Craft Fair set for Nov. 9

The Craft Fair in the Woods will be held Saturday, **Nov. 9**, from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. at Freedom Ranch, 11655 U.S. 441 S.E. For information or to become a vendor, call 863-763-9800.

Church plans car show

A car and motorcycle show will be held on Friday, **Nov. 23**, at the Fountain of Life Church, at 1302 S.W. 32nd St. There will be bounce houses, cornhole games, live music and so much more. A \$5 entry fee will be collected and all proceeds go to the Real Life Children's Ranch. For more information, call 863-763-8945 or 863-801-1297.

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.

Leonard 'Sam' William

Knoche, 84

OKEECHOBEE — Leonard "Sam" William Knoche went home to be with the Lord on Oct. 29, 2013 surrounded by his loving family.

He was born Dec. 19, 1928 in Cumberland, Md. He held many jobs throughout his life, including the B & O and the Kelly Springfield. He had many hobbies including his love of cars. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Okeechobee where he was a greeter and was involved with the bus ministry many years ago. He came to Okeechobee from Maryland in 1986.

Mr. Knoche was preceded in death by his parents, Leonard Knoche and Laura A. Engle; his son, John; his sister, Nova M. and John Lotz and her previous husband, James Shanholtz; and a very special niece, Sharon and her husband, Earl Wilson.

He is survived by his wife, Sara-Kay Knoche; son, James William Knoche (Justina) of Okeechobee; daughters, Debra Flynn (Mike) of Hagerstown, Md., Korrine McCutcheon (Brandy Phennicie) of Fort Ashby, WV and Starla Dawn Appel (Randy) of Cumberland, Md.; previous wife and mother of his children, Eleanor Knoche; stepdaughter, Sara E. "Betsy" Richard (Mark "Floyd") of McDonald, Pa.; eleven grandchildren, James C. Knoche, Tecia A. Norton, Michael S. Flynn, Bryan C. Flynn, Krista D. Swan, John R. McCutcheon, Brooke N. Self, S. Joshua Self, D. Zachary Whetzel, Nathan Richard and Zachary Richard; fifteen great grandchildren; brothers, David Knoche (Debbie) of Short Gap, West Virginia and Doug Knoche (Mary) of Chantilly, Virginia.

A memorial service will be held 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 2, 2013 at First Baptist Church of Okeechobee with Pastor Huckabee, Pastor Mark McCarter and Bobby White officiating. A memorial and graveside service for Leonard will be held in Cumberland, MD will follow.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Hospice of Okeechobee, PO Box 1548, Okeechobee, FL 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 direction and care of the Buxton, Bass and Conway families of the Buxton & Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home, 400 North Parrott Avenue, Okeechobee Florida 34972.

View obituaries from
the past month at
<http://www.legacy.com>

Kim Bradford Turner, 61

OKEECHOBEE — Kim Bradford Turner died Oct. 26, 2013. He was born March 15, 1952.

He is survived by his wife, Karen Turner of Okeechobee; son, Scott Turner (Jo Anna) of Wintersprings; step-son, Bill Hauenstein (Marilyn); step-daughter, Karry Smith (CJ) all of Okeechobee; and two grandchildren.

No services will be held at this time.

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

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

Vera Imogene

Nettles Suggs, 86

OKEECHOBEE — Mrs. Vera Imogene Nettles Suggs age 86, of Starke passed away at her home, Friday, October 25, 2013.

Mrs. Suggs was born on May 13, 1927 in Deland to the late Ralph and Ruby (Miller), and was raised in Bradford County. She was of the Christian Faith and a waitress. Her hobbies included reading, crocheting, playing on her Ipad, watching wrestling, and being with her family.

Preceding Mrs. Suggs in death were two grandsons, Michael Shane Martin and Donald Iottis Martin.

Survivors are her three daughters, Glenda Martin-Moore, husband Garry of Hawthorne, Judy Adams of Starke, and Paula Langkau, husband Gregory Martin of Lawtey. Also left behind are three grandchildren, Lora Ingles, husband Harley, Misty Melvin, Christopher Langkau, wife Danielle; eight great grandchildren, Joshua Shane Martin, Kristopher Greene, Kurtis Melvin, Kevin Melvin, Tristan Langkau, Jayde Langkau, Rebecca Langkau, Brantley Langkau and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be 1 p.m., Friday, Nov. 1, 2013 in the DeWitt C. Jones Chapel. Burial will follow at the Santa Fe Cemetery.

Arrangements are by JONES-GALLAGHER FUNERAL HOME, 620 Nona St. Starke, FL 32091. 904-964-6200 www.jonesgallagherfh.com

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 7641619P **\$21,996**

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2005 BUICK LACROSSE Auto, 3.8L, V6, 1 owner, Stk#7297281T	\$10,990	2011 MAZDA MAZDA3 1 OWNER! Web special Stk# 7430323P	\$13,495	2009 SATURN VUE HYBRID Auto, 2.4L, 4 cyl. Stk# 7532155T	\$15,980	2009 BUICK ENCLAVE 1 owner, Auto... Stk# 7142367T	\$18,995
2012 NISSAN VERSA 1 owner, Stability control. Stk#737377P	\$11,995	2012 NISSAN SENTRA 2.04 L, 4 cyl, 1 owner, Stk# 7681804P	\$13,996	2012 FORD FUSION Auto, 27K miles, 2.5L, 4 cyl Stk# 7290761P	\$16,490	2010 FORD EDGE 4dr, 3.5L V6, Auto, Stk# 7B27313P	\$18,995
2008 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 4dr, sedan Manual 2.0 Stk#7185081T	\$12,990	2012 FORD FOCUS 21,148 miles, 2.0L, 4 cyl., Stk#7151352T	\$14,990	2012 TOYOTA RAV4 FWD 1 owner!!! Auto, A/c... Stk#7118341P	\$16,995	2011 TOYOTA RAV4 FWD 28 MPG Hwy!! Auto, Climate & Cruise Stk#7087335T	\$19,499
2012 CHEVROLET IMPALA LT 1 owner MOONROOF Stk#7195372P	\$12,995	2012 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA Auto, 38,300 miles, Stk# 7369900P	\$15,450	2013 DODGE AVENGER SE Auto, 4dr, 2.4L, 4 cyl. Stk#7566455P	\$16,996	2008 GMC SIERRA 1500 Extended cab, short box Auto. Stk# 7277788T	\$19,925

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IRS warns people of a pervasive telephone scam

The Internal Revenue Service is warning consumers about a sophisticated phone scam targeting taxpayers, including recent immigrants, throughout the country.

Victims are told they owe money to the IRS and it must be paid promptly through a pre-loaded debit card or wire transfer. If the victim refuses to cooperate, they are then threatened with arrest, deportation or suspension of a business or driver's license. In many cases, the caller becomes hostile and insulting.

"This scam has hit taxpayers in nearly every state in the country. We want to educate taxpayers so they can help protect themselves. Rest assured, we do not and will not ask for credit card numbers over the phone, nor request a pre-paid debit card or wire transfer," says IRS Acting Commissioner Danny Werfel. "If someone unexpectedly calls claiming to be from the IRS and threatens police arrest, deportation or license revocation if you don't pay immediately, that is a sign that it really isn't the IRS calling."

Werfel noted that the first IRS contact with taxpayers on a tax issue is likely to occur via mail.

Other characteristics of this scam include:

- Scammers use fake names and IRS badge numbers. They generally use common names and surnames to identify themselves.

- Scammers may be able to recite the last four digits of a victim's Social Security Number.

- Scammers spoof the IRS toll-free number on caller ID to make it appear that it's the IRS calling.

- Scammers sometimes send bogus IRS emails to some victims to support their bogus calls.

- Victims hear background noise of other calls being conducted to mimic a call site.

- After threatening victims with jail time or driver's license revocation, scammers hang up and others soon call back pretending to be from the local police or DMV, and

the caller ID supports their claim.

If you get a phone call from someone claiming to be from the IRS, here's what you should do:

- If you know you owe taxes or you think you might owe taxes, call the IRS at 800-829-1040. The IRS employees at that line can help you with a payment issue — if there really is such an issue.

- If you know you don't owe taxes or have no reason to think that you owe any taxes (for example, you've never received a bill or the caller made some bogus threats as described above), then call and report the incident to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at 800-366-4484.

- If you've been targeted by this scam, you should also contact the Federal Trade Commission and use their "FTC Complaint Assistant" at FTC.gov. Please add "IRS Telephone Scam" to the comments of your complaint.

Taxpayers should be aware that there are other unrelated scams (such as a lottery

sweepstakes) and solicitations (such as debt relief) that fraudulently claim to be from the IRS.

The IRS encourages taxpayers to be vigilant against phone and email scams that use the IRS as a lure. The IRS does not initiate contact with taxpayers by email to request personal or financial information. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as text messages and social media channels. The IRS also does not ask for PINs, passwords or similar confidential access information for credit card, bank or other financial accounts. Recipients should not open any attachments or click on any links contained in the message. Instead, forward the e-mail to phishing@irs.gov.

More information on how to report phishing scams involving the IRS is available on the genuine IRS website, IRS.gov.

You can reblog the IRS tax scam alert via Tumblr.

Seminole Casino Brighton to host 'Party Glow in the Dark Bingo'

BRIGHTON SEMINOLE RESERVATION — It will be time to turn down the lights and turn up the fun when Seminole Casino Brighton stages the all-new "Party Glow in the Dark Bingo" on Tuesday, Nov. 5, and Tuesday, Nov. 19.

With up to \$1,500 in cash prizes available, the two evenings (each starts at 7 p.m.) will offer endless excitement and a chance to party wrapped in glow products. Attendees will be able to dance the night away with DJ Mike handling the tunes.

To be sure, this is not your same old bingo — there will be plenty of player interaction and side games for prizes. And, mul-

tiples winner games will be decided by dance off competitions. It's highly recommended to bring friends to cheer on your favorites. Door Packs are only \$10 and include everything one needs for a night of glow-in-the-dark fun.

About Seminole Casino Brighton

Seminole Casino Brighton is a 27,000-square-foot casino with 419 slot and gaming machines, live action blackjack e-tables, a six-table poker room, and high-stakes bingo action, and Josiah, a full-service restaurant and lounge. Its warm and friendly staff, ul-

tra-modern air-conditioning system, clean atmosphere, and rewarding casino promotions are a welcome alternative to big-city gaming. The casino also recently opened a new area with 30 slots for those who prefer to play slot machines in a smoke-free

environment. Seminole Casino Brighton is located in the Brighton Indian Reservation, 17735 Reservation Road, in Glades County, 34974. For more information, call toll-free 800-360-9875 or 863-467-9998 or visit www.seminolebrightoncasino.com.

Okeechobee Healthy Start Coalition to meet Nov. 6

Okeechobee Healthy Start Coalition board of directors will meet Wednesday, Nov. 6, at 11 a.m. at their office located in the White House Plaza, 1132 S. Parrott Ave. The meeting is open to the public. The Okeechobee Healthy Start Coalition is part of a statewide network of coalitions responsible for planning and implementing services for pregnant women and infants. The coalition is made up of citizens interested in promoting healthy families and healthy outcomes for babies in Okeechobee. For information, contact executive director Kay Begin at 863-462-5877.

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Special to the Okeechobee News

Hospital hosts pumpkin patch

(Above and below) Nearly 150 children enjoyed Raulerson Hospital's Pumpkin Patch Party on Oct. 26. They loved choosing and decorating a miniature pumpkin of their very own and learning that hospitals aren't a scary place to go when you need help.



Courtesy photo/OCSO

Halloween spirit

Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office employees — (left to right) Human Resources Director Mariah Anuez, Nurse Cathy Keck, Civil/UCR Clerk Amy Fisher, Nurse Donna Watson and Civil Supervisor Ronda Butler — showed their Halloween spirit on Thursday.



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Chamber of Commerce of Okeechobee County November Happenings

November is full of events for you to get to know your local business people and build lasting relationships in a professional environment!

Mark the following dates in your calendar.

A **Power Networking Breakfast** is on Nov. 7, at Brown Cow Sweetery from 7:30 to 9 a.m.

Have you ever heard of those people who go to the grocery store and buy all their groceries for a week and spend \$10? Wouldn't you like to be one of those people? Join the Chamber for the **Coupon Class**, which will be held on Nov. 13, from 5-7 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce, there will be a cost of \$5 for the materials you will receive during the class.

Into the third week of November—this week is going to be crazy!

On Monday, Nov. 18, there are two events:

- **Grand Opening of the Republican Party of Okeechobee County**, starting at 5 p.m. at the new office located in the White House Plaza, 1126 S. Parrott Ave. There will be a ribbon cutting, refreshments, and a chance to meet your Representative **Dr. Cary Pigman** and other local and state dignitaries.

- The Chamber along with Dr. Sweda's Office (Doctor's Clinic Family Health Center, LLC) will host a **FREE seminar on Diabetes**. Please join them from 5:30-7 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce.

On Tuesday, Nov. 19, the Chamber will

hold its **Business After Hours** at Beef O'Brady's to network with fellow merchants, business associates and community partners. There is a cover charge of \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members.

On Wednesday, Nov. 20, the Chamber will again host a seminar, this time on **Senior-Care**; with speakers from Grand Oaks and The VNA, from noon to 1 p.m. at the Chamber.

On Thursday, Nov. 21, a **Concealed Weapons Class** will take place at the Chamber of Commerce from 7 to 9 p.m. The cost is \$40 and you must be paid and registered before the class.

That will conclude the chamber events for this month; however, we encourage you to check out our community calendar

at www.okeechobeebusiness.com for more events as they become available in the community and at the chamber. Please remember to RSVP for each of the above events to reserve your spot. If you are interested in SPONSORING any of the chamber events, please contact Mariah at 863-467-6246 or info@okeechobeebusiness.com.

I look forward to seeing you at our events!!

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families from the Chamber of Commerce of Okeechobee County!

Antoinette Rodriguez
executive director
863-467-6246

antoinette@okeechobeebusiness.com

Your Medical and Health Care Directory

Having a Primary Care Provider is important, even if you are healthy

When you are sick or need to see a doctor, you likely do not feel or act like your normal 'healthy' self. Whether you are experiencing fatigue, dizziness, nausea, or a host of other symptoms,

your ability to thoroughly communicate about your condition and comprehend the doctor's medical advice may be compromised. This is just one reason why it is beneficial to have an existing relationship with a Primary Care Provider, before you actually need one.

Another benefit to having an existing relationship with a Primary Care Provider is having a baseline point of reference for your physical health (for example your weight, cholesterol & blood pressure). This knowledge, as well as you and your family's medical history, can help promote an accurate diagnosis and help proactively monitor patients' risk factors. Generally a patient's overall comfort level and confidence in their physician is increased when the patient has an existing relationship with the physician. With this increased confidence, comes trust. When patients know and trust their physician (vs. meeting the physician for the first time when they are sick or need healthcare) patients can more easily and openly communicate ALL of their health and wellness concerns. Certainly patient outcomes benefit when physicians have the whole picture of their patient's health.

One of the reasons people give for not proactively seeing a doctor is their lack of time. If you think you are too busy to have your cholesterol levels checked, just imagine how your schedule will be affected if you suffer a heart attack? Another reason people give for not visiting a doctor annually is that they are worried about what the doctor,

lab results or a screening may reveal. Ignorance is not bliss, when it comes to your health. Studies have shown that early detection and treatment are critical to a successful outcome, whether the diagnosis is breast cancer, diabetes or heart disease. A very popular reason for many people to avoid scheduling a wellness visit is uncertainty regarding the cost and

how to pay for the visit. Yet, many insurances, as well as Medicare, often include an annual wellness visit in their benefits. Contact your insurance provider to learn if annual wellness visits are included in your health plan. If you have a healthcare question or need help finding a doctor, Raulerson Hospital provides a free 24/7 Consult-A-Nurse hotline: 863-763-9228

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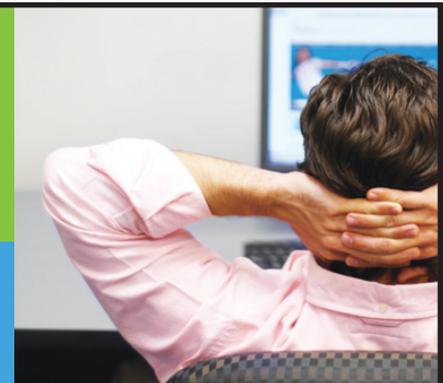
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Recycle batteries, devices as Daylight Savings ends

As daylight saving time ends Nov. 2 and Americans set their clocks back one hour, it's a time when many diligent folks change the batteries in their home smoke detectors.

And with plenty of holiday cooking around the corner, Waste Management of Okeechobee uses the occasion to remind its communities that proper disposal and recycling of electronics and batteries is easy and the right thing to do.

"With that extra hour, you have the gift of time to ensure a safe and delicious holiday season," Teresa Chandler, community relations of Waste Management said. "It's important to check your home smoke detection devices before the holiday cooking

begins, and it's just as important to properly handle and recycle batteries and smoke detectors that are no longer in use."

"Some types of batteries contain toxic constituents, such as mercury and cadmium," Ms. Chandler said. "Batteries and electronic products do not belong in the trash."

Many states have regulations in place requiring battery recycling.

They can be brought to a sanctioned place and there are mail-in programs too. Waste Management of Okeechobee accepts batteries at its drop off location at the Okeechobee Landfill.

For information on batteries, including relevant legislation, industry initiatives and

publications, folks can visit EPA's Common Wastes and Materials Battery at <http://www.epa.gov/wastes/conservation/tools/stewardship/products/batteries>. Batteries and smoke detectors should never be placed in a household recycling bin.

In addition, smoke alarms and detectors contain small amounts of radioactive waste, and should only be handled by an electronics recycling plant.

EPA has an informative section on smoke detectors. Visit <http://www.epa.gov/rad-town>.

Waste Management offers residents a way to recycle electronics with its Think Green From Home® program through which it of-

fers electronics recycling kits to recycle anything from batteries to TV sets.

Kits can be ordered online and once full, can be shipped with the return label attached and pre-paid shipping.

"We would like to remind people that any electronic, like an old TV, computer screen or radio, needs to be taken to a recycling plant for disposal, rather than be placed on the curb or thrown in the trash," said Chandler. "In many electronics, cadmium and lead are commonly found. Even old cell phones shouldn't be tossed in the trash; they should be donated or recycled."

Community theatre's 'Drowsy Chaperone' opens Nov. 1

One common complaint from people who don't like movie or stage musicals is that it just seems bizarre to them when characters suddenly burst into song at the strangest times. A way to silence that complaint might be to have a person who adored, and most importantly—understood—the genre to serve as a friendly guide.

This is one of the endearing qualities of the Okeechobee Community Theatre (OCT) production of "The Drowsy Chaperone," which opens Friday evening for a five-performance run. The guide is there, watching the show along with the audience, to help explain and to comment on the action on stage. His comments, in fact, comprise many of the comic parts of this unusual and extremely funny play. For example, "Everything always works out in musicals," he says. "In the real world nothing ever works out and the only people who burst into song are the hopelessly deranged."

"The Drowsy Chaperone" never takes itself seriously as it tells the story of a girl who

is the toast of Broadway as she plans to give up her enormously successful career on the stage to marry a man she hardly knows. A spoof of the musicals of the 1920s, it includes some of the catchiest songs to come out of a musical show in decades. As a result, it won the award for Best Musical Score among the five Broadway Tony Awards it received when it premiered in New York in 2006.

The OCT has gone to great lengths to make the show a stand-out as it celebrates its 35th year of producing live comedies, dramas and musicals for Okeechobee audiences. A cast of 16 talented performers have

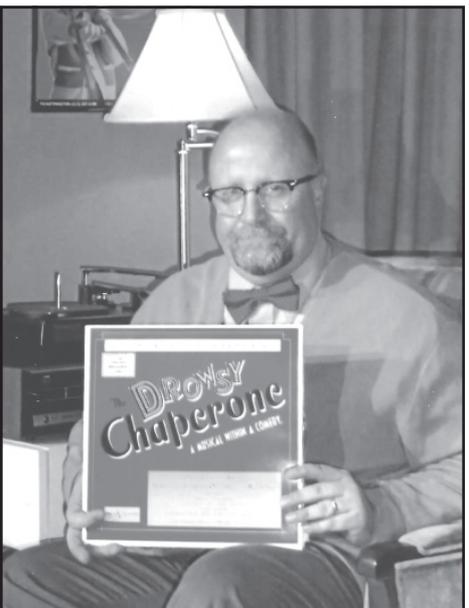
been rehearsing for more than two months to prepare. The full orchestral accompaniment provided by the Utah-based company The MT Pit will rival that of the original Broadway production. In addition, costumes for the show are being provided by a supplier for professional theatres throughout the world.

Performances are scheduled for Nov. 1 and Nov. 2 as well as Nov. 8 and 9 at 8 p.m., with a 2 p.m. Saturday afternoon matinee on Nov. 9. The theatre is located on the Okeechobee Freshman Campus, S.W. Second Avenue at Seventh Street, one block

west of Golden Corral Restaurant.

Advance reserved seat tickets to "The Drowsy Chaperone" are just \$12, and are on sale at the office of the Pennysaver, in Suite 316 of the Plaza 300 Building, in the 300 block of N.W. Fifth Street in Okeechobee. Any remaining tickets will be sold at the theatre box office beginning one hour before performance times.

For information, call 863-763-1307; or, visit the theatre website at www.okeechobeecommunitytheatre.com.

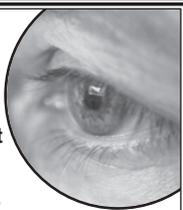


Special to the Okeechobee News
James Garner as the "Man in the Chair" helps lead the audience through the recording of "The Drowsy Chaperone" with his explanations and comments in this show-within-a-show being performed by the Okeechobee Community Theatre.

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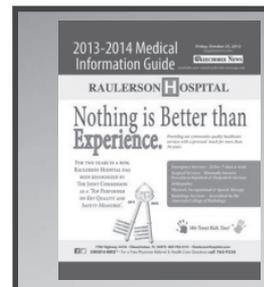
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Brahmans host Falcons in Homecoming tilt

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee hosts Jensen Beach (3-5) for their homecoming celebration tonight at Brahman Stadium looking for their second win of the year.

Okeechobee (1-7) will face a team with a strong passing attack this year. Quarterback Alex Ogle has completed nearly 49 percent of his throws for 1,529 yards and 10 scores this year. The top receivers this year include Jean Alexis with 19 receptions for 463 yards, Chris Favaroso with 16 catches for 224 yards and Nico Sawtelle with 15 receptions for 170 yards. Their run game has not been as productive. Christian East is the top rusher with 326 yards, 3.5 yards per rush.

Jensen Beach has defeated Forest Hill, 30-26, South Fork 36-35, and Westwood 37-6. They have lost to Lake Worth 20-14, Jupiter 17-16, Heritage 44-10, Port St. Lucie 17-14, and Bayside 21-14.

Top defenders for the Falcons include Sawtelle with 52 tackles and 66 assists, and 15 tackles for loss. Favaroso has 52 tackles for the Falcons.

The Falcons have overcome a coaching change in the middle of the season and appear to be playing their best ball of the season. They have had two weeks to prepare for this game with a bye week last week.

Okeechobee is led by senior tail back Adrian Minondo who has 880 yards rushing on the season, over 5.4 yards per carry. E.J. Neal is the top receiver threat with 16 receptions for 222 yards this year.

Quarterback Cory Surls should be at full strength this week after battling a flu bug. He has completed 35 percent of his throws for 277 yards this year.

Brahman coach Chris Branham said Minondo will again be relied upon to provide offense for the team. He praised Minondo for his fine game last week against Bayside, 194 yards rushing. He said the team ran effectively against a state ranked team. He said his team continues to give a strong effort each week.

"Our team is playing the best they can

play. Don't rob those kids of that fact. Many of them were exhausted and had nothing left last week and had to be helped off the field," he noted.

He said the team might have a losing record but there are no losers on the Brahmans this year. "These kids play with every ounce of effort they have. They do their very best. They just come up short. To criticize them in any way is plain wrong. They are fired up about this game and will be ready to go," he added.

Branham said Jensen Beach will pass the ball effectively especially with two of his starters in the defensive backfield out with injury. On defense he described Sawtelle as a 'mad man' who is all over the field. He said the match-up between the Okeechobee offensive line and the Jensen Beach defensive front and linebackers should be interesting to watch. Okeechobee will have Cody Walker back from injury tonight. Okeechobee has lost several key players for

the season due to injury including defensive tackle Devon Wigfall. Defensive back Bubba Fludd is also out tonight.

Branham said he wants a large crowd tonight with a lot of energy and support. He said he was disappointed with the poor attendance at last week's game.

"This is our team. This is our school. I urge fans to be there all year and give them support. We made our money off the gate and football is expensive. Go watch and enjoy the game and bring a friend with you," he added. The Okeechobee Touchdown Club will hold a dinner fundraiser before the game and will be located on the Brahman practice field.

Branham said he is proud that all of his players have at least a 2.5 grade point average this year.

"Let's support these kids for their effort. I've been a Brahman for life, I owe my college education and my career to the Brahmans, lets support our team tonight," he noted.

The Brahman Band will also perform at halftime. There is a charge for admission and parking.



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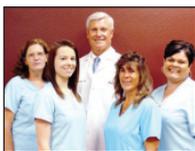
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Okeechobee Arrest Report

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).

- Joe Angel Morales, 21, N.E. Ave. K, Belle Glade, was arrested Oct. 29 by Officer Belen Reyna on felony charges of aggravated assault (domestic) and child abuse without great bodily harm (two counts). His bond was set at \$15,000.

- Allissa Danielle Childs, 26, S.W. 13th Way, Okeechobee, was arrested Oct. 29 by Deputy Mark Margerum on a felony charge of grand theft. She was released on her own recognizance.

- Michael Garcia, 32, S.E. 60th Drive, Okeechobee, was arrested Oct. 30 by Deputy Fred Bradley on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with the felonies of violation of probation - driving while license suspended-habitual offender and violation of probation - leaving the scene of an accident with injury, and the misdemeanor of violation of probation - reckless driving. He is being held without bond.

- Cody Abram Lagrange, 25, N.E. 13th Way, Okeechobee, was arrested Oct. 30 by

Deputy Fred Bradley on an amended DOC warrant charging him with the felonies of violation of probation - dealing in stolen property and violation of probation - giving false information to a secondary metals recycler. He is being held without bond.

- Paula Renee Cowels, 29, Loop Drive, Lorida, was arrested Oct. 30 by Deputy Matthew Grumblin on Calhoun County warrants charging her with the felonies of failure to take out insurance policy clause and child abuse without great bodily harm. The warrants also charged her with the misdemeanors of reckless driving, driving while license suspended with knowledge, giving false information to a law enforcement officer (two counts) and culpable negligence/expose to harm (three counts). She is being held without bond.

- Tracy Wayne McKinney, 33, S.E. 74th Terrace, Okeechobee, was arrested Oct. 31 by Deputy Matthew Grumblin on DOC warrants charging him with the felonies of violation of probation - grand theft and violation of probation - uttering a forged instrument (11 counts). His bond was set at \$30,000.

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

Man reportedly sold coke to cop in drug operation

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

An Okeechobee man is being held on \$100,000 bond after his arrest for allegedly selling cocaine to an undercover officer during a local drug operation.

Livan Ramos, 41, S.E. 10th Ave., was arrested Tuesday, Oct. 29, on felony charges of sale of cocaine within 1,000 feet of a church and possession of cocaine with



Livan Ramos

the intent to sell within 1,000 feet of a church. He is being held in the Okeechobee County Jail.

An arrest report by a detective with the Okeechobee Narcotics Task Force indicated an undercover officer taking part in the operation bought powder cocaine from Ramos.

According to the report, the officer purchased approximately 1 ounce of coke.

The detective stated in the report that the substance purchased from Ramos was field tested, and that test indicated a positive result for the presence of cocaine.



Pet of the Week

Schoder is a young neutered male Doxie looking for a home of his own. If you would like to adopt him, contact the Okeechobee Humane Society Pet Rescue, 1203 Hwy. 98 N., 863-357-1104.



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END OF THE STREET
AT CUL-DE-SAC

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

Garage/Yard Sales

Thrift Store Sale
Sat. Nov. 2nd
8:00am - ?
105 NE 14th Ave off 70.
Building behind old Apple
Crate. Furniture, knick
knacks too much to list!

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

Garage/Yard Sales

Yard Sale Sat Nov 2nd
8am-2pm Lakeview RV
Park Hwy 78 next to
Okee-Tantie 3 house
moving sale. A club-
house packed with
stuff.

Shop here first!
The classified ads



Employment

Employment Full Time

Drivers:
\$5,000 Sign-On
Bonus! Great Pay!
Consistent Freight,
Great Miles on this
Regional Account.
Werner Enterprises:
1-888-567-4854

**Kissimmee River
Restoration
Project S-65EX1**
Cajun Constructors is
hiring concrete labors.
Workers should have
some experience with
concrete and formwork.
11.36 per hour and
a six day work
schedule. Overtime will
be paid after 40 hrs.
Call 863-357-0022 or
apply @ 2403 SW
Ruck's Dairy Road,
Okeechobee, FL
34974

Employment Part Time

Southeast Milk
is seeking a Milk
Testing Laboratory
Technician
Part Time. Will train.
\$10.50 hour to start.
Hours Wed-Fri
9:00-1:00 PM,
Sat-Sun 8:00-4:00 PM
Contact Eric at
863-634-0379 for
details. Access
www.southeastmilk.org
for an Employment
Application

Financial

Business Opportunities

NOTICE

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

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

Services

Excavation

LESLIE 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.

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

Merchandise

Miscellaneous

VERY NICE 18CF. KENMORE REFRIG. WITH ICE MAKER GREAT CONDITION \$125.00
EZGO GOLF CART IN GOOD CONDITION \$1,295.00 FREE CHARGER WITH CART. 863-763-1734 OR 618-292-8803

Rentals

Apartments

1 Bedroom Efficiency apartment all utilities furnished \$375.00 monthly Call 812-989-3022

Large Tiled APT in town. 2/2, w/d hook up, lawn maint included, \$750 + \$300 sec. (863) 634-3572.

NW OKEE: 2 BR Apts available on quiet street. Pets welcome. \$550mo, and \$650mo. 1st, last & \$500 sec. 561-346-1642.

OKEECHOBEE - 1/1, in Quiet country setting on water, clean, furnished, cable, elec, satellite incld. \$600/mo plus sec (863)467-1950

Very Lrge Apart. non smoker and quite, furnished dishes, linens and etc. washer & dryer, electric and cable. \$550 mo. plus \$300 security SE Hwy 441 Call 863-467-4449

Houses - Rent

AFFORDABLE new house - Large 3BR, 2 BA, Large yard. Bring pets. Available for monthly rental. \$950 mo. Call (561)723-2226

Houses - Rent

3bd/2ba Very Clean, all utilities, cable and lawn paid. 1yr Lease located in Lakeport Fl. Furnished \$1,250.00 per month screened deck, 1.5 acre lot, 1st & last plus deposit, No pets 573-718-8074 or 573-718-3624

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

Dixie Ranch Estates, 3 bedroom 2 bath cbs house, all tile, fenced yard, 1 small pet okay, \$750.00 plus security deposit to move in. Please call 561-596-1344 ask for Fred available November 15th

Kings Bay - 3br./2ba. Includes lawn service, pool and all appliances. \$975 month plus Sec. Dep. 863-634-0663.

OKEECHOBEE - 3BR, 2BA, 2 acres, FR, LR, 2 porches, detached gar. & carport, lg. Oaks. 1st, last sec. Refs. \$1200/mo. (561) 346-4692

Real Estate

Commercial Property Sale

OKEECHOBEE - 25x25 Steel Bldg. 12 ft roll up door. 1 back dr, 3 windows. 130 mi hurricane approved. \$3500. Call 954-260-1933.

Land - Sale

75 Acres, 5 minutes from Wal-mart, \$320,000.00 Contact for more info 561-307-9330

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

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

FOR RENT: NICELY FURNISHED 1 BEDROOM, 1 BATH PARK MODEL ON KISSIMMEE RIVER STARTING AT \$900.00. 1ST & SECURITY. (863)467-4371.

NICE CLEAN Newly Renovated 2bd & 1bd homes in nice quiet park, small dog okay, Security required. 863-517-5111 or 239-246-6301

Mobile Home Sale

1/2 MOBILE HOME W/FLORIDA ROOM, LOTS OF UPDATES. MUST SEE STEPHENS WINTER RESORT ADULT PARK 78W 1/4 MILE E OF RIVER, LOT#7 863-623-4060

55+ Park For Sale or Rent w/option to buy. 9441 Hwy 78 West, 3BR/1.5BA, Fully furnished, W/D, Big Florida room, Lots of updates. \$13,000 OBO (219)384-3407

Mobile Home Sale

FOR SALE 2 BED/2 BATH MOBILE HOME IN SEMINOLE COVE 55+ PARK. LOTS OF UPDATES, FURNISHED, IMMEDIATE POSSESSION. \$84,500 CALL 815-716-0872

NEWLY RENOVATED Homes for sale in small park. Cheaper than paying rent. Call 239-246-6301 or 863-517-5111

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

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

Travel Trailers

32ft 2006 Fleetwood, no holding tanks, title in hand. \$3,600 o.b.o 561-346-4692

The classifieds are the most successful salesperson in town.

Automotive

Autos Wanted

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

Public Notices

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2013 DR 491
DIVISION: FAMILY

Norma A. Martinez,
Petitioner
and
SABINO MARTINEZ-EQUISA
Respondent

NOTICE OF ACTION FOR ANNULMENT OF MARRIAGE

TO: Sabino Martinez-Equisa
Last Known Address: Unknown

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Annulment of Marriage has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Norma A. Martinez, c/o Attorney George Muller, P.A., whose address is PO Box 3309, Ft. Pierce, FL 34947 on or before 11/15/2013, and file the original with the clerk of this Court at Okeechobee County Clerk of Court, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972 before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request.

You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Notice of Current Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed to the address on record at the clerk's office.

WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.
DATED: 10/7/2013

SHARON ROBERTSON
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
BY: Arlene Halls
Deputy Clerk

454722 ON 10/18,25;11/1,8/2013

LEGAL NOTICE

Public Auction will be held at Johns Towing Service storage lot located at 704 Northeast 2nd Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34972 on NOVEMBER 15, 2013 at 9:00 A.M. Pursuant to Florida Statute 713.78 for unpaid towing and storage charges. Year, make, model and VIN are as follows.

1983 BH 1 BOAT
VIN #BMH22737M83A
1982 HIGH TRAILER
VIN #17176009263
2001 TOYOTA CELICA
VIN #3TDDR32T010104814

Terms of sale are cash, and no checks will be accepted. Seller reserves the right of final bid. ALL SALES ARE FINAL! NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE! Said automobiles will be sold in "As Is" condition with no guarantees.
455956 ON 11/1/2013

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

Public Notice

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE WILL HOLD A REGULAR BOARD MEETING TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2013 AT 3:30 P.M. IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE BEN L. BRYAN ADMINISTRATION BUILDING ON THE MAIN CAMPUS OF INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE AT 3209 VIRGINIA AVENUE, FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA 34981-5596. NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN THAT AT 8:30 A.M., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2013, AN AGENDA MEETING WILL BE HELD IN BUILDING PS-1, ROOM 219 AT THE TREASURE COAST PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING COMPLEX, 4600 KIRBY LOOP ROAD, FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA 34981. ANY PERSONS WISHING TO PLACE BEFORE THAT BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION ARGUMENTS CONCERNING ISSUES OF LAW OR FACT OR PRESENT EVIDENCE OF ANY PERTINENT FACT THAT MAY BE IN DISPUTE MUST NOTIFY THE PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE AT LEAST SEVEN DAYS BEFORE THE SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES. ANY PERSONS WISHING TO APPEAL THE DECISIONS OF THIS BOARD WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT SUCH MEETING WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS, AND FOR SUCH PURPOSES MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE.
455782 ON 11/1/2013

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

2013TD278

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

Certificate No: **2251** Year of Issuance: **June-01-2011**

Description of Property: **BASSWOOD UNIT 1 LOT 8 LESS RD R/W BLOCK 1**

1-05-37-35-0010-00010-0080

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

Name in which assessed:
**HECTOR O WILLIAMS
LORNA H WILLIAMS
WILLIAMS PROPERTY INVESTMENT**

Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, Jury Assembly Room, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida **10:00 A.M.**, on the **14th day of November, 2013**. SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT
Okeechobee County, Florida
/s/ Robin R. Parrish
Deputy Clerk

NOTICE REGARDING THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990; In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administration no later than seven days prior to the proceeding at 250 NW Country Club Drive, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986, 1.772.807.4370 within two working days of your receipt of this notice. IF YOU ARE HEARING IMPAIRED CALL 1.800.955.8771; IF YOU ARE VOICE IMPAIRED CALL 1.800.955.8770.
454314 ON 10/11,18,25;11/1/2013

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NUMBER: 2013-CP-131
JUDGE: ELIZABETH METZGER

IN RE: Estate of **EDWARD NEIL WHEELER A/K/A E. NEIL WHEELER**, Deceased.

NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER APPLICABLE TIME PERIOD, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of the first publication of this Notice is: November 1, 2013.

HUE THI BAXTER, Petitioner
757 SE 25th Street
Okeechobee, FL 34974

Law Office of **CASSELLS & McCALL**
JOHN D. CASSELLS, JR.
Attorney for Petitioner
FBN: 0261521
Post Office Box 968
Okeechobee, FL 34973-0968
(863)763-3131
jdc@legal-one.com
pleadings@legal-one.com
455778 ON 11/1,8/2013

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
(Testate, Summary Administration)

TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE:

You are hereby notified that an Order of Summary Administration is sought to be entered in the Estate of **EDWARD NEIL WHEELER A/K/A E. NEIL WHEELER, Deceased**, Case Number 2013-CP-131, by the Circuit Court for Okeechobee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Okeechobee County Judicial Center, 312 NE 3rd Street, Suite 125, Okeechobee, FL 34972; that the decedent's date of death was June 8, 2013; that the total value of the estate subject to probate is approximately 50,000.00; and that the names and addresses of those to whom it is sought to be assigned by such order are:

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners will hold its **Regular Session on Thursday, November 07, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.** in the "Judge William L. Hendry Courtroom" at the Historic Courthouse, 304 N.W. 2nd Street, Okeechobee, Florida.

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

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

Frank Irby, Chair
Board of County Commissioners
Okeechobee County, Florida

Sharon Robertson, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
Okeechobee County, Florida
/s/ Paula Poskon/ Deputy Clerk
455845 ON 11/1/2013

When you want something sold, advertise in 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!

Emergency food and shelter funding available

Special to the Okeechobee News

The United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades, and Okeechobee has announced that it will accept applications for funds to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in Lee, Hendry, and Glades Counties through Nov. 20, 2013 (5 p.m.).

The applications are being accepted in anticipation of the funds being appropriated by Congress to expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-need areas. A local board will determine how the funds awarded to this area are to be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local human service agencies in the area if the appropriation is made.

The United Way of Lee, Hendry and Glades provides the coordination and administrative support for this program. Last year over \$323,675 was distributed to 18 agencies.

Under the terms of the grant from the national board, local agencies chosen to receive funds must be the following: private voluntary non-profits or units of government; have an accounting system; practice nondiscrimination; have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs, and if they are private voluntary organizations, they must have a voluntary board. Qualifying agencies and organizations are urged to apply.

Public or private voluntary agencies interested in applying for these Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds should contact

the United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades, and Okeechobee Counties, 7273 Concourse Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33908 or call Hannah Pelle at 239-433-2000, extension 236 to request an application. The deadline for applications to be received is Nov. 20 at 5 p.m.

In addition to raising funds for human service organizations in our community, the United Way promotes partnerships and collaborations among agencies and initiatives, helping them to work together focusing on issues and solutions that continue to improve lives. For more information, please call United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades, and Okeechobee at 239-433-2000 or visit www.unitedway-lee.org.

'Patrick Smith's Florida' program planned

Rick Smith, son of author Patrick Smith, will present "Patrick Smith's Florida; A Land Remembered" at the Okeechobee High School Lecture Hall on Tuesday, Nov. 5, at 7 p.m.

The program includes a mixed-media show featuring Patrick Smith and the experiences he had researching and writing "A Land Remembered."

The Kiwanis Club of Okeechobee, Main Street of Okeechobee, Friends of the Okeechobee County Library and the Okeechobee High School Brahman Drama Club are sponsoring this event with funding through a Community Partners for Health through the Arts grant received by the Shands Arts in Medicine Program.

A ticket is necessary for admission due to the large number of people expected. Tickets are free and may be picked up at the library. The number of tickets allotted to each person will be limited. For more information online, go to alandremembered.com/speaking-tour/.

Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Cheryl of "Charlie's Angels"
 - 5 Screwdriver liquor
 - 10 "Logically, then ..."
 - 14 The "height" part of a height phobia
 - 15 Have ___ to pick
 - 16 Red Army leader Trotsky
 - 17 Terrified Detroit baseball player?
 - 19 Vietnam neighbor
 - 20 Cuts off
 - 21 Architect I.M.
 - 22 Advantage
 - 23 Very long time
 - 24 Indy 500 entrant
 - 26 Tippler
 - 27 Memo-directing abbr.
 - 29 Actress Sorvino
 - 30 Voice below soprano
 - 32 "Don't make me laugh!"
 - 33 Embarrassed Carolina football player?
 - 36 Boeving competitor
 - 38 Strolls down to the saloon
 - 39 Depressed Miami football player?
 - 43 Gun, as a V6
 - 44 Fan a tab
 - 45 Mine products
 - 46 Talk like Daffy
 - 47 ___ Lanka
 - 48 Went off course, nautically
 - 50 "Little Red Book" writer
 - 51 Prefix with directional
 - 53 "Community" network
 - 54 Sealy alternatives
 - 57 Arp's art movement
 - 58 Jealous San Francisco baseball player?
 - 60 Take too much of, briefly
 - 61 Me-tooer's phrase
 - 62 Teen outbreak
 - 63 Noises from itty-bitty kitties
- DOWN**
- 1 Cops enforce them
 - 2 Yen
 - 3 Fast food pickup site
 - 4 Pamper
 - 5 Chocolate factory vessels
 - 6 ___-Wan Kenobi
 - 7 Where boxers and pugs play
 - 8 Leg joint protector
 - 9 Cliffside nest
 - 10 Cosmo rival
 - 11 Reprimands
 - 12 Looks that lovers make
 - 13 Beginning
 - 18 Bird by the beach
 - 24 ___ Tin Tin
 - 25 Yakked and yakked
 - 27 Starbucks' captain
 - 28 Like a custom suit
 - 29 Soup with sushi
 - 31 Capt.'s subordinates
 - 33 "I tawt I taw a ___ tat!"
 - 34 French friends
 - 35 Letters on reply cards
 - 37 Drone or worker
 - 40 Unsophisticated
 - 41 Come before
 - 42 "If ___ only listened!"
 - 46 Rope at a rodeo
 - 47 City destroyed by fire and brimstone
 - 49 Common teen emotion
 - 50 Ryan of "When Harry Met Sally..."
 - 52 Actors McKellen and Holm
 - 54 Agitated state
 - 55 A.D. part
 - 56 Armstrong's "small" stride
 - 59 Fair-hiring inits.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
					15					16		
17			18							19		
20						21				22		
		23			24				25		26	
27	28				29				30	31		
32					33				34			35
36			37						38			
39					40	41	42				43	
	44				45				46			
47				48	49				50			
51		52			53				54		55	56
57					58			59				
60					61				62			
63					64				65			

By Jeff Chen
(c)2011 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

SUDOKU

3				4	5			1	
		6						3	9
	7				6				8
2		9							
				2					
					1	9	8		
	1			3		4			
		5		6				7	3
								9	

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

6			1	9		8	2	3	5	7	4	1	9	6
9	5	4	6	8	1	2	7	3						
6	1	7	9	3	2	4	8	5						
7	3	5	4	1	9	8	6	2						
4	8	1	2	6	3	9	5	7						
2	6	9	8	5	7	3	1	4						
1	7	2	3	9	6	5	4	8						
5	4	6	1	2	8	7	3	9						
3	9	8	7	4	5	6	2	1						

ANSWER:

REAL ESTATE DIRECTORY

~Our Priorities are simple...They're Yours!

Lori Mixon
Lic. Real Estate Broker
(863) **634-1457**
LMixon@MixonGroup.com

Buying or Selling?... Let's Make It Happen!



OKEECHOBEE ESTATES~ Three units. 3Bd/ 2 Ba Home, 1411 SF Under air and Two 1/1 Apts. 527 - 690 SF (both long term rented). Master suite in home could be Efficiency Apt, thus making 4 rentals. New double pane tinted windows. Live in the home and let rent pay the mortgage! Half Acre. Great Investment! MLS 207383 and MLS 207385 \$109,000 Call Lori (863) 634-1457

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

Mixon
REAL ESTATE GROUP, LLC
Lic. REAL ESTATE BROKER
Office: 863-763-6000

413+/- ACRES!



Brandon Tucker
Lic. Real Estate Broker (772) 201-8722

THE TUCKER GROUP LLC

Beautiful pine flat woods and Bahia pasture. Property has excellent drainage, sandy soils. Zoned Agriculture by Okeechobee County (One unit per 10 acres or 45 housing units if platted). Frontage along two access roads. Fenced and cross fenced. Excellent hunting potential. Within one mile of the two newest shooting facilities in the area. 218 +/- Acre portion of property has a conservation easement with the USDA. These portions provide excellent hunting opportunities for quail, pheasant and other wing shooting. Seven miles east of the City of Okeechobee. **Call Brandon Tucker for more information!**



LEASING - 2860 SF - EXCELLENT LOCATION - PROFESSIONAL BUILDING WITH 10 OFFICES, CONFERENCE ROOMS, AND KITCHEN. This building could be leased as one business or it could be leased for two businesses. Front: 2100 SF Back: 760 SF Garage: 776 SF. Leasing includes electric, water/sewer, lawn maintenance, garbage pickup.

Anderson
REALTY CO.

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



Century 21
Hazzellief & Prevatt Realty Inc.

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

(863) 763-2104 • Se Habla Español

"I never let my customers slip through the cracks."

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863.801.3489
Julia@bergerrealestate.com

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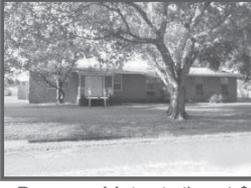
Berger Real Estate
Philip Y. Berger, Broker
425 SW Park Street
863.763.5335

COLDWELL BANKER

Find your dream home here!

Location,
Location,
Location

Is it time to sell your home?
Let the community know!
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Lady Brahmans ready for '13-14 hardwood campaign

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

The Lady Brahmans enter a transition year in girls hoops as they adjust to life without their top two scorers for the past two years Carly McCoin and Ami Edwards. They also have a new coach, a new system and a fresh start.

Coach Morgan Ungerott was a star high school basketball player in Ohio and went on to play college tennis for Cleveland State. She has impressed in her coaching job with the OHS tennis teams and now hopes to work similar magic with the basketball team.

Returning players include Taylor Trent, Bethany Stuart, Imari Roberts, and Hailey Greeson. Both Cheyenne Nunez and Baylee Farless are expected to join the team at the completion of volleyball season.

The team features a lot of hard workers and gritty defensive players but not a lot of potential scorers. For Okeechobee to score this year it will likely have to come off of their defensive intensity and turnovers.

"We are very young," Ungerott noted. "A

few players return which will be helpful and when a couple of the volleyball kids tryout and hopefully make the team, they'll push some of the newer people, so we'll see, it's exciting.

Ungerott said the girls have embraced the fresh start. Nobody has a set position or starting spot and everyone has to work to get playing time. She said she is not opposed to playing younger kids if they do as she asks and show more desire for the job.

"My goal is to bring fun back into basketball. It's been a few years since it was fun around here. The schedule isn't as competitive and we hope to be in a lot of games. We might lose, but being blown out by 50 points doesn't do a team any good," she added.

Her message to the girls is to be excited, to be determined and to be dedicated. She wants good chemistry on the team. She also will focus on the little things.

"We must have dedication and enthusiasm. If you can't do that, fake it, take advan-

tage of the things you do well. Hustle, pay attention and do what I ask you to do," she added.

Ungerott admits she was the smallest player on the court and she analyzed her game and knew there were things she couldn't do like block shots or get rebounds. She challenges all of the players to make up for their shortcomings with effort. She encouraged them to focus on the strengths of their game and try to take advantage of those strengths.

Senior Bethany Stuart plans to be an Orthopedic Surgeon one day and is an excellent student. She admits she looks forward to the season. She said there isn't a lot of talent on the team but she thinks the girls can focus, and work hard as a team.

"There's a lot of pressure on me because I'm a head taller than everybody else. I feel I'm ready to take on the role of leader and I will work harder than everyone else," she noted.

Junior guard Taylor Trent said she has worked hard to get into condition and to hone her skills in the off season. She said she wants the team to have a positive attitude and chemistry this year because that helps a lot during the long season. She said she has been pleasantly surprised by the team's play in practice.

"In the beginning we were a little rough but after we have worked with each other, we've gotten a lot stronger as a team. I'm not worried. I put in a lot of hard work and I'm ready," she added.

Trent predicted that the team will get it together after they get to know one another and get some games under their belt.

"I will give it my all and I feel we'll get it together and win as many games as we can," she added.

Ungerott said the team is obviously nervous due to a lack of offense but she predicts they'll do better than expected there if they execute the pick and roll and score on transition. She noted the team has a few quick players that can run down the court and should be able to score a few layups per game. She went on to say that most of the time the winning team shoots and makes more layups in a game.

The team will start with the basics and go on from there. The girls team will schedule games on the same night as the boys team to try and increase the crowds and fan support this year.

The team also will host a pancake breakfast fundraiser at Applebee's Restaurant on Saturday, Nov. 16, from 8-10 am. Tickets cost \$10 each. You can purchase tickets from the players or coaches.

Other players expected to make an impact include Thaddricka Sanders, who was a standout a few years ago at Osceola Middle School, Alexis James and LaPorsche Morris.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Coach Morgan Ungerott (left) instructs as guard Taylor Trent looks on (right).



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Bethany Stuart plans to be a big part of the girls basketball team this year.



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Hunter Pritchard enjoys freshman year at FAU

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Hunter Pritchard has adjusted to the college game this year as he plays soccer for the Florida Atlantic Owls in Boca Raton.

Pritchard had appeared in three games as of Oct. 28 for the Owls who have a record of 6-5-2 this year with three games remaining in the regular season.

Pritchard was slowed by an injury in October that cost him a chance to play against the University of South Carolina in Columbia, S.C., and a match in Albuquerque, N.M., against the University of New Mexico.

Pritchard said he has loved everything about college so far.

"I love the campus because it's a great area. The season has gone well. We've played quite a few games this month (October) and it's been exciting," he said.

Pritchard suffered a leg injury against the University of Howard on Oct. 13m when an opponent slammed into him, much like a tackle in football. He had made the travel list for the trip to South Carolina and New Mexico but the trainer urged him to stay home because he wouldn't have been able to play.

Pritchard said he has played in a few

games but realizes his playing time will increase as he gets older, more experienced, and better at the game.

"I don't have a set position. The team has all these players with so much talent. I see the field but not as a starter," he said. "Next year, I see a really good chance to get some minutes."

Pritchard plays mostly at holding mid fielder behind a senior, Ramin Rahemi who gets most of the minutes in matches.

Pritchard said Rahemi has been a really good mentor and talks to him a lot about the game.

"He tells me what he sees on the field and tells me a lot. There's really good camaraderie with the squad," he added.

FAU only won two games last season, so being able to triple that number already is a bit of an accomplishment. The Owls have defeated Florida International and Florida Gulf Coast, and tied the University of Central Florida.

Pritchard also is looking forward to meeting conference favorite, the Tulsa Golden Hurricane on Nov. 8 at home.

"Conference USA is a tough conference with a lot of big-name schools. I've enjoyed playing with the team and travelling. Just playing college soccer is a big thing. We play at a high level and there's a lot of discipline to it but I enjoy it a lot."



Hunter Pritchard

Lady Tigers blank Lady Brahmans, 8-0, in prep soccer match

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Martin County peppered the net with over 50 shots as they shut out the Lady Brahmans, 8-0, in the season opener for both soccer teams in Stuart Tuesday.

Brahman coach Sonya Smith said the goal this year is to be more competitive and to win more matches. She got an excellent performance from her two goal keepers.

Daniela Mojica had 20 saves in the first

half as the Lady Tigers took a 5-0 advantage. She made 12 more saves in the first 12 minutes of the second half but the Tigers still increased their advantage to 7-0. Stormy Stokes entered the game for the final 28 minutes after Mojica was injured and made another 21 saves.

In the past Okeechobee probably would have lost by forfeit early in the second half but the Lady Brahmans kept this match going until the 39th minute of the second half this year.

"The first half was rough but the second half I think the girls started to put the coach's directions into play and started to play together as a team," she added.

Hannah Raulerson drew praise for her solid play at sweeper in the match. Smith said she did a good job containing the opposition and with clearing the ball from the penalty box in front of the goal.

"It was an eye opener for the girls and the coaching staff. Half of our team had never played a soccer match before so the match showed them what to expect from

the game," she added.

Smith said even the coaching staff can learn from a match like this by paying more attention to detail and to plan future practices.

"We do need to work on our communication and the girls must focus on playing their position rather than simply playing the ball. I think in the second half the girls started to pull it together and that shows the coaches the potential is there for improvement," she said.

PNC Bank hosts Insurance and Credit Improvement Day

PNC Bank HOI/Flood Insurance and Credit Improvement Day will be held Friday, Nov. 1, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at PNC Bank, 2801 U.S. 441 S. For information, call 863-763-1924. Come learn how to get the credit you deserve and save on your home owners insurance. Bring your homeowners policy for review.

Real Life Children's Ranch hosting yard sales

The Real Life Children's Ranch Yard Sale will open on Thursday, Nov. 7, at 9 a.m. The yard sale will be open Thursday and Friday during the month of November except for Thanksgiving weekend.

Families encouraged to sign up for Toys for Tots early

Individuals and organizations in need of toys for the 2013 season should visit <http://www.okeechobee-fl.toysfortots.org/> and click on the "toy request" tab. Businesses and organizations interested in serving as drop off sites should also visit the website and request to be a drop off. Toys for Tots will not hold a mass distribution this year. Toys will be distributed to needy families and organizations that submit a request on a "first-come, first-served" basis. All requests must be received no later than Nov. 25. For information, contact Malissa Morgan at 863-634-5852.

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