

Salute to Independence *featuring* Saluting Our Soldiers

Around Lake O, Fourth of July brings fireworks, concert and laser light show

Special to the Lake Okeechobee News

There will be plenty of fireworks – and a laser light show – to light up the sky around Lake Okeechobee on Sunday, July 4 as the lakeside communities celebrate the nation's Independence Day.

Okeechobee

Independence Day will bring a fireworks celebration at the Agri-Civic Center, 4601 State Road 710, in Okeechobee, courtesy of the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 69, J.D. Mixon and Matthew Paul Buxton. The evening's events will include games and food. CDC guidelines regarding face masks and general health precautions will be followed.

The amazing fireworks display will be choreographed by Zambelli Fireworks International. Presenting sponsor is Florida Public Utilities Company.

Gates to the Agri-Civic Center will open at 5 p.m. The games will start at 6 p.m. The fireworks will start at approximately 9 p.m., based on weather and light conditions.

Parking will be on a first-come, first-serve basis and holding spaces in order to occupy large areas will not be permitted. If you want to park near a certain group of friends, it is recommended to "convoying" to the facility so you can park together. Travel around the facility once parked will be discouraged.

There is no cost for businesses and individuals that would like to participate with a booth, but all vendors must provide a fun, free game for the kids. The only things that may be given away are bottled water, candy, or healthy pre-packaged snacks.

Moore Haven

The third annual Star Spangled Spectacular will be held on Saturday, July 3, from 7 a.m. until the last grill goes out at the Chalo Nitka Fair Grounds, 998 S. U.S. 27, in Moore Haven. Festivities includes a Rib Cook Off, corn hole contest, Best Patriotic Dressed Team contest, food, fun and games. All proceeds to be donated to Explorer Post 660. For information, call Jeff at 863-228-5162, Stacy at 863-843-5591, Patrick 863-885-2654 or Jake at 863-673-9118.

In Glades County, Moore Haven will host fireworks on Sunday, July 4 at the Alvin Ward Sr. Memorial Park on Hoover Dike Road at "darky-thirty."

Clewiston

Come on out to the Sugarland Sports Complex on July 4, for Fourth of July fun in Clewiston. The food booths will open at 6:30 p.m. and the fireworks show will

begin promptly after dark. Don't forget to tune into WAFC as you are watching the fireworks show! Food and beverages will be available by Old South Barbeque, Hawaiian Shaved Ice, Clewiston Police Explorers and the Clewiston High School Cheerleaders.

Belle Glade

The City of Belle Glade and the Belle Glade Chamber of Commerce will present Funfest on the Island on Sunday, July 4, on Torry Island, 5000 W Canal St. N. The fun starts at 4 p.m. There will be food, music, water slides and more! The Golf Cart Parade starts at 7 p.m., followed by a Tina Turner Tribute concert at 7:30 p.m. and the fireworks at dusk. Food vendors will include Bunky's BBQ, Granny's Seafood, Florida Kettle Corn, Pahokee O's Shaved Ice and more.

Pahokee

A laser light show will be part of Fourth on the Marina celebration at the Pahokee Marina and Campground, 190 N. Lake Ave., on July 4. Festivities will be from 6 to 10 p.m. Food booths, including Pahokee O's Shaved Ice, will be set up on the dike. Fireworks will start at dark.



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The communities around Lake Okeechobee plan to celebrate the Fourth of July with fireworks shows and more.



Animal Control urges pet owners to prepare for upcoming fireworks

By Danika J. Fornear

Lake Okeechobee News

CLEWISTON — Clewiston Animal Control have been working to remind the public of the problems that often come along with pets and fireworks.

According to the American Animal Hospital Association, "More pets go missing around the 4th of July than any other time of year, and noisy fireworks are to blame."

"With 4th of July fast approaching we want to remind all pet owners to begin preparation for their pets," Clewiston Animal Control wrote in a recent public service announcement.

"Between July 4-6 shelters across the US are the busiest with missing pet reports. Please take a moment to assure your pet is safe and secure this year."

National statistics report animal control officials across the country see a 30-60% increase in lost pets each year between July 4 and 6. In fact, July 5 is one of the busiest days of the year for shelters.

Clewiston's Animal Control officers recommended a few simple things you can do to keep your pet safe:

1. Provide them a quiet safe space such as a kennel or room.
2. Update your pets microchip contact information- if they have one, if they do not please get one.
3. Make sure they have proper identification on such as collar/ID tag.
4. Call your veterinarian NOW and NOT



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Moses, and many other dogs and cats, find themselves at Animal Control through no fault of their own.

July 3 to prescribe any calming medications if needed.

5. Walk your dog in advance during the day to tire them out or alleviate any energy before fireworks.

They went on to say, "For any outside animals such as livestock please make sure all fencing or pens are secure, you can also braid or tie an ID tag with your contact info to your animals mane/tail or you can also write your contact information on hooves with nontoxic markers."

For more tips or questions on how you can keep your pets safe during Independence Day, call your local veterinarian or animal control officers.

Clewiston Animal Control can be reached by calling 863-983-1474.

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AAA offers tips for a safe Fourth of July



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Get ready for extra traffic over the Fourth of July. Despite gas prices at the highest level in seven years, AAA estimates a record-breaking 43.6 million Americans will drive over the holiday weekend.

The Fourth of July is traditionally one of the most dangerous times to be on the road with an increase in drunk drivers and deadly crashes.

Whether you're taking a road trip or just traveling closer to home, SafeAuto is encouraging drivers to play it safe this Fourth of July:

- Be safe while driving — If you're planning to attend a Fourth of July party,

don't drink and drive. Keep your phone out of reach while driving to limit any potential smartphone-based distractions. If you're using your phone to navigate, program your route ahead of time and turn on audio directions.

- Essential items to keep you safe — A first aid kit and bottles of water are two items to have that could save your life if you get in an accident or your car breaks

down. You shouldn't leave home without a portable phone charger or walking shoes in case you need to walk to a gas station or away from danger.

- Don't drive without insurance — People have been driving less during the pandemic, and as a result, may have let their coverage lapse. Don't get behind the wheel until you make sure you're covered.

Adopt an animal for \$4 July 1-4

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WEST PALM BEACH — Mark your calendars for Thursday, July 1 through Sunday, July 4 as PBC Animal Care and Control, a division of the Public Safety Department offers an adoption promotion you won't want to miss! All animals are only \$4 to adopt, in honor of the 4th of July! Whether you're looking for a dog or cat, rabbit or pig, your new best friend is waiting for you! Your newly adopted pet will be spayed/neutered, microchipped, current on vaccinations, come with a free bag of Science Diet pet food and much more!

Adoption center hours are:

- Monday - Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

- Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- *Closed on Monday, July 5

After the 4th, the remainder of July will focus on cats and kittens, during the "Red, White and Mew!" adoption promotion. "Name Your Price" adoptions will be in effect and if you adopt one kitten, you can adopt a second one for free!

Save a life and opt to adopt! Animal Care and Control is located at 7100 Belvedere Road in West Palm Beach.

Visit www.pbcgov.com/snap for more information or to see a listing of all animals available for adoption. For general questions, please call 561-233-1200.

2021 Freedom Week Sales Tax Holiday is July 1-7

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NAPLES — Thinking about buying a new bicycle? A new gas grill or fishing pole?

Take advantage of the 2021 Freedom Week Sales Tax Holiday that runs from Thursday, July 1 through Wednesday, July 7.

Passed by the Florida Legislature and signed into law by Gov. Ron DeSantis, the Freedom Week Sales Tax Holiday provides Floridians with the opportunity to purchase a variety of outdoor recreational items without having to pay sales tax. The Freedom Week Sales Tax Holiday applies to purchases of outdoor recreational items including bicycles, barbecue grills, boating supplies, camping equipment, fishing equipment, sports equipment and

water activity supplies including kayaks and canoes.

The sales tax holiday also applies to admission to entertainment-based events including concerts, festivals, movies, sporting events and theatrical performances.

Qualified items purchased on the internet are also tax-exempt when the order is accepted during the sales tax holiday period. However, residents are encouraged to support our local economy by shopping locally. All businesses are reminded that they are responsible for correctly exempting qualifying items.

For more information about the 2021 Freedom Week Sales Tax Holiday, or to view the full list of qualifying sales tax free items, visit www.floridarevenue.com.

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In honor of
Lindy Farrell
US NAVY

Thank you for your service to our country
and love for our family.

- Sonny Elliott, Diane Elliott, and
Kathy E. McGee



In honor of
John C. "Buddy" Hancock
US ARMY

Thank you for your service.

- Esther Hair



In honor of
Ronald A. Hair
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Thank you for serving your country.

- Esther Hair



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A Salute to all our Local Solders Current, Veteran & Fallen

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In Memory of
Arthur C. Lapp
of the 484th
Army Air Corp, WWII.

In memory of our Dad.
Love, Shirley Palmer
and Sharon Cannon Jones



In honor of
Tanner E. Dailey

In honor of my best friend,
and the uncle to my children.
We love you!



In honor of
Aaron M. Hand II

In honor of my son currently
serving in the USN. You rock!
Love, Mom, Sis, & Tony.



In honor of
Earnest Gene Rhodes
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In Memory of
Marvin J Ruble

He served in the Army 1964-1969.
A Vietnam veteran, he participated in
the 2018 Honor Flight.



In honor of
James Wilkerson Sr

Vietnam 173rd Airborne Brigade!
United States Army Paratrooper
Our HERO! Our Dad
Missy, Jamie, Jeneane, Orrin and Vance



In honor of
Reginald King

Thank you for your service.



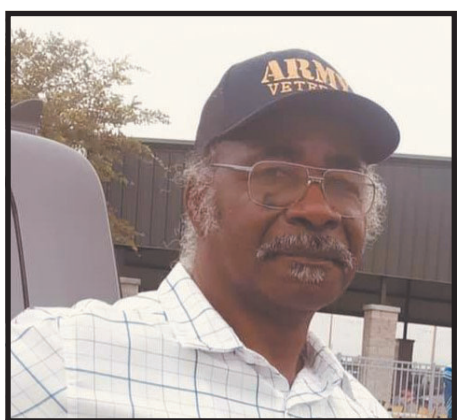
In honor of
Carlos Tobias

Thank you for your service.



In honor of
Wayne Reese

Thank you for your service.



In honor of
Dean G. Reese

Thank you for your service.



In honor of
Jason Viens (Air Force Active) & Scott Viens (Army Retired)

I am so very proud of you both. Thank you for your service.



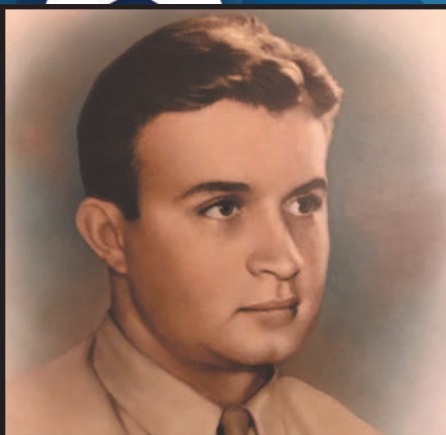
Honoring Our Veteran, Garry Smith,
Air Force, and all those who served

*“Oh Long May It Wave O’er the Land of
the Free and the Home of the Brave!”*
– Francis Scott Key



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