

All Star game

Body & More

Special supplement inside



A MINORITY VIEW
SCHOOLS OF EDUCATION

By Walter Williams

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The Jasper News

Today's Weather

High 81° F



Precip: 10%

Cloudy skies early, followed by partial clearing. Near record high temperatures. High 81F. Winds S at 10 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 10%. For up to the minute weather go to www.nflaonline.com.

141ST YEAR, NUMBER 7

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2012

2 SECTIONS 22 PAGES

50¢



From left: Denise Wofford, administrative assistant.; Martha Butler, superintendent; board members Damon Deas, Gary Godwin, Sammy McCoy, Jeanie Daniels & Johnny Bullard; James Willingham Jr., board attorney. - Photo: Joyce Marie Taylor

SHE will close if CHE doesn't make the grade

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gafnews.com

The Hamilton County School Board voted 3-2 Tuesday night to move students from South Hamilton Elementary (SHE) to Central Hamilton Elementary (CHE) if CHE fails to exit intervene status at the end of this school year.

CHE is in intervene status by the Florida Department of Education (DOE) for receiving a failing grade of F two years in a row. The school must receive a C grade (at least 435 points) this year to exit intervene status. Hamilton County Superintendent of Schools Martha Butler must submit an intervention plan to the DOE by Feb. 1.

At last week's town hall meeting Butler announced she would be making a recommendation to the board to move students from South to Central if Central fails to exit intervene status, which was a complete reversal of her previous recommendation on Oct. 24 to do

SEE MEASURE, PAGE 2A

Jasper teen dies in Alachua County crash

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gafnews.com

A Jasper teen died from injuries she sustained in a vehicle crash in Alachua County Wednesday afternoon, Jan. 18, the Florida Highway Patrol reported. Chelsea Morgan, 19, Jasper, died at the scene of a single vehicle crash on I-75 around 3:30 p.m. after she lost control of her 2002 Jeep Liberty following a

SEE TEEN, PAGE 2A

How we fared regionally

Columbia	48th
Hamilton	65th
Lafayette	31st
Madison	67th
Suwannee	55th

School district ranked 65th of 67 in state

New list based on FCAT scores

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gafnews.com

Hamilton County School District ranked 65 out of all 67 school districts in the state, according to data released Monday by the Florida Department of Education (DOE).

SEE SCHOOL, PAGE 2A

PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY

Early voting ends Saturday, Jan. 28

By Joyce Marie Taylor

Early voting for the presidential preference primary election began last Saturday, Jan. 21 and it will run through Jan. 28 for all registered republicans.

If you miss out on early voting you have one final chance to place your vote at the polls on Jan. 31.

The primary election will be held Aug. 14, with early voting slated for Aug. 4 through Aug. 11. The general election on Nov. 6 will decide who will be president of the United States. Barack Obama (D) currently holds the position.

For more information you can visit www.hamiltonvotes.com or the Division of Elections website at www.election.dos.state.fl.us.

County gets money back from insurance carrier

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gafnews.com

The Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners received a \$15,982 check from the Florida League of Cities Jan. 3.

The check is for a return of premium for funds not used during the year.

Hamilton County carries property insurance with the FLC insurance program, which is a non-profit, self-insured trust. Its board of directors consists of local elected officials and there are no stockholders. The members own the program.

SEE COUNTY, PAGE 2A



Randy Ogburn, from left, Ronny Morgan, Harry "Buster" Oxendine, Tom Conley-FLC, Josh Smith and Lewis Vaughn. - Photo: Joyce Marie Taylor

COUNTY COMMISSION

Resolution adopted to counteract legislative bill

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gafnews.com

The Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners adopted a resolution on Jan. 17 to counteract a fast-moving bill in the Florida Legislature that aims to take lo-

SEE RESOLUTION, PAGE 2A

Local man arrested for lewd and lascivious acts



Donald Waters

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gafnews.com

A Jasper man has been arrested for lewd and lascivious exhibition and indecent exposure, the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office reported.

Donald Everett Waters, 45, 3941 SW 90

Blvd., Jasper, was arrested on Sunday, Jan. 22 after authorities received a call stating that Waters had engaged in certain acts. One victim is 14 years of age, reports state.

Waters was arrested and booked into the Hamilton County jail on

charges of lewd or lascivious exhibition not involving physical or sexual contact in the presence of a victim under age 16, and on a charge of indecent exposure. Waters was being held on \$5,000 bond and was released later that same day, according to HCSO.

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SHE will close if CHE doesn't make the grade

Continued From Page 1A

just the opposite. The public was advised of the town hall meeting, yet only two citizens spoke up with questions or concerns at that time.

At the board meeting Tuesday night, however, hundreds turned out and loudly voiced objections from the audience. Four White Springs residents were the only ones who approached the podium to speak to the board; Vice Mayor Walter McKenzie, Town Manager Robert Townsend and two concerned parents, Katrina Dye and Sonny Dye.

McKenzie spoke on behalf of White Springs Mayor Helen Miller, who could not attend because she was in Tallahassee lobbying on behalf of Hamilton County.

"The bottom line on this issue is not really economics," McKenzie began. "The bottom line is being successful. If we save money and we still fail, it will still be a failure, whether we save money or not."

McKenzie rhetorically asked the board if it was fair, ethical or just to punish the community of an A school with the

failure of an F school located in another town.

"Of course, it's not," he told the board.

By closing SHE, McKenzie said it would tear down a lot of programs the town of White Springs has built; programs that were instituted with little help from the school board, like the H.O.P.E. After School Program and the Summer Enrichment Program, as well as the H.O.P.E Fuel Program, which McKenzie said are a large part of the reason why SHE received an A grade last year.

McKenzie said the people in White Springs who are involved in keeping these programs going will not be able to travel to Jasper to continue them.

"We know how to build things in White Springs," McKenzie pleaded. "Please don't tear them down."

Currently 12 students from Suwannee and Columbia counties attend SHE and McKenzie said they will go back to those counties if SHE closes. They won't attend CHE.

"If you want to be successful, you don't close down your successful

schools and you don't alienate your successful communities," said McKenzie in closing.

Katrina Dye spoke next and told the board she has two children who attend SHE and if they have to attend CHE they will have to get up 35 minutes earlier in order to make it to school on time. Right now, she said they get up at 5:30 a.m. She said she recently moved to White Springs from Virginia and has seen a change for the better in them since they have been attending SHE.

Next up to the podium was Sonny Dye, who stated he has been a member of the White Springs community since 1996. He too begged the board to keep SHE open.

Robert Townsend addressed the board from an administrative viewpoint, stating that there was never a meeting between the school board and the city council of White Springs to discuss the closure, which he said is required in the comprehensive plan with the school board, the county and the city.

The second issue Townsend brought up was FTE funds the

school board receives for busing students. He said that after speaking with many White Springs parents he learned they won't be shipping their kids to Jasper which will lessen the FTE funds the school board will receive.

Butler then addressed the audience and said, "I understand how you feel, I do. The reason we're here tonight is because I do have a deadline, Mr. Townsend, and it is Feb. 1."

FCAT scores, Butler said, she doesn't anticipate getting until the end of June, which only leaves five or six weeks to make student/school adjustments if CHE fails to exit intervene status.

"I'll tell you right up front, I believe in Central Hamilton Elementary and I believe that they'll make 435, and there's a group of dedicated people over here who are just like the people at South and North and the high school ... the best people you could ever want to put children in their hands."

Butler reiterated what she said at the town hall meeting that there wouldn't be enough time to do all that needs to be done in order to

move Central students to South. Her safety concern, she said, is that 14 portables would have to be placed outside of SHE, and if inclement weather were to approach they would all have to be moved into the main building.

Another of her concerns was that the school board would have to spend \$352,500 at minimum to adapt South campus to house Central students.

"Those are taxpayer dollars that I am responsible for," said Butler.

If students are moved from South to Central, Butler said they wouldn't have to spend any capital dollars.

"We can save \$521,000 per year if we do this," she said.

After more discussion and personal feelings from three board members were aired on the issue, the board voted 3-2 to accept Butler's recommendation to move South students to Central for the 2012-13 school year if Central fails to successfully exit intervene status. Board members Johnny Bullard and Gary Godwin were the two who voted against the recommendation.

Jasper teen dies in Alachua County crash

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tire blowout, according to FHP.

Morgan was traveling northbound in the center lane of I-75 near mile marker 388 in Alachua County when the right rear tire blew out. Morgan was unable to maintain control of the vehicle and it veered off the wet roadway and onto the east grassy shoulder while rotating clockwise. The Jeep proceeded through a ditch and the front of the vehicle struck a tree line. The driver's side door then struck another tree as it traveled through the tree line and came to final rest facing west on the grassy shoulder, reports state.

Morgan, who was not wearing a seatbelt, sustained fatal injuries and was pronounced deceased at the scene by Alachua County Fire/Rescue, according to FHP.

A right front passenger in the Jeep, Dya-mond Asbury, 18, Miami, sustained serious injuries and was transported to Shands UF.

Asbury was wearing a seatbelt, FHP reported.

Morgan was a sophomore at Santa Fe Community College and a former member of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office Explorers. A moment of silence was given in her memory at a meeting of the Hamilton County Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Coalition Partnership on Monday, Jan. 23 by Sergeant Emily Lumpkin of HCSO.

School district ranked 65th of 67 in state

Continued From Page 1A

This new ranking system is one of the first such initiatives in the country and all eyes are on Florida to see how well the district by district performance reporting measures fare. The DOE states that school district ranking allows parents and taxpayers to compare performance with other districts.

This is the first phase of an initiative that will eventually include a list of all schools in the state ranked by number within the three main school groupings; elementary, middle and high school.

Hamilton County School Superintendent Martha Butler said she's concerned about the message the new rankings may send, especially for the districts at the

bottom end of the scale.

"This list fails to show the growth our district is making, nor does it show that we were sixth in the state in meeting AYP criteria," said Butler.

Education Commissioner Gerard Robinson touted Florida as being a national leader when it comes to measuring the success of our schools.

"The Florida Department of Education developed the first-ever school grading program in 1999, and since then we have provided our model to other states that wish to replicate our exceptional accountability system," said Robinson.

Governor Rick Scott said, "I applaud Commissioner Robinson on these rankings. We all wish to ensure students have the opportunity to

get a good education that will prepare them for a good job."

The numerical ranking is based on each district's total points derived from FCAT scores. Districts are awarded one point for each percent of students in the district who were enrolled for the full year

who score on grade level or higher on the FCAT and make annual learning gains (800 possible points). The total is the sum of the percent of students scoring at Level 3 or higher for FCAT Reading, Mathematics, and Science; scoring at Level 4 or higher on the FCAT Writing essay; the

percent of students who made learning gains in reading and mathematics; and for the percent of the lowest 25 percent of students who made learning gains in reading and mathematics.

More information can be found at the DOE website at www.fldoe.org.

County gets money back from insurance carrier

Continued From Page 1A

The Florida League of Cities is a united voice for Florida's municipal governments and its goals are to serve the needs of Florida's governments and promote local self-government.

Conley stated that in

Florida, a large part of property insurance premiums is designated for hurricane damage insurance, and North Central Florida has not been affected by those storms in several years.

If at the end of the year there is money left over in the insurance program, he said, it is

given back to the members in the form of a check for return of premium.

This is the fourth year in a row that the property insurance members have received these funds, mainly due to the fact there were no hurricanes nor damage from them.

Resolution adopted to counteract legislative bill

Continued From Page 1A

cal control away from regional workforce boards.

Sheryl Rehberg, executive director of the North Florida Workforce Board, spoke to commissioners about the Workforce Development Board Accountability Act being proposed by the Legislature that would take effect July 1, 2012. Rehberg will be speaking to all six of the boards in the regional consortium.

Rehberg began by stating that Governor Rick Scott wants to limit the number of members of the regional workforce boards in the state.

"I don't know that it would affect our local workforce board because ours is probably one of the smaller ones in the state," she said.

A few amendments have been added to the bill, one of which removes the governor's approval of the chair and executive directors, yet maintains that they will serve at the pleasure of

the governor. One concern of workforce board members is that the selections of these positions could be politicized, Rehberg said.

A single statewide workforce system brand has also been requested by the governor and it is to be put in place by Nov. 1.

Other positive aspects, Rehberg said, is that workforce participants will be covered by state workers' compensation, and the wages they receive from the state do not qualify for unemployment compensation.

Rehberg told the board, "I can offer you an assurance that nobody on our board and nobody on staff is afraid of accountability. That's not anything new for us. We've always had to be accountable for every dime we spend."

Rehberg suggested the board adopt a resolution that county commissioners support actions which promote transparency of financial transactions and encour-

age integrity, efficacy and accountability of the workforce system, while urging the Legislature to address concerns through the state and federal process currently in place, without substituting state governance for local governance.

Part two of the resolution, she said, is that the board would support the retention of local elected officials and regional workforce board authority to select their board chair and their chief executive officer, as well as to determine the size of local boards, the removal of board members, and budget approval which authorities have allowed local regions to be effective and nimble in meeting the needs of the local economy.

"Nobody knows the local economy better than the local people and that's the way this workforce system in Florida is set up, so that we can tailor our workforce services to meet the workforce needs in this rural area and not have to mir-

ror something that's going on in Jacksonville or Tampa or Miami," said Rehberg.

Someone in the audience stated that this accountability act was "an over-reaction by the governor to something that happened in Orlando and he is attempting to take over control from the local counties and give it to Tallahassee.

"That's the opposite of the way it ought to be," he said.

The board voted and unanimously approved adopting the resolution.

The language in the original bill minus the amendments is lengthy as noted below:

*An act relating to regional workforce boards providing a short title; amending s. 445.007, F.S. authorizing the chief elected official in the area of a regional workforce board to appoint representatives to the board if authorized by the Governor; requiring members and the executive director of a regional workforce board to

make financial disclosures;

*Providing that the selection of the chair of a regional workforce board is subject to the approval of the Governor;

*Providing that members of a regional workforce board serve at the pleasure of the Governor;

*Requiring that staff of the Department of Economic Opportunity, under the direction of Workforce Florida, Inc., assign staff to review the performance of regional workforce boards;

*Reinstating expired provisions that restrict the ability of a regional workforce board to use state or federal funds for meals, food, or beverages and that prohibit a board from using state or federal funds for entertainment costs or recreational activities for board members or employees;

*Reinstating expired provisions that limit the ability of a regional workforce board to enter

into contracts with a member, employee, or relative of a member or employee of the board;

*Requiring a regional workforce board to develop an annual budget, subject to the approval of the chief elected official of the area;

*Requiring the regional workforce board to submit its budget for review to Workforce Florida, Inc.;

*Making technical and grammatical changes; amending s. 445.009, F.S.; deleting the expiration of a provision relating to the determination of the wages of a participant in an adult or youth work experience activity;

*Making technical and grammatical changes; requiring Workforce Florida, Inc., to evaluate the means to establish a single, statewide-workforce system brand and to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor by a specified date;

*Providing an effective date.



Life in WHITE SPRINGS

By Walter McKenzie

lifeinwhitesprings@gmail.com

What if I told you that 400 tourists were coming to town this weekend? Considering that the official population of White Springs is only 842, I would hope that you would be impressed. What if I told you that the Telford Hotel was full to capacity last Saturday because of all the folks that came to enjoy a stellar, international musical performance? If I were to tell you these things, you might think that I was exaggerating, that this is White Springs and things like that don't happen here, but you would be wrong. People do come here in significant numbers if there is something significant and unique to draw them here. Larger surrounding towns can't match us when it comes to many of the unique treasures we have to offer the perceptive visitor. This is what the award winning Canadian folk singer John Wort Hannam told the capacity audience at the Telford Hotel last Saturday night. "I have a confession to make. When my fiddler and I came into White Springs this afternoon, we drove around to see the town, which took all of about two minutes! So I said to my fiddler, 'Well, this one is going to be a real dud, and he heartily agreed.'" Then John looked out at the Telford crowd

and he said, "I was totally wrong! Not only are you a big audience, you are the best audience we have had during our 2 week Florida tour." And then in a loud, astounded tone of voice he asked, "Where on earth did you all come from?!" He told me later that he was going back to the musical community in Canada to sing the praises of his experience in White Springs. We can be proud that we are a unique, quality destination and experience.

Now, back to the four hundred tourists. They are coming to town this Saturday and they have had an advance guard in town for days preparing for their event. The event is "The Iddaride", an off road bicycle endurance ride. Most of these folks come from towns and cities that have active cyclist organizations so why don't they host this event in their own home towns? The answer is a simple one. When it comes to bicycling roads and trails and event facilities, White Springs and the Stephen Foster are simply the best! Once again, we are a unique, quality destination and experience.

Please be mindful and respectful of these cyclists as they ride briefly on or streets and highways to travel to and from the fifty miles of wonderful off road bicycling and hiking trails that surround White Springs. The Suwannee Bicycle Association maintains these trails and sponsors this event. They are the same folks who donate bicycles and helmets to our kids every year and they are helping to build a training program and track for them too. Remember to give them a friendly wave and at least three feet of room when you pass them. Your friendly attitude will be contagious and will help to compensate for the unfortunate occasional encounters with a less than friendly motorist that all cyclists have experienced, mostly in bigger cities.

I can't help but comment on the renewed possibility that our school board superintendent is apparently going to once again recommend closing South Hamilton Elementary, an "A" school, and bus the students more than twenty miles to Central Hamilton Elementary in Jasper, as the basis for her strategy to "save" Central Hamilton Elementary, an "F" school in its second year of intervene status, if CHE fails again and does not exit their failing status at the end of this school year. Is this just, or fair, or ethical to punish the town of an "A" school for the failure of an "F" school in another town? Of course not! Not only will they close down our school, they will effectively tear down many of the HOPE (Helping Our People Excel) programs that we, the citizens of White Springs, have built. The effort to create these programs got little or no assistance from the School Board, yet they are a large part of the reason the White Springs school gets an A while others fail. These programs are;

HOPE Office of Adult and Community Education (needed because too many of our residents did not graduate from Hamilton County High School)

HOPE Summer Enrichment Program (to provide recreation and education for students during the summer, and to provide meals and adult supervision)

HOPE After School Program (to provide homework help, internet access, and mentoring)

HOPE Fuel Bank (free wood for home heating. It's hard to study when you are cold)

HOPE Food Bank (since over 80% of our children are on the Free/Reduced Lunch program, we realized that meals for children and their families was essential)

I say this to the School Board. Don't tear down these programs by closing our school. You will never rebuild them! Your efforts will simply result in a bigger and more astounding failure than the failure you already have demonstrated to promote community participation and provide quality education.

We know how to build things that work in White Springs! I hope to see you out and about, working to preserve and protect your town and the quality of your life in White Springs.

Walter McKenzie

lifeinwhitesprings@gmail.com

303-269-0056

UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA
IFAS Extension

IFAS Extension
Hamilton County

1143 US Hwy 41 NW
Jasper, FL 32052
386-792-1276
386-792-6446 Fax

January 17, 2012

Dear Teacher,

This year, 2012, Hamilton County 4-H is holding a Father Daughter Valentine's Day Dance open to all Hamilton County Residents. This dance will be on Saturday, February 11th, 2012, 7PM until 9PM at the Jasper Women's Club. Dads, grandfathers, uncles can bring their daughters, granddaughters, or nieces to enjoy an evening that will make memories that last forever. 4-H Clubs are using this event as a way to raise monies for the Hamilton County Relay for Life. We would like for you to please take a moment and announce this event to your classroom. Youth are an asset to our community and by providing bonding experiences with their parents and other adults, we hope to provide opportunity for strengthening morals and community involvement of our youth! Thanks so much for your involvement in the lives of our youth!

Sincerely,



Heather M. Futch

Heather M. Futch
4-H/FCS Agent
Hamilton County
UF/IFAS Extension

Healthy Living

~Beth Harris, CSCS, CHFS
www.balanceurboddy.net

Living with pain

When is the last time you medicated yourself for pain? With an estimated 50 million Americans suffering from chronic pain it's easy to see why pain medication abuse is becoming a growing epidemic in the U.S. In 2009 government statistics revealed pain medication abuse had risen to an average of 5 million people yearly. Even more alarming these statistics for the first time seem to be crossing all societal groups. Roughly 15,000 die a year from prescription pain medication abuse, says the CDC, averaging nearly 40 people daily. Deaths now exceed heroin and cocaine overdose deaths combined. Coupled with our nations Obesity epidemic on the rise, we may not see a decrease in the near future.

Pain is unpleasant, so it stands to reason we consciously and unconsciously do our best to avoid it. Our bodies unconscious mechanism of avoidance, or development of compensatory patterns, although abnormal or distorted; feel better. As long as this distorted pattern of movement feels better, our body will continue to operate within them. Now locked into a compensatory pattern, unbalanced motion prevails creating postural changes and causing muscles, ligaments, tendons, and nerves to move and operate differently.

Take a folded piece of paper for example, once folded the paper continuously gravitates towards the original fold, as does our body. Muscles become chronically tight while others weaken. Ligaments and tendons stretch to accommodate imbalanced body movement; the nervous system reflexively follows these disturbed patterns of movement. Once trapped within a compensatory pattern our bodies will continuously try moving into that pattern unless it is broken,

creating more problems and sources of pain along the way. This process is known as the pain cycle.

Proper nutrition plays an important role in minimizing inflammatory responses, reinforcing mechanisms responsible for pain. Omega-3 fatty acids, found in oily fish like salmon and mackerel, are considered to play a key role in the fight against chronic inflammation. Also consume fresh fruits and veggies, low fat anti-inflammatory protein sources such as fish, lean poultry, and seafood; or clean organic sources of whey protein. Avoid junk foods, processed foods, refined flours, sugars, bread and pasta.

Additionally, individual chemistry plays a significant role. If you're suffering from chronic pain consider a diet overhaul. Try keeping a diet journal, introduce foods slowly, paying careful attention to foods that trigger weight gain; avoid salty foods, and drink plenty of water (at least 64oz/daily).

Our bodies have very powerful healing capabilities and the potential return to a state of balance without pain. Our duty lies within discovering how to initiate these processes. Consider contacting a trusted Chiropractor and Health and Fitness Professional, who working in concert with your General Practitioner, can identify pain sources and follow the necessary steps to initiate healing. You do not have to turn to pain medication for relief. Try the best kind of relief, healing.

Although the world is full of suffering, it's also full of overcoming it.
~Helen Keller



VOTE 2012

Presidential Preference Primary

JANUARY 31, 2012

EARLY VOTING starts Saturday, January 21st and ends Saturday, January 28th. Early Voting hours are 8:30 am to 5:00 pm in the Supervisor of Elections Office, located in the Courthouse Annex. (Note: we will be open on Sunday, January 22nd from 1 pm to 6 pm.)

You may request an absentee ballot to be mailed to your home by calling our office at 386-792-1426 or go to our website at hamiltonvotes.com.

As a reminder of Florida Law: FL is a Closed Primary State. Which means voters may only vote for candidates in the party that they are registered. Since there is only one Democratic candidate, no minor party candidates and no amendments, the PPP Election is open to registered Republicans ONLY.

For more info go to hamiltonvotes.com

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OPINION

Schools of education

Larry Sand's article "No Wonder Johnny (Still) Can't Read" -- written for The John William Pope Center for Higher Education Policy, based in Raleigh, N.C. -- blames schools of education for the decline in America's education. Education professors drum into students that they should not "drill and kill" or be the "sage on the stage" but instead be the "guide on the side" who "facilitates student discovery." This kind of harebrained thinking, coupled with multicultural nonsense, explains today's education. During his teacher education, Sand says, "teachers-to-be were forced to learn about this ethnic group, that impoverished group, this sexually anomalous group, that under-represented group, etc. -- all under the rubric of 'Culturally Responsive Education.'"

Education majors are woefully lacking in academic skills. Here are some sample test questions for you to answer. Question 1: Which of the following is equal to a quarter-million? a) 40,000, b) 250,000, c) 2,500,000, d) 1/4,000,000 or e) 4/1,000,000. Question 2: Martin Luther King Jr. (insert the correct choice) for the poor of all

aces. a) spoke out passionately, b) spoke out passionately, c) did spoke out passionately, d) had spoken out passionately.

Question 3: What would you do if your student sprained an ankle? a) Put a Band-Aid on it, b) Ice it or c) Rinse it with water.

Guess whether these questions were on a sixth-grade, ninth-grade or 12th-grade test. I bet the average reader would guess that it's a sixth-grade test. Wrong. How about ninth-grade? Wrong again. You say, "OK, Williams, so they're 12th-grade test questions!" Still wrong. According to a Heartland Institute-published School Reform News (September 2001) article titled "Who Tells Teachers They Can Teach?", those test questions came from prospective teacher tests. The first two questions are samples from the Praxis I test for teachers, and the third is from the

1999 teacher certification test in Illinois. According to the Chicago Sun-Times (9/6/01), 5,243 Illinois teachers failed their teacher cer-

tification tests. The Chicago Sun-Times also reported, "One teacher failed 24 of 25 teacher tests -- including 11 of 12 Basic Skills tests and all 12 tests on teaching learning-disabled chil-

dren." Yet that teacher was assigned to teach learning-disabled children in Chicago. Departments of education have solved the problem of teacher test failure. According to a New York Post story (11/14/11) titled "City teacher tests turn into E-ZPass," more than 99 percent of teachers pass.

Textbooks used in schools of education advocate sheer nonsense. A passage in Enid Lee et al.'s "Beyond Heroes and Holidays" reads: "We cannot afford to become so bogged down in grammar and spelling that we forget the whole story. ... The onslaught of antihuman practices that this nation and other nations are facing today: racism, and sexism, and the greed for money and human labor that disguises itself as 'globalization.'" Marilyn Burns' text "About Teaching Mathematics" reads, "There is no place for requiring students to practice tedious calculations that are more efficiently and accurately done by using calculators." "New Designs

for Teaching and Learning," by Dennis Adams and Mary Hamm, says: "Content knowledge is not seen to be as important as possessing teaching skills and knowledge about the students being taught. ... Successful teachers understand the outside context of community, personal abilities, and feelings, while they establish an inside context or environment conducive to learning." That means it's no problem if a teacher can't figure out that a quarter-million is the same as 250,000. Harvey Daniels and Marilyn Bizar's text "Methods that Matter" reads, "Students can no longer be viewed as cognitive living rooms into which the furniture of knowledge is moved in and arranged by teachers, and teachers cannot invariably act as subject-matter experts." The authors add, "The main use of standardized tests in America is to justify the distribution of certain goodies to certain people."

Schools of education represent the academic slums of most any college. American education can benefit from slum removal.

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University. To find out more about Walter E. Williams and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

The Jasper News

Published weekly every Thursday. USPS #755-980
Office located at 105 NE 2nd Avenue,
Bank of America, Jasper, FL 32052
Phone (386) 792-2487 FAX (386) 792-3009
E-mail address: jaspernews1@windstream.net

Myra ReganPublisher
Jeff WatersEditor
Joyce Marie TaylorReporter
Brenda DemaraisSales Representative

Periodicals postage paid at Jasper, FL.
Annual subscription rate is \$17 in county,
\$25 out of county and out of state.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
The Jasper News, 105 NE 2nd Ave., Jasper, FL 32052

Letter to the editor and Article Policy

Letters to the editor and news articles can be mailed, FAXed or dropped off at the news office located in the Bank of America Building, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. till 12 noon.

Letters to the Editor should be typed, double-spaced if possible, brief and to the point, approximately 150 to 200 words or less. Not all letters are published. **To be considered for publication Letters to the Editor must be signed, include the writer's address and phone number, and in the Jasper News' office on Friday before noon.**

News Releases, 400 or less words, should be typed, double-spaced if possible, brief and to the point. Not all articles are published.

Letters and articles may be edited to fit available space. Well written letters/articles require less editing.

To mail your letter/article, send it to: The Jasper News, 105 NE 2nd Ave., Jasper, FL 32052 or FAX it to: 386-792-3009.

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BABE RUTH BASEBALL & SOFTBALL 2012

Sign-up for Hamilton County's Babe Ruth 2012 spring season is underway and will end on February 29th. If you are interested in playing this year you can sign-up at the Hamilton County Recreation center between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday thru Friday.



A
MINORITY
VIEW
BY WALTER WILLIAMS

FSASE Scholarship Applications

Hamilton County, FL-Supervisor of Elections Laura Dees, is now accepting applications for the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections (FSASE) Scholarship. Applications and guidelines can be accessed online at www.hamiltonvotes.com, by selecting the FSASE Scholarship Application link on our

homepage or by contacting the office at 386-792-1426. Applicants must be a registered voter, completed junior college/undergraduate work and be enrolled or accepted as a full-time student in a Florida University. Applications are due in the Hamilton County Supervisor's office by March 19, 2012. Supervisor

Dees will personally interview applicants; she will then select one finalist from Hamilton County. That application will be sent to the FSASE Scholarship Committee to be considered. Application guidelines are set by the FSASE Committee not the local Supervisor of Elections office.

Suwannee River Regional Library system now offers digital audiobooks and eBooks

The Suwannee River Regional Library system has expanded its services with digital audiobooks and eBooks available to download from the library's website. Library card holders can check out and download digital media anytime, anywhere by visiting the library's online catalog at www.neflin.org/srll.

Users may browse the library's website, check out with a valid

library card, and download to PC, Mac®, and many other ereaders and mobile devices. Users will need to install free software. For audiobooks: OverDrive® Media Console™. To read eBooks, users will need Adobe® Digital Editions. Titles can be enjoyed immediately or transferred to a variety of devices, including iPod®, Sony® Reader™, and many others.

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This new service, powered by OverDrive, is free for patrons with their library card. To get started downloading audiobooks and eBooks, visit the library's online catalog @ www.neflin.org/srll.

Important public meeting for Hamilton County farmers and ranchers

USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) today announced that Tim Manning, State Executive Director for Florida FSA and members of his management team have scheduled a public meeting in Hamilton County February 2, 2012 at 10:00am at the Hamil-

ton County Courthouse Annex Auditorium located at 1153 US HWY 41 NW Jasper, FL 32052.

FSA's public meeting will be the only one held to take public comment on USDA's proposed office consolidation plan in which the Hamilton County FSA office is being considered for consolidation. Producers can also provide written comment by emailing

mark.cotrell@fl.usda.gov or sending written comment to USDA Farm Service Agency, P.O. Box 141030 Gainesville, FL 32614-1030 no later than February 13, 2012.

All public comments will be taken into full consideration prior to development or implementation of a final consolidation plan.

For more information, contact Florida Farm Service Agency at 352-379-4500.

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Obituary



Wyonas Pennington Miller
Feb. 14, 1935 - Jan. 3, 2012

Wyonas Pennington Miller, age 76, of Phoenix, Arizona, died peacefully Jan. 3, 2012. Wyonas was born on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, 1935 in the county of Sarasota, Florida to Lena and Foy Pennington. In 1953 she graduated as the valedictorian of Jasper High School in Jasper, Florida. After wedding James Robert Miller ("Bobby") the couple had two children, Roberta Neil ("Neil") and James Foy ("Jim"). In 1960 the young family moved to Phoenix, Arizona.

Wyonas was a dedicated, caring mother and wife, but she found her true calling as an elementary school teacher. She graduated magna cum laude from Arizona State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Education in 1974 and, while teaching, obtained her Master of Arts in Education in 1977. Over a period of 23 years she taught at the William C. Jack and Horizon schools in the Glendale Elementary School District where she worked as a special education and 2nd grade teacher. After retiring from the public school system, Wyonas went back to work as the Special Education Director for the Challenge Charter School from 1997 to 2011. Wyonas was an inspired and talented teacher who made a difference in the lives of countless children. She had an innate ability to assess and identify the particular needs of each child and implement an individualized curriculum to allow the child to succeed in school. Because of this special gift, she gave numerous children an opportunity to succeed that they would not otherwise have had.

Wyonas loved to travel; she was always ready to get up and go. When her children were young she and her family camped, hiked and fished throughout Arizona and the southwest. Later, she and her husband Bobby traveled the world, going to England, Scotland, Ireland, France, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Poland, Russia, Greece and Egypt. After the death of her husband in 2008, she continued to travel with her sisters, Patricia and Caroline, and her children, Jim and Neil. They went to China, Czechoslovakia, France, Italy, Spain, England, and Germany and traveled throughout the United States together. As recently as October of 2010 she hiked Chaco Canyon with her children, and in May of 2011 she visited England with her daughter. Wyonas loved the outdoors, theater, art, literature, animals, children and her family and friends. She took up quilting as a hobby later on in life and was a member of the Horizon Quilt Group. Her love of quilting is reflected in the many beautiful quilted masterpieces

she left behind. She had a zest for life, a kindness and gentleness that touched everyone who knew her. Her passing leaves a void in the lives of her family and friends. Words cannot express how greatly she will be missed.

Wyonas is preceded in death by her beloved husband of 55 years, James Robert Miller. She is survived by her daughter, Roberta Neil Miller (Thomas Zaworski), her son, James Foy Miller (Denise Valverde), her granddaughter, Jamie Gardner, her cherished sisters, Caroline Wall and Patricia Kahl, and many nieces and nephews. A private memorial service will be held at a later date for immediate family members only. If you wish to honor the legacy of Wyonas with a donation, please give to your local public school.

Odis Walter Wetherington
Jan. 22, 2012

Odis Walter Wetherington, age 77, of Jasper, Fla. passed away at his home on Sunday, Jan. 22, 2012 following a brief illness. Odis was the son of the late P.O. and Lorena Wetherington and was a lifetime resident of Hamilton County. He served in the United States Army and Army Reserves. Following his retirement from the Hamilton County Road Department Odis worked as a hunting guide for Tiger Creek Hunting Club and Bienville Plantation. As long as his health permitted, he was an active member of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Posse. He enjoyed farming, riding and training quarter horses in his spare time. Odis was a member of Sunrise Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife of 51 years, Linda Lee Wetherington; daughters, Sandy Beal (Damon), Lake Park, Ga., Barbara Linder (Leroy), Lake City, Fla., Melissa Simpson (Rodger), Red Boiling Springs, Tenn., Ashley Turnage (Johnny), Live Oak, Fla., Margaret "Lulu" Hobby, Lake Park, Ga.; one son, Adam Wetherington (Alivia), Jasper, Fla.; three brothers, Lloyd Wetherington (Sharon), White Springs, Fla., Michael Wetherington, Jennings, Fla., and Curtis Wetherington (Linda), Jennings, Fla.; four sisters, Phyllis Clark, Jasper, Fla., Lawana Ritzmann, Lake City, Fla., Laverne Lee (Donald), Lake City, Fla. and Linda Erixton (Bobby), White Springs, Fla.; sister-in-law, Carol Wetherington, White Springs, Fla.; 10 grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2012 in the chapel of Harry T. Reid Funeral Home with Rev. Gene Speights officiating. Interment will follow in Evergreen Cemetery, Jasper, FL.

The family received friends between the hours of 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 24 at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to Hospice 857 SW Main Blvd Suite 125, Lake City, FL 32025.

Harry T. Reid Funeral Home, Jasper, FL is in charge of arrangements.

Heart Matters A clear conscience

By Angie Land

What kind of terms have you and your conscience been on lately? Any sleepless nights, tossing and turning over questionable behavior, or have you decided to simply dismiss the idea of a clear conscience as overrated? Should a clear conscience even be of concern in the "end-justifies-the-means" mentality of our culture ... or any culture for that matter? In Acts 23:1, the apostle Paul is standing before the Sanhedrin, the highest court of the Jewish nation in New Testament times. In response to the charges brought against him, "Paul looked straight at the Sanhedrin and said, 'My brothers, I have fulfilled my duty to God in all good conscience to this day.'" Why on earth would this be Paul's defense?

In order to answer these questions, the first thing we need is a good working definition of our conscience. What is it exactly? According to the New Testament Lexical Aids, the Greek word for conscience is

"syneidesis" which "denotes the faculty of the mind whose nature it is to bear witness to one's own moral conduct." In other words, when you are pondering over a situation, it is your conscience that casts a vote about the rightness of your behavior. For me this answers at least one of our questions: given that my conscience will be voting on my conduct for the rest of my life, being on good terms is a priority! Since Paul voiced this as his defense, I think he felt the same way.

I am so thankful the Bible includes these words of Paul, because his past had more than a few blemishes, and yet he pronounces his conscience clear. This means it is also possible for anyone without a spotless past to enjoy a clear conscience! Doesn't that include each of us? So how do we trade in the sleepless nights for an affirming vote? First, recognize as a believer that the Holy Spirit plays a critical role in creating and maintaining a clear conscience. It is His job to confirm a clear con-

science (Romans 9:1) and to convict a guilty one (John 16:8). Of course, what we would prefer is to ignore our sin, and often try diligently to do just that, but our conscience is the one part of us that refuses to look the other way.

The second thing we often attempt is to soothe of our conscience by good deeds. If we have wronged someone, instead of admitting the wrong and asking for forgiveness, we try to smooth it over by a nice gesture. According to Hebrews 9:9, gifts and sacrifices are not able to clear the conscience. Even when we don't want to hear it, our conscience brings awareness of what we ought to do to get to the bottom of the issue. The rest is up to us.

With his clear conscience, Paul encourages us in Hebrews 10:22 to "draw near to God." Often, when we feel guilty, we tend to avoid coming into His presence. When our conscience condemns us, what we need most is to come clean before God. He already knows the intent of our



heart, so let's go ahead and get it out in the open. Confess. Ask forgiveness. Ask for instruction if we need to make something right with someone. Then, be assured of God love and forgiveness, and finally get a good nights sleep!

Because Every Heart Matters,
Angie

Heart Matters is a weekly column written by Angie Land, Director of the Family Life Ministries of the Lafayette Baptist Association, where she teaches bible studies, leads marriage and family conferences and offers biblical counseling to individuals, couples and families. Contact Angie with questions or comments at angieland3@windstream.net

Trying to go somewhere, I ended up nowhere

By Rev. James L. Snyder

It was one of those weeks where, if I accomplished anything that delicious slice of information has completely eluded the tiny gray cells floating in my cranium. It is not as if those little gray cells had anything else to do.

As I suffused my weary body into my La-Z-Boy chair, I knew I was tired but I could not figure out what I had done during the week to make me this tired. After all, it did not seem like I had accomplished anything of significance this week. I was trying to do something, of course, but I had absolutely nothing to show for it. What was I trying to do this past week?

A verse of Scripture began haunting me as I thought about this. "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin" (James 4:17). What was I supposed to "doeth" that I did not get around to "doething"?

Of course, there was that funeral I had this past

week. Unfortunately, I opened my book to the wrong page and begin the funeral by saying, "Dearly beloved we are gathered together here to unite these two in holy matrimony."

Holy macaroni! What a difference the wrong page makes. At least I was not officiating at a wedding and said, "Ashes to ashes, and dirt to dirt." Although, to be honest about it, I have had some weddings where I thought that phrase fit.

I was tempted, only for a moment, to query the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage but I feared she would tell me. There is something to say about mystery. Nothing is more mysterious than the feminine side of the marriage equation. Odd isn't it, that the marriage equation is not always even.

As I reflected upon my week past, I duly noted the activities that occupied most of my week. Apart from the funeral, I had several hospital visits to make. As is usually the case, people conspire to

go to the hospital at the same time but never at the same hospital. One even went out of town to go to a hospital.

Other visits were made and other activities attended. Certain deadlines were staring me in the face and I stared right back at them defiantly. I am not sure who won.

Services and Bible studies needed to be prepared for which can take up a lot of time. Then, don't you know it; my truck is always out of gas when I am in a hurry. I suppose I could fill my tank up when it got down to a certain level, but where would the fun be in that? Nothing compares to the adrenaline of being in a hurry and late for an appointment and then running out of gas.

Do not get me wrong here. It is not that I do not enjoy giving my wife a call on the cell phone when stranded along the side of the road. It is the highlight of the stranded experience. Usually, her response to my phone call is what stresses me out.

"What," she declares in that sarcastic tone of hers, "have you run out of gas again?"

It is her theatrical use of the word "again" that I believe could easily earn her an Oscar. I once presented her with an Oscar Meyer wiener, but she did not enjoy the joke. Personally, I thought it was a great joke and I really did not appreciate her reaction. Needless to say, I have not repeated that sin, although temptation is what it is.

I suppose I did do things and accomplished something this past week, but it really does not explain why I am as tired as I am tonight. I can remember there was a time that I did not even know the meaning of tired. I got tired all right; I just did not know the meaning of the word tired.

Then the whole thing dawned on me. It was almost like being hit on the head with an iron skillet by you know whom. The lights flashed. The light-

SEE TRYING, PAGE 6A

Church & Family Go Together

<p>ADVENT CHRISTIAN FIRST ADVENT CHRISTIAN N.W. 15th Avenue Jasper Rev. Wayne Sullivan Sunday Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. 717860-F</p>	<p>BAPTIST (Southern) FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH "Where Friends become Family" 207 N.E. 2nd Street, Jasper 792-2658 Pastor: Roger Hutto Sunday Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m. Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m. Wednesday Supper.....6:00 p.m. Children, Youth & Adult Programs.....6:30 p.m. 717850-F</p>	<p>METHODIST FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 405 Central Ave., Jasper, FL Pastor - Dale Ames Phone - 386-792-1122 Sunday Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study.....4:45 p.m. Choir Practice.....6:00 p.m. Family Night Dinner 3rd Wednesday Clothes Closet 4th Saturday 1-5pm 717823-F</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 204 N.W. 3rd Avenue, Jasper, 792-2258 Pastor: Alexandria Hedrick SUNDAY Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Worship Service.....11:00 a.m. WEDNESDAY Prayer in Fellowship Hall.....9:00 a.m. Choir Practice.....7:00 p.m. 717818-F</p>
<p>BAPTIST (Southern) NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH SR 6 West, 6592 NW 48th St., Jennings, FL 32053 938-5611 Pastor: Jeff Cordero Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship, Youth Happening, RA's, GA's.....6:00 p.m. Wednesday Supper.....6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting, Discipleship class for adults, Youth activities, Children's Choirs.....6:30 p.m. Van pick-up upon request 717856-F</p>	<p>CATHOLIC CHURCH ST. THERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH Three miles north of Jasper U.S. 41 P.O. Box 890, Jasper, FL 32052 Rectory U.S. 90 E., Live Oak, FL (386) 364-1108 Saturday MASS 4:00 p.m. 717846-F</p>	<p>NON-DENOMINATIONAL BURNHAM CHRISTIAN CHURCH 4520 NW CR 146, Jennings, FL 32053 938-1265 Pastor: Johnny Brown Sunday Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Evening Service.....6:00 p.m. Wednesday Kids' Program.....6:15 p.m. 717819-F</p>	<p>CHURCH OF CHRIST CHURCH OF CHRIST N.W. 3rd St., Jasper Bldg.: 792-2277 Sunday Sunday School.....9:30 a.m. Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m. Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening.....6:00 p.m. 717824-F</p>

To list your church on our church directory, please call Louise at 1-800-525-4182

Legends of the crow



It's not a typical winter morning in Florida. Most of the state is 70 degrees and it's January! Everything outside is brown, bare and dull. The only noise is the rustling of leaves and the coo of mourning doves. Then, loud and clear in the distance I hear the caw of a crow.

As the morning continues, other crows join and the lone call becomes chatter. Are they telling each other about a nearby predator or laughing about something funny? These all-jet-black birds (from beak to feet) are crafty, intelligent, social creatures that live in family groups.

Crows, ravens and other black-plumaged birds are often seen as dark, scary or mysterious. However, there are many positive legends about these clever birds that people don't know. In many Native American legends crows are messengers to the gods and carry prayers. Ravens, a species similar to the American crow but much larger in body and beak, are important legends of the English Crown. They are as famous as the Tower of London. Legends say if the ravens ever leave the Tower, it and the monarchy will fall.

Despite the legends, good or bad, American crows are extremely social birds and congregate in flocks, sometimes by the hundreds. They say there is power in numbers, and this is true for these birds. Often when a

predator such as an owl or hawk appears, crows will attack and harass the offending animal until it leaves the area.

Once at a local lake I witnessed these actions firsthand. The day was sunny and quiet when suddenly the loud, distinctive caw of crows interrupted the silence. It was borderline annoying, but then I saw the reason for their ranting. A beautiful Cooper's hawk glided through the air and into a nearby tree. The noise was almost deafening as the crows took on the hawk.

This often misrepresented bird is a good problem-solver and has been known to make tools from twigs and other objects to forage for edible treats such as worms, grain, seeds, nuts and berries. Crows are omnivores and also enjoy small mammals, eggs, clams and mussels from oceans or lakes.

While crows are found in Florida year-round, the best places to see them is an open space that offers a few trees to perch in and a reliable source of food. This is almost anywhere: fields, parks, lakes, backyards and near bodies of water.

Learn more about American crows and other birds by downloading the free iPhone application "Nature Viewing Along the Great Florida Birding and Wildlife Trail" (other platforms coming soon) or by visiting floridabirdingtrail.com. Click on "Birding Resources" in the left-hand menu to take part in the "Wings Over Florida" program and learn about the FWC's Junior Birder Program. You can also download a copy of the Bird Detective checklist.

■ Jessica.Basham@MyFWC.com
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Trying to go somewhere

Continued From Page 5A

bulb went on. I had an epiphany to end all epiphanies.

At this point, I am surprised my wife did not get the jump on me with this one. The reason I am so tired is because I am old. There, I said it. I have come to that point in life where being young is a fond fading memory.

As this bit of information began marinating in my cranium, it had a very comforting effect. Up to this point, I had been worrying about the fact that I

was tired and I could not link that condition with any specific activity. As is usually the case, there are good sound reasons for everything. I began to look at my tired condition in a completely different light.

I have earned my being tired. It is something I have worked for all my life. Now, here it is. I am now collecting those wonderful dividends from all that activity of the past.

As I thought about this, a marvelous verse of Scripture came to my mind. "The glory of

young men is their strength; and the beauty of old men is the gray head" (Proverbs 20:29 KJV).

Being tired is the crown of a lifetime of activity.

The Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 352-687-4240 or e-mail jamesnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.

Arrest Records

Editor's note: The Jasper News prints the entire arrest record each week. If your name appears here and you are later found not guilty or the charges are dropped, we will be happy to make note of this in the newspaper when judicial proof is presented to us by you or the authorities.

The following abbreviations are used below:
DAC - Department of Agriculture Commission
DOA - Department of Agriculture

DOT - Department of Transportation

FDLE - Florida Department of Law Enforcement

FHP - Florida Highway Patrol

FWC - Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

HCDTF - Hamilton County Drug Task Force

HCSO - Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

ICE - Immigration and Custom Enforcement

JAPD - Jasper Police Department

JNPD - Jennings Police Department

OALE - Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement

P&P - Probation and Parole

SCSO - Suwannee County Sheriff's Office

WSPD - White Springs Police Department

Jan. 9, Gregory Patrick Tyre Jr., 31, 4606 SW 86th Blvd., Jasper, Fla., failure to register motor vehicle, DWLS 3rd: FHP-A.L. Hughes

Jan. 10, William Colon, 54, 850 Longwood Ave., Bronx, N.Y., failure to stop for inspection, warrant from Henry County: FDA/OALE

Jan. 10, Jacob Maelichi Keith Connor, 20, 15732 SE 102nd Trail, White Springs, Fla., violation of probation o/c of battery: P&P-Bristol

Jan. 11, William Cecil Baxter, 42, in transit, warrant VOP poss. cocaine: HCSO-Cribbs

Jan. 11, Slaton Joe Cribbs, 23, 1505 J. Frank Culpepper, Lake Park, Ga., marijuana sell, marijuana possession: HCSO-Curry

Jan. 12, Arthur James Johnson, 36, 1304 SW 3rd St., Jasper, Fla., VOP cocaine, cocaine poss. with intent to sell, poss. drug paraphernalia: P&P-Bristol

Jan. 13, Joshua Daniel Claridy, 19, 3884 NW 109th Ave., Jasper, Fla., VOP warrant dealing in stolen property: HCSO-P.J. Fouraker

Michael Ray Marshall, 33, 3338 NW 29th Place, Jennings, Fla., in to serve weekend: HCSO-Walk-in

Jan. 14, Lamar J. Brown, 31, 505 SW 5th St., Jasper, Fla., serving

11th weekend: HCSO-Walk-in

Jan. 14, Robert Lee Cooper III, 42, 898 SW 6th St., Lot 12, Jasper, Fla., battery: JAPD-M. Vickers

Jan. 16, Robert Lee Cooper III, 42, 898 SW 6th St., Apt. 12, Jasper, Fla., criminal mischief, resisting w/o violence: HCSO-J. Howell

Jan. 16, Derrick Myron Herriott, 28, 114 11th Ave. SW, Jasper, Fla., warrant non-support: HCSO-Murphy

Jan. 17, Anthony Dye, 47, 535 N. Ave., Jasper, Fla., dealing in stolen property, trafficking warrant: HCSO-J. Howell

Jan. 17, Conrad Robert Gardner, 39, 8430 Abirgdon Lane, Duluth, Ga., DWLS 2nd offense: FHP-A. Hughes

Jan. 17, Cortyne DeWayne Dunn, 25, 915 Robert St., Live Oak, Fla., VOP o/c sale/del/purchase controlled substance cannabis: HCSO-G. Black

Jan. 18, Thomas Alan Thompson, 55, 1409 Hubbard St., Jacksonville, Fla., VOP o/c of dealing in stolen property

Jan. 19, Steven Michael Coleman, 24, 6493 SW 57th St., Alachua County warrant, possession of drug paraphernalia: P&P-Jessie Bristol

Jan. 19, Mark Allen Mathews, 41, 525 2nd St., Lot 3, Shellbyville, Ky., hold for Kentucky on VOP: JNPD

Jan. 20, Auprentice Pinkley, 41, 10824 NW 38th Terrace, Jasper, Fla., DWLS/R knowingly: Jasper PD-T. Rickerson

Jan. 20, Johnie Ray Beasley, 49, 1800 Eastwind Road, Apt. 172, Valdosta, Ga., in to serve 28th weekend: Walk-in

Jan. 20, Yshikia Linette Parker, 19, 2604 McCoy Lane, Albany, Ga., DWLS/R 2nd offense: FHP-A. Hughes

Jan. 20, Michael Ray Marshall, 33, 3338 NW 29th Place, Jennings, Fla., in to serve 2nd weekend: HCSO-Walk-in

Jan. 20, Oliver W. Young Sr., 57, P.O. Box 82, White Springs, Fla., FTA: RUSOV: HCSO-Murphy

Jan. 20, Samuel Esparza Ortega, 48, 3757 NW 107th Ave., Jasper, Fla., DUI: JAPD-Rickerson

Jan. 21, Michael S. Shipley, 38, 236 NE Pentas St., Madison, Fla., VOP DWLS, warrant: HCSO-Walk-in

Jan. 21, Lamar Jerome Brown Jr., 30, 505 SW 5th St., Jasper, Fla., in to serve 12th weekend: HCSO-Walk-in

Jan. 21, Freddie Lee Davis, 72, 6625 Dewey Road, Quitman, Ga., 72, NVDL: HCSO-Murphy

Jan. 22, Travee L. Graves, 19, 16969 Mill St., White Springs, Fla., FTA: DWLS SCSO:

WSPD-Rodriguez

Jan. 22, Donald Everett Waters, 45, 3941 SW 90th Blvd., Jasper, Fla., lewd/lascivious not involving physical or sexual contact, indecent exposure: HCSO-Griffin

Jan. 22, Tyler Rashard Hayes, 23, 10759 NW 38th Terrace, Jasper, Fla., FTA poss. controlled substance w/i 1,000 feet of a church, sale controlled substance w/i 1,000 ft church: HCSO-Howell

Jan. 23, Orlando R. Maldonado, 52, 15 Gene Lane, Tifton, Ga., NVDL, hold for ICE: HCSO-T. Curry

Jasper Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR HAMILTON COUNTY CIVIL DIVISION

CASE NO. 24-2010-CA-000353

CITIFINANCIAL EQUITY SERVICES, INC.,

Plaintiff,

vs.

PATRICIA GRANTHAM; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF PATRICIA GRANTHAM; RONALD HART; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF RONALD HART; IF LIVING, INCLUDING ANY UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SAID DEFENDANT(S), IF REMARRIED, AND IF DECEASED, THE RESPECTIVE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVICES, GRANTEE, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, LIENORS, AND TRUSTEES, AND ALL OTHER PERSONS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE NAMED DEFENDANT(S); CITIFINANCIAL EQUITY SERVICES, INC.; WHETHER DISSOLVED OR PRESENTLY EXISTING, TOGETHER WITH ANY GRANTEE, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, LIENORS, OR TRUSTEES OF SAID DEFENDANT(S) AND ALL OTHER PERSONS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, WHETHER UNDER, OR AGAINST 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 Hamilton County, Florida, I will sell the property situate in Hamilton County, Florida, described as:

THAT CERTAIN LAND SITUATE IN JASPER, HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA, VIZ: BEGINNING IN THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE INTERSECTION OF HATELY STREET AND EAST JOHNSON STREET (MEASURING FROM THE STREET SIDE OF THE CONCRETE CURB) AND FROM THENCE RUN NORTH ALONG THE EAST EDGE OF EAST JOHNSON STREET 333 FEET AND 7 INCHES; THENCE RUN SOUTH 82 DEGREES EAST 338.6 FEET FROM A STARTING POINT; FROM THENCE RUN NORTH 10 DEGREES AND 30 MINUTES EAST 171 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 78 DEGREES EAST 53.5 FEET TO THE RIGHT OF WAY OF THE GEORGIA SOUTHERN AND FLORIDA RAILROAD; THENCE IN A SOUTHERLY DIRECTION ALONG THE WEST EDGE OF SAID RIGHT OF WAY 194 FEET TO THE EXTENSION OF THE LINE HEREIN ABOVE DESCRIBED AS RUNNING SOUTH 82 DEGREES EAST; THENCE NORTH 82 DEGREES WEST 153.8 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. To include a: 1988 SPRI VIN GAFHLH34A08470SH 44805269 1988 SPRI VIN GAFHLH34B08470SH 44805282 A/K/A 313 NE 1st Street Jasper, FL 32052

at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, at the South Front Door of the Hamilton County Courthouse, 207 NE First Street, Jasper, FL 32052 at 11:00 a.m., on February 6, 2012.

DATED THIS 12th DAY OF January, 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 12th day of January, 2012.

(Court Seal) GREG GODWIN CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT

By: /s/ Cynthia Johnson Deputy Clerk

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: If you are a person with a disability who requires accommodations in order to participate in a court proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, the provision of certain assistance. Individuals with a disability who require special accommodations in order to participate in a court proceeding should contact the ADA Coordinator, 173 NE Hernando Avenue, Room 408, Lake City, FL 32055, (386) 719-7428, within two (2) business days of receipt of notice to appear. Individuals who are hearing impaired should call (800) 955-8771. Individuals who are voice impaired should call (800) 955-8770. 01/19, 26

Hamilton County Chamber of Commerce
6th Annual Chili Cook-Off
January 28, 2012

The Chili Cook-Off will take place at the Jasper Civic Center on January 28, 2012. Set-up at 10:00 AM, judging will begin at 11:00 AM, and awards will be at 1:00 PM.

The deadline to enter is January 25, 2012

Entrance fee for contestants: \$10.00 per individual, \$30.00 per businesses

Awards will be given to you or your business!!!

Entrance fee for spectators: \$5.00 per spectator

"Taste-test" all the chili, you want. Great opportunity to mingle!!

For more information, please call 386-792-1300 or visit: www.hamiltoncountycoc.com



Sports

All-star game



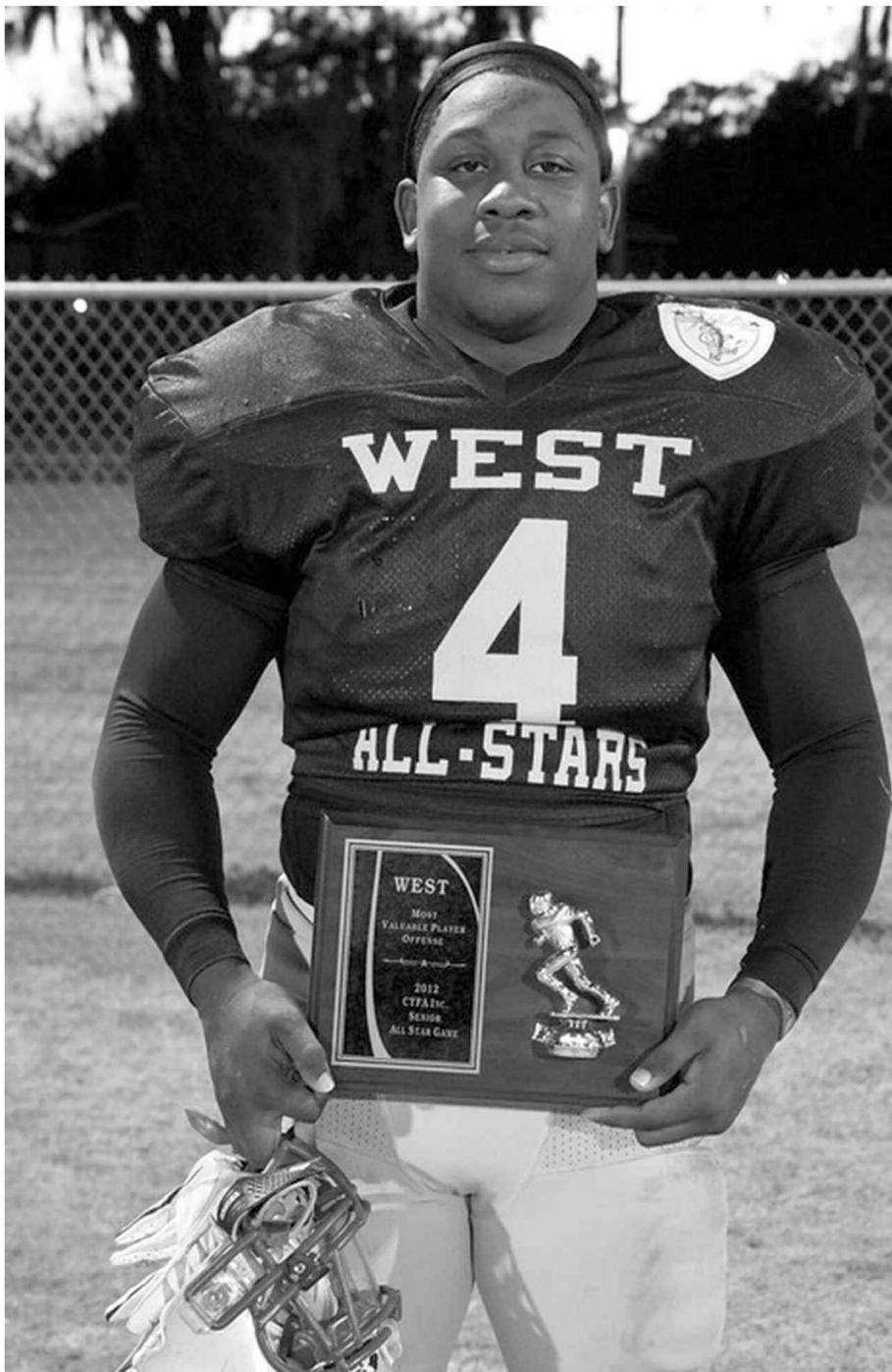
Hamilton's Rich Hodson (50). - Photos: Jack Howdeshell

Hamilton County High School senior Will Hill was awarded the most valuable offensive player of the West Team following the all-star football game on Saturday, Jan. 14.

The all-star game consisted of several players

from area schools including Branford, Hamilton County, Lafayette and Suwannee schools and was played at Memorial Stadium in Lake City.

Hill also scored the only touchdown for the West in the 14-7 loss to the East.



Hamilton County High School senior Will Hill was selected as the MVP for the West team during the Senior All-Star game on Saturday in Lake City.

Boys basketball wins two, loses one

The Hamilton County High School varsity boys basketball team defeated Branford and Melody Christian Academy recently but lost out to Madison County.

The boys hosted Branford Tuesday, Jan. 17. The Trojans defeated the Buccaneers 69-43. On Friday, Jan. 20, the Trojans defeated the Melody Christian Wildcats 62-53. The boys couldn't hold on to that momentum against Madison County on Saturday, Jan. 21. The Trojans lost to the Cowboys 67-49.

Stats vs. Branford (Pts., Asst., Blk, Rbd)

Anterfernee Smith	8, 1, 1, 0
Jeremiah Lee	7, 1, 0, 4
Kevin McClain	5, 3, 1, 2
Joseph Cooks	4, 1, 2, 7
Kenric Williams	2, 1, 0, 2
Charvunta Merine	13, 6, 0, 3
Shaquille Williams	6, 0, 2, 2
Anthony Claridy	7, 1, 0, 4
Tyler Chapman	3, 0, 0, 3
Justin Milton	0, 1, 0, 1
Andrew Manalis	2, 0, 0, 2
Jacquez McCray	12, 2, 0, 0

Stats vs. Melody (Pts., Asst., Blk, Rbd)

Anterfernee Smith	20, 2, 0, 6
Jeremiah Lee	2, 2, 1, 9
Kevin McClain	6, 2, 0, 4
Joseph Cooks	6, 1, 0, 3
Kenric Williams	1, 0, 0, 0
Charvunta Merine	2, 0, 0, 1
Shaquille Williams	10, 1, 1, 2
Tyler Chapman	6, 2, 0, 4
Jacquez McCray	9, 6, 0, 4

Stats vs. Madison (Pts., Asst., Blk, Rbd)

Anterfernee Smith	9, 5, 1, 6
Jeremiah Lee	8, 3, 0, 9
Kevin McClain	5, 0, 0, 0
Joseph Cooks	3, 0, 1, 0
Kenric Williams	0, 0, 0, 1
Charvunta Merine	2, 0, 0, 1
Shaquille Williams	10, 0, 0, 4
Anthony Claridy	0, 0, 0, 1
Tyler Chapman	6, 0, 1, 5
Jacquez McCray	6, 5, 0, 0

More scenes of the MLK Day celebration

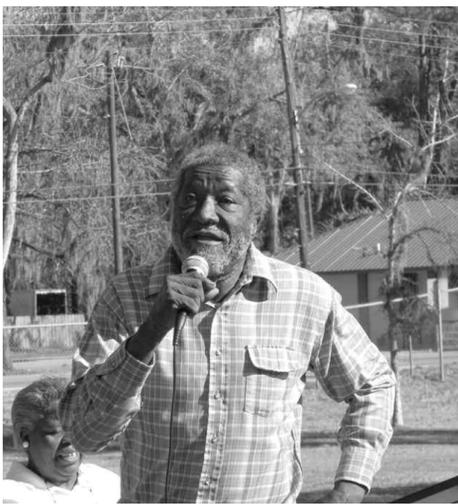
Event was held Monday, Jan. 16 in White Springs



The park gazebo.

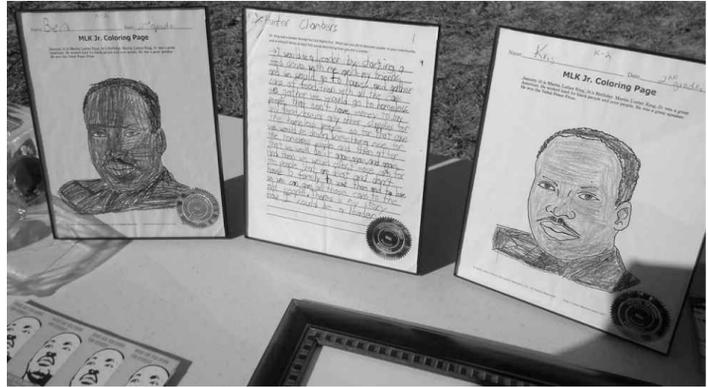


The new John Henry Graham Memorial Park sign. Graham was the first African-American mayor of White Springs. - Photos: Joyce Marie Taylor



Wash Newsome sings "Lord, I Thank You".

The three winning entries in the SHE MLK, Jr. coloring/essay contest. Second graders Kris Brown and Ben Thomas received \$15 gift certificates for the coloring contest. The winner of the essay contest was Hunter Chambers who received a \$25 gift certificate for writing about Dr. King and what he did for our country.



The Sun Rise Community Choir belted out a few songs.



Rev. Fred Scippio delivers the invocation.



Chef Teddy Bear Marshall and White Springs Town Manager Robert Townsend make sure the simmering pot of chili stays hot.

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*Offer valid on tax preparation fees only. Does not apply to financial products, online tax preparation product or other services. Present coupon at time of tax preparation. Valid at participating locations only and may not be combined with any other offer. Most offices are independently owned and operated.
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hamilton county tobacco - free partnership

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Partnership Meeting
Monday, January 30 at 4PM
Jasper Public Library

If you have any questions, please call Ashlie Wolbert at 888.227.6452 Ext. 703 or email her at ashlie@roseconsultation.com

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Special Thank You to Achiever's Christian Academy

For information on the school or to enroll students, call Stacie Barrett at 386-938-5302.

Serving students in grades kindergarten through twelfth, ACA is located at 1424 Hamilton Avenue in Jennings.

SWAT
STUDENTS WORKING AGAINST TOBACCO

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