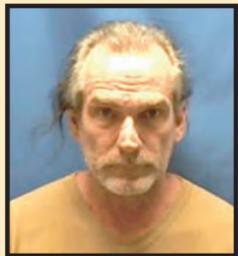


# MONTICELLO NEWS

144th Year No. 31

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

50¢ 46¢ + 4¢



David Whyte

## Arrest Made In Aucilla Shores Burglary

FRAN HUNT  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office (JCSO) has solved yet another Aucilla Shores burglary and the suspect is also a suspect in several other solved burglaries throughout Aucilla Shores.

JCSO reported that on July 25, 2012, Investigator Don Barfield and Investigator Gerald Knecht interviewed a 17-year-old that was involved in several other Aucilla Shores burglaries, at the JCSO interview room in reference to a burglary at 9750 Ashville Highway, One Jefferson Landing Property, Inc. The burglary

Please See **BURGLARY** Page 2A

## Woman Charged With Insurance Fraud



Selina Williams

FRAN HUNT  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

A county woman was arrested and charged last week after faking a slip and fall incident at a local grocery store.

Detective Raimund Manzo with the Florida Department of Financial Services, Division of Insurance Fraud, reported that he had con-

Please See **FRAUD** Page 2A

## State's Jobless Rate Stays Fixed At 8.6%

LAZARO ALEMAN  
ECB Publishing  
Senior Staff Writer

The state's unemployment rate for June remained unchanged from the previous month, while Jefferson and Madison counties' rates rose almost a point during the month, according to statistics released by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (FDEO).

The FDEO figures show Florida's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 8.6 percent in June, the same as in May, while Jefferson County's rate climbed from 7.0 to

7.7 percent and Madison County's from 10.0 to 10.8 percent during the same period.

"There were 795,000 jobless Floridians out of a labor force of 9,268,000," the FDEO release states. "The June 2012 rate was 2.1 percentage points lower than the year-ago rate of 10.7 percent."

The U.S. unemployment rate, meanwhile, was 8.2 percent in June.

The DEO points out that Florida's seasonally adjusted total nonagricultural employment was 7,331,300 in June, "an increase of 9,000 jobs over

*Rates Up Here And Madison*

the month."

"The number of jobs in the state was up 70,900 over the year, an increase of 1.0 percent from June 2011," the FDEO states. "Nationally, the number of jobs was up 1.4 percent over the year."

For Jefferson County, the 7.7 percent rate represents 491 jobless persons out of a labor force of 6,722, compared with 545 jobless persons out of a labor force of 6,842 in May. In June 2011, the comparable figures were 602 jobless persons out of a

Please See **JOBLESS RATES** Page 6A

## COUNTY PAVES WAY FOR 2ND COMPANY TO RELOCATE HERE

*Commission Approves \$800,000 Loan*

LAZARO ALEMAN  
ECB Publishing  
Senior Staff Writer

County commissioners these days are walking the talk relative to the promotion of economic development.

In mid-June the commission approved an expenditure of \$286,000 to purchase 26 acres adjacent to the industrial park, 10 of which acres the board gave as an incentive to the Harrell Nut Company,

a Georgia-based corporation that plans to locate a pecan-shelling plant here.

A month later, on Thursday evening, July 19, the commission approved taking out an \$800,000 loan at 2.8 percent interest to construct a building at the industrial park that it plans to lease to American Hunter Inc., a Tallahassee-based company that has been wanting to relocate here since 2009.

Please See **RELOCATE** Page 6A

## Low-Income Senior Exemption Not As Onerous As Few Feared

LAZARO ALEMAN  
ECB Publishing  
Senior Staff Writer

A year after county officials adopted a measure giving low-income seniors an additional \$15,000 exemption on their property taxes, the former are in better position to assess the impact of their generous act.

That impact is exactly \$7,400 in lost revenues to the county, according to Property Appraiser Angela Gray.

Gray recently told commissioners that 83 applicants had qualified for the special exemption, about what she had predicted a year ago and far below the 400 or more that some officials had feared.

Commonly known as the Low Income Senior Exemption, the measure translates into additional tax relief on property taxes beyond the typical exemptions for homestead, blindness and widowhood. As Gray explains it, the senior exemption applies to whatever assessed value remains after all other applicable exemptions have

been subtracted.

"It's an exemption that cities and counties adopt to help their low-income seniors," Gray said, adding that the exemption can range from \$5,000 to \$50,000.

The eligibility requirements for the exemption include having a current homestead exemption, being age 65 or older, and

having a total household adjusted gross income that does not exceed an amount that is established annually, based on the Consumer Price Index.

Per Gray's earlier calculations, a \$15,000 exemption could potentially save eligible homeowners about

Please See **EXEMPTION** Page 3A



## HEAVY RAIN SETS OFF SERIES OF CRASHES

FRAN HUNT  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

Heavy rain set off a series of crashes Sunday evening on Interstate I10.

The Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) reported that on Sunday, July 29 at 7:40 p.m., Kimberly Tucker, 31, of Savannah, GA, was driving a 2009 Honda Accord traveling eastbound in the inside lane at approximately 75 miles per hour, at the 221 mile marker.

Michael Nichols, 52, of Nashville, TN was driving a 1996 Peterbilt semi truck traveling eastbound in the outside lane at

approximately 65 miles per hour.

Craig Doolittle, 54, of Yorktown, VA was driving a 2008 Honda Accord, traveling westbound in the inside lane at approximately 60 miles per hour. In the vehicle as a front seat passenger was Dorothy Doolittle, 55, also of Yorktown, VA and in the back seat as a passenger was Leila Doolittle, 85, of Tallahassee.

FHP reported that the weather during the time of the crashes was heavy rain.

Tucker passed Nichols and struck standing water, causing her to lose control of her vehicle and rotate clockwise, sliding to-

ward the south shoulder guardrail.

The left rear corner of her vehicle struck the guardrail. The vehicle bounced off the guardrail and re-entered the roadway facing traffic and into the path of Nichols' semi.

The front of Nichols' semi struck the front of Tucker's vehicle, causing her vehicle to slide into the median, coming to a rest facing south.

Nichols lost steering control and slid into the median, coming to a rest in the westbound lanes and into the path of Doolittle's vehicle.

Please See **CRASHES** Page 6A

## VALARIE KING - THOMPSON SEEKS OFFICE OF SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Neighbors and Friends:

I am elated to have this chance to reach out to each of you through this article today. I have answered the questions that were addressed to each candidate for Superintendent of Schools. You can find my responses on pages 5B-7B. The questions will provide an in depth look at my experiences, qualifications, and other personal information that was requested.

THANK YOU DADDY, FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND SUPPORTERS

While growing up my father Titus King always instilled in me to work hard, stand firm on my beliefs, help others, and live life with a purpose. As an educator for the past twenty years, I have always strived to make every district, school, and community in which I worked a little better. I am proud to say that after much prayer and discussion with my family I decided to enter the political arena for the first time in my life. That decision has not only opened my eyes a great deal, but has given me the determination to press forward in spite of the unforeseen circumstances that could have made me give up. During this political year, I have truly learned the meaning of being humble and standing firm with a positive outlook for the future. I would like to publicly thank my entire family, friends, and supporters for your love, support, and encouragement during this campaign.



EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED IN LIFE, AND NEVER QUIT

Over the past eight months, I have met many of you while on the campaign trail as I knocked on your door and asked for your support and vote. If I did not get a chance to personally meet you, please forgive me. Due to the recent unexpected death of my father Titus King, I was unable to complete my goal of knocking on every door to personally drop off my brochure and address any questions or concerns you may have had. I am excited about the possibilities for our school district if I am elected as your new Superintendent of Schools.

I AM A PLANNER AND I SET GOALS

I have devised a Year 1- Plan of Action that will be implemented immediately if I am elected as your Superintendent of Schools. My platform is to focus on 4 goals. The goals are as follows:

- GOAL #1 Professional Development- District wide Professional Development for all teachers and staff
- GOAL #2 Accountability For All- Any district or school level staff not performing will be placed on a PIP- Performance Improvement Plan. If the goals in the plan are not met the employee may be non-renewed the following year.
- GOAL #3 Effective Leadership- Management through competence and not politics at all levels within the entire district.
- GOAL #4 Data Driven Decision Making- All available data will be utilized to improve student achievement and to determine if the district is receiving a positive (ROI) Return On Investment to justify all expenditures.

THE NEED FOR CHANGE

Although the position of Superintendent is an elected position the holder must be visible, competent, and willing to hold everyone accountable. The time has come for change in Jefferson County especially in the area of public education. Incompetence and biases have become the impetus and disease of the entire district school system. One must ask the question is it logical to elect a superintendent based on popularity and political prowess? As a parent, tax payer, and resident my answer is "NO", my child and all the children of this district deserve better.

Unfortunately the Band-Aid approach has been used which is to simply remain the same and struggle along with the status quo. If you are truly fed-up with business as usual, then show your support for my candidacy. I am a straight forward, passionate, leader with a vision. I will lead by example, and stay visible throughout the school district and in our community. I am a hard working, dedicated, motivated leader, business owner, mother, wife, and friend.

Citizens of Jefferson County the time for complaints and feelings of disgust has come to a crossroads and must be converted into votes at the local precincts to put in office "A True Agent of Change". A vote for Valarie King-Thompson will start a new journey for our school district.

I WILL...

Take the Helm of Our educational system Making it Possible for Students to Obtain Notoriety and Success

It is with great pleasure that I humbly ask for your vote during Early Voting from August 4 - 11, 2012 or on August 14, 2012 Primary Voting day.

If elected as your new Superintendent of Schools I will do what is best for all students...No Games...No Politics...No Incompetence...No Favoritism...No Excuses...

Political advertisement paid for and approved by Valarie Thompson, Democrat for Superintendent of Schools (Jefferson County, Florida)

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Church	Section C	Sports	10A
Classifieds	8A	Viewpoints	2A

Local Weather

Wed 8/1 91/74  
Scattered showers and thunderstorms. A few storms may be severe. High 91F.

Thu 8/2 93/73  
Scattered thunderstorms. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 70s.

Fri 8/3 90/73  
Isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 70s.

# VIEWPOINTS & OPINIONS

## Correction

In the July 25 edition of the *Monticello News*, on page 10A, Jimmy Brookins was incorrectly identified as the head coach of the University of Pikeville. He is the linebackers coach. We apologize for the error.

## STINGERS

**“Mrs. Ruby I agree with you on this (uniforms are crap); I am mother of three and I agree about not being able to afford what the school is asking; when I can go to a store an purchase my kids shirts for 5 dollars and buy things that are on sale that my kids can wear everyday regardless if its in school or not. I think the school board and the administration at the school need to focus on getting the school together instead of using the kids as the excuse because no matter what they wear; its still going be the same old thing teacher's not teaching.... school boards members trying to knock the next person; when they need to be looking out for our best interested along with our kids and not they on agenda. I think that is why we voted for them but apparently not.... So if the kids have to suffer when half the school year there was no air in most of the buildings (which they forgot to mention in meeting) don't you think the teacher's should have a dress code as well... make them spend money too. I am so sick an tired of the drama that comes with the school system... - A concerned parent -**

## Fraud

ducted an investigation and he had reason to and did believe that Selina Williams, 23, of Jefferson County, committed insurance fraud.

He reported that the Department of Financial Services, Division of Insurance Fraud, received a fraud referral from Mark Overland, Special Investigative Unit, Federated Insurance Company, the insurance carrier representing Big Save IGA. He alleged a possible fraudulent slip and fall incident involving Williams in Jefferson County.

On January 14, 2011 Detective Manzo received a notarized affidavit from

Overland advising of a slip and fall accident involving Williams that occurred on February 9, 2010 at the Big Save IGA in Monticello.

He advised that the Federated Insurance Company received a claim from Ashwin Patel of Sanatan, Inc., Big Save IGA, of a customer by the name of Selina Williams, who claimed to have fallen and suffered an injury in the store.

A copy of the surveillance video taken on the date of the incident was provided to Federated Insurance Company, by Patel. Overland reviewed the video surveillance and observed Williams, along

with three other individuals, who approached the area of the alleged slip and fall accident.

Overland observed Williams sit on the floor, stand up, reposition the shopping cart and sit back down. Williams remained on the floor until paramedics lifted her to a gurney.

On October 8, 2010 Overland completed a recorded interview of Williams. She stated that she was pushing the shopping cart and when she let go to grab an item she stepped in water and slipped and fell in the water.

As a result of the fall

she reported that she injured her right leg and that she was in so much pain that she could not stand up. She also advised that she could not even straighten her leg that was bent to the knee as a result of the fall. Williams denied standing up at any time after the fall and repositioning the shopping cart and sitting back down.

On January 14, 2011 Detective Manzo received a notarized affidavit from Heather Kaufman, claim representative assigned to Williams' claim. She advised that she spoke with Williams on February 10, 2010 and Williams stated

that while pushing a shopping cart, she went to look at an item. She said she took her hands off the cart and slipped in a puddle of water. She complained of injuries to her right leg, right knee and low back. She said she was not able to get up and had to be taken out of the grocery store by an ambulance.

Probable cause in the case was found to be sufficient and County Judge Robert Plaines signed a warrant for her arrest.

Williams was arrested July 26 and charged with insurance fraud.

Bond was set at \$5,000 and she bonded out of jail July 28.

continued from page 1A

## Burglary

continued from page 1A

had occurred after December 14, 2011.

In the post Miranda interview, the 17-year-old said that he and Brandon Whyte, 18, of Aucilla Shores, went to an airplane hangar on the east side of the runway in Aucilla Shores, about the middle of December, 2011. He said it was about 11 a.m. and they took all the parts that they could get off of two old Mustangs that were parked in the hangar on the northeast side.

The 17-year-old said that Brandon Whyte did all the parts removal because he did not know much about mechanical work. He said that Brandon Whyte brought a small tool kit with him to disassemble the cars.

The cars were stripped of parts and the parts were stacked in

front of the hangar.

While the two of them were stacking the parts, Brandon Whyte's father, David Robert Whyte, 51, of Aucilla Shores, arrived in his black Dodge pickup truck.

The 17-year-old said that David Whyte started pointing at the toolboxes, tools and car parts and telling the pair that he wanted those items loaded first. The three of them loaded the truck and left.

According to the 17-year-old, after leaving the hangar David Whyte and Brandon Whyte dropped him off at his house. They returned to his house to pick him up a couple of hours later and the truck was empty.

They returned to the hangar and loaded the truck for a second time with the remaining car parts and two water tanks

they had knocked over and ripped away from the pipes.

The stolen toolboxes included one rolling toolbox, one Knack toolbox (contractor's gang box) and two smaller gray toolboxes. All of the toolboxes contained various tools valued at about \$20,000.

At some point during the burglary and theft Brandon Whyte found a sledgehammer and used it to bash the cars, damaging the cars beyond repair. The estimated damage to both vehicles was approximately \$20,000.

The 17-year-old reported that he received \$30 from David Whyte for his portion of the money received from the sale of the stolen items.

During a subsequent investigation Brandon and David Whyte were developed as suspects in several other burglaries in the Aucilla Shores area.

During this investigation a check of Madison Metals records revealed that David Whyte had sold two loads of scrap metal that consisted of car parts and a toolbox. Those items were photographed in David Whyte's truck by Madison Metals at the times the transactions were made.

David Robert Whyte was arrested July 27 and charged with burglary and grand theft.

A total bond of \$20,000 was set and he remained at the County Jail July 31.

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EMERALD GREENE  
Publisher/Owner

LAZARO ALEMAN  
Senior Staff Writer

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# AROUND JEFFERSON COUNTY

## CHAMBER AFTER 5 HOSTED BY BRYNWOOD CENTER



**DEBBIE SNAPP**  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

The Brynwood Center H&R was the site of the most recent Chamber After 5 membership event. Attendance to the Tuesday evening event was high, with near to 100 guests touring the halls and visiting with staff and residents.

Brynwood Administrator Lisa McGinley and other personnel gave tours of the five-star quality service facility, sharing their excitement about the newly renovated rehab suites offering sleeping accommodations for family and the rehabilitation room for physical and occupational therapy at the north end of the facility. The Center also offers Speech Therapy, around the clock licensed nursing care and onsite x-rays, lab and podiatry services.

Other specialties offered to the residents and/or those visiting the Center include flat screen televisions, WiFi throughout the facility, newly renovated spas, beauty salon and barber shop services, a facility van for appointments and outings, and a beautifully manicured courtyard with gazebo for outside events and family functions.

Brynwood Center is open for short-term stays, respite, long term residential care and hospice. No need to leave town for rehabilitation and like services... Brynwood Center offers it all. Located at 1656 South Jefferson, call 850-997-1800 or 850-274-1299 for more information.

"We are recognized by the American Health Care Association with a Bronze Star," adds McGinley, "for our community support, great employees and our partners' highly given recommendations. Our five-star quality service is always given," she concludes.



### To The Residents Of Jefferson County:

Hello, my name is Halsey Beshears and I am a Republican candidate for the Florida House of Representatives. My family and I run a farm and nursery business in Monticello, Florida and my wife Cristi and I are also raising our three daughters in Jefferson County.

Many of you have seen me or my family in town. As there are many new people in our town and others that I have not seen in a while, please feel free to speak up and say hello when we meet or you see me in public. Forgive me for my manners if I don't speak first, I would love the opportunity to hear from you and meet as many of you as possible. This is one of the greatest privileges of this opportunity: getting to meet and know so many different people across our hometown and this great district.

I am not a career politician nor have I ever run for office. It is with all respect and humility that I am asking to represent you the people of Jefferson County in Tallahassee. I am running to be your State Representative because I believe we need our strong north Florida values represented in the Florida Capitol. Jefferson County is my home. It has made me the man I am today. My family and I have been in business here for over 38 years. We have a vested interest in the County, in the people, the small businesses and the success of all of our children.

My family has been blessed to be able to give back to the community in many ways. To us, we have a moral obligation to make our community a better place. It is these core values of service that have driven me to the decision to seek election to the Florida House of Representatives. Unlike all of the other Republican candidates, I have never run for office, held office or considered it. I believe I can make a difference in Tallahassee, fight to make our schools better, get the government out of the way of business so it can grow, help create new jobs, protect our water resources and fight for our fair share of infrastructure. I do not claim to be perfect nor do I have all of the answers. However, I do have common sense. For the last 15 years in our business, I have worked hard to use this common sense approach, never tearing anyone or another company down to make gains. I have learned from my past mistakes and am now, with my wife, trying to raise three daughters during these tumultuous times. Cristi and I have always told our girls "If you don't like the way something is being done, don't complain, do something about it!" Well, I want you to know Tallahassee has not been doing things right and I can no longer sit idly by.

If you believe these issues are important then I humbly ask you to give me the privilege and honor of serving you in Tallahassee. Please call me at 850-274-1084 or reach out to me via our website [www.halseybeshears.com](http://www.halseybeshears.com). I hope to hear from as many of you as possible. Most importantly get out and vote. Early voting starts August 4<sup>th</sup> and goes to August 11<sup>th</sup> and the primary is August 14<sup>th</sup>. I hope to meet and hear from as many of you as possible!

Very Respectfully,  
Halsey Beshears  
Republican Candidate for Florida House of Representatives

Paid Political Advertisement By Halsey Beshears For Florida House



# AROUND JEFFERSON COUNTY

## Kiwanis Schedule Interesting Speakers

**DEBBIE SNAPP**  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

The Monticello Kiwanis meet on Wednesday afternoons at the Jeffer-

son Country Club. The meetings start at 12 p.m. sharp; there is a program, lunch and usually very interesting speakers.

Jane and Randy

Conn were guest speakers to the July 11 meeting. Their business, ES Green & Company, LLC does energy star ratings for new and re-modeled homes

and green certification.

Guest speakers for the July 18 meeting were Julie Conley and Angela Gray. Conley spoke briefly about an initiative that

goes before the County Commission; after the board's approval, to referendum on the November ballot regarding tax incentives for new or ex-

panding businesses that employ 10+ people.

Gray spoke about the constitutional amendments that will be on the November ballot.



Jane and Randy Conn



Julie Conley



Angela Gray

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## MAH-JONGG ON SELECT WEDNESDAY

**DEBBIE SNAPP**  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

Carol Austin invites the community to join with her and other interested persons to play Mah-Jongg on the first and third Wednesday of each month.

Mah-Jongg is a game that originated in China, commonly played by four players. The four-player table version is not the same as the single player tile matching game Mah-Jongg solitaire. Similar to the Western card game rummy, Mah-Jongg is a



game of skill, strategy and calculation and involves a certain degree of chance.

The game is played with a set of 136 tiles based on Chinese characters and symbols, although some regional variations use a different number of tiles. In most variations, each player begins by receiving 13 tiles. In turn players draw and discard tiles until they complete a legal hand using the 14 drawn tiles to form four groups (melds) and a pair (head.)

There are fairly stan-

dard rules about how a piece is drawn, stolen from another player and thus melded, the use of simples (numbered tiles) and honours (winds and dragons,) the kinds of melds and the order of dealing and play. However there are many regional variations in the rules; in addition, the scoring system and the minimum hand necessary to win varies significantly based on the local rules being used.

Mah Jongg began in Monticello a few months ago and has drawn quite a few players... profes-

sionals and beginners. Games will begin in August at 12 p.m. on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> at the Woman's Clubhouse on East Pearl Street. Participants are asked to bring a bag lunch; soft drinks and dessert are made available. There is a one-dollar setup fee for all in attendance.

Austin welcomes all to come and give Mah Jongg a good try. Call her directly for more information at 850-997-3006 or [cwaustin@embarq-mail.com](mailto:cwaustin@embarq-mail.com) for more exciting information.

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## Burned Kitten Coming Out of Her Shell

**FRAN HUNT**  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

There are many stories behind the scene at the Jefferson County Humane Society. One of those stories is the story of Robin, a two and a half month old female kitten, black and white domestic shorthair.

The Humane Society has been taking care of Robin for approximately the past three weeks. She was found on US-90 along side the roadway and the little feline had some serious trust issues. When volunteers attempted to pick her up, she hissed, growled and spat at them.

Robin had some serious trust issues and it is no wonder, she had apparently been burned.

Shelter Director Nancy Baker reported that Robin had what appeared to be burn scabs on her forehead, between her eyes and down her nose.

Shelter workers began treating her with burn ointment and giving her plenty of TLC.

After three weeks of treatment the scabs are



ECB Publishing photo by Fran Hunt, July 17, 2012

Robin had apparently suffered burns to her facial area when she was brought in to the Jefferson County Humane Society.

healing very well. She is getting over her trust issues and willingly lets workers pick her up and love on her. Robin has finally come out of her shell and now has a very loving personality.

Where the scabs were, Robin still has no hair. It is still too early to tell if the hair will grow back or if she will forever carry the bald scarring of the apparent burns she suffered. It depends on how badly the hair follicles were damaged by the

burns. Only time will tell.

Regardless of the possible scars she may carry on her face, she now trusts and loves, which indicates that the heart is no longer scarred, thanks to the much delivered TLC at the Humane Society.

If all continues to go well, Robin may be ready for adoption in about two weeks. To adopt Robin call the shelter at 342-0244 or stop by, fall in love and adopt your new family member.

# AROUND JEFFERSON COUNTY

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**AUGUST 1**  
Mah Jongg classes are held at the Monticello Woman's Clubhouse at 11 a.m. on the first and third Wednesdays of every month. A \$1 donation is requested. Bring a brown bag lunch. Try your best with this fascinating game of tiles, luck and skill. It's fun! It's competitive! It's sociable! It requires strat-

egy! Contact Carol Austin at 850-997-3006 or cwaustin@embarq-mail.com for more exciting information.

**AUGUST 1**  
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 Rob Beshears at 850-997-5054

for more information.

**AUGUST 2**  
Weight Watchers meetings are held at 6 p.m. every Thursday at the Jefferson County Bailar Public Library. Make a 'Life Change'. For more information contact Paige Phillips at 850-509-2580.

**AUGUST 2**  
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. 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.

**AUGUST 2**  
Lloyd Volunteer Fire Rescue meets monthly at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday, at the firestation.

**AUGUST 2**  
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.

**AUGUST 2, 9, 16, 23, 30**  
Annie's Project, a national program developed to empower women in agriculture to be better business owners and partners, classes begin on Thursday and will continue each Thursday thru August. Classes will be held at the Jefferson County Extension Office from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. A light meal will be served before each session. For more details and information, contact Covey Washington at covey.washington@ufl.edu or JoAnn Demott at jdemott@ufl.edu or call the Jefferson County Extension office at 850-342-0187.

**AUGUST 3**  
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 John Lilly at 850-342-0187 for more information.

**AUGUST 3**  
Ashville Area Volunteer Fire Department meets 6:30 p.m. on the first Friday of each month at the fire station. Contact John Staffieri at 850-997-6807 for more details.

**AUGUST 3**  
Monticello Jamboree Band will perform music for dancing at 7 p.m. every Friday evening at 625 South Water Street, in the old JCHS gym. There are doorprizes, cold soft drinks and snacks. Everyone is welcome to come dance, listen to some of the finest music and just enjoy the fun and camaraderie with neighbors and friends. This is a non-profit charitable organization. For questions or concerns contact Curtis Morgan at 850-933-8136 or Bobby Connell at 850-445-0049.

**AUGUST 4**  
Artisans and Growers Marketplace from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at Johnston's Meat Market, 1480 West Washington. All proceeds will benefit the Old Monticello Jail Museum. Come shop and buy or showcase your products. For more information contact Coordinator Anne Holt at 850-576-0721 or ahholt@ahholt.com

**AUGUST 4**  
Dixie Community Center is open on Saturday nights for an evening of music and dancing with live local band 'Half-N-Half Four' from 7 to 10 p.m. Refreshments and good fellowship are available during intermission. For more information contact Kenneth Price at 1-229-263-7231. DCC is a nonprofit organization.

**AUGUST 5**  
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.

**AUGUST 6**  
Big Bend Hospice Adult Grief Support meets from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. on the first Monday of each month at the BBH Coun-

selling & Resource Center located at 1723 Mahan Center Boulevard in Tallahassee. This is a group setting for anyone who has experienced miscarriage, stillbirth or the death of a child two years of age or younger. These sessions are free of charge and provide a safe environment for education, support and compassion. To register, or for more information regarding other services offered by BBH, contact Bereavement Services at 850-878-5310 or 800-772-5862 or www.bigbendhospice.org.

**AUGUST 6**  
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.

### ++ Obituary ++

#### BETTY MARIE CONDON

Betty Marie Condon, age 96, passed unto the Lord on July 28, 2012 from her home in Monticello, Florida. Betty is survived by five of her six children, Patricia (Malcolm) McDonald, Tom Condon, Mary Ellen Steury, O'Ann (Patrick) Christansen along with her son Don and her daughter-in-law Lee with whom she has resided for the past two years. Betty was preceded in death by her parents, Melvin "Tom" and Hortense Braaten, her brother Charles Braaten, A World War II veteran and Purple Heart recipient, her sister, Kathleen DeMars, her husband Don of 35 years, her daughter Colleen (Jack) Elias and two grandchildren.

While on the earth, Betty was also blessed with twenty-three grandchildren, Thirty-three great grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren. During her declining years she especially enjoyed her time with her grandchildren who came to visit her in Monticello.

Betty was born on September 24, 1915 in Wadena, Minnesota. In 1933, Betty was the first employee to be hired by Hospital Service Association of St. Paul, Minnesota, the forerunner to Minnesota Blue Cross and Blue Shield where she served as the administrative assistant to the executive director. It was there that she met her husband Don. Betty and Don married on September 1, 1938 in Minneapolis and later honeymooned along the North Shore near Split Rock Lighthouse. Following their marriage, Betty became a homemaker to Don and their six children, residing in Duluth, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Hollywood, Florida. As Betty cared for her family, Don rose to become the Executive Vice President of Minnesota Blue Cross and Blue Shield in 1957. After retiring in 1965, Don and Betty along with their two youngest children, O'Ann and Don (D.J.) moved to Hollywood to escape the harsh Minnesota winters.

Following her husband's death in 1974, Betty was a very independent mother and grandmother, residing on her own until April of 2009 when she moved to Monticello. For eight years prior to that, Betty lived in Orland, Florida near her daughter O'Ann.

In addition to raising her own children, Betty was additionally blessed with caring for several of her grandchildren while their parents were at work. Betty and her family were members of St. Luke's Parish in St. Paul, Christ the King Parish in Minneapolis. Nativity Parish in Hollywood, St Charles Borromeo Parish in Orlando and most recently St Margaret Parish in Monticello. In years past Betty was a familiar sight attending Church and picking up grandchildren at school and in her 5.0 liter Mustang fastback.

Visitation with friends and family followed by the rosary was held on Monday, July 30, 2012 at Beggs Funeral Home Chapel, 485 East Dogwood Street Monticello from 7 to 9 p.m. A funeral mass celebrating Betty's life was held on Tuesday July 31, 2012 at 11 a.m. at St. Margaret Catholic Church, 1565 East Washington street (US90) in Monticello. Following the mass, a reception was held in the parish hall. Burial will occur the following afternoon at Lauderdale Memorial Park in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Sisters of St. Clare, 8650 Russell Ave. So., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55431-1998 or the Big Bend Hospice, 1723 Mahan Center Blvd., Tallahassee, Florida 32308, (bigbendhospice.org).



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# AROUND JEFFERSON COUNTY

## Exemption

continued from page 1A

\$125 on their property taxes annually.

Given the 83 eligible residents who qualified for the exemption, commissioners now have better information to decide if they want to maintain the exemption at \$15,000 or raise it higher for the coming year, thereby affording eligible residents a greater tax relief.

## Jobless Rate

continued from page 1A

workforce of 6,756 when the unemployment rate was 8.9 percent.

For Madison County, the 10.8 percent translates into 776 jobless persons out of a labor force of 7,159, compared with 719 jobless persons out of a labor force of 7,195 in May.

In June 2011, the comparable figures were 884 jobless persons out of a labor force of 7,265, when the unemployment rate was 12.2 percent.

Seasonally adjusted means the figures have been purged of seasonal and other factors that would increase the numbers. The statistics do not reflect individuals who have given up the search for work for whatever reason, or those who are underemployed or employed part time.

The FDEO reports the top three industries gaining jobs as trade, transportation, and utilities, up 24,200 jobs; private education and health services, up 19,300 jobs; and leisure and hospitality, up 19,200 jobs.

The industries losing jobs over the year included construction, down 24,600 jobs; total government, down 10,100 jobs; and other services, down 4,600 jobs.

Monroe County continued to have the state's lowest unemployment rate at 5.0 percent, followed by Walton County at 5.4 percent; Okaloosa County at 6.1 percent; and Franklin at 6.2 percent.

Hendry County had the state's highest unemployment rate at 14.2 percent, followed by Flagler County at 12.3 percent; St. Lucie at 11.8 percent; and Indian River at 11.3 percent.

The FDEO reports that 15 of Florida's 67 counties experienced double-digit unemployment in June, up from eight in May.

Of the 23 metropolitan statistical areas (MSA) in the state, the Tallahassee MSA was among those experiencing the largest job declines with a drop of 2,800 jobs, according to the FDEO. Jefferson, Leon and Wakulla counties are part of the Tallahassee MSA.

## Relocate

The company's owners, Sarah and Tom Cooksey, in fact, purchased a 7.4-acre parcel at the industrial park in 2010 with the intention of constructing a 40,000 sq. foot building there. This was before the economic downturn took hold and the Cookseys' experienced "sticker shock" with the cost of the relocation, as Economic Development Director Julie Conley stated it to the commission earlier this year.

Ever since, Conley has been trying to broker a deal to bring here the company, which she calls an ideal fit for Jefferson County.

As Conley presented the plan to the commission on July 19, she had been able to secure two proposals from local banks for an \$800,000 loan for construction of a 30,000 sq. foot building at the industrial park. Conley noted that the interest rate the banks proposed charging the county on the loan was far below the 6.5 to 7 percent interest rate that these institutions would typically charge a private contractor.

Conley said once the construction was completed, American Hunter Inc. would move into the building and purchase it within a five-year period thereafter. Also as part of the deal, she said, the county would have to clear the land; provide the water, sewer and stormwater infrastructure; and expand the retention pond in the southern part of the industrial park. The county already is in the process of applying for a \$500,000 state grant to expand the pond.

In return, Conley said, American Hunter Inc. would deed its 7.4-acre property to the county and provide the architectural plans and drawings for the building that the Cookseys had originally planned to construct.

A couple of commissioners initially expressed reservations with the proposal.

"I want to stimulate economic development but I'm nervous," Commissioner Betsy Barfield said.

"We're not in the real estate business. I don't want the county on the hook if this company defaults. I want to know that this company is solvent."

Barfield said she also had a concern with the proposal's wording, which called for lease with an option to purchase, rather than straight lease purchase agreement.

"I don't want to give them an option," Barfield said. "I want them to purchase the building."

Commissioner John Nelson had a problem with what he perceived to be a lack of full disclosure.

"I want to support the process but I can't support it without all the information," Nelson said.

Which pronouncements caused Conley to vent frustration with what she perceived to be a lack of progress on the issue.

"I've been pursuing this for two years," Conley said, visibly losing her usual placid composure. "We can't just keep putting it off and off."

The commission turned to Dr. Dallas Garrett for a report on the company's solvency. Dr. Garrett, director of the small business development program, had earlier been tasked with doing a review of American Hunter's financial wellbeing during the last three years.

Dr. Garrett said he was satisfied that the company could meet the \$8,200 monthly payments that the loan would require. He said American Hunter Inc. had been paying an amount equal to the loan requirement for the last several years.

"They're a very healthy company," Dr. Garrett said. "They're a company that we want here."

Barfield wasn't totally satisfied. "If they default, where are we going to get that money?" she asked, noting that the monthly payments would amount to \$98,400 annually.

Clerk of Court Kirk Reams offered that the answer was no secret. The money would have to come from the fiscally constrained monies, of which the county receives about

continued from page 1A

\$700,000 annually from the state.

Commission Chairman Hines Boyd picked up on Conley's frustration. He questioned the board's commitment to economic development. If the board didn't take a calculated risk and bring American Hunter here now, county officials a decade hence would still be decrying the lack of businesses in the county, he said.

Commissioner Stephen Fulford agreed. Responding to Barfield's earlier comment, he observed that once the county had purchased the industrial park, it had essentially gone into the real estate business. With that he moved to proceed with the loan, which motion Commissioner Danny Monroe seconded and which the board ultimately approved unanimously.

The only opposition voiced came from Paul Henry, a citizen who cited a series of companies across the country that had gone belly-up after government subsidies, thereby forcing taxpayers to foot the bill.

"You're using the taxpayers as ATMs," Henry told the commissioners. "If this company is so financially sound, why can't it get a loan from a commercial bank? Don't use us as ATMs. You're using my money to put these companies in business."

Another citizen, Bud Wheeler, expressed an apposite point of view.

"I think you're on the right track," Wheeler told the commission. "I'll take the hit on the taxes."

American Hunter Inc. is an Internet-driven sporting goods retail and distribution company that currently operates out of several warehouses in Tallahassee. The company wants to consolidate its operation under one roof and expand eventually.

The company currently employs nine fulltime workers and plans to hire another four or five fulltime employees when it relocates here. The company's gross revenues in 2011 were approximately \$2.6 million, according to Conley.

## Crashes

continued from page 1A

hicle.

Doolittle applied the brakes, while moving right and slid into the right front side of Nichols' vehicle.

Meanwhile, William G. Thomas-Smith, 22, of Tampa, FL was driving a 1998 Volvo four-door at the 220.8 mile marker and was slowing for the previous crash with roadblock in the inside westbound lane of I-10. In the vehicle as a pas-

senger was Michelle H. Glickman, 20, also of Tampa, FL.

Daniel P. Tuma, 25, of Midland, MI was stopped in his 2005 Buick four-door, in the inside westbound lane of I-10.

Roney D. Williams, 52, of DeLeon Springs, FL, was stopped in the inside westbound lane in his 2007 Freightliner semi.

Thomas-Smith failed to use due care and

struck the rear of Tuma's vehicle with the front of his vehicle.

Tuma's vehicle traveled west and struck the rear of Williams' semi.

All the vehicles came to a rest at the area of collision, facing west in the inside westbound lane of I-10.

The first crashes were not deemed to be alcohol-related and all involved were wearing their seatbelts.

Tucker, Nichols and Craig Doolittle sustained minor injuries. Dorothy Doolittle and Leila Doolittle were not injured.

No one involved in the crashes required transport to the hospital for treatment.

Tucker's vehicle sustained \$10,000 damage.

Nichols' semi sustained \$20,000 in damage.

Doolittle's vehicle sustained \$4,500 damage.

Tucker was charged with failure to drive in a single lane.

In the second series of crashes, Thomas-Smith, Tuma and Williams, were all uninjured and did not require transport to the hospital for treatment.

All involved were wearing their seatbelts.

FHP did not deem the second series of crashes to be alcohol-related.

Thomas-Smith's vehicle sustained \$3,000 damage.

Tuma's vehicle sustained \$4,000 damage.

Williams' vehicle sustained \$1,000 damage.

Thomas-Smith was charged with failure to use due care.

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office and Jefferson County Fire Rescue assisted FHP at both crash scenes.

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# AROUND JEFFERSON COUNTY



## County Administrator Speaks To Kiwanis

Guest speaker to the Kiwanis July 25, 2012 weekly meeting was Parrish Barwick, the new Jefferson County Administrator. He has only been on the job for a few weeks, but shared what he has learned to date and his perspective of the job.

## CACAA By Appointment Only

DEBBIE SNAPP  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

Effective August 1, 2012, the Capital Area Community Action Agency (CACAA) will serve area residents by appointment only. No walk-ins will be served.

Only priority households will be served the first two weeks of August; all qualified households will be assisted the remainder of the month, pending on funding. Priority will be given to households with

seniors ages 60 and older; the disabled must have documentation; and children at least one child five years of age and under.

For Jefferson, Calhoun, Liberty, Wakulla, Franklin and Gulf counties, call the county offices for appointments Monday through Thursday only.

For comments and questions contact Cynthia Valencic, CACAA Family Support Services Director; at 850-222-2043x108 or go to [cynthia.valencic@CACAAInc.org](mailto:cynthia.valencic@CACAAInc.org) [www.CACAAInc.org](http://www.CACAAInc.org).

## JEFFERSON COUNTY CRIME BEAT

All information is printed as taken from the Jefferson County Sheriff's office. All Suspects Should Be Considered Innocent Until Proven Guilty In A Court Of Law

FRAN HUNT  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

Donna Lomprenz, 54, of Monticello, was arrested July 24 and charged with filing a false report with a law

enforcement officer. Bond was set at \$1,000 and she bonded out of jail the same day.

Terry Brown, 41, of Tallahassee, was arrested July 24 and charged with two

counts of violation of probation on the charge of sale of cocaine; and violation of probation on the charge of sale of marijuana. He was released on his own recognizance the same day.

Selina Williams, 23, of Jefferson County, was arrested July 26 and charged with insurance fraud. Bond was set at \$5,000 and she bonded out of jail July 28.

Ervin Fead, Jr., 31, of Panama City, FL, was arrested July 26 and charged with resisting an officer without violence and disorderly intoxication. A total bond of \$1,000 was set and he bonded out of jail the following day.

David Robert Whyte, 51, of Aucilla Shores, was arrested July 27 and charged with burglary and grand theft. A total bond of \$20,000 was set and he remained at the County Jail July 31.

Charles Jesse Johnson, 35, of Perry, FL, was sentenced in court July 27 to spend 13 months in the Florida Department of Corrections followed by three years and 11 months of probation on the charges of felony driving under the influence and driving while license suspended, habitual. He remained at the County Jail July 31 awaiting transportation to the Florida Department of Corrections Reception Center.

## JOY RIDE



ECB Publishing photo by Fran Hunt, July 25, 2012  
Happy to be out for a "joy ride" to the Monticello News last week were Shih-Tzu/poodle mixes Miko and Henri, owned by Helen Lewis.

## Covenant Hospice Offers Grief Support

Feelings of grief and loss can be overwhelming. For this reason, Covenant Hospice will be offering a six-week grief support group from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. at the Covenant Hospice Office, located at 1545 Raymond Diehl Road. Those who attend will have the opportunity to explore their grief in a safe and caring environment.

The support group begins on Tuesday, July 31 and will run for six Tuesday afternoons through September 4.

The support group is free but registration is required. Light refreshments will be served. To register for this support group, or for additional information, call Bobbie Massey, LCSW at 850-701-

0133 or email to [bobbie.massey@covenant.hospice.org](mailto:bobbie.massey@covenant.hospice.org).

Covenant Hospice is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing comprehensive, compassionate services to patients and loved ones during times of life-limiting illnesses. The focus of Covenant Hospice is to

enable its patients to live as fully and comfortably as possible, to provide dignified palliative care, to assist patients' loved ones in coping with end-of-life issues and the eventual death of the patient, and to improve care for all patients at the end of their lives by example and education.

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2/23, tfn, nc.

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8/1, 3

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7/20, tfn, nc.

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7/27, tfn, nc.

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7/20-8/3, c.

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8/1, 3, 8, 10, c.

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7/27, 8/1, c.

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8/1-10, pd.

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8/1, 3, pd.

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7/20-8/1, pd.

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11/23, tfn, c.

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2/1, tfn, c.

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3/28, tfn, c.

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8/1, 3 nc.

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8/1, 3, c.

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# LEGALS

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### SRWMD GOVERNING BOARD MEETINGS

On Tuesday, August 14, 2012, the Suwannee River Water Management District's Governing Board will meet at 9:00 a.m. at Dixie Plantation, 1583 Livingston Road, Greenville, Florida 32331. The meeting is to consider District business and conduct public hearings on regulatory, real estate, and other various matters. A workshop will be held immediately following the meeting.

On Monday, August 27, 2012, at 1:00 p.m., a Tentative Intermediate Governing Board Meeting will be held at District Headquarters in Live Oak, Florida. Public should check the District website or contact the District to confirm that the meeting has not been cancelled or rescheduled.

All meetings, workshops, and hearings are open to the public.

8/1/2012, c.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR JEFFERSON COUNTY, FLORIDA

CAPITAL CITY BANK,  
Plaintiff,  
v.  
JAMES D. BEALL, et al,  
Defendants.

CASE NO. 12-08-CA

### NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that KIRK B. REAMS, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Jefferson County, Florida, will on the 9th day of AUGUST, 2012, at 11:00 a.m. at the Jefferson County Courthouse in Monticello, Florida, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash, the following described property situated in Jefferson County, Florida, to-wit: Parcel I.D. #07-2N-5E-0825-0000-0450 & 07-2N-5E-0825-0000-0460

Lots 45 and 46, Parkway Pines, Phase 2, a subdivision as per map or plat thereof, recorded in the Public Records of Jefferson County, Florida, in Plat Book "B", Page 90.

Together with a 1998 Liberty Mobile Home VIN#10L26321U and 10L26321X

Together with the following 30 foot wide access easement: Begin at the Northeast corner of Lot 8 of Parkway Pines, Phase 1, as per map or plat thereof, recorded in the Public Records of Jefferson County, Florida in Plat Book "B", page 90 and run South 16°43'02" West along the East boundary of said Lot 8, a distance of 158.61 feet to a point, thence run South 88°57'00" West along the South boundary of said Lot 8, a distance of 152.28 feet to a point, thence run South 01°06'48" East along the East boundaries of Lot 45 and Lot 46 of Parkway Pines, Phase 2, as per map or plat thereof, recorded in the Public Records of Jefferson County, Florida in Plat Book "B", page 86 and a projection thereof, a distance of 185.00 feet to a point 30.0 feet South of the Northeast corner of said Lot 46, thence North 88°57'00" East 30.00 feet to a point, thence North 01°06'48" West 154.87 feet to a point, thence North 88°57'00" East 144.18 feet to a point, thence North 16°43'02" East 190.50 feet to a point on the Southerly right of way boundary of a 50 foot wide cul-de-sac, said point being on a curve concave to the North, thence run along said cul-de-sac and right of way with a radius of 50.00 feet, through a central angle of 36°52'09", for an arc length of 32.17 feet (chord of said arc being North 88°17'07" West 31.62 feet) and to the Point of Beginning<sup>^</sup>

Together with a 1998 Liberty Mobile Home VIN#10L26321U and 10L26321X

pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered in a case pending in said Court, the style of which is as set out above, and the docket number of which is 12-08-CA. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale.

WITNESS my hand and the official seal of said Court, this 18th day of July, 2012.

KIRK B. REAMS  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
Jefferson County, Florida  
By: Sherry Sears  
Deputy Clerk

7/25,8/1/2012, c.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
IN AND FOR JEFFERSON COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CIVIL DIVISION

ROSE ACCEPTANCE, INC. CASE NO. 33-2011-CA-000189  
Plaintiff(s),  
vs. Division No.  
FRANCES ALDAY A/K/A FRANCES ELLEN ALDAY Section  
F/K/A FRANCES ELLEN HODGES, et al.,  
Defendant(s) /

### RE-NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated July 27, 2012, and entered in Case No. 33-2011-CA-000189 of the Circuit Court of the 2ND Judicial Circuit # and for JEFFERSON County, Florida, wherein ROSE ACCEPTANCE, INC. is the Plaintiff and FRANCES ALDAY A/K/A FRANCES ELLEN ALDAY F/K/A FRANCES ELLEN HODGES; and UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF FRANCES ALDAY A/K/A FRANCES ELLEN ALDAY F/K/A FRANCES ELLEN HODGES; and ASHVILLE AREA PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC. are the Defendants. I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the north door of Jefferson County Courthouse, Intersection US Highways 19 and 20, Monticello, Florida, at 11:00 a.m. on the 8th day of August, 2012, the following described property as set forth in said Order of Final Judgment, to-wit: LOT 4, BLOCK A, ASHVILLE HIGHLANDS UNIT II SUBDIVISION, A SUBDIVISION AS PER THE PLAT THEREOF FILED AT PLAT BOOK B, PAGE 43, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, FLORIDA.

IF YOU ARE A PERSON CLAIMING A RIGHT TO FUNDS REMAINING AFTER THE SALE, YOU MUST FILE A CLAIM WITH THE CLERK OF COURT NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE. IF YOU FAIL TO FILE A CLAIM, YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY REMAINING FUNDS. AFTER 60 DAYS, ONLY THE OWNER OF RECORD AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MAY CLAIM THE SURPLUS.

DATED at JEFFERSON County, Florida, this July day of 2012.

JEFFERSON County, Florida

By: Gilbert Garcia  
Deputy Clerk



GILBERT GARCIA GROUP P.A.  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
2005 Pan Am Circle, Suite 110  
Tampa, Florida 33607  
(813) 443-5087  
Fla. Bar# 44613  
517333.000217

7/25,8/1/2012, c.

### AMENDMENT TO UNSAFE BUILDING ABATEMENT ORDINANCE SECOND AND FINAL HEARING

Jefferson County Board of County Commission will hold a public hearing to amend the Unsafe Building Abatement Ordinance on **August 16, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as such matter may be heard, in the courtroom of the Jefferson County Courthouse Annex located at 435 West Walnut Street, Monticello, Florida. The meeting may be continued as necessary.

### JEFFERSON COUNTY, FLORIDA BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-062612-01

AN ORDINANCE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, FLORIDA, RELATING TO UNSAFE BUILDING ABATEMENT; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; PROVIDING FOR PURPOSE; AMENDING CHAPTER 10, ARTICLE V, JEFFERSON COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES ENTITLED "UNSAFE BUILDING ABATEMENT"; AMENDING SECTION 10-103, DEFINITIONS; AMENDING AND RENAMING SECTION 10-104, DETERMINATION OF UNSAFE BUILDING; AMENDING SECTION 10-105, NOTICE; AMENDING AND RENAMING SECTION 10-106, ADDITIONAL POWERS AND DUTIES OF BUILDING AND FIRE OFFICIALS; AMENDING AND RENAMING SECTION 10-107, CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD HEARING; AMENDING AND RENAMING SECTION 10-108, DEMOLITION OR REPAIR; DELETING SECTION 10-109, APPEAL; DELETING SECTION 10-110, RESERVED; PROVIDING CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 21, SECTION 21-5, CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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.

8/1/2012, c.

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# SPORTS

## Tigers Gridiron Schedule

FRAN HUNT  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

Jefferson County Tigers Head Football Coach Jeremy Brown has released the 2012 schedule of the "Uncommon" Tigers.

Action begins on the field against Florida High, August 24 at 7:30 p.m., away; and continues against Bay High, August 31 at 7:30 p.m., home.

September sees the Tigers matched up against the Madison County Cowboys, September 7 at 7:30 p.m., away; Godby High, September 14 at 7:30 p.m., home; East Gadsden, September 21 at 7:30 p.m., away; and Wakulla High, September 28 at 7:30 p.m., away.

The Tigers face off against Branford High during the Homecoming game, October 5 at 7:30 p.m., home; Taylor County, October 12 at 7:30 p.m., away; Mayo High, October 19 at 7:30 p.m., away; and October 26 in an open week.

Jefferson is slated to face off against Hamilton County, November 2 at 7:30 p.m., home; and the regular season comes to a close against North Florida Christian High, November 9 at 7:30 p.m., home.

The Tigers head into the first round of the playoffs November 16 at 7:30 p.m., opponent and location to be announced.

The second round of the playoffs is slated for November 23 at 7:30 p.m., opponent and location to be announced.

The third round of the playoffs is November 30 at 7:30 p.m., opponent and location to be announced.

The State Championship is slated for December 7 in Orlando, opponent and time to be announced.

## Tennis, Anyone?

By Lynette Norris  
ECB Publishing, Inc.

Like golf, tennis is a game for all ages, from children to senior citizens, and again, like golf, it is a sport people are more likely "carry over" into their adult years if they played it in high school.

It can be difficult to get enough people together for one of the "big team" sports like baseball, basketball or football, but tennis can be played with as few as two people. Whether someone wants to just hit a few balls back and forth or burn up the court in a serious singles match, he or she need find only one other interested partner.

George English, who heads up the United States Tennis Association (USTA) out of Tallahassee, covering the area from Pensacola

to the Big Bend and a little beyond, visited the Madison County Rotary Club to talk about promoting the game of tennis in the small communities of North Central Florida.

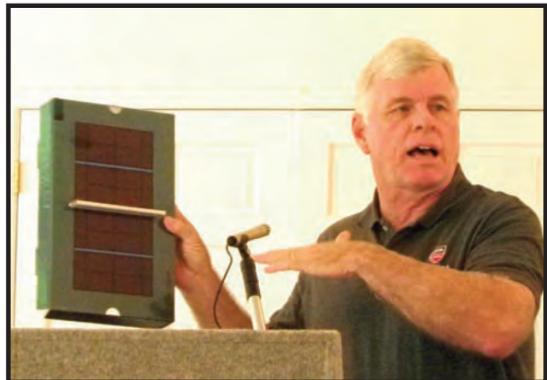
With childhood obesity reaching ever higher rates, and physical education classes all but gone from most public schools, English and Madison City Commissioner Ina Thompson talked about ways to bring "10 and Under" tennis to small communities and introduce five-to-ten-year old children to the sport. They would both like to see children get involved with something fun, something that would lure them away from the computers, the television and the endless video games...and tennis just might be the ticket.

Taking a cue from other children's sports like T-ball, where the sport is modified slightly and equipment is scaled down to smaller sizes to make it more accessible to younger players and easier for smaller hands to grasp and wield, the new "10 and Under" tennis trend here in America is following a similar tennis trend that has already been going strong for 20 to 30 years or more in most of Europe.

The problem before, with trying to get younger children interested in the "sport of kings," was primarily the large size of the court - quite a chunk of real estate for little legs to cover, no matter how fast the children could run. Then, there was the regulation size net - too high for little ones. The racket, almost as long as some of them were tall, was unwieldy, and the balls were hard to hit...and hard, if anyone got hit in the head by a high, fast lob. Younger children were more likely to quit in frustration than develop any real interest in the game.

The "10 and Under" tennis game uses a smaller court, about half the size of a regulation court, for children aged five to eight. A temporary net, shorter and smaller than a regulation net, can be set up across the half-court. The rackets are shorter and the orange and yellow tennis balls are made of Nerf-ball like foam. They won't bounce as high, but they are easier to hit across the net as the younger ones learn the basics of the game, particularly the eye-hand coordination of swinging the smaller racket at the ball and making contact with it.

On a court that is more their size, using the age-appropriate equipment, the little ones can have fun as they learn to play and are



ECB Publishing, Inc. Photo by Lynette Norris, July 25, 2012  
**George English, heading up the US Tennis Association in the North Florida area, uses a scale-model diagram to compare "10 and Under" tennis to adult tennis and talks about how to start a "10 and Under" tennis program in a small community.**

more likely to develop a lifelong interest, or an interest that they might come back to later if they remember their earlier exposure to the game in a positive light.

Fun is the main purpose of the "10 and Under" tennis, English emphasized several times. The children can have fun and enjoy learning the basics of a sport they can participate in for the rest of their lives. The intricacies of a "top spin" and other trick shots will come later, when they are older; if they want to get into the more serious, competitive side. "10 and Under" tennis is mainly to get them started.

The "10 and Under" version of the game will also grow with them, with a slightly larger court and heavier balls when they reach the nine/ten-year-old group. Later, when they reach the adult-sized game, they will have already acquired the basic skills, and had fun while doing it.

Another advantage of this new version of tennis is its portability. It does not require a tennis court, just flat area anywhere, indoors or out. Temporary tape can mark off a court on a gym floor; a school cafeteria floor; a large classroom floor; or a parking lot, and a temporary net can be set up for play. Scaled-down rackets, lighter balls, children who want to play and a few adults to teach, encourage and cheer them on are all that are needed to begin.

This same version of tennis can also work for seniors who want and need a fun, physical activity. The Senior Center in Madison adapted a low-impact version of the game for its senior community and any senior facility in any community can do the same with the portable nature of a game that can be set up on any flat surface, making the sport of kings truly a sport of all ages.

With a grant from USTA, Madison has acquired about \$1000 worth of equipment, and most communities can do the same, or they can get creative with funding. In some small communities, they have even been able to put in permanent tennis courts that can be used for both the child and adult versions of the game, by persuading local fencing companies to install

fencing and the local road department to lay down the asphalt in exchange for putting up signs that listed their donations to the project.

Like most small communities, there is a need for something fun and enjoyable that young people can do if they are not involved in traditional team sports, something like "10 and Under" tennis that can be a lifelong fun activity - but it takes the enthusiasm of parents, community leaders and others adults to help it take off, get organized like the other youth team sports, get going and find a place in the community.

The challenge for the "10 and Under" tennis is how to get the parents involved, but not the same way they're involved in T-ball, Little League and other youth sports; too often, the focus there is on competition and winning, and the parents can become hypercritical of their child's performance or that of others.

In this version of tennis, the parents need to be positive and encouraging, to reinforce the children's efforts at learning. The focus is to make their children's exposure to the game fun and pleasant, something they will want to stay with or come back to later in life.

In fact, there is a workshop just for these parents, as well as community leaders and other adults, who would like to help teach the game of tennis to young children and "score points with their kids"...teaching in a way so that the kids will immediately have fun...and helping "10 and Under" tennis take off and find a place in their community.

The workshop is Saturday, Sept. 8 from 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at the North Florida Community College Gym (Colin Kelly Fitness Center). The registration fee is \$15 per person, and those participating will not only receive instruction from experts, they will also receive all the materials they need to coach and organize tennis for children.

For more information, visit [usta.com/oncourt-training](http://usta.com/oncourt-training), contact George English at (850) 510-6585 or email him at [English@florida.usta.com](mailto:English@florida.usta.com). To register online for the workshop, go to [www.madisonworkshop.eventbrite.com](http://www.madisonworkshop.eventbrite.com)

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# MEET THE CANDIDATES

B SECTION

August 1, 2012



*A Monticello News Special Edition*

# Marianne Arbulu, Republican, for Superintendent of Schools

## 1. Tell us about what type of education that you have?

First, I would like to thank the Monticello News for the opportunity to detail my plans for school district improvement.

One of the primary reasons for our school district's decline is that we repeatedly elect superintendents with the wrong skills for the job and we continue to receive poor results. The school district is at a critical point in its history and this election will determine the district's future course. It is crucially important to elect a candidate with proven executive leadership experience because we can no longer afford untested, experimental choices.

I am the only candidate with the district knowledge, and management experience to lead a 14 million dollar organization.

### MY EDUCATION INCLUDES:

Northeast High School, St Petersburg, Florida

B.A. Social Sciences, Florida State University

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

Masters Public Administration, Florida

State University, Enrolled

Completed graduate level coursework includes Local Government Administration, Human Resource Management, and Intergovernmental Relations

2. What are your plans to help schools improve on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)?

A. Our County's future depends on a good school system. However, the school district's goal is not, and should not be, to pass FCAT tests. The goal is to produce educated students with substantial knowledge, able to communicate that knowledge to others, and prepared to work in jobs that increasingly require non-routine, critical thinking and problem solving. These are the skills necessary to meet today's workplace demands. When students achieve these goals, they will score well on tests by any name. Students with this depth of education will also greatly improve their career opportunities and lifelong success. Industries will recognize Jefferson County as a source of quality employees.

As your Superintendent, I will improve

the district in three distinct areas:

*Leadership - Communicate the vision, lead the way and set the pace*

*Classroom best practices - Effective teachers are the most important factor for student success*

*Organization - Create efficient systems to support school objectives and develop measurable goals for every position and aspect of the organization*

*My platform specifics include:*

*Install a magnet program in the high school to increase the number of "A" tracking students in the district. This will increase overall enrollment and aid the transition to a high performance school.*

*Create a resource center for home schooling parents to provide testing and resource support. This is especially important for parents that may need to transition to public schools in the future.*

*Develop a true vocational school for work-bound students and adults that need to learn marketable skills to be successful.*

3. Do you have any children or grandchil-

dren in the Jefferson County School system? If your children are grown, did they attend public schools in Jefferson County?

A. My children are finishing their university studies and they did not attend Jefferson County schools because of the lack of advanced coursework available. The need to transport them to another county to complete their high school education was the impetus for me to become involved in our school district and run for office so that other parents did not have to experience the same problem.

4. Have you ever held an administrative position in the Jefferson County school system or school system?

A. No, I am a first term, elected school board member.

5. Have you ever been fired or lost a job due to budget cuts?

A. No

6. What type of leadership positions have you held in the past?

A. I have extensive leadership experience, both professionally and personally. My professional career consists of 40 years in banking with 30 of those years in a management capacity. As the vice president of a federally chartered savings and loan, I managed a multi-state division with full cost center responsibility. I was the senior vice president of another national firm, again with multi-state responsibility. Over the years, I earned the reputation as a fixer, recruited to turn around non-performing divisions or corporate units. Many professional organizations elected me to leadership positions, where I was recognized, and awarded for my work and service.

Further demonstration of my leadership ability is my work as your school board member seen by my voting record, initiatives to improve policy development, board governance, and recommendations to improve student outcomes. I have become a subject matter expert on many local, state and federal education issues.

As a ten-year resident of the community, I have worked with many organizations to improve the quality of life for our citizens. You know me as a civic club member, community leader and volunteer. My leadership roles include board memberships with the Chamber of Commerce, Education Foundation, Economic Development Council, Tobacco Free Jefferson Partnership, and the Jefferson County Legislative Committee, which I chaired this year as we worked through the JCI crisis. I am a member of Kiwanis and Altrusa, chaired many committees, and volunteered many hours of time to community events like the Watermelon Festival, July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration, Chili Cook Off, Southern Music Rising, and United Way.

8. Have you ever been arrested? If so what was the year and what were the circumstances surrounding the arrest?

A. No

9. Have you ever lost a lawsuit or settled a case out of court?

A. No

10. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection?

A. Yes, years ago

**ELECT**  
**A<sup>+</sup>** Marianne  
**Arbulu**  
 for  
**SUPERINTENDENT**  
**JEFFERSON COUNTY SCHOOLS**



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Political Advertisement paid for and approved by Marianne Arbulu, Rep., for Superintendent of Schools

# Al Cooksey, Republican, for Superintendent of Schools

1. Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training. *Graduated from Jefferson High School, North Florida Junior College, Florida State University with BS degree*

2. What are your plans to help schools improve on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)? *Hire the best administrators and let them do their job. Concentrate on 3rd grade reading and make sure that the elementary school starts the change to be the best in the state.*

3. Do you have any children or grandchildren in the Jefferson County School system? If your children are grown, did they attend public schools in Jefferson County? *I do not have children or grandchildren in the school system. My kids all attended and graduated from public school in Florida and Alabama. My grandkids currently attend public school in Florida, Georgia and Missis-*

*sippi.*

5. Have you ever held an administrative position in the Jefferson County school system or in any other school system? *No. I have been Athletic Director in the past.*

6. Have you ever been fired or lost a job due to budget cuts? *No*

7. What type of leadership positions have you held in the past? What types of duties were involved with it? Who was your employer or your immediate supervisor? What was the length of your leadership role? *Head Football Coach and Athletic Director, Aucilla Christian and Bronson High School. Owned and operated insurance and financial agency for 18 years.*

8. Have you ever been arrested? If so what was the year and what were the circumstances surrounding the arrest? *No*

9. Have you ever lost a lawsuit or settled a case out of court? *No*

10. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection? *No*

# William Brumfield, Democrat, for Superintendent of Schools

1. Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training. *I attended and graduated from Paul Blazer High School in Askland, Kentucky. I earned by Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Educations from Trevecca Nazarene University in Nashville, Tennessee. Post graduate work has been through Nova University.*

2. What are your plans to help schools improve on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)? *Every student in the State of Florida is guaranteed a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). Given the opportunity to continue as your Superintendent, I will ensure that the appropriate highly qualified faculty and staff are in place to accomplish the task of providing an excellent education for the students of Jefferson County. FCAT assessment performance and a well-rounded student graduate is priority one, and I pledge to the citizens of Jefferson County that I will implement academic programs under the directive of the Common Core State Standards Initiatives and Training. Such implementations and programs as Pearson Educational Oversight, Acaletics (3-10 math), Write Score (3-10 Writing), Read 180 (6-12 Reading), along with extended learning time district-wide and targeted afterschool and accelerated programs with fidelity to enhance the performance of all*

*of our students on the FCAT will be the driving force of my position. These changes will require the committed effort of all stakeholders to garner the necessary success our school district desires. Effective leadership will be paramount to oversee these changes, and I am committed to providing that leadership.*

3. Do you have any children or grandchildren in the Jefferson County School system? If your children are grown, did they attend public schools in Jefferson County? *Two of my children attended and graduated from Jefferson County Schools.*

4. Have you ever held an administrative position in the Jefferson County school system or in any other school system? *Yes. The Office of Superintendent.*

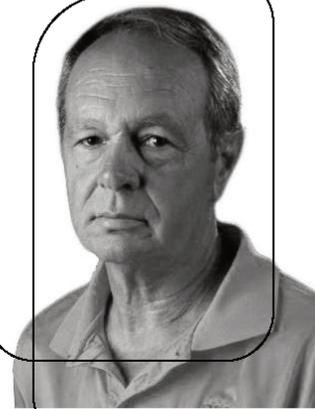
5. Have you ever been fired or lost a job due to budget cuts? *No*

6. What type of leadership positions have you held in the past? What types of duties were involved with it? Who was your employer or your immediate supervisor? What was the length of your leadership role? *I served as a Monticello Councilman for 8 years, and held the office of Mayor for 4 years.*

7. Have you ever been arrested? If so what was the year and what were the circumstances surrounding the arrest? *No*

8. Have you ever lost a lawsuit or settled a case out of court? *No*

9. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection? *No*



**Students  
Parents  
Taxpayers  
and Citizens  
of Jefferson County**

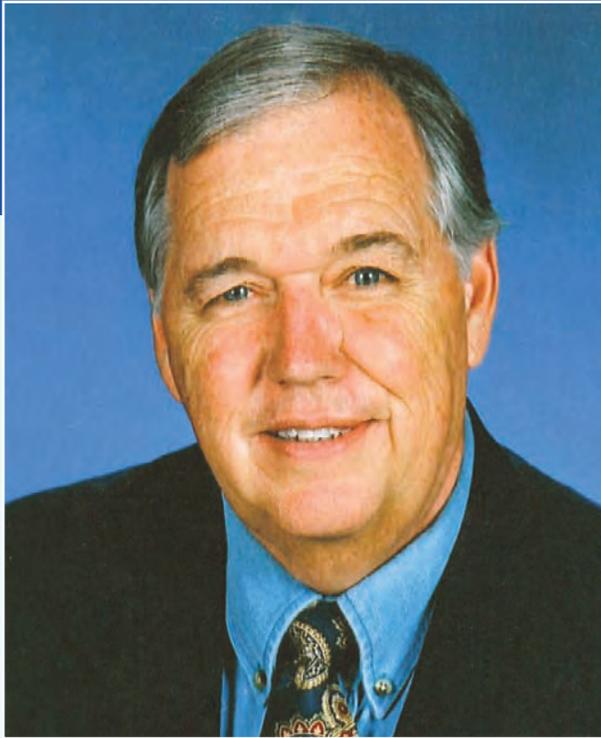
*"Expect More - Get More"*

**Al "PeeWee" Cooksey**

candidate for  
**Superintendent of  
Jefferson County Schools**

- Proud Graduate of Jefferson County High School, North Florida Community College, and Florida State University
- Honored Vietnam War Combat Veteran "Bronze Star" Recipient
- Educator and Head Football Coach in Five Different Counties in Florida
- Former Licensed Insurance Agent and Financial Planner
- Farm Owner/Operator, in Waukeenah, Producing Cattle

Currently, the schools of Jefferson County are failing. Are we going to waste four more years or are we going to change the leadership? I am committed to making a difference for our students and community. I appreciate your support and your vote.



# RE-ELECT BILL BRUMFIELD SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

Citizens,

3 1/2 years ago I made a promise to this community that if I did not make a difference I would not run for re-election. I believe that I, along with my staff, have made a difference.

When I came into the office I was not aware of the District's financial situation. I was informed that I had \$25,000 to run a 14 million dollar district. I had to re-negotiate debts that were as old as the 1990's. I am happy to report that the district is now financially sound having exited state financial oversight in two years instead of a projected three. Instead of facing bankruptcy, we are operating with a 7 1/2 percent fund balance. We are one of only two districts in the state that have increased their fund balances. Because of becoming sound financially we have been able to purchase 5 new school buses, put a new roof on JES and begin remodeling bathrooms at JES to be ADA compliant.

We have improved from an "F" district to a "C." Some want to dwell on the statistic that we are 66 out of 67 districts in Florida. I want to remind the community that we have two schools. If both schools were "C" schools we would rank in the 50's. Large districts are ranked higher because they have multiple campuses to figure into their score. All small districts battle this dilemma. What do the bottom ten districts

have in common? They are all small districts. I am proud of the hard work of administration, staff and students on our campuses. JCMHS has improved from an "F" to a "C" and they deserve to be commended for their efforts. Ms. Loietta Holmes is an expert in school improvement and has already made a huge difference with her presence at JCMHS. I am excited about our new administration at JES. Dr. Coverson and Nancy Whitty will make an effective team and we expect great results in the coming school year.

There have been comments pertaining to a "revolving door" of administrators at our schools. I have had to remove 3 administrators because of Differentiated Accountability. Mandated by the state, administrators must be removed if there is not marked school improvement.

Great things are happening academically:

- 4 STEM Academies in Agriculture, Criminology, Health Sciences and Digital Design. Over 30 students have received their certificates in an academy and could immediately enter the workforce if they so choose;
- Dual enrollment has increased from 1 student when I took office to an average of 15 the past two years;
- AP courses have been implemented in English, History and Spanish;
- Distance learning in Physics;
- Gear Up and Avid classes for high achievers;
- New campus opening for at-risk students, and
- We are pursuing vocational education as an option for our students and adult education options have greatly improved.

There has been concern in the community about the School Board. I want to make it clear that I do not work for, or control, the School Board and the Board does not work for me. The Board exists to write, adopt and follow policy that is fashioned from state statute. The Superintendent runs the day-to-day administrative side of the district.

The record shows that we have made great progress and we will continue to do so when I am re-elected as Superintendent. I will continue to ensure that the appropriate highly qualified faculty and staff are in place to accomplish the task of providing an excellent education for the students of Jefferson County. FCAT assessment performance and a well-rounded student graduate is priority one, and I pledge that I will implement academic programs under the Common Core State Standards Initiatives and Training. Committed effort of all stakeholders is crucial to garner the necessary success our district desires and deserves. I am committed to being an effective leader.

In closing, CBS radio newsman Charles Osgood told the story of two ladies who lived in a convalescent center. Each had suffered an incapacitating stroke. Margaret's stroke left her left side restricted, while Ruth's stroke damaged her right side. Both of these ladies were accomplished pianists but had given up hope of every playing again.

The director of the center sat them down at a piano and encouraged them to play solo pieces together. They did, and a beautiful friendship developed. What a picture of all stakeholders working together! What one member cannot do alone, perhaps two or more could do together – in harmony. I am forever thankful for your support.

*Bill Brumfield*

# Melvin Roberts, Democrat, for Superintendent of Schools

**1. Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training.**

High School, High School Diploma. I was a star athlete at Baldwin Jr. Sr. High School in the small town of Baldwin, Florida. College/University Bachelor of Science Degree in Physical Education with a minor in Health Education. Upon graduation from high school I enrolled at Florida A & M University with a major in Physical Education and a minor in Health Education.

I was also the recipient of the coveted Army ROTC Scholarship which financed my education. I graduated as a Distinguished Military Graduate (DMG). Upon graduation, I was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Signal Corps as a combat signal officer.

Master of Education Degree in Guidance and Counseling. Following an eight year tour of duty in the Army and employment in the public schools of Georgia, I returned to Florida A & M University majoring in Guidance and Counseling.

Educational Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership and Supervision from Florida State University.

Doctorate in Ministry from Bethany Bible College and Theological Seminary in Dothan, Alabama.

William Cecil Golden School Leadership Development Program (ongoing)

**2. What are your plans to help schools improve on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)? To implement mandated requirements from FLDOE (resources, consult-**

ants and/or agencies), we will focus on teaching with fidelity. In addition to mandated requirements, the following initiatives will be implemented along with other strategies as well.

- Stabilize the administrative and instructional staff with contracts and staff development where applicable and necessary.

- Implement a departmentalization teaching strategy in the assessed grades at the elementary level.

- Use test data to identify and individualize remediation strategies for the lowest performing students. Take each student as a personal commitment to ensure learning gains.

- Ensure administrators, coaches and assigned district administrators conduct frequent and scheduled classroom walkthroughs with feedback.

- Ensure all students are actively engaged in appropriate test prep with data feedback to prescribe targeted remediation strategies. Align test prep data with after school tutorial programs.

- Take it personal, Everyone, Teach one. Every staff member takes an active part in the educational process of all students at each school.

**3. Do you have any children or grandchildren in the Jefferson County School system? If your children are grown, did they attend public schools in Jefferson County?** Yes, I have a grandson just finishing up prekindergarten at Jefferson Elementary School. He will enter kindergarten next school term and he truly loves school. My son attended and graduated from public schools in Jefferson County. My daughter attended public schools in Jefferson County pub-

lic schools from elementary, middle and high school until her 11th and 12th grade years. I was her high school principal when she joined me at Madison County High School for her junior and senior years.

**4. Have you ever held an administrative position in the Jefferson County school system or in any other school system? Yes, I am currently at the school district office as the Human Resources Specialist. I have also been the Principal of Jefferson Elementary School, Adult School Administrator and Dean of Students at Howard Middle School; Transition administrator for Care Charter School (closure); Transition Administrator at Jefferson County Middle High School. Additionally, I have been an Assistant Principal and subsequent Principal of Madison County High School, Principal of Madison County Central School and Greenville Elementary School.**

**5. Have you ever been fired or lost a job due to budget cuts?** No, I have never been fired or lost a job due to budget cuts.

**6. What type of leadership positions have you held in the past? What types of duties were involved with it? Who was your employer or your immediate supervisor? What was the length of your leadership role?** • Army officer in the United States Army (8 yrs.) – Responsible for supervising personnel the installation, operation and maintenance of electronic assets in support of the army's combat protocol.

- Administrative Assistant – Mrs. Beverly Barnhart (1yr) – Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School in August, Georgia. Administrative assistant to the principal in support of the school's academic, fine arts goals and strategic planning initiatives for continued success across the curriculum.

- Dean of Students – Dr. Pink Hightower (2 yrs.) – Provided disciplinary support to the principal to create an atmosphere conducive to education with fidelity.

- Assistant Principal – Mrs. Lou S. Miller (6 yrs.) – Administrative assistant to the principal in support of the school's academic goal and strategic planning for academic success.

- Principal – Mrs. Lou S. Miller (7 yrs.), Mr. Phil Barker; Mr. William Brumfield (2 yrs.) – Provided educational leadership to facilitate an environment conducive to teaching and learning for all students.

- Human Resource Specialist – Mr. William Brumfield/Dr. Kelvin Norton (2 yr.) – Provided Supervision in support of all personnel actions for the district.

- Adult School administrator Mr. William Brumfield/Dr. Kelvin Norton (2 yrs.) – Facilitate the education process for adults pursuing the GED and transitioning to career and/or post secondary education.

- Alternative School Administrator - Mr. William Brumfield/Dr. Kelvin Norton (2 yrs.) – Supervised personnel in support of facilitating an alternative educational setting for students suspended and/or expelled from their assigned school.

**7. Have you ever been arrested? If so what was the year and what were the circumstances surrounding the arrest?** No, I have never been arrested.

**8. Have you ever lost a lawsuit or settled a case out of court?** No, I have never filed a lawsuit nor had to settle a case out of court.

**9. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection?** No, I have never had to file for bankruptcy protection.

# Valarie King-Thompson, Democrat, for Superintendent of Schools

**1. Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training.**

VALARIE KING- THOMPSON'S EDUCATION

- Educational Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership

- Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Graduated: Summer 1999

- Master's Degree in Elementary Education Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, Tallahassee, Florida. Graduated: Spring 1994

- Bachelors of Science Degree in Elementary Education, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, Tallahassee, Florida. Graduated: Spring 1992

- High School Diploma. Maynard Evans High School, Orlando, Florida. Graduated: Spring 1988

VALARIE K. THOMPSON'S FLORIDA CERTIFICATION & SPECIALIZED TRAINING CERTIFICATION:

- School Principal (Grades K – 12)
- Educational Leadership (All Levels)
- Elementary Education (Grades 1 – 6)
- Exceptional Student Education (Grades K – 12)

SPECIALIZED TRAINING:

- Florida Performance Measurement System (FPMS)
- Clinical Educator Training

- Targeted Selection Training
- Common Core Training (2011)

**2. What are your plans to help schools improve on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)? My plans to help the schools improve on the FCAT starts with holding everyone in the district responsible for the role they play in helping all students improve academically and socially. It is my belief that if students are engaged in classrooms that have highly effective teachers that they will grow academically and have a love for learning and school. I plan to ensure that all staff is afforded the opportunity to better themselves through professional development, collaboration, research, best practices, and data analysis to build upon student successes, and to focus on student challenges. All staff must be willing to "think outside the box" and try new teaching methods and techniques. It is my belief that teachers do not have to teach the test for students to become proficient. However, classrooms must be highly engaging and allow for students to learn utilizing all modalities of learning. Staff effectiveness (every person in the school district) will be key in order to move our district forward.**

FCAT is only one aspect of our improvement. We must instill discipline through classroom management techniques and provide

student incentives. A firm yet fair approach to student discipline will build a culture in which student motivation and self-esteem will be enhanced.

I am certain that FCAT results can and will improve once relationships amongst all staff, parents, students, community members, stake holders, and all citizens in our county come together as one to take back our village (which is our community). I know through meaningful partnerships, parent involvement, tutoring, mentoring, involvement, collaboration, participation, dedication, motivation, uniting for a purpose, will improve our educational system. I believe strongly that with a firm approach of No Games... No Politics... No Incompetence... No Favoritism... No Excuses our FCAT scores will improve and our entire school district will improve also. I will be a visible leader at all of our schools. Also, the (DBLT) District Based Leadership Team will be held accountable for assisting and providing feedback to administrators. The DBLT will keep staff informed about FCAT updates and changes through constant communication and collaboration.

The following will be areas that will be focused on to improve our entire district, as well as, FCAT results:

- Meaningful Professional Development

- Accountability for All staff
- Effective Leadership
- Analyzing Data to improve instruction

**3. Do you have any children or grandchildren in the Jefferson County School system? If your children are grown, did they attend public schools in Jefferson County?** Yes, my daughter Naya Thompson attends Jefferson County Middle/High School. She will be a seventh grader during the 2012 - 2013 school year. She also attended Jefferson Elementary School as a fourth and fifth grade student when we returned from Broward County. Also, my husband Coach Eddie Thompson attended Mamie B. Scott Elementary, Jefferson Elementary, Howard Middle School, and graduated from Jefferson County High School in 1979.

**4. Have you ever held an administrative position in the Jefferson County school system or in any other school system?**

ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS VALARIE KING-THOMPSON HAS HELD

- Jefferson County School Board – Principal and Assistant Principal
- Supervisor(s)- Dr. Kelvin Norton, Dr. Rodney Ryan, Mr. William Brumfield
- Madison County Central School – Assistant Principal
- Supervisor- Mr. Sam Stalnaker

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6B

Vote

## Melvin Roberts For Superintendent of Schools



### “Priority #1, Children First”

Dear Registered Voters,

On August 14, 2012 you will have an opportunity to vote for the most prepared, experienced and qualified candidate to serve as the next Superintendent of Schools for Jefferson County.

I am asking each voter to make this election about choosing the right candidate. The right candidate to lead our school district through the changes necessary to give all of our children the quality education they so desperately deserve.

As your next superintendent, I come to you with the educational background that has been the foundation for my professional growth as an educator. I will provide the dynamic educational leadership necessary to make difficult and tough decisions. I also have the knowledge and foresight to move our school district out of the danger zone and toward academic excellence. **Make the Preparation of your next Superintendent a concern.** As the candidate with Pre-kindergarten through Adult Education and District office experience, I am fully aware of the awesome academic, financial and public relations challenges ahead. I am prepared and committed to take on these challenges for the sake of all our children. **Compare the differences;** I have successfully been the principal of a school with less than 200 students as well as the principal of a school with over 1,300 students. I have supervised and evaluated instructional and school related staff in support of educating a very diverse student population. **Make the Experiences of your next Superintendent carry some weight.**

As a former captain in the United States Army, a successful veteran educator, guidance counselor and administrator for twenty-nine years, I am prepared, experienced and qualified to focus on what must be our **#1 Priority, Children first.** I am the one to get the job done! **Make the Qualifications of your next Superintendent matter.....**

**Vote Right, Vote Roberts!!**

**-Vote Melvin Roberts your next Superintendent of Schools-**

Political advertisement paid for and approved by Melvin Roberts, Democrat, for Superintendent of Schools

# CAMPAIGN 2012

6B • Monticello News

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

## Valarie King-Thompson, Democrat, for Superintendent of Schools

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5B

- Sunrise Community Charter School – Principal / Consultant Supervisor- Mr. Oliver Barnes
- Good Schools For All Leadership Academy – Principal Supervisor- Mr. Eugene Ruffin
- Eagle Charter Academy Middle School – Principal
- Smart School High - Institute of Technology and Commerce – Principal
- Supervisor- Mr. Dwight Bernard

### DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES AT A GLANCE

- Hired, monitored, and assisted all personnel
- Compiled data to complete all reports that were required for the DOE- Department of Education
- Help balanced a negative district budget by operating without key personnel
- Increased student enrollment each year
- Analyzed FCAT data to plan and develop an effective master schedule for the school
- Developed and implemented a School-wide Discipline Plan
- Organized and ensured that all procedures for the school were articulated and implemented (Ex.: ordering, master scheduling, handbook, orientation, PTSO, master calendar, meetings, fire drills, expectations, assemblies, etc.)
- Monitored and provided feedback about performance, professionalism, and expectations
- Implemented a FCAT Blitz Tutoring Program on Saturday mornings
- Delegated responsibilities to appropriate personnel
- Organized and implemented school wide community activities: Characters on Parade, Fall Carnival, December Holiday Show, Partnership with TCC to start a Football and Cheerleading Team at JES
- Improve school culture and morale by leading by example, visibility, Tea with Mrs. T, tokens of appreciations for all staff, words of encouragement, and empowering staff
- Attended and participated in school board meetings, sports activities, and professional development activities
- Monitored daily functions and operations of the school
- Monitored, investigated, and handled student discipline referrals
- Participated in all school reform effort District Based Leadership Team Meetings, SREB, CCDRE
- Supervised and evaluated PRE- K – Grade 8 personnel
- Analyzed student achievement data to articulate expectations
- Title I Coordinator, Testing Coordinator, and After School Coordinator
- Managed and operated two new charter schools simultaneously ensuring no conflicts or safety issues occurred
- Developed procedures, schedules, and programs to ensure students, parents, and teachers had a smooth transition from Elementary to Middle and Middle to High School
- Devised a bi-monthly newsletter to communicate between the school and community
- Collaborated with staff to devise a plan of ac-

tion to ensure students achievement was aligned with state requirements

- Conducted weekly faculty meetings to articulate school wide initiatives
- Monitored and supervised activities involving students such as dances, field trips, and after school programs
- Responsible for all funds and resources to be allocated appropriately and that no negative deficits occurred
- Central Charter School – Assistant Principal Supervisor- Dr. Rosa Lawson
- Monitored daily functions and operations of the school
- Devised schedules to enhance the daily operations of the school
- Developed school wide discipline procedures
- Monitored, investigated, and handled student discipline referrals
- Analyzed data to increase student achievement
- Aligned curriculum responsive to students' needs and state mandates
- Identified curriculum needs and planned in-service activities
- Adopted curriculum to fit the needs of the schools
- Monitored and provided feedback on lesson plans and grade books
- Conducted informal and formal evaluations for all personnel and provided feedback through documentation and conferencing
- Participated in writing and implementing grants
- Planned and facilitated staff meetings, conferences, and parent workshops
- Organized school-wide fundraisers and Field Day activities
- Planned and organized Teacher Appreciation activities
- Monitored breakfast and lunch program
- Monitored before and after care program
- Initiated and developed a Summer Enrichment Camp
- Organized and facilitated the Articulation Process
- Parent Advisory Facilitator/Chairperson
- Deerfield Park Elementary Magnet School of the Performing Arts – Assistant Principal, Supervisor- Mrs. Jackie Haywood
- Conducted weekly faculty meetings
- Monitored and handled all discipline referrals
- Devised a scheduling system to improve moral among classroom teachers and magnet teachers
- Monitored and evaluated all teachers, para-professionals, and custodians
- Participated in the Broward County Interim Assistant Principal Program
- Facilitated writing workshops to increase FCAT Writes scores
- Developed memos and flyers for parents and community leaders to articulate school initiatives
- Maintained a clean, safe learning environment by closely working with the custodial staff
- Established a school wide incentive program for students
- School Advisory Council Facilitator
- Magnet Program Coordinator

### TEACHING EXPERIENCES

- Coral Springs Elementary School, Coral Springs, Florida Supervisor- Ms. Jennifer Freeland
- Second and Fourth Grade Teacher

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7B

# Valarie King-Thompson, Democrat, for Superintendent of Schools

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6B

- School Advisory Council Facilitator
- Grade Level Chairperson
- Morrow Elementary School, North Lauderdale, Florida Supervisor- Mrs. Cheryl Youngblood
- Third Grade Teacher
- Howard Middle School, Monticello, Florida
- Supervisor- Dr. Pink Hightower
- Sixth Grade Reading Teacher
- School Improvement Plan Member
- Cheerleader Coach/Sponsor

**5. Have you ever been fired or lost a job due to budget cuts?** No, I have never been fired or lost my job due to budget cuts. However, for the first time in my career since 1992 I was non-

reappointed by Mr. William Brumfield as a Principal in Jefferson County School District. At this time, I am actively campaigning to become the next Superintendent of Schools for Jefferson County.

**6. What type of leadership positions have you held in the past? See my previous answer for question #4. What types of duties were involved with it? See my previous answer for question #4. Who was your employer or your immediate supervisor? See my previous answer for question #4. What was the length of your leadership role?**

**LENGTH OF EMPLOYMENT IN LEADERSHIP ROLES**

- April 2012 – June 2012, Principal- Jefferson County Opportunity School

- August 2010 – April 2012, Principal- Jefferson Elementary School
- July 2009 – August 2010, Assistant Principal- Jefferson County Middle/High School
- August 2008 – July 2009, Assistant Principal – Madison County Central School
- February 2006 – Aug. 2008 Principal / Consultant – Sunrise Community Charter School
- June 2004 – July 2006, Principal – Good Schools For All Leadership Academy
- June 2003 – June 2004, Principal – Eagle Charter Academy Middle School
- Principal – (SSITC) Smart School High Institute of Technology
- January 2002 – June 2003, Assistant Principal – Central Charter School
- July 2000 – January 2002, Assistant Principal

- Deerfield Park Elementary
- August 1998 – June 2000, Teacher – Coral Springs Elementary School
- August 1995 – June 1998, Teacher – Morrow Elementary School
- August 1992 – June 1995, Teacher – Howard Middle School

**7. Have you ever been arrested? If so what was the year and what were the circumstances surrounding the arrest?** No I've never been arrested.

**8. Have you ever lost a lawsuit or settled a case out of court?** No, I've never lost a lawsuit or settled a case out of court.

**9. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection?** No, I've never filed for bankruptcy protection. \*\*

# Nancy Whitty, NPA, for Superintendent of Schools

My name is Nancy Whitty. I grew up in Smyrna Georgia and graduated from Campbell High School in 1978. I attended the University of Alabama and in 1983 received a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education. After graduating, I moved to Florida and have been teaching for 27 years (22 of those years in Jefferson County). My experience ranges from teaching Pre-K students through 5th grade. I recently graduated with Distinction from Capella University, with a Masters degree in Educational Leadership. Through my experience and recent studies of school law, finance, and school improvement, I am passionate about restoring school pride and providing a quality education for all students.

With an elementary education background I know how important the foundational years are for a child. It is the first 5 years of a child's life in which they establish their love for learning and a love for school. We must provide a well rounded education so that all students of different learning styles can benefit and succeed. However, we must have measures of accountability, and FCAT is one of many forms of data used to determine student performance. In 2002, the State of Florida put into place a reading policy designed for all 3rd grade students who were not reading on grade level to be retained. This policy was put in place not to penalize or traumatize students and their families with retention, but it recognized that all students learn at different rates and that some need a "gift of time" to develop

the necessary skills to be proficient in reading in order to enhance their future successes. Unfortunately, this policy has not been enforced at the elementary level for many years, and students have been socially promoted due to various administrators' personal opinions concerning retention. Not only has this been detrimental to our district's success, but it has been proven that students who cannot read successfully by the end of 3rd grade are four times more likely to drop out of high school. In 2015, Florida will replace the FCAT with the PARCC (Partnership for Assessments of Readiness in College and Career), and as Superintendent I will work with the administrators in our district to ensure that our students are held to the same high standards that students are held to across the nation, and also ensure that various forms of student data are used to make informed and wise decisions concerning our students' progress and promotion, especially at the third and tenth grade levels.

I have five wonderful children and three of the five attended the Jefferson County public system. Eventually, three of my children attended and graduated from Aucilla Christian Academy.

I cheerfully say that I was principal of Jefferson Elementary School for 5 minutes and was then made Assistant Principal due to our "F" grade and DA status with the state. I have always sought leadership roles in my school because I love to learn new things and improve on what I already know. I have been grade level

leader for many years, Chairman of the School Advisory Committee, a Mentor Teacher, a Supervising Teacher for Student Teachers, and Writing Chair of the School Improvement Team. I consider myself a leader, and I believe that I have a gift in developing the strengths in others. I have learned over the years the most effective leaders surround themselves with a diverse team made up of many talents.

I have worked for 9 administrators (7 in

the past 10 years) in my career at Jefferson Elementary. It was inconsistent leadership and poor representation of our school's potential in the media that prompted me to get my Masters degree in Ed. Leadership at age 50 so that I could have the proper "credentials" along with the experience to make informed decisions to better our educational system.

I have never been fired, arrested, in a lawsuit, or declared bankruptcy.

**"America is like a family. One generation prepares a better way for the next. Our responsibility is to insure that our children receive the same promise of a better life that we did from our parents."**  
– Alvin Peters



**CHOOSE YOUR CANDIDATE**

**ALVIN PETERS FOR CONGRESS**  
JOBS NOW!  
Paid Advertisement by Alvin Peters, for Congress

# Phil Barker, Candidate, for School Board District 1

1. Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training. A. 1. I Graduated from Sandalwood Jr.Sr. High School in Jacksonville, Florida (1974). 2. Earned Bachelor Degree in Physical Education at Saint Leo University in 1980. 3. Earned Master's Degree in Educational Leadership at Florida State University in 1989. 4. I became a Certified School Superintendent during my first term in office in 2002. 5. I am now a Certified ESE (Exceptional Student Education) Staffing Specialist in the Madison County Public Schools.

2. What are your plans for helping improve the scores for all schools on the Florida

Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)? A. 1. Increase Support Facilitation Services in our regular classroom settings for our ESE Students. 2. Provide "pull-out" program for Level 1 students in Reading and/or Math to help strengthen skills. 3. Send home "Test Prep" worksheets for parents to work with their children on specific reading and math skills.

3. What are your qualifications to sit on the School Board? A. My past experience as an Educator for 30 plus years; Serving as a Teacher, Coach, Administrator, and School Superintendent. I will bring a wealth of Educational Leadership Experience to the School Board.

4. What clubs, churches, or civic organizations do you belong to? A. 1) Past Monticello Ki-

wanis Club Secretary for 10 years. 2) Past Youth Coach; Monticello Tennis Association. 3) Past Recreation Park Youth Soccer Coordinator for 10 years. 4) Current Vice President of the Jefferson County Teachers Credit Union for 18 years. 5) Current Member; Board of Directors for Aucilla Christian Academy. 6) Active Member; St. Margaret's Catholic Church in Monticello.

5. What do you feel are the most pressing needs in our schools? A. 1) Recruit and Retain Highly Qualified Teachers. (Hire locally if at all possible) 2) Reduce turnover rate of our School Site Principals; this will add much needed stability to the students and staff. 3) Increase parental support for our students; particularly the parents of our most struggling students. 4) Improve Public Image: Exhibit a positive climate and public relations to all. Instill the "what can I do for you" attitude approach to all employees throughout the district.

6. If you are a challenger, how many school board meetings have you attended during the last 12 months? If you are an incumbent, how many board meetings have you missed? If any absence has been for a health reason or family emergency, please state so. Please state the reason for any absences other than for health reasons or family emergencies. A. I have attended 9 of the last 12 Regular School Board Meetings. Since being defeated in

my re-election bid for Superintendent four years ago, I have continued to attend the Regular School Board meetings numerous times.

7. What do you consider the five most pressing concerns facing the school district? A. 1) The School Board and Superintendent can start by improving our public image by promoting and exhibiting a positive attitude; being respectful of others; being approachable and working as a team. 2) Recruit and retain Highly Qualified Teachers. Hire locally if at all possible. 3) Reduce the turnover rate of our School Site Principals; this will add stability for our students and staff. 4) Improve Student Achievement. 5) Adequate funding from the state and more flexibility from the state in the use of funds.

8. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection? A. No.

9. Do you own property in the county. If so, how much? A. Yes. 27 Acres

10. Are you gainfully employed? Where? What are your responsibilities? Will you continue to work if you are elected? A. Yes; I am currently a ESE (Exceptional Student Education) Staffing Specialist for the last 3 ½ years in the Madison County Public Schools. I write Educational Plans for special need students. I plan to continue to work in Madison County while serving as a Jefferson County School Board Member.

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**Candidates**



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# Colin A. Barton, Candidate, for School Board District 1

**1. ECB Publishing: Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training.** BARTON: I began my secondary education in Georgetown, Guyana and continued until I graduated from William Howard Taft High School, NYC. I then joined the U.S. Army and enrolled at the University of Maryland, Babenhausen, Germany. Upon returning to the US, I enrolled at Austin Community College in Austin, Texas.

Most recently, I attended the Florida State University Center for Professional Management Certified Public Manager Program and completed the requirements to be a Certified Public Manager. In addition, I have completed numerous certificate and professional development programs.

**2. What are your plans for helping improve the scores for all schools on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)?**

BARTON: The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) has been in place for over ten years and each year it loses momentum in the school districts and with parents. Several print journals have also written opinions on the FCAT advocating for the test to be replaced.

In addition to being able to think critically, students must build their confidence level through the various classroom activities in which they engage each year. Those students

who approach their end of year assessment test with a high degree of confidence tend to perform better and their test scores are higher.

I strongly believe we should get rid of the FCAT and hire education professionals to develop an end of year assessment test for Florida students which can adequately measure progress for all student abilities.

In the interim, every effort should be made to prepare students to do the best they can on the FCAT. These efforts can include providing a parent or student advocate for families who elect to have one during the school year.

Also, I would like to work with the current board and appropriate stakeholders to:

- Develop performance metrics in the classroom and administrative offices to help identify areas needing immediate attention.

- Evaluate the pros and cons of an appointed Superintendent versus an elected Superintendent. Approximately 26 school districts currently employ an appointed Superintendent.

**3. What are your qualifications to sit on the School Board?** BARTON: The qualifications to sit on the school board must include a desire to be of service to the community, to know the value of a quality education, to know the value of recruiting high performing faculty and staff, the ability to recognize when faculty, staff and students are not performing at their optimum levels and be ready to take the necessary corrective action, to be a Team builder and to be an ef-

fective leader during the lows and highs while in office.

I believe that I am qualified to be a servant leader in the areas outlined above and I will work with my fellow board members to set goals and not wait for audits or external factors to determine our direction.

My qualifications include,

- Florida Department of Management Services – Purchasing Analyst, Contract Manager, Information Technology and Telecommunications (current).

- Florida Department of Management Services – Business Consultant to Small, Minority-, Women-, and Service Disabled Veteran Owned Businesses.

- Florida A&M University – Student Financial Aid Officer.

- Florida Department of Education Program Specialist – as a staff member served on the Commission for Independent Education School Board.

- Florida Department of Education Program Specialist – served in the Office of Student Financial Assistance administering various aspects of the Guaranteed Student Loan Programs.

- Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation – Guaranteed Student Loan Representative to banks, schools, students and parents.

- Texas Educational Foundation/Gary Job Corp – Residential Student Advisor.

- U.S. Army Veteran

Other relevant skills and experience:

- Business and Education Conference Organizer.

- Extensive background interpreting and applying state statutes and federal regulations at the business and educational levels.

- Lawton Chiles High School Advisory Committee Member

**4. What clubs, churches, or civic organizations do you belong to?** BARTON: My tendency is to serve in organizations where I am actively involved at the highest levels and produce results. As my children have grown out of the secondary school level I have backed away from most of the above organizations to serve in

areas where I see an immediate need for my skills and abilities.

**5. What do you feel are the most pressing needs in our schools?** BARTON: Leadership and strong policy enforcement. Respectful and nurturing culture for students, faculty and staff. Road map to bring the Community together to support JCSD. Student Retention.

**6. If you are a challenger, how many school board meetings have you attended during the last 12 months? If you are an incumbent, how many board meetings have you missed? If any absence has been for a health reason or family emergency, please state so. Please state the reason for any absences other than for health reasons or family emergencies.**

BARTON: As a challenger, I have attended five board meetings in the last twelve months.

**7. What do you consider the five most pressing concerns facing the school district?**

BARTON: I believe the most pressing concerns facing the school district are:

- “Us vs. Them” mentality
- Teacher effectiveness and abilities in the classroom
- Negative and contentious board meetings

- Transportation problems (speeding – children safety)

- Quality of the meals being served in the school cafeterias

- Poor customer service from teachers and administration

- Discipline problems in the classroom

**8. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection?** BARTON: No.

**9. Do you own property in the county. If so, how much?** BARTON: Yes, five acres in Aucilla Shores.

**10. Are you gainfully employed? Where? What are your responsibilities? Will you continue to work if you are elected?** BARTON: Yes, I am currently employed with the Florida Department of Management Services where I am a Purchasing Analyst/Contract Manager for Information Technology and Telecommunications. I intend to continue working after I am elected.





Elect

Larry Halsey

School Board Dist 4

We can, and we must, work together

# Ann Herring, Candidate, for School Board District 1

**1. Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training.** I graduated from Middle Township High School, Cape May Court House, New Jersey. I have a Bachelor of Arts degree from Princeton University, Princeton New Jersey.

**2. What are your plans for helping improve the scores for all schools on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)?** I would institute a specialized FCAT preparatory program similar to those programs that offer courses in test preparation for graduate entrance exams such as the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT), Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT), Law School Admissions Test (LSAT)

and Graduate Record Examination (GRE). I also like the idea of having a reading program that offers incentives to students who read a certain number of books over the summer break. This type of program will help students to retain and strengthen reading skills during the summer.

**3. What are your qualifications to sit on the School Board?** I will bring to the board the ability to work as part of a team and to be creative and innovation in thinking and planning. I also understand the importance of education and will bring to the board a strong commitment to improving our school system.

**4. What clubs, churches, or civic organizations do you belong to?** I am a member of Mt. Pleasant A.M.E. Church, Community Friends, a community service organization, and the Jeffer-

son County Democratic Executive Committee.

**5. What do you feel are the most pressing needs in our schools?** We need good, strong and effective leadership in our school system. We also need to get students more involved as they are the major stakeholders in the educational process and it is their future that is at risk.

**6. If you are a challenger, how many school board meetings have you attended during the last 12 months?** I do not recall the exact number, probably 6, maybe more. **If you are an incumbent, how many board meetings have you missed? If any absence has been for a health reason or family emergency, please state so. Please state the reason for any absences other than for health reasons or family emergencies.**

**7. What do you consider the five most press-**

**ing concerns facing the school district?** I consider the following to be the five most pressing concerns: The school system's inability to meet the educational needs of our children, low staff morale, instability at the principal level, the poor graduation rate, and the exodus of students from our schools.

**8. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection?** No.

**9. Do you own property in the county? Yes If so, how much?** Approximately 47 acres.

**10. Are you gainfully employed? Yes Where?** The Department of Children and Families, Tallahassee, FL **What are your responsibilities? I prepare and conduct training for staff statewide. Will you continue to work if you are elected? Yes.**

# Terri Long, Candidate, for School Board District 1

**1. Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training.** I graduated from Miller Place Jr/Sr High School, Miller Place, New York in 1981.

I attended Florida Tech and graduated with a Bachelors of Science in Ocean Engineering in 1986.

**2. What are your plans for helping improve the scores for all schools on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)?**

I'll be honest, as a parent, I do not like the emphasis that is placed on the state standardized testing (FCAT). Unfortunately, it is prescribed by FDOE and USDOE regulations (No Child Left Behind Act). The testing is tied to federal and state funding that each school district receives. That being said, I feel the approach of "teaching to the test" does not work. Academics needs be revert back to the teaching of the learned principles of the "ABC's and 1,2,3's".

With that being said, I fully believe the key to a students academic success, and in turn, a schools success (school grades) is Parent Involvement. When I say "Parent Involvement, I do not necessarily mean attending PTO, SAC or Board meetings, or volunteering at school, although the district and schools absolutely want parents to do those things.

The most important element of "Parent Involvement" begins in the home. Parents need to ask their children how school was that day. They need to check their children's backpack for important information from the schools. They need to be sure that their children do their homework every night and help them with it if they are able. If they notice that their child is having some trouble, they need to communicate with the teacher and ask for additional help for their child in the classroom.

Parents need to use the FOCUS system, on a regular basis. FOCUS is a system that allows parents and students to log on, and view the students grades in real time, as well as attendance records. There is no reason to not have a good idea of how a student is doing at any time during the school year.

**3. What are your qualifications to sit on the School Board?** One of the primary duties

of a School Board is setting and approving policy. All policies written and approved by the Board have some basis of rule or regulation. My primary job duties over the last 7 years revolves around state and federal regulations. Based on Federal rule or program revisions or statutory revisions, I amend or repeal current rules, or draft proposed new rules. Basically, I deal with rules and regulations most of the time.

Do I have professional experience in the educational field? No I do not, however once my children entered into the public school system, I realized I needed to become my children's advocate. To be an effective advocate, I needed to learn the in's and outs of the educational system. Both of my children have learning disabilities which were diagnosed in the early elementary years. I needed to become knowledgeable on Individual Education Plans and the Exceptional Education Services program in order to understand my child's specific needs and rights.

I am very proud to say both my children attend Jefferson schools (JES and JCMHS) and both are doing well. They are both honor roll students and are scoring well on the state standardized tests (FCAT and EOC).

Over the past 7 years, as an involved parent, I have been involved in the PTO and SAC at both Jefferson Elementary and Jefferson MHS, a member of the Parent Involvement Committee since its inception, and I attend as many School Board meetings as possible.

**4. What clubs, churches, or civic organizations do you belong to?** We are very involved and volunteer frequently at the Beau Turner Youth Conservation Center (BTYCC). The BTYCC frequently hosts charitable events for organizations such as the Ronald MacDonald House, Childrens Home Society, Boys and Girls Club of the Big Bend and other charitable organizations.

**5. What do you feel are the most pressing needs in our schools?**

**1. Improvement of Communication and Dissemination of Information.** Clear and effective communication is imperative from the top down: School Board, District staff, School staff, students, parents; and from bottom up: Parents, Students, School staff, District Staff

and School Board. Communication needs to improve within each school as well so that teachers, students and parents all understand their perspective responsibilities. We need to be "One Team" and to be one team we all need to have the same information, the same understanding of all the issues.

**2. Parent Involvement** for all the reasons I have mentioned above.

**3. Highly Qualified Staff Retention:** The schools in Jefferson over the last 7 years have had a very high turnover rate from administrative staff to teachers. We need to retain highly effective administrators and staff. We need to begin grooming current school staff to become our future school administrators. We need to "home grow" our future principals and vice principals so that they will stay with the Jefferson School District family.

**4. School and District Moral:** We need the Tiger Pride to roar all year long, especially in our classrooms. School wide moral is important to build a team atmosphere. Positive energy will accomplish more than negative energy.

**5. Community Buy In:** We need all the people of Jefferson County to unite behind our school system. This community banded together to save JCI, now lets do it for the children and future of Jefferson County.

**6. If you are a challenger, how many school board meetings have you attended during the last 12 months? If you are an incumbent, how many board meetings have you missed? If any absence has been for a health reason or family emergency, please state so. Please state the reason for any absences other than for health reasons or family emergencies.**

Although I have not kept track of the Board meetings I have attended over the last 12 months, a conservative estimate would be 8 or 9 meetings. I have attended school board meetings fairly regularly over the last 7 years (we moved here 7 years ago). I would give a conservative estimate of my percentage attendance rate of 75% over 7 years. The meetings I have not attended have been due to being out of town, or my children being ill.

**7. What do you consider the five most pressing concerns facing the school district?**

**1. Staff Turnover:** We need to stop the

high rate of turnover for school administrators, school staff and teaching staff. Longevity of staff will lead to a more cohesive "team" unit.

**2. Increased Academic Rigor:** The increased difficulty of the FCAT and EOC exams as well as the requirements for High School graduation will be changing year to year. All schools in Florida are going to be facing this challenge, as the details and specifics of these changes, dictated by the FDOE, are moving targets, making it difficult to plan for.

**3. Attendance Outside of District:** As a parent I understand when a parent feels the need to pull their child out of our school system, but we must try to retain our students. By opening up communications, focusing of core academics and creating a positive team atmosphere at our school s, we can retain more students and possibly even draw back some students to our district.

**4. No true "Gifted" programs:** Our schools have no true gifted programs, especially at the elementary school level.

**5. Financial Uncertainty:** Our district finances appear solid now, however with the economy, the downsizing of our counties tax base, the departure of students from Jefferson schools and the uncertainty of the national economy (federal funding), future finances are not guaranteed. The district must be financially responsible, without compromising the education of the children.

**8. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection?** No

**9. Do you own property in the county. If so, how much?** We own our residential home, which sits on 6 acres.

**10. Are you gainfully employed? Yes Where?** Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Air Resource Management

**What are your responsibilities?**

Primarily, my job entails reviewing our state regulations (Florida Administrative Codes and Florida Statutes) as well as Federal Regulations (Code of Federal Regulations). Based on Federal rule or program revisions or statutory revisions, I amend or repeal current rules, or draft proposed new rules.

**Will you continue to work if you are elected? Yes**

# Carolyn Loggins-Wade, Candidate, for School Board District 4

1. Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training. I have a High School Diploma which was received from the Jefferson County High School. I have taken advanced computer courses in the operation of Microsoft Software. I also received training in Leadership and Communication Skills.

2. What are your plans for helping improve the scores for all schools on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)? The best way to improve the FCAT scores is to make sure that all teachers are aware of the requirements needed to pass the test and ensure that their curriculum includes these standards. Secondly, see what the "A" schools are doing and piggy back from them.

3. What are your qualifications to sit on the School Board? I know how to communicate well with others and I have the ability to work

as a member of a team with an open mind. I have the ability to listen attentively and make wise decisions. I understand how to agree or disagree, agreeably. I respect the feelings of other people and I know how to accept rejection without becoming agitated. In addition, I genuinely care about the success of our children and the community at large. I am also a grandmother with students in the Jefferson County school system and I want them to be able to attend any college without having to take remedial courses before they can start college courses.

4. What clubs, churches, or civic organizations do you belong to? I am a member of Mount Morilla Missionary Baptist Church, Lamont, Florida. Daughters of Deborah #60, Order of Eastern Star, Prince Hall Affiliated Solomon Court Heroines of Jericho. Virginia West Lane Templar Crusaders. Carrie White Boone Assembly Order of Golden Circle. Ruth Court Ladies of Circle of Perfection. Ahmed

Court Daughters of Isis. Veterans of Foreign War; Women's Auxiliary

5. What do you feel are the most pressing needs in our schools? The most pressing needs are: 1. To have teachers and leaders who are genuinely concerned about our student's future. 2. We need teachers to complete the entire school year 3. More hands on FCAT preparation 4. Guidance Counselors at the school

5. If you are a challenger, how many school board meetings have you attended during the last 12 months? If you are an incumbent, how many board meetings have you missed? If any absence has been for a health reason or family emergency, please state so. Please state the reason for any absences other than for health reasons or family emergencies.

I am a challenger but I did not attend any regular school board meetings. I have however, picked up the minutes after the meetings for informational purposes. I believe that school board meetings should be for those members

who were elected into the position to conduct the business at hand. Although these meetings are open to the public, I feel that if there are problems or concerns, those issues should first be addressed to the school board member who represents the district in which one lives and that school board member should be the voice at the meeting. However, if that board member does not solve the problem, then it should be addressed to the school board.

7. What do you consider the five most pressing concerns facing the school district?

Leadership - Teachers

FCAT scores

Additional After School Activities

(Clubs, etc)

Administration

Student Privileges - bathroom breaks

8. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection? No

9. Do you own property in the county. If so, how much? Yes

10. Are you gainfully employed? Where? What are your responsibilities? Will you continue to work if you are elected? I am employed by the State of Florida, Department of Economic Opportunity.

My duties are to review applications and determine eligibility for Work Opportunity Tax Credits for employers.

If elected, yes I will continue to work.



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Political advertisement paid for and approved by Carolyn Loggins-Wade, Campaign Treasurer, Non Partisan, for School Board Member, District 4

# Lawrence Halsey, Candidate, for School Board District 4

**1. What type of education do you have?** I attended Alachua County schools, graduating from Gainesville High School in 1965. I earned a Bachelor of Arts from Pfeiffer College, 1969, and a Masters of Agriculture (management economics) from University of Florida, 1974.

**2. What are your plans for helping improve the scores for all schools on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)?** We need to be concerned with the level of learning of our students. FCAT is one of many ways to measure that. Summing all student FCAT scores, and some "black-box" mystery factors leads to a so-called school score. I think "teaching to the test" to raise FCAT scores robs time from overall instructional education. The test changes each year; teaching to last year's test does not help much when radical changes are made each year. I support improving both college prep and vocational training. Increased knowledge and skills, not high FCAT scores, prepare our students as contributing young adult citizens: for jobs, as parents, in military service, for trade or vocational schools or for college. We need to use proven curriculum, taught by good, well-trained and committed instructors in an environment suited for learning. Then we can use a wide variety of tests, including FCAT, to determine whether we are successful. Let's reduce time spent in test training and hand wringing by teachers, students, administrators, parents and Board. Recently, the District has contracted the Pearson company for test preparation assistance, as suggested by Florida Department of Education and supported through grant funds. That helps, but it would be much more helpful if FDOE would quit changing the game and moving the goalposts. If funding sanctions were not so severe, I'd consider opting out of FCAT.

I strongly support efforts of the Florida School Boards Association and others to press FDOE and the Legislature to reduce the undue emphasis on "high stakes testing." The FCAT should not be the single measure of student, teacher, school and district quality. End-of-Course proficiency assessment is a step in the right direction. We should continue to monitor all assessment to assure that it is fair, accurate and less stressful. Students need additional aptitude assessments to guide their decisions about their futures. They need less emphasis on FCAT. Our college-bound students should be prepared for SAT and ACT tests as well as FCAT.

**3. What are your qualifications to sit on the School Board?** I know the schools – Elementary, Middle, High, Adult and Opportunity - from experiences of working with them. Among many others, I have:

- \* taken part in two Making-the-Grade projects.
- \* served as president of PTO at Jefferson Elementary and Howard Middle Schools.
- \* volunteered as classroom reader in Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades.
- \* been a member of HMS and JCHS School Improvement Committees.
- \* often judged Science Fairs for ACA and HMS.
- \* served as Trainer for JCHS faculty – Computer Applications / Software
- \* overseen 4-H programs; I've participated in most 4-H activities: 3rd, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades Ecology Field Day, County Events, Camp Cherry Lake, Ag Ventures.
- \* been Coordinator of a 4-H USDA Youth-at-Risk Literacy Grant, 1991-96 for 2<sup>nd</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup>

graders with HMS, JCHS and ACA student Mentors. (about \$600,000 in 6 years).

\* chaperoned field trips and activities – Gifted Programs, Jefferson Tigers, On-Track Program, Soccer Team, Odyssey of the Mind, Academic Teams, History Fairs, Proms.

\* worked on JES Tire Playgrounds (JEC) and the PTO painting project, Kindergarten wing. been member of committee to secure IBM's Writing-to-Read, Writing-to-Write for JES.

I am parent of three students and god-father of two who attended Jefferson County Schools.

I spent 34 years as County Extension Director; a career as an informal adult and youth educator. I've collaborated with public and private schools, and with home-schooled youth.

My wife, Marilyn, is a retired Jefferson County teacher. She is veteran of the On-Track Program; JCHS Flying Tigers; ESE, Home-Bound and other assignments. She was 2006 District Teacher of the Year. Some of what I know and believe about our schools comes from her relating her experience as an educator.

**4. What clubs, churches, or civic organizations do you belong to?** I worship with the Tallahassee First Church of the Nazarene. I was a member of Monticello Kiwanis, 1976-2009 (president, 1996 and long-time race director of the Melon Run). I am a member of Jefferson County/Florida Farm Bureau. I served on the County Legislative Committee for seven years. I am a founding member of the Board of the Jefferson Youth Council and the Teen Center, and prepared early Turner Foundation grant proposals that established them.

**5. What do you feel are the most pressing needs in our schools?** We need to spend more on direct student instruction, and much less on system overhead. Our small size and our relatively low income (fiscally constrained county) present serious financial burdens. Two decades ago, K-12 enrollment was 1,988 students (1993-94). Our schools enter fall, 2012, with one of the lowest student enrollments among the 67 Florida counties, estimated at 995. There are some costs that are not divisible or scalable. State laws, FDOE rules, and Federal regulations mandate records, plans, other reports and district activities. They mandate them but expect us to pay the bill out of existing budgets. We are required to spend the same time and effort by staff – administrative and instructional - as Miami-Dade, Hillsborough, Duval, Leon and others. We suffer from diseconomies of scale. Modest accommodations are made for disperse-and-low-density population counties, particularly for transportation – sparsity adjustments. I will encourage our District to join with others to get relief, freeing our limited funds for direct student instruction and freeing teacher time from exhausting, excessive, non-instructional paperwork. Statistics from FDOE [reported in "Great Schools" district profile website for Jefferson] help us understand the dilemma: our per-pupil spending was almost \$11,000, about \$2,500 above the state average of all districts (2006-07 data). But our direct student spending for instruction was 51% of the total, compared to 60% average for all 67 districts. Our county schools have a higher percent of students eligible for free or reduced cost lunch and a higher percent of students with disabilities – both with higher funding factors. They cost more. Our buses run longer routes on rougher roads. They

cost more to operate and maintain, and must be replaced more frequently. The result is that Jefferson spends more than average for overhead (or fixed costs): 1) student and staff support, 2) administration, and 3) other expenditures. I will work to get greater state funding support for many of their requirements that essentially are unfunded mandates. They are impediments to spending our county taxpayer dollars on the real job of schools, instructing students (variable costs).

**6. How many school board meetings have you attended during the past 12 months?** I have attended all Board meetings (monthly regular and special meetings and workshops) since early February, 2012.

**7. What do you consider the five most pressing concerns facing the school district?**

Irish philosopher Edmund Burke said, "Education is the cheap defense of nations." Let's add that a literate, well educated population is essential for the economic, social, cultural and civic development of our community. I am concerned that we face the following limits to a high-quality education and limit our community's future:

We find ourselves in a downward, negative spiral. There has been a significant loss of students enrolled in the schools. With the drop in FTEs (student nose count), there is a loss of state funding. State constitutional amendments in the past several years have further limited the level of property taxes to fund schools. These reduce the breadth of course offerings including arts and humanities, foreign languages and higher levels of math, science and language arts – even driver education. We have lost educational field trips, extracurricular opportunities and cultural benefits to students due to loss of funds. Additional students flee the school, and funds diminish again. I will encourage the Board and the Schools to seek non-monetary means to restore a diversity of curriculum. I will also encourage the system to seek funding outside the district – especially public and private grants - while encouraging responsibility and frugality in school expenditure. I will seek a return to collaboration with 4-H and similar organizations, for school enrichment programs. We need to expand arrangements with NFCC and, to the extent possible, establish new connections with Lively, TCC, FSU and FAMU for dual-enrollment. We should encourage guest-lecturer instruction by their faculty members, and by business, civic and government experts in the community. In the past, we attempted to remedy each year's dropping score with broad scale and extensive changes in personnel, in strategies and in programs. Our entire system, top-to-bottom needs time to adjust to changes and implement strategies. We did not get where we are overnight – not in the 4-year term-of-office of a School Board member or of a Superintendent. We are 67<sup>th</sup> out of 67 districts. We don't need to point fingers nor assign blame; we need to be realistic and find solutions. My greatest concern is that we make the turn, and begin the climb, as difficult as it will be.

The Schools – District and School administration, the Board, faculty and staff, parents, students – and the Community must build and strengthen cooperation. We need to seek consensus in restoring quality educational basics. I will seek to develop that cooperation and collabora-

tion. Often, compromise is an effective and useful tool in accomplishing important goals. We need fair, just, affordable and positive solutions to the many problems and opportunities faced by the schools. I think I can contribute to those solutions. My campaign theme is, "We can – and we must – work together."

We may have opportunities to offer some educational benefits to students in private schools and in home-school environments, as we once did with driver education. We can fill non-public education needs, and perhaps build FTE basis for the District.

Support and enthusiasm for Schools has waned as student enrollment and school grades have dropped. The Board must seek - and earn - the trust, enthusiasm and the gusto for a goal of improved student performance as we have seen recently with the broad-based community support for Jefferson Correctional Institution and for the JCHS Tiger football accomplishments in fall, 2012. That will only occur when the Community as a whole perceives the Board as a cohesive, positive and aggressive group making extraordinary moves to improve the Schools. I suggest that proposed agenda items for Board consideration be presented in workshops where school officials' counsel is offered and public input is sought. Appropriate public notice is required, of course. Discussion may take place, but no action is permitted. The items would then appear as Board Meeting agenda items, scheduled for vote. The interval between Workshop and Regular Meeting will allow for members to further inform themselves, to make wise votes. The result: more efficient use of time, with less public frustration and rancor.

We have seen Automotive/Shop, Vocational Agriculture, Green Industries Horticulture, Construction/Building Trades, Culinary Arts and other vocational/trades tracks dropped over time. We need to support vigorously and aggressively a wide range of training for non-college-bound students. They will eventually fill jobs, and help make our local economy stronger. We need to expand collaboration with agencies such as Workforce Development, and seek expanded funding arrangements with them. Our District needs to cooperate with Economic Development efforts to encourage prospective businesses to contribute to training, internships and apprenticeships for our students, while we grant them incentives to invest here. In-school suspension, Opportunity School and diversion to GED programs should continue for youth who are enrolled, but who chose not to behave or perform as students. The few details revealed recently about re-purposing the Howard Middle School campus are encouraging. Academies - enhanced vocational/trades programs - at the former HMS site must be real training centers, not perceived as punishment or exile from the other campuses. They must be separate from the Opportunity School, ISS and Adult School.

**8. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection?** No.

**9. Do you own property in the county? If so, how much?** Marilyn and I own 8.7 acres (non-ag exempt) and a home on Sundance Drive.

**10. Are you gainfully employed?** I retired from the UF-IFAS Extension Service in 2009, after 34 years as Extension Director and as a County Commission Department Head. I have sufficient time to commit to Board service.

# RE-ELECT

## Lois Howell-Hunter

*Jefferson County Tax Collector*

First, I would like to thank you, the citizens of Jefferson County, for your support over the years, and for the many kind comments you have made to me and my staff when you have visited the office or when you see us out in the community.

Second, I ask for your continued support and vote on November 6th to re-elect me to the office of Jefferson County Tax Collector. Your support is not taken for granted; I greatly appreciate the confidence you have in me to serve in this important position and I will continue to work hard every day to go beyond the level of service you expect. I am a life-time resident of this county.

Prior to being elected as Tax Collector, I worked in the tax office as deputy clerk for 16 years and have faithfully served as your tax collector, with integrity and loyalty. I am experienced and hands-on. I have personally issued your driver license; I have personally renewed your license plate; I have personally processed your car title and mobile home registration. To do the job right, it takes someone who is experienced and hands-on.

Many improvements and innovation have taken place since I've been in office. Customers appreciate my open door policy. If any citizen needs my assistance, I make it possible for that citizen to come into the tax collector's office and get the professional service they deserve and I try to make everyone feel welcome.

All vacant positions are advertised.

As tax collector, I have made every effort to bring the tax office into the computer age. Many office responsibilities are accessible via the internet. E-Payments for property taxes and tag renewals, tax certificate rolls, and downloading of forms for registration and titling.

I have added security features for greater protection of tax payers' property.

I have increased revenues by partnering with two new private tag agencies.

When I was elected tax collector, I felt a personal commitment to the community to go above and beyond the call of duty through my charitable contributions. I've given to churches, schools and community events, such as the bi-annual community fellowship appreciation, student pageant contestants and other school related activities. I have been a regular participant and donor of many civic events such as the Relay for Life Walk, the MLK Parade and the Watermelon Festival to name a few.

As tax collector, I will continue to improve customer service because almost every citizen will visit the tax collector whether to pay taxes, to renew a license plate, register a car, transfer a title, or get answers to other questions. Customer service is important. I promise to serve with loyalty, be innovative through the use of technology appropriate for the office, have the highest integrity, be committed and I promise to hold my staff to these same standards as well.

Again, thank you for your support over the years. I will be on the General Election ballot. Please vote to re-elect Lois Howell-Hunter as Jefferson County Tax Collector on November 6, your tax collector and the only candidate who is experienced and hands-on.

*Lois Howell-Hunter*

**Paid Political Advertisement for Lois Howell-Hunter**



# Lois Howell Hunter, Democrat, for Tax Collector

**Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training.**

*As the Tax Collector of Jefferson County, I have obtained the designation as a Certified Finance Collector by the Florida Department of Revenue and am recertified every year according to Florida Statute. This designation is based on education and experience in tax collection.*

**What clubs, civic organizations or churches (synagogues, mosques) do you belong to? As a lifelong resident of Jefferson County, I support many clubs and civic organizations such as Relay for Life activities, the Watermelon Festival and related activities, back to school drives, fundraisers for the elderly and the ill, Hospice, and sport activities at all schools within Jefferson County. In addition, I support many activities at local churches, and I am an active member of Casa Bianca Missionary Baptist Church.**

**Do you own property in Jefferson County? If so, how much property do you own? Yes, this is public record.**

**Why have you chosen to run for this office? I was elected Tax Collector by the citizens of Jefferson County and would like to continue to serve the citizens.**

**What is your platform for change in the Tax Collector's Office? Since I was elected as Tax Collector, I have brought many changes to the office such as computerized services, on-line payments, on-line access to records, and partial payments. I will continue to be innovative using new technologies to serve the citizens.**

**Have you ever lost a lawsuit, or settled as case out of court? No.**

**Have you ever been arrested? If so, what was the year and what were the circumstances surrounding the arrest. No.**

**Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection? No.**

**What type of leadership positions have you held? Include the tasks you managed, your employer or immediate supervisor, number of subordinates and length of these experiences.**

*As Tax Collector for Jefferson County, I am responsible for all executive decisions and day-to-day operations of the office.*



# Benjamin D. Bishop, Democrat, County Commission District 1

Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training.

*Benny graduated Aucilla Christian Academy in 1974 and North Florida Community College with an Associates of Arts Degree in 1977.*

**What would you do to promote growth in the county?**

*Benny's response to the growth of Jefferson County was "Growth depends on jobs: I would continue the ongoing efforts to draw private sector businesses. This will produce new tax dollars and new growth for the county."*

**If you are a challenger, how many county commission meetings have you attended during the last 12 months? If you are an incumbent, how many county community meetings have you missed? If any absence has been for a health reason or family emergency, please state so. Please state the reason for any absences other than for health reasons or family emergencies.**

*Benny has attended one County Commissioners meeting recently and has eight years' experience serving as a commissioner from 1992-2000. He chose to not run for re-election in 2000.*

**County residents depend upon volunteer fire and rescue departments in case of emergencies, in addition to the paid fire department and EMS. What would you do to help support and maintain the departments?**

*Benny believes that the main need for our volunteer and paid fire/EMS units is funding for equipment and training. The county should continue searching for any money available to help in these departments.*

**What do you consider the five most pressing concerns facing the county?**

*Benny says the five most pressing concerns the county is facing are economic growth, jobs, education, keeping and maintaining our present businesses, and improving the condition of the roads in rural areas.*

**Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection?**

*Benny has never filed for bankruptcy or bankruptcy protection.*

**Do you own property in the county? If so, how much?**

*Benny owns his family farm and property in Jefferson County.*

**Are you gainfully employed? Where? What are your responsibilities? Will you continue to work if you are elected?**

*Benny is a farmer and is the owner of Monticello Milling Company.*

**List any civic clubs, churches, synagogues or mosques, or social organizations that you belong to.**

*Benny is a Sunday school teacher and member of Central Baptist Church of Aucilla, FL.*

# Franklin Jay Brooks, Democrat, County Commission District 1

**1. Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training.** *I graduated from Howard Academy High School in Monticello, FL. I attended Florida A&M University for three years majoring in Business Management. I am an adjunct instructor at Tallahassee Community College, Firearms Instructor, Chemical Munitions Instructor, Medical First Responder Instructor, Human Diversity Instructor and a Subject Matter Expert (SME) with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE)*

**2. What would you do to promote growth in the county?** *I would be willing to give incentives if appropriate at the time. The Comprehensive Plan needs to be reviewed as well.*

**3. If you are a challenger, how many county commission meetings have you attended during the last 12 months? If you are an incumbent, how many county community meetings have you missed? If any absence has been for a health reason or family emergency, please state so. Please state the reason for any absences other than for health reasons or family emergencies.** *I have attended five (5) county commission meetings in the last twelve months.*

**4. County residents depend upon volunteer fire and rescue departments in case of emergencies, in addition to the paid fire department and EMS. What would you do to help support and maintain the departments?** *Paid and unpaid fire and rescue departments depend on ad valorem and non-ad valorem*

*taxes. If we do not have enough finances I would have to look at alternative sources.*

**5. What experience do you have that would qualify you to hold this office?** *I have owned my business for over eight (8) years. I also ran the training department at Jefferson Correctional Institution for over 10 years single handedly training 250 staff members annually. I will work hard, listen to the people, and be my own man.*

**6. What do you consider the five most pressing concerns facing the county?**

- Attracting new business to the area
- Sparking job growth
- Funding much needed public works projects
- Plan growth, while maintaining the rural character of the county
- Keeping the county environmentally friendly

**7. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection?** *No.*

**8. Do you own property in the county? If so, how much?**

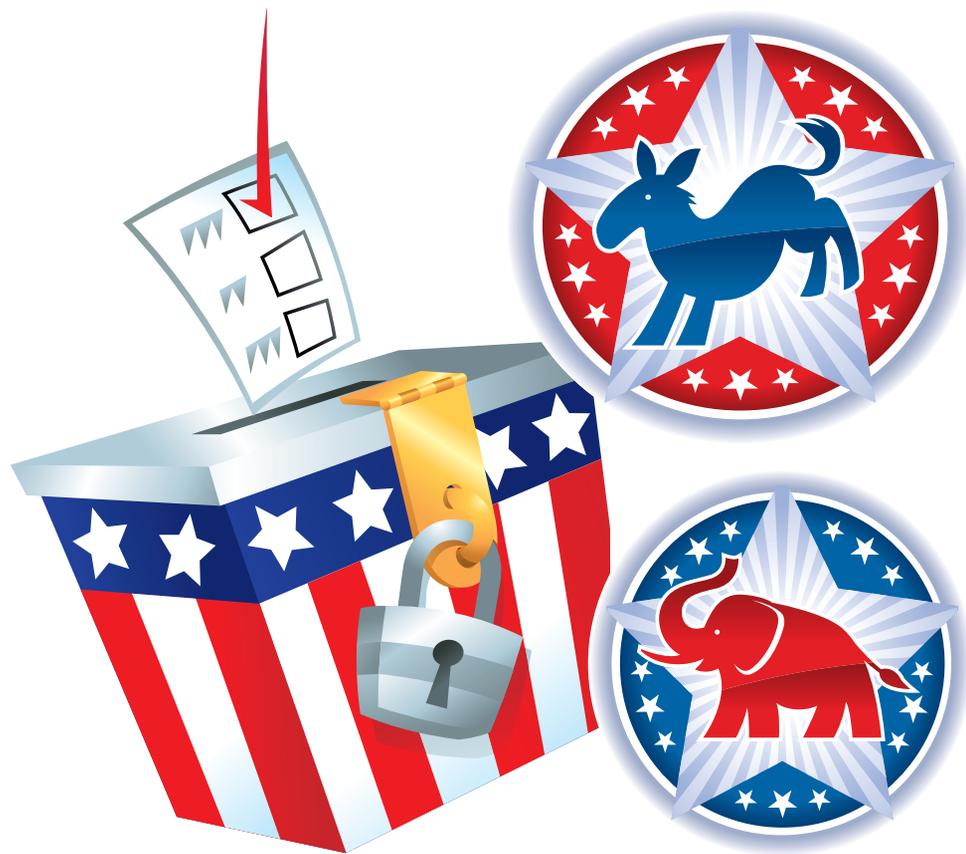
*Yes, ten (10) acres.*

**9. Are you gainfully employed? Where? What are your responsibilities? Will you continue to work if you are elected?**

*I am retired but currently own my own business.*

**10. List any civic clubs, churches, synagogues or mosques, or social organizations that you belong to.**

*I am a member of Community Friends, the Jefferson Community Democratic Executive Committee, and New Bethel A.M.E. Church.*



# Edward Vollertsen, Republican, County Commission District 1

1. Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training. *1. I graduated from Millersburg Military Institute in Millersburg, Ky. in 1957. Went to Western Kentucky State University in Bowling Green, Kentucky and graduated in 1961 with a B.S. in business admin. and 1 year of law school at the University of Louisville, Louisville, Ky.*

2. What would you do to promote growth in the county? *2. What I would do to promote growth in Jefferson County is looking for businesses that are willing to locate their business here in Jefferson County that will create jobs for residents. I had the opportunity a few weeks ago to talk with Rep. Southerland personally when he visited Jefferson County and he stated that his office can help us find companies to relocate but we need to be on board and ready when the opportunity comes. I would also contact our state legislators for their help. We should also consider advertising in trade magazines.*

3. If you are a challenger, how many county commission meetings have you attended during the last 12 months? If you are

an incumbent, how many county community meetings have you missed? If any absence has been for a health reason or family emergency, please state so. Please state the reason for any absences other than for health reasons or family emergencies. *3. In the past 12 months I have attended about 4 commission meetings and will be attending more but at this time I am working part time and the meetings conflict with that job and I will be leaving that job if elected to the commission and since I am retired I will have my full time to devote to the county*

4. County residents depend upon volunteer fire and rescue departments in case of emergencies, in addition to the paid fire department and EMS. What would you do to help support and maintain the departments? *4 I was a member of the Ashville Volunteer Fire Dept for several years and understand those departments needs are great not only for money but equipment a lot of which can be obtained from both the state and federal Gvts. The county can help those departments obtain use equipment and training.*

5. What experience do you have that would qualify you to hold this office? *5 As a present school board member I am used to deal-*

*ing with budgets peoples complaints and other problems that may arise as well with making decisions that are best for our county and tax payers.*

6. What do you consider the five most pressing concerns facing the county? *6 the five most pressing issues facing the county are first getting companies to locate here to provide jobs. Second help our small local businesses obtain start up funding to help our downtown build back up. Third we need to get the old "A" building completed and a museum to bring visitors to the county. fourth getting our county roads up to standards. Fifth need to get new facilities for fire dept and fire rescue.*

7. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection? *7 I was forced into bankruptcy back in the early 1970's. I had a business and the economy went south and I was able to pay off the bank and was making partial payments every month to the original owner but he would not accept those payments which forced me into bankruptcy.*

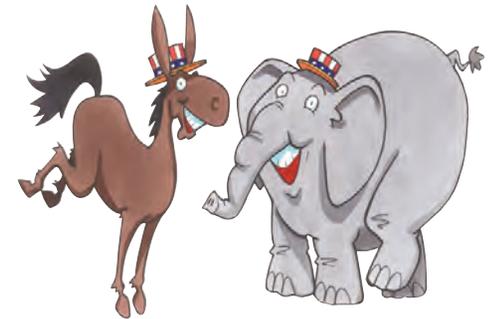
8. Do you own property in the county? If so, how much? *8 Yes I own 1 acre and home on Dills Road.*

9. Are you gainfully employed? Where? What are your responsibilities? Will you con-

*tinue to work if you are elected? 9 I am retired and will devote my full time to the county commission just as I devoted my time to the school board for a total of 12 years.*

10. List any civic clubs, churches, synagogues or mosques, or social organizations that you belong to. *10 I am a member of First Methodist Church and Methodist Men and part time sunday school teacher. Member of the JC Lions Club and Ordained Deacon in the Baptist Church and volunteer at the elementary school. Also a Kentucky Colonel.*

*I ask for your vote in November and if you have any questions please call or email me. 850-997-6914 email edwoods38@aol.com*



## ELECT

## ED VOLLERTSEN

### DISTRICT 1

### COUNTY COMMISSIONER

I'm Ed Vollertsen and running for County Commission District 1 and will be on the November ballot. Many of you know me as your School Board Member in District 1. I feel that the county commission needs to be more proactive in finding businesses to locate in Jefferson County to provide jobs. We can't just wait for the federal or state governments to step in and bail us out as we are dying on the vine and we as a community must be actively working to bring small and medium size businesses here for jobs.

My feeling is if we attract more businesses and jobs here more money will be spent here instead of in other counties. It will improve our schools as those parents that are working here will keep their children in our schools. I love Jefferson County and want to contribute what I can to improve it for all our citizens. It was my vote on the School Board that gave the county the library and other buildings that the county enjoys for their offices. That was my pledge to do when I got elected to the School Board and I kept my promise and I do not regret that decision.

As I am retired, I will be able to devote as much time as required as your County Commissioner. I do not have a job, or farm, or have a family that requires my attention, I will be a full-time Commissioner. Also, it is my firm belief that I do not just represent District 1 but all of Jefferson County.

My background and education is as follows:

- I have a degree in Business Administration from Western Kentucky State University
- One year of law school at University of Louisville; 2 years U.S. Army
- Manufacturers Sales Representative
- Retired from the State of Florida as Inspector; Member of First United Methodist Church
- Ordained Deacon in the Southern Baptist Church; Member of United Methodist Men's organization
- Member of Jefferson County Lions Club
- Volunteer mentor at Jefferson County Elementary School.

I have served a total of 12 years as School Board member. Please vote for me in the November General Election, as I bring experience, maturity. I can devote full time as needed to the Commission. Let's get Jefferson County working.

*Sincerely, Ed Vollertsen*

# Hines Boyd, NPA, County Commission District 1

**1. Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training.** Graduate of Jefferson County High School. Graduate degrees from FSU and University of Florida.

**2. What would you do to promote growth in the county?** We have recently focused our economic development activities on two important areas. The first is local small business development—starting new local businesses and expanding existing business. Three months ago, the Commission hired an experienced and very successful Small Business Developer who is already working with over 67 clients (the number grows almost daily), helping them with business plans, funding sources, marketing, and technical support. Hopefully, we will make this very successful program permanent in next year's budget. Second, we must make ourselves attractive to and recruit outside employers who will bring new business and economic activity to our area. We must focus on "readiness"—having essential zoning in place and land that is ready for quick development, having a permit-

ting process that is easy and fast, and, when necessary, offering reasonable incentives that make us competitive with other communities who also want these prized employers. We must also capitalize on our proximity to Leon County and the large, highly skilled regional workforce that it provides to supplement our limited local workforce. These are the things that will attract employers, like the recent pecan company, to Jefferson County.

**3. If you are a challenger, how many county commission meetings have you attended during the last 12 months? If you are an incumbent, how many commission meetings have you missed? If any absence has been for a health reason or family emergency, please state so. Please state the reason for any absences other than for health reasons or family emergencies.** In my nearly four years on the Commission, I have never missed a meeting or workshop, in spite of the fact I frequently travel outside of the county to attend commission related events and training. Also, I have never asked the county for any expense reimbursements for travel, meeting, and education expenses.

**4. County residents depend upon volunteer**

**fire and rescue departments in case of emergencies, in addition to the paid fire department and EMS. What would you do to help support and maintain the departments?** The Commission provides funding for volunteer fire department through its Fire Department budget. I will continue to support this funding and insist that it be appropriately disbursed to the volunteers. I also recently worked on a state team that succeeded in easing the onerous training certification requirements for volunteer fire fighters.

**5. What experience do you have that would qualify you to hold this office?** Twelve years of state government administration experience with the Florida Department of Agriculture, mostly at a senior management level. Nearly four years experience as a County Commissioner, including two state certifications (Certified County Commissioner; and Advanced Certified Commissioner) and current chair of the Commission.

**6. What do you consider the five most pressing concerns facing the county?** (1) Revitalizing and stimulating our local economy; (2) creating business activities that increase good

local job opportunities, (3) preserving our rural culture and natural resources, (4) a county government that is service oriented and cost effective, (5) a good rural road system that is pleasantly attractive, easy to drive, and inexpensive to maintain well.

**7. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection?** No

**8. Do you own property in the county? If so, how much?** Yes. A home in Monticello, 184 acres of farmland and residential property in different parcels, partial interest in an Ashville-area family farm.

**9. Are you gainfully employed? Where? What are your responsibilities? Will you continue to work if you are elected?** Operate a local real estate and farm management business specializing in rural properties. Time requirements for this business are very flexible.

**10. List any civic clubs, churches, synagogues or mosques, or social organizations that you belong to.** Rotary, Chamber of Commerce, Jefferson County Historical Society, Jefferson County Farm Bureau, Monticello Opera House; Church: First United Methodist (member since 1953)

**"You can't fly the plane while reading the book!" -G.C.**

Country wisdom from a longtime District 3 resident explaining why he's voting for HINES BOYD, because **EXPERIENCE AND COMPETENCE COUNT—and so does CHARACTER.**

**ReELECT HINES BOYD**  
**COUNTY COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 3**

# Elect Colin Barton for Jefferson County School Board District 1 August 14th

Experience, Knowledge, Skills and Training that will make a difference!

- ⇒ U.S. Army Veteran
- ⇒ Department of Education Program Specialist
- ⇒ Guaranteed Student Loan Service Representative
- ⇒ Gary Job Corp Student Advisor
- ⇒ Business Development & Business Certification Consultant (current)
- ⇒ Lawton Chiles High School Advisory Committee Member
- ⇒ Business and Education Conference Organizer (knack for building the right team)
- ⇒ Extensive background interpreting and applying state statutes and federal regulations at the business and institutional levels
- ⇒ Florida Certified Public Manager
- ⇒ Recipient of Davis Productivity Awards and Military Medals

## Advocating for:

- ⇒ Accountability at the faculty, staff, parent, and student levels
- ⇒ Recommending legislative changes to reduce the class size for Jefferson (rural)\* County Schools
- ⇒ Strong support for Jefferson County Homeschool students and parents (currently over 50 students)
- ⇒ Growing the number of stakeholders involved with Jefferson County Schools
- ⇒ Developing measurable metrics district wide that will serve to quickly identify areas that need attention
- ⇒ Increasing the graduation rates in Jefferson County Schools (2010-11 58%)
- ⇒ Reducing the drop-out rates in Jefferson County Schools
- ⇒ Reducing the number of students transferring out of Jefferson County Schools
- ⇒ Developing a World Class "Green and Sustainable School District"

Jefferson County School District 1 — I respectfully ask for your support and your vote on August 14, 2012. I pledge to honor your vote by advocating policies that will be a catalyst for change in Jefferson County Schools. Thank you!

Follow Colin on Twitter or Pinterest: <http://Twitter.com/votebarton> or <http://pinterest.com/votebarton>

Email: [votebarton@gmail.com](mailto:votebarton@gmail.com) Phone/Text: 850-728-3858

Campaign contributions: Colin Barton for School Board Campaign - 314 E. 2nd Way G'ville., FL 32331

*School Districts that are successful have students and families that are happy!*

*School Districts that are successful have real estate prices that are competitive!*

*School Districts that are successful have businesses that are making money!*

*School Districts that are successful have stakeholders who support their schools!*

*School Districts that are successful embrace change that will make a difference!*

*Jefferson County School District will be successful because of you!*



Tony Leavell Photography

\*Advocate for NCLB or FLDOE waiver to reduce the classroom size requirements for rural county school districts that serve communities of families where 25% or greater of the students receive free or reduced meals.

# Stephen Walker, Democrat, County Commission District 5

**1. Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training.**

*I have attended both public and private schools in Jefferson County. My high school years were at Aucilla Christian Academy. I have a High School Diploma, a State Issued Level B water utility license, State MOT certification along with numerous supervisory training certificates.*

**2. What would you do to promote growth in the county? I would actively seek the type of businesses that would be beneficial to our county and provide good jobs for county residents without damaging our neighborhoods, natural resources and the character of our county. The type businesses would be but not limited to low impact distribution centers, restaurants and retail type establishments.**

*I believe we should look into the feasibility of giving tax breaks and waiving other county fees to businesses that are employing local county residents.*

*We need to create the proper utility infrastructure in select areas so we have in place a functioning system. This would go a long way in getting the attention of potential businesses interested in locating in our area.*

**3. If you are a challenger, how many county commission meetings have you attended during the last 12 months? If you are**

**an incumbent, how many commission meetings have you missed? If any absence has been for a health reason or family emergency, please state so. Please state the reason for any absences other than for health reasons or family emergencies. Being a challenger, I have attended several BOCC meetings and read all meeting minutes and agendas posted on the clerk's website. I have been on the agenda mailing list for a couple of years and have diligently kept up with what's going on.**

**4. County residents depend upon volunteer fire and rescue departments in case of emergencies, in addition to the paid fire department and EMS. What would you do to help support and maintain the departments? First I would meet with local volunteers in order to get more information on their needs. After compiling information on needs and wants I would take an active role in getting additional volunteers and training along with working with the community in setting up fundraisers and donor locations for financial support.**

**5. What experience do you have that would qualify you to hold this office? I am very knowledgeable with government operations as I have been employed with a government utility for 28 years. During those years I have been involved with budgeting, supervising and streamlining processes to make them more customer friendly and competitive in the construction and business indus-**

*try.*

*Personally my family has owned businesses in Jefferson County for close to 50 years. We currently have a local grocery store / gas station as well as a cattle farm and pecan orchard.*

*One important thing I have learned and experienced is that all decisions can have great impacts; good and bad. We need to be creative without putting negative, unintended consequences that would have a negative impact on economic growth and development in our community.*

**6. What do you consider the five most pressing concerns facing the county?**

*These concerns are not listed in any particular order;*

*1. Lack of industry and opportunities - this puts us having to rely on border counties for jobs. We should work towards being self-sufficient.*

*2. Services are not distributed equally throughout the county.*

*3. The educational system needs revamping in order to attract families to invest in our county.*

*4. Transparency - The BOCC's seem to be out of touch with local citizens and create boards that have members looking out for personal interest rather than community interest. It should be required that boards dealing with public funds and properties properly advertise meetings and meet at*

*times and locations where the working public has opportunities to attend.*

*5. Lack of confidence with the BOCC's in dealing with issues that are very important to county residents.*

**7. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection? No, I have never filed for bankruptcy protection.**

**8. Do you own property in the county? If so, how much?**

*I own three separate parcels equaling approx. 9 acres and a house in Jefferson County.*

**9. Are you gainfully employed? Where? What are your responsibilities? Will you continue to work if you are elected?**

*I have been employed with The City of Tallahassee over 28 years. My title is Maintenance/Construction Chief and some of my responsibilities include; departmental budget management, supervising staff, construction cost estimates and working with risk management. I do plan to continue working as I have a flexible schedule that can be adjusted to meet county commissioner roles and responsibilities. I believe it is an advantage being employed with the COT as it keeps me involved with business and construction activities along with current best practices procedures.*

**10. List any civic clubs, churches, synagogues or mosques, or social organizations that you belong to.**

*I am a member of The Moose Lodge.*

# Bernice "Mack" McLeod Jr., Democrat, County Commission District 5

**1. Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training.**

*I am a 1968 graduate from Jefferson County High School.*

**2. What would you do to promote growth in the county?**

*We as residents of Jefferson County need to understand the need for growth. We need more tax base with the growing expense of operating the counties general operations. We no longer have the luxury of picking and choosing the likes and dislikes of some of our prominent citizens. In the past there have been several request for new well planned subdivisions to be brought into the county, but they were rejected. We need the tax base for homes verses the tax base for farm land. I will support well planned subdivision and new home sites in Jefferson County. We can no longer afford this type of decision making.*

**3. If you are a challenger, how many county commission meetings have you attended during the last 12 months? If you are an incumbent, how many commission meetings have you missed? If any absence has been for a health reason or family emergency, please state so. Please state the reason for any absences other than for health reasons or family emergencies.**

*I have attended seven County Commissioner meetings.*

**4. County residents depend upon volunteer fire and rescue departments in case of emergencies, in addition to the paid fire department and EMS. What would you do to help support and maintain the departments? Every volunteer fire station in the county needs funding to operate. The residents of the small surrounding communities pay for and deserve more fire protection and emergency services. The residents of our small communities do appreciate the services we receive from the fire and EMS services from Monticello.**

**5. What experience do you have that would qualify you to hold this office? I worked for the City of Tallahassee Electric Department for 33 years. During that time I worked in several different construction capacities.**

*I have experience in planning and contracting road projects as well as new housing developments. I worked in partnership with the engineering department developing plans for new construction, cost estimates, man hours, equipment needed and estimate when the project would be completed.*

*My duties as a supervisor consisted of evaluating employees, training employees in safety, job performance training and reprimands as needed. I feel that I am very qualified for Jefferson County Board of Commissioners, District 5.*

**6. What do you consider the five most pressing concerns**

**facing the county? 1. Developing more job opportunities for our citizens. 2. Promote growth. 3. Set goals for 4 years, 8 years and 12 years, so that we are prepared when growth and new businesses come to our county. 4. Make sure that the tax revenue collected is used wisely. 5. We have a major problem with our dirt road maintenance. People who have never lived on a dirt road do not understand the problem that exist. We need to make sure each district is treated fairly and revenue is distributed equally.**

**7. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection? No, I have never filed for bankruptcy.**

**8. Do you own property in the county? If so, how much? Yes, I own four acres and a home.**

**9. Are you gainfully employed? Where? What are your responsibilities? Will you continue to work if you are elected? Yes, I am the co-owner of B&M Tractor and Fencing. I work side by side with my three sons. Yes, I will continue to work but my hours are very flexible.**

**10. List any civic clubs, churches, synagogues or mosques, or social organizations that you belong to. I am a member of Wacissa Penecostal Holiness Church. I have served as Sunday School Superintendent, Sunday School teacher, president of Men's Ministry and now the Chairman of the Board.. I have served on the deacon board for over 30 years.**



# Danny Monroe, Democrat, County Commission District 5

**1. Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training.** Graduated from Jefferson County High School. Graduated from Lively Vocational Technical Aircraft Maintenance Program. Graduated from North Florida Junior College with a Degree in Police Standards. Trained for and held Restricted Pesticide Applicators Licensee as required for agribusiness.

**2. What would you do to promote growth in the county?** First, we must continue to support our local businesses to the best of our abilities. Agriculture, agribusiness, forestry, horticulture and building industries are the backbone of our local economy. These businesses provide our employment and tax base and they contribute to the country's Gross Domestic Product. They also add many dimensions to the character and charm of the county.

I must point out that businesses are the economic strength of a community. Some have recently stated that a simple solution would be to break up our farmlands and convert this land to housing – this is an over simplistic approach since agricultural lands pay approximately 6 times more taxes than they consume.

We must address the dilemma of economic development (growth) vs. maintaining the character and charm of our rural county. We will have to take measures to protect our natural resources as we grow.

I will continue to work with the Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Council and Tourist Development Council. The Harrell Pecan Company which is moving to the Jefferson County Industrial Park is an example of success in this arena.

We have hired a consultant to assist existing businesses and to encourage prospective new businesses. I will continue to find innovative ways to attract new businesses and support economic growth.

We need better employment opportunities for all of our people. I will continue to support efforts to develop businesses and jobs that will pay more than minimum wage.

**3. If you are a challenger, how many county commission meetings have you attended during the last 12 months? If you are an incumbent, how many commission meetings have you missed? If any absence has been for a health reason or family emergency, please state so. Please state the reason for any absences other than for health reasons or family emergencies. In my time on the Commission, I do not recall missing any meetings.**

Folks should understand that that being an effective county Commissioner involves many more hours in addition to the Commission Meetings. I spend many hours each week meeting with constituents, planners, county staff, service

providers, consultants, engineers and other professionals regarding the business of the county.

An example is my success in getting additional federal funding through the Natural Resource and Conservation Service (NRCS) to restore and protect our roadways and culverts from storm damage and to prevent pollution of our natural resources. I have been instrumental in helping Jefferson County to receive nearly \$3 Million dollars of this federal funding in recent years.

We are now in the process of requesting federal funding from NRCS and the Federal Emergency Management Assistance (FEMA) program to repair recent damage from tropical storm Debbie.

I was a Charter Member of the Jefferson County Planning Commission. The Planning Commission is an integral part of our county government and I felt obligated to participate to the fullest of my abilities. I made it a point to attend every meeting possible and I did not miss many in 29 years of volunteer service.

**4. County residents depend upon volunteer fire and rescue departments in case of emergencies, in addition to the paid fire department and EMS. What would you do to help support and maintain the departments?** As a Commissioner I will continue to support volunteer and paid fire/rescue/ EMS departments. I will support efforts to seek grant funding to help our volunteer departments. Our volunteers need additional funding for training, equipment and facilities. We are fortunate that we will soon have a new, state-of-the-art, Fire Department Building. I am hopeful that we can continue to improve the volunteer unites as well.

I will insist that County staff and paid fire/rescue personnel support the volunteer units in every way possible. As a member of the Florida Highway Patrol Auxiliary for 28 years, I understand the fundamental value of volunteer fire and rescue personnel.

Jefferson County has some of the brightest and most committed public servants of any place in the nation. I will continue to support these critical positions in our budget. We also depend on a strong volunteer force and I deeply appreciate those who are willing to serve in this capacity.

Jefferson County has hard-working employees in every Department. I will continue to support fair compensation for all County employees so that we can retain our diligent staff.

**5. What experience do you have that would qualify you to hold this office?**

I have lived and worked and raised my family in Jefferson County for my entire life (so far)... except for 2 years served in the U.S. Army.

I served in the U.S. Army, stationed in Germany, during the Korean Conflict. Experience in Uncle Sam's Army teaches one how to respect and get along with others.

As a farmer and cattleman I have con-

tributed to the Jefferson County economy and the state and national gross domestic product for many years. My business provided jobs and supported local service providers. I gained valuable experience in working with state and federal rules and regulations as an employer and agribusiness owner.

As an agribusiness owner I gained experience in budgeting, employee relations, planning and marketing. Experience with purchasing, operating and maintaining equipment for farming gives me a unique perspective regarding the operations of our county road departments, solid waste and rock mine. I am a board member and current Chairman of the Aucilla Regional Solid Waste Facility serving Jefferson, Taylor, Madison and Dixie counties.

Serving on the Jefferson County Planning Commission afforded me invaluable experience in county government. This experience is a cornerstone of my qualifications to be a County Commissioner. This arduous and sometimes thank-less work benefits the county in many ways. I am particularly proud that we developed a Comprehensive Land Use Plan that was awarded as the best in the state for a county of our size. I sincerely appreciate the service of our current Planning Commission Members.

I served on the USDA, Farm Service Agency, which deals with soil and water conservation, for approximately 30 years. Working with this Board gave me valuable experience and contacts with federal agencies which are beneficial to me as a Commissioner.

I have served on the Jefferson County Farm Bureau Board of Directors for many years. Farm Bureau is a service organization which supports our industry and benefits every person who eats! Again, serving on a Board of this type has taught me how to be a productive part of a Board of Directors.

I was a member of the Florida Highway Patrol Auxiliary for 28 years. This experience helps me to fully appreciate our fire/rescue, EMS and law enforcement employees and volunteers.

Experience on the Jefferson County Planning Commission and 2 terms as County Commissioner make me uniquely qualified to hold this position. It takes teamwork, patience and consensus building to accomplish goals for the benefit of our tax-paying citizens.

As a Commissioner, I serve on the Jefferson County Legislative Committee. Through the hard work of many of our citizens and the Committee, we have gained recognition and support from the Legislature. We must continue to be active in the legislative process to insure a successful future.

Recent successes with issues of protecting our water resources and keeping the state prison open are examples of effective team-work.

In addition, I have worked for the Legislature during the past 13 sessions. Close

contact with legislators and their staff helps me to get the point across about the legislative needs of Jefferson County.

I have experience in working with all people... Sometimes we must disagree but we should never be disagreeable!

**6. What do you consider the five most pressing concerns facing the county?**

Maintaining and supporting our economic base and existing businesses. Business is the backbone of our economy and tax base. We must support and encourage existing businesses that currently provide our tax base. We should exercise fiscal responsibility with county budgets and make certain that every tax dollar is spent wisely. I will continue to seek state and federal assistance, when appropriate, to supplement our county budget.

Expanding by attracting additional commercial businesses. Our economy has changed with that of the entire nation. I will continue to support positive growth for Jefferson County. The consultant that we have hired to assist existing businesses and to encourage prospective new businesses is a step towards progress. I will work to create a business friendly community and to further develop a more sustainable county economy.

Development of the I-10 corridor will be an important economic stimulus for Jefferson County in years to come. I am proud of recent efforts to expand our Industrial Park – new businesses like Harrell's Pecan Company will bring increased economic growth and they will create jobs for our citizens.

At the same time, we must guard against carelessly approving anything that would ultimately damage the cultural foundation that makes Jefferson County unique.

I always put aside any personal preference to do the will of the people that I represent. Example: We turned away a gambling operation that was masquerading as a horse race track. The developer would not answer the Commission's questions and it became obvious that the plan was not compatible with the parcel of land. I listened to the people of the county and the overwhelming majority did not want to allow the expansion of gambling in this manner. There are ways to build our economy without allowing the erosion of our pristine rural character.

Creating New Jobs to Decrease the Unemployment Rate. Businesses as described above will generate employment opportunities. A properly educated and well-trained workforce is desirable to all employers. Development of a better vocational education system will increase employment opportunities for many of our citizens.

Rebuilding our County's Public Education System. Although this is not under the purview of the County Commission, this must be addressed. Education is critical.

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# Danny Monroe, Democrat, County Commission District 5

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ical to our children's potential success. It is important that our children have every opportunity for adequate education to prepare them for the job market or college. A properly educated and well-trained workforce is desirable to all employers. Development of a better vocational education system will increase employment opportunities for many of our citizens.

Protecting our Rivers and other Natural Resources. It is very important that we protect our rivers and other natural resources. Water is becoming an increasingly important commodity. Rural counties will have to remain diligent and work with our Legislature to avoid being taken advantage of by more populated counties. Our natural resources must be protected with a progressive and well organized plan.

7. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection? No

8. Do you own property in the county? If so, how much? I own the homestead that was established by my Grandparents in the early 1900's. I live in the house that I was born in.

9. Are you gainfully employed? Where? What are your responsibilities? Will you continue to work if you are elected? I am the incumbent Jefferson County Commissioner for District 5. I own a herd of cattle and rent conservation tillage equipment to other farmers. I usually work for the Florida Legislature during the session. I will continue to work if elected.

10. List any civic clubs, churches, synagogues or mosques, or social organizations that you belong to.

Waukeelah United Methodist Church

Waukeelah Methodist Men

American Farm Bureau Federation

Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce

National Rifleman's Association

Florida Farm Bureau

Jefferson County Farm Bureau Board of Directors

Florida Cattlemen's Association

## Vote For and Elect - Stephen Walker (D)

### Jefferson County Commissioner District 5

Guarantee yourself EVERYONE gets the Representation, Government Trust and Sound Decisions WE deserve. What I believe In,

- Every single family deserves to be heard and represented Equally, Fairly and Impartially
- We need smart growth, infrastructure improvements and practical policy changes that invite new industries and make current businesses competitive throughout the surrounding areas.
- I will work for protecting our natural resources, neighborhoods and quality of life with smart development.
- We need to reevaluate policies to insure our businesses will be competitive - In doing so we will win back Jefferson County residents commerce and trust.



**W**illing to stand up for and protect our county values

**A**vailable for all residents when problems or concerns arise

**L**eadership for all the residents so we can all look forward to a brighter future

**K**nowledge in what Jefferson County needs to be economically competitive

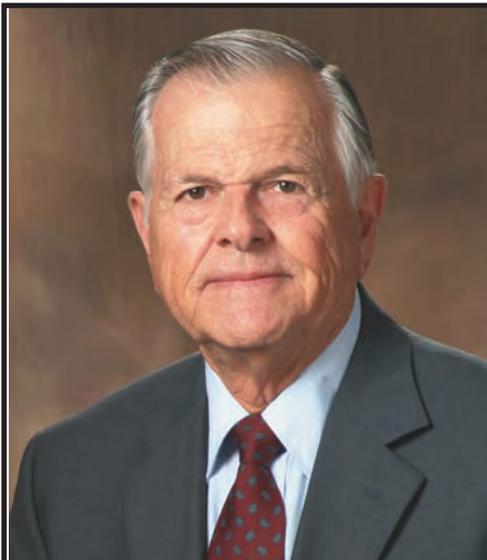
**E**xperienced in designing new and improved existing infrastructure

**R**esourceful when pursuing new industries with good jobs for county residents

## NEW CHOICE FOR YOUR VOICE

Thanks for your support *Stephen Walker*

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# RE-ELECT DANNY MONROE

District 5  
County Commissioner

*My Sincere Thanks To The People Of  
Jefferson County For The Warm Reception  
And Support That I Have Received As I Have  
Campaigned Throughout District 5.*

I have made a diligent effort to visit every home and speak with every voter. If I missed you - please consider this my personal request for your support. I would welcome your call to discuss any issues or concerns, please dial 850-545-8026. It is an honor and privilege to serve as your County Commissioner. I ask for your prayerful consideration and vote on **August 14, 2012.**

*Thank you and may God  
continue to bless.*

*Sincerely,*

*Danny Monroe*

Paid For And Approved By Danny Monroe, Democrat For County Commission District 5.

# STATE REPRESENTATIVE QUESTIONS

## Candidates for FL House District 7

### Robert Hill

1. Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training. Graduate of:

Liberty County High School,  
A.A. Degree, Chipola College,  
B.S. Degree, University of West Florida,  
Masters Degree, Vermont College

2. What would you do to promote commercial and business growth? I would reduce permitting red tape. Support better marketing of existing tax incentives for new business.

3. How many Legislative Sessions have you sat in on in the past? It is difficult to put a specific number on this but it has been numerous over the course of my career as both Clerk of Court and School Superintendent for Liberty County.

4. Which areas do you see the biggest concern for in our area? These could include education, agriculture, commerce, etc. Almost any area you mention can be of great concern to small rural districts because of the limited recourses that are in this area. I think that Economic Development, Support of State Workers, Support of State Operated Prisons (No privatization), Adequately Funding Public Education, Agriculture, Water Management, and Healthcare are all at the top of the list.

5. What experience do you have that would qualify you to hold this office? I know how legislation affects our schools, our prisons, our state workers and our communities because I have served as Clerk of Court, County administrator, Superintendent of Schools and a Classroom Teacher over the course of my career. I have a unique perspective and understanding of the needs and the issues facing our small rural counties. I know what it takes to bring in new industry to a small community and how to get things done for the people I serve.

6. What do you consider the five most pressing concerns facing the State of Florida? Jobs and economic growth Adequately funding education Respect and fair treatment of our State and Local Government Employees Energy resources Water management and sustainability

7. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection? No

8. Do you own property in the state? If so, how much? Yes, and first let me say that I have lived in Liberty County for over 46 years and only lived outside this area while I attended college and when I taught school in Bay County for 6 years. My home in Bristol is on approximately 1.5 acres. I also own a small condo in Leon County where my children lived while they attended college and one in Bay County.

9. Are you gainfully employed? Where? What are your responsibilities? Will you continue to work if you are elected? I am currently completing my third term as Liberty County's Clerk of Court. In addition, to those responsibilities I have to also function as County Administrator. Because I will be officially retired in November I would be able to devote my full attention to the needs of House District 7.

10. List any civic clubs, churches, synagogues or mosques, or social organizations that you belong to.

Deacon and Member Lake Mystic Baptist Church  
2000-2012 Liberty County Chamber of Commerce  
1993-2012 Liberty County's Representative on Selective Service Board  
2000-2012 Liberty County Farm Bureau  
2011-2012 Liberty-Calhoun FSU Booster Club  
1969-2012 Liberty County Bulldog Club  
2000-2012 Liberty County Baseball Club  
2000-2012 Liberty County Arts Council (former officer) and member  
1996-1999 Liberty County Senior Citizen Board of Directors

### Don Curtis

1. Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training. University of Georgia - Class of '79, BS in Forest Resources

2. What would you do to promote commercial and business growth? Reduce regulations on business. Enable N. Florida to compete with other southern states for recruiting new business/jobs to this area.

3. How many Legislative Sessions have you sat in on in the past? 10+

4. Which areas do you see the biggest concern for in our area? These could include education, agriculture, commerce, etc. Job Creation, Commerce, Education, Health Care, Appropriations

5. What experience do you have that would qualify you to hold this office? I'm a small business owner (The Forestry Company) for 16 years. I was a school board member at Aucilla Christian Academy. I was appointed to the Governing Board of Suwannee River Water Management District. I was appointed by Agriculture Commissioner Doyle Conner to be the Assistant State Forester for the FL Division of Forestry. I've also worked in corporate business for Procter & Gamble/ Buckeye Cellulose. My private work experience and public service make me the most qualified candidate.

6. What do you consider the five most pressing concerns facing the State of Florida?

Being competitive with other states in business recruitment  
Reducing regulatory burdens on business owners and landowners  
Dealing with Obamacare now that the Supreme Court has made its ruling  
Improving education to include vocational/job skill training  
Keeping individual/business tax burdens low

7. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection? No

8. Do you own property in the state? Yes If so, how much? My wife and I own about 375 acres in FL, mostly in timberland. About 1/2 of our land is in Madison County.

9. Are you gainfully employed? Yes Where? The Forestry Company What are your responsibilities? Business owner - providing professional forestry services Will you continue to work if you are elected? I enjoy working, so I will continue to work part time in my profession of forestry.

10. List any civic clubs, churches, synagogues or mosques, or social organizations that you belong to. These are the current groups I'm associated with:

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church  
President-Elect of Perry Kiwanis Club  
Forestry Firefighter  
National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) Florida Leadership Council member  
Endorsed by the Florida Police Benevolent Association (PBA) and Florida Forestry Association (FFA)  
Farm Bureau member  
San Pedro Bay Landowners Association  
Greater Okefenokee Association of Landowners

# U.S. REPRESENTATIVE QUESTIONS

## Alvin Peters

### DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES FOR THE SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SEAT

1. Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training. High school in Virginia; B.A. Wesleyan University, 1981; J.D. University of Virginia School of Law, 1984.

2. What would you do to promote commercial and business growth? I have a four point plan to promote jobs and growth:

a. Retain the jobs we have by keeping employed our police officers, state workers and essential government services.

b. Reclaim the jobs that have gone overseas by changing our tax and trade policy.

c. Renew small businesses with an emphasis on encouraging the hiring of housing and construction workers in the installation of solar panels and other renewable energy infrastructure.

d. Respect for our veterans by welcoming them home to jobs and educational opportunity.

3. Have you ever held state or federal office? No.

4. Which areas do you see the biggest concern for in our area? These could include education, agriculture, commerce, etc. Government needs to work for regular everyday people not just the powerful special interests. I oppose vouchers and the proposals to send tax dollars away from our elementary and high schools to

private schools. Education is key to the economic development of our State and especially our rural counties. The return to the USA of manufacturing jobs is likewise a key to reinvigorating our rural economies.

5. What experience do you have that would qualify you to hold this office?

I have practiced law and run my own practice for almost 28 years.

6. What do you consider the five most pressing concerns facing the country? Job growth, respect for veterans, more fiscal responsibility, education for all and affordable health care.

7. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection? No.

8. Do you own property in the state? If so, how much? I own several properties in Bay and Walton County.

9. Are you gainfully employed? Where? What are your responsibilities? Will you continue to work if you are elected? I am gainfully employed as an attorney. In my opinion, congressmen are overpaid at \$174,000 per year. I will do what I have to to represent the people of the Second Congressional District in an effective and fiscally responsible fashion.

10. List any civic clubs, churches, synagogues or mosques, or social organizations that you belong to. I am the president of our Head Start program for Bay and Franklin counties; I am the President of our second chance high school AMI Kids PCMI. I attend Allen Chapel AME and Unity of Panama City. For years, I have coached youth soccer and baseball.

## Mark Schlakman

1. Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training. I graduated from Ransom-Everglades High School in Coconut Grove, FL, and received my undergraduate degree from the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida, where I graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa. I received my law degree from the Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C., where I served as president of the Student Bar Association (SBA) and received recognition from the American Bar Association (ABA) for leading the most effective SBA in the nation. I received the Dean's Certificate at graduation and subsequently completed the Harvard Kennedy School's Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government in Cambridge, MA.

2. What would you do to promote commercial and business growth? 95% of the world's markets exist outside of the U.S. - Congress can help small business and agricultural interests gain access to the global marketplace, especially important during a time of diminishing agricultural subsidies. Given the fair trade agreements that are in place and those being negotiated, we have a unique opportunity to significantly expand our economic base in this district. Congress also can pass comprehensive immigration reform, something that must be re-characterized as an economic development imperative to recognize within the context of seasonal (guest) workers, and both highly skilled and less skilled labor... in addition to family reunification and other interests. Similarly, Congress can support related educational, and research and development

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### DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES FOR THE SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SEAT

# Mark Schlakman, continued

priorities that would inure to the benefit of our district as well as streamline impediments by simplifying the tax code, both personal and corporate.

**3. Have you ever held state or federal office?** I have a long history of bipartisan public service but I have never held state or federal office. I've held senior positions in both Democratic and Republican administrations at the state and federal level, from the Governor's Office to the White House (serving in the Clinton and George W. Bush administrations), which included diplomatic assignments and military advisory roles. I served as special counsel to Gov. Lawton Chiles, a special advisor to Gov. Jeb Bush during an extended transition period. After my posts at the White House and the U.S. Department of State, I served as a special advisor to U.S. Senator Bob Graham.

**4. Which areas do you see the biggest concern for in our area? These could include education, agriculture, commerce, etc.** With the goal of placing our district in the best possible position moving forward, I would refer back to my response to question#2 underscoring the importance of promoting economic development and trade, which touches upon all issues mentioned above.

**5. What experience do you have that would qualify you to hold this office?** I refer back to my response to question#3. In addition, I have testified before congressional committees on behalf of FL's governor and have worked closely with an array of congressional delegations to ensure that they were up to speed on various issues. Finally, I have developed an agenda for congressional reform that was shaped largely by former congressman Lee Hamilton from Indiana, who among other things co-chaired one of the review committees arising out of 9/11. Beyond today's hyper-partisan politics, there are a number of practices and procedures within Congress that must be reformed to make it a more effective institution in the 21st Century. For instance, by failing to agree upon an annual budget, Congress wastes hundreds of millions (perhaps billions) of dollars that could otherwise be saved and/or directed to fund critical programs that are facing deep cuts. Beyond that, multi-year budgeting (especially for purposes of Department of Defense funding) would support greater strategic application of available resources. Moreover, congressional oversight responsibilities must be streamlined. In some instances, more than 100 committees and subcommittees have oversight responsibility for very similar issues making the process exceedingly cumbersome and inefficient. These are just a few examples of what needs to be addressed. Even as a first term congressman from FL's 2nd congressional district, I have the background and experience to move this agenda forward.

**6. What do you consider the five most pressing concerns facing the country?** I would group what I consider to be the five most pressing concerns along the following lines: 1) the economy (which includes promoting international trade and comprehensive immigration reform) & job growth, the deficit & national debt, 2) education, 3) our defense/national security and diplomatic posture, 4) the environment and 5) campaign finance reform (given the nature of the political process, including but not limited to the implications of the Citizens United decision).

**7. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection?** No

**8. Do you own property in the state? If so, how much?** Yes, a residence in Tallahassee.

**9. Are you gainfully employed? Where? What are your responsibilities? Will you continue to work if you are elected?** I am a lawyer and serve as senior program director at The Florida State University Center for the Advancement of Human Rights. If elected, I would maintain some level of contact/engagement to the extent that applicable policy and protocol allow.

**10. List any civic clubs, churches, synagogues or mosques, or social organizations that you belong to.** I serve as Board Chair for the Innocence Project of Florida, a non-profit that advocates for exoneration of those wrongfully convicted based upon DNA evidence; Board Chair for the Florida Association for Volunteer Action in the Caribbean and the Americas (FAVACA), a nonprofit memorialized in Florida law as the FL Int. Vol. Corps., that promotes "smart" development in the region through volunteer service, and Chair for the newly established Tallahassee Committee on Foreign Relations.

Given my background in human rights & national security, I was invited to serve on the Florida Fusion Center's Constitutional Protections and Privacy Advisory Board (administered through the Florida Department of Law Enforcement).

I've run the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, D.C., to support the work of the Fisher House Foundation in collaboration with UWBB and local businesses to help military families confronting catastrophic injury, and climbed Mount Rainier to support the work of the Innocence Project of Florida.

I've worked in collaboration with the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of FL to promote more effective engagement with Muslim, Sikh and Arab-American communities and am involved in a number of inter-faith initiatives in conjunction with Rabbi Romberg at Temple Israel in Tallahassee and beyond.

I've helped to shape initiatives involving domestic violence, human trafficking and immigration.

# Al Lawson

**1. Tell us about what type of education that you have? List the high school you graduated from, as well as any college undergraduate and graduate degrees and any specialized training.** Born in Midway, Gadsden County, I attended Havana Northside High School. I received my Bachelor's degree from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) and my Master's Degree from Florida State University.

**2. What would you do to promote commercial and business growth?** The top issue facing our nation and our community is the economy which continues to struggle. While we hear that the economy is getting better, we don't necessarily feel it in North Florida. We need a leader in Congress that will look out for the people of Main Street instead of bailing out Wall Street.

While in the Florida Legislature, I led the charge in the Florida Legislature to create jobs for North Florida. I consistently fought to bring job-creating projects to the district and pushed for policies that would help small businesses grow.

Our universities play a significant role in job creation for the 21st century because they foster new technologies that have a significant economic impact. Innovation Park is a perfect example of university research partnered with the private sector creating more jobs. I will continue to support research and development programs that create jobs.

In Florida, I have been a leader in creating and retaining jobs, and I will work in Congress to get our economy back on track.

**3. Have you ever held state or federal office?** I had the privilege of serving the people of North Florida for 18 years in the state House and another 10 years in the Florida Senate. While in the Senate, I chaired the Governmental Oversight & Accountability Committee as well as the Environmental Preservation & Conservation Committee. In the House, I served as Chairman for the Natural Resources Committee, Governmental Operations Committee, Health & Life Insurance and General Insurance Regulation Committee, Subcommittee on Banking and Insurance, and the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee.

**4. Which areas do you see the biggest concern for in our area? These could include education, agriculture, commerce, etc.** As hardworking families continue to struggle in this economy, Congress is gridlocked. I am not alone in expressing frustration with Congress. Washington is paralyzed by partisanship, and nothing is getting done. It's not a problem with Democrats, and it's not a problem with Republicans. It's a problem with Congress.

Our nation faces many challenges, ranging from the economy to national defense to international trade. And while our Congress engages in petty bickering, we the people seek solutions to these challenges. The first step we voters can make to bring about positive solutions to our nation's challenges is to elect a new Congress. We need to send to Washington leaders that can work across the aisle, while maintaining a commitment to their principles, to get work done for the American people. As your state Senator and Representative, I always put the needs of the people ahead of politics. I will do the same in Congress.

**5. What experience do you have that would qualify you to hold this office?** During my time in the Florida Legislature, I had a record of getting things done. I've worked with my own party when it was right for my district, and I've worked across party lines when it was right for my district. But I always strived to do what was best for the people that I represented.

My philosophy has always been that I'm here to represent the people, not to engage in partisan politics. This

is a viewpoint too often absent from the Halls of Congress. When elected to the United States House of Representatives, the people of North Florida will finally have a Congressman who will put their interests first.

**6. What do you consider the five most pressing concerns facing the country? ECONOMY & JOBS:** We need a Congress that seeks innovative solutions to the challenges we as a nation face economically. An immediate way to boost the economy and put North Florida back to work is to invest in infrastructure while only rewarding good corporate actors. While Congress has slashed funding for infrastructure and transportation projects, they have protected tax breaks for millionaires and companies that ship jobs overseas. This is wrong, and I will oppose tax subsidies for businesses that ship jobs overseas and support tax incentives to businesses that create jobs here at home.

**SOCIAL SECURITY & MEDICARE:** Protecting Social Security and Medicare for seniors is critical to the people of North Florida. I believe that we must honor the contract with those who have contributed to these programs and ensure that when they retire, they receive the benefits they have earned. I will work every day to protect Medicare and Social Security and to improve their finances ensuring that these programs remain solvent for current and future generations of Americans.

**MILITARY & VETERAN AFFAIRS:** While I was serving in the Legislature during the Gulf, Iraq, and Afghanistan Wars, I saw firsthand the challenges facing our men and women in uniform when they returned home. As a legislator, I supported veterans accessing higher education and training in Florida. In Congress, I will work every day to make certain we make good on our promises to those who have served our country.

**EDUCATION:** Providing a good quality education for our children is important in preparing them to compete in the 21st century global economy. As both a parent and former legislator, I've always been an advocate of improving our schools and providing access and opportunities to all students, while supporting our teachers. Recent changes in Congress have hurt student's ability to keep up with the rising cost of college expenses. I believe that programs like Pell grants and Stafford loans are essential to making college affordable for young adults, and I will fight to protect and expand these programs.

**BREAKING THE GRIDLOCK IN WASHINGTON:** During my time as a citizen-legislator, I always worked with both sides of the aisle, while never sacrificing my principles. When elected, I will bring North Florida Values and some much needed common sense to Congress.

**7. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection?**

No.

**8. Do you own property in the state? If so, how much?** Yes. I own a single family home.

**9. Are you gainfully employed? Where? What are your responsibilities? Will you continue to work if you are elected?**

Yes. I have been a small business owner in our community for over 30 years. When elected, I will commit myself full-time to my job in Congress.

**10. List any civic clubs, churches, synagogues or mosques, or social organizations that you belong to.**

I have served on numerous community boards and organizations some of which include the FAMU Boosters Club, FAMU National Alumni, FSU Alumni Club Advisory Committee on Public Administration, NAACP Tallahassee Chapter, Tallahassee Area Chamber of Commerce, Tallahassee Urban League, Boy Scouts of America Suwannee River Area Council, and Association of Life Underwriters. My wife and I are active members of St. Michael's and All Angels Episcopal Church.



# Kirk Reams

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Jefferson County  
★ Clerk of Court ★

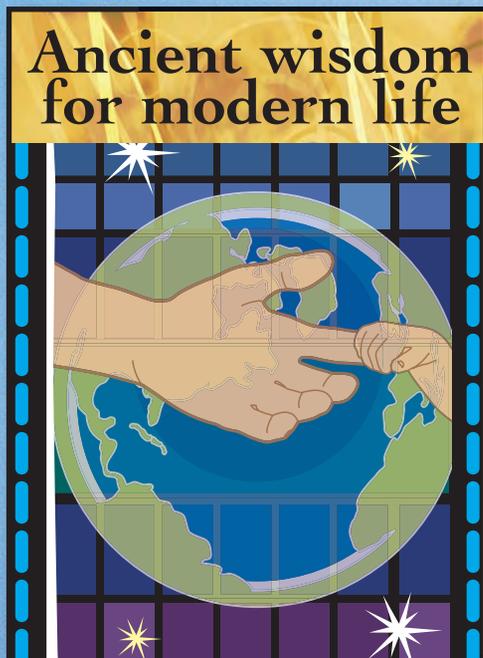
**Thank You For Your Confidence  
In Me And In My Ability to Serve  
As Clerk of Court For The  
Citizens Of Jefferson County**

C  
SECTION

# Together

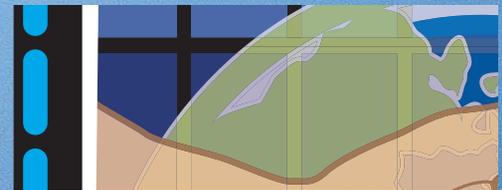
## MONTICELLO NEWS

# Let's Worship



*For I the LORD  
thy God will hold  
thy right hand,  
saying unto thee,  
Fear not;  
I will help thee.  
Isaiah 41:13  
(KJV)*

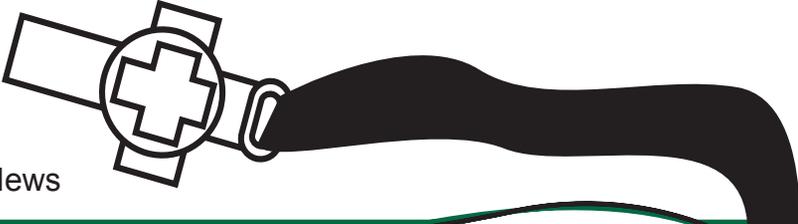
# Spiritual Pathways



Everyday you can be faced with a situation that can bring an array of emotions from hope for the future to fear of the unknown. With God by your side, however, you have nothing to fear. He will be with you whatever may come.

August 1, 2012





# Church News Notes

**THRU AUGUST 3**

Mt. Pleasant Ministries, Mt. Olive MBC, Pine Grove MBC and Welaunee Missionary Baptist Church will continue their joint Revival services through Friday in Capps, at the Mt. Pleasant Ministries location, Charles G. Smith, pastor/teacher. Evangelist for the week of revival is Bishop Frank Goines; Goines pastors in Grady County Georgia. Revival will be held at 7 p.m. nightly. Elder Herbert R. Thomas, Sr. and the Welaunee MBC will be in charge of the services.

**AUGUST 1, 15**

First Presbyterian Church will host EaglesWings, a ministry of outreach, serving the community on the first and third Wednesday of each month from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Volunteers are always welcome to distribute food items and to donate non-perishable food items. Call and leave a message for JoAnne Arnold at 850-997-2252 or go to [eaglewingsmonticello@yahoo.com](mailto:eaglewingsmonticello@yahoo.com)

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Fax (850) 997-4706

or [www.firstpresbyterianmonticello.org](http://www.firstpresbyterianmonticello.org).

**AUGUST 2**

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

**AUGUST 3**

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.

**AUGUST 11, 25**

FUMC StoryTime Ministry is held from 1 to 2 p.m. on every other Saturday at the Jefferson County Bialar Public Library. For more information contact Chairman of Evangelism Barbara Hobbs at 850-523-1813.

**AUGUST 12**

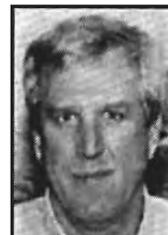
Mt. Morilla Missionary Baptist Church, 9091 South Salt Road, will host its 44<sup>th</sup> Homecoming on Sunday with a celebration beginning at 11 a.m. Rev. James Mack and the St. Rilla MB Church Choir and congregation will render the service. Rev. Louise Wallace, pastor.

**AUGUST 14**

Sons of Allen of the Union Bethel Circuit meets monthly on the second Tuesday from 7 to 8 p.m., rotating between the Elizabeth and Union Bethel AME churches. Encouraging young men and older males to come be part of the meetings. If you have any questions, contact President Leman Ulee at 850-274-6268.

**AUGUST 24, 25**

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 8 to 9 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 Randell at 850-997-5605 or 850-997-6929 to volunteer or for more information about this program.



Michael Lample  
850.576.9300

## MIKE'S JEWELRY CARE CENTER

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Tallahassee, FL 32303



# The Pulpit

By: Rev. Dr. Dean Spivey

## ELIZABETH BAPTIST CHURCH

The last few days I have had Psalms 32:8 on my mind. Listen to this amazing verse. **Psalm 32:8 (HCSB)** *I will instruct you and show you the way to go; with My eye on you, I will give counsel.*

While David penned this Psalm about 3000 years ago it is still as amazing now as it was then. There are several reasons why this verse is amazing. Let me mention some of them...

First, it is amazing that the God and creator of this universe would even be willing to speak to us, much less instruct us and counsel us. David had experienced this indescribable joy of being forgiven, v1. The sin that would not only ruin him forever but prevent him from even hearing from God had been removed. (May I pause here and ask you if you have been forgiven and if so has this forgiveness brought unspeakable joy to your heart?)

There seems to be an increasing number of people who claim to be Christian but seldom if ever hear from God. Perhaps the major reason is because they haven't been willing to repent and receive God's blessing. God is still willing to instruct us if we will turn from our sin and ask Him to forgive us.

Secondly, I am amazed that God is not only willing to instruct us but He will also show us the way to go and give us counsel. Isaiah 9:6 refers to our Lord as the wonderful counselor. The instruction and counsel that the Lord gives is primarily for us to walk in holiness with Him. Unfortunately many today seem to use their Bibles to find things that seem to justify what they have planned. Some seem to know the Bible but don't know the God that the Bible reveals. Don't you find it unusual that when some hear from God it is almost always something that fits into

their plans. Never is there a conviction about sin or coming judgment or God's sovereign right to reign. While the Bible is still revered by most Christians it is seldom read. When was the last time that you heard from God?

Thirdly, He is with us wherever we go. His eye is on us. Our God is constantly watching over us. He has promised to never leave nor forsake His own. He is as near as your breathe. With God's presence comes His power, wisdom, and all else that we need to live a life that is pleasing to Him.

Finally, what is amazing about this wonderful verse is that God is the One who made it possible for us to have the relationship of intimacy with Him through the shed blood of His Son on the cross. The Lord Jesus Christ accomplished for us what we were unable to do. David looked ahead to the cross and we look



Rev. Dr. Dean Spivey

back to it. I know of no greater blessing than to have an intimate relationship with God. There is an indescribable joy when with an open heart and an open Bible God instructs, shows us the way to go, and assures of His presence. I pray that you will experience this for yourself.

See you in worship, Bro. Dean (Phil.1:6)



## REGISTER'S MINI-STORAGE

315 Waukeenah Hwy. • 1/4 Mile Off US 19 South

**850-997-2535**

*Spots Available Now!*

# Church Directory

## 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

## 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

## 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

## 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 AM .....Holy Eucharist  
Nursery provided for children under 5

## CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

US 19 N 1590 N. Jefferson Street (US 19)  
850-997-3906

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: ebcmonticello@centurylink.net

**Rev. Dr. Dean Spivey, Pastor**  
**Student Pastor, Don Self**

Sunday Worship Service.....8:30 AM  
Sunday Bible Study.....9:45 AM  
Morning Worship Service.....11:00 AM  
Choir Practice.....5:00 PM  
Evening Worship Service.....6:00 PM

## WEDNESDAY

Bible Study/Prayer Meeting.....6:00 PM  
RA's/ GA's/Mission Friends/Youth

## 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-

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LLOYD

124 St. Louis Street • Lloyd • 997-5309  
www.fbclloyd.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

## 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  
Adult Bible Study-Wednesday.....6:30-7:30 PM  
Men's Breakfast.....2nd Saturday 8:00 AM

## 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  
Prayer Group.....5:15  
Fellowship Meal.....6:00  
Chancel Choir Practice.....6:30

## 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.

## 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

## 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

## MT. ZION AME CHURCH

2009 Barrington Road  
Lloyd, FL • 850-997-5356

**Pastor Rev. Dr Edward Scott II**

Sunday School Every Sunday.....10:00 AM  
Worship Service 2nd and 4th Sunday.....11:00 AM  
Bible Study First Sunday..... 11:00 AM  
Youth Day 3rd Sunday.....11:00 A.M.

## 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

## 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

## 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

## RESTORED GLORY CHRISTIAN CENTER

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

**Pastor Eddie and Elder Veronica Yon**

Get Moving Womens Fitness & Fellowship, Monday...6:30 PM  
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 1st Saturday.....10:00 AM  
Morning Glory for Women 4th Saturday.....8:00 AM

## 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

## 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

## SHILOH AME CHURCH

224 Thomas Road  
Aucilla

**Rev. Gilbert Connelly, Pastor**

Second and Fourth Sundays

Sunday School.....10:00 AM  
Morning Worship Service.....11:00 AM  
Wednesday Evening Prayer and Bible.....7:00 PM

Fourth Sunday Youth Participation

## 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



# Spreading The Faith

## 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)

## WACISSA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

14492 Waukeenah 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

## 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  
Thrift Store open every Saturday,  
8:00 AM-12:00 PM  
www.waukeenahcemetery.com

# COVENANT BIBLE COLLEGE AND SEMINARY PREPARES INDIVIDUALS FOR THE FUTURE

On Tuesday, June 5, the sanctuary of the First Baptist Church in Madison, Florida was filled to overflowing with over 200 family members and friends who came to applaud the 2012 graduating class of Covenant Bible College and Seminary. The atmosphere in the church was charged with excitement as the 19 graduates in their caps, gowns and tassels marched down the aisle in a procession as the honorees of the evening.

Rev. John Peterson, pastor of New Life Christian Church International, opened the Commencement Ceremony with a rousing welcome and an exhortation to the Body of Christ to understand the times and season we are in. Peter Harvey, an anointed instructor with Covenant Bible College and Seminary, shared a powerful Scripture with the honorees and the congregation. Katherine Harris, also an instructor, gave the invocation and lifted up praise and thanksgiving to God for all He is doing in each of our lives, our nation, Israel, and Covenant Bible College and Seminary. Life-transforming worship that was centered at the Throne of God was led by Pastor Peterson. A beautiful medley of praise and worship was sung by Takisha Washington,

who was one of the 2012 graduates.

Pastor Phillip Jackson, also a graduate who has been a pastor for 25 years, described how much his first year at Covenant Bible College and Seminary has catapulted his ministry to a higher level of anointing and power in order to positively impact the Kingdom of God. Darryl Wright, a sophomore at Madison County High School, shared how CBCS is a place where his dreams for being a minister of the gospel have been birthed and cultivated. Darryl and Pastor Jackson, along with the other graduates, exemplify the three standards of CBCS: Excellence, Faith, and Integrity.

Dr. William Morris, Chancellor and Founder of the College, gave the Commencement address. He delighted the audience with numerous solos about the power of the Blood and the love of Jesus. Afterwards, he encouraged everyone to dream big dreams with God by sharing his own personal testimony.

Following Dr. Morris' Commencement address, Dr. Connie Peterson, the National and International Director of Campuses and Distant Learning, conferred on the graduates the following degrees:

## DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGY

Cassandra Lee Newstead

## ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE

### IN THEOLOGY

Timothy D. Blanton

Barbara Elaine Brown

Alfonso Frazier

Josie M. Graham

Phillip Maurice Jackson

Edith D. Page

Broderic Vadell Roberson

Archie W. Strickland

## ADVANCED ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN THEOLOGY

Kathleen M. Harvey

Freddie Perry II

Takisha Wyche Washington

Darryl Graham Wright

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

### IN THEOLOGY

Madlinea C. Bass

Ava Davis Curry

Rickey L. Curry

Lucrea A. Graham

Inez Levingston-Williams

try, but also across the world. Covenant Bible College and Seminary began in 1988 as an Internet College by Dr. William Morris and was formerly known as Covenant Christian University and was based in Ohio. The college began to grow and currently has satellite campuses across the nation and into five foreign countries with the main campus in Tallahassee.

Covenant Bible College and Seminary offers a Bible-based education for individuals of every level through both audit and degree-based programs of study. One could earn a diploma, an Associate Degree, an Advanced Associate Degree, a Bachelor Degree, a Master Degree, a Doctor of Ministry Degree, and a Doctor of Philosophy Degree in either Biblical Studies, Theology, Pastoral, or Counseling. The affordable, pay-as-you-go program offers nine, one-month long courses, plus Ministry Practicum per academic year. Ministry Practicum is a volunteer ministry in any area of church work in which students are required to give an average of 2 hours per week, or a minimum of 72 hours per academic year of volunteer service to their local church or ministry.

CBCS accepts transfer credits from other colleges and universities as well as many Bible Schools and Bible Institutes. CBCS also offers advanced academic standing based on prior formal ministry experience. High school students are also eligible for dual enrollment with CBCS.

Covenant Bible College and Seminary is a member of the Apostolic Council for Educational Accountability (ACEA). They are accredited with Accrediting Commission International (ACI), the world's largest independent, non-governmental accrediting agency.

Those who are interested in enrolling or would like more information about the college are encouraged to contact Dr. Connie Peterson at (850) 973-7330 or email at [cbcstoday@gmail.com](mailto:cbcstoday@gmail.com) to receive a student registration packet and information.

A lovely candlelight reception followed the conferring of the degrees and was beautifully catered in the Fellowship Hall by Brother Rickey and Sister Ava Curry from Jasper, Florida. Graduates were given personal gifts to remind them that their hard work and dedication were greatly appreciated. All the students and those who are interested in joining the CBCS family next year have been extended an invitation:

**ORIENTATION FOR THE 2012-2013 ACADEMIC YEAR WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 6, AT NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN CHURCH INTERNATIONAL BEGINNING AT 6 P.M. WITH A COVERED DISH DINNER. CLASSES WILL BEGIN ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 7 AT 7 P.M.**

If you are interested in knowing more about Covenant Bible College and Seminary, please read the information below:

For over a decade, the college has been making great strides not only in this coun-

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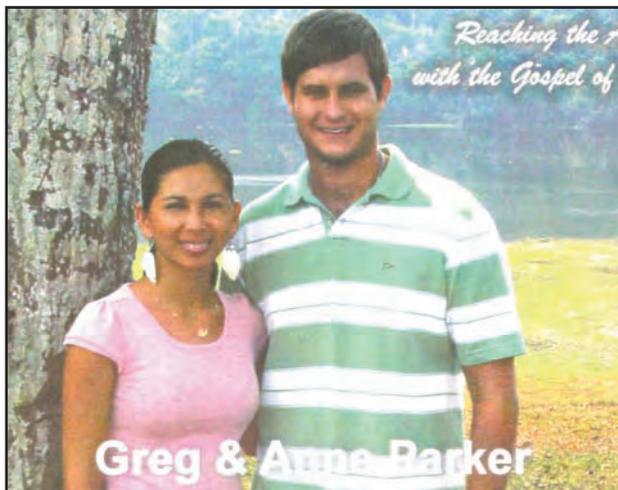
# Word Of Life Brazil

**GREG, ANNE AND JAKE PARKER**

Ministers

Dear family and friends, We just got back from a three-week trip with our 'Word of Life' students. The camps were amazing! We had 165 campers in one camp and 90 in the other camp. A lot of teens came to know Christ and a lot of them reconciled. Thank you so much for all your prayers.

My survival training was very hard; there were 20 of us in the jungle. So, I had lots of people to train and survive. But all went surprisingly well.



After the first week, lots of things happened back at the property, one of our missionaries was in a car accident and the guy on the motorcycle died. Also, one of the workers hit the garage wall with the tractor and broke the wall and the tractor. So, there was a lot that needed to be resolved... so, dad had to come back. Please pray for all these things to get resolved as quickly as possible.

During the last camp, I was playing soccer and I fell wrong on my arm and cracked a bone and messed up the ligaments

in my wrist. Please pray for a quick recovery as we are leaving on the next trip in just two weeks.

So, as you can see we are going through a rough patch, but all is coming together. Jake did very well on the trip considering the amount of people and the inclement weather.

Our next trip will begin on Monday, August 6. We will visit all the missionaries, and hold kids camps as well. Thanks so much for your prayers and support. God Bless, Greg.

Anyone wishing to make a contribution to the Parker ministry may do so by posting letters and checks to: Greg and Anne Parker ~ Caixa Postal 44 ~ Itacoatiara, AM. 69100-000 Brazil, or Word Of Life ~ P.O. Box 600 ~ Schroon Lake, NY. 12870, or [GAparkerupdate@gmail.com](mailto:GAparkerupdate@gmail.com). For monthly support memo to: Gregory Parker Support, for a one time gift memo to: Gregory Parker Special Project.

II Corinthians 4:1 *Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart.* Reaching the Amazon with the Gospel of Christ.

## WANTED

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- Lifetime coverage
- Build Cash Value & has Loan value (Living Benefit)
- No Medical Exam Required
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- Local agents to assist you apply for coverage
- Policy cannot be cancelled by Company
- Except for non-payment of premiums
- Plan to fit any budget

**For more information call Al Harrison (904) 333-0102**

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**BRYANT THIGPEN**

*ECB Publishing*

In the neighboring city of Tallahassee, bright lights and flashing signs are just another thing. While those lights help to guide people in navigating through the city, there is a lighthouse in Tallahassee that guides people through their spiritual life. This place, the Lighthouse Children's Home, is situated in the capital city, and is helping to shine a unique light into the lives of these children.

Since its start in 1977, the Lighthouse Children's Home has assisted hundreds of children and according to their website, they have helped children who were having discipline problems in their home, failing grades in school, problems with the law and those who have no home or family to care for them.

At the Lighthouse, the program is designed in a non-military format, but is designed to provide structure, education, and spiritual guidance. The home focuses on the children's schooling, athletics, extra-curricular activities, scheduled family visits, community involvement, music training and traveling.

Girls who are involved with the program gain their education through the Lighthouse Christian Academy. Through this school, the girls attend year-round and spend a lot more time focused on academics than what the traditional school offers.

For the children who enjoy competing in sports, the Lighthouse Children's Home

has a girls basketball team known as the Eagles. Through this program, it is the hope that each player will learn team discipline and character.

The children also have the opportunity to develop their music skills singing with the choir. This choir travels around to churches in the region on a love offering basis and performs today's southern gospel along with classic hits and traditional hymns. The love offerings that are received during the concert help to support the children's home.

Throughout the year, the Lighthouse Children's Home also sponsors concerts that feature some of gospel music's finest talent. Their next concert will be held on Saturday, September 1, at the Thomasville City Auditorium, beginning at 7 p.m. This year's Labor Day talent lineup features the Dove Brothers, the Perrys, and Archie Watkins and the Smokey Mountain Reunion.

On Friday, September 28, at 7:30 p.m., the Dixie Echoes and the Mark Trammell Quartet will be live in concert at the Lighthouse Children's Home.

The ministry of the Lighthouse Children's Home completely relies on generous support from people in this community. Those who are wishing to support this great cause and can do so by sponsoring a child, or making a monthly or a one-time contribution to the home.

For more information, please visit [www.lighthousechildrenshome.com](http://www.lighthousechildrenshome.com).



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# TEACH YOUR CHILDREN

by Lloyd Monroe

Teach your children well... You, who are on the road. *Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, 1970*

Teach ... your children. ... when you are on the road. *Moses, Deuteronomy 11:19*

Let me teach you. *Jesus of Nazareth, Matthew 11:29*

July saw Porch de Salomon chock-a-block full with big teams of teachers, young people and even little kids (!). Working in the indigenous villages, where the population of children and youth exceeds 60%, gave those teams great exposure to the energy, warmth and plight of the indigenous kids.

There was plenty of teaching, learning and youthful verve. The interesting juxtaposition of a secular youth team (International Co-op, Vancouver Island, Canada) and one from Sharon Church (formerly Sharon Baptist Church, McDonough, Georgia) was rich. Some learned to give the Way of Jesus a new look. Others learned to no longer worship church and, instead, to offer our better following that Way as our act of worship. May that be true for all of us!

### TEAMER COMMENTS:

\* My trip to Guatemala was an experience of a lifetime. The families we helped were so grateful for us being there but they helped us in return as well.

Their situations, smiles and lives opened our eyes.

I now appreciate and am so thankful for everything I have. I learned to laugh at the little things and enjoy life and I learned teamwork and determination (thanks to the "Stairmaster"-the steep end of the material trail up!). Thank you to Porch De Solomon for all of your help and inspiration and for making this trip possible.

*Meghan Minato, Team International Co-op*

\* This was my second trip to Panajachel to work with Porch de Salomon; I will remember my experiences there for the rest of my life. Porch's friendly and incredibly hard-working staff made our large group feel at home. Their knowledge of the area and strong ties with the local community made us feel very welcome and safe.

Thank you Lloyd, Melanie, Hector, Mirna and the rest of your staff for changing my life and providing the opportunity to really help people, I will be back one day soon. *Cory Cossenias (Team International Co-op)*

\*Porch de Salomon is a great ministry right on the intersection of the main drag in Panajachel. We spent an incredible week with them.

*Lee Rush, Team Leader, Sharon Church*

\* This was my first time going on a



Team leader Lee Rush helps take craft photos at Bible school

mission trip, and it was even more awarding than I thought it would be. I learned more about myself and my ability to work in tough conditions. I began to truly understand how hard the local people work to support their families.

It reminded me of how hard my parents worked to bring me to Canada from China. It took them five years to get my documents ready and save enough money; they each worked 3 jobs a day! I now realize that lots of people in Guatemala don't have the opportunity for a better life like we now have. It made me really cherish what my family and I have today.

*Fiona Zhao, Team International Co-op*

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Porch de Salomon thanks the team leaders, families, donors, the church and all who

helped these teams and us learn and bless many here in Guatemala. *Gracias!*

Contact [lloyd@porchdesalomon.org](mailto:lloyd@porchdesalomon.org) or call 850.688.2076 to get involved. Melanie and Lloyd will be stateside on furlough July 25-Sept. 21 and would love speak with you.



(from left) Cory, Meghan and Team Int'l Co-op on site



Sharon Church teamer Phillip thrills 'em at Bible school.