

## Jimmy Roebuck Passes Away



Jimmy Bruce Roebuck, age 75, died Friday, March 16, 2012 in Madison County Memorial Hospital.

He was born in Jennings to Quincy Vee and Earl Roebuck. He served in the United States Air Force for four years and was also a member of the First Baptist Church of Madison and a lifetime member of the Elks Lodge. He was a dedicated barber in Madison County for 48 years. Jimmy Roebuck's joys in life were fishing and hunting.

He is survived by his loving wife of 50 years, Princess Ann Roebuck, three brothers: James Roebuck, Eddie Roebuck, and Bobby Roebuck; two sisters: Helen Farmer and Peggie Goodson; seven kids: Robin Peavy Roebuck, LeAnn "Roebuck" Whichard, Teresa "Stalvey" Bailey, James "Jimbo" Roebuck, Valerie "Willette" Shytel, Pam "Willette" Court, Cindy Reimann Mabry, and nine grandchildren: James Mabry, Frank "Frankie" Court, Crystal Court, Holly Stalvey Taylor, Michael Whichard, Nicole Whichard, Stephanie Johnson, Bo Roebuck, and Jackie Roebuck.

The viewing was held on March 17 from 5-7 pm at Beggs Funeral Home and the service was held on Sunday, March 18, at 2 pm at Beggs Funeral home with interment at Oak Ridge Cemetery.

He is preceded in death by Grandsons Daniel Mabry and Rodney Stalvey.

Jimmy Bruce Roebuck was 'a gentle giant' in the Roebuck family. He had a quiet nature and didn't talk a whole lot; Jimmy let the women in his life talk. But when Jimmy had something to say, all would hush and listen. Jimmy was a very patriotic man and loved his country. Madison knew Jimmy as a well respected businessman. Nothing could deter him from succeeding in business, not even the devastating fire that destroyed his first barbershop. Jimmy quickly rebuilt not only his barbershop, but also his beautiful wife,

*Please see Jimmy Roebuck, Page 3A*

## Rick Bender Brings A Personal Anti-Tobacco Message To Madison Schools

By Lynette Norris  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

Rick Bender, a former promising pitching prospect for the Minor League's Los Angeles Angels, doesn't like using the term "smokeless tobacco." Smokeless ("no smoke, no fire, right?") makes it sound so innocuous...so harmless...for a product that cost him much of his lower face and nearly cost him his life.

"It's 'spit tobacco,' that's what it is," he told the crowd of high school students in the Madison County High School gym, holding up a can of snuff. "And it's poison."

One small can has as much nicotine as four or five packs of cigarettes, and 28 different carcinogens. "That's 28 different ways to get cancer from this little can."

As a 12-year-old, Bender had several buddies who smoked, but he didn't want anything to do with cigarettes. His parents had educated his about lung cancer and the dangers of smoking, but peer pressure can be a powerful thing ("Come on, Bender, what are you afraid of?").

He wanted to fit in with his friends and be thought of as "cool."

Then, there were all those ads with



Greene Publishing, Inc. Photo By Lynette Norris, March 5, 2012

After spending the morning talking to middle school students at Madison County Central School, Rick Bender appeared at Madison County High School to share his story with the ninth through twelfth grade students about the dangers of tobacco...no matter what form it comes in.

professional athletes hawking smokeless tobacco as a way to safely enjoy the pleasures of smoking without any of the associated dangers. There were those ubiquitous images of baseball games on TV where it seemed most of the players were chewing and spitting.

Smokeless tobacco, as American as baseball. Take a pinch instead of a puff. It seemed like the perfect solution.

Bender was the MCHS gym that March 5 afternoon to tell a different story.

He started at age 12. By age 25, in Feb of 1988, he was going through a can a day. He had tried unsuccessfully to quit several times by then, but this time, he noticed a little pencil-eraser-sized sore and several whitish bumps on his tongue that didn't go away. He finally managed to quit in the spring of '88 and the sore and bumps disappeared.

But by Christmas of that year, even though he hadn't used any tobacco for months, those bumps were back with a vengeance. This time, there was also a large, nickel-sized sore that was excruciatingly painful.

He describes, in unflinching detail, the

*Please see Rick Bender, Page 3A*

## Real Jackson Celebrates 97th Birthday

By Jacob Bemby  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

Real Jackson was recognized on her 97th birthday on Sunday, March 18 by Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church in Cherry Lake.

Born on March 15, 1915, Jackson is the oldest active member at Mt. Zion-Cherry Lake A.M.E. Church. Each year, the church sets aside the third Sunday in March to honor her. This was done at the suggestion of her family members, who pointed out that she had the blessing to reach her golden years.

At the church, she is an honorary member of the Stewardess Board. She is still dedicated to attending church as much as possible and each year, during the summer, she recognized as the oldest student and for perfect attendance at Vacation Bible School.

Since she is now living at a nursing home,



she is not able to go to church as much as she would like to but she continues to be inspired by praising God, since she is a living witness to His goodness. When she is able to be in church, she often encourages other Christians to praise God.

Jackson was the wife of the late Ennis Jackson and the mother of three children, Isaac, Rosa Lee and Cora Lee. Her grandson, Michael

and granddaughter, Marsha, are also like her own children. She is a loving grandmother, great grandmother and great-great grandmother.

Among her favorite songs that she sings are "It May Be the Last Time" and "Amen."

She exalts the congregation with words of wisdom as she is led by the Spirit of God.

Happy birthday, Sister Real Jackson.

## Marcus Hawkins Announces Candidacy For Superintendent Of Schools

I, Marcus A. Hawkins, Sr., would like to announce my candidacy for the office of Superintendent of Schools of Madison County, Florida. "Rev", as I am known by some, have served as Pastor of Shiloh M.B. Church since 2006. In other circles I am known as "Coach Skeet", serving as Varsity Girls Basketball coach and former teacher at Madison County High School. I currently work as a Recovery Specialist in the School Based Program at Apalachee Center for Human Services, Inc.

I was born August 3, 1980 and am a lifelong resident of Madison. I attended public school in Madison and North Florida Community College after graduating MCHS. While at NFCC I was named Student of the Year in the Liberal Arts program. I then attended North Georgia College and State University on a basketball and military scholarship where I was named Mr. NGCSU and graduated in 2003.

I am an active member in the community. I have served as Executive Director of the Madison County Recreation Association where I started and ran an after school program and summer program while there. I served as Bible Expositor and now serve as 2nd Vice President of the Ministers, Deacons and

*Please see Marcus Hawkins, Page 3A*



## Robin Hill Talks About Madison Schools And FCAT At Woman's Club

By Lynette Norris  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

The day before her birthday, Greenville Elementary School Principal Robin Hill took the floor at the Madison Woman's Club to talk about not just Greenville, but all the schools making up Madison County School District.

"I see a lot of former teachers here," she said, greeting them by name. "So you'll understand what I'm talking about." She was there to discuss the state's FCAT rankings that placed the Madison School District at the bottom. Those state rankings, she said, "are like a slap in the face."

Hill grew up in the school system of Madison County, went off to college and always wanted to get back to Madison. "I made a decision to come back," she said, while her brother decided that a larger city was more to his liking.



Greene Publishing, Inc. Photo by Lynette Norris, March 8, 2012

Robin Hill, Principal of Greenville Elementary School, talks to the Woman's Club about the FCAT and the Madison School System.

This was true of all children who were products of the Madison County school system, she added. Some would come back, while others would elect to live elsewhere. The important thing was that the schools prepare those students to be productive citizens no matter where they went.

She then explained how the state used students' individual FCAT scores to rank a school, and then used the rankings of all the schools in the district to rank the district itself.

The FCAT is not a test the students can study for or cram for; the schools can only teach the skills used for the test. The two biggest components are reading and math, but there is also a science component and a writing component.

Madison County has a low percentage of students considered "proficient" in those areas, proficient, in this case, meaning

*Please see Robin Hill, Page 3A*

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### Local Weather

<b>Wed 3/21</b>	88/63		<b>Thu 3/22</b>	87/62		<b>Fri 3/23</b>	87/60		<b>Sat 3/24</b>	87/60	
A few clouds early, otherwise mostly sunny. Warm. High 88F.			Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the low 60s.			Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the low 60s.			Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the low 60s.		

# VIEWPOINTS & OPINIONS



**Wandering With The Publisher**  
**Mary Ellen Greene**  
Columnist

*Thank You,  
Thank You,  
Thank You !!!!!*

Our family cannot begin to say thank you enough to all our friends, family members, residents of Madison County, and all the loved ones in other counties and cities who came to see us, who brought us food, or the mass who stood in line during the viewing at Beggs Funeral Home, or the many hundreds who came to the funeral services at

the Van H. Priest Auditorium.

The many days following the passing of our husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend, Tommy Greene, has not been easy. But, knowing his love for his Lord, and all of us being Christians as well, has helped us get through these sad days

As I wrote in my column February 24th, my

heart has not stopped beating, but it has been broken. Tommy and I were sweethearts all through high school, and college, and we had been married 49 years.

Tommy was the patriarch of our family, and he loved his family as much as we loved him. Even though we knew he had been sick for some time, we were not ready for the day he left us, to go to Heaven.

Thank you so very much for all you have done during these days and weeks. We will never forget your kindness or other ways you have helped us.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You !!!!

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen Greene, Harvey Greene and family, William Greene and family, Emerald Greene and family, and Bubba Greene and family.



**National Security**

**Joe Boyles**  
Guest Columnist

## Masada

During my recent trip to the Holy Land, one of the most fascinating sites we visited was the ancient fortress and palace of Masada, high atop a plateau overlooking the Dead Sea. Just before the birth of Jesus, King Herod had a magnificent three-tiered palace built into the north face of the plateau, with 4300 feet of fortifications built around the edge of the mountain top. From the west, the plateau rises 1300 feet about the valley floor.

Approach to Masada is in two forms, a switch-back "snake path" or a cable car. We took the easy way by cable car. The mid-February day we visited was clear, cold, and quite windy. High atop a plateau with no tree in sight, there isn't anything to stop the wind.

It wasn't all that long ago that the location of Masada was discovered and archeologists began to unearth what wind and sand had covered. The excavations of the ruins of Masada are extensive and show baths and worship sites that behold this once majestic site. Herod (known as the builder) ruled for a third of a century and commissioned many great sites which exist to this day. During his reign, the second Temple was built as the focus of Jewish worship in Jerusalem. It was destroyed by the Romans in 70 AD during the great revolt. The remnants of the destruction are visible today.

That Jewish revolt against Roman rule occurred from 66-73 AD and is the focus of one of Masada's most enduring stories. Nearly a thousand Sacarii rebels retreated to the fortress of Masada and

stored food to await the siege they knew would come. The Roman Legions arrived under command of Flavius Silva and established garrisons (still visible today) to conduct their year-long siege. When the Sacarii realized that they would succumb, they committed mass suicide rather than face slavery. The handful of women and children who escaped told the story to the first century historian Josephus who recorded their zealous act. In the 1960s, a popular movie by the same name starring Peter O'Toole recounted this epic.

The engineers who designed the fortress two thousand years ago developed a marvelous way to collect water in a region that receives only four inches of rainfall each year. A series of gravity fed aqueducts collected rainwater off the rock and channeled it to cisterns. There is a model of their engineering today to demonstrate this creative method.

Today, Israeli military cadets regularly visit Masada to take their oath of allegiance. Like the defenders of old, they vow never to succumb to the threats they face from their neighboring enemies.

Perhaps it was more than symbolic that the day we visited the old fortress, four Israeli Air Force F-15 Eagles thundered overhead. They made two trips headed east, turning over the Dead Sea along the border with Jordan before heading south to their training areas over the Negev Desert. The Jews were destroyed by the Romans in the first century and by the Nazis in the last. They vow never again.

## Letters To The Editor

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

### How To Pick A Candidate Our Voting Privilege

One of my grandchildren recently asked me about voting and how to pick a candidate. After some reflection I remembered what my father had taught me to look for in the order of their importance.

Look at the person's education. The more education a person has, the more able they are to communicate with others and understand the issues of the office for which they are running.

What is their work experience and work ethic? Were they hired for a position and doing their best, were retained and promoted as a consequence? Or, did they go from job to job?

Is this a person who's word is their bond or do they say one thing and do another?

Is this a person who follows their conscience or do they follow the crowd?

Does this person have the values that you hold to be important?

Do you think this person will do the job to the best of their ability and accomplish the most for the position?

After considering all these things you should be able to pick the best candidate for the job.

As I told my grandchild, we should all take our voting right seriously and pick the candidate who will do the best for our county/country and not pick the person because of who they know. This is our voting responsibility.

Gina McCulley

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# FROM PAGE ONE



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## Rick Bender

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biopsy: the hypodermic needle stuck into his tongue to inject a numbing drug, the scalpel that took a slice of his tongue for analysis, the agonizing week-long wait for the results: lab tests revealed that he had an extremely aggressive, fast-growing cancer for which there was no remission. That part of his tongue would have to be cut out, along with the lymph nodes on the side of his neck.

Nine days before his 27th birthday, as he went into what was supposed to be a two-to-three hour surgery to remove the life-threatening cancer, he was thinking about his ten-month-old baby daughter.

He spent the next week in a daze in the intensive care unit. He remembers little about that week except seeing his father sitting beside his bed, crying.

As it turned out, the cancer had spread farther than the surgeon realized. Another surgeon had been called in to help with what turned out to be a nearly 13-hour marathon operation. He lost a third of his tongue. His jaw had to be put back together with metal plates and screws.

There were other long-term effects as well. Pulling the cancerous lymph nodes out of the side of his neck had resulted in nerve damage to his arm and shoulder. He lost 25 percent of the use in his right arm. His pitching arm.

His baseball career was over, but even that couldn't match the shock of what happened next – he learned the reason his father was crying beside his bed that week. The doctor's prognosis for survival gave Bender less than two years to live. He would never see his 30th birthday.

Over the next several years, radiation treatments, metal plates, screws and infections meant more painful surgeries. That meant a progressive loss of lower jaw structure, as well as more loss of muscle and nerve tissue.

"Nothing I can do about it now," he says of the effects of his 'smokeless' tobacco use. "Except live with it."

Nevertheless, he survived, far longer than the original prediction of two years. At nearly 50, he has beaten the odds for surviving the type of cancer he had, and he figures he survived for a reason.

In May of 2012, it will be 12 years since his last surgery, and he has spent those last several years traveling to high schools and middle schools all over the country to tell his story.

He tells young people everywhere what happened to him because of tobacco. He tells them about the 13 billion dollars the tobacco industry spends on advertising each year. He shows them graphic slides of mouth and jaw cancers, including before and after pictures of another young man like himself, an All American high school athlete named Sean Marsee who had also used tobacco from a very young age. However, he wasn't as fortunate as Bender; the oral cancer he developed was extremely aggressive and kept coming back, even after multiple surgeries, eventually spreading through the back of his neck and into his brainstem. He weighed only 88 pounds when he died.

But there is hope. Bender tells the crowds of teenagers that tobacco users can successfully quit, but it won't be easy. He encourages them to do so if they're now using tobacco products.

He hopes that after hearing his story, most of them won't even start. And that is the reason he survived, he believes – to tell his story and prevent what happened to him from happening to someone else.



## Marcus Hawkins

cont from Page 1A

Laymen Training Union of Madison County. I have served on the then Madison Youth Council and Ministerial Association. I am a member of the Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity.

I am happily married to Montrell and we have four children who all attend public schools: Makenzie (10), Mahogani (7), Marcus, Jr. (5), and Maliyah (23 mo).

I am excited about the possibility of serving as your next Superintendent of Schools. I look forward to meeting the citizens of my home county and discussing the vision for our school system. I am committed to working hard to bridge the gap between community and school so that each student has a successful educational experience. I can be reached through the following avenues: (850) 673-7928 (cell), mhawk320@gmail.com (email), and Marcus Montrell Hawkins (Facebook). Thank you for your support and I eagerly anticipate your vote.

Join me on March 24th 9-11am at the Madison Public Library for my Campaign Kickoff!

*Pd. Pol. Adv., Pd. for and approved by Marcus Hawkins, Democrat, for Superintendent of Schools*

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## Jimmy Roebuck

cont from Page 1A

Princess' Tiny Tots children clothing store. Jimmy had many friends in Madison because he was a great listener and because you could tell Jimmy something and it wouldn't go any further. Many discussions included advice that was given to folks while they sat in his barber chair.

Jimmy loved his whole family with all his heart and his face would light up when he would first see them, no matter how many times he saw them that day. Jimmy Bruce Roebuck was without a doubt a man that will be remembered forever in Madison.

## Robin Hill

cont from Page 1A

"ready for college." This is the first time in the history of the country that every single student has been expected to go to college and judged accordingly, she added. Also, students who are behind in their studies because they come into the school system lacking basic skill sets often cannot be caught up to grade level in just one year. Sometimes it will take their entire school career.

"We have some of the lowest performing students in the state," she said. "But we also have some of the highest performing students as well."

Like many other small, rural counties in North Florida, the Madison School District serves a very, very diverse group of students. In larger cities, schools draw students from specific neighborhoods or areas and end up with students that are very similar to each other demographically, and have very similar backgrounds and needs. In the Madison County school system, student demographics run the gamut, and Hill acknowledged that it could be difficult trying to keep all students on track while focusing on so many different groups with different needs.

The state, however, says that Madison County is doing a great job meeting all its students' needs.

For example, 30 percent of Madison's high school seniors qualified for Bright Futures Scholarships. "But the state didn't advertise that," said Hill. "All they advertised was the FCAT."

In another example, 82 percent of Madison's high school students took the College Placement Test, one of the highest rates in the state. The statewide average was 36 percent.

In Madison, 72 percent took either the ACT or SAT, compared to about 55 percent for the state.

"In the high school, 82 percent of the seniors wanted to go to college," said Hill. "That says a lot."

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# AROUND MADISON COUNTY

## RATT Pact Will Play "Hamlet" One More Time!

Due to an overwhelming and positive response, the ratt PACT of Madison will reprise their performance of "The Little Theater's Production of Hamlet" this coming weekend. The group played before packed crowds Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at the Rural Area Theater and received standing ovations after each performance. "I feel like I am at a real Broadway show," one patron commented. The set was moved to the Madison Woman's Club on Sunday afternoon where their performance again received rave reviews.

If you missed any of these performances, there is only one opportunity left to enjoy it. The show will open this Friday, March 23 at 7:30 pm at the Rural Area Theater (RAT). For reservations, visit [www.rattpact.com](http://www.rattpact.com) or call 850-673-9585.



Mr. and Mrs. Terry Dobson of Monticello are pleased to announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter, Chelsea, to Greg Jenkins of Perry. Greg is the son of Kim Jenkins of Perry and Jim Jenkins also of Perry.

Chelsea's grandparents are Ron and Martha Smoak of Madison and Loa Lee and the late George Dobson of Greenville. Greg's grandparents are Lou Raulerson of Perry and Ted Raulerson also of Perry. His paternal grandparents are Tressa and Leon Harris of Westport, Indiana.

Chelsea is a 2009 graduate of Aucilla Christian Academy and received her Associate of Arts degree from North Florida Community College in 2010. She is currently in the dental hygiene program at Tallahassee Community College and will graduate in 2013. Greg is a 2006 graduate of Taylor County High School and has worked for Jackson-Cook Construction for 6 years.

Chelsea and Greg will be married on Saturday, April 28, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. at Landmark Baptist Church in Madison, Florida. No local invitations are being sent but all family and friends are invited to attend.

## Obituaries

### Marion Glenn Shea

Marion Glenn Shea, 74, of Brooks County, Ga., formerly of Lake Park, Ga., died at his home of an accidental death on Saturday, March 17, 2012. Born in Greenville on December 25, 1937, he was the son of the late Lester and Nettie Mae Brannen Shea. Mr. Shea was the owner of Everetts Well Drilling and Irrigation for the past 33 years. He enjoyed working his business and he always said that if he couldn't make a friend he had rather not work for you! He enjoyed fishing, gardening and traveling and loved spending time at his RV in Welaka, Florida on Little Lake George and the St. John's River. Most of all he was a family man, enjoying his family, grandchildren and two great granddaughters. Mr. Shea was a member of the Church of Christ.

Survivors are his wife of 51 years, Phyllis Phillips Shea of Brooks County; son and daughter in law, Tony and Kim Shea of Lake Park, daughter and son in law, Jeanie and Dale Tyler of Brooks County; grandchildren, Landon and Lexi Shea, Devan and Ethan Tyler; Lindsay and Willis Colson; two great granddaughters, Hannah Colson and Lilly Tyler; brothers, Bill Shea of Greenville, Florida, Tom and Martha Shea of Valdosta; sisters, Inez Pridgen of Lake Park, Jimmie Roberts of Cherry Lake, Florida, Mary and Howard White of Alabama; a number of nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by an infant daughter; brothers, M.L. Shea, O.P. (Mutt) Shea and a sister, Del Ray Miller.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday, March 22, 2012, at 2 p.m. in the chapel of the Carson McLane Funeral Home. Burial will follow at Sunset Hill Cemetery. Mr. Marvin Greene and Mr. Tom Ray Kelly will officiate. The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Wednesday evening from 5 - 7 p.m. Condolences may be conveyed online at [www.mclanefuneralservices.com](http://www.mclanefuneralservices.com)

### Kenneth Ray English

Kenneth Ray English, 63, resident of Valdosta/High Springs, passed away Saturday, March 17 at his home in Valdosta.

He was a Viet Nam veteran, having served in the US Army, he was employed at Dixie Packers in Madison for 15 years and was an avid hunter and fisherman.

Survivors include his wife, Faith English, Valdosta; mother, Ann Whited, High Springs; three sons; Kevin (Angela) English, Ft. White, Darrell (Teresa) Keene, Bell, Justin Jones, Valdosta; one daughter, Kathy Pyle, Ft. White; three brothers; Rick (Mary) English, High Springs, Chris (Carol) English and Steve (Wanda) English, also of High Springs; two sisters; Sheila Benanno, Inverness and Betty Goulet, Cedar Key and seven grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his father, Chapman English and brother, Michael English.

Graveside services will be conducted on Wed., March 21, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. with Rev. S.J. Brown officiating. Visitation will be at 12 noon at Evans-Carter Funeral Home, High Springs.

Arrangements are under the care of Evans-Carter Funeral Home, High Springs, FL., 386-454-2444.

## Did You Know...

In 2007, the first Australian outbreak of equine influenza caused all horse racing to be cancelled.

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# AROUND MADISON COUNTY

## “Miss Madison County Relay For Life”

**THERE IS STILL TIME TO ENTER!!!!  
EXTREMELY LOW NUMBERS!  
Earlybird still accepted through this week.  
\$50 for everything including all optionals.  
Sunday, April 1, 2012  
Madison County Central School  
2:00 p.m.**

Walk on stage in honor or memory of someone who has or has had cancer.

Check-in begins at 1:00 and pageant begins at 2:00. (doors will not open before 1:00)

Prize list includes: Beautiful rhinestone tiara, embroidered sash, and trophy. Optional winners and runners-up will also receive awesome awards! Participation trophies will be awarded to contestants not placing.

Open to all contestants regardless of other titles held. Queens are not required to make appearances, but will be invited to participate in the Four Freedoms Parade and to the Madison County Relay for Life event. (dates will be given to all queens)

Please do not ask who is in your age division; we do not give out that information. Line-up will be based on applications received - first in-last in line. Limit 15 contestants in each division.

All contestants must wear blue jean bottoms (jeans, shorts, capris, skirts, etc.) and any white shirt (plain with no design). You will be allowed to decorate your jeans. However, the shirts need to be plain. Attire will not be judged. Girls may wear only age appropriate make-up and natural hair. (Hair may be up or down, but not stiff) No make-up preferred although powder and lip-gloss is okay. Judges are looking for natural facial beauty.

There will be No Rehearsal. Walk of choice to upbeat music. Modeling turns are acceptable but not necessary. Judges will be looking for facial beauty, poise/personality, modeling and stage presence. \*One Charity Queen will be crowned. This will be the contestant who collects the most donations before or during the pageant for American Cancer Society. A \$100 Minimum must be collected to qualify. The charity queen will receive a round crown and a NICE goody bag!!!!

\*There will also be an overall PEOPLE'S CHOICE winner. This is for the contestant that has the most \$1 votes on the day of the pageant. A \$50 MINIMUM IS REQUIRED FOR THIS TITLE. START COLLECTING NOW. She will receive a round crown and a large trophy.

Admission fee \$5.00 per person. No refunds unless the event is cancelled.

Director: Channah Galbraith at 850-973-0759. email: [channahgalbraith@gmail.com](mailto:channahgalbraith@gmail.com)

Baby 0-11 Little: 7 - 9 Sweetheart 1-2 Princess 3 - 4 Junior: 10 - 12 Petite: 5 - 6 Teen 13-16 Miss 17-21 Ms./Mrs. 22+ \*Charity Queen \*\*People's Choice\*

## Rancho Grande Celebrates Second Anniversary

By Kristin Finney  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

To thank the people of Madison who have helped make the last two years successful, the owners and staff of Rancho Grande will be hosting a huge second anniversary celebration on Thursday, March 22. The event will incorporate fun for the whole family.

For the children there will be a bounce house all day, starting at 10:30 a.m. The street in front of Rancho Grande will be closed for the day to allow this to happen safely. Then a mariachi band will play for the evening crowd. The mariachi band is solely for the pleasure and fun of the customers and everyone in the community is invited to come out and listen and dance to their festive tunes. The mariachi band will be there from 5-10p.m.

“We are very happy with our customers in Madison. We would like to say thank you for letting us come to Madison and helping support us every day. We like Madison like family. We would also like to thank you for your support in the future,” said owners Jamie Serrano and his three brothers.

Rancho Grande will be opened from 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. and then from 4:30 - 10 p.m. Everyone is invited to come out and celebrate their two successful years in Madison and hopefully many more to come.

son like family. We would also like to thank you for your support in the future,” said owners Jamie Serrano and his three brothers.



**Rancho Grande**  
Come and Celebrate Our  
2<sup>ND</sup> Anniversary With A Live  
**Mariachi Band!**

**When:** March 22, 2012  
**Time:** Thursday 5:00 PM - Until  
**Where:** 307 SW Pinckney St.  
Madison, FL 32340  
**Contacts:** (850) 973-2363 or  
(229) 425-1974

**Jumpers Free For Children To Enjoy All Day !!!**

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Straight from the horse's mouth?

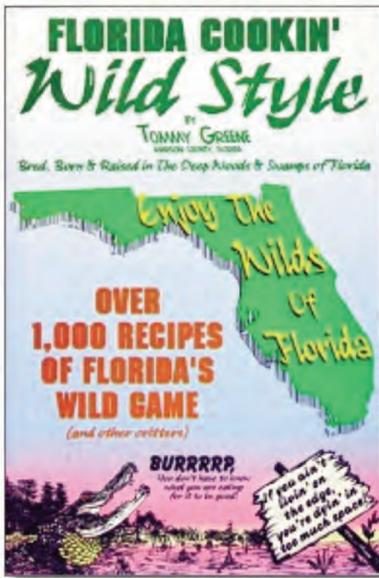
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(and other critters)

**BURRRR!**  
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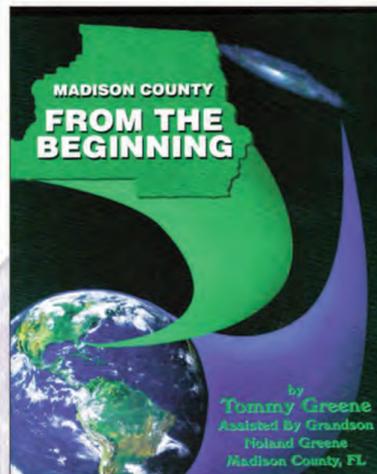
Use don't have to know what you are eating. It's so good!

**Florida Cookin' Wild Style** is a unique cookbook filled with recipes for preparing wild game. Many of these are historical recipes fast becoming forgotten in the modern world. Tommy Greene gives you over 1,000 ways to prepare everything, from alligator to woodcock, that might be bagged in a day's hunt.



**\$20**

(plus sales tax and shipping where applicable)



**MADISON COUNTY FROM THE BEGINNING**  
by Tommy Greene  
Annotated by Grandson  
Holland Greene  
Madison County, FL

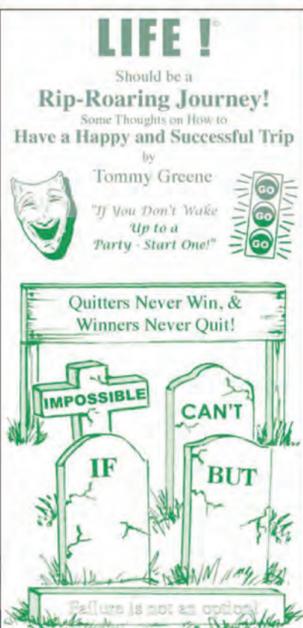
**Madison County From the Beginning** traces the history of Madison County, Florida from the creation of the supercontinent of Pangea 1,000 million years ago through 1999.

Written and illustrated by native Madisonian Tommy Greene, this book provides fascinating reading for history buffs anywhere. (144 pages, soft cover)

**\$12**

(plus sales tax and shipping where applicable)

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Should be a  
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Tommy Greene  
"If You Don't Wake Up to a Party - Start One!"

Quitters Never Win, & Winners Never Quit!

IMPOSSIBLE IF BUT CAN'T

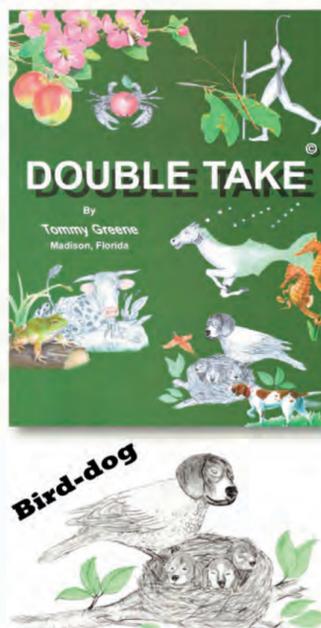
Failure is not an option!

In **LIFE!** Tommy Greene shares a smattering of his personal thoughts on how best to enjoy a happy and successful life, as well as some of his favorite quotes on the subject from some of the people who have lived it – from Albert Einstein to Zig Zigler, and many in between.

**LIFE!** is a pocket-sized book intended to be carried and dipped into from time to time. A book to be enjoyed as a source of inspiration, as well as the occasional chuckle. (72 pages, soft cover)

**\$3**

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**DOUBLE TAKE**  
By  
Tommy Greene  
Madison, Florida

**Bird-dog**

**Double Take** is a book intended to fuel the imaginations of readers of all ages. This richly illustrated book is filled with words that, on first glance, have obvious meanings. As Tommy Greene demonstrates, though, these words can make the reader stop and do a "Double Take."

The true meaning of each "Double Take" word is explained in a short, informative essay and beautifully illustrated with a highly detailed painting. A cartoon by Tommy Greene also accompanies each word, showing the alternate meaning that might be conjured up in one's imagination. (64 pages, soft cover)

**\$15**

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# SCHOOL

## Aucilla Christian Academy Honor Roll

4th 6 weeks 2011-2012

**K-5 (Stephens)**

**All E:** Riley Beggs, Tyson Clark, Harper Davis, Adam Day, Wyman Demott, Lauchlin Faglie, Daniel Hoenstine, Jady Kinsey, Chase Oester, Zach Sears, Walker Sparkman, Tyler Stowers, Emma Vickers, Emilee Walker, Will Wisenbaker

**All E and S:** Dalton Demott, Hunter Hobson, Leigha Hunt, Christian Morrissette, Miranda Smith

**First Grade (Roberts)**

**All A:** Brewster Bass, Axel Day, Sammi Drawdy, Jace Grant, Daniel Harrington, Samuel Kennedy, Haylie McLeod, Macy Reagan, Caroline Taylor, Kaitlin Tharpe, Ali Townsend, Paxton Williams

**All A and B:** Ryan Adams, Joleane Alexandrou, Aiden Day, Anna Drawdy, Richard Guo, Hannah Rawlings, Riley Rutledge, Lillie Schwier, Trenton Stuart, Emma Tharpe

**Second Grade (Love)**

**All A:** Kasey Chmura, Tag Williams  
**All A and B:** Turner Beshears, Jacob Green, Megan Vann

**Third Grade (Aman)**

**All A:** Lindsey Davis, Selina Drawdy, Keira Evans, Kolton Grambling, Riley Rowe, Will Sullivan, Olivia Walton

**All A and B:** Natalie Andrews, Jeb Beshears, Jared Grant, James Hightower, Emmaleah Hoopell, Krishan Patel, Sarah Plain, Alissa Roland, Jarrett Roland, Mary Rose Schwier, Makayla Walker, Travis Wheeler, Ginger Whiddon

**Third Grade Multi-Age (Falk)**

**All A:** Joey Davis  
**All A and B:** Xander Ames, Riley Hamrick, Tyler Slaughter, Wyatt Stafford, Ramsey Wisenbaker

**Fourth Grade (Whiddon)**

**All A and B:** Jacob Barker, Dawson Bishop, Kinsey Clark, Jamieson Dalzell, Nathan Green, Carl Hall, Brandon Hannon, Pierce Powers, Marley Restrepo, Frank Roberts, Elizabeth Scheese, Albre Shiver

**Fourth Grade Multi-Age (Falk)**

**All A and B:** Ansley English, Bailey McLeod, Hope Randle, Abby Reams

**Fifth Grade (Hughey)**

**All A:** Emily Brock, Carley Ondash, Megan Schofill  
**All A and B:** Grace Beshears, Ryan Jackson, Maggie Mall, Chloe Reams, Levi Stafford, Dilyn Stowers

**Sixth Grade**

**All A:** Timothy Finlayson, Cannon Randle  
**All A and B:** Jacob Dukes, Camryn Grant, Elizabeth Hightower, Carly Joiner, Abigail Morgan, Joe Walton, Mickaela Whiddon

**Seventh Grade**

**All A:** Kelly Horne, Kate Whiddon  
**All A and B:** Traynor Barker, Dena Bishop, Cali Burkett, Faith Demott, Stephanie English, Sarah

Hall, Joe Hannon, Kade Holden, Brittany Hughes, Jenny Jackson, Gatlin Nennstiel, Kirsten Reagan, Ramsey Sullivan

**Eighth Grade**

**All A:** Taylor Copeland, Abigail Hettinger, Savannah Jenkins, Sarah Tharpe, Emma Witmer

**All A and B:** Sam Hogg, Ally Mall, Taylor McKnight, Austen Pentz, T.J. Swords, Courtney Watts, Gaige Winchester

**Ninth Grade**

**All A:** Morgan Cline, Sarah James  
**All A and B:** Austin Bishop, Ricky Finlayson, Kinzi Mattingly, Carson Nennstiel, Monique Restrepo

**Tenth Grade**

**All A:** Cole Davis, Lauren Demott, Aimee love, Jessica Welch  
**All A and B:** Hunter Horne, Braden Mattingly, Ashlyn Mills

**Eleventh Grade**

**All A:** Ashli Cline, Kaley Love, Whitney McKnight, Hadley Revell, Audrey Waters

**All A and B:** Alexis Burkett, Jay Finlayson, Jared Jackson, Caroline Schwab, Pamela Watt

**Twelfth Grade**

**All A:** Josh Funderburke, Mandy Holley, Tyler Jackson, Vickie Perry, Shelby Witmer

**All A and B:** Stacie Brock, Keli Dollar, Tori Self, Sunnie Sorensen, Philip Watts

### NAVAL ACADEMY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR SUMMER SEMINAR PROGRAM 2012

**NOTE:** Students with questions about NASS and the application process should call 410-293-4361 or visit [www.usna.edu/admissions](http://www.usna.edu/admissions).

Applications are being accepted through March 31 for the United States Naval Academy Summer Seminar (NASS) 2012. NASS is designed for students who will have just completed their junior year of high school in the summer of 2012. This program is a fast-paced, six-day experience for high-achievers who may be interested in pursuing an appointment to one of the nation's service academies and serving as a military officer after graduation. NASS is held in three sessions: June 2-7; June 9-14; and June 16-21.

Summer Seminar introduces students to the opportunities at the Naval Academy where academics, athletics, and professional training play equally important roles in developing our nation's leaders. Students will live in the dormitory, Bancroft Hall, eat in the dining facility, King Hall; participate in academic and leadership workshops; and experience a variety of other activities at the academy. Students will have an opportunity to see first-hand what the academy has to offer through its exceptional academic, athletic, extracurricular activities and leadership training programs.

The academy's current students, known as midshipmen, run the Summer Seminar training with oversight by active duty Navy and Marine Corps officers. Over 2,250 students from around the U.S. attend this rigorous program each year.

According to Naval Academy Summer Seminar officer-in-charge, Lt. Thomas Dotstry, "If you are a student who wants a summer challenge with the opportunity to sample university-level academics at a first-rate engineering school, the Summer Seminar program will let you discover how

the Naval Academy can help you achieve your goals, and give you a jump start on the admissions process."

By applying to the 2012 Summer Seminar, students are also applying for admission to the Naval Academy, class of 2017. There is no need to submit a preliminary application when it becomes available on April 1 for students desiring to apply for admission to USNA.

Students with questions about NASS and the application process should call 410-293-4361 or visit [www.usna.edu/admissions](http://www.usna.edu/admissions). The deadline for applications is March 31, 2012. Seminar fee is \$350.

Founded in 1845, the U.S. Naval Academy today is a prestigious four-year service academy that prepares midshipmen morally, mentally and physically to be professional officers in the naval service. More than 4,400 men and women representing every state in the U.S. and several foreign countries make up the student body, known as the Brigade of Midshipmen. Midshipmen learn from military and civilian instructors and participate in intercollegiate varsity sports and extracurricular activities. They also study subjects like small arms, drill, seamanship and navigation, tactics, naval engineering and weapons, leadership, ethics and military law. Upon graduation, midshipmen earn a tax-payer funded Bachelor of Science degree in a choice of 23 different subject majors and go on to serve at least five years of exciting and rewarding service as commissioned officers in the U.S. Navy or U.S. Marine Corps.

For more information about the Naval Academy, please visit: [www.usna.edu](http://www.usna.edu) or our Facebook page.

**Madison Academy**  
 P.O. Box 690, 2812 W. US 90, Madison, FL 32341  
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[www.madisonacademy.org](http://www.madisonacademy.org)

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Madison Academy admits students of any race, color, nationality, and ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, nationality, and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship program, and other school-administered programs.

Applications are now being accepted for the Fall of the 2012 academic school year.  
 Janna Barrs, Head of School

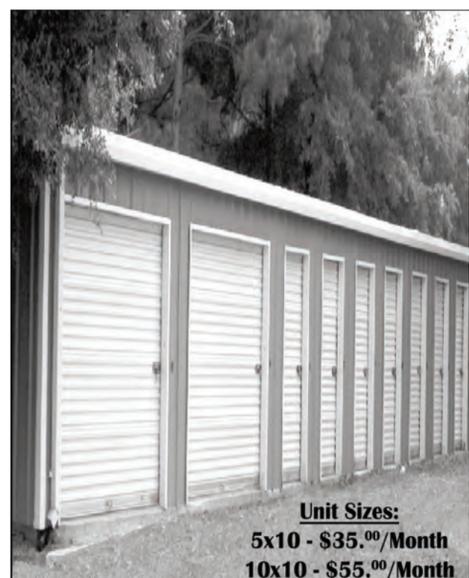
**IT'S TIME TO SHINE**  
 Madison Academy

You are invited to attend an Open House at Madison Academy on Thursday, March 22, 2012 from 6PM to 7PM.

*Tuesday Tours Beginning April 3, 2012*  
 (Call to Schedule Your Tour Today!)

*Providing your child with a great education is one of the BEST investments you can make!!*

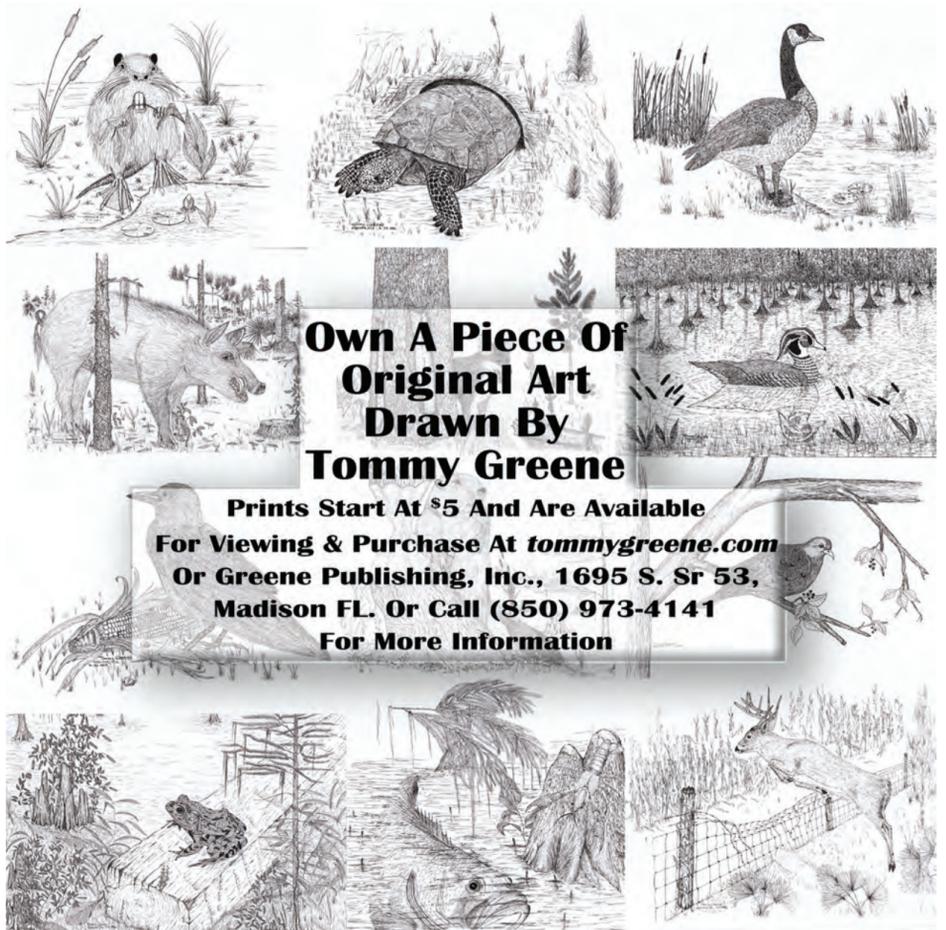
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# HEALTH

## Tyler Coody Of The Colin Kelly Fitness Center Is Guest Speaker At Rotary

By Lynette Norris  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

The Colin P. Kelly Fitness and Wellness Center at North Florida Community College opened a little over a year ago with a walk-a-thon and a day-long grand opening social to celebrate its goal of encouraging healthy lifestyles and providing students a safe, healthy environment – a location on campus where they could go between classes or after classes and learn the fundamentals of fitness and a healthy lifestyle.

The brand new structure, begun in October 2009, was added onto the existing gymnasium, which underwent renovation during the construction period.

Named after local World War II hero Capt. Colin P. Kelly, the center has over two dozen pieces of state-of-the-art exercise equipment.

While the Center has always welcomed NFCC students, faculty and adjuncts, with the cost included in student activity fees or as part of a benefits package, Fitness and Wellness Coordinator Tyler Coody, son of Randy and Lydia Coody (of Madison Plumbing) and Herman Cherry visited the Rotary Club's March 7 meeting to talk about expanding the facility's horizon with paid membership programs for the community; a semester/17 week Alumni Program for former NFCC and NFJC Students, and a Fitness Friends program for public safety employees (firefighters, EMT, sheriff's and police departments, etc.). There are also community punch passes available for sale on a limited basis; punchcards for 10 visits are available for \$40, and 20 visits for \$70. Punchcards for 10 visits will expire one semester/16weeks after purchase date and those for 20 visits will expire two semesters/32 weeks after purchase date.

The Center also has plans to participate in several community wide events. Down Home Days will feature a 5K run that begins and ends at the facility. On April 14, it will be part of the Community Fitness Festival; the schedule of activities for that event are still being worked out.

The Center provides jobs for several students at the front desk and in the center itself as well as providing safe, supervised opportunities for students and community members to get themselves into a healthier mode of living.

The Center's hours are from 6 a.m. until 7 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and 6 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Friday. It is closed on weekends and campus holidays.

For more information on the Fitness Center's programs and schedules, call the front desk at (850) 973-1651.

## Surgeon General's Report: Decline in Tobacco Use Slowed Among Youth

By Lynette Norris  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

Two weeks ago, the Surgeon General released its 31st tobacco-related report since 1964. According to information in this latest report, when it comes to school-age children from 12 to 17, and young adults ages 18 to 25, anti-smoking efforts are still seeing some progress in reducing tobacco use, but those reduction rates for cigarette smoking have slowed down in the last decade; reduction rates for smokeless tobacco have stalled completely. Smokeless tobacco use even appears to be increasing among some groups.

Nationally, more than 600,000 middle school students and three million high school students smoke cigarettes. Ironically, if the reduction rates in tobacco use made between 1997 and 2003 could have been sustained, there could be three million fewer young smokers today.

One of Tobacco Free Madison's main goals is youth prevention – preventing tobacco initiation among young people, particularly minors, and reducing the influence that the tobacco industry has on this age group.

This is particularly important, because statistically, nine out ten smokers started smoking by age 18, and nearly 99 percent started by the time they were 25. Almost no one starts smoking after age 25.

Three local retailers have voluntarily agreed to have Florida Quitline materials in their place of business, including penny cups beside the cash registers with the Quitline information as well as posters and window clings. If a smoker does decide

to quit, even while buying another pack of cigarettes, the information and help is right there.

"It's one way to help bridge that gap a little bit," said Doug Freer, Anti-Tobacco Specialist with the Madison County Health Department. "By having a little help that's available, for those who are ready to quit and need help."

Tobacco Free Madison has also surveyed local retailers to make sure they understand the new FDA regulations, particularly those regarding minors and flavored tobacco.

Earlier this month, Rick Bender visited Madison Central and Madison High School, to speak with teens about the consequences of "smokeless" tobacco. Bender, a former minor league baseball player, starting using smokeless tobacco at age 12. By age 30, he had lost a third of his tongue and half of his jaw to cancer.

Teens are very visual, Freer explained. While death and disease mean more to adults, young people respond more to appearance – what tobacco use has done to someone else and could do to them. The sight of a cancer survivor who has lost a part of his face means more than a printed report or statistics about smoking-related illnesses.

Tobacco Free Madison is also a sponsor of Madison's upcoming "Down Home Days" festival. They will be working the parade and both nights at the rodeo, spreading the word about preventing youth tobacco initiation and the free help that is available for those who want to quit.

For help and information on how to quit, call the Florida Quitline at 1-877-U-CAN-NOW (1-877-822-6669) or visit [www.tobaccofreeflorida.com](http://www.tobaccofreeflorida.com).

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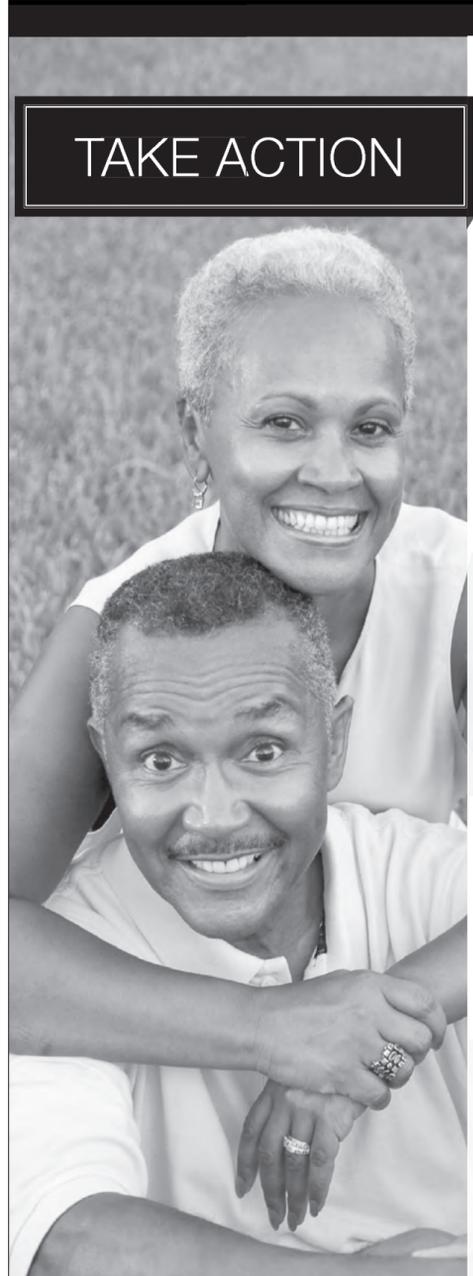
**TOBACCO FREE MADISON** 

**WILL BE MEETING**

**Wednesday, March 28, at 3:30 pm at the Madison County Health Department**

Come and see how you can be part of building a tobacco free legacy in Madison County.

For more information please call **973-5000 x 119**

### TAKE ACTION

## Colorectal Cancer is a Killer You Can Help Prevent.

Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare is teaming up with Madison County Memorial Hospital, your local health department and the American Cancer Society to provide a free colon cancer awareness seminar with free take-at-home colorectal screening kits. We invite you to join us and learn about how you can help prevent and detect colorectal cancer, an easily avoidable disease that is expected to cause approximately 51,690 deaths in 2012, according to the American Cancer Society.

Date: March 24, 2012  
Time: 10:00 am  
Location: Mt Zion AME Church  
576 SW Dade Street  
Madison, FL 32340  
For further information, call (850) 431-4226 option 7

**Get Screened**  
Regularly scheduled colorectal screening tests are recommended beginning at age 50, however, if you have known risk factors such as family history of colon cancer or polyps, colon cancer syndromes, or are African-American, you may need to be screened earlier and more frequently.



**Ask The Dentist** 

**QUESTION:**  
My gums bleed when I brush my teeth, but they don't hurt. Doesn't everybody's gums bleed? Is that something I need to worry about?

**ANSWER:**  
No, everybody's gums do not bleed. If they bleed, there is a good chance that you have gum disease. About 90% of the population has early gum disease called gingivitis. If you have bleeding, you have gingivitis or worse. You need to get a handle on gingivitis before it turns into a major problem like Periodontal disease. 30% of the adult population has a more advanced form gum disease called periodontal disease. That is the stage when you are at risk for toothaches, abscess, and loss of teeth.

So, if you don't want to get long in the tooth, the two most important things you can do for gum disease are regular exams and cleanings along with daily flossing. I know folks are not wild about flossing. Many only want to floss the easy to reach front teeth. There is an old joke in dentistry when the patient asks the dentist if they need to floss the back teeth too? The dentist's reply is, "you only need to floss the teeth you want to keep."

**RODERICK K SHAW III, DMD, MAGD**  
Master of the Academy of General Dentistry  
President, Florida Academy of General Dentistry  
Let us feature your questions.  
Contact us at (850) 250-5964 or [rkshaw@agd.org](mailto:rkshaw@agd.org)  
Ask the Dentist is devoted to answering your questions about the Art and Science of Dentistry.

# Classifieds

Deadline For Classifieds  
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3:00 p.m. Every Monday

## SERVICES

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## Children's Dresses...

- Size 3 - white long dress, worn as flower girl dress, sequin/beadwork all on bodice, sequin/beadwork/appliques on bottom, built-in crinoline. - \$50
- Size 4 - off white dress, worn as flower girl dress, lace work around bodice, pretty lace work at bottom, cap sleeves - \$25
- Size 7-8 - off white dress, worn as a flower girl dress, overlay of lace
- over entire dress, probably knee to calf length - \$25
- Size 8 - white, long dress, lace around neck with decorative bodice - \$25
- Size 16 - white long pageant gown, cap sleeves, white sequin work across entire bodice and sleeves, buttons around neck with circular cut-out on back, beautiful gown - \$100

## Teen dresses.....

Size 14 (child's size 14 but dress is for a teen division approximately 13-15) - GORGEOUS lime green dress, strapless but with spaghetti straps that criss cross across the back, sequins spotted across the entire gown, built-in crinoline - absolutely gorgeous. - \$300 (paid over \$500 for it) Call 850-973-3497 and leave message.

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Super, newly furnished **1BR apartment.** Twin beds included, washer/dryer. Owner maintains lawn. Great neighborhood. Located at 193 Shelby Street. Off-street parking. \$500.00. Dixie Properties (850) 656-6340.

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Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR MADISON COUNTY, FLORIDA... CAPITAL CITY BANK, Plaintiff... LLOYD STRICKLAND, Defendant... NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE... Parcel ID: #11-2N-10-5949-003-000... 3/14, 3/21

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR JEFFERSON COUNTY FLORIDA... GENEVA McELVIN, ARTHUR BRADLEY JR., ZARA THOMAS... Petitioners... NOTICE OF ACTION... TO: MAY OLA HARDMAN... YOU ARE NOTIFIED that a Complaint to Quiet Title has been filed... 3/14, 3/21, 3/28, 4/4

Notice of Sale Pursuant to Chapter 83, Part IV... Under the Authority of the Self-Service Storage Facility Act, Section 83.805 the described below has been seized for nonpayment of rent and other accrued expenses... 3/21, 3/28

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR MADISON COUNTY, FLORIDA... BRANCH BANKING AND TRUST COMPANY, a North Carolina banking corporation, Plaintiff... CLOJEN INTERNATIONAL, INC., a Florida corporation... 3/14, 3/21

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR MADISON COUNTY, FLORIDA... 21ST CENTURY FINANCIAL INC., P.O. Box 838598, Ocala, Florida 34483-0598, Plaintiff... BARBARA A. ANDERSON, and THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Defendants... NOTICE OF SALE... 3/14, 3/21

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 9th day of March, 2012 in the cause wherein IVY FINANCIAL CORPORATION, Plaintiff, vs. MARIE A. BAIARD, Defendant, being Case No. 2011-69-CA in said Court... 3/14, 3/21, 3/28, 4/4

NOTICE OF SALE... Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Final Judgment in the above-captioned action, the Clerk shall offer for sale the property situated in Madison County, Florida, described as follows: See Exhibit "A" attached hereto... 3/14, 3/21

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR MADISON COUNTY, FLORIDA... 21ST CENTURY FINANCIAL INC., P.O. Box 838598, Ocala, Florida 34483-0598, Plaintiff... BARBARA A. ANDERSON, and THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Defendants... NOTICE OF SALE... 3/14, 3/21

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# AROUND MADISON COUNTY

## JOE BOYLES DISCUSSES THE STRAIT OF HORMUZ AT ROTARY CLUB

By Lynette Norris  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

The roughly kidney-shaped Persian Gulf, surrounded by Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudia Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.) and Oman, has long been a leading oil-producing region. Iran alone is the fourth largest producer in the entire world; oil makes up 80 percent of Iran's exports.

The Gulf region produces about three fourths of the oil Japan imports and half the oil Mainland China uses.

At the southern end of the Gulf is the only outlet, a narrow channel about 20 miles across that resembles a kink in a giant garden hose. On one coast is Iran; on the other, the U.A.E. and Oman. There is enough room for two narrow shipping lanes, incoming and outgoing, used by several thousand commercial/local vessels and about 28 oil tankers on any given day. In 2011, 35 percent of all seaborne-traded oil passed through this one narrow channel.

This is the Strait of Hormuz.

Joe Boyles, military historian and former serviceman, addressed the Rotary Club on the importance of the Strait of Hormuz, not only to American national security, but also to the Asian markets and other countries that depend heavily on oil from the Persian Gulf region.

Hormuz has a troubled history going back at least 35 years, when Iran first threatened to mine that small body of water; recently Iran threatened to do the same. The entire Middle East region has a long, complicated history of unrest that still concerns the US military and national security.

The Iranian military, according to a January 2012 report by Gen. Barry M. McCaffrey, USA (Ret.), is fully capable of carrying out its threat to mine the waters of Hormuz with its small fleet of subs, backed up by shore-based missile batteries and missile-armed aircraft.

Iran's latest threats have been labeled by some as meaningless saber-rattling, but McCaffrey believes they should be taken seriously. Although Iran would be economically foolish to cut off 80 percent of its foreign trade revenue, the US military looks at an enemy's capabilities, not its intentions. Iran is politically unstable and it has the capability to close off the Strait, achieve nuclear power in three to five years and sink US aircraft carriers with 5000-plus personnel aboard. Due to Iran's latest threats, there are now three such carriers in the Gulf.

"In my judgment, we are in a high-risk situation in the Gulf," McCaffrey's report states. "With a significant probability of Iranian escalation in the coming 90 days."

In that event, already steep oil prices would go even higher. Heavily insured oil tankers damaged or destroyed would hit the insurance markets hard.

As alternatives to Hormuz, digging a canal through rocky and sometimes mountainous terrain would be economically out of the question, but options for a pipeline bypass are being rapidly developed as the safest and cheapest solution for moving large quantities of oil to world markets.

Even so, Hormuz is only one of several national security challenges to America, according to McCaffrey's report. For more information on the Persian Gulf, the Middle East, hemilitary/political situations and the potential world-wide impact of conflicts or other events in the region, visit Gen. McCaffrey's website at [www.mccaffreyassociates.com](http://www.mccaffreyassociates.com).

## Kiwanis Hears About The Guardian Ad Litem And Voices For Children Programs

By Lynette Norris  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

### GUARDIAN AD LITEM:

"I grew up in Suwannee County, and I had no idea there was so much abuse there," said Tammie Williams. When she first began researching the possibility of becoming a Guardian ad Litem volunteer, the numbers shocked her; she told the Kiwanis Club.

She is now the Human Resources/Budget Liaison for The Guardian ad Litem Program of the 3rd Judicial Circuit of Florida. Serving seven counties (Columbia, Dixie, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee and Taylor), the 3rd Judicial Circuit is the largest in Florida. Yet it is also the only circuit where every child has a voice in the court system due to the number of volunteers in the program. Guardian ad Litem has 12 full time staff, two part time staff, and 103 trained volunteers; their goal however, is 135 volunteers by June.

As a mother of five, she is particularly concerned with the issues of child abuse, but when she first discovered the Guardian program around Christmas of 2005, she wondered if she should get involved at all.

"Then I realized these were children in my community," she said. "Children my kids went to school with. Children I was around anywhere I went."

Still, she wondered,

when would she have the time? How would she know what to do? Would she do it right?

Then she added up the amount of time she spent on a couch or in a Walmart, and felt she should use that time instead to make a difference to a child.

There were many ways to become involved; once a volunteer goes through the training program, he or she can decide how many cases they could handle; some cases involve simply making phone calls to children who have been placed somewhere beside their homes.

The volunteers become the voice of the child for the judge in a court system, making sure the child's wishes are known; a court can be a frightening place for a child, and the volunteers are there on the child's behalf. There is very little actual testifying in court; the information is submitted to the court as reports.

"And you're never alone," Williams emphasized. "You're always working side by side with caseworkers and attorneys. You're part of a team."

"What qualifies me as a Guardian ad Litem?" She asked. "A caring heart and common sense. Being dependable and trustworthy."

It is the same qualities needed by any volunteer, and the 30 hours training program will show them what the program is all about and how it work and what

the volunteer needs to know to be an effective voice for a child.

"That's the hardest part," she said, finding the 30 hours needed to go through the training.

"The ultimate goal is to help a child get back to a safe and permanent place." This is important to children who only want the security of going to bed in the same bed every night, or want the jacket they left at mom's house. As a Guardian ad Litem, the volunteer makes recommendations to the court, with a lot of support, and the judge makes the decision.

"It's time for everyone to get angry about child abuse," she said. "It's at our backdoor."

### VOICES FOR CHILDREN:

20 years ago, Wanda Bruce got angry at what she was seeing, and left her job as a nurse to join the Voices for Children of the Suwannee Valley, Inc. She is now a board member of Voices for Children, which supports the 3rd Judicial Circuit Guardian ad Litem Program. The board has members from each of the seven counties it serves, except Madison. They would like to get a Madison County person to serve on the board.

They do, however, have about half a dozen volunteers from Madison.

The Voices for Children program is the group that gives children the money to play ball or participate in a sport, or any of the other little extras other children take for granted. The children they help are the ones who have no home, no family, no pets...nothing at all.

Voices for Children does ask for monetary support from the community; they also ask for Christmas gifts for the children.

She reiterated several points about the Guardian ad Litem program as well, especially the important role volunteers play, and the dif-

ference between DCF and Guardian ad Litem. DCF looks at the entire family, while Guardian and Voices for Children focus on the child.

"You may not make a difference to every child you represent," she said. "But if you can make a difference to one child, that's one."

## Jon D. Caminez P.A.

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