

MONTICELLO NEWS

143rd Year No. 52

Wednesday, December 28, 2011

50¢ 46¢ + 4¢

ELECTRICAL FIRE CLAIMS RARE DOOR, DAMAGES SEVERAL OTHER BUSINESSES



Photo courtesy of Hines Boyd



ECB Publishing photo by Fran Hunt, December 27, 2011

A Jefferson County Fire Rescue firefighter accesses the scene after the fire at the Rare Door had been extinguished Monday night.

Following the suspected electrical fire at the Rare Door on Monday night, there was an estimated \$200,000 damage to property and an estimated \$200,000 damage to the contents of the building.

FRAN HUNT
ECB Publishing
Staff Writer

An apparent electrical fire in the kitchen area Monday evening claimed the Rare Door restaurant and caused damage to several other adjoining businesses.

Jefferson County Fire Rescue reported that at 6:22 p.m., December 26, firefighters responded to a report of heavy smoke coming from the Rare Door. They arrived on scene three minutes later. The Monticello Volunteer Fire Department was also called to

respond to the scene.

Upon arrival Engine 1 encountered heavy smoke coming from the windows, doors and roof of the Rare Door. The majority of smoke was in the area over the kitchen. Two 1 1/4" hoses were deployed and entry was first made through

the north door of the Rare Door. Fire was observed in the kitchen area.

The attack crew backed out in order to cut the fire off from other joining buildings south of the Rare Door.

The second entry was made into the Rare Door from

the southeast door of the restaurant. The fire was encountered on the backside of the kitchen, which was fully involved.

The fire was cut off from the remaining buildings with
Please See RARE DOOR Page 3

Winn-Dixie BI-LO

BI-LO, Winn-Dixie Agree to A Merger

Little Change Expected For Local Store

BI-LO, LLC (BI-LO) and Winn-Dixie Stores, Inc., announced last week that the two companies will merge to create an organization of approximately 690 grocery stores and 63,000 employees in eight states throughout the Southeast.

BI-LO, founded in 1961, is a supermarket chain headquartered in Mauldin, South Carolina. It operates 210 supermarkets in South and North Carolinas, Georgia, and Tennessee, and employs approximately 17,500 people. Originally named Wrenn & Outlaw, the company officially changed its name to BI-LO in 1963.

Winn-Dixie — founded in 1925 and operating under its current name since 1955 — is a supermarket chain based in Jacksonville, Florida. It currently operates 480 stores in Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia and Mississippi, and employs approximately
Please See MERGER Page 3

COUNTY SIGNS BELATED AGREEMENT WITH NFBA

LAZARO ALEMAN
ECB Publishing
Senior Staff Writer

The Jefferson County Commission two weeks ago approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the North Florida Broadband Authority (NFBA) — a small housekeeping detail that needed completing to keep the NFBA's broadband project on track.

Commissioner Stephen Fulford introduced the MOU for board approval on Thursday, Dec. 15.

As Fulford explained it, the MOU should have been signed in 2010 as part of an earlier resolution. Because of a clerical error, however, the document had fallen through the cracks and the error had only recently been discovered, he said.

Fulford said it was imperative that the commission approved the measure, if the NFBA was to meet its federal requirements.

Please See NFBA Page 3

COMMISSION HIRES CONSULTANT FIRM TO REDO FIRE, LANDFILL ASSESSMENTS

Result Could Be Higher, Or Lower, Fees

LAZARO ALEMAN
ECB Publishing
Senior Staff Writer

The Jefferson County Commission recently committed \$45,000 to have a consultant firm do a study to reevaluate the county's fire and landfill assessments.

The study arises out of the summer's budget

discussions and Commissioner Hines Boyd's associated proposal calling for a reduction of the landfill assessment.

Although Boyd's proposal failed to pass, the board decided that the assessment possibly needed reevaluating.

That's because it came out in the discussions

that the current commercial landfill assessment isn't sufficient to cover the cost of the service.

What's more, it also came also out that the current way of calculating the assessment, based on the square footage of the commercial entity, might not be

the best — or even correct — way of doing it.

The latter was one of the more salient points to emerge from a presentation to the commission by Jeff Rackley, of Government Services Group (GSG), on Sept. 1 of this year. GSG is a consultant
Please See LANDFILL Page 3

SANTA COMES TO WACISSA



PICTURES CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived in Wacissa, Florida by a reindeer pulled sleigh just days before Christmas. He visited with the children giving each a toy from his seemingly endless red bag while Mrs. Claus handed out candy. He also visited with a few adults and allowed for a photo or two... and more.

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Local Weather

Wed 12/28 62/33

Mainly sunny. High 62F. Winds NW at 5 to 10 mph.

Thu 12/29 64/38

Sunshine. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the upper 30s.

Fri 12/30 70/46

More sun than clouds. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the mid 40s.

VIEWPOINTS & OPINIONS



Emerald's Gem Box

EMERALD GREENE, OWNER/PUBLISHER



Happy New Year!

Another year has come and gone. Time flies so fast. It's time to take down the Christmas tree and bring in the New Year with a fresh new start.

With the ending of another year of our lives, we must not look back at the past, but look forward to a new beginning with 2012.

Bring the past only if you are going to build from it.
~Doménico Cieri Estrada

What you need to know about the past is that no matter what has happened, it has all worked together to bring you to this very moment. And this is the moment you can choose to make everything new. Right now.

~Author Unknown

I wish all of you a happy and prosperous New Year.

Until then....see you around the town.

Stingers

"The special sports pull-out section last week was incredible. I can tell you all worked especially hard on it. It was big-time dense-pack with photos, stories, and congratulatory ads -- all done under killer time restraints. I think you should enter it in next Florida Press competition. I'll bet in 20 or 30 years from now those students and their families will still have their copy of that section tucked away somewhere for safekeeping. You all get an A+ for hard work and dedication."

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Letters To The Editor

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE TYPED WORD FOR WORD, COMMA FOR COMMA, AS SENT TO THIS NEWSPAPER.

ELECTED OFFICIALS DID NOT SERVE US WELL

Last Monday night, I was a front row witness to one of the most shameful displays of sloppy work and public discord this county has seen in a long time. It happened in a joint redistricting meeting between the County Commission and the School Board. Because both groups failed to do their homework well ahead of the December 31 deadline, they have been involved in a hasty, last-minute effort to make changes in district lines that will be with us for the next ten years.

Chairman Hines Boyd opened the meeting with a plea to all members to be civil and respectful and to look at the facts

with an open mind. The words were hardly out of his mouth before Shirley Washington grabbed the floor and launched into a long diatribe filled with racial demagoguery. She viciously attacked Tom Love who had produced what he thought was a compromise plan. Mrs. Washington wasn't in a mood for compromise.

Not long after Mrs. Washington finished, C.P. Miller piled on, continuing the attack on Mr. Love. Mr. Miller wasn't looking for compromise either, since he had his own plan (labeled the CUP plan) designed to make it much easier for him to finally win the District 3 County Commission election he

has lost twice in the last ten years but still covets.

Whatsmore, C.P. Miller and Shirley Washington, who both live in District 3, had packed the room with supporters as part of an apparent plan aimed at bullying and intimidating members to vote their way. In the end, the plan worked.

The fight was over the racial makeup of District 3, where small changes can have a dramatic effect on the results of future elections. District 3 has traditionally been the "balanced" district required by the 1985 court order. It is designed to make it possible for either a white candidate or a black candidate to have a

fair shot at getting elected. That balance has worked well for the last ten years. Data presented to the group members showed that, in six races since 2001, black candidates have won 3 of them and white candidates have won 3. The winning margins were always close, varying from 5 votes to 93 votes.

The plans presented by Tom Love, much to the dislike of C.P. Miller and Shirley Washington, were designed to maintain that balance. District 3 has grown more than any other district since the last census. So it must give up people to rebalance the population between districts. Tom Love's first plan kept the black/white ratios just as they are now, transferring equal numbers of black voters and white voters out of the district. C.P. Miller's plan, on the other hand, transferred 13 black voters and 151 white voters out of District 3, decidedly shifting the balance in favor of a black candidate.

What happened after the first plans were presented is complex. Ultimately, the group asked Johnnie Abron, who is a

computer specialist with the Clerk's office, to work with Mr. Miller and Mr. Love to try to reconcile their original plans. Mr. Love brought back a compromise plan that transferred 34 black voters and 81 white voters out of District 3. Mr. Miller would have no part of that compromise. Instead Miller twisted Mr. Love's argument for balance, saying that Mr. Love didn't believe there should be two black members on the Commission or School Board. The negotiations collapsed.

With the negotiations in shambles, Mr. Abron developed his own plan to bring back to the group, refusing Mr. Love's request to print maps of data from his compromise plan. For whatever Reason, Mr. Abron's plan INCREASED the racial moves in District 3, even beyond those originally proposed by Mr. Miller and CUP. Mr. Abron's plan moved a net of 137 white voters OUT of District 3 and moved IN a net 35 black voters. That changed the racial balance by 172 potential voters in a district that hasn't been won by more than 93 votes in the last ten years.

No wonder C. P. Miller and Shirley Washington pounced on Abron's plan. They saw it as their ticket to get what they wanted-an easy ride into office.

Still we aren't sure what has really happened, except that the political landscape in Jefferson County has changed dramatically. The group didn't get Abron's map until 2 or 3 hours before the meeting, if that. The maps were fuzzy. You couldn't see streets or old district lines. There was little analysis of the new numbers, and data hadn't been checked for accuracy. The changes didn't seem to meet several of the guidelines that the group had set. Though the group members had little idea of what they were voting on, they voted anyway.

Washington, Miller, and their supporters got what they wanted. The intimidation and rancor worked. Commissioners and School Board members who normally stand their ground caved, because they didn't have anything to lose personally and just wanted to get it over with. They didn't serve us well.

Bud Wheeler

FAMU CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT WAS WONDERFUL

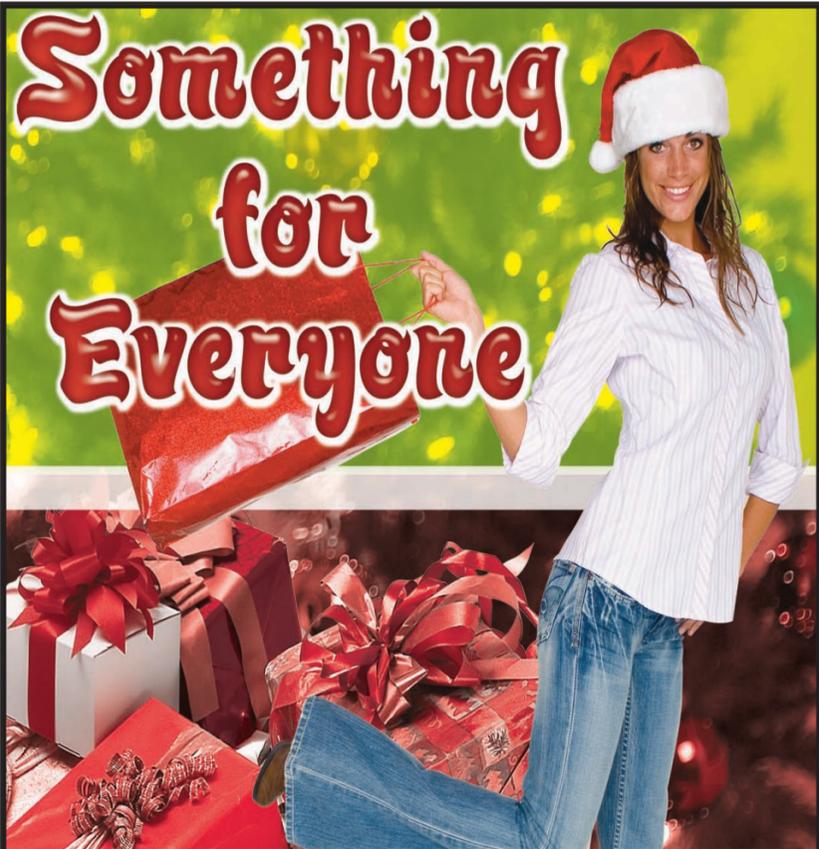
Dear Fellow Citizens of Monticello:

If you were not in the audience at the Opera House on Saturday, December 3rd, you missed a wonderful Christmas concert.

The FAMU Concert Choir performed with beautiful voices and a variety of songs. The audience was

appreciative and enthusiastic in their response but the auditorium was only half full. It seems we need to encourage young people who are trying to get an education but find time to share their talents with others.

Merry Christmas.
Helen Gleasman



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EMERALD GREENE
Publisher/Owner

LAZARO ALEMAN
Senior Staff Writer

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AROUND JEFFERSON COUNTY



Time To Submit MLK Parade Applications

FRAN HUNT
ECB Publishing
Staff Writer

It's that time of year again for all groups and organizations to submit their applications to participate in the 32nd annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) parade. The MLK Community Center is currently notifying groups early so that they might get an accurate count of parade participants this year.

Coordinators are also looking forward to a significantly larger parade.

The parade, held in honor of MLK, will be held at 11 a.m. January 16.

MLK Community Center President Charles Parrish said, "Each year we have events in our community to honor Dr. King. The events begin Sunday, January 15, during a MLK memorial service, highlighting what the community must do to keep the dream alive. The location will be posted at a later date. Our annual celebration ends Monday, January 16 with the parade. Activities will be held at the MLK Center following the parade."

Applications can be picked up at the MLK Center. The deadline to submit the applications is January 13. Return the applications to the MLK Center, 485 Mississippi Street, Monticello, FL, 32344. For additional information contact Parade Chairman Gerrold Austin at 342-4806 or call the Center at 997-3760.

Parade participants will receive an information sheet that will contain pertinent information concerning the parade. The parade will begin promptly at 11 a.m.

The parade committee reserves the right to exclude any participant which is felt to be inappropriate.

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Landfill

continued from page 1

firm that conducts assessment studies and performs other services for government entities.

Rackley returned to the commission on Thursday, Dec. 15, with a proposal that called for GSG to be assigned the task of doing a study for the county on the viability of the current fire and landfill assessments, and how each could be updated. The contract, he said, would piggyback on an existing contract with Madison County.

Rackley said the study would establish the existing levels of service for fire protection and garbage collection and the county's actual cost for providing these services to residents. He said the study would then determine what would be a fair and reasonable apportionment of the costs of the services to the individual properties. Equally important, he said, the study would assure that the assessment was legally defensible.

Rackley said the study would essentially identify the full cost of the two services, both in direct and indirect costs. It would also, he said, develop a methodology for assessing the benefits of the services to the different categories of properties and do analyses to determine what would be a fair and proportionate assessment for each category.

As for the present method of determining the commercial landfill assessment based on the square footage, Rackley said his firm would work to come up with a more sensible method. He said that, although the present method wasn't necessarily illegal, it wasn't the best way to do it.

Commissioner Hines Boyd expressed reservations about the proposal. He questioned the need to do the study now, given that the budget was in flux as a result of the upgrades and other changes that the Solid Waste Department was undertaking to improve service at the collection sites. Besides, much of the data

needed for the analyses was yet to be collected, he said.

"I question the need to do the study and the \$45,000 to do it," Boyd concluded.

Commissioner Stephen Fulford saw it differently. The county might have the capability to do the study on its own, but did the county staff have the time to do it, he said.

"There's a lot of things that we have the ability to do, but do we have the personnel or the time to do it?" Fulford said.

Commissioner Betsy Barfield offered that having GSG do the study would ensure that the assessments had the necessary legal underpinnings.

Rackley said the assessments should be reevaluated every three to five years.

"I think yours are passed due for an update," he said, an observation that he based on Clerk of Court Kirk Reams' remark that the two assessments hadn't been updated since 1989.

Rackley reiterated that the county's current way of calculating the landfill assessment on commercial structures wasn't the best, as "no good or direct correlation exists between square footage and garbage generated."

He said a better way to do it was to apply the landfill assessment to residential properties and direct bill the commercial properties for a specified fee, as Madison County did.

"Residential properties get a standard service but commercial properties don't get a standard service," Rackley said.

Barfield raised the issue of the existing disparity between the city and the county, in terms of city residents not being charged the landfill assessment. She said the issue needed to be part of the study.

The board's vote to approve the contract with GSG was 4-1, with Boyd the lone vote.

Rare Door

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adjoining walls.

Fire Rescue reported that heavy smoke was throughout several other businesses with fire exposure in two other establishments, Jackson's Drug Store and Monticello Pizza Kitchen.

Heat and smoke spread through the office area of Jackson's Drug Store. Some salvage and overhaul was performed in the two office areas. In one office the ceiling was removed along with some air duct. In the second office the air conditioner unit was removed to access for fire extension. No major fire extension was found, however there was damage from heat, smoke and water.

Positive pressure ventilation was used to clear the area of smoke.

The fire was extinguished with salvage and overhaul performed in all affected areas.

Firefighters noted that forcible entry was made on the three exterior doors of the Rare Door. Forcible entry was also used on an interior door connecting the Rare Door to Jackson's Drug Store. The roof was accessed with no fire break-through noted.

Progress Energy responded and terminated the power to all of the buildings involved. The Florida State Fire Marshal's Office also responded to investigate the cause of the blaze.

As of press time, the fire appeared to be electrical in nature, starting in the kitchen area at the breaker box. The full report and cause will be forthcoming from the State Fire Marshal's Office.

Fire Rescue noted that the Monticello Pizza Kitchen was affected by the fire in the Rare Door. There was no fire in the Monticello Pizza Kitchen, but since a common wall was shared between the two businesses, some of the ceiling inside the Monticello Pizza Kitchen had to be removed to check for fire extension. There was no fire found. Smoke and water did get into the establishment though, causing damage.

Another business affected by the fire at the Rare Door was Monticello Florist. There was no fire damage, only smoke damage and positive ventilation was performed to remove the smoke from the area.

The fire was completely extinguished, overhaul and ventilation completed and firefighters departed the scene at 9:39 p.m.

An estimated \$200,000 damage to the building and an estimated \$200,000 damage to contents was done at the Rare Door and an estimated \$5,000 property damage with an estimated \$1,000 damage to contents in Jackson's Drug Store was done by the fire.

Merger

continued from page 1

45,500 people.

Under the terms of the negotiated agreement, BI-LO will acquire all of the outstanding shares of Winn-Dixie stock. Winn-Dixie shareholders will receive \$9.50 in cash per share of Winn-Dixie common stock, representing a premium of approximately 75 percent over the closing price of Winn-Dixie common stock on December 16, 2011.

A special committee of the Winn-Dixie Board of Directors, comprised of eight independent directors and advised by independent financial and legal advisors, negotiated the transaction and recommended it to the full board. The full board then unanimously approved the agreement and is recommending that Winn-Dixie shareholders vote in favor of the transaction.

"We are very excited about the merger of BI-LO and Winn-Dixie," BI-LO Chairman Randall Onstead is quoted saying.

"With no overlap in our markets, the combined company will have a perfect geographic fit that will create a stronger platform from which to provide our customers great products at a great value, while continuing to offer exceptional service.

"BI-LO and Winn-Dixie are both strong regional brands with similar heritages, compelling customer connections, and outstanding employees," Onstead continued. "Both have been an important part of the communities and families they serve, and we look forward to building upon these two iconic brands and serving loyal customers for years to come."

Winn-Dixie Chairman, CEO and President Peter Lynch equally praised the merger.

"This transaction with BI-LO provides Winn-Dixie shareholders with a significant cash premium for their shares," Lynch is quoted saying. "We believe this transaction is in the best interests of our shareholder-

ers. By combining BI-LO and Winn-Dixie, we anticipate building a company that is stronger than our individual businesses and creating opportunities for continued advancement through the cross-pollination of our people and the sharing of ideas across our organizations, all to the benefit of our guests, suppliers, team members and the neighborhoods that Winn-Dixie serves."

The transaction is expected to close in the next 60 to 120 days, subject to the approval of Winn-Dixie shareholders and other customary closing conditions, including expiration of the applicable waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976. The transaction is not subject to any financing condition.

Following the completion of the merger, Winn-Dixie will become a privately held, wholly owned subsidiary of BI-LO and Winn-Dixie's common stock will cease trading on the NAS-

DAQ.

Until the merger is complete, BI-LO and Winn-Dixie will continue to operate as separate companies.

Following completion of the merger, it is anticipated that the companies will continue to operate under the BI-LO and Winn-Dixie banners that their respective customers have come to know.

The BI-LO and Winn-Dixie press release states that neither company currently expects any store closures as a result of the merger.

A phone call to Monticello Winn Dixie, as well as the Winn Dixie corporate office in Jacksonville, revealed that little change is expected to come to the local store in the foreseeable future as a result of the announcement. The local store also is expected to continue operating under its current name. Per the Winn Dixie corporate office, no store closures are expected for any of its 480 stores.

NFBA

continued from page 1

The MOU listed the county assets that are available to the NFBA for deployment of its broadband system, such as tall buildings and water and communications towers. Fulford said once the MOU was approved, the NFBA would assess the individual sites, determine the viability of each, and execute lease agreements with the county on any of the sites that the NFBA selected for deployment of the system.

"There's no financial obligation to the county," Fulford said of the MOU. "It simply gives the NFBA access to these assets."

He explained that it was a requirement of the \$30.1 million federal grant that the NFBA received in 2010 that the member counties had to come up with \$9 million in

matching funds. He said small counties such as Jefferson County were allowed to make up their part of the match by contributing assets such as towers for the network.

"Jefferson County was one of the few counties that the NFBA didn't have an executed contract from," Fulford said. "It was simply a clerical error."

The NFBA was awarded the \$30.1 million grant for broadband and high-speed connectivity in February 2010, representing at the time one of the largest awards of stimulus monies to Florida and possibly the first Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) grants officially awarded to the state.

BTOP grants, funded to the tune of \$4.7 billion, were designed to foster the deployment of broadband infrastructure in underserved and underserved regions of the country.

The NFBA, which will own and manage the system, is made up of the 15 counties and eight cities in a region that's designated a Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern because of its high unemployment, poverty levels and lack of economic diversity.

It's the aim of the broadband project to give the region an economic development boost by bringing it up to par with the more developed areas of the state, insofar as the availability of high-speed Internet service.



AROUND JEFFERSON COUNTY



Santa Comes To Wacissa



FIVE PUPPIES NEED HOMES FOR NEW YEAR

FRAN HUNT
ECB Publishing
Staff Writer

Five young puppies are alive today thanks to the Jefferson County Humane Society and now those puppies are in need of new homes.

The little canines came close to not even seeing Christmas day and were snagged right out from under the needle for euthanasia.

Humane Society Shelter Director Nancy Baker told the story of the puppies as her eyes welled with tears and her voice began cracking.

"Animal Control picked up the five puppies and their mother Monday, December 12 and held on to them for the required

10 days," said Baker. "When they first got them they contacted us to see if we could take them, but we were full and I told them that I could not take them but would try to find them homes."

Baker said that on Friday, December 23, she received a call from Animal Medical Clinic, who had been called to go out to Animal Control and euthanize the mother dog and the young puppies.

"I was told that they wanted to put them down on Wednesday, but Animal Medical advised them that they needed to set an appointment, which they did for Friday afternoon," said Baker. "Animal Medical called me and I advised them



that I could not take the mother but I did not want the puppies destroyed. We don't have the room at the shelter but I will not let them be put down. I will take them."

Unfortunately, the mother was put down. However, the puppies are now available for adoption at the shelter and they desperately need good homes and the love they deserve to have in their lives.

Going to the shelter to look the puppies over, they are so adorable and quite irresistible. They pop their front paws on the kennel fence, wag their little tails and whimper and bark to get your attention. Reaching into the pen, the puppies attack with a barrage of kisses, tail wags and playful antics.

They are the common "Monticello Mutts" with three males, including one dark brindle with white toes, one light brindle with chocolate nose and blue eyes and one black with traces of white; and two females, both black with traces of white.

Do yourself and the puppies a favor, come by the shelter, visit, fall in love and adopt a puppy.

The adoption fee is \$70, which includes, spaying/neutering, all current shots and heartworm check. There is also a \$100 returnable deposit for each of the puppies to ensure that when they are old enough the puppies are brought back and altered, at which point the \$100 is returned.

For further information contact the shelter at 342-0244.

Financial Focus...

TIME FOR NEW YEAR'S FINANCIAL RESOLUTIONS

Provided by Robert J. Davison

Once again, it's time to make some New Year's resolutions. This year, in addition to hitting the gym, learning that second language and getting better organized, why not also consider a few financial resolutions?

What types of resolutions might you consider? Here are a few suggestions:

- Contribute more to your retirement accounts. The new year means that you are one year closer to retirement. To help yourself build resources for the lifestyle you've envisioned as a retiree, try to boost your contributions to your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. You can do this if you get a salary increase and devote at least part of it to your 401(k). At the same time, try to "max out" on your Individual Retirement Account (IRA). For 2012, you can contribute up to \$5,000 to an IRA, or \$6,000 if you're 50 or older.
- Reduce your debts. Look for ways to cut down or consolidate your debts. It may not be easy, but it's worth the effort because the lower your debt load, the more money you'll have available to invest for the future. Build an emergency fund. If you don't already have an emergency fund containing between six and 12 months' worth of living expenses, start building one soon. Keep the money in a liquid vehicle — one that's separate from your everyday checking and savings accounts. Without such an emergency fund, you may be forced to dip into your long-term investments to pay for unexpected costs, such as a major car repair, a new furnace or a large medical bill.
- Don't overreact to volatility. In 2011, the financial markets have been volatile, with big gains followed by big drops followed by big gains — a true roller-coaster pattern. Try not to let large, short-term price movements influence your investment decisions. Many of the factors that cause jumps or declines are not that relevant to long-term results — and as an investor, you want to focus on the long term. Concentrate on building a portfolio that's suitable for your individual goals and risk tolerance.
- Be aware of different types of risk. For many investors, "investment risk" strictly means the possibility of losing principal when the value of an investment drops. Consequently, to cut back on their risk in the face of a volatile market, they may sell off stocks and load up on certificates of deposit (CDs), bonds and other so-called "safer" investments. But each investment actually carries its own type of risk. For example, if you own CDs that pay a 2 percent return, and the inflation rate is 3 percent, you will lose purchasing power over time. And if you wanted to sell your bonds before they had matured, you'd have to sell them at a discount if the market interest rate had risen above the "coupon" rate of your bond because no one would pay you full price for them. Just be aware that no investment is "risk-free," and try to build a diversified portfolio that can lessen the impact of one specific type of risk.

By following these suggestions, you can go a long way toward making 2012 a good year in which to make progress toward your important financial goals. So plan ahead — and make the right moves.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Robert J. Davison
Financial Advisor

Edward Jones

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Monticello News

AROUND JEFFERSON COUNTY

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DECEMBER 29
AA meetings are held weekly at 8 p.m. on Thursday at the Christ Episcopal Church annex, 425 North Cherry Street. For more information call 850-997-2129 or 850-997-1955.

DECEMBER 30
Rotary meets at 12 p.m. on Friday at the First

Presbyterian Church in the fellowship hall for lunch and a meeting with a program and speaker. Contact President John Lilly at 850-342-0187 for more information.

DECEMBER 30
Monticello Jamboree begins at 7 p.m. every Friday evening at 625 South

Water Street, just three blocks north of the American Legion Otto Walker Post 49. For questions or concerns contact Curtis Morgan at 850-933-8136 or Bobby Connell at 850-445-0049. There are doorprizes, cold soft drinks and snacks.

JANUARY 1
VFW Post 251 meets 5 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month at the Learning Center on Marvin Street for a meeting. Contact Commander Ned Hill at 850-339-5524 for more information.

JANUARY 2
VFW Ladies Auxiliary Post 251 meets 6:30 p.m. on the first Monday of each month at Memorial MB Church. Contact President Mary Madison at 850-210-7090 for more information.

JANUARY 2
Sons Of The American Legion (SAL) meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. on the first Monday of each month in the Otto Walker Post 49 on South Water Street in Monticello. For more information contact District III Commander Buddy

Westbrook at 850-997-2973.

JANUARY 2
Al-Anon meetings are held at 8 p.m. every Monday at the Anglican Church, 124 Jefferson Avenue in Thomasville, GA. For information go to www.al-anon.alateen.org

JANUARY 2
AA women's meetings are held on Mondays at 6:45 p.m.; AA meetings follow at 8 p.m., at the Christ Episcopal Church Annex, 425 North Cherry Street. For more information, call 850-997-2129 or 850-997-1955.

JANUARY 3
Monticello Woman's Club meets on the first Tuesday of every month at noon at the clubhouse on East Pearl Street for lunch and a meeting. Contact Club President Ethel Strickland at 850-997-3382 for more information.

JANUARY 3
Monticello/Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce General Membership Meeting is held at noon on the first Tuesday of each month. The meeting includes

lunch and a program. For more information visit the Chamber Website at monticellojeffersonfl.com or call 850-997-5552. Lunch will be provided by Covenant Hospice in recognition of National Hospice Month.

JANUARY 3, 19
Jefferson County Lions Club meets at 1 p.m. on the first Tuesday and at 5 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. For more information contact Lion Debbie at 850-997-0901, leave a message.

JANUARY 3
AA classes are held every Tuesday at 8 p.m. for those seeking help. The classes are held at the Harvest Christian Center, 1599 Springhollow Road. Contact Marvin Graham, pastor, at 850-212-7669 for more information.

JANUARY 4
Monticello Kiwanis Club meets every Wednesday at noon at the Jefferson Country Club on the Boston Highway for lunch, a program and a meeting. Contact President Rob Beshears at 850-

997-5054 for more information.

JANUARY 4
Jefferson Arts Gallery business meeting is held on the first Wednesday of the month from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., in the gallery at 575 West Washington Street in downtown Monticello. (No meeting in August) Become a member! Get involved! Be there!

JANUARY 5
You may qualify for assistance through the Capital Area Community Action Agency Weatherization Assistance Program. The program reduces heating and cooling costs by improving the energy efficiency of the home. Contact Annette Wilson at 850-997-4104 for an appointment from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the first Thursday at Union Hill AME Church. Homes in Jefferson County are needed for weatherization. Or, contact Pat Hall or Melissa Watson at 850-997-8231 for additional information, and other services currently being offered. This is free to the client.

Obituary

EDITH CRISP

Edith Crisp, age 80, passed away on Friday, December 23, 2011 in Tallahassee, FL. A funeral service will be held 1 p.m. on Wednesday, December 28, 2011 at Christian Heritage Church, 2820 Sharer Road in Tallahassee. The burial will follow at Roseland Cemetery in Monticello, FL. The family received friends from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, December 27, 2011, at Beggs Funeral Home, 3322 Apalachee Parkway, Tallahassee, 850-942-2929, HYPERLINK "mailto:beggsapalachee@embarqmail.com" "mailto:beggsapalachee@embarqmail.com"

Edith was a native of Monticello, spending 51 years in Tallahassee. She was a member of Christian Heritage Church.

She is survived by her daughter Michele Lynn; granddaughter Brandy Childers Willis and husband Grant Willis; and grandson Brad Randall Childers.

She is preceded in death by her parents Lamar Lanier Pope and Pearl Mae Harrington Pope and sister Betty Jean Pope Demott.

RUSSELL R. BEVIS

Russell R. Bevis, age 85, of Tallahassee, FL passed away on Saturday, December 17, 2011 in Tallahassee. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Marian Barbay Bevis.



The funeral service was held on Wednesday, December 21, 2011 at Faith Presbyterian Church in Tallahassee. A reception for family and friends followed in the church fellowship hall. Interment followed the reception at Roselawn Cemetery, with military honors.

Gifts in memory of Mr. Bevis may be made to: Big Bend Hospice, 1723 Mahan Center Boulevard, Tallahassee, FL 32308.

Mr. Bevis was founder of Bevis Funeral Home. He was a former Mayor of Tallahassee and was also a United States Navy veteran of World War II.

Other survivors include two sons Rocky Bevis (Patti) and Monty Bevis (Bonnie), both of Tallahassee; two daughters Renee Walker (TB.) of Waukeelah, FL and Alicia Bevis (Ricky Williford,) of Tallahassee; grandchildren Brewster Barbay Bevis (Amanda,) Thomas Butler Walker, III (Christell,) John Russell Walker (Nicole,) Sarah Bevis Taylor (Tholley,) Shellie Blackburn, Jennifer Walker Pavlik (Ryan,) Heather Shirah, Olivia Shirah, Melissa Bevis and Jo Bevis; great-grandchildren Leo Taylor, Waylon Taylor, Payton Blackburn, Colby Blackburn, Maggie Ann Walker and Haley Walker. His nephew W. Steve Southerland of Panama City, FL also survives him.

Mr. Bevis was preceded in death by his parents John Willis Bevis and Melissa Mae Hinson; his brother William Hinson Bevis, Sr.; and sisters Johnnie Mae Bevis Dixon, Robbie Lee Bevis Southerland and Sarah Pauline Bevis Grant.

Bevis Funeral Home of Tallahassee (850-385-2193 or www.bevisfh.com) handled the arrangements for the family.

Camellia Garden Circle Activities

Camellia Garden Circle members enjoyed their annual Christmas party at the home of Bobbie Golden on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 18. Monticello Garden Club President Anna Mara was in attendance to talk briefly to the group about the Circles participating in a standard flower show at the Monticello Opera House during the Tour of Homes in March 2012. If the Monticello Garden Club membership decides to go ahead with these events, participants will need to begin planning now.

There is going to be a Community Quilt Show at the Jefferson Arts Gallery in January 2012. All members of the community are welcome to enter their creations. The quilt entries must be in by January 4 and only one entry per person is allowed. The show will start on the Friday after. Contact Camellia Garden Circle Chairman Jane Davis at 850-997-4320 for more details. The show was so well received last year that the decision was made to have one again. There

are some very talented quilters in Jefferson County. This should be a great show for everyone.

On Saturday, January 21, Bobbie Golden, in conjunction with the Camellia Garden Circle, will sponsor a program for community residents on how to build a greenhouse using reclaimed materials for under \$100. The event will be held at the Golden Acres Ranch. The instructor for this workshop will be a professor from FAMU. Such things as old doors and windows will be used. There will be no charge and Bobbie will provide the materials to build a greenhouse on her property. To participate in this workshop, contact Bobbie at 850-997-6599.

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RATES & LOCATIONS:
Piano: \$20 per 30 minute class; Jefferson Arts Gallery Studio
Dance: \$20 per 1 hour class; \$6 per 45 minute class
Monticello Health & Fitness Center-no membership required

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FEAR



*For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.
Philippians 1:21 (KJV)*

Few of us like to think about death, and some of us even fear it. Those of us who have accepted Christ as our Savior, however, know that there is much to gain from death. Death of our bodies is not death of our spirits. We will rise again and live forever in the arms of God.

WACISSA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

14492 Waukeelah Hwy/ P.O. Box 411
Wacissa • 997-2179 or 997-1769
Pastor James Gamble

Sunday School.....9:45 AM
Sunday Morning.....10:55 AM
Sunday Bible Study.....6:30 PM
Wednesday
Prayer Meeting.....6:30 PM
Youth Group.....6:00 PM
Choir Practice.....7:30 PM

CAPITAL HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH

7150 Apalachee Pkwy • Tallahassee
www.chbaptistchurch.org

Pastor Derrick Burrus 850-345-0425
Youth Pastor Ron Thrash 850-459-6490

Sunday School.....10:00 AM
Sunday Worship.....11:00 AM
Children's Chapel.....11:00 AM
Sunday Evening.....6:00 PM
Wednesday Evening.....7:00 PM
Prayer Meeting and Bible Study
Classes for Students

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

US 19 N 1590 N. Jefferson Street (US 19)
997-3906

Debra@monticellonaz@gmail.com
Rev. Timothy Hildreth

Sunday School.....9:45 AM
Morning Worship.....10:45 AM
Wednesday Evening
Supper.....5:30 PM
Small Group Breakout.....6:30 PM
Bible Study & Prayer Meeting.....6:30 PM
Saturday
Spanish Church Services.....7:30 PM

ELIZABETH BAPTIST CHURCH

4124 Bassett Dairy Rd • Monticello • 997-8444
Email: ebmonticello@centurylink.net

Dr Dean Spivey, Pastor
Student Pastor, Don Self

Sunday Worship Service.....8:30 AM
Sunday: Bible Study.....9:45 AM
Worship Service.....11:00 AM
Choir Practice.....6:00 PM
Worship Service.....7:00 PM
Wednesday
Children/Student Ministry.....3:00 PM
Bible Study/Prayer Meeting.....6:00 PM
RA's, GA's, Mission Friends & Youth 6:00 PM

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

425 North Cherry Street • Monticello • 997-4116
www.ChristChurchMonticello.com

Rev. Buzz Yarborough

Communicating the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1840
Sunday 9:00 AM.....Adult and Children Sunday School
10:00 AMHoly Eucharist
Nursery provided for children under 5

MEMORIAL M.B. CHURCH

780 Second Street • Monticello • 997-4947
Moderator J.B. Duval, Pastor

Worship Services 2nd and 4th Sundays
Sunday School (every Sunday)....9:30 AM
Sunday Worship.....11:00 AM
Children's Worship.....11:00 AM
Wednesday
Fellowship Meal.....6:30 PM
Prayer Meeting/Bible Study.....7:00 PM

ST. MARGARET CATHOLIC CHURCH

1565 East Washington Street
Monticello • 973-2428
(One mile east of the Court House on US 90)
Fr. Viet Tan Huynh

Sunday Mass.....11:00 AM
Wed. followed by Novena.....7:00 PM
1st & 3rd Saturday
Spanish Mass.....7:00 PM

CHURCH

God Wants You

A POEM BY THE LATE CAROL LEWIS

God gave you a life to use~ to serve Him on this earth~ He has a perfect plan for you~ He had one before your birth.

You are not here by accident~ by chance or by fate~ God wants to use you now~ and you don't have to wait.

While you are young and restless~ and full of endless energy~ God wants you to be His witness~ for others now to see.

If you read your Bible daily~ and let it be your guide~ you will not walk in darkness~ with Jesus at your side.

Jesus is the light of light~ sent from God

above~ He is the only way to heaven~ the greatest gift of love.

So give your life to Jesus~ while you are young and free~ and He will reward you later~ in heaven eternally.



Ancient Wisdom For Modern Life

SECURITY



For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

Psalms 91:11

Most of us cannot afford 24-hour security. God's security, however, costs nothing. If we believe in Him and accept Jesus as our Savior, He will take us under His wings and send His angels to watch over us. No harm will come to us without His care, mercy and grace to see us through.

Old And New Thoughts

A Poem By Vivian Miles

Out with the old and in with the new~ We have a lot of work to do~ First we give blessings, love and care~ We hope it continues in the new year~

Our Jesus went about doing good~ We honor our Savior by doing what He would~

The peace of God lets us share with others~ Friends, neighbors and brothers~ Our greatest desire is to please God each day~ That always puts a smile on His face~ My Savior redeemed my soul~ To Him I surrender control~

God blesses us and we give Him glory~ The

Bible is His Son's story~ The most precious time is at hand~ Soon He will become a Godly man~

His blessings we must not forget~ In Him our needs are met~ We are thankful for this glorious season of the year~ There is no profound reason for this tear.



Jesus Lives In The Community

He Only Visits The Church

REFUGE IN AUCILLA

Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc
63 Tinnell Road Monticello, FL 32344
850-997-0399

District Elder Tony Lane, Pastor Services:

Sunday
Bible School.....9:45 AM
Morning Worship.....11:00 AM
1st Sunday Holy Communion Service

Monday
Wings of Prayer.....5:00 PM
Wednesday
Noonday Prayer.....12:00 PM
(Mid-Week Church Fasting Day)

1st Wednesday
Praise and Worship.....7:30 PM
Prayer.....7:00 PM
Bible Class.....7:30 PM
1st, 4th, 5th Saturday
Prayer.....9:00 AM
Everyday
Morning Universal Prayer.....6:00 AM

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LLOYD

124 St. Louis Street • Lloyd • 997-5309
www.fbelloyd.com

Pastor George L. Smith

Sunday
Sunday School.....9:15 AM
Praise & Worship.....10:30 AM
AWANA (ages 3yr-6th grade)....5:00 PM
Impact 4Jesus (Grades 6th-College)5:30 PM
Praise & Worship.....6:00 PM
Adult Choir.....7:00 PM
Wednesday
Family Supper.....5:45 PM
Worship.....7:00 PM
Joyful Sounds Children's Choir...7:00 PM
5th quarter Youth.....7:00 PM
1st & 3rd Monday
Mighty Monday-Ladies Bible Study...6:30 PM
2nd Thursday
Lloyd Silver Saints.....11:00 AM
3rd Thursday
W.W. Diners(Widows/Widowers outing)...5:30 PM
3rd Saturday
Brotherhood.....8:00 AM

MT. PLEASANT MINISTRIES OF CAPPS, FL.

9472 South Jefferson Highway, Capps
U.S.19 @Highway 27

850-997-1066, 850-345-8623
revcharlesgsmith@aol.com

Pastor /Teacher Charles G. Smith, Sr.

Sunday School.....9:45 AM
Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00 AM
2nd Sunday Youth.....11:00 AM
4th Sunday Service.....8:00 PM
Tuesday Prayer Meeting
and Bible Study.....7:00 PM

OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

7369 Boston Hwy. Monticello
850-997-1596

Bro. Art Beal, Interim Pastor

Sunday Bible Study.....10:00 AM
Sunday Worship.....11:00 AM
Sunday Evening.....6:00 PM
Wednesday
Bible & Prayer Meeting.....7:00 PM

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

325 West Washington Street
Monticello • 997-2349

Dr. Rick Kelley, Pastor

Sunday School.....9:45 AM
Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00 AM
Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Study.....6:30 PM
Children's Church - Ages 4-6....11:30 AM
-Nursery for all services-

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

625 Tindell Road • Aucilla • 997-2081
P.O. Box 163 • Monticello

Pastor Daryl Adams 850-251-0129

Sunday School.....9:45 AM
Sunday Worship Service.....11:00 AM
Choir Practice.....5:00 PM
Worship Service.....6:00 PM
Wednesday
Fellowship Meal.....6:30 PM
Prayer Meeting/Bible Study.....7:00 PM

CHURCH

CHURCH CALENDAR

DECEMBER 29
Bible Study every Thursday at the Lloyd Woman's Club at 7 p.m. Join with Elder Linda Ross for an evening of Christian faith. For more information contact her at 850-322-3424.

DECEMBER 30
Tent of the Holy Guests offers prayer for the sick and a special scripture message every Friday at 7:30 p.m. The Tent is located at 295 West Palmer Mill in Monticello.

DECEMBER 31
Springfield AME Church will hold a Watch Night Service beginning at 10:30 p.m. on Saturday. Sis. Mary McBride will be the

speaker for this year-end service. Rev. Stefan McBride, pastor.

DECEMBER 31
Harvest Christian Center will host a Watch Night Service beginning at 9 p.m. on Saturday. Apostle Marvin Graham, pastor.

JANUARY 7
Nazarene Church will host a clothing giveaway from 9 to 11 a.m. on Saturday at 1590 North Jefferson Street.

JANUARY 8
Sunday of Silence will be held from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. every second Sunday of each month at One Heart Earth Center. It's a non-denominational time of stillness

and reflection. A vegetarian lunch is offered at noon; served and eaten in silence. Gentle Hatha Yoga will begin at 10 a.m. with instructor Joy Moore. Mats are provided. OHEC is located at 450 West Madison Street in downtown Monticello and is a non-profit 501c3 public charity. Donations appreciated and are tax deductible. For more information contact Sallie Worley at oneheartearthcenter@embarqmail.com or 850-997-7373.

JANUARY 27, 28
Second Harvest Food Program, together with the churches of New

Bethel AME, Elizabeth MB, Hickory Hill MB, Mt. Pleasant AME and Philadelphia MB, will provide food to anyone needing assistance including the needy, infants and the elderly. This is done monthly with distribution from 9 to 10 a.m. usually on the fourth Saturday at the New Bethel AME Church located at 6496 Ashville Highway. Volunteers are also welcome to come on Friday evening at 6:30 p.m. to help bag the food packages. Contact Nellie Randall at 850-997-5605 or 850-997-6929 to volunteer or for more information about this program.

World Of Life Brazil Ministries

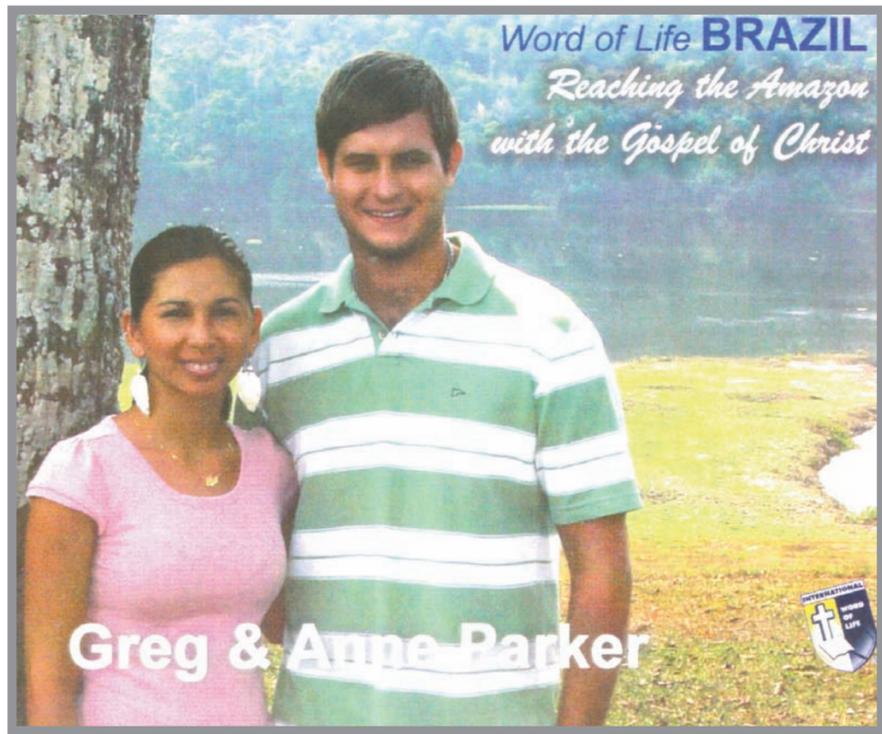
Reaching the Amazon with the Gospel of Christ

GREG AND ANNE AND JAKE PARKER

Dear family and friends, we have great news... we are having a boy! Anne is at six months already and before we know it March will be here. Thanks so much for all your prayers for her and the baby. We have been getting all the work caught up around the property here and we are getting things ready for next year.

We had a retreat for all the missionaries at the end of November; it went really well. Mom and Dad went to the Missions Conference in Belem. They came back very excited; we will have two new families coming next year. One couple is going to be working on the evangelism boat. The second couple is going to be working with Matt and Anabella on the radio station.

With both of these couples coming, we are going to be short on housing. Dad and I were talking about what we can do about this. We know that it's very hard for them to raise money for a house. So, we came to the conclusion that the best thing would be for me to build a house and than we can use our duplex for both of the families. This is going to be our next big project... raising funds for our new house. Please be praying for this and other the projects



CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

285 Magnolia St • Monticello • 997-2165
www.cbeflorida.org

Dr. David E. Walker, Pastor

Sunday School.....9:45 AM
Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00 AM
Sunday Evening.....6:30 PM
Wednesday Evening.....7:00 PM
Wed. TRAC Club for teens.....7:00 PM

NEW HOPE MINISTRIES CHURCH OF GOD

415 E Palmer Mill Rd • Monticello • 997-1119
newhope415@yahoo

Pastors Ray and Angel Hill

Sunday School.....10:00 AM
Sunday Worship.....11:00 AM
Sunday Prayer.....6:00 PM
Wed. Family Training Hour.....7:00 PM

GREATER FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

690 Cypress Street Monticello 850-997-4375
"Standing Firm On The Word Of God"

Dr. Melvin Roberts, Pastor

Sunday Church School.....10:00 A.M.
Sunday Praise & Worship.....11:15 A.M.
2nd Sunday Youth Praise & Worship
4th Sunday Individual Outreach Ministry & Fellowship
3rd Sunday Holy Communion
Wednesday Evenings
Prayer Meeting.....6:30 P.M.
Bible Study.....7:00 P.M.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

290 East Dogwood Street • Monticello • 850-997-2252
Interim Pastors

Sunday School.....9:45 AM
Sunday Worship(except last Sunday of month)..11:00 AM
SonShine Worship(last Sunday of month).....9:00 AM
Adult Bible Study-Wednesday.....6:30-7:30 PM
Men's Breakfast.....2nd Saturday 8:00 a.m.

we are hoping to get started this next year. We will be in need of approximately \$35,000 dollars. If anybody would like to help with this project, please send your donations to 'Word of Life' and make note to the 'Manaus River Project' in the memo section.

Thanks again for all your prayers and support this year. We hope that everyone has a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. God bless to all who support this ministry, we thank you.

CODY PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS CHURCH

3862 Tram Rd. • Monticello • 997-6774
Pastors Donnie and Nancy Thomas

Sunday School.....10:00 AM
Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00 AM
Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00 PM
Wednesday Worship.....7:00 PM

INDIAN SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

5593 Veterans Memorial Drive (Hwy 59)
Tallahassee • 850-893-5296
www.indianspringsbaptistchurch.com

Rev. Greg Roberts

Sunday School.....9:45 AM
Sunday Worship.....11:00 AM
Children's Worship.....11:00 AM
Wednesday
Fellowship Meal.....7:00 PM
Prayer Meeting.....7:45 PM

SARDIS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4543 Waukeenah Hwy • Monticello -850-264-0802
Pastor Stephen Lenzo

Sunday School.....9:45 AM
Sunday Worship.....11:00 AM
Nursery Provided
Tues Bible Study.....6:30PM
www.sardis.his-body.com
email=lenzos@his-body.com

HARVEST CHRISTIAN CENTER

1599 Springhollow Road • Monticello • 850-212-7669
Pastor Marvin Graham

Sunday Worship.....10:30 AM
Sunday Worship 1st & 3rd.....2:00 PM-4:00 PM
Sunday -- Every 2nd & 4th.....6:00 PM
Tuesday Bible Study.....7:00 PM
AA on Tuesday.....8:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Study.....7:00 PM
Wed. Young People Bible Study.....7:00 PM
Wed. Counseling.....5:30 PM-8:30 PM
Thurs. Jail Ministry.....7:00 PM-9:00 PM

Ancient Wisdom For Modern Life

ENTHUSIASM



And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men.

Colossians 3:23 (KJV)

Life can be dull, and if we aren't careful, we can get into the rut of carrying out our daily tasks half-heartedly. When we have God in our lives, we understand that everything we do is for Him, and when our fervor begins to fade, we can remember God and recover our enthusiasm.

LAMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

P. O. Box 188 • 850-997-6870
121 River Rd • US 27 Lamont, FL 32336
www.lamontbaptistchurch.org

Mark Holley, Pastor

Sunday School.....10:00am
Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00am
Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00pm
Wed. Bible Study and Choir Practice...6:00pm

(3rd Monday of each month)
JOY Club (just older youth 50+).....6:00pm

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

325 W. Walnut Street • Monticello
Pastor Wayne Cook 997-5545

Sunday Praise & Worship.....8:30 AM
Sunday School.....9:30 AM
Traditional Worship.....11:00 AM
Youth Group.....5:30 PM

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES

Bible Study.....4:15
Musical Academy.....5:00
Prayer Group.....5:15
Fellowship Meal.....6:00
Chancel Choir Practice.....6:30

ST. PHILLIP AME CHURCH

Hwy. 27 South • (1 mile south of Hwy 59)
Monticello • 997-4226
Rev. J. W. Tisdale

Sunday Morning.....9:30 AM
Sunday Worship.....11:00 AM
Tuesday nights basic english classes
w/Gloria Norton at 7:00

Wednesday
Prayer & Bible Study.....7:00 PM

ST. RILLA MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

13 Barrington Road • Monticello • 850-997-8747
Rev. James Mack, Pastor

Sunday School.....(Every Sunday)...9:45 AM
Morning Worship.....(1st & 3rd Sundays)11:00 AM
Bible Study/Prayer Meeting-
(Thursday before 1st & 3rd sunday)..... 7:30 PM.

TRANSFORMING LIFE CHURCH ASSEMBLY OF GOD

1206 Springfield Road • Lloyd • 997-TLC7 (8527)
Pastors Tim and Beverly Buchholtz
www.TransformingLifeChurch.com

Sunday..... 10:30 AM
Sunday Morning Praise and Worship
Children's Church
Infants & Toddler Nursery
Wednesday.....7:00 PM
Praise & Worship
Adult & Teen Bible Study
Young Explorers (K-5th Grade)

RESTORED GLORY CHRISTIAN CENTER

1287 South Jefferson Street • 997-RGCC (7422)
www.restoredglory.org

Pastor Eddie and Elder Veronica Yon

Sunday Church Service.....10:00 AM
Thursday Church Service.....7:00 PM
Wednesday with Pastor.....10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Saturday For Realville for Teens- 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Men's Ministry every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month.
4th Saturday Morning Glory for women.....8:00 AM

WAUKEENAH UNITED METHODIST

81 Methodist Church Rd • Waukeenah • 997-2171
www.waukeenah-umc.org
Pastor Donald Thompson, Jr.

Sunday School.....9:45 AM
Sunday Worship.....11:00 AM
Youth Group.....7:00 PM
Wednesday
Choir Practice.....7:00 PM
Youth Group.....7:00 PM
Family Fellowship
2nd Thursday of each month
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AROUND JEFFERSON COUNTY

Austin, Monticello's Version Of Lassie

FRAN HUNT
ECB Publishing
Staff Writer

Many years ago there was a fascinating show on TV called Lassie. Lassie was a kind, caring, compassionate, smart and one heck of a hero for a female Collie.

Austin is Monticello's version of Lassie. She is a three-year old Border Collie and she's as sharp as a

tack, says her human counterpart, owner and family member, county resident Billie McClellan.

McClellan said that Austin is not only a canine, but best friend, family member, therapy dog, very highly intelligent, assistant bell ringer for the Salvation Army and even a hero who has been accredited for saving a life this year.

For one year, Austin and McClellan attended therapy dog training and Austin passed her K-9 Citizen Awards and K-9 Therapy Awards. McClellan has attempted to have Austin registered on the US National Register as a therapy dog so she could work all over the country, but there was so much red tape involved; that goal has not yet been achieved.

Austin has been a therapy dog for one year now and she and McClellan visit the Jefferson Senior Citizens Center, Brynwood Center and Cross Landings Health and Rehabilitation Center an average of once per week to visit with those needing a sweet little visitor. She can even visit children in hospital children's wards.

She does whatever the person wants her to do," said McClellan. She can lay on the beds with them, sit on their laps if they want her to. She gives them plenty of love and



ECB Publishing photo by Fran Hunt, December 12, 2011
Billie McClellan proudly shows off her Border Collie, three-year old Austin. Austin serves as family member, best friend and therapy dog. She is very highly intelligent, an assistant bell ringer for the Salvation Army and she is even a hero who has been accredited for saving a life this year.

she saw Austin, who visits her regularly, her face lit up. She began petting and talking to Austin and invited her up on the bed as she usually does. It was as if whatever she had been upset about, suddenly melted away. Austin helps them feel better."

So why does McClellan dedicate her time to visiting those in the centers? "I am an animal lover. I do it for the love of people and love of God," she said.

McClellan said that no matter where Austin goes and no matter the situation, Austin knows how to react.

She told of one particular situation where Austin reacted and it resulted in saving a woman's life.

McClellan said that early every morning she takes Austin for a walk and they take the same route everyday.

"One morning back this May, I was taking Austin for her walk and when I turned to take the usual route, Austin kept nudging me in the other direction. She was so persistent about it, so I went the way she wanted to go. As we rounded the corner of the apartment building, Austin went into the bushes. I followed her. A woman had collapsed and was unconscious in the bushes. She was breathing and making a strange gurgling sound. I called 911 and they took her to the hospital.

"The woman had suffered a stroke. She spent a while in a nursing home, then went to a rehabilitation center and now she is back home," said McClellan. "I wouldn't have ever noticed her if Austin hadn't drawn my attention to her. She would have probably laid in those bushes and died if not for Austin."

In conclusion, McClellan said, "If you own a dog, you have to watch what your dog is trying to tell you."

NOTICE

The Gerry Medical Clinic, located at 555 North Jefferson Street, Monticello, Florida, will close effective January 15, 2012. Patients may request copies of medical records prior to this date by calling the office Monday through Friday during normal business hours at 850-997-2511. After this date, they may obtain their records from John D. Archbold Memorial Hospital, Medical Records, 900 Cairo Road, Thomasville Georgia, 31792 or call 229-227-5050.

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hands-on. She loves it and so do they.

Of therapy dogs, Ben Williams said, "There is no psychiatrist in the world like a puppy licking your face."

According to <http://www.slideshare.net/lesmarx/therapy-dogs-help-people-feel-good>, there have been numerous scientific and psychological studies that show the positive affects that dogs have on people.

These include: lowering blood pressure, reducing heart rate and cholesterol, decreasing stress levels and relieving loneliness.

"Austin is very well trained and knows about 50 commands. They get a real kick out of it when I get her to jump up in the air for them," said McClellan. "She gets along very well with other dogs and she knows how to be quiet. When we go to the centers,

she does not bark at those she does not know. The strange sights and sounds of wheelchairs, walkers and crutches do not frighten her. If I have to leave for a little while, Austin does not get anxious. She knows to stay where she is and do as she is supposed to do. She is a very good girl. She is not afraid or curious about strange smells and she will not eat anything unless I tell her it's okay to do so.

"Austin is very well mannered. She doesn't do like other dogs and jump on people. She enjoys the love she gets when she goes to the centers and she enjoys working with the people. Austin is very much a people dog.

"Just recently, when we visited one of the centers, one of the ladies there was obviously very upset and looked as if she had been crying. But when

The Purrr-fect Gift

FRAN HUNT
ECB Publishing
Staff Writer

A local family chose the purrr-fect Christmas gift for the family last week when they adopted a little kitten.

Rusty Hamrick, his son, Kyle and daughter, Riley along with "grandpa" Ferrell Hamrick, ventured to the Humane Society shelter last week and picked out the feline of their lives; a young domestic short-hair female Calico, named

The Hamrick family ventured to the Humane Society shelter last week and adopted the purrr-fect Christmas gift, Wonder. Pictured from left to right are Kyle, Rusty and Riley. Wonder is the furry one in the middle.



Wonder. "We have been talking about getting a pet for a while now and we decided that we wanted a cat for Christmas," said Rusty. "And what better place to get the perfect one than the Humane Society," he said.

The Hamrick family found the perfect edition to the family and even though Christmas is now gone, it's not to late if you feel like you have a little something missing, check out the puppies, kittens, cats and dogs at the shelter to fill that void.

For further information about adoptions contact the shelter at 342-0244 or come on out, fall in love and adopt the purrr-fect pet for you.



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SPORTS

Five Seniors Chosen For All-Star Game

FRAN HUNT
ECB Publishing
Staff Writer

Five local senior football players, from both Aucilla Christian Academy (ACA) and Jefferson County High School, have been chosen to participate in the Border Wars All-Star games to be held in January.

The All-Stars are the best of the best senior football players who are nominated by coaches other than their own, within the area.

Aucilla will be represented by two players.

First from ACA is Tyler Jackson. During the course of the season he had 428 yards receiving, three touchdowns and four pass interceptions on defense.

Also from Aucilla is Trent Roberts. As quarterback, he had 93 pass completions for 1,944 yards and 25 touchdowns, which set a new school record. On the defensive side of the field he had 17 quarterback sacks.

ACA Head Football Coach Colby Roberts



Tyler Jackson



Trent Roberts



Denzel Whitfield



Alphonso Footman



Levi Cobb

said he did not know who nominated the senior Warriors. Coach Roberts will serve as an assistant coach during the Border Wars.

Jefferson will be represented by three players.

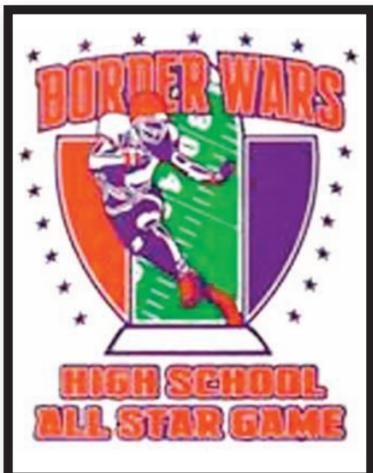
First from Jefferson is Denzel Whitfield, who at 6' 5" tall and being talented on the field, is already being heavily recruited by colleges. Whitfield, a two-way starter for the Tigers, had 101 tackles this season with six tackles for a loss and 21.5 quarterback sacks.

Secondly is Alphonso Footman, who is also being heavily re-

cruited by college teams. As a running back Footman had 290 carries for 2,301 yards and 27 touchdowns. He also had 31 pass receptions for 467 yards.

Lastly, representing Jefferson is two-way starter Levi Cobb. During the season he had 126 tackles, five tackles for a loss, two forced fumbles, one pass interception and three quarterback sacks.

"This will be a great opportunity for Levi," said Head Football Coach Jeremy Brown.



"There will be a lot of college coaches at that game recruiting and he may be able to get him a

Bragg Stadium.

The Tigers are slated to play January 14 in Moultrie.

scholarship."

Coach Brown said the three Tigers were nominated by Madison Head Football Coach Mike Coe, who will serve as Team Florida Head Coach.

Coach Brown will serve the team as the coach for the defensive line.

The Warriors are slated to play January 7, 2012 at 1 p.m. in Tallahassee at FAMU's

"We are excited to have them play in our annual All-Star game representing their schools and community," said Border Wars spokesman Bobby Latmore.

"The Border Wars would like to recognize Jefferson County High School and congratulate them for winning the State Championship this season. At half time of our all-star game we will be recognizing the players and coaches from the Tigers football team for their success this season. They will be invited to mid-field for a special presentation," Latmore concluded.

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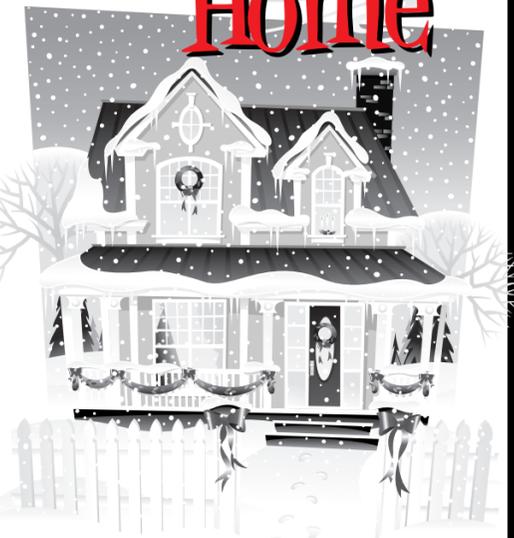
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LEGALS

NOTICE

The JEFFERSON COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD announces a Regular Board Meeting to which the public is invited. The meeting will be held at the old administration building located at 1490 W. Washington St., on Monday, January 9, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

Agendas may be picked up at the District Office at 575 S. Water St., Monticello, FL Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. A copy of the school board packet is available for review at the District Office. The school board agenda and support materials can be found on their website at www.edline.net/pages/jcsb.

12/28/11, c.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND HEARING TO VACATE ROAD

Notice is hereby given that Petition for Abandonment requesting Jefferson County to vacate a portion of "Sledge Lane" has been filed and will be heard by the Board of County Commissioners, Jefferson County, Florida at a meeting of such Board to be had and held in the Board Room of the Courthouse Annex located at 435 W. Walnut Street, Monticello, Florida, at 7:00 P.M., or soon thereafter on **Thursday the 19th of January, 2012**, which is the regularly scheduled meeting for the Month of January, for vacation of a specified portion of a County maintained dirt road known as "Sledge Lane" located in Sections 11 and 12, Township 2 North, Range 4 East, Jefferson County, Florida, which is the dead end portion of said road approximately 400 feet in length. A copy of the Petition with Exhibits is available for inspection at the Clerk's office, Jefferson County Courthouse, Monticello, Florida.

12/28/11, c.

ATTENTION COMCAST CUSTOMERS

On, or around, January 31, 2012, the following channel enhancements/changes will occur for current and new residential and commercial subscribers receiving Comcast's Monticello channel lineup (Jefferson County and surrounding areas).

- WTXL - Bounce will be added to channel 209 as a Limited Basic Service.
- WTXL-Weather, currently on channel 209 as a Limited Basic service, will relocate to channel 210 and remain a Limited Basic service.

*A digital-ready television set and/or digital equipment may be required to receive certain digital channels or certain services. Service charges may apply. Services not available in all areas, restrictions apply. For information about all of our product offerings, please visit www.comcast.com.

12/28/11, c.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS RFQ Emergency Management Contractual Services

The Jefferson County Emergency Management will receive sealed qualification documents at the Emergency Management Office at 169 Industrial Park Blvd., Monticello, Florida 32344 until January 2, 2012 at 12:00 PM. Qualifications received will be publicly opened on January 2, 2012 at 12:00 PM for the following:

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CONTRACTUAL SERVICES JEFFERSON COUNTY, FLORIDA

Any qualifications received after January 2, 2012 at 12:00 PM, will be retained at the Emergency Management Office. Emergency Management reserves the right to reject any and all documents received, waive formalities and re-advertise and award the RFQ in the best interest of Jefferson County.

Jefferson County does not discriminate because of race, creed, color, national origin or handicap status.

Anyone wishing to obtain RFQ documents may contact Emergency Management at 850-342-0211. Any questions concerning the RFQ specifications should be directed to Carol Ellerbe.

One set of qualification documents must be submitted and labeled on the outside of the envelope as "SEALED RFQ EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CONTRACTUAL SERVICES"

12/21,28,2011, c.

LEGAL NOTICE

The Jefferson County Planning Commission will hold its regular monthly meeting on January 12, 2012 at 7:00 pm. The meeting will consist of general business.

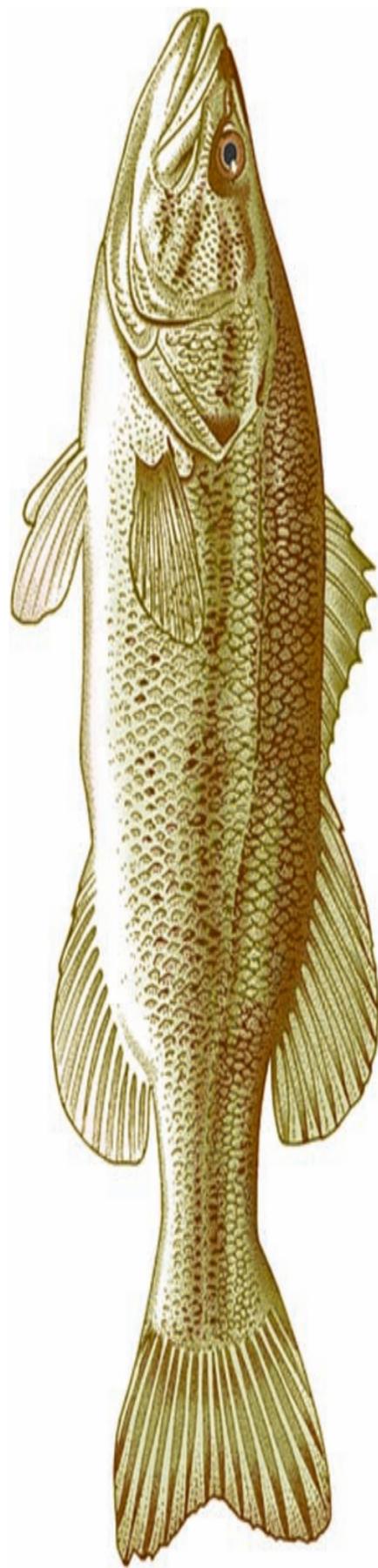
The meetings will be held in the Courthouse Annex located at 435 West Walnut Street in Monticello, FL. The meeting may be continued as necessary.

Information concerning the meeting is available at the Jefferson County Planning Department, 445 W. Palmer Mill Road, Monticello, FL. 32344, Telephone 850-342-0223. From the Florida "Government in the Sunshine Manual", page 36, paragraph c: Each board, commission, or agency of this state or of any political subdivision thereof shall include in the notice of any meeting or hearing, if notice of meeting or hearing is required, of such board, commission, or agency, conspicuously on such notice, the advice that, if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings, is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

12/28/11, c.

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SPORTS

SEASON STATISTICS RELEASED FOR CHAMPIONSHIP TIGERS

FRAN HUNT
ECB Publishing
Staff Writer

Following post-season play, which led the Jefferson County Tigers all the way to the State Championship and winning the title, Head Football Coach Jeremy Brown has released the season statistics for the "Uncommon" Championship Fighting Tigers.

On the offensive side of the field, running back/free safety Alphonso Footman had 290 carries for 2,301 yards and 27 touchdowns. He also had 31 pass receptions for 467 yards.

Running back/nose guard sophomore Kenny Madison, a team two-way

starter, had 64 carries for 507 yards and three touchdowns.

Revonte Robinson, running back/line backer, had 112 carries for 503 yards and nine touchdowns. He also had 23 pass receptions for 213 yards.

Quarterback Lenorris Footman completed 173 passes out of 217 attempts for 2,001 yards, 24 touchdowns and he threw nine pass interceptions.

Tight end Kamari Young had 18 pass receptions for 323 yards and two touchdowns.

On the defensive side of the field for team leaders, the Tigers collected 758 tackles, 74 tackles for a loss, nine forced fumbles, three fumble returns

for a touchdown and 66 quarterback sacks.

On the defensive side of the field, two-way starter Levi Cobb, offensive line/linebacker, had 126 tackles, five tackles for a loss, two forced fumbles, one pass interception and three quarterback sacks.

Shavarist Alexander, linebacker, had 123 tackles, five quarterback sacks, two pass interceptions and 46 tackles for a loss.

Jacob Pugh, offensive linebacker/defensive line, had 121 tackles, seven quarterback sacks, five tackles for a loss and three forced fumbles.

Defensive line, Denzel Whitfield, a

two-way starter, had 101 tackles, six tackles for a loss and 21.5 quarterback sacks.

Iran Francis, a two-way starter defensive lineman, had 61 tackles, six tackles for as loss, 15 quarterback sacks and one forced fumble.

Kenny Madison, nose guard and two-way starter, had 86 tackles, 11 tackles for a loss, six quarterback sacks, three forced fumbles and three fumble returns for a touchdown.

Revonte Robinson had 77 tackles and two quarterback sacks.

Kamari Young, tight end/offensive linebacker, had 63 tackles, three quarterback sacks and six tackles for a loss.

TIGERS BASKETBALL UPDATE

FRAN HUNT
ECB Publishing
Staff Writer

Jefferson County Head Tigers Basketball Coach Ron Graham has released the finalized roster for the Tigers and the results of the team's first five games.

The Tigers include Ladarian Smiley, Robert Nealy, Ramez Nealy, Lenorris Footman, Alphonso Footman, Tre'von Edwards, Gene Noel, Montrel Robinson, Jacari Johnson, Denzel Whitfield, Joseph Avent, Jacob Pugh, Kenny Madison and Darius Pleas.

Coach Graham explained that for the first

two games, no game statistic were kept other than the points, due to the main portion of the team who were still playing football in post-season. He added that in those two games the middle school players were brought up to play for those members of the varsity not on the court.

The Tigers dropped the season opener December 2, to Branford, 47-16.

Tarlon Jackson scored six points.

Tony Jackson bucketed for six points.

Raymond Marlow netted two points.

Michael Watson scored two points.

The Tigers hit the hardwood against Melody Christian December 6 and Jefferson was caged for a 55-33 loss.

Jacari Johnson targeted for 22 points.

Tarlon Jackson bucketed for four points.

Tony Jackson netted four points.

Leo Russell scored two points.

Watson had one point.

Jefferson squared off against East Gadsden December 9 and the Tigers were downed for a 65-40 loss to stand 0-3 on the season.

Robert Nealy bucketed for nine points, grabbed two rebounds,

four steals and had one blocked shot.

Johnson targeted for 12 points, snagged six rebounds, three assists and two steals.

Whitfield bucketed for nine points, grabbed 12 rebounds, two assists, two steals and had two blocked shots.

Smiley scored five points, had two rebounds and three steals.

Joseph Avent scored three points, grabbed eight rebounds, one assist and had one blocked shot.

Tony Jackson netted two points with one rebound and one assist.

Robinson had five rebounds and one blocked

shot.

The Tigers faced off against Mayo December 16 and Jefferson mauled their opponent for a 68-35 victory to stand 1-3 on the season.

Robert Nealy bucketed for 11 points, had two rebounds, one assist and one steal.

Johnson targeted for 17 points, snagged 12 rebounds for a double-double, had six assists, four steals and two blocked shots.

Edwards netted for six points, had two rebounds and four steals.

Robinson scored two points, had eight rebounds, one steal and one blocked shot.

Pleas scored two points.

Ramez Nealy bucketed for 14 points, grabbed eight rebounds, with three assists and two steals.

Smiley targeted for 14 points, had four rebounds, two assists and he snagged seven steals.

Watson scored two points.

Avent had four rebounds and three steals.

The Tigers faced off

against Perry December 17 and Jefferson was edged for a 51-46 loss to stand at 1-4.

Robert Nealy netted two points with three rebounds and one steal.

Johnson bucketed for six points, snagged 12 rebounds, had one assist, two steals and one blocked shot.

Edwards scored six points, had two rebounds, two assists, five steals and one blocked shot.

Robinson had three points, seven rebounds and one blocked shot.

Avent scored two points and had two rebounds.

Pleas scored three points.

Ramez Nealy targeted for 15 points, grabbed six rebounds, had one assist and one blocked shot.

Smiley bucketed for 10 points, with six rebounds, six assists, three steals and one blocked shot.

Coach Graham explained that the schedule had to be re-worked and the new schedule would be forthcoming.

PARADE OF CHAMPIONS

HONORING THE CLASS 1A STATE CHAMPIONS, THE JEFFERSON COUNTY TIGERS



Jefferson County High School invites the entire Monticello community to join together on Saturday, January 7th, to honor the 1A State Champions, the Jefferson County Tigers football team.

You can help celebrate Jefferson County's first state championship in 20 years, by turning out for a parade through downtown Monticello beginning at 11 a.m. This "Parade of Champions" will start in front of the post office and end at "Death Valley," home of the Jefferson County Tigers.

The community is invited to come out and support the team for all their hard work during this very special season.

At the conclusion of the parade, all Tiger fans are encouraged to gather in the home stands, at Death Valley, as each team member is recognized for the hard work and dedication they put forth to help bring the championship trophy back to Jefferson County.

Anyone interested in entering a float, car or advertisement in the parade must submit a parade entry form along with a \$100 entry fee to Coach Brown (941-234-6537) or Krissy Brown (941-234-6538) no later than January 4th. Please make all checks payable to the Tiger Touchdown Club/Athletic Boosters.

LADY WARRIORS LOSE PAST THREE

FRAN HUNT
ECB Publishing
Staff Writer

The Aucilla Christian Academy varsity Lady Warriors dropped the past three games on the hardwood to now stand 5-8 on the season.

The Lady Warriors faced off against St. Francis December 8 and Aucilla lost a 30-29 squeaker.

Sunnie Sorensen bucketed for 11 points and had eight rebounds.

Ashli Cline scored one point and had seven rebounds.

Brooke Kinsley netted for three points, had three rebounds and two steals.

Pamela Watt targeted for 10 points, had three rebounds, five steals and two assists.

Vicki Perry had three rebounds.

Aucilla squared off against Highland, December 12 and the Lady Warriors were bounced for a 21-11 defeat.

Sorensen scored four points, had seven rebounds and one steal.

Cline targeted for seven points, snagged 15 rebounds, three steals and had one blocked shot.

Shelby Witmer had five rebounds.

Perry grabbed five rebounds.

Watt had five rebounds.

The Lady Warriors hit the hardwood against North Florida Christian December 16 and Aucilla was downed for a 36-32 loss.

Sorensen scored one point, had seven rebounds, three assists and two steals.

Cline targeted for nine points and snagged 14 rebounds.

Witmer netted four points and had two steals.

Perry bucketed for six points, had four rebounds and three steals.

Watt scored eight points, grabbed seven rebounds, six assists and two steals.

Kinsley netted four points and had two rebounds.

Action continues on the hardwood when the Lady Warriors square off against the Jefferson County Lady Tigers, 6 p.m., January 3, away; Franklin County, 6 p.m., January 5, away; Munroe, 6 p.m., January 6, home; Chiles, 6 p.m., January 9, home; Madison, 6 p.m., January 12, home; John Paul II, 6 p.m., January 13, away; Highland, 6 p.m., January 17, home; John Paul II, January 19, home; Munroe, 6 p.m., January 20, away; St. Francis, 5:30 p.m., January 24, home; Wakulla, 6 p.m., January 26, away; and wrapping up the regular season, Providence, 10:30 a.m., January 28, home.

PARADE OF CHAMPIONS ENTRY FORM

NAME OF GROUP: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

CONTACT NUMBER: _____

PAYMENT TYPE: _____ (\$100)

ENTRY TYPE (CIRCLE ONE)

FLOAT

CAR

WALKING