

COVERING WALTON COUNTY LIKE THE SUNSHINE SINCE 1900

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The Word

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.

— 2 Corinthians 12:9

WEATHER



Sunny today with a slight chance of rain overnight
53° • 38°

Sports



Pinned!

Social Circle's wrestling team posts an incredible 252-0 victory in the area meet on Saturday. **B1**

Local News



A day of service

Volunteers including workers from a local engineering firm spend Martin Luther King Jr. Day pitching in at an old cemetery in dire need of help. **A2**

Arrested in Athens

Security from a bar in downtown Athens flagged down police on a recent night, and the end result was a Loganville man spending time in the Clarke County Jail on drug and disorderly conduct charges. **A6**

Opinions

Hice weighs in

Rep. Jody Hice has been in the news after his vote to contest the Electoral College results. He speaks out in a guest column. **A4**



Deaths A7

Peggy Louise Eady Connell
Monroe/Sioux Falls, S.D.
Jack Hanson Sr.
Monroe
Dawn Dickinson Parks
Monroe

Social Circle

An honor that's long overdue



Rachel Howard displays a proclamation naming the South Cherokee Road bridge over the CSX railroad in honor of her husband, longtime local civil rights advocate Robert 'Bobby' Howard, on Saturday. Stephanie Calabrese | Special to The Tribune

Howard » Bridge named in honor of longtime local civil rights advocate

Stephen Milligan
THE WALTON TRIBUNE

It took a long time to get there, but the city of Social Circle honored local civil rights activist Robert Howard Saturday as it unveiled his name on the new bridge on South Cherokee Road.

The Robert "Bobby" Howard Bridge, which spans the CSX railroad tracks just outside downtown Social Circle



Bobby Howard,
in 2006

along the old Highway 11, was dedicated over the weekend in the name of Howard, who fought alongside civil rights legends and pushed for greater representation for Black voices in the local arena over the decades.

"We come to honor a man who spent his life in Walton County to do good for people," Bishop William Davenport, pastor of Corinth Missionary Baptist Church, said in his dedicatory prayer at the beginning of the ceremony.

Mayor David Keener read the proclamation naming the bridge, which was rebuilt in 2019, after Howard, who was a longtime advocate of civil rights matters

in the area. He met Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1967 and was inspired to continue his work in the local arena, where Howard fought for matters such as integrating local schools and the city pool, as well as the continued search for justice in the unsolved Moore's Ford lynching.

Howard, who has Alzheimer's and was unable to attend the ceremony Saturday, was nonetheless lionized by many, including members of the Social Circle City Council.

"Thank you, Bobby, for your love," Councilwoman Traysa Price said. "Thank you, Bobby, for your grace."

Honor » Page A6



Shane Davis has a 15-8 record with two playoff trips in two seasons at George Walton Academy. Brett Fowler | The Tribune

Petition seeks coach's return

GWA » More than 1,000 sign player's pleading to trustees

David Clemons
THE WALTON TRIBUNE

MONROE — More than 1,000 people have signed a petition urging George Walton Academy to keep its head football coach.

The Walton Tribune named Shane Davis as the Coach of the Year for Walton County in 2020 last week, but sources close to the program say Davis had been suspended before receiving the honor.



Gavin Hall

Davis wrapped up his second season at the helm of the Bulldogs football program in December. He guided GWA to the quarterfinals of the Georgia High School Association Class A playoffs for private schools.

Coach » Page A6

He promised to behave. Then, police said, he tried to steal a car.

Newton » Suspect in carjacking had asked for release before Christmas

Tom Spigolon COVINGTON NEWS

COVINGTON — The Covington man was in jail for not paying child support and faced spending Christmas there.

Jessie Henderson convinced a judge not to keep him locked up after his sen-

tence ended in a few days because of some fines he owed.

However, a few weeks later, Henderson was charged with allegedly carjacking a man near downtown Monroe on Jan. 9.

Henderson, a son of Newton County Commissioner J.C. Henderson, asked Superior Court Judge Layla Zon during a hearing on a probation violation charge Dec. 21 if he could be al-

Jessie C. Henderson of Covington was arrested on the night of Jan. 9. He's accused of trying to steal a car another man was sitting in, outside a Monroe grocery store.



lowed to go home to spend the holidays with his family, Assistant District Attorney Griffin Bell said.

Bell said Jessie Henderson told the court his time

in custody on a child support charge was ending in a few days. A new charge of criminal trespass in early December also had been withdrawn, he said.

Zon agreed not to keep him in jail for late payment of the fines after his time was served on the child support charge, Bell said.

He was required to stay out of trouble, take his pre-

Behave » Page A6

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