

Vol. 5 No. 32

Florida's Keystone County

50¢ 46¢ + 4¢

Friday, March 2, 2012

TWO COMPETING PLANS IN PLAY FOR RESTRUCTURING ROAD DEPT.

One Calls For New Bond To Pave Roads



LAZARO ALEMAN
ECB Publishing
Senior Staff Writer

Some eight months into the process, two plans are now in play and vying to be the one selected for the restructuring of the Jefferson County Road Department.

One plan — being put forth by a committee made of Clerk of Court Kirk Reams, retired businessman Phil Calandra and consultant engineer Alan Wise — goes back some eight month and initiated the process.

This plan, titled an "Organization and Service Model Delivery Review", entailed extensive interviews of commissioners,

Road Department Superintendent David Harvey and the department's employees. The effort also produced an updated inventory of the county's road system and a matrix for prioritizing the paving of dirt roads, based on largely objective criteria.

The second plan, which made its debut at a nearly four-hour workshop on Monday evening, Feb. 27, is a response to the first. A product of Harvey and Bill Howard, whose state job entails doing performance appraisals of state agencies and developing performance measures for such agencies, the second plan essentially aims at restor-

Please See *ROAD DEPT.* Page 3



Harry Daniel Collins

DRIVER CHARGED WITH FELONY DUI

FRAN HUNT
ECB Publishing
Staff Writer

A caller reporting a reckless driver last week resulted in a felony arrest of driving under the influence.

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office reported that on February 25 at 10:59 p.m., Deputy Paul Peebles was dispatched to the area of US-19 south in reference to a suspect refusing to pull over.

Upon his arrival, Sgt. Rick Colson from the Monticello Police Department had the subject stopped on US-19 south, just south of May Lane. Sgt. Colson stated that he was dispatched to South

Please See *DUI*

Page 3
Jefferson Street

Heavy Rain Results In I-10 Crash

FRAN HUNT
ECB Publishing
Staff Writer

Heavy rain and a driver going much too fast for the bad conditions, were the reasons behind a crash, which resulted in a van colliding with a tree.

Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) reported that at 9:29 a.m., Monday, February 27, at westbound I-10 mile-marker 218, Lawrence Ellis, 54, of Chalmette, LA, was driving a 1993 Dodge Caravan traveling westbound on I-10 in the inside lane. In the vehicle as a passenger was Charlene Elfer, 49, also of Chalmette, LA.

Frankie Welford, 53, of Lucedale, MS, was driving a 2007 Chevrolet Tahoe traveling westbound on I-10 in the outside lane. In the vehicle as a passenger was Deborah Welford, 49, also of Lucedale, MS.

A witness to the crash was traveling westbound on I-10 in the outside lane behind Welford.

Ellis advised he thought Welford was changing lanes and Ellis steered his vehicle to the left. His vehicle traveled southwest into the me-

Please See *CRASH*

Page 3

Education Dept. Backs Off More Controversial Rules

LAZARO ALEMAN
ECB Publishing
Senior Staff Writer

"Wonderful", was School Superintendent Bill Brumfield's reaction on Wednesday, Feb. 29, to the amended rules adopted by the State Board of Education (SBE) on the previous day relative to the FCAT and other proposals affecting the grades assigned to school by the state.

"I think it's wonderful," Brumfield said of the several amendments and revisions that the SBE adopted on Tuesday, Feb. 28, following hours of testimony from school superintendents, assessment directors, district personnel and teachers and parents.

"I'm satisfied with what the board did," Brumfield added. "I think the board should involve parents and superintendents more when it works on rules that affect school grades."

Brumfield reiterated that had the SBE adopted the rules as originally proposed, Jefferson County Middle High School (JCM/HS) would have dropped to an 'F' school, given that 17 percent of its students are in special education classes.

Among the changes originally proposed, the state planned to include the test scores of students with disabilities and those learning English in the calculation for the school grade, and give an automatic 'F' to schools that failed to have at least 25 percent of their students reading at grade level.

Other areas of the original proposal that were of concern to parents and superintendents included linking the performance of ESE Centers and alternative schools to the students' home schools; accelerating middle-school students into algebra; and using the previous year's science proficiency performance for a high school's 'school grade'.

As a result of the pressure brought to bear by parent groups and superintendents statewide, the SBE on Tuesday, among other things, delayed for a year implementation of the provision that would accelerate middle-school students' entry into Algebra 1; agreed to involve parents, teachers, parents and other stakeholders in the development of an implementation plan for the inclusion of the scores of students with disabilities and English language learners in the calculation of schools' grade; and agreed to "a one-year waiver for the low 25 percent learning gains target."

According to the SBE, beginning in 2012-13, any school with a passing grade and fewer than 25 percent of students scoring less than grade level on the FCAT 2.0 Reading exam will have its school grade lowered by one point, rather than receiving an automatic 'F'.

Brumfield wasn't the only superintendent concerned about the impact of the original proposal. Projections were that as many as 2,500 schools across the state would fail if the rules were implemented as originally proposed, which prompted the Florida Association of District School Superintendents (FADSS) to oppose the measure.

Florida assigns letter grades to public schools as
Please See *RULES* Page 3

County Eye Standardized Procedures For New Hires

LAZARO ALEMAN
ECB Publishing
Senior Staff Writer

Jefferson County officials are considering adopting new hiring procedures for use by department heads to ensure a more formalized and standardized hiring process.

The stated purpose for the procedures, which were handed to department heads for review and comments, is to ensure that the latter adhere to all the nec-

essary steps when filling vacant positions.

Commissioners had a brief go at the lengthy draft document on Thursday, Feb. 16. Not uncommonly, Commission Chairman Hines Boyd found himself at odds with his colleagues.

Boyd argued that the proposed rules were excessive and would stifle managerial initiative and burden the department heads with excessive paper-

work. He could see such procedures for large organizations such as state agencies, but not for small department in Jefferson County, he said.

"I feel philosophically that this is not what we need in a small county like Jefferson County," Boyd said. "I ask for significant simplification of this document."

But the other commissioners disagreed, expressing the view that more standardized

procedures were needed. Typical of their comments were those by Commissioners John Nelson and Stephen Fulford.

"This document provides a set of good guidelines that we will need as we grow," Nelson said.

Fulford concurred.

"This way, everybody follows the same steps," he said, adding that the human element would be reflected in the

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Local Weather

Fri

3/2

79/65

Considerable cloudiness. High 79F. Winds S at 10 to 20 mph.

Sat

3/3

71/51

Thunderstorms. Potential for severe thunderstorms.

Sun

3/4

63/43

Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the low 40s.

Mon

3/5

68/42

Mainly sunny. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the low 40s.

Tue

3/6

68/50

Plenty of sun. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the low 50s.

Jefferson County Living

CHURCH

NEWS

NOTES

MARCH 3

Monticello Church of the Nazarene will hold its monthly Clothing Giveaway from 9 to 11 a.m. on Saturday at 1590 North Jefferson. There is clothing and accessories for everyone, young/old, big/small.

MARCH 3

Morning Star MB Church will host a Musical Program at 6 p.m. on Saturday. All groups, soloists and church choruses are invited to join in this musical ministry. For more information contact Deacon Joe Bellamy at 850-342-4650 or Deaconess Janie Green at 850-997-2229. Rev. Joe Nelson Sr., pastor/teacher.

MARCH 4

New Hope Church of God Seniors of Christ Ministry will host a Chicken Dinner fundraiser on Sunday after church services, at the church location on East Palmer Mill Road. The cost is \$6. For more information and directions, contact Mary at 850-948-8232.

MARCH 4

Greater Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church Missionary Society will celebrate its Evening in White at 3 p.m. on Sunday. Speaker for this annual event is Evangelist Mary Goban of Mt. Horeb Primitive Baptist Church in Tallahassee. Your prayers, participation and support are truly needed to make this event a spiritual and glorious success. For more information contact Sis. Elouise H. Livingston, president, at 850-342-3389 or 850-661-2332. Rev. Dr. Melvin Roberts, pastor.

MARCH 4

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church will celebrate the anniversary of its Pastor Cassaundra Brockman at 3 p.m. on Sunday. Elder James Leonard, Sr. and the Faith Christian Family Center congregation will be in charge of the service. For more information contact Dea-

coness Trina Wilkerson at 850-997-3017.

MARCH 4

Central Baptist Church welcomes the talented bluegrass gospel band 'The Gandy Brothers' on Sunday morning at 10:45 a.m. All are invited to the church at 625 Tindell Road in Aucilla. For more information contact Pastor Daryl Adams at 850-251-0129 or Dan Morris at 850-251-3296.

MARCH 6, 20

Welaunee MB Church will host a series of Teaching and Training Seminars for pastors, ministers, deacons, deaconesses and laypersons of the church community. The seminars will be held from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. every Tuesday evening after the first and third Sundays of each month through June 26. Rev. Herbert R. Thomas, Sr. is pastor.

MARCH 7, 21

EaglesWings, a ministry of outreach, serves the community on the first and third Wednesday of each month from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The food pantry is located at the First Presbyterian Church on East Dogwood Street. Volunteers are always welcome to distribute food items and to donate non-perishable food items. Call and leave a message for JoAnne Arnold at 850-997-2252 or go to eaglewingsmonticello@yahoo.com or www.firstpresbyterianmonticello.org Keep the Jefferson homeless and substandard housing in your prayers today and always. More and more Americans are only a paycheck away from being homeless.

MARCH 8

Bible Study every Thursday at the Lloyd Woman's Club at 7 p.m. Join with Elder Linda Ross for an evening of Christian faith. For more information contact her at 850-322-3424.

MARCH 9

Tent of the Holy Guests offers

prayer for the sick and a special scripture message every Friday at 7:30 p.m. The Tent is located at 295 West Palmer Mill in Monticello.

MARCH 11

Sunday of Silence is held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. every second Sunday of each month at One Heart Earth Center. It's a non-denominational time of stillness and reflection. A vegetarian lunch is offered at noon; served and eaten in silence. Gentle Hatha Yoga begins at 10 a.m. with instructor Joy Moore. Mats are provided. OHEC is located at 450 West Madison Street in downtown Monticello and is a non-profit 501c3 public charity. Donations are appreciated and are tax deductible. For more information contact Sallie Worley at oneheartearthcenter@embarqmail.com or 850-997-7373.

MARCH 11

First Baptist Church Monticello will celebrate its Homecoming at 11 a.m. on Sunday. This will be a time of renewal and remembrance for the church and its membership, past and present. The community is invited to come worship on this special day. Rev. Dr. Rick Kelley, pastor.

MARCH 23, 24

Second Harvest Food Program, together with the churches of New Bethel AME, Elizabeth MB, Hickory Hill MB, Mt. Pleasant AME and Philadelphia MB, will provide food to anyone needing assistance including the needy, infants and the elderly. This is done monthly with distribution from 9 to 10 a.m. usually on the fourth Saturday at the New Bethel AME Church located at 6496 Ashville Highway. Volunteers are also welcome to come on Friday evening at 6:30 p.m. to help bag the food packages. Contact Nellie Randall at 850-997-5605 or 850-997-6929 to volunteer or for more information about this program.

Drop

Deb's Notes



Drop

A Note To

Debbiesnapp@embarqmail.com



Melanie Mays, director of the Monticello/Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce reminds all to make your lunch reservation for the Tuesday, March 6 General Monthly Members Meeting, at noon. Monticello Pizza Kitchen will be providing lunch and guest speaker will be Sue Dick, president of the Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber welcomes 25 new members this year. Most recent members include: Pam Willis, Vintage Treasures; Valerie Thompson, Val-et Child Care Center; Donna Newton, MaryKay Cosmetics; Ralph Burquist; Monticello Christian Academy; Express Computer Solutions; and Nelson's Tree Service.

The 3rd Annual Chamber Chili Challenge will be held on Friday, March 9 at the Monticello Opera House. Tickets are only \$6 and include all the chili you can eat and an evening of dance to the sounds of '19 South'. Judging begins from 5 to 6 p.m. The public is invited at 6 p.m. The dance begins at 8 p.m. There will be a cash bar. More chili cooker contestants are needed. Call or drop by the Chamber to sign up. This year a celebrity judge has been invited, Mike Bonfanti, author of 'Sweet Tea & Bourbon' and WCTV restaurant review blogger. A donation from the proceeds will be made to the July 4th Celebration.

North Florida Workforce announces 'The Billboard', a new e-newsletter that will attempt to place the right job-seekers in positions that have remained empty for some time. Check it out. Help strengthen our economy and our country. Put people in jobs.

Nan Baughman is the new Outreach Counselor for the local Refuge House. She can be reached at 850-556-7279.

Kim Galant is the TATS Regional Facilitator and works with children with disabilities. For more information about this program and her agency, contact her at 850-297-2239 or tats-fsu@ucf.edu

Annie McDuffie is the Emergency Coordinator with CACAA and works with Low Income Home Assistance. For more information about this program and her agency, contact her at 850-222-2043 or annie.mcduffie@cacaa.org

Sallie Payne, with the Family Inclusion Network (FIN/FSU) provides access for students with disabilities. For more information about this program and her agency, contact her at 850-414-7593 or slpayne@fsu.edu

Sandy Porras-Gutierrez, with the Department of Children and Families Access Program, is always looking for Community ACCESS Partners. For more information about becoming a partner, contact her at sandra_porras-gutierrez@dcf.state.fl.us She is encouraging everyone to sign into 'My Access Account' at www.myflorida.com/accessflorida

Melissa Watson is a case manager with CACAA and performs intake and help with utility assistance. For more information about this program and her agency contact her at 850-997-8231 or melissa.watson@cacaainc.org

Kristin Jackson, Family Consumer Science agent with the County Extension Office, was called to help at the Jefferson Senior Citizen Center recently. It seems someone spilled something on the newly carpeted facility and she was able to help get the spot out after a couple days of working at it. I wasn't told what she used to clean up the mess but the volunteers and staff wish for me to extend a special thank you to her. If you've got a problem that you think she might could help you with, contact her at 850-342-0187. She's here to help.

Congratulations to Margaret Rogers, the January Peddler's Marketplace Raffle Winner. She received a gift certificate for her next shopping purchase.

Belated birthday wishes to Leapster Gloria Cox. She was born on February 29, 1952 to the late Raleigh R. and Emma L. Cox. She has celebrated just 15 birthdays.

Letters To The Editor

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

District 1 Parent Pep Rally A Huge Success

The Jefferson County School Board, along with the Jefferson County Parent Involvement Committee, would like to extend a special thanks to School Board Member Ed Vollertsen and all community members and parents who attended the 2nd Annual Jefferson County School Board Parent Pep Rally for District 1 on Monday, February 27. The meeting turned out to be a success and brought in a lot of positive feedback on what is happening in our schools and what is to come. Thank you all for your support and efforts to make this meeting a huge success.

Stingers

"To "Joe Citizen." Perhaps you overlooked it, but the quick, decisive leadership style of Hines Boyd, as Commission Chairman, was an early key piece of the very successful campaign to save JCI. Obviously you don't always agree with him, but I applaud his frequent thought-provoking ideas to move our county forward. With him in the chair, I now know I can go to a Commission meeting that will get out on time. No more dragging, five hour meetings. Despite your complaint in Wednesday's paper about "Boyd's show", he has been doing what any good meeting chair should. In my mind, it's a welcome change."

JEFFERSON COUNTY JOURNAL



PRAISE AND WORSHIP AT ST. PHILLIP

Saint Phillip AME Church will hold its Mid-Week Praise and Worship Service on Wednesday night March 7, beginning at 7 p.m.

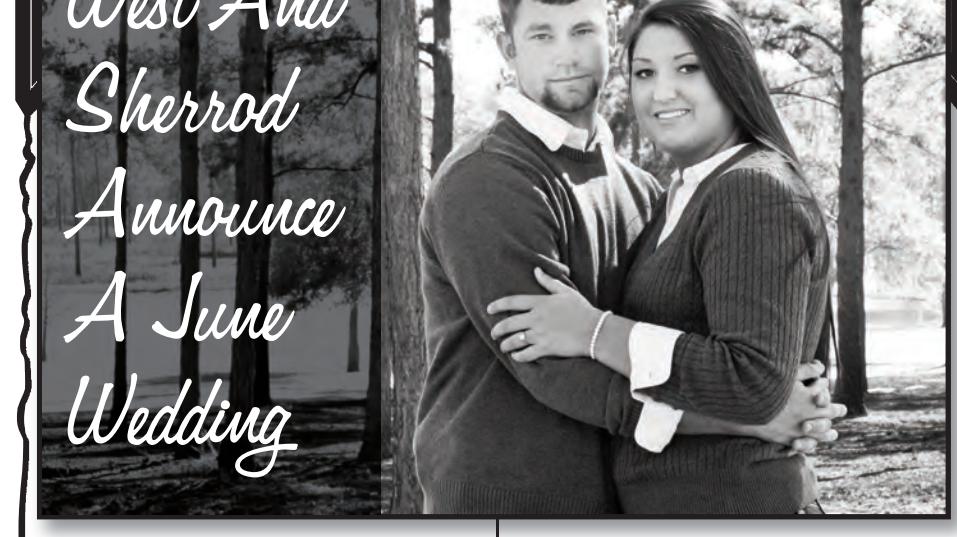
Preacher for the hour will be Rev. Gloria Cox, a minister at Saint Phillip AME Church. The public is invited to join in this time of fellowship.

Rev. Cox is Community Tobacco Educator for the Jefferson County Health Department. Her primary responsibility is to promote tobacco prevention and cessation in Jefferson County.

Saint Phillip AME Church is located at 08 Phillip Road in Monticello. Rev. J. W. Tisdale is pastor.

Email Your Church Notes To

debbiesnapp@embarqmail.com



Mr. and Mrs. Terry West, of Tallahassee, FL and Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Sherrod, of Greenville, FL are pleased to announce the engagement of their children Taylor Jordan West, of Tallahassee to Andrew Christopher Sherrod, of Greenville.

Taylor is a 2009 graduate of Chiles High School. She attends Florida A&M University and will graduate in May of 2012 with a degree in Occupation and

Wellness. She will start her Master's program in August 2012.

Drew graduated from Florida State University in 2009 with a degree in Recreation Management and a Minor in Communication. He is a teacher at Aucilla Christian Academy and is also the Varsity Baseball Coach.

The wedding is planned for Saturday, June 23, 2012 at the Honey Lake Plantation, Resort & Spa, in Greenville.



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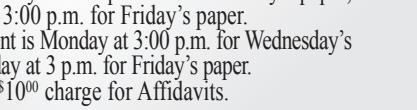
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Deadline for Legal Advertisement is Monday at 3:00 p.m. for Wednesday's paper, and Wednesday at 3 p.m. for Friday's paper.

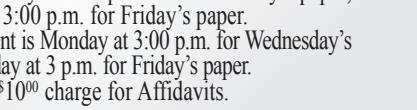
There will be a \$100 charge for affidavits.

CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT

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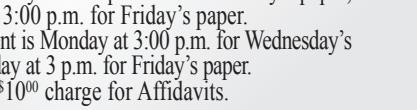
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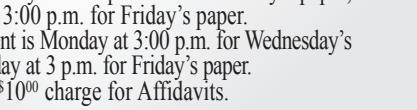
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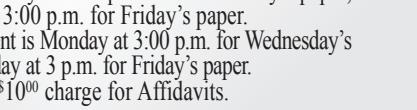
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CLASS

From Page One

Road Dept.

ing greater autonomy to the Road Department and largely stems from the continuing power struggle between Harvey and the county coordinator's office.

Much effort and preparation apparently went into the each of the presentations on Monday evening, evident by the fact that the two took up almost the entire 3½-hour workshop.

The focus of the first group's presentation at this particular workshop was mostly on the establishment of a prioritized list of roads for potential paving and the possible funding sources for such a project, given that the commission had already dealt with numerous other elements of the plan at earlier workshops.

Rams, Calandra and Wise variously explained that their inventory of dirt roads resulted from extensive fieldwork and their use of three criteria to prioritize the roads. The three criteria involved the number of registered voters living on each road and the adjacent feeder roads; the connectivity of the particular road to other roads, especially state roads and high-traffic county roads; and the condition of each roads, as graded by Harvey, mail carriers and school bus drivers.

"This takes the political factor out of the equation," Reams said of the criteria.

But possibly the most salient issue to emerge from the discussion—or at least the one around which a battle already appears to be taking shape— involves the first plan's call for new bond to finance the paving of 48.7 miles of dirt roads.

Among the group's rationale for the proposal: In May the county retires the 20-year road bond that it took out in 1992, releasing about \$300,000 in annual payments that could potentially be redirected toward a new road bond; the bond would allow the paving of a minimum of 31 of the county's 192 dirt roads, resulting in a 20% reduction of dirt roads; the paving could be accomplished without increasing taxes; the improved roads would eliminate chronic road repairs and would en-

hance the quality of life of a significant number of residents; and the paving of the 31 roads would reduce the Road Department's maintenance workload, allowing it to focus its efforts on culverts, ditches, mowing and other such routine activities.

The other options that the group offered for financing the road-paving program were a 'pay as you go' plan or a bank loan, but the expressed preference was for the bond option.

Commission Chairman Hines Boyd immediately jumped on the issue, taking an opposing position. Paving 48 miles of roads would eliminate the need for grading, but it wouldn't eliminate the need for maintenance, he said. But more importantly, the Road Department for years had been starved of staff and equipment because \$300,000 of the revenues generated by the 5th and 6th cent fuel tax that normally went for its operation had been diverted to pay the debt on the road bond, he said. Now that the \$300,000 was about to be freed, it should flow back into the Road Department's budget, he said.

"Here is the heart of the issue," Boyd said. "Are we going to hire outside contractors to pave 48 miles of roads that we will still have to maintain; or are we going to invest the money in our own Road Department?"

Moreover, not all dirt roads warranted paving, he argued. In fact, many dirt roads simply needed stabilizing, he said. And let's not forget that part of the county's charm and character derived from its dirt roads, he said.

Expressing the opposite view was Commissioner John Nelson, who found merit in the paving proposal.

"I think we need to continue a program that has proven its worth in the past," Nelson said, referring to the numerous dirt roads paved with the 1992 bond monies.

Commissioner Danny Monroe said he could see doing both some paving and stabilization. And Commissioner Betsy Barfield voiced concern over the Road Department dedi-

cating its resource to stabilization rather than maintenance, which seemed to go against Boyd's proposition.

Commissioner Stephen Fulford, for his part, observed that if the \$300,000 from the fuel taxes again began flowing back into the Road Department's budget, then the county would likely stop subsidizing the department's budget by an equal amount from ad-valorem monies, basically leaving the budget at the same level as it presently is. For the sake of argument, however, he asked that Harvey prepare figures on exactly how many miles of roads his department could stabilize annually if it had an additional \$300,000.

As for the Harvey/Howard presentation, it largely cited the department's accomplishments under Harvey during the last nine years, including such achievements as rebuilding the county's 31 wooden bridges, improving the dirt roads in general and stabilizing major sections of priority roads. But its most salient points rested in its recommendations.

Among the department's various suggestions were those that road stabilization should continue to be a top priority activity, complete with its own staff and line item budget; that the rock mine should continue to operate under the umbrella of the department; and that the four-day workweek should be continued.

But the more salient and potentially controversial of the recommendations pointed to the difficult relationship between Harvey and County Coordinator Roy Schleicher. Among these recommendations, Harvey asked that he'd be given greater authority over his department's budget, personnel and purchases.

"We believe the road superintendent should manage the day-to-day operations, the personnel and the budget of the Road Department and should be accountable to the commission for his (or her) performance," Harvey said. "We believe that the role of the county coordinator, as originally expressed by the commission when

the position was created, is to provide support and review functions, and to help coordinate its activities with other county departments when necessary."

Interestingly, two former commissioners who had a hand in the selection of Schleicher as the county coordinator expressed diametrically opposite views on what the latter's role should be.

J.N. "Junior Tuten, formerly the District 1 commissioner, accused Schleicher of micromanaging the departments. He said several department heads had come to him over the last three years to complain about Schleicher's micromanagement of their respective operations.

"The coordinator does not need to run the departments," Tuten said.

He said the commissioners also shouldn't use coordinator as a shield between them and the public.

Tuten said it was his prerogative as a citizen to approach any department head and ask for service. And if he didn't receive satisfaction from the department, it was his right to approach his district commissioner and ask for help and it was the latter's duty to respond, he said.

"That's what we pledged when we ran for office," Tuten said. "You don't need a shield between you and the citizens. We want you to be accessible. We want to see you on the street. If I have a problem, I'd be disappointed if I couldn't talk to my commissioner as a friend, citizen and a voter. The concern from the general public is that you're being shielded...The coordinator does not need to micromanage the departments. You need to revamp the office so that you have the control. I encourage this board to take charge and manage this community as you are well capable of doing."

Jerry Sutphin, former District 3 commissioner, expounded the opposite view.

"When the commission hired Schleicher I voted against his hiring because I thought he would use this county as a stepping stone," Sutphin said. "But he has proven himself."

Sutphin said that when he had been on the commission, prior to the coordinator's hiring, David Harvey had had five bosses with competing interests. With the result that each of the commissioners had given Harvey conflicting requests and had had the department's personnel and equipment running every which way across the county, Sutphin said.

The coordinator's office had brought order and efficiency to the process, he said.

"When you have five bosses, it's not efficient," Sutphin said. "And that's what this county needs, because it's a small county with limited resources."

The end result of the workshop was that the commission asked the two groups to get together and consolidate their plans, or at the least juxtapose the two plans' recommendations in corresponding order, so that they could be more easily compared at a future workshop.

continued from page 1

Rules

continued from page 1

a way of showing a school's success in meeting state-mandated educational goals. The grades are largely a reflection of students' performance on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Tests (FCAT), but also take into account a high school's graduation rate, the college readiness of its students, and the number of students earning industry certification.

Crash

continued from page 1

dian. He advised that he then steered his vehicle to the right and lost control. The vehicle traveled northwest and crossed over the inside and outside travel lanes of the westbound Interstate. The vehicle continued traveling northwest across the paved apron and rotated one half turn in a clockwise direction. The vehicle continued traveling northwest down the grass sloped hill and the rear of the vehicle collided with a tree at the base of the hill. The vehicle came to rest at the point of impact, facing southeast.

Welford advised that he had moved close to the center line but did not cross it or change lanes. He advised that he saw Ellis passing him and he was in the median. He said he slowed down and observed Ellis traveling west in the median and then turn to the right and traveled northwest across both westbound lanes of travel in front of him and then travel onto the north shoulder and rotate a quarter of a turn and collided with a tree.

The witness advised that he was traveling 65 miles per hour due to the heavy rain that he did not observe Welford travel across the center line but he did observe Ellis pass him and Welford and then travel into the median and lose control.

FHP did not deem the crash to be alcohol-related. Everyone involved was wearing their seatbelts.

Ellis and Elfer sustained minor injuries and were transported to Tallahassee Memorial Hospital for treatment.

The Welford's were uninjured.

Ellis' vehicle sustained \$2,500 damage. He was charged with driving too fast for conditions. Welford's vehicle was not damaged.

Hires

continued from page 1

process.

County Coordinator Roy Schleicher pointed out that the document was far from being finished.

"We still have a ways to go on this," he said.

Among other things, the proposed hiring procedures offer guidelines on advertising positions, interviewing qualified applicants, evaluating candidates and selecting the most qualified individual.

The guidelines also offer interviewing techniques, such as encouraging the interviewer to ask open-ended questions, avoid leading questions, and create a friendly and pleasant atmosphere.

Among the various forms that are part of the draft documents are a general information sheet on the applicant, an employment gaps acknowledgment form, and a reference check form.

Jefferson County Adult Center
Offering Adult & Community Education
575 South Water Street • Monticello, FL 32344

OPEN WEEKLY
Monday - Wednesday
8:30 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.
&
5:00 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.

Enrollment is open

For further information or to enroll, please contact
Mrs. Dwanda Skipworth or
Mrs. Terousha Pleas at
(850) 342-0100, ext. 235

Tiger Pride



850-342-0100

DUI

continued from page 1

Jefferson Street around the courthouse in reference to a reckless driver.

Sgt. Colson observed a vehicle matching the description given by the caller, traveling south on South Jefferson Street passing the IGA store. He turned around to follow the vehicle and it pulled into the Burger King drive-thru. Sgt. Colson said the vehicle pulled out of the Burger King parking lot and he followed it south on South Jefferson Street. Sgt. Colson said the vehicle was unable to maintain a single lane and he attempted to conduct a traffic stop on the vehicle. He said the vehicle refused to pull over after he turned on his lights and siren. Sgt. Colson said the vehicle finally stopped on South Jefferson Street just south of May Lane.

Deputy Peebles then made contact with the driver, identified as Harry Daniel Collins, 54, of Jefferson County. He reported that he could smell the odor of alcohol emitting from Collins's person.

The deputy asked Collins where he was headed and Collins said he was on his way home. Deputy Peebles then asked Collins if he realized that he had passed where he was supposed to turn to go home. Collins said he had not missed his turn that it was a little ways down the road.

Deputy Peebles asked Collins if he had had anything to drink and Collins said yes, he had a "six pack of tall boys." The deputy asked Collins if he thought he was impaired and should not be driving and Collins said no, that he was fine. Deputy Peebles asked Collins if he would perform a couple exercises to determine if he was too intoxicated to operate a motor vehicle and Collins said he would do them. He also said he was involved in an accident a couple months ago and was not sure if he could do them. The deputy informed Collins that he could have him perform some exercises that were not physical and Collins said he would do whatever.

The deputy noted that during the exercises Collins was barely able to stand, that he could not recite the alphabet and that he was swaying back and forth. Collins was unable to perform the exercises correctly.

Collins was placed under arrest for driving under the influence and Cpl. Toby Ward transported him to the County Jail. His vehicle was towed by Stewart's Towing.

While at the jail Cpl. Ward read Collins implied consent and requested a sample of his breath to determine its alcohol content, but he refused to submit to any further testing.

Deputy Peebles had dispatch run Collins' criminal history and found that Collins had two prior convictions for driving under the influence.

Collins was charged with felony driving under the influence and DUI refusal to submit. A total bond of \$12,500 was set and he bonded out of jail February 27.



Jefferson County Living

Rebekah Aman Authors A Teen Novel Of Fantasy

BOOK SIGNING IS MONDAY AT LIBRARY

LAZARO ALEMAN
ECB Publishing
Senior Staff Writer

It's impressive anytime anyone writes a book, let alone gets it published; it's doubly so when the writer happens to be a teen, at least at the time of the writing.

Such is the case with 21-year-old Rebekah Aman, whose book — a fantasy tale of good-versus-evil titled *Tiwein's Redeemer: Nature's Lady* — will be available on Amazon books, from Tate Publishing, and at selected bookstores beginning March 6. Or you can order the ebook from Aman's website: www.keepersoftheessence.com/trnl.

Started at age 15 when she was a tenth grader at Aucilla Christian Academy (ACA) and completed just before her senior year, *Tiwein's Redeemer: Nature's Lady* is the story of Genevia, a peasant girl who discovers at 16 that she is really Alernoa, an elfin princess who was abandoned at child-birth and so raised by a humble farmer.

With the discovery of her true identity comes possession of elfin powers and the task of helping defeat the evil Fezam, rescuing her imprisoned elfin parents, and restoring order to a chaotic world.

The task sends Alernoa and a growing band of friends on a treacherous journey to the "dwarf undergrounds", across the "nomad desert" and through the "shapeshifters' forest", where Fezam's soldiers are encountered at every turn.

Readers will have to read the book to learn how Alernoa and her small, undisciplined group extricate themselves from the various dangers, outwit Fezam's forces and ultimately overthrow his evil reign.

Currently an FSU student majoring in accounting, finance and psychol-

ogy and with plans to graduate this year, Aman says the idea for the book arose out of discussions with another ACA 10th grader who enjoyed writing.

"I decided to see what I could do with the ideas we discussed," Aman says. "Once I started I worked on it pretty regularly when I didn't have homework, and over the weekends."

When she started the writing, she had the last scene worked out in her head, she says. But other than the last scene, she had no idea about the characters or the plot. The characters and action simply developed as she wrote.

"It evolved as I went along," Aman says. "It was like reading a book while I was writing it. Things just popped into my head."

One of her favorite characters of the book is Asben, she says. Although he was supposed to be a minor character, he so fascinated her that she wrote a scene especially for him so that his smartness and puzzle-solving ability could shine, she says. And he figures again, if yet in another minor role, in the current book she's writing, she says.

"I had a lot of fun getting to know him as a character," Aman says. "I didn't expect that."

Once she finished the manuscript, she mailed it away to five publishers and got rejected by all five. At that point she put the book aside and pretty much gave up on it, she says. Then the unexpected happened.

"Two years later I got an email from Tate Publishing saying they would publish my book," Aman says.

There followed several revisions of the manuscript, during which she cut the work back by about 21,000 words, or the equivalent of six chapters. That was one of the more difficult things she had to do, she says. Not only did she hate cutting out the parts, but

also each change would ripple throughout the story and necessitate other changes, she says.

Aman credits her editor at Tate Publishing, and her mother Carol in particular, for helping her through the difficult editing and revising process.

"My mom was really instrumental," Aman says. "She read the manuscript four or five times."

A lifelong reader, Aman says she began writing stories early. Admittedly, her early writings were terrible, she says. But they show that her interest in writing dated from childhood, she says.

Fantasy is her favorite fictional genre

"I'm not into science-fiction or the historical," Aman says. "I like fantastical, mystical things — things that wouldn't happen in ordinary life. I'm a big fan of Walt Disney, where everything has a happy ending. In real life, you don't always get the happy ending. You need books for escape. Sometimes, life is too much and you want to escape to a nice, happy place."

As for her characters' unusual names, Aman points out they live in a different world. Besides, she says, she enjoyed indulging her knack for making up words and names in the writing of the book. She admits too that the main character is much like herself, "if better".

Call Alernoa Aman's alter ego.
"She's really outgoing," Aman



ECB Publishing Photo by Laz Aleman, Feb. 25, 2012
Rebekah Aman enjoys a weekend at her parents' home in Jefferson County.

says. "I'm a little timid. She's more sociable than I am. She represents the things I value in myself and the things I would want in myself — the ultimate person I want to be. My brother and aunt read the book and said, 'I see you in this book'."

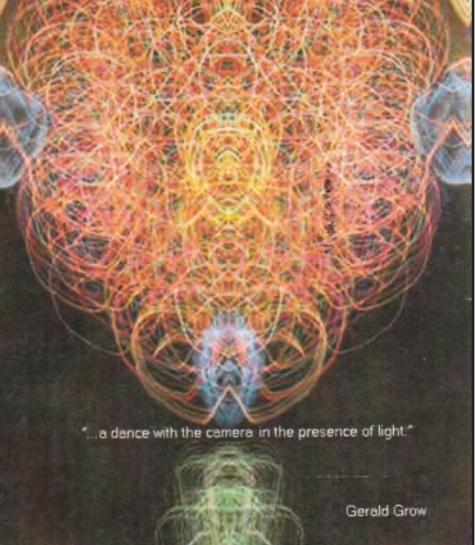
Aman will hold a book signing at the Jefferson County Bailar Public Library from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday, March 6. Copies of her book will be available for sale.

A DANCE WITH THE CAMERA AT THE ARTS

Jefferson Arts will host a reception from 2 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, March 3 in the gallery for the various works of Gerald Grow, Larry Coltharp, DE Matthews, Thora Kleinert, Charles Sawyer and Dudley Witney.

This unique photography will be exhibited through March 28. These six artists and photographers from the area stretch the imagination with their works, prompting the title for the exhibit, *A Dance With The Camera In The Presence Of Light*.

The Jefferson Arts Gallery and store are open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays, or by appointment. There is no charge to view and store prices are very reasonable. For more information call 850-997-3311 or go to www.jeffersonartsgallery.com



Contreras Joins Christine's Barber & Beauty Salon

DEBBIE SNAPP
ECB Publishing
Staff Writer

Cosmetologist
Sharon Contreras has joined with Christine Williams at Christine's Barber & Beauty Salon located at 230 West Washington Street in downtown Monticello.

She has 20+ years of experience in her field that includes haircuts and styles for women and children, men's fades, highlights, perms and soon to be established manicures, pedicures, gels and nails.

Walk-ins are always



CHRISTINE'S BARBER AND BEAUTY SALON
230 W Washington Street • Monticello, Florida 32344

Christine Williams
Owner/Stylist
(850) 997-4767



Introducing
Sharon Contreras
Offering Full Service • Hair & Nails
850-556-3457

welcome. Appointments may be made by contacting Contreras directly at 850-556-4357.

Contreras started at Christine's almost upon arrival, on Tuesday, February 21. She speaks fluent Spanish, as she comes to Monticello from the southern state of New Mexico. She's moved back to Lamont to be closer to family. She has three grown children and considers this move "a mid-life change."

Christine's Barber & Beauty Salon is open from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Contact the Christine anytime at 850-997-4767.

Calling All Chili Lovers

ANNOUNCING THE 3RD ANNUAL
MONTICELLO/JEFFERSON COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
CHILI CHALLENGE 2012



March 9, 2012
Monticello Opera House

Set-up 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Judging 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Open to the Public 6:00 PM

Band, 19 South starting at 8:00 PM

Chili Entry - \$25

Admission - \$6 (all you can eat)

Cash Bar

CASH PRIZES!

Best Chili - \$300 • Judge's Choice - \$150

Best Decorated Table - \$50

People's Choice - 1/2 of your table's complimentary money pot

A Portion Of The Proceeds To Benefit The

July 4th Celebrate America Fund

Sponsored by



Jefferson County Living

UPCOMING AUDITIONS FOR MURDER MYSTERY

The Opera House Stage Co. invites all Earthlings, Klingons, Vulcans and others to audition for 'Murder: The Next Generation... Dinner at Deep Space Noir,' an interactive murder mystery show coming to the Monticello Opera House in late April and early May.

Auditions are Sunday, March 4, at 6 p.m. and Monday, March 5 at 7 p.m. at the Opera House.

There will be parts for

Remembering 'The Good Ol' Days'

FRAN HUNT
ECB Publishing
Staff Writer

Many times the older people in different communities throughout the country will reminisce about the days gone by and what life was like back in the "good ol' days." County native Dr. Jim Sledge, 87, recently reminisced about his earlier days of living in Jefferson County.

As a bit of an additional twist, Sledge also spoke of history he had read and of stories that had been handed down from generation to generation and on to him. His family has lived in Jefferson County since 1830.

He began with what Monticello was like during the 1930's. "The A&P was in the Opera House. The assistant manager made \$64 a month and we thought that was great pay," he recalled. "He would hire the boys who played on the sports teams to work on Saturdays. That's how we got our spending money. I worked there. We would work from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m. and make \$3.13 per day. Three cents of that went to Social Security," he said.

"I remember one time they told me to go to the Piggly Wiggly (now the Brick House Eatery) to get some spaghetti seeds," said Sledge. "They said they were out and they sent me to Harris' store, they said they were out and they sent me to the Suwannee Store (now Gelling's) and they told me that they were out, so they sent me back to the A&P. They all got a good laugh out of that, sending me all over town trying to buy spaghetti seeds."

"John Kelly was a big grower and sometimes when he came into the A&P he would get about \$15 worth of groceries," said Sledge. "We all wanted to be the one to fill his order. He would leave a list and say he'd be back in an hour and we would fill the boxes."

"On Saturdays, Monticello was always crowded. The theater was always running a movie. My friend ran the projector so I would go up there and we would whistle at the pretty girls down on the street when they walked by," he recalled.

"Next to the Piggly Wiggly was VH Hardware. There were two kegs of nails that adorned the front door. Rainey's Store was where Remax is now. They sold clothing and shoes. Next to the hardware, where the Post Office is now, was the Woman's Club. It was the only building on the block, but they moved it to Pearl Street," Sledge said.

"The Van H. Priest Dime Store was on the corner. It was the post office a few years later," he said. "Miss Cooksey had a restaurant past the Piggly Wiggly. You'd go down Dogwood Street and there was a clothing store, Braswell's. Before my time, Braswells was a saloon. I was told that Mr. Taylor would ride his horse right up into the saloon, order him a whiskey, drink it down and ride back out again," he said.

There were three to four Polish families here then. One of them had a dry goods store. Across from Braswell's was the bank and Judge Clark's office. At the bank, a handshake was as binding as your word," he added.

"The newspaper was where the water tower is now," he said. "Wiggy Farr was the news. He did it all by himself, the writing, typesetting, printing, all of it. There was never a time that you seen him that he didn't have ink all over his hands."

"My dad donated a small portion of his land at the back of the property so the railroad would come through to Monticello," said Sledge. "He would get up at 2 a.m. just to watch the train go by. He couldn't see anything but the headlight, but it made him proud to think that he had something to do with the progress," he added.

"The railway express went to the Drifton spur. There was an oil company there. There was a platform there and the train would drop supplies," he said.

"There was Cooksey's Meat Market. During the war Clarence Drew came here and he had an office. Mr. Lawrence had a store. Mr. Bishop had a dry goods store. Fate Jones had the candy store. If you had a dime, you had it made. It cost nine cents to get into the movie and a penny would buy a sack full of candy," he recalled. "Everybody loved Mr. Jones. Across the street was the theater. Going toward the courthouse, Mr. Head had a

drug store on the corner. Next door was Paul Plaines café. Boots (Thomas) and I would always go there. Everybody always went there."

"When we heard The War of the Worlds in 1939, we just knew the world was coming to an end, so we had to go tell everybody. We went to Paul Plaines café and they all came out to the car to listen to the radio. They were all glued to the radio. Finally the announcer came across and said this was the War of the Worlds as told by Orson Wells and we will now resume or regular programming. Boots and I knew we had to get out of there. We snuck off and walked into the theater and sat in the back row of the theater. The best thing for us to do was disappear after causing such a fuss," he added.

"Tommy Martin's Pecan Shop was the ice plant. You could buy 25-40 lbs. of ice and get home quick before it melted. If you lived a long way out you would lose half your ice," he added. "There were running boards on the cars then. The best place for dogs to ride was on the running board between the hood and fender. The best place for the ice was on the front bumper."

"Where the News office is now, Bobby Devane and GT ran the Texaco filling station. The Coca Cola bottling plant was next door. Too Long Keen was the bottling man. He had a black man working for him and they did all the bottling. They would also deliver," Sledge added.

"Before my time, the St. Elmo Hotel was across the street from the First Baptist Church and it took up the entire block. When people would come down from Thomasville to go to the Opera House, they would stay at St. Elmo's for their accommodations."

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It's no wonder why people like to sit and remember the "Good Ol' Days!"

If you would like to sit and reminisce about the "Good Ol' Days" with Fran, call 997-3568 or email franhunt@embarqmail.com for an appointment.

Jones and the Curse of Nergal.'

Dinner, as part of the show, will be catered by Carrie Ann & Co. The special dietary needs of other worldly beings may be accommodated.

Show dates are Fridays and Saturdays on the last weekend of April and the first two weekends of May.

For more information, contact Osgood at 850-997-4010 or 850-485-4905.

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"The railway express went to the Drifton spur. There was an oil company there. There was a platform there and the train would drop supplies," he said.

"There was Cooksey's Meat Market. During the war Clarence Drew came here and he had an office. Mr. Lawrence had a store. Mr. Bishop had a dry goods store. Fate Jones had the candy store. If you had a dime, you had it made. It cost nine cents to get into the movie and a penny would buy a sack full of candy," he recalled. "Everybody loved Mr. Jones. Across the street was the theater. Going toward the courthouse, Mr. Head had a

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It's no wonder why people like to sit and remember the "Good Ol' Days!"

If you would like to sit and reminisce about the "Good Ol' Days" with Fran, call 997-3568 or email franhunt@embarqmail.com for an appointment.

There were three to four Polish families here then. One of them had a dry goods store. Across from Braswell's was the bank and Judge Clark's office. At the bank, a handshake was as binding as your word," he added.

"The newspaper was where the water tower is now," he said. "Wiggy Farr was the news. He did it all by himself, the writing, typesetting, printing, all of it. There was never a time that you seen him that he didn't have ink all over his hands."

"My dad donated a small portion of his land at the back of the property so the railroad would come through to Monticello," said Sledge. "He

Health & Nutrition

Nursing School Graduate, Tristan Sorensen, Honored With Excellence in Clinical Setting

KRISTIN FINNEY

*A Special From
Greene Publishing, Inc.*

Nursing school is no small undertaking. It requires hundreds of hours of homework, studying, clinical visits and dedication. Tristan Sorensen graduated from North Florida Community College's Nursing Program in December 2011. Upon graduation, Tristan was honored with the Excellence in Clinical Setting award.

Tristan knew that nursing was what she wanted to do with her life. She stated, "I wanted to give back to the community that has made me who I am. Caring for people makes me happy, so nursing seemed like the right way to go." She was one a few lucky applicants

who was accepted into nursing school the first time she applied.

When asked what the hardest part of being in nursing school was, she explained, "The hardest part was learning a new way of thinking. The way a nurse analyzes a symptom, person, or situation is obviously different than everyday-people do. I had to learn how to 'think like a nurse.' It requires a combination of knowledge, application and good sense." Her favorite part was, "My classmates. Entering nursing school, the last think you think about are the

people you're about to spend the next two years of your life with. Now looking back, they were my favorite part."



She recalls one of her most memorable moments in nursing school, "I had this patient once, she was covered from head to toe in scales because her skin was so fiercely irritated. It was absolute misery. I spent all day doing everything I could think of to make her comfortable.

Then at the end of my shift, finally, she rested—a calm, peaceful rest. I knew then why I was in the nursing field. For moments like those."

Her advice to anyone interested in going to nursing school, "I'd tell them to go for it! Nursing is a rewarding field. It's crazy and stressful at

times but the moments that make it worth it are ones you do not forget."

Tristan is currently considered a Graduate Nurse but after passing the NCLEX exam she will be a Registered Nurse. She was chosen by her instructors to receive the Excellence in Clinical Setting award. It was based on the way that she interacted with her patients. She plans to stay local for now, maybe work in Thomasville or Valdosta. Her dream job is to be in critical care, in medical-surgical ICU. "I like the nurse-patient ratio and total patient care. Working in that kind of unit would allow

me to focus all of my attention and efforts on a small number of patients," she explained.

Tristan is the daughter of Patricia and Eric Sorenson. She has a younger brother, Hans, who is 17, and a younger sister, Sarah, who is 19. She says of her family, "My family is tight-knit. I was blessed with cool parents; they rock. I couldn't be more thankful for the life they have provided for my siblings and I. As I trek down my path in life I get to have them [her brother and sister] beside me, all-out in the hubbub and being here like only my siblings can."

NFCC PATIENT CARE TECHNICIAN PROGRAM ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Application deadline June 1; Classes begin August 2012

The Patient Care Technician (PCT) program at North Florida Community College is currently accepting applications for Fall Term 2012. Now is the time to enroll and take care of application, testing and program entrance requirements. Classes begin August 2012. Dead-

line to apply is June 1.

NFCC's patient care technician program prepares students to provide direct patient care in a variety of health care environments. While working under the supervision of a registered nurse, patient care technicians often have more contact with patients than any other healthcare team member. Students receive additional training as assistants in the care of the elderly, physical and respiratory therapy, and may also receive additional training in performance of electrocardiograms and phlebotomy. Graduates of the program are eligi-

ble to apply and take a National Certification exam as a Patient Care Technician and are eligible to take the Florida Nursing Assistant Certification exam. The PCT Program is a 600 hour course in length involving both the theoretical classroom and clinical learning environment.

NFCC's PCT program takes one semester, approximately five months, to complete. In order to be considered for admission into the program, individuals must have a high school diploma or GED. Students are required to complete the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) prior to making

application to enter the program. The TABE is given regularly at the NFCC campus and may be scheduled by calling (850) 973-9451.

Nursing and Allied Health staff and faculty are available to help prospective students through the application and enrollment process; contact Debbie Bass at (850) 973-1662 or bassd@nfcc.edu. More details about the program and entrance requirements are also available at www.nfcc.edu/programs-of-study/allied-health-programs. Financial aid and scholarships may be available to qualified students.

THE TRUTH ABOUT HIGH FRUCTOSE CORN SYRUP

KRISTIN FINNEY

*A Special From
Greene Publishing, Inc.*

Anyone who watches television has a child under the age of 10 or who reads any health magazine, has probably heard of high-fructose corn syrup (HFCS). This is an ingredient added into drinks and some snacks to replace Table sugar. High-fructose corn syrup is made out of corn.

Many people might question why there would be any need to replace table sugar, the answer to that question is fairly simple: availability and price. HFCS comes in a liquid form, which means that it is easier to transport than normal sugar. HFCS is also cheaper to produce in the United States.

One of the most frequently asked questions about HFCS is, what are the health risks associated with it? Commercials can be seen all across the broadcasting world that condemn and condone the use of HFCS in foods. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has classified HFCS as generally recognized as safe (GRAS). Evidence has been presented both for and against HFCS as a contributing factor to America's growing obesity rates.

Some scientists classify HFCS as a poison, while others simply classify it as a sucrose alternative. However, a recent study has found that HFCS does not contribute to obesity, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and non-alcoholic fatty liver disease any more than normal sucrose does.

While the findings are still up in the air for HFCS, there is one consensus among scientists:

LOOK GOOD, FEEL BETTER PROGRAM

South Georgia Medical Center will host

Look Good, Feel Better to register, call 229.259.4683.

Together We Can

The Pearlman Cancer Center will host Together We Can, a support group for patients, family and caregivers of all ages. The main focus is supportive counseling, education, and helps those dealing with cancer connect with others.

The Pearlman Cancer Center will host Together We Can, a support group for patients, family and caregivers of all ages. The main focus is supportive counseling, education, and helps those dealing with cancer connect with others.

This group will meet on Monday, March 5th from 10:00am – 11:00am in the Pearlman Cancer Center conference room. Participation is free of charge. For more information call 229.259.4638.

Mended Hearts Meet

The Mended Hearts Support Group will meet at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 6th, in Dining Room 1. The group is offered free of charge to anyone who has had heart surgery. Dinner will be provided. For additional information or to attend call 229.245.6211.

Stroke and Head Injury Support Group

The Stroke and Head Injury Support Group will meet from 6:00 – 7:00p.m., Tuesday, March 13th, in the Pearlman Cancer Center conference room at South Georgia Medical Center.

The group is offered free of charge to anyone who has had a stroke or head injury. For more information, call 229.259.4289.

Getting Ready to Quit - Smoking Cessation Class

South Georgia Medical Center will host Get-

ting Ready to Quit - Smoking Cessation Class. Classes will meet from 12:30 – 1:30pm on Mondays, March 5, 12,

19, & 26 in Dining Room 1 at SGMC. A light lunch is provided. To register or for more information, call Community Health Promotions at 229.333.1074 or email at marie.sims@sgmc.org

For additional information on Community Health Promotions programs, contact:

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Finlayson Completes Marathon, Raises Breast Cancer Awareness

KRISTIN FINNEY

A Special From
Greene Publishing, Inc.

Anna Finlayson, Aucilla Christian Academy graduate, recently competed in the 26.2 with Donna Marathon. The 26.2 with Donna is an annual marathon that raises awareness and money for breast cancer studies. The event's founder, chairman and from whom the event is named for, is Donna Deegan, a three-time breast cancer survivor.

Finlayson raced in Jacksonville on February 17. The run was 26.2 miles long and it took her 5 hours 14 minutes and 3 seconds to complete it. She ran without walking on the course, but did stop for water, GU Energy Gels and to use the restroom. There were between 7,000 and 8,000 runners this year.

Finlayson finished in 13th for her age division. She did not go into the race alone, she competed with her friends Elizabeth Riley and Carson Nennstiel. Every runner who finished the race received a medal to recognize that they completed the run.

When asked why she decided to compete in the marathon, Finlayson said, "Well, I have always loved running! I ran cross-country at Aucilla Christian acad-



Photo Submitted

Anna Finlayson, Aucilla Christian Academy graduate, recently competed in the 26.2 with Donna Marathon.

emy for 5 years and I assisted in coaching cross-country this year. I talked to a friend who ran in this marathon before and she made it sound like a lot of fun. So I decided I wanted to run a marathon and just went out there and ran."

Despite having the best intentions when it came to training, Finlayson was unable to do much physical training for the marathon, "Most people when they train for a marathon run short distances a couple times a week, like 6 miles. Then by the time the marathon has come around their distance day is up to at least 15 miles. I had every intention of training for the race but I did not. I ran 6 miles twice and ran an occasional 3 miles. I would drink a lot of water but did not change much about my diet. The mental preparation was the best thing I did for myself. I told myself I was going to go run my race and finish, so that's what I did. Running is 90% mental and 10% physical. The race had signs all over the course that said 'Finish Breast Cancer. Finish the race.' I told myself if people can battle cancer and not give up, then I can run the race and not walk."

Her recommendations to anyone who is interested in competing a marathon "TRAIN! Make sure you drink lots of

water and get GU from the stations. I would say the most important thing is to be mentally prepared and to have fun."

Running that far is no easy task. It takes a lot of physical and mental strength. "Seeing the finish line was a relief! My hardest miles were miles 17 to mile 20. There were so many people cheering us on the entire race it gave me the encouragement to keep going. At mile 20 I felt the most relief because I realized I only had 6 miles left to go and I was determined to finish. The last 6 miles felt just as long as the first 20. Once I crossed the finish line I was very proud of myself, and my legs were incredibly sore. I was also very cold. It was 31 that morning with a lot of wind!"

"Now, that the race is over, I am still proud of myself and all the other runners out there. I felt that the race was very rewarding because cancer survivors were there thanking us for running. It made me feel happy to know that such a small action as in running a race can help someone else. I would love to compete in another race! I told my mom as soon as I finished that I wanted to run in that race again next year. I want to do the Disney Marathon and I would gladly volunteer myself to run in any marathon in Hawaii."

WARRIORS DOWNED BY MACLAY

FRAN HUNT
ECB Publishing
Staff Writer

The Aucilla Christian Academy varsity Warriors met with an 8-3 defeat February 17 when they faced off against Maclay on the baseball diamond, to now stand 1-2 on the season.

The Warriors drew first blood bringing two runs across the plate in the first inning, but Maclay answered with two runs of its own in the third inning to tie up the score. Maclay brought in another two runs in the fifth inning and an additional four runs in the sixth inning, compared to Aucilla's one run in the sixth.

As a team at the plate, the Warriors carried a .154 batting average with 29 plate appearances, 26 at-bats, three runs, four hits, three RBI's, two doubles, three walks, two strikeouts, two fielder's choice, an on-base percentage of .241, a slugging average of .231 and three runners left on base.

Individually, Tyler Jackson had a batting average of .333 with three plate appearances, three at-bats, one hit, one RBI, one fielder's choice and an on-base percentage and slugging average of .333. He also had two left on base.

Trent Roberts had a batting average of .667, with three plate appearances, three at-bats, one run, two hits, one double, an on-base percentage of .667 and a slugging average of 1.000.

Hans Sorensen had three plate appearances, two at-bats, one walk,

one fielder's choice and an on-base percentage of .333.

Josh Wood had three plate appearances, three at-bats and one strikeout.

Russell Fraleigh had a batting average of .333, with four plate appearances, three at-bats, two runs, one hit, one RBI, one double, one walk, an on-base percentage of .500, a slugging average of .667 and one left on base.

Tres Copeland had three plate appearances, three at-bats, one RBI and one strikeout.

Gus Smyrnios had two plate appearances, one at-bat, one walk and an on-base percentage of .500.

In the field as a team, the Warriors had a fielding percentage of .625, with 16 total chances, seven putouts, three assists and six errors.

Individually, Tyler Jackson had a fielding percentage of 1.000, with two total chances, one putout and one assist.

Trent Roberts had a fielding percentage of 1.000, with one total chance and one putout.

Hans Sorensen had a fielding percentage of 1.000, with one total chance and one putout.

Josh Wood had a fielding percentage of .750, with four total chances, three putouts and one error.

Russell Fraleigh had a fielding percentage of .000 with one total chance and one error.

Tres Copeland had a fielding percentage of .333, with three total chances, one putout and two errors.

Austin Bishop had a fielding percentage of .500, with two total chances, one assist and one error.

Gus Smyrnios had a fielding percentage of .500, with two total chances, one putout and one error.

Catcher Tres Copeland had one passed ball, gave up three stolen bases, caught one runner stealing and had a caught stealing percentage of .250.

On the mound, the Aucilla pitchers gave up a earned run average of 1.17, a batting average of .148, an on-base percentage of .324, in six innings pitched, 35 batters faced, 27 at-bats, eight runs, one earned run on four hits, with one double, one sacrifice hit/bunt, five walks, 10 strikeouts and two hit by pitches in 110 pitches.

Individually, Tyler Jackson had a .200 batting average, on on-base percentage of .333, in 1.1 innings pitched, with 12 batters faced, 10 at-bats, five runs on two hits, with three strikeouts and two hit by pitches in 16 pitches.

Jared Jackson had an on-base percentage of .000, with .1 inning pitched, two batters faced, two at-bats and one run. He also had one strikeout in four pitches.

Russell Fraleigh had an earned run average of 1.62, with a batting average of .133, an on-base percentage of .350, in 4.1 innings pitched, with 21 batters faced, 15 at-bats, two runs, one earned run, on four hits, with one double, one sacrifice hit/bunt, five walks and six strikeouts, in 99 pitches.

JV LADY TIGERS SPLIT FIRST TWO

FRAN HUNT
ECB Publishing
Staff Writer

Kimmi Barrington had two at-bats, one triple, one run and one putout.

Amalee Addison had two at-bats, one single, one run and one putout.

Jasmine Addison had two at-bats, two walks and two runs.

Autumn Lamb had two at-bats, two hit-by-pitches and two runs.

Summer Eades had two at-bats, two walks and two runs.

Audrianna Noel had two at-bats with one walk and one single.

Vargas, who has never pitched before, manned the mound for the entire game. She gave up eight runs on 10 walks, struck out four batters and hit four batters with the pitches.

When Aucilla faced off against Mayo February 17 the young Lady Tigers were shut down for a 15-0 loss.

Coach Brown explained that he did not have a bookkeeper for the game, so there were no statistics available.

"I can say their pitching game was right on," he said. "I have seen a lot of varsity pitchers that are not as good as she is.

Mayo's pitcher pitches hard, fast and low, so we were shut down as far as any offense. It was mostly a night of strikeouts and a few walks," he concluded.

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WARRIORS SHUT DOWN HAMILTON

FRAN HUNT
ECB Publishing
Staff Writer

The Aucilla Christian Academy varsity Warriors shut down Hamilton County, 9-0, on the baseball diamond on February 20 to now stand 3-2 on the season.

The Warriors scored three runs in each of the second and third innings, they brought two more runs across the plate in the fifth inning and their final run in the seventh inning to cap the victory.

As a team Aucilla carried a batting average of .138, with 40 plate appearances, 29 at-bats, with seven runs on four hits, one RBI, one double, one triple, one sacrifice hit/bunt, with nine walks, 12 strikeouts, one hit by pitch, five run on errors, two fielder's choice, an on-base percentage of .359, a slugging average of .241, with six stolen bases on six attempts and six runners left on base.

Individually, Russell Fraleigh had five plate appearances with two at-bats, two walks, two strikeouts, one hit by pitch, an on-base percentage of .600 and two left on base.

Tres Copeland had four plate appearances, four at-bats and two strikeouts.

Austin Bishop had a batting average of 1.000 with five plate appearances, two at-bats, two hits, one RBI, one sacrifice hit/bunt, two walks, an on-base percentage and slugging average of .200 and two stolen bases on two attempts.

Tyler Jackson had five plate appearances, four at-bats, one run, one walk, two strikeouts, two run on errors, an on-base percentage of .200 and two stolen bases on two attempts.

Jared Jackson had a batting average of .500 with three plate appearances, two at-bats, two runs, one hit, one triple, one walk an on-base percentage of .667. a slugging average of 1.500 and one stolen base on one at-

tempt.

Brandon Holm had one plate appearance, one at-bat and one fielder's choice.

Trent Roberts had four plate appearances, two at-bats, two walks, one strikeout, with an on-base percentage of .500 and one left on base.

Hans Sorensen had three plate appearances, two at-bats, two runs, one walk, one strikeout, one run on error, with an on-base percentage of .333 and one stolen base on one attempt.

Josh Wood had three plate appearances, three at-bats, one strikeout, one run on error and two stolen bases on two attempts.

Bradley Holm had one plate appearance, one at-bat and one strikeout.

Casey Demott had one plate appearance, one at-bat and one strikeout.

Hunter Horne had one plate appearance, one at-bat and one fielder's choice.

Gus Smyrnios had a batting average of .333, three plate appearances, three at-bats, two runs, one hit, one double, one strikeout, one run on error, an on-base percentage of .333 and a slugging average of .667.

In the field, the Warriors carried a fielding percentage of 1.000 with 14 total chances, nine putouts and five assists.

Individually, Austin Bishop had a fielding percentage of 1.000 with one total chance and one assist.

Tyler Jackson had a fielding percentage of 1.000 with three total chances and three assists.

Trent Roberts had a fielding percentage of 1.000 with six total chances and six putouts.

Bradley Holm had a fielding percentage of 1.000 with one total chance and one putout.

Kaleb Wyche had a fielding percentage of 1.000 with one total chance and one putout.

Gus Smyrnios had a fielding percentage of 1.000 with two

total chances, one putout and one assist.

On the mound, Austin Bishop pitched the entire shutout game. He

gave up a .130 batting average, an on-base percentage of .200, in seven innings pitched, with 25 batters faced, 23 at-bats, three hits, two doubles,

two walks, seven strikeouts and one wild pitch in 98 pitches. He gave up one stolen base and has a winning percentage of 1.000.

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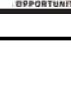
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Monticello News Parking Lot
Rent your space
for a \$10 donation
Contact Lion Debbie
at 850-997-0901
Yard Sale Items Will Also Be Accepted
All funds raised are used for
community giving

3/2-3/30, pd.

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Legals

NOTICE

The following units have been seized for non-payment and will be sold at public auction under the authority of the Self-Storage Act section 83:805, Florida Statues, on March 10, 2012, 10:00am, at Monticello Mini Storage located at the Corner of York and Railroad Streets, Monticello, FL.

Unit #58 – Tony Massey – household items
 Unit #10 – Martha Massey – household items
 Unit #13 – Jeanette Woodson – household items
 Unit #22 – Janekeya Hill – household items

2/24, 3/2, c.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Monticello will hold a public meeting for the sole purpose of discussing a proposed grant application under the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Recreation and Trails Program for development of the City Park on South Water Street.

The meeting will be held on March 13, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 245 S. Mulberry Street. For more information, contact City Hall at 342-0292.

3/2/2012, c.

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

FIFTH THIRD MORTGAGE COMPANY,
 Plaintiff,
 vs.
 HOLLY A. HOLLAND; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF HOLLY A HOLLAND; IF LIVING, INCLUDING ANY UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SAID DEFENDANT(S), IF REMARRIED, AND IF DECEASED, THE RESPECTIVE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, LIENORS, AND TRUSTEES, AND ALL OTHER PERSONS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE NAMED DEFENDANT(S); UNKNOWN TENANT #1; UNKNOWN TENANT #2;

Defendant(s)

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to a Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above-styled cause, in the Circuit Court of Jefferson County, Florida, I will sell the property situate in Jefferson County, Florida, described as:
Lot 1, JEFFERSON ACRES SUBDIVISION, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book B, Page 47, of the Public Records of Jefferson County, Florida.

A/K/A 66 Kims Ln Lamont, FL 32336

at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, at the North Door of the Jefferson County Courthouse, Monticello, Florida at 11:00 a.m., on APRIL 12, 2012

DATED THIS 10TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2012.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens, must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

Witness, my hand and seal of this court on the 10th day of February 2012

CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT

By: Sherry Sears, Deputy Clerk
 Law Offices of Daniel C. Consuegra
 9204 King Palm Drive
 Tampa, FL 33619-1328
 Attorneys for Plaintiff -
 813-915-8660

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in a court proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please Contact: Clerk of Court 1 Courthouse Circle Monticello, FL 850-342-0218 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

3/2, 8/2012,c.

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Homeowners Can Play A Role In Controlling Invasive Weeds

FEB. 26-MARCH 3 IS NATIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES AWARENESS WEEK

One-third of Florida's plant life is not considered native to the area. Since early European colonizers found the New World, the importation of species from far-away lands has ensued until the current day. The majority of these non-native plants aren't harmful to the environment, and in fact, support multi-million dollar a year industries, such as agriculture (strawberries, watermelons, and oranges are all non-native).

On the other hand, approximately 10 percent of non-native plants are considered invasive. This 10 percent will often out-compete native species when they enter our native, natural communities and threaten the health of the ecosystem.

Some of these species are found in home gardens and other landscapes; the most common include Chinese wisteria, mimosa, chinaberry, and Chinese tallow. Whereas these species offer aesthetically pleasing colors in our lawns and along roadsides, they have no place in natural areas that are managed to maintain Florida's natural plant and animal heritage.

Unfortunately, non-native, invasive plants know no political boundaries, and wind and animals can carry seeds or spores to natural areas where they have the potential to grow and expand their range.

Beau Willsey, Suwannee River Water Management District (District) environmental scientist, offers this advice: "Know the plants you bring into your yard and that currently exist in your landscape. Invasive plant information is available on the Internet, your local extension office, and District headquarters. Most land managers will be aware of the threat that non-native, invasive weeds pose and are willing to assist private landowners in making choices that benefit the landowner and the native ecosystem."

The Florida Invasive Species Partnership (www.floridainvasives.org) is a good one-stop shop for learning about, finding help in identifying and controlling, and finding suitable native alternatives to invasive weeds.

The District currently monitors invasive weeds on 922 acres of conservation lands in 14 counties. To learn more about the District's efforts, visit <http://www.srwmd.state.fl.us/index.aspx?nid=303>.

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Concealed Weapons Permits**

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\$25 deposit required

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Auto · Home · Life

The Jefferson Journal Fish & Game Feeding Chart

How to use: the major and minor feeding times for each day are listed below. The major feeding times are the best for the sportsman and last about 2 hours, the minor feeding times can also have good success, but last only about 1 hour.

*The Week of March 2, 2012 through March 9, 2012
Major Feed Times are marked by an asterisk (*)*

**Friday,
March 2
12:20 AM
*6:30 AM
12:30 PM
*6:50 PM**

**Saturday,
March 3
1:10 AM
*7:10 AM
1:20 PM
*7:40 PM**

**Sunday,
March 4
1:55 AM
*8:00 AM
2:10 PM
*8:25 PM**

**Monday,
March 5
2:40 AM
*8:45 AM
2:55 PM
*9:20 PM**

**Tuesday,
March 6
3:30 AM
*9:30 AM
3:45 PM
*10:00 PM**

**Wednesday,
March 7
4:20 AM
*10:20 AM
4:30 PM
*10:45 PM**

**Thursday,
March 8
5:20 AM
*11:20 AM
5:30 PM
*11:30 PM**

**Friday,
March 9
5:50 AM
*12:10 PM
6:20 PM**

FLORIDA ORGANIC GROWERS AND GREEN INDUSTRIES INSTITUTE PRESENT “USDA Organic Certification” Workshop April 23 AT GREEN INDUSTRIES IN MONTICELLO

Florida Organic Growers (FOG) and North Florida Community College's Green Industries Institute will present a free workshop about the process of becoming USDA Certified Organic on Monday, April 23 at Green Industries Institute in Monticello, Fla. The workshop begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 2 p.m., and is designed for current and prospective farmers, as well as service providers who are interested in learning and sharing about the organic certification process.

"Becoming USDA Certified Organic can seem intimidating with the paperwork and inspections," said Claire Mitchell, Sustainable Agriculture Programs Manager at Green Industries. "However, the presenters from FOG will walk participants through the process of becoming certified to make it all more manageable, and then we'll take a look outside at the Green Industries growing space to see what organic farming really looks like."

FOG Executive Director Marty Mesh and FOG Project Coordinator Jose Perez will lead an in-depth presentation that will touch on the basics and critical parts of the organic regulations, the organic certification process, how to prepare applications and how prepare for an organic inspection. That will be followed by a farmer panel featuring currently certified organic farmers, and finally an interactive tour of the Green Industries Institute by Claire Mitchell. During the free, working lunch, the workshop will also include some time to discuss miscellaneous topics relevant to growers in the region.

Registration forms can be printed out from the Green Industries website at nfcc.edu/green-industries. Mail completed registration forms to P.O. Box 12311, Gainesville, FL 32604, or fax to (352)377-8363. For more information about FOG and the workshop, call (352) 377-6355 or e-mail jose@foginfo.org. For questions concerning Green Industries, call (850) 973-1702 or email mitchellc@nfcc.edu.



Green Industries Institute | 2729 W Washington St | Monticello, FL

April 23, 2012 | 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Designed for current and prospective farmers, service providers and extension agents

- In-depth and practical presentation on the organic certification process
- Farmer panel featuring currently certified organic farmers
- Interactive tour of the Green Industries Institute in Monticello, FL
- Discussion of topics relevant to growers in the region

Space is limited, advance registration is required.

FOG: www.foginfo.org | 352.377.6355 | jose@foginfo.org

GI: www.nfcc.edu/green-industries | 850.973.1702 | mitchellc@nfcc.edu



NFCC OFFERS TWO-DAY SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY GARDENING COURSE IN MARCH

**Start Or Expand A Community Garden At Your
School, Non-Profit, Church Or Neighborhood Group**

North Florida Community College's Green Industries Institute in Monticello is offering a Sustainable Community Gardening Coordinator Training workshop in March. The two-day course, open to individuals representing schools, non-profits, churches, and neighborhood groups looking to start or expand a community garden, will be held Saturday, March 3 and Saturday, March 10 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. in Monticello. The workshop will cover organizing a core garden group, using the garden as community outreach, garden planning and garden maintenance.

Students will learn to plant an organic vegetable garden and organize their communities to care for its success. Course topics include organizing from within by creating a strong core group, connecting with the community with garden outreach, designing and planting a productive garden with garden planning, and how to keep your garden vibrant and healthy through garden maintenance.

The two-day intensive course is one of many ways NFCC's Green Industries Institute is helping promote sustainable programs in our local communities.

"Community gardening is a phenomenon that is catching on all over the country," said Claire Mitchell, course instruc-

tor and NFCC Sustainable Agriculture Programs Manager for Green Industries Institute. "Even the City of Tallahassee has recently developed an application process for using City land for community gardens. This course will be a way to train leaders to create their own productive gardens in Tallahassee and other areas in North Florida, and develop programs to connect their organization's garden to the wider community."

Course instructor Claire Mitchell is from Tallahassee, and is a graduate of the University of Florida. Upon graduating, Mitchell moved to Chicago where she spent three years working with the Chicago Botanic Garden's program Green Youth Farm, growing vegetables inner city middle and high school students at urban market gardens. She is a graduate of Windy City Harvest, a nine month sustainable urban gardening training course, and while in Chicago she started Roots and Rays Community Garden on an abandoned lot in the

Pilsen neighborhood. She currently lives in Tallahassee, where in addition to her role as the Sustainable Agriculture Programs Manager at NFCC's Green Industries Institute, she also volunteers with Second Harvest Food Bank, in partnership with the Greater Frenchtown Revitalization Council and the YMCA Minority Achievers Program.

"Gardening with a group is hard work, but with the right tools community gardening can be very rewarding," Mitchell said. "The more people in the North Florida region who are exposed to this knowledge, the more we can grow as a sustainable community which cares about good, healthy food."

If you are or if your organization is interested in more information or enrolling in the upcoming Sustainable Community Gardening Coordinator Training workshop, contact instructor Claire Mitchell at mitchellc@nfcc.edu, visit www.nfcc.edu/green-industries or call (850) 973-1702.