



# MONTICELLO NEWS

144th Year No. 50 Wednesday, December 19, 2012 50¢ 46¢ + 4¢

## Doyle Conner Dies At 83 In Monticello

Former Florida Agriculture Commissioner and longtime Jefferson County resident Doyle Conner died at the Cross Landing Nursing Home in Monticello on Sunday morning, Dec. 16.

Conner, a fifth generation Floridian, was 83; he had been in poor health in recent years.

First elected to the Florida House of Representatives in 1950 as a 21-year-old University of Florida sophomore, Conner was re-elected to office four times and went on to make state history by becoming Florida's youngest House Speaker at age 28.

While serving in the House, Conner promoted agriculture by introducing legislation to assist farmers, including the Green Belt Law. Other legislation he sponsored helped establish agricultural labs that helped stamp out cattle fever tick and the Mediterranean fruit fly. He was also instrumental in the effort to reorganize the Department of Agriculture.

Following his five terms in the House, Conner ran for Florida Agriculture Commissioner in 1960



Doyle Conner

Please See CONNER Page 3

## Wacissa River Designated A Birding & Wildlife Trail



LAZARO ALEMAN  
ECB Publishing  
Senior Staff Writer

The Wacissa River continues getting recognitions and designations as a special waterway that is worthy of seeing and exploring, which in terms of attracting ecotourism translates into a clean, green form of economic development.

It's understandable then that Tourist Development Council (TDC) Coordinator Nancy Wideman last week would express being "thrilled to learn that the Wacissa River and Wacissa River Headsprings Park have been accepted for inclusion on the panhandle section of the Great Florida Birding and Wildlife Trail (GFBWT)."

The GFBWT, as Wideman explained it, is a program of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) that identifies properties of interest to birders and wildlife watchers.

"They (FWC) will publish these sites in birding and wildlife trail guides intended for use by tourists," Wideman said. "This designation simply makes it easier for folks to identify areas where they can enjoy the hobby of viewing birds and wildlife."

It's the TDC's belief, according to Wideman, that the birding designation will have little adverse effect on the pristine and beautiful river area.

"But potentially, it can bring added revenue to our area businesses and economy," she said.

Wideman added that the TDC remained committed to increasing tourism in the least invasive way to ensure that the county keeps its natural resources as unaffected from use as possible.

"Bird and wildlife viewing is a great way to do this," Wideman said.

Earlier this year, the Wacissa, along with the Aucilla, and Econfina rivers, was named a National Recreation Trail, a coveted national designation that the FWC also was responsible for getting and that likewise helps in the promotion of eco-tourism.

The three waterways, formally given the appellation of Rivers of AWE (Aucilla, Wacissa and Econfina), are considered some of the more ecologically pristine waters in north Florida.

Among the cited benefits of the AWE designation:

\* Listing of the three waterways on national maps and websites, which exposure translates into increased tourism dollars and related revenues for local businesses.

Please See WACISSA Page 3

## Old Jail Restoration Project Achieves Its \$50,000 Goal



LAZARO ALEMAN  
ECB Publishing  
Senior Staff Writer

Almost exactly two years after Monticello Main Street set out to secure \$50,000 in historic preservation funds to restore the old jail on Dogwood Street, the group can be said to have achieved its goal.

Dr. Anne Holt, Main Street program manager, reports that the Florida Division of Historic Resources last week notified her group that it had been awarded a \$24,000 grant, on top of the \$26,000 grant awarded to the group in the summer.

She said work on the old jail building was scheduled to begin as soon as a week, starting with the roof.

"A local contractor will repair some rafters on the roof to seal the building," Dr. Holt said. "Then, right after the first of the year, another local contractor will be replacing the windows. This additional grant money will allow us to install gutters,

add heating and air-conditioning, and do some needed interior fixing-up. A photographer is recording the (prisoners') writing on the walls so it can never be lost."

Meanwhile, volunteers continued to help Main Street to prepare the building for office use by the staff and others, Dr. Holt said.

"And we are still collecting furnishings for the Sheriff's apartment," she said. "With this additional money to complete critically needed improvements, we'll have our museum open by this spring."

It was almost exactly two years ago that city and county officials adopted separate resolutions in support of Main Street Monticello's then goal of securing state funding for the renovation of the two-story brick building that formerly served as the county jail, with the idea of converting it into a museum.

Please See JAIL Page 3

## The Time To Appeal New FEMA Flood Map Is Now

LAZARO ALEMAN  
ECB Publishing  
Senior Staff Writer

Jefferson County officials are alerting property owners that March of next year is the last chance to appeal a proposed new flood map that will officially change the classification of certain properties and make them subject to higher flood insurance rates in the future.

The new official

Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), recently released by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is set to go into effect soon after the expiration of the 90-day appeal period, which formally began on Dec. 5.

As Planning Attorney Scott Shirley explained it to the Jefferson County Commission on Thursday morning, Dec. 6, residents and officials have

until March 5 of next year to appeal the map.

"But in reality, we have less time than that," Shirley said.

The reason for the lesser time, he said, was because appeals first had to go through the county, and the latter process in itself took time.

"The county first has to evaluate all the appeals, bundle them up, and then send them to the appropriate agen-

cies," Shirley said.

Appeals, moreover, had to be based on scientific and technical information, not mere conjecture, Shirley said. Which meant that any landowner appealing a property's designation would ultimately have to hire an engineer to assess the situation, which activity would translate into a cost, he said.

Please See FEMA Page 3

## Man Charged In Crash

FRAN HUNT  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

A man was charged over the weekend after being involved in a single-vehicle crash.

Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) reported that on Saturday, December 15 at 10:40 a.m., Richard J. Eschenbacher, 58, of Monticello, was driving a

2000 Toyota Tundra, traveling westbound on Casa Bianca Road at approximately 30 miles per hour.

He was approaching the intersection of CR-158A and failed to stop at the stop sign.

The vehicle traveled through the stop sign and across CR-158A to the west. Please See CRASH Page 3



Index

1 Section 12 Pages

Viewpoints	2	Sports	8
Jeff. Co.	3-5,12	School	9
Church	6&7	Classified	10

Local Weather

Wed 12/19 76/51  
Mainly sunny. High 76F. Winds SE at 5 to 10 mph.

Thu 12/20 79/41  
Partly cloudy, chance of a thunderstorm. Potential for severe thunderstorms.

Fri 12/21 58/36  
Mainly sunny. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the mid 30s.

# Letters To The Editor

Letters to the Editor are typed word for word, comma for comma, as sent to this newspaper. All submitted Letters must be 600 words or less.

## Praying For A Truce

Saigon, Vietnam – 1969 - I was twenty-one and already a licensed mortician when the Army sent me to Graves Registration School in Fort Lee, Virginia and then to the US Army Mortuary in Saigon.

Forty, fifty sometimes sixty bodies a day. I was an identification specialist on the day shift. A Christmas truce had been agreed to with the enemy for December 23rd 24th and 25th.

On Christmas Eve I sang in the Protestant Choir for the 8:00 pm service and the Catholic Choir for the 11:00 pm. Amazing how close to God one feels in War. I got back to the barracks just past midnight.

Because of the cessation of hostilities on December 23, no bodies arrived at the Mortuary on my shift on the 24th. None. When I got to the barracks, the night shift had just been sent back ... no bodies on their shift either.

The center aisle was lined with footlockers and everyone had put their goodies from home out buffet style. I filled my plate, popped a top and sat on my bunk, which was about mid-bay. I could watch and see the entire barracks. Many friends, all good guys. All dedicated professionals doing their unpleasant but es-

sential work...sending the right person home to the right family.

Suddenly my mind was obsessed with a repeating sentence. The definition of death so memorized in Mortuary College. "Death: death the cessation of life; the complete and utter cessation of life" repeated over and over. Then I realized – call it a revelation – that if death was the cessation of life then "life was the cessation of death." Somewhere "in-country", there were forty, fifty or sixty young men who were spared the ultimate sacrifice that day. Life...the complete and utter cessation of death.

That was forty-three years ago. Most would today be a granddad like me. Proud of their service to countless families, proud of their own families and accomplishments in life.

I'm praying for a Christmas Truce this year – a break from hostilities in these thankless wars with nameless enemies we keep sending our youngins to fight.

Reach out and shake a Vets hand this Christmas. He may be one of the fifty who were spared that Christmas in Vietnam – 1969.

Dave FitzSimmons

# AROUND JEFFERSON COUNTY

## Kiwanis Hear About JROTC Program



Chief Kent Watson was guest speaker to the Monticello Kiwanis December 12, 2012 meeting. He is in charge of the Jefferson County JROTC program. The program currently has 52 talented cadets. He spoke to the Kiwanis membership about community involvement and local projects related to the JROTC program.

## CORRECTION

The 'American Legion Post 49 Recognizes Earlene Knight' article in the Wednesday, December 12, 2012 Monticello News misidentified MARINE CORPS MAJOR TOM WRIGHT.

Marine Corps Major Tom Wright, retired, was guest speaker for the evening meeting. He was introduced to the group by his father. He spoke about honoring our veterans and those who are still serving in the military service, and in uniform. "It's these men and women who continue to protect our rights and freedoms," he said. "Tuesday, November 6 was a perfect example of our fight," he continued, speaking of Iwo Jima as a defining event and battle.

## Please Vote For Lucy!



If she wins, the Jefferson County Humane Society (non-profit no-kill) gets five Kuranda beds! You can vote once every 24 hours. The contest ends at midnight on December 31. Quick and easy to vote at <http://kuranda.com/blog/dog-of-the-month>

## Thanks...

We the family of the late Leola Smith McGee, acknowledge with sincere appreciation and gratitude your prayers, phone calls, food, monetary donations, and all other acts of kindness shared with us during the illness and subsequent passing of our beloved mother, sister, aunt, grandmother, and great-grandmother.

May God continue to bestow his richest blessings upon each of you is our prayer.

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## MONTICELLO NEWS



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 Publisher/Owner

LAZARO ALEMAN  
 Senior Staff Writer

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# AROUND JEFFERSON COUNTY

## Conner continued from page 1

and handily won, going on to serve in the position 30 years, until his retirement in 1991.

As Commissioner of Agriculture, Conner is credited with opening Florida to international markets and increasing the sales of its agriculture products from \$900 million to \$6.2 billion during his 30 year tenure. Also during his tenure, the state eradicated hog cholera and developed a standard-setting method for detecting the Mediterranean fruit fly. He is further credited with creating the Office of Consumer Services, which is now an official part of what has come to be known as the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Among the many challenges facing his administration were citrus canker, brucellosis, freezes and droughts; but, say his many admirers, Conner was always more than equal to the task of protecting and promoting the state's agriculture.

A strong advocate for youths' participation in agriculture, Conner sponsored many 4-H and Future Farmers of America (FFA) awards, as well as promoting youth activities at the Florida State Fair and numerous other initiatives.

After leaving office in 1991, Doyle dedicated himself to running his Bar C Ranch off the Old Lloyd Highway and raising horses and his beloved Cracker Cattle, as well as spending time with his children, Doyle Jr., Kimberly, and John, and his six grandchildren. All the while, he continued to be a strong supporter of Florida agriculture and the FFA.

Among his many honors, Conner was elected to the Florida Agricultural Hall of Fame in 1985, the Alpha Gamma Rho Hall of Fame in 1992, and the 4-H Hall of Fame in 2002. He received the Florida Blue Key Service Award in 2006 and was inducted into the Florida FFA Hall of Fame in 2007.

Born in the small town of Starke, in north Florida in 1928, Conner grew up on the family's 400-acre farm and demonstrated leadership skills early, getting elected president of his high school's FFA chapter, 4-H club and senior class.

Conner was known for his calm demeanor, Southern grace and supportive management style.

## Jail continued from page 1

Per the research that Dr. Holt did at the time of the grant proposal, the building may have been constructed as early as the 1920s, although definitive documentation to authenticate its construction has yet to be found.

It was further Dr. Holt's discovery that only three other Florida jail buildings of like construction as the Dogwood jail (with the sheriff's residential quarters and office incorporated into the configuration) currently exist in the state. No other such jailhouse, however, has an adjacent "women's jail".

Of the three other similar jails, Dr. Holt found that only one allowed public access. She found that the second was in private hands and the third was largely abandoned. Once the renovation project is completed, Main Street plans to open the facility as a public museum, complete with displays and guided tours.

Largely vacant since the early 1970s and serving mostly as a dumping ground for obsolete county records and equipment since, the building remains basically sound, although it has suffered some minor damage, including roof and mortar deterioration and broken windows. Too, the plaster and paint are crumbling on the walls in places where the prisoners inscribed their names, imprisonment dates and other cryptic messages. It is one of the goals of the project to preserve as much of the writings as possible, before time renders them completely illegible.

The facility is expected to create two full-time jobs and several part-time jobs when fully operational, per the proposal.

"The museum will have trained docents to describe the life of a Depression-era sheriff and his wife and how they fit in Florida's history," Dr. Holt wrote in the proposal. "We will work with FSU, FAMU and other universities as well, offering internships in historical administration and public history and other graduate courses."

## FEMA continued from page 1

Shirley said once the county submitted the bundled appeals, the appropriate state agencies would then evaluate the information and determine if revisions to the map were warranted.

"If agreement can't be reached, a panel of scientific experts will then be convened to resolve the conflict in the data," Shirley said. "FEMA would then issue a final map based on the experts' recommendation."

He said the reason the issue warranted residents' attention was because properties formerly not listed as being in a flood hazard area might well now be so designated. Which designation could translate into higher flood insurance rates, or in the need for flood insurance where no such need had existed previously, Shirley said.

He explained that citizens in flood hazard areas were eligible to participate in the federal insurance program at reduced costs, provided the county also participated in the program. And to participate in the program, the county had to adopt the revised flood map and an accompanying risks mitigation ordinance, he said.

The reason the federal government required adoption of the map and ordinance, Shirley said, was because it was trying to mitigate its risks, as it typically subsidizes landowners' flooding liability through its flood insurance program.

The ordinance, among other things, precludes the construction of certain structures in flood-prone areas and requires certain elevation for others, all of which restrictions translate into costs for landowners.

Shirley noted that most residents unfortunately didn't pay attention to the map change or dismissed their importance, until they wanted to build a structure on their land and discovered to their dismay that either they couldn't do it either because it was prohibited or it was costly to mitigate the hazard.

Planning Official Bill Tellefsen, for his part, said his office would serve as the clearinghouse for all appeals. Tellefsen said the new flood maps could be viewed online at <http://portal.nwfwmflood-maps.com>. He said individuals merely had to select Jefferson County on the webpage and then type in the appropriate address or zoom down in the map to a particular parcel to learn its specific designation.

Shirley offered that the new rules did not apply to agriculture land, only to habitable structures. He encouraged residents who might need federal flood insurance to purchase it presently, before the rates changed.

"If people get federal insurance now, they will be grandfathered in at the current rates," Shirley said. "If they wait until the new rules go into effect, the rates will be higher."

He reiterated that all appeals had to be filed with the county before March 5.

For more information about the map or to appeal a particular parcel's designation, visit the Planning Department at 445 W. Palmer Mill Road in Monticello or call (850) 342-0223.

## Wacissa continued from page 1

\* Enhancement of the region's reputation as a place of varied ecosystems, wildlife diversity, natural beauty and unspoiled vistas, which should make it a more attractive destination point for tourists seeking to experience the state's more undeveloped and pristine parts.

\* Inclusion in a new map and area guide produced jointly by the FWC and Suwannee River Water Management District as a planning tool for visitors and local residents looking for outstanding recreational and canoeing opportunities in the three rivers, given the three waterways designations as state canoe trails and outstanding Florida waters.

## Crash continued from page 1

shoulder of the road.

The front undercarriage of the vehicle struck a ditch on the west shoulder and the vehicle continued forward into the tree line.

The left side of the vehicle struck a large pine tree, causing the vehicle to glance off, where the left side again struck a small oak tree.

The vehicle came to rest at the oak tree facing west.

Eschenbacher sustained minor injuries, but did not require transport to the hospital for treatment. FHP did not deem the crash to be alcohol-related. Eschenbacher was wearing his seatbelt.

Eschenbacher was charged with running a stop sign. His vehicle sustained \$6,000 damage.

## Local Beta Sigma Phi Group Brightens The Holidays For Several Charities



President Peggy Day presenting Judy Carney with a donation from Beta Sigma Phi in the amount of \$100.

The Xi Lambda Upsilon Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, Monticello, is making the holidays a bit brighter for several local charities. In a recent meeting they selected three groups to each receive a \$100 check from the sorority. The charities selected were the Friends of the Jefferson County Library, the Keystone Genealogy Library, and the Jefferson County Senior Citizens. The sorority is also donating a case of peanut butter to the local Extension Office for use in their work with underprivileged children.

Sorority president Peggy Day stated that each year the sorority selects one or more local or regional charities to help. The local Beta Sigma Phi chapter has 23 members, most of whom have been members of the group for over 40 years. Three of the members have received their 50-year Golden Circle awards.

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# AROUND JEFFERSON COUNTY

## Remembering "The Good Ol' Days"

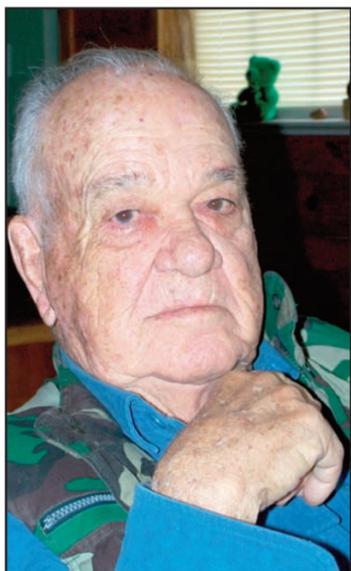
FRAN HUNT  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

Many times the older people in different communities throughout the country will reminisce about the days gone by and what life was like back in the "good ol' days. Dr. John Ward, 91, recently reminisced about his earlier days of living in Jefferson County.

"I came to Monticello in 1955 with Dr. WL Hunter," said Ward. "Our office was where the Farmers and Merchant's Bank annex is now. There was very little insurance in those days. No appointments were necessary. It was \$2 for an office call and deliveries were \$50. I have probably delivered over 3,000 babies, including Sheriff David Hobbs, Kevin Aman, and hundreds more. We always worked with a nurse. Dr. Hunter and I worked together every morning, but we never worked together in the afternoons or at night. I've made hundreds of house calls. I made house calls up until I retired in 1999.

"There was no ambulance service when I came here," said Ward. "The Undertaker, Bob Wilkins, did all the transports to the hospital and brought them back. I have gone to the hospital many times in the back of that hearse.

"There was a man working with forestry making fire lanes. He was on a tractor and ran over a downed pine tree. The tree came up, went under his scrotum and came out through his back. Dr. Hunter, the forester and Bob Wilkins, cut the tree off with a chain saw and carried him out of the woods. Six weeks later he came walking into the office with that piece of pine in his hand. He was lucky, there was no damage to the vital organs," recalled Ward. "There was another man, one of the Sheffield's, had a opine tree stuck through him and he lived through it.



Dr. John Ward

"There was a service station on the corner and Simmons' Drug Store had doors on both Cherry and main streets. Dr. Brinson's Office was over Johnson's Drug Store, which later became Jackson's.

"The Gerry's owned Pickney Hill Plantation and they were the nicest people you would ever want to meet," said Ward. "Carl Joiner was the manager of the plantation. He asked us if we wanted to build us an office, but we were happy where we were at, so we said, no. They built two offices for the Presbyterian Church and they bought the land where Gerry medical is now, and built offices and the Health Department moved in. They had a laboratory and a Swiss masseuse to do physical therapy. We moved up there in the late 70's or '80. Then Gerry's bought the dentist office. They also helped build the Episcopal Church addition. They matched what donations were raised. They never asked for anything. All of the plantations gave money toward Archbold.

Gerry's wanted to have good medical services here. They paid for the phone, heat AC, upkeep, and just let us use the building.

"At night, I used to go down to the Blue Heron Café to get something to eat," he recalled. "Rooster Town wasn't anything like it is now.

"Judge Gilworth Clark started Farmers and Merchants Bank. I went in there to borrow \$10,000 to buy a house and land on Morris Road, and Judge Clark told me no. So I went to Tallahassee and borrowed the money. I paid it all back in about one year. Judge Clark was one of the Pork Chop Gang, which was made up of all the senators and representatives in north Florida. When I came here, we had a senator and representative from Jefferson County.

"Mr. Mahan owned a nursery and he brought Mahan Pecans here. The Simpsons owned Simpson's Nursery, now it's owned by the Beshears'. Wilmer Bassett owned Bassett's Dairy, now it's owned by the Walkers," said Ward.

"Mrs. Walker was the best tax collector we ever had in the county," he added. "I was on the County Commission for 12 years and she would give the county money. She never used her budget.

"We didn't have a golf course, so we got an architect and a Federal land grant. We paid dues of \$7.50 and made payments to the Federal Government every month. I'm on the Board. Bill Barings, a mechanic in WWII fixing airplanes, kept up with the mowers and tractors at the golf course. We all worked out there," he concluded.

It's no wonder why people like to sit and remember the "Good Ol' Days!"

If you would like to reminisce about the "Good Ol' Days" with Fran, call 997-3568 or email [franhunt@embarqmail.com](mailto:franhunt@embarqmail.com) for an appointment.

It's a GIRL!

JUST ARRIVED

Danielle and Eddie Matthews, Jr. announce the birth of their daughter, **Lily Ann Matthews**

born November 19, 2012 at 12:16 a.m. She weighed 6 pounds and 7 ounces.

Lily Ann was born with cleft lip and palate and has been going to appointments at Shands Hospital. Her lip repair surgery is scheduled for March 15, 2013. Her parents say, "We will get to fall in love with her smile, twice."

Lily Ann is the granddaughter of Phillip Kirkland of Lyons, GA., Sandy and Randy Thomason of Jasper, GA. and Ed and Shay Matthews of Monticello, FL.

You can follow Lily Ann's progress on Facebook at Lily Ann Matthews.



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MONTICELLO

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# AROUND JEFFERSON COUNTY

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 My efforts are fruitless, much to my chagrin, He unloads his parcels, locks the van, and heads back in  
 The way things are going, parking could take all day, Why doesn't the mall have a valet  
 I'm circling the lot, not a glimmer of hope, I'm quickly reaching the end of my rope  
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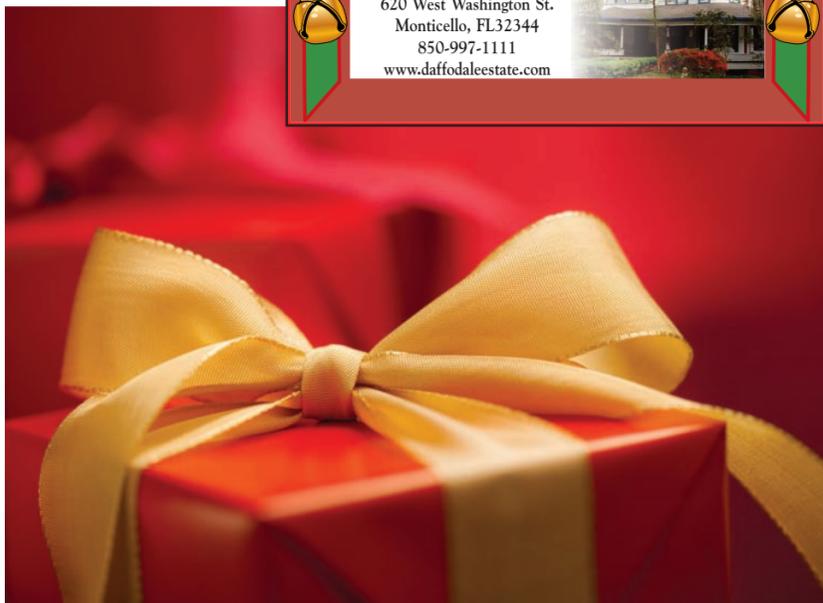
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# CHURCH

## Obituaries

### VIRGIL JOSEPH DAVIS

Virgil Joseph Davis, age 67, President of Fairchild Construction, passed away Thursday, December 13, 2012 in Tallahassee.

Funeral services were held on Sunday, December 16, 2012, at 2:00 pm at Beggs Funeral Home Monticello Chapel, 485 E Dogwood Street, Monticello, Florida (850-997-5612).

The family received friends Saturday, December 15, 2012 from 5 - 7 pm at Beggs Funeral Home Monticello Chapel. Interment followed the service at Walker Cemetery in Madison County.

Virgil was a long life resident of Jefferson County. He loved hunting, fishing, farming and gardening. But most of all he loved his family. He was of Baptist faith.

Virgil is survived by his wife Eileen Davis of Lamont; daughter Connie Smith (Jon) of Lamont; one son Joey Davis (Christie) of Tallahassee; one brother Glenn Davis of Tallahassee and three grandchildren; Carrieann Smith, Thomas Davis, and Gracie Davis.

Virgil was preceded in death by his parents V. J. and Ada Bell Andrews Davis; one brother Donald K. Davis and grandson Caleb Smith.

### JOE LYNWOOD ROBERTS, SR.



Joe Lynwood Roberts, Sr. age 64, a retired Badcock Furniture store owner, passed away December 14, 2012, in Tallahassee.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 am Tuesday, December 18, 2012 at the First Baptist Church of Monticello, 325 W Washington Street, Monticello, Florida 32344. The family received friends Monday December 17, 2012 from 6 - 8 pm. Interment followed the service at Oakfield Cemetery. Beggs Funeral Home Monticello Chapel, 485 E Dogwood Street was in charge of the arrangements (850-997-5612). In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the First Baptist Church music department.

Mr Roberts is a native of Donalsonville, Georgia and had lived in Winter Haven, Florida, before moving to Monticello in 1976 to take over ownership of the Badcock Furniture store.

He was a former member of the Kiwanis Club and was a deacon and usher at the First Baptist Church of Monticello. He served our country in the Air Force.

Mr. Roberts is survived by his wife, Linda Knowles Roberts of Monticello; one daughter Lynn Herndon (Kyle) of Lake Park, Georgia; one son Joey Roberts (Elaine) of Tallahassee; One brother David Roberts (Wanda) of Oldtown; three sisters Ruby George, Pat Barthe and Jeanie Ingram; five grandchildren Nicholas Herndon, Matthew Herndon, Kelsie Herndon, Jeremy Roberts and Micah Roberts.

### LYNN GOOD



Lynn Davis Good, age 55, was born on August 14, 1957 in Miami, Florida. She passed away quietly on Saturday, December 1, 2012, in Monticello, after a long illness.

Lynn Good, nicknamed "Happy Feet" and "The Cool Aunt", was one of a kind. She was a mother; a social butterfly, an entrepreneur; and counselor to all. After graduating North Miami High School in 1974, she worked as a medical assistant, serving patients in the greater Miami area for many years. As an active member of a 12-Step Fellowship, Lynn served as a sponsor and a role model to many young women. In 1995 she co-founded "The Good House," Miami's first three-quarter-way house for women recovering from addiction and abusive relationships. During its eight years of operation, literally hundreds of women were positively impacted from their stays at The Good House, and it became a model for future recovery centers of its kind.

On a personal level, Lynn also fulfilled her dream of traveling the world, which she enjoyed with her long-time partner Al Adams.

In 2004, she retired to Tallahassee, Florida to be closer to her family. Not one to sit still, she soon opened "Stumbled On," a local shop specializing in antiques, curiosities, and knick-knacks at The Courtyard Flea Market in Monticello. When Lynn wasn't focused on helping others, she enjoyed finding "a good deal," in order to turn nothing into something special. It was here that she met Kent Phillips of Monticello. He soon became her soulmate, and her companion through her final years. The family is very appreciative of his love and support, not only to Lynn, but also to the whole family.

Lynn is survived by her son Daniel Good of Albuquerque, New Mexico; her parents Anne and Joe Davis of Monticello; her three brothers Mike Davis (Diane Davis and son William) of Miami, Ron Davis (Rande Goldberg Davis and daughter Britney and son Tyler) of Tallahassee, and Tom Davis (daughter Shaylin) of Monticello; her loyal canine companion Mason; and her many friends all over the state, who will miss her immensely.

A special celebration of her life will be held in late March 2013, so that all of her friends and family can get together to truly Celebrate her Life as she wished.

Memorials to a fund in her memory may be made to: the Tallahassee Lions Club, P.O. Box 133, Tallahassee, FL. 32311.

Bevis Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements, www.bevisfh.com.



## The Pulpit

Rev. Dean Spivey, Elizabeth Baptist Church

### Contentment

*learned in whatever state I am to be content.*

"Conditions are always changing; therefore I must obviously not be dependent upon conditions.

- What matters supremely are my soul and my relationship to God.

- God is concerned about me as my Father, and nothing happens to me apart from God. Even the very hairs of my head are numbered. I must never forget that.

- God's will and God's ways are a great mystery, but I know that whatever He wills or permits is of necessity for my good.

- Every situation in life is the unfolding of some manifestation of God's love and goodness.

Therefore my business is to look for this peculiar manifestation of God's goodness and kindness and to be prepared for surprises and blessings because His ways are not my ways, neither His thoughts my thoughts.

- I must regard circumstances and conditions, not in and of themselves therefore but as a part of God's dealings with me in the work of perfecting my soul and bringing me to final perfection.

- Whatever my circumstances may be at this present moment they are only temporary, they are only passing, and they can never rob me of the joy and the glory that ultimately await me with Christ."

## Prayer Breakfast Christmas Celebration

DEBBIE SNAPP  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

The Business Community Prayer Breakfast was held on Thursday morning, December 6 in the St. Margaret Catholic Church Parrish Hall on East Washington. Speaker for this Christmas celebration was Les Akers, from Tallahassee.

All in attendance had a great meeting and celebration. The meeting brought in several local businessmen, women and interested residents to join in raising the Christmas spirit. This Christmas celebration was filled with holiday music, decorations and fun. Names from the prayer list and



audience were prayed over by Coordinator Gary Wright.

Attendees brought in canned items for the monthly collection for the

community food pantry. The non-perishable goods were dropped into a red pickup truck parked at the front door.

The January meeting will be held on the second Thursday, January 10 beginning at 7 a.m. at Memorial Missionary Baptist Church. For more information contact lgwright39@embarqmail.com or call 850-997-5705 or 850-933-5567.

This fellowship and promotion of Christian values is a non-denominational group, and it continues because of your participation. Come and bring a friend. Bring a non-perishable food item for the community food pantry.

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### A Mother's Love

By Vivian Miles

After months of waiting with longing and fear,  
By Mother is placed a bundle so dear:  
So tiny, so frail, she needs so much care,  
I know the angels are with her in there.  
After 10 days she has brought us joy and sorrow,  
Please Lord may she be better tomorrow.  
A newborn is love personified,  
Several nurses were by her side.  
After a month in the hospital, losing weight everyday,  
A Mother's love and care may be a better way.  
I begged to take her home for just one week,  
TLC and a Mother's love is what I would seek.  
Back to the hospital to be weighed,  
Please let her have gained a little weight I prayed.  
One pound gained at home was unreal,  
The doctor could not believe what was revealed.  
He called for the scales just to prove it,  
He wondered aloud, "How did you do it?"  
I replied, "Hourly feedings, lots of rocking and a Mother's care,  
Many hours were spent on our knees in prayer."  
The blessings from the Lord were for us to see.  
She will come home to stay with her daddy and me.

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# Church Directory

## CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

285 Magnolia St • Monticello • 997-2165  
www.cbcflorida.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 850-251-0748**

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. Dr. Sudduth Rea Cummings**  
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

## NEW HOPE 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  
Wed. Family Training Hour.....7:00 PM  
Ignite student Ministries.....7:00 PM

## OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

7369 Boston Hwy. Monticello  
850-997-1596  
**Bro. David During**

Sunday Bible Study.....10:00 AM  
Sunday Worship.....11:00 AM  
Sunday Evening.....6:00 PM  
Wednesday  
Bible & Prayer Meeting.....6:30 PM

## 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  
Men's Ministry 2nd Saturday.....2:00 PM

## REFUGE IN AUCILLA

Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ of Apostolic Faith, Inc  
63 Tinnell Road Monticello, FL. 32344  
850-997-0399  
**District Elder Tony Lane, Pastor**

**Sunday**  
Bible School.....9:30 AM  
Morning Worship.....11:00 AM  
1st Sunday - Holy Communion Service  
4th Sunday - Youth Sunday

### Prayer Hour

**Monday**  
Wings of Prayer.....5:00 PM

**Wednesday**  
Noonday Prayer.....12:00 PM  
(Mid-Week Church Fasting Day)

Hour of Power.....6:00 AM - till @ Home  
1st Saturday's.....8:00 AM - 10:00 AM  
5th Saturdays.....6:00 AM - 7:00 AM

### Mid Week Worship

**1st Wednesday**  
Praise and Worship.....7:30 PM

**2nd and 3rd Wednesday**  
Prayer.....7:00 PM  
Bible Class.....7:30 PM

**4th Wednesday**  
Men & Women Ministry.....7:30 AM

## 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  
fbclloyd.pastor@embarqmail.com  
**Pastor George L. Smith**

**Sunday**  
Sunday School-Small Groups.....9:15 AM  
Praise & Worship.....10:30 AM  
AWANA -ages 3 years-6th grade.....5:00 PM  
CSI: Youth-Grades 6-12.....5:30 PM  
Praise & Worship.....6:00 PM  
Choir.....7:00 PM

### Wednesday

Church Family Supper 5:45 PM  
Children's Choir (3K-5th Grade) 6:00 PM  
The Potter's Wheel (6th-12th Grades).....6:30 PM  
Worship on Wednesday.....7:00 PM

### Mondays

Mighty Monday-Exercise.....6:00 PM

### Thursdays

Glory Girls Fitness.....10:00 AM

### 1st & 3rd Monday

Mighty Monday-Ladies Bible Study.....6:00 PM

### 1st Wednesday

Shades of REaD Book Club.....5:45 PM

### 2nd Thursday

Lloyd Silver Saints- Senior Adult.....11:00 AM

### 3rd Thursday

W W Diners.....5:30 PM  
Widows/Widowers outing

### 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

## 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

## REAPERS OF THE HARVEST CHURCH

PENTECOSTAL  
16139 Highway 90 East, Greenville, Florida  
850-948-6751

**Pastor Sammy Bass**

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

## 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 Church School (every Sunday).....9:30 AM  
Sunday Worship (2nd & 4th Sundays).....11:00 AM  
Youth Worship (2nd Sunday).....11:00 AM  
Wednesday  
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.

## 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  
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8:00 AM-12:00 PM

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## First Corinthian Church

955 Lemon St., Monticello, Florida  
850-445-0076  
sonnyjohnjr@aol.com

**Reverend John Jones, Pastor**

Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00 AM  
Wednesday Bible Study.....6:30 PM



# SPORTS



## Warriors Wallop Munroe

FRAN HUNT  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

The Aucilla Christian Academy varsity boys' basketball team faced off on the hardwood against Munroe, December 14, and the Warriors walloped their opponent for a 63-30 victory, to now stand 6-4 on the season.

As a team, the Warriors netted 17 of 45 attempts from the field, sunk six of 13 attempts from the three-point zone and bucketed 11 of 18 attempts from the free-throw line for 63 points. They collected 18 assists, 13 offensive and 11 defensive rebounds for a total of 24 rebounds, with 19 block/steals and 16 turnovers.

Individually, Braden Mattingly missed two attempts from the field, targeted two of three attempts from the three-point zone and netted one of two attempts from the free-throw line for seven points. He had one assist, one defensive rebound, one block/steal and one turnover.

Jared Jackson hit one of three attempts from the field, and one of two attempts from the free-throw line for three points. He had three assists, four offensive and four defensive rebounds for a total of eight rebounds, with one block/steal and one turnover.

Brandon Holm missed four attempts from the field, missed one attempt from the three-point zone and targeted two of two attempts from the free-throw line for two points. He had three assists, three offensive and one defensive rebound for a total of four rebounds, with two block/steals and two turnovers.

Ryan Rivera netted one of three attempts from the field for two points. He had one block/steal and three turnovers.

Ricky Finlayson bucketed three of seven attempts from the field, targeted two of two attempts from the three-point zone, and sunk one of two attempts from the free-throw line for 13 points. He also had two block/steals.

Hans Sorensen netted one of five attempts from the field, missed four attempts from the three-point zone, and missed two attempts from the free-throw line for two points. He had five assists, four block/steals and six turnovers.

Jay Finlayson netted two of nine attempts from the field, bucketed two of three attempts from the three-point zone, and sank five of six attempts from the free-throw line for 15 points. He had five assists, two offensive and three defensive rebounds for a total of five rebounds, with six block/steals.

Casey Demott targeted nine of 12 attempts from the field and one of two attempts from the free-throw line for 19 points. He had one assist, four offensive and two defensive rebounds for a total of six rebounds, with two block/steals and three turnovers.

Prior to the Christmas holidays, the Warriors will square off against Escambia Charter, December 20 at 7:30 p.m., at Woodham Middle School.

Action will continue against Brookwood, January 8 at 7:30 p.m., home; Tallavana, January 10 at 7:30 p.m., away; Melody Christian, January 11 at 7:30 p.m., home; Tallavana, January 14 at 7:30 p.m., home; John Paul II, January 17 at 7:30 p.m., home; Munroe, January 18 at 7:30 p.m., away; Franklin County, January 22 at 7:30 p.m., home; Altha, January 24 at 6 p.m., away; Mayo, January 29 at 6:30 p.m., away; and Liberty County, January 31 at 6:30 p.m., away.

## ACA Middle School Girls Remain Undefeated

FRAN HUNT  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

The Aucilla Christian Academy middle school girls' basketball team took victories in their past two games to now stand at an undefeated 8-0 season.

The young Lady Warriors hit the hardwood against Trinity Catholic on December 4 and Aucilla came out on top of a 26-6 scoreboard.

Ramsey Sullivan targeted for 11 points.

Kelly Horne netted for nine points.

Camryn Grant scored four points.

Katie James had two points.

Aucilla squared off against Highland Christian Academy on December 6 and the young Lady Warriors scalped their opponent for a 31-2 win.

Sullivan targeted for 10 points.

Cali Burkett bucketed for eight points.

Horne netted for five points.

Brittany Hughes scored two points.

Dena Bishop had two points.

Carly Joiner scored two points.

Abigail Morgan had two points.

The young Lady Warriors played against Maclay on December 14 and those results will be forthcoming.

Action continues against Lighthouse, January 8 at 5 p.m., away; Lighthouse, January 10 at 5 p.m., home; Maclay, January 15 at 4:30 p.m., away; Brookwood, January 17 at 4 p.m., away; and wrapping up the season, Trinity, January 18 at 4 p.m., home.

## JV Warriors Drop Two

FRAN HUNT  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

The Aucilla Christian Academy junior varsity Warriors suffered losses in the past two games to now stand 2-4 on the season.

On December 10, the JV Warriors faced off against Maclay and Aucilla was trounced for a 64-25 loss.

Carson Nennstiel scored three points.

Wes Smyrnios targeted for 11 points.

DJ Wilkinson netted for three points.

Sam Hogg had three points.

Tyler Zimmerly scored five points.

On December 12, Aucilla hit the hardwood against FAMU and the JV Warriors were bounced for a 33-22 loss.

Nennstiel netted for three points.

Smyrnios targeted for 16 points.

Hogg had two points.

Zimmerly scored one point.

The JV Warriors square off against Brookwood, January 8 at 4:30 p.m., home; Tallavana, January 10 at 4 p.m., away; Tallavana, January 14 at 4 p.m., home; John Paul II, January 17 at 4:30 p.m., home; Munroe, January 18 at 5 p.m., away; Community Christian, January 24 at 3:30 p.m., home; Liberty County, January 25 at 4:30 p.m., home; Mayo, January 29 at 5 p.m., away; Liberty County, January 31 at 5 p.m., away; and wrapping up the season, Mayo, February 1 at 5 p.m., home.

## ACA Golf Team Places 7<sup>th</sup> At District

FRAN HUNT  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

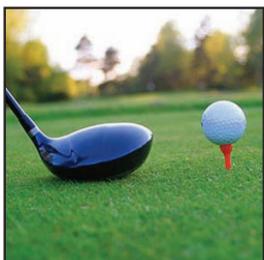
The Aucilla Christian Academy golf team finished in seventh place in the District golf tournament.

The Warriors were paced by seventh grader Timothy Finlayson, who shot an 86.

Senior standout Austin Malloy shot an 89.

Ricky Finlayson shot a 92.

Josh Woods shot a 105. "The Warrior golf



team is very young," said Coach David Jackson. He added that he is expecting some good things in the coming years from this group of young "linksters."

## TIGER BASKETBALL Lady Tigers Now 8-4

FRAN HUNT  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

The Jefferson County Lady Tigers' basketball team chalked up victories in the past two games to now stand 8-4 on the season.

In the game slated against Melody Christian on December 11, the Lady Tigers took a win by forfeit.

On December 13, Jefferson squared off against Mayo and the Lady Tigers came out on top of a 39-37 scoreboard.

Samaria Martin targeted for 20 points, had six rebounds, two assists and snagged seven steals.

Ambrosia Branham had one rebound and one steal. Jakeia Morris netted two points, with 11 rebounds, one steal and one blocked shot.

Yakira Steen had one rebound.

Shan Scott grabbed seven rebounds with one assist and one steal.

Audrianna Noel targeted for 15 points, with five rebounds and three steals.

Brianna Graham had two rebounds.

The Lady Tigers have since played against Hamilton County, in a district game, December 17, and Branford, in a district game, December 18. The results of those games will be forthcoming.

Action continues against North Florida Christian, January 7 at 6 p.m., away; Melody, in a district game, January 8 at 6 p.m., home; Branford, in a district game, January 11 at 6 p.m., home; Hamilton, in a district game, January 15 at 6 p.m., home; Mayo, in a district game, January 17 at 6 p.m., home; John Paul II, January 18 at 6 p.m., home; Madison County, January 19 at 6 p.m., home; Taylor County, January 24 at 6 p.m., away; and wrapping up the regular season, Madison County, January 26 at 6 p.m., away.

## Express Derails Lake City

FRAN HUNT  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

In their latest contest on the diamond, the Sunshine Express derailed Lake City for a 14-5 victory to now stand 17-6 on the season.

The Express jumped out to a 5-1 lead and never looked back.

Donnell Gallon went three for three with four RBI's and two homeruns.

Mario Rivers went three for three with four RBI's and one homerun. Kelvin Holmes went three for three with two RBI's.

Nick Russell went three for three with one RBI.

Destiny Vangates went two for three with

two RBI's and one home-run.

Kelvin Jones went two for three with one RBI.

Chad Brook went one for three with one RBI.

Melvin Holmes went one for three.

Ronzo Wade went one for three.

Eldred Jennings went one for three.

Kendall Cooksey went one for one.

Karlton Blue went 0 for three.

Coach Roosevelt Jones and Mario Rivers and Donnell Gallon as the game MVP's. He wished to thank Calvin Holmes for pitching a good game, and Royer Parrish and Nard Thompson for calling the game.



## Warriors' Averages To Date

FRAN HUNT  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

With 10 games under their belts, the Aucilla Christian Academy varsity Warriors continue to mount some impressive statistics.

Jay Finlayson has played in 10 games and he leads with Warriors with 136 points, an average of 13.6 per game. He had 53 rebounds for an average of 5.3 rebounds per game, and he led in assists with 28, an average of 2.8 per game. He also had 26 steals, an average of 2.6 per game.

Braden Mattingly played in 10 games. He had 78 points, an average of 7.8 points per game, and he had 51 rebounds, an average of 5.1 per game. Mattingly also had 17 assists, an average of 1.7 per game, and 22 steals, which averages 2.2 steals per game.

Ricky Finlayson played in 10 games and had 71 points, an average of 7.1 per game, and he had six rebounds, an average of 0.6 per game. He had five assists, an average of 0.5 per game, and 10 steals, an average of one per game.

Jared Jackson played in 10 games and had 67 points, an average of 6.7 points per game. He led in rebounds with 97, an average of 9.7 per game, and he had seven assists, an average of 0.7 per game. Jackson also had 10 steals, an average of one steal per game.

Hans Sorensen played in 10 games and had 66 points, an average of 6.6 per game. He had 48 rebounds, an average of 4.8 per game, and he had 26 assists, an average of 2.6 per game. Sorensen also led the Warriors in steals with 26, an average of 2.6 per game.

Casey Demott played in nine games and had 52 points, an average of 5.8 points per game. Her had 39 rebounds, an average of 4.3 per game, and he had six assists, an average of 0.7 per game. He also had five steals, an average of 0.6 per game.

Brandon Holm played in 10 games and had 40 points, an average of 4.0 per game. He had 33 rebounds, an average of 3.3 per game, and he had 19 assists, an average of 1.9 per game. Holm also had 13 steals, an average of 1.3 per game.

Ryan Rivera played in 10 games and had two points, an average of 0.2 per game. He had one rebound, an average of 0.1 per game, and he had one steal, an average of 0.1 per game.

Carson Nennstiel played in four games and had one rebound, an average of 0.2 per game and one assists, an average of 0.2 per game.

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# SCHOOL & EDUCATION

## From The Superintendent's Desk



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all Jefferson County students and their parents! As our students and staff break for the holiday, I want to bring a couple items of importance to the attention of our student's parents/guardians. JCMHS is a closed campus. What this means is that the students are not free to come and go as they please. Beginning January 7 this fact will be strictly enforced. As your Superintendent I am dedicated to ensuring the safest environment for the students on our campuses. Having a closed campus helps us provide the safest environment possible for the students of JCMHS. Please be looking for further information from Loretta Holmes, Principal of JCMHS, regarding this subject. Please be reminded that there is a dress code on the campus of JCMHS for both students and staff. On January 7 this policy will be strictly enforced. Please do not send your child to school without being dressed within the guidelines provided in the dress code. Parents of JCMHS students will soon be receiving a survey to complete and return to the school. This survey is part of our accreditation process and we need our parents to be a part of that process by returning the survey by the indicated due date. We need at least 20 percent of our parents to participate, so please be an active part in making your school all it can be by returning the survey.

We all become extremely busy during the holiday season. How can you tell if your family is overscheduled? When attempting to answer that question, think about the following: Does your family eat together most evenings? Research shows that this increases students' achievement, strengthens families, and reduces the risk of substance abuse. If you feel like your family does not spend enough time together then consider the following questions regarding extracurricular activities: 1) Does your child really enjoy the activity? 2) Is your child involved because they want to be, or because you want them to be? 3) Does your child continue with an activity out of habit more than enjoyment? 4) Does your child spend so much time in activities that you feel that you don't really know your child? If you can answer yes to any of these questions, then it may be time to cut down on time you spend in the car with your child and focus on time with your child around the dinner table!

May we all have a joyous Christmas as we enjoy our families and friends.

tl Cooksey

## NFCC Honors 2012 Registered Nursing Graduates

### Pinning And Lamp Lighting Ceremony Marks Beginning Of New Journey For Graduates

North Florida Community College honored its Registered Nursing Class of 2012 with a traditional Pinning and Lamp Lighting Ceremony on Dec. 10 at Van H. Priest Auditorium. Twenty-four RN graduates were recognized and took part in the ceremony's Lighting of the Lamps and Reciting of the Nightingale Pledge. Two graduates received special recognition: Belinda Praytor (Taylor County) received the Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement and Courtney Kinsey (Jefferson County) received the Award for Outstanding Clinical Excellence.

The pinning ceremony is a special moment for RN graduates and marks the beginning of each student's career as a professional nurse. In his remarks at the pinning ceremony, NFCC President John Grosskopf congratulated the graduates and commended them on choosing a path of service and relevance. "The nursing graduates you see in front of you are about to embark on a life-long professional career of service where they will put the needs of others above themselves repeatedly."

NFCC graduate Kasey Tuten (Madison County) was recognized as the "Keeper of the Light" who will return next year to pass along the Lamp Lighting tradition to the next class of RN graduates.

NFCC's 2012 Registered Nursing graduates are:

#### RN Class of 2012

#### HAMILTON COUNTY

Takiesha Brown	Jasper	FL
Ashley McCoy	Jennings	FL

Danielle Wynn	Jennings	FL
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#### JEFFERSON COUNTY

Courtney Kinsey	Monticello	FL
Hannah Sorensen	Monticello	FL
Victoria Tuten	Monticello	FL
Kathryn Wood	Wacissa	FL

#### LAFAYETTE COUNTY

Ashley Swinson	Mayo	FL
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#### MADISON COUNTY

Dana Anderson	Madison	FL
Anderlyn Ellison	Madison	FL
Donna Gober	Pinetta	FL
Cheryl Knighten	Madison	FL
Taylor Rykard	Madison	FL
Jared Swift	Madison	FL
Tanya Terry	Madison	FL
Kasey Tuten	Lee	FL

#### SUWANNEE COUNTY

Kelley Arnold	Branford	FL
Nicole Garrison	Live Oak	FL
Rebecca Mowry	McAlpin	FL
Penny West	Live Oak	FL

#### TAYLOR COUNTY

Dorothy Ganley	Steinhatchee	FL
Emily Hinkle	Perry	FL
Belinda Praytor	Perry	FL
Miranda Stafford	Perry	FL

"Congratulations," said Julie Townsend, NFCC Director of Allied Health. "This is an enormous achievement of which you can all be proud." For more information on NFCC's Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) program, contact NFCC Allied Health Advisor Debbie Bass at (850) 973-1662, email [bassd@nfcc.edu](mailto:bassd@nfcc.edu) or visit [www.nfcc.edu/programs-of-study](http://www.nfcc.edu/programs-of-study).

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

debbiesnapp@embarqmail.com or 850-997-3568

#### December 19

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 strategy! This club follows all of the rules of the National Mah Jongg League, Inc of New York. Rules are not made up per group and games are played with 152-tiles. Contact Carol Austin at 850-997-3006 or [cwaustin@embarqmail.com](mailto:cwaustin@embarqmail.com) for more exciting information.

#### December 19

Monticello Kiwanis Club meets every Wednesday at noon at the Jefferson Country Club on the Boston Highway for lunch, a program and a meeting. For more information, contact President Rocky Gavins at 850-997-2646

#### December 19-29

Jefferson Arts 'Self Portraits', a member's exhibit, will run through December. The Gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays for public viewing at 575 West Washington Street in downtown Monticello. For more information about the Arts call 850-997-3311 or go to [info@jeffersonartsgallery.com](mailto:info@jeffersonartsgallery.com) or [www.jeffersonartsgallery.com](http://www.jeffersonartsgallery.com).

#### December 20

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

#### December 20

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

#### December 21

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.

#### December 21

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 will be 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 nonprofit charitable organization. For questions or concerns, contact Curtis Morgan at 850-933-8136 or Bobby Connell at 850-445-0049.

December 22 Santa will visit Winn Dixie on Saturday from 12 to 4 p.m. Come shop while the youngsters sit on Santa's knee... with there toy lists on hand!

#### December 22

Dixie Community Center is open on Saturday nights for an evening of music and dance 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.

#### December 22

Martial Arts classes are held from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturdays in the Memorial Missionary Baptist Church fellowship hall. Call Diane Hall at 850-264-1195 for more information.

#### December 24

Al-Anon meetings are held at 8 p.m. every Monday at the Anglican Church, 124 Jefferson Avenue in Thomasville. For more information go to [www.al-anon.alateen.org](http://www.al-anon.alateen.org)

#### December 24

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

#### December 24

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

#### December 27

Alzheimer's Project, Inc. Day Respite Care program is held on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at the First United Methodist Church, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the youth building of the church. Alzheimer's Project, Inc., a non-profit organization that extends a warm supportive welcome to persons with any form of dementia, such as Alzheimer's disease, Stroke, Parkinson's disease and the like. This Day Respite Care program allows caregivers free time to run errands, shop, go to doctor's appointments, and the like. Day Respite Care offers the clients six hours of stimulating activities that they will enjoy. Activities include

music therapy, art therapy, pet therapy, trivia, games, sittercise, and many other enjoyable activities. Meals are provided as well as snacks. A certified nurse assistant, a respite room coordinator and volunteers will assist the clients during this time for the caregivers. All services are provided FREE of charge. Any questions or comments may be relayed to Rural Outreach Coordinator Recie Culpepper at Alzheimer's Project, Inc., 850-386-2778 and visit <http://www.alzheimersproject.org>.

#### December 29

Jefferson County Branch of the NAACP meets at noon on the last Saturday of each month at the MLK Center. Contact Charles Parrish at 850-997-3760 for more information.

#### December 31

Martin Luther King Community Center meets 6 p.m. on the last Monday of each month at the MLK Center. Contact Charles Parrish at 850-997-3760 for more information.

#### January 3

Jefferson County Lions Club Monday Night BINGO at the Capitol City BP Travel Center, in the Big Bend Family Restaurant, 2716 Gamble Road, Lloyd (Interstate 10, Exit 217, Highway 59.) Doors open at 5 p.m., early bird BINGO at 5:30 p.m. and BINGO session at 7:00 p.m. Call 850-997-3538 for directions. JCLC is a non-profit organization, raising funds for area residents in need. All are welcome to come have fun, play and win! Help the JCLC by contributing to others. One free \$20 Jackpot BINGO card for every eye-glass and nonperishable food item donation! One free \$25 Jackpot BINGO card for every new guest. Contact Lion June at 850-997-1754 for more information.

#### January 5

Upward Sports Basketball and Cheerleading with Evaluations will continue through Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m. Practices will begin the week of January 5, 2013, and the first games will be played on Saturday, January 12. More volunteers are needed to be coaches, referees, and outreach team members. So, encourage involvement from anyone who may be interested. If you would like some brochures to hand out to your friends and acquaintances, or if you have any questions or need more information, contact Coordinator Don Self at 850-342-3225, or 850-933-3311, or [ebcym@yahoo.com](mailto:ebcym@yahoo.com).

# CHURCH NEWS NOTES

debbiesnapp@embarqmail.com or 850-997-3568

#### December 19

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) or [www.firstpresbyterian-monticello.org](http://www.firstpresbyterian-monticello.org).

#### December 19-21

Second Annual Winter Revival 7 p.m. nightly at the First Corinthian Church located at 955 Lemon Street in Monticello. Speaker for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday evening's services will be Rev. John Jones, pastor.

#### December 21

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

#### December 21, 22

Second Harvest Food Program, together with the churches of New Bethel AME, Elizabeth MB, Hickory Hill MB, Mt. Pleasant AME and Philadelphia MB, will provide food to anyone needing assistance including the needy,

infants and the elderly. This is done monthly with distribution from 9 to 10 a.m. usually on the fourth Saturday at the New Bethel AME Church located at 6496 Ashville Highway. Volunteers are also welcome to come on Friday evening at 6:30 p.m. to help bag the food packages. Contact Nellie Randlell at 850-997-5605 or 850-997-6929 to volunteer or for more information about this program.

#### December 23

Come as you are! You are cordially invited to attend our "Christmas Celebration" at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday. Come and enjoy testimonials, recitals, and plays relating to the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

#### December 28

Nazarene Church Skate Night for children and adults is held from 6 to 8 p.m. on the last Friday evening of every month. Light snacks and soft drinks available.

#### December 29

StoryTime Ministry is held from 1 to 2 p.m. every other Saturday at the Jefferson County Bailor Public Library. For more information contact First United Methodist Church Ministry Chairman Barbara Hobbs at 850-523-1813.

#### December 31

Welaunee Missionary Baptist Church will hold

its Watch Night Service on Monday evening, beginning at 10 p.m.

#### January 3

Business Community Prayer Breakfast will begin at 7 a.m. on the first Thursday of each month for a program and a meal. Serving begins at 6:45 a.m. at Memorial Missionary Baptist Church. If you have names for the prayer list, email them to Coordinator L. Gary Wright at [lgwright39@embarqmail.com](mailto:lgwright39@embarqmail.com) or call 850-997-5705 or 850-933-5567 for more information. This fellowship and promotion of Christian values is a non-denominational group, and it continues because of your participation. Come and bring a friend. Bring a non-perishable food item for the community food pantry.

#### January 5

Nazarene Church Clothing Giveaway from 9 to 11 a.m. on the first Saturday of every month.

#### January 8

Sons of Allen of the Union Bethel Circuit meets monthly on the second Tuesday at 7 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.



2012 North Florida Community College RN graduates at the 2012 Registered Nursing Pinning Ceremony at NFCC's Van H. Priest Auditorium on Dec. 10.



(l-r) NFCC RN graduates Takiesha Brown, Courtney Kinsey, Kasey Tuten and Dana Anderson.



Courtney Kinsey (Jefferson County) receives the Award for Outstanding Clinical Excellence during the 2012 Registered Nursing Pinning Ceremony.

# BOUNTFUL BARGAINS

In The Classifieds

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12/14,tfn,c

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**ADMINISTRATOR WANTED** for new charter high school in Madison, FL, opening in Aug 2013. See www.jmphs.org for details. 12/12-1/4,c

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**CASE MANAGER** needed at Senior Citizen Center to do assessments and maintain case records. Devise care plan, secure and target services. Provide followup as needed or scheduled. Need person who loves Seniors, detail work and perform duties as necessary. Must be computer literate and willing to learn new programs. A Bachelor's degree in social work or other direct job education or experience may be substituted. Social work training or experience should be given preference. Please contact Bobbie Krebs at 342-0271. 12/14,19

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**3 BR/ 2 BA D.W. MOBILE HOME,** 2 BR/2 BA Mobile Home, 3 BR/2 BA Mobile Home, & 1 BR Park Model Must meet income requirements. No calls before 9:30 am or after 6 pm. 850-997-1638 or 997-3890. Closed Sunday. 10/24,tfn,c

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# LEGALS

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Beacon Towers are proposing to build a 259-Foot Self-Support Telecommunications Tower. Anticipated lighting application is medium intensity dual red/white strobes. The site location is 610 Hallelujah Lane, Monticello, Jefferson County, FL 32344. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Antenna Structure Registration (ASR, Form 854) filing number is A0806639.

**ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS** – Interested persons may review the application ([www.fcc.gov/asr/applications](http://www.fcc.gov/asr/applications)) by entering the filing number. Environmental concerns may be raised by filing a Request for Environmental Review ([www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest](http://www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest)) and online filings are strongly encouraged. The mailing address to file a paper copy is: FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554. **HISTORIC PROPERTIES EFFECTS** - Public comments regarding potential effects on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: N. McReynolds, Terracon, 2855 Premiere Parkway, Suite C, Duluth, GA 30097; 770-623-0755; [nkmcreynolds@terracon.com](mailto:nkmcreynolds@terracon.com). 12/19/12

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR JEFFERSON COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

IN RE: ESTATE OF File Number: 12-53-CP

JOHN B. BRINSON, III, Deceased.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of **JOHN B. BRINSON, III**, deceased, whose date of death was July 17, 2011, is pending in the Circuit Court for Jefferson County, Florida, Probate Division under probate file # 12-53-CP, the address of which is 1 Courthouse Circle, Monticello, Florida 32344. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of the first publication of this notice is December 19, 2012

Attorney for Personal Representative  
T. Buckingham Bird, Esq.  
P.O. Box 247  
Monticello, Florida 32345  
(850) 997-3503

Personal Representative  
John B. Brinson, IV  
129 Plantation Drive  
Thomasville, GA 31792

12/19,26/12

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR JEFFERSON COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

IN RE: ESTATE OF File Number: 12-77-CP

WILLIAM KENNETH SASSER, Deceased.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of **WILLIAM KENNETH SASSER**, deceased, whose date of death was September 13, 2012, is pending in the Circuit Court for Jefferson County, Florida, Probate Division under probate file # 12-77-CP, the address of which is 1 Courthouse Circle, Monticello, Florida 32344. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

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The date of the first publication of this notice is December 19, 2012

Attorney for Personal Representative  
T. Buckingham Bird, Esq.  
P.O. Box 247  
Monticello, Florida 32345  
(850) 997-3503

Personal Representative  
Mirrorland Irene Sasser  
247 S. Gilley Road  
Monticello, Florida 32344

12/19,26/12

# AROUND JEFFERSON COUNTY

## CAA Family Self Sufficiency Program

MELISA WATSON

Capital Area community Action Agency wishes to express a heart felt thanks for the collaboration of community members, for sponsoring those in need in the Family Self Sufficiency Program.

The FSSP, as well as the mission of CAAA, is designed to provide a comprehensive seamless system of services and resources to reduce the effects of poverty while empowering the individuals with skills and motivation to become self-sufficient. The participants in this program have accepted a "hand up" and not a "hand out," all of whom are either working, attending school, or both.

The Jefferson County community came together demonstrating the benevolence that reigns even in such hard economic times. We would like to thank the following: Monticello Police Department; 4-H Club staff; National Flooring Specialist/Terry Simpkins; Everything Realty; Steve Walker Realty; Hagan and Braswell Funeral Service; George Carwell; Lois Hunter, Tax Collector; Mr. Rudd; Jefferson Mobile Home Park; Lola Hightower; Jack Carswell; William Bippus; O.J. Sloan, Valet Daycare; Paul Michael; and CAAA staff Cynthia Valencic, director of family services; Nina Singleton, human resource director; and Annie McDuffie, emergency services director.

The Jefferson Family Self Sufficiency participants and Melisa Watson humbly appreciate the outpour of love. If anyone would like to sponsor a family this season, contact Melisa Watson at 850-997-8231, or [melissa.watson@caaacinc.org](mailto:melissa.watson@caaacinc.org).



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# AROUND JEFFERSON COUNTY

## Hobbs Discusses Fraud Awareness



Jefferson County Sheriff David Hobbs

FRAN HUNT  
ECB Publishing  
Staff Writer

Jefferson County Sheriff David Hobbs recently discussed fraud, how it affects the community and its residents, what to look for, how to deter fraud and gave some useful tips for the use of Jefferson's residents.

As many as nine million Americans have their identities stolen each year. In fact, you or someone you know may have experienced some form of identity theft. The crime takes many forms. Identity thieves may rent an



apartment, obtain a credit card, or establish a telephone account in your name. You may not find out about the theft until you review your credit report or a credit card statement and notice charges you didn't make, or until a debt collector contacts you.

"Identity theft is serious. While some identity theft victims can resolve their problems quickly, others spend hundreds of dollars and many days repairing damage to their good name and credit record," said Hobbs. "Some consumers victimized by identity theft may lose out on job opportunities, or be denied loans for education, housing or

cars because of negative information on their credit reports. In rare cases, they may even be arrested for crimes they did not commit."

Hobbs said there were several specific things residents could look for to detect possible fraud.

- Any deal that seems too good to be true;
- Any offer of a substantial percentage of a large sum of money to be transferred to your account, in return for your "discretion" or "confidentiality;"
- Requests for urgent air shipment, accompanied by an instrument of payment whose genuineness cannot immediately be established;
- Solicitation letters claiming the soliciting party has personal ties to high-ranking officials;
- Request for payment in U.S. dollars, in advance, of transfer taxes or incorporation fees;
- Statements that your name was provided to the soliciting party either by someone you do not know or by "a reliable contact;"
- Any offer of a charitable donation.

"My rule of thumb for protection, if it sounds too good to be true, it usually is," said Hobbs.

Hobbs discussed some types of scams and how they work. "Money transfers are often used," said Hobbs. "The operator claims to have a large sum of money, usually millions of dollars worth of ill-gotten gains, which needs to be transferred to a 'safe' bank account abroad. You, as the bank account owner, are promised a percentage of the huge sum, in exchange for use of your account. You may be asked to provide blank, signed invoices, let-

terhead and bank account information, or to send money for transfer taxes in advance."

He said fraudulent orders are also sometimes placed. "The operator usually places a small order (\$1,000 or so), paying with a genuine cashier's check drawn on a European bank," said Hobbs. "A second, somewhat larger order is placed, again paid for legitimately. Then, you receive an order from your overseas partner urgently requesting that a large quantity of your product be air-shipped. Confident in your previous dealings, you send the product prior to receipt of payment. When the cashier's check (which looks the same) finally arrives, you learn it is fake while attempting to make a deposit.

"Some even use charitable contributions as a way to get their hands on the income of others. "The operator offers to donate to your organization, and asks for bank account information," said Hobbs. "There are several ways scam artists contact possible victims," he added. "These fraudulent operations use the Internet, e-mail and fax correspondence to troll for and then reel in potential victims.

"Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personally identifying information, like your name, Social Security number, or credit card number, without your permission, to commit fraud or other crimes," advised Hobbs.

He explained how the thieves go about stealing an identity; Identity theft starts with the misuse of your personally identifying information such as your name and Social Security number; credit card numbers, or other financial account information. For identity thieves, this information is as good as gold. Skilled identity thieves may use a variety of methods to get hold of your information, including:

- **Dumpster Diving.** They rummage through trash looking for bills or other paper with your personal information on it.
- **Skimming.** They steal credit/debit card numbers by using a special storage device when processing your card.
- **Phishing.** They pretend to be financial institutions or companies and send spam or pop-up messages to get you to reveal your personal information.
- **Changing Your Address.** They divert your billing statements to another location by completing a change of address form.
- **Old-Fashioned Stealing.** They steal wallets and purses; mail, including bank and credit card statements; pre-approved credit offers; and new

checks or tax information. They steal personnel records, or bribe employees who have access.

• **What do thieves do with a stolen identity?** Once they have your personal information, identity thieves use it in a variety of ways.

• **Credit card fraud:** They may open new credit card accounts in your name. When they use the cards and don't pay the bills, the delinquent accounts appear on your credit report.

They may change the billing address on your credit card so that you no longer receive bills, and then run up charges on your account. Because your bills are now sent to a different address, it may be some time before you realize there's a problem.

• **Phone or utilities fraud:** They may open a new phone or wireless account in your name, or run up charges on your existing account. They may use your name to get utility services like electricity, heating, or cable TV.

• **Bank/finance fraud:** They may create counterfeit checks using your name or account number. They may open a bank account in your name and write bad checks. They may clone your ATM or debit card and make electronic withdrawals your name, draining your accounts. They may take out a loan in your name.

• **Government documents fraud:** They may get a driver's license or official ID card issued in your name but with their picture. They may use your name and Social Security number to get government benefits. They may file a fraudulent tax return using your information.

• **Other fraud:** They may get a job using your Social Security number. They may rent a house or get medical services using your name. They may give your personal information to police during an arrest. If they don't show up for their court date, a warrant for arrest is issued in your name.

"The best way to find out is to monitor your accounts and bank statements each month, and check your credit report on a regular basis," advised Hobbs. "If you check your credit report regularly, you may be able to limit the damage caused by identity theft.

"Unfortunately, many consumers learn that their identity has been stolen after some damage has been done. You may find out when bill collection agencies contact you for overdue debts you never incurred. You may find out when you apply for a mortgage or car loan and learn that problems with your credit history are holding up the loan.

You may find out

when you get something in the mail about an apartment you never rented, a house you never bought, or a job you never held," Hobbs advised.

"When your identity is stolen, file a police report, checking your credit reports, notifying creditors, and disputing any unauthorized transactions, are some of the steps you must take immediately to restore your good name," he added.

A police report that provides specific details of the identity theft is considered an Identity Theft Report, which entitles you to certain legal rights when it is provided to the three major credit-reporting agencies or to companies where the thief misused your information. An Identity Theft Report can be used to permanently block fraudulent information that results from identity theft, such as accounts or addresses, from appearing on your credit report. It will also make sure these debts do not reappear on your credit reports. Identity Theft Reports can prevent a company from continuing to collect debts that result from identity theft, or selling them to others for collection. An Identity Theft Report is also needed to place an extended fraud alert on your credit report.

You may not need an Identity Theft Report if the thief made charges on an existing account and you have been able to work with the company to resolve the dispute. Where an identity thief has opened new accounts in your name, or where fraudulent charges have been reported to the consumer reporting agencies, you should obtain an Identity Theft Report so that you can take advantage of the protections you are entitled to.

How long can the effects of identity theft last? It's difficult to predict how long the effects of identity theft may linger. That's because it depends on many factors including the type of theft, whether the thief sold or passed your information on to other thieves, whether the thief is caught, and problems related to correcting your credit report.

Victims of identity theft should monitor financial records for several months after they discover the crime. Victims should review their credit reports once every three months in the first year of the theft, and once a year thereafter. Stay alert for other signs of identity theft.

Don't delay in correcting your records and contacting all companies that opened fraudulent accounts. Make the initial contact by phone, even though you will normally need to follow up in writing. The longer the inaccurate information goes uncorrected, the longer it will take to resolve the problem.

"You can do a great deal to help fight identity theft. Awareness is an effective weapon against many forms of identity theft. Be aware of how information is stolen and what you can do to protect yours, monitor your personal information to uncover any problems quickly, and know what to do when you suspect your identity has been stolen," said Hobbs. "Armed with the knowledge of how to protect yourself and take action, you can make identity thieves' jobs much more difficult. You can also help fight identity theft by educating your friends, family, and members of your community," Hobbs concluded.

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