

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 105 No. 27

Sunday, March 2, 2014

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Flag football team starts new season... Page 12

Events planned at Agri-Civic Center ... Page 7

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New bass regs proposed for Big 'O'

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

Fisheries biologists are angling for a new 18-inch minimum length regulation for large-mouth bass on Lake Okeechobee in order to increase the number of trophy-sized fish in the lake.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) biologists told a sparse crowd at an informational session held Thursday, Feb. 27, at the Okeechobee County Public Library that they are still in the research stage and no firm proposal has been made.

"Does that mean you can keep a 4-inch

fish?" asked an audience member.

"That means you can keep a 4-inch fish," replied Ralph LaPrairie, a fisheries biologist in FWC's West Palm Beach Office.

Studies have found that anglers, both recreational and professional, come to Florida to

See FWC — Page 5



The Okeechobee Cattlemen's Association will host 'Florida's Cow Town Rodeo' March 8 - 9, at the historic Okeechobee Cattlemen's Rodeo Arena on U.S. 441 N.

Florida's Cow Town Rodeo is at historic cattlemen's arena

Special to the Okeechobee News

Rodeo fans get ready to watch the roughest-and-toughest professional bull riders and bullfighters at Florida's Cow Town Rodeo held on March 8-9, in Okeechobee's historical grandstand arena, recently renovated and

reopened for this special event. The updated arena provides covered outdoor seating, giving spectators an up-close-and-personal rodeo viewing experience. This year's rodeo contestants have their sights set on prize money and

See RODEO — Page 2

Man jailed on 25 felony charges

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News



An Okeechobee man is being held on bond in the Okeechobee County Jail following his arrest on a total of 25 felony charges.

Rolando Ryan Pena, 27, N.W. 39th Circle, is charged with 12 counts of dealing in stolen property, eight counts of giving false information to a pawnbroker and five counts of defrauding a secondhand metals recycler.

He is being held on a total bond of \$197,500.

According to Detective Howard Pickering, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), Pena went to several different businesses around Okeechobee and purchased a variety of items that included tools, batteries, automotive rims and a saddle. He would then tell store clerks to put the item or items on a local contractor's account.

At that point, said the detective, Pena would take the items and pawn them or sell them outright.

In one case, the detective's arrest report

See PENA — Page 5

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Okeechobee News/Katrina Elskan

On Thursday, the Okeechobee County Cattlemen's Association dedicated a new flagpole on the grounds of the rodeo arena. Raising the flag are Ron Kelly of the Okeechobee County Cattlemen's Association and American Legion Post 64 members Don Freas, Commander Larry Richardson and Past Commander Dan Fennell.



Okeechobee News/Katrina Elskan

Community members joined representatives of the Okeechobee County Cattlemen's Association at the ceremony to mark the first raising of the flag on the new flagpole at the Okeechobee County Cattlemen's Rodeo Arena on U.S. 441 on Thursday.

RODEO

Continued From Page 1

points to advance their career on the Professional Cowboys Rodeo Association circuit.

"Rodeo and agriculture go hand-in-hand, and with agriculture being Okeechobee's lifeblood, this is a great location for a professional rodeo event," said Todd Clemons, president of the Okeechobee County Cattlemen's Association.

The historic Okeechobee Cattlemen's rodeo arena is located in the heart of Okeechobee County on 441 North, directly off Highway 70.

In conjunction with Florida's Cow Town Rodeo, the Speckled Perch Festival will be in Okeechobee's downtown Flagler Park, where local vendors will be selling crafts and cuisine.

Advance tickets for Florida's Cow Town Rodeo can be purchased online at www.okeechobee cattlemensassociation.com; at Eli's Western Wear in Okeechobee; or in person at the rodeo grounds. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. For information on Florida's Cow Town Rodeo, please visit www.okeechobee cattlemensassociation.com. For information on lodging and other offerings in the city of Okeechobee, please visit www.okeechobee-tdc.com.

About the Okeechobee Cattlemen's Association: A local sector of the National Cattlemen's Association, the Okeechobee County Cattlemen's Association is a non-profit organization consisting of local and influential agriculture community members.

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Reflections from the Pulpit

'You gonna love me'

By Rev. Pauline G. Livatt, Pastor
New St. Stephen A.M.E. Church

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

"I'm telling you. You are going to love me."

The prerequisite for our entrance into heaven is to love each other. It doesn't matter how many people we tell about Christ. It doesn't matter how many hungry souls we feed. It doesn't matter how much money we put into the collection plate; the only way to get to heaven is to love God with all our heart, mind and soul and to love each other as Christ loved us. So, I'm telling you that if you want to get to heaven, then you're 'gonna' love me. Don't tell me how much you love God but you can't stand my guts. You gonna love me. Don't tell me how well you can pray but you are quick to tell me off and cuss me out. You gonna love me. Don't tell me how much you go to church, read your bible and watch TD Jakes, yet you can't give me a hug, nor even acknowledge me with a nod or a smile. You have to love me. You gonna love me. That's the message of Paul who echoes the words of Christ. We are to love each other.

How many of you really know what love is?

Jennifer Hudson sings this song in Dream Girl, "You Gonna Love Me." Yet how much do we really know about love?

1 Corinthians 13:1-3 "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but

have not love, it profits me nothing."

People don't care how much you know, until they know how much you love them.

Christ's mission was a mission of love. Everything that Christ did during His earthly ministry was driven by agape love. It was love that moved God to send His Son to the cross on our behalf. It is love that gave the church its marching orders.

Everything in the believer's life ought to be prompted by and permeated with Agape love. Love for God; love for other believers; love for the lost.

Christian love means that we treat others the way God treats us.

1 Corinthians 13:4 "Love is patient and kind..."

We have all heard the expression that a person has "a short fuse" or that a person is "thin skinned." When that is spoken about someone, it means that it doesn't take much to get them upset. Say a word, and they get angry, upset or hurt. Do something, and they quickly get offended. They often get mad and go off in a huff or just shut down. We say that these individuals "have a short fuse" or they're "thin skinned." Agape love is the antithesis of that.

1 Corinthians 13:4, Paul wrote the words concerning "charity suffers long" that love "has a long mind; to the end of which neither trials, adversities, persecutions, nor provocations, can reach. The love of God, and of our neighbor for God's sake, is patient towards all men: it suffers all the weakness, ignorance, errors, and infirmities of the children of God; and all the malice and wickedness of the children of this world; and all this, not merely for a time, but long, without end; for it is still a mind or disposition, to the end of which trials, difficulties, etc., can never reach. It also waits God's time of accomplishing his gracious or

providential purposes, without murmuring or repining; and bears its own infirmities, as well as those of others, with humble submission to the will of God."

1 Corinthians 13:7-8 Love "bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails."

Love refuses to accept failure. Love always holds out hope that things will work out right in the end. Love just does not give up! Love is persistent: with love, quitting is never an option.

We all need to be reminded regularly how long God patiently worked on us without giving up on us in bringing us to His saving grace. And He continues to work with us molding us into the image of Christ and does not give up on us.

Love endures the worst. Lasting love is persistent. It is determined. It is diligent. It is resolute. Whether it is in your marriage, your family, your church family, your service to others, your desire to see someone saved agape love will not give up on that relationship.

Love just doesn't give up. If you have loved ones who are not saved, don't give up! Keep praying. If your friend is out of God's will, don't give up, keep praying and hoping and trusting. If you've been offended, don't give up, or give

in. Be persistent in love.

Don't ever give up.

Don't ever give in.

Don't ever stop trying.

Don't ever sell out.

And if you find yourself succumbing to giving up, giving in, stop trying or selling out, pick yourself up, brush yourself off, whisper a prayer, and start where you left off.

But never, ever, ever give up."

A. 1 Corinthians 13:8a, 13 "Love never ends... So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love."

When everything else in this world has passed away. When everything that is held by us with such high esteem is gone. When knowledge and spiritual gifts no longer matter, love will still exist. It is the greatest constant throughout eternity.

Agape love endures because agape love is unconditional.

Just as death is permanent so is agape love. Adversity will not extinguish agape love.

Imitating our Lord means that you and I, in love, must be willing to pay the cost that involves surrendering our own will in order to advance the gospel, to reach the lost and to edify others.

Public Forum/Speak Out

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

were there because of waywardness, stemming from truancy, runaway from abusive homes, or runaway from orphanage. I never met any that were criminals. I was there 15 months and, along with most other boys, I was terrorized and beaten very, very badly several times. The self esteem was totally beaten out of me for no reason that makes sense, except some of the staff enjoyed beating children. That was more than 60 years ago. Over 500 boys who do not know one another have been interviewed and most all tell the same story, all of abuse and terrible beatings, the scars of which last a lifetime.

• It is very sad knowing that for years that this was thought to be an urban legend. Unfortunately, this was not an urban legend and came out to be true. Marianna was my college town and my parents relocated here in 1999. I always had a sense that this town held dark secrets ... from the past hangings of slaves to the unaccepting of outsiders and from the horrific truth about the school. Marianna, Florida, will go down in history for this! With that being said there are a lot of nice people from that town and I do not want to discredit them.

Boys school abuse

• While it is important that the abuses at the Florida School for Boys in Marianna and Okeechobee are not forgotten, I hope the movie they are planning to focus on the Marianna facility, which is where the worst abuses were. I hate for the name of Okeechobee to be connected with that horrible history.

• I was in Marianna's Florida Industrial School for Boys in 1953-54. Never was formally charged with any crime. Had no one to represent me. Had no idea why I was locked away, except for being a runaway from the orphanage. Most of the children

Okeechobee Forecast



Today's Forecast

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 83. Calm wind becoming east around 5 mph in the morning.

Sunday night: Mostly clear, with a low around 56. East wind around 5 mph becoming calm after midnight.

Extended Forecast

Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 84. Calm wind becoming south around 5 mph in the afternoon.

Monday night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 57. West wind around 5 mph.

Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 83. North northwest wind around 5 mph.

Tuesday night: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 60. North northeast wind around 5 mph.

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

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- 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.

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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).

- Jillanna Joye Gillum, 36, Brubaker Drive, South Point, Ohio, was arrested Feb. 27 by Officer Ryan Holroyd on felony charges of possession of a controlled substance without a prescription (hydrocodone, diazepam, lorazepam and phentermine) (four counts) and misdemeanor charges of possession of a new legend drug without a prescription (five counts) and retail theft. Her bond was set at \$67,500.
- Jaye Wade Gary, 22, Seminole Ave., Fort Myers, was arrested Feb. 27 by Deputy

Tammy Serafini on a felony charge of battery on an inmate by an inmate. He is being held without bond.

- Bobbi Jo Register, 45, Linda Road, Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 27 by Deputy Megan Holroyd on an Okeechobee County warrant charging her with the felony of possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine). Her bond was set at \$3,500.
- Pardell Keyon Rembert, 21, N.E. 14th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 27 by Deputy Timothy Porter on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with the felony of grand theft-motor vehicle. His bond was set at \$2,500.

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

City Fire Department hosts fish fry to aid burn victim

The Okeechobee City Fire Department will host a fish fry Friday, March 7, to benefit 18-year-old Walter Morgan, the son of Okeechobee City Police Department (OCPD) Detective Scott Morgan. Walter received second- and third-degree burns over 85 percent of his body while trying to restart a campfire. Meals will be served starting at 11 a.m. and will consist of fish with Popeye's cole slaw, Pogeys's cheese grits and Golden Corral hushpuppies. Dinners will cost \$8 each, and deliveries will be available for orders of five or more. For tickets contact: OCPD Detective Kelley Margerum at 863-763-5521; Michele Bell at the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office, 863-763-3117; Cindy Kemp at the Okeechobee County Jail, 863-357-5370; or, Jill Rogers at 863-634-0870.

FWC

Continued From Page 1

catch trophy-sized largemouth bass. And, the top destination for those anglers is Lake Okeechobee.

And because the harvest rates of bass have declined sharply due to more anglers practicing catch and release, FWC biologists want to establish regulations that would increase the number of bass 8 pounds and over.

"I think we're in a really good situation right now (on Lake Okeechobee)," said Corey Lee, a fisheries biologist in FWC's Okeechobee office in a previous interview. "We're really starting to see some big fish."

He pointed out Thursday evening that since 1992 bass harvest rates have continually dropped.

"In 1992 there was a 14-inch minimum on Lake Okeechobee and people were harvesting 44 to 60 percent of the bass they caught," he said.

From 1992 to 1995, that rate dropped to 20 to 25 percent, and from 1996 through 2008 the harvest rate fell to 0.5 to 7 percent. Today, pointed out Mr. Lee, the harvest rate is .05 to .09 percent.

"The harvest rates we get on bass are so miniscule right now. Less than 1 percent of bass caught are actually harvested," he said in that earlier interview.

Mr. LaPrairie backed up that statement. "The harvesting trend continues to go down -- even in North Florida," he said.

Mr. LaPrairie explained that FWC currently has a 12-inch minimum on bass in the Panhandle because of "... slow growing fish and a lot of anglers who like to harvest fish."

Overall, he pointed out, there are 25 different regulations around the state on different water bodies.

Mr. Lee explained to the anglers in the audience Thursday that FWC surveyed 222 anglers and found that: 43 percent of them did not want the 18-inch minimum on Lake Okeechobee; 31 percent wanted it; and, 26 percent were indifferent.

FWC aquatic habitat biologist Beacham Furse, who is also located in Okeechobee, said even if the new 18-inch proposal is adopted the FWC would "still have the authority to change the regulation in case of an emergency."

A 2006 U.S. Department of Interior study documented how Florida leads the nation for: in-state anglers with 2.8 million; for in-state angler expenditures with \$4.4 billion; for economic impact with \$7.5 billion; in angler-supported jobs with 75,068; and, for in-state and local taxes generated by sport fishing with \$440 million.

The FWC Black Bass Management Program (BBMP) will help ensure that Lake Okeechobee remains the Bass Capital of the World by rewarding anglers with more trophy-sized bass.

FWC also wants to reward anglers for catching bass over 8 pounds, documenting their catch and releasing it, through their TrophyCatch program. Eligible anglers can win gift cards from \$50 to \$200 -- depending on the size of their catch.

For more on the TrophyCatch program, go to MyFWC.com/TrophyCatch.

To view FWC's BBMP in its entirety go to MyFWC.com/Fishing, then go to the Black Bass Management Program banner under Freshwater Fishing.

PENA

Continued From Page 1

indicated Pena entered a local business that sells automotive parts and bought four rims for a passenger car along with a heavy duty battery charger for a total of \$599.95. He then told an employee at that store to put the items on the contractor's bill.

Pena took the items outside and sold the rims to another man who was apparently waiting in the store's parking lot, stated the report. He reportedly sold the rims for \$350.

Detective Pickering explained that Pena worked for the contractor at one time. However, he apparently had not worked there for the last five months.

In all, the detective said Pena charged around \$11,000 worth of items at local businesses during a period of 30 to 45 days.

The OCSO investigator went on to detail how, on Feb. 12, Pena entered a local business and charged a \$269 drill to the contractor's account. He then pawned the drill at a local pawn shop for \$40.

The arrest reports detail how Pena returned to that same business on Feb. 13 and purchased a tool set for \$199 at 11:20 a.m. Approximately 17 minutes later, he reportedly pawned those tools for \$45.

In yet another case, Detective Pickering noted how Pena purchased a saddle blanket and barrel racing saddle on Feb. 18 at 8:55 a.m. for a total of \$989.02. At 10:43 a.m. that same day, Pena allegedly sold the saddle to a local pawn shop for \$125.

The detective's reports pointed out how all of the transaction forms from the pawn shops had Pena's driver's license and right thumb print on them. Those forms apparently also had Pena's signature on them, which means he swore the property belonged to him, and that the item was not stolen and had no encumbrances.

"Which, he knew was not true," stated the detective.

Detective Pickering went on to state in his reports that he was able to recover some of the items from area pawn shops and metal recyclers.

The contractor also provided the detective with receipts from the various businesses where Pena had purchased items, added the detective.

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Obituaries

Patricia Annette Jones, 71

OKEECHOBEE — Patricia Annette Jones of Okeechobee died February 27, 2014. She was born February 21, 1943 in Macon, Georgia to Lewis and Jessie Beecham.

A resident since 1950, she was a nurse's aide and enjoyed reading, gardening and spending time with her grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her brother, Julian Beecham.

She is survived by her husband of 32 years, Larry Jones

of Okeechobee; three sons, Skip Elliott (Gail) of Okeechobee, Jason Elliott (Kimberly) of Bryant, AL and Will "Bopper" Jones of Houston, Texas; four daughters, Judy Shipman Nations (Curtis) of Erie, Colorado, Cris Mills Mattson (Mark) of Okeechobee, Christine Wooters (Joe) of Weeki Wachee and Alice Duncan (David) of Havana; 17 grandchildren; several great grandchildren; three sisters, Louise "Sister" Stanley of Ft. Myers, Lilline Thompson of Okeechobee and Rose Marie McDonald (Carl) of Okeechobee.

Memorial services will be 2 p.m. Monday, March 3, 2014 at Buxton & Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home with Pastor Thomas Dees officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Hospice of Okeechobee, PO Box 1548, Okeechobee, FL 34973 or Heroes 4 Hope.

Those wishing to leave a message of condolence may sign the 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.



Irene "Granny" Vick, 92

OKEECHOBEE — Irene Vick went to be with the Lord on Thursday, Feb. 27, 2014. She was born December 23, 1921 in Bainbridge, Georgia. She came to Okeechobee in the late 1950s and worked as a bookkeeper. She was a very active woman and enjoyed

square dancing, social activities and loving her family. She became a resident at the Okeechobee Health Care Facility in 2011. She felt at home as the staff became her extended family. She enjoyed the care they gave her, painting and playing bingo. She was a jolly, upbeat person who always had a joke. She lived a very full and loving life.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Aaron Boutwell and Pansy Mae Boutwell; her daughter, Christine Vick Verschuere; daughter-in-law, Lois Vick; grandson, Danny Harrell; brothers, Maurice Lynton Roland and Weldon; and sisters, Mildred, Bessie and Agnus.

She is survived by her son, Horace Vick; daughter-in-law, Marie (Vick) McDonald; grandchildren, Tina, Brian, Larry, Jimmy, Teresa and Vicki; brother, Eugene; sister, Roberta; many great grandchildren and great great grandchildren.

Family and friends are welcome to join for a graveside service 10 a.m., Monday, March 3, 2014 at Evergreen Cemetery with Pastor Mike Peppers officiating.

Those wishing to leave a message of condolence may sign the 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.



Gregory Clifford DuBois, 43

OKEECHOBEE — Gregory Clifford Dubois of Okeechobee died February 26, 2014. He was born April 10, 1970 in Charleston, South Carolina to Vahne LaRue and Merry Hall DuBois. A resident of Okeechobee for 22 years, he recently moved to Clewiston. He enjoyed playing video games and soccer.

Mr. Dubois was preceded in death by his mother, Merry (Hall) Mills.

He is survived by the mother of his children, Karen DuBois Smith; daughter, Miranda Lindsey DuBois; son, Tristan Avery DuBois all of Okeechobee; fathers, Doug Mills of Kentucky and Vahne LaRue DuBois of South Carolina; sisters, Racheal Hudson (Charles) of Kentucky, Melissa DuBois and Ter'Ra DuBois; brother, V.J. DuBois all of South Carolina; niece, baby Katniss; and lifetime friend and brother, Chuck Rentz of South Carolina.

Visitation will be 2 p.m. until services at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 2, 2014 at Buxton & Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home. A gathering will follow for family and friends at 4 p.m. at the Okeechobee Civic Center on Highway 98.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Okeechobee Humane Society, PO Box 233, Okeechobee, FL 34973 or the Okeechobee High School Drama Club, 2800 Highway 441 North, Okeechobee, FL 34972.

Those wishing to leave a message of condolence may sign the 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.



Thomas A. Hughes, II, 55

OKEECHOBEE — Thomas A. Hughes, II, passed away Monday, Feb. 24, 2014. He was born Jan. 28, 1959 in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

He came to Okeechobee in 2000 from Albany, Ga. and spent several years working for Hoss and Sons Aluminum. His interests were writing, Harley-Davidsons, music and golf. He always had a joke to tell or some trivia knowledge to share.

He was preceded in death by his father, Thomas A. Hughes; half-brother, Billy Hughes; and both sets of grandparents.

He is survived by his mother and step-father, Barbara and David Flemming of Okeechobee; uncles, Dwaine Sandlin of Okeechobee and Ron (Billie) Sandlin of Union, Ohio; aunts, Carrie McDaniel of Hamilton, Ohio and Webby Sandlin of Orlando, Fla.; a lot of cousins and a host of friends.

Tom will be sorely missed by all who loved him.

A gathering will be held from 1 p.m. until memorial services at 2 p.m. Monday, March 3, 2014 at Buxton & Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home.

Those wishing to leave a message of condolence may sign the 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.



Night golf event aids Okeechobee High School Band

The Band Boosters of Okeechobee Moonlight Madness Golf Extravaganza will be held March 8 starting at 6:30 p.m. Check-in will be from 5:30 until 6:15 p.m. The golf extravaganza is a nine-hole event held entirely within the Okeechobee High School campus. The first glow-in-the-dark ball is provided for every player with each paid entry fee. Mulligans can be purchased before and during the event for \$2 each, with a maximum of four per player. Individual player entry fee is \$10. For information, call 863-634-0194.

Department of Health to present mobile exhibit

A mobile art exhibit will be open to the public, depicting the lives of Florida residents living with HIV and AIDS through portraits, video interviews, and journal writing, on Sunday, **March 9**, at the Speckled Perch Festival in Flagler Park from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For information, call Tara Menendez at 407-629-9484 Ext. 211.

Shooting fundraiser slated to benefit youth group

The Young Guns of Quail Creek will host a clay shooting fundraiser Saturday, **March 8**, at Quail Creek from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. There will also be a silent, live and Chinese auction following the awards ceremony. All proceeds go to the children in the club. For information, contact Quail Creek at 863-763-2529.

Cypress Hut Eagles benefit links tourney scheduled

The Cypress Hut Eagles, 4509, will host a benefit golf tournament for Nellie Summerford on Saturday, **March 8**, at the Blue Heron Golf Club. Play will get under way at 8 a.m. For information call: Paul at 863-261-1316; Oakley at 561-239-4430; or, Earl 863-610-0017.

Real Life Children's Ranch hosts yard sale

Real Life Children's Ranch Yard Sale is open Wednesday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come out for great bargains.

Widow and Widowers Support Group to meet

The Widow and Widowers Support group meets every Tuesday morning at 7:30 a.m. at the Lodge at the Lake. For information, call Darlene at 863-467-5351.

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MOVIE TICKETS:

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Adults | \$6.50 | PG-13 |
| Children 12 & under | \$5.00 | |
| Senior Citizens | \$5.00 all movies | PG-13 |
| Matinees | \$4.50 | |

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I: "POMPEII"
Fri., Tues. & Thurs. 7:00 & 9:00.
Sat., Sun. & Wed. 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00, Mon 3:00 & 7:00

II: "SON OF GOD"
Fri., Tues. & Thurs. 7:00 & 9:20.
Sat., Sun. & Wed. 2:00, 4:20, 7:00 & 9:20, Mon 3:00 & 7:00

III: "MONUMENTS MEN"
Fri., Tues. & Thurs. 7:00 & 9:00.
Sat., Sun. & Wed. 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00, Mon 3:00 & 7:00

Livestock Market Report

FEBRUARY 24 & 25, 2014

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

| COWS: | LOW: | HIGH: | AVG: | LAST WEEK: |
|-----------|-------|----------|-------|------------|
| 800-1000 | 70.00 | - 113.00 | 84.78 | 89.38 |
| 1000-1200 | 70.00 | - 114.00 | 91.61 | 97.74 |
| 1200-1400 | 80.00 | - 114.00 | 96.81 | 97.30 |
| 1400-1600 | 85.00 | - 105.00 | 99.50 | 100.14 |

| BULLS: | LOW: | HIGH: | AVG: | LAST WEEK: |
|-----------|--------|----------|--------|------------|
| 1200-1400 | 90.00 | - 118.00 | 100.80 | 103.88 |
| 1400-1600 | 88.00 | - 124.00 | 105.75 | 104.29 |
| 1600-1800 | 98.00 | - 118.00 | 106.80 | 111.26 |
| 1800-2000 | 105.00 | - 123.00 | 112.00 | 115.22 |

| STEERS: | LOW: | HIGH: | AVG: | LAST WEEK: |
|---------|--------|----------|--------|------------|
| 150-250 | 200.00 | - 340.00 | 269.62 | 287.74 |
| 250-300 | 205.00 | - 285.00 | 262.04 | 251.44 |
| 300-350 | 200.00 | - 275.00 | 249.92 | 232.04 |
| 350-400 | 175.00 | - 260.00 | 229.43 | 224.21 |
| 400-450 | 175.00 | - 242.00 | 209.38 | 213.58 |
| 450-500 | 170.00 | - 225.00 | 198.77 | 202.20 |
| 500-550 | 167.50 | - 212.00 | 186.56 | 195.35 |
| 550-600 | 150.00 | - 192.00 | 172.75 | 182.88 |
| 600-650 | 160.00 | - 170.00 | 165.00 | 164.25 |
| 650-700 | 160.00 | - 168.00 | 160.50 | 169.00 |

| HEIFERS: | LOW: | HIGH: | AVG: | LAST WEEK: |
|----------|--------|----------|--------|------------|
| 150-250 | 200.00 | - 295.00 | 239.33 | 238.02 |
| 250-300 | 180.00 | - 260.00 | 227.77 | 214.76 |
| 300-350 | 180.00 | - 242.50 | 217.66 | 196.75 |
| 350-400 | 166.00 | - 222.50 | 197.91 | 188.18 |
| 400-450 | 160.00 | - 210.00 | 191.22 | 187.88 |
| 450-500 | 150.00 | - 198.00 | 182.80 | 181.15 |
| 500-550 | 140.00 | - 187.50 | 166.83 | 170.50 |
| 550-600 | 150.00 | - 182.00 | 168.17 | 163.38 |
| 600-650 | 133.00 | - 162.00 | 150.75 | 155.10 |

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

| | MONDAY | TUESDAY |
|---------|--------|---------|
| CLFS | 191 | 581 |
| COWS | 120 | 275 |
| STRS | 46 | 16 |
| HFRS | 28 | 22 |
| BULLS | 21 | 41 |
| YRLINGS | 62 | 20 |
| MIX | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 468 | 955 |

Prices still strong. Most calves were steady. Smaller calves were \$2 higher on some classes. Slaughter cows and bulls were fairly steady. PCA internet sales are really hot! Check them out on www.ProducersCattleAuctions.com

Dayworkers ... get your teams ready for April 12! Also, don't forget the Florida's Cow Town Rodeo on March 8 & 9!

Fuller Cattle Co, Okeechobee, topped the calf market with a high of \$3.40 bought by Foy Reynolds.

Amtel Farm, Labelle, topped the cow market with a high of 114.00 bought by Central Beef.

We have three, young Charolais Bulls and one Angus Bull for sale! Call 863-763-3127.

Todd

Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center Events

The following events are planned during the March of at the Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center. The entrance to the Agri-Civic Center is off State Road 710.

• Saturday, March 1: **NBHA District 5 Barrel Race** starts at noon. A concession stand will be operated by the Show Stoppers 4-H Group. There is no admission charge for spectators.

• Sunday, March 1: **NBHA District 5 Barrel Race** starts at 11 a.m. A concession stand will be operated by the Show Stoppers 4-H Group. There is no admission charge for spectators.

• Friday, March 7: **Okeechobee Youth Livestock Show** (OYLS) small animal, lamb and goat check in at the horse barn, 4 to 6 p.m.; Okeechobee County Fair Barrel Race in arena.

• Saturday, March 8: **OYLS Small Animal Show** in the horse barn, at 9 a.m.; Okeechobee County Fair Barrel Race in arena.

• Sunday, March 9: **OYLS Dairy cattle check-in** at arena, 4 to 6 p.m.; OYLS Goat & Lamb Show in the horse barn at 5 p.m.

• Monday, March 10: OYLS steer check in, 9 to 11 a.m. Swine check-in, 1-5 p.m.; OYLS Dairy Show, 6 p.m.

• Tuesday, March 11: **Okeechobee County Fair** opens; OYLS Beef Breeding check-in, 3 to 5 p.m.; OYLS Swine Showmanship at 6 p.m.

• Wednesday, March 12: **OYLS Swine Show** at 6 p.m.

• Thursday, March 13: **OYLS Steer Show** at 6 p.m.

• Friday, March 14: **OYLS Beef Breeding Show**, 6 p.m.

• Saturday, March 15: **OYLS Livestock sale**, 4 p.m.

• Sunday, March 16: **Okeechobee County Fair** closes.

• Wednesday, March 19: **Big Top Playhouse Circus Musical**, shows at 11 a.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.

• Friday, March 21: **O.L. Raulerson Scholarship Fund Barbeque**.

• Saturday, March 29: **NBHA District 3 & 5 Barrel Race**.

• Sunday March 30: **Okeechobee Youth Rodeo**.

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Tuesday at 12 p.m.





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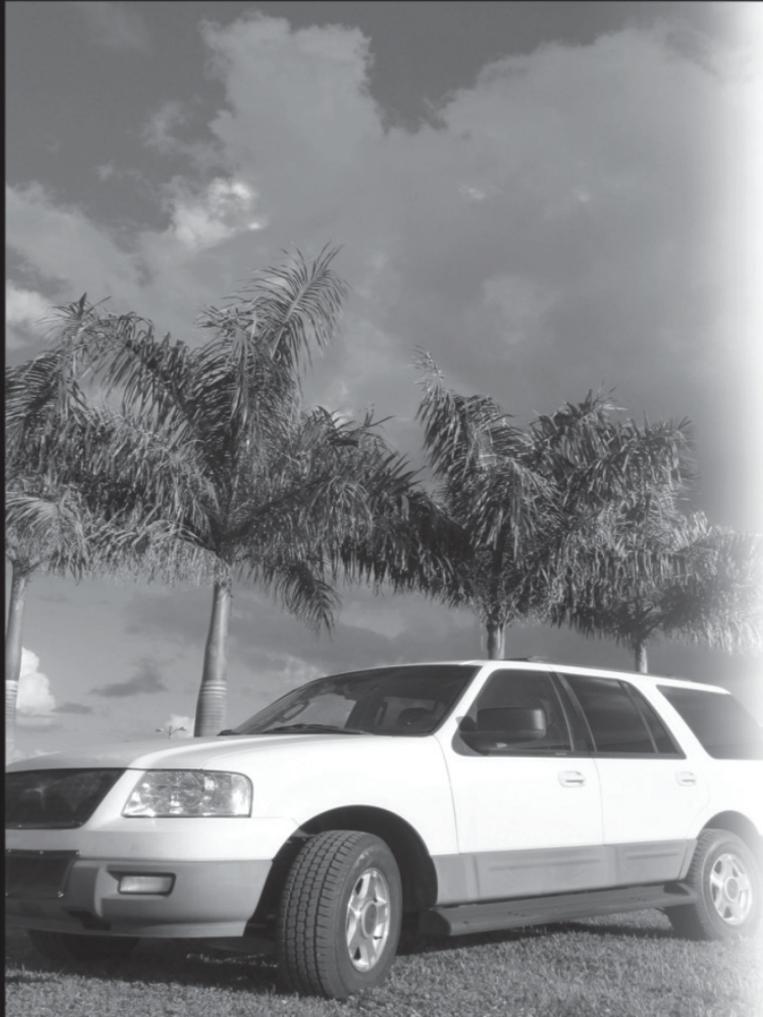
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Please Join Us!

Glades Electric Cooperative Inc.
Annual Meeting

March 15, 2014

Glades Electric Cooperative Inc.'s 2014 Annual Meeting will be Saturday, March 15, 2014, at Clewiston Middle School, 601 W. Pasadena Ave., in Clewiston, Florida.

The purpose of the meeting is to elect Trustees, vote on proposed By-Law changes and hear officers' annual reports. Registration, entertainment and voting will begin at 8 a.m. The business meeting will begin at 10 a.m.

Join us for great entertainment, fun and prizes, including a 2003 Ford Expedition for one lucky member. Plan to attend!





Special to the Okeechobee News/OMS

Students of the week

These OMS Students of the Week for Feb. 14, were feeling the spirit of Valentine's Day. Pictured in no particular order were Earl Faraon, Madison Lamb, Justin Smith, Kaitlyn Williams, Charles Muller, Hannah Harper, Nicole Cristi, Sonia Delgado-Gutierrez and Sally Tijerina. Congratulations, students!



Special to the Okeechobee News/EES

Students of the week

Everglades Elementary students achieving excellence in the classroom for the week of Feb. 21 include: kindergarten students, Ariel Boulware, Kayden Turner, Jayson Garcia, Shelby Fertitta, Collin Wallos, Caden Cain; first graders, Jorge Villegas, Corbin Flynn, Alex Berndt, Liliane Villarreal, Patryk Jaskot; second grade students, Gillian Gerber, Caden Griffin, Blayne Boyer, Jose Ortega, Katelynn Hilsheimer; third graders, Brisa Castaneda, Christopher Rodriguez, Bryana Burgos, Angel Alvarez, Zachary Perdue, Dasha Williams; fourth grade students, Leah Hunter, Zoe Evans, Allyson Broadrick, Kimberly Hight; and, fifth grade student Johanna Rivers. Congratulations to our many outstanding students.

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We're looking for stories that are:
 • Funny
 • Amazing
 • Scary
 • Heartwarming

Winner receives a **\$100** gift certificate for Tin Fish Restaurant!
Entry Deadline: March 7 at noon
Stories appearing in the March 13 & 14 GO

Email your entry to GO@newszap.com
 Photos are encouraged (but not required) • Email photos as a .jpg attachment

Tin Fish — The Hottest Place to Eat in Okeechobee!

Are you at risk of degenerative bone disease?

Many people consider the skeletal system durable and strong. However, this is not always the case. Though healthy bones can withstand hundreds of pounds of pressure, degenerative bone disease can cause bone fractures under a fraction of the same force. Raulerson Hospital wants to increase awareness of degenerative bone disease, as in many cases, lifestyle changes and professional treatment can prevent it.

How does degenerative bone disease happen?

The aging process naturally slows the growth and resilience of bone tissue. However, many other factors can expedite de-

generative bone disease. A diet lacking sufficient vitamin D and calcium can weaken the skeletal system.

Because bones thrive with weight-bearing exercise, a sedentary lifestyle can reduce bone strength as well. Hormonal changes can also decrease the durability of the bones.

Who can contract degenerative bone disease?

Because age plays such a significant role in degenerative bone disease, the majority of people who get it are in an older demographic.

Research indicates that when women go

through menopause, the permanent cessation of their menstrual periods, their risk of degenerative bone disease increases.

A drop in the production of estrogen may affect the health of the skeletal system, making older women more susceptible to degenerative bone disease than men, though this condition can afflict older men as well.

What are complications due to degenerative bone disease?

When bones are fragile, they are more vulnerable to fractures. A slip and fall accident that causes only bruises to a healthy 30-year-old woman could produce a broken hip or wrist in a 70-year-old woman.

Aside from the pain and inconvenience that an injury of this nature can produce, older sufferers of degenerative bone disease often experience lengthy recovery periods as well. Should such a break be particularly severe, it may even cause death.

Stop degenerative bone disease before it starts. Raulerson Hospital offers DEXA scan services for Okeechobee residents who suffer from degenerative bone disease risk factors. Talk to your doctor about your risk factors. For a free physician referral or to speak to a Registered Nurse call 763-9228.



Special to the Okeechobee News

Chobee Minis visit Okeechobee Healthcare Facility

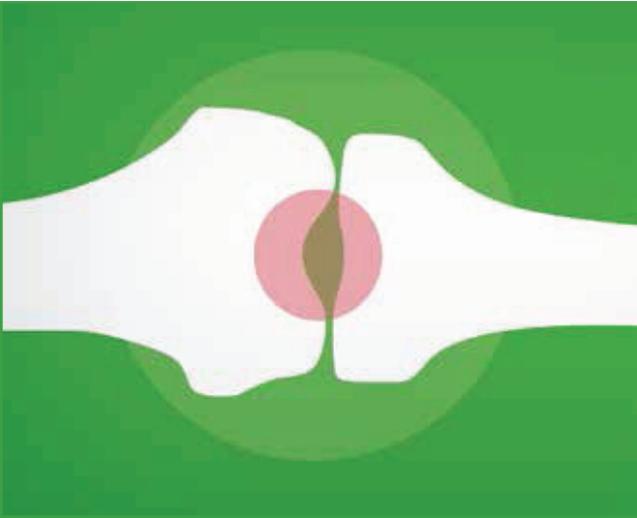
The "Chobee Minis" 4-H club visited the Okeechobee Healthcare Facility on Feb. 11 with "Mercedes" (the horse). They distributed handmade Valentine cards to the residents. Chobee Minis members who attended were: Hannah, Raleigh, Shayla, Savannah, Chase, Cody, Bridgette, Kelly (back row); (front) Anna, "Mercedes" and Leah.



Special to the Okeechobee News

Okeechobee Blood Roundup album winner

Heather Shelleman was the winner of a leather bound picture album offered by the Okeechobee Blood Roundup at the Health and Safety Expo in January. Raye Deusinger, Roundup chairman, presented the album.



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Special to the Okeechobee News/SES

South Elementary students honored

Congratulations to the Students of the Week at South Elementary School for the week of Feb. 14. They are: Rylie Arnold, Payton Jernigan, Juan Sanchez, Kobe Conejo, Wil'Leah Jones, Caleb Click, Taylor Whipple, Luis Ucaranza, Emily Wilson, Lorena Urvina, Aiden Christensen, Faith Colon, Tifani Gutierrez Mejia, Marvin Roberts and Richard Becerra.



Special to the Okeechobee News/YMS

Students of the week

Yearling Middle School would like to announce our students of the week for Feb. 18: Adamaris Salas, Carolina Robellar, Jehosafat Tapia, Karla Chavez and Austin Waldron.

Income tax help available

Free tax preparation and help with E-filing is available from AARP TaxAide volunteers at the American Legion, 501 S.E. Second St. (east side entrance), on Mondays and Tuesdays from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Bring a photo ID, Social Security cards for all dependents, last year's tax return and all 2013 financial papers. No appointments are necessary. Participants will be helped on a first-come basis. Doors open at 8:45 a.m. Do not call the American Legion. For information, call 863-357-1694 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Agri-Civic Center open to public for exercising

Unless an event is taking place, the Okeechobee County Agri-Civic Center grounds are open to area residents for exercise activities such as walking, running and bike riding on a daily basis. The gate on State Road 70 is open from 7 a.m. until dusk for residents to access the roads and parking lots within the facility. While the county encourages area residents to take advantage of the opportunity to use the facility grounds for exercise, the staff asks everyone to help keep the facility clean by not littering.

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Community Events

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Legion offers Sunday bingo

American Legion Post 64, 501 S.E. Second St., will host Sunday night bingo on **March 2** at 6:30 p.m. Doors open at 5 p.m. 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.

ConKerr Cancer will meet

Do you have just four hours that you could donate this month to help put smiles on the faces of children with cancer or other life-changing illnesses? If so, please come to our "sit & sew" and join other ladies in our community who want to make a difference. We will meet at the Okeechobee Presbyterian Church on Parrott Avenue from 10:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, **March 4**. Bring your sewing machine and child-friendly fabric and sew pillowcases which will be donated to St. Mary's, Palms West, Lakeside and Boca Community hospitals. There will also be St. Patrick's Day pillowcase kits available to be sewn at this event. To make donations or for information, call Joan at 863-467-0290.

Blood drive aids burn victim

A special blood drive for Walter Morgan, 18, will be held Tuesday, **March 4**, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office, 504 N.W. Fourth St. Walter, who is the son of Okeechobee City Police Detective Scott Morgan, was burned over 85 percent of his body and is fighting his battle at Tampa General Hospital. He was removed from his medically-induced coma, and just completed his first skin graft. During his prolonged recovery Walter will need many transfusions, and his need for blood will be ongoing.

IRSC offering workshop

Food for the Writers' Soul is a one-day workshop offered by the Fielden Institute for Life Long Learning at the Dixon-Hendry Campus at Indian River State College in Okeechobee on Tuesday, **March 4**, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Jan Day is the peer leader for this event which includes discussion on how to nurture your creative habit, writing exercises, planning and individual writing and critiquing. Lunch is included. For information and to register, call Laura at 772-462-7880.

Ash Wednesday service set

Okeechobee Presbyterian Church, 312 N. Parrott Ave., will have an Ash Wednesday Service at 12:15 p.m. on Wednesday, **March 5**. Everyone is invited. For information, call 863-824-0013.

Poker tournament slated

The Dr. Fred Brown Memorial Scholarship Poker Tournament will be held Wednesday, **March 5**, at the Speckled Perch Steak House. The first 100 players have guaranteed seating. Pre-register to play. Sponsorships are available. For information, contact Russ Brown at 772-285-9914; or, by e-mail at rband3@yahoo.com.

Stop smoking classes offered

It's quitting time—time to break free from tobacco dependence. Quit smoking classes and tools to quit classes will be held Wednesday, **March 5**, at 3 and 5:30 p.m. For information or to register, call 877-819-2357.

Coalition board to meet

The Okeechobee Healthy Start Coalition board of directors will meet Wednesday, **March 5**, at 11 a.m. in their office located in the White House Plaza, 1132 S. Parrott Ave. The meeting is open to the public. The coalition is part of a statewide network 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.

Special night for writers set

The Okeechobee County Library, 206 S.W. 16th St., will host an open mic night for writers Thursday, **March 6**, starting at 5:30 p.m. All genres are welcome. Each reader will get five minutes. The public is invited to hear our local authors' stories, poems and essays. For information, call Jan Day at 863-357-9980.

Chair giveaway aids charities

Family Dentistry, Wemmer Orthodontics, Everglades Pediatric and Tenniswood Dental Associates will give away re-purposed chairs for charity from Feb. 24 through March 7 in their offices. The charities benefitting from these proceeds will be Real Life Children's Ranch, Right for the Fight, Rylee's Hope and the March of Dimes. The grand finale will follow during the Speckled Perch Festival. Visit www.fdofokeechobee.com for information.

Church plans bake sale

The Woman's Association of the Okeechobee Presbyterian Church, 312 N. Parrott Ave., will hold their annual bake sale Saturday, **March 8**, from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The hall entrance is on Fourth Street. Besides lots of delicious baked goods, there will be a White Elephant table or two. For information, call Betsy Cheney at 863-357-0465.

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OHS flag football team ready for new season

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

It is time to rebuild for the Okeechobee High School Lady Brahms flag football team as they try to recover from the loss of 10 starters from last year's team that went (4-4).

Key returners for the girls this year in-



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Baylee Farless could have the inside track on the starting quarterback job for the Brahms this year.

clude Baylee Farless, Thaddricka Sanders, and Makayla Root. Newcomers that could provide a life include Sarah Hurst, LaPorche Morris and Ronesia Wingfield.

New head coach Kenny Buckner said despite the loss of stars like Kyla Hargraves, Brooke Snyder, Aubrey Robertson and Sha'Dajia Williams, he still thinks the team can be competitive this year.

"We hope to have a .500 season considering the talent we lost and have to replace off of last year's team. We want to improve every game and if we can do that we should have a successful year," he added.

Back are coordinators and veterans of flag football competition Robert Coleman and Jimmy Mills. Okeechobee will compete in District 21 this year that also includes Jensen Beach, Martin County, South Fork and Treasure Coast.

Okeechobee plans to keep the ball in the air again this year but coaches hint they have some players that can rack up some rushing yards this year. Farless was the leader in the competition for starting quarterback. She showcased a strong arm with the ability to make throws to the sidelines, the deep ball, and crossing routes in practice. A key question will be finding wide receivers with dependable hands this year. Sanders is the top returning receiver with Farless now at quarterback.

Buckner said they will only have one junior varsity squad this year. About 45 girls came out for training camp this year.

"We had a lot of tough decisions to make when he cut down to the final roster," he admitted.

Okeechobee's first game is Tuesday, March 11 at home against Martin County. They will host Treasure Coast on April 3, South Fork on April 7, Jensen Beach on April 10 and St. Lucie West Centennial on April 16.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Jimmy Mills (left) gives some tips to the younger candidates for the flag football team this year.

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Announcements

Important Information: Please read your ad carefully the first day it appears. In case of an inadvertent error, please notify us prior to the deadline listed. We will not be responsible for more than 1 incorrect insertion, or for more than the extent of the ad rendered valueless by such errors. Advertiser assumes responsibility for all statements, names and content of an ad, and assumes responsibility for any claims against the INI USA. All advertising is subject to publisher's approval. The publisher reserves the right to accept or reject any or all copy, and to insert above the copy the word "advertisement". All ads accepted are subject to credit approval. All ads must conform to INI USA style and are restricted to their proper classifications. Some classified categories require advance payment. These classifications are denoted with an asterisk *.

Garage/Yard Sales

OKEECHOBEE-FOUR SEASONS - 7235 NE 2nd St, FRI/SAT/SUN 2/28-3/2, 9-5. FINAL MOVING SALE all must go. Ladders, tools, TV, microwave, lawnsweeper, household, more.

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Employment

Employment Full Time

Washington County School Program At Okeechobee Youth Development Center ANNOUNCEMENT OF VACANCY MATH TEACHER (Grades 6-12)

(This school is located in a Department of Juvenile Justice Facility)

Position requirements are detailed at website:

Go to <http://www.wcsd.schools.com>

Go to Administrative Services and click on Job Announcements

Create an account with a username and password, unless you have already completed this process.

Complete your application for a CERTIFIED POSITION and attach a resume, etc.

Then, you **MUST APPLY** for this position.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MAR. 7th, 2014 (midnight)

Reasonable accommodations are made for applicants as well as employee Pre-employment, reasonable

suspicion, random (fitness for duty) and follow-up drug

testing will be implemented as per the School Board's

"Drug Free Workplace Policy"

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Employment

Employment Full Time

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Looking for 2 person cleaning crew for a large ranch house in NW Okeechobee County. Work 4 - 6 hrs 1 day every other week M-F. Please contact 561-395-2600 ask for John Luce or Don Baker.

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Business Opportunities

Business Opportunities

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

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

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.

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Merchandise

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ADORABLE: In Town, 2BR, 2BA, W/D Hook up, Lawn Service. Non Smoking. Small pet okay. \$800 mo. 1st, last & \$800 sec. (941) 504-3954

Office Space Rent

KEE - 2500 sq. ft. Corner location, new paint, water, sewer & dumpster included. 1 mo. FREE. 863- 634-7994.

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BEAUTIFULLY FURNISHED 2BD/3BA, ON RIM CANAL WITH A BOAT DOCK, AVAIL. MARCH 1ST CALL 239-246-6301

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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, MARCH 18, 2014, AT 3:30 P.M. IN ROOM C-112 IN THE WILLIAMSON CONFERENCE CENTER ON THE INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE DIXON HENDRY CAMPUS AT 2229 N.W. 9TH AVENUE, OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA 34972. NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN THAT AT 9:00 A.M., TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2014, AN AGENDA MEETING WILL BE HELD IN ROOM S-108 IN THE STEM CENTER AUDITORIUM, ON THE PRUITT CAMPUS, 500 N.W. CALIFORNIA BLVD., PORT ST. LUCIE, FLORIDA 34986. ANY PERSONS WISHING TO PLACE BEFORE THAT BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION ARGUMENTS CONCERNING ISSUES OF LAW OR POLICY 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. 462702 ON 3/2/2014

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE COQUINA WATER CONTROL DISTRICT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR COQUINA WATER CONTROL DISTRICT WILL HOLD A MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2014 AT 9:00 A.M. AT 17429 NW 242ND STREET, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972 (FIELD OFFICE). A COPY OF THE PROPOSED AGENDA MAY BE OBTAINED UPON REQUEST FROM THE UNDERSIGNED. IF ANY PERSON DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE BY THE BOARD WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT SUCH MEETING; THAT PERSON WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS AND FOR SUCH PURPOSES THAT PERSON MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS, WHICH INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED, IS MADE. ANY PERSON WISHING TO SPEAK AT THE MEETING MUST HAVE THEIR NAME AND TOPIC PLACED ON THE AGENDA ONE WEEK BEFORE THE DATE OF THE MEETING. ALL PROPERTY OWNERS WITHIN THE DISTRICT ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, PERSONS NEEDING A SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION OR AN INTERPRETER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROCEEDINGS SHOULD CONTACT THE DISTRICT'S OFFICE BY CALLING (863) 763-4601 AT LEAST TWO (2) DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE MEETING.

NOTICE: COQUINA WATER CONTROL DISTRICT HAS AN ONGOING AQUATIC SPRAYING PROGRAM, DISTRICT WIDE. DOROTHY M. MILES CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS 17429 NW 242ND STREET OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972 (863) 763-4601 OR (863) 634-3166 462872 ON 3/2/2014



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Public Notice

LEGAL NOTICE A public auction will be held at B M J Towing, Inc. Lot at 414 South Parrott Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34974 on FRIDAY THE 14th day of MARCH 2014 from 10:00-11:00 A.M. Pursuant to Florida statute 713.78 for unpaid towing and storage. Year, Make, Model & Vin's as follows:

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Terms of sale are cash, and no checks will be accepted. The seller reserves the right of final bid. All sales are final. No refunds will be made. Said automobiles will be sold in "AS IS" with no guarantees. 462919 ON 3/2/2014



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SUDOKU puzzle grid with clues and solution. Level: Beginner. 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. 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!

PUBLIC NOTICE CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED FUTURE LAND USE MAP AMENDMENT

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held before the City of Okeechobee Planning Board on Thursday, March 20, 2014, 6:00 PM, or as soon thereafter as possible, at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Rm 200, Okeechobee, FL. The agenda is available on the City website: cityofokeechobee.com, or contact the General Services Department, pburnette@cityofokeechobee.com, 863-763-3372 x 218.

Under consideration is Comprehensive Plan Small Scale Future Land Use Map Amendment Application No. 14-001-SSA, submitted by Glenn Snelder, on behalf of Carrol Word, Registered Agent for property owner, CSW 13, LLC. The application is requesting to change the Future Land Use designation from Single Family (SF) to Commercial (C) for property located at 100 SE 10th Avenue, approximately 2.565 acres.

Legal: A parcel of land lying in and comprising a part of Government Lot 2 in Section 22, Township 37 South, Range 35 East, Okeechobee County, Florida, being more particularly described as follows: Beginning at the intersection of the West right-of-way line of S.E. 10th Avenue (formerly Hancock Street) with the South right-of-way line of State Road 70, thence run West along said South right-of-way line of State Road 70 for a distance of 365 feet, more or less, to a point on the West Boundary line of Government Lot 2 in Section 22, Township 37 South, Range 35 East; thence run South along said West line of Government Lot 2 for a distance of 315 feet to the Southwest corner of a parcel of land described in Official Records Book 209, Page 451, Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida; thence run East, along the South boundary line of said parcel of land described in Official Records Book 209, Page 451, for a distance of 365 feet, more or less, to the West right-of-way line of S.E. 10th Avenue (formerly Hancock Street); thence run North along said West right-of-way for a distance of 315 feet, more or less, to the Point of Beginning. Being the same property described in those certain instruments recorded in Official Records Book 209, Page 451; Official Records Book 224, Page 733 and Official Records Book 239, Page 1391, all being in the Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida. LESS AND EXCEPT that property subject to the Order of Taking in favor of Florida Power and Light Company recorded in Official Records Book 391, Page 1874, of the Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida.

All members of the public are encouraged to attend and participate in said Hearing. The entire petition may be inspected during regular business hours, Mon-Fri, 8 AM-4:30 PM, except for holidays.

The Planning Board's role in this capacity is to serve as the City's Local Planning Agency and make a recommendation for approval or denial to the City Council for final adoption Public Hearing, tentatively scheduled for April 1, 2014, 6 PM.

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

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

BY: Brian Whitehall, Zoning Administrator Petition No. 14-001-R 462796 ON 3/2,12/2014

PUBLIC NOTICE CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED ZONING RECLASSIFICATION

A QUASI-JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARING will be held before the City of Okeechobee Planning Board on Thursday, March 20, 2014, 6:00 PM, or as soon thereafter as possible, at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Rm 200, Okeechobee, FL. The agenda is available on the City website: cityofokeechobee.com, or contact the General Services Department, pburnette@cityofokeechobee.com, 863-763-3372 x 218.

Under consideration is Rezoning Petition No. 14-001-R, submitted by Glenn Snelder, on behalf of property owner, Carrol Word, Registered Agent for CSW 13, LLC. The petition is requesting to change the Zoning District, from Residential Mobile Home (RMH) to Heavy Commercial (CHV) for property located at 100 SE 10th Avenue, consisting of approximately 2.565 acres.

Legal: A parcel of land lying in and comprising a part of Government Lot 2 in Section 22, Township 37 South, Range 35 East, Okeechobee County, Florida, being more particularly described as follows: Beginning at the intersection of the West right-of-way line of S.E. 10th Avenue (formerly Hancock Street) with the South right-of-way line of State Road 70, thence run West along said South right-of-way line of State Road 70 for a distance of 365 feet, more or less, to a point on the West Boundary line of Government Lot 2 in Section 22, Township 37 South, Range 35 East; thence run South along said West line of Government Lot 2 for a distance of 315 feet to the Southwest corner of a parcel of land described in Official Records Book 209, Page 451, Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida; thence run East, along the South boundary line of said parcel of land described in Official Records Book 209, Page 451, for a distance of 365 feet, more or less, to the West right-of-way line of S.E. 10th Avenue (formerly Hancock Street); thence run North along said West right-of-way for a distance of 315 feet, more or less, to the Point of Beginning. Being the same property described in those certain instruments recorded in Official Records Book 209, Page 451; Official Records Book 224, Page 733 and Official Records Book 239, Page 1391, all being in the Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida. LESS AND EXCEPT that property subject to the Order of Taking in favor of Florida Power and Light Company recorded in Official Records Book 391, Page 1874, of the Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida.

All members of the public are encouraged to attend and participate in said Hearing. The entire petition may be inspected during regular business hours, Mon-Fri, 8 AM-4:30 PM, except for holidays.

A Public Hearing for a Rezoning Petition is handled as a "Quasi-Judicial" proceeding, meaning the Planning Board is functioning in a manner similar to a court, hearing testimony and questioning presenters who provide substantial and competent evidence. It is the duty of the Planning Board to arrive at sound decisions. The recommended decision will be forwarded to the City Council for First Reading and Final adoption Public Hearing, tentatively scheduled for April 1, 2014 and April 15, 2014, 6 PM.

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

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

BY: Brian Whitehall, Zoning Administrator Petition No. 14-001-R 462795 ON 3/2,12/2014

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Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Kelli Chapman looks to throw out a runner at third during Thursday's game at OHS.

OHS ladies fall 6-1 to South Fork

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee High School probably won't underestimate South Fork anytime soon as the Lady Bulldogs swept the season series from the Lady Brahmans 6-1 on at OHS Thursday.

Carissa LiCata scored the first run of the game for the Lady Brahmans (4-3), but it was downhill after that as the Lady Bulldogs got a solo home run from Kayli Gebhardt in the second and then a five-run rally in the fourth to defeat the local girls.

South Fork had defeated Okeechobee two weeks ago 3-0 at their place.

OHS coach Mary Huff agreed it was a miserable night for her team as the temperatures were in the upper 50s, a light rain fell continuously and her team wasn't quite as sharp as she had hoped.

"Our plan worked in the beginning. We wanted to get LiCata on base and when she gets on she usually scores. She stole a base and scored and I thought that might put pressure on South Fork, but they came right back," she added.

The tough night was best symbolized by Kaylen Fulford's drive in the seventh inning. She crushed the ball and it easily had the distance to be a home run. But, it hit the top of the wall and bounced right back to the fielder and Fulford could only get a single on the play.

South Fork took advantage of a throwing error in the fourth and then sent nine batters to the plate to break open the game. A walk, bunt single, a hit by pitch and a couple of fielder's choices helped the Lady Bulldogs build the lead.

Huff said the Lady Brahmans know they don't have a dominant pitcher and the other team will get hits.

"Defensively we must lay it all on the line and leave it all on the field," she said. "The girls made Sports Center plays at practice but we don't know what happens at games, we get nervous, or don't want to mess up."

OHS splits tennis matches with S. Fork

Okeechobee's girls tennis team shut out by South Fork

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

The Okeechobee High School boys tennis team continued their winning ways with an impressive 6-1 victory over South Fork.

But, the Lady Brahmans were shut out by the Lady Bulldogs 7-0 in matches played at Tropical Farms on Thursday.

The boys were able to sweep all five singles matches. In #1 singles Otto Ramirez defeated Bret Munson 8-2. In #2 singles Lucas Penido defeated Reese Pepler 8-3. Cody Walker overcame Taylor Phillips 9-7 in #3 singles. Colt Root defeated Ethan Conrad 8-4 in #4 singles. Dylan Ferneau defeated Dylan Gillespie 8-6 in the other singles match. South Fork won the #1 doubles match behind Munson and Pepler 8-2. Okeechobee won the #2 doubles match behind Walker and Root 8-5.

OHS tennis coach Morgan Ungerott

called the victory a good team effort.

"We played really well in singles today from top to bottom. The boys have been working hard to improve their games and have really been coming together as a team," she said.

Ungerott said the team will have to keep working hard because the schedule will get tougher and their skills will be tested.

"I like the progress we have made over the last few weeks and look forward to some really tough competition coming up," she added.

The Lady Brahmans took on another tough squad and couldn't get into the win column in any of the singles or doubles matches. Kearstin Dorrance moved up to

play #1 singles as Chelsea Walker has been battling the flu. Dorrance and Rachel Williams were able to win a few games against their opponents, Lauren Maunus and Leah Price. April Hogenkamp pushed Rebecca Peng to the limit in #5 singles before bowing out 8-6. Dorrance and Elizabeth Santelices were able to win four games in the #1 doubles match against Maunus and Coral Sotomayor.

OHS coach Stefanie Menoff said the girls actually played better than the scores indicated.

"It was a tough loss because it was a district match," she pointed out. "The good thing is, we now know what we have to work on before the district tournament."

Chobee Courage Project seeks young men

Calling young men in Okeechobee: The Chobee Courage Project, an opportunity for young men 12-17 to participate in youth leadership opportunities to address teen dating violence in your community, needs you. For information about participation, call or text Melvin Cordova, project coordinator, Martha's House, at 772-333-7725.

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By Tammi Kelly
Okeechobee News

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With March under way we have one of my favorite holidays coming up: St. Patrick's day! Here is a great recipe to get you in a great mood for this holiday.

Irish Shepherd's Pie

Ingredients: 1 tablespoon olive oil, 1 tablespoon butter, 1 onion, diced, 2 pounds lean ground lamb, 1/3 cup all-purpose flour,

salt and ground black pepper to taste, 2 teaspoons minced fresh rosemary, 1 teaspoon paprika, 1/8 teaspoon ground cinnamon, 1 tablespoon ketchup, 3 cloves garlic, minced, 2 1/2 cups water, or as needed, 1 (12 ounce) package frozen peas and carrots, thawed 2 1/2 pounds Yukon Gold potatoes, peeled and halved, 1 tablespoon butter, 1 pinch ground cayenne pepper, 1/4 cup cream cheese, 1/4 pound Irish cheese (such as Dubliner®), shredded, salt and ground black pepper to taste, 1 egg yolk, 2 tablespoons milk.

Directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F (190 degrees C).

2. Place olive oil and butter in Dutch oven over medium heat. Stir in onion and ground lamb; brown the meat, breaking it up into small crumbles as it cooks, about 10 minutes.

3. Stir in flour until incorporated, then mix in salt, black pepper, rosemary, paprika, cinnamon, ketchup, and garlic; cook and stir until garlic is fragrant, 2 to 3 minutes.

4. Stir in water and scrape up any brown bits from the bottom of the Dutch oven. Reduce heat to medium-low and bring mixture to a simmer; cook and stir until thick, about 5-6 minutes.

5. Remove lamb mixture from heat and stir in peas and carrots until combined.

6. Spread lamb mixture into the bottom of a 9x13-inch baking dish and set aside.

7. Place potatoes into a large pan of salted water. Bring to a boil, reduce heat to medium, and cook until tender, about 15 minutes. Drain well and return potatoes to pan.

8. Mash butter, cayenne pepper, cream cheese, and Irish cheese into the potatoes. Mash until combined and potatoes are smooth. Season to taste with salt and black pepper.

9. Whisk together egg yolk and milk in a small bowl; stir into the mashed potato mixture.

10. Top the lamb mixture in the baking dish with the mashed potatoes and spread evenly to cover.

11. Bake in the preheated oven until the top is golden brown and sauce is bubbling up around the edges, 25 to 30 minutes.

Source: allrecipes.com

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