



OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 109 No. 81

Sunday, July 8, 2018

75¢ plus tax

Basswood area targeted for cleanup ... Page 2

July brings dove season ... Page 3

Register for IRSC ... Page 7

Water farming helps reduce freshwater flow to estuary ... Page 9

Meet OPD's Ericka Smith ... Page 10

Lake Levels

14.33 feet

Last Year: 12.46 feet



Pogey's Family Restaurant
1759 S. Parrott Ave.
763-7222

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

See page 4 for information about how to contact this newspaper.

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Special to the Okeechobee News

Teen anglers fish the Big O

The Big O Teen Anglers had their June tournament on Saturday, June 23, out of Okee-Tantie. The weather was beautiful but hot, and the anglers caught a lot of nice bass, even with a three-fish limit. First-place winner in the 11-to-15 age group is Zack Zainitzer, with bass totaling 9.79 pounds. For the story, see Page 3.

By Richard Marion
Okeechobee News

McKenna Hickson, Morgan Tripp and Shelby Kirton are in Shawnee, Okla., to compete in the 26th annual International Finals Youth Rodeo (IFYR) starting today, July 8.

The Okeechobee trio will compete from July 8 through 13, hoping to win their share of more than \$250,000 in prize money and championship saddles and buckles. Kirton is vying for prizes in barrel racing, Hickson is competing for prizes in breakaway roping, goat tying

and team roping and Tripp is contending for prizes in barrel racing.

More than 850 of the top high school rodeo athletes from around the world will compete in 10 events running simultaneously in three arenas throughout the week. Events include barrel racing, pole bending, breakaway roping, goat tying, team roping, tie-down roping, steer wrestling, bull riding, saddle bronc riding and bareback riding.

Both Hickson and Kirton competed in the 2017 IFYR.

More recently, Hickson won the world

championship in the 19-and-under girls breakaway roping category at the junior National Finals Rodeo held in Las Vegas in December 2017. She won with a breakaway roping time of 2.29 while riding her horse Tootles, whom she received from Okeechobee horse trainer Jason Hanchey.

In an interview with *Okeechobee News* shortly after winning the world championship, Hickson credited Hanchey for playing a huge part in her success.

See RODEO — Page 9

Surface of lake is not covered by algal bloom

By Katrina Elsken
Okeechobee News

The good news: The surface of Lake Okeechobee is NOT covered in blue-green algae, toxic or otherwise.

The bad news: According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), there is a large concentration of cyanobacteria (sometimes called “blue-green algae”) in the lake. According to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, some of the samples taken from areas along the shore where winds pushed algae and cyanobacteria into clumps along the shoreline have shown low levels of toxins.

What happens next: According to the scientists who study algae worldwide, there is no way to tell, at this point, what will happen as the summer heat continues.

The NOAA image of the lake from Monday, July 2, shows varying concentrations of cyanobacteria in about 90 percent of Lake Okeechobee. The NOAA imagery does not indicate what kind of cyanobacteria is present. There are thousands of types of cyanobacteria, although only about a

dozen have been documented in Lake Okeechobee.

Some — not all — of the types of cyanobacteria known to live in the lake can produce toxins under certain conditions. However, even cyanobac-

See LAKE — Page 8

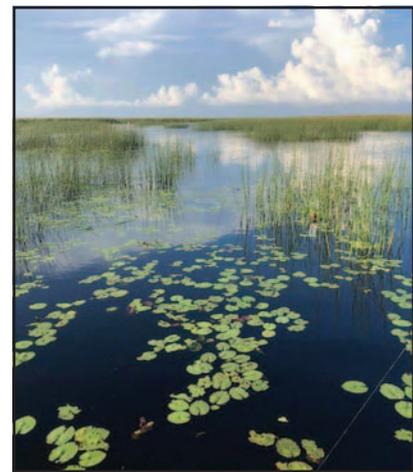


Photo courtesy of Randy Fulford
This photo, shared online by Randy Fulford, was taken July 3 inside Lake Okeechobee's Eagle Bay.

Local teens compete in international rodeo

Savannah sez... "Daddy's focus has been keeping customers comfortable for nearly 35 years"

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Okeechobee's Wireless Zone to give away school supplies

By Richard Marion
Okeechobee News

Although the first official day of summer just occurred on June 21 and school seems like a distant memory, students will begin arriving to class for their first day of the new school year in just five weeks. And a new school year means parents will be stretching their paychecks to cover the costs of school supplies.

The National Retail Federation predicted the average person with children in grades K-12 would spend \$97.74 on school supplies in 2018.

To help alleviate the rising costs of school

supplies, Wireless Zone is looking to help parents with their fifth annual School Rocks Backpack Giveaway in partnership with The Cellular Connection and the Culture of Good. It is expected to be the biggest year yet, with more than 235,000 backpacks full of supplies to be delivered in 2018.

On Sunday, July 22, at 1 p.m., Okeechobee's Wireless Zone, located at 2105 S. Parrot Ave., will be inviting Okeechobee families and their children to pick up a backpack filled with school supplies.

Okeechobee's Wireless Zone owner Jeffery Zarrella says that each backpack given away will include one spiral notebook, one glue stick, 12 pencils, one ruler, one

two-pocket folder and one pencil box.

"This is our fourth year participating in the program," said Mr. Zarrella. "It's been great. Our first year we gave out around 150 backpacks. I think they were all gone in about 30 minutes. We've increased the number to 250 backpacks this year. This is just something we're doing to help out. We're not asking people to buy anything at the store; there are no fliers inside the backpacks. It's just to help the community."

The giveaway is for school-aged children only and a child must be present with the parent during the pickup. Backpacks will come in pink camo, camo, black, gray, teal and pink.

"I've seen the stress that comes with the start of school firsthand," continued Mr. Zarrella.

"I've lived in Okeechobee for most of my life, and this is an easy way to help the community. We've already seen the impact a small thing like this can have. During the first year, I saw the excitement on the kid's faces as they picked out what color backpack they wanted and the relief on the parent's faces. There's no better satisfaction than helping people."

The giveaway will run until 4 p.m. or until supplies are exhausted.

Road Watch

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

• **U.S. 441 from south of NE 131st Lane to south of NE 224th Street:** Construction project: Crews are making improvements along 5.8 miles of U.S. 441 from south of NE 131st Lane to south of NE 224th Street. The project includes milling and resurfacing, adding a southbound left turn lane, drainage improvements, signing

and pavement markers and signalization. Motorists should anticipate daytime and nighttime single-lane closures and follow flagger direction. Expect delays and use caution—watch for workers in the construction zone. The contractor is Ranger Construction. Estimated completion date is fall of 2018.

Motorists should expect single lane closures and be prepared to follow flagger direction at the Intersection of Potter Road and U.S. 441 from Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. through 5:30 p.m.

• **U.S. 98/U.S. 441, SR 78 and the access road to Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail:** Construction project: Crews are making improvements at various locations along U.S. 98/U.S. 441, State Road 78 and

the access road to the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail in Okeechobee. Work includes sidewalk construction, shoulder widening, base work, drainage improvements, curb and gutter, guardrail removal, signing and pavement marking, signalization and lighting. Use caution and watch for workers close to the road. The contractor is American Lighting & Signalization. Estimated

completion date is spring of 2018.

• **SR 70 from SW 78th Terrace to North Parrott Avenue/U.S. 441 from SR 70 to Osceola County:** Maintenance permit project: Utility work will be close to the roadway in urban areas but further away in rural areas. Please use caution in these areas and watch for crews working close to the roadway.

Code enforcement to target Basswood

Special to the Okeechobee News

In response to the concerns of citizens, the Okeechobee County Code Enforcement Department is launching a neighborhood enhancement effort in Basswood.

On Tuesday, July 17, Okeechobee County code enforcement officers will visit the Basswood area. This neighborhood enhancement effort is intended to help property owners stay in compliance with county regulations and improve the appearance of the neighborhoods.

Code officers will inspect properties for:

- Outdoor storage, such as car parts, appliances and other items;
- Junk, trash and debris;
- Overgrown grass and weeds;
- Inoperable/abandoned vehicles; and
- Exterior property maintenance such as broken windows, damaged roofs and other types of exterior damage.

Homeowners do not need to be present during the inspection. For more information, contact the Okeechobee County Code Enforcement Office at 863-763-5548, extension 3077, or email codeenforcement@co.okeechobee.fl.us.

Okeechobee Forecast



Today: Partly cloudy skies in the morning will give way to cloudy skies during the afternoon. A stray shower or thunderstorm is possible. High around 90F. Winds light and variable.

Tonight: Partly cloudy. Low 71F. Winds light and variable.

Extended Forecast

Monday: Partly cloudy in the morning followed by scattered thunderstorms in the afternoon. High near 90F. Winds light and variable. Chance of rain 40%.

Monday Night: A few clouds from time to time. Low 72F. Winds light and variable.

Tuesday: Scattered thunderstorms in the morning. Partly cloudy skies late. High 87F. Winds light and variable. Chance of rain 50%.

Tuesday Night: Isolated thunderstorms during the evening, then skies turning partly cloudy overnight. Low 72F. Winds light and variable. Chance of rain 30%.

News from Buckhead Ridge

After a vacation absence, we learned a lot has been happening in Buckhead Ridge.

At the June 28 meeting of the Buckhead Ridge Community Association, the Glades County Sheriff's Office gave an encouraging report.

Deputy Talon Youngman, the first Seminole police deputy, reported that of 102 calls to the department during June, only one criminal event occurred. The remaining calls concerned questions, five incidents and a minor request report. The sheriff called Buckhead's report outstanding, showing great community participation. The sheriff was thanked for providing twice-a-day "drive-bys" within the community.

After a short time without a code enforcement officer, one has been hired by Glades County, and citizens' needs can be addressed by calling officer Felicia Littles at 863-946-6000.

Community Association President Daryl Lewis announced that should a hurricane threaten, those living alone, shut-ins and those who have no one to help in preparations should call him. His number is 863-467-1762.

Commissioner Tim Stanley and several county officers have attended the Small County Conference in Orlando, a report of which will be given at the July 26 meeting.

All residents of Buckhead Ridge are invited to attend these association meetings on the last Thursday of each month in the meeting room located behind the Fire Department on State Road 78. This is a time to meet new friends, learn about your community and enjoy a great potluck dinner at 6:30 p.m. and gain great information beginning at 7:15 p.m. If you have an idea or suggestion for our monthly meetings, please

contact Association President Lewis at the above-listed number.

The August meeting will be held one week early, on Aug. 23, so that information about the Aug. 28 primary can be covered. That will be a political information meeting where candidates will meet and greet residents and present their platforms.

Gloria Reese and Crystal Drake were unopposed for School Board; the School Board District 5 race is between Patricia Pearce and Steven Dobbs. The District 2 County Commission race has Donna Storter Long facing Jefferson Barnes; the District 4 contest is between John Ahern and Jerri Lynn Schlueter. Incumbent County Court Judge Jack Lundy is also on the ballot.

The deadline for registering to vote or changing your party affiliation is July 30. For more information, contact Aletris Farnam at 863-946-6005.

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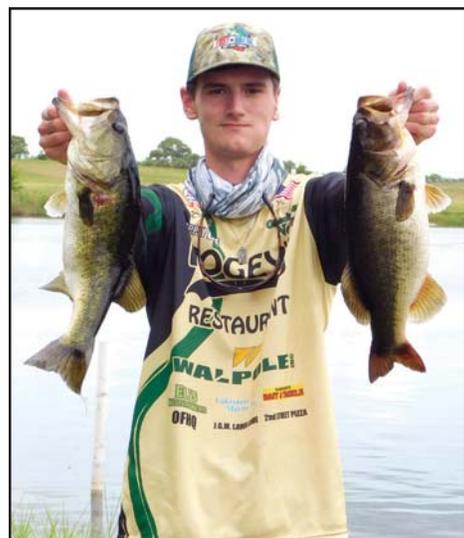
Big O Teen Anglers host June tournament



Special to the Okeechobee News/BOTA
Third place in the 11-to-15 age group is Seth Hendrix, with his bass weighing 7.30 lbs.



Special to the Okeechobee News/BOTA
Second place in the 11-to-15 age group is Tyler Scott, with his bass weighing 7.54 lbs.



Special to the Okeechobee News/BOTA
Second place in the 16-to-19 age group is David Miller, with his bass weighing 9.21 lbs.

Special to the Okeechobee News

The Big O Teen Anglers had their June tournament on Saturday, June 23, out of Okee-Tantie. The weather was beautiful and HOT, and our anglers caught a lot of nice bass, even with a three-fish limit. The biggest bass caught weighed in at 4.72 pounds, caught by Justin Hevey from our 16-19 age group, and Zack Zainitzer (11-15) caught a 3.86-lb. bass. Way to go, boys!

This month, we had 21 anglers catch 53 bass with a total weight of 118.18 lbs. First place in the 16-19 age group went to Justin Hevey, with a great catch of 12.06 lbs., and Zack Zainitzer placed first in the 11-15 age group with 9.79 lbs. Great catch, boys!

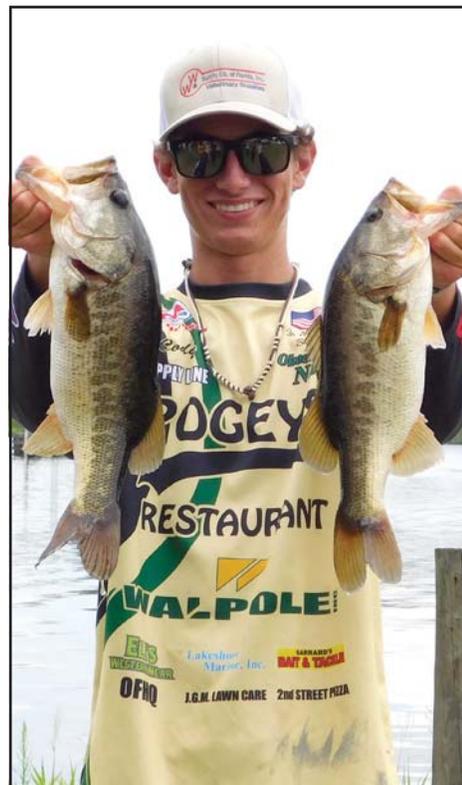
11-15 age group:

- First-place winner in the 11-to-15 age group was Zack Zainitzer, with his bass weighing 9.79 lbs. and his big fish weighing 3.86 lbs.
- Second place in the 11-to-15 age group was Tyler Scott, with his bass weighing 7.54 lbs.
- Third place in the 11-to-15 age group was Seth Hendrix, with his bass weighing 7.30 lbs.

16-19 age group:

- First-place winner in the 16-to-19 age group was Justin Hevey, with his bass weighing 12.06 lbs. and his big fish weighing 4.72 lbs.
- Second place in the 16-to-19 age group was David Miller, with his bass weighing 9.21 lbs.
- Third place in the 16-to-19 age group was Cody Wojcieszak, with his bass weighing 6.60 lbs.

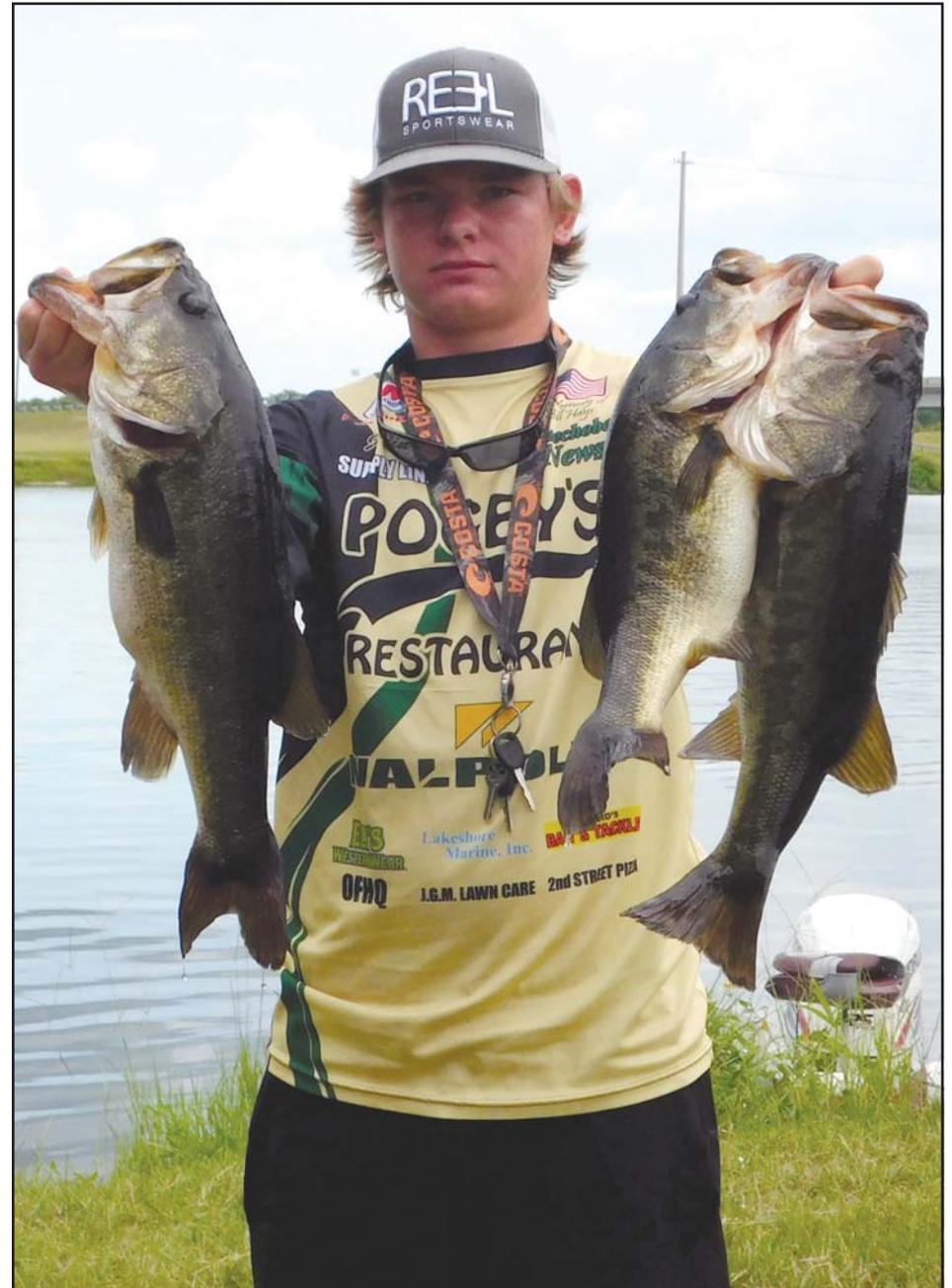
We'd like to extend our thanks to the following boat captains who volunteered their time to take our youth anglers out for a nice



Special to the Okeechobee News/BOTA
Third place in the 16-to-19 age group is Cody Wojcieszak, with his bass weighing 6.60 lbs.

day of fishing: Daniel Parker, Robert Haff, Karl Zainitzer, Mike Zubricky, John Sales, Terry Seabolt, Roger Bohannon, Mitch Mulholland, Herman Parker, Billy Ellerbee and

Jim Newell. We'd also like to thank the Melette family for providing our after-tournament lunch.



Special to the Okeechobee News/BOTA
First-place winner in the 16-to-19 age group is Justin Hevey, with his bass weighing 12.06 lbs. and his big fish weighing 4.72 lbs.

Fire/Rescue offers free blood pressure checks

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.

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Letters to the Editor

Father-daughter dance

On behalf of the Building Relationships Among Teens Club, I thank you for your continued support of the B.R.A.T. Club! The "Ties and Tiaras" event was a huge success. Many lifelong memories were made! Fathers and daughters enjoyed games, prizes, dancing and a great dinner.

We appreciate all you do!

Sincerely,
Teresa Bishop

Summer camp support appreciated

My Aunt's House recently completed another year of two summer camps, one of which was "Mr. Wendy's Basic Scroll Saw Camp." Several young boys and girls learned the basics of scroll sawing.

The second camp was Basic Sewing, and it completed its 12th summer. The girls learned to decorate tote bags with buttons,

beads and ribbon that they sewed on by hand. The girls also made decorative pillows and trifold stationary holders without a pattern. They constructed pillowcases using a "Hot dog-in-a-bun" pattern. Their favorite sewing project of all was making pajama bottoms.

On the last day of camp, the two com-

bined and had a pizza party. A fun time was had by all. We would like to give a special thank you to the Children's Services Council of Okeechobee County, because without their grant we would not have been able to give the children this wonderful experience.

Wendy and Judy Watts
My Aunt's House Inc.

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!

State FFA President

• "Congratulations to Okeechobee's own Artha Jonassaint, who was elected state FFA president! You do your hometown proud!" – K. Booker

• "And super deserved it is!" – Dede McLeod

• "Simply amazing! Artha Kristie Jonassaint, you are such a role model to so many young people. I am proud to know you!" – Leah Suarez

• "Record-breaking! Trend-setting! Continue to do big things! Super proud of you!" – Amanda Mcneil

Amadeus Hall

• "It is great to see someone from the private sector restore a historic church and give it new life. Unfortunately, the church's most recent congregation was not able to save it. This also fills a real need, as the other buildings suitable for wedding receptions and other big events are always booked solid months in advance." – Anonymous

• "Love that you chose to restore this building. Thanks for protecting Okeechobee's past." – Andrea Whitlock

• "Awesome. So glad you saved that historic building." – Peggy Middleton Simmons

• "So happy this building is seeing new life and new purpose." – Dorothy Thress Anderson

• "Another part of Okeechobee saved from the wrecking ball!" – Cap Reutebuch

July 4

• "The Okeechobee community Fourth of July celebration was better than ever at the Agri-Civic Center. The kids had a great time with all of the activities and booths inside the arena, and we were all safe from the rain. In the rainy season, you have to expect some rain. We were glad it stopped before the fireworks show. It took about an hour to get all of the cars out of the parking lot in an orderly manner, which was a lot better than the traffic snarl we had at Okee-Tantie. All involved did a great job!" – K. Booker

Dike repairs

• "First Rick Scott claimed credit for the dike repairs. Now Bill Nelson and Alcee Hastings claim credit for the federal funding. Wasn't the Army Corps of Engineers going to fund the whole thing to begin with? Politicians will take credit for anything and everything." – J. Zimpel

Algae

• "The coastal media continue to blame the lake for all of the problems on the Treasure Coast and the Caloosahatchee despite the fact that very little, if any, lake water has been sent to the east or west for more than a week. It's their own local runoff that is polluted and feeding the algae blooms. As long as they can blame the lake, they won't clean up their own back yards, and our lake gets the bad press." – Anonymous



Special to the Okeechobee News

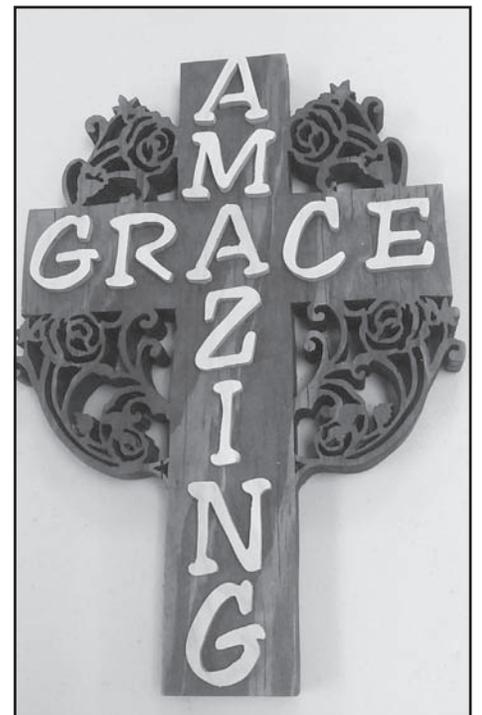
Leta Adamo, a second-year camper, made several basketball items.

Class of 1999 raising money for scholarships

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

The page states: "Here we are ... 20 years after walking across the stage in the OHS gym to receive our high school diploma. It's time for us to give back — to thank our community for taking care of us, remember the friends we walked alongside of but lost along the way, and give our support to a brighter future for the students graduating OHS in 2019. 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.

"Students must be in financial need and a senior at Okeechobee High School. Further criteria for this scholarship can be obtained from the OHS guidance office."



Special to the Okeechobee News

Justin Comfort, a third-year camper, made these beautiful crosses.

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

To Reach Us

Address: 107 S.W. 17th Street, Suite D
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To Submit News

The Okeechobee News welcomes submissions from its readers. Opinions, calendar items, stories ideas and photographs are welcome. Call (863) 763-3134 to reach our newsroom. Items may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed.

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The Okeechobee News is available three times a week via home delivery and is on sale at rack and store locations throughout Okeechobee County. Call the office to find out if your home is within our present home-distribution boundaries.

Call 800-282-8586 to report a missed newspaper or poor delivery.

Additional copies of the newspaper are available for 50 cents Wednesday and Friday and 75 cents for Sunday at the office. Home delivery subscriptions are available at \$18.00 for three months.

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Our Purpose...

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

We Pledge...

- To operate this newspaper as a public trust
- To help our community become a better place to live and work, through our dedication to conscientious journalism.
- To provide the information citizens need to make their own intelligent decisions about public issues.

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



Join the Dove Club or go primitive on St. Vincent Island

July "Outta' the Woods"

By Tony Young

Special to the Okeechobee News

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWC) 2017 Landowner of the Year Award winner, Cal Cooksey, annually plants dove fields on his family's Gadsden County property, and for the past few years has hosted youth dove hunts through the Youth Hunting Program of Florida.

"The future of hunting hinges on finding fun and exciting ways to attract new people to the outdoors and keep them engaged. Taking someone dove hunting for the first time is a great way to accomplish this," said Mr. Cooksey.

When asked what is the best thing a new hunter can do to prepare for a dove hunt, he said to shoot trap or sporting clays at a local shooting range. To find a public FWC-managed shooting range near you, go to MyFWC.com/Ranges.

"Trap shooting so closely imitates dove hunting, and the same way you have to lead that clay before pulling the trigger, it's the same as with a dove in flight," Mr. Cooksey said.

When Mr. Cooksey puts a group of hunters in one of his planted dove fields, he makes sure to space them a good, safe 150 yards apart. He says it's best if a new dove hunter can sit alongside an experienced hunter, so they can pick up tips on identifying doves. He also said there's a lot of great information available on the internet to learn how to identify doves as well as how to field dress and cook them.

"I love being able to share with others what I've had all my life, and see people get excited when they have a successful hunt and start learning about conservation," Mr. Cooksey said.

Dove Club

Because dove hunting is one of the best ways to introduce new people to hunting and enjoy time afield with friends and family, the FWC created its Special-Opportunity Dove Club Program. It offers hunters the chance to experience dove hunting on the state's best public dove fields.

Arrest Report

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

- Allen Michael Thornton, 23, State Road 70 West, Okeechobee, was arrested July 4 by Deputy Shane Bogner on a felony charge of battery. His bond was set at \$6,000.

- Shermon Maurice Gordon, 37, Southwest 28th St, Okeechobee, was arrested July 4 by Deputy Kenneth Hernandez on a Okeechobee County felony warrant charging him with resisting officer with violence. His bond was set at \$5,000.

- Tonya Louise Collins, 34, Northwest 24th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested July 3 by Deputy Timothy Miller Okeechobee

Dove Club permits enable one adult and one youth (age 15 or younger) to hunt all scheduled dates of a dove field, and each hunter gets to take a daily bag limit of birds. Hunters have the choice of applying as a "group" with up to three adult hunters, or they can apply as an individual. Permits cost \$150 per adult hunter. All hunts take place on Saturdays from noon until sunset. Scheduled hunt dates and number of hunts vary between fields.

This coming season, there will be the same five special-opportunity dove fields as there were last year.

Five fields to choose from

Frog Pond North Public Small Game Hunting Area in Miami-Dade County has historically been a top producer of harvested doves. This year, there will be 23 Dove Club permits available to hunt 120 acres planted in Japanese millet, dove proso, browntop millet and sorghum.

There are 13 Dove Club permits available to hunt the 100 acres of browntop millet at Allapattah Flats Public Small Game Hunting Area in Martin County, east of Lake Okeechobee.

Hilochee Wildlife Management Area in Lake County has 15 Dove Club permits available to hunt on 80 acres. This year, the field will be planted in Japanese millet, dove proso, browntop millet and sorghum.

Putnam County's Caravelle Ranch Wildlife Management Area has three fields that total about 125 acres, and 30 Dove Club permit holders will be able to hunt over browntop millet, Japanese millet, dove proso, sorghum, buckwheat and sunflower.

The remaining field is at Tenoroc Public Small Game Hunting Area in Polk County, with 13 Dove Club permits available to hunt the 50 acres. Planting on this field is currently delayed due to wet field conditions.

How to apply

Dove Club permits will be issued by ran-

dom drawing during Phase I. That application period runs from 10 a.m. EDT on July 6 through July 16.

County felony warrant charging her with resisting officer with violence. Her bond was set at \$5,000.

- Brittany Leighann Alfonsa, 30, South Parrot Ave, Okeechobee, was arrested July 5 by the Okeechobee Narcotics Taskforce on a felony charge possession of methamphetamine, a misdemeanor charge of possession of drug paraphernalia and a misdemeanor charge of petit theft. Her bond was set at \$1,000.

- Robert Keith Darigo, 47, US Highway 441 Southeast, Okeechobee, was arrested July 5 by Deputy Jonathon Gove on a Okeechobee County felony warrant of grand theft of a motor vehicle. His bond was set at \$5,000.

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

dom drawing during Phase I. That application period runs from 10 a.m. EDT on July 6 through July 16.

After obtaining the correct application worksheet by going to MyFWC.com/License and clicking on "Limited Entry/Quota Hunts,"

you can apply for these season passes by filling out a single worksheet (with up to five dove field choices) and turning it in at any county tax collector's office, license agent or by applying online at GoOutdoorsFlorida.com. During Phase I, hunters may be awarded a permit for only one dove field.

You can check the drawing results as early as July 20 by logging into your customer account at GoOutdoorsFlorida.com, and a pop-up message will let you know if you were successful. And any applicant who provides an email address will also be notified by

email. If you are successful in getting drawn, you can pay for it online by clicking on the "Claim" link in the "Permit Applications" section of your customer account, or at any of the above-mentioned license agents by July 30.

Dove hunters online update

Brochures on these areas are available online at MyFWC.com/Dove. You can find tips and regulations on dove hunting there as well. Also at that web address, beginning in late September, hunters will be able to find the most up-to-date harvest information on these special-opportunity dove fields. The website is updated weekly throughout dove season.

St. Vincent Island whitetail hunts

St. Vincent Island is a wonderful place that remains unchanged from what old Florida looked like. The undeveloped barrier island in Northwest Florida's Franklin County offers two white-tailed deer hunts on the 12,490-acre national wildlife refuge.

The first deer hunt is Nov. 15-17 and is an archery hunt. Only vertical bows may be used, unless a hunter has a Disabled Cross-

bow Permit, in which case a crossbow may be used as well.

During the second white-tailed hunt, hunters may use bows, crossbows and muzzle-loaders. That hunt is Jan. 17-19, 2019. There are 250 permits available for each of the two hunts at a cost of \$27.50 each.

If you'd like to experience the thrills and solitude of primitive hunting on St. Vincent Island, all you have to do is buy a permit in July.

Accessing the island

You can get to St. Vincent Island only by boat, and if you don't bring your own, you can make a deal with one of the local charter captains to take you to the island and bring you back after the hunt. For a list of boat captains that offer this service, contact the Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce at 850-653-9419.

Did I mention it's primitive?

The island has no electricity, so it's all about primitive camping for three days. You're allowed to have a small campfire, using only wood you bring with you or deadwood you find on the ground. And it's recommended that you bring a bicycle to get to and from your hunting spot.

If you harvest any game, however, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service staff will pick you and your animal up in one of their trucks. In addition, transportation to and from hunting spots and accommodations is available to hunters with disabilities.

How to get a permit

If you'd like to purchase a permit for one or both of these primitive hunts, get the appropriate worksheet by going to MyFWC.com/License and clicking on "Limited Entry/Quota Hunts." Once you've completed it, you may buy the permit at GoOutdoorsFlorida.com or from any county tax collector's office or retail outlet that sells hunting and fishing supplies, beginning 10 a.m. EDT on July 12. But you had better be quick, 'cause these permits are being offered first-come, first-served until they're gone.

If you're looking for a great hunt in a truly beautiful remote place and don't mind roughing it a bit, you will really enjoy St. Vincent Island. But make sure you're prepared for inclement weather because you never know what Mother Nature might throw at you.

OCSO Investigations

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

ASSAULT

- 900 block of Northwest 102nd Street
- 500 block of Northwest Fourth Street
- 8600 block of U.S. 441 Southeast
- 600 block of Northeast 13th Avenue
- 900 block of Northwest 102nd Street
- 42600 block of U.S. 441 North
- 1700 block of U.S. 441 North
- 2700 block of U.S. 441 South
- 2400 block of U.S. 441 Southeast

BURGLARY

- 18500 block of Northwest 240th Street
- 3400 block of Northwest 36th Avenue
- 3400 block of Northwest 35th Avenue
- 500 block of Northeast 326th Trail

- 11500 block of U.S. 441 Southeast
 - 1300 block of Northeast 138th Street
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF**
- 4100 block of U.S. 441 Southeast
 - 3000 block of Southwest 28th Street
 - 2100 block of Southwest 32nd Avenue
- FRAUD**
- 8100 block of U.S. 441 Southeast
 - 400 block of U.S. 98 North
 - 3900 block of Southeast 27th Street
- THEFT**
- 3500 block of Northwest 36th Avenue
 - 6500 block of Southeast 56th Lane
 - 2800 block of Northwest 46th Avenue
 - 4600 block of Northwest 11th Drive
 - 1100 block of Northeast 31st Terrace
 - 13800 block of U.S. 441 Southeast
 - 500 block of Northwest Fourth Street
 - 3300 block of Southeast 34th Avenue

Community Events

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BHR VFW serves breakfast

The VFW Post 9528, 29012 State Road 78 E. in Buckhead Ridge, will serve a full breakfast on Sunday, July 8, from 8:30-11 a.m. to benefit veteran's services. For information, call 863-467-2882.

Legion has Sunday bingo

American Legion 64, 501 S.E. Second St., will host Sunday night bingo on **July 8**, at 6:30 p.m. Doors 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.

Amvets host 5-card bingo

Join Amvets Post 200, 3651 U.S. 441 S.E. Suite 6, on Sunday, **July 8**, at 2 p.m. and Tuesday, July 10, at 2 p.m. for five-card bingo. For information, call 863-484-8135.

BHR Moose serves breakfast

The Buckhead Ridge Moose, 1016 Linda Road, will serve breakfast on Sunday, **July 8**, from 8 to 11 a.m. The public is welcome.

Tai Chi at the Senior Center

Starting Monday, **July 9**, Okeechobee Senior Services will again offer Tai Chi classes on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Lottie Raulerson Senior Center, 1690 N.W. Ninth Ave. These classes are offered to beginners and the experienced at no cost. For information, please call Senior Services at 863-462-5180.

Legion offers 5-card bingo

American Legion Post #64, 501 S.E. Second St., will host five-card bingo on Monday, **July 9**, from 1 to 3 p.m. with lunch served at 12:30 p.m. For information, call 863-763-5309.

Okeechobee Tractor Supply to host farmers' market

Special to the Okeechobee News

The Okeechobee Tractor Supply Co. store is hosting a Farmers' Market on Saturday, July 14. From 8 a.m. until 3 p.m., local farmers will be selling locally grown, fresh produce along with other seasonal products.

Shoppers can expect to find many goods for sale, including baked goods, homemade crafts, canned goods and arts and crafts items.

Participating vendors will have tables set up at the tented space by the storefront where they will showcase their goods:

• Everlovin Evelynns Empandas & Sassy

Widows and widowers meet

The Okeechobee Widows and Widowers group will meet Tuesday, **July 10**, at 8 a.m. at Lakeside Grill, 1111 S. Parrot Ave. New members are welcome. For information, call Jane at 863-824-8700 or Connie at 863-801-0482.

Shrine Club hosts dinner

The Okeechobee Shrine Club, 1855 S.W. 53rd St., off of SR 78 West next to Fast Break, will hold a spaghetti dinner Tuesday, **July 10**, from 4 until 7 p.m. Your \$8 donation. Open to the public and all members of the Shrine Temple. Entertainment will be provided by Jay and Patty. For information on the activities of the Okeechobee Shrine Club or to lease the club, contact the Shrine Club at 863-763-3378.

BHR VFW Aux serves dinner

The VFW Auxiliary, 29012 SR 78 E. in Buckhead Ridge, will host a dinner comprised of Sally's Big Balls and other items on Wednesday, **July 11**, at 5 p.m. to benefit veteran services. For information, call 863-467-2882.

BHR VFW serves dinner

The Buckhead Ridge VFW Post 9528, 29012 SR 78 E. in Buckhead Ridge will serve dinner on Friday, **July 13**, 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, onion rings, salad and desert. Proceeds to homeless veterans. For information, call 863-467-2882.

Democrats will meet July 18

The Okeechobee Democratic Executive committee invites the public to attend the monthly meeting on Wednesday, **July 18**, at 6:30 p.m. held at Beef O' Bradys, 608 S. Parrott Ave.

Button Bows

- Cheesy Cakes & Craftivated By Kirsch
- 441 BBQ & Mom's Tamales

"This is a great opportunity for members of our community to support local farmers while also getting to enjoy deliciously fresh food," said Todd Thomas, manager of the Okeechobee store. "As a company, we believe in fostering community relationships, and this event allows us to do just that."

This event is open to the public and will take place at 3371 U.S. 441 S. For more information, please contact the Okeechobee Tractor Supply store at 863-467-7844.

Healthy Start to meet

Okeechobee County Healthy Start Coalition Board of Directors will meet Wednesday, **July 18**, at 12:30 p.m. at The White House Plaza, 1132 S. Parrot Ave. The meeting is open to the public. The Coalition is part of a statewide network responsible for planning and implementing services for pregnant women and infants. The Coalition is made up of citizens interested in promoting healthy pregnancies and healthy birth outcomes for Okeechobee County Residents. For information, contact Kay Begin at 863-462-5877.

Chicken workshop set

SEBRING – Come learn about the basics of backyard chickens on Thursday, **July 19**, from 4 to 5 p.m. at the UF/IFLA Extension Office, 4509 George Blvd., Sebring. There is a \$10 registration fee. You can register online at www.eventbrite.com/e/backyard-chickens-tickets-4582633371 or call 863-402-6540.

Labor Day parade is Sept. 1

The 2018 Labor Day parade will be held Saturday, **Sept. 1**. A poll was conducted through Facebook and the community voted to change the event from traditional Monday to Saturday to help kick-off Okeechobee Main Street's festival in the park and Cattle-men Association's weekend rodeo events.

Awareness group meets

A support group for parents whose children have attempted suicide and for parents whose children have taken their own lives meets on the last Tuesday of the month from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Church of God, 912 N.W. Park St.

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!

Blood drives planned in July

The need for blood donations doesn't take a vacation. Blood donations are needed year round in order for area hospitals to maintain a safe blood supply, tested, processed and ready to use when the need arises. Because blood is processed into blood components, such as plasma and red cells, and each patient only receives the blood components he or she needs, one donation may help to save three lives. The bloodmobiles will be in Okeechobee in July at the following locations.

- Thursday, July 12, at Walmart from 2 to 7 p.m.
- Saturday, July 14, at the Trading Post Flea Market from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Sunday, July 15, at Golden Corral from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Saturday, July 21, at Walmart from noon to 5:30 p.m.
- Sunday, July 22, at Walmart from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Thursday, July 26, at Dr. Brown's Clinic from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Special to the Okeechobee News

T-Ball team wins districts

The Okeechobee 6u T-Ball All Stars won their district championship, going undefeated throughout their season. Back row from left to right: coaches Saul Tijerina, Justin White, Cody Storey and Mundo Cruz. Middle row from left to right: J.J. Forte, Carsyn Underwood, Caden Holland, Daniel Solorzano, Bristol Schoonmaker, Cayton Storey. Front row left to right: Bryson Schoonmaker, Avery Penrod, Zander Tijerina, Lane Richards, Ricky Brown and Josiah Cruz.

KidCare eligibility calculator is online

Special to the Okeechobee News

TALLAHASSEE — To help Florida families interested in applying for Florida KidCare, the Florida Healthy Kids Corp. (FHKC) has recently debuted a free online eligibility calculator. This new tool utilizes two key pieces of information — family size and annual household income — to estimate a family’s monthly premium payment for Florida KidCare coverage.

Florida KidCare offers quality, affordable health and dental insurance to kids from birth through the end of age 18 and encompasses the following four insurance programs: Medicaid, MediKids, Florida Healthy Kids and the Children’s Medical Services

Managed Care Plan.

FHKC estimates that more than 257,000 Florida children are currently without insurance coverage and nearly half of those children qualify for free or low-cost coverage (\$15 or \$20 per month) through Florida KidCare. Enrollment is open year-round, and the application process is completely free for Florida families. An estimated 62 percent of children in Florida are covered through Florida KidCare.

For more information about Florida KidCare, visit www.floridakidcare.org, and for more information about the Florida Healthy Kids Corporation, visit www.healthykids.org.

Based on the information you provided, your child(ren) is potentially eligible for

KidCare with a \$20 monthly premium per family.

Income/Coverage chart for a family of 2 making \$30,000 a year.



APPLY NOW

GET HELP

Results are subject to the accuracy of the information provided. This calculator does not guarantee acceptance of any application nor does it determine eligibility.

IRSC expands weekend course offerings

Special to the Okeechobee News

Fall registration at Indian River State College (IRSC) opens for all students on Monday, July 9. Students are encouraged to register early to ensure they are ready for class on Aug. 20.

IRSC and offers more than 100 programs leading to bachelor’s degrees, associate degrees, technical certificates and applied technology diplomas. Students can choose educational options that range from Quick Job Training (developing skills in a year or less) to four-year baccalaureate degree programs.

Five IRSC campuses are within a 20-minute drive for every Treasure Coast resident, and through its Virtual Campus, students may choose from hundreds of online courses each semester. Recognizing that many students have full-time jobs and family obligations that divide their attention between work, family and school, all IRSC branch campuses have expanded Friday, evening and weekend course offerings. Students are encouraged to view the online course cata-

log at www.irsc.edu prior to registration.

New students can follow these five steps to get started at IRSC:

- Visit www.irsc.edu to complete the application for admission;
- Submit their official transcripts from high school and other colleges;
- Apply for financial aid and scholarships;
- Sign up for new student orientation;
- Meet with an advisor and register for classes.

Important dates to remember for call semester:

- Aug. 9: Registration and payment deadline (online deadlines are Sunday, Aug. 12);
- Aug. 17: Late registration and payment deadline (online deadlines are Sunday, Aug. 19);
- Aug. 20: Classes begin;
- Aug. 24: Last day to drop and add classes.

For more information, visit www.irsc.edu, email info@irsc.edu or call the IRSC Information Call Center at 866-792-4772.

Rebekah Bishop Prescott

10/16/90 - 7/10/2017

The LORD will fight for you; you need only be still.

Exodus 14:14



Daughter, Sister, Wife



It’s been a year since you went to be with the Lord.

The many people whose lives you touched will never forget you.

You live Forever in our hearts

We Love the Pookie



Daddy, Mama & Siblings

LAKE

Continued From Page 1

teria that can produce toxins does not always do so.

This widely publicized NOAA image confused some who saw it. Sen. Bill Nelson, who flew over the lake on July 5, said he was pleasantly surprised that he did not see a massive bloom on the surface of the lake.

"As I flew over the lake, I was glad to see there was not algae on the 80 percent of the lake I was led to believe," he said.

Boaters who were out on the lake over the past week also reported they did not see algae.

Anglers continue to give the lake good reports for fishing this summer.

No algae was visible from the north shore at the Clif Betts Jr. Lakeside Recreation Area (aka Lock 7) last week. From the bridge at Port Mayaca, no algae was visible on the surface of the vast expanse of Lake Okeechobee. No algae could be seen near Torry Island, where Sen. Nelson and Congressman Alcee Hastings held a press conference on July 5.

An algal bloom was reported on the surface at the Pahokee marina. FDEP sampled a bloom at the Port Mayaca Lock on July 2.

Dr. Edward Philips, a professor with the University of Florida's Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, said the casual observer may not even notice the bloom.

"Massive blooms don't always start at the surface," he explained. "It can be in the water column."

Cyanobacteria have gas vesicles that act

as buoyancy control devices. The vesicles can be expanded and filled with gas, causing the cyanobacteria to float on the surface, or deflated, which causes the cyanobacteria to descend into the water column.

"Just because you don't see it doesn't mean there's nothing going on," he said.

The NOAA image does not show what the human eye sees. It's computer-generated imagery using data the satellite collects to locate concentrations of cyanobacteria in the water. Different colors on the imagery show areas of varying cyanobacteria concentration. The NOAA image does not show how many different types of cyanobacteria are present, or which types of cyanobacteria are present. They also do not show whether toxins are present.

Oceanographer Michelle Tomlinson of the NOAA National Ocean Service explained they have been monitoring satellite photos of the lake since the start of June. They do similar studies of other lakes in the United States. "The algorithm we developed for the imagery is showing cyanobacteria blooms," she explained. "So it is separating out the cyanobacteria from any other background algae in the lake. There may be some non-harmful phytoplankton mixed in there, but what you are seeing is the concentration of the cyanobacteria."

Dee Ann Miller of the Florida Department of Health explained: "Some — not all — blue-green algae can produce toxins that can contribute to environmental problems and affect public health. Little is known about exactly what environmental conditions trigger toxin production. Over time, these toxins are diluted and eventually break down and disappear. Persistent blooms are

routinely monitored and retested. Because you cannot tell if algae is producing toxins by looking at it, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) coordinates with the water management districts and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to routinely sample observed and reported algal blooms and test for algal identification and toxin levels."

Some samples taken from the lake have shown no toxins. Others have shown low levels. The World Health Organization considers levels below 10 micrograms per liter to be safe for recreational contact.

On June 18, algae from a dense film windblown against a water control structure in Palm Beach County had 1.4 micrograms per liter.

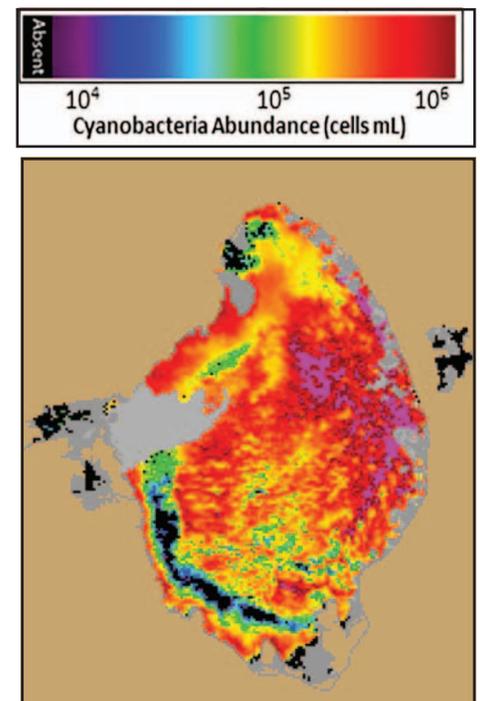
On June 25, a sample taken at the Port Mayaca Locks had 2.2 micrograms per liter. That same day, a sample taken at the Moore Haven Lock had 3.3 micrograms per liter.

On July 2, a sample taken from a surface bloom on the lake near Port Mayaca had 1.9 micrograms per liter of microcystin.

Test results on samples collected by FDEP on July 5 are not yet available.

Dr. Karl Havens, director of Florida Sea Grant and a professor at the University of Florida, said that even in a small pond, toxin levels may vary from one area of a cyanobacterial bloom to another.

In a large ecosystem such as Lake Okeechobee, sometimes the cyanobacteria won't produce toxins at all, he explained.



Graphic courtesy NOAA

This NOAA imagery from July 2 shows varying concentrations of cyanobacteria in about 90 percent of Lake Okeechobee. The imagery does not show what type of cyanobacteria is present or whether there are toxins present. About a dozen different types of cyanobacteria are commonly found in Lake Okeechobee, and only a few of those are capable of producing toxins under certain conditions. Cyanobacteria that can produce toxins does not always do so.

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'Water farming' helps reduce flow to St. Lucie

By **Katrina Elskén**
Okeechobee News

They call it "water farming." Caulkins Citrus Co., once home to orange groves, is the site of a public-private partnership to reduce harmful freshwater flows to the St. Lucie Estuary. The 3,200-acre site is adjacent to the C-44 Canal just east of Indiantown. Water from the canal is pumped into bermed reservoirs on the property, where it stays until it evaporates or percolates through the earth into the aquifer. As the water level on the water farm

drops naturally, more water can be pumped onto the property. Thomas Kenny, project manager, explained that the University of North Florida studies the project using a series of wells that were 40 feet, 80 ft. and 180 ft. deep to monitor groundwater. Solar-powered computer equipment constantly collects data. He said they found that 82 percent of the water they put into the reservoir percolates through the earth to recharge the aquifer and 18 percent of the water evaporates.

The site is ideally suited due to the soil

composition and the proximity to the C-44 Canal, he said.

"The site is sand, no muck and no hardpan," he explained. As the water filters through the earth, naturally recharging the aquifer, any excess nutrients in the water — for example, the phosphorus and nitrogen that feed algal blooms — stay on the property, instead of flowing into the St. Lucie River.

All direct rainfall is also captured on site — when it was an orange grove, excess rainfall would drain off through flood control structures.

About 2,800 acres is now covered with water about 4 feet deep.

The property is divided into cells with interconnecting pipes to move the water between the cells. Mr. Kenny explained that the smaller cells are safer than one large reservoir because they reduce the potential pressure on the berms from storm surges.

An added benefit to the local ecology: The property has turned into a natural wildlife preserve, attracting deer, turkeys and a wide variety of water birds. The waterways are filled with fish, alligators, frogs and turtles.

Thick mats of aquatic vegetation cover much of the water surface, helping to clean and purify the water.

According to a South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) news release, the public-private partnership between the SFWMD and the Caulkins Citrus Co. stores local stormwater runoff and helps reduce the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' discharg-

es from Lake Okeechobee to the St. Lucie Estuary.

"Every gallon stored counts during this high water situation," said SFWMD Governing Board member Brandon Tucker. "The state is doing its part to finish major restoration projects that will store water and protect the estuaries long-term. In the meantime, private landowners like the Caulkins family are stepping up with these public-private partnerships to do their part by giving us the flexibility we need to store water in the short term, helping reduce flows to the estuaries."

After a two-year pilot project stored more than 40,500 acre-feet of water from the canal and direct rainfall on just 450 acres, the SFWMD and Caulkins Citrus formed a public-private partnership to help store water on a much larger scale.

From May 15 to June 22, the Caulkins water farm stored more than 5,500 acre-feet of local basin runoff and Lake Okeechobee discharges on top of the 6,000 acre-feet of direct rainfall on the site, keeping that water from flowing into the St. Lucie Estuary.

"This project captured billions of gallons of water in one month and kept it from going into the St. Lucie Estuary," said George Caulkins III, president of Caulkins Citrus Co. "I think there is a lot of potential in this site and others like it to store local stormwater runoff and protect the St. Lucie Estuary."



Okeechobee News/Katrina Elskén

Solar-powered computer equipment collects data at Caulkins water farm for University of North Florida researchers. What appears to be a green field is actually aquatic vegetation floating on top of water more than 4 feet deep.

RODEO

Continued From Page 1

"Jason has been a huge help," explained McKenna. "I've been training with him for five years. I've gained a lot of experience and dramatically improved my roping during that time."

She's hoping for a repeat performance in

breakaway roping in Oklahoma at the IFYR.

The International Finals Youth Rodeo, held annually since 1993, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that presents top high school athletes with a professional rodeo. In 2017, more than 920 contestants and their families traveled from 34 states and Australia to participate in the event.

"The International Finals Youth Rodeo attracts the best youth rodeo athletes in the world," said Chris Dunlap, assistant director

of the Heart of Oklahoma Exposition Center and International Finals Youth Rodeo. "The IFYR was developed to provide a professional-level competition to high school athletes, and now, more than two decades later, the IFYR is where any hopeful rodeo champion wants to be and be seen."

Results will be posted to the IFYR website as they become available at <https://www.ifyr.com>.



Special to the Okeechobee News

McKenna Hickson and her horse Tootles on the world championship in the 19-and-under girls breakaway roping category at the 2017 junior National Finals Rodeo held in Las Vegas.



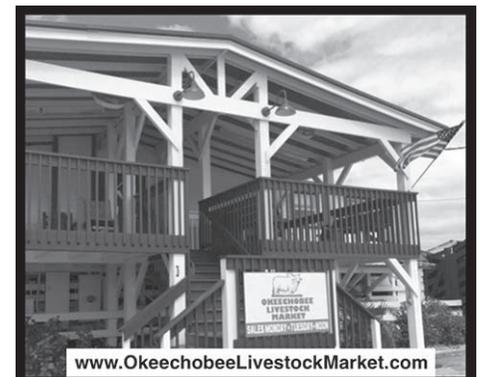
Special to the Okeechobee News

Here, Shelby Kirton is competing at the 2017 International Finals Youth Rodeo.



Okeechobee News/Katrina Elskén

Water from the C-44 Canal — which is adjacent to the property — is pumped onto the water farm, where it evaporates or percolates into the aquifer.



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Meet the officer: City police dispatcher Ericka Smith

By Matteo Tullio
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee Police Department (OPD) emergency dispatch operator Ericka Smith was born an only child in Avon Park in 1988 but has spent the entirety of her 29-year life here in Okeechobee. She would spend her summers working as an airboat tour guide.

Ms. Smith said: "My dad, Dennis, and mom, Judy, owned Okeechobee Boat Rentals and Airboat Rides located near the lake, and I would spend every day of summer there fishing and going on boat rides. I would earn tips from customers for me telling them about the wildlife they would see while on the tour." She enjoyed playing video games and board games with her family members, stating, "I loved Crazy Taxi for the Sega Dreamcast and played with my two childhood best friends, Ashley and Tori. I also like to play bingo, just my mom and I."

Ms. Smith graduated from Okeechobee High School in 2006. Her favorite courses were those in automotive, explaining: "I took auto mechanics all through high school. I've been in grease since I could walk and have always loved cars and trucks and working on them with my dad. I wouldn't change a thing about that." She said her favorite things about school were the Mexican pizzas that would be served for lunch and being with her friends, while her least favorite was having to wake up early.

Ms. Smith began her work for a grocery retailer as a cashier but progressed to be-

coming a scanning coordinator, responsible for all the signs and pricing in the store. "My first job was at U-Save, and being able to work with Mr. Johnny Gant was a great learning experience! He let me learn as much as I wanted to learn," Ms. Smith said of that employment episode.

Ms. Smith has been an emergency dispatch operator for a period of two years, one with the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office and currently one year with OPD. Although she made a switch from one organization to another, Ms. Smith said, "I love both agencies, and they have both treated me great."

When asked how her career created value in her life, Ms. Smith said, "My career, regardless of the agency, has allowed me to help people every day, and knowing that is invaluable." She is the first of her family to work in the field of law enforcement, stating, "I never thought of law enforcement as a career, but my godmother, Connie Curry, set me on this path, and I am very thankful because I love my career!" Ms. Smith said her biggest career influence has been other coworkers, explaining, "I've been influenced greatly over the past two years by being privileged to have coworkers who have many years of experience from both the sheriff's office and police department."

When she is not taking calls for OPD, Ms. Smith enjoys spending her time fishing and helping animals. "I love to fish fresh and salt-water; as long as I have my line in the water, I'm happy! Only catch-and-release, though



Ericka Smith, OPD dispatcher

Special to the Okeechobee News

— I don't eat fish. I also love to help animals when I can," expressed Ms. Smith.

She also said that if she could meet anyone from the past or present, it would be some of her former relatives. "I'd like to meet both of my grandfathers; they happened to pass away before I was born." She

said that if she could travel to a different time period, "I'd like to look 10 years into the future and see what life is like then." When asked what superhuman power she would like to possess, Ms. Smith replied, "I would like to be able to fly so I can get to places quickly in an emergency if needed."

SURF'S UP
3565 Hwy 441 N
Okeechobee
863-763-0330



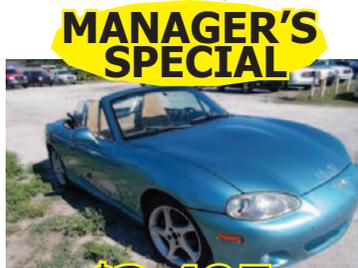
M & M
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Mitch is a "Sweetheart of a guy"...

PRICES DOWN

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Manual 5 spd



\$3,495

2003 Ford Expedition
Auto- 4 spd, leather, loaded



\$6,995

2010 Chevrolet HHR LT
Auto-4 spd



\$5,995

2007 Jeep Liberty Sport
Auto- 4 spd



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2005 Chrysler Town & Country



\$5,495

Chevy Express
Handicap Accessible Van



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WeBuy All Makes and Models Even If You don't Buy Ours

FLEXIBLE DOWN PAYMENT

2008 Chevrolet Impala LS



\$5,995

2004 Ford Mustang 137k, auto



\$4,495

Red tide reported near Florida beaches

Special to the Okeechobee News

According to the Florida Wildlife Commission (FWC), a patchy bloom of the Florida red tide organism *Karenia brevis* persists in Southwest Florida waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

This organism does not live in freshwater.

In Southwest Florida over the past week, *K. brevis* was observed at background concentrations in one sample collected offshore of Pinellas County, background concentrations in one sample collected from Manatee County, background to medium concentrations in 15 samples collected from Sarasota County, medium to high concentrations in four samples collected from Charlotte County, background to high concentrations in 12 samples collected from or offshore of Lee County, and background to low concentrations in three samples collected from Collier County.

Background concentrations were observed in one sample collected offshore of Hernando County. Additional samples collected throughout Florida over the past week did not contain *K. brevis*.

Over the past week, fish kills were reported in Southwest Florida in Sarasota County (Blackburn Bay, Captiva Beach, Caspersen Beach, Lido Key, Manasota Beach, Nokomis Beach, Siesta Key, Turtle Beach, Venice Beach, Venice North Jetty), in and offshore of Charlotte County (Boca Grande Beach, Bull Bay, Englewood Beach, Gasparilla Sound, Lemon Bay, Stump Pass Beach), in Lee County (Boca Grande Pass, Gasparilla Island, North Captiva Pass), and in Collier County (Big Marco Pass, Caxambas Pass, South Marco Island).

According to the FWC, *Karenia brevis* is a single-celled, naturally occurring organism. Large concentrations of this organism, called blooms or "red tides," can discolor water red to brown. *Karenia brevis* occurs in marine and estuarine waters of Florida and typically blooms in the late summer or early fall. Blooms develop offshore and are brought inshore by currents and winds, usually in bottom waters. Although there is no direct link between nutrients related to human activity (for example, from sewage and runoff) and the initiation of blooms, once

blooms are transported inshore, these nutrient sources can fuel them, states the FWC website.

Karenia brevis produces neurotoxins called brevetoxins that can sicken or kill fish, seabirds, turtles and marine mammals. Although less common, blooms of *K. brevis* can also contribute to fish kills by depleting the water of dissolved oxygen. Toxins can also affect humans, causing respiratory irritation if aerosolized toxins are inhaled, or shellfish poisoning if shellfish contaminated with toxins are consumed.

Red tide is a naturally occurring microscopic alga that has been documented along Florida's Gulf Coast since the 1840s and occurs nearly every year. Blooms, or higher-than-normal concentrations, of the Florida red tide alga, *Karenia brevis*, frequently occur in the Gulf of Mexico. Red tide begins in the Gulf of Mexico 10 to 40 miles offshore and can be transported inshore by winds and currents.

FWC operates the toll-free fish kill hotline. To report fish kills, contact the FWC Fish Kill Hotline at 800-636-0511 or submit a report

online. Reports from this hotline help FWC researchers track and better understand the impact of red tide in Florida.

FWC remains available to local agencies and partners in affected areas, including area business and tourism groups in Southwest Florida. Any local agency or group that has any questions or concerns may contact Kelly Richmond from the FWC at 727-502-4784.

FWC continues to partner with the Florida Department of Health to advise residents and visitors of any potential health impacts. Residents and visitors can contact the DOH's aquatic toxin experts at 850-245-4250 or contact their local health department for any concern about health safety.

FWC's Fish and Wildlife Research Institute and Mote Marine Laboratory work together to monitor *Karenia brevis*. This cooperative effort is designed to help mitigate the adverse impacts of red tide. This joint research program that includes red tide monitoring, research and public outreach and education has resulted in better tools and ongoing monitoring for red tides along the Gulf Coast.

New decals support Florida's manatees, sea turtles

Special to the Okeechobee News

Florida's waters and beaches are not only popular with people but are also key habitats for manatees and sea turtles. More of these iconic species live here than in any other state. The manatee and sea turtle decals, created by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), are a fun way for people to support the research, rescue and management efforts that conserve these species.

Every July, the FWC introduces new manatee and sea turtle decals that are available with a \$5 donation. The waterproof decals are designed to look good on a vehicle's bumper or the side of a boat. Get them when registering or re-registering a vehicle

or boat at local tax collector's offices across the state.

"Florida provides critical habitats for manatees and sea turtles," said Carol Knox, who leads the FWC's Imperiled Species Management Section. "Public support is making a difference in helping us conserve these imperiled species. Please get these decals to show your support."

Over 6,000 manatees swim in the state's coastal waters, rivers and freshwater springs, and about 20,000 sea turtles nest each year on Florida's Atlantic and Gulf coast beaches. The decals help fund manatee and sea turtle conservation efforts. For example, when someone calls the FWC's Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC (3922) to report an injured, entangled or sick manatee or sea

turtle, FWC staff works with partners to respond and rescue the animal.

The decals also spotlight important conservation issues:

- The "I'm making a difference" manatee decal shows several manatees, including a mother and calf. The back of the decal notes that the manatee is now classified as a threatened species, rather than an endangered species, under the federal Endangered Species Act. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced this change in early 2017, a signal that efforts to conserve the state's marine mammal are succeeding.

- The "Shield your lights for a sea turtle friendly night" sea turtle decal shows an adult female loggerhead on the beach against a background of darkened buildings.

The back of the decal reports nearly 97,000 loggerhead nests were counted during the 2017 sea turtle nesting season. It reminds people to manage beachfront lights to protect nesting and hatchling sea turtles during nesting season, which continues through the end of October, and offers other tips on helping sea turtles.

Learn more about how to help conserve manatees and sea turtles at MyFWC.com/Manatee and MyFWC.com/SeaTurtle, where you also can click on "Decals" to order new or past editions of decals. Go to BuyaPlate.com to purchase a "Save the Manatee" or "Helping Sea Turtles Survive" license plate that also supports those species.



These waterproof decals help finance manatee and sea turtle conservation efforts.

Special to the Okeechobee News

Online Classifieds

FloridaClassifieds.newsap.com Free Speech & Free Ads

Create Your Own Ads Online! Four weeks FREE... It's Easy!

Submit Your Free Online Classified Ad Today at FloridaClassifieds.newsap.com - Click on Classifieds

To place a classifieds ad in any of the following newspapers over the phone, call 877-353-2424

Okeechobee News • Caloosa Belle • Clewiston News • Glades County Democrat • Immokalee Bulletin • The Sun



• Online for 4 weeks - 400 words + 4 photos
• Absolutely FREE!
• Post your ads in our papers for as little as \$8 each
email:
classads@newszap.com

Miscellaneous Notices

Jonathan Sanders, MD, JD will be retiring from the day-to-day practice of medicine and closing his practice as of July 31, 2018. Until August 31, 2018, medical records may be obtained by contacting the office at 772-778-7782. After that date, contact **Clary Document Management** by calling 763-548-1320, or emailing chartcontrol@clarydm.com, or faxing 763-548-1325, or mailing: 5600 Pioneer Creek Drive Minneapolis, MN 55359.

Employment - Full Time

Employment - Full Time

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Service Technicians, Installers & Helpers

Full Time,
Experience Required

Apply within
312 SW 2nd St.
Okeechobee EOE/DFWP

Announcements

Auctions

AUCTION
Every Friday & Saturday nights at 5:30
917 SW Park St.
(Behind Ellis Western Wear)
Quality Consignments Accepted.
Watford Auction
10% BP
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AU1843 AB1583

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

Employment

Employment - Full Time

CDL DRIVERS CALL TODAY

CLASS A Must have DOT medical, drug free, clean driving history & tanker endorsement.
Call M-S(863)467-9800

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

Employment - Full Time

Radical Cosmetics is looking for personnel to work on our production lines. This position includes but is not limited to: applying labels, capping, and packaging cosmetic products. Please call 772-882-4511 for more details.

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

Employment - Medical

Administrative Assistant
STRONG organizational skills; must be computer literate; have exp. working with MS Word and Excel. Type 60 wpm. Must be Culturally Sensitive. Fax resume to (561) 472-9692 or apply at Dr. Fred Brown Children's Health Center, 2015 US Highway 441 North, Okeechobee, FL. EOE/DFWP. e-mail jobs@fchcinc.org

Medical Assistant

Full Time - Must have 1 year exp in the medical field, OB/GYN experience helpful, ability to maintain confidential info & Strong Customer relations skills. Bilingual Spanish/English pref'd. Fax resume to (561) 472-9692 or apply at Florida Community Health Center, 1100 N. Parrott Ave, Okeechobee, FL. EOE/DFWP. e-mail jobs@fchcinc.org

Financial

Business Opportunities

NOTICE

Independent Newspapers will never accept any advertisement that is illegal or considered fraudulent. In all cases of questionable value, such as promises of guaranteed income from work-at-home programs - if it sounds too good to be true, chances are that it is. If you have questions or doubts about any ad on these pages, we advise that before responding or sending money ahead of time, you check with the Better Business Bureau at 772-878-2010 for previous complaints.

Some 800 and 900 telephone numbers may require an extra charge, as well as long distance toll costs. We will do our best to alert our reader of these charges in the ads, but occasionally we may not be aware of the charges. Therefore, if you call a number out of your area, use caution.

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Merchandise

Furniture

BEDROOM SET - Queen size. Bookcase headboard. \$500 Call for details. 573-434-2173 or 863-946-1481

Pets/Supplies

FOR SALE- WHITE GERMAN SHEPARD PUPPIES, AKC REG., VET CERT. \$950.00 LOCATED IN SEBRING CALL 305-527-9762

Rentals

TIRED OF STAYING IN A MOTEL, WORKING IN OUR AREA- FULLY FURNISHED 1 and 2 BEDROOM PROPERTIES. WEEKLY OR MONTHLY RATES AVAILABLE (863) 467-4371

Apartments

OKEECHOBEE Updated 2BD/1BA \$775.00/MO. 1ST Month, Last Month & Security Deposit. Very Clean and well maintained. 12 min. outside of town off Hwy 70 East. Great setting, lawn service, on-site management, pest control included, w/d hook-up. Sorry, NO PETS. Call M-S 9am-6pm 813-956-5150

Commercial Property

TREASURE ISLAND 2100SQ. FT. METAL BUILDING 2 ROLL UP DOORS BEHIND LAKESIDE CARWASH. \$800.00/MO. YEARLY LEASE, FIRST-LAST+ SEC. CALL TAB 863-610-1027

Houses - Rent

3BD/2BA HOME WITH 2 CAR GARAGE ON 1/2 ACRE LOT IN OAK PARK \$1,200 MONTHLY AVAILABLE AUGUST 1ST CALL 863-467-8559 OR 226-339-6303

Mobile Homes

Mobile Homes - Sale

FOR SALE- DOUBLE WIDE MOBILE HOME NEW ROOF & FLOOR, LARGE YARD CALL 863-467-5477

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

Recreation

Boats

BASS BOAT - 1999 Stratus, 19 Ft. 6 In. w/a 2007 Suzuki, 4 Stroke, 175 hp. Looks and runs great! Very fuel efficient. Located in Buckhead Ridge. \$9,500. 937-409-4562 lv. msg.

Campers / RVs

Wanted all Travel Trailers, Motor Homes and Fifth Wheels. Any Condition, Cash paid on the spot Call 954-789-7530

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

Automotive

Autos Wanted

AAA Auto Analysis- All makes, all price ranges. We buy cars, trucks, and motorcycles. Established 1981. 772-260-9707

Public Notice

Public Notice

NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED ZONING RECLASSIFICATION AND CONSIDERATION OF A SPECIAL EXCEPTION

NOTICE: A PUBLIC HEARING will be held before the Okeechobee County Planning Board/Board of Adjustments and Appeals on **Tuesday, July 24, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Health Department Auditorium, 1728 NW 9th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida to consider a request for a change in zoning from the existing classification of Agriculture (A) to the proposed classification of Heavy Commercial (C-2) and to consider a Special Exception to allow package sales of wine in a Heavy Commercial (C-2) zoning district. The property owner is Hamrick & Sons, Inc. The applicant is Hankex Development, LLC. The property address is 3040 US Highway 441 N and is more particularly described as follows: A PARCEL OF LAND LYING IN THE NORTHEAST ONE-QUARTER (NE 1/4) OF SECTION 9, TOWNSHIP 37 SOUTH, RANGE 35 EAST, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 9; THENCE SOUTH 00°28'59" EAST ALONG THE EAST BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID SECTION 9, A DISTANCE OF 545.83 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE SOUTH 00°28'59" EAST ALONG SAID EAST LINE, A DISTANCE OF 253.74 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE NORTHERLY LINE OF THAT CERTAIN PARCEL DESCRIBED AS PARCEL 127-C, RECORDED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK (ORB) 446, PAGE 1835; PUBLIC RECORDS OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA; THENCE SOUTH 94°21'28" WEST ALONG SAID PARCEL 127-C BOUNDARY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 268.65 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 18°40'47" WEST ALONG SAID PARCEL 127-C BOUNDARY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 70.05 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89°06'17" WEST ALONG SAID PARCEL 127-C BOUNDARY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 61.27 FEET; THENCE NORTH 00°09'30" WEST ALONG SAID PARCEL 127-C BOUNDARY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 16.40 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89°06'06" WEST ALONG SAID PARCEL 127-C BOUNDARY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 38.87 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF STATE ROAD NO. 15 (U.S. HIGHWAY NO. 441); THENCE NORTH 00°16'23" WEST ALONG SAID EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 186.59 FEET; THENCE NORTH 00°02'37" WEST ALONG SAID EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 273.90 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE EASTERLY EXTENSION OF THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF NW 30TH LANE; THENCE NORTH 89°46'38" EAST ALONG SAID EASTERLY EXTENSION OF THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF NW 30TH LANE, A DISTANCE OF 339.90 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. CONTAINING 2.97 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

In the event that all items scheduled before the Board are not heard, the hearings shall be continued to Wednesday, July 25, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Health Department Auditorium, 1728 NW 9th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida.

A SECOND PUBLIC HEARING to consider the request for a change in zoning will be held before the Board of County Commissioners on Thursday, July 26, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in the Judge William L. Hendry Courtroom, Room 270, Historic Okeechobee County Courthouse, 304 NW 2nd Street, Okeechobee, Florida.

ALL INTERESTED PARTIES SHALL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD AT THESE

PUBLIC HEARINGS. Any person desiring to appeal any decision by the Planning Board or Board of County Commissioners with respect to any matter considered at these meetings or hearings 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. County Clerk and Community Development tapes are for the sole purpose of backup for official records of the County Clerk and of the Community Development Department.

Okeechobee County Community Development Department
1700 NW 9th Avenue, Suite A, Okeechobee, Florida 34972
Petitions R-2018-0712 and S-2018-0761
273094 ON 7/8,15/2018

Okeechobee County School Board meetings for July, August and September 2018

The Okeechobee County School Board will meet for a regular business meeting on Tuesday, July 10, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. The School Board will meet on Thursday, July 19, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., to consider advertisement of proposed millage rates and proposed budget for the 2018-19 fiscal year. The School Board will meet on Thursday, July 26, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., for a public hearing to consider adoption of tentative millage rates and the tentative budget for 2018-19. Regular School Board business will also be conducted at these meetings.

The regular August business meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 14, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. The School Board will conduct its regular monthly meeting as well as a final public hearing for adoption of the 2018-19 millage rates and district budget on Thursday, September 6, 2018. The Tuesday, September 11, regular meeting has been cancelled.

All meetings will be conducted in Room 303 of the School Board Administrative Office at 700 SW 2nd Avenue, Okeechobee, and are open to the public. 267755 ON 7/8,18/2018

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

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Public Notices

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA JUVENILE DIVISION CASE NO.: 472016DP000093

IN THE INTEREST OF:

**C.D. DOB: 12/4/2012
H.D. DOB: 12/30/2013**

Minor Children

TO: **Jessica Dunn**
Mother, address unknown

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A PETITION UNDER OATH HAS BEEN FILED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN THE ABOVE STYLED COURT FOR THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS RELATIVE TO THE ABOVE NAMED CHILDREN, C.D. WHO WAS BORN IN INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, STATE OF FLORIDA, ON THE 4th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2012 AND H.D. WHO WAS BORN IN SAINT LUCIE COUNTY, STATE OF FLORIDA, ON THE 30th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2013. YOU ARE COMMANDED TO BE AND APPEAR BEFORE THE CIRCUIT COURT IN THE ABOVE-STYLED COURT LOCATED AT 312 NW 3RD STREET, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972 ON AUGUST 13, 2018 AT 1:15 P.M. FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS ADVISORY HEARING. YOU MUST APPEAR ON THE DATE AND AT THE TIME SPECIFIED. FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT THE ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS OF THE CHILD. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED, YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS AS A PARENT TO THE CHILD NAMED IN THE PETITION ATTACHED TO THIS NOTICE.

BE ADVISED THAT YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO HAVE AN ATTORNEY REPRESENT YOU IN THIS MATTER. IF YOU CANNOT AFFORD AN ATTORNEY, ONE MAY BE APPOINTED FOR YOU. WITNESS MY HAND AS THE CLERK OF SAID COURT AND THE SEAL THEREOF THIS 10th DAY OF JUNE, 2018.

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK
KIM SARROS, DEPUTY CLERK
269542 on 6/17/24/7/1,8/2018

Administration of Estates

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO: 47-2018-CP-021

IN RE: The Estate of **WILLIAM THOMAS ROSEWALL**, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Formal Administration

The administration of the Estate of **WILLIAM THOMAS ROSEWALL**, Deceased, whose date of death was December 6, 2017, and whose last four digits of his social security number is 4762, Case Number 47-2018-CP-021 is pending in the Circuit Court for Okeechobee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Okeechobee County Judicial Center, 312 NW 3rd Street, Suite 125, Okeechobee, FL 34972. The name and address of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below.

If you have been served with a copy of this notice and you have any claim or demand against the decedent's estate, even if that claim is unmaturing, contingent or unliquidated, you must file your claim with the court **ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF A DATE THAT IS 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER YOU RECEIVE A COPY OF THIS NOTICE.**

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

ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. EVEN IF A CLAIM IS NOT BARRED BY THE LIMITATIONS DESCRIBED ABOVE, ALL CLAIMS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN FILED WILL BE BARRED TWO YEARS AFTER DECEDENT'S DEATH.

The date of the first publication of this Notice is: July 1st, 2018.

KELLY MALISSA LYNN JAMES
Personal Representative
1025 SE Salerno Road
Stuart, FL 34997

Administration of Estates

Law Office of **CASSELS & McCALL**
BY: JOHN D. CASSELS, JR.
Attorney for Personal Representative
FBN: 0261521
Post Office Box 968
Okeechobee, FL 34973-0968
(863) 763-3131
jdc@legal-one.com
pleadings@legal-one.com
271626 ON 7/1,8/2018

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No wonder newspaper readers are more successful!



SUDOKU

		1	5					
		6		3		5		9
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		3		8			5	
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Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

- ACROSS**
- Spot for a ride?
 - Floored
 - Pinking sound
 - Meteorological prefix
 - "United States of Tara" Emmy winner Collette
 - Corsair's syllables
 - Colleague of Charms teacher Flitwick
 - Fly, commonly
 - "Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella," e.g.
 - Masters home
 - Chef's staples
 - Shimmering South American denizens
 - "Earth still holds ___ her gate": Thomas Nashe
 - Juvenile
 - Man in black
 - Harvard's motto
 - They'll put you down
 - 2000s Vienna State Opera conductor
 - Joelle Carter's "Justified" role
 - Geriatrics concerns: Abbr.
 - Canterbury tales subject
 - Jet Tila and Mario Batali
 - Not as much
 - Stop on the Turin-Genoa railway
 - Pad ___
 - Place to find an argument, perhaps
 - Best selling point
 - Smokescreen
 - Myrrh, e.g.
 - Get in on the deal
 - Goes (for)
 - Lifted
- DOWN**
- Condominio, por ejemplo
 - ___ mirabilis: wonderful year
 - When Star Wars began
 - Shot container
 - Inflicts on
 - Land down under?
 - Hurt, as feelings
 - All ears, say
 - One cutting in the kitchen
 - Abstract
 - 2007 #1 hit for Alicia Keys
 - "It's been said ..."
 - Exit ___
 - 31-syllable Japanese poem
 - "Dandy for your teeth" toothpaste
 - Lacto-___ vegetarian
 - Candy created in Austria
 - K-Cup competitor
 - Fantasy lit initials

- Sancho's "steed"
- Keep from spreading
- Sentence opener in many teens' stories
- Parisian fruit pie
- Where to see some kites
- Scold vigorously
- Appraised (of)
- 1961 Lenin Peace Prize recipient
- 42 Keep from spreading
- 43 Spelling experts?
- 44 Get-go
- 45 1953 A.L. MVP AI
- 46 Trouble greatly
- 47 Mail lead-in
- 48 Spanish morsel
- 49 Newcastle's river

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

E	D	I	T	S		M	I	C		N	E	G	R	I							
N	O	R	A	H		O	R	O		E	Q	U	U	S							
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R	H	O	D	A		K	E	G		D	I	D	S	T							

xwordeditor@aol.com

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	
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17						18					19				
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By Julian Lim
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REAL ESTATE DIRECTORY



Mixon Real Estate Group is proud to welcome to our TEAM CINDY BRANDEL

Okeechobee is Home! Cindy and her Husband Mark have grown their family here and established Brandel Construction 22 years ago. Construction and selling homes makes for a natural transition into the real estate profession. Cindy is committed to providing excellent customer service with attention to detail.

STOP BY OR CALL CINDY TODAY!
(863) 634-7022 (Lic. Realtor)
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NE SECTION~ 4bd/2ba 1973 manufactured home on 1 acre, fully fenced. 2,830 sq feet under roof, Wood burning fireplace. Spacious laundry/utility w/new dryer in 2018. Encl Fl room runs length of home, screened patio, attached 2 car carport, above ground pool installed 2016, new pump in 2017. Septic pumped in 2018, New well pump in 2015, metal roof in 2008. Detached 512 sq ft work shop w/ carport overhang.

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Julia Parker

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PALM VILLAGE - 55+ COMMUNITY. Waterfront 3B/2Ba with a view that's breathtaking! Enclosed FL room with glass sliders. Large screened porch w/utility room and huge shed. Plenty of parking (pavers) for trucks and boats or cars. MLS #212620 **\$158,000 Call Jody 863-634-1285**



HALF ACRE WITH DWMH ON THE RIM CANAL. 3 Bed 2 bath, Fenced with a gate. Additional half acre lots are available- 3 total. Bring the family for some fishing and rim canal living! This is a cutie! Home comes completely furnished and is Beautiful! **Call Jody Carter 863-634-1285**



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DESIRABLE SOUTHWEST SECTION- 3 Br/3 full bath home. Open-concept living. Kitchen has stainless steel appliances, granite counter tops. Two sets of french doors leads to 12x32 FL room. Home sits on .72 acre lot! Brand new roof being installed. MLS 212755 **\$310,000 Call John Michael 863-697-1992**



OKEE HAMMOCK Built in 2006 this 2Br/1Ba home has a very sizable living room. Adjacent to living area is the kitchen which has a partial wrap around bar & small breakfast nook. Property would make a great starter home for a small family. Call today. MLS 212668 Asking **\$140,000 Call Ethan 863-634-4074**

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Sharon Prevatt, 863-634-7069
David Hazellief, 863-610-1553
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NEW LISTING

4001-M: Blue Cypress 1BD/1BA, 1,112 Total Sq Ft, Merit Park Model. Neat, clean and cute! Screened porch, shed, paved driveway. HOA, Active comm w/ amenities including golf course, pool, clubhouse, fishing and lots more **\$69,000 MLS # 212782**

2002-H: Taylor Creek 5BD/3BA on a beautiful lake access lot, balcony overlooks the water. 3,226 Total Sq Ft/2,358 under air, spacious open concept w/family rm & fireplace. Screened back porch with fenced back yard, seawall and boat dock. **\$265,000 MLS # 212118**

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BASSWOOD AREA- 2Br/1Ba with a bonus room that could be used as a bedroom, completely remodeled. Asking **\$105,000 Call John Michael 863-697-1992**



LARKEE LAKES- 2BD/2BA DWMH on 3 lots, located on East side of town. Great for commuting. Fenced yard with large gate for privacy and easy access. Metal roof, Hardy Board siding, carport with storage shed, and screened back patio. Owner is a Real Estate Agent. MLS 211686 **\$82,000 Call Brandi 863-447-8264**

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TAYLOR CREEK ISLES 2BD/2BA DWMH.
Large Florida room, lots of storage. Boat lift and patio. Must see! 10 minutes by water to lock. **\$174,900**
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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 **\$329,000** Call Vangela McFarland (863) 261-3630

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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



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



FOUR SEASONS Spacious 4Bd/2Ba home on 1/2 acre. 2,052 under air. Open concept kitchen with solid wood cabinets, tile floors. Newly remodeled bathroom with lots of upgrades, huge master suite. 2 Large outbuildings built in 2013 and a shed. MLS 212742 **\$132,000**. Contact Samantha Saucedo (863) 801-2101



8.89 ACRES

BRAND NEW - STILL IN CONSTRUCTION PHASE-Located in exclusive Sherman Wood Ranches. 3Br/2Ba with 2,450 sqft living and 3,218 sqft TLA. Recessed lighting, hybrid elec water heater, hurricane windows, all wood cabinets, granite countertops, ss appliances. ALL THE UPGRADES! **\$549,900** Call Jerri Lynn Hill (863) 634-6796

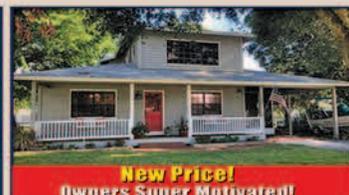


OASIS VILLAGE - Spacious 3Br/2Ba DWMH in this lovely 55+ plus community! Large kitchen with island, laminate wood & tiled floors through out, Florida room, huge carport, shed. Community offers a Pool, Laundry facilities, Shuffle Courts, Bocce Ball, Community Hall. Lawn care is included! MLS 211835 **\$89,900**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



New Price! Owners Super Motivated!
MOUTH OF TAYLOR CREEK- Adorable 3 Br/2Ba home on the canal. Huge Master in loft with 2 additional bedrooms down stairs. Pine Floors, Brick Fireplace, Oak Cabinets w/ Quartz Counter tops, Stainless Appliances, 2 porches, security system, Amazing brick kitchen floors. cathedral ceilings. MLS 212749 **\$185,000** 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



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INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY - 7 unit mobile home park in Treasure Island with Lake O access - **\$299,000**

80+/- Acre Gentleman's Cattle Ranch **2 Homes with 75+/- Acre Equine Horse Farm**



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



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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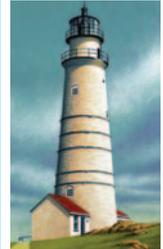
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