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# Madison County CARRIER

Since 1964  
The Spirit Of Madison County  
VOL. 46 NO. 20

Wed., December 23, 2009

## Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Rule Takes Effect Jan. 6

Starting Jan. 6, all homeowners and others within the Suwannee River Water Management District (District) will be asked to limit landscape irrigation to one or two days per week, depending upon the time of the year.

For the first time ever, the District is implementing a year-round water conservation rule that applies to residential landscaping, public or commercial recreation areas, and public and commercial businesses that aren't regulated by a District-issued permit.

In the past, the District has enacted only short-term voluntary restrictions in response to drought conditions.

Jon Dinges, the District's director of resource management, said the new requirement will help address water needs within the

*Please see Water Supply, Page 4A*

## Rick Davis Honored



Rick Davis

By Ginger Jarvis

Greene Publishing, Inc.

Madison's police chief, Rick Davis, received gifts and accolades at his last board meeting before his retirement became effective on December 18. The Madison City Commissioners, local residents, police officers, and Davis's family applauded the chief at the regular board meeting on December 8.

City Manager Harold Emrich and Captain Willie McGhee presented Davis with a bronze plaque of appreciation for his 28 years of service to the city. Emrich said, "It has been a great privilege to work with you."

Mayor Jim Stanley stated, "I met Rick his first day when he was 19 and joined the force. It's a hard pill to swallow to let someone like Rick leave." The commission

*Please see Rick Davis, Page 4A*

## Brown Stepping Down As Emergency Management Director

Emergency Management Director Vicki Brown will be retiring as the Emergency Management Director of Madison County in late spring of 2010. She will be following her husband, Mike, to Auburn, Ala., where he has accepted an exceptional job offer.

Brown explains, "My husband Mike has accepted a very nice job offer in Auburn, AL. He will be starting his new job there with The Donaldson Company January 4, 2010. However, our daughter Amanda is still attending NFCC here in Madison. She will finish with her A.A. in May and plans to move down to Gainesville. (God's Country) to attend U of Fla. in the summer."

"I will be going out to Auburn then (May or June) to join Mike. I will have 20 years of service with Madison County in

April, so the timing will be good. I certainly have mixed emotions about leaving, because I LOVE Madison, LOVE my job, LOVE our home, and LOVE my friends and family here. But God knows best - and my place is with my husband," she added.

"I can not adequately express what the people of Madison County have meant in my life. I have enjoyed my time working for Madison County so much. It has been a privilege to serve the public here - what a great "public!" The county commissioners and elected officials in Madison County are exceptional and have been a pleasure to work with. For now, I'm trying to conduct business as usual and continue to serve to the best of my ability. I really appreciate everyone's kindness and support during this diffi-

cult decision and transition," she went on to say.

Brown accepted the position of Emergency Management Director upon the retirement of Jim Stanley - the founding father of Madison County Emergency Management, who literally took the department from a small room with a radio to the state-of-the-art facility that stands on Harvey Greene Drive today. According to Stanley, this accomplishment would not have been possible without Brown and her commitment to making the department among the best in the state, especially for counties of its size and rural nature. State officials have sung their praises often. Local officials echoed these sentiments, and although they regret her leaving, expressed their best wishes for her and her family.

## The Church Is Being Called "By Name"

*Prayer Marathon To Be Held In County*

In Sunday Schools all across the world, the story of "Jacob's Ladder" is recited to children of all ages from Genesis 28:10-22. In the story, the patriarch Jacob lies down at a place called Luz and dreams of a ladder that was set up on the earth. Its top reached to heaven and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. The Lord stood above the ladder and said, "I am the Lord God of Abraham, your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give you and your descendants. Also your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread abroad to the west and the east, to the north and the south; and in you and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed. Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you."

The story goes on to say in verse 16 that Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in the place, and I did not know it." And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!"

Jesus referenced this story when he encountered the disciple Nathanael in John 1:51: "And He said to him, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter, you shall 'see' heaven open and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

These two accounts in Scripture are a call for the people of God who comprise the Church to rise up and "see" that our Lord is calling our name in this hour and that He wants to bless His people with insight into His will and purpose for the Church and for this county, state and nation.

The Madison County Ministerial Association has seen this need to band together in a united effort to call God's people to the 2 Chronicles 7:14 mandate: THE CHURCH IS BEING CALLED "BY NAME"

"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

Will you answer the clarion call to 24/7 prayer in this hour? Will you gather with us at the daily schedule of events listed below and begin to intercede for the church, county, state and nation? Perhaps in God's mercy, He will hear from heaven, forgive our sin, and heal our land."

SCHEDULED GATHERINGS OF GOD'S PEOPLE IS AS FOLLOWS:

Sunday, January 10, 2010:  
Noon kick-off in local churches  
...

Monday, January 11, 2010: 12:15 p.m.  
prayer at Madison First Baptist  
...

Tuesday, January 12, 2010: 12:15 p.m.  
prayer at New Zion Baptist, Greenville  
...

Wednesday, January 13, 2010:  
Prayer at public buildings in the county:  
Madison City Hall  
Lee City Hall  
Greenville Woman's Club  
Sirmans Vol. Fire Dept.  
Pinetta Vol. Fire Dept.  
...

Thursday, January 14, 2010: 12:15 p.m.  
prayer at Pinetta Baptist  
...

Friday, January 15, 2010: 12:15 p.m.  
prayer at Lee Methodist  
...

Saturday, January 16, 2010:  
Concluding noon prayer at  
Madison County Courthouse

If you have any questions or need 24/7 prayer sheets, please feel free to contact Kay Harris, who is the coordinator of this event, at 973-3238 or at her email address: [kissedbygrace@embarqmail.com](mailto:kissedbygrace@embarqmail.com).

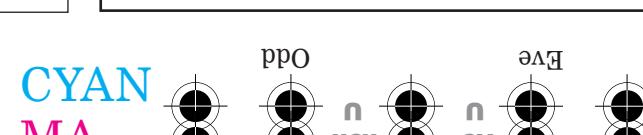
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2 Sections, 26 Pages

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## Local Weather

Wed 12/30	65/53 Cloudy skies. High near 65F. Winds ESE at 5 to 10 mph.	Thu 12/31	71/48 Chance of showers. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the upper 40s.	Fri 1/1	54/32 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the low 30s.	Sat 1/2	53/31 Sunshine. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the low 30s.
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## Celebrate New Year's Eve At Yogi Bear's Jellystone Campground

By Jacob Bembry  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

Due to numerous requests, Yogi Bear's Jellystone Campground, located just off Interstate 10, 258 exit, in Madison, is holding a New Year's Eve party.

Guests are asked to please bring finger foods to share and the campground will also provide some of the finger foods. Hot chocolate, tea, coffee and punch will be provided.

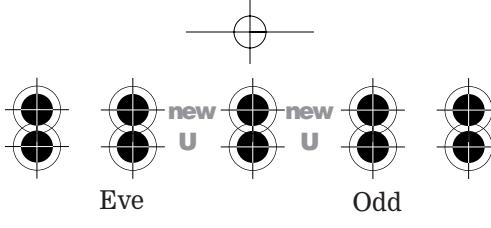
Those wanting to enter the chili cook-off are invited to bring pots of their favorite recipes.

There will fun and games galore, and also, possibly, a hayride.

The party will start at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 31, and last until midnight, Friday, Jan. 1.

The event is free to campers. Non-campers will be admitted at \$20 per family or carload.

Make plans to be there.

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Wednesday, December 30, 2009

# VIEWPOINTS & OPINIONS

## Letters To The Editor

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

### The Hate And Blame Game

Dear Editor,

I recently read Emerald's Gem Box on 12/16 and after thinking and researching for some time, I would like to comment on a few observations I have made.

#1: I would like to remind Emerald of the process by which the American governmental system operates. It was a Stimulus Bill. This means that while Obama, the leader of the Executive Branch, initially constructed budget, research and lobbied hard for the bill to go through, he did not do it alone. The Bill was ultimately passed by the Legislative Branch of the government. The idea behind our government being broken down into the three different branches is to keep one person from obtaining too much power. If Emerald is unhappy with the bill's passage, she should first and foremost look towards her local representatives in the Legislative Branch that actually are responsible for its passage. Did they represent the point of view that she wishes? I checked and it seems that one Senator voted either way. The Representative of district 4 did in fact vote against the stimulus bill (although all Republicans in the House voted nay). This would lead me to say that before blaming Obama for the bill, perhaps first she should consult with Bill Nelson's office to find out why he felt the "wasteful" spending she writes about was necessary. I also noticed that, long-time friend of the Greene family, Allen Boyd (Democrat of District 4) also voted for the stimulus bill. I posit that before useless blame is pitched around on Obama, perhaps a more constructive effort would be to question our local representatives and question their reasons for supporting such "wanton" spending. Perhaps they can lend some insight, as they represent us more directly, before we rally against the person whose job is to lead (not necessarily represent) the American government in a direction that protects both the American economy and people.

#2: I notice that despite the fact that the entire article is composed of "reports," there isn't a single reference to any source. Where did all this information come from? Was the "report" of each individual amount given summarized by an independent source or are those summaries the way the beneficiaries would describe the usage also? Don't they deserve a fair day in court to explain why that money was important before we weigh in on its importance in the long run? Don't get me wrong, I think wasteful spending is rampant in government and I abhor it just as much as the rest, but I also like to make up my mind with an idea of fairness. If those reports come from sources like "ThateObama.com" or sources with similarly easily identifiable biases, then your readers aren't being treated with the respect they deserve. They are being treated as ones seen to not have the capacity to make up their own mind. We deserve references and sources. And we deserve a fair look.

#3: This easily segues into my next point. I noticed just under her article is a similar article claiming the same type of information. Do the people of Madison County not have a voice that believes Obama (or the government in whole) is doing something good? Are there staff members at the Carrier that have differing opinions and would willfully allow themselves to start constructive conversations about issues instead of one sided rants against enemies of the editors? Again, we as readers deserve a fair look.

#4: Not to continue to beat the same drum, but where are the articles or op-eds describing the good things the stimulus bill will do or has done. Surely even Emerald has or will enjoy the tax credits afforded to people that make less than \$75,000 (the largest portion of the bill went to this). Are there members of her family or staff that appreciate not having to pay back

the \$8000 tax credit as first-time home buyers? Even though her children have the extreme privilege of attending a private school, can she appreciate the \$40 billion being given to schools and colleges? Can she appreciate the traditional Republican value embodied in the federal government taking over state's Medicaid budget so states can do what they know needs to be done with their money? Even though she was lucky enough not to lose her job, can she appreciate the assistance given to those families in communities that have been hit hard with unemployment due to the recession? When her children begin attending college, perhaps the increase in grant money available to low-income households will help her also?

I could go on and on. If she has individual arguments against each of these allotments, so be it. But, as five of the six summaries I just listed were the top investments in the bill, it seems that these should have been addressed first and foremost, as they encompass over \$300 billion (Figures taken from the NY Times: [http://projects.nytimes.com/44th\\_president/stimulus](http://projects.nytimes.com/44th_president/stimulus)).

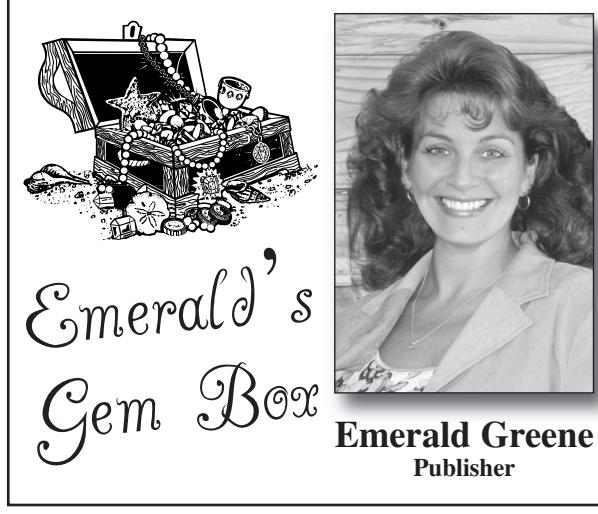
Despite my attempts to be as reasonable as possible, I cannot help but conclude with the obvious observations. In her article, and what would be a lack of other objective reporting, it would seem that her main objections do not rest on an ethic of fiscal responsibility (otherwise, where are the op-eds against fiscal irresponsibility during the 110th and lower Congress). Instead, they seem to rest on a blind, partisan-driven dislike for Obama. This is of course a best case scenario hoping that her exclusion of blame towards family friends and Congressional representatives was a mistake.

I also can't help but notice the hubris underwritten in a tone that offers moralistic judgment. Creating art (albeit disagreeable) and studying drug's affects on the human body and mind are not fiscal irresponsibility so much as they are immoral in her eyes. I can easily see how giving money to both the NEA and UNY-Buffalo would create jobs and, according to the report, they did. Where is the fiscal disagreement then? Again, in my opinion, this has little to do with fiscal irresponsibility so much as it has to do with discrediting her opponent in the article, Obama, to the readers who would agree with those moralistic judgments.

As I finish my observations, I want to reiterate an earlier stated point. I have disagreements with the bill also. I have disagreements with Obama, his policies, his goals, and his morals. I have disagreements with fiscal irresponsibility in general. But the readers deserve more. Fair and unbiased reporting is the basis by which journalism stands. I understand that this piece by her was an op-ed and I applaud her bravery to publish her opinion for review and criticism by all readers. But where is the other side's remarks? Where are the op-eds reflecting the opposition's beliefs? Where is the respect to the readers that give them the ability to have all the knowledge and make up their own minds? And moreover, where is the respect to the larger issues that real conversations are needed and not merely polemics against figures we don't like?

This nation needs more than just people willing to hate and blame one person because of many people's failures. We need conversation. We need constructive criticism. We need lively debate and relevant information. We need to understand each other and attempt to meet halfway despite our disagreements. Otherwise, we become no better than the barbarity we claim to have progressed from. May we all attempt to better ourselves and each other through this process.

James Wright



Emerald Greene

Publisher

### I'm Opinionated- You're Opinionated; That's What Makes The World Go 'Round

I'm opinionated. I don't deny that. I don't think there is anyone in this world that can say that they are NOT opinionated. We ALL have our opinions about anything in life. Some of us just speak our mind more than others.

My opinion, voiced in this column each week, may be the same as others, and may be different than others. I have received phone calls, Letters To The Editor and/or emails that tell me if that particular reader either agrees or disagrees with my opinion.

I happen to have a particular "space" in this newspaper for my column/opinion. For those of you who happen to not have the "pleasure" of paying taxes to the government for this business, and who do not have a column head to write under, we give the space under "Letters To The Editor" and the "Stinger" column space. We welcome your opinions and viewpoints on life. That is what free press is all about – saying what we want without fear of the government (with certain laws pertaining to exactly what is said or printed, of course.)

The fact that a reader sends in his viewpoint on a particular subject, does NOT mean that it is the viewpoint of this newspaper. The same thought holds true with my column. If I write my opinion, it does not mean that every employee at this newspaper holds that same opinion.

I'd like to take this time to thank our readers, and patrons, for the telephone calls, letters, and Letters To The Editor, that we receive. Whether the intention is positive, or negative, it is good to hear from "the public" and lets us (the newspaper) know what you like, and don't like.

We try our best, as your local hometown newspapers, to serve the public in the best way that we can. We try to stay abreast of the local news and happenings so that we may pass that same information on to you.

As hard as we try, sometimes, we just don't know of EVERYTHING that might be coming up in the community. I would like to encourage everyone to please call our office and let us know if an event is happening, that you would like (or think needs to be) covered. We will do our best to be there and cover it to the best of our ability.

Letters To The Editor are encouraged as well as our new feature "Stingers" that we publish in each edition of your newspapers.

I know that we can't please everyone in our community. With each story that is printed, some will like it – some will not. "We don't make the news, we just report it" has become my favorite quote; as it holds the same for all media. It is our job to let the citizens of Madison County know what is happening in Madison County. The good, the bad, and the ugly are all a part of that scenario.

Thank you for your patronage and please feel free to call our office at any time. We truly appreciate your thoughts and ideas and welcome any suggestions that you might have. We especially look forward to learning of events happening in our county that we might not know about.

Have A Great Week!

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

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### Last Week's Online Poll

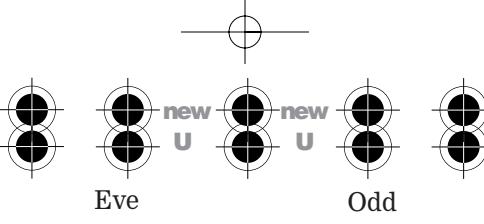
Will you be traveling out of town for Christmas?

Response	Percentage
Yes	~15%
No	~85%

This week's question: Are you keeping up with the coverage of the health care overhaul?

To view and participate in our weekly online poll, visit [www.greenepublishing.com](http://www.greenepublishing.com).

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Wednesday, December 30, 2009

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# VIEWPOINTS & OPINIONS



**Lee Limelight**  
Jacob Bembry  
Columnist

## Happy New Year

I hope that everyone had a special Christmas and will have a wonderful new year. May God's blessings flow upon us all.

Happy birthday wishes are extended to Carson Cherry, Mark Sexton, Jr., Lorraine Prunier, Susan McCool and Shanna Swope, who celebrate their birthdays on Thursday, Dec. 31. Happy birthday wishes also go out to Roy Phillips on Saturday, Jan. 2. Jacob and Justin Phillips will celebrate their birthday on Tuesday, Jan. 5.

All churches are encouraged to have members sign up for the prayer marathon in Madison County. The marathon will take place for seven days, 24 hours a day, Jan. 10-16. See your local pastor or prayer coordinator for details. Sign up today to pray!

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

Mary A. Pryor vs. Tony M. Pryor - domestic injunction

Collena Johnson and Department of Revenue vs. Devin Brinson - support

Annette Cardenas and Department of Revenue vs. Thomas Tillman, Jr. - support

Veronica Merritt and Department of Revenue vs. Michael Pride - support

Diane Bell vs. Sadie Stokes - repeat injunction

Staci Cimiotta vs. Sadie Stokes - repeat injunction

Ashley Hancock vs. Troy D. Mendheim, Jr. - domestic injunction

First Federal Bank of Florida vs. Brenda G. Gabriel - mortgage foreclosure

Florida Gas Transmission Company, LLC vs. Robert Larsen, et al - eminent domain

## Did you Know...

**The tomato is the world's most popular fruit. And yes, just like the brinjal and the pumpkin, botanically speaking it is a fruit, not a vegetable. More than 60 million tons of tomatoes are produced per year, 16 million tons more than the second most popular fruit, the banana.**

### Wild Plum

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# Pictures from the PAST



Madison Enterprise-Recorder, January 7, 2005

**Members of the Big Bend Hospice Advisory Council were present during the Service of Rememberance that was held at Wachovia Bank. Pictured Left to right are: Lillian Balloon, Mattie Bowles, Deloris Jones, Louise Strickland and Joy Gensel**

## Lightning Joe

**National Security**  
Joe Boyles  
Guest Columnist



I just finished reading a biography on Army General Joseph Lawton Collins (Taking Command, H. P. Jeffers, Nal Caliber: New York, 2009). Collins (1896-1987) was an important World War II commander -- shortly before his death, the Army's intellectual capital at Fort Leavenworth voted him the outstanding corps commander of his generation.

Born in New Orleans during the late Victorian period, Collins matriculated to West Point following an older brother. Graduating in 1917, he did not see action in World War I but held important posts in the occupation of Germany in the war's aftermath. During the remainder of the interwar years, he held school positions, both as a student and instructor, including an instructor's role at Fort Benning's Infantry School where he came to the attention of future chief of staff George Marshall and Omar Bradley.

In 1940 as the Army began to expand in preparation to meet world crises, Collins was well prepared to rapidly advance through the field grade ranks. Shortly after Pearl Harbor, he was enroute to Hawaii as the deputy Army commander on the island. Flag rank followed and by May 1942, he was elevated to the two-star commander position of the 25th Infantry (Tropic Lightning) Division. In this capacity, he earned the nickname "Lightning Joe" that would forever stay.

Collins trained his division hard before deploying later that year to relieve the Marines at Guadalcanal. The 25th Division finished off the Japanese on Guadalcanal and then moved on to New Georgia and additional attacks pushing the enemy further up the island chain. In late 1943, Collins was resting and refitting his division in New Zealand when he was given an opportunity to return to Washington to see his family - wife Gladys and three children. It would prove

to be his only visit with loved ones during almost four years of war. Just after Christmas 1943, Collins learned that he would not be returning to the Pacific Theater. Instead, Marshall and protégé Ike Eisenhower had decided that they needed proven combat leaders in Europe for the upcoming invasion. Collins fit the bill and shortly after arrival in England, Collins was given command of VII Corps, the unit given responsibility to land on Normandy's Utah Beach, clear the Cotentin Peninsula, and capture the important port of Cherbourg.

On June 6, 1944, VII Corps' 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division began landing at Utah, anchoring the far right of the invasion. As additional units landed and linked with the airborne divisions, they



Maj Gen J. Lawton Collins addressing his troops in 1943

Photo Submitted

pushed westward across the peninsula to cut off retreating Germans, closing in on Cherbourg. The day after capturing Cherbourg, Collins demonstrated his political acumen by holding a ceremony to return control of the city to its pre-war elected French mayor, an important signal of democracy.

VII Corps along with the adjacent VIII led the Operation Cobra breakout of the Cotentin in late July, subsequently overrunning Brittany and encircling the Germans in the Falaise pocket. Then

pushed westward across the peninsula to cut off retreating Germans, closing in on Cherbourg. The day after capturing Cherbourg, Collins demonstrated his political acumen by holding a ceremony to return control of the city to its pre-war elected French mayor, an important signal of democracy.

Collins was not immune to controversy - his stubborn, costly attacks of the Hurtgen rather than bypassing this defensive stronghold is often cited - but he is unquestionably one of the great Army commanders of the 20th Century.

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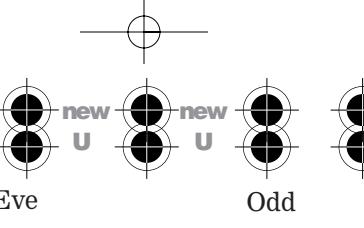
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Wednesday, December 30, 2009

# LOCAL & REGIONAL CRIME BLOTTER

## Atlanta Man Indicted in "Short Sale" Fraud Related to the Failed Omni National Bank

Brent Merriell, 37, of Atlanta, Georgia, who has been indicted by a federal grand jury on charges of aggravated identity theft and false statements to the FDIC, waived his detention hearing today before United States Magistrate Judge Russell G. Vineyard, and has been immediately detained. The indictment charging MERRIELL was filed on December 15, 2009, and unsealed yesterday with his arrest.

In Washington D.C., Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program (SIGTARP) Neil Barofski said, "Although there were many reasons for our financial crisis, fraudulent schemes like the egregious conduct alleged in the charges announced today have played a substantial role in the demise of several institutions. SIGTARP is committed to working with its law enforcement partners to root out these crimes wherever they can be discovered."

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Office of Inspector General, Southeast Region Special Agent In Charge C. Ed Slagle said, "The FDIC is tasked with liquidating the assets of failed banks such as Omni for the maximum possible amount. Therefore, we aggressively investigate and prosecute fraudulent acts that jeopardize maximum recoveries."

Department of Housing and Urban Development Inspector General Kenneth M. Donohue said, "The Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Inspector General remains diligent in its commitment to protect scarce program funds for those who truly need assistance. In today's economic crisis, the American taxpayer expects our federal programs to aid those in need and demands justice for those who would seek to distort benevolent intent by perpetrating fraudulent schemes. We will continue in our partnership with other law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies to bring the full force and assets of the government against those who seek private gain in the midst of such hardship."

U.S. Postal Inspector in Charge, Atlanta Division Martin D. Phanco said, "The U.S. Postal Inspection Service has a long and proud history of protecting the United States mail from criminal attack. This defendant clearly took advantage of the economic vulnerabilities of the banking industry. As long as we have criminals with such disregard for the law, Postal Inspectors will continue to focus their efforts on the protection of the American public."

According to Acting United States Attorney Yates, the charges and other information presented in court: MERRIELL obtained several million dollars in loans in his name and in the names of his family and friends from "Omni National Bank" before Omni's failure and takeover by the FDIC on March 27, 2009. Beginning in October 2009, after remaining delinquent on loan repayments and facing foreclosure on 14 properties, MERRIELL asked the FDIC to forgive \$2.2 million in Omni loan payoffs on the properties and allow him to "short sale" two properties each to seven new purchasers at greatly reduced amounts. A "short sale" occurs when a lender agrees to the sale of property—on which the current owner has defaulted on the loan—to a third party for less than the full amount due. Lenders are willing to accept "short sales"

as a means of reducing their losses on bad loans and assisting the distressed property owner. The investigation revealed that new purchases were being made in the names of people whose identities had been stolen and that the sales contracts and loan commitment letters submitted to the FDIC by MERRIELL in support of the proposed "short sales" were forged and counterfeited. MERRIELL was arrested earlier today before he could complete these sales and ruin the credit of the persons whose stolen identities he used.

The indictment charges MERRIELL with two counts of making a false statement to the FDIC and four counts of aggravated identity theft. MERRIELL faces a maximum statutory penalty of up to 30 years in prison and a fine of up to \$1,000,000 on each false statement charge, and up to two years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000 on each count of aggravated identity theft, with the sentence in at least one aggravated identity theft count being imposed as a mandatory two-year consecutive term. In determining the actual sentence, the Court will consider the United States Sentencing Guidelines, which are not binding but provide appropriate sentencing ranges for most offenders.

Additional Omni related prosecutions to date include: MARK ANTHONY MCBRIDE, 43, of East Point, Georgia, who pleaded guilty on April 4, 2009, to fraudulently obtaining millions of dollars in mortgage loans from Omni and other lenders. MCBRIDE is scheduled to be sentenced on March 2, 2010 at 2 p.m., before United States District Judge Jack T. Camp. MCBRIDE remains in jail while awaiting sentencing.

On December 18, 2009, a two-count Criminal Information was filed against DELROY OLIVER DAVY, 37, of Lithonia, Georgia, charging him with bank fraud and conspiracy to commit bank, mail and wire fraud in connection with a scheme to fraudulently obtain millions of dollars of mortgage loans from Omni and other lenders. At his initial appearance before United States Magistrate Judge Gerilyn Brill, DAVY waived indictment and announced his intention to plead guilty to those charges in January 2010. The plea hearing will be scheduled before United States District Judge Jack T. Camp. DAVY faces a maximum sentence of up to 30 years in prison and a fine of up to \$1,000,000 on each count. In determining the actual sentence, the Court will consider the United States Sentencing Guidelines, which are not binding but provide appropriate sentencing ranges for most offenders.

Members of the public are reminded that the indictment contains only allegations. A defendant is presumed innocent of the charges and it will be the government's burden to prove a defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt at trial.

These cases are being investigated by Special Agents of a Mortgage Fraud Task Force, comprised for Omni-related cases, of the Office of the Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program, the FDIC-Office of Inspector General, the Housing and Urban Development (HUD)-Office of Inspector General, the United States Postal Inspection Service, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The task force is continuing a number of Omni-related investigations, including inquiries from Omni's application for Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) funds.

Assistant United States Attorneys Gale McKenzie and Christopher Bly are prosecuting the cases.

For further information please contact Sally Q. Yates, Acting United States Attorney, or Charysse L. Alexander, Executive Assistant United States Attorney, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is [www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan).

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## Water Supply

cont from Page 1A

District.

"Water supply is a statewide issue," Dinges said. "We all must do our part to conserve."

Unlike other areas of the state where irrigation schedules are set according to addresses, water users in the SRWMD will be allowed to set their own schedules as follows: Choose one day per week to water landscapes during Eastern Standard Time, which begins the first Sunday in November; choose two days per week during Daylight Savings Time, beginning the second Sunday in March. In both cases, irrigation should not occur between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Newly planted landscapes may be watered more frequently for 60 days following planting.

"Reducing landscape irrigation and watering more efficiently helps us make the most of our resources and it reduces irrigation cost," Dinges said.

Those who wish to deviate from the water conservation rule must apply for a water use permit.

The requirement is part of the District's new water use permitting rules.

In addition to water conservation for landscape irrigation, the new rules require anyone applying for a water use permit to implement a water conservation plan.

Dinges said only new permit applicants are required to adopt a conservation plan; existing permit holders must adhere to their current permits.

The new water use rules will be posted on the District's website as of Jan. 6. Go to [www.myuwanneriver.com/rulesandregs](http://www.myuwanneriver.com/rulesandregs) and click on 40B-2. For more information contact Linda Welch, rules coordinator, at 386.362.1001.

## Scouting

cont from Page 1A

Feb. 1, the newspaper will be collecting stories and photos for a special publication celebrating 100 years of local scouting that will be published on Feb. 10. Please deliver your stories to the paper located on SR 53 S, or email [Jacob@greenepublishing.com](mailto:Jacob@greenepublishing.com). Phone (850) 973-4141 for additional information.

## Rick Davis

cont from Page 1A

ers offered similar comments praising Davis's professionalism, commitment, and improvements in the police department. Commissioners Jim Catron presented Davis with the gold watch that Catron received on his retirement from North Florida Community College.

Davis thanked the city for giving him an opportunity to serve in his chosen profession. "It has been a privilege and an honor to work here," he said. He stressed the support of the city commissioners in renovating the Police Department Building. "That will be something the city can use for many years," he commented. He added that he will teach in the Public Safety Academy of NFCC. Davis, city officials, and police officers traded laughing comments when the officers wheeled in a huge box containing a deer stand.

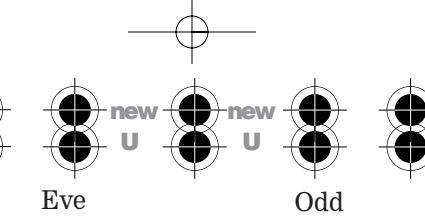
Those present for the ceremony included Davis's parents, Roscoe and Mary Davis; his wife Lisa and children Cody and Nicole; and his parents-in-law, David and Edwina Ward; and many friends and well-wishers.

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Wednesday, December 30, 2009

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Madison County Carrier • 5A

# AROUND MADISON COUNTY

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**January 2**  
 The family of Jimmie F. and Susan K. Lamb would like to remind you of their 50th wedding anniversary celebration this Saturday, Jan. 2, 2010, at the Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park's Grande Hall in Live Oak, Fla. The event will be from 2 - 5 p.m. and all friends and relatives are cordially invited to attend. No gifts, please.

**January 2**  
 Legendary Naomi and the Segos will be in concert at Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park in Madison on Saturday, January 2, at 7 p.m. Admission is free, but a love offering will be received during the concert. For more information, please call (850) 464-0114.

**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 spirals, 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).

### Henrietta Cooks Hamilton

Henrietta Cooks Hamilton, age 65, died Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2009, in Madison.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, Jan. 2, 2010, at 2 p.m. at Beulah Star Church of God, Madison, with burial at Pineland Cemetery.

Visitation will be Friday, Jan. 1, 2010, from 6-8 p.m. at Beggs Funeral Home.

Deaconess Henrietta Cooks Hamilton was born in Madison to the late Will Cooks and Miss Mary Haynes on Aug. 10, 1944. She was united in holy matrimony to the late Mr. Henry Hamilton, Sr.

She was educated in the public schools of Madison County. She received the Holy Ghost at her home and joined Beulah Star Church of God in Unity, under the leadership of the late Elder Thomas Gloster and Elder Bill Joshua.

She leaves to cherish her loving memories four sons: Michael Cooks of Norwalk, Cal., Ricky Nelson Young and (Marilyn), Henry Hamilton, Jr. and (Latasha) and Jakes Hamilton and special friend (Evelyn D. Lewis), all of Madison; one daughter, Greta Cooks Joseph and (Frederick) of Madison; nine grandchildren, Annie Young, Ricky Young, Jr., Kelly Joseph, Kimberly

### Loucile W. Bailey

Loucile W. Bailey, 81, passed Thursday, Dec. 24, in Tallahassee.

Graveside services were held at 11 a.m. Monday, Dec. 28, at Walker Cemetery in Lamont.

The family received friends Sunday, Dec. 27, from 5-6 p.m. at Beggs Funeral Home, Apalachee Parkway Chapel, in Tallahassee.

Mrs. Bailey was a loving wife and mother who enjoyed cooking meals and sewing. She was of the Southern Baptist faith.

Mrs. Bailey is survived by her husband, Barnard P. Bailey of Lamont; two sons, Donald Lee Jordan of Lakeland and Phillip Bailey, Jr. (Jennifer) of Tallahassee; 10 grandchildren, Kerri Bailey, Kasey Bailey, Trevor Ross, Donald Lee Jordan, Jr., Lois Sealey Ironmonger, James David Sealey, Timothy Sealey, Lori Sealey, Vicki Lynn Jordan and Rocky Jordan; and five great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Vonnie V. and Hattie Mae Holton Wilcox and by her daughter, Joyce Sealey Hughes.

### James M. "Jack" Floyd

James M. "Jack" Floyd, age 81, died Saturday, Dec. 26, 2009, in Jacksonville.

He was born in Athens, Ga. He was the son of J.J. and Clemmie Floyd and was a veteran of World War II, U.S. Navy. He was a pilot since the 1940s and loved football and NASCAR. He was a member of American Legion Post #313, Riverside Masonic Lodge #266-F&AM, Morocco Temple, Shrine. He was past secretary-treasurer and business manager of Teamsters Local 512, a security officer and he retired from Commercial Carriers. He was a member of Mission Way Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Ernestine Holloway Floyd; one son, Jack Floyd, Jr. (Lela); two daughters, Angela Seymour (John) and Carolyn Meisenburg, all of Jacksonville; three grandchildren, Brian Meisenburg (Melissa) of Melbourne and Emily Floyd and James Floyd III, both of Jacksonville.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2009, at 4 p.m. at Hardage-Giddens Chapel, 4115 Hendricks Ave., Jacksonville, with visitation from 4-6 p.m., prior to the service.

A service will also be held Thursday, Dec. 31, 2009, at 2 p.m. at Beggs Funeral Home, Madison, with burial at Oak Ridge Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1-2 p.m. prior to the service at Beggs Funeral Home, Madison. Beggs Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Shriners Children's Hospital.

### Larry E. Sevor

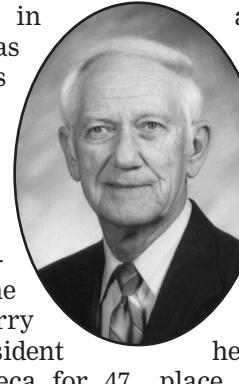
Larry E. Sevor, 71, entered into rest on Friday, December 18, in Manteca, CA. He was born on August 28, 1938 in Madison, Florida to the late Mr. and Mrs. Felix and Hazel Sevor. He joins his parents in heaven as well as his siblings; James Lowell Sevor and Sandra Elaine Sevor. Larry was a resident of Manteca for 47 years.

Mr. Sevor is survived by his loving wife of 51 years Arleen Sevor. His children are; Janet Grossnicklaus and husband, Dan of Fresno, California; Joan Boone and husband, Douglas of Tracy, California.

Mr. Sevor is survived by his brother, Pat Sevor and wife, Joyce of Madison Florida. In addition, he was blessed with nephew Sam Sevor and fiancee, Jamie Michalowski and niece Heather Crook and husband, Joe, all of Tallahassee, Florida and numerous cousins.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to The Macedonia Baptist Church Cemetery, 5539 E. US Highway 90, Lee, Florida, 32059.

Mr. Sevor's services are being handled by P.L. Fry & Son Funeral Home of Manteca. A Celebration of Life Service will be held in Florida at a later time. To send a special message or words of condolences, please visit Larry Sevor's online guest book at [www.plfryandson.com](http://www.plfryandson.com).



## Obituaries

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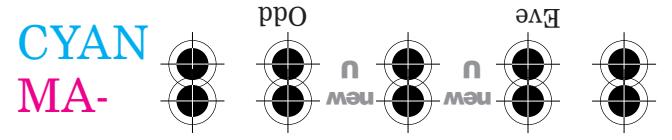
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Wednesday, December 30, 2009

# AROUND MADISON COUNTY

## Lions Club Gives Holiday Dinners To Needy Families



Greene Publishing, Inc. Photo By Michael Curtis December 18, 2009

The Madison Lions Club purchased holiday meals from Winn-Dixie to deliver gift baskets to needy families in the community. Pictured left to right are: Lee FerDon, Alston Kelley, John Ericsson, Tom Moffses, Teagan Dunn, Skyler Dunn and Tim Dunn.

By Michael Curtis  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

The Madison Lions Club maintains a rich tradition of giving to the needy of Madison County, although mostly recognized for their vision health projects.

On Friday, Dec. 18, club President Lee FerDon joined several members at Winn-Dixie where they extended that generosity by purchasing holiday dinners, complete with all the fixings.

The team then delivered the meals to the families, who were extremely appreciative of the sizable gift basket.

Over the past year, FerDon has been pleased to announce increases in both club membership and community outreach. Meeting each Tuesday at Shelby's Restaurant at noon, the Madison Lions Club welcomes visitors to meet the membership, and representatives of potential community projects.

Workforce has been awarded a \$130,360 grant from Workforce Florida, Inc. through their Workforce Innovative New Generation Solutions (WINGS). These funds will address the needs of improving broadband/telecommunications access in the North Central Florida Rural Area of Critical Concern (RACEC) which includes Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Putnam, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties.

Because there has been little demand for broadband related occupations in the North Central Florida RACEC region, there currently is not a talent pipeline, which may be quickly tapped into as work begins throughout the state and nation to

Community College's Workforce Education Department, 15 individuals will receive training to become Fiber Optic Installers. Training will take place in 2010. Other occupational training related to the broadband industry may be supported through this grant as well. Training for these peripheral occupations may take place at any local or regional training provider.

For more information, contact Workforce at (866)-212-9618.

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Wednesday, December 30, 2009

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Madison County Carrier • 7A

# AROUND MADISON COUNTY

## Legendary Naomi And The Segos To Appear In Madison

A gospel music spectacular will be taking place at Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park in Madison on Saturday, January 2, 2010, featuring gospel music legend Naomi and the Segos. The concert is free admission, but a love offering will be received during the concert.

Originally known as The Sego Brothers and

### FISH FRY FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF GREENVILLE

Dinner is \$8.00

Meal includes: Mullet, Baked Beans, Grits,  
Coleslaw, Dessert, and Tea

Pick up: Friday, Jan 15, 2010 4:30-7:30 pm

### All Proceeds Will Aide First Baptist Church's Mission Trip To Peru In September

Deadline to purchase tickets is January 10, 2010.  
Call First Baptist Church of Greenville at  
850-948-2068 to purchase a ticket.

Naomi, this group began gaining exposure in the late 1950's. James Sego, along with his wife Naomi and brothers W.R. and Lamar, hosted a popular television program on WMAZ-TV in Macon, Ga. It was during this time they traveled to Nashville, Tenn. and recorded their first hit that would gain them national recognition, "Is My Lord Satisfied With Me." However, superstardom came in 1962 when The Sego Brothers and Naomi became the first group in history to record and sell one million records with the song, "Sorry, I Never Knew You." The rest of the 1960's saw them touring the globe with many other hit songs. During the 1970's their popularity increased with performances on the popular TV show



Naomi and the Segos

"The Gospel Singing Jubilee." Perhaps one of their biggest songs came along during that time as they enjoyed the success of the chart topper "Hallelujah Square."

The late 1970's saw tragedy as well as success. In 1979, James Sego, Naomi's husband, passed away. During the 1980's Naomi continued to travel and record. She remarried, to a Texas evangelist named Vernon Reader, and the group underwent a name change to Naomi and The Segos. Vernon passed away in October of 1998.

Now, in their 5th decade of Gospel Music ministry, this group continues to press forward for the cause of Christ. Traveling some 200 dates a year all over the United States and Canada, the message of this group remains strong and powerful. Perhaps it is each group members own personal experience with God that continues to drive their excellence in performance and ministry. Naomi and The Segos is a legendary name in Gospel Music. With their traditional sounds, musical excellence, and sincerity, they produce a message that will lead people to Christ.

Naomi and the Segos consists of Naomi Sego Reader, Scott Spangler, Jerry Gill and Bryant Thigpen.

For more information, please call (850) 464-0114.

## United Way Pledge-Period Coming To A Close

### Organizers Pleased To Accept Donations Year Round

By Michael Curtis  
*Greene Publishing, Inc.*

In spite of the tough economy, groups throughout Madison County continue to dig deep to maintain their charitable giving. And although the "LIVE UNITED" campaign will be challenged to meet last year's totals, several organizations have actually exceeded their campaign targets.

The Madison County School District was among these super-supporters, as was Madison County Memorial Hospital. But few led by example more than Madison County Community Bank.

As a member of the bank, Madison County United Way Chair Willy Gamalero has been part of a giving culture that has reached heights few orga-

nizations of its size have achieved—100 percent participation. Bank President Ed Meggs and his exceptional staff established this United Way tradition years ago, and the bank continues to meet and exceed expectations.

Mary Carol Kaney, United Way of the Big Bend representative to Madison County recently acknowledged the bank

for its accomplishments, which were further highlighted outside the United Way of the Big Bend offices in Tallahassee. The sign outside the facility reads, "THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT MADISON CO. COMMUNITY BANK."

There are many of these inspiring stories of giving, but the real story isn't the givers. Instead, the real story is the lives touched and saved by the dollars donated. Programs supporting infants, children, adults and seniors, each with needs that vary from life-saving resources to the elderly and providing children a way to thrive, are in the balance.

Organizers gratefully request and remind all who have the means to give a little. Even one dollar per pay period makes a huge difference. Phone Willy Gamalero at (850) 973-2400 or Mary Carol Kaney at (850) 488-8207 to make a pledge or donation today.

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

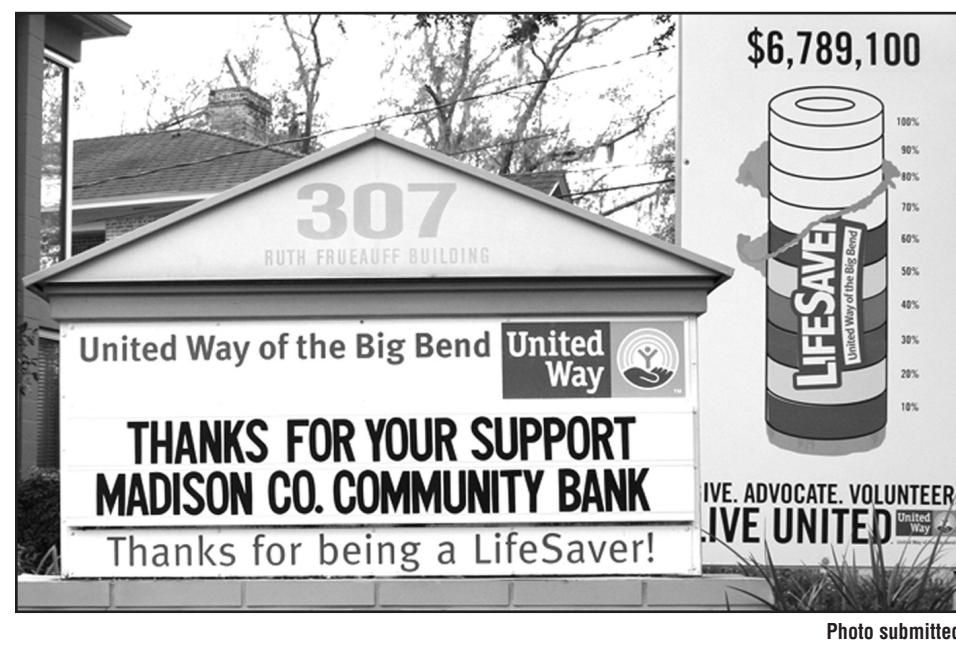


Photo submitted

The sign outside the United Way of the Big Bend office in Tallahassee recognizes Madison County Community Bank for their successful campaign.

### NOTICE OF CITY ELECTION CITY OF MADISON, FLORIDA

The City of Madison will hold an election on March 9, 2010, for the purpose of electing (3) three Commissioners for a term of (4) four years each. The districts involved in the election are 1, 4 and 5.

The qualifying time is from noon, January 18, 2010 until noon, January 22, 2010.

For further information, please call Lee Anne Hall, City Clerk at 973-5081.

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12. P.A- Proper Appearance

(Currently only 12 slots are available!!! For more info, please contact Merv @ 673-7481/ Denise @ 673-7396 or Edna Turner @ 590-7519. Email: [royalty@myexcel.com](mailto:royalty@myexcel.com). Ages: 12-18 / Contact ASAP in regards to registration!!)

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# SPORTS

## Cowgirls Win Thriller Against Lady Warriors



Greene Publishing, Inc. Photo by Emerald Greene, Nov. 19, 2009

The varsity Cowgirls defeated the Lady Warriors in action played Nov. 19. Pictured front row, left to right: Bri Davis, Sacoya Alexander, Danielle Johnson, Brooke Turner, Chanté Graham, Jessica Williams and Quanesha Farmer. Back row, left to right: Coach Marcus Hawkins, Brooke Bezick, Myesha Tucker, Canissia Griffin, Jakira Moore, Terri Gee, Chytoria Jones and Revia Copeland.

By Jacob Bembry  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

The Madison County High School varsity Cowgirls defeated the Aucilla Christian Academy Lady Warriors 29-28 in action played Nov. 19.

Madison led 11-7 at the end of the first quarter.

The Cowgirls extended their lead to 17-14 at half-time.

### Financial Focus...

#### Start Planning Now to Cope with Estate Taxes

*Provided by Brad Bashaw, Edward Jones*

Throughout your life, you strive to provide financial security to your family. And your efforts can extend beyond your lifetime — if you work to control estate taxes.

It's always challenging to create financial strategies that are somewhat dependent on tax laws, because these laws are always changing. In 2009, your estate could have passed up to \$3.5 million to your heirs before incurring federal estate taxes at a maximum rate of 45 percent. In 2010, the estate tax was scheduled to be repealed, but in 2011, it was supposed to return, with a maximum exemption of \$1 million and a top rate of 55 percent. But this may change, as Congress is considering extending the 2009 exemption and tax rate figures into 2010, 2011 and possibly even further.

You might think you'll never have enough wealth to incur these taxes, but virtually every asset — your home, cars, life insurance policy, IRA and 401(k) — may be included in your taxable estate. These assets could push your estate over the exemption amount, costing your heirs a substantial amount in estate taxes.

To help address this potential problem, you might want to think about some of the following estate considerations. For example, if you owned a \$1 million dollar life insurance policy, and it was subject to an estate tax rate of 45 percent, your beneficiaries would receive a death benefit of just \$550,000. But if you established an irrevocable life insurance trust (ILIT) with a new insurance policy, the trust would own the policy and distribute the proceeds to the beneficiaries you've chosen. By using an ILIT, you'd keep the life insurance out of your taxable estate.

Another estate planning consideration is a charitable remainder trust, which might be useful if you have a sizable amount of assets, such as stocks, that have significantly appreciated since you bought them. If you kept these assets in your estate, your heirs would inherit them on a "stepped-up" basis, which, in plain English, means the value of the stocks would be the same as their fair market value on the date of your death. (However, in 2010 — and 2010 only — the step-up basis is limited to \$1.3 million for your children or other heirs and \$3 million for your surviving spouse. Beyond those figures, your heirs would assume, or carry over, your basis — the amount you paid for the assets. In 2011, full step-up is scheduled to return.)

All stocks, and especially those that receive step-up treatment, could add to your heirs' estate tax burden. But you could remove the stocks from your taxable estate by placing them in a charitable remainder trust. Furthermore, you could receive an income stream for life once the trust sold the stocks. You could then use this income to make gifts to your loved ones, further reducing the size of your taxable estate. You can give up to \$13,000 per year to as many individuals as you like without incurring gift taxes, up to \$1 million over your lifetime.

Before making any decisions related to estate taxes, consult with your estate planning professional and your tax advisor. Vehicles such as life insurance trusts and charitable trusts are complex and don't lend themselves to "do-it-yourself" solutions.

Start thinking soon about estate tax issues. By putting your estate plans in order early, you could be helping your loved ones far into the future.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors are not estate planners and cannot provide tax or legal advice.

**Brad Bashaw** **Edward Jones**

Financial Advisor

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In the third quarter, the Lady Warriors fought back and the game was deadlocked at 21-21.

Canisia Griffin hit the game-winning free throw with only five seconds left on the clock. It was the only points she scored the entire game.

Jessica Williams was the leading scorer for the Cowgirls with 15 points. Bri Davis had five points. Terri Gee had four points. Myesha Tucker and Sacoya Alexander each had two points.

Brooke Bezick had five rebounds and Jakira Moore had three rebounds.

Statistics for the Lady Warriors include: Tiffany Funderburke, six points, three rebounds, one blocked shot; Sarah Sorenson, five points, five rebounds, two steals; Taryn Copeland, five points, three rebounds and one blocked shot; Nikki Hamrick, four points, three rebounds, one assist and five steals; Cheltsie Kinsley, four points, four rebounds, and four steals; Kaitlin Jackson, four points, six rebounds, five assists, five steals and one blocked shot; and Abigail Vasquez, one assist and three steals.

## Cowboys Beat Tigers In Varsity Basketball

By Jacob Bembry  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

Gaining an early lead in the first quarter, the Madison County High School Cowboys held on to defeat the Jefferson County High School Fighting Tigers 57-51 in action played Saturday, Dec. 12, in Madison.

The Cowboys led 19-12 at the end of the first quarter.

At halftime, the Cowboys held a 28-23 lead in the closely-fought contest.

The Tigers outscored the Cowboys 14-13 in the third quarter but the Cowboys still led 41-37.

Jermaine Hart was the leading scorer for the Cowboys with 19 points. He was five of 16 on field goal attempts and eight of 10 on free throw attempts. He had one three-pointer. Hart also had a block, an offensive rebound, two defensive rebounds and four steals on the evening.

Tolerance Straughter scored seven points, including a three-pointer. He had four assists and one offensive rebound.

Laterrian McDaniel was held scoreless but he did contribute one assist.

Chris Brown scored nine points, including two three-pointers. He had one assist, three offensive rebounds, four defensive rebounds and two steals.

Steven Watts had four points on the evening. He also had two blocked shots, one defensive rebound, one offensive rebound and one steal.

Will Turner scored three points on a three-pointer. He also had a steal in the game.

Kelvin Bellamy scored seven points in the game. He also had one assist and one steal.

Terry Morris had one offensive rebound, one defensive rebound and two steals.

Solomon Griffin had two points in the game. He had one block, one offensive rebound, three defensive rebounds and one steal.

Charles Brown had one assist, two offensive rebounds and one defensive rebound.

Demarcus Norton had two points, one defensive rebound and two steals.

Octavius Fayson had four points, two blocks, two offensive rebounds, four defensive rebounds and two steals.

The win improved the Cowboys' season record to 2-2.

## Cowboys Beat Baker County In Net Action

By Jacob Bembry

Greene Publishing, Inc.

The Madison County High School Cowboys' varsity basketball team beat Baker County 57-51 in action played Tuesday, Dec. 15.

Jermaine Hart led the Cowboys in scoring with 12 points.

Tolerance Straughter chipped in nine points.

Chris Brown scored nine points.

Terry Morris scored seven points.

The win improved the Cowboys' record to 3-2 on the season.



## MCCS BRONCO 2009-2010 Basketball Schedule

Jan.	Date	Day	Opponent	Location	Boys/Girls	Time
Jan. 7		Thursday	Richardson	Away	Boys/Girls	6:00-7:15
Jan. 11		Monday	Hamilton	Away	Boys/Girls	5:30-6:45
Jan. 12		Tuesday	Baker	Home	Boys/Girls	5:30-6:45
Jan. 14		Thursday	Lake City	Away	Boys/Girls	6:00-7:15
Jan. 19		Tuesday	Girls		Championship	TBA
Jan. 21		Thursday	Boys		Championship	TBA

Wednesday, December 30, 2009

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Madison County Carrier • 9A

# SPORTS

## Nine Cowboys To Play In East-West All-Star Game

The East-West All Star game will be held at Lake City's community stadium on Jan. 16 at 6 p.m. This year's showcase will impressively feature nine Cowboys. Assistant Head Coach Mike Coe joined Coach Frankie Carroll, Defensive Coordinator Rod Williams, and the entire staff of coaches, in praising these standout athletes.

Coe provided the following summary of the Notable Nine:

**Justin Sirmon** - Justin is a guy that you want to put on the cover of your program, a guy that you can tell other guys to be like, in all aspects. On the field, off the field, weight room, classroom, community, etc., ... He is all heart and soul, all the time.

**Justin Hampton** - Hamp has been everything you could dream of in our football program. Three-year starter who was always in the right place at the right time, he just always tried to do things the right way and always had the respect of his coaches and teammates for how he prepared and handled himself.

**Xavier Brown** - Zae is probably one of the toughest kids to ever play Cowboy football. Not the biggest kid in the world, but just did a tremendous job playing wing-back. Always played with a chip on his shoulder and was very, very mentally tough. He is a very unselfish young man who put winning above individual accomplishments.

**Will Turner** - I am so proud of Will. He struggled in the program when he first got here. He would have good days and then have a few bad days. Then after last season, he made a commitment to be a better young man and a better football player. He became fully invested and had a tremendous year on and

off the field. I can't describe how proud I am of what he has become.

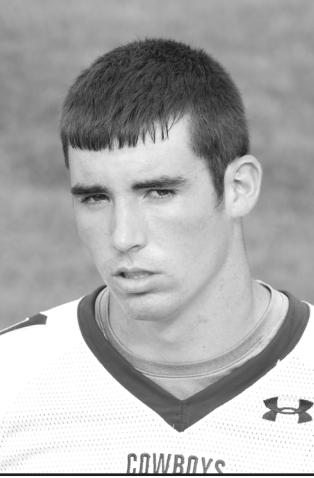
**Gus Williams** - Gus is another kid that really invested in the off-season and had a tremendous year because of it. Probably the overall best athlete on the team, Gus possesses a great combination of speed and power. Gus did a great job at weak-side linebacker and will be sorely missed.

**Coydrick "Buckwheat" Williams** - A team comedian who can mock anybody he hears, he made a lot of big plays for our defense this year. A very rangy kid with good instincts and tremendous closing speed. Buckwheat always made practice lively and energetic. He was always smiling.

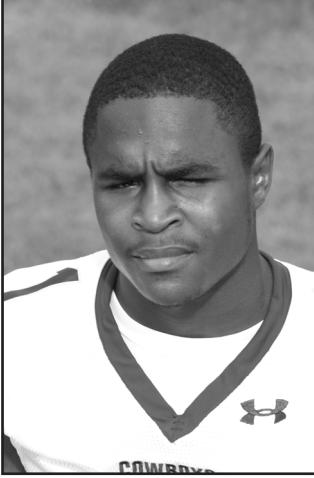
**Tomas Bellamy** - Tomas is a big kid who stuck around and wound up being a tremendous offensive lineman. He was also king of the board drill at practice. He worked really hard in the off-season to get into playing shape and he will be missed up front next season.

**Cevante "Eli" Turner** - This was his first year starting and I was so impressed with the job he did this year. He played middle linebacker and made all the defensive calls and just did a whale of a job. Eli played the run really well and even mixed in a few sacks as well.

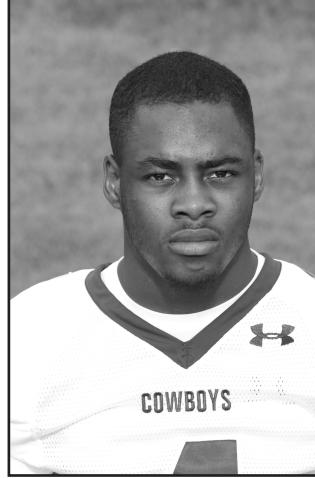
**Bladen Gudz** - What most don't know about Bladen is that he is probably one of the better athletes on the team. He plays baseball and is a tremendous ping-pong player. What an asset he was to our program the last three years. Bladen stepped up and did the punting duties this season as well. He is just a great weapon to have and he will be missed greatly.



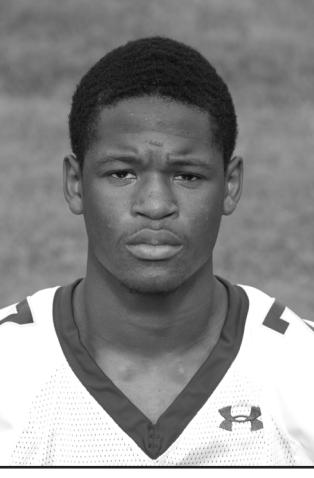
Justin Sirmon



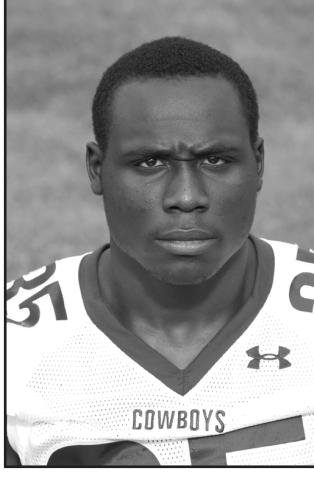
Justin Hampton



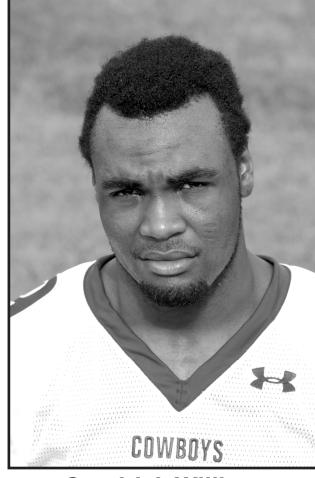
Xavier Brown



Will Turner



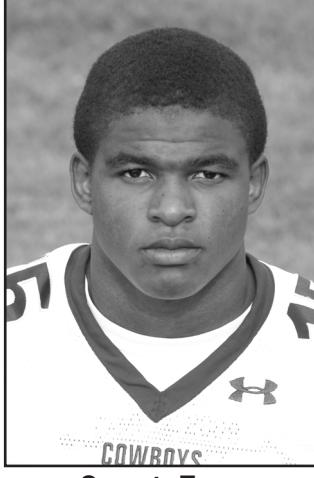
Gus Williams



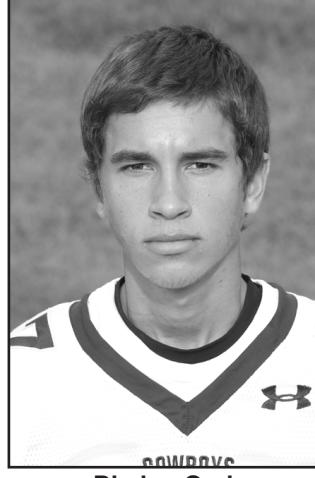
Coydrick Williams



Tomas Bellamy



Cevante Turner



Bladen Gudz

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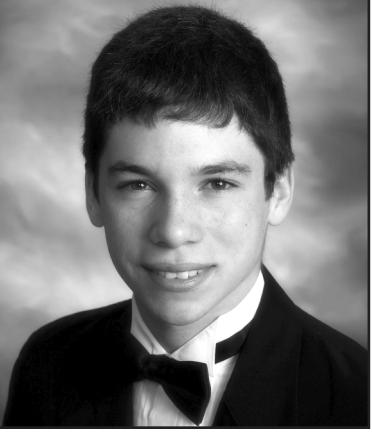
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## SCHOOL

**Madison County Gator Club Awards Scholarships**

Caitlin B. Murphy



Travis M. Shepard



Taylor L. Rykard



Robbie M. Griffin



Kathryn Rubio

The Madison County Gator Club recently awarded \$5,000 divided equally to five outstanding seniors from Madison County who are now attending the University of Florida at Gainesville.

All students, including Caitlin Brooke Murphy, Travis M. Shepard, Taylor L. Rykard, Robbie M. Griffin, and Kathryn Rubio, had a grade point average of over 3.3 in high school or

at North Florida Community College.

Caitlin Murphy, who graduated from Aucilla Christian School, was active in cheerleading, the Beta Club and other sports. She was the class salutatorian at ACA and also attended Santa Fe Community College. She is majoring in medicine at the University of Florida.

Taylor Rykard, a chemistry major at UF, graduated with a 4.0

grade point average at Aucilla Christian Academy and at North Florida Community College.

Taylor Rykard, a member of the band, the National Honor Society and president of the NHS. He was also dual-enrolled at North Florida Community College where he earned 23 semester hours.

Another scholarship recipient is Travis Myles Shepard of Lee. Shepard graduated from

Madison County High School with a 3.73 grade point average and was a member of the band, the National Honor Society and president of the NHS. He was also dual-enrolled at North Florida Community College where he earned 23 semester hours.

Robbie Griffin, another recipient, graduated third in her class at MCHS with a 3.80 grade point average. At MCHS, she was active in sports

and was captain of the cheerleading squad. She was also senior class prom queen, a member of the Beta Club, the National Honor Society, FCCLA and the Gifted Program. Griffin will be majoring in anthropology at UF. This February, she is scheduled to go with a team from UF and a German group to Ethiopia. There she will be involved in an archaeological dig and a cultural exchange,

meeting many new people of different civilizations.

Still another recipient is Kathryn Rubio, a graduate of MCHS and NFCC. She graduated from NFCC with a 3.4 grade point average and was active in the Astronomy Club. Rubio worked for veterinarian Dr. John Lewis while attending NFCC. She plans to major in animal science at the University of Florida.

**FCAT Champs Receive Gift Cards**

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

Students scoring 3, 4 or 5 on his or her FCAT last year were entered in a Dec. 3 drawing. The winners shown here all received either \$25 or \$50 gift cards.

Madison County Central School conducted a drawing to recognize students for their exemplary performance on the FCAT last year. Almost a \$1,000 of gift cards were provided to the school to give incentives for the third through eighth graders who scored 3, 4 or 5 – generally referred to as a passing grade.

The scoring system for prize entries was based on the student's score, where a score of three won one entry, four earned two entries, and a score of five received three entries into the gift card drawing. Third through eighth graders participated in both math and reading; fifth and

eighth graders also participated in science.

\$700 in gift cards was awarded (22 x \$25 and 5 x \$50) to the first group, and \$200 (6 x \$25 and one \$50) was awarded to the science group to the second group. Ultimately, dozens of lucky winners were selected among the entries.

Administrators at the Central School welcome and invite parents and community volunteers to join them in the upcoming FCAT season. Phone (850) 973-5192 for more information on volunteer and mentoring programs. A little encouragement goes a long way.

*Greenville Youth Garden Club Holds Christmas Party*

Photo submitted

Members of the Madison Garden Club visited Greenville Elementary School for a special celebration. According to club members, both students and adults, the Greenville Youth Garden Club has proven very mutually rewarding.

Caroling warmed up the school cafeteria at Greenville Elementary School Friday afternoon, as Madison Garden Club volunteers encouraged third, fourth and fifth graders to sing for their cupcakes and punch. Garden Club nutrition studies and school vegetable garden projects prompted a question or two as students managed plate, napkin, cupcakes and punch.

Peering into the frothy punch bowl of ice cream and ginger ale mix, a few asked, "What's in this?" In the end, their appetites overcame curiosity, and all entered into the celebration as Principal Davis Barclay and teachers Joy Collins, Emily Dickey and Ray Robinson encouraged them to celebrate calmly.

Students heard the poinsettia Christmas story, illustrated by a large pink-centered plant from Garden Club President Dolly Ballard. Starting with the fact



Photo submitted

The Madison Garden Club prepared a beautiful spread for the Greenville Youth Garden Club Christmas Celebration.

that American Ambassador to Mexico, Joel Poinsett, brought the plant into the United States, the story told the legend of a generous, very poor Mexican child's tears changing her make-do Christmas gift of weeds into today's colorful Christmas plant.

Discussing the story's difference between fact and a legend gave one student a chance to shine with her insights. Her quick definition: a "fact" is something that can be proven true.

"Legend" got a variety of definitions, but the students proved enthusiastically that they could pronounce "poinsettia."

The prevailing fact is that Madison Garden Club projects aim for legendary success with these young students in Greenville.

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# HEALTH & NUTRITION

## Joy Followed by Sadness: Treating Postpartum Depression

MADISON, Wis. —

For a number of pregnant women, the joy of childbirth can be followed by several weeks or months of a negative mood that can adversely affect the mother and her relationships with her newborn and partner.

Dr. Roseanne Clark, a psychologist and associate professor of psychiatry at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, says up to 80 percent of women suffer from what are called "postpartum blues" caused by lack of sleep, fluctuations in hormone levels and other factors.

But if the problem persists for longer than two weeks, the mother could be suffering from postpartum depression, which requires evaluation by a mental health professional.

"Formal screening for postpartum depression by ob/gyn and family practice physicians and pediatricians is very important," Clark says. "You can't tell just by looking."

According to the Centers for Disease Control, postpartum depression affects 10 to 15 percent of mothers within the first year of giving birth. The rates are much higher for teen mothers or those with less than 12 years of education, women living in poverty and those who have been victims of physical abuse.

Some emerging evidence suggests that boosting intake of omega-3 fatty acids (found in a variety of foods and in over-the-counter supplements) may help prevent the disorder.

"Women in this country are going into pregnancy omega-3-fat deficient," says Dr. Jill Mallory, a family-medicine physician who uses integrative-medicine approaches in her practice. "Babies



are little sponges that suck omega-3 out of women because the fats are used for brain and eye development. Trying to prevent that depletion upfront is the key."

Clark, who is director of a National Institute for Mental Health (NIMH) funded study of postpartum depression treatment, says group psychotherapy sessions involving the mother, her infant, and the infant's father have proven beneficial in treating women with postpartum depression.

"Individual therapy can be helpful, but we found that when mothers are involved in therapy groups where they discuss their experience of depression with other mothers, that they feel validated, greater understanding and an increased sense of social support, according to women who have participated," she says.

Women with postpartum depression who are in group therapy also tend to continue in therapy rather than dropping out, which is more common for women in individual psychotherapy.

"Husbands and partners have their own sessions where they discuss their experience of their partner's depression, their own needs, those of their baby and partner and how they can offer empathy and support to her," says Clark. "We think it's important to



**Question:** Can't I just use that mouth rinse so I don't have to use floss? Isn't the rinse just as good?

**Answer:** This is the time of year for New Years resolutions. The best dental resolution is to add daily flossing to your routine. The growing body of evidence tells us that flossing not only makes your teeth healthier it may make you healthier overall and add years to your life.

According to Michael Roizen, MD, author of *The Real Age Makeover*, daily flossing, which prevents gum disease, makes the average person 3.4 years younger. "Men under 50 who have advanced periodontal disease are 2.6 times more likely to die prematurely and three times more likely to die from heart disease than those that have healthy gums." So especially if you have a family history of heart trouble you should be using floss and have your mouth examined to determine if you have gum disease.

Don't make the mistake of only flossing the front teeth. Remember, you only need to floss the teeth you want to keep.

Roderick K. Shaw III, DMD  
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## Alzheimer's Disease Doesn't Take A Holiday

MADISON, Wis. — The bright lights, big crowds and bustle that make the holidays fun for most of us often do just the opposite for people with Alzheimer's and those who care for them.

Dr. Cindy Carlsson, UW Health geriatrics physician and Alzheimer's disease researcher at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH), says that Alzheimer's patients may feel a sense of loss while caregivers can become frantic trying to keep up with holiday traditions and caring for their loved ones at the same time. But Carlsson has advice on making the holidays more enjoyable for everyone:

\**Follow a Routine.* Sticking to a routine can reduce the stress on the patient, caregiver and family.

"Holidays are anything but routine, yet a routine is the best way to be kind to the patient," Carlsson says. "Make sure the day is as normal as possible by providing meals at the same time they usually are."

\**Help Them Remember.* Alzheimer's patients can become frustrated when someone tries to challenge their memories with questions like, "Do you remember me?" and "Do you remember what we did last summer?"

"Regardless of how close you are to the person, introduce yourself," advises Carlsson. "You could also update them on your activities so that they

don't have to ask questions."

Carlsson says reminiscent therapy can be effective. She suggests going through old family photos with your loved one. In addition, consider asking guests to wear name tags.

\**Involve Them in Activities.* "We recommend that you involve an Alzheimer's patient with straightforward activities like wrapping gifts, folding napkins or simple crafts," says Carlsson. Activities can provide mental and physical stimulation.

\**Take Care of the Caregiver.* The best gift for a caregiver can be the gift of time and respite. The typical stress of caring for an Alzheimer's patient can become even more overwhelming during the holidays. Carlsson says you can help a caregiver by offering to give them some "time off." Families can even prepare a plan to share the care giving. For caregivers who will be hosting the holiday get together, Carlsson suggests smaller gatherings or even a potluck.

Carlsson says besides keeping the routine, the two most important things to remember are, keep the celebration simple and include the Alzheimer's patient.

Check out the Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institute's website to learn more about the disease and research to detect and treat Alzheimer's disease <http://www.medsch.wisc.edu/wai/>

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9/9, rtm, pd

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11/25, rtm, c

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10/28, rtm, c

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12/16, rtm, c

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8/19, rtm, c

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8/12 - 12/30, c

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11/18, rtm, c

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11/18, rtm, c

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8/5, rtm, pd

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11/27, rtm, c

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rtm, c

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12/9 - 12/30, pd

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11/4, rtm, c

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129, rtm, c

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5/13 - rtm, c

12/23, 12/30, c

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12/23, 12/30, c

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12/23, 12/30, c

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12/23, 12/30, c

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**NEW YEARS BASH!** Woodpecker Mudd Bogg in White Springs, Florida. Jan. 1st - 3rd, camping starts December 31st, bring your whole family 386-867-1601

12/30, c

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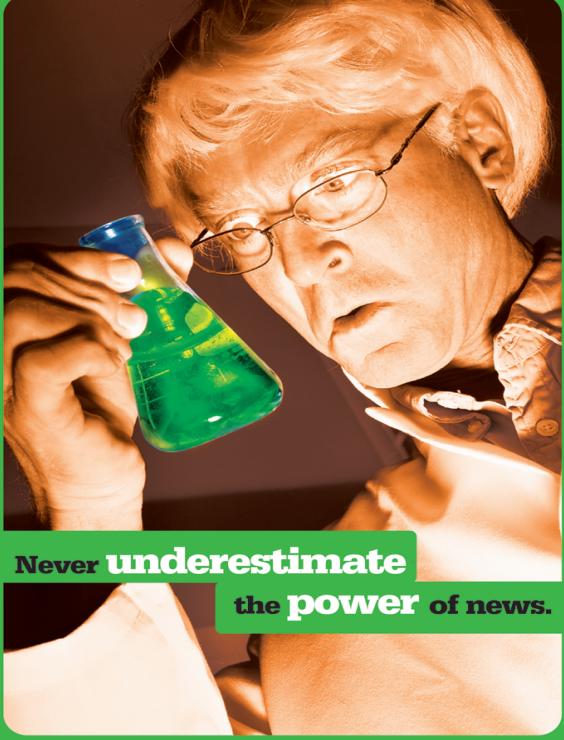
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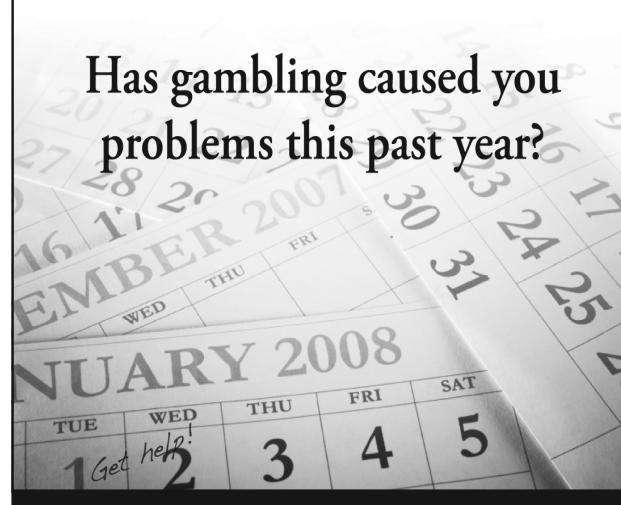
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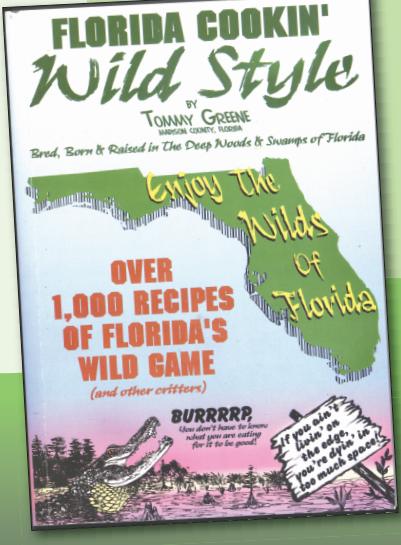
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Wednesday, December 30, 2009

# Happy New Year



2010 Make your New Year  
A Happy & Safe One,  
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MADISON

"2010"

"Happy New Year!" That greeting will be said and heard for at least the first couple of weeks as a new year gets under way. But the day celebrated as New Year's Day in modern America was not always January 1.

**Ancient New Years**  
The celebration of the new year is the oldest of all holidays. It was first observed in ancient Babylon about 4000 years ago. In the years around 2000 BC, the Babylonian New Year began with the first New Moon (actually the first visible crescent) after the Vernal Equinox (first day of spring).

The beginning of spring is a logical time to start a new year. Af-

ter all, it is the season of rebirth, of planting new crops, and of blossoming. January 1, on the other hand, has no astronomical nor agricultural significance. It is purely arbitrary.

The Babylonian new year celebration lasted for eleven days.

Each day had its own particular mode of celebration, but it is safe to say that modern New Year's Eve festivities pale in comparison.

The Romans continued to observe the new year in late March, but their calendar was continually tampered with by various emperors so that the calendar soon became out of synchronization with the sun.

In order to set the calendar right, the Roman senate, in 153 BC, declared January 1 to be the beginning of the new year. But tampering continued until Julius Caesar, in 46 BC, established what has come to be known as the Julian Calendar. It again established January 1 as the new year. But in order to synchronize the calendar with the sun, Caesar had to let the previous year drag on for 445 days.

The Church's View Of New Year Celebrations

Although in the first centuries AD, the Romans continued celebrating the new year, the early Catholic Church condemned the festivities as paganism. But as Christianity became more widespread, the early church began having its own religious observances concurrently with many of the pagan celebrations, and New Year's Day was no different. New Year's is still observed as the Feast of Christ's Circumcision by some denominations.

Thank You For Our Success In 2009.  
We Wish You A Happy & Healthy New Year !!



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Thanks to each and every one of you for a successful 2009. We look forward to building upon that success in the year 2010. Our best to you and yours in the New Year.



At the close of another year, we would like to offer warm wishes to all of our customers for a happy and healthy New Year. We are proud to be of service to you and thank you for your trust in us.

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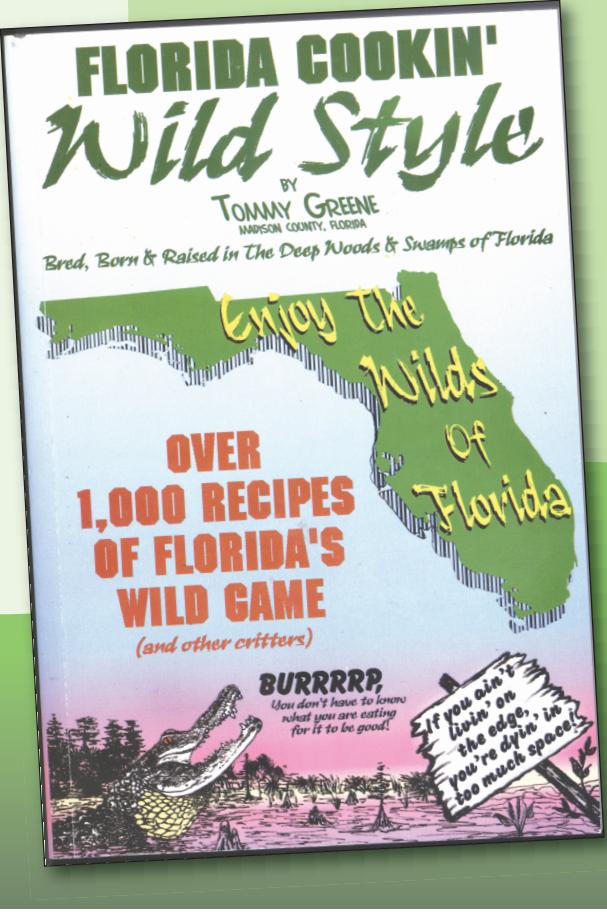


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