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The Carolinian



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

\$1.00

RALEIGH, N.C. THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 7 - SEPTEMBER 14, 2023 VOL. 83, NO. 45



China's Investment In Africa: Colonialism Or Capitalism?



(HIR)—Since the 2013 announcement of China's Belt and Road Initiative, worries of Chinese economic imperialism through funding development projects have continued to inform Western opinions of China-Africa relations. In 2020, Zambia became the first post-COVID African state to "default on its Eurobonds," eliciting renewed concern about Chinese "debt-trap diplomacy." The fact that Chinese firms comprise "one-eighth of the continent's industrial output" is enough to question the equality of the China-Africa relationship. Yet, despite China holding US\$153 billion in African loans, the idea that China actively designs loans for national benefit assumes a perfectly calculated conspiracy to induce debt that simply does not exist in Chinese investment in Africa. Closer examination of the Zambian debt crisis, one of the more extreme examples of debt to China, reveals how a lack of development drives African loans, with chronic mismanagement by both China and Zambia creating today's crisis. That is not to say that China's aid to Africa occurs out of benevo-

lence. China's historical incentives for engaging with Africa cannot be ignored. After a period of isolation due to the Korean War, China sought economic and political connections with Africa, importing raw materials in exchange for greater ownership of their production. In Zambia, the copper mining industry represents 80 percent of economic production, but the collapse in copper prices in the 1970s led to the sale of Zambia Consolidated Copper Mine (ZCCM) to foreign companies like the China Nonferrous Mining Company (CNMC). The acquisition of 85 percent of the Luanshya and Chambishi mines, along with the Chinese Jinchuan Mining Group's "51 percent majority share in Zambia's only nickel mine," further deepened China's profit control over Zambia's economy. Furthermore, China's 2006 creation of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) formalized Chinese development of Africa by pledging further aid. The implications of this organization are insidious. The Brookings Institute notes that FOCAC's recent 2035 Vision

conference shares the same goals of international investment and development as the China 2035 Vision conference, in addition to the same timeline of achieving modernization by 2035. Considering the promise of US\$60 billion by 2035, FOCAC's existence clearly reveals how China sees global development as the key to domestic growth. Chinese ownership of the mining industry and the process of providing loans clearly illuminates China's structural dominance in this relationship. Western critics blame Chinese abuse of their power for Zambia's economic woes. Indeed, Chinese labor standards have come under fire for creating poor conditions for African workers. As of 2010, Zambian wages cost China just "0.093 percent of gross income" and health regulations have been criticized for threatening workers with longer hours and greater exposure to "acid ... noxious fumes and dust" than what is allowed by Zambian law. The root of these problems appears to be China's ignorance of international standards of practice, but China's unchallenged power

clearly underlies the neglect of labor rights. A concerning corollary of this control appeared in the 2006 Chambishi riots, where Zambian workers protested a 2005 mining explosion that killed 46 workers in a CNMC mine. Instead of recognizing Zambian demands for improved safety measures and healthcare, Chinese managers shot six protestors. The failure to provide potable water, higher wages, and protective equipment against silicosis stings particularly strongly considering China's willingness to spend US\$350 million on the new Chambishi Copper Smelter with computerized technology (HRW). China's unjust treatment of local workers reveals how China profits off of Zambian suffering. Yet, this convenient narrative of Chinese neocolonialism falls apart upon analysis of the debt crisis seemingly driving Zambian dependence on China and Zambia's labor problems. Zambia has "the highest number of Chinese lenders" of all African states, and China owns 69 percent of the construction industry. However, Chinese debt only

represents "17.6 percent of total external debt payments," showing that Zambian responses to foreign investment in general need reform. African leaders are also complicit in the accumulation of Chinese development loans through electoral incentives. As Ching Kwan Lee explains, politicians frequently receive kickbacks and votes for agreeing to development deals, with President Edgar Lungu raising bor-

rowing from China during a copper price collapse. More fundamentally, Zambian citizens do seek to benefit from development. Officials state that "[they] want to borrow for infrastructure" and the people desire improved road, energy, and digital infrastructure. The historical lack of African development, fueled by European colonialism, led to

(See CHINA, P. 3)



SUPPORTERS DEFEND NC SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

By Tyria Bourda
 Staff Writer

To fight for her First Amendment right, NC Supreme Court Justice Anita Earls filed a federal lawsuit arguing that the judicial ethics commission panel is restricting her right to free speech. Earls said in her lawsuit that the North Carolina Judicial Standards Commission began a probe after she spoke to a legal news organization about her court's record on issues concerning diversity. Anita Earls, a former civil rights lawyer, was first elected to the North Carolina Supreme Court in 2018 and is one of two Black justices on the state's highest court. In the Law360.com article, Earls was asked why the people making oral arguments before the court are overwhelmingly White males, despite diversity in the state bar and the state itself. She answered that she sees implicit biases in decisions made by the court due to "gender and race discrepancies." Earls said that White male advocates who appear before the court "get more respect" and are "treated better." Her comments resulted in a letter being mailed to her on August 15th stating that the commission plans to reopen an investigation based on Earls' comments. Therefore, Earls is asking the federal court to issue an injunction; stopping the commission from continuing to chill her right to speak on matters of public concern. "I'm not suggesting that any of this is conscious, intentional, racial animus. But I do think that our court system, like any other court system, is made up of human beings and I believe the research that shows that we all have implicit biases," Earls said. On Wednesday, August 30th, lawmakers joined attorneys and advocates to applaud and defend Supreme Court Justice Anita Earls in her fight to protect her seat on the bench and the credibility of our state judicial branch of government. Earls' supporters gathered at the state legislature Wednesday morning accusing Republicans of trying to force the state's only Black female Supreme Court justice off the court. Dawn Blagrove, executive director of Emancipate NC, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, shared her thoughts on the matter. "What we know is that

(See STATE BRIEFS, P. 7)

What Is The Spectrum-Disney Dispute About?

(Reuters) - Charter Communications, one of the biggest cable companies in the United States, is locked in a battle with Walt Disney in a distribution dispute that may shape the future of television in the streaming era. ESPN, ABC and other Disney channels disappeared from Charter's Spectrum cable service on Thursday, depriving its nearly 15 million video subscribers of access to the U.S. Open tennis tournament, college football and other programming. While such "carriage disputes" are commonplace in the media world, with TV channels going dark as cable companies negotiate with media companies over how much its channels are worth and how to package channels, this fight is different. Media executives are trying to build profitable streaming services even as cable providers argue they are subsidizing a business that cannibalizes their own. Charter pays Disney more than \$2.2 billion annually for the right to distribute ABC, ESPN, FX and other channels to subscribers, which include major markets like New York

and Los Angeles. Companies like Charter say rising distribution fees are forcing cable companies to increase prices, causing consumers to leave. This "vicious video cycle" has cost the industry 25 million customers the last five years, according to a Charter presentation. The company wants a hybrid model that would slow the deterioration of its traditional business while giving subscribers access to new streaming services. Charter President and CEO Christopher Winfrey indicated the company is willing to walk away from the traditional cable television business if Charter does not get acceptable terms. "We're on the edge of a precipice," Winfrey told a press conference on Friday. "We're either moving forward with a new collaborative video model, or we're moving on." The nation's second-largest cable operator said viewership for Disney's sports, entertainment and children's programming has declined as the media conglomerate invested in its Disney+ streaming

service. Charter said it agreed to pay higher fees to carry Disney's channels, but in turn sought greater flexibility in how it bundles programming for subscribers, including an option to leave sports channels out of more packages. Charter also wants to make Disney's ad-supported streaming services available at no additional charge to its broadband customers. Disney is trying to manage declining cable subscribers as it builds streaming offerings. The company counts on fees companies such as Charter pay to partly cover rising programming costs, including the rights to air sports such as the NFL and NBA. It wants to keep as many cable subscribers as possible while it prepares to offer ESPN directly to consumers on an app. Disney has balked at Charter's demand that it provide Disney+ for free. Disney's public statements about turning the sports network into a streaming service made distributors nervous, SVB MoffettNathanson analysts said. Charter sought assurances from Disney that any future

ESPN direct-to-consumer service would be offered at no additional cost to its existing subscribers, an idea Disney rejected, according to SVB MoffettNathanson. Charter also wants to offer subscribers a way to opt out of sports packages, LightShed analyst Rich Greenfield said. Under its previous Disney agreement, Charter carried ESPN as part of video packages taken by 80% of its subscribers, he wrote. Charter is seeking to reduce those so-called "penetration" requirements. Streaming services have given consumers alternatives to cable packages. Disney is urging Spectrum customers to sign up for a live TV package from its streaming service Hulu that includes ESPN and dozens of other channels, similar to other streamers. For Spectrum customers who do not want to switch, Disney-owned channels will remain dark until the sides reach an agreement. If the dispute stretches into next week, those viewers will not have access to the U.S. Open finals or the season debut of the NFL's Monday Night Football.

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Business & Finance

Some US Cities Are Allowing Corps To Vote In Elections

By Katie Hawkinson

Business Insider

Just 340 people voted in Seaford, Delaware's latest election, according to CBS. For a small town of about 8,500 people, that's a voter turnout of only 4%.

A new bill now being considered in the small town, however, could help increase those numbers.

Seaford's town leaders want to give corporations based there the right to vote.

In April, Seaford Mayor David

Grenshaw cast the tie-breaking city council vote to amend the city's charter, giving business entities — ranging from small businesses to large corporations — the right to vote in local elections. The bill must still pass through the state's legislature. On June 30, it passed the House and will appear before the Senate in the next legislative session, CNN reported.

Grenshaw said he hoped that giving businesses the right to vote would revitalize the Seaford community after the closure of a local

factory led to years of economic gloom, according to CNN.

"These are the people we're trying to attract to our community, that we're asking to invest, to hire," Grenshaw told WRDE, a local news station. "Why wouldn't we want to give them a right to vote? I find it hard to believe, who wouldn't want that to happen?"

Despite Grenshaw's confidence, residents and voting rights activists worried about corporate influence in politics are skeptical.

Claire Snyder-Hall, executive di-

rector of Common Cause Delaware, a voting rights watchdog group, told CNN the law "puts the idea that corporations are people on steroids."

Under the 14th Amendment, corporations are considered people, and throughout US history courts have continued to grant them constitutional protections. In the 2010 Citizens United case, the Supreme Court ruled that corporations can spend unlimited funds on campaigns — as long as they are not formally coordinating with

the campaign itself. The ruling led to the creation of super PACs that have the ability to receive unlimited funds and independently campaign for candidates, which has raised concerns about the potentially outsized impact of wealthy donors on election outcomes.

Seaford isn't the first municipality in Delaware to pass this kind of law. Delaware is already one of the most business-friendly states in the country. It has no sales tax, no tax on intellectual property, and no corporate income tax. Corpora-

tions all over the country register and keep addresses in Delaware for these reasons. The state, which has a population of just over 1 million, will likely soon be home to more than 2 million registered businesses.

In places outside of Seaford, where similar laws have been approved, it hasn't always gone smoothly. In Newark, Delaware, one property manager in charge of several LLCs voted 31 times in a single election, according to CBS, forcing the town to revise the law.

China's Investment In Africa—CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Zambia's lack of economic diversity and poor infrastructure, creating the desire to compensate with hyper-development. A 2012 Zambian report found that "the public has totally unrealistic expectations... that all... roads should ultimately be paved," and Lungu's Link Zambia 8000 plan for paved roads led the government to take a US\$287 billion loan from Chinese Eximbank. With US\$863 billion of road development planned in 2020, the Zambian pub-

lic's sense of entitlement to modern infrastructure and the government's willingness to indulge them clearly contribute to the country's debt crisis. In their quest for infrastructure, the Zambian government violated existing regulations on foreign direct investment, with increasingly centralized decision-making leading to the President and the Minister of Finance directly signing contracts without the parliament's approval. Yet the fact that no other countries

agreed to finance these projects suggests that the global neglect of African development leaves countries like Zambia with few options in the fight for better infrastructure.

Despite the massive number of Chinese lenders supporting the road debt crisis, Zambia's energy industry lacks this predatory investment. Only the Chinese Sinohydro emerged as the contractor for the Kafue Gorge Project and 76 percent of energy contracts, and only

four new power plants have been implemented since 1977. This single company deal suggests that China does not actually hope to gain Zambian assets through debt in the energy sector. More broadly, these differences in behavior show that claims of Chinese economic imperialism cannot be generalized. In fact, China's economic support has, at times, benefitted Zambia. China-Africa Cotton, China's cotton firm, has created "contracts with more

than 100,000 farmers" in Malawi and Zambia, funding training trips to transfer knowledge to Zambian cotton managers. During the 2008 recession, around 100,000 Zambians lost their jobs when "Western mining companies reduced and even closed production," but CNMC stayed and even gave US\$10 million to Zambia's Non-ferrous Company-Africa, thus preserving the industry. More broadly, studies have found that Chinese investment in Africa

increases business density and fosters entrepreneurship in 38 countries including Zambia. More recently, Chinese telecommunications company Huawei has provided Wi-Fi and digital interconnectivity in 40 African countries, loaning US\$280 million to build 808 telecommunication towers. Given that 60 percent of the African public views China's investments favorably, China's investment clearly provides more than just economic exploitation.

Maker Of Rapid-Fire Triggers Told Customers They Are Legal

(AP) A company that sold triggers that make semi-automatic, AR-15-style rifles fire like automatic weapons likely misled consumers that the devices were legal, and it continued selling them even after being warned by the U.S. government, a federal judge in New York ruled Tuesday.

The judge barred Rare Breed Triggers from selling any more of its forced-reset triggers until further notice — a blow to the company's defense against the government's civil fraud lawsuit, which remains pending.

"The Court concludes that the Government is likely to succeed on the merits of its claims," U.S. District Judge Nina Morrison wrote, adding the company "placed tens of thousands of their customers at risk of criminal prosecution and the loss of their right to own firearms."

Rare Breed Triggers and its lawyers are disappointed by the ruling and are considering how to respond, said David Warrington, one of the company's lawyers. He also noted the ruling is not a final decision in the lawsuit.

"It is just a preliminary ruling made on a partial, truncated record," Warrington said in an email to The Associated Press. "This is just the beginning of a long fight and Rare Breed is assessing its next steps."

Federal authorities sued the company in January, alleging its FRT-15 triggers qualify as illegal machine guns under federal law and regulations. The government's lawsuit seeks a permanent ban on selling the triggers.

Rare Breed argues the triggers are legal.

The classification of Rare Breed's FRT-15 triggers as machine guns



by the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives also is being challenged in a lawsuit filed in Texas by the National Association for Gun Rights.

Forced-reset triggers are among

a number of accessories, including bump stocks and auto sears, that increase the firing speed of semi-automatic firearms and have drawn concern from federal and local law enforcement officials worried about mass shootings and other gun violence.

In court filings, the ATF said testing on Rare Breed's FRT-15s showed their rate of fire can meet or exceed that of the military's M-16 machine gun, which can fire 700 to 970 rounds a minute. The ATF says the triggers are machine guns because they fire more than one round with one pull of the trigger.

Rare Breed Triggers, founded in Florida and now based in Fargo, North Dakota, has sold about 100,000 FRT-15s since December 2020, taking in \$39 million in revenue, according to court filings. The devices have generally been

sold at just under \$400 apiece and take only minutes to install.

Other representatives of Rare Breed Triggers, including its owner, Kevin Maxwell, and its president, Lawrence DeMonico, did not immediately return messages seeking comment Tuesday.

U.S. Attorney Breon Peace's office declined to comment.

In court documents, the company argues the ATF's classification of FRT-15s as automatic weapons is wrong.

Federal officials say Rare Breed knew a predecessor of the FRT-15 had been classified as a machine gun but went ahead and sold the triggers anyway without asking the ATF to evaluate the devices. The company said it consulted with former ATF officials who said they believed the triggers were legal.

The ATF ordered the company to stop selling the triggers shortly

after they hit the market.

The ATF has been asking FRT-15 owners to voluntarily turn them over to the agency. In the New York lawsuit, the U.S. attorney asked for an order requiring the company to create a refund program for customers to return the triggers for cash, but the judge denied that request.

At issue in the case is how to apply the National Firearms Act of 1934, as modified in 1968 and 1986.

The law currently bars the public from owning machine guns made in recent decades. It defines machine guns as firearms capable of firing more than one shot with a "single function" of a trigger. Rare Breed Triggers has argued that because its device forces the trigger to return to the start position after each shot, it satisfies the requirement of one "function" per round.

Black Astronauts Celebrate ISS While Reflecting On History

(Space.com)—Hundreds of people came together near Cape Cod in early August to celebrate Black excellence in space.

A Massachusetts event called "From STEM to the Stars," from the National Math and Science Initiative, brought together four Black astronauts who've already been to space, as well as a Black astronaut candidate. They shared their stories and also took part in activities for STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) designed to inspire students from elementary through high school.

Black astronauts are now scheduled to launch toward the moon and the International Space Station (ISS), following generations of work by their predecessors. After the Massachusetts event, two of those pioneers spoke about their experiences with Space.com: Joan Higginbotham, who spent 12 days in space on the space shuttle mission STS-116 in 2006, and Bernard Harris, who accrued more than 18 days in space across the shuttle missions STS-55 in 1993 and STS-63 in 1995.

Higginbotham remembers her mission as the "mini-United Nations crew." It included two Black astronauts (herself and Robert Curbeam), along with astronaut representation in ancestry or citizenship from places like Korea, India, Switzerland and the Jewish community — and that's even before counting the backgrounds of the ISS crew they were visiting.

"When I talk about my flight, I talk in terms of humanity and harmony, and all these people with, I put in quotes, 'differences' working together for a common good," Higginbotham said. "We can do that when we're confined to this little tin can of a spacecraft. Why can't we all work harmoniously here on Earth, where there's so much more space?"

Harris is former CEO of the National Math and Science Initiative, which hosted the STEM event; he helped to found that organization as well. His 1993 space mission was a joint effort with the European Space Agency and was a pioneering effort in international cooperation, Harris said, as two German astronauts joined the crew. The 1995 mission was the first space shuttle mission to the space station Mir, newly in the hands of Russia after the breakup of the Soviet Union.

"The highlight for me was, as we were doing our rendezvous and our close approach, I took this beautiful photo of Valeriy Polyakov that



Left: Astronaut Joan E. Higginbotham, STS-116 mission specialist, settles in for a task on the aft flight deck of Space Shuttle Discovery during flight day three activities. Right: Bernard Harris and Michael Foale prepare to leave the airlock. (Image credit: NASA)

ended up on the cover of 'Aviation Week.' It was him in profile in the porthole of their viewing window of the station," Harris said.

He said the cosmonaut's photo remains moving today, as it's a symbol of how ISS collaboration has continued with that country despite the internationally condemned and ongoing invasion of Ukraine that Russia initiated in February 2022. (Most of Russia's other space partnerships have been severed as a result.)

Eighteen Black astronauts have flown into space, according to NASA statistics, out of more than 600 individuals who have flown to space worldwide. (The definition of where space begins varies considerably between entities, and will therefore influence the statistics.)

While the first Black astronaut (Araldo Tamayo Méndez) flew into space on a Russian Soyuz spacecraft in 1980, a generation after the first astronauts overall, efforts to bring Black representation came in sooner. Ed Dwight, who attended "From STEM to the Stars," took part in an early 1960s military astronaut training program. He was not selected, for complex reasons outlined in a lengthy Smithsonian Institution article written in 2020.

Then the first American Black astronaut, Robert H. Lawrence, was selected for the military's planned Manned Orbiting Laboratory (MOL) space station in 1967.

Sadly, Lawrence never flew in space, as he died in an aircraft accident in December 1967. The MOL program never got off the ground, but seven of Lawrence's colleagues were transferred to NASA in 1969 for eligibility to fly in the space shuttle program.

Some other milestones in Black astronaut history include the first astronaut on a space shuttle (Guion S. Bluford in 1983; the 40th anniversary of launch falls this week), the first woman astronaut (Mae Jemison in 1992), the first spacewalker (Harris, in 1995), the first pilot (Sian Proctor, on SpaceX's Inspiration4 mission in 2021) and the first long-duration ISS missions by a man (Victor Glover in 2020-21) and a woman (Jessica Watkins in 2022.)

That said, every person's pathway to space is a journey worth sharing, the astronauts Space.com spoke to emphasize, as diversity lifts everyone up — no matter their background.

"When you have people that bring diversity to the table, they come to the table and look at things through a little bit of a different lens [than] a group that is homogenous," Higginbotham said. "So you have the ability to have the perspective of getting, maybe, eight different viewpoints. That just makes you a better community."

Higginbotham shared a story from an event she attended honoring Ronald McNair, a Black

astronaut who died aboard the space shuttle Challenger in 1986. McNair's alma mater, North Carolina A&T State University, holds a commemorative event every January, around the anniversary of the tragedy. (The historically Black university has also named a building after the fallen astronaut.)

"This particular year, I was going (to the event), but I was going as my husband's plus-one. So I was being 'Mrs. Mitchell.' I wasn't astronaut Joan Higginbotham," she continued. The host of the event, however, asked to introduce a student with a "wicked engineering degree I didn't even understand," Higginbotham said. The student immediately recognized Higginbotham even though the former astronaut wasn't wearing a flight suit or any other identifying information, she said.

"That kind of blew me away, and then it was incredibly humbling for me to hear that I'm on her vision board," Higginbotham continued. The two have continued to stay in touch as the student continues her educational journey in graduate school.

"I tell that story because that's why representation matters; I'm kind of tearing up talking about it," she added. "Sometimes we (astronauts) don't realize the impact that we can have, but it's impactful what we've done. I am truly humbled and honored if someone

thinks that what I've done is motivation for them."

Now new stories are being written in front of us. Glover followed up his historic long-duration flight with an assignment for the Artemis moon program: He'll become the first Black astronaut to leave low Earth orbit when Artemis 2 flies in late 2024 or so.

"Victor is going to be making history as an African-American man

that is going to be able to circumnavigate the moon. Unfortunately, he's not going to walk on the moon — that's still yet to come — but yes, that will happen," Higginbotham said.

"Think of the kids that were four or five when Apollo 11 happened and they landed on the moon," she added, saying that Glover will make a similar impact with his own mission.





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Information Theft Is On The Rise, Particularly After Natural Disasters

NEW YORK (AP) — Information theft is on the rise. Over 1.1 million people in the U.S. alone reported the crime to the Federal Trade Commission in 2022. When a thief opens accounts in your name or otherwise uses your data, you might feel powerless. But there are steps you can take to prevent the worst outcomes.

Colleen Tressler, a senior project manager for the FTC, has tracked consumer issues including identity theft for more than three decades. She said frauds and scams often emerge during specific emergencies such as the COVID pandemic, and in the wake of

climate-related catastrophes.

"They're imposters, so they're going after your personal information and your financial information however they can," she said. "They'll relate it to anything in their deck of cards — to COVID, to the weather."

People in a heightened emotional state in the wake of a wildfire or hurricane should be extra careful of impersonators asking for identifying details, Tressler said. Scammers might pretend to be from the utility company or the Federal Emergency Management Agency and ask to "verify information."

"If someone uses that phrase, ask them why they need that, and contact the company or agency directly," Tressler said. "They should have that information."

In the fall, when student loan payments resume, Tressler cautions that borrowers should be wary of anyone claiming to be a debt servicer and asking for private information. For example, your actual student loan servicer will never ask for your Federal Student Aid ID or your password, and neither will the Department of Education. You also never have to pay a third party to contact your servicer. The Federal Student Aid site provides more guidance about avoiding identity theft online.

Medical ID theft and tax ID theft are also common, especially during tax season or Medicare re-enrollment periods.

"Scammers are after your money," she said. "But very often your identity can be just as valuable."

If you believe your personal information has been compromised, you should first go to IdentityTheft.gov, where the FTC will provide you with an individualized recovery plan. Prompts and questions will ask you what the thief has used your informa-

tion for — whether opening credit card accounts, getting car loans or leases in your name, or filing for government benefits.

"They could open debit, checking, or savings accounts, utility accounts, get Social Security, Medicare, or a drivers license," Tressler said. "Insurance or medical accounts too."

Here are step by step instructions to keep in mind when it comes to identity theft:

HOW CAN YOU TELL IF YOUR IDENTITY HAS BEEN COMPROMISED?

It can take time to realize your data

has been stolen. According to the FTC, signs include:

- Bills for things you didn't buy
- Debt collection calls for accounts you didn't open
- Inaccurate information on your credit report
- Denial of loan applications
- Mail that stops coming to, or is missing from, your mailbox
- A phone, electricity, or gas account opened in your name
- A missing tax refund or government benefits
- Medical bills or insurance charges for procedures you didn't have

has been stolen. According to the FTC, signs include:

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Health & Wellness

Workers Pay the Price While Congress, Employers Debate

(KFF HealthNews)—Sometimes the heat makes you vomit, said Carmen Garcia, a farmworker in the San Joaquin Valley of California. She and her husband spent July in the garlic fields, kneeling on the scorched earth as temperatures hovered above 105 degrees. Her husband had such severe fatigue and nausea that he stayed home from work for three days. He drank lime water instead of seeing a doctor because the couple doesn't have health insurance. "A lot of people have this happen," Garcia said.

There are no federal standards to protect workers like the Garcias when days become excessively hot. And without bipartisan support from Congress, even with urgent attention from the Biden administration, relief may not come for years.

President Joe Biden in 2021 tasked the Occupational Safety and Health Administration with developing rules to prevent heat injury and illness. But that 46-step process can take more than a decade and might stall if a Republican is elected president in 2024, because the GOP has generally opposed occupational health regulations over the past 20 years. These rules might require employers to provide ample drinking water, breaks, and a cool-down space in shade or air conditioning when temperatures rise above a certain threshold.

On Sept. 7, OSHA will begin meetings with small-business owners to discuss its proposals, including actions that employers would take when temperatures rise to 90 degrees.

As this summer has broken heat records, Rep. Judy Chu (D-Calif.) and other members of Congress have pushed legislation that would speed OSHA's rule-making process. The bill is named after Asunción Valdivia, a farmworker who fell unconscious while picking grapes in California on a 105-degree day in 2004. His son picked him up from

the fields, and Valdivia died of heat-stroke on the drive home. "Whether on a farm, driving a truck, or working in a warehouse, workers like Asunción keep our country running while enduring some of the most difficult conditions," Chu said in a July statement urging Congress to pass the bill.

Trade organizations representing business owners have fought the rules, calling the costs of regulations burdensome. They also say there's a lack of data to justify blanket rules, given variation among workers and workplaces, ranging from fast-food restaurants to farms. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, one of the most powerful lobby groups in Washington, argued that such standards are nonsensical "because each employee experiences heat differently." Further, the Chamber said, measures such as work-rest cycles "threaten to directly and substantially impair ... employees' productivity and therefore their employer's economic viability."

"Many heat-related issues are not the result of agricultural work or employer mismanagement, but instead result from the modern employee lifestyle," the National Cotton Council wrote in its response to proposed regulations. For example, air conditioning makes it more difficult for people to adapt to a hot environment after being in a cold dwelling or vehicle, it said, noting "younger workers, who are more used to a more sedentary lifestyle, cannot last a day working outside."

The Forest Resources Association, representing forest landowners, the timber industry, and mills, added that "heat-related illnesses and deaths are not among the most serious occupational hazards facing workers." They cited numbers from OSHA: The agency documented 789 heat-related hospitalizations and 54 heat-related deaths through investigations and violations from 2018 to 2021.



OSHA concedes its data is problematic. It has said its numbers "on occupational heat-related illnesses, injuries, and fatalities are likely vast underestimates." Injuries and illnesses aren't always recorded, deaths triggered by high temperatures aren't always attributed to heat, and heat-related damage can be cumulative, causing heart attacks, kidney failure, and other ailments after a person has left their place of employment.

To set regulations, OSHA must get a grasp on the toll of heat on indoor and outdoor workers. Justification is a required part of the process be-

cause standards will raise costs for employers who need to install air conditioning and ventilation systems indoors, and those whose productivity may drop if outdoor workers are permitted breaks or shorter days when temperatures climb.

Ideally, business owners would move to protect workers from heat regardless of the rules, said Georges Benjamin, executive director of the American Public Health Association. "We need to do a better job of convincing employers that there is a trade-off between efficiency and sick workers," he said.

Garcia and her husband suffered

the symptoms of heat exhaustion: vomiting, nausea, and fatigue. But their cases are among thousands that go uncounted when people don't go to the hospital or file complaints for fear of losing their jobs or immigration status. Farmworkers are notoriously underrepresented in official statistics on occupational injuries and illness, said David Michaels, an epidemiologist at George Washington University and former OSHA administrator. Researchers who surveyed farmworkers in North Carolina and Georgia found that more than a third of them had heat illness symptoms during the summers of their studies — far higher than what OSHA has registered. Notably, the Georgia study revealed that 34% of farmworkers had no access to regular breaks, and a quarter had no access to shade.

Even cases in which workers are hospitalized might not be attributed to heat if doctors don't make note of the connection. Many studies link occupational accidents to heat stress, which can cause fatigue, dehydration, and vertigo. In a study in Washington state, farmworkers were found to fall off ladders more often in June and July, among the hottest and most humid months. And in a 2021 report, researchers estimated that hotter temperatures caused approximately 20,000 occupational injuries a year in California between

2001 and 2018, based on workers' compensation claims.

Heat-related kidney injuries also come up in OSHA's database of workers severely injured on the job, like an employee at a meat processing plant hospitalized for dehydration and acute kidney injury on a hot June day in Arkansas. But research finds that kidney damage from heat can also be gradual. One study of construction workers laboring over a summer in Saudi Arabia found that 18% developed signs of kidney injury, putting them at risk of kidney failure later.

In addition to quantifying the injuries and deaths caused by heat, OSHA attempts to attach a cost to them so it can calculate potential savings from prevention. "You've got to measure things, like what is a life worth?" Michaels said. To workers and their families, suffering has far-reaching consequences that are hard to enumerate. Medical costs are more straightforward. For example, OSHA estimates the direct cost of heat prostration — overheating due to heatstroke or hyperthermia — at nearly \$80,000 in direct and indirect costs per case. If this seems high, consider a construction worker in New York who lost consciousness on a hot day and fell from a platform, suffering a kidney laceration, facial fractures, and several broken ribs.

Medicines360's \$82M Road To Birth Control

(AP) - Drugs and medical devices rarely come from the nonprofit world. There are more than 2,600 for-profit pharmaceutical companies in the United States, but only three nonprofits have products on the American market. One of them is Medicines360, which in 2015 became the first nonprofit to introduce a medical device — an IUD. The genesis of the device came from an anonymous foundation that saw one of the most effective and reversible birth-control methods, the hormonal IUD, was too expensive for most women. Even insured women could be billed copays of up to \$1,000.

In 2008, the foundation (which Bloomberg reported was the Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation) partnered with pharmaceutical scientist and MacArthur fellow Victoria Hale and decided to make a six-year, \$82.2 million investment to develop a low-cost hormonal IUD through a nonprofit company.

"The real goal of the donor and of Medicines360 was to provide this product to safety net clinics at a very, very affordable price," said Medicines360's Autumn Ehnou, referring to healthcare sites that serve uninsured patients.

Medicines360 recently issued a report summing up what did and did not work in the seven years since it distributed devices for \$50 apiece. The organization recounts meeting its goals: It expanded access to the device and introduced competition to the market and thus lowered prices.

However, it also faced unanticipated roadblocks, including the discovery that a low-cost product did not necessarily guarantee market adoption. Substantial challenges included a tax code and Food and Drug Administration regulations unfavorable to nonprofit pharmacies, a lack of access to investment, middlemen who benefit from distributing drugs that are high-priced, and even Medicare and Medicaid programs whose policies do not necessarily favor low-cost drugs.

When Medicines360 launched in 2009, there was one hormonal and one copper IUD on the market in the United States, and patents had expired some time ago. These normally would make for ripe conditions for a generic product. However, for-profit pharmacies were not interested.

IUDs were saddled with a bad reputation in the United States due to a defective device, the Dalkon Shield, marketed in the 1970s, which caused severe infections and even deaths. Though other IUDs did not carry the risks of the Dalkon Shield, negative views of IUDs persisted for decades in the American market, and other manufacturers withdrew their products for fear of litigation and because of low demand and a strict approval process.

So although there was already an existing product, and patents for the product had expired, Medicines360 still had to conduct a large and expensive phase-three clinical trial to test the device's safety and efficacy and win Food and Drug Administration approval.

"We went through the same process that a pharmaceutical company would go through to bring a new product," said Tina Raine-Bennett, who became CEO after Hale.

The nonprofit began by acquiring a hormonal IUD already in development, conducting tests for FDA approval, and creating a commercial partnership with a traditional pharmaceutical company. It made sure to retain ownership of the product to protect the product's public-health mission. It was a complex, yearslong journey, which explains the project's \$82 million cost. "The barrier to U.S. market entry was not IP," said Ehnou. "It was just purely no one had been interested or able to raise those kinds of funds."

"What was shocking to me about this is seeing the whole price tag," said Alina Salganicoff, senior vice president and director of women's health policy at Kaiser Family Foundation. The cost demonstrates "what it takes to go through an FDA approval process."

After the product, Liletta, launched in 2015, Medicines360 continued to broaden its approved usage. Today, it is approved for all women of reproductive age, not just those who had born children, and last fall the FDA extended its use for pregnancy prevention for up to eight years.

"It's a really big deal that now they're hopefully going to be made available to much larger proportions of the population," said Rebecca Callahan, director of research and operations at FHI 360, an international health nonprofit in North Carolina, of hormonal IUDs.

A 2011 study showed that women confronted with an out-of-pocket expense of more than \$50 were less likely to choose an IUD. The study greatly influenced Medicines360's decisions on price. Yet the nonprofit's hypothesis that "if we build it, they will come," as Ehnou put it, turned out to be not quite accurate.

Though the nonprofit predicted it would sell 100,000 devices to safety-net clinics and hospitals in its first year, its actual sales were less than half of that.

Obamacare was a complicating factor. Because of the Affordable Care Act, clinics and hospitals knew they would be reimbursed so they had less incentive to keep purchasing prices low.

What's more, from the time the device leaves the manufacturer to the time it enters a clinic, it passes through many supply-chain intermediaries. Wholesalers, for example, charge a fee typically based on the list price of a drug and prefer higher-cost drugs because they make more money. However, for clinics that have a high proportion of uninsured patients, Liletta's low cost is still attractive.



Community



North Carolina Central's Latrell Collier (5) steps across the goal line for the touchdown against the Winston-Salem State Defense during the first half. Winston-Salem State took on former CIAA rival North Carolina Central in a non-conference game in Durham, NC on September 2nd. North Carolina Central wins 47-21. *Steve Worthy Photo*

NC Awarded \$3.8M For Opioid Overdose Risks

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) announced \$3,799,994 in awards to rural communities in North Carolina to support key strategies to respond to the overdose risk from fentanyl and other opioids. These awards help advance President Biden's commitment to beat the opioid epidemic as part of his Unity Agenda for the nation.

Across the country, more than 100,000 people die each year from overdose. Individuals who call rural communities home and who are experiencing opioid use disorder – including from fentanyl, heroin or other opioids – can face challenges in accessing treatment and recovery services. Geographic isolation and transportation barriers can make finding treatment particularly challenging and limited mental health and substance use disorder health care providers in the community can

further complicate access. The stigmatization of substance use disorder and its treatments are additional barriers to access. HRSA's funding is targeted to helping communities address these critical needs and expand access to services. "Far too many rural families have faced the devastation of overdose, and these deaths are felt deeply across rural communities -- where often everyone knows someone lost too soon," said HRSA Administrator

Carole Johnson. "At the Health Resources and Services Administration, we know that funding based on population size or other broad-based rubrics can miss the vital treatment and response needs of rural communities. That's why the investments we are announcing today are targeted to rural communities and tailored to the unique challenges of helping rural health care leaders expand access to treatment and build recovery pathways to prevent overdose."

The Carolinian's Citizen Reporter



By L. Lockley

I've been to many festivals in my life, but this one was different. I walked down Fayetteville Street in downtown Raleigh, NC on Sunday afternoon—the first day of the African American Festival—and it felt like I'd stepped into a time machine. The smell of BBQ filled the air, and the sounds of jazz were everywhere. There were people everywhere admiring the beautiful paintings on display, and others admiring the clothing vendors and jewelry vendors who had set up shop there.

There was something for everyone: from T-shirts with your favorite celebrities on them (Fred Sanford's famous "You Big Dummy" was my favorite) to medallions crafted from headscarfs, jewelry, rugs, hats and very beautiful dresses.

It wasn't just about shopping for items; it was also about interacting with other people who came from all over North Carolina to celebrate our culture. There was talk about how long it took for each vendor to make their items or what kind of food they would be serving at lunchtime tomorrow—you could really feel the love and pride each person had for their heritage.



STATE BRIEFS

Continued from page 1

the (judicial complaint) process is being bastardized in an effort to silence Black and brown people. And in this case, particularly, Justice Earls."

Blagrove added that it does not matter who filed the complaint but what really matters is why the complaint was filed. She emphasized that what is happening to Justice Earls is only a microcosm of what is happening to every Black, brown and marginalized person in NC.

"Throughout her tenure on the court, she has suffered blatant disrespect, thinly veiled racist attacks, and untold numbers of microaggressions; but she still does what is just what is right and what is fair. Justice Anita Earls is a representation of all of us who are not white straight men in our fight for justice, equity, and fairness," said Blagrove.

After speaking with many residents, they agree that Justice Earl has been the most liberal voice on the NC Supreme Court. She ran as a Democrat, she defeated a Republican incumbent in a State Supreme Court race in 2018. As well as a civil rights lawyer and a top official in the civil-rights division of the U.S. Justice Department during the administration of President Bill Clinton.

"I believe that the First Amendment provides me and every American the right to free speech and to bring to light imperfections and unfairness in our



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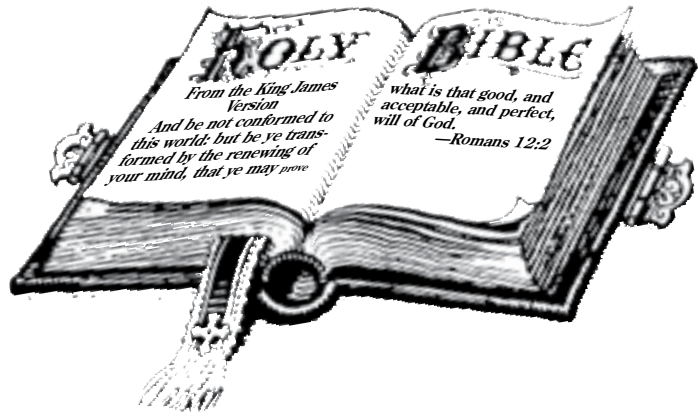
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Church

SERMON of the WEEK

Shaw Univ. Mosque Reopens



COME ON' MAN!

Sometimes when people become irritated, agitated, or frustrated by what someone else does or says, they use a slang phrase to express their annoyance and dissatisfaction by saying, "come on' man!"

This saying is used quite often by various ESPN commentators, NBA and NFL analysis, and athletes as well. Moreover, former President Barack Obama used it on the campaign trail and President Joe Biden used it in a Town Hall Meeting.

Furthermore, you may hear people in the general public use it, for instance, "did you eat my last Granola Bar? Come on' man! Did you mistakenly throw my lunch in the trash that the janitor is walking out with? Come on' man!"

Well, after reading Luke 18:9-14, "Come on' man" is exactly what I said after reading a prayer of a man that Jesus portrayed in a popular parable.

The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector

To someone who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: "God, I thank You that I am

not like other people—robbers, evil-doers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get."

But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, "God, have mercy on me, a sinner."

"I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." NIV

Notice, the Pharisee started his prayer making a comparison of himself and other people and how proud he was of himself that he was not like them. He pointed out specifically several weaknesses and faults that others had but only mentioned good points about himself.

Some Biblical translations said that he looked down on others and despised them and held them in contempt. (Come on' man!) He didn't know that we are all sinners and (Come on' man!!). He didn't know that God has no respecter of persons (Come on' man!!!) the Pharisee talked to God about depravity seemingly to promote his good behavior but according to the parable, God only responded to the hated publican.

Important differences of the two men praying in the temple was that

one knew who he was, what he was, and where he was, but the other was all about himself. The Pharisee did not show honor to God in his prayer, and he did not ask God for anything. He asked for nothing and got nothing.

However, the despised man asked for one thing and received two. He was awarded the two most important things a person in this world can obtain from God; he asked for mercy but received grace and mercy because the parable ends saying he went home justified rather than the other. We have not, because we ask not. Make sure we seek the kingdom of God, and all other things will be added unto us. Ask and it shall be given, seek and we shall find, knock and doors will be opened.

Don't you want to hear God say come on man, come on woman, come unto to Me all that labor and are heavy laden and I will give them rest. Also, let the children come, forbid them not because heaven belongs to them too! Come to Jesus, come to Jesus, come to Jesus, He will heal you. He will save you and if you ask and believe in your heart, He can do it right now!

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

Tyria Bourda

Staff Writer

After more than three years of not being able to hold religious services at the mosque on Shaw University's campus, an organization is happy to be back in the facility.

Deputy Executive Director of the CAIR (Council on American-Islamic Relations), Edward Mitchell, shared with The Carolinian his thoughts on the reopening.

"Shaw University's closure of Masjid King Khalid and attempts to rezone the property raised overlapping concerns about gentrification, religious freedom, and the preservation of historically Black neighborhoods. The re-opening of the mosque is an important development for not only

those who worship there and the local Black Muslim community but also for everyone who cares about these issues. We applaud attorney Nigel Edwards, Masjid King Khalid and everyone else working to ensure that this house of worship stays upon for decades to come."

Since the peak of the COVID-19 outbreak, The King Khalid mosque on Shaw University's campus closed its doors and hasn't reopened for three years, leaving the Muslim community demanding answers. Mosque leaders shared with The Carolinian that their multiple requests to resume prayers have been denied for COVID-19 safety concerns. However, the nearby campus chapel is open to the public and routinely hosts religious services.

A board member of Masjid King Khalid, the mosque's nonprofit, Nigel Edwards said their requests were denied even though worship services were being held at the university's chapel. In response, the Muslim community started publicly protesting in January of this year.

Furthermore, the mosque's closing has been a point of contention amid Shaw University's effort to rezone its downtown Raleigh campus. The Raleigh City Council voted in favor of the rezoning in June which would allow for taller buildings in the area and enable the university to lease out parts of campus to developers. Some local Muslims called on city officials not to approve the rezoning plans until questions about the mosque's future had been resolved.

Obituaries

Hettie Roberta Nelms, 94, passed peacefully in her sleep in the early hours of the morning Friday, June 30th, 2023. A Raleigh native, Hettie was born on January 8th, 1929 the youngest of six to Jesse and Lela Wall. In January of 1944, Hettie married army private James Lee Nelms. They went on to be married for 43 years, till James' death in 1987, and have four beautiful children.



Hettie was a skilled homemaker and caretaker that found a calling in caring for all of those around her. As a mother, she raised 4 successful children while also running a day-care out of their Raleigh home. She was known to take in extended family to care for during their illness and their children if they were too ill to care for them at home.

In her later years, after retirement from childminding, she often looked after her grandchildren during school breaks and minor illness-

es. Many family members have fond memories of staying at the Nelms home over the years for Hettie to help care for them. Even till her last years, Hettie was a caretaker at heart and always asked after everyone she knew.

Hettie is preceded in death by her husband of 43 years, James Lee; her youngest daughter, Jackie Culliton; her grandson, Eddie Nelms; her great granddaughter Jamilyn

Borbas; both of her parents, Jesse and Lela Harris Wall; and all of her siblings, Roy Wall, Leslie Wall, Effie Stone, Lela Mae Nelms, and Catherine Cannon. As well as many nieces, nephews, and extended family.

Hettie is survived by her sons, James Nelms and wife, Patricia (née Averett), Johnny Nelms; her daughter, Judy Nipper and husband Joe; grandchildren, Jan Corbett and husband, Bart; Joel Nipper and wife, Karen (née Borbas); Kimberly Culliton and husband, Paul Murphy; and Cynthia Stone and husband Robby; great grandchildren, Joey Nipper; Elizabeth Stone; and Paislee-Lynn Stone. As well as many beloved nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A celebration of Hettie's life was held with Visitation from 9am-10am at RM Ferguson Funeral service on Wednesday, July 5th, 2023 with a celebration of life to follow immediately. A graveside service will follow at Raleigh Memorial Park in Raleigh.

Practical Biblical Principles

MY BODY AND MY BLOOD – PART I

John 6:47-58

This issue and discussion of Jesus being the 'bread of life' started when the people followed Jesus by boat to the city of Capernaum after He had performed the miracle of feeding five thousand plus people (John 6:24). The people wanted to make Jesus their king after witnessing His feeding miracle on the other side of the lake (John 6:15).

When Jesus saw the crowd, He answered them and said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs (I Am sent from the Father) but because you ate of the loaves and were filled. Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him.

Then they said unto Him, "what shall we do to work the works of God?" Jesus said unto them, "This is the work of God, that you may believe in Him whom He sent."

"For the bread of God is He who comes down from Heaven and gives life to the world. Then they said unto Him, "Lord give us this bread always." And Jesus said unto them, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who comes to Me shall never thirst. But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe."

The Jews then complained about

Him, because He said, "I am the bread which came from heaven (John 6:42). Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life. I am the bread of life (John 6:49). I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this, He will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world (John 6:50-51). Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day (John 6:54-57)." These things Jesus taught at the synagogue in Capernaum. They heard this and said, "This is a hard saying, who can understand it?"

"Therefore, I have said unto you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father." From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. Why did the disciples walk away? Many probably never returned to Him, even after the cross. Why was this teaching so difficult to understand by His disciples and by many Christians today?

Was this teaching of Jesus of a symbolic nature or was it literal? If you argue that Jesus' teaching was of a spiritual nature, then what one is saying and believing is that Jesus' teachings on eating His flesh and drinking His blood is real. All Spiritual matters are real.

Let's look at the disciples' difficulties which turned them and others away from Christ, starting with God's initial instruction to Noah af-

ter the flood. "Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you... But thou shall not eat flesh with life in it, that is, its blood (Genesis 9:4).

"When a man hunts and catches any beast or fowl that may be eaten, thou shall pour out the blood thereof and cover it with dust. For it is the life of all flesh. Its blood sustains its life. Therefore, I said to the children of Israel, "You shall not eat the blood of any flesh for the life of all flesh is its blood. Whosoever eats it shall be cut off (Leviticus 17:13-14).

It appears that these Old Testament Commandments found in Genesis, Leviticus, and Deuteronomy were the reasons that the disciples had to leave Jesus' ministry. When Jesus taught the New Testament meaning of eating the flesh and drinking His blood, the poor disciples had trouble seeing this blood theology in the symbolic way and the natural or literal way. The fact they did not fully believe in Jesus and that He was not sent from Heaven blinded them to receive 'spiritual' understanding that Jesus was the 'real and true' Bread of Life which gives everlasting life to all who partake of Him (believing in Him).

To eat the flesh of Jesus and drink His blood at Communion is to simply believe and accept Him as the real Son of the Living God.

J. L. Caldwell, Pastor
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On October 5, The Carolinian will publish its first annual Pastor Appreciation Special Edition. With October being Pastor Appreciation Month, it is the perfect time to honor your Church Founders, Ministers, Clergy and of course your Pastors.

The special edition will be included in the newspaper for all to see. Those entering the ministry do so because they feel called to the mission. While they may intellectually know the pressures they will face, the reality can feel different, and at times overwhelming.

Pastors are there during the most stressful and difficult times of our lives. When someone is sick or has died, during a divorce, or when life requires difficult choices, a minister is often the first person called. Their role as counselors and mentors is a vital part of the ministry.

The Church needs a solid foundation to remain strong. Today, many churches rely on the ministry to be the rock their Church is built upon. Show your appreciation for all that your Pastors do to keep the congregation and the community strong.

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Editorials

Supporting Justice Earls & Supporting Black Women Attorneys



By Dawn Blagrove

Emanipate

Being a Black lawyer in North Carolina, where, in many counties, you have to walk past Confederate monuments to even begin to extract fairness from a biased criminal justice system, requires very tough skin. Compound being Black with being a woman and the sea of racism, disrespect, and denigration that one has to swim through simply to do your job would be enough to deter anyone from this work. Despite all of that Black women attorneys walk into court rooms in North Carolina, and fight the good fight every single day. It is through this lens that I view the most recent attacks against North Carolina Supreme Court Justice Anita Earls.

Justice Earls is one of only two Black people currently sitting on the Supreme Court of North Carolina, and she is the only Black woman. Throughout her tenure on the court, she has suffered blatant disrespect, thinly veiled racist attacks, and untold numbers of microaggressions. Not only from outside, but also from her learned colleagues on the bench. Justice Earls consistently and unwaveringly stands on the side of justice for all people, not just the ones who have historically been deemed deserving of justice. Even when she is drowning in a sea of political extremism on the court and racism disguised as color blindness, she does what is just what is right and what is fair. Justice Earl stands in the gap for every marginalized community in North Carolina and now she is under attack. I call on those marginalized communities that she fights so tirelessly for to now stand in the gap for her.

This year alone, Justice Earls has been on the receiving end of two witch hunts, disguised as investigations by the Judicial Standards Commission, into her fitness to be a judge simply because she has the unmitigated gall to speak truth to power about the insidious and cancerous nature of systemic and institutional racism within the justice system. Just like she fights for all of us, today she filed a federal lawsuit to fight for her professional career and her right to be a Black woman on the highest court of North Carolina. Again it requires very thick skin to serve the people as a Black woman in North Carolina.

What is happening to Justice Earls is a microcosm of what is happening to every Black, brown and marginalized person in North Carolina at the hands of elected officials who are determined to drag this state back to the days of Jim Crow. In North Carolina, we have Phil Berger senior leading the North Carolina senate and Phil Berger Junior, orchestrating his father's bidding on the State Supreme Court. The collusion of two of the three branches of government that are supposed to work as checks and balances on one another is the ultimate attack on democracy. Without real checks and balances on the powers of our elected officials, we live under a dictatorship, not a democracy.

We are watching our general assembly, in cahoots with our supreme court, systematically strip away the power of marginalized communities by attacking our right to have access to the ballot, our right to protest against tyranny, our right to quality education, and the list goes on and on. Justice Anita Earls is a representation of all of us who are not white straight men in our fight for justice, equity, and fairness.

You are hereby challenged to stand with Justice Anita Earls as she fights for her dignity and right to be treated like a full human being. It is imperative that we rise to this challenge because Justice Earls is us and we are her. Together we have to fight back to maintain our humanity in the face of injustice. Together, we have to take a stand. We are HERE and will be unwavering in demanding equal access to all the rights and privileges enjoyed by North Carolinians.



FUNdraising Good Times



WHAT MAKES AN IDEAL FUNDRAISING LEADER?

Every day, in nonprofits across the country, the question is being asked – who can lead our fundraising campaign or manage our development office? What type of person does it take? What does the ideal look like today? If your list of qualifications starts and ends with the phrase experienced fundraising professional, we have a few suggestions for additional qualities to round out your list.

First you want someone who believes in the vision of your organization. Ideally their past personal and/or professional experience bears this out: you can see that they dedicate their time to priorities that are in sync with those of your nonprofit. We recommend looking for people who are self-starters, who can manage multiple priorities, and are technologically up-to-date. They should be a good listener, open to the ideas and thoughts of others, and quick to acknowledge and recognize good work. You want someone who can manage people, time, and money. Sometimes this is a juggling act, but all three resources are equally important.

Your ideal fundraising leader is transparent, accountable, and trustworthy. They do what they say they are going to do; they deliver on their promise. They seek out people with ideas that are different from theirs, knowing that we all need help from others to see what we cannot see. You want a proactive team player who demonstrates excellence by example, setting the bar through their actions. This includes managing with a sense of urgency and balancing that urgency with an understanding that most things take time and don't happen right away. Your ideal fundraising leader cares about their team members and doesn't frivolously burn people out with one high priority thing after another.

You want someone who does not need the spotlight to shine on them: the best fundraisers often work in the background, shining the spotlight on others. They are risktakers and innovators who don't like losing. At the same time that they are creative and willing to "push the envelope" they also know where the boundaries are and are sensitive to the pace at which an organization can adapt to change.

Here's a quality that can be easily overlooked: you want someone who likes people! Fundraising is all about people. It's the people you work with, the people you serve or advocate for, and the people who grow your organization's fundraising. If your fundraiser doesn't like people, it will show, especially in the little things, like demonstrating kindness or listening even when you are in a rush. Other things to look for are people who answer their phone, email, text messages, and other communications. You want a person who can plan and implement. Someone who can set goals, modify them when needed, and say "no." Most importantly, your ideal person needs to be willing. If they are only half-hearted about leading this important work, keep looking until you find someone who wants to work with you. Hiring isn't easy today, but it's easier if you know what you need.

A Different Voice

By Dorothy Shaw Thompson



I AM JERELLE-WE ARE JERELLE

Last week, Brad and a dear friend attended a celebration of the efforts for freedom. In our state, the friend is a fellow class of 1964 JW Legion High School, Patrick Bryant. Recently, we have reconnected and it's been a great joy. When we went on our cross-country tour a few years back, we stayed a few nights in New Orleans. I had a chance there to visit with my friend, Tamika Key, and her darling children (who are back in Raleigh now). Had I known that Patrick was living there, we could have reconnected then but God had other plans. I wish my children had attended JW Legion Senior High School for it was a flower pot for the future. Those of us who lived in various parts of the city merged for our high school years in that one place. We were friends with common goals and common experiences. However, I've learned that Legion wasn't a melting pot for everyone. I've learned that some didn't feel that they fit in, but most of us experienced Legion as our glory days. So when Patrick called and said he was in town, we invited him over and talked. Reminiscing continued into our old folk's bedtime or in other words—a little past dark. Now forgive me, if my history isn't precise, it's going to be close enough. When Brad Tommy and I moved back to Raleigh in the early 70s, Brad, Patrick, and others were young (in their 20 something) and had community-minded missions. That's how they came to know each other. Brad is a chairman of the newly formed Human Relations Committee and Patrick, a member of the Raleigh Housing Board. Both had persistent revolutionary tendencies and often caused a stir for their boldness. Renters, you have Patrick to thank for your gift not to be put out of your homes at the whim of your landlord. Their ideas became law. Patrick moved on to New Orleans and frankly, I lost track of him then found out that he once wrote a column for the Carolinian. And now has a syndicated column in 3 papers. Okay, so I'm reminiscing, but this writing has a purpose. Patrick has a 52-year-old daughter here and his mother still lives here as well, so he often comes back home. Now he lives on a boat on the coast of Florida. Patrick's daughter, Jerell Perry sustained several strokes, was in a coma for a while, and is now a resident of a local

nursing facility. She is a paraplegic and in need of perpetual care. After attending the civil rights ceremony and on his way home, Patrick got an instinct to go to the nursing home and visit his daughter. When he got there by the grace of God, he found his daughter almost lifeless and struggling to breathe her blood pressure was 40 / 30, and when she got to the hospital, her vital organs began to shut down. Her body was experiencing what I understand is the excruciating process of returning her essence to heaven. In other words, she was dying. The cause, several competing infections diagnosed by the doctors. She is presently being treated and is still with us though. Whenever Patrick calls, I tend to brace myself for bad news. As you can see, Jarrell is in a precarious situation if she is returned to this nursing home as is. I've learned some things from this situation that I didn't know (1) Social services is responsible in this case, not her family, (2) There is a case worker Donna Augusta who is to ensure that she gets appropriate care though her families are advocates, it's my understanding that (3) the agency is responsible to the County Commissioners who are to be sure that the agency does its job. In my opinion, at the least, there need to be monitors for a person who can get in life-threatening stress. There has to be some monitoring of blood pressure, temperature, and other indications of difficulties such as choking or pain. Of course, there must be eyes. In these cases more than once a day. This I understand is a lady who had to be taken back to the hospital twice since being released a month or so ago. This says to me a change in action must be sought to save this life. I have a feeling that this is not the first or the last story of this kind. I'm not a social worker, county commissioner, nurse, or doctor but I am also responsible for the case because I'm invested as well. As I told Patrick, the situation is one that God is invested in. It is not just about drills that this experience is given to a revolutionary activist and an article writer. This is an alarm bell to those who read this.

The Golden Rule's application is not just about individual situations and individual patients and families. When we respond with the golden rule, it is to make our whole world a better place to live. For everybody, we are all responsible because our tax dollars are taken and applied to those we hire or vote for. We must be fiduciaries of our friends—all of us. We don't know what's down the road for us therefore we are Jerell. I don't know why you happen to be reading this, but if you care, you must respond. I've talked to legislators, called social workers, and written this article. I'd like to know if there are others in this situation. Jarrell is alive to wake us up for her and others for ourselves. This is for Patrick, but also for every other father, family member, church member, etc, out there who cares. You can care, and if you care, you must act. Prayer is a powerhouse, talk with your prayer group, friends, family, civic representatives, and whomever. As John Lewis says, "If you see (or hear) something, do something."

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phillips



GRIN & BEAR IT



"Always stick to what you believe they want you to say!"

Classifieds

DURHAM COUNTY

the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 7th day of September, 2023.

Takita Meritt
266 Jared Drive
Angier, NC 27501
9/7, 9/14, 9/21, and 9/28/2023
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-986

The Undersigned, having qualified as ADMINISTRATOR of the LINWOOD EARL LYNCH, 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 7th day of December 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 7th day of September, 2023.

Lakisha Forshea Moore
Administrator
1110 First Edition Drive, Unit 1301
Durham, NC 27703
9/7, 9/14, 9/21, and 9/28/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
In The General Court Of Justice
Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk
File Number 22-E-873

The Undersigned, having qualified as EXECUTOR of the WILLIE R. HOLDER, 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 7th day of December 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 7th day of September, 2023.

Will Rufus Holder, Executor
1421 Sherron Road
Durham, NC 27703
9/7, 9/14, 9/21, and 9/28/2023

ORANGE COUNTY

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
ORANGE COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The undersigned having qualified as Executor of the Estate of HOMER THRALL, JR., Deceased, late of 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 20th day of November, 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 17th day of August, 2023.

James H. Thrall, Executor Estate of Homer Thrall, Jr., Deceased
Robert A. Idol, Esquire
IDOL LAW, PLLC
Attorney at Law
PO Box 51759
Durham, NC 27717
(919)401.5151
8/17, 8/24, 8/31, and 9/7/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
ORANGE COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of ROY CHESTER BELON, deceased, this is to notify

all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the Estate of ROY CHESTER BELON to present them to the undersigned on or before the 24th day of November, 2023, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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

This, the 24th day of August, 2023.

EDWARD J. FALCONE
Attorney for the Estate of ROY CHESTER BELON
120 E. Parrish Street, Suite 200
Durham, North Carolina 27701
(919) 682-9273
8/24, 8/31, 9/7, and 9/14/2023

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 23E004375-910

The Undersigned, having qualified as ADMINISTRATOR of the Estate of ALBERT MORNING, 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 17th day of November 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 17th day of August, 2023.

Angela Morning Jones
Administrator
1009 Belmont Jones
Raleigh, NC 27610
8/17, 8/24, 8/31, and 9/7/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
In The General Court Of Justice
Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk
File Number 2022 E 004620

The Undersigned, having qualified as ADMINISTRATOR of the Estate of TRUMELIA HAWKINS, 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 24th day of November 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 24th day of August, 2023.

Malik Hawkins, Administrator
3940 Griffis Glen Dr.
Raleigh, NC 27610
8/24, 8/31, 9/7, and 9/14/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the estate of MARY BAYNE, deceased, late of Garner, North Carolina, who died on 12 Dec 2022. Take notice that all persons having claims upon the estate of the above named must file with the undersigned Estate Trustee on or before December 1, 2023 a full statement of their claims and of securities held by them.

This the 31st day of August, 2023.

Hillary Bayne, Administrator
109 Country Farm Ln
Beulaville NC 28518
919-691-2187
8/31, 9/7, 9/14, and 9/21/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
In The General Court Of Justice
Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk
File Number 23E004564-910

The Undersigned, having qualified as ADMINISTRATOR of the Estate of WAYNE WILLIAM STEWART, 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 1st day of December 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 31st day of August, 2023.

Lisbeth F. Wilmont, Administrator
2620 Amos Circle
Raleigh, NC 27610
8/31, 9/7, 9/14, and 9/21/2023

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 **New Hanover County Complex Water-line Extension** project for New Hanover County which bids **September 14, 2023, at 3:00 PM**. Plans and specifications for this project are available at the following locations: TA Loving Company, 400 Patetown Road, Goldsboro, NC 27530 * New Hanover County Facilities Management Office; 200 Division Drive; Wilmington, NC 28401.

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, clearing and grubbing, hauling, asphalt paving, striping, traffic control, erosion control, seeding, line-work, jack & bore, and bypass pumping. Please contact Jeff Price (jprice@taloving.com) if you are interested in submitting a proposal on any portion(s) of this project. Contact via phone 919-734-8400; fax 919-736-2148; or email. All quotations will be accepted up to bid closing time 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:
Town of Zebulon
2023 Pavement Resurfacing Program
Wake Co. Bid Date: Sept 12th
Town of Wake Forest
Street Resurfacing Project
Wake Co. Bid Date: Sept 28th

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

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.

WANTED WBE, MBE & DBE BIDS
for the following job:
Town of Rolesville
Rogers Road Street Widening Improvements
Wake Co. Bid Date: Sept. 14th

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

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.

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www.CARO.news

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
The North Carolina Department of Adult Correction has the following contract in Greene County out for bid: C- C11618 Security Netting - Greene Correctional Institution . The bid opening is scheduled for: Wednesday, 10/04/2023 . To obtain the Notice to Bidders, any Pre-Bid Requirements, and any Addenda visit: <https://evp.nc.gov/solicitations/details/?id=207ed0f8-7e46-ee11-be6d-001dd804ec4b>

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 **Northern Regional Pump Station and Force Main - Phase A** project for Cape Fear Public Utility Authority which bids **September 19, 2023, at 11:00 AM**. Plans and specifications for this project are available at the following locations: TA Loving Company, 400 Patetown Road, Goldsboro, NC 27530 * Cape Fear Public Utility Authority; 235 Government Drive; Wilmington, NC 28403 * Carolinas AGC Website * Dodge Data and Analytics website * ConstructConnect website * Construction Journal website * Hispanic Contractors Association of the Carolinas website * North American Procurement Council, Inc. website * The Blue Book Building and Construction Network website.

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, clearing and grubbing, hauling, asphalt paving, striping, traffic control, erosion control, seeding, SCADA, linework, jack & bore, directional drilling, bypass pumping, and flatwork. Please contact Jeff Price (jprice@taloving.com) if you are interested in submitting a proposal on any portion(s) of this project. Contact via phone 919-734-8400; fax 919-736-2148; or email. All quotations will be accepted up to bid closing time 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:
NCDOT Division Three Letting
DC00435 Duplin Co. Bid Date: Sept 7th
NCDOT Division Four Letting
DD00435 Johnston Co. Bid Date: Sept 12th
NCDOT Division Five Letting
DE00368 Wake Co. Bid Date: Sept 13th
NCDOT Central Letting
C204785 Harnett Co. Bid Date: Sept 19th
C204894 Franklin/Wake Co. Bid Date: Sept 19th
C204896 Wake Co. Bid Date: Sept 19th
NCDOT Division Six Letting
DF00439 Harnett Co. Bid Date: Sept 20th
DF00446 Harnett Co. Bid Date: Sept 20th

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

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 **Aerial Crossing Repairs Phase II** project for Fayetteville Public Works Commission which bids **September 20, 2023, at 1:00 PM**. Plans and specifications for this project are available at the following locations: TA Loving Company, 400 Patetown Road, Goldsboro, NC 27530 * Fayetteville PWC Procurement website * Fayetteville State University Construction Resource Office website * Construct-Connect website * NC Institute of Minority Economic Development (NCIMED) website.

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, erosion control, seeding, linework, bypass pumping, and flatwork. Please contact Justin E. Hill (jehill@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.



ALL-ELECTRIC
ESCALADE IQ

Preproduction model shown throughout. Actual production model may vary. Available late 2024.