Okeechobee News

Celebrating Our Centennial!

Vol. 105 No. 119 | Friday, October 3, 2014 | 50¢ plus tax

Minimal regatta Saturday

... Page 9

Another student caught with pot

... Page 12

Lake Levels

15.39 feet

Last Year: 15.88 feet

Sponsored By:

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City questions DOT on road work

Residents upset about loss of trees; New traffic patterns contribute to 'fender benders'

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

A discussion on the construction at the main intersection and approval of the city budget for 2014-2015 highlighted the agenda when the Okeechobee City Council met Tuesday night at City Hall.

Janet Cook, public information officer, Florida Department of Transportation said some residents were concerned when trees were taken down for the State Road 70 and U.S. 441 widening project. She noted many residents have lived here a long time and had a connection with the old trees. She reported land clearing continued this week and drainage work will begin next week. When completed, each intersection will have two left turn lanes. The goal is to get traffic through town quicker.

Council members did raise some serious traffic issues and safety issues that have been caused by the project so far.

Councilman Dowling Watford said he was

See CITY — Page 5

Special to the Okeechobee News

Miss Rodeo Florida queens

The annual Miss Rodeo Florida Pageant selected four winners at their recent pageant held in Okeechobee, Sept. 26–27. The new 2015 court is: (left to right) Miss Teen Rodeo Florida Jenna Herstich from St. Cloud; Miss Rodeo Florida Princess Addison Roberts from Fort Pierce; Miss Rodeo Florida Sweetheart Heaven Crosby from Fort McCoy; and, Miss Rodeo Florida Sheila Shirah from St. Cloud. For the story, see page 2.

Debate over air quality in judicial center not 'dead issue'

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

It seems some members of the county commission thrive on confrontation as evidenced by their not allowing the chief judge to use $5,600 of the judicial district's money to see if there is mold in the judicial complex.

Among those housed in the Okeechobee County Judicial Complex are the clerk of court's offices, state's attorney and public defender's offices and both circuit and county courtrooms.

Employees and courtroom personnel have lodged complaints about itchy and watery eyes,

See AIR — Page 5

Deadline to register to vote in general election nears

Local city and county seats, Governor's race and medical marijuana on November ballot

Okeechobee County voters will go the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 4.

The deadline to register to vote in the November general election is Oct. 6.

Voters can start the registration process online at www.voteokeechobee.com or go to the office in the Historic Okeechobee County Courthouse, 304 N.W. Second St. Absentee ballots can also be requested online.

Early voting begins Monday, Oct. 20, and ends Saturday, Nov. 1, with voting at the Elections Office, from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

For information, call 863-763-4014.

In the Okeechobee County Commission district 4 race, Republican Terry Wayne Burroughs will face Denicrat Tommy Clay. The incumbent, Joey Hoover, was defeated in the primary election.

See VOTE — Page 17

Steve Hoskins

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Miss Rodeo Florida Pageant crowns new queens

Special to the Okeechobee News

The annual Miss Rodeo Florida Pageant selected four winners at their recent pageant held in Okeechobee, Sept. 26–27. The new 2015 court is: Miss Rodeo Florida Sheila Shirah from St. Cloud and Miss Teen Rodeo Florida Jenna Herstich, also from St. Cloud. Miss Rodeo Florida Princess is Addison Roberts from Fort Pierce and Miss Rodeo Florida Sweetheart is Heaven Crosby from Fort McCoy, Florida.

Sheila Shirah

Jenna Herstich

Addison Robert

Heaven Crosby

Contestants competed in horsemanship, speech, modeling, appearance, personality, personal interviews, and impromptu questions. The court begins their reign January 1, 2015. They will attend PRCA rodeos within the state of Florida, parades, school visits and community events to promote rodeo and the western way of life. The court will also be promoting the upcoming Ram National Circuit Finals Rodeo which is coming to Kissimmee March 25–28, 2015 at the Silver Spurs Rodeo, Osceola Heritage Park in Kissimmee. Miss Rodeo Florida 2015 Sheila Shirah, will go on to compete for the title of Miss Rodeo America in Las Vegas, Nevada next December.

Miss Rodeo Florida Association, Inc. is a 501 c4 non-profit organization dedicated to helping young ladies build confidence and achieve dreams while promoting the great sport of rodeo.

For information, visit www.MissRodeoFlorida.com.

City Centennial Celebration News

City Centennial to be unforgettable; sponsors sought for local events

Special to the Okeechobee News

The City of Okeechobee Centennial Committee is working diligently to make the centennial unforgettable.

The committee is working closely with the city administrator and public works on projects that will be an invaluable fundraising opportunity and a new appealing venue for possible future events.

Social media continues to grow and engage the public in the history of our city and to prepare residents for a fun-filled year of events. The committee has also been contacted by media sources from the coast who would like to work with the committee and the city in promoting our celebratory year.

At the Sept. 22 meeting, the centennial logo was presented to the committee with some ideas from a previous meeting. The committee has begun to narrow down the design which is believed to be the key to getting the centennial year started on the right foot. The committee is looking forward to getting some of the artist's revisions back so a decision can be presented to City Council for final approval.

The committee is working on a calendar filled with community events for 2015.

The committee will seek the assistance of businesses through monetary and/or service sponsorships for the support of the planned events. Please let the committee know if you are interested in assisting with the events that are planned. Several sub committees will be needed to coordinate and contribute to the events.

The committee would like to encourage all organizations that are holding events in 2015 to consider becoming centennial partners. If your business or organization would like to do this, please present an agenda request form found on the City of Okeechobee website for review. This request should also include a request for use of the logo. It is recommended a representative be present at one of the centennial committee meetings to present the request.

The Okeechobee Historical Society and Okeechobee Retired Educators Association have already asked to be centennial partners.

The centennial committee would like to welcome the public to the committee meetings which are held at City Hall in the City Council chambers on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. Some dates may be adjusted due to holidays, so be sure to check the City of Okeechobee website for changes.

Special thanks to the Okeechobee News for supporting the committee by publishing these informational releases.

For information visit our facebook page: www.facebook.com/OkeechobeeCentennial, the city web site www.cityofokeechobee.com or contact the Office of the Clerk at 863-763-3372 ext. 215 or mjahner@cityofokeechobee.com.

Okeechobee Forecast

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Today: Intervals of clouds and sunshine. A stray afternoon thunderstorm is possible. High 91F. Winds WNW at 5 to 10 mph.

Tonight: A few clouds. Low 72F. Winds light and variable.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: Scattered thunderstorms in the morning, then mainly cloudy during the afternoon with thunderstorms likely. High 84F. Winds W at 10 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 90%.

Saturday Night: Partly to mostly cloudy skies with scattered thunderstorms before midnight. Low 61F. Winds NW at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 40%.

Sunday: A few clouds early, otherwise mostly sunny. High 82F. Winds N 10 mph.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Okeechobee Utility Authority will temporarily change its method of chlorinating potable water to insure the future safety of our drinking water. The water users may notice an unusual chlorine taste or odor in their tap water after October 6, 2014. These conditions will last thru October 20, 2014.

These temporary conditions will not be harmful to your health; however, if you are on kidney dialysis, you should consult your physician for special instructions concerning this matter. If you have tropical fish or aquatic animals, you should contact you local tropical fish store for advice and take appropriate action to insure that you have properly treated the water before adding it to your aquarium.

The hydrant flushing during this period may cause the water to become cloudy and discolored. This is a temporary condition and should not last more than a few hours.

We sincerely regret any inconvenience you may experience during this time. Please keep in mind that this is necessary to provide safe water for the customers of Okeechobee Utility Authority.

If additional information is needed, contact Kevin Rogers at 763-3239. We regret any inconvenience that this may cause you. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

OKEECHOBEE UTILITY AUTHORITY

Publish in Okeechobee News on Friday, October 3, 2014

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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!

Toddler drowns

• The family of the little boy who drowned in the canal are in my prayers. Such a tragedy. Kids that age are so quick. You have to watch them every second. If you live on a canal and have kids, fencing the yard might also be a good idea. It's no guarantee of safety but is one more barrier between them and the water if they manage to slip outside.

• This tragedy brings tears to my eyes. They run out of sight so fast. Something happens that requires the adult's attention and the child takes off in a second. Right now with my 1 year old and 5 people in the house it is a continuing effort to get everyone to remember to SHUT and LOCK the doors behind them. We are installing chain locks. This is a terrible tragedy that can happen to the best of parents. These poor people, saying a special prayer for them.

Stories from the past

• My family is loving the Wednesday newspaper with the page of articles from the past. Reading these articles gives us such insight into how people thought during these periods in our history. One thing that keeps standing out to me is that the good people of Okeechobee were a community who cared about each other. I think that is still true, but it is good to be reminded. We need to work together to make this community great.

Emergency shelter

• I completely support any plans to build a large structure suitable for use as a hurricane shelter at the fairgrounds. I think they should have built that to begin with, instead of that big open barn. An enclosed, air-conditioned building is something that would get plenty of use with other events when it was not needed as a shelter. The county should seek state grants for this project. It is needed, it would improve the quality of life in the community and it makes sense.

• Being a taxpayer I have no interest in funding another pink elephant at the Ag Center. How many more county employees will be needed to run it at a loss? It would be cheaper to rent the Martin County fair grounds as a shelter than to build a $6 million building for use as a shelter every 10 years. Let's spend the money we do not have, on fixing the drainage in the county which is what the county is supposed to be doing with our tax dollars.

• I like the idea of seeking state grant funding for a large multi-purpose building that could function as a hurricane shelter. Other small counties have facilities like this that are used for public functions. For example, Glades County has the Doyle Conner Building. Hendry County has John Boy Auditorium. I do not support taking out a bond issue to build it. But if we can get state funding, we should go for it. Other counties get state funding for projects like this.

• All of the buildings that are available for public use seem to stay busy. The old Civic Center is booked six months or more in advance. The KOA and Shrine Club stay busy. I think there would be plenty of events to keep a larger facility busy, especially since there is plenty of parking out there. And with that nice long driveway, events there do not create traffic problems.

OCRA

• I have to say how disappointed I am with the way our OCRA program is being maintained. This is a program that is for our children, but I have found that there is some unfairness involved. For instance, what is the point of having a draft? It seems like the teams have already been made up before the draft has even occurred. We have one dominating team with the best players on it that win every game and it is boring to watch a game with no competition. If we mix all of the players up I am sure we would be on an even playing field.

Brainstorm

• I attended The Perfect Brainstorm at my child's elementary school. What a wonderful experience. I want to thank the administrators and the teachers for putting on a very informative presentation. I left there knowing more about the types of things my child is doing in school, and I learned about how to support my child at home.

Letters to the editor

My Story

When Katrina Elsken asked me to share my story I ended up writing a book. I didn't journal my story along the way, so as I recalled my journey, the emotions overwhelmed me and the words went on and on.

So, I am simply going to state that Cancer is a beast. I stared this beast square in the face and I fought it with everything I had, and I beat it. I want to thank God for giving me the firsthand knowledge of fighting breast cancer because it provided me the opportunity to serve Him by helping others who may be facing a similar journey. And I hope that my short testimony motivates all women to FIGHT and to please, get your annual screenings because without early detection, Cancer has a better chance at being the victor.

Sharon Wallace

Reckless drivers

I went into the local McDonald's around 4:30 a.m. on a morning of the Thanksgiving weekend and seeing the wreckage of three vehicles in the street I approached the yellow tape they used to established a boundary. I snapped a picture of the most damaged patrol car with my camera phone no sooner to be approached by a highway patrolman that demanded I delete it. I regretfully followed his instructions as he threatened to confiscate my phone saying the accident was still under investigation and they didn't want it on Facebook. It pained me to see the front end of the patrol car setting where the engine should be while at the same time being told that it had contributed to the death of the driver of the private vehicle.

Some two years earlier I had been in the sheriff's office complaining of the reckless behavior of "too many" of our deputies and especially the fact of their failure to use any type of emergency warning device when driving at excessive rates of speed. I had witnessed patrol cars taking their kids to the bus stop stretched out like batman on the hood of the county vehicle. I had witnessed multiple county vehicles racing down 441 S. only to hang out at the Texaco station and then returning by using the south bound lane to travel north until they could crossover at the next turnaround. I had witnessed on numerous occasions them speeding through the red light at 70/441 almost causing a head-on crash. The sheriff said these were isolated cases and stood behind his deputies and said there was no law that said they had to use their lights and siren. I abruptly ended the meeting stating someone is going to get killed.

Numerous times have I been almost rear ended by officers of the law doing 70 in a 25 mph zone leaving my driveway and broadsided while entering 441 by making a (go) decision based on the distance to their headlights.

I know for a fact when entering McDonald's and having to cross over the west bound lanes you have to slow your vehicle to keep from bottoming out on the ramp up to the parking lot. This accident is not the young lady's fault, it's not the deputy's fault. It's the fault of all of us full-time residents who continually observe these reckless behaviors and continue to say nothing. I hope these families get a good lawyer and I hope Okeechobee County has to pay and pay big to where we have to put off some of these pet projects and all of us will feel some pain with our tax dollar. My heart goes out to these young ladies' families. My heart goes out to the deputy and his family as he only did what has become acceptable behavior by his superiors. Will it stop or will it continue? You and I hold the answer.

William Mason
Okeechobee

Care appreciated

To the staff at Raulerson Hospital in the emergency room & ICU:

I took my very good friend, Krystyna, to the emergency room Wednesday evening Sept. 24 with severe chest pains and I want to express my sincere thanks to how she got such good and immediate care in the ER and ICU units.

She was later transferred to Lawnwood Hospital in Fort Pierce where she had heart surgery, Friday evening of the 26th.

She came through the surgery fine, but unfortunately some complications happened and she passed away. I am so glad that she was given such good care here and she will be sadly missed.

Thank you to everyone

Julie Fetters

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

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We Pledge...
- To operate this newspaper as a public trust
- To help our community become a better place to live and work, through our dedication to conscientious journalism.
- To provide the information citizens need to make their own intelligent decisions about public issues.
- To report the news with honesty, accuracy, purposeful neutrality, fairness, objectivity, fearlessness and compassion.
- To use our opinion pages to facilitate community debate, not to dominate it with our own opinions.
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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.

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CITY

Continued From Page 1

concerned by the traffic patterns which he stated are confusing. Public Works Director David Allen said there is a serious problem on S.R. 70 near the police station in the east bound lanes. Police Chief Denny Davis said there have been accidents already due to the construction.

"Mostly just fender benders so far but a lot of near misses," he said. "It's confusing. The best thing I can suggest to our public is when they approach the intersection, slow down for the next months because it'll be somewhat of a problem. If they can avoid the main light that would be an even better solution."

Chief Davis said motorists headed east bound are confused by the lane shifts and some in the inside lane are trying to merger over by mistake causing near mishaps on a regular basis.

"Slow down, use caution and be wary. It'll be interesting when the northern visitors come down, they may have some difficulty with the changes," he added.

Chief Davis said another concern is left turns west of the intersection on S.R. 70. He said time after time, people trying to turn think they are in a turn lane and are actually in a lane of traffic.

Ms. Cook said the Department of Transportation and the project staff are working very hard to respond to the concerns of the people and the police department, have made some modifications to the traffic control plan and will continue to make more if needed.

Councilman Watford said one lady was in tears when she called in on the phone due to the removal of the trees. City officials said some of the trees were diseased. New trees will be planted after the road construction is completed.

The project is expected to be completed by next August, weather permitting. Ms. Cook said the state knows this is an important project to the city and that once completed, traffic flow will be much better through the intersection. In the meantime, she urged motorists to be careful.

"They need to be on the lookout for the different signs and advisories and pavement markings," she said. "Perhaps they can drive a bit more slowly until they are accustomed to the new traffic pattern."

Budget approved

A near $5.87 million dollar spending plan was approved by the council without much debate Tuesday. They held a budget workshop in September.

The spending plan includes $3.74 million in reserves in the general fund and another $4.9 million in reserves for capital projects. City employees will receive a 1.6 percent salary hike this year.

The main expenditures include $213,429 for the city clerk's office, $263,168 for financial services, $86,213 for legal services, $341,186 for general services, $2.09 million for city police, $14.2 million for city fire services, and $1.14 million for road and street facilities or public works.

The council approved proclamations for October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month and National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Jonathan Bean, of Martha's House, said accountability is the way to solve domestic violence.

"Unless the consequences change for these abusers they will not change," he said.

He invited residents to attend an Oct. 3 ceremony at Scott Driver Park to remember the victims of domestic violence before the fireworks show planned as part of the Minimal Regatta Captains' Dinner celebration.

The council scheduled a final public hearing Tuesday, Oct. 21, at 6 p.m. to discuss an ordinance that adds personal services like barber shops, dry cleaners, salons, health clubs, and similar uses to the Commercial Professional Office district as a permissible use if a special exception is obtained. Donna Wildes, dba Beasts and Barbells, has petitioned for a text amendment on the property at 210 N.W. Fifth St. for a fitness center.

The council approved a temporary street and sidewalk permit for Halloween and the Trunk or Treat community event. S.W. Second, S.W. Third, S.W. Fourth, S.W. Fifth, and S.W. Sixth Avenues between North and South Park Street will be closed from 5 until 10 p.m. on Oct. 31.

The council also approved the closure of S.W. Fourth Street between S.W. Fifth Avenue and S.W. Sixth Avenue on Jan. 10, 2015, between 6 and 11 a.m. for a 5K fundraiser for Rock Solid Christian Academy.

Okeechobee News/**Charles Murphy**

Mayor pro tem Dowling Watford (right) presented Sharon Wallace with a proclamation citing October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Indiantown Lions host swap meet

The Indiantown Lions Club will hold a community flea market in Post Park (behind library, on Warfield Blvd.) in Indiantown, on Saturday, **Oct. 11,** from 7 a.m. until noon. Dealers welcome. Lions proceeds are going back into the community. Space rental is $15. Diabetes screening will be available. Everyone who has anything to sell, now is the time and the place. For information, contact Richard at 812-459-4788.

AIR

Continued From Page 1

coughing and sneezing — all, of which, are common symptoms of a mold problem.

So Judge Levin, the chief judge for the 19th Judicial District, submitted a request to Okeechobee County to disburse funds totalling $5,600 so that Environ International Corporation could run a battery of tests on the complex. Those funds are held in the Court Innovative Technology Trust Fund Reserves, and are there to be utilized by the court.

But when County Commissioner Bryant Culpepper made a motion to release those funds at the Sept. 25 meeting of the Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners, the motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioners Frank Irby and Joey Hoover objected to the proposed expenditure because the county had already paid for two prior studies and they didn't want to "spend the taxpayer's money."

One of those studies was done on April 18 and the second was conducted Aug. 4. Both were done by GLE Associates of Pompano Beach and cost the county a total of $5,380.

Both tests apparently indicated "... we were clear throughout the building," Donnie Oden, the county's director of facilities services, told the commissioners. "Both tests were actually below limits that would be bothering anyone."

Mr. Oden also told the board air sampling tests were done and air filters, which are changed monthly, were not tested.

According to Environ's scope of work that was presented to commissioners, the company will: inspect common areas, offices and courtrooms; inspect behind base trim and carpet of readily accessible areas; check substrates (wallboard, wood framing or studs and other porous building materials); document inspections with photos; collect dust samples in two areas one, of which is an area reportedly occupied by a canine; inspect air handling units, including those in courtrooms; review building history; and, provide written conclusions.

"The question is, why are we doing another test?" asked Commissioner Irby. "He (Judge Levin) wanted to hire, what did he say, 'a disinterested party?'"

GLE, explained Commissioner Bryant, is a vendor for the county.

If the third test is done and the county is not happy with its findings "... can we have another study?" asked Mr. Irby.

"You can chase your tail if you want to," replied Mr. Oden.

County attorney John Cassels told the board the money is already set aside for technology and innovations, and the chief judge said it is OK to use it for this.

He went on to tell the board "... the ramifications of having an adverse judiciary out here could have far-reaching effects ... ."

But, that cautionary statement apparently fell on deaf ears.

Let's look at a couple of things.

First, as mentioned above the money requested by Judge Levin is held in a court fund and is actually the district's money. While the money is disbursed by the county, it does not come from any county fund or account.

"Section 939.185(1)(a)1 specifically states that the funds '... shall be allocated ... as determined by the chief judge of the circuit ... .' The circuits do not have the authority in law to manage their own funds, so state money is managed and disbursed from Tallahassee, and funds generated at the local level are managed and disbursed by each county," explained Thomas Genung, the court administrator for the 19th Judicial District.

Which brings us to the statements by commissioners Irby and Hoover that they didn't want to spend the taxpayers' money to fund a third test.

According to the state statute mentioned above, the funds in question come from fees imposed by the court.

"The board of county commissioners may adopt by ordinance an additional court cost, not to exceed $65, to be imposed by the court when a person pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, or is found guilty of, or adjudicated delinquent for, any felony, misdemeanor, delinquent act, or criminal traffic offense under the law of this state," says the statute.

It goes on to say this assessment is to be accounted for separately by the county in which the county occurred and can only be used in that county.

Under the statute: 25 percent of the amount collected is to be used to fund innovations as determined by the chief judge; 25 percent is to be used to help counties provide legal aid programs; 25 percent is to fund personnel and legal materials for the public as part of a law library; and, 25 percent is the be used as determined by county commissioners to support teen court programs, juvenile assessment centers and other juvenile alternative programs.

When asked why the board denied giving the judicial district their money, county administrator Robbie Chartier said they wanted "evidence as to why a third testing should be done."

She also admitted the roof on the now-10-year-old building was leaking. But, she added, "that was fixed right away."

Mrs. Chartier also said the roof on the renovated Okeechobee County Courthouse was also leaking, and that mold was found in an office there.

"The mold was taken care of and cleaned up. It's not the black mold, it was white. It was on some desks and some chairs," she said, adding the furniture was thrown away. "It was cleaned up with bleach. We had a mold remediation company come in and they said it was gone."

Commissioner Culpepper said the moldy furniture just happened to be in his office.

"It was definitely there. I know it was cleaned and samplings were taken," he said. "From what I was told, some ceiling panels were damaged — they had gotten wet in Joey's (Commissioner Hoover) office. I was told there was a leak there and it was supposedly taken care of."

Mrs. Chartier pointed out Mr. Genung will be on the agenda for the board's Oct. 9 meeting. He will again ask the board to release the money.

"Tom is going to address the board at the next meeting and re-address the whole thing. It's not a dead issue," said Mrs. Chartier.

When Mr. Genung was asked what will be done if their request is again denied, he simply said: "We'll take things one step at a time."

Obituaries

Obituaries should be submitted to the Okeechobee News by e-mailing obits@newszap.com. Customers may also request photos and links to online guest books. A link to the obituaries is available at www.newszap.com.

Dean Peters, 63

OKEECHOBEE — Dean Peters, 63, of Okeechobee, died Friday, September 26, 2014 at Raulerson Hospital in Okeechobee. The Baileyton, Tenn. native was former employee of G. F. Office Furniture.

He was the son of the late George Ramsey Peters and Sarah Frances Caldwell Peters.

He is survived by his wife, Brenda Taylor Peters, Okeechobee; two sons, Jonathan Peters, Moss, Tenn. and Brian Peters, Portland, Tenn.; two daughters, Cindy Crowson, Westmoreland, Tenn. and Lisa Deckard, Okeechobee; six grandchildren, Ryan Crowson, Hunter Crowson, Elizabeth Crowson, Dylan Deckard, Eli Deckard and Aliyah Deckard; mother in law, Hazel Taylor, Okeechobee. He was preceded in death by his father-in-law, Don Taylor.

Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Friday, October 3, 2014 at Goad Funeral Home in Scottsville, Ky. with Bro. Russel Carter and Bro. Ralph Carter officiating and burial in Crescent Hill Cemetery.

Ruby Lee Payne, 75

OKEECHOBEE — Ruby Lee Payne died October 1, 2014. She was born November 7, 1938 in DeKalb, Alabama to J.B. and Effie Barkley Hughes. A resident of Okeechobee since 1977, she was a homemaker and enjoyed attending church, spending time with family and friends, cooking and playing cards.

She was of the Baptist faith. Mrs. Payne was preceded in death by her husband, Richard "Alabama" Payne, Sr. She is survived by her son, Richard Payne, Jr.(Kristi); two daughters, Teresa Bass (Jeff) all of Okeechobee and Becky Thompson (Dean) of Biscoe, North Carolina; three grandchildren, William Bass (Samantha), C.J. Bass (Holly) all of Okeechobee and Shelby Thompson (Mandie) of Ashboro, North Carolina; two great granddaughters, Aubreigh of Okeechobee and Chloe of Ashboro, North Carolina; two brothers, Charles Hughes (Juanita) and Robert Hughes (Patsy); three sisters, Opal Hill (Arnold), Shirley Bell and Linda Scott all of Alabama.

Visitation will be 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., Saturday, October 4, 2014 at Buxton & Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Basinger Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Hospice of Okeechobee, PO Box 1548, Okeechobee, FL 34973.

Those wishing to leave a message of condolence may sign the register book at, www.OkeechobeeFuneralHome.com All arrangements are entrusted to the direction and care of the Buxton, Bass and Conway families of the Buxton & Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home, 400 North Parrott Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida, 34972.

Community Events

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Eagles to host a dinner

The Fraternal Order Of Eagles, 9985 U.S. 441 N., will host a 16-oz. ribeye steak dinner with baked potato, garlic bread, salad and dessert Friday, **Oct. 3,** from 6 until 9 p.m. Music will be provided by Gerry Harmon from 7 until 11 p.m. The public is welcome. For information, call 863-763-2552.

Bingo to be played at Moose

Okeechobee Moose Lodge #1753, 159 N.W. 36th St., invites you to join them Friday, **Oct. 3**, for a country fried steak dinner for a $7 donation from 5 until 7 p.m. Music will be provided from 7 until 10 p.m. by Kenny's Country Music. Proceeds benefit Moose charities.

OHS drama group plans play

The OHS Drama/Thespian Troupe 7319 will present "Steel Magnolias" **Oct. 3 - 4**. Showtime is 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 3; and, at 2 and 7 p.m. 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.

VFW offering bingo Friday

VFW North Post 4423, 300 N.W. 34th St. will host bingo Friday, **Oct. 3**, at 1 p.m. and again on Saturday, Oct. 4, at 1 p.m. Friday, karaoke will be offered by Lisa from 7 until 10 p.m. The grill will be open: Wednesday, from 5 until 7 p.m.; Friday, from 5 until 9 p.m.; and, Saturday from 5 until 7 p.m. Join us for Lori's Sunday dinner from 1 until 3 p.m. featuring stuffed peppers. All proceeds will benefit our veterans programs. The public is invited.

Meeting in Buckhead Ridge

Glades County Commissioner Tim Stanley will hold a public meeting at the Buckhead Ridge Community Center on Friday, **Oct. 3,** at 9 a.m. to discuss issues coming before the Glades County Board of Commissioners, that will affect the Buckhead Ridge area.

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Lifelong Learning event set

The Fielden Institute at IRSC is a program of the IRSC Foundation 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.

Legion offers Sunday bingo

American Legion Post 64, 501 S.E. Second St., will host Sunday night bingo on **Oct. 5** at 6:30 p.m. Doors open at 5 p.m. in the bingo area. The kitchen will offer a limited menu. Payoffs will be determined by player attendance. All proceeds to benefit the American Legion veterans' programs. The event is open to the public. The American Legion now has free WIFI for its lounge and dining room patrons.

Sit & sew slated for Oct. 7

ConKerr Cancer's next sit and sew will be held Tuesday, Oct. 7, from 10:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the Okeechobee Presbyterian Church on Parrott Avenue. Bring your sewing machine and child-friendly cotton fabric and sew with other ladies in the community who want to make a difference to children stricken with cancer or other life-changing illnesses. Pillowcase kits will also be available for you to sew at this meeting. For information or to donate material, call Joan at 863-467-0290.

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.

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.

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Educators honor those achieving excellence

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

The Okeechobee Education Foundation highlighted the accomplishments they have made in terms of mini grants for teachers and scholarships to Okeechobee High School graduates at their annual Achieving Excellence Luncheon held Wednesday.

The program included speeches from Central Elementary School teacher, Okeechobee's teacher of the year Rae Ann Whiteside, OHS graduate and scholarship recipient Taylor Davis, mini grant recipient Jenni Ellis of Central Elementary, Betty Saffioti of the Take Stock in Children Scholarship program with Indian River State College and president of the Okeechobee Education Foundation Linda Syfrett.

Ms. Whiteside received a mini grant for her class from the Kiwanis Club which she used to help Ace Pre K to buy books on acceptance of disabilities. Her second grade class read the books to the Ace Pre-k. Another grant from the community theatre created a living wax museum of her class of famous people like Abraham Lincoln, Ben Franklin and Betsy Ross. The kids learned history and also gave speeches about the characters to the class.

Miss Davis earned a 3.65 grade point average in college. She intends to become a paramedic. She said she wants to make a difference in the community.

Mrs. Ellis had her class read "A Land Remembered." They visited the Elliott Museum in Stuart that had a demonstration and exhibit on Native Americans in Florida. This grant came from the Friends of the Okeechobee Battlefield. A second grant from Malissa Morgan provided more literature for students to use in the classroom and foster a love of reading.

Ms. Saffioti said the foundation has provided 18 four-year scholarships to college. They have supported the IRSC program since 2002. She noted 92 percent of students in the program graduate from high school.

Mrs. Syfrett said all in attendance can help make a difference in classrooms and in the lives of students.

She praised IRSC for being named one of the top 10 colleges in the country. This Aspen Award will grant $1 million to the winning college.

Business sponsors honored this year included Platinum Sponsors or those who gave $2,500, Century Link, Donna Enrico, Betty Kelly, Florida Power and Light, Laura Sims Munson Sims and Munson, CPA, Linda Syfrett, Waste Management and Wal-Mart 814.

Gold sponsors, or those who donated $1,000 included Big Lake Cancer Center, Jack Coker, Glades Electric Cooperative, Preferred Properties of Okeechobee Realty, Rotary Club, Betty Williamson and Sonny Williamson.

Silver sponsors who gave $500, included Burgess Supply, Glenn Sneider, LC, Harbor Federal, Lifestyles & Healthcare, Natalie Moody, M Cross Ranch, Kelly Owens, Popeye's Chicken and Biscuits, Publix and Quality Air Conditioning.

Friends of the Foundation who donated up to $500 included Joni Ard, Buxton and Bass Funeral Home, Cassels and McCall, Mike Costopoulos, Paula Daniel, Emory Walker, Dr. Manuel Garcia, Group Insurance Solutions, Pat O'Connor, Phoebe Raulerson, Sam Smith, Gwenda Thompson, Tabitha Trent, William and Toni Wiersma and John Williams.

To contact the foundation call 863-462-5000, extension 257.

The foundation also endorsed support for the Children Services Council referendum. She also recognized the founder of the Foundation, former School Superintendent Danny Mullins.

The Okeechobee Methodist Church hosted the luncheon. Ben Sims was the chef and Mary Hurley the delicious desserts. Countryside Florist, Brown Cow Sweetery and Center State Bank provided gifts for the lunch.

The goal of the foundation is to support the students and staff of Okeechobee County Schools and their vision of achieving excellence.

Kiwanis host guest speaker

Special to the Okeechobee News

Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office Detective Rick Voss spoke to the Kiwanis Club of Okeechobee recently about the growing drug problems in Okeechobee and the K-9 unit that helps battle those problems.

Detective Voss said parents should look for signs of drug abuse with their children. He has seen many cases where children have been abusing drugs right under their parents eyes because they either refused to look for or did not know to look for certain red flags. Some of the signs mentioned were massive weight loss without exercise, darkness under the eyes and an aggressive change in demeanor.

The OCSO uses a K-9 unit that Detective Voss says is very important to the community, not only for the contribution in the war on drugs in the field but also in the classroom through demonstrations for children.

In other Kiwanis news, the club installed their new officers and board members for the upcoming year. Ken Keller is president, Jonathon Bean is president-elect, Sherri Enfinger is treasurer and Heather Hancock is secretary.

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

When you are sick or need to see a doctor, you likely do not feel or act like your normal 'healthy' self. Whether you are experiencing fatigue, dizziness, nausea, or a host of other symptoms, your ability to thoroughly communicate about your condition and comprehend the doctor's medical advice may be compromised. This is just one reason why it is beneficial to have an existing relationship with a Primary Care Provider, before you actually need one.

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

One of the reasons people give for not proactively seeing a doctor is their lack of time. If you think you are too busy to have your cholesterol levels checked, just imagine how your schedule will be affected if you suffer a heart attack? Another reason people give for not visiting a doctor annually is that they are worried about what the doctor, lab results or a screening may reveal. Ignorance is not bliss, when it comes to your health. Studies have shown that early detection and treatment are critical to a successful outcome, whether the diagnosis is breast cancer, diabetes or heart disease. A very popular reason for many people to avoid scheduling a wellness visit is uncertainty regarding the cost and how to pay for the visit. Yet, many insurances, as well as Medicare, often include an annual wellness visit in their benefits. Contact your insurance provider to learn if annual wellness visits are included in your health plan. If you have a healthcare question or need help finding a doctor, Raulerson Hospital provides a free 24/7 Consult-A-Nurse hotline: 863-763-9228

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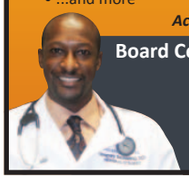

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Adam Bryant memorial regatta is this weekend

Special to the Okeechobee News/**Picture Perfect 4-H Club**

At last year's regatta, the boat dubbed the "Friday Night Build" did not float very well, so the captain continued the race by wading through the course while carrying the boat. This year's regatta has more than 100 entries.

Okeechobee's own homemade boat race, the Adam Bryant Minimal Regatta is set for Saturday, Oct. 4, starting at 10 a.m. at the Scott Driver Boat Ramps, 10100 State Road 78 E. at the Kissimmee River.

Teams build boats out of minimal materials — they are only allowed to use one sheet of 4' by 8' luan plywood, 24' of 2" by 4" lumber, one pound of fasteners and one 60-yard roll of duct tape. Paint may be used for decoration. Urethane is not permitted. This year's theme is "Starts with the letter A." Entry fees include the materials to build the boat.

The Captain's Dinner will be held on Friday night from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Scott Driver Boat Ramp. Boats must be checked in during this time. Awards will be presented for best boat designs. Tickets for the dinner are $12 at the door. The Captain's Dinner is open to the public.

A fireworks show is planned after the Captain's Dinner at 9 p.m.

On Saturday, spectators will line the shore to watch the boats race ... or sometimes sink with style. Prizes are given for the fastest boats and also for the best decorations.

Spectator admission on the day of the races is free.

The boat races celebration also include special activities for children in the booth area.

This event is in memory of Adam Bryant. Adam was a volunteer fireman, talented musician, and charming young man whose life was shortened by a devastating spinal cord injury in November 2002. He survived the initial accident and worked to recover until his passing in June 2004. Despite his suffering, he maintained his unique sense of humor, bringing frequent smiles to those close to him. This event is meant to be fun and allow creativity which truly exemplifies Adam's spirit!

As Adam was in Fire/EMT School at the time of his accident, money raised will be used to send a young person to Firefighter/EMT School. Additional funds will be used to help improve the lives of local special needs children and others in need.

For information, visit www.MinimalRegatta,com.

Benefit to be held at Eagles

Cypress Hut Eagles #4509, 4701 U.S. 441 S.E., will host a benefit dinner and auction for Dewey Lightsey on Saturday, Oct. 11, at 2 p.m. There will be food, music and fun. Come out and support a great cause. For information, contact: Lorraine at 239-707-3005; Rhonda at 863-261-3585; or, Nadene at 863-634-3592.

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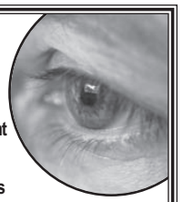

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Special to the Okeechobee News/**SES**

SES Students of the Month

These high flying Eagles earned Student of the Month at South Elementary in September. They are: Eduardo Alavez Bocardo, Mikayla Anuez, Alton Azcona, Kaylen Torres Cruz, Tori Trent and Raul Castellanos Marin Jr. Congratulations, keep up the GREAT work and show how Eagles soar!

Special to the Okeechobee News/**YMS**

YMS Students of the Week

Yearling Middle School would like to announce their students of the week for Sept. 26: Makalyn Jones, Sonya Morales, Roberto De La Cruz, Alexis Garcia, Sandy Leon, Sha'Myra Williams and Isaac Oyong.

Special to the Okeechobee News

Pumpkin patch opens Saturday

It's pumpkin patch time of the year at the First United Methodist Church, 200 N.W. Second St. They welcome all people to visit the pumpkin patch. It is on an honor system. They have pumpkins of all sizes as well as gourds. The pumpkin patch starts Oct. 4, so come one and come all to our pumpkin patch, and don't forget to bring your camera. Also, the church welcomes pre-kindergarten and kindergarten classes to participate in a morning pumpkin patch program that lasts about one hour. For information, call the church at 863-763-4021 and ask for Pastor Jim.

Special to the Okeechobee News/**EES**

EES Students of the Week

Everglades Elementary achieving excellence in the classroom for the week of Oct. 3 include: kindergarten, Ashton Mobley, Allison Monjaras, Treyson Somerville, Emory Moore-Carter, Mya Diefenbach, Alexandra Tyson; first grade students, Tyre Rush, Cecilia Santibanez, Draven Burns, Julie Brinson, Rosalinda Montoya; second grade, Felicia McKinney, Kaden Watson, Amber Laster, Ananda Medrano; third grade students, Yasmin Serrato, Carlos Flores, Aiden Moreno, Alyna Kane, Daniella Sontai-Perez, Makaylie Powell; fourth grade students, Trinity Reynolds, Angel Alvarez, Cesar Garcia, Cyphonnie Cooper, Keara Bryant; fifth grade students, Allyson Broadrick, Holt Jones, Alexander Miller and Zacharius Anderson. Congratulations to our many outstanding students.

Special to the Okeechobee News

Rotary student of the month

Congratulations to Samantha Wine, a senior at OHS, for being selected as our first Student of the Month at the Sept. 30 meeting. Pictured above is Samantha Wine and acting president Kristy Crawford.

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Okeechobee Arrest Report

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

• Evelyn Rose Klaymen, 49, Cypress Tree St., Okeechobee, was arrested Sept. 30 by Deputy Richard Varnadore on a Collier County warrant charging her with violation of probation - driving under the influence. She is being held without bond.

• Nicki Lynn Gatlin, 35, S.E. 15th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Sept. 30 by Sergeant Justin Bernst on an Okeechobee County warrant charging her with the misdemeanor of violation of probation - driving under the influence. She is being held without bond.

• Michael Wayne Smith, 32, Montclair Circle, North Port, was arrested Oct. 1 by Deputy Corporal Aric Majere on a DOC warrant charging him with the felony of violation of probation - grand theft. He is being held without bond.

• James Lester Gore, 36, 77th Place, Loxahatchee, was arrested Oct. 1 by the Okeechobee Narcotics Task Force on a felony charge of possession of a controlled substance (cocaine) and a misdemeanor charge of driving while license suspended. He is being held without bond.

• Diego Armando Rodriguez, 19, S.E. Ninth Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Oct. 1 by Deputy Paul Jackson on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with the felonies of giving false information to a second-hand dealer and dealing in stolen property. His bond was set at $20,000.

• Marcus Joseph, 25, N.E. 168th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Oct. 1 by Deputy Yero Todman on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with the felony of possession of a portable communication device in a state correctional institution. He is being held without bond.

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

Man escapes serious injury in crash

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

An Okeechobee man escaped serious injury when the SUV in which he was a passenger was involved in a fatality accident on U.S. 1 in Indian River County.

According to a press release from the Florida Highway Patrol, the accident occurred Tuesday, Sept. 30, at 6:30 p.m. when George Powers Howland, 88, Vero Beach, attempted a left-hand turn onto Grove Isle Circle.

Mr. Howland was southbound on U.S. 1 when he attempted the turn and was struck in the right side of his 1997 Honda Odyssey by a 2005 Ford Escape sports utility vehicle. The northbound SUV was driven by Sean Christina Maloney, 23, of Port St. Lucie.

Ms. Maloney and her passenger, John Lee Vukovich Jr., 30, of Okeechobee, received only minor injuries, stated the release.

Mr. Howland died at Lawnwood Regional Medical Center in Fort Pierce at 7:18 p.m., added the release.

The release went on to state that all of those involved in the crash were wearing their seat belts.

The crash remains under investigation.

Deputy: OAA student caught with pot

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

A suspected marijuana cigarette and some loose marijuana were reportedly found in the purse of an Okeechobee Achievement Academy (OAA) student by the school's principal.

Deputy Keith Murrish, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), stated in his report the pot was found in the student's purse Tuesday, Sept. 30.

Deputy Murrish went on to state he is applying for a juvenile take and hold warrant charging the student with possession of marijuana under 20 grams, which is a misdemeanor.

The deputy's report did not give the female student's age.

Deputy Murrish indicated he was contacted by OAA dean Albert Whiteside about the student, who was possibly in possession of marijuana. The student's purse was then searched by Mr. Whiteside in the presence of Deputy Murrish, added the report.

During that search the principal reportedly found: a suspected marijuana cigarette; a suspected 'roach,' which is the remnant of a smoked marijuana cigarette; and, a cigar package that contained suspected pot.

All of those items were field tested, stated Deputy Murrish, and those tests all indicated a positive result for the presence of marijuana.

The deputy went on to indicate the items found in the student's purse were seized and placed into evidence.

You should get flu shot before Halloween

Special to the Okeechobee News

State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health, Dr. John Armstrong, received his annual flu shot today, demonstrating the importance of getting vaccinated against the flu. The Department recommends all Floridians 6 months of age and older receive a flu shot each year.

"Getting vaccinated is the single best way to protect yourself and your family against influenza," said State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health Dr. John Armstrong. "I encourage all Floridians to get your flu vaccination before Halloween, wash your hands often and stay home when you are sick."

Flu vaccines are offered in many locations, including doctor's offices, clinics, health departments, retail stores, pharmacies, health centers and through many employers and schools. Check with your physician, your local county health department or www.floridahealth.gov to search for a location to receive a flu vaccine. Ann Waltz, Senior Community Health Nurse Supervisor for the Florida Department of Health in Leon County is pictured above with State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health, Dr. John Armstrong.

The Department works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts. During 2014, the Department is recognizing 125 years of public health in Florida with educational opportunities and events. Please visit www.FLHealth125.gov for more information.

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Crawford ends season with 8-3 mound mark

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Jonathan Crawford

Okeechobee's Jonathan Crawford finished up his second professional baseball season in the Midwest League with some strong numbers for the Western Michigan Whitecaps. Crawford finished 8-3 with a 2.85 earned run average and a WHIP (walks plus hit per innings pitched) of 1.16.

He allowed 93 hits in 123 innings pitched and struck out 85 batters. The Whitecaps qualified for the post season with a fine record of 82-58 this year, which included 41-29 marks in both the first and second halves of the season. Crawford said he was pleased with how he performed this year, "It was good and a lot of fun. We had pretty good crowds all season."

Crawford also got a tour of the Midwest as he visited Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Kentucky and other states and more importantly made every scheduled start. He was also named to the Midwest League All-Star team. He attended 140 games and had several long bus trips. Crawford said he enjoyed having his family come during All-Star week to experience that game with him.

"It was an impressive night and a lot of fun. There were a lot of great players and a lot of major league prospects in that game," he added.

He also was visited by several Okeechobee fans during the summer months which Jonathan also greatly appreciated. In the off season Crawford plans to rest his arm, continue to work out and continue his studies at the University of Florida where he is close to earning his degree in family youth and community sciences. He will work out about four times per week, and do a lot of running around the Gainesville campus to keep in shape.

On the mound, Crawford said he was greatly helped by former major league pitcher Mike Henneman, the Whitecaps pitching coach. He continues to work on his command and his secondary pitches.

The hope is for Crawford to be promoted to the next level, the Florida State league Lakeland Tigers next season. "I'm definitely where I want to be as far as my professional career. I hope to continue to pitch well and I feel I'm in a good position for next year."

Okeechobee Sports News in Brief

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

• Pemayetv Emahakv volleyball enjoyed a decisive victory over Clewiston Middle School 25-3 and 25-11 last Thursday. Alaina Sweat had 10 aces, Aleina Micco had seven aces, and Raeley Matthews had one service ace and three kills. Janessa Nunez added three aces for the Seminoles who remain undefeated.

• Okeechobee **Youth Football** League teams had a rough afternoon at Lake Wales Saturday as they dropped four of the five games. The Flag team lost 2-6, the Mighty Mites fell 19-0, the Pee Wee 26-8 and the Seniors fell 12-6. The Junior squad won 19-12 to improve to 6-2. The Flag team is 3-5, the Mighty Mites 4-4, Pee Wee 6-2 and the Seniors are now 4-4. The OYFL will host the Poinciana Predators on Saturday at OHS.

• Osceola Middle School's **volleyball** defeated Oslo on the road Monday to extend their winning streak to three games, 27-25, 23-25 and 17-15. Ashley Snyder had seven aces, three digs and one kill. Aubrie Hataway had five digs, three aces, four kills and one block. Alexi Morgan had five kills and two service aces. Perla Contreras had one service ace and five assists. Emily Rhodes had five digs, one ace and one assist.

Okeechobee News/**Charles Murphy**
Ashley Snyder gets ready at the service line for Osceola Middle School.

Coach Lauren Throop admitted it was a nail biter for her team but was pleased her team came out strong and played really hard.

"We got pretty behind in the second game set but fought hard to come back and stay in the game," she said.

The third game was neck and neck until the final two points.

"It was one of the best games we played all year, they stayed calm and collected the entire time and that was something that has been a struggle for us this season," she added.

• OHS Lady Brahmans **volleyball team** improved to 9-6 on the season with a tough three-game sweep at Lake Placid on Monday night, 25-22, 25-23 and 25-12.

• The Brahman boys **golf** team dropped a tri-match against Martin County High and John Carroll Catholic on Wednesday at Willoughby Country Club in Stuart.

Martin County shot 170, John Carroll 174, and Okeechobee 177 in the hotly contested match.

Zach Hudson led Okeechobee with a 42, and Kyle Mullins carded a 44. Rounding out other top OHS scorers were: Daniel Fulleda (45); Jarrod Morgan (46); and, Elijah Finney (48) Braceton King had a round of 54 for OHS.

• The Yearling Middle School **soccer** has had a terrible time getting on the field this year due to rain outs. The team had played only two matches through the first five weeks of the schedule, only a handful of them can be made up and the team will be forced to play six matches in a two-week period to close the season.

• Raeley Matthews had 12 kills and the Lady Seminoles controlled things at the net as Pemayetv Emahakv defeated Osceola, 25-16 and 25-20 in middle school **volleyball** action in Okeechobee Tuesday. The loss snapped a three-game win streak for Osceola. Seminoles coach Kim Jackson said the team remains undefeated at the midpoint of their season.

Both games were competitive with Osceola tying the first game 8-8 but failing down the stretch. They were hurt by a few service faults and mistakes. Brighton scored 10 of the final 14 points in the game. Osceola had several good plays in the second game with three nice kills by Macy Collier and two service points by Abigail Myers. Matthews had a key kill and then served up six points at the service line to help the Seminoles build a 24-18 lead. Julia Smith had four aces for Brighton. Aleina Micco had two service aces. In the junior varsity exhibition game, Pemayetv Emahakv won 25-13. Madiysn Osceola had four aces and one kill, Aubrey Pearce three aces, Jacee Jumper two aces and one kill and Cady Osceola added a service ace.

• The Lady Brahmans **golf** finished fifth out of seven teams at the Hawkins Crutchfield 18-hole tournament held Monday in Sebring. Rain devastated the course and part of the complex was under water for the tournament.

Coach Bruce Conrad said the play was slow and it took over seven hours to complete the round. He said the team shot poorly on the back nine holes. As a team, Okeechobee shot 451 and were led by Hannah Raulerson's round of 99 and Cameron White's101. Fernanda Grisales shot a 122 and Tyfanni Zeller finished her round at 129.

Martin County shot 347 to win their bracket at the tournament.

In Okeechobee's bracket, St. John Neumann shot 374, Bishop Verot 400, Ridge High 422, Kings Academy 433, Gulliver Prep 456, and Clewiston 527. Sydney Shrader of St. John Neumann won the medalist for the low round of 72 in Okeechobee's bracket. Loren Perez from Bartow shot the low round of the tournament at 70. Archbishop McCarthy had the tournament low score of 300 with five players shooting in the 70s.

The Brahman golf teams will be holding a golf fundraiser at Spring Lakes Country Club this Saturday with a shotgun start at 9 a.m.

OHS boys finish 12th, girls 14th in Fleet Feet cross country event

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

The cross country teams competed Saturday in the Fleet Feet Invitational held at South Fork High School in Martin County and the boys team finished 12th out of 25 teams while the girls finished 14th out of 18 schools.

Coach A.J. Mayernik praised many of the runners who continue to cut their times as the team moves into the meat of their schedule.

"Some outstanding performances were turned in by Daniel Shelley, Lucas Penido, Gerardo Saucedo, Brendan Patterson and Emmanuel Gaona," he said.

Daniel Shelley led the boys with a time of 17:37, good for 40th place overall. Gaona finished 83rd with a time of 19:03. Lucas Penido finished in 19:09 for 86th place. Saucedo took 19:17 to finish the course to finish in 91st place. Brendan Patterson finished in 93rd place with a time of 19:19. Six Brahman runners finished in the top 100. The team had an average time of 18:53.

Belen Jesuit took the men's title. Okeechobee finished fourth among Treasure Coast schools.

Mayernik also praised JV runners Dylan Ferneau and Jhovani Hernandez for strong races.

The Lady Brahmans were led by Vernice Leon who finished in 57th place with a time of 23:13. Alexis Muller took 58th place with a time of 23:16. Charleigh Heater finished in 86th place with a time of 25:20.

The Lady Brahmans average time was 25:34. Pine Crest High School won the girls title.

Mayernik said he liked what he saw from many of the Lady Brahmans.

"We completed the mud-filled course with some of the girl's personal best times of the year," he said.

The next race for the cross country team will be at Disney World on Oct. 11.

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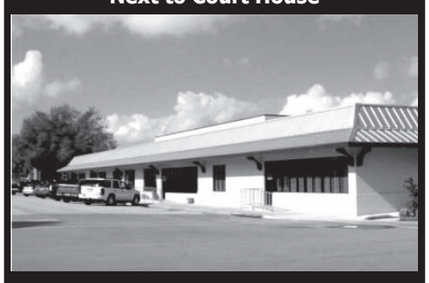

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CORNER OFFICE 2,500 SQ FT, WATER-SEWER-DUMPSTER INCLUDED, 2 MONTH'S FREE RENT, CALL 863-634-7994 FOR DETAILS.

Roommate

ELDERLY MALE SNOWBIRD - Non smoker, looking to spend the winter in Okeechobee. Will share house or apt. (810)956-6497

Real Estate

Houses - Sale

WATERFRONT TREASURE ISLAND 2/2, DWMH, CORNER LOT, 1/3 ACRE, VERY PRIVATE, (2) ROOM WORK SHOP, COVERED RV HOOKUP, SEPTIC, METAL ROOF, FENCED YARD $63,000.00 863-801-4220

Out of State Property - Sale

MONTGOMERY TENNESSEE CLOSE TO NASHVILLE, 5 ACRES IN A BEAUTIFUL UPSCALE DEVELOPMENT (CUMBERLAND COVE) BY GOLF COURSE. MUST SELL $22,500.00 CALL FOR MORE DETAILS 954-515-2831

Mobile Homes

Mobile Home Rent

BUCKHEAD RIDGE 3bd./2ba Dble Wide. $600 mo. plus sec. No pets. Call 863-763-4031

Office Space Rent

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

Mobile Home Rent

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

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

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

Automotive

Autos Wanted

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

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

Sport Utility

1997 CHEVY BLAZER HIGH MILES BUT RUNS GOOD ASKING $1,600.00 CALL FOR MORE INFO 812-865-0523

2007 Lexus RX350 Fully Loaded, Light Blue, leather interior, navigator, good tires, 1 owner, serviced by Lexus. $9,900.00 863-763-3769 or 770-241-4015

Utility Trailers

2013 FLATBED TRAILER 20' $2,000 CALL 863-467-8793

Public Notices

Public Notice

NOTICE OF OUA MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Okeechobee Utility Authority will meet in regular session on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 8:30 A.M., at the Okeechobee Utility Authority Offices, 100 SW 5th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida.

The needs of hearing or visually impaired persons shall be met by contacting the Executive Director's Office at 863-763-9460 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting, by any person wishing assistance.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Authority with respect to such meetings, he or she will need a record of proceedings and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made; which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based. Such person may provide a court reporter, stenographer, or tape recorder for such verbatim record.

BY ORDER OF THE OKEECHOBEE
UTILITY AUTHORITY

John F. Hayford
Executive Director
467315 ON 10/3/2014

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the October 7, 2014, City of Okeechobee City Council Meeting has been cancelled. The next regular City Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday, October 21, 2014, 6:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as possible, at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Rm 200, Okeechobee, Florida. The public is invited and encouraged to attend. Contact City Administration at 863-763-3372, or website, cityofokeechobee.com, to obtain a copy of the agenda.

ANY PERSON DECIDING TO APPEAL any decision made by the City Council 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 City Clerk's 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 Council in support or opposition to any item on the agenda; a copy of the document, picture, video, or item **MUST** be provided to the City Clerk for the City's records.

By: James E. Kirk, Mayor
Lane Gamiotea, CMC, City Clerk
467558 OK 10/3/2014

Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners
RFP 2014-20

Okeechobee County hereby requests PROPOSALS from qualified bidders for the rehabilitation of one (1) single-family home located in unincorporated Okeechobee County as a part of the State Housing Initiative Partnership (S.H.I.P.) program.

Proposals are due no later than 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, November 21, 2014 and must be delivered or mailed to: Okeechobee County Housing Coordinator, 304 NW 2"d Street room 222, Okeechobee, FL 34972 (the County will not assume any responsibility for mail being received on time). Any and all proposals received after this time and date will not be opened or considered.

Proposals should be submitted in separate sealed envelopes marked State Housing Initiative Partnership (S.H.I.P.) Program - McNeil

For specific project information contact: Ty or Rollo at (863) 763-5548 or by fax at (863) 763-5276. Specifications may be obtained from the Housing Coordinator located at 1700 NW 9th Avenue, Okeechobee. Bids will be opened at 3:05 p.m. on Friday, November 21, 2014 in the office at the above address.

A MANDATORY meeting for review of this project will be held on Wednesday, October 31, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. at the property located at 3299 NW 1st Street Okeechobee, FL 34972. Any firm that is not in attendance in this location by 9:35 a.m. will be unable to bid.

The County reserves the right to waive formalities or informalities in proposals, to reject any and all proposals, or to negotiate further with any or all proposers and accepts no responsibility for the expense of preparation or delivery of proposals to the County. Okeechobee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer actively seeking Minority Contractor participation and promotes Fair Housing.

Frank Irbry Chairman Okeechobee County Commission
467574 ON 10/3/2014

Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners
RFP 2014-17

Okeechobee County hereby requests PROPOSALS from qualified bidders for the rehabilitation of one (1) single-family home located in unincorporated Okeechobee County as a part of the State Housing Initiative Partnership (S.H.I.P.) program.

Proposals are due no later than 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, November 21, 2014 and must be delivered or mailed to: Okeechobee County Housing Coordinator, 304 NW 2nd Street room 222, Okeechobee, FL 34972 (the County will not assume any responsibility for mail being received on time). Any and all proposals received after this time and date will not be opened or considered.

Proposals should be submitted in separate sealed envelopes marked State Housing Initiative Partnership (S.H.I.P.) Program - Johnson

For specific project information contact: Ty or Rollo at (863) 763-5548 or by fax at (863) 763-5276. Specifications may be obtained from the Housing Coordinator located at 1700 NW 9th Avenue, Okeechobee. Bids will be opened at 3:05 p.m. on Friday, November 21, 2014 in the office at the above address.

A MANDATORY meeting for review of this project will be held on Wednesday, October 31, 2014 at 10:30 a.m. at the property located at 270 NE 17th Avenue Okeechobee, FL 34972. Any firm that is not in attendance in this location by 10:35 a.m. will be unable to bid.

The County reserves the right to waive formalities or informalities in proposals, to reject any and all proposals, or to negotiate further with any or all proposers and accepts no responsibility for the expense of preparation or delivery of proposals to the County. Okeechobee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer actively seeking Minority Contractor participation and promotes Fair Housing.

Frank Irbry Chairman Okeechobee County Commission
467575 ON 10/3/2014

Public Notice

Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners
RFP 2014-19

Okeechobee County hereby requests PROPOSALS from qualified bidders for the rehabilitation of one (1) single-family home located in unincorporated Okeechobee County as a part of the State Housing Initiative Partnership (S.H.I.P.) program.

Proposals are due no later than 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, November 21, 2014 and must be delivered or mailed to: Okeechobee County Housing Coordinator, 304 NW 2nd Street room 222, Okeechobee, FL 34972 (the County will not assume any responsibility for mail being received on time). Any and all proposals received after this time and date will not be opened or considered.

Proposals should be submitted in separate sealed envelopes marked State Housing Initiative Partnership (S.H.I.P.) Program - Mestre

For specific project information contact: Ty or Rollo at (863) 763-5548 or by fax at (863) 763-5276. Specifications may be obtained from the Housing Coordinator located at 1700 NW 9th Avenue, Okeechobee. Bids will be opened at 3:05 p.m. on Friday, November 21, 2014 in the office at the above address.

A MANDATORY meeting for review of this project will be held on Wednesday, October 31, 2014 at 11:15 a.m. at the property located at 503 SE 36th Terrace Okeechobee, FL 34974. Any firm that is not in attendance in this location by 11:20 a.m. will be unable to bid.

The County reserves the right to waive formalities or informalities in proposals, to reject any and all proposals, or to negotiate further with any or all proposers and accepts no responsibility for the expense of preparation or delivery of proposals to the County. Okeechobee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer actively seeking Minority Contractor participation and promotes Fair Housing.

Frank Irbry Chairman Okeechobee County Commission
467573 ON 10/3/2014

Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners
RFP 2014-18

Okeechobee County hereby requests PROPOSALS from qualified bidders for the rehabilitation of one (1) single-family home located in unincorporated Okeechobee County as a part of the State Housing Initiative Partnership (S.H.I.P.) program.

Proposals are due no later than 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, November 21, 2014 and must be delivered or mailed to: Okeechobee County Housing Coordinator, 304 NW 2nd Street room 222, Okeechobee, FL 34972 (the County will not assume any responsibility for mail being received on time). Any and all proposals received after this time and date will not be opened or considered.

Proposals should be submitted in separate sealed envelopes marked State Housing Initiative Partnership (S.H.I.P.) Program - Johnson

For specific project information contact: Ty or Rollo at (863) 763-5548 or by fax at (863) 763-5276. Specifications may be obtained from the Housing Coordinator located at 1700 NW 9th Avenue, Okeechobee. Bids will be opened at 3:05 p.m. on Friday, November 21, 2014 in the office at the above address.

A MANDATORY meeting for review of this project will be held on Wednesday, October 31, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. at the property located at 3103 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972. Any firm that is not in attendance in this location by 9:05 a.m. will be unable to bid.

The County reserves the right to waive formalities or informalities in proposals, to reject any and all proposals, or to negotiate further with any or all proposers and accepts no responsibility for the expense of preparation or delivery of proposals to the County. Okeechobee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer actively seeking Minority Contractor participation and promotes Fair Housing.

Frank Irbry Chairman
Okeechobee County Commission
467571 ON 10/3/2014

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2012-CA-000533

JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
Plaintiff,
VS.
MARIA C. OVIEDO, et al.,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: **WAYNE ASHE**
Last Known Address: 3570 NW 18TH ST, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972
THOMAS ASHE
Last Known Address: 6855 NE 11th ST, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34974

You are notified that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Okeechobee County:

COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SECTION 7, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH, RANGE 35 EAST, RUN THENCE N 85° 34' 25" W ALONG THE SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID SECTION 7 FOR A DISTANCE OF 1398.60 FEET, THENCE RUN N 07° 57' 45" W FOR A DISTANCE 249.45 FEET FOR P.O.B THENCE CONTINUE N 07° 57' 45" W FOR A DISTANCE OF 149.31 FEET, THENCE RUN S 85° 39' 25" E FOR A DISTANCE OF 163.37 FEET, THENCE RUN S 02° 53' 55" W FOR A DISTANCE OF 145.93 FEET, THEN RUN N 85° 39', 25" W FOR A DISTANCE OF 135.26 FEET TO P.O.B. LYING IN AND COMPRISING A PART OF SECTION 7, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH, RANG 35 EAST, AND CONTAINING .50 ACRES MORE OR LESS TOGETHER WITH A
1992 DOUBLE WIDE MOBILE HOME, VIN NUMBERS: 32620200AE & 32620200BE TITLE NUMBERS: 62037098 & 62037099

The action was instituted in the Circuit Court, Nineteenth Judicial Circuit in and for Okeechobee, Florida; Case No. 2012-CA-000533; and is styled JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION vs. MARIA C. OVIEDO; UNKNOWN TENANT I; UNKNOWN TENANT II; RAFEAL CORREA; LORETTA S. BUSH; THOMAS ASHE; WAYNE ASHE. You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to the action on Mikael Hirsch, Plaintiffs attorney, whose address is 255 S. Orange Ave., Ste. 900, Orlando, FL 32801-3454, within 30 days from the first date of publication and file the original with the clerk of this court either before service or immediately after service; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter a judgment or decree in the Plaintiffs interest which will be binding upon you.

DATED: Sept. 15, 2014.

SHARON ROBERTSON
As Clerk of the Court
BY: Arlene Nealis
As Deputy Clerk

467421 ON 10/3,10/2014

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

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

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
CASE NO.: 47-2014-CP-000128

IN RE: the Estate of
MARY FRANCES HUFFINES,
Deceased,

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of MARY FRANCES HUFFINES, deceased, whose date of death was May 12, 2014, is pending in the Circuit Court for Okeechobee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA STATUTES WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The first publication date of this notice is: October 3, 2014.

Personal Representative:
DANIEL HUFFINES
2530 N NC Highway 62
Burlington, NC 27217
Attorney for Personal Representative:
COLIN M. CAMERON, ESQ., P.A.
Attorneys for Personal Representative
Florida Bar No. 270441
200 N.E. Fourth Avenue
Okeechobee, Florida 34972-2981
Telephone (863) 763-8600
467533 ON 10/3,10/2014

LEGAL NOTICE

Public Auction will be held at Johns Towing Service storage lot located at 704 Northeast 2nd Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34972 on OCTOBER 17, 2014 at 9:00 A.M. Pursuant to Florida Statute 713.78 for unpaid towing and storage charges. Year, make, model and VIN are as follows.

2012 CHEVY EQUINOX
VIN#2GNALDEK2C6157206

Terms of sale are cash, and no checks will be accepted. Seller reserves the right of final bid. ALL SALES ARE FINAL! NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE! Said automobiles will be sold in "As Is" condition with no guarantee's.
467539 ON 10/03/2014

VOTE

Continued From Page 1

Three positions will be chosen on the Okeechobee City Council. City voters will be asked to choose up to three of the following candidates: Jim Baughman, Noel Chandler, Devin Maxwell, Gary Ritter, Dowling Watford and Ray Worley.

Okeechobee County residents will also be asked to vote to renew the Children's Services Council funding.

In the United States Representative District 17 race, incumbent Tom Rooney (REP) is challenged by Will Broson (DEM).

Florida Governor Rick Scott (REP), is challenged by Charlie Crist (DEM). (Mr. Crist was a Republican when he served as Florida governor 2004-2008).

In the race for Florida Attorney General, incumbent Pam Bondi, a Republican, is challenged by Democrat George Sheldon.

In the race for Florida Chief Financial Officer, incumbent Jeff Atwater, a Republican, is challenged by Democrat Will Rankin.

Incumbent Commissioner of Agriculture Adam Putnam (REP) is challenged by Thaddeus Hamilton (DEM) and Jeffrey Obos (WRI).

Candidates in the nonpartisan District 4 Court of Appeal race are Alan O. Forst, Mark W. Kingensmith, W. Matthew Stevenson and Martha C. Warner.

Voters will also be asked to decide the fate of three proposed amendments to the State Constitution. Amendment 1 would designate funds to acquire and restore conservation and recreation lands.

Amendment 2 would allow the use of marijuana to treat certain medical conditions.

Amendment 3 would allow the governor to fill judicial vacancies by appointing a justice or judge from candidates selected by the judicial nominating commission, in anticipation of a vacancy.

For the full text of the proposed Amendments online, see the links of the Okeechobee News page on Facebook, or go online to Florida.Newszap.com.

Public Notice

Public Notice

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

2014TD116

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

Certificate No: **1652** Year of Issuance: **June-01-2012**

Description of Property: **LOT G TRACT 10 WEST 1/2 OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF TRACT 10 SECTION 34 AS TO THE SOUTHERN COLONIZATION COMPANY PLAT OF TOWNSHIP 34 SOUTH RANGE 33 EAST ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 4 PAGES 3-3E INCLUSIVE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY FLORIDA**

1-34-34-33-0A00-00010-G000
Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida

Name in which assessed:
JAZMINE K PRICE

Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the Okeechobee County Judicial Center, Jury Assembly Room, 312 NW 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida **10:00 A.M.**, on the **30th day of October, 2014.**
SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES

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

NOTICE REGARDING THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990; In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administration no later that seven days prior to the proceeding at 250 NW Country Club Drive, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986, 1.772.807.4370 within two working days of your receipt of this notice. IF YOU ARE HEARING IMPAIRED CALL 1.800.955.8771; IF YOU ARE VOICE IMPAIRED CALL 1.800.955.8770.
467197 ON 9/19,26 & 10/3,10/2014

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO. 14000067CAAXMX

JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
Plaintiff,
VS.
ARIANNA B. HODGES; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ARIANNA B. HODGES; UNKNOWN PERSON(S) IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY;
Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

To the following Defendant(s):
UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ARIANNA B. HODGES
(RESIDENCE UNKNOWN)
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property:
LOT 9, BLOCK 64, BASSWOOD, UNIT NO.6, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 50, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.
a/k/a 3429 NW 40TH DRIVE, OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA 34972-
has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it, on Kahane & Associates, P.A., Attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is 8201 Peters Road, Ste. 3000, Plantation, FLORIDA 33324 within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice in the THE OKEECHOBEE NEWS and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

Florida Rules of Judicial Administration Rule 2.540
Notices to Persons With Disabilities - If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact Corrie Johnson, ADA Coordinator, 250 NW Country Club Drive, Suite 217, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, (772) 807-4370 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
SPANISH: Si usted es una persona discapacitada que necesita alguna adaptacion para poder participar de este procedimiento o evento; usted tiene derecho, sin costo alguno a que se le provea cierta ayuda. Favor de comunicarse con Corrie Johnson, Coordinadora de A.D.A., 250 NW Country Club Drive, Suite 217, Port St. Lucie, Fl. 34986, (772) 807-4370 por lo menos 7 dias antes de que tenga que comparecer en corte o inmediatamente despues de haber recibido esta notificacion si es que falta menos de 7 dias para su comparecencia. Si tiene una discapacidad auditiva o de habla, llame al 711.
KREYOL: Si ou se yon moun ki kokobe ki bezwen asistans ou aparey pou ou ka patisipe nan prosedu sa-a, ou gen dwa san ou pa bezwen peye anyen pou ou jwen on de ed. Tanpri kontakte Corrie Johnson, Coordinator ADA, 250 NW Country Club Drive, suite 217, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, (772) 807-4370 O'mwen 7 jou avan ke ou gen pou-ou paret nan tribunal, ou imediatman ke ou resevwa avis sa-a ou si le ke ou gen pou-ou ale nan tribunal-la mwens ke 7 jou; Si ou pa ka tande ou pale byen, rele 711.
WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this 29th day of Sept. 2014.
SHARON ROBERTSON
As Clerk of said Court
BY: Arlene Nealis
As Deputy Clerk

467543 ON 10/3,10/2014

Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

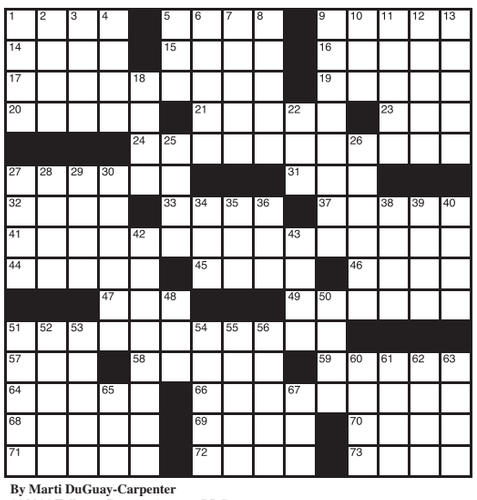
ACROSS
1 Bangers side
5 DOL division
9 Concerns
14 Potpourri
15 Stock answers?
16 First
17 Transport selling wieners?
19 Willing
20 Author among whose pen names was Theo LeSieg
21 Not suitable
23 Stutz contemporary
24 Woodsman's job?
27 Church official
31 Racer Fabi
32 Countertenor's range
33 Sommer of "The Money Trap"
37 Outline
41 Ma and pa's retirement dream?
44 __ question
45 Broadway opening
46 Buyer's boon
47 Repeatedly, quaintly
49 Eschews the café
51 Tabloids?
57 Growing field?: Abbr.
58 "... bombs bursting __"
59 Nahuatl speaker
64 Danger
66 Totally amazed ... or, read another way, a hint to 17-, 24-, 41- and 51-Across
68 Round perch
69 21,730-pg. references
70 Logan of CBS News
71 Pulls in
72 Pub order
73 Mike Tirico's network

DOWN
1 Scratch-resistance scale
2 Natural balm
3 In __: as originally placed
4 Coal scuttles
5 Texting gasp
6 Ferber novel
7 Harass
8 Verdi adverb
9 Ruby anniversary
10 Opposite of 67-Down
11 Big arcade name
12 Sport based on vaquero skills
13 Keep under surveillance
18 Home of the Munch Museum
22 Cpl.'s subordinate
25 Heist unit
26 Most likely to groan
27 Carson of "The Voice"
28 Writer Wiesel
29 Rugged rides, for short
30 Needing quarters, perhaps
34 Mauna __
35 Popeyes rival
36 Juvenile salamander
38 "__, I am not coop'd here for defence!": "Henry VI, Part 3"
39 Colombian city
40 Early cover-up site?
42 Basic
43 Bowl level
48 London can
50 Slippery-eel link
51 Backslide
52 "__ Kick Out of You"
53 Flub
54 Big shot
55 Floor worker
56 Undermine
60 Jewelry entrepreneur Morris
61 "__ the night ..."
62 Tombstone lawman
63 Primary printing color
65 It's always charged
67 Opposite of 10-Down

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

xwordeditor@aol.com



By Marti DuGuay-Carpenter
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Special to the Okeechobee News

Light pollution discussed

On Tuesday, Sept. 30, Larry Crary, vice president of the Astronomical Society of the Treasure Coast, was the guest speaker at Rotary's weekly meeting. He spoke of the need to redirect our lighting habits at our homes and businesses in order to reduce light pollution, which inhibits telescopic exploration of outer space. The Kissimmee Prairie Reserve has been identified as an ideal location for stargazing; the International Dark Sky Association has expressed interest in designating The Prairie a dark sky location. However, strides in combatting our local excessive night lighting must be reduced. The public is invited to join the astronomy group each month--when it is a new moon--from October through April, dusk until 9 p.m. The Rotary Club meets every Tuesday at noon at Golden Corral. Left to right are Rotarian John Ed Burdeshaw, acting president Kristy Crawford and Larry Crary.

SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

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

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

ANSWER:

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

Special to the Okeechobee News

Fall baseball season in full swing

OCRA fall ball has begun! The new activity will help to keep Okeechobee youth busy all year round. This is the first year that fall ball has been offered and the board members hope it will be as successful as the other programs.
Above: Rodeo Life team is sponsored by Tony Bishop and Teresa Chandler. Coaches are Brad Staton, Matt Durno, Will Hall and Scott Bloomfield.
Below: B.R.A.T. Club team is sponsored by the B.R.A.T. Club of Okeechobee. Coaches are Charlie McPeak, J.R. Suarez and Scott Collier. B.R.A.T. president/founder Teresa Chandler and B.R.A.T. board member Commissioner Bryant Culpepper.

County Parks and Rec Department has moved

Okeechobee County Parks and Recreation department has moved! The new location is at 1718 N.W. 9th Ave. It is now located in the county offices across from IRSC. For more information, call 863-763-6950 or visit their Facebook page.

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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, 3½ba 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. ~~$80,000~~ **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 ½ 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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108 AVAILABLE AT SIMILAR SAVINGS

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DISCOUNTS & REBATES .. -$3,991
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DISCOUNTS & REBATES .. -$3,486
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123 AVAILABLE AT SIMILAR SAVINGS

2014 RAM 1500 REG. CAB
ORIGINAL MSRP $24,635
DISCOUNTS & REBATES .. -$4,636
PAY AS LOW AS $19,999*
PRICE PLUS TAX TAG TITLE AND $599.95 DEALER FEE & LEASE CONQUEST REBATE.
72 AVAILABLE AT SIMILAR SAVINGS

2014 RAM 3500 MEGA CAB LONG HORN 4X4 DIESEL
ORIGINAL MSRP $71,280
DISCOUNTS & REBATES ..... -$13,000
PAY AS LOW AS $58,280*
Stk#143909. PRICE PLUS TAX TAG TITLE AND $599.95 DEALER FEE & LEASE CONQUEST REBATE.

CHRYSLER

2015 CHRYSLER 200
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197 AVAILABLE AT SIMILAR SAVINGS

2014 CHRYSLER 300
ORIGINAL MSRP $31,760
DISCOUNTS & REBATES .. -$6,761
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PRICE PLUS TAX TAG TITLE AND $599.95 DEALER FEE & LEASE CONQUEST REBATE.
49 AVAILABLE AT SIMILAR SAVINGS

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