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# The Carolinian

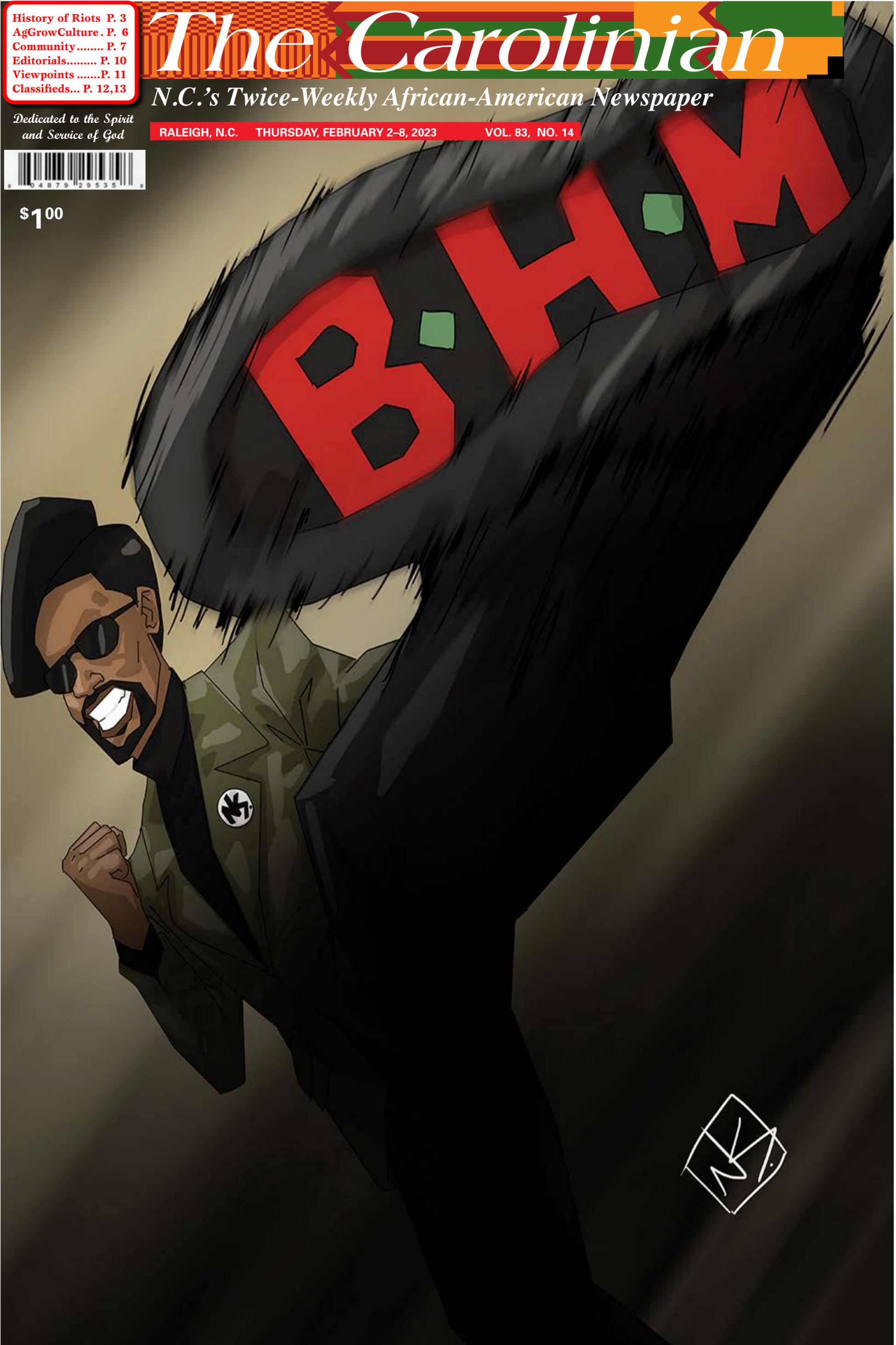
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# IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION!

The Carolinian has not sent out subscription renewal forms since 2019 due to the pandemic. We did not want to cause any financial hardship to our readers. Now that Covid-19 has been tamed we must resume annual billing to combat rising prices. Renewal notices will be mailed this week. Please return them promptly. Thank you!

## Local Artists On The Importance Of Being True To Yourself

By Tyria McCray

Staff Writer

Before, during, and after times of hardship, many in the Black community have created art to take in the pain and struggle and release a beauty that heals and teaches.

Think back to the Blacks Arts Movement (BAM), known as an African-American led art movement that was active during the 1960s and 1970s. Through activism and art, BAM created new cultural institutions and conveyed a message of Black pride.

There were artists like Faith Ringgold and Jacob Lawrence who focused on the African-American struggle during the Great Depression. Grammy nominated Nikki Giovanni is known for expressing equality for Blacks through her art. There is the late Jean-Michel Basquiat who died at his prime, and Ernie Barnes, who is famous for his Sugar Shack painting, that expressed life through vivid color.

To highlight the essence of Black art locally, we had the pleasure of speaking with three artists in the Raleigh-Durham area on what it means to be an artist.

### Kreativityyy

Born and raised in Virginia Beach, Va., Kyndall Owens moved to Raleigh in 2013. For as long as she can remember, art has always been a passion of hers. Owens began doodling on the walls at home which led to doodling in class and church. Eventually she began to give out drawings to random people which led to her seeing the joy her art brought to others.

"While I am a 'self-taught' artist, I would prefer to call myself a God-taught artist. I believe God put this gift in me to create pieces with the purpose of bringing joy and happiness to others when they encounter my work," she said.

Owens feels that the driving force behind her work is her life experience. Traveling plays a big role in not only her art, but in the colors she uses, as well as the creativity that goes into each piece.



When painting, the message that she wants to convey is positivity. "Because of my work being so versatile, ranging from portraits, to landscapes, to animals, etc., my main point I hope to get across to people that view my art is the message of positivity. I want people to feel happy and excited when they encounter my work."

Owens is planning to host paint classes as well as live painting events later this year. So far this year she has had exhibits at 311 Gallery, Dorothea Dix Park, and the North Carolina Museum of Art. Her next project will be a self-portrait.

The last question was simply, what does it mean to be a Black female artist? She shared that to be an artist is to be a creator. The joy behind it all was simply being blessed with the gift of creativity and being able to create something from nothing.

"My art is my voice," she said. "My work shows how creative I can be and how I can use my voice to express to others who I am and what I believe. It's a

great feeling to know that my work can have an impact on people's mental, physical, and emotional wellbeing in an uplifting and positive way."

### Chris Facey

Also known as Cocoa.butter.shutter, raised in Brooklyn, N.Y., he currently resides in Raleigh. Creating photography that is both powerful and delicate, his inspiration comes from the works of Gordon Parks and W. Eugene Smith.

Throughout his photos, he documents a safe space for emotional depth. He began photography while he was still in the United States Army around 2015. While in the army, he captured images of soldiers' families, maternity shoots, and more.

Eventually he researched "Black photography" because he never saw photographers before. He was introduced to art, but no one explained to him that art could be photography as well. The more he learned, the more his interest and love grew.

Once he left the army, he had to make a decision on whether he would go to school for dental hygiene or photography. With his heart, he chose photography.

"Universally, I want people to

feel something. Love it or hate the image, I want people to feel something because so many people do not know who they are," he said. "Also, on a more personal level, I just want to make sure that I am contributing to positive and honest images of the Black experience and black culture. Mainly the whole African diaspora."

When looking at his images, you'll see that Facey uses black and white more often than color. He shared that it drives the emotional aspect of visuals versus color.

"You can easily get distracted and see things in color but black and white gets rid of all the distractions and makes one focus on the moment or emotion."

Lastly, Facey expressed his opinion on what being a black photographer means.

"It is reliable. Good photos find a way to remind each person of the humanity of each other. That is what I want to provide." Mainly focusing on that humanistic aspect of what is going on and making sure people know they are being viewed rather than being seen.

### Trey Ansley

Contemporary artist, design-



er, and owner of Awsidy (Pronounced All-City) Studios, Trey Ansley shared with us how he was introduced to art. As far back as he can remember, art has always intrigued him.

"Throughout life, it was something to keep my mind occupied in class, at home, wherever. Moreso a way to escape and create a world or story I was comfortable in," he said.

"Over time it grew into something much larger, more staccato in nature. No longer was I content with just doodling. I began to notice that everything we see, use, understand in the visual spectrum was created or designed by someone and I began to understand that I could do the same."

The driving force behind his art comes "when it wishes," as he stated.

"From the perfect sphere, to the edges of buildings, the curvature of walkways. These things inspire me. In observing such, I then branch in new directions, blending geometric and organic to birth a new harmony."

Artists have different opinions on what role their artworks play in society. Some believe that art should comment on social issues,

political matters, Black culture, etc. Having this in mind, we learned what message Mr. Ansley conveys. His art depends on what the "muse" and the climate wish to say. The goal is to keep his work subjective; however, there have been times where his work needs to speak upon the current state of things.

"When I have an audience, I would like them to connect more with an emotion, or perhaps a latent memory, minute or massive. Nothing to tell you directly what is or isn't. This is not to say that I have not created something that represents a specific purpose, but even in those works there's an air of ambiguity."

Mr. Ansley has many upcoming projects. But it will remain slow and steady. His longest running project would have to be AWSIDY, which is a bohemian lifestyle brand.

"However, being a Black artist comes with its advantages and disadvantages. Mainly the ability to network and socialize with artists that don't necessarily reside in the limelight, which allows for more lucid experimentation. On the other hand, it does make it a bit harder to break the proverbial glass ceiling."



## NMAAM Celebrates 50 Years Of Hip Hop

The National Museum of African American Music (NMAAM) is joining in the celebration of the 50th anniversary of Hip Hop. The museum opened its year-long exhibit, This is Hip Hop, on Thursday, Jan. 19. NMAAM'S Features Gallery will exhibit iconic captures of Hip Hop's origins and cultural impact through the lenses of four legendary artists. During the celebration, the museum curated and spotlighted the history and development of Hip Hop and the genre's most iconic performers. Learn more at [www.nmaam.org](http://www.nmaam.org).

Over a half-century ago, DJ Kool Herc birthed the style and culture we now call Hip Hop when he accidentally played the first breakbeat at a house party in the Bronx, NY. Since then, Hip Hop has influenced social justice movements, infinite genres of music, fashion, art, and culture, and topped music charts all over the world. The entire Hip Hop culture will be honored and celebrated internationally throughout the year. Your favorite DJs, MCs, break-dancers, beatboxers, and other legendary artists



will showcase at events such as concerts, tours, battles, tournaments, and exhibits to make this year's golden anniversary of Hip Hop culture the most amazing one yet.

NMAAM'S This is Hip Hop exhibit will showcase the work of four notable documentarians, representing the U.S.'s four major regions (Midwest, West, East, and South). Hip Hop enthusiasts will experience some of

the most memorable moments and iconic performances in Hip Hop history through each photographer's unique experience. Visitors will witness the extraordinary photography of Chicago-native Raymond Boyd (Midwest), whose in-depth interpretations were created especially for the This Is Hip Hop display; Traci Bartlow (West Coast), whose 90s Bay Area Hip Hop photos were featured in Oakland Museums;

Andre Leroy Davis (East Coast), an artist renowned for his must-see illustrations that satirize and comment on current events and culture; and the South's very own Shannon McCullum, a self-taught photographer from Atlanta with more than 25 years of experience in the music industry. These documentarians have been featured in record labels, museums, and national music and culture magazines like Source Magazine.

NMAAM kicked off its year-long celebration with a conversation with featured photographer Raymond Boyd at This is Hip Hop's opening reception. It was led by Nashville's radio personality and host of the Kenny Smoo Morning Show, Kenny Smoo of 92Q. Boyd rose to prominence in the early 1980s for his black-and-white pictures of iconic Hip Hop performers visiting the Midwest. His photography has appeared in several publications and galleries all over the world.

The museum's mission to amplify the music and culture of America's roots continues to be the home "Where Legends Live Forever."

## Police Settle Louisiana Suit Over 2020 Beating

SHREVEPORT, La. (AP) — A settlement has been reached in a lawsuit filed by a Black man who said police officers in a Louisiana city threw him to the ground, slammed his face into the sidewalk and detained him in a mental health unit in retaliation for criticizing the police.

Terms of the settlement between Brandon Kennedy and officials with the Shreveport Police Department weren't released.

Kennedy's case was filed as part of the American Civil Liberties Union of Louisiana's Justice Lab program, which enlists the aid of private attorneys in suing over police abuses.

"Our client Brandon Kennedy endured a terrifying and dehu-

manizing ordeal, and we're glad he's receiving monetary compensation," Nora Ahmed, ACLU of Louisiana legal director, said in a news release.

"We hope this settlement sends a message that when local law enforcement agencies violate the rights of the people they're sworn to serve — we will hold them accountable," Ahmed said.

Ahmed noted in an email that defense motions were denied that would have struck references in the lawsuit to the police department's record on use of force and statistics on disparities in the treatment of Black and white suspects.

"I think in light of everything happening with Nichols this is

very significant because it is literally how policing is done in this country," she said, referring to Tyre Nichols, whose death three days after he was beaten by police officers in Memphis resulted in five officers being fired and charged with second-degree murder.

The Shreveport Police Department did not immediately respond to an emailed request for comment.

Kennedy's lawsuit was filed in December of 2021. It said he was in a convenience store checkout line in December 2020 when he struck up a conversation with another customer. An officer overheard him express support for the Black Lives Matter movement and "his own negative

experiences" with Shreveport police, according to the lawsuit.

The officer ordered Kennedy to step outside, according to the lawsuit. Once outside, the lawsuit said, Kennedy was complying with an order to walk away when the officer threw him to the ground, repeatedly slammed his head to the sidewalk and put his knee on Kennedy's back. Other officers who arrived did nothing to stop the violence but handcuffed Kennedy.

The suit said officers searched Kennedy and, after finding nothing incriminating, took him to a hospital psychiatric ward where he was held. The next morning, a psychiatrist said there was no basis to hold him and he was released.

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# Racial Tensions Are Not New To America

## Draft Riot Of 1863

The New York draft riot was also closely associated with racial competition for jobs. Northern labour feared that emancipation of slaves would cause an influx of African American workers from the South, and employers did in fact use black workers as strikebreakers during this period. Thus, the white rioters eventually vented their wrath on the homes and businesses of innocent African Americans, and Civil War freedmen's associations were forced to send aid to their brethren in New York. (This racial ill feeling in the ranks of urban labour persisted into the second half of the 20th century.) The four-day draft riot was finally quelled by police cooperating with the 7th N.Y. Regiment, which had been hastily recalled from Gettysburg, and the drawing of names proceeded on August 19 without incident.

## New Orleans Race Riot

New Orleans Race Riot, (July 1866), after the American Civil War, incident of white violence directed against black urban dwellers in Louisiana; the event was influential in focusing public opinion in the North on the necessity of taking firmer measures to govern the South during Reconstruction. With the compliance of local civilian authorities and police, whites in late July killed 35 New Orleans black citizens and wounded more than 100. This race riot was similar to many others throughout the South and, together with the establishment of the highly restrictive black codes, helped win a commanding majority for the Radical Republicans and their vigorous Reconstruction policies in the November 1866 national elections.

## Springfield Race Riot

Springfield Race Riot, (August 1908), in U.S. history, brutal two-day assault by several thousand white citizens on the black community of Springfield, Ill. Triggered by the transfer of a black prisoner charged with rape (an accusation later withdrawn), the riot was symptomatic of fears of racial equality in North and South alike. Almost the entire Illinois state militia was required to quell the frenzy of the mob, which shot innocent people, burned homes, looted stores, and mutilated and lynched two elderly blacks.

Afterward, the population seemed to show no remorse, and some persons even advocated the Southern political strategy of disenfranchisement as a means of keeping blacks "in their place." In a moving account of the riot, called "Race War in the North" (Sept. 3, 1908), Southern white journalist William English Walling called for a revival of the abolitionist spirit to stem the tide of such shocking occurrences. Fearing further degeneration in race relations, white liberals were inspired by the article to join with blacks in launching the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

## E. St Louis Race Riot



East Saint Louis Race Riot of 1917, (July 2), bloody outbreak of violence in East St. Louis, Illinois, stemming specifically from the employment of black workers in a factory holding government contracts. It was the worst of many incidents of racial antagonism in the United States during World War I that were directed especially toward black Americans newly employed in war industries. In the riot, whites turned on blacks, indiscriminately stabbing, clubbing, and hanging them and driving 6,000 from their homes; 40 blacks and 8 whites were killed.

On July 28 the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) staged a silent parade down Fifth Avenue in New York City, protesting the riot and other acts of violence toward black Americans. German propaganda magnified these incidents in an attempt to arouse antiwar sentiment in the American black community, and President Woodrow Wilson publicly denounced mob violence and lynchings, of which there had been 54 in 1916 and 38 in 1917.

## Chicago Race Riot of 1919

Chicago Race Riot of 1919, most severe of approximately 25 race riots throughout the U.S. in the "Red Summer" (meaning "bloody") following World War I; a manifestation of racial frictions intensified by large-scale African American migration to the North, industrial labour competition, overcrowding in urban ghettos, and greater militancy among Black war veterans who had fought "to preserve democracy." In the South revived Ku Klux Klan activities resulted in 64 lynchings in 1918 and 83 in 1919; race riots broke out in Washington, D.C.; Knoxville, Tennessee; Longview, Texas; and Phillips county, Arkansas. In the North the worst race riots erupted in Chicago and in Omaha, Nebraska.

Chicago racial tension, concentrated on the South Side, was particularly exacerbated by the pressure for adequate housing: the Black population had increased from 44,000 in 1910 to more than 109,000 in 1920. The riot was triggered by the death of a Black youth on July 27. He had been swimming in Lake Michigan and had drifted into an area tacitly reserved for whites; he was stoned and he shortly drowned. When police refused to arrest the white man whom Black observers held responsible for the incident, indignant crowds began to gather on the beach, and the disturbance began. Distorted rumours swept the city as sporadic fighting broke out between gangs and mobs of both races. Violence escalated with each incident, and for 13 days Chicago was without law and order despite the fact that the state militia had been called out on the fourth day. By the end, 38 were dead (23 Blacks, 15 whites), 537 injured, and 1,000 Black families made homeless.



## Tulsa Race Massacre

Tulsa race massacre of 1921, also called Tulsa race riot of 1921, one of the most severe incidents of racial violence in U.S. history. It occurred in Tulsa, Oklahoma, beginning on May 31, 1921, and lasting for two days. The massacre left somewhere between 30 and 300 people dead, mostly African Americans, and destroyed Tulsa's prosperous Black neighbourhood of Greenwood, known as the "Black Wall Street." More than 1,400 homes and businesses were burned, and nearly 10,000 people were left homeless. Despite its severity and destructiveness, the Tulsa race massacre was barely mentioned in history books until the late 1990s, when a state commission was formed to document the incident.

On May 30, 1921, Dick Rowland, a young African American shoe shiner, was accused of assaulting a white elevator operator named Sarah Page in the elevator of a building in downtown Tulsa. The next day the Tulsa Tribune printed a story saying that Rowland had tried to rape Page, with an accompanying editorial stating that a lynching was planned for that night. That evening mobs of both African Americans and whites descended on the courthouse where Rowland was being held. When a confrontation between an armed African American man, there to protect Rowland, and a white protester resulted in the death of the latter, the white mob was incensed, and the Tulsa massacre was thus ignited.

Over the next two days, mobs of white people looted and set fire to African American businesses and homes throughout the city. Many of the mob members were recently returned World War I veterans trained in the use of firearms and are said to have shot African Americans on sight. Some survivors even claimed that people in airplanes dropped incendiary bombs.

## Harlem Race Riot of '43

Harlem race riot of 1943, riot that occurred in the Manhattan neighbourhood of Harlem on August 1-2, 1943. It was set off when a white police officer shot an African American soldier after he attempted to intervene in the police officer's arrest of an African American woman for disturbing the peace. The spark was ignited in the lobby of the Braddock Hotel, a seven-story hotel on the southeast corner of 126th Street and Eighth Avenue.

After the 1943 Detroit riots had left 30 people dead, mayors across the country attempted to quell the racial unrest simmering beneath the surface in their cities. New York City was suffering from spiraling cost increases because of the wartime economy, and Harlem, with its predominantly Black population, was hit especially hard. Tensions were high because of the high cost of living resulting from shortages of food and other essentials. Further, African Americans throughout the country continued to suffer from racial discrimination, and the Black residents of Harlem felt that the New York City police were harassing the African American community. The event

On August 1, 1943, an African American soldier tried to intervene when a white police officer tried to arrest an African American woman in Harlem for disorderly conduct. Bullets were fired, and the soldier was shot and wounded. As in the noted 1935 riot, rumours swirled through Harlem that the Black soldier was dead, and another riot began.

Rioters looted stores, smashed windows, and battled with police. On August 2 Mayor Fiorello La Guardia requested that U.S. Army troops help contain the violence. The mayor went on the radio, asking Harlem residents to remain in their homes, and he put a 10:30 PM curfew into effect. Meanwhile, army troops were posted on many street corners throughout Harlem.

During the course of the riot, which ended on August 2, 6 people died, 495 were injured, and more than 500 were arrested. As in 1935, a number of stores and shops in Harlem suffered damage. The value of damage in the 1943 riot was estimated at \$5 million.



## Watts Race Riot of 1965

Watts Riots of 1965, series of violent confrontations between Los Angeles police and residents of Watts and other predominantly African American neighbourhoods of South-Central Los Angeles that began August 11, 1965, and lasted for six days. The immediate cause of the disturbances was the arrest of an African American man, Marquette Frye, by a white California Highway Patrol officer on suspicion of driving while intoxicated. Although most accounts now agree that Frye resisted arrest, it remains unclear whether excessive force was used to subdue him. The riots resulted in the deaths of 34 people, while more than 1,000 were injured and more than \$40 million worth of property was destroyed. Many of the most vivid images of the riots depict the massive fires set by the rioters. Hundreds of buildings and whole city blocks were burned to the ground. Firefighters were unable to work, because police could not protect them from the rioters.

Public officials and the news media offered conflicting interpretations of the Watts Riots in their immediate aftermath. Some conservatives and many city officials claimed that the violence had resulted from wanton lawlessness, and they pointed to the large number of minority men living in the inner city who had criminal records and to the influx of "outsiders" from the South. They observed that looters took far more goods from stores than they could possibly find useful and that it was irrational to burn down one's "own" neighbourhood. Some suggested that the riots were an insurrection fostered by urban gangs or by the Black Muslim movement, which the mainstream press then regarded as a radical cult. Others suggested that police-community relations in South-Central Los Angeles had long been uneasy and that those tensions had exploded into rioting. Finally, many federal officials and some reporters explained the riots as a protest against the poverty and hopelessness of life in the inner city, and they described the challenges of joblessness and the lack of basic services in South-Central Los Angeles. That interpretation of the riots dovetailed effectively with President Lyndon B. Johnson's "war on poverty" programs, which were then being introduced in cities across the country. The war on poverty thus seemed to be a response to the Watts Riots, and the riots seemed to demonstrate the need for the war on poverty.



## 1992 Los Angeles Riot

Los Angeles Riots of 1992, major outbreak of violence, looting, and arson in Los Angeles that began on April 29, 1992, in response to the acquittal of four white Los Angeles policemen on all but one charge (on which the jury was deadlocked) connected with the severe beating of an Rodney King in March 1991.

As a result of several days of rioting, more than 50 people were killed, more than 2,300 were injured, and thousands were arrested. About 1,100 buildings were damaged, and total property damage was about \$1 billion.



## Harlem Race Riot of 1935

Harlem race riot of 1935, a riot that occurred in the Manhattan neighbourhood of Harlem on March 19-20, 1935. It was precipitated by a teenager's theft of a penknife from a store and was fueled by economic hardship, racial injustice, and community mistrust of the police. It is sometimes considered the first modern American race riot.

Once home to a number of New York's prominent families, Harlem by the early 1900s had become a major centre of African American culture. It provided the backdrop against which the Harlem Renaissance was set. Indeed, the race riot of 1935 is considered the terminating event of that cultural flowering.

By the 1930s African Americans had begun to make some strides toward equality—the first African American since Reconstruction had been elected to Congress; boycotts had resulted in opening up job opportunities for African Americans; and the Congress of Industrial Organizations had become the first union to admit Black people.

Despite those steps, however, racial inequality was still prevalent. The Great Depression had left the national economy in a shambles. Millions of people, of all ethnicities, were out of work. Further, African Americans continued to be the victims of discriminatory practices. They were often the first to be fired and the last to be hired. As homeowners they struggled with redlining policies, unfair rents, and falling property values.

**Despite The Many Challenges & Obstacles  
We Are Still Here And We Are Still Thriving**

# Raleigh's Housing Authority Is Getting A New Leader

RALEIGH – After a nationwide search, the Raleigh Housing Authority (RHA) is excited to announce Ashley Lommers-Johnson as its next leader.

Ashley comes to RHA after serving over 10 years as the Executive Director of the Housing Authority of the City of Everett, Washington. Before coming to Everett, Ashley served approximately 7 years as the Associate Deputy Executive Director, Housing Operations, with the Housing Authority of Baltimore City. He also spent time with the King County and Seattle Housing Authorities earlier in his career.

"Our entire Board is thrilled to welcome Ashley as RHA's next leader. He has the breadth and depth of knowledge to continue RHA's long history of operational excellence, growing our housing portfolio, while strengthening resident and community relations and building community partnerships that will position RHA as the leader in delivering affordable housing opportunities for Raleigh residents."—Arne Morris, RHA Board Chair.

In addition to his commitment to these important focus areas, Ashley believes strongly

that developing a strategic plan that provides clear direction is vital for organizational health and growth. The strategic planning processes he led in Baltimore and Everett resulted in previously unimagined success.

Ashley's strategic focus helped him become a leader in affordable housing preservation, acquisition, repositioning, and development. His efforts have been critical to preserving naturally occurring affordable housing in the communities he has served. Under his leadership, his team in Everett created a master plan to redevelop a 12-acre site into a mixed-use/mixed-income community with an eventual development cost of approximately \$750 million. Ashley was also instrumental in assisting the Everett Housing Authority in achieving an A-plus credit rating. This led to the successful sale of \$124 million in bonds to provide permanent financing for a large market-rate property as a long-term affordable mixed-income housing resource.

In addition to creating and developing the Everett Housing Authority's internal capac-

ity to increase affordable housing, Ashley has been committed to working with nonprofit partners to support and expand their affordable housing portfolios, especially permanent supportive housing. Everett's largest nonprofit housing developer (Housing Hope) recognized Ashley as its Partner of the Year in 2021. He looks forward to forging new partnerships to confront Raleigh's growing needs for housing that is affordable for families across a broad range of incomes.

None of these achievements would have been possible without dedicated housing professionals motivated to serve those in need of high-quality affordable housing. Ashley is a strong proponent of robust training, professional development and the opportunity for meaningful work as essential ingredients of long-term personal and organizational growth. He is confident that RHA will become a magnet for talented professionals who want to make a difference.

"As much as I have valued the opportunity to lead the Everett Housing Authority, I am excited to inspire an or-

ganization with a history of operational excellence to even greater heights. I look forward to collaborating with RHA's residents and community partners to take on the challenge of expanding Raleigh's affordable housing options during this

## Offshore Wind Will Need Major Investments

Achieving the aggressive offshore wind power goals of the federal government and individual states will require billions of dollars in spending on transmission infrastructure, "unprecedented" cooperation between grid operators and federal and state agencies, and would be aided by major buildout of a domestic supply chain, per a pair of reports released this week.

Coastal states across the country, from North Carolina to California to Louisiana to Maine, are pushing for offshore wind projects. But authors of the reports see potential bottlenecks looming, both in the supply chain to build and install turbines as well as in the ability to bring the electricity ashore.

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory, along with the Business Network for Offshore Wind and Tufts University, among

other partners, released a report last Monday that found creating an American supply chain for the offshore wind industry, including manufacturing facilities, ports and vessels, would make hitting the Biden administration's 30-gigawatts-by-2030 target, roughly the equivalent of 30 nuclear reactors, more likely.

"Ambitious global offshore wind energy deployment targets will create substantial demand for the components needed to build these wind turbines and balance-of-system components such as foundations and cables," says the report. "The limited global manufacturing capacity for these components creates a risk for U.S. projects that choose to import their components from Europe. Therefore, developing a domestic supply chain would reduce reliance on global manufacturers and create jobs and

economic benefits in the United States." The report's authors envision an expansive supply chain buildout scenario:

- 34 new major U.S. wind turbine component manufacturing facilities
- eight East Coast "marshaling ports"
- four to six dedicated turbine installation vessels (there is currently just one being built now for Virginia's Dominion Energy)
- another four to six dedicated heavy lift vessels
- and four to six feeder barges and a workforce about 45,000 strong.

The price tag? About \$22.4 billion. And it would take between six and nine years to develop, the report says, but would be worth the investment.

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# Ag-Grow-Culture

## Secrets of the Insects: Beneficial Insects & Their Contribution

By Jason Lindsay

Staff Writer

Modern society has fashioned a widespread perception that places aspects of nature such as insects into the “gross” category. Many of us have been programed to view wildlife as something beneath us, outside of us, and even subject certain species to termination.

In agriculture, insecticides (synthetic substance used for killing insects) are applied to do what nature should naturally do for itself. Yet, popular agricultural practices has taken a turn that has placed us in a fight with nature. A fight that we're destined to lose. And because “agriculture is the backbone of civilization,” the American custom has become “Round-up” ready.

The great teacher (Nature) has gifted us life that when in alignment, it is wildlife itself that comes to our defense. But, this favoring mercy lies only where synthetic chemical influences are absent and organic matter is allowed to cycle.

Insecticides, like all agro-chemicals, are built to mimic natural phenomenon. Nature, when allowed to mature and thrive, has insects to serve the duty intended for insecticides. Yet, for the natural contribution of beneficial insects (numerous species of insects that serve as pollinators and/or pest control) there must first be a suitable habitat. We must understand that if our living environment lays way a suitable habitat for beneficial insects, then we naturally have a healthier environment that nature itself defends.

Here are a few not so popular beneficial insects that will render more good for the organic land stewards from the container gardener to the small farmer:

The Lacewing: the green lacewing is native to eastern North

America and only turns green in adulthood with net-like wings and copper-colored eyes. The larvae (the immature form of an insect that differs from the adult form) have alligator like skin with narrow stubby legs and a sickled mouthpiece. Lacewings are most predatorial in their larvae state when they exclusively feast on soft-body pest like aphids (small sap sucking insects that creates a mold fungus that yellow plant leaves and stunts growth). Lacewing larvae have such an appetite for aphids they are referred to as the “aphid lion.”

Lacewing eggs are laid on stalks to avoid other predators. Once a larvae, lacewings use their sharp sickled mouth to puncture its prey and suck out their inner contents. Lacewings commonly find themselves in defense of other insects like ants who often are protectors of aphids. In order to protect themselves, lacewing larvae covers itself in leaves and/or other plant debris and will even use the remains of their prey as a shield.

Adult lacewing sprout wings and their green hue spawns a new appetite. Mature lacewings are tiny pollinators with a diet of nectar and pollen. So naturally they are found in and around flowering wildlife and the planting of perennials and/or other flowering vegetation will promote the presents of lacewings that do not sting or bite, so they are more ideal for humans to share space with.

Another unpopular beneficial insect is the Assassin Bug: the leaf hopping assassin bugs are found in various countries around the world (3,000 species) with 160 species in N. America. This bug breeds in the fall (autumn) and reaches adulthood by the summer. Females will deposit eggs on stems, leaves, or even in the naturally formed crevices of plants. Different species are found in

different colors. Some are grey, black, or brown, while others are bedazzled with bright red, green, or orange parts of their body.

The assassin bug earned its name through its hunting tactics. Assassin bugs hide and when their prey comes in range they literally ambush them. The front legs of the bug have a natural sticky substance that is used to capture prey. Once in the grips of these predators (assassin bugs), they punctured their prey with their sharp pointy mouth piece that is also sickled like lacewing larvae. Assassin bugs secrete their saliva to soften and liquify the innards of their prey in order to suck the life out of them. Call it the “assassin's elixir.”

Unlike the lacewings, assassin bugs bite and these bites are known to be painful. The same saliva used to liquify the inside of insect causes a broad intense burning sensation when bitten. The burning lingers into an itchy lump that last for days, up to a week.

Assassin bugs aren't lethal though or even toxic to humans. As for aphids, the eggs and larvae of caterpillars, grasshopper, mosquitos, some species of beetles and flies, and boll weevils, the assassin bug lives up to its name.

This bug is found wherever there is food: orchards, ornamental flower and vegetable gardens. They are naturally attracted to alfalfa, daisies, dandelions, dill, fennel, queen anne's lace, tansies, goldenrod, and marigolds. The planting of any of these varieties will promote a suitable sustainable habitat for assassin bugs and with them being poor fliers they'll always be nearby.

The last insect that we will highlight is the Long-Legged Fly: Dolichopodidae (long legged fly) are much smaller than other flies ranging from 1- 7 mm once

matured. They have transparent wings with long slim legs and body that spans in an array of metallic colors. Some being green or orange, while other come in red, copper or even gold and N. America is home to over 1,300 species.

The males are structured differently from the females, usually a little larger with flag like tentacles protruding from its front legs in order to engage in a unique mating dance with the females. In their immature state (larvae), long legged flies are maggots like other flies. But unlike other flies the long-legged fly lays her eggs in soil, organic matter, and even under tree bark. The pupa (developing stage between larvae and adulthood) are swaddled in a cocoon made of soil particles and a naturally produced glue.

By nature the long-legged fly is a predator who seeks out prey through scavenging plant leaves. These flies even walk on water. Long-legged flies can walk on still water as a means to capture mosquito larvae. They also eat: spider mites, springtails, aphids, small caterpillars, whiteflies, and even termites.

Long-legged flies needs moisture to reach maturity. Maggots must have wet or moist soil to develop. So, woodland, meadows, orchards, vineyards and even your backyard garden are habitats where these flies flourish reaching adulthood as early as spring straight through late fall.

It seems to me that the

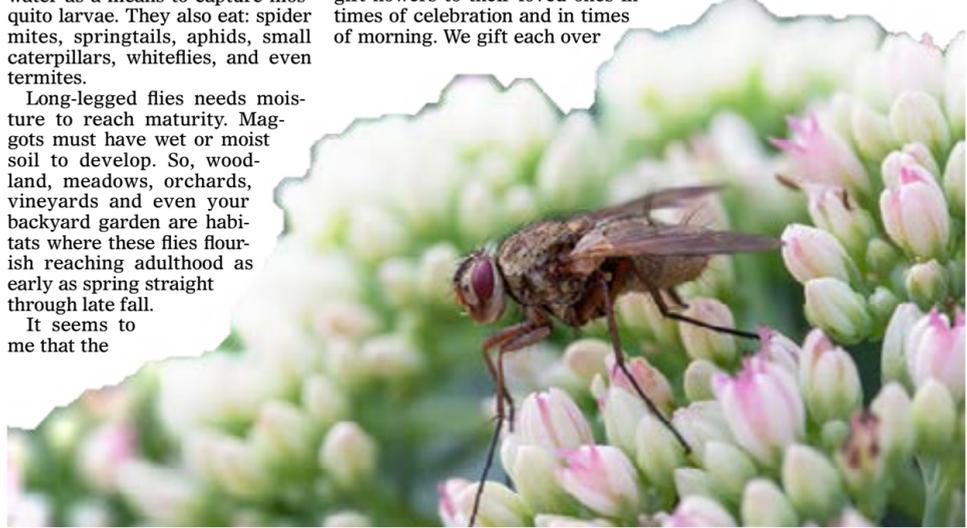
creator left no stone unturned. For every action, there is an equal opposite reaction. Mother nature has many armies to combat disharmony and imbalances. The insect world is one division.

If you didn't notice, there is a common thread that embodies a habitable environment for beneficial insects and that is flowers. Flowers are depicted as beautiful even in the eyes of modern society, yet it is a beauty that is largely misunderstood.

In nature flowers are the physical representation of future fruit. Before a strawberry reaches maturity its beginnings starts with a beautiful white flower; so does: okra, tomatoes, watermelon, cucumber, and a long list of others. Flowers are the symbols of fruitfulness. Flowers also contribute a remedial factor. Especially, perennials that allows the soil time to rest and heal while protecting it from erosion. It is tradition for people around the world to gift flowers to their loved ones in times of celebration and in times of morning. We gift each over

flowers to lift spirits that are low and heighten spirits that are lifted. Ironically enough, within nature flowers are the sign of spring, new life, longer days, and warmer nights. Flower service an ocular healing, gifted even to the dead representing the beauty of transitioned life.

Beneficial insects find home in the beauties of nature itself. They seek refuge in beds of healthy diverse soils, and the very symbol of new life (flowers) is what they protect and the areas where new life blossoms are where they protect. Nature demands two things of us: diversity and development that leads to maturity. The monocultures are by nature against natural law and therefore need synthetic chemicals to play the role of nature itself. Yet, nothing can take the place of nature and her natural phenomena. And alignment with her requires beauty in a universal sense (flowers).



## Community

### Fayetteville Arts Council Hosts A Workshop For Children

Fayetteville—The Black Culture Experience series is all about the artistry, connectedness, impact, and vision of African American creatives and their lasting impression on improving the lives and progression of our communities through arts and education. For the 2023 series

line-up, two best-selling financial literacy authors and advocates, through funding support from a Mini Grant, have teamed up with the Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County (Arts Council) to present a second installment of The Money Box Workshop to be held on Saturday, February 11, 2023, from 1pm to 3:30pm at The Arts Center in Downtown Fayetteville.

The Money Box Workshop is a free, comprehensive financial literacy program for youth 7 to 14 years of age to build their confidence through an interactive approach to teaching money

management.

Visionary and author Crystal McLean created The Money Box Workshop to educate and empower the younger generation through the practices of key financial components: budgeting, saving, and spending. McLean teamed up with author Kishanna Heyward and constructed the workshop to be a creative and hands-on event that will keep the youth engaged and give them practical methods to implement in their daily lives centered around money, vision, and discipline.

Simultaneously, a separate session for the parents and guardians of the attending youth will be led by Sylvia S. Glanton,

Black Female Veteran Owner and CEO of Personameant Solutions LLC. Through her mission to serve in the areas of finances and business coaching, the session will involve invaluable conversations regarding debt management, credit establishment and rebuilding, investing, resources, and more to help strengthen their financial foundation.

Aligning with the goals of empowering the next generation in everyday life, the Jack and Jill Foundation-Fayetteville Chapter has provided additional support to The Money Box Workshop to further expand its vision to “transform African American communities one child at a

time” by advancing programs that encourage the next generation to invest in their future with the appropriate tools to be successful.

Through the generous contributions of each partner, McLean was able to eliminate any barriers regarding participation and accommodation costs. Interested participants can enter for free, eat for free, and leave with a complimentary financial literacy children's book and other resources. Meals will be provided by Black-owned Southern Experience Catering and Meal Prep, who felt this event was necessary to support due to how it positively impacts our community and our future.



#### NCDOT to Hold Public Meeting Regarding Improvements to Clanton Road from Donald Ross Road to Wilkinson Boulevard in Mecklenburg County

##### STIP Project P-5730



**Charlotte** – The public is invited to a meeting with the N.C. Department of Transportation this month to discuss the proposed extension of Clanton Road from Donald Ross Road to Wilkinson Boulevard in Charlotte.

The proposed project, State Transportation Improvement Program Project No. **P-5730**, would construct a grade separation over the Norfolk Southern rail line, and close the existing at-grade crossing on Donald Ross Road. It's intended to address traffic and safety concerns and improve road and multimodal connections throughout the area.

Project details, including maps of the proposal, can be found on the NCDOT project web page at <https://publicinput.com/clantonrd-ext>.

The meeting will be held **5-7 p.m. February 16th at the American Legion at 1940 Donald Ross Road, Charlotte, NC 28208**. Interested residents can drop in any time to learn more about the proposal, have questions answered and talk with NCDOT representatives. There will not be a formal presentation.

People may also submit comments by phone, email or mail by **March 3rd**.

For more information, contact **NCDOT Rail Division Project Engineer Greg Blakeney at 919-707-4717; [gmlakeney@ncdot.gov](mailto:gmlakeney@ncdot.gov); or 1553 Mail Service Center in Raleigh.**

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled people who wish to participate in this workshop. Anyone requiring special services should contact **Simone Robinson, Environmental Analysis Unit, at 1598 Mail Service Center in Raleigh; 919-707-6062; or [strobenson1@ncdot.gov](mailto:strobenson1@ncdot.gov)** as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.

Those who do not speak English, or have a limited ability to read, speak or understand English, may receive interpretive services upon request prior by calling 1-800-481-6494.

Aquellas personas no hablan inglés, o tienen limitaciones para leer, hablar o entender inglés, podrían recibir servicios de interpretación si los solicitan llamando al 1-800-481-6494.

### The Goldsboro-Wayne Branch NAACP Installs New Officers

Goldsboro, NC—The Goldsboro Wayne Branch of the NAACP is proud to announce the swearing in of its new leadership team. The swearing in by Nicholas Green, NC NAACP, District Director, held on Thursday, January 26, 2023, marked the beginning of a new era for the organization while emphasizing the commitment to the community to promote justice and equality for all.

John Barnes will serve as President, Francine Smith, 1st Vice President, Bobby Jones, 2nd Vice President, James Smith, 3rd Vice President, and Sylvia Barnes, the former branch president, as 4th Vice President. LaVone Hicks will continue to serve as Secretary and Evelyn Paul, Treasurer. Nichole Dixon will serve as Membership Chair, Dr. Sandra Coley, Religion Education Chair, and Stephen McFarland, Political Action Chair. Gloria Howard and Jerry Howard will serve as at-large Executive Committee Members.

The new leadership team is eager to work together to continue the legacy of the NAACP and to address the ongoing challenges facing the community. The organization is committed to working towards a more just and equitable society for all and to promoting the rights of all individuals, regardless of race, ethnicity, or background.

“We are thrilled to welcome this talented and dedicated group of individuals to the leadership of the Goldsboro Wayne NAACP,”

said incoming president John Barnes. “Their passion and commitment to justice and equality will be invaluable as we continue to work towards a brighter future for all members of our community.”

The Goldsboro-Wayne NAACP general membership meeting is

held on the 4th Thursday of each month, 6:30 pm at Rebuilding Broken Places, 2105 N. William Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530. For more information, contact, John Barnes at [jkbarnes53@gmail.com](mailto:jkbarnes53@gmail.com) or visit us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/goldsborowaynenaacp>.



Front row, L-R: Francine Smith, 1st Vice President; Nicholas Green, NC NAACP, District Director; and John Barnes- President

# Community

## The 6th Annual Business Sustainability Awards Luncheon

The NCBC held a spectacular luncheon on Thursday, January 26th for the 6th Business Sustainability Awards hosted at the Transfer Co. Food Hall in downtown Raleigh.

They honored 17 outstanding NC businesses and business leaders who are reshaping how we do business with a purpose by advancing social interests through innovative practices, products, and services.

The Keynote Speaker was William Barber III, founder of the Rural Beacon Initiative (RBI) - a North Carolina-based social en-

terprise, committed to advancing business sustainability and environmental justice. Through both private and public consultancy, strategic convening, and deploying models for practical, scalable community-based solutions RBI helps businesses address the triple bottom line with practical, equitable solutions.

In addition to the awards ceremony, this event included networking opportunities and testimonies from entrepreneurs telling us how sustainable business practices propelled them to success.



Mathias Bishop Photos

## Community Leaders Break Ground On My Kid's Club Clubhouse

Selma - My Kid's Club (MKC), a Johnston County non-profit providing services for local youth, held a ceremony Tuesday to celebrate the groundbreaking of the new My Kid's Club SECU Community Clubhouse at 609 N. Pollock Street in Selma. The organization lost its home to Hurricane Matthew in 2016 and completed a \$3 million capital campaign dating back to early 2020. MKC has been running the club from a local elementary school campus since the previous facility was destroyed.

MKC's new 5,000-square foot building is sited on its original property, adjacent to Selma Elementary School. The facility will enable MKC to expand its capacity for countywide youth participation, serve as a central hub of operations for club activities, and support virtual learning and satellite programming at several other site locations.

"We cannot thank My Kid's Club enough, the sponsors that you see here that have brought this all together for our Selma community, our Johnston County

community, our North Carolina community, and the community all over to educate our youth and build our future," said Mayor Byron McAllister of Selma.

"This project is a testament to our community's commitment to providing our young people with the resources and opportunities they need to grow and thrive. I especially like to thank Leo Daughtry. He continues to lead by example through his continued service to Johnston County," said NC Representative Larry Strickland. "I look

forward to seeing the smiles on the faces of the children as they will finally have a club to call their own."

"There is so much power in the school systems and communities when we work together," said Dr. Eric C. Bracy, Superintendent of Johnston County Public Schools. "These children are our why and the reason we get up every day. Selma has some amazing things happening and this is one of them. Johnston County schools support this organization in all ways and we are excited for the future."

"SECU provided My Kid's Club with a \$500,000 challenge grant to build a new, much larger facility," said Bob Brinson, Board Chair of SECU Foundation. "My Kid's Club accepted our challenge and with the help of many, they are a shining example of what can be accomplished when people come together to benefit the community. We are excited to be part of today's groundbreaking and celebrating success."

Additional speakers at the event included, My Kid's Club Board President William White, Pastor Todd Daniels of Selma Baptist Church, North Carolina State Director of USDA Rural Development Reginald Speight, and Austin Barnhill of Barnhill Contracting Company.

After school programs and summer camps provided by My Kid's Club lay the foundation for youth to grow through op-

portunities for academic success of study, civic engagement, and with an emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) fields promoting healthy living habits to achieve their potential as responsible and caring citizens.



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# The 22nd Annual African American Cultural Celebration

By Tyria McCray

Staff Writer

The North Carolina Museum of History held its 22nd Annual African-American Cultural Celebration last weekend. For more than 20 years, this celebration has brought together African-American community members,

fraternities, sororities, organizations, authors, artists, musicians, filmmakers, scholars, and more, around a central theme highlighting the African-American contributions, past and present, to North Carolina's history and culture.

The event began at 10:30-11 a.m. in the Bicentennial Plaza.

Welcoming Remarks were given by Adrienne Nirdé, associate director, North Carolina African-American Heritage Commission; D. Reid Wilson, secretary, North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources and Dr. Valerie Ann Johnson, chair, North Carolina African-American Heritage Commission, and dean, Arts, Sciences, and Humanities, Shaw University.

The cultural exhibits were open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and they led you through "The Story of North Carolina." Highlights of the museum's chronological history exhibit included the Woolworth's lunch counter from Salisbury, examples of Thomas Day-made furniture, some Arliss A. Watford Sr. wood carvings, a George SerVance dancing doll, and Martin County's Purvis cabin, where enslaved persons dwelled.

The "North Carolina A to Z" exhibit showcased a diverse array of people, places, events, and objects from North Carolina's history through the lens of an alphabetical framework.

The exhibition featured works by George SerVance, Arliss A. Watford Sr., and Ben Watford, as well as a performance outfit worn by Cleonia Badgett Graves

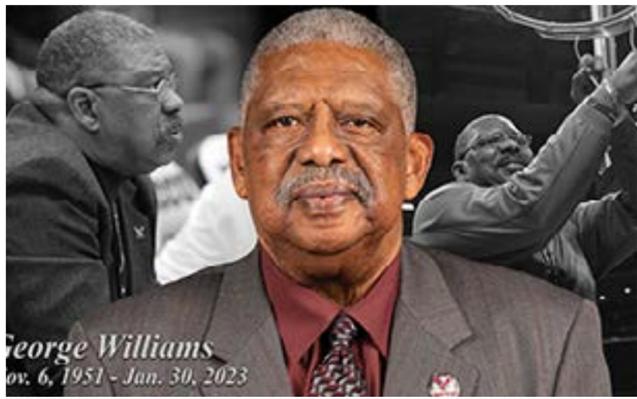
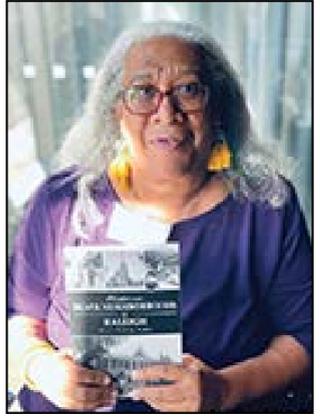
(of the Badgett Sisters) and the kitchen table used by the "Oval Table Gang" of Raleigh civil rights activists for planning meetings. Images and biographies highlight African-Americans throughout the gallery.

Lastly, the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame featured more than 200 items representing a variety of athletes, coaches, and supporters who have made their mark in the sports world. Highlights include a baseball uniform worn by Buck Leonard, the first North Carolinian to be inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame; a golf club used by Charlie Sifford, the first African-American to win a tournament on the PGA tour; track shoes worn by Olympic long jumper Kathy McMillan; and Meadowlark Lemon's Harlem Globetrotters basketball uniform.

Families had the chance to celebrate literature during a spoken word performance given by Carmen Cauthen, author of *Historic Black Neighborhoods of Raleigh*. There was also a poetry and spoken word showcase with Khalisa Rae Thompson. There were several Black booksellers, one of which was Curating Rofhiwa Book Café with Naledi Yaziyo.

She held a conversation about the founding of Rofhiwa Book Café in Durham and curation of its collection.

It was another highly successful celebration and we look forward to seeing how next year will surpass this years amazing event.



## Eagles Mourn Williams' Passing

DURHAM, N.C. – North Carolina Central University mourns the loss of alumnus and women's basketball assistant coach George Williams, who passed away on Monday, Jan. 30, at the age of 71.

A 1973 graduate of NCCU, Williams returned to the women's basketball program as a volunteer for the 2022-23 season after previously serving as an assistant coach for the Eagles for seven seasons from 2002-2009. He held the title of assistant head coach when NCCU won its last league title in program history: the CIAA championship in 2006-07.

## RM Fire Chief Mercer Announces Retirement

Fire Chief Corey Mercer has announced that he will retire from his post effective March 1.

Chief Mercer began his career with the Rocky Mount Fire Department as a firefighter in January 1994. The Army veteran moved up the ranks, also serving as a fire engineer, fire captain and battalion chief before becoming fire chief in Elizabeth City in February 2018. He returned and was appointed as Rocky Mount's fire chief on July 15, 2019.

Chief Mercer holds an associate degree, a bachelor's degree, and a master's degree, and is a graduate of the National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officer Program.

The city's fire department achieved several outstanding accomplishments under Mercer's direction. The department has recruited, hired and retained the most diverse workforce in the organization's history. Mercer and his team led public-safety efforts during the 2020 pandemic, creat-



ing policies and protocols that enabled the city to continue providing essential services. The department has consistently led the city's fundraising efforts in both the United Way campaign and Christmas Aid. Most notably, the

fire department attained its first-ever Class 1 Public Protection rating under Mercer's direction. That rating and continually maintaining internationally accredited status puts the city's Fire Department in the top four-tenths of 1 percent of all the fire departments in the United States.

Chief Mercer expressed his sincere appreciation to everyone who made it possible to retire as city's fire chief.

"I am truly thankful to the citizens of Rocky Mount, the city administration, and the men and women of the Rocky Mount Fire Department for giving me the opportunity to do a job I have completely enjoyed every day for 29 years," Mercer said. "I have had the pleasure of being a public servant in one of the best commu-

nities there is."

Interim City Manager Peter Varney said an interim chief will be named soon to lead the Fire Department while a search is conducted for Mercer's permanent replacement.

"Chief Mercer has done an outstanding job leading the Rocky Mount Fire Department for the past 3 1/2 years. He has provided steady leadership while seeing many changes in the growth of the city and growth of the Rocky Mount Fire Department during his career," Varney said. "It is a credit to our city to be served by a department that has achieved both a Class 1 Public Protection Rating and international accreditation."

"We wish Chief Mercer well," Varney said.

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# Church

## Obituaries

Robert Carl Dunn, born on May 28, 1949 in St. Agnes Hospital, Raleigh, NC, to Mozene DeGraffenreid Dunn and Joseph C. Dunn, Sr., was the second oldest of four with an older brother Joseph C., younger sister Marion and the youngest sibling William David. The Dunn family were staunch members of Bethlehem Baptist Church and Rush Metropolitan AME Zion Church where Robert was baptized, attended services and participated in church activities as a child. He attended Raleigh City Schools and was an honor student at JW Ligon High School where was active in the Science and Electronics Club.

Robert matriculated at St. Augustine's University (formerly St. Augustine's College) where he earned a bachelor's degree in English and French. While a student there, he was a member of the French and Writing Clubs and remained an active member of Rush Metropolitan AME Zion.

Brother Dunn, as he was affectionately called, began his long working career as a seven-year old selling the Raleigh Times Newspaper (Raleigh's local evening paper) across Southeast Raleigh; his entrepreneurial spirit led him to solicit customers at the NC Department of Motor Vehicles building (now closed) where there were hundreds of workers. As he rode his bicycle throughout his community, Robert sold more than 400 newspapers per day that earned him a sponsored trip to Florida with other outstanding paper carriers. He maintained his route as a high school and college student while he added grocery store experience to his skills.

Most adults knew him as the quiet young man selling papers



ROBERT DUNN

and collecting the five-cent cost; however, many young teens knew him as having the 'fastest car in the County. Thinking only of his safety, his beloved mother convinced him to relinquish the title.

After earning his baccalaureate degree from St. Augustine's in 1971, Brother Dunn taught middle school English and social studies in Cary for one year. Continuing his entrepreneurial spirit, Robert purchased his first wrecker in April 1972 and founded Dunn's Wrecker Service. During this time of minimal access to public contracts, Brother Dunn challenged the City's exclusion of African Americans within the City of Raleigh Rotation Wrecker Service and became the first (1976) African American to receive this contract. In 1979 he married Gerri Wellman and they became the proud parents of Robert Carl, II and Christopher Matthew.

Seeking additional skills and re-

sponsibilities to help humankind, Brother Dunn added Wreckmaster Training & professional NC State University graduate courses to his professional portfolio. He was an active member of the Towing Recovery Association of America, the Towing and Recovery Professionals of NC, a bronze sponsor of the American Towman Monument, and an inductee into the Order of Towmen for outstanding service to the City, as nominated by Police Chief Cassandra Deck-Brown. Brother Dunn and his sons have operated Dunn's Wrecker Service for 50 years.

Brother Robert Carl Dunn believed that he should grow where he was planted in Raleigh and at Rush Memorial AME Zion Church.

During his decades of active church attendance and participation, he served as Head Usher, a Trustee, a young choir member, and transportation coordinator. He enjoyed Bible Study, Sunday School and the Men's Ministry. One of the special ministries he especially enjoyed was transporting members and friends to church and AME Zion services across the connection from Raleigh District events to Missionary activities at Camp Dorothy Wall, Asheville and Senior Ministry trips to Carolina and Kure Beach.

Robert was often called to serve on church ad hoc committees both locally and at the District level, especially logistics, transportation and usher duties. For many years, he served as the driver to transport retired Bishop John H. Miller to Rush's Sunday morning service. Brother Dunn and his family have been faithful Rush members for decades.

## SERMON of the WEEK



KEEP ON RUNNING  
Sermon By: Pastor William "Billy" Eli Ratcliff

The race is not to the swift, Nor the battle to the strong, Nor bread to the wise, Nor riches to men of understanding, Nor favor to men of skill; But time and chance happen to them all. Ecclesiastes 9:11 NKJV

The actual author of Ecclesiastes is unknown, but the SUPERSCRIPTION in the first chapter and verse 1 attributes the book to the "preacher," [Teacher], identified as "the son of David, king in Jerusalem." These words can only refer to Solomon.

Chapter 9 is where Solomon focuses on the theme of the inevitability of death. [When something is inevitable, it is incapable of being avoided or evaded, such as death.]

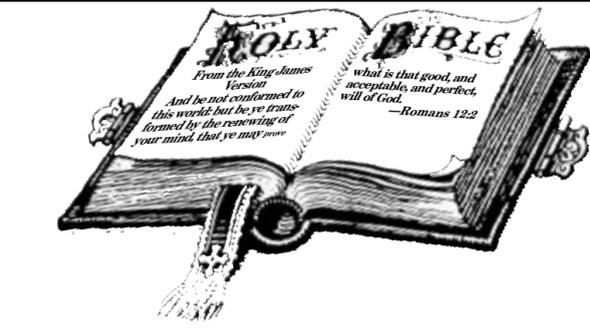
I believe Solomon states it this way because life is somewhat like a race that perhaps starts in a cradle and ends in a grave. So, let's look at how Solomon shares his God-Given wisdom about humanity's race in life.

In verse 11, Solomon says, "The race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong." So, as we celebrate BLACK HISTORY MONTH, let me share some history with you about some fast runners of the Ratcliff family.

My Dad was a fast runner. He had the record for the 100-yard dash at I.C. Norcom High School in Portsmouth, Va. My daughter was a fast runner at Millbrook Middle School. She may not have set records, but she was usually a top 3 finisher.

In the 9th grade at F.J. Carnegie Jr. High, I was a fast runner. I had the school record for the 60-yard dash at 6.6 seconds. However, if I had to run 60 yards now, it wouldn't be a dash; it might be closer to 6 minutes and 6 seconds rather than 6.6 seconds.

My son was a fast runner too. He didn't run track, but he did run from the law a few times. [The pot



can't call the kettle black because I had to do it a few times myself.] But I thank God that neither of us is any longer running from the law, but now running to The Lord.

The NIV quotes Solomon as saying, "I considered and observed on Earth the following: The race doesn't go to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor food to the wise, nor wealth to the smart, nor recognition to the skilled. Instead, timing and circumstances meet them all."

Yes, in this race of life, CIRCUMSTANCES will meet us all one way or another. Sometimes we will be up, and sometimes we will be down, but I'm saying to you, "keep on running!" Furthermore, unless we are caught up in the rapture, we all will go away from here one day. We may not like to think or talk about it, but we've all got to go one time.

No one can do anything about death, but I'm glad to know that we can do something about eternal life. No one can escape death. Death has no time limit. It happens all around us, and we hear about it quite frequently. Also, sometimes healthy, wealthy, and even disease-free people will go away from here suddenly. And let us not forget that we ourselves are not exempt from death, but we can be exempt from dying a Spiritual death.

In other words, Solomon said, in this world, fast runners do not always win the races, and the brave do not always win the battles. The wise do not always earn a living, intelligent people do not always get rich, and capable people do not always rise to high positions. Unfortunately, Solomon is saying that bad luck happens to everyone.

But as believers, we should not bank our wages on our luck because luck will run out. But Hallelujah, God's Love will never run out. Solomon said, "sometimes it's just by being in the right place at the right time."

Whenever you are in the church house, you're always in the right place at the right time because where the spirit of the Lord is, there is: LIBERTY, JOY, PEACE, HAPPINESS, HOPE, and VICTORY. He may not come when we want Him to, but He's always, always, always on time.

So, keep on Running, we're just Pilgrims and Strangers traveling through this foreign land, and this is not our home.

Dr. Martin Luther King said, "If you can't run, walk. If you can't walk, crawl. If you can't crawl, then keep MOVING. So, whatever we do, we should never stop moving or stop trying to go forward as we run with FAITH... PATIENCE... PRAYER... The FATHER... The HOLY SPIRIT and JESUS. Keep on Running!"

Some People love to tell you how to run your race from the sidelines. People will CRITICIZE you, tell Lies on you, and spread rumors about you, but don't stop to argue or debate with them; keep on running! Wave them into the race or wave to them goodbye, but don't stop moving, don't stop running!

People won't REMEMBER how fast you did a job, but they WILL REMEMBER how WELL you did it. But my main concern is I want to hear God say at the end of my journey, 'Come on in, my good and faithful servant, you've been faithful over a few things.' I want to hear Him say, 'Well done!' How about You?

Paul said, "I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Hallelujah, The Heavenly Prize will not go to the fastest, strongest, smartest, or the slickest, but they that endure, will receive a Crown of Life at the end. Keep on running!

## Faith Keeps Blacks From Suicide

By Janelle R. Goodwill

University of Chicago

Black college students who resorted to self-blame when faced with stress were also more likely to experience suicidal thoughts within the past year. This is in comparison to those who were less likely to resort to self-blame.

But those who turned to their faith to cope with stress were less likely to think about taking their own lives.

These are just two of the key findings from a study on Black students' mental health that I published in 2022. I initially conducted this work for my dissertation, analyzing previously collected surveys of 400 Black college students in the U.S. All participants were 18 to 35 years old. The overarching goal of this study was to examine the relationship between depression and suicidal ideation—or thoughts of suicide—to better understand how to disrupt the relationship between the two.

While the suicide rates for White children between ages 5 and 11 decreased slightly—going from 1.14 to 0.77 per 1 million from 1993 to 2012—suicide rates

for Black children of the same age nearly doubled. Specifically, they went from 1.36 to 2.54 per 1 million during the same time frame.

Further, an analysis of data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Youth Risk Behavior Survey showed that suicide attempts rose 73 percent for Black high school students between 1991 and 2017.

A more recent report indicates that deaths by suicide among 15-to-17-year-old Black youths increased 4.9 percent between 2003 and 2017, with suicides increasing 6.6 percent in Black girls and 2.8 percent in Black boys.

My colleague and I published a related study in 2020 in which we found that in a survey of more than 150,000 college students, the odds of attempting suicide within the past 12 months were 1.48 times greater for Black students than for White students.

Therefore, it seems that if Black students are experiencing increased risk for suicide both before and during their time in college, additional safeguards may be needed to help Black students cope with the various

stressors they encounter not just during their time on campus, but throughout all stages of development.

For these reasons, I believe it is important for educators and those who support Black students to understand that experiencing persistent feelings of self-blame is potentially harmful to students' mental health.

Examples of self-blame as measured in this study include asking participants to respond to statements like "I have been blaming myself for things that happened" and "I have been criticizing myself."

Other statements, like "I have been trying to find comfort in my religion or spiritual beliefs" and "I've been praying or meditating," were used to measure Black students' personal engagement with faith, religion and spirituality.

While the questions included in this survey offer some insight into connections among self-blame, faith and mental health, I still see a need to explore other aspects of religion that highlight the role that faith plays for young people and their overall well-being.

## Practical Biblical Principles

THE HIGHWAY OF GOD

Read Isaiah 40:3-8

"Make straight in the desert a highway for our God" (Isaiah 40:3), is one of the best-known passages of scripture in the Bible. This is a promise of God's love for us. This is God's love coming to help God's people when they are in their confusion. In a sense this is a call to men to participate with God under His leadership bringing about peace, justice and hope to a bewildered, confused, and out of control world. Christmas continues. God is not finished with us yet.

This world is a spiritual wilderness. Wars and rumors of wars, corruption in high political places, murders on our city streets, moral compasses are now difficult to find in the hearts of people, the love of money is ruling supreme. Need I go further, there is a jungle/wilderness out there. Meaning many people cannot rationally direct their lives through the maze, dry desert and immoral jungle growing up all around them. As a lost people walking in dark wilderness, we need to find a way out of such a dark wilderness. God is the Way. The "wilderness" is the symbolism for servitude, discipline, and punishment for sin.

New technical developments, digital inventions and modern war technology and the constant changing of morality standards in our society, and suicide are a few of the things which lead man to think he is a god himself. This is confusing and makes for a frightful wilder-

ness. Modern inventions add to the confusion instead of lessening it. The way out of this wilderness is lost to man.

Yet God comes to lead us out of this immoral wilderness. The reason God is doing this is to make good the consequences of His Son's death on the cross. Jesus came as light into a dark/sinful world. Our Lord is telling us that we should expect to find a way out of the wilderness of sin to the brightness of the cross. Otherwise, all the planning God has put forth to save us will be for naught. Keeping in mind God says that His word would go forth and will not return unto Him until it has accomplished what He has set it out to do.

Man's enemy appears to be pushing man to enjoy his being lost in the wilderness. Being drawn by the enemy man loses his sense of being lost. Therefore, it is almost impossible for man to hear God when He calls out to him to turn the way of His Light and come out of the wilderness.

God could do all the heavy lifting of rescuing man from the dark wilderness. But we must take note of what the prophet, Isaiah announces to us. Isaiah tells us we have some responsibility in this getting ourselves out of the ugly wilderness. Even though God has ended His warfare against us and have forgiven us of our sins (Isaiah 40:1-2) we all have been given a serious task that must be accomplished by each of us.

"Prepare the Way of the Lord.

Make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted. And every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight. And the rough places made smooth. Then and only then shall the glory of the Lord shall be revealed. And all flesh shall see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

We must prepare the way for the Lord to come to us as we stumble in the wilderness of sin. We must submit to the role of being a humble servant (without ego) to the Lord. We also must be disciplined and allow ourselves to be disciplined by the Holy Spirit. Last, but not least, we must stop sinning and obey the "moral clock" our Lord has given us in His teachings. We must do this while we have the time, thus the meaning of moral "clock."

When we begin to do these things, then we begin preparing the way for the Lord, straightening out the crooked roads in our lives, smoothing out the rough spots and ditches in our lives. God will then allow us to see His glory and we will be led out of the wilderness of darkness and be saved.

Broad is the way which will lead many to hell that Jesus spoke about is not the Highway of God! Make way for God in your life and He will make a way for eternal life for you.

J.L. Caldwell, Pastor  
New Jerusalem Baptist  
Cathedral

## You Are What You Eat

Nutrition is one of the three most important aspects of wellness alongside exercise and adequate sleep. Our bodies are created as high-powered, intricate machines that God considers to be the temple of the Holy Spirit; healthy eating honors these concepts. Balanced nutrition involves eating the right proportion of three major macronutrients: 1) carbohydrates 2) protein and 3) fat. These macronutrients provide the calories we burn with our daily activity. We also need adequate intake of micronutrients: vitamins and minerals. Access to affordable fresh fruits, vegetables, and whole grains affect our food selections to meet this balance. Carbohydrates make up the largest portion of our caloric intake and come from vegetables, grains, and sugars. Complex carbohydrates are essential for function and are broken down slowly into usable energy. Some calories are converted to fat for storage which, in excess, can lead to health problems.

The choices we make matter. Significantly limiting sweetened drinks, fruit juice, processed snacks, and dessert portions is the best way to counter the risks for obesity, diabetes, and tooth decay. Whole-grain intake must be intentional and may require adjusting to new flavors and textures. Choose whole oats, whole wheat, and brown rice instead of white flour and white rice that have the fiber removed. Oatmeal's large amount of soluble fiber increases good intestinal bacteria, controls sugar absorption, and provides a small amount of protein. Whole-grain rice has insoluble fiber which enhances digestion, elimination, and overall colon health when coupled with adequate water intake.

Adequate protein intake coupled with muscle conditioning exercise is essential since muscles are the engines that burn fat and sugar. Greater lean muscle mass optimizes our body fat ratio and can prevent Type 2 diabetes and improve management of many chronic health conditions. Most people do not eat enough protein, which should be about 0.5 grams of protein per pound of bodyweight per day. For example, a 180-pound person should eat about 90 grams of protein per day. The required amount of protein will increase with physical activity and age. Protein sources include all meats, nuts, beans, lentils, eggs, and dairy products.

Fats add flavor and energy-dense nutrition. Monounsaturated and polyunsaturated oils, such as olive and canola, are valuable to body functions and should be selected over saturated fats when possible. Saturated fats from meats and some vegetable oils should be balanced within total calorie needs and physical activity. Selecting leaner cuts of meat or trimming thin, outer-fat layers before cooking minimizes fat intake.

A primary care provider (PCP) and registered dietitian can partner with a patient to create a personalized nutrition. Everyone should base food selection on evidence-based nutrition guidance such as the Mediterranean diet, the DASH diet, or USDA MyPlate to ensure that the whole family develops life-long, sustainable healthy eating habits. In 1826, the Frenchman Brillat-Savarin is credited with the saying, "you are what you eat" which has holistic, mind-body-spirit, intent. Therefore, be a clean temple—lean, smart, and positive in your nutrition and reflect these traits in your whole life.

Dr. Edwin Burkett, retired Colonel USAF, is a Family Physician and Medical Director for Alliance Medical Ministry (AMM). AMM is in southeast Raleigh and serves working, uninsured adults living in Wake County with an emphasis on holistic and preventive patient-centered care, in order to reduce health disparities in our community.



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# Other Viewpoints



IF YOU DON'T WANT TO BLAME JOE

By Rodney Ross

Guest Commentary

If you do not want to blame Joe Biden for the higher gas prices by using the Ukraine as an excuse, or inflation, or the supply chain disruption when ships remained off the coast of shores but not allowed to dock, or the failure of the COVID vaccine that never prevented the spread of COVID, or the out of control housing crises, or the overwhelming influx of migrants illegally crossing the border, or the obliteration of your 401k retirement savings, that's fine. But when the call to vote for president Biden came, there was an expectation that things were going to be different. After all, the person running for president addressed every American who was Black. "If you don't vote for me, you ain't black." We did our part. We successfully removed the arrogance of Trump and replaced it with the promise of change. Things did change. The calendar now reads 2023 instead of 2021 or 2022. If we look in our toilets however, it's the same you know what. In fact the smell is worse because the fan broke and without a job, employment, livable wages, and foreign countries holding our supply hostage, the smell is magnified. The smell of reality stinks and we can thank the last 2 years for reminding us how little value the African-American community is. By the time 2022 concluded, more lives were lost at the hands of law enforcement but the media's attention has been on the war in Ukraine. Buildings destroyed during a war have more of a priority than the tragedies that take place right here in our communities across our country.

It does not matter what state you go in. Whether it's the deeply populated urban cities to our rural communities, African-Americans are hurting. And since Biden and Harris can't be just one group's president, it is safe to say that if we are hurting, then America is hurting—because "we" are hurting. Unless of course, you do not consider us Americans and we are somehow packaged into the same category of "the dreamers."

If you voted for Biden and Harris you should be mad. Running off of the fumes of the Obama administration and the orchestrated character assassination of the prior president who seemed to be inept at shaking the White supremacy stigma, this was supposed to be so different, and to date, it hasn't. Are our schools better funded? Are there better lending practices? Can we even qualify for a loan? How are our small businesses doing? Last checked many of them folded because of unfair lockdown practices that allowed Dot Com businesses to thrive. Big companies and local governments abused and absorbed much of the stimulus money that never made it to our communities and there was no accountability. Instead, more IRS agents were hired to make sure the government takes every cent imaginable from your gains. Is this the win we asked for in 2020?



SAY NO TO EXPANDING THE DEATH PENALTY

By Laura Finley

Barry University

Republican leaders have a death penalty problem. During a time when researchers called 2022 the "year of the botched execution" and when several states have had to place a moratorium on executions amidst failed protocols, several Republic leaders are seeking to expand capital punishment.

It is no surprise that Florida Governor Ron DeSantis is pro-death penalty. DeSantis has put himself on the national map by echoing if not extending many of Donald Trump's most repressive measures.

Just days ago, DeSantis signed his fourth death warrant as Governor and first since the pandemic. It set an execution date for James Dailey, a veteran of four tours in Vietnam and Korea, who has persistently declared his innocence. There is some compelling evidence that he just might be.

His co-defendant, Jack Percy, had admitted at least four times that he and he alone committed the murder of Shelly Bogio in 1985. Percy received a life sentence and his testimony was the most significant evidence against Dailey. There is also new evidence that confirms that Dailey was not even present at the time of the murder. There is no physical or forensic evidence indicating Dailey's involvement.

Why would the Governor issue a death warrant in a case with so many potential concerns?

DeSantis has also said he supports the death penalty in cases of child rape. The Supreme Court declared such sentences to be unconstitutional in 2008. Again, this is a regression and is particularly difficult to swallow when public support for the death penalty is among its lowest ever.

DeSantis has repeatedly criticized the jury who failed to send Parkland school shooter Nikolas Cruz to death. Because Florida currently requires a unanimous jury decision in capital sentencing hearings, Cruz's life was spared by three jurors who believed his mental issues and lifelong trauma meant he should not be executed.

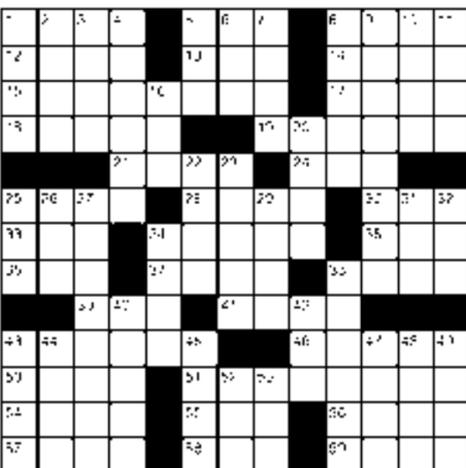
DeSantis has spoken about moving Florida back to having a non-unanimous jury making capital sentencing decisions, something the state did until 2017 when the Florida Supreme Court required the change. To go back to that implies a stinging rebuke of the Court's authority.

Further, in the state that has the largest number of people exonerated from death row, any move that makes sentencing someone to die at the hands of the state is risking that more will be exonerated.

## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Appear
- 5 Commotion
- 8 Online auction site
- 12 Address Fisher
- 13 Part of DJIA
- 14 Dell
- 15 Youthful countenance
- 17 Laundry appliance
- 18 Soft leather
- 19 Columns of light
- 21 Pro votes
- 24 Numerical prefix
- 25 Juicy stone
- 28 It ain't worth a nickel
- 30 Prattle
- 33 "I lo... caba... ret..."
- 34 Slings as a perp
- 35 "Ball..."
- 36 Crown
- 37 Sharp of "Funny G..."
- 38 Wild guess
- 39 Run after K
- 41 For fear that
- 43 "No cheating!"
- 45 Eucalyptus eater
- 50 Thirrus town
- 51 Temporary mental fatigue
- 52 12/1/16



- 55 Here in Dion
- 56 Slangy suffix
- 57 Skater
- 58 Muppet eagle
- 59 Dance partner?
- 8 Pernierival
- 9 Brawl that's broken up by a bouncer
- 10 Oodles
- 11 Desires
- 16 Tina of '30 Rock'
- 20 Colorations
- 22 Wax coated cheese
- 23 Twine fiber
- 25 Word food malfunction
- 26 'Suits' net-work
- 27 Jim Bouton book
- 29 Simple
- 31 Small battery
- 32 Clothing professional
- 31 Water Morrison
- 38 Gems
- 40 Food from heaven
- 42 Enjoy Asper
- 43 Opium...ri
- 44 Jazzy tunes
- 45 Baseball stats
- 47 Roundish 'do
- 48 Lake bird
- 49 Awestruck
- 52 Nipper's co.
- 53 Goal

### DOWN

- 1 Bloodline
- 2 Jacob's twin
- 3 North Sea leader
- 4 "Help!"
- 5 Oklahoma city
- 6 Emer-to
- 7 Has bills

Or, worse, wrongly executed. Other remarks DeSantis has made indicate that, if he wins the 2024 presidency, he would carry on Trump's binge of federal executions. President Biden has pledged to end the federal death penalty, although that has not happened to date.

DeSantis is not alone. At the same time that Tennessee officials admitted that its executioners lied about testing lethal injection chemicals for bacterial contamination, Republicans are sponsoring legislation to expand the state's death penalty statute to include fentanyl dealers whose product resulted in someone's death.

Investigations about execution protocols are also underway in Alabama and Ohio. Arizona's former Attorney General Mark Brnovich, a staunch death penalty supporter, and Governor Ducey tried to speed up executions and ordered lethal injection drugs that were not appropriate, despite the fact that the state's last three executions were all fraught with problems.

Florida's death penalty is a mess, as are all other systems of execution in the US. Yet it is obvious that DeSantis and most of his Republican cronies do not care. As more and more data show that the death penalty in the US is deeply broken and irreparable, it is absurd that Republicans like DeSantis are seeking to expand its use, rather than eliminate it entirely.

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## TO BE EQUAL

Continued from page 10

banks, of which there is an incredible need. In our 2022 State of Black America Report we found that the number of Black-owned banks has dwindled immensely over the years. Between 1888 and 1934, there were 134 Black-owned banks to help the Black community. Today, there are only 19 Black-owned banks that qualify as Minority Depository Institutions.

Due to historic undercapitalization, Black banks are small, with average assets of \$363 million compared to \$4 billion for all U.S. banks. The small number of Black banks and their small asset size limits their overall impact. A century of data proves that Black banks matter. When there is a Black bank in a community, Black people are more likely to be able to buy a home or secure a small business loan. These institutions help minorities build wealth by providing mortgages, small business loans, and financial services when others will not. That is why the work of uplifting Black banks is so vital.

There is work being done at the federal level and additional bipartisan solutions that Congress and the Executive Branch can take to address these ills and barriers. The National Urban League has partnered with both to be part of the solution, because just as redlining and disinvestment in communities of color is contagious, so is "Greenlining" and reinvestment in those communities.

In March of this year, the Treasury Department certified the National Urban League's small business lending subsidiary, The Urban Empowerment Fund, as a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), bolstering its ability to deliver vital capital to urban communities. The Fund provides direct loans to Black and other minority-owned businesses in tandem with select Urban League Entrepreneurship Centers, which are currently operating in thirteen Urban League affiliate cities.

Perhaps one of our greatest achievements to date, however, will be the opening of the National Urban League's new headquarters, the Urban League Empowerment Center. Our new home is not just a home for us, it is a \$242 million, 414,000-square-foot investment in the community. Our Empowerment Center is one of the most significant economic development projects in Harlem's recent history. And in constructing it, we are leading with our values. In addition to affordable housing, we are using minority and women-owned contractors and businesses throughout the building's conceptualization to construction—from our owners' representative to our construction firms to our professional services firms. Our project—built in one of the toughest real estate markets in the world—is on time, on budget, embraced by the community, and slated to open fully by early 2025.

In 2010, Congress passed, and the President signed into law the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. Not only did this bill prohibit some of the most outrageous practices witnessed by predatory banking lenders, but it also created the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). We are disappointed by recent actions and court rulings aimed at preventing the CFPB from using its existing authority to protect consumers from racial discrimination when seeking mortgages, auto loans, credit cards, bank accounts or other financial services. Just two years after banking executives named themselves allies in the fight against systemic racism, these lawsuits feel like a betrayal to communities who have been too long discriminated against by these institutions.

The Fair Access to Financial Services Act has an opportunity to build upon the Dodd-Frank Act of 2010 and regulatory protections by ensuring that all Americans have equal access to goods and services offered by financial institutions and that they are held liable if they do not comply with these standards. The legislation would prohibit banking and other financial institutions from conducting discriminatory practices and services on the basis race, color, religion, national origin, or sex—closing the gap and fulfilling the spirit of the Civil Rights Act to ensure that all people in this country have access to economic equity and empowerment. Congress must take action to advance and pass this critical piece of legislation.

## A DIFFERENT VOICE

Continued from page 10

nals; but because they were the criminals and didn't have a mirror in front of their actions, they were blinded by their own impulses. Any argument that supports their behavior is a lie and to me is as simple as that. The truth needs no defense.

Racism is a lie. Lives are shortened by it. Lives are altered by it. Some humans are daily motivated by it. Its insanity can be recognized by the results of it, as is in this case. A man is dead because something happened at a traffic stop. The attempt to pull him out of his car was met with resistance, he ran as a natural impulse to save his own life and his running escalated the behavior of the ones who believe that they have power and deserve by virtue of their occupation to receive respect. All the deaths that have been caused by their culture have not stopped this from happening because the culture persists.

Until this phenomenon is confronted these things will continue. My friend said in this conversation, how can you believe that we aren't doing better when we elected a Black president? My answer is simple, because we aren't. As long as people are treated negatively "different" because of their skin color or anything physical about them we aren't doing better.

Yes, we elected a Black president but the backlash from that election exposed the dirt under the rug. She said, "But you are a spiritual person," how can you pay attention to the dirt under the rug rather than just admire the rug? See how insane this is? If there is dirt under a carpet, I don't care what it looks like on top, the carpet is dirty. That's just the truth. Our belief that because we elected an African-American president for eight years doesn't alter the fact that the next man elected was the hope of too many that this would never happen again. Barack Obama was the first Black president but he was only one out of a multitude who could have been elected in the preceding years but was not because of racism. Yes, I am a spiritual person but that's not just a nice label. The reason I'm spiritual is because the truth of God is what I live by. Finally, I gave this example or illustration. Let's say that I am working to help a child who is being repeatedly sexually every day of its life, seven days a week. Is my goal to reduce those encounters to 3 1/2 days a week and call that progress? Absolutely not, that would be insane. The illusion that a little racism is better than a lot of racism is crazy, just as a little sexual abuse is better than a lot of sexual abuse is an insane thought. My thesis is this, racism is as bad as sexual abuse, drug addiction, red lining, discrimination, murder, etc. If we don't recognize that our society is sick and living with lies every day of the week, for me, than our society is remarkably sick and in need of healing. How do we change this? Well, we certainly don't hide it by pretending that the rug is clean and there's no dirt.

## GLEN MOLLETTE SPEAKS

Continued from page 10

up front and close to us. For example, all around us we are targets of scams, thieves and prowling bad people. Americans were scammed to the tune \$5.8 billion in 2021. (Digital Guardian). We are never beyond being duped. Today, daily text messages, emails, phone calls and mail come to Americans phishing for a sucker who will buy the false story they are telling. They are good at what they do.

My son was away in a foreign country when I was duped out of \$350 years ago. The caller was very professional sounding and convincing. I believed that if I did not pay the money owed by my son it would negatively impact his career. This was at the beginning of the telephone scam industry and I paid him the money. Later I realized that I had been scammed.

Years ago, a dear friend received a telephone call from someone posing as an IRS agent. The scammer told the senior adult man that he owed \$45,000 in back taxes for various reasons. The friend was about 90 years old and living on a meager retirement income. He didn't realize he was being scammed, was overwhelmed with anxiety and killed himself.

"At every level of life there is a new devil," an old friend once said. At every stage of life there are new twists, turns and curves. We are never beyond being informed, learning and developing. Young people make mistakes but so do old people. We often think we've lived long enough and know most everything, but we don't. Most of us have become more aware of this problem but crooks work at catching people off guard and are constantly developing new schemes.

Today, we have search engines and are inundated with news and information. However, we don't hear all the news nor do we know everything we need to know when we need to know. Often, we learn the hard way. This is why education is expensive. Life experience education is often the most expensive and difficult of all learning processes. Even in life education we learn but we don't always utilize the life experience very much. Too often we repeat the same mistakes hoping for a different outcome.

We can't go wrong with good information. This is why you need the publication you are reading. Your local paper and online news sources are crucial to a community's health and overall well-being. Local newspapers, blogs and online sources tell what is happening in your local town and county. Support this news source with your subscription and advertising needs. County newspapers that have been around for years continue to close. Every week I receive notification of a newspaper printing its final edition and that's not good news.

*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.*

## CHILD WATCH

Continued from page 10

injured at a Baton Rouge nightclub that had advertised a party celebrating the start of the new semester at Louisiana State University and Southern University. On Monday, the same day as the Half Moon Bay shootings, an 18-year-old and a 16-year-old were shot and killed at their charter school program for at-risk youths in Iowa and the program's founder was injured. Soon afterwards Shannon Watts, the founder of Moms Demand Action, singled out those four attacks as examples in a social media post condemning the regular and relentless toll gun violence takes in our nation: "11 dead in Monterey Park. 12 wounded in Baton Rouge. 7 dead in Half Moon Bay. 2 students dead in Des Moines. 300 shot EVERY SINGLE DAY. Every time you vote for a lawmaker who opposes gun safety, you're voting for policies that make it more likely your loved one will be slaughtered." Her words were followed by a graphic from Moms Demand Action: We don't have to live like this. We don't have to die like this.

Just a few days into the New Year America's gun violence epidemic is back under a harsh spotlight. The Gun Violence Archive, which documents the number of mass shootings in the U.S. in which four or more people are shot or killed in a single incident, counted 40 mass shootings in the first 25 days of 2023. This was 21 percent higher than in the previous two years and more than any January on record. Seventy-three people were killed and 165 more were injured in those mass shootings alone. Every day on average more than 100 people are killed and more than 200 others are injured by guns in our nation in assaults, suicides and suicide attempts, unintentional shootings, and police intervention. Gun violence is the leading cause of death for children in our nation. This is American exceptionalism at its worst.

Will we continue to let these numbers escalate month after month? Will we continue to stand alone in accepting our pervasive culture of gun violence and the insane proliferation of guns by the millions that have no business in civilian hands? Will we keep electing members of Congress who put their perceived political self-interest and gun lobby profits ahead of the safety of our children and communities? Or will this be the year we finally find the courage, decency, and will to change course?

# 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 22 E 1239

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Thelma W. Rigsbee, 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 13th day of April 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 12th day of January, 2023.

David Rigsbee  
Executor  
3007 Tavistock Dr.  
Durham, NC 27712

1/12, 1/19/1/26 and 2/2/2023  
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 1522

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Christopher Michael Whitworth, 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 13th day of April 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 12th day of January, 2023.

Payton Michael Whitworth  
Administrator  
1598 Doves View Cir  
Auburndale, FL 33823

1/12, 1/19/1/26 and 2/2/2023  
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 1516

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Junior Lafayette Gibson, 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 13th day of April 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 12th day of January, 2023.

Grace M. Gibson  
Administrator  
3508 Four Seasons Drive  
Durham, NC 27707

1/12, 1/19/1/26 and 2/2/2023  
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 1577

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administratrix of the Estate of Johnathan Brian Horton, 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 13th day of April 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 12th day of January, 2023.

Gwen Manley Ghent  
Administratrix  
c/o Kangur & Porter, LLP  
2150 Country Club Road  
Suite 160

Winston Salem, NC 27104  
1/12, 1/19/1/26 and 2/2/2023  
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 23 E 52

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate

### OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk File Number 23 E 17

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of John Neter, 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 13th day of April 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 12th day of January, 2023.

Ronald Julian Neter  
Executor  
812 South Orange Grove Blvd.  
Pasadena, CA 91105-1715  
1/12, 1/19/1/26 and 2/2/2023  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DURHAM COUNTY

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS The Undersigned, Jennifer Clegg McFarland, having duly qualified as Executrix of the Estate of Virginia Stephenson Clegg, deceased, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate to present them to the undersigned in care of Ronald G. Coulter, Attorney for the Estate, 3400 Croasdaile Drive, Suite 205, Durham, North Carolina 27705, within ninety days of first publication of this notice or it will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment.

This the 12th day of January, 2022.

Jennifer C. McFarland  
Executrix  
C/O Ronald G. Coulter, Attorney  
3400 Croasdaile Drive  
Suite 205  
Durham, NC 27705  
1-919-246-5775

1/12, 1/19/1/26 and 2/2/2023  
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 1431

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administratrix of the Estate of Andrew Weldon Beck, 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 13th day of April 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 12th day of January, 2023.

Elizabeth S. Beck  
Administratrix  
506 Waters Edge Drive  
Durham, NC 27703  
1/19, 1/26, 2/2 and 2/9/2023  
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 000819

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Jean Haskins Mebane, 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 20th day of April 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 19th day of January, 2023.

Larissa M Woods  
Administrator  
1111 Rossford Road  
Richmond, VA 23227  
1/19, 1/26, 2/2 and 2/9/2023  
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 23 E 52

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate

of Joyce W. Avery a/k/a Joyce Weathers Avery, 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 20th day of April 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 19th day of January, 2023.

Michael J. Avery  
Executor  
2210 Strebor Street  
Durham, NC 27705  
1/19, 1/26, 2/2 and 2/9/2023  
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 23 E 51

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Larry Dean Swain, 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 20th day of April 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 19th day of January, 2023.

Ricky Eugene Swain  
a/k/a Rickie Eugene Swain  
Executor  
505 County Line Rd  
Timberlake, NC 27583  
1/19, 1/26, 2/2 and 2/9/2023  
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 23 E 25

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Anderson Fox, 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 20th day of April 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 19th day of January, 2023.

Vickie Fox Goff  
Executor  
112 Hocutt Rod  
Durham, NC 27703  
1/19, 1/26, 2/2 and 2/9/2023

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS Having qualified before the Clerk of Superior Court of Durham County as Executor of the Estate of Sarah Rebecca Kittner, this is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the Estate to send them, duly itemized and verified, to P.O. Box 51429, Durham, NC 27717, on or before the 19th day of April, 2023 (90 days after the date of this Notice) or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the Estate are requested to make prompt settlement with the undersigned.

This the 19th day of January, 2023.

Berta Kittner  
c/o Robert Levin  
P.O. Box 51429  
Durham, NC 27717

Robert E. Levin  
Attorney for the Executor  
P.O. Box 51429  
Durham, NC 27717  
1/19, 1/26, 2/2 and 2/9/2023  
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 001425

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Stephanie Denise Fullard, 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 20th day of April 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 19th day of January, 2023.

Latonia Howard  
Administrator  
548 Beaver Trail  
Stone Mountain, GA 30087  
1/19, 1/26, 2/2 and 2/9/2023  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DURHAM COUNTY

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against Sarah Huin Lamar, deceased, of Durham County, NC, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before April 28, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 26th day of January, 2023.

Alexandre Huin  
Administrator  
c/o Bagwell Holt Smith P.A.  
111 Cloister Court  
STE 200  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
1/26, 2/2, 2/9 and 2/16/2023  
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 1206

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administratrix of the Estate of Tabbatha Renee Harris Deshazo, 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 27th day of April 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 26th day of January, 2022.

Deborah H. Walker  
Administratrix  
357 Barrett Street  
Danville, VA 24541  
1/26, 2/2, 2/9 and 2/16/2023

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS Having qualified before the Clerk of Superior Court of Durham County as Public Administrator of the Estate of Emily Taylor Cogwell, this is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the Estate to send them, duly itemized and verified, to P.O. Box 51429, Durham, NC 27717, on or before the 26th day of April, 2023 (90 days after the date of this Notice) or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the Estate are requested to make prompt settlement with the undersigned.

This the 26th day of January, 2023.

Robert E. Levin  
Public Administrator of the Estate of Emily Taylor Cogwell Deceased  
P.O. Box 51429  
Durham, NC 27717

Robert E. Levin  
Public Administrator of the Estate of Emily Taylor Cogwell, Deceased  
P.O. Box 51429  
Durham, NC 27717  
January 26, February 2, 9, 16, 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 23 E 78

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Mary Williams McCoy, 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 27th day of April 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 26th day of January, 2022.

Tonya Williams  
Executor  
2705 Talbot Court W  
Raleigh, NC 27610  
1/26, 2/2, 2/9 and 2/16/2023  
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 23 E 81

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Mary Anne Weaver, 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 27th day of April 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 26th day of January, 2022.

Mary Caroline Weaver  
Executor  
2222 West Club Blvd  
Durham, NC 27705  
1/26, 2/2, 2/9 and 2/16/2023  
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 1350

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administratrix of the Estate of Gloria Ann McAllister, 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 27th day of April 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 26th day of January, 2022.

Sherri Morrison  
Administratrix  
2290 Merck Drive  
Unit 203  
Winston Salem, NC 27106  
1/26, 2/2, 2/9 and 2/16/2023

### NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DURHAM COUNTY

In The General Court Of Justice  
Superior Court Division  
FILE NO.: 22 CVD 4037  
TALISA PIERCE,  
PLAINTIFF

VS.  
ALICE G. ONSERIO, SACORY A.  
ATWATER and DAQUAN L. GATTIS,  
DEFENDANTS

TO: SACORY A. ATWATER  
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 Personal Injuries as a result of a Motor Vehicle Accident on June 10, 2021 on Fayetteville Road at Crooked Creek Parkway, Durham, NC.

You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than March 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 26th day of January, 2023.

Robert T. Perry  
N.C. State Bar #11051  
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  
1/26, 2/2, 2/9 and 2/16/2023  
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 23 E 79

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of Floyd Edwin Carden a/k/a Eddie Carden, 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 27th day of April 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 26th day of January, 2023.

Alton T. Copley  
Executrix  
733 Quiet Woods Pl  
Durham, NC 27712  
1/26, 2/2, 2/9 and 2/16/2023  
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 23 E 41

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Russell Alan Holcomb, 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 4th day of May 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 2nd day of February, 2023.

Pamela Ryan  
Executor  
12419 Rustic View Court  
Tampa, FL 33635  
2/2, 2/9, 2/16 and 2/23/2023

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS Having qualified as Personal Representative of the Estate of Amy K. Martin, deceased, of 6818 Iron Gate Drive, Bahama, Durham County, North Carolina 27503, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at the office of the attorney for the estate on or before May 4, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 2nd day of February, 2023

Jo-Ann Wagner  
Personal Representative  
c/o Jeffrey L. Austin,  
Attorney for the Estate  
Law Office of Jeffrey L. Austin  
PLLC  
411 W. Chapel Hill Street  
Suite C-2

Durham, NC 27701  
2/2, 2/9, 2/16 and 2/23/2023  
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 1580

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administratrix of the Estate of Larry Lee McCorkle, 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 4th day of May 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 2nd day of February, 2023.

Tracey Harris  
Administratrix  
209 Esteban Court  
Mebane, NC 27302  
2/2, 2/9, 2/16 and 2/23/2023  
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 1579

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Goldie M. McCorkle a/k/a Goldie Marie McCorkle, 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 4th day of May 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 2nd day of February, 2023.

Tracey Harris  
Co-Executor  
209 Esteban Court  
Mebane, NC 27302  
Robyn D. McCorkle  
Co-Executor  
235 Debra Drive  
Durham, NC 27704  
2/2, 2/9, 2/16 and 2/23/2023

**eMail Your Legals To**  
**ADS@CARO.NEWS**  
**24 Hour a Day**

# 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 23 E 115**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Francisco M. Nieves a/k/a Francisco Michael Nieves, 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 4th day of May 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 2nd day of February, 2023.

Ronald A. Sisco, Sr.  
Executor  
3003 Tolson Dr.  
Durham, NC 27703  
2/2, 2/9, 2/16 and 2/23/2023

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 23 E 54**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Eleanette Maccene Brown-Lyerly a/k/a Eleanette Maccene Brown a/k/a Eleanette Maccene Lyerly, 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 4th day of May 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 2nd day of February, 2023.

Ronald A. Sisco, Sr.  
Administrator  
3315 Fayetteville Street  
Durham, NC 27707  
2/2, 2/9, 2/16 and 2/23/2023

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 23 E 59**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Anita Hines, 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 4th day of May 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 2nd day of February, 2023.

Keni Church-Hines  
Administrator  
4801 Swann's Mill Dr  
Durham, NC 27703  
2/2, 2/9, 2/16 and 2/23/2023

## WAKE COUNTY

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
WAKE COUNTY  
**NOTICE OF SERVICE  
OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION  
In The General Court Of Justice  
Superior Court Division  
Before the Clerk  
File Number 2023 E 000005**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Paul Herbert Watkins, late of Wake County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 13th day of April 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 12th day of January, 2023.

Dale Diacont  
Co-Administrator  
220 Chantilly Drive  
Waynesboro, VA 22980  
Brandy Clary  
Co-Administrator  
PO Box 24  
Lawrenceville, VA 23868  
1/12, 1/19/1/26 and 2/2/2023

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
WAKE COUNTY  
**NOTICE OF SERVICE  
OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION  
In The General Court Of Justice  
Superior Court Division  
Before the Clerk**

**File Number 2022 E 0042898**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Willie Ruth Fuller a/k/a W Ruth Fuller, late of Wake County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 27th day of April 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 26th day of January, 2023.

Alice Ruth Fuller  
Executor  
555 East Martin St  
Raleigh, NC 27601  
1/26, 2/2, 2/9 and 2/16/2023

NORTH CAROLINA  
WAKE COUNTY  
**In The General Court of Justice  
Superior Court Division  
File No. 22 CVD 13916  
CONTINUANCE OF TEMPORARY  
HEARING ON CUSTODY/  
VISITATION**

Khaleel Curry Plaintiff  
vs.  
Destinee Lewis Defendant

The action before the court is continued. The new trial will be held on Friday, February 10, 2023, at 9 a.m. in Courtroom 2C of the Wake County Courthouse, 316 Fayetteville Street Mall, Raleigh, NC 27601.

The reason for the continuation: "No service in the court file. Plaintiff appeared and noticed in open court."

1/26, 2/2 and 2/9/2023  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
WAKE COUNTY

**NOTICE OF SERVICE  
OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION  
In The General Court Of Justice  
Superior Court Division  
Before the Clerk  
File Number 2022 E 004326**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of William Kent Whitlow, late of Wake County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 4th day of May 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 2nd day of February, 2023.

Susan Beth Whitlow  
Co-Administrator  
9008 Stockfield Lane  
Zebulon, NC 27597  
Richard Kenneth Witlow  
Co-Administrator  
9008 Stockfield Lane  
Zebulon, NC 27597  
2/2, 2/9, 2/16 and 2/23/2023

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
WAKE COUNTY  
**NOTICE OF SERVICE  
OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION  
In The General Court Of Justice  
Superior Court Division  
Before the Clerk  
File Number 2023 E 000155**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Catherine Graves Phillips, late of Wake County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 4th day of May 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 2nd day of February, 2023.

Barbara Moring Graves  
Administrator  
1908 Southgate Dr  
Raleigh, NC 27610  
2/2, 2/9, 2/16 and 2/23/2023

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
WAKE COUNTY  
**NOTICE OF SERVICE  
OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION  
In The General Court Of Justice  
Superior Court Division  
Before the Clerk  
File Number 23 E 154**

The Undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Raymond Graves, late of Wake County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 4th day of May 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 2nd day of February, 2023.

Barbara Moring Graves  
Administrator  
1908 Southgate Dr  
Raleigh, NC 27610  
2/2, 2/9, 2/16 and 2/23/2023

## JOHNSTON COUNTY

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
JOHNSTON COUNTY  
**In The General Court Of Justice  
District Court Division  
File Number 22CVD2317  
NOTICE OF SERVICE  
OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**

To: HILARIO BENITEZ MEDRANO Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is for absolute divorce. You

are required to make a defense to such pleading no later than March 7, 2023 said date being at least forty (40) days from the first publication of this Notice, and upon your failure to do so, the Plaintiff, MARIA SERRANO ARENAS, will apply to the court for the relief sought

This, the 26th day of January, 2023.  
Yvonne Armendariz, Esq.  
Armendariz Law Office, PLLC  
6110 Lake Wheeler Road  
Raleigh, NC 27603  
Telephone: (919) 656-1524  
Yvonne@armendarizlaw.com  
1/26, 2/2 and 2/9/2023

## Classifieds



### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The North Carolina Department of Public Safety has the following contract in Franklin County out for bid: C-C11520 ACM Abatement and Demolition. The bid opening is scheduled for: Wednesday, 3/01/2023. To obtain the Notice to Bidders, any Pre-Bid Requirements, and any Addenda visit: <https://www.ips.state.nc.us/ips/AGENCY/PDF/15185200.pdf>



### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The North Carolina Department of Public Safety has the following contract in Davidson County out for bid: C-C11521 ACM Abatement and Demolition. The bid opening is scheduled for: Thursday, 3/02/2023. To obtain the Notice to Bidders, any Pre-Bid Requirements, and any Addenda visit: <https://www.ips.state.nc.us/ips/AGENCY/PDF/15185000.pdf>

### APPLICATIONS FOR RENTAL UNITS

Timber Springs Apartments in Holly Springs is now accepting applications for one and two bedroom units. Units offer stove, refrigerator central heat and AC, washer/dryer connection. Rental assistance may be available for those who qualify. No pets allowed. Application fee is \$30 per adult 18 years and older. Applications are available outside the office at 100 Timber Springs Court. Office hours are Tuesday/Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm. Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider.

# Anti-Black Bias: Black Police Officers Are Not Colorblind

Once again, Americans are left reeling from the horror of video footage showing police brutalizing an unarmed Black man who later died.

Some details in the latest case of extreme police violence were gut-wrenchingly familiar: a police traffic stop of a Black male motorist turned violent. But, for many of us, other details were unfamiliar: The five police officers accused of using everything from pepper spray to a Taser, a police baton and intermittent kicks and punches against the motorist were also Black.

After pulling over 29-year-old Tyre Nichols for what they said was reckless driving, Black officers in the Memphis Police Department's now disbanded SCORPION unit beat Nichols, ultimately to death.

The Conversation asked Rashad Shabazz, a geographer and scholar of African American studies at Arizona State University, to explore the societal conditions in which Black police officers could brutalize another Black man.

What could influence Black police officers to savagely beat a

Black motorist?

Policing in the U.S. has, from its inception, treated Black people as domestic enemies. From the slave patrols, which some historians consider to be among the nation's earliest forms of policing, to the murder of George Floyd, and now the death of Ahmaud Arbury. This is a link deeply woven into American consciousness. And Black people are not immune. In this way, the long-held targeting of Black men by police and widely held negative beliefs about them are a powerful cocktail that can compel even Black officers to stop, detain and brutally beat a man who looks just like them.

American society assumes that Black people are prone to criminality and therefore should be subject to state power in the form of policing or, in some cases, vigilantism – as in the killing of Ahmaud Arbury. This is a link deeply woven into American consciousness. And Black people are not immune. In this way, the long-held targeting of Black men by police and widely held negative beliefs about them are a powerful cocktail that can compel even Black officers to stop, detain and brutally beat a man who looks just like them.

Could their actions have been



motivated by anti-Black bias?

It's hard to investigate the minds of the officers who beat Nichols so savagely and say for sure what motivated them. But there is ample research that suggests anti-Blackness is a factor in American policing. And Black officers, agents of an institutionally racist system, are affected by this. Anti-Blackness affects Black people, too. And this might explain why Black police officers exhibit more anti-Black bias than the Black population as a whole.

To comprehend this, we have to take a step back and think about race. Stuart Hall, a cultural theorist, described race as a sign. When we look at skin color or people as racialized subjects, they signify something to us. Black people, in this society – and in other parts of the world – for many signify danger, threat and criminality. And as a result, institutions like the criminal justice system respond to their perceived threat with profiling, harassment and violence.

Our surprise that five Black po-

lice officers could brutalize another Black man indicates we have an impoverished understanding of race and racism in this country.

What does Tyre Nichols' death mean for calls to diversify policing?

For years, elected officials, activists and citizens have been making calls to reform policing. Many have said bringing more people from ethnically diverse backgrounds onto police forces would go a long way toward correcting institutional racism in the criminal justice system.

The final report of "The President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing," commissioned through an executive order by President Barack Obama, called for law enforcement agencies to "strive to create a workforce that encompasses a broad range of diversity, including race, gender, language, life experience, and cultural background to improve understanding and effectiveness."

One recent study concluded that Black and Hispanic police officers make fewer traffic stops and use force less often than their white

counterparts. But, at the same time, Black and brown police officers live in the same culture that sees Black people as criminals and threats. So simply having more officers of color doesn't do enough to fix the problem.

How does seeing video of another Black man brutalized by police, this time Black officers, affect Black people?

Over the past decade, videos of Black people killed at the hands of police officers have filled social media and news sites. I, for one, cannot watch them because they terrify me and amplify fears for my safety and that of my family and friends. I watched about 30 seconds of the Black police officers pummeling Nichols and couldn't take any more. I know I'm not alone. Studies tell us that police killings of unarmed Black people are psychologically traumatizing events for Black people. This kind of horror should be traumatizing to the nation. But if Black is the sign of danger and criminality, who will have empathy for the Tyre Nichols of the world?

# Black Taxpayers More Than Three Times More Likely To Be Audited By IRS

A new report published Monday found that the IRS audits Black taxpayers at a significantly higher rate than non-Black taxpayers.

The paper, published by Stanford's Institute for Economic Policy Research, said that despite the IRS's "race-blind audit selection," Black taxpayers are audited 2.9 to 4.7 times more often than non-Black taxpayers. However, the research did not suggest that the disparity is a result of one group of people evading taxes more than another but rather that it may be a result of the computer algorithms the IRS uses for selection.

"Using counterfactual audit selection models, we find that maximizing the detection of un-

derreported taxes would not lead to Black taxpayers being audited at higher rates," the paper reads.

The study found that the largest disparity between the groups was among those claiming the earned income tax credit (EITC), which helps low- to moderate-income workers and families get a tax break, according to the IRS.

"Even when such algorithms are formally neutral with respect to protected characteristics like race, there is widespread concern that they can disproportionately burden vulnerable groups," the economists wrote.

Rep. Richard Neal (D-Mass.), ranking member of the House Ways and Means Committee, said it is time for the commit-

tee's Racial Equity Initiative to address "discrimination at the IRS." Neal launched the Racial Equity Initiative in 2021 to address discrimination in healthcare and economic settings.

"For years, Ways and Means Democrats have raised alarms over audit rate disparities between low-income and wealthy taxpayers, and today's findings confirm that stark racial disparities exist as well," he said in a statement responding to the news on Tuesday. "This is unacceptable, but a consequence of algorithmic tools that exacerbate racial biases in our institutions."

The research said that one of the reasons the disparity exists is that it is "more complicated"



to audit those who also report their business income and thus correlates with an increase of audits focused on one demo-

graphic over another.

Black taxpayers make up 21 percent of nonbusiness EITC returns, compared to 11 percent

of business EITC returns, which could help explain why these taxpayers are audited more often than other groups, the report estimated.

Another reason for the disparity may be that the algorithm prioritizes the overclaiming of refundable credits, which may be more prominent in one group over another.

A Treasury spokesperson responded to the study claiming that "equitable enforcement of our tax laws is a top priority of the Administration."

"Resources provided by the Inflation Reduction Act will enable the IRS to upgrade technology and hire top talent to go after wealthy tax evaders," the spokesperson added.

# Only 38% of Americans have a written financial plan\*

62%  
don't have a written  
financial plan



Now there's an easier way to get one started,  
with impressive digital tools from Bank of America.



We get it. Financial planning can feel overwhelming, but it doesn't have to be. With dozens of digital tools, personalized solutions and local experts in the Triangle, Bank of America makes it easier to start this year fresh—and stay on track.

Kari Stoltz  
President, Bank of America Triangle

Go to [bankofamerica.com/thetriangle](https://bankofamerica.com/thetriangle) to learn more



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