



# OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 105 No. 33

Sunday, March 16, 2014

75¢ Plus tax

## HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

### Bond for accused robber set at \$1 million

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### Web searchers ask: 'Am I having a heart attack?'

... Page 9

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Okeechobee News/Eric Kopp

Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office Deputy Sergeant Keith Stripling attaches a smoke machine to the front of this sports utility vehicle to make it appear the crash had just occurred. The mock crash was staged Wednesday, March 12, at Okeechobee High School to warn students about the dangers of text messaging while driving.

## Mock crash shows danger of texting while driving

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News

The green sports utility vehicle with its front end wrapped around a tree at Okeechobee High School wasn't there for curiosity's sake — it showed students what can happen when texting while driving.

"We did four days of public service announcements during morning announcements at the school regarding the repercussions of texting and driving," said Deputy Sergeant Keith Stripling, of the Okeechobee

County Sheriff's Office (OCSO). "This mock crash is to drive home the point and get the kids' attention. The crash is kind of a wrap-up of the whole thing."

The week-long event ended Friday, March 14.

Sgt. Stripling went on to explain that OCSO Deputy and OHS School Resource Officer Donnie Holmes piqued the students' attention Wednesday when he told them a parent who was texting ran into the tree, and had to be

See TEXTING — Page 10

## Accused meth cook sentenced to 10 years

By Eric Kopp  
Okeechobee News

A man accused of cooking methamphetamine while a young child was in the home has been sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Nicholas Robert Seigfried Jr., S.R. 70 W., Okeechobee, entered a plea of no contest Thursday, March 13, and was found guilty by Circuit Court Judge Sherwood Bauer.

Seigfried, 39, entered a plea to charges of possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia, child abuse, use of a dwelling with intent to manufacture methamphetamine with a child under the age of 16 present and possession of listed chemicals.

Assistant State Attorney Ashley Albright said the state initially sought a sentence of 20 years. He added that because of the nature of the charges Seigfried will have to serve a minimum/mandatory sentence of five years.

Seigfried was arrested Oct. 3, 2013, when detectives from the Okeechobee Narcotics Task Force and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) raided a home at 1742 S.W. 24th Ave. in Okeechobee.

Also arrested in the early morning raid were: Tracy Dan Cook, 44; Layla Nichole Huff, 20; and, Christine Mae Seigfried, 39.

When law enforcement entered the home at 7:53 a.m. they found an active 'cook' taking place in the kitchen and some finished product, stated arrest records. Nicholas Seigfried and Cook were in the kitchen with the lab.

DEA agents also found Huff's 30-month-



Nicholas Seigfried

See METH— Page 10

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Special to the Okeechobee News

### Economic Council hosts guest speaker

The Economic Council of Okeechobee met recently with Dr. Ed Massey, President of Indian River State College, who noted their strong local partnerships and said "This is a community that cares about education." Dr. Massey spoke to Economic Council of Okeechobee members about dual enrollment, career and technical programs, and business development services offered by the state college. Pictured (left to right) are: Fred Fanizzi, IRSC Okeechobee Provost Russ Brown, County Commissioner Joey Hoover, IRSC Trustee Phoebe Raulerson, Frank 'Sonny' Williamson, Jr., IRSC President Dr. Ed Massey, IRSC Trustee Christa Luna, Gil Culbreth, Sandy Perry, and Okeechobee School Superintendent Ken Kenworthy.



Special to the Okeechobee News

### SES celebrates Dr. Seuss' birthday

The teachers and students at Seminole Elementary threw an unforgettable celebration for Dr. Seuss' Birthday and Read Across America Day! Local business people and educators came from all over the county to read Dr. Seuss books to the students in each and every classroom. Even Mary Hurley, retired Assistant Superintendent of Schools came. Even the Special Area teachers joined in the fun with Principal Matt Koff, as they dressed up like Thing 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. Mrs. Sickels' class celebrated Dr. Seuss' Birthday with a rousing production of "Green Eggs and Ham" from Seussical the Musical, complete with costumes for everyone. Parents and students enjoyed a delicious dessert buffet of Star-bellied Sneetch cupcakes, Green Stars upon Thars Rice Krispie Treats, One Fish - Two Fish Brownies, ABC Cupcakes, Horton's pink clover pom pon cake balls, Sam-I-Am cupcakes, Pondwater Punch, Marshmallow Truffulla Trees, and last but not least "Green Eggs and Ham" deviled eggs. There were Seusstistical games, contests and parties promoting literacy all across the campus.



Special to the Okeechobee News

### Celebration of the Hula Hoop

In celebration of the invention Hula Hoop on March 5, 1963, Okeechobee Senior Services had a Hula Hoop contest. The very excited winners are pictured here left to right. Mary Ellen Hill, Mary Ellen McMahan, Lucy Johnson, Lidia Gurrero (first place) and Mary Williams. All are 60 years and over. Come and join the fun Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

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## Letters to the editor



Special to the Okeechobee News

The Kirton Services team (back row, standing) were the tournament winners.

### B.R.A.T. dodgeball tournament a success

The B.R.A.T. Club, Inc. hosted its first dodgeball tournament in Flagler Park on March 1. Teams of all ages came out to show their skills at the sport.

The committee members, Allison Chandler, J.D. Mixon, Tammi Kelly, Matt Buxton and Teresa Chandler organized the first-ever dodgeball tournament for Okeechobee residents.

The tournament was a double-elimination tournament. Teams competed in a netted tent court and spectators looked on from the sidelines. Everyone had great fun and requested the club to organize another for Okeechobee! The event ran from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and team members enjoyed a free lunch!

The tournament winner was the Kirton Services team! The team was sponsored by Corey Kirton, and was composed of OHS baseball students. The second-place winners were a team sponsored by Dudley Kirton, Kirton Services and also composed of OHS baseball players. The third-place team was Faith Farm Ministries.

Pastor Jim Benton kindly served as tournament head referee and provided on-court referees for the tournament as well.

The B.R.A.T. Club is grateful to the sponsors who helped and made this event possible. The presenting sponsors for the event included: 1 Stop Party Shop, Waste Management/Okeechobee Landfill, Inc., Dodge Chrysler Jeep, Buxton-Bass Funeral Home and UBS Financial Services.

Supporting sponsors for the event included: Publix Supermarkets, Kiwanis Club of Okeechobee, Walmart, Tin Fish, Beef 'O' Brady's, Rodeo Life, Inc., Okeechobee Chris-

tian Academy, WOKC Radio and Okeechobee News.

Thank you to everyone who sponsored, supported and played in the tournament to benefit the B.R.A.T. Club, Inc. For more information on the B.R.A.T. Club, please call Allison Chandler at 863-697-9096 or visit us on facebook at Okeechobee Teen Dance.

**Sincerely,**  
**Allison Chandler**  
**vice president**  
**B.R.A.T. Club, Inc.**

## Reflections from the pulpit

### God's love deeper than human love

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

The love of God is incredibly hard for our human hearts and minds to understand. It is so much deeper than our human love. Paul tells us in Ephesians 3:14-19 that we are to be rooted and established in His love. 14 For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. 16 I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Humanly we cannot understand or grasp how deep the love of God is. God tells us in these verses that it takes the power of God to understand the love of God. When we are

able by God's love to grasp the depth of His love it fills us up with the fullness of God. What an incredible gift to have in this world. In an empty world with so many empty people God promises that we can be filled with His fullness. I am convinced that many of the emotional problems we face come from the emptiness of rejection and failure. We are constantly seeking the approval and affections of others to fill the emptiness of our souls. The fullness that comes from knowing that the God of the universe loves and forgives us is critical for our success.

One of the most amazing things about God's love is that He loved us in the midst of our sins. Romans 5:6-8 says 6 For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. May we take comfort in the incredible truth that in the midst of our expansive universe, that the God of heaven and earth reached out to save us while we were unlovable.

## Public Forum/Speak Out

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

### Septage dumped

• In regard to the human waste dumped on the street, it sound to me like this was a deliberate act, perhaps retaliation against someone who lives in that area or owns property in that area. I hope they find out who did it and prosecute to full extent of the law, plus make them pay all clean up expenses. Children have to walk to the school bus on that road. Also, this toxic mess was dumped in an environmentally-sensitive area. It is just abhorrent that anyone would do this.

### Officer fired

• A cop takes a photo at the scene of a fatal auto accident. He gives that photo to a reporter. What's wrong with that? Why would he lie about doing that? Well, the problem is that photo is evidence in what could be a criminal or civil case in court. Cops are supposed to know better than to do something like that.

• When my kids were growing up, I always told them, no matter what you do, don't lie about it. You will be in more trouble for telling a lie than you would be for whatever you are lying about. Of course a cop caught in a lie by the chief would have problems later. He would have no credibility in court.

• He shouldn't have lied about the photos. But, since he is no longer associated with law enforcement, would this make him an expert witness for a personal injury attorney?

• He lost his credibility to testify for the state attorney in prosecution, this doesn't mean a jury in a negligence case would not believe him.

## Okeechobee Forecast



**Today:** Generally sunny despite a few afternoon clouds. High near 85F. Winds SSE at 10 to 20 mph.

**Tonight:** Cloudy. Low 67F. Winds S at 10 to 15 mph.

### Extended Forecast

**Monday:** Scattered thunderstorms in the morning, then mainly cloudy during the afternoon with thunderstorms likely. High 79F. Winds SSW at 10 to 20 mph. Chance of rain 90%.

**Monday Night:** Thunderstorms during the evening giving way to periods of light rain overnight. Low 63F. Winds WSW at 10 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 80%.

**Tuesday:** Sunshine and clouds mixed. High around 80F. Winds W at 5 to 10 mph.

# OKEECHOBEE NEWS

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### Okeechobee News

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### Our Purpose...

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

### We Pledge...

- To operate this newspaper as a public trust
- To help our community become a better place to live and work, through our dedication to conscientious journalism.
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- 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.



# Man caught with teen

**By Eric Kopp**  
Okeechobee News

A local man allegedly caught in bed with a teenage girl has been arrested and is now being held in the county jail on bond.



**Osman Orozco**

Osman Geovanny Orozco, 28, S.R. 70 E., was arrested Tuesday, March 11, on felony charges of sexual battery and interference with child custody. He was also arrested on a misdemeanor charge of trespass after warning.

Orozco is being held on \$107,500 bond in the Okeechobee County Jail.

An arrest report by Deputy Yero Todman, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), indicated the victim let Orozco into her room sometime between 3 and 4 a.m. Tuesday. About 7 a.m. another family member entered the room and found Orozco and the 17-year-old teen asleep in the same bed.

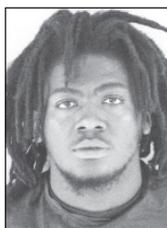
Deputy Todman went on to point out that an empty condom wrapper was found under the bed.

The deputy collected several pieces of clothing from the teen and Orozco for testing, as well as a bed sheet and the wrapper.

# Bond for accused robber set at \$1 million

**By Eric Kopp**  
Okeechobee News

An Okeechobee man charged with entering a home on S.E. 26th St. and robbing five people at gunpoint is being held on bond in the county jail.



**Timothy Williams**

A first-appearance judge Wednesday, March 12, set bond for Timothy Desohn Williams at \$1,000,000. He is being held in the Okeechobee County Jail.

Williams, 24, N.W. 35th Ave., was arrested Tuesday, March 11, on one felony count of home invasion robbery with a firearm.

Williams is accused of entering the home Sunday night, March 9, and taking a small amount of cash as well as an EBT card and a couple of wallets after ordering the occupants of the home to the floor at gunpoint.

One man was allegedly shot in the right leg by Williams, who was allegedly armed with a .223 caliber semi-automatic AR-15 rifle. That man was later taken to Lawnwood Regional Medical Center in Fort Pierce where he underwent surgical procedures to repair the damage to his leg.

Detective John Fisher, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), stated in his arrest report that Williams was accompanied by two other men. One of those men was armed with a shotgun, added the detective.

OCSO reports indicate another man was injured when the intruders entered the home around 10:30 p.m. That man reportedly told investigators that while he was lying face down on the floor "... the suspect with the AR-15 walked up to him and stated 'you look real tough.' He then struck him in the back of the head with the barrel of the rifle."

While that man had a contusion to the back of his head, the report does not state if he received any medical attention.

No other arrests have been made at this point, but the case remains under investigation.

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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).

- Charles Aaron Shane Farris, 23, N.W. 354th Court, Okeechobee, was arrested March 11 by Deputy Corporal Aric Majere on a DOC warrant charging him with the felony of violation of probation - trafficking in stolen property. He is being held without bond.

- Lawrence Emmett Kotz, 69, S.R. 78 W., Okeechobee, was arrested March 13 by Deputy Ben Lisle on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with the felonies of uttering a forged instrument (seven counts). His bond was set at \$21,000.

- Sheena M. Egan, 28, N.E. Third Lane, Okeechobee, was arrested March 13 by the Okeechobee Narcotics Task Force on felony charges of sale of methamphetamine and possession of methamphetamine with intent to sell. Her bond was set at \$60,000.

*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.*

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### Legion offers Sunday bingo

American Legion 64 will host Sunday night bingo **March 16** 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.

### VFW hosting breakfast

Buckhead Ridge VFW Ladies Auxiliary will hold their monthly breakfast Sunday, **March 16**, from 9 until 11 a.m. Biscuits, gravy, home fries, sausage patties, bacon, eggs, juice and coffee will be served for a donation of \$5. The event is open to the public. For information, call our Post at 863-467-2882.

### St. Patrick's Day Party set

VFW 4423, 300 N.W. 34th St., will host a St. Patrick's Day Party on Sunday, **March 16**, with corned beef and cabbage from 1 until 3 p.m. Entertainment starts at 3 p.m. All proceeds go to local veteran organizations. Call 863-763-0818.

### Eagles #4137 plans events

Fraternal Order of Eagles/Aerie Auxiliary #4137, 9985 U.S. 441 N., on Sunday, **March 16**, will serve corned beef and cabbage from 2 until 5 p.m. Tuesday, March 18, bingo is at 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 19, bingo is at 6 p.m. Friday, March 21, from 5:30 until 9 p.m. a steak dinner will be served. Entertainment will be provided by Hard Country Band from 7 until 11 p.m. All proceeds will help support charities of The Fraternal of Eagles #4137. Come enjoy great food, entertainment and great people. The public is welcomed. Also on Saturday, March 22, card bingo is at 5:30 p.m. For information, call 863-763-2552.

### Historical group will meet

The Okeechobee Historical Society will meet Monday, **March 17**, beginning at noon in the museum building on U.S. 98 N. If you would like to attend, please bring a covered dish to share. Dues are \$10 per year, if you wish to join.

### Garden, Orchid clubs meet

The Garden Club will meet Monday, **March 17**, at 6 p.m. That meeting will be followed by the Orchid Club meeting at 7 p.m. at the Extension Center, 451 U.S. 98 N. Everyone is welcome. Bring a plant or orchid to show or a problem plant to discuss. For information, call 863-763-6469.

### VFW has St. Pat's day feast

VFW Post 10539, 3912 U.S. 441 S.E., will have a corned beef dinner Monday, **March 17**. Dinner is served from 2 p.m. until gone. The dinner is \$7, and the public is welcomed. For information, call 863-763-2308.

### Dinner, dancing offered

The Okeechobee Shrine Club, 1740 S.W. 53rd St., will hold a spaghetti dinner Tuesday, **March 18**, from 4 until 7 p.m. Reservations are not required. The Shrine Club also offers smoke-free dining. Music will be provided from 5 until 8 p.m. Proceeds benefit Shrine charities. For information on the Shrine Club, contact: Kip Gardner at 863-357-0427; Dr. Randall Mims at 863-763-9200; or, the Shrine Club at 863-763-3378. The Shrine Club is also available for rent. Call Rosie at 863-697-8784 for information.

### Hospice hosting yard sales

Hospice, 411 S.E. Fourth St., will host a yard sale Wednesday, **March 19** and Thursday, March 20, from 8 a.m. until noon. There will be lots of new and used items. For information, call 863-467-2321.

### Yard sale aids abused women

The Lighthouse Refuge, Inc., will host a yard sale Saturday, **March 22**, from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Express, 3101 U.S. 441 S. Proceeds aid the Lighthouse Refuge in helping homeless and abused women.

### Benefit held for fire victims

A Quarter Auction will be held to benefit fire victims on Saturday, **March 22**, from 1 until 5 p.m. at the VFW (Big Lake) Post 10539, 3912 U.S. 441 S.E. There will be a 50/50 drawing, door prize and auction items. For information, contact Tammi Kelly at 772-708-6764 or by email at tammiphotos@gmail.com.

### Green market meeting set

Okeechobee may soon have a green market where local farmers and backyard gardeners can sell fresh produce. Potential growers, interested farmers and gardeners are invited to attend the Monday, March 24, meeting at 6 p.m. in the Okeechobee County Extension Office on U.S. 98 N.

### Adult softball meeting slated

A spring adult softball meeting will be held Tuesday, **March 25**, at the Okeechobee County Civic Center, 1750 N. U.S. 98. Fees are: men's league, \$350; women's league, \$300; and, co-ed leagues \$300. For information, call 863-763-6950; or, visit us at facebook.com/okeeparksandrec.

### Collaborative group to meet

The Community Collaborative Council of the Okeechobee County Shared Services Network will conduct their monthly meeting Tuesday, **March 25**, at 10 a.m. in the board room of the Okeechobee County School Board office. Guest speakers will be: Wanda Klesper - Okeechobee Senior Services and Darlene Forage - AAA SHINE. For information, call Sharon Vinson at 863-462-5000, ext. 257.

### Legion hosts quarter auction

Okeechobee Quarters for a Cause will host their monthly quarter auction at the American Legion on Tuesday, **March 25**. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The auction is benefiting Judy Kelly, a local bus driver who became suddenly ill and needs help with her medical expenses. There will be a 50/50 drawing, door prizes and more. Paddles are \$2 and wear purple to be entered into a special drawing. For information, call Christy at 863-697-1247.

### Benefit softball tourney set

The fifth annual men's softball tournament to benefit the Devon Venables Memorial Scholarship will be held Saturday, **March 29**, at the adult softball fields starting at 8 a.m. All proceeds will go to the scholarship. Donations can also be made directly to the Okeechobee Education Foundation with a notation on your check's memo line of Devon Venables Memorial Scholarship. For information, contact: Kim Hilliard at 863-634-4553; or, Jill Rogers at 863-634-0870.

### Women Democrats to meet

The Democratic Women's Club of Okeechobee will have its first meeting Saturday, **April 5**, at 11:30 a.m. at Beef O'Brady's private dining room, 608 S. Parrot Ave. The speaker will be Elli Million on Immigration Reform. All like-minded women are welcome to attend. To RSVP, which is appreciated but not necessary, call 863-214-4680.

### Courage Kickoff is April 5

The Chobee Courage Kickoff will be held Saturday, **April 5**, at the Okeechobee Freshman Campus starting at 10 a.m. There will be food, give-a-ways, motivational speakers, music and fun. The first 100 boys will have a chance to win a \$100 gift card. The Chobee Courage Project is a mentoring program for boys ages 12-18. Girls are welcome. Contact: Melvin or Shirlean at Martha's House, 863-763-2893.

### Local Bridal Expo planned

An inaugural Bridal Expo will be held at the American Legion, 501 S.E. Second St., Saturday, **April 12**, from 2 until 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5. There will be games, prizes, a fashion show and a special wedding gift basket for a lucky bride to be! All funds benefit My Aunt's House (The Closet.) To become a vendor or for information, contact Tammi Kelly at 772-708-6764; or, e-mail at tammiphotos@gmail.com.

### 5K Run/Walk planned

Color Craze 5-K Run/Walk for Life will be held Saturday, **April 19**, at the Okeechobee County Agri-Civic Center, 4601 S.R. 710 N., race time starts at 10 a.m. The registration fee on the day of the event is \$50. If you register before March 25 the entry fee is \$40. You can register online or in person at the Pregnancy Center, 808 N.E. Park St. Children 12 and under are free. For information, call 863-467-8748.

### Clay Shoot set for April 26

The annual Okeechobee FFA Alumni Sporting Clay Shoot will be held at the Quail Creek Plantation on Saturday, **April 26**. Registration will start at 9:30 a.m. and the shooting event gets under way at 10 a.m. Sponsorships are still available. For information, call: Buddy Mills at 772-519-0603; Darryl Boney at 863-634-0642; Ray Annuez at 863-610-0219; or, by e-mail at okeechobeeffaalumni@gmail.com.

## 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.*

### Carlotta Montine Collier, 70

OKEECHOBEE — Carlotta Montine Collier of Okeechobee died March 12, 2014. She was born November 14, 1943 in Belle Glade to Murrah and Catherine Holton. She was a data processor and enjoyed spending time with her son and granddaughter and taking care of her dog.

Mrs. Collier is survived by her husband of 40 years, Leroy Collier; son, Mark Collier; granddaughter, Taeler Logan all of Okeechobee; two sisters, Francie Shaw (Kenneth) of Tellico Plains, Tenn. and Catherine Pearce (Mike) of Colleyville, Texas; three nephews, Wayne, Clint, Steven; and one niece, Lisa.

Visitation will be 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Monday, March 17, 2014 at Buxton & Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home. Graveside funeral services will be 11 a.m., Tuesday, March 18, 2014 at Port Mayaca Cemetery.

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

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



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# Tractor Supply increases FFA scholarship program

On March 12 Tractor Supply Company and the National FFA Foundation announced the results of their second annual Growing Scholars program. From Feb. 14-23, Tractor Supply customers across the country donated \$447,671, an increase of more than 20 percent from 2013 donations. This year's donations will result in 334 scholarships awarded to FFA members in their pursuit of a college degree.

The Growing Scholars program was supported nationally by each of the more than 1,245 Tractor Supply stores as part of National FFA Week. Tractor Supply customers supported local FFA chapters and their members by purchasing an FFA emblem for \$1 at store registers during the checkout process. Ninety percent of funds raised are being utilized to fund scholarships for FFA members, with the remaining 10 percent benefitting state FFA organizations.

"We have very loyal and giving customers, and to see an increase in support for our Growing Scholars program is a tribute to the kind of customers that shop at our stores," said Tractor Supply President and CEO Greg Sandfort. "Being able to provide scholarships to FFA members and funding for state FFA organizations is tremendous because they are a part of Tractor Supply, both as customers and as potential team members. They share the same values and lifestyle that Tractor Supply supports."

The National FFA Foundation selected FFA members across the United States to receive the scholarships. To be eligible for a scholarship, students must have been current FFA members and either a high school senior or a freshman, sophomore or junior college student seeking a two- or four-year degree or other specialized training program. Major areas of study were also considered when determining scholarship recipients. For the final report of funds raised, visit [www.TractorSupply.com/FFA](http://www.TractorSupply.com/FFA).

"We are thrilled with the results of the second annual Growing Scholars program," said National FFA Foundation President Molly A. Ball. "We are very thankful for Tractor Supply's continued support of FFA and the efforts of its customers to give our youth a chance to grow."

In addition to the Growing Scholars program, Tractor Supply and the National FFA Foundation have many other joint initiatives, including the FFA horse evaluation career

development event, National FFA Week and the annual National Association of Agricultural Educators Conference. At an individual store level, Tractor Supply continually hosts fundraising events and works closely with local FFA chapters and high school agriculture advisors to provide resources and leverage synergies.

"Local high school agricultural advisors and FFA chapters feel at home in their local Tractor Supply stores," said John Wendler, senior vice president of marketing at Tractor Supply. "These groups often host fundraising events at our stores to raise money for community projects, like building a school greenhouse, a new bridge in a public park or an animal care lab. Our stores also work

with local FFA members to support specific programs and proficiencies by providing demonstrations from knowledgeable Tractor Supply employees and our vendor partners, which brings significant value to both organizations."

Tractor Supply has been a sponsor of the National FFA Foundation for 28 years. The National FFA Foundation is the fundraising arm of the National FFA Organization, which provides leadership, personal growth and career success training through agricultural education to 579,678 student members in grades seven through 12 who belong to one of 7,570 local FFA chapters throughout the U.S., Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

## Okeechobee Livestock Market Report

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

				LAST
				WEEK:
<b>COWS:</b>	<b>LOW:</b>	<b>HIGH:</b>	<b>AVG:</b>	
800-1000	70.00	- 116.00	90.87	87.17
1000-1200	70.00	- 114.00	95.34	93.37
1200-1400	72.00	- 114.00	97.99	97.26
1400-1600	87.00	- 116.00	103.69	96.63
<b>BULLS:</b>				
1200-1400	92.00	- 130.00	109.67	98.25
1400-1600	94.00	- 132.00	108.50	110.67
1600-1800	108.00	- 132.00	117.67	113.00
1800-2000	109.00	- 133.00	122.65	122.33

				LAST
				WEEK:
<b>STEERS:</b>				
150-250	210.00	- 350.00	286.14	286.07
250-300	195.00	- 320.00	278.14	264.49
300-350	200.00	- 290.00	264.59	250.09
350-400	170.00	- 265.00	237.32	233.35
400-450	170.00	- 250.00	216.78	217.20
450-500	175.00	- 225.00	207.06	204.70
500-550	144.00	- 216.00	189.15	199.24
550-600	150.00	- 198.00	177.46	181.80
600-650	150.00	- 186.00	160.33	164.67
650-700	130.00	- 160.00	151.25	157.50

				LAST
				WEEK:
<b>HEIFERS:</b>				
150-250	190.00	- 300.00	256.76	259.19
250-300	200.00	- 260.00	233.42	227.91
300-350	180.00	- 245.00	218.81	211.27
350-400	184.00	- 222.50	202.99	193.35
400-450	160.00	- 200.00	185.00	186.30
450-500	145.00	- 195.00	176.68	184.11
500-550	144.00	- 186.00	166.75	171.55
550-600	130.00	- 186.00	162.73	173.90
600-650	127.00	- 176.00	163.05	158.88

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

	MONDAY	TUESDAY
CLFS	289	697
COWS	123	358
STRS	9	92
HFRS	18	97
BULLS	18	31
YRLINGS	24	27
MIX	6	27
TOTAL	487	1329

All cattle still historically HIGH! Feeder calves steady to \$1 higher. Slaughter cows and bulls \$2 higher. Hopefully these prices will hold for awhile. Check our PCA Internet Sales at [www.ProducersCattleAuctions.com](http://www.ProducersCattleAuctions.com). Thanks to all for a great Rodeo last weekend!

Fuller Cattle, Okeechobee, topped the calf market with a high of \$3.50 bought by D & S Cattle.

Amtel Farm, Labelle, topped the cow market with a high of 116.00 bought by Central Beef.

We have three young Charolais Bulls and one Angus Bull for sale!

Call 863-763-3127.

Todd

### OKEECHOBEE LIVESTOCK MARKET

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**Monday at 12 p.m.**  
**Tuesday at 12 p.m.**



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**Fri., Mar. 14<sup>th</sup> - Thurs., Mar. 20<sup>th</sup>**

**MOVIE TICKETS:**  
 Adults \$6.50  
 Children 12 & under \$5.00  
 Senior Citizens \$5.00 all movies  
 Matinees \$4.50

**I: "300: RISE OF AN EMPIRE"**  
 Fri. 7:00 & 9:00. Sat. Sun. Tues., Wed. & Thurs 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00. Mon 3:00 & 7:00

**II: "NEED FOR SPEED"**  
 Fri. 7:00 & 9:00. Sat. Sun. Tues., Wed. & Thurs 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00. Mon 3:00 & 7:00

**III: "MR. PEABODY & SHERMAN"**  
 Fri. 7:00 & 9:00. Sat. Sun. Tues., Wed. & Thurs 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00. Mon 3:00 & 7:00

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**Dr. Rajinder Singh** announces the closing of his **Dental** practice, effective February 28, 2014. Patient records are being transferred to the office of Dr. J.Neal Wright. For patient records, contact J. Neal Wright, D.M.D. 307 NW 5<sup>th</sup> St. Okeechobee, FL 34972 **(863) 763-3888**



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# Geechee Mon's serves up fresh off the grill barbecue

By **Tammi Kelly**  
Okeechobee News

Geechee Mon's is the newest barbecue place in town! They have an excellent pit master, Charles A. Harper, along with his

great crew and family who stand beside him and help him run the place.

Geechee is a culture that refers to people whose family has long roots in the South Carolina low country. The culture speaks Geechee which is a heavily accented dialect

of English. They are known for their deep southern Caribbean style of cooking. This restaurant displays every aspect of this type of cooking.

"I have been cooking as a pit master since 1989, but I grew up with my mother and grandmother always cooking," said Charles.

Everything is always fresh at Geechee Mon's straight off the grill to your plate. There is no pre-cooking. The fresh vegetables and bread they serve come from right here in Okeechobee.

When asked why he wanted to open in Okeechobee, he replied, "I believe that it was something that was needed here on this

town, a good barbecue restaurant. I want to help people out and create more jobs in Okeechobee as well."

The smell of Geechee Mon's will make your mouth water the moment you walk through the door. The friendly staff is happy to make your dining experience the best possible. Charles is always on the grill making sure your food is cooked to perfection.

"When people leave, they will have a full stomach, guaranteed," said Charles.

Geechee Mon's, at 104 S.E. Sixth St., is open Tuesday - Sunday from 11 a.m. until 9 p.m. For information, call them at 863-357-0852 or like their page on Facebook.



Okeechobee News/Tammi Kelly

Geechee Mon's entire staff is always happy see you and make sure your dining experience is the best.



Special to the Okeechobee News

## Small talks about good nutrition

Third grade students from Ms. Einfinger's class at Central Elementary wrote Christmas cards to the patients at Raulerson Hospital telling them to eat healthy, exercise and drink lots of water. The nutritionists at the hospital, Patricia Small, came to our class to talk about good nutrition and healthy eating today, March 11. She was here about an hour and gave 6 to 10 handouts from various places Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, American Milk Processors, ChooseMyPlate.gov, Savor the Flavor of Health and a special apple treat from the hospital. Students include Evan Perry, Alex Medina, Magalie Pineda, Jess Garcia, Cuyler Maxwell, Cierra Lerma, Maria Arroyo, Levi Ferrel, Veronica Aguirre, Heaven Bast, Cyla Jenkins, Jen Santillan, Damien Irizarry, Luis Espinoza, Khamari JonesLee Edouard and Patrica Small.

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## Okeechobee Senior Services



### Emergency Home Energy Assistance Program (EHEAP)

**If you have a gross annual household income that does not exceed:**

**\$17,235 for 1 person**  
**\$23,265 for 2 persons**  
**\$29,295 for 3 persons**  
**\$35,325 for 4 persons**  
**\$41,355 for 5 persons**

**You may be eligible to receive up to \$600 in assistance for energy crisis.**

**A household can receive one benefit per heating or cooling season.**

Okeechobee Senior Services, your Emergency Home Energy Assistance Program (EHEAP) provider may be able to help. EHEAP funds are available for individuals 60 or older who are experiencing a home energy crisis.

#### Types of Help Available

- Payment of past due fuel or utility bill
- Repair of existing heating or cooling system
- Deposit to turn on utilities
- Purchase of heating and cooling equipment such as: space heater, blanket, wood, fuel oil, propane, fan or air conditioner

**Call Cindy Pearce, EHEAP Specialist**  
**863-462-5180 to see if you qualify.**

**Okeechobee Senior Center**  
**1690 NW 9th Avenue**  
**Okeechobee, FL 34972**

# Online searches rise for ‘Am I having a heart attack?’

Approximately 1.1 million people experience a heart attack each year, of which approximately 460,000 of them are fatal. If you suspect you might be having a heart attack, it is not the time to be searching online for symptoms of heart attacks; it's time to dial 9-1-1. However, in spite of this, the number of online searches with the phrase "Am I Having a Heart Attack" has increased by 30 percent since 2008.

It is important to be aware of the basic list of heart attack warning signs. If you are over the age of 50, have high cholesterol, have high blood pressure, are a smoker, or have a family history of heart disease, you

should pay particular attention to the following symptoms.

## Chest pain

Most heart attacks involve some level of pain or discomfort in the center of the chest. It can last more than just a few minutes or may go away and then return again. The discomfort can feel like squeezing, uncomfortable pressure, fullness, or pain. While most people would call for assistance if they felt as though an elephant was sitting on their chests, the squeezing, uncomfortable pressure can be difficult to recognize as a heart attack.

## Discomfort in other areas of the body

The symptoms don't have to be restricted to the chest. The pain or discomfort can occur in one or both arms, the back, the neck, the jaw, or even the stomach.

## Shortness of breath

This warning sign can occur with or without chest pain.

### Other symptoms include:

- Breaking out in a cold sweat;
- Lightheadedness; and,
- Nausea.

If you at all suspect that you might be having a heart attack, don't wait. Call 9-1-1 to receive immediate medical attention and fast transport to the hospital. At Raulerson Hospital, we are prepared in the event of an emergency and our ER wait times fall well below the national average. For more information on heart attacks, the steps you can take to prevent them, or a physician referral, contact Consult-A-Nurse at 863-763-9228.

Upcoming Events at Raulerson Hospital for March include Dine with the Doctor on Tuesday, March 25, at 4:30 p.m. The topic will be diabetes. RSVP: 863-763-9228

# Smokeless tobacco: Not a safe alternative to cigarette smoking

Quit Doc Research and Educational Foundation and Tobacco Free Florida is encouraging Floridians to learn the facts about the harmful effects of using smokeless tobacco and to make a plan to stop using these products.

Osceola Middle School SWAT students observed Through With Chew Week, Feb. 16-22, by handing out cards to students that has the 3 Ways to Quit information along with a picture of the damages that smokeless tobacco can have on your smile.

Compared to the decrease in youth cigarette use, there has not been a significant change in the use of smokeless tobacco products among youth in the state. In 2013, 5 percent of Florida high school students reported current use of smokeless tobacco products compared to 5.1 percent a decade ago.

Smokeless tobacco includes products such as chew, spit, dip, snuff and snus. These products are commonly used by placing the product between the teeth and gum. The chemicals in smokeless tobacco are then absorbed into the bloodstream through the skin.

"Constant exposure to tobacco juices in these smokeless products can cause oral cancers, which can form within just five years of regular use," said Dr. Barry Hummel, co-founder of the Quit Doc Research and Education Foundation. "Meanwhile, the tobacco industry is attempting to entice young people with new smokeless products and appealing flavors, heavily marketing

these products as safer to unsuspecting children and teenagers," added Dr. Hummel.

There are many dangers associated with the use of smokeless tobacco. Some of the harmful effects include:

- Cancers of the mouth, tongue, cheek, throat, esophagus, stomach, pancreas, pharynx and larynx;
- Increased risk of heart attack and stroke;
- Leukoplakia (oral lesions on the cheeks gums, and/or tongue).

Users of smokeless tobacco have an 80 percent higher risk of oral cancer and a 60 percent higher risk of esophageal cancer and of pancreatic cancer compared to non-users. The use of smokeless tobacco also causes gum disease (gingivitis), which can lead to bone and tooth loss. Studies show adolescent boys who use smokeless tobacco have a higher risk of becoming cigarette smokers.

Like cigarettes, smokeless tobacco products contain nicotine, a highly addictive and dangerous chemical.

Adolescents' bodies are more sensitive to nicotine, and adolescents are more easily addicted than adults. Furthermore, most tobacco users start by the age of 18. These young people rarely consider the long-term health consequences associated with tobacco use when they start and many continue using tobacco well into adulthood, often with serious and even deadly consequences.

Quit Doc Research and Educational Foundation works to educate and inform citizens

that smokeless tobacco products are not effective ways to quit smoking. Currently, there is no scientific or medical evidence that can prove the use of smokeless tobacco is an effective way for a person to quit smoking.

Floridians who want to quit any form of tobacco have access to the state's free and proven-effective resources, which include free FDA-approved nicotine replacement therapy (NRT), like the patch and gum, when medically appropriate. This combined approach of counseling and NRT may double or triple a tobacco user's chance of quitting. Tobacco Free Florida's 3 Free & Easy

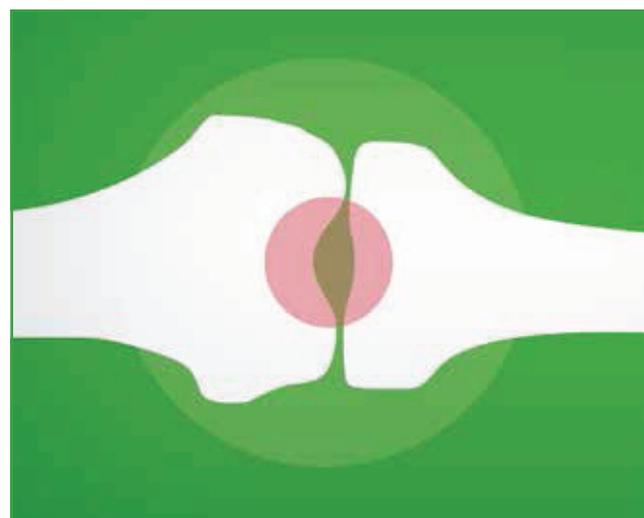
Ways to Quit include:

- CALL: Call the Florida Quitline at 1-877-U-CAN-NOW to speak with a Quit Coach who will help assess a user's addiction and help create a personalized quit plan.
- CLICK: Enroll in the Web Coach®, which will help to create a web-based quit plan unique to each individual user, visit <https://www.quitnow.net/florida>.
- COME IN: Sign up for Quit Smoking Now group classes at your local Area Health Education Center (AHEC) by calling 877-848-6696, or visiting <http://www.tobaccofreeflorida.com/ahec>.



Special to the Okeechobee News

The SWAT members at Osceola Middle School along with the SWAT advisor Mr. Justus is celebrating National Through With Chew Week. Osceola Middle School SWAT Club (Students Working Against Tobacco) students observed Through With Chew Week by handing out cards to students that have the 3 Ways to Quit Information along with a picture of the damages that smokeless tobacco can have on your smile. Through With Chew Week is celebrated throughout Florida from Feb. 16-22. Pictured is Cutter Harris, James Harris, SWAT Advisor Steve Justus, Anyssa Anselmo and Viviana Jaimes.



## DON'T IGNORE YOUR PAIN. DISCOVER YOUR OPTIONS.

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## Road Watch

The Florida Department of Transportation advises motorists to use caution in areas where road work is under way. Road work planned for this week includes the following.

### Okeechobee County

• **SR 710 from SR 70 to the Martin County line:** Maintenance project: Crews will be working on the shoulder and repairing non-paved driveways on both sides of the road. No lane closures are scheduled, however, use caution and watch for work-

ers close to the road.

• **SR 78 from Okeechobee County line to Lemkin Creek Bridge:** Construction project: Expect daytime lane closures with flaggers directing traffic Monday through Friday as crews continue working on the shoulders. Motorists should use caution, be prepared to stop and add time in their schedule to reach their destination. Project improvements include removing and replacing the existing asphalt, adding shoulders, replacing guardrail, and signing and pavement markings. Expected comple-

tion is spring of 2014. The contractor is Lawrence Lynch Corp.

• **SR 70 East from the Okeechobee city limits to Northeast 30th Avenue:** Maintenance project: Crews are repairing the sidewalk on both sides of the roadway. No lane closures are scheduled, however, use caution and watch for workers close to the road.

### Glades County

• **SR 78 from Buckhead Ridge to Indian Prairie Canal:** Maintenance project: Crews will be trimming and chipping trees in the right of way. Motorists can expect periodic lane closures from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Flaggers will direct traffic. Motorists are asked to use caution as crews work in the roadway.

• **SR 78 from Herbert Hoover Dike**

**to Canal Boat Ramp: Construction project:** Crews are paving the side street connections and preparing the shoulders for sod. Motorists should watch for flaggers directing traffic throughout the project, be prepared to stop and add time in their schedule to reach their destination. Improvements on this project include removing and replacing the existing asphalt, widening the roadway in several locations, adding shoulders, replacing guardrail, adding or replacing drainage pipe beneath some driveways, replacing mailboxes and signing and pavement markings. Expected completion is fall of 2014. The contractor is Lawrence Lynch Corp.

• **SR 29 from SR 78 to York Branch:** Maintenance project: Crews will be cutting grass behind the silt fence from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday. No lane closures are expected for this work.

## OCSO Investigations

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

### ASSAULT

- 2400 block of U.S. 441 S.E.
- 3600 block of N.W. 10th Ave.
- 9600 block of S.E. 116th Trail
- 1700 block of U.S. 441 N.
- 600 block of N.E. 13th Ave.

### BURGLARY

- 900 block of N.E. 104th Court
- 300 block of N.E. 16th Ave.
- 3300 block of N.W. 39th Ave.

### CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

- 6500 block of N.E. 11th St.
- 2200 block of N.W. Fourth St.

### FRAUD

## METH

Continued From Page 1

old child in the home. The Department of Children and Families (DCF) arrived on the scene and took the boy from his mother.

A task force detective stated in an arrest report that: "I observed a large cloud of gases and fumes coming from the residence. Gases and fumes were also coming from the roof vents on the exterior of the residence. There was a strong odor from inside the residence."

### THEFT

- 9900 block of S.W. 40th Terrace
- 2100 block of S.E. 30th St.
- 5800 block of N.W. 30th St.
- 2600 block of N.W. 63rd Terrace
- 3500 block of N.W. 18th St.
- 1600 block of U.S. 441 N.
- 4900 block of S.E. 42nd St.
- 800 block of N.E. 14th Ave.
- 3200 block of S.E. Fourth St.
- 3300 block of N.W. 40th Drive
- 1900 block of N.W. 36th Terrace
- 600 block of N.E. 13th Ave.
- 4600 block of N.W. 11th Drive
- 2900 block of N.W. 34th Ave.
- 4800 block of N.E. 122nd Drive
- 1500 block of S.R. 70 E.
- 3900 block of S.W. 40th Ave.
- 3200 block of N.W. 33rd Ave.
- 4300 block of U.S. 441 S.E.
- 600 block of S.W. Second Ave.
- 3200 block of S.E. 23rd St.

While searching the home DEA agents reportedly found a plastic bottle that was thought to be a reaction vessel in which meth was being cooked, as well as a plastic sandwich bag that contained suspected meth. When those substances were field tested, those tests allegedly indicated a positive result for the presence of methamphetamine.

A records check at the time of Seigfried's arrest indicated he had just been placed on felony probation. According to those records he was arrested March 9, 2013, on a felony charge of grand theft, then placed on probation in September.

## TEXTING

Continued From Page 1

airlifted to a coastal hospital.

Then as the students were leaving the OHS campus via the south exit Wednesday afternoon, they had to drive by the SUV. Sgt. Stripling had attached a smoke machine to the vehicle's front end to make it appear as if the crash had just happened.

Recent studies show that:

- over half of U.S. drivers report having used a cell phone in the past 30 days;
- 1-in-7 admits to text messaging while driving;
- 46 percent of 16- and 17-year-old drivers say they text message while driving;
- 48 percent of 18- to 24-year-old drivers text message while driving;
- 67 percent of 25- to 34-year-old drivers talk on their cell phones while driving; and,
- 65 percent of drivers with a college education talk on their cell phones while driving. The higher the level of education, the higher the use of cell phones.

Further research indicates a driver who texts is six times more likely to cause a car crash than a drunk driver. Also, texting drivers take their eyes off the road for nearly 5 seconds at a time. That is enough time to travel the length of a football field at 55 miles per hour.

According to the Governors Highway

Safety Association (GHSA) web site, 12 states, the District of Columbia (D.C.), Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands prohibit all drivers from using hand-held cell phones while driving.

The GHSA goes on to say that no state bans all cell phone use for all drivers, but 37 states and D.C. bans cell phone use for novice drivers and 20 states and D.C. ban it for school bus drivers.

Text messaging while driving is banned in 42 states including D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Three states restrict text messaging by school bus drivers.

Florida state statute 316.305(3)(a) bans the use of any handheld device used, or capable of being used, in a hand-held manner for the purpose of manually typing, entering, sending or reading multiple letters, numbers, symbols or other characters while operating a motor vehicle.

Sgt. Stripling pointed out that there is a link on the OCSO web site where parents and their children can take the pledge to not text and drive.

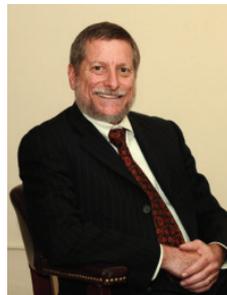
The event at OHS was a collaboration between the OCSO, the Okeechobee County Health Department and Okeechobee County Fire/Rescue. It was coordinated by OCSO Deputy Sergeant Mark Roberts, who also heads up the OCSO School Resource Officer program.

Guaranteed Auto Salvage donated the vehicle, added Sgt. Stripling.

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# Tammi's "TOP" of the Lake

The Best of Lake Okeechobee



By Tammi Kelly  
Okeechobee News

• **Shenanigans**, 2237 U.S. 98 N., is a great place to take the family to eat. They serve some great onion rings, gator tail which is local always fresh, wings and so much more. Everything is homemade such as their sauces. It is definitely the place to be on Sunday for the games and they also have open pool tables on Sunday as well. The staff is very warm and friendly, making you feel at home. Check them out on Facebook or give them a call at 863-357-6100 and don't forget to tell them Tammi sent you!

• **Beef O' Brady's**, 608 S. Parrott Ave., serves burgers, wings, steaks, fajitas and is one of the only restaurants in town to serve curly fries! They have a lot of specials such as burger day, kids-eat-free day, and 69-cents wings on Monday. They have a great lunch menu to fit any budget and a banquet hall to cater all you holiday parties or club meetings. They have a newly-updated game room for kids of all ages to enjoy. They have a great staff and will welcome you back with smiling faces every time. Don't forget to like them on Facebook for great deals! They can be contacted at 863-763-7300.

• **Zippy's**, 301 S.W. Park St., has the best wings! With their new location they have a even bigger menu. They have daily specials such as wild wings Wednesday where wings are 65 cents all day. Tommy and his staff are the best—they are always happy to support our local community. Be sure to like them on Facebook for all their updates! They can be contacted at 863-763-1399.

## St. Patrick's Day

With Monday being my favorite holiday I just thought I would give a little information on St. Patrick's Day and all things Irish.

St. Patrick's Day or Lá Fhéile Pádraig in Irish means "The Day of the Festival of Patrick." St. Patrick is the one who brought Christianity to Ireland. He used a 3-leafed clover (not four) to teach about the holy trinity. Though to some this holiday may be

all about drinking, the holiday means a lot to Irish folks.

The wearing of green was actually the wearing of blue, however, by the 17th century the color green just became associated with St. Patrick's Day and it stuck.

Fun Fact: In the United Irishmen rebellion in 1798, to make a political statement, Irish soldiers wore full green uniforms on March 17.

St. Patrick's Day is celebrated all over the world these days from Japan to America and even in space! In 2013 the international space station wore green to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Even places such as Dallas, Texas turn all their city lights green, so when seen from afar it looks like the emerald city.

Ireland is a strong country and strong people came from it. We brought over to America our culture, even though at first it wasn't accepted, but is now celebrated worldwide. So, may you have a safe and happy St. Patrick's Day.

"Erin go Bragh" - Ireland Forever.

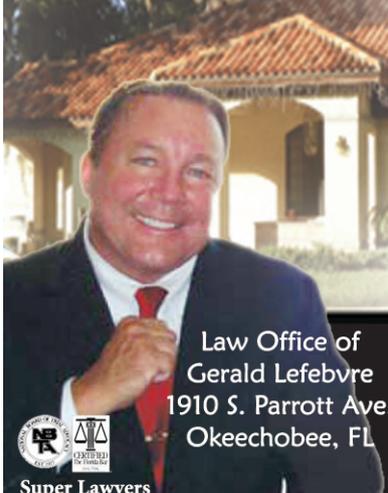
### Project Prom in search for dresses:

Project Prom is in search of donations of dresses, any size and any length to provide high school girls who cannot otherwise afford to go to prom a night to remember. You can bring them to the Okeechobee News during office hours, 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday, and 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Friday; or My Aunt's House Tuesday - Thursday 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.; or, contact Tammi Kelly at 772-708-6764, or Kourtney at 863-634-6225.

### Blood drives planned

The bloodmobile will be in Okeechobee on the following days this month:

- Sunday, March 16, at Golden Corral, 11 a.m.- 4 p.m.
- Thursday, March 20, at Ancient Oaks, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
- Thursday, March 20, at Heritage Village, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.



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## Employment

### Employment Full Time

**Driver: FT/Benefits**  
Minimum requirements: CDL Class A w/HAZMAT, tanker, & air brakes endorsements; 2 years driving experience; no preventable accidents, license suspensions, alcohol related violations or other moving violations in the past 3 years; Ability to obtain a current medical examiner's certificate; verifiable High School Diploma or GED; English communication skills (verbal and written); Able to perform basic mathematical calculations. Praxair is an equal employment opportunity employer M/F/D/V  
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## Employment

### Employment Full Time

## Employment Full Time

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

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NEEDED F/T  
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### RN - Nurse Manager

RN - Nurse Manager with Pediatrics Experience needed full time at Dr. Fred Brown Health Center in Okeechobee. Must have current Florida RN or LPN license. Administrative/Management experience required with strong leadership skills. Bilingual Spanish/English preferred. Competitive salary & excel. benefits. Fax resume to (863) 357-2991 or e-mail hr@fchcinc.org EOE/DFWP.

We are immediately hiring an **experienced heavy equipment mechanic** with a mechanic truck & tools. Please contact Richard Nunez at 305-965-5868

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

## Employment Full Time

### SECRETARY ~ FULL TIME ~

Looking for a highly-motivated person to perform numerous general official, computer related and receptionist duties.

This person will be a personal assistant to general manager and provide support in his/her personal and business organization.

Good paying job with benefits.

Resume will be kept confidential.

Qualified candidates should apply by e-mailing their resume with cover letter to: [appforsecposition@gmail.com](mailto:appforsecposition@gmail.com)

## Employment Medical

Hospice of Okeechobee  
**RN - Night Position**  
Send Resume to:  
P.O. Box 1548  
Okeechobee, FL 34973

## Employment Part Time

**CLEANING CREW**  
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.

### Retired Professional

Looking for a part time appointment generator, preferably mechanical exp., customer friendly, to work at sales booth in a big box store. Please call 863-385-2665 or send resume to [info@advancedairsebring.com](mailto:info@advancedairsebring.com)

## 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.

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## Agriculture

### Lawn & Garden

**COMPOST** for Organic Gardening and Farming - Okeechobee Recycling Facility, enter at Waste Management, 10800 NE. 128th Avenue. Pickup or Delivered \*Public Welcomed\* Please call. (216)956-0949

## Rentals

### Apartments

**APARTMENTS FOR RENT BOARDWALK BLDG. FIRST MONTH, SECURITY DEPOSIT, INCLUDES WATER. CALL 863-801-9119**

**NW OKEE:** 2 BR Apt. available on quiet street. Pets welcome. \$675 month, 1st, last & \$500 security. 561-346-1642.

**OKEE - 2br. 1 1/2ba.** Large Town House In Town, Very clean, W/D \$700 mo, 1st, last & sec. Yearly Lease 863-697-1129

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

## Houses - Rent

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

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## Real Estate

### Houses - Sale

**3/2/1 Furnished,** appliances, on water. \$350 lot rent. Not mobile home. Metal roof. Possible owner financing with 1/2 down + \$850/mo. \$22,500 OBO. 863-467-7996

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**LOOKING FOR A SMALL FARM TO LEASE FOR SPRING TURKEY SEASON PLEASE CALL 561-699-3240**

**Lots - Sale**

**1/2 Acre** Lot, fenced, oak trees, house or mobile home ok, off of 15A & 710 Hwy. One mile to Lake. \$21,000 Owner Finance Call 863-610-1600

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**Mobile Home Rent**

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**TREASURE ISLAND:** 2 BR, 2 BA, Non smoking env. \$800 mo. 1st, last & \$500 sec. dep. Call (863)634-6114

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**FOR SALE MOBILE HOME ON CANAL, TREASURE ISLAND. 2BD/2BA, FL. ROOM, BOAT DOCK, CAR PORT \$50,000.00 CALL 863-763-8614**

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**Public Notice**

**INVITATION TO BID NO. PW-04-00-03-14 OKEECHOBEE HIGHWAY 441 STREETSCAPE PLAN**

The City of Okeechobee is currently soliciting bids for the Okeechobee Highway 441 Streetscape Plan. Sealed bids must be received by the General Services Department at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, RM 101, Okeechobee, FL 34974, no later than **2:00 p.m.** on or before **Wednesday, April 9, 2014**, (late submittal, email submittals, and facsimile submissions will not be accepted) at which time they will be publically opened and read.

A **MANDATORY** pre-bid meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 26, 2014, at 10:00 a.m.** at City Hall, City Council Chambers, RM 200. **BIDDING REQUIREMENTS APPLY TO THIS BID OPPORTUNITY.** Bid documents may be obtained at City Hall (address above) during normal office hours, Mon-Fri, 8 am-4:30 pm, except holidays. A \$50.00 non-refundable deposit per set of documents is required, made payable to City of Okeechobee. Questions concerning the scope of work should be directed to Public Works Director David Allen, 863-763-3372 x 225, dallen@cityofokeechobee.com.

Sealed envelopes must contain **two (2) clearly identified originals and one (1) copy of the bid**, with the outside clearly marked **"BID NO. PW-04-00-03-14 OKEECHOBEE HIGHWAY 441 STREETSCAPE PLAN"** and may be mailed, hand-delivered or express mailed to the address listed above.

This solicitation does not commit the City of Okeechobee to award any contracts, to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of a response to this Bid, or to contract for any services. The City Council reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive informalities and to accept or reject all or any part of any bid, as they may deem to be in the best interest of the City of Okeechobee, Florida. Responses to this Bid upon receipt by the City of Okeechobee will become public record subject to provisions of Florida Statute Chapter 119 Florida Public Records Law. **EEO/ADA/GINA/VP/DFWP.**

By: David Allen, Director of Public Works 463667 ON 3/16/2014

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION Case #: 2012-CA-000280**

PHH Mortgage Corporation, Plaintiff, vs- Wallace H. Griggs, Jr. and Creighton Griggs and Sterling F. Griggs; et al. Defendant(s).

**NOTICE OF ACTION FORECLOSURE PROCEEDINGS-PROPERTY** TO: Creighton Griggs; CURRENT ADDRESS UNKNOWN; LAST KNOWN ADDRESS, 14050 NW 246th Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972, Unknown Spouse of Creighton Griggs; CURRENT ADDRESS UNKNOWN; LAST KNOWN ADDRESS, 12809 Wild Acres Road, Largo, FL 33773, Sterling F. Griggs; CURRENT ADDRESS UNKNOWN; LAST KNOWN ADDRESS, 14462 Northwest 246th Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972 and Unknown Spouse of Sterling F. Griggs; CURRENT ADDRESS UNKNOWN; LAST KNOWN ADDRESS, 14462 Northwest 246th Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972.

Residence unknown, if living, including any unknown spouse of the said Defendants, if either has remarried and if either or both of said Defendants are dead, their respective unknown heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, creditors, lienors, and trustees, and all other persons claiming by, through, under or against the named Defendant(s); and the aforementioned named Defendant(s) and such of the aforementioned unknown Defendants and such of the aforementioned unknown Defendants as may be infants, incompetents or otherwise not sui juris.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action has been commenced to foreclose a mortgage on the following real property, lying and being and situated in Okeechobee County, Florida, more particularly described as follows:

**THE WEST 1/2 OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF TRACT 17, SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 34 SOUTH, RANGE 33 EAST, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT OF SOUTHERN COLONIZATION COMPANY RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGES 3A-E INCLUSIVE OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

more commonly known as 14462 Northwest 246th Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972.

This action has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defense, if any, upon SHAPIRO, FISHMAN & GACHE, LLP, Attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is 2424 North Federal Highway, Suite 360, Boca Raton, FL 33431, within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this notice and the original with the clerk of this Court, otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on the 3rd day of March, 2014. Sharon Robertson Circuit and County Courts By: Arlene Nealis Deputy Clerk

**Florida Rules of Judicial Administration Rule 2.540 Notices to Persons With Disabilities** If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact Corrie Johnson, ADA Coordinator, 250 NW Country Club Drive, Suite 217, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, (772) 807-4370 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

**SPANISH:** Si usted es una persona discapacitada que necesita alguna adaptación para poder participar de este procedimiento o evento; usted tiene derecho, sin costo alguno a que se le provea cierta ayuda. Favor de comunicarse con Corrie Johnson, Coordinadora de A.D.A., 250 NW Country Club Drive, Suite 217, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, (772) 807-4370 por lo menos 7 días antes de que tenga que comparecer en corte o inmediatamente despues de haber recibido esta notificación si es que falta menos de 7 días para su comparecencia. Si tiene una discapacidad auditiva ó de habla, llame al 711.

**KREYOL:** Si ou se you moun ki kokobe ki bezwen asistans ou aparay pou ou ka patisipe nan prosedu sa-a, ou gen dwa san ou pa bezwen peye anyen pou ou jwen on seri de ed. Tanpri kontakte Corrie Johnson, Co-ordinator ADA, 250 NW Country Club Drive, suite 217, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, (772) 807-4370 O'mwen 7 jou avan ke ou gen pou-ou parèt nan tribinal, ou imediatman ke ou resewva avis sa-a ou si le ke ou gen pou-ou ale nan tribinal-la mwens ke 7 jou; Si ou pa ka tande ou pale byen, rele 711. 463361 ON 3/9/16/2014

**Public Notices**

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

**SUDOKU**

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

Level: Advanced

**Crossword Puzzle**

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

**ACROSS**

- 1 One of the ABC islands
- 6 Nail remover
- 10 Loaf, with "off"
- 14 Any "Friends" episode, now
- 15 Kuntun Mountains locale
- 16 Toothed whale
- 17 "Retro viewer"
- 20 Stand-up routine, usually
- 21 Lotion additive
- 22 Diamond's co-star in a '70s sitcom
- 24 Mud nest builders
- 28 "Retro imager"
- 33 Aroused
- 34 Forward progress
- 35 New Jersey casino, with "The"
- 36 \_\_\_-bitsy
- 37 Turns targets
- 39 SEAL's school
- 40 Printer resolution meas.
- 41 Lie flush with
- 42 In need of a tow
- 43 "Retro recorder"
- 47 Oscar winner Zellweger
- 48 Path to the pins
- 49 Drawn-out story
- 52 Hive material
- 57 "Retro dialer"
- 61 Morales of "Jericho"
- 62 Seward Peninsula city
- 63 Frozen rope, in baseball
- 64 Pounds in London
- 65 Shih \_\_\_ Tibetan dogs
- 66 Online periodicals

- 9 Big name in grooming products
- 10 Cheerleader's cry
- 11 It's found in veins
- 12 Last full U.S. DST month
- 13 Best-liked, in chat rooms
- 18 Service expert
- 19 Hawkeye
- 23 Word that can bring the ends of the starred answers up to date
- 25 Frames badly?
- 26 Horse's strut
- 27 "I'll give the wheel a final spin" speaker
- 28 Deal with a crust
- 29 Thumbs-up
- 30 Pewter with 80% tin
- 31 Paternal palindrome
- 32 Sue Grafton's "\_\_\_ for Corpse"
- 33 Hygienist's request
- 37 NYC dance co.

- 38 Junkyard dog
- 39 Hagen of Broadway
- 41 Go on \_\_\_: rampage
- 42 Place for a belfry
- 44 Half a lover's quarrel
- 45 San Francisco transit features
- 46 Support for a proposal?
- 50 Ibsen's "Peer \_\_\_"
- 51 It covers everything
- 53 Carpentry leveler
- 54 Words with trophy or prize
- 55 Uncommon blood type: Abbr.
- 56 Boomers' followers
- 57 Not opt.
- 58 Buckeyes' sch.
- 59 \_\_\_chi
- 60 Ostrich kin

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**

B	A	C	H	R	O	S	A	E	C	A	S	H
A	F	R	O	E	K	E	S	N	O	L	I	E
J	A	I	L	P	I	C	K	E	T	L	I	N
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N	A	N	S	T	R	E	X	A	L	L	I	E
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I	N	E	D	I	A	G	O	G	A	L	A	
N	E	R	D	Y	X	M	E	N	S	Y	S	T

xwordeditor@aol.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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61									62			63
64									65			66

By Richard F. Mausser (c)2011 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

**OHS tennis team loses to Lincoln Park**

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

The Lady Brahman tennis team lost 7-0 to Lincoln Park on Wednesday in Fort Pierce. None of the singles or doubles matches were competitive.

Carsen Corripio defeated Kearstin Dorance 8-1, Olivia Wallman defeated Elizabeth Santelices 8-0, Jennifer Gosney rolled over Rachel Williams 8-0, Sydney Jeffrey defeated April Hogenkamp 8-0, and Ellie Vanzyl defeated Imari Roberts, 8-0.

In doubles action the team of Corripio and Gosney defeated Santelices and Dorance 8-2, while the team of Olivia Wallman and Robin Wallman defeated Williams and Hogenkamp, 8-0.

The boys' tennis team fell, 6-1, to the talented Greyhounds. The Brahman won #2 doubles behind Cody Walker and Colton Root, 8-3, over Phillip Katta and Anthony Macias.

In the singles matches, Lucas Penido fought before a tough loss to Tyler Rios, 8-5. Cameron Slack overcame Otto Ramirez 8-3, Koushal Rao defeated Cody Walker 8-4 and Andrew King defeated Colt Root, 8-2. Reese Wild shut out Dylan Ferneau in #5 singles. In #1 doubles Rios and Rao combined to defeat Ramirez and Penido, 8-4.

OHS coach Morgan Ungerott said the match was "somewhat" of a setback for the Brahman.

"We knew LPA was a solid team going into the match but they proved to be too much for us to handle," she said.

Ungerott said at this time of year the team should be playing their best, but unfortunately have trouble getting tough points. She said she hopes for better results in the two team matches before districts in April.

"We did bump up our schedule this year to prepare us for a successful 'district' tournament so hopefully these tough matches will get us there," she added.

The team will be working even harder at practices in the next couple of weeks to improve their skills and she hopes last year's disappointment at districts will fuel her players. The team might be a little disrupted by some construction on the tennis courts, which will be resurfaced by the county. She still looks forward to hosting the District Tournament this year.

"It would be a great accomplishment for us to be one of the top two schools left at the end of the tournament. As we know, anything can happen at districts," she concluded.

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 <b>2000-C: Lake Access Taylor Creek Condo</b> 1 br, 1 ba completely furnished. Ceramic tile throughout. Amenities: clubhouse, boat slip & storage, seawall, pool and more. A fisherman's dream! \$55,000 MLS #207714	<b>NEW LISTING</b>  <b>3002-H: Lake Access CBS home</b> with 1409 Total Sq Ft/840 under air on a fenced lot. Screen room, large porch, window awnings, seawall, dock and workshop. \$49,500 MLS #207843
<b>ON 2+/- ACRES</b>  <b>5015-H: Crooked Creek</b> 5 br, 5 1/2 ba Spanish style home. 8,488 Total Sq Ft/6,159 under air. 10 ft ceilings, lg arch frame windows and more <del>\$389,000</del> NOW \$329,000 MLS #207286	 <b>5061-H: Dixie Ranch Estates</b> Lg 3bd/2ba CBS, 2652 total sq ft/2284 under air. Lg screen back porch overlooking pasture land, 2 sheds, lg open deck & more. Short sale. \$69,900 MLS #207196

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# Okeechobee Sports News in Brief

By Charles M. Murphy

Okeechobee News

• The Okeechobee High School boys tennis team lost 7-0 to Morningside Academy on Monday, March 10.

The Brahmins did not have much success in any of the five singles matches or the two doubles matches against the powerful team from Port St. Lucie. Lucas Penido lost to Wyatt Lovera, 8-1, and Marcello Balderama defeated Cody Walker, 8-1, in the only matches where Okeechobee was able to win a game in the pro set format.

• The OHS Lady Brahmans softball team lost to Lincoln Park Academy 2-1 Monday night in Ft. Pierce. Okeechobee was held to four hits in the game. Lincoln Park scored single runs in the bottom of the seventh to tie, and then won it on a walk-off hit in the 8th inning. The Lady Greyhounds have won eight straight games. They had 11 hits in the game, with two apiece by Ashley Montoya, Mya Houhgabook and Ashley Langel. Taylor Strickland struck out 11 to get the win.

• The OHS boys and girls track teams competed in the Bill Wilson Relays at Sebastian River High School on Saturday as the girls finished in 17th place and the boys in 15th place.

Highlights for the girls squad included Shania Bays who placed in the 200 and 400 meters. Mercedes Washington finished 10th in the 800 meters and Tabatha Henry finished 17th in the 1,600 meters and 13th in the 3,200 meters. The relay teams took eighth place in the 100-meter sprint medley behind Bays, Meaghan Bleakley, Washington and Sha'Dajia Williams.

The boys team was paced by Juan 'Yae Ford who took 19th place in the 100 meters and Marquez McLemore who took home 18th place in the 200 meters. Daniel Shelley finished 12th overall in the 1,600 meters. Emmanuel Gaona took 13th place in the 1,600 meters and was in fifth place in the

2000-meter steeplechase. Cole Owens took sixth in the steeplechase. The relay team of Wyatt Bessenbacher, Ford, Drayton Billie and Eddie Neal took ninth place in the 4x100 meters, 11th place in the 4x200 meters and 12th place in the 100-meter sprint medley.



Special to the Okeechobee News

## 4-Hers take honors in archery

Pictured is Josh Jenkins (left), 10, and John Pearce (right), 12, from the Okeechobee 4-H Sharpshooters Club, at the State 4-H Archery Match, March 8, in Newberry. John took fifth place, and first place team, while Josh placed ninth and second place team. Over 200 4-Hers aged 8 to 18 participated. Far right, John Pearce "Robin Hooded" his own arrow at the State 4-H Archery Match. The arrows were shot from 30 yards.

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