

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Celebrating Our Centennial!

Vol. 105 No. 117

Sunday, September 28, 2014

75¢ plus tax

IRSC to host 'Shark Tank' event ... Page 2

Phone scam targets local woman ...Page 11

OCSO calls: It really happened ... Page 13

Hog hunt set at Fisheating Creek WMA ... Page 19

Lake Levels

14.88 feet

Last Year: 15.94 feet

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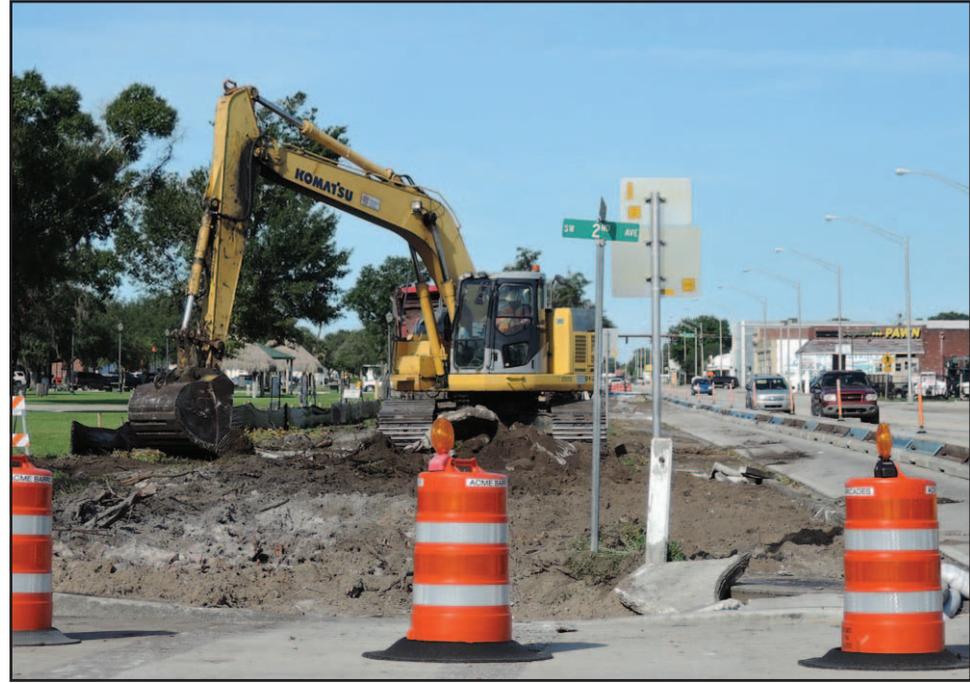
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Okeechobee News/Katrina Elsken

Road crews were busy this week preparing the intersection of U.S. 441 and S.R. 70 for improvements that will give the intersection two left turn lanes in all four directions.

FDOT busy in Okeechobee

By Katrina Elsken
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee County drivers will see plenty of roadwork and construction in the coming months, with millions invested in Okeechobee County infrastructure by the Florida Department of Transportation.

At the Thursday meeting of the Okeecho-

bee County Commission, deputy county administrator Jim Threewits advised the commissioners to brace themselves for complaints from those who will find traffic slowed and access to the Lock 7 pier blocked.

See FDOT — Page 5

Lake level on the rise

By Katrina Elsken
Okeechobee News

Lake Okeechobee is at 14.7 feet and rising, Gary Ritter of the South Florida Water Management District told the Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners at their Thursday meeting.

He said heavy rainfall in the upper Kissimmee basin means more water is flowing into the big lake.

"More water coming in from the Kissimmee River," he said. "We all know when that happens the lake starts going up pretty quickly."

"When the water conservation areas south of Lake Okeechobee start to fill up, that means we can no longer move a whole lot of water south," he added.

Mr. Ritter said the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been releasing water to the Caloosahatchee River, but so far no water from the lake has been released to the east coast this year.

He said the ceiling on the lake level is 15.5 feet.

"If the lake continues to rise as it has been, the Corps needs to ultimately make a decision," he said.

Due to environmental concerns about salinity levels in the estuaries on the east coast, the Corps has not released any freshwater from the lake into that system this year.

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Jobless rates remain stagnant in August

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Unemployment compensation claims remained at 8.4 percent for the second consecutive month in August in Okeechobee County according to the monthly report released by the Florida Department of Economic Opportu-

nity and the U.S. Department of Labor.

The report showed 1,519 residents collected benefits in August and 1,502 collected benefits in July. In August 2014, the jobless rate was 9.7 percent with 1,788 residents collecting benefits.

Glades County had a jobless rate of 9.1 percent in August, a slight dip from 9.2 percent in

July. The report found 443 residents collected benefits in August and 437 in July. The rate in August, 2013 stood at 9.1 percent when 464 collected benefits.

The report found Glades was fourth highest among Florida counties in unemployment rates while Okeechobee stood in 12th place.

See JOBS — Page 5



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Entrepreneurs pitch their plans in IRSC 'Shark Tank'

Special to the Okeechobee News

Pitching their business idea to a live audience with the prospect of attracting investors is the strategy for two local entrepreneurs primed to present their business plans to the Indian River State College Business Incubation Pitch Panel. The panel is composed of well-known Treasure Coast business leaders who provide real-world feedback to the entrepreneurs and possible investment.

The "Shark Tank" will be held Wednesday, Oct. 8, at 5 p.m. at the IRSC Brown Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, on the 35th Street side of the IRSC Main

Campus at 3209 Virginia Ave. in Fort Pierce. Tickets are \$10, including dinner, and may be purchased at irscbiz.com under Events Calendar. For more information, contact Tom Kindred at tkindred@irsc.edu or 772-462-7087.

The two presenting entrepreneurs both took advantage of the business services provided by the Virtual Incubator at the IRSC Main Campus. "The 'Shark Tank' event is designed to provide candid advice to entrepreneurs with the goal of improving their chances of success after business launch," said Tom Kindred Jr., IRSC Virtual Incubator Coordinator.

Tom Ruggirello and his team from Pe-gasus Purification Products will present their business plan to market and distribute the company's patent-pending, revolutionary ultraviolet (UV) sterilization system. The sterilization unit is designed to purge 99.99 percent of bacteria, mold and viruses in a convenient, easy to use, table-top unit. Designed for medical, commercial and in-home health care, the unit will completely disinfect and sterilize any item easily, quickly and efficiently.

Lifestone Video founders Jim Ragsdale and Don Vitale will present their company's plans to launch a legacy video enterprise. The mission of Lifestone is to provide the highest quality services available to enable people to share their life story with their loved ones, and to keep that story alive indefinitely.

The members of the Pitch Panel are Dr. Evan Goldstein, President, Complete Urgent Health Care, LLC; Mike Brown Sr., Chairman/CEO, Harbor Community Bank; Antony Donadio, President/CEO, Donadio & Associates; Peter Kemp, President/CEO, Huston's Commercial Interiors; Steven Barnett, CEO/Founder, TruMobility; Coletta Dorado, Presi-



Special to the Okeechobee News

At a previous Shark Tank at IRSC, James Knoska of Yacht Watchman International, Inc. was offered a proposal from Dominion Investments to raise and secure \$1.4 million in investments for his company. Technology developed by the firm maintains constant monitoring of vessel systems at mooring or dock.

dent/CEO, AZZLY; Daryl G. Bank, Managing Partner, Dominion Investment Group and Mike Aleksic, Chief Information Officer, Dominion Investment Group.

IRSC offers medical coding course

Special to the Okeechobee News

The Corporate and Community Training Institute at Indian River State College is offering a Medical Coding and Documentation Coding course that introduces participants to medical coding systems used to report physician and hospital services within all health care organizations where patients are treated. The course is offered Saturdays starting Oct. 18 to Jan. 17 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the IRSC Main Campus in Fort Pierce.

This is an ideal course for those looking to advance their careers within the medical field and for anyone seeking to enhance their knowledge in current coding and billing.

Students will learn how to code using CPT (procedures), ICD-9-CM and ICD-10-CM (diagnoses) and HCPCS (supplies) coding systems. Detailed training on the new ICD-10-CM coding system being implemented this October will also be provided. Students will learn about medical record documentation requirements and various Electronic Medical Record systems used to document services rendered to patients, how to use various electronic encoder products used within the health care industry and how to comply with national fraud and abuse initiatives for all coding disciplines. The class will also touch on insurance and reimbursement methodologies within the billing cycle.

Upon completion of the class, students may sit for any of the following National out-patient coding certification exams: Certified Professional Coder, Certified Professional Coder-Hospital, Registered Medical Coder, Certified Medical Coder, Certified Billing and

Coding Specialist or Certified Coding Associate.

The cost of the course is \$1,998 and includes all books, materials and the national exam. Businesses interested in sending their employees to this training may be eligible for the Employed Worker Training (EWT) Grant provided by CareerSource Research Coast. Under EWT, businesses may receive up to 50% reimbursement for the costs associated with this training. Businesses interested in finding out more about the EWT Grant for their employees can contact Michelle Glass 772-475-2201 ext. 620 or email mglass@careersourcerc.com.

For information on this course or to register, call 1-888-283-1177 or visit www.irscbiz.com.

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Public Forum/Speak Out

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

Fatality

- My heart breaks for the families of these girls. I think the whole community is praying for everyone involved in this accident. No one involved in something like this goes away unchanged.

- Life is unpredictable. You never know how long you will have your children or your grandchildren in your life. Hug them often. Make sure they know how much you love them and how proud you are of them. Accidents can happen at any time without warning.

- The cops should obey the same laws they are paid to enforce unless they have appropriate emergency signals on, which they should operate under restraint of the existing conditions!

- If you cannot trust your officers to know when to use lights and sirens, you need new officers.

- A terrible tragedy for everyone happened here. Were they planning to blow through the main intersection that fast? I don't care what the situation was. There is absolutely no excuse to be driving that fast even if they had emergency lights on and the time of night makes no difference. Huge can't take back mistake. God bless the families and the officer who has to live with this. I surely hope the department doesn't allow that kind of speed in town.

- The sheriff needs to enforce the rule that they must not exceed the speed limit unless they are enroute to an emergency, and have permission to turn on the emergency lights. If it is serious enough to drive faster than the law allows, it is serious enough to hit the lights. If they have to call in for permission to turn on the lights, they should just keep traveling at the speed limit until they get that permission approved.

- The law enforcement officers should set the example. If people see the patrol cars speeding, failing to use turn signals, etc., and the emergency lights are not on to indicate they are going to an emergency, what does

that say about their respect for the law? Why should anyone else follow the traffic laws if the cops don't? Law enforcement officials should lead by example.

- If you do a little research, you will find that in the State of Florida, quite often even if there is a death caused by an accident, no one goes to jail unless it is a DUI, drag racing or you leave the scene of the accident. Drivers have even hit pedestrians and not gone to jail if they stayed at the accident scene. The Orlando paper recently had a big write up on this.

- I do not understand why they trust deputies to carry loaded guns — and they don't have to call in for permission to draw their weapons — but those same deputies have to call in for permission to use the blue lights.

- If a deputy cannot be trusted to know when to turn on the blue lights, that person should not be a deputy. If they were abusing use of the emergency lights, fire them. Get rid of the ones who were abusing it.

Okeechobee Forecast



Today: Partial cloudiness early, with scattered showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. High 88F. Winds E at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 60%

Tonight: Widely scattered showers or a thunderstorm early. Then partly cloudy. Low 72F. Winds ESE at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 30%

Extended Forecast

Monday: Scattered showers and thunderstorms. High 89F. Winds S at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 60%.

Monday Night: Thunderstorms during the evening, then partly cloudy overnight. Low 72F. Winds light and variable. Chance of rain 90%.

Tuesday: Partly cloudy with afternoon showers or thunderstorms. High 87F. Winds SW at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 50%.

Tuesday Night: Scattered thunderstorms in the evening. Clear skies overnight. Low 71F. Winds light and variable. Chance of rain 50%.

Reflections from the Pulpit

Withhold not good!

By Tommaso Pasquarella

Cornerstone Baptist Church

Should believers withhold that which is good from those in need? How does one answer this question except with; may it never be. Logically, people will say that we should do good to those in need, but in practicality it seems that they do the opposite. People, believers included are so much more concerned with building their own kingdoms rather than building up the kingdom of God. This should not be the case; oh Saints of God. This problem is not just among the church and today's culture, but for Jewish people throughout the Old Testament as well. For example, Solomon spent seven years building the house of the LORD, and thirteen years building his own. There is no judgment for Solomon, but it does show the fundamental problem men have when it comes to what they care for more. "Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it." (Proverbs 3:27) Proverbs commands believers to not withhold good from those to whom it is due. This is a command; not a request, so how does this jibe with how the church lives in this world and how they are supposed to live?

Answering this question is very important in the lives of those who belong to Christ. There will be some that say this is Old Testament and it does not apply to us. To them it must be said that this is the word of God and it all applies to believers. The principle here is that those who love God and honor Him will not withhold that which is good from them to whom it is due, to those who need it. It would be good to find out who good is due to. This is referring to those who are poor, widows, or orphans. Why would that be the case? They are the people whom God has called the people of God to minister to. "And if thy brother be waxen poor, and fallen in decay with thee; then thou shalt relieve him: yea, though he be a stranger, or a sojourner; that he may live with thee." (Leviticus 25:35) God in His grace and mercy has called the people of God to help brothers who are poor and fall into decay and hard times by relieving them, even if they be strangers or travelers. God in His amazing mercy has called the church of God to minister to people in their needs, whether they are believers or not. They are to help especially if they have it in their power to do so. He desires

for His people to be His ministers of grace to the peoples. They should not even put off someone from that good. "Say not unto thy neighbour, Go, and come again, and tomorrow I will give; when thou hast it by thee." (Proverbs 3:28 KJV) He desires that the help would be given at the time of need.

Are we required to be a help in the New Testament to those who believe and those who do not believe? Well let us see what the Scriptures say? "I have shewn you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35 KJV) Paul speaks about how he had worked to support his ministry and for those in his care, and then he tells them that he has given them an example to support the weak, the poor. He urges them to do so using the words of Jesus, it is more blessed to give than to receive. The call of Jesus is key in this discussion. "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." (Matthew 22:37-39 KJV) Love God, love others, and we love others by caring for their needs.

How does the body care for the needs of others, lost or saved? They preach the gospel and help with needs in the lives of others. There is an opportunity for the body of Christ to step up right here in Okeechobee. Open Hands Health Center is a ministry that will serve the uninsured in this community by providing health care for the physical as well as the spiritual body. As a result, they will share the Good News of Jesus Christ to many who may not normally set foot in a church. The mission of Open Hands Health Center, Inc. is to deliver free professional, Christ-centered healthcare to economically disadvantaged persons of Okeechobee County, thereby meeting their physical and spiritual needs. Open Hands will be a clinic that will serve Okeechobee County's underserved with free medical and dental if they fall within 200% of Federal Poverty Guidelines. This ministry will need the support of the saints in Christ, to give, pray and volunteer. Praying that the Lord would move the body to live out the Great Commission, by helping this ministry become equipped and prepared to meet needs, minister to hearts, so that people would come to know Jesus as Savior and Lord.

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

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- 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.



FWC hosts workshops to discuss bear management

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) will hold three public workshops in October to discuss management of black bears in south central Florida and how people can get involved in working with the FWC on local bear issues.

Under the FWC's Florida Black Bear Management Plan, approved in 2012, seven Bear Management Units (BMUs) will be established throughout the state.

The BMU approach will allow the FWC to manage bears based on the characteristics of bears, people and habitat in different parts of Florida. The first steps are being taken to create the South Central BMU to manage the bear subpopulation on the Lake Wales Ridge and surrounding areas.

Workshops will offer the public a chance to provide input on local bear issues and allow interested people to sign up to be active members of the South Central Bear Stakeholder Group. The meetings will be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the following locations:

- Sebring – Tuesday, Oct. 7, Highlands County IFAS Extension Auditorium, 4509 George Blvd.;
- Lakeland – Wednesday, Oct. 8, Circle B Bar Reserve, 4399 Winter Lake Road.; and,
- Punta Gorda – Thursday, Oct. 9, Char-

lotte Harbor Event Center, 75 Taylor St.

"The workshops will give the FWC a better understanding of the local perspective on bear management in south central Florida," said Dave Telesco, FWC Bear Management Program coordinator. "Participants at the workshops will have the opportunity to interact more directly with FWC staff than during typical meetings. We will be listening more than talking."

The South Central BMU includes Charlotte, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Indian River, Manatee, Martin, Okeechobee, Osceola, Pinellas, Polk, Sarasota and St. Lucie counties.

Five BMUs already have been initiated: West Panhandle, Central, East Panhandle, South and North. Immediately following the completion of the South Central BMU workshops, the FWC will start the final BMU in the Big Bend.

Go to MyFWC.com/Bear and look for "Which BMU are you?" to find out more about black bears in your area.

"A guide to living in bear country" is also available at MyFWC.com/Bear by clicking on "Brochures and Other Materials," and you can find more on bears and the bear management plan at MyFWC.com/Bear.



Okeechobee News/Katrina Elsen

FDOT work planned at Lock 7 include paving of the parking lot by the pier and the addition of restrooms, as an improvement to the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail.

FDOT

Continued From Page 1

U.S. 441 & S.R. 70

Work started last week on the project to widen and add turn lanes at the intersection of U.S. 441 and State Road 70, commonly referred to as Okeechobee's "main intersection."

When the project is completed, there will be two left turn lanes in all four directions.

Many residents were saddened to see large trees felled in Flagler Park near S.R. 70 to make room for the additional turn lane. However, a member of the work crew on the site said most of the downed trees were rotted on the inside.

These large water oaks had simply reached the end of their natural lifespan, he explained. He said only one of the water oaks cut was a healthy tree. According to the Arbor Day Foundation website, the water oak is a fast-growing tree and has an average life span of 60 to 80 years.

According to the FDOT contract, the intersection improvements will consist of adding lanes and roadway reconstruction, milling and resurfacing, widening, construction of concrete bridges, base work, shoulder treatment, drainage improvements, curb and gutters, guardrail, sidewalks and signing and pavement marking on SR 70. The FDOT project budget is \$2.8 million.

The project is scheduled to take 250 days according to Janet Cook of FDOT.

She said replacement of the Flagler Park trees is not part of the FDOT project, but she understands the City of Okeechobee has plans to replace some of the trees.

Lock 7

At Lock 7, work is scheduled to start in October on improvements to the trailhead

for the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail. The project will include resurfacing the entrance driveway; constructing a new parking area near the pier, and the construction of restroom facilities. There will be 57 parking spaces on the paved area. The project includes speed bumps.

While access to the pier will be affected while work is under way on the parking lot and comfort station, the project should not affect access to the boat ramps. The project is expected to be completed by Spring 2015.

At the Thursday county commission meeting, Commissioner Bryant Culpepper brought up the question of security cameras. He said there is a continual problem with the area being torn up by trucks and four-wheelers. Mr. Threewits said they are checking into installing security cameras.

The FDOT budget for the project is just under \$1 million.

Everglades Boulevard

Road work will also be under way next week on the roadway known as Everglades Boulevard from U.S. 441 S.E. to south of SR 710, (including Southeast 34th Avenue, Southeast 28th Street, Southeast 43rd Avenue, Southeast 26th Street and 40th Avenue). Paving is scheduled to start Tuesday, Sept. 30. This project includes resurfacing the roadway, adding paved shoulders, replacing damaged drainage pipe and adding new pipe, upgrading the guardrail and replacing mailboxes. There will be daytime lane closures as necessary.

Sandra Mancil, with FDOT, said fliers about the project were distributed to those who own homes along the affected roadway. She said they also distributed fliers at Everglades Elementary School.



Special to the Okeechobee News/FWC

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission seeks the public's input on area bear management plans.

JOBS

Continued From Page 1

There are 67 counties in Florida.

Around the region, Hendry County had 13.1 percent, Hardee 9 percent, St. Lucie 8.7

percent, Indian River 8.7, Highlands 8.6 percent, DeSoto 8 percent, Osceola 7 percent, Martin 7 percent, and Palm Beach 6.6 percent.

The highest rate was found in Hendry County and the lowest in Monroe County, 3.9 percent. The state average was 6.7 percent and the nations stood at 6.3 percent.

from the Orlando area.

Currently, there is some storage capacity in the lake. Last year this time, the lake was about a foot higher at 15.7 feet.

"The decision has not been made yet whether they will start releasing water to the east," Mr. Ritter said. Both the Caloosahatchee River and the St. Lucie are getting basin runoff.

LAKE

Continued From Page 1

But if the lake keeps rising, they may not have a choice.

"The upper chain of lakes is all at regulation schedule," he said, explaining that is why they are moving so much water south

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Blood donations needed

Community volunteers are needed to help save lives by donating blood.

• Sunday, **Sept. 28**, at Walmart from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.

V.F.W. Post offering breakfast

Buckhead Ridge V.F.W. Post 9528, 29012 S.R. 78 East, is open to the public for the following activities: Sunday, **Sept. 28**, breakfast from 8:30 until 11 a.m. plus \$1 bloody marys, screwdrivers and drafts. Then it's five-card bingo at 5 p.m. Dinner is available for a \$6 donation on Wednesday from 5 until 7 p.m. It will be hosted by the ladies auxiliary. Thursday bingo and food starts at 1 p.m. Friday night dinner features pork loin, fish and shrimp for a \$7 to \$8 donation. Live music will be offered from 6 until 11 p.m. All proceeds benefit veterans programs and their families. Call 843-467-2882 for details.

Legion has Sunday bingo

American Legion Post 64, 501 S.E. Second St., will host Sunday night bingo on **Sept. 28** at 6:30 p.m. Doors open at 5 p.m. in the bingo area. 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.

Family workshop scheduled

The Florida Department of Education will host a family engagement workshop Monday, **Sept. 29**, starting at 6:30 p.m. at Yearling Middle School, 925 N.W. 23rd Lane, entitled "The Perfect Brainstorm in 3-D." This interactive workshop will inspire students, parents and community members to get excited about, and involved with, The Florida Standards. The 3-D workshop will explain why the standards are beneficial to all Floridians, and teach families specific age-appropriate activities to support learning at home. Parents and kids of all ages are encouraged to attend. For information, call 863-462-5056.

Hospital hosting lecture

The Dine with the Doctor's topic this month is Sepsis is Serious. This lecture will be held in the Raulerson Hospital cafeteria, 1796 U.S. 441 N., Tuesday, **Sept. 30**, with dinner being served at 4:30 p.m. for \$5. The lecture is free and will start at 5 p.m. RSVP by calling 863-763-9228.

Women's health luncheon set

Raulerson Hospital will host a Women's Health luncheon Wednesday, **Oct. 8**, at IRSC Williamson Center, 2229 N.W. Ninth Ave. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. and presentations will be from noon until 1 p.m. Space is limited, so RSVP to 863-763-9228.

Healthy Start board to meet

The Okeechobee Healthy Start Coalition board of directors will meet Wednesday, **Oct. 1**, at 11 a.m. in their office located in the White House Plaza, 1132 S. Parrott Ave. The meeting is open to the public. The coalition is part of a statewide network responsible for planning and implementing services for pregnant women and infants. The coalition is made up of citizens interested in promoting healthy families and healthy outcomes for babies in Okeechobee. For information, contact executive director Kay Begin at 863-462-5877.

OHS drama group plans play

The OHS Drama/Thespian Troupe 7319 will present "Steel Magnolias" **Oct. 2 - 4**. Showtime is at 7 p.m. on Oct. 2 and 3; and at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 4. Tickets are \$5. The play will be held at the OHS Lecture Hall. For information, contact Ms. Raulerson at 863-462-5020, ext. 8011.

Five wishes workshop slated

A five wishes workshop will be held Thursday, **Oct. 2**, at 2 p.m. and again on Dec. 4 at the Fountain of Life Church, 1302 S.W. 32nd St. The five wishes is a brochure/check list which explains what an individual should do with regard to the five wishes in case of serious illness. For information, call Carolyn Thomas at 863-467-8644.

Shrine offers dinner, dancing

The Okeechobee Shrine Club, 1740 S.W. 53rd St., will host a spaghetti dinner Tuesday, **Oct. 7**, from 4 until 7 p.m. Reservations are not required. Music will be provided from 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.

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

IRSC offers Lifelong Learning

The Fielden Institute at IRSC is a program of the IRSC Foundation and is designed to serve men and women age 50 or older who are interested in returning to the college classroom to learn — simply for the joy of learning. Among the 2014-15 session offerings are discussion groups and class offerings on topics such as computers, photography, writing, gardening, creativity and local history. An open house will be held from 9:30 until 11 a.m., on Friday, **Oct. 3**, in the Williamson Conference Center Auditorium at the Okeechobee IRSC Dixon Hendry Campus, 2229 N.W. Ninth Ave. To RSVP, call IRSC at 772-462-7880; email Katherine Hazellief at khazelli@irsc.edu; or, visit www.irscfoundation.org.

Change Medicaid plan now

If you or your child is currently on Medicaid and assigned to a certain insurance plan or physician, you have only a few weeks left to make a change. Otherwise, you may not be able to change your plan for one year. The number to call is 877-711-3662; or visit www.flmedicaidmanagedcare.com. You should act before **Oct. 31**. For local assistance, call the Dr. Fred Brown Children's Health Center at 863-763-1951 and ask for a health benefits counselor.

Habitat office has moved

Habitat for Humanity has plans to move from the Trading Post Flea Market to a new building at 1321 S.R. 70 East, across from Race Trac. To arrange pick up or drop off, call Diane at 863-634-1686.

Quilt, Craft Bazaar to be held

The Quilters of Peace Lutheran Church are planning their Quilt and Craft Bazaar for Saturday, **Nov. 15**, in the Fellowship Hall, 750 N.W. 23rd Street. A limited number of tables are available for craft vendors from the community, \$10. There will be all kinds of crafts, quilts, lunch, a huge bake sale and a white elephant sale. To reserve a table or for information, call Dottie Allen at 863-801-8100.

R.C. club outings slated

The Okeechobee Model Airplane Club is a local group focused on building and flying radio controlled aircraft which includes airplanes and helicopters. We have a lot of experienced instructors and fly everything from fun sport aircraft to scale reproductions and aerobatics. We fly every Saturday morning at the Agri-Civic Center, S.R. 70 East, typically from 7:30 until 11 a.m. Meetings are the first Saturday of the month at the field starting at 8:30 p.m. Come on out and meet us or join us, everyone is welcome and we will even teach you how to fly. For information, call Joe Papasso 561-252-0916.

R.C. cars run every Sunday

The Okeechobee RC Racing Club is a local group focused on running radio controlled cars and trucks. Subcategories in boats and airboats are also available. They have a dirt track at the Agri-Civic Center on S.R. 70 East. They run at this track as a club on Sunday afternoons starting at 3:30 p.m. Call Joe Papasso 561-252-0916 for information.

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Road Watch

Motorists are reminded to wear safety belts and drive with caution, courtesy, common sense, and patience as they travel through work zones. Remember, speeding fines are doubled in work zones. Travelers can visit www.FL511.com or dial "511" from their phone to learn about traffic conditions on major roadways across the state. Roadwork planned this week includes the following:

Okeechobee County

- **US 441 from CR 68E to NE 312th Street:** Maintenance contract project: Crews are working on roadway shoulders close to the road. Use caution when traveling in the area.
- **US 441 (North Parrot Avenue) from 290th Trail to NW 344th Street:** Maintenance project: Crews will repair concrete mitered end sections. There are no planned lane closures, but use caution and watch for workers close to the road.
- **US 98 from SR 70 to CR 68 (NW 160th Street):** Maintenance project:

Crews will be repairing roadway shoulders. There are no planned lane closures, but use caution and watch for workers close to the road.

- **SR 70 east of Okeechobee/NE 34th Avenue to Williams Road/NE 48th Avenue:** Maintenance permit project: Crews are relocating utilities along the south side of the road. No lane closures are scheduled, but use caution and watch for workers close to the road.
- **SR 70 from NW/SW 4th Avenue to NE/SE 3rd Avenue:** Construction project: This project improves the intersection at US 441. Crews are clearing the right of way and continuing signal work. Observe posted speed limits, look out for pedestrians and bicyclists, and drive with caution in the construction zone. During this project, crews will add turn lanes, widen and resurface the roadway, improve drainage, replace traffic signals and build curb, gutter, and sidewalk. Estimated completion is summer 2015. The contractor is Ranger Construction Industries, Inc.

Okeechobee Livestock Market Report

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

COWS:	LOW:	HIGH:	AVG:
800-1000	88.00	- 138.00	101.33
1000-1200	98.00	- 125.00	108.00
1200-1400	105.00	- 134.00	113.70
1400-1600	99.00	- 116.00	109.47

BULLS:	LOW:	HIGH:	AVG:
1200-1400	113.00	- 126.00	118.25
1400-1600	116.00	- 133.00	126.17
1600-1800	122.00	- 139.00	130.25
1800-2000	125.00	- 136.00	129.50

	MONDAY	TUESDAY
CLFS	573	920
COWS	129	213
STRS	19	81
HFRS	20	32
BULLS	20	41
YRLINGS	16	17
MIX	0	0
TOTAL	777	1304

#1 STEERS:	LOW:	HIGH:	AVG:
150-250	470.00	- 510.00	488.57
250-300	405.00	- 475.00	426.67
300-350	370.00	- 405.00	387.61
350-400	322.50	- 365.00	336.25
400-450	302.50	- 327.50	311.88
450-500	270.00	- 300.00	279.36
500-550	247.50	- 267.50	255.65
550-600	235.00	- 265.00	243.61
600-650	222.50	- 240.00	230.18
650-700	228.00	- 232.50	228.85

#1 1/2 - #2 STRS:	LOW:	HIGH:	AVG:
150-250	300.00	- 475.00	412.50
250-300	300.00	- 405.00	371.30
300-350	300.00	- 365.00	337.07
350-400	280.00	- 320.00	301.13
400-450	260.00	- 302.50	280.61
450-500	237.50	- 270.00	254.84
500-550	217.50	- 247.50	232.92
550-600	208.00	- 235.00	225.16
600-650	200.00	- 222.50	208.38
650-700	192.00	- 228.00	205.28

#1 HEIFERS:	LOW:	HIGH:	AVG:
150-250	350.00	- 475.00	411.79
250-300	310.00	- 385.00	335.77
300-350	295.00	- 350.00	311.79
350-400	265.00	- 310.00	278.17
400-450	250.00	- 320.00	259.64
450-500	240.00	- 280.00	245.57
500-550	230.00	- 267.50	238.85
550-600	224.00	- 250.00	230.44
600-650	222.50	- 244.00	232.55

#1 1/2 - #2 HFRS:	LOW:	HIGH:	AVG:
150-250	270.00	- 390.00	327.80
250-300	260.00	- 310.00	285.74
300-350	250.00	- 295.00	271.13
350-400	240.00	- 265.00	253.51
400-450	230.00	- 250.00	241.38
450-500	215.00	- 240.00	228.72
500-550	205.00	- 230.00	219.31
550-600	185.00	- 224.00	211.43
600-650	182.50	- 222.50	204.45

Prices stayed high again this week as numbers were off a little probably due to the rate of rain.

Bred Heifer Sale will be here Friday, Oct. 3, at 1 p.m. We are expecting around 150 head.

Pat Modine, Ft. Pierce, topped the calf market with a high of \$5.10 bought by L 2 Cattle.

Lazy S Cattle, Lorida, topped the slaughter cow market with a high of \$1.26 bought by FPL.

Our special sales are just around the corner, so if you are in need of bred heifers or bulls, come see us!

Oct. 3: Bred Heifer & Cow Sale (taking consignments now!)

Oct. 10: "44 Farms" Angus Bull Sale

Oct. 17: "Little Creek Farms" Brangus Bull Sale plus 50 head (registered & commercial) Brangus Heifers.

See ya here at the Market!

Todd

• **Everglades Boulevard from US 98/441 to south of SR 710, including SE 34th Avenue, SE 28th Street, SE 43rd Avenue, SE 26th Street and 40th Avenue:** Construction Project: Crews will begin paving, Tuesday, September 30 through Friday, October 3. Expect periodic daytime lane closures with flaggers directing traffic and be prepared to stop. This project includes resurfacing the roadway, adding paved shoulders, replacing damaged drainage pipe and adding new pipe, upgrading guardrail and replacing mailboxes. Estimated completion is spring 2015. The contractor is J.W. Cheatham, LLC.

Glades County

• **Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail (LOST Trail) from north of the Herbert Hoover Dike Bridge to the bridge east of CR 721:** Construction project: Improvements under this contract include enhancement to the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail (LOST) with construction of a 10-foot asphalt shared use path, two-foot shoulders, signs and pavement markings. No lane closures are expected; however, use caution as trucks enter and exit SR 78 near the Lake Port area. Estimated completion is spring 2015. The contractor is Lawrence Lynch Corp.

• **SR 78 from US 27 to Harney Pond Canal:** Maintenance permit project: Crews are replacing poles along the roadway. Motorists should expect intermittent daytime lane closures from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, weather permitting. Motorists should use caution as crews work near the roadway.

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Physician offers fall sun safety tips for Florida

Cooler weather brings greater threat of damaging exposure

Special to the Okeechobee News

Whether you're a Floridian or just visiting, chances are you'll be heading outside to play.

Ninety-six percent of residents and 98 percent of tourists say enjoying outdoor recreation in Florida is important to them. The three most popular activities? Going to the beach; looking at wildlife and bicycling, according to a recent survey.

Those of us who live here are far more likely to be doing those things in the fall, when our steamy summers melt into lower humidity and high temperatures, ranging from the upper 70s to low to mid-80s.

"A lot of public service messages about sun precautions go out in the summer, when those of us who live here tend to limit our outdoors time to early mornings and evenings," says Adam J. Scheiner, M.D., www.adamscheinermid.com, an eyelid and facial cosmetic surgeon who's been featured on The Dr. Oz Show, The Howard Stern Show and The Doctors.

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"Those are actually fairly safe hours for sun exposure. The far more dangerous hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. We're much more likely to be outside during those times in the fall and winter."

No matter how comfortable the temperature feels, Dr. Scheiner says, don't be fooled!

"We're not far from the equator - it's less than 1,800 miles from Miami - which means we're exposed to more sun more of the time than places farther from the equator," he says. "Earlier this summer, the surgeon general predicted 9,000 people will die from melanoma this year. That's preventable."

"If skin cancer doesn't scare you, think with your vanity. Sun exposure is the No. 1 cause of wrinkles, discoloration, age spots and festoons, among other disfiguring problems."

Dr. Scheiner shares tips for preventing, minimizing and repairing sun damage:

- Prevention: You're not just exposed when you're fishing, gardening or at the playground.

"Anytime you go outside, you're exposing yourself to damaging UVB and UVA rays, and the result is cumulative. A little bit here and a little there adds up," Scheiner says.

Simply driving a car can result in serious sun damage. A study published in the Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology found more skin cancers on the left side of patients' faces - the side exposed while driving - than the right. Scheiner says he's seen truckers and others who spend years on the road with severe wrinkling on the left side of the face.

"Always wear sunscreen, which protects against UVA and UVB rays. I recommend a Broad Spectrum Sunscreen with an SPF (sun protection factor) of at least 30, preferably higher," he says. "You can also protect yourself from UVA rays, which cause deeper damage, by applying UV-protective film to your car windows. Also, wear clothes with a UPF (ultraviolet protection factor) rating of at least 30."

- Minimizing: Good nutrition and topical products can help minimize signs of damage, such as wrinkles and age spots, Dr. Scheiner says.

Eat foods rich in antioxidants - carrots and other yellow and orange fruits and vegetables; spinach and other green leafy vegeta-

bles; tomatoes; blueberries; peas and beans; fatty fish, and nuts. An American Society for Clinical Nutrition study found that women ages 40 to 75 who consumed more vitamin C, an antioxidant, had fewer wrinkles.

Use exfoliant creams to remove dead skin cells. Prescription creams including Avita, Avage, Renova and Retin-A have been shown to reduce wrinkles and age spots caused by sun exposure.

- Repairing: Lasers can resurface facial skin by stripping away the outermost layers. Some "non-ablative" lasers also stimulate collagen formation, which helps smooth wrinkles.

"I use RESET® Laser Skin Resurfacing, which reverses the damage and removes many pre-cancers and even active skin cancers," Scheiner says. "RESET uses an advanced Dual Pulsed Erbium Laser, and my proprietary healing protocol. For two weeks, I tell patients to avoid direct sun and not to use any products on their skin that don't come from me."

The RESET treatment Dr. Scheiner has vaporizes the old skin and causes the collagen in the underlying layers to tighten.

The No. 1 best thing you can do for your skin starting today is to start making application of a broad spectrum, UVB/UVA sunscreen part of your daily routine.

"Apply it to all areas of the skin that can be directly exposed to the sun," he says. "The best scenario is preventing sun damage in the first place."



Special to the Okeechobee News

Kiwanis holds annual installation banquet

The Kiwanis Club of Okeechobee held their annual themed (black & white) installation banquet at Silver Palms RV Resort on Thursday, Sept. 25.

Incoming Lt. Governor Keith Muniz was in attendance to install the new officers and board members.

Above: Pictured from left to right are Lt. Governor Keith Muniz, board member Gary Scherrer, outgoing Lt. Governor Jim Vensel, President-elect Jonathan Bean, Treasurer Sherri Enfinger, Secretary Heather Hancock, President Ken Keller, board member Courtney Moyett, board member Lonnie Kirsch, board member Maureen Burroughs and board member Jim Davis.



Right: Outgoing Lt. Governor Jim Vensel presents J.D. Mixon with the President's Award for outstanding leadership (2012-2014) and service to the club.

Agri-Civic Center open to public for exercising

Unless an event is taking place, the Okeechobee County Agri-Civic Center grounds are open to area residents for exercise activities such as walking, running and bike riding on a daily basis. The gate on S.R. 70 is open from 7 a.m. until dusk for residents to access the roads and parking lots within the facility.

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Sleep is important for good health

Special to the Okeechobee News

You are apt to suffer restless sleep as you grow older and that's not a good thing, ac-

ording to the Association of Mature American Citizens. The 50-plus set can usually fall asleep with few problems, but many of them have a hard time staying asleep.

But, before you resort to over-the-counter sleep aids or seek stronger, prescription medications, discuss your problem with your physician. Your condition could be more complicated than you think.

There are a few things you can do in the meantime. For example, stay away from caffeine and alcohol before you retire for the night. Keep active during the day; it'll help relieve stress. Get as much sun as you can. Sunlight helps regulate melatonin levels, the hormone that helps control your sleep cycles. And, make sure your bedroom is quiet, is not lit up and is cool. Noises, bright lights and heat interfere with sleep.



By Tammi Kelly
Okeechobee News

• **Zippy's**, 301 S.W. Park St., has the best wings hands down! They have a variety of menu selections with the most popular item besides wings being the half-pound certified angus beef patty. That is handmade for each delicious burger. Zippy's also has specials all week long such as Kids Eat Free on Mondays and \$1 off burger day. Any special occasions, sports teams, birthday parties or office parties are all welcome to come and celebrate here! Can't bring the parties to them? No worries Zippy's will come to you! Be sure to like them on Facebook for all their updates. They can be contacted at 863-763-1399.

• **Chobee Play Skate N' Bowl**, 1465 U.S. 441 S.E., is Okeechobee's newest kid-friendly and family environment with bowling lanes and laser tag now open. Soon to come is a skating rink. With great prices and so much to offer, this is the perfect destination for date night, family night and birthday parties. Make sure to check them out on Facebook and their website at www.chobeeplay.com. Be sure and tell them Tammi sent you! They can be reached at 863-467-1800.

• **Yetti Outfitters Inc.**, 719 U.S. 98 N., is an archery and pro shop. They have everything you could want for archery needs. If they don't have it in stock, they can order and have it to you in no time. Their pricing is very reasonable. If you find a bow you like, they want to be sure you try it before you buy it so you know that it's a perfect fit. Check out their Facebook for weekly deals or go online to the website

at yettioutfitterinc.com for more. They can be reached at 863-763-1040.

With the holiday season approaching, how about something a little different to put in those cookie tins this year?

Apple Hermits

Ingredients: 2 cups all-purpose flour, 1 teaspoon baking soda, 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon, 1 teaspoon ground cloves, 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg, 1/2 teaspoon salt, 1/2 cup softened butter, 1 1/2 cups packed brown sugar, 1 egg, beaten, 1 cup chopped walnuts, 1 cup chopped apples, 1 cup raisins, 2/3 cup confectioners' sugar, 1 tablespoon milk.

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Line cookie sheets with parchment paper.
2. In a medium bowl, sift together flour, baking soda, cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg, and salt. In a large mixing bowl, cream butter until light and fluffy. Mix in sugar and egg. Stir in flour mixture, and mix thoroughly. Fold in nuts, apples, and raisins.

3. Drop by rounded teaspoon onto prepared cookie sheets about 1 1/2 inches apart. Bake for 12 to 14 minutes. Cool on wire rack.

4. In a small bowl, mix confectioners' sugar with milk to make a thin glaze. Drizzle over cooled cookies.

As always check out my blog for helpful links and more information about these businesses at <http://florida.newszap.com/topofthelake>.

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Sat., Sun. & Wed. 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00. Mon. 3:00 & 7:00

II: "THE MAZE RUNNER"
Fri., Tues. & Thurs. 7:00 & 9:00.
Sat., Sun. & Wed. 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:00. Mon. 3:00 & 7:00

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

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Okeechobee Team (L to R): Sara Sparks, Teller; Heather Hancock, Executive Assistant; Tabitha Trent, Market Manager/VP; Jamie Brammeier, CSR; Jennifer Lafferty, Residential Lender; John Williams, Community President/SVP; Patricia McWhorter, Teller/CSR; Shannon Conrad, Assistant Branch Manager; Sherri Enfinger, Consumer Lender; Elisabeth Garduno, Teller; Faveola Carrillo, Teller Supervisor; and not pictured Kristy Crawford, Portfolio Loan Manager/VP.

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B.R.A.T. Club in Okeechobee is looking for volunteers

Building Relationships Among Teens (B.R.A.T.) Club in Okeechobee is looking for volunteers. If you are over the age of 21, and a fun-loving and energetic person, we want you! Come help out the youth of the community at various youth events. Contact Tammi Kelly at 772-708-6764, or Teresa Chandler at 863-801-4996 for information.

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Special to the Okeechobee News/CES

CES Students of the Week

Central Elementary School would like to congratulate the students of the week for the week of Sept. 22: Emelyn Jaimes, Juan Hernandez, Alexa Fonseca, Maddox Cruz, Mychala Mills, Lilly Maes, Yaileen Hernandez, Jesus Valdez, Elianny Delgado, Carson Schiel, Carli Avant, Deanthony Torres, Aleisha Curley, Alexa Tellez, Luis Martinez, Alana McDonald, PJ Larra, Vicente Flores, Colton Wood, Mar'Lun Scott, Evan Gertze, Dosselena Flores-Torres, Jonathan Duque, Milagros Santibanez, Anyah Johnson, Edith Morales, Raquel Aguirre, Hunter Collins, Jayona Catia, Maria Campos, Kenley Perry, Sheyla Velasquez and Jarrett Butts.



Special to the Okeechobee News/SES

SES Students of the Week

Congratulations to the students of the week at South Elementary School for the week of Sept. 26. They are: Jonaari Crowell, Natalie Sanchez, Anacelie Gomez, Mareli Alarcon Moctezuma, Jasmin Santos, Brianna McGriff, Cheyenne Clauson, Caleb Murphy, Yahira Gomez, Dyson Nichols, Bryan Marquez, Nova Nichols, Silvia Gomez, Cassidy Hastings, Anya Collick, Madison Lilley, Josh Thiemann, Elizabeth Muniz and Andrea Guadalupe Meza.

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Local woman falls prey to Publisher's Clearinghouse scam

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

Sheriff's office reports indicate a local woman fell prey to a Publisher's Clearinghouse scam, while another woman avoided another scam by contacting law enforcement.

Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) Deputy Yero Todman said he responded to a S.E. 26th Street address where

he talked with a woman who had received an email, ostensibly from Delta Airlines.

That email told her to complete the process of purchasing a ticket, which she did not do.

Deputy Todman then called the airline's customer service department and was told they had received other calls of this type. The airlines, he continued, said they are "... actively working to remedy the situation."

The airlines also asked the woman to

forward the email she received to Delta's fraud/complaint site.

"I advised her to monitor her financial statements and identity/credit reports for the next several weeks," stated Deputy Todman.

Another local woman, however, did not fare so well. And even though her loss was relatively small, it was still a loss of cash.

OCSO Deputy Tammy Serafini met with the 80-year-old woman at the sheriff's office who told her of a phone call she received earlier in the day from a Mr. Sawyer, who was calling from Jamaica.

According to the woman's caller ID, Mr. Sawyer's phone number was 876-291-8403.

He told the woman she had won several prizes from Publisher's Clearinghouse and that he would be delivering to her a Mercedes Benz automobile and a large lump sum of cash.

He told her he would make the delivery at 3 p.m. Thursday.

But, he never showed up.

Instead, he called her again and asked her to go to Walgreen's and purchase a Money Pak, Green Dot card and put \$155 on it. Which, she did.

Mr. Sawyer then asked her to scratch off the number on the back of the card, and she did.

She was then asked to return to Walgreen's and get two more Green Dot cards and to put \$500 on each of them.

The woman returned to the store where she engaged in conversation with someone and, at some point, told them what she was doing. That other person then told her this whole thing sounded like a scam.

Instead of buying the additional Green Dot cards, she went to the sheriff's office to file a complaint.

Deputy Serafini said the woman has had no interaction with the Publisher's Clearinghouse or any company connected with it.

The deputy then advised the woman to contact her telephone company and ask to have Sawyer's phone number blocked.

"I also told her to refrain from giving a stranger or any unknown company any monies, if she is certain she has had no dealing with them," stated the deputy.

If you think you've been contacted by a scammer, or you have fallen victim to a scam, contact law enforcement immediately. While it's unlikely an arrest will ever be made, you stand a much better chance of getting your money back by filing a report.

If you live in the city, contact the Okeechobee City Police Department at 863-763-5521. If you live in the county, contact the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office at 863-763-3117.

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).

- Jacob Kenneth Bryan, 27, Milum Drive, Moore Haven, was arrested Sept. 23 by Deputy Corporal Don Ellis on a DOC warrant charging him with the felonies of violation of probation - sale/delivery of marijuana and violation of probation - possession of marijuana with intent to sell. He is being held without bond.

- William John Paull, 66, U.S. 441 S.E., Okeechobee, was arrested Sept. 23 by Deputy Cpl. Don Ellis on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with the felony of child abuse - intentionally inflicting mental/physical injury. His bond was set at \$5,000.

- Vasilios Kostantinos Rallis, 35, N.W. 34th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Sept. 25 by Deputy Kristin Gray on Okeechobee County warrants charging him with failure

to appear for felony offense (burglary and petit theft); failure to appear for felony offense (burglary of a structure while armed, grand theft-firearm, grand theft, criminal mischief and possession of a firearm or ammunition by a convicted felon); loitering or prowling and driving while license suspended; and, obstruction of service or execution of a search warrant. He is being held without bond.

- Harley Dean Henderson, 16, S.E. 25th Drive, Okeechobee, was arrested Sept. 25 by Deputy Timothy Gillis on an Okeechobee County juvenile take and hold warrant charging him with the felonies of grand theft and dealing in stolen property. He was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail then taken to the St. Lucie Regional Detention Center in Fort Pierce.

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.

OCSO Investigations

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

ASSAULT

- 4100 block of U.S. 441 S.E.

BURGLARY

- 2900 block of S.E. 38th Ave.
- 8200 block of S.E. 57th Drive
- 4300 block of S.E. 49th Court
- 2600 block of N.W. 16th Blvd.
- 8600 block of U.S. 441 S.E.
- 900 block of S.E. 36th Terrace
- 3000 block of N.W. Fourth St.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

- 3100 block of U.S. 441 S.
- 28600 block of N.E. 55th Ave.
- 200 block of S.R. 78 W.

FRAUD

- 4400 block of S.E. 28th St.
- 9700 block of S.R. 78 W.
- 16500 block of U.S. 441 N.
- 3300 block of N.W. Second St.

IDENTITY THEFT

- 28600 block of N.E. 55th Ave.

THEFT

- 1300 block of S.W. 32nd St.
- 4100 block of S.E. 26th St.
- 3500 block of S.W. 22nd St.
- 1500 block of S.R. 70 E.
- 2700 block of N.W. 53rd Terrace
- 3400 block of N.W. 16th Ave.
- 3400 block of U.S. 441 S.
- 1500 block of S.W. 18th Terrace
- 2400 block of N.W. 50th Ave.
- 5800 block of S.E. 94th Trail
- 1500 block of S.R. 70 E.
- 18100 block of N.W. 96th St.
- 800 block of S.W. 24th Ave.

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Information sought on vandalism of phone box

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

Detectives are asking for the public's help in locating the person responsible for doing an estimated \$20,000 in damages to

a Sprint telephone box and the wiring inside it.

According to information from the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) a video of the vandalism has been

obtained. That video shows an unknown make and model of pickup truck enter the crime scene at S.R. 70 West and the east corner of S.W. 67th Drive around 11:45 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 20.

The truck is possibly an extended cab model.

That pickup stays in the area for about an hour with its headlights illuminated. Then, around 12:40 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 21, the truck runs over the phone box. It then backs up and runs over the box about four more times. The Sprint telephone equipment was destroyed.

The video then shows the truck leaving the area and traveling east on S.R. 70 W. toward Okeechobee.

As detectives watched the video they said other vehicles were seen entering the Lazy 7/Sunset Strip Airpark subdivision and passing by the suspect vehicle and the scene of the vandalism.

This information and the video will be forwarded to CrimeStoppers and local news affiliates to garner suspect information from those who may have seen the suspect pickup.

An exact amount of the damage won't be known until crews have repaired all of the damage.

If you have any information regarding this vandalism you can remain anonymous by calling CrimeStoppers at 1-800-273-TIPS (8477). Or, you can contact OCSO Detective Lieutenant Brad Stark at 863-763-3117, ext. 5103.

Couple will chair United Way campaign

Special to the Okeechobee News

Jennifer and Steve Lafferty have been named United Way campaign co-chairs in Okeechobee County. As the 2014-15 campaign co-chairs, they will lead the campaign volunteers to meet the \$110,800 fundraising goal.

Jennifer Lafferty is assistant vice president/mortgage lender at CenterState Bank. Steve Lafferty is store manager of Publix Super Markets in Okeechobee.

Jennifer has lived in the area all of her life, and Steve for 23 years. They have two teenage children. Both Jennifer and Steve have been active with the United Way for some time. Both have served on United Way's allocations teams, and Jennifer is currently a member of the United Way Board of Directors. In addition to United Way, they are active in Okeechobee Youth Football League, March of Dimes, Food for Sharing, and Children's Miracle Network.

Steve has been a supporter of United Way since 1985.

"We support our United Way because

United Way allows us to impact many lives through one channel of giving. Giving back to the community that we live and work in is very important to both of us," said Jennifer and Steve.

United Way Community Leaders in Okeechobee recently completed the allocation process that determines the needs of local health and human service agencies. Volunteers set a goal of \$110,800 to be raised during the 2014-15 United Way Campaign.

Last year the United Way of Okeechobee's goal was \$70,000 and the campaign raised \$85,482. The 2014-2015 Campaign will begin raising funds toward the \$110,800 goal in mid-September.

The funds raised for the United Way go to the 13 local United Way Partner Agencies in Okeechobee County including Big Brothers Big Sisters, Martha's House, Real Life Children's Ranch, Hibiscus Children's Center, and Children's Home Society. All funds raised in Okeechobee County support programs in Okeechobee.



Special to the Okeechobee News
Jennifer and Steve Lafferty are the 2014-15 Okeechobee United Way Campaign chairs.

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It really happened ...

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

Deputies from the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) handled a variety of calls this week including a stolen birdbath and a love-struck man who showed the depths of his affection by carving it in the walkway at the Lock 7 pier.

FAKE COP

While angling for his favorite fare at the Scott Driver boat ramps Monday, Sept. 22, on S.R. 78 West an angler was approached by another man and the two struck up a conversation.

The "older" man then told the angler he wasn't supposed to be fishing there, nor was he allowed to park his vehicle near the ramps.

The angler then inquired as to why it was bothering him so.

According to Deputy Matt Crawford's report, the older man then told the angler "... he was an off-duty police officer and he had a badge and gun to back it up."

As the fake cop was driving away in a maroon Ford pickup, the angler jotted down the vehicle's tag number and gave it to Deputy Crawford.

The deputy found his suspect who reportedly told Deputy Crawford that he had asked the angler "what if I was an officer with a badge or gun?"

Anyway, he continued, "... the fishermen cussed me out so I left."

Deputy Crawford told the man if he had a problem he should contact the sheriff's office.

"He stated he understood, but he was not pleased with my presence," pointed out the deputy.

No one was arrested.

LOVE TRIANGLE

A man pulled a rifle and ordered the would-be suitor of the armed man's girlfriend from his property, while the woman apparently watched.

Deputy Sergeant Paul Ferrell's report stated the woman has been in an "intimate" relationship with Mr. X. However, that same woman is also in a relationship with Mr. Y.

When the two-timing woman didn't show up at the home of Mr. X, he went look-

ing for her and found her at the other man's home. So, he jumped a fence surrounding the man's property and started walking toward the man's home.

Seeing Mr. X, Mr. Y grabbed a rifle, went outside and ordered the trespasser from his property. But, the order failed to deter Mr. X and he continued toward the home. Mr. Y then fired a round from the rifle into the ground and again ordered Mr. X to leave.

Mr. X "... stopped and started yelling, cursing and screaming ..." at the woman and Mr. Y.

But after he apparently got some things off his chest, Mr. X turned and left the property without further incident. And, without the woman.

DIRTY BIRDS

Deputy Quinton Speed was called to a home in the southeast section of the county Thursday, Sept. 25, when the homeowner returned home only to find someone had taken a concrete birdbath from his yard.

The birdbath was valued at \$100, stated the deputy's report.

Deputy Speed went on to state the homeowner had hired a man to do some yard work, so the deputy went to talk with that man. He reportedly told the deputy he was doing some yard work for the homeowner and also noticed the birdbath was gone.

According to the report the deputy then drove around the area searching for the missing birdbath, but could not find "... a matching birdbath that fit the description."

STOLEN MAILBOX

Deputy Yamil Astacio was called to a

home in the southwest section of the county around 4:18 a.m. Friday, Sept. 26. Apparently a man's handmade pineapple mailbox, and the pole it sat on, had been taken.

The man told Deputy Astacio he had seen the green and yellow mailbox around 10:30 p.m. Thursday night. But, when he went to get his mail Friday morning it was gone.

According to the report the man paid \$600 for the mailbox.

TRUE LOVE

Deputy Timothy Gillis answered a criminal mischief complaint Thursday morning, Sept. 25, at the Lock 7 pier.

Someone damaged the concrete walkway to the pier by etching "Jarrod"; then a heart with an arrow through it; then the name "Alicia."

"The writing was in cursive. The names were above and below each other with a heart in the middle," explained the deputy.

The report goes on to surmise the etching was done with some kind of saw or rotary tool. The cuts in the concrete were about a half-inch deep, added Deputy Gillis.

Apparently, the couple is very much in love and proud of it.

"On the memorial plaque that stands at the entrance to the pier were also etchings of the names of "Jarrod" and "Alicia",," stated the deputy.

Apparently no one likes to memorialize their love in the side of a tree any more.

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Help for vets is available

A rumor has been circulating that the Veterans Service Office has closed and to receive veterans' services you must drive to the reservation to see a representative. This rumor is NOT true. Betsy Grinslade, the county Veterans Service officer, is accredited with the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs, American Legion, VFW and DAV and has been working in this capacity since October 1999. The office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. The office closes at 12:30 p.m. for lunch. The County Veterans Service Office is located in the old courthouse at 304 N.W. Second St. The phone number is 863-763-6441, ext 5. If you have any questions about VA benefits for veterans, widows, and/or family members, contact Betsy Grinslade for assistance.

Record number of crocodiles hatch in Everglades

By Mickie Anderson
UF/IFAS

GAINESVILLE — A record number of American crocodile hatchlings were counted in the Everglades National Park this summer — a positive development for the threatened species, University of Florida scientists say.

The American crocodile was listed as a federally endangered species in 1975, and while reclassified as threatened in 2007, the species still faces problems from habitat loss and environmental changes.

Frank Mazzotti, a UF Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences professor, has monitored

the South Florida crocodile population since 1978.

This summer, he and his team of researchers that included Michiko Squires, Seth Farris, Rafael Crespo and research coordinator Jeff Beauchamp, caught, marked and released 962 hatchlings within the confines of the national park, a big jump from last summer's 554.

The total American crocodile hatchlings in Florida this year came to 1,447, over last year's 1,006, including those found in the park, Crocodile Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Key Largo and Florida Power and Light Company Turkey Point power plant site.

Mr. Mazzotti cautioned that the numbers

aren't proof that ecosystem restoration efforts are working, but he believes the correlation suggests they are.

The coastline of Everglades National Park, prime habitat for the American crocodile, was largely untouched by humans until the early 20th century. But a network of canals was dug to drain water from the marshes to make the area suitable for agriculture and residential development, which triggered environmental changes, such as increased inland salinity.

And crocodiles, extremely sensitive to environmental changes such as salinity and water levels, suffered. High salinities stress hatchling crocodiles directly, and high salinity and high

water levels limit availability of prey.

Restoration plans to plug coastal canals in the national park aim to prevent salt water intrusion and fresh water losses to tide.

"What we hope is the lesson is that ecosystem restoration efforts can work. If the signal is correct here, we can monitor that improvement by looking at ecological responses — and crocodiles make good indicators," Mr. Mazzotti said.

Crocodiles, as a species, are some 200 million years old. They can live for decades, can survive long periods without food and can eat almost anything. They have complex social relationships and are known to be quick learners.

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Miscellaneous

3,800 sq ft Thrift Store
 Contents, Merchandise ONLY, Open your store tomorrow or Flea Market! \$4,000 for all (561)346-4692

FOR SALE (2) CHEST FREEZERS, SEVERAL SOFA BEDS AND MISC BATH FIXTURES CALL FOR PRICES AND MORE INFO 863-763-6100

INVESTOR NEEDED to refinance balloon mortgage. Investment property bought in 2005. M/H & RV Park on 3 acres + have 3 ac. heavy comm. property. Properties off Hwy 70. Call 561-346-4692.

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

Garage/Yard Sales

Hospice of Okeechobee YARD SALE
October 1st an 2nd 8:00 am - Noon

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

Services

MOHAWK CONSTRUCTION INC.
 FILL SHELL, ASPHALT MILLINGS, SAND, STONE, MULCH, TOP SOIL. LARGE OR SMALL QUANTITIES DELIVERED OR PICK-UP, NEAR TOWN. JOSH 634-9486

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

CITY OF OKEECHOBEE
Now Hiring ACCOUNT CLERK

cityofokeechobee.com
 See website for application & job description
 Applications also available at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave., Rm 100, Okeechobee, FL 34974, 863-763-3372 ext. 215. Applications accepted until position is filled, strongly encouraged to apply by Friday, October 3, 2014. Successful candidates are required to pass a pre-employment physical.
EEO/ADA/GINA/VP/DFWP

Needed 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 5:00.

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

Need a few more bucks to purchase something deer? Pick up some extra bucks when you sell your used items in the classifieds.
 Reading a newspaper helps you understand the world around you. No wonder newspaper readers are more successful people!

Walpole Inc is looking for a Warranty Administrator.
 The goal of this position is to assist our shop personnel with processing manufacturer warranty claims and assisting in all of our daily service needs and operations.

Primary Responsibilities:

- Checking, verifying, and processing vehicle warranty repair claims, and following the receipt of payment from the manufacturer.
- Responsible for making sure that all of the relevant and pertinent information for each claim is provided by the responsible parties involved.

JOB REQUIREMENTS

- Outstanding communication, Critical thinking, time management, organization skills
- Detail Orientated
- Proficient in Microsoft Applications
- Professional appearance and work ethic
- Great attitude with a high-energy personality
- Superior customer service skills
- Warranty administrator experience is preferred, but a strong working knowledge of service management will be considered.
- Associates Degree Preferred

Please fax your resumé to 863.763.7874 or apply online at www.walpoleinc.com

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Level: Intermediate

SOUTHEAST MILK
 "The Cooperative Built On Trust"

NOW HIRING CDL- A DRIVERS for Full-Time MILK HAULER positions in **OKEECHOBEE, FL!**

\$15 per hour, plus BENEFITS!

Drivers must have 2 recent years of exp, valid CDL-A, and acceptable MVR.

For details, call (800) 598-7866.

Download application online at www.southeastmilk.org

Fax to: (352)307-0499

EEO & Drug Free Workplace

Employment Part Time

Part-time Cook needed for Chuck Wagon. Must have Florida Food Handler Certification Call 863-451-1319 for more information.

Business Opportunities

Financial 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.

Pets/Supplies

RAZOR EDGE BLUE PIT PUPPIES, 9 WEEKS OLD, THREE FEMALES, REGISTERED. \$500.00 CALL 863-634-4407

Sewing Machines

Sewing Machine
Store closing:
Selling Everything!!
Call 863-292-6033
for more information.

Agriculture

Farm Produce

Fresh Michigan Apples.
\$.25 per 23 lb box/\$13 1/2 box. Sales benefit the Okeechobee Adventist Christian School. Order before October 3. (863)610-1291

Fresh Michigan Apples.
\$.25 per 23 lb box/\$13 1/2 box. Sales benefit the Okeechobee Adventist Christian School. Order before October 3. (863)610-1291

FOR RENT Rentals

Apartments

2BD FURNISHED OR UNFURNISHED APARTMENTS IN THE CITY OR KINGS BAY STARTING AT \$700.00 PER MONTH, WITH LAWN AND GARBAGE INCLUDED, NO PETS OVER 5LBS, MORE OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 863-634-8331

2BD/1BA APARTMENT IN TOWN, WALKING DISTANCE TO STORES. NO PETS. FIRST, LAST & SECURITY \$600.00 A MONTH 863-634-2820

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

FOR RENT FURNISHED EFFICIENCY CABIN FOR 1 OR 2 PEOPLE INCLUDES WATER, ELECTRIC CABLE AND GARBAGE PICK-UP, NO PETS. MUST HAVE REFERENCES, RENT \$600/MO. AND \$300 SECURITY CALL 863-697-6412

Furnished Efficiency
In quiet neighborhood.
Short term only.
3 night minimum.
Call (863)623-4413

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

Apartments

KINGS BAY Nice Twnhs 2br, 1ba, Tiled floors. Includes Water. \$700 month + dep. Pool & Tennis Court. 863-801-7206 or 561-358-8128

NW OKEE: 2 BR 1.5 BA, 2 BR, 1 BA. \$700. 1st, last & \$500 security. Shown only 11am-6pm 561-346-1642.

OKEECHOBEE - 1/1, New floor covering, clean, furnished, cable, Wi-Fi, elec, satellite W/D included, fenced yard, small pet okay. \$600/mo plus sec (863)467-1950

TOWNCENTER APTS.
2 br/1 1/2 ba. Apts. Move-In Special 50% off 1st month Rent!
863-763-8878

Commercial Property

4,800 sq ft CBS w/ 2br1ba Loft apt, Lrg garg doors, secure fenced yard. Live in or rent apt. Off of hwy 70 \$ 2 , 2 0 0 / m o (561)346-4692

Condos/Townhouses Rent

OAK LAKE VILLA - 2/2 \$700 A MONTH AVAILABLE OCT. CALL 863-763-4831

Houses - Rent

3BD/1BA HOUSE ON 1 ACRE, CERAMIC TILE FLOORS, NEW CABINETS & COUNTER TOPS. NO PETS. FIRST, LAST & SECURITY \$850.00 A MONTH 863-634-2820

Large, clean, 4bd, 2 story home, 2800sq.ft. under air (built in 2006) 2bath + on suite, double car garage, screened porch, large fenced yard, new appliances, large kitchen. \$1250/mo + sec. depCall: (863)467-9250 or (519)746-4844 or dhmcara@hotmail.com

OAK PARK: 2BR, 1BA for rent, circle drive, new appliances. \$700 mo. Call 863-467-1466

OKEE In Town 2 1/2 br/1ba., W/D hookup. Lawn Service. Non Smoking. Small pet ok. \$750 mo. 1st, last & \$500 sec. 941-504-3954

On Rim Canal - Newly renovated Brick Home. 3br/2 1/2 ba. 1 garage. Boat dock & deck. \$895mo. 772-359-1640

Okeechobee - CHARMING, CLEAN & WELL KEPT 3/2 updated, 12 mile NE of town center, lawn, pest, trash & water included. \$675.00 per month. Call M-F only. NO PETS. 863.467.9800

Office Space Rent

"Time To Move In Is Now" First 2 Months Free

"Next to Court House"



Commercial Space 500, 1000, 1300 SF.
863-467-0651

Office Space Rent

CORNER OFFICE 2,500 SQ FT, WATER-SEWER-DUMPSTER INCLUDED, 2 MONTH'S FREE RENT, CALL 863-634-7994 FOR DETAILS.

Real Estate

Commercial Property Sale

M/H & RV Park on 3 acres (9 rentals & 3 homes). Also have 3 ac. heavy comm. property. Properties off Hwy 70. Call 561-346-4692.

Mobile Homes

Mobile Home Rent

2BD/1BA NICE KITCHEN AND LIVING ROOM, LARGE YARD. ON 2.5 ACRES \$500.00/MO. CALL 954-752-6184

DWMH 3BD/2BA, FRESHLY PAINTED, PAY OWN ELECTRIC. \$750.00 MO AND \$500.00 SECURITY CALL 863-697-0214

FULLY FURNISHED: All utilities paid. On water. Quiet neighborhood. Adult complex. No children or pets. (863)357-2044 for appointment.

Mobile Home Rent

FURNISHED MOBILE HOME 2/1, INCLUDES WATER, GARBAGE AND LAWN SERVICE \$600.00 MO PLUS \$300.00 SECURITY. RV SITES AVAILABLE LAKE ACCESS NO PETS 8022 HWY 441 SE MUST HAVE REFERENCES CALL 863-697-6412

Buying a car? Look in the classifieds. Selling a car? Look in the classifieds.

Mobile Home Sale

New Palm Harbor Velocity Models! 3/2 starting in the 50's, 4/2 starting in the 60's Limited time offer !! 800-622-2832 plantcity.palmharbor.com or 800-622-2832 *Se habla espanol

Recreation

Campers/RVs

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

Motorcycles

2007 HARLEY DAVIDSON ROAD KING CLASSIC, 10,000 MILES, LOTS OF CHROME, ALL MAINTENANCE RECORDS. \$13,000. MUST SEE TO APPRECIATE. 863-697-9066 OR 863-467-8003

HONDA HELIX TRIKE, GREAT FUN AND PERFECT FOR SCOOTING AROUND TOWN. NEEDS NOTHING \$3350 O.B.O. CALL 863-467-2910

Automotive

Automobiles

2001 BMW 330CI, BLACK, HAS 111,000 MILES, RUNS GREAT, GARAGE KEPT, CLEAN CARFAX \$6,500.00 CALL 863-801-5359

Autos Wanted

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

Classic Cars

1948 CHEVY COUPE STREET ROD, 350 CRATE MOTOR, 350 TRANSMISSION, P/W P/P, P/S, A/C, REMOTE ENTRY \$35,000 O.B.O. CALL MARVIN 1-904-282-3297

Public Notices

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA Case No.: 2014-DR-316

IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:

PAUL NICHOLSON, Husband, and **DEBORAH J. NICHOLSON,** Respondent/Wife

NOTICE OF ACTION FOR PUBLICATION

TO: Deborah J. Nicholson Address Unknown

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action has been filed against for and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Paul Nicholson, whose address is 1137 10th Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34974, within thirty (30) days from the date of publication of the first publication, and file the original with the clerk of this Court at Okeechobee County Judicial Center, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972, either before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request. You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Notice of Current Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Further papers in this lawsuit will be mailed to the address on record at the clerk's office.

WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings. DATED: September 16, 2014.

SHARON ROBERTSON CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT BY: /s/ Debra Goodrich Deputy Clerk

467336 ON 9/21,28;10/5,12



READING A NEWSPAPER... makes you a more informed and interesting person. No wonder readers are more successful!

Notice of Meeting Okeechobee County Construction Industry Licensing Board

The Okeechobee County Construction Industry Licensing Board will hold a public meeting on Tuesday, October 7, 2014 at 3:30 P.M. The public meeting will be held at the Okeechobee County Health Department Auditorium, located at the 1728 N.W. 9th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida. For more information, contact the Planning and Development Department, 1700 N.W. 9th Ave., Suite A, Okeechobee, Florida 34972; (863) 763-5548.

All interested parties shall have the opportunity to be heard at this public meeting. Any person deciding to appeal any decision by the Licensing Board with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made and that the record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal will be based. Planning and Development tapes are for the sole purpose of backup for official record of the Department.

Faye Huffman, Secretary to Construction Industry Licensing Board Okeechobee County Independent Inspections, Ltd. 467434 ON 9/28/2014

Public Notice

PROCLAMATION NOTICE OF GENERAL CITY ELECTIONS CITY OF OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA NOVEMBER 4, 2014

WHEREAS, under and by virtue of the provisions of the Charter of the City of Okeechobee, and Florida State Law, it is the duty of the Mayor to proclaim and call General City Elections at the time and manner provided therein; and

WHEREAS, proclaiming General City Elections shall be issued at least 90 days prior to the date of the holding of such election, by an Elections Proclamation, signed by the Mayor and attested by the City Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Elections Proclamation shall specify the office to be filled, the cause of the vacancy of such office, and the date of the expiration of the terms of such office; and

WHEREAS, the City Clerk shall publish the Elections Proclamation in the local newspaper at least twice, once being in the fifth week, and once being in the third week prior to the week in which the regular election will be held.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, James E. Kirk, Mayor of the City of Okeechobee, Florida do hereby **PROCLAIM AND DECLARE** that a **GENERAL CITY ELECTION** is to be held by the duly qualified electors of the City of Okeechobee, Florida, on Tuesday, November 4, 2014, during the regular hours of voting, to wit: from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., or during Early Voting, as provided by State Law, and to be held on October 25 through November 1 2014, for the purpose of electing the following officers to serve as such for four (4) years beginning January 5, 2015 and ending January 7, 2019 following such election or until their successors are elected and qualified:

THREE (3) COUNCIL MEMBERS AND ONE (1) CITY CLERK

Said election shall be held in the County polling or voting places within the Municipal precincts of the duly qualified City electors, which precincts have been established by the Okeechobee Board of County Commissioners and Supervisor of Elections for the General Election of Okeechobee County.

IN TESTIMONY AND WITNESS of the foregoing Notice of Election, I have hereunto set my hand as Mayor of the City of Okeechobee, Florida, and caused the corporate seal of said City to be affixed, and attested to by the City Clerk, this 15th day of July, 2014.

BY: James E. Kirk, Mayor, CMC, City Clerk ATTEST: Lane Giamotea, CMC, City Clerk 467200 ON 9/28/2014

PUBLIC NOTICE CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED ZONING RECLASSIFICATION

A QUASI-JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARING will be held before the City of Okeechobee Planning Board on **Thurs, Oct 16, 2014, 6 PM** or as soon thereafter as possible, at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Rm 200, Okeechobee, FL. The agenda is available on the City website: cityofokeechobee.com, or contact the General Services Dept, pburnette@cityofokeechobee.com, 863.763.3372 x218.

Under consideration is Rezoning Petition No. 14-002-R, submitted by property owner(s) Rick and Bonita Lightsey, requesting to change the zoning from Residential Single Family-One (RSF-1), Professional Commercial Office (CPO), and Holding (H) to Heavy Commercial (CHV), located in the 700 block of NE 4th Street, consisting of approximately 2.6 acres. Legal: Lots 1 to 6, and 10 to 12 of Block 117; and Lots 1 to 6 of Block 116. City of Okeechobee, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 5, Page 5, Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida; together with a parcel of land lying in Section 15, Township 37 South, Range 35 East, Okeechobee County, Florida, being more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the Southeast corner of Block 115, Okeechobee, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 5, Page 5, Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida, and the Northwest corner of Parcel 4 of Plat No. 1 of Taylor Creek Watershed as recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 29, Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida; thence run South along the West boundary of said Parcel 4 to the intersection with the centerline of NE 4th Street for a Point of Beginning; thence continue South, along the Western boundary of said Parcel 4 and the East boundary of Block 116 of said plat of Okeechobee, to the intersection with the centerline of the 15 foot alleyway in said Block 116; thence run East, along the centerline of said alleyway extended East, to the Western shore line of Taylor Creek; thence run Northerly, along said Western shore line of Taylor Creek, to the intersection with the centerline of NE 4th Street extended East; thence run West, along said extended centerline, to the Point of Beginning.

All members of the public are encouraged to attend and participate in said Hearing. The entire petition may be inspected during regular business hours, Mon-Fri, 8 AM-4:30 PM, except for holidays. This Board serves as a recommendation body, and will function in a manner similar to a court, hearing testimony and questioning presenters who provide substantial and competent evidence. The recommendation will be forwarded to the City Council for First Reading and Final adoption Public Hearing, tentatively scheduled for Nov 18, 2014 and Dec 16, 2014, 6 PM.

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

BE ADVISED that should you intend to show any document, picture, video or items to the Planning Board in support or opposition to any item on the agenda; a copy of the document, picture, video, or item must be provided to the Board Secretary for the City's records. BY: Brian Whitehall, Zoning Administrator, Petition No. 14-002-R 467469 ON 9/28/2014

Public Notice

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Public Notice

Public Notice

CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED SPECIAL EXCEPTION
PUBLIC NOTICE
A QUASI-JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARING will be held before the City of Okeechobee Board of Adjustment on Thurs, Oct 16, 2014, 6 PM or as soon thereafter as possible, at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Rm 200, Okeechobee, FL. The agenda is available on the City website: cityofokeechobee.com, or contact the General Services Dept, plburnette@cityofokeechobee.com, 863.763.3372 x218.

Under consideration is Special Exception Petition No. 14-007-SE, submitted by John H. Budd, III, Vice President, Sonic Restaurants, Inc., on behalf of property owner Okeeland, LLC, to allow a drive-through service within a Heavy Commercial District (CHV) Zoning District, Ref. Code Book Section 90-283(1). The proposed use is for a drive-thru/drive-up restaurant, to be located at 501 E North Park St. Legal: Lots 4 to 9 of Block 150, City of Okeechobee, Plat Book 5, Page 5, Okeechobee County public records, and approximately 1.0 acres.

All members of the public are encouraged to attend and participate in said Hearing. The entire petition may be inspected during regular business hours, Mon-Fri, 8am-4:30pm, except for holidays. This Board serves as the decision making body, regarding special exceptions and will function in a manner similar to a court, hearing testimony and questioning presenters who provide substantial and competent evidence.

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

BE ADVISED that should you intend to show any document, picture, video or items to the Board in support or opposition to any item on the agenda; a copy of the document, picture, video, or item must be provided to the Board Secretary for the City's records. By: Brian Whitehall, Zoning Administrator, Petition No. 14-007-SE 467467 ON 9/28/2014

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 472014CA000324

SEACOST NATIONAL BANK Plaintiff, VS. THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, OR ANY UNKNOWN CLAIMANT BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST COLEY L. HACKETT, DECEASED, et al., Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, OR ANY UNKNOWN CLAIMANT BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST COLEY L. HACKETT, DECEASED, whose last known address is 6324 SE 96th Circle, Okeechobee, FL 34974, AND ALL OTHERS WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following described real property located in OKEECHOBEE County, Florida: LOTS 10 AND 11, BLOCK 17, PINE OAKS VILLAGE, SECTION 2, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 20, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA. TOGETHER WITH 2007 FLEETWOOD HOMES, SPRINGHILL MODEL, SERIAL NOS. GAF1634A80074 and GAF1634B80074.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Edmond Alonzo, Esq., the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is: Alonzo Law Offices, P.A., 217 Avenue A, Ft. Pierce, FL 34950 on or before 30 days of the initial publication, and file the original with the clerk of this court either before service on the Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. Dated this 24th day of Sept., 2014.

SHARON ROBERTSON CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT BY: Arlene Nealis DEPUTY CLERK 467461 on 9/28/10/5/2014

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND RELATED SERVICES RFQ # 2014-13

Notice is hereby given that Okeechobee County, Florida, pursuant to Section 287.055, Florida Statutes, hereby issues this request for Professional Engineering and related Professional Services.

Related inquiries and additional information shall be directed to Jim Threewits, Deputy County Administrator, at (863) 763-4458 x-2.

Proposals to provide Professional Services for the establishment of one or more continuing service contracts covering all aspects of Local Government, including but not limited to: studies and engineering within the scope of the practice of architecture, professional engineering, planning, landscape architecture, or registered surveying and mapping described herein shall include: a letter of transmittal requesting that the firm be certified as qualified to provide the required professional services, organizational profile and firm's qualifications, resumes of individuals to perform the work, scope of services proposed, public entity crimes affidavit, standard forms SF 330 and other pertinent data in the information regarding the firm.

Interested firms shall submit an original proposal and twelve (12) copies thereof in a sealed enclosure bearing the name and address of the proposer and the words PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND RELATED SERVICES by 3:00 p.m. local time on Tuesday, October 21, 2014 at the Okeechobee County Courthouse, 304 NW 2nd Street, Room 222, Okeechobee, FL 34972. Proposals received after the time and date specified will not be considered.

Okeechobee County accepts no responsibility for any expense related to preparation or delivery of proposals. Okeechobee County reserves the right to: reject any and all proposals, select the firm(s) most qualified for each individual referenced project or for all referenced projects, waive technical errors and informalities, and to accept the proposal(s), which, in its sole judgment, best serves the public interest.

Okeechobee County is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Sharon Robertson, Clerk Board of County Commissioners Okeechobee County, Florida 467470 ON 9/28/2014 Frank Irby, Chairman Board of County Commissioners Okeechobee County, Florida

Looking for a place to hang your hat? Look no further than the classifieds. Join all the people who say, "I sold it in the classifieds."

The classifieds are the most successful salesperson in town. How fast can your car go? It can go even faster when you sell it in the classifieds.

Public Notice

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION CASE NO.: 47-2014-CP-000124

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF: JAMES L. FINK, Deceased.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the Estate of JAMES L. FINK, deceased, Case Number 47-2014-CP-000124 is pending in the Circuit Court of Okeechobee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Okeechobee County Courthouse, Probate Division, 312 Northwest 3rd Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below. The fiduciary lawyer-client privilege in Florida Statute 90.5021 applies with respect to the Personal Representative and any attorney employed by the Personal Representative.

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED PURSUANT TO FLA. PROB. R. 5.240 THAT: All persons on whom this Notice is served who have objections that challenge the qualifications of the Personal Representative, venue, or jurisdiction of this Court are required to file their objections with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

Any person entitled to exempt property is required to file a petition for determination of exempt property within the time provided by law or the right to exempt property is deemed waived. An election to take an elective share must be filed within the time provided by law.

ALL CREDITORS ARE NOTIFIED PURSUANT TO FLA. PROB. R. 5.241 THAT: All creditors of the Decedent and other persons having claims or demands against Decedent's estate on whom a copy of this Notice is served, within three months after the date of the first publication of this Notice, must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the Decedent and persons having claims or demands against the Decedent's estate must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS, DEMANDS AND OBJECTIONS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. Publication of this Notice has begun on the 28th day of September, 2014.

Personal Representative: DANA H. HANKINS, P.A. BY: DANA H. HANKINS, Esquire Florida Bar No. 305006 2510 E. Jackson Street Orlando, Florida 32803 ATTORNEY AT LAW Telephone 407-896-9650 Facsimile 407-896-9648 DanaHankinsLaw@gmail.com 467429 ON 9/28;10/5/2014

PUBLIC NOTICE CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED FUTURE LAND USE MAP AMENDMENT

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held before the City of Okeechobee Planning Board on Thurs, Oct 16, 2014, 6 PM or as soon thereafter as possible, at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Rm 200, Okeechobee, FL. The agenda is available on the City website: cityofokeechobee.com, or contact the General Services Dept, plburnette@cityofokeechobee.com, 863.763.3372 x218.

Under consideration is Comprehensive Plan Small Scale Future Land Use Map Amendment Application No. 14-002-SSA, submitted by property owner(s), Rick and Bonita Lightsey, requesting to change the Future Land Use designation from Single Family (SF) to Commercial (C) for property located at 502 NE 6th Avenue, approximately 2.6 acres. Legal: Lots 1 to 6, and 10 to 12 of Block 117; and Lots 1 to 6 of Block 116, City of Okeechobee, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 5, Page 5, Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida; together with a parcel of land lying in Section 15, Township 37 South, Range 35 East, Okeechobee County, Florida, being more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the Southeast corner of Block 115, Okeechobee, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 5, Page 5, Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida, and the Northwest corner of Parcel 4 of Plat No. 1 of Taylor Creek Watershed as recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 29, Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida; thence run South along the West boundary of said Parcel 4 to the intersection with the centerline of NE 4th Street for a Point of Beginning; thence continue South, along the Western boundary of said Parcel 4 and the East boundary of Block 116 of said plat of Okeechobee, to the intersection with the centerline of the 15 foot alleyway in said Block 116; thence run East, along the centerline of said alleyway extended East, to the Western shore line of Taylor Creek; thence run North, along said Western shore line of Taylor Creek, to the intersection with the centerline of NE 4th Street extended East; thence run West, along said extended centerline, to the Point of Beginning.

All members of the public are encouraged to attend and participate in said Hearing. The entire petition may be inspected during regular business hours, Mon-Fri, 8 AM-4:30 PM, except for holidays. This Board's role in this capacity is to serve as the City's Local Planning Agency and make a recommendation for approval or denial to the City Council for final adoption Public Hearing, tentatively scheduled for Nov 18, 2014, 6 PM.

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

BE ADVISED that should you intend to show any document, picture, video or items to the Planning Board in support or opposition to any item on the agenda; a copy of the document, picture, video, or item must be provided to the Board Secretary for the City's records. By: Brian Whitehall, Zoning Administrator, Application No. 14-002-SSA 467468 ON 9/28/2014

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

ANSWER:

Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS
1 Looking at the stars
7 Dog star's first name?
10 Singing an old-fashioned love song?
14 Saudi neighbors
15 Poetic preposition
16 Opera set in Egypt
17 *Bit of formalwear
18 *Interrupt
20 Wear a long face
21 Lucrative way for a handicapper's bet to pay off
22 Supply with weapons, old-style
24 Letters for the Queen Mary
25 Numeral
28 Mideast ruler
30 Delaware tribe
31 "General Hospital" extra, for short
34 Territory in dispute between Russia and Ukraine
37 FBI agent
38 U.N. workers' rights agcy.
39 *Scandal management ploy
41 Memphis-to-Nashville dir.
42 Condé Publications
44 Like Enya's music
45 Emulated Miss Muffet
46 Vigor
48 Open carriage
50 Jazz player, briefly
51 "__ seen enough!"
53 Stavros superior, in '70s TV
57 "Star Wars" weapon
59 Mandlikova of tennis
60 *Less intense workout after a workout
62 Lose when you should have won, and a hint to the start of the answers to starred clues

- 30 Chuckle
31 Flax fabric
32 Something to fall back on
33 *Snoop
35 Litter sound
36 Pencil topper
40 Busiest type of season
43 Ivy support
47 Alum
49 Start of a pirate's refrain
51 "__ a dark and stormy night ..."
52 Locale
54 Yakked
55 Cartoon genre
56 Beckinsale and Chopin
58 A few
60 Awards often co-hosted by Carrie Underwood: Abbr.
61 Bungler
62 Mgr.'s degree
63 Toss

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

BRAMIIONS TIDES
LODI KWAI ASIDE
ADDS ELAN XEROX
HALLWAYCARPET
SNEER PIER CDC
DISC SOPHIA
SPFSALUTE OEDS
MARATHONESTRANT
IRON ADESTEPTS
TINDER TSAR
HST LASH MEARA
PLANTOFFSHOOT
ARABY ALOE ARGO
LOGON MEGA BTEN
GEESE PSST SATE

xwordeditor@aol.com

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REDUCED

5007-H: Conners Gables modern style 3/2 with 1,980 Total Sq Ft/1,319 under air, energy efficient, built 2009. Split bdrm plan, master bdrm, and much more! ~~\$145,000~~ NOW \$128,000 MLS # 208204



5051-H: Okeechobee Hills Lg 2 Story, 3br, 3 1/2 ba home on **15.80+/- acres**. Elevator, fireplace, island kitchen, tile floors throughout, lg balcony, lg windows overlook golf course. \$350,000 MLS # 208400

REDUCED

1021-M: Palm Village 4br/2ba DW, 2,482 total sq ft/1,716 under air, open porch, Lg Family rm, fireplace and nice open kitchen. HOA includes Clubhouse, pool, lawn care and more. 55+ comm. ~~\$90,999~~ NOW \$70,000 MLS #208093



NEW LISTING

2004-C: Taylor Creek Isles, Cozy 2 story 2BR/2BA condominium, 1,184 TSF/1,040 under air. Screened porch, all appliances. Easy to show. Call for more info. \$67,000 MLS # 208444

NEW LISTING

5076-H: Kissimmee River Estates. Home on a beautiful fully fenced yard, with tile floors and carpet. Screened porch with attached workshop. \$35,000 MLS #208405



5083-M: Pioneer Estates 3/2 DW on 1/2 an acre with 1,652 total sq ft/1,352 under air. All appliances stay, front screen porch, split bdrm plan, plenty of cabinets. \$58,000 MLS #207779

• Pine Ridge Park buildable lot partial fenced. \$5,900 MLS # 207132 • **319+/- acres** on Hwy 441 N \$4,000,000 • **Conners Gables** buildable Lot (SE 39th Terr) \$6,000 MLS #208198 • **14+/- acres** of commercial property on the Rim Canal with lake access. \$1,500,000 MLS #207408 • **Blue Heron** Nice lot on the cul-de-sac. MLS # 207053 • **Palm Village Ranch** clean Lot-Close to the Clubhouse. 55+community. \$15,000 MLS# 207998 • **Ok Acres** 10+/-acres Fenced, pond and house pad ready for a new home! \$79,000 MLS # 207817 • **Viking** 2.5+/- acres for \$11,000 MLS # 207811

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OMS Warriors get 7-0 soccer win over Sebastian

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Justin Comfort, Brendan Bostwick and Jesus Mojica were among the Warriors who scored goals to lead Osceola Middle School to a 4-0 start with a 7-0 victory over Sebastian Middle School on Wednesday.

Coach Jorje Botello said he is happy with how the team has started the season and that he was proud of his team.

"Things are looking pretty good. We wanted to challenge Yearling but the weather didn't permit that. Until we meet Yearling we won't know where we stand. We have a really solid team and we hope to go undefeated," he said.

The two local teams will meet on Oct. 9 at Yearling and Oct. 13 at Osceola.

Botello said Alex Bucio is the team captain and he showed great leadership on and

off the field this year.

Bucio said he was excited by the team's ball control, passing, and that the team did everything it could to work together.

"We still need some more work. Every team is a hard team. We treat every team with respect and give everything we have," he added.

Brendan Bostwick said the team had great passing and communication against Sebastian and really kept up the pressure throughout the match.

"We kept trying. We have great defense, midfield and offense and we work together to create a superior team," he said.

Comfort said the team played together through communication and was able to pull out the victory.

"We still have to practice because no team is perfect. We hope to go undefeated this year."



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy

Osceola is excited about its fast start on the soccer field this year. Left to right are Brendan Bostwick, Jesus Mojica and Alejandro Bucio in white.

Hog hunt to be held at Fisheating Creek

Special to the Okeechobee News

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission will issue permits for two wild hog control hunts on Fisheating Creek Wildlife Management Area, west of U.S. 27 to residents of Glades and Hendry counties.

The two hog control hunts will be on Nov. 1-2 and Nov. 8-9. Twenty-five permits will be issued for each hunt. Permits will be available on a first-come, first-served basis to individuals 16 years of age or older. Permit distribution will take place at the Fisheating

Creek WMA check-station at the FEC Campground in Palmdale on Saturday, Oct. 18, beginning at 10 a.m. Individuals must be present to receive a permit. You cannot pick up permits for other people.

Permittees will be allowed to take wild hogs with no size or bag limit. The use of dogs is prohibited. Firearms will be limited to a shotgun with #1 buckshot or larger.

For additional information, you may contact the Fisheating Creek WMA office at 863-946-1194.

Battle of Okeechobee Re-enactment planned

The Battle of Okeechobee will be held on Feb. 28 and March 1 at the Okeechobee Battle Historic State Park. Battle re-enactments start each day at 2 p.m. Gates will be open from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Admission is \$10 per car. For information, visit www.okeechobeebattlefield.com.

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