



# OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 105 No. 42

Sunday, April 6, 2014

75¢ Plus tax



**OHS flag football**  
... Page 11

**Symptoms of torn ACL are clear** ... Page 8

**Tammi's Top of the Lake** ... Page 14

## Lake Levels

**13.53 feet**

Last Year: 13.74 feet



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



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Okeechobee News/Katrina Elsken

Bull rider Jeffrey Ramagos said he does not remember the ride that sent him to the Intensive Care Unit on March 8. Viewing this photo, he said he thinks he was unconscious and his arm was caught in the rope. He vows to ride in future Okeechobee rodeos. He said the bull did not step on him, although it came close.

## Ramagos plans to ride again in future Okeechobee rodeo

By Katrina Elsken  
Okeechobee News

Bull rider Jeffrey Ramagos remembers climbing on a bull named "Big Deal" at Florida's Cow Town Rodeo at the Okeechobee Cattlemen's Arena on March 8. He remembers the bull jumping out of the chute as the gate opened.

Then ... he remembers waking up in the hospital.

"Everything went blank," he said in a telephone interview from his home in Louisiana. "I may have just been knocked out for a while."

Ramagos, 21, does not remember the medivac helicopter transporting him to Lawnwood Regional Medical Center. He said he was told he was in surgery five or six hours, as doctors repaired

his face — every major bone in his face was broken except his jaw.

Now home in Louisiana, Ramagos is concentrating on his recovery. He hopes to get back in shape to rejoin the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association (PRCA) circuit in May.

He said while "Mom was pretty upset" about his injuries, his family and friends are supportive of his desire to ride again.

"Everybody knows I'm going to get back on again. They're lifting my spirits about getting back on," he said.

Ramagos has been riding bulls since he joined junior rodeo at age 13. When he turned 18, he joined the PRCA.

See BULL — Page 10

## County offers sheriff \$334,000

Sheriff May had asked for compromise of additional \$1.7 million

Meeting in executive session on Friday, the Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners voted to offer Okeechobee County Sheriff Paul May an additional \$334,000 for the current budget year's operation of the sheriff's department.

At the beginning of the current fiscal year, Sheriff May sought a budget of \$15.1 million. However, the Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners felt that amount was out of line and gave him a budget of \$13.1 million.

In September 2013, the county commission adopted the budget for the 2013-14 fiscal year. Sheriff May appealed that budget to the Administration Commission in Tallahassee.

According to a press release from Okeechobee County Administrator Robbie Chartier, the county commission has defended its decision based on a number of factors, including the current and projected revenue available to the county and the board's belief that the taxpayers are already overburdened and it would be difficult for them to bear additional taxes or assessments.

Tuesday, March 25, the sheriff addressed the commissioners and told

See SHERIFF — Page 10

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# Planetarium show honors Galileo

Special to the Okeechobee News

Indian River State College Hallstrom Planetarium will present the show, "Galileo: The Power of the Telescope" at the Main Campus, 3209 Virginia Ave., in Fort Pierce. Audiences will examine the work of the famous Italian astronomer, Galileo Galilei, and his use of a simple telescope to the advances that have been made by new more powerful telescopes that explore the cosmos. The show will look at how Galileo used two pieces of curved glass to create lenses for a telescope, which revolutionized human understanding of the universe over 400 years ago.

The new show will be presented in the planetarium's recently upgraded, immersive video projection system that can now take visitors underwater to explore coral reefs, probe the hearts of distant nebulas and galaxies, or explore the microscopic world. New projected images will cover the domed ceiling creating wrap-around scenes in addition to beautiful star fields. Audiences will feel that they are actually in an outside environment looking up at the sky.

"Galileo: The Power of the Telescope" will be presented on April 11-12, April 25-26, May 9-10, May 23-24, and June 6-7. Planetarium show times are Friday evenings at 6 and 7:30 p.m. and Saturday afternoons at 1 and 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$3.

The Hallstrom Planetarium also offers public programs exclusively for younger audiences ages 4-12. Kid Space shows will be presented at 11 a.m. on select Saturdays throughout the school year. Children will be taken on scientific voyages of discovery and will learn about stars and constellations, Earth and other planets, the moon, and how outer space is explored. Kid Space will be



Special to the Okeechobee News  
**During an IRSC Hallstrom Planetarium open house, participants view the cosmos through a modern telescope. Audiences at IRSC's Hallstrom planetarium show, "Galileo: The Power of the Telescope," will compare the work of the famous Italian astronomer, Galileo, who used two pieces of curved glass, to the advances made by new, more powerful telescopes that explore the universe.**

presented on April 12 and 26, May 10 and 24, and June 7.

Planetarium shows, except for Kid Space shows, are recommended for adults and children over the age of 10. The Hallstrom Planetarium's temperature is maintained at 72 degrees and visitors may want to bring a light jacket or sweater. Tickets may be purchased at the IRSC Box Office at the McAlpin Fine Arts Center or by calling 1-800-220-9915 with VISA, Discover, American Express, or MasterCard or visit [www.irsc.edu](http://www.irsc.edu).

## Okeechobee Forecast

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**Today:** Intervals of clouds and sunshine. High near 90F. Winds S at 5 to 10 mph.

**Tonight:** Partly cloudy early with increasing clouds overnight. Low 67F. Winds SSE at 5 to 10 mph.

### Extended Forecast

**Monday:** Clouds with the chance of a couple showers in the afternoon. High 92F. Winds S at 10-20 mph. Chance of rain 30%.

**Monday Night:** Partly cloudy early with increasing clouds overnight. Low 72F. Winds SSW at 10 to 15 mph.

**Tuesday:** Showers and scattered thunderstorms. High 82F. Winds SW at 15 to 25 mph. Chance of rain 90%.

**Tuesday Night:** Light rain early. Partial clearing late. Low 61F. Winds W at 10 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 80%.

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## Public Forum/Speak Out

*Speak Out has moved online, where it is quicker and easier to share your ideas and converse with others. Go to [www.newszap.com](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!*

### Clean water act

- Finally, the federal court has ruled that the South Florida Water Management District must abide by the federal Clean Water Act and that backpumping of filthy water from the sugarcane fields into the lake is illegal pollution. The sugar company spokes people go on TV and try to claim they are "saving" water for everyone to use, but last summer they were backpumping when there was already so much excess water in the lake that it was being released to both coasts. The last thing the lake needed last summer was more water being pumped in from the south.

- News flash: The government also has to abide by the laws of this country! SFWMD, you do not get an exception!

- Well, we know which government agency is beholden to the rich agriculture industry, eh? They hassle the regular Joe, but turn a blind eye to the millionaires. I bet they drag this out as long as possible to save a few more bucks for the rich!

- It is high time they stopped letting big sugar use the environmentally-sensitive Lake Okeechobee as their private reservoir. They should build their own stormwater treatment areas to hold their excess rainfall. That way they wouldn't be polluting the lake and they would have extra water when they need it during the dry season. Of course they don't want to do that because they would have to spend their own money instead of using the taxpayers' funds.

- I know SFWMD is going to waste even more tax money appealing the decision that they have to abide by the Clean Water Act. I hope the Supreme Court refuses to hear the appeal. It is ridiculous that those in charge of water quality have been one of the worst polluters. It is criminal they are using our tax money to keep fighting for the right to break federal law.

### Sheriff's budget

- It's my belief that a deputy doesn't have to drive to the office every day to begin work. He begins his shift as soon as he leaves home. If his assigned zone is not where he lives, he is still functioning on duty on the way to his assignments. After work when he is relieved and driving home, he is still logged into his patrol car and able to make stops and back up the on-duty units including FHP on his way home.

- We can't afford higher taxes to pay for more officers because it's not a one-time expense. Those positions have to be paid for year after year. There are many ways that homeowners can help protect themselves from crime. Put in security lights. Get an alarm system. Fence your property and adopt some shelter dogs who will be very loyal to you and protective of you because you saved them. Take some responsibility instead of expecting someone else to solve every problem. Be a little more tolerant. If the neighbor is having a party and it gets a little loud, instead of calling the cops, try being a little nicer to the neighbors and maybe next time they will invite you to the party.

- I am also concerned about the abusing of the take home car program, it reflects on everyone. Even though a few abuse it. This is a management issue and the overall picture.

- I know studies show that allowing officers to take cars home saves money. But I am now wondering just how old those studies are. Have any studies been done since the price of gas went sky high? The last study I saw on this, the price of gas was less than \$1 a gallon. Before we just assume it makes good financial sense to let the deputies take the cars home, maybe someone should crunch the numbers again. Or do an experiment. Keep the cars at the sheriff's office and keep track of the expenses.

- I was told by a sheriff department employee that they start work when they get to the sheriff's office and when they clock out for the day at the. They don't have to stop on the way home in their duties as a deputies. I was in the need of assistance one day and watched as a deputy drove right past me and when I contacted the office I was told that he wasn't on duty and didn't have to stop. The person who told me this is in charge of some of the vehicles that go home.

## Reflections from the pulpit

### Anger is toxic

**Mark Mayers, LMFT, CAP**

Executive Director

Real Life Children's Ranch

Anger is a very powerful emotion. It is often in response to experiencing something that offends us. God tells us to be careful in our anger so we do not sin. Ephesians 4:26-27 says...26 And "don't sin by letting anger control you." Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry, 27 for anger gives a foothold to the devil. This verse conveys several truths including: 1 – anger can control us; 2 – it is best to resolve our anger as quickly as possible; 3 – anger is a gateway to other destructive behaviors and emotions.

Most people realize that alcohol and drugs can easily control people into making destructive choices. Being "under the influence" of drugs or alcohol is a common phrase to describe a person who is being controlled by a mind-altering substance. People under the influence of drugs and alcohol make horrible decisions while parenting, driving a car, solving conflict, etc. People who have unresolved anger are often controlled by their anger and are in a sense "under the influence" of anger. Anger can easily control or influence us to make decisions that hurt ourselves and/or others. We should be sensitive to the wisdom of our loving Heavenly Father that teaches us that

unresolved anger will control us into regretful thoughts and/or decisions.

God also instructs us to resolve our anger as soon as possible. Ephesians 4:26 says, "Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry." God never wastes a word or moment so there is a reason that he quantifies the time frame in which we should resolve our anger. Essentially God tells us to resolve our anger before we go to bed for the night. Modern day psychology has confirmed the idea that harbored anger quickly becomes toxic. Procrastination usually brings negative consequences. Holding on to anger is a form of emotional and cognitive procrastination. Essentially, anger that we allow our hearts to store has the likely potential to intensify overtime, harming ourselves and/or others.

Finally, God tells us not to sin when we are angry. Ephesians 4:27 says..."for anger gives a foothold to the devil." Once again modern-day psychology confirms what God said thousands of years ago. Research continues to prove that unresolved anger is a foothold or gateway to significant problems in our emotions, relationships, employment, physical health and our spiritual health. As we explore God's wisdom on the emotion of anger we see once again that our Heavenly Father gives us instruction because of His amazing love toward us. It is God's unconditional and eternal love that desires to protect us from the harsh consequences of misguided, unresolved anger.

## Letter to the editor

### Did you know?

Did you know that Air Force One is the most expensive airplane on earth to operate? Anytime the president takes one of his many trips, we are paying two hundred twenty-seven thousand dollars PER HOUR for its operation!!

Did you know that our president had been out of his office this four-year term a

total of one hundred and ninety-one days? He still has two years to go!

Here all of us are living below poverty level. We get to go to the doctor, church, and pick the drugstore where we can get our medications as cheap as possible.

Needless to say, I'm unhappy!!

Senior citizen,

**Frankie Russell**

## 5K Run/Walk planned for April 19 at Agri-Civic Center

A 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. 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.

# OKEECHOBEE NEWS

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### Okeechobee News

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### Staff

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**Circulation Manager:** Dee Gaudin

**Publisher:** Tom Byrd

### 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.
- To provide the information citizens need to make their own intelligent decisions about public issues.

- To report the news with honesty, accuracy, purposeful neutrality, fairness, objectivity, fearlessness and compassion.
- To use our opinion pages to facilitate community debate, not to dominate it with our own opinions.
- To disclose our own conflicts of interest or potential conflicts to our readers.
- To correct our errors and to give each correction the prominence it deserves.
- To provide a right to reply to those we write about.
- To treat people with courtesy, respect and compassion.

### MEMBER



# Okeechobee Arrest Report

The following individuals were arrested on felony or driving under the influence (DUI) charges by the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), the Okeechobee City Police Department (OCPD), the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP), the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) or the Department of Corrections (DOC).

- James Doheny, 34, of Lost Angeles, Calif., was arrested April 3 on an Okeechobee County warrant for failure to appear in court on charges of theft and contributing to the delinquency of a minor. Bond was set at \$10,000.

- Prentice Hobbs, 53, of Oakland Park, was arrested April 2 by OCSO Deputy Yero Todman on two counts of possession of a controlled substance without a prescription. He was also charged with misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia.

- Maria Pena, 17, of N.W. Fourth Street, was arrested April 2 by OCSO Deputy Yero Todman. She was charged with possession of a controlled substance and with misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia.

- Robert Russell Bolling, 40, of Linda Road, was arrested April 2 on an Okeechobee County warrant and charged with burglary of a dwelling or structure with assault or battery. Bond was set at \$50,000.

- Joseph Steven Salette, 28, of Okeechobee, was arrested April 3, by OCSO Detective John Fisher on charges of lewd and lascivious molestation of a child under the age of 12.

- Shirley Lee Ardley, 47, of S.E. 13th Avenue, was arrested April 3 by a detective with the Okeechobee Narcotics Task Force and charged with two counts of possession of cocaine. She was also charged with two counts of misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia.

nalia. Bond was set at 15,500.

- Gerado Garcia, 27, of N.W. 11th Avenue, was arrested April 3 on an Okeechobee County warrant and charged with possession of a controlled substance without a prescription. Bond was set at \$5,000.

- Oreste Salazar, 35, of Indiantown, was arrested April 3, on an Okeechobee County warrant and charged with violation of probation/community control. No bond was set.

- Austin Michael Blake, 19, of Okeechobee at large, was arrested April 3 by OCP Michael Jordan and charged with felony criminal mischief. Bond was set at \$5,000.

*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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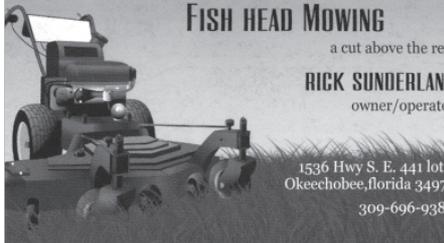
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## Community Events

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### Motorcycle Run to be held

A Motorcycle Run will be held Sunday, **April 6**. All Proceeds go to Assisting Crime Victims in the 19th Judicial Circuit (Treasure Coast) National Crime Victims' Rights Week. This is the 9th Annual Ride for Rights! Drawings, Bike Show, Bike Games, and more. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. at the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office, 4700 W. Midway Road, Fort Pierce, 34981. For more information, call Wendy K. Holcombe at 772-878-1131 or Lane H. Frye at 772-462-1390.

### Legion has Sunday bingo

American Legion 64 will host Sunday night Bingo on **April 6** 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 to 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.

### Community Choir needs you!

The Okeechobee Community Choir, in its 16th year under the direction of Sandy Perry, is rehearsing for its Easter Cantata Concert, to be presented Palm-Sunday weekend, April 11, 12 and 13 at the Okeechobee Presbyterian Church, 312 N. Parrott Ave. New members, especially our winter visitors, are invited to join! Rehearsals are on Sundays from 2:30 until 4:30 p.m. and Mondays from 6 until 8 p.m. in the sanctuary at Okeechobee Presbyterian. Singers aren't required to have soloist-quality voices, but have to match pitch, read music a little and love to sing! Rehearsals are fast-paced and loads of fun! Rehearsal CDs are provided to each choir member. There is a \$15 fee for music and the rehearsal CDs. For information, call Sandy at 863-634-7714.

### Trail Connections program

The Loxahatchee Chapter of the Florida Trail Association will present a program on "Palm Beach County's Trail Connections." Highlighting the connections between the county parks and natural areas. The presentation will be at the Nature Center at Okeehoelee County Park, at 7 p.m., on Monday, **April 7**. Okeehoelee County Park is located on Forest Hill Blvd., west of Jog road. Call Paul Cummings at 561-963-9906.

### Dinner, dancing offered

The Okeechobee Shrine Club, 1740 S.W. 53rd St., will hold a spaghetti dinner, Tuesday, **April 8**, from 4 until 7 p.m. Reservations are not required. The Shrine Club is please to offer smoke-free dining. For your listening and dancing pleasure, music is provided 5 until 8 p.m. All proceeds benefit Shrine charities. For information on the activities of the Okeechobee 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 rentals. Call Rosie at 863-697-8784.

### Stroke support group to meet

A stroke support group meeting at the Heritage Assisted Living Facility, 608 N.E. Second Ave., will be held on Wednesday, **April 9**, at 6 p.m. This group is being formed to assist stroke patients, their caregivers and anyone wanting to know about stroke effects and the care involved. For more information, call 863-634-8412 or 863-763-1700.

### VFW hosts rib dinner

VFW Post 4423, 300 N.W. 34th St., will host Jim Bowman's famous rib dinner on Friday, **April 11**, from 6 until 9 p.m. Call to reserve yours today. 863-763-0818.

### Fly an RC model aircraft!

The Okeechobee Model Airplane Club is hosting its annual "Meet and Greet Community Buddy Box Fly-In" on Saturday, **April 12**, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Rain Date is April 19, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.) at their local flying field located at Northeast 80th Avenue, this is the road off of RT 70 East that leads back to Thundercross Motocross Track. This event is open to the public and for the public to try their hand at flying a Radio Control Model Aircraft under the expert supervision of one of our instructor pilots. Admission is FREE as are the flights which will be provided courtesy of the Okeechobee Model Airplane Club. There is lots of free parking, so bring a lawn chair and your friends along! Hot dogs and soft drinks will be available for a minimal fee. Also for your enjoyment lots of model aircraft will be on display and flying throughout the day with a special Model Aerobatic Air Show at 11 a.m. If you have any questions or would like more information, please call Joe Papasso at 561-252-0916.

### Single seniors host dance

A single senior club will host a dance Saturday, **April 12**, at Cowboys in the Bull Pen, 202 N.E. Seventh Ave. The dance will start at 7 p.m. For information, call Marie at 863-357-0676. This will be the last dance of the season until the fall. Door prize is given.

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For a complete list of Obituary Notices, click on your community, then click on "Obituaries".

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### Volunteer with the Red Cross

The Red Cross is always seeking volunteers with various backgrounds, talents and skill levels who are interested in helping their neighbors when disasters strike. Please attend the Volunteer Job Fair Open House on Saturday, **April 12**, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the Red Cross Service Center located at 323 Parrott Ave. Meet disaster service teams, ask questions, and register to become a volunteer. For information, please call 863-763-2488.

### Inaugural Bridal Expo planned

An inaugural Bridal Expo will be held at the American Legion, 501 S.E. Second St., on 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, please contact Tammi Kelly at 772-708-6764 or email at tammiphotos@gmail.com.

### Sign up for Shockwaves

The Okeechobee County Recreation Department will hold sign ups for the Shockwaves swim team **April 14, 15 and 16**, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at the Okeechobee Sports Complex Pool. Registration includes a \$15 application fee and a \$60 team fee. Swim suit and meet fees are not included in the registration fees. For information, call the pool office at 863-467-7667.

### RSVP to hold training

RSVP of Okeechobee will host a training event on **April 15** from 1-4 p.m. at IRSC. A representative from Volunteer Florida will teach senior community members the responsibilities associated with setting up and running a centralized community Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) in the event of a disaster. The goal of the VRC is to process spontaneous, out-of-town volunteers who wish to help our community recover from any devastation. If you are 55 or older and would like to attend this training, please contact Marco Cuevas at 863-484-2907 to register, as space is limited. RSVP is a federally funded program of The Corporation for National and Community Service with local community support.

### Benefit aids battered woman

A benefit is being held for Eleden 'Ellie' Fonseca who was badly injured in a recent domestic violence situation. Tickets are being sold for \$5 each, or five for \$20. The winning ticket will be drawn Thursday, **April 17**. The lucky ticket holder will win a Yeti 50 cooler, spirits, Gurkha Cigars, cigar cutter, red Solo Cup shot glasses, redneck wine glasses and snacks. For tickets contact: Arlene Durbin at 863-634-4561; or, Mariah Anuez at 863-610-2946. Mrs. Fonseca is the daughter of Angie Rodriguez, who works for the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office.

### Eggstravaganza planned

An Easter Eggstravaganza will be held Saturday, **April 19**, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Recreation Park, at N.W. 6th Ave. between Los Cocos and the Skate Park. There will be games and treats, all free. The egg hunt will be held at 11 a.m. Bring your own basket. For information, call 863-763-6950.

## Obituaries

*Obituaries should be submitted to the Okeechobee News by e-mailing [obits@newszap.com](mailto: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](http://www.newszap.com).*

### Christopher C. Mayo, 86

OKEECHOBEE — Christopher C. Mayo, 86, passed away Sunday, March 30, 2014 at Lawnwood Regional Medical Center.

He was born in Huntington, West Virginia and had been a resident of Okeechobee since 1979.

He retired from the Huntington West Virginia Fire Department. He loved to fish.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Betty. Chris is survived by son, Larry and his wife, Linda of Port St. Lucie, Fla.

A memorial service will be held at a later date in Huntington, West Virginia. Arrangements are under the direction of Haisley Funeral & Cremation Service. An online guest book may be signed at [www.haisleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.haisleyfuneralhome.com)



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# Livestock market employees certified

Okeechobee has first auction market in the nation to hold Beef Quality Assurance Certificates

The Okeechobee Livestock Market took full advantage of the free promotional offer from Boehringer Ingelheim for Beef Quality Assurance Certification. All full-time employees of the Okeechobee Livestock Market that handle and process cattle recently passed the BQA Certification test, making this the first auction market in the nation to hold the merit.

"Today consumers are more concerned with how their food is produced. This is a good program to ensure the safety and security of U.S. beef, and we wanted to be a part of it," said Todd Clemons, President of the Okeechobee Livestock Market. "Having BQA Certified employees verifies that all cattle that pass through our auction ring will be handled under consistent guidelines with sound practices."

The BQA certification modules are customized to fit each segment of the cattle industry: cow-calf, stocker, feed yard and dairy operations. The program covers best management practices such as proper handling and administration of vaccinations and

other products, eliminating injection site blemishes, and better cattle handling principles.

"Some of the challenges that beef producers face is having all of their employees become BQA certified," says Dr. Jerry Woodruff, BVI Professional Services Veterinarian. "BVI's partnership with BQA helps offset some of those expenses, and we encourage producers and their employees to use the web-based training programs."

About the Okeechobee Livestock Market:

The Okeechobee Livestock Market is a progressive cattle auction known nationally for tried-and-true marketing of Florida calves to buyers. With a premiere location for central and southern Florida ranchers, the Okeechobee Livestock Market is located in Okeechobee, Florida, on Highway 98 North, with sales starting at noon every Monday and Tuesday.

For more information, please visit: [www.okeecheobelivestockmarket.com](http://www.okeecheobelivestockmarket.com) or [www.facebook.com/okeecheobelivestockmarket](http://www.facebook.com/okeecheobelivestockmarket), or call 863-763-3127.

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## Okeechobee Livestock Market Report

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

	LOW:	HIGH:	AVG:	LAST WEEK:
<b>COWS:</b>				
800-1000	70.00	- 109.00	85.84	88.35
1000-1200	70.00	- 106.00	89.44	97.55
1200-1400	81.00	- 109.00	92.64	99.32
1400-1600	85.00	- 104.00	93.39	102.79
<b>BULLS:</b>				
1200-1400	80.00	- 96.00	87.00	111.60
1400-1600	95.00	- 123.00	103.40	114.89
1600-1800	89.00	- 114.00	105.25	120.83
1800-2000	93.00	- 120.00	108.33	128.67
<b>STEERS:</b>				
150-250	200.00	- 340.00	300.67	288.75
250-300	200.00	- 310.00	265.75	263.17
300-350	190.00	- 275.00	251.71	245.53
350-400	182.50	- 260.00	231.92	230.65
400-450	170.00	- 237.50	211.15	206.23
450-500	160.00	- 220.00	198.28	198.83
500-550	157.50	- 200.00	190.89	184.92
550-600	146.00	- 195.00	179.93	162.70
600-650	160.00	- 184.00	170.25	161.00
650-700	132.00	- 176.00	157.86	155.00
<b>HEIFERS:</b>				
150-250	200.00	- 315.00	277.81	251.51
250-300	182.00	- 260.00	239.60	224.42
300-350	170.00	- 250.00	212.52	215.97
350-400	162.50	- 220.00	195.26	193.55
400-450	155.00	- 210.00	192.32	183.18
450-500	154.00	- 206.00	183.02	180.43
500-550	145.00	- 196.00	165.86	171.27
550-600	142.00	- 172.00	162.71	168.75
600-650	121.00	- 170.00	148.75	160.80

	MONDAY	TUESDAY
CLFS	203	601
COWS	102	242
STRS	7	12
HFRS	22	49
BULLS	20	13
YRLINGS	11	34
MIX	9	38
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>989</b>

Cows were a little bit softer. Calves were steady to a little higher on some classes. Numbers are dwindling down, especially on Monday, so if you are bringing them in, don't be late! It's that time of year!

H. H. Partin, St. Cloud, topped the calf market with a high of \$3.40 bought by Bellamy Cattle.

Butterfly Enterprises and Sandhill Rock, Ft. Pierce, topped the cow market with a high of 1.09 bought by FPL and Central Beef.

We have two young Charolais bulls and one Angus bull for sale! Call 863-763-3127.

**Todd**



Okeechobee News/Katrina Elsen  
 Sale days are busy days at the Okeechobee County Livestock Market.

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# Torn anterior cruciate ligament symptoms are clear

The anterior cruciate ligament, or ACL, is a ligament that runs from your hip to your knee.

The ACL is partially responsible for connecting your thigh bone with your shin bone, and is thus an important part of your leg structure. If you injure your ACL, perhaps while participating in a sport, you will notice

some very clear symptoms.

At the moment of an ACL injury, you may feel and hear a distinct "pop" sound coming from your knee. You may also have difficulty moving your knee and suffer serious pain around the knee area. Your knee may begin to swell as more blood fills the joint. ACL injuries often occur when an athlete changes

direction suddenly or comes in contact with another athlete. If you suspect that you have a torn ACL, you should seek medical care immediately.

For the past three years, Raulerson Hospital has been named a Top Performing Hospital in Surgical Care by the Joint Commission. Members of the hospital's medical staff

include board certified orthopedic surgeons. Raulerson Hospital also offers one-on-one physical therapy.

For 24/7 help finding a physician or to speak to a Registered Nurse, call the Consult-A-Nurse hotline, sponsored by Raulerson Hospital, at 863-763-9228.

# Cancer Society says proposed law does more harm than good

A bill (HB 169) with the stated intent of limiting youth access to e-cigarettes is moving in the Florida House of Representatives. But, added amendment language would strip local governments of their ability to better regulate the sale of all tobacco products and e-cigarettes, overturn existing effective ordinances, and block future opportunities to protect kids in the retail environment. With this preemption language, the bill now does far more harm than good in the fight to keep Florida's children tobacco-free.

"Instead of protecting our kids and teenagers from getting addicted to nicotine from e-cigarettes, this bill protects tobacco com-

panies — including the same tobacco companies that sell all the cigarettes — from reasonable measures to protect public health," said Dr. Barry Hummel, the Advocacy Chair of the Treasure Coast Volunteer Leadership Council of the American Cancer Society.

Many of the local ordinances currently standing in Florida are stronger than the minimum standards required by the FDA and are all meant to keep tobacco products out of the hands of children. They deal with product placement, requiring that all tobacco, not just cigarettes and smokeless tobacco, are placed behind the counter at retail stores.

In-store tobacco displays serve to increase product availability, visibility and brand awareness and stimulate trial and purchase of products. Product placement laws limit youth access to tobacco via illegal sales and shoplifting.

Local governments are closer to the community and able to be more flexible and responsive than state government in effectively dealing with emerging problems and finding innovative solutions. It just makes sense that local governments should be able to imple-

ment policies that address the problem of tobacco use.

State laws should serve as a minimum standard for a policy objective while allowing communities to enact stronger ordinances to protect their youth and residents in the most appropriate manner.

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, and partners are working to prevent the dismantlement of effective local tobacco ordinances around the state.



Special to the Okeechobee News/SEMES

## Seminole Students of the Week

Seminole Elementary would like to congratulate their Students of the Week for the week of March 13: Natali Ruiz, Aldo Rodriguez, Liz Rivas, Cristian Guillen, Wyatt Widdows, Isabella Mungaray, Krystall Carter, Dalton Yates, Brandon Greene, Esmeralda Toribio, Luis Reynoso, Vernesia Ervin, Xiomarys Quiroz, Kyle Cowles, Adriana Beltran, Charlie Stager, Jennifer Loreda, Yajaira Trapero, JaVonte Ford, Brian Estrada, Denis Gutierrez, Jonathan Folbrecht, Xavier Hernandez, Samantha Carlson, Joseph Luviano, Logan Newman, Epifania Vargas, Veronica Tenorio and Adryauna Baker.



Special to the Okeechobee News/CES

## Central Students of the Week

Central Elementary School would like to congratulate their students of the week for the week of March 10: Alyssa Ramirez, Damin Urgina, Jose Torres-Sanchez, Jazmin Arvizu, Sergio Contreras-Bustos, Slate Shatzer, Maurisio Chavez, Alejandro Castaneda, Xavier Kinty, Hubert Jenkins, Carson Schiel, Jasmin Flores, Jonah Allen, Leo Eduard, Selina Denova de Dios, Emma Harper, Qustion Dingle, Rosa Salas, Lilly Maxwell, Emma Vanderhoff, Anthony Madrigal, Jairo Castillo, Vicente Flores, Trinity Velicier, Melissa Mojica, Yanelly Medina, Mariah Simmons, Grace Gainey and Mia Barrett.

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# OHS boys tennis team qualifies for regional



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
Colt Root returns a shot during his district final match with Jensen Beach.

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

The Okeechobee High School boys tennis team qualified for regional as they finished second at the District 14-3A tennis tournament held at the Okeechobee Sports Complex this week.

The boys had representatives in six out of the seven finals that were held including

four singles players.

Jensen Beach won the district championship. Jensen earned 21 points, Okeechobee, 12, and South Fork, five points. Port St. Lucie, Forest Hill and Palm Beach Lakes trailed.

Coach Morgan Ungerott said she knew the team would be determined this year after a disappointing finish in last year's district tournament.

"The same guys were back this year and they remembered that feeling. The competition wasn't as tough as last year but it's still tough to win matches when you're a favorite," she explained.

Ungerott said the team really worked hard in the off season and throughout this season and really deserved the success they received. The Brahmans will be travelling next Tuesday to a site to be determined.

"It has been a successful year for us and it's nice to be moving on. Who knows what happens next week, but we can live it up right now and enjoy where we stand," she added.

Otto Ramirez got a bye into the second round and defeated Forest Hill, 6-3 and 6-2, before losing in the district final to Colter Decoste of Jensen Beach.

Lucas Penido defeated Keith Mateo of Palm Beach Lakes in the second round, 6-1 and 6-0, before he was defeated by Avery Davis of Jensen Beach in the district final.

Colt Root shut out Andri Cordova of Port St. Lucie, 6-0 and 6-0, before he lost to Jack Stoelting of Jensen Beach. Root said the first day was a really good day for him person-

ally and for the team as they reached a team goal of making the regional. He noted the first time he played Jensen Beach he didn't have very much success and really hoped to be more competitive. "I felt like it was a closer match the first time and I lost (8-0). I didn't know what happened. I'm excited and I'm ready to go to regionals."

Dylan Ferneau defeated Rider Pepler of South Fork 3-6, 6-2 and 6-2, before bowing out in the finals in a competitive match with Kyle Reich of Jensen Beach.

Cody Walker lost in the semifinals as he lost to Ethan Conrad of South Fork, 6-4 and 6-2.

The #1 doubles team of Ramirez and Penido defeated Fort Hill, 6-3 and 6-2, and South Fork before a loss in the district final.

The #2 doubles team of Walker and Root defeated Port St. Lucie but lost in the finals to Jensen Beach.

Coach Ungerott said the County Board of County Commissioners and Parks and Recreation did a wonderful job last month as they resealed the tennis courts. The courts looked fantastic as the six teams hit the courts early Tuesday morning for the first competition on the improved surface.

"We were so fortunate to have these courts done in time. The Parks and Recreation Department did such a fantastic job. We are very proud of the courts and how they look. We couldn't have asked for a better tournament," she added.

The Lady Brahmans had four singles players advance to the second round and

two doubles teams made it to the semifinals. Okeechobee finished in fourth place overall. Jensen Beach was the district champion with 21 points. South Fork earned 10 points to finish as the runners up. Forest Hill earned six points, Okeechobee five, and Port St. Lucie four points.

Elizabeth Santelices defeated Latasha Brown of Palm Beach Lakes, 6-1 and 6-0, in the first round before she lost to Alanna Strauss of Jensen Beach, 6-2 and 6-1.

Rachel Williams overcame Janki Matalia of Forest Hill, 6-3 and 6-3, before she was eliminated by South Fork.

Chelsea Walker defeated Theona O'Brien of Port St. Lucie, 6-4 and 6-4, before she was eliminated by Jensen Beach in the second round.

April Hogenkamp won by default in the first round before she was eliminated by Leah Price of South Fork in the second round in straight sets.

The doubles team of Kearstin Dorrance and Santelices defeated Port St. Lucie in a three set marathon in the first round, 0-6, 6-4 and 6-2. They lost on the second day in straight sets to Jensen Beach.

The #2 doubles team of Williams and Hogenkamp defeated Forest Hill in the first round, 6-4 and 6-2, before losing on the second day to South Fork in straight sets.

The boys will face the District 13-3A champion Tuesday, April 9 on the road.

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# BULL

Continued From Page 1

He said he won't let the injury stop him from competing.

"I will probably wear a helmet in the future," he said, although this concession may be mostly to ease his mother's concerns.

"If I had worn a helmet I don't think it would have made much difference," he said. His face was smashed against the top of the bull's head, he explained. "It was just one of those things," the bull rider said. "He threw his head up, and kind of caught me."

"It's not a very uncommon thing," he said. "It can and it will happen."

Ramagos said the rules allow the rodeo riders to decide if they want to wear any type of body armor and/or a helmet. He said he had never worn a helmet, even in junior rodeo. On the day of the accident, he said he was wearing a protective vest.

He plans to come back to ride again in Okeechobee.

"Normally, I only come to South Florida in the spring. I am out west in the summer," he said. "But if I am not on the PRCA circuit out west, I will be at the Labor Day Rodeo in Okeechobee," he said.

If he's out west in September, Okeechobee rodeo fans can look for Ramagos at the spring rodeo.

He said that although many spectators thought the bull stepped on him after he was on the ground, that was not the case.

"He came pretty close, but he didn't step on me," he said, adding that he has carefully watched the video of the ride and that doctors confirmed his injuries were from the collision with the top of the bull's head.

A Go Fund Me donation site was created by Jeffrey's mother, to help with the medical bills. The Professional Cowboy Rodeo Association, along with Justin Boots, has a Cowboy Relief Fund where medical bills for these types of injuries can be subsidized, and are helping the family.

# SHERIFF

Continued From Page 1

them he could work with a budget of \$14.8 million which is the same budget he had in fiscal year 2012-13.

In an effort to understand how the sheriff would spend additional revenue, if received, a series of questions was sent to the sheriff requesting specific information concerning his current situation and expenditures. Following receipt of this information from the sheriff, the board of county commissioners met in executive session to discuss settle-

ment negotiations.

Based on this information and the board's belief that, if possible, local issues should not be decided in Tallahassee, the board voted to increase the sheriff's current budget by \$334,000. Given that there are only six months remaining in this fiscal year, these additional funds should be sufficient for the sheriff to focus on his areas of concern, stated the press release. However, the economic realities that required the board to reduce many budgets in 2013 will remain a challenge for the community in years to come and hard decisions will continue to be required for the future health of Okeechobee County.

# Sports News in Brief

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

• The Okeechobee High School Lady Brahmans **softball senior night** game was postponed Wednesday against Fort Pierce Westwood. The senior night will be celebrated this Monday night, April 7, against Moore Haven. Game time is 7 p.m. with the ceremony to begin before first pitch.

• OHS **flag football** lost at Jensen Beach Wednesday, 22-0. The junior varsity lost in double overtime to Jensen Beach, 12-6.

• The OHS **boys baseball** team won for

the eighth time in 10 games Thursday as they defeated St. Lucie West Centennial, 11-3, at Tradition Field in Port St. Lucie. Kutter Crawford threw six strong innings for OHS as he struck out six Eagles, (8-8). Crawford also had a good day at the plate with two hits. Gabe Greseth and Jarred Morgan both had two runs batted in for OHS, (8-8). Okeechobee will play at Jensen Beach next Tuesday in their final district game of the season.

• Westminster Christian of Miami swept Okeechobee in a double header in high school **softball** on Thursday.

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# OHS flag football team loses to Treasure Coast

By Charles M. Murphy  
Okeechobee News

Marissa Casimir and Yasmine Queen both had two touchdowns to lead Treasure Coast to a 32-0 victory over Okeechobee High School in flag football action Thursday at Brahman Stadium.

Treasure Coast ran and passed the ball efficiently and caused five Brahman turnovers in the blowout victory.

Queen opened the scoring with a 15-yard touchdown reception from quarterback Jade Visser five minutes into the game. Casimir scored on a lateral play that covered 30 yards on the next possession. Shelby Parker added a 26-yard touchdown run in the first half for Treasure Coast.

Okeechobee was victimized by drop passes in the first half and were unable to get many receivers open against the Titans tight defense.

Queen picked off a pass on the first play of the second half and returned it 25 yards for a score to ice the game for the Lady Titans. Casimir returned an interception 21 yards for a score later in the third quarter. Parker added an interception that stopped Okeechobee's best drive early in the fourth quarter.

Visser ended the scoring with a 12-yard touchdown run late in the game.

Treasure Coast was ranked #18 entering the game and made the playoffs last year. Head Coach Devin Malloy said they had a few girls out and have things to fix but he

liked the way the team ran the football. "We have the speed to get outside. If we get there we feel we can score every time. We pass to keep defenses back but we run the ball 90 percent of the time," he added.

Malloy also likes the fact that the team is always trying to improve. He said the goal is to take the team to Tallahassee and the state championship.

"The girls know they have to improve to make it to the championship. They compete every game and we'll continue to get better," he added.

LaPorche Morris caught four passes for



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy  
Yasmine Queen, #9, tries to elude Lady Brahman defenders #10 Heaven Feltenberger and Kelsie Chartier (left) during Thursdays game at OHS.

40 yards to lead Okeechobee. Alyssa Coleman added two pass receptions. On defense, Kassadi Mott had eight flags. Jessica Mond had a quarterback sack. The defense also batted down four Titan passes. Makayla Root had a tackle for loss.

In the junior varsity game, Destiny Fonseca passed for 236 yards and two scores to lead Okeechobee to a 20-6 victory over the Titans. Fonseca hit Aaliyah Johnson with a short touchdown pass on the first drive as she completed five of seven passes to drive Okeechobee 65 yards in just seven plays. She also hit Andee Garcia with a 65-yard scoring pass in the second quarter. Johnson added a

55-yard interception return for a touchdown for Okeechobee, (3-2). Johnson caught five passes for 84 yards. Garcia had five receptions for 108 yards. Johnson added a 20-yard punt return.

Johnson said she was very excited about the team's performance and the victory. She said she was proud of how she did on defense, and on the interception, "I didn't think I'd have it, but I caught it and ran as fast as I could. On defense you have to stay strong and watch their moves."

On defense Clinesha Williams had 16 flags including one for loss. Kaylea Nunez added six flags.

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County Sheriff's Office is seeking applications for Certified Correctional officers. Ideal applicants are those with good moral character, in good physical condition and who are interested in serving their community. Starting salary is \$34,000 with less than 3 years experience. Interested applicants should submit an application to Human Resources at 504 NW 4th Avenue, Okeechobee, FL 34972. Applications may be printed from our website [okeesherriff.org](http://okeesherriff.org).

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**ANALYST I**

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Must be able to work in a fast paced, multi-task environment and have excellent verbal, written and presentation skills. Additionally, must be proficient in Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.). Bi-lingual (English/Spanish) language skills are a plus.

**Education/Experience**  
High school diploma and additional training having intermediate level skills with three (3) to five (5) years of previous related experience with specific emphasis on medical field knowledge (terminology, diagnoses & procedures).

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

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

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

ANSWER:



# Tammi's "TOP" of the Lake

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By Tammi Kelly  
Okeechobee News

• **TD Bank**, 1506 S. Parrott Ave., is not like other banks. TD Bank is open early, open late and even open weekends. They have free customer coin counting. They let people keep their pens. They furnish smile kits also known as lollipops. TD Bank lobbies are dog friendly with biscuits and water provided daily. TD Bank was voted 2013's Best Big Bank by Money Magazine based on perks that come with accounts and "real people" live customer service available 24/7. In 2013, JD Power & Assoc. voted TD Bank Highest in Customer Satisfaction for the eighth year in a row. By May 15, 2014 TD Bank's third annual Okeechobee Ag Venture program will have delivered hands-on agricultural learning to 1,620 area fourth graders! Give them a call at 863-824-6700.

• **Carquest**, 300 N.W. Park St., sells auto parts, of course. They can also pretty much find a part for anything else like your boat, hay wagon or even your toaster! They also sell automotive paints and products and they make hydraulic hoses. They are 110 percent committed to helping you find whatever it is you need. They have been serving Okeechobee since 1987 and some employees have been with them for 40 years! So, stop in and don't forget to tell them Tammi sent you. They can be reached at 863-763-1141.

• **2nd Street Pizza**, 202 N.E. Second St., is the newest pizza restaurant in town. They have stupendous Italian cooking and a cheesecake recipe that dates back 108 years straight to Italy. I can honestly say it is incredible. They have over

20 different kinds of pizza and even one that is called "Okeechobee." Ralph Collins has been a chef for 22 years and if you haven't be in this place you should really go because you'll be so glad you did. Give them a like on Facebook and don't forget to tell them Tammi sent you! They can be reached at 863-763-5000.

With Easter just around the corner, I have a great roast chicken recipe that will surely blow your guests out of the water this holiday.

### Simple Whole Roasted Chicken

Ingredients: 2 teaspoons salt, 1 teaspoon white sugar, 1/8 teaspoon ground cloves, 1/8 teaspoon ground allspice, 1/8 teaspoon ground nutmeg, 1/8 teaspoon ground cinnamon, 1 (4 pound) whole chicken, 5 cloves garlic, crushed.

### Directions:

1. In a bowl, mix the salt, sugar, cloves, allspice, nutmeg, and cinnamon. Rub the chicken with the mixture. Cover chicken, and place in the refrigerator for 24 hours.

2. Preheat oven to 500 degrees F (260 degrees C).

3. Stuff the chicken cavity with the garlic. Place the chicken, breast side down, on a rack in a roasting pan.

4. Roast 15 minutes in the preheated oven. Reduce heat to 450 degrees F (230 degrees C), and continue roasting 15 minutes. Baste chicken with pan drippings, reduce heat to 425 degrees F (220 degrees C), and continue roasting 30 minutes, to an internal temperature of 180 degrees F (85 degrees C). Let stand 20 minutes before serving.

## Okeechobee Elks Lodge 2871 helps American Legion

Okeechobee Elks Lodge 2871 is proud to help the Okeechobee American Legion. Left to right are Bob Groth, American Legion Post 64 Executive Board Member, Dan Fennell, Past American Legion Post 64 Commander and James DuPree, Okeechobee Elks Lodge 2871 Exalted Ruler. Mr. DuPree recently presented Dan Fennell a worthy donation to the American Legion for their charities. This donation is in consideration for their participation and in cooperation toward mutual coordination assisting the community of Okeechobee. If you would like to learn more about the new lodge, call 863-467-0550.



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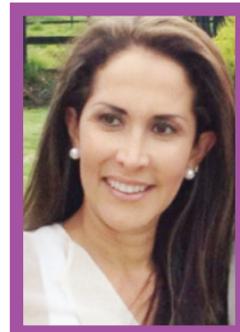
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