

Business ..... P. 3  
 Community ..... P. 6  
 AgGrowCulture . P. 8  
 Editorials..... P. 10  
 Viewpoints .....P. 11  
 Classifieds... P. 12,13

# The Carolinian



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Dedicated to the Spirit  
and Service of God

## COVID Is On The Rise Again

By Dr. Joy Martinez

Staff Writer

US COVID Cases Are 5 Times Higher Now Than Last Memorial Day Weekend. As omicron and its subvariants rapidly move through the nation, reported cases are surpassing 110,000 a day, though the number is far higher due to a lack of testing.

BA.2.12.1 are easily infecting people, even those who are vaccinated and boosted. The lineage BA.2.12.1 was first detected in upstate New York and has a mutation in the spike protein which makes it better able to reinfect people who've recovered from previous infections — including BA.1 — and which is shared by BA.4 and BA.5, which are surging in South Africa. Large por-

tions of the country — particularly the Northwest, Midwest, Florida and the West Coast are seeing medium or high levels of transmission, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

Two and a half years and billions of estimated infections into this pandemic, SARS-CoV-2's visit has clearly turned into a permanent stay. Experts knew

from early on that, for almost everyone, infection with this coronavirus would be inevitable. By this point, in fact, most Americans have. But now, as wave after wave continues to pummel the globe, a different reality is playing out. You're not just likely to get the coronavirus. You're likely to get it again and again and again.

An average of 4,162 North Carolinians test positive for COVID-19 a day, according to the latest data from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. On Wednesday the state reported more than 29,000 new cases during the last week, a 151 percent increase from the end of April. The number of COVID-19 outbreaks in North Carolina's nursing homes has nearly doubled since late April. There were 195 nursing homes on the weekly outbreak list released Tuesday by the state Department of Health and Human Services.

This virus seems capable of tangling into just about every tissue in the body, affecting organs such as the heart, brain, liver, kidneys, and gut; it has already claimed the lives of millions, while saddling countless others with symptoms that can linger for months or years.

An estimated 22 to 32 percent of patients who recovered from COVID-19, yet find they still have brain fog as part of their

(See COVID, P. 2)



## Sifford Remembered On 100<sup>th</sup> Birth Date

By Stacy M. Brown

NNPA

Charlie Sifford, Jr. didn't hesitate to explain why his late father, Dr. Charlie Sifford, remains his hero.

Sitting inside an office at PGA TOUR headquarters in Ponte Verde, Florida, and preparing to remember what would have been his father's 100th birthday on June 2, Sifford recounted how much his dad loved golf.

He also remembered his father's challenges trying to break into the sport during segregation and the Jim Crow era.

"In pursuing the game he loved so much, he endured enormous challenges as an African American golfer," Sifford Jr. recalled.

Born in Charlotte, North Carolina, in 1922, Dr. Sifford, the first Black golfer on the PGA TOUR, began caddying at a nearby country club to earn money.

"Back then, in the 1920s and 1930s, there were very few places where young kids could go to make some money," Sifford Jr. related.

"He caddied until he was 17, but by the time he was 13, he was considered the top caddie at the course, and many good players asked for him."

According to Sifford Jr., a byproduct of his father's outstanding ability to caddie earned him more money than other kids.

"He developed a love for the game. He learned by watching," Sifford Jr. remarked.

Because African Americans weren't allowed to play at country clubs, Sifford Jr. said, his father would sneak in a few holes when he wasn't caddying.

"He said he had a short backswing because he had to play in a hurry and get as many holes in as possible," Sifford remarked.

"He had one nine-to-five job his whole life, when he worked at Nabisco in Philadelphia when he was 17. He worked there for three years but decided that he wanted to be outside playing golf, and he was determined to succeed."

In addition to marking what would have been Dr. Sifford's 100th birthday, The PGA TOUR also will host The Sifford Centennial 2022. The Sifford Centennial project features several highlight events throughout the year and special merchandise available to the public, including the Just Let Me Play Centennial Collection and Sifford Centennial Cigars.

Further, the Presidents Cup organizers announced the creation of the Charlie Sifford Centennial Cup, a one-day team match-play event featuring top golf teams from historically Black colleges and universities.

The Centennial Cup takes place on August 29 at Quail Hollow in Charlotte, this year's Presidents Cup site.



## Amid Strained Ties, New Super PAC Aims At Electing Pro-Israel Black Democrats

JTA — A new super PAC led by "Black and Jewish" leaders has endorsed five Black Democrats who have positions that are friendly to AIPAC, the latest sign that pro-Israel donors are determined to stem erosion of support for Israel among African Americans.

In its May 27 launch statement, first reported by Politico, the Urban Empowerment Action PAC does not mention Israel, instead saying that it "will support pragmatic, solutions-oriented congressional candidates dedicated to the educational empowerment and economic uplift of Black Communities." It says its "supporters include a broad coalition of Black and Jewish business, political and civic leaders."

But Bakari Sellers, a political commentator who appears in the PAC's literature as a spokesman, told Politico that Israel was "definitely high up on the list" in the decision by the super PAC to endorse Janice Winfrey, the Detroit City Clerk who is challenging incumbent Democratic Rep. Rashida Tlaib. Tlaib is Israel's most strident critic in Congress and the only one who openly says it should not exist as a Jewish state.

"It's not the primary focus," Sellers, a former South Carolina state representative, said, referring to Israel. Nevertheless, Urban Empowerment Action's launch document does allude to the fraying of Black-Jewish ties, once resilient in the civil rights era. Winfrey and the other four candidates it endorsed, mean-



Attorney Bakari Sellers, a South Carolina lawyer and former state lawmaker, speaks with The Associated Press on Oct. 28, 2021 in Charleston, S.C. (AP Photo/Meg Kinnard)

while, are known to have Israel positions close to those favored by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee.

Sellers and the PAC did not return requests for comment.

The PAC arrives after years of tension between the center-right pro-Israel community and Black Democratic lawmakers, spurred in part by the antagonism between former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Barack Obama, the first

Black president. Black lawmakers were especially furious with Netanyahu for accepting an invitation from Republicans to speak to Congress in 2015 to attack Obama's Iran policies; it was seen as a sign of disrespect.

Since Netanyahu's election loss last year, Israel's government has pledged to repair ties with Democrats, and the mainstream pro-Israel movement has made cultivating Black political leadership a priority. A number

of pro-Israel PACs have in recent months lent considerable support to Black candidates facing progressives who are skeptical of the depth of the US-Israel relationships. The pro-Israel donors have scored successes, among others, with Rep. Shontel Brown in Ohio, and with two primary candidates in North Carolina, Don Davis and Valerie Foushee.

(See SUPER PAC, P. 2)

## Cosby Faces Sex Abuse Allegations Again



SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — Bill Cosby will again be facing sex abuse allegations as attorneys give opening statements in a civil trial that's one of the last remaining legal claims against the comedian.

Lawyers for 64-year-old Judy Huth will outline the evidence they plan to present that Cosby forced her to perform a sex act at the Playboy Mansion in 1975 when she was 16 years old. The case will hinge on the testimony of Huth, bolstered by photos and other archival exhibits to place the incident in time.

Cosby's attorneys, who say no sexual abuse happened, are likely to emphasize that the burden of proving the nearly 50-year-old case lies entirely with the plaintiffs. They have acknowledged that Cosby took Huth to the Playboy Mansion,

as a photo from the visit shows, but say they believe she was not a minor when it happened.

The trial is one of the last cases Cosby, 85, faces after a Pennsylvania appeals court threw out his criminal sexual assault conviction and freed him from prison 11 months ago. Several other lawsuits alleging sexual misconduct were settled by his insurer against his will.

Cosby will not testify after the judge ruled that he could assert his Fifth Amendment privilege against self-incrimination. And he has no plans to leave his Pennsylvania home to attend the trial, which is taking place at a small courthouse in Santa Monica. Cosby's representatives say glaucoma has left him blind and made travel too difficult.



### FBI ISSUES WARNING ABOUT SEXTORTION TARGETING TEENAGE BOYS

CHARLOTTE (AP)—Parents, caregivers, and teenagers are being warned by the FBI about an increase in sextortion crimes across North Carolina and the country.

According to the FBI Charlotte field office, there have been 29 reports of sextortion in North Carolina in 2022, and in 23 of the reports, criminals demanded money from the mostly male victims.

In a news release, the FBI says sextortion begins when an adult contacts a minor on an online platform used to meet and communicate, such as a game, app, or social media account. The predator, posing as a young girl, convinces a young male, usually 14 to 17 years old, to engage in explicit activity over video, which is then secretly recorded by the scammer.

The scammer then reveals that they have made the recordings and attempts to extort the victim for money, threatening the victim to pay or have the explicit photos or videos posted online, the news release said.

The coercion of a child by an adult to produce what is considered child sexual abuse material carries penalties which can include up to a life sentence. The FBI says children should tell someone, typically a parent, teacher, caregiver or law enforcement.

### AUTHORITIES: TROOPER FATALLY SHOTS MAN DURING TRAFFIC STOP

SILER CITY (AP)—A North Carolina trooper fatally shot a man who authorities said "presented a pistol" during a traffic stop initiated for a seat belt violation.

The trooper stopped a Ford pickup truck in Siler City late Monday afternoon, the State Highway Patrol said in a news release. During the stop, the release said, Mark Anthony Diaz, 21, "presented" a pistol and Trooper Rodney N. Cook fired his service weapon, striking Diaz. Diaz was taken from the scene and later pronounced dead, officials said. A passenger fled the scene, but returned during the investigation.

Cook, who has been with the patrol for 16 years, was not injured and has been placed on routine administrative duty during an internal investigation, the Highway Patrol said. The State Bureau of Investigation is conducting a separate investigation.

### NC MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO STORMING CAPITOL TO DISRUPT CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP)—A North Carolina man has pleaded guilty to charges that he stormed the U.S. Capitol last year to disrupt Congress from certifying the Electoral College vote, court filings show.

(See STATE BRIEFS, P. 2)

# In Georgia, 2 Black Candidates To Compete For Senate Seat

COLUMBUS, Ga. (AP) — Wayne Black was one of the few African Americans in the crowd as 100 people gathered recently at the Republican Party headquarters near Columbus, Georgia, to hear from U.S. Senate candidate and football legend Herschel Walker.

A member of the Muscogee County Republican Executive Committee, Black said he found a certain promise in Walker's candidacy, a GOP voice who could appeal to African Americans and others in Georgia who have traditionally voted Democratic.

"They identify with him from the standpoint of the American dream," Black said. "You can start from nothing and if you work hard, you can achieve the American dream."

victories and will likely be decisive again this year.

The issue is less about whether Walker will break the bond that Black voters have had with Democratic candidates. It is more about whether Black voters, frustrated by a lack of progress in Washington on issues ranging from a policing overhaul to voting rights, simply sit this election out. In a close election, even a small change in voting patterns could be decisive.

Republicans hope Walker's candidacy can at least neutralize the issue of race in the campaign.

"In this race, Black Georgians will not have to contend with the race issue," said Camilla Moore, chair of the Georgia Black Republican Council. "And I really do believe by culture, we're socially conservative. I think Herschel just has to be Herschel and tell his conservative message."

But in interviews in recent weeks, many Black voters said they would not give Walker a second look because of his race. They said they were driven by policy considerations, and Walker, who was backed by former President Donald Trump and is generally in line with GOP orthodoxy, does not address their needs.

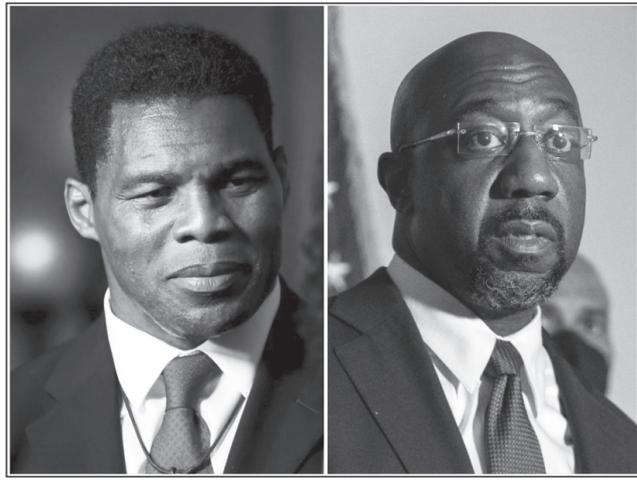
Louis Harden, a 58-year-old Black voter in Atlanta, said he is backing Warnock because of the senator's support for Medicaid expansion.

"It doesn't matter about the color," he said. "It's just the issues, who's going to get the job done."

There are only a few modern instances in which two Black people have emerged as the nominees in a Senate race.

Democrat Barack Obama faced Republican radio host and former diplomat Alan Keyes in his 2004 Senate campaign in Illinois. More recently, South Carolina's Tim Scott, the Senate's only Black Republican, was unsuccessfully challenged in 2016 by Thomas Dixon, a North Charleston pastor.

But the Warnock-Walker matchup is unique because it is



playing out in a far more competitive state than Illinois, a Democratic stronghold, or South Carolina, where Republicans are dominant. Also, the candidates in Georgia are already well known, representing two institutions that are revered in the South: church and football.

Walker, among Georgia's most well-known sports figures, won a championship and the Heisman Trophy while at the University of Georgia in the 1980s. Warnock is the senior pastor at the Atlanta church where Martin Luther King Jr. preached.

"This is going to be a historic matchup," said Stan Deaton, a scholar at the Georgia Historical Society.

But to make a dent in War-

nock's support among Black voters, Walker will need to do more to appeal to the Black community, said Leah Wright Rigueur, a political historian at Johns Hopkins University who has written about efforts by Black Republicans to broaden the party's largely white base.

Republican candidates who do well among African American voters have the ability to craft a political identity that is independent from the party, something she said Walker has not done so far. Black voters also consider how a candidate treats his or her community and may view African American candidates who stick to Republican talking points more harshly than their white counterparts, Wright Ri-

gueur said.

"And the reason why is because it's viewed as a betrayal," she said. "It's viewed as community betrayal."

Walker has largely hewed to Republican messaging about race. He has defended Trump against criticism that Trump was racist, he has accused Black Lives Matter of wanting to destroy the country and he has said "Black-on-Black crime" is far worse than violence by police. Walker has come under scrutiny over allegations that he threatened his ex-wife's life and dramatically inflated his record as a businessman.

Warnock, the pastor at Ebenezer Baptist Church, has embraced King's legacy of racial justice and equal rights. After the killing of George Floyd by police in May 2020, Warnock expounded on the country's struggle with a "virus" he called "COVID-1619" for the year when some of the first slaves arrived in what is now the United States. On Capitol Hill, he has attacked Republicans' push for tighter voting rules as "Jim Crow in new clothes."

Warnock "has a record of fighting to improve the lives of all Georgians," Warnock campaign manager Quentin Fulks said in a statement, citing as examples Warnock's efforts to forgive student loan debt and address the high rates of maternal mortality.

"The people of Georgia, no matter their race, will make the decision about who is up for the job and best able to represent the

people of Georgia," he said.

A spokesperson for Walker's campaign, Mallory Blount, said all Georgians, regardless of race, are facing problems created by Democrats and that Walker is "sick and tired of politicians constantly dividing people based on the color of their skin."

Walker told a House subcommittee last year while testifying against reparations for slavery that "Black power" is used to "create white guilt."

In his memoir, "Breaking Free," Walker said his mother taught him that "color was invisible" and doing right or wrong was what mattered.

"I never really liked the idea that I was to represent my people," he wrote. "My parents raised me to believe that I represented humanity — people — and not black people, white people, yellow people, or any other color or type of person."

Still, Black Republicans in Georgia expect Walker to try hard to woo the African American community during the general election. They also believe his personal story about overcoming obstacles to reach the top ranks of college football and then the NFL will find an audience among Black voters.

"Self-determination has always been a big thing in the Black community since we got out of slavery," said Leonard Massey, who is Black and is chairman of the Chatham County Republican Party in eastern Georgia. "He actually shows how to get to the next level."

## New Super PAC Aims At — CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Urban Empowerment Action has pledged to spend an eye-popping \$1 million on Winfrey; by contrast, the only other expenditure has been for Rep. Nikema Williams in Georgia, an incumbent in the Atlanta area who did not face a serious challenge in the primary this month and will not face one in November.

"This joint effort builds on the strong relationship between African American and Jewish leaders to uplift all communities," Sellers is quoted as saying in the launch document. "Instead of allowing our communities to be divided, history teaches us that when Black and Jewish communities stand together to fight for our common ideals — we create positive change in society."

The PAC's only disclosed donor is Third Point LLC, a New York-based hedge fund helmed by Daniel Loeb, who is Jewish and who gives mostly to Republicans. Third Point gave Urban Empowerment Action \$76,355. Loeb's wife, Margaret, gives mostly to Democrats. Super

PACs may solicit and spend unlimited amounts as long as they do not coordinate directly with a campaign.

AIPAC PAC, the new political action committee affiliated with the lobby, is backing Williams. Another pro-Israel PAC, Pro-Israel America, founded by two former senior AIPAC staffers, is backing Winfrey.

The PAC affiliated with Democratic Majority for Israel, which hews to traditional pro-Israel positions, is backing two candidates backed by Urban Empowerment Action: Randolph Bracy, who is running for the seat being vacated by Florida Rep. Val Demings, who is running for the US Senate; and Sydney Kamlager, who is running in a Los Angeles-area district being vacated by Rep. Karen Bass, who is running for LA mayor.

Another Urban Empowerment Action endorsee, Nykea Pippion-McGriff, is running in a crowded primary race to replace Rep. Bobby Rush, a Chicago-area Democrat who is retiring.

Tlaib, notably, is the only in-

cumbent that the new PAC is seeking to unseat. She immediately cast Urban Empowerment Action's decision to target her as an outsider attempt to remove her for her pro-Palestinian outlook. Tlaib is Palestinian American.

"We will outwork those who don't want to see someone like me serving in the US Congress," she said on Twitter. "No one will bully me and get me to stop speaking truth."

Tlaib and a number of other progressives, led by Sen. Bernie Sanders, the Vermont Jewish lawmaker who twice ran for the Democratic presidential nomination, have sought pledges from Democrats not to take super PAC money.

These progressives have argued that super PACs, including the AIPAC-affiliated United Democracy Project, distort democracy through unlimited spending, and that AIPAC PAC has endorsed dozens of Republicans who refused to certify Joe Biden's election as president. AIPAC for its part notes that its

PAC has endorsed a number of progressives, as well as moderate Democrats and Republicans.

Sellers for years has been close to the pro-Israel community and has appeared at AIPAC conferences. In his Politico interview, he said that Urban Empowerment's emphasis was on maintaining the Black presence in Congress, in part by ensuring that Black incumbents who are leaving the House are replaced by Blacks.

Tlaib replaced a long-time Black congressman, John Conyers, who resigned in a scandal. Rep. Brenda Lawrence, the sole Black congresswoman in the state, is retiring, and the state with one of the most important African-American communities in the country may soon not have a Black representative in Congress, Sellers noted.

"We want people who are elected to Congress that have been focus and understanding on the plight of African Americans and the uplift thereof," Sellers said.

### STATE BRIEFS

*Continued from page 1*

Matthew Mark Wood pleaded guilty on Friday to all six counts in his March 2021 indictment, including a felony charge of obstructing an official proceeding. The other five counts are all misdemeanors. U.S. District Judge Amit Mehta is scheduled to sentence Wood on Sept. 23.

A day before the riot, Wood drove from North Carolina to Washington, D.C., with his grandmother and another relative. Less than a week earlier, Wood sent a text message to another person that said, "If they want to raid Congress, sign me up," according to a court filing accompanying his guilty plea.

After the riot erupted, Wood entered the Capitol by climbing through a window. He followed others on a path toward the Senate chamber but left the area without entering it.

After rioters breached a police line in the Capitol Crypt, Wood followed others up a staircase and into the House Speaker's office suite. He left the Capitol through a door more than an hour after he entered the building, the filing says.

In a text message to somebody a day after the riot, Wood said he "took a stand" but called it "extremely inappropriate."

"I can't believe I participated in such chaos," he added.

The riot disrupted the joint session of Congress for certifying President Joe Biden's 2020 electoral victory.

Wood was arrested in Winston Salem last year.

## COVID Is On The Rise — CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

experience of long COVID, or post-acute sequelae of SARS CoV-2 infection (PASC), as health officials call it.

People struggling with the effects of long COVID may have noticeable problems with attention, memory, and executive function. Studies report these issues both in people who were not hospitalized with COVID and in those who were, as well as in people who had severe cases. These findings raise some important questions about how the virus affects cognition.

Experts project the typical SARS-CoV-2 infection is likely to get less dangerous, as population immunity builds and broadens. But considering our current baseline, "less dangerous" could still be terrible—and it's not clear exactly where we're headed. When it comes to reinfection, we "just don't know enough," says Emily Landon, an infectious-disease physician at

the University of Chicago.

And let's be clear - less dangerous is a relative term. Black people in the U.S. still face wide health disparities in the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the economic and social fallout, compared to other racial groups.

A report from the Black Coalition Against COVID comes as hospitalization rates for Black Americans were recently the highest they've been since the pandemic's start.

"As we reflect on two years of lived experience and myriad data sources, we know COVID-19's toll on Black Americans is ongoing," Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith, the director of the Office for Health Equity Research at Yale University, said.

In addition to health care disparities, the report points to massive economic and social gaps between Black and white Americans. Black students experienced high rates

of learning loss compared to white students. Food insecurity among Black families was twice as high as white families.

So how do we keep ourselves safe beyond the vaccines and boosters?

Wear a mask.

Ask yourself: Who is the most vulnerable person in your immediate circle?

If you have compromised immunity or live with someone who does, it's a good idea to continue wearing a mask and maintaining social distance around strangers, especially in indoor areas with standing air where the virus may collect.

Masks are also important if you're unvaccinated or spending time with others who are unvaccinated. Unvaccinated people are at overwhelmingly higher risk of hospitalization and death from Covid-19. Masks are also a must in

hospitals, where there are many vulnerable people.

Use the cigarette smoke analogy: If someone were smoking, would the smell and taste of cigarettes quickly fill the air? If yes, so would the virus. You'd be smart to wear a mask.

If you are in a community with high transmission rates, you should mask up. Masks are now recommended in the city of Chicago and 15 Illinois counties that have been elevated to a "high community level" status. There are over 900 counties currently experiencing medium to high transmission levels.

As COVID-19 cases continue to rise, Paxlovid is being prescribed to try to keep high-risk patients out of the hospital. But the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is warning of potential "COVID-19 rebound" after a five-day course of the treatment.

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# Business & Finance

## Legislator Thinks Free EV Charging Should Be Discouraged

By Jennifer Sensiba

CleanTechnica



### Analysis

TANSTAAFL (There Ain't No Such Thing As A Free Lunch) is an established economic principle. In short, if a business or other organization is giving you something, you'll probably end up paying for it sooner or later. It dates back to the once common practice of saloons offering people free lunch if they'd purchase at least one drink, but what the bar didn't tell you was that the lunch was high in salt and other ingredients to make you thirsty. So, the lunch was free, but you end up paying for it as part of the price of the extra beer.

Even if you don't pay for the free thing, somebody somewhere does. It may be other customers of the business today, and it may be you covering the cost another day, but someone covers it. Or, it could become what economists call an externality, or a cost that society ends up paying. Either way, someone pays.

It's this sound principle that drives a recent bill in North Carolina, H1049. It aims to force businesses to disclose what the average cost is for each customer if the business offers free EV charging:

"Any person who is engaged in a business where electric vehicle charging stations are provided for use by the public at no charge shall ensure that each customer of the business, without regard to whether the customer uses the charging stations, is informed of, on

the receipt for purchases, the percentage of the amount of the customer's total purchase price that is a result of the business providing electric vehicle charging stations at no charge."

The idea here is obviously to discourage businesses from offering free EV charging. When their customers who don't own an EV see that it costs them something for those "rich people" to charge their cars, they'll

be mad about it and complain to the business. So, the business will have to either start charging for charging or they'll have to shut the stations down.

What the bill doesn't make clear is how they'd expect a business to calculate this. Unless a business can determine exactly how much business came in as a result of the free charging, it's impossible for them to actually calculate the cost of free charging. It could be that they're actually money ahead (which is likely), and that the cost to each customer is on average below zero, as the EV drivers are fully covering the cost. I'm sure that if this bill were to pass, there would be arguments over points like this in court, because it's just not a very well thought out bill.

Even if there was a bullet-proof way to make businesses lose face over this, it wouldn't be hard for the business to bypass it by charging a penny annually for access to the chargers, and they could do it by an honor system or by putting

a "tip jar" on the charging station for people to deposit their penny. Because it's not longer technically free, the business would no longer have to worry about such a law.

The Bill Would Keep NCDOT From Offering Charging At All While the bill doesn't outright prohibit installing chargers on NCDOT property, or otherwise installed by NCDOT, it would make it basically impossible. Regardless of whether users are charged for the station, any location that has an EV charger also has to give away free gas and diesel fuel.

"Except as provided in G.S. 136-18.02, the Department of Transportation shall not use public funds to provide electric vehicle charging stations on property owned or leased by the State or to fund or install electric vehicle charging stations on property owned or leased by a person or entity unless the Department or the person or entity provides gasoline and diesel fuel for motor vehicles through a pump to the public at

public at no charge."

This puts all EV charging at a disadvantage, with free fuel for drivers of ICE cars even if EV drivers are paying for electricity. The real goal is obviously to get NCDOT to not install charging stations at all in places like rest areas.

The Bill Also Targets Local Governments

Anyone who's taken any trips in an EV knows that it's often a local government that hosts a charging station. The bill's author also wants to target these government stations and keep them from offering free charging. Because local governments don't have as many economic rights as businesses, they can get away with a lot more to make life hard in this case.

How? By prohibiting any public funds from going toward the installation of any charging station where gasoline and diesel is not given away for free (like the NCDOT provision above):

"A county shall not use public funds to provide electric vehicle charging stations on property owned or leased by the county or to fund or install electric vehicle charging stations on property owned or leased by a person or entity unless the county or the person or entity provides gasoline or diesel fuel for motor vehicles through a pump to the public at

no charge."

There's also a similar provision for cities, and it's worded the same as the text above for counties.

Finally, this bill would appropriate \$50,000 of state money for the removal of charging stations on any public property where gas and diesel isn't free. This would obviously be a big waste of taxpayer funds.

Kneecapping Disguised As Equity

The truth is, governments give the public services all the time. Police and fire services are the obvious one. Parks, recreation facilities, and other things are often run by cities. Even roads, which can be very expensive to maintain come from municipal funds and drivers aren't charged a toll every time they leave a driveway. To call out EV charging like this, and liken it to providing free gas or diesel makes little sense.

The reality is that this bill is designed to garner support from gullible people who think EV charging is expensive and doesn't have larger benefits than costs, and then kneecap electric vehicles as much as possible.

Fortunately, this is just a bill, and hasn't become a law. If you live in North Carolina, or if you frequently travel there, go to the bill's page and let NC legislators know what you think of it.

## RETOOLNC Grant Reopened For HUBs

On June 1, the North Carolina Department of Administration's Office for Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB) once again opened applications for grant funds for certified HUBs and disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) firms impacted by COVID-19.

"We know that minority and women-owned businesses were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic," said Governor Roy Cooper. "The RETOOLNC program provides direct support to historically underutilized businesses to get the support they still may need to fully recover."

The RETOOLNC program awards up to \$25,000 to eligible certified small, underutilized businesses to help with pandemic recovery efforts.

"As we continue to emerge from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is essential we help our small businesses recover and prosper," said NC Department of Administration Secretary Pamela B. Cashwell. "This funding will help many of those small businesses who continue to struggle."

All HUBs and DBEs are encouraged to apply for funding

The North Carolina Small Business Impact Grant Program, RETOOLNC, is an initiative created under Governor Roy Cooper's Executive Order No. 143, to assist small businesses dis-

proportionately impacted by the pandemic. The grant program is administered in partnership with the Carolina Small Business Development Fund and the National Institute for Minority Economic Development (the Institute).

To qualify for RETOOLNC funds, North Carolina businesses must:

- Have been in operation since February 2019

- Be certified with NCHUB or NCDOT DBE

- Be an independent business located within North Carolina

- Be a business with 50 employees or fewer (includes sole proprietorships, home based businesses, and independent contractors)

- Not have annual revenues exceeding \$1,500,000

- Not be delinquent on North Carolina State income taxes

- Not have any active bankruptcies or tax liens

- Be a for-profit business

- Be an independent franchisor and locally owned, if it is a franchise

- Provide a detailed statement of how the business has been impacted due to COVID-19

- Be engaged in legal activity

- To learn more about the RETOOLNC initiative and how to register for the information session, visit the NC HUB Office website for details.

## Small Study Shows 'Front Companies' In Diversity

TRUMBULL, CT —Up to 28 percent of reported corporate and federal spending with minority and women-owned firms is actually being channeled to enterprises run by White males and large public companies, according to a new study by BJM Solutions.

The study defines these "front" companies as minority passthroughs where minority and women entrepreneurs are paid a commission to bill large corporations. But the bulk of the revenue goes to White-owned and public companies that are the primary beneficiaries of these schemes taking advantage of public and private dollars.

"We found that minority passthroughs (MPs) exist across the U.S. industrial landscape and that a significant portion of total minority spend may be with these types of firms," the study said. "Twenty-eight percent of spending was attributed to MPs by supplier diversity professionals taking the survey. This was an amount larger than we had expected and significantly larger than the amounts thought to exist."

Further, Fred McKinney, Ph.D., the study's author, added: "Front organizations were a major problem in the early days of programs designed to promote minority and women businesses. With both federal and corporate dollars flowing to address equity issues in communities of color, this unethical practice is growing rapidly."

In February 2022, McKinney sent a survey with a link to 14 questions to over 400 supplier diversity professionals. Thirty-eight supplier diversity professionals completed the survey and their responses are included in the study. He also conducted interviews with 12 supplier diversity professionals, diverse business owners, and representatives from supplier diversity third-party certifying organizations.

BJM Solutions, LLC., an economic consulting firm, is certified by the NMSDC, CAMSC and the State of Connecticut as minority owned and operated. The study makes several targeted recommendations that would curb front organizations.

## FUNdraising Good Times

By Mel & Pearl Shaw  
Saad & Shaw



### SHOW HOW THE MONEY WAS SPENT

Nonprofits have had to become more comfortable asking for money during the past two years. Reluctant fundraisers have had to face their fears and talk about the strengths of their organizations and their ability to respond to historic and emerging needs. Federal funds have flowed into local communities through intermediaries, and foundations and corporations have increased their giving as part of community and national responses. Fundraising takes time—think grant applications, proposals, and scheduling meetings with donors. This means that when funds are received the first move is to deploy them quickly. That's what everyone wants: "let's get the money to people who need it." This is also expressed as: "let's get those programs and services up and running."

We agree with these priorities. We also believe it is important to take time to communicate what your organization is using its money for. This is one of the "accountability" components of being a nonprofit and securing philanthropic or government funds for your work. It takes time, but this is a step you cannot skip. Sooner or later people will start asking the question: where did the money go? You want to be proactive and out in front of those questions. If you think your answer might raise questions, then we ask you to question how you are using the dollars. Nonprofits are trusted organizations, and that trust needs to be sustained.

Here's how the Independent Sector discusses the trust that is vested in nonprofits. "Public trust is the currency of the nonprofit sector. The public's belief that nonprofits will 'do the right thing' is one of the central reasons the sector exists. Communities have relied upon nonprofits to provide trusted sources of information, life sustaining services, environmental stewardship, and places of refuge for centuries. In today's highly polarized environment, understanding and managing trust has never been more important." You can read their full 2021 report titled *Trust in Civil Society: Understanding the factors driving trust in nonprofits and philanthropy*, for more of their findings.

Here are a few simple ways you can build trust and clearly communicate what you are doing with the money you have received. Share information about the numbers of people you are serving. Share demographic information, such as how many are students, or seniors; which live in neighborhoods without access to transportation. Share what it cost you to distribute meals: the food may have come from a foodbank, but what were the other costs you incurred getting meals into people's homes and more importantly their stomachs? If you are an advocacy organization, let people know what specifically you have been advocating for, and what the results have been, if any. Don't obfuscate: be clear so there are no questions bubbling under the surface that may emerge at an inopportune time. You don't want someone taking to the mic at your next event to ask, "what did you do with the money?" Be proactive in telling your story and help sustain the trust.

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## Classifieds



### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The North Carolina Department of Public Safety has the following contract in Halifax County out for bid: C-11457R-anoke River Waste Pump Panel Replacement. The bid opening is scheduled for: Thursday, 06/30/2022. To obtain the Notice to Bidders, any Pre-Bid Requirements, and any Addenda visit: <https://www.ips.state.nc.us/ips/AGENCY/PDF/14861100.pdf>

### 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 **Shotwell Road Water Line Extension** project for the **Town of Clayton** which bids **June 9, 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 \* Town of Clayton; 111 East Second Street; Clayton, NC 27520.

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

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

### D/M/WBE

#### SUBCONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS WANTED

T.A. Loving Company (NC General Contractor License No. 325) is seeking certified DBE, MBE, and WBE subcontractors and suppliers for the **Rolesville Main Street** project for the **Town of Rolesville** which bids **June 7, 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.

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

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# Health & Fitness

## How Witnessing Violence Harms Children's Mental Health

This article was written by Daniel J. Flannery back in 2018, two years before the COVID pandemic, and four years before Uvalde



A student at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida speaks to reporters on Feb. 14 after a former student fatally shot multiple people. AP/Wilfredo Lee

When children learn about news like the deadly school shootings, a logical question for them to ask is: Will the same thing happen to me?

As researchers and clinicians who have studied the problem of violence over the past three decades, we have witnessed a steady increase in levels of children's exposure to violence and its damaging effect on their mental health.

How does this exposure affect the mental health of children and adolescents? And how should we handle the increased fear and insecurity that results from such events?

Exposure to violence Today, children use many different forms of media at unprecedented levels - 92 percent of teens go online daily and 24 percent are online constantly. As a result, even when violence happens in another part of the country, children can be exposed to the event and its consequences immediately, intensely and repeatedly.

In addition to what they see in the news or on social media, children could witness or be victims of violence in many other ways. For example, when we surveyed high school students, between 13 and 45 percent reported they had been beaten up at school. Between 23 and 82 percent said they had witnessed someone else being beaten up at school in the past year.

Shootings in and around schools have been a regular occurrence in recent years.

Here is what happens to children

Children who report high levels of exposure to violence either as witness or victim report the highest levels of depression, anger and anxiety.

Our study with children in grades three to eight who witnessed someone being hit, slapped or punched found that 12 percent of these children reported levels of anxiety that could require treatment.

Similarly, six months after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, a survey of more than 8,000 New

York City students in grades four through 12 showed that nearly 30 percent of children reported symptoms of anxiety or depression.

Exposure to violence could have other long-term impacts as well. Studies have shown how children can get desensitized to violence: That is, children can come to believe that violence is an acceptable way to solve problems and that it is without consequence. They could also come to believe that violence could happen anywhere and to anyone at any time.

Further, such children are also at a risk of perpetrating violence against others.

My research shows that children who witness or are victimized by violence are more aggressive toward others. These children also show problematic levels of post-traumatic stress symptoms.

We have consistently found relationships between violence exposure and trauma symptoms, whether we surveyed children in schools, youth in the community or juveniles who were receiving treatment as a result of diversion from the prison system.

Adolescents exposed to high levels of violence reported higher levels of anger and depression. They also reported higher rates of wanting to hurt or kill themselves compared to adolescents in lower violence exposure groups.

Media exposure More recent studies have con-

firmed that high exposure to television violence for children and adolescents is also associated with higher levels of aggression and violent behavior. Exposure to violence shown through media is consistently associated with problem behaviors, such as

increases in aggression and anxiety. Children could also end up with lower empathy and compassion for others.

Some children exposed to various forms of media violence - not just television violence but violence on the internet, in movies and in video games - can come to view the world as a mean, scary place where they are not safe and they can do little to protect themselves from harm. This is a particular problem for very young children, such as those under the age of six, who have difficulty distinguishing reality from fantasy.

Exposure to violence could harm the emotional and mental development of young children and adolescents. Children at that age aren't able to effectively process what they are seeing and hearing. This may be due in part to the fact that chronic exposure to violence can affect parts of their brain.

For adolescents, the front part of their brains is the last to develop and mature. This part of

the brain is called the prefrontal cortex, and it is responsible for processing information, impulse control and reasoning. Adolescents exposed to violent video games experience a decrease in activity in their prefrontal cortex, leaving them more vulnerable to having difficulty with problem-solving and controlling their emotions.

What can parents do?

Parents have an important role to play. Knowing where their children are, what they are doing and with whom are some of the best ways to help support children. That improves their ability to cope with what is going on in the world around them.

The same is true for adolescents as well. It is sometimes assumed that as children reach adolescence, they need less support and monitoring as they spend more time with their peers and make increased demands to be more independent.

That is not the case.

Adolescents have more access to social media, to drugs and

alcohol, and to transportation. Coupled with this is the growing evidence that the problem-solving and impulse control parts of their brains are not yet fully developed.

Parents are often the first to recognize their children are struggling with mental health and behavioral issues. And they could be the best providers of mental health first aid whenever and however their children need them.

The immediacy, intensity and imagery of the coverage of the school shootings may be very disturbing to both youth and adults. It is important that we continue to discuss this with our children and help them express their emotions and viewpoints, while assuring them that these extreme acts of violence, while deeply disturbing, are the exception and not the rule. Most of all, children need to feel they are safe, that we care for them and that they are not alone in dealing with these horrible acts of violence.



# family meals ready when you are



### FACT & FITNESS

By Jeneea Jervay-Bush, M.S.

#### ANYTHING, BUT NOT EVERYTHING: PART 2

... continued from last week.

Nutrition services also tend to be temporary. An exception would be if there's an ongoing chronic condition that requires a registered dietician as part of the person's medical team because of its direct correlation to managing that condition. Nutrition, even more than fitness, is an area where people tend to believe that they are experts and don't need any input. I was in the "I know what to do, I'm just not doing it" group or the "I already know what healthy eating is" group or the "this time, this diet will work" group prior to my career change to fitness/recreation.

My old self had good intentions and believed to her core that she was right and had a firm grasp on nutritional knowledge. Now, on the other side of a masters, certifications, consuming more research articles than I can count, and conversations with nutrition experts, my question for my old self is "based on what?" Where does this nutrition knowledge come from that fortifies the opinion that no input is needed on the nutrition journey? The answer is my old self had zero basis for her confidence in her nutritional knowledge. By the way, the results/failures over a 25-year period clearly show that confidence to be misplaced.

Challenge what you think you know my friends. Ask yourself the question I should have been asking myself in my 20s and 30s. Are my beliefs based on professional input, peer-reviewed research, or my own opinion? Prove what you know to yourself by producing the source. Name the registered dietician that supplied you with the knowledge or the peer-reviewed research from a reputable source (e.g., Mayo Clinic). If you are unable to produce the source, are you operating from knowledge or a misinformed opinion? Explore where your opinion comes from and interrogate how you formed it. The input from the Internet or TV commercials selling you fitness equipment or lose weight quick nutrition products could be larger contributing agents than you realized to your opinions. But the only way to figure that out is to spend some time with those questions.

... continued next week.

## What Are Nasal Vaccines

Nasal vaccines are administered, as the name suggests, through the nose. More accurately called intranasal vaccines, these vaccines are liquids that can be given as a spray or through a dropper or syringe. The most common nasal vaccine is FluMist, a nasal spray that uses inactivated flu virus to protect against influenza. An intranasal vaccine could be a weakened live virus similar to FluMist, a nucleic acid vaccine like mRNA coronavirus vaccines or a protein vaccine like Hepatitis B vaccines or the CorbeVax coronavirus vaccine.

Intranasal vaccines are best suited to protect against pathogens that enter through the nose, like the flu or the coronavirus. By mimicking the first step of natural exposure to an airborne pathogen, these vaccines help train a person's immune system at the potential place of infection. Scientists have shown that the first immune response in the respiratory tract after a person is exposed to an airborne virus can influence how sick a person gets. So in theory, intranasal vaccines could provide better protection than vaccines given through a shot in the arm.



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# FOOD LION CATERING

# Community

## George Floyd Memorial Center 1st Charity Golf Tournament



CARY—During the last two years since the tragic and senseless killing of George Perry Floyd, Jr., his family in his birth state of North Carolina has been organizing and doing the thoughtful groundwork to establish a physical center to honor his life and legacy - The George Floyd Memorial Center (GFMC).  
The goal of the Center is to forge a path to deeper understanding between members of the community and to encourage

personal growth, healing, and emotional and financial prosperity for families.  
The funds raised through the support of golfers, sponsors and donors will be used towards staffing, programming and building of the Center.  
The golf tournament was held on last Saturday at Lochmere Golf Club in Cary. Even a little rain could not keep the community from coming out and supporting this good cause.  
*Mathias Bishop Photos*



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# Community

## WSSU Astrobotany Students And NASA

By Tyria McCray

Staff Writer

Students at Winston-Salem State University's Astrobotany Lab provided undergraduates with opportunities to work with NASA and shadow scientists and researchers at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral.

It's all part of a special partnership between Winston-Salem State University and NASA forged by Rafael Loureiro, Ph.D., an assistant biology professor at WSSU.

The partnership helped create the lab on the WSSU campus in 2018, part of a Space Act agreement with NASA to research crop production in space.

In layman's terms, astrobotany is the study of plants in off-world conditions.

"The knowledge generated by Astrobotanical studies can be applied to any kind of agriculture field or indoor farming. The applications are pretty much endless. But the ultimate goal is for the lab to be a kick-starter to get students involved with NASA research and opportunities that will, in the future, allow them to continue to contribute to this re-



search field" said Loureiro.

The ability to have minority-serving institution students involved in astrobotany has long been a dream of Loureiro. He convinced NASA that a potential partnership was viable before coming to WSSU.

With the crop production team's support, Loureiro searched for a university that would embrace his vision. Several universities were interested, but WSSU was willing to give him full liberty to develop his idea. That sealed the deal for

Loureiro.

"This is unique to our school; no other school has it," said Loureiro. "This allows students to go there once a year to participate as interns. That doesn't deter them from applying for internships themselves. We have one student with a summer scholarship with NASA this year. It's quite a unique experience. I think it just stimulates a student. It really changes them. It changes their perspective about science and themselves."

Initially, the program began with four students and now two more have joined.

Loureiro stated that he had to put a cap on the program because he did not want students to not have the proper attention. In addition, this is the third full year of the program. Four astrobotany students have graduated and Loureiro currently has a cohort of six students.

"It's been very rewarding to see them getting out and getting hired immediately," said Loureiro. "If you have this on your resume, people want to know what it is."



## Senior Kappa Week

The Raleigh (NC) Alumni chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. held their annual Senior Kappa Week in conjunction with the chapter's Kappa Week May 19-22.

The fraternity's International Headquarters set aside those days as the week that the organization would celebrate their senior members.

Members that are 60 years or older in age are defined as Senior Kappas. They are the roots to the group's history and provide the leadership to sustain the future of the fraternity.

The local Raleigh chapter held six events with something for everyone to celebrate this special week. The week kicked off with a brunch for the senior brothers held at the Kappa Center in Southeast Raleigh.

In-person visitations were made to a few brothers who could not make it due to their health.

Next the chapter came together to attend the local minor league baseball team Carolina Mudcats baseball game.

There was a senior golf outing at Hedingham Golf course for the members that enjoy golf.

In continuing recent tradition the brothers of the chapter and their significant others came together for a fish fry to celebrate members of the local chapter who have been in the fraternity for 50 years.

These brothers were provided an official white blazer to symbolize this milestone.

To wrap up the week the chapter held a cookout on Saturday and attended church together on Sunday. They attended Macedonia New Life Church in Southeast Raleigh where chapter member Rev. Dr. Joe L. Stevenson is the pastor.

We want to give special thanks to the local chapter's Senior Committee and Brother Victor Hyman, the chapter's Polemarch for this special week. This committee is made up of Brother Sam Greene, Brother Thomas Burt, and Brother William Powell.

The Fraternity has more than 125,000 members with 700 undergraduate and alumni chapters in nearly every state of the United States, and international chapters in Nigeria, South Africa, the West Indies, the United Kingdom, Germany, Korea and Japan.

## Goldsboro Native Honored With Marker

A new North Carolina Highway Historical Marker was installed on the corner of Ash and John Streets in Goldsboro, near First Citizens Bank this past weekend.

The marker commemorates Ruth Whitehead Whaley, a Goldsboro native born in 1901. Long before the civil rights movement of the 1960s, Ruth Whitehead Whaley was blazing a trail for not only Black women but for all women in the legal profession and politics.

Whaley is the daughter of Professor C.A. Whitehead, a highly respected teacher in Goldsboro, and Dora (née Cox) Whitehead.

Growing up, she and her family were active members of the AME Zion Church. Once she graduated from Dillard High School, she continued her studies at Livingstone College in Salisbury, an HBCU, and graduated in 1919. After college, she worked as a teacher at the North Carolina State School for the Deaf in Raleigh.

A year later, she married Herman Whaley, and he encouraged her to enroll in law school at Fordham University in New



York. Once she was admitted, Ruth became the first African-American woman to attend Fordham and graduated at the top of her class in 1924.

In 1925, Ruth passed the New York bar exam and became one of the first African-American women to practice law in New York.

Though her practice was in New York, with the support of family friend and local attorney Hugh Dortch, Ruth Whitehead Whaley returned to Goldsboro in 1933 to be sworn into the North Carolina State Bar, becoming

the first African-American woman to be licensed in North Carolina.

She maintained a private law practice in New York City until 1944. She also held appointed positions in New York City including Director of Staff and Community Relations in the Department of Welfare and Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Housing and Buildings.

Throughout her life, Whaley was active in Democratic Party politics. By 1945, she was the first Black woman candidate chosen to represent the interests of Tammany Hall in the City Council election of 1945. She also served as the Vice President of the National Council of Negro Women and was the founder and former President of the Negro Business and Professional Women's Club.

Later on she penned an essay entitled, "Women Lawyers Must Balk Both Color and Sex Bias," in which she described the "penalty" of women, and especially minority women, lawyers who must outperform their male colleagues.

Throughout the book, she expressed concern about the continued dearth of black female lawyers in the country.

More importantly, as a longtime resident of Harlem, she retired as the Secretary of the New York City Board of Estimates in 1973.

She died on December 23, 1977, and is buried in Mount Hope Cemetery in Yonkers. On June 8, 2000, the Family Academy, then an alternative public school in Manhattan that is now P.S. 241, named its auditorium after Whaley.

The Black Law Students Association at Fordham University Law School named their annual award the Ruth Whitehead Whaley Award in 1979. She was inducted into the Alumni Hall of Honor at Fordham University on October 22, 2014.

Lastly, every year, students at Fordham that are in the top 25 percent of each class at the School of Law are honored as Ruth Whitehead Whaley Scholars. As well as an annual Ruth Whitehead Whaley Trailblazing Alumnus Award.

## Some Federal Trade Moving To State Level

By Stefan Boscia

City A.M.

The UK's ambition to sign more than a dozen trade and business agreements with individual US states has helped unlock talks with the White House for a post-Brexit trade deal, trade minister Penny Mordaunt has said.

Mordaunt, who is deputy to international trade secretary Anne-Marie Trevelyan, told City A.M. in a wide-ranging interview that she was "hopeful" an official UK-US negotiating round will happen this year and that there was now a "real head of steam" after talks stalled last year.

The UK signed its first agreement with Indiana on Friday, which will cut red tape for British businesses looking to operate in the Midwestern state or bid for state government contracts.

Oklahoma, North Carolina, South Carolina and Texas agreements are all likely to be done in the coming months.

Mordaunt said these negotiations had helped thaw relations with the White House, after talks over a post-Brexit trade deal stalled when Joe Biden became President.

"I think there is a real head of steam now from the US side in terms of its businesses and its states. A lot of it is politicians too, who are actually starting to open up to round six of those discussions," she said.

"We'll have to work at a pace the US is comfortable with, but in the meantime there's lots we can do. "We're determined, whether it's tariffs or other barriers, that we're going to remove those for our firms and our investors."

None of the state-level deals will see tariffs or quotas cut on goods going in either direction as this needs to be done through a federal trade deal.

However, many of them will include provisions for mutual recognition of qualifications to ensure British professional services workers can more easily operate in the US.



Mordaunt said an agreement with Texas is currently the most realistic with a "super economy state", with a deal set to be concluded this year, however talks with California have stalled for the time being.

Texas and California would have the 10th and fifth largest economies in the world if they were individual nations.

"There will be particular partnerships between institutions - academic institutions, education institutions and also across particular sectors," Mordaunt said.

"In Indiana we're very focused on green tech, motorsport, all sorts of things like that. Elsewhere there's a lot to be done in renewable energy, for example, like in Oklahoma which is another trailblazer state. There's great synergy between what they're doing and what we're doing in Teesside.

"In Texas, we're looking at the four big metro mayors there being partners with some of our powerful metro mayors in the UK."

Five rounds of formal UK-US trade negotiations were conducted under the Donald Trump presidency, however trade deals have not been a priority for Biden since entering office.

However, there have been signs that the US may be willing to reopen talks with Biden's trade representative Katherine Tai meeting with UK international trade secretary Anne-Marie Trevelyan in March.

A key breakthrough was made when the US announced it had dropped its Trump-era tariffs on British steel and aluminium during the March meeting.

Trevelyan said shortly after that the US had made a clear indica-

tion that it was willing to move forward with trade talks.

One of the key stumbling blocks to a deal has been the status of some American agricultural products, which are made with practices that are banned in the UK.

Mordaunt said she had been speaking with agricultural commissioners from the 50 states to try and build support for a UK-US agreement.

"That's led to some very practical things, which will help ... remove some of the myths around what a free trade agreement can do," she said.

The UK's ongoing negotiations with the EU over the Northern Ireland Protocol have also been

seen as a hindrance on progress for a transatlantic deal.

Nancy Pelosi, senior Democrat and speaker of the House of Representatives, has threatened to block a UK-US trade deal if Boris Johnson triggers Article 16 and suspends the protocol - a long standing threat from Downing Street.

The White House has also indicated that it holds a similar position.

Labour shadow trade secretary Nick Thomas-Symonds last week said: "The Tory Manifesto of 2019 promised a comprehensive US-UK Free Trade Agreement by the end of 2022. With less than seven months to go it seems that this will be another broken promise from this government."

"Reducing barriers to trade with individual states is important, but the government must set out a formal process for proper scrutiny ... in Parliament, and ensure that exporters here in the UK are given the support they need to take advantage of new opportunities."



**NCDEMOCRATS**

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# Ag-Grow-Culture

## The “Renewable” Industry Creates Major Emissions, Causes Health And Safety Issues In Low-Resource Communities.

Debra David has lived in Dobbins Heights, North Carolina, population 875, for more than 60 years. Though she has moved several times over the decades, she's always lived close to the railroad and the town's higher-traffic thoroughfares. But it wasn't until very recently that she developed asthma.

In 2019 Enviva, a compressed wood pellet (also known as biomass) manufacturer, opened a new production plant in Hamlet, North Carolina, just down the road from David's home. “I'd never had a problem with asthma before,” she says. “But the past two years, I started having it.”

And David isn't alone — her entire neighborhood is experiencing the same health issues. “Of the eight houses on my block, every single one of them now has someone with asthma,” she says. “Four households now have breathing machines. We're getting nosebleeds, headaches, and breathing problems now that we didn't have before. All that's happened since the plant opened.”

Heather Hillaker, an attorney with the Southern Environmental Law Center (SELC), has worked with communities impacted by wood pellet mills for years. She's heard the same anecdotal stories of health issues correlating with new biomass plants often. “These mills are often built in low-wealth communities of color, and people say the same things over and over once the mills start operating: Their breathing issues or eye, nose, and throat irritation have increased,” she says. “The problem is that no one is tracking these health impacts.”

Hillaker and the team from SELC, along with the Environmental Integrity Project, helped David and other Dobbins Heights residents, through non-profit CleanAIRE NC, file a lawsuit to force the Hamlet plant to implement pollution monitoring and controls, reaching a settlement that, among other things, required the plant to install controls that would reduce the pollutants it emits by 95%. Enviva is now implementing those pollution controls on all its new plants.

But while this partially remedies the concerns of the communities impacted by wood pellet production, SELC continues to raise awareness about the other significant issues with the biomass industry as a whole to make sure they don't remain unaddressed.

Climate Impacts  
For decades, William



Log piles at Enviva's Northampton, NC pellet mill in 2014. Derb Carter / Southern Environmental

Moomaw, a climate scientist affiliated with Tufts University, has helped shape global climate research and policy. He began focusing on the biomass industry in 2014 after learning about the devastation it wreaked on U.S. forests. “These companies claimed that they only use logging residues, but they were basically misrepresenting what they were doing,” he says. “I've seen the drone images. They were using mostly whole trees. They would say they were only using deformed or sick trees, but in fact, they took them all.” Investigations by news outlets ranging from the UK's channel 4 news program to the Wall Street Journal have documented the same pattern of biomass companies sourcing from the clearcutting of U.S. forests to feed overseas demand.

Moomaw also disagrees with the biomass industry's assertions that the wood pellets they produce are carbon-neutral based on the fact that new trees can grow to replace the ones they cut down. “The biomass companies will tell you that since the trees they're cutting down will grow back, it's carbon-neutral,” he says. “But that's not completely true — if you are cutting down and burning a 25-year-old tree, it will take 25 years or more to grow back. So that tree they just cut down isn't absorbing carbon over the 25 years, and all the carbon that tree had stored is released as soon as it's burned.”

The United States' biomass industry was built on promises that the companies would make wood pellets using waste from logging

operations, such as wood chips, sawdust, or unusable branches, which led some European governments to categorize biomass as a renewable energy source. “They made some wrong assumptions that biomass would use waste wood to burn for energy,” says SELC attorney David Carr. “But a large volume of waste wood was never available. So now the only place to turn [to meet the demand] is to cut down trees.” Carr estimates that around 80% of Enviva's wood pellet production comes from the cutting of living forests.

Indeed, the biomass industry has metastasized so quickly

that companies are now cutting down trees across a swath of the Southeastern U.S., from Texas to the Atlantic Coast, to fulfill the demand for this unsustainable energy source. The plant near Debra David's home is just one of the 23 currently operating large-scale wood pellet plants, and more are on the way. As of December 2021, 11 new wood pellet plants were at the proposal or construction stage in the U.S. — including two that, when completed, will be the largest in the world.

Driving this growth is a market across the ocean: Much of the biomass produced in the U.S.

## Partnership Helps Truffles Takes Root

By Tyria McCray

Staff Writer

In the expansion of the production of truffles in the United States, Mycorrhiza Biotech LLC (MBT) announced its first truffle harvest partnership with North Carolina A&T State University. With the partnership in place, the first trees were planted in East Arcadia on Saturday, May 28.

Just a decade ago, Mycorrhiza Biotech set out on a mission to help landowners, especially farmers, keep and expand their agricultural enterprises while promoting plant health.

Recently, two-state grants were given from the NC Biotech Center to research loblolly pine and pecan truffles with NC A&T laying the groundwork for the

recent breakthrough harvest.

This project was initiated for more than 80 students and Chief Executive Officer of MBT, Nancy Rosborough is the first to have the truffles in the fields.

NCAT Specialist Namike shared how this all came about.

“This funding is from the specialty crop grant. Actually when they cracked the code for producing truffles, we had to find a way to get them to the farmers. Since our research is only about farmers, and the prices of truffles are so high, we had to find a way to get them to farmers. So we had to write this funding and thankfully, this was funded. Because of that, we are able to put five farmers into truffle production. These farmers are scattered all over North Carolina.”

Dr. Ophelia Munn-Goins, Nan-

cy M. Rosborough, NCAT Specialist Namike and local farmers all came together for the historic moment Saturday. Throughout the planting, Rosborough shared how this matter came about.

Being that truffles are a high-value crop, MBT developed a successful formula for cultivating them. One truffle, in particular, is the tuber borchi, which sells for \$600 a pound. Therefore, other clients that are in commercial levels of production, have been selling this for \$800 because no one else wants them which is why truffles are a high-demand crop.

“This is a great opportunity, with planting these truffles, we save the animals by having the rescue dogs save small farms, save black farmers, and also save the environment. So what we have been doing is getting our farmers ready and setting up the marketing channels.”

More importantly, with this crop being seasonal, it is not attainable all the time, which is why it is very expensive. However, once they are planted, truffle

know that trees store carbon. The idea that you would cut down trees and burn them to address climate change just makes no sense. It's hard to believe that governments have gone down this road.” He and the other attorneys at SELC are working with international partners to shift the biomass subsidy policies of the U.K. and other major importers, an effort requiring time and patience.

Despite the slow response on the government end of things, SELC's work has led to a groundswell of public awareness about the issues with biomass as an energy source. In addition to lawsuits to help the communities impacted by wood pellet plants, SELC, along with several partners, continues to launch petitions and digital campaigns about the biomass issue. The latest petition, called “Cut carbon not forests US,” urges President Biden to commit to energy sources that are truly clean. SELC is also working with communities and partners to highlight the issue in the media and lobbying the U.S. government to ensure it does not begin promoting biomass as clean energy.

At the end of the day, Moomaw says the fundamental flaws in the biomass industry are obvious. “When that tree that was cut down 25 years ago grows back, the glacier doesn't refreeze, and the sea level doesn't go back down,” he says plainly. “Even if something is eventually carbon-neutral, it's not climate-neutral. It's causing irreversible changes.”



DR OPHELIA MUNN-GOINS

trees produce for about 20 years. Overall, the goal of MBT as well as the partnership is to help farmers and forests survive as well as the first stop for farmers, students, and scientists with interests in mycorrhizal technology.

## RAFI, NRCS To Help Farmers Of Color

Pittsboro—Edna Rodriguez, Executive Director of Rural Advancement Foundation International - USA (RAFI-USA), is pleased to announce that RAFI-USA has been awarded funding to work with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in expanding access to conservation assistance for climate-smart agriculture and forestry.

\$50 million has been invested in 118 Conservation Cooperative Agreements, administered by USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The two-year project is aimed at serving farmers who are new to farming, low income, socially disadvantaged, or military veterans.

For this project, RAFI-USA is partnering with two organiza-

tions and two farms: Alliance for Agriculture (Puerto Rico), (U.S.) Virgin Islands Good Food Coalition, Green Heffa Farms in North Carolina, and Fountain Heights Farm in Alabama. RAFI-USA and its partners will collaborate on conducting regionally appropriate outreach and technical assistance to Black, Indigenous, and other farmers of color in the Southeast, U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and across the U.S. This support will help these farmers access NRCS technical and financial assistance programs focused on one or more of the following key conservation priorities:

- Improving soil health and water quality
- Providing habitat for at-risk wildlife
- Improving natural resources and productivity on agricultural lands
- Building and strengthening local and regional food systems and markets

“We are pleased to be a part of this important project which centers historically underserved

farmers and climate-smart agriculture,” Edna Rodriguez said.

“This project allows us to continue focusing on serving members of our Farmers of Color Network who are based in the Southeast U.S. and paves the way for our planned expansion in the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. The online materials that will be available on our website will further the reach of the project to farmers across the U.S.”

This project sits alongside a RAFI-USA FSA (USDA Farm Service Agency) Cooperative Agreement, designed to open doors to FSA for farmers of color in the Southeast. These two projects are a part of the umbrella project “Resources for Resilient Farms (RrRF).” Services provided via RAFI-USA's RrRF project can be accessed by emailing resourcesforresilientfarms@rafi-usa.org or calling 877.207.6373. These projects are managed by Director of Technical Assistance and Farmer Outreach, Lisa Misch.

RAFI-USA has for 30 years been helping farmers most in

need through its Financial Crisis Hotline, guiding farmers through some of the most precarious financial situations like bankruptcy, foreclosure, severe market fluctuations, and natural disasters. “Because of our long history of crisis counseling, RAFI-USA is well positioned to lead a multi-tiered project like Resources for Resilient Farms,” Rodriguez added.

In announcing this Conservation Cooperative project, USDA Secretary Vilsack said, “We are committed to equal opportunity for those we serve, and we are taking bold, historic action to advance equity and root out generations of systemic racism. As we've said before: equity will be a vital part of our climate change work, as America's farmers and rural communities are on the frontlines of climate change. Our work with producers and partners will invest in climate smart solutions that improve profitability and resilience, open new market opportunities, and build wealth that stays in rural communities.”



Nancy Rosborough, Chief Exec at Mycorrhiza Biotech, LLC explains the partnership & historic significance of the truffle planting event

## Senate Approved Hemp Industry Exemption

RALEIGH (AP) — North Carolina's hemp industry would become permanently exempt from the state's controlled substances law in omnibus agricultural legislation approved unanimously by the Senate on Tuesday.

The legislation differentiates marijuana, which would still remain unlawful, from hemp and hemp products, which contain a very low amount of the chemical that gives the high to marijuana users.

Without the approved language, North Carolina's industrial hemp program — approved in 2015 as a pilot and now operated through a federal production program — would have to shut down at the end of June. Making the hemp exception permanent would allow the U.S. Department of Agriculture to continue operating the program.

Farmers and hemp retailers have been worried that the product would become illegal without the language contained in the Senate's annual farm legislation, which now heads to the House.

Meanwhile, a separate Senate bill that would legalize marijuana for medical use in the state is scheduled to be heard in a chamber committee on Wednesday.

Senate leader Phil Berger told reporters Tuesday that the measure, which worked its way through other Senate committees last year before idling, could be heard by the full Senate later in the week. Its prospects in the House are unclear.

## New Compressed Fueling Station In Wilmington

CHARLOTTE—Piedmont Natural Gas today announced the opening of a compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling station in Wilmington, N.C. The facility is Piedmont's 13th CNG fueling station in the company's three-state service territory and its eighth in North Carolina.

Located at 141 Sutton Steam Plant Drive, near the intersection of Interstate 140 and U.S. Highway 421, and conveniently accessible to Interstate 40, the station provides a fueling stop for trucks, fleet vehicles and other vehicles that run on CNG.

The station features four fast-

fill fuel pumps, can accommodate Class 8 tractor-trailer trucks and is accessible 24/7. For resiliency, a natural gas backup generator is on-site to help ensure reliability during hurricanes and severe weather.

“Compressed natural gas offers several advantages to traditional fuels, from fuel-cost savings to helping reduce vehicles' carbon footprints,” said Phillip Grigsby, senior vice president of ventures and business development at Piedmont Natural Gas. “The lower-cost, lower-emission CNG offered at our network of publicly accessible CNG stations

can help companies and fleets meet their sustainability goals, and we're pleased to make this fuel available to more motorists driving along the I-40 and I-140 corridors.”

Thanks to the domestic abundance of natural gas, the price of CNG remains below that of conventional vehicle fuels. With savings over conventional fuels such as gasoline and diesel, business fleets and the trucking industry have found CNG to be a cost-effective fueling solution.

Approximately 50% of Piedmont's own utility fleet consists of CNG-powered or CNG-capable

vehicles.

CNG also is a more environmentally friendly choice; natural gas vehicles are 90% cleaner than the federal Environmental Protection Agency's current NOx standard. CNG emits up to 21% fewer greenhouse gas emissions than comparable gasoline and diesel vehicles. Many state and local governments also offer incentives to encourage the adoption of natural gas vehicles.

To learn more about Piedmont's network of CNG fueling stations, natural gas vehicles and their benefits, visit [piedmontng.com/ChooseCNG](http://piedmontng.com/ChooseCNG).



# Church



## SERMON of the WEEK



### Md. Episcopal Diocese Awards \$175,000 For Reparations

BALTIMORE, Md. (AP)—The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland has awarded \$175,000 in grants to community organizations from a fund established to make reparations for systemic racism and slavery.

The diocese announced Thursday that six organizations doing the work of “restoring African-American and Black communities” were selected to receive funds through the inaugural reparations grant process, news outlets reported.

The awardees included Baltimore-based Samaritan Commu-

nity, St. Luke’s Youth Center and Next One Up; Calvert Concept Charitable Corp. in Calvert County; I Believe In Me in Frederick; and Anne Arundel Connecting Together in Anne Arundel County.

More than 15 years ago, church leaders began documenting how the institution benefited from slavery and studied how the church continued to benefit from systems that oppressed or marginalized Black people even after abolition, Bishop Eugene Taylor Sutton said.

The diocese voted at its 2019

general convention to study reparations and a year later the reparations fund was established at its annual convention with \$1 million in seed money.

“The legacy of 350-plus years of discrimination against persons of African descent have taken a toll on this nation. And it has affected all of us,” said Sutton, the first Black bishop in the diocese.

“None of us may have been guilty, but all of us have a responsibility. Today is an indication of the responsibility we are taking.”

#### GOD’S GOT IT!

Recently, so much Breaking News has caused me to reflect on my school days at Lucille Hunter and Fuller Elementary located here in Raleigh.

I thought about two days in particular; the first day of a school year and the last day of the school year.

Most of the time, the first day was exciting because it was a day of seeing old faces and new faces, new outfits, new styles, new classrooms, teachers and more new experiences.

The last day of school was always an “Oh Happy Day!” which parallels the gospel song by Edwin Hawkins released in 1967. However, my cousins and friends had been singing similar songs in the late ’50s and ’60s before his popularity.

We weren’t happy at that age because Jesus had washed all of our sins away; we were happy because it was the last day of school.

When I got in the upper grades, that last bell ringing was bittersweet. I remember seeing some of the girls hugging and crying because it was the last day of school and they would be away from some of their friends the whole summer.

I appreciated my education and enjoyed attending my 12 years in school and later attending 3 HBCUs. The last day of each school year was always the best day of all. If I was crying, it was pure tears of joy!

Over recent years and especially these past two weeks, I’ve asked the Lord, “Lord, what can I do for people; what can I say to people; what can I cry out to the world with?” But God said, “I GOT THIS.”

What can I say God regarding all the horrific, shocking and almost unbelievable and sad news that some of us have been watching and listening to? But God said to me, “I Got This.”

Well God, What about the innocent people that have died senselessly in movie theaters, nightclubs, on street corners, in elementary schools, Junior and High Schools, college campuses, work places, road rages, concerts, grocery stores, car-plows, Bible Studies, Worship Services, etc.?

And Lord, what about the elementary kids that were supposed to celebrate their last day of school this past Thursday but died two days before on Tuesday?

Lord, I pray Lord; I know we have therapists, psychologists, police officers, soldiers, doctors, priests and preachers and all kinds of professionals to help in or during violent situations that cause death; but Lord, today I’m calling on you because our world needs YOUR HELP! Again God says, “I Got This.”

People need help for anxiety, depression, despair, suicidal thoughts and many have developed a sense of hopelessness and nowhere to turn!

The Bible says, “A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.”

Sadly and painfully, it is said that some have died, not just from bullets or bombs, but from a broken heart. But God says to me, “I Got This!”

Let’s listen to some of God’s recordings in Psalms 34 when David was experiencing dark days and recounted his sorrows and suffering and cried out mightily for Divine Help.

Psalms 34: 18-19 NIV says, “The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. The righteous person may have many troubles, but the Lord delivers him from them all.”

I want you to know today that God will take care of you. Don’t give up, give in, or give out! Psalms 34:22 says, “The Lord will rescue His servants; no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.”

It takes a lot of Prayer, Faith, Resilience and Spiritual Strength, but you can overcome a broken spirit, because God’s Got You and He cares for you even to the end of the world.

God already knew before you were born about the things that you are going through right now. Nonetheless, it may be hard to believe and understand everything and sometimes it seems like God is not near, but He’s Got Us.

David hid in a dark cave and checked into Heartbreak Hotel

but along with his complaint, he still had hope and God eventually delivered him.

As it is written, “Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him!” Do you love Him today? Well, trust Him until you die.

God’s Got It. He says, “Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written: VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY,” says the Lord. Yes, there is a Bright side somewhere, and make sure before this life is over that you’re on the Lord’s side.

Some of my cousins, Bro. Louis Sanders, Pastor Alexander Sanders, Bro. Marvin Sanders and I, all attended Lucille Hunter Elementary School and eventually, in our adult life, we all found ourselves members in the same gospel group.

Marvin wrote a song which was recorded and released before God called him home in 2003. He and Louis did the vocals, Alexander sang background with other members, and I arranged the music and played the keyboard and organ. The song is: “Leave It in the Hands of the Lord” by The Mighty Golden Bells. In closing, let’s all make sure our vote counts and let’s just leave it in the Hands of the Lord, God’s Got It!

### Calif. Unveils Groundbreaking Black Reparations Report Wed.

By Janie Har

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. (AP)—California’s first-in-the-nation task force on reparations was set to release a report Wednesday documenting in detail the harms perpetuated by the state against Black people and recommending steps to address those wrongs, including expanded voter registration, making it easier to hold violent police accountable and improving Black neighborhoods.

It also recommends the creation of a special office that would, in part, help African-Americans document their eligibility for financial restitution.

The report, which runs 500 pages, will be the first government-commissioned study on harms against the African-American community since the 1968 Kerner Commission report ordered by then-President Lyndon Johnson, task force Chair Kamilah Moore said.

“I hope that this report is used not only as an educational tool, but an organizing tool for people not only in California but across the U.S. to educate their communities,” she said, adding that the report also highlights “contributions of the African-American community and how they made the United States what it is despite ongoing oppression and

degradation.”

Gov. Gavin Newsom signed legislation creating the task force in 2020, making California the only state to move ahead with a study and plan. Cities and universities are taking up the cause with the Chicago suburb of Evanston, Ill., becoming the first U.S. city to make reparations available to Black residents last year.

The task force voted in March to limit reparations to descendants of Black people who were in the United States at the end of the 19th century, overruling reparations advocates who want to expand compensation to all Black people in the U.S.

The report, to be released by the state Department of Justice, marks the halfway point for the two-year task force’s work. The draft report does not provide a comprehensive reparations plan, which is due to lawmakers next year.

The report is expected to lay out how California supported slavery before it was technically abolished and oppressed Black residents through discriminatory laws and practices in education, home ownership, employment and the courts.

African-Americans make up nearly 6 percent of California’s population yet they are over-represented in jails and prisons. They were nearly 9 percent of people living below the poverty

level and made up 30 percent of people experiencing homelessness in 2019, according to state figures.

Despite it being a “free” state, an estimated 1,500 enslaved African-Americans lived in California in 1852, according to the draft report. The Ku Klux Klan flourished in California with members holding positions in law enforcement and city government. African-American families were forced to live in segregated neighborhoods that were more likely to be polluted.

Moore said that a state Office of African-American or American Freedmen Affairs could help Black residents file claims and trace their lineage to prove eligibility for individual restitution.

The task force in its draft report also recommends compensating people who were forced out of their homes for construction projects such as parks and highways and general renewal, as happened to San Francisco’s historically Black and once-thriving Fillmore neighborhood.

“Other groups that have suffered exclusion, oppression, and downright destruction of human existence have received reparations, and we should have no less,” said Rev. Amos Brown, the committee’s vice chair and pastor of Third Baptist Church in the Fillmore.



A BEGINNING? People line up to speak during a reparations task force meeting at Third Baptist Church in San Francisco on April 13, 2022. A report by California’s first in the nation task force on reparations Wednesday, June 1 will document in detail the harms perpetuated by the state against Black people and recommend ways to address those wrongs. [AP Photo/Janie Har, File]

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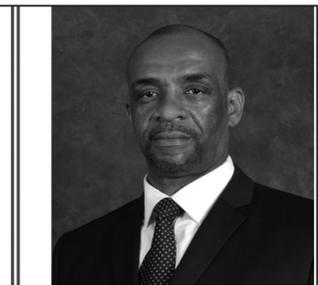
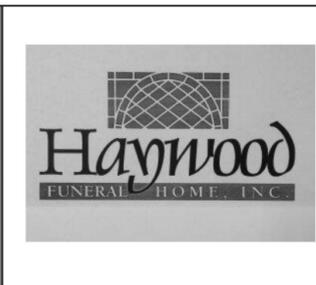
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# Editorials

## 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, regard-

## Beyond Gun Control, We Need Hatred Control

By Robert C. Koehler  
Guest Editorial

Another terrorist slips into the classroom, into the news.

Does anyone understand this? Even if guns are easily, readily available, why, why, why? I find it impossible even to be angry—it's hard to be angry under incomprehensible circumstances.

Instead, I find myself imagining George W. Bush giving a speech in which he condemns the latest horrific murders at... but instead of saying Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, he blurts out "Iraq."

These killers aren't acting alone. No one acts alone. There's a cultural and structural connection here. As I noted in a recent column, quoting from the book *A Promise to Our Children: A Field Guide to Peace*, by Charles P. Busch, the ratio of civilian to combatant deaths in the wars we wage has changed astonishingly over the last century. During World War I, one civilian was killed for every nine combatants. Today that figure has been flipped on its head. In recent wars—in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, and no doubt Ukraine—the ratio is nine civilians (including children, of course) killed for every combatant.

And war is what nation-states believe in, all across the planet, but nowhere with such religious commitment as here in the USA, with our trillion-dollar annual military budget. And I confess: I kind of understand why this is the case. It's not easy to run a country, to cohere a populace, to herd 300 million cats. But rallying the cause with a good, solid enemy—evil itself—works pretty well. In the old days, we had krauts and nips; then of course there were the commies (and their Southeast Asian allies, the gooks); and when they went away, we found the terrorists, along with Saddam Hussein, the iconic face of evil, whose anti-blessing gave us permission to launch a shock-and-awe campaign in his country and turn every school in Iraq into a potential Robb Elementary School.

When we wage war, we dehumanize whole populations. Killing isn't easy—perhaps it isn't even possible—without doing so. And the dehumanization process is collective. I can't let go of this fact. We cannot embrace militarism as our go-to method of self-defense without giving our tacit blessing to murder, though for some reason we don't call it that. That nine-to-one, civilian-to-combatant death ratio? That's collateral damage.

And beyond the actual waging of war, we clutch the concept as our favorite metaphor. Everything difficult is a war. And thus over the years we have waged wars on pretty much every problem we have: from cancer to drugs to crime to poverty, etc., etc., etc. By calling these (losing) campaigns "wars," we unite ourselves in the battle against a specific enemy—a specific evil. It's us vs. them! Us vs. drugs, us vs. crime, us vs. cancer...

Here's President Biden two months ago, speaking about Ukraine at the Royal Castle in Warsaw, Poland. His words are both bellicose and metaphorical: "But we emerged anew in the

great battle for freedom: a battle between democracy and autocracy, between liberty and repression, between a rules-based order and one governed by brute force.

"In this battle, we need to be clear-eyed. This battle will not be won in days or months either. We need to steel ourselves for the long fight ahead."

And so we embrace the Great Battle for Freedom—with many people embracing it in their own way. Enemies are always knocking on the door, or hiding under our beds. The enemy wants to make our children uncomfortable. It wants to replace us! And indeed this is a dangerous world, in many ways. The problem is that we're essentially blinding ourselves to the actual dangers by turning analysis and self-reflection into hatred and blame. To a large extent, the dangers we face are without an enemy.

Winslow Myers puts it this way:

"In a possible emerging planetary story, we have the chance to see that we have more in common than what divides us, based in the challenges we face together. Tanks, fighter jets and nuclear missiles—and the greed, hatred and paranoia motivating their endless deployment—do nothing to address the death of coral reefs, the breakdown of ocean ecosystems and fisheries, the rise in sea levels, the mass migrations of refugees."

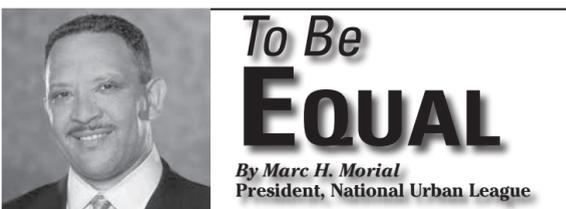
And so much more! But as Michael Klare writes:

"Sadly, geopolitical rivalry, not cooperation, is now the order of the day. Thanks to Russia's invasion and the harsh reaction it's provoked in Washington and other Western capitals, 'great-power competition' (as the Pentagon calls it) has overtaken all other considerations. Not only has diplomatic engagement between Washington, Moscow, and Beijing essentially ground to a halt, making international cooperation on climate change (or any other global concern) nearly impossible, but an all-too-militarized competition has been launched that's unlikely to abate for years to come."

This "all-too-militarized competition" isn't just between the great powers, as the flow of news informs us. It's also between deeply lost (and armed) souls and their inner demons. Barely a week ago, a crazed 18-year-old shot and killed 10 people at a grocery store in Buffalo, N.Y. Eleven days later, another 18-year-old killed, my God, 21 people (19 of them students) at the Texas elementary school. I kneel in grief and try my best to put this into context.

Gun control isn't enough. We also need hatred control. The lone wolves out there, the lost souls, who have chosen to play real war in response to their own demons, might seek another course of action if they had fewer political and corporate role models. The human race will not evolve by waging endless war and killing itself.

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



## To Be EQUAL

By Marc H. Morial  
President, National Urban League

### BIDEN'S EXECUTIVE ORDER ON POLICING IS A NECESSARY STEP FORWARD

"Our criminal justice system must respect the dignity and rights of all persons and adhere to our fundamental obligation to ensure fair and impartial justice for all. This is imperative—not only to live up to our principles as a Nation, but also to build secure, safe, and healthy communities. Protecting public safety requires close partnerships between law enforcement and the communities it serves. Public safety therefore depends on public trust, and public trust in turn requires that our criminal justice system as a whole embodies fair and equal treatment, transparency, and accountability."

—President Biden, Executive Order on Advancing Effective, Accountable Policing and Criminal Justice Practices to Enhance Public Trust and Public Safety

In the two years since Minneapolis police murdered George Floyd, police have killed more than 2,000 people in the United States—even more in 2021 than in 2020. Black Americans remain nearly three times as likely as Whites to be killed by police.

Yet many in Congress still refuse to act. President Biden's executive order on policing, issued on the anniversary of Floyd's murder, incorporates several elements of 21 Pillars for Redefining Public Safety and Restoring Community Trust, the National Urban League's own plan for enhancing public safety and restoring trust between communities and law enforcement.

The executive order, which directly impacts about 100,000 Federal law enforcement officers, sets forth a model for state and local law enforcement agencies and uses carrots and sticks and incentives to encourage those agencies to make the same kind of reforms. It represents a measure of meaningful change and a critical acknowledgment of the pervasive systemic racism that has shattered the trust between police and communities of color.

But it is no substitute for the broad federal legislation we have sought, or for the full implementation of our 21 Pillars in every community across the nation.

On June 9, I'll join Gwen Grant, President and CEO of the Urban League of Greater Kansas City, for the latest stop in our 21 Pillars Tour, which already has included events in Louisville, Kentucky, Columbus, Ohio, and Chicago, Illinois.

In each of these cities, trust between the police and the communities they serve was broken. In Louisville, the officers who shot and killed Breonna Taylor in a botched raid escaped consequences after prosecutors misled a grand jury. In Columbus, police used physical violence, tear gas and pepper spray against peaceful protesters without provocation in what a federal judge called "the sad tale of officers, clothed with the awesome power of the state, run amok." A recent study of Chicago Police found that their misconduct is a group phenomenon, in-

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

## A Different Voice

By Dorothy Shaw Thompson



### WHY WAR?

This week as we memorialize our fallen soldiers and grapple with the devastation that young men coming back from war have in their psyches. As we donate to the cause of replacement limbs, and refuse to turn our eyes away from the homeless with a cardboard sign that says, "I am a Vietnam or Iraqi veteran," I ponder what we are celebrating. As we look at the images of little children who were so torn apart from the bullets of this teenage assassin that only DNA could say whose child lay dead, I wonder with what brain, heart or soul do we memorialize our dead? This week as we watch our Lt. Gov. Robinson, former President Donald Trump and Ted Cruz rail at liberals or Democrats for their lack of care for children as they attended the NRA convention, I am dismayed that their solution to killings is more guns. They say that the only solution to a bad actor with a gun is a good teacher or a good citizen with a gun. Guns, they say, don't kill, people do. Yet they refuse to see that killing is still killing and that so far we haven't killed away the problem. Unfortunately, the more we kill, the more we kill.

It's inevitable that some might ask, "but isn't abortion also killing and how can we allow choice in the life of a woman who chooses to stop a 'life' or an embryo from reaching its potential?" I answer that by questioning why the "pro-life" people aren't pro life when it comes to guns, war, American terrorists (Jan. 6) and school children.

This week on Facebook some brilliant people answered some of these questions about guns by posting comparisons. One such comparison suggested that guns should be regulated like cars: (1) Title and Tag at Each Point of Sale, (2) Driver Training—Gun Training, (3) Written Test, (4) Practical Test, (5) Health Requirements, (6) Liability Insurance on Each Vehicle (gun), (7) Renewals and Inspections at Intervals. Another writer, Nev Schulman, posted that "Every young man who wants to buy a gun be treated like every woman who wants to get an

abortion—mandatory 48 hour waiting period, a note from a professional who ways he is mentally able to make this decision, parental permission; He suggests that we close down all but one gun shop in a state, that he has to look at a video about the effects of gun violence, make him walk through protesters calling him a murderer and begging him not to buy a gun." Another post gave these comparisons:

1967—Jane Mansfield died in a car that ran under the rear of a tractor trailer, now tractor trailers have a DOT bar to keep cars from going under them.

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



## CONSERVATIVELY Speaking

By Paris Dennard

### THE DEMOCRATS WERE WRONG

To be denied something to which you were entitled is a great form of injustice. For many Black Americans having to live in a time where you were denied your Constitutional right to vote seems unfathomable. That's because for many younger Black Americans, not voting has always been a choice—not a mandate.

For months, we all heard Democrats tell blatant lies that Republican efforts to make it easier to vote and harder to cheat through election integrity laws were somehow going to suppress the Black vote in states like Georgia.

This is very serious claim, and one that I—as a Black American with familial roots in the state of Georgia—was very concerned about. To hear it from liberal talking heads, Democrat elected officials, and progressive journalists and operatives, it seemed as if the left hadn't even read the bill they were so aggressively trashing.

The question is why? Why were Democrats so afraid of election reforms to make the process more transparent and fairer? Why didn't the left want to ensure that our elections and votes were as safe as possible?

It doesn't matter to me why Democrats lied about the Georgia law. What does matter to me—and so many voters across the country—is were the Democrats right? Were they telling the truth? Would we see a deep decline in Black voter participation in the first election following the bill's signing?

The answer is, the Democrats were wrong, they lied, and Black American voters in Georgia turned out to vote in greater numbers than 2018—the last midterm election before the Georgia election law was implemented.

There were no signs of voter intimidation. Black people were not passing out because of dehydration in the line to vote. Simply put, Black voters were not suppressed—Black voters surpassed 2018 voting totals. Preliminary results show

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



## Child Watch

By Marian Wright Edelman

### "WHAT ARE WE DOING?"

The funerals for the ten Black community members who were murdered while grocery shopping in Buffalo on May 14 are not even over—but it happened again.

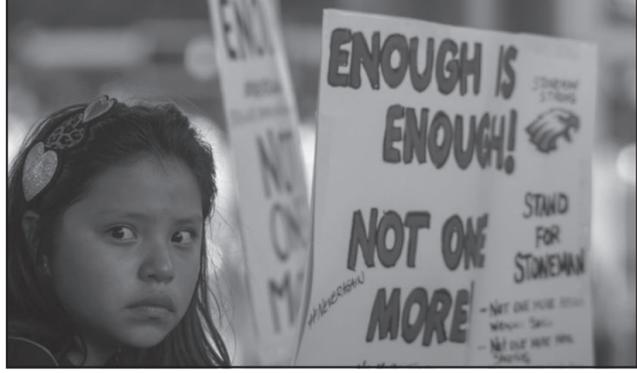
This time, children. Thursday should have been the last day of school and the start of summer vacation for teachers and students at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas. Instead, on Tuesday, 19 fourth graders and two of their beloved teachers were shot to death in their classroom. They were murdered by a shooter who had legally purchased two AR-style rifles and 375 rounds of ammunition starting on May 17, the day after his 18th birthday. As our colleagues at the Children's Defense Fund-Texas put it, "The only thing extraordinary about yesterday's tragedy in Uvalde is how ordinary it is." What a shameful indictment of our nation's failure to act and protect children.

Senator Chris Murphy (D-CT) struck a chord with millions of Americans as he spoke passionately on the Senate floor hours after the shooting. Senator Murphy was the Congressman representing Newtown, Connecticut when 20 first graders and six adults were shot to death at Newtown's Sandy Hook Elementary School in December 2012, so he is no stranger to responding to indescribable tragedies. He is also no stranger to watching many of his colleagues respond to gun tragedies by defiantly refusing to take action to protect children, not guns. On Tuesday, Senator Murphy asked all of them: "What are we doing?"

"Just days after a shooter walked into a grocery store to gun down African-American patrons, we have another Sandy Hook on our hands. What are we doing? There were more mass shootings than days in the year. Our kids are living in fear every single time they set foot in the classroom because they think they're going to be next. What are we doing? Why do you spend all this time running for the United States Senate? Why do you go through all the hassle of getting this job, of putting yourself in a position of authority, if your answer is that as the slaughter increases, as our kids run for their lives, we do nothing. What are we doing? Why are you here if not to solve

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

# Other Viewpoints



## CURBING GUN VIOLENCE

By Dr. Ada M. Fisher

Former NC Republican National Committeewoman

Steven Kerr's outspokenness at his press conference post the Golden State Warriors recent play-off loss was right on point in asking that we confront the senseless gun violence affecting so many of our innocent. Democratic Representative Mike Thompson of California's 5th District proposed Background Checks Act of 2021 passed the House on a bipartisan basis but has been held up because a vote not only has not been taken on it in the Senate but faces acts of political cowardice in failing to take seriously a problem increasingly getting out of hand. This act would expand background checks to be required on all firearm sales, as well as close gun show and online sales loopholes.

As an avid defender of the Second Amendment and believer in the right of citizens to bear arms, there is much that can and should be done to limit firearm access by various people, e.g. those with mental infirmities, exhibiting violence in domestic disputes or in other acts, dishonorably discharged military and terminated law enforcement personnel, children not engaged in hunting sports or Olympic competitions and likely others. Also a major evolving problem is the development of ghost firearms with the assist of 3-D printers making some things difficult to trace. Not to be forgotten is the availability of untraceable routine firearms.

Blaming gun manufacturers for individual choices is not likely to stop access to weapons. Putting a cap on the number of rounds of ammunition purchased or protective equipment bought might be considered just like banks are required to report withdrawals of more than \$2,000 at a time. Who needs repeating rifles/guns, thousands of rounds of ammunition or other weaponry of excessive magnitude if not in the military or running installations where harmful prey is an issue?

It is most intriguing that in the Ukraine where guns were previously frowned upon for individuals, with its invasion by Russia, that government has undertaken a major role in arming their citizenry. Appreciating that individual protection can seemingly be enhanced by owning a weapon in defense of oneself and one's nation should be considered a right in democracies.

In the attention grabbing senseless murders that are truly acts of domestic terrorism whether impacted by racism, mental breakdowns or pent up anger, trying to teach people love over hate is a difficult and ongoing challenge which has no political answer. In talking with younger people and those often with an unrestrained religious fervor, a limited understanding of G-d's laws of the Ten Commandments and the entertainment media's constant barrage promoting a sense that anything goes and all things are suitable for public consumption seems present in abundance. Many of the video games and products available especially to the young are often laced with excessive violence, seemingly demonic imprints embracing skeletons, zombies and other "underworld allusions" which can imprint misguided thinking as if death isn't real. Should these games per "Tipper" Gore have guidelines for eligible viewers with prohibitions against sales to minors?

An undeniable reality is that violence as depicted in mass killings, racism and other unprovoked retaliatory ventures is wrong and should be ended without the seemingly prolonged search for reasons, justifications or answers being sought. Many are opposed to Capital Punishment but in continuing to feed, clothe and house the perpetrators what then is being accomplished at the expense of society for those who have demonstrated a blatant disregard for a civilized society?

Dr. Ada M. Fisher is a physician, licensed secondary education teacher, former medical director of a Fortune 500 company and was the NC Republican National Committeewoman From 2012-2020. Her book Common Sense Conservative Prescriptions Good For What Ails Us, Book 1 is available through Amazon.com. Contact her at P.O. Box 777; Salisbury, NC 28145; cradamfisher47@gmail.com/



## WELCOME, CHILDREN

By Winslow Myers

War Preventive Initiative

Welcome, children, to the world we so-called adults are handing over to you—a planetary culture of lies and power. The greater the power, the bigger the lie. The Russian lie that a "special military operation" is not a war, and that the Ukrainians brought this on themselves. The Chinese lie that the Uyghurs are being well cared for in education camps. The American lies that Trump actually won reelection, or that the Congress is helpless to do anything about school massacres. And maybe the biggest lie of all, that real security can come from having more world-destroying weapons than the other guy.

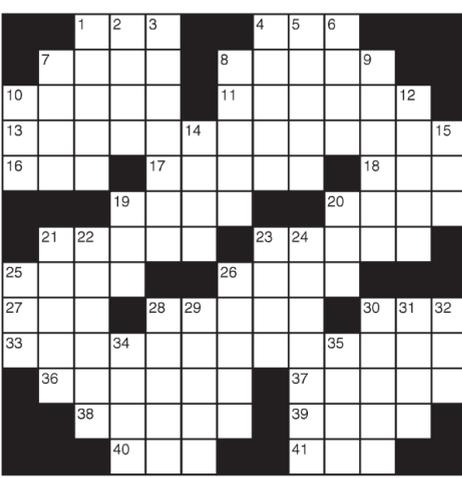
American children, welcome to the shame of a country that, outrageously, requires you to endure lock-down drills against a random lottery of death for the sake of Second Amendment "freedom." Those in power fanatically deny the root cause of massacres, which is, obviously, the sheer number and availability of guns in our country—400 million of them.

Welcome to a culture that is beyond embarrassing in its hypocrisy, that fusses and fumes and even kills over the rights of fetal life but is apparently indifferent to your safety in the classroom. Where an infantile ex-president panders to the NRA by nattering on about mental illness when he himself is in dire need of intervention for pathological malignant narcissism.

Children, your classmates keep dying because the pretty obvious 18th century meaning of the Second Amendment has been grossly perverted by that NRA, accommodated by empty suits like Messrs. Cruz and McConnell along with empty robes like judges Scalia, Thomas, and Alito.

### ACROSS

- 1 Scratch
- 4 Hosp. scan
- 7 Ashen
- 8 Ridicule
- 10 Director Forman
- 11 Seek, as office
- 13 Breakfast order
- 16 Simile center
- 17 Four-star reviews
- 18 FDR project
- 19 107, to Cato
- 20 Actor Johnny
- 21 Velocity
- 23 Apple centers
- 25 And others (Lat.)



- 26 French cheese
- 27 Popped down
- 28 Pink hue
- 30 Insult, slangily
- 33 Steakhouse order
- 36 Eucalyptus eaters
- 37 Start of a supplication
- 38 Move furtively
- 39 Smile
- 40 Trail the pack
- 41 Thesaurus wd.

### DOWN

- 1 Island south of Sicily
- 2 Oodles
- 3 Set aside
- 4 Bea Arthur sitcom
- 5 Littlest litter-mates
- 6 Data
- 7 Name of 12 popes
- 8 Fountain of Rome
- 9 Precisely
- 10 CEO's deg.
- 12 Answers an invitation
- 14 Incursion
- 15 Phone bug
- 19 Cartoon frame
- 20 Rap's Dr. —
- 21 Desolate
- 22 Cookout spots
- 23 Beach crawler
- 24 Drilling platforms
- 25 Mentalist's claim
- 26 Invigorating
- 28 Salsa singer
- 29 Borneo ape, for short
- 30 "Mack the Knife" singer
- 31 "This — outrage!"
- 32 Pigs' digs
- 34 Teen hangout
- 35 Grand Ole —

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21st century gun safety is surely not that difficult. Adults wishing to exercise their privilege to possess a gun need a kind of training similar to what the law requires to license, register, insure and drive a car. Potential gun owners need to be run through an instant national background check, including at gun fairs, and wait 48 hours, and if no red flags come up, they can present documents that confirm that they have had safety training, and then properly register their gun—as long as it's a civilian and not a military weapon. It is now technically feasible to render a gun unusable without its sensing a particular fingerprint, just as we each have unique keys to our car. These reasonable hoops are a minor adjustment and not some slippery slope toward the moment they come to take our guns.

Children, sorry to let you in on a disconcerting aspect of adulthood: violent power, unaccountable power, leads to lies on every level, such as: a good guy with a gun is the best antidote to a bad guy with a gun—or a good guy with a nuclear weapon is the best antidote to a bad guy with a nuclear weapon. Back in the 1950s when I was a child, we practiced "duck and cover," a futile insult to our budding intelligence, supposedly protective against a nuclear explosion, but just as disheartening as your lockdown drills. If we do not change direction on this planet, what is coming will make Uvalde look like a garden party. Those experts who say that safety lies in having more weapons than our adversaries forget that there are already more than enough weapons to destroy life on earth.

We can do better on every level. But only when power becomes accountable, and that is up to all of us, those who have the privilege of voting and those who act courageously and resourcefully even without the vote, like the Russians who risk jail to protest a dirty war.

You yourselves have demonstrated that resourcefulness, such as when Miah Cerrillo, an 11 year old survivor of the Uvalde massacre, smeared blood on herself, played dead, and dialed 911 for help. Her fear did not paralyze her the way it paralyzes too many hapless politicians.

Or Zander Moricz, the gay president of his high school class, who gracefully sidestepped his principle's ham-handed efforts to censor his use of the word "gay" by talking instead in his graduation speech about learning to feel pride in his curly hair.

Children, we are part of a great contest, but it is not the war that so many politicians and nuclear strategy experts and arms manufacturers tell you we are fighting. We are in a world war against violence and monetized hate and unaccountable power, power that rationalizes any lie to justify itself.

A big part of winning this war for truth and accountability is our willingness to see in ourselves what we criticize in others. We are all human and imperfect. When we admit this, our hearts expand enough to feel pity not only for all the dead children, whether in Uvalde or Mariupol, but even for the powerful who may never know the joys of servant leadership, of making a positive difference in the lives of their constituents.

Too many of us hate our enemies more than we love our children. That fear helps create a planetary culture of bullies who are obsessed with obtaining the kind of total control that puts them above accountability, even if it means indifference to the massacre of the innocent, by assault rifle or artillery or nuclear bomb.

It is not a sign of weakness to sit down with others, even others with very different views, to look searchingly together at what is our true and shared self-interest. When we do, we can move beyond empty posturing and begin to see how we might make the world a safer place for children—a world that permits children to live to be adults.

Winslow Myers, author of Living Beyond War: A Citizen's Guide, serves on the Advisory Board of the War Preventive Initiative.

## TO BE EQUAL

Continued from page 10

involving more than 1,000 "deviant, even criminal" officers, that inflict outsized harm in communities of color. And in Kansas City, officers are accused of excessive and deadly force against Black and Brown Kansas Citizens, constitutional violations, and discriminatory patterns and practices.

The 21 Pillars centers on five key themes that are fundamental to the protection and preservation of life, dignity, trust, and safer communities: collaboration, accountability, changing divisive policies, transparency, and elevated standards for hiring and training police. The Tour is aimed at familiarizing communities with the plan's objectives, amplify the issues and concerns relevant in each city, and advocate for policy solutions.

With the incorporation of several elements of the 21 Pillars into President Biden's executive order, the plan already is having an impact. Key provisions of the order include:

- Bans on chokeholds and carotid restraints by federal law enforcement officers except where deadly force is authorized. (Pillar 10)
- New federal standards and training for use of force. (Pillars 4, 9, and 20)
- Restrictions on the use of no-knock entries by federal law enforcement officers. (Pillar 10)
- Creation of national law enforcement accountability database. (Pillar 14)
- Requirement for the use and activation of body-worn cameras by federal officers, and policies that provide for expedited release of footage. (Pillar 15)
- New models and federal funding available to innovate new responses to persons in crisis, as an alternative to police intervention (Pillars 4, 9, and 21)
- Restrictions on the transfer of the weapons of war to police departments (Pillar 12)
- New screening and training tools to counter bias, and strengthen investigations of law enforcement agencies that violate civil rights... so that all persons can have faith and confidence in the equity and fairness of the criminal justice system (Pillars 18, 19, 20, and 21)

Social parity, economic empowerment, and civil rights cannot be achieved in a world of unjust policing, President Biden's Executive Order, guided by the principles outlined in 21 Pillars, can

be the basis for safer, more effective, and community-centered law enforcement across the nation.

## A DIFFERENT VOICE

Continued from page 10

1982—Seven people died when Tylenol packages were tampered with; now pill bottles have channel locks.

1995—A bombing using fertilizer killed 168 people so restrictions have been imposed on the purchase of that fertilizer.

2001—Someone tried to bomb a plane with a shoe bomb, now everybody has to have their shoes scanned before boarding a plane.

It is telling that the NRA does not allow people to "carry" guns at their conventions. Doesn't that tell us something? It is reported that 90 percent of Americans polled want background checks for people buying guns and 70 percent want assault rifles banned, even police agencies and groups want this so why isn't the Senate following this and representing their constituents? Because it's about money, because it's about power and with their refusals go out representative government, which is democracy.

Why war? What does war represent too, too often? War is about power and control, too often it is about oil and land and too often it is about "feigned" democracy. Have there been some wars that have as their intent better purpose than others? My limited vision says yes. I believe that it was right to fight a war that ended with the Emancipation Proclamation although history (if allowed to be taught properly) would reveal that it was more about states' rights than slavery. I think it was correct to liberate the Jews from Hitler's terrorism but then why not Putin against Ukraine? Sometimes people have to step in and keep the tyrants from killings others as should have been in the George Floyd case but why not the insurrectionists on January 6? Our reasoning is off the charts. Simply put, too often we believe that "the other" should die. Rittenhouse believed that, the latest shooters in Buffalo and Texas believed that and for me, "capital punishment" says that's true. I have to admit that I also believe that if you have a gun and it is pointed at someone who is getting ready to shoot an innocent, and I have a gun I hope I'm proficient enough to shoot that gun out of your hand. The problem is... I wouldn't have an assault rifle, I wouldn't have been trained and I would be ineffective in that scenario. So you tell me... Why War?

## CONSERVATIVELY SPEAKING

Continued from page 10

that 102,056 more Black voters had cast early votes in Georgia's primary elections this year than in 2018—this was more than three times the number of Blacks that had cast early votes at the same time in 2018.

What Democrats did not account for—but what I knew would happen—was an increase in Black voters casting their ballots for Republican candidates. In the recent Georgia Primary four times as many Black voters cast GOP ballots early this year.

That increase in early voting was not limited to the Black community. Hispanic American early voting was three times higher than in 2018, and turnout for Asian-American Georgia voters was 2.7 times higher than in 2018, before the voting law was passed.

The bottom line is Democrat claims were proven to be false. Once all the tabulations are done the turnout will most likely be even greater. Rather than spreading a false narrative about Republicans—costing the state an estimated \$100 million in revenue, when the MLB All Star Game was moved out of Atlanta because of the lie about the commonsense election integrity law—Democrats should have focused on producing solutions to all these crises facing Americans not just in Georgia but nationwide.

Democrats have been unable to provide real solutions for the baby formula crisis, rising gas prices, inflation, crime, fentanyl deaths, and our dangerous open border.

Republicans are giving voters something to vote for, change, and an opportunity to get things done for everyone like we did under President Trump. Today, Republican Governors like Brian Kemp are working hard to remind us of what conservative leadership looks like.

Despite the best efforts from the left, their scheme backfired and now more Americans are going to be open to supporting more election reforms. That's because when voters look at smart election laws like Georgia's, they can see there's simply no voter suppression.

Even on the issue of ballot harvesting in the state of Arizona, liberal plaintiffs tried to say minorities were being discriminated against because of the law eliminating the practice but they failed to show one example of that in court. The ban was upheld. Now we see Democrats in New York trying to allow non-citizens to vote in our elections, which is why the RNC is fighting that in the courts. Allowing non-citizens to vote is wrong and makes a mockery of our democracy. It's also insulting to those American citizens who fought so long and hard to have this precious right to vote.

To get more of the truth about what the RNC is doing to make it easier to vote and harder to cheat please go to protectthetvote.com.

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

a problem as existential as this? This isn't inevitable. These kids weren't unlucky. This only happens in this country. And nowhere else. Nowhere else do little kids go to school, thinking that they might be shot that day. Nowhere else do parents have to talk to their kids as I have had to do about why they got locked into a bathroom and told to be quiet for five minutes just in case a bad man entered that building. Nowhere else does that happen except here in the United States of America. And it is a choice. It is our choice to let it continue...

"What are we doing? Why are we here? What are we doing?" What are we doing? Politicians who immediately say things like "now is not the time to politicize this" almost inevitably actually mean "it will never be the time." Too many of these leaders have no intention of taking any steps to prevent this. They do not want to act. They are not going to stand up to the gun lobby. They are not willing to protect children instead of guns.

Texas Governor Greg Abbott and Texas Senator Ted Cruz had both been scheduled to join former President Donald Trump among the featured speakers for the National Rifle Association (NRA)'s national convention in Houston on May 27. In 2015, Governor Abbott said on Twitter: "I'm EMBARRASSED: Texas #2 in nation for new gun purchases, behind CALIFORNIA. Let's pick up the pace Texans." Following the mass shootings at a Texas church in 2017, a Texas high school in 2018, and the back-to-back mass shootings in El Paso and the Midland-Odessa area in August 2019, Texas lawmakers responded by making it easier rather than harder to buy and carry guns in their state. Texas has now been the site of four of the nation's ten deadliest mass shootings, including the deadliest mass shooting at a place of worship, the deadliest mass shooting at a military institution, and, after the murders of these 19 children and their teachers, the second deadliest school shooting. Does this make Governor Abbott proud? Or will this shooting finally be enough to lead some of our elected politicians to new choices?

Gun violence is now the leading cause of death for children and teens in our nation. A child or teen is killed with a gun every two hours in America. More preschoolers under 5 are killed with guns than police officers in the line of duty each year. In a nation where nearly all voters support common sense gun safety legislation like universal background checks and two-thirds of voters support a nationwide ban on the sale of assault weapons, it doesn't have to be this way.

What are we doing?  
O God, forgive our rich nation where toddlers and school children die from guns sold quite legally.  
O God, help us never to confuse what is quite legal with what is just and right in Your sight.

# Classifieds

## LEGALS

### DURHAM COUNTY

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The undersigned, Gary Dale Riggsbee, having duly qualified as Executor of the Estate of Beatrice Ray Riggsbee, deceased, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate to present them to the undersigned in care of Ronald G. Coulter, Attorney for the Estate, 3400 Croasdaile Drive, Suite 205, Durham, North Carolina 27705, on or before June 23, 2022 or it will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment.

This the 12th day of May, 2022.  
Gary Dale Riggsbee, Executor  
C/O Ronald G. Coulter  
Attorney at Law  
3400 Croasdaile Drive  
Suite 205  
Durham, NC 27705  
1-919-246-5775  
May 12, 19, 26, and June 2  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DURHAM COUNTY

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 29th day of April, 2022, as Executor of the ESTATE OF CASSANDRA V. WILLIAMS A/K/A CASSANDRA VISHNEVSKY WILLIAMS, 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 12th day of August, 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 12th day of May, 2022.  
CONSTANTINE VISHNEVSKY  
EXECUTOR  
ESTATE OF CASSANDRA V. WILLIAMS A/K/A  
CASSANDRA VISHNEVSKY WILLIAMS  
c/o Shirley M. Diefenbach, Attorney  
Walker Lambe, PLLC  
Post Office Box 51549  
Durham, North Carolina 27717  
May 12, 19, 26 and June 2, 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-82

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administratrix of the Estate of Lucille Williams Carrington, 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 18th day of August 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 19th day of May 2022.  
Saundra Carrington  
Administratrix  
710 Terrace View Dr  
Chapel Hill, NC 27516  
5/19, 5/26, 6/2 and 6/9/2022  
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 000610

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Susie Moore Hillery, 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 12th day of August 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 12th day of May 2022.  
Nathan H Hillery  
Executor  
904 Queensbury Circle  
Durham, NC 27713  
5/12, 5/19, 5/26 and 6/2/2022  
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 624

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of Gisela K Cox, 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 12th day of August 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 12th day of May 2022.  
Pamela Nielsen  
Executrix  
c/o Kennon Craver, PLLC  
4011 University Dr.  
Ste 300  
Durham, NC 27707

5/12, 5/19, 5/26 and 6/2/2022  
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 612

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Darlene Mary Marraccini, 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 12th day of August 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 12th day of May 2022.  
Jerome Edward Marraccini  
Executor  
107 Avenel Lane  
Clayton, NC 27527  
5/12, 5/19, 5/26 and 6/2/2022  
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 000617

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Bettie L Epps a/k/a Bettie Mae Epps, 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 12th day of August 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 12th day of May 2022.  
Samantha Lou Dockery  
Executor  
9210 Buckhaus St #329  
Raleigh, NC 27617  
5/12, 5/19, 5/26 and 6/2/2022  
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 492

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Audrey Kay Evans, 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 12th day of August 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 12th day of May 2022.  
Phillip W Evans  
Administrator  
1501 Cole Mill Rd  
Durham, NC 27705  
5/12, 5/19, 5/26 and 6/2/2022  
NORTH CAROLINA  
DURHAM COUNTY

#### NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice District Court Division File No. 21 CVD 924

**NOTICE OF SERVICE  
OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**  
To: DANNY JOSE CARBAJAL RAYES,

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 June 22, 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, KARLA SUSANA SANTOS VASQUEZ, will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 12th day of May, 2022.  
Aneta Paval, Esq.  
Paval Law Offices, PLLC  
7404 Chapel Hill Rd  
Suite M  
Raleigh NC 27607  
Telephone: (919) 410-6690  
5/12, 5/19 and 6/2/2022  
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-546

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of Phyllis J. Smith a/k/a Phyllis Jean Smith, 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 25th day of August 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 26th day of May 2022.  
Maxine Smith  
Executrix  
216 Overlook Avenue  
Durham, NC 27712  
5/26, 6/2, 6/9 and 6/16/2022

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Administratrix of the Estate of Sybil Johnson of Durham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 26th day of August, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms, corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This is the 26th day of May, 2022.  
Michelle Johnson  
Administrator  
c/o Richard F. Prentis, Jr., Stubbs, Cole, Breedlove, Prentis & Biggs  
4 Consultant Place  
Durham, NC 27707  
5-26, 6-2, 6-9 & 6-16, 2022

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Administratrix of the Estate of Glenda R. Bradley of Durham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 26th day of August, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms, corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This is the 26th day of May, 2022.  
Gail R. Truax  
Administrator  
c/o Richard F. Prentis, Jr., Stubbs, Cole, Breedlove, Prentis & Biggs  
4 Consultant Place  
Durham, NC 27707  
5-26, 6-2, 6-9 & 6-16, 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 711

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of John Buddy Horn, 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 25th day of August 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 26th day of May 2022.  
Melody H. Seyffert a/k/a Melody Horn Seyffert  
Executor  
106 Elkton Green Court  
Cary, NC 27519  
5/26, 6/2, 6/9 and 6/16/2022  
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 000188**  
The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Kent Eugene 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 25th day of August 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 26th day of May 2022.  
Lindsay Mckenzie  
Administrator  
791 Prospect Ave B  
Oakland, CA 94610  
5/26, 6/2, 6/9 and 6/16/2022  
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 572

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Kenneth Williams, 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 25th day of August 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 26th day of May, 2022.  
Charles Williams  
Administrator  
6664 Blythdale Dr  
Charlotte, NC 28213  
5/26, 6/2, 6/9 and 6/16/2022  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DURHAM COUNTY

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 26th day of May, 2022, as Executor of the ESTATE OF ANTHONY J. WARAKSA, 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 4th day of September, 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 2nd day of June, 2022.  
JERRY M. SANDER  
EXECUTOR  
ESTATE OF ANTHONY J. WARAKSA  
c/o Shirley M. Diefenbach, Attorney  
Walker Lambe, PLLC  
Post Office Box 51549  
Durham, North Carolina 27717  
6/2, 6/9, 6/16 and 6/23/2022  
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 464

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Sofus E Simonsen, 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 2nd day of September 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 2nd day of June 2022.  
Mark W Simonsen  
Executor  
7407 Abron Drive  
Durham, NC 27713  
6/2, 6/9, 6/16 and 6/23/2022  
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 465

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Ingeborg Koopmann Simonsen, 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 2nd day of September 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 2nd day of June 2022.  
Mark W Simonsen  
Executor  
7407 Abron Drive  
Durham, NC 27713  
6/2, 6/9, 6/16 and 6/23/2022  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DURHAM COUNTY

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified as Executor of the estate of Catherine Dixon Page, 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 9th day of September, 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 2nd day of June, 2022.  
Angela Kaye Herndon  
Executor  
c/o William Harriss, Attorney  
Arges Law Firm  
3200 Croasdaile Dr  
Ste 706  
Durham, North Carolina 27705  
6/2, 6/9, 6/16 and 6/23/2022

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF DAVID MCNAIR

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against David McNair, late of Durham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit them to George David McNair as Executor of the decedent's estate on or before September 1, 2022, c/o Gregory Herman-Giddens, Attorney at Law, 1340 Environ Way, Chapel Hill, NC 27517, or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above named Executor.

This the 2nd day of June, 2022  
George David McNair, Executor  
c/o Gregory Herman-Giddens, Atty.  
Galbraith, PLLC  
1340 Environ Way  
Chapel Hill, NC 27517  
6/2, 6/9, 6/16 and 6/23/22  
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 756

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Edith Frances Williams Johnson, 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 1st day of September 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 2nd day of June 2022.  
Tara Johnson Smithwick  
Executor  
PO Box 52409  
Durham, NC 27717  
6/2, 6/9, 6/16 and 6/23/2022

### WAKE COUNTY

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF MARSHALL WILLIES HARVEY

**File Number 2022 E 001586**  
Mildred Harvey, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Marshall Willies Harvey, 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 12th day of August 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 12th day of May 2022.  
Mildred L Harvey  
Executor  
2613 Wycliff Road  
Raleigh, NC 27607  
5/12, 5/19, 5/26 and 6/2/2022  
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 001976

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Doris Wylie Bellamy, 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 19th day of August 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 19th day of May 2022.  
Denise Laura Craven  
Executor  
1201 Element Cir  
Garner, NC 27529  
5/19, 5/26, 6/2 and 6/9/2022  
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 001592

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Karen Campbell, a/k/a Karen Rosalie Campbell, 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 19th day of August 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 19th day of May 2022.  
Jerry Campbell Sr  
Administrator  
8836 Campfire Trail  
Raleigh, NC 27615  
5/19, 5/26, 6/2 and 6/9/2022  
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 002000

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Leroy Blount, 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 25th day of August 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 26th day of May 2022.  
Lillie M Wilson  
Administrator  
1121 Wagstaff Rd  
Fuquay Varina, NC 27526  
5/26, 6/2, 6/9 and 6/16/2022

### C.N.A.s NEEDED

Medical - CRISIS PAY C.N.A.s- \$29.00/HR! C.N.A.s are needed for mental health, addictions treatment, corrections, gero psych and long term care throughout N.C. especially in Raleigh, Butner, & Wilson. There are full-time schedules offered on ALL SHIFTS. Immediate & flexible start dates available. All healthcare backgrounds will be seriously considered, especially behavioral, medical-surgical, LTC and home health. Call Amanda at Worldwide Travel Staffing at 866-633-3700 or email ahodson@worldwidetravelstaffing.com

**eMail Your Classified, Legal  
or Bids Ads To  
ads@caro.news**

# Classifieds

## FOR SALE

**NORTH CAROLINA  
WAKE COUNTY  
In The General Court Of Justice  
District Court Division—Small  
Claims**

**File No. 22CV06266  
COMPLAINT TO ENFORCE  
POSSESSORY LIEN ON MOTOR  
VEHICLE**

Wildman Enterprise's LLC  
107 Forest Landing Road  
Garner, NC 27529  
PO Box 46882  
Raleigh, NC 27620

vs.  
Unknown Owner,  
TO: Unknown Owner

TAKE NOTICE the petitioner has filed with the clerk a petition in proper form indicating that the petitioner has a valid lien against a 1953 Buick, ID No. 57176633, and that the petitioner shall have the right to sell to the highest bidder the motor vehicle listed on July 7, 2022 at WCCH, 316 Fayetteville Street, Third Floor, at 1:30 p.m. You are required to make a defense to such pleading before such date and time.

This the 2nd day of June, 2022.  
Warren Wildman  
Powerhouse Auto LLC  
107 Forest Landing Road  
Garner, NC 27529  
6/2,9/22

**NORTH CAROLINA  
WAKE COUNTY  
In The General Court Of Justice  
District Court Division—Small  
Claims**

**File No. 22CV06268  
COMPLAINT TO ENFORCE  
POSSESSORY LIEN ON MOTOR  
VEHICLE**

Brother's Auto Repair  
2105 Poole Road  
Raleigh, NC 27610  
PO Box 46882  
Raleigh, NC 27620

vs.  
Unknown Owner,  
TO: Unknown Owner

TAKE NOTICE the petitioner has filed with the clerk a petition in proper form indicating that the petitioner has a valid lien against a 2002 Chevrolet, ID No. 1G1YY32G625124263 and that

the petitioner shall have the right to sell to the highest bidder the motor vehicle listed on July 7, 2022 at WCCH, 316 Fayetteville Street, Third Floor, at 1:30 p.m. You are required to make a defense to such pleading before such date and time.

This the 2nd day of June, 2022.  
2105 Poole Road  
Raleigh, NC 27610  
6/2,9/22

**NORTH CAROLINA  
WAKE COUNTY  
In The General Court Of Justice  
District Court Division—Small  
Claims**

**File No. 22CV06265  
COMPLAINT TO ENFORCE  
POSSESSORY LIEN ON MOTOR  
VEHICLE**

Jackson Auto Salvage, Inc.  
7120 Poole Road  
Raleigh, NC 27610  
PO Box 46882  
Raleigh, NC 27620

vs.  
Unknown Owner,  
TO: Unknown Owner

TAKE NOTICE the petitioner has filed with the clerk a petition in proper form indicating that the petitioner has a valid lien against a 1968 Chevrolet, ID No. 1243781320136 and that the petitioner shall have the right to sell to the highest bidder the motor vehicle listed on July 7, 2022 at WCCH, 316 Fayetteville Street, Third Floor, at 1:30 p.m. You are required to make a defense to such pleading before such date and time.

This the 2nd day of June, 2022.  
Tom Jackson  
7120 Poole Road  
Raleigh, NC 27610  
6/2,9/22

**NORTH CAROLINA  
WAKE COUNTY  
In The General Court Of Justice  
District Court Division—Small  
Claims**

**File No. 21CV010805  
COMPLAINT TO ENFORCE  
POSSESSORY LIEN ON MOTOR  
VEHICLE**

Angels Paint & Body  
1704 N. Arendell Avenue  
Zebulon, NC 27597

vs.  
Unknown Owner,  
TO: Unknown Owner

TAKE NOTICE the petitioner has filed with the clerk a petition in proper form indicating that the petitioner has a valid lien against a 2017 Acura, ID No. 19UUB1F39HA007328 and that the petitioner shall have the right to sell to the highest bidder the motor vehicle listed on July 7, 2022 at WCCH, 316 Fayetteville Street, Third

Floor, at 1:30 p.m. You are required to make a defense to such pleading before such date and time.

This the 2nd day of June, 2022.  
Gabriel Rivera  
Angels Paint & Body  
1704 N. Arendell Avenue  
Zebulon, NC 27597  
6/2,9/22

## WANTED WBE, MBE & DBE BIDS

for the following jobs:

DB00539	<b>NCDOT Division Two Letting</b> Lenoir Co	Bid Date: June 8th
DC00400	<b>NCDOT Division Three Letting</b> Brunswick Co	Bid Date: June 16th
C204720	<b>NCDOT Central Letting</b> Pender Co	Bid Date: June 21st
C204751	Chatham Co.	Bid Date: June 21st
C204362	Bladen Co.	Bid Date: June 21st
C204414	Pitt Co.	Bid Date: June 21st
C204722	Columbus Co.	Bid Date: June 21st
DB00536	<b>NCDOT Division Two Letting</b> Pitt Co.	Bid Date: June 22nd

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, signs, pavement marking, erosion control and seeding. Bids can be emailed to [stw.quotes@stwcorp.com](mailto:stw.quotes@stwcorp.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.

## ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Town of Lucama  
P.O. Box 127  
Lucama, NC 27851

Separate sealed BIDS for the construction of 2019 CWS-RF Sanitary Sewer Improvements Contract No. 6—Sewer Replacement and Pump Station Rehabilitation will be received by the ENGINEER at the Lucama Town Hall, 111 South Main Street, Lucama, NC 27851 until 2:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time, July 12, 2022, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud.

The CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be examined at the following locations:  
Lucama Town Hall, 111 South Main Street, Lucama, NC 27851

McDavid Associates, Inc., 3714 North Main Street, Farmville, NC 27828-0049

Dodge Data and Analytics, 2860 South State Highway 161, Suite 160, #501, Grand Prairie, TX 750527361  
(View online at [www.construction.com](http://www.construction.com))

ConstructConnect, Attn: DPC, 30 Technology Parkway South, Suite 100, Norcross, GA 30092  
(View online at [www.constructconnect.com](http://www.constructconnect.com))

Construction Journal, 400 SW 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Stuart, FL 34994  
(View online at [www.ConstructionJournal.com](http://www.ConstructionJournal.com))

Builders & Contractors Exchange, Inc., 1118 Azalea Garden Road, Norfolk, VA 235025612  
(View online at [www.bceva.com](http://www.bceva.com))

Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be obtained at the office of McDavid Associates, Inc. located at 3714 North Main Street, Farmville, NC 27828-0049 upon a nonrefundable payment of \$151.00 for each set.

The OWNER reserves the right to reject any and all BIDS. BIDDER shall be properly licensed under Chapter 87, General Statutes of North Carolina.

Small, minority, women's, and disadvantaged businesses and labor surplus area firms are encouraged to submit BIDS.

This PROJECT is subject to the good faith efforts and goals for participation by minority businesses required by G.S. 1431.28.2.

The OWNER has adopted a verifiable ten percent (10%) goal for participation by minority businesses in the total value of the WORK.

BIDDERS shall, within the time frames specified in the BID documents, submit all required affidavits and documentation demonstrating that the BIDDER made the required good faith effort in compliance with G.S. 1431.28.2. Failure to file all required affidavits and documentation within the required time frames is grounds for rejection of the BID.

Prospective BIDDERS who have been found guilty of discrimination within the last two (2) years are debarred from bidding.

A preBid conference will be held at 10:00 AM on June 22, 2022 in the Lucama Town Hall, 111 South Main Street, Lucama, NC 27851. Prospective BIDDERS are encouraged to attend this prebid conference as part of their good faith efforts.

June 2, 2022  
Jeffery Johnson  
Mayor  
Town of Lucama

## 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 **Havelock Wastewater Treatment Plant Influent Pump Station 1 Modifications** project for the **City of Havelock** which bids **June 14, 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 \* City of Havelock, via email: [bids@havelocknc.us](mailto:bids@havelocknc.us) \* Hazen and Sawyer, via email: [havelockipsbid@hazenandsawyer.com](mailto:havelockipsbid@hazenandsawyer.com).

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

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.

## ATTENTION: DBE'S-WBE'S-MBE'S

Barnhill Contracting Company will be bidding on the following project on June 21st, 2022. We are most interested in receiving quotes from your company on these projects:

Rocky Mount Paving Div. Contract ID: C204396, C204761  
Contact: Contact Jeremy Whitehurst, [Jeremy@barnhillcontraction.com](mailto:Jeremy@barnhillcontraction.com), at (252) 823-1021 or fax 252-977-7512 in our Rocky Mount Office, located at 800 Tiffany Blvd, Suite 200, Rocky Mount, NC 27804.

Pre-Bid Meeting: Friday June 10th, 2022 at 9:00 AM in the Rocky Mount Office

Heavy Highway Div. Contract ID: C204110  
Contact: Contact Michael Taylor, [mtaylor@barnhillcontraction.com](mailto:mtaylor@barnhillcontraction.com), at 252-823-1021 or fax 252-977-7512 in our Rocky Mount Office, located at 800 Tiffany Blvd, Suite 200, Rocky Mount, NC 27804.

Pre-Bid Meeting: Friday June 10th, 2022 at 9:00 AM in the Rocky Mount Office

Coastal Paving Div. Contract ID: C204720  
Contact: Contact Michael Griggs, [mgriggs@barnhillcontraction.com](mailto:mgriggs@barnhillcontraction.com), at 910-675-2554 or fax 910-675-3709 in our Shallotte Office located at 2284 Ocean Hwy W., Shallotte, NC 28459.

Pre-Bid Meeting: Friday June 10th, 2022 at 10:00 AM

Northeast Paving Div. Contract ID: C204721  
Contact: Contact Jimmie Spivey, [jspivey@barnhillcontraction.com](mailto:jspivey@barnhillcontraction.com), at 252-335-9503 or fax 252-335-7452 in our Elizabeth City Office, located at 1304 US 17 South, Elizabeth City, NC 27909.

Pre-Bid Meeting: Friday June 10th, 2022 at 11:00 AM

For hauling operations, we will need to know how many of your own hauling units will be available for this project. We will need this on your written quote prior to bid time and this will be made a part of any subcontract. Plans and specifications are available at: NC DOT: [https://connect.ncdot.gov/letting/Pages/Central-Letting-Details.aspx?let\\_type=Central&let\\_date=2022-06-21%2000:00:00](https://connect.ncdot.gov/letting/Pages/Central-Letting-Details.aspx?let_type=Central&let_date=2022-06-21%2000:00:00). Plans may also be viewed in our offices. Please call for an appointment. This project includes opportunities on, but not limited to hauling, clearing & grubbing, grading & excavation, pipe install, milling, sidewalk, driveway & ramps, trenchless install of utilities, water/sewer line install, retaining walls, curb & gutter, roadway grading & excavation, milled rumble strips, construction surveying, minor drainage structures, work zone control, guardrails, heavy duty tow, pavement markings, temporary silt fence, and seeding and mulching. All firms or persons interested in bidding on any applicable portions of these projects or supplying materials for any applicable portions of these projects are invited to contact us direct or by phone (we accept collect calls). By submitting a quote, it is understood that you have read and understand the specifications.

"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 this 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."

NC General Contractors Lic. # 3194  
Attn: Tom Shannon AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

## D/M/WBE

### SUBCONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS WANTED

T.A. Loving Company (NC General Contractor License No. 325) is seeking certified DBE subcontractors and suppliers for the following projects that bid for NCDOT:

**Bid Date: 06/08/2022 at 2:00 PM**  
**Project: Replace Bridge #68 Over Groundnut Coat Creek in Lenoir County (Division 2)**

Plans and specifications are available for inspection at the following locations: TA Loving Company, NC DOT Division office.

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, demolition, clearing and grubbing, hauling, asphalt paving, stripping, traffic control, earthwork, erosion control, seeding, and sodding.

Please contact Justin E. Hill at our office as soon as possible if you are interested in submitting a proposal on any portion(s) of this project. Quotes may be emailed to **Justin E. Hill**—[jehill@taloving.com](mailto:jehill@taloving.com). All quotations will be accepted up to bid closing time on bid date. Our address, phone number, and fax number is as follows.

T. A. Loving Company PO Box 919 Goldsboro, NC 27533  
919-734-8400 (phone) 919-736-2148 (fax).

**TA Loving Company is an Equal Opportunity Employer**

## 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 **Marine Industrial Park** project for **Perquimans County** which bids **June 9, 2022, at 3:00 PM**. Plans and specifications for this project are available at the following locations: TA Loving Company, 400 Patetown Road, Goldsboro, NC 27530 \* Moffatt and Nichol, via email: [djacobson@moffattnichol.com](mailto:djacobson@moffattnichol.com).

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, demolition, clearing and grubbing, hauling, earthwork, erosion control, seeding, sodding, dewatering, flatwork, and CIPC. Please contact **Justin E. Hill** ([jehill@taloving.com](mailto:jehill@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.



# BE ICONIC

THE ALL-ELECTRIC  
2023 LYRIQ



# CADILLAC

[CADILLAC.COM/LYRIQ](https://www.cadillac.com/lyriq)

Preproduction vehicle shown. Actual production model will vary.  
Initial availability first half of 2022.