

Home Destroyed By Fire

By Jacob Bemby
Greene Publishing, Inc.

Firefighters responded to a house fire on Jersey Road early Monday night, Jan. 2.

According to reports, the fire started when an ember in a wood heater escaped and went

behind a wall. When firefighters responded to the home, which was owned by Jack Hunter and occupied by Justin and Karagan Surlles, they thought they could handle the blaze but a mighty gusting wind would not allow them to control

it.

The home was a total loss. Firefighters responded from Cherry Lake Fire & Rescue, Madison Fire & Rescue, the Hamburg-Lovett Volunteer Fire Department and the Pinetta Volunteer Fire Department.

November Another Very Dry Month

By Lazaro Aleman
Special from ECB Publishing, Inc.

Typically the driest month of the year, November didn't disappoint this year, with an average of 1.57 inches of rain falling across the district during the month.

The 1.57 inches represents 67 percent of the long-term average for the month, which is 2.34 inches, according to the latest hydrologic condition report issued by the Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD).

"Localized areas in Taylor and Lafayette counties saw as much as four inches, while parts of Madison and Jefferson received less than half of an inch," the report states. "A narrow band of up to five inches fell in the southern part of the Suwannee basin in Georgia, but most of the basin received less than normal rainfall."

Meanwhile, the district's average 12-month deficit dropped slightly, from 8.9 inches in October to 8.4 inches in November, according to the SRWMD.

The report shows Jefferson County received 0.56 inches of rainfall in November, compared with the November average of 3.44 inches. The county received 6.66 inches of rainfall during the last three months and 40.86 inches during the last 12 months.

Madison County, meanwhile, received 1.23 inches in November, compared with the November average of 3.12 inches. Madison County received 8.67 inches during the last three months and 45.91 inches during the last 12 months.

River flows remained extremely low across the district during November, with a few rivers setting new records for low daily flows and the Aucilla River ceasing to flow at the Lamont gauge.

Lake levels also remained generally below their long-term average levels, with the exception of one lake in Bradford County. Sneads Smokehouse Lake in Jefferson County was reported at its lowest recorded level for the fourth consecutive month.

As for groundwater levels, record and all-time lows were recorded at various of the district's monitored wells.

"Average conditions across the district, compared to both historic November data and all data, fell to the 5th percentile, making November the ninth consecutive month with conditions below the 25th percentile (based on records beginning no earlier than 1978)," the SRWMD report states.

The U.S. Geological Survey categorizes all river basins in the district as being under severe drought.

The SRWMD continues urging voluntary reduction of water consumption. It reminds residents that landscape irrigation is limited to one day per week through March, "based on a water conservation rule that applies to residential landscaping, public or commercial recreation areas, and public and commercial businesses that aren't regulated by a district-issue permit."

The district compiles the hydrologic conditions report using water resource data collected from radar-derived rainfall estimates, groundwater and surface water levels, and river flows, among other variables.

The district encompasses all or parts of 15 counties in north-central Florida, including Madison County and the eastern half of Jefferson County.

Financial Planning Seminar Set



A Lay Stewardship Conference entitled "Christian Financial Planning" Seminar, provided by the Florida Baptist Convention Stewardship Department, will be held at the Associational Office on Monday night, January 9, beginning at 6:30 pm and concluding by 9 pm.

This conference is along the lines of Dave Ramsey's financial planning materials and is FREE!

If you should have any questions regarding this conference, please call me Matt Swain, Stewardship Director MFBA, at 386-209-0241.

For more information, please call (850) 973-8607.

Local Resident Thelma Thompson Publishes Book

By Lynette Norris
Greene Publishing, Inc.

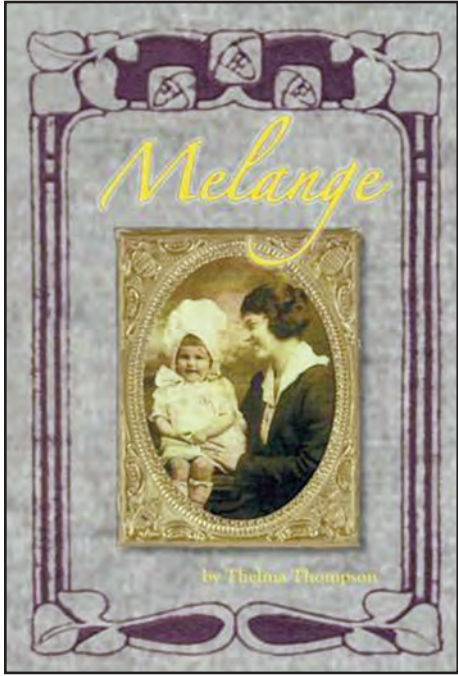
Longtime Lee resident Thelma Thompson has published a book of poetry and prose, available now in paper back from the Barnes and Noble website.

The title of the book, *Melange*, comes from the Latin word meaning "bits and pieces" said Thompson when describing her book. The book contains about 100 poems, she said, along with several prose pieces that she has written over the years, "but mostly, it's poetry."

Two poems that come to mind when she is asked which ones are her favorites, are two poems written about her by her daughters. One, "This Lady and I," was written by her daughter Vicki Langford, who also lives in Lee in a house right behind her mother's. The other poem, of which Thompson can't recall the title right offhand, was written by her daughter Gloria Bynum.

There are also two poems she wrote in memory of two of her children who passed away, another daughter, Diane, whom she lost at age 46, and a son, Mike, who died at age 36.

Although there is really no common theme, just "bits and pieces" as the title suggests, a lot of the poems do



deal with her family history.

She also has a collection of prose pieces about "the language of nature," she said. "I wrote about how everything in nature has a voice...storms, trees, birds...everything speaks with its own voice."

It has been a long time since she first sent it off for publication to AuthorHouse in Indianapolis back in April, and since then, there have been a few mishaps that come from dealing with a large corporation; whenever she called, it seemed that things and people had been shuffled around to different offices, and her son, who had agreed to act as her agent, filling out the necessary paperwork and sending it in, received a letter from the publishing house congratulating him on "his" new book. Also, the company was supposed to send her a free copy of her book a long time ago, but she is still waiting for it.

The 172 page book is currently available online through the Barnes and Noble website.

Wednesday's County Commission Agenda

Agenda For The Regular Session Of The Board Of County Commissioners Of Madison County, FL, To Be Held At The Commissioners Meeting Room Courthouse Annex, Wednesday, January 4, 2012, 9:00 A.M.

- Roll Call
 - Adoption Of The Agenda
 - Petitions From The Public – Five (5) Minute Limit
 - Approval Of The Minutes From The Regular Meeting Held December 21, 2011.
- Department Reports**

- Constitutional Officers
- County Attorney
- County Coordinator

Consent Agenda

- Approval of Sheriff's Department Expenditure of State Confiscated Currency for \$3,300.00.

- Budget Amendment Request for Old Health Department Heating and Air Conditioner for \$3,640.00.

Public Works Department

- Discussion Regarding Resurfacing NW Honey Lake Road – Mr. Lonnie Thigpen.

- Review with Possible Approval of Lease for Solid Waste Roll-off Truck – County Coordinator and Mr. Jerome Wyche.

- Review with Possible Approval of Leases for Road Department for Two Dump Trucks – County Coordinator and Mr. Lonnie Thigpen.

- Discussion of Possible Sale of Used Trucks from the Solid Waste and Road Departments.

- Approval to Obtain Maintenance Map for SW Wonderwood Street – Mr. Lonnie Thigpen.

Unfinished

Business

- Discussion Regarding Sale Options for County Owned Property.

New Business

- Approval of Workforce Resolution Supporting Recommendations Related to Fiscal Accountability – Ms. Sheryl Rehberg.

- Discussion Concerning Changing the Meeting Times of the Regular County Commission Meetings – Commissioner Parrish.

- Approval to Waive Recreation Park Fees for Relay for Life Softball Tournament – County Coordinator.

First District Court Of Appeal Judicial Nominating Commission Notice Of Interviews

The First District Court of Appeal Judicial Nominating Commission met on Dec. 29 and selected the following 21 applicants for further consideration for the vacancy created by the resignation of Judge Paul M. Hawkes:

- Gary L. Bergosh
- Meredith Charbula
- J. Clifton Cox
- Gerald B.

- Curington
- James H. Daniel
- Charles W. Dodson
- Stephen C. Emmanuel
- Kelton Farris
- Craig D. Feiser
- Glenn P. Gifford
- Brant Hargrove
- Michael J. Hauversburk
- Claude Robert Hilliard
- Kenneth L. Hosford

- Scott D. Makar
- Eric H. Miller
- Miguel Antonio Olivella, Jr.
- Timothy D. Osterhaus
- Steven E. Sellers
- Clifford A. Taylor
- Waddell A. Wallace, III

The Commission appreciates the many outstanding applicants who offered to serve the citizens of Florida

in the very important capacity of appeals court judge. Interviews of the applicants will be conducted on Jan. 5 and 6, at the First District Court of Appeal, 2000 Drayton Drive, Tallahassee. Interested persons may contact the chair for the interview schedule. Interviews are open to the public. However, the chair requests that vis-

itors come and go during transitions between interviews as a courtesy to the applicants.

The JNC welcomes comments on the qualifications of any of the applicants. Those wishing to comment should do so in writing to Michael J. Glazer, Ausley & McMullen, P.O. Box 391, Tallahassee, Florida 32301, or by

email to mglazer@ausley.com.

The members of the Judicial Nominating Commission include the following: Michael J. Glazer, chair; Edward Fleming, vice-chair; Alan Bookman; Patricia Ann Connors; Barbara Johnston; Jerome Novoy; Daryl D. Parks; Gary Rutledge; and Steven Yablonski.

Index

2 Sections, 22 Pages

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------|------------|----|
| Around Madison | 3-6A | School | 7A |
| Path Of Faith | B Section | Legals | 9A |
| Classifieds | 9A | Editorials | 2A |
| Obituaries | 4A | Health | 8A |

Local Weather

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| Wed 1/4 59/38 Mainly sunny. Hard freeze expected. High 59F. Winds WNW at 5 to 10 mph. |  | Thu 1/5 67/40 A few clouds. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the low 40s. |  | Fri 1/6 72/52 A few clouds. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 50s. |  | Sat 1/7 74/58 Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the upper 50s. |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|

VIEWPOINTS & OPINIONS



Dear Savvy Senior,
Can you recommend some good brain-fitness computer games that are designed to help seniors keep their minds sharp? I love to play solitaire on my computer but I'm interested in expanding to some other games that can benefit my mind and memory.

Forgetful Frank

Dear Frank,
There are actually a handful of great brain-training websites and computer software products on the market today that are backed by research and proven to help boomers and seniors improve their memory, slow age-related mental decline and even build a stronger brain. But there's no evidence that these games will prevent Alzheimer's disease. Here are the best options to consider:

Web Workouts

If you're interested in exercising your brain but don't want to spend a lot of money, brain-training websites are a good place to start. While there are many sites that offer games that claim to sharpen the mind, the most valid and highly rated one is *Lumosity.com* who currently boasts around 15 million users.

Developed by neuroscience researchers from Stanford University and UC San Francisco, Lumosity offers more than 35 games and exercises aimed at increasing alertness, sharpening memory skills, improving concentration and faster thinking. The games are fun and engaging, and in each game, as your skill improves, the tasks become progressively more difficult to keep you challenged. The costs: \$14.95 a month or about \$80 for a one-year subscription. Lumosity even offers mobile apps for smart phone users so you can train wherever you are.

Another good site to check out (but not the quality of Lumosity) is *Cognifit.com*. This site starts with a brain fitness assessment that lets you know where your stronger areas are, and where you could use some extra training. Cognifit offers around 20 games that are free to play, or you can pay \$4.95 for each of their two advanced games for memory and concentration training.

Software Products

In addition to the websites, there are also a number of computer software brain-training products that you can purchase and use on your home computer.

Some of the best are made by Posit Science (positscience.com, 866-599-6463), which sells three types of brain-training software including "Brain Fitness," which speeds up and sharpens the auditory system of the brain for faster thinking, sharper focus, and better memory; "InSight" which targets visual processing to improve how your brain takes in, reacts to, and remembers what you see; and "DriveSharp" which strengthens the cognitive skills essential for safe driving. All software is available in PC and Mac versions. The only downside is the price. You can buy the Brain Fitness and InSight software together for \$690, or individually for \$395 each. The DriveSharp software costs \$89.

Another excellent option is Dakim BrainFitness Software (dakim.com, 800-856-5502) that costs \$249 and is designed specifically for adults over 60, as well as for seniors with memory loss. And for non-computer users, Diakim offers a touch-screen console for \$2,349 that's pre-loaded with BrainFitness software. Just plug it in and you're ready to go.

No Computer Needed

If you don't want to rely on a computer for playing brain-boosting games, consider electronic games like Brain Age, Brain Age 2 (see brainage.com) and Big Brain Academy (see brainacademy.com). Made by Nintendo, these games cost around \$20 each, but to play them you'll need to purchase a hand-held Nintendo DS Lite game unit which runs around \$100. You can buy these products online at amazon.com or at retail chains like Walmart, Target and BestBuy.

There are also dozens of mind-challenging books and puzzles you can purchase that can help too, such as "Keep Your Brain Alive: 83 Neurobic Exercises" by Lawrence Katz and Manning Rubin, and "The Big Book of Mind Bending Puzzels" by Terry Stickels. Check your local book store, or visit amazon.com to find them.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

On occasion, I'm invited to speak to a group about a variety of subjects – military history, economics, public policy, etc. I rarely turn these opportunities down and am always gratified that someone or group feels that I might have something valuable to say.

Just before Thanksgiving, Suzanne Griffin called me on a Sunday afternoon and asked me to speak to her 10th grade English class the next day about Carroll Agner's service in World War II, as subject I wrote about in this column six years ago. We were able to work out the schedule so I spoke to a group of about 25 high school students. Teenie Cave represented the Treasures of Madison County and brought a number of Carroll's photographs from the war for the class to see.

First of all, let me say that I love to speak to young people. I'm a futurist, so I'm always looking toward what lies ahead. Young people are our future. If I can make an impression and possibly inspire them, then these are goals that I value.

I spoke to the class for nearly an hour, relating Carroll Agner's service as a member of the Army's famous 2nd Infantry "Indianhead" Division, then answered their questions. At times, my Air Force service and Vietnam experience came up as well.

Last week, I received a package of thank you notes written by the students following my visit. Each contained a personal sentiment from the student. They were interesting and gratifying to read. Each was well written and contained very interesting insights.

It was obvious to me that the students learned a great deal from the presentation. The photographs certainly helped make those impressions vivid. Carroll had a fine camera when he was overseas, and he used it well. The students were able to see just how bitter that winter of 1944-45 was in Northern Europe and what wartime field conditions were like nearly seventy years ago.

Some of the letters mentioned that they learned more from this presentation about World War II than they did in history class. That's just wonderful. When an event like the war is vividly described, it becomes much more real than a standard textbook. Although I am not a WWII veteran,

National Security



Joe Boyles
Guest Columnist

Thanks Vets

I am the son of a vet and have studied the war and strategy closely over the years. Also, my combat experience in Vietnam probably helped describe these events in realistic detail.

Some of the students commented about my method of presentation. They appreciated my sense of humor (always important) and that I answered their

questions directly. I really appreciate the question and answer period in any presentation. It turns a lecture into two-way communication. I would add that when you understand and value history, you can put events in perspective that might otherwise not be apparent.

One student commented that I had her complete attention. That's a lot to ask of a high school student over an entire class period. Another thanked me for getting them out of a test. Now there's someone after my own heart.

Several students commented on how brave they were. I can speak for Carroll, myself and other vets here. We really don't see it that way. We joined the military for various reasons. We were given a job to do and a lot of training to prepare us for war. When the bullets started to fly and things got tough, we simply reverted to our training. First responders like cops, firemen, and EMS techs will tell you the same thing. You do what you have to do when the stress level rises.

Several students commented that they wanted to join the military as well. Good for them. It is a great training ground and helps prepare young people for life. I've often said that the two greatest advantages of a military life are education and travel. If you value these two things, then the military has a lot to offer.

One point I made to the class was that war is an unnatural and temporary condition. It is destructive and something that we want to avoid if at all possible. It may be exciting, but it is also exhaustive. Peace is a much more satisfying and prosperous condition.

In conclusion, I really appreciated Suzanne's offer to speak to her class and look forward to the next opportunity. You can be assured that I got just as much out of the experience as they did.

Red, White And True Mysteries

Learn How The New Year Is Celebrated Around The World

As the year 2011 comes to a close and 2012 is upon us, we take a look at how other countries celebrate the New Year with their rituals and traditions.

The tradition of celebrating the New Year began with the Babylonians around 2,000 B.C., although the actual day varied from January to March, depending on the country. The New Year has been celebrated on January 1 in most countries since Julius Caesar established the Julian calendar in 46 B.C. The Julian calendar was later replaced by the Gregorian calendar in 1582.

In addition to partying, New Year traditions around the world include lighting fireworks, making wishes or resolutions, giving gifts, and observing local superstitions. While our New Year celebration lasts only one night and one day, that is not the case in some of the other countries.

For example, the Chinese New Year celebration lasts for a month, and the actual New Year occurs on the second new moon after the winter solstice, which means that it always falls on a different day than the previous year. The Chinese calendar is a combination of solar and lunar calendars. It has a 12-year cycle in which years are based on animals, and 2012 will be the "Year of the Dragon." The Chinese locals will wish you a Gung Hay Fat Choy; translated, this means Happy New Year in Chinese, although I think something gets lost in the translation.

In Persia (now known as Iran), the Persian New Year falls on March 21 and lasts for 13 days. The locals start cleaning their houses several days before their New Year, and they buy new items for their houses as well as new clothes for the New Year. Relatives exchange gifts, and they settle all personal disputes in order to avoid what they consider to be bad luck. Children honor their elders and also receive money from them as a New Year's gift. They

also place something sweet outside their homes on the night before the New Year, and the first person to enter the home the following morning takes the sweet snack. It is believed to be bad luck to stay at home on the 13th day of the New Year.

In Russia, celebrations include a New Year's Tree which is topped with a bright star and decorated with sweets. Russians listen to their president's annual New Year's speech right before midnight, and they also engage in fortune telling.

In Costa Rica, Guatemala and Chile, it is common to prepare 12 grapes, which signify the 12 months. In Costa Rica and Guatemala, they do it because they believe it will bring them good luck. Many Chileans also travel to Easter Island to welcome the New Year.

The Germans, French, Brazilians, South Africans and Australians all celebrate the New Year on January 1. In France and Australia, though, the celebration lasts until January 6. More than 3 million tourists ring in the New Year in Australia each year, either to watch the massive fireworks celebration in Sydney or to be at one of the first places on Earth to see the New Year.

As with last week's column about the origin of several Christmas traditions, I credit my bride Mindy for thinking up the topic for this week's column, too.

Happy New Year to you, or Gung Hay Fat Choy (as they say in China), or Feliz Año Nuevo (Spain), or Glückliches Neues Jahr (Germany) or Bonne année (France).

#

Paul Niemann can be reached at niemann7@aol.com

© Paul Niemann 2011



Fill out the form below and send it in to:

Greene Publishing, Inc.
P.O. Drawer 772 • Madison, FL 32341
With money order or check payment made out to Greene Publishing, Inc. in the amount for the In or Out-of-County rate

\$35 In County \$45 Out-of-County

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____

Notice

| Name | Address |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Janice Straughter | 5780 SW CR 14 Madison, FL 32340 |
| James Prince | 1257 NE Teak TRL Pinetta 32350 |
| Westley Neal | 227 SW Miller St Madison, FL 32340 |

You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. Your are required to contact Thomas "Tommy" Hardee, Supervisor of Elections, in Madison, Florida, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of publishing. Failure to respond will result in a determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor and your name will be removed from the statewide voter registration system.

AROUND MADISON

Boyz to Kings: Two Success Stories

By Lynette Norris
Greene Publishing, Inc.

“Boyz to Kings” Spotlights Zamaury Page

“It takes a village to raise a child” is one of the main philosophies, if not the main philosophy of “Boyz to Kings,” a grassroots community organization that came together when “we decided to stop talking and create that village,” said Merv Mattair, a former Juvenile Residence Program Director, who envisioned “Boyz to Kings” in 2010 as a way to help young boys and their families, and now heads up that organization.

“When we as a community come together and use preventive methods, then the chances of our youth entering the system, stealing from neighbors, fighting, dropping out of school, etc., is slim,” he said.

Boyz to Kings is a community organization that works like an extended family to get young boys and their parents involved in school, volunteering, community activities and fun events, while pairing each young boy with a role model, men who volunteer to help teach and mentor the young boys as they learn what it takes to stay on the right path and be a part of a community.

The group gets together to perform tasks in the community, take trips, play sports, hear speakers, and much more. Upcoming events include a trip to see the movie, “Courageous.”

“It’s something when a kid knows that 20 more sets of eyes are on them...and they know that somebody else cares about them because that gives them one more person to please and make proud,” said Mattair.

When a child does do well and make someone proud, he gets acknowledgement from the group.

Right now, the Boyz to Kings Spotlight is on Zamaury Page, for achieving a first term GPA of 3.3, the highest of the group. For his efforts, he received \$40; his parents, Tarnisha and Bobby Thompkins, and his role model Tharron Robinson were all praised for “staying on him.”

For more information about the Boyz to Kings mentoring/role model program, please contact Merv Mattair at 673-1003.

“Boyz to Kings” Graduates Third Class of 24/7 Dads

If it takes a village to raise a child, then it often takes a village to teach that child’s young father how to actually “be a father” to the child, in every sense of the word, particularly if the young man has had no father in his own life to lean on and learn from.

Merv Mattair saw that need in 2010, when, with the help of Kiwanis, the Madison County Health Department and the Arbours Apartment Complex Manager, he formed the organization “Boyz to Kings” as a support system for the community, young men and parents.

Soon afterward, Mattair began teaching a series of “24/7 Dads” classes to young men who are new fathers or about to become new fathers. The classes, known as “Fatherhood Huddles,” consist of 12 sessions of instruction, discussion and sharing of testimonies and insights as the young men move toward “complete and total fatherhood” as the 24/7 suggests, learning how to be involved in the lives of their children and become the role models those children will need in later life.

So far, three groups of young men have successfully graduated from the “24/7 Dads” course, with the third and latest group of five young men, Charlie Graham, Jr., Travis Mitchell, Jr., Desmond Roberson, Deonshay Wells and DeMarcus Norton, completing the course near the end of 2011. As with the two previous groups of successful graduates, the Boyz to Kings group held a small graduation ceremony and celebration for the young men, for what they had achieved through devoting their time to several weeks of classes, and what they had learned from the curriculum and from sharing their experiences with each other.

“It was my pleasure to graduate the third 24/7 Dad class of willing fathers...who decided to take the next step toward being a complete father to their children, a support system to the mother of the baby during the prenatal stage, a better communicator with the mother of their child, a better leader in the community and much more,” said instructor Mattair, who was also pleased to note that several supporters for the young men had also come to the graduation celebrate their accomplishment, including mothers, siblings, coaches, grandparents, and many others.

Having that support system for the young men was very important, Mattair noted, since three of the young men from the latest class were still in high school, “trying to focus on keeping their grades up and mentally dealing with the impact of the decisions made, and from my experience of getting a young girl pregnant in high school, I know how tough it can be.”

While there are support programs in schools to prepare the young mothers-to-be for what’s to come, there are currently no programs aimed at helping the young men and teaching them how to deal responsibly with becoming fathers at a young age. Believing that it is a lack of this knowledge that causes the young men to drop out of school, abandon the young girls or become abusive partners, Mattair would like to see the

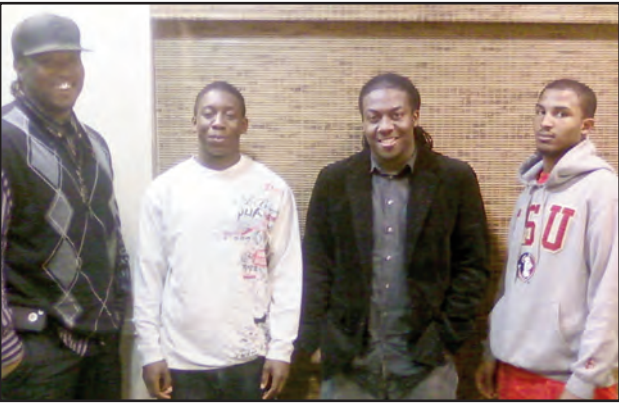


Photo submitted

The third group of young fathers to graduate from the “24/7 Dads” program are (left to right), Charlie Graham, Jr., Travis Mitchell, Jr., Desmond Roberson and Deonshay Wells. Not pictured: DeMarcus Norton, who was absent due to the baby being sick. schools pick up the 24/Dads curriculum and realize the importance of having a support program for the young fathers as well as the young mothers.

“If it were not for my dad being right there as my ‘program,’ I know I would have given up during the prenatal stage and only caused another child to be raised without a father,” he said.

Most of the young fathers who have graduated from the 24/7 Dads course did not have fathers in their own lives, but they wanted to break that cycle and give their own children what they wished they had had with their fathers.

Pam Monlyn’s son was one of the young men in the latest 24/7 Dads class who did not have a father in his own life to lean on. “I thank Mr. Merv for taking the time to give my son, Deonshay Wells, the needed knowledge on being a father,” said Monlyn. “I want the best for my son. From what I have witnessed, this program needs to be in schools for any young man who may travel that road.”

Mattair commended the latest graduates of 24/7 Dads for taking the time and making the effort to learn what they needed to know to be good fathers for their children. “To all the fathers who completed the class, I commend you for your sacrifice,” he said. Noting the importance of everyone working together to help and support each other, he added, “I learned a lot from you. And like we stated in class, we cannot be afraid to ask for help, because we will never have all the answers.”

For more information on the 24/7 Dads program and the Fatherhood Huddles, please contact Healthy Start at 973-5000 or Merv Mattair at 673-1003.



Photo submitted

Zamaury Page, center, shows off his reward for achieving a first term GPA of 3.3, the highest in the Boyz to Kings family, while role model Tharron Robinson, left, and mother Tarnisha Thompkins, right, look on and smile.

91.7 FM
www.wapb.net

Florida Press Association

2011

Award Winning Newspaper

Founders:
Tommy &
Mary Ellen Greene

Madison County
CARRIER

Established 1964

P.O. Drawer 772
Madison, FL 32341
(850) 973-4141
Fax: (850) 973-4121

Web Site:
www.greenepublishing.com

E-mail Information:
News
news@greenepublishing.com
Sports
jacob@greenepublishing.com
Advertisement
ads@greenepublishing.com
Classifieds / Legals
classifieds@greenepublishing.com

A weekly newspaper [USPS 324 - 800] designed for the express reading pleasure of the people of its circulation area, be they past, present or future residents.

Published weekly by Greene Publishing Inc., 1695 South SR 53, Madison, FL 32340. Periodicals postage PAID at the Post Office in Madison, FL 32340.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to MADISON COUNTY CARRIER, P.O. Drawer 772, Madison, FL 32341-0772.

This newspaper reserves the right to reject any advertisement, news matter, or subscriptions that, in the opinion of the management, will not be for the best interest of the county and/or the owners of this newspaper, and to investigate any advertisement submitted.

All photos given to Greene Publishing Inc. for publication in this newspaper must be picked up no later than 6 months from the date they are dropped off. Greene Publishing, Inc. will not be responsible for photos beyond said deadline.

Dining Out Guide

Ole Times Country Buffet

Soup, Salad & Fruit Bar With
Lunch Buffet
Hand Cut Top Sirloin Steaks On Buffet Nightly!

Banquet Facilities Available

(229) 253-1600

1193 N. St. Augustine Road, Valdosta, GA
Lake City Mall, Hwy 90, in Lake City, FL
MasterCard/Visa/American Express/Discover

**INTERESTED IN TRYING
SOME DELICIOUS LOCAL
FLAVOR?**

These restaurants are only minutes away and ready to delight your palate with offerings from some of the best kitchens around. Experience “home” cooking as the name implies, as these great eateries literally are part of your home; the North Florida and South Georgia area.

Great Steaks!
Killer Ribs
And Ice Cold Beer

TEXAS
road house

1874 Clubhouse Dr.
Valdosta, GA
229-242-7700

Mon. - Thur.: 4 pm - 10 pm
Friday: 4 pm - 11 pm
Saturday: 12 pm - 11 pm
Sunday: 11:30 am - 10 pm

**Cut The Wait!
Call Ahead
For Seating!**

Red Mountain Grill

COUPON

**Buy One Entree
Get One Free**
(Excluding Steaks)
Must present coupon • No photocopies

• **Red Mountain Grill** •

3460 Madison Hwy. • Valdosta, GA.
(I-75, exit 11)
(229) 293-0008

RED ONION Grill

“Real Food For Real People”

OPEN 24/7

**COOKED
To Order**

Hand-Cut Steaks !!

Lunch Specials

SR 255 South • I-10 Exit 262 • Lee, Florida
971-4240 Trent Abbott & Candy Land - managers

AROUND MADISON COUNTY

Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Miller celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on December 17th at Cakewood Baptist Church in Huntsville, Alabama with a reception following the ceremony.

They were honored by Family and Friends. Their Son Eric Miller and Daughter Tara Springfield hosted the ceremony.

Highlights of the occasion were words from their son Eric and the cake which was made by their daughter Tara, as well as fellowship with family and friends at the reception.

The couple are both retired. Charlie is from Greenville and Barbara Siplin Miller is from Madison.



Funtime

Sudoku Puzzle #2407-M

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

© 2009 Hometown Content

Medium

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

Sudoku Solution #2407-M

Sharon Daniel Blanton

Sharon Daniel (SD) Blanton passed on to Heaven's gate December 22, 2011, while visiting family in Indiana. He is the son of Burton Fitzgerald Blanton and Leila McDaniel Blanton. SD was a lifelong resident of Lee and a member of the Lee First United Methodist Church. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1949 and was a combat wounded veteran of the Korean War and a member of the American Legion. SD was a man of many talents. He farmed family land for many years as well as sold insurance, owned and operated a post mill and later a metal recycling company. SD was preceded in death by his wife, Evesta (Mickey) Blanton; grandson, Berton Blanton; his next wife, Patricia; step-granddaughter, Andrea Gaston; and two nephews, Danny and Kenny Mauldin. He is survived by his wife, Gayhart Kimbrel Blanton; sister, Eleanor Mauldin (Bill Cannard); six children, Venus Cochran, Tim (Tonja) Blanton, Jerome Blanton, Ernest Blanton, Pamela (Rich) and Candace (Clayton) Roberts; four step-children, Lisa (Kessler) Gaston, Allen Clingler, Andrea (John) Turner, Shannon (Matt) Barrett; 14 grandchildren; seven step-grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; one step-great-grandchild; and one nephew.

Graveside memorial service will be held on January 7, at Stonewall Cemetery in Lee at 2 p.m.



Find Us On Facebook

Ira Lee Richardson

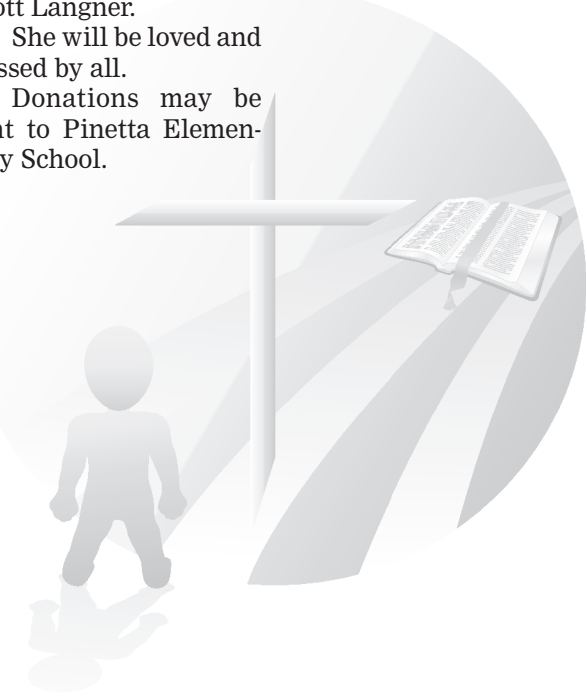
Ira Lee Richardson died Friday, December 30, 2011, in Madison. Funeral services were held at the Beggs Funeral Home, Madison Chapel, on Tuesday, January 3, 2012, at 11 a.m. Burial followed in the Blue Springs Cemetery. The family received friends at Beggs Funeral Home in Madison on Monday, January 2, 2012, from 6-8 p.m. Ira Lee was born n May 9, 1939 at home on the Richardson farm. His parents were Ira Lee Richardson, Sr., and Avis Milford Richardson. He had lived in Jacksonville before moving back to Madison 30 years ago. He was a welder and did construction for Woodson Hopkins in Jacksonville. He was a member of Macedonia Baptist Church and was attending Hickory Grove Methodist Church. Ira Lee was survived by two sons: Mark (Lisa) Richardson of Baker County and Scott Richardson of Richmond, Va.; two brothers, Billy (Susan) Richardson of Madison and Ray (Mary) Day of Jacksonville; and a special niece, Maryn Richardson; and special nephews, Todd, Rodney and Joshua Richardson and James Day. Donations may be made to your favorite charity in lieu of flowers. Beggs Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements, (850) 973-2258.

Carol "Meme" Wisor

Carol "Meme" Wisor, age 67, died Sunday, December 25, 2011 in Valdosta. She was born in Massillon, Ohio and moved to Valdosta in 1971 before moving to Pinetta in 1998. She volunteered at Pinetta Elementary School and loved to bake and be with her grandkids. She was a Home-maker and of the Catholic faith. She is survived by her son: Jay Wisor (Michelle) of Pinetta; one brother Charles Cincinnati of Navarre, Ohio; one sister Lois Spiecher (Keith) of Navarre, Ohio; four Grandchildren: Dustin Wisor, Brandon Wisor, Cole Wisor and Scott Langner. She will be loved and missed by all. Donations may be sent to Pinetta Elementary School.

Rebecca Margaret Burnett

Rebecca Margaret Burnett, 91, died Sunday, January 1, in Louisville, Ky. She was a native of Madison and a retired nurse for the Veteran's Administration, a member of Berry College Alumni Association in Rome, Ga., and a supporter of Alley Cat Advocates and a member of the Baptist faith. She was preceded in death by brothers, Robert, Kenneth, Wayne and David Burnett; and sister, Edith Burnett Cosby. She is survived by many nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions may be given to Alley Cat Advocates, 3044 Bardstown Road #204, Louisville, Ky. 40205.



Get Real auto insurance that comes with a real Agent

Get real answers about your auto insurance from a real, local agent. Call today for a free, no-obligation quote on your Auto, Home, and Life coverage.

850-973-4071 | www.floridafarmbureau.com
233 W Base St. • Madison

Freddy Pitts
Agency Manager
freddy.pitts@ffbic.com

Jimmy King
Agent
jimmy.king@ffbic.com

Glen King
Agent
glen.king@ffbic.com

24/7 Claims Service
Call 1-866-275-7322



Auto • Home • Life

FLAUP000111

*Florida Farm Bureau General Insurance Co.
*Florida Farm Bureau Casualty Insurance Co.
*Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Co., Jackson, MS

Did You Know...

Lightning strikes 6,000 times every minute on the entire planet

Ole Country Meat Market, Inc.

Claxton Grade "A" Fryer Leg Quarters

10 LB BAG

79¢ LB

Fresh, Lean-N-Meaty FAMILY PACK GROUND BEEF

\$2.59 LB

LEE'S HICKORY SMOKED WHOLE HAMS

\$1.49 LB

PORTIONS BUTT/SHANK \$1.59 LB

8lb Bagged IDAHO POTATOES

\$3.99 bag

Fresh CELERY

\$1.19 LB

Fresh, Lean-N-Tender PORK SPARE RIBS

\$2.19 LB

12 OZ PK 3pk \$1.99 LB

HICKORY SMOKED FULLY COOKED SPIRAL SLICED HAM HALVES

\$1.49 LB

Audri's 5 LB Bag "Double Washed" Pre-Washed CHITTERLING

\$5.99 LB

OR RED BUCKET PORK CHITTERLINGS \$6.99 LB

Fresh, Lean-N-Tender Whole BOSTON BUTT PORK ROAST

\$1.59 LB

3lb Yellow ONIONS

2/ \$3.00

GREEN SNAP BEANS

\$1.79 LB

PRODUCE

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 7:00 pm

Saturday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

636 South Ohio Avenue, Live Oak, FL

(386) 330-0404 Across from Pizza Hut

Find us on facebook

facebook.com/olecountrymeatmarket

olecountrymeatmarket@gmail.com

We Now Accept FOOD STAMPS

AROUND MADISON COUNTY

Ring^{*}ing^{*} In^{*} Christmas^{*} At^{*} The^{*} 55^{*} Plus^{*} Club^{*}



Greene Publishing, Inc. Photo by Lynette Norris, December 14, 2011

Ring^{*}ing^{*} their hearts out, the ladies play their medley of Christmas songs, re-
counting the birth of Christ through music.



Greene Publishing, Inc. Photo by Lynette Norris, December 14, 2011

Decked out in their red and green Christmas sweaters, the ladies open their
performance with “Silver Bells.”

By Lynette Norris
Greene Publishing, Inc.

The ladies of the Southern Bells Handbell Choir opened their program at the 55 Plus Club with, appropriately enough, “Silver Bells.”

The Southern Bells, ranging in age from 60 to 96, began about two years ago under the direction of Sharon French and Enid Kozlowski, from the Baptist and Methodist churches respectively. The two got together and came up with the idea of a handbell choir for senior ladies.

The rest, as they say, is history. Ever since then, the ladies have been ringing their way into the hearts of audiences throughout the community of Madison. French and Kozlowski believe that the choir is a part of God’s ministry, bringing music and joy to everyone who comes to hear the ladies play. At the Dec. 14 meeting of 55 Plus, there wasn’t an empty seat left anywhere as the Southern Bells began their concert.

After their opening number of “Silver Bells,” French, who took turns with Kozlowski directing the songs, told the audience that the rest of the program would be about the Nativity, “telling the story of the birth of Christ” through music, including “O Holy Night,” “Away in a Manger” and a sing-along of “Silent Night.”

The Southern Bells received a standing ovation

Chamber Offering Series Of Small Business Workshops

By Lynette Norris
Greene Publishing, Inc.

If you’re thinking about opening your own business in 2012, or if you already own your own small business, the Madison County Chamber of Commerce is planning a series of workshops designed to help you either get started or make your business better.

The workshops will be hosted by the Greater Madison County Chamber of Commerce and the FAMU Small Business Development Center, and held at Chamber Office, 248 SW Range Avenue in downtown Madison.

Mark your calendar for every fourth Thursday at 5:30. The workshops are free and open to all.

The workshop schedule for January through March is:

- January 27 – Starting a Business
- February 23 – Writing a Business Plan
- March 22 – Marketing Plans

To register, or for more information, contact the Chamber Office at 973-2788.

Teenie Cave Is The Guest Speaker At Next 55 Plus

By Lynette Norris
Greene Publishing, Inc.

The 55 Plus Club wishes everyone a Happy New Year with good health, good fortune and an invitation to their first 55 Plus Club meeting of 2012.

The Club will meet again at noon on Jan. 11, 2012, and program chairperson Lilla Howerton, who always works to have interesting programs for the club meetings has arranged for guest speaker Teenie Cave to give her presentation on “Treasured Memories and Folklore of Madison County.” Whether you are a long-timer or a newcomer to Madison County, you won’t want to miss this special nostalgic program of bygone days and local history.

The presentation includes lots of pictures and photos, meaning that the UMCM Center’s brand new large screen will be used for the very first time.

The meeting will be at the usual spot, the United Methodist Cooperative Ministries Center on the corner of Dill Street and Colin Kelly Highway, about five miles north of town. The meetings and the lunch are free and open to anyone 55 and older who would like to gather together to see friends, enjoy good food and hear an interesting program.

For directions or more information about 55 Plus or any other outreach ministry of the United Methodist Cooperative Ministries, contact Deborah Brown, Coordinator, at (850) 929-4938.

from the delighted 55 Plus crowd at the conclusion of their performance.

The 55 Plus Club, an outreach of United Methodist Cooperative Ministries, meets the second Wednesday of every month for lunch, followed by a presentation of a speaker or musical performance. The Club is free and open to anyone 55 or older who would like to join them at the UMCM

building about five miles north of town on the corner of Colin Kelly Highway and NW Dill Street.

The next 55 Plus meeting will be Wednesday, January 11, and will feature a presentation on the Treasures Museum of Madison County. For More information on the 55 Plus Club, or any other outreach ministry of UMCM, contact Deborah Brown, UMCM Coordinator, at (850) 929-4938.

TICKETS FROM \$15

**PROFESSIONAL BULL RIDERS
INVADE TALLAHASSEE
JAN. 6-7
LEON COUNTY CIVIC CENTER**

ticketmaster
*standard ticket fees apply

AROUND MADISON COUNTY

Seniors Enjoy Fun Holiday Season

The Madison County Senior Center presented a festive Christmas season with everything from a Chinese Gift Exchange, also known as a White Elephant Exchange, Santa by the Fireplace with Willis Phillips, a Christmas Sing-A-Long Party, as well as seniors creating their own gorgeous Christmas tree decorations.

From a 12-foot tree in the main dining hall to four other individually decorated Christmas trees, several graciously donated, the Senior Center welcomed one

and all.

Keeping in mind the reason for the season, the seniors heard heartfelt messages at their request from the following pastors: Frank Rains, Robert Roundtree, as well as Bob Laidlaw of First United Methodist Church in Madison.

The seniors' Christmas Bake Sale was Dec. 14 at the Courthouse lawn and around downtown Madison.

Holiday trips the seniors enjoyed included a Holiday Lights viewing in Madison neighborhoods on Dec.

16 and a trip to see a Victorian Christmas at The Mansion on Dec. 9.

Seniors age 60 and over are invited to participate in the activities at the Madison County Senior Center. Call Angie Cisco, Older American Act coordinator, for upcoming events in the New Year at (850) 973-4241.

The Madison County Senior Center is located at 1161 SW Harvey Greene Drive, just off State Road 14 South.



Annie Holton sits a spell at The Mansion in downtown Madison.



Photo Submitted
Ella Mae Brown, left, and Linda Howell, right, make cookies for the seniors' bake sale.



Photo Submitted
Willis Phillips entertains Dec. 15 at the Madison County Senior Center.



Photo submitted
Linda Blevins explores The Mansion's creche.

NOTICE OF CITY ELECTION CITY OF MADISON, FLORIDA

The City of Madison will hold an election on March 13, 2012, for the purpose of electing (2) two Commissioners for a term of (4) four years each. The districts involved in the elections are 2 and 3. The qualifying time is from noon January 23, 2012 until noon, January 27, 2012.

For further information, please call Lee Anne Hall, City Clerk at 973-5081.

We Bake Beautiful, Custom-Made Wedding Cakes

WAL-MART
6868 US Hwy 129
Live Oak, FL 32364
(386) 330-2488

BUSINESS CARD Directory

Bell Mobile Home

Transport & Setup

**Relevel • Tie-Downs
Permits**

Call For
Free Estimates
Kevin Bell
850-948-3372

ROOFING SPECIALIST

State Certified Building Contractor & Roofing Contractor
License # CBC 1251818 / CCC 1328133

QUALITY GUARANTEE!
• Commercial / Residential - All Roof Types
• Fully Insured - Proven Track Record
• Free Estimates

Ewing Construction & Roofing

Serving Madison &
Surrounding Counties

Lee 850-971-5043

Summer Systems

Full Service Internet Provider • Computer Repair
Wide Area Networking

(850) 973-8855

883 Hwy. 90 West • Madison, FL
between Pizza Hut & Brenda's Styles

Hall's Tire & Muffler Center

Owners:
Daryl &
Lee Anne Hall

1064 E. US 90 • Madison, FL
Beside Clover Farm

850-973-3026

REGISTER'S LAWN SERVICE

Mowing
Weed Eating
Hedge Trimming
Tree Trimming
Bush Hogging

Freddie and Kathy Register Owners

Call 850-971-5869 Home
or 850-973-7327 Cell
Licensed and Insured

SCHOOL

NFCC Honors 2011 Registered Nursing Graduates

Pinning and Lamp Lighting Ceremony marks beginning of new journey for graduates

North Florida Community College honored its Registered Nursing Class of 2011 with a traditional Pinning and Lamp Lighting Ceremony on Dec. 14 at Van H. Priest Auditorium. Twenty-one RN graduates were recognized and took part in the ceremony's Lighting of the Lamps and Reciting of the Nightingale Pledge. Two graduates received special recognition: Tristan Sorensen (Jefferson County) received the Excellence in Clinical Setting Award and Heather Olson (Madison County) received the Outstanding Student in a Registered Nursing Program Award.

The pinning ceremony is a special moment for RN graduates and marks the beginning of each student's career as a professional nurse. NFCC graduate Ashley Haynes (Madison County) was recognized as the "Keeper of the Light" who will return next year to pass along the Lamp Lighting tradition to the next class of RN graduates.

NFCC's 2011 Registered Nursing graduates are:

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Alison Flynt
Tristan Sorensen

Monticello, FL
Monticello, FL

MADISON COUNTY

Ashley Collis
Jodi Cooper
Sara Myslikowski
Heather Olson
Gwen Cauley
Ana Pretto
Teri Roessler
Allyce Rutherford
Shana Douglas
Tara Richardson
Amber Cooper
Ashley Haynes

Lee, FL
Lee, FL
Madison, FL
Madison, FL
Madison, FL
Madison, FL
Madison, FL
Madison, FL
Madison, FL
Pinetta, FL
Pinetta, FL
Pinetta, FL

SUWANNEE COUNTY

Kelly Melland
Twyla Sears

Live Oak, FL
Live Oak, FL

TAYLOR COUNTY

Logan Avery

Perry, FL

COLUMBIA COUNTY

Ashley Brevard
Leslie Skeen

Lake City, FL
Lake City, FL

LOWNDES COUNTY

Heath Bowen
Elizabeth Lineberger

Lake Park, GA
Valdosta, GA

"As a class, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to our families, along with the NFCC faculty and staff for your support through this journey. Without you, we would not be here today."



Photo submitted

North Florida Community College's Registered Nursing Class of 2011

Front Row (l-r): Shana Douglas, Tara Richardson Heath Bowen, Amber Cooper and Ashley Collis. Second Row (l-r): Allyce Rutherford, Ana Pretto, Jodi Cooper, Tristan Sorensen, Sara Myslikowski and Twyla Sears. Third Row (l-r): Elizabeth Lineberger, Ashley Brevard, Logan Avery, Leslie Skeen and Alison Flynt. Back Row (l-r): Heather Olson, Kelly Melland, Teri Roessler, Gwen Cauley and Ashley Haynes.



Photo submitted

Graduate Jodi Cooper (Madison County) gives the class presentations during the Registered Nursing Class of 2011's Pinning and Lamp Lighting Ceremony on Dec. 14 at Van H. Priest Auditorium.



Photo submitted

NFCC graduate Tristan Sorensen (Jefferson County) receives her NFCC nursing pin from Monica DeMott on Dec. 14 at Van H. Priest Auditorium. Sorensen received the Excellence in Clinical Setting Award for Fall 2011.

B.E. Guess & Sons
PECAN COMPANY

We Have Gift Baskets

GIFT SHOP
NOW OPEN

Fresh Shelled Georgia Pecans

1 Lb. Halves.....\$8.50
1 Lb. Pieces.....\$8.00

In Hull Pecans Also Available

Stuart • Elliot • Desirable

FOR YOUR SWEET TOOTH

Milk Chocolate • Praline
• Amaretto • Chocolate Toffee
• Divinity • Chocolate Covered Cherries • Pecan Rolls
• Pecan & Peanut Brittle

M - F • 8 am-6 pm
Saturday • 9 am - 3 pm

1600 S. Patterson St.
1-229-242-7929
1-877-317-1618

FIND US
ON



Clay & Sam Guess,
Owners

Order Online @ www.beguesspecan.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Saturday, December 3rd, 9:00 a.m.

6 mi. West of I-75 on US 90 • Lake City, FL.

Lake City Auction House

Estate Auction plus others: John Deere 4100 4-wheel-drive Tractor w/loader, Hobart Welder, wood lathe, metal lathe, radial arm saws, drill press, disc sander, wood planer, all types woodworking tools, trucks, vehicles, lumber (new).

Consignment Welcome 1 Week Before The Auction.

ATKINSON REALTY & AUCTION

800-756-4098 AB1141

www.LakeCityAuctionCenter.com

Tim Blanton Services
"Don't Wait 'Til It's Too Late"

Excellent Work At A Fair Price



- 70' Bucket Truck
- Tree Trimming
- Tree Removal
- Storm Clean Up
- Land Clearing
- Demolition Work

Tim Blanton
Cell: 850-973-0024
Home: 850-971-5559

20 Years Experience
Licensed & Insured
To God Be The Glory

HEALTH

What is Diverticulosis?

By Lynette Norris
Greene Publishing, Inc.

Statistically, diverticular disease is pretty common in the Western industrialized world, as well as other industrially developed places like Australia. It also becomes more common among older populations in these regions. In the U.S., over half of people 60 and older have some form of diverticular disease, although many may not even be aware of it.

The flip side is that diverticular disease is rare in other, less developed parts of the world.

The dominant theory for this is the high-fat/low fiber, and highly-processed carbohydrate diet of many industrialized countries (think fast food, junk food, and processed food such as white bread and white rice) as compared to the mostly grain-and-vegetation diets of less developed parts of the world.

Also, diverticular disease was almost unknown in the U.S. until around 1900, coinciding with the introduction of processed food into the American diet.

However, the National Institute of Health maintains that although there seems to be a strong connection between the so-called “American diet” and diverticular disease, it hasn’t been conclusively proven. It hasn’t been ruled out either, so it remains the dominant theory.

Other causes or contributing factors could be stress, a sedentary lifestyle – a lack of physical activity – or a hereditary predisposition. Some other contributing/aggravating factors may include smoking, excessive drinking, or side effects from certain medications.

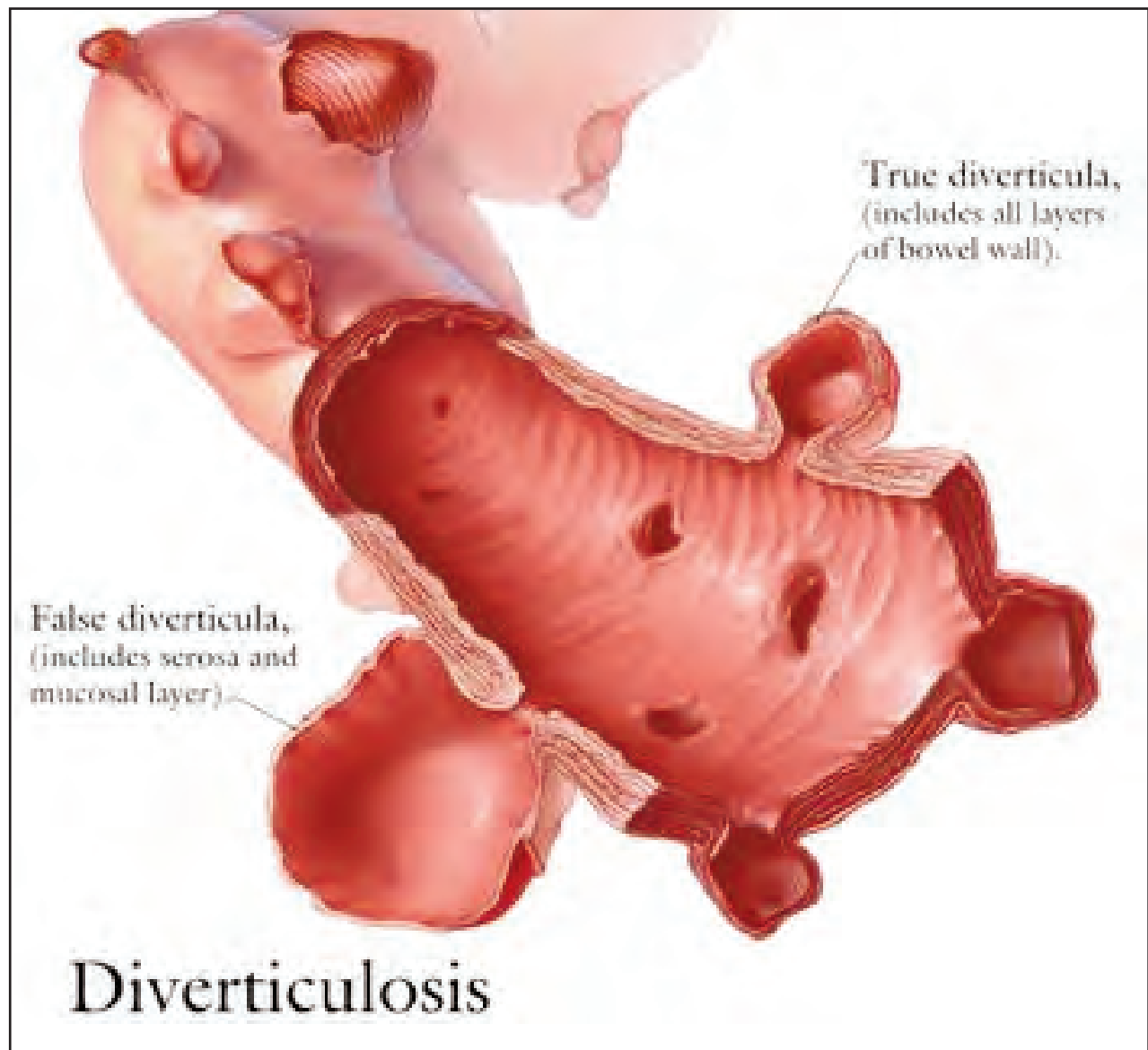
What is diverticular disease?

Diverticular disease, the general heading for diverticulosis and diverticulitis, affects the large intestine, or colon. Think of the colon as forming a somewhat squarish shape as it frames the small intestine, rising up your right side (ascending colon), running across the top of your middle to the left side (transverse colon), running down your left side (descending colon), and then turning back toward the center (sigmoid colon) where it connects to the rectum.

The sigmoid colon, in the lower left part of the abdomen, is where most of the trouble usually occurs, although the condition can affect any part of the large intestine along its entire length. One reason may be that the sigmoid, at the end of the colonic line, bears the most pressure in propelling waste out of the body.

Diverticulosis is when the pressure of pushing waste along the length of the large intestine causes weak spots in the colon wall to balloon outward and form pouches, or diverticula. Most of the people who have diverticulosis – pouches in the colonic wall – don’t have any symptoms. The pouches simply hang, unseen, off the side of the large intestine.

However, about ten to 25 percent of those with diverticulosis will develop some form of diverticulitis, when the pouches become irritat-



ed, inflamed or infected.

Sometimes, certain foods irritate the pouches and trigger attacks known as diverticulitis attacks, with painful cramping and bloating. This is generally how most people learn of their condition, and learn to avoid certain foods in their diets to manage their symptoms and prevent further attacks.

The real trouble starts when the diverticula are not just irritated, but infected and inflamed. The pain and cramping can be sudden and severe, start slowly and build, or fluctuate in intensity. The lower left part of the abdomen is usually painfully tender. Other symptoms can include fever, chills, nausea and vomiting.

Diverticulitis at this stage can be treated with antibiotics and other medications to clear up the infection and swelling. The patient may have to be on a clear liquid diet until things get back to normal.

What are some of the complications?

Any abdominal pain and nausea that does not go away after a few hours should never be ignored in the hopes that it will “get better.” These symptoms can be signs of many other serious conditions as well, that need medical attention.

In the case of diverticulitis, if it is left untreated, it can lead to bleeding, blockages or perforations (small tears in the pouches, breaching the colon wall). All of these require medical intervention to prevent them from progressing further.

Scarring left by infection can cause blockages in the intestine. If the blockage is partial, surgery can be scheduled to remove it; if it is total, it requires immediate emergency surgery.

Perforations are particularly dangerous. If infected pouches rupture, leaking pus and bacterial infection into the abdominal cavity, peritonitis can result. The patient will be extremely ill with vomiting, nausea, fever and severe abdominal tenderness. In the worst cases, the pain is so severe the patient may be curled tightly into a ball. This requires immediate surgery to drain the infection, clean the abdominal cavity and remove the damaged segment of colon.

Under some circumstances, the two ends of the colon may be joined back together immediately. Often though, this type of surgery requires a colostomy to allow everything to rest

and heal. After a period of several months, again depending on how much healing time is required, the colostomy may be reversed, a procedure that is sometimes as painful as the original colostomy. Both procedures require a substantial recovery period of several months or more.

If there are no immediate complications, how is it treated?

Eating a high-fiber diet is the only treatment recommended across the board, as is good nutrition in general. Patients should work with their doctors when it comes to planning a high fiber diet and determining how much fiber to include, but a general rule of thumb is 21-25 grams of fiber for women, and 30-38 grams for men. For a sample list of common foods and their fiber content, go to www.mayoclinic.com/health/high-fiber-foods.

When it comes to foods to avoid, not all people respond the same way to the same foods; keeping a food diary may help identify some “trigger foods.” Whether or not ongoing medication is necessary to help manage symptoms will also have been determined by a health care professional.


Depending on the severity of the symptoms, the doctor may recommend bed rest, oral antibiotics, a pain reliever and a liquid diet. If symptoms ease after a few days, high-fiber foods may be gradually added to the diet.

Exercise and other physical activity, as advised by a doctor, can also be helpful.

For more information on diverticulitis, the causes, treatments and possible complications, there are several informative websites including: <http://mayoclinic.com/health/diverticulitis> and <http://digestive.niddk.nih.com/ddiseases/pubs/diverticulosis>. Search terms such as diverticulosis, treatment, surgery, diet, fiber, etc., can turn up even more useful sites.

This report is intended only as a brief overview of diverticular disease, and is by no means comprehensive, nor is it intended as a substitute for medical advice. Medical websites, while helpful and informative, should not be substituted for medical attention. Anyone with ongoing abdominal pain (lasting more than a few hours) should seek medical attention as soon as possible.

Ask The Dentist



Question: My teenage daughter has the whitest teeth and she used those strips to bleach. Will they work for me?

Answer: I tell everyone that asks to try the “over the counter” whitening if you want to. You probably already know there are many choices in “over the counter” whitening products. It seems like every toothpaste and mouthwash have whitening formulas. The stores are full of paint on bleaches, one size fits all trays, and even light boutiques at the Mall. What you may not know is the easiest patients to bleach are 14 year old girls who just got their braces off. For teenage girls, with very straight teeth, the strips are ideal. If your teeth are not as straight as they used to be the strips will only bleach the tooth area which is in contact with the strip. Too often there is not uniform contact with the bleach and you wind up having a candy cane look of light and dark areas. So if you think you need a more effective technique, see your dentist. What you may not know is the secret to successful bleaching is bleach contact AND time. Research tells us the most noticeable and dazzling results come from keeping the bleach on the teeth for a few hours each day until the total bleaching time is 120 hours. This is where dentist fabricated trays do a far superior job to “over the counter” products.

Roderick K Shaw III, DMD, MAGD
Master of the Academy of General Dentistry
President, Florida Academy of General Dentistry 2009-2010

Let us feature your questions. Contact us at
 (850) 250-5964 or rkshaw@drrodshaw.com

HEALTHCARE DIRECTORY

Lake Park of MADISON

Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitative Community
 259 SW Captain Brown Road • Madison, FL 32340
 850-973-8277

“We Are Home When You Need Us”



MADISON NURSING CENTER
 HEALTH AND REHABILITATION

Professional Rehabilitation and Skilled Nursing Facility

2481 W. US 90
 Madison, FL 32340

850-973-4880
 Fax: 850-973-3900

FINDING A PHYSICIAN

You Can Afford Quality Health Care



Accepting New Patients

The Staff of Tri-County Family Health Care is here for your Entire Family

Tri-County Family Health Care
 193 NW US 221 ~ Greenville, Florida
(850) 948-2840

Quality and Affordable Medical Care For the Entire Family

Discount Sliding Fee ~ Based on household income
 ~ For Patients Without Insurance

Most Insurance is accepted ~ Including Medicare & Medicaid
 Discount Prescription Program & Same Day Scheduling
 Extended Hours on Thursdays until 7 p.m.

Visit us at www.NFMC.org

Classifieds

Deadline For Classifieds
(850) 973-4141
3:00 p.m. Every Monday

SERVICES

I am a retired nurse; and want to do private duty work with the elderly. If you can use me, I am available for any shift. Excellent references. 464-0353 (Cell)

run, n/c

Dove Hunts
Now taking application and orders for Dove Hunts membership in and around Day, Fl. Contact Marvin Buchanan 386-294-1211.

8/24 - run, n/c

Piano lessons are being offered for individuals who are beginners or veteran players who wish to build or polish their skills. Lessons are one-on-one and reasonably priced! For more information, call (850) 464-0114 or (850) 973-4622.

6/18, run, n/c

WANTED

Wanted: 4-wheel drive tractor with front-end loader & backhoe. Call Tommy Greene 8-5 Monday - Friday at 973-4141

run, n/c

Wanted: BAND SAWMILL
CALL 850-973-4004. IF NO ANSWER, PLEASE LEAVE NAME, TELEPHONE NUMBER AND INFO ABOUT THE MILL

run, n/c

FOR SALE

Peanut hay for sale; round rolls; \$35. Call Henry Terry at (850)-673-7711.

10/26 - rtn, n/c

Diamond Plate Alum. Pick-up truck tool boxes. Various sizes. \$50 each. Call 973-4172 - 8am-5pm M-F

5/6-run, n/c

2 bedroom, 2 bath frame house on 3/4 acre lot with 2 out. Building for sale by owner. Down town Lee, Fl. 386-719-0421. City water. Tax parcel I.D. # is 03-1S-10-1057-000-000. \$59,000 price firm.

8/3 - rtn, n/c

Children's Dresses...

Size 3 - white long dress, worn as flower girl dress, sequin/beadwork all on bodice, sequin/beadwork/appliques on bottom, built-in crinoline. - \$50

Size 4 - off white dress, worn as flower girl dress, lace work around bodice, pretty lace work at bottom, cap sleeves - \$25

Size 7-8 - off white dress, worn as a flower girl dress, overlay of lace over entire dress, probably knee to calf length - \$25

Size 8 - white, long dress, lace around neck with decorative bodice - \$25

Size 16 - white long pageant gown, cap sleeves, white sequin work across entire bodice and sleeves, buttons around neck with circular cut-out on back, beautiful gown - \$100

Teen dresses.....

Size 14 (child's size 14 but dress is for a teen division approximately 13-15) - GORGEOUS lime green dress, strapless but with spaghetti straps that criss cross across the back, sequins spotted across the entire gown, built-in crinoline - absolutely gorgeous. - \$300 (paid over \$500 for it)
Call 850-973-3497 and leave message.

3/3, run, n/c

SAVE \$22 Off Newsstand price! CALL 973-4141 TO SUBSCRIBE TO The Madison Carrier and Enterprise-Recorder

FOR SALE

Amana Dryer For Sale
Works good, but needs a timer. \$50 firm. Call 973-4141.

12/7 - rtn, n/c

Firewood for Sale
Seasoned and split. Delivered to you. \$100.00 a load. (850)-464-1230.

11/30 - rtn, n/c

2 bedroom, 1 bath frame house fully furnished located at the mouth of the Suwannee, where the land, sea and sky meet. Yard has fruit trees and is fenced. Tax parcel I.D. # is 191312-3285000K-0030. Has city water, sewer and cable available. 386-719-0421. \$68,000.

8/3 - rtn, n/c

MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

\$15,000. Discounts on doublewides. Must go. Call Mitch at (386)-288-0109.

10/26, rtn, c

Cash in a flash for your used mobile home. Will come look and make you an offer. Call Lynn at (386)-365-4774.

10/26, rtn, c

6 acres and 28x.80. 4 BR, fenced & cross fenced. Country living at its best. Call Mitch at (386)-288-0109.

10/26, rtn, c

Money to lend for doublewides & singlewides with or without property. Call Mitch at (386)-288-0109.

10/26, rtn, c

Mobile home financing available for everyone. New and used. Call Mitch and let M.H.M work for you. (386)-288-0109.

10/26, rtn, c

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

For Sale: House & Lot
In the Town of Suwannee Price reduced for quick sale \$60,000 net to owner. 2 BR/1 BA. Fully Furnished, New Metal Roof, and New Paint. Utility Building with Washer and Dryer. Nice Fruit Trees. 386-719-0421

rtn, n/c

FOR RENT

Mobile Homes for Rent
Various sizes
Cherry Lake/Pinetta and Madison areas.
Call Jack (850)-464-0776 or Jennifer (352)-516-6012.

12/21 - rtn, c

Renovated 2-story, 3BR/2BATH house. Excellently located at 205 Shelby Street. Stucco Exterior. Convenient off-street parking. Free lawn maintenance. \$700.00. Dixie Properties (850) 656-6340.

12/7 - rtn, c

Southern Villas of Madison Apartments

Rental assistance may be available. HUD vouchers accepted. 1, 2, & 3 BR HC & non-HC accessible apts. Call 850-973-8582, TDD/TTY 711. 315 SW Lawson Circle, Madison, FL 32340. Equal Housing Opportunity. "In accordance with federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, sex, and familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800)-795-3272 (voice) or (202)-720-6382 (TDD.)" "This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer." TDD phone number

run, c



FOR RENT

Small efficient at 442 Horry Street. \$450.00. Call 850-656-6340.

12/7 - rtn, c

Cottage on quiet farm setting.
\$110 - \$140 per week. Includes internet, direct T.V. and all utilities. Call (850)-253-1222.

12/23 - rtn, pd

3 BR, 2 BA doublewide mobile home.
Near Blue Springs. No pets. 1 year lease. \$600 month, \$600 security. (850)-971-2833.

1/4-rtn, c

4 BR, 2 BA House
With fireplace, large yard and no pets. Near Blue Springs. \$700 month, \$700 security. 1 year lease. (850)-971-2833.

1/4-rtn, c

Madison Heights Apartments
1,2,3 & 4 bedroom apts. Section 8 Housing designed for low income families 150 SW Bumgardner Dr. Madison, FL
Phone 850-973-4290 TDD 711
Equal Housing Opportunity

6/22, rtn, c

Greenville Pointe Apartments

\$199 Move-In Special!!
1, 2 & 3 BR HC & non-HC accessible apts. Rental assistance may be available. HUD vouchers accepted. Call 850-948-3056. TDD/TTY 711. 192 NWB Greenville Pointe Trail, Greenville, FL 32331.
Equal Housing Opportunity

run, c

Cambridge Manor Apartments
404 Sumatra Road Office 102
"A Community Reserved For Elderly And Disabled" 1+2 bedroom apartments handicap+non handicap HUD vouchers accepted central heat & air, carpet, electric stoves and refrigerators, on site manager, laundry facilities and a community room. Call (850)-973-3786. TDD 711. Rental Office on site. Equal housing opportunity. "This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer." TDD phone number

10/5 - rtn, c

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Commercial/Industrial Property
with state highway frontage. Corner lots. Fronts both Harvey Greene Dr. & Highway 53 South. Enterprise Zone Natural gas line, 8 inch water main, access to city utilities, fire hydrant, and service from two power companies. Property has easy access to I-10, via SR 53 & SR 14. Will build to suit tenant or short or long term lease. Call Tommy Greene 850-973-4141

run, n/c

HELP WANTED

Director of Allied Health Programs (RN) wanted at North Florida Community College. See www.nfcc.edu for details.

12/14 - 1/11, c

CDL Class A driver needed.
Clean MVR & driving record. Dry van and reefer work. 99% in the Southeast. Part time and full time positions available. Mixed OTR and local work. Home on weekends. Great for semi-retired. (850) 973-2747. Now offering health insurance.

10/7, rtn, c

To Place Your Classified Call 973-4141

FLORIDA PRESS SERVICES, INC.

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADS FOR 1/2/2012 THROUGH 1/8/2012

Announcements
ARE YOU PREGNANT?
Childless couple offers unending love/financial security. Stay-at-home mom/ devoted dad. EXPENSES PAID. www.adoption-is-love.com. Lorraine & Daniel (866) 944-4847 (HUGS). Adam B. Sklar, Esq. Lic#0150789.

Huge discounts when you buy 2 types of advertising! 122 weekly newspapers, 32 websites, 25 daily newspapers. Call now to diversify your advertising with Advertising Networks of Florida (866) 742-1373.

Education
ALLIED HEALTH career training- Attend college 100% online. Job placement assistance. Computer available. Financial Aid if qualified. SCHEV certified. Call (800) 481-9409 www.CenturaOnline.com

Financial Services
\$\$\$ ACCESS LAWSUIT CASH NOW!!! \$\$\$ As seen on TV. \$\$\$ Injury Lawsuit Dragging? Need \$500-\$500,000++within 48/hrs? Low rates APPLY NOW BY PHONE! Call Today! Toll-Free: (800) 568-8321 www.lawcapital.com

Help Wanted
Driver- Start out the year with Daily Pay and Weekly Home Time! Single Source Dispatch. Van and Refrigerated. CDL-A, 3 months recent experience required. (800) 414-9569. www.driveknight.com

Freight Up = More \$ 2 Mos. CDL Class A Driving Exp (877) 258-8782 www.meltontruck.com

Drivers: RUN 5 STATE REGIONAL! Get Home Weekends, Earn Up to 39¢/Mi, 1 yr OTR Flatbed exp. req'd. SUNBELT TRANSPORT, LLC (800) 572-5489 ext. 227

Land For Sale
20 Acres-Live On Land NOW!! Only \$99/mo. \$0 Down, Owner Financing, NO CREDIT CHECKS! Near El Paso, Texas. Beautiful Mountain Views! Free Color Brochure. (800) 755-8953 www.sunsettranches.com

7 ACRES WITH LAKE FRONTAGE. Buy Off-Season - BARGAIN only \$39,900! (was \$89,900) Wooded setting, dockable shoreline, on 4 season recreational lake! Boat, ski, fish, camp, more. Paved rds, power, phone. Excellent financing. Won't last, call now (866) 952-5302

Miscellaneous
EARN COLLEGE DEGREE ONLINE. *Medical, *Business, *Criminal Justice. Job placement assistance. Computer available. Financial Aid if qualified. SCHEV certified. Call (877) 206-5165 www.CenturaOnline.com

AIRLINES ARE HIRING Train for hands on Aviation Maintenance Career. FAA approved program. Financial aid if qualified - Housing available CALL Aviation Institute of Maintenance (866) 314-3769.

Schools & Instruction
Heat & Air JOBS - Ready to work? 3 week accelerated program. Hands on environment. Nationwide certifications and Local Job Placement Assistance! (877) 359-1690.

Buy, Sell or Trade In The Classifieds
Call 973-4141
One Man's Junk Is Another Man's Treasure

... LEGALS ...

Notice of Sale Pursuant to Chapter83, Part IV
Under the Authority of the Self-Service Storage Facility Act, Section 83.805 the described below has been seized for nonpayment of rent and other accrued expenses. Property consists primarily of household and personal goods in units rented by: Krista Godfrey, Yolanda Denson, and John Christian Jr. The property will be sold at auction to the highest bidder as provided by the Self-Service Facility Act, section 83.806. The sale will be held **Saturday January 13, 2012 at 9:00 A.M.**, at the Madison Mini Storage, 1098 E. U.S. 90, in Madison, Florida. For further information call 973-2008.

12/30, 1/4

★ ★ LOG HOME KIT ★ ★
QUICK SALE A MUST!!!
PERSONAL FINANCIAL PROBLEMS
Purchased from American Log Homes (No! I am not a salesman)
Model # 303 Little Rock with Building Blueprints, Construction Manual & FREE DELIVERY (NO!! Windows, Doors & Roofing ARE NOT Incl)
★ PAID \$38,825 MUST HAVE \$16,000★
** NO TIME LIMIT ON DELIVERY **
view at www.thegreatamericanlogco.com
Ready Buyer Only Reply Call Jim at 704-253-3809

NEED FAST CASH?
SHORT-TERM LOANS UP TO \$1000
Deposited into your bank account overnight!
Just need a job and direct deposit • Call for quick approval!
1-877-290-0052

Go Painlessly™ with THERA-GESIC.
Maximum strength analgesic creme for temporary relief from:
• Back pain
• Muscle pain
• Arthritis pain
• Joint pain

HAVE YOU GONE GREENE?
With the newspapers you'd receive from a subscription to the Madison County Carrier & Enterprise-Recorder, you could go green by:
• Using old newspapers in your garden as compost And to discourage weeds.
• Wrapping gifts
• Insulation under doors and around cracks.
• Make crafts such as Piñatas, Paper Hats, Puppets, Papier Mâché, etc.
• Liners for pet litter boxes or birdhouses.
• Absorb odors in shoes, drawers, or food containers.
• Use as packing material for storing items or Use crumbled as protection for fragile mail.
• When painting use as a drop cloth To make clean up easier.
To start "Going Greene" today, just give us a call at (850) 973-4141 or visit our website at: www.greenepublishing.com
GREENE Publishing, Inc.

FLORIDA COOKIN' Wild Style
"One Of A Kind" Reg. \$28, now only \$20
Get your copy at Madison Sporting Goods in Madison, Florida Jackson's Drug Store in Greenville, Florida Studstill Lumber in Madison, Florida Farmers Supply in downtown Madison and Greene Publishing, INC. located at 1695 South SR 53 in Madison, FL.
• Recipes
• Cleaning, Preparing & Storing Wild Game
• Curing & Smoking
• Making Sausage & Bologna
• Microwave Cooking
• Glossary
• Equivalents
• Substitutions
• Weights & Measures
• Can Sizes
• Herbs & Spices
• Helpful Cooking Hints
• Helpful Household Hints
• Detailed Drawing On How To Build & Use Your Own Water Oven/Smoker
Historical Recipes and Little Known Facts About Florida's Wildlife

CHRISTMAS AT THE MANSION

Christmas at the Mansion Holiday Reception Community enjoys “A Victorian Christmas” at the Mansion



Photo submitted

North Florida Community College Board of Trustees Chair Mike Williams, right, and NFCC Board member R.B. Davis and wife Cecil were among those attending the Christmas at the Mansion reception on Dec. 6 at the Wardlaw-Smith-Goza Conference Center.



Photo submitted

Local pianist Lynne Sapp provided a musical backdrop to the holiday reception Dec. 6 at the Wardlaw-Smith-Goza Conference Center.



Photo submitted

Tyler Platt accompanied his parents Troy and Tracey Platt to the Christmas at the Mansion holiday reception Dec. 6.



Photo submitted

Jackie Johnson, left, and Maria Greene at the Wardlaw-Smith-Goza Conference Center's 2011 Christmas at the Mansion holiday reception Dec. 6. This year's theme was “A Victorian Christmas” and the holiday reception was a prelude to the Christmas at the Mansion holiday open house held Dec. 7-11.



Photo submitted

Members of the Rural Area Theatrical Troupe (RATT) posed as Victorian era mannequins throughout the Wardlaw-Smith-Goza Conference Center Dec. 6 to add flare to the beautiful “Victorian Christmas” décor that greeted guests.

☺wens Propane, Inc

“Service With A Smile”
Serving North Florida

MADISON, JEFFERSON, SUWANNEE & HAMILTON COUNTIES

- \$3.19 PER GALLON • NO DELIVERY FEES •
- NO SEASONAL PRICES • NO GIMMICKS •

SIMPLY EVERYDAY FAIR PRICING

- FREE TANK SETS • HEATER SERVICE •
- NEW HEATERS • TANKLESS WATER HEATERS •
- GAS LOGS • PRICE COMPARISONS •

(Ask For Becky)

Madison Office

137 SW Shelby Avenue • Madison, Florida 32340
(850) 253-3761

*We Are Here To Earn Your Business
&
Keep Your Business*

Reward!!! \$2,500.00

Birdsong Peanuts and Lee Farms are offering a \$2,500.00 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the theft of a 2009 Ford F-250 Super Duty truck and Equipment owned by Lee Peanut Farms, division of Birdsong Peanuts.

**GA. License Plate # BIZ 2549
Vehicle VIN# 1FTSW21R19EB14900**

**This truck is white in color
and has a diesel engine.**

If you have any information regarding this theft, please contact the Madison County Sheriff's Office (850)973-4151.

OR

Ronnie Thompson, Manager of
Birdsong Peanuts at Lee, FL.
at (850)971-5515.

Any person providing this information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the thief, or thieves, can remain anonymous.

All information that you can provide will be greatly appreciated!!!



**NORTH FLORIDA
PAINT & BODY**
1524 S. SR 53 • Madison

We Accept Insurance Repairs

- New State-of-the-Art Paint Booth •
- Body & Collision Repair •
- Complete Auto Painting •
- Replace Window Motors •
- Headlights Resurfaced •
- Dent & Ding Removal •
- Frame Straightening •
- Bedliners •
- We Paint Semi-Trucks •

No Job Too Big Or Too Small
Call (850) 97-FIXIT
(973-4948)