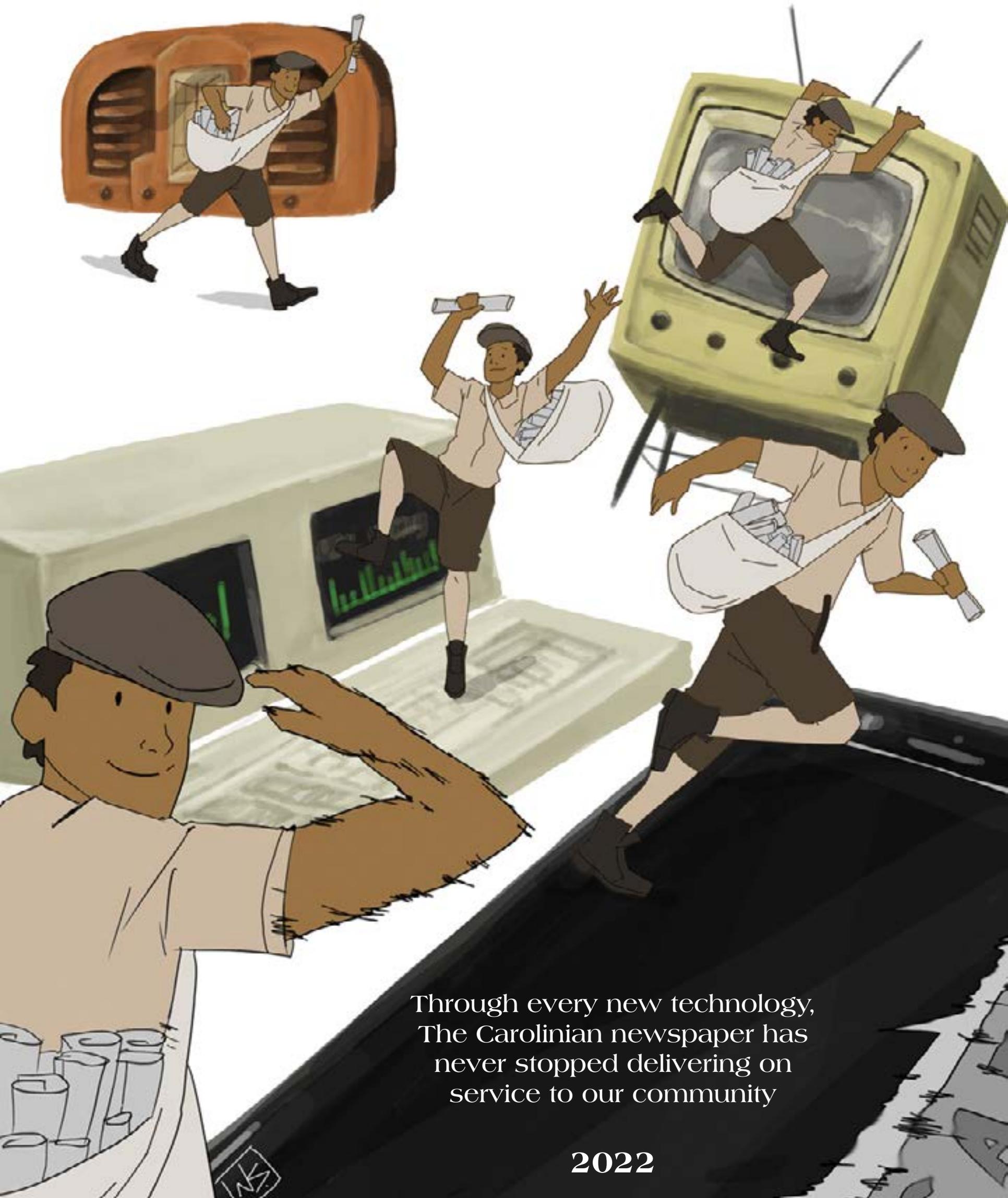


The Carolinian



Through every new technology,
The Carolinian newspaper has
never stopped delivering on
service to our community

2022

Publisher's Note

A young man asked me why I was in the newspaper business because, according to him, "nobody reads newspapers anymore. Everyone reads stuff on their phones." My reply should have been that there are tens of thousands of somebodies reading this one each week, but that wasn't what I said. That reply would have been too snarky and he would not have received it well.

Instead I did the grown-up thing and gave the young man a real explanation. I told him that the difference between reading the news on your phone and reading the news in a newspaper is like choosing to eat at Chick-Fil-A or choosing to eat a home cooked meal. At Chick-Fil-A you can get something quick that will temporarily satisfy you. However, a home cooked meal takes time to prepare. Someone must carefully calculate the ingredients that go into the meal and put them all together. The ingredients are for nourishment and good health, not mass production. They must be right or no one will eat it. It has to smell good so that people will come and

get it. And it absolutely must leave you full and satisfied to make it worth all of the work that goes into it. That meal has to fill you up to the point that you have to sit down and take a nap to digest it all.

The young man thought about it for a moment, and then he smiled. I handed him a newspaper and challenged him to look through it and find something he did not know. He didn't make it past the first page.

What the young man didn't quite understand is that digital media feeds you and leads you like herded cattle. You get typecast in the digital world and it is very difficult to break free of your profile. The pages of a newspaper are a world of possibility. It's news! The only common thread throughout the pages of The Carolinian are that we focus on how the news effects the African American community. Our world is colorful and filled with variety. It's not just entertainment or crime.

We are not a monolith. Only two things about our demographic are the same. One is the fact that we have more melanin in our skin. Nonethe-

less, our kids skateboard and ski, ride horses and do motocross. We kayak and vacation all over the world. We start new businesses everyday. We are Democrats, Republicans, Libertarians, Green, Gay, Environmentalist, Riverboat Captains, Cowboys Fans, we run manufacturing facilities out of our kitchens or in a 40,000 square foot building. We are so varied, and it's so beautiful.

The other thing that we have in common is that we read The Carolinian. That is our strength and our connection.

Not only are we connected, we are engaged as a community. I shop at Food Lion. My husband shops at Food Lion. Do you know why? It's because Food Lion advertises in The Carolinian.

We have a bank accounts with United Bank, M&F Bank and Bank of America. Why? Because they advertise in The Carolinian. We eat at Jack's. We get our car serviced at Atlantic Tire. My family works with Jim Brown on real estate transactions. We get our candy from Larry's. If I could afford a garage I would buy it from Carolina Custom Builders.

Why? Because they advertise in The Carolinian.

We don't just say Patronize our Advertisers, we lead by example. Business must be reciprocal, and this is a concept that seems to have been lost.

The Carolinian newspaper does a considerable amount of charity. Many of you know that during the pandemic our subscription renewal notices did not go out. We didn't want the financial burden of renewal to hinder any of our readership from getting the news they needed. The reason we were able to do this was because of advertising from the companies that support The Carolinian. They support us so that we can continue to support you.

As you flip through the pages of the newspaper, take notice of the businesses that keep this 82 year old tradition going, and choose to do business with them. They are sending you a personal invitation through the pages of your community newspaper. Take them up on it every chance you get.

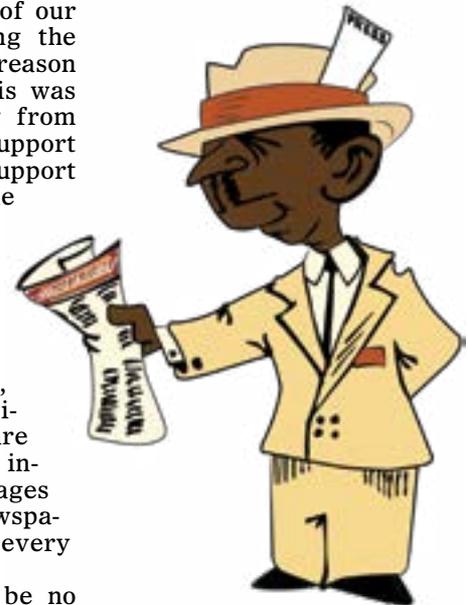
Lastly, There would be no

Carolinian newspaper if there were no "you" to read it. Our purpose is to keep our community informed. But, information should not be a one-way street. As a member of this community we need your input too.

Be informed, be engaged and be proud that you are a part of a long-standing legacy.

Thank you for your support!

Adria Jervay
Publisher of The Carolinian



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Footprints Through The Carolinian's 82 Year History

EDITOR'S NOTE: This feature we will be focusing on an African-American locally who impacted our history. It would be remiss of us not to include L.M. Cheek's contribution to the Black Press in this community, and how the newspaper evolved through the years to the current Carolinian.

Beginning in October 1940, *The Carolinian* presented the public with an eight-page, seven-column newspaper. *The Carolinian* is an outgrowth of the *Carolina Tribune*.

The *Carolina Tribune* had its inception under Claude Whitaker after World War I and was printed in the Orgen Printing Co.'s plant at 115 E. Hargett St. in Raleigh. The plant later moved to 118 E. Hargett St. under the management of C.A. Whitaker and L.M. Cheek.

Around 1922, H.E. Fontillo-Nanton, who had worked with the *Carolina Times*, assumed the ownership and editor-publisher position of the *Carolina Tribune*. He published the *Tribune* until October 1940, at which time the name was changed from the *Tribune* to *The Carolinian*.

P.R. Jervay, Sr. assumed the position of editor-publisher-owner of *The Carolinian* in 1940. Jervay had come into the business with Nanton, who had a position with NYA in Raleigh. Nanton later took a position doing property survey work in Raleigh.

From there, he pursued his doctorate at Iowa State University. This placed him in the education world, where he spent some 25 to 30 years between Texas, South Carolina, Raleigh and Hampton Institute (now University).

Jervay came to Raleigh from Wilmington, where he aided his father in the publishing of the *Cape Fear Journal*. Going there from Hampton Institute, where he had been an instructor in Linotyping, he remained there from 1926 until 1940, when he left for Raleigh.

Being a man of insight, Jervay realized that education is the cornerstone of success for the black community. And with that in mind, he created several innovative ideas to help promote education through the pages of *The Carolinian*.

Every year, *The Carolinian* publishes an education edition which allows different educational institutions to tell about themselves and explore various issues. The paper also regularly published a school page during the school year called "Window To Our Public School System."

Jervay began his tenure with the following equipment: Michle cylinder press, Model 14 Linotype machine, 9X12X18 job presses, Diamond paper cutter, Boston stitcher, Miller bench saw, type cabinet, miscellaneous type and print shop

tools.

Knowing that a quality newspaper must have good machinery and efficient personnel, he set a goal of improving the mechanical equipment. The personnel at the time consisted of only three printers, a salesman, a reporter, some part-time personnel and himself.

The Carolinian's predecessor, the *Tribune*, was an eight-page, seven-column newspaper with depressed circulation, scarce advertising and minimal good will. However, the struggle to keep going was accomplished by those who fostered the *Tribune* and they deserve due credit, as many were good newspaper personnel.

In 1945, *The Carolinian* enlarged its facility in order to house an eight-page direct print web press to complement other equipment such as an Intertype and Monotype machines. By this time, there had been considerable growth in personnel and necessary equipment.

In order to develop what seemed expedient for capital intake beyond *Carolinian* revenue, a block of papers were printed comprising at least seven per week covering Raleigh, Wilmington, Fayetteville, Winston, Greensboro, Winston-Salem, Asheville and

sometimes Knoxville and Chattanooga, Tenn. and Charleston and Columbia, S.C. All papers were make-over eight-page format regular eight columns.

After several years, the management decided eight-page papers were noncompetitive on a statewide basis as they could not accommodate news and pictures of North Carolina, which were being sent, in large measure, out of state and marketed back to three major black weeklies.

In 1950, a group of home economics teachers bought the Arcade building from the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Co. Subsequently, Ms. Lucy Fuller James, in charge of affairs for the group, requested *The Carolinian* to move.

In June of 1952, *The Carolinian* broke ground for its business location at 518 E. Martin St. The plant, containing 20,000 square feet, was of brick and cinderblock construction. A 24-page Hoe stereotype press was installed in the new location and a program of additional pages was inaugurated.

For 10 years, *The Carolinian* operated with 16 or more pages from what was then an all-letterpress mechanical department, experiencing steady growth in its news content, advertising, circulation and gen-

eral acceptance in Raleigh and the state.

For seven years, *The Carolinian* fostered a food show and exposition beginning in the basement of First Baptist Church, thence to Spaulding Gymnasium and finally to Raleigh Memorial Auditorium.

The growth of *The Carolinian* was not without hardship. During World War II, when the need for armed forces personnel sapped the manpower of business and industry, in fact, every walk of life, the emptied reservoir of printers and newspaper people left a questionable future.

The Carolinian resorted to a training program in all phases of its operation following the period of the manpower shortage. While this program served a need, many of the trainees who became journeymen sought larger cities and plants that paid higher wages.

Even after the training program was disbanded, many of the employees of the newspaper have moved on to greener pastures, especially since the commitment to the black press is less by most of its employees in modern times. Some of *The Carolinian's* former employees can be found in government, school offices, metropolitan dailies and other black newspapers.

Jervay retired from his role as publisher in late 1991, and after his death in 1993, the paper experienced a period of flux. Uncertainty about succession to the paper's ownership, economic recession, problems with aging equipment and the necessity to move from the Martin Street plant due to urban renewal contributed to uncertainty about the paper's future.

Problems came to a head in 1994, when a number of local and national advertisers left in the wake of the Republican Revolution. This, coupled with a national paper shortage which saw the price of newsprint quadruple over a period of months, produced a very serious situation.

Indeed, dozens of black and smaller community newspapers across the country found they could no longer survive and went out of business during this period.

The Carolinian was forced to cut back seriously on the number of pages it printed, and other cutbacks were instituted, but the paper stayed in business, and slowly, things began to improve.

In 1997, P.R. Jervay, Jr. assumed the position of editor-publisher of *The Carolinian*. Improvements, both to equipment and production, were made, including the addition of color photographs on the front page and a redesigned look and feel for the paper.

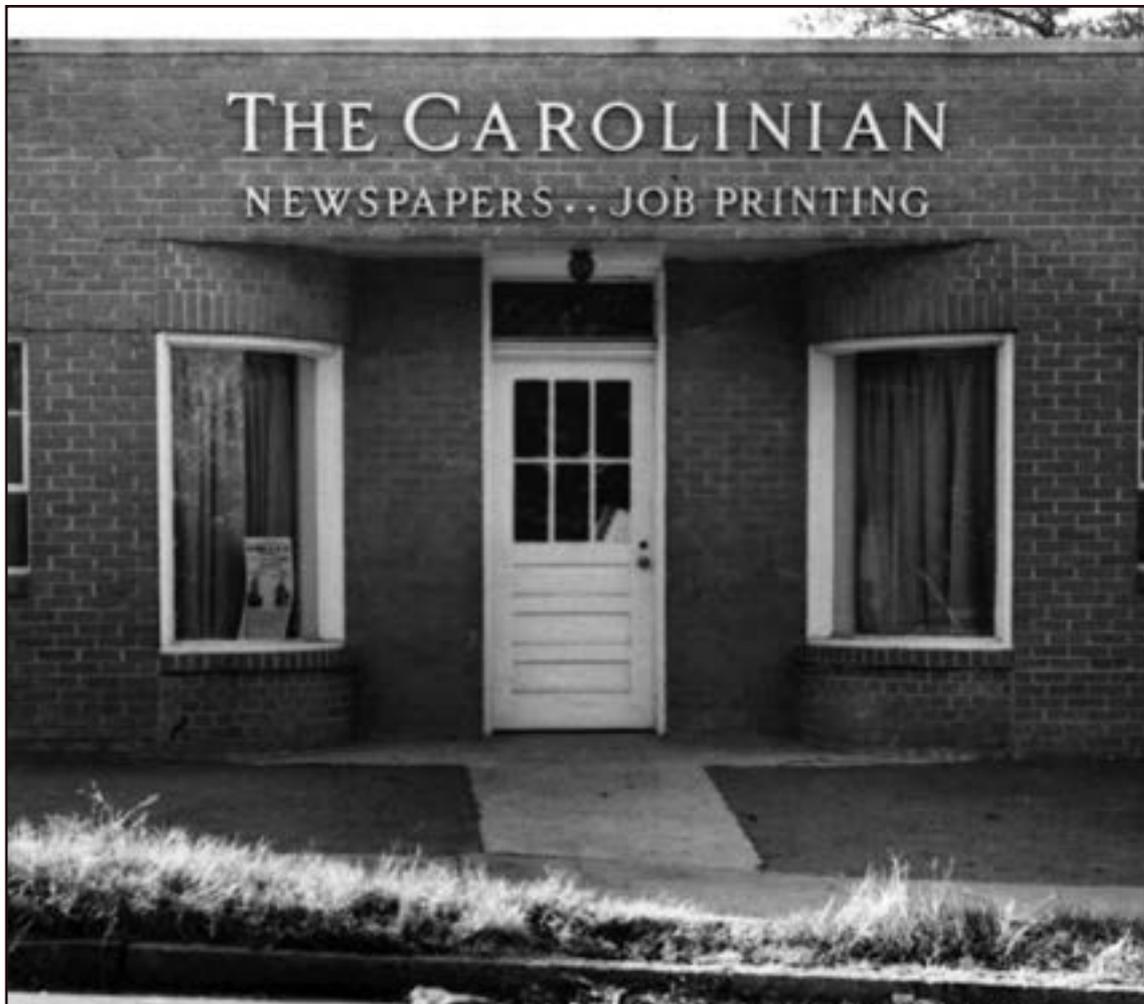
In the past few years, *The Carolinian* has prospered and expanded. Advertisers have come back, and new features have been added. *The Carolinian* now averages 14 pages per issue in its Thursday edition and offers a Sunday Digital Edition.

Recognition has increased, as well, with editorials regularly reprinted in the mainstream press and columns and news articles being reprinted in other black press outlets as far away as Dallas and New York City.

Many area media outlets, both print and broadcast, have learned to rely on *The Carolinian* for firsthand, up-to-date information on the African-American community, and a number of important stories in recent years concerning the community have "broken" in the pages of *The Carolinian* first.

The Carolinian's offices are currently located at 1504 New Bern Avenue, and plans are currently under way for further expansion and renovation.

Going into the 21st century with Publisher, Adria Jervay, *The Carolinian* will keep you posted, not only on its own growth and plans for the future, but on those of the community for which it remains the principal advocate and defender.



THERE IS NO PLACE LIKE HOME — The Carolinian's office at 518 E. Martin St. was completed in 1952. The newspaper was published there until 1994, when urban renewal forced the plant to move. It has called several edifices home until it moved to 1504 New Bern Ave, where it resides today.

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Thank you for your unwavering service to the community for 82 years!
-Abe Jones



Carolinian Newspaper Congratulations On 82 Years

Thank you for being an essential part of the community



Secretary Elaine Marshall



THE CAROLINIAN'S FIRST FAMILY—Pictured left to right are: Brenda Yancey Jervay with her three publishers, Prentice Jervay Monroe, P. R. Jervay Sr., and Paul R. Jervay Jr. in his father's hands. See Story

THE HONORABLE PAUL R. JERVAY JR.

By Kayolyn Person Jervay

While rocking in my comfort chair, it is with great prejudice that I write this story. The beautiful and precious baby being held in the great palm of the extraordinary hand of his father, P.R. Jervay Sr., is, well, it is Paul R. Jervay Jr.

The subject of the story, I met seven years ago, and married him one year later. The subject is my wonderful husband, who has weathered much in life and has managed to weather all of the good and bad that has been our great and growing relationship.

Other than the meritorious and outstanding qualities that Paul is known for in the community as owner, publisher, editor, advertising salesman of The Carolinian Newspaper, having most heartily been a Black World Community advocate, the subject is a true and marvelous father. He is also the publisher of Carolina Call. Read more of my prejudiced view about Paul R. Jervay Jr.

Since I married Paul, I've learned that newspaper runs through his veins. It has been reported that he retired from The Carolinian. He's still with that paper in a fashion, and he is publisher and editor of his monthly paper, Carolina Call, published from Warrenton, North Carolina. I've found his dedication to the education of our Black Community to be unwavering. His heart is staked to it. Mr. Jervay keeps alive the principles that his predecessor, Mr. P.R. Jervay Sr., stepped out on when he set a goal and followed a dream of producing the highest standard of reporting news and community interest where others had no such dedication, nor interest. If you've met Paul in the business world, I believe you'll agree that he is about "business;" always striving to accomplish a goal of his heart's purity for professionalism.

No stranger to the public, and the business world, at age seven, Paul met many of Raleigh when he began his paper route. He tenured that job for six years.

Although newspaper courses through his veins, he has lived in his world of two sports that he loved and excelled in, Tennis and Golf. From his successes, he has given back to the community in coaching and training our young males and females. From his being in that arena his touch has helped shape attitudes of positivity and confidence. While I'm writing these words with admitted prejudice, they are from facts.

Paul is the loving and proud father of two successful daughters, Jeneea Jervay-Bush, and Adria Jervay. Adria Jervay is the current owner and publisher of the 82 (eighty-two) year old, The Carolinian Newspaper. Jeneea and Adria are avid in his two sports loves; tennis and golf. Jervay is blessed with 5 grand children, whom he loves. All of them are wonderfully colorful.

He graduated from North Carolina Central University in 1971, and was offered a position as auditor at Ernest & Ernest Public Accounting Firm. However, he declined and walked the distance from Downtown Raleigh to The Carolinian. Fifty-one years, with stamina from God, newspaper and Paul are in service with spiritual love for our Black Community. Also, along the way he has been cited by his peers and professional organizations with various merits and accolades.

On October 25, 2022, Paul will celebrate his 73rd birthday. The short spell that I've shared with you is a peek into who my subject is. There is no way I could not say that I love Mr. Jervay and I'm blessed to be in love with him; marking seven years of longevity, having quest for continuing, by God's permission. There are two most endearing qualities that are steeped in his heart, and his manner. Paul is unassuming and Paul wishes to serve. That is a mission that we share. We believe that to be able to serve others and to serve others is a most wonderful honor. If I've served you in the last seven years of my life, it has been Mr. Jervay's "getting it done."

If you have chanced to read my words in story, thank you for enduring and thank you for seeing why this is a love story, dedicated to my husband. The blessing is mine to be able to say, I am Mrs. Kayolyn Person-Jervay.

'Change Has Come': Mississippi Unveils Emmett Till Statue

GREENWOOD, Miss. (AP) — Hundreds of people applauded — and some wiped away tears — as a Mississippi community unveiled a larger-than-life statue of Emmett Till on Friday, not far from where white men kidnapped and killed the Black teenager over accusations he had flirted with a white woman in a country store.

"Change has come, and it will continue to happen," Madison Harper, a senior at Leflore County High School, told a racially diverse audience at the statue's dedication. "Decades ago, our parents and grandparents could not envision that a moment like today would transpire."

The 1955 lynching became a catalyst for the civil rights movement. Till's mother, Mamie Till-Mobley, insisted on an open-casket funeral in Chicago so the world could see the horrors inflicted on her 14-year-old son. Jet magazine published photos of his mutilated body, which was pulled from the Tallahatchie River in Mississippi.

The 9-foot (2.7-meter) tall bronze statue in Greenwood's Rail Spike Park is a jaunty depiction of the living Till in slacks, dress shirt and tie with one hand on the brim of a hat.

The rhythm and blues song, "Wake Up, Everybody" played as workers pulled a tarp off the figure. Dozens of people surged forward, shooting photos and video on cellphones.

Anna-Maria Webster of Rochester,



New York, had tears running down her face.

"It's beautiful to be here," said Webster, attending the ceremony on a sunny afternoon during a visit with Mississippi relatives. Speaking of Till's mother she said: "Just to imagine the torment she went through — all over a lie."

Mississippi has the highest percentage of Black residents of any state, now about 38%. Democratic U.S. Rep. Bennie Thompson, whose district encompasses the Delta, noted that Mississippi had no Black elected

officials when Till was killed. He said Till's death helped spur change.

"But you, know, change has a way of becoming slower and slower," said Thompson, the only Black member of Mississippi's current congressional delegation. "What we have to do in dedicating this monument to Emmett Till is recommit ourselves to the spirit of making a difference in our community."

The statue is a short drive from an elaborate Confederate monument outside the Leflore County Courthouse and about 10 miles (16 kilome-

ters) from the crumbling remains of the store, Bryant's Grocery & Meat Market, in Money.

The statue's unveiling coincided with the release this month of "Till," a movie exploring Till-Mobley's private trauma over her son's death and her transformation into a civil rights activist.

The Rev. Wheeler Parker Jr., the last living witness to his cousin's kidnapping, wasn't able to travel from Illinois for Friday's dedication. But he told The Associated Press on Wednesday: "We just thank God someone is keeping his name out there."

He said some wrongly thought Till got what he deserved for breaking the taboo of flirting with a white woman, adding many people didn't want to talk about the case for decades.

"Now there's interest in it, and that's a godsend," Parker said. "You know what his mother said: 'I hope he didn't die in vain.'"

Greenwood and Leflore County are both more than 70% Black and officials have worked for years to bring the Till statue to reality. Democratic state Sen. David Jordan of Greenwood secured \$150,000 in state funding and a Utah artist, Matt Glenn, was commissioned to create the statue.

Jordan said he hopes it will draw tourists to learn more about the ar-

(See **EMMITT TILL**, P. 7)



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Negro League Baseball, An American Story Of Loss

By Rob Ruck

Univ. of Pittsburgh

During the half century that baseball was divided by a color line, black America created a sporting world of its own.

Black teams played on city sandlots and country fields, with the best barnstorming their way across the country and throughout the Caribbean.

A century ago, on Feb. 13, 1920, teams from eight cities formally created the Negro National League. Three decades of stellar play followed, as the league affirmed black competence and grace on the field, while forging a collective identity that brought together Northern-born blacks and their Southern brethren. And though Major League Baseball was segregated from the 1890s until 1947, these teams played countless interracial games in communities across the nation.

After World War II, Jackie Robinson hurdled baseball's racial divide. But while integration – baseball's great experiment – was a resounding success on the field, at the gates and in changing racial attitudes, Negro League teams soon lost all of their stars and struggled to retain fans. The teams hung on for a bit, before eventually folding.

Years ago, when I worked on a documentary about the Negro Leagues, I was struck by how many of the interviewees looked back longingly on the leagues' heyday. While there was the understanding that integration needed to happen, there was also the recognition that something special was forever lost.

Given the injustices of the 1890s – sharecropping, lynchings, disenfranchisement and the Supreme Court's sanctioning of segregation in Plessy v. Ferguson – exclusion from Major League Baseball was hardly the most grievous injury African Americans suffered. But it mattered. Their absence denied them the chance to participate in a very visible arena that helped European immigrants integrate into American culture.

While the sons of white immigrants – John McGraw, Honus Wagner, Joe DiMaggio – became major leaguers lionized by their nationalities, blacks didn't have that opportunity. Most whites assumed that was because they weren't good enough. Their absence reinforced prevailing beliefs that African Americans were inherently inferior – athletically and intellectually – with weak abdominal muscles, little endurance and prone to cracking under pressure.

The Negro Leagues gave black ballplayers their own platform to prove otherwise. On Feb. 13, 1920, Chicago American Giants owner Rube Foster convened a meeting at the Paseo YMCA in Kansas City to organize the Negro National League. A Texas-born pitcher, Foster envisioned a black alternative to the major leagues.

Northern black communities were exploding in size, and Foster saw the league's potential. Teams like the American Giants and the Kansas City Monarch regularly competed against white teams, drew large crowds and turned profits. Players enjoyed higher salaries than most black workers, while black newspapers trumpeted their exploits, as did some white papers.

Other leagues cropped up; the Negro National League was soon joined by the Negro American League and the Negro Southern League. Some years, the Negro

National and Negro American Leagues played a Negro League World Series. The leagues also sent their best players to the East-West All-Star Classic, an annual exhibition game in Chicago.

But the Negro National League's ascent was stunted after Foster was exposed to a gas leak, nearly died and suffered permanent brain damage. Absent his leadership and hammered by the Great Depression, the league disbanded in 1931.

Gus Greenlee, who ran the popular lottery known as the numbers game, revived the league in Pittsburgh in 1933 after a sandlot club called the Crawfords, which included the young slugger Josh Gibson, approached him for support. He agreed to pay them salaries and reinforced their roster with the addition of flamethrower Satchel Paige.

Greenlee went on to build the finest black-owned ballpark in the country, Greenlee Field, while headquartering the Negro National League on the floor above the Crawford Grill, his renowned jazz club in Pittsburgh's Hill District.

Pittsburgh soon became the mecca of black baseball. Sitting along America's East-West rail lines, the city was a requisite stop for black entertainers, leaders and ball clubs, which traveled from cities as far away as Kansas City. Its two teams, the Homestead Grays and Pittsburgh Crawfords, won a dozen titles. Seven of the first 11 Negro Leaguers eventually inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame – stars like Cool Papa Bell, Oscar Charleston, Josh Gibson, Buck Leonard and Satchel Paige – played for one or both squads.

The sport, meanwhile, became a major source of black pride.

"The very best," Pittsburgh-born author John Wideman noted, "not only competed among themselves and put on a good show, but [also] would go out and compete against their white contemporaries and beat the stuffing out of them."

Satchel Paige and the Crawfords famously defeated St. Louis Cardinals ace Dizzy Dean in an exhibition game in Cleveland – just two weeks after the Cardinals had won the 1934 World Series. Overall, Negro League teams won far more games against white squads than they lost.

"There was so much [negativity] living over [us] which we had no control [over]," Mal Goode, the first black national network correspondent, recalled. "So anything you could hold on to from the standpoint of pride, it was there and it showed."

For Major League Baseball, no moment was more transformative than the arrival of Jackie Robinson, who, in 1947, paved the way for African Americans and darker-skinned Latinos to reshape the game.

But integration destroyed the Negro Leagues, plucking its young stars – Willie Mays, Henry Aaron, Roy Campanella and Ernie Banks – who brought their fans with them. The big leagues never considered folding in some of the best black teams, and its owners rejected the Negro National League owners' proposal to become a high minor league.

Like many black papers, colleges and businesses, the Negro National League paid a price for integration: extinction. The league ceased play after the 1948 season. Black owners, general managers and managers soon disappeared, and it would be decades before a black manager would get a chance to steer a major league ballclub.

Major League Baseball benefited from

talent cultivated in the Negro Leagues and on the sandlots that sustained the sport, especially in inner cities. But when those leagues crumbled, prospective black pros were relegated to minor league teams, often in inhospitable, southern cities. Many Negro League regulars simply hung up their cleats or played in the Caribbean.

The playwright August Wilson set his play, "Fences," which tells the story of an ex-Negro Leaguer who becomes a garbage man in Pittsburgh.

"Baseball gave you a sense of belonging," Wilson said in a 1991 interview. At those Negro League games, he added, "The umpire ain't white. It's a black umpire. The owner ain't white. Nobody's white. This is our thing ... and we have

our everything – until integration, and then we don't have our nothing."

The story of African Americans in baseball has long been portrayed as a tale of their shameful segregation and redemptive integration. Segregation was certainly shameful, especially for a sport invested in its own rhetoric of democracy.

But for African Americans, integration was also painful. Although long overdue and an important catalyst for social change, it cost them control over their sporting lives.

It changed the meaning of the sport – what it symbolized and what it meant for their communities – and not necessarily for the better.



Sports page from a 1961 edition of The Carolinian

Congratulations to The Carolinian Newspaper for 82 Years of Service to the Community
-The Burroughs Family

EMMITT TILL

Continued from page 5

ea's history. "Hopefully, it will bring all of us together," he said. Till and Parker had traveled from Chicago to spend the summer of 1955 with relatives in the deeply segregated Mississippi Delta. On Aug. 24, the two teens took a short trip with other young people to the store in Money. Parker said he heard Till whistle at shopkeeper Carolyn Bryant.

Four days later, Till was abducted in the middle of the night from his uncle's home. The kidnappers tortured and shot him, weighted his body down with a cotton gin fan and dumped him into the river.

Jordan, who is Black, was a college student in 1955 when he drove to the Tallahatchie County Courthouse in Sumner to watch the murder trial of two white men charged with killing Till — Carolyn's husband Roy Bryant and his half brother, J.W. Milam.

An all-white, all-male jury acquitted the two men, who later confessed to Look magazine that they killed Till.

Nobody has ever been convicted in the lynching. The U.S. Justice Department has opened multiple investigations starting in 2004 after receiving inquiries about whether charges could be brought against anyone still living.

In 2007, a Mississippi prosecutor presented evidence to a grand jury of Black and white Leflore County residents after investigators spent three years re-examining the killing. The grand jury declined to issue indictments.

The Justice Department reopened an investigation in 2018 after a 2017 book quoted Carolyn Bryant — now remarried and named Carolyn Bryant Donham — saying she lied when she claimed Till grabbed her, whistled and made sexual advances. Relatives have publicly denied Donham, who is in her 80s, recanted her allegations. The department closed that investigation in late 2021 without bringing charges.

This year, a group searching the Leflore County Courthouse basement found an unserved 1955 arrest warrant for "Mrs. Roy Bryant." In August, another Mississippi grand jury found insufficient evidence to indict Donham, causing consternation for Till relatives and activists.

Although Mississippi has dozens of Confederate monuments, some have been moved in recent years, including one relocated in 2020 from the University of Mississippi campus to a cemetery where Confederate soldiers are buried.

The state has a few monuments to Black historical figures, including one honoring civil rights activist Fannie Lou Hamer in Ruleville.

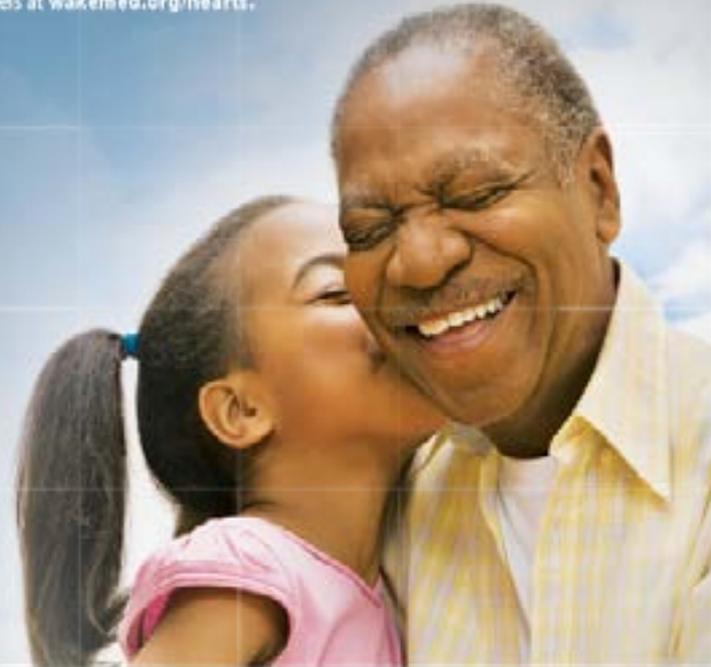
A historical marker outside Bryant's Grocery has been knocked down and vandalized. Another marker near where Till's body was pulled from the Tallahatchie River has been vandalized and shot. The Till statue in Greenwood will be watched by security cameras.

Jordan won applause when he said Friday: "If some idiot tears it down, we're going to put it right back up."

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Progress Edition Throughout The Decades...



1956



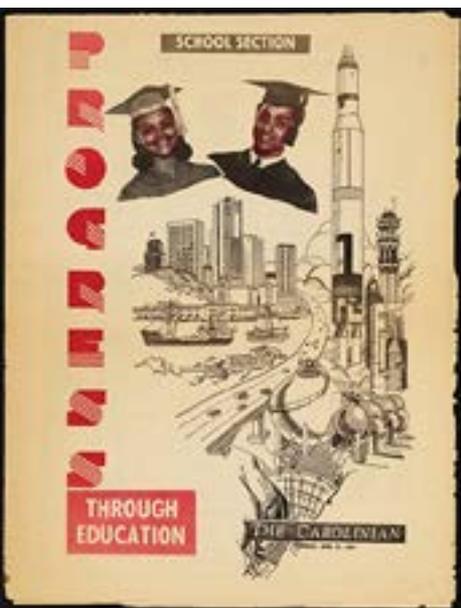
1956



1961



1961



1977



1988



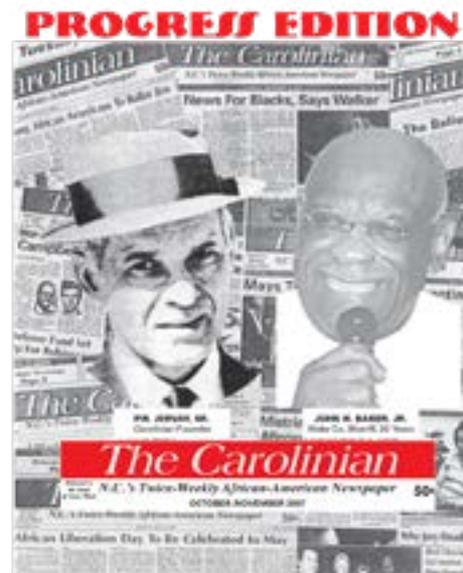
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1990



1988



2007

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Negro Newspaper
142nd Anniversary **Week** MARCH 16...22

COMMEMORATING the 142th Anniversary of the birth of the first Negro newspaper in the United States, FREEDOM'S JOURNAL in New York City, March 16, 1827, with John B. Russwurm, the first Negro college graduate in America as its editor, assisted by the Rev. Samuel E. Cornish, pastor of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and REMINDING Negro publishers and editors everywhere to maintain a united front "to protect and expose every condition contrary to the democratic concepts we all treasure".

CREDO OF THE NEGRO PRESS

The Negro Press believes that America can best lead the world away from racial and national antagonisms when it attends every man, regardless of race, color or creed, his business and legal rights. Helping no man, fearing no man, the Negro Press strives to help every man in the belief that all are born as long as men are to hold back.

THE UNDERSIGNED eagerly welcome the opportunity to join the CARDBORER in the observance of the 142nd Anniversary of THE NEGRO PRESS. WE IN URNISHING THE ADVERTS for their continued devotion to the cause of freedom and equality for all men.

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1971

Today, The Black Press Is As Relevant As Ever

CNN—For years, newsrooms across America have had a problem with a lack of diversity and inclusion. People of color are underrepresented among news organizations, which do not reflect the makeup of the general population and have made little progress in the past decade.

Although non-whites make up about 40% of the US population, journalists of color comprise only 16.55% of newsrooms' staff in 2017, according to the American Society of Newspaper Editors (ASNE) Newsroom Employment Diversity Survey.

Larger newsrooms and digital news organizations are a little better — 23.4% and 24.3%, respectively — but not much. People of color are only 13.4% of newsroom leaders.

This comes at a time when society needs and demands more inclusive news. It's been 195 years since the creation of the Black Press, and it's as relevant as ever.

In the absence of an inclusive environment, the quality of journalism suffers. Certain stories are simply not reported, or are told without the nuance or perspective the circumstances require. The Black Press has filled that void for generations. And with the advent of digital platforms, a baton has been passed to black millennial writers to continue presenting

narratives, with underrepresented points of views, that would otherwise go missing — and do not necessarily reflect the white men who dominate the industry.

Far beyond using social media for entertainment, shopping or communication, African-American millennials have elevated Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and other platforms to raise public consciousness about the issues impacting black people. The hashtags #BlackLivesMatter and #OscarsSoWhite are prime examples of this phenomenon.

According to Nielsen, 55% of Black consumers between 18 and 34 spend at least an hour on social media each day, 6% higher than all millennials. In addition, 29% of black millennials spend three or more hours daily on social media sites, 9% higher than that of all millennials.

Additionally, when the mainstream media covers a particular issue, the Black Press may cover it with a completely different angle — if not a different issue altogether. For example, the Black Press rejected the mainstream media narrative that white "working class" support for Trump was primarily economic in nature, reporting instead on the presidential candidate's appeal to white solidarity, raw racism and the scapegoating of minority

groups.

After all, white economic angst by itself does not reconcile the fact that whites always have fared better than their African- and Latino-Americans. And while the mainstream news organizations have framed the NFL protests through the prism of patriotism and support for the military, the Black press has focused on the crisis of police brutality and racial violence that underlie the athletes' decision to take a knee during the national anthem.

Fifty years ago, when unrest rocked cities across the nation as a result of police brutality and systemic racism, the Kerner Commission — an 11-member commission appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson that highlighted racism for its role in a surge in urban riots — took the news media to task.

"We have found a significant imbalance between what actually happened in our cities and what the newspaper, radio and television coverage of the riots told us happened," the Kerner report said.

"Our second and fundamental criticism is that the news media have failed to analyze and report adequately on racial problems in the United States and, as a related matter, to meet the Negro's legitimate expectations in journalism. By and large, news orga-

nizations have failed to communicate to both their black and white audiences a sense of the problems America faces and the sources of potential solutions."

The Commission made a number of recommendations, including that news organizations employ black people beyond mere tokenism and in positions of real responsibility, and that they publish newspapers and produce programs that acknowledge black people, who they are and what they do.

Although newsrooms have made some progress, it's not where it should or needs to be. But by empowering themselves and their followers — without gatekeepers and intermediaries in the traditional media sense — young, black journalists have reached a broad audience. They can educate and mobilize others to act on a given issue, and connect with local, national and global social justice movements.

A videographer or documentarian can broadcast a crime in progress — such as a police beating of an unarmed motorist — live and in real time, before an audience of thousands if not millions. In that regard, technology is the great equalizer, a check on the abuse of official power and a call to reform harmful patterns and discriminatory

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Today, The Black Press Is As —CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

practices.

From its inception, the black press has been a change agent by shining a light on the plight of blacks and giving them the power to write and report on their own narratives. In New York in 1827, Rev. Samuel Cornish and John B. Russwurm began publication of Freedom's Journal, the first black-owned newspaper in America. Excluded from white venues and often insulted in their absence, black voices found the need to tell their own stories.

"We wish to plead our own cause. Too long have others spoken for us. Too long has the public been deceived by representations, in things which concern us dearly," wrote the editors in their first edition.

Throughout the Civil War, black newspapers were centers for political debate on the war and emancipation, and advocacy for black soldiers. During Jim Crow and the reign of Klan terror, the black press fought against segregation, demanded equal rights for African Americans and helped



elect politicians to office.

The Chicago Defender, which had demanded federal intervention from President Woodrow Wilson to stop lynchings, played a role in the Great Migration by urging a mass exodus of

black people from the South.

In the 1890s, journalist Ida B. Wells led a campaign against lynching at considerable personal risk. Born a slave, she wrote about the injustices of racial segregation in the South. A

mob descended upon her Memphis news office, destroyed her equipment and threatened her with death.

Over the years, many black publications disappeared. Others learned to navigate the new landscape, and a plethora of new black media emerged with a strictly online presence, impacting the manner that black people digest and make sense of the news.

The days of "reading the paper" have dwindled for many, but what remains the same is that the black press doesn't look like the theoretical textbook case of objective journalism — and it was never meant to be — whatever that means to you.

When narratives are told from the perspective of a black lens, perhaps there are no two sides to a story. Perhaps there is only one side, or numerous sides with various textures and shades. What is certain is there is a sense of responsibility to the community, advocating for that community and telling their stories from their perspective.

Jamel James Appointed Warden at Central Prison

RALEIGH — The Division of Adult Correction has named Jamel James the warden of Central Prison.

James is a 23-year veteran with the N.C. Department of Public Safety. He has served as warden of Franklin Correctional Center since 2021.

"Warden James is a proven leader and a true corrections professional," said interim Commissioner of Prisons Brandeshawn Harris in announcing the appointment. "He will work to maintain the security of the facility to ensure the safety of staff, offenders

and the community at large."

In his new position, James is responsible for all operations at Central Prison, which is a male, high-security, close-custody facility. It has been in continuous service since 1884.

Central Prison is a complex operation that houses many of the special populations within the prison system: those with acute medical or mental health needs, many of the most violent offenders who require high levels of security, and those housed on Death Row.

A modern hospital opened at the prison in 2011 with operating rooms and a dialysis unit. The prison is also one of the largest mental health facilities in the state with multidisciplinary teams including psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, nurses and behavioral specialists providing mental health care.

Warden James began his career as a correctional officer at Wake Correctional Center in 2000. He rose through the ranks at Wake Correctional, to sergeant, lieutenant and in 2017 to assistant superintendent of custody and operations.

He has completed PEAK Performance training and is a recent graduate of the Correctional Leadership



Development Program. He is a member of the North American Association of Wardens, the American Correctional Association, the North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NCCASA) and SEANC District 41.

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Wells Fargo's First Black American Board Foundation Member

By Stacy Brown

NNPA

Otis Rolley possessed a desire to drive positive change in local communities, a craving that led him to Wells Fargo, where he would lead social impact at the banking giant.

He said he approached the interview process with Wells' CEO Charlie Scharf as a two-way conversation.

"There is a saying, do not talk about it, be about it," said Rolley, now the head of Philanthropy and Community Impact at the bank and president of the Wells Fargo Foundation.

Rolley also counts as the first Black American elected to his position permanently by the Wells Fargo Foundation board, overseeing about \$300 million in philanthropy, employee volunteerism and giving, and the company's strategic vision on

advancing social impact.

"I felt that CEO Charlie Scharf was being about it in a real and systemic way and that there was values alignment between myself and the company," Rolley stated.

"The company knows it has more work to do. Changes aren't going to happen overnight, but they can't happen at all without dedicated human and financial resources and a commitment from the top."

In a Q&A, Rolley said he believes change is happening and wanted to be on the journey with Wells Fargo.

Q- How did you become interested in taking on societal challenges?

Rolley: I was born and raised in Jersey City, NJ, a complex city in its own right but also close to New York City and Newark. So very early on, I had a front row seat to city life with all of its challenges and opportunities.

This urban upbringing stayed with me and ultimately informed my career path. An urban planner by training, I am fascinated by the obstacles and barriers each community faces when it comes to equitable access to economic opportunity and how to remove them.

I felt a need to take what I had seen and lived, and then learned in college, and put it into practice every day.

Q-What has been your career journey so far?

Rolley: I started my career with increasingly demanding roles in municipal government in Baltimore, advocating for better housing, small business and infrastructure across five administrations.

My journey eventually took me to the private sector where I joined the Rockefeller Foundation leading the North America team of the 100 Resilient Cities Initiative and then the U.S. Eco-

conomic Equity and Opportunity Initiative.

My focus was public-private partnership nationwide and long-term investments for low wage workers and communities of color across the country.

I've also held other positions across the public and private sectors so I understand how both need to work together to tackle difficult societal issues.

Q-Why did you choose to join Wells Fargo?

Rolley: I want to drive positive change in local communities. I've been focused on that my entire career. Leading social impact at Wells Fargo is an opportunity to take my experience and vision and put it to work on a larger scale with more resources.

I honestly approached the interview process as a two-way conversation.

There is a saying, do not talk about it, be about it.

I felt that CEO Charlie Scharf

was being about it in a real and systemic way and that there was values alignment between myself and the company.

The company knows it has more work to do.

Changes aren't going to happen overnight, but they can't happen at all without dedicated human and financial resources and a commitment from the top.

The head of diversity, equity and inclusion, at Wells Fargo is a Senior Executive Vice President for Diverse Segments, Representation and Inclusion.

They are a member of the Operating Committee, have a real budget, real staff, real integration with lines of business and corporate giving.

There are internal diverse affinity groups and strategic efforts underway with employees and policies, as well as external work. I believe change is happening and wanted to be on the journey with Wells Fargo.

Editors & Writers Who Left Their Mark In Our History

By Karl Cameron

Staff Writer

Our current publisher, Adria Jervay, called me one morning in the middle of her jog, and gave me my latest assignment, to recall some of the men and women that made *Carolinian* pages come alive with their very up close and personal experiences regarding African-American life in North Carolina, and their unique passions for delivering the news to our readers. All of the personalities that I will recall here made their particular contributions in their own special

ways within the confines of deadlines and commitment to the mission of the Black Press as the voice of Black America.

MANAGING EDITORS

I've had the privilege of knowing and working with a number of *The Carolinian's* managing editors. However, two stand out in particular. They are Charles R. Jones and Cash Michaels. Both men had a commitment to presenting the facts to their reading public, so that the readers could make an intelligent decision based on the content of their stories. I will attempt here to tell how they accomplished that end in their own unique ways.

Charles R. Jones walked in the door of *The Carolinian* with a passion for the community when the era of the civil rights movement was in full swing. All of the principals in the movement, and their exploits were kept on the front page on a continuing basis. Mr. Jones was not only responsible for the newspaper's front page, but was constantly meeting the public, and phoning city newsmakers from his desk.

He further enhanced the newspaper's coverage by learning to use a Speed Graphic camera, and therefore further enhancing the newspaper's written word.

Although Mr. Jones physically was a

slightly built individual, you would never guess that by the words that appeared under his byline, and the positions he took on behalf of the newspaper in the turbulent times of transitioning from segregation to integration. Jones banged away on his Underwood typewriter with a two-finger typing style that would rival those who employed the touch system of typing.

In his position as managing editor, *The Carolinian* was known by its Red Front Page Headline, as well as a community favorite crime column, called The Crime Beat. However, Mr. Jones' front page just got you started reading about, not only the local Raleigh community, but also surrounding areas such as Zebulon, Apex, Holly Springs, Henderson, Smithfield, Clinton, and more.

There was a hometown writers' page where contributors not only reflected what was going on where they lived, they also were carriers for the newspaper, making sure that their neighbors read their columns.

As the newspaper grew, Mr. Jones adapted well to the changing of times, and effectively, as the photos provided by a United Press International Photo machine provided diverse news sources to further enhance, not only the front page with national news photos, but lift the Sports Page to Award Winning prominence, with the help of the writings of Coach George Clements.

A major frustration to Mr. Jones was when he got tips from individuals, who did not care to have their names mentioned in his story. Although he was visibly upset by this circumstance, he still pursued the story as far as journalistic professionalism allowed him.

Charles R. Jones was also involved in his publisher, P.R. Jervay, Sr.'s, constant quest for a better newspaper through printing innovation. Mr. Jervay's belief was that the newspaper could be truly independent only if it owned its own printing facility complete with presses. With the transition from "hot type" and the newspaper's Hoe Rotary Press, to "cold type" and the offset Cottrell Vanguard Press, the news department achieved an even greater level of being able to deliver timely information.



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We're proud to recognize The Carolinian's work to amplify Black voices across North Carolina. Happy 81st anniversary!

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