

## BLACKVILLE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



June 2020 -Issue 152

### "MOVING FORWARD"

First, I would like to give honor to God, who is the head of my life. To the interim superintendent Mr. Corder, Mrs. Snider, the faculty, staff, students, family, friends and to the class of 2020. We are here today to celebrate the amazing success of the students of Blackville-Hilda High School. We have waited twelve long years for this day, and it is finally here.

For me to be standing before you as Valedictorian it is a huge honor. Trying to maintain a high GPA, while being a student athlete and keeping a full time job was not easy but somehow with motivation and determination, I made it my goal to be your valedictorian and here I am today.

There is no way at all that I could have made this accomplishment without the help of a team. The saying "it takes a village to raise a child" is so true, without my village, I would not be where I am today.

I would like to thank the woman who gave birth to me and made sure I had everything I needed to succeed. No matter what we went through, you were always here to help and guide me to make the right decisions and to make sure I believed in myself. I am so glad that I have you as a mother and best friend and I would not have it any other way. I love you so much and thank you so much. To my Grandma Deborah, thank you for helping momma raise me into the young woman I have become, today. I really look up both of you and I love you. To my Grandma and family that are in Heaven, I know you are smiling down on me because of the accomplishments that I have made, and I want you to know everything I do is for you. To my siblings that aggravated me the most, I love every one of you, even though you all did not make it easy for me. To my aunts, uncles, and cousins, thank you for being my biggest support system and having faith in me. You guys have watched me bloom into a young adult and I would like to thank you for all your help over the years and the push and advice to be a better person.

Thank you to all my teachers, who told me that I could be something in life and to always follow my dreams, most of you have inspired me to become a teacher, so that I can have the same influence on children that you have had on me.

To my wonderful best friend Lasasha I love you so much girl and being in school with you made life so much easier. Even though we will be going our separate ways to different colleges, know that I am a call away and Blackville is always our home. To Atii, Nichole, Tamia and Nyre (my other besties) I love you guys, too. To you I say I am still one call away and thank you for the laughs and advise you to have given me. DeSiree thank you for

staying hard on me and telling me not to give up. Your advice as past valedictorian made the path a little bit easier and I love you.

Lastly to my classmates, The AMAZING CLASS of 2020, where they shut the whole world down for us. I will miss coming to school to see all your different faces. Even though we are going separate ways we have plenty of memories to look upon, but today we are graduates, going head strong into our futures, may we come back ten or twenty years from now to homecoming and speak on the great success we have had. To the class of 2020 and Blackville-Hilda High School, I will always keep you in my heart and wish you well until we meet again. Thank you!

#### Arianna Gibson, Valedictorian

First giving honor to God, faculty and staff, family, and friends, I would like to thank you whole heartedly for all the memories, the laughs and much more. I would like to give a special thanks to my family and friends for keeping me motivated and dedicated to all my work. I can finally say the hard work has paid off! Throughout the course of my high school years, I was put to the test. It has been every bit of challenging, fun, memorable and all around unforgettable. A lot of things happened this year and I must admit I got off track. I lost all motivation and umph to keep going and striving for what I wanted. But, with help from a great group of teachers and staff members, calling reminding and helping, really pushed me to refocus on my goals and get back on track. This has by far been the hardest year of high school for me. But from it all, I have learned to prepare, prioritize, and be more independent!

As the class of 2020 salutatorian, I have to say I am truly honored. Those that know me, can vouch that I am very hardworking, determined, and focused. All while striving to be in the top of my class, I played sports, and upheld a full time job. None of it was easy, and there were plenty of times I just wanted to give it all up, Thankful that I kept fighting, I can now say the fight was well worth it.

I would like to give a special shout out to my classmates. We had the best of times together, no matter what came our way we made the best of it. It is unfortunate that we did not get to do everything we wanted, but we need not to let this bring us down, we have many more accomplishments to cherish. We are the generation to make a change. To my best friend, I do not know how I would have done it without you, since seventh grade we have been locked in and it has been nothing but the best. I wish you nothing but success and happiness.

To my family, I just want to say I love you and thank you so much for pushing me and making sure I had everything I needed. And lastly to my mom, my grandma, and my aunt. Thank each of you for helping me nourish into the amazingly educated queen I have become. Thank you for the tough love and continuous reminders to stay focused. I greatly appreciate you. I love you all and thank you!

#### Mia J. Hutto, Salutatorian

## MEETINGS

- **June 1**, Music and Arts Festival Committee, BDDA Building, 6:00pm
- **June 4**, Blackville Community Development Corporation, BCDC Office, 5:30pm
- **June 8**, BHHS, District 19, School Board Meeting, Board Office, TBA
- **June 9**, Neighborhood Watch, Community Center, 6:00pm
- **June 9**, Barnwell County Council, SCA Building, Barnwell, 6:00pm
- **June 15**, Blackville Town Council, Council Chambers/Community Center, 6:30pm
- **June 22**, Barnwell-Blackville NAACP, Macedonia Baptist Church, 7:00pm
- **June 25**, Blackville Downtown Development Corporation, BDDA Building, 6:00pm  
Please check with organizations for changes and/or cancellations

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Ethel Washington, June 1  
Mrs. Ada Felton, June 1  
Allan Harrison, June 2  
Rev. Inez Raysor, June 4  
Doris P. Williams, June 4  
Lucille Kearse, June 5  
Robbie James, June 10  
Edwin Felton, Jr., June 13  
Lorrane Harley, June 15  
Delores Jeter, June 16  
Dan James Felder, June 20  
Dyann Felder, June 22  
Shirley Nix, June 24  
Kanne Peeples, June 27  
Haley Norris, June 30

## CONGRATULATIONS

### BHHS and JDA CLASS OF 2020

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### BLACKVILLE LIBRARY

CURB SIDE SERVICE AVAILABLE

Call Miss Lil for details

(803) 284-2295

### EMERGENCY SENIOR NUTRITION PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Tuesdays 1:00pm

Blackville Community Center

- To receive these services, each individual must meet the following requirements and abide by the following conditions:
- Must be a senior citizen (60+) or a caretaker taking the meal to a senior citizen and be a resident of Barnwell County.
- Must provide name, address and phone number at pickup.
- Only 2 meal packs allowed per car.

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### COVID 19 TESTING

June 2, 2020

Community Center – 3:00pm – 7:00pm

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TOWN HALL REOPENS – June 1, 2020

Masks encouraged - Safe Distancing Practiced

Please continue to pay water bills, as previously outlined

Published by the Town of Blackville and the Blackville Community Development Corporation. Contact [vtalston@bellsouth.net](mailto:vtalston@bellsouth.net), add "NEWSLETTER" to subject line. Newsletters available at Town Hall

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