



Dedicated to the Spirit  
and Service of God

## Blacks Are Getting Lost In A Sea Of Yellow

By Dr. Joy Martinez

Staff Writer

In the last 20 years, Ukraine has emerged as a choice destination for African and other international students due to the high-quality education offered and relatively low tuition and fees. Ukraine was home to over 76,000 foreign students, according to government data from 2020. Nearly a quarter of the students were from Africa, with the largest numbers coming from Nigeria, Morocco and Egypt.

Ayoub, a 25-year-old Moroccan pharmacy student, had built a life he was proud of in Kharkiv, a city in the country's northeast. He was due to graduate in three months, but Russia's invasion of Ukraine has forced him to flee the country, and with the invasion came an exposure to danger and a level of racism he had not previously experienced. With a group of students, Ayoub arrived in Lviv, 50 miles from the Polish border hoping to make it to safety. He did not expect to be stopped.

"They wanted Ukrainians to go first, so it was white people who got priority. Taxi drivers were also charging us crazy money, but I thought there will always be opportunists, even in war. It wasn't until I reached one of the 'checkpoints' on the approach to the Polish border that I was actually pushed back and told to wait," Ayoub explained.

Instead of waiting, he chose to try crossing into Hungary, but found the racism met him there. "When I spoke to the guards in Russian, they told me I should be speaking Ukrainian and questioned whose side I was on. That was really upsetting because I had worked so hard to learn Russian, not just speak it, but read and write it as well."

In response to the reported episodes of abuse and discrimination, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the National Urban League, which signed a letter to the president of the Euro-

pean Union calling for fair and humane treatment for all. Last week the Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs refuted allegations of discrimination by border guards and said it operated on a "first come, first served

approach" that "applies to all nationalities" with priority given to women, children, and elderly people in accordance with international humanitarian law.

Ukraine's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dmytro Kuleba, tweeted

a video in early March saying an emergency hotline had been established specifically for African, Asian and other students wishing to leave Ukraine. It's too easy to overlook the incredibly devastating effect war, economic

sanctions, and information blockages have on marginalized communities - in Ukraine and in Russia.

In addition to the more than 1.4 million Blacks living there, Russia is home to a large number of indigenous minorities — from the Karelians and Saami near the Finnish border to the Chukchi on the Bering Strait. In fact, there are over 100 identified ethnic groups in Russia. Of them, 41 are protected under law as legally recognized "Indigenous small-numbered peoples of the North, Siberia, and the Far East."

These groups of peoples must number fewer than 50,000 people, maintain a traditional way of life, inhabit certain remote areas of the country, and identify as a distinct ethnic group. Some groups are disqualified because of their larger populations, such as the Sakha (Yakuts), Buryat, Komi, and Khakas; others are currently striving to get recognition. Additionally, there are 24 larger ethnic groups that are identified as national identities

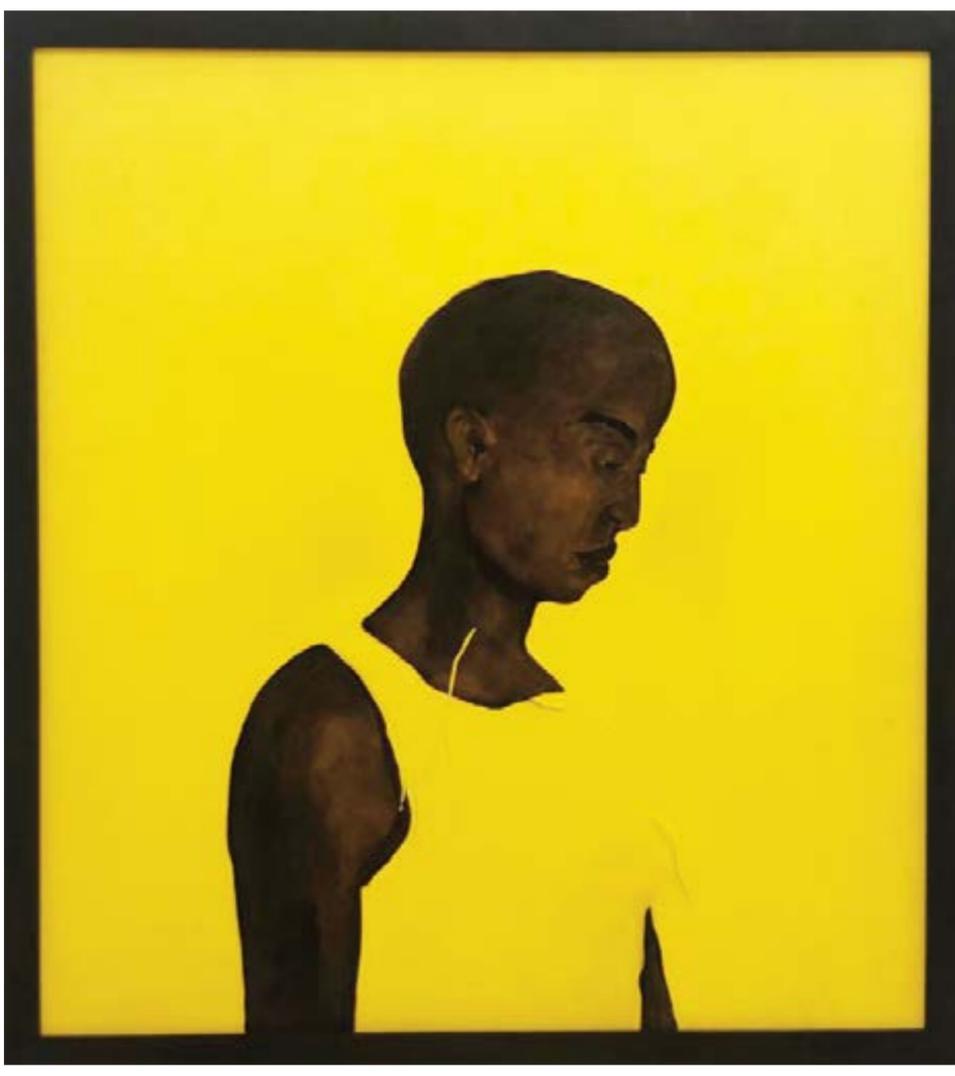
or titular nations. These groups inhabit independent states or autonomous areas in Russia, but do not have legal protections.

When you consider the nations that are home to people of African origin, Russia is perhaps one of the last places on Earth to come to mind; yet, it is home to a population of over 70,000 Black people.

Unlike many Western countries, Russia never oppressed Black people as a singled-out group: rather, oppression was universal. While not technically slavery, serfdom, which began in 1450, evolved into near-slavery in the eighteenth century and was finally abolished in 1906. The landowner did not own the serf. In Russia the traditional relationship between lord and serf was based on land. It was because he lived on his land that the serf was bound to the lord.

World War I devastated Imperial Russia and led to the 1917 Russian Revolution. By 1919 the

(See **BLACKS**, P. 2)



by Moroccan artist M'Barek Bouhchichi

## Birthday Remembrances

BY JOYCE GRAY

At the young age of 6, I wondered if there was a Santa Claus, since I was told I couldn't get a gift for my birthday on the 13th. So, I refused to hang my stocking on the mantle on Dec. 24th before going to bed. When I awakened Christmas morning a stocking was there with a switch in it.

At age 15, I decided to save my money, and give myself a sweet sixteen party. I sent out invitations by mail to all of my girl friends. To my surprise, none came, but told teenagers whom I didn't know. They came without gifts, ate, drank until all the dishes were empty, and then left. (Of course, those girls got the silent treatment for life)

So, age 91, there was no concern about a party. Now comes the big surprise. Even the host and hostess' 5-year old son showed me he could keep a secret. They set me on "Cloud Nine." Folks from out of state and counties came for this old woman's Big Day. When I was just about to settle down, there came a card from Jimmy and Julie Nicholson stating, "you've been so kind, Ms. Gray, we want to let you know how much we cherish having you in our life. We can truly say you are one of the kindest, and most caring persons we know. We love you very much and thank you for all you do."

A Big Thank You to Mr. and Mrs. Gerry Hill for all the care and love they have given me, and all those who read "Williamston Whistling," and still support "The Carolinian Newspaper." I can't thank God Enough!

## EmancipateNC Sues Raleigh Police Dept.

By Tyria McCray

Staff Writer

Emancipate NC, a nonprofit organization that addresses mass incarceration and structural racism, has filed a lawsuit against the Raleigh Police Department on behalf of Yolanda Irving and Kenya Walton's families after a home invasion that occurred last year.

In addition to seeking justice for the families of Ms. Irving and Ms. Walton, the lawsuit aims to curb the abuse of "No Knock" warrants. To clarify, a "No Knock" raid or warrant is a term about the execution of a search warrant by law enforcement by entering premises without warning and without providing an opportunity for the occupants of the premises to answer or open the door voluntarily.

More importantly, this lawsuit alleges an illegal entry, search, unlawful arrest and seizure; as well as claims of fabrication of evidence and false imprisonment. It also claims a failure to train of-

ficers, and failure to monitor the confidential informant program against the officers involved.

Even though this incident happened in 2020, Ms. Irving says she is still shaken up about it.

Irving was at her home in East Raleigh with three of her children the day police searched the house. Walton, her neighbor, who was home with her four children and another teen, was also detained in the search of Irving's apartment.

A Raleigh SWAT team invaded the home with guns drawn and pointed directly at their children and a disabled teen. After police raided the apartments, an officer provided a search warrant to Irving stating that officers had the correct address, but the apartment door picture was not hers. Her home was three doors down.

"I never got an apology. I never got anything from the Raleigh Police Department.

"I was right there, the second door. SWAT came through my door. They pointed the weapons at me and chased my son up the stairs.

They told us when they were bringing us downstairs to cup our hands over our heads. I remember saying What is going on? What are you looking for? You have the wrong house," stated Irving.

This invasion came immediately after an informant provided inaccurate information to a Raleigh police officer that had already been accused of corruption. Since then, the officer, Omar Abdullah, has been fired after a lengthy investigation that led to dozens of bogus drug arrests and various wrongful acts.

Furthermore, the 32-page civil complaint filed in February within the U.S. Eastern District of North Carolina is the latest action involving former detective Omar Abdullah and confidential informant Dennis Williams. The suit also named as defendants of the City of Raleigh, the fired detective's police colleagues and his supervisor.

Throughout the time that Abdullah and Williams were working together, they sent about a dozen

Black men to jail on trafficking charges from Nov. 29, 2019, to May 21, 2020, for drugs that repeatedly turned out to be fake, according to court documents.

Kerwin Pittman, Founder and Executive Director of Recidivism Reduction Educational Program Services, spoke to *The Carolinian* on this matter.

"If the City of Raleigh and Raleigh Police Department continue to employ these bad apples, they are more than culpable and responsible for their actions. Although financial compensation may not ease the mental anguish caused by these officers, it is a good buffer to the injustices done to these families."

The lawsuits and various related actions have raised many questions on Raleigh Police Department's practices of no-knock warrants and officers proceeding with a search without the accurate information.

Among other demands are implementing policies and practices that prevent conduct that violates the constitutional rights of individuals.



## Chatham Co. Schools Under Fire For Student Slave Auction

By James Gordon

An outraged mom condemned her Black son's school after White students held a mock slave auction and pretended to sell him for \$350 while singing the n-word.

The mock auction earlier this month happened in the presence of staff and faculty at the J.S. Waters School, and was even recorded on video, according to the Chatham Organizing For Racial Equity.

The tasteless role play was first made public when Ashley Palmer, a mother of a student at the school, posted about it on Facebook, having been told about the incident by her own son, Jeremiah.

Palmer was further infuriated when the perpetrators were suspended for just a day, with the school district forced into action thanks to a tidal wave of local fury over the 'slave auction.'

"HUG YOUR BABIES! You never know what they may be going through," she wrote. "To say we have had a rough week is an understatement. Our son experienced a slave auction by his classmates and when he opened up we were made aware that this type of stuff seems to be the norm so much that he didn't think it was worth sharing."

"His friend 'went for \$350' and another student was the Slavemaster because he 'knew how to handle them.' We even have a video of students harmonizing the N word. Since when were children so blatantly racist? Why is this culture acceptable?" Palmer said.

Commenting on the light punishment, she later wrote: "Students received 1 day suspension for the 'slave auction.' No action taken yet pertaining to the video. Today at recess the 'slavemaster' 'accidentally' hit my son with a baseball 4 times upon his return to school," Ashley Palmer wrote.

"Now he has decided to retaliate by making up things that Jeremiah didn't say to attempt to get him into trouble. No further action from the school at this point."

Chatham County Schools' official Facebook page initially responded that faculty members were looking into the incident.

"They are taking this very seriously and have taken steps to ensure this won't happen again," the account posted.

A coalition of local groups called on the board to address the situation at the J.S. Waters School in Goldston and require the instigators to apologize.

The K-8 school, about 50 miles southwest of Raleigh, has 195 students, and 68% are white.

The coalition also wants the district to raise the penalties for school employees who engage in racist behaviors, including making it a fireable offense.

On Monday a full meeting with parents, students and the schools superintendent took place in which he apologized for the 'slave auction.'

"I want to offer an apology...to every single student who has ever felt demeaned, disrespected or marginalized because of their race, ethnicity, sex, gender, religion or disability," Chatham County Schools Superintendent Anthony Jackson said after parents were outraged.

## Vitamin Company Donates To Communities

Atlanta, Ga. natives Dr. Darian McDaniel and Dr. Karleena Tuggle-McDaniel started Problk Health Vitamins for two main reasons: to act as a vehicle spotlighting health awareness to increase health consciousness in the Black community and to eradicate health disparities.

The husband and wife duo agreed that in order to promote healing in the Black community, they would have to be the change they wanted to see.

After watching an episode of "Shark Tank" where a company donated a percentage of its profits from the sales of beach towels to benefit marine life, the McDaniels thought if that company could do that for fish, imagine what they could do for Black people.

"The purpose is that Darian and I wanted to have a passion project or leave a legacy that would outlive us and benefit the Black community for gen-



erations to come," said Karleena. Through eliminating health disparities, Problk plans to donate 50 percent of net profits to support existing non-profits whose goals are to improve health and wellness in majority Black communities.

For more than 16 years in predominantly minority com-

munities, Dr. Karleena has been a physician. Over those years, she constantly oversaw patients with health issues that are often preventable or controllable with improved lifestyle modifications. McDaniel realized that something needed to be done to improve health among African-Americans; something people

could have daily access to that positively contributed to their overall health.

Her husband, with 20 years of marketing experience, suggested vitamin supplements since at least 92 percent of Black people have some level of vitamin deficiency.

"What makes us different from other supplements is that we help support your individual health while supporting the health of your community."

"How many other vitamin brands can say the same? We also aim to make health and wellness relatable and cool to encourage more people who may not be thinking about it to make it a priority," stated Karleena.

"We wholeheartedly believe that our health is our most valuable asset. Since we only get one shot at this thing called life, let's make the most of it. The status of

(See **VITAMIN CO**, P. 2)

# Blacks Are Getting Lost In A Sea Of Yellow—CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Bolsheviks (Communists) gain effective control of the country. Dedicated to economically and politically transforming the nation and leading a worldwide revolution, the new Communist leadership under Joseph Stalin in the early 1920s, declared that Black people would lead the charge toward revolution in the United States. They also declared that Communists everywhere would fight to eradicate racism as well as capitalism and imperialism.

For the first time in world history, the leadership of a powerful European nation declared as its priority the elimination of racial discrimination around the world. This increased Black America's interest in Soviet Russia, and they migrated in two distinct groups: those attracted to and desiring to help fulfill communism's promise of racial

and social equality, and assorted artists and intellectuals lured by a welcoming totalitarian bureaucracy wanting to showcase its self-proclaimed accomplishment of anti-racism and international brotherhood. Harry Haywood, Claude McKay, James W. Ford, and Otto Huiswood were among those who arrived during the 1920s.

By the 1970s a new generation of Black Americans traveled to the Soviet Union. In 1979 political activist Angela Davis won the Lenin Peace Prize, traveling to Moscow to receive the honor. American conductor James Frazier led the revered Leningrad Philharmonic in concert in 1971. Playwright-novelist Alice Childress toured the USSR with members of the Harlem Writers Guild in 1971. Artist Elton Fax illustrated and published a

book in 1974 recalling, among other, his recent travels in the central Asian regions of the Soviet Union. In the 1980s the Dance Theatre of Harlem was applauded in Leningrad, artists Paul Goodnight helped direct a mural project in Soviet Armenia, and Kehinde Wiley painted in a forest outside Leningrad.

While it may be easier to reduce the current war in Europe as "white," there are Black and indigenous people on both sides of this Eurasian war. Institutional racism is a part of the identity of the United States, casual racism is part of the character of Russia and the Ukraine.

These Black Americans living in the midst of a war, the vast population of Black and brown families trying to survive the constant shelling and unrelenting violence is beyond terrible.

Millions of women, children, and elderly adults have been forced to flee the country with nothing but the clothes on their backs. It's the fastest, largest forced migration of Europeans since World War II—and the crisis is truly only getting started. But European doesn't mean white any more than American does.

The sheer scale of this human rights catastrophe must provoke action in us. It's not their war, it's not their fight - it's ours. I recoil at comments about the "war over there." The war for recognition, independence, and freedom from oppression is everywhere. It affects the lives of Black folk everywhere and if we dare to believe something that begins in a nation far removed geographically cannot touch the souls or bodies of Black people here - think on COVID.



Langston Hughes (left) in the Soviet Union, 1932

## VITAMIN COMPANY

Continued from page 1

our health can hold us back with unfulfilled dreams or boost us to heights we could never imagine possible. At the end of the day, we all have the power to optimize our potential."

Where does she see the company in 5 years?

"In 5 years we hope to be a well-respected household name that is synonymous with quality vitamins and supplements, education and community give back.

"We want to potentially have mobile health vans that can visit different neighborhoods, fostering the idea of prioritizing our health through healthy habits and preventative care," said Darian.

In sum, Problk health began as a portion of their passion as a couple to support and give back to the black community.

Karleena, being a Howard University College of Medicine alumna and her husband being an alumnus of Morehouse and a doctor, both know first-hand the critical disparities within the Black community.

Darian, also being a Veteran-C level marketing executive, understands the importance of targeted strategies to grow and cultivate health-conscious messaging within the African-American community.

The couple plans to grow the business to the point where they are able to donate millions of dollars in support of nurturing people and the communities they come from.

## Red-Light Camera Program In Eastern NC City Nixed

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — A North Carolina city's red-light camera program is unconstitutional because too little of the money it generates through penalties ends up with the local school system, the state Court of Appeals ruled on Tuesday.

An appellate panel decided unanimously that Greenville's funding framework violates the state constitution's directive that the "clear proceeds" of all fines collected must be "used exclusively for maintaining free public schools."

The city contracted in 2017 with American Traffic Solutions of Arizona to install and operate the red-light cameras. Motorists photographed driving through red lights receive citations and face a \$100 penalty. Two motorists who were cited sued the city and the Pitt County Board of Education, which ultimately gets the proceeds.

The General Assembly has agreed that a local school board must receive at least 90% of the total fees and fines collected to meet the definition of "clear proceeds."

Instead, the Pitt school board received over a roughly two-year period 72% of the \$2.5 million collected after program expenses and fees to the contractor were paid, according to the opinion.

Writing Tuesday's opinion, Judge Jefferson Griffin said the local authorities were trying to frustrate the public's wishes by arguing Greenville meets the standard by initially paying the school board 100% of the money collected — only for the board to return amounts equal to fees and expenses afterward.

The school board paid the city \$707,000 in expenses, of which \$582,000 were fees for American Traffic Solutions — or 23% of the total.

"The clear purpose of the people in mandating that the clear proceeds of such fines be 'faithfully appropriated' to the public schools cannot be circumvented by the elaborate diversion of funds or cleverly drafted contracts," Griffin wrote in reversing a lower court decision.

## Affordable Housing Increasingly Scarce

By Celine-Marie Pascale

The American University

The United States is facing an expanding gap between how much workers earn and how much they have to pay for housing.

Workers have faced stagnant wages for the past 40 years. Yet the cost of rent has steadily increased during that time, with sharp increases of 14 percent to 40 percent over the past two years.

Now, more than ever, workers are feeling the stress of the affordable housing crisis.

While I was conducting research in economically hard-hit communities from Appalachia to Oakland, Calif., for my recent book, published in November 2021, nearly every person I met was experiencing the painful reality of being caught between virtually stagnant wages and rising housing costs.

As a sociologist, I had expected that low-wage workers would struggle with the cost of housing. I did not expect to meet people who worked two jobs and lived with roommates and still struggled to pay their bills.

For perspective, a person making \$14 an hour would have to work 89 hours a week to cover the



rent on a "modest" one-bedroom rental, estimated to cost \$1,615 per month, according to a 2021 study by the National Low-Income Housing Coalition.

Millions of workers earn less than \$14 an hour. Among U.S. employees, the average hourly earnings, adjusted for inflation, were only \$11.22 in 2022.

In January 2022, median rents in the U.S. reached their highest level yet. The average median cost of one-bedroom units in the 50 largest metro areas rose from

\$1,386 in 2020 to \$1,652 in 2022.

I interviewed PL (a pseudonym) for my recent book. He is among the 44 million people in the U.S. who rent their homes.

PL is a longtime Oakland, Calif., resident, who works full time in a professional career. Despite employment stability, his financial circumstances are worsening.

"Rent is raised dramatically from year to year. I work in a nonprofit organization, so I don't get a raise every year," PL told me during an interview in 2018. His monthly rent increased by \$250 over the previous three years. Yet his salary remained static.

"That \$250 was going toward the grocery bills, the gas bills. Now I'm having to scrounge," PL said.

PL is not alone.

Households that spend more than 30 percent of their income on rent are referred to as "cost burdened," according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. In 2019, 37.1 million households, or 30.2 percent of all U.S. households, fit this category. The situation has worsened since the pandemic.

The financial burden of the increasing cost of rent falls hardest on the half of workers in the U.S. who earn less than \$35,000 each year. After paying rent, about 80 percent of renter households with incomes under \$30,000 have between \$360 and \$490 left to cover all other expenses, including food, health care, transportation and child care.



## Employees Are Committing The Crimes In Prisons

WASHINGTON (AP) — More than 100 federal prison workers have been arrested, convicted or sentenced for crimes since the start of 2019, including a warden indicted for sexual abuse, an associate warden charged with murder, guards taking cash to smuggle drugs and weapons, and supervisors stealing property such as tires and tractors.

An Associated Press investigation has found that the federal Bureau of Prisons, with an annual budget of nearly \$8 billion, is a hotbed of abuse, graft and corruption, and has turned a blind eye to employees accused of misconduct. In some cases, the agency has failed to suspend officers who themselves had been arrested for crimes.

Two-thirds of the criminal cases against Justice Department personnel in recent years have involved federal prison workers. Of the 41 arrests this year, 28 were of BOP employees or contractors. The FBI had just five. The Drug Enforcement Administration and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives each had two.

The numbers highlight how criminal behavior by employees festers inside a federal prison system meant to punish and rehabilitate people who have committed bad acts. The revelations come as advocates are pushing the Biden administration to get serious about fixing the bureau.

In one case unearthed by the AP, the agency allowed an official at a federal prison in Mississippi, whose job it was to investigate misconduct of other staff mem-



bers, to remain in his position after he was arrested on charges of stalking and harassing fellow employees. That official was also allowed to continue investigating a staff member who had accused him of a crime.

In a statement, the Justice Department said it "will not tolerate staff misconduct, particularly criminal misconduct." The department said it is "committed to holding accountable any employee who abuses a position of trust, which we have demonstrated through federal criminal prosecutions and other means."

Attorney General Merrick Garland has said his deputy, Lisa Monaco, meets regularly with Bureau of Prisons officials to address issues plaguing the agency.

Federal prison workers in nearly every job function have been charged with crimes. Those employees include a teacher who pleaded guilty in January to fudging an inmate's high school equivalency and a chaplain who admitted taking at least \$12,000 in bribes to smuggle Suboxone,

which is used to treat opioid addiction, as well as marijuana, tobacco and cellphones, and leaving the items in a prison chapel cabinet for inmates to retrieve.

At the highest ranks, the warden of a federal women's prison in Dublin, California, was arrested in September and indicted this month on charges he molested an inmate multiple times, scheduled times where he demanded she undress in front of him and amassed a slew of nude photos of her on his government-issued phone.

Warden Ray Garcia, who was placed on administrative leave after the FBI raided his office in July, allegedly told the woman there was no point in reporting the sexual assault because he was "close friends" with the person who would investigate the allegation and that the inmate wouldn't be able to "ruin him." Garcia has pleaded not guilty.

Garcia's arrest came three months after a recycling technician at FCI Dublin was arrested on charges he coerced two inmates into sexual activity. Sev-

Where can you live?

Oakland has been described by gentrification experts as the new center of the nationwide affordable housing crisis.

A growing tech industry in San Francisco, a lack of affordable housing, weak rent control laws and a predominance of low-wage service industry jobs contribute to the shortage of affordable housing in Oakland.

Vanessa Torres is one of the more than 15,000 people who live in a low-income neighborhood in Oakland known as "the Deep East." When I spoke with Torres in 2020, the worry in her voice was clear.

"This is the 'hood. If low-income Latinos can't afford it anymore, well where do we go? If we can no longer afford to live in low-income communities that are considered dangerous, that are considered poor, then where do we see ourselves?" Torres said.

In 2019, the midpoint for monthly rent for a one-bedroom apartment in Oakland was \$2,300.

Torres would need to earn almost \$50 per hour, approximately \$96,000 a year, to be able to afford \$2,300 a month in rent, according to the nonprofit California Housing Partnership Corp.. Torres earns roughly \$50,000 a year as an educator.

Elected officials across the country have tried to address the affordable housing crisis through proposals to raise the minimum wage and to mandate more meaningful rent control. They have also proposed greater government investment in affordable housing, and pursued partnerships with developers. As yet, none of these efforts has been successful to any significant extent.

Given the affordable housing problems in the U.S., taking stock of other options could provide some inspiration.

For PL, the Oakland renter feeling the squeeze of rising rents, as well as for many other full-time workers, the future doesn't look any better. PL, who is in his mid-50s, told me he doesn't see a way to retire. He would need to leave his community in order to retire, but he can't imagine where he would go. The East Bay is his home.

eral other workers at the facility, where actresses Felicity Huffman and Lori Loughlin spent time for their involvement in the college admissions bribery scandal, are under investigation.

Monaco said after Garcia's arrest that she was "taking a very serious look at these issues across the board" and insisted she had confidence in the bureau's director, Michael Carvajal, months after senior administration officials were weighing whether to oust him.

In August, the associate warden at the Metropolitan Detention Center in New York City was charged with killing her husband — a fellow federal prison worker — after police said she shot him in the face in their New Jersey home. She has pleaded not guilty.

One-fifth of the BOP cases tracked by the AP involved crimes of a sexual nature, second only to cases involving smuggled contraband. All sexual activity between a prison worker and an inmate is illegal. In the most egregious cases, inmates say they were coerced through fear, intimidation and threats of violence.

A correctional officer and drug treatment specialist at a Lexington, Kentucky, prison medical center were charged in July with threatening to kill inmates or their families if they didn't go along with sexual abuse. A Victorville, California, inmate said she "she felt frozen and powerless with fear" when a guard threatened to send her to the "hole" unless she performed a sex act on him. He pleaded guilty in 2019.

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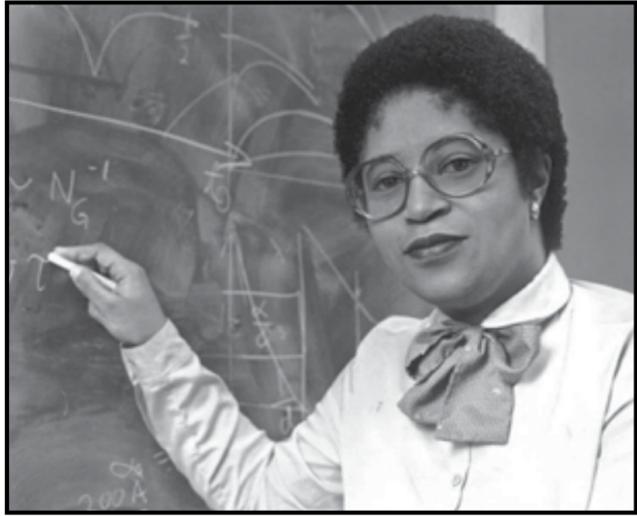
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# Business & Finance

## 5 Of The Many Innovative Black Women



**DR. SHIRLEY JACKSON**

Despite discrimination, racism, and a history of exclusion, Black inventors have made advancements in many industries, including tech, medicine, science, health, wellness, and agriculture. Systemic racism prevented Black inventors from receiving patents for their inventions throughout much of the 19th century and many white slave owners received credit for inventions by enslaved Black people. Still, Black inventors continue to play a pivotal role in developing innovations that shape our lives.

If you were born before 1980, you may remember the days before call waiting and caller ID. We have to thank Dr. Shirley Jackson for helping us better ignore phone calls, and for her developments in touch-tone phones, portable fax machines, and the fiber optic cables that make phone calls come in crystal clear.

Jackson was the first Black woman to earn a doctorate from MIT, the first Black female president of a major technological institute, and went on to become the first Black woman appointed chair of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.



**VALERIE THOMAS**

You can thank a Black woman for the eye popping scenes in 3D movies. Valerie Thomas, physicist, inventor, and NASA data analyst was busy managing the Landsat program, which has produced millions of images of Earth, while she was inventing the technology which went on to become the premise for more advanced TV screens and modern 3D technology.

In the late '70s, Thomas discovered that concave mirrors can create the illusion of 3-dimensional objects and began experimenting with how she could visually transmit the 3D illusion. In 1980, Thomas patented her illusion transmitter. Her invention transmits an optical illusion of a 3D image between concave mirrors that looks real on the receiving end. NASA continues to use her technology today.

**PATRICIA BATH**

Ophthalmologist Patricia Bath made history as the first Black female inventor inducted in the National Inventors Hall of Fame (NIHF). Bath, who died in 2019 at age 76, was no stranger to making history.

She is recognized as the first Black female physician to receive a medical patent, according to the NIHF, the first Black woman to complete a residency in ophthalmology at New York University and the first woman to chair an ophthalmology residency program in the U.S. (the King-Drew-UCLA Ophthalmology Residency Program).

Bath invented laserphaco, a minimally invasive device and technique that performs all steps of cataract removal, from making the incision to destroying the lens to vacuuming out the fractured pieces.

According to Bath's National Inventors Hall of Fame biography, she came up with the idea in 1981, published her first paper in 1987



and received her first U.S. patent for the device in 1988. It was being used in Europe and Asia by 2000. Bath received five patents over the course of her career. She also advocated for using public health approaches to eradicate preventable blindness, especially among racial minorities.

When she was a young intern spending time at both Harlem Hospital and Columbia University, she noticed that half the patients at Harlem's eye clinic were blind or visually impaired, while at Columbia's eye clinic, very few were. She studied this and concluded that the high rate of blindness among Black people was because of a lack of access to ophthalmic care.



**LISA GELOBTER**

Computer scientist Lisa Gelobter has played an integral role in bringing several internet technologies to market. Perhaps her most recognized project is developing the animation that is used to create GIFs. Gelobter previously worked as the Chief Digital Service Officer for the U.S. Department of Education during the Obama Administration. She also worked as Chief Digital Officer for BET. A 1991 graduate of Brown University, Gelobter earned a computer science degree with an emphasis in artificial intelligence and machine learning.

Gelobter started a digital firm in 2016, tEQuitale, where she serves as CEO. The firm has created confidential technology to support firms in identifying and addressing bias, discrimination, discrimination, and harassment in the workplace.



**DR. APRILLE ERICSSON-JACKSON**

Dr. Aprille Ericsson-Jackson was the first woman (and the first Black American woman) to receive a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Howard University and the first Black woman to receive a Ph.D. in engineering as a civil servant at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. As New Business Lead for the NASA GSFC Instrument Systems and Technology Division, in her role as NBL, she serves as engineering representative on the Astrophysics, Heliophysics, Planetary and Earth Science and Cross-Cutting Technology Lines of Business. Her role empowers her to foster government partnerships that enable industry and small businesses to collaborate with universities to solve strategic R&D challenges faced by United States government agencies. She holds one patent.

## FUNDraising Good Times

By Mel & Pearl Shaw  
Saad & Shaw



### FABULOUS FEMALE FUNDRAISERS

Black women fundraisers are organizing and supporting each other through Fabulous Female Fundraisers, aka F3. This group is on a mission to connect, support, engage, and empower women of color in fundraising, and to foster personal and professional growth. We reached out to founder Christal Cherry to learn more.

**Saad&Shaw:** What makes Fabulous Female Fundraisers unique?

**Christal Cherry:** Our network is unique because it is small and cozy enough for us to know one another. An intentionally small network allows members to feel comfortable to share and be vulnerable. F3 is not only a professional network but a support system for professional women of color in the nonprofit sector. We are rich in human capital. Our members bring experience in frontline fundraising, planned giving, alumni affairs, corporate relations, board governance, event planning, grant writing, donor stewardship, major gifts, prospect research, strategic planning, and consulting. We serve as sisters, colleagues, mentors, and friends with one another.

**Saad&Shaw:** Please share two highlights the group has experienced in their journey together.

**Christal Cherry:** Every year F3 becomes a pop-up giving circle where we discuss our values, passions, and interests. Once we come to a consensus, we choose a nonprofit led by a woman of color that serves persons of color to support financially. Last year our collective giving surpassed \$2,000. Together we learned the power of pooling our funds to give back and support our community. It was a powerful experience. Our "F3 Unplugged Fall Retreat" is an opportunity for members to leave their daily lives and convene in person to unplug. While together there are community meals, talks around the firepit, hikes, shopping, journaling, meditating, gift giving, and other events like wine tastings.

**Saad&Shaw:** What have you personally learned through facilitating this group?

**Christal Cherry:** I have learned that women of color need a space to just be—without judgment or piercing eyes. Our members are strong and resilient but ours is a brave space to be vulnerable and uncertain. It is also a space to educate, nourish and empower. I love bringing women of color together to uplift and encourage them. This feeds my soul.

**Saad&Shaw:** What is your vision for the future of the organization?

**Christal Cherry:** My vision for F3 is that it continues, even when I am no longer involved, to support women of color in the nonprofit sector. I hope that it will continue to fill the gaps caused by loneliness, dismissal, and marginalization that we sometimes experience and encounter. F3 can be the sacred space for recharging and learning how to be our best selves in our careers and as a woman of color.

**Saad&Shaw:** How can women join?

**Christal Cherry:** We are committed to keeping our membership at 50 people. Once we max out for the calendar year, those interested will be put on the waiting list for the next calendar year. Membership applications are available on our website at [www.fabfemalefundraisers.com](http://www.fabfemalefundraisers.com).

Interested in support F3 and help it grow: reach out to [fabfemalefundraisers@gmail.com](mailto:fabfemalefundraisers@gmail.com).

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## Rocky Mount Nonprofit Becomes A Global Beacon Of Hope

By Tyria McCray

Staff Writer

Belight Candle, a Rocky Mount, N.C. nonprofit, is making a difference not only in the lives of people across the nation but in Africa as well.

Mother and daughter duo Mrs. Keisha and Myia Spivey recently launched Be Light Candle; birthed through the Ripple Effects Groups, which provides food, housing, and support to people amid crisis and facing a transition in their lives.

Belight Candle incorporates high-quality, hand-poured soy and beeswax candles to feed and house families. This nonprofit also creates jobs for unemployed women with a criminal background in America and women who suffer from HIV in Africa.

"When you buy a candle, you are being a light to another person and possibly even saving lives," said Keisha Spivey, executive director of Ripple Effects.

"Our products in Be Light Candle allow each of our customers to become Light Ambassadors. Through being an ambassador, every candle that is sold allows us to provide an insect repellent candle to a family in Kenya."

In some areas of Kenya, malaria is one of the leading causes of death spread through mosquitoes. Therefore, some candles offered through Be Light Candles infuse the air with aromas, sparing people from mosquito bites that cause this deadly disease. In addition, as a result of the proceeds of the candles, it provides housing for families, feeds individuals, and provides programs for people struggling with abuse and addiction.

Executive Director Keisha Spivey and her daughter Myia Spivey spoke on their work.

"Six years ago, we started doing local street outreach, and we felt a bigger pull to the people that needed a church but were not in church. Mainly for the hungry and homeless people who needed help but weren't going to find a way into a church building.

"So we began to post up in neighborhoods and have barbecues on Saturdays. As a result, we loved people, found out their needs, and connected them to resources. That ultimately gave birth to ripple effects which is our nonprofit," said Keisha.

Once outreach was underway, Keisha and her team came across numerous families that needed food, clothing, and bills paid. Assuredly, Ripple Effects wanted to give those families a fresh start. However, the COVID-19 pandemic began in February of 2020, which slightly altered their plans.

By March 2020, a state-wide COVID lockdown went into place, resulting in their Black history fundraiser being canceled.

"We were like well, what do we do? The Lord said, take it to those that need it most. So we bagged up all that food and called the social services, and we blessed about 100 senior citizens.

"Since we are a 501(c)3 organization, a majority of our funding comes from everyday working people giving \$25, \$40, or more. So we do not have big manufacturers, so people stopped working when COVID happened. A lot of our funding dwindled to nothing. March of 2020, we were trying to figure out how we were going to make it by serving a hundred people a week and providing resource counseling," said Keisha.

Over the next few months, Keisha and her daughter brainstormed many different ventures to embark on. Fast forward to January of 2021, Mrs. Spivey had the chance to go on a missions trip to Africa. Throughout her journey, she met many people that were spearheading many nonprofits. Mrs. Spivey continued to pray and ask for guidance on what they should do next.

"I wanted to know what it is that we should do that aligns with our mission and allow us to create revenue so we can support our outreach efforts.

"The Lord said, not only can



you make ripples, but I need you to be a light. This is something that people already invest in and love but, it is time to take it to the next level. I want you to create something very unique that people cannot buy in a store and I want you to trust me to give you the creativity and the formulas on what to do," said Keisha.

Once Mrs. Spivey had a clear vision, she immediately began to think about beginning efforts to Africa. She began to research malaria and designed a unique candle that would also be a mosquito repellent. Once making the candles, the team traveled to Kenya in October of 2021 to test the candles in a mosquito-infested area.

After placing them in those infested areas, Spivey and her team were able to see that the candles worked.

"I want everyone to know the heart of Ripple Effects and Belight Candle is the fruit of us making sure that our outreach and missions arms are supported in a way that aligned with who we were and allowed us to touch more lives and impact people in greater levels."

The pandemic's start made

ally looking at owning property in Kenya. I would love to have Belight completely fund a youth center as a safe place for youth.

"When we went, there were so many youths and at one point, we were holding a class that had about 50 kids. I would also love to do a healthcare event where we offer vaccines and have nurses and doctors available to help individuals and families get the medical attention that they need," said Myia.

Ripple Effects efforts will also impact the town of Rocky Mount. Myia plans to help women coming out of prison in North Carolina. Women will have the opportunity to make candles, learn leadership qualities, and financial literacy.

"We want to help them be in a better position as they integrate back into society. So we want to change the narrative on imprisoned women and empower them," stated Myia.

So far, Ripple Effects has provided up to 1,300 meals to those in need and countless candles to families and communities in Oyugis, Kenya. Furthermore, with their bridge program underway, people learn tailoring, welding, making candles, and Bible study lessons. Individuals

are given a stipend of \$5 per day; a portion is provided by week's end and the remaining into a savings account. On-site childcare is available as well.

"We met a lady the first week of classes that was crying once she received her stipend. She said she never held that much money in her hands and she could feed her children. She stated that she matters now. So six dollars changed that woman's entire view on life, and now she shows up early, even on the days we don't have class.

"People here are hungry to be taught. Twelve families were changed," stated executive director Keisha Spivey.

In sum, Belight Candle is shining a light 8,000 miles away in the lives of people who thought there was no hope. Furthermore, 100 percent of the proceeds directly support their local and global efforts.

"I want everyone to feel empowered with the confidence that I am a world changer. I also want people to understand that they are fearfully and wonderfully made."

People can support Ripple Effects by ordering candles and donating money by visiting [www.belightcandle.com](http://www.belightcandle.com)



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# NC Audit: \$438M In Benefits Failed To Reach Workers Quickly

RALEIGH (AP) — North Carolina's unemployment benefits office failed to distribute quickly enough \$438 million in initial payments to displaced workers in 2020 and early 2021, state auditors said Monday while scrutinizing the agency's work during the pandemic. The audit in part blamed the claims process and poor monitoring for the delays.

It's well-known that the Division of Employment Security struggled in 2020 to get payments out the door promptly. The division saw a record number of applicants for traditional unemployment programs and those created by the federal and state government during the lockdown and related business restrictions. The state un-

employment rate reached 13.5% in April and May 2020.

The performance audit quantifies those delays of initial benefits covering all of 2020 and the first quarter of 2021 that failed to be issued within 14 or 21 days of an individual's filing for claims. Benefit money comes from state and federal sources, depending on the program.

State Auditor Beth Wood's office found only 60% of the 3.67 million initial payments across eight programs valued at \$1.2 billion were sent within the federal government's standards for timeliness. And 32% of the first payments — totaling \$342 million — were not issued within 30 days, the report said.

The delays came amid news re-

ports of "unemployed individuals who depleted their savings, went into debt and were unable to pay their daily living expenses," the audit said. Early delays amid the onslaught of claims contributed to Gov. Roy Cooper replacing the division's chief with former state Rep. Pryor Gibson. Program complaints have generally decreased as benefit logjams were loosened, temporary programs expired and applications fell as the economy recovered.

In all, \$11.6 billion in unemployment benefits were issued during the 15-month period reviewed. Coronavirus lockdowns began in March 2020. Despite the "unprecedented" rise in benefit claims during the pandemic, the division

wasn't "prepared for economic downturns that will inevitably occur," auditors wrote.

The division did not have a plan or risk assessment that evaluated and addressed what a sudden economic downturn would require, according to the audit. While the agency entered into \$261 million in outside contracts to handle the extended surge — nearly all of it going to build up a call center to handle claims questions — monitoring and oversight of the contractors' work was limited and needs to be improved for future contracts, auditors wrote.

To meet the federal government's timeliness standard, at least 87% of first benefit payments must be made within 14 or 21 days. The

longer time period is allowed for states like North Carolina that require claim applicants to wait one week before receiving their initial weekly benefit. But that waiting week was waived in April 2020.

North Carolina struggled before the pandemic with meeting this standard, failing to reach it annually since 2012 under both Democratic and Republican administrations, according to the audit. And North Carolina's percentage consistently has fallen below the national average during that stretch. During the period covered by the audit, only two of the eight benefit programs the division was operating met the standard. Both of these program began during the pandemic.

In a formal response attached to the audit, Commerce Secretary Machel Sanders, whose department oversees the Division of Employment Security, agreed with the audit's finding, and that the agency was attempting to carry out recommendations.

The response said several external factors contributed to the delays beyond the increase in claims. They included the need for additional benefit fraud prevention measures, longer waits to receive data from places like the Social Security Administration to process claims and required training, system alterations and U.S. Labor Department guidance for new benefit programs.

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# Health & Fitness

## Schools May Stop Serving Free Lunch To All Students, No Funds

By Marlene B. Schwartz  
University of Connecticut

Public schools have been serving all students free meals since the COVID-19 pandemic first disrupted K-12 education. In March 2022, Congress rejected calls to keep up the federal funding required to sustain that practice and left that money out of a \$1.5 trillion spending package that President Joe Biden signed into law on March 11.

We asked food policy expert Marlene Schwartz to explain why free meals make a difference and what will happen next.

In March 2020, nearly all U.S. K-12 school buildings closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, which administers the federal government's National School Lunch Program, quickly granted waivers to increase program flexibility and accommodate the challenges of the pandemic.

These waivers, which have been renewed several times, were critically important for school food service programs as the programs abruptly shifted away from serving meals in cafeterias and designed new distribution models to continue to feed students.

Many school meal staff across the country created grab-and-go meals that families could pick up, which was particularly important in the spring of 2020 and the following school year. Another major change, which has continued dur-

ing the 2021-2022 school year, is that school systems are able to serve meals to all students at no cost.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, nearly 30 million lunches were served every school day to K-12 students through the National School Lunch Program. Schools provided roughly three-quarters of those meals at reduced rates or no cost at all—with the federal government reimbursing a portion of the cost of those meals.

The program cost \$14 billion in 2019, before the pandemic disrupted it.

The price of a school lunch for families without free or reduced-cost meals varies. In 2017, full-price lunches tended to run between \$2.50 and \$2.75 apiece.

Are all public school students still getting free meals?

Yes. However, that will no doubt change once the latest waiver expires on June 30.

Advocates urged Congress to keep funding school nutrition programs at higher levels. But Congress did not include that money in the \$1.5 trillion spending bill House and Senate lawmakers passed in March.

This means that next fall, most schools will have to resume the old three-tiered system where some families don't pay at all, some receive discounted lunches, and others must pay full price.

Two states will buck that trend. California and Maine will continue providing universal school meals



after the federal waiver ends due to measures their state legislators passed and governors signed into law during the COVID-19 pandemic.

At the federal level, more than a dozen senators and roughly 50 members of the House of Representatives backed proposed legislation in 2021 that would permanently make school lunch free for

all students, regardless of their income. There is significant support for this idea among advocates, but the future of this type of federal legislation remains to be seen.

In my view, the biggest advantage to universal school meals is that more students actually eat nutritious school meals. Following the regulations that emerged from the 2010 Healthy Hunger-Free

Kids Act, the nutritional quality of school meals improved significantly, and a recent study found that schools typically provide the healthiest foods that children eat all day.

The research shows that making school meals free for everyone improves attendance and boosts diet quality. It also decreases the risk of food insecurity and the stigma associated with receiving a free meal. When no one has to pay, the growing problem of school meal debt is also eliminated.

There are important logistical benefits to universal school meals. Families don't have to fill out any paperwork to establish their eligibility for free or reduced-price meals. And cafeteria staff can focus on serving the meals if they don't need to track payments.

You have to look at the costs and benefits of the big picture. Universal school meals provide significant benefits to the school community as a whole—most notably, reductions in food insecurity and improvements in student diet quality. I believe these benefits

are far greater than the marginal cost of providing free meals to students who would otherwise pay.

The fall of 2022 is also much too early to revert back to the three-tiered system because school food programs continue to face significant challenges. Supply chain disruptions have made it harder to buy some kinds of food, including chicken and whole grain products. In addition, many schools are having trouble hiring the staff they need to prepare and serve the meals, and inflation is increasing food costs.

Ideally, the federal government will reconsider this issue and support universal school meals.

If that does not happen, advocates, policymakers and researchers will be watching what happens in California and Maine. We will be able to compare what happens in these states versus those that do not continue to provide all students with free meals. My hope is that this information will inform future decisions about implementing universal school meals for all students nationally.



### Fact & Fitness

By Jeneea Jervay-Bush, M.S.

#### ANDRE DE SHIELDS CARDINAL RULES: PART 4

...continued from last week.

The tips W.P. gave me about starting in the grass to learn how to clip/unclip, then building distances slowly, and saving street riding for last got me through the bike work. It also saved me several injuries. Injuries prevented ranged from scraped knees and elbows to whatever you can imagine by prematurely riding with traffic. I fell in the grass A LOT but didn't get frustrated because the grass was softer than the pavement. I progressed slowly, but did progress, and eventually made it to the point where I was competent enough to register for a race. Slowly was definitely the most direct route to success.

Mr. De Shields' last cardinal rule was "the top of one mountain is the bottom of the next so keep climbing" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a0cVj2Lks1>). Would the final rule stand up to my triathlon training and races' test? Surely not my friends! I crawled through my memory, then my old training logs and there it was looking back at me like a benefactor that had been modestly waiting for its proper recognition. Back then I viewed it as setting small goals, reaching them, and then setting the next higher level goal. I swam ¼ of mile, then ½ mile, then ¾ of mile, then 1 mile, then 1.2 miles. I learned how to clip/unclip in the grass, then rode 5 miles on the road, then increased in 5 mile increments until I could ride 50 miles at a time. I started out doing 1 of the 3 triathlon activities per day, then 2 at a time, then 3 in a day. Now I see clearly the top of each mountain and how, yes indeed, it was the bottom of the next mountain.

What is the most challenging thing you've been successful at in your life? Do the cardinal rules hold up to your scrutiny when applied to that successful outcome? If they do, I encourage you to keep them at the forefront of your thoughts either for inspiration or a new filter for your fitness and nutrition goals. Change your personal trainer if they make you feel like a chore or your bowling team if they consistently give you an uninspired reception. Change your view on eating healthy to slowly is the fastest way so you can rid yourself of the instant gratification mentality. See the mountains behind you that you've already climbed, give them and yourself the proper respect, then turn enthusiastically and confidently to face your next climb.

### \$4M For Homelessness

RALEIGH — U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced \$4,117,066 in FY 2021 Continuum of Care (CoC) Competition Awards to support 13 grants for homeless response services in Wake County CoC. This announcement means a 22% increase of \$754,661 in CoC Program funding from last years. These 13 grants will provide funding to 6 Wake County Agencies to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness move into permanent housing with access to supportive services, with the overarching goal of long-term stability.

"This is the first significant increase in CoC Competition funding for Wake County CoC in over 5 years. The award validates the decisions of our 50 CoC Members to prioritize funding programs that have positive performance measures. We are moving the needle for making homelessness in Wake County rare, brief, and nonrecurring," states Kim Crawford, Executive Director, Raleigh Wake Partnership to End Homelessness.

Wake County CoC adheres to HUD's priorities for ending homelessness. Specifically, HUD sought projects that:

- End homelessness for all persons experiencing homelessness;
- Use a Housing First approach;
- Reduce unsheltered homelessness and reduce the criminalization of homelessness;
- Improve system performance;
- Partner with housing and health agencies, including to leverage and coordinate American Rescue Plan resources;
- Advance racial equity and addressing racial disparities in homelessness; and
- Engage people with lived experience of homelessness in decision-making.

The Funding Review Committee, comprised of volunteer CoC Members that are not affiliated with the CoC programs applying for the funding, reviewed applications for the competition using HUD's Scoring and Ranking tool. "Our CoC had been stuck at the same amount of funding year after year, but we saw CoCs with similar total population sizes and number of people experiencing homelessness receiving millions of dollars more than us. We learned these were communities that were targeting their efforts to align with HUD's priorities," states Jenn Von Egidy, Chief Strategy Officer, Raleigh Wake Partnership to End Homelessness. Von Egidy facilitated the process of the Funding Review Committee for the Wake CoC Competition. The committee made final recommendations to the CoC Governance Board for the 13 grants to be submitted to HUD for funding.

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## FOOD LION CATERING

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## The Great Amazon Land Grab Is Killing The Rainforest

By Gabriel Cardoso Carrero  
Cynthia S. Simmons and  
Robert T. Walker

University of Florida

Imagine that a group of politicians decide that Yellowstone National Park is too big, so they downsize the park by a million acres, then sell that land in a private auction.

Outrageous? Yes. Unheard of? No. It's happening with increasing frequency in the Brazilian Amazon.

The most widely publicized threat to the Amazonian rainforest is deforestation. A new study by European scientists released March 7, 2022, finds that tree clearing and less rainfall over the past 20 years have left over 75 percent of the region increasingly less resilient to disturbances, suggesting the rainforest may be nearing a tipping point for dieback. Fewer trees mean less moisture evaporating into the atmosphere to fall again as rain.

We have studied the Amazon's changing hydroclimate, the role of deforestation and evidence that the Amazon is being pushed toward a tipping point—as well as what that means for different regions, biodiversity and climate change.

While the rise in deforestation is clear, less well understood are the sources driving it—particularly the way public lands are being converted to private holdings in a land grab we've been studying for the past decade.

Much of this land is cleared for cattle ranches and soybean farms, threatening biodiversity and the Earth's climate. Prior research has quantified how much public land has been grabbed, but only for one type of public land called



“undesigned public forests.” Our research provides a complete account across all classes of public land.

We looked at Amazonia's most active deforestation frontier, southern Amazonas State, starting in 2012 as rates of deforestation began to increase because of loosened regulatory oversight. Our research shows how land grabs are tied to accelerating deforestation spearheaded by wealthy interests, and how Brazil's National Congress, by changing laws, is legitimizing these land grabs.

Brazil's modern land grab started in the 1970s, when the military government began offering free land to encourage mining industries and farmers to move in, arguing that national security depended on developing the region. It took lands that had been under state ju-

risdictions since colonial times and allocated them to rural settlement, granting 150- to 250-acre holdings to poor farmers.

Federal and state governments ultimately designated over 65 percent of Amazonia to several public interests, including rural settlement. For biodiversity, they created conservation units, some allowing traditional resource use and subsistence agriculture. Leftover government lands are generally referred to as “vacant or undesigned public lands.”

Studies have estimated that by 2020, 32 percent of “undesigned public forests” had been grabbed for private use. But this is only part of the story, because land grabbing is now affecting many types of public land.

Importantly, land grabs now impact conservation areas and in-

digenous territories, where private holdings are forbidden.

We compared the boundaries of self-declared private holdings in the government's Rural Environmental Registry database, known as CAR, with the boundaries of all public lands in southern Amazonas State. The region has 50,309 square miles in conservation units. Of these, we found that 10,425 square miles, 21 percent, have been “grabbed,” or declared in the CAR register as private between

2014 and 2020.

In the United States, this would be like having 21 percent of the national parks disappear into private property.

Our measurement is probably an underestimate, given that not all grabbed lands are registered. Some land grabbers now use CAR to establish claims that could become legal with changes in the law.

Land grabs put the rainforest at risk by increasing deforestation. In southern Amazonas, our research reveals that twice as much deforestation occurred on illegal as opposed to legal CAR holdings between 2008 and 2021, a relative magnitude that is growing.

So who are these land grabbers?

In Pará State, Amazonas State's neighbor, deforestation in the 1990s was dominated by poor family farms in rural settlements. On average, these households accumulated 120 acres of farmland after several decades by opening 4-6 acres of forest every few years in clearings visible on satellite images as deforestation patches.

Since then, patch sizes have grown dramatically in the region, with most deforestation occurring on illicit holdings whose patches are much larger than on legal holdings.

Large deforestation patches indicate the presence of wealthy grabbers, given the cost of clearing

land.

Land grabbers benefit by selling the on-site timber and by subdividing what they've grabbed for sale in small parcels. Arrest records and research by groups such as Transparency International Brasil show that many of them are involved in criminal enterprises that use the land for money laundering, tax evasion and illegal mining and logging.

In the 10-year period before President Jair Bolsonaro took office, satellite data showed two deforestation patches exceeding 3,707 acres in Southern Amazonas. Since his election in 2019, we can identify nine massive clearings with an average size of 5,105 acres. The clearance and preparation cost for each Bolsonaro-era deforestation patch, legal or illicit, would be about \$353,000.

Brazil's National Congress has been making it easier to grab public land.

A 2017 change in the law expanded the legally allowed size of private holdings in undesigned public lands and in rural settlements. This has reclassified over 1,000 square miles of land that had been considered illegal in 2014 as legal in southern Amazonas. Of all illegal CAR claims in undesigned public lands and rural settlements in 2014, we found that 94 percent became legal in 2017.

## Soybeans Grow Larger With Bees

By Matt Shipman

NC State

“Even though soybeans are not thought of as being dependent on pollinators, we found that soybean plants are still attractive to bees,” says corresponding author Hannah Levenson, a postdoctoral research scholar at North Carolina State University. “And we found that the presence of pollinators was associated with larger soybeans.”

“There's been a lot of work on how planting pollinator habitat near crop fields can affect crops that are considered pollinator dependent, such as blueberries or strawberries,” Levenson says.

“But there's been relatively little work on crops that aren't considered pollinator dependent. We wanted to know how having pollinator habitat near soybean fields would affect both bee species and crop yields for the soybeans.”

The researchers chose to focus on soybeans because they are an economically important crop that is grown in dozens of states.

For the study in Agriculture, Ecosystems & Environment, researchers worked at eight re-

search stations across North Carolina. At each station, the researchers evaluated two soybean fields: one that was adjacent to an established area of pollinator habitat, and one that was as far away as possible—generally just under a kilometer (about .62 miles) away.

The pollinator habitat was created by planting wildflower seed mixes in unused land near fields. The habitat could be grown in areas that aren't amenable to crop cultivation, or on land that can be used to grow crops but had not been cultivated that season due to crop rotation or other factors.

To assess impact on bees, the researchers did two things. First, they surveyed bee communities in both soybean fields and the pollinator habitat at each research station. The surveys consisted of a detailed visual assessment to establish the overall abundance of bees, as well as which species were present at each location. The researchers also collected samples of individual bees to confirm their identifications.

The research team also collected pollen samples from three of the most common bee species, al-

lowing them to determine which plants the bees were visiting.

“From the survey, we found that the bee communities in the pollinator habitats were completely distinct from the bee communities in the distant soybean fields,” Levenson says.

“The bee communities in the soybean fields adjacent to pollinator habitats were something of a mixture, including elements of both of the other groups. The habitat-adjacent fields were fairly similar to the distant soybean fields, but had bee communities that were clearly influenced by the nearby pollinator habitat.”

“From the pollen samples, we learned that all of the bees we found in any of the soybean fields were actively visiting soybean flowers,” says coauthor April Sharp, a graduate student at NC State who worked on the project as an undergraduate. “The evidence suggests that some of the bees in the pollinator habitat itself were also visiting the soybean flowers, though that was less pronounced.”

The researchers also found that bees in the soybean fields located far from pollinator habitats were often leaving the soybean fields to visit flowers completely outside of the study area. Bees in soybean fields that were adjacent to the pollinator habitat were less likely to leave the study area.

“This suggests that having pollinator habitat nearby is beneficial to bees in the soybean fields,” Levenson says.

To assess the impact on crop yields, researchers collected 30 soybean plants from each of the fields at harvesting time. They then counted the number of seeds—or soybeans—per pod, the total number of seeds per plant, and the weight of those seeds.

reach and effectiveness in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). These efforts are improving in-store shopping experiences, testing solutions for using benefits at farmers markets, and more.

•Updating School Meals Standards  
Evidence shows school meals are the healthiest meals kids get in a day. To build on that, USDA is updating school nutrition standards that build on the success of school meal programs and align with Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2020-2025.

•Increasing SNAP Benefits  
Before last year, nearly nine of ten SNAP participants struggled to consume foods and beverages aligned with federal recommendations, with the cost of healthy foods cited as the most common roadblock.

## We Need Some New Farmers!



By Vincent L. Hall

Texas Metro News

Black History comes in chapters, but the best of it is unwritten and cultural. It has always been how we do, what we do, when forced to do it that makes the Black experience unique.

Long sentence, but you get the message!

During and before the “Modern Age,” we as a people had a footprint in two worlds. One was urban; the other was rural or agricultural. The Modern Age ushered in technological innovations, scientific discoveries, and the like. Opportunities in the city drew us from the farm.

One advantage of having a presence in two worlds was that our children were exposed to the best of everything. “Student or Foreign Exchange” programs were prevalent among privileged children, but we had our own low-budget exchange program.

We called it “Going to the country for the summer,” and it worked. That transfer program also worked for rural kids who got a chance to go to the city. The unofficial Black Exchange Program made us better. Much better.

This idea came to mind lately when I talked to a friend, Deacon Charles Johnson. He hippped me to some history I was clueless about. He told me that he had been a member of the New

Farmers of America. The Indiana University Library records lend an enlightening synopsis.

“The New Farmers of America (NFA) began as a national organization for African-American farm youth in 1935 to promote agricultural leadership, character, thrift, scholarship, cooperation, and citizenship. This organization served its members for 30 years providing experience in leadership and education in the agricultural field.

Programs and contests designed for the organization awarded youth for achievement within the NFA and their community. In 1965 the NFA merged with the National FFA Organization. At the time of the merger, the NFA consisted of 1,004 chapters in 12 states and over 50,000 members.”

According to the Communities of Practice website.

“George Washington Owens, a professor at Virginia State College, and H. O. Sargent, Federal Agent for Special Populations (Negro, Hispanic, Native-Americans) provided the leadership for establishing the NFA. Owens was Black, and Sargent was white.

Owens was the first Black person to graduate from Kansas State University. His personal and professional papers are in the KSU library archives. Sargent was a graduate of Auburn University. He was killed in a car accident in 1936 in Louisi-

ana.”

Interestingly enough, instead of sporting the cross-section of an ear of corn, like the FFA badge, the NFA used the outline of a cotton boll. Their colors were black and gold with NFA on the emblem. Although picking cotton is now seen as a duty of drudgery and discrimination, the NFA held it out as an aegis of pride.

This newfound nugget bolstered an idea that came to me 20 years ago. We need an active and viable program that encourages the exchange of 10-15-year olds and swaps the city life for the “country life” for at least a few weeks each year.

It irks me that too many children in this community have an outlook on life limited to a five square mile area near their residence. We could reduce crime and a lot of depression by broadening horizons.

Yes, lots of our kids have not been diagnosed but live with depression.

Caring for farm animals, planting crops, and learning to appreciate creation would help immeasurably. Likewise, touching diversity, visiting recreational venues, and being exposed to urban realities would help the small-town kid.

You can't be on social media all day, dreaming about life, when you got chores and fishing to do. And nowadays, no one depends on technology as much as farmers. Rural residents learn to become their own veterinarians and mechanics. They do their own plumbing, masonry and electricity, and so much more.

The Black Exchange system I want to see would expand our knowledge base. The more we know about people, places, and possibilities, the more we enhance our outlooks, opinions, and opportunities.

We used to have a natural exchange system in place, but we have lost our sense of community, strong family ties, and a sense of adventurism.

We gotta get back to our cotton-picking minds. Recreate the New Farmers of America culture or join the FFA!



## Dietitians Are The Champions We Need To Achieve Nutrition Security

USDA has always worked to ensure all Americans have adequate access to food. Now, the time has come for deeper conversation about nutrition security – the consistent access to safe, healthy, affordable food essential to optimal health and well-being, regardless of race, ethnicity, or background. Nutrition security efforts work together with promoting food security, ensuring that everyone not only has enough to eat, and that those calories contribute to their overall health.

Poor diet is the leading cause of health issues in the U.S, with nearly 3 in 4 American adults being overweight or obese. Certain populations, such as Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC), as well as people in rural and low-income communities are at greater risk for diet-related disease.

As USDA observes Registered Dietitian Nutritionist Day, we rec-



ognize the vital role these professionals have in guiding those they serve towards preparing more nutritious meals and living healthier lifestyles.

USDA is working to promote nutrition security in several ways:

•Revolutionizing and Expanding WIC

The American Rescue Plan Act invested an historic \$390 million which USDA is using to improve



# Community

## NCCU, Princeton Provide Fellowship For Aspiring Librarians

By Tyria McCray

Staff Writer

The North Carolina Central University School of Library and Information Sciences and Princeton University Library (PUL) have joined to offer a multi-year fellowship program for aspiring librarians and information science careers.

Founded in 1941, NCCU's library science program remains the only graduate program at an HBCU in the U.S. Furthermore, only students earning a master's degree in information science or library science at NCCU are eligible for PUL's Early Career Fellowship Program.

Princeton will assist increasing minority representation to have a more diverse field of top-quality professionals, including graduates of HBCUs. The fellowship will offer eight two-year-long positions over the next four years, with the first two fellows beginning in summer 2022.

Library staff members at



Princeton will be leading the coordination of the fellowship program. This program gives students a chance to learn more about information science and library careers and changes the narrative on minority librarians in the workplace.

"As the need for information

has grown rapidly in our society, our enrollment has more than doubled in the last five years. I am very proud that our students are gaining critical digital skills to make information accessible and open to everyone. We have partnerships with many libraries in North Carolina and around

the country. And our program continues to gain national recognition. Our collaboration with Princeton allows students to work and train with some of the leading experts in the field," stated Jon P. Gant, Dean, and Professor of NCCU School of Library and Information Sciences.

The recent U.S. Census data stated that more than 86 percent of librarians identified as White, whereas only 7 percent identified as Black or African-American. This data conveys why this program is exceptionally vital, since it'll allow recent graduates with industry-ready training to work right after graduation.

Individuals will also be paired with professionals to receive hands-on training and professional mentorship, including positions within the library's information science operations or cataloging areas.

The initiative allows individuals to encode languages to write programs that aid in automation. Fellows will work in software configuration management and deployment to build and maintain PUL's infrastructure.

Scholars will also have the opportunity to review, copy, and derive cataloging of monographic material, including collaborative projects within PUL and participation in external committees and

working groups related to cataloging and metadata. Relocation and professional development expenses are covered as well.

"The students will be part of the Princeton University Library that is committed to democratizing access to information and knowledge in how it is diversifying its collections and approach to library experience for everyone. The students will work on using digital technologies to transform libraries. This program expands the number of African-Americans underrepresented in the digital frontiers of libraries. The students will of course make an impact at Princeton, but it also opens the door for the students to lead the digital frontier of any library in the world, including the academic libraries at HBCUs nationally," said Gant.

To be selected for the program, individuals must have earned a master's degree in information science or library science from NCCU in 2020, 2021, or 2022.

## The Real Truth About St. Patrick's Day

By James Farrelly

University of Dayton

In 1997, my students and I traveled to Croagh Patrick, a mountain in County Mayo, as part of a study abroad program course on Irish literature I was teaching for the University of Dayton. I wanted my students to visit the place where, each July, thousands of pilgrims pay homage to St. Patrick, who, according to lore, fasted and prayed on the summit for 40 days.

While there, our tour guide relayed the story of how St. Patrick, as he lay on his death bed on March 17 in A.D. 461, supposedly asked those gathered around him to toast his heavenly journey with a "wee drop of whiskey" to ease their pain.

The mention of whiskey left me wondering if St. Patrick may have unintentionally influenced the way most of the world celebrates the holiday today: by drinking.

It wasn't always this way. The Festival of St. Patrick began in the 17th century as a religious and cultural commemoration of the bishop who brought Christianity to Ireland. In Ireland, there's still an important religious and cultural component to the holiday, even as it has simply become an excuse to wear green and heavily drink in the rest of the world.

Because historical details about St. Patrick's life remain shrouded in speculation, scholars are often stymied in their attempts to separate fact from legend.

In his spiritual memoir, "Confessio," St. Patrick describes how he was brought to Ireland as a slave. He eventually escaped, rejoining his family in Britain, probably Scotland. But while there, he had a recurring dream, in which the "Voice of the Irish" called to him to return to Ireland in order to baptize and minister to them. So he did.

The Irish revere the account of this dream described in the "Confessio"; they accept the simplicity and fervor of his words and feel a debt of gratitude for his unselfish commitment to their spiritual well-being.

St. Patrick's efforts to con-

vert the Irish to Catholicism were never easy. Viewing him as a challenge to their power and authority, the high kings of Ireland and the pagan high priests, called Druids, resisted his efforts to make inroads with the population.

But through his missionary zeal, he was able to fuse Irish culture into Christianity, whether it was through the introduction of the Celtic Cross or the use of bonfires to celebrate feasts like Easter.

Again, many of these stories could amount to no more than myth. Nonetheless, centuries after his death, the Irish continue to show their gratitude for their patron saint by wearing a spray of shamrocks on March 17. They start the day with mass, followed by a day-long feast, and prayer and reflection at night.

From 1820 to 1860, almost 2 million people left Ireland, many due to the potato famine in the 1840s and 1850s. More followed in the 20th century to reunite with relatives and escape poverty and joblessness back home.

Once settled, they found new ways to celebrate St. Patrick's Day and their Irish identity in their new homes.

Irish-Americans, especially, were quick to transform March 17 into a commercial enterprise. The mandatory "wearing of the green" in all its garishness is a far cry from the original tradition of wearing a spray of shamrocks to honor St. Patrick's death and celebrate Irish solidarity. Parades famously sprung up - especially in New York and Boston - revelry ensued and, sure enough, even the beer became green.

Children of Irish-Americans in the United States have absorbed Irish culture at a distance. Many probably know that St. Patrick is Ireland's patron saint. But they might not fully appreciate his mythic stature for kids growing up on

the emerald isle.

Ask children of any age in Ireland what they know about St. Patrick, and they will regale you with stories of his magical abilities, from his power to drive the snakes out of Ireland to his use of the three leaves and one stem of the shamrock to demystify the Trinity doctrine of the Catholic Church.

They see St. Patrick as a miracle worker, and as adults, they keep the legends alive in their own ways. Some follow St. Patrick's footsteps all around Ireland - from well to hill to altar to chapel - seeking his blessing and bounty wherever their journeys take them.

Of course, in America, the holy day is really a party, above all else.

Americans have in some years spent US\$6.16 billion celebrating, with 13 million pints of Guinness consumed. Some parts of the country have even held a pre-celebration on Sept. 17 - or, as they call it, "Half-way to St. Patrick's Day."

Where all of this leads is anyone's guess. But beginning in the 1990s, Ireland seemed to grasp the earning potential of the Americanized version. March 17 remains a holy day for the natives and a holiday for tourists from around the world, with pubs raking in the

euros on St. Patrick's Day.

But I've always wondered: What if St. Patrick had requested a silent prayer instead of "a wee drop of whiskey" to toast his passing? Would his celebration have stayed more sacred than profane?

Photos of the Raleigh St. Patrick's Day parade were taken by Delmas Cooper



# Editorials

## Editorial Policy

Unsigned editorials in this space are the opinion of the newspaper. All other opinion pieces, including those from regular columnists, are the opinion of the writers themselves. The Carolinian strives to provide provocative commentary that is likely to spur thoughtful debate, regardless of whether we agree with it.

## How Can We Cope With Higher Gas Prices?

By Mike Walden  
Guest Editorial

Gas prices are on the rise. As I am writing this column, the average national price just jumped to over \$4 per gallon. By the time you read this, it could be significantly higher.

People worry about gas prices for two reasons. First, we are a mobile society. Most of us drive to work, to stores for shopping and to restaurants and entertainment venues for fun. So higher gas prices increase the cost of many of our regular activities.

Second, higher gas prices are also an added cost for businesses that purchase inputs from other producers. Many of these inputs are delivered by trucks and vans. When the price of gas goes up, deliverers of inputs to businesses must charge more. And when business costs rise, those higher costs will be passed on to consumers.

Gas prices have actually been rising for a while. Prior to the pandemic, pump prices ranged between \$2.50 and \$3 a gallon. When a large part of the economy was shut down and people stayed at home from work, schools and shopping, gas prices plunged to under \$2 per gallon.

The lower gas prices during the pandemic made pumping oil—which is the prime energy source of gasoline—less lucrative, so both international and domestic producers of oil cut output. In early 2020—the height of the pandemic—international oil production dropped 15 percent and U.S. oil production fell 26 percent. As the economy recovered from the pandemic and driving increased, international and domestic production increased but are still not back to pre-pandemic levels. As a result, gas prices were above \$3 a gallon when 2022 began, yet lower than a decade earlier.

Interestingly, prior to the Ukraine War, energy experts forecasted gas prices would trend downward in 2022. They thought oil prices were high enough to encourage more international production at the same time the increase in driving would slow. The U.S. Department of Energy thought gas prices would be around \$2.80 by the end of 2022.

Then Russia invaded Ukraine in late February. Oil prices surged by one-third and took gas prices with them. The rapid price increases were driven by two worries. One was whether the world would stop buying Russian oil, which accounts for near 10 percent of the international oil supply. Less supply—with no change in buying—always results in a higher price.

But there are worries beyond the energy market. Could the Ukrainian War lead to a direct military confrontation between the two major nuclear powers—the U.S. and

Russia? Direct confrontations between these two countries have been avoided, with only a few close calls—the Berlin blockade in 1948, the Cuban missile crisis in 1962 and the Middle East Yom Kippur War in 1973.

With the uncertainty over a U.S.-Russia stare-down, the financial values of necessities, such as precious metals, basic foods like grains and energy commodities including oil, soar. If this uncertainty moves toward a possibility, these prices will rise even more.

What can be done? The answer is at two levels—what can be done collectively, and what can be done individually?

Let's look at the collective options first. One is to increase the supply of oil by drawing down on the U.S. Strategic Oil Reserve, where almost 600 million barrels are stored. If the U.S. relied only on this oil, it would carry us for a month. Or, if we used the reserve to replace the Russian oil we buy, we could avoid Russian oil for almost three years.

What about ramping up our own oil production? U.S. oil production has been increasing, but it is still eight percent under pre-pandemic levels. Like many industries, oil production has faced labor and equipment shortages, as well as unsupportive investors and stricter government rules. But even if these limitations were fixed, many experts think it would be 2023 before production could be back to pre-pandemic days.

One source that could quickly help is Saudi Arabia, which has the ability to swiftly increase oil supplies. However, the Saudis would have to be convinced to give up some of the benefits they are now reaping from the extraordinary high price of oil.

Last, we could try to reduce our use of gasoline by having the government impose limits on gas purchases. Less gas buying would put some downward pressure on both gas and oil prices. I lived through a version of this in the 1970s with odd/even buying days based on your license plate number.

At the individual level, higher gas prices will motivate each of us to try to limit our use of gas. Eliminating unneeded trips and consolidating necessary trips are examples. Substituting remote buying for in-person buying could also help us reduce gasoline usage.

In my opinion, we are in the midst of one of the most serious international events since World War II. I hope that both individually and collectively, how we decide to react to the crisis will ultimately lead to a satisfactory and safe outcome.

Walden is a Reynolds Distinguished Professor Emeritus at North Carolina State University.



(See **A DIFFERENT VOICE**, P. 11)

## A Different Voice

By Dorothy Shaw Thompson



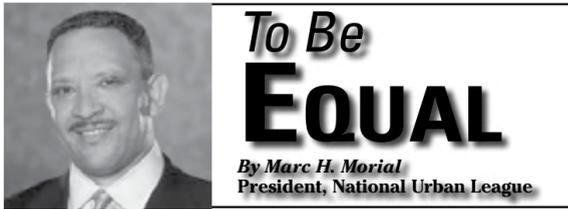
### THE SADDEST THING

I was watching television the other night and saw the saddest thing. An elderly White man had appeared before the school board in some locale with one question. "When," he asked "are we going to have White History Month?" Self-satisfied that he had stymied, then he smiled and went proudly to his seat. Nobody answered him, they just tolerated the question and went on. That was the saddest second thing. He came in ignorance, he left in ignorance and nobody told him to just pick up a book, any school book, that has history in its title and he would see, if he could read, why he doesn't need a White History Month.

This is a problem with getting the truth across to people who don't know. They think that they are already smart enough and they don't want to know any more. Maybe they want to live in their delusions and denials because they don't want to be free from their fears. It's interesting to me that the heads in charge of removing books from school libraries and true history from curricula don't argue that the truth is not true. They argue that they don't want their children to be ashamed of the truth. That's kind of bold, isn't it? Is it that they also don't want their children to be better than they are? They don't want their children to be inclusive and see that their whiteness doesn't make them superior. They take their children to church but probably don't want them to read the Bible for themselves. They want the activity of church but not the activity of Christianity but that's not true of racists is it? There are others who like the habit of churchgoing but don't like the freedom that true Christianity brings.

They want the baby to have been born in a stable without receiving the idea that the inn was full and nobody was willing to share their room with a pregnant woman who was birthing peace and joy into the world. An unmarried pregnant woman at that. We like our traditions, don't we? We really do want to shape the story to our liking. Recently, a good friend told me that he had stopped going to church. He was a head of the Deacon Board and a member of the Scholarship Committee when he found that \$70,000 was missing from the fund and the committee was in the hole for \$10,000. When he tried to find out what happened he said he was told by the pastor that he was threatening his money and when he threatened his money he threatened his family and that he didn't take that lightly. He said, "Dot, I have found that when I looked for another church, I found similar problems there. Wow!" The good news

(See **A DIFFERENT VOICE**, P. 9)



## To Be EQUAL

By Marc H. Morial  
President, National Urban League

### COACH FLORES' LAWSUIT PRESENTS NFL WITH "OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE IN SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE"

"More than half the players in the NFL are Black, and most coaches have played the game at some level. That would seem to be the perfect recipe for Black coaches to find success. But most NFL owners have been White men, and they have seldom been willing to let African-Americans or Latinos call plays—either on the field or from the sidelines. This is no different from when franchises presumed that Black players weren't smart enough to play quarterback and lacked leadership skills to command men. The league's paltry record of hiring minority head coaches comes from the same mind-set. And its primary effort to address the problem has been a failure, because a policy can't compensate for ignorance."

—Jemele Hill

Three days before Brian Flores was scheduled to interview for the position of head coach with the New York Giants, he received a text from New England Patriots general manager Bill Belichick congratulating him on getting the job.

Except Belichick thought he was texting Brian Daboll. The Giants not only had decided to hire Daboll before even interviewing Flores, but already was sharing the information with others.

Belichick's flub illuminated what has long been an open secret in the NFL: too often, complying with the "Rooney Rule," which requires league teams to interview candidates of color for head coaching and senior football operation jobs, is an empty gesture—a fig leaf to conceal the owners' indifference to achieving racial parity among top coaching and executive positions.

As head coach of the Miami Dolphins, Flores led the team out of a 20-year slump to consecutive winning seasons between 2020 and 2021. Rather than celebrate his success, Dolphin's owner Stephen M. Ross fired him. And rather than leap at the chance to hire Flores—or at least seriously consider him—the Giants used his sham interview to create the false impression that a Black candidate had a legitimate chance at obtaining the job.

Flores' lawsuit against the NFL, the Giants, the Dolphins, and the Denver Broncos—whom he accuses of conducting a similar

sham interview in 2019—has brought to a head the League's shameful history of racial discrimination and persistent indifference to diversity, equity and inclusion.

Civil rights leaders, including myself, met Monday with NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, challenging the league to establish specific recruiting and hiring procedures for executive and coaching positions, with meaningful consequences for teams that do not abide by the rules. We agreed to continue collaborating and advising the league to achieve diversity, equity, and inclusion at every level of the NFL and its member teams.

The lawsuit cites some appalling statistics. While 70 percent of NFL players are Black, not one of its 32 team owners is Black. The only team, the Pittsburgh Steelers, employs a Black head coach. Only four teams employ a Black offensive

(See **TO BE EQUAL**, P. 11)

## Child Watch

By Marian Wright Edelman



### TELL ME WHERE TO BE BORN

People of the world, tell me where to be born.  
If I were born in the land of "your interest" would you let me die?

People of the world, my name is Holocaust and I'm fifty plus years old.

My name is Sarajevo and I'm three years old.

My name is Bihac and I'm but a month old.

I have no name, I'm yet to be born.

People of the world, tell me where to be born, so you will not hate me one day, so you will not maim me one day, so you will not kill me one day.

People of the world, tell me where to be born.

—Avideh Shashaani

"Tell Me Where to Be Born" is the title poem from a book child and peace advocate Avideh Shashaani wrote in another decade of war and crisis, but every new conflict suggests another devastating line to add. People of the world, my name is Aleppo. My name is Kabul. My name is Tigray. My name is Kyiv. As international horror, heartbreak, and outrage erupt over the newborns, children, mothers, and other civilians under attack right now, when, when, when we will we stop and create a world worthy of and fit for and safe for all our children?

Since 1947, the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists' symbolic "Doomsday Clock" has been set every year; its hands either staying in place or moving closer to or farther from midnight

(See **CHILD WATCH**, P. 9)

## Letters To The Editor

### What We Blacks Need To Do—PART 3

To The Editor:

During my 34 years teaching vocational education (shop), I taught my students a new word every week. Our parents need to learn with their children to make "good" education happen in their HOME. This lesson will help both learn a new word each week during the 52 weeks in 2022. I will post one every Sunday on my Facebook page (James Hankins).

The words for today are REGISTER, BILLION AND TRILLION. We are now in the election season. We must learn how to play the political game or continue to be played. You must choose one of the three major political parties, Democrat, Republican or Independent in order to register in most states. REGISTER means signing up to vote. You can get all the information you need from your local board of election, NAACP, Church or Black newspaper. To see which political party you want to join and work with take a good look at who they represent and who their leader is. The Republican Party leader is twice impeached Ex-President Donald Trump. His biggest accomplishment was the \$1.7 trillion tax cut for the very rich. A BILLION dollars is 1,000 million and a TRILLION dollars is 1,000 billion. TRUMP is responsible for the insurrection on January 6, 2021 where 5 died, 138 police officers were assaulted and 733 TRUMP supporters were charged with rioting. Facebook and Twitter banned him for telling the "BIG LIE" about his lost election. The leader of the Democratic Party is President Joe Biden. His biggest accomplishment to date is ending the war in Afghanistan which was costing us \$300 million a day. We Blacks make up around 13 percent of the U.S. population, but over 43 percent were fighting in the Afghanistan 20-year war. He also pushed Congress to pass the \$9 trillion American Rescue Plan that gave \$250 and \$300 per month for children up to 17 years old. This took over half of the children out of poverty and a chance to experience some of the American dream. His plan also gave over \$2.7 billion to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU). His

(See **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**, P. 9)

# Other Viewpoints



LIFE GOES ON, RIGHT?  
By Robert C. Koehler

I had a breakthrough yesterday—and I don't mean metaphorically. Wars rage, countless humans suffer, the rich get richer, life goes on. I still have my morning coffee. But not yesterday.

What happened—about 5 a.m.—was a fleeting... oh so fleeting... insight into life beyond its small certainties and routines. When life suddenly spins out of control, the Great Unknown is momentarily present. I have decided to write about it, or try to write about it, to honor the vulnerable everywhere.

That hour of the morning is not my normal get-up time, but as I enter geezerhood (I turned 75 half a year ago) I find myself waking up throughout the night and heading with sudden urgency to the bathroom. No big deal. This is part of the routine.

Another part of my geezerhood is a condition called peripheral neuropathy, my special conundrum, once described to me as a disconnect between the nerves in my feet and my brain. I still have feelings there, I just lack a portion of control. My balance is iffy, especially if I'm barefoot. And the medical world is apparently clueless about it. Nonetheless, the condition is also only a modest deal—it's part of my life. I work with it. I use a cane or walking sticks, at least some of the time. I'm also conscious of the need to stay focused and balanced. A nuisance situation is worked into the routine. Things could be so much worse. My life goes on.

But yesterday morning, 5 a.m., yeah, you guessed it. I got up, put my feet on the floor, started walking to the bathroom when... whoa! What? Huh? For some unknown reason I began to totter. For an unforgettable second or two, there were no parameters or certainties in my life. I was helpless. I was hurtling into the unknown.

I tipped backward, fell against the nightstand and—ker-smash!—slammed my right elbow into the bedroom window, shattering it. This was my "breakthrough."

Pardon the pun. This was an unbearably memorable moment of vulnerability. Amidst the chaos, noise and pain, I remember also feeling a sense of relief, crazy as that may sound—relief that I was alone, that I didn't wake anyone up. That feeling passed in an instant as I struggled to get up, clutching my bleeding upper right arm. Oh! How come I hadn't married a nurse?

I stumbled into the bathroom, held the bleeding arm up to the mirror. There were several cuts. I did my best—turned on the cold water, swooshed away the blood, dried the arm (no doubt ruining a towel) and smeared Neosporin on the wounds. Then I did the best I could, wrapping gauze around the upper arm. This calmed me down, at least to some extent. I even started picking up—carefully—the broken glass. And, surprisingly, I was even able to go back to bed. I slept for several hours.

Ah, morning! 8 a.m. Now what? For some reason I didn't feel like pushing forward with the day's normal routine, i.e., starting serious column research—reaching, yet again, to understand the suffering and horror in Ukraine, linking it to wars and suffering and starvation around the world, starvation in Afghanistan... staring into the eyes and soul not just of Putin, but of NATO, of the U.S. military. My right arm hurt like hell. There were splashes and splatters of blood on the floor. I knew that my bandaged wounds needed further attention, minor as they were compared to the wounds of so many around the world.

I drove myself to a nearby emergency room, figuring what they'll do is bandage my arm more professionally. They did a bit more than that: They gave me an x-ray, determining there was no glass remaining in any of the wounds. Then a young woman named Bridget sewed up one of the wounds with five stitches, washed and wrapped the others. Now I sit here with my upper right arm wrapped in gauze. I can't rest my elbow on the desk because, you know, ouch! But I feel back within the parameters of my life again—a life I think I understand. The problem's under control, right?

Is it possible I managed to learn something yesterday? I don't mean something in the "be careful" category, important as that may be, but rather, as I feel myself drift cautiously back to a sense of normalcy, a tiny sliver of that breakthrough moment—OMG, my life is out of my control—stays stuck in my consciousness, undetected by the hospital x-ray. In that moment, I didn't know who I was or what would happen in the next second. It felt like a glimpse of life beyond the invented world: a stunned glimpse of way too much reality.

All insight ends here. I'm back to work again, reading about the vulnerable, feeling my heart race with outrage at what we do to one another. What we do to ourselves.

Robert Koehler (koehlercw@gmail.com), syndicated by PeaceVoice, is a Chicago award-winning journalist and editor. He is the author of *Courage Grows Strong at the Wound*.



REDEMPTION AND WHOLENESS RATHER THAN GUILT AND SHAME  
By Jonathan Klute

A proposed Florida law prohibits any teacher in the state from providing information about the full brutality of our country's history of Black chattel slavery, Jim Crow apartheid that followed along with serial atrocities including the terrorism of lynching, and the legacy of this in contemporary institutionalized racial bias. The official reason, right there in the text of the law, is because awareness of our authentic history might cause some individuals to "feel discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress on account of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin."

There is another way. Two years ago my wife and I undertook a pilgrimage to Auschwitz/Birkenau organized and led by the Zen Peacemakers. We stayed for a week at a retreat center by the gates of the camps and every day and most evenings we visited the wretched barracks, dungeons and torture chambers, gas chambers, crematoria, and museums of horrifying memorabilia. We sat in meditation and prayer on the railroad platform where the cattle cars unloaded their traumatized prisoners, most doomed to die there.

Our fellow retreatants came from many countries including the USA, Israel, and Germany. I am Jewish. My father migrated from the pale of settlement in eastern Europe in the early 20th century, as did my mother's parents. Countless relatives of mine who could not leave were annihilated a generation later in the holocaust.

## King Crossword

**ACROSS**

1 Soak to the sun  
5 Joke  
8 Sports figure?  
12 Penne — vodka  
13 Playwright Lewin  
14 "Oops!"  
15 Pencil holder  
16 Vacuum's "acc"  
17 Novelist Jaffe  
18 Chinese food assortment  
20 Same as zoologists  
22 Does not  
23 "Ur-huh"  
24 Tealish  
27 Locksley  
Hat poet  
32 Year in Mexico  
33 Sock part  
34 Slip — come  
35 Short recital piece  
38 Upry one  
39 Spike's warning  
40 Three, in Rome  
42 JFK's vessel  
46 Brother's son  
49 Ludding wedge  
50 Justo Fortas  
52 "I did it!"  
53 Antonyms

**DOWN**

1 Poet of yore  
2 Ja —  
3 Slender  
4 Sunflower State  
5 "Billions" actor Paul  
6 "Exodus" hero  
7 Attire  
8 "Oklahoma!" carnage  
9 Oscar-winning address Emma  
10 Top-of-the-line  
11 Compared to  
19 Hesitant sound  
21 Objectivist Hand  
24 More (Sp.)  
25 Popular card game  
26 Lark for one  
28 Very long time  
29 Fastidious trait  
30 Yoko of music  
31 Collar  
36 Scents  
37 Lo-lol lead-in  
38 Music for seven  
41 Concentrating  
42 Hey!  
43 "England's Take — Train"  
44 "Bootle-ant"  
46 Aesopian tale run  
47 Tard texts  
48 Fade away  
51 Clothing professional

## A DIFFERENT VOICE

Continued from page 8

was that he had found that he was becoming more serious about what it meant to be Christian outside the church. I'm glad for him but sad for the light on the hill and the salt of the Earth that the church, even the organized church, is supposed to be.

Now, what does the church analogy have to do with White supremacy? For me, supremacy anywhere threatens to be supremacy everywhere. When we give over our salvation to anyone with a title it threatens to stymie our soul purpose and it's a threat to thwart the plan of God. I'm not afraid that this will prevail but it sure does have us wandering in the wilderness for longer than necessary.

So, how do we conquer this quagmire? I think we take the blinders off so we can see. Anybody who thinks they own something that they don't should ask themselves this simple question... Can I take this with me when I die? To me the answer appears easy—we don't even own our own bodies because the immortal soul is that which we are and the only thing that we take with us. Let's work to clean that up and then we are not sad because we have the beginning, the end and the fruit of true knowledge—unblemished.

## TO BE EQUAL

Continued from page 8

ordinator—a position generally regarded as a steppingstone to head coach. Only 11 teams employ a Black defensive coordinator.

As Flores lawsuit alleges, this is not by chance. A 2016 study of the NFL found that white assistant coaches were 114 percent more likely to get promoted to the coordinator position than coaches of color with the same experience, education, and track record. The study found that it takes nine years before a White coach has a greater than 50 percent chance of becoming a coordinator, compared with 14 years for a nonwhite coach. The authors estimated that over a 20-year career, a White coach is likely to earn over \$20 million more than his nonwhite counterpart.

These challenges are not insurmountable. Consider the success of a memorandum of understanding that telecom giant Comcast signed with the National Urban League and other civil rights organizations in 2010. Among other provisions, the memorandum committed Comcast to establish specific, measurable goals for diversity and inclusion in corporate governance, workforce retention and recruitment, procurement, programming, along with philanthropy and community investments. According to Comcast's most recent report, people of color make up 44.3 percent of its workforce, 18.8 percent of whom are Black. As part of its effort to increase diversity among top executives, the company established a boot camp for mid-level vice president candidates, including no less than 80 percent diverse candidates. More than 22 percent of positions of vice president and above now are filled by people of color, and the company has committed to a goal of 33 percent people of color at every level of its workforce.

There's no reason the NFL can't replicate this success. It simply requires a sincere commitment on the part of the owners and league executives.

As Flores' legal team has said, his lawsuit presents the NFL with an "opportunity to engage in substantive change." The National Urban League and our sister civil rights groups will do everything in our power to make sure that opportunity is not squandered.

## CHILD WATCH

Continued from page 8

based on the scientists' evaluation of whether global events are pushing humanity nearer to or farther from destroying the world with dangerous technologies of our own making. In those 75 years the minute hand has moved 24 times, and for the last three years the clock has been set at 100 seconds to midnight—the closest it has ever been. On March 7 they issued an update:

"In January 2022 the Science and Security Board of the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists set the Doomsday Clock at 100 seconds to midnight. At that time, we called out Ukraine as a potential flashpoint in an increasingly tense international security landscape. For many years, we and others have warned that the most likely way nuclear weapons might be used is through an unwanted or unintended escalation from a conventional conflict. Russia's invasion of Ukraine has brought this nightmare scenario to life, with Russian President Vladimir Putin threatening to elevate nuclear alert levels and even first use of nuclear weapons if NATO steps in to help Ukraine. This is what 100 seconds to midnight looks like."

Where could a child possibly be born today to be sure she would be safe? If I could be granted only one wish and pass only one universal law, I would dismantle the arsenals of nuclear and conventional weapons of death in the world, produce no more, and invest the trillions of saved resources in tools of life for the poor, hungry, homeless, sick, and uneducated children and people on God's earth. How many new devastating conventional wars will rage and how close to midnight must our world get before we protect all of our children?

In his 2019 inaugural address, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky told the gathered lawmakers: "I really do not want my pictures in your offices, for the President is not an icon, an idol, or a portrait. Hang your kids' photos instead, and look at them each time you are making a decision." This is a powerful message for political leaders at any moment, and a prescient and urgent message for world leaders right now. Will we all hear and heed?

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Continued from page 8

campaign promise was to select a Black LADY to serve as his vice-president and nominated a Black LADY to serve on the Supreme Court. He kept his promise with Kamala Harris and Ketanji Brown Jackson. Are you and all over 17 in your HOME registered to vote? Proverbs 13:20 "He that walks with wise men will be wise. But a companion of fools will suffer harm". James Jerome Hankins Retired vocational education (shop) teacher past president of the New Hanover County NAACP Real Estate Broker—raconteur-writer and author.

Every day on our Auschwitz pilgrimage we would gather in small groups and share whatever was moving through our hearts and minds as we participated in this emotionally upheaving confrontation with the industrial-scale Nazi atrocities. Naturally, I identified with the victims and was immersed in feeling into the suffering of those who may have been members of my own extended family. Our German companions were confronting the participation, complicity, or at least silence in the face of mass brutality of their forbearers.

I was humbled by their courage and humility, their willingness to face what their own parents and grandparents had wrought. This they felt compelled to do as part of their own healing journey. The way to fulfillment of their own humanity lay along the path of remembrance into the heart of understanding.

They did not view themselves in a negative light any more than the Jews among us viewed them that way. On the contrary, their openness and humility provided the gift of seeing one another as fellow humans on a shared journey towards healing which denial only ever suppresses. And what is suppressed does not vanish. It festers subconsciously and provokes attitude and behavior in the darkly shadowed corners of our being. Feelings of discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress can be doorways into the corridors of healing if we walk through and see what they conceal.

We all knew that there is still plenty of anti-Semitism in contemporary Germany, in Poland where Auschwitz is situated, and in many other countries controlled by the Reich during the war. In order to effectively confront this it must, to begin with, not be denied.

I fear these German men and women have the strength that those Americans who oppose the teaching of the full story of our own country's history of racial oppression do not have.

Upon returning from Auschwitz we journeyed to some of the sites of the most confrontive civil rights struggles in the American south in the cities of Montgomery, Birmingham, and Selma, Alabama where the legacies of genocidal White supremacy and the struggles against it are vivid.

We contemplated how likely it is, had we been living as Whites in those cities in 1960s, that we would have been brave enough to join the Freedom Riders and other activists for justice and equality. After all, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s iconic letter from his Birmingham jail cell was written to the White clergy, including the rabbis, who did not support what he was doing.

In Auschwitz, identifying with the victims, we bore witness to the holocaust. In Alabama we were now confronting the atrocity of violent racism from the vantage point of the oppressors. We share our humanity with both the perpetrators and victims of all atrocities. This realization is crucial to the healing of our own hearts and the cultivation of compassionate action in our present lives.

Displaying the swastika is prohibited in Germany, but not here. And the Confederate battle flag is boldly flown all over this country and was carried into the Capitol on January 6, 2021. On that dreadful occasion one participant wore a shirt with the message "Camp Auschwitz."

There has never been a full reckoning with the racism that is woven into the fabric of our nation. And many are determined that there must never be. Clear-eyed witnessing, the first step towards healing, is to be banned in Florida and elsewhere by those determined to sustain the power and privilege that come from living inside self-aggrandizing cultural stories that also sustain the oppression of others whose stories are suppressed.

Hiding our history makes us weaker, not stronger. Confronting difficult feelings can bring us healing and wholeness, and bring us together.

But only, of course, if this is what we want. Jonathan Klute writes regularly about spirituality, political ideology, and the relationship between these two.

## RAND PAUL'S SOLUTION TO ANTHONY FAUCI: THREE MORE ANTHONY FAUCIS

By Thomas Knapp

William Lloyd Garrison Center

Two years into the COVID-19 pandemic, as the US approaches — according to the official statistics—80 million confirmed cases and a million deaths, most Americans seem to finally understand that America's "public health" institutions were the opposite of helpful in combating the disease.

U.S. Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) has a solution: Triple the number of such institutions at the top.

He's introduced an amendment to Section 401 of the Public Health Service Act which would split the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases into three separate agencies (a National Institute of Allergic Diseases, a National Institute of Infectious Diseases, and a National Institute of Immunologic Diseases).

Each of these new technocratic/bureaucratic organizations would get its own director, its own staff, and its own budget in addition to its own, theoretically smaller, bailiwick.

Paul's focus here seems to be on the baleful influence of one man: NIAID director Anthony Fauci. While it's true that Fauci was the most prominent public face of government failure in the pandemic, he was hardly, as Paul's press release puts it, a "dictator in chief." Fauci didn't have the power to drag his heels on approval of COVID-19 vaccines (he doesn't head the Food and Drug Administration). Nor did he have the power to mandate vaccinations (those mandates were done at the state level and by other federal departments), or implement Soviet-like internal "vaccine passport" requirements (ditto). He didn't have the power to mandate the wearing of masks. Again, those mandates were local, state, and other federal agency affairs. In fact, early on—before politics took full hold of pandemic response—he stood on the science and pointed out that there's no significant evidence that masking reduces the spread of viral diseases. He didn't have the power to mandate or forbid the use of hydroxy-

# Classifieds

## LEGALS

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS File No. 22 E 314

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Fred Cecil Allison of Durham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 17th day of June, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms, corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This is the 17th day of March, 2022.

Ricky Jerone Allison  
Administrator  
c/o Richard F. Prentis, Jr.,  
Stubbs, Cole, Breedlove, Prentis & Biggs,  
4 Consultant Place  
Durham, NC 27707  
3-17, 3-24, 3-31 & 4-07, 2022

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**  
NORTH CAROLINA  
WAKE COUNTY  
In the General Court of Justice  
District Court Division  
Wake County File No: 22 CVD 2531  
[CHILD CUSTODY PROCEEDING]  
DARLENE SMITH  
Plaintiff

v.  
JORDEN YOUNG and

### UNKNOWN FATHER

Defendants  
To the Unknown Father of a male child born to Jordan Young on 10/25/2020, in Raleigh, Wake County, NC. TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief sought against you is an award of **permanent legal custody** of the aforementioned child to Darlene Smith. You are required to make defense to such pleading with the Wake County Clerk of Court no later than **April 26, 2022**, said date being forty (40) days from the first publication of this notice. Upon your failure to do so, the parties seeking relief against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This, the 17th day of March, 2022.

Katherine S. Moye  
JusticeMatters, Inc.  
Attorney for Plaintiffs  
P.O. Box 58058  
Raleigh, NC, 27658  
919/794-7511, Ext. 9.  
3/17,24,31/2022

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DURHAM COUNTY

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**  
In The General Court of Justice  
Superior Court Division  
Before the Clerk  
File Number 22-E-333

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Clifton Singletary Sr., late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons

having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 17th day of June 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 17th day of March 2022.

Catherine Bailey  
Executor  
826 Larchwood Drive  
Durham, NC 27713  
3/17,24,31, 4/7/2022

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DURHAM COUNTY

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**  
In The General Court of Justice  
Superior Court Division  
Before the Clerk

File Number 2022-E-000013

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Christine Miller Clayton, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the

below listed address on or before the 17th day of June 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the

below listed address. This the 17th day of March 2022.

Betty Miller Roberts Vaughan  
Administrator  
3209 Medford Road  
Durham, NC 27705  
3/17,24,31, 4/7/2022

## D/M/WBE

### SUBCONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS WANTED

T. A. Loving Company (NC General Contractor License No. 325) is seeking certified DBE, MBE, and WBE subcontractors and suppliers for the **Contract No. 123—Pump Station 25, Force Main, and Water Line Improvements** project for the **Town of Morehead City** which bids **March 24, 2022, at 2:00 PM**. Plans and specifications for this project are available at the following locations: TA Loving Company, 400 Patetown Road, Goldsboro, NC 27530 \* Morehead City Town Hall; 1100 Bridgers Street; Morehead City, NC 28557 \* McDavid Associates, Inc.; 109 East Walnut Street; Goldsboro, NC 27533 \* Dodge Data and Analytics website \* ConstructConnect website \* Construction Journal website \* Builders and Contractors Exchange website.

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, clearing and grubbing, hauling, erosion control, seeding, electrical, SCADA, linework, directional drilling, flatwork, painting, and fencing. Please contact Jeff Price ([jprice@taloving.com](mailto:jprice@taloving.com)) if you are interested in submitting a proposal on any portion(s) of this project. Contact via phone 919-734-8400; fax 919-736-2148; or email. All quotations will be accepted up to bid closing time on bid date. TA Loving Company is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

Please advise if assistance is needed with obtaining necessary equipment, supplies, materials, or insurance/bonding to satisfy the work requirements. We are willing to accept quotations on all or partial quantities and items of work. We can offer 2-party check payments and quick payment agreements, but the agreements need to be negotiated prior to bid date.

## D/M/WBE

### SUBCONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS WANTED

T. A. Loving Company (NC General Contractor License No. 325) is seeking certified DBE, MBE, and WBE subcontractors and suppliers for the **Bridge No. 15 Water Line Relocation project for Pitt County—Eastern Pines Water Corporation** which bids **March 24, 2022, at 2:00 PM**. Plans and specifications for this project are available at the following locations: TA Loving Company, 400 Patetown Road, Goldsboro, NC 27530 \* Eastern Pines Water Corporation; 5442 Eastern Pines Road, SR 1727; Greenville, NC 27858 \* Rivers and Associates, Inc.; 107 East Second Street; Greenville, NC 27835.

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, clearing and grubbing, hauling, erosion control, seeding, linework, and directional drilling. Please contact Jeff Price ([jprice@taloving.com](mailto:jprice@taloving.com)) if you are interested in submitting a proposal on any portion(s) of this project. Contact via phone 919-734-8400; fax 919-736-2148; or email. All quotations will be accepted up to bid closing time on bid date. TA Loving Company is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

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## D/M/WBE

### SUBCONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS WANTED

T.A. Loving Company (NC General Contractor License No. 325) is seeking certified DBE, MBE, and WBE subcontractors and suppliers for the **East Street Gravity Sewer** project for the **City of Raleigh Public Utilities Department** which bids **March 24, 2022, at 2:00 PM**. Plans and specifications for this project are available at the following locations: TA Loving Company, 400 Patetown Road, Goldsboro, NC 27530 \* Freese and Nichols, Inc.; 1017 Main Campus Drive, Suite 1200; Raleigh, NC 27606 \* Dodge Data and Analytics website \* ConstructConnect website \* Construction Journal website.

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, hauling, asphalt paving, striping, traffic control, erosion control, seeding, linework, bypass pumping, and flatwork. Please contact Jeff Price ([jprice@taloving.com](mailto:jprice@taloving.com)) if you are interested in submitting a proposal on any portion(s) of this project. Contact via phone 919-734-8400; fax 919-736-2148; or email. All quotations will be accepted up to bid closing time on bid date. TA Loving Company is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

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## D/M/WBE

### SUBCONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS WANTED

T.A. Loving Company (NC General Contractor License No. 325) is seeking certified DBE, MBE, and WBE subcontractors and suppliers for the **New Bridge Street Infrastructure Phase 1 and Alternate Phase 2** project for the **City of Jacksonville** which bids **March 24, 2022, at 3:00 PM**. Plans and specifications for this project are available at the following locations: TA Loving Company, 400 Patetown Road, Goldsboro, NC 27530 \* Office of the Owner, Engineering Division of Public Services, City Hall; 815 New Bridge Street; Jacksonville, NC 28540.

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, hauling, asphalt paving, striping, traffic control, erosion control, seeding, landscaping, electrical, linework, directional drilling, and flatwork. Please contact Jeff Price ([jprice@taloving.com](mailto:jprice@taloving.com)) if you are interested in submitting a proposal on any portion(s) of this project. Contact via phone 919-734-8400; fax 919-736-2148; or email. All quotations will be accepted up to bid closing time on bid date. TA Loving Company is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

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## D/M/WBE

### SUBCONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS WANTED

T.A. Loving Company (NC General Contractor License No. 325) is seeking certified DBE, MBE, and WBE subcontractors and suppliers for the **Camp Burton Road Basin Utilities—Lift Station, Force Main, and Gravity Sewer** project for the **City of Greensboro** which bids **March 24, 2022, at 3:00 PM**. Plans and specifications for this project are available at the following locations: TA Loving Company, 400 Patetown Road, Goldsboro, NC 27530 \* the City of Greensboro Engineering Division; contact person: Mr. Ted Barker; 300 West Washington Street; Greensboro, NC 27401 or [ted.barker@greensboro-nc.gov](mailto:ted.barker@greensboro-nc.gov).

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, demolition, clearing and grubbing, hauling, earthwork, erosion control, seeding, electrical, SCADA, linework, dewatering, bypass pumping, flatwork, CIPC, concrete forms, concrete rebar, painting, and fencing. Please contact Michael Cox ([mcox@taloving.com](mailto:mcox@taloving.com)) if you are interested in submitting a proposal on any portion(s) of this project. Contact via phone 919-734-8400; fax 919-736-2148; or email. All quotations will be accepted up to bid closing time on bid date. TA Loving Company is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

Please advise if assistance is needed with obtaining necessary equipment, supplies, materials, or insurance/bonding to satisfy the work requirements. We are willing to accept quotations on all or partial quantities and items of work. We can offer 2-party check payments and quick payment agreements, but the agreements need to be negotiated prior to bid date.

## D/M/WBE

### SUBCONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS WANTED

T.A. Loving Company (NC General Contractor License No. 325) is seeking certified DBE, MBE, and WBE subcontractors and suppliers for the **Demolition and Decommissioning of Water Treatment Plant at Glenville Lake Dam** project for **Fayetteville Public Works Commission** which bids **March 24, 2022, at 2:00 PM**. Plans and specifications for this project are available at the following locations: TA Loving Company, 400 Patetown Road, Goldsboro, NC 27530 \* CDM Smith, Inc.; 5400 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 400; Raleigh, NC 27612 \* Fayetteville PWC's Procurement website: <https://www.faypwc.com/purchasing>.

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, demolition, clearing and grubbing, earthwork, erosion control, electrical, dewatering, flatwork, concrete forms, concrete rebar, CIPC, and painting. Please contact Michael Cox ([mcox@taloving.com](mailto:mcox@taloving.com)) if you are interested in submitting a proposal on any portion(s) of this project. Contact via phone 919-734-8400; fax 919-736-2148; or email. All quotations will be accepted up to bid closing time on bid date. TA Loving Company is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

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## King Crossword

### Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

B	A	S	K		G	A	G		S	T	A	T		
A	L	L	A		I	R	A		U	H	O	H		
R	A	I	N		A	I	R		R	O	N	A		
D	I	M	S	U	M				B	A	R	M	E	N
			A	M	A				Y	E	P			
M	U	S	S			T	E	N	N	Y	S	O	N	
A	N	O				T	O	E			O	N	A	
S	O	N	A	T	I	N	A				S	N	O	B
			G	R	R				T	R	E			
P	T	B	O	A	T				N	E	P	H	E	W
S	H	I	M			A	B	E			T	A	D	A
S	E	R	A			T	I	S			E	R	I	N
T	A	D	S			A	B	S			T	E	T	E

## SPECIAL NOTICE

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RALEIGH, NC OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is requesting interested Operations and Maintenance Contractors submit qualifications for a Statewide Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Resilience Services Solicitation—Multiple Regions. This solicitation is for the maintenance, repair, replacement, installation, documentation and management of the Department's ITS devices, ITS communications infrastructure and related infrastructure throughout the state.

Interested parties should send a request, **by e-mail only**, to [rfq\\_package\\_request@ncdot.gov](mailto:rfq_package_request@ncdot.gov) for a formal package detailing the requirements for submitting a Statement of Qualifications. The following contact information must be included in the e-mail request: company name, physical address, city, state, zip code, contact person, phone number and current e-mail address. The Statements of Qualifications must be submitted, **by e-mail only**, to [db\\_soq\\_submittal@ncdot.gov](mailto:db_soq_submittal@ncdot.gov) by **4:00 p.m. on April 5, 2022**.

All available Project information is on the NCDOT Design-Build link of the website at [www.ncdot.gov/](http://www.ncdot.gov/) under "Business". Project information, including each project's anticipated scope, is continually being added, so it is advisable to monitor this website for the most up to date information.

Technical questions related to the RFQ package, or other project related questions, should be sent via email to [designbuild@ncdot.gov](mailto:designbuild@ncdot.gov). For tracking purposes, questions will **only** be answered through email requests.

When making requests by email, it is advisable to request a return receipt for your records.

# Classifieds

## LEGALS

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DURHAM COUNTY NOTICE TO CREDITORS File No. 22 E 120

Having qualified as the personal representative of the estate of Robert Lamont Jackson, late of Durham County, NC, Jeffrey Lamont Jackson and Tina Marie Lewis, the undersigned, do hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before June 10, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the estate will please make prompt payment to the undersigned.

This, the 10th day of March, 2022.

Jeffrey Lamont Jackson  
Co-Executor  
Tina Marie Lewis  
Co-Executor

c/o Kratt Dedmond and Associates, PLLC  
Attorney for the Estate  
5623 Duraaleigh Road, Suite 111  
Raleigh, NC 27612  
3/10,17,24,31/22

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DURHAM COUNTY NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 22-E-287

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Courtney Scott Ferguson, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 26th day of May 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 27th day of February 2022.

Camary L. Ferguson  
Administratrix  
4700 Riverwood Circle No. 219  
Raleigh, NC 27612  
2/24, 3/3,10,17/2022

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DURHAM COUNTY NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 22-E-208

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Raya C. Di Giorgio, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 26th day of May 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 24th day of February 2022.

Mark A. Di Giorgio  
Executor  
819 38th Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94121  
2/24, 3/3,10,17/2022

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DURHAM COUNTY NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 22-E-205

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Janice Avery, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 26th day of May 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 24th day of February 2022.

Wayne T. Avery  
Administrator  
801 East Woodcroft Parkway  
Apt. 1300  
Durham, NC 27703  
2/24, 3/3,10,17/2022

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DURHAM COUNTY NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 22-E-216

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Cynthia Darlene Weaver, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 26th day of May 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 24th day of February 2022.

Alex George  
Administrator  
41 Rutledge Road  
Wethersfield, CT 06109  
3/3,10,17,24/22

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DURHAM COUNTY NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 22-E-257

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Burmadeane George, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 3rd day of June 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 3rd day of March 2022.

Donna Marie Matthews  
Executrix  
c/o Richard F. Prentis, Jr.  
Stubbs, Cole, Breedlove, Prentis & Biggs  
4 Consultant Place  
Durham, NC 27707  
3/3,10,17,24/2022

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DURHAM COUNTY NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 2021 E 003606

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Susan Snipes Teal, late of Wake County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 3rd day of June 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 3rd day of March 2022.

Johnny Teal  
Administrator  
1105 Shetland Court  
Raleigh, NC 27609  
3/3,10,17,24/22

### DURHAM COUNTY NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 22-E-216

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Cynthia Darlene Weaver, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 26th day of May 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 24th day of February 2022.

Georgina Nicole Moreno  
Administrator  
404 Idleood Drive  
Durham, NC 27703  
2/24, 3/3,10,17/2022

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DURHAM COUNTY NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 22-E-184

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Lillian J. Pellom, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 3rd day of June 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 3rd day of March 2022.

Gary Lee Pellom  
Executor  
15 Cassington Lane  
Durham, NC 27705  
3/3,10,17,24/2022

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DURHAM COUNTY NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 22-E-220

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Michael Roy, aka Michael Joseph Roy aka Michael Joseph Berardin Roy, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 3rd day of June 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 3rd day of March 2022.

Adam Roy  
Executor  
507 Jackson Street  
Falls Church VA 22046  
3/3,10,17,24/2022

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DURHAM COUNTY NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 2021 E 003857

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of James Lewis Drew Sr., late of Wake County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 26th day of May, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 24th day of February 2022.

Larry B. Drew, Sr.  
Administrator  
2704 Tupelo Court  
Raleigh, NC 27510  
2/24, 3/3,10,17/22

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DURHAM COUNTY NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 22-E-222

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of Barbara Gilchrist Matthews, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 3rd day of June 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 3rd day of March 2022.

Barbara Gilchrist Matthews  
Executrix  
c/o Richard F. Prentis, Jr.  
Stubbs, Cole, Breedlove, Prentis & Biggs  
4 Consultant Place  
Durham, NC 27707  
3/3,10,17,24/2022

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DURHAM COUNTY NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 22-E-290

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Phyllis W. Oliphant, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 10th day of June 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 10th day of March, 2022.

Cindy Hadley  
Executor  
c/o Attorney Heather Hazelwood  
PO Box 61182  
Durham NC 27715  
3/10,17,24/31/2022

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DURHAM COUNTY NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 22-E-290

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Phyllis W. Oliphant, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 10th day of June 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 10th day of March, 2022.

Lee T. Giles  
Administrator  
311 13th Street  
Butner, NC 27509  
3/10,17,24,31/2022

of May 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 24th day of February, 2022.

Kevin L. Spain  
Executor  
111 Pointe Place  
Hillsborough, NC 27278  
2/24, 3/3,10,17/22

### NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 22-E-188

[ABSOLUTE DIVORCE & CHILD CUSTODY PROCEEDING]  
YESENIA MAGALI MEDINA ALFARO,  
Plaintiff

v.  
LUCIO FERNANDES PEREIRA,  
Defendant.

To Lucio Fernandes Pereira, father of female child born on 12/12/2009 and male child born on 11.25.2013, in Raleigh, Wake County, NC.

TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief sought against you is an award of absolute divorce and permanent legal custody of the aforementioned children to Yesenia Magali Medina Alfaro.

You are required to make defense to such pleading with the Wake County Clerk of Court no later than 4/29/22 said date being forty (40) days from the first publication of this notice. Upon your failure to do so, the party seeking relief against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This, the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2022.

Katherine S. Moye  
JusticeMatters, Inc.  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
P.O. Box 58058  
Raleigh, NC, 27658  
919/794-7511, Ext. 9.  
March 3, 10, 17, 2022.

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA WAKE COUNTY NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 2022 E 00043

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Hattie Lucille Rudd aka Hattie Seaward Rudd, late of Wake County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 3rd day of June 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 3rd day of March 2022.

Adam Roy  
Executor  
507 Jackson Street  
Falls Church VA 22046  
3/3,10,17,24/2022

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DURHAM COUNTY NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 2022 E 00043

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Hattie Lucille Rudd aka Hattie Seaward Rudd, late of Wake County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 3rd day of June 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 3rd day of March 2022.

Shrounda Douglas-Riddick  
Administrator  
1422 Southgate Drive  
Raleigh, NC 27610  
3/3,10,17,24/22

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS File No. 22-E-214

All persons, firms, and corporations having claims against Joseph Schwenker, deceased, late of Durham County, North Carolina, who died on December 8, 2021, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before June 10th, 2022; or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 10th day of March, 2022.

Cindy Hadley  
Executor  
c/o Attorney Heather Hazelwood  
PO Box 61182  
Durham NC 27715  
3/10,17,24/31/2022

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DURHAM COUNTY NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 22-E-290

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Phyllis W. Oliphant, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 10th day of June 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 10th day of March, 2022.

Lee T. Giles  
Administrator  
311 13th Street  
Butner, NC 27509  
3/10,17,24,31/2022

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DURHAM COUNTY NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 2022-E-000315

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate

of James Metrius Blake, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 10th day of June 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 10th day of March 2022.

payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 10th day of March 2022.

Ronda Hamilton  
Administrator  
898 Hedgepath Terrace  
High Point, NC 27265  
3/10,17,24,31/2022

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS File No. 2022 E 000975

All persons, firms or corporations having claims against LACY MORGAN, JR., deceased of Wake County, NC as of December 6, 2021 are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before June 7, 2022 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payments. This the 10th day of March, 2022.

Administrator:  
Brenda M. Moore  
123 Roan Drive  
Garner, NC 27529  
3/10,17,24,31/2022

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS File No. 22 E 284

The undersigned, Melissa Ann Veasey and David Lee Outland, having duly qualified as Co-Administrators of the Estate of David Lynn Veasey, deceased, late of Onslow County, North Carolina, hereby notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate to present them to the undersigned in care of Ronald G. Coulter, Attorney for the estate, 3400 Croasdaile Drive, Suite 205, Durham, North Carolina 27705, on or before June 10, 2022 or it will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment.

This the 10th day of March, 2022.

Melissa Ann Veasey and  
David Lee Outland  
Co-Administrators  
c/o Ronald G. Coulter  
Attorney at Law  
3400 Croasdaile Drive Suite 205  
Durham, NC 27705  
1-919-246-5775  
3/10,17,24,31/2022

### NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice District Court Division File No.: 20 CVD 478

SHENNA DWAN RICHARDSON,  
Plaintiff,

vs.  
BRANDON LEE FREEMAN,  
Defendant.

TO: Brandon Lee Freeman  
Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows:

**Complaint for Child Custody**  
You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than April 19, 2022, said date being 40 days from the first publication of this notice, and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 10th day of March, 2022.

Monique Skinner Dixon  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
Post Office Box 1486  
Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870  
Telephone: (252) 535-2266  
3/10,17,24/2022

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DURHAM COUNTY NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 22-E-252

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Jacqueline S. Giles, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 10th day of June, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 10th day of March, 2022.

Lee T. Giles  
Administrator  
311 13th Street  
Butner, NC 27509  
3/10,17,24,31/2022

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DURHAM COUNTY NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 2022-E-000315

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate

of James Metrius Blake, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 10th day of June 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 10th day of March 2022.

Wayne Blake  
aka Jonah Wayne Blake  
Executor  
62 Richmond Drive  
Clayton, NC 27527  
3/10,17,24,31/2022

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS File No. 22 E 341

The undersigned, David Alan Edson having duly qualified as Executor of the Estate of Joan Olive Cann Edson, deceased, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate to present them to the undersigned in care of Ronald G. Coulter, Attorney for the estate, 3400 Croasdaile Drive, Suite 205, Durham, North Carolina 27705, on or before June 17, 2022 or it will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment.

This the 17th day of March, 2022.

David Alan Edson  
Executor  
c/o Ronald G. Coulter  
Attorney at Law  
3400 Croasdaile Drive Suite 205  
Durham, NC 27705  
1-919-246-5775  
3/17,24,31, 4/7/2022

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS File No. 22 E 258

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate of Eva Wald, deceased, of Durham County, North Carolina are notified to present the same to the personal representative listed below on or before the 17th day of June, 2022 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All debtors to the said Estate will please make immediate payment.

This the 17th day of March, 2022.

of James Metrius Blake, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 10th day of June 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the below listed address.

This the 10th day of March 2022.

Wayne Blake  
aka Jonah Wayne Blake  
Executor  
62 Richmond Drive  
Clayton, NC 27527  
3/10,17,24,31/2022

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS File No. 22 E 341

The undersigned, David Alan Edson having duly qualified as Executor of the Estate of Joan Olive Cann Edson, deceased, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate to present them to the undersigned in care of Ronald G. Coulter, Attorney for the estate, 3400 Croasdaile Drive, Suite 205, Durham, North Carolina 27705, on or before June 17, 2022 or it will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment.

This the 17th day of March, 2022.

David Alan Edson  
Executor  
c/o Ronald G. Coulter  
Attorney at Law  
3400 Croasdaile Drive Suite 205  
Durham, NC 27705  
1-919-246-5775  
3/17,24,31, 4/7/2022

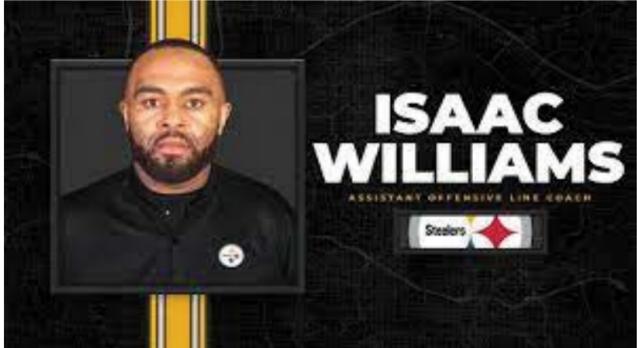
### NOTICE TO CREDITORS File No. 22 E 258

# Sports



## Two Former HBCU Football Coaches Land New NFL Jobs

By Keith Reed



Two former HBCU football coaches are joining NFL coaching staffs, hires that observers say are a small but significant step toward filling the NFL's coaching pipelines and bolstering Black colleges' reputations for preparing pro-level coaching talent.

The Pittsburgh Steelers announced on Tuesday that they hired Isaac Williams as assistant offensive line coach. Williams coached North Carolina Central University's offensive line in the 2021 season, when the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference school went 6-5. From 2018 through 2020, he coached tight ends, offensive linemen and was the run game coordinator for Morgan State University, another MEAC program. Williams played college football at Alcorn State, another HBCU which is famous for producing the late Tennessee Titans quarterback Steve McNair.

The Super Bowl champion Los Angeles Rams have also hired K.J. Black, former offensive coordinator for the Rattlers of Florida A&M University, to work as an offensive quality control assistant work-

also played college football at an HBCU, quarterbacking Prairie View A&M to the Southwestern Athletic Conference championship

Both hires were hailed as important on Monday by Alonzo Carter, an assistant coach at San Jose State and an executive committee member of the National Coalition of Minority Football Coaches.

"I'm very excited for Isaac and KJ," Carter said. "It's big. There's a lot of bright young minds in HBCU football and when they get that attention, they deserve it."

No source tracks the number of former HBCU coaches currently working in the NFL. But

while most NFL coaches have at least some college coaching experience, they tend to come from larger institutions, particularly in the so-called Power Five conferences, which are known for pumping out NFL draft picks.

Carter said that for both Black and Williams, networking was key; both participated in weekly Zoom calls that Carter arranged during the pandemic that gave young, Black coaches the chance to network with coaches on the NFL level.

Williams also participated in the NFL's Bill Walsh Minority Coaching Internship, where he worked on the Kansas City Chiefs' staff with renowned offensive coordinator Eric Bienemy.

"What I love about Isaac," Carter says, "He told me when former Steelers offensive line coach Adrian Klemm left, 'I want to get that assistant offensive line coach job with the Steelers.' And he went out and did just that."

The NFL overall is still mired in controversy over its treatment of Black coaches after former Miami Dolphins head coach Brian Flores sued the league and several teams for racial discrimination, alleging a glass ceiling for Black coaches in landing the top job in NFL programs.

Flores, whose lawsuit is still pending, was hired last month by the Steelers as linebackers coach, putting him on the same coaching staff as Williams. The Steelers' head coach is Mike Tomlin, the second-longest tenured head coach in the NFL.



CHARLIE PERRY  
MEAT MKT. MGR.

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