

Okaloosa County News Release

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Kathy Newby, 850.651.7515, knewby@co.okaloosa.fl.us

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Commissioner Ketchel Includes Indigents in All Souls Day Nov. 2nd

On November 2, 2016, at the Beal Memorial Cemetery, Okaloosa County's unclaimed dead cremains will be memorialized and buried. Additionally, a book will be kept at the cemetery to document those lives and date of death. Not only the names of the 67 buried November 2, but also the names of all the people of Okaloosa County cremated since 1999, when the County began managing the unclaimed dead. **The ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. and the public is invited.**

“When I learned we (the County) were responsible for this, I just felt we could do it better, and I want to thank my fellow Commissioners, the City of Fort Walton Beach, as well as local churches who raised funds, funeral homes and even citizens, who have helped make this a reality.” said Commissioner Carolyn Ketchel. The area for burials, named Lazarus Field, was purchased at the Beal Memorial Cemetery by Okaloosa County. “The names are written in the book and in the future, family members can visit Lazarus Field, find their loved ones in the book and see where they are buried, in a dignified and simple ceremony.” she added.

All Souls Day is a holy day in some denominations, set aside for honoring the deceased.

Commissioner Carolyn Ketchel can be reached at (850) 651-7105. Email Commissioner Ketchel at cketchel@co.okaloosa.fl.us. Please access our website for more information at www.okaloosafl.com, or email or call the 311 Citizens Information Line anytime.

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