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# The Carolinian



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## What Happens When Landlords Say No?

By Tyria McCray

Staff Writer

Just to be frank, trying to live comfortably and affordably is a nightmare in Raleigh, North Carolina right now. Housing hardships have reached unprecedented heights. A wave of job losses and looming evictions have left families who were already living paycheck to paycheck, on the verge of homelessness or living in a hotel. In a recent evaluation of the supply of affordable apartments, Raleigh had a deficit of 19,299. That means there are nearly 20,000 families making less than 50 percent of the area median income who can't find an affordable apartment.

To get a better understanding of this crisis, we spoke with Dr. Kimberly Muktarian, President of Save Our Sons. "The housing crisis is more racial wealth theft. Also, the housing market is showing its true colors. The discriminations that have happened over years are now finally catching up with us. That being said, we learn that African-Americans are ostracized from purchasing certain homes." She added that even though Blacks are working, they do not have the funds to purchase homes. America is completely ignoring the low-income market when it comes to

homeownership. The low-income market refers to those who are not currently working, or making wages so small that they receive subsidies. Those subsidies come in the form of public housing programs such as section 8, facilitated by HUD (Housing and Urban Development).

Section 8 is a HUD subsidy designed as a housing choice voucher. It allows people to choose where they want to stay, as long as that particular landlord accepts Section 8 vouchers. However, in this current market, that presents several problems. The first issue is that the landlords are not receiving vouchers in the same manner that they previously did. Dr. Muktarian stated, "The Section 8 voucher system is somewhat like a lottery. You sign up but you're on a waiting list and once said person receives the voucher, they have about 120 days to find a landlord that would accept your voucher." If someone does not find a landlord in time, then a short extension can be requested for an additional 2 months. With market rates skyrocketing, and plenty of people willing to pay those rates, many people with subsidies are left without housing.

Dr. Muktarian also shared that HUD offices across the nation



Jessica and Michaelangelo Slaughter were homeless for two years after a rent hike forced them out of their apartment. They were finally able to find a Section 8 qualified apartment. Chris Crook Photo

are issuing vouchers for Section 8, but there are little to no landlords who are accepting vouchers and putting tenants in housing. This is where the second issue comes in.

When properties are on the market for rent, people are paying application fees and going to view the property, only to find that others have shown up for the same property. Normally this

would not be a big deal, but landlords are taking money for application fees from multiple people with the understanding that their property can only house one family. "So landlords are making a

killing alone off of people applying for a house that will only go to one family. This is becoming the racketeering system," said Dr. Muktarian.

Lack of information has always been a huge hurdle for African-Americans. This housing issue is no different. In fact, most people do not know that they can purchase a home with the Section 8 voucher, and the program would pay money towards their mortgage. However, there are not many banks that will underwrite the loan.

"So how much of a dent would we put in a crisis if women who had their Section 8 vouchers were told that they could use their vouchers to purchase a home" Dr. Muktarian asks. If HUD has set up a program to assist in funding purchases through Section 8, and a lender would underwrite the loan that has government backing, why are we still in this situation?

As for renting, Section 8 only allocates so much to a voucher for a particular home. For example, the voucher may give \$1200 per month towards rent, but the total cost for apartments now are starting at \$1500. So if Section 8 is only allocating so much money and that money is

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

## AP Courses In School Could Clash With Laws That Target Critical Race Theory

By Sunéal Kolluri

Univ. of California

Scientific theories to justify racism. Laws and Supreme Court decisions that denied Black people equal rights. The imperialist view that Anglo-Saxons were called upon by God to civilize the "savages" of the world.

These topics might all sound like material from a course on systemic racism or critical race theory, which includes the idea that racism is embedded in America's legal systems and policies.

In reality, these topics are all part of the framework for the College Board's widely popular Advanced Placement course on U.S. history.

At a time when mostly Republican-led state legislatures have passed a rash of laws to restrict how public schoolteachers can educate students about America's racist past, I worry that AP courses like U.S. History and U.S. Government and Politics could be in jeopardy. The danger is posed by those who support the various new state laws against the teaching of "divisive" topics and critical race theory.

I raise this concern as a researcher who studies AP courses and the ways educators can better prepare students to partici-



pate in America's democracy. Recent developments show my concerns about the future of Advanced Placement are not unfounded. For instance, two school districts in Oklahoma had their accreditation downgraded for running afoul of the state's law against critical race theory. While those cases didn't involve AP coursework, they both show that people really are going after school districts on critical race theory-related issues.

Educators in Tennessee, Missouri, Texas and elsewhere have been fired or forced to resign for discussions of race and racism.

Teachers across the country are teaching in fear.

The fear may be heightened for educators who teach AP courses, which - by their very design - require teachers to deal with sensitive and controversial subjects that deal with matters of race.

Preparing for a showdown These controversial subjects would include Martin Luther King Jr.'s famous "Letter from a Birmingham Jail." In that 1963 letter, King - who had been arrested for parading without a permit during anti-segregation protests in Birmingham, Ala-

bama - critiques what he refers to as an "unjust law."

"Sometimes a law is just on its face and unjust in its application," King wrote. He added that such laws exist when those in power impose laws against a minority that they don't abide by themselves. Historians and critical race scholars view King's letter as an early example of critical race theory. The letter is featured in AP English Language and Composition.

I'm not the only one who is taking seriously how AP course requirements might contradict laws against critical race theory.

Consider an advisory that the College Board itself put out in March 2022. The advisory states that courses that do not cover topics in the required curriculum will lose their AP designation.

This could affect the college plans of large numbers of America's students, who rely on AP courses to earn college credit while still in high school. This enables students to save money by skipping certain courses in college.

The Advanced Placement program has been widely adopted throughout the country. As of fall 2021, 32 states had statewide or systemwide AP credit policies

(See **AP COURSES**, P. 2)



### NC NAACP LOSES ITS TAX EXEMPT STATUS

The Internal Revenue Service has revoked the tax-exempt status of the North Carolina NAACP. This news comes in just a month after the sudden death of former NC NAACP Pres. Rev. Dr. T. Anthony Spearman, and subsequent end of the civil conspiracy lawsuit Spearman filed against the NAACP CEO Derrick Johnson and current NC NAACP Pres. Deborah Maxwell. It was reported that reported the IRS had revoked the organization's status due to failure to file tax forms. The revocation happened this spring, but it was only revealed to the public this month.

### NC REP. HANIG SWITCHES CHAMBERS WITH SENATE APPOINTMENT

CURRITUCK (AP)—A North Carolina House member has officially joined the state Senate—the chamber that he's already campaigning to serve in for the next two years.

Republican Rep. Bobby Hanig of Currituck County was the choice of GOP activists in several northeastern counties that compose the 1st Senate District to succeed Sen. Bill Steinburg of Chowan County, who resigned at the end of July.

As required by law, Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper formally appointed Hanig last week, and Hanig took the oath of office on Monday at the Currituck County Courthouse.

Hanig's Senate's term expires at the end of the year. He's already running in November for a two-year term in the Senate in a different 1st District reconfigured by redistricting. Valerie Jordan is the Democratic nominee in that race.

Hanig's switch also means a seat vacancy in the current 6th House District that he represented until Monday.

### NC'S HIGHEST COURT AGAIN WEIGHS IN ON SCHOOL FUNDING CASE

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — North Carolina's highest court is considering whether it was within a trial judge's power to unilaterally order taxpayer money be sent to government agencies to address stubborn educational inequities.

The state Supreme Court scheduled oral arguments on Wednesday in another chapter of a decades-long legal struggle over public education spending and a constitutional requirement to ensure access to sound schooling for all.

A judge last year said it was proper that he move the money to carry out portions of a multibillion-dollar education remedial plan. Superior Court Judge David Lee cited in part the failure of legislators and governors to provide fully for children the "opportunity for a sound basic education." That language stems from previous Supreme Court rulings in the "Leandro" litigation -- named for a plaintiff in the original 1994 lawsuit.

Republican legislators say Lee got it wrong because only the General Assembly has constitutional authority to appropriate funds.

### NEW TRIAL FOR N. CAROLINA INSURANCE MAGNATE SET FOR MARCH

CHARLOTTE (AP)—A new trial for a North Carolina-based insurance magnate whose previous convictions on corruption-related charges were overturned is set for early March, a federal judge de-

(See **STATE BRIEFS**, P. 2)

## Ukraine Gets Billions, Mississippi Gets Dirty Water

By Dani Ross

Staff Writer

This week headlines across the country portrayed men unloading packages of water bottles in Jackson, Mississippi. It was reported that Jackson, the capital city of Mississippi, is without a reliable water supply because of flooding. The last time Jackson flooded was in 2020!

Jackson has a population of around 150,000 people, and 83% of those residents are Black. Last year, after the passage of the \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill, President Biden declared,

"Never again can we allow what happened in Flint, Michigan, and Jackson, Mississippi." Well, here we are again.

For more than a generation there has been a disinvestment in Jackson. The state's lawmakers are the keepers of the purse and will ultimately determine where the water funds will go.

While American citizens are suffering with putrid swamp sludge erupting from clogged pipes, the Ukraine is has been given the very tax dollars that are supposed to prevent this morbid situation. According to the Department of Defense, the United States has committed

approximately \$5.3 billion in security assistance to Ukraine since the beginning of the Biden Administration, including approximately \$4.6 billion since the beginning of Russia's unprovoked invasion on February 24th.

To add insult to injury, the state collected record shattering revenues this year. The take was roughly 25% above the estimated \$5.9 billion. Where is all of this money going?

For starters, Mississippi spends the same amount on education that they spend on prisons, according to usgovern-

mentspending.com. The state's largest expense in on healthcare. Mississippi spends almost half of their entire annual budget on healthcare.

This should not be surprising knowing that the citizens are not even provided safe and sanitary living conditions. But, why?

In reviewing the state's general fund appropriations and budget requests for Fiscal Year 2023, there was no visible line item for infrastructure. Which may indicate that there is no relief in sight for Mississippians, despite the presidents declarations.

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## STATE BRIEFS

Continued from page 1

cided on Monday.

Attorneys for Greg E. Lindberg and the U.S. government met with U.S. District Judge Max Cogburn, who set a schedule for proceedings leading to a tentative trial date, according to a description of the hearing posted on the federal courts' web site.

Cogburn released Lindberg from a minimum-security prison in Alabama last month, weeks after the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals vacated Lindberg's convictions from March 2020 and ordered a new trial.

Lindberg had been sentenced to more than seven years after being convicted of attempting to bribe North Carolina's insurance commissioner to secure preferential regulatory treatment for his insurance business. The 4th Circuit panel declared Cogburn had erred by giving jurors in Lindberg's trial misleading instructions before they began deliberations.

Lindberg, who had become a large political donor in North Carolina politics before his 2019 indictment, "looks forward to the opportunity to clear his name in the court of law as well as the court of public opinion," Lindberg spokesperson Susan Estrich said in an emailed statement. "The fact remains that the case against Mr. Lindberg is purely political."

The U.S. Attorney's Office in Charlotte, which helped prosecute Lindberg, declined comment late Monday.

The scheduling order and tentative March 6 trial date also applies to John D. Gray, a Lindberg consultant convicted of the same two counts as Lindberg. Gray also had his convictions vacated for the same reasons.

## BYU BANS FAN WHO YELED SLUR AT DUKE VOLLEYBALL PLAYER

PROVO, Utah (AP)—BYU banned a fan who yelled a racial slur at a Black player on the Duke volleyball team during a match Friday night, the university said in a statement Saturday.

The fan was sitting in the BYU student section but was not a student, and has been banned from all athletic venues on campus, the statement said.

"We will not tolerate behavior of this kind. Specifically, the use of a racial slur at any of our athletic events is absolutely unacceptable and BYU Athletics holds a zero-tolerance approach to this behavior," the statement said. "We wholeheartedly apologize to Duke University and especially its student-athlete competing last night for what they experienced. We want BYU athletic events to provide a safe environment for all, and there is no place for behaviors like this in our venues."

The player, Rachel Richardson, who is the only Black starter on the team, was called a racial slur "every time she served," Richardson's godmother, Lesa Pamplin, said in a tweet.

"For far too long, individuals have been subjected to racist slurs, taunts, and threats like the unfortunate incident that happened to my goddaughter, Rachel Richardson, at BYU. It is unfortunate that this incident has only received attention after I tweeted about it," Pamplin, a candidate for circuit court judge in Fort Worth, Texas, said in an emailed statement.

"Every American should be enraged that a young lady was subjected to hateful, demeaning language, and we should be even more outraged that it took a tweet from me in Tarrant County, Texas, to bring this incident to light," the statement continued.

Pamplin tweeted that Richardson "was threatened by a White male that told her to watch her back going to the team bus. A police officer had to be put by their bench."

Richardson is a 19-year-old sophomore from Ellicott City, Md.

Duke said its match Saturday against Rider was moved from BYU's Smith Fieldhouse to a different venue in Provo.

"First and foremost, our priority is the well-being of Duke student-athletes," Duke athletic director Nina King said in a statement. "They should always have the opportunity to compete in an inclusive, anti-racist environment which promotes equality and fair play. Following extremely unfortunate circumstances at Friday night's match at BYU, we are compelled to shift today's match against Rider to a different location to afford both teams the safest atmosphere for competition."

Duke and BYU were playing in a four-team, round-robin invitational along with Rider and Washington State. BYU beat Duke 3-1 on Friday.

## NORTH CAROLINA ANNOUNCES 189 ARRESTS IN ALCOHOL CRACKDOWN

(AP)—North Carolina authorities have made 189 arrests in a state-wide crackdown led by the state's Alcohol Law Enforcement agents.

The agency announced 449 charges, including 20 felonies, 261 alcohol-related charges and 80 drug-related charges.

Throughout the agency's eight districts, special agents executed four search warrants, seized six firearms, 78 fraudulent identifications, U.S. currency and various types of illegal controlled substances.

During the operation on Thursday, 21 ABC-permitted businesses were found to be in violation of state laws and regulations.

ALE special agents will submit violation reports to the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission documenting the criminal and regulatory violations at these businesses, which could result in fines, suspensions or revocations of ABC permits.

## Landlords Say No —CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

no longer adjusted to the new fair market value, then that is a major issue as well. The cost of everything has gone way up. Every \$100 counts when you only bring home \$800 working full-time at your fast food job.

When families cannot find housing, they begin to live in hotels. There are several hotels in Raleigh filled with entire families living in one room. Due to lack of available dwellings, the city pays for those families to live there in the hotel as a temporary fix until they can build small homes or find more landlords willing to accept vouchers for rent payments.

If a hotel cost \$100 a night and the city funds it, then they are paying roughly \$3,000 a month just to keep a family living in a hotel.

To compound the problem, HUD is getting out of the public housing sector. The government is leaving low-income housing alone because they are claiming to not have made enough money to maintain the necessary tools to maintain property, as well as be effective. HUD is calling on a private program called RAD (Rental Assistance Demonstration Program) which addresses the \$26 billion nationwide housing maintenance issue. RAD appeals

to the private sector by allowing them to purchase the affordable housing properties owned by HUD. This public/private partnership is not working now, so why would HUD think that private owners would cut their own profit margins to assist poor people?

Dr. Mukhtarian expressed, "So they're basically saying that they will get the private industry to take over, pay them the check, and they don't have to rent to all public housing; they can do mixed. So they (HUD) give people a Section 8 voucher but the problem arises when their are not landlords who take the

voucher." This is the exact situation that is playing out all over the country.

Unfortunately, once Section 8 applicants accept the voucher they have to find a place that accepts it in the time frame, or they lose it.

Dr. Mukhtarian's summary is, "So we look like we just came out of slavery and are looking for somewhere to go. We look like we are asking for reconstruction efforts all over again. This is the silent killer. So at this point, we are not even asking for wealth, we are asking for survival. Just let us live!"

## AP Courses In Schools —CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that require colleges to award credit to students who score high enough on their AP exams.

The College Board reports that more than 1.17 million U.S. public high school graduates in the class of 2021 – 34.9% – took at least one AP exam. Despite the disruptions from the pandemic, that figure is up from the roughly 898,000 – or 28.6% – who did so in the class of 2011.

Despite the laws that seek to control how teachers can discuss race and the history of racism in the United States, the College Board plans to pilot a new AP course in African American studies in the fall of 2022 at about 60 schools.

## Precautions taken

Anticipating the potential for conflicts with the College Board, the Yorba Linda school board in Orange County, California, made Advanced Placement courses exempt from restrictions it enacted regarding classroom conversations on race.

A College Board official told me that as of yet, there have been no cases of schools removing content in AP history. How long that will be the case remains to be seen.

Historically, there have already been cases in which books have been removed from the reading list for AP classes. For instance, in 2007, Jefferson County Public Schools – a school district that covers Louisville,

Kentucky – removed Toni Morrison's "Beloved" from an AP English class at Eastern High School. "Beloved," along with other books authored by Toni Morrison, is among the most frequently referenced texts on the AP Literature and Composition exam.

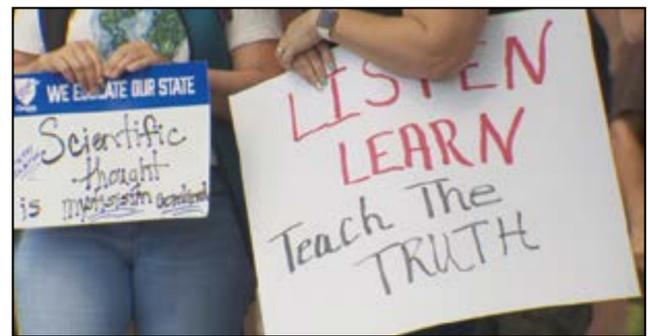
When states ban critical race theory, it potentially affects more than just AP history and AP English. AP U.S. Government and Politics, for example, requires educators to teach students about race-based gerrymandering and different perspectives on affirmative action. The AP Psychology course description includes conversations about how race affects criminal trials.

## Vague and contradictory

Some of the new laws that ban critical race theory are confusing and contradictory. A new law in Georgia, for example, includes systemic racism as a "divisive topic" that "any curriculum ... may not teach." However, the bill explicitly allows teachers to address how "the enactment and enforcement of laws" can lead to "oppression, segregation, and discrimination."

This contradiction has the potential to create uncertainty and uneasiness among AP teachers.

A bill passed in Texas states that "no teacher shall be compelled ... to discuss current events or widely debated and



currently controversial issues of public policy." Controversy, however, is a centerpiece of AP English Language and Composition. The curriculum requires teachers to consider controversial issues and to help students "develop a critical and informed understanding of the controversy and the authority to enter the conversation themselves."

## Critical choices

If people complain that AP courses violate laws against critical race theory, the College Board may have to show that it is serious when it says it will strip AP designation from schools that remove required material from the AP curriculum.

Research is on the College Board's side. Studies show that discussions on race and racism help prepare students to participate in America's multiracial

democracy. There are academic benefits as well. A Stanford University study found that a ninth grade ethnic studies course boosted Black and Hispanic students' GPA by 1.4 points and their attendance by 21 percentage points. The authors of that study say the findings point to wider academic benefits of lessons that are culturally relevant to students, such as lower dropout rates.

Since many parents and members of the public see the value of taking AP courses, this could force opponents of critical race theory to make a crucial choice: Do they want to constrain classroom discussions about race? Or do they want to keep AP and all its benefits intact for the sake of America's students? The College Board has made it clear they can't have it both ways.

## Bank Of America Introduces Program To Expand Minority Homeownership

CHARLOTTE—Bank of America today announced a new zero down payment, zero closing cost mortgage solution for first-time homebuyers, which will be available in designated markets, including certain Black/African American and/or Hispanic-Latino neighborhoods in Charlotte, Dallas, Detroit, Los Angeles and Miami. The Community Affordable Loan Solution™ aims to help eligible individuals and families obtain an affordable loan to purchase a home.

The Community Affordable Loan Solution is a Special Purpose Credit Program which uses credit guidelines based on factors such as timely rent, utility bill, phone and auto insurance payments. It requires no mortgage insurance or minimum credit score. Individual el-

igibility is based on income and home location. Prospective buyers must complete a homebuyer certification course provided by select Bank of America and HUD-approved housing counseling partners prior to application.

This new program is in addition to and complements Bank of America's existing \$15 billion Community Homeownership Commitment™ to offer affordable mortgages, industry leading grants and educational opportunities to help 60,000 individuals and families purchase affordable homes by 2025. Through this commitment, Bank of America has already helped more than 36,000 people and families become homeowners, having provided more than \$9.5 billion in low down payment loans and over

\$350 million in non-repayable down payment and/or closing cost grants. To date, two-thirds of the loans and grants made through the Community Homeownership Commitment has helped multicultural clients to achieve homeownership.

Bank of America also has a 26-year relationship with the Neighborhood Assistance Corporation of America (NACA), through which the Bank has committed to providing an additional \$15 billion in mortgages to low-to-moderate income homebuyers through May 2027.

According to the National Association of Realtors, today there is a nearly 30-percentage-point gap in homeownership between White and Black Americans; for Hispanic buyers, the gap is nearly 20 percent. And the competitive housing market

has made it even more difficult for potential homebuyers, especially people of color, to buy homes.

"Homeownership strengthens our communities and can help individuals and families to build wealth over time," said AJ Barkley, head of neighborhood and community lending for Bank of America. "Our Community Affordable Loan Solution will help make the dream of sustained homeownership attainable for more Black and Hispanic families, and it is part of our broader commitment to the communities that we serve."

In addition to expanding access to credit and down payment assistance, Bank of America provides educational resources to help homebuyers navigate the homebuying process, including:

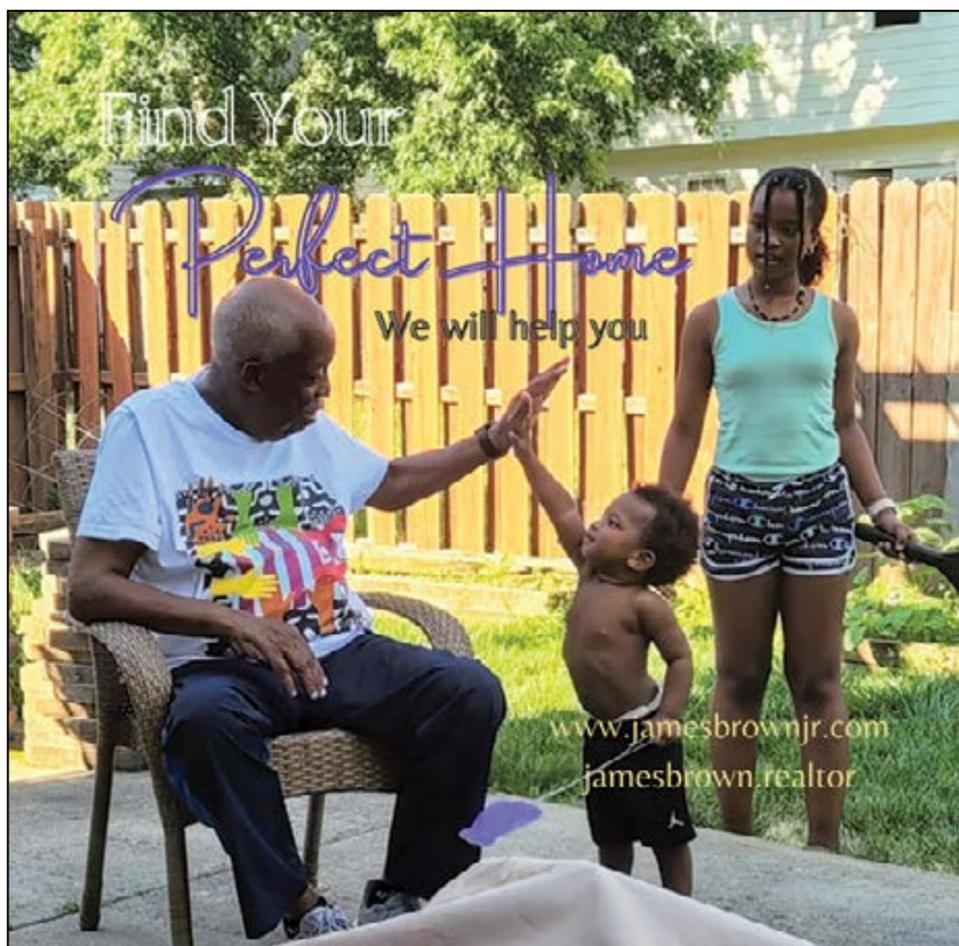
First-Time Homebuyer Online Edu-Series™, a five-part, easy-to-understand video roadmap for buying and financing a home, available in English and Spanish.

BetterMoneyHabits.com free financial education content, including videos about managing finances and how to prepare for buying a new home.

Bank of America Down Payment Center – site to help homebuyers find state and local down payment and closing cost assistance programs in their area. Bank of America participates in more than 1,300 state and local down payment and closing cost assistance programs.

Bank of America Real Estate Center – site to help homebuyers find properties with flags to identify properties that may qualify for Bank of America grant programs and Community Affordable Loan Solution™.

In related news, Bank of America announced the launch of a Small Business Down Payment Program to drive business growth and help create generational wealth opportunities for minority and women business owners. This special purpose credit program will extend credit to historically disadvantaged small business borrowers and enable them to purchase commercial real estate through grants. The program will launch in select markets -- Atlanta, Chicago, Charlotte, Dallas and Los Angeles -- with plans to expand in 2023.



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# Business & Finance

## Small Businesses Feel The Pinch From Slowing Housing Market

(AP) — The chill in the housing market is rippling out to the carpenters, landscapers and other small businesses that lose out when fewer homeowners are renovating their properties.

Inflation was already causing some homeowners to delay big renovation projects as prices for building materials, fixtures and appliances jumped. More recently, higher mortgage rates have put a damper on the number of homes being sold.

At the beginning of the year, carpenter Bill Albritton, who has owned Albritton Custom Carpentry near Charlotte, N.C., since 2004, was booked months in advance and completing full custom kitchen cabinet replacements in homes in the historic districts of Charlotte. But he's seen a slowdown over the past two months.

In the Charlotte metropolitan area, the number of home sold fell 19% between June and July,

and are down about 21% from July a year ago, according to the Re/Max monthly National Housing Report.

Albritton is booked out 30 days in advance, compared to the usual 90 to 160 days. Meanwhile, his costs have gone up by more than 30% across the board. Plywood he uses jumped from \$72 to \$140 a sheet around Christmas. It has gone back down to \$85 a sheet, but that's still higher than it used to be. And he has trouble finding hinges at any price.

Albritton is trying to pivot to smaller carpentry jobs.

"Instead of doing new kitchens we're gearing up to do what we call 'kitchen face lifts,'" Albritton said. That means just replacing the fronts of cabinets and drawers and teaming up with a painting contractor to paint the cabinets. It gives "a new kitchen look for a fraction of the price," he said.

The Federal Reserve has been

raising interest rates in an effort to reduce inflation, which is running at almost 10% annually at the wholesale level. The fear is the Fed will go too far and the economy will go into a slump.

"I am very worried on the heels of the material shortages we have been battling to now look at a very possible recession," Albritton said. He's reaching out to other home renovation companies to partner with as one way to keep the work coming.

The average rate on a 30-year mortgage is 5.55%, according to Freddie Mac. A year ago, the average was 2.87%. The increase is forcing some would-be buyers out of the market and sales of previously owned homes have fallen for six straight months.

That matters to the businesses involved in home renovations because sellers can spend thousands of dollars making a house more attractive to buyers, and then the buyers spend thousands

more personalizing their new home or fixing it up.

Growth in homeowner spending for improvements and repairs is expected to slow for the rest of 2022 and the first half of 2023, according to the Remodeling Futures Program at the Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University. The center's Leading Indicator of Remodeling Activity predicts homeowner improvement and repair spending will grow 17.4% this year to \$431 billion. That will slow to 10.1% by the second quarter of next year, with total 2023 spending estimated at \$446 billion.

Chris Doyle, CEO and co-founder of Billd, a construction finance company, said small businesses should be aware of what's going on in their market and consider pivoting to different types of projects. A small business previously focused on new-home construction should try to work with renovators instead, for example. And since residential home spending is set to decline, federal construction projects might also be something to look into.

"Everyone's going to have to adapt," he said. "Small businesses have an opportunity to adapt quicker since they're more nimble than bigger companies."

Daniel Edwards, who owns a Handyman Connection franchise in Hanover, Massachusetts, focuses on small jobs that are several thousand dollars, like building decks, swapping out windows and doors and carpentry projects. In the greater Boston area that includes Hanover, home sales in July were down 20%. The median price of a home sold was \$650,000, down 2% from June but up 8% from this time last year, according to Re/Max data.

Edwards said he's normally booked out three or four weeks with jobs, but lately it's been two to three weeks. He says customers are being tighter with money: They want smaller jobs, want to look at receipts and question the price of materials. For example, one customer decided to install a toilet paper holder himself, rather than paying someone to do

it, saving about \$25, he said. Another customer who requested a quote for a gutter cleaning decided to hold off. But while business has been slower, he says the dip isn't as bad as he was worried it might be.

"I certainly don't see normal July and August levels, but I don't see what I had feared in terms of significant decline. People still want small- to mid-sized projects," he said.

Inflation has been trying on Tom Monson's business, Monson Lawn & Landscaping, in St. Paul, Minnesota. He's had to raise prices — he now charges \$62.50 to mow a lawn, up from \$50. A sod installation costs \$1,250, up from \$1,100.

More price-sensitive customers have cut back. One customer who was planning on putting in a new lawn decided to wait until next year, and others have cut back from biweekly landscaping appointments to monthly.

Curbio is a startup that provides pre-sale renovations on homes that it doesn't charge for until the home is sold. They op-

erate in 52 markets across the country, from Chicago to South Florida. They've also started offering smaller projects as the housing market slows.

"As the market starts to cool in some areas, there's much more sensitivity to timelines," said Olivia Mariani, vice president at Curbio. "Before, a homeowner may be willing to wait 8 to 12 weeks to fully gut and remodel their kitchen. Now, they're asking for the minimum viable work."

So instead of doing a full renovation, Curbio has begun shifting project types to more "refreshes" — like painting cabinets or refinishing hardwood floors. It dropped its prior \$15,000 minimum price for projects and now 30% of its projects are under \$15,000.

Mariani said Curbio's data shows that a cabinet refresh can help raise the price of a home for sale just as much as a bigger job.

"Buyers just want a home that doesn't require maintenance — a full cabinet redo is not really necessary," she said.



### FUNdraising Good Times

By Mel & Pearl Shaw  
Saad & Shaw

#### WHERE DOES A NONPROFIT TURN FOR HELP?

*Part one of a two-part series*

Who do nonprofits turn to when they need help? The answer: regional and state nonprofit associations. Here's a look behind the scenes with Dr. Kevin Dean, executive director of one such association, Momentum Nonprofit Partners. Supporting more than 900 nonprofits in Memphis and the Mid-South, MNP provides training and technical assistance, sector research, public policy support, and networking opportunities. "Our work changes every day," shared Dean. "One moment we might be fighting a bill in the state legislature that negatively impacts nonprofits, and the next we might be sitting in a coffee shop providing counsel to an executive director with a complicated human resources issue. We want to meet nonprofits where they are and make sure they have what they need. Our goal is to create a sector that has an equal seat at the table and has leaders who are armed with the skills they need to effectively run a high-impact nonprofit."

We asked Dean about the challenges facing nonprofits and his response was far-ranging. "Nonprofits are being hit from all sides at the moment, and it's not a fun time to be a leader. We are all still dealing with the aftermath of the pandemic. Fundraising seems like a moving target more than ever. Donor engagement was difficult through the pandemic, but now donors are nervous about an impending recession. The Great Resignation has created workforce shortages all over America, and it isn't just your local restaurant or grocery store suffering shortages. Nonprofits have been hit hard, too. Burnout is also very real, and many leaders are struggling to keep their staff afloat—and keep themselves above water, too. With the world seemingly changing daily, it's no wonder burnout is happening everywhere. This does, however, provide a great opportunity for organizations to rethink their work, benefits packages, organizational culture, and strategic plans. Sometimes we need a 'reboot.' This is a great time to rethink everything with a fresh pair of post-COVID eyes."

In terms of rethinking, we also wanted to know how MNP brings value to the community as a convener and technical assistance provider. Dean shared two examples. "We help nonprofits be better. Nonprofit administration is naturally a messy gig. While there are many best practices to draw from, there's no prescriptive way to run a nonprofit organization. It's complex and nuanced, and nonprofits need support in finding the best ways to manage their organizations. We share the newest national data and best practices so local nonprofits can benefit from what's working in other areas." His second example is about advocacy. Dean sees MNP as a unified voice for the nonprofit sector. "We were able to advocate for the Community CARES program, which provided \$150 million in CARES Act funds to nonprofits. We were also able to provide valuable research about compensation in our area that helped leaders pay their staff more equitably...and some of those leaders got raises, too. Without the work we do, it would be very difficult for the sector to have a voice and advocate for itself."

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## Shaw Univ. Hosts Future Bankers Event

The North Carolina Bankers Association launched a Future Bank Leaders program. It is aimed at creating a pathway for HBCU students into the banking industry. The Future Bank Leaders program officially kicked off this initiative on August 25, 2022 at Shaw University by sponsoring a Welcome Back BBQ. The President and CEO of the North Carolina Bankers Association, Peter Gwaltney, and the Dean of Shaw University's School of Business and Professional Studies, Dr. Lynette Wood Ph.D., CPA, collaborated to create this Welcome Back experience and to host it on campus.

Shaw University business students and faculty were invited to the Estey Hall Auditorium for a semi-formal gathering where Black bankers from across the state of North Carolina came to network with them. Bankers were able to represent the banking industry and show the students how amazing the industry has become. Students were able to meet the President and CEO of M&F Bank, James Sills, and other great community banking leaders Caroline Taylor, Soberina Traywick, Brittany Moore, Irene Kyere, Edward McKelvey, Michael "Mike" Atkinson, Terry Parker, and Betesha "Bea" Ethridge.

Bankers were located at each dining table to network and get to know the students. The atmosphere was full of energy, culture, and community. The NCBA team, Michelle Sutton, and Janice Royster, did a phenomenal job hosting and sponsoring this networking event. There is so much more to come from the Future Bank Leaders program and the bright future of the NC banking industry.



## Flood Receives Honors

The Flood Group held its First Annual Image Awards Program which honors community citizens who exemplify the service rendered by Image Bearers or past community legends.

The highlight of the program was the presentation of the Congressional Recognition Award to community leader and Image Bearer, Dr. Dudley Flood.

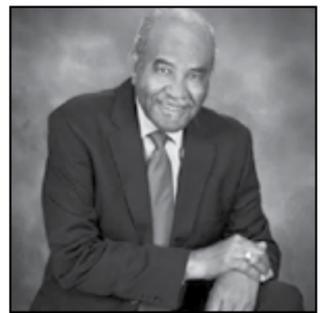
District 2 U.S. Rep. Deborah Ross shared with the audience remarks she made on the floor of the United States House of Representatives.

The Award Citation and Rep. Ross' comments cited decades of service by Dr. Flood, and most specifically, his work with Mr. Gene Causby as they worked across the state of North Carolina spearheading the desegregation of schools.

Dr. Flood's recognition is recorded in the *Congressional Record*, dated Feb. 3, 2022, page 135. He joins a long list of Americans, across the nation, honored with this prestigious recognition.

Nine citizens in the Raleigh-Wake area received Image Awards at the event. Judge David Baker received the John H. Baker Jr. Image Award for Criminal Justice and Law; Letha Muhammad received the Bettye Murchison Image Award for Community Service; Greear Webb received the Elizabeth Cofield Image Award for Community Advocacy; Rev. Ronzel Bell received the Chuck Davis Image Award for Cultural Arts; James Montague received the John Winters Image Award for Entrepreneurship; David Ellis received the Clarence Lightner Image Award for Government Service; Dexter Hebert received the Vernon Malone Image Award for Leadership; Monika Holster-Johnson received the Harriet B. Webster Image Award for Education; the Sister Circle at WakeMed received the Manassas T. Pope Image Award for Medicine.

Image Award honorees work tirelessly to make our communities better places to live. Congratulations to Dr. Flood and each Image Award honoree.



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- For a step-by-step guide on how to apply for loan forgiveness under the PSLF waiver, visit [Forgivemystudentdebt.org](https://www.forgivemystudentdebt.org).

The North Carolina Department of Justice is fighting to protect student borrowers. Learn more at: [ncdoj.gov/pslfinfo](https://ncdoj.gov/pslfinfo)

# Is It Honor Or Cultural Appropriation? Hospital Name Debate

ST. LOUIS, Mo. (AP)—While segregation was still casting its ugly shadow over the U.S., the Homer G. Phillips Hospital was providing top-notch medical care to a predominantly African-American part of St. Louis and training some of the world's best Black doctors and nurses.

The 660-bed hospital closed 43 years ago, but the facility named for the man who led the fight to open a first-rate hospital for Black residents in segregated St. Louis is still revered by the city's Black community.

So a White developer's decision to call a new three-bed facility the Homer G. Phillips Memorial Hospital has been met by a strong backlash that includes a lawsuit, protests and newspaper editorials decrying what some see as cultural appropriation.

"That smacks of racism to me," said Zenobia Thompson, 78, who trained at Homer G. Phillips Hospital in the 1960s before eventually becoming its head nurse. "We are laser-focused and determined that that name will come down."

Darryl Piggee, a Black attorney who serves on the board of directors for the new hospital that is expected to open next spring, said it was his idea to name it after Phillips—to honor his legacy, not profit from it.

"I'm from here, OK? So the idea that it was an appropriation isn't true," Piggee said. "I think the board is satisfied we are spreading word of the name of someone people should know about."

The new hospital, which is in a different section of north St. Louis than the old hospital site, is part of developer Paul McKee's NorthSide Regeneration project. Funded in part with nearly \$400 million in tax increment financing, NorthSide seeks to transform a blighted area north of downtown with new housing, commercial projects and job-creating industry. The hospital is a small but neces-



sary part of the development. Medical care is scarce in north St. Louis, where about three-quarters of residents are Black and the median household income is 40 percent below the poverty line. St. Louis' prominent Black newspaper, the *St. Louis American*, noted in an editorial that it wasn't opposed to the new medical center "but rather the insensitivity shown by the developer toward a community's concern for his appropriation of the name of one of the Black community's most hallowed and esteemed institutions."

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In July, Thompson and other nurses who worked at the original Homer G. Phillips Hospital filed suit, claiming trademark infringement. The suit seeks unspecified financial damages and a new name

for the center.

Homer G. Phillips was a prominent Black attorney who a century ago led the fight for a new St. Louis hospital for Black residents in what was at the time one of America's most segregated cities. Passage of a bond issue provided the funding and the new hospital opened in 1937.

Phillips didn't live to see the hospital that would bear his name—he was shot to death in 1931 in an attack that remains unsolved. Dr. Will Ross, a physician who is associate dean for diversity at Washington University School of Medicine and co-author of a book on the legacy of Homer G. Phillips Hospital, said it was the "social, health and economic anchor" of its neighborhood.

Walle Amusa, a longtime Black activist, recalled how the neighborhood around the hospital thrived. Scores of businesses served the nurses, doctors, staff and visitors. Well-manicured brick homes surrounded the hospital.

"It was like a family affair inside that hospital, and it was like a family community outside," recalled Jobyna Foster, 86, a nurse for many years at the hospital.

Thompson agreed. She grew up in the neighborhood and recalled seeing the nurses walking proudly in their white uniforms. "That's when I decided to be a nurse," she said.

Segregation created the need for the hospital, and many in the Black community say racism spelled its demise. The two city-

run hospitals became desegregated in the 1950s. For the next two decades, Homer G. Phillips remained open and continued to thrive, said Yvonne Jones, 75, who was a nurse there at the time.

Still, by the late 1970s, city leaders decided there was no longer a need for two city-run hospitals and ordered the closure of Homer G. Phillips, allowing the one in the White area of St. Louis to remain open. Amusa was among hundreds of people who formed a human blockade to stop the removal of patients and equipment from Homer G. Phillips, but it didn't work and the hospital closed in 1979, six years before the other city-run hospital shut down.

Today, the massive brown-brick

building that housed Homer G. Phillips still stands tall, serving as housing for senior citizens. The area around it has hit hard times. There are few businesses nearby, and many homes are vacant and condemned, with smashed-out windows and caved-in roofs. Crime is common and poverty pervades.

"When the hospital was closed it was like the death knell of the community," Amusa said. Piggee said the new medical center, and the NorthSide Regeneration project overall, will help revitalize north St. Louis.

NorthSide Regeneration has had its stops and starts since launching a decade-and-a-half ago. Some north St. Louis residents have complained that the hundreds of parcels of land purchased by the developer are nuisances, with few signs of progress. McKee did not respond to messages seeking comment.

But a new gas station and a grocery store have opened as part of the project. The most notable success was the federal government's decision to build a \$1.75 billion campus for the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency on nearly 100 acres (40 hectares) within NorthSide Regeneration's boundaries, creating thousands of high-paying jobs. It's expected to open in 2025.

The new facility sits a couple blocks from the NGA site. Hospital President Fred Mills sees it as a vital part of McKee's plan for the area. Mills, who spent decades leading larger hospitals, said Homer G. Phillips Memorial will offer 24-hour emergency room care capable of treating up to 15 patients at a time. The 15,500-square-foot facility includes an MRI imaging machine and amenities such as ports offering easy access to emergency dialysis and a room designed to make sure those with behavioral disorders are kept safe.

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# Health & Fitness

## As Black Americans Struggle To Get A Good Night Sleep, International Research Details The Benefits Of Proper Rest

By Stacy M. Brown

NNPA

A staggering 90 percent of people fail to achieve a good night's sleep, according to new international research presented at the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) Congress 2022.

The study found that suboptimal sleep was associated with a higher likelihood of heart disease and stroke.

The authors estimated that seven in ten of these cardiovascular conditions could be prevented if everyone was a good sleeper.

And while researchers homed in on the sleep behaviors of 7,200 people comprised mostly of Europeans, Americans also aren't sleeping.

Black Americans suffer worse from short sleep or sleep apnea. Earlier this year, the JAMA Open Network indicated that the problem continues to worsen for African Americans.

JAMA researchers discovered that Black Americans get less sleep than white people, a deficit of 15 minutes a day in childhood that grows into almost an hour in adulthood.

Additionally, an Oxford study found that far more Black and Hispanic people than white people report routinely getting less than 6 hours of sleep, well short of the recommended 7 to 9 hours for adults.

"Sleep is a privilege," Dayna Johnson, a sleep epidemiologist at Emory University, told Science.org. "If we can target sleep, we might be able to reduce the burden of all types of diseases among racial minorities."

Science Direct found that more than a dozen studies have identified racial discrimination as a contributor to sleep disparities.

"Black people reported more discrimination and more severe insomnia symptoms than white people, and a statistical analysis determined discrimination ac-

counted for 60% of their insomnia severity," researchers wrote at Science Direct.

Researchers also discovered that environmental factors also cut into sleep. For example, multiple studies have found that Black, Hispanic, and other individuals of color tend to reside in areas where they are exposed to approximately twice as much ambient light at night as white people.

"Exposure to artificial light from the street and commercial buildings has been found to suppress melatonin—a hormone that helps initiate sleep," Researchers wrote. "That causes people to fall asleep later at night, resulting in poorer sleep overall."

Science.org also found that Black, Hispanic, and Asian people in the United States are also exposed to disproportionately high levels of particulate air pollution.

The researchers reported that exposure to this type of pollution can cause inflammation of the nose and throat, and some evidence suggests chronic exposure can worsen sleep apnea and increase daytime sleepiness.

"And then there is night-time noise, which a 2017 study at hundreds of sites across the United States found is higher in neighborhoods with a higher proportion of Black residents," they wrote.

The low prevalence of good sleepers "was expected given our busy, 24/7 lives," said study author Dr. Aboubakari Nambiema of INSERM (the French National Institute of Health and Medical Research), in Paris, France.

"The importance of sleep quality and quantity for heart health should be taught early in life when healthy behaviors become established. Minimizing night-time noise and stress at work can both help improve sleep."

According to a news release from the ESC, previous studies on sleep and heart disease have generally focused on one sleep habit, such as sleep duration or sleep



apnea, where breathing stops and starts while sleeping.

Researchers in France used a healthy sleep score combining five sleep habits. They investigated the association between the baseline sleep score, changes over time in the sleep score, and incident cardiovascular disease.

Researchers recruited men and women aged 50 to 75 years and free of cardiovascular disease to a preventive medical center between 2008 and 2011.

The average age was 59.7 years, and 62% were men.

Participants underwent a physical examination and completed

questionnaires on lifestyle, personal and family medical history, and medical conditions.

According to the news release, researchers used questionnaires to collect information on five sleep habits at baseline and two follow-up visits.

Each factor was given 1 point if optimal and 0 if not.

A healthy sleep score ranging from 0 to 5 was calculated, with 0 or 1 considered poor and 5 considered optimal.

Those with an optimal score reported sleeping 7 to 8 hours per night, never or rarely having insomnia, no frequent excessive daytime sleepiness, no sleep apnea, and an early chronotype (being a morning person).

The researchers checked for incident coronary heart disease and stroke every two years for a total of 10 years.

At baseline, 10% of participants

had an optimal sleep score, and 8% had a poor score.

"During a median follow-up of eight years, 274 participants developed coronary heart disease or stroke," according to the release.

The researchers analyzed the association between sleep scores and cardiovascular events after adjusting for age, sex, alcohol consumption, occupation, smoking, body mass index, physical activity, cholesterol level, diabetes, and family history of heart attack, stroke, or sudden cardiac death.

They found that the risk of coronary heart disease and stroke decreased by 22% for every 1-point rise in the sleep score at baseline.

More specifically, compared to those with a score of 0 or 1, participants with a score of 5 had a 75% lower risk of heart disease or stroke.



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## Student Loan Relief Shows Burden On Black Borrowers

By Annie Ma

Associated Press

Gabrielle Perry, a 29-year-old epidemiologist in New Orleans, expects \$20,000 of her \$135,000 student loan debt to be wiped out under the plan announced last week by President Joe Biden. She is happy for the relief, but disappointed he isn't fully canceling student debt that weighs especially heavy on African-Americans.

For her, it's discouraging that Biden isn't doing more to help a constituency that played a critical role in his presidential campaign. Perry, who cares for and financially supports her disabled mother, said those obligations act as a societal tax on Black people, preventing the growth of generational wealth.

"You are ensuring that your little brothers and sisters have what they need for school," Perry said. "You are helping your parents pay off their rent, their house. So your quote-unquote wealth doesn't even have time to be built because you're trying to help your family survive."

Black borrowers on average carry about \$40,000 in federal student loan debt, \$10,000 more than White borrowers, according to federal education data. The disparity reflects a racial wealth gap in the U.S.—one that some advocates say the debt relief plan does not do enough to narrow.

One in four Black borrowers would see their debt cleared entirely under the administration's plan, which cancels \$10,000 in federal student loan debt for those with incomes below \$125,000 a year, or households that earn less than \$250,000. The plan includes an additional \$10,000 in relief for Pell Grant recipients, who are more than twice as likely to be Black.

But more work needs to be done to make higher education accessible and affordable, said Wisdom Cole, national director of the NAACP Youth & College Division.

"When we think about education and higher education, fundamentally, it's the promise of an equitable future," Cole said. "We have so many Black graduates who go through the system, graduate and are not able to see that future because they disproportionately risk taking out loans."

Perry faced steep challenges to complete her education. Homeless for nearly a year, she had to drop out of school and saw the interest on her loans balloon. She also faced incarceration. Eventually, she was able to get her record expunged and earned a master's in public health from Tulane University, graduating just in time for the COVID-19 pandemic.

The pandemic-era freeze on student loan payments, combined with raises at work, allowed Perry to achieve a sense of stability for the first time in her life. She was able to pay off her car, help her disabled mother, and start a nonprofit, the Thurman Perry Foundation, that gives college scholarships to currently or formerly incarcerated women and their daughters.

"That time with that payment pause, it didn't just build up my life," Perry said. "It even helped me pull my mother out of poverty. I got her into a safer place to live. It reverberated for people like me. Because I know that there are other people living worse than what I survived."

Black students are more likely to take on debt to finance their education, and in larger amounts, in part because of the wealth gap that makes it less likely for Black families to be able to finance their children's education.

In her first months of graduate school, before her fellowship salary kicked in, TC Headley called the university's financial aid office to ask if there was help to cover the cost of books and supplies. Instead, the woman on the phone told her to call her parents and ask for more money.

"I can't just call my parents for thousands of dollars," she said. "The only other option to get this money in time was to take out a loan. I did what I had to do to be able to support myself and stay in school."

Headley, who owes roughly \$40,000 in student debt, had put off thinking about owning a home or starting a family because she was so focused on paying that off. Now, she expects half of that will be forgiven because she was a Pell grant recipient.



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# 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Debutante Ball

Sponsored by ATO, Inc. in collaboration with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® Alpha Theta Omega Chapter, Raleigh, North Carolina



ATO, Inc.



RALEIGH— On Saturday, April 30, 2022, the 84th Annual Debutante Ball was hosted under the auspices of ATO, Incorporated in collaboration with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Alpha Theta Omega Chapter at the Hilton Raleigh North Hills Hotel. The Ball was an in-person ticketed event with only the Debutante families and relatives in attendance due to the organizations' directed COVID-19 guidelines. Although the audience was limited, the Ball still held fast to

its outstanding reputation. It was an evening of elegance and excitement!

Mr. Eric Curry, Senior Public Information Officer, Wake County Sheriff's Office, served as the Master of Ceremonies. He has served as the Master of Ceremonies for the Annual Debutante Ball since 1996. After Mr. Curry officially opened the Ball, greetings were presented by Mrs. Gayla Smith, ATO, Inc. Chairman, and Mrs. Gladys Walker, Alpha Theta Omega Chapter President.

Following the greetings, remarks were made by the 2021 Debutante Program Co-Chairmen, Mrs. Sarah Harris and Mrs. Garlinda Taylor. The remarks were followed by Mr. Curry's presentations of the 2021 Debutante Parents and Assistant Marshals.

The presentation of the 2021 Debutantes began with the crowning and message of the Debutante Queen. Miss MacKenzie Simone

*Continued on page 7...*



Queen of the 2020 Debutante Ball, Miss Arielle Elizabeth Curtis crowns the 2021 Debutante Queen Miss MacKenzie Simone Telfaire



**QUEEN**—Miss MacKenzie Simone Telfaire  
Chief Marshal: Mr. Darius Telfaire; Mother: Mrs. Courtney Mack



**MAID-OF-HONOR**—Miss Morgan Colleen Wiley  
Chief Marshal: Mr. Gary Wiley Mother: Mrs. Alicia Wiley



**QUEEN'S COURT**—Miss Jada Simone Brewington  
Chief Marshal: Mr. Jeffrey Brewington Mother: Mrs. Bonita Brewington



**HONOR COURT I**—Miss Gabrielle Elizabeth Howard  
Chief Marshal: Mr. Marcellus Howard  
Mother: Mrs. Tracy Reese



**HONOR COURT II**—Miss Kayla Alise Buie  
Chief Marshal: Mr. Reginald Buie  
Mother: Mrs. Karen Buie



**HONOR COURT III**—Miss Ryanne Monique Foster  
Chief Marshal: Mr. Douglas James  
Mother: Ms. Monica Galloway



**HONOR COURT IV**—Miss Myla Michelle Spencer  
Chief Marshal: Mr. Michael Chapman, Sr.  
Mother: Mrs. Tonika Chapman



**2021 DEBUTANTE**—Miss Citiana Belayneh  
Chief Marshal: Mr. Belayneh Zewdie  
Mother: Mrs. Teruberhan Fentike



**2021 DEBUTANTE**—Miss Arielle Enace Brown  
Chief Marshal: Mr. Anthony Brown  
Mother: Mrs. Teresa Brown



**2021 DEBUTANTE**—Ms Cryslyn McKenzie King  
Chief Marshal: Mr. Nigel Lyn King  
Mother: Ms. Michele Green King



**2021 DEBUTANTE**—Miss Nesochi Solange Mere  
Chief Marshal: Mr. Henry Mere  
Mother: Dr. Chinelo Mere



**2021 DEBUTANTE—Miss Sobichi Solene Mere**  
**Chief Marshal:** Mr. Henry Mere  
**Mother:** Dr. Chinelo Mere



**2021 DEBUTANTE—Miss Keely Grace Ogden**  
**Chief Marshal:** Mr. Darryl Tuppins  
**Mother:** Ms. Jacqueline Ogden



**2021 DEBUTANTE—Miss Hannah Rachel Pierce**  
**Chief Marshal:** Attorney Justin Pierce  
**Mother:** Mrs. Yamona Pierce



**2021 DEBUTANTE—Miss Tommi Hayley Wilde**  
**Chief Marshal:** Mr. Thomas Wilder, Jr.  
**Mother:** Mrs. Jennifer D. Wilder



**2021 DEBUTANTE—Miss Ricketta Nadine Woodberry**  
**Chief Marshal:** Mr. Randolph Peay  
**Mother:** Ms. Charlene Woodberry

...Continued from page 6

Telfaire was crowned Queen of the 84th Annual Debutante Ball by the 83rd Debutante Ball Queen, Miss Arielle Elizabeth Curtis. Her message was attuned to the positive attributes of the Debutante Program including confidence building and the enhancement of social and educational skills. She shared that the "Debutante Experience" will be memorable for each of them.

For the Debutante presentations, Mr. Eric Curry acknowledged the school and community activities, special interests, and career goals of each young lady. Each young lady was assisted in her presentation by her Chief and Assistant Marshals. The following young ladies were presented at the 84th Annual Debutante Ball:

**Queen** – MacKenzie Simone Telfaire, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Darius Karlyle and Courtney Mack Telfaire, Garner, North Carolina; Chief Marshal: Mr. Darius Karlyle Telfaire; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Jeremiah Jaden Baity-Sanders

**Maid-of-Honor** – Miss Morgan Colleen Wiley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gary and Alicia Wiley of Raleigh, North Carolina; Chief Marshal: Mr. Gary Wiley; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Christopher Allan Guerrero

**Queen's Court** – Miss Jada Simone Brewington, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Maurice and Bonita Brewington of Knightdale, North Carolina; Chief Marshal: Mr. Jeffrey Maurice Brewington; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Jovan Dionte Hubbard

**Honor Court I** – Miss Gabrielle Elizabeth Howard, daughter of Mrs. Tracy Reese and Mr. Marcellus Howard of Apex, North Carolina; Chief Marshal: Mr. Marcellus Howard; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Wesley Nigel Spence

**Honor Court II** – Miss Kayla Alise Buie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Reginald and Karen Buie of Knightdale, North Carolina; Chief Marshal: Mr. Reginald Buie; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Greyson Makari Dobbins

**Honor Court III** – Miss Rianne Monique Foster, daughter of Ms. Monica Galloway of Sugar Hill, Georgia; Chief Marshal: Mr. Douglas James; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Ronald Edison Foster, Jr.

**Honor Court IV** – Miss Myla Michelle Spencer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Antonio and Tonika Chapman, Sr. of Knightdale, North Carolina; Chief Marshal: Mr. Michael Antonio Chapman, Sr.; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Michael Antonio Chapman, Jr.

**2021 Debutante** – Miss Citiana Belayneh, daughter of Mr. Belayneh Zewdie and Mrs. Teruberhan Fentike of Bowie, Maryland; Chief Marshal: Mr. Zewdie Belayneh; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Christopher Jaidyn Ivery

**2021 Debutante** – Miss Sobichi Solene Mere, daughter of Mr. Henry and Dr. Chinelo Mere of Potomac, Maryland; Chief Marshal Mr. Henry Mere; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Chandler Karlyle Telfaire

**2021 Debutante** – Miss Arielle Enace Brown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Edwin and Teresa Brown of Raleigh, North Carolina;

Chief Marshal: Mr. Anthony Edwin Brown; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Anthony Edwin Brown

**2021 Debutante** – Miss Hannah Rachel Pierce, daughter of Attorney and Mrs. Justin and Yamona Pierce of Washington, DC; Chief Marshal: Attorney Justin Pierce; Assistant Marshal: Mr. John Chiti Kangwa-Gaskins

**2021 Debutante** – Miss Nesochi Solange Mere, daughter of Mr. Henry and Dr. Chinelo Mere of Potomac, Maryland; Chief Marshal: Mr. Henry Mere; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Anthony Carlile Holden

**2021 Debutante** – Miss Ricketta Nadine Woodberry, daughter of Ms. Charlene Woodberry of Raleigh, North Carolina; Chief Marshal: Mr. Randolph Kareem Peay; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Ayinde Khalid Taylor II

**2021 Debutante** – Miss Tommi Hayley Wilde, daughter of Mrs. Jennifer D. Wilder and Mr. Thomas Haywood Wilder, Jr. of Raleigh, North Carolina; Chief Marshal: Mr. Thomas Haywood Wilder, Jr.; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Ayinde Khalid Taylor II

**2021 Debutante** – Miss Cryslyn McKenzie King, daughter of Ms. Michele Green King of Raleigh, North Carolina; Chief Marshal: Mr. Nigel Lyn King; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Canell Jalill Woods

**2021 Debutante** – Miss Keely Grace Ogden, daughter of Ms. Jacqueline Ogden and Mr. Darryl Tuppins of Durham, North Carolina; Chief Marshal: Mr. Darryl Tuppins; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Eli Nicholas Griffith

Once all presentations were made, the young ladies and the Assistant Marshals took position to receive the Official Welcome to Society message. Mr. Eric Curry served as the 2021 Welcome to Society Speaker. His biographical introduction was presented by Mrs. Gayla Smith. In addition to his current work as Senior Public Information Officer for Wake County's Sheriff's Office, Mr. Curry has an extensive background in communications and broadcast at public and collegiate levels. He is also a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Mr. Curry's message was based on Jay Cole's "Dreamville."

His message was titled "How to Build Your 'Dreamville.'" He encouraged the Debutantes and Assistant Marshals to create a "Dreamville" where there is continuous learning, respect, support, non-toxic influences, and minimal stressors. Mr. Curry ended by urging them to build a "Dreamville" that will lead to a successful and meaningful life. He then announced that the sixteen 2021 Debutantes were officially welcomed to society.

After the Welcome to Society message, the debutantes, aided by their assistant marshals, raised their bouquets of red roses and ribbons in the Debutante Ball's "Ribbon Ceremony". The Debutantes performed the waltz with the Chief Marshals and the Assistant Marshals. Mothers of the Debutantes also joined in and danced the waltz with the Chief



**Mr. Jeremiah Baity-Sanders Debutante**  
 Miss MacKenzie Telfaire



**Mr. Christopher Guerrero Debutante**  
 Miss Morgan Wiley



**Mr. Jovan Hubbard Debutante**  
 Miss Jada Brewington



**Mr. Wesley Spence Debutante**  
 Miss Gabrielle Howard



**Mr. Greyson Dobbins Debutante**  
 Miss Kayla Buie



**Mr. Ronald Foster Jr Debutante**  
 Miss Rianne Foster



**Mr. Michael Chapman, Jr. Debutante**  
 Miss Myla Spencer



**Mr. Christopher Ivery Debutante**  
 Miss Citiana Belayneh



**Mr. Canell Woods Debutante**  
 Miss Cryslyn King



**Mr. Anthony Holden Debutante**  
 Miss Nesochi Mere



**Mr. Chandler Telfaire Debutante**  
 Miss Sobichi Mere



**Mr. Eli Griffith Debutante**  
 Miss Keely Ogden

Marshals. The Ball officially ended with the Grand March and line dance of the 2021 Debutantes and Assistant Marshals. The evening ended with a dinner, award presentations, and dancing.

**Purpose of the Debutante Program**

The purpose of the Annual Debutante Program is to promote the achievements of young ladies, to inspire educational and cultural growth, to encourage personal and leadership development, to promote community service, and to offer scholarship opportunities for the participants. The Debutante Ball is the culminating event for the Debutante Program. Beginning last fall, the young ladies and Assistant Marshals participated in various virtual workshops and activities. Workshops included leadership, college preparation, social health, etiquette, fine dining, proper dress attire and life skills. Activities included creating greeting cards, scrapbooking, implementing program formats for the program's Fun Days and a hosting a Mother and Daughter Tea. The young ladies were also required to participate in a talent showcase.

About ATO, Incorporated  
 ATO, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit designated entity. Established in 1997, it is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes to provide services and programs for the community worldwide that focus on health, education and enrichment, and socioeconomic disparities while maintaining a non-profit status under state and federal laws. Mrs. Gayla Smith is the current Chairman of ATO, Inc. and Mrs. Sarah Harris and Mrs. Garlinda Taylor are currently the Debutante

Program Co-Chairmen.

About Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®

Founded in 1908, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® is the oldest Greek-letter organization established by African American women. Sorority members are committed to cultivating and encouraging high scholastic and ethical standards, promoting unity and friendship, alleviating social issues that affect girls and women, maintaining a progressive interest in college life, and serving all humankind. The Alpha Theta Omega Chapter of Raleigh, North Carolina was chartered on June 15, 1928, where Mrs. Gladys Walker currently presides as chapter president.

You may view the 2021 Debutante Presentations and the 84th Debutante Ball Souvenir Book on YOUTUBE at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vjxm9Jakw1o>. Also, you may google 84th Annual Debutante Ball to get to the site. To view the souvenir book, click "Show More" and the link for the flipbook will appear.

To learn more about the Debutante Program or to apply for participation in the 2022 program inquire at [Debprogram@gmail.com](mailto:Debprogram@gmail.com). Interested young ladies must be on track for high school graduation in 2023.

**2021 Debutante Program Awards Winners**

Education Excellence Awards: Miss Arielle Brown and Miss MacKenzie Telfaire

Community Service Awards: Miss Arielle Brown, Miss Jada Brewington, Miss Keely Ogden, Miss Hannah Pierce, and Miss Tommi Wilder

Attendance Awards: Miss Jada



**Mr. John Kangwa-Gaskins Debutante**  
 Miss Hannah Pierce



**Mr. Ayinde Taylor II Debutante**  
 Miss Tommi Wilder

Brewington, Miss Morgan Wiley, Miss Ricketta Woodberry, and Mr. Eli Griffith

**2021 Debutante Program Scholarship Winners**

Book Scholarships: Miss Jada Brewington, Miss Arielle Brown, Miss Gabrielle Howard, Miss Keely Ogden, Miss Hannah Pierce, Miss MacKenzie Telfaire, Miss Tommi Wilder, Miss Morgan Wiley

Debutante Marshal Book Scholarships: Mr. Eli Griffith, Mr. John Kangwa-Gaskins, Mr. Wesley Spence, and Mr. Canell Woods

**Education Excellence Scholarships:**

Miss Jada Brewington, Miss Arielle Brown, Miss MacKenzie Telfaire, and Miss Tommi Wilder



**Mr. Randolph Peay Debutante**  
 Miss Ricketta Woodberry

Phillis Strong Taylor Memorial Scholarship: Miss MacKenzie Telfaire

# Ag-Grow-Culture

## The Infinite Benefits Of Locally Grown & Sourced Produce

By Jason Lindsay

Staff Writer

Across the world small farms are feeding people. In some areas where small farms are not dominate, sickness is more prevalent. Why is this? It seems that the further we are from holding a true relationship with land, the more prone we are to chronic disease.

Grocery and convenience stores across the country serve the illusion of food security through packaged and processed food, and the produce section leaves impressions that fruit like tomatoes grow year round. When in fact tomatoes are a summer fruit that endures long hours in the sun while maintaining the smoothest skin. They lack key minerals and nutrients when produced out of season and/or not allowed to vine ripen. Also, processed foods are one of the leading causes of chronic disease.

My father-in-law, who was born and experience his early childhood off the grid and whose diet then primarily consisted only of foods they raised, gathered, or hunted, told me the story of him playing with his brothers barefoot in the yard and stepped on a rusty nail that lodged completely through his foot. He remembers the nail being pulled out, cleaned with water, and his wound tightly wrapped with a clean cloth. That was it, no tetanus vaccine nor infections. I would argue that it was strictly due to lifestyle and diet. With the necessary nutrient intake on a consistent basis, and very little if any processed foods, the body has everything it needs to serve as its' own tetanus shot.

It wasn't just fresh fruits, vegetables, and meats, but the meats they ate, also ate from the same forest they gathered from. The vegetables were grown by familiar hands and the fruit the same if not planted by nature herself. My father-in-law also told me the story of his pet cow who actually played football with him and his brothers. Oh how he loved this cow, and one day he came home from school to find the cow butchered and it fed to the fami-

ly throw the winter. Children like my father-in-law knew where hamburgers came from and how peas looked on the vine. There was no disconnect between the family and the food they ate, and sickness was largely absent.

One teacher asked her inner-city elementary school children where cheeseburgers come from and no one knew. They answered with the names of grocery stores and fast-food joints.

A farmer had children from a local summer camp visit his farm in Bertie County, North Carolina. He walked the students out into the middle of his peanut field and expressed to them that the plants they are surrounded by were peanut plants. The farmer then raises up a hundred-dollar bill and promised that anyone who could bring him one peanut could have it. After about ten or fifteen minutes of children scavenging the field and retrieving nothing, he called all the students back to him and reached down grabbing a peanut plant pulling it up revealing peanuts that were concealed by the earth. No one knew that peanuts were indeed a root crop. Would you have lost that hundred dollars?

Yet our liberation lies where it has always lied, beneath our feet. It is growing and holds the potential to grow life that breathes with us. Even down to a molecular level it coincides with our very existence. Fruits and veggies are our most essential source of vitamins and minerals and having local sustainably grown sources is just as essentials. It is important that we understand that within ten minutes of someone harvesting vegetables from the vine, the produce begins to break down stored minerals and nutrients like proteins, necessary fats, and carbohydrates. After withstanding three days off the vine, 30 percent of nutrients within our produce is loss. On average grocery store produce travels 1,500 miles before it reaches your plate and this takes a minimum of three days; not to mention how long it's been on the shelf before we buy it. This makes it safe to say that any produce that



you buy from the grocery store that is not locally sourced has a minimum of a 30 percent nutrition depreciation rate, but lets be real, we know it's more.

Mother earth and her exoskeleton of vegetation provides every asset necessary for our bodies both internally and externally. They provide immune boosting antioxidants (a cell protecting ingredient against free radicals) and flavonoids (defenses the cell from oxidative stress). Produce is the answer to reducing risk of heart disease, cancer, diabetes, and inflammation.

Where food is grown and how it is grown matters. Miles on food (produce that is trucked from different regions) equals nutrients depletion. Take blueberries for instants. The compounds found in blueberries comprise of both antioxidants and anti-inflammatory effects. These antioxidants aid in brain cell communication. But if your

source of blueberries is trucked from California (over 2,000 miles), the effectiveness of those berries is drained. Even more so with leafy greens. Greens like broccoli, collards, and kale are loaded with vitamin K (produces healthy bone tissue and is essential for blood clotting), beta-carotene (converts to vitamin A within the body and boost skin, eye, and immune health), Lutein (reduces risk of macular degeneration, eye health including cataracts), and folate (aids particular types anemia and is good for women who are pregnant or looking to become pregnant for its ability to assist the body's ability to form DNA and RNA). Local "sustainably grown" produce hold the most beneficial fibers (part of a plant that cannot be broken down human digestive system). Fiber that lowers cholesterol, normalizes bowel movement and maintains bowel health. Consist consumption of

vegetable fibers diminishes our chance of heart disease, and type 2 diabetes while serving as the "Mr. Clean" of your colon. Fibers clean bacteria and other buildup in the intestines. Needless to say, it declines our risk of colon cancer.

Allow me to put it this way: There are three ways to obtain produce in this country. The most popular is to source from the grocery store. Convenience goes a long ways in America, yet grocery store produce is problematic to say the least. It consumes tremendous amounts of fossil fuels, and as a result of that it serves vegetables that have a minimum of 30 percent nutrient depreciation value (if not sourced locally).

You may get your produce from your local sustainable farmer. In my option this is the best that money can buy, but there is one catch. Food must be produced sustainably (focusing

on soil health and diversity instead of chemical fertilizer and pesticides), otherwise produce will lack the appropriate levels of minerals and nutrients because the soil is lacking and chemical inputs like synthetic pesticides, insecticides, etc. are known carcinogens.

I deem it pivotal to note that people are the only species on the planet that pay for the very thing nature provides (food, clothing, and shelter). The best produce that you can possible consume comes from the plants you grow yourself. The plants you care for and share space with. The plants that fruits breathe with you on the vine. These vegetables, this fruit is priceless. There is no shorter distance then that from your yard to your kitchen to your table. We must return to right relationship with our food. It is the only road to good health and longevity.

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# Church



## Yoga Versus Democracy?

By Evan Stewart

UMass Boston

And Jaime Kucinskas

Hamilton College

(THE CONVERSATION) As the United States gets less religious, is it also getting more self-ish?

Historically, religious Americans have been civically engaged. Through churches and other faith-based organizations, congregants volunteer, engage in local and national civic organizations and pursue political goals.

Today—the rise of a politically potent religious right over the past 50 years notwithstanding—fewer Americans identify with formal religions. Gallup found that 47 percent of Americans reported church membership in 2020, down from 70 percent in the 1990s; nearly a quarter of Americans have no religious affiliation.

Meanwhile, other kinds of meaningful practice are on the rise, from meditation and yoga to new secular rituals like Sunday assemblies “without God.” Between 2012 and 2017, the percentage of American adults who meditated rose from 4.1 percent to 14.2 percent, according to a 2018 CDC report. The number of those who practiced yoga jumped from 9.5 percent to 14.3 percent.

Not everyone considers these practices “spiritual,” but many do pursue them as an alternative to religious engagement.

Some critics question whether this new focus on mindfulness and self-care is making Americans more self-centered. They suggest religiously disengaged Americans are channeling their energies into themselves and their careers rather than into civic pursuits that may benefit the public.

As sociologists who study religion and public life, we wanted to answer that question. We used survey data to compare how these two groups of spiritual and religious Americans vote, volunteer and otherwise get involved in their communities.

**Spiritually selfish or religious-**

**ly alienated?**

Our research began with the assumption that moving from organized religious practices to spiritual practices could have one of two effects on greater American society.

Spiritual practice could lead people to focus on more selfish or self-interested pursuits, such as their own personal development and career progress, to the detriment of U.S. society and democracy.

This is the argument sociologist Carolyn Chen pursues in her new book *Work, Pray, Code*, about how meditators in Silicon Valley are re-imagining Buddhist practices as productivity tools. As one employee described a company mindfulness program, it helped her “self-manage” and “not get triggered.” While these skills made her happier and gave her “the clarity to handle the complex problems of the company,” Chen shows how they also teach employees to put work first, sacrificing other kinds of social connection.

Bringing spiritual practice into the office may give workers deeper purpose and meaning, but Chen says it can have some unintended consequences.

When workplaces fulfill workers’ most personal needs—providing not only meals and laundry but also recreational activities, spiritual coaches and mindfulness sessions—skilled workers end up spending most of their time at work. They invest in their company’s social capital rather than building ties with their neighbors, religious congregations and other civic groups. They are less likely to frequent local businesses.

Chen suggests that this disinvestment in community can ultimately lead to cuts in public services and weaken democracy.

Alternatively, our research posited, spiritual practices may serve as a substitute for religion. This explanation may hold especially true among Americans disaffected by the rightward lurch that now divides many congregations, exacerbating cultural fissures around race, gender and

sexual orientation.

“They loved to tell me my sexuality doesn’t define me,” one 25-year-old former evangelical, Christian Ethan Stalker, told the Religion News Service in 2021 in describing his former church. “But they shoved a handful of verses down my throat that completely sexualize me as a gay person and... dismissed who I am as a complex human being. That was a huge problem for me.”

**Engaged on all fronts**

To answer our research question about spirituality and civic engagement, we used a new nationally representative survey of Americans studied in 2020.

We examined the political behaviors of people who engaged in activities such as yoga, meditation, making art, walking in nature, praying and attending religious services. The political activities we measured included voting, volunteering, contacting representatives, protesting and donating to political campaigns.

We then compared those behaviors, distinguishing between people who see these activities as spiritual and those who see the same activities as religious.

Our new study, published in the journal *American Sociological Review*, finds that spiritual practitioners are just as likely to engage in political activities as the religious.

After we controlled for demographic factors such as age, race and gender, frequent spiritual practitioners were about 30 percent more likely than nonpractitioners to report doing at least one political activity in the past year. Likewise, devoted religious practitioners were also about 30 percent more likely to report one of these political behaviors than respondents who do not practice religion.

In other words, we found heightened political engagement among both the religious and spiritual, compared with other people.

Our findings bolster similar conclusions made recently by sociologist Brian Steensland and his colleagues in another study on spiritual people and civic involvement.

## Practical Biblical Principles

**GOD’S LOVE—FROM COVENANT TO COMMUNION PART I**

Read: Genesis 12:1-9

God had recently told Noah and his family to leave the Ark for the great flood is now past. Noah and his sons Shem, Ham, and Japheth began to farm the land and because of the great longevity of life God gave them, they began to populate the Earth. Not long afterwards, the incident of the Tower of Babel in now what is Babylon took place. -Shem’s descendants wanted to stay in one location and not move. The people soon begin to move out from Babylon due to the confused language difficulty between them caused by God. God had told the people to multiply and populate the lands and not stay in one central place. (Genesis 11:3-4).

Interesting enough, after God had forced the people out of Babylon, He found interest in a man named Abram from that same location (Genesis 12:1-3). God has now chosen the man through whom He will manifest His everlasting will, covenant, and plans for mankind on the Earth.

There is that belief among Christians and non-Christians alike that God only chooses perfect, obedient people to work in His heavenly plans. Let’s explore Abram’s life to see if he was perfect and upright as God described Job to the devil (Job 1:8). This is necessary so we can follow God’s reasons for invest-

ing His entire salvation plan in Abram. Otherwise, we may well acquire a doubt complex believing God will never choose us for any heavenly work for His sake. This He will not do because we are full of sin and disobedience.

As the result of Abram’s relationship with God, he got a name change (Abraham) and a reputation of being God’s Friend. Abraham became the father of our faith for he was the first human being to be tried by God and found true when he followed God’s leading in offering up his son Isaac as a human sacrifice.

God never required under any circumstances an earthly human sacrifice. Jesus Christ is the only One Who was able to carry out this spiritual requirement required of God, the Father.

What did God see in Abram? Why Did God choose Abram? No one has a clue. Is it a mystery God chooses people to work for Him without an explanation? Is it that God can really look deep into a man’s heart and see his spiritual potential way before the person sees it themselves?

It appears that God, with all of His power and authority, should be able to make any of his human creatures sit up and do right and do good before He uses them for His spiritual work. It stands to reason that the devil is always standing against God when God is attempting to get one of his human creatures to do His righteous work.

Be mindful of the fact that

Paul was responsible for the killing God’s first deacon, Stephen. David committed adultery and murder with Bathsheba. Jesus took a thief and murderer on the cross into Paradise with Him when He went back to the Father on that Passover Day. Not to mention the woman at the well, who had been married five times and was still shacking up with a man who was not her husband.

How was Jesus able to love these people? How was He able to use these people in His ministry? All these people had spiritual flaws! How was God able to love these people? How was God able to die for these individuals to prove His love to them? How was God able to love us, while in our sins? Why did Jesus love us so?

It is imperative that all of God’s children understand what God’s Covenant it is about, and how it works and expresses God’s love for us. There is no Covenant made in the New Testament as it was in the Old Testament. Yet after Christ we end up with Communion. Is the Old Testament Covenant the same or related to Christ Communion?

God made a “cut covenant” with Abram. Will ever God make a cut covenant with us?

J. L. Caldwell, Pastor  
New Jerusalem Baptist  
Cathedral  
Durham, NC

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Email: njbc84@gmail.com

## SERMON of the WEEK



**IT’S PARTY TIME**  
By Elder Demetrius Hunter

When I was preparing to graduate high school, there was a popular song called “Party Time.” With an infectious chorus, the song quickly became the theme for our senior class.

The song embodied the feeling of joy and celebration of the emotions we were all feeling as we were graduating. We were in the position to celebrate something that the other students could not. We had a reason to party and to express our joy. This song and the way we expressed our joy through this song inspired the younger students coming behind us. They were trying to pick their songs and could not wait for their turn to graduate.

Well, I remember when I was a little boy watching others in the church and how much fun they had and how they seemed to enjoy their lives as Christians. I watched them sing and shout and looked at the smiles on their faces which made me think about experiencing those feelings for myself.

**Fool’s Gold:** Here Jesus goes into great detail of the difference between a good shepherd and a hireling. Jesus discussed how the

hireling will do his best to get you in a position of destruction. Let me be clear, we often hear the saying in the church that the world doesn’t have anything to offer. That is not correct, they have a lot to offer. The only thing is that everything that is offered ends the same way. Jesus warns us of the fool’s gold. Yes, it is fun, but you will never find what you are looking for, because it is fleeting. You see, the ring that you buy from the wig store looks good for a while. But once you start to sweat and you wear it a couple of times, the shine wears off and you start to see the effect that the ring has on your skin. But when you get the real thing, it lasts and you can even swim in it. Don’t settle for fool’s gold!

**You Got a Pasture:** There are several times when the Bible talks about a pasture. Psalms 23 says, “He makes us lie down in green pastures.” You see in the pasture; the sheep can get all that it needs to survive. A sheep will eat the grass of the pasture and use the soft grass of the pasture to find rest. The greener the grass, the better the milk and wool the sheep produces. So as long as the sheep is in the pasture, he produces the best of

what he has been given. See, we are just like the sheep. The shepherd has everything we need. So, I suggest you find your pasture. Because in the pasture, there is healing, provision, and prosperity. Lord, I’m so glad I got a pasture.

**He Brought JOY:** Here we see in the tenth verse that Jesus came that we might have life and have it more abundantly. When you recognize the power and the provision of your pasture; the response is praise. This Joy that I have, the world didn’t give it and the world can’t take it away.

I stopped by here to tell you, “It’s Party Time.” Why? Because he has everything I need. I celebrate my favor. See the old church came into the house with a praise because they remembered how he kept them through the week.

This party I’m talking about is not affected by what I’m going through. This party you won’t party by yourself either because my Bible says, when He is lifted up, he will draw all men.

To view complete sermons by Pastor William Eli Ratcliff and other guest ministers, please visit our website at [lincolnparkchurch.com](http://lincolnparkchurch.com) or our YouTube Channel.



## Happenings At Macedonia NLC

**Macedonia New Life Church**

2004 Rock Quarry Road, Raleigh, NC 27610

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Joe L. Stevenson

HAPPENINGS AT THE MAC...

Macedonia New Life Church (Macedonia NLC) is resuming weekly in-person worship services on Sundays starting at 9:30 a.m. Temperature checks, hands properly sanitized, and face masks continue to be a requirement for everyone prior to entering the sanctuary. The Family Life Center will now be available for overflow with proper social distancing in order to provide safety during worship. The nursery is now open to children up to four years old.

**JOIN SUNDAY SCHOOL ON ZOOM.com**

Macedonia NLC invites you to join us Sunday morning on Zoom at 8 a.m. for Sunday School.

Meeting ID: 918 5873 2456

Passcode: 461350

To Call in Dial: 1 646 558 8656

Rev. Marilyn Fonville, M.Div.

Macedonia NLC—Sunday School Superintendent/VBS Coordinator

**YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Youth Sunday School will resume in September.

**YOUTH BIBLE STUDY**

Youth Bible Study will resume on Tuesday, Sept. 13. Macedonia NLC invites all youth to learn with us on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. on Zoom for Youth Bible Study.

Meeting ID: 875 629 8755

Passcode: youth

To Call in Dial: 1 646 558 8656

**CHURCH COMMUNITY FOOD MINISTRY WEEKLY FOOD DISTRIBUTION**

Join the Church Community Food Ministry in distributing food to those in need in the community. Volunteers are needed to help set up, sort, assist guests, and break down. Join us every Thursday, first, third, and fifth Saturday in the Macedonia NLC parking lot, when the weather permits, from NOON to 1 p.m.

**TUESDAYS IN THE WORD**

MNLC weekly Bible Study sessions, Tuesdays in the Word, will resume on Tuesday, Sept. 13 at 9 p.m. The sessions will be held in person in the Family Life Center and virtually. MNLC invites you to join us each Tuesday!

**MISSION SUNDAY**

Join the Evangelism Ministry on Sept. 3, at Noon for MNLC 1st Saturday Food Distribution. We look forward to seeing you there!

**INITIAL SERMON SERVICE FOR SISTER MARTITA WILLIAMS**

MNLC invites you to join us for Sister Martita Williams’ Initial Sermon Service on Sunday, Oct. 30. Come and support our sister in Christ as she gives her initial sermon. **Breanna V. Garner—Macedonia NLC Staff Writer for The Carolinian Newspaper.**



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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-

## Will We Have the First Full Employment Recession?

By Mike Walden  
Guest Editorial

Debates are still raging over whether the economy is in a recession. While the economy has met one litmus test for a recession of two consecutive quarters of negative growth in GDP, or gross domestic product, doubters point to the still strong job market. In recent months, hundreds of thousands of jobs have been created, and unemployment remains very low.

This situation has raised an interesting question. Could a recession happen, but the labor market doesn't participate? That is, for the first time in my memory, could we have a recession without big job losses and jumps in unemployment?

It's an interesting question that has already created differing opinions among leading economists. Some top economists think a recession today will be just like those in the past, where many jobs were lost and the unemployment rate soared. Excluding the 2020 recession induced by the pandemic, in the recessions since 1980, unemployment jumped an average of 3 percent and the jobless rate rose an average of four percentage points. Today, some economists are predicting the unemployment rate may reach 7 percent—double the current rate—in a recession brought on by a goal of reducing the inflation rate to 2 percent annually.

But, not surprisingly, other economists disagree. Currently there are almost two job openings for every unemployed person. That is unprecedented, especially during what—some claim—is already a recession. The current level of job openings is almost 11 million, equal to 7 percent of filled jobs. This is more than enough to allow businesses to cut unfilled jobs, rather than filled jobs, and meet the job losses that come with the average recession.

Indeed, this is exactly what some economists think will happen. One respected economist predicts we will see, at most, a one percentage point increase in the jobless rate in the coming months. We could therefore have a reduction in economic production—which is one definition of a recession—while experiencing a very, very modest increase in unemployment.

If this situation happens, would we actually see no recession declared? The National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), a century-old private think tank, makes the official calls on recessions. NBER looks at six measures in deciding if a recession has occurred. They are: the change in earned personal income in excess of inflation, the change in personal spending in excess of inflation, the change in non-farm payrolls, the change in household employment, the change in manufacturing and retail sales in excess of inflation and the change in industrial production.

Before discussing trends

in these measures, let me explain the difference between the two employment measures. The government does two job surveys each month. The payroll survey is based on results from a sample of 400,000 businesses, but not including farms. People on business payrolls are counted as employed.

The household survey relies on a much smaller sample of 60,000 households. However, the household survey is broader, including not only workers on farms, but also self-employed workers, unpaid family workers, workers in private households and workers on unpaid leave. The household survey, therefore, captures more types of jobs, but it's based on a much smaller sample.

The payroll job survey has continued to move higher, but the household survey of jobs peaked in March and is slightly lower since then. Personal income has continued to rise, but there are signs of leveling-off for personal spending. The production index has been gaining, yet manufacturing and trade sales have been dropping.

So, with three (household job survey, personal spending, manufacturing/trade sales) of the six key measures followed by the NBER suggesting some weakness, there is reason to watch the economy for deepening signs of a recession.

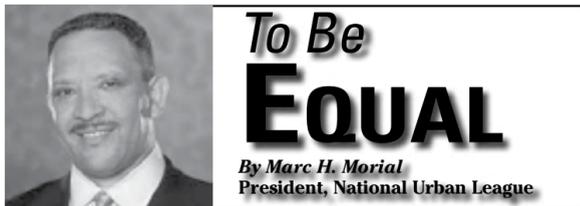
But if a recession does occur, will it be a typical recession with all six indicators—and especially the two job indicators—showing significant deterioration? Like so many aspects of our lives impacted by the pandemic, I think a case can be made that the next recession will be different.

Imagine this scenario. Production, sales, spending and income trend downward in the next six to nine months as the Federal Reserve raises interest rates to control inflation. But with improvements in the supply chain, falling oil and gas prices, and a more modest inflation rate of between 4 percent and 5 percent, the Fed will declare victory, stop raising rates and hint about actually lowering rates over the coming year.

With economic optimism returning, businesses that have stopped hiring new workers will now begin worrying about a return of labor shortages as the economy improves. Hence, they keep their labor staff intact and few—if any—workers are let go. The unemployment rate barely rises, making the recession the first one on record occurring without a major jump in joblessness.

Is this a fantasy? Perhaps. But it wouldn't be the only unusual event created by the pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the workforce, altered how we buy both products and services, and broadened remote working and remote living. Is our definition of a recession the next post-COVID change? Could we experience a recession without massive unemployment? You decide.

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



## To Be EQUAL

By Marc H. Morial  
President, National Urban League

Editor's Note: This column was published back in May but its content remains relevant.

### RACIST KILLERS ARE ENABLED BY NATION'S SINFULLY LAX GUN POLICIES

"Once again, so-called pro-life pundits and politicians responded by pontificating about all of the possible causes of the shooting tragedy, like mental illness, while willfully ignoring the role of White supremacy and easy access to firearms... while every peer nation is home to men who have been radicalized, only America allows them to have easy access to arsenals and ammunition again and again."

—Shannon Watts and Angela Ferrell-Zabala

The 18-year-old gunman who slaughtered 10 people in a Buffalo supermarket was fueled by a frenzy of White supremacist hatred and enabled by an unprecedented national tidal wave of firearms spilling into American hands.

He spent the months before the massacre stockpiling ammunition and compiling a racist screed with references to the "great replacement."

The "Great Replacement," a racist conspiracy theory referring to a nefarious plot to undermine and outnumber White Americans, is not new. Its origins are evident in the 1924 Johnson-Reed Act, which limited immigration based on race. The term itself comes from a 2011 book, *Le Grand Remplacement*, by French White nationalist Renaud Camus. It inspired the deadly 2017 "Unite The Right" rally in Charlottesville, W.Va., where marchers chanted "You will not replace us." It was the motivation for the antisemitic terrorist attack at Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh in 2018 that killed 11 worshippers. It was explicitly referenced by the gunman who killed 23 people in El Paso in 2019 in the deadliest attack on Latinos in modern American history.

As deadly as this toxic conspiracy theory has been in recent years, it is our nation's sinfully lax gun policies that lend it the power of mass destruction. New York State does have a red-flag law that can bar gun sales to potentially violent people like the Buffalo shooter, who last year declared his intent to commit murder-suicide at his high school. However, the law apparently gave police enough discretion, or they were not sufficiently well-trained, that they did not invoke it in his case. New York Governor Kathy Hochul issued an executive order requiring police to do so going forward.

More Americans died of gun injuries in 2020 than in any other year on record, according to a recent Johns Hopkins analysis of CDC data. Guns were the leading cause of death among children and teens in 2020, killing more young people than COVID-19, car crashes, or cancer.

The year 2020 also saw record gun sales. "Millions of people, including many first-time purchasers, bought guns. Tens of thousands of these new guns turned up at crime scenes across

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



## A Different Voice

By Dorothy Shaw Thompson

### RULES

Rules are typically prescriptions for giving order to situations that involve groups of people. They provide guidelines for order that prevent chaos. We as a society have come up with ideas that we hope will benefit all. The civilized understand the "why" of rules and typically follow them. I think most people understand traffic rules. For example, as more people found that having their own transportation made life easier for them and they came to a point where they could afford them, they bought some form of transportation. The more people driving, the more need for rules by which we govern ourselves. We designed road signs, traffic signals, speed rules, etc. and in order to drive any type of vehicle people need to and were trained and tested on the rules before being given a license to drive. That's why we have a stop sign or a stop light at intersections. The purpose is to prevent accidents. We also have people who enforce the rules and in the case of ordinary transportation there are policemen, tickets and courts to give us penalties for breaking rules. The goal is consistent. We are attempting to keep ourselves and others safe.

A few weeks ago we saw one of our national enforcement bodies make a decision with the goal of keeping our nation and individuals in our nation safe. The FBI went to Mar-A-Lago in Florida to bring back boxes of information that a renegade former president had decided to take. The rule to make documents classified and to keep them in secure locations with access by only those who had been approved to read them was necessary for this president who appears to believe that he doesn't have to follow the rules. Somewhere in the upbringing of Donald Trump, he came to believe that he could be a law unto himself. He says he's special and he has convinced himself and too many others that this is true. I submit to anyone the idea that anybody who believes this about himself is to be shunned and never given a position of power. This is a dangerous person for two reasons: (1) he will do anything to anybody or entity to maintain this view of himself and (2) somewhere in his hidden psyche is the fear that he is not worthy, not smart, not capable, etc. The second truth is most dangerous because it

fuels the first.

Many people are asking... "Why did he take those boxes of documents? What did he plan to do with them?" I have no idea but I can speculate and my first speculation is that it was not for any good reason or benefit to our country or anyone other than himself. I speculate that "The Donald" is a viciously angry man who does not take defeat well and when he meets defeat his response is revenge. He is very, very angry that he was defeated in the election, so much so that he convinced himself that he had won and was able to convince others through subterfuge that what he believed was true. Remember my second view...? This I speculate was deep in his psyche that he was going to lose. I believe that because he planted the seed earlier (as far back as his bid for election in 2015) by saying the only way he could lose was if the election was stolen. Remember that? I suspect that this was a way of life for him from the time he was a little kid. Fate gave him a mother that was too ill to nurture or discipline him and a father who was emotionally absent. The makings of his narcissism was implanted early. Actually, I can have compassion for the little Donald but compassion is good only for my soul, it does nothing to assist Donald in becoming a person who considers others.

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



## Child Watch

By Marian Wright Edelman

### A HEALTHY START FOR HUNGRY CHILDREN

*Hungry child,  
I didn't make this world for you.  
You didn't buy any stock in my railroad.  
You didn't invest in my corporation.  
Where are your shares in Standard Oil?  
I made the world for the rich  
And the will-be-rich  
And the have-always-been-rich.  
Not for you, Hungry child.*

—Langston Hughes, "God to Hungry Child"

No child chooses to go to bed and wake up and go to school hungry. As students across the country begin a new school year, children in California are returning to some very good news: California is now the first state to provide free school meals to all students. This means every child in California will now have a better chance at the healthy start and head start all children deserve. It is a shining example of moral leadership to end child poverty, and other states must follow suit before nationwide child nutrition waivers expire.

Child nutrition programs help our nation's children get the food they need to learn, grow, and thrive, especially children in low-income households. The largest programs, the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program, provide nutritionally balanced, free, and low-cost meals to millions of children each day at school. But the long-standing problems of limited access, low reimbursements, lunch debt, and the stigmatization of children having to prove they are hungry and worthy of meals means millions of children lose out.

Enter universal school meals—an intervention we know works. Research shows access to universal school meals

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

## Letters To The Editor

### What We Blacks Need To Do Part 2.

To The Editor:

Three simultaneous actions that will make this school year successful.

**1. Parents and students must realize that education is a family affair.** It helps the students reach their high school's goals that will prepare them for higher education or skill training. The parent will acquire more knowledge that will help them gain promotions on their present job or move forward on a different position.

**2. The school systems must demand more money from their funding agencies to bring back all the teachers assistants they fired and let teachers teach their lessons without unprofessional interference.** Pay the teachers for their advanced degrees and increase other personnel pay each year.

**3. The churches must return to its place as a safe place of after school care for all children in the neighborhood; provide tutoring and a light snack for the children.** No transportation is needed because the older children can walk the younger ones home. This is a win-win because the younger children now have a big sister or brother to look up to and hopefully end bullying.

Regardless of your denomination, if your church building is not being used 85 percent to 99 percent of the time to help people, you are committing a "mortal" sin in that consecrated edifice. Sir 3:17-18 "My child, conduct your affairs with humility, and you will be loved more than a giver of gifts. Humble yourself the more, the greater you are, and you will find favor with GOD."

The author of this truncated Black encyclopedia is retired vocational education (shop) teacher James Jerome Hankins.

# Other Viewpoints



**FLORIDA GUBERNATORIAL ELECTION: SWAMP MONSTER CAGE MATCH**

By Thomas L. Knapp

*William Lloyd Garrison Center*

On August 23, Democratic primary voters in Florida picked their champion for the November attempt to unseat incumbent Republican governor Ron DeSantis.

In fairness, those voters weren't offered much of a choice. The two "had a realistic chance of winning" candidates were Nikki Fried and Charlie Crist.

Fried, a former lobbyist, spent her entire term as the state's only statewide elected official (agriculture commissioner) issuing "oh no you didn't" press releases every time DeSantis so much as yawned, and pulling stupid tricks like adding her photo to the inspection stickers on every Florida gas pump as publicly funded campaign ads (the legislature nixed that one in short order).

You'd have to look pretty hard to find a candidate less likely to lead a successful anti-DeSantis revolution. Unless, of course, Charlie Crist happened to get interested. Which he did, decisively defeating Fried for the ballot line.

Crist is the mirror-like spitting image of Ron DeSantis: They're both swamp creatures, political careerists, tax parasites who've spent their entire adult lives either on, or trying to get on, government payrolls.

Crist has been a state senator, state education commissioner, state attorney general, governor, and U.S. Representative. He's been continuously in office, running for office, or preparing to run for office since 1986. His party affiliation record is sort of "reverse Donald Trump." Over the last decade, he's gone from Republican to "independent" to Democrat. Whose dog is he? Whomever's will hunt with him in his latest crusade to get paid for running your life.

DeSantis's resume is shorter but strikingly similar. He went from government lawyer—first in the U.S. Navy, representing/advising the government's Guantanamo Bay torturers, then as an assistant U.S. attorney—to U.S. Representative, to jumping on the Trump train and getting himself elected governor by a razor-thin margin of less than 1/2 of 1 percent in 2018. Since which time he's split his work days between pouring culture war fertilizer on his presidential ambitions and trying to make sure that anyone who might vote against his re-election this November can't vote at all.

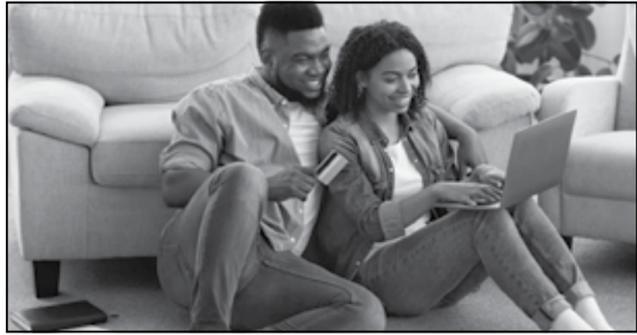
Neither of these life-long grifters deserves another four years of welfare checks, but one of them will almost certainly win this November's episode of Wheel of Voter Misfortune (spoiler: It will probably be DeSantis, who's at least good at motivating his "base," while Crist enthuses only... well, no one).

In 2016, Trump re-popularized the slogan "drain the swamp," which has been around forever but which he probably cribbed from Pat Buchanan, who beat him in his first presidential campaign (the Reform Party's 2000 nomination contest).

DeSantis and Crist ARE the swamp. They may not represent EVERYTHING wrong with American politics, but between them they represent most of those things. They're twin poster boys for term limits, with the preferred number being "zero."

I won't attempt to advise Florida voters on their third party and independent options, but they should know that a vote for Rick DeSantis is a vote for Charlie Crist, and a vote for Charlie Crist is a vote for Rick DeSantis.

**Thomas L. Knapp** (Twitter: @thomaslknapp) is director and senior news analyst at the William Lloyd Garrison Center for Libertarian Advocacy Journalism ([thegarrisoncenter.org](http://thegarrisoncenter.org)). He lives and works in north central Florida.



**RECORD INFLATION SHRINKS HOUSING AFFORDABILITY, WORSENS RACIAL WEALTH GAPS**

By Charlene Crowell

*NNPA Newswire Contributor*

This summer, temperatures are not the only thing rising above normal. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the nation's consumer price index (CPI) at the end of May was the largest since December 1981, more than 40 years ago. This key economic measure tracks the change in prices paid by consumers for goods and services for about 93 percent of the total U.S. population.

The most recent report, released on June 10, showed double-digit CPI increases for fuel, food, utilities, and both new and used vehicles.

Even before this data release, many consumers already adjusted their lives to compensate as best they could for \$5 per gallon gas prices, keeping family cars longer, and taking fewer family outings to free up funds for still-rising food prices.

But how much longer can housing remain affordable when prices for both homes and rents are rising even higher?

Some of those figures are getting marginally better, such as gas prices, which are down below \$3.50 in many markets. But that doesn't mean everything is getting better.

Homeownership, historically a reliable building block to family wealth, is more of a challenge today for first-time homebuyers. As of 2022's first quarter, the median price of an existing single family home grew to \$368,200, according to the National Association of Realtors (NAR), 15.7 percent higher than a year ago.

Families able to afford a 20 percent down payment on this median-priced home can look forward to a monthly mortgage of approximately \$1,383, which is \$319 more—30 percent higher—than a year ago, according to NAR.

For Black America, however, a history replete with systemic discrimination in education, employment, lending, and housing imposes additional harsh realities that have yet to be effectively addressed.

From 2013 to 2019, after adjusting for inflation, the median household income of Black households increased by just \$800, compared with about \$3,000 for White households and \$3,700 for Latinx households, according to research by the National Equity Atlas that analyzed the nation's 100 largest metro areas. Additionally, during these same years, the number of neighborhoods affordable to Black households dropped by 14 percent.

"Shrinking neighborhood affordability and the dearth of affordable neighborhoods that provide the necessary conditions for health, well-being, and economic success in many large metros are reinforcing longstanding patterns of racial segregation and creating new ones," concludes this report.

## King Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60

**ACROSS**

1 Beach accessory  
6 Atar promise  
9 Wd. modifier  
12 Blazing  
13 At once  
14 Singer Rums  
15 Lightweight wood  
16 Old Pontiac  
18 More tightly packed  
20 "Star Wars" royal  
21 Phutu. for sport  
23 "Fresh Air" star  
24 Party beverage  
25 Unforeseen problem  
27 Say  
29 Elk's horn  
31 Wheel cover  
35 Playful snicker  
37 Only  
38 Barber's tools  
41 Aug. and Sept.  
43 Knock  
44 Hugion  
45 Halloween sprite  
47 Young shopping center  
48 Mix dispens-

**DOWN**

1 Bar bill  
2 One - kind  
3 Milkovich tale  
4 Gaelic  
5 "Blue" singer  
6 Loose news-paper ad  
7 Gloomy  
8 Have  
9 Sci. visitor  
10 Column style  
11 A son of Jacob  
17 Book jacket promos  
19 Snodden gush  
21 Unpaid TV ad  
22 Hostid  
24 Little, n l e  
26 Worldwide  
28 Pulsate  
30 UFO crew  
32 Deep-fried frank  
33 Pie - mode  
34 / / /  
36 Acted badly?  
38 Caravan beast  
39 Emulate Lincoln  
40 Donnybrook  
42 Batter's dry spell  
45 Big word  
46 Noturn  
48 Decay  
50 Ram's mairam  
51 Trip after Q

Other new research from Freddie Mac sought to identify the causes of soaring home prices and where affordable homes might still be found.

What drove home price growth, and can it continue? Freddie Mac's new report found four factors driving escalating home costs:

- Record low mortgage rates in 2020 and 2021 generated a race to beat future rate increases;
- Home inventories were limited due to underbuilding on one hand, and below average distressed sales on the other;
- The number of first-time homebuyers grew due in part to favorable age demographics; and
- Many consumers left high-cost cities for cheaper ones that already had a housing shortage. Where affordable homes can be found, brings to mind an old adage in real estate, 'location, location, location.'

"As of February 2022, migration out of the largest 25 cities remains three times higher than the rate pre-pandemic," states the Freddie Mac report. "The most significant increase in migration has been to mid-sized metro areas with populations between 500,000 to 1 million, followed by smaller mid-sized metros and smaller metro areas."

The irony is that today, many consumers are paying more for fair market rent (FMR) than many monthly mortgages that lead to home equity and wealth.

The down payment—rather than the monthly mortgage note—is the primary barrier to homeownership for many renters. With a rising cost of living, few—if any—dollars remain at the end of a month for many families. And even if a family has managed to save a few hundred dollars or more, home down payments on the private market are tens of thousands of dollars.

Some home lenders may offer adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) as an alternative to cash-strapped buyers. But the key word in these loans is 'adjustable.' When loan interest resets occur, borrowers should plan for higher interest rates. It would also be prudent to remember that the foreclosure crisis of the early 2000s was fueled by high-cost mortgage loans that left millions of Black and Latino homeowners either without a home or remaining in one with a loan balance larger than its market value.

If this nation really wants to address its affordable housing crisis, then it is time to give Black America a level playing field with access to affordable and sustainable mortgages. It is equally important to diversify new construction housing.

Currently, the vast majority of new construction housing—whether for rent or for purchase—are for higher-income consumers, leaving moderate and low-income families with severely shrinking housing options.

Every family of every income needs a home. Effective housing reforms would offer both access and affordability—not either-or.

**Charlene Crowell** is a senior fellow with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at [Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org](mailto:Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org).



**REPARATIONS RISING WITH ROBIN RUE SIMMONS**

By Julianne Malveaux

*NNPA Newswire Contributor*

The Honorable John Conyers, who represented Detroit in Congress from 1965 until 2017, introduced HR 40 every congressional session from 1989. He worked to get cosponsors for the legislation for nearly 30 years, but not even the entire Congressional Black Caucus would cosponsor. Upon his retirement from Congress, he passed the baton to Houston Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee. Thanks to her efforts and those of reparations organizations, including the National African-American Reparations Commission (NAARC) and the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America (N'COBRA), the number of cosponsors approaches two hundred members of Congress. With 218, the legislation could pass in Congress.

Full disclosure. I serve as a NAARC commissioner, as does Kamm Howard, the co-chair of N'COBRA.

With a Senate dominated by conservative Democrats and obstructionist Republicans, when HR 40 passes in Congress, it is unlikely to pass in the Senate. However, it is essential to acknowledge the enormous progress the reparations movement has experienced since Conyers first introduced HR 40. Then, if you mentioned reparations in some circles, including those dominated by African-Americans, you'd be rewarded with an eye roll and a "reality" check. Movements don't happen overnight, though, and the reparations movement is rising, thanks to the tireless work of committed activists, who have persistently raised the issue.

Robin Rue Simmons, a former Alderman in Evanston, Ill., shepherded reparations legislation in that city and helped design a program that will use money from legal cannabis sales to fund reparations. The program emerges from documentation of the ways local legislation widened the wealth gap between 1919 and 1969 and explicitly targets Evanston residents and their descendants for the initial round of reparations. Within the next several weeks, 16 families will get \$25,000 checks to put a down payment on a home, reduce a mortgage balance, or do repairs that increase the value of their homes. While these modest payments do very little to reduce the wealth gap, they improve the wealth position of these families. Evanston has taken a small but revolutionary step in the right direction.

Robin chose not to run for reelection, although she would have probably faced only token opposition if she had. Instead, she has been working full-time on the issue of local reparations, founding First Repair (firstrepair.org), an organization focused on helping state and local governments shape reparations initiatives. First Repair most recently (Dec. 9-11) co-convoked a symposium (along with NAARC) with state and local reparations leaders. Sixty people from 25 cities, including Boston; Asheville, N.C.; Houston; Denver; Los Angeles and San Francisco, gathered to discuss their efforts to implement local reparations. The activist Danny Glover spoke at a town hall meeting that included a telephone address by Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee.

The fact that so many cities and states are considering reparations initiatives and appointing reparations commissions is invigorating and encouraging. As Robin Rue Simmons said, change happens from the bottom up and not the top down. The more cities and states that have reparations conversations, the more awareness those at the top will have that this is an issue that is not going away. Our nation is culpable for the exploitation of enslaved people and their descendants. We have gotten little more than a tepid apology. Our country must do more.

While HR 40 calls for the establishment of a commission to make reparations suggestions, if President Biden really wanted to have our backs, as he so often says, he could, through executive order, establish such a commission now. I had hoped that President Obama might have done so, but that issue was such a hot potato for our then-President that he would not even consider it. The more talk there is about reparations, the more information is disseminated. President Biden, Vice-President Harris, can you take this step in the right direction?

Meanwhile, I'm lifting up Robin Rue Simmons, a 45-year-old leader, activist, and tireless reparations advocate. She has dedicated her life to the reparations movement, using the Evanston experience as a blueprint for other municipalities considering reparations.

## TO BE EQUAL

*Continued from page 10*

the country—almost twice as many as in 2019," the researchers wrote. "While it remains to be seen whether this surge in gun purchases contributed to the rise in gun violence over the long term, a strong body of research has identified drivers of gun violence—namely, easy access to guns and weaknesses in our country's laws that create a patchwork of gun regulations."

The report confirmed that common-sense policies like red-flag laws—and Governor Hochul's order to strengthen New York's—are effective in reducing gun violence.

"While the media often focuses on gun violence in cities in states like New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Illinois, all of these states had gun death rates lower than the national average," the researchers found. "New York, for example, had a rate 2.5 times lower than the national rate. Many of the states with the lowest gun death rates have strong gun violence prevention policies."

Specifically, the five states with the lowest gun death rates all had both a firearm purchaser licensing law or a waiting period, and a "red flag" law.

All five of the states with the highest gun death rates had "stand your ground" laws and three of the five had permitless carry laws. Alabama, one of the five, passed permitless carry earlier this year.

The National Urban League is a longtime partner of Everytown for Gun Safety, largest gun violence prevention organization in America, and emphatically supports its evidence-based, common-sense solutions to make communities and save lives.

On Friday, I joined with other civil rights leaders in a meeting with U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland to discuss the Department of Justice's role in addressing the spread of White supremacy across social media platforms and hate crimes tearing through Black communities across America.

Our hearts and deepest sympathies are with the families who have lost loved ones to another senseless act of racial violence. Our fury is with the White supremacists who are the perpetrators of this violence. And our anger is with the social media companies and gun merchants who have aided and abetted them and other extremists for profit and with the politicians who have recklessly encouraged them for votes.

Our commitment now is to do something about it, beginning with calling on President Biden to hold a national summit on hate crimes to elevate the national consciousness around the rising danger of White supremacy and online extremism.

We need a whole-of-nation approach to combat and eliminate this threat to our national security and the stability of our democracy. Until we do, innocent people will continue to pay the deadly price.

## A DIFFERENT VOICE

*Continued from page 10*

When a person is willing to see other people killed in order to be worshipped and to avenge his ego, he is a dangerous individual. When Donald was told that there were individuals at his rally who were armed, he reportedly said, "Let them through. They are not here to harm ME." He had invited them to come "armed and dangerous" and wanted them to use those weapons against others in the Capitol in order for him to retain the presidency.

My final speculation is this, Donald would join forces with any despot willing to buy them in order to exact retribution against people who he knew had rejected him as the president. Money, power and revenge are his weapons. These are the things he seeks and uses against others who stand in his way so if those documents outed people who had helped our country by being spies, or giving testimony of plots against our country, he wouldn't care. I frankly hope that he receives consequences for his breaking of the rules, not because I would be on the sidelines rejoicing but because I believe it is his only chance at changing. If he is to be deterred it will only come because he is stripped of power.

## CHILD WATCH

*Continued from page 10*

boosts students' attendance and improves academic performance and health outcomes. Providing healthy school meals for all children eliminates stigma associated with school meals and practices like "lunch shaming," using embarrassing public reminders or tactics like giving children cold bread and cheese instead of a hot meal when their lunch accounts are low. Universal school meals are also an essential way to reduce longstanding and widening racial disparities in nutrition, health, and education.

Black and Latinx children are more than two times as likely as White children to live in households without enough to eat, and nearly 1 in 3 Black children and 1 in 4 Latinx children lack access to healthy food. When it comes to access to school meals, too many children of color live close to the edge: 10.8 million children live in households with incomes between 130 and 200 percent of the poverty line, earning too much to qualify for free school meals but too little to get by, and nearly 60 percent of children just above the cutoff for free school meals are children of color. This makes universal school meals essential for advancing racial equity.

During the pandemic, Congress took action to expand nutrition programs to help keep children fed, including expanding federal school nutrition programs to allow schools to serve free meals to all students regardless of age, income, or ZIP Code. Just before the program was set to expire in June, President Biden signed the Keep Kids Fed Act to continue some of these federal protections through this school year. That was welcome news for now for some children—but all children in every state need to know they will have permanent access to school meals. Last minute extensions can be great when students need more time on a paper or project, but no child should have to depend on one to know whether she'll be able to eat lunch. Now that access to universal meals is no longer guaranteed, millions of children on the edge will once again be left out.

We cannot afford to go backward and take meals away from our children. California is leading the way, but it shouldn't stand alone. Congress can—and must—create a permanent solution to ensure access to universal school meals for all children across our nation. Children everywhere deserve the same healthy start.

# Classifieds

## LEGALS

### DURHAM COUNTY

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DURHAM COUNTY

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

**File Number 2022 E 001010**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Brenda Y. Crenshaw, 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 November 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 11th day of August, 2022.

Cynthia Crenshaw

Executor

5850 Westover Drive Apt G

Richmond, VA 23225

8/11,8/18,8/25 and 9/1/2022

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

**FILE NO 21 E 851**

Linda Winston Prather died on 01/13/2021 in Durham County, NC Court file 21E851. All persons, firms or corporations indebted to Linda Winston Prather will please make immediate payment.

Those having claims against Linda Winston Prather are to present them before 11/16/22 or this Notice may be pleaded to bar the claim.

Claims may be sent to William G. Harriss, Attorney for the estate at

Arges Law Firm

3200 Croasdaile Drive

Suite 706

Durham, NC 27705

Diane Adamson

Administrator

8/11/22, 8/18/22, 8/25/22, 9/01/22

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

DURHAM COUNTY

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

**File Number 2022 E 001002**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Phelena Mebane Hughes, 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 November 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 11th day of August, 2022.

Omega L Mebane

Executor

13123 Ashford Woods Lane

Charlotte, NC 28278

8/11,8/18,8/25 and 9/1/2022

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

DURHAM COUNTY

**In The General Court Of Justice  
District Court Division  
File Number 22-CVD-686**

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF  
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**

To: JOHN DOE,

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 September 20th, 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, MARTINA EUNICE PEREZ ROBLERO, will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 11th day of August, 2022.

Aneta Paval, Esq.

Paval Law Offices, PLLC

7404 Chapel Hill Rd

Suite M

Raleigh NC 27607

Telephone: (919) 410-6690

8/11,8/18, and 8/25

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 944**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Julianna Accius, 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 November 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.

**File Number 22 E 944**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Julianna Accius, 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 November 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 11th day of August, 2022.

Calcy Accius

Administrator

1050 Audace Ave, Unit 102

Boynton Beach, FL 33426

8/11,8/18,8/25 and 9/1/2022

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

The undersigned, Rhonda K. Barnes and Loftin W. Barnes, Jr., having duly qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of Irene Robbins Barnes, deceased, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby notify 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 November 11, 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 11th day of August, 2022.

Rhonda K. Barnes/Loftin W. Barnes, Jr.,

Co-Executors

C/O Ronald G. Coulter

Attorney at Law

3400 Croasdaile Drive

Suite 205

Durham, NC 27705

1-919-246-5775

August 11, 18, 25 and Sept 1, 2022

NORTH CAROLINA

DURHAM COUNTY

**In The General Court Of Justice  
Superior Court Division**

**21 SP 861**

**Statutes § 28A-22-3 & § 1A-1**

**Rule 4**

In the Matter of

Diane Adamson, Administrator

of the Estate of Linda Winston

Prather, Deceased (estate File No.

21 E 851, Durham County)

v.

Tammy Speed; Grace Russom; John R. Prather; Carl Prather; Philip Prather; Gayle Johnson; Martha Mooseman; Jim Prather; Tommy Prather; Elaine Burden; Joe Prather; Jane Isbel; Shirley Prather Crews; Steven Caruthers; Juli Williams; Debbie Alexander; Christy Curtis; Kathy Hansford; Robert McKnight; Jackie Perez; The Estate of Beverly Kay Blanton Key, deceased, a/k/a Brevia Kay Blanton Key; Brenda Blanton Moss; Spencer L. Woods Jr.; Pat Green Gostanian; Anita Green Brower; Jarrrell (Keith) Green; Attorney Catherine L. Wilson for Brienne Jones Williams, Richard Lynn Jones, Brittney Hart Dillon, Brian Steven Jones; Attorney Thomas J. Neagle for Kemp and Associates Inc.; Leimome Peters Cheeks; Leimome Peters Cheeks as Agent under POA for Lani H. Peters; The Unknown Heirs of the Estate of Beverly Kay Blanton Key, deceased, a/k/a Brevia Kay Blanton Key; Estates of Post Deceased Heirs, Known and Unknown; Guardians and Agents of Unknown Heirs; Unknown Unnamed Heirs at Law of Linda Winston Prather Deceased, if any; whose whereabouts, names and locations are unknown, whether *In Esse*; or *En Venra Sa Mere*, competent or incompetent, adult or minor, and who have or may have any interest in the Estate of Linda Winston Prather, Deceased;

Respondents.

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF  
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION  
TO BE PUBLISHED IN**

**DURHAM COUNTY TO: ALL  
PERSONS WHO MAY HAVE AN  
INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF  
LINDA WINSTON PRATHER,  
DECEASED.**

TAKE NOTICE that a Special Proceeding against you has been filed in the above-entitled action with the DURHAM County Clerk of Court pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 28A-22-3.

The nature of the relief being sought is for the purpose of finally determining accurately the identity of the heirs-at-law of Linda Winston Prather; deceased; and to have an Order entered determining the identity and interest of each heir-at-law.

You are required to identify

yourself as a person with an interest in the Estate of Linda Winston Prather by September 23, 2022 by (i) entering your appearance in this proceeding by filing your Notice of Appearance in the above-entitled action with the Clerk of Superior Court; Durham County Special Proceedings, Durham County —Estates, 510 South Dillard St, Durham, NC 27701; and/or (ii) asserting your claim in writing to the undersigned by September 23, 2022.

Failure to appear will subject and bind you to such orders as may be entered in this matter.

This the 11th day of August; 2022.

Diane Adamson

Administrator of the Estate of Linda

Winston Prather; c/o William Har-

riss Esq., NC Bar No: 1943;

Of Counsel, Arges Law Firm

3200 Croasdaile Drive, Suite 706

Durham, NC 27705

8/11, 18, 25/22.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

DURHAM COUNTY

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 11th day of August, 2022, as Executrix of the ESTATE OF ELIZABETH ANN MCCONNELL, 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 19th day of November, 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 18th day of August, 2022.

MARY MARGARET ARMSTRONG

EXECUTRIX

ESTATE OF ELIZABETH ANN

MCCONNELL

c/o Jennifer Dalman, Attorney

Walker Lambe, PLLC

Post Office Box 51549

Durham, North Carolina 27717

8/18, 8/25, 9/1 and 9/8 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 1052**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of Rose Briggs McCloud, 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 November 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 18th day of August, 2022.

Chandra Rebecca McCloud Glover

Executrix

9608 Bayview Parkway

Charlotte, NC 28216

8/18,8/25,9/1 and 9/8/2022

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 000996**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Melton Douglas Lynam, 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 November 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 18th day of August, 2022.

Cathi Higgins Turner

Executor

4804 Mistletoe Lane

Durham, NC 27703

8/18,8/25,9/1 and 9/8/2022

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 979**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Lisa Marian Humbert, 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 November 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 18th day of August, 2022.

Jessica Anne Presto

Executor

10594 Evergreen Spring Place

Raleigh, NC 27614

8/18,8/25,9/1 and 9/8/2022

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

DURHAM COUNTY

**NOTICE OF SERVICE**

**OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**

**In The General Court Of Justice**

**Superior Court Division**

**Before the Clerk**

**File Number 2021 E 000954**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Socratis Gerondelis, a/k/a Socratis E Gerondelis, a/k/a Socratis Efatiros Gerondelis, 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 November 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 18th day of August, 2022.

Aliki Gerondelis

Executor

712 Continental Drive

Durham, NC 27712

8/18,8/25,9/1 and 9/8/2022

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 1039**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of Isaac A Shaw, 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 November 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 18th day of August, 2022.

Tevis Shaw Ector

Executrix

809 Springdale Drive

Durham, NC 27707

8/18,8/25,9/1 and 9/8/2022

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 001051**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Curtis Lee Farrar, 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 November 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 18th day of August, 2022.

Dana Farrar

Executor

1800 Williamsburg Rd

Apt 12C

Durham, NC 27707

8/18,8/25,9/1 and 9/8/2022

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND**

**DEBTORS OF**

**EGBERT L. HAYWOOD, JR.**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against Egbert L. Haywood, Jr., late of Durham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit them to Gregory Herman-Giddens as Administrator CTA of the decedent's estate on or before November 19, 2022, c/o Galbraith, PLLC, 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</

# Classifieds

## LEGALS

### DURHAM COUNTY

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Herbert Michael Mackey, late of Durham County, State of North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the decedent to present them to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of November, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 25th day of August, 2022.

James M. Ellis, Administrator  
Stone & Christy, P.A.  
110 N. Dougherty Street  
Black Mountain, NC 28711  
8/25, 9/1, 9/8, and 9/15/2022  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DURHAM COUNTY

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 21st day of February, 2022, as Co-Executors of the ESTATE OF JOHN KING WOODY, JR., Deceased, of Durham County, North Carolina, do hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 26th day of November, 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 25th day of August, 2022.

JOHN KING WOODY, III  
JAMES WATTERSON WOODY  
CO-EXECUTORS  
ESTATE OF JOHN KING WOODY, JR.

c/o Jennifer Dalman, Attorney  
Walker Lambe, PLLC  
Post Office Box 51549  
Durham, North Carolina 27717  
8/25, 9/1, 9/8 and 9/15/2022

### WAKE COUNTY

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
WAKE COUNTY

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administration of the Estate of Susie L Wilson, 2212 Evers Dr, Raleigh, Wake County, NC 27610. This is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before November 19, 2022. This notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons, firms, and corporations indebted to said estate are notified to make immediate payment.

This the 18th day of August, 2022.

Regina S Wilson  
Administrator  
3756 Whitney Park Ln  
Greenacres, FL 33463  
8/18, 8/25, 9/1 and 9/8/2022

#### NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF WAKE  
DISTRICT COURT DIVISION  
FILE NO. 19 SP 2837  
IN THE MATTER OF THE  
ADOPTION OF L.W.J.H., a minor

male child.

TO: KYLE TODD HOLT  
TAKE NOTICE that an Amended Petition for Adoption was filed on 8/25/2022 with the Clerk of Superior Court for Wake County, Raleigh, NC, in the above-entitled special proceeding.

The Petition relates to a male child born on December 22, 2009 in Johnston County, North Carolina.

The birth mother's name was Amanda Leigh Johnson, now deceased.

TAKE NOTICE that you are required to file a response to the petition within forty (40) days after the date of the first publication of this notice, on or before 10/12/2022 in order to participate in and receive further notice of this proceeding.

IN THE EVENT YOU FAIL TO RESPOND, THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT WILL ENTER AN ORDER ALLOWING THE ADOPTION TO PROCEED WITHOUT YOUR CONSENT. Any parental rights that you may have will be terminated upon the entry of the decree of adoption.

This, the 1st day of September, 2022.

Katherine S. Moyer  
JusticeMatters, Inc.  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
P.O. Box 58058  
Raleigh, NC, 27658  
919/794-7511, Ext. 9.  
9/1, 9/8 and 9/15/2022

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The Decedent, Carol Morgan Brewington, who lived at 725 Fitzgerald Drive, Raleigh, North Carolina 27610, passed away on August 21, 2021. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Anthony L. Blalock, Esquire at 7800 Falls of the Neuse Road, Unit # 99753, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27615, or to both the probate court and the named legal representative before September 22, 2022.

Anthony L. Blalock  
Esquire  
Legal Representative for estate of Carol Morgan Brewington.  
8/25, 9/1, 9/8, and 9/15/2022  
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 003173  
The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of William Stacy Miller, 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 2nd day of December 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 1st day of September, 2022.

William Stacy Miller II  
Executor  
906 Lake Boone Trail  
Raleigh, NC 27607  
9/1, 9/8, 9/15 and 9/22/2022

#### NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF WAKE  
In the General Court of Justice  
Civil Court Division  
File No: 22 CV 000972  
JEWEL E BAXLEY,  
Plaintiff

v.  
REGINALD WASHINGTON,  
Defendant.

Please take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-referenced action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows:

Plaintiff is seeking a judgment of absolute divorce from the bonds of matrimony based upon one (1) year separation pursuant to the provisions of North Carolina General Statutes Section 50-6.

You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than October 20th, 2022 which is at least 45 days from the first publication of this notice. Upon your failure to file a pleading by the above date, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This, the 1st day of September, 2022.

Jewel E Baxley  
138 Grange Dr.  
Wendell, NC 27591  
9/1, 9/8 and 9/15/2022.  
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 002197

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Gwendolyn Louise Baines, late of Wake County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 3rd day of December 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 1st day of September, 2022.

R.B. Lee  
Administrator  
PO Box 923  
Garner, NC 27529  
9/1, 9/8, 9/15 and 9/22/2022

### HALIFAX COUNTY

#### NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF HALIFAX  
In The General Court of Justice  
District Court Division  
File No: 22 CVD 423

TARAQ K. KEARNS,  
Plaintiff

v.  
PAMELA LAVETTE BROWN,  
Defendant.

Please take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-referenced action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows:

Plaintiff is seeking a judgment of absolute divorce from the bonds of matrimony based upon one (1) year separation pursuant to the provisions of North Carolina General Statutes Section 50-6.

You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than October 11th, 2022 which is at least 45 days from the first publication of this notice. Upon your failure to file a pleading by the above date, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This, the 25th day of August, 2022.

Ronnie C. Reaves  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
State Bar No. 10489  
1001 Julian R. Allsbrook Highway  
Post Office Box 587  
Weldon, North Carolina 27890  
Tel: (252) 536-2503  
Fax: (252) 536-5130  
8/25, 9/1 and 9/8/2022.

### D/M/WBE

#### SUBCONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS WANTED

T. A. Loving Company (NC General Contractor License No. 325) is seeking certified DBE, MBE, and WBE subcontractors and suppliers for the **Utility Cut Repairs FY23** project for the **City of Jacksonville** which bids **September 6, 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 \* City of Jacksonville Engineering Division, Jacksonville City Hall; 815 New Bridge Street; Jacksonville, NC 28540.

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, hauling, asphalt paving, striping, traffic control, erosion control, seeding, linework, 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.

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 **Heather Loop Road Sewer Replacement** project for **Onslow Water and Sewer Authority (ONWASA)** which bids **September 1, 2022, at 2:00 PM**. Plans and specifications for this project are available at the following locations: TA Loving Company, 400 Patetown Road, Goldsboro, NC 27530 \* Highfill Infrastructure Engineering, P. C.; 3804 Park Avenue, Unit A; Wilmington, NC 28403 \* Hispanic Contractor's Association of the Carolinas website \* Dodge Data and Analytics website \* ConstructConnect website \* NC Institute of Minority Economic Development (NCIMED) website.

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, hauling, asphalt paving, striping, traffic control, erosion control, seeding, bypass pumping. 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.

### WANTED WBE, MBE & DBE BIDS

for the following job:

**TOWN OF CARY**  
**Quinard Drive Extension (Fenton)**  
Wake Co. Bid Date: Sept. 8th

These projects may involve some or all of the following aspects of construction: construction survey, clear and grub, trucking, drainage, milling, paving, incidental concrete, fence and guardrail, signs, structures, traffic control, utilities, signals, pavement marking, erosion control and seeding. Bids can be emailed to [stw.quotes@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-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to the advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award. In accordance with other related nondiscrimination authorities, bidders and contractors will also not be discriminated against on the grounds of sex, age, disability, low-income level, creed/religion, or limited English proficiency in consideration for an award.

### D/M/WBE

#### SUBCONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS WANTED

T.A. Loving Company (NC General Contractor License No. 325) is seeking certified DBE, MBE, and WBE subcontractors and suppliers for the **Sam's Branch Water Reclamation Facility** project for the **Town of Clayton** which bids **September 20, 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 \* Gannett Fleming, Inc.; One Glenwood Avenue, Suite 900; Raleigh, NC 27603 \* ConstructConnect website.

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, demolition, asphalt paving, earthwork, erosion control, trenching, curb and gutter, linework, seeding, sodding, landscaping, masonry, roofing, HVAC, thermal insulation, flatwork, CIPC, concrete forms, resteel, grout, structural steel, steel deck, miscellaneous metals, waterproofing, sheet metal flashing, joint sealants, door hardware, metal doors, wood doors, overhead coiling doors, glazing, louvers, gypsum board assemblies, tiling, acoustical ceilings, flooring, painting and coating, signage, plumbing, electrical, communications, fire detection and alarms, process piping, and cranes and hoists. Please contact **Tyler Sutton** ([tsutton@taloving.com](mailto:tsutton@taloving.com)) if you are interested in submitting a proposal on any portion(s) of this project. Contact via phone 919-734-8400; fax 919-736-2148; or email. All quotations will be accepted up to bid closing time on bid date. TA Loving Company is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

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

### WANTED WBE, MBE & DBE BIDS

for the following jobs:

DE00348	NCDOT DIVISION FIVE LETTING Vance Co.	Bid Date: Sept 14th
DC00260	NCDOT DIVISION THREE LETTING Sampson Co.	Bid Date: Sept 15th
C204650	NCDOT CENTRAL LETTING Johnston Co.	Bid Date: Sept 20th
C204743	Wilson Co.	Bid Date: Sept 20th
C204777	Wake Co.	Bid Date: Sept 20th
C204778	Wake Co.	Bid Date: Sept 20th

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



# Sports

## The Celebration Of HBCUs That Almost Wasn't

Before an almost sellout crowd in Chapel Hill, the Florida A&M Rattlers took on the Tarheels of the University of North Carolina. The game, season opener for the Tarheels and A&M, almost did not take place due to about 26 players for A&M being ineligible or unable to play. Head Coach Willie Simmons talked it over with players and, despite the short roster and some of their

best players sidelined, decided to play. The Marching 100 Band of Florida A&M, over 250 members strong, came along and performed at the pregame and halftime. The Rattlers held their own with two touchdowns in the first half and were down 28-14. Injuries and the strength of the Tarheels defense allowed only one more touchdown and a field goal

for the Rattlers. The Tarheels eventually prevailed and went on to win 56-24. Despite the loss, the game was considered a success as the A&M Rattlers competed shorthanded but did not roll over. The game, listed as a celebration for HBCUs, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, had three hall of famers as Honorary Captains of the game who were honored:

Rudy Hubbard—Former Florida A&M Coach who led the Rattlers to the NCAA1-AA football championship in 1978, three-time Black College National Championships, and SIAC championship in 1978. Hubbard is an Ohio State graduate.  
Rod Broadway—Former Head Football Coach at N.C. Central, Grambling State (LA), and N.C. A&T. The University of North

Carolina graduate is the only coach to compile five different Black College National Football Championships at three different schools. Compiled a 124-45 career and 2-0 in bowl victories.  
Bill Hayes—Durham native and former head coach at Winston-Salem State and N.C. A&T. Started his coaching career in 1976 and finished in 2002. The N.C. Central graduate compiled

two Black College National Football Championships and was a former Athletic Director at N.C. Central, Florida A&M and Winston-Salem State.  
Also, during the game, Black administrators from the University of North Carolina, Florida A&M and N.C. Central were honored.  
*Articles and Images by Steve Worthy*

