

Fifth grade essay contest winners!
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MONTICELLO NEWS

150 Years of Serving the Monticello Community

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Woman killed; husband injured

Ashley Hunter
ECB Publishing, Inc.

A wreck on Thursday, June 21, claimed the life of Jefferson County local and Jefferson Somerset employee, Mary Harris.

The wreck took place in Hancock County, MS.

According to the Mississippi *Sun Herald*, the wreck took place between the Jordan River Bridge and Diamondhead, MS.

The *Sun Herald* reported that a family was traveling together in a caravan of vehicles when an argument broke out. During the

argument, Fred Harris Johnson, of Gulfport, MS, was driving a Chevrolet Cavalier and pulled his car in front of another family member's vehicle before slamming on brakes.

Diamondhead Police Capt. John Luther told the *Sun Herald* that Harris' action caused a chain reaction on the roadway.

Traveling behind the family procession was a GMC Yukon and two motorcycles, one of which Mary Harris was a passenger.

The motorcycle that Harris was riding crashed

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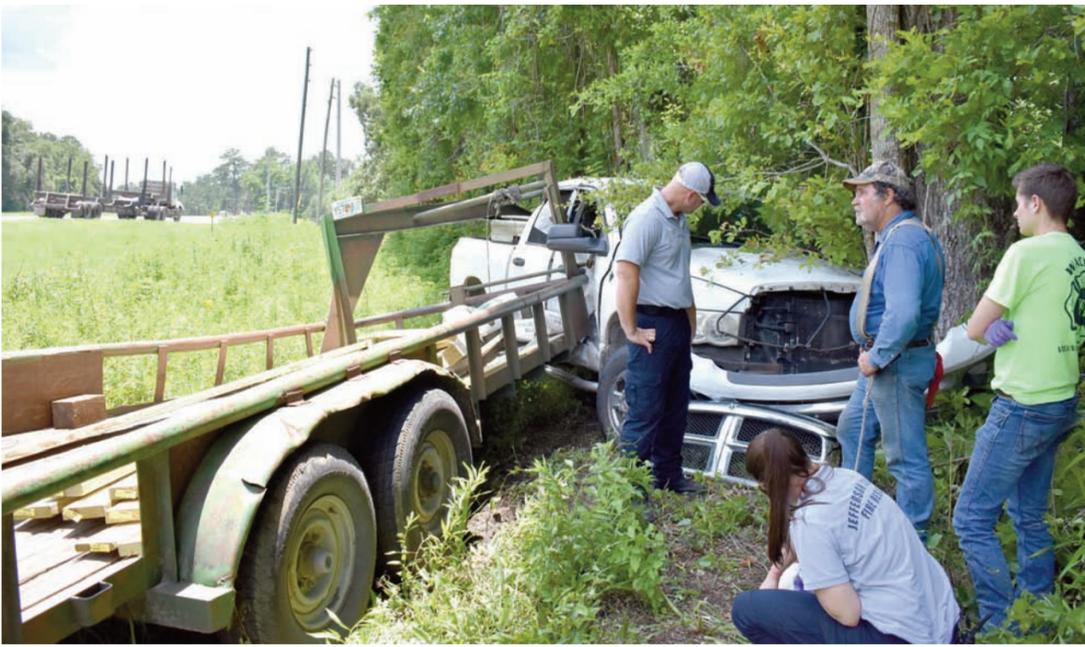


Photo Courtesy of John Fitzhugh at The Sun Herald

Hancock County Coroner Jim Faulk investigates the scene of a fatal accident on I-10 in Hancock County, MS, near Diamondhead on Thursday, June 21. The wreck claimed the life of Jefferson County educator and Jefferson Somerset employee, Mary Harris. Inset: Fred Harris Johnson was taken into custody, at the scene of the wreck, and arrested on charges of manslaughter and mayhem.



Semi vs. Truck



ECB Publishing, Inc. Photo By Ashley Hunter, June 20, 2018

A log-bearing semi-truck rear ended the trailer being hauled by a 2003 Dodge truck driven by David Andrews, of Monticello. The collision resulted in Andrews' truck traveling onto the shoulder, striking a utility pole, and jackknifing the trailer.

Ashley Hunter
ECB Publishing, Inc.

On Wednesday, June 20, Thomas Mobley, 29, of Pelham, GA, was traveling south on S. Jefferson Hwy. in a 2015 log semi-truck behind a white 2003 Dodge truck, driven by David Andrews, 60, of Monticello.

As the two vehicles neared Tyson Road, Mobley's semi-truck closed in on Andrews' Dodge, and struck the rear of the trailer being hauled behind Andrews' truck.

The force of the collision

resulted in Andrew's truck traveling off the road and onto west shoulder, where it began to rotate.

According to the wreck report issued by Florida Highway Patrol, the trailer struck a utility pole, and the Dodge continued to travel through the grass, jackknifing the trailing.

Finally, the Dodge truck struck a tree, where it came to its final rest.

Mobley's semi was able to come to a controlled stop on the west shoulder after the initial collision.

Despite the extensive damage to his truck, Andrews was reported to have suffered no injuries during the wreck. Traveling with Andrews was a dog, who also escaped without injury.

According to the report, no charges have yet been issued against Mobley.

Assisting with the Florida Highway Patrol at the wreck-scene was the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Jefferson County Fire Rescue, and the Wacissa Volunteer Fire Department.

Man threatens to blow up car; girlfriend inside

Ashley Hunter
ECB Publishing, Inc.

On Tuesday, June 12, Monticello Police Department's Chief Mosley made a traffic stop on a silver Nissan Altima on Mulberry St., which was being pursued by Dustin Lee Amerson, of Monticello.

Amerson was chasing the vehicle on foot, as it was being driven by his girlfriend.

Upon stopping and making contact with Amerson and the girlfriend, Capt.

Norton, who was on the scene, conducted a pat-search of Amerson, during which Dustin Amerson admitted that he had marijuana in his front left pocket. Capt. Norton located a clear bag filled with green, leafy substance inside, which was field tested and identified as 4.0 grams of marijuana.

Upon this discovery, Amerson was transported to the Monticello Police Department, with the

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Dustin Lee Amerson

Qualifications over; Five races already decided

Lazaro Aleman, ECB Publishing, Inc.

As a result of the end of the qualification period last Friday, two new candidates emerged, five of the races were effectively decided, and four remain to be determined.

According to the posting on the Elections Supervisor's website on Monday morning, June 25, the additions are Adam Fato, identified as a No Party Affiliation (NPA) candidate who is seeking the District 2 Jefferson County Commission seat, and Gloria Cox, who is seeking the Group 2 Monticello City Council seat, a nonpartisan position.

The five races effectively decided by the qualification period, as the incumbents face no opposition, are the county judgeship, the Districts 2, 3 and 5 School Board seats, and the Group 1 City Council seat. Which begs the question: Are the incumbents doing such a stellar job that they don't warrant challenging? Or is it that qualified opponents are lacking, or that certain offices are not deemed worthy of seeking?

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AMENDMENT FIVE

Know before you vote

Rick Patrick
ECB Publishing, Inc.

This is the fifth in a series of articles that will appear in the Monticello News or the Jefferson Journal. Each article examines one of the 13 proposed constitutional amendments that will be appearing on the Florida elections ballot on Tuesday, Nov. 6, 2018. This week's article takes a look at Amendment Five.

The fifth amendment Florida voters will be voting on in November could make it more difficult for the Florida Legislature to increase taxes and fees. If the amendment passes with 60 percent of the vote in November, any tax or fee increase on the state level, would require a two-thirds vote from the legislature. Currently, taxes and fees can be increased with a simple majority vote from the Florida Legislature.

The exception to that is any increase to the corporate income tax above five percent, which currently requires a 60-percent vote from the legislature.

When the legislature was faced with putting the amendment proposal on the ballot, the vote was largely split along party lines. In the Florida House, 70 Republicans and 10 Democrats voted to put the proposal on the

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Did you know?
You share your birthday
with 9 million other people

Weather
for this
week

Wed 92° 74°
Thu 93° 75°
Fri 91° 75°



VIEWPOINTS
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Emerald's Gem Box...

In the Wednesday, June 20, *Monticello News* we published a front-page story entitled "Watermelon Festival vs Jefferson County School Board." Within that story it stated how the Watermelon Festival was told that they had to rent the Kilpatrick Auditorium this year, in order to hold the Watermelon Festival, despite the fact they had not been charged for the last seven to eight years.

The pageant committee attended the June 11 school board meeting in order to advise the school board members of the outrageous filthy condition that the auditorium was found to be in; trash, bugs, molding feces in the toilets, "waste" in other toilets, filthy countertops, filthy stage, uncut grass, to name a few.

We (*ECB Publishing, Inc.*) also published this same newspaper story on our Facebook Page, with a link to the website's story. We had over 3,100 views, 32 shares and 61 comments (on the *ECB Publishing* Page). However, those 32 shares also netted their own fair share of views and comments.

Because a large amount of our newspaper readers do not have Facebook accounts, I have taken several of those Facebook comments and have decided to publish them, here! Since so many of these comments are the basis of what so many Jefferson Countians feel, I felt it was worthy of more than just Facebook readers to see.

• "It's horribly sad how they have let every single building that they own deteriorate and make Monticello look bad... even the old boys and girls club... there was an organization who wanted to buy it from them and restore it but they refused to sell it. The entire elementary school that I remember is complete trash now... If Shirley Washington and others on that board have half a care about their positions they would know the conditions of those buildings... shame on her for berating them for not telling them the condition of their own property... They were exactly right when they said there was no love going into any of those buildings anymore... It's just sad and things probably will never change with people like that."

• "What's crazy is they hold graduations in that building every year and never noticed the problem either. Every board member is there for graduation."

• "They should have never built the new middle/high school. They should have invested all that money and upgraded the oldest brick school in continues use in Florida. The school board should be absolutely ashamed of their actions. They are showing they do not care about our county, our community, and our children. We are the worst school district in Florida. There is ZERO reason to come to Jefferson County besides the Watermelon Festival. You'd think they would want to bring more into the community, not take away."

• "Didn't they use the Monticello Opera House once upon a time? I don't live there anymore, but maybe all of the Watermelon Pageant vets should go and voice their concerns in the July meeting. You guys could create a fire storm, make it an event on Facebook.

To touch on "not being held accountable for what you don't know" I would bring up that under Florida law, ignorance is not a defense. I realize that it is pertaining to laws, but if it's YOUR building, you should be aware of its condition. And why is there not a staff member going behind folks who rent the space? Isn't there an election coming up? Sounds like you guys need some new candidates."

• "What's gonna happen like in the article. We will end up having the Jefferson County Watermelon Pageant in Madison County which is a damn shame. This whole county needs to stand up and do something. We are ruining our wonderful little community."

• "They don't know their buildings are that bad? Then what are we paying them for?"

• "They had to have known it looked like that! Very, very sad! Somebody is getting greedy!"

• "They had to and if they didn't they haven't been doing their jobs. Obviously they made money off of that.. \$1200 is a lot of money. They could have put that towards fixing it or at least cleaning it up. I wonder where that money is going."

• "... the one that tells other board members to shut up and sit down during school board meeting. We've witnessed these issues and pulled our kids from the district due to this type of crap."

• "This is awful! So, so sad! That's way too much money to not keep it in better condition!"

Let's Hold Them Accountable

• "Graduation is held there every year. They knew it was that bad!!!"

• "No excuse whatsoever! This is a community event during the festival, that brings in A LOT of money to Monticello! I lived there for over 36 years and the pageant was always held at the auditorium... I'm floored that the school board charges for community events, first of all and second when it is in a deplorable condition. All of the money should be refunded!!!"

• "Terrible. And people. Make sure to read carefully so at election time you remember who was not being helpful at this meeting."

• "Disgusting. REFUND their money. What is wrong with this school board? Vote them OUT."

• "How embarrassing! Are the grounds and properties owned by the district ever inspected by the powers that be? I would use the opera house for that kind of money."

• "My daughter was in it one time back in the 80's and I know how much work the girls and their parents put into it and what an important event for them.... just hate that they had to contend with all that mess, AC and lighting."

• "This is ridiculous. I hope everyone in Jefferson county reads this and votes accordingly next go around."

• "Shirley Washington needs to leave...sorry I'm just saying."

• "I think it should be their (school board members) job to go by and inspect and not just depend on the word of the janitor. They then in turn tried to put all the blame on the Superintendent (current and past)! Just not right. There was only one school board member that was in disagreement with charging from the beginning. Thank you, Charles Boland."

• "Wow! Can't believe the school board would allow young adult graduates to use such a facility that is in bad need of repair per this thread. Aren't you ashamed of your presentation to the community. Those teens need more than a run down and dirty facility to use for graduation. Shame on you school board! I am appalled at the politics in Monticello, never would have been present when I lived there many years ago. This is heartbreaking and causes shame for me for my home town! Clean it up OR don't charge rent. Citizens have the right to question such antics!"

• "There is nothing inherently wrong with a government agency making some money by renting its facilities. Governments should be encouraged to take an entrepreneurial approach.

However, they also need to take a professional approach. Charging rent for the Kilpatrick Auditorium in the condition it was in is unacceptable. Spend the money to get the place cleaned up and then budget for maintenance and janitorial. Then market the facility at a reasonable rate. Convert it into a facility the County can be proud of."

• "This hurts my heart. There used to be so much pride in Monticello. Now the elementary school looks like crap. The old high school looks like crap, the town looks run down and it's just sad. Moving the pageant to Madison should NOT be an option because it's the JEFFERSON County/Monticello watermelon festival. I was in the auditorium for the pageant, that I graduated in and I felt proud to be back home but also sad because it did look so run down. Mr. Brumfield is a good man. He needs to put his foot down on this one. Cause he knew KP would not have any of this!"

• "All of the buildings owned by the school board seem to be in deteriorating conditions. Because, as was pointed out, there is no love going into them. It doesn't take long to search what impact building conditions have on students. Everyone can vote in new superintendents every election or turn everything over to charter schools, but if the people in charge don't care enough to look at all of the problems nothing will change. The city can vote to fine owners of historic houses, if they let them fall into disrepair, but allow the school board to abandon buildings like the old high school, elementary school, the historic Howard Academy (old boys & girls club) ... It's truly sad!"

• "Blah blah blah pass the buck. Typical."

• "The school board ran the schools in the ground. So why do they still have positions to begin with?"

• "There is only one on that board who is worth a darn. The rest are just talking bobble heads who accomplish nothing but causing more chaos. So, do we really expect them to make sure the properties are kept clean and maintained? I think not! It is an embarrassment to the entire county for the auditorium to be in that condition. Someone needs to lose their job, since they obviously cannot perform them or make sure the person responsible is performing their duties."

• "There is no excuse for the condition of the auditorium and charging the Jefferson County Watermelon Festival and other community wide events for it! Shame on those responsible for the care of the Jefferson County Auditorium! Taxpayers of our county pay for these things!"

• "They ought to refund every dime of that money to the pageant for the abhorrent state the building was in. Plain and simple truth is that if any one of those board members had rented any building and found all of that mess they would have DEMANDED a refund too. Also - if the board is charging other groups to rent out the building but it is falling into such disrepair WHERE IS THE MONEY GOING?"

• "I helped out and had a full-blown migraine by the time I left that evening. The musty smell was too much! And to think what it would have been like had some ladies didn't take it upon themselves to get elbow deep in crap cleaning the night before! Disgusting!!"

Citizens of Jefferson County! It is time to stop sitting at home and complaining, or sitting on social media and complaining, or even sitting around drinking coffee together ... and complaining!

It's time to make our government (City, County, School Board, US Representatives, US Congress, President ... everyone) be held accountable!

Voting is the best way. We can vote them in and we can vote them out!

However, in Jefferson County we now have five (5) elected officials that just "won" their seat again because no one is running against them for office.

Get Up! Get Out! Attend meetings and speak up!

Elected officials work for US – the taxpayers! So many government officials have forgotten that!

It's time to remind everyone, in every government office, of that fact!

As far as the Jefferson County School Board ... have an opinion? We'd love to hear from you at the next School Board meeting, July 9 at 6:00 p.m.

The Watermelon Festival, and every other community event and taxpayer in this county, could use your support!



Let's Use Reasonable Speed Limits

Recently the speed limit on US 19 on the north side of Monticello was lowered from 55 MPH to 45 for a short stretch. An even shorter stretch was lowered to 55 MPH from 65. Since I travel through there often and have never seen a crash in this area, I was curious as to why it had been lowered. Since a traffic study is required to alter a speed limit, I made a public record request via the Florida DOT and received a 20 page document. I learned the following:

1. The request to lower the speed limit came from a concerned citizen.

2. The study area consisted of a .61 mile (6/10 mile) section of US 19.

3. In the past 5 years, there have been a total of 12 crashes in this segment. This breaks down to one crash every 5 months, which is not a high crash rate.

4. Of these, 8 had injuries and none were fatal.

5. Excessive speed was not a factor in any of them. This item alone should invalidate any crash-based justification for a modification.

6. The DOT conducted a speed survey at two locations in this zone. The first, located in the current 45 MPH zone, found the average (85th percentile) speed was 49 MPH, and 45 percent of vehicles were exceeding the posted limit.

7. The other, located in the former 55 MPH zone, saw an average speed of 57 MPH and only 25% of vehicles exceeded the posted limit. 85th percentile speeds are used to determine the natural speed of unimpeded traffic- what most drivers perceive to be a safe speed for their conditions.

In summary, little of this supports lowering a speed limit. What this does is create an artificially low speed limit that exposes drivers to unnecessary speeding tickets, more so since some of this roadway is a downhill slope. In summary, it creates a problem where none had existed before. I plan on writing to the DOT as a concerned citizen to urge them to return the prior speed limits, which their own study has proved to be reasonable.

Paul Henry

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CLASSIFIED AND LEGAL ADS

Deadline for classifieds is Monday at 3 p.m. for Wednesday's paper, and Wednesday at 3 p.m. for Friday's paper. Deadline for Legal Advertisement is Monday at 3 p.m. for Wednesday's paper, and Wednesday at 3 p.m. for Friday's paper.

There will be a \$10⁰⁰ charge for Affidavits.

WRECK

from page 1

into the Yukon as well as a Nissan Altima.

Harris was pronounced dead on the scene, with her husband being airlifted to a hospital in Gulfport.

Johnson was taken into custody at the scene of the crash and has been arrested on charges of manslaughter and mayhem. Capt. Luther said that culpable negligence was the underlying factor on the manslaughter charges.

As of press date, no funeral information has been provided by the family.

AMENDMENT FIVE

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ballot. 29 Democrats and no Republicans voted against putting the proposal on the ballot. One Democrat did not vote.

In the Florida Senate, the results were similar. 22 Republicans and 3 Democrats voted to put the measure before the voters of Florida. 12 Democrat and one Republican State Senator voted against putting the amendment on the ballot.

Among the supporters of the proposed amendment are Gov. Rick Scott, State Rep. Tom Leek, State Rep. Dane Eagle and State Rep. Larry Metz, all Republicans.

"We should always make it much more difficult to raise taxes than it is to cut them. This amendment will secure and protect that legacy from future legislatures bent on raising taxes," said Florida House Speaker Richard Corcoran.

"I believe that taking a citizen's hard-earned money should not be taken lightly," said State Rep. Tom Leek, a Republican from District 25, which includes Daytona Beach and Ormond Beach. Leek

is a legislative sponsor of the amendment.

There are some who are opposed to the amendment proposal.

"I think this is a short-sighted idea. There's simply no need for this. Have some confidence in the people who will sit in these seats after you are gone," said State Rep. Joseph Geller (D).

"Each and every session, there's a different tension between taxes and revenue and on what we want to spend money on and what we don't. I'm no smarter than someone who's going to come here 10 years from now to vote. And so I don't think I ought to have more power than that person who sits in this seat 10 years from now to vote. They should be able to vote up or down on tax policy, up and down on revenues, just like I do," said State Rep. Sean Shaw (D).

In order to become law, this proposed amendment will have to pass with at least 60 percent of the vote in the November election. As with any proposed legislation, one should carefully weigh both sides of the argument and then make the wisest choice.

AMERSON

from page 1

girlfriend following in the car.

While at the MPD, the girlfriend provided a written, sworn statement of the incident that had occurred between herself and Amerson and led to Amerson pursuing her on foot.

According to the girlfriend, the incident had begun at the Jefferson County Library, when the two got into a verbal altercation; the argument escalated when Amerson declared that he was going to catch the car on fire. The

girlfriend stated that Amerson grabbed a piece of paper, wadded it up, and went to the fuel cap area of the vehicle.

In an effort to prevent Amerson from blowing up the vehicle, the girlfriend said that she drove off.

MPD's Sgt. Pitts made contact with Amerson, who supplied his own written and sworn statement after being read his Miranda Rights.

Amerson confirmed that he had threatened to light the vehicle on fire during their verbal argument, but only after his girlfriend had told him that she was going to wreck the vehicle (which

had been parked in the library parking lot).

According to Amerson, he got out of the car and told his girlfriend that he was going to blow the car up and that he had grabbed the paper and a lighter and went to the fuel cap in order to scare her.

Amerson said that his girlfriend had driven off, and shortly after, Chief Mosley had made contact with them on Mulberry St.

Amerson was arrested on charges of possessing marijuana (not over 20 grams), and for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill.

ELECTION

from page 1

Regardless of the reason, consider the following five officials reelected for another four years: County Judge Bobby Plaines, District 2 School Board Member Sandra Saunders, District 3 School Board Member Shirley Washington, District 5 School Board Member Charles Boland, and Group 1 City Councilman George Evans.

That leaves four races to be decided in the November general election, with one, the Sheriff's race, headed for a primary election to determine who will be the Democratic and Republican nominees.

The August primary will pit Republican candidates Alfred "Mac" McNeill, currently the Sheriff, against Tully Sparkman, an investigator with the State Attorney's Office. And it will pit Democratic candidates William "Bill" Massey, a captain in the Sheriff's Office, against Eugene Butler Jr., a former Florida Highway Patrol trooper.

Whichever two respective candidates emerge victorious in these two contests will then face the two NPA candidates in the general election. The NPA candidates are Mike Fillyaw, a Florida Highway Patrol trooper, and Jerry Sutphin, a former Brevard County deputy and one-term commissioner here.

In the three other contested races, which will be decided in November, the candidates are as follows:

District 2 County Commission: Incumbent Commissioner Eugene Hall (D), and challengers Derrick Jennings and Adam Fato, both NPA.

District 4 County Commission: Incumbent Betsy Barfield and challenger Keith Cook, both NPA.

Group 2 City Council: Gloria Cox and Sara Lynn LaDelfa-Kirsch, both newcomers. This is a nonpartisan race.

The qualification period was noon Monday through noon Friday, June 18-22. The primary election is set for Aug. 28, and the general election for Nov. 6.

City does well on audit

Lazaro Aleman, *ECB Publishing, Inc.*

The City of Monticello recently received its audit report for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, and for the first time in years, the report had no findings, which are indications of either conformity or nonconformity with audit criteria or opportunities for improvement.

In the case of the city, the findings in the past have typically addressed minor procedural and/or administrative deficiencies that the auditor generally acknowledged were endemic to small operations with limited staff and resources, but that still needed to be noted and corrected if possible.

"You had no findings this year," Kevin Warren, of James Moore and Associates, told the Monticello City Council on Tuesday evening, June 5. "That's good."

Warren also indicated that the report was clean, meaning that the city operation was financially sound.

He found that the city was in the red in one area, but said it was understandable, given that it had made some capital acquisitions and undertaken certain paving projects. But he encouraged the city officials to rebuild the fund and get it back in the black as soon as possible.

"You never know what's going to happen in the future," Warren said.

Warren's presentation was a brief summary of the lengthy audit report, absent very many details. Instead he advised the city officials to review the report at their leisure and contact him if they had any questions.

Audits are external reviews of a public or private entity's financial reporting accuracy that are largely conducted by public accounting firms at specified time periods, such as quarterly or annual accounting periods.

Eastern Equine Encephalitis found in Taylor County

Story Submitted

The Florida Department of Health in Taylor County (DOH-Taylor) have confirmed a human case of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in Taylor County.

Officials said there "is a heightened concern additional residents will become ill."

"The risk of transmission to humans has increased. Taylor County Mosquito Control and DOH-Taylor are continuing surveillance and prevention efforts," Public Information Office Benjamin Fairbrother said.

"We have standing agreements with Taylor County Mosquito Control that they will spray the affected area as a precaution," he said.

DOH-Taylor officials remind residents and visitors to take steps to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes and to take basic precautions to help limit exposure.

While Fairbrother could not release details regarding the local patient who has been confirmed to be infected by the virus, family members said earlier this week that beach resident Debbie Clark Casey is "fighting for her life" in Shands Hospital in Gainesville.

Casey's brother, Bish Clark, said doctors there confirmed the EEE

diagnosis last Friday.

"It took them eight days to confirm what it is," he said.

Casey was airlifted to Shands after family members found her "nearly incoherent" at her home on Cedar Island. She had been complaining of flu-like symptoms, Clark said.

The mosquito-borne virus cannot be transferred human-to-human, health officials said.

Early this week, DOH did announce a confirmed case of a horse being infected with the potentially deadly virus.

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), EEE is one of the most severe mosquito-transmitted diseases in the United States, with a 33 percent mortality rate among those who contract the disease.



Obituaries

Betty Rynearson Brennand



Betty Lou Braly Rynearson Brennand passed away Saturday, June 23, 2018, in Thomasville, GA. Born to Clifford Baily and Orrie Nichols on July 29, 1929 in Athens, Alabama, she moved to Umatilla in 1961. Graduated from Athens College in Alabama with a Bachelors of Science, she received her Masters in Biology from George Peabody College for Teachers in Tennessee. Betty taught several years before moving to Umatilla where she was head of the Science Department at Umatilla High School for 26 years. She taught, Biology, Marine Biology Chemistry, Physics, Human Physiology and

Limnology. She was extremely active in her students' lives and made many trips for a week at a time to the Marine Science Station in Crystal River with them as well as many field trips and survival trips with the Symbiont Club. "Mama R" loved adventures.

Betty was predeceased by husbands Spencer R. Rynearson and Leon (Tommy) Brennand. She is survived by her children: Daisy Clanton Millett of Umatilla, Katrina Clanton Richardson of Monticello, John David (Van) Clanton of Jonesville, NC, and step-daughter Marybeth Brennand (Joseph) Sabourin of Umatilla; grandchildren: Tracy Glochau, Brad Richardson, Katrina Walton, Jonathan Poplin, Jesse Poplin and Levi Shore, great-grandchildren: Robin, Kelley, Spencer & Hannah Richardson, Silas Shore, Luke and Caroline Poplin.

Memorial services will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 30, 2018 at the Umatilla High School auditorium, with a light lunch and sharing of stories and memories at Umatilla Presbyterian Church afterwards. Byers Funeral Home, in Umatilla, is in charge of arrangements. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Umatilla High School science department at 320 N. Trowell Ave, Umatilla, FL 32784, to the Betty Rynearson Brennand Memorial.



Thor the WonderDog

ECB Publishing, Inc.
Photo By Ashley Hunter,
June 16, 2018

During the Saturday, June 16 Watermelon Festival Parade, Thor the WonderDog and the Monticello Volunteer Fire Department's mascot led the way as local fire trucks, tanker trucks and brush trucks followed behind him.



Fireworks Display and Program

Debbie Snapp, ECB Publishing, Inc.

The Jefferson County community is invited to come and enjoy Monticello's Fourth of July fireworks display and evening show held once again at the old Tiger Stadium located on South Water Street.

There will be plenty of parking and stadium seating available. Gates will open Wednesday, July 4, at 7 p.m. The concession stand will also open at 7 p.m. for hot, boiled peanuts, hotdogs, cheese fries, chips, cold soda and water.

Southern Edge Band will be live on stage at 7:30 p.m. with music to enjoy and dance to. Strategic military vehicles and helicopters will be on display, sponsored by GFAST and Lloyd Wheeler will once again be out and about and dressed as 'Ben Franklin' and entertaining the crowd.

The program starts at 8:15 p.m. and the fireworks extravaganza should begin around 9:30 p.m.; put on by Jefferson County's very own Wallace O. Bullock/Pyroworks, LLC.

For more information, contact Post 49 Commander Ken Faircloth at (850) 509-2628.



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Gold City to make first-ever appearance at St. John's Baptist



Story Submitted

Gold City, the nation's leading southern gospel quartet, will be in concert at St. John's Missionary Baptist Church in Greenville on Sunday, July 1, at 2:30 p.m. Admission is free! A love offering will be received during the concert. Their name is synonymous with setting the standard for male quartets since their inception in 1980. Many have tried to pattern their style and sound, but there's only one Gold City. Theirs is a stellar career with numerous number one songs, fan and industry awards, and prestigious honors. Yet this Gadsden, Alabama-based group remains down-to-earth, grounded in their southern roots, and committed to continuing their mission of delivering power-packed four-part harmonies and singing songs that are meaningful, entertaining, inspiring, and uplifting.

The group is known for hit songs such as, "Midnight Cry," "John Saw," "When I Get Carried Away," "Get Up, Get Ready," "There Rose A Lamb," "In My Robe Of White," and many, in many more.

The group is comprised of Christ West, who is the anchor for the group with his rich, deep, and clear bass voice. Daniel Riley provides a smooth baritone vocal that blends

perfectly with the other voices in the group, but also has the versatility to step out for a solo with power and soul. Lead vocalist Scott Brand follows a long list of dynamic lead vocalist and takes a back seat to no one. Brand has quickly gained fans with his commanding voice and musical delivery as well as his easy-going personality. Tenor Thomas Nalley puts the top on the sound with his high clear tenor voice and sincere delivery of each song.

Each member of Gold City is talented and dedicated to sharing the good news of the gospel through songs with encouraging and challenging lyrics, presented in an exciting performance on stage. Each man is committed to moving forward and taking Gold City even further than it has gone before. Remaining true to the heritage of the legacy of the past 30-plus years, Gold City continue to build on the great foundation that has already been established. In other words, there's a lot more in store for Gold City fans old and new, so get ready—the future is now and the best is yet to come.

St. John's Missionary Baptist Church is located at 5905 NW Lovett Road in Greenville, FL. For more information, call (850) 464-0114 or visit their website at SJMBCGreenville.com.

SNAPSHOT

Pups on Parade

ECB Publishing, Inc.
Photo By
Ashley Hunter,
June 16, 2018

This year's theme for the June 16 Watermelon Festival and Parade was all about the 'paws'. Naturally, fitting the theme was no problem for the Wolf Creek Pet Adoption Center! Happy pups grinned to the parade-watchers as they rode through on the adoption center's watermelon and pup themed float.



VFW Auxiliary provides stirring Flag Day program



ECB Publishing, Inc. Photo By Ashley Hunter, June 14, 2018

Members of the Jefferson County VFW Post 251 and Auxiliary provided a Flag Day program at the Jefferson Senior Citizens Center. Pictured, from left to right, are Auxiliary members: Willie Ann Dickey, Mary Madison, Jeadaria Blyden, Tracey Brown, and Nancy Benjamin.

Ashley Hunter
ECB Publishing, Inc.

"Old Glory" is the only flag to have flown on the moon, the only flag to have it's own nationally recognized day, and the flag that inspires a special meaning for the loyal citizens of the United States of America.

On Thursday, June 14, the Jefferson County VFW Auxiliary Unit 251 held a Flag Day program at the Jefferson Senior Citizens Center in honor of it.

The program started with an invocation of the Lord's Prayer, and introduction before members of the VFW Auxiliary took turns reading and reciting from their prepared program.

The program provided an informative observation on Flag Day, on the United States flag, including it's history and special meaning.

"The respect, pride, and honor given to Old Glory is not about the law, it's about being the right thing to do," read the program.

Following that presentation, the Auxiliary members invited the audience to join them in a responsive reading of the Pledge of Allegiance. As the audience took the lead, reciting the pledge, the Auxiliary responded to the pledge by explaining



ECB Publishing, Inc. Photo By Ashley Hunter, June 14, 2018

At the end of the Flag Day ceremony, the National Anthem was sung by all participants of the ceremony. Mya Trammell (pictured) led the room in singing a beautiful, stirring performance of our nation's anthem.

the meaning behind the pledge's words.

After the pledge, the whole room took part in singing the National Anthem, which was led by talented singer Mya Trammell.

In closing, the Auxiliary recognized the veterans in the room and thanked their audience for their participation in the Flag Day program.

Ageless Grace 6-week program coming to Monticello

Ashley Hunter
ECB Publishing, Inc.

The Jefferson Senior Citizens Center will be holding a mind/body fitness program that will begin on Thursday, July 26 and continue through for the next six weeks (August 2, 16, 23 and 30).

The program will activate the functions of the brain that stimulate the analytic, strategic, kinesthetic, memory and creative aspects of your thought process.

Fitness will include movements that are based on everyday

movements and is designed so that it can be performed while sitting.

The program hopes to enhance it's participants physical skills for lifelong optimal functioning as well as provide a healthy longevity of the mind and body.

The 6-week program will be held from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. and will be taught by Marghi McClearn.

Ageless Grace: 21 Simple Tools For Lifelong Comfort and Ease has been provided

in collaboration with the TMH Memory Disorder Center (MDC).

For more information, call TMH MDC at (850) 431-5002, or like the program on Facebook at [AgelessGraceTallahassee](https://www.facebook.com/AgelessGraceTallahassee).



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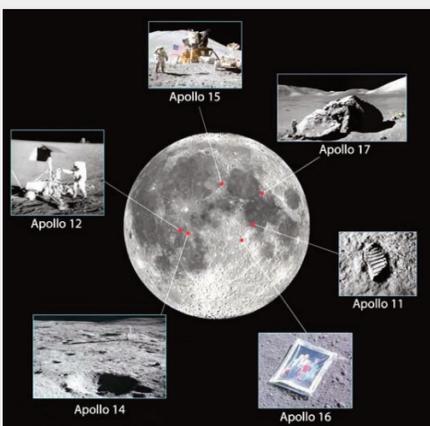
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Did You Know?

When Neil Armstrong placed the U.S. Flag on the moon as part of Apollo 11's mission, it was only the first of five more landings, each placing a new flag on the moon. As a result, Old Glory has been planted on the surface of the moon six different times.



Florida Department Of Health In Jefferson Encourages Floridians To Test Your Way On National HIV Testing Day

Story submitted

The Florida Department of Health (Department) in Jefferson recognizes Wednesday, June 27 as National HIV Testing Day. This year's theme is "Test Your Way. Do It Today," which serves as a reminder that HIV testing has never been more convenient because there are more ways than ever to get tested.

"Doctors can now prevent HIV from attacking your body if detected early enough through testing," said Kimberly Allbritton, Administrator DOH – Madison and Jefferson. "National HIV testing day is a time to remind everyone that knowledge is key to protecting yourself and the people you love."

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that all individuals 13–64 years old be tested for HIV at least once during their lifetime, and persons at increased risk for HIV infection be tested at least annually. Florida remains a national leader in HIV testing, with over 1,400 registered HIV test sites (including each county health department and community-based organizations) which provide high-quality, confidential testing services at low or no cost. Last year, more than 340,000 HIV tests were conducted through Florida's registered HIV test sites. Testing is also available through doctor's offices and other health care facilities.

With early diagnosis, individuals can begin appropriate treatment and care resulting in better health outcomes. Studies have shown that providing antiretroviral therapy as early as possible after diagnosis improves a patient's health, reduces transmission, and can eventually lead to undetectable HIV viral loads.

Big Bend Cares in collaboration with DOH – Jefferson will be conducting free STD and HIV screenings at Jefferson Arms on July 11, 2018.



HIV-negative individuals are encouraged to reduce the chance of contracting HIV by using prevention strategies. As part of our strategic efforts to eliminate HIV in Florida, the Department is working to make Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) medication available at no cost at all 67 CHDs by the end of this year. PrEP is a once-daily pill that can reduce the chance of acquiring HIV in HIV-negative individuals.

PrEP should be used in conjunction with other prevention methods like condoms to reduce the chance of infection.

According to CDC, taking PrEP daily reduces the chance of getting HIV by more than 90 percent.

PrEP will be made available through CHD Sexually Transmitted Disease and Family Planning

Clinics and patients can be provided with up to a 90-day supply of medications. Some CHDs may offer PrEP through a specialty clinic. Find a PrEP provider near you with the department's PrEP Providers List.

You can locate HIV counseling, testing and referral sites by visiting KnowYourHIVStatus.com or texting 'FLHIV' to 898211.

For more information, call the Florida HIV/AIDS Hotline at (1-800) FLA-AIDS or (1-800) 352-2437; en Español, (1-800) 545-SIDA; in Creole, (1-800) AIDS-101. To chat with a live counselor at the Florida HIV/AIDS Hotline, visit 211bigbend.org/flhivaidshotline.

About the Florida Department of Health

The Department, nationally accredited by the Public Health Accreditation Board, works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter at @HealthyFla. For more information about the Florida Department of Health please visit www.FloridaHealth.gov.

Back to School event looking for vendors

Ashley Hunter, *ECB Publishing, Inc.*

On Saturday, July 28, All God's Children Outreach Ministry will be hosting a Back To School Community Event from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The event will be an opportunity for children from the community to come and receive free school supplies. The community event will also include a bounce house for children, a hotdog or hamburger lunch, and booths from various local organizations or groups.

The event will be held at 1380 Mamie Scott Dr., in Monticello.

Are you with a civic group that would like to offer its services and build up this event?

Call event organizer Willie Ann Dickey at (850) 519-1801 or WillieAnnD@embarqmail.com to arrange setting up at the community event.

Watermelon Festival Vendors



ECB Publishing, Inc. Photo By Debbie Snapp, June 15, 2018
The Monticello Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce was just one of many vendors lining the streets on Friday night, June 15 and Saturday, June 16 during the 68th annual Watermelon Festival. Pictured from left to right are: Barbara Hayes, Clara Heyser-Sego and Wanda Bailey selling festival t-shirts and directing festival guests to the many different events and 118 participating vendors.

Chamber hears from non-profits and churches

Debbie Snapp, *ECB Publishing Inc.*

Monticello Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce held its monthly membership meeting and luncheon on Tuesday, June 5, with speakers Pat Cichon and Sean Vickers, talking about non-profits, churches and their contributions to the community.

Cichon shared information about the non-profit she is involved with. The Jefferson Diaper Brigade, Inc. is an organization that collects donations for the purchase of diapers and other related items for those less fortunate in Jefferson County. The diapers are then dispersed through monthly church giveaway locations for the purpose of not using diapers more than once. Diapers are the biggest monthly expense, and desperate families often try to stretch their resources by re-using diapers, or not changing an infant as often as needed, leading to infections.

She told of the benefits of a non-profit; the amount of paperwork it takes to establish a non-profit; its contribution to the community; and how non-profits can make a difference in a community. Jefferson Diaper Brigade distributed over 38,000 diapers in its first year.

Vickers spoke about area churches and how they influence the community. He told of the unity of the churches through the monthly meeting of the Jefferson County Ministerial Association. Church pastors meet on the second Tuesday at the Brick House Eatery at 8 a.m. to discuss upcoming community events. "Churches and communities are stronger when they cooperate with each other and meet together." He told of the purpose of the Ministerial Association. Sharing that the group helps transits passing through the area by working close with the Monticello Police Department. He encouraged worshipping local, shopping local and being involved locally. Rev. Vickers is pastor of the First Baptist Church Monticello and chairman of the Ministerial Association.

For more information, contact Chamber Executive Director Katrina Richardson at (850) 997-5552 or info@monticellojeffersonfl.com. The next Chamber meeting will be held at 12 p.m. on Tuesday, July 3.



ECB Publishing Inc. Photo By Debbie Snapp, June 5, 2018

Recently crowned Watermelon Festival Queens, Miss Dalayna Nolan (left) and Teen Miss Kenzie Key (right) were introduced to the Monticello Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce membership during their June meeting, by Festival Chairperson Nan Baughman (center).



ECB Publishing Inc. Photo By Debbie Snapp, June 5, 2018

In all their glory, recently crowned queens for the 68th annual Jefferson County Watermelon Festival, Miss Dalayna Nolan (right) and Teen Miss Kenzie Key (left) enjoy a luncheon meal and meeting with members of the Monticello Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce.

What Do I Do If...

I see an animal left in a hot car?

WARM WEATHER PET SAFETY: HOW HOT IS YOUR CAR?

VEHICLE TEMPERATURE

OUTSIDE TEMP (F)	INSIDE TEMP (F)	
	after 10 mins	after 30 mins
70°	89°	104°
75°	94°	109°
80°	99°	114°
85°	104°	119°
90°	109°	124°
95°	114°	129°

Even with windows cracked, the temperature inside your vehicle can increase within minutes. When in doubt, **leave your pet at home.**



Source: VeterinarianClinic.com

John Willoughby
ECB Publishing, Inc.

Summertime has officially started and on some days, the heat index in North Florida can reach as high as 106 degrees Fahrenheit. Even on a day where it's 80 degrees Fahrenheit outside, a parked car can reach temperatures well over 115 degrees Fahrenheit. According to *stuttgartcitizen.com*, on a 90-degree day, the interior temperature can reach as high as 160 degrees in less than 10 minutes.

On multiple occasions, you may have seen news stories of how someone has left an animal in a hot car for more than 20 minutes at a time. What would you do if you saw an animal in a hot car? What could you do? The Humane Society of the United States (*humanesociety.org*) provides tips on what to do if you see a pet in a parked car:

- Take info; try to write down the car's make, model and license plate number.
- If there are businesses nearby, notify their managers or employees to make an announcement to find the car's owner. Many people are unaware

of the danger of leaving pets in hot cars and will quickly return to their vehicle once they are alerted to the situation.

- If the owner cannot be found, call the non-emergency number of local police or animal control and wait by the car for them to arrive. **NOTE:** In several states, good samaritans can legally remove animals from cars under certain circumstances, so be sure to know the laws in your area and follow any steps required.

- If you've yet to encounter this incident, great! There are plenty of ways you can help prevent. The Humane Society of the United States encourages that you help spread the word by asking businesses to post signs asking customers not to leave their pets in their cars while shopping or get involved with local business to ensure there are local laws and ordinances in place prohibiting such an act.

If you happen to stumble across an animal stuck in a hot car in Jefferson County and are unable to locate an owner, please call the Monticello Police Department at (850) 342-0150 or the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office at (850) 997-2523.

TeamWallace gets Monticello siblings qualified for Regional Championships eventing

TeamWallace's Rick Wallace and Briggs Surratt are International equestrians who compete and train out of Patchuk Farm located in Monticello. The 35-acre farm owned by Chuck and Pat Springer and has been TeamWallace's home for over three years.

Wallace and Surratt have been working with the Springer's grandchildren, Gabbie Sacco, 13, and her brother, Gavin Sacco, 11, (parents Michael and Jessica Springer) who both live at their grandparent Patchuk Farm with their parents.

Wallace and Surratt have helped establish them as competitive riders in the equestrian sport of Eventing and in the Hunter/Jumper ring as well.

In April, at an Event at the International Ocala Horse Trials held at the Florida Horse Park, Gabbie and Gavin

competed at their first United States Eventing Association's (USEA) recognized events in the Jr. Novice Divisions. Gabbie riding her 9-year-old thoroughbred, Ultimate Opportunity, who finished 2nd in a field of 22 horses and Gavin riding his 19-year-old Hanoverian, Faris (previously owned by Surratt), in another Jr. Novice division, finishing 5th out of a field of 21. Both amazing horses were purchased by their grandparents and brokered by TeamWallace.

The G2 or sometimes G4 (horses are both gray) as the siblings are referred to at the farm, qualified for the USEA Area 3 Championships being held at Chatt Hills Farm in Fairburn, GA, July 6-8, and are currently training to have a successful shot at being named the Area 3, USEA Jr. Novice Champion. The two are

very competitive and will be competing against each other in July.

Wallace stated, "I have been training Gabbie, 13, and Gavin, 11, for 3 years now, and they both show extreme talent in equestrian sports. For the last three years I have seen both grab a hold of riding and really blossom."

Wallace and Surratt will be competing at Chatt Hills as well, in non-championship divisions, as they continue to qualify their horses for upper level international events in the future. Surratt is aiming to be named to the USEF Under 25 list, which grooms riders under 25 years who are riding at the 2 Star level, to be representatives of the USA at Team Events.

Wallace's daughter, located in Jasper, GA, was named as an Alternate for the 2016 Rio Olympics in Eventing.

Donations For A True Cause

Story Submitted

I have a friend who's husband passed away Saturday before Father's Day. She needs OUR COMMUNITY HELP. She has no funds to inter (bury) her husband.

We, as a caring community, should come together and help. Instead of sending our monies to foreign countries, we should take care of our own locals

who truly need our help.

Please, find it in your heart to donate and help her put her husband at peace.

If you would like to donate for this urgent cause contact: Betsy Fortune, 370 E. Palmer Mill Rd. Monticello, FL 32344 or call (863) 610-0943

Always be true to your heart it won't take you in the wrong direction.

Lions need your help

Debbie Snapp
ECB Publishing, Inc.

The Jefferson County Lions Club (JCLC) provides eye exams, glasses, cataract surgery, hearing aids and seeing eye dogs... just to name a few of its services; all of which are free for citizens that cannot afford them.

This group of volunteers work from their homes and get paid nothing for the long hours they spend helping their community. All the money they raise goes directly back to their community to help those who are in need.

The biggest and most constant fund raiser for these Lions is the sale of brooms and mops made by the blind. You will see the big, blue barrel whenever the Lions hold yard sales, bake sales, raffles or any event they are participating in. The barrel, filled with a variety of brooms and mops, is located at the *Monticello News* office when not in

use at an event. Donations and new members are always appreciated.

The JCLC began in Monticello in 2009 with 25 members. Since then, lots of residents have been provided for, whether it was with a pair of new eyeglasses, help with paying an electric bill, or with a basket of food when a pantry was empty.

Consider becoming a member today. Through the end of June the membership fee of \$30 will be waived and monthly dues will be only \$15. Contact Sight & Hearing Chairman Lion, June Campbell, at (850) 997-1754 for more information about the Jefferson County Lions Club.

Century Plant Blooms in Monticello

Ashley Hunter, ECB Publishing, Inc.

Agave Americana, or as it is known by its common name, Century Plant (as well as sentry plant, maguey or American aloe), is a monocarpic plant, meaning it will only bloom once in its lifetime.

Despite the misleading name, Century Plants don't take 100 years to flower. Instead, the name comes from the fact that it takes years—at least 10—to bloom. Many plants can grow for 20-30 years before ever producing a bloom, and one *Agave Americana* located at the University of Michigan's botanical gardens waited 80 years before producing a bloom.

A local plant, located on the intersection of 2nd and Orange Streets and owned by Daisy Blue Branham, didn't wait quite that long before reaching its full potential and blooming.

According to Branham, the Century Plant in her yard was planted by her mother and is around 15 years old. For some time, Branham cut the plant back to prevent it from growing too large, but this year, Branham said she just "let it go."

"I'm going to keep letting it grow and bloom out," said Branham.

Century Plants can be distinguished by their thick, aloe-like leaves at the base of the plant.

The leaves are a grey-green color with a sharp spike at the tip. As the plant reaches the end of its life, it will produce a tall, branched stalk from its center. The stalk can reach upwards to 25-30 feet and will sprout yellow, upward-facing blossoms.

A Century Plant will only bloom once in its lifestyle, and usually, the plant will begin to die off once its blooming period has ended. For this Century Plant, it means that the 15-year-old plant is likely reaching the end of its lifespan.

As with the circle of life, however, once the plant dies off, shoots will grow around the base of the mother plant, and the cycle will begin anew.



ECB Publishing, Inc. Photo By Ashley Hunter, June 20, 2018

This Century Plant, owned by Monticello-resident Daisy Blue Branham, has bloomed for the first time in its 15-year-life. Century Plants are known for the long time it takes for them to mature and finally produce blossoms—shortly after blooming, the plants will usually die off.



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QuickTIPS

Metro Editorial

The Fourth of July is a day to celebrate in the United States. Much about July makes the fourth day of the month the ideal time to celebrate. School is out, the weather is warm and the generally relaxed attitude of summer has typically set in by the first week of July. People tasked with hosting Fourth of July festivities may not feel the same pressure when hosting such gatherings that they would when hosting more formal affairs. The relaxed nature of summer often pervades Fourth of July festivities, but hosts can still take a crash course in summer hosting to ensure everyone has a good time.

- Don't try to break the mold. Some hosts may be tempted to think outside the box in regard to the foods and beverages they'll serve at their Fourth of July parties. While hosts can still experiment and serve new foods and creative cocktails at their parties, many guests will be anticipating some Fourth of July staples, such as grilled hot dogs and hamburgers paired with cold beer and lemonade. Making sure such foods and beverages are served alongside more experimental fare won't disappoint traditionalists, and those looking for something beyond the norm won't be disappointed, either.

- Embrace the red, white and blue. When decorating, opt for red, white and blue decorations. This gives the party a distinctly Fourth of July feel. Red, white and blue napkins and tablecloths are readily available come July, and hosts with a gift for crafts can even create their own decorations to use year after year.

- Prepare to entertain. Unlike holiday season gatherings that typically begin in the evening, Fourth of July parties tend to begin in the afternoon and extend into the night. That means hosts must not just feed their guests, but entertain them as well. Since Fourth of July parties tend to take place outdoors, plan lots of backyard games. Hosts with swimming pools should have pool games readily available as well.

- Leave the fireworks to the professionals. Hosts should not succumb to pressure, real or perceived, to supply fireworks at their Fourth of July parties. Fireworks can lead to injuries and accidents and are best left to the professionals who put on community fireworks shows. Discourage guests from bringing their own fireworks by making it known they will be asked to leave the party if they do.

- Arrange transportation home for guests. To make sure everyone gets home safe and sound, arrange in advance for some guests to serve as designated drivers.

Hosts also should abstain from consuming alcohol during the party so they can get people home safe if necessary. Keep a list of local taxi company phone numbers on hand and encourage guests who plan to consume alcohol to use ridesharing apps to get to and from the party.

Fourth of July festivities typically are less formal than other celebrations, but hosts still must plan their parties to ensure everyone has a fun, safe Independence Day.

How to conserve energy during summer

Metro Editorial

Energy bills tend to be high in summertime, when many people crank up their air conditioners in an attempt to combat the heat. For some households, higher energy bills might be stretching their budgets, while others might be looking for ways to reduce their carbon footprints.

Conserving energy can help homeowners save money and help the planet at the same time. And reducing energy consumption in the summer does not require men and women to sacrifice comfort in the name of conservation. In fact, various strategies can help homeowners and apartment dwellers reduce their summertime energy consumption.

- Stop cooling an empty home. A cool home might be the ultimate necessity during summer heat waves, but there's no reason to cool a residence when no one is home.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, operating thermostats more efficiently can help homeowners trim their cooling costs by as much as 10 percent. One way to be more efficient with thermostats is to keep the house warmer than normal when no one is home.

Programmable thermostats can be set so air conditioning units turn on shortly before residents arrive home, ensuring the

house is comfortable and no energy is wasted.

- Narrow the gap between indoor and outdoor temperatures. The DOE notes that the smaller the difference between the temperature indoors and outside the lower cooling costs will be. While it may be tempting to set thermostats to room temperature (68 F) on days when temperatures reach 90 F or above, that's an enormous temperature gap that will result in a high energy bill. Instead, the DOE recommends setting thermostats to 78 F whenever possible.

- Open the windows at night. Daytime temperatures may necessitate the use of air conditioners, but people who live in climates where temperatures

drop considerably at night can sleep with their windows open. This reduces energy consumption and saves money, and can be a great way to introduce fresh air into a home during a time of year when air can become stagnant.

- Do not set air conditioner thermostats at lower than normal temperatures when turning them on. The DOE notes that setting thermostats at lower than normal temperatures when turning air conditioners on will not cool homes any faster than setting them at typical temperatures. Such a strategy will only lead to excessive energy consumption and higher energy bills.

- Install ceiling fans. Ceiling fans can improve cooling

efficiency in a home. According to the DOE, ceiling fans allow homeowners who use air conditioners to raise the thermostats on their AC units about 4 F without adversely affecting comfort levels. People who live in temperate climates may find that ceiling fans are enough to keep rooms cool without the need for air conditioners.

Homeowners can combat high utility bills and excessive energy consumption during the summer with various eco- and budget-friendly strategies.



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Fifth grade student Agriculture Essay Contest

Sponsored by Jefferson County Farm Bureau

Debbie Snapp
ECB Publishing, Inc.

Jefferson County Farm Bureau (JCFB) held a pizza party and awards ceremony for the fifth grade students that participated in the Agricultural Essay Contest. JCFB members in attendance at Aucilla Christian Academy (ACA) and Community Leadership Academy (CLA) included: Sarah and Ernest Fulford, Sean Allen and Melissa Bass.

The JCFB feels strongly that children need to know just how important food production is to the state and nation.

Many children living in rural north Florida have some insight into how and why food is grown on farms and ranches, but not all do.

The JCFB believes this is a strong nation with a strong form of government and



Photo Submitted

Fifth Grade students at Community Leadership Academy participated in the Jefferson County Farm Bureau Agriculture Essay Contest. Pictured, from left to right, are: Melissa Bass, Sarah Fulford, Sean Allen, Ty Meadows, 1st place, Annabel Duck, 2nd place, and Peter Boulware, 3rd place.

strong willed people, and that this country is strong because of its ability to feed itself and still be able to ship much food to less productive countries.

There are far too many children, even in rural areas, with neither the knowledge nor the appreciation for agriculture.

Because JCFB feels that education is vitally important to the future success of this state and nation, its membership decided to reach out to as many fifth graders as possible with this special contest.

The students were encouraged to do their own research, and come up with their own themes and ideas. They were asked to write a 100-word paper, composition, essay, or mini-term paper, on the subject: "Why is Agriculture Important to America?" The paper was to be done in the student's absolute best hand-writing, and was completed by the student during school classroom time.

Judging was based on neatness, originality, composition and subject matter. All participating fifth graders competed against each other at their school.

Reagan Walker was Overall/First Place winner at ACA, receiving \$20. Joshua Forehand was Second Place winner at ACA, receiving \$15. Charles Hughs was Third Place winner at ACA, receiving \$10.

Ty Meadows was Overall/First Place winner at CLA, receiving \$20. Annabel Duck was Second Place winner at CLA, receiving \$15. Peter Boulware was Third Place winner at CLA, receiving \$10.

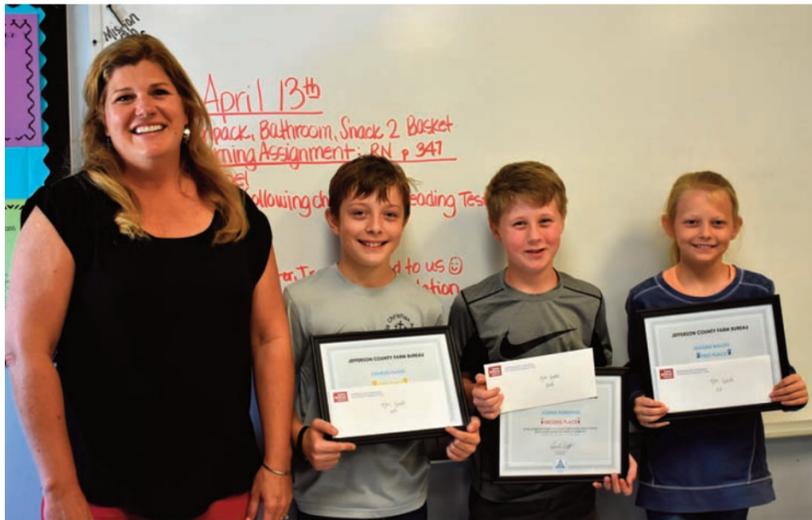


Photo Submitted

Fifth Grade students at Aucilla Christian Academy participated in the Jefferson County Farm Bureau Agriculture Essay Contest. Pictured, from left to right, are: Teacher Christi Grant, Charles Hughs, 3rd place, Joshua Forehand, 2nd place and Reagan Walker, 1st place.

Learning about corn at Farm Bureau Ecology Day

Debbie Snapp, ECB Publishing, Inc.

Jefferson County Farm Bureau had a booth set-up during Ecology Day at the County Agriculture Extension Office in early May.

This particular event was held especially for fourth and fifth grade students in the Jefferson County School District, with 100+ students attending.

Jefferson County Farm Bureau was well-represented during this event by Melissa Bass, Sarah and Ernest Fulford and their children Megan and Noah Fulford, and Sean Allen.

The students were taught about agriculture and specifically corn, and all the products corn can be found in. The students watched with excitement as corn was popped in a kettle pot so they could taste it. They also learned that almost every day they eat corn in their diet, as corn is found in many products.



Photo Submitted

Megan and Noah Fulford enjoy fresh popped popcorn during break from Ecology Day at the Jefferson County Extension Office.



Photo Submitted

Pictured from left to right: Sean Allen, Ernest Fulford, Sarah Fulford and Melissa Bass are stationed at their Farm Bureau table during Ecology Day at the Jefferson County Extension Office.

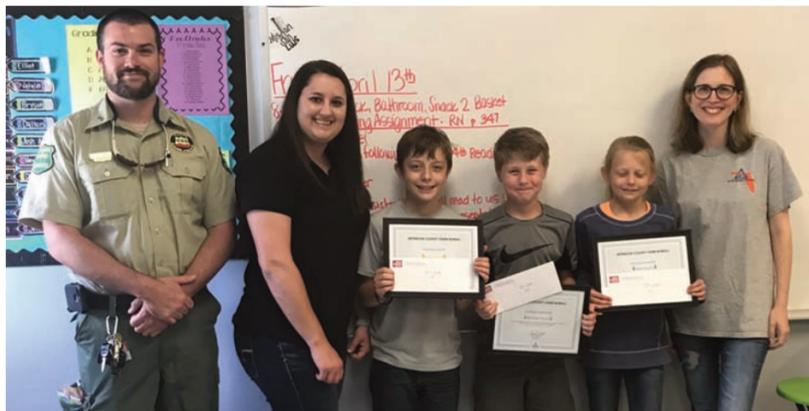


Photo Submitted

Fifth Grade students at Aucilla Christian Academy participated in the Jefferson County Farm Bureau Agriculture Essay Contest. Pictured, from left to right, are: Sean Allen, Melissa Bass, Charles Hughs, Joshua Forehand, Reagan Walker and Sarah Fulford.

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Moderator Rev. Dr. Issac Manning Jr., Pastor
"Greater Is Coming"
Sunday School @ 10:00 a.m. (2nd, 3rd and 4th) Sundays
1st Sunday @ 9:30 a.m. - Early Morning Worship Service
Morning Worship Service @ 11:00 a.m.
(2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays)
Wednesdays @ 6:00 p.m. B.U.G.S. Program -
"Building Upon Gospel Standards"

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.....6:00 PM
Wednesday Evening.....7:00 PM

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
Worship Service.....6:00 PM
Wednesday
Choir Practice.....6:00 PM
Fellowship Meal.....6:45 PM
Prayer Meeting/Bible Study.....7:10 PM

CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

US 19 South at Cooper's Pond Road
(850) 997-1166
Minister Steve Cordle

Sunday Bible School.....10:00 AM
Worship Hour.....11:00 AM
Wednesday
Bible Study7:00 PM

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

425 North Cherry Street • Monticello • 997-4116
www.ChristChurchMonticello.com
Email: christchurch425@yahoo.com
Rev. James Bowen May, Priest

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

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

US 19 N 1590 N. Jefferson Street (US 19)
(850) 997-3906
monticellonaz@gmail.com

Shawn and Bethany Grosvenor, Pastors

Sunday School.....9:45 AM
Morning Worship.....10:45 AM
Student Life Group.....4:30 PM
Tuesday Evening
Mens & Ladies Bible Study 6:00 PM
Saturday
Spanish Church Services.....7:30 PM

ELIZABETH BAPTIST CHURCH

4124 Bassett Dairy Rd • Monticello • 997-8444
Email: secretary@ebcmonticello.com
website: www.ebcmonticello.com

Pastor, Robert Dennison

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 (850) 997-2349
www.fbcmonticello.org
Pastor Sean Vickers

Sunday School.....9:45 AM
Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00 AM
Children's Church - Ages 4-6 & 7-12.....11:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00 PM
Wednesday Youth Group/Service.....6:15 to 7:15 PM
Wednesday Bible Study.....6:30 PM
-Nursery for all services-
Adult Choir Practice Wednesdays7:00 PM
Church/Family Supper (Sept-May) Wednesdays 5:00 PM
Women's Prayer Group, third Monday.....6:30 PM
Community LLL Meeting, fourth Tuesday.....10:00 AM
Outreach/Visitation, Thursdays.....10:00 AM

FIRST CORINTHIAN CHURCH

955 Lemon St./ P.O. Box 1112, Monticello,
(850) 545-2039
sonnyjohnjr@aol.com
Pastor John Jones

Sabbath Morning Worship.....11:00 AM
Wednesday/Friday Bible Study.....6:30 PM

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

325 W. Walnut Street • Monticello
Pastor John Hicks 997-5545
www.monticelloFUMC.org
jandkhicks@aol.com

Praise & Worship.....8:30 AM
Sunday School.....9:30 AM
Traditional Worship.....11:00 AM

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES
Bible Study.....4:15
Prayer Group.....5:15
Fellowship Meal.....6:00
Chancel Choir Practice.....6:30

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

290 East Dogwood Street • Monticello • (850) 997-2252
R.C. Griffin, III, Pastor

Sunday School.....9:45 AM
Sunday Worship.....11:00 AM
Adult Bible Study-Wednesday.....6:30-7:30 PM
Men's Breakfast.....2nd Saturday 8:00 AM

From the Pulpit...

Life Can Be A Drag

Geologists tell us that only three percent of the earth's fresh water is on the surface in the form of rivers and lakes. The other 97 percent remains as a huge subterranean reservoir below. We're much the same in our potential. The percentage that's on the surface is miniscule compared to the vast majority underneath.



Pastor John Hicks
First United Methodist Church

I believe that every year God gives us on this earth is to be a year where we are to be as productive and as pleasing as we can be for His glory. I believe the longer we live the more we realize just how fleeting our years are and how important it is to maximize the potential of each year for being what we ought to be and doing what we ought to do.

So, how do we bring to the surface the powers and possibilities the Creator has placed within each of us?

For me, it comes from following Jesus in much

the same way I water skied with my brothers growing up. Picture a slim athlete water skiing behind a very fast boat. That wasn't me. Instead, picture a boat towing a big log with a lot of drag. I was like that log.

I didn't pop up like my brothers. My personal weight held me down and I was towed for a while before I finally got up. The secret to getting up was to hold on tight and keep with it, and eventually the resistance would give way and I would pop up on top of the water. Once on top of the water, I enjoyed sailing over the waves instead of plowing through them.

Scripture tells us, "Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful." (Hebrews 10:23 NIV)

Life at times can be a drag, but Christ can pull us up and help us overcome the resistance we face, enabling us to glide over the troubled waters and waves of life. Just don't forget to hold on tightly and keep with it; otherwise the drag will take us down, our forward progress will stop, and we will sink!

Vacation Bible School at Greater Fellowship

Debbie Snapp
ECB Publishing, Inc.

Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be held at Greater Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church on July 9 through 13, from 5 to 8 p.m., at the church location: 690 Cypress Street.

This year's VBS theme is "Follow The Leader" and is for all ages, Pre-School to adults.

Refreshments will be prepared and served at 5 p.m. Monday through Friday



For more information and to volunteer, contact Patricia Hall at (850) 933-8736 or hallp850@gmail.com.

CHURCH NEWS NOTES

debbiesnapp@embarqmail.com OR (850) 997-3568

June 26-29

Waukeena United Methodist Church will continue its Vacation Bible School Tuesday through Friday from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. daily for children ages Pre-K (four years old) to fifth grade. This year's theme is "Babylon: Daniel's Courage in Captivity." For more information call (850) 997-4854. Rev. Mary Ann Piccioni, church pastor.

June 28, 30

AA meetings at 8 p.m. on Mondays, Thursdays, Saturdays, Sundays at Christ Episcopal Church annex, 425 North Cherry Street. For information call (850) 251-0278. Father Jim May, church pastor.

June 29

Christ Episcopal Church Food Share distribution from 9 to 11 a.m. on the last Friday at 425 North Cherry Street. Father Jim May, church pastor.

MONTICELLO

MEMORIAL M.B. CHURCH

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

Sundays

Sunday Church School (Every Sunday).....9:30 AM
Sunday Worship (2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays).....11:00 AM
Youth Worship (2nd Sunday).....11:00 AM

Wednesdays

Prayer Meeting/Bible Study.....7:00 PM

NEW HOPE CHURCH OF GOD

415 East Palmer Mill Rd • Monticello • 997-1119
www.newhopecog.net

Pastor Dr. E. Bob Kuschel
"The Sunday Place To Be"

Sunday School.....10:00 AM
Worship Service.....11:00 AM
Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 PM

OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

7369 Boston Hwy. Monticello
(850) 997-1596
Pastor David During

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

July 1

Greater Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church will continue to celebrate its pastor's 17th Anniversary at 3 p.m. on Sunday with Rev. George Williams and Genesis Missionary Baptist Church bringing the Message. Call (850) 997-4375 for more information. Church Pastor is Rev. Dr. Melvin Roberts.

July 10

Jefferson County Ministerial Association will meet on the second Tuesday at the Brick House Eatery at 8 a.m. to discuss upcoming community events. Churches and community are stronger when they cooperate and meet together. Rev. Sean Vickers, FBC pastor.

July 18

First Presbyterian Church hosts EaglesWings, an outreach ministry serving the community, on the first and third Wednesday from 9 to 11 a.m. Volunteers are always needed to distribute food items and to donate non-perishable food items. Contact Coordinator JoAnne Arnold at (850) 997-2252 or eagleswingmonticello@yahoo.com. Rev. R.C. Griffin III, church pastor.

July 19

Clergy Gathering at 12 p.m. on the third Thursday for lunch, a presentation and fellowship. Held at Big Bend Hospice in Tallahassee, 1723 Mahan Center Boulevard. For more information contact Candace McKibben at candace@bigbendhospice.org.

July 23

Alzheimer/Dementia Support Group meets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the fourth Monday at the First United Methodist Church Family Ministry Center. Alzheimer's Project, Inc. is a non-profit organization extending a warm supportive welcome to caregivers. Questions and comments may be relayed to Rural Outreach Manager Stephanie Pollack at (850) 386-2778 or alzheimersproject.org or call the church at (850) 997-5545 for directions. A light lunch is provided. This is a free program offering a time of sharing and learning with each other. Bring another caregiver with you. Rev. John Hicks, church pastor.

July 23-27

Central Baptist Church Aucilla will hold Vacation Bible School Monday through Friday from 6 to 8:30 p.m. nightly for children three years of age to eighth grade. There will be adult classes and a nursery will also be provided. Dinner will be served. This year's theme is "SPORTS." To volunteer and for more information contact Pastor Daryl Adams at (850) 251-0129.

Area churches celebrate the Watermelon Festival



ECB Publishing, Inc. Photo By Emerald G. Parsons, June 16, 2018

The Monticello First Baptist Church was on hand during the Watermelon Festival handing out brochures and inviting everyone to their upcoming VBS. The VBS will be held June 25-29 from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and all children from preschool through the sixth grade are welcome to attend. Pictured, left to right, are: (back row) Carol Adams, Allen Adams, TJ Adams, Adam Lehman, (front row) Brody Isted and Cooper Isted.



ECB Publishing, Inc. Photo By Emerald G. Parsons, June 16, 2018

Calvary Baptist Church set up a booth during the annual Watermelon Festival in order to spread God's Word with all who passed by their booth. Pictured, in the front row, left to right, are: Gideon Buckley, Major Buckley, and Andrew Buckley. Pictured in the middle row, left to right, are: Haley Paul, Benjamin Buckley, Timothy Buckley and Maggie Buckley. Pictured, in the back row, left to right, are: Cassie Buckley, McKayle Buckley, Eli Buckley, Ethan Buckley, Chris Watts, Dale Wilcox, and David Walker.



ECB Publishing, Inc. Photo By Emerald G. Parsons, June 16, 2018

Central Baptist Church members were gathered together selling drinks and roasted corn, in order to raise money for the youth group's summer camp. Pictured, left to right, are: Grayson Rienbot, Hannah Lewis, Anna Key, Clint Morgan, Jessica McCormick, Liam Mediate, Connor Koch, John-Michael McCormick and Hayley Lewis.

MONTICELLO

GREATER FELLOWSHIP MISSIONARY 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.

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.....6:00 PM
 Sunday Church Service.....10:00 AM
 Tuesday Night Taabo.....6:00 PM
 Thursday Church Service.....7:00 PM
 Pastor's Office by Appointment

SARDIS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4543 Waukeenh Hwy • 264-0802
 www.sardismumc.org
Pastor Steve Lenzo
pastor@sardismumc.org
 Worship Service9:30 AM
 Sunday School To Follow
 Tuesday Bible Study.....6:30 PM

MONTICELLO

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

ST. PHILLIP A.M.E. 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

WACISSA

WACISSA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

14492 Waukeenh Hwy/ P.O. Box 411
 Wacissa • 997-2179 • www.wacissaumc.org
Pastor Steve Lenzo
pastor@wacissaumc.org
 Sunday School.....9:45 AM
 Sunday Morning.....10:55 AM
 Wednesday
 Dinner & Prayer Meeting.....5:45 PM
 Youth Group.....6:15 PM
 Choir Practice.....7:00 PM

TALLAHASSEE

CAPITAL HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH

7150 Apalachee Pkwy • Tallahassee
 www.chbaptistchurch.org
Pastor Derrick Burrus
 (850) 345-0425

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

INDIAN SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

5593 Veterans Memorial Drive (Hwy 59)
 Tallahassee • (850) 893-5296
 www.indianspringsbaptistchurch.com
 email: indspgs@gmail.com
Rev. Greg Roberts

Sunday School.....9:45 AM
 Sunday Worship.....11:00 AM
 Wednesday
 Fellowship Meal.....6:15 PM
 Prayer Meeting.....7:00 PM
 Children/Youth Programs.....7:00 PM

WAUKEENAH

WAUKEENAH UNITED METHODIST

81 Methodist Church Rd • Waukeenh • 997-2171
 www.waukeenh-umc.org

Pastor Mary Ann Piccioni
 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

Thrift Store open every Saturday,
 9:00 AM-1:00 PM
 www.waukeenhcemetary.com

LLOYD

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH of LLOYD

124 St. Louis Street • Lloyd • 997-5309
 Pastor Jered Day

www.fbclloyd.net • fbclloyd1@embarqmail.com
Sunday
 9:15 am Sunday School
 10:30 am Praise & Worship
 4:59 pm Choir
 5:00 pm TeamKID
 6:00 pm Youth
 6:00 pm Praise & Worship

Wednesday
 5:30 pm Family Supper
 6:30 pm Youth Potter's Wheel (Grades 6-12)
 Music Missions and More (Children)
 6:45 pm Worship on Wednesday
2nd/4th Monday 6:00 pm Ladies Bible Study
Thursdays 9:30 am Crafty Ladies
2nd Thursday 11:00am Lloyd Silver Saints
3rd Thursday 5:30pm W W Diners
 (Widows/Widowers)
3rd Friday 6:00pm Brotherhood

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 Celebration
 Children's Church
 Wednesday.....7:00 PM
 Adult Bible Study
 TLC Kid's Club
 Ascend Youth Group
 * Connect Groups - 2nd & 4th Sunday Evenings
 of the month

Five reasons to get a professional photographer for your engagement

During their engagements, couples will make many decisions in regard to their weddings. Wedding planning can sometimes seem like a runaway train of appointments, schedules and deadlines. As a result, some couples do not take the time to enjoy being engaged, which is a special and unique time in their lives. Engagement photo shoots can be a unique way for couples to commemorate and enjoy the months preceding their weddings. Engagement photos memorialize the engagement and provide many additional benefits as well, just a few of which are listed below:

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1 An engagement photo shoot gives couples time to spend together. An engagement photo shoot is an ideal time to spend an afternoon in a special location focusing on each other without wedding planning taking up your time.

Photo shoots provide a chance to experiment with vivid backdrops. Engagement photography gives couples plenty of opportunities to experiment with different locales, which may not be possible come the wedding day. They can also inspire ideas for themes and colors of the wedding itself for couples who aren't sure yet what appeals to them or how to merge the individual styles of both partners.

4

Photo shoots provide a chance to get comfortable in front of the camera. Professional photos taken before the wedding enables couples to view how they will appear in pictures. Seeing these photos might help couples grow more comfortable in front of the camera. This practice can help couples temper their anxieties prior to the wedding. An engagement shoot also can be a great time for couples to speak with their photographers about angles or styles they prefer or dislike.

2

Engagement photo shoots give couples a chance to connect with their photographers. Booking an engagement photo shoot provides helpful information to both the couple and the photographer. The photographer gets to see how the couple interacts in front of the lens and can determine any insecurities or strengths and weaknesses couples may have. These lessons can be filed away and help make wedding day photos look better. Similarly, spending time with the photographer gives the couple an opportunity to develop a rapport with their photographer. If couples and their photographer don't click, scheduling an engagement shoot well in advance of the wedding gives couples a chance to find someone else to take their photos.

5

3 The couple will have professional photos available for save-the-date announcements or social media photos. Engagement photographs can be used for save-the-date cards or social media postings (check with the photographer for licensing agreements). This can be a great way to spread excitement about the upcoming nuptials.

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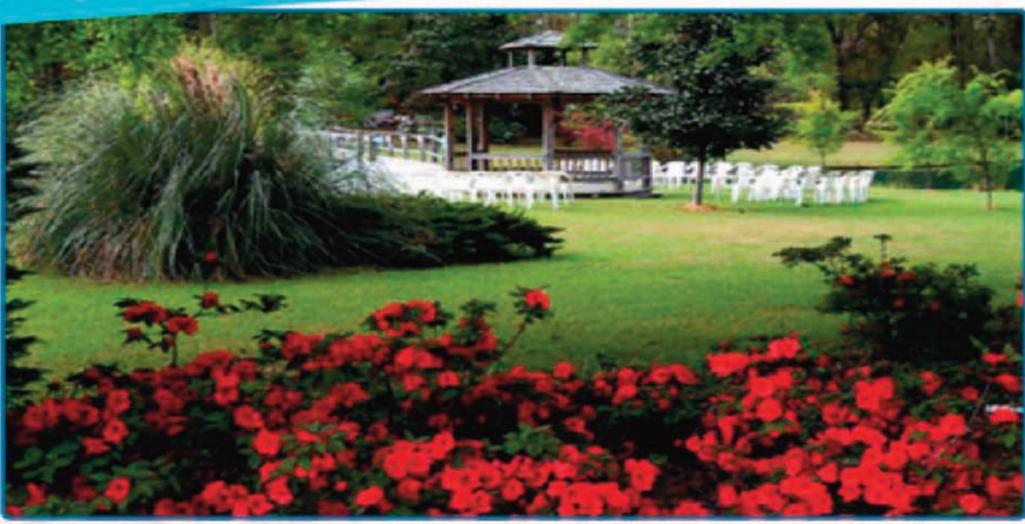


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Metro Editorials

The season couples choose to get married can affect many aspects of their ceremonies and celebrations. Vendors are in high demand during popular wedding seasons like spring and summer. But those same vendors may be more flexible and less expensive during those times of year when fewer couples tie the knot.

According to *TheKnot.com*, June, August, September and October are the most popular months for couples to say “I do,” while January, February and March are the least popular months to get married. Wedding dates can affect wedding costs considerably, and knowing this can help couples find the date that works best for them and their budgets.

Value dates

Tying the knot in the early part of the year can be a more budget-friendly option for cost-conscious couples. Prices for reception sites and vendors may be lower in January and March than during other times of the year. However,

Discover stunning alternatives to diamond

Metro Editorials

White diamonds have been the traditional engagement ring stones for decades. While shoppers have experimented with gold, silver, platinum, and other precious metals for ring bands, the star of the show has long been that twinkling, pristine diamond.

Even though diamonds have been touted to be a “girl’s best friend,” they may not fit every woman’s style, particularly the bride who likes to buck tradition and think outside the box. According to *Money* magazine, the average engagement ring costs more than \$5,800. In addition to being one of the most expensive gemstones, diamonds have become quite commonplace. Some women even eschew diamonds for moral or environmentally aware reasons.

Whatever the driving force behind shopping for alternative gems, women who want to set themselves apart from others—and people who want to “wow” their significant others with unique and eye-catching rings—may opt for other dazzling stones.



flawless one-carat moissanite gem can cost less than \$1,000.

• **Lemon quartz:** This is the trade name for a lemon-yellow stone that is a variety of color-enhanced transparent quartz. Quartz is turned into this sunny hue through an artificial gamma ray irradiation process. Like other quartz gemstones, lemon quartz is considered to be very durable and is therefore suitable for all types of jewelry.



as much as a diamond or even moissanite, but with the right cut, it can be hard to distinguish any lack of luster. Sapphires are the third hardest mineral, and at about one-third the price of diamonds, they make an ideal diamond substitute.

• **Morganite:** According to the blog *Bridal Musings*, morganite is currently one of the most popular choices for engagement rings. Its pretty pink hue is romantic and feminine. It also sits at around the same hardness as sapphires, ensuring the rings will endure.



Vividly cut rubies, emeralds and tanzanite—all gems that are rarer yet less expensive than diamonds—can also make beautiful engagement rings. Some couples also may opt for rings without gemstones, such as traditional Irish Claddagh or “true lover’s knot” rings to signify their union.



Shindig
Vintage Wedding & Event Rentals
by
Carrie Pope
(229) 873-5377
116 Pear St.
Boston, Ga

February may not be so budget-friendly thanks to Valentine’s Day. December also may not garner significant discounts thanks to the holiday season, when vendors may be in high demand for holiday parties.

Local events

Even though certain months may not be in high demand for weddings, that doesn’t always mean they are the perfect time for couples to tie the knot. Popular local events, such as festivals, large-scale meetings and conventions, can intrude on wedding plans. Consult with a local chamber of commerce and local schools to see if any local events that might drive up the cost of your wedding are going on. Reunions or conventions can stretch nearby restaurants, hotels and reception sites pretty thin, leaving you with fewer options.

Vary the time

If you have your heart set on getting married during more popular months to tie the knot, then you may be able to save a bit here and there by being more flexible with the time and day you choose to make your vows. Couples often choose a Friday or Saturday wedding because they believe it will make it most convenient for guests to attend. However, if you provide ample notice to guests, they may be able to take off a Thursday or even a Monday from work, making a Thursday or Sunday wedding a more doable option.

If Saturday is still your ideal day to walk down the aisle, think about having an early wedding ceremony followed by a brunch or lunch reception. You also can customize your wedding to be a cocktail party only, saving you some money.

Have backup options

Recognize that if you want to get married on a Saturday at the height of wedding season, you may not get first choice on your venues and vendors. Have a list of service providers at the ready just in case your first choices are already booked. By understanding how dates and times can affect weddings, couples can make more informed decisions when planning their nuptials.

Avoid common live music mistakes

Metro Editorials

Booking a live band for a wedding or another special event can be a great idea. The atmosphere live musicians can provide is unmatched. Live musicians offer a level of excitement that may not be met by other musical options. But some couples may find the prospect of booking live entertainment a bit challenging, especially if they’ve never hired musicians for an event before. Here are some tips to make the process go smoothly.

• **Get recommendations.** Just like you might before booking other vendors, seek advice from friends or family members who have recently gotten hitched or had live performers at their events. They may have wonderful things to say about particular bands or performers. Individuals also can consider a resource such as *HireLiveMusicians.com*, a global musician database that can help couples narrow down their options.

• **Decide on when the musicians play.** Live musicians can entertain guests throughout the ceremony and reception, but the longer musicians play, the more they’re likely to cost. Work with musicians to develop a schedule that suits your budget.

• **Discuss the theme.** Make sure musicians understand the type of atmosphere you’re hoping to create. A band that customarily plays swing or big-band era songs may not fit in at weddings with more modern themes. If you go with a DJ who will be choosing music rather than playing it, make sure they know which songs you love and which songs are to be avoided, or you might be facing an awkward change in the middle of a song during your reception.

• **Understand the fees.** Musicians may have fees related to their agents, cartage (extra given to musicians who carry large equipment), mileage costs, travel time, lighting, and other factors that affect the overall price. Discuss these fees before signing any agreements.

• **Be sure the venue can accommodate.** Live musicians are great but not if the space is too small. Otherwise, the music can be too loud and overpowering, or the band will not have adequate space to set up. Consider these factors before making any decisions.

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Classifieds

Deadline for Wednesday's Paper 3 p.m. on Mon.

Deadline for Friday's Paper 3 p.m. on Wed.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

North Florida Community College, Madison FL: Welding Instructor; PT Truck Driving Instructor; Chemistry Instructor; English Instructor; Program/Data Retrieval Manager, Coordinator of Recruitment Services. See www.nfcc.edu for details. 6/13-29,c

North Florida Community College, Madison FL: Position available - **Biology Instructor (Faculty Position)**. See www.nfcc.edu for details. 6/27- 7/13

SHORT ORDER COOK needed for Breakfast and Lunch. Open 7 days, Monticello. Experienced only. 850-901-4383 6/1.rtn.c

The City of Monticello is seeking applications for a **Water Specialist II**. Essential duties include assisting other Water Specialist performing various duties including reading meters, installing water and sewer taps and mains, repairing water and sewer mains and other various duties. Must possess a high school diploma; experience in Utility Work a plus. Must obtain a Water Distribution Class III license and Backflow Tester Certification within 18 months. Complete job description available at Monticello City Hall; (850) 342-0153. Application deadline 12:00 pm, July 11, 2018 Submit to: City Hall Attention Steve Wingate, City Manager, 245 S. Mulberry St. Monticello, FL 32344. EOE/Drug Free Workplace. 6/27,29, 7/6,11

OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE Assistant needed. Mandatory Quickbooks knowledge. Monday - Friday 9-5 Monticello. Call 850-901-4383 6/1.rtn.c

MONTICELLO NEWS Advertising Sales Representative (salesperson) needed. Our newspaper office is seeking an outstanding individual to join our sales team. Do you possess a sunny, friendly attitude? Can you talk with customers easily and help them feel at home? Do you have a good personality and LOVE to talk on the telephone? If you are a team player, able to handle multiple tasks, have a friendly can-do-attitude, a great work ethic, are organized, and self-motivated, then this job might be just for you. Must have valid driver's license. Apply in person at the **Monticello News newspaper office**, located at 180 West Washington St., in Monticello or call (850) 997-3568 to set up an interview appointment. 3/28.rtn

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LEGAL NOTICES

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, the following application for permit was received on June 5, 2018:

Stewart Cooksey, PO Box 304, Monticello, FL 32345 has submitted a new application for Water Use Permit number 2-065-232547-1, authorizing a maximum average daily use of 0.0200 million gallons of groundwater for agricultural use in 1-in-10-year drought conditions. This project is located in Township 1S, Range 14E, Section 7, in Jefferson County.

Interested persons may comment upon the application or submit a written request for a staff report containing proposed agency action regarding the application by writing to the Suwannee River Water Management District, Attn: Resource Management, 9225 C.R. 49, Live Oak, Florida 32060. Such comments or requests must be received by 5:00 PM within 14 days from the date of publication.

No further public notice will be provided regarding this application. A copy of the staff report must be requested in order to remain advised of further proceedings. Substantially affected persons are entitled to request an administrative hearing, pursuant to Title 28, Florida Administrative Code, regarding the proposed agency action by submitting a written request after reviewing the staff report. 6/27

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners, the holder/s of the following Tax Sale Certificate has filed said Tax Certificate for the Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Certificate Number and year of issuance, the Description of the property, and the Name in which it is assessed as follows:

File Number: 18-000021-TD
Certificate Number: 116 Year of Issuance: 2014
Description of Property: 00-00-00-0360-0000-1610
Lots 161 & 162 O P M Less N 40 FT Strip 40 x 200 FT S of Lots 161 & 162 ORB 95 PG 227
Site Address: 775 N Waukeeah St
Name in which assessed: **NORMAN & DARLENE BRITT, III**
c/o NORMAN BRITT, IV

All of said property being in the County of Jefferson, State of Florida. **This property when sold may be subject to the current year taxes.** Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Jefferson County Courthouse, **North Steps on July 19, 2018 at 11:00 A.M.**

Tim Sanders
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Jefferson County, FL

BY: Sherry Sears, Deputy Clerk

6/13,20,27, 7/4

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Basic - \$60/year (Total Value \$328)
Print paper mailed twice a week and special one-time coupons for our annual subscribers.



LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF HEARING

The Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners will conduct two Public Hearings regarding an application for a Text Amendment to language in the Jefferson County Land Development Code. The Board of County Commissioners will consider the adoption of the following proposed ordinance amending the County Land Development Code. The Public Hearings will be on July 19, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. and August 2, 2018, 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 445 West Walnut Street, Monticello, Florida. The meetings may be continued as necessary.

JEFFERSON COUNTY, FLORIDA BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AN ORDINANCE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY FLORIDA, AMENDING THE JEFFERSON COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE; AMENDING THE JEFFERSON COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE TO ALLOW RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES OF UP TO SIX RESIDENTS IN ALL LAND USE DISTRICTS THAT ALLOW RESIDENTIAL USE; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; PROVIDING FOR PURPOSE; PROVIDING FOR CODE AMENDMENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR COPY ON FILE; 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.

6/27

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners, the holder/s of the following Tax Sale Certificate has filed said Tax Certificate for the Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Certificate Number and year of issuance, the Description of the property, and the Name in which it is assessed as follows:

File Number: 18-000018-TD
Certificate Number: 43 Year of Issuance: 2014

Description of Property: 00-00-00-0250-0000-0101
PT Lot 10 Dilsworth Add
ORB 463 PG 538
Site Address: 490 Martin Luther King Jr Ave

Name in which assessed: **SONJA DE LA CRUZ**

All of said property being in the County of Jefferson, State of Florida. **This property when sold may be subject to the current year taxes.** Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Jefferson County Courthouse, **North Steps on July 19, 2018 at 11:00 A.M.**

Tim Sanders
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Jefferson County, FL

BY: Sherry Sears, Deputy Clerk 6/13,20,27, 7/4

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners, the holder/s of the following Tax Sale Certificate has filed said Tax Certificate for the Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Certificate Number and year of issuance, the Description of the property, and the Name in which it is assessed as follows:

File Number: 18-000020-TD
Certificate Number: 154 Year of Issuance: 2014

Description of Property: 00-00-00-0470-0009-0060
PT of Lot 2 BLK 9 Wiricks Add
ORB 152 PG 452
Site Address: 665 Ash Street

Name in which assessed: **WILLIE MAE SCURRY HRS
c/o JENNIFER ALLEN**

All of said property being in the County of Jefferson, State of Florida. **This property when sold may be subject to the current year taxes.** Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Jefferson County Courthouse, **North Steps on July 19, 2018 at 11:00 A.M.**

Tim Sanders
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Jefferson County, FL

BY: Sherry Sears, Deputy Clerk 6/13,20,27, 7/4

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners, the holder/s of the following Tax Sale Certificate has filed said Tax Certificate for the Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Certificate Number and year of issuance, the Description of the property, and the Name in which it is assessed as follows:

File Number: 18-000016-TD
Certificate Number: 71 Year of Issuance: 2014

Description of Property: 00-00-00-0310-0007-0020
Lot 100 x 125 FT In Blk 7 Jefferson Heights ADD
ORB 552 PG 481
Site Address: E Cherokee Ave

Name in which assessed: **PIEDMONT VENTURES, INC**

All of said property being in the County of Jefferson, State of Florida. **This property when sold may be subject to the current year taxes.** Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Jefferson County Courthouse, **North Steps on July 19, 2018 at 11:00 A.M.**

Tim Sanders
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Jefferson County, FL

BY: Sherry Sears, Deputy Clerk 6/13,20,27, 7/4

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners, the holder/s of the following Tax Sale Certificate has filed said Tax Certificate for the Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Certificate Number and year of issuance, the Description of the property, and the Name in which it is assessed as follows:

File Number: 18-000017-TD
Certificate Number: 59 Year of Issuance: 2014

Description of Property: 00-00-00-0260-0004-0070
Lot 7, BLK 4 Fla Land and Abstract Co Add
ORB 176 PG 295 & ORB 604 PG 686
Site Address: 535 S Marvin ST

Name in which assessed: **MAMIE DRAYTON, et al
c/o TAMMY HARRIS**

All of said property being in the County of Jefferson, State of Florida. **This property when sold may be subject to the current year taxes.** Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Jefferson County Courthouse, **North Steps on July 19, 2018 at 11:00 A.M.**

Tim Sanders
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Jefferson County, FL

BY: Sherry Sears, Deputy Clerk 6/13,20,27, 7/4

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners, the holder/s of the following Tax Sale Certificate has filed said Tax Certificate for the Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Certificate Number and year of issuance, the Description of the property, and the Name in which it is assessed as follows:

File Number: 18-000019-TD
Certificate Number: 158 Year of Issuance: 2014

Description of Property: 00-00-00-0470-0009-0090
Lot 50 x 100 FT In BLK 9 Wiricks Add
ORB DDD PG 231
Site Address: 720 Wirick St

Name in which assessed: **WILLIAM ALLEN and WILLIE MAE SCURRY
c/o JENNIFER ALLEN**

All of said property being in the County of Jefferson, State of Florida. **This property when sold may be subject to the current year taxes.** Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Jefferson County Courthouse, **North Steps on July 19, 2018 at 11:00 A.M.**

Tim Sanders
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Jefferson County, FL

BY: Sherry Sears, Deputy Clerk 6/13,20,27, 7/4

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

CIVIL ACTION
PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,
Plaintiff,

vs. CASE NO.: 33-2015-CA-000191
DIVISION:

THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST JANICE T. HORNER A/K/A JANICE TAYLOR HORNER, DECEASED, et al,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated 6/12/18 and entered in Case No. 33-2015-CA-000191 of the Circuit Court of the SECOND Judicial Circuit in and for Jefferson County, Florida in which PNC Bank, National Association, is the Plaintiff and The Unknown Heirs, Devisees, Grantees, Assignees, Lienors, Creditors, Trustees, or other Claimants claiming by, through, under, or against Janice T. Homer a/k/a Janice Taylor Homer, deceased; Brock Thomas Horner, as an Heir of the Estate of Janice T. Homer a/k/a Janice Taylor Homer, deceased; Caitlin Marie Horner, as an Heir of the Estate of Janice T. Homer a/k/a Janice Taylor Homer, deceased; Joshua Kevin Homer, as an Heir of the Estate of Janice T. Homer a/k/a Janice Taylor Homer, deceased; Randall Lynn Horner a/k/a Randall L. Horner, as an Heir of the Estate of Janice T. Homer a/k/a Janice Taylor Homer, deceased; Robin Horner Bergstrom a/k/a Robin Elaine Bergstrom a/k/a Robin E. Bergstrom, as an Heir of the Estate of Janice T. Homer a/k/a Janice Taylor Homer, deceased; and Any And All Unknown Parties Claiming by, Through, Under, And Against The Herein named Individual Defendant(s) Who are not Known To Be Dead Or Alive, Whether Said Unknown Parties May Claim An Interest in Spouses, Heirs, Devisees, Grantees, Or Other Claimants are defendants, the Jefferson County Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in/on the north steps of the Jefferson County Courthouse, One Courthouse Circle, Monticello, FL 32344, Jefferson County, Florida at 11:00AM on the 19th day of July, 2018, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure:
(NEW PARCEL # 5)
COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 1 SOUTH, RANGE 4 EAST, JEFFERSON COUNTY, FLORIDA AND RUN NORTH 00 DEGREES 55 MINUTES 41 SECONDS EAST, ALONG THE WEST BOUNDARY OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 8, 2637.33 FEET TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 8, THENCE NORTH 01 DEGREES 40 MINUTES 40 SECONDS EAST, ALONG THE WEST BOUNDARY OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 8, 52.81 FEET TO A POINT, THENCE NORTH 88 DEGREES 38 MINUTES 29 SECONDS EAST, 262.13 FEET TO A POINT, THENCE NORTH 06 DEGREES 11 MINUTES 28 SECONDS WEST, 73.18 FEET TO A POINT, THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 08 MINUTES 36 SECONDS EAST, 143.91 FEET FOR A POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING RUN NORTH 06 DEGREES 12 MINUTES 33 SECONDS WEST, 151.40 FEET TO A POINT, THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 08 MINUTES 36 SECONDS EAST, 144.03 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. CONTAINING 0.50 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

**TOGETHER WITH A MOBILE HOME LOCATED THEREON AS A PERMANENT FIXTURE AND APPURTENANCE THERETO, DESCRIBED AS A 2001 DOUBLEWIDE MOBILE HOME BEARING TITLE NUMBERS 83078605 AND 83078662 AND VIN NUMBERS H174358GR AND H174358GL.
A/K/A 183 CHITTLING RD, MONTICELLO, FL 32344**

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 60 days after the sale.
Dated in Jefferson County, Florida this 14th day of June, 2018.

Albertelli Law
Attorney for Plaintiff
P.O. Box 23028
Tampa, FL 33623
(813) 221-4743
(813)221-9171 facsimile
eService: servealaw@albertellilaw.com

CLerk of the Circuit Court
Jefferson County, Florida
By: Sherry Sears
Deputy Clerk

NL- 15-188489
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Clerk of Court later than seven (7) days prior to the proceeding at room 10, Jefferson County Courthouse, Monticello, FL, 32344, at 850-342-0218: 1-800-955-8711 (TDD), or 1-800-955-8770 (voice), via Florida Relay Service.

6/27

NOTICE

THIS IS A NOTICE of Unclaimed Capital Credits for members on record at Tri-County Electric Cooperative as of June 22, 2018. The list includes 302 names and a total estimated amount of \$12,317.51 in unclaimed money. Tri-County Electric Cooperative gives notice that capital credit payments are now and have been available since 2017 at the main headquarters office building of the Cooperative at 2862 West US 90, Madison, FL 32340, to the members named hereunder. Unless the members named, or their heirs, claim payment no later than December 31, 2019, they will be forfeited as donated gains to the Cooperative. These unclaimed credits were earned in the years of 1990 and 1991. Capital credits are member's share of the cooperative's margin for a year in which revenues exceeded expenses. The amount a member is credited is proportionate to the amount received in energy services during the same year. Capital credits are refunded periodically as approved by the Tri-County Electric Board of Trustees.

- Aikens, Norman Jr
- Ajax Construction Co Inc
- Albertson, Tom E
- Alexander, Tim
- Allen, Dalton F III
- Allen, Pauline
- Alley, Scott
- Ammons, Mary
- Anderson Chapel AME Church
- Anderson Peat Organic Compos
- Anderson, Robert R Jr
- Andrews, William L
- Archer, John R
- Armstrong, William S
- Arnold Bridges, Renee
- Ashton, Sheri
- Atwood, Cory T
- B L Charbonneau, Inc
- Bailey, Clyde E
- Batchler, Rob
- Batthey, Cheryl Lea
- Beeman, H D Jr
- Bellamy, Sam
- Bennett, Ardella
- Bennett, Virgil
- Bentley, Gerald W
- Bevel, Aloise R
- BJ Electric Company Inc
- Blanton, Laura Ann
- Blanton, Lester
- Bowen, Charles F
- Brantley, Georgia
- Bravo, James
- Brinson, James
- Brown, Billy R
- Brown, Gloria
- Brown, Henry
- Brown, Terry L
- Bruner, John
- Bryant, F E
- Bryant, John David
- Bunch, Ernest M
- Burkhalter, Charles V
- Burton, Wanda
- Butler, Cecil
- C & T Logging
- Calhoun, Dorothy
- Candela, Ginger
- Carlisle, Doris L
- Carrabelle School
- Carswell, George
- Carter, James R
- Carter, Kaye

- Cason, Oliver W
- Chapman, Linda
- Cherokee Smoke House
- Chihuahua, Jesus
- Chippen, Cheryl
- Christy, Michael Anthony
- Cina, Francis
- Clark, Dave
- Clark, Lynn
- Clayton, Leslie
- Clayton, W R
- Clift, Billy W
- Cockerham, Freddy O Jr
- Collins, Michael
- Colvin, Darrell & Laurie
- Comstock, Billy
- Cooper, Hilton
- Corbin, Annie M
- Crager, John A
- Croom, Robert
- Crowley, Mack
- Cuffy, William & Pamela
- Curry, Evelyn
- Daniels, William
- Davis, Benny
- Davis, Cora
- Davis, Harold
- Davis, Stuart J
- Delk, Harley
- Delkamp, Junior
- Delp, Christine
- Dimick, Wendell E
- Downing, James Ed
- Duckett, Joe
- Duckett, Roosevelt
- Dunbar, Eddie
- Edmondson, J M
- Emory, Debra
- Erdman, Alfred or Angela
- Estrada, Reynaldo
- Fleming, William
- Fongeallaz, Steven & Ernest
- Frederick, Vic
- Freeman, Deanna
- Frith, Stephanie
- Frost, H W or Deborah
- Gallagher, Daniel W
- Ganus, Linda
- Garcia, Leland
- Gethsemane Bapt Church
- Gibson, Helen M
- Given, Willie
- Golden, Joe D
- Good, Dana
- Goree, Mary C
- Gottheld, Mae
- Gramling, Michelle
- Grant, John
- Gray, David O
- Gustin, John
- Hadley, Donna
- Hall, Dexter J
- Hall, Willie
- Hamann, Rudolph
- Hamilton, Dot
- Hammonds, June
- Harris, Emma C
- Harris, Helen E
- Harris, Phillip W
- Hartsfield, Charles
- Hartsfield, Halene
- Hastings, William
- Henry, Sandra R
- Henshaw, Victor L
- Hicks, L C
- Hines, Janet
- Hoffman, Donna G
- Holzapfel, Wayne L
- Hook, Barbara
- Household of Ruth
- Hudson, Robert
- Hughes, R P
- Humphrey, Ray D

- Hunger, Helen G
- Hunter, Jesse L
- Hutchins, John
- Hutto, Tim
- Isreal, Rhonda
- Ivey, Vernon R
- Jackson, Dixy
- Jackson, Sam W Jr
- Jefferson County Grants
- Jenkins, Mildred
- Jobe, George
- Johnson, Betty J
- Johnson, Darrien
- Johnson, Frank B
- Johnson, Lola R
- Jordan, Lawanda
- Juarez, Leonel
- Karp, Jack
- Keith, Gregory & K Robertson
- Kersey, Rex
- L T F Inc
- Lambert, Charlie
- Land, Dean E
- Land, Irene
- Laurin, Emile
- Leachman, Dianne
- Leago, Lassic
- Lee, Rachel
- Lemus, Jacqueline
- Lenhart, Gene C
- Lewis, Alex
- Lewis, John
- Lewis, Margaret
- Leyland, James Walter
- Lindsey, R A
- Lineweaver, William
- Link, Bobby
- Linton, Mark
- Lioce, Nicholas
- Lugo, Easter
- Maloni, Chris
- Matthews, Ginger K
- Meadows, Harold
- Mejia, Zenaida
- Merton, Bernice E
- Mickel, Tracy
- Mock, Sharyl
- Montgomery, Debra
- Moore, Chanda M
- Moore, Grady
- Morgan, John
- Morrissey, Laurel & John Jr
- Muckenfuss, Julian A
- Mulkey, B E
- Murray, Katherine M
- Myers, Jason
- Odell, Karla M
- Odom Hardwood Inc
- Ortega, Francisco
- Osteen, Sandra
- Palladino, Decca
- Palmer, Eva Belle
- Peeks, Leroy D Jr
- Pennington, Roger
- Picard, Darlene
- Pinesett, Ida Mae
- Pratt, Rosetta
- Proctor & Gamble Cellulose
- Puckett, John P
- Quietel, Delbert C
- Quintanilla, Juan
- Randell, James H Jr
- Ratcliff, Kenneth Wayne
- Redding, Ernest
- Reisler, Rex & Sharon
- Reynolds, Betty L
- Richards, Lila H
- Roach, Gene
- Robinson, Janice M
- Robinson, Joy
- Rockhill, Dorothy
- Rodriguez, Antonio
- Rodriquez, Martin

- Rogers, Rob
- Royals, Darrell W
- Rubio, Reyes
- Rudd, A F
- Russell, Kelly
- Rutherford, Joe
- Sabin, Tosh Anna
- Sampson, Wade
- Sauer, William
- Scheuerman, Jerry & Pat
- Schwartz, William D
- Sharpe, Frank
- Sikes, Sam
- Silver, Jeff A
- Skidmore, Faye
- Slaughter, Michelle
- Smith, Gil
- Smith, Tom P
- Something Special Inc
- Stafford, Martha
- Starling, Scott
- Stedcke, William
- Stevens, William
- Stokely, Gail
- Stone, Henry T
- Stoneking, Delores
- Stormes, Joseph B
- Stover, A C
- Strickland, Earl
- Strickland, James E
- Sturdivant, William
- Suelter, Mike & Felecia
- Sweet, Beth D
- Tamayo, George
- Taylor Co Improvement Club
- Taylor, Steve K
- Taylor, Wyatt
- Terry, Fonda
- Thomas, Harley B
- Three D Builders
- Tillotson, Gary S
- Tingle, Ben
- Tire Recyclers of America
- Torres, Adam
- Tourangeau, A W Jr
- Travis, Albert
- Turner, Billy
- Tuten, Darlene
- Tyler, Vanessa L
- Val Disole Food Products
- Vamer-Bass Enterprises
- Vincent, Price
- Volks, Richard
- Walker, Les & Pat
- Wainwright, Brent
- Waldrup, Royce
- Walker, Daniel E
- Walker, E Jack
- Walker, George (Mr & Mrs)
- Watson, Joyce
- Webb, Steve & Julie Nielson
- Weekly, Pam
- Wersing, Steve & Sherry
- West, Kenneth
- Whiddon, Michelle
- White, Arthur
- Whitehead, Paul
- Wilcox, Glenda L
- Williams, Brandy
- Williams, David
- Williams, Frankie
- Williams, Joe B Jr
- Williams, Keith
- Wilson, Kathy
- Wilson, Ricky D
- Wireman, Russell
- Wirtemberg, Kurt
- Wisham, Sherry
- Wolff, R A
- Woodard, Michael A
- Wright, Vanessa
- Wysong, Sarah
- Zuniga, Lupe

Best in Show: Watermelon Parade award winners

Ashley Hunter, *ECB Publishing, Inc.*

This year's parade line-up of floats for businesses, civic groups, campaigning candidates, churches and community influencers almost reached 60 participants on the sign-up list.

This year's parade theme was "Paws on Parade", which meant that aside from the expected Watermelon décor, float designers were encouraged to incorporate plenty of pup themed props.

Awards and cash prizes were given to the winners of the Best in Show Award, Best Theme, Best Merchant, Most Unusual, Spirit Award and Best Civic Group.

ECB Publishing, Inc. Photo By Ashley Hunter, June 16, 2018

Best in Show went to Creative Moments Daycare. Along with their leading banner, the daycare had children dressed as characters from the television show Paw Patrol, who waved and blew bubbles. Coming behind the walking members of the progression, Creative Moments had a fire-truck themed float that was covered in themed Paw Patrol decorations and photos of dogs. Creative Moments won \$100 for their Best in Show award.



ECB Publishing, Inc. Photo By Ashley Hunter, June 16, 2018

Jefferson Arts Gallery's float, laden with watermelon art from various artists, was the winner of the \$40 Best Merchant Award during the 2018 Watermelon Festival's Parade. The Jefferson Arts Gallery also had an open gallery during the festival-filled Saturday. The gallery, which displayed summer-themed art from local artists and gallery members, was open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



ECB Publishing, Inc. Photo By Ashley Hunter, June 16, 2018

The Monticello Acting and Dancing Co. (MADCo) performed *The Wizard of Oz* in unison with the Watermelon Festival. The talented young actors put on multiple shows around the county in Senior Centers, as well as scheduled productions at the Monticello Opera House before wrapping up their performances after the parade on June 16. *The Wizard of Oz* themed float won the MADCo group the \$40 Spirit Award.



ECB Publishing, Inc. Photo By Ashley Hunter, June 16, 2018

During the Friday, June 16 Watermelon Parade Festival, the award winner for Most Unusual required parade-watchers to look up a bit to see the full display. The All Out Boggin' truck fit into the "Paws on Parade" theme. The truck was complete with a long red tongue, two swooping ears, and a swinging rope tail. The All Out Boggin' monster truck owners and decorators were awarded \$40.



ECB Publishing, Inc. Photo By Ashley Hunter, June 16, 2018

The Marzuq Hillbillies won the 2018 Watermelon Festival's award for Best Civic Group with their cabin float. While the Marzuq chapter of Shriners had many different vehicles in the parade (such as the Perry Crazy Wheels, the Marzuq Bandits and Firefighters Shrine Club), it was the Marzuq Hillbillies and their elaborate, country-themed float that took home the \$40 prize.



ECB Publishing, Inc. Photo By Ashley Hunter, June 16, 2018

The campaign float for Circuit Judge Candidate Christine Thurman won the \$40 Best Theme award. Huge inflated watermelons, campaign supporters dressed in lion-costumes, the painstakingly designed and detailed theme of Thurman's float stuck out in the crowd of floats, cars, and watermelon-themed décor.

Dog Photo Contest Winners

Debbie Snapp, *ECB Publishing, Inc.*

The 2018 Dog Photo Contest Winners were announced during the Jefferson County 68th annual Watermelon Festival and awards were given to the owners. The photos were hanging on the storefront windows of Traditions Embroidery & Screen Printing, in downtown Monticello, with their winning ribbons attached.

This was a first time event for the Watermelon Festival. Awards were given for Best Overall Watermelon Theme and Best Dog Photo.

Winners included: Finn, First Place, owner Patricia Butler Hayes; Brinks, First Place, Amber Swords; Lady, Second Place, L. Greis; Maggie, Second Place, owner Connie Heath; Sadie, Third Place; Tex Little, Third Place, owner Nan Baughman; Shug, Third Place, owner Becky Branch; Rocky, Third Place, owner Brittanie Bivins;



Finn, First Place. Owner: Patricia Butler Hayes.

Other entries included: Jersey, owner Kathy Moody; Chief, owner Amber Swords; Flash, owner Sarah Fulford; Lucky Lucy, owner Alice Sanders; Bullet, owner Becky Branch; Junior, owner Becky Branch; Lilly May, owner Justin Stokley; Macy, owner Justin Stokley; Snipe, owner Frank Kolb;



Brinks, First Place. Owner: Amber Swords.

Beau, owners John and Eleanor Hawkins; Rudy, owner Kay Buchanan; Tex, owner Nan Baughman; Judge, owner Kelly Gibbs; Hershey, owner Alice Sanders; Khloe 'Keys', owners Patricia and Tommy Smith; Nick, owner James Hopkins and Pepper, owners Del and Leslie Wilkinson.