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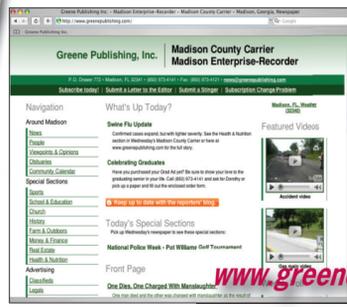


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# H1N1 Virus (Swine Flu) Confirmed

## Six Madison County Children Test Positive For Virus.

By Jacob Bemby  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

Six Madison County children, who attended Camp Pickett Lake (a church summer camp in Lafayette County), have tested positive for the H1N1 Virus.

Children from both Madison and Jefferson Counties attended the camp together.

Kim Barnhill, administrator for the Madison/Jefferson County Health Department, said that swab samples were sent to the state laboratory. Barnhill said 75-80 percent of the samples,

which are sent to the state lab to test for the H1N1 novel strain (commonly referred to as "swine flu") test positive.

"For some reason, adolescents seem to be at greater risk for contracting the virus than others," Barnhill said.

Barnhill urges everyone who may feel sick, having flu-like symptoms to stay at home and not go into the public, and for them to constantly wash their hands to prevent the spread of bacteria.

A Madison County woman, who works as a nurse in Taylor County,

said that county had tested a suspected case, which came back negative. She said that H1N1 is not as bad as people had once suspect-

**"...adolescents seem to be at greater risk for contracting the virus..."**

ed but that there is not a vaccine for the H1N1 virus.

All flu-like symptoms should be

treated with caution. These symptoms include high grade fever (102 or higher), muscle aches, headaches, runny nose (more common in children than in adults), extreme tiredness, dry cough, stomach symptoms, such as nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea, may also occur but are more common in children than adults.

The symptoms of novel H1N1 flu virus in people are similar to the symptoms of seasonal flu and include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache,

Please see H1N1, Page 4A



Kim Barnhill

# Gator Caught In Front Of School



Photo submitted by Pat Lightcap

Shortly before 9 a.m. on Saturday, July 18, a Madison County Sheriff's deputy spotted a four to five-foot alligator crossing, Highway 90 just west of the City of Madison. The gator was heading north on to the property of the Madison Central School. The subject was "detained" prior to going through the school driveway gate and FWC was called. They were sending a trapper from Taylor County to relocate this alligator, who was seeking a higher education. Two City of Madison Police officers at the scene assisted the deputy. The officers kept an eye out for Mom and Dad.

# 13-Year-Old Dies After Swimming In Madison County Lake

The Nassau County Health Department was notified of the death last week of a 13-year-old resident of Nassau County. Follow up tests from the CDC indicate that the child died from primary amoebic meningoencephalitis (PAM). This very rare disease is caused by a microscopic organism called Naegleria fowleri that is found in warm, fresh, natural or manmade bodies of water. The child had a recent history of having been swimming in a lake in southern Madison County.

Naegleria is a microscopic amoeba most commonly found in the upper layer of sediment in the bottom of lakes and ponds with mud floors. The threat of infection, although rare, increases during hot summer months.

The infection occurs when the amoeba enters the body through the nose and travels to the brain and spinal cord while the person is swimming underwater or diving. The public should be aware that they can minimize their risk of illness by avoiding

Please see Death, Page 4A

## MCHS Band To Hold Fundraiser

By Bryant Thigpen  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

The Madison County High School Band will be raising money for the upcoming school year on Saturday, July 25, at O'Reilly's Auto Parts in Madison from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. The band members will be washing cars for a donation of \$5 per car. People are encouraged to give over and above the requested amount if they wish to do so.

The fundraiser is to help the band cover costs on instrument repairs, band uniforms, travel expenses for football games and competitions. The band relies heavily upon the help and support of the community and band boosters to be able to operate and perform for the community.

Please see MCHS, Page 4A

# City Commission Sets TRIM Rate

## Also Hears From Citizens Concerned About Community Safety

By Michael Curtis  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

Among business conducted at the City of Madison Commissioners meeting on July 14, was the vote to set the Truth in Millage (TRIM) rate for the upcoming budget session. This rate represents the maximum assessment the city would apply for tax purposes, which they set at 6.27.

There is often confusion about mill rates, with many thinking it is a percentage rate - like sales taxes. Instead the definition is as follows:

**Mill Rate** - The tax per dollar of assessed value of property. The rate is expressed in "mills", where one mill is one-tenth of a cent (\$0.001). For example, a property with an assessed value of \$100,000 located in a municipality with a mill rate of six (6) mills would have a property tax bill of \$600.

Again, by establishing the TRIM rate, the commission has set the maximum allowable rate that can be ap-

plied; however, the actual rate may be lower. Last year, for instance, the commission set the TRIM rate at 7.57; while the actual mill rate came in much lower, at only 6.04.

When asked why the TRIM rate was set so much lower in the first place this year, City Manager Harold Emrich noted, "We are making every effort to keep taxes in line with last year, despite the fact that our tax base decreased by three and one half percent. We are absolutely dedicated to

**"We are absolutely dedicated to keeping every expense as low as possible..."**

keeping every expense as low as possible without compromising on services."

Mayor Jim Stanley and his fellow commissioners emphasized their desire to make this year's budget as conservative as possible for taxpayers, in spite of the challenging economy. It was also cited as the reason they set the TRIM rate so much lower than last year.

In other business, organizers of a

Please see Trim Rate, Page 4A

# Georgia's Tax Free Weekend Is July 30-August 2

By Bryant Thigpen  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

A trip to Valdosta or Thomasville, Ga., for many Madison County residents is a daily or weekly affair. While Madison has the small town presence that is loved, many like to "get-away" to a bigger city.

On July 30-August 2, the state of Georgia will host their annual tax free weekend, which is to benefit the parents of those who have children returning to school in the fall.

Below are some helpful tips when shopping during a tax-free weekend:

When shopping during the tax-free weekend, be sure and find out what exactly is tax free. Please visit our website at www.greenepublishing.com for a complete list of items that will be tax-free.

Know the dollar limits. Tax exemption is good for school supplies under \$20, clothing and footwear under \$100, computers and for computer related accessories under \$1500.

Make a list of what you need, and confirm that

Please see Tax Free, Page 4A

### Index

2 Sections, 22 Pages

Around Madison	5-7A	Obituaries	5A
Classifieds	12A	Fun Page	11A
Legals	13A	Health & Nutrition	9-10A
Bridal	8A	Money & Finance	14A

### Local Weather

<b>Wed 7/22</b>	93/72		<b>Thu 7/23</b>	94/72		<b>Fri 7/24</b>	93/72		<b>Sat 7/25</b>	90/73	
Partly cloudy. A stray afternoon thunderstorm is possible. High 93F.			Partly cloudy with a stray thunderstorm.			Isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 70s.			A few thunderstorms possible. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 70s.		

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# VIEWPOINTS & OPINIONS

## Letters To The Editor

Letters to the Editor are typed word for word, comma for comma, as sent to this newspaper.

### Why Coaches "Do" Coach Their Own Children Hospital And County Need To Look At Insurance Policies

We are all proud of our 12U MADISON COUNTY girls for their energy and commitment when it comes to softball. Personally I am also proud of our coaches as are the Madison County Babe Ruth Board members that I have spoken with. The coach/coaches discussed in a previously published article are very dedicated to our county baseball/softball programs and the 12U girls currently in Virginia playing for a regional championship. They prove their dedication to our children, league, and community year after year; volunteering their time to coach and/or serve on the Babe Ruth Board. They have spent countless hours studying the game, coaching, raising funds, and helping manage a \$50,000 a year, 360 player program: "for free". Should they use tobacco products around the players? No... Should we as fans support the use of tobacco around our children? No... Should we as fans discuss this with the coaches if it is a problem? Yes. I have

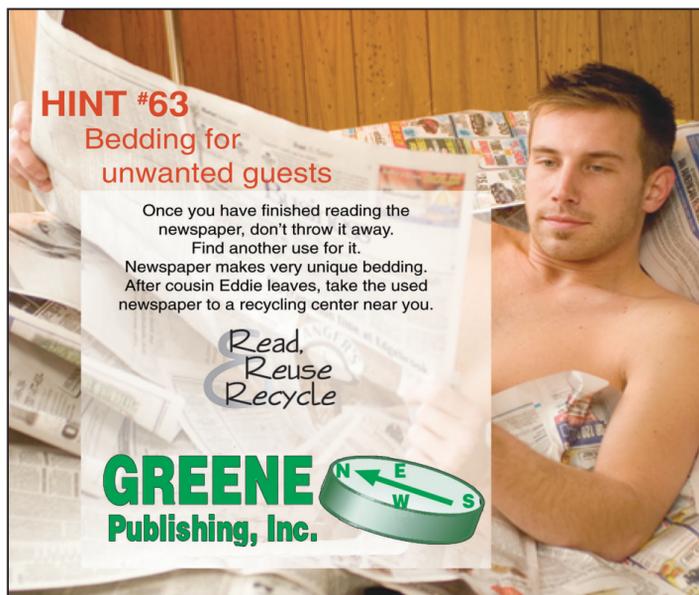
coached baseball in this county for six years, and I am regretfully a tobacco user. My players know it and my parents know it. But, I constantly explain to my players that I am not a positive example in this regard. It is a nasty habit that I wish, and I am sure our 12U softball girls' coaches wish they did not have. Enough said. Players make errors as do coaches. This has nothing to do with a coach/daughter relationship. Both softball and baseball players will fail more than they succeed. Note, a .300 batting average is considered successful, yet on a Math test a 30 score would be considered a failure. Coaches, whether they are coaching their child or not, are judged by us fans/parents based on their success, and whether or not our child is playing, where they're playing, and how much they're playing. This is wrong, as the decision of who, where, and how much a child plays is the coaches. Parents, not coaches, are generally the ones too involved in the game specifically

when it comes to their child to be objective, not the coach. Coaches practice with the players; therefore, they are generally the most objective. Each year the league looks, and unfortunately even has to beg for coaches in both softball and baseball, and generally the ones to come forward are parents. Then these parents are judged by those who don't agree with their decisions. The league loses coaches every year because of these outside pressures, ridicule, and complaints, but financially the league has no other alternative. In the past, my son has played baseball for many coaches. And, some have played him in fielding positions that I didn't necessarily agree; however, I feel like it was the coach's decision which as a fan I should respect. I say if you're not involved, get involved in a positive manner. Support the coaches and your child.

Wayne Money  
Madison County  
Babe Ruth, League Treasurer

Dear Editor,  
I read with great interest about the specialist coming to Madison County, and how we "won't be forced to endure the inconvenience and discomfort of traveling outside the county for medical service." However, for those of us with county insurance or participate in any insurance program, this doesn't help us out in any way. It would be nice of the BOCC and the MCMH Board would really LOOK at the insurance policies. According to our policies, we can not have any test, surgical procedures, X-rays, CT scans, breast exams or even a blood test without a hospital without having to pay towards a \$2,500.00 deductible first. ALL

surgical procedures and test HAVE to be done at a free standing clinic. If not, then we have to pay up front first and that money will go towards our deductible. Instead of a "New Hospital" what Madison County really needs is a separate Critical Care Clinic, and a free standing Testing and Surgical Center. This way, EVERYONE will be able to utilize both facilities. As it stands now, most of us will still "be forced to endure the inconvenience and discomfort of traveling outside the county for medical service." Something to seriously think about in our economy.  
Thank You,  
Cheryl Quick



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# VIEWPOINTS & OPINIONS



**Lee Limelight**  
Jacob Bemby  
Columnist

## First UMC Hosting VBS

The First United Methodist Church is hosting Vacation Bible School through Friday, July 24, from 8:30-11:30 a.m. each day.

The title for this year is "Camp Edge," an action-packed, adrenaline-filled expedition to an Extreme Adventure Camp.

E.D.G.E. is "Experiencing and Discovering God Everywhere."

The VBS is open to children ages three years old through fifth graders.

Please remember Shirley Hartley in your prayers. She underwent heart surgery on Friday.

Midway Church of God will host its 25th annual peanut boil on Saturday, August 1, beginning at 6 p.m. The Reflectsons, from Trenton, will be the special musical guests.

Happy birthday wishes are extended to Julian Penny, Revonda Frith and Dillan Phillips on Friday, July 24.

Belated birthday wishes go out to Kent Lasseter, who celebrated his big day on July 17, and Chad Alen McCormick on July 14.

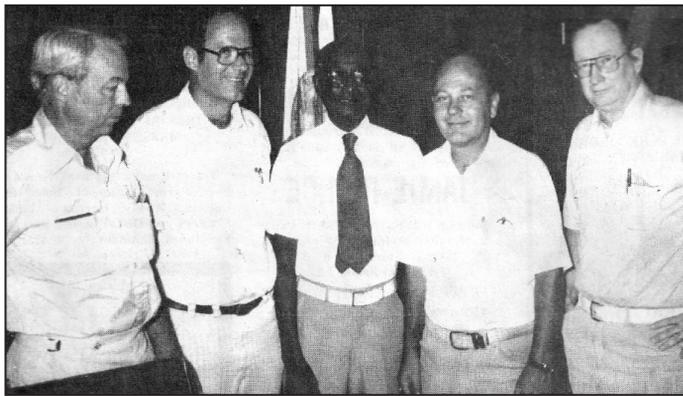
That's all the news for this week! Have a great week and a beautiful forever. May God bless each and every one of you.

## Civil News

- Lisa Page vs. David W. Page - domestic injunction
- Cassie Mobley vs. Willie H. Mobley - other domestic
- Jennifer Noel vs. Robert Jordan - domestic injunction
- TB&W Mortgage Corporation vs. Kimberly Anne Aust - mortgage foreclosure
- Alberto Gonzalez vs. American Integrity Insurance - contracts
- Tawny Casler vs. James Joshua Mote - other domestic
- Willie Henry Mobley, Sr. vs. Cassie Mobley - dissolution of marriage
- 21st Mortgage Corporation vs. Rex Kersey - mortgage foreclosure
- Patricia Lynn Plain vs. Darrell G. Plain, Jr. - dissolution of marriage
- Monica Lookabill vs. Kevin Odom - other domestic
- Old Blue Springs, LLC vs. Marc A. Long, et al - mortgage foreclosure
- Pamela A. Johnson vs. Calvin Johnson - domestic injunction
- Barbara A. Bryant vs. Edward J. Bryant - domestic injunction
- Dixie Garvey vs. Teddy Phillips - domestic injunction
- Crystal Shiver and Department of Revenue vs. Robert Spindell - support
- Marie Adams and Department of Revenue vs. Tonia Grimes - support
- Francesca Reed and Department of Revenue vs. James Hill - support
- Lashana Phillips and Department of Revenue vs. Terrence Jones - support
- Heather Blanton and Department of Revenue vs. Matthew Stanley - support
- Ashley Hancock and Department of Revenue vs. James Sparks - support
- Shorea Aikens and Department of Revenue vs. Bryan Johnson - support
- Ganyika Florence and Department of Revenue vs. Jeremy McKnight - support
- Katrina Aikens and Department of Revenue vs. Roderick Prater - support
- Sean Dawson and Department of Revenue vs. Tamara Dawson - support
- Princess Williams and Department of Revenue vs. Dixie Leslie - support
- Eva Evans and Department of Revenue vs. Larry Sides - support
- Joan Brown Nolen vs. Kerrie Breach - domestic injunction
- Old Blue Springs, LLC vs. Timothy Markland, Jr. - mortgage foreclosure
- Old Blue Springs, LLC vs. Jean Delhomme, et al - mortgage foreclosure
- Phillips Construction, Inc. vs. Teresa M. Beaver - mortgage foreclosure
- Rebecca Fox vs. Doris J. Fox - domestic injunction
- Jimmy Reynolds vs. Vickie Reynolds - simple dissolution

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# Pictures from the PAST



Greene Publishing, Inc. Photo, July 25, 1980

Shortly after an organizational meeting, Madison City Commissioners posed for an official photo.

Pictured left to right are: Commissioner Buddy Scruggs, Mayor Pro-Tem Jim Catron, ex-Mayor Frank Merritt, Mayor C.T. McWilliams, Jr., and Commissioner Kirby Reichmann.

## Stray Vectors

(Editor's Note: "Stray Vectors" is the author's byline for random thoughts.)

There is an old saying that goes like this: "If you're not keeping score, then you're only practicing." I agree and that's why I'm a big supporter of FCAT, the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test. We have educational standards for public schools and FCAT enables us to objectively rate how well our schools are accomplishing their mission of educating our young people.

Much has been made about the government stimulating the economy, but deficits deflate the economy. The projected federal deficit this year is \$1.75 trillion in red ink.

"Never underestimate the power of stupid people in large groups." Until I ran across this quote, I never equated the global warming crowd to an old-fashion lynch mob.

Health care reform is the buzz word now in Washington. Obama says that we need reform to reign in health care costs. But the Congressional Budget Office says that the reform proposal will not only fail to reduce costs, but add a bunch more to the deficit. Looks like another episode of the political shell game - now you see it; now you don't.

I'm trying to figure out what role Al Franken plays now that he is a senator. I know - he can write jokes for Harry Reid. The Senate has been humorless since Joe Biden left.

Tallahassee's James Madison Institute tells us that the problem government gets into is during good times, not bad, when they overspend on programs that are unsustainable during inevitable economic downturns. You see, when receipts exceed expenditures, members of the political class want to spend more money rather than return surpluses to the people who earned it.

The unemployment rate is expected to end 2009 above the current level of 9.5 percent. That's pretty bad. The good news for Obama is that this is the first year of his presidency.

### National Security Joe Boyles Guest Columnist



Warning to liberal-governed states like California, Illinois and New York who think they can solve their state's deficits by soaking the rich: the rich will leave and move to low tax states like Tennessee, Texas and Florida. I call it "tax flight."

A key reason why thirty years of the Middle East peace process has resulted in repeated failure is that there has never been any coherent leadership on the part of the Palestinians. It's like trying to herd a bunch of stray cats on a flatbed.

The president recently signed a credit card reform bill that ... missed the point, which is the high interest rate that the credit card companies charge. It is called usury and is as old as the hills. I guess those "special interests" have paid off enough of those "professional politicians" to think that anything substantive will be done to protect the American consumer.

Israel understands that by allowing Palestinians into their nation, they will be importing economic problems and violence, so they are sealing their borders. They are accomplishing what we don't have the guts to do with our southern Mexican border.

When it comes to energy matters, have you noticed that the environmental left always precedes the noun "coal" with the adjective "dirty?" No bias here. Right!

One of the criticisms leveled at Republicans is that they aren't bi-partisan. I don't know. Recently when the Democrat president said he wouldn't release photos of so-called detainee abuse and would use military commissions to try some of the al-Qaeda prisoners, about the only support he got from Congress came from Republicans.

While we're on the subject of bipartisanship, would someone please explain how a 219-212 vote on Cap & Trade that sets limits on carbon emissions for the next forty years is bipartisan?

Do politicians lie to us? Yes. Do they do this routinely? No. Do they quibble by telling us half-truths? Everyday.

That \$787 billion stimulus package isn't working because it was designed for political, not economic expediency. The first Obama budget predicted an 8 percent unemployment rate. We're at 9.5 percent and climbing.

Don't be misled by politicians that brag about all the jobs they have created or saved. It's a bunch of hooey. Focus instead on the unemployment rate - if the rate is increasing, the public policies aren't working - bottom line.

The Democrat leaders in Congress are trying to "fast rack" reform legislation on the environment and health care by limiting debate, scheduling late votes, and not allowing members time to read and analyze the bills. This legislation will govern our behavior for at least fifty years. This is outrageous.

The late Congressman Tom Moorehead once said, "The law of physics stops at the doors of Congress. Ain't that the truth!"

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## Did You Know...



To make one kilo of honey bees have to visit 4 million flowers, traveling a distance equal to 4 times around the earth.

# LOCAL & REGIONAL CRIME BLOTTER

## Madison County CRIME BEAT

ALL SUSPECTS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY IN A COURT OF LAW

### Convicted Felon Arrested For Firearms Possession

Madison County Sheriff Ben Stewart reports that on Tuesday night July 14 at 8:18 p.m., Madison County deputies responded to the Texaco Station located at 3907 South SR 14 in Madison, concerning the clerk fearing a potential robbery. The fear was based on several subjects entering the store and acting suspicious. The clerk further observed one of the subjects with a handgun concealed in the small of his back under his shirt.



Carl Frank Brown

Upon arrival, deputies located five subjects standing outside the Texaco and an Officer Safety "pat-down" search was conducted. The weapon was discovered on Carl Frank Brown, 57, of Malone.

An investigation further revealed that Brown was also a convicted felon. Brown was arrested and charged with possession of concealed firearm by convicted felon and transported to the Madison County Jail without further incident. The remaining subjects were identified to be from the areas of Malone and Tampa. They were questioned and released without further incident.

## MCHS

cont from Page 1A

The band also plays a major role in the lives of the high school students, giving them something positive to be a part of. The young men and women participate in band camp during the summer before school starts, and performs for the community during half time at football games, parades, evening concerts and social events.

Support the youth of Madison County by supporting the Madison County High School Band program.

## Tax Free

cont from Page 1A

it is tax-free.

Plan ahead. Big items such as computers will be hundreds of dollars cheaper because of the sales tax knocked off. Look ahead and find what you need and can afford.

The current sales tax rate in Valdosta, Ga. is seven cents to each dollar. The government requires four percent, and Lowndes County requires three percent of each taxable item. In order for a state to have a sales tax exemption holiday, the bill must be voted on and passed by the senate and signed by the governor.

The bill was agreed upon in Georgia on April 1, when it passed in the senate. On April 13, the bill was sent to the governor and was signed on May 4. It became effective on May 4.

Get ready and get set to save.

## TRIM Rate

cont from Page 1A

concerned citizens campaign to bring better safety to the city provided a brief summary of a recent workshop conducted by Chief Rick Davis and Sheriff Ben Stewart regarding the establishment of a Neighborhood Watch program. The commissioners were urged to take a more active role in the process, especially in those districts that were comparatively under represented at the workshop. Each agreed the cause merited the full cooperation and participation of citizens, officials, law enforcement and the media.

Skip James, director of public safety at North Florida Community College also addressed the commission regarding collaboration for a grant to obtain fire and rescue vehicles to be used in their expanding public safety courses, namely firefighting and emergency medical services. He suggested applying for the grants in the name of the city, which would also utilize the vehicles since they would have a lot of down time between coursework. All agreed it was a timely win-win, involving no funding from the city whatsoever.

Michael Curtis can be reached by email at Michael@greenepublishing.com.

## Death

cont from Page 1A

swimming or jumping into bodies of freshwater when the water is warm and the water levels are low. The chances of becoming infected rise as temperatures rise.

People should seek immediate medical attention if experiencing the following symptoms after swimming in freshwater:

- Headache
- Fever
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Stiff neck

Generally, if not diagnosed within 48 hours, the amoebas invade the brain and death usually occurs within a week to 10 days. This infection cannot be spread from person to person or contracted from a properly maintained swimming pool.

The following precautions are advised to decrease the possibility of infection:

1. Avoid swimming in unapproved bathing places, especially lakes and ponds when the water is warm, poorly maintained swimming pools, storm water holding areas or in places that are posted "No Swimming Areas"
2. Hold the nose shut or use nose clips when taking part in water-related activities in bodies of warm freshwater such as lakes, rivers, or hot springs.
3. Avoid digging in or stirring up the sediment while taking part in water-related activities in shallow, warm freshwater areas.

For more information, please visit [www.myfloridaEH.com](http://www.myfloridaEH.com), [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).

You may also call the Madison County Health Department at 850-973-5000.

## H1N1

cont from Page 1A

chills and fatigue. A significant number of people who have been infected with this virus also have reported diarrhea and vomiting. Also, like seasonal flu, severe illnesses and death has occurred as a result of illness associated with this virus.

Spread of novel H1N1 virus is thought to be happening in the same way that seasonal flu spreads. Flu viruses are spread mainly from person to person through coughing or sneezing by people with influenza. Sometimes people may become infected by touching something with flu viruses on it and then touching their mouth or nose.

As soon as test results are released, they will be posted online at [www.greenepublishing.com](http://www.greenepublishing.com) and [www.ecbpublishing.com](http://www.ecbpublishing.com).

## Madison County...

### Jail Report



7/8/09  
David Allen Smithie - Fleeing or attempting to elude, driving while license suspended

Sergey Vladimirovich Nikulin - Resisting without violence, feeling a police officer (felony)

Chaddrick Rozelle Cherry - Criminal registration

7/9/09  
Myronn Fontanne Roberts - Violation of probation (circuit)

Jonathan Bellamy - VOP (circuit)  
Erica Que Shiver - VOP, driving while license suspended

7/10/09  
Carl Vincent Redding - Disorderly intoxication, assault

Henry James White, Jr. - Drug equip, VOP (county)

7/11/09  
Roberto Diaz Arredondo - Driving while license suspended or revoked with knowledge (habitual offender)

Kenneth Barfield - Criminal mischief, possession of drug paraphernalia

7/12/09  
Crystal Dawn Jones - Battery/domestic violence  
Marquis Serrod Baynard - Trespass after warning

Kerry Allen Breach - Domestic violence, DUI, driving while license suspended (habitual violator)

Wilhemina Carne-

ta Pride - Aggravated assault (domestic violence), aggravated battery

Marcus Dewayne Thompkins - Disorderly conduct, assault on a law enforcement officer

Tina Annette Smith - DUI  
Francisco Javier Romo - Driving on an expired license

Gerardo Manuel Escalera - Reckless driving, possession of cannabis less than 20 grams

Charlie L. Boles - Resisting an officer without violence, driving while license suspended or revoked

Tyrra Birgit Meserve - Driving while license suspended

7/13/09  
Del Eugene McClamma - VOP (circuit)

Vira Lance Mayfield - VOP (circuit)  
Eleanor Ruth Swearingen - VOP (circuit)

Clarence Fidal Lipscomb - Criminal registration

7/14/09  
Rommie Lee Brinson, Jr. - No valid drivers license

Willie Lee Berry - Introduction of contraband, possession of 20 grams of cannabis or less, driving while license suspended

7/15/09  
Carl Frank Brown - Carrying a weapon by a concealed weapon

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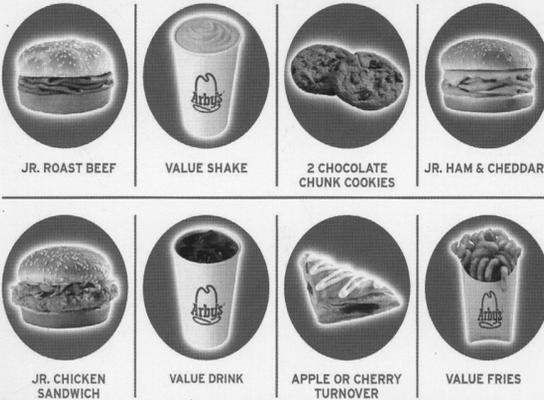
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# AROUND MADISON COUNTY

## Obituaries

### Michael Earl French

Michael Earl French, age 58, of Cherry Lake, died Friday, July 10, 2009, in Tallahassee, at the Big Bend Hospice House in Jacksonville. He was a member of Fellowship Baptist Church. As a journeyman millwright, Mike was a member of the Millwright Local 2411 in Jacksonville. An avid gardener known for his daylilies, Mike also had a love for fishing, hunting, and especially music. He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Sharon Bland French; three sons, Josh (Diane) French, of Milledgeville, Ga., Jeremy (Missy) French, of Cherry Lake and John Rice (Celia) French, of Jacksonville; two granddaughters, Haley Rice French and Addison Grace French; his beloved dog, Woodrow Charles "Woody" French. He is also survived by his parents, William and Joyce French, of Florahome; three brothers; one sister; and several nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Big Bend Hospice, 1723 Mahan Center Blvd, Tallahassee, FL, 32308

### Bernice Rogers Odom



Bernice Rogers Odom, age 80, died Sunday, July 19, 2009, in Madison.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, July 21, 2009, at Beggs Funeral Home Chapel with burial at Midway Cemetery.

She was born September 19, 1928 and was a life-long resident of Madison. She worked as a caregiver for several families and was a homemaker, and a member of Midway Church of God.

She is survived by her primary caregivers and nieces, Betty and Elvove Thomas and Myrtice and Larry Tompkins; 25 other nieces and nephews, and great nieces and nephews, who loved this special aunt, and a host of other relatives and friends.

She was predeceased by her parents, Earnest and Lucinda Albritton Rogers; her husband, Lamar Odom; two sisters, Eunice Rogers Phillips and Joyce Rogers Webb; four brothers, Elzie, Elvie, David and Sidney Rogers.

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### Madison County Tourist Development Council Board Vacancies

The Madison County Board of County Commissioners seeks new volunteer members to serve on the Madison County Tourist Development Council. Openings exist in two categories: A) Individuals involved in the tourist industry and subject to the tax (collects the tax), and B) individuals involved in the tourist industry and not subject to the tax. This Board is also looking for individuals to serve as alternate members. The Board usually meets once a month on the first Thursday at 4:00 PM at the Madison County Courthouse Annex.

Responsibilities include board decisions on requests for Tourist Development Grants, advertising on behalf of Madison County, and recommendations for promoting Madison County to visitors from outside Madison County.

Interested parties should send their name and contact information, along with a brief resume to Mr. Allen Cherry, Madison County Coordinator, PO Box 539, Madison, FL 32341 or email to madisonbocc@embarqmail.com. Deadline for applications is July 30, 2009 at 4:00 PM.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**July 20-23**  
Camp Weed Summer Camp for Children with Parent(s) in Prison will take place July 20-23. Visit [www.campweed.net](http://www.campweed.net) for a brochure, registration and scholarship forms. Join in the Fun in the Sunshine at our 85th consecutive summer camp. A ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Florida for children and young people of any (or no) denomination. Scholarships available for qualified applicants. For information, please call 888-763-2602, Ext. 16.

**July 20-24**  
The First United Methodist Church in Madison will have Vacation Bible School from Monday, July 20, through Friday, July 24, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. each day.

The title for this year is "Camp Edge." E.D.G.E. is Experiencing and Discovering God Everywhere! This is open to children ages three years old through fifth graders.

**July 25**  
The Evil Twin Farms 3-D Buckle Series barrel race will be held July 25. \$100 added money. Exhibitions start at 9 a.m. and the show starts at 10 a.m. The entry fee is \$25; the exhibition fee is \$3. The remaining races in the series will be held Aug. 22, Sept. 19, Oct. 24, Nov. 22 and Dec. 5. For more information, please visit [www.eviltwinfarms.net/etfbuckleseries.cfm](http://www.eviltwinfarms.net/etfbuckleseries.cfm).

**July 25**  
The Florida DEP's Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park will host a Summer Herb workshop on Saturday, July 25. Participants will learn how to grow and propagate warm weather herbs. The second half of the workshop will cover cooking with herbs. Participants will learn how to make herb salts from marinades. Bring your pruners and take home some cuttings. This is a hands-on workshop and fees are \$5 per workshop, including park admission. For additional information or to register for the workshops, please call (386) 397-1920 or visit [www.stephenfosterCSO.org](http://www.stephenfosterCSO.org).

**July 26-August 1**  
Camp Weed Summer Camp for Rising 5th and 6th graders will take place July 26-Aug. 1. Visit [www.campweed.net](http://www.campweed.net) for a brochure, registration and scholarship forms. Join in the Fun in the Sunshine at our 85th consecutive summer camp. A ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of

Florida for children and young people of any (or no) denomination. For more information, please call 888-763-2602, Ext. 16.

**July 31-August 2**  
The Mosley/Hodge Family Reunion II will be held in Madison, July 31-Aug. 2, at the United Methodist Church recreation center. All descendants and relatives of Tom Mosley and Rosa Hodge (of West Farm) are invited to this event. Contact John E. Turner (301) 808-2693 for more information.

**August 2-8**  
Camp Weed Summer Camp for Rising 7th, 8th and 9th graders will take place Aug. 2-8. Visit [www.campweed.net](http://www.campweed.net) for a brochure, registration and scholarship forms. Join in the Fun in the Sunshine at our 85th consecutive summer camp. A ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Florida for children and young people of any (or no) denomination. For more information, call 888-763-2602, Ext. 16.

**August 15**  
Excellence Dance Studio Inc. presents *King of the Grill* show-down and *Art on Wheel Exhibition*, Aug. 15, noon-4 p.m., Madison County Recreation Center, Hwy. 360A. For more information, call (850) 322-7673.

**August 29**  
The Florida DEP's

Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park will host a Container Gardening Workshop on Saturday, Aug. 29. Participants will learn how to avoid many of the pests and diseases associated with summertime gardening in containers and explore warm weather flower and vegetable gardening. The class will cover proper grouping of plants, choosing the right container, selecting the right plants to grow for each season and touch on annuals, perennials and ferns. Bring your pruners and take home some cuttings. This is a hands-on workshop and fees are \$5 per workshop, including park admission. For additional information or to register for the workshops, please call (386) 397-1920 or visit [www.stephenfosterCSO.org](http://www.stephenfosterCSO.org).

**Thursdays**  
Redemptive Recovery Classes/Support Group is held every Thursday in the old First Baptist Church sanctuary, and is for addicts who are seeking to recover and need help. The class is free, and starts at 7 p.m. For more information, please call (850) 464-9022.

**Thursdays-Mondays**  
The Florida DEP's Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State

Park will host an ongoing wood carving workshop on Thursdays through Mondays, from noon until 4 p.m. Participants can create figure carvings, wood spirits, spoons, bowls, relief carvings and more during this four-hour class. Workshop fees are \$15 per session and include park admission. For additional information or to register for the workshops, please call (386) 397-1920 or visit [www.stephenfosterCSO.org](http://www.stephenfosterCSO.org).

**Each Weekday Except Tuesday**  
The Senior Citizens Center offers computer classes to seniors 60 and older each weekday except Tuesday. For more information or to sign up, please call (850) 973-4241. A regular instructor is needed to teach these classes. Interested individuals should ask to speak with Sharon concerning the opening at the number above.

**Every Tuesday-Saturday**  
The Diamonds in the Ruff Adoption Program at the Suwannee Valley Humane Society is open every Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. It is located on 1156 SE Bisbee Loop, Madison, FL 32340. For more information, or directions, call (866) 236-7812 or (850) 971-9904.

## HEARING TEST SET FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

FREE hearing tests are being offered on Thursday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> and July 30<sup>th</sup>. A Factory Trained Hearing Aid Specialist (Licensed in the state of Florida) will perform free evaluations. The tests will be given at:

**235 SW Dade Street**  
(Inside Dr. Schindler's Office).

Appointments are preferred and can be made by calling the Madison office at 973-4812.

Anyone who suspects they have a hearing problem is welcome to have a test using the latest electronic equipment to determine if they have a correctable hearing loss. Even if you have been told nothing can be done for your hearing problem or have been told you have Nerve Deafness, you should be tested. Sophisticated testing equipment will be used to perform these evaluations.

Everyone should have a hearing test at least once a year if you have any trouble hearing clearly and especially if you are over 55 years old. Most hearing problems gradually get worse. An annual test will help keep track of a progressive loss. No hearing problem should be ignored. Special testing procedures will be used for those who wear hearing instruments. Determination of the amount of correction will be explained.

**Call 850-973-4812 to set your appointment. To reduce waiting time please call today.**

# AROUND MADISON COUNTY

## Crosswinds Celebrates Summer Time

By Bryant Thigpen  
Greene Publishing, Inc.  
Crosswinds Health  
and Rehabilitation  
Center in Greenville

celebrated the summer-  
time and beautiful  
weather with a Luau on  
Wednesday, July 15, at 2  
p.m.

Each resident and  
staff participating en-  
joyed fun in the sun, or-  
ange smoothies or  
shakes, and fruit

kabobs. While enjoying  
light snacks, residents  
joined in the party by  
dancing to the music,  
and laughing, and sim-

ply having a good time.  
Dianne Sullivan work  
as a team to provide the  
best entertainment for

the residents. The Luau  
was a hit with the resi-  
dents and was enjoyed  
by everybody who at-  
tended.



Photo by Bryant Thigpen, June 15, 2009

Lyvonne Taylor, who was crowned queen at the Red Hat Society meeting, is pictured enjoying the afternoon at the Luau. (Greene Publishing, Inc.)



Photo by Bryant Thigpen, June 15, 2009

Staff and residents alike enjoyed a fun day in the sun. left to right: Kathy Lott, Geraldine Godfrey and Walter Broome.

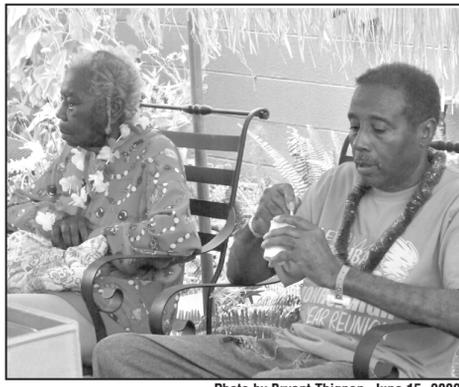


Photo by Bryant Thigpen, June 15, 2009

Orange Smoothies and fruit kabobs were served fresh Hawaiian style. Enjoying the refreshments are Fannie Mae Williams (left) and Tobe Cain.

## Thank You

The family of Gussie Nor-  
ris O'Neal-Smith would like  
to thank everyone for their  
enjoyable visits, prayers,  
beautiful flowers, sympa-  
thy cards, donations made  
in her memory, and most of  
all the love shown to us dur-  
ing the hospital stay and  
death of our loving mother,



grandmother, and great-grand-  
mother. She knew no  
stranger, everyone was her  
friend, and this was evident  
by the outpouring of love to  
our family after her death.

Thanks again,  
The Family of Gussie

## Take Your Family To Blue Springs



By Bryant Thigpen  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

Local residents are  
very familiar with blue  
springs, and it is defini-  
tely a community attrac-  
tion. The Madison Blue  
Springs State Park is a  
great place to enjoy an  
afternoon family picnic,  
family reunion or just a  
dip in the springs to cool  
off. Madison Blue Springs  
has something for every-  
body.

The park is loaded  
with features, such as

large picnic shelters lo-  
cated along the banks of  
the Withlacoochie River.  
The spring is 82 feet  
wide and 25 feet deep,  
and is a popular spot for  
swimming. The caves are  
a favorite of certified  
divers to explore the na-  
ture of the Blue Springs.

The park is located  
10 miles east of Madison  
on the west bank of the  
Withlacoochie River. From  
Madison, take State Road  
6 to the Withlacoochie  
River. Turn

south on the west side of  
the bridge at the park  
sign. Go approximately  
525 feet and the entrance  
is south of the highway.

The park is open  
from 8 a.m. until sun-  
down, every day of the  
year.

Admission is \$4 per  
vehicle (up to eight peo-  
ple), \$1 per pedestrian or  
bicycle. No admission  
fee for children under  
six years of age. Divers  
fee is \$10 and includes  
cavern and cave diving.

## New Business Coming Soon

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## Children's Choice School of the Arts, is a newly established Private Academic School.

### Our Vision



Children's Choice School of the Arts is a  
private school dedicated to providing students  
with high quality learning experiences, as well  
as, a diverse selection of classes in music, dance  
and the visual arts. We believe that students  
who are well-rounded in the arts have a higher  
level of self-esteem and will become leaders and  
strategic thinkers when facing life's challenges.

This non-profit private school is interviewing "Energetic Teachers" for the 2009 - 10 school  
year. All interested full or part-time applicants may contact the school via email at  
childrenschoicesoa@gmail.com or voicemail at 850.973.6781. All messages will be responded to.

Applicants should meet these minimum requirements for consideration:

- Pre-K through K Certified Teachers or a student of Education who will be Certified within eighteen (18) months;
- Ability to meet FDLE screening requirements.

Children's Choice School of the Arts,  
is currently enrolling 4K - Kindergarten grade levels.  
Parents interested in enrollment should contact the School for an application, via  
email at childrenschoicesoa@gmail.com or voicemail at 850.973.6781.

## Chavorie McQuay Steps Up

By Bryant Thigpen  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

What makes a com-  
munity is when one  
steps up to help another  
in need. Chavorio Mc-  
Quay serves as an exam-  
ple by giving his sum-  
mer to help the Madison  
County Extension  
Office wherever  
needed this summer.  
McQuay is a student

at Madison County High  
School where he is enter-  
ing the 11th grade. In



Chavorie McQuay

started volunteering his time  
at the Extension Office.  
"My teacher called me  
about the job and I told  
her I didn't have any

plans, so I said yes I'll  
help," McQuay stated. In  
the office, McQuay  
works as a floater, assist-  
ing in every position  
within the office. He also  
helps the Extension Of-  
fice by volunteering to  
work at the 4-H day  
camps.

"I enjoy helping,"  
said McQuay.

McQuay was born in  
Tallahassee on April 30,  
1992, but has been a  
Madison resident his  
whole life. After high  
school, he plans to at-  
tend college or join the  
Army. If he goes to col-  
lege, he wants to become  
an Orthodontist.

His parents are Tam-  
mie Davis and Richard  
Edwards.

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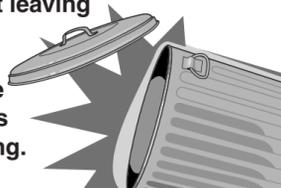
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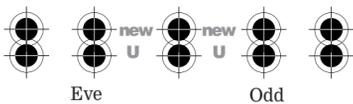
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Wednesday, July 22, 2009

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Madison County Carrier • 7A

# AROUND MADISON COUNTY

## Begin Your Future At NFCC

By Bryant Thigpen  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

North Florida Community College is now opening registration for fall classes. Open registration is now through August 21.

For seniors who graduated high school this year, starting college is a major step into the future. While years ago a high school diploma or a GED could land the best job in the world, now it takes more than that.

It's not hard to tell that times have changed. To obtain a good paying job, most jobs require at least an Associates of Arts degree. Some jobs may require a Bachelors or training in the particular field applying for.

North Florida Community College is a great place to begin the future! NFCC offers site and online classes that makes it convenient to work on a degree. NFCC also offers vocational certificates for classes taken for careers in the medical field.

For over 50 years, NFCC has strived to raise the bar of excellence in Madison by providing small class sizes usually less than 25.

To get a schedule of classes, visit their website at [www.nfcc.edu](http://www.nfcc.edu).

For more information, please call (850) 973-1622.

## SALVATION ARMY V-TEAM TEACHING BIBLE SCHOOL

George and Gail Blevins of Sirmans have brought the Salvation Army V-team to Madison. The team, which is led by Kristen Tompkins of Tampa, helped teach Vacation Bible School in Greenville the week of July 13-17.

The VBS began with a supper each afternoon served by volunteers from the community at 5:30 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m., the V-Team (so called because they teach Vacation Bible School) began their instruction, using creative ways to get the Gospel of Jesus Christ across. The team was first born out of the need some churches have because they don't have a big enough staff to teach VBS. Since Madison County doesn't have that problem, George and Gail Blevins decided to do the outreach in the Greenville community.

George Blevins said that he believes getting the Salvation Army to come to the county is part of the vision that God has shown them.

"It's part of our call-



Photo by Bryant Thigpen, July 16, 2009

The Salvation Army V-team visited Madison County where they taught Vacation Bible School. Pictured left to right: George Blevins, Danny Mongeau, McGino Exantus, Larry Auguste, Jovanie Smith, Chelsea Fleeman, Kristen Tompkins, Stephanie Valery and Gail Blevins. (Greene Publishing, Inc.)

ing," George said, "to get the message to people who would not otherwise hear it."

One of the biggest crowds that the group had was on Thursday evening, July 16, when 36 children and 14 adults attended the service, which began in Haffye Hayes Park with the feeding and continue with the teaching at the Senior Citizens Center.

In addition to Tompkins, the V-Team consists of assistant leader Stephanie Valery from Port St. Lucie; Chelsea Fleeman from Fort Myers; Jovanie Smith from Winter Haven; McGino Exantus from Kingstown, Jamaica; Danny Mongeau from Montreal, Quebec; and Larry Auguste from Ft. Lauderdale.

Valery plans to at-

tend Salvation Army officer training in Atlanta, Ga. in the fall. Smith will be a student at Bethune-Cookman University. Mongeau attends Excelsior Community College in Montreal. Auguste will play running back at West Virginia State University.

The people who comprised the V-team and other units of the Salvation Army are chosen

from applicants sent to the Salvation Army's main district headquarters in Tampa.

On Friday, July 17, the team members were enjoying being taught to ride on horseback by J.L. and Jo Williams of Madison.

"We wanted to give the team a treat," George said, "and we decided on horseback lessons. Our founder used to deliver The War Cry (the Salvation Army's publication) on horseback. Maybe next year, the team will be able to deliver the magazines to people on horseback."

George said that next year, he and the Salvation Army are talking about doing a six-week program.

"It's all worked out so wonderfully this year," he said.

Watch video of the V-Team and George and Gail Blevins at [www.greenepublishing.com](http://www.greenepublishing.com).

Jacob Bemby can be reached at [jacob@greenepublishing.com](mailto:jacob@greenepublishing.com).

## RAY CHARLES HOME DEDICATION SET FOR SEPTEMBER 23

By Bryant Thigpen  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

On Wednesday, September 23, at 10:30 a.m., the doors of the childhood home of Ray Charles will be swung open for the first time, and citizens of Madison County will be given a tour of the home during the dedication of the house.

Ray Charles was born on September

23, 1930, and spent his youth in Greenville. Later in life, Charles became known as one of the world's greatest music jazz legends. The goal of the town of Lee is to honor this legend by dedicating the house on his birthday, and making it a commemorative event for the county. A grant provided by the Florida Bureau of Historic Preservation made the restora-

tion of the house possible, and a historic marker will be placed in front of the house.

The committee will be meeting on July 30, at 5 p.m., to finalize plans to make this a memorable event for Greenville and Madison County.

The house is located at 434 SW Ray Charles Ave., in Greenville.

## Senior Citizens Center To Offer Hot Breakfast

By Bryant Thigpen  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

Beginning the first of August, the Senior Citizens Council of Madison County will be able to serve hot breakfast for local seniors. The meals will be delivered to seniors who already receive lunch from

the center, and working seniors will be encouraged to stop by the center for a hot breakfast before heading to the work place.

Rosa Richardson and the staff at the Senior Citizens Center work diligently to provide the best services for the seniors of Madison County, through grants that are available to them by the State. The addition of serving breakfast is another way

the Senior Center looks forward to serving Madison.

The purpose of the Senior Citizens Council of Madison County is to offer services to seniors, to prolong their dependency in their own home. The center does this by offering other services such as house cleaning and hot meals.

For more information, please contact Sharon Underhill at (850) 973-4241.

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**Saturdays on the Suwannee**

**Saturday, July 25th, 2009**  
at The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park

David' Cooler's musical inclination got its start when he was given his first guitar by his parents when he was only thirteen years old. David, a self-taught musician, released his first CD, Back to the Country, in 2004. The CD sold out within the first few weeks of it's release. David's music spans several genres and his "stories" churn out a soulful southern rock music mix which has a country, R&B and bluesy style. David Cooler entertains local southern rock and country music fans about three times per week in Orangeburg and the surrounding areas.

Also performing During Saturdays on the Suwannee Summer Concert Series Paradise, Johnny Bullford, Michal Bailey, The Red Coats, Gator Chomp Romp, and many more...

Join the Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park for the Saturdays on the Suwannee concert series. Camping upgrades available at regular price. Call today for tickets

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92.5 Kix Country Suwannee Democrat Lake City Reporter

CYAN  
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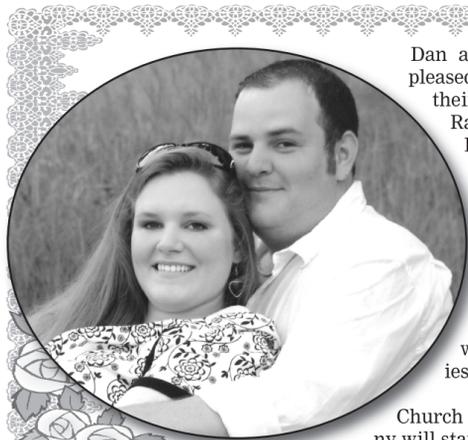
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# BRIDAL GUIDE

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## Williams-Register Announce Upcoming Marriage



Dan and Regina Williams are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Ashley Kristin Williams, to Ray Maxie Register III, son of Ray and Rhonda Register from Jasper.

Ashley is a graduate of North Florida Community College and is currently seeking a bachelor's degree in Christian Ministries at Lee University in Cleveland, Tenn. Ray is currently employed at Stanley Steamer in Valdosta, Ga., employed as an assistant crew chief. He plans to attend Lee University in coming years, where he will get a bachelor's degree in Pastoral Studies, and then go to Seminary.

The wedding will be held at Madison Church of God on Colin Kelly Highway. The ceremony will start at 3 p.m. on July 25, 2009.

## Tips To Help Wedding Guests Say "I Do" To Savings

An invitation to a wedding is generally considered good news, but the expenses associated with attending one—especially an out-of-town event—may present more than a few financial challenges.

Fortunately, there are ways to save on your expenses as a wedding guest or member of the bridal party. Here are a few tips for travelers to avoid wedding guest debt:

- Do your homework when it comes to travel arrangements. If you have to fly, book as far in advance as you can to take advantage of discounted rates, which can be found by visiting a Web site that compares prices. Keep in mind that you may be able

to get cheaper rates if you are prepared to fly early in the morning or late at night.

- When deciding whether or not to rent a car, first crunch the numbers and consider all the expenses involved in getting around while you are there.

- In some cases, it may actually save money to rent a car for a couple of days, especially if you have other guests to share expenses with. But in other situations, you may save by taking public transportation to and from the airport.

- Explain your situation to the bride and groom. If you are a bridesmaid, for example, you may be able to persuade the bride to choose an inexpensive option for bridesmaid's dresses, preferably a dress that can be worn more than once. Or perhaps the bride can help you find an inexpensive place to stay, or suggest other guests you might be able to share a room or transportation with.

- Save on food expenses. Some accommodations offer a coffeepot and a microwave for heating up food—or better yet, a free breakfast buffet.

- Gift wisely. You don't want to scrimp on a wedding gift, but your friends will understand if you don't go overboard. Find out where they are regis-

tered and shop from their registry, which should offer a range of prices. Purchase a more inexpensive gift or split a larger wedding gift with a friend.

Another option is to offer helping out with the wedding if you have any special skills or talents the happy couple might like to use. If you're a photographer, for example, you may want to donate your skills to take the wedding photos. If you are a caterer, you may want to donate some of the wedding day food.

Being practical about planning can help keep your friend's special day from leaving a lasting dent in your wallet.

*karen lucchini*  
photography

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# HEALTH & NUTRITION

## Only Two Out Of A Hundred Make It

By Michael Curtis  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

There are a lot of ways to use and abuse statistics. At times, however, they are the most effective way to illustrate a point. They may not change actions or attitudes, but, again, they can definitely make a point. One of these hard-hitting statistics is associated with cigarette smoking.

Research from a number of well-documented, independent surveys, conducted over millions of samples, shows that only two out of every one hundred smokers who try to quit are still tobacco free after one year. This alarming number - which doesn't include New Year's resolutions, instead only "real" efforts - illustrates what

all smokers who have tried and failed will testify about smoking: It is nearly impossible to quit.

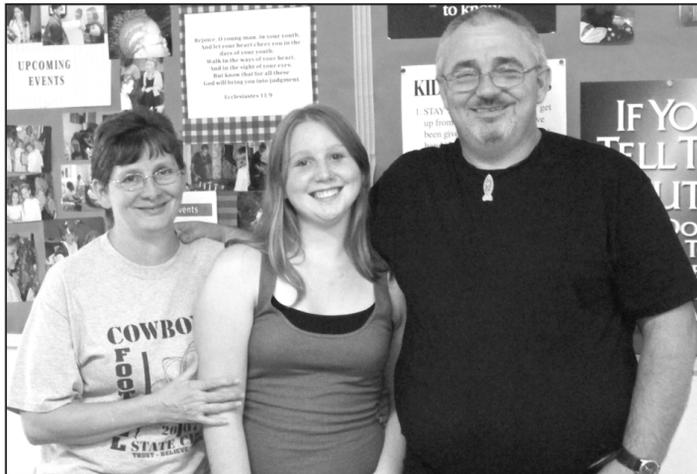
Don't tell that to Karla and Keith Hanners in Lee because they are the statistic, having reached their one-year anniversary as members of the first graduating class of the Quit Smoking Now program conducted in Madison County by Tobacco Cessation Consultant Preston Mathews.

The Quit Smoking Now program is sponsored by the Big Bend Area Health Education Center, which Mathews offers in Madison, Jefferson and Taylor Counties. The Hanners attended their class in Lee a year ago and recall the first day.

"I remember when Keith and I got to the class. We were sure we wanted to quit, but we weren't sure we could quit. Preston quickly put us at ease though. He really understood exactly where we were coming from. The program took us step by step to our quit date, which was July 10, 2008," Karla Hanners explains.

"That was a year ago, and even though we have experienced cravings, we were prepared and got through. Preston was an incredible instructor and armed us with all the right information and support," she added.

The Hanners have a fifteen-year old daughter named Chelsea, who is very pleased as well, recalling the smell and discomfort of cigarette smoke. Their other daughter,



Greene Publishing, Inc. Photo By Michael Curtis, July 10, 2009

Karla and Keith Hanners celebrated their one-year anniversary of being tobacco free with daughter Chelsea. They joined others on the "Wall of Winners," who have successfully completed the Quit Smoking Now program in Madison County.

Felicia McCrary was extremely proud of her parents' accomplishments as well, and very appreciative that her son, Haeden, now has healthier, happier grandparents.

The fortunate few who do quit tobacco will testify to the extreme health and financial benefits of quitting, as much as those who can't will express their extreme frustration at not being able to quit. Preston Mathews is committed to changing that condition and invites all tobacco users to contact him confidentially at (850) 728-5479 for details, or to enroll in the free Quit Smoking Now program.

Michael Curtis can be reached by email at Michael@greenepublishing.com.



**Question:** What do you know about Health Insurance reform?

**Answer:** I have GREAT NEWS about Health Insurance & Dental Insurance! I received a letter from Aundra Bryant of Governor Charlie Crist's office. Governor Crist has signed into law a landmark Health Access to Care bill. Senate Bill 1122 will enable patients with restricted preferred provider networks to receive insurance benefits regardless of the physician (Health ins) or dentist (Dental ins) that they go to see. Governor Crist's statement..."I am pleased that this legislation removes a health care access barrier..." No longer will insurance benefits be denied to patients who seek treatment outside of their provider network. Patients can continue with the preferred provider network or they can see an Out-of-network practitioner. The insurance payments will be the same in the network or outside the network and the payments can be paid directly to the practitioner so you do not have the up front out of pocket expense.

For more information search for SB 1122 at www.myflorida.com. You can read the specific language of the bill. In case you are wondering, this law was in effect July 1, 2009.

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# HEALTH & NUTRITION

## Transitioning Back To School Without Overloading Your Child

We can all remember the excitement, anxiety and enhanced level of activity that take place as a new school year begins. This time of year brings increased expectations as well as new routines, new friends, a new teacher and possibly a new school.

Simultaneously, families review the type and number of activities in which they want to enroll their children. While research studies recognize the benefits of extracurricular activities, juggling these changes can be overwhelming to even the most well-adjusted child.

"It is important to consider your child's interests and ability to adjust when planning activities," says Janeal Roberts, Vice President of Education for Champions, a nationwide provider of before- and after-school programs. "Being aware of your child's needs and preparing for this transition can be the key to a successful and fun school year."

Roberts offers the following tips to help parents schedule children for success:

- Look at each child

as an individual. All children are different and have different talents and varying abilities to manage their time and handle change. Be sure to take this into consideration, especially if your family has more than one child.

- Establish expectations and priorities with your child. Ask yourself "what is most important to me?" and "what do I want for my child?" Be sure to involve your children and consider their input in your decision. Your family's schedule should reflect these goals. Revisit these priorities with your children regularly, engage them in discussions, celebrate successes and review challenges and lessons learned.

- Wait before you commit or overextend your child. Look for extracurricular activities that can be added after school schedules are established. Waiting 30 days to add a new activity after the school year begins can give you and your child the time needed to settle into a routine.

- Streamline and organize activities. It's not the additional one to two hours a week of soccer or dance that causes stress or frus-

tration, but the added time and rush to get from place to place. Look for centralized after-school programs that provide multiple activities on-site to reduce running from place to place.

- Establish family routines and traditions early. Make a calendar that clearly lists mealtimes, bedtime, homework, chores, activities and other important family commitments that your child is expected to attend. Review and reinforce the schedule with your children to help establish routines.

- Plan for downtime, don't wait for it. There is a lot to be gained from unstructured activities. Reserve downtime so that your child can accept an unexpected invitation, be spontaneous and appreciate the times when "there is nothing to do."

Working together with your child to find the schedule that works for your family will ensure a comfortable balance and teach children to understand their own tolerance. Discussing these challenges will help as your children transition into middle school and their teenage years.

## AARP Offering Driver Safety Classes At Extension Office

By Michael Curtis  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

Registration is now open for the AARP Driver Safety Training Classes scheduled for Sept. 12 at the Madison County Extension Office, which is located adjacent to the North Florida Community College campus just off US 90. Organizers are requesting that all interested drivers register early, as space may be limited.

The class will include:

- Safe driving tips
- Good driving practices
- Avoiding crashes
- Changes in Florida Laws
- Possible insurance discounts

People can be great drivers or bad drivers at any age. Generally, young, new drivers tend to have the worst driving records. Experienced, middle-aged drivers are likely to have the best driving records. Overall, older drivers are safe and make appropriate adjustments for their abilities and limitations. In fact, the total number of accidents that involve older drivers is lower than for any other age group. However, the number of accidents per mile driven goes up around age 60, and gets much higher after 75.

Additionally, many older adults take certain medicines and have conditions that increase the risk of unsafe driving. Some conditions that might be a factor in unsafe driving include: Alzheimer's disease, vision problems, stroke, Parkinson's disease, arthritis, and diabetes. AARP understands these challenges and offers this course in the hopes of prolonging safe driving for all Americans.

The AARP Driver Safety Program is the nation's first and largest refresher course for drivers age 50 and older that has helped millions of drivers remain safe on today's roads. AARP has offered the course in the classroom

for 25 years and now offers the same course online as well.

Additional key points covered in the class include:

- Maintaining proper following distance at all times,
- The safest way to change lanes and make turns at intersections,
- The effects of medications on driving
- Minimizing the effect of dangerous blind spots
- Limiting driver distractions such as eating, smoking and cell phone use
- Properly using safety belts, air bags, and anti-lock brakes
- Maintaining physical flexibility
- Continuing to monitor your own and others' driving skills and capabilities.

AARP membership is not required to take the course, and there is no final test to pass. A Certificate of Attendance will be issued at the completion of the course, which may be provided to insurers for applicable discounts. The attendance fee is only \$12.00. In Madison County, contact Rich Olsen at (850) 843-0092 for registration and more information.

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Dr. Potyondy then founded the Plastic Surgery Associates of South Georgia, LLC. His articles have been published in *Journal of Burn Research*, *Aesthetic Surgery Journal*, *The American Surgeon* as well as *The Chronicle of Skin and Allergy*.

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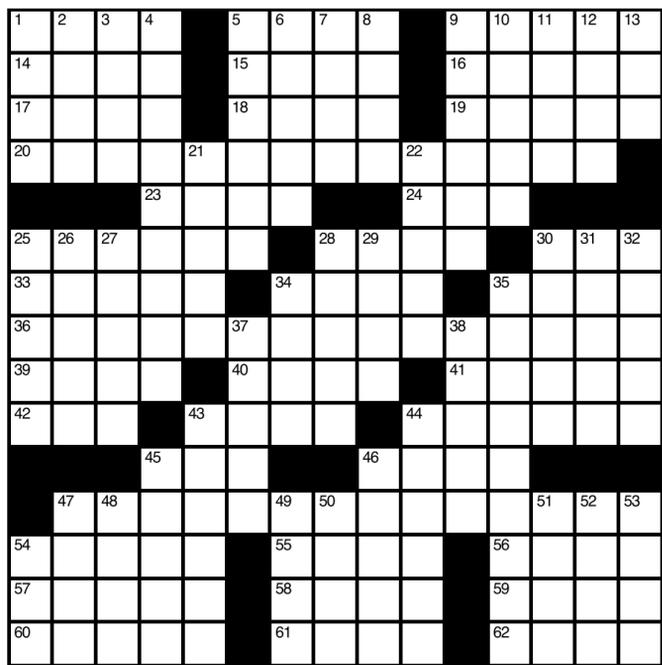
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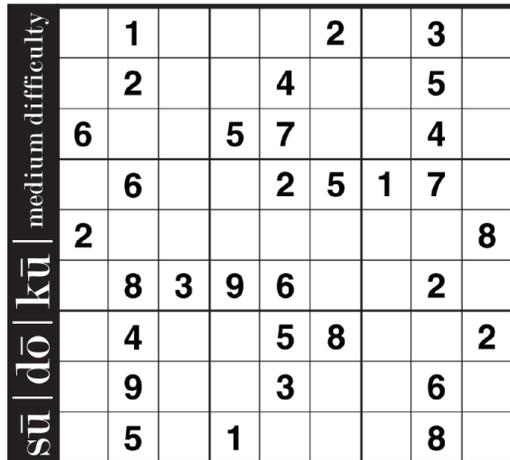


### ACROSS

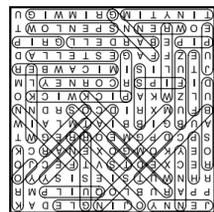
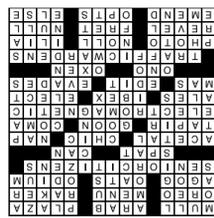
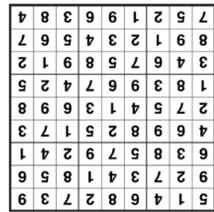
- 1. Think (over)
- 5. Kuwaiti, e.g.
- 9. Fountain locale
- 14. Sundae topper, perhaps
- 15. Children's \_\_\_\_
- 16. Autumn toiler
- 17. Awestruck
- 18. Feed bag contents
- 19. Disgrace
- 20. Golden agers
- 23. Clash
- 24. Jail, slangily
- 25. Formed by adding alcohol molecules to aldehyde molecules
- 28. ¿ la mode
- 30. 40 winks
- 33. Animal with a snout
- 34. Continue
- 35. Deep sleep
- 36. Pertaining to magnetism produced by electric charge in motion
- 39. Brews
- 40. Surefooted goat
- 41. Bumper sticker word
- 42. More, in Madrid
- 43. Cut, maybe
- 44. Gets around
- 45. "Walking on Thin Ice" singer
- 46. Beasts of burden
- 47. Parking regulators
- 54. It's a snap
- 55. Head
- 56. Hip bones
- 57. Celebrate
- 58. Fingerboard ridge
- 59. Nonexistent
- 60. Correct, as text
- 61. Chooses, with "for"
- 62. "... or \_\_\_\_!"

### DOWN

- 1. Flightless bird
- 2. Advocate
- 3. Boxer Spinks
- 4. Handling operations involving labor and materials
- 5. Ethically indifferent
- 6. Change, chemically
- 7. Voting "no"
- 8. Go to pieces
- 9. Fluoxetine hydrochloride
- 10. Burdened
- 11. Like, with "to"
- 12. Counterpart of Roman Jupiter
- 13. Branch
- 21. Eyeball benders
- 22. Cake topper
- 25. First-stringers
- 26. Arum lily
- 27. Fencing sword
- 28. Cleanser brand
- 29. Con
- 30. Eminent
- 31. Square of white linen worn by a Roman Catholic priest while saying Mass
- 32. Agreements
- 34. Home to some Mongolian nomads
- 35. Perennial herb with woody stock
- and bright yellow flowers
- 37. Free from
- 38. "Well, I \_\_\_\_!"
- 43. Envelop
- 44. Elevates
- 45. Like Cheerios
- 46. Young hooter
- 47. Not us
- 48. Amble
- 49. Data
- 50. Business firm whose articles of incorporation have been approved
- 51. Sixth month of the ecclesiastical year in the Jewish calendar
- 52. Lager!'"s "The Wonderful Adventures of \_\_\_\_"
- 53. Ad headline
- 54. Grand \_\_\_\_ ("Evangeline" setting)



- Bardell
- Fagin
- Jenny
- Oliver
- Spenlow
- Brass
- Fang
- Jingle
- Omer
- Tiny Tim
- Bucket
- Fips
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- Pickwick
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H&A. Yard maint. included.  
ADULT FAMILY. No pets.  
\$900 rent and deposit. Good  
credit req. 205 NE Shelby Ave.  
Madison. Call George 973-  
8583 or 557-0994.  
5/8 - rtn, cc

**FOR RENT**  
2 bedroom 1 bath mobile  
home near NFCC, No Pets &  
No Children. Non smokers  
only 850-843-0980  
7/17, 7/22, pd



Rental assistance may be  
available. HUD vouchers  
accepted. **1, 2, & 3 BR  
HC & non-HC accessible  
apts.** Call 850-973-8582,  
TDD/TTY 711. 315 SW  
Lawson Circle,  
Madison, FL 32340.  
Equal Housing  
Opportunity  
rtn, c

**Cambridge Manor**  
Apartments designed for  
Senior's and Disabled.  
1BR (\$409.)  
2BR (\$435.)  
HUD vouchers accept-  
ed Call 850-973-3786 -  
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Madison  
This institution is an  
Equal Opportunity  
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## FOR RENT

CLEAN 3 BR, CH & CA,  
new R & Refg, Oak floors.  
ADULT FAMILY ONLY.  
Rent \$685 plus deposit.  
No pets. Good credit req.  
432 NE Horry Ave., Madi-  
son. Call George 973-8583  
or 557-0994.  
rtn, c



**1, 2 & 3 BR HC & non-  
HC accessible apts.**  
Rental assistance may be  
available. HUD vouchers  
accepted. Call 850-948-  
3056. TDD/TTY 711.  
192 NW Greenville  
Pointe Trail, Greenville,  
FL 32331.  
Equal Housing  
Opportunity  
rtn, c

**Rentals**  
North of Perry  
3 BR/2 BA D/W  
2BR/2 BA D/W with 200 sq  
ft comm bldg.  
40 x 80 horse barn w/50 ac.  
for lease  
800 sq ft comm office  
Full service RV site  
Call 850-838-6124  
6/24, 7/1, 7/8, 7/15 c

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**Modular Sales**  
F.G.B.C. Certifying Agent,  
Pat Riley, is now in Lake  
City 386-344-5024  
7/15, rtn, c

**Needs Minor Work**  
3 bedroom 2 bath dou-  
blewide only \$9,900  
Call David  
386-719-0044  
7/15, rtn, c

**NEW 32 X 80**  
4 bedroom, loaded  
w/upgraded options. Turn  
Key... ready to move in in-  
cluding well, septic, wiring,  
& closing cost on your own  
land. \$533.33 a month w/ no  
money down & 620 or better  
credit score Call Lynn  
850-365-5129  
7/15, rtn, c

Trade in's & Repos Available  
Call Eric for a list of our  
homes available at discount-  
ed prices, many to choose  
from! (386) 719-5560  
7/8 - 7/24, c

**"1st time home buyers"**  
We have several programs to  
help 1st time home buyers  
plus GOUT assistance up to  
\$8,000 \$\$\$  
Call Eric for details  
(386) 719-5560  
7/8 - 7/24, c

**5 Bedroom 3 Bath Home**  
New with zero down  
\$595.00 per month call  
Mike 386-623-4218  
7/15, rtn, c

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Let my 20 years experience  
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7/15, rtn, c

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Starting at \$23.70 sq. ft.  
Guaranteed lowest prices in  
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call David for government  
housing assistance programs  
386-719-0044  
7/15, rtn, c

1 Acre, paved road, 3 bed-  
room 2 bath workshop, fire-  
place only \$499.00 monthly  
call David 386-719-0044  
7/15, rtn, c

**"Brand New"**  
1500 sq. ft. 3/2 to many up-  
grades to list, all this for only  
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up appointment  
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7/8 - 7/24, c

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MOBILE HOMES 1990  
OR NEWER**  
386-752-5355  
7/15, rtn, c

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Tired of being turned down  
because you have no money  
or credit score is too low but  
you own your own land? I  
have solutions  
Call Lynn Sweat  
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7/15, rtn, c

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7/15, rtn, c

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\$150.00 and your property  
puts you in a home today  
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## MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

**Repo Mobile Homes**  
Due to the state of the  
economy, one persons' loss  
is another ones gain. Save  
thousands on these bank  
repos. Call Rick  
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Special financing program I  
can help you own a home  
Call Bobby at  
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4 bedroom 2 bath ready to  
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Introducing "Mossy Oak"  
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**28 X 80 5 Bedroom**  
Reduced \$15,000 for quick  
sale call Mike  
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State?**  
special financing for home  
purchase call  
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\$361,000 Available to loan  
for home purchase at .5 LTV  
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**For Sale:  
House & Lot**  
In the Town of Suwannee  
was \$135,000. Now \$99,000.  
2 BR/1 BA. Fully Furnished,  
New Metal Roof, and New  
Paint. Utility Building with  
Washer and Dryer. Nice Fruit  
Trees. 386-719-0421  
rtn, n/c

**Fantastic Lake  
and Mountain Views**  
from this 2 Bed/2Bth Home.  
Open and Covered Decks,  
Large Screened Porch, Gas  
FP, CH/A, Oak Floors & Cab-  
inets, and Appliances.  
Offered Furnished at  
\$179,900. Call BJ Peters at  
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rtn, n/c

**Completely Remodeled**  
3 BR/1 Bath, new roof,  
carpet, central heat & air,  
new kitchen cabinets, new  
bathroom, new 200 amp  
electrical, approximately  
1300 sq. ft. \$84,000  
Oak Estates Sub Division  
McWilliams Realty  
(850) 973-8614  
6/3, rtn, c

**For Sale By Owner**  
Brick 3 BR, 2 Bath, and  
1604 SQ. FT., Carport, Patio,  
1.76 Acres, Fenced Yard,  
Cement Circular Drive,  
Sidewalks. Recent Appraisal.  
Corner lot on Houck Road  
@ 3281 Sullivan Road,  
Perry. Call for info or appt.  
850-584-9486  
or 407-791-0246  
7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12

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**OFFICE BUILDING  
FOR RENT**  
across street from  
Post Office, Courthouse,  
and Courthouse Annex.  
(Old Enterprise Recorder Office)  
111 SE Shelby St., Madison;  
Newly renovated  
back to the 1920's era  
Call 973-4141  
rtn, n/c

**Commercial/Industrial  
Property**  
with state highway frontage.  
Corner lots. Fronts both  
Harvey Greene Dr.  
& Highway 53 South.  
Enterprise Zone  
Natural gas line, 8 inch wa-  
ter main, access to city utili-  
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Property has easy access to  
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Will build to suit tenant or  
short or long term lease.  
Call Tommy Greene 850-  
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## HELP WANTED

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5/13 - rtn, c

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If you answered yes to any  
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Assistant Mgr in the  
Jennings area. Competitive  
Salary, Bonus, Weekly Pay,  
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Interested applicants please  
call Kim @ 352-494-4551 or  
Laurie @ 386-792-2334  
7/15, 7/22, c

**Shop Mechanic Wanted**  
for the Jefferson County  
Road Dept. Must have gas  
and diesel, light and heavy  
equipment experience. A  
high school diploma or GED,  
Clean Florida driver's  
license of Class A or B preferred.  
Apply at the dept. or  
pick up an application at the  
Human Resource office in  
the Clerk's office. Deadline  
for applications are July 31,  
2009. Call 997-2036 for  
information.  
7/22, 7/29, c

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Work**  
\$12 (for 20 words or less)  
Wednesday and Friday.  
Your ad will also  
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## HELP WANTED

**PART-TIME LIBRARY  
AIDE II**  
GREENVILLE PUBLIC  
LIBRARY

Suwannee River Regional  
Library is currently seeking  
applicants for the position of  
regular part-time Library  
Aide II at the Greenville  
Public Library. The applicant  
will work approximately 8  
hours per week regularly and  
also be used as a substitute  
during other days of the  
week when needed. Mini-  
mum qualifications include  
graduation from a standard  
high school, ability to type  
and experience with Internet  
and computer software. Li-  
brary experience is desired.  
Salary is \$7.21 to \$10.24 per  
hour depending on qualifica-  
tions and experience. Inter-  
ested applicants may obtain  
an application at the Lee,  
Greenville or Madison Public  
Libraries, or at the Suwannee  
County Administrative Services  
Department, 224 Pine  
Ave., Live Oak, FL 32064,  
telephone (386) 362-6869.  
Applicants are encouraged to  
submit resumes, letters of  
reference and other bio-  
graphical information with  
their applications. All appli-  
cations must be returned to  
the Administrative Services  
Department in Live Oak. Posi-  
tion will remain open until  
filled. The Suwannee County  
Board of County Commis-  
sioners is an equal  
employment opportunity em-  
ployer that does not discrimi-  
nate against any qualified  
employee or applicant be-  
cause of race, color, national  
origin, sex, including preg-  
nancy, age, disability, or  
marital status. Spanish  
speaking individuals are en-  
couraged to apply. All appli-  
cants subject to a  
pre-employment physical.  
"Successful completion of a  
drug test is a condition of  
employment."  
7/15, 7/22, c

## Page Designer/Layout

Needed for the Madison  
County Carrier and the  
Madison Enterprise-  
Recorder. Must be a team  
player, able to handle multi-  
ple tasks, and have experi-  
ence with Quark Express  
and/or Photoshop. The posi-  
tion includes designing and  
laying-out approximately 12  
pages, per paper. Apply in  
person only at the Greene  
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Carrier building, located at  
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Please if you're not sure how  
an alarm clock works or you  
average more than two dra-  
matic incidents in your life,  
per week, or simply only  
work because you are bored,  
or feel that you must com-  
plain on a daily basis or fight  
with co-workers, please do  
not apply.  
7/15, rtn, cc

## Local Cardiologist

Seeking staff for front office  
and back office  
Fax resume 850-653-4135 or  
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gy.com  
7/17, rtn, c

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**Buy Police Impounds!!**  
97 Honda Civic \$400! 97  
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lice Impounds! For list-  
ings call (800)366-9813 ext  
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**GET A NEW COMPUT-  
ER Brand Name BAD or  
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Smallest weekly pay-  
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**AWESOME CAREER  
OPPORTUNITY \$20/hr.,  
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**Florida Land Auction**  
Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup> @ 10 a.m.

• Offered High Bidders Choice  
• Commercial and Residential Acreage  
• Good Hunting Tract  
• 8 Tracts Ranging from 5 to 10 Acres  
• Two Miles South of I-10 exit 225  
• Frontage on U.S. Hwy. 19, Attatulla Road & WPA Road

**52 +/- Total Acres**

U.S. Hwy. 19,  
(Florida Georgia Pkwy)  
Monticello, FL

**Jefferson County**

TRACT	ACRES
1	7.88 ±
2	5.50 ±
3	5.00 ±
4	6.00 ±
5	10.00 ±
6	5.00 ±
7	5.00 ±
8	10.00 ±
TOTAL	50.88 ±

**CertifiedRealEstateAuctions.com**  
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**TWO AUCTIONS**  
SATURDAY, JULY 25TH

**MADISON Co., FL -**

10:00 a.m.

\* Beautiful Lodge Home -15± Ac  
\* Approx. 2000 sq. ft.  
\* 2 Bedrooms / 2 Baths  
\* Cathedral Ceilings and Pine Interior  
\* Canopy tree lined drive  
\* 1± mi from GA/FL line  
Minutes from Quitman,  
Madison, Valdosta & Tville  
A Must See Property!

**Brooks Co., GA**

2:00 p.m.

\* Lovely Country home on 20± Ac  
(offered divided & as a whole)  
\* Approx. 1866 sq. ft.  
\* 3 Bedrooms / 2.5 Baths  
\* Bring Family & pets to the country!

1531 Thompson Rd  
Brooks Co., (Dixie) GA

**For More Information Call 800-360-1101**

For Directions go to [www.PropertiesSouthAuctions.com](http://www.PropertiesSouthAuctions.com)

Terms: 20% down day of auction, balance at closing in 30 days. (All due diligence must be completed prior to auction) 10% Buyers Premium.  
Inspection: Houses - July 12th from 2-4 p.m. or call for appointment

**United Country** Auction Services  
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**United Country** Real Estate  
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AL 2794

# LEGALS

**NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That Pursuant to a WRIT OF EXECUTION issued in the County Court of Madison County, Florida, on the 4th day of June, 2002 in the cause wherein ROBERT WHIDDON, Plaintiff, vs. JOHNNY LEE CRUCE AND TAMMI LYNN CRUCE, Defendants, being Case No. 2000-110-RE in said Court.

I, Benjamin J. Stewart, as Sheriff of Madison County, Florida, have levied upon all the right, title and interest of the Defendants, JOHNNY LEE CRUCE AND TAMMI LYNN CRUCE, in and to the following described property lying and situated in Madison County, Florida, to wit:

1996 Ford Pick-up Truck, VIN #1FTEF14N1TNA06297

and on the 25th day of August, 2009 at Ben's Towing wrecker yard, 439 NE Daylily Ave., Madison, Florida at the hour of 11:00 A.M., or as soon thereafter as possible, I will offer for sale all of the said defendant's, JOHNNY LEE CRUCE AND TAMMI LYNN CRUCE, right, title, and interest in aforesaid property at public outcry and will sell the same, subject to all taxes, prior liens, encumbrances and judgments, if any, to the highest and best bidder or bidders for CASH IN HAND. The proceeds to be applied as far as may be to the payment of costs and the satisfaction of the above described execution. The property will be available for inspection at Ben's Towing wrecker yard between the hours of 10:00 AM through 11:00 AM the morning of the sale.

In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Clerk of Court, telephone (850) 973-1500, no later than seven (7) days prior to the proceeding.

Benjamin J. Stewart, as Sheriff  
Of Madison County, Florida

By: Bill Hart  
Deputy Sheriff

7/22, 7, 29, 8/5, 8/12

**NOTICE OF SALE**

Date of Sale: July 30, 2009  
Time of Sale: 11:00a.m.  
Location of Sale: 125 SW Range Avenue, Madison, Florida 32341 at the front West door of the Courthouse.

**Property (legal description)**  
Begin at the Southwest corner of the Northwest Quarter (NW1/4) of Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of Section 27, Township 1 North, Range 9 East, Town of Madison (now City of Madison), and thence run East 210 feet, thence run North 315 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING, thence run East 105 feet, thence run North 105 feet, thence run West 105 feet, thence run South 105 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING, being part of the Northwest Quarter (NW1/4) of the Northwest Quarter (NW1/4) of Section 27, Township 1 North, Range 9 East, as recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Madison County, Florida, in Deed Book "0-2", page 635, containing 1/4 acre, more or less.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR MADISON COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: 2007-116-DR

ROBERT CHARLES ARNOLD,  
Husband,  
Vs.  
MARIE RICHARDSON ARNOLD, a/k/a  
MARLE RICHARDSON, a/k/a MARIE MOORE  
Wife.

ORDER GRANTING SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION

UPON CONSIDERATION of Petitioner's Motion to Set Date of Sale at Public Auction, the Court, having reviewed the file and otherwise being fully advised in the premises, finds that:

1. A Final Order on Equitable Distribution was entered by the Court on November 18, 2008.
2. Said Order Granted Petitioner's request for Partition of the parties' property, more specifically described as that property located at 147 SW Crosby Ave, Madison, Florida 32340.
3. Said Order required the property to be sold within one hundred eighty (180) days or be sold at public auction to the highest bidder.
4. The subject property has not sold within the ordered time frame.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED AND ADJUDGED

A. Petitioner's Motion to Set Date of Sale at Public Auction is GRANTED,  
B. The Clerk of this Court shall sell the above described property at a public sale on July 30, 2009 at 11:00 a.m.  
C. The Clerk shall set the sale date between 20 and 35 days from the date of this order.  
D. The Court reserves jurisdiction for the enforcement of this order and all other matters not disposed of herein.

DONE AND ORDERED, in chambers, at Madison County Courthouse, Madison County, Florida, this 6th day of July, 2009

Original signed by:  
GREG PARKER Circuit Judge

7/15, 7/22

**BID NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners of Madison County, Florida will be accepting bids for the following:

**Furnishing all necessary materials, equipment, labor and supervision to construct the Boundary Bend Boat Launch Facility improvements as shown in the construction plans prepared for Madison County and designated as Boundary Bend Boat Launch Facility Construction Plans, dated May, 2008 and known as Project # FY 2009 - 04; and furnishing all necessary materials, equipment, labor and supervision to construct the Cherry Lake Boat Launch Facility improvements as shown in the construction plans prepared for Madison County and designated as Cherry Lake Boat Launching Facility Construction Plans, dated May, 2008 and known as Project # FY 2009 - 05.**

Bids may be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners by depositing same at the Board office located in the Madison County Courthouse Annex, Room 219, 112 East Pinckney Street, Madison, Florida 32340, or Post Office Box 539, Madison, Florida 32341 anytime prior to 5:00 PM on Monday, August 17, 2009. ANY BIDS RECEIVED AFTER SUCH DATE AND TIME WILL NOT BE OPENED AND/OR CONSIDERED. Bids must be clearly marked with the project numbers printed on the outside of the front of the bid envelope as follows: Boundary Bend Boat Launch Facility, Project # FY 2009 - 04 and Cherry Lake Boat Launch Facility, Project # FY 2009 - 05. Bidders may bid one or both projects.

**BID MUST CONTAIN A COPY OF THE VENDOR'S MADISON COUNTY OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE WHERE APPLICABLE, OR CERTIFIED STATE CONTRACTOR NUMBER TO BE CONSIDERED FOR AWARD.**

Bid Specifications and Construction Plans, as well as other pertinent bid documents, may be obtained from the Madison County Public Works/Road Department office located at 2060 NE Rocky Ford Road (C-591), 2 miles north of Madison, telephone # 850-973-2156, beginning July 22, 2009. Each contractor interested in bidding these projects is strongly urged to obtain copies of the bid packages immediately in order to have time to review them and visit the project locations prior to the pre-bid conference referenced below.

Please be advised that a pre-bid conference will be held on Tuesday, August 4, 2009 at 2:00 pm in the County Commission Meeting Room located in the Madison County Courthouse Annex Building, 112 E. Pinckney Street in Madison, Florida. Madison County reserves the right to waive any informality or to reject any or all bids.

Bids will be opened at 9:00 am on Tuesday, August 18, 2009 after which all bids will be available for public inspection. Award by the Board of County Commissioners is scheduled for Wednesday, September 2, 2009, and all bidders will be notified in writing of the successful bidder.

Please Note: Bid award shall be made to the lowest responsible bidder meeting bid requirements and project specifications, and who possesses the experience required for this type of construction.

7/22, 7/24, 7/28, 7/31

**ALL THE PARTS YOUR CAR WILL EVER NEED**

**Price Comparison**  
2001 Chevrolet Silverado Motor Mount

Parts Store	Part Brand	Price
RockAuto	Anchor	\$30.79
Advance	Anchor	\$49.99
Autozone	Anchor	\$49.99
NAPA	NAPA	\$56.99
O'Reilly	Anchor	\$56.99

(as of 7/17/2009) RockAuto price is regular price, NOT a special sale price created for this comparison.

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**Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS)**

As part of our efforts in updating the Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) for Madison County, Madison County Emergency Management will hold a public meeting on Thursday, July 23rd at 5:30pm. The meeting will be held at the Emergency Operations Center, located at 1083 SW Harvey Greene Drive. The meeting will provide an opportunity for the residents of Madison County to review and comment on the LMS Draft Mitigation plan. For any additional information you may contact Vicki Brown by phone (850) 973-3698, or by e-mail, madisoncom@embarmail.com.

7/22

**Florida City & County Government Surplus**

GovDeals is Hosting an Online Auction the Surplus Assets of Florida County, City, Law Enforcement and Educational Agencies

Police/Sheriff Vehicles & Confiscated Property - Heavy Equipment - Pickup Trucks - Cars - Buses - Computers Furniture - Specialty Assets - Scrap Metal  
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Pasco County	330Ac	Wednesday, August 19th @ 10 a.m. - 11:30a.m.	Pasco Co
Hillsborough County	83Ac	Thursday, August 20th @ 10 a.m. - 1p.m.	Near Tampa
Hillsborough County	132Ac	Friday, August 21st @ 10 a.m. - 2p.m.	Near Tampa
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# MONEY & FINANCE

## Can Lifestyle Hurt Credit?

By Michael Curtis  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

Lenders have started monitoring the spending behavior of credit card holders and it's apparent that certain purchases cost more than expected. Now, what one buys and where he or she shops may also affect credit scores.

As credit card companies continue to tighten their lending standards on card users, some are using purchasing data — gleaned from millions of card transactions processed daily — to weed out who may or may not be good credit risks. For instance, credit card use at merchants specializing in secondhand clothing, retread tires, bail bond services, massages, casino gambling or betting can have a negative effect.

The bottom line: credit card issuers are taking note and making decisions about creditworthiness based on purchasing behavior. The used clothing or retread tires purchases given may be an indication of financial distress and a preamble to missed credit card payments or defaults.

Congress and federal regulators are looking into this practice, probing the extent to which credit card issuers have used information about where a person shops or what they buy as reasons to lower credit limits or increase interest rates. When credit limits are lowered, it can adversely affect utilization ratios, which measure how much of cardholders' credit limits are used. Lowering credit limits increases the utilization ratio and can lead to lower credit scores.

**New Credit Card Law**  
The new credit card reform law signed by President Barack Obama in May includes a provision re-



quiring federal regulators to investigate whether credit card issuers used information about where consumers shopped, what they purchased, the types of merchants they shopped with and their locations, and the mortgage company they borrowed from as

bases for increasing interest rates or reducing credit limits.

"Where a person shops, in my opinion, has little bearing on whether they can pay back a credit card balance," one representative said during a hearing on credit card reform conducted by the U.S. House Financial Services Committee. "I want this study done because I want to stop some of these outrageous practices in the future."

The Federal Reserve, the Federal Trade Commission and other banking regulators must report to the U.S. House and Senate financial-services and banking committees, respectively, detailing whether card issuers engaged in the practice between May 22, 2006, and May 22, 2009.

Regulators must also determine whether the profiling negatively affected minority and low-income card users.

### Is it redlining?

Limiting credit based on where a person shops or the neighborhood they live in could amount to redlining, the practice of targeting certain areas or neighborhoods for discriminatory housing, insurance or lending treatment. With credit card transactions, every time one makes a purchase, a record of that sale is logged into a database of information collected by the credit card issuer. Privacy experts warn that consumers should be mindful of what they buy with plastic and what purchasing data credit card issuers may be analyzing.

Michael Curtis can be reached at michael@greenepublishing.com.

## The Leading Cause Of Bankruptcy

By Michael Curtis  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

Medical problems caused 62 percent of all personal bankruptcies filed in the U.S. in 2007, according to a study by Harvard researchers. And in a finding that surprised even the researchers, 78 percent of those filers had medical insurance at the start of their illnesses, including 60.3 percent who had private coverage, not Medicare or Medicaid.

Medically related bankruptcies have been rising steadily for decades. In 1981, only 8 percent of families filing for bankruptcy cited a serious medical problem as the reason, while a 2001 study of bankruptcies in five states by the same researchers found that illness or medical bills contributed to 50 percent of all filings.

This newest, nationwide study, conducted

before the start of the current recession by Drs. David Himmelstein and Steffie Woolhandler of Harvard Medical School, Elizabeth Warren of Harvard Law School and Deborah Thorne, a sociology professor at Ohio University, found that the filers were for the most part solidly middle class before medical disaster hit. Two-thirds owned their homes, and three-fifths had gone to college.

But medically bankrupt families with private insurance reported average out-of-pocket medical bills of \$17,749, while the uninsured's bills averaged \$26,971. Of the families that started out with insurance but lost it during the course of illnesses, medical bills averaged \$22,658.

"For middle-class Americans, health insurance offers little protection. Most of us have

policies with so many loopholes, co-payments and deductibles that illness can put you in the poorhouse," said lead author Himmelstein.

The study underscores President Barack Obama's arguments in calling for health care reform legislation this year. In a recent letter to Democratic Senate leaders, the president said: "Health care reform is not a luxury. It's a necessity we cannot defer. Soaring health care costs make our current course unsustainable. It is unsustainable for our families, whose spiraling premiums and out-of-pocket expenses are pushing them into bankruptcy and forcing them to go without the checkups and prescriptions they need."

The study was funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and published online by The

American Journal of Medicine. It will appear in the Journal's August print edition. The researchers examined the court records of a random sample of 2,314 bankruptcy filings across the nation during early 2007 and contacted those filers for written explanations. The researchers then followed up with extensive phone interviews of 1,032 of those filers.

They found that a number of medical factors contributed to a family's financial disaster. High medical bills caused more than 90 percent of medically related bankruptcies directly or medical costs that were so high the family was forced to mortgage their home. The remaining 8 percent went bankrupt because a medical problem caused them to lose income.

The authors were not able to track credit card defaults caused by medical bills, but a 2007 study found that, of low- and middle-income households with credit card debt, 29% used their plastic to pay off medical expenses.

Individuals with diabetes, one of the most common chronic diseases in the U.S. and especially Madison County, and those with neurological illnesses such as multiple sclerosis had the highest costs, an average of \$26,971 and \$34,167, respectively. Hospital bills were the largest single expense for half of all medically bankrupt families.

Woolhandler, an advocate of a single-payer health care system, said lawmakers in Washington should reconsider health care reform in light of the study. "Covering the uninsured isn't enough," she said. "Reform also needs to help families who already have insurance by upgrading their coverage and assuring that they never lose it."

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### Wealth News

July 2009  
Information from Madison County Community Bank and SPF\* to help keep your financial life in balance

## Consumer Sense

**Rethinking Retirement**  
You did everything right. You planned for your retirement by properly diversifying your investment portfolio, and even scrimped in order to maximize contributions to your retirement plans. However, after a year of some of the biggest stock losses since the Great Depression, you might be wondering whether your shrunken nest egg will be enough to carry you through retirement. Before drawing any premature conclusions, it's important that you first take charge of your situation by asking and answering these four critical questions.

**Where do I currently stand?**  
Take inventory of where your retirement accounts are held and how they're invested. These would include IRA's, employer sponsored accounts (401k's, etc.) and other accounts earmarked for retirement. Although it might be disconcerting, gather up your latest statements from these accounts and total how much they're worth. The losses may seem astonishing but do not let that discourage you.  
Understanding where things stand  
Source: [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)

**Have You Read...**  
*The Wall Street Journal. Complete Retirement Guidebook: How to Plan It, Live It and Enjoy It* by Glenn Ruffenach, Kelly Greene. As you think about retirement, you've got facts to face, planning to do, decisions to make and numbers to crunch. With the experts at *The Wall Street Journal* to guide you, you'll learn how to tailor a financial plan for the lifestyle you want.

today will help you determine how much you will need to save for your future.

**Can I get help with understanding my situation?**  
With all of the economic tumult of the past year, a thorough review of your financial plan should be considered mandatory. Whether with the advisor who helped you put together your plan prior to the market downturn or another advisor who might be a better fit, it's important to tap into the knowledge and experience of a financial professional who will take the time to understand your goals and speak to you directly and realistically about where you stand and what you should expect going forward. He or she may be able to help you in simplifying your financial life without reducing your retirement goals.

**Should I plan on receiving Social Security benefits?**  
If you have not already done so, you

may want to become familiar with your Social Security benefits options as part of your overall income strategy. In order to help maximize your social security income, pay special attention to the date when you begin withdrawing Social Security benefits. According to the Social Security Administration, lifetime income benefits will generally be higher the longer you wait to take your first withdrawal. For more information on your benefits as well as information on income planning tools, visit the Social Security website (<http://www.ssa.gov/>).

**Get Help from our financial professionals**  
Our financial professionals can help you determine the financial path to follow in pursuit of your near- and long-term financial goals. He will work with you to identify and understand your investment goals and then develop a well structured investment plan.

**Interested in Learning More?**

I specialize in helping people maintain a healthy financial balance and discover smart money strategies. Call me to set an appointment to review your investment objectives, and to discuss any questions you might have. I look forward to speaking with you!

**Willy Gamalero -- 973-2400**  
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### Financial Focus...

## Have Your Parents Made Their Financial Plans?

*Provided by Brad Bashaw, Edward Jones*

As an adult, you're fortunate if you still have your parents. However, as they get older, you may well have to assist them in some key areas of their life. Specifically, they may need you to get involved in some of their financial issues. And if you do, you may need to focus on two areas: leaving a legacy and managing finances during retirement.

While initiating these conversations may not be easy for you, it is important, and you may find your parents more willing to discuss these issues than you had thought. In any case, if your parents haven't already done so, encourage them to work with an estate-planning professional to develop the necessary legal documents, which may include wills, trusts and financial durable powers of attorney. These documents and services can be invaluable in helping individuals find efficient ways to pass assets from one generation to the next. An estate-planning attorney can identify which arrangements are the most appropriate for you and your family.

In your discussions on leaving a legacy, you may also want to bring up the topic of the beneficiary designations that may appear on your parents' life insurance contracts and qualified plans, such as 401(k)s and IRAs. If the family picture has changed in recent years, and your parents had intended to change these designations, they should take action sooner rather than later.

While your parents need to deal with the legacy issue, they still may have plenty of years of living ahead of them — and they might need help managing their money during these years. For starters, you may want to have a discussion about their savings, investments, insurance and so on, and where these assets are held. Are they kept in banks or investment companies? Do your parents have safe-deposit boxes? This knowledge could be valuable if you ever become involved in managing or distributing your parents' resources.

Also, you might want to talk to your parents about the income sources they may be drawing from during their retirement. For example, how much are they taking out each year from their 401(k)s and IRAs? They don't want to withdraw so much that they deplete their accounts too soon, but at the same time, they would no doubt like to maintain their standard of living in retirement. You may want to suggest to your parents that they evaluate their investment portfolio for both growth and income potential — because they will need both elements during a long retirement.

If your parents aren't already working with a financial advisor, you may want to encourage them to do so. Managing an investment portfolio during retirement is no easier than doing so during one's working years — and there's less time to overcome mistakes. A qualified financial advisor can help your parents choose the right mix of investments that can help meet their needs.

During the course of your lifetime, your parents have done a lot for you. You can help pay them back by doing whatever you can to assist them in managing their financial strategy.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones does not provide legal advice. Please consult a qualified legal advisor on all issues related to estate planning.

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