

# Reward Offered

## For Information Leading To The Arrest Of Persons Involved In Recent Burglaries

By Bryant Thigpen  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

A reward of \$1,000 is being offered for information leading to the arrest of any persons who may be involved with the burglaries that have struck the southwest portion of Madison County.

Madison County's Sheriff Ben Stewart reported that items that have been stolen exceed \$24,000 in value.

From the residence of Jeff Bloodworth, a John Deere 72" cut mower, Stihl chainsaw, weed-eater, and pole saw taken as recent as Saturday, September 1 (value of \$18,000).

The residence of Dimpsy Gossett had a Gravely 52" cut mower also taken as recent as Friday, August 21, and discovered missing on Saturday, September 1 (value \$5,000.00).

The residence of Donnie Tuten had a 12' black dual axel utility trailer also on Friday night, August 31, and discovered missing on Saturday, September 1 (Value \$1,500.00).

Jeff Bloodworth is offering \$1,000.00 reward for information leading to the arrest of persons involved in these crimes. Sheriff Stewart further encourages any and all persons having any information regarding these thefts to please contact the Sheriff's Office at 850-973-4001.

# Undercover Drug Bust Leads To Arrest

By Bryant Thigpen  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

According to a press release by the Madison County Sheriff's office, Sheriff Ben Stewart stated on Thursday, August 23, The Sheriff's Office Drug Task Force executed arrest warrants for Anthony James Hampton. The drug task force



Anthony Hampton

obtained the warrants as a result of an undercover drug bust operation. Hampton, a Madison resident, was arrested with charges of possession with intent to sell Ecstasy and sell of Ecstasy. He was transported to the Madison County Jail without incident.

# Greenville Resident Seriously Injured In Wreck

By Bryant Thigpen  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

On Saturday, September 1, a Greenville resident was seriously injured in a wreck in Taylor County.

According to the highway patrol report, a 2001 PT cruiser, driven by Greenville resident Debrah Cantrell, was traveling south on US Highway 221. She failed to see the vehicle in front of her and collided with the rear end of a 2010 Chevrolet Silverado, with a boat in tow. Earl Cooper Crocket of Perry was driving the vehicle, with David Pittman, also of Perry, as the passenger. Both vehicles came to a final rest facing south on the west shoulder of the highway.

The Taylor County Sheriff's Department, Fire and EMS assisted on the scene.

# Lee Man Arrested For Marijuana Cultivation

National Guard Teams With Drug Task Force To Conduct Aerial Searches

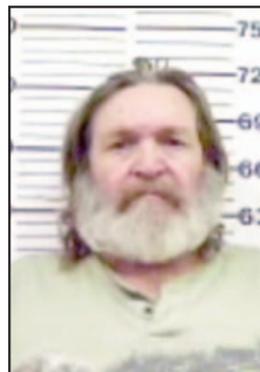
By Bryant Thigpen  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

According to a press release by the Madison County Sheriff's Office, On Thursday, August 30, the Drug Task Force joined forces with the National Guard to conduct a county-wide aerial searches of potential marijuana growing operations.

Sheriff Ben Stewart reported that, as a result

of the search, seven marijuana plants, ranging from six to seven feet tall, were discovered behind the residence of Dennis Riggdon in Lee. The plants have an approximate value of \$7,000.

Riggdon was arrested without incident and charged with cultivation of marijuana and possession of marijuana less than 20 grams.



Dennis Riggdon



Photo Submitted

Project Safe Zone welcomed Crime Stoppers of Madison County to its growing number of community partners. Pictured left to right are: Gary Calhoun, Jodie Price, Octavious Tookes, and Tina Demotsis.

# Project Safe Zone Building Community Partnerships

Submitted

"Big challenges can be solved with effective planning and resources," noted Project Safe Zone Project Director Octavious Tookes.

Madison County District Schools are participating in a turnaround program sponsored by the Florida Department of Education that addresses issues from academics to community involvement. Designed to create a safe and positive learning environment, the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative recognizes the need to promote community partnerships that encourage student success and parental involvement. Among these strategic partnerships are the mentoring program, Parents as Teachers, and Crime Stoppers of Madison County.

Since launching the SS/HS Initiative, known locally as Project Safe Zone, Mentor Coordinator Jodie Price has recruited dozens of mentors to serve as role models for struggling students. Recognizing the value of

each volunteer hour, she also extended a hearty thanks for local support of a mentor appreciation lunch, including: North Florida Workforce Development Board, Madison County Memorial Hospital, Capital City Bank, Madison County Community Bank, Amy Stewart Kendrick, Scott Copeland, Doug Brown, Octavious Tookes, Tommy Hardee, Harvey's, Ann Selland, Stacey & Co., Julius Hackett, Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Karen Holman, Davis Barclay, Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, and Studstill Lumber Company.

In addition to these contributors, Price recognized the work of Merv Mattair and his youth advocacy group, Boys to Kings, noting his enormous contribution to the mentoring program. At times mentoring upwards of ten students, Mattair integrated the SS/HS mentoring activities into Boys to Kings, where he also conducted a parent development/participation program, Parents as Teachers, which provides education to parents for

promoting school readiness and healthy development of children.

Crime Stoppers of Madison County is a recent addition to Project Safe Zone. Like www.sprigeo.com, which is the district's anonymous bullying reporting website, Crime Stoppers of Madison County empowers victims and witnesses to report criminal and violent behaviour via phone or text, providing monetary rewards in certain instances. Urging students to take their school back without fear of retaliation, the new program is expected to be a great success. Locally, simply call, 973-2762; or text, 274637 (CRIMES), 24 hours a day.

Project Safe Zone will be sponsoring its second annual Bullying Prevention Rally on October 27th, which was an enormous success last year; community partners are urged to participate and refer a friend, as well as potential program partners and vendors. Please phone (850) 973-5192 and ask for the Project Safe Zone office for more details.

# Hardee To Discuss Voting Precincts At County Commission Meeting

By Jacob Bembry  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

Supervisor of Elections Tommy Hardee will appear before the Madison County Commission on Wednesday, Sept. 5, to discuss voting precinct buildings.

Hardee told this writer that his office would allow Cherry Lake Fire Rescue to use the voting precinct in Cherry Lake so that they might be able to place a fire truck there. Hardee also indicated that another early voting location would be in Pinetta and set up before the November general election.

Another on the agenda is the declaration of the results of the special local option election. Once the commission approves it, the public will be given 90 days in case anyone wants to file a protest against the election results. It will become law at the end of 90 days.

Other new business on the agenda will include:  
•The approval of Resolution 2012-09-05B, implementing a Points Priority List and a Work Priority List for SHIP Emergency Repairs to Determine Repair Order.

•At 9 a.m., a public hearing is scheduled on a resolution to vacate an unopened alley, formerly known as Brown Avenue

•Quarterly update on Economic Development Activities from Crawford Powell, consultant

•Consideration to allow Ag Center to be used for  
*Please see Meeting, Page 3A*

# City Of Madison And USTA To Hold Tennis Workshop

By Bryant Thigpen  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

The City of Madison and the United States Tennis Association will be holding its first workshop on Saturday, September 8, at the North Florida Community College Gym.

The workshop will be an instructional course for adults who are interested in working with children, ages 5-10, who are interested in learning how to play tennis. USTA will be providing a national trainer from Jacksonville to instruct the class.

The workshop will be held from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Those who wish to register can do so by going to their website at [www.madisonworkshop.eventbrite.com](http://www.madisonworkshop.eventbrite.com).

For more information, please contact City Commissioner Ina Thompson at (850) 973-2328 or (850) 445-7755.

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Editorials	2A	Health	8A

## Local Weather

<b>Wed</b> 9/5	88/73		<b>Thu</b> 9/6	90/73		<b>Fri</b> 9/7	89/73		<b>Sat</b> 9/8	88/73	
Partly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms possible. High 88F.			Isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 70s.			Slight chance of a thunderstorm.			Scattered thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the low 70s.		

# VIEWPOINTS & OPINIONS



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

## What Downtown Madison Used To Be Like

As I sit thinking about what to write this week, somehow my mind wanders to years past as I grew up as a little girl in Madison.

I remember how downtown Madison used to be. There was Kramer's Department Store, where Daylight Spa and Salon now sits. There was also Comer's Drug Store, where the Madison Florist is now.

I specifically remember Comer's Drug Store, where all the children and grownups would go to get cherry cokes, vanilla cokes, and other special beverages.

The Western Auto Store was where the Supervisor of Elections office is now.

There was also Lucile Holton's Department Store, located where Madison Antiques is presently located.

There was also Eagles' Department Store next to the T. J. Beggs Men's Clothing Store further down the street. There was also Smith Drug Store, owned by Nat and Rachel Norfleet. After Nat died, Rachel married Kirby Reichmann.

There was also the Van H. Priest Dime Store on a corner downtown. I was very close to the Priest family, as my best friend was Rosemary Clark, and my father was the bookkeeper for the Van H. Priest stores. At one time, the Priest family owned about 16 stores in various locations. Dime stores were probably the beginning of what would later become Walmart.

I used to enjoy going and seeing Rosemary and her family, and especially enjoyed being asked to go to their beach house at Ponta Vedra Beach.

What really comes to my mind is when the Van H. Priest warehouse burned one day. I re-

member going down from our house a block away and watching as the men ran in and out to try and save important papers and furniture, if they could.

I especially remember seeing my Dad come out of the building with his shoe strings on fire, and someone with a hose hosing down my Dad's shoes to be sure the fire was out and would not burn him.

As I grew up, Rosemary and I didn't see each other very much, as she moved to Atlanta, Ga., and became a noted artist. I am sure today, she still is. She has painted many beautiful and wonderful portraits and paintings. Some of the paintings are in galleries and at North Florida Community College.

Yes, Madison has changed in many, many ways.

When I was a little girl, my father and mother (Buford and Lucile Selman) opened Lucile's Dress Shop. My siblings (five of us): (Roberta, Wiley (my twin brother), Susan (now deceased), and brother, Bill, all helped work at the dress shop, and we all grew up knowing what it was to be kind to people and to be cheerful.

My mother taught me that when a customer came in the store and wanted to buy a dress, to not let them leave with only the dress, but to talk to them about also buying the slip, the panties, the hose, and any other items they might want, or need. It was a fun time working at the dress shop. During those years, the men and women who brought the clothes to the dress shop to sell my parents to buy would many times come to our house after 5 p.m., and sell them the dresses there. Of course, they would order the items,

and then ship them to the store.

Another fun time for us children was the corner drug stores. We would meet there and enjoy one another as we ordered refreshments. It just so happened that my great-uncle, Arch Lanier, owned a drug store next to where the Beggs Men's Clothing store was on the corner across from the court house. My uncle would let us go in and would give us cokes, or refreshments to enjoy, which was a special time for us.

Most of you know that Lanier Field is where we used to have football games, and other outdoor events. That is where the Madison Red Devils used to play football, and later soccer and other activities. I was told that my great-uncle Arch Lanier had written in his will that as long as the Lanier Field was used for the youth of Madison County, it would remain to be used for the schools, but if they ever didn't use it for that anymore, the land would revert back to the family still in Madison.

Believe me, I have watched this for many years to make sure that Lanier Field is used for the youth, and surely enough, it has. And, thanks to my grandson Noland, (now deceased), it has. He helped by asking them to put in a skating place for the youth, which I hope is still there for the children.

Yes, growing up in Madison County was wonderful. I wouldn't want to have lived anywhere else in my life, and I am so proud to tell strangers that Madison County is the best place to live, to raise a family, and I hope it will forever more. I taught school at Madison High School before The Husband and I opened our newspapers, and I enjoyed every minute of it. I taught English, Speech, and Journalism, and have taught many, many children, who are now mothers and fathers, and it makes me proud to see what they have become.

I remember teaching many of the young people who today are the leaders of this county. Having taught in Madison and Greenville, I see what my students have accomplished and who they have become, and it makes me proud. I would love to name a few, but I don't want to leave anyone out, so I will just say they were all wonderful children to have gone to school in this great county.

Yes, living in Madison County has to be the best place to be born, to grow up, to live, and to raise your children and your grandchildren.

Let's try to keep it the way it has always been. I hope all the newcomers will want to help us keep it the same wonderful place it has always been, and will be.

If any of our readers have something they would like to do as a "Letter To the Editor" and tell of their experiences in lovely Madison County, please do so. We would love to run Letters To The Editor about events of pleasure in the most wonderful county in Florida.

Let us hear from you, if you will.

"Nuff said.....Bye for now....See 'ya."

**National Security**



**Joe Boyles**  
Guest Columnist

## Separating Church From State

Ever since a Supreme Court decision fifty years ago, our nation has been consumed by a dialogue over the issue of separation of church and state. Many believe that these words are codified in the Constitution, but they are not.

There are only two mentions of religion in the United States Constitution, and neither uses the term "separation." The more familiar phrase is in the first amendment which begins with two independent clauses. "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." The first clause is generally called the establishment clause while the second (lesser known) is sometimes referred to as the free exercise clause.

This business of separation comes from a letter written in 1802 by President Thomas Jefferson to the Baptist assembly in Danbury, Massachusetts. It was based on Jefferson's (who was not a member of the Constitutional Convention) reasoning in his letter that the court ruled in 1962 that a New York law prescribing a school prayer approved by the state legislature was unconstitutional.

The second mention of religion in the Constitution is found at the end of Article VI in the original document: "no religious test shall ever be required as a qualifica-

tion to any office or public trust under the United States."

Both of these clauses are worthy of our discussion. While I believe in the separation of church and state, I feel the matter has been carried way too far and our society is suffering because of it. For example, the Bible clearly tells us that we need to keep earthly matters out of church and concentrate on scriptural matters. Because I am now preaching from the pulpit, I have refused twice in the past year to get mixed up in political matters. It simply isn't responsible, in my opinion, to use one's authority in church to advocate a political position.

On the other hand, it seems to me that in our zealotness to separate church from state, we have trampled the rights of those who desire to express their religious beliefs freely. In other words, by overreacting to the establishment clause in the First Amendment, we often violate the second clause. I would like to see court cases addressed to reinforce the free exercise clause.

We are blind to not recognize that there are groups of people who are dedicated to the destruction of any religious activity in the western world. It is the work of the devil and has led to our society crumbling from beneath us. The Bible commands us to diligently oppose these evil forces.

Now, about his ob-

scure mention of religious test that Mr. Madison and company felt important enough to include in the original 1787 document. We know many of our friends who will not cast a vote for Mitt Romney because he is Mormon. They do not like Barack Obama or his policies, but they cannot bring themselves to vote for a Mormon. In 1960, many people could not vote for Jack Kennedy because he was Catholic. Although this is a matter of personal conviction, the Constitution counsels us that such consideration is inappropriate. Again, "no religious test shall ever be required" to hold public office.

Our namesake James Madison and his fellow framers were rejecting the requirement that all public officials in Britain be members of the Church of England. Our nation would not have a national church and would welcome all religions.

I have lived in Utah (from 1977-80) which is the homeland of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints since 1847. I didn't join the Mormon Church. It wasn't my cup of tea. But I fully respect those who do. I loved my brief stay in Utah and had many wonderful neighbors who were Mormon.

So I would implore my friends and readers to not hold Romney's religion against him, any more than you should Obama's which many people also question. It's unconstitutional.



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## HAPPY BIRTHDAY ADS



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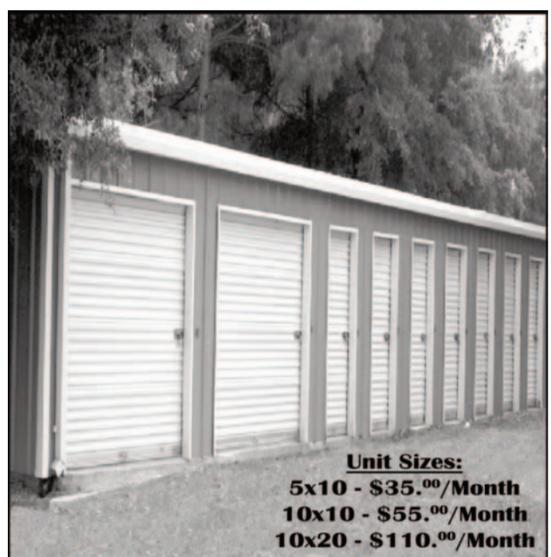
## Kim Scarboro Presents NFCC's Meeting Artist Series for 2012-2013

## Meeting

cont from Page 1A

the Second Annual North Florida Cattle Battle to held October 19-20

- Approval of Tourist Development Grand for expenses for the Second Annual North Florida Cattle Battle
- Madison County canvassing board issues
- Approval of Resolution 2012-09-05A; authorizing the use of gas tax proceeds for funding the closure and clean-up of the closed Madison County landfill
- Discussion of proposed maintenance agreement for Courthouse water tank
- Consideration of revised interlocal agreement with the Town of Greenville for the use of mosquito spray equipment
- Review of bids submitted for the old Senior Citizens building
- Discussion regarding the appointment of a chairman for the County Commission
- Discussion with possible approval of a lien of credit for renovations to the Public Safety building.



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## FORT MADISON SELF-STORAGE

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By Lynette Norris  
*Greene Publishing, Inc.*

It's time for another season of North Florida Community College's Artist Series, continuing a 50-plus year tradition of bringing music, dance and theatrical performances from all over the world to Madison and the other five counties (Jefferson, Suwannee, Taylor, Hamilton and Lafayette) served by NFCC. NFCC's Kim Scarboro visited the Rotary Club to talk about this year's presentations, shows that most area residents might not get a chance to see without traveling far and wide. Additionally, some of the visiting performers also visit area nursing homes while they are here, giving brief performances for residents who are unable to come out and see the entire show.

The goal of the Artist Series is to bring in high-quality shows that are family-friendly, yet appeal to a broad spectrum of audiences. At least one show, the Golden Dragon Acrobats, is back by popular demand.

The season runs from September through March, and all six shows will be at the Van H. Priest Auditorium on the NFCC Campus. All show times are 7 p.m.

The series gets off to an energetic start Saturday, Sept. 15, 2012 with "Jazz With a Southern Accent." Performed by the jazz ensemble Hotlanta, "Jazz With A Southern Accent" brings you the sounds of Bourbon Street from the days of Dixieland Jazz. Enjoy toe-tapping treats made

famous by Fats Waller, Louie Armstrong and Jelly Roll Morton to name a few. And of course, no Dixieland Jazzfest would be complete without a rendition of that iconic classic, "When the Saints Go Marching In."

October brings the dark and brooding "Phantom...A Tale of Obsession" performed by the Dance Alive National Ballet. Based on the novel "Phantom of the Opera" by Gaston Leroux, the show is Thursday, Oct. 25, 2012.

November recognizes the 100 year mark of the sinking of the Titanic, with "Titanic: The Musical," Saturday, Nov. 10, 2012. The story of the doomed ship and the people aboard her, played out against rigid class distinctions of the Edwardian Age, is the winner of five Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

December brings back the popular, colorful, spectacular Golden Dragon Acrobats, combining incredible acrobatic skill with sumptuous, colorful costumes, dance and theatrics, accompanied by both ancient and contemporary music. If you saw them the last time they were here, you don't want to miss them this year. Thursday, Dec. 4, 2012 is the date to remember.

February brings "Spencers: Theater of Illusion" to town on the evening of Ground Hog Day - Saturday, Feb. 2, 2013. Illusionists Kevin and Cindy Spencer, winners of some of the same awards as David Copperfield and other well-known illusionists,

bring a high-caliber evening of must-see entertainment.

March concludes the season as it began, on a jazzy, musical note. "Ain't I A Woman," an ensemble performance featuring piano, cello, percussion and theatrical narrative, this presentation draws on the spirituals and blues of the Deep South, along with modern contemporary jazz compositions, as it pays tribute to four African American Women: Zora Neale Hurston, Sojourner Truth, Clementine Hunter and Fannie Lou Hamer. Mark your calendar for Thursday, March 21, 2013.

In addition to bringing in shows from outside, the Artist Series also works with local community to build up community theater productions. This year's offerings include the hilarious "Faith County," a rollicking comedy of good country people set against the backdrop of the county fair, running Friday and Saturday, Oct. 19 and 20 at 7 p.m., and "An Evening of Culture (Faith County 2)," following the exploits of those same folks as they try to put on a community theater production of 'Romeo and Juliet.' This show runs Friday and Saturday, March 1 and 2, also at 7 p.m.

While both the "Faith County" shows have already held auditions and been cast, there is still time to audition for the community theater production of "The Little Mermaid." Open auditions are Saturday, Nov. 3, 2012, at 2 p.m. The production

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## Prostate Cancer Screening\*

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\*To register, visit  
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# AROUND MADISON COUNTY

## Obituary

### Iduma Smith

Mrs. Iduma Smith, age 88, moved to her heavenly home on Friday, August 31.

Graveside funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., on Wednesday, Sept. 5, at Wayfare Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery, located at US 129 north of Statenville, Georgia.

Visitation was from 5-7 p.m., on Tuesday, September 4, at Beggs Funeral Home in Madison.

She was a loving, devoted housewife, mother and grandmother. She was a long time member of the First Baptist Church of Madison.

She is preceded in death by her husband, David B. Smith.

She is left to cherish her memory, two sons, David Bradley Smith (Martha) of Starke and Harvey Smith (Debbie) of High Springs; six grandchildren: Andy Smith (Penny), Zack Smith (Amanda), Jami Stokes (Tommy), Laci Smith, Cory Williams (Lauren), Brad Williams (Danielle) and seven great grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Youth Fund of First Baptist Church, 134 SW Meeting Street, Madison, Florida 32340 or Gideons International, PO Box 511, Lee, Florida 32059.

Beggs Funeral Home Madison Chapel is in charge of arrangements. 850-973-2258.

## Kameron Robinson Explains What The Guardian Ad Litem Program Means

By Lynette Norris  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

Quite simply, a Guardian ad Litem is someone who represents a child involved in a family court case, Kameron Robinson told Kiwanis members at their Aug. 30 meeting.

On a deeper level, the Guardian ad Litem is often an anchor of stability for that child, especially in a long, involved case that may stay open for a year and a half or more, see a change of two or three different case workers and maybe even different foster homes.

The children may be victims of neglect, physical or sexual abuse, or simply come from homes where death or illness of parents or caregivers makes it impossible to continue to care for the child.

Guardian ad Litem come from a variety of backgrounds (nursing, teaching, homemaking, etc.) but all have one thing in common – an ability to connect with children and a willingness to do their best to see that the children's best interests are represented in court.

Since Robinson is also a former caseworker for DCF, she was able to address both sides of the issue and explain the difference between the role of a DCF caseworker and that of a Guardian ad Litem.

A caseworker generally advocates for the parents, with the goal of

keeping the family together and making sure the parents get the minimum required service. Also, given the attrition rate of caseworkers, an individual caseworker may find himself or herself managing an overwhelming number of cases and working 60 to 80 hours a week.

Under those conditions, said Robinson, there is no incentive to look very deeply for problems. On the contrary, the incentive is not to see problems, because every new problem identified generates a ton of paperwork.

It's not that the caseworkers aren't caring individuals, but simply that they are not superhuman. No matter how passionate or caring they are, "eventually, the goodness of your heart will be eaten away, eroded by your tiredness. Generally, the more overworked the caseworkers are, the worse the outcomes for the kids."

A Guardian ad Litem generally focuses on one case at a time, getting to know the child or children involved and looking over the situation they are in, with an eye toward determining what is best for them.

Parents and adults are generally very vocal and very good at making themselves heard; children, not so much. Kids may be intimidated or simply not understand what is

happening. The Guardian, after getting to know them, becomes their voice in court.

When the case comes to court, the court will listen to two opinions: that of the DCF caseworker and that of the Guardian ad Litem. The Guardian ad Litem's goal is not to be the opposite of DCF, but the goals are often different because the focus is different. The focus is on the children.

"Without good people who care, these kids don't have a voice," said Robinson.

A Guardian may also become a positive role model in a situation where positive role models may be lacking, as well as an object of trust for a child, a neutral third party a child can talk to and confide in without fear of those confidences being repeated from one family member to another, with the resulting "ripple effect" that can cause.

Another reason Guardians have become more important than ever stems from the State of Florida's efforts, beginning in 2008, to cut down on the number of children (28,000) in foster care, at a time when Florida had the second highest rate of foster care children in the nation. The state has now cut that number in half, but it has also created a number of unsafe situations with children left in unsafe homes.

Sometimes it's not that the parents intend to be abusive, said Robinson, but as parents, they may leave a lot to be desired. It may be a lack of education or parenting skills, or it may be that they find their situation overwhelming and need help.

The families Robinson deals with are multiple-problem families. A family can usually deal with one big problem area, but more than that tends to wear and tear on the family unit.

The Guardian program needs volunteers now more than ever, Robinson told the audience, explaining that each volunteer would receive 30 hours of training in order to become a child advocate and would be fully certified at the end of that training. Volunteers



Greene Publishing, Inc. Photo by Lynette Norris, August 30, 2012

Kameron Robinson talks to Kiwanis about the Guardian ad Litem program and the need for more volunteers.

can choose the cases and children to represent in court and they will have the full support of the Guardian ad Litem staff. What is needed most is the commitment to stay with that case and be there for that child all the way through the ordeal; the commitment that will make a difference in that child's life.

For more information on the Guardian ad Litem program, and

other ways to help if you can't volunteer as a Guardian, visit the website at [www.flgal.org](http://www.flgal.org) or contact Linda Dedge of the 3rd Circuit Guardian ad Litem Program in Live Oak at (386) 364-7720.

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# AROUND MADISON

## It's Beginning To Look A Little Like Christmas, At MCCB

By Lynette Norris  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

From now until the drawing in February, people who walk in the front door into the lobby of the Madison County Community Bank, need only look up to see a little glimpse of Christmas hanging from the balcony railing above.

A beautiful, hand-made, queen-sized, Christmas-themed sampler quilt, created by the ladies of

the Pine Tree Quilters (a group with about 24 members) will be there, on display, until the drawing for the lucky winner at the annual Pine Tree Quilt Show, Feb. 16, 2013.

Proceeds from ticket sales will go toward purchasing fabric and other quilting supplies for the Pine Tree Quilters, who meet once a week to make and distribute quilts to local charities, as well as sending a few quilts out of state, wherever there is a need for a warm quilt's protection against cold weather.

As an example of an out-of-state charity, the Pine Tree Quilters sometimes make and send baby quilts to Indian Mission charities in South Dakota, an area known for brutal winters.

Locally, the group distributes quilts to the Health Departments in both Madison and Taylor Counties (two of the Pine Tree Quilters hail from Perry) and delivers "prayer quilts" to needy nursing home residents, especially those who have no local family or friends to look after them. Each "prayer quilt" is personalized with the resident's initials and a verse of Scripture, and if the resident is a veteran, a little American flag and/or other patriotic symbol. As the term suggests, each quilt is also blessed with a prayer before it is delivered to the res-

ident.

The group also makes "burn quilts" for families who have lost their homes in a fire, usually delivered through the local Salvation Army; the most recent example of this is the family in Sirmons who were burned out of their home. The Pine Tree ladies learned of the tragedy when they saw the story about the fire in the Madison newspaper.

The fundraiser Christmas Quilt at MCCB is a group effort that took about 7-8 months to create and bring together for hand-assembly, said Jean Fiori, who, with fellow Pine Tree Quilter Irene Rowell, was on hand to hang the quilt for display. Every member made one or two squares, and patterns include pinwheels, nine-patch, twirling stars and log cabins. The back is a solid Christmas-green color.

Tickets are \$5 each and are on sale at the Madison County Community Bank. Just see Sue Matthews as soon as you walk in the front door.

Pine Tree members will also be selling tickets individually, so if you know a Pine Tree Quilter, you can also buy tickets from her.

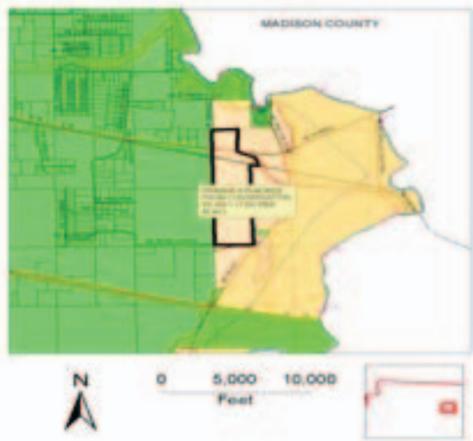
In the mean time, stop in at MCCB and take a look at the work of art and labor of love that will go to the lucky winner Feb. 16.

It could be you – but only if you buy a ticket.

### NOTICE OF LAND USE CHANGE

The Board of County Commissioners of Madison County, Florida proposes to regulate the use of land within the area as shown on the map below by amending the Future Land Use Map of the Madison County Comprehensive Plan hereinafter referred to as the Comprehensive Plan, as follows:

CPA 12-1, an application by the Rich Property and Investment Group, to amend the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan by changing the future land use classification from Conservation to Agriculture -1 (1 dwelling unit per 40 acres) for the property described as: That Portion of the West Half of Section 22, Township 1 S, Range 11 E lying north of Myrrh Street and also: The West Half of Section 15, Township 1 S, Range 11 E, less and except: (a) right of way for US Highway 90 and (b) railroad right of way, and also: That portion of the East Half of Section 15, Township 1 S, Range 11 E, lying north of railroad right of way and south and west of the right of way for US Highway 90 and also: The south 660 feet of the Southwest Quarter of Section 10, Township 1 S., Range 11 East, all within Madison County, Florida Containing 670 acres



Public Hearings concerning the amendment to consider enactment of an Ordinance to adopt the amendment will be held first with the Planning & Zoning Board on Thursday, September 13, 2012 at 5:30 pm or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard in the Board Room, Courthouse Annex, located at 229 Southwest Pinckney Street, Madison, Florida. A Public Hearing for The Intent to Adopt an Ordinance will be held with the Board of County Commissioners on Wednesday, September 19, 2012 at 4 pm or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard at the same location as above and the final Public Hearing to Adopt the Ordinance for the Land Use Change will be held on Wednesday, October 3, 2012 at 9 am or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard at the same location. The title of said Ordinance shall read, as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF MADISON COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP OF THE MADISON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, AS AMENDED; RELATING TO AN AMENDMENT OF MORE THAN TEN ACRES OF LAND, PURSUANT TO AN APPLICATION BY RICH PROPERTY & INVESTMENT GROUP, UNDER THE AMENDMENT PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED IN SECTIONS 163.3161 THROUGH 163.3215, FLORIDA STATUTES, AS AMENDED, PROVIDING FOR AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BY PROVIDING FOR CHANGING THE FUTURE LAND USE CLASSIFICATION FROM CONSERVATION TO AGRICULTURE -1 PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

At the aforementioned public hearings, all interested persons may appear and be heard with respect to the amendment, and the ordinance adopting said amendment, on the dates, time and place as referenced above.

Copies of the Ordinance adopting said amendment are available for public inspection at the Office of the Planning & Zoning Department, Courthouse Annex, located at 229 Southwest Pinckney Street, Madison, Florida (850)973-3179, during regular business hours.

All persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decision made at the public hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.



Greene Publishing, Inc. Photo by Lynette Norris, August 30, 2012

The staff of MCCB and two representatives from the Pine Tree Quilters gather behind the fundraiser Christmas Quilt to wish everyone a little early Christmas cheer. Front row, left to right: Sue Matthews, Wendy Odom, Janet Thompson and Pine Tree Quilters Jean Fiori and Irene Rowell. Back row, left to right: Ginger Robinson, Don Ashley, Ed Beggs, Joyce Bethea and Willy Gamalero.

## Public Information Forum Slated For Seniors

The staff of the Senior Citizens Council of Madison County is hosting a Public Information Forum on Friday, Sept. 21, 2012, to discuss senior programs and services available in Madison and Greenville.

The Public Information Forum event takes place Sept. 21 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Courthouse Annex, 229 SW Pinckney Street in Madison.

Both Madison and Greenville Senior Centers offer a Nutrition Program in which nutritional hot meals are prepared Monday through Friday for congregating and homebound seniors. The Senior Citizens Council provides home delivered meals seven days a week and on holidays.

Local services include, but are not limited to, case management, chore, homemaking, respite companionship, transportation, home delivered meals, emergency alert, home improvement and escort for seniors age 60 and over.

Senior citizens have access to a Fitness Room with new rehabilitation exercise equipment, a Computer Lab, tax aid assistance, health and educational speakers, arts

and crafts, bingo, puzzles, parties, trips and events to keep them physically and mentally fit.

Annual membership in the Senior Citizens Council of Madison

County, Inc. is open to the public. Organization membership is only \$125; Gold is \$50; Silver is \$25 and General Membership is \$15 to support these much-needed services.

For more information about the Public Information Forum, contact Angie Cisco, OAA Coordinator, (850) 973-4241 or email questions to [madisonsejor-center@live.com](mailto:madisonsejor-center@live.com).

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# PIGSKIN PICKS

### Official Pigskin Picks Rules

It's easy! Just pick the winners of this week's games featured in each ad and send us your entry!

Each week, the entry with the most correct picks (and the closest to the game score in the tie breaker) will win a free year subscription to the *Madison County Carrier and Enterprise-Recorder* or a \$20 check from Greene Publishing. The second place winner will receive 2 movie passes.

- One entry per person. All entries must be on an official entry blank. No photocopies accepted.
  - Entries must be completely filled out, legible and dropped off at: Greene publishing, Inc., 1695 S. SR 53, Madison, no later than 5 pm on Friday or mailed to P.O. Drawer 772, Madison, FL 32341. Postmarked by Friday.
  - Judge's decisions are final
  - Winners will be announced each Wednesday in the *Madison County Carrier*
  - Employees of the newspaper and their family members are not eligible for the Pigskin Picks contest.
- Must be ten (10) years old or older to play.  
In the *Miami vs Kansas State* game, write down what you think the final score will be. This will be used to break a tie, if needed.



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**7. FSU vs. Savannah State**



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**2. ACA vs. Oak Hall**



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**8. Georgia vs. Missouri**



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**9. East Carolina vs. South Carolina**



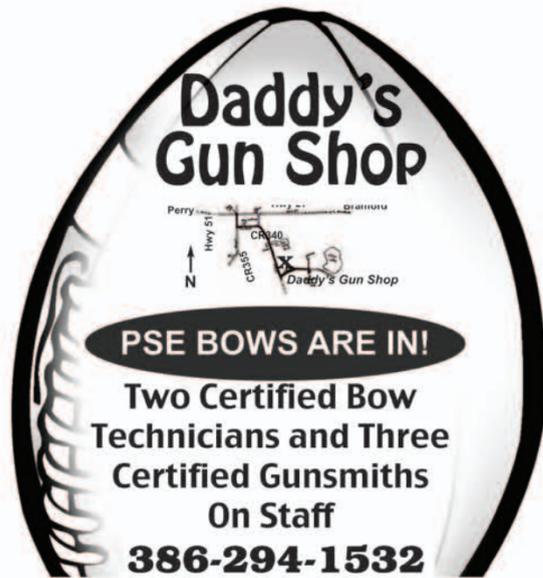
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10. \_\_\_\_\_

**Tie Breaker:**



# SPORTS

## Cowboys Run Past Suwannee Bulldogs In Season Opener

By Bryant Thigpen  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

On Friday evening, August 31, the Madison County Cowboys loaded the buses and traveled to Suwannee County for a showdown at the Paul Langford Stadium. The Cowboys (1-0) came home with their first win of the regular season, and will begin preparations to compete against Jefferson County Friday evening, September 7, for their first home game of the 2012 season. The game will begin at 7 p.m.

In the Cowboy's 49-7 win over the Bulldogs, both the offense and defense proved to be solid in their nearly perfect game. The defense, coached by Rod Williams, held Suwannee to just seven points in the game. Notable standout, Ira Denson (Florida State commit) racked up on tackles for loss.

In the stats submitted to this reporter by Coach

James Ertzberger, one record that stood out overall was in the rushing game. The unit rushed for a total of 242 yards in the game, while only passing for 93.

On Offense, DJ McKnight, Eric Bright, Neal Brown, Keyon Bruton, and Aukevious Williams carried the ball across the plain for a touchdown. The Cowboys showed their abilities to rush the ball with several key rushers making plays for great gain. Markevious Davis gained 50 yards in one attempt, in two attempts, Keon Bruton advanced the ball for 51 yards, Eric Bright carried the ball seven times for 29 yards, Aukevious Williams traveled 19 yards in just two attempts and Deontaye Oliver gained 74 yards in five attempts.

In the passing game, DJ McKnight completed five of 10 attempts for 73 yards, and Sheddric Williams caught a pass for 20 yards on the play, totaling 93 yards of passing yards.

The receiving corps totaled 93 yards on the field with Eric Bright gaining 26 yards, Neal Brown getting 53 yards and Keon Bruton for 14 yards.

Field goal kicker, Zach Money, was perfect in the evening making 7 of 7 attempts for extra points.

Be sure to fill the stands on Friday night when the Cowboys host the Jefferson County Tigers Friday, Sept. 7, at 7 p.m.

## NFCC Opens Artist Series Season With Hotlanta

*Hotlanta Dixieland Jazz performs Sept. 15 at Van H. Priest Auditorium*

North Florida Community College kicks off its 2012-2013 Artist Series season with Hotlanta Dixieland Jazz on Saturday, Sept. 15 at Van H. Priest Auditorium, 7 p.m.

"This is a fun show to start the season," said Kim Scarboro, NFCC Artist Series coordinator. "Hotlanta is a great group to work with and they work hard to make the audience happy. They last performed at NFCC in 2004 and we are thrilled to have them return to the VHP stage."

The six-piece band features clarinet, cornet, trombone, banjo, tuba, drums and vocals. Hailed as "Jazz with a Southern Accent," Hotlanta sets your feet firmly on Bourbon Street in Old New Orleans. You'll experience every bit of the joy, energy, and humor of that early American Jazz called Dixieland. Songs from Fats Waller, Hoagy Carmichael, Louie Armstrong, Jelly Roll Morton, plus many old favorites like "Sweet Georgia Brown", "Royal Garden Blues", "South", "Hard Hearted Hannah", and "When The Saints Go Marchin' In" are all part of Hotlanta's musical treat.

"Hotlanta concerts aim to entertain," said Hotlanta founder Don Erdman. "Our audiences become part of the concert when we do audience requests. From a list in their program, the audience will write down their requests during intermission. These requests are then performed



during the concert second half. Audiences always have a great time with this popular Hotlanta feature."

Based in Atlanta, the group has performed extensively in the South since its founding by Don Erdman in 1990 with appearances at "The Famous Door" on Bourbon Street in New Orleans' French Quarter, The Brevard College Jazz Festival in North Carolina, and the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, to name a few. Beyond the South, Hotlanta's music has been enjoyed around the globe at clubs and jazz festivals in Spain, Germany, Japan, France, Belgium, Finland, Denmark, Poland, Belarus, Saudi Arabia, and Singapore.

NFCC is proud to bring Hotlanta to its campus in Madison, Fla. on Sept. 15. Tickets can be purchased in advance or at the door the night of the performance. Season passes to the 2012-2013 Artist Series season are also available and include six total performances. For more information, contact the NFCC College Advancement Office at (850) 973-1653 or [ArtistSeries@nfcc.edu](mailto:ArtistSeries@nfcc.edu), or visit [www.nfcc.edu](http://www.nfcc.edu) (search Artist Series).

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Van H. Priest Auditorium

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**Van Thompkins**

**Brandon Holm**

**AUCILLA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY**

**DEFENSE**

**Jared Jackson**

**AUCILLA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY**

**OFFENSE**

# HEALTH & NUTRITION

## New Health Care Provider Begins Work At Tri-County Family Health Center

By Lynette Norris  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

There's a new health care provider in the town of Greenville.

Rebecca LeBlanc, P.A., began officially working at the Tri-County Family Health Center in Greenville Wednesday, Aug. 29, serving not only Greenville, but also the rest of Madison County, along with Jefferson and Taylor Counties.

LeBlanc, a physician's assistant (P.A.), is what is known as a mid-level health care provider, a professional who practices medicine under the auspices of a licensed doctor (M.D.) or osteopathic physician (D.O.) who is either present or maintains some method of contact while the P.A. is working.

The P.A. program began in the 1960's, when Vietnam veterans first began returning home from the war. A number of them had been trained as medics while in service, gaining invaluable field experience during their tours, but there was no certification program for them when they returned to the states, and no way to allow them to continue to use their skills.

At the same time, there was a growing need for more clinicians and better access to health care, especially in rural areas that were hardest hit by dwindling numbers of doctors (especially family doctors) and nurses. Dr. Eugene Steadman of Duke University developed the

very first P.A. program to train and certify the mid-level health care providers who would begin filling that health care access gap.

LeBlanc continues that tradition as she begins working with Dr. Elizabeth "Dr. Liz" Hengstebeck in Tri-County's Greenville facility.

Dr. Hengstebeck, who has been with the Tri-County Center for eight years, had grown the practice to the point where it really needed another provider, "and that's where I come in," said LeBlanc. "They were having to turn people away and they didn't want to do that."

LeBlanc, who was born in Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts, a small town of about 20,000, grew up in Germany, where her father Robert, worked as a Foreign Service Officer with the State Department, and her mother, Nancy, was an art school graduate and stay-at-home mom. With three much older brothers, Michael, James and Richard (12, 14 and 16 years older, respectively), LeBlanc was literally the "baby girl" of the family.

Her interest in health care started with a love of nutrition as far back as high school. It was what she originally intended to study, but it wasn't offered in the Montana college she attended, where she earned a bachelor's degree in international business and German

instead.

However, a few years out of school, "I realized that wasn't my calling. It wasn't what I was passionate about."

So, in January of 2007, she moved to Tallahassee and began studying nutrition at Florida State University, intending to get a second bachelor's degree, this time in nutrition. "Then I switched to a master's degree in nutrition, and realized I wanted more from the health care field...I applied and got into P.A. school at the University of Florida."

While in Tallahassee, she also worked as an ophthalmic technician, giving her the medical background experience required for most P.A. school applicants.

After graduating just a few short weeks ago (June 23) she took some time off to visit family and friends in both Montana and Massachusetts.

"I call Montana 'God's Country,'" said LeBlanc, referring to the beautiful scenery and friendly people there. There is also something about small towns in general, like her hometown of Oak Bluffs, she finds appealing. The people in such places seem to be friendlier.

It was then that she got a call from Dr. Patrick Brown, Medical Director of the North Florida Medical Centers, Inc., the group that includes Tri-County. After her interview, he

brought her out to Tri-County, where she met Dr. Liz, along with Center Director Shawn Hamm, and the rest of the staff, and really liked everything about it.

"I just got a good feeling about it," she said. "It seemed a very good fit."

Her first impression of Greenville was, "Small, quaint...and very green. It really is green. So many trees." With her affinity for small towns, and the area's gentle rolling hills, Greenville seemed like it would suit her.

A few weeks later, she paid another visit to Tri-County, just to be sure, and decided it was for her. The good feeling was still there.

"You can do all the research in the world, but sometimes you have to go with your gut," she said. She looks forward



Greene Publishing, Inc. Photo by Lynette Norris, August 29, 2012.

**Tri-County Family Health Center's new Physician's Assistant Rebecca LeBlanc, left, and Center Director Shawn Hamm.**

to eventually building her own practice, with her own patients, and "Making any contributions I can to helping the people of Greenville, Madison and the other counties (we serve). I'm really excited to get started."

## Shawn Hamm is Leaving Tri-County Family Health Center

By Lynette Norris  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

After a new arrival, comes a surprising departure.

The same day that Rebecca LeBlanc began working in the brand new assistant physician role at Tri-County Family Health Center, the Center's Director Shawn Hamm surprised his fellow Rotarians by announcing at the Aug. 29 meeting that he had accepted a new position at the State Department of Health in Tallahassee, overseeing children's medical programs.

Hamm, who lives in Tallahassee, had been with Tri-County in Greenville for two years and seven months, commuting back and forth each day. His last day will be Sept. 13.

"It's been a little crazy," said Hamm, especially the day before, when he had told everyone at Tri-County that he was leaving, just as the new P.A. had arrived and a new receptionist would be starting soon as well. However, everyone, especially Dr. Hengstebeck, wished him well in his new position, a little higher up the ladder and a lot closer to where he lives.

"I look forward to taking what I've learned here and applying it to a state program," he said.

During his time as Director, the Center's productivity has gone up 40 percent, said Hamm, something he was very pleased with. Also, the prescription drug deliveries to the Center, begun when Jackson's Drug Store in Greenville closed, has gone from once a week to twice a week, "And growing," he added, benefiting more and more Greenville residents who have no transportation or otherwise have difficulty traveling to Madison to pick up their prescriptions.

He was also glad to have had a hand in bringing physician's assistant Rebecca LeBlanc on board before he left, so that the Center would be able to make more appointments and serve more patients in the area. Technically, the

Center serves Madison, Jefferson and Taylor Counties, but its "reach" has grown beyond that, from Chipley, Florida, up into Thomasville, Georgia.

"I've always felt connected to Madison, even though I live in Tallahassee," said Hamm. "I'll

miss the community, the people. It's been a pleasure working with them."

"It's been fun," he told everyone at the Rotary meeting. "I appreciate everything I've learned here, and I know I'll be a Rotarian for life."

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**Answer:** Patients are surprised on a regular basis when I tell them how their necessary prescription medicines affect their teeth. Let me reiterate when I say **necessary** prescription medicine. What I am telling patients is there are side effects to numerous medicines some of which will show up in the mouth. You need to see your dentist for help with the side effects.

One of the most obvious side effects is sudden rampant or aggressive tooth decay. I have seen this with 3 patients in the last three weeks which is my inspiration for this article. These patients have had routine dental care for years and all of a sudden with new medications come new dental decay problems.

Numerous medications have the effect of drying up your saliva. You can often tell someone with dry mouth because they say they are thirsty all the time and they carry around a bottle of water. They have been checked for diabetes because of the excessive thirst but they are fine. What has happened is they have developed a dry mouth condition called Xerostomia.

Two of my patients started using cough drops to make their mouth feel better. Interestingly cough drops do have antibiotic ingredients to help sore throats. Things like menthol, spearmint, & cetylpyridium chloride will all help fight the bacteria when you have a sore throat, which is wonderful. The problem is most all sore throat lozenges are loaded with sugar. Go ahead and use sugar laden cough drops for three months. They will cause just as many cavities as candy.

Let me describe it this way. You know that fire extinguishers have some form of baking soda to put out fires. Let me ask a question. Would you buy a Fire Extinguisher from the BP Oil Company? (I know you won't buy anything from BP) Does it make sense to have a fire extinguisher which is half baking soda and half GASOLINE? Well that is what you are doing when you get cough drops with sugar (high fructose corn syrup) and a disinfectant. You are killing the bacteria and fueling them at the same time. It also fuels tooth decay.

So if you like cough drops you need to find them that are sugar free. Don't let them put gasoline in your fire extinguisher!

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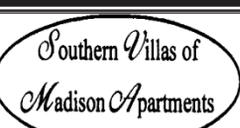
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Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. Position: Case Manager. Location: Suwannee/ Madison County. Responsible for client case records, client assessments, case plans, and case management for low-income individuals. Knowledge of Microsoft Office Programs, database and the ability to type 35 cwpm. High School graduate/or related experience. Apply at or send Resume to: Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc., P.O. Box 70, 1171 Nobles Ferry Rd, NW, Bldg #2 Live Oak, FL. 32064 (386)-362-4115 Voice/TDD. Affirmative Action Employer. Deadline: September 7, 2012 no later than 12:00 P.M.

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## LEGALS

Legal Notice The Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. will hold a Planning and Evaluation Committee meeting on Tuesday, September 18, 2012 at 9:30 A.M. at the Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc., Administration Office located at 1171 Nobles Ferry Road NW in Live Oak, Florida.

Legal Notice The Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. Board of Directors will hold a meeting for the Executive Committee Members on Wednesday, September 19, 2012, 10:00 A.M. at Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc., Administration Office located at 1171 Nobles Ferry Road Live Oak, Florida.

Legal Notice The Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. Board of Directors will hold a Finance & Audit Committee Meeting on Wednesday, September 19, 2012, 9:00 A.M. at Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc., Administration Office located in Live Oak, Florida.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR MADISON COUNTY, FLORIDA AURORA LOAN SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff, vs. ANN T. EARNEST; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ANN T. EARNEST IF ANY; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE; WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES; GRANTEE OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; JOHN DOE AND JANE DOE AS UNKNOWN TENANTS IN POSSESSION, et al., Defendant(s). RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE (Publish in the Madison County Courier) NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure dated June 26, 2012 and an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated August 28, 2012, entered in Civil Case No. 40-2010-CA-000416 of the Circuit Court of the Third Judicial Circuit in and for Madison County, Florida, wherein AURORA LOAN SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff, and ANN T. EARNEST, are Defendants. I will sell to the highest bidder for cash, at the Front Door of the Madison County Courthouse, 101 S.W. Range Ave. Madison, FL 32340 at 11:00 AM, on the 22 day of September, 2012, the following described real property as set forth in said Final Summary Judgment, to-wit: THE 72 FEET EAST OF THE WEST 100 FEET OF LOT 9 OF UNIT B 16 OF CHERRY LAKE FARM SUBDIVISION NO. 8 AND BEING PART OF LOTS 9 AND 10 OF SAID SUBDIVISION AND BEING BOUNDED ON NORTH BY SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF STATE ROAD S 25 AND BOUNDED ON SOUTH BY CHERRY LAKE AND BEING PART OF THE EAST HALF OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 34, TOWNSHIP 3 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST, MADISON COUNTY, FLORIDA. If you are a person claiming a right to funds remaining after the sale, you must file a claim with the clerk no later than 60 days after the sale. If you fail to file a claim you will not be entitled to any remaining funds. After 60 days, only the owner of record as of the date of the sale of its pendents may claim the surplus. WITNESS my hand and the seal of the court on August 30, 2012. TIM SANDERS CLERK OF THE COURT Deputy Clerk

CALL FOR BIDS Bid Package 3 AConcrete@ Bid Package 4 AMasonry@ Bid Package 5 "Structural Steel" Bid Package 6A AArchitectural Millwork@ Bid Package 6C ARough Carpentry@ Bid Package 7A ASprayed Insulation@ Bid Package 8A ADoors, Frames and Hardware@ Bid Package 9A APainting@ Bid Package 9B "Gypsum Partitions" Bid Package 9C "Acoustical Ceilings" Bid Package 9D "Flooring" Bid Package 10A "Signage" Bid Package 10B "Fire Extinguishers" Bid Package 10 C "Miscellaneous Specialties" Bid Package 21B "Fire Suppression Building" Bid Package 22A "Plumbing" Bid Package 23A "HVAC" Bid Package 26A AElectrical@ Bid Package 28A "Fire Alarm System" Bid Package 32A "Asphalt and Concrete Paving" Bid Package 32B "Water Distribution System" Bid Package 32C "Site Fire Piping System"

The above bid packages are being requested for the Remodel of Madison County EMS/911 Facility. Clemons, Rutherford & Associates, Inc., the project manager, will receive sealed bid proposals from qualified subcontractors/vendors for the bid packages listed above, until 1:30 P.M. EST on September 27, 2012 at Clemons, Rutherford, & Associates, 2027 Thomasville Road, Tallahassee, FL 32308. Proposals should be addressed to Will Rutherford, Project Manager. Proposals will be opened at 1:35 P.M.

A mandatory Pre-Bid will be held at site on September 20, 2012 at 9:00a.m.. The bid documents can be picked up at the office of Clemons, Rutherford & Associates, Inc., 2027 Thomasville Road, Tallahassee, Florida, 32308. Deposit for plans sets will be \$50.00. Bid documents are refundable if returned within 10 days following bid opening in usable condition. For information concerning this project or obtaining plans, call Will Rutherford, Project Manager, at (850) 385-6153. The owner, Madison County Board of County Commission and the project manager reserve the right to reject any and all bids, and waive informalities on any bid.

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NOTICE Town of Lee, Florida Surplus Property Sealed bids will be accepted through 5:00 PM on September 19, 2012 for the sale of the following vehicle declared surplus property by the Town of Lee, Florida. 1993 GMC Utility Truck, VIN# 1GDHC34K9PE55450- Tan- Minimum bid \$1,000 This vehicle is sold "AS IS". Interested persons should submit sealed envelopes containing bids and clearly labeled on the outside of the bid envelope "SEALED BID" to Town of Lee, Town Manager, Sarah Anderson, at 286 NE County Road 255, Lee, FL. Phone 850-971-5867. This vehicle may be viewed at the Lee Town Hall, Monday through Friday 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. The highest bidder is the winning bidder. Should there be a tie bid, the winner will be decided by a coin toss with 2 witnesses present. The winning bidder must take possession of the property no later than 2:00 PM, September 25, 2012. If the winning bidder does not take possession of the property, the next highest bidder shall be awarded the property. No warranty or guarantee is implied or guaranteed. The Town of Lee, Florida reserves the right to accept or refuse all bids.

BID NOTICE Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners of Madison County, Florida will be accepting sealed bids for the following: Three (3) New Current Model Tandem Drive Motor Graders, Heavy Duty Category, with attachments: Caterpillar No. 120M2, John Deere 670 G, Volvo G930B or Equivalent, Bid Number 2012-05. Sealed bids may be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners by depositing same at the Board office located in the Madison County Courthouse Annex, Room 219, 229 SW Pinckney Street, Madison, Florida 32340, or Post Office Box 539, Madison, Florida 32341, anytime prior to 5:00 PM on Wednesday, September 12, 2012. ANY BID RECEIVED AFTER SUCH DATE AND TIME WILL NOT BE OPENED OR CONSIDERED. Sealed bids must be clearly marked as a sealed bid and the bid number must be printed on the outside of the front of the envelope: Three (3) New Tandem Drive Motor Graders, Bid Number 2012-05. BID MUST CONTAIN A COPY OF THE VENDOR'S MADISON COUNTY OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE WHERE APPLICABLE.

Bid Specifications, as well as other pertinent documents, may be obtained from the Madison County Road Department office located at 2060 NE Rocky Ford Road (C-591), 2 miles north of Madison, telephone # 850-973-2156, beginning Tuesday, September 4, 2012. Copies of Specifications are available for inspection at the County Commission Office during regular office hours. Madison County reserves the right to waive any informality or to reject any or all bids. Bids will be opened at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 13, 2012 after which all bids will be available for public inspection. Bid Award by the Board of County Commissioners will be during their regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Wednesday, September 19, 2012. All vendors will be notified in writing of the successful bidder.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Pursuant to SS 336.09 and 336.10, Florida Statutes, the Board of County Commissioners of Madison County, Florida hereby gives notice that at 4:00 p.m. during its regular meeting held September 19, 2012 at the Board of County Commissioner's Room, Room No. 107, Madison County Courthouse Annex, 229 SW Pinckney Street, Madison, Florida, the Board will hold a public hearing to consider vacating, abandoning, discontinuing and closing certain roads located in Northeast Madison County, Florida, more specifically described as follows:

NE EYEBRIGHT AVENUE: The entire length of NE Eyebright Avenue, from NE Dusty Miller Avenue to NE Epazote Street, contained within (1) one parcel, lying in Section 21, Township 2 north, Range 10 East, also known as Parcel ID 21-2N-10-6016-000-000, as shown in OR Volume 808, Pages 148-150, Public Records of Madison County, Florida. YOU WILL PLEASE BE GOVERNED ACCORDINGLY. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at such meeting he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Dated this 31st day of August, 2012. BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MADISON COUNTY, FLORIDA BY: Allen Cherry, County Coordinator. All interested parties may appear at this hearing and be heard regarding this matter.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR MADISON COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 2012-CA-108 ROGER D. SHIELDS and JANE K. BERRY, Plaintiffs, vs. WILLIAM TYSON; MOTT BUICK COMPANY; and UNKNOWN TENANTS, Defendants. AMENDED NOTICE OF ACTION TO: WILLIAM TYSON YOU ARE NOTIFIED that a Complaint for Foreclosure has been filed against you and others, regarding the following property in Madison County, Florida: Lots 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13, Block 12, Greenville Investment Company's Lands, according to the plat thereof as recorded in the clerk of the Circuit Court recorded in Deed Book 25, Page 800 and Plat Book 1, Page "G" of the Public Records of Madison County, Florida. You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on ANDREW J. POWER, ESQUIRE, SMITH, THOMPSON, SHAW, MINACCI & COLON, P.A., Plaintiff's attorneys, 3520 Thomasville Road, 4th Floor, Tallahassee, Florida 32309-3469, no more than thirty (30) days from the first publication date of this notice of action, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorneys or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition. DATED this 22 day August, 2012. TIM SANDERS By: /s/ Ramona Dickinson Deputy Clerk

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# Path of Faith

## *Local Residents Blessed By Helping Hands*

By Bryant Thigpen  
*Greene Publishing, Inc.*

It all started with a thought. The thought was, "How do we go about helping people in this community who are in need?" This question was answered by a group of men led by Chad McCormick. "We were doing our weekly Bible study, and the videos we were watching began in a soup kitchen," he said. "I had thought about doing a ministry like this sometime back, but I just did not feel like it was time. But for the last couple of weeks, I just could not get away from it, and you can see God's had at work in this ministry." The outreach was born, now called Helping Hands Ministry.

McCormick, a member of the First United Methodist Church in Madison, was joined by fellow church members Mark Henry and Brian Sanderson, and Paula Adams. Michael Keeler of New Testament Christian Church, has assisted McCormick in preparations of the event and also helped serve the people.

"We want to see that the needs of this community are met," Keeler told this reporter. "This outreach effort is ...*Story cont. on Page 5B...*



*Greene Publishing, Inc. Photo by Bryant Thigpen, August 29, 2012*

**Helping Hands Ministry opened their doors to the community on Wednesday, August 29, to offer warm meals to the homeless and low-income families of Madison county. The team that made this event happen are pictured left to right: Brian Sanderson, Paula Adams, Chad McCormick, Michael Keeler, and Mark Henry.**



## Day To Day Celebrations

By Edna Haynes-Turner

*“Everything that goes into a life of pleasing God has been miraculously given to us by getting to know, personally and intimately, the One who invited us to God.”*

—2 Peter 1:3 (Message Bible)

I truly thank God that He has “ordered my steps” in a matter that I am able to write in preparation to publish my first volume of “Day by Day Celebrations.” I also want to take this time to say “thank you” to all of you who have been prayerfully supporting my weekly column since 1994. It blesses me, when I see and talk with each of you and you say that what I write weekly “is a blessing to you”. I thank God for each of you, and the Madison community. ....the community that nurtured me (personally, professionally, and spiritually) and blessed me. I’m grateful for my beginnings. My season for writing and the benefits from it “are now.” Your continual prayers and support are needed and appreciated.

As I prayed, contemplated, and meditated in an effort to hear from God (because I never want to share anything with you that does not

come from God), He quietly spoke to my spirit to share the importance of the dire need for our “relationship with our Father.” God knows that during challenging, turbulent, or overwhelming times that it is so important that we have a personal and intimate relationship with our Father. Relationship does not mean: I have read the Bible from cover to cover or that I’m able to quote scriptures for every occasion. It does mean that spending time in the Word and allowing the Holy Spirit to teach us so that we truly grow to “KNOW the Father.” We don’t need to simply know (facts/knowledge) about Him, rather it is important for us to “spend time with Him” ..... “listening to Him” ..... and “obeying Him” ..... and “making Him the priority in our lives.” He is always seeking and desiring to spend time with us, and wanting us to know all that He desires in our lives. He wants to provide us with direction, clarity, and purpose in our lives. He wants to fulfill all the promises (in the Word) that He has made to us. Please understand that He is trying, everyday, all the time to get all of His promises and blessings to us. We miss them, because so many other things become priorities in our lives. We are so busy that we miss Him and the manifestations of His blessings and promises. We are indeed created in His image, but we can only become like Him by valuing Him enough to spend time with Him. We become like Him by allowing the Word to renew our minds, and transform us daily into that which looks like, acts like, talks like, and in all

# Relationship With The Word Of God

ways resemble our Heavenly Father.

Relationship with Him gives us such peace. That peace comes from KNOWING HIM. Relationship with Him creates a knowing that He does not change. Those of us who love Him and live for Him can rely on the constant, unchanging nature of God and His Holy Word. In such a time as this, can we find someone to depend on? It is a source of tremendous peace to know that “God is always there.” He has promised never to leave or forsake us. Even when we are tempted and drawn from Him, He is “still standing with arms open wide, waiting to receive us back to Him. The times when we are thoughtless, cynical, cruel, and even dishonor His name, He still waits for us to express repentance, from a heart that is Godly sorry, and He still stands waiting to receive us unto Himself. There is absolutely, positively nothing that we can do that will stop God from loving us. Sin will separate us from fellowship with Him, but He never stops loving us and desires relationship with Him. What a God!!

**HE WANTS RELATIONSHIP!!** When we take the time to get to know Him, love Him, trust Him, delight ourselves in Him, rest in Him, praise Him, we are cultivating and nurturing a relationship with God. If we do not take the time to build and nurture a relationship with Him, we will be one of those to whom He says: you taught in My name, healed the sick in My name, cast out demons in My name, but I KNOW YOU NOT. Knowing Him does not mean that we only operate in gifts, but we must have a relationship with the “Gift Giver.” We must have a relationship that reflects Him, and that shows forth as “a light that will lead those who are lost and have no hope.

Just as in our earthly relationships, if we don’t spend time with, get to know, and nurture relationships with those we say that we love, we really don’t have an intimate relationship. The same principle works with our Heavenly Father ...we must spend time with Him and grow to KNOW HIM. We don’t get to know Him just because we have a Bible, go to church, or even do the works of the Father; knowing Him results from spending time with Him, committing and submitting our ways to Him, and giving Him permission to shape us into the image that represents Him. The prayer of every believer should be “when you return Father, let me look like You, so that I can easily be recognized as your child.”

Let us endeavor to have a personal and intimate relationship with God. The enemy of our lives and souls desires for us to be distracted by form, fashion, tradition, denominations and religion. God/Jesus/Holy Spirit wants relationship. We were created to praise Him. Nobody praises someone that they don’t KNOW. God wants us to choose to have a relationship with Him.....a relationship based on love. Love Him and be blessed!!



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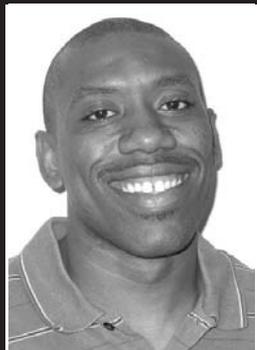
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# The Pulpit

**By Marcus Hawkins  
Pastor of Shiloh Missionary  
Baptist Church**

Since the Creation we have seen that God is a God of community. This word community in its most basic definition means 'a unified body of individuals.' The key word, I believe, in that definition is the word unified. The question then arises, how can we have community without unity (literally and figuratively)? The resounding answer is that we cannot. The apostle Paul helps us to better understand this point as he writes unto the Philippian church.

In the Philippian church Paul allows us to know some of the discord that was going on that was causing disunity. In Phil. 4:3 Paul declares, "I

# No Community Without Unity (Phil. 2:1-4)

beseech Euodias and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord." There in the church at Philippi, a contention had arisen between these two women; two women who had labored with Paul in the Gospel. They were Christians. Yet, they were at odds so that it obviously was affecting the entire Christian community. Sometimes we as Christians do not realize the affect our disagreements and dislikes have on the Christian community. We carry our grudges and animosity with one another around and spread it like germs to others who eventually 'catch' what we have, and before long, we have created rifts and tears in the Christian community.

In the selected text Paul takes an opportunity to address this issue of unity. In the second chapter Paul begins to urge the Philippian believers to live in unity. Paul offers for them ways by which they can live in harmony. First, they were to be likeminded. God spoke through the prophet Amos unto the children of Israel, "Can two walk together, except they be agreed." (Amos 3:3) We cannot come together to begin with if we are not of the same mindset. If one is seeking selfish gain and

the other is not, there can be no unity. We must be likeminded. It would be my hope that our minds would be on the Kingdom of God.

Second, Paul says we must have the same love. Our love must be without partiality. I cannot love a black more than I love a white; and as a white believer I cannot love a white more than I love a black. I must strive to love all believers the same regardless of skin color, sex, or nationality.

Third, we must be of one accord and of one mind. We are to be so united in spirit that we have the same values and goals. What an awesome experience on the day of Pentecost when the believers were with one accord. I must point out that in that occasion and this particular occasion the Bible does not tell us to be 'on' one accord. Anything that we get on we can get off. So it is often in the Christian community, we are on one accord as long as it feels good or we like certain people. Soon as things get tough we get off one accord. However, if we are walking in unity then we will be of one accord or with one accord, meaning that it will become our lifestyle and our way. Even absent from ...*Story cont. on Page 6B...*

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# A Hollywood Revival

When I was a young college student I had the opportunity to go with a friend to a "revival" in the town of Hollywood, Georgia. That's right, there is such a place: Hollywood, Georgia. "On a clear night you can see all the stars," the locals say (Go ahead and groan). In reality, Hollywood is more of a county cross-roads than a mecca for the rich and famous. It has a diner, a church, and not much else.

In the South a "revival" has at least two very different things. First, it is a spiritual awakening, a holy renewal where those who have wandered from the straight and narrow return to the fold. Second, it is a church event, a scheduled series of meetings. So a "revival" can be something deeply spiritual that people pray for, and it is a traditional ceremony placed on the congregational calendar. Whether or not the two different meanings of this word cross paths is always up for debate.

This revival was the typical affair. It was a week-long gathering when people of the community crammed their families into the pews to sing rousing gospel songs, to hear the pleadings, exhortations, and condemnations of the best visiting evangelist the

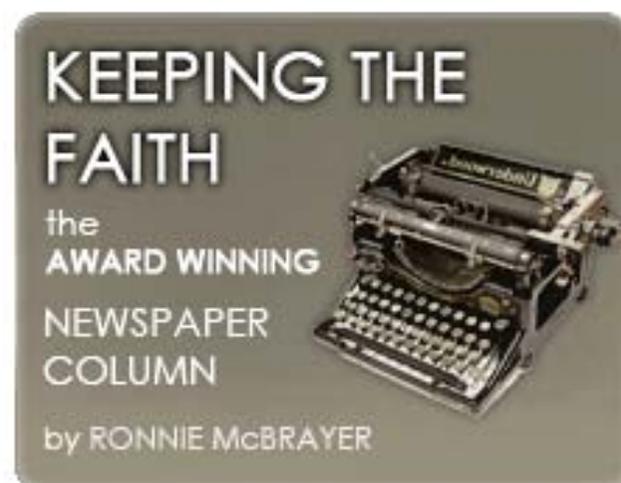
church could afford, and for everyone to have an annual time of repentance whether they needed it or not.

As I made my way to the front door I passed by a long line of Harley Davidson motorcycles. These were not the Baby Boomer playthings so many graying men and women ride today as a hobby or youthful escape. No, these were hardcore, gang-style cycles.

And just inside the church, occupying the back pew, lo and behold, there sat the gang. Leather, studs, rippling arms, pony-tails, tattoos: It was the complete Hell's Angels package, sitting in a Baptist church in Hollywood, Georgia. Being a young, eager revivalist myself, I said to my friend, "Good. Maybe these heathen will get saved tonight." And I meant it.

I sat several pews away from them and found myself piously praying for their salvation because I just knew they were seconds from splitting hell wide open. After the service got started, the pastor called on one of the deacons of the church to come forward and offer a prayer and word of introduction. One of those wicked bikers rose from his seat and started down the aisle.

At first I thought



the call of his bladder had merely coincided with the pastor's invitation. And being a biker and all, I was certain he was short on manners and he did not know that prayer time was an inappropriate moment to visit the latrine. When the big mountain of a man turned for the pulpit, my pulse quickened as I thought he was going forward to cause a disturbance.

He caused a disturbance alright, but not like I thought. This chaps-wearing biker with a beard to his waist was the aforementioned deacon. I found out later that this biker-deacon was a self-financed missionary to the road houses, biker bars, strip clubs, and truck stops of America.

Up and down the highways with his fellow laborers - his motorcycle gang - he rode his horse of steel and entered places that good Christian people would never be caught, not even to share the gospel. He went to

places where people drank too much, showed too much skin, engaged in too much sensuality, and waged too much violence. But there he shared Jesus, led Bible studies, prayed for those who

thought they didn't have a prayer left, and even baptized a few souls in the truck stop showers when necessary.

I left that Hollywood church thinking that it would have been better to give the revival budget to this biker's ministry rather than spending it on some flamboyant evangelist with a bouffant hair-do and expensive cuff links. And certainly I left with a lesson scorched deep in my conscience: Never point a finger or a prayer at those you consider sinners. They may be more holy than

you can imagine.

**Ronnie McBrayer is a syndicated columnist, speaker, and author of multiple books. You can read more and receive regular e-columns in your inbox at [www.ronniemcbrayer.me](http://www.ronniemcbrayer.me).**



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# Helping Hands

## Continued from Page 1B

not based on one church or denomination, but we hope that local churches and ministries will team up to share Jesus with the people of this community through the food ministry and the gospel.”

“Being the hands and feet of Jesus is what we are all about,” McCormick continued. This new ministry is hitting the streets of Madison sharing Christ and reaching out to the homeless and those who are less fortunate. Their goal is to feed the hungry people and hungry souls.

Their first event was held on Wednesday, August 29, in the fellowship hall of the First United Methodist Church of Madison. “We had some great food and some great worship,” Sanderson stated. The team worked hard to set the bar that future events can be built on.

“Not only do we want to feed those who come, but we also want them to have a good time,” McCormick said. In an effort to make it an enjoyable experience, entertainment ranging from puppet shows to movies and live bands will be provided. “We want to create a relaxed, restaurant type atmosphere that is family friendly and appealing to audiences of all ages.”

The doors to the fellowship hall were open from 12-2 p.m., for anyone who wanted to enjoy a meal with no bill upon exiting. “Were not asking for any types of ID or proof of income. Anyone in this community is more than welcome to come and enjoy a delicious meal at no charge to them.”

While their first event is official behind them, McCormick and the team are working to prepare more upcoming events. The volunteers continue to strive to keep the cost of production down, and rely on donations of food and finances to keep the ministry going forward. Local residents who are interested in being a part of this ministry are encouraged to make donations of

food or monetary gifts. Those who may not have much to give can be of help by donating their time to help serve and assist with setting up and cleaning up for the event. “One hundred percent of everything that comes into this ministry, stays in this ministry,” McCormick shared. “Nobody receives financial compensation for their services and everyone serves as volunteers so that we can better serve the people.”

“We also ask that everyone support this ministry by praying for us. Pray that God would make us an instrument and a sanctuary in people's lives,” he said.

Matthew 25:37-40 reads, “*Then the righteous will answer him, Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you? The King will reply, Truly I tell you. Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did to me.*”

Through the resources provided to this ministry, they seek to be the hands and feet of Jesus reaching out to feed the hungry, and build relationships that could have an eternal impact in their lives.

Anyone seeking more information on this ministry or to find out how one can serve is encouraged to call Chad McCormick at (850) 929-7561 or email [openarmsfumc@yahoo.com](mailto:openarmsfumc@yahoo.com).



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# The Pulpit

Continued from Page 3B

each other's presence we are still with one accord. A preacher friend of mine likes to use the word 'bonded.'

Fourth, we must not do things through strife or vain glory. The old saints would sing a song in which part of the chorus was 'whatsoever you do for the Lord, let it be real.' We must remove our ulterior motives. Let us be real with each other. When Peter had a problem with the way Paul behaved he addressed Paul. The Christian community continued even stronger. There can be no spirit of opposition between Christians, nor a spirit of pride. Humble and meek was our Savior; and as He was, so are we to be.

Finally, we cannot be selfish in our nature. We must 'value others above ourselves' (NIV) and not look to our own interests but the interests of others. Some of us will hoard and hoard our entire lives. We will die and have our families fall apart because of stuff we left behind. I am a firm believer that if we looked out for others and sought ways to be a blessing, our community would be much better. There are many people right here in Madison that are in need. They need our love. If we can put ourselves aside and see their need we could truly show the love of Christ.

I urge you brothers and sisters to examine yourself. Are you truly living in unity? If not, then there can be no community. It doesn't matter that you live beside someone on the same street in a particular part of town. Unity is what will make us stronger. I implore each of you to start living in unity and let us change our community - for there is no community without unity.

## Harmony Baptist Church To Celebrate Homecoming September 9

By Bryant Thigpen  
*Greene Publishing, Inc.*

Homecoming is a celebration that churches hold once a year to commemorate the anniversary of the church and it serves as an invitation to past members to return home and celebrate the good things that God has done within the church.

On Sunday, September 9, Harmony Baptist Church will be holding its homecoming service, beginning at 10 a.m. Special music will be presented by April Norris-Spicer. The guest speaker for the event will be former pastor Bobby Hall. Lunch will be served following the morning service.

For more information, please call Dot O'Neal at (850) 929-4352.

## Madison Youth Ranch Breaking Ground On September 18

By Bryant Thigpen  
*Greene Publishing, Inc.*

Shirley Barksdale was a lady who had a passionate heart for people and animals. After she passed away, it was her desire that her property would be used to help children. So on Tuesday, September 18, in her honor, the Madison Youth Ranch, a ministry of the First United Methodist Children's Home, will be holding a ceremonial groundbreaking, at 11 a.m., with a luncheon following the ceremony.

The Madison Youth Ranch is located at 1647 NE Captain Buie Road in Pinetta. Anyone wishing to attend the event must R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, September 11, by emailing [Madison.ranch@fumch.org](mailto:Madison.ranch@fumch.org).

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# LifeSong To Appear At Midway Church of God

LifeSong, a trio based out of Madison, will be appearing at the Midway Church of God in Lee on Saturday, Sept. 8, beginning at 7 p.m. The admission for the concert is free, however, a love offering will be received during the concert.

Although the trio is quite young, the group has dedicated their sound to remaining true to the sounds of southern gospel music. "It's what we grew up on," stated Ethan Brooks, lead vocalist for the group. From the groups beginning, the group performed what some would consider southern gospel classics such as, "Living In Canaan Now," "Boundless Love," and "The Lighthouse." And although the group has added much of their own original songs to their stage repertoire, they still record songs that fans consider to be favorites like, "What A Lovely Name," and "I Believe He's Coming Back."

September will mark the fifth year the group has been in existence. The group is very young in age and years in ministry, but has had great success in its short tenure. In the summer of 2009, LifeSong signed with national music label, Lamp Music Group, and released the project, Brand New Start, that would serve as the launch pad into the national scene.

Veteran producer, Mike Pillow commented on the group, "I'm really excited to see young people that are true to their roots stylistically." He continues, "They are definitely the face of the next generation of Southern Gospel!" LifeSong has been featured in southern gospels leading news source, The Singing News, as well as popular online media such as *southerngospelnews.com* and more.

LifeSong is composed of Bryant Thigpen of Madison, who serves as



group manager and baritone vocalist. Ethan Brooks of Thomasville, Ga., joins the group as the lead vocalist and has been with LifeSong for nearly four years. Jessica Ratliff of Greenville is the newest member and is celebrating a year as the alto vocalist for the group.

For more information regarding the concert, please call (850) 673-1666. For more information about the group, please visit [www.lifesonggospel.com](http://www.lifesonggospel.com).



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# Middle Florida Baptist Making An Impact With Evangelism Rally

The Middle Florida Baptist Association presented the Madison and Jefferson County Evangelism Rally on Aug. 23 at St. Johns Baptist Church in Greenville.

The hospitality began with pizza, tea and dessert, compliments of St. Johns Baptist Church Pastor John Ballard and church members. The purpose of the rally was to encourage believers to go back to their churches excited to help their pastor and church to reach people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Three powerful evangelism classes were made available for participants in different rooms of the church: "How to Grow an Evangelistic Church" led by Dr. Keith Fordham for pastors and deacons; Jan Miller spoke on "How Women Can Lead the Way for Evangelism in their Church" and Mike Miller gave biblical insights on "How to Pray for the Lost."

"Don't you want people to have the same peace you have; the same forgiveness you have?" asked Jan Miller ...*Story cont. on Page 9B...*



Photo submitted

Local pastors and deacons met at St. Johns Baptist Church in Greenville.

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# Middle Florida Baptist

Continued from Page 8B

during her presentation. She asked the women in two rooms to break into groups to talk about various areas of their lives and how trusting in Jesus Christ as Savior has impacted their lives, which is often an open door for conversations with others.

During the message, Dr. Keith Fordham spoke of Bible verses that compel him to tell others about Christ. He said his most exciting example of a soul-winner was his father, a layman and Sunday school teacher who brought 156 new people to their church in one year by knocking on doors and inviting people to Sunday school.

Elizabeth Baptist Church of Monticello led music worship during the Madison and Jefferson County Evangelism Rally, which ended with many pastors standing at the front of the altar while Dr. Fordham invited the entire audience to go up and pledge to help their pastor to do everything possible to win young and old to Christ.



Photo submitted

Evangelism rally guest speaker Dr. Keith Fordham gets happy, not worried.



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Jan Miller led women in an interactive evangelism session.

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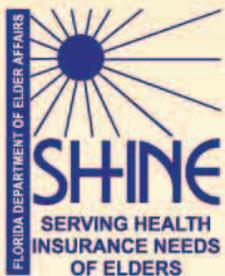
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# United Methodist Cooperative Ministries Shows Appreciation To Volunteers

By Bryant Thigpen  
Greene Publishing, Inc.

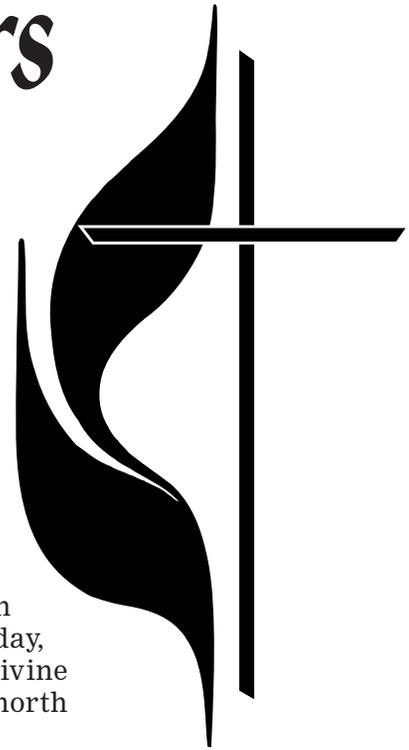
*"For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another."* Romans 12:4-5 ESV

The body of Christ has many different functions. The simple truth is, when the Bible referred to the church, it was not talking about a building with a steeple and pews, however, He was talking about those who serve Christ. As an organized body of believers, there are many different ways one can reach out to the lost and hurting and change lives for the cause of Christ. Through the United Methodist Cooperative Ministries of Madison, many are reaching out to help the needy through many different means.

One of the ways the United Methodist ministry helps people is through their thrift store, that is located next to the Madison County Jail. Another ministry this group does

is a brown bag ministry. Once a month, a group of people get together and prepare brown bags full of goodies to distribute to low-income seniors. At the Greenville Elementary School, the UMC ministry team has taken this school under their wings, and once a month provides healthy snack packs for the students. Another ministry that requires volunteers to make happen is the disaster response depo. And last, but certainly not least, women volunteers make quilts that are distributed to nursing home patients.

All of these ministries would not be possible without volunteers. The United Methodist Cooperative Ministries will be holding an appreciation dinner for all volunteers and a guest on Friday, September 14, at 6:30 p.m. The dinner will be held at Divine Events in Madison, which is located about four miles north of Madison on Highway 145.



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