

Business .....	P. 3
Church.....	P. 6
Community.....	P. 7
Editorials.....	P. 8
Viewpoints .....	P. 9
Classifieds.....	P. 10

# The Carolinian



N.C.'s Twice-Weekly African-American Newspaper

\$1.00

RALEIGH, N.C.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY, JANUARY 5-11, 2023

VOL. 83, NO. 10



Dedicated to the Spirit and Service of God

## Happy News Year! 2023

# Fans Give Millions To Damar Hamlin's Toy Drive For Kids

By Tim Reynolds

APNews



Damar Hamlin's goal was simple: He wanted to raise \$2,500 online to buy toys for needy kids. It took about two years. Then came Monday, when the Buffalo Bills safety was critically injured and needed his heart restarted on the field in a chilling scene that unfolded during a nationally televised game against the Cincinnati Bengals. He instantly became one of the biggest stories in sports, and thousands of people found his GoFundMe page. The result: roughly \$5.5 million donated in the first 24 hours after his injury. And the number is climbing. A fundraiser that as of last month had raised \$2,921 was up to \$5,495,550 by 9 p.m. Eastern on Tuesday — with about 183,000 people going online in that span to donate, on average, about \$30. Some of the donations were smaller. Some were more than \$5,000. A number of NFL players donated as well, including members of the New England Patriots, who are scheduled to play at Buffalo on Sunday for the regular-season finale. On average, about 2.2 donations were made through his GoFundMe page every second in the first 24 hours after Hamlin got hurt. And many came with messages of hope for a 24-year-old player in his second season, sedated in a Cincinnati hospital, listed in critical condition and with some teammates unwilling to return to Buffalo just so they could remain close to him. "There are moments in life that stop the world," wrote Michael Lynch, who donated. "We

all pray for two things. Your speedy recovery and that your impact to the world is enhanced by your go fund me." The messages poured in from different fan bases, many of the donors letting the world know that they support other teams. One came with a hashtag that read, "we are all Bills fans." Hamlin started the GoFundMe in December 2020. He was just wrapping up his college career and getting ready for the NFL draft process. And he wanted to have a toy drive at Kelly and Nina's Daycare Center — a facility co-owned by his mother — in

his hometown of McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania, a place with about 6,000 residents along the south bank of the Ohio River. "As I embark on my journey to the NFL, I will never forget where I come from and I am committed to using my platform to positively impact the community that raised me," Hamlin wrote when setting up the drive. "I created The Chasing M's Foundation as a vehicle that will allow me to deliver that impact, and the first program is the 2020 Community Toy Drive. This campaign gives you the opportunity to contribute to our first initia-

tive and positively impact children who have been hardest hit by the pandemic." He pulled the first event off with about 10 days of planning. Gifts poured in, some of it clothing donated by Pitt, where he had just finished playing. Hamlin's upbringing was far from easy: He lost three friends to gun violence while growing up and saw his father incarcerated for about 3 1/2 years for selling drugs. But as soon as he was able, Hamlin wanted to help others. So, he started the toy drive. And his foundation will now have the ability to do more good than it likely ever thought possible. "Damar created The Chasing M's Foundation to use as a vehicle to bring lasting impact to his community," his foundation wrote in a message posted to the donation page Tuesday. "The foundation supports toy drives, back-to-school drives, kids camps, and more." Many of the donations came from Bills fans, affectionately known as Bills Mafia, and this is far from the first time they've gone online to show support. In recent years, Bills fans have shown support for Miami quarterback Tua Tagovailoa's foundation after he left a game — also in Cincinnati — with a concussion; for Baltimore quarterback Lamar Jackson's charity after the Ravens lost a playoff game to Buffalo; and many made donations of \$16.88 to the P.U.N.T. Pediatric Cancer Collaborative in western New York following the death this summer of FIU player Luke Knox. Luke Knox's brother, Dawson Knox, is a tight end for the Bills. The \$16.88 was a nod to their jersey numbers.

# Congressional Black Caucus & 118th Congress

By Tyria McCray

Staff Writer

Members of congress, civil rights advocates, dignitaries, friends and family gathered at The Anthem concert hall on Tuesday to witness The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation ceremonial swearing-in of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) of the 118th United States Congress. This swearing in eclipses several records set by the outgoing Congress. It features a record-setting number of women, 149 to be exact, which expands female representation by just two members above the record set by the 117th Congress. Women of color will also break a record for their representation this year, with 58 serving, and within the House alone, there will be a record number of both Latinas and Black women. The new Congress also boasts

the House's first Gen-Z lawmaker and the longest-serving woman in congressional history. Some newcomers, Republicans and Democrats alike, also achieved historic firsts in their own states, ushering a diverse group into a politically split Washington. In 1971, Representatives Shirley Chisholm (NY), William L. Clay (MO), Georgia W. Collins (IL), John Conyers Jr. (MI), Ronald Dellums (CA), Charles Diggs Jr. (MD), Augustus Hawkins (CA), Ralph Metcalfe (IL), Parren Mitchell (MD), Robert C. Nix (PA), Charles B. Rangel (NY) and Louis Stokes (OH) and Delegate Walter Fauntroy (DC) joined together to form the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC). This organization was formed to advance the human and civil rights of all people, especially African Americans, toward justice, full civic inclusion and economic empowerment. Today, the Congress-

ional Black Caucus is the largest membership in the Caucus' history with members hailing from every region of the country representing more than 78 million people in 28 states and U.S. territories. "This was and still is the congress that gets things done. This congress made lynching a federal crime, followed through on the marriage rights act, this congress made Juneteenth a holiday and let us not forget that it was this congress that was not content with the attack on January 6 so demanded justice. Never doubt that a small group of committed citizens can change the world." Said Representative Joyce Beatty, Immediate Past Chair, Congressional Black Caucus U.S House of Representatives. The day began with an opening powerful prayer from Pastor Kelsey West of Nehemiah Ministries in Las Vegas, Nevada and recita-

tion of the black national anthem sung By Gospel Award winning artist, Charles Butler Jr. Welcome remarks from Nicole Austin-Hillery, President and CEO of the CBC, greetings from Hakeem Jeffries, Leader, House Democratic Caucus, and remarks from Minority Whip-Elect Katherine Clark. Also, amongst the class stood the youngest Incoming CBC freshman, congress member Maxwell Frost, serving as the U.S. representative from Florida's 10th congressional district. Additional speakers included Congressman Steven Horsford, Congresswoman Joyce Beatty, Congresswoman Terri A. Sewell and the U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Marcia L. Fudge delivered the swearing in of the incoming members. "We are proud and honored to host the swearing-in ceremony for the Congressional Black Caucus," said CBCF President and CEO Nicole Austin-Hillery. "With a record number of CBC members taking the oath of office this year, we know that the ongoing work this caucus will tackle in the coming years will expand tremendously. As the CBC continues to grow, so does our commitment to creating a pipeline for emerging leaders who want to empower the global Black community and serve the greater public through the legislative process." For over fifty years, the CBC has remained the voice for African Americans and the conscience of the Congress. Over that same period, the CBC has increasingly become a dominant force focused on social, political, and economic issues impacting the global Black community. The swearing-in of congressional members is a longstanding tradition that celebrates and signifies the start of a new Con-

## I Swear...



Brown Sworn In As Maryland's First Black AG

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP) — Anthony Brown was sworn in as Maryland's first Black attorney general Tuesday, pledging to work to increase equity and dismantle barriers to opportunities for all of the state's citizens. Brown — a Democrat who is a former congressman, lieutenant governor and state legislator — noted the historic nature of his victory in November, as well as the historic election of Gov.-elect Wes Moore, a Democrat who introduced Brown after the attorney general was sworn in by Gov. Larry Hogan, a term-limited Republican. Moore is the state's first Black candidate elected governor. "Governor-elect Moore, your election is historic in both the state and for the nation, and I look forward to serving with you, alongside you, as we dismantle the barriers (to) opportunities presented to far too many Marylanders," Brown said in a crowded House of Delegates chamber in the Maryland State House. Moore's inauguration is scheduled for Jan. 18. Brown noted that Maryland is one of the most diverse states in the country, but still had work to do to increase equity and justice. "Maryland reflects where America is going," Brown said. "So, what deeply troubles me is the racial and ethnic disparities and inequities that still exist in Maryland, motivated by bias and even overt discrimination, in housing, in the marketplace, in the workplace, and in opportunities." Brown said he will be asking the governor and the General Assembly for the statutory authority and the necessary resources to enforce federal and state civil rights laws. The new attorney general said he will focus on public safety. He said he would build on partnerships with state's attorneys and the U.S. attorney, to leverage federal, state and local assets. Brown also said he would continue police reform efforts. He noted that the General Assembly already passed legislation requiring his office to independently investigate all police-involved deaths. Under current law, the attorney general's office forwards its findings to state's attorneys, who decide whether to bring charges. "The next logical step is to consider independent prosecutorial authority," Brown said. Senate President Bill Ferguson, a Baltimore Democrat, said Maryland "is ushering in a new era — a new era of representation, a new era of justice, a new era of perspective, a new era of hope." Brown enters office as high-profile cases that began under his predecessor, Brian Frosh, continue. For example, a Baltimore judge has yet to rule on whether to make public a 463-page report on an investigation that identified 158 clergy members in the Archdiocese of Baltimore who have been accused of sexually and physically abusing more than 600 victims over the past 80 years. Court permission is required because the report contains information from grand jury subpoenas. In October, Frosh also announced that the state will review about 100 autopsies of people who died in police custody involving physical restraint because of concerns about the state's former medical examiner's testimony in the death of George Floyd in Minnesota. Hogan, who defeated Brown in Maryland's 2014 governor's race, noted how gracious Brown was after the election, when the two of them greeted members of the General Assembly together eight years ago in January of 2015. "I think it speaks to the high character and commitment to service that has defined your career," Hogan said. "It also reflects the spirit of bipartisanship that we have successfully upheld here in Maryland, which is in stark contrast with the toxic politics in Washington, and you are now hopefully escaping it forever."



**NC GETTING \$110M FOR REPLACEMENT BRIDGE ON US 64**  
(AP)—North Carolina government leaders said on Tuesday the state will receive \$110 million in federal funds toward construction of a replacement bridge on U.S. Highway 64 that helps link eastern North Carolina to the Outer Banks. Gov. Roy Cooper and U.S. Sen. Thom Tillis announced separately that the U.S. Department of Transportation has awarded the grant toward the proposed \$268 million project. The money originates from the bipartisan infrastructure law approved by Congress in 2021. The state DOT applied for the grant last May. The new two-lane, fixed-span bridge would cross the Alligator River between Tyrrell and Dare counties. It would replace the current Lindsay B. Warren bridge, which was completed in 1962 and has a swing-span that stops vehicle traffic for approaching boats. The proposed 3.2-mile replacement bridge, for which Cooper's office said construction is expected to begin no later than 2025, would be high enough for vehicle and boat traffic to operate unimpeded. The new bridge also would include railings to separate bicycle traffic from vehicle traffic.

**POLICE: 1 JUVENILE AND 4 ADULTS WOUNDED IN DURHAM SHOOTING**  
DURHAM (AP)—A juvenile was among five people who were wounded in a drive-by shooting Sunday afternoon in Durham, the city's police department said in a news release. The child and one of the adults suffered life-threatening injuries, while the other three adults sustained non-life-threatening injuries, police said. All five victims were in stable condition. Durham police said officers responded to a call of multiple people being shot outside a business on North Miami Boulevard at about 2 p.m. Witnesses described the suspected vehicle as a dark-colored, older model Honda sedan.



(See CBC & 118TH, P. 2)

(See STATE BRIEFS, P. 2)

## STATE BRIEFS

Continued from page 1

## EFFORTS TO RESTORE WATER CONTINUE IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

ASHEVILLE (AP)—Officials in the western North Carolina city of Asheville said Saturday that they're continuing to restore public water to swaths of the region after frigid temperatures curtailed the utility days ago.

City officials said during a news conference that water was coming back online in south Asheville as well as lower-lying areas of southern and western Buncombe County, which surrounds the city. But an accompanying news release cautioned that "there will be fluctuations in water pressure and intermittent loss of water as lines continue to pressurize."

Some portions of the service area were still shown to have interrupted service late Saturday afternoon on a map posted online by city officials. They said their biggest challenge is returning water to higher elevations.

A water production plant had gone down amid cold temperatures on Dec. 24 after filters and other equipment froze. Officials said the system can normally function without that plant. But frozen and burst pipes throughout the system drew down the water supply and exacerbated the problem.

That plant was restarted on Wednesday, but officials have cautioned that the process of restoring service would move slowly to ensure safety.

David Melton, Asheville's water resources director, said during Saturday's news conference that he couldn't say exactly when everyone would be back online. But he said, "we're working around the clock to make that happen."

City officials also couldn't say exactly how many people have been impacted. Last week, city officials said that about 38,000 people in the southern part of the system had received a boil-water advisory.

Asheville Fire Chief Scott Burnette said during Saturday's news conference that water deliveries have been made to more than 1,500 people who put in a request.

"I'm happy to report that those requests have decreased significantly due to the water restoration efforts," Burnette said.

The YMCA of Western North Carolina also offered up its locations for people who lacked water and needed to shower.

## Volunteering: A Resolution That Checks All The Boxes

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. (BUSINESS WIRE)—Be healthier. Connect with more people. Spend your time in more meaningful ways. At this time of year, millions of Americans set similar goals to improve their physical health, social lives and personal self-care. Yet research shows that fewer than 10 percent of Americans keep their New Year's resolutions, often because of the effort required.

Now Second Harvest Heartland, one of the nation's largest hunger-relief organizations, is inviting Minnesotans to make it easier on themselves this year by choosing just one resolution: volunteering. Picking a cause and getting out to volunteer turns out to be the one single, achievable, sustainable and widely beneficial resolution for the New Year that checks off so many of the top resolutions on everyone's lists.

In addition to helping others, studies show that volunteering can benefit the volunteer in many ways, including:

- 96 percent report feeling a greater sense of purpose when they volunteer;

- 94 percent of people who volunteer report that it improves their mood;

- 76 percent say volunteering makes them feel physically healthier and reduces stress, which in turn may help reduce risk of heart disease, stroke, depression and anxiety.

"Our volunteers give their time to help others, and rarely ever think about how it can impact their own lives in so many ways," said Julie Greene, director of volunteer engagement at Second Harvest Heartland.

"Of course, they feel a tremendous sense of satisfaction knowing their contributions are making a difference in people's lives, but the benefits of their actions go way beyond that. Given the camaraderie people feel by coming together and the satisfaction of working on a common goal, I'm not surprised at all that research has proven the benefits of volunteering—we see it every day with the smiles on our volunteers' faces."

According to Second Harvest Heartland, more than 813,000 people—one in six neighbors—reached out for food assistance last year amid a rise in food insecurity due to inflation and pandemic-era financial relief programs ending. Now more than ever, food banks need support to manage the increase in demand. Yet while many people volunteer their time around the holidays, there is a steep decline in numbers in January.

"The holidays are a joyful time of giving and people become more conscious about those in need, which is wonderful," added Greene. "But after the holiday season, people get busy with their work again, as well as everything going on in their lives, so it can be difficult to find time to volunteer. But if everyone who volunteered during the holidays committed to just one hour a month throughout the year, the impact would be incredible—for our communities, for our neighbors and for them."

## CBC &amp; 118th Congress—CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

gress. Hakeem Jeffries delivered a heartfelt message, "Thank you Joyce for an extraordinary tenure as chair of the CBC. You led with grace, dignity, intellect, and power. Throughout my journey in this institution, I've had the opportunity to hold a handful of titles, but there is one title that will always be incredibly close to my heart, member of the Congressional Black Caucus. It is an incredible affiliation that I will carry with me throughout my public service journey. As Democrats, we will continue to advocate as we move forward in this new congress for better paying jobs, safer commu-

nities, defending democracy, and fighting for our freedom." He went on to share that he and those standing alongside are standing on the shoulders of giants such as Shirley Chisholm, Adam Clayton Powell Jr., Barbara Jordan, Louis Stokes, John Lewis, Elijah Cummings, the honorable James E. Clyburn and more.

Following Mr. Jeffries, Marcia Fudge shared sentiments on this monumental accomplishment. "As a former chair member of the congressional black caucus, I take great pride in administering the oath of office this morning. For more than fifty years, the cbc has been the conscience of

the congress. The moral center that ensures our people's blood, sweat, and tears built this country. Ensuring that black people, those marginalized or pushed aside will always have a voice here."

Fudge also shared that the American people need the CBC now more than any time. She asked that they be that sure and stable foundation, guaranteeing that the people in this country are never silenced. "CBC I need you to unleash your power, to make real the promise of democracy, we need you to energize a movement that will change the course of history."

To close out the ceremony, President of the CBC, Nicole Hillery

stood amongst the crowd elated by this new congress. She shared that since the organization began in 1976, the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. (CBCF) has stood as a proud non-partisan, nonprofit, public policy, research and educational institute committed to advancing the global Black community. Since its establishment, the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) has been committed to using the full Constitutional power, statutory authority, and financial resources of the federal government to ensure that African Americans and other marginalized communities in the United States have the opportunity to achieve the American Dream.

## Building An Eco Community On 460 Acres

ATLANTA, Ga. (GLOBE NEWSWIRE)—"It's surreal that we're actually doing it," states Hereafter Farms Co-Founder Farrakhan Ali.

Their plan is to create a self-sustaining town where they and over 100 families will grow their own food, teach their own children, build sustainable housing, and develop businesses to create a healthy economic ecosystem that expands far beyond the community itself.

"When I started there were only a few of us. It was the height of the pandemic and I think we were all forced to think differently. I thought to myself, if there was ever a time to move towards self-sufficiency, this is it. It's time to do what I've been thinking about all these years. What I couldn't plan for was that there were thousands of people who were thinking the exact same thing I was at that time," says Ali.

After months of searching, they found the perfect property.

Their 460 acres in Georgia has water, roads, existing tiny homes, and enough infrastruc-

ture for them to get a few projects off the ground quickly.

The secret, according to Ali, is keeping God at the center of everything.

The 100+ families are a diverse group of farmers, educators, health professionals, builders, tradesmen, seniors and millennials, and from the looks of it, they have the people they need to build and manage their town.

When asked why they chose

the name "The Hereafter," Ali explains it to us, "It's a new environment. Hereafter means something new, right here. We're building something new, growing something new, because we have a safe environment where everyone can be free to think and live creatively and peacefully."

They plan to farm their own food using organic techniques, greenhouses, tower farms, row crops, and harvesting natural en-

ergy to create sustainable growing systems using solar energy. Animals are in their future, and they have timber for expanded home construction.

Their school seems to be a top priority. "Studies show mental health in children has had a downward trend. We are neutralizing that by offering them a safe space and an inclusive educational experience, reconnecting them with nature, with themselves, with God, and with their neighbors."

The business plan is to create commercial activity that circulates currency within the community and expands outward into a public marketplace.

Their plan is to build in phases. The first phase includes clearing land, purchasing agricultural supplies and farming equipment, renovating the preexisting structures on the land, and covering the costs to get the development kicked off.

"We're not just building this town for us, but to leave a legacy for the next generation, so they can create a better world than the one we grew up in."



## As GOP Battled Over Speakership, CBC Members Stand United At Swearing-In

By Stacy M. Brown

NNPA

On Tuesday, Jan. 3, members of the Congressional Black Caucus held an inspiring swearing-in ceremony, even as Republicans were fighting over who would become the next Speaker of the House.

"In the work we do, we honor our history, like the many Black members that served before there was even a Congressional Black Caucus," said Nevada Democratic Rep. Steven Horsford, the CBC's new chairman.

Horsford, 49, counted among the 58 CBC members taking the oath of office, most praised the Biden-Harris administration, spoke glowingly of the CBC's history, and kept an eye on their Republican counterparts as they tried to find the votes to select a new speaker.

Rep. Kevin McCarthy, who is 57 and from California, continued to face strong opposition from his own party as he tried to replace outgoing speaker Nancy Pelosi

(D-California).

At least six members of the GOP have opposed McCarthy, who needs 218 votes.

Democrats have seized upon the GOP's inability to unite.

"The 118th Congress has yet to begin, and Americans are already seeing how dysfunctional and disastrous GOP control of the House is going to be," said Rep. Suzan DelBene (D-Washington).

DelBene is the new chairwoman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee.

"While House Republicans fight one another in unprecedented ways, and Kevin McCarthy gives in to the most extreme flanks of the Republican Party in desperate plays for their support, Democrats are clear-minded, unified, and eager to get to work for the American people," she said.

"No matter who becomes Speaker of the House or how many votes it takes, the contrast is clear, and in two short years voters will reject this chaos and confusion."

Further complicating McCarthy's bid, Republicans with a small majority only occupy 222 seats in the 118th Congress, which means there's enough opposition to block his candidacy. He needs a majority of the present members to vote for him.

Incoming House Minority Leader, New York Democratic Rep. Hakeem Jeffries, said no Democratic party member would be absent for a vote and did not expect any to simply vote "present."

Headed into Tuesday, there was even the belief that Jeffries, 52, could get more votes than McCarthy in a first round of voting.

But, because the GOP controls the House, he wouldn't become speaker.

"We're focused right now on making sure that every single Democrat is present and voting, and I hope to be able to earn everyone's vote," said Jeffries, the first African American to lead a party in Congress.

"It's unfortunate that all we're seeing is chaos, crisis, confusion,

and craziness take hold of the other side of the aisle, as opposed to trying to find common ground to deliver real results for the American people," Jeffries continued.

"Hopefully, we'll get to a place sooner rather than later when the Congress can actually function in a way that brings Democrats and Republicans together to get things done for the American people."

Jeffries and Horsford focused on the historic battles of African Americans.

"Our community's journey in this country has been a turbulent one. From slavery to Jim Crow, Jim Crow to mass incarceration, and mass incarceration to a malignant narcissist in the White House," Jeffries states.

Horsford added that "this is our opportunity to advance the mission, the vision, and the goals of those 13 founders and the 166 Black members of Congress who have served in our nation's 246 years in both the House and the Senate."

## City Of Fayetteville Invests \$2.5M To Go Toward Minority-Owned Businesses

Rachael Riley

The Fayetteville Observer

Minority-owned businesses in Fayetteville will soon find help and financial assistance to grow their companies after the Fayetteville City Council last week unanimously approved contributing \$2.5 million in American Rescue Plan funds to match a state grant that expired at the end of December.

The community equity venture fund is designed to help minority businesses "overcome hurdles" and traditional lending models by providing noninterest-bearing capital, said Robert Van Geons, president of the Fayetteville Cumberland County Economic Development Corp.

"The fund's goal is to grow 10 firms by 10 or more employees each within five years," Van Geons said during a special called meeting Tuesday night.

The state of North Carolina appropriated \$2.5 million to community development foundations to launch the fund, contingent on securing equal matching funds by Dec. 31, Van Geons said.

Council members initially approved a \$1.25 million match subject to legal review at their Dec. 12 meeting, and the other \$1.25 million was expected to come from Cumberland County.

County commissioners were split 4-2 at their Dec. 19 meeting

and did not approve moving forward with the county's match.

Commissioners Jimmy Keefe and Michael Boose were in favor of the match, while Chairwoman Toni Stewart, Vice Chairman Glenn Adams and Commissioners Jeannette Council and Jones opposed.

Van Geons told commissioners that \$12,500 could be withdrawn per new job created, but if the job were not maintained, those funds would have to be paid back.

Adams said it sounded as if the county would just be keeping its own funds that it had appropriated.

County Attorney Robert Hasty said because county funds can not be used to make loans or grants, the \$12,500 repayment clause was included in the proposed agreement.

Adams said it seemed as if the agreement were trying to get around state statute.

Stewart said she was not comfortable with voting on a matter if a disclaimer is needed.

At the city council's meeting Tuesday, City Manager Doug Hewett told council members that matching funds from the city will not come from the city's taxpayer-generated general fund but rather the American Rescue Plan Act the city previously received.

Information technology and

renovation projects the American Rescue Act Plan funds were originally going to cover will be delayed to allow for the match.

"But it's not very often that for \$2.5 million, you get \$2.5 million," Hewett said.

Van Geons told city council members that the county had sought to "structure their engagement differently," and that there was not enough time to go back to the county.

How the fund will help minority business

During the council's Dec. 12 meeting, Van Geons said that the economic equity venture capital fund and its state match was created by the North Carolina General Assembly to promote locally-owned minority businesses providing services to government entities.

Mayor Mitch Colvin said a disparity study for the city revealed that only .06% of minority businesses conduct business with the city government.

Councilman Deno Hondros said he thinks the economic equity venture capital fund will help increase the percentage.

"This is going to help those small entrepreneurs, those minority owners scale up to be able to provide the services the city is needing," Hondros said.

The fund, Van Geons said, will help remove the "historic barriers of funding for small, minori-

ty-owned businesses."

An example, he said, might be a small business that provides interior paint services to the city but suddenly needs a paint truck to reach upper levels.

Van Geons said he's heard of instances of local business owners selling trees from their family land just to cover the cost of doing business.

The economic equity venture fund would provide that loan. Companies will be required to create a certain number of jobs to have the debt forgiven, Van Geons said.

Priority would be given to minority-owned small businesses operating within low- to moderate-income Census tracts followed by businesses that employ individuals from those Census tracts.

"We are initially starting with focusing on companies that can serve a public need, that can keep local dollars local and provide those goods and services to our institutional partners," Van Geons said.

Van Geons said the fund will be managed by the nonprofit Cumberland Community Development Foundation which will work with partners like Fayetteville State University and the Center for Economic Empowerment and Development to help small businesses develop a business plan if one is not in place.

## The Carolinian

(ISSN 00455873)

1504 New Bern Ave, Raleigh, North Carolina 27610

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 25308

Raleigh, North Carolina 27611

Periodical Postage Paid at Raleigh North Carolina 27611

Warrenton Address: P.O. Box 536

Warrenton, NC 27589

Postmaster

Send all address changes to:

The Carolinian

1504 New Bern Avenue

Raleigh, NC 27610

PUBLISHED SIX TIMES MONTHLY

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One Year .....\$45.00

Payable in advance. Address all communications and make all checks and money orders payable to The Carolinian.

Founded by P.R. Jervay, Sr. in 1940

The Carolinian Newspaper, Inc. of Raleigh

Publisher ..... Adria Jervay

Production Manager ..... Howard Barnett

Sales Consultant ..... Paul R. Jervay, Jr.

Circulation Manager ..... Andrew Alston

Jervay Agency, National Advertising Representative

www.TheJervayAgency.com

Member:

North Carolina Black Publishers Association

National Newspaper Publishers Association

HUB Certified MWBE

The Publisher is not responsible for the return of unsolicited news, pictures or advertising copy unless necessary postage accompanies the copy.

Opinions expressed by columnists in this newspaper do not necessarily represent the policy of the newspaper.

Phone: 919-834-5558

e-mail: info@caro.news

www.caro.news

Facebook: TheCaroNews

Twitter: @TheCaroNews

To SUBSCRIBE To The Carolinian

call us at

919-834-5558

or visit us online at

www.CARO.news



# Business & Finance

## Tesla Signs A New Deal In The Piedmont

ELECTREK— Tesla has signed a new updated agreement to secure lithium supply from Piedmont Lithium as automakers rush to secure battery material.

In order to help accelerate the transition to electric transportation, Tesla has become increasingly involved in the raw material supply chain for battery cells.

Despite only now starting the production of its own cells last year, the automaker has been securing the supply of lithium, nickel, cobalt, and other minerals for its battery cell suppliers for years.

More recently, Tesla started to not only deal with established mining companies, but it also started to sign contracts for off-take agreements with junior mining companies looking to build new mining projects that would increase the supply of some critical resources for batteries.

This strategy helps those companies raise money to build their mining projects.

Piedmont Lithium is one of those mining companies.

In 2020, Tesla signed an agreement with Piedmont Lithium, a company developing a lithium project in North Carolina.

The automaker agreed to buy about one-third of Piedmont's planned 160,000 tonnes of annual spodumene lithium production



for at least five years.

The first deliveries were planned between July 2022 and July 2023, but the timeline has been delayed, as is often the case with those large mining projects.

Today, Tesla and Piedmont announced that they updated their agreement, with deliveries now planned in the second half of this year.

*Piedmont and Tesla have mutually agreed to amend their previous offtake agreement with the terms of this new agreement, which are binding for a three-year term and include an option*

*to renew for another three years. Under the amended agreement, Piedmont has agreed to deliver approximately 125,000 metric tons of SC6 to Tesla beginning in H2 2023 through the end of 2025.*

Now it sounds like the lithium is actually going to come from Piedmont's Quebec facility in partnership with Sayona Quebec.

Piedmont Lithium President and CEO Keith Phillips commented:

*We are pleased to be able to partner with Tesla to supply lithium resources produced in North America. The electric*

*vehicle and critical battery materials landscape has changed significantly since 2020 and this agreement reflects the importance of – and growing demand for – a North American lithium supply chain. This agreement helps to ensure that these critical resources from Quebec remain in North America and support the mission of the Inflation Reduction Act to bolster the U.S. supply chain, the clean energy economy, and global decarbonization.*

The company's stock is up 4% on the new agreement with Tesla today.

## FUNDraising Good Times

By Mel & Pearl Shaw Saad & Shaw



### DOES HE KNOW WHAT IT TAKES TO SUCCEED?

Fundraising and nonprofit life are full of intrigue, twisted paths, pure luck, genius, generosity, and more. This is the fourth in an occasional series of fictional fundraising short stories.

Alex Anderson easily removed the trustee's fur coat from her shoulders, hanging it in the closet with the honor it deserved. "Ms. Ruby Jackson," he greeted her. "So good to see you. The Congressman is running just a little late. Can I get you anything to drink?"

Ruby smiled at Alex. They had known each other for years, back when no one could be out. Though times had changed, they still both clung to how they thought others knew them. Now alone in President Taylor's office suite they looked at each other and laughed out loud. "Who would have known, Alex, who would have guessed?" They both sat on the floral print sofa, sipping fresh coffee. "I still love it here," Alex said, glancing across the suite. "Presidents may come and go, but I'm still here." Alex knew everyone across town, and he kept an open door and ear to the ground for all three of the college presidents he had served. He scheduled luncheons to introduce students, staff, and faculty to each new leader, ordering sandwiches from the cafeteria, and typing up talking points for "Mr. President" or "Madame President" as the case may be. He was the glue, inviting businesspeople, fellow leaders in education, and elected officials to dine with the president at his college-provided home on campus.

"I appreciate how you take care of Dr. Taylor," Ruby began. "I'm not sure he knew what he was getting into, but I believe he can make a difference. We're all counting on him." Alex sighed and sipped his coffee. "I don't know Ruby. He was powerful, but he's not who he was. He doesn't have the title anymore." Ruby laughed. "Is that why you keep calling him 'Congressman'?" Do you think Jimmy needs you to prop him up?" Taking the taunt, Alex laughed back. "Jimmy? Hmmm... now those were the days." Ruby was shaking her head. "Alex, be good. We've got a job to do. We've got to be good." Alex reached over to hug her. "Don't worry, I'll take good care of him. It's just that he might not be all that you think he is." He tried to let his good friend down lightly.

"But people owe him, Alex," Ruby ventured, trying to turn the conversation serious again. "He has connections and Monroe-Smith College needs those. We can't continue to be isolated. We can't go begging, hat in hand. James can move a well-conceived agenda. We're making progress and should have something he can sell."

"But will the Congressman stay? If he doesn't stay, then nothing changes." Alex titled his head, listening for sounds in the hallway. "You're right," Ruby said. "But I think he'll stay. I'm building more support for him. If we get the three largest companies behind the college, we can go places." Alex stood up, hearing president Taylor's footsteps outside the door. "If, Ruby, if."

*Copyright ©2023—Mel and Pearl Shaw of Saad&Shaw—Comprehensive Fund Development Services. Video and phone consulting services always available. Let us help you grow your fundraising. Call us at (901) 522-8727. www.saadandshaw.com.*

## Biotech Co. Selects Durham For \$40 Million Investment

Catalent, a leading global development and manufacturing partner to the pharmaceutical, biopharmaceutical and consumer health industries, will create more than 200 new jobs in Durham County over the next five years, Governor Roy Cooper announced today. The company will invest up to \$40 million to expand its analytical development and testing business in the City of Durham.

"This has been a banner year for economic development across the state," said Governor Cooper. "Our global reputation for manufacturing and biotechnology has been a major contributor to welcoming expansions from companies like Catalent. When combined with a some of the brightest talent in the world and innovative businesses, North Carolina will continue to be a de-

sired location for the life science sector."

Headquartered in New Jersey, Catalent is a contract development and manufacturing organization with more than 50 global sites. In Catalent's over 85-year history, the company has grown to provide more than 80 billion doses of nearly 8,000 products to its pharmaceutical, biotechnology and consumer health customers annually. Catalent's BioAnalytics division offers comprehensive standalone analytical development and testing for different treatments including cell and gene therapies. This project will expand the company's support of large molecule development and manufacturing growth and will make a home in the Research Triangle Park.

"Catalent is committed to the continuous growth and ex-

pansion of its analytical capabilities," said Jeremie Trochu, Division Head for BioAnalytics at Catalent. "By establishing significant additional capacity here on the East Coast, we can offer our customers greater flexibility and expanded support services across the biologics and advanced modalities development pipeline."

New positions include scientists, engineers, and lab associates with varying salaries. Once all the positions are filled, the project has a potential payroll impact of more than \$18.3 million per year for the region.

"North Carolina is a leading life sciences cluster with a 10 percent increase in pharmaceutical manufacturing businesses over the past five years," said N.C. Commerce Secretary Michelle Baker Sanders. "With the

largest pharmaceutical manufacturing workforce in the southeastern United States, Tier 1 research network, and a strong transportation system for global distribution, we believe Catalent will be successful doing business here."

This project from Catalent will be facilitated, in part, by a Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG) approved by the state's Economic Investment Committee earlier today. Over the course of the eight-year term of the grant, the project is estimated to grow the state's economy by more than \$378 million. Using a formula that takes into account the new tax revenues generated by the 201 new jobs, the JDIG agreement authorizes the potential reimbursement to the company of up to \$805,500 spread over eight years.

# Ag-Grow-Culture

## Agriculture and Ecology (Agroecology) Together Solves

By Jason Lindsay

Staff Writer

Agriculture is a practice that has been around almost since the beginning of our existence on this planet. Historically, and still living through many indigenous practices, agriculture is more than an occupation. It is a way of life. Relationships are formed between the farmer and the land they steward, between the land and the livestock and the crops it hosts. And from generations of collective knowledge, connection, and stewardship, nations rose from the foundations of sustainable agricultural practices.

Governing principles were formed from these patterns of mother nature. The ethics of hard work, the importance of timeliness, patience, the need for nurturing, and attention. We paid attention to the cycles and the stars were our guides. Moon phases taught us when to plant and when best to harvest. And we understood that there would come a time when even the land needed to rest.

Now in a time when everything's so smart (smart phone, watch, tv) we've grown dumb to the interconnective impact we have on our environment and desensitized to the importance of this connection. We are ignorant to our responsibility as partakers of this planet to leave it better than we found it and by forgetting these principles the earth is warming. Rivers are drying up and creeks are flooding. Paradises are transforming into deserts and weather patterns are completely erratic. The energy we consume is dependent on fossil fuels further polluting our atmosphere and the world elites protect it not letting clean renewable energy sources take their place.

In agriculture the farming sector is witnessing droughts followed by hurricanes, disease amplified by erratic temperatures. Alongside a growing population, rural farmland is being devel-



oped by the minute and remaining farmland is being deplete by fractured farming practices that never take anything, but money into account.

As result of a greedy, money hungry food supply chain that doesn't consider nature a teacher in which we must obey, livestock (including poultry) systems are failing by way of disease, our top soils are eroding away. Our planet is in need of restoration and regenerative agriculture holds a solution.

Believe it or not a lot of solutions lie in our trash. Yea that's right, our trash. Organic waste (paper, paperboard, food, yard trimmings mostly produced by food companies, beverage companies, the paper industry, agriculture (big ag.), households) in particular. Organic waste is our largest contribution to the landfills according to the EPA (environmental protection agency). This waste when not handled properly is also one of the most

dangerous components as well.

When not handled properly, organic waste is 28 - 36 times more successful in warming the atmosphere causing global warming. This is due to a chemical that is release by the trash when it is decomposing called Methane.

Methane is a potent greenhouse gas that is found in the atmosphere in small quantities. It is simple in elemental structure, made of one carbon atom surrounded by four hydrogen atoms (CH4). Large amounts of Methane exposure is deadly and can lead to headaches, dizziness, nausea, and even render individuals unconscious. The sad part is that the dangerous level of Methane we produce as a country can be used to power our house, cities, and businesses. We could rid ourselves of our own organic trash and produce a clean source of free energy, much cleaner than our current electrical grid (which is collapsing by the way).

Within the landfills of America, methane and carbon dioxide (CO2) is oozing from the ground. This is causing illness in the surrounding communities, rendering land unusable for very long stretches of time. All of this when the very issue could be a solution to a very big problem in America.

Depleted soils on farmland is a real thing. And the bigger the operation the more prevalent the depletion rates, much due to the heavy overbearing equipment used by big ag operations in order to cover large spans of land in a shorter amount of time. Yet, some studies have displayed the impact that organic waste could have on our environment if isolated and stored properly.

In the 1990s two Princeton researchers, Daniel Janzen and Winnie Hallwachs found themselves in Costa Rica alongside the rainforest on a plot of land that had grown desolate and barren. The land was an old pasture

once useful to local farmers, but by this time was owned by a mega orange juicing company called: Del Oro.

The researchers approached the company with a proposition. Janzen and Hallwachs drew out a plan to rent the land from the orange juice company. In return the company would commit to dumping their orange peels on the land, free of charge. They would then use the scraps to collect their data and conduct their research. Of course, the company saw this as a win and responded back with a "where do I sign" type attitude.

In that same year, the lease was agreed on and the project was underway. For the next few months Del Oro would dump 12,000 tons of orange peelings on this 7-acre plot. It took over a thousand truckloads to deliver this volume which was equivalent to a 176 percent increase of above ground biomass (organic waste).

This conservation experiment was showing promising results early. Within the first six months of the project, peels that were bumped first were already transforming into bark black loamy soil, but not everyone was happy about it. The competition, a neighboring juicing company (Tico Fruit) found this project to be unfair and unlawful and placed a lawsuit on their competitors, Del Oro. Tico Fruits alleged that Del Oro "defiled a national park," by bumping their organic waste on the land neighboring the rainforest. With the Costa Rican Supreme Court now involved, they ruled in Tico Fruits' favor stopping the experimental conservation project in its tracks.

The land would lie abandoned for the next 15 years after which another Princeton research team would pick the project back up. Now led by Dr. Tim Treuer (ecologist), the team searched out the 7-acre plot along the Costa Rican rainforest. The team would take two voyages. The first time they

just couldn't find it. Everything appeared as the outskirts of a tropical forest. The second time they would found the plot, yet were astonished at the overt fact that the land was no longer desolate, but teaming with life. The land had developed to such a point that they would conduct research there for a year before they would find the 6' sign marking the property that had been overgrown by brush and vines in its time of abandonment.

On the land the researchers found a fig tree so big it took three people to rap around the entirety of its trunk. Out of a flagged area they counted 133 trees, 24 different species out of 20 families in comparison to neighboring plots equivalent in space where they counted 149 trees, 7-8 different species out of only 7 families. The orange peels had increased the plant diversity rate and the benefits do not stop there. They found an increase of macronutrients (nitrogen, phosphorus, calcium, magnesium, sulfur, and potassium) by 28.9 percent. They also found a 62.9 percent increase in micronutrients (copper, iron, boron, nickel, chloride, manganese, and zinc). The Ph in the soil balanced out to a six (10.9 percent increase). And get this. From this project they found that rehabilitating barren land with organic waste actually sequesters much more carbon dioxide from the atmosphere than untreated land.

Many across the world have found our ways in America to be very wasteful. With our trash we pollute our water, our land, and even outer space. Yet it doesn't have to be this way. We could take our very trash and transform it in to powering energy or heal our land of depletion spawned from raping the soil with synthetic chemicals and over-tillage. By rearranging how we manage our organic waste we can change our current reality on this planet. And the truth is, we bare the responsibility to do so.

# Americans Are Taking More Control Over Their Work Lives

By Scott Sonenshein

Rice University

One thing that's become clear in the past few tumultuous – and for many, traumatic – years is that it's easy to feel like there is no control in our lives. Control is a basic psychological need that helps people feel like they have agency, from how they live to where they work. One area where people have tried to wrestle back control is around work.

As a Rice University business school professor and author, I've examined through my research, teaching and readership the complex relationships between employees and their employers for nearly two decades. The aftermath of the pandemic is the latest iteration of a timeless negotiation between labor and management over control that took on added significance these past few years.

The pandemic accelerated a development that began years ago when workers realized they needed to take on more responsibility for directing their careers. This major shift reflects a potentially exciting but also unnerving reality for millions of workers.

From lifer to independent worker

For decades, employers had the upper hand in negotiating terms with employees. People exchanged unconditional loyalty to an employer for lifetime employment and a secure retirement. That model started to erode with an increase in corporate restructuring in the 1980s and 1990s. With the prospects of a secure job and comfortable retirement more elusive, employees switched jobs to regain some control. They sought the promise of a higher salary and a better work life. In the past decade, the average tenure at an employer dropped nearly 10%.

During the pandemic, a tight labor market allowed employees



to use job mobility to feel greater control over their lives. Additionally, the freedoms afforded by remote work offset some of the losses of control caused by the pandemic. But the reality is that while changing jobs leads to a short-term boost in job satisfaction, that feeling is usually only temporary.

In a post-pandemic world, a new model is emerging that reflects concerns of a slowing economy and more uncertain future. Employees are increasingly rejecting the belief that a single job can satisfy all of their financial and psychological needs. Instead, people are turning to building a portfolio of simultaneous roles to create their career.

With "career portfolioing," employees become free agents, relying increasingly on themselves to carve out a meaningful and rewarding professional life. They put together a mosaic of positions to collectively fulfill their aspirations around income, advancement, skill development and enjoyment. They are no longer sub-

ject to a longstanding relationship with a single, lifetime employer, or dependent on a strong job market.

One sign of the rise of career portfolioing is the increase in side hustles. In 2021, 34% of Americans reported having a side hustle, and over 60 million people planned to start one. As inflation rose, side hustles provided extra income in the face of soaring prices. But people also turned to side hustles for new learning opportunities (28%) and to find more enjoyable work (38%).

In research I've been conducting on side hustles in the sharing economy, I am finding that many people take these gigs to compensate for limited control in their "traditional" jobs. Although gig work comes with its own set of challenges – lack of benefits is a key one – people feel liberated by greater control over where, when and how they work. Switching on an app shifts allegiance from one company to another. Turning off an app ends

the workday in an instant. People rely on side hustles to earn additional income but also because of the freedom that comes from being an independent worker.

Another benefit of portfolioing is hedging risk. Sudden layoffs, such as those recently affecting the tech industry, leave people feeling exposed to financial hardship and identity loss from being involuntarily sent to the exit. When facing difficult times at one job, people can turn to other parts of their career portfolio for security and stability.

Taking action on values

During the pandemic, people's sense of mortality increased as the threat of serious illness or even death spread. Such times often prompt a deep reflection on values, including the purpose of work. When people took stock of their jobs, many did not like what they saw and quit at record numbers. Or, if they stayed, they increasingly pushed employers to align better with their values.

Historically, business organizations stayed quiet about con-

troversial social issues, such as LGBTQ rights, racial justice and abortion – unless there was a very direct profit motive. That's changed dramatically as employees increasingly demand clarity on company values – and actions to back them up. Sixty percent of workers approve of business leaders speaking out on social and political issues, and one quarter of respondents to a recent survey reported turning down a job opportunity because of a company's position on social issues.

Employees, too, appear to be more comfortable expressing their views. At the beginning of the century, I conducted one of my first research studies on understanding how employees convince their workplaces to take a stance on divisive social issues. I found that employees concealed their values by framing them as economic opportunities. For example, sustainability initiatives around energy efficiency were cast as good for the bottom line.

When I recently ran a similar study, the dynamics had shifted.

Employees were much more willing to talk about moral values and less willing to translate social issues into business issues. Such a dramatic reversal reflects employees' growing sense of empowerment to make work more aligned with their needs. It's hard to feel in control of your life if you need to suppress or even contradict deeply held values at a place where you spend most of your waking day.

A better future for work

Career portfolioing reflects a future in which uncertainty is too high to rely on a single institution to fulfill basic needs, and a failure of modern work organizations to deliver what employees truly value.

For employees, career portfolioing means more latitude over how their career unfolds. Instead of rising to the next rung of an often pre-defined and inflexible corporate ladder, they might instead think about the next addition to their portfolio, whether starting a new part-time job, taking a new class or pursuing a business idea. Elements of a career portfolio not only get added to produce income or personal growth, but also to support a person's values.

No doubt, there are potential obstacles. Taking responsibility for a career portfolio requires additional effort. In our book "Joy at Work," co-author Marie Kondo and I find that it's all too easy to take on too many tasks and subsequently burn out. People get trapped into thinking the more they do, the better they'll feel. Avoiding burnout starts with anchoring a career portfolio based on values and an ideal work life.

For employers, career portfolioing means competing for the full attention of their own workforce. I believe it should prompt a deeper reflection about how to better meet the needs of employees – or else they may leave or quiet quit.

## SUPPORT SMALL & LOCAL BUSINESSES

We Only Build Garages and Out-Buildings

**Carolina Custom Builders**

Stu Daugherty  
Owner

Visit us at the:  
**HOME IMPROVEMENT CENTER**

4905 Departure Dr.  
Raleigh, N.C. 27616  
(919) 790-1234  
FAX (919) 790-1010  
www.carolinacustombuilders.com  
carolinacustom@hotmail.com

**Steven L. Lyons Funeral Home**

"Trust ~ Service ~ Compassion"

1515 New Bern Avenue  
Raleigh, NC 27610  
stevenlyonsfuneralhome.com  
(919)831-2596 Phone



**Jack's** Seafood & Soul Food

LOCALLY OWNED SINCE 1976

Two Locations

1516 New Bern Ave  
Raleigh, NC 27610  
919-755-1551

5416 Rock Quarry Rd  
Raleigh, NC 27610  
919-329-8125

**\$1.00 OFF**

any take-out or dine-in combo order. Must present coupon at time of purchase.

offer exp 1/31/2023

RBR | Physical Therapy, LLC

revive. boost. rebuild.

"Call us today, start your journey to recovery!"

**RBR PT Specializes in:**

- \*Functional assessments
- \*Strength training
- \*Modalities for pain
- \*Balance/Stability training
- \*Flexibility/Mobility training
- \*Home exercise programs

(No physician's referral to get started)

1300 Corporation Pkwy, ste. B  
Raleigh, NC 27610  
919-917-7729 (office)  
919-400-4178  
www.rbrpt.com

**AUTO ACCIDENTS**

CALL

**ELWOOD BECTON**

ATTORNEY AT LAW

**919-856-0414**

FREE CONSULTATIONS

"KNOW YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS"

805 NEW BERN AVE. • RALEIGH, NC 27601

**LORI'S FUNERAL HOME**

Excellent Service, Affordable, Dynamic Presentation, Personalization!

(Over 4,000 sq. feet, 2 chapels, 5 Viewing Parlors and so much more.)

1014 Garner Road • Raleigh, NC 27601  
(919) 832-0636

"Raleigh's Only Female Owned Funeral Home"

**Lea Funeral Home**

2500 Poole Road  
Raleigh, NC 27610  
(919) 231-1000

"Professional Service With Personal Care"

Call or Visit Us. We also offer Cremation Services & Pre-need Arrangements. You can reserve Our State-of-the-Art Banquet Facilities for your next event

**Get Your Free Market Report**

What is your home really worth?

**FOR SALE**

**JAMES BROWN JR. REAL ESTATE**

real estate, your best investment

Contact me today for a free market report: 919-832-1814 ext. 305

**ADE JONES**  
Attorney at Law

3401 Wendell Boulevard  
Wendell, N.C. 27591

919-817-2714 (office) 919-817-2711 (cell)  
legallaaffairs@abejoneslaw.com  
Fax: 919-366-6770

**LAW OFFICES OF ABE JONES**

# Health & Fitness

## New Report Published On Food Insecurity In The US Military

By Jen Goodale

MOAA

Nearly one out of four active-duty servicemembers experienced food insecurity at some point in 2020, according to a new DoD report.

The report, which looked at survey data from 1.3 million troops, explained that food insecurity is when a person or household cannot afford nutritious food and has to either rely on cheaper, less-nutritious foods or skip meals altogether.

While acknowledging a threat to our military readiness, Defense leaders outlined several steps to reducing this stat in the July 2022 report.

- DoD has goals to:
- Increase access to healthy food.
  - Enhance spouse economic opportunities.
  - Review servicemember pay and benefits.
  - Reinforce financial resources and awareness.
  - Encourage servicemembers and families to seek available resources and services.
  - Expand data collection and reporting.

The survey found 24 percent of active-duty troops experienced food insecurity, with junior enlisted troops with less than four years service at highest risk.

Last year, Defense Secretary Lloyd J. Austin III outlined three key priorities for the defense department: defend the Nation, take care of our people, and succeed through teamwork. He acknowledged financial challenges facing some servicemembers and their families and approved temporary increases of basic allowance for housing (BAH) in high-cost areas; extensions for temporary lodging expenses (TLE); and created a Military Leader's Economic Security Toolkit. Additionally, the FY2022 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) included a requirement to establish a Basic Needs Allowance (BNA) to provide additional assistance to families whose gross household income falls below 130% of the federal poverty line. Your grassroots advocacy, as part of MOAA's 2021 Advocacy in Action campaign, was key to ensuring the inclusion of the BNA in last year NDAA.

The financial impacts of the



pandemic and rising inflation have left military families struggling to make ends meet. While the BNA will help address the needs of some families, DoD must conduct a formal review of pay and benefits to improve retention rates and recruitment efforts. Under consideration are options to increase dislocation

allowance; analysis of BAH rates and calculation methods; and a feasibility study on the implementation of dependent care flexible spending accounts for servicemembers. The House version of the FY 2023 NDAA includes a provision to exclude BAH from the BNA eligibility calculation which will help en-

sure more families in need have access to this vital support.

Financial readiness must be a priority for military leaders. DoD is working on a self-guided financial well-being assessment tool to help servicemembers assess and identify resources to strengthen financial well-being. Additionally, DoD will exercise enhanced oversight of the services' implementation of mandatory financial education programs for new servicemembers.

Resources and programs exist to support military families; however, there can be a stigma associated with utilizing these tools. DoD plans to work with military-connected organizations to improve outreach and awareness of these resources and programs and will develop a "Resources at the Ready" campaign to encourage help-seeking behavior.

The Military Nutrition Environment Tool (m-NEAT) provides health promotion professionals and commanding officers measure accessibility of healthy food

options, and the Go-for-Green Program (G4G) encourages servicemembers to choose nutrient-packed, green-coded options by identifying specific items which fuel optimal physical and mental performance. The Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) is also increasing access to on-the-go, ready-to-eat, economical, and healthy dietitian-approved food options and is conducting pilot grocery delivery services at eight CONUS locations.

Military families with an unemployed spouse reported higher rates of experiencing food insecurity. On-going efforts to enhance spouse economic opportunities will ideally lead to increased financial stability for military families. The report highlighted DoD efforts on this front including continuing work on interstate licensure compacts, enhanced programs to meet child care demands, and participation in Joining Forces' goal of making the federal government the "employer of choice" for military dependents.

## Study Finds Social Media Makes Children Insecure



By Luke Andrews

DailyMail

Social media is reprogramming children's brains and creating a generation of thin-skinned adults, a study suggests.

Youngsters see regions in the brain that control feelings of reward and punishment become overreactive compared to their peers who are not always online.

Researchers say the changes indicate that social media-addicted kids will grow up to become 'hypersensitive' to feedback from others.

It comes amid concerns the pandemic has made more children than ever addicted to social media. A study last month suggested lockdowns damaged their ability to stand up straight because they spent so much time engrossed in technology.

Dr Eva Telzer, assistant professor in developmental psychology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and co-author of the study, said: 'Our findings suggest that checking behaviors on social media in early adolescence may tune the brain's sensitivity to potential social rewards and punishments.'

'Individuals with habitual checking behaviors showed initial hypoactivation but increasing sensitivity to potential social cues over time. Those with non-habitual checking behaviors showed initial hyperactivation and decreasing sensitivity over time.'

The researchers studied 178 12-year-olds from three public middle schools in North Carolina

Each participant reported how often they checked popular social media platforms Facebook, Snapchat and Instagram.

They then took part in a Social Incentive Delay task where their brain responses were measured when they were anticipating receiving social rewards and avoiding social punishments.

During adolescence the brain undergoes significant changes, making it a crucial period of development.

Dr Telzer added: 'The brain undergoes significant structural and functional re-organisation during adolescence.'

'Neural regions involved in motivational relevance and affective become hyperactive, orienting teens to rewarding stimuli in their environment, particularly from peers.'

According to the researchers, 78 percent of 13 to 17-year-olds report checking their devices at least hourly each day.

A further 46 per cent say they check them 'almost constantly'.

Dr Telzer said: 'Social media platforms provide adolescents with unprecedented opportunities for social interactions during a critical developmental period when the brain is especially sensitive to social feedback.'

She added: 'This longitudinal cohort study suggests that social media behaviors in early adolescence may be associated with changes in adolescents' neural development, specifically neural sensitivity to potential social feedback.'

'Further research examining long-term prospective associations between social media use, adolescent neural development, and psychological adjustment is needed to understand the effects of a ubiquitous influence on development for today's adolescents.'

The study was published in JAMA Pediatrics and was supported by a National Institutes of Health grant and the Winston Family Foundation.

## Simple Goals Are Best

SHAPE—If you want to hone your fitness practice but don't know where to start, why not try setting a fitness goal (or multiple!) for yourself? Setting a goal to work toward is helpful for creating and sticking to new habits, can help keep you on track, and might just motivate you to reach a personal milestone. (Pro tip: Using a goal tracker app can help you see your progress in real time.)

Each of the following examples of fitness goals are challenges that target a different aspect of fitness, from endurance to flexibility and strength. Once you've mastered one, strive to go to the next level by adding intensity, time, or reps. For example, once you finish a 10K, try training for a half-marathon.

Keep in mind that any of your fitness goals should be realistic for you. Mastering the ability to perform 25 push-ups is a very reasonable and reachable goal for most women, says Timothy L. Miller, M.D., clinical professor of orthopaedics at Ohio State University's Wexner Medical Center. Benefits include upper-body strength in the chest (pectorals), shoulder girdle (scapular stabilizers), and triceps. Another plus? Push-ups require no equipment and can be varied in many ways to train different muscle groups (i.e. a closer grip targets triceps), says Miller.

**FOOD LION MVP customer**

# Committed to saving you more

Learn more at [foodlion.com/save](https://www.foodlion.com/save)



# Church

## 'Untraditional' Hanukkah Celebrations Are Often Full Of Traditions For Jews Of Color

Hanukkah, the Jewish "festival of lights," commemorates a story of a miracle, when oil meant to last for one day lasted for eight. Today, Jews light the menorah, a candelabra with eight candles – and one "helper" candle, called a shamas – to remember the Hanukkah oil, which kept the Jerusalem temple's everlasting lamp burning brightly. Each year, the holiday starts with just the shamas and one of the eight candles and ends, on the last night, with the entire menorah lit up.

But because the reason for the light is oil, Jews also celebrate by eating food cooked in oil. In the United States, most people think of those oil-soaked foods as latkes, or potato pancakes, and jelly doughnuts called sufganiyot. For most American Jews, these are indeed important holiday foods, replete with memories – both of their heavy, greasy deliciousness and of the smells that permeate the house for days after a latke fry.

More specifically, though,

these treats are Ashkenazi, referring to Jews whose ancestors came from Eastern Europe. Two-thirds of Jews in the U.S. identify as Ashkenazi, which has strongly shaped American Jewish culture. That Eastern European culture, however, is only one of many Jewish cultures around the world.

In recent years, Jews of color and non-Ashkenazi Jews have been bringing attention to new Hanukkah traditions that celebrate the diversity of Judaism in the U.S. My work as a scholar of gender and Jewish studies often looks at how multicultural families navigate and celebrate the many aspects of their identities.

Many different Jewish stories. Jews of color come from many places. Some people were born into communities that have always been Jewish and have never been considered white: For instance, there are Jewish communities in India, Ethiopia and China. Others are people of color adopted into white Jewish families; adult

converts to Judaism; or children of interracial, interfaith marriage.

Many Jews of color have strong ties to Ashkenazi Judaism. Increasingly, though, they are publicly celebrating the range of traditions they bring to the table, making space for more diversity in mainstream Jewish life. There's been more conversation about the Ethiopian Jewish holiday Sigd, for example, and what role it might play in American Jewish life.

One of my favorite examples is a children's book called "The Queen of the Hanukkah Dosas," which features a boy and his little sister, named Sadie. Their dad is Ashkenazi and their mom is Indian or Indian American, as is their live-in grandmother, Amma-amma. In their house, Hanukkah means cooking up a plate of dosas, South Indian crepes sometimes wrapped around a savory filling. The narrator is annoyed by Sadie's tendency to climb on things, but her climbing skills save the day, and the dinner, when the family is locked out of their house and she can climb in and open the door.

What I especially appreciate about this particular book is that the dosas are not the point of the story. This is a story about an annoying little sister who in the end saves the day, and her family just happens to make dosas as a Hanukkah treat. "The Queen of the Hanukkah Dosas" doesn't mention whether the Indian side of the family is Jewish, but either way, its message for kids is clear: It can be totally normal to be a half-white, Jewish, half-Indian kid who has dosas for Hanukkah.

'Kosher Soul'

In real life, one of the most influential Jews of color adding distinctive Hanukkah foods to the communal table is Michael Twitty. This acclaimed food historian is author of "The Cooking Gene," about the social and culinary history of African American food, and "Kosher Soul," which brings together traditions from these two sides of his identity.

Twitty notes on his blog, Afroculinaria, that "traditionally African Jewish communities – the Beta Yisrael of Ethiopia, the Lemba of Southern Africa, and groups in West Africa, did not celebrate Hannukah." That said, in the spirit of celebrating Jewish food from around the world, he shared the Somali dish sambusa, a flaky deep-fried pastry something like a samosa, that can be filled with meat or vegetables. As with dosas, it is not so much that these foods are traditionally associated

all who are lost (Luke 19:10).

Jesus is come to reconnect and re-establish the initial fellowship God had planned and intended for Him and man to enjoy on an eternal basis. This is God's original, and exclusive plan He had laid out for man. This is the reason Emanuel came to us. He is here in Spirit to stay.

Emanuel is now gone away to prepare a place for us to live with Him eternally (John 14:2-3). However, He will return in His own glory having completed His Father's redemption work for man and He will wear a "crown" that will never depart from Him. For He will successfully remove all the opposition which was in His way when coming to us.

In the fullness of time God sent His Son to us with the "Good News of the Gospel" for all men. Interestingly enough, Emanuel came to us, and we didn't know Him, nor did we receive Him (John 1:11).

We can thank and praise God for the obedience of the virgin Mary who obeyed and gave her body for Emanuel to make the human transition from heaven to earth (John 1:14). We thank Joseph the earthly father for the caretaking of Emanuel until His time was come.

Come Lord Jesus, Come! God's Christmas gift to all is His Son, Emanuel. "For there is born in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." He is here!

J.L. Caldwell, Pastor

New Jerusalem Baptist

Cathedral

Durham, NC

Website: www.mynjbc.org

Email: njbc84@gmail.com

with Hanukkah but that they could provide Black Jews with a way to celebrate African and Jewish aspects of their heritage with a food fried in oil.

Twitty is known for his skill at a wide range of cuisines, including a wide range of Jewish food; cuisine cooked by African Americans for themselves and, at times, white employers; and African foods. Drawing on all these traditions, Twitty created a riff on more traditional latkes: Louisiana-style latkes, which include the "holy trinity" of Creole and Cajun cuisine – garlic, green onions and celery in this recipe – plus a bit of cayenne pepper.

Plenty of people improvise their latke recipes: My former synagogue, like many others, had latke cook-offs in which people brought all sorts of innovations, including black bean and sweet potato latkes and latkes flavored like samosa fillings. For Twitty, pulling from Creole flavors allows him to marry his Jewish religion and his African American heritage – and to offer a path for other Black Jews to do likewise.

**ANGELA ROBINSON PRIDGEN**  
March 10, 1953–December 25, 2022

Ms. Angela Robinson Pridgen, 69 of Greensboro died Sunday, Dec. 25, 2022.

The funeral service was Monday, Jan. 2 in St. Mary's Catholic Church, 1414 Gorrell Street, Greensboro.

Interment followed in Piedmont Memorial Cemetery, 2602 McConnell Road Greensboro. Hargett Funeral Service assisted the family.

**FRANK MICHAEL**

July 20, 1931–December 28, 2022

Frank Michael, 91, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2022.

A public viewing was held on Tuesday, Jan. 3 in the Goldie Hargett Memorial Chapel.

A homegoing celebration was held on Wednesday, Jan. 4, in the Goldie Hargett Memorial Chapel, 905 E. Market Street, Greensboro.

Interment will follow in Guilford Memorial Park.

**JOHN RAYNELL SMITH**

November 25, 1948–December 31, 2022

John Raynell Smith, 74, passed

away Saturday, Dec. 31, 2022.

A public viewing will be held on Friday, Jan. 6 in Hargett Funeral Service, Inc., 905 E. Market Street, Greensboro from 1–4:30 p.m.

A homegoing celebration will be held on Saturday, Jan. 7 in Mt. Zion Baptist Church, 753 Washington Street, High Point; visitation with the family begins at 11:30 a.m. followed by the service at Noon.

Interment will follow in Guilford Memorial Park.

**SHIRLEY CUMMINGS**

**HENRYHAND**

April 24, 1947–December 11, 2022

Shirley Cummings Henryhand, 75, passed away Sunday, Dec. 11.

Public viewing was Thursday, Dec. 22, in Hargett Funeral Service, Inc., 905 E. Market Street, Greensboro.

A Homegoing Celebration was held Friday, Dec. 23, in St. James Baptist Church, 536 W. Florida Street, Greensboro.

Interment followed in Piedmont Memorial Cemetery, 2602 McConnell Road, Greensboro.

## SERMON of the WEEK



**FOLLOW GOD**

**Sermon by Pastor William Eli Ratcliff**

Sermonic Text Psalms 32:8, "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye."

David ecstatically celebrates the joy of forgiveness. He has learned in life that God longs to guide people with love and wisdom, and not punishment. Moreover, who wouldn't serve a God like that? Furthermore, who wouldn't follow a God like that?

Let's celebrate this New Year 2023 with appreciation that God has given us a priceless free choice to follow Him. Not only has He blessed the whole world with this opportunity, but He will also instruct, teach and guide us!

Psalms 32:9, "Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee."

This reveals that because of stubbornness, some will need extra help. Thank God for Jesus and also the Holy Spirit that draws us to our Salvation and will convince, correct and encourage us along life's journey towards Heaven as we follow God.

John 6:44 KJV says, "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day."

For the sake of making a point, I'm sharing this little story with you: A man bought a horse from



a pastor of a church. The pastor explains to him "to make the horse go, yell 'Thank God!' And to make it stop, yell 'Hallelujah'. He is riding the horse and gets distracted when he notices he is about to ride off a cliff and begins to yell, "Hallelujah! Hallelujah!" and the horse stops just at the edge of the cliff. He wipes his sweat off and says, "Phew! Thank God!"

Point 1: Literally that would probably be the end of the man and the horse, but spiritually and truly our outcome would be different because the God that we follow is a God of a second chance-plus God! Proverbs 24:6 KJV says, "For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again: but the wicked shall fall into mischief." [The number 7 means completeness, full or perfection.] I believe, as strange as it may seem to men and angels, the Just will rise again because God made them whole before he fell, which He knew beforehand because He's omniscient. Who wouldn't follow a God like that?

Point 2: Just because a person may know, or think they know, how things are supposed to work and figure they can handle it, that's not always valid. Sometimes life will put us in situations whereby our wisdom is not enough to keep us out of or from trouble. But ultimately, we must learn to follow God and where He leads, we will follow. Furthermore, God will not lead us into anything that He cannot get us out of if He chooses to... there's

nothing too hard for our God! Finally, just because a person may have all the right information doesn't mean that they and what they oversee will not end up over a cliff. I believe if we follow God over a cliff, then we should pray and expect a safe and soft landing!

There is a difference between smarts and wisdom; however, David had them both, but I believe it was his experiences in life that gave him the Spiritual understanding that was needed to keep following God. When David got old, he said that he had never seen the righteous forsaken.

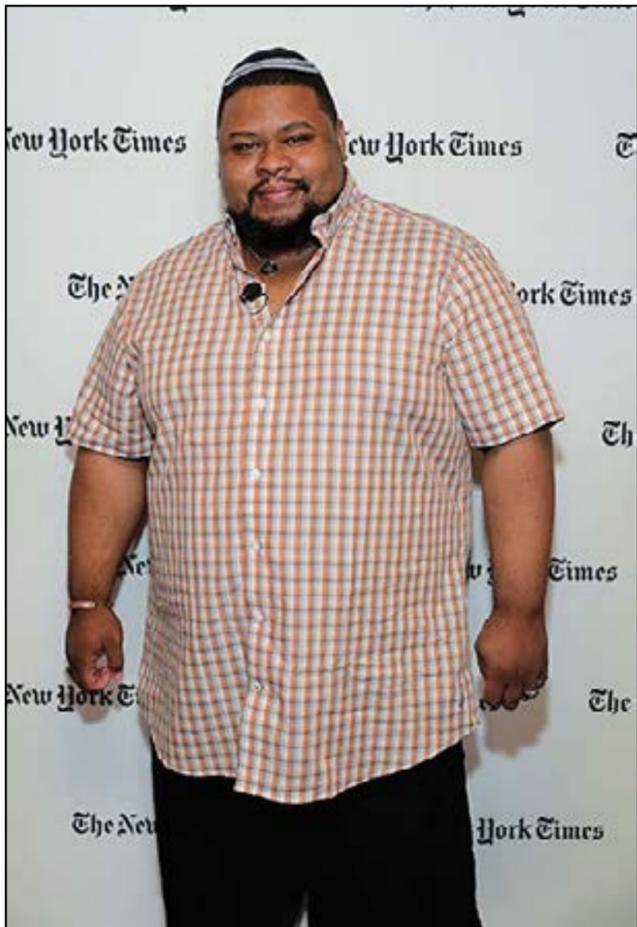
Celebrate this New Year and Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. If you fall and need help, David said, "I lift up mine eyes to the hills from which cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord."

Psalms 32:10, "Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the LORD, mercy shall compass him about."

Psalms 32:11, "Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart."

Let's keep celebrating this year, today and every tomorrow thereafter as we follow God.

To view complete sermons by Pastor William Eli Ratcliff and associate ministers, please visit our YouTube Channel. Thank you!



Michael W. Twitty attends the New York Times Food for Tomorrow Conference in 2016.

## Practical Biblical Principles

**EMANUEL—GOD IS WITH US**

The Christmas Advent runs longer than the Four Gospels explains it. God promised to send a Messiah to us not to make us feel good but to save us from ourselves. God sent the Messiah as he had promised Adam and Eve in Genesis 3:15.

God sent the Messiah not to make the world feel good about having a Leader who would lead us to do good things, but to correct the terrible mistake and remove the negative consequences of disobedience Adam/Eve brought to the world. We speak here of death for the world. Death now stands at the door after God had just given man life so he could live eternally with Him.

God never intended for man to die. Man was created to live forever with God. The beautiful garden and cosmic universe God had created had now started the process of dying and deteriorating because of the disobedience of Adam/Eve.

This is also true of the physical bodies God made for man—it started dying. Lest we forget, the only part of creation God made with His very own hands were the clay body of Adam and from Adam God made Eve. God said everything He had made is good (Genesis 1:31). God never created nor made a mistake, man did.

God defended His creation of man after they had sinned in the Garden by sending the Messiah to rectify the serious moral mistake Adam and Eve made with the serpent. God promised the guilty party of three that He was going to send the seed of a woman to correct what was

done. Otherwise, God's plan for a beautiful eternal fellowship with man would not materialize. All along this has been God's plan for man for more than four thousand years.

God intended to rectify Adam and Eve's moral mistake and put His original fellowship plan back on track. God has no time limit to complete His plan. How soon man can get back into full fellowship with God depends how soon he stops sinning and start obeying His Son, the promised Messiah.

This is one of the reasons God sent His Son to us. The main reason Jesus came is to save us from our sins by dying on the cross in our stead. God is now with us in the form of His Son, Jesus. We are to celebrate His presence daily and annually at Christmas Advent season.

God is Spirit and we will have to receive Him as Spirit in our lives. The reason being is that God's holiness and our sins don't mix. God sends His son to us born in the flesh and He becomes as God in the flesh. Being in the flesh, as a human being, is the only way God could deal with us through His Son.

God will fix this situation later by giving the righteous a new body not subject to sin or death (1 Thessalonians 4:16–17; 1 Corinthians 15:52).

Jesus is here to declare peace between God and mankind (Luke 2:13–14). Jesus came to us for the purpose of dying for our personal sins, thus removing our sin which kept us away from God's grace and mercy.

Jesus is here to destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8).

Jesus is come to seek and save



"Our family serving your family four generations"

www.haywoodfh.com

2415 S Wilmington Street Raleigh, NC 27603

919-832-2835

**The Carolinian**

**The Cure For Ignorance Is Education**  
**Subscribe Today At www.CARO.news**

# Community

## Purchase Failures Contributed To Outages

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Duke Energy Corp. executives on Tuesday blamed a convergence of widespread extreme cold, higher than projected demand, malfunctioning plant equipment and the inability to buy power elsewhere for rolling blackouts on Christmas Eve — the first for the company in the Carolinas.

Addressing state electric regulators, company leaders apologized because about 500,000 customers, or 11%, of its Duke Energy Carolinas and Duke Energy Progress subsidiary customers were subjected to the designed temporary outages, often with little notice. While power was restored to everyone before the sun went down Dec. 24, morning temperatures fell into the single digits and afternoon highs failed to reach freezing in many areas.

“I want to express how sorry we are for what our customers experienced,” Duke Energy Carolinas CEO Julie Janson told the North Carolina Utilities Commission at a briefing. “We own what happened. We have set out on a path to ensure that if we’re faced with similar challenges, we will see a different outcome and provide a better customer experience.”

The outages came a day after 300,000 customers lost power amid plummeting temperatures and high winds that knocked down lines as a monster winter

storm approached the East Coast. Restoration was nearly complete by that evening. At that time, the two subsidiaries for the Charlotte-based utility still projected having enough energy production reserves to meet peak demand the next morning, said Sam Holeman, a transmission system vice president.

But power generation at three North Carolina plant locations — coal-fired Mayo and Roxboro and natural gas-powered Dan River — were essentially cut in half early Dec. 24 when insulated instrumentation lines froze, Duke executives said. Meanwhile, already contracted purchases of electric power on a regional transmission system didn’t happen because neighboring utilities had no supplies to share.

Faced with the threat of uncontrolled demand outpacing supplies and leading to widespread outages within the Eastern U.S., Holeman said the two subsidiaries began “load-shedding” events — rolling outages — beginning shortly after 6 a.m.

“We will strive to lower the probability that this type of event happens again, but if we have similar conditions in similar operating environments in the future, our operators will take the same actions,” he said.

The rolling outages are supposed to be automated and last only 15 to 30 minutes. But the au-

tomation tools didn’t work as anticipated, according to a presentation, forcing the utility’s distribution control center to shut down hundreds of circuits manually. All of the circuits were restored by around 4 p.m.

Duke executives said communicating this event to customers fell short, especially as it became clear that rolling outages would extend beyond 30 or even 60 minutes.

“We’re committed to developing a much better understanding of these events and what we can do to avoid rolling service disruptions and improve communications in the future,” Duke Energy

North Carolina State President Kendal Bowman said.

The seven-member commission, chosen by Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper, asked many questions and sought more information but largely avoided directing blame upon anyone for what happened. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is also looking into what happened.

After raising concerns publicly last week about the outages, Cooper met with Duke Energy CEO Lynn Good and other company executives later Tuesday and covered similar topics as the commission, according to a news release from the governor’s office.

## Campbell To Present At AA Cultural Event

Desi L. Campbell, Executive Director of the Harnett County African American Heritage Center in Lillington along with the Board of Directors has been selected as a presenter for the 22nd Annual African American Cultural Celebration on January 28, 2023 at the North Carolina Museum of History.

Desi will be featured in our History, Enterprise and Film segment. He will spotlight his new short film documentary “Harnett County The African American Experience”. This documentary tells the history of African Americans from Harnett County dating back to the early 1800’s. It will focus on the journey from Africa to Harnett County, slavery, education, religion, cemeteries, and family history. Along with this video is a written documentary of over 300 pages. The presentation will take place from 1:15pm - 1:45pm in the Longleaf Classroom SECU Education Center, Level R.

This event will feature exhibits, music, drama, movement, literature, spoken word, history, enterprise, film, arts and crafts, sports, games, education



and heritage, food, health and beauty, and hands on activities for the whole family. The festival is sponsored and hosted by the North Carolina African American Heritage Commission and will go from 10:30am - 4:30pm. For more information about the festival please contact Emily Grant at 919-219-8157. For more information about the Harnett County African American Heritage Center please contact 910-882-3851.

The Harnett County African American Heritage Center will also present the Harnett County African American Heritage Festival February 25th at the Dunn Community Center.



## Logan’s P.A.L.S Proves That Charity Has No Age Limit

By Virginia Wall

Special To The Carolinian

In 2020 at nine years of age, Logan Thomas, while riding to school with his father, noticed several homeless persons standing on corners with signs that read “Homeless, please help”. Logan came to his parents, Dr. LaDonna Thomas and Fredrick Thomas and asked what could be done to help the less fortunate. Thus, Logan’s P.A.L.S. (Preparing, Achieving, Leading and Succeeding), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization was formed.

The next year, Logan, at the age of 10, had a vision to serve in the communities of Wake County and the surrounding areas by helping to provide clothing, food, toiletries and school items to individuals in underserved populations.

Since its inception in 2021, Logan’s P.A.L.S. has provided care packages to the homeless shelter (Oak City Cares). The organization organized “Operation Undercover.” Hats, gloves, socks, pajamas, and undergarments were collected and donated to the Helping Hand Mission, Oak City Cares, the Salvation Army, and the Southgate Community Center.

Logan’s P.A.L.S. has donated Chrome Books to high school seniors who will attend college. The organization provided lunch for the youth at the opening of the Young Achievers Summer Program at the Juniper Level Panther Branch Historic Rosenwald School.

In 2022, the organization again served the community. Coats, pajamas, socks, undergarments, hats and scarves were donated. On Dec. 18 and 19, at the Garner Road Community Center; over 150 coats were distributed. Warm pajamas were given out and all donated items were distributed to members of the community.

Many thanks to all who contributed.



Paid for by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.



## COVID Treatment Can’t Wait.

If you’re 50+ or have a chronic condition like heart disease or diabetes, waiting can be risky. Talk to a doctor and get treated right away.

Get treatment facts at [cdc.gov/covidtreatment](https://cdc.gov/covidtreatment)



# Editorials

## Editorial Policy

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

## Ready for Our Earth Shot

By Ben Jealous  
Sierra Club

As we greet 2023, I'm feeling more than the typical seasonal optimism. America is primed once again for a historic achievement, call it our "Earth shot."

In the 1960s and early 1970s, the United States spent the current dollar equivalent of just under \$300 billion on "landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to Earth" as President Kennedy proposed in 1961. Ever since, that combination of aspiration and expenditure has made us call any well-financed goal that seems improbable, if not impossible, a "moonshot."

President Biden and Congress committed almost \$700 billion in the next 10 years to reducing pollution, particularly in marginalized communities most likely to suffer, and to making the transportation and energy sectors cleaner to preserve the climate. We need to appreciate the investment made in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the Inflation Reduction Act as our Earth shot.

This is a moment of unprecedented opportunity to combat the climate crisis, lessen the impact of environmental decay in communities that unfairly bear its brunt, and build a cleaner economy. We need to come together to seize it. It's a moment long awaited by people of color in particular, who always have been strong voices for environmental protection and who have been the most demanding of political leaders on these issues at the ballot box.

What's behind this optimistic outlook? First, the landmark investment since 2021 moves us beyond the point of simply imagining what could be done to handing us the tools to build what it will take to avert climate catastrophe and environmental decay. It's up to us now to take up those tools and get to work. We can accelerate the arrival of a green economy. We can rebuild our manufacturing sector, not just our roads and bridges. We can create good jobs for people who need them and have struggled to find them. And we can do it all at once. In fact, we must do it all at once.

Second, that historic in-

vestment comes at a particularly opportune moment for changing the course of our climate and environment. It's a moment when innovation is matching our resolve to make change. From batteries to LED lights to energy production, we have better, cleaner options across the economy.

This intersection of investment and innovation means we can move past the old either-or thinking that has held us back for too long, the mistaken notion that the only way to have a flourishing economy is to force some people in some places to pay the cost of prosperity. The new reality of this time is that we can have thriving businesses and good jobs without sacrificing the planet. Getting to the moon led to everything from the silicon chip to more Ph.D.s in science and engineering. Our Earth shot can have the same spillover effect.

While the federal government has set the stage for unprecedented progress, the work of implementation will play out in every state and community. There were no corporate lobbyists fighting to keep the Apollo rockets grounded, but we can expect fights everywhere to divert investment in a cleaner environment or to minimize its impact. We need to match those opponents in statehouses and city halls with our people power. Environmental, labor and civil rights advocates need to come together as all our interests align in this cause.

As we close out this holiday season, let's give ourselves the gift of belief. Let's believe that we can do this, we can save the planet. Let's believe that we can figure out tough challenges that our inspiration has yet to crack. And let's believe we can move beyond old, harmful patterns of division and discrimination to ensure everyone enjoys a livable planet.

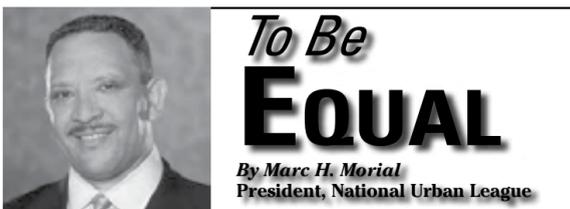
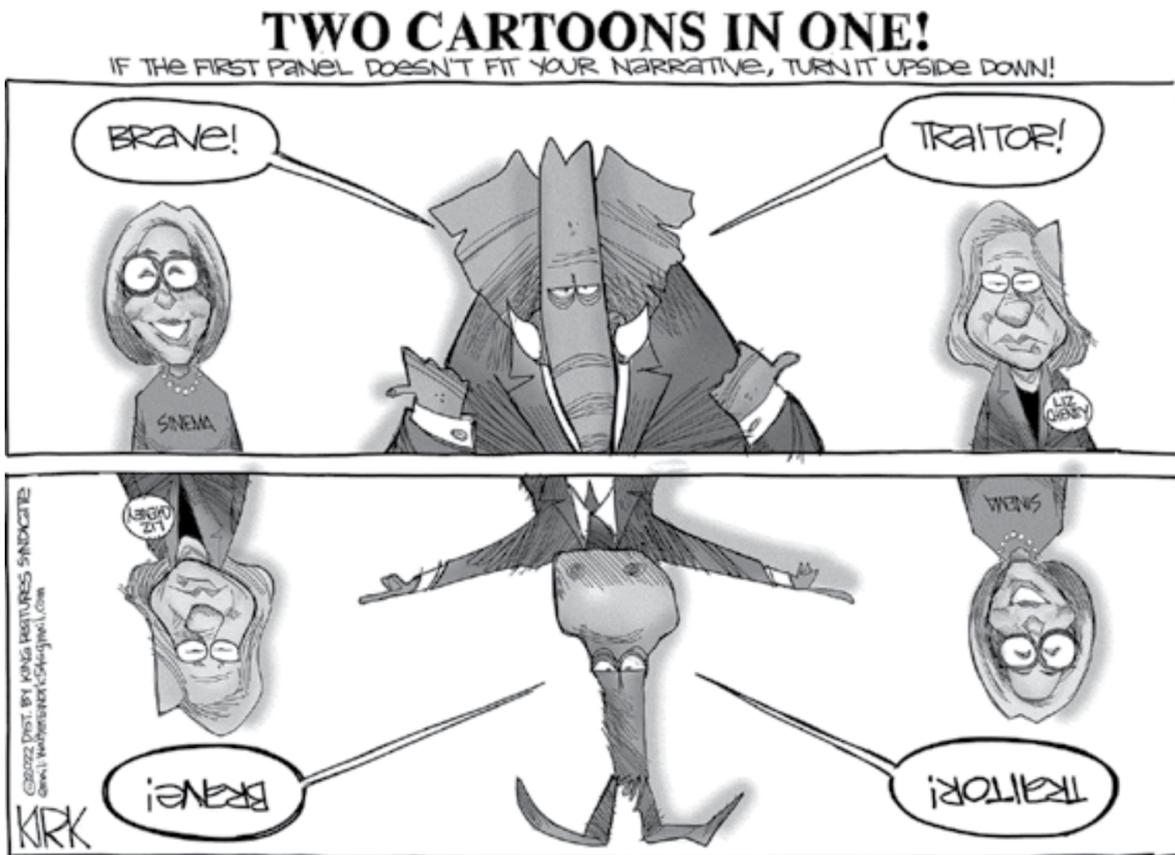
Happy New Year.

**Ben Jealous is incoming executive director of the Sierra Club, America's largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization, and professor of practice at the University of Pennsylvania. A New York Times best-selling author, his next book Never Forget Our People Were Always Free will be published by Harper Collins in January.**

## Talk To Us

Stimulating a lively discussion of issues that concern the community is one of our main tasks at The Carolinian. We want to know what you think. This issue's topic:

So, is this the moment Black people and other poor people and people of color have been waiting for? The climate crisis? Yes, climate is important, but is it what the community has been waiting to rally around? Let us hear from you!



## To Be EQUAL

By Marc H. Morial  
President, National Urban League

### "DOG WHISTLE" RHETORIC IS GIVING WAY TO TUBERVILLE & GREENE'S OVERT RACISM

"I've heard racists say all kinds of things. I've heard them say that Black people are criminals, and I've heard them say that reparations are reverse racism. But it takes a true racism innovator to combine both ideas at the same time."

—Trevor Noah

Until recently, Sen. Tommy Tuberville's most significant contribution to racial justice was asking students and fans of the University of Mississippi, where he was a head football coach in 1997, to stop waving the Confederate flag at home sporting events.

Last anyone doubt, all these years later, that his request was motivated by principle rather than self-interest—public displays of racism made it difficult to recruit Black athletes—Tuberville has laid his cards on the table. At a Trump rally in Nevada during the midterm campaign, Sen. Tommy Tuberville explicitly referred to Black Americans as "the people that do the crime."

Even in this era of heightened racial rhetoric, Tuberville's undisguised bigotry was stunning.

The following day, at a Trump rally in Arizona, Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene drew criticism for saying immigrants "are on the verge of replacing you, replacing your jobs and replacing your kids in school and, coming from all over the world, they're also replacing your culture. And that's not great for America."

Greene spoke last year at a White nationalist conference and is barred from sitting on congressional committees because of incendiary social media posts—that her comments might not even have attracted much attention had they not followed on the heels of Tuberville's stunning outburst.

Greene's notoriety and Tuberville's comments signal the escalation of a menacing trend that Donald Trump revived when he launched his presidential campaign in 2015 by calling immigrants criminals and rapists.

The exploitation of bigotry and racial resentment to win elections is a ploy nearly as old as the nation itself. As early as 1798, the two major parties—then the Federalists and the Democratic-Republicans—wrangled over the residency requirements for immigrants to become citizens (and thus voters.) The Native American Party, better known as the Know-Nothings, was founded in 1844 based wholly on hatred for Catholic immigrants.

Post-Civil War, explicit anti-Black racism emerged as a primary issue in national elections. "Exaggerated stories of Black crime" and accusations of "miscegenation" were hallmarks of the 1868 campaign. "Fear of Blacks and the need to maintain White power was a dominant, primary theme, not a subtext," political scientist Tali Mendelberg wrote in *The Race Card: Campaign Strategy, Implicit Messages, and the Norm of Equality*.

As late as 1968, presidential candidate George Wallace, the former governor of Alabama, campaigned in favor of racial

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



## A Different Voice

By Dorothy Shaw Thompson

### MOVING FORWARD AS THOUGH...

It's interesting to me that we get excited about numbers, years, etc. Actually, we as humans have put boundaries around days, weeks, etc. Let's face it, we number our days. The real boundary is the rising and setting of the Sun and the rest to me is a figment of our imagination. I know that there is a movement toward an eventual end and that how we use our days in between our birth and our body's end is about what we have to contribute to this thing called life. We just finished celebrating holidays based on the life we've come to and what our families, churches, communities and beliefs adopted or rejected lead us to. Recently, communities have celebrated Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and yesterday, New Year's 2023. I do enjoy that all of these holidays in some fashion celebrate lights and/or candles and what that means to the holidays is similar but also different.

It kind of tickles me that we move forward sometimes as though we have a choice, but since to me we don't, I marvel at how we act like we do. So we delay changing habits we don't want by making New Year's resolutions. I've done it and in my life's script I can look back and see that from time to time it was beneficial. There were years when my resolution was as helpful to me as deciding that I would speak to people whether or not they speak to me. I decided once that I would work to always tell the truth. That was a good one because it helped me to be cognizant of not only what I believed but also what I didn't and it was interesting to experience others' reactions to my truth. A favorite one for me was learning how to say no without feeling guilty. Actually, some of my New Year's resolu-

tions have been adventures; such as learning to figure out how to only attend to my business and leave other people's business (even those very close to me) alone. Bottom line: it's a worthy practice if you have worthy goals for yourself.

Last year in January, a dear friend asked me to take over a practice she had of sending daily scriptures to people on a list she had. I had already decided that I would send out musings and affirmations to people that I had shared her scriptures with two years before. I almost agreed until I found that she had 170 people she sent hers to. That's when my "no without feeling guilty" came in handy. It took five no's over a week or so for her to get it that I meant it. We didn't lose a beat of friendship as we went through the process of "please" and "no." I've learned that the truth actually does set you free and that "no" is a great word to use when you mean it.

More than anything, I like a writing by the mystic Howard Thurman to connect my celebration of Christmas with the "new year." It's called "The Mood of Christmas" and I shared it with my friends as an affirmation this morning. Actually it's a book he wrote and this is an excerpt:

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



## Glen Mollette Speaks

By Glen Mollette

### THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING AND SUFFERING LOSS

Throughout the years, many of us watched Barbara Walters from NBC to ABC. I always tried to watch her special interviews. Often, the people she interviewed on primetime television specials were "the" high-profile people at that given time. She became the highest-paid journalist of her day being the first to sign a million-dollar contract with ABC.

Regardless of what we do in life we are still confronted by difficulties that often debilitate us. Walters had survived her own personal struggles, like we all do, including four divorces. Unfortunately, her reported battle with dementia took its toll on her health. We can all accomplish much in life. Maybe not as much as Walters or maybe even more. Regardless, there is much about life we can't do anything about other than try to deal with it and do the best we can.

At least 37 people died from the recent winter storm in Buffalo, New York. Families are grieving. Hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, freezing temperatures, and snow have wreaked devastation on our country in the last twelve months. Loss of life can come from disease, weather, accidents or unconsciously by design.

We all have been horrified by the death of four college students in Moscow, Idaho. It's been beyond us how four beautiful people could be stabbed to death in their beds reportedly between 3 and 4 in the morning. A young man who is a student at nearby Washington State University on the Pullman campus has been arrested at his parents' house in Albrightsville, Pa. Moscow police believe they now have the murderer in custody.

How anyone could commit such a heinous crime is beyond our comprehension. I'm sure it was beyond the scope of thought for these innocent young adults. We never know who is taking note of our lives, whereabouts and activities. Regardless of how calm and safe your community seems you

(See **GLEN MOLLETTE SPEAKS**, P. 11)

## Child Watch

By Marian Wright Edelman



### THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS

As the holidays are winding to a close, for some people the end of this joyous and busy season can feel like a letdown. But for others, this is a time to look ahead and embrace the lessons that can be taken from this season with us into the New Year.

For the millions of Christians in our nation who have just celebrated the birth of the most famous poor baby in history, the end of the holiday season and the beginning of 2023 should be a new chance to rededicate ourselves to welcoming and caring for the poor children in our midst today. A few weeks ago I shared some of beloved theologian Howard Thurman's meditations from his book *The Mood of Christmas*. Thurman speaks to this moment too in "The Work of Christmas":

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among the people,  
To make music in the heart.

Let's embrace this work with joyful hearts and hands as we enter the New Year.

# Other Viewpoints



## THE MORNING RANT: THE TVA IN THE BIDEN ERA—BLACKOUTS & RURAL DE-ELECTRIFICATION

By Buck Throckmorton

*Ace of Spades HQ*

Thanks to the TVA (“Tennessee Valley Authority,” electricity had been abundant and inexpensive for Tennessee and six surrounding states for most of the past century. Coal, hydro, nuclear, and natural gas were the fuels that electrified Appalachia.

But anti-carbon leftists have infiltrated the organization, and its future is now geared toward renewables and “sustainability.”

In other words, scarcity is the future of electricity in the TVA service area.

The extreme cold snap this past weekend was not common, but neither was it unprecedented. But what was unprecedented is that the TVA is no longer able to reliably provide electricity in cold snaps.

The TVA famously brought rural electrification to Appalachia in the 1930s. 90 years later, the TVA is hopelessly distracted by anti-carbon, net-zero politics, promising to reduce its carbon output 80 percent by 2035. Now to be fair, a massive reduction in carbon output could be achieved by replacing coal plants with natural gas and nuclear plants, but President Biden is loading the TVA board up with net-zero activists who believe that sun, wind, and unicorns can provide all the energy that people need. (By the way, they don't think you should “need” a lot of electricity anyhow, as they have determined that a Spartan lifestyle is quite sufficient for you.)

So forget rural electrification. What the TVA is now delivering is de-electrification. When you really need electricity, you won't be able to rely on the TVA to provide it to you.

Who are the people that Biden is nominating to run the TVA? The board nominations for TVA by the Biden White House include a long-time labor leader in Chattanooga, the former chief of staff to former Vice President Al Gore, an Alabama businesswoman who was the first Black female elected chair of the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce, and the head of a nonprofit that promotes solar energy and other green power.

Yikes. Not an energy expert among them, unless you consider eco-communists with an agenda of eliminating reliable carbon-based energy to be energy experts.

Here's a more detailed biography of two of the people who Biden wants to transform the TVA.

**BETH GEER:** Hailing from, Nashville, Tennessee, Geer is Chief of Staff to former Vice President Al Gore and serves on Nashville's Sustainability Advisory Committee. She has sustainability and climate change policy experience and has had previous roles in the White House, Department of Labor, and Senate.

**MICHELLE MOORE:** Moore has roots in rural Georgia and a background as a social entrepreneur. Moore worked on sustainability in the Obama White House, and currently serves as CEO of Groundswell, a nonprofit that “builds community power through equitable community solar projects and resilience centers, clean energy programs that reduce energy burdens, and pioneering research initiatives that help light the way to clean energy futures for all.”

Senate Republicans actually dragged their feet on one of the nominees, but it was not because of her radical green-energy views. Beth Geer's confirmation was held up because she insulted Republican Senator Joni Ernst.

During a Senate confirmation hearing in April, Geer was blasted by Ernst for a tweet in 2015 when she posted “hideous” after Ernst's Republican response to the State of the Union address by Obama.

“I'm not sure if you have made it a habit of calling women that you disagree with hideous,” Ernst told Geer at the hearing, “but this is not Iowa nice, and I'm calling you out.” Geer apologized for the tweet, which she said was not a reflection on Ernst's appearance. But Ernst said she will oppose Geer's nomination because of the lack of civility in Geer's social media post.

Ms. Geer's scientifically illiterate goal of turning the TVA into a green energy company was not an issue for Senate Republicans, they were just offended that one of their members had been disrespected.

The same article notes that “Biden wants the electricity sector to be totally carbon free by 2035 to help limit greenhouse gas emissions linked with global warming.”

The White House is being urged by some environmentalists to try to force TVA, as the nation's biggest public utility, to meet the carbon-free target.

Sen. Tom Carper, D-Delaware, chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, said he hopes the nominees endorsed by his committee will soon be confirmed by the Senate to help TVA move forward.

Senator Carper got his way. Just before breaking for the Christmas holiday, the Senate confirmed all of Biden's radical appointees to the TVA board, including Ms. Geer. With radical net-zero zealots now in position to control the TVA board, we should expect blackouts to become the norm, and when the blackouts they impose on us occur, they will blame climate change.

Now that the TVA has shown it can't even produce enough electricity to handle a cold snap, what happens if more drivers start switching to electric vehicles?

Right now, despite all the hype about EV plants being built in Tennessee, the number of actual EVs on the road in Tennessee barely warrants an asterisk. There are about 6 million registered vehicles in Tennessee. Of those, less than 20,000 are EVs, or less than one-half of one percent. Yet, the same radical greens who plan to make the TVA carbon-free also want to get you out of your gas-powered car and into an EV.

Ryan Stanton, TVA's “Senior Project Manager for EV Evolution,” has been advocating for EVs and stating that TVA is ready and able for the big increase in electricity demand resulting from a mass conversion to EVs.

Electrifying all 10 million vehicles in the Tennessee Valley Authority service territory would add 25-30 percent to existing load, a level the transmission system could handle, according to utility studies.

Transportation electrification is a way to fulfill TVA's core missions of energy, environment and economic development, Stanton said. If Tennessee reaches its EV adoption goal, it will result in about \$200 million in annual consumer savings, he said. And over the last decade, there have been about \$20 billion in EV manufacturing investments in TVA's territory, he added.

The utility believes it can handle the load associated with full electrification of the transportation system.

Spoiler alert. TVA cannot handle “full electrification of the transportation system.” It is overwhelmed and already inflicting blackouts on its customers with less than 1 percent of the transportation system electrified.

Whatever happens with EVs, Tennessee's population is also growing rapidly, with a flood of blue-state refugees pouring in. The TVA can't even keep up with population growth, much less with demand to power EVs.

One more thing, the TVA's CEO, Jeff Lyash, is the nation's highest paid federal employee, receiving compensation of \$9.8 million for the fiscal year that ended on September 30.

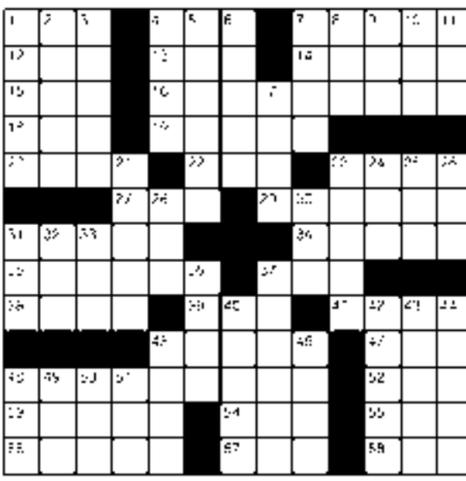
As I documented back in 2020, Donald Trump tried to get Lyash fired for replacing TVA staff with foreign labor.

CEO Lyash followed the True Conservative™ playbook of terminating employees, making them train their inexpensive foreign replacements, then rewarding himself with a 7 or 8-figure salary for all the labor ex-

## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Justice Dept. agency
- 4 Physician's nickname
- 7 Grating
- 12 Vintage
- 13 Away from WSW
- 14 Mountain crest
- 15 Seal name
- 16 Yosemite peak featuring “Free Solo”
- 18 CSI evidence
- 19 Dewy
- 20 Billboard
- 21 Swiss peak
- 23 Block
- 27 Author



- 55 Texter's chuckle
- 56 Velocity
- 57 Irish actor Stephen
- 58 Decade parts (Abbr.)
- 7 Engrossed
- 8 “Exodus” hero
- 9 Fixed
- 10 Sch. org.
- 11 Harkening
- 17 Nite wipers
- 21 Martial arts warrior
- 23 Saw killer
- 24 Guffaw syllable
- 25 Suitable
- 26 Green shade
- 28 Smile part
- 30 Part
- 31 1958 Kingston Trio hit
- 32 Texas tea
- 33 Choose
- 36 Mother of Zeus
- 37 Gloomy
- 40 Sequence
- 42 Tuscan setting
- 43 Hard work
- 44 Seasonal songs
- 45 Thin nail
- 46 Nick and
- 48 Ambulance initials
- 49 Napkin's place
- 50 Payable
- 51 Mine material

### DOWN

- 1 Creates original
- 2 Russian pancakes
- 3 Luggage attachment
- 4 Consider
- 5 Borrowed
- 6 Director

pense he eliminated.

Lyash is apparently so busy managing the fortune that flows from TVA customers to himself, that he doesn't have time to worry about actually providing electricity to those same customers when they're at risk of freezing to death.

Going forward, energy scarcity and rolling blackouts will no longer be problems for the TVA. They'll be policy.



## COPS KILLED MORE PEOPLE IN 2022 THAN ANY YEAR ON RECORD—HERE'S HOW TO STOP IT FROM HAPPENING AGAIN

By Matt Agorist

*The Free Thought Project*

As 2023 begins, American police polish off another deadly year, ending 1,176 lives in 2022. This number is a new record for police killings in America and yet still, it is set to increase by one, on average, every 8 hours.

Since 2018, cops in America have killed 5,668 citizens. And most people are not saying anything about it.

While it may be easy for some to write off police killings as a problem of American gun culture, this is not major factor. According to a report by the Institute for Criminal Justice Training Reform (ICJTR), Finland has one of the highest gun-ownership rates in Europe, with around 32 civilian firearms per 100 people—but incidents of police shooting civilians are extremely rare. We could only find 9 examples of police killings in Finland in the last two decades, one of which was an accidental shooting of a prison guard.

What's more, as TFTP reported in 2021, the majority of police killings involve calls in which there was no crime or the suspect is only suspected of a non-violent offense.

“Most killings began with police responding to suspected non-violent offenses or cases where no crime was reported,” according to a report from PoliceViolenceReport.org

It gets worse.

Of the 1,176 people killed by police in 2022, only 1 in 3 were suspected of a violent offense. The majority were suspected of a non-violent offense or no crime at all, while another 8 percent were killed over a traffic violation.

Ever wonder why cops yell “quit resisting” as they beat a person who's not resisting? Or why they shoot people who pose no threat? Maybe the answer is right in front of us. Many folks who are given the authorization to use deadly force and authority to kidnap and cage citizens—aren't the sharpest tools in the chest. One would think that giving someone so much authority should come with testing their intelligence for competence. However, one would be wrong.

In an analysis conducted by TFTP in 2014, we found that hairstylists in nearly every state are required to have significantly more training than men and women who are given a badge and a gun and sent out into our neighborhoods. Below are just a few examples.

New York has one of the lowest requirements in order to become a licensed cosmetologist. However, it is still 36 percent more required training than a cop must undergo, coming in at 1000 hours.

North Carolina police must complete the Basic Law enforcement Training (BLET) Curriculum which consists of a mere 620 hours.

The average North Carolina hairstylist is required to complete 2.4 times more training, 1500 hours, and they will never be tasked with serving a no-knock warrant or shaking down potential drug dealers.

In Chicago, Ill., their boys in blue have one of the highest requirements for hours completed to become a cop and it comes in at 1,000 hours.

Illinois hairdressers are still required to complete 500 more hours than police.

New Mexico, whose track record over the last several years has sparked a special investigation by the Justice Department, ironically lowered their required amount of training to be a police officer in 2014.

The state mandate for basic police training was slashed by more than 25 percent, from 22 weeks to 16 weeks to total 650 hours.

While there is no direct correlation between a lack of training and an increase in killing, it is obvious that the training police are receiving in the United States is at least partially responsible for the massive death toll. Obviously, however, the problem is multi-faceted.

Even when police departments require a college degree in the United States, it doesn't seem to curb the violence. Some states already require college courses for cops like Illinois, Nevada, New Jersey and North Dakota who require a bachelor's degree or an associate degree, yet those cops are still incredibly violent. Also, there are likely plenty of good cops out there who haven't gone to college or finished high school.

The training requirement is just one of many steps needed to help reform policing. But one of the most drastic and effective steps to take needs to be ending the war on drugs, immediately.

This would aid in the cultural shift needed to reform policing in America by removing the monetary and often sadistic incentives dangled in front of law enforcement's face like a carrot, that entices them to rob, kidnap, and even sodomize people to “protect” society

from an arbitrary substance deemed illegal by the state.

Enforcement of victimless crimes is a major factor in creating unnecessary police interactions which fuel violence. Some people see this and are taking action.

Another major issue in police training is their ability to deal with the mentally ill. There is a reason doctors and nurses don't treat patients with handguns and Tasers which is why police shouldn't be responding to mental health crises looking for a fight.

The list of unarmed and often completely innocent mentally ill people killed by police is immense. TFTP archives are full of tragic stories in which police were called to help someone in a crisis and end up murdering them. People are killed even when they aren't in a crisis and simply act differently like Elijah McClain, who was on his way home from buying groceries and was murdered by police because he was an introvert and wore a ski mask.

This is why some municipalities have begun removing cops from the situation entirely—and the results are phenomenal.

On June 1, 2020, Denver began the Support Team Assistance Response (STAR) program, which sends a mental health professional and a paramedic to some 911 calls instead of cops. When we first reported on the program in October 2020, their results were fantastic. Now, it seems that departments who continue the old way are doing a disservice to the mentally ill.

According to their latest data, STAR has responded to more than 2,500 calls to 911 in which police would have normally been sent out. The STAR team—armed only with experience and compassion—has never once called police to back them up and no one was ever arrested.

They have settled every single call without killing someone, beating them, ruining their lives, or using violence. Imagine that.

Another type of encounter that turns deadly all too often is the traffic stop.

While almost everyone in America commits these same traffic infractions designed for revenue collection instead of safety, most of the people targeted by police for these crimes are the poor and minorities. All too often, officers treat these stops as gateways to fish for drug activity or other victimless crimes. While ending the drug war would have a much more profound effect, some municipalities have kicked around the idea of removing traffic stops from the mission of police officers.

Traffic stops in the land of the free, are a means of bolstering the prison industrial complex by extracting revenue from those who can pay and incarcerating others who cannot.

For those too poor to pay their tickets, routine traffic stops end up in repeated imprisonment due to mounting fines. Cities across the country are running a de facto debtors' prison this way.

When cops aren't routinely extorting and locking people up for petty traffic offenses, they are killing them.

Walter Scott was pulled over for a broken taillight. Scott—unarmed—ran away from the police officer, who pursued and shot him from behind, first with a Taser, then with a gun. Scott was struck five times, “three times in the back, once in the upper buttocks and once in the ear—with at least one bullet entering his heart.”

The list of folks killed over traffic stops is as long as it is infuriating.

While these numbers and statistics are infuriating by themselves, they are likely an undercount. The numbers that are released publicly are staggering, however, according to a 2021 study, they are actually far worse.

The study, conducted by the University of Washington and published in the British medical journal, *The Lancet*, found that police killings in America have been undercounted by more than half over the past four decades.

The study found that the NVSS data undercounted police killings by 55.5 percent between 1980 and 2018. Overall, according to the researchers, “the misclassification of police violence in NVSS data is extensive.”

Just how big of an undercount is 55.5 percent? Roughly 17,000 people. The study tracked the time period that roughly encompasses the war on drugs and the rise of the prison industrial complex and according to the private open source data, 31,000 Americans were killed by cops during this period. According to the government, however, only 14,000 were killed—which is still unacceptable but massively wrong.

## TO BE EQUAL

*Continued from page 10*

segregation. By 1980, however, overt racial appeals had given way to coded rhetoric such as the “welfare queen” stereotype employed by Ronald Reagan.

“Any way you look at it, race is coming on the back-burner,” political strategist Lee Atwater said in 1981.

Race-baiting politicians like Tuberville and Greene are putting it back on the front burner. It's up to their colleagues to extinguish the flames.

## A DIFFERENT VOICE

*Continued from page 10*

*When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with the flock,  
The work of Christmas begins  
To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among people,  
To make music in the heart.*

I think this great man got it. The work of Christmas and the mood of Christmas is to open our eyes and hearts toward having a purpose for being here. The transition between these December holidays toward a so-called “New Year” is to actualize a companionship with truth, peace and a joining of minds toward making this planet a better place to live for all who inhabit it. How do we do that? I believe that we do it by not having boundaries to our growth but by taking seriously our everyday experiences. What is happening in our daily life to give us a role to play? Did we cross the path of someone hungry or homeless? Did we give them something to eat or point them to resources? What are we led to do? Did someone call you with a need to be listened to or did they need information? I think the situation dictates the response. The response when correct gives us peace as well. It helps me to recognize that moving forward is inevitable and facing that is a sign of extremely excellent mental health. Be happy no matter what year or day or week it is. No looking back where you cannot go.

## GLEN MOLLETTE SPEAKS

*Continued from page 10*

can't take anything for granted. Lock your doors. Lock your bedroom door. Keep your handgun on your lampstand and try your best to create an environment that protects you as much as possible. With so many people sleeping in the rental house in Moscow, I'm sure these young college students felt safe. What appeared to be safe for them became an opportunity for an evil mind.

Typically, the attacker has the element of surprise on his side. It's always best to try to think ahead. Sadly, four Idaho University students were killed by someone who planned, plotted, and was patient enough to find the right moment to carry out the murders.

Accepting and dealing with what we cannot change is one thing. Preparing for life but rolling with the punches, the turns and twists is another. Being watchful, careful, and never taking anything for granted could make the difference between life and death.

Pray for these families and all the many friends and loved ones as they grieve and suffer from such devastating loss.

*Dr. Glenn Mollette is a graduate of numerous schools including Georgetown College, Southern and Lexington Seminaries in Kentucky. He is the author of 13 books including UncommSense, the Spiritual Chocolate series, Grandpa's Store, Minister's Guidebook insights from a fellow minister. His column is published weekly in over 600 publications in all 50 states.*

# Classifieds

## 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 001382

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of James C Thompson Jr a/k/a James Cleveland Thompson Jr, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 16th day of March 2023, 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 15th day of December, 2022.

Joni T Pierce

Executor

4612 Jernigan Drive

Apex, NC 27539

12/15,12/22,12/29/2022 & 1/5/2023

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 001434

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Belquis Fathima a/k/a Belinda Ruth Sutton, 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 16th day of March 2023, 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 15th day of December, 2022.

Rodriguez Sutton

Administrator

521 E Waycliff Rd

Henderson, NC 27537

12/15,12/22,12/29/2022 & 1/5/2023

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 1288

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of George Kermit Riggs, 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 16th day of March 2023, 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 15th day of December, 2022.

Jera Riggs-Debalsi

Executrix

5706 Cheek Rd

Durham, NC 27704

12/15,12/22,12/29/2022 & 1/5/2023

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 1495

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Virginia M. Beard, 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 16th day of March 2023, 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 15th day of December, 2022.

Barbara A. Beard

Co-Executor

216 Galverson Dr

Durham, NC 27712

John D. Beard

Co-Executor

928 Arrowhead Lane

Mebane, NC 27302

12/15,12/22,12/29/2022 & 1/5/2023

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF DURHAM

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 5th day of December, 2022, as Limited Personal Representative of the ESTATE BILLIE GLENN WOODY, 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 16th day of March, 2023 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 15th day of December, 2022.

JACKIE WOODY

LIMITED PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

ESTATE OF BILLIE GLENN WOODY  
c/o Rupe S. Gill, Attorney  
Walker Lambe, PLLC  
Post Office Box 51549  
Durham, North Carolina 27717

12/15,12/22,12/29/2022 & 1/5/2023

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 1427

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Constance Blackmore, 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 16th day of March 2023, 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 15th day of December, 2022.

Brenadeen Barnett

Administrator

2806 Creek Court

Matthews, NC 28104

12/15,12/22,12/29/2022 & 1/5/2023

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 1532

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Ann H. Wynn, 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 16th day of March 2023, 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 15th day of December, 2022.

Lolita A Wynn

Executor

7413 Chesley Ln

Durham, NC 27713

12/15,12/22,12/29/2022 & 1/5/2023

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF DURHAM

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 7th day of September, 2022, as Executor of the ESTATE OF LOIS J. BENDER A/K/A NANNIE LOIS BENDER, 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 16th day of March, 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 15th day of December, 2022.

TERESSA B. PENNY

EXECUTOR

ESTATE OF LOIS J. BENDER

A/K/A NANNIE LOIS BENDER

c/o E.J. Walker, Jr., Attorney

Walker Lambe, PLLC

Post Office Box 51549

Durham, North Carolina 27717

12/15,12/22,12/29/2022 & 1/5/2023

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 812

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Barbara Joan Crain, 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 23rd day of March 2023, 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 15th day of December, 2022.

Inman Darrell Crain

Executor

2506 Fairlawn Road

Durham, NC 27705

12/22,12/29/2022 & 1/5, 1/12/2023

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

DURHAM COUNTY

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

File Number 2021 E 32

ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against Charles Cleveland Smith, of Durham County, N.C., are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before March 23, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 22 day of December, 2022.

Emma Smith

Administratrix

12 Otters Run

Durham, NC 27712

12/22,12/29/2022 & 1/5, 1/12/2023

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

DURHAM COUNTY

### Notice to Creditors

ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against Andrew Jackson Giles, deceased, Durham County, NC are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before March 23, 2023, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 22nd day of December, 2022.

Deborah L. Giles

Administrator

P.O. Box 11612

Durham, NC 27703

Dates of Publication:

12/22,12/29/2022 & 1/5, 1/12/2023

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 1535

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Gertrude Parrish, 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 23rd day of March 2023, 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 22nd day of December, 2022.

Edna J. Kennedy

Administrator

10406 Quail Roost Rd

Bahama, NC 27503

12/22,12/29/2022 & 1/5, 1/12/2023

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 001557

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Patricia Jane Hunt a/k/a Patricia Ball Hunt, 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 23rd day of March 2023, 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 22nd day of December, 2022.

Elizabeth Hunt Alford

Executor

5 Jarvis Ct

Durham, NC 27703

12/22,12/29/2022 & 1/5, 1/12/2023

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 1214

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Lowell L. Siler, 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 23rd day of March 2023, 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 22nd day of December, 2022.

Ms. Dejuana Siler

Executor for the Estate of Lowell L. Siler

L. Siler

c/o Pamela Harrigan-Young

Attorney at Law

4801 Glenwood Ave., Ste 200

Raleigh, NC 27612

12/22,12/29/2022 & 1/5, 1/12/2023

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 1537

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of Robert Wayne Joyner, 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 30th day of March 2023, 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 29th day of December, 2022.

Juanita A. Joyner

Executrix

2603 Sater Street

Durham, NC 27703

12/29/2022, 1/5, 1/12, & 1/19/2023

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

DURHAM COUNTY

### NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE

DISTRICT COURT DIVISION

FILE NO: 22 CVD 1203

NDEYE MARIE MBENGUE,

PLAINTIFF

VS.

ABDUL TALL,

DEFENDANT

TO: ABDUL TALL

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

Complaint for Absolute Divorce

You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than February 7, 2023 and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This the 29th day of December, 2022.

Alexander S. Perry

PERRY, PERRY & PERRY, P.A.

Attorneys for Plaintiff

601 Fayetteville Street, Suite 300

Post Office Drawer 2051

Durham, North Carolina 27702

Telephone: (919) 683-8685

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

DURHAM COUNTY

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

2022 E 408

ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against Lula Joyce, of Durham County, N.C., are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 30th day of March 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 29th day of December, 2022.

Jason Cornigans

101 West Garfield Street

Mayodan, NC 27027

12/29/2022, 1/5, 1/12, & 1/19/2023

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF DURHAM

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

File No 22 E 1567

THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 21st day of December, 2022, as Executor of the ESTATE OF BARBARA CLAIRE PIZZANELLO, 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 6th day of April, 2023 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 5th day of January,

2023.

BRENDA JEAN PIZZANELLO

EXECUTOR

# Comics

## Answers

Solution time: 26 mins.

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

### Amber Waves



### GRIN & BEAR IT



"Your money is going through a slight downsizing."

### GRIN & BEAR IT



"But thank goodness we're safe, huh, Mom?"

### Just Like Cats & Dogs

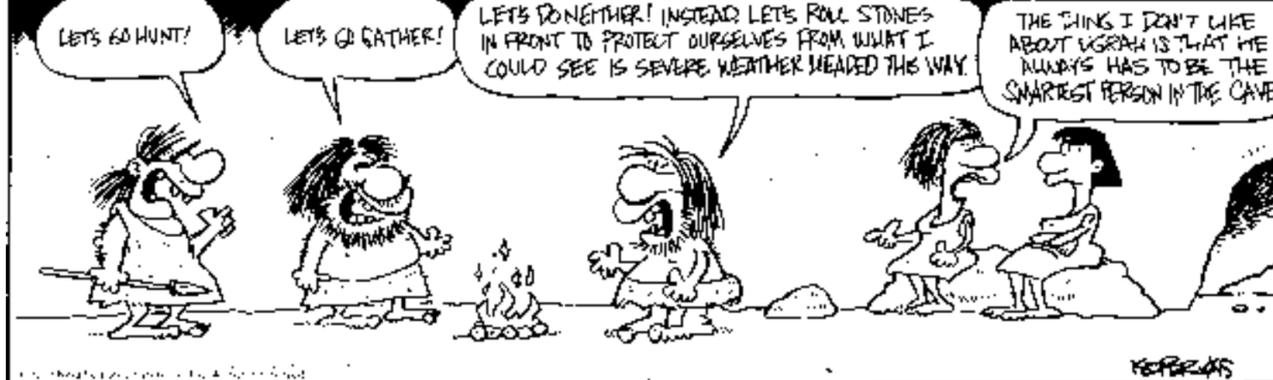


### HOCUS-FOCUS



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

### Out on a Limb



### The Spats



## Classifieds

### PUBLIC HEARING WAKE COUNTY 2023 ACTION PLAN FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT Wake County will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 2:00 PM in the Wake County Justice Center, 300 S. Salisbury St., Raleigh, Room 2700, 2nd floor. To sign up to speak at the public hearing or to submit a comment and Livestream the meeting, please visit: <https://www.wakegov.com/departments-government/board-commissioners/meetings-schedules-materials/meeting-schedule>.

The purpose of the public hearing is to receive comments from interested parties on the County's housing and community development needs. Wake County will use the information received to prepare a draft of the 2023 Action Plan. The Action Plan is required for the County to receive funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The Action Plan will describe the activities to be carried out from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 in Wake County. The 2023 Action Plan is a fourth year of a 5-year strategy identified in the 2020-2025 Consolidated Plan. The goals are to increase and preserve affordable housing, address policy barriers to housing affordability, and support vulnerable populations and communities through activities that address priority populations.

For more information about the 2023 Action Plan, contact Wake County Housing Affordability and Community Revitalization Department at [housing.info@wakegov.com](mailto:housing.info@wakegov.com) or 919-856-5689. Speech- or hearing-impaired persons may call 1-800-735-2962 (TT) or 1-800-735-8262 (voice).

### ATTENTION: DBE'S—WBE'S—MBE'S

Barnhill Contracting Company will be bidding on the following project on January 17th, 2023. We are most interested in receiving quotes from your company on these projects:

**Southeast Division**  
Contract: **Contract ID: C204826**  
Contact: **Contact Todd Hunt, [thunt@barnhillcontracting.com](mailto:thunt@barnhillcontracting.com), at 910-488-1319 or fax 910-488-5673 in our Fayetteville Office, located at 1100 Robeson Street, Fayetteville, NC 28305.**

**Pre-Bid Meeting:** Friday January 6th, 2023 at 9:00 AM in the Fayetteville Office.

- For hauling operations, we will need to know how many of your own hauling units will be available for this project. We will need this on your written quote prior to bid time and this will be made a part of any subcontract.
- Plans and specifications are available at:
  - NC DOT: [https://connect.ncdot.gov/letting/Pages/Central-Letting-Details.aspx?let\\_type=Central&let\\_date=2023-01-17%2000:00:00](https://connect.ncdot.gov/letting/Pages/Central-Letting-Details.aspx?let_type=Central&let_date=2023-01-17%2000:00:00)
  - Plans may also be viewed in our offices. Please call for an appointment.
- This project includes opportunities on, but not limited to hauling, incidental milling, traffic control and pavement markings. All firms or persons interested in bidding on any applicable portions of these projects or supplying materials for any applicable portion of this project are invited to contact us direct or by phone (we accept collect calls). By submitting a quote, it is understood that you have read and understand the specifications.

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

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

# Sports

## Pelé Was A Symbol Of Triumph & Hope

By José Paulo Florenzano

Univ of São Paulo

Pelé occupies a central, albeit problematic, place in the construction and affirmation of Brazil's national identity. His role in helping forge the identity of modern Brazil has roots in helping the country win the World Cup in Sweden in 1958 and in the global role taken on soon after by his club team, Santos.

Santos in the Pelé era travelled the planet as sporting diplomats, crossing ideological divides between communism and capitalism and celebrating the political emancipation of nations emerging from colonialism.

There is no doubt that the main achievements of the teams led by Pelé were encouraging the playing of soccer in countries where the sport was rarely played, and, conversely, to have transformed the way the game was played in traditional soccer nations. In doing so, Pelé transcended the role of "national idol." He became something much more significant: a symbol of the Black diaspora, a pan-African reference point and a cosmopolitan icon.

It was no coincidence that Bob Marley – who similarly was held up as a hero to the Global South – made a point of wearing Pelé's number 10 shirt during the singer's brief visit to Brazil in 1980. To Marley and others, Pelé embodied the aesthetic of soccer as art and an expression of freedom.

Outside Brazil, nowhere was Pelé's presence as an icon of Black achievement felt more than in a decolonising Africa.

The Mozambican footballing great Eusébio – who represented colonial masters Portugal on the international stage – first found his soccer identity playing for "Os Brasileiros" (The Brazilians), a team created in the suburbs of what is now the capital Maputo, in homage to 1958 World Cup winners.

Indeed, countless African players from the capital of Mozambique were given the nicknames of "Pelé", "Garrincha", or "Didi" – three Black heroes of the Brazilian national team, and an inspiration for millions across the Afri-



can continent.

Pelé's professional career, falling between the years 1956 to 1974, coincided with the period in which Brazilian authorities held claim to what was called "racial democracy" – the belief that discrimination against non-white Brazilians did not exist.

But this ideology only served to muffle the very real struggle of Afro-Brazilians and blocked debate over racial inequality. It placed racism as something apparently unthinkable in national society, as the scholar Antonio Sergio Alfredo Guimarães states in his book "Classes, Raças e Democracia".

These were the conditions under which Pelé's trajectory took place, and his experiences lay bare how Brazilian-style racism operated.

Shortly after winning the country's third World Cup in 1970, Pelé decided to retire from the national team to dedicate himself to his business ventures and club career. When he did so, the unanimity that had been woven around his image in Brazil quickly fell apart.

Pelé faced pressure to continue playing for the national team by a dictatorial regime keen on extracting political dividends from any soccer triumphs on the international stage. At the same time, he was admonished by white elite

that sought to limit his role to that of an athlete – and in so doing reiterate the place afforded to Black people in Brazilian society.

Pelé's approach to dealing with the Brazilian dictatorship has been criticised – the implication being he could have been more direct in his opposition to it. But from 1971, when he announced his departure from the national team, until 1974, when he ended his career at Santos, Pelé faced coercion, threats and blackmail in attempts to make him bow to the converging interests of the military dictatorship and structural racism.

Such intimidation included the cancellation of two farewell games that were due to be held in mid-1971 in São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro to honor his achievements.

Pelé would not back down in the face of severe criticism from certain quarters made in the name of an exacerbated nationalism that cast him as a mercenary or traitor.

The contested nature of his farewell from the pitch in effect, closed one of the most fascinating chapters of the unsubmitive will of a Black player in the face of the power structures of Brazilian society.

Pelé's stance was informed not only by his disgust at the torture that had been carried out by the Brazilian dictatorship, but also a

personal desire to be able to be rewarded for his fame and soccer. Nonetheless, Pelé's determination to stand up to a military dictatorship and structural racism represents the greatest political legacy of his life.

Pelé demonstrated that sport and entertainment did not constitute the "natural place" for the Afro-Brazilian as it had been conceived in racist discourse. He went on to acquire a university education, become a businessman and even held the role of minister of sport in the 1990s.

Pelé's trajectory reveals that soccer can be transformed into a space for the anti-racist struggle. In steadfastly refusing to be seen as simply a soccer player and in pursuing a career away from the pitch, Pelé exerted a right that Afro-Brazilians not be excluded from activities historically monopolised by the more privileged white groups.

The historical significance of Pelé chimes with the present context Brazil finds itself in. After four years of an extreme right-wing government, the return of a government not inclined to diminishing democracy, and committed to the anti-racist struggle, represents the resumption of a trajectory for Brazil that Pelé's own journey illustrated.



**BARRELING THEIR WAY TO A VICTORY**—Shaw's Madijguene Pene (20) looks to shoot against Paine's Kyra McCrary (40) in the first half of their game in Raleigh on December 31. Shaw went on to win 63-55. *Steve Worthy Photos*



**RISING ABOVE**—Shaw's Jamari Roberts (1) stretched to dunk over Paine's Calvin Johnson (11) in the second half of their game in Raleigh on December 31. Shaw withstood a Paine Rally and went on to win 93-92.

# Atlantic

## Tire & Service

**Proudly Serving the Triangle as your Local Auto Repair Shop**

*since 1998*

Schedule an appointment online today! | [www.atlantictireonline.com](http://www.atlantictireonline.com)

Hours: M-F 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sat 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m



**\$5 Off**  
**OIL CHANGE**

**FREE**  
**TIRE ROTATION AND ALIGNMENT CHECK**



We carry Michelin. Premier. A/S



1380 NW Maynard Road  
Cary 919.319.1614

5412 South Miami Boulevard  
Durham 919.941.0712

3001 Wakefield Crossing Drive  
Raleigh 919.234.0738

360 Ashville Avenue  
Cary 919.803.6159