



Urban vs. Rural

The Unequal Power Of The American Vote



By Don E. Albrecht

Science Direct

In the 2016 election, Donald Trump won the presidency by securing a much larger share of the rural vote than Mitt Romney had received in 2012. In 2020, Trump dominated the rural vote even more extensively than he had done four years earlier. This time, however, voter turnout increased sharply in urban areas. A significant proportion of these additional urban voters cast their ballot for Democrat Joe Biden. The consequence was an election loss for Trump.

This article explores the role of the rural vote in the 2020 election and makes comparisons to the 2016 election. Additionally, it provides more detailed insights of the five states that were critical for the outcome of the 2020 election. With the Electoral College system of selecting the U.S. president, presidential elections in the U.S. basically consist of 51 individual elections (one for each state and the District of Columbia) where the winner of the popular vote in each state receives all of that state's electoral votes.

Many states are not especially competitive, with Republicans easily winning some states and Democrats easily winning others. Thus, most elections are decided by the vote in a few competitive battleground states.

In 2020, the election was largely determined by voting in Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania,

and Wisconsin. Trump narrowly won all five of these states in 2016 only to lose all of them in 2020 by relatively small margins. If he had won these five states again, he would be a two-term president.

In addition to providing insights about who votes Republican and who votes Democrat, this article also seeks to understand the reasons why.

The U.S. is a deeply divided nation. These divisions are having significant negative implications for everyone. Especially troubling is the increased difficulty in achieving democratic solutions to major issues. Some scholars go so far as to argue that U.S. democracy is in jeopardy. One of the more prominent divisions in our country is between rural and urban areas.

The rural/urban continuum was developed by the Economic Research Service of USDA (United States Department of Agriculture). Continuum scores range from 1 to 9. As continuum scores increase, counties become progressively more rural and isolated. Categories 1-3 are metropolitan, while categories 4-9 are nonmetropolitan. The most populous counties in are the 432 counties in metropolitan areas that have a population of 1 million or more in category 1. A majority of the U.S. population lives in Category 1 counties alone. At the opposite extreme, Category 9 counties are the 408 counties that are completely rural, with the largest community having a population of less than 2,500,

and that are not adjacent to a metro area. Less than 2 percent of the U.S. population lives in Category 8 and 9 counties combined.

Data on both the 2016 and 2020 elections along the rural/urban continuum show that higher voter turnout resulted in both Democrat and Republican candidates receiving more votes in 2020 than in 2016 in every category along the continuum. The number of voters casting their ballot for Trump increased by more than 11 million, while Joe Biden received more than 14 million more votes in 2020 than Hillary Clinton received in 2016. In 2016, Trump lost the popular vote by almost 3 million votes; in 2020, this gap increased and Trump lost the popular vote by over 7 million.

Critically, the difference between the number of rural votes for Trump and the number for his Democrat opponent was even greater in 2020 than in 2016. In 2016, Trump received about 6.3 million more votes than Clinton in rural counties (categories 4-9); in 2020 he received about 7.1 million more votes than Biden in these same counties. Generally, as counties become progressively more rural and isolated, the greater the proportion of votes for Trump. Trump's complete domination of rural America in 2020 was striking. In over one-half of the Category 9 counties, more than 75 percent of the voters supported Trump. In 49 counties (nearly all nonmetro), Trump received over 90 percent of

the vote. In Roberts County, Texas, Trump got 529 votes to Biden's 17; in Borden County, Texas, Trump won 397 to 16; and in Garfield County, Montana, Trump's margin of victory was 764 to 41.

This increased margin of victory for Trump in rural America was not enough to offset the changes that occurred in the cities (categories 1-3). In the three categories of metro counties, Clinton beat Trump by 9.2 million votes in 2016; in 2020, Biden defeated Trump by 14.2 million votes in these counties. The vast majority of this change was in the largest cities in Category 1. By greatly increasing the number of votes he received in metro counties, Biden was able to secure his win.

In the five battleground states of Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin, in 2016, Trump received 382,429 more votes in these five states than Clinton. Winning these five states provided Trump with his electoral victory. In 2016, most of the gap in the number of votes between Trump and Clinton was in Arizona and Georgia, while the other three states were much closer. In fact, in 2016 Trump won the three states of Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin by a total of 77,711 votes. If Clinton would have won these three states, she would have won the presidency.

Between 2016 and 2020, the same rural/urban pattern of change is apparent in these five states as occurred nationally. That is, Trump

increased his margin of victory in rural counties. In 2016, Trump gained 922,088 more votes than Clinton in rural counties in these five states; in 2020, this margin increased to 1,073,626. His deficit, however, in metro counties increased much more extensively (from 539,659 to 1,353,189) which resulted in his loss. Simply stated, Biden's victory in metro counties can be attributed to the tremendous increase in the number of votes he received in the largest cities and their suburbs in the battleground states.

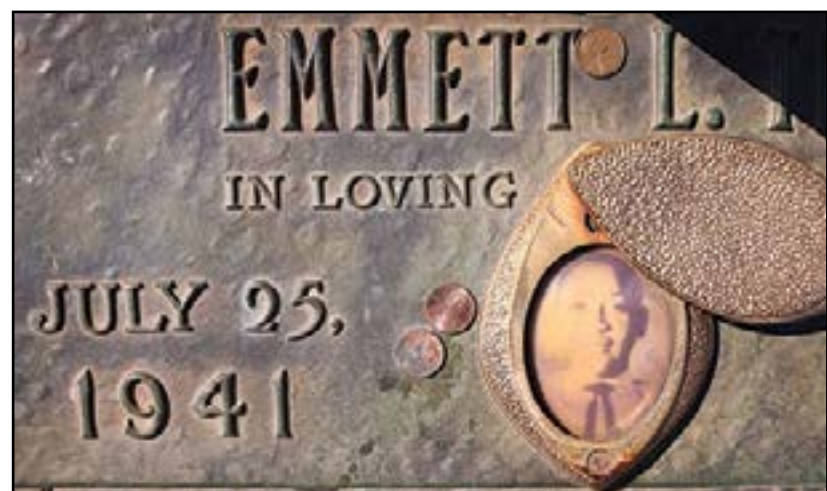
Biden also received a slightly higher percent of the vote in metro counties than Clinton received four years earlier. In effect, Biden's victory in 2020 can be attributed to better performances in Phoenix, Tucson, Atlanta, Detroit, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Milwaukee and Madison and

their suburbs compared to Democrat totals in 2016. In total, Trump lost these five states by a combined 279,563 votes in 2020. It should be noted that a vital deciding factor in voting in critical urban and suburban counties was the female vote. Women were significantly more likely to vote Democrat than their male counterparts.

Despite losing the election, Trump's domination of rural America is significant and needs to be better understood. The level of anger and dissatisfaction in rural America is substantial. The roots of this anger can be traced to rapid economic, demographic and cultural changes that have occurred in recent decades. For many, these changes have resulted in serious economic hardship and have

(See URBAN V RURAL, P. 2)

Monument To Be Built In Honor Of Emmett Till And His Mother



BY AARON MORRISON

As President Joe Biden signed a proclamation on Tuesday establishing a national monument honoring Emmett Till and his mother, Mamie Till-Mobley, it marked the fulfillment of a promise Till's relatives made after his death 68 years ago.

The Black teenager from Chicago, whose abduction, torture and killing in Mississippi in 1955 helped propel the civil rights movement, will be seen as more than just a cause of that movement, said Till's cousin the Rev. Wheeler Parker Jr.

"We are resolute that it now becomes an American story and not just a civil rights story," Parker told The Associated Press, ahead of a proclamation signing ceremony at the White House attended by dozens, including other family members, members of Congress and civil rights leaders.

With the stroke of Biden's pen, the Emmett Till and Mamie Till-Mobley National Monument, located across three sites in two states, became federally protected places. But Till's family members, along with a national organization seeking to preserve Black cultural heritage sites, say their work protecting the Till legacy continues.

They hope to raise money to restore the sites and develop educational programming to support their inclusion in the National Park System.

White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre told reporters Monday that the Till national monument will be the Biden-Harris administration's fourth designation that reflects their "work to advance civil rights." The move comes as conservative leaders, mostly at the state and local levels, push legislation that limits the teaching of slavery and Black history in public schools.

The Democratic president's administration "will continue to speak out against hateful attempts to rewrite our history and strongly oppose any actions that threaten to divide us and take our country backwards," Jean-Pierre said.

RALEIGH— Paul Ross is a local 11-year-old with a global dream. His ambition is to play golf all around the world, and he may well achieve that goal in 2023.

Earlier this year, Ross won several golf tournaments on the US Kids

Greenville NC tour, including the United Arab Emirates just to name a few.

"I am so lucky," Ross said, but luck has little to do with it.

Ross spent his toddler years running in fairways and playing in sand

Australia, Kenya, England and the United Arab Emirates just to name a few.

"I am so lucky," Ross said, but luck has little to do with it.

Ross spent his toddler years running in fairways and playing in sand

traps on the golf course. His family spent their free time in Charlotte, NC hopping from course to course as recreation. His parents fell in love as a direct result of golf, so it is no surprise that he has a strong connection to the sport.

His talent extends beyond just playing the game. Ross has designed and built golf clubs, as well as designed his future golf courses. The challenges go far beyond hitting the golf ball and he loves it.

"It is the best sport in the world. It is also the only game that I know of that really challenges mental toughness. In golf, if you lose or make a mistake, it's all on you. There is no one else to blame," Ross stated.

Ross recently played in a fundraising tournament to help cover travel expenses for him to attend some of the tournaments that he has been invited to play in. The NC State basketball legend, Dereck Whittenburg generously gave his time, name and fame in support of this effort.

The two squared off in a match play event at Lonnie Poole golf course in Raleigh on last Thursday morning. The match was recorded and uploaded to YouTube on the Paul Ross Golf channel, and snippets are on Ross' Instagram @PaulRossGolf.

The event raised just over \$1,000.



Dereck Whittenburg and Paul Ross joke together after their Legends vs Prodigy golf match.

Urban Vs. Rural, The Unequal Power—CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

often challenged cherished beliefs. In this analysis, three sets of variables including economic structure, educational attainment and race/ethnicity are used to help explain rural vs. urban voting patterns.

In recent decades there have been significant declines in the number of jobs in the goods producing industries (manufacturing, construction, agriculture, mining and logging), with corresponding increases in service sector employment. The goods producing industries have traditionally been the primary employer of rural workers. In the past, jobs in these sectors have provided solid middle-class incomes for workers lacking an advanced education. For jobs that remain in the goods producing industries, wages in real dollars have actually declined. The consequence is that on average, residents of rural communities have lower incomes, are more likely to be in poverty, and are the more likely to be unemployed or underemployed than their urban counterparts. Unlike metro communities, rural areas never fully rebounded from the Great Recession of 2008, largely as a consequence of the continued decline of the goods producing jobs on which they were so dependent. For many urban workers, stagnant male wages were offset by increased female employment. While many rural women have entered the workforce, their communities often have few high-quality jobs available for women, and thus families continue to suffer.

Largely as a consequence of these economic structure changes, for four decades incomes of the bottom 90 percent of American workers have remained constant or declined, while the top one percent has become vastly wealthier. Negative impacts resulting from growing inequality have been most extensive for members of the working class who have lower levels of educational attainment. Such people represent a significant proportion of the rural population.

During his 2016 campaign, Trump promised to bring back working class jobs in the goods producing industries by taking a tough stand on immigration, restructuring inter-

national trade agreements to protect American workers, and by eliminating restrictive environmental regulation. This message hit a cord with the working class, especially those living in rural America where people have more likely been directly impacted by recent economic changes. Partly as a consequence, Trump dominated the vote in 2016 in counties dependent on jobs in the goods producing industries, especially in rural areas, to a greater extent than previous Republican presidential candidates.

During the early years of the Trump administration, the nation experienced an extended period of economic growth that had begun at the close of the recession of 2008. Generally, however, this economic prosperity failed to reach much of rural America. This is because job losses continued in most of the goods producing industries. Further, it is becoming increasingly obvious these goods producing jobs are not coming back. Trump's policies were unable to address the primary reason these jobs vanished in the first place. The vast majority of employment loss in the goods producing industries is a result of improved technology where machines replace human labor in the production process. Fewer workers with modern machines can produce much more than a much larger workforce could produce in the past. Despite little evidence of improved economic prosperity for the working class and rural Americans during the Trump presidency, we expected support for Trump to remain strong in 2020 in counties where large portions of the labor force are employed in the goods producing industries, especially in rural areas.

In 1970, well over 80 percent of residents of the United States were non-Hispanic white. In the decades since, increased immigration from Latin America and Asia, along with higher birthrates among people of color have meant rapid decline in the proportion of the population that is non-Hispanic white. By 2020, the proportion of the population that is non-Hispanic white nationwide was less than 60 percent. In five states (Hawaii, New Mexico, California,

Texas and Nevada) the non-Hispanic white population is now a numerical minority. Arizona and Maryland will become majority people of color in the near future, and by about 2043 it is expected that less than one-half of the U.S. population will be non-Hispanic white. People of color are much more prevalent in cities, and the percent of the population that is non-Hispanic white is much higher, on average, in rural areas.

In addition to growing numbers, people of color are increasingly likely to be in positions of power, including a growing number of elected officials. This growing power culminated in the election of Barack Obama as president of the United States in 2008. Despite some progress, it is apparent that people of color in the U.S. continue to face severe economic disadvantage and institutional racism.

Changing demographics have signaled a challenge to white dominance, where many white people feel benefits that they have long enjoyed are endangered. One outcome is a growing sense of commonality and solidarity among white people, with profound political consequences. Reflecting these trends, the political parties have become increasingly different relative to race. Since passage of the Civil Rights Act, Democrat platforms continue to emphasize policies supported by people of color such as affirmative action, fair housing, school integration, higher minimum wages, and the elimination of discrimination in the workplace. As a consequence, people of color have voted heavily Democrat since the 1960s.

With Democrat platforms supportive of people of color, Republicans recognized an opportunity to pull away some white voters who had previously tended to vote Democrat. Beginning with the Nixon campaign of 1968, Republicans implemented a "Southern strategy" that made an appeal to racial conservatism. Direct racism was no longer socially acceptable, so Republicans pursued a policy that Tesler and Sears (2010) defined as "symbolic racism." Symbolic racism maintains that people of color no longer face discrimination and their continued disadvantages

are due to a poor work ethic and failure to embrace American values. In addition, it is argued that government aid programs result in entitlement that only reinforces this poor work ethic (Murray 1984). At the

same time, poor whites are told by Republicans that their circumstances are made worse because so many resources are diverted to programs that benefit undeserving people of color.

To a large extent, Republican plans have worked. The Republican Party now has strong support from the white working class. Subsequently, race/ethnicity has become an important predictor of voting behavior.

Florida A&M Lifts Suspension On Football Program After Video



By Tyler Greenawalt

Ylspports

Florida A&M briefly suspended its football program after a professional rap video was allegedly filmed in the team's locker room without authorization by the university.

FAMU coach Willie Simmons announced that they were suspending all football activities and shutting down access to its facilities. A team meeting was scheduled for Monday, which is when athletic director Tiffani-Dawn Sykes said the team would be allowed to resume activities, per ESPN.

Simmons said the school is investigating allegations that a "prominent rapper" used Florida A&M property and licensed apparel with the university's branding during the

video, which also contained "graphic language that is not consistent with Florida A&M's core values, principles and beliefs." The investigation will also determine who allowed the rapper onto campus.

While not named in Simmons' statement, the rapper is believed to be Jalen Foster, a Tallahassee, Florida, native who goes by Real Boston Richey. Florida A&M's campus is also in Tallahassee. Foster released a music video for his song, "Send A Blitz" on Friday afternoon, hours before Florida A&M suspended team activities. The video includes scenes from Florida A&M's locker room as well as school-branded apparel and equipment. He wrote on Instagram that the video was filmed in less than a day.

Simmons, who has been FAMU's coach since 2018, did not offer

a timetable for when the team would resume football activities in his statement. Media day for the Southwestern Athletic Conference is scheduled for Tuesday, while players are expected to report to training camp Aug. 2 and the Rattlers open the season Sept. 3 against Jackson State.

This is the second consecutive year that the start of Florida A&M's season has begun with controversy. More than 20 players were academically ineligible to play in the Rattlers' 2022 season opener against North Carolina. The team was originally going to forfeit the game but Florida A&M decided to play and lost 56-24. The Rattlers went on to finish the season with a 9-2 record and lost just one game to an FCS opponent.

Steve Worthy Photo

Innovation Mobile Lab Brings STEM To Students In Rural Areas Of N.C

Passionate about inspiring the next generation of scientists, Novozymes is helping to support United Way as they take science on the road this summer with the Innovation Mobile Lab. Started in June 2022 through a partnership between Novozymes and United Way, the Mobile Lab educates and inspires students, teachers, and our communities through STEM education.

Students conduct age-appropriate experiments in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) using real-world scientific methods. These engaging activities give the students exposure to chemistry, plant and animal biology, electrical engineering, coding, computer science and more.

Throughout the programs, the students additionally get to experience working in a laboratory environment, where they learn how to safely use equipment such as microscopes, pipettes, beakers, and chemicals, as well as robotic equipment, circuits, and virtual reality (VR) systems.

"We're inspiring students and adults by exposing them to STEM opportunities and introducing them to new, potential STEM careers" stated Andrea Bell Wright, executive director of United Way of Franklin County.

Examples of the experiments available include examining ferrofluid and magnetic fields, exploring mass and density, engineering a variety of structures, growing bacteria in petri dishes, simulating earthquakes, and building and testing boats, just to name a few.

Childhood is a critical period of growth and development; a child's experiences can have long-term impacts. Risk factors such as poverty, lack of public transportation, food insecurity, and incidences of neglect are social determinants of health and education across rural America. For many school-aged children in Franklin County, the Innovation Mobile Lab represents an opportunity for a better future.

"At Novozymes, one of our goals is to help the students of North Carolina thrive and access effective STEM education opportunities. By inspiring the next generation of biosolutions experts, we're supporting workforce development and our local economy," said Darren Alfano, head of People and Organization for Novozymes Americas. United Way and Novozymes believe in the importance of teamwork to drive transformational change and significantly impact society. Initiatives like the Innovation Mobile Lab are part of an effort to promote the wellness of our children and community, and provide enriching, motivational experiences.



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Compassion.

To some, it's just a word. To us, it's who we are, what we do and how we do it.

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Business & Finance

Effects Of NAFTA & Other Approaches To Trade On Black Communities

By Daniella Zessoules

CAP



Black men and women have been particularly hurt by declines in manufacturing jobs resulting from trade. In many traditional manufacturing industries—ones that have been historically dominated by men—Black men increasingly were able to participate in high-paying jobs during the early and mid-20th century. Thus, when globalization took many of these jobs overseas, Black men were hit especially hard. Compared with their share in the labor force, Black workers are more likely than their white counterparts to be displaced due to trade. When the scope and pace are reasonable, job losses from trade can be made up through other economic policies—but this has not been the case in all regions and communities. Moreover, a serious and lasting consequence of the growth in international trade has been a decline in the manufacturing wage premium enjoyed by U.S. workers.

In addition to other structural labor market factors, including automation and technological change, trade with China also affected Black workers. Although the share of Black workers displaced by China trade is slightly less than the overall average share of Black workers in the labor force, the jobs from which they were displaced were good ones. In addition to the wage premium, the manufacturing sector has historically been a stronghold for union organizing, with disproportionately higher unionization rates than in private, nonmanufacturing jobs. Black union workers have higher wages and better access to health and retirement benefits than their non-union peers. Furthermore, manufacturing provided more jobs for high school-educated workers than did other sectors of the economy, making jobs in this industry some of the best available for Black and Hispanic workers who, on average, have lower levels of educational attainment and wages than their white counterparts.

The decline in U.S. manufacturing employment—particularly since China's accession to the World

Trade Organization in 2000 and the subsequent influx of low-cost Chinese goods and outflow of some manufacturing jobs—has hit communities across the United States hard. Additionally, although manufacturing as a whole is disproportionately white, this is not the case for all geographic regions. Some areas with disproportionately high Black populations—including northern Mississippi, western Tennessee, central regions of Virginia, and cities such as Gary, Indiana, and Youngstown, Ohio—have suffered from job displacement due to what economist David Autor has dubbed “China shock.” This term refers to a profound shift in trade patterns across the world and its demonstrated effects on local labor markets, particularly where industries exposed to foreign competition are concentrated.

Cities such as Detroit have been especially hurt by the auto industry's decline, and the city's economic pains were intensified by the Great Recession. A 2015 study by Reynolds Farley of the University of Michigan looked at Detroit's history of racial conflict in the context of the Black middle class and the importance of the manufacturing sector. In the mid-20th century, manufacturing secured key good

jobs that sustained a financially secure Black middle class in Detroit. By 1950, the city's Black community was the most prosperous in the nation, as measured by earnings and family income.

Though manufacturing employment in Detroit plummeted across all races during the latter half of the 20th century, the Black middle class was more dependent on manufacturing jobs than the white middle class. Slightly less than one-third of all Black employed individuals worked for manufacturers—a rate about double that of white workers—making the disappearance of these jobs particularly devastating to this group.

The study found that from 1970 through 2013, the number of Black manufacturing, transportation, utilities, and construction workers employed in the city fell by nearly half, from 102,000 to 53,000 Black men. Furthermore, the study found that these workers' average earnings fell by almost \$7,000 during the same time period. Ultimately, these labor market shifts, including the dramatic fall in manufacturing in Detroit—a sector that largely supported the Black middle class—played a role in Detroit's bankruptcy and the fate of the city.

Automation and technological

change have also had a steady, negative effect on manufacturing employment in the United States since the late 1970s. Over the past several decades, process improvements and automation have transformed workplaces and contributed to a decline in the share of manufacturing employees in the United States. Technology—including computers and the internet—has become more prevalent and less costly across the United States, increasing the productivity of each manufacturing worker and therefore allowing manufacturing firms to produce larger quantities of goods with fewer, more productive workers. Though access to technology can make some workers more valuable, others are left less well off; for example, ATMs have replaced tellers, and computers and voicemail have replaced many secretaries.

Moreover, globalization and the inadequate global rules of trade further intensified this decline in manufacturing jobs, resultantly putting additional negative employment and wage pressures on workers—pressures that have been compounded by the existing systemic inequities that disadvantage Black workers in the U.S. labor market.

According to a 2018 study looking at the impact of manufacturing

employment on Black and white Americans from 1960 through 2010, the decline in manufacturing contributed to a 12 percent overall increase in the racial wage gap for men, as well as increases in other socio-economic gaps in the Black community. Because the manufacturing sector provided high-paying jobs to less-educated men, and given that Black Americans generally had lower levels of educational attainment than their white counterparts, the Black population stood to gain more from manufacturing jobs. Thus, the decline in U.S. manufacturing had a disproportionately negative effect on Black workers. The study concluded that despite the legislative successes of the civil rights movement in the 1960s and steady improvement in the educational outcomes of Black students, racial wage and employment gaps have not improved and, in many cases, have widened. Other research has emphasized this point, finding that increased import competition with Japan played a sizable role in the economic hardships experienced by Black communities in the 1970s and 1980s. The increase in import exposure decreased manufacturing employment, increased labor force nonparticipation, and decreased median household earnings for Black men, stalling economic progress for Black communities during this time period.

Another recent analysis from the Institute of Labor Economics examined the effects of this decline in manufacturing employment, identifying “a significant deterioration in socio-economic outcomes for whites and Blacks, higher inequality within each group, and larger racial gaps.” Black workers have also faced a consistent and widening wage gap within the manufacturing sector; in fact, from 1979 through 2015, the difference between wages of Black and white workers within the industry increased by more than 3 percent. All the while, policies that have proven to help shrink this systematic divide have been under steady attack.

The decline of unionization is a complex story. For far too long, Black workers were systematically excluded from jobs and industries

that often coincided with unionization and higher wages. At its passage, the National Labor Relations Act of 1935, or the Wagner Act, initially excluded agricultural and domestic workers—who were and are predominantly people of color—and did not include language prohibiting unions from discriminating based on race. Consequently, what should have been a golden ticket to economic opportunity—a union job in a manufacturing community—slipped out of reach for many workers of color.

As Black workers moved to the industrializing North during the early to mid-20th century, they fought to integrate the unionized manufacturing industry. During World War II, the Roosevelt administration bolstered these efforts by requiring defense contractors to prevent racial discrimination and to respect workers' bargaining rights. In addition, in 1944, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a landmark ruling that required unions to represent all workers on the job without racial discrimination. As a result, empirical evidence shows that the advantage in union membership that white households held in the 1940s began to disappear during the war period.

Today, Black workers are more likely than workers of other races to be unionized—a characteristic that typically leads to better wages—and Black workers in unions receive higher wages and better benefits than Black workers who are not in unions. It is also true that Black union workers today are more likely to be older, female, more educated, and working in the public sector than they were in the early 1980s. Yet, unionization rates among Black workers have fallen dramatically due to a changing U.S. economy and efforts by conservative and corporate interest groups to weaken organized labor over the past several decades. In 1983, 31.7 percent of Black workers were represented by a union, compared with just 13.8 percent of Black workers in 2018. This decline in unionization goes hand in hand with a decreasing share of income going to the middle class, putting even more pressure on groups who have historically lagged behind.

Ag-Grow-Culture

NC's Second Planting Season Is Days Away And Brings Potential For New Crops In Ways Not Thought Of In Ages

By Jason Lindsay

Staff Writer

People have spring fever every year as our environment morphs from frozen ground to budding trees. With an overwhelming urge to get outside and plant something, local nurseries, and hardware stores are bombarded with antsy customers, all anxious to beautify their spaces by planting their own herb and vegetable gardens or advancing the landscape with flowering bushes and perennials. And then summer hits the South. The heat is dangerously high by midday, and “the weeds.” The weeds are just out of control; for many folks, this is when we give up or just give in. The results are the same, the fever has subsided, and the response of many is “better luck next year.” Well, the truth is you don't have to.

There is a gift granted to the southeastern region of the United States. One that awards us two growing seasons in the summer. Though this “second growing season” does not get the attention of “spring fever,” it holds a potency with the potential to beautify our living spaces further, elongate the harvesting capacity of our backyard gardens, or extend the farm's ability to generate revenue throughout the warm season straight into the winter.

For most small farmers and avid gardeners, this is common knowledge. The knowledge that has allowed winter collard to be sat and grown to size awaiting the first frost. There is wisdom shared amongst flower farmers who first witnessed the seeds of unharvested blooms populate the ground around them. So, from late July to early November, they aligned themselves, using late summer as the final planting season of the year for next year's blossoms.

Yet, there is an unpopular secret held within modern landscaping and bouquets. Let us think back. Global warming is not that there is too much CO2 (carbon dioxide), but the carbon is in the atmosphere and not in our soils, where

it can be stored and used for the benefit of life on the planet. This secret is somewhat similar. Many of the very plants we marvel over are essentially our intuitive attraction to our own healing, yet are marketed to us as perishable trophies, packaged to be gazed upon in awe and not ingested in any form.

Our bodies are as organic as the organic environment around us. Nature holds to the ability to feed, manage its own shelter, and heal itself. With us acknowledging our divine connection with nature as a part of it, the ability to eat, have sufficient housing, and heal our bodies when we are sick is also our divine inheritance which nature also provides.

Even in Western society's naturalist slumber, medicinal plants have a conscience attraction; they're just referenced as “beautiful flowers.” The amazing part is that these aren't just any plants but species that found themselves on the list of indigenous healing plants rooted in ancient remedies. This is where I give my disclaimer: I am not a doctor, and I'm not prescribing anyone the medicinal plants that will be listed in this article. I advise you to consult with a medical professional (this knowledge is largely held by naturopathic medicine/healers) before taking anything.

These first two plants have legacies that span into antiquity. Like many ancient medicine and even pharmaceutical drugs, improper usage can be enough to kill:

Delphinium – has become famous in the cut flower community for its stunning stretched-out beauty vase vitality. Delphinium is also commonly used in modern landscaping, usually planted alongside walls or bushes, protecting the tall stocks during storms. Although delphinium has a short life span, most varieties self-seed, succession planting itself year after year.

On the flip side, delphinium has been used to treat intestinal worms, cure poor appetite, aid with fluid retention, and cater to

troubled sleepers. Delphinium is attributed to the same anti-bacterial, analgesic, anti-cancer, and antipyretic influences in Tibetan herbal medicine.

Colchicum – is still used among naturopaths today, being one of the oldest natural medicines known to the modern world. Colchicum, autumn crocus, or meadow saffron, is popular worldwide, though its North American variety is called “Spring Beauty.”

The seed, bulb, leaves, and flowers are used for medicine. Treating RA (rheumatoid arthritis), gout, joint pain, headache, gastritis, constipation, and palpitations is just the start. Colchicum is so concentrated that it can be dried and ground to a powder that can remove ant piles.

Amongst the unknowns of landscaping and cut flower varieties, late summer is the planting time for the fall garden. Specialty crops like that of the brassica family: kale, cabbage, collards, mustard greens, Chinese cabbage, kohlrabi, turnip, and bok choy are gearing up for the optimal time to be seeded for the fall. Lettuce, spinach, rutabaga, radishes, and even cucumber and squash can be planted now by transplant or seed, and your veggie garden may feed the family straight through the new year.

Education is a fundamental aspect of liberation. As a nation, the United States has made its landscape masculine to force its people into grocery stores patronizing industrial farming, a primary source of America's diseased state. Yet despite the turn away from nature, people have sought its beauty, and subconsciously, our healing is beautiful to us. So, even though we are no longer commonly educated on the healing principle of the world around us, we select these species that hold the potential to serve us the most. The healing we all seek on one level or the other is speckled within the landscape of our natural world; it is our responsibility to unravel miseducation and take advantage of the healing all around us.



USDA Awards \$33M For Ag Research At Certain HBCUs

UPI -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced Monday it is awarding \$33 million to more than a dozen historically Black universities to expand their teaching, research and extension capacities.

The funding will support 82 agricultural research projects at the 19 universities throughout the United States designated at 1890 Land-Grant institutions, according to Agriculture Deputy Secretary Xochitl Torres Small.

“The work these universities will take on as a result of this funding have ripple effects far beyond the walls of their laboratories and classrooms,” he said in a statement.

“Through this investment, the Biden-Harris administration is helping deliver real-life, applicable solutions to make our food system stronger, while at the same time inspiring a next generation of students and scientists who will help us meet tomorrow's agricultural challenges.”

The money is being provided by the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, whose leaders say they view the group of historically Black universities as “uniquely positioned to advance fundamental sciences as well as translational research and development in support of agriculture.”

NIFA Director Manjit Misra praised the research already underway at the schools as “visionary projects” aimed at improving the supply of “affordable, safe, nutritious and accessible foods” and generating prosperity for small and mid-sized family farms in rural America.

The 1890 Land-Grant universities receiving the funding include Alabama A&M, Alcorn State, Central State, Delaware State, Florida A&M, Fort Valley State, Kentucky State, Langston University, Lincoln University of Missouri, North Carolina A&T, Prairie View A&M, South Carolina State, Southern University and

A&M, Tennessee State, Tuskegee University, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Virginia State and West Virginia State.

Projects such as Virginia State's efforts to develop new, sustainable types of forage to support the growing number of goat and sheep farms in south Atlantic states and Fort Valley State's research into creating new blends of vegetable cooking oils were singled out as examples for financial backing.

Such research seeks to help small U.S. farmers tap into and increase profits from changing food preferences across the country, NIFA says.

The Land-Grant schools were established under the Second Morrill Act of 1890 after it became apparent that many of the public institutions created to teach agriculture and mechanical arts under the original Morrill Land Grant Act of 1862 were largely segregated.

BofA Hit With \$250M In Fines, Refunds For 'Double-Dipping' Fees, Fake Accounts

Bank of America must reimburse customers more than \$100 million and pay \$150 million in fines for "double-dipping" on overdraft fees, withholding reward bonuses on credit cards and opening accounts without customer consent.

It is one of the highest financial penalties in years against Bank of America, which has largely spent the last 15 years trying to clean up its reputation and market itself to the public as a bank focused on financial health and not on overdraft fee income.

Bank of America had a policy of charging customers \$35 after the bank declined a transaction because the customer did not have

enough funds in their account, the CFPB said. The agency determined that the bank double-dipped by allowing fees to be repeatedly charged for the same transaction.

BofA has been cutting down on its reliance on overdraft fee revenue for more than a decade, and cut how much it charges customers for an overdraft to \$15 last year. Brian Moynihan, the bank's CEO and chairman, told The Associated Press in 2022 that under these new policies, overdraft fee income was down 90% from 2021. The bank said that it voluntarily reduced overdraft fees and elimi-

nated all non-sufficient fund fees in the first half of last year.

Bank of America also offered people cash rewards and bonus points when signing up for a card, but the CFPB said the bank illegally withheld promised credit card account bonuses.

The CFPB also found that, since at least 2012, Bank of America employees illegally applied for and enrolled consumers in credit card accounts without their knowledge or authorization. It is a similar charge that was made against Wells Fargo, which paid billions in fines after it was determined that

the San Francisco bank opened millions of unauthorized bank accounts in order to meet unrealistic sales goals.

In 2014 the CFPB ordered Bank of America to pay \$727 million for illegal credit card practices. Last year it was ordered to pay a \$10 million civil penalty over unlawful garnishments. Also in 2022, the CFPB and OCC fined Bank of America \$225 million and required it to pay hundreds of millions of dollars in redress to consumers for botched disbursement of state unemployment benefits at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.



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Health & Wellness

Have You Ever Wondered What “Natural Flavors” Means?

By Rodney Ross

Special To The Carolinian



A one-pound pack of ground beef that is grass fed and 95% lean is approximately \$8.49 per pound at Food Lion for MVP members. Plant based Beyond Meat is less than half the cost at \$3.99 for twelve ounces and rounds up to \$5.32 per pound if the remaining 4 ounces were added to the packaged product. Therefore it is less expensive to eat the alternative meat.

A big draw to using the plant based meat is the growing population of Americans who have switched to a vegan lifestyle. Being vegan should not be confused with being a vegetarian. The stark difference between the two is that vegans do not eat anything that comes from an animal. This includes dairy, and the fats and oils often found in foods in the form of mono and diglycerides, as well as glycerin. Although these ingredients can in fact be plant based or synthetic, packaging can be ambiguous about which version of its form is being used in many products.

The labeling on meat substitutes like the Beyond Meat brand can add further confusion to people seeking an alternative to meat.

Labeling stating that a product is 100 percent plant based protein does not mean it is 100 percent plant based. It simply implies that the portion of the packaging that represents the nutritional value of protein is plant based. But what about the ingredients that do not contribute to nutrition?

To bring this into scope, Beyond Meat states on their website that their products are certified as Kosher and Halal, which means that

it is acceptable for Jews (Kosher) and Muslims (Halal) to eat. According to the Muslim faith, what makes a food halal is that it is not explicitly forbidden in the Qur'an or earmarked by some narration of the prophet Muhammad. The most obvious and familiar meat that is prohibited to eat is pork, but the faith also forbids eating meat that has been found dead already, as well as meat that has not been slaughtered in the name of God. But we are talking about planted based food that is supposed to be void of animal fillers, so why would it need to be certified Kosher or Halal?

The answer to this question represents a quintessential hard line in the sand as to whether people who wish to observe a vegan life-

style can eat this product. A casual glance at the ingredients will not immediately expose the potential deviation. Nothing flat out says meat. However, the ambiguity is introduced in the ingredient Natural Flavor.

According to the United States government regulated Food and Drug Administration, “the term

natural flavor or natural flavoring means the essential oil, oleoresin, essence or extractive, protein hydrolysate, distillate, or any product of roasting, heating or enzymolysis, which contains the flavoring constituents derived from a spice, fruit or fruit juice, vegetable or vegetable juice, edible yeast, herb, bark, bud, root, leaf or

similar plant material, meat, seafood, poultry, eggs, dairy products, or fermentation products thereof, whose significant function in food is flavoring rather than nutritional.”

This implies that the way artificial meat gets its meat flavor, is by some manner of extraction from an animal. This could be why the label is careful not to misrepresent themselves as 100 percent plant based and annexes the comment by adding protein to that statement. The FDA’s classification of Natural Flavor allows companies to function in a space where the common perception of what is, does not have to match the reality of what it really is. Selective wording in the packaging exempts them from liability. The fault lays on the consumer for not taking the time to exercise due diligence in vetting the source of the ingredients.

This raises the question, if a company is not going to be transparent about what kinds of ingredients are actually in the product, why bother labeling it? Many people who read the ingredients are not as invested in the realm of flavor chemistry. There are an estimated 500 flavorist worldwide and you can only become a flavorist, or flavor chemist upon completion of graduate school. Afterwards,

you are required to participate in a mandatory seven year apprenticeship before becoming eligible to be certified by the Society of Flavor Chemists. This is why the most obvious ingredient like natural flavor masks what is hidden in plain sight.

If you have no intentions in being a strict vegan, this is of no consequence to you. For a product that is marketed as non-GMO, organic, and no hormones or antibiotics used, it checks all the boxes as safe and preferential. Take one more step beyond the marketing and understand that plants do not use hormones or antibodies beyond fertilizer. Just keep in mind that this does not mean that hormones or antibodies were not used on the chicken or cow used to create the natural flavor used to simulate the taste of meat.

As of the time of writing this article, the Beyond Meat company headquartered in 888 N. Douglas Street, Suite 100 El Segundo, CA 90245 has not responded to The Carolinian Newspaper’s inquiry regarding an explanation of the origin of their Natural Flavor Ingredients and the potential misconception of how their packaging is labeled. To read the FDA’s documentation on Natural and Artificial Flavors visit www.caro.news/FDA-Natural-Flavor.

Second Alzheimer’s Drug In The Pipeline

WASHINGTON (AP) — Another experimental Alzheimer’s drug can modestly slow patients’ inevitable worsening — by about four to seven months, researchers reported Monday.

Eli Lilly and Co. is seeking Food and Drug Administration approval of donanemab. If cleared, it would be only the second Alzheimer’s treatment convincingly shown to delay the mind-robbing disease — after the recently approved Leqembi from Japanese drugmaker Eisai.

“Finally there’s some hope, right, that we can talk about,” Lilly’s Dr. John Sims told reporters Monday at the Alzheimer’s Association International Conference in Amsterdam.

“We don’t cure the disease,” he said. “Diabetes doesn’t have a cure either — it doesn’t mean you can’t have very meaningful treatments for patients.”

Lilly announced in May that Donanemab appeared to work, but on Monday the full results of a study of 1,700 patients was published by the Journal of the American Medical Association and presented at the Alzheimer’s conference.

Both donanemab and Leqembi are lab-made antibodies, administered by IV, that target one Alzheimer’s culprit, sticky amyloid buildup in the brain. And both drugs come with a serious safety concern — brain swelling or bleeding that in the Lilly study was linked to three deaths.

Scientists say while these drugs may mark a new era in Alzheimer’s therapy, huge questions remain about which patients should try them and how much benefit they’ll really notice.

“The modest benefits would likely not be questioned by patients, clinicians or payers if amyloid antibodies were low risk, inexpensive and simple to administer. However, they are none of these,” Dr. Eric Widera of the University of California, San Francisco, wrote in a JAMA editorial accompanying Lilly’s new data.

Lilly’s study enrolled people ages 60 to 85 who were in early stages of Alzheimer’s. Half received once-a-month infusions of donanemab and half dummy infusions for 18 months.

King Crossword

ACROSS

1	Satan's purchase
5	Crest protector
8	Skull type
12	Old U.S. gas brand
13	Piercing tool
14	Hindu royal
15	Pub potatoes
16	King, in Carnes
17	Choir voice
18	New
20	Pal of Pooh
22	Stephen of "Still Crazy"
23	Hobbyist's abbr.
24	Mineral-hardness scale name

27	Tot's train	6	— Jima	36	Half the weekend
32	Rock's Brian	7	Radar dot	37	Chemical suffix
33	Science room	8	Dre	38	Groove
34	Klutz	9	Hype	41	Kansas City's sl.
35	Folks from Indiana	10	Pot' starter	42	Quotable Berra
38	Garrison	11	Laugh-a-minute	43	Opposite of "sane"
39	Flop	19	Concerning	44	Bubblyhead
40	Ostrich's skin	21	Altar vow	46	O'Hara estate
42	Exhibited ennu	24	"I'm not impressed"	48	Fedora fabric
45	In a way	25	Music's Yoko	51	Victory sign
49	Metamorphoses poet	26	Snooker		
50	Hosp. hook-ups	28	Guffaw syllable		
52	Carry on	29	Fanatical		
		30	Rowing meet		
		31	Frequently		

DOWN

1	Line of fashion?
2	Capita on a lord
3	Secondhand
4	Also-rans
5	Cringing crustacean

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Miss Kamryn Oliver
 MAID-OF-HONOR

Assistant Marshal: Mr. Jeremiah Baity-Sanders



Miss Kristen Carter
 MAID-OF-HONOR

Assistant Marshal: Mr. Jasiyah Msomi



Miss Kayla Stackhouse
 2022 Debutante

Assistant Marshal: Mr. Korey Lindsay



Miss Gabrielle Hostler
 2022 Debutante

Assistant Marshal: Mr. Ian Rembert



Miss Taylor Atkinson
 2022 Debutante

Assistant Marshal: Mr. Greyson Dobbin

Raleigh, NC---ATO, Inc. sponsors the Annual Debutante Program and Ball in collaboration with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Alpha Theta Omega Chapter. For over eight (8) decades, the Debutante Program has served to provide personal and educational development and to offer awards and scholarship opportunities to eligible young ladies who are high school seniors. Young men who are high school seniors and serve as Assistant Marshals for the Debutantes are also eligible to apply for scholarships and awards.

On April 25, 2022, scholarships totaling \$5,000.00 were presented to eligible program participants of the 2022 Debutante Program as follows:

2022 BOOK SCHOLARSHIPS: Miss Taylor Atkinson, Miss Zaila Brinson, Miss Kristen Carter, Miss Kayla Stackhouse and Miss Amyah Trice.

2022 EDUCATION EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIPS: Miss Taylor Atkinson, Miss Zaila Brinson, Miss Kristen Carter, Miss Kayla Stackhouse and Miss Amyah Trice.

2022 PHILLIS STRONG TAYLOR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: Miss Kristen Carter.

The 2022 Debutante Ball and Program

The 2022 Debutante Program began in July 2022 and culminated with the Annual Debutante Ball in December 2022. The event was a formal affair held at the Wake Chapel Church Life Enrichment Center consisting of the Debutante Presentation, plated dinner, awards ceremony, and dancing.

Followed by the introduction of the Debutante parents and Assistant Marshals, Miss Zaila Brinson was crowned Queen of the 85th Annual Debutante Ball by Miss MacKenzie Telfaire, Queen of the 84th Annual Debutante Ball. Miss Kristen Carter and Miss Kamryn Oliver served as the Maids-of-Honor. Each young lady wore a beautiful white gown and carried red roses as she curtsied on stage during her introduction. The young ladies were assisted from the stage by the Chief Marshals. Assistant Marshals escorted the young ladies to their Figure position.

Mr. Eric Curry served as Master of ceremonies. Mr. Curry has provided this service for the Annual Debutante Ball for over 25 years. The official welcome to society speaker for the 85th Annual Debutante Ball was the Honorable Judge David C. Baker. With inspiring words, Judge Baker encouraged the Ball Debutantes and Assistant Marshals to always give their "best."

As with tradition, the welcome address was followed by the Grand March, Ribbon Ceremony, Waltz of the Debutantes and Chief Marshals, Waltz and Cha-Cha-Cha of the Debutantes and Assistant Marshals, Waltz of the Debutante Parents, and Line Dance of the Debutantes and Assistant Marshals. The dancing was choreographed by Ms. Nikki Dublin and the music was provided by DJ Glen Taylor. Photography services were provided by Mr. Jerry Head, Jr.

The following awards were presented at the Ball:

2022 AWARD WINNERS

Education Excellence: Miss Kayla Stackhouse – 1st Place; Miss Taylor Atkinson – 2nd Place; Miss Zaila Brinson – 3rd Place

Attendance: Miss Taylor Atkinson, Miss Zaila Brinson, Miss Kristen Carter, Mr. Jasiyah Msombi



Miss Amyah Trice
 2022 Debutante

Assistant Marshal: Mr. Jamir Haynes



Miss Jayden Joyner
 2022 Debutante

Assistant Marshal: Mr. Dawson Mack

Community

AKA DEBUTANTE

Continued from page 6

Community Service: Miss Kristen Carter – 1st Place; Miss Taylor Atkinson – 2nd Place; Miss Zaila Brinson – 3rd Place

Assistant Marshal of the Year: Mr. Jasiyah Msombi

The Debutantes of the 85th Annual Debutante Ball

Miss Taylor Nicole Atkinson is a 2023 graduate of Smithfield Selma High School. She is the daughter of Ms. Sherelle Stroman and Mr. Ty LaCray Atkinson of Smithfield, North Carolina. Chief Marshal: Mr. Ty LaCray Atkinson; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Greyson Makari Dobbin.

Miss Zaila Zari Brinson is a 2023 graduate of Northwood High School. She is the daughter of Drs. Jesse Brinson, Jr. and Ramona Denby-Brinson of Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Chief Marshal: Dr. Jesse Brinson, Jr.; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Chandler Karlyle Telfaire.

Miss Kristen Marette Carter is a 2023 graduate of Broughton High School. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Christopher and Samantha Carter of Knightdale, North Carolina. Chief Marshal: Mr. Christopher Carter; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Jasiyah Simphiwe Msombi.

Miss Gabrielle Nicole Hostler is a 2023 graduate of Millbrook High School. She is the daughter of Mr. Bobby E. Hostler and Ms. Monika Johnson-Hostler of Raleigh, North Carolina. Chief Marshal: Mr. Bobby E. Hostler; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Ian Lee Rembert.

Miss Jayden Ta’Nia Joyner is a 2023 graduate of Heritage High School. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kobie, Sr. and Tarsha Joyner of Wake Forest, North Carolina. Chief Marshal: Mr. Kobie Joyner, Sr.; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Dawson Xavier Bryant Mack.

Miss Kamryn Morgan Oliver is a 2023 graduate of Garner Magnet High School. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eric Oliver of Raleigh, North Carolina. Chief Marshal: Mr. Eric Oliver; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Jeremiah Jaden Baity-Sanders.

Miss Kayla Desiree Stackhouse is a 2023 graduate of Knightdale High School. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley and Allison Anthony of Knightdale, North Carolina. Chief Marshal: Mr. Wesley Anthony; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Korey Angelo Evans Lindsay.

Miss Amyah Branae Trice is a graduate of Southeast Raleigh Magnet High School. She is the daughter of Ms. Krystal Trice and Mr. Bobby L. Brown, Jr. of Garner, North Carolina. Chief Marshal: Mr. Jermaine Chavis; Assistant Marshal: Mr. Jamir Prince Haynes.

The Debutante Program is also designed to develop leadership skills, encourage unity, and promote community service and academic excellence in young women through coaching and life skills training. The process offers a wide range of social, personal, career and educational enrichment opportunities. Activities consist of workshops, community service, etiquette training and more. Assistant Marshals are also invited to participate in the workshops and activities of the program. The program assists these young women and men in becoming individuals who will go into society and make a difference.

During the 2022 Debutante season Mrs. Gayla Smith served as ATO, Inc. Chairman and Mrs. Gladys Walker served as President of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Alpha Theta Omega Chapter. Mrs. Sarah Harris and Mrs. Garlinda Taylor were Debutante Program Co-Chairmen. For other information about the Debutante Program and to view Debutante Ball videos and souvenir books you may visit the Debutante Program on the ATO, Inc. website at www.ato-inc.org. For the 2022 Debutante Souvenir Book, use **Authorization Code: Deb2022**. Inquiries about the upcoming 2023 Debutante Program can be made at Debprogram@gmail.com.

Local Student Becomes An Ambassador

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Jalen Keith-Pittman of Rolesville, North Carolina, is among 22 young people from around the country named National Youth and Young Adult Ambassadors by the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids for demonstrating leadership in fighting tobacco use in their communities. These young leaders gathered in Washington, D.C., last week for Tobacco-Free Kids’ annual Youth Advocacy Symposium, a four-day training session focused on building advocacy, communications and leadership skills.

The Youth and Young Adult Ambassadors will work with the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids to raise awareness about the dangers of tobacco products and advocate for effective policies to reduce youth tobacco use. While in Washington, D.C., these young leaders met with Members of Congress to advocate for ending the sale of all flavored tobacco products, which the tobacco industry uses to hook young people to a lifetime of addiction.

Jalen, 17, has a passion for advocacy and is committed to fighting against Big Tobacco and their deceitful marketing tactics.

“We are thrilled to welcome this new class of Youth and Young Adult Ambassadors, whose passion, tenacity and leadership will help us create the first tobacco-free generation,” said Yolonda C. Richardson, President and CEO of the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. “Young people are critical voices in the fight against tobacco because they speak from experience about

how they are targeted by the tobacco industry. Policy makers should listen and support strong policies to protect kids, including ending the sale of all flavored tobacco products.”

While the United States has made great progress in reducing youth smoking, the latest government survey shows that 3.08 million U.S. middle and high school students used tobacco products in 2022, including over 2.5 million who used e-cigarettes. Research shows that 81% of kids who have used a tobacco product started with a flavored product.

To protect kids and save lives, health advocates are calling on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to finalize proposed rules to prohibit menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars. The FDA is expected to issue final regulations later this year. Advocates are also calling on the FDA to clear the market of all flavored e-cigarettes, which have driven high rates of youth use. Among kids who use e-cigarettes, 85% use flavored products.

Menthol cigarettes have also been a favorite tobacco industry strategy for targeting kids, Black Americans, other communities of color, the LGBTQ+ community and other communities. The evidence shows that menthol cigarettes are more addictive, easier for kids to start smoking and harder for smokers to quit. The tobacco industry has particularly marketed menthol cigarettes to Black communities for decades, causing devastating and disproportionate harm to the health of Black Americans.



JALEN KEITH-PITTMAN

In addition, cheap, flavored cigars – sold in hundreds of flavors like cherry dynamite, tropical twist and chocolate brownie – have flooded the market in recent years and fueled the popularity of these products with kids. Cigars are the second most popular tobacco product (after e-cigarettes) among all high school students and are especially popular among Black youth. In North Carolina, 23.8% of high school students use e-cigarettes, while 3.9% smoke traditional cigarettes. Tobacco use claims 14,200 lives in the state each year.

Rocky Mount Prep Has New Leadership

Rocky Mount Preparatory School (RMP) announced the appointment of Heather Collins, who has a doctorate degree in education, as the Interim Head of School. Collins was given the position by the board of directors on July 18, following Chaunte Garrett’s resignation.

“The board is excited about this leadership transition for RMP,” said board Chairman Keen Gravely. “Like all schools, RMP suffered from COVID-19 restrictions, but we are confident that Collins, along with the

staff, will be a strong team to help us recover lost learning and lead us strongly into next school year.”

Heather Collins, a native of Ansonia, Connecticut, brings over 21 years of education experience and has been a part of RMP since May 2023. She has previously served as a middle school English and history teacher, data manager, executive director of a non-profit educational organization, and Director of College & Career Readiness for the North Carolina Community College System. In ad-

dition to a doctorate in Education, Collins has a bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Hampton University, a master’s degree in Public Administration, and is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

“It is an honor to join the RMP family as their Interim Head of School,” said Collins. “As we move forward, we are optimistic about the opportunity to educate our scholars, embrace our community and excel in excellence every day. It is a new horizon of hope!”



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SERMON of the WEEK



Exodus 17:12

King James Version

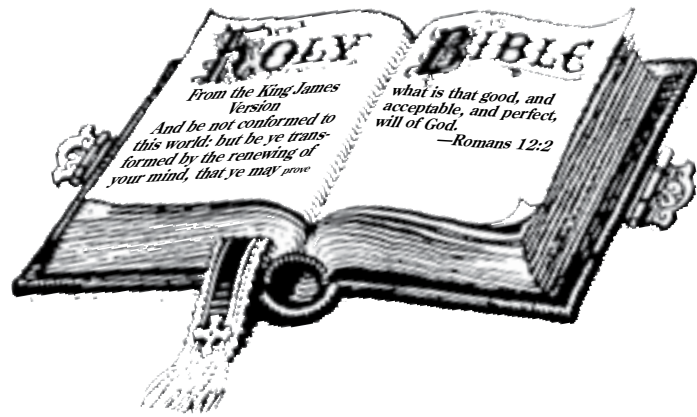
12 But Moses hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.

Evangelist Selena Hunter "I Made It"

As we look at the sermonic text, we can see a central point throughout the text. The theme is obedience. Joshua was told by Moses to get an army together on very short notice. Joshua did not ask why, nor did he openly second guess the instructions. He was obedient and followed the instructions. Moses, after just having to lead a thirsty nation is now faced with opposition and listens to God as He says fight. We all will face issues in life. But it is important that we follow the instructions. We don't have to understand or even agree with leadership but be obedient. Because through obedience Joshua prevailed. Through obedience Aaron and Hur were in place to hold up Moses' arms and they all made it. Deuteronomy 20:4 says, "For the Lord your God is He that goeth with you to fight for you against your enemies, to save you." Be encouraged that when you are obedient to the Lord and leadership, God will fight for you.

Elder Demetrius Hunter "Posture of Success"

We see in this text that Moses needed to be in a certain position or posture in order for the Israelites to succeed in the fight. I go to the doctor and chiropractor at times because of pain in my back and neck. The doctor has informed me that because I work with my laptop computer most days, I have to correct my posture to avoid neck and back pain. Even the late great General Mother Burrell would tell us to walk proudly and hold our heads up. I know that we all go through things, but we can still have a positive posture. The doctor said it was cancer, but my posture says I'm



healed. The Bible calls us more than conquerors. Moses was to hold the posture of a winner. In the words of a famous singer, "All I do is win, win, win no matter what." But I would change the remaining words to, "I got Jesus on my side and I'm never giving up, and every time I step up in the church my hands go up, and they stay there." For when the praises go up, the blessings come down. My posture will be praise.

Mother Belinda McKoy "Hold me Up"

We all would like to think that we don't need anyone, or perhaps we just want of feel self - sufficient. The song writer said "I need you; you need me, we are all a part of God's body. I don't know about you but I have learnt that there are times I need Help. So, I agree with another song writer that says "

No man is an island,
No man stands alone,
Each man's joy is joy to me,
Each man's grief is my own.
We need one another,
So I will defend,
Each man as my brother,
Each man as my friend.

Let's Hold Each Other Up. In our text today we are talking about Moses who had been used by God in numerous miracles and battles for the Israelites. Now Moses is in a situation where Moses can't do it by himself. Sometimes all is needed is a hand up.

This was the case with Moses. Israel and Amalek were fighting. As long as Moses was holding up his rod, Israel was winning. But as soon as Moses took his arms down Amalek would win. Moses' arms got tired. He could not hold his arms up on his own. There could have been a problem. But God. God always has someone to hold us up. Aaron and Hur didn't wait for God to give them a sign. They didn't allow jealousy to prevail over them. They saw that Moses was unable to hold his hands up for a considerable amount of time and new that in order for them to survive, they had to hold up Moses'

arms.
What if we could hold up someone that we see cannot sustain on their own.

This reminds me of the story in the New Testament when Jesus was teaching and healing;

Luke 5:18-20(NLV)

18 Some men took a man who was not able to move his body to Jesus. He was carried on a bed. They looked for a way to take the man into the house where Jesus was.

19 But they could not find a way to take him in because of so many people. They made a hole in the roof over where Jesus stood. Then they let the bed with the sick man on it down before Jesus.

20 When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the man, "Friend, your sins are forgiven."

Hold Me Up

There is power in holding one another up.

There is deliverance in holding one another up.

There is Salvation in holding one another up.

Reverend Theodore McAllister preached a sermon I will never forget. Holding up my corner. We all have leg on the bed. It takes all of us holding our end to reap victory. Aaron couldn't do it alone. Hur couldn't do it alone. No one person could lift that bed through the roof.

It takes all of us to hold one up.

I need you, you need me

We're all a part of God's body

Stand with me, agree with me

We're all a part of God's body

It is His will that every need be supplied

You are important to me; I need you to survive

You are important to me; I need you to survive

Hold me up.

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

to direct and encourage 'us' (the fig tree) in His teachings which leads to eternity. God's grace and goodness has no end. God's love and mercy for us endures forever. The reason is the Father never refuses his Son's requests when it comes to extending time to His Son when He is extending to all who need it.

Think of the times when we were allowed to continue in our lives when we knew we had messed up somewhere along life's way and God was not pleased. Our lives continued when we messed up again, again, and again! We are living today because Jesus bought time for us from the Father when He went to the cross. This Jesus did so He could have more time to dig around our unhealthy roots, fertilize and water them. Thus, giving us additional time to get our lives on track with heaven's road.

The Father has no second thoughts about getting rid of fruit trees he, Himself, had planted, and had not brought forth any fruit after a reasonable time (Psalm 1:3).

If God has planted us (giving us life) there is no good reason why we cannot bear good fruit for Him during our lifetime. God gives us the time, grace, and goodness to bear fruit for Him, especially in giving praise and living holy (1 Peter 1:16).

J. L. Caldwell, Pastor

New Jerusalem Baptist Cathedral
Durham, NC

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Two Years After Deportation Orders, 130 African Hebrew Israelites Linger In Limbo



DIMONA, Israel (AP) — For two years, Toveet Israel and dozens of other residents of the Village of Peace have lived in fear.

Dimona, a city on the edge of the nation of the Negev Desert, has been her home for 24 years. Her eight children were born here and know no other country. Now, she and 130 other undocumented members of the African Hebrew Israelites of Jerusalem face deportation.

Receiving the order to leave two years ago was a "moment of disbelief" for Israel, 53. "I feel like the government has been merciless to me and my children," she said.

The Hebrew Israelites, as the spiritual community's members are commonly known, first made their way to Israel from the United States in the 1960s. While members do not consider themselves Jewish, they claim an ancestral connection to Israel.

Around 3,000 Hebrew Israelites live in remote, hardscrabble towns in southern Israel. The Village of Peace, a cluster of low-slung buildings surrounded by vegetable patches and immaculate gardens in Dimona, is the community's epicenter.

Over decades, the Hebrew Israelites have made gradual inroads into Israeli society. After years of bureaucratic wrangling, about 500 members hold Israeli citizenship, and most of the rest have permanent residency.

But about 130 have no formal status and now face deportation. Some don't have foreign passports and say they have spent their entire adult lives in Israel and have nowhere to go.

The community's long fight to secure its status shines a light on Israel's strict immigration policy, which grants people it considers Jewish automatic citizenship but limits entry to others who don't fall under its definition.

The African Hebrew Israelites are one of a constellation of Black religious groups in the US that emerged in the late 19th and 20th centuries and encompass a wide spectrum of Christian and Jewish-inspired beliefs.

Some fringe Black Hebrew groups in the US hold extremist or antisemitic views, according to the ADL and the Southern Poverty Law Center. The community in Dimona does not espouse such beliefs.

André Brooks-Key, an African and African American studies professor at Claflin University in South Carolina, said these various religious communities share a belief that certain African peoples are descendants of the biblical Israelites and that the transatlantic slave trade was prophesied in the Bible.

"Regardless of how they understand Jesus or how they dress or any of these other aspects, that underlying theological point is what binds them together," Brooks-Key said.

The Hebrew Israelites believe they are descendants of the biblical tribes of Israel who, after the Roman conquest in 70 A.D., fled down the Nile and west into the African interior and were ultimately taken as slaves to North America centuries later.

They observe an interpretation of biblical laws formulated by their late founder that includes strict veganism, abstention from tobacco and hard alcohol, fasting on the Sabbath, polygamy, and a ban on wearing synthetic fabrics.

Ben Ammi Ben-Israel, the group's Chicago-born spiritual leader, said he had a vision in 1966 from the angel Gabriel that Black descendants of the Israelites should "return to the Promised Land and establish the Kingdom of God," according to the community's website.

After a brief stint in Liberia, Ben-Israel and several dozen families of followers arrived in Israel in 1968.

Ben-Israel died in 2014 at age 75 and is revered as a messianic figure, Ahmadiel Ben Yehudah, a community elder and spokesperson.

"We're Judeans by our tribal affiliation," he said. "There's a long tradition and continuity of cultural connections that root us here in this land. We didn't just fall out of the sky."

Shortly after their arrival, the Hebrew Israelites' legal problems began. Israel initially granted them citizenship, but subsequently revoked it after changes in its Law of Return, which grants automatic citizenship to Jews.

They remained illegal aliens, some

of them stateless after renouncing their American citizenship, until the early 1990s, when they began receiving temporary Israeli residency.

A turning point came in 2002, after a Palestinian gunman killed six people at a bat mitzvah party, including a 32-year-old Hebrew Israelite singer who had been performing. In response, Israel started granting the community members permanent residency.

In 2015, about 130 of them without documentation submitted requests for residency rights, claiming that authorities had reneged on earlier promises to legalize their status.

The Interior Ministry rejected the requests in 2021 and issued deportation orders to 49 people. Four left the country, while the remaining 45 appealed. The rest remain in legal limbo.

The ministry's Population and Immigration Authority said the individuals subject to deportation had never appeared on lists submitted by Hebrew Israelite leaders and that some had entered Israel recently.

"It's not clear why their first requests (for residency) were only submitted in 2015," the authority said, or why the community didn't submit requests on behalf of those individuals.

The community's deepened integration into Israeli society over the years has made the idea of deportation especially painful. Dozens of young Hebrew Israelites serve in the Israeli military, and many work for Teva Deli, a vegan food manufacturer.

Interim Pastor Search Committee

First Congregational Church has opened a search for the position of Interim Pastor. Those wishing to be considered for the position can apply by submitting the following:

Cover Letter

Current Resume/Vita

Two (2) Character References (References may be contacted)

Completed application packets will be accepted until Thursday, August 10, 2023.

Application packets must be sent by either email to: fceral@bellsouth.net

Or

Attn: Pastor Search Committee FCC
2410 Creech Rd. Raleigh, NC 27610

All applications packets must be received or postmarked no later than Thursday, August 10, 2023

No application packets will be accepted via hand delivery.

Practical Biblical Principles

THE GOODNESS AND GRACE OF GOD

Read: Luke 13:5-17

Jesus sought every opportunity to preach the Kingdom of Heaven Gospel. Traveling from Galilee to Jerusalem Jesus spoke heaven's principles of living which included the lamp of the body, beware of hypocrisy, the fear of God, confess Christ before men, the parable of the rich fool wanting to build larger barns to hold his great crops without giving God credit, not to worry, be a faithful servant, discern the time, make peace with your adversary, and repent or perish dealing with people living righteous, and yet bad things happened to them. These teachings emphasized many of the principles which govern life in Heaven.

Then Jesus spoke this parable: A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. Then he said to the keeper of his vineyard, "Look, for three years I have come seeking fruit on this tree and find none. Cut it down; why does it use up ground? The Keeper said unto the owner, "Sir, leave it alone this year also, until I dig around it and fertilize it. The owner replied, "And if it bears fruit, well. But if not, after that you can cut it down."

According to Old Testament law no one was to eat fruit from newly planted trees for the first three years. In the fourth year all fruit on the trees belong to God (Leviticus 19:23-25). It

was only in the fourth year of the new fruit tree were the Israelites allowed to eat the new fruit.

Jesus spoke this parable thus signifying the fact to His countrymen that God has allowed more than enough time for men to repent of their sins and return to God. And then some more! (Matthew 3:10; 7:19). A healthy fig tree bears fruit in the first three years of being planted. This gives the Keeper of the vineyard time to prune and fertilize the tree if needed so as to keep it healthy and to eventually produce good fruit.

This principle of planting fig trees applies directly to every human and child of God who knows God. We are told by scriptures, that a tree is known by the fruit it bears (Matthew 7:20).

What Jesus also said having strongly spoken the truth to the people holding on to their sins and not recognizing their sin as sin, He also introduced a point of grace in His parable when He mentioned the owner of the vineyard agreed to wait until the vineyard keeper was given additional time to nurture and give additional fertilizer to the non-fruitful fig tree. This is God's goodness and grace in action. The term "nurture" implies not only putting additional nutrients but pruning off the dead growth. As this relates to humans, it means to train, correct, and direct our growth. In today's terms, this is Jesus seeking permission from the Father to give Him a little more time

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Editorial Policy

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

Editorials

By Rodney Ross

Special To The Carolinian

If you spent fifty dollars at Jack's restaurant on New Bern Ave, then the owner of Jack's can spend that 50's at Larry's Supermarket. Larry's spend 50.00's at a local barbershop. The owner of the barbershop buys something to eat at Jack's and then the cycle repeats itself. How long has that 50.00's circulated within the community? This is what a recession proof, inflation proof, economy looks like. More importantly, this is what it looks like to forfeit the convenience of using credit or debit cards.

When you use machines to process payments, the establishment you are patroning does not keep one hundred percent of that revenue. A percentage of the transaction goes to the merchant services company who provides the equipment and in some cases, there's also a monthly charge for having access to the network that allows the information to be sent to the banking system that says debit the appropriate account for the amount charged.

A patron spends fifty dollars at his barbershop. Instead of opting to pay with cash, he pays with a debit card. The barber has to deduct a percentage that will go to the banking institution that owns the digital transaction service. This means when he goes to Jack's to buy his lunch, he doesn't have a full fifty dollars to spend. Let's say that the amount the barber has left to spend, after fees, is forty-seven dollars. Instead of paying with cash, the barber pays with a card, and the owner of Jack's Restaurant must now pay a transaction fee. Now the forty-seven dollars is reduced to forty-four dollars. When the owner of Jack's goes to Larry's Supermarket to buy groceries, the owner repeats the process of using a card instead of cash. Forty-four dollars is now forty-one dollars. Eventually the banking institution has the money, the control, and nothing is left in the community. The cost of convenience can leave a community broke.

Some companies tend to pass the cost along to the customer. In a community, we are customers of each other. In order to meet the demand of rising cost, more revenue must be brought in. What happens when your ability to broaden your reach is throttled by the borders of your city. There is no way to stop the bleeding out of your money.

Shopping "local" is not enough when we do not control the system of collecting the earnings. Middle men from external networks are nothing more than digital mafia hitmen shaking down industries for kickbacks for doing business. We are already paying the government taxes to do business, and it seems that at every turn, there is yet another band of raiders with their hands in the coffer, trying to siphon money from your business simply because it exists.

Your dollar is so coveted that random companies, often with offshore employees, will spend days on end with a barrage of cold calls to offer you services for things like web development or to lend money for your business operations at exorbitant rates. If you take the bait, you are basically guaranteeing that your money will fly out of your community and increasing the chances of another cycle of poverty for the current and future generation.

Our foreign neighbors who have had the chance to establish businesses in our communities, ask yourself, where does their money go? Do they spend in your markets as you do in theirs? Do they hire people who look like you and promote within their industry? Do they simply transfer their profits out of your neighborhood, state and country and keep it circulating within their home base. What do they give back to the community outside of a service you can provide for yourselves? This is not to lay blame on our neighbors. They are simply exploiting the opportunity as it is presented to them. Can you honestly say that if given the same chance to make as much money off a group of people and never have to kick anything back to them, you would turn that down? Many would not, and many do not.

It is becoming more clear that the push for digital currency has nothing to do with convenience or to decentralize currency. On the contrary, it is to give the government complete control over our purchasing habits.

People who use the digital form of SNAP benefits understand this all too well. As do people on WIC. For example, with WIC, there are only certain brands you can use the credits for. With SNAP, you are limited in what you can actually purchase. The irony is, some people defraud the SNAP system just to have access to cash so the monetary value it represents can then be used for whatever they want to use it for.

If we went to a completely digital currency system, the government would then be able to track every single debit. They will be able to track where you purchased your products, the quantity and brand. It seems harmless until that company gets into the crosshairs of the government and they restrict your ability to buy that brand. Imagine there is a particular product you preference for your own personal reasons and when you go to purchase it, you are informed that it is a restricted product.

The government could in theory restrict the quantity of a product you want to purchase. We are not so far removed from the madness of the COVID19 lockdowns. Stores restricted how much medicine you could purchase. It did not matter to them how many people actually lived in your household, nor how many of them were children, or the severity of their symptoms.

Apply this logic across the board. You could be restricted from purchasing meat because they create data from their case studies stating how much meat one person should consume. Once you reach that limit, they could block you and say that it is for public health safety. Consuming more meat puts you in a high risk category that will burden our healthcare system and restrict your ability to buy meat for the rest of the month. They could then funnel you to soy or some other bean based products for protein that can cost as much as meat or more. The point is, when you lose control over your dollar, you also lose control over access to purchasing power, information and how it is presented.

Suppose you take a hard stance on a position that is not the preferred convention. Your ability to use your allotment could be restricted until you comply. Think about how employers treated people who did not want to inject themselves with an untested vaccine, only months later to find out the vaccine did not work well for all people and that some are still suffering from both COVID related systems and the injections.

Enough people have been vaccinated to insure herd immunity which was more than likely going to happen regardless. The war in Ukraine has absorbed the bulk of the media attention because the viewers simply became infected with COVID19 fatigue.

If this seems far fetched, then perhaps our perception of recent social events needs to be calibrated. People can not tell schools what they want their children to be taught. Even though they are paying for these schools with their tax dollars. The cost of homeownership may never be attainable for many Americans. The housing crisis could be averted but it won't because the revenue from renting continues for perpetuity. This means you will never pass down anything to your children but a continued legacy of indebtedness. Keeping your dollar within your network can insulate our community from being drained by parasitic enterprises. If we can push CRT to our kids, we should be able to push economic competence to them as well. One protects their future, the other all but guarantees that they will not have one.



FUNdraising Good Times
By Mel & Pearl Shaw Saad & Shaw

WHAT SETS YOUR FUNDRAISING APART?

While the work of building, sustaining, and growing a fundraising program never ends, we recommend starting with a focus on what your organization does well. Use your assets as a foundation to build upon. Take a moment and begin making a list of what you believe sets your fundraising apart from that of your competitors. Your list will be unique to your nonprofit organization or institution. It could be the volunteers who are active encouraging gifts and grants; or the high level of name recognition your nonprofit has. Maybe it's your engaging videos and wide distribution; your long history of excellent service; or the unique programs you offer. It could be the engaging appeal letters and videos you produce and how quickly they reach a targeted audience. It could be the way you say "thank you" to donors and funders, immediately making contact with an email or phone call.

Your assets could include the way your organization is current in its thinking, actions, solutions, advocacy, organizing, and/or services. Your organization may be the one who can actually pivot to meet local needs as they emerge. You may be loved and respected – when people speak of your work and the people on your team, they only have praise, and that praise is widely shared. Your nonprofit may be transparent and accountable – you are known for letting people know what you are going to do and then you do it. Maybe you are scandal free. Most nonprofits don't know the value of being scandal free until they find themselves in the midst of one.

Maybe your strength is the uniqueness of the events you produce, or the benefits you offer to donors. Another overlooked asset is how easy it is to give to your nonprofit. Once you have wrangled with technology and come up with a solution you want to build on this asset! Other strengths could include the way you live up to your promise; the momentum and enthusiasm you sustain; and the sense of urgency that you infuse into your fundraising and communications. Don't forget the power of your vision and track record, and the way you plan for the future and then execute those plans. Once you start your list, you will see there are more things going right than you originally considered. We hope your list will be long, and that you will use it as a motivator. One step at a time you can reach your goals.

A Different Voice
By Dorothy Shaw Thompson

Memorializing Ann

This past Saturday, June 22, 2023, I had the pleasure of attending a memorial service for Ann Hunt Jones Smith, a woman worthy of all of her names and titles. I've actually known Ann all of my life, she was a member of my church during my childhood years. Ann was about seven years older than I was so I kind of grew up behind her. When I was about 9, she was my Bible school teacher and called me out for talking by saying that my mouth was "going to be the death of me" and that stuck in my mind for a long time waiting for "death by mouth". Lol.

Ann's celebration of life this Saturday was so inspirational, well attended, and reflective of the life she lived, and the lives she touched. She was a gifted and unique human being, gifted of voice, but even more gifted of imagination and creativity. I'd actually call her a genius in this area, but also in her ability to pull gifts out of others that other adults have been unable to see ironically, though. Even though Ann had prophesied my death at such an early age, we became friends from that time her last years. We taught at both our alma maters, JW Legion. She taught music and

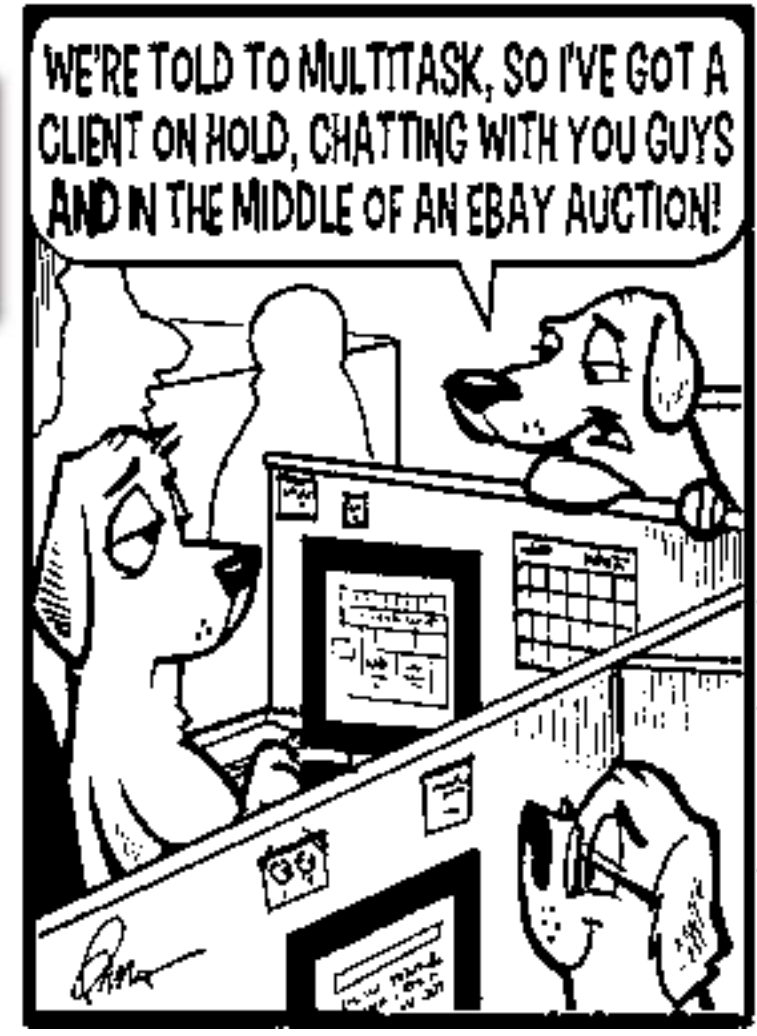
I taught art. One of Anne's claims to fame became the Legion Jubilee Singers, her brainchild that performed powerfully at her service on Saturday. The legacy of the Jubilee singers is the balm that could heal the fears and educate the masses through the slave stories that they sang. All it took for my soul to cry tears was the first song they sang of a little girl asking her mother if the master was going to sell "herself" the next day. Perhaps, if De Santis could have heard the Legion Jubilee Singers on Saturday, he might be able to get it that "No, slavery was not good for the slaves or any of the people who participated in it, even the wicked slave owners who have passed their wickedness down to those today who want to disallow the teaching about slavery out of fear of their evil being exposed. As a post I read recently stated, "Not knowing the truth doesn't make you ignorant (but it really does), not wanting to know the truth is what makes you ignorant." Actually, both are true.

The mark Ann made on the world in my opinion was that she embodied our black national anthem and civil rights activism through living her life and being present in the lives of others regardless of their color. I hope that someone will gather those Jubilee singers together so that they might at least do a yearly concert and bring others and so that this legacy will hold through the ages. One thing I noted was that even though the service was held at Brooks Avenue UNC, there were more African American celebrants than Caucasian. Some spoke of Ann's impact on their lives and racial disparities. If the audience was an example of a microorganism, things have not changed that much. Ann's impact was also rooted in her understanding of the teachings of Jesus Christ. She was destined to be an evangelist, and wherever she went and no matter what she did or who she was with and gave a word to others from the Lord. The last time I talked to her, she was concerned about my salvation related to the age I was when I was baptized (I was 5) but I shared with her that I knew what I was doing then and no I was not going to be baptized again to make sure. For this was Ann to the end. She had searched my life for what might keep me out of heaven and had come up with my age at baptism. For me that showed how much she cared, not how much she judged, and that is what made her a true follower and a true Christian.

It's important to me that I add that Ann did all she did as the single mother of two well-reared daughters. For me, the greatest effect she had on two of her grown grandsons was both equally impressive and equally different in their representations and was spontaneous with her love, so I was not disappointed when these men joyously hugged each other as they ended their testimonies. It was all in order, all harmonious, and all impactful just the way Ann's teachings, performances, and relationships in life were. So a great farewell from Raleigh to Ann and may we feel her as her spirit soars.

When the University of NC at Chapel Hill denied Ann's admission to their state-supported school, it was their loss and not hers, which is the truth for all qualified seekers, who continued to soar away.

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



Classifieds

ALAMANCE COUNTY

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF ALAMANCE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of DALTON PENROSS HUNTER, JR., deceased, this is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the Estate of DALTON PENROSS HUNTER, JR. to present them to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of October, 2023, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to said Estate, please make immediate payment.

This, the 27th day of July, 2023.
EDWARD J. FALCONE
Attorney for the Estate of Dalton Penross Hunter, Jr.
120 E. Parrish Street, Suite 200
Durham, North Carolina 27701
(919) 682-9273
7/27, 8/3, 8/10, and 8/17/2023

DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF BARBARA C. CLARKE

Barbara C. Clarke died on February 27, 2023, in Durham, NC. John G. Clarke qualified as her Executor with Durham County, NC Clerk of Superior Court file 23 E 612. All persons, firms or corporations indebted to Barbara C. Clarke will please make immediate payment. This is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against Barbara C. Clarke to present them before October 13, 2023, or this Notice may be pleaded to bar their claim. Claims and payments may be filed with Deborah H. Shartle, Attorney for the estate at Arges Law Firm, 3200 Croasdaile Drive, Suite 706, Durham, NC 27705. 07/06, 07/13, 07/20, 07/27/2023.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The undersigned having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of RUFUS A. DENSON a/k/a RUFUS ATKINS DENSON, Deceased, late of Durham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate to Exhibit them to the undersigned at the office of IDOL LAW, PLLC, PO Box 51759, Durham, North Carolina 27717, on or before the 9th day of October, 2023, or this Notice will be in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment.

This is the 6th day of July, 2023.
Judy Dillard, Executrix
Estate of Rufus A. Denson a/k/a RUFUS ATKINS DENSON
c/o Robert A. Idol, Esquire
IDOL LAW, PLLC
Attorney at Law
PO Box 51759
Durham, NC 27717
(919) 401.5151

7/6, 7/13, 7/20 and 7/27/23
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE OF SERVICE

OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
In The General Court Of Justice,
District Court Division
Before the Clerk
File No:20 CVD 141

[CHILD CUSTODY PROCEEDING],
QUANDA NEWELL, Plaintiff
v.

SHERNERIA MCLEAN &
NATHANIEL NEWELL, Defendants.

To the parents of A. McLean, a female child born on 4/25/2012. TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief sought against you is an award of permanent legal custody of the aforementioned child to Quanda Newell. You are required to make defense to such pleading with the Durham County Clerk of Court no later than 8/16/2023, said date being forty (40) days from the first publication of this notice. Upon your failure to do so, the parties seeking relief against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This, the 6th day of July, 2023.
Katherine S. Moye, JusticeMatters, Inc., Attorney for Plaintiff,
P.O. Box 58058
Raleigh, NC, 27658
919/794-7511 Ext. 9.
7/6, 7/13, and 7/20/23

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND

DEBTORS OF ALFRED LEBEAU

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against ALFRED LEBEAU, late of Durham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit them to Dorothy K. Lebeau as Executor of

the decedent's estate on or before October 7, 2023, c/o Gregory Herman-Giddens, Attorney at Law, 1414 Raleigh Rd., Ste. 203, Chapel Hill, NC 27517, or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above named Executor.

This the 6th day of July, 2023.
Dorothy K. Lebeau, Executor
c/o Gregory Herman-Giddens, Atty. TrustCounsel
1414 Raleigh Rd., Ste. 203
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
7/6, 7/13, 7/20, and 7/27/23
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-740

The Undersigned, having qualified as TESTAMENTRIX of the Estate of MARY LOUISE JONES, 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 6th day of October 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 6th day of July, 2023.
Shelia V Jones
Testamentrix
6036 Framingham Road
Raspeburg, MD 21206
7/6, 7/13, 7/20, and 7/27/23

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Executrix of the ESTATE OF LLOYD HUMPHREY, deceased, of Durham County, N.C., the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them at the office of the attorney for the estate on or before the 12th day of October 2023, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This 13th day of July 2023.
Eileen Worley Humphrey, Executrix,
c/o David B. Alexander, Attorney for the estate, The Law Firm of David B. Alexander, P.C., 5003 Southpark Drive, STE 230, Durham, NC 27713

7/13, 7/20, 7/27, and 8/3/2023
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 878

The Undersigned, having qualified as ADMINISTRATOR of the Estate of MCOR EISHEL GRADIN, 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 October 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 13th day of July, 2023.

Robert J. Mermelstein
Executor
3808 Evander Way
Raleigh, NC 27613
7/13, 7/20, 7/27, and 8/3/2023
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-868

The Undersigned, having qualified as ADMINISTRATOR CTA of the Estate of CONSTANCE DENISE JACKLEY, 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 October 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 13th day of July, 2023.

Ka-Quana Jackley
Administrator CTA
4801 Danube Lane, Apt. 1403
Durham, NC 27704
7/13, 7/20, 7/27, and 8/3/2023
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-810

The Undersigned, having qualified as EXECUTOR of the Estate of ROSALIE S. MANDEL A/K/A ROSALIE IRMA MANDEL, 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 October 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 13th day of July, 2023.
Marcia A. Mandel, Executor
c/o Marion Law Office, PLLC
2741 University Drive
Durham, NC 27707

7/13, 7/20, 7/27, and 8/3/2023
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-632

The Undersigned, having qualified as EXECUTOR of the Estate of BERYL ROSSER WALP, 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 October 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 13th day of July, 2023.
Allison Walp Dimsdale
Executor
4 Ontario Court
Durham, NC 27713

7/13, 7/20, 7/27, and 8/3/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF DURHAM

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 9th day of May, 2023, as Executor of the ESTATE OF SHIRLEY MORGAN RIGSBEE, Deceased, of Durham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 16th day of October, 2023 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This, the 13th day of July, 2023.
STEPHEN R. RIGSBEE
EXECUTOR
ESTATE OF SHIRLEY MORGAN RIGSBEE
c/o Richard G. Long III, Attorney
Walker Lambe, PLLC
Post Office Box 51549
Durham, North Carolina 27717
7/13, 7/20, 7/27, and 8/3/2023
NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE OF SERVICE
OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
In The General Court Of Justice
District Court Division
File No. 23 CVD 598

[CHILD CUSTODY AND DIVORCE
PROCEEDING]
Claudia Reyes Vega, Plaintiff v.
Jose Flores Bueso, Defendant.
To Jose Flores Bueso, father of
Carla Jasuary Flores Reyes, born
December 16, 2008 in Honduras.

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 as follows: absolute divorce and that permanent legal custody of the aforementioned child be granted to Claudia Reyes Vega. You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than 22nd of August, 2023, said date being forty (40) days from the first publication of this notice, and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 13th day of July, 2023.
Mary Elizabeth Reed, JusticeMatters, Inc. Attorney for the Plaintiff
P.O. Box 199
Durham, NC 27702
(919) 794-7511
7/13, 7/20, and 7/27/23
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-886

The Undersigned, having qualified as ADMINISTRATRIX of the Estate of PERCELL MCNAIR, 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 October 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 13th day of July, 2023.
Annie M Sims
Administratrix
1343 Maplewood Dr.
Durham, NC 27704
7/13, 7/20, 7/27, and 8/3/2023
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-165

The Undersigned, having qualified as EXECUTOR of the Estate of KENNETH EUGENE HANNA, 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 October 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 20th day of July, 2023.
Linda Ellison
Executor
424 Riley Street
Anderson, SC 29624
7/20, 7/27, 8/3, and 8/10/2023
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-889

The Undersigned, having qualified as ADMINISTRATOR of the Estate of ROBERT LOUIS ROYSTER, 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 October 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 20th day of July, 2023.
Michael Anthony Royster
Administrator
205 W. Hillsboro St.
Creedmoor, NC 27522
7/20, 7/27, 8/3, and 8/10/2023
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-587

The Undersigned, having qualified as ADMINISTRATRIX of the Estate of FLOYD DONALD ALSTON, 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 October 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 20th day of July, 2023.
Ashley Alston
Administratrix
528 Isle Royal Bay
Roselle, Illinois 60172
7/20, 7/27, 8/3, and 8/10/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
In The District Court
[CHILD CUSTODY PROCEEDING]
File No. 23 CVD 121

Stephanie Williams and Angel Council, Plaintiffs v. DeCarlos Taybron, Defendant.

To DeCarlos Taybron, the above-named defendant:
TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: that joint permanent legal custody of the mi-

nor child De'Shaun Ameir Chance, born February 7, 2011, be granted to Stephanie Williams and Angel Council.

You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than September 5, 2023, said date being forty (40) days from the first publication of this notice, and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 27th day of July, 2023.
Chelsea Fuller, JusticeMatters, Inc. Attorney for the Plaintiffs
P.O. Box 199 Durham, NC 27702s
(919) 794-7511

7/27, 8/3, and 8/10/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
In the District Court
[CHILD CUSTODY PROCEEDING]
File No. 23 CVD 562

Patricia Keith, Plaintiff v. Quinisha Nichole Keith and Rashaun Hayes-Watson, Defendants.

To Quinisha Nichole Keith, an above-named defendant:

TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you have been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: that permanent legal custody of the minor child Joshua Amir Keith, born September 6, 2011, be granted to Patricia Keith.

You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than September 5, 2023, said date being forty (40) days from the first publication of this notice, and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 27th day of July, 2023.
Chelsea Fuller, JusticeMatters, Inc. Attorney for the Plaintiffs
P.O. Box 199 Durham, NC 27702
(919) 794-7511
7/27, 8/3, and 8/10/2023

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

All persons having claims against Archie Marie Jones, of Durham County, North Carolina, who died on the 8th day of April, 2022, are notified to present them to Milledge West, Executor of the Estate of Archie Marie Jones, in c/o Brittany N. Porter, Attorney for the Estate, at Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P. A., 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203, Exchange West at Meadowmont, Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 on or before October 27, 2023. Failure to present a claim in timely fashion will result in this Notice being pleaded in bar of recovery against the estate, the Co-Executors, and the devisees of Archie Marie Jones. Those indebted to Archie Marie Jones are asked to make prompt payment to the Estate.

Brittany N. Porter
Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P.A.
1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203
Exchange West at Meadowmont
Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834
7/27, 8/3, 8/10, and 8/17/2023

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against BARBARA FENNELLS, deceased, of Coral Springs, Broward County, Florida, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before October 27, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the Decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 27th day of July, 2023. Ricardo McFarlane, Ancillary Executor, c/o Caroline B. Denning, Esq., Womble Bond Dickinson (US) LLP, 555 Fayetteville Street, Suite 1100, Raleigh, NC 27601.
7/27, 8/3, 8/10, and 8/17/2023

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Brandon Maurice Rasberry, deceased, late of Durham County, North Carolina, the undersigned Administrator does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate of said decedent to present such claims to Glenda Carr Rasberry at 2817 Cornell Court, La Grange, NC 28551 on or before the 30th day of October, 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 Estate.

This, the 27th day of July, 2023.
Glenda Carr Rasberry
2817 Cornell Court
La Grange, NC 28551
C. Terrell Thomas, Jr.
Kirk, Kirk, Howell, Cutler & Thomas
Post Office Box 729
Wendell, NC 27591
Attorney for the Estate
(919) 365-6000

7/27, 8/3, 8/10, and 8/17/2023
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-826

The Undersigned, having qualified as ADMINISTRATOR of the Estate of PATRICIA LORRAINE DIGNACCO, 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 October 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 27th day of July, 2023.
Caryl Reeves
Administrator
370 Country Rt. 1
Warwick, NY 10990
7/27, 8/3, 8/10, and 8/17/2023

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The undersigned, Charles Ray Carroll, having duly qualified as Executor of the Estate of Wallace Bowles Fowler, 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 Dr., Ste 205, Durham, NC 27705, on or before October 26, 2023 or it will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, and legal entities indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment.

This the 27th day of July, 2023.
Charles Ray Carroll, Executor
C/O Ronald G. Coulter, Attorney
3400 Croasdaile Drive, Ste 205
Durham, NC 27705
1-919-246-5775

7/27, 8/3, 8/10, and 8/17/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF DURHAM

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of FRANCIS THOMAS CAWLEY III, deceased, this is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the Estate of FRANCIS THOMAS CAWLEY III to present them to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of October, 2023, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to said Estate, please make immediate payment.

This, the 27th day of July, 2023.
EDWARD J. FALCONE
Attorney for the Estate of FRANCIS THOMAS CAWLEY III
120 E. Parrish Street, Suite 200
Durham, North Carolina 27701
(919) 682-9273

7/27, 8/3, 8/10, and 8/17/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF DURHAM

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of DEBORAH LYNNE GAYDOSIK, deceased, this is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the Estate of DEBORAH LYNNE GAYDOSIK to present them to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of October, 2023, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to said Estate, please make immediate payment.

This, the 27th day of July, 2023.
EDWARD J. FALCONE
Attorney for the Estate of DEBORAH LYNNE GAYDOSIK
120 E. Parrish Street, Suite 200
Durham, North Carolina 27701
(919) 682-9273

7/27, 8/3, 8/10, and 8/17/2023
NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: 23-E-941

The undersigned, having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of Robin Rochelle Roscoe-Hunt, aka Chellie Roscoe, late of Alameda County, CA do hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned at the address below on or before the 27th day of October, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This, the 27 day of July 2023.
Travis Kevin Reid Hunt and Jessica Lynne Alexis Hunt
Co-Executors of the Estate of Robin Rochelle Roscoe-Hunt, aka Chellie Roscoe

Classifieds

DURHAM COUNTY

c/o The Law Office of Anne Page Watson, PLLC
3400 Croasdaile Drive
Suite 205
Durham, NC 27705.
7/27, 8/3, 8/10, and 8/17/2023

ORANGE COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The undersigned having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of MARGUERITE M. BLACKWOOD a/k/a MARGUERITE MORTON BLACKWOOD, Deceased, late of Pinellas County, Florida, and owning real property in Orange County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate to Exhibit them to the undersigned at the office of IDOL LAW, PLLC, PO Box 51759, Durham, North Carolina 27717, on or before the 30th day of October, 2023, or this Notice will be in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment.

This is the 27th day of July, 2023. Joe M. Blackwood, Diane J. Blackwood, Co-Executors, Estate of Marguerite M. Blackwood, a/k/a Marguerite Morton Blackwood, Deceased
Robert A. Idol, Esquire
IDOL LAW, PLLC
Attorney at Law
PO Box 51759
Durham, NC 27717
(919) 401.5151
7/27, 8/3, 8/10, and 8/17/2023

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 23E001557-910
The Undersigned, having qualified as EXECUTOR of the Estate of JOHN SANDERS, JR., 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 October 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 13th day of July, 2023.
Karen Sanders
Executor
106 New Rand Rd.
Garner, NC 27529
7/13, 7/20, 7/27, and 8/3/2023
NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

NOTICE OF SERVICE
OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
In The General Court Of Justice
District Court Division
File No. 23CV017612-910
Timothy Lee Johnson, Plaintiff
VS. Charlene Johnson, Defendant
To The Defendant: Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the

above entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Judgment for Absolute Divorce. You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than August 22, 2023, forty (40) days from the first date of the publication of this Notice, and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 13th day of July 2023. Timothy Lee Johnson, Plaintiff
1521 Rose Lane
Raleigh, North Carolina 27610
7/13, 7/20, and 7/27/23

WAKE COUNTY
ORDER OF PUBLICATION:
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
WASHINGTON JDR -
JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC
RELATIONS DISTRICT COURT
CASE NO. JJ015059-07-00
NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF
PARENTAL RIGHTS

IN RE: JOSHUA LEVI HUTSLAR
To: CHRISTINA HUTSLAR,
Defendant. The attached petition seeks to terminate the parental rights of the parents of the above-named child. "Residual parental rights and responsibilities" mean all rights and responsibilities remaining with the parent after the transfer of legal custody or guardianship of the person, including but not limited to the right of visitation, consent to adoption, the right to determine religious affiliation and the responsibility for support.

It is ordered that the defendant is to appear at the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court 187 E. Main Street, Abingdon, VA 24210, on or before September 20, 2023 at 1:00 PM.

This, the 20th of July 2023.
By Order of the Court
Publication date: 7/20, 7/27, 8/3, and 8/10/2023
NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
In The General Court of Justice
District Court Division
File No. 23CVD001155-910
MONICA L. RODRIQUEZ,
PLAINTIFF VS.

COURI D. RUSSELL, DEFENDANT
TO THE DEFENDANT: Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is for child custody. You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than August 29, 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, MONICA L. RODRIQUEZ, will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 20th day of July, 2023
Monica L. Rodriguez, Plaintiff
6330 Piedra Drive, Apt 201
Raleigh, NC 27616
7/20, 7/27, and 8/3/23
NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
In The General Court of Justice
District Court Division
File No. 23CV016145-910
NOKOMER CLEGG,
PLAINTIFF VS.
NAOMI CRUDUP, DEFENDANT
TO THE DEFENDANT: Take notice that a pleading seeking relief

against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is for child custody. You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than September 5, 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, NOKOMER CLEGG, will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 27th day of July, 2023. NOKOMER CLEGG, Plaintiff
7010 Fox Haven Place, Apt 103
Raleigh, NC 27616
7/27, 8/3, and 8/10/23
NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

NOTICE OF SERVICE
OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
In The General Court Of Justice
District Court Division
File No. 22CVD016047-910
Fariha Nashik, Plaintiff VS.
MD Mobinur Rahman, Defendant

To The Defendant: Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Judgment for Absolute Divorce. You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than September 5, 2023, forty (40) days from the first date of the publication of this Notice, and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 27th day of July 2023. Fariha Nashik, Plaintiff
100 White Bluff Lane, Apt 1E
Cary, NC 27513
7/27, 8/3, and 8/10/2023

CHATHAM COUNTY

NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
NOTICE OF SERVICE OF
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
In The General Court of Justice
District Court Division
File No. 23-CVD-514

To: LUDY SUKEYLY ORTIZ UR-BINA, Defendant.

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is for child custody. You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than August 22, 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, HERRY DAVID CASTILLO SANCHEZ, will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 13th day of July, 2023
Aneta Paval
Paval Law Offices, PLLC

7404 Chapel Hill Rd, Suite M
Raleigh NC 27607
Telephone: (919) 410-6690
7/13, 7/20, and 7/27/23

NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
NOTICE OF SERVICE OF
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
In The General Court of Justice
District Court Division
File No. 23-CVD-513

To: JOSE LUIS MAZARIEGOS VASQUEZ, Defendant.

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is for child custody. You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than August 22, 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, MARITZA NOEMI MARTINEZ CRUZ DE MAZARIEGOS, will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 13th day of July, 2023
Aneta Paval
Paval Law Offices, PLLC
7404 Chapel Hill Rd, Suite M
Raleigh NC 27607
Telephone: (919) 410-6690
7/13, 7/20, and 7/27/23

JOHNSTON CO. AUTO

NORTH CAROLINA
JOHNSTON COUNTY
In The General Court Of Justice
District Court Division
Small Claims
File No. 23CV003301-500
AMEND COMPLAINT TO
ENFORCE POSSESSORY LIEN ON
MOTOR VEHICLE

DEIDA'S AUTO BODY
11 Sadisco Rd.
Clayton, NC 27527
c/o PO Box 46882
Raleigh, NC 27620
vs.

Unknown Owner,
TO: Unknown Owner
TAKE NOTICE the petitioner has filed with the clerk a petition in proper form indicating that the petitioner has a valid lien against a 1972 Toyota/Corolla Vin No. TE21602116 and that the petitioner shall have the right to sell to the highest bidder the motor vehicle listed on August 22, 2023 at WCCB, 207 E Johnston St, Smithfield, NC 27577 in the Civil Magistrates Courtroom. You are required to make a defense to such pleading before such date and time.

This, the 20th day of July, 2023.
DEIDA'S AUTO BODY
c/o PO Box 46882
Raleigh, NC 27620
7/20, 7/27, and 8/3/2023

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS RICH SQUARE DRAINAGE PROJECT PROJECT# SE-22-065 RICH SQUARE, NC

Sealed bids for Rich Square Drainage Project, Rich Square, North Carolina will be received until 12:00 P.M. on Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at the office of Stocks Engineering, 801 East Washington Street, Nashville, NC. Sealed proposals may also be hand delivered between 1:45 and 2:00 P.M. to the public bid opening on Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at the Rich Square Town Hall, 109 N. Main Street, Rich Square, NC 27869 at which time and place bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids must be received and logged in by 2:00 p.m. by Stocks Engineering, PA, in order to be considered.

There will be a pre bid conference for this project held on Tuesday, August 15, 2023 at 10:00 AM at the same location as the bid opening.

The project consists of the construction of storm drainage, grading, and concrete ditches.

The Information for Bidders, Form of Bids, Form of Contract, Plans, and Specifications may be examined at the following:

Stocks Engineering, PA, 801 East Washington Street, Nashville, NC 27856

Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained at the office of Stocks Engineering, PA in Nashville.

The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities or to reject any or all bids. The Owner (Rich Square) is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages bidding by small, minority and female contractors and does not discriminate on the basis of handicapped status.

No Bidder may withdraw his bid within 72 hours after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Reginald White
Mayor
199 N. Main Street
Rich Square, NC 27869

MBE

BCS needs bids for construction of approx 10 acres to include additional parking, sand volleyball court, walking trail (concrete and screenings), a fenced dog park, a disc golf course, picnic shelters and landscaping. BCS will break down or combine elements of work into economically feasible units to facilitate minority participation. We will try to negotiate joint ventures to help increase minority participation. BCS will also provide quick pay agreements to meet cash flow demands. Need bids by August 14 by fax 252-478-4141 or email bcscontractors@embarqmail.com. Plans/specs may be viewed at our office (call 252-903-4102) or emailed to you.

WANTED WBE, MBE & DBE BIDS

for the following jobs:

NCDOT DIVISION EIGHT LETTING

C204872 Chatham Co. Bid Date: Aug. 15th
This project may involve some or all of the following aspects of construction: construction survey, clear and grub, trucking, drainage, milling, paving, incidental concrete, fence and guardrail, signs, structures, traffic control, utilities, signals, pavement marking, erosion control and seeding. Bids can be emailed to stw.quotes@stwcorp.com

Please contact S. T. Wooten at 252-291-5165,

Fax 252-243-0900 no later than 5:00 p.m. the day before the bid date.

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

D/M/WBE

SUBCONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS WANTED

T. A. Loving Company (NC General Contractor License No. 325) is seeking certified DBE, MBE, and WBE subcontractors and suppliers for the Clayton to Raleigh Pump Station Improvements project for the Town of Clayton which bids August 2, 2023, at 2:00 PM. Plans and specifications for this project are available at the following locations: TA Loving Company, 400 Patetown Road, Goldsboro, NC 27530 * Town of Clayton Engineering Department; 111 East Second Street; Clayton, NC 27520 * HDR Engineering, Inc. of the Carolinas; 555 Fayetteville Street, Suite 900; Raleigh, NC 27601.

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, demolition, hauling, earthwork, erosion control, seeding, electrical, bypass pumping, flatwork, CIPC, concrete forms, concrete rebar, and painting. Please contact Tyler Sutton (tsutton@taloving.com) if you are interested in submitting a proposal on any portion(s) of this project. Contact via phone 919-734-8400; fax 919-736-2148; or email. All quotations will be accepted up to bid closing time of the bid date. TA Loving Company is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

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

WANTED WBE, MBE & DBE BIDS

for the following jobs:

PGV TAXIWAY A SOUTH REHABILITATION

Project # 3-37-0028-0 Pitt Co. Bid Date: Aug. 14th
This project may involve some or all of the following aspects of construction: construction survey, clear and grub, trucking, drainage, milling, paving, incidental concrete, fence and guardrail, signs, structures, traffic control, utilities, signals, pavement marking, erosion control and seeding. Bids can be emailed to stw.quotes@stwcorp.com

Please contact S. T. Wooten at 252-291-5165,

Fax 252-243-0900 no later than 5:00 p.m. the day before the bid date.

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

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

S	O	U	L		B	I	B		T	B	A	R
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Sports

Track And Field Takes Flight In Durham

Many of the nation's top Track & Field junior athletes and teams descended upon Durham's Memorial Stadium for the Twenty-First Annual Russell Blunt East Coast Invitational Meet on July 21st to 23rd. Preliminary heats took place on the 21st and 22nd, and finals were held on the 23rd.

A highlight of the final day of competition is the 4x100 meter relay of the parents and coaches from the different track teams to demonstrate they still have the speed once shown when they were Junior athletes themselves.

Another highlight came from Raleigh's Cerenity Bell, from the Track Xplosion Team, won all three of her events she entered in the Girls 8 & Under Division; 100 meter and 400 meter dash, and long jump. Cerenity broke a 20-year-old record for the Blunt ECI in the 400 meter dash, and one the top 10 performances in the 100 meter dash. Currently, she is ranked #2 in the nation in the 100-, 200-, and 400-meter dash.

The Meet is conducted each July by the Durham Striders Track Club and many of the participants in past meets, and also from the Striders, have moved onto national recognition such as former Running Back Bryce Love from Wake Forest, NC.

Russell Blunt, a Saint Augustine's graduate '36, was a long-time successful track coach winning ten state outdoor and seven indoor track championships at Durham's Hillside High and the meet was named in his honor.

Steve Worthy Photos

