



U.S. Foreclosure Activity Sets Post Pandemic Highs In First Qtr Of '22

ATTOM, licensor of the nation's most comprehensive foreclosure data and parent company to RealtyTrac, the largest online marketplace for foreclosure and distressed properties, today released its Q1 2022 U.S. Foreclosure Market Report, which shows a total of 78,271 U.S. properties with a foreclosure filing during the first quarter of 2022, up 39 percent from the previous quarter and up 132 percent from a year ago.

The report also shows a total of 33,333 U.S. properties with foreclosure filings in March 2022, up 29 percent from the previous month and up 181 percent from a year ago — the 11th consecutive month with a year-

over-year increase in U.S. foreclosure activity.

"Foreclosure activity has continued to gradually return to normal levels since the expiration of the government's moratorium, and the CFPB's enhanced mortgage servicing guidelines," said Rick Sharga, executive vice president of market intelligence for ATTOM. "But even with the large year-over-year increase in foreclosure starts and bank repossessions, foreclosure activity is still only running at about 57% of where it was in Q1 2020, the last quarter before the government enacted consumer protection programs due to the pandemic."

Foreclosure starts increase in

all 50 states

A total of 50,759 U.S. properties started the foreclosure process in Q1 2022, up 67 percent from the previous quarter and up 188 percent from a year ago. States that had the greatest number of foreclosures starts in Q1 2022 included, California (5,378 foreclosure starts), Florida (4,707 foreclosure starts), Texas (4,649 foreclosure starts), Illinois (3,534 foreclosure starts), and Ohio (3,136 foreclosure starts).

U.S. Foreclosure Starts

Those major metros that had the greatest number of foreclosures starts in Q1 2022 included, Chicago, Illinois (3,101 foreclosure starts), New York, New

York (2,580 foreclosure starts), Los Angeles, California (1,554 foreclosure starts), Houston, Texas (1,431 foreclosure starts), and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (1,375 foreclosure starts).

Highest foreclosure rates in Illinois, New Jersey and Ohio

Nationwide one in every 1,795 housing units had a foreclosure filing in Q1 2022. States with the highest foreclosure rates were Illinois (one in every 791 housing units with a foreclosure filing); New Jersey (one in every 792 housing units); Ohio (one in every 991 housing units); South Carolina (one in every 1,081 housing units); and Nevada (one in every 1,090 housing units).

Among 223 metropolitan statistical areas with a population of at least 200,000, those with the highest foreclosure rates in Q1 2022 were Cleveland, Ohio (one in every 535 housing units); Atlantic City, New Jersey (one in 600); Jacksonville, North Carolina (one in 633); Rockford, Illinois (one in 634); and Columbia, South Carolina (one in 672).

U.S. Historical Total Foreclosure Activity

Other major metros with a population of at least 1 million and foreclosure rates in the top 20 highest nationwide, included Cleveland, Ohio at No.1, Chicago, Illinois at No. 6, Detroit, Michigan at No. 10, Las Vegas, Nevada at No. 13, and Jacksonville, Florida at No. 16.

Bank repossessions increase 41 percent from last quarter

Lenders repossessed 11,824 U.S. properties through foreclosure (REO) in Q1 2022, up 41 percent from the previous quarter and up 160 percent from a year ago.



Vilsack & Regan Meet With NC Ag Leaders At New Lab

RALEIGH— On Monday Tom Vilsack, United States Secretary of Agriculture and Michael Regan, Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency joined NC Ag Commissioner Troxler for a roundtable discussion with the state's agriculture leaders.

Industries from corn to cotton growers, and senators to academic scholars were in their seats, at the table. Everyone was gathered for a candid conversation with the two cabinet members, and they didn't disappoint.

(See VILSACK, REGAN, P. 6)

Judge Drops Total Price To Cover School Sys. Financing

By Gary D. Robertson

Associated Press

RALEIGH — A North Carolina judge on Tuesday cut the amount of money needed to comply through the middle of next year with a step-by-step plan to address state educational inequities. But he declined to leave in place the crux of another judge's order that directed cash from government coffers be sent to state agencies to cover a fiscal gap.

Special Superior Court Judge Mike Robinson ruled in long-running public education spending litigation which he began presiding over last month. Judge David Lee had directed in November that \$1.75 billion be moved from state coffers to three government agencies to carry out two years of an eight-year, \$5.6 billion remedial plan that he also endorsed last June.

Robinson wrote that provisions within a two-year state budget -- approved by the General Assembly and signed by Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper a week after Lee's order -- reduced the amount now needed to carry out the plan through June 2023 to \$785 million. But since a panel of the state Court of Appeals had already blocked the portion of Lee's ordering directing the transfer because it said only lawmakers can appropriate money, Robinson said he was obliged to remove that directive from his amended order.

"Accordingly, this court cannot and shall not consider the legal issue of the trial court's authority to order state officers to transfer funds from the state treasury to fund" the remedial plan, Robinson wrote.

(See LEANDRO, P. 2)



TSA: AIRPORT SECURITY FINDS LOADED GUN IN CAWTHORN'S BAG

A loaded gun was found in North Carolina U.S. Rep. Madison Cawthorn's carry-on bag at an airport security checkpoint Tuesday—the second time he has been stopped with a gun at an airport in the past 14 months, officials said.

When Cawthorn went through checkpoint D at Charlotte Douglas International Airport with the gun, a 9 mm Staccato C2, around 9 a.m., Transportation Security Administration officers notified Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police officers on standby in the area, TSA spokesperson R. Carter Langston said.

Responding officers identified the 26-year-old Republican as the owner of the bag where the gun was found, police said in a statement. Cawthorn acknowledged that the gun was his and cooperated with officers, authorities said. He was issued a citation for possession of a dangerous weapon on city property, a misdemeanor. Cawthorn was released but police held onto the firearm, as is routine.

The infraction is punishable by civil penalties, including a fine of up to \$13,900 depending on certain factors, such as whether a firearm is loaded and multiple offenses, Langston said. In this case the firearm was loaded.

Langston said this was the second time in recent history that a gun was found in Cawthorn's carry-on bag. The first was at an Asheville Regional Airport checkpoint in February 2021.

TSA officers have intercepted more than 1,800 firearms at checkpoints so far this year, Langston said.

A spokesperson for Cawthorn's office and his campaign didn't immediately respond to an email seeking comment.

After winning a GOP congressional primary runoff in 2020 over then-President Donald Trump's pick, Cawthorn won the general election at age 25 and has become one of Trump's strongest supporters. Trump recently featured Cawthorn as a rally speaker and endorsed him for reelection.

Fellow Republicans in North Carolina have spoken out against his reelection, however, including U.S. Sen. Thom Tillis, who has endorsed a state legislator for the seat. Cawthorn has drawn criticism for recent incendiary comments, including one in which he called Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy a "thug."

The airport checkpoint incidents haven't been Cawthorn's only brushes with law enforcement. Last month, for the third time in five months, he was cited by state troopers for a traffic violation, including driving with a revoked license. He is scheduled to appear in court on May 6.

NORTH CAROLINA REP. DEBORAH ROSS TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

(AP)—U.S. Rep. Deborah Ross said she tested positive for COVID-19.

(See STATE BRIEFS, P. 2)



Enviva Receives The Prestigious "Red Diamond Patriot Award" From NAACP

"The Red Diamond Patriot Award is the highest tier award of our local branch," stated Dr. Kennedy Barber, President of the Bertie County Branch of NAACP. "The recipient of this award is an individual or group who have exhibited exceptional community support above their peers. We, the Bertie County NAACP Branch, are glad that Enviva chose to partner with us in aid to the residents of Cedar Landing who lost everything in the 2020 tornado. As a great Chinese philosopher stated, 'a journey of a thousand miles begins with one single step.' Thanks to Chris Brown and Enviva for their willingness to take those steps with us on our long journey ahead."



Chris Brown accepts award from Deborah Dicks Maxwell and Dr. Kennedy Barber with the NAACP

Over the last two years, Enviva has been involved with several projects that have benefited both Bertie County and Northampton County in North Carolina. In August of 2020, a deadly tornado touched down in the area destroy-

ing several neighborhoods in its path.

Based on requests from local officials and clergy, Enviva quickly stepped in to provide immediate assistance and supplies to the re-

gion. Similarly, at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Enviva regularly sponsored and volunteered at the Mobile Pantry to provide food and supplies to families in need throughout Northampton and Bertie Counties.

"Enviva is proud to play an active role in the communities we call home. Through partnerships like the Bertie County Branch of the NAACP we continuously stay engaged to support and serve the communities we work in," stated Chris Brown. "But even more, I enjoy and appreciate the friendships that develop through the collaboration process on different projects and programs. I truly appreciate Dr. Kennedy Barber and the Bertie County Branch of the NAACP for recognizing Enviva and me with a Red Diamond Patriot Award at their Annual Freedom Fund Banquet. It was a surprise, and a big honor."

The award ceremony's keynote address was delivered by North Carolina statesman, Bakari Sellers, and North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University's Jazz Band Director, Jonovan Cooper, provided musical entertainment for the event.

W.Va, N.C. Nat'l Guard Join Cyber Exercise

By Maj. Holli Nelson



MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — The West Virginia and North Carolina National Guard and representatives from state and federal agencies fielded a U.S. team in the world's largest international cyber defense exercise, run virtually by the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence in Tallinn, Estonia, April 19-21.

Locked Shields, a CCDCOE annual exercise since 2010, enables cyber security experts to enhance their skills in defending national IT systems and critical infrastructure under real-time attacks. The focus is on realistic scenarios, cutting-edge technologies and simulating the entire complexity of a massive cyber incident, including strategic decision-making, legal and communication aspects.

This year, there were 24 friendly Blue Teams competing in Locked Shields from countries throughout the world. The 2,000 participants took on the role of national cyber rapid reaction

teams deployed to assist their fictional country in handling a large-scale cyber incident.

"There were two major accomplishments during this exercise this year. First, we enhanced the interoperability and relationships of civilian and government cyber defenders, and second, we developed the skills of the future cyber workforce that are currently studying at universities," said Maj. Bill Keber, U.S. Blue Team lead.

Exercise participants were graded on how well they protected their networks while following the established rules of engagement for gameplay.

The West Virginia-led U.S. team finished 15th overall.

The 30 participants from the West Virginia National Guard included West Virginia's Army Interagency Training and Education Center's Critical Infrastruc-

ture Protection Battalion Mission Assurance specialists, legal specialists, cyber threat analysts, and public affairs experts.

The North Carolina National Guard provided one Soldier, Maj. Ben Downing, an expert in the 5G arena.

"I was incredibly impressed by the members of my team during the Locked Shields exercise," said U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Ian Frist, a combat medic with the 197th Regional Training Institute. "I had military members as well as students, and it was an incredible experience to watch such a diverse group come together in a short amount of time and perform so well during the exercise. I think Locked Shields showcased the unique capabilities the National Guard is able to bring to the cyber battlefield."

"The National Guard is able to leverage drill status Guardsmen Soldiers like me who work in the civilian cybersecurity industry," he said. "Living in both worlds gives me an incredibly unique perspective on cybersecurity operations that I felt was indispensable during the exercise."

When Parents Turn Children Into Weapons, Everybody Loses

By Jennifer Harman

Colorado State University

Domestic abuse can involve one parent using a child as a weapon against the other parent, which harms the child in immense ways. My research has identified how

these dynamics play out and examines the damage.

There are approximately 5.7 million cases of domestic abuse in the U.S. each year, and in some of those, mothers and fathers use children to manipulate and harm the other parent. This

behavior can include directly pressuring the child to spy on the abused parent or threatening the abused parent that they will never see the child again if they leave the relationship.

Another way a parent can use a child as a weapon involves turning the child against the other parent. In this case, the abuser makes the child believe the other parent never loved them, abandoned them or is dangerous and unsafe to be around. In this way, the abuser corrupts the child's reality, even convincing the child that the abuser is the victim of abuse.

The outcome of this process is what psychologists like me call "parental alienation." The child feels betrayed, hurt and very angry toward the alienated parent—much like a spurned lover, but worse, because it involves a parent the child had a primary attachment to and who comprises half of their identity.

What happens next is a cascade of losses associated with great harm to children.

When one parent separates the child emotionally from the other parent, great harm ensues.

1. Loss of self-confidence

When this happens, researchers in my field call this weaponizing a child. The child often loses trust in their own memories or experience with the abused parent because it's at odds with what the abuser is leading them to believe.

Many adults who were alienated from a parent as a child report feeling helpless and disconnected from their emotions and having problems trusting other people.

2. Loss of innocence

The abusive parent can take away the child's innocence by ex-



posing them to ideas and behaviors that are not age-appropriate, or are in fact not appropriate at all. The abuser may ask the child to make an adult-level decision, such as choosing whether to have a relationship with the other parent. Abusive parents also can often neglect the developmental needs of the child, such as encouraging independence, and sometimes make the child care for the needs of the parent.

3. Loss of parental connection

When a child becomes alienated from a parent, they begin to reject half their identity because they are hurt and angry, and it is too painful to acknowledge that connection. The child also rejects the important parental bond the abused parent had provided. This loss of connection and sense of shared identity has substantial short- and long-term negative effects, such as unresolved grief and low self-esteem.

4. Loss of wider family links

As the child becomes more distant from the abused parent, the child also can lose relationships with extended family and social

networks. The child is deprived of the types of experiences and opportunities that these related individuals can provide, such as social support or professional opportunities possible through their social networks.

5. Loss of social connection

Some abusers socially isolate their children—home-schooling them, limiting their friendships or even relocating or abducting them to another state or country. When that happens, the child can lose all their former social, educational, recreational and cultural connections. Unable to grieve the loss of the alienated parent openly because of the abusive alliance they have formed with the abusive parent, the children often suffer alone.

What's to be done?

To friends and relatives, a situation in which children are weaponized can be confusing or even appear as the reverse of what is actually happening.

Outsiders might not recognize the role of the abuser and think that the abused parent is in fact rejecting the child or is somehow

otherwise at fault.

But those closely connected outsiders are the people best positioned to help the family break its cycle of violence and find ways to protect the child.

When they blame the wrong parent for abuse, the child continues to suffer.

Even mental health professionals don't always evaluate the situation correctly and focus treatment on the child's relationship with the abused parent—while ignoring the continued influence of the abuser.

The most recent national statistics available indicate that there are no significant differences in numbers of men and women who are victims of domestic violence each year, and I do not find in my research that there are gender differences in the proportion of parents who have their children weaponized against them by another parent.

Unless children are protected from being weaponized against a parent, there will continue to be many family relationships that remain broken.

VID-19 on Tuesday.

In a tweet, the first-term Democrat from Raleigh representing the 2nd Congressional District said she's experiencing mild symptoms. She said she will quarantine and avoid traveling, in keeping with guidelines from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"I am grateful to be vaccinated & boosted and for advances in technology that allow me to continue representing #NC02 during this time," she wrote.

Ross, 58, a former state House member and 2016 U.S. Senate candidate, is the latest political figure serving in Washington to announce a positive test.

Vice President Kamala Harris and Sens. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., and Chris Murphy, D-Conn., all tested positive on Tuesday.

OFFICIALS: INMATES ESCAPE NC PRISON, FOUND HOURS LATER

LUMBERTON (AP)—Two inmates escaped a North Carolina prison Monday, but were caught hours later, officials said.

Craig Guess Jr., 39, and Arlo Swink Jr., 38, escaped from the Robeson Confinement in Response to Violation Center in Lumberton shortly before 3 p.m. and were found nearby on foot three hours later, the Department of Public Safety said in a news release Tuesday. Officials are investigating how they escaped.

Guess and Swink were serving 90-day periods of confinement for violations of their post-release supervision, officials said. Guess was convicted of attempting to obtain property under false pretenses in 2019 and Swink was convicted of a drug offense in 2021. The men were sent to a higher custody level facility and will be charged with felony escape, officials said.

LEANDRO

Continued from page 1

That part of the ruling is a setback for school districts and parents of students who are plaintiffs in decades-long litigation over school funding. They say the state keeps falling short of its constitutional duties to help at-risk children and those in poor counties.

Still, Robinson wrote, Lee's order should be amended to declare the state has failed to fully fund those two years of the remedial plan that Lee backed, and that additional money is "adjudged to be owed" to three state agencies.

The Supreme Court had ordered Robinson to review Lee's order in light of the budget law and report back by April 20. The judge asked for and received an extra week, saying he needed more time to work through disagreements among state officials over how much money in the new budget law covered the remedial plan programs.

Landmark Supreme Court decisions in 1997 and 2004 declared there was a constitutionally protected right to obtain the "opportunity for a sound basic education" and that the state had not lived up to that mandate, especially for children in poor regions.

With Robinson's ruling, the case now returns to the state Supreme Court, which could decide to what lengths the judicial branch can go to ensure schoolchildren have the opportunity to succeed when it determines the legislative and executive branches have fallen short of their duties. No date for oral arguments has been announced.

Lee said last year that the remedial plan -- based on an outside consultant's report and input from Cooper and the State Board of Education -- could satisfy the rulings from the "Leandro" litigation, named for a plaintiff when the lawsuit was filed in 1994.

Lee wrote that other portions of the constitution addressing education access gave him the right to direct spending.

Lawyers for Republican legislative leaders -- who only recently were added as formal parties in the case -- had argued before Robinson that Lee's order directing the transfer from state coffers should have been canceled altogether. But attorneys representing school districts, parents and state officials said Robinson's job wasn't to consider whether to throw out Lee's order, but whether to adjust it in light of the budget provisions.

Robinson did write Tuesday that it appeared that there would be enough unappropriated money -- over \$4 billion -- in the state's general fund to make a transfer like Lee ordered to cover the \$785 million. That unspent balance would be sitting in a savings reserve that lawmakers say can't be spent unless there is legislative approval.

Chief Justice Paul Newby named Robinson to review Lee's order in light of the budget law on the same day the Supreme Court agreed to fast-track appeals over that order. In January, Lee had reached the mandatory retirement age for judges at 72. Newby had authority, however, to allow Lee to stay on the bench and perform the review. Lee had been monitoring the case since late 2016.

He Founded The Pan-African Movement, But His Story Has Been Largely Lost To Us

Nearly 125 years ago, a man named Henry Sylvester Williams helped create Pan-Africanism, a global movement dedicated to African independence and unity that would inspire leaders ranging from W.E.B. Du Bois to Marcus Garvey and Malcolm X.

Just a few years earlier, Williams was a student at Dalhousie University, likely living in the north end of Halifax as part of the city's African-Nova Scotian community.

During his remarkable life, Williams became a lawyer who practiced in the United Kingdom, South Africa and Trinidad and Tobago, and was one of the first people of African descent to be elected to public office in Britain.

While much is known about the impact of the Pan-African movement, Williams' time in Nova Scotia is still a bit of a mystery.

Born in 1869, Williams grew up in Trinidad and Tobago. He was educated there and taught in schools around the country until the age of about 21, said Isaac Saney, a historian and director of the transition year program at Dalhousie University.

Williams left for the United States in 1890 but little is known about his time there. Saney said it is likely he would have participated in political meetings given his political inclinations later on.

Saney said meetings would have been held at that time against lynching as well as to address the dismantling of Black

rights won during the Reconstruction era.

Barry Cahill, an independent historian and former senior archivist at the Nova Scotia Archives, contributed a chapter on Williams to a collection of essays—*The African Canadian Legal Odyssey* published in 2012.

Cahill said his research leads him to believe Williams met prominent Quebec politician, Sir Henri-Gustave Joly de Lotbinière, possibly while working as a porter on a train in the United States. De Lotbinière intervened to get him into Dalhousie Law School.

According to Cahill, de Lotbinière was a progressive and likely had more enlightened views of race than others of his generation.

"He took up Williams' cause with the dean of the law school, Richard Weldon, who was a conservative MP at that time," Cahill said.

"They knew each other and I think he intervened on behalf of Williams and to get him in to the law school, I think that's what happened."

There were long-established maritime trade links between the Caribbean and Nova Scotia at the time, Saney said, and university records show that Caribbean students were already studying at Dalhousie during the period.

Saney said there is no proof but there are certain fairly safe assumptions that can be made



about his life during that period.

He would likely have interacted with other Black people on campus such as James Robinson Johnson, the first African Nova Scotian to graduate from any university.

Johnson went on to become the first African Nova Scotian lawyer to practice in the province. According to Saney, it's possible Williams, like Johnson, may also have lived in the north end of Halifax which would have had the highest concentration of people of African descent in Canada at that time.

Saney said it is hard to believe that Williams would not have had interactions with members of the African Nova Scotian community but there are no letters, journals or recorded oral histories to substantiate them.

"Even when certain histories of Nova Scotia and textbooks

are written, you have very little mention of Black history and very little mention of Indigenous history, much less women and working-class history," Saney said.

"So I think it's the norm that he wouldn't have been recorded."

Some have speculated that Williams helped found the Maritimes' Coloured Hockey League in 1895, but Cahill was unable to find solid evidence to support that belief through his research.

Calling Williams the "father of organized political Pan-Africanism," Saney said it would be hard to believe he didn't have conversations on Pan-Africanism with Johnson and others during his time in Halifax.

In 1896, facing difficulties with his courses at Dalhousie and perhaps frustrated by the limitations of life in Halifax, Williams headed to the center of the British Empire and the crucible of many new movements—London.

Once in London, he enrolled in law at Kings College and was a lecturer at the temperance society.

Hakim Adi is a professor of the history of Africa and the African diaspora at the University of Chichester in the U.K. and the author of *Pan-Africanism: A History*. He said Williams and Alice Kinloch, a South African activist, co-founded the African Association in 1897.

(See **PAN-AFRICAN**, P. 13)

Retirements, NIL Create New B-ball World

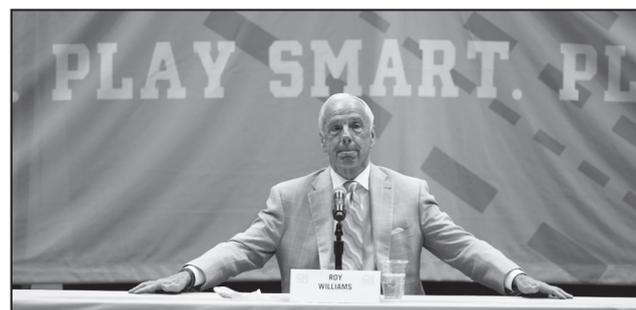
(AP)—It wasn't hard to spot Roy Williams during his first year of retirement.

He visited arenas across the country for games, including every step of North Carolina's wild ride to the NCAA championship game against Kansas, a match-up of two programs he once coached. But he was cheering from ticketed seats instead of the sideline, a still-strange sight that helps illustrate the massive changes hitting men's college basketball.

Mike Krzyzewski at Duke and Jay Wright at Villanova have joined Williams in retirement in roughly 13 months, three Hall of Famers with 10 national championships and more than a century of coaching wisdom now out of the game. Players can now make endorsement deals for money and the transfer portal seemingly hums all the time now, adding more layers for coaches to manage in an already unrelenting 24/7 job.

Soon it will be up to the next generation of coaches -- many of them former players -- to steer a new game forward through the chaos.

"I don't think we should say, 'Woe is me, college basketball' because the three of us left," Williams said in an interview with



The Associated Press. "There are some great young coaches out there that are going to adapt to all these changes. They're going to adapt to the different landscape. Everybody's going to have to."

Williams (71 years old), Krzyzewski (75) and Wright (60) combined for more than 2,700 career victories. Beyond eye-popping numbers, their long tenures of sustained success gave them clout to publicly advocate for the game or raise concerns -- such as Krzyzewski questioning the NCAA's overall direction during this month's Final Four in New Orleans.

There are still members of that old guard. There's 77-year-old Jim Boeheim preparing for his

47th year at Syracuse, while Hall of Famers like Michigan State's Tom Izzo, Kansas' Bill Self and Kentucky's John Calipari all have national titles as well.

But those ranks are sure to contract in the coming years.

"Any job, you can't do it forever," said former Virginia Tech coach Seth Greenberg, an ESPN college basketball analyst. "There's a time that you look in the mirror and you say, 'Do I have the same passion, the same energy to do the job at the level?' Because you've got to treat every single day like it's the first day of your job."

"Having this tremendous responsibility of being a head coach at any level quite honestly is not for everyone. And it might

be for you, but then at some point, it might not be for you."

That sure seems to describe Wright, who said last week he "started to feel like I didn't have the edge that I've always had."

Williams, for his part, still loved coaching but every mistake gnawed at him over his last two seasons. He stewed over them at news conferences, at one point suggesting his athletic director should consider firing him. And there was the sinking feeling that he was failing his players.

"For me, that's what it was," said Williams, who retired with a soul-baring news conference in April 2021. "It had nothing to do with (NIL). It had nothing to do with the transfer portal. Now I knew it was going to change college athletics and college basketball recruiting, I knew it would change it a great deal. But it had nothing to do with mine."

Those decisions now represent opportunities for the game's next wave of coaches. Loyola Chicago's Drew Valentine, Division I's youngest coach at 30 years old, views the retirements of Williams, Krzyzewski and Wright as "more like a crazy coincidence" than an indictment of

(See **B-BALL WORLD**, P. 14)

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e-mail: info@caro.news

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Business & Finance

Supreme Court Rubs SALT In The Wounds Of The Real Estate Market

By Michael J Romer

Romer Debbs

Those of us who live in traditionally blue states such as New York, California and New Jersey are accustomed to paying a significant amount of state and local taxes (SALT). Such taxes generally include income taxes as well as real estate taxes. However, for over 100 years prior to 2017, individual taxpayers had been able to deduct SALT on their federal income tax without limitation. For many, this deduction was an incentive to own a home and live in a high-tax area.

It all changed during the Trump administration. On Dec. 22, 2017, President Trump signed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) into law. The TCJA reduced personal income tax rates in most brackets and substantially reduced the corporate tax rate (from 35 percent to 21 percent). Politics aside, the TCJA tax cuts were lauded by many across the country.

However, as history continues to prove, nothing is ever truly free and tax cuts have to be otherwise paid for absent a reduction of government spending. To partially offset the tax cuts, the TCJA imposed a cap of \$10,000 on the amount of SALT that can be deducted each year at the federal level. The \$10,000 cap was to remain in effect until 2025.

For many suburban homeowners, \$10,000 doesn't even cover the annual real estate tax bill, much less the state and local income taxes. A reasonable argument could be made that such a change



to itemized deductions resulted in a substantial penalty to owners and potential owners of real estate in high-tax regions of the country. It is safe to say that high-tax states such as New York, California and New Jersey were not the targeted demographic of President Trump's economic and tax policies.

Still, a strong counter argument can be made that it is neither the role nor the responsibility of the federal government to subsidize high-tax states by allowing deductions for said amounts on federal income tax returns.

As a real estate professional, I believe that homeownership is and has always been the American dream. Private property rights and homeownership have been at the core of the nation's identity since it was founded. It is hard to think back to the pre-COVID days, when the national housing market was

in a much different place. Back then, many feared that the SALT cap would deter homeownership in high-tax areas. Others felt that such a cap was unfair to many taxpayers. As a result, many challenges ensued.

Since the TCJA became law, there have been many attempts made by the Democrats in Congress to either eliminate the tax cuts completely or to substantially increase the SALT caps. Most recently, in November 2021, the House passed a \$1.75 trillion spending bill, which, among other things, sought to increase the SALT cap to \$80,000 under the premise that the TCJA SALT cap of \$10,000 was onerous to residents of high-tax states.

In 2019, in *New York v. Mnuchin*, the states of New York, Maryland, Connecticut and New Jersey filed a lawsuit alleging that the \$10,000

cap on SALT deductions for federal income tax purposes violated the U.S. Constitution. The United States District Court for the Southern District of New York dismissed the case after hearing the government's motion for summary judgment.

Then, in *New York v. Yellen*, an appeals court affirmed the decision to dismiss the 2019 challenge. Days ago, on April 19, the matter made its way to the U.S. Supreme Court, which rejected the challenge once and for all. Absent a change in legislation, the TCJA SALT cap of \$10,000 is here to stay until 2025.

It is no secret that the national housing market has seen unprecedented activity as we continue to recover from COVID. Inspired by an insatiable demand and record-low mortgage rates, there has been much more demand than homes available. Nothing evidences the craziness of our times better than investment banks buying up residential homes all over the country.

However, in the past few months, we have experienced record inflation and a rapid increase in mortgage rates (30-year fixed has increased almost 2 points recently!). It can be hard to see, given the amount of housing transactions taking place, but the fact is that more and more individuals are being priced out of the housing market. In high-tax states, limiting one's ability to deduct SALT will only add to this problem. Every dollar counts in real estate, and homeownership — by actual homeowners — needs to be incentivized and not penalized.

FUNDraising Good Times

By Mel & Pearl Shaw
Saad & Shaw



SPECIAL EVENTS—ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW

An interview with Toni Brown—Part Two

Knowing that special events can be the life-blood for a non-profit, we asked a few questions of Toni Brown, principal and CEO of The Brown Wynn Agency, a firm with a long history of producing first class special events. We asked her a series of questions, and we share her responses with you.

Brown starts this conversation with what she likes most about the business, and what makes an event special. "One of the reasons I enjoy my work as a Special Events Producer, is because every assignment is different. This allows me to strategically plan, be creative, and contribute ideas that help clients achieve their marketing, public relations, and fundraising goals. The top three things that make an event special are hosting an event in a unique, unusual, or unexpected venue piques interest; creating a theme and adding impressive décor ups the 'wow' factor for guests; and a great menu, music, and entertainment are always expected!"

She also shared what people should consider before hiring a special events manager, and what her expectations are of her clients. "Working with a special events manager or team is a partnership. Prior to bringing a person onboard, it is imperative to determine if everyone is open to collaborating on the project. It can be very difficult for people to share or relinquish control of an event that they have managed in the past. On the client side, my expectation is that everyone on their team understands the mission, purpose, and goal of the event. I also expect that they have established a sufficient budget to support the proposed event, and that we all agree on a list of realistic expectations and outcomes. Additionally, they should be open to making changes and discussing new ideas."

In terms of a "lead time" or planning time for a special event, Brown recommends eight to 12 months planning time, noting that "clients sometimes underestimate the amount of lead time needed to create a comprehensive action plan for a successful outcome." We also asked about compensation standards and goals for attendance, anticipated revenue, anticipated costs, and event programming. Brown shared, "The Brown Wynn Agency charges a flat fee based on the full scope of work, length of the assignment and staffing needs. We work closely with clients to determine attendance, revenue, and programming goals. Our initial discussions and consultations with organizations are normally about budget, and the financial resources they designate to produce a new or established event. The estimated cost analysis and approved budget are key in determining the event programming, attendance capacity, and revenue projections."

Brown recommends events management as a career. "My best advice to anyone considering a career in special events management, is to invest time in volunteering for various types of events such as galas, fundraisers, fashion shows, parades, conferences in their city. Volunteering is a hands-on opportunity to experience the major components of the job: planning, setup, management, execution, and breakdown. This is an effective way to determine if special events is a feasible career path."

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Power Plant Of The Future: Solar + Battery Hybrids Are Poised For Explosive Growth

THE CONVERSATION—America's electric power system is undergoing radical change as it transitions from fossil fuels to renewable energy. While the first decade of the 2000s saw huge growth in natural gas generation, and the 2010s were the decade of wind and solar, early signs suggest the innovation of the 2020s may be a boom in "hybrid" power plants.

A typical hybrid power plant combines electricity generation with battery storage at the same location. That often means a solar or wind farm paired with large-scale batteries. Working together, solar panels and battery storage can generate renewable power when solar energy is at its peak during the day and then release it as needed after the sun goes down.

A look at the power and storage projects in the development pipeline offers a glimpse of hybrid power's future.

Our team at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory found that a staggering 1,400 gigawatts of proposed generation and storage projects have applied to connect to the grid — more than all existing U.S. power plants combined. The largest group is now solar projects, and over a third of those projects involve hybrid solar plus battery storage.

While these power plants of the future offer many benefits, they also raise questions about how the electric grid should best



be operated.

As wind and solar grow, they are starting to have big impacts on the grid.

Solar power already exceeds 25% of annual power generation in California and is spreading rapidly in other states such as Texas, Florida and Georgia. The "wind belt" states, from the Dakotas to Texas, have seen massive deployment of wind turbines, with Iowa now getting a majority of its power from the wind.

This high percentage of renewable power raises a question: How do we integrate renewable sources that produce large but varying amounts of power throughout the day?

That's where storage comes in. Lithium-ion battery prices have rapidly fallen as production has scaled up for the electric vehicle market in recent years. While there are concerns

about future supply chain challenges, battery design is also likely to evolve.

The combination of solar and batteries allows hybrid plant operators to provide power through the most valuable hours when demand is strongest, such as summer afternoons and evenings when air conditioners are running on high. Batteries also help smooth out production from wind and solar power, store excess power that would otherwise be curtailed, and reduce congestion on the grid.

At the end of 2020, there were 73 solar and 16 wind hybrid projects operating in the U.S., amounting to 2.5 gigawatts of generation and 0.45 gigawatts of storage.

Today, solar and hybrids dominate the development pipeline. By the end of 2021, more than 675 gigawatts of proposed solar plants had applied for grid con-

nection approval, with over a third of them paired with storage. Another 247 gigawatts of wind farms were in line, with 19 gigawatts, or about 8% of those, as hybrids.

Of course, applying for a connection is only one step in developing a power plant. A developer also needs land and community agreements, a sales contract, financing and permits. Only about one in four new plants proposed between 2010 and 2016 made it to commercial operation. But the depth of interest in hybrid plants portends strong growth.

In markets like California, batteries are essentially obligatory for new solar developers. Since solar often accounts for the majority of power in the daytime market, building more adds little value. Currently 95% of all proposed large-scale solar capacity in the California queue comes with batteries.

CNN+ Added To Business Failures List

By David Bauder

AP Media Writer

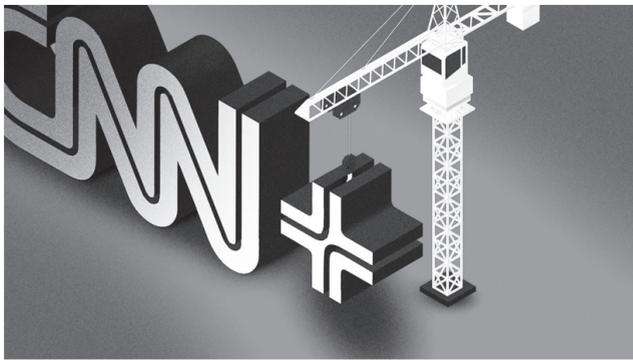
NEW YORK, N.Y. (AP)—The Edsel. Quibi. New Coke. The Segway. DeLorean sports cars. The pantheon of colossal business failures has a new member in the CNN+ streaming service.

The news network's subscription offering hadn't even been operating for a month before Warner Bros. Discovery announced this week that it would be shutting down on April 30.

"It's going to be in the Top 10," said Steve Rosenbaum, executive director of the NYC Media Lab and an expert in business innovation, surveying the lengthy history of products that went belly-

up. While "CNN minus" comments quickly proliferated, it's no joke to the more than 300 people hired for CNN+, which was in development for two years. CNN is expected to absorb some of those jobs but there will be layoffs—a clear picture on those numbers is still emerging.

The company spent hundreds of millions of dollars on the proj-



ect and no one knew when, or if, losses would be replaced by profits.

Old-timers remember the Edsel, a new car model introduced by Ford in 1957 that was poorly made and too expensive. It was discontinued after two years, costing Ford an estimated \$250 million, the name remembered as a synonym for business failure long after the car itself was forgotten.

Coca-Cola's attempt to introduce a new flavor in 1985 was

dropped in weeks. Except for its cameo role in the "Back to the Future" movies, the DeLorean didn't make a dent. Inventors of the Segway found in 1999 that not many people wanted to spend around \$5,000 for a glorified scooter.

Quibi, short for "quick bites," had the backing of Hollywood's biggest names and \$1.75 billion from investors when the mobile video service was introduced in 2020. It lasted six months.

Presciently, reporter Josef

Adalian recalled that failure in an article for *Vulture* headlined, "CNN+ has Quibi Vibes," that posted two days after its launch.

"CNN+ in its formative phase feels somewhat like the Quibi of streaming news," Adalian wrote. "Lots of money has been spent, big stars are onboard, but it's hard to figure out just what the service is supposed to be and why a large number of people will want to pay for it."

Rosenbaum, a self-described news junkie, couldn't figure out what CNN+ offered that was unique and vital to him. He said he never even considered paying the monthly \$5.99 fee to subscribe.

He said it had "lots of famous faces that I get other places."

CNN+ has a handful of its own news programs, documentaries and talk shows and big names like Chris Wallace, Anderson Cooper and Jemele Hill but, because of cable and satellite contracts, could not offer a streamed version of what most people know CNN for, the television network's continuous news coverage.

Elon Musk Buys Twitter For \$44B, Going Private

By Tom Krisher and Matt O'Brien

Associated Press

Elon Musk reached an agreement to buy Twitter for roughly \$44 billion on Monday, promising a more lenient touch to policing content on the platform where he promotes his interests, attacks critics and opines on social and economic issues to more than 83 million followers.

The outspoken Tesla CEO, who is also the world's wealthiest person, has said he wanted to own and privatize Twitter because he thinks it's not living up to its potential as a platform for free speech.

Musk said in a joint statement with Twitter that he wants to make the service "better than ever" with new features, such as getting rid of automated "spam bots" and making its algorithms open to the public to increase trust.

"Free speech is the bedrock of a functioning democracy, and Twitter is the digital town square where matters vital to the future of humanity are debated," Musk said, adding hearts, stars and rocket emojis in a tweet that highlighted the statement.

A more hands-off approach to content moderation has many people concerned the platform will become more of a haven for disinformation and hate speech, something it has worked hard on in recent years to mitigate.

The deal was cemented roughly two weeks after the billionaire first revealed a 9 percent stake in the platform. Musk said last week that he had lined up \$46.5 billion in financing to buy Twitter, putting pressure on the company's board to negotiate a deal.

Twitter said the transaction was unanimously approved by its board of directors and is expected to close in 2022.

Shares of Twitter Inc. rose 6 percent Monday to \$52 per share. On April 14, Musk announced an offer to buy the social media platform for \$54.20 per share. While the stock is up sharply since Musk made his offer, it is well below the high of \$77 per share it reached in February 2021.

Musk has described himself as a "free-speech absolutist" but is also known for blocking or disparaging other Twitter users who question or disagree with him.

In recent weeks, he has voiced a number of proposed changes for the company, from relaxing its content restrictions—such as the rules that suspended former President Donald Trump's account—to ridding the platform of fake and automated accounts, and shifting away from its advertising-based revenue model. Musk believes he can increase revenue through subscriptions that give paying customers a better experience, perhaps even an ad-free version of Twitter.

Asked during a recent TED talk if there are any limits to his notion of "free speech," Musk said Twitter or any forum is "obviously bound by the laws of the country that it operates in. So obviously there are some limitations on free speech in the U.S., and, of course, Twitter would have to abide by those rules."

Beyond that, though, he said he'd be "very reluctant" to delete things and in general be cautious about permanent bans.

It won't be perfect, Musk added, "but I think we want it to really have the perception and reality that speech is as free as reasonably possible."

After the deal was announced, the NAACP released a statement that urged Musk not to allow former President Trump, the 45th president, back onto the platform.

"Disinformation, misinformation and hate speech have NO PLACE on Twitter," the civil rights organization said in a statement. "Do not allow 45 to return to the platform. Do not allow Twitter to become a petri dish for hate speech, or falsehoods that subvert our democracy."

Katch The Kite Program—CONTINUED FROM THE THURSDAY APRIL 14TH EDITION

By Tyria McCray

Staff Writer

Note: This is the remainder of the Katch the Kite story originally published in the April 14 edition of The Carolinian.

Chris Pugh, a mentor alongside Barnes and owner of Pugh Custom Builders and Pugh Builders General Contractors (GC) Academy also shared his unique journey.

His story coincides with Barnes's because he is investing in the future of adults. The academy has and is changing the lives of people who desire to build a career in the construction industry as a licensed general contractor.

Founded in 2008, Pugh Custom Builders serves as a professional custom home-building company working in North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. Having more than 15 years of experience as a licensed general contractor, Chris provides state-

of-the-art custom home building and construction services.

Initially, he was unsure about what career path he would take but granted he knew he wanted to work. While he was in college, his mom suffered an injury on her job. Upon returning home from college, he learned that her job only paid her half of her salary.

Once he came to that realization, he knew that he did not want to work 30 years for someone and in return settle for only half a salary. He then contemplated on what job path he would take but due to some past history, he was not able to find work.

However, in 2005 circumstances changed for the better. While Chris was conducting repairs on a home, a friend presented the idea to Chris to be a general contractor. Granted he did not know what a general contractor was but after looking into it, he knew he wanted to pursue it. He went on to take the classes and became a licensed general contractor.

Since then, Pugh has been building custom homes for the past 16 years. So far, within the past three to four years, Pugh Custom Builders has built 20 houses in downtown Raleigh.

Pugh is also is also changing the lives of people who desire to build a career in the construction industry as a licensed general contractor.

Thankfully, the program is now funding itself.

"I was able to bring in one or two guys that maybe cannot afford it but I see the potential and desire in it. I am thankful and I plan to leave this to whoever is interested," said Pugh.

Scottie Barnes and Chris Pugh are both making a difference in the city of Raleigh. Communication from the young men within the program has grown tremendously.

So far, two young men are no longer affiliated with gangs. By building up young Black men and teaching adults how to be general contractors, they are truly on the path to suc-

cess. "What Chris is doing is amazing. People are learning something that they can sustain themselves with and also add

value to their life all while teaching these young men," said Barnes.

Teen Talk Tuesdays gathers every second and fourth Tues-

day of the month and the general contractors class began on April 23 and lasts six months.

Visit his website at <https://pughbuilders.net/>



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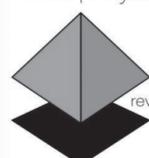
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Health & Fitness

Disabled People Are Being Left Out Of COVID-19 Recovery

By Vera Kubenz
University of Birmingham

After two years of the pandemic, there is an understandable desire to “go back to normal.” Disabled people, having been particularly impacted by the pandemic, have described the removal of all COVID rules as a “kick in the teeth.”

In the UK, between January and November 2020, disabled people were up to three times more likely to die of COVID. Social care services were disrupted and in some cases, reversed. Inaccessible health briefings meant that many people were unable to get adequate information at crucial times.

The exclusion of disabled people during an international emergency is often the rule, rather than the exception. Disabled people are more likely to be abandoned during natural disasters like floods and earthquakes, and when fleeing war and conflict. They also face greater barriers to communication about emergencies.

During the pandemic, disabled people experienced similar marginalization and exclusion across the globe. There is little evidence of improvements for disabled people following major emergencies, as governments often have a poor understanding of disability-specific needs.

The recovery from the COVID pandemic is an opportunity to change that. Here are five things that need to happen for a disability-

ty-inclusive post-COVID world to become reality.

1. Working with disabled people

The global disability rights motto is “nothing about us without us”—meaning that decisions about policy affecting disabled people should not be made without their input. It is crucial for governments to work with disabled people and learn from their experiences when developing policies.

Organizations led by disabled people played an important role during lockdowns in helping disabled people where there was no government support. They also took a leading role in recording the impact of COVID-19 on disabled people.

Conversations about disability are still too often dominated by charities, which are usually run by non-disabled people and can perpetuate ideas about disability as “tragic.” Instead, the government needs to listen to disabled voices and work directly with them to ensure their needs and concerns are considered.

2. Address poverty

More than a quarter of families with a disabled member are in poverty. This is set to get worse during current cost of living crisis, as benefits are not rising in line with inflation, and are now at historically low levels.

Disabled people already face extra costs due to being disabled, including higher energy bills. This “disability price tag” will become unmanageable for many. It is important that disabled people,



whether or not they are in work, receive adequate financial support.

This should also include funding to combat “digital poverty”—the inability to interact fully with the digital world, either because of lack of internet access, skills or finances. This is particularly acute for disabled people, who may face

higher costs for accessible technology. The pandemic has shown how important technology is to remote work and social activities—ensuring all people can participate fully is an essential part of pandemic recovery.

3. Basic protection measures

As mask requirements and social distancing rules disappear,

clinically vulnerable people are still at higher risk of contracting severe COVID. For example, people with learning disabilities are five times more likely to be hospitalized and eight more times to die from COVID than the average person.

Bringing back basic protection measures could reduce this risk. Mask wearing has been proven to be highly effective in stopping the spread of COVID. Requiring masks in indoor public spaces like shops or entertainment venues is a small sacrifice that could make a difference for many who are otherwise stuck at home.

Another important measure is support for people to isolate when they are sick with COVID. The current rules pressure people to go into work while sick. Both the Trades Union Congress, which represents 48 trade unions, and the human resources management association Chartered Institute of Personnel Development have called for a more effective sick pay system.

These basic protection mea-

asures will help everyone, but especially disabled people, move safely towards normality.

4. Access to testing

The end of free testing presents another worry for many clinically vulnerable people, particularly disabled and older people in care homes, who are no longer eligible for free tests. The Alzheimer's Society estimates that some care home visitors now face costs of up to £73 a month for daily lateral flow tests.

Care homes have been the hit hard by the pandemic, and visitor bans meant there was little accountability for shortcomings in the system. An international survey suggests human rights abuses took place in many countries, including the UK. Chronic understaffing and what the report called a “lack of humanity” were some of the factors that led to people dying needlessly of neglect, thirst and hunger.

Allowing visitors while keeping residents safe is crucial, but impossible without continued access to free testing.



Fact & Fitness

By Jeneea Jervay-Bush, M.S.

KITCHEN CLUTCH

Kitchen safety is probably the least sexy thing about meal prep and eating healthy. The good news is that you only must learn the basics once if you consistently implement the guidelines. It's also a lesson to teach kids and grandkids so they start with the knowledge when they reach cooking age. Prevention and planning are key to success.

Do you have one cutting board that's only used for raw meats and a different cutting board for produce and bread? You should because it reduces the chances of cross-contamination. Imagine one cutting board used to prepare raw chicken, briefly washed and then used to cut apples. The raw chicken remnants are still on the cutting board and will attach to the apples, bad combination. Heart.org recommends sanitizing plastic “with dishwashing liquid and water, then with a solution of one tablespoon of unscented, liquid chlorine bleach per gallon of water. Soak the board in the sink with the bleach solution for several minutes. Rinse with clear water and air dry or pat dry with clean paper towels.” (www.heart.org/en/healthy-living/healthy-eating/cooking-skills/preparing/be-the-star-on-your-kitchen-safety-squad)

Kitchen clutch also includes the grilling food. It's a great time to step up your food handling etiquette with Memorial Day and July 4th around the corner. Pop quiz! Where do you put the uncooked hot dogs and ground beef and ribs in the refrigerator? “Store them on the bottom shelf to avoid any escaped raw juices from dripping down on other food” and “keep raw meat and fish in a well-sealed container or package” (www.heart.org/en/healthy-living/healthy-eating/cooking-skills/preparing/be-the-star-on-your-kitchen-safety-squad). Consider putting the ribs in the freezer if they don't fit in the bottom of your refrigerator. Yes, that means extra prep time for thawing.

Your hand washing game is likely already strong from COVID precautions. It's worth noting that we should “remember to scrub the backs of your hands, wrists, between your fingers and under your fingernails.” Also, “wash your hands again after touching raw meat, using the bathroom, touching your hair or face, blowing your nose or handling pets.” (www.heart.org/en/healthy-living/healthy-eating/cooking-skills/preparing/be-the-star-on-your-kitchen-safety-squad)

Sponges also have a protocol for keeping your food and family safe. The above link runs down the details and logistics. Extra work? Yes. Less painful than getting sick or family getting sick. You bet.

CDC Issues Alert After Rare Liver Diseases Are Found In Children

By David Matthews

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued an alert last week after discovering a number of children diagnosed with rare liver diseases.

The CDC said it's working with the Alabama Department of Public Health after finding a group of nine children between the ages of 1 and 6 who were diagnosed with hepatitis.

Hepatitis can cause a wide variety of symptoms, including fever, fatigue, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, dark urine, light-colored stools, joint pain and jaundice, and can be caused by viruses.

The cases began in October 2021 when the first children was brought to a children's hospital in Alabama with liver injuries, including acute liver failure. The children also tested positive for adenovirus, which can cause a number of symptoms, including common cold or flu-like symptoms, fever, sore throat, acute bronchitis (a “chest cold”), pneumonia, pink eye, acute gastroenteritis (inflammation of the stomach or intestines) and others.

Nine cases were found at the hospital. However, no common links were found that could explain each child's exposure.

Two additional cases have been reported in Illinois and North Carolina.

However, a total of about 200 cases of hepatitis in children have been recorded around the world, mostly in Europe, according to the Associated Press.

Cases have also been reported in Denmark, France, Ireland, Israel, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway and Spain.

The CDC says all physicians, especially pediatricians should monitor any symptoms their patients report and report any suspected case of what's being called hepatitis of unknown origin.

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Vilsack, Regan Meet With NC Ag Leaders—CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

There were so many incredible talking points addressed at this round table meeting. The trio hit on immigration, climate change, funding, land loss and even a bit of politics. But, the thing that was most appreciated was that none of the men shied away from any questions, no playing politics. If a question was asked, a question was answered.

Jackie Thompson, a farmer in northern Wake County, wasted no time challenging Secretary Vilsack to address the H-2A agriculture workers issue that is hurting the early adopters of the program. Thompson stated that he started with the program back in 1991 and that it has been a hardship for 30 years dealing with this program, trying to play by the rules set forth. Lots of administrations have come and gone in 30 years and nobody seems to know what to do with the program. Thompson asked quite frankly, "Who needs to be the governing body to help straighten this out?"

Secretary Vilsack replied with, "I'm probably going to irritate somebody around this table, but, so be it. The first thing we need to do, before we 'fix' H-2A, is fix the damn immigration system in this country. It's broken. And I will tell you, everyone in Washington DC who is in a position of authority, and I mean everybody, knows



it's broken. And what's more, everybody knows how to fix it! This is not some very difficult issue to figure out. ... but here's the problem. There are some in Washington DC that would prefer to use this as a way of dividing you from me. And, I will tell you, I am really sick and tired of it!"

The group went on to discuss the "once in a generation" opportunity that the agriculture industry has with the infrastructure bill that was passed in Congress. Billions of dollars are raining down from Washington. Administrator Regan said, "from the bipartisan infrastructure law, just for the first year, North Carolina will get \$200 million to focus on

water infrastructure. We have to be sure that our rural communities get their fair share."

Hundreds of millions of dollars are going to flow through North Carolina, and everyone at that table wants to be a part of it. But what about the people that were not invited to sit at THAT table? There were thousands of farmers sitting on tractors that had no idea this meeting was even taking place. What about them?

The USDA created the Rural Partnership Network, which is a pilot program that North Carolina is participating in. The network is designed to make a commitment of resources, and people who will be on the ground, in disadvan-

tagged farming communities.

To simplify the process, farmers will no longer have to jump from agency to agency trying to figure out who can help solve their issue. Now there will be a single person that will be their point of contact for the region. That one person will field the issues to the appropriate party on their behalf.

It was also incredibly interesting to hear that gentrification was not only effecting poor urban neighborhoods, but farms as well. Agriculture is the number one way to sequester carbon and fight climate change. So, replacing farm land with concrete, at the rate that it's happening, is incredibly detrimental to the environment. Secretary Vilsack mentioned that we are losing 2,000 acres of farmland a day to development. He touched on diverse profit opportunities to prevent people from wanting to sell their farmland to developers. If there are clearer paths to profitability, then they can resist selling the land, and the next generation can have the opportunity to farm without having to work two, or three other jobs as well.

The government is not shielded from the Great Resignation. The USDA has a loan portfolio of \$258 billion. That is all debt in outstanding loans, which would

make the USDA roughly the 8th largest bank in the country, and they don't have enough people to help keep tabs on all of that money. Their employees are burning

out from doing two or more jobs, just like everyone else's employees. The government is not insulated from shortages and they are feeling it too.



NC's GoFundMe Hero

Chloe Moore started working at the Southside Community Farm in Asheville in 2021.

"There's a lot of gentrification that's making access to land ownership very expensive," Chloe, who identifies as a landless Black farmer, says. "It's really common for farmers of color to have economic barriers that prevent us from owning farmland."

Southside is a historically Black neighborhood that is currently home to about 50% of Asheville's public housing. Chloe describes Southside's lack of access to fresh food as food apartheid—a term popularized by renowned urban farmer Karen Washington to describe a lack of grocery stores and other healthy food options in non-white and/or low-income communities.

"Southside is systematically denied access to healthy food options," Chloe explains. "There are no grocery stores in the neighborhood. We have segregated food systems—places that have an abundance of healthy food options right next to places that have systematically been denied those same resources."

Chloe's desire to turn her passion into a way to help others is what led her to Southside Community Farm. The Black-led community project was started in 2014 by residents of Southside who came together to not only reconnect BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and people of color) communities with land and healthy food, but also to create a space that promotes education, healing, and community—even for people who don't know how to garden. The Southside Community Farm also hosts a farmers market that includes a variety of BIPOC vendors.

With leaders like Chloe, the farm is now gathering support to add services like the Southside Grocery Program, which would provide free-of-charge pantries and refrigerators by collaborating with other local farmers—especially BIPOC farmers.

"As a Black farmer, I feel like it's really important for us to feed ourselves—to have joy and change the narrative around agriculture in our communities," Chloe shares.

The Southside Farm team is always looking for ways to get more fresh food into the community. To do this, they want to start a mobile farmers market that brings produce and other fresh groceries directly to where people live.

"That's really a dream of ours," Chloe says of the idea. "It's going to take us a lot to get there. But our community is making it possible."

Since a lot of the farm's funding is generated by grants that aren't easy to come by, Chloe and her team decided to start a GoFundMe to raise the funds needed to sustain the space. She's humbled by the continued support from the community, having raised over \$13,000 from more than 170 donors.

"It's one thing to get grant funding and be paid through that. It's another thing to have my community funding me—essentially saying that they believe in me, my team, and our work."

Plant This, Not That



By Jessica Damiano

When my family moved into a new home in the spring of 2005, the only plants growing in the garden were a rhododendron by the front door and a few scattered daffodils and ferns. I was delighted to see a stunning perennial pop up a month later.

Being little more than a fledgling gardener then, I didn't know what the plant was, and to be honest, it didn't matter: I was in love with my new purple beauty.

Two years later, after graduating from Cornell University's master gardener program and working as a gardening columnist for my local paper, I sadly knew better: My favorite plant, purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), was considered invasive in my home state of New York.

"But it's not spreading on my property," I whined to no one in particular. "It's actually well-behaved."

Further research revealed that, although some plants make their invasive nature known at home (looking at you, mint), others are wolves in sheeps' clothing. They seem well-contained in the garden but become downright thugs when their seeds are eaten by birds and dispersed elsewhere.

Those seeds grow into plants that outcompete native vegetation because they aren't recognized as food by much of the local wildlife, which would otherwise keep them under control. Unchecked, they grow larger and eventually choke out native plants that provide food, nesting material and shelter for birds, pollinators and small animals. This disrupts the entire ecosystem.

Many state environmental agencies prohibit the sale and use of plants deemed harmful to human or ecological health. But some invasives are not officially designated, and others may be listed by one state but not another. To complicate matters further, some invasives continue to be sold at the retail level.

So what's a gardener to do?

For starters, avoid any plant advertised as "vigorous," "fast-spreading," "quick-climbing" or a "rapid self-sower," which are marketers' code words for invasive. Next, familiarize yourself with your state's list of locally invasive plants (those website addresses are compiled by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at epa.gov/aboutepa/health-and-environmental-agencies-us-states-and-territories).

Yes, I yanked out that purple loosestrife, which the EPA warns "clogs rivers and lakes, grows into mats so thick that boats and swimmers can't get through and destroys food and habitat for our fish and water birds." I replaced it with the tame but equally beautiful *Liatris spicata*, which has been a respectful resident of my garden for the past 15 years.

We Need to Talk About Rural Gentrification

By Wendy Allen

Rootstock

Most of us picture "gentrification" as an urban phenomenon. Developers move in on poor or immigrant neighborhoods to take advantage of depressed land values; residents are driven out as rents go up.

In rural areas, the same forces are at work, and the stakes are arguably even higher—affecting every plate in the nation. As shopping centers and housing developments expand from the edges of America's metropolitan areas, farm acreage is lost. As land prices are driven up, no farmer can realistically afford the cost to launch a new operation.

Naturally, this rural gentrification is concentrated in our nation's most desirable locales—places like Puget Sound in the Pacific Northwest, where an estimated 70 percent of landowning farmers will retire in the next decade without a successor, and where suburban and ex-urban development progresses at a rapid pace.

One organization is working to protect the farms of the Puget Sound from encroaching development. PCC Farmland Trust, a nonprofit formed in 1999, works with existing landowners as well



as interested investors to connect farmers with available land.

The primary tool the organization deploys is a conservation trust, a legal agreement that permanently protects land from development but that allows certain types of farming to continue. Most trusts are either compensated outright for the lost value of potential development, or landowners may use that loss as a tax shelter.

For farmers like Micha and Andrew Ide of Bright Ide Acres, PCC Farmland Trust's work means all the difference. After

working six years on leased land, the couple purchased 30 acres through the trust's farmland conservation program. "We definitely wouldn't have been able to even consider land ownership if it wasn't for the work of PCC Farmland Trust and others helping make our working lands more affordable," says Micha. Today, the couple supports their family with their farm, which sells meat from ethically raised chickens, turkeys, hogs, and sheep.

In addition to its primary mission of farmland preservation, PCC Farmland Trust makes edu-

cation a key priority. Learning opportunities include workshops and training for farmers in sustainable practice, as well as programs designed to engage the community at-large in learning about sustainability and farm conservation.

With the growing imperative to source our food from sustainable, regional foodsheds, programs like PCC Farmland Trust have an urgent mission. After all, rural areas close to urban centers are not only key resources in the fight for sustainable food systems, but also prime targets of developers seeking to expand the metropolitan core. These competing interests can, as the work of the PCC demonstrates, co-exist. And in fact, there's a natural symbiosis between farms and the consumers who rely on them. But without a concerted effort, "market forces" tend to favor over-development.

For Stephen Jones, a board member for PCC Farmland Trust, there's no question that the overall population of metro regions like those in the Puget Sound are serving their own interests by preserving farmland. "Food literally is who we are, and we should take a more active role in it," says Jones. "If we lose our farmland here, we lose the option for regional food."

Fewer Americans Are Hunting, Now What?

By John Casellas Connors and Christopher Rea

The Conversation

Gun and ammunition sales in the U.S. have skyrocketed in recent years. And although it may come as a surprise, this trend has supported conservation activities.

That's because every firearm and bullet produced or imported into the U.S. is subject to an excise tax dedicated to wildlife conservation and restoration. In 1998, these taxes generated about \$247 million in inflation-adjusted apportionments to state fish and wildlife agencies from the federal U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, which collects and manages these funds. By 2018, these revenues had more than tripled to \$829 million.

These taxes on guns and ammunition sales provide a growing share of budgets for state fish and game agencies. But as scholars of environmental politics, conservation and wildlife management, we have found that the growth in conservation funding driven by exploding guns sales presents at least three critical moral and ethical issues.

First, the original argument for using gun taxes to fund conservation was that most gun users were hunters who used lands and wildlife, and should help to support those resources. But our research shows that gun use is increasingly unrelated to hunting.

Second, the recent spike in gun sales is linked to violence and social unrest. Even if most gun owners never commit a crime, this means that overall, conservation is benefiting from gun-related social strife and harm.

Finally, recent changes to the law allow the use of gun-related excise taxes to support activities



with little or no connection to hunting, wildlife or outdoor recreation.

At the end of the 19th century, many wild species across the U.S. were threatened by over-hunting and unregulated markets for wild game products. Companies used bison bones to make "bone china" and bird plumage to decorate hats. Many species were hunted to the brink of extinction. Some, like the passenger pigeon, were fully exterminated.

In an effort to restore game populations for sport hunters, federal and state governments established fish and wildlife agencies. But these offices were often underfunded.

The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937, commonly known as the Pittman-Robertson Act, increased conservation funding by redirecting an existing excise tax on firearms to a dedicated wildlife management fund. Over time, the law expanded to include excise taxes that manufacturers today pay on long guns, handguns, ammunition and archery equipment. To access these funds, states must use fees from hunting licenses exclusively to support fish and wildlife agencies.

Pittman-Robertson funds make up a large fraction of state fish and wildlife agency budgets. In 2018, for example, we estimate that about 25 percent of the Ohio Division of Wildlife's \$62 million appropriations came from excise taxes generated by Pittman-Robertson. In Massachusetts, the number was 43 percent.

The idea behind Pittman-Robertson was simple enough: Taxes on hunting supplies should support the agencies that manage wildlife. This idea persists today. Gun manufacturers and fish and game agencies regularly celebrate hunters' financial contributions to conservation.

Since the early 2000s, however, gun and ammunition sales have begun to disconnect from hunting. Nationally, the number of hunters declined from a peak of 17 million in 1982 to 11.5 million in 2016. By comparison, in the same year, Gallup estimated that about 93 million Americans owned guns.

These numbers suggest that only about 1 in 8 gun owners hunted in 2016. This pattern echoes a 2015 analysis by Southwick Associates, a consulting firm that works closely with the firearms

industry, that found that 80 percent of firearms sales in 2015 were for nonhunting activities like sport shooting, gun collecting and self-defense.

Other outdoor recreational activities, meanwhile, are growing. Birding, hiking and backpacking are consistently among the fastest growing outdoor recreation activities. Birding increased by 232 percent from 1983 to 2001. Unlike hunting and fishing, there is no federal requirement for people who engage in these activities to contribute to conservation.

Although most guns sold in the U.S. will not be involved in violent crimes, Pittman-Robertson does not differentiate between firearms and ammunition used for hunting and sport shooting versus those that are used to harm people. The guns and bullets involved in over 45,000 gun-related deaths in 2020 generated excise taxes used to fund wildlife conservation. This means that protecting public lands and wildlife is irrevocably linked to social violence. It is also why some commentators worry that gun regulations could hurt conservation efforts.

Data also shows that firearms sales are motivated by fears of violence and social unrest. Gun sales have increased following mass shootings and racial justice protests and during the COVID-19 pandemic. Anecdotal evidence suggests that over the past two years, some African-Americans and Asian-Americans purchased their first guns out of fears of rising anti-Black and anti-Asian violence.

Wildlife conservation is benefiting from the fear, racism and sustained social conflict that drive gun sales. This raises a moral question: Is this the right way to fund conservation?

Community

YMCA Becoming Affordable Housing

By Tyria McCray

Staff Writer

The Hayti District just south of Downtown Durham will soon see a change in the community. This past Friday, Durham community members accepted a \$1 million grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to restore and renovate the historic Harriet Tubman YMCA located at 312 Umstead Street.

The center will be renovated by Reinvestment Partners, a Durham nonprofit that seeks to revitalize locations with a focus on positively impacting communities and combating social inequities.

According to Reinvestment Partners, the Harriet Tubman building was first built in 1953 during the peak of the civil rights movement. It originally contained 12 women's dorms that housed Black student nurses and served as a community hub for events and organizing.

However, the center ceased operations in the 1970s and has been fully inactive for 30 years.

Peter Skillern, executive director of Reinvestment Partners, told sources that the renovation will include six studio apart-



ments, alongside a congregational area that will include offices, computers, and a kitchen.

The units will be rented specifically to those making 30 to 60 percent or less of the area median income, and at least four units will be allocated to individuals who have formerly experienced homelessness or come from other special needs groups.

"We'll be able to provide both services and housing here," Skillern said. "That's building back better." Skillern also stated that renovation will seek to keep the building as historically pre-

served as possible. The renovation is expected to take approximately 18 months.

In light of the renovation news, Mayor Elaine O'Neal recounted spending time at the center growing up, and expressed excitement for its new purpose.

"Thank you for bringing a part of my life back alive and for all of those young people and all of the memories that were made," O'Neal said. "We want them to now have a chance of a new generation of memories like I did, and they too can grow up and be mayor."



CARY – The North Carolina Courage drew with the Washington Spirit 2-2 on Saturday afternoon in their final match of the group stage of the 2022 NWSL Challenge Cup. With this result in hand, the Courage will advance to the semifinal round of the tournament. Debinha and Malia Berkely recorded a goal apiece for the home side, and Ashley Hatch added two goals for the Spirit.

With her goal in today's match, Debinha is the first and only player in Challenge Cup history to score a goal in four consecutive matches during the tournament. *Photos By Steve Worthy*

The most recent Black Farmer's Market was held in Raleigh on Saturday at the YMCA on Rock Quarry Road. This event rotates between Raleigh and Durham. *Mathias Bishop Photos*



NAACP Seeks Diverse Voices

The Raleigh-Apex NAACP has started to take new initiatives for the community, expand its brand, and develop fresh perspectives and engagement.

These new ideas are being led by the director of community outreach, Kashinda Marche.

Originally from New Jersey, Marche relocated to Raleigh in 2014 after experiencing several health issues and surgeries. She wanted a fresh start and to use her experiences with health issues to help others, although she has always had a passion for advocacy.

Marche says it is in her heart to want to do whatever she can to help others, and help them to recognize that despite any mistreatment, they deserve a chance at whatever it is they aspire to do.

In 2019 Marche was at a volunteer event handing out books when she and the current Raleigh-Apex NAACP President, Gerald Givens Jr. crossed paths. He mentioned that he was look-

ing to build an executive leadership committee and asked if she would be interested.

Marche heard of the NAACP growing up but never imagined joining would be such a close reach for her.

"So, meeting the branch president and being invited into the organization, really wowed me," she said. She took him up on the invite and attended a few of their meetings. In 2020, she became the co-chair of the Women in NAACP. Now, Marche has her own committee for Community Outreach and Coordination.

Her goal is simple, to connect with other community organizations to expand their chapter by hosting collaborative events. She is hoping to reinvigorate the chapter with newer, fresher perspectives. Her focus is on highlighting the issues people care about on the ground.

"In order to develop initiatives, we need to know what the problems are," Marche said. "We

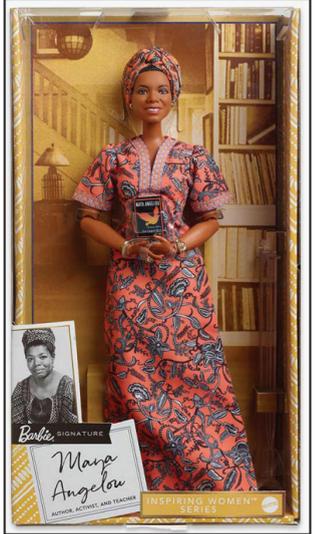
need to have an idea what the community issues are."

Marche wants to provide a space where the NAACP can engage with the community to help solve issues and receive tangible results for the local community, as well as hosting more events that invite other organizations to be a part of the organization.

"We want to put the invite and awareness out there in hopes of building the community outreach committee even further," she said. "We need folks to be the eyes and ears on what's going on around us and to bring us their perspectives. We are here to let the community know that they matter in these processes."

The Raleigh-Apex NAACP holds public meetings on the fourth Sunday of each month. Marche's own nonprofit organization Kreative On Purpose is partnering with the NAACP for a "My Mental Health Matters" event in July. Further details will be announced at a later date.

Carolinian's 'Honoring Mothers' Contest



In honor of mothers, and mother figures, The Carolinian is inviting the community to submit essays about what the most influential woman in their life has meant to them.

From now until Monday, May 2nd, you are all welcome to email, mail or hand deliver your comments of adoration about the mother in your life.

The purpose of the submission is to showcase the great influences that have shaped generations.

We will publish the submissions in the May 5th edition of The Carolinian. At that point we will ask our readership to weigh in on the essay that moves them the most. The three submissions that have the most nominations will be awarded a collectible BARBIE

Inspiring Women doll.

The dolls are of iconic African American women, which is befitting of the contest.

Ella Fitzgerald— born April 25, 1917 in Newport News, Virginia, was an American jazz singer who became world famous for the wide range and rare sweetness of her voice. She became an international legend during a career that spanned some six decades.

Maya Angelou— born April 4, 1928, St. Louis, Missouri, was an American poet, memoirist, and actress whose several volumes of autobiography explore the themes of economic, racial, and sexual oppression.

Rosa Parks— born February 4, 1913, Tuskegee, Alabama, was an American civil rights activist

whose refusal to relinquish her seat on a public bus precipitated the 1955-56 Montgomery bus boycott in Alabama, which became the spark that ignited the civil rights movement in the United States.

Each of these women influenced millions of people and lives around the world. They are a symbol of hope and achievement, and that is why they were chosen as the awards for this year's contest.

We want to know about your influential woman. Write about how she helped to forge your path, or saved your life, or make you who you are today.

You can email your submission to info@caro.news and put in the subject line: Honoring Mothers

Breastfeeding
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wakegov.com/breastfeeding

Find resources and support to help on your breastfeeding journey. ❤️



Across America

Study: Redlining Tied To More Oil, Gas Wells In Urban Areas

By Tammy Webber

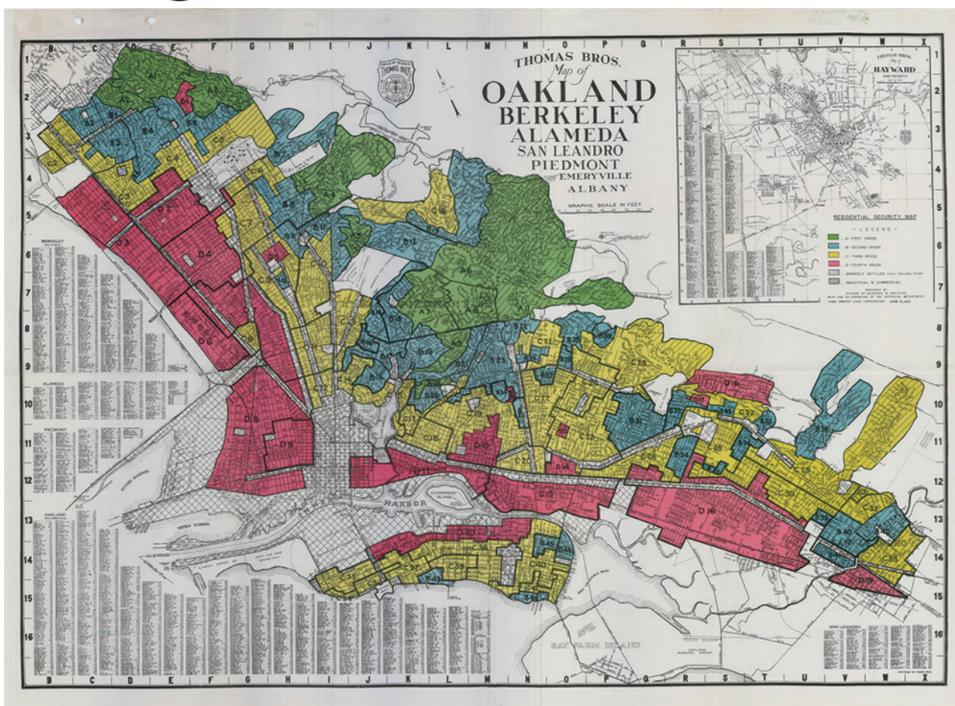
Associated Press

Minority neighborhoods where residents were long denied home loans have twice as many oil and gas wells as mostly White neighborhoods, according to a new study that suggests ongoing health risks in vulnerable communities are at least partly tied to historical structural racism.

Black and Latino residents have complained that they are disproportionately exposed to health risks—including heart and lung problems and premature births—from urban oil and gas wells, some located just a few dozen feet from homes and schools. Some studies have found hazardous chemicals near oil and gas operations at levels above what is considered safe.

But researchers at the University of California, Berkeley and Columbia University wanted to determine if there was a connection to redlining—when Black and immigrant neighborhoods in the 1930s were shaded red on maps developed by the Home Owners' Loan Corporation. Residents in those areas often found it difficult to find homes anywhere else.

"These are critical questions," said David J. X. Gonzalez, an epidemiologist at UC-Berkeley and one of the study's authors. "If we want to reduce health disparities, if we want environmental justice, these are the kinds of



questions that we want to understand."

Researchers compared the maps of 33 U.S. cities to records of oil and gas wells dating to the late 1800s. The maps graded neighborhoods A to D. Overall, redlined, or D-graded, neighbor-

hoods not only had more wells before the maps were created, but many more wells were developed in those areas afterward, the researchers found.

The study was published last week in the *Journal of Exposure Science & Environmental Epidemiology*.

hoods.

Gonzalez, who grew up in a community with oil wells and a refinery, said many policies led to race- and class-based segregation, not only redlining. The findings don't prove that wells were intentionally located in neighbor-

hoods because residents were Black or Latino, and there also are wells in wealthier areas.

Even so, the higher concentration in minority areas "doesn't seem to have happened by accident," said Gonzalez.

In Los Angeles, Black and Latino residents often were forced to live in neighborhoods with oil wells because of racially restrictive covenants, said Martha Dina Argüello, executive director of the Los Angeles chapter of Physicians for Social Responsibility. Even more drilling got pushed into Black and Latino neighborhoods when housing developers wanted land in more affluent areas, she said.

The study "is one more piece of evidence that really bears out what the community has been saying: that having oil wells in our communities is treating us like a sacrifice zone," she said.

Recently, some states and communities have started restricting new wells by limiting how close they can be to homes and schools.

Last fall, supervisors in Los Angeles County—home to some of the largest urban oilfields in the U.S.—voted unanimously to phase out oil and gas production and ban new wells in unincorporated areas following longstanding complaints from residents about health problems blamed on air pollution from the sites. The Los Angeles City Council voted in January to do the same,

and Argüello said advocates are pushing for the state to take similar action in other urban areas.

Colorado last year required new wells to be located at least 2,000 feet from homes and schools. California has proposed a distance of 3,200 feet.

In Arlington, Texas, city officials in January refused to let a major energy company locate more gas wells near a daycare center playground. A statistical analysis by The Associated Press showed the density of Total Energies' wells is higher in neighborhoods where people of color live, and wells are often just a few hundred feet from homes.

Longxiang Li, a postdoctoral research fellow in environmental health at the Harvard School of Public Health, who was not involved in the study, said it showed a moderately strong connection between redlining and well location, and strengthens evidence that disadvantaged communities have fewer legal resources to defend themselves against drilling expansion. But he cautioned that historic redlining maps are not perfect indicators of past structural racism.

That is because discriminatory practices by private lenders and the Federal Housing Administration did not rely on the HOLC maps, and the HOLC itself did not lead to Black homeowners in redlined areas, according to a recent paper by the National Bureau of Economic Research.

Criminal Justice Algorithms And Biases

By Duncan Purves and Jeremy Davis

University of Florida

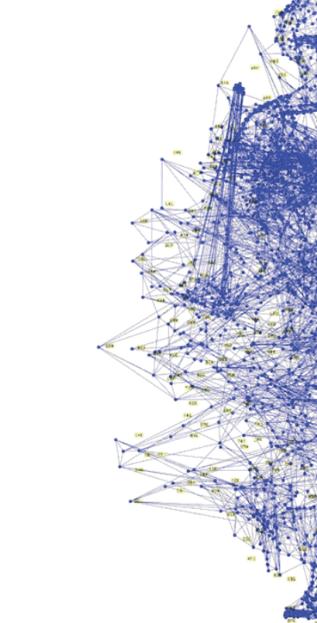
Justice is supposed to be "blind." But is race blindness always the best way to achieve racial equality? An algorithm to predict recidivism among prison populations is underscoring that debate.

The risk-assessment tool is a centerpiece of the First Step Act, which Congress passed in 2018 with significant bipartisan support, and is meant to shorten some criminal sentences and improve conditions in prisons. Among other changes, it rewards federal inmates with early release if they participate in programs designed to reduce their risk of re-offending. Potential candidates eligible for early release are identified using the Prisoner Assessment Tool Targeting Estimated Risk and Needs, called PATTERN, which estimates an inmate's risk of committing a crime upon release.

Proponents celebrated the First Step Act as a step toward criminal justice reform that provides a clear path to reducing the prison population of low-risk nonviolent offenders while preserving public safety.

But a review of the PATTERN system published by the Department of Justice in December 2021 found that PATTERN overpredicts recidivism among minority inmates by between 2 percent and 8 percent compared with White inmates. Critics fear that PATTERN is reinforcing racial biases that have long plagued the U.S. prison system.

As ethicists who research the use of algorithms in the criminal justice system, we spend lots of time thinking about how to avoid replicating racial bias with new technologies. We seek to understand whether systems like PATTERN can be made racially equitable while continuing to serve the function for which they were designed: to reduce prison populations while maintaining public safety.



Making PATTERN equally accurate for all inmates might require the algorithm to take inmates' race into account, which can seem counterintuitive. In other words, achieving fair outcomes across racial groups might require focusing more on race, not less: a seeming paradox that plays out in many discussions of fairness and racial justice.

The PATTERN algorithm scores individuals according to a range of variables that have been shown to predict recidivism. These factors include criminal history, education level, disciplinary incidents while incarcerated, and whether they have completed any programs aimed at reducing recidivism, among others. The algorithm predicts both general and violent recidivism, and does not take an

inmate's race into account when producing risk scores.

Based on this score, individuals are deemed high-, medium- or low-risk. Only those falling into the last category are eligible for early release.

The DOJ's latest review, which compares PATTERN predictions with actual outcomes of former inmates, shows that the algorithm's errors tended to disadvantage non-white inmates.

In comparison with White inmates, PATTERN overpredicted general recidivism among Black male inmates by between 2 percent and 3 percent. According to the DOJ report, this number rose to 6 percent to 7 percent for Black women, relative to White women. PATTERN overpredicted recidivism in Hispanic individuals by 2 percent to 6 percent in comparison with White inmates, and overpredicted recidivism among Asian men by 7 percent to 8 percent in comparison with White inmates.

These disparate results will likely strike many people as unfair, with the potential to reinforce existing racial disparities in the criminal justice system. For example, Black Americans are already incarcerated at almost five times the rate of White Americans.

At the same time that the algorithm overpredicted recidivism for some racial groups, it underpredicted for others.

Native American men's general recidivism was underpredicted by 12 percent to 15 percent in relation to White inmates, with a 2 percent underprediction for violent recidivism. Violent recidivism was underpredicted by 4 percent to 5 percent for Black men and 1 percent to 2 percent for Black women.

Reducing bias by including race It is tempting to conclude that the Department of Justice should abandon the system altogether. However, computer and data scientists have developed an array of

tools over the past decade designed to address concerns about algorithmic unfairness. So it is worth asking whether PATTERN's inequalities can be remedied.

One option is to apply "debiasing techniques" of the sort described in recent work by criminal justice experts Jennifer Skeem and Christopher Lowenkamp. As computer scientists and legal scholars have observed, the predictive value of a piece of information about a person might vary depending on their other characteristics. For example, suppose that having stable housing tends to reduce the risk that a former inmate will commit another crime, but that the relationship between housing and not re-offending is stronger for White inmates than Black inmates. An algorithm could take this into account for higher accuracy.

But taking this difference into account would require that designers include each inmate's race in the algorithm, which raises legal concerns. Treating individuals differently on the basis of race in legal decision-making risks violating the 14th Amendment of the Constitution, which guarantees equal protection under the law.

Several legal scholars, including Deborah Hellman, have recently argued that this legal concern is overstated. For example, the law permits using racial classifications to describe criminal suspects and to gather demographic data on the census.

Other uses of racial classifications are more problematic. For example, racial profiling and affirmative action programs continue to be contested in court. But Hellman argues that designing algorithms that are sensitive to the way that information's predictive value varies across racial lines is more akin to using race in suspect descriptions and the census.

In part, this is because race-sensitive algorithms, unlike racial profiling, do not rely on statistical generalizations about the prevalence of a feature, like the rate of re-offending, within a racial group. Rather, she proposes making statistical generalizations about the reliability of the algorithm's information for members of a racial group and adjusting appropriately.

But there are also several ethical concerns to consider. Incorporating race might constitute unfair treatment. It might fail to treat inmates as individuals, since it relies upon statistical facts about the racial group to which they are assigned. And it might put some inmates in a worse position than others to earn early-release credits, merely because of their race.

Despite these concerns, we argue there are good ethical reasons to incorporate race into the algorithm.

First, by incorporating race, the algorithm could be more accurate across all racial groups. This might allow the federal prison system to grant early release to more inmates who pose a low risk of recidivism while keeping high-risk inmates behind bars. This will promote justice without sacrificing public safety—what proponents of criminal justice reform want.



Vote Fraud Charges Dropped

By Stacy M. Brown

NMFA

Pamela Moses spent 82 days in custody after a Tennessee judge handed down a six-year prison sentence against the 44-year-old Black woman for trying to register to vote.

On April 22, prosecutors declared that they'd gotten their pound of flesh.

Charges were dropped against Moses after another judge granted her a new trial.

"Our original offer to the defendant Pamela Moses was a guilty plea to a misdemeanor and no time to serve," Shelby County District Attorney Amy Weirich declared.

"She rejected that offer and asked for a jury trial. At the conclusion of the week-long trial, the jury convicted her on the felony charge of false entry on permanent voter registration."

Weirich continued:

"She was taken into custody and spent 75 days in jail before Judge Mark Ward granted her motion for a new trial. In total, she has spent 82 days in custody in this case, which is sufficient. She is also permanently barred from registering to vote or voting in Tennessee as a result of her 2015 conviction for Tampering with Evidence. In the interest of judicial economy, we are dismissing her illegal registration case and her violation of probation."

The vital issue had always centered on whether Moses knew she lost her voting eligibility.

A probation officer filled out and signed a form indicating the end of her supervision stemming from a 2015 felony conviction.

The officer admitted the mistake but left Moses wondering whether she could vote.

Prosecutors alleged that she deceived the officer and knew of her ineligible status.

However, following her conviction, The Guardian newspaper uncovered evidence through public records that undercut Weirich's false claim that Moses duped the probation officer.

"In September 2019, just two days after a probation officer mistakenly signed a certificate telling Moses her probation was complete, officials at the Tennessee department of corrections investigated how exactly their employee made the error," The British daily newspaper reported.

"Their investigation didn't find that Moses had deceived a probation officer, but rather that the officer had made a good-faith mistake.

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NCDEMOCRATS

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YOU CAN VOTE EARLY: **April 28th - May 14th**

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Church



How US Muslims Meet Their Charitable Giving Obligations

By Shariq Siddiqui

The Conversation

Zakat, one of the five pillars of Islam, is an obligatory act of giving and among several distinct forms of Islamic charity. The Quran and *hadiths*, the words and sayings of the Prophet Muhammad, prescribe what kind of charitable causes are eligible to receive these funds.

Although Muslims are expected to give away 2.5 percent of their wealth every year, there is no time of year officially designated for Zakat. Yet, many Muslim Americans fulfill this mandatory charitable obligation during Ramadan, a monthlong period of fasting and spiritual growth.

Muslim Americans gave \$1.8 billion in Zakat funds in 2021, we found in new research regarding how and where Muslim Americans give Zakat. We—three scholars of philanthropy—surveyed a representative sample of 1,005 Muslim Americans.

We estimate that Zakat accounts for around 40 percent of total U.S. Muslim giving, based on the results of an earlier related study completed in 2021. Here are three key findings from our latest research about how Muslim Americans approach this charitable tradition today.

1. Zakat is both formal and informal.

Muslims primarily support formal charities and government entities, but they also give informally. This generally happens either by dispatching money to loved ones in other countries, in payments known as remittances, or giving money directly to people in need.

Some 25.3 percent of the money U.S. Muslims give as Zakat

goes to international organizations, 21.7 percent supports governments and 18.3 percent flows to domestic-focused U.S. nonprofits. In addition, 14.7 percent of the money is given informally to individual people, often relatives, while 12.7 percent is sent abroad as remittances. The rest, about 7 percent, supports miscellaneous other kinds of causes.

Finding that more than 1 in 4 Zakat dollars are given informally surprised us.

That's because prior research had suggested that after 9/11, Muslims faced legal pressure to only fund certified charitable organizations.

The U.S. government claimed for years that some Muslim charities and funding networks were financially supporting extremist organizations. This presumption cultivated a climate of fear and suspicion and stoked heightened U.S. surveillance, as well as waves of fear-mongering toward Muslim charities. Yet, despite these pressures to formalize charitable giving, we find that Zakat giving continues to operate significantly through informal means.

2. Zakat reflects the ethnic and socioeconomic diversity of U.S. Muslims.

The nearly 3.5 million Muslim Americans comprise only 1.1 percent of the nation's population but are demographically diverse—including African-Americans, Latinos, Arabs, Asians and Whites, with no one ethnic group comprising a majority. Some 58 percent of U.S. Muslims were born in other countries.

Despite having the same level of education as the general population, U.S. Muslims are nevertheless disproportionately poor.

We found that White Muslims gave the most to charity as Zakat: a mean of \$3,732. Asian Muslims were next, giving an average of \$1,089. Arabs averaged \$569 in gifts, and African-Americans gave an average of \$420. People of mixed ethnicity averaged \$336.

U.S. Muslims in their 40s gave an average of \$2,560 in Zakat annually, followed by \$2,298 for those between the ages of 18 and 29. Muslim Americans who were in their 30s gave \$1,799, those 65 and older \$1,074. Interestingly, we found that those who were 50–64 years old gave the least: \$474 on average.

3. Zakat consists of a wide range of acts.

We also found that Muslims consider philanthropy to consist of a wide range of acts that go beyond giving money.

In addition to volunteering or in-kind donations, these other forms of philanthropy include actions such as smiling, doing something for others out of good intentions, helping relatives, encouraging proper behavior, furthering good causes, abstaining from harmful acts and advocating on behalf of the oppressed. The Prophet Muhammad reportedly said that “smiling in the face of your brother is an act of charity.”

Many Muslims see this broad understanding of philanthropy as essential to their social and civic participation. This model comes from the Prophet Muhammad, who espoused giving to charity—known as Sadaqa in Arabic.

The next phase of this research will analyze how race, gender and Islamic theological traditions impact Muslim American giving practices.

fore, God sent His only begotten Son, Jesus in the form of a man, born of a woman as foretold so that He could become the final, required, and acceptable human sacrifice, as required by God, the Father.

All the previous animal sacrifices which took place over the years down through the Old Testament were simply a theophany (picture of Christ) at work saving and preserving and redeeming our souls from sin. No animal can die for man's sins. God needed a human sacrifice to finish off man's sins forever. This Jesus did so obediently, and willingly on the cross for us because He loved us like the Father did. This work just proves what God said in the beginning, “All that I have made is good.”

Looking back at the cross assures us that God's promise to Adam and Eve in Genesis 3:15 holds true in that He will send a seed of a man to clean up “the mess” which Adam and Eve made in the Garden, also the mess (sin) we all have made in our lives.

Still another look back at the cross shows us the mystery of triumphant assurance that we have blessed assurance Jesus is mine. The cross is no longer standing on Calvary's Hill, yet all our sins are gone, especially, when we repent of them. Jesus paid the final debt for our sins when He was on the cross. Our sins will not keep us from having eternal life. What will keep us from eternal life is not believing and accepting Jesus Christ as our personal Lord and Savior.

J. L. Caldwell, Pastor
New Jerusalem Baptist
Cathedral
Durham, NC
Website: www.mynjbc.org

SERMON of the WEEK



THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT

Last Sunday we celebrated Easter, which we as Christian believers refer to as “Resurrection Sunday.” In this message, the focus is on two disciples who became believers, although they had issues recognizing and accepting Jesus as the “Risen Savior.”

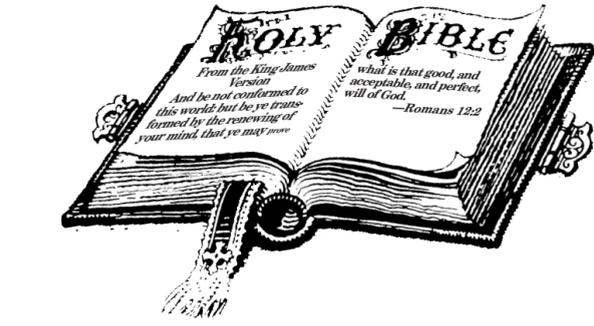
In the 20th chapter of the Gospel according to John, the first disciple that I want to put the spotlight on is a woman, Mary of Magdala, the Bible identifies her as Mary Magdalene. She wasn't one of the traditional 12 disciples of Jesus but because she was a follower, that deemed her as one of His disciples.

The issue she had was that she did not recognize who Jesus was. Yes, she often spent time with Him and was at Jesus' crucifixion while all the other disciples, except John, hid in fear. But her problem was she didn't know Him as the “Risen Savior.” However, many in the world today know of and about Jesus but have not truly recognized him as the “Resurrected One” and the Savior of the world.

John 20:15—“Jesus saith unto her, woman, why weepest thou? She, supposing Him to be the gardener, saith unto Him, Sir, if thou have carried him away, tell me where thou hast laid Him, and I will take Him away. Jesus saith unto her, Mary, she turned herself, and saith unto Him, Rabboni: which is to say, Master.”

Her main problem in life was solved when Jesus called her name, then she no longer called Him Sir but Master, and this is when she became a believer and Scriptures confirm that there's no doubt about it!

John 20:25 exemplifies John's dilemma with accepting Christ.



The Bible says, “The other disciples therefore said unto him. We have seen the Lord. But He said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into His side, I will not believe.” Thomas wanted physical proof, physical presence, and circumstantial evidence of the things he had not seen.

Jesus said, “Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.” After Jesus called Thomas by name, the Scripture lets us know he became a believer and there's no doubt about it!

Although Thomas had skepticism and doubt, Jesus came back to him 8 days after His resurrection and walked through a locked door to help him with his unbelief and save his soul.

Even more so, Mary Magdalene had many significant issues in her past life and Jesus had to cast out 7 demons from her; but through it all, the Bible lets us know that this woman recovered, and was the first person to see Jesus as the “Risen Lord,” and there's no doubt about it!

Thomas wanted to put his finger on it. You know how some of us say, if I could just put my finger on it, then I'll have the proof I need to completely understand something. When it comes to our salvation, we don't need physical proof, just spiritual proof by faith in our God who is a Spirit, and that's why Jesus said, “Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.”

The next time someone lies on you or tries to persecute you, put your finger on Matthew 5:11–12 that says, “Blessed are ye when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and say all manner of

evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.”

The next time you are down and out in doubt, put your finger on Romans 8:38–39 and be like Paul who said, “For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

There's no doubt about it that God knows your name before, when, and after you believe! However, the Bible is full of doubters: Adam and Eve, Abraham and Sarah, Moses, David and Gideon had doubts, just to mention a few, and if you study your Bible you'll understand, there's no doubt about it. That is why we have to ask God to help us with our own unbelief.

Astonishingly, there's no doubt about it that God knows your name when you believe. He told Isaiah, “Fear not: I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name: thou art mine.” He told Jeremiah, “Before I formed thee in the belly, I knew thee.” John said, “the sheep hear His Voice: and He calleth His Own sheep by name, and leadeth them out.”

When we believe there's no doubt about it, that God knows our name and will never leave us or forsake us even until our day is done, even until the end of the world! Tell the world, “You can't make me doubt Him, because I know too much about Him!”

To view complete sermons by Pastor William Eli Ratcliff, please visit our website at lincolnparkchurch.com/

James D. Moore, Jr. Dies At 79

JAMES D. MOORE JR.
Sept. 26, 1942–April 18, 2022

James Daniel Moore, Jr. was born Jersey City, N.J. to Gertrude and James Moore, Sr. on September 26, 1942 and was called home April 19, 2022.

James went to school in New York City and graduated in June 1960 from Charles Evans Hughes High School.

He was a veteran of the Vietnam War and served in the Air National Guard from 1960 to 1969.

James worked as a driver for United Parcel Service (UPS) after leaving the military service and quickly moved up the ranks to a Loss Prevention Supervisor in New York City from 1969 to 1982.

He then reenlisted in Army National Guard from 1982 to 2000, receiving an honorable discharge and was awarded various medals commendations and awards including the Good Conduct Medal, Army Achievement Medal and the Globe War on Terrorism Medal.

After retiring from the military, James continued to be involved with many military and civil organizations including the American Legion where he became the First Afro-American male to hold the title of Department Commander of North Carolina which he held for two years and also a first in the State of North Carolina, Disabled Veterans of America, Kinston Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter



892, Goldsboro DAV Chapter 45, Goldsboro National Box Car 40& 8, Kinston-Lenoir County Board of Directors Member for the aging and many more national and community base organizations.

James Moore was preceded in death by his mother, Gertrude and father, James Moore.

James Daniel Moore Jr. is survived by his spouse, Francine Moore; his son, Ramon Anthony Moore and wife, Andrea Baker-Moore of Fort Meade, Md.;

his three grandchildren, Shakima Thimba and her husband, Elis Thimba of Middletown, Del., Johnathan Lee of Middletown, Del. and Sherelle Wilcher and her husband, Jon Wilcher of Aberdeen, Md. and three great-grandsons, Levi Thimba, Liam Thimba, and Nuri Lee and his beloved dog, Thor.

Homegoing service with military honors was held Monday, April 25 at 2 p.m. in the chapel of Howell Funeral Home & Crematory in Goldsboro.

Practical Biblical Principles

LOOKING BACK AT CALVARY
Read: Luke 23:33

The Passover is past and there was little or no notice of it as opposed to past times. This is the way the devil wants it—no noise about the Crucifixion. The less said about or remembered about the Passover, the better the devil will like it.

The drama of temptation, the calling of the Twelve, the healing miracles, the Sermon on the Mount, and the drama of the terrible scourging prior to Jesus' crucifixion apparently got little publicity this past week because the news media found other important news to report. This past week, much of the world ignored Passover again.

The supreme moment of victory in the life of Christ among us occurred at Calvary. Through this annually repeated news Calvary is what's holding this world together at present, whether the world realizes it or not.

At Calvary when the Roman soldiers had finished crucifying Jesus, they sat down some distance from the cross and watched the dying, crucified Jesus as He hung there on the cross. They decided to cast lots for His uniquely woven garment for it was too well woven to cut into pieces.

Take another look at Calvary and you will see the ugly, stubborn mystery of sin. All sin of the world is now gone, thanks to Jesus, but the very mention of Calvary or the cross brings back vivid memories of a blood-stained hilltop which can never be erased. This is true, whether not, one has visited the site of the skulled-looking hill.

Calvary will always remind us of that fatal battle between good and evil, light and darkness.

Lest we forget, the battle was over our souls and who will win the battle for our souls. In this fight was the argument whether we were worth dying for. This is scary. We had already given our souls away to the devil during those times we sinned. Some of us realized this and some did not. It doesn't matter; the devil had our souls.

There is a spiritual signpost planted at Calvary for all to see, which points up and down. The up arrow is narrow, and the down arrow is very broad and wide. This means there is a choice to be made by everyone who is introduced to the cross or just heard about it. No one is free from not making a choice about Jesus. If one decides not to make a choice, one then has already made a choice.

Looking back at the cross is just like looking back over one's life. Either one embraces the cross or feels threatened or fearful about it. We may wear crosses of silver and gold around our necks and ears; however, the cross is still a reminder and symbol of sin, our sin. The cross did nothing for us. It was Jesus dying on the cross which makes the difference and makes the day for all believing Christians.

As you look back at the cross just know there will never be another one. Jesus died once and for all. If one does not grab the chance to have a relationship with Jesus while he/she is able, then all the redeeming work Jesus did on the cross on your behalf is for naught.

When we look back at the cross, we see God's final call for man to come and experience His love. God's Spirit cannot be nailed to a cross. God is a Spirit characterized by love. There-

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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 Well Has North Carolina Dealt With COVID-19?

By Mike Walden
Guest Editorial

Even though COVID-19 continues with its variants, medical experts are hopeful the virus is becoming less deadly and disrupting. In other words, we are learning to live with it.

As a result, it should not be surprising, there is an increasing number of studies being released about how we coped with COVID-19, and what we can learn if we confront another pandemic. One way to accomplish this is to compare the outcomes of states during COVID-19 on a number of important measures.

One recent study was authored by three economists and released by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). The NBER is not a national agency. It is a non-partisan, non-profit research organization founded in 1920. It is one of the most prestigious economic “think-tanks” in the country. Hence, when the NBER releases a study, I pay attention.

Although there were many policies, programs and funding that came from the federal government to address the pandemic, our federal system allowed the 50 states and Washington, D.C. to customize some of their own policies, including masking, shutdowns, the operation of schools and the availability of vaccines. Therefore, there were 51 (50 states plus Washington, D.C.) different localities for the authors to compare for their outcomes in dealing with COVID-19.

The authors focused on three categories of results: the economy, education and deaths. For the economy, the authors used two measures: the total months of unemployment per worker in the state from April 2020 at the beginning of the pandemic through the end of 2021, and the depth of the recession caused by the pandemic.

The pandemic’s impact on education was measured by the percentage of public education in each state that took place in-person at schools rather than remotely. This measure was used because many experts and parents have argued that remote learning for children during COVID-19 was not as beneficial for students’ educational outcomes as in-person learning.

For deaths, the death rate per capita during the previous two COVID-19 years was used, but only after adjusting the numbers for age and for health factors, such as the prevalence of diabetes and obesity in the state.

So, what did the study find, particularly for North Carolina? On the two economic measures, North Carolina ranked 17th on the unemployment measure and 19th for the depth of the COVID-19 recession, where a higher ranking means a better performance. Translated, the results mean that among the 51 states plus Washington, D.C., North Caro-

lina had the 17th lowest total number of unemployment months per worker and the 19th mildest COVID-19 recession. Montana had the best performance on unemployment and South Dakota had the least severe recession. At the other end of the spectrum, New Jersey had the best performance on unemployment and Connecticut had the deepest recession.

North Carolina’s ranking on in-person teaching of students was not as impressive. The state ranked 34th, meaning 33 other states had a higher percentage of students receiving in-person instruction during the pandemic. Wyoming had the highest percentage of in-person instruction, whereas Washington, D.C. had the lowest percentage.

North Carolina’s best ranking was on age and medical-adjusted COVID-19-related deaths per capita, where the state ranked 7th, meaning only six states had lower adjusted COVID-19 deaths per capita. The best performing state on deaths was Hawaii, while the worst performing state was Arizona.

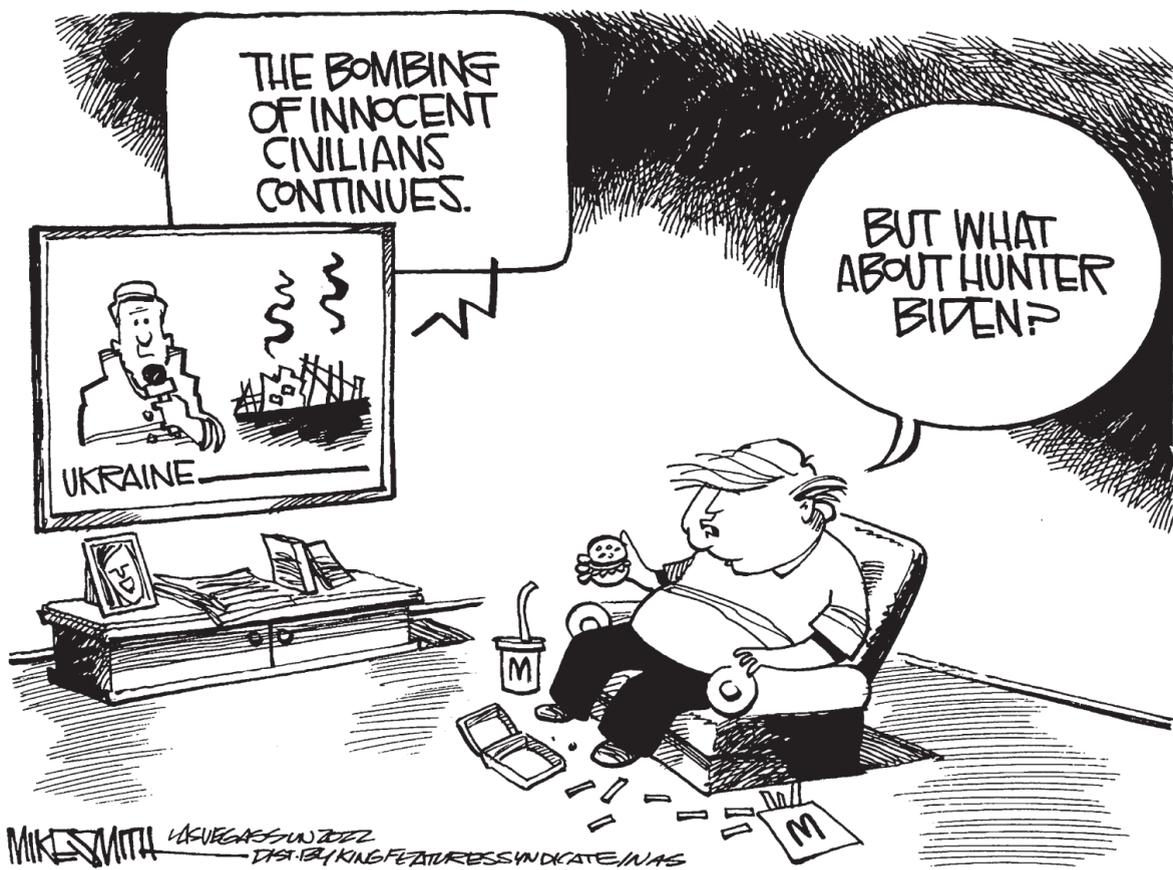
The authors also combined the individual rankings for each measure into a single overall ranking. North Carolina’s overall ranking was 13th, meaning the state had the 13th best performance during the pandemic among the fifty states and Washington, D.C. using all the metrics developed by the authors. Utah ranked first on the combined ranking, and New Jersey came in last.

With 51 localities, North Carolina’s placement of number 13 puts the state in the top 25 percent. Among North Carolina’s immediate neighbors, only South Carolina placed higher at number 12. Georgia ranked 19th, Tennessee was at the 24th position and Virginia placed 36th.

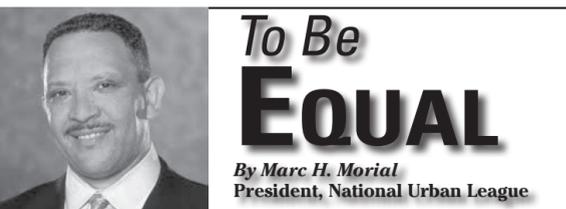
As the economy moves forward, rankings of how states performed during the pandemic may become very important. The rankings could become a major factor in the location decisions of both businesses and households. It will take years—possibly even decades—for the memories of the COVID-19 pandemic to recede. Households and businesses will be motivated to locate in states that coped well during the pandemic compared to other states. The study published by the NBER strongly suggests North Carolina is in the “coping-well” category.

Economists agree the future economy will go through major changes in what businesses do, how people work, and how and where people live. Being in a state that has navigated the pandemic better than most other states should give that state an advantage in dealing with these changes. Is North Carolina such a state? You decide.

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



MIKE SMITH LAS VEGAS IN 2022 DIST. BY KING FEATURES SYNDICATE/INAS



To Be EQUAL

By Marc H. Morial
President, National Urban League

ELON MUSK TAKEOVER OF TWITTER WOULD BE A DISASTER FOR CIVIL RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY

“The prospect of Musk using his massive wealth to take control of one of the most influential social media platforms, and to impose his own personal vision of what is best for democracy and free speech, underscores our precarious state of affairs ... the health of our democracy depends on a commitment by the major social media companies to moderate content on their sites more vigilantly in order to reduce the amount of mis- and disinformation, hate speech, incitement and other harmful content.”

—Michael Posner, New York University professor of ethics and finance

Twitter, one of the largest and arguably the most influential social media networks in the world, currently prohibits content that threatens or glorifies violence, promotes terrorism or violent extremism, or targets others for abuse or harassment based on race, religion or ethnicity. Users may not post false or misleading information about COVID-19 which may lead to harm, or use Twitter for the purpose of manipulating or interfering in elections or other civic processes.

Admittedly, enforcement of these standards has at times been lax, arbitrary, and error-ridden. The National Urban League staunchly advocated for the implementation of these policies, and we continue to push Twitter and other social media networks toward a stronger stance against hate speech and violence.

But if Elon Musk is successful in his effort to gain full private ownership of Twitter, it could become an instrument of hatred, violence, propaganda, and tyranny such as the world has never seen.

As the wealthiest individual on Earth, Musk already holds a staggering level of influence over our national discourse. To consolidate such enormous power into the hands of any one individual would be reckless and dangerous even if Musk had not already declared his intention to remove key protections and safeguards, opening Twitter’s floodgates to hate speech and extremism.

Earlier this week I sent a letter to Bret Taylor, Chair of Twitter’s Board of Directors, warning that transitioning ownership to Musk and shielding the company of any oversight would have grave implications for the civil rights protections that are so important to the National Urban League’s constituencies. I urged the board to consult with the civil rights community on this—or any other proposal that would place control of this important company in the hands of a sole owner—and deny Musk’s request to assume ownership of Twitter.

The Board is well within its right as fiduciary to consider the broader social implications of a sale to Mr. Musk. He has expressed concerning views that are counter to the principles of creating an online community that is safe for marginalized communities and protects our democracy. He has publicly stated that Twitter’s decisions to ban users who violate its content moderation standards against hate speech, violence, and disinformation are against “free speech” principles.

Let me be clear. The Constitution of the United States does

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



Kim’s Justice Corner

By Dr. Kimberly Muktarian

GUN VIOLENCE ISN’T THE HEART OF THE PROBLEM

The narrative of America’s “Gun Violence” is most insulting. Like all things relating to Black America, discrimination can be found in anything from Infant Mortality to Urban Removal. Regardless the topic, no one can refute White Supremacy as the foundation of each ailment. Most often then not, the actions and decisions of White America have been so hidden under legalese that the outcomes are often categorized as “Implicit” where no one is aware of their own racisms or biases unless blatantly revealed such as the George Floyd lynching. It is not until then that Whites have to acknowledge their role in the negative outcomes of Blacks in society. While Black violence is surprising, just a few hundred years prior, this same effect was targeted at the Native Americans where their existence is so few that you would have to deliberately search to find their whereabouts. In other words, they have already been conquered. Many of them have committed suicide out of misery versus engaging in gun battle. I would assume that because they were allowed to keep much of their culture, their sense of belonging was untampered but their sense of ownership was utterly stripped away.

Recently, the White supremacist group Patriot Front wrote, “Not stolen, Conquered” on the walls of Black murals painted after the death of George Floyd. That statement is most painful yet true. Like the Native Americans before us, Blacks have undoubtedly been in a battle whereby our opponent’s aim is to conquer us. Unfortunately, most Blacks have failed to refer

to their treatment as an ongoing war because conveniently or when necessary our opponent will often switch sides. They will use words like Christianity, Democracy, Progressives, Liberals and even words like Training, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion to divert their true agenda. This “Silent War” has caused much of the survival mode in which Blacks were forced to enter during integration. A fight that has required us to train them on civility and anti-abuse tactics in order to survive amongst them. We are constantly reminding them of our brotherly love expectations under the banner of Christianity and our national allegiance to the same country that emancipated us and now bids us equality under the United States Constitution.

What has not been given account is Martin Luther King, Jr.’s statement of which he said “I fear I have sent my people into a burning building.” This statement was made in reference to forced integration and its long-term impact. These constant, diabolical assaults on the Black family, Black children and

(See **KIM’S JUSTICE CORNER**, P. 11)



CONSERVATIVELY Speaking

By Paris Dennard

RISING STARS

I am sure you have heard the phrase “If you are going to talk the talk you have to walk the walk!” In today’s political environment people are fed up with politicians and political organizations who claim to support minority engagement and diversity. No one trusts politicians who just say they are committed to making improvements or changes but fail to back it up with action.

At the Republican National Committee (RNC) with Ronna McDaniel leading as Chairwoman, I am proud to see firsthand how serious our minority engagement efforts have been throughout her tenure. She has invested time, treasure, resources, and staff.

This week, the RNC sponsored our annual Rising Stars program here in Washington, D.C. This program is designed to share career advice and showcase opportunities in politics for “Rising Stars” within the Republican Party. Historically, for many communities of color there has not been a strong GOP presence. We have worked to change that in recent years with our RNC Community Centers and by encouraging so many minority candidates to run for office as Republicans at all levels.

The RNC is committed to not just engaging with minority communities for elections but growing our party through investments in young minority leaders. This year’s Rising Stars cohort is made up of 14 young Republicans from 12 states and Guam. Six young Black Republicans—Makayla Washington from Arkansas, Bethany Johnson from Connecticut, Emmanuel Jones from Pennsylvania, Jessica Herron from Mississippi, Jessica White from Missouri, and John Philip Clay from Indiana—are eager to get even more involved in the GOP.

I was impressed to see they are already getting involved in their local Republican offices in major ways, from intern to

(See **CONSERVATIVELY SPEAKING**, P. 11)

Child Watch

By Marian Wright Edelman



TAX DAY CHOICES

April 18 was Tax Day in the United States, and this year, the day was an especially sad reminder that the refundable, monthly expanded Child Tax Credit (CTC) that ended in December 2021 was short lived. The expanded CTC was a lifeline that benefited 90 percent of our nation’s children and lifted 3 million children above the federal poverty line in a single month by providing families much-needed cash to afford the basics. The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities noted 90 percent of families with incomes below \$35,000 spent it on food, utilities, housing, clothing, or education. It was proof in real time that we know how to end child poverty and we can do it when we find the political will. But now we have also seen what happens when that will is not sustained: when Congress let the expanded CTC expire after six months without extending it, within just one month child poverty spiked by more than 40 percent and nearly 3.7 million children, including 662,000 Black children and 1.3 million Latino children, fell below the federal poverty line.

We will not stop fighting. The Children’s Defense Fund is a co-chair of the Automatic Benefit for Children (ABC) Coalition, organizations working to create a permanent child allowance, or a guaranteed income, for children in the U.S. Many of the families who desperately needed the cushion the CTC provided were left right back in the same stressful position just as prices for basics like food and gas were rising sharply, and the ABC Coalition recently sent a letter to Congress demanding they prioritize tax breaks for families and children rather than corporations that reads in part:

(See **CHILD WATCH**, P. 11)

Letters To The Editor

What We Blacks Need To Do Continued

To The Editor:
 During my 34 years teaching vocational education (shop), I taught my students a new word every week. To continue to build our education foundation our parents and students need to learn at least one new word during the 52 weeks in 2022. I will post a new word every Sunday on my Facebook page (James Hankins).

The word for today is ACRONYM. It is a word made up of initial letters of words. Example: You would not want to receive a phone call or letter from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) or Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) (smile). You would welcome a call or letter from the President of the United States (POTUS). We are the wise people, who voted for President Obama who gave us health care, eight years of scandal-free service, and hope. Then President Biden who gave us our first Black lady vice-president (VPOTUS), black lady Justice of the Supreme Court (SCOTUS) and pushed our minimum federal wages from \$7.50 per hour to \$15 and rising. The businesses lied for years saying they would go broke if they paid, the least of us, higher wages. The truth is we got paid poverty wages, three-figures, every Friday while the presidents of those "all-American" companies were being paid six-figures a year plus a Christmas and performance bonus.

We elected President Obama twice, took back the United States House of Representatives and U.S. Senate and elected President Biden by a landslide. We do not have a single well-known acronym so I will make one. By the power invested in me by the "people," I declare us MOST IMPORTANT VOTERS (MIV). We will register, study the candidates and issues, then cast our votes on or before election day in every local, state and national election.

Acts 5:29 "Then Peter and the other Apostles answered and said, we ought to obey GOD rather than men."

Medgar Evers, a graduate of Alcorn State University, a Historically Black College and University (HBCU), would have been 97 years old today but he was assassinated at age 37 in his driveway. He was the field secretary for the Mississippi National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and was killed because he was working for our "right to vote."

Are you and all in your home over 17 registered to vote?
 James Jerome Hankins

Retired vocational education (shop) teacher
 Past president of the New Hanover County NAACP
 Army Veteran
 Real Estate Broker
 raconteur, writer and author.

Other Viewpoints

GOVERNMENT AND HEALTH

By Rod Ross

Staff Writer

April marks the deadline that the FDA and Congress were supposed to write out the terms for banning menthol cigarettes. The Biden menthol ban was aimed at addressing the well-documented effects that menthol cigarettes have on African-Americans. By eliminating the cause of many health-related issues, from high blood pressure, to diabetes from long-term exposure to tobacco use, it can potentially reduce the burden on the fractured and weakened healthcare system that has slumped since implementing Universal Health Care, or what is commonly called Obamacare.

What some conversations mull over is the hypocrisy of the current administration, led by Dr. Fauci, berating Americans about health. Americans were not allowed to function in some of the most inhumane ways only for rules to be relaxed as we draw near midterms. People are still catching COVID. People are still dying from COVID-related issues. The vaccinations have turned into a revolving door of more vaccinations. Keep in mind, these vaccinations are experimental and were given special license to be available to the public under Emergency Use.

The point is, the government never truly cared about the health of the public. As it relates to tobacco, what should be asked is why aren't tobacco products banned, period? They cause cancer. Second hand smoke is more harmful than firsthand smoke. Everyone knows this, yet we can pull into any gas station and purchase our favorite smoking products, and pollute the entrance of every space men, women and children must walk through.

The reason why it is not banned and will more than likely never be banned is because of the taxes collected. This is why you cannot buy crates of cigarettes in North Carolina, and sell them for a mint in New York. It interferes with how taxes are collected. This is why Freddy Garner gets choked out in New York for being known to have sold individual or loose cigarettes. The government wants its cut and too much revenue would be lost if the aspiring entrepreneur decided to go into business for themselves without using the proper paper trail to ensure you are thor-

King Crossword

ACROSS

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28 Evening, in an ad	48 Game for one	7 Call — day abbr.
31 Duo	51 Pouch	8 Code name?
32 Grass shack	52 Daring Knieval	9 Puzzle answer
33 Feedbag tid-bit	53 Village People hit	10 Persia, today
34 Big name in scat	54 Exist	11 To-do list item
36 Boom times	55 Fill fully	16 "Toy Story"
37 "Mad Money" network	56 Fashion line?	20 Understand-ing
38 Beetle	DOWN	22 Hosiery shade
Bailey's boss	1 Porgy's love	23 Funny folks
40 Italian river	2 Carolina college	24 Paris summer
41 "Untrue!"	3 Actress Taylor	25 Piercing tool
43 "Jurassic Park" bird	4 Oolong brewer	26 Start of summer or winter
47 Park pal	5 Methods	27 Hoodlum
	6 Shade	29 Bar bill
		30 List-ending
		35 Small batteries
		37 Patients' shares
		39 Kentucky Derby prize
		40 Bit of butter
		41 Houston acronym
		42 Actor Epps
		43 Anger
		44 Marathoner's stat
		45 Killer whale
		46 500 sheets
		49 Eggs
		50 Allow

oughly taxed.
 Much of the agrarian south still produces tobacco. If tobacco was completely banned, how many farms would survive? Not to mention, just because America banned tobacco, or even if it is just menthols, it does not mean Americans will not still have access to it. We cannot stop cocaine or heroin from crossing our borders and airports. There are no known poppy fields or cocoa plantations in the United States, yet here we are. The ban on menthols could lead to yet another reason why blacks will be targeted for trafficking or in possession of a banned substance that has been a staple in the community since menthol cigarettes paid for advertisement in popular black magazines for decades. So much money is made in taxes from tobacco use, that it could single-handedly finance reparations indefinitely. For that reason alone, there is skepticism about whether this menthol ban will ever happen. If anything, given this administration's pattern, there will not be a ban on menthol but there will be higher taxes assessed; in an attempt to discourage their use. The decades worth of studies and data show, the habit is hard to break and many people will smoke menthols on their deathbed.

TO BE EQUAL

Continued from page 10

not require any institution, public or private, to provide a breeding ground for hate, violence, or extremism. It does not sanction conspiracy to overthrow the duly-elected government.

We can glean from Musk's own Tweets what content he considers appropriate for the forum. He was fined by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and forced to step down as Tesla chairman after posting false information that affected the company's stock price. The National Labor Relations Board ordered Musk to delete a tweet that was deemed an interference with his employee's right to organize in a union. He lobbied a baseless accusation of pedophilia against a British cave explorer involved in the rescue of a trapped youth football team. He tweeted misinformation about COVID testing and the authority of health officials to enforce safety measures.

Meanwhile, a California state agency has sued Tesla, accusing its Bay Area plant "is a racially segregated workplace where Black workers are subjected to racial slurs and discriminated against in job assignments, discipline, pay, and promotion creating a hostile work environment." Musk's company previously faced a class action suit regarding widespread racism at the same factory, and last year a jury ruled in favor of a former employee who alleged racial discrimination.

For all his talk about "free speech," Musk has been known to threaten and retaliate against his critics and fire employees who disagree with him.

Twitter's Board of Directors is not only within its rights to deny Musk's bid to take over the company, it is morally and ethically bound to do everything within its power to do so.

KIM'S JUSTICE CORNER

Continued from page 10

maintenance of the Black woman has created adverse effects. Unlike the previous generations, when land was taken and communities burned down, they do not gather and rebuild, pray or march. Instead they kill each other out of anguish. When speaking on the issue of gun violence, Americans should take into account the yards stolen, how and why?

War is like football, there is a scrimmage line and in order to win the game one must push the other backwards as one advances forward. To think educated and informed Blacks who carry no weapons nor desire to use a weapon are fighting for voting rights provided over 100 years ago. Parties take out their weapons of war, the pen and began drawing scrimmage lines that are often challenged by a panel of judges. The yards gained are often taken when defense is weak and there is no man-to-man coverage. For example, our quarterbacks have been sacked and or killed. Leaders like Martin Luther King, Jr. were gunned down. So were those of the Black Panther Party who would have showed us how to open carry without fear, shame or running away with our guns have all been assassinated or remain as political prisoners in this silent war.

Not only is it silent but this war will give most of you amnesia because as long as sociopaths appear to make progress or attempt to be trained, we as Blacks are conditioned to forgive and forget. The forgetting part is where we all went wrong. Perhaps we forgot that in the '60s and '70s Economic discrimination was so bad that Black women went on welfare just to survive. Black Men were not paid the same salaries and often times not hired at all. This portion of the war removed Black male protection from the homes, creating an environment whereby prison was inevitable and Black children had two part-time parents. A Black mother working full-time while her children practically raised themselves.

Black men would commit crimes and be sent immediately to the concentration camps of America. Psychologically, this created a domino effect of music you all enjoy at Dreamville and a form of escapism whereby Black Children simply want to obtain enough money to escape the ailments of poverty and its pain. This can be done quickly through the rape industry and/or sports. If their basketball handles are good enough, they can generate enough scouts or slave brokers to entertain White America and become the starting 10 at Duke or UNC, where their forefathers built the institution, though 90 percent of the students do not reflect the starting lineup. The truth of the matter is: If you do not remove Black youth fast enough from the pains of poverty, the repercussions will become deadly. Unfortunately, educated Blacks cannot assist them because their education was never to build internally within the community but to survive on Master's plantation.

War is made up of various moves and includes surprise attacks. For example, SURPRISSE, we are trying to take your voting rights away again after 100 years of fighting us for it.

The gun is only a tool in euthanasia. It most commonly used because it is the fastest way to relief. The gun says that if you kill me, then I don't have to be here but if I kill you, I no longer have to try to fit into society, plus if I live, I can obtain some of my power back amongst the powerless even if that means I go to prison for the rest of my life, at least I will be respected. So the gun should not be the focus. Suicide missions should be the focus. White America should look at Blacks similar to that of the Muslim faith and suicide bombings. The only difference is, one is a religion and one is an inherent belief. Why do children at 16 and 17 want to die? Could it be that forced integration and the dismantling of our communities is so treacherous that there is nothing to live for?

More importantly, Black mayors and Black police chiefs, are they allowed to articulate the systematic dismantling of not only physical neighborhoods but the psychological dismantling of a people? Are they required to fix the problem without mentioning White supremacy? When mentioning White supremacy are we conditioned to start the narrative that somehow Whites did not know or that their actions are all implicit which means they are due "training" versus "punishment." Did the City of Raleigh and Durham, ask what kind of homes did those who committed these crimes come from? The Mayor of New York was deemed a Black face for White supremacy by a Black Lives Matter organizer after he conveniently came after the BLM organization for not protesting against the lives of children who die in the streets by other forms of violence. Mayor Adams like Chadwick Boseman in the movie, *Ma Rainey's Bottom*, is well aware that blaming White supremacy was off limits and that it was easier to blame Black Lives Matter. Mayor Lightfoot, a Black mayor, found it convenient to target the assets of gang members in Chicago versus the stolen wealth of Whites who have gentrified the poor areas of Black communities, Harlem and other major cities.

To blame this on gun violence is to exclude White supremacy and their war on Black America from any responsibility.

This is not about gun violence. There has never been a person shot that felt their shooting was one of violence. This is a matter of who is allowed to kill and why. Ironically, as soon as a White male conducts a School Shooting, society automatically looks for ways to reduce accountability. The use of insanity or mental illness is often sought out. As for Blacks, society checks to see if

he had a criminal background. The benefit of the doubt is given. Black shootings are considered "gun violence." White shootings are called "Mass Shootings." Their shootings are never labeled as violent. When America killed over 620,000 of their own kind to keep slaves, their slaughter was called the "Civil War." Either their behaviors are placed under war or mass shootings.

Let us not forget war generals such as Harry J. Anslinger, of the Federal Bureau of Narcotics and John Erchlichler who declared war on Blacks and deliberately kept certain drugs illegal so that we could kill each other for survival mode when jobs and opportunities were withheld. Let us not forget that White supremacy created a deficit in our community and forbade us to assist each other lest we be classified as Communist or terrorist groups. The rest of White America profited from gentrification as they placed "Black Lives Matter" on their front lawns. You see, Black Lives Matter is not just for the police, it is the discriminatory structure of America's hate that affects everything from infant mortality and food deserts and lack of nutrition to a cop kneeling on our Black men to the point of no return.

Therefore, in conclusion, in an effort to stop the gun violence, I ask can Whites stop the War on Blacks? It has suicidal repercussions, and our Black purchased leaders are unable to say these truths in fear of retaliation.

You see the first Dylan Ruth did not add education with his hate. It consumed him to the point he did not use his provisions. So his killings were considered violent and though he wanted to publicly declare his hatred for Blacks, the judge labeled him insane to protect him and stated he was incompetent to represent himself. His cohorts however rewarded him by purchasing him a Burger from Burger King. They had to show some form of appreciation for his efforts. The second Dylan Ruth was a bit more tactful. He carefully set the tone first by handing out water bottles and appearing civilized as he attended a Black Lives Matter event versus church. At the age of 17, this White Supremacist obtained the largest illegal weapon he could find, strapped it to the center of his chest and walked down the middle of the street with the understanding that his violence would be protected before he committed the crime as long as the dominant culture endorsed his actions. He was skilled in tone policing. Dylan Ruth and Derek Chauvin forgot to use these certain tools. Their hate consumed them and there was nothing the system could protect.

Let's take the litmus test. Since Black fathers were strategically removed the homes and were replaced by gangs, illegal guns and an illegal economic system, let us see how many officials are willing to correct this wrong by either deliberately replacing Black Males or their substitutes back into the homes or the courts serve as Parens Patriae. This will ensure that our Municipalities, courts and counties will deliberately educate our Black population earlier on gun possession and ownership.

This would be called "The Homestead Act" where like Whites, Blacks would not only acquire a place to stay but wealth, political influence, economic affluence and a gun to protect it all.

CONSERVATIVELY SPEAKING

Continued from page 10

ing to campaign management. They are proof that the GOP is more diverse and growing—not just with voters but with candidates and our Rising Stars activists. These are the young leaders who will one day take up the leadership mantle on political campaigns, local and national GOP organizations, and be key staff in Congress and the White House.

There is no way I would limit them to just being staff. These passionate young Black Republicans could end up running for office and winning like Jalen Johnson, Julian Bradley, Roxy Ndebumadu, and Caleb Hanna.

Thankfully, they have examples to look to within our party for leadership at all levels, from staff to elected and appointed officials. But we are helping them understand and prepare for the continued attacks from the progressive, woke liberal left and the mainstream media.

While the Black community is not in lockstep behind any one political party or movement, we should have the basic human decency not to commit personal character assassination on one another just because we disagree politically. Time and time again, whether it is on social media platforms, op-eds, the radio, or cable TV programs, Black Republicans are attacked for being free thinking, independent minded Americans who have decided to be affiliated with the Republican Party and conservative causes.

The danger for us if we sit back silently and allow these personal attacks to continue, we will end up with young people afraid to speak up, get involved, and be engaged in politics. We can't let fear of being ostracized or blacklisted from potential career opportunities stop young conservatives from growing their careers.

It is fair to ask why a person happens to be involved in one party over another. What is unfair is to call into question their race or connection to the Black community if they happen to be Republican. It is in our best interest to have quality representation at every level on both sides of the aisle. The RNC is doing our part to make sure that young minority Republicans feel valued, welcome, and wanted in our Party.

The RNC Rising Star Program is just one part of our multi-million-dollar minority engagement investment. I have no doubt these young leaders will soon be household names in our Party for the betterment of our community and country.

Paris Dennard is the National Spokesperson and Director of Black Media Affairs for the Republican National Committee (RNC). Follow him on Twitter: @PARISDENNARD.

CHILD WATCH

Continued from page 10

"According to a recent report from Moody's Analytics, inflation is costing the average U.S. family an additional \$296 per month, an amount roughly equivalent to one monthly payment of the expanded CTC for a single child. This pandemic-fueled inflation is compounding a longer-term trend: the cost of raising children has been rising faster than inflation for decades ... Last year, the expanded CTC helped families deal with pandemic-related spikes in the costs of goods like gas and food and longer-term increases in expenses like child care. In 2021, a couple with two young children paid on average about \$1,000 more for food and gas than before the pandemic... Many of the families who used monthly CTC payments to cover their basic needs do not have the savings to cover the increased costs of living. We are concerned that even as families struggle, efforts to extend the CTC appear to have stalled in the Senate, while discussions about reviving and bolstering tax breaks for corporations have continued in earnest. When inflation hits, corporations can weather the storm and even turn record profits by raising prices beyond the rate of inflation, but families don't have that luxury."

Children and families deserve a permanent solution. That's also why the Children's Defense Fund is calling on Congress to enact measures like the Babies over Billionaires Act introduced into Congress on April 14 by Rep. Jamaal Bowman (D-NY) and co-leads Rep. Danny K. Davis (D-IL), Rep. Bill Pascrell (D-NJ), and Rep. Susan Wild (D-PA) to hold billionaires who have been protected by tax loopholes for far too long accountable. This Act would tax the unrealized capital gains of the top 0.01 percent of American taxpayers with over \$100 million in assets—about 700 billionaires—and invest that money in programs that support families and children in the Departments of Health and Human Services and Education. As Rep. Bowman said at the bill's introduction: "Policy reflects our priorities, and for decades, the United States has chosen to invest in the personal wealth of billionaires while failing to invest in the tangible needs of our children and our communities. Working class people are taxed more than billionaires at times and often have their income more harshly scrutinized, all while struggling to keep up with the rising costs of basic needs like food and housing... By auditing and taxing the 700 richest people in our country the wealthy will finally pay their fair share."

Right now Tax Day is still a reminder of our nation's misguided priorities, but it doesn't have to stay that way. We must envision and realize an America where every child has enough. God did not make two classes of children and we do so at our peril.

Classifieds

LEGALS

DURHAM COUNTY

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 21-E-1273**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Cora T. Cooper, 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 8th day of July, 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 7th day of April, 2022.
James Harrison Holman, Jr.
Executor

1918 Crowell St
Durham, NC 27707
4/7,4/14,4/21, and 4/28/22

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 2022-E-00458**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Linda H. Buchanan, 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 7th day of July, 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 7th day of April 2022.

Elizabeth Buchanan
Administrator
910 Constitution Drive
Apt. 309
Durham, NC 27705
4/7,14,21,28/2022

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-463**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Lillian V. Barbee, 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 8th day of July, 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 7th day of April, 2022.

Denise Barbee Williams
Executor
136 Crestview Drive
Durham, NC 27712
4/7,4/14,4/21, and 4/28/22

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-179**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Gassennie W. Hodge, 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 8th day of July 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 7th day of April 2022.

Roderick V. Hodge
Executor
5425 Loyal Place
Durham, NC 27713
4/7,14,21,28/2022

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
File No. 22 E 451**

Having qualified as the personal representative of the Estate of

Valinda H. Blalock, late of Durham County, NC, Bonnie Huckabee, the undersigned, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 1007 Vickers Ave., Durham, NC 27707, on or before August 15, 2022 or it 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 7th day of April, 2022.

Bonnie Huckabee
Executrix
Wilfred F. Drake, P.C.
Attorney for the Estate
1007 Vickers Avenue
Durham, NC 27707
1-919-683-8441
4/7,4/14,4/21, and 4/28/2022

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
File No. 22 E 362**

The undersigned, having duly qualified as Executor of the Estate of Rebecca W. Glenn, deceased, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before July 21, 2022 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 21st day of April, 2022.

Gregory Stuart Glenn
Executor
c/o Ronald G. Coulter
Attorney at Law
3400 Croasdaile Drive Suite 205
Durham, NC 27705
4/21,28,5/5,12/2022

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF DURHAM

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
File No. 22-E-502**

THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 12th day of April, 2022, as Executor of the **ESTATE OF CHRISTINE DUKE DAVIS A/K/A BLANCHE CHRISTINE DAVIS**, Deceased, of Durham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 20th day of July, 2022 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This, the 21st day of April, 2022.

**RANDALL DUKE TEASLEY
CECILIA JOHNSON TEASLEY
CO-EXECUTORS
ESTATE OF
CHRISTINE DUKE DAVIS
A/K/A**

BLANCHE CHRISTINE DAVIS
c/o Jennifer Dalman, Attorney
Walker Lambe, PLLC
Post Office Box 51549
Durham, NC 27717-1549
4/21,28,5/5,12/2022

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-527**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of Ellwood Eugene Hicks, 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 21st day of July 2021, 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 21st day of April 2022.

Lou F. Hicks aka
Lou Farrell Hicks
Executrix
132 Continental Drive
Durham, NC 27713
4/21,28,5/5,12/2022

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF DURHAM

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
File No. 22-E-501**

THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 12th day of April, 2022, as Executor of the **ESTATE OF WILLIAM CHARLES WITZLEBEN**, Deceased, of Durham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 20th day of July, 2022 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate pay-

ment to the undersigned.

This, the 21st day of April, 2022.
**CLARK HUGHES WITZLEBEN
EXECUTOR**

**ESTATE OF WILLIAM CHARLES
WITZLEBEN
c/o Stephen C. Rhudy, Attorney
Walker Lambe, PLLC
Post Office Box 51549
Durham, North Carolina 27717**

4/21,28,5/5,12/2022

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

**In The General Court Of Justice
District Court Division
File Number 22-CVD-237**

NOTICE OF SERVICE

To: KEVIN AVILA LICONA,
Defendant.

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 for child custody. You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than the June 1, 2022, said date being at least forty (40) days from the first publication of this Notice, and upon your failure to do so, the Plaintiff, DANY JULISSA CHAVEZ SANCHEZ, will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 21st day of April, 2022.

Aneta Paval, Esq.
Paval Law Offices, PLLC
7404 Chapel Hill Rd
Suite M
Raleigh NC 27607
Telephone: (919) 410-6690
4/21,28,5/5/2022

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 21-E-655**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Rosa D. Covington, 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 21st day of July 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 28th day of April 2022.

Percy Covington, Jr.
Executor
822 Exum Street
Durham, NC 27701
4/28,5/5,5/12 and 5/19/2022

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-401**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Brenda Joyce Loftin aka B. Joyce Loftin, 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 21st day of July 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 21st day of April 2022.

Brenda A. Loftin aka
Brenda Angelina Loftin aka
Brenda Lee Loftin
Administrator
2808 Owen Street
Durham, NC 27703
4/21,28, 5/5,12/2022

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-000485**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Pearl Mack Holman, 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 21st day of July 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 21st day of April 2022.

Juanita Shaw
Executor
3013 St. Marys Road
Hillsborough, NC 27278

4/21,28, 5/5,12/2022
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-180**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Oliver L. Hodge, 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 21st day of July 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 21st day of July 2022.

Roderick V. Hodge
Executor
5425 Loyal Place
Durham, NC 27713
4/21,28, 5/5,12/2022

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Sara H. McCoy a/k/a Sara Hart McCoy, late 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 at the law offices of Culp Elliott & Carpenter, PLLC, 6801 Carnegie Boulevard, Suite 400, Charlotte, NC 28211, before the 21st day of July, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 21st day of April, 2022.

William O. McCoy, Executor of the Estate of Sara H. McCoy a/k/a Sara Hart McCoy.
Attorney:
William L. Mills, IV
Culp Elliott & Carpenter, PLLC
6801 Carnegie Boulevard, Suite 400
Charlotte, NC 28211
4/21,28, 5/5,12/2022

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-376**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of Regina A. Johnson Hayes AKA Regina Johnson Hayes, 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 28th day of July 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 28th day of April 2022.

Gianina H. Fink AKA
Gianina S. Hayes
Executrix
3923 Penny Lane
Jeffersonville IN 47130
4/28, 5/5,12,19/2022

NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

**In The General Court of Justice
District Court Division
File No. 22-CVD-405**

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**

To: EDWIN DAIR NATARENO
ECHEVERRIA, Defendant.

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 for child custody. You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than the 7th day of June 2022, said date being at least forty (40) days from the first publication of this Notice, and upon your failure to do so, the Plaintiff, MEREIRA CARINA BRAVO ARREAGA, will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 28th day of April 2022.

Aneta Paval, Esq.
Paval Law Offices, PLLC
7404 Chapel Hill Rd
Suite M
Raleigh NC 27607
Telephone: (919) 410-6690
4/28, 5/5,12/2022

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-00395**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Loretta Kay Ragan, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Anand P. Jaggi AKA Anand Prakash Jaggi, 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 28th day of July 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 28th day of April 2022.

Anuj Jaggi
Executor
1114 Areca Way
Durham, NC 27703
4/28, 5/5,12,19/2022

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-296**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Edward Keith Nesbit, 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 28th day of July 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 28th day of April 2022.

Sherri Swan-Nesbit
Administrator
2710 Cooksbury Drive
Durham, NC 27704
4/28, 5/5,12,19/2022

NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

**Superior Court Division
21 CVS 2813**

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**

THOMAS McCULLOUGH,

vs.
ALFREDA THREAT
JUANZO VERBAL
JACQUAIL NANCE,

Plaintiff,

Defendants.

TO: ALFREDA THREAT, one of the above-named Defendants:

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:

Demand for Arbitration and Claim for Damages against Unnamed Defendant Insurer for Underinsured Damages.

You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than June 21, 2022, said date being forty (40) days from the first publication of this notice, or from the date complaint is required to be filed, whichever is later, and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This the 28th day of April, 2022.

Gregory Reynald Williams
Attorney for Plaintiff
2232 Page Road, Suite 203
Durham, NC 27703
Telephone: (919) 282-4696
Facsimile: (877) 520-5706
4/28, 5/5,12/2022.

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-00395**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Loretta Kay Ragan, 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 28th day of July 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 28th day of April 2022.

Jane Ray Carden
Executor
8134 Lowell Valley Drive
Bahama, NC 27503
4/28,5/5,12,19/2022

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-577**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of Norman Howard Barlow AKA Norman Howard Barlow, Jr., 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 28th day of July 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 28th day of April 2022.

Katherine Olivia Barlow AKA
Katherine B. Cadwallader
Executrix
4001 St. Marks Rd.
Durham, NC 27707
4/28,5/5,12,19/2022

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 349**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administratrix of the Estate of Alton Royce Elliott, 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 28th day of July 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 28th day of April 2022.

Debra Elliott Putman
Administratrix
4717 Kiger Road
Rougemont, NC 27572
44/28,5/5,12,19/2022

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-296**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Edward Keith Nesbit, 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 28th day of July 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 28th day of April 2022.

Sherri Swan-Nesbit
Administrator
2710 Cooksbury Drive
Durham, NC 27704
4/28, 5/5,12,19/2022

B	E	L	T	W	H	I	M	S	I	T		
E	L	I	E	A	U	T	O	O	R	A		
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He Founded The Pan-African Movement—CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

He said Kinloch also inspired Williams to go on to convene the first Pan-African Conference in London in 1900.

In Adi's view, the experiences that Williams had in his life provide a context for his passion for tackling the pervasive anti-African racism that was affecting Africans and people of African descent at the time when European powers were scrambling for African territory.

"Remember, Williams had ...been to the three corners of that triangle, if you like, that spread across the Atlantic, from Africa to North America and Europe," Adi said.

"So he was aware of the problems of colonialism in the Caribbean, of racism in North America, racism in Britain and of colonialism in general."

According to Adi, being at the center of the Empire, Williams would have seen the racism of the day in the press and in the streets.

While in England, Williams married Agnes Powell, a White woman, and Adi said this would have caused even more racism to be directed toward him and his wife.

After the 1900 conference, Williams travelled to North America and the Caribbean again to set up local Pan-African associations.

On his return to England, he was called to the bar and then went on to Paris and eventually worked as the first Black barrister in the Cape Colony, now part of South Africa, from 1903 to 1905.

Eventually, Williams grew frustrated with racism in the Cape Colony and it was difficult for him to practice law. He returned to London and decided to run for public office, Adi said.

He joined the Liberal Party which, Adi said, was considered to be the party most supportive of the interests of Africans in that period, if "only in a very limited way," and ran for municipal office, perhaps as a step toward a parliamentary

run. In 1906, Williams was elected as one of the first Black councillors in London and the first Black councillor for the City of Westminster.

Shortly thereafter, Williams again uprooted himself and headed back to his homeland with his wife in 1908.

The reasons for the move are not known but Adi said he may have felt he could have made a difference there.

"I think if you're politically committed, you make your choices based on where you think you can achieve the most," Adi said.

"Maybe he felt, that he hadn't really made as much of an impact as he would wish in South Africa or maybe in Britain... and that Trinidad, his own country, would be a place where he could make a difference."

He practiced law in Trinidad until his death four years later in 1911, he was only 42.

Adi said the fact that Williams

didn't live long, didn't write much and that others—like W.E.B. Du Bois—lived longer and wrote more on the subject of Pan-Africanism, contributed to him being largely eclipsed by others in the movement.

It's a sentiment shared by Barrington Walker, professor of history and vice-president of equity, diversity and inclusion at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ont.

Walker said in his own way, Williams achieved a tremendous amount in the face of considerable odds.

People of African descent in Canada had very difficult and restricted lives, Walker said, and it is important to be careful when assessing their importance.

Walker said more research needs to be done on Williams to assess his importance to global Pan-Africanism but he shows how important Pan-African thought was in the Canadian context.



Classifieds

LEGALS

WAKE COUNTY

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 2018 E 004118

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Sivey Junior Peacock, 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 8th day of July, 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 7th day of April, 2022.
Mattie Drayton
Administrator
Bldg 160 Gas Light Creek Ct
apt. 101
Raleigh, NC 27601
4/7,4/14,4/21, and 4/28/22

WAKE COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

File No. 2022-E-000905
All Persons or Creditors having claims against the estate of Natasha Patrice Clayton, deceased 12/23/2021, of Wake Co. NC are notified to exhibit claims to the undersigned on or before 07/28/2022.

This notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. This 28th day of April 2022.

Christopher Clayton and Melvin Clayton
Executors
237 Lord Ashley Rd
Raleigh NC, 27616
919-302-2036
4/28, 5/5,12,19/2022

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 2021 E 000145

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Willie Kennedy Jr., 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 14th day of July 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 14th day of April 2022.
Johnny Perry
Executor
747 St. George Road
Raleigh, NC 27610
4/14,21,28, 5/5/2022

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 000748

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate

of Lorraine Williams Whitley, 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 14th day of July 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 14th day of April 2022.
Cynthia McNeill
Executor
5129 Emerald Springs Drive
Knightdale, NC 27545
4/14,21,28, 5/5/2022

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 2021 E 001223

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Alfred L. Grigsby, 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 21st day of July 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 21st day of April 2022.
Michelle Moore
Administrator
10444 Neland Street
Raleigh, NC 27614
4/21,28,5/5,12/2022

NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

In The General Court Of Justice District Court Division

File No.: 22-CVD-3354
NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

JEWEL HUGHES,

PLAINTIFF
VS.
UNKNOWN FATHER
Of Kamden Hughes
DEFENDANT

TO: UNKNOWN FATHER OF KAMDEN HUGHES

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 for Custody of the minor child Kamden Hughes, born July 1, 2008 to the Plaintiff's daughter MeTasha S. Hughes in Wake County, North Carolina.

You are required to make defense to such pleadings no later than the 1st day of June 2022, said date being at least forty days from the first publication of this notice; and upon your failure to do so the party seeking relief against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This the 21st day of April 2022.
LAW OFFICES OF STEPHANIE J. BROWN
BY:
Stephanie J. Brown
Attorney for Plaintiff
P.O. Box 2596
Raleigh, NC 27602
(919) 836-9444
State Bar No. 18944
sjbrown_law@hotmail.com
4/21,28,5/5/2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

David Edward Young died 10/25/21 in Wake County, NC Court file 22E1567. All persons, firms or corporations indebted to David Edward Young will please make immediate payment. Those having claims against David Edward Young are to present them before 8/5/22 or this Notice may be pleaded to bar the claim.

Claims may be sent to Deborah H. Shartle, Attorney for the estate at Arges Law Firm, 3200 Crossdaile Drive, Suite 706, Durham, NC 27705.

Kathie W. Young, Executor.
4/28/22, 5/5/22, 5/12/22, 5/19/22.

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AKC GERMAN SHEPHERD PUP—7 weeks. Upto date on shots and wormer. Parents on site. \$500.00. 336-233-7039, 336-233-7512.
4/28,5/5/22

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White
No Key
RWD
4-Cyl, turbo, 2.0 L
\$38,590
The Freedom Sales Team
919.627.7177
myfreedomtowing@gmail.com
4/28 and 5/4/22

SOLD AS-IS
'76 Chevy Nova
Lt. Blue
No Key
4 Door
\$6,000
The Freedom Sales Team
919.627.7177
myfreedomtowing@gmail.com
4/28 and 5/4/22

SOLD AS IS
'19 Dodge Grand Caravan
Blue
Has Key
Wrecked in front end
\$10,000
The Freedom Sales Team
919.627.7177
myfreedomtowing@gmail.com
4/28 and 5/4/22

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 **Potable Water Ground Storage Tank** project for the **Town of Clayton** which bids **May 5, 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 * Timmons Group, 5410 Trinity Road, Suite 102, Raleigh, NC 27607.

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, demolition, sitework, clearing and grubbing, earthwork, erosion control, SCADA, linework, flatwork, concrete, cast-in-place concrete, grout, plumbing, heat trace, and fencing. Please contact Michael Cox (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 **Wilson's Mills Pump Station Improvements** project for **Johnston County** which bids **May 5, 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 * Johnston County website * CDM Smith; 5400 Glenwood Avenue; Raleigh, NC * Dodge Data and Analytics website * ConstructConnect website.

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, demolition, hauling, earthwork, erosion control, electrical, SCADA, bypass pumping, CIPC, painting, and plumbing. Please contact Michael Cox (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.

WANTED WBE, MBE & DBE BIDS

- for the following jobs:
- NCDOT DIVISION SIX LETTING**
DF00314 Harnett Co Bid Date: May 4th
 - NCDOT DIVISION FOUR LETTING**
DD00381 Nash Co Bid Date: May 10th
 - NCDOT DIVISION TWO LETTING**
DB00516 Lenoir Co. Bid Date: May 11th

These projects may involve some or all of the following aspects of construction: construction survey, clear and grub, trucking, drainage, milling, paving, incidental concrete, fence and guardrail, signs, structures, traffic control, utilities, signals, pavement marking, erosion control and seeding. Bids can be emailed to stw.quotes@stwcworp.com

Please contact S. T. Wooten at 252-291-5165, Fax 252-243-0900 no later than 5:00 p.m. the day before the bid date.

The North Carolina Department of Transportation, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42, U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to the advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award. In accordance with other related nondiscrimination authorities, bidders and contractors will also not be discriminated against on the grounds of sex, age, disability, low-income level, creed/religion, or limited English proficiency in consideration for an award.

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 **Rocky Branch Sanitary Sewer Improvements** project for the **City of Raleigh** which bids **May 3, 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 * Highfill Infrastructure Engineering, P. C.; 2703 Jones Franklin Road, Suite 201; Cary, NC 27518; contact: Eddie Sasser, PE; esasser@hiepc.com * Dodge Data and Analytics website * ConstructConnect website * Construction Journal website * NC Institute of Minority Economic Development (NCIMED) website.

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, hauling, asphalt paving, striping, traffic control, erosion control, seeding, linework, jack & bore, bypass pumping, CIPP, flatwork, manhole lining and fencing. Please contact Jeff Price (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.

For up to the minute news visit
www.CARO.news

Seven Springs Farm & Vineyard Hosted The NEO SOUL Fest



Delmas Cooper Photos



NEO SOUL FESTIVAL AT THE VINEYARD — The farm came alive on Saturday with live bands, food and vendors. The wine flowed as smoothly as the music did at Seven Springs Farm in Norlina. There were performances by the New Band On The Block and the Luv Jones Experience. On the turntables was DJ Phillip Bro-Rabb Bell. They kept the dance floor full and the mood exciting. If you missed this event, don't fret. Seven Springs Farm has many events throughout the year.

Retirements, NIL Create New B-ball World—CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

today's changing game. He sees peers prepared to fill the void. "I think we're part of this outspoken generation that is willing and able to share our opinions on multiple platforms," Valentine told the AP. "I think it's just figuring out the right way to go about it is what our generation is going to have to figure out." He also sees enough former players leading programs to know that playing experience is

an asset, too. There's 34-year-old Jon Scheyer taking over as Krzyzewski's designated successor as a first-time head coach who played for the Blue Devils' 2010 NCAA title winner. Kyle Neptune, 37, followed Wright after playing at Lehigh and spending one season as Fordham's coach. Cincinnati's Wes Miller, 39, already has 11 college seasons under his belt. There are also North Caro-

lina's Hubert Davis (51), Michigan's Juwan Howard (49) and Seton Hall's Shaheen Holloway (45) — all early in their careers as head coaches at programs where they starred as college players. They each guided teams to strong NCAA Tournament runs, with Holloway helping Saint Peter's become the first 15-seed to reach a regional final, Howard's Wolverines reaching the Sweet 16 and Davis' first year as Wil-

liams' successor ending with the Tar Heels reaching the title game before falling to the Jayhawks. Davis and Howard, in particular, have long NBA playing careers to draw from in preparing their teams. That's different from Williams, Krzyzewski and Wright, for example — none played pro ball. "I think this player now, in this generation, they really look up to people that have experi-

enced what they have experienced," said Valentine, a former Oakland player. "If you have the ability to relate on some of those levels, I think you have the ability to be more successful." Greenberg looks at factors like those as examples of how college basketball isn't crumbling. Besides, the sport has evolved and thrived through massive shifts before — freshman eligibility in 1972-73, the

implementation of a 45-second shot clock in 1985-86 followed by the addition of the 3-point line a year later, even the NBA's age limit leading to the "one-and-done" era. "The game is not going anywhere," Greenberg said. "It will evolve, new sets of coaches and leaders will emerge. ... Something will evolve from this, and then there'll be something else after that. I mean, things don't stay the same."

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