



OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 109 No. 68

Friday, June 8, 2018

50¢ plus tax

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Lake Levels

14.22 feet
Last Year: 11.20 feet

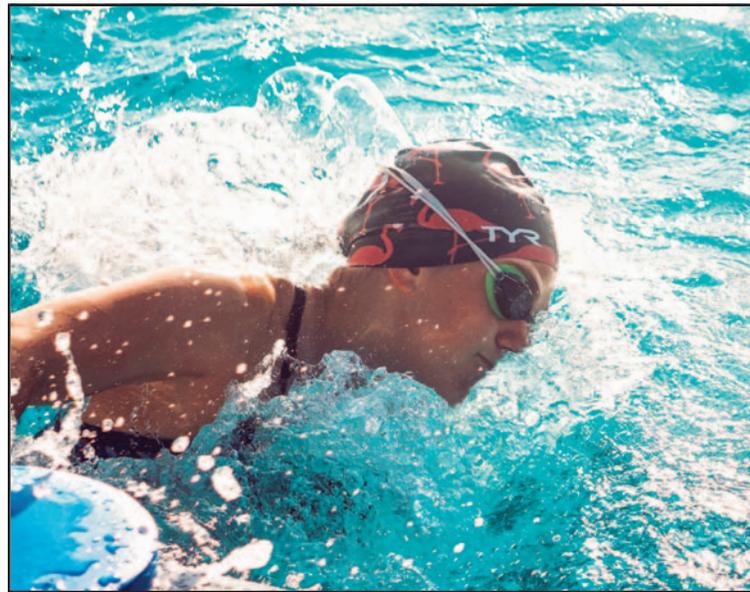
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Okeechobee News/Richard Marion

The Okeechobee Shockwaves swim team begins practice daily, Monday through Friday, at 6 a.m. in the pool at the Okeechobee County Sports Complex. Pictured is Gracie Gamiotea.

Shockwaves team starts new season

By Richard Marion
Okeechobee News

The Okeechobee Shockwaves summer swim team has its first meet of the season scheduled for June 9 at Riviera Beach.

Shockwaves coach Jack Boon has high hopes for the team this year.

"I'm very proud of the work these young athletes have put forth," said Boon. "The hours of practice have really made a difference and it shows in every stroke. I know they will perform well and show the coastal community what we can do."

Boon shares coaching duties with his two assistant coaches, Aubrie Reister and Micheal Muros.

"Coach Aubrie and coach Micheal have been indispensable to the process of preparing the swimmers for the meet on Saturday," Boon continued. "I cannot express my gratitude enough for their assistance."

Both Reister and Muros are former members of the Shockwaves, and former members of the Okeechobee High School swim team where their swimming skills set school records. Both are OHS Class of 2016 graduates who are home from college for the summer.

"I feel like this year we're showing a lot of progress," Muros explained. "We've had a great

See SWIM — Page 5

Federal funding for EAA reservoir could be delayed

By Katrina Elsen
Okeechobee News

Plans for a reservoir south of Lake Okeechobee could face funding delays.

While Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Army (Civil Works) R.D. James found the Everglades Agricultural Area reservoir plan feasible, the review assessment submitted to the Office of Management and Budget

also placed some conditions for implementation.

"I have determined that the project identified in the Integrated Feasibility Study and DRAFT Environmental Impact Statement is feasible and fully recognize the importance of this project to the restoration of the Everglades system,"

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Special to the Okeechobee News
Marilyn Howard's hand and arm both show the bite marks from the spider monkey that attacked her while she was on her break at Home Depot on June 4.

Woman bitten by monkey doesn't blame the animal

By Richard Marion
Okeechobee News

Marilyn Howard was on her break outside of Home Depot when she saw what looked like a monkey approaching her from the parking lot.

A short while later she would have multiple bites and scratches on her body and be headed for Raulerson Hospital.

Ms. Howard, a cashier at Home Depot, had overheard coworkers talking about a monkey on the way to her break and assumed it was all a joke. As she stepped outside, she saw a monkey approaching her from the parking lot and

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Man wakes up to fire, escapes without injury

By Matteo Tullio

Okeechobee News

A structure fire was reported Friday night. According to an Okeechobee County Fire Rescue report, at 9:01 p.m. on June 1, a structure fire was reported in the 5000 block of Southwest 16th Avenue. Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office deputies were reportedly already on scene and informed the firefighters that there were visible flames from the front of the house. A total estimated property and contents financial loss of \$25,000 was assessed. Captain Ryan Hathaway, 10 firefighters, two volunteer firefighters, two engines, one tanker and one rescue

vehicle of OCFR responded to the incident scene. Some 1,000 gallons of water, a pike pole and a thermal imaging camera were used during the fire's extinguishment.

Units responded to the above location to find a white 2006 Newmar Cypress fifth wheel travel trailer with flames coming from the front door and roof on the front half of the trailer, the report stated. Florida Power & Light (FPL) was also contacted to shut off the power.

The report continued that crews utilized a 1 3/4 cross lay and made entry into the front door toward the front bedroom where firefighters were able to contain the blaze

quickly. Firefighters did have to pull back from the fire some due to an air conditioner mounted on the roof that was about to fall in over the bedroom. Units reportedly were able to extinguish the remaining hot spots in the trailer, ventilate the trailer and remove the remaining smoke.

The report then states that the State Fire Marshal was called to the scene to conduct an investigation for the cause of the fire. FPL arrived on scene and disconnected the power to the trailer.

The sole occupant of the trailer was present. He told deputies that he'd been asleep in the front bedroom and he had a small box

fan blowing air on him when he awoke and noticed the fan was blowing smoke on him and the doorway was on fire. He was able to get out of the trailer without getting burned or breathing in excessive amounts of smoke. He called 911 from a neighbor's residence.

American Red Cross was contact to assist the occupant of the travel trailer, who lost all his belongings. The travel trailer sustained significant fire and smoke damage throughout.

Units cleared the scene with two personnel remaining on scene who awaited the arrival of the State Fire Marshal. The cause of the fire is under investigation.



Special to the Okeechobee News

Kiwanis gives to Martha's House

The Kiwanis Club of Okeechobee held their annual Spring Cleaning to benefit Martha's House. Club members donated money, food, bedsheets and other items that the Martha's House shelter uses on a daily basis. In all, the club raised \$175 and donated around \$100 more worth of supplies in their one-day event. Martha's House is a 24-hour, seven-days-a-week full-service domestic violence shelter for women and children. Martha's House is passionate about helping families in need by assisting them every step of the way. Pictured from left to right: (back row) Ken Keller, Jonathan Bean, Caitlin Rosenlieb (front left to right) Dayeneira Castillo and Salina Walker.



Special to the Okeechobee News

Students win scholarships

Two Okeechobee High School students won IRSC scholarships at the Grad Night Party on Saturday, May 26. Haley Randazzo and Noel Aguirre are pictured with Cheryl Worlow, IRSC advisor and Our Village board member.

Okeechobee Forecast



Today: Variable clouds with scattered thunderstorms. High 86F. Winds light and variable. Chance of rain 40%.

Tonight: Scattered thunderstorms during the evening, then partly cloudy overnight.

Low 69F. Winds light and variable. Chance of rain 40%.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: Scattered showers and thunderstorms. High 88F. Winds SE at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 60%.

Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy skies. Scattered thunderstorms during the evening. Low near 70F. Winds light and variable. Chance of rain 50%.

Sunday: Cloudy skies during the morning hours followed by scattered showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. High 86F. Winds light and variable. Chance of rain 40%.



Okeechobee News/Matteo Tullio

Cake presented in appreciation

The Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) presented this cake in recognition and appreciation for the people who serve as dispatchers for the agency during the National Public Safety Telecommunications Week, which was observed from April 8 to April 14.

Jersey Mike's 'Day of Giving' results in big donation to charity

By Richard Marion
Okeechobee News

On March 28, Jersey Mike's of Okeechobee participated in the company's National Day of Giving. For one day, the store donates 100 percent of its sales to a local charity.

Thanks to the support of Jersey Mike's customers during that day, on June 5 co-owner Krissy Culbreth was able to present a check for \$12,209 to Ride for the Fight, a charity formed to help the residents of Okeechobee with their fight against cancer or other medical conditions.

Okeechobee was able to raise the most money out of all the stores participating in the event in South Florida.

"I really like that Ride for the Fight is dedicated to helping people in Okeechobee; all the money they receive stays local," said Mrs. Culbreth. "This is our second year working with them. Last year we helped raise money for a little boy battling leukemia named Carson. I have a daughter around his age, so I felt very compelled to help him."

During the 2017 Day of Giving, Krissy worked with Ride for the Fight board member Rebekah Prescott, who came and donated her time to the event, as well as Heroes 4 Hope founder Thomas Barber, who made a large donation to the cause.

Later in 2017, both Rebekah and Thomas passed away after their own long battles with cancer.

"Before they passed, I asked both of them if I could do the event this year in their

name, and they said yes," Mrs. Culbreth explained. "Thomas was a big supporter, and I got to know Rebekah last year during our fundraiser; it was just devastating when they passed on. They did a lot for people here in Okeechobee."

Jared Prescott, Rebekah's surviving husband and Ride for the Fight board member, was on hand to receive the check for the charity.

"This money is going to go a long ways to help a lot of people," Mr. Prescott said. "Krissy and her crew have been awesome. They're here all day working their butts off, sometimes months beforehand, just to get things prepared. I think they had a double crew here hustling for the entire day. They're amazing."

Ride for the Fight's mission is to help patients experiencing medical hardships, as well as their caregivers. They've helped patients buy groceries or pay electric bills, and helped get them fuel to make trips to doctor appointments less expensive.

"There's so many other things for a patient and a caregiver to worry about," said Mr. Prescott. "The financial burden of these other things needs to be at the back of their mind. And that's where Ride for the Fight can help."

The Day of Giving is the culmination of Jersey Mike's Month of Giving fundraising campaign in March, supporting more than 170 local charities across the nation. Last year's Month of Giving initiative raised more

than \$5.5 million for local charities nationwide; this year, that amount climbed to \$6 million.

"Without the support from the community, this wouldn't have been possible," Mrs. Culbreth said. "Our customers make everything possible. They're the reason I'm able to come to work every day, they're the rea-

son I have a business. And for them to be able to show up on our Day of Giving and take money out of their own pocket and give, not only by buying sandwiches but also by donating as well, is awesome. We raised over \$800 in just donations alone. People here in Okeechobee have been so generous, and it's been amazing."



Okeechobee News/Courtesy of Gilbert Experience
From left to right: Ride for the Fight board member Jared Prescott, Heroes 4 Hope member Donna Walpole, Ride for the Fight member Shandi Cronich, Jersey Mike's of Okeechobee co-owner Krissy Culbreth, Lauren Blevens and Alicia Boland. The 2018 Day of Giving was dedicated to Jared's wife, Rebekah Prescott, and Donna's husband, Thomas Barber, who both passed away in 2017 during their battle with cancer.



Special to the Okeechobee News

Applebee's presents \$500 to Above and "BEE"yond Teacher

Brandy Galloway, general manager of the Okeechobee Applebee's (left), presented a check for \$500 to Okeechobee High School teacher Andy Brewer (center), who was announced as a winner of Applebee's Above and "BEE"yond Teacher Contest. The contest awarded 10 deserving teachers from school districts throughout Florida and Georgia with a sponsorship check to use toward classroom supplies for the upcoming 2018-19 school year and an end-of-year class party for the teacher's current class, courtesy of Applebee's. Teachers were nominated by their students, who submitted essays to their local Applebee's explaining how their teachers go above and "BEE"yond for their students. Brewer was nominated by student Kyleigh Pignon (right).

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Letters to the Editor

Lake releases

In the coming days you will hear much hysteria about water discharges, Lake Okeechobee and "Big Sugar." Much of what you hear will be hyperbole and agenda-driven politics.

Yes, the discharges to the estuaries are

bad and cause great harm to our natural resources. I want nothing more than to make them stop. In fact, I am engaged in the process to do so.

Many organizations regurgitate the same message, "Send the water south," while attacking "Big Sugar," claiming that "Big

Sugar" obstructs water flow. Or that "Big Sugar" is responsible for polluting Lake Okeechobee. That is just not true.

Water flowing south between Lake Okeechobee and Florida Bay is stopped at the Tamiami Trail in western Dade County, between Krome Avenue and 40-mile bend. There are six structures along the trail that allow water to travel south, as nature intended. Half of those structures remain closed until July 15, due to restrictions imposed by the Endangered Species Act to protect the Cape Sable seaside sparrow. I have been advised that opening them will result in arrest.

The Everglades system works as a whole or it doesn't work at all. Keeping these structures closed at the Tamiami Trail causes water to back up in the Water Conservation Areas and Stormwater Treatment Areas. As a result, it eliminates the option of sending Lake Okeechobee water south, as nature intended. So, as designed to control floodwaters, the water in Lake Okeechobee is discharged to the coastal estuaries by way of man-made canals, the C-43 and C-44.

When this system was designed, it didn't account for the needs of 8 million people. All of those people receive the same flood protection benefits as the Everglades Agricultural Area (aka "Big Sugar").

As rainy season begins and you become inundated with the barrage of news stories and articles about "Big Sugar," please stop and consider this information. Much of the damage caused by these discharges could have been avoided. But for the sake of a single species, which has wings and can fly, the federal agencies from the Department of Interior are sacrificing two coastal estuaries, the Everglades and all of the socioeconomic consequences associated with that.

Mike Elfenbein

In honor of Erik

To the community of Okeechobee,

Erik Clay was a lifetime resident of Okeechobee. Mr. Clay always donated to the local arts programs here at the Okeechobee High School. He managed to touch a lot of people of this community in many different ways through art.

The Clay family invites you to join the celebration of Erik Clay's life, on Saturday, June 9, at 11 a.m. at the Buckhead Ridge Park, behind the fire station. There will be live entertainment, a BBQ lunch and a silent auction, all to help the Clay family with funeral costs. Please come help celebrate one of the brightest lights that has gone out among us.

Thank you for all of your support,

The Clay family

Still supporting Trump?

Our world according to Trump has me searching for truth, verifying everything I used to take on faith.

It's frustrating that he still has supporters. Maybe they don't realize what he's doing. I read a lot. I subscribe to business magazines. I watch various news channels, but I don't have cable. Did you know about his strongarm tactics to push out a tenant covered under rent control?

He has been married three times.

He said he would donate profits from foreign governments. He has not.

He has undermined the rights and protections of women and minorities with every stroke of his pen.

My advice to you is read. You will learn a lot, and maybe you'll be scared to death.

J.T. Martin

Public Forum/Speak Out

Speak Out comments can be shared in several ways. Comments on local issues are welcome on the newspaper's website at okeechobeenews.net, in the comments section following each article. Or, you can mail or drop off written, anonymous or signed opinions at the Okeechobee News office, 107 S.W. 17th St. Suite D., Okeechobee, FL 34974; or, email anonymous or signed Speak Out comments to Okeeneews@newszap.com. Thanks for participating in our discussion of local issues!

Thefts

• "What good is it if they do catch them, only to get a slap on the hand?" – Arcaeli Rebollar

K-9 catches suspect

• "Magnum knows what's up! Good boy!" – Lisa Smith
• "Good dog and good deputies!" – James Terry

EAA reservoir

• "Don't start celebrating the EAA reservoir yet. It's approved, not funded. And when it is approved, it will take at least eight years to build it." – J. Zimpel

Monkey bites

The article about a Home Depot employee who was bitten by a monkey attracted these comments.

• "Gotta love Okeechobee. We all thought it was the alligators we had to watch for." – William Groh

• "The animal should have been left at home. I am surprised the person didn't take the monkey into the store like everyone else takes their pets. Pets need to stay at home if you are going to be going into places." – Yvonne Wilbur

• "If that was someone's dog, it would have been confiscated." – Lin Riordan Brooks

• "If you want to own a wild animal, keep it at home! Period! Same with dogs that aren't legitimate service animals. It's getting crazy!" – Judy Crouse Adler

• She's not monkeying around anymore." – Carl Murphy

• "Don't mess with a monkey on a mission to find its owner." – Cathy Green

• "Would you walk up to an animal who wandered into public? No. You call somebody and let them deal with it." – Melissa Dawn

• "No one would walk up to a pit bull and take its leash and walk it inside to find the owner." – Tara Long

• "Why would you leave an animal, any animal, in a hot car while you shop?" – Marty A. Thomas

• "It's a tough call when you see an animal that is loose in a parking lot. If you are an animal lover, you want to make sure it is safe. Obviously, it was a mistake for the employee to grab the leash even though it was well-intentioned. Monkeys are quite dangerous. There have been several stories over the years of people being seriously injured by bites from pet monkeys." - J. Zimpel

• "Is it legal to own a spider monkey?" – Rose Lang *(Editor's note: According to the Florida Wildlife Commission website, the owner must have a Class III wildlife license and provide the monkey with an appropriate size cage to allow it ample room for movement. The World Animal Foundation discourages keeping spider monkeys as pets, noting: "Spider monkeys are difficult to handle as adults, require constant attention and stimulation, are extremely costly to keep and are more comfortable when living in the wild or in a natural setting with other spider monkeys. Most wildlife and animal welfare organizations, therefore, discourage keeping spider monkeys and other primates as pets."*

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Okeechobee County Fire/Rescue offers free blood pressure checks from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday at:

- Fire Station #1, 504 N.W. Sixth Street,
- Fire Station #2, 3511 S.E. 38th Ave., and,
- Fire Station #4, 1199 N.E. 168th St.

Please understand that if you stop by a station and there is no staff there, they are out on an emergency call. Please stop back later.

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.
- To disclose our own conflicts of interest or potential conflicts to our readers.
- To correct our errors and to give each correction the prominence it deserves.
- To provide a right to reply to those we write about.
- To treat people with courtesy, respect and compassion.



Are parents to blame for their child's obesity?

Special to the Okeechobee News

Most parents don't let their children blame others if the child is doing something that is the child's fault. They tell their children to own up to their mistakes and find a way to fix them.

When it comes to the childhood obesity epidemic in the United States, parents should take some of their own advice and realize they need to fix the mistakes they are making in guiding their children's nutrition, said Dr. Joseph Galati, author of "Eating Yourself Sick: How to Stop Obesity, Fatty Liver, and Diabetes from Killing You and Your Family."

He understands that parents want the best for their children in all aspects of their lives but he said too many parents do not take nutrition seriously when they allow their children to make poor food choices.

"Obesity — with all its tremendous complications — will directly decrease the very opportunities they are working so hard to provide for their children," he said. The root causes of obesity are poor food choices, excessive snacking and large food portions. "Parents who serve their children fast food and don't prepare home-cooked meals are fostering bad health that can last a lifetime."

Through a combination of poor eating habits and little exercise, Dr. Galati said today's parents are setting up their children to live their lives as unfit, obese and unhealthy. As a result, today's generation will probably have a shorter lifespan than their parents. The problems start early, he said. A child who is obese at age 2 has a 50 percent chance of being obese as an adult.

But Dr. Galati said all is not lost. He offers several tips for parents who want to stop the trend of both adult and childhood obesity.

- Reinstigate the family dinner. Several studies have shown that regular family dinners at least a few times a week have many benefits for children, including improving their eating habits, grades, family relationships and overall health, Dr. Galati said. Children who eat with their families also display fewer risky behaviors and have a lower risk of obesity.

- Fight for home economics classes in high school. The high school home economics class taught the basics of food nutrition and cooking. Dr. Galati said the elimination of these classes across the country is likely one of the reasons many children don't know where their food comes from. "We have raised an entire generation that is disconnected from the kitchen," he said.

- Don't underestimate obesity's impact on health. Obesity is the root cause for 13 different cancers, cardiovascular disease, fatty liv-

er and cirrhosis, diabetes, obstructive sleep apnea, erectile dysfunction and many more. Obesity has more than doubled worldwide since 1980. "It should be taken more seriously," Dr. Galati said.

- Improve your health IQ. Dr. Galati said too many Americans simply don't understand how their bodies work and don't know they are making poor food and lifestyle choices. He said if people knew a few basic facts about their bodies it would help them make better food and lifestyle choices, and enable them to communicate better with their physicians.

"It's time parents start educating themselves and their children about food and start making better choices," Dr. Galati said. "Otherwise the consequences will be a lot more dire than what most parents probably realize."

EAA

Continued From Page 1

Assistant Secretary James wrote to South Florida Water Management District Executive Director Ernie Marks on May 30.

"I have simultaneously submitted my Review Assessment to the Office of Management and Budget for clearance to submit to Congress. My staff will keep you regularly informed of our progress to complete the clearance process and submit your study to Congress," he stated.

The 86-page "Review Assessment of the SFWMD Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) Post Authorization Change Report, Integrated Feasibility Study and Draft Environmental Impact Statement," identified "several technical, policy and legal concerns."

"From the geotechnical engineering perspective, a more robust design may be required to address all potential failure modes. The timing and ultimate delivery of project benefits will be dependent on the State of Florida demonstrating compliance with water quality standards set forth in court rulings and agreed to by project stakeholders. The

Jacksonville District is currently undertaking the federal responsibilities associated with preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the SFWMD's tentatively recommended plan. Until these issues are addressed, project benefits might not be achieved as described in the 203 study," the executive summary states.

The report questions whether the "additional flows of water diverted from the Northern Estuaries are essential to the restoration of the Central Everglades." In a June 1 letter to Assistant Secretary James, SFWMD Governing Board Chairman Federico E. Fernandez and Mr. Marks expressed concerns that "USACE Headquarters staff have laid the foundation for delay and avoidance of federal cost share. Despite congressional willingness to cost share with the State of Florida, the review assessment reveals evidence that USACE staff seek opportunities to walk away from 18 years of congressional commitment to restore America's Everglades."

In response to the question of whether or not diverting lake flow now going to the coastal areas south, the water managers wrote, "Water wasted to tide in the Northern Estuaries is THE water needed to restore the Quantity, Quality, Timing and Distribution of water within the Everglades system.

new at it, but we got a lot of progress made last year. We had a lot of new members as well, and they are back again this year. Our coaching staff is really catching our pace this year in terms of getting things done."

Muros gave credit to Reister for her work on helping plan things for the team while head coach Boon is away getting training to become a new school resource officer in the Okeechobee County School District. Boon was a detective with the Okeechobee city police before making the move to resource officer in order to help ensure every school has at least one officer on site following the tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in February.

"I'm proud of each and every member of the Okeechobee Shockwaves swim team," Boon concluded.

"We remain concerned the process will take too long to provide relief, especially considering the requirement to complete further validation reports. If not guided carefully by leaders such as yourself, the additional third step of a validation report could paralyze progress.

"Florida's economy depends on vibrant and healthy Northern Estuaries, restoration of America's Everglades and a federal commitment to the same. To that end, the State of Florida will continue to seek that Congress direct the federal government to cost share this important restoration project," they wrote.

The proposed EAA reservoir will hold 240,000 acre-feet of water. An acre-foot is the amount of water it takes to cover 1 acre of land 1 foot deep.

On the same day SFWMD officials sent the response letter, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began releases to the C-44 Canal at Port Mayaca and the Franklin Lock at Moore Haven to attempt to offset some of the heavy flow entering Lake Okeechobee from northern runoff. Over the past seven days, flow into the lake has ranged from 4,976 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 7,293 cfs. Flow from the lake into the C-44 Canal at Port Mayaca has ranged from 794 cfs to 1,309 cfs. Flow into the Caloosahatchee River at Moore Hav-

en has ranged from 1,526 cfs to 3,996 cfs. In the past week, the lake level has risen from 14.14 feet to 14.22 ft. No water from the lake has been released south. South of the lake, all of the water conservation areas (WCAs) are a foot above regulation schedule or higher. Flow south under the Tamiami Trail has averaged around 1,000 cfs. Two of the S-12 water control structures, which could send more water south, are closed in order to protect the nesting ground of the endangered Cape Sable sea sparrow.

Some algae blooms have been reported on the lake. Algae blooms are common on the lake during the summer and are part of the natural ecosystem. Under certain conditions, algae blooms can release toxins.

- On May 9, an algae bloom was reported near the Pahokee marina. Florida Department of Environmental Protection sampled the bloom. No toxins were detected.

- On June 4, a small algae bloom was reported near Port Mayaca. FDEP took samples. No toxins were detected.

- On June 6, algae was reported at Oceanfront Park Beach in Palm Beach.

- On June 6, algae was also reported in the St. Lucie Canal.

- On June 6, algae was reported in the C-24 Canal in St. Lucie County.

SWIM

Continued From Page 1

turnout for practice every single morning. We start at 6 a.m., and I know that getting up that early to swim is hard, but a lot of kids are sticking with it. The kids are loving it. The entire team is excited for this meet on Saturday, and I think we're going to do really well."

This will be the second year Boon and his assistant coaches have handled coaching duties for the team, and Muros thinks things will run even smoother now that they have some experience under their belt.

"Last year was definitely a learning experience for all of us," Muros said. "We were all

MONKEY

Continued From Page 1

noticed it was wearing what appeared to be a leash.

Assuming the owner of the monkey was in the store, she attempted to grab the leash and guide the animal inside. That's when the monkey, who is named Spanky, jumped on her back and bit her twice.

Still, Ms. Howard was able to get a hold of the leash once again and wait near the entrance of Home Depot for the monkey's owner. But the automatic doors spooked Spanky once again, and Ms. Howard was bitten on the arm and scratched on her face.

"I don't blame the monkey for any of

this," said Ms. Howard. "I've seen videos of it before online and it looks very sweet. It was just scared. I'm just wondering why it was left inside a truck while the owner was in the store?"

According to the police report prepared by Okeechobee County Sheriff's Deputy Devon Satallante, the owner of Spanky, Tina Ballard, told the deputy she had left her pet in her truck while she went into the store.

"I don't want anything to happen to the monkey at all," continued Ms. Howard. "I hate that it's somewhere locked up in a small box because of this."

It is unknown at this time how the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will proceed in this case.

Community Events

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BHR VFW serves dinner

The Buckhead Ridge VFW Post 9528, 29012 State Road 78 W., will serve dinner on Friday, **June 8**, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. The menu will include grilled boneless rib eye steak, grilled pork tenderloin, fried fish and shrimp, baked and french fried potatoes, baked sweet potatoes, fried onion rings, salad and desert. All proceeds will go to homeless veterans. For information, call 863-467-2882.

Healthy Start to meet

Okeechobee County Healthy Start Coalition Board of Directors will meet Friday, **June 8**, at 12:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 401 S.W. Fourth St. The meeting is open to the public. The coalition is part of a statewide network responsible for planning and implementing services for pregnant women and infants. The coalition is made up of citizens interested in promoting healthy pregnancies and healthy birth outcomes for Okeechobee County residents. For information, contact Kay Begin at 863-462-5877.

Legion will host dinner

On Friday, **June 8**, come and enjoy dinner at the American Legion, 501 S.E. Second St. Everyone is welcome. Dinner will be a spaghetti dinner and will be served from 5 until 8 p.m., with music from 6 to 9 p.m. For information, call 863-763-5309.

Oasis Lounge opens June 8

The Okeechobee Shrine Club Oasis Lounge, 1855 S.W. 53rd St., will be open Friday, **June 8**, and Saturday, June 9, from 5 to 10 p.m.

Memorial Benefit BBQ set

There will be a Memorial Benefit BBQ for Erik Clay and family on Saturday, **June 9**, at the Buckhead Ridge Park, behind the fire department, 30076 SR 78. The BBQ lunch is a \$10 donation. There will also be a silent auction and live entertainment. All funds will go to the Clay family. For information or to drop off a donation, call 863-357-4465.

Legion opens Sunday bingo

American Legion 64, 501 S.E. Second St., will host Sunday night bingo on **June 10**, at 6:30 p.m. Doors will open at 5 p.m. in the bingo area. All proceeds will benefit the American Legion veterans' programs. The event is open to the public.

Legion host 5-card bingo

American Legion Post #64, 501 S.E. Second St., will host five-card bingo on Monday, **June 11**, from 1 to 3 p.m. with lunch served at 12:30 p.m. For information, call 863-763-5309.

Roundup volunteers needed

Looking for a place to volunteer? Come check out the Okeechobee Blood Roundup as volunteers meet Monday, **June 11**, to begin planning for the 13th annual Roundup to be held Nov. 17 and 18. Find out how you can help save lives while having a lot of fun and satisfaction. Come at 9 a.m. to Room 21 at First United Methodist Church, 202 N.W. Second Ave., behind Walgreen's. For more information, call Raye at 863-467-2557.

CSC meeting canceled

The Children's Services Council meeting for June 14, has been canceled. There will be a special meeting held on Tuesday, **June 12**, at 5 p.m.

DOH will hold CPR classes

Okeechobee Department of Health, 1728 N.W. Ninth Ave., will hold CPR/AED and basic first aid certification class on Tuesday, **June 12**, from 6 to 9:30 p.m. and Saturday, **June 23**, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For information, call Chuck Akers at 772-260-9026 or Sara Yates at 863-532-3436.

Shrine Club hosts dinner

The Okeechobee Shrine Club, 1855 S.W. 53rd St., off of SR 78 W. next to Fast Break, will hold a spaghetti dinner, with an \$8 donation, Tuesday, **June 12**, from 4 until 7 p.m. This dinner is open to the public and all members of the Shrine Temple. For information on the activities of the Okeechobee Shrine Club or to lease the club, contact the Shrine Club at 863-763-3378.

Enjoy dinner with Auxiliary

The VFW Auxiliary will serve a manicotti dinner on Wednesday, **June 13**, at Post 9528, 29012 SR 78 W., at 5 p.m. All proceeds will benefit Florida military veterans in distress. For information, call 863-467-2882.

Network meeting set

Build your business while learning more about your community by attending the Okeechobee Businesswomen's Referral Network meeting, 11:30 a.m., Friday, **June 15**, at Cowboys Restaurant, 202 N.E. Seventh Ave. Always interesting and informative, the fun is always present as we each bring a small exchange gift as a way to get to know each other. For further information, call Raye at 863-467-2557.

VFW will serve breakfast

The VFW Auxiliary will serve breakfast on Sunday, **June 17**, at VFW Post 9528, 29012 SR 78 W., from 8:30 to 11 a.m. All proceeds will go for veterans services. For information, call 863-467-2882.

BHR VFW will serve dinner

The Buckhead Ridge VFW Post 9528, 29012 SR 78 W., will serve dinner on Friday, **June 15**, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. The menu will include grilled boneless rib eye steak, grilled pork tenderloin, fried fish and shrimp, baked and french fried potatoes, baked sweet potatoes, fried onion rings, salad and desert. All proceeds will go to homeless veterans. For information, call 863-467-2882.

Historical Society to meet

The Okeechobee Historical Society, 1850 U.S. 98 N., will hold the last meeting before summer break on Monday, **June 18**, with a covered dish lunch at noon in the museum. The Historical Society does not meet during the months of July and August, resuming our monthly meetings on the third Monday of the month in September.

Library hosts Reading Camp

Ms. Kim at the Okeechobee County Library, 206 S.W. 16th St., is excited to announce that the "Summer Reading Camp" will be every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. from Wednesday, **June 20** through July 25. Camp is for ages 8 years old and under. If they have a sibling that is older, they may attend as well. Parents must attend! For information, call 863-763-3536.

Democrats to meet June 20

The Okeechobee Chapter of the Democratic Party of Florida welcomes you to attend the monthly meeting held Wednesday, **June 20**, at 6:30 p.m. at Beef O'Bradys, 608 S. Parrott Ave. Please arrive by 6 p.m. if placing a food order.

DOH will hold CPR classes

Okeechobee Department of Health, 1728 N.W. Ninth Ave., will hold a CPR/AED and basic first aid certification class on Saturday, **June 23**, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For information, call Chuck Akers at 772-260-9026 or Sara Yates at 863-532-3436.

Mural presentation set

Okeechobee Main Street invites you to the presentation of Main Street's sixth mural project, dedicating two murals honoring Chief Osceola and the Battle of Okeechobee located at 114 S.W. Fifth Ave. Meet the artist Tracie Sparks and the mural sponsor Sonny Elliott on Monday, **June 25**, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The artist's reception will follow on location in the Osceola Building.

Sculpture to be presented

Okeechobee Main Street invites you to the Butterfly Sculpture Project presentation on Saturday, **June 30**, at 4 p.m. at the Hamrick Butterfly Garden, in downtown Flagler Park number six. An artists' reception will follow at Nutmegs, 515 S.W. Park St.

More Community Events can be found at **OkeechobeeNews.net** in the Community section.

Take the reading challenge

The Okeechobee Library, 206 S.W. 16th St., will team up with Scholastic from now through Sept. 7, as students take the pledge to read as many minutes as they can this summer! To join, simply call the library at 863-763-3536 or come in to sign up with a librarian. Students will receive a pledge certificate along with a username and password. By logging reading minutes on the Scholastic website, students can unlock digital rewards and complete weekly reading challenges online. Reading minutes will also count towards special summer prizes and events at the library. Join the fun and sign up today!

Class of 1999 raising money for scholarships

A Class of 1999 - Scholarships page has been set up on GoFundMe.com/.

It's time for us to give back — to thank our community for taking care of us. Your donation will go toward scholarships that will be given to OHS seniors for both a remembrance of classmates we've lost and a celebration of furthering education from the Class of 1999 at the 2019 OHS Scholarship Night.

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.

Samuel David Everett, Jr., 81

OKEECHOBEE — Samuel David Everett, Jr. died June 7, 2018. He was born Oct. 9, 1936 in Greenville, N.C. to the late Samuel David Everett, Sr. and Lillie Mae Coward Everett. A resident of Okeechobee for 52 years, he was a member of the Okeechobee Church of God. He enjoyed attending church, serving his Lord, spending time with his grandchildren, and eating.

Mr. Everett was preceded in death by his sons, Ricky Everett and Tracy Everett; and the mother of his children, Betty Everett.

He is survived by his daughters, Joy Slater (Herby), Kathy Everett, and Holly Garrett (Tom), all of Okeechobee; sisters, Faye Everett and Hilda Everett, both of Texas; grandchildren, Samantha, Savannah, Traci, Patty, Betty, Ashley, and Jacob; and thirteen great grandchildren.

Visitation will be 2 p.m. until services at 3 p.m. Monday, June 11, 2018 at Buxton & Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery.

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 Okeechobee Funeral Home, 400 North Parrott Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida, 34972.



News from the Better Business Bureau

Sweepstakes, lottery, prize schemes devastate older victims with evolving tactics

CLEARWATER — A new report by the Better Business Bureau (BBB) says sweepstakes, lottery and prize schemes are devastating victims financially and emotionally with ever-evolving methods. These frauds concentrate on seniors, targeting them by direct mail, cold calling, social media, even text messages and smartphone pop-ups. BBB warns consumers to be on guard against these serious and pervasive frauds and their perpetrators.

The report "Sweepstakes, Lottery and Prize Scams: A Better Business Bureau Study of How 'Winners' Lose Millions Through an Evolving Fraud" notes these scams bilked \$117 million out of half a million Americans and Canadians in 2017 alone, with actual victims and losses likely numbering much higher. BBB received 2,820 sweepstakes and lottery scam reports in Scam Tracker in 2017, with a median loss of \$500. Seniors are the most frequent target and suffer the largest losses by far in these scams, which the report found commonly originate in Jamaica, Costa Rica and Nigeria.

The report recommends stronger law enforcement efforts on three fronts — in Jamaica, which has seen an upswing in violence related to lottery fraud profits; in the United States, where law enforcement is urged to step up extraditions and prosecutions of overseas fraudsters operating in the U.S.; and globally, as law enforcement agencies worldwide are encouraged to take steps toward holding deceptive mailing organizations accountable and stopping fraudulent mail. It also urges Facebook and other social media platforms to take steps to weed out fake, fraudulent profiles and make fraud reporting easier.

"Scam artists believe seniors are an easy target; however, informed educated seniors can protect themselves, said Karen Nalven, BBB president and CEO. "A legitimate lottery or sweepstakes will never ask its winners to wire money to claim the prize."

Among the Tampa Bay area victims is a woman in her 70s who was told in a 2018 phone call that she had won \$1.5 million and a new Mercedes. She began sending money (\$300 at first) to get her "winnings," as callers insisted that she needed to pay a commission fee of \$935. In multiple instances,

she was informed that Prize Control was in the area and would be arriving shortly to award her the money if she would first pay more for taxes on the funds.

Among the report's key findings:

- The majority of lottery or sweepstakes scam victims are between 65 and 74 years old. Among that age group, people who recently experienced a serious negative life event, and who expect their income in the near future to remain steady or decline, are even more likely to be victimized.

- Sweepstakes/lottery fraud can strike through many channels — phone calls, text messages, pop-ups on a smartphone's internet browser, social media and mailings.

- In 2017, 2,820 individuals reported sweepstakes and lottery scams to BBB Scam Tracker. These reports show a median loss of \$500, with wire transfer as the most frequent method of payment.

- Jamaica is a major source of "cold calls" to victims who are told they have won money. Although similar calls come from Costa Rica, the scam has had a major impact in Jamaica, where the amount of money generated by lottery fraud has resulted in gang wars between rival fraud groups, leading to a dramatic spike in violence. More than 95 percent of reported fraud in Jamaica involves lottery or sweepstakes scams.

The report was written by C. Steven Baker, BBB International Investigations Specialist. Baker is the retired director of the Federal Trade Commission's Midwest Region. In his role with BBB, Baker is analyzing and reporting on some of the most pervasive fraud issues that impact American consumers. Studies on puppy scams, tech support scams, and romance scams he authored were met with worldwide media coverage.

BBB offers the following tips for consumers to avoid being caught in lottery or sweepstakes fraud:

- True lotteries or sweepstakes don't ask for money. If they want money for taxes, themselves, or a third party, they are most likely crooks.

- Call the lottery or sweepstakes company directly to see if you won. Publishers Clearing House (PCH) does have a sweepstakes but does not call people in advance to tell them they've won. Report PCH imposters to their hotline at 800-392-4190.

- Check to see if you won a lottery. Call the North American Association of State and Provincial Lotteries at 440-361-7962 or your local state lottery agency.

- Do an internet search on the company, name, or phone number of the person who contacted you.

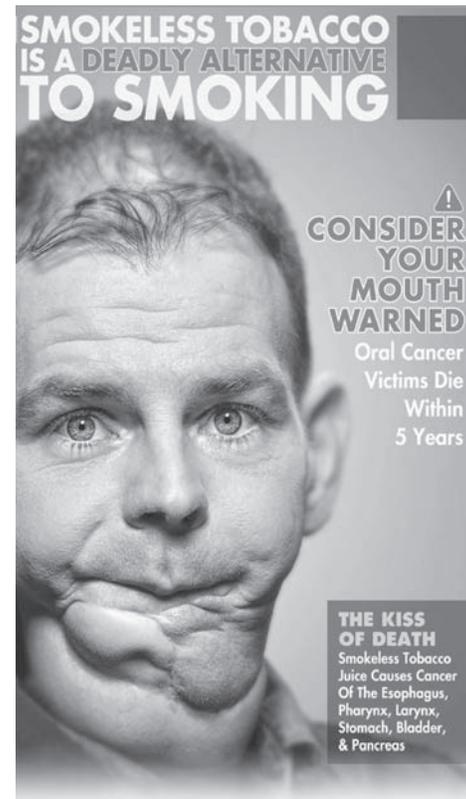
- Law enforcement does not call and award prizes.

- Talk to a trusted family member or your bank. They may be able to help you stay in control of your money in the face of fraudster pressure.

About BBB

BBB is an unbiased non-profit organization that sets and upholds high standards for fair and honest business behavior. Businesses that earn BBB accreditation contractually agree and adhere to the organization's high standards of ethical business behavior. BBB provides objective advice, free BBB Business Profiles and BBB Wise Giving Reports®, and educational information on topics affecting marketplace trust. To further promote trust, BBB also offers complaint and dispute resolution support for consumers and businesses when there is a difference in viewpoints. For more than 100 years, Better Business Bureau has been helping consumers find businesses, brands and charities they can trust. Better Business Bureau Serving West Florida is one of many local, independent BBBs across North America that provide business profiles on companies within its 11-county service area. These counties include: Hernando, Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee, Sarasota, Hardee, DeSoto, Charlotte, Lee & Collier.

To contact BBB Serving West Florida about this release please call Bryan Oglesby 727-530-4651 or boglesby@bbbwestflorida.org.



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Take a hunter safety class this summer and enjoy the outdoors

By Tony Young
FWC

"Hunting teaches patience while fostering one of the closest relationships we can have with the natural world around us," said University of Florida rising sophomore Hanna Hodges. "Hunting also contributes to conservation."

Miss Hodges loves hunting for deer and turkeys with her family and boyfriend, and enjoys introducing new people to hunting and taking youth on their first hunting trips. However, that hasn't always been the case for her.

As a young girl growing up in a family that enjoys the outdoors, Miss Hodges spent many weekends fishing, boating, kayaking and hiking. But, she admits she was intimidated by some of the elements of hunting, and credits her father and the hunter safety class she took at age 10 for giving her knowledge and confidence to safely develop what became her greatest passion.

"My dad first introduced me to target shooting and hunting — he was a great coach," she said. "He actually introduced my mom and brothers, too — and now hunting is a family affair."

Miss Hodges' father signed her up for a weeklong Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) hunter safety camp at the Beau Turner Youth Conservation Center during the summer before her sixth-grade year.

"It was a great experience attending the hunter safety summer camp at Beau Turner," she said. "I made numerous friends there and loved it so much that I volunteered there for several years."

Growing up in a hunting family and attending hunter safety camp had such an ef-

fect on Miss Hodges that she is now majoring in wildlife ecology and conservation and hopes one day to work in a field that blends hunting and conservation. And for this summer, she is proud to announce she will be a hunt camp counselor at the place where it all got started for her — the Beau Turner Youth Conservation Center.

For more information on the center, which is east of Tallahassee, or to register your child for summer camp, go to BTYCC.org.

If you haven't completed the state's hunter safety course requirement, now's a good time to sign up. Many of these classes, offered statewide, fill up fast.

People born after May 31, 1975, must complete the FWC's hunter safety class before they can buy the type of hunting license that allows them to legally hunt alone.

If you're a youngster and already into hunting, I suggest you go ahead and take a hunter safety class before you turn 16. And you can purchase your very first hunting license that's good until your 17th birthday.

Even if you were born before June 1, 1975, and are exempt from having to take the class, it's still a good idea because you'll learn so much. The FWC encourages beginning hunters to do so. Even the most experienced hunters will learn something new, which will help them become even better hunters or mentors.

If you're new to our state, these classes will make you aware of Florida's hunting laws. Or if you just relocated from another

town, the classes are a great way to meet other hunters. You can make some new hunting buddies or maybe even get a line on a great hunt club that's looking for new members.

You can register for a hunter safety class by going to MyFWC.com/HunterSafety or by contacting your nearest FWC regional office.

Florida Virtual School is an option

Florida also offers a virtual school outdoor education course. This course, which combines hunting and boating safety, is free and open to Florida residents ages 12 to 18.

Participants will develop outdoor skills and learn about the benefits of physical activity while using proper safety procedures to experience a range of outdoor activities.

By meeting all the requirements of the Outdoor Education course, students will receive their Florida Boating Safety Education ID Card and be eligible to obtain a Florida Hunter Safety Certificate. They'll also earn half a credit for high school, and meet public school requirements for taking an online course and a physical education course.

Registrations for these instructor-led courses are limited. Those who are interested can find out more at MyFWC.com/HunterSafety.

Online training and skills day

A popular option for completing the

hunter safety training is to take online training and a skills day. The online course is designed to help new hunters of all ages learn how to be safe and responsible hunters.

Before you begin the online training, you'll need to register to attend a skills day. Skills days are led by a corps of volunteer hunter safety instructors who give you the opportunity to demonstrate the skills you learned in the online course. Skills day takes about five hours to complete and includes time on the shooting range.

During skills days, you get hands-on training and must demonstrate proper firearm and tree-stand safety.

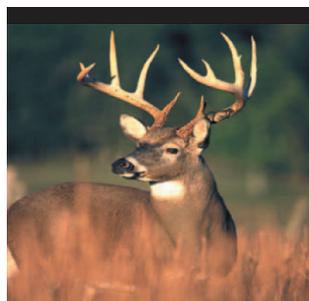
In the last hour of the skills day, you'll be given a standardized test of multiple-choice questions. You need to score 80 percent or higher to successfully complete the course.

The last steps

After you pass the test for either course, you'll be given a temporary hunter safety card. You'll receive a permanent card in the mail about four to six weeks after the class. Once the hunter safety requirement is met, you can purchase your first Florida hunting license and be ready for opening day.

Just a couple of things for parents to remember: The course is designed for youth ages 12 to 16. If your child is younger than 18 years old, you must fill out our parental release form and present it to the instructor at all courses. Also, if your child is younger than 16, you are required to accompany him or her to all classes.

Register to take a hunter safety class today, 'cause the 2018-19 hunting season will be here before we know it. Remember, safe hunting is no accident.



Outta' The Woods
By Tony Young
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
MyFWC.com



Special to the Okeechobee News

Christian Academy students get to meet Smokey Bear

A field trip to the Florida Forest Service turned out to be an educational yet exciting day for 20 kids from the Okeechobee Christian Academy. A guest appearance by Smokey Bear and a water hose relay made this an adventure to remember.

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50K MILES, #18022A
\$26,983



2014 GMC Sierra 1500
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69K MILES, #18697B
\$29,893



2015 Ford F-150 XL
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37K MILES, #18812A
\$33,983



2015 Ford F-150 XL
5.0L V8, CREW CAB,
31K MILES, #18462A1
\$42,983



2015 Ford F-150
2.7L V6, CREW CAB,
55K MILES, #18441A
\$27,637



2017 Chevy Silverado 1500
5.3L V8, CREW CAB,
15K MILES, #18835A
\$31,886



2014 Ford F-150 Lariat
5.0L V8, CREW CAB,
47K MILES, #171360A
\$34,981



2016 Ford F-350 SRW
6.7L V8, CREW CAB,
39K MILES, #P6269
\$53,846

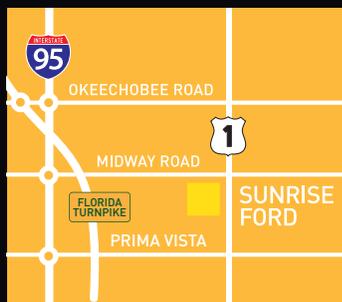


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FWC restores aquatic habitat on Lake Istokpoga

Special to the Okeechobee News

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) began aquatic habitat restoration efforts on Lake Istokpoga on June 4.

Thousands of aquatic plants will be transplanted into Lake Istokpoga to help restore this popular shallow-water bass fishing lake in Highlands County.

About 30,000 jointed spikerush plants will be planted along the lake's western and northern shorelines. These native aquatic plants will serve as a valuable food source and habitat for many fish and wildlife species, including the Everglades snail kite, an endangered species.

The plants also will enhance the chances that anglers will be able to catch largemouth bass, crappie and panfish on Lake Istokpoga.

Later this month, the FWC will initiate another effort to help restore the lake's habitat, involving re-vegetation of eel grass, a native submerged plant. The eel grass will be protected by well-marked metal cages that prevent it from being eaten during its first year of growth. Later, once it is established, the eel grass will provide a food source for a variety of wildlife, including waterfowl, wading birds, turtles, larger species of fish and apple snails. It has the additional benefits of providing structure for wildlife, including small fish.

The FWC's aquatic habitat restoration project on Lake Istokpoga is designed to enhance the biodiversity of the native plant community in the lake's shallow-water marshes as part of ongoing restoration and habitat enhancement activities aimed at restoring the lake.



Special to the Okeechobee News

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) began aquatic habitat restoration efforts on Lake Istokpoga on June 4.

Social Security Matters

By AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor Russell Gloor

Association of Mature American Citizens

Ask Rusty – SSA Misinformation leads to Lost benefits

Dear Rusty: I am 64, a widow and I'm hopping mad! I lost my husband a while ago and went to Social Security to apply for widow's benefits. That all went okay and I'm getting my benefit, but I just found out that I could have avoided a cut to my widow's benefit and maybe applied only for my own retirement benefit and let the widow's benefit grow until I reached 66 when it wouldn't be cut. To make matters worse, they never explained that I'd be applying for both my own Social Security and my widow's benefit, so my Social Security payment now is made up of both and they're both reduced because I took them early. If I had waited until I was 70 to take my own benefit, it would have been more than my widow's benefit. I feel that because they never told me my options, especially when I was grieving the loss of my husband, that it's their fault that I'm losing money. What can I do? Signed: Hopping Mad

Dear Hopping Mad: It looks as though you were caught in the same miscommunication web that Social Security's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) recently investigated and found that Social Security Administration (SSA) staff had often misinformed or failed to explain all available

options to those applying for survivor's benefits. That, in turn, has been responsible for a lot of "dually-entitled" people getting less than they're truly entitled to. Thanks to a savvy SSA whistleblower, the OIG investigated the allegations and found that those who were entitled to both Social Security retirement benefits and survivor's benefits were often not told that they could apply for either benefit and allow the other to grow to its maximum amount. In your case, you could have simply waited to apply for your widow's benefit until it reached maximum at your full retirement age (FRA); or, if you needed the money, applied for your own reduced retirement benefit first and allowed your survivor's benefit to grow to its maximum at your FRA and get that for the rest of your life; or you could have taken the reduced survivor's benefit only and allowed your own retirement benefit to grow until it reached its maximum at age 70. In other words, you could have restricted your application to either one of those benefits and allowed the other to grow to its maximum amount (Social Security's "deemed filing" rule doesn't apply to survivors). That you are now receiving reduced benefits with no option to delay either one is, it would seem, a result of a failure by the SSA to inform you of your options, exactly as the OIG found in its investigation.

I believe you have a strong case to challenge the SSA on your application choice

due to them not informing you of the alternatives available to you. You can initiate this challenge by writing them a letter explaining that you would have made a different choice had you been told the alternatives available to you and request a hearing to resolve this issue. You will need to be specific about the who/when/where aspects of your original application, and you should be very clear about which other option you would have selected had you known – to either defer your widow's benefit until it grew to max-

imum at your FRA, or to take your widow's benefit and defer your Social Security retirement benefit until you are 70. In any case, you should not have to suffer the financial consequences of the SSA's failure to let you know that you had alternatives as a survivor.

For more on how to file a claim in writing due to the SSA's failure to advise you of your options, go to: https://www.ssa.gov/OP_Home/cfr20/416/416-0351.htm and review Section (f) Claim for benefits based on misinformation.

Help save lives by donating blood

The need for blood donations doesn't stop for summer vacations. If you are in good health and over the age of 17, you can help One Blood ensure area hospitals have a safe blood supply ready to handle emergencies.

June blood drives in Okeechobee include:

- Tuesday, June 12, at Walmart from noon to 12:30 p.m.
- Saturday, June 16, at Walmart from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Sunday, June 17, at Golden Corral from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Sunday, June 17, at Walmart from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 19, at Raulerson Hospital from 2 to 5 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 19, at Walmart from 6 to 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 26, at Okeechobee Sheriff's Office from noon to 5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 26, at Walmart from 1:30 to 7 p.m.
- Friday, June 29, at Walmart from 2 to 7 p.m.



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 NEW 2018 **F150 XLT**
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Invasive termites threaten Florida homes

By Beverly James

UF/IFAS

GAINESVILLE — Subterranean termites cause about \$32 billion in damage worldwide. In fact, researchers with the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences predict two of the most invasive subterranean termite species will expand their destructive range; meaning half the structures in South Florida will be at risk of infestation by the insects by 2040.

Researchers urge residents to have their homes inspected for termites and seek appropriate treatment.

"Formosan subterranean termites are already problematic in many urban areas of the Southeastern United States. However,

with the more recent spread of the Asian subterranean termite, it portends even more trouble for Florida," said Thomas Chouvenc, assistant professor of urban entomology at the UF/IFAS Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center.

Six invasive termite species are now established in Florida, and among these, the Formosan subterranean termite, the Asian subterranean termite and the West Indian drywood termite pose particular concern for residents and the pest-control industry because they cause most of the structural damage, Mr. Chouvenc said. Asian and Formosan subterranean termites contribute in large part to the cost associated with termite damage and control globally, he said.

The Miami-Fort Lauderdale area, with about 6 million residents, represents the only location in the continental U.S. where the distribution of Asian and Formosan termites overlaps. Asian subterranean termites stick to South Florida, venturing north only as far as Palm Beach County. But the Formosan termites are found from Miami to Charleston, S.C., Mr. Chouvenc said.

"The damage to south Florida is already concerning; but the termite presence, which results in property damage, is still increasing," Mr. Chouvenc said. "We need to provide area-wide termite management programs that could provide a long-term, sustainable solution for communities."

Mr. Chouvenc also observed that both

Asian and Formosan termites have the ability to mate and potentially create a new, hybrid species. In a study by distinguished Professor Nan Yao-Su and Mr. Chouvenc in 2015, researchers found that hybrid colonies could be even more problematic than their parental species.

"Currently, our team is investigating the biological attributes of such hybrids to determine their potential threat to structures, their potential spread, and also trying to determine long-term consequences if gene flow occurs in the field between the two species," Mr. Chouvenc said.

Turtles and tortoises can make great pets for anyone

Special to the Okeechobee News

If you're looking for a unique, low-cost pet that enjoys a relaxed lifestyle, a pet turtle or tortoise may be for you.

What is the difference between turtles and tortoises? Most turtles have webbed feet or flippers and primarily live in water, while tortoises primarily live on land and do not have webbed feet. In fact, if you took a tortoise to a body of water, it probably would not know how to swim.

Whether you are interested in a turtle or a tortoise, Alice Blue-McLendon, a clinical associate professor at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, says that doing your research before getting one as a pet is extremely important.

Different breeds of turtles and tortoises require a specific diet and habitat.

Additionally, the adult size of turtles and tortoises vary by breed. For instance, the sulcata tortoise can easily weigh up to 200 pounds, which may not make it a suitable family pet. Other breeds are much smaller and can be easily held by supervised children.

The sulcata tortoise may not be the best option for a pet (especially since they are capable of outliving humans), but other tor-

toises, such as the Hermann's tortoise and red-footed tortoise, can make great pets. For turtles, Dr. Blue-McLendon recommends the red-eared slider.

Be sure to get your pet turtle or tortoise from a reputable breeder.

"In almost all circumstances you should not take an animal from the wild and turn them into a pet," Dr. Blue-McLendon said. "You change their life forever and potentially decrease their life expectancy."

No matter the breed you choose, you should consider their adult maximum size before purchasing a tank and setting up their habitat. Additionally, doing your research will help you determine the appropriate temperature, bedding (for tortoises), and amount of lighting for your turtle or tortoise.

You should also determine through research an appropriate diet for your breed and the life stage of the turtle or tortoise. Although some commercial food is conveniently sold at pet stores, this food may not be nutritionally balanced.

Dr. Blue-McLendon recommends primarily feeding your pet turtle or tortoise leafy greens, since they are herbivores. Some species may enjoy fruit as a special treat. Additionally, drinking water for tortoises should be available at all times.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), nearly all reptiles carry salmonella, including turtles and tortoises. Salmonella is a bacteria that can cause temporary infection in humans, especially in children under 5 years old, elderly adults, pregnant women and anyone with a compromised immune system. Therefore, these individuals should avoid handling turtles and tortoises.

If you are set on getting a turtle or tortoise, the CDC recommends washing your hands thoroughly after handling your pet. Additionally, you should disinfect surfaces that your pet touches and not let your pet come into contact with the kitchen sink or other areas that might contaminate human food and drinks.

If you want a unique pet, a pet turtle or tortoise may convince you to come out of your shell. However, be sure you are ready for the commitment.

Pet Talk is a service of the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University. Stories can be viewed on the web at vetmed.tamu.edu/pet-talk. Suggestions for future topics may be directed to editor@cvm.tamu.edu.



Special to the Okeechobee News

If you're looking for a unique, low-cost pet that enjoys a relaxed lifestyle, a pet turtle or tortoise may be for you.

Teddy bears donated

The Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office sends a big thank-you to Lisa Newman, owner of Flower Petals, for the beautiful teddy bears she donated to the agency. OCSO deputies and detectives will provide the teddy bears to children during traumatic experiences such as a car crash or involvement in any kind of crisis. OCSO victim's advocate Joan Johnson (left) and Ms. Newman (right) pose with the bin of stuffed bears.



Okeechobee News/OCSO

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Public Notice

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
2018TD775
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that **EB 1EMIFL LLC** 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: **2116** Year of Issuance: **June-01-2012**
 Description of Property: **1/4 OF 1/3 % MINERAL INTEREST W1/2 OF SW1/4 N1/2 13 34S 35E 42S.43 ACRES**
1-13-34-35-0A00-00002-0000
 Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida
 Name in which assessed:
MURPHY MINERALS CORPORATION
 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 **26th day of July, 2018**.
SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES
 SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER
 Okeechobee County, Florida
 /s/ Frances Conner
 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 than 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. 261648 ON 5/25/6/1,8,15/2018

STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
NOTICE OF INTENT
 The Department of Environmental Protection hereby provides Notice of Intent to Issue a permit for the proposed project, subject to the conditions specified in the draft permit and summarized below. The applicant, Okeechobee Utility Authority, John Hayford, PE, Executive Director, 100 S.W. 5th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida 34974 applied on October 31, 2017, for a permit to operate a Class I injection well. The project is located at the Cemetery Road Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), 1339 N.E. 39th Boulevard, Okeechobee, Florida 34972 in Okeechobee County (File No. 358539-001-UO/IM, WACS ID No. 98447).
 The facility will operate: A non-hazardous Injection Well System, consisting of one Class I injection well (IW-1), with cemented 24-inch diameter steel casing to 2,765 feet below land surface (bls), and a total depth of 3,205 feet bls. Injection is into the Okeechobee Formation for the disposal of secondary treated municipal effluent with high level disinfection from the Cemetery Road WWTP for a maximum disposal rate of 3,055 gallons per minute (GPM) and a maximum disposal volume of 4.4 million gallons per day (MGD). The existing dual zone monitor well (MW-1) is completed from 1,820 to 1,847 feet bls and from 1,970 to 2,005 feet bls.
 The Department has permitting jurisdiction under Chapter 403 of the Florida Statutes (FS), and the rules adopted thereunder. The project is not exempt from permitting procedures. The Department has determined that an operation permit is required for the proposed work.
 The Department will issue the permit unless a petition for an administrative hearing is timely filed under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, FS, before the deadline for filing a petition. On the filing of a timely and sufficient petition, this action will not be final and effective until further order of the Department. Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the hearing process may result in a modification of the agency action or even denial of the application.
 A person whose substantial interests are affected by the Department's action may petition for an administrative proceeding (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, FS, Pursuant to Rules 28-106.201 and 28-106.301, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), a petition for an administrative hearing must contain the following information:
 a) The name and address of each agency affected and each agency's file or identification number, if known;
 b) The name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner; the name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner's representative, if any, which shall be the address for service purposes during the course of the proceeding; and an explanation of how the petitioner's substantial interests are or will be affected by the agency determination;
 c) A statement of when and how the petitioner received notice of the agency decision;
 d) A statement of all disputed issues of material fact. If there are none, the petition must so indicate;
 e) A concise statement of the ultimate facts alleged, including the specific facts that the petitioner contends warrant reversal or modification of the agency's proposed action;
 f) A statement of the specific rules or statutes that the petitioner contends require reversal or modification of the agency's proposed action, including an explanation of how the alleged facts relate to the specific rules or statutes; and
 g) A statement of the relief sought by the petitioner, stating precisely the action that the petitioner wishes the agency to take with respect to the agency's proposed action.
 The petition must be filed (received by the Clerk) in the Office of General Counsel of the Department at 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station 35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000, or via electronic correspondence at Agency_Clerk@dep.state.fl.us. Also, a copy of the petition shall be mailed to the applicant at the address indicated above at the time of filing.
 In accordance with Rule 62-110.106(3), F.A.C., petitions for an administrative hearing by the applicant and persons entitled to written notice under Section 120.60(3), FS, must be filed within 14 days of receipt of this written notice. Petitions filed by any persons other than the applicant, and other than those entitled to written notice under Section 120.60(3), FS, must be filed within 30 days of publication of the notice or within 14 days of receipt of the written notice, whichever occurs first. The failure to file a petition within the appropriate time period shall constitute a waiver of that person's right to request an administrative determination (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, FS, or to intervene in this proceeding and participate as a party to it. Any subsequent intervention (in a proceeding initiated by another party) will be only at the discretion of the presiding officer upon the filing of a motion in compliance with Rule 28-106.205, F.A.C.
 Under Rule 62-110.106(4), F.A.C., a person whose substantial interests are affected by the Department's action may also request an extension of time to file a petition for an administrative hearing. The Department may, for good cause shown, grant a request for an extension of time. Requests for extension of time must be filed with the Office of General Counsel of the Department at 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station 35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000, or via electronic correspondence at Agency_Clerk@dep.state.fl.us, before the deadline for filing a petition for an administrative hearing. A timely request for extension of time shall toll the running of the time period for filing a petition until the request is acted upon.
 Mediation is not available in this proceeding.
 Once this decision becomes final, any party to this action has the right to seek judicial review pursuant to Section 120.68, FS, by filing a Notice of Appeal pursuant to Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure 9.110 and 9.190 with the Clerk of the Department in the Office of General Counsel (Station #35, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000) and by filing a copy of the Notice of Appeal accompanied by the applicable filing fees with the appropriate district court of appeal. The notice must be filed within 30 days from the date this action is filed with the Clerk of the Department.
 The files associated with this order are available for public inspection during normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except state holidays, at the Department of Environmental Protection, Southeast District Office, 3301 Gun Club Road, MSC 7210-1, West Palm Beach, Florida 33406, and at the Department of Environmental Protection, 2600 Blair Stone Road, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400. Any additional information concerning this project may be obtained by contacting Douglas Thornton, Engineering Specialist, at 850-245-8666. 267396 ON 6/8/2018

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
2018TD780
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that **EB 1EMIFL LLC** 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: **2129** Year of Issuance: **June-01-2012**
 Description of Property: **1/4 OF 1/3 % MINERAL INTEREST N1/2 24 34S 35E 27S.13 ACRES**
1-24-34-35-0A00-00002-C000
 Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida
 Name in which assessed:
PAUL MCBRIDE
 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 **26th day of July, 2018**.
SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES
 SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER
 Okeechobee County, Florida
 /s/ Frances Conner
 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 than 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. 261864 ON 5/25/6/1,8,15/2018

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
2018TD776
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that **EB 1EMIFL LLC** 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: **2117** Year of Issuance: **June-01-2012**
 Description of Property: **1/4 OF 1/3 % MINERAL INTEREST E 1/2 OF NE 1/4 SW 1/4 OF NE 1/4 E 1/2 OF SE 1/4 SW 1/4 OF SE 1/4 E 1/2 OF SW 1/4 NW 1/4 OF SW 1/4 E 1/2 OF NW 1/4 SW 1/4 OF NW 1/4 14 34S 35E 480 ACRES**
1-14-34-35-0A00-00002-A000
 Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida
 Name in which assessed:
MURPHY MINERALS CORPORATION
 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 **26th day of July, 2018**.
SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES
 SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER
 Okeechobee County, Florida
 /s/ Frances Conner
 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 than 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. 261849 ON 5/25/6/1,8,15/2018

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
2018TD774
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that **EB 1EMIFL LLC** 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: **2115** Year of Issuance: **June-01-2012**
 Description of Property: **1/4 OF 1/3 % MINERAL INTEREST W1/2 OF SW1/4 N1/2 13 34S 35E 42S.43 ACRES**
1-13-34-35-0A00-00002-B000
 Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida
 Name in which assessed:
PAUL MCBRIDE
 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 **26th day of July, 2018**.
SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES
 SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER
 Okeechobee County, Florida
 /s/ Frances Conner
 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 than 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. 261647 ON 5/25/6/1,8,15/2018

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
2018TD779
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that **EB 1EMIFL LLC** 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: **2128** Year of Issuance: **June-01-2012**
 Description of Property: **1/4 OF 1/3 % MINERAL INTEREST N1/2 OF NE 1/4 SE 1/4 OF NE 1/4 NW 1/4 23 34S 35E 280 ACRES**
1-23-34-35-0A00-00002-C000
 Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida
 Name in which assessed:
PAUL MCBRIDE
 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 **26th day of July, 2018**.
SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES
 SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER
 Okeechobee County, Florida
 /s/ Frances Conner
 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 than 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. 261862 ON 5/25/6/1,8,15/2018

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
2018TD778
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that **EB 1EMIFL LLC** 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: **2127** Year of Issuance: **June-01-2012**
 Description of Property: **1/6 % MINERAL INTEREST N1/2 OF NE 1/4 SE 1/4 OF NE 1/4 NW 1/4 23 34S 35E 280 ACRES**
1-23-34-35-0A00-00002-A000
 Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida
 Name in which assessed:
MURPHY MINERALS CORPORATION
 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 **26th day of July, 2018**.
SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES
 SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER
 Okeechobee County, Florida
 /s/ Frances Conner
 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 than 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. 261856 ON 5/25/6/1,8,15/2018

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
2018TD770
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that **SAMMY AND ANN HANCOCK** 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: **2112** Year of Issuance: **June-01-2013**
 Description of Property: **WHISPERING PINES HEIGHTS E 1/2 OF LOT 34**
1-04-37-35-0020-00000-034A
 Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida
 Name in which assessed:
GEARY ADAMS
SUSAN ADAMS
 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 **26th day of July, 2018**.
SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES
 SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER
 Okeechobee County, Florida
 /s/ Frances Conner
 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 than 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. 261646 ON 5/25/6/1,8,15/2018

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
2018TD771
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that **SAMMY AND ANN HANCOCK** 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: **1732** Year of Issuance: **May-31-2014**
 Description of Property: **DIXIE RANCH ESTATES LOTS 3 4 & 24 BLOCK 2**
1-23-36-34-0010-00020-0030
 Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida
 Name in which assessed:
BRENDA OWENS AKA BRENDA A OWENS AKA BRENDA ANN OWENS AKA ANN OWENS AKA ANNE OWENS
 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 **26th day of July, 2018**.
SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES
 SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER
 Okeechobee County, Florida
 /s/ Frances Conner
 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 than 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. 261586 ON 5/25/6/1,8,15/2018

PUBLIC NOTICE
CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD MEETING
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Okeechobee Code Enforcement Board (CEB) will conduct a regular meeting on **Tues, June 12, 2018, 6:30 PM**, or as soon thereafter as possible, at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Rm 200, Okeechobee, FL. The public is invited and encouraged to attend. The agenda may be obtained from cityofokeechobee.com or by calling the Code Enforcement Office, 863-763-9795.
ANY PERSON DECIDING TO APPEAL any decision made by the CEB 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 Fire Department no later than two business days prior to proceeding, 863-763-9795.
BE ADVISED that should you intend to show any document, picture, video or items to the CEB in support or opposition to any item on the agenda, a copy of the document, picture, video, or item must be provided to the Board Secretary for the City's records.
 By: Chairperson Jamie Garniolea
 267387 ON 6/8/2018

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
2018TD781
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that **EB 1EMIFL LLC** 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: **2130** Year of Issuance: **June-01-2012**
 Description of Property: **1/6 % MINERAL INTEREST N1/2 24 34S 35E 27S.13 ACRES**
1-24-34-35-0A00-00002-C000
 Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida
 Name in which assessed:
MURPHY MINERALS CORPORATION
 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 **26th day of July, 2018**.
SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES
 SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER
 Okeechobee County, Florida
 /s/ Frances Conner
 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 than 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. 261868 ON 5/25/6/1,8,15/2018

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
2018TD781
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that **EB 1EMIFL LLC** 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: **2130** Year of Issuance: **June-01-2012**
 Description of Property: **1/6 % MINERAL INTEREST N1/2 24 34S 35E 27S.13 ACRES**
1-24-34-35-0A00-00002-C000
 Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida
 Name in which assessed:
MURPHY MINERALS CORPORATION
 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 **26th day of July, 2018**.
SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES
 SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER
 Okeechobee County, Florida
 /s/ Frances Conner
 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 than 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. 261868 ON 5/25/6/1,8,15/2018

Time to clean out the attic, basement and/or garage? Advertise your yard sale in the classifieds and make your clean up a breeze!

Reading a newspaper helps you understand the world around you. No wonder newspaper readers are more successful people!

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

Time to clean out the attic, basement and/or garage? Advertise your yard sale in the classifieds and make your clean up a breeze!

When you want something sold, advertise in the classifieds. Your new car could be in today's paper. Have you looked for it?

Public Notice

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

2018TD772

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that WILLIAM B BREWER 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: 336 Year of Issuance: June-01-2011

Description of Property: LOT J OF TRACT 21 WEST 1/2 OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF TRACT 21 SECTION 13 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

1-13-34-33-0A00-00021-0000 Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida

Name in which assessed: MISTY LYNN MCLENDON

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 26th day of July, 2018. SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER Okeechobee County, Florida /s/ Frances Conner 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 than 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. 261585 ON 5/25;6/1,8,15/2018

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

2018TD773

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that WILLIAM B BREWER 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: 335 Year of Issuance: June-01-2011

Description of Property: LOT I OF TRACT 21 EAST 1/2 OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF TRACT 21 SECTION 13 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

1-13-34-33-0A00-00021-0000 Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida

Name in which assessed: MISTY LYNN MCLENDON

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 26th day of July, 2018. SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER Okeechobee County, Florida /s/ Frances Conner 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 than 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. 261572 ON 5/25;6/1,8,15/2018

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

2018TD777

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that EB 1EMIF LLC 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: 2118 Year of Issuance: June-01-2012

Description of Property: 1/4 OF 1/3 % MINERAL INTEREST E 1/2 OF NE 1/4 SW 1/4 OF NE 1/4 E 1/2 OF SE 1/4 SW 1/4 OF SE 1/4 E 1/2 OF SW 1/4 NW 1/4 OF SW 1/4 E 1/2 OF NW 1/4 SW 1/4 OF NW 1/4 14 34S 35E 480 ACRES

1-14-34-35-0A00-00002-C000 Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida

Name in which assessed: PAUL MCBRIDE

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 26th day of July, 2018. SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER Okeechobee County, Florida /s/ Frances Conner 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 than 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. 261850 ON 5/25;6/1,8,15/2018

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

2018TD782

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that IDE TECHNOLOGIES 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: 1861 Year of Issuance: June-01-2016

Description of Property: COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE SE1/4 OF SW1/4 OF SECTION 12 TOWNSHIP 34 SOUTH RANGE 35 EAST RUN THENCE SOUTH 01 DEG 32 MIN 38 SEC WEST ALONG THE WEST BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID SE1/4 OF SW1/4 FOR A DISTANCE OF 644.64 FEET FOR POINT OF BEGINNING THENCE CONTINUE SOUTH 01 DEG 32 MIN 38 SEC WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 517.58 FEET TO A POINT ON THE NORTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF THE NE 301 BLVD (QUAY ROAD) THENCE RUN NORTH 70 DEG 01 MIN 30 SEC EAST ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY LINE FOR A DISTANCE OF 194.70 FEET THENCE RUN NORTH 01 DEG 32 MIN 38 SEC EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 451.18 FEET THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEG 51 MIN 22 SEC WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 181.00 FEET TO POINT OF BEGINNING. LYING IN AND COMPRISING A PART OF THE SE1/4 OF SW1/4 OF SECTION 12 TOWNSHIP 34 SOUTH RANGE 35 EAST OKEECHOBEE COUNTY FLORIDA

1-12-34-35-0A00-00003-A000 Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida

Name in which assessed: LEV L WEAVER JR MARK S WEAVER

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 26th day of July, 2018. SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER Okeechobee County, Florida /s/ Frances Conner 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 than 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. 261644 ON 5/25;6/1,8,15/2018

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

2018TD769

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that BE A MAN BUY LAND LLC 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: 2221 Year of Issuance: June-01-2011

Description of Property: ROAD IN TRIANGLE PARK COMMENCING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 63 OF WHISPERING PINES SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO THE PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3 PAGE 25 PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY FLORIDA THENCE RUN SOUTH FOR A DISTANCE OF 60.00 FEET THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEG 59 MIN 00 SEC WEST ALONG AN EXTENSION OF THE SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE OF PINE STREET FOR A DISTANCE OF 215.00 FEET FOR POINT OF BEGINNING THENCE CONTINUE SOUTH 89 DEG 59 MIN 00 SEC WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 15.00 FEET THENCE RUN SOUTH A DISTANCE OF 250.00 FEET THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEG 59 MIN 00 SEC EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 15.00 FEET THENCE RUN NORTH FOR A DISTANCE OF 250.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING

1-04-37-35-0010-00000-0620 Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida

Name in which assessed: DONALD D PEMBERTON

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 26th day of July, 2018. SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER Okeechobee County, Florida /s/ Frances Conner 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 than 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. 261874 ON 5/25;6/1,8,15/2018

INVITATION TO BID NO. PW 03-00-06-18

OKEECHOBEE CITY HALL, FIRE DEPARTMENT AND RECORDS RETENTION BUILDING PAINT PROJECT

Opening Date and Time: June 20, 2018, 3:00 PM

The City of Okeechobee, Florida is currently soliciting bids to provide construction services needed to pressure wash and paint the Okeechobee City Hall, Fire Department, and Records Retention Building located at 55 SE 3rd Avenue, Okeechobee, FL 34974. Sealed bids must be received within the General Services Department at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Avenue, Rm 101, Okeechobee, FL 34974, no later than 3:00 PM EST on or before Wednesday, June 20, 2018. All responses received by the deadline will be opened and recorded in the presence of one or more witnesses within the Council Chambers, Rm 200, at the address listed above. Any bids received after the above noted date and time will not be opened or considered. Facsimile or emailed bids will not be accepted.

Bid Packets may be obtained from the General Services Department at City Hall during normal office hours, Mon-Fri, 8 AM-4:30 PM, except holidays, or by contacting Patty Burnette, 863-763-3372 ext. 9820, or pburnette@cityofokeechobee.com. A \$25.00 non-refundable deposit per set of documents is required, made payable to the City of Okeechobee (checks & cash only accepted). Questions concerning the scope of work are to be directed to Public Works Director David Allen, 863-763-9790, or dalen@cityofokeechobee.com. NOTE: Bonding Requirements Apply to this Bid Opportunity.

Submittals must be within a sealed envelope and contain two (2) clearly identified originals and one (1) copy of the bid, with the outside of the envelope clearly labeled "BID NO. PW 03-00-06-18 OKEECHOBEE CITY HALL FIRE DEPARTMENT AND RECORDS RETENTION BUILDING PAINT PROJECT, 6-20-18, 3:00 PM" with the submitting Company Name and Return Address. Bids may be mailed, hand delivered and/or express mailed to the address listed above. Firms properly registered in the State of Florida are encouraged to submit their bid for consideration.

It is the sole responsibility of the Bidder to deliver personally or by mail, their bid to the General Services Department on or before the closing hour and date for the receipt of bids as noted above.

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

EEC/ADA/GINA/VP/DFWP

By: Mayor Dowling R. Watford, Jr on June 8, 2018 267388 ON 6/8,10/2018

PUBLIC NOTICE CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTING A CITY ORDINANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Okeechobee, will conduct a Public Hearing on Tues, Jun. 19, 2018 at 6 PM, or as soon thereafter possible, at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Okeechobee, FL, to consider final reading for adoption of the following Ordinance into law: No. 1169: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA; REINSCINDING CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 50, SECTION 50-48 RELATING TO EXEMPTIONS ALLOWED DISABLED VETERANS OF ANY WAR OR THEIR UNREMARKED SPOUSES; CREATING A NEW SECTION 50-48 TO BE ENTITLED "BUSINESS TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR CERTAIN VETERANS, THEIR UNREMARKED SPOUSES, OR LOW-INCOME PERSONS" AS MANDATED BY RECENT LEGISLATIVE ACTION WHICH AMENDED OR CREATED FLORIDA STATUTE 205.055; WHICH ACTION RELATES TO TAXES AND FEES FOR VETERANS AND LOW-INCOME PERSONS; WHICH ACTION CREATED SECTION 205.055, FLORIDA STATUTE; EXEMPTING CERTAIN PERSONS AND BUSINESSES FROM BUSINESS TAXES AND FEES; PROVIDING REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLYING FOR SUCH EXEMPTION; WHICH ACTION REPEALED SECTION 205.171, FLORIDA STATUTE, RELATING TO EXEMPTIONS ALLOWED FOR DISABLED VETERANS OF ANY WAR OR THEIR UNREMARKED SPOUSES; WHICH ACTION AUTHORIZES MUNICIPALITIES THAT IMPOSE CERTAIN BUSINESS TAXES ON MERCHANTS TO CONTINUE TO IMPOSE SUCH TAXES; WHICH ACTION AUTHORIZES MUNICIPALITIES TO REVISE THE DEFINITION OF THE TERM "MERCHANT;" REVISING ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED FOR SUCH APPLICATION FOR VETERANS EXEMPTION; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

All members of the public are encouraged to attend and participate in said Hearing. The proposed Ordinance may be inspected in its entirety by members of the public at the Office of the City Clerk during normal business hours, Mon-Fri, 8:00 AM-4:30 PM, except for holidays.

ANY PERSON DECIDING TO APPEAL any decision made by the City Council with respect to this 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: City Clerk Lane Garniotte, CMC 267668 ON 6/8/2018

NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF A SPECIAL EXCEPTION

NOTICE: A PUBLIC HEARING will be held before the Okeechobee County Board of Adjustments and Appeals on Tuesday, June 26, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Health Department Auditorium, 1728 NW 9th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida to consider a SPECIAL EXCEPTION to allow the sales, service, and storage of new and used recreational vehicles, travel trailers, motor homes or park trailers including parts in a Commercial (C) zoning district. The property owner is Paul A. Jones. The applicant is Cody Daniels. The property address is 4558 Highway 441 SE and is more particularly described as follows:

FROM A POINT WHERE THE RANGE LINE BETWEEN RANGES 35 AND 36 INTERSECTS THE NORTHERLY BOUNDARY OF THE NORTH SHORE LEVEE RUN NORTH 54° 56'09" WEST ALONG THE NORTHERLY BOUNDARY OF THE NORTH SHORE LEVEE 1550 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, RUN THENCE NORTH 29°33'51" EAST 528.9 FEET TO THE SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY OF STATE ROAD 15 (U.S. 441), THENCE RUN SOUTHEASTERLY ALONG THE SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY OF STATE ROAD 15 A DISTANCE OF 405.6 FEET TO A FENCE, SAID FENCE BEING THE COMMON BOUNDARY BETWEEN LANDS FORMERLY OWNED BY RAY ROWLAND AND TOMIE JONES, THENCE RUN SOUTH ALONG SAID COMMON BOUNDARY TO THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF THE NORTH SHORE LEVEE, THENCE RUN NORTH 54°56'09" WEST ALONG SAID NORTH BOUNDARY TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, SAID LANDS LYING AND BEING IN SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH, RANGE 35 EAST.

LESS AND EXCEPT THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED OF SAID PROPERTY: ALL THAT PART OF CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND IN THE UNSURVEYED PORTION OF SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH, RANGE 35 EAST, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY FLORIDA, LYING WITHIN 200 FEET NORTHEASTERLY OF; AND AS MEASURED AT RIGHT ANGLES TO THE PRESENT NORTH RIGHT-AWAY LINE OF THE NORTH SHORE LEVEE OF LAKE OKEECHOBEE, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2 PAGE 83, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA; SAID CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND IS BEING MORE SPECIFICALLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

FROM A POINT WHERE THE RANGE LINE BETWEEN RANGES 35 AND 36 INTERSECTS WITH THE NORTHERLY BOUNDARY OF THE NORTH SHORE LEVEE RUN NORTH 54°56'09" WEST ALONG THE NORTHERLY BOUNDARY OF THE NORTH SHORE LEVEE 1550 FEET FOR A POINT OF BEGINNING; FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING, RUN NORTH 29°33'51" EAST, 528.9 FEET TO THE SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY OF STATE ROAD 15 (U.S. HIGHWAY 441); THENCE SOUTHEASTERLY ALONG THE SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY OF STATE ROAD 15; 405.6 FEET TO A FENCE, SAID FENCE BEING A COMMON BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE LAND OF RAY ROWLAND AND THE LAND OF TOM JONES; THENCE, SOUTH ALONG SAID COMMON BOUNDARY TO THE NORTHERLY BOUNDARY OF THE NORTH SHORE LEVEE; THENCE NORTH 54°56'09" WEST ALONG SAID NORTH SHORE LEVEE TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

AND BEING A PARCEL OF LAND LYING IN SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH, RANGE 35 EAST, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCE WHERE THE RANGE LINE BETWEEN RANGES 35 AND 36 EAST INTERSECTS THE SOUTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF STATE ROAD NO. 15 (U.S. HIGHWAY 441); THENCE NORTH 51°29'40" WEST ALONG SAID SOUTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE A DISTANCE OF 344.68 FEET TO THE POINT OF CURVATURE, SAID CURVE BEING CONVEX TO THE SOUTHWEST, HAVING A RADIUS OF 5696.58 FEET; A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 0°02'03" AND AN ARC LENGTH OF 898.23 FEET; THENCE ALONG SAID CURVE CONTINUING ALONG THE SAID SOUTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, BEING REFERENCED BY A LONG CHORD BEARING NORTH 56°01'39" WEST, A LONG CHORD DISTANCE OF 897.30 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE SOUTH 29°34'58" WEST A DISTANCE OF 324.41 FEET TO A POINT LYING ON THE NORTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF LEVEE L&A; THENCE SOUTH 54°55'02" EAST ALONG SAID NORTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE A DISTANCE OF 5.93 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE NORTH 29°34'58" EAST A DISTANCE OF 324.98 FEET TO A POINT LYING ON A FORESAID SOUTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF S.R. 15 (U.S. HIGHWAY 441), SAID POINT LYING ON A CURVE, SAID CURVE BEING CONVEX TO THE SOUTHWEST, HAVING A RADIUS OF 569.58 FEET, A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 0°03'34" AND AN ARC LENGTH OF 5.91 FEET; THENCE ALONG SAID CURVE, ALONG SAID SOUTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, BEING REFERENCED BY A LONG CHORD BEARING OF NORTH 60°25'24" WEST, A LONG CHORD DISTANCE OF 5.91 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

In the event that all items scheduled before the Board are not heard, the hearings shall be continued to Wednesday, June 27, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Health Department Auditorium, 1728 NW 9th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida. ALL INTERESTED PARTIES SHALL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD AT THIS PUBLIC HEARING. Any person desiring to appeal any decision by the Board of Adjustments and Appeals with respect to any matter considered at this meeting or hearing will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made and that the record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal will be based. Community Development tapes are for the sole purpose of backup for official records of the department.

Okeechobee County Community Development Department 1700 NW 9th Avenue, Suite A; Okeechobee, Florida 34972 Petition S-2018-0760 267658 ON 6/8/2018

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

2018TD783

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that BLACK CUB SB MUNI CJST 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: 1779 Year of Issuance: June-01-2016

Description of Property: S 1/2 OF SE 1/4 OF NE 1/4 S 1/2 OF SW 1/4 OF NE 1/4 ALL THAT PART OF S 1/4 OF NW 1/4 LYING N & E OF RD 15 66.66 ACRES OB 6 33S 35E

1-06-33-35-0A00-00028-0000 Said property being in the County of Okeechobee, State of Florida

Name in which assessed: CHARLES C POWELL TRUSTEE CHARLES POWELL JOINT ASSET TRUST JEFFREY W BROWN TRUSTEE VALERIE POWELL BROWN TRUSTEE

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 26th day of July, 2018. SUBJECT TO CURRENT TAXES

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER Okeechobee County, Florida /s/ Frances Conner 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 than 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. 261591 ON 5/25;6/1,8,15/2018

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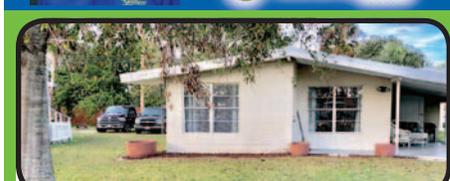
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MLS# 209429

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L-1790: Kissimmee River Estates - Rental Income Property - Two turn-key furnished homes plus 1000 sf work shop. The first home, a CBS 3/1, has been remodeled. The second home, 3/2 MH, has two living areas, separate dining room and an en-suite master bath. Both have alarm systems. **\$160,000 Call Dallan 863-697-213**

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5002-H: SUN & COUNTRY RANCHES: FT. DRUM AREA CUSTOM BUILT ON 4.73± ACRES. Spacious throughout with 3,474 Total Sq ft/2,321 under air. Open concept, high ceilings. Too many extras to list. **MUST SEE. MLS # 212031 \$375,000**



2.56± ACRES

5064-H: R BAR ESTATES 3BD/2BA on 2.56 +/- acres, 2,473 Total sq. ft./1,775 under air. Vaulted ceilings and much more. Mature oak trees. Overlooks large pasture w/abundant wildlife! Large pets welcome. Call for more info. **MLS # 212328 \$270,000**

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PRISTINE 3/2/2 CBS HOME Concrete walkway. French doors lead to a screened in patio porch w/access from master bdrm. Pass through window from inside home to patio. The kitchen is beautifully lit with recessed lighting. There is a large walk-in pantry, and laundry room. Master bath has 2 vanities, soaking tub, stand up shower, private toilet rm, and his and hers closets. **MLS# 211932 \$242,500 Call Kari Berger at 863-227-0339**



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ANCIENT OAKS 55+ COMMUNITY. Active Lifestyle. 2 B 1 B Park Model (2005) on the canal side. What a VIEW! Comes nicely furnished. Washer & Dryer and small freezer. Metal Hurricane shutters. Storage everywhere! Outside shed. Owner says sell! **\$79,000 Call Jody 863-634-1285**



SEMINOLE COVE- 55+ COMMUNITY. 3 BED 2 Bath-Master bath is custom built! Tile floors/Laminate. Brand new roof and newer AC/Hot Water Heater. Screened Fl rm with glass sliding windows. Living Room- & separate den. 3rd bedroom is a craft/media room but can be made back into bedroom. All this comes furnished! Quaint neighborhood. **Enjoy the Good life! \$132,500 Call Jody 863-634-1285**



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POOL HOME

SPECTACULAR- 3Bd/3BA 4,056' Home on 1+/- Acre. Totally Remodeled Inside & Out! Large bonus room with full bath. Florida Room opens onto the over-sized Pool area. Large Kitchen w/plenty of cabinets, granite countertops, Huge Master Suite, and living area is open and spacious. MLS 212574 **\$359,000** Call Katie McFarland (863) 261-8338



PENDING

RIVER OAK ACRES NEWLY REMODELED 4Bd/2Ba/2CG on 2.57 acres. Located on dead end street. 2,736 TLA CBS home with metal roof, home is truly a gem! Call for appointment MLS 212609 **\$290,000.** Contact **Samantha Saucedo (863) 697-2818**



10.57 ACRES!

FALL IN LOVE with this Beautiful 2006 3Br/2Ba home with over 3,000 SF TLA! Setting on 10.57 Acres. Located off of HWY 98 North. Open concept, Granite counter-tops in kitchen. Pantry is also safe room, HUGE bedrooms with walk-in closets. Fireplace, Hurricane shutters, Tile throughout, Wooley shed in back with pond in front. **\$425,000** Call Jerri Lynn (863) 634-6796



OWNERS SUPER MOTIVATED!

AIRI ACRES - 2016 Custom Home 3Bd/2Ba 3243' TLA, Open floor plan, formal living area, dining, family room and custom kitchen, wood cabinets, granite countertops. Master bedroom opens to back porch overlooking golf course, huge bathroom with walk-in shower and garden tub. Home features 14 foot ceilings, oversized doors and windows, tile throughout, large utility room, back screened-in porch and 2 car garage. **\$305,000** Call Vangela (863) 261-3630



OKEECHOBEE ESTATES - Impressive and quaint CBS 3Br/1Ba house with large addition for family/dining area. Nicely remodeled, includes above ground pool, fenced private back yard. Large laundry room, could be 2nd bathroom. Covered patio. Landscaped and private! **\$159,000** Jerri Lynn Hill (863) 634-6796



WATERFRONT

WATERFRONT BEAUTY!- CBS 3Bd/ 2BA/ 2-Car Garage. Hurricane shutters, enormous living room, GIANT Florida room over looking the canal w/ covered boat dock and lift. MLS 212588 **\$260,000** Call Katie McFarland (863) 261-8338 or Samantha Saucedo (863) 801-2101



10 ACRES!

DIXIE RANCH ACRES- 3 bedroom 2bath CBS HOME with 2,534 TLA. Beautiful 10 acres, mature oaks, property has outbuilding, with additional living quarters. Bring you animals! Call today to schedule your showing appointment. **\$299,000** Call Vangela McFarland (863) 261-3630



WATERFRONT

BUCKHEAD RIDGE IMMACULATE 3BR/2BA DWMH Updated with front porch and wrap-around back porch. Boat house with lift. **CLEAN CLEAN CLEAN! \$159,000** Call Vangela McFarland (863) 261-3630



OASIS VILLAGE - Spacious 3Br/2Ba DWMH in this lovely 55+ plus community! Large kitchen with island, laminate wood & tiled floors through out, Florida room, huge carport, shed. Community offers a Pool, Laundry facilities, Shuffle Courts, Bocce Ball, Community Hall. Lawn care is included! MLS 211835 **\$89,900** Call Priscilla Gonzalez (863) 697-2818



4.96 ACRES

BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY SETTING with plenty of privacy. 2Br/2Ba MH. Large porches, screened room, spacious floor plan w/third room that is currently being utilized as a bedroom, roomy kitchen and inside laundry. Huge barn style work shop, cow barn, chicken coop, animal pens. Fenced & cross fenced. All equipment, tools, and furnishings are negotiable. Come take a look! MLS 212626 **\$175,000** Call Priscilla Gonzalez (863) 697-2818



POOL HOME

WATERFRONT

MOUTH OF TAYLOR CREEK- CBS 2Bd/2BA/ with 2-Car Garage also detached Carport, Laminate flooring, back porch, in-ground pool. Waterfront with water on both sides. Great for 1st time homebuyers or commuters. **\$140,000** Call Katie McFarland (863) 261-8338



FOUR SEASONS Cozy and Cute! This 2Br/1Ba CBS home sits on a quiet street with a fenced yard and several Oak trees. Great for East Coast Commuters! MLS 212189 **\$119,900.** Contact Priscilla Gonzalez (863) 697-2818



BASSWOOD - Cute 2Br/1Ba home. Close to town, schools and shopping. Chain linked fence around property. Located on paved road. **\$90,000** Contact Jerri Lynn Hill (863) 634-6796 or Billy Hill (863) 634-0516 for more information.



TREASURE ISLAND - Cute 2Br/1Ba little CBS home on LARGE lot, located at the end of the cup-de-sac with water views on two side of lot. Very private setting with Lake Okeechobee access, priced to sell. **\$124,900** Call Jerri Lynn Hill (863) 634-6796 for more information.



TREASURE ISLAND Spacious 3/2 MH located on deep canal in Treasure Island. This property features a large CBS addition, screened in dock, 2 shed and more. MLS 212224 **\$121,000** Call Kaydee Yates (863) 623-8863



SEMINOLE COVE One of the only 3 Br/2Ba homes in Seminole Cove that's currently available for purchase! Partially furnished, well maintained, and is move in ready! Seminole Cove has a great neighborhood MLS 212578 **\$120,000** Call Katie McFarland (863) 261-8338

80 +/- ACRE GENTLEMAN'S CATTLE RANCH



SPACIOUS 4,400 sq ft Ranch Style Home. 4Br/ 2Ba, stone fire place, open front porch, screened enclosed back porch and attached two car garage. Home is constructed with Cypress exterior, galvanized roof and beautiful white pine floors, walls and ceiling throughout entire interior of house. The property consist of 80 +/- grazable acres, cow pens, one stall horse barn with tack room, dog pens and enclosed equipment barn. MLS 212427 **\$875,000** Contact: Bryan (863) 634-5792

2 HOMES WITH 75 +/- ACRE EQUINE HORSE FARM



HIGHLY IMPROVED 75+/- Acre Horse Farm in Desirable SE section of Okeechobee. 2 Custom Homes, Totally remodeled! Main 3Br/2Ba house has porches on 3 sides that overlooks the pastures. Smaller 3/2 home also offer custom cabinets, granite counters Both homes have metal Roofs. Main barn has 24 stalls as well as 2 smaller stables, 11 paddocks w/shade sheds, fenced w/horse wire w/ lanes in between. Well-maintained. Ideal for Boarding, Training, Mare Motel, also, good for cattle. MLS 212373 **\$995,000** Call Vangela (863) 261-3630

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