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COLIN POWELL KNEW WHERE HE FIT IN AMERICAN HISTORY.
 The former secretary of state – who died on Oct. 18, 2021 at 84 as a result of COVID-19 complications – was a pioneer: the first Black national security advisor in U.S. history, the first Black chairman of the joint chiefs of staff and also the first Black man to become secretary of state.

But his “American journey” – as he described it in the title of a 2003 autobiography – is more than the story of one man. His death is a moment to think about the history of Black American men and women in the military and the place of African Americans in government.

But more profoundly, it also speaks to what it means to be an American, and the tensions that Colin Powell – as a patriot and a Black man – faced throughout his life and career.

As W.E.B. DuBois put it in an 1897 article and later in his classic 1903 book “The Souls of Black Folk,” this “peculiar sensation” is unique to African Americans: “One feels his two-ness – an American, a Negro; two souls, two thoughts, two unreconciled strivings; two warring ideals in one dark body, whose dogged strength alone keeps it from being torn asunder.”

This concept profoundly describes Colin Powell as a soldier, a career military man and a politician.

What it means to serve
 On the surface, Colin Powell’s life would seem to refute DuBois’ formulation. He stood as someone that many people could point to as an example of how it is possible to be both Black and a full American, something DuBois viewed as an enduring tension. There is a narrative that Powell used the military to transcend race and become one of the most powerful men in the country. In that sense, he was the ultimate American success story.

But there is a danger to that narrative. Colin Powell’s story was exceptional, but he was no avatar of a color-blind, post-racial America.

The U.S. Army has long been seen as a route for Black Americans, especially young Black men, out of poverty. Many chose to turn their service into a career.

By the time Powell, the Bronx-raised son of Jamaican immigrants, joined the U.S. Army, there was already a proud history of African Americans in the U.S. military – from the “Buffalo Soldiers” who served in the American West, the Caribbean and South Pacific after the U.S. Civil War to the Tuskegee Airmen of World War II.

Powell was part of that military history. He joined in 1958, a decade after desegregation of the Armed Forces in 1948.

But the military was – and still is – an institution characterized by structural racism. That was true when Powell joined the Army, and it is true today.

As such, Powell would have had to wrestle with his blackness and what it meant in the military: What did it mean to serve a country that doesn’t serve you?

As a military man during the Vietnam War, Powell also stood apart from many Black political leaders who condemned U.S. action in Southeast Asia.

While Muhammad Ali was asking why he should “put on a uniform and go 10,000 miles from home and drop bombs and bullets on Brown people” at a time when “so-called Negro people in Louisville are treated like dogs and denied simple human rights,” Powell was making his way up the military ranks.

It helps explain why despite Powell’s undoubted achievements, his legacy as a Black leader is complicated. His identity – being of Jamaican heritage – posed questions about what it means to be an African American. His life in the military prompted some to ask why he would serve a country that has historically been hostile to nonwhite people in the U.S. and around the world.

Durham Sanitation Workers End Strike Over Higher Pay

Tyria Bourda
Staff Writer

Durham sanitation workers returned to work Tuesday, after nearly a week off the job. On September 6th, City of Durham sanitation workers began their strike demanding a pay raise. Workers called for a minimum wage raise of \$25 an hour for city employees, solid waste collectors’ pay raise of \$28 an hour, and \$35 an hour for heavy equipment operators. Once the community learned of this, the workers’ union set up a GoFundMe page that has already raised over

\$40,000, as well as a petition with over 300 signatures.

Last week, sanitation workers spoke at a city council work session in which Durham Mayor Elaine O’Neal wore yellow in support of their protest. O’Neal shared that only three council members including herself supported pay raises for these workers in June.

“One of the reasons I’m not running anymore is because of this kind of stuff. I won’t be silent any longer,” she said. And it’s by accident that I wore these colors, but it was by God, I believe. I’m standing with you today,

tomorrow, and every day.”

But not everyone on the council agreed. Simply handing out \$5,000 isn’t so easy, said Mayor Pro-Tem Mark-Anthony Middleton.

“Because if we do, we’ll be good for about a year and a half, and afterward, then we won’t be able to pay you anymore,” he said. I am not going to vote to give you money with my left hand knowing next year we have to re-up and take more from you then. I’m not going to do it. Elect someone else,” he said. The stipulation by workers for a \$5,000 bonus is said to be a result of having their pay frozen

during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Herman Moore, a solid waste operator, said something needs to give. “We are here because of our low pay. We are not getting paid for the hazardous work that we do. The Solid Waste Management Department has threatened us with leave without pay. We don’t think that is fair. We are going to do what we have to do to get our pay because we deserve it. Those of us that have sick leave, we should be able to use it,” Moore said. Earlier this year, the council voted for a 2 percent raise and an additional 4 to 6 percent merit-based pay increase

for all city employees. But workers say their current wages and their net earnings since the onset of the pandemic are low to the point where they can no longer afford to live in Durham and have to work a second job.

Durham councilman Leonardo Williams shared his thoughts on the matter. He expressed his gratitude for Durham’s sanitation workers and their unwavering commitment being that they are the fabric of Durham.

He shared a new outlined proposal plans to offer bonuses to all full-time workers which states:

Anyone earning less than \$57,000 dollars would get a \$3,000 bonus. Workers who make from \$57,000 to \$90,000 would receive a \$2,500 bonus. Those with salaries above \$90,000 would get a \$2,000 bonus. Part-time employees would receive a \$1,000 bonus.

What If Public Transit Was Like Uber?

By Jeff McMurray

When a small city abruptly parked all its buses to launch a publicly subsidized van service offering \$1.50 trips anywhere in town, only one of its bus drivers – a big-city transplant – went along for the ride.

Milton Barnes used to oversee packed subway stations in Washington, D.C., a far cry from the sparsely filled buses he drove after moving to Wilson, North Carolina, to care for his elderly parents. Although transit ridership plummeted almost everywhere due to the pandemic, it has been surging in Wilson since its September 2020 switch from a fixed-route system to an on-demand one powered by a smartphone app.

“All day long I’m picking up people and dropping them off,” Barnes, 59, the only driver to work under both systems, said while driving his van on a typically busy morning. “When you’ve got door-to-door, corner-to-corner service, it’s going to



Driver Milton Barnes poses for a photo with customer David Bunn

be more popular.”

Long wait times made the bus route almost unusable for David Bunn, even when his car broke down and he couldn’t afford to replace it. Instead, Bunn, who has two broken discs in his back, would take a 5-mile (8-kilometer) roundtrip walk to pick

up groceries. Then he spotted one of the public vans and dialed the phone number posted in a rear window.

“I don’t have to walk everywhere I want to go now,” said Bunn, 64. “They come pick me up, they’re respectful, and they’re very professional. It’s a great asset to Wilson

and a great service to me.”

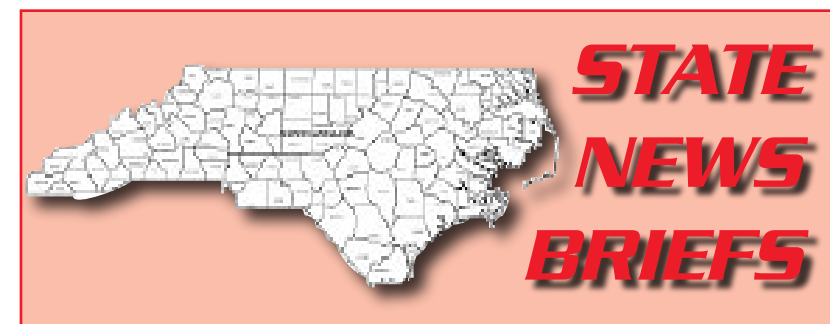
The city of less than 50,000 people is frequently cited as a model for how less-populated areas can capitalize on transit in the same way as bustling metropolises.

Wilson landed federal and state infrastructure grants to support the shared, public rides residents summon – usually within 15 minutes – through a service operating like Uber and Lyft, but at a fraction of the cost to riders. Trips are now \$2.50, a dollar more than they were at launch, and Bunn quips, “you can’t drive a Pinto for that.”

Other communities in North Carolina and elsewhere took notice and have tapped into available public funding to start programs of their own, heightening Wilson’s competition for continuing grant money.

These smaller-scale, tech-based solutions to public transportation problems, known broadly as microtransit, have emerged as a great

(See PUBLIC TRANSIT, P. 7)



LAWSUIT FILED OVER CLEANING WORKER WHO DIED IN DEPARTMENT STORE BATHROOM, BODY NOT FOUND FOR DAYS

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — The family of a cleaning worker whose body remained in a locked bathroom at a department store for days after she died filed suit Tuesday against the Belk chain, saying her body was so decomposed they couldn’t even hold an open casket funeral.

Bessie Durham, a 63-year-old worker with a contractor hired to clean the Belk store near Columbia, South Carolina, went into a family bathroom around 7 a.m. on a Thursday in 2022 and died shortly after from a cardiac problem, attorney Chris Hart said.

Durham had clocked in for work but never clocked out and her cleaning cart sat outside the locked door for four days until Columbia Police called the store trying to find Durham because her family reported the woman missing, according to the lawsuit filed Tuesday.

The suit was filed a year to the day when her body was found on Sept. 19, 2022, at the store in Columbia Mall.

The store was open for regular hours the entire time. Durham worked for a company contracted to clean the store, and the manager called while she was dead but no one had found her to complain the bathrooms weren’t getting cleaned, Hart said.

(See STATE BRIEFS, P. 2)



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STATE BRIEFS

Continued from page 1

"They didn't ask if Bessie was OK. They didn't ask why hasn't this cart moved in four days," Hart said. "They asked why aren't the bathrooms being cleaned."

When police called the store, they pulled up footage from a security camera that showed Durham entering the bathroom shortly after her shift started and never coming out, the lawsuit said.

Durham worked for Belk for seven years on the cleaning crew before the chain hired a contractor to do that work and that company subsequently hired Durham, Hart said. The contractor was not named as a defendant in the suit though Hart said the family also was considering legal action against it.

Catching Up With Mayor Blakely Of Fletcher

Tyria Bourda

Staff Writer

Over a year ago, Preston Blakely assumed the position of mayor in Fletcher, NC, and the town is still prospering. Blakely recently spoke with The Carolinian and disclosed that his tenure as mayor has been a valuable learning experience. Despite his young age of 28, Blakely holds the distinction of being the youngest African-American mayor in a town with 8,000 inhabitants. Blakely conveyed that the town is steadily flourishing.

Preston Blakely, originally from Fletcher, North Carolina, was born and raised in a family with a deeply ingrained history in the Western North Carolina region. Serving the community has always been his fervor, influenced by his parents, Jonathan and Namurah Blakely, who are the owners of the Asheville-based Quality Janitorial Group. Blakely's dedication to the community is profound.

"My goal is to exemplify myself and our community. It is crucial and significant for individuals to witness a young African-American man occupying any elected position. We must observe diversity in these roles. My aim is to effectively represent myself and our community. It is vital

and meaningful for individuals to observe a young, well-educated African American man in a position of authority."

Throughout his teenage years, Blakely attended public school and obtained his high school diploma from Asheville High. He pursued a Bachelor of Arts degree, with a major in Political Science and African American and African Diaspora Studies, at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Subsequently, he pursued a Master of Public Affairs from Western Carolina University (WCU). While studying at WCU, Blakely worked as a graduate assistant at the Public Policy Institute (PPI).

For approximately three years, Blakely has served on the council and has been actively involved with various local nonprofit organizations. In the November 2019 elections, Blakely was elected to the Fletcher town council with an impressive 70% of the vote, which is surprising considering that African Americans constitute only 4.1% of the town's population. In November 2021, he was elected as the Mayor of Fletcher, garnering 719 votes (55.2%) compared to his opponent's 583 votes (44.7%).

Blakely emphasized that as mayor, he will continue to contribute to and



MAYOR PRESTON BLAKELY

propel the community.

"I have always aspired to give back to the community that has bestowed so much upon me. In 2019, I made the choice to run for Town Council for that very reason. I comprehend the profound impact of local government. Decisions made at the local level are tangible and directly influence the lives of residents. The ability to witness the impact you are making is something I deeply value."

In our conversation with Blakely in 2021, we learned that the city's primary concern was managing growth. The city council's strategy

was to ensure that the infrastructure keeps up with the growth, enabling residents to continue living comfortably. Fast forward to 2023, Fletcher has undergone significant changes as we prioritize the revitalization of the downtown area.

In sum, as he continues his term, there are several goals that he and the council plan to accomplish. They aim to make further progress on its downtown project, support town staff with progressive policies, and work alongside state and federal leaders to effectively advocate for our community.

"I am committed to supporting families in our town, especially our younger staff members who are starting families. Additionally, I take pride in working with stakeholders to attract significant investment and job opportunities to Fletcher. Tagoes, an RFID manufacturer, is set to invest over \$33 million in our community and create 92 jobs with wages that are 40% higher than the county-wide average," said Blakely.

Looking ahead, Mayor Blakely envisions Fletcher growing and becoming an inclusive town. He shared that the town has the potential to be a key player in the area given its geographical position between Asheville and Hendersonville.

"The future is bright for Fletcher."

HBCU Coalition Receives \$124 Million Gift From Nonprofit Funder Blue Meridian Partners

NEW YORK (AP) — The HBCU Transformation Project, a coalition of 40 historically Black colleges and universities, on Wednesday announced a \$124 million gift from philanthropic funders Blue Meridian Partners to increase enrollment, graduation rates and employment rates for the schools' graduates.

Michael Lomax, president and CEO of UNCF, which is acting as an intermediary overseeing the funding, called the donation a vote of confidence in the coalition, which includes public and private schools.

"This very significantly scaled grant from them signals to the philanthropic community that this is a really good investment to make," he said of the Blue Meridian gift.

The donation will expand the work of the project, which has already received \$75 million from Blue Meridian since 2020. The project's early results on improving enrollment and other core operations were strong,

said Jim Shelton, president and chief investment and impact officer of Blue Meridian Partners.

"It made it relatively straightforward to say, 'Clearly, we're just beginning this work. Institutions have been underinvested and need more investment, and we believe that we can play a catalytic role in bringing resources to the table,'" Shelton said, adding that they were actively seeking additional support from other funders to expand to more schools. The project has also received \$17.6 million in funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, \$4.5 million from JP Morgan Chase and \$1 million Capital One, according to UNCF.

Blue Meridian first provided funds to support HBCUs at the start of the pandemic to help cover their operating costs when the schools had to close.

"One of the things that we were concerned about was whether or

not HBCUs were going to survive because we knew that HBCUs didn't have large endowments, didn't have the resources that could sustain them," said Harry Williams, president and CEO of the Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCF).

Along with UNCF, TMCF and Partnership for Education Advancement jointly oversee the project's grant, though most funds will go directly to the participating schools. The three intermediaries also received direct funding from Blue Meridian to improve their capacity to support the schools.

South Carolina State University used some of the first round of funding to buy a customer relationship management platform to integrate their applications for enrollment and financial aid, which the school's president, Alexander Conyers, said had previously been "very manual."

"We had computer systems, but the different systems weren't talking

to each other," he said.

The new platform allowed the school to text and email applicants and to identify and contact people who had started applications but hadn't completed them. As a result, the number of entering freshman grew from 371 in 2019 to 1,200 this year.

"This flexible funding has really allowed us to probably move five to seven years faster than the pace we were on," said Conyers, who also used project funding to update the school's website in part to make it appear higher in search results.

By sharing some of these new services and vendors, the schools are helping keep costs down, Lomax said.

Because of decades of underfunding and systemic bias in state funding for public HBCUs, it has been hard for schools to build out and

(See HBCU \$124M, P. 7)

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Report: U.S. Rural Hospitals Are Closing Maternity Wards

(AP) - Alisha Alderson placed her folded clothes and everything she needed for the last month of her pregnancy in various suitcases. She never imagined she would have to leave the comfort of her home in rural eastern Oregon just weeks before her due date. But following the abrupt closure in August of the only maternity ward within 40 miles, she decided to stay at her brother's house near Boise, Idaho — a two-hour drive through a mountain pass — to be closer to a hospital.

"We don't feel safe being so far away from a birthing center," said Alderson, noting her advanced ma-

ternal age of 45. "I was sitting in a hair salon a few days ago and some people started joking about me giving birth on the side of the road. And in that moment, I just pictured all the things that could go wrong with my baby and broke down in tears in front of strangers."

A growing number of rural hospitals have been shuttering their labor and delivery units, forcing pregnant women to travel longer distances for care or face giving birth in an emergency room. Fewer than half of rural hospitals now have maternity units, prompting government officials and families to scramble for answers.

One solution gaining ground across the U.S. is freestanding midwife-led birth centers, but those also often rely on nearby hospitals when serious complications arise.

The closures have worsened so-called "maternity care deserts" — counties with no hospitals or birth centers that offer obstetric care and no OB providers. More than two million women of childbearing age live in such areas, the majority of which are rural.

Ultimately, doctors and researchers say, having fewer hospital maternity units makes having babies less safe. One study showed rural resi-

dents have a 9% greater probability of facing life-threatening complications or even death from pregnancy and birth compared to those in urban areas — and having less access to care plays a part.

"Moms have complications everywhere. Babies have complications everywhere," said Dr. Eric Scott Palmer, a neonatologist who practiced at Henry County Medical Center in rural Tennessee before it ended obstetric services this month. "There will be people hurt. It's not a question of if — simply when."

REASONS BEHIND THE CLOSURES

The issue has been building for years: The American Hospital Association says at least 89 obstetric units closed in rural hospitals between 2015 and 2019. More have shuttered since.

The main reasons for closures are decreasing numbers of births; staffing issues; low reimbursement from Medicaid, the federal-state health insurance program for low-income people; and financial distress, said Peiyin Hung, deputy director of the University of South Carolina's Rural and Minority Health Research Center and co-author of research based on a survey of hospitals.

Officials at Saint Alphonsus, the hospital in Baker City where Alderson wanted to give birth, cited a shortage of OB nurses and declining deliveries.

"The results are devastating when safe staffing is not provided. And we will not sacrifice patient safety," according to an emailed statement from Odette Bolano and Dina Ellwanger, two leaders from the hospital and the health system that owns it.

While they said financial concerns didn't factor into the decision, they underlined that the unit had operated in the red over the last 10 years.

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Sports

Black Celebs With Ownership Stake

When Rick Ross recently announced that he was interested in investing in the Miami Heat, he became one of but a handful of Black men and women who expressed an interest in equity in sports teams.

"I'm still interested in getting a small percentage of an NFL or NBA team," he shared during an episode of Uninterrupted's Certified Buckets podcast when asked his stance on making a sports investment move. "I'd just invest in the Heat because we got some beautiful additions. And like I say I'm one of those people that can look three seasons ahead... I'm confident, we'll bring them big trophies back."

This isn't the first time Ross has expressed interest in investing in sports teams. As AfroTech reported, he expressed an interest in the Los Angeles Clippers in 2014. Back then, both Ross and Diddy were eyeing the possibility of buying the team but ultimately lost out to Steve Ballmer's \$2 billion offer.

Currently, there are only six people of color with ownership across all three major U.S. sports — Major League Baseball (MLB), the National Basketball Association (NBA), and the National Football League (NFL). And according to a study conducted by the Institute of Diversity and Ethics in Sports, 83 percent of NBA players, 69 percent of NFL players, and 38 percent of MLB players are all people of color, yet the representation simply is not there when it comes to ownership within the sports.

While we still have a long way to go before we see full Black equity in sports, these eight celebrities and their stake in various sports teams prove we are, at least, on the way.

Jay-Z is one of the few celebrities that buy and sell ownership stakes in sports teams like most people buy and sell baseball cards. In 2004, he purchased shares in the Brooklyn Nets for \$1 million a share and sold those shares in 2013 when he launched Roc Nation Sports. Most recently, NJ.com reported that Hova was on the shortlist to buy stakes in the Denver Broncos (which he would do alongside Jeff Bezos if the deal was successful). He also expressed interest in buying an ownership stake in the Washington Football Team.

Will Smith and his wife, Jada Pinkett Smith, own a minority stake in the Philadelphia 76ers NBA team. Their minority stake was acquired back in 2011, according to the Associated Press, and they were part of a list of buyers that included "co-managing owner David Blitzer, former NBA player agent and Sacramento Kings executive Jason Levien, GSI Commerce CEO Michael Rubin, real estate investors, [and] film producers." The purchase was led by Joshua Harris of New York.

In 2004, Cleveland19 reported that Usher had purchased a minority stake in the Cleveland Cavaliers, in an effort to push NBA games to an "urban" crowd. (Okay...) This obviously only increased Usher's net worth to a staggering \$180 million, and according to Fansided, he paid \$9 million for a 1 percent (roughly) share of the team.

In July 2020 Serena Williams was among the founding investors of Los Angeles' soon-to-be professional women's soccer team, Angel City. Other investors included Alexis Ohanian Sr. (Serena's husband), Jennifer Garner, Eva Longoria and more. But what was most interesting is that Serena's daughter with Ohanian, Olympia, was also an investor in the team — thus making the little girl the youngest-ever owner of a professional sports team.

In 2006, the former Destiny's Child singer announced that she was a co-owner of the WNBA team, the Chicago Sky.

"I'm thrilled to have a stake in the WNBA as it expands into my hometown with the Chicago Sky," Williams said. "It's great to be part of an organization such as the WNBA that is not only exciting and fun but fosters a strong sense of empowerment in girls and women. I'm looking forward to being in the front row at Chicago Sky games and cheering them on to many championship seasons."

In 2012, Magic Johnson made history when he became a co-owner of an MLB team, the Los Angeles Dodgers. According to his official bio on the Dodgers' page, he also "co-owns the Los Angeles Sparks of the WNBA and Major League Soccer's Los Angeles Football Club."



Saint Augustine's University (SAU) faced Virginia State on Saturday, Sept. 16, in a CIAA conference football game at John H. Baker Stadium on the campus of Southeast Raleigh Magnet High School.

Va State Defense Dominates The Falcons

Raleigh, N.C.- The Virginia State University football team dominated on all three sides of the ball as they defeated St. Augustine's University 55-12. As a team the Trojans rushed for just under 200 yards on offense.

VSU scored first as they capped off a 10 play 86-yard drive with a 30-yard pass from Steve Williams to Malik Hunter. SAU would answer four drives later as they returned a punt 50 yards for a touchdown, but would miss the PAT.

Neither team would score in the second quarter, making the halftime score being 7-6 in favor of VSU. However, in the third quarter the Trojans opened the flood gates. They would score on a four-play drive with Williams

second passing touchdown this one to Roy Jackson III. The next drive would be a quick hitter as it only took two plays for Williams to score with his legs this time. Finally, Rayquon Smith got in on the action capping off a 12-play drive with a five-yard touchdown run.

After all, said and done the score stood at 34-6 after three quarters. To start the fourth quarter scoring Quedrion Miles would pick off the Falcons QB and run it back for a touchdown. The Falcons would get their first points on offense as they drove down the field with a 12 play 60-yard drive capped off with a one-yard touchdown run. Jimmyll Williams scored the last touchdown of the game with a 15-yard scamper into the endzone.




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Ag-Grow-Culture

Last Chance To Plant For Fall: It's Important to Plant Year Round

By Jason Lindsey

Staff Writer

Planting is normally associated with spring, yet eating is a year-round activity. With our food system fractured and fragile in response to economic and environmental instability, fall planting makes more sense than ever for small farmers and backyard growers. Truth be told, fall planting is just as vital as spring's.

For the backyard grower, fall planting serves as a time to clean your growing space, ripping out annuals that have run their course, re-mulching the perennials that have died back for the year, and, yes, planting for the blossoms of early spring. For the farmer, fall planting may hit a little differently. Fall plants lay the path for extended winter revenue or an early jump in spring production. No matter our point of engagement, fall planting benefits the grower and the growing space no matter the scale.

Plants, as a part of nature, reflect the patterns of nature in more ways than one. In autumn, nature retreats into what seems dormancy, yet things aren't quite asleep. Just as the days grow short in the fall with more hours experienced in darkness, the activity of the plant world transitions from an above-ground photosynthesizing focus to a darker place below ground where the roots become the

center of attention in particularly for perennials (plants that live more than two years). During the colder months, the frigidness of frost kills the annuals that have cast their seeds, preserving the next generation, but the perennials hold a different story. Perennials allow their top foliage to die back, and to the untrained eye, they may seem to die, yet this is not the case. The energy that would have been used to grow the top foliage is transferred to the roots, stimulating root growth. So, when the following spring and summer heat rolls in, the plants are more equipped to thrive in the heat; this is the secret of perennials. Just as the days of winter are short, the focus of the plant world is also concentrated in the dark.

The key to planting in the fall is to sow or transplant four to eight weeks before the last frost, giving time for the roots to establish themselves before the ground freezes. We've talked about perennials, but annuals also have their place in the fall planting world. Nature gives you what you need when you need it. In the summer, we are met with the sweetness of black and blueberries, watermelon, and the juiciness of tomatoes, fluids that hydrate us with elixirs that equip us to withstand the sun. The winter wilderness ramps up on her greens; even ever-greens stick around for the party. Evergreens like



pine trees produce three times more vitamin C than oranges, and what better time to load up on vitamin C than the dead of winter? So, when it comes to winter production, greens are king. For the farmer and gardener, this means brassicas. Crops like cabbage, broccoli, brussels sprouts, kale, cauliflower, and collards are signature for fall and winter vegetable gardens.

Annuals and perennials benefit the grower, but perennials introduce potentials that annuals don't. Undisturbed soil makes way for life to multiply, resulting in fertile soil. Perennials allow the soil time to remain undisturbed, which promotes

root depths that fix carbon deeper into the soil. Perennials also add a bonus when it comes to labor and investment. Annuals leave with the responsibility to either collect seeds, which takes time, or buy them, which takes money. Most perennials will grant you five to twenty-five years of production before the demand for planting is at hand again. For the farmer, this allows investing in other aspects of the farm or bringing more home while granting the land the chance for optimal healing and rest with a permanent root system that will increase the soil's ability to hold water, eliminate erosion while multiplying, increasing yield

production year after year at a fraction of the cost.

Perennial production is a practice left in the shadows of monocultures (planting of one crop often seen with corn, soy, wheat, or cotton) and annual vegetables except for trees and bushes. For the small farmer, specialty crops are where we can compete, and for a long time, it has been this way, especially for the black farmer. Most folk know the association between Black Americans and watermelon, yet many don't know how we received that affiliation. After the national release of black people as slaves in this country, the black family, highly skilled in agriculture, used watermelon as a cash crop throughout the southeastern region. It was so common to travel the south and see black folk selling watermelon that jokes were made about how much African Americans love watermelon, and we do, but the whole truth is we found our niche and used it to sustain ourselves. For the black farmer, specialty crops are a part of our liberation story.

Today, the story is still being told, yet the stage has changed. The small farmer has been forced into innovation. Collard Green sells only balance the books for a quarter of the year; other times, the market is oversaturated, dropping prices or sales. Perennials offer the small producer the opportunity to operate at a lower cost while positioning the land to produce more over time, especially with "High Value" specialty crops.

Specialty crops are fruits and vegetables, including nuts and nursery plants (horticulture, floriculture). High-value specialty crops are specialty crops that produce a higher return. With the market's demands on a steady incline, these high-value specialty crops afford us the best chance to sustain our land and communities. There are two crops that we'll highlight as host of grand potential for the small farmer.

Asparagus- has become very popular over the last few decades, first making its way into gourmet kitchens before becoming a common side dish. Yet, in grocery stores, asparagus is an expensive side dish selling from \$4.00-\$9.00 per pound. For some growers, asparagus is a turn-off because it takes two years before the first harvest, and many farmers can't afford the investment. But it's important to note after a two-year wait, this crop will yield for the next fifteen years. In peak season, asparagus is harvested twice a day, yielding 1,000 pounds per acre per day. A farm with just one acre of asparagus can harvest two to eight tons over the course of a season. Conversely, asparagus promotes weight loss, improves digestion, lowers blood pressure, and improves heart and skin health while providing high levels of vitamins A, C, and K. This crop loves to be planted in the fall, making the spring season simpler, at least for the next seventeen years.

The last crop is Jerusalem Artichoke or Sunchoke. Jerusalem Artichoke is native to North America and, oddly enough, is not related to artichokes. Jerusalem Artichokes are a part of the sunflower family, with small flowers that resemble them. The seeds are small tubers raised much like potatoes spacing twelve to twenty-four inches apart. Jerusalem Artichokes are also planted in the fall and mature within the first 110-150 days. In year one, the crop flowers, yet year two produces the beginning of the dense harvest yielding up to thirty tons per acre per year. Though growing Jerusalem Artichokes is inexpensive, its market value is not. Small tubers sell for at least \$5.00 per pound, with large tubers as high as \$35.00. After planting these tubers, these crop flowers can be arranged as cut flowers, and four to six weeks after flowering, the harvest is ready. Jerusalem Artichokes can often be cooked like potatoes or eaten raw. They are a rich source of plant-based protein, vitamins B, C, D, potassium, and prebiotic fibers.

The fall season is a direct reflection of the inevitability of change. It teaches us that change is best when prepared for. Planting in the fall is like extra insurance coverage on our agrarian legacy. It is an advancement we can't afford to pass by. Our planet is crying for levels of attention, and there are only two endings to that cry. One, we cater to those tears with intentional cultivation that nourishes our environment. Or we literally won't survive the storm. Our legacy must be as strong as our lineage. To accomplish this, we must "plant some s#!+."

Financial Assistance For Farmers, Ranchers And Forest Landowners

Are you a farmer, rancher, or forest landowner who has faced discrimination in USDA farm lending prior to January 2021? You may be eligible for financial assistance through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Discrimination Financial Assistance Program (DFAP).

What is DFAP?

\$2.2 Billion in Financial Assistance: Thanks to Section 22007 of the Inflation Reduction Act, USDA is allocating \$2.2 billion in financial assistance to eligible farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners who experienced discrimination in USDA farm lending programs.

Eligibility: Farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners

who experienced discrimination by USDA in its farm loan programs prior to January 1, 2021, and/or are currently debtors with assigned or assumed USDA farm loan debt that was the subject of USDA discrimination that occurred prior to January 1, 2021, are eligible for this program.

How Does it Work?

Multiple Ways to Apply: Producers have the option to apply via the e-filing portal at 22007apply.gov or by submitting paper-based forms via mail or in-person delivery to the program's local offices.

Free Technical Assistance: Technical assistance is available for potential applicants through four regional hubs working closely with community-based

organizations.

Local Resources: Local brick-and-mortar offices are being opened across the country to ensure easy access and personalized assistance. In-person and virtual events are also being held weekly, with state-by-state information on the website.

Important Deadline: Don't miss out! The deadline for eligible farmers, ranchers, or forest landowners to complete their application is October 31, 2023.

Learn More:

Website: For detailed information about DFAP, please visit our official website at 22007apply.gov. Our website provides comprehensive information on obtaining in-person or virtual technical assistance, supplementary program resources, and

detailed program guidelines.

Call Center: Our call center, available at 1-800-721-0970, operates from 8 a.m. ET to 8 p.m. PT, seven days a week, except for Federal holidays. English- and Spanish-speaking agents are available, ensuring you get the assistance you need, when you need it.

Newsletter: Information about the program, resources, recent office openings, and local events across the country is also available through a weekly e-newsletter, which you can sign up for on the program site.

DFAP is all about giving you the support you deserve. Don't let this opportunity pass you by! Apply now to secure this financial assistance.



Farmers & Ranchers

Have you experienced discrimination in USDA farm lending prior to January 1, 2021? You may be eligible for financial assistance.

The application is free. Technical assistance is free and available in-person and over the phone.

For more information visit website or call:

www.22007apply.gov or 1-800-721-0970

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**Discrimination
Financial Assistance
Program**

Road To Equitably Fund Land-Grants For HBCUs

U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona and U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Thomas Vilsack today sent letters to 16 governors emphasizing the over \$12 billion disparity in funding between land-grant Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and their non-HBCU land-grant peers in their states.

The 16 governors receiving the letter are: Gov. Kay Ivey (AL), Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders (AR), Gov. Ron DeSantis (FL), Gov. Brian Kemp (GA), Gov. Andy Beshear (KY), Gov. John Bel Edwards (LA), Gov. Wes Moore (MD), Gov. Tate Reeves (MS), Gov. Michael Parson (MO), Gov. Roy Cooper (NC), Gov. J. Kevin Stitt (OK), Gov. Henry McMaster (SC), Gov. Bill Lee (TN), Gov. Greg Abbott (TX), Gov. Glenn Youngkin (VA), Gov. James C. Justice II (WV).

There are HBCU land-grant institutions in 18 states; however, Delaware and Ohio have equitably funded their respective universities.

"Unacceptable funding inequities have forced many of our nation's distinguished Historically Black Colleges and Universities to operate with inadequate resources and delay critical investments in everything from campus infrastructure to research and development to student support services," said U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. "I am continually inspired by all that HBCUs have achieved despite having to punch above their weight. Our HBCUs graduate a huge share of our nation's Black educators, doctors, engineers, judges, and lawyers. These institutions and the talented, diverse students they serve must have equitable funding in order to reach their full potential and continue driving innovation. The Biden-Harris Administration is proud to have made record investments in our HBCUs, but to compete in the 21st century we need state leaders to step up and live up to their legally required obligations to our historically Black land-grant institutions."

"Some of the brightest minds and most impactful advancements in food and agriculture have taken root in our country's 1890 land-grant universities, and I'm incredibly proud of the partnership USDA maintains with these invaluable institutions. We need governors to help us invest in their states' HBCUs at the equitable level their students deserve, and reflective of all they contribute to our society and economy," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "The documented discrepancies are a clarion call for governors to act without delay to provide significant support for the 1890 land-grant institutions in their respective states. Failing to do so will have severe and lasting consequences to the agriculture and food industry at a time when it must remain resilient and competitive."

Under the Second Morrill Act of 1890, states choosing to open a second land-grant university to serve Black students were required to provide an equitable distribution of state funds between their 1862 and 1890 land-grant institutions. 1862 land-grant universities were founded through the First Morrill Act of 1862 which provided states with federal land that could be sold to support the colleges.

Using data from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Integrated Postsecondary Education Survey (IPEDS) that ranges from 1987 to 2020, the departments were able to calculate the amount that these institutions would have received if their state funding per student was equal to that of 1862 institutions. Unequitable appropriated funding of the 1890 institutions in the states ranges from \$172 million to \$2.1 billion, causing severe financial gaps. In the last 30 years alone, these funds could have supported vital and much-needed infrastructure and student services and would have better positioned the recipient universities to compete for grants to increase educational opportunity for students.

Noting that it is more important than ever to compete at a high level and remain the world's top producer of talent and innovation, the Departments of Education and Agriculture have offered to work with each state's budget office to examine the funding data to bring balance to investments in 1890 HBCUs that have been severely underfunded.

Community

PUBLIC TRANSIT

Continued from page 1

equalizer in the battle for infrastructure dollars that has traditionally pit the bus, train and subway needs of urban areas against the road construction projects sought by rural communities.

“We don’t view transit as something only for big cities,” U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg told The Associated Press. “We want people to benefit wherever they live, including in less-dense, rural areas. The point of transit is not to have a bus. The point of transit is getting people where they need to be.”

Ryan Brumfield, director of the North Carolina’s Department of Transportation integrated mobility division, said Wilson’s transition to microtransit came largely by necessity. Officials seeking to lower Wilson’s sluggish unemployment rate first had to address the fact that in some pockets of the 23-square-mile (59-square-kilometer) city, as many as 3 in 10 residents lacked access to a car to get to work.

“That combination of a lot of people needing a service and it happens to be fairly dense makes on-demand a perfect fit,” Brumfield said.

More than half the rides are for residents using the vans to “maintain or get employment,” said Rodger Lentz, Wilson’s assistant city manager who pushed for the switch.

But need and convenience weren’t the only reasons behind the city’s 300% spike in public transit ridership. Image was a factor, too.

“In small, southern towns, the perception of public transportation is that it’s for the low-income,” said Gronna Jones, Wilson’s transportation manager. “There’s a stigma attached to riding the bus. Going to microtransit and non-traditional vehicles removed that stigma.”

HBCU \$124M

Continued from page 2

sustain their basic infrastructure, said Marybeth Gasman, a university distinguished professor at Rutgers University.

“It’s long overdue,” Gasman said of the project and the new funding. “Sharing services is a great idea for financially under resourced institutions — frankly most colleges and universities benefit from sharing services.”

The HBCU Transformation Project needs to meet goals for increasing enrollment and graduation rates, as well as metrics around employment for graduates, in order to continue to receive the funds. Shelton said Blue Meridian would prefer the schools set ambitious goals and miss them rather than have them think too small.

The gift mixes both flexibility and accountability, he said, with the three intermediaries and participating schools having broad leeway to determine how to use the funds, as long as they present a business case that explains what the funding would achieve.

In legislation passed after the pandemic, HBCUs have received almost \$6 billion in funding and support from federal agencies, including the canceling of \$1.6 billion in debt held by the Department of Education, according to the White House.

HBCUs have received significantly less support from philanthropic foundations than predominantly white schools. A recent study of giving conducted by the philanthropic research group Candid and ABFE, a nonprofit that advocates for investments in Black communities, found that the eight Ivy League schools received \$5.5 billion from the 1,000 largest U.S. foundations compared to \$45 million for the 99 HBCUs in 2019. Between 2002 and 2019, foundation support of HBCUs declined 30%, even before inflation is taken into account.

Private support for HBCUs has increased since 2020, in response to the pandemic and the murder of George Floyd, with corporations especially keen to both provide funding and to partner with schools on workforce development.

Williams hopes more people realize how HBCUs “have been a shining star.”

Raleigh Kappas And Alphas Say Welcome Back to School

The brothers of the Raleigh (NC) Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc along with the brothers of the Phi Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. welcomed back Bugg Elementary School. The students, staff, and parents were greeted at the front door and along the hallways by these men in the community. In addition, the Kappas of Raleigh delivered school supplies that they had collected the previous months leading into the school year. The Kappas thank those in the community who contributed to this school supply drive. On behalf of the Raleigh (NC) Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. we wish the students and staff at all of the Wake County Schools a successful year.



6th Annual Emancipate NC Poetic Justice

Team Emancipate enjoyed a beautiful afternoon of poetry, food, and community on September 9. Attendees listened to poems from Hausson Byrd, K.y.d Kazi, Chasyn Carter, Sunguh, Nick Courmon. As well as their incarcerated friends, Ashlee Inscoc, Phillip Vance Smith, II, and Chris Ridley.

Long-time collaborator Hausson Byrd returned this year to curate the event. Hausson is a spoken word poet, author, and organizer residing in

Raleigh. He graduated from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University with a B.A. in Multimedia Journalism.

When not performing poetry, hosting events, or facilitating workshops, he spends his time honing his artistry and building community within NC and across the country.

Photos by Kerwin Pittman

Local Serves Aboard Floating Airport

1st Class Bryan Niegel - Mass Communication Specialist

Navy Office of Community Outreach

Petty Officer 3rd Class Jasson Ramirez Chevez, a native of Raleigh, North Carolina, is one of more than 5,000 sailors serving aboard the self-contained mobile airport, USS Abraham Lincoln.

Equipped with a full flight deck and more than 60 aircraft including attack fighter jets and helicopters, aircraft carriers are one of the largest

warships in the world.

Ramirez Chevez, a 2019 Sander son High School graduate, joined the Navy three years ago.

“I decided to join the Navy because I wasn’t doing much in life,” said Ramirez Chevez. “I took a chance and it has been good to me ever since.”

Skills and values learned in the Navy are similar to those found in Raleigh.

“Growing up, I learned how to deal with people from different backgrounds and that has really helped me in the Navy,” said Ramirez Chevez. “I also learned how to have a strong work ethic.”

Aircraft carriers are the centerpiece of America’s Naval forces. For more than 100 years, they have projected power, sustained sea control, bolstered deterrence, provided humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, and maintained enduring commitments worldwide.

According to Navy officials, aircraft carriers are versatile and have unique mission capabilities that make them a more strategic asset for the Navy than fixed-site bases. They are often the first response in a global crisis because of their ability to operate freely in international waters anywhere on the world’s ocean. In addition, no other weapon system can deploy and operate forward with a full-sized, nuclear-powered aircraft carrier’s speed, endurance, agility and the combat capability of its air wing.

“Sailors are truly the most valuable asset on USS Abraham Lincoln,” said Capt. Pete Riebe, commanding officer of USS Abraham



Lincoln. “The crew has been working hard preparing the ship for deployment since I took command and I can’t wait to take the team to sea so that I can see these warfighters in action.”

This year commemorates 50 years of women flying in the U.S. Navy. In 1973, the first eight women began flight school in Pensacola. One year later six of them, known as “The First Six,” earned their “Wings of Gold.” Over the past 50 years, the Navy has expanded its roles for women to lead and serve globally, and today women aviators project power from the sea in every type of Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard aircraft. According to Navy officials, our Nation and our Navy is stronger because of their service.

With 90 percent of global commerce traveling by sea and access to the internet relying on the security of undersea fiber optic cables,

Navy officials continue to emphasize that the prosperity of the United States is directly linked to trained sailors and a strong Navy.

As a member of the Navy, Ramirez Chevez is part of a world-class organization focused on maintaining maritime dominance, strengthening partnerships, increasing competitive warfighting capabilities and sustaining combat-ready forces in support of the National Defense Strategy.

“The Navy is important to national defense because we provide a show of force around the world which deters adversaries and keeps our nation safe,” said Ramirez Chevez.

Ramirez Chevez has many opportunities to achieve accomplishments during military service.

“I’m most proud of being meritoriously advanced to the rank of third class petty officer,” said Ramirez Chevez. “I am proud of that because I worked really hard and I was recognized for it.”

As Ramirez Chevez and other sailors continue to perform missions, they take pride in serving their country in the United States Navy.

“Serving in the Navy allows me to have a better life,” said Ramirez Chevez. “It also helps me provide for my wife and my mom back home.”

Ramirez Chevez is grateful to others for helping make a Navy career possible.

“I would like to thank my mom, Eileen Chevez, for teaching me to have a strong character,” said Ramirez Chevez. “I would also like to thank Aviation Boatswain’s Mate 2nd Class Santoya for believing in me and for pushing me to do better in my job.”

Grant To Support Art Therapy In NC

By Tara Hinton

ServiceSource

ServiceSource NC announces support for Community Inclusion Day Program-Art Therapy with the help of a grant in the amount of \$8,000 from the Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County.

“The new FY24 grant from the Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County provides Art Therapy for adults with disabilities who attend our Community Inclusion Day Program here in Fayetteville at our ServiceSource office, Monday-Friday. Art Therapy is provided each Wednesday for over 30 participants. Yael, a certified Art Therapist provides projects that help promote creativity, expression, and self-esteem. Our participants say Wednesday and Art Therapy are their favorite day and activity!”

The mission of ServiceSource is to facilitate services and partnerships to support people with disabilities, their families, their caregivers, and community members in order to build more inclusive communities. The Art Therapy classes have played a significant role in developing creativity and self-esteem in our participants. Art therapy provides an outlet that traditional therapies lack, especially for individuals who have developmental disabilities. When presented with the chance to create art, a person with developmental disabilities is invited to awaken his or her creative spirit.

ServiceSource’ Series Support grant from the Arts Council will help our agency for the entire season of FY24 in providing the art therapist and supplies needed.

Project Support Grants increase opportunities for access to arts, cultural, and historical programming in Cumberland County. The grants are awarded to nonprofit agencies, institutions of higher education, and municipal entities in Cumberland County that demonstrate financial and administrative stability.

ServiceSource NC has served Fayetteville since 2001 in providing services and resources for individuals with disabilities in our community. Our Community Inclusion Day Program, Warrior Bridge Veterans Program, Friendship House Fayetteville, and the new Clark Endowment to Support Independence continue to grow in order to meet the needs here in Cumberland County. We could not do it without support like the Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County has provided.



Five S.C. Women Senators To Receive JFK Profile In Courage Award In Oct.

BOSTON (AP) — Five women state senators from South Carolina who formed a bipartisan coalition to filibuster a near-total abortion ban in their state have been chosen to receive the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award this year.

A special International Profile in Courage Award will honor South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida for working to improve relations between their countries despite domestic opposition.

During the filibuster the senators - Republicans Katrina Shealy, Sandy Senn, and Penny Gustafson, Democrat Margie Bright Matthews, and independent Mia McLeod — took turns “describing the complexities of pregnancy and the reproductive system, the

dangers of lack of access to contraception, and inadequate privacy laws,” award officials said in written release.

Officials noted that members of the coalition, who became known as the “sister senators,” were heckled by anti-abortion activists and the three Republicans were also met with strong opposition from their own party — including censures and promises of primary challenges in 2024.

Despite the filibuster, the South Carolina Legislature was later able to approve the measure that would ban most abortions after around six weeks of pregnancy — before most people know they are pregnant.

“We in the South Carolina Legislature are not God. We do not know what’s going on in somebody

else’s life. We do not have the right to make decisions for someone else,” Shealy said at the time, urging other members of her party to adopt a 12-week abortion ban instead.

U.S. Ambassador to Australia Caroline Kennedy said the goal of the Profile in Courage awards is to honor leaders who took stands of conscience and risked their careers by putting the public interest ahead of their own political standing.

“The women of the South Carolina Senate set an example for those seeking justice and individual freedom at all levels of government,” she said in a statement. “President Yoon and PM Kishida are doing the hard work of reconciliation in pursuit of a more peaceful world.”

Kennedy and her children Jack Schlossberg and Tatiana Schlossberg, members of the Profile in Courage Award Committee, will present the awards on Oct. 29 at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library in Boston.

President Kennedy’s book, “Profiles in Courage,” recounts the stories of eight U.S. senators who risked their careers by taking principled stands for unpopular positions. The award was created by the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation in 1989.

Previous winners have included Presidents Barack Obama, Gerald Ford and George H.W. Bush.

Last year, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy was among five people named as recipients of the award for his efforts to protect democracy.

Health & Wellness

Pickleball: The Fastest Growing Sport In The United States

Pickleball is the fastest-growing sport in America, with an estimated 36.5 million pickleball players in the United States, making it one of the largest in America by participation.

"Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in America," Brandon Mackie, co-founder of Pickleheads said. "A new report by the PPA (Professional Pickleball Association) estimates 36.5 million people played last year. That makes pickleball one of the most popular sports in the country by participation, nearly twice the size of tennis, and just shy of popular activities like running and cycling."

The sport, a cross between ping pong, badminton, and tennis, was invented by three vacationers on Bainbridge Island, near Seattle, in 1965.

According to Pickleheads, there are 10,320 pickleball facilities nationally. Pickleheads is the #1 online destination for pickleball players. The Pickleheads platform helps players find courts, organize sessions, and connect with local players.

Pickleball is fun, social, easy to learn, and can be enjoyed by players of all ages.

"The magic of pickleball is it's easy to learn, but hard to master," Mackie said. "Beginners can go out their first time, learn the game, have fun, and even win a few games. But advanced players stay challenged, and keep coming back for more. This dynamic is a big reason why pickleball contin-

ues to grow like crazy."

"Pickleball is a sport for all ages. Anyone from age 5 to 95 can play and have fun," Mackie added. "This makes pickleball the perfect activity for families, especially around the Holidays."

The Origins Of Pickleball

Pickleball was born in 1965. After playing golf during the summer, Joel Pritchard, a congressman from Washington, and Bill Bell, a successful businessman, returned to Pritchard's home on Bainbridge Island, not far from Seattle, Washington. With bored children at home, they sought to play badminton on an old badminton court but couldn't find the proper equipment. They improvised and played with table tennis paddles and a perforated plastic ball. They began with the net at a badminton net height (60 inches high) and volleyed the ball back and forth over the net. Eventually as play progressed during the weekend, they found the ball bounced well on the asphalt surface and they would eventually lower the net to 36 inches high. The following weekend, Barney McCallum joined and began playing and the three men created the rules for pickleball. The men remembered the original purpose of creating the game was for a game the whole family could play when they were bored.

By 1967, the first permanent pickleball court was constructed in the backyard of Pritchard's friend and



neighbor Bob O'Brian. In 1972, a corporation was formed to protect the sport and in 1975, the National Observer wrote for the first time about pickleball. Tennis magazine followed this with an article about America's newest racquet sport in 1976.

By spring 1976, the first known tournament in the world was held at South Center Athletic Club in Tukwila, Washington. Team ONIX's Steve Paranto placed second and David Lester won Men's Singles. Because this was such a new sport and

players knew so little about it, at the time of the tournament, they practiced with large wood paddles and a softball-sized whiffle ball.

In 1978 a book called The Other Raquet Sports was published and it included information about pickleball. Four years later, Sid Williams began playing and organizing tournaments in Washington.

The first pickleball rulebook was published in 1984 by the United States Amateur Pickleball Association, which committed to growth and advancement of the sport. Sid Wil-

liams served as the first executive director and president from 1984 to 1998. Frank Candelario followed him until 2004.

Steve Paranto's father Arlen Paranto, a Boeing Industrial Engineer, created the first composite pickleball paddle. Arlen used fiberglass and nomex honeycomb panels that the commercial airplanes used for their flooring and structural system. Arlen made 1,000 paddles from this fiberglass/honeycomb core and graphite/honeycomb core until he sold the company to Frank Candelario.

By 1990 pickleball was being

played in all 50 states. Two years later, Pickle-Ball, Inc. manufactured pickleballs in-house with a custom drilling machine. By 1999, the first ever pickleball website launched called Pickleball Stuff.

In 2001, pickleball was introduced in the Arizona Senior Olympics drawing 100 players, which was the largest event to be played at that point. Later, events would begin growing to nearly 300 players. By 2003, Pickleball Stuff would list 39 known places to play in North America: 10 states, 3 Canadian Provinces, and 150 individual courts.

In 2005, the USA Pickleball Association was established. Three years later, the USAPA Rules Committee published an official rulebook. Pickleball was included for the first time in the National Senior Games Association. Good Morning America aired a live segment on pickleball for the first mass media exposure for the sport.

The first USAPA National Tournament was held in November 2009 and drew almost 400 players from 26 states and several Canadian provinces.

Since then, pickleball has been exploding in growth and popularity with tournaments played by millions ranging from young to old all over the world. The USAPA has more than 40,000 members and it's estimated pickleball is one of the fastest growing sports in the United States as participants reach around 3.3 million.

Study: Fat Shaming Is Making People Sicker And Heavier



By Lauren Vogel

NIH

Fat shaming is harmful to health and may drive weight gain, said presenters at the Canadian Obesity Summit, recently held in Ottawa.

Anti-fat bias is rampant in all parts of society, including medicine, said Angela Alberga, an assistant professor in the department of health, kinesiology and applied physiology at Concordia University. More than three in five adults with obesity encounter weight bias from health professionals, according to Obesity Canada. Some medical ethicists even argue that this social pressure is justified to promote weight loss.

But the harms of fat shaming are well documented, Alberga said. Studies show that exposure to weight bias triggers physiological and behavioural changes linked to poor metabolic health and increased weight gain. "You actually experience a form of stress," Alberga explained. Cortisol spikes, self-control drops and the risk of binge eating increases, she said.

The more people are exposed to weight bias and discrimination, the more likely they are to gain weight and become obese, even if they were thin to begin with. They're also more likely to die from any cause, regardless of their body mass index (BMI).

Fat shaming is also linked to depression, anxiety, low self-esteem, eating disorders and exercise avoidance, Alberga said. There's emerging evidence that the severity of harm increases when people internalize weight bias and turn it on themselves. In one study, participants with high levels of internalization of weight-bias had three times greater odds of having metabolic syndrome than those with low levels, even after controlling for BMI and other risk factors.

"It's a really complex relationship" that goes beyond energy-in-energy-out, Alberga said. It's estimated that two in five Americans with a higher than "normal" BMI have internalized weight bias. But you don't have to be overweight or obese to suffer harm, Alberga noted. "Weight-bias internalization can occur with any body size."

Better research is needed to understand the unique harms of internalizing anti-fat attitudes and assumptions, she said. Most studies have been cross-sectional and focused on samples of white women, and not much is known about interventions to reduce internalization of weight bias. Losing weight, for example, doesn't seem to make an impact.

According to Sara Kirk, a professor of health promotion at Dalhousie University and scientific director of the Healthy Populations Institute, tackling weight bias must start in health care. Judgmental responses of disgust, anger or blame from health professionals jeopardize care and discourage many patients from seeking help for health issues. "This is a systemic issue we need to be addressing," Kirk said.

At Dalhousie, Kirk's team created an arts-based workshop to teach trainees about the complexity of obesity, evoke empathy, and challenge stereotypes. A pilot demonstrated "significant reduction in anti-fat attitudes," Kirk said. About 1200 health care trainees have received the training to date. "Unfortunately, we still don't have long-term data on these students," Kirk said.

Beyond personal biases, the medical profession must also address bias in clinical guidelines. According to Toronto-based dietitian Maria Ricupero, many guidelines promote weight loss without acknowledging weight bias or environmental factors. Instead, "they emphasize what the individual can do to make change, which leads to guilt, shame and judgment." Ricupero argues the focus needs to shift from weight to health. "We know health benefits can be achieved when people are focusing on behaviours."

Canadian practice guidelines for obesity currently in development will aim to redress that imbalance, said Alberga. "We'll address weight bias and stigma in a dedicated chapter."

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Business & Finance

The Hidden Epidemic: Uncovering the Truth About Retail Theft

By Simeon Davis

Carolinian Intern

In the forever-growing market of consumerism, a shady world lives beneath. A world that emerged from simple gratification and petty theft but has since grown into a crime network with large-scale attacks. I'm not referring to bank robberies, car theft, or anything like that. I'm referring to the rise of organized retail theft and the downfall of the modern economy.

The Birth of Retail Theft
The birth of retail theft is described as shoplifting. Today shoplifting can be done using self-checkouts or checking out with a cashier. For example, shoplifters might put an item at the bottom of their cart, pretend to scan the item at a self-checkout, hide items under clothes and then proceed to the exit. However, recently more sneaky tactics have been put in place such as bagging. Using this technique, one enters a store with a reusable shopping bag, backpack, or purse and uses that bag

to conceal goods. Using these bags gives the appearance of legitimate shopping, making it hard for store employees to spot thefts in progress. These techniques have become so common that organized retail theft has popped up all over the world. A lot of consumers seem to undermine the idea of this combined theft but in reality, it's costing many stores millions of dollars by the week.

The Rebirth of Retail Theft- Organized Retail Theft (ORT)
Organized retail theft can be described as sophisticated and coordinated criminal activity in which groups steal merchandise from retail stores. These attacks are often well planned out and cost many retail stores hundreds, thousands, and millions of dollars. For example, thieves might plan an attack on an Apple store. The most common method seen for ORT is the grab-and-go which simply involves quickly grabbing high-value items and running out of the store before security or employees can react. So, imagine five thieves going into an

Apple store and running out with three phones each. In that span of maybe two to five minutes, the company might have lost over 15,000 dollars.

That ladies and gentlemen is where the dilemma arises. As the saying goes "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much". Large retail chains didn't feel little deficits such as the loss of two shirts or a box of crayons. In the event that individuals began committing crimes in large groups, businesses were put at risk and the economy was hurt. How hurt? Well many consumers do not comprehend the impact of ORT, when it is in fact killing consumerism and the economy.

The Fatal Death of the Economy and Consumerism

Organized retail crime creates an imbalance within the system. As a result, certain things are inevitable like an increase in the cost of goods. To better illustrate this disparity, imagine you figured out a way to steal your favorite candy bar. Over time you continue stealing this

candy bar over and over. The store repeatedly loses money every time you do this. The only way for them to combat this attack is by increasing prices. Another way of looking at it is imagining a fight between thieves and a store. The thieves are stealing meaning throwing punches repeatedly and the store is punching back by raising the prices.

Higher prices seem like the worst of the worst. Yet, a bigger problem arises from criminals lurking. Undermining consumers' trust is one of the biggest punches a company can take. Why? Well, companies are built off of brand loyalty. Without it, customers are led to question the authenticity and safety of the products they purchase. The lack of trust creates a fault in conversions which creates a fault in consumerism.

Author's Take

In general, retail theft in my eyes can only be described as diabolical. The methods and different ways people swindle others is almost impressive. First Hand experience of the act taking place has taught me

that. So, imagine you're working in Office Max. Three men come in, look around the front for one minute. Then all of sudden they decided they wanted a drink. It's almost like they walked into Office Max just to grab a drink which they did. One guy distracts me and another distracts the other cashier. All that's left is one on one interaction between the third criminal and the third cashier.

The stage was set, the third man proceeded to buy the drink with a hundred dollar bill. The exact second the cash drawer opened the man began to fast talk to the cashier. Take in note that me and the other cashier were still being distracted. The third man handed over the hundred dollar bill and then fast talked to the cashier to get him anxious and confused. Somehow, somehow by the end of the transaction and after the cashier was done giving back change, the most absurd thing happened. The man magically walked out with the hundred dollar bill and the change for the hundred dollar bill. He had cunningly fast talked the cashier into playing into

his hand. It's like he accounted for the cashier's emotions and intellect to get what he wanted. It was plain as day to see that these men had bad intentions. However, the ingenuity, creativity, and sheer willpower into tricking someone like that was such a systematic plan. I mean this happened in a matter of minutes. It can only be described as a diabolical masterpiece.

Truth About Retail Theft
Retail theft is no easy task to fix. It drives from gratification and simple petty theft. Yet, it's grown to something much more. It is now an organized crime system that pulls multiple businesses to the brink of bankruptcy. Numerous policies have been implemented to combat such actions but still thieves prevail. Through the simple masterminded plans and diabolical intentions many groups of thieves had single handedly destroyed the commerce tradition. The effortless blueprint of supply and demand has now been transformed to a complicated game of cat and mouse. Still we have no clue who's the cat and who's the mouse.

Returning To Both Society & To Opportunity

GLOBE NEWSWIRE -- The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) invited public comment on a proposed rule that would help expand access to SBA loan programs for people with certain criminal history records. These proposed reforms would open up entrepreneurship opportunities to the one in three American adults with a prior criminal history record and build upon President Biden's comprehensive Safer America Plan to prevent and combat gun violence and crime by addressing their root causes through expanding access to employment, education, health care, housing, and other supportive services that strengthen public safety and advance equity. As the

SBA expands access to capital to more qualified entrepreneurs, it continues to implement additional reforms to mitigate the risk of fraud in its traditional capital programs to ensure funds get to the businesses they were intended to serve, including front-end detection protocols conducted by SBA. These safeguards further strengthen the existing ones set and implemented by lenders allowing for expansion of capital with speed and certainty.

Current SBA regulations contain barriers for loan applicants with certain criminal history records, with some applicants barred entirely from SBA programs. If finalized, the proposed rule would expand access to capital for entrepreneurs

with prior justice involvement by expanding eligibility and removing barriers to SBA's loan and surety bond programs. The proposed rule would also eliminate the current practice on SBA application forms of asking all applicants about their involvement with the criminal justice system. This is because there is no evidence that people with prior criminal justice system history are at a greater risk of default. In fact, research shows that asking applicants about this history can deter people from applying for SBA loans, even though they would not be categorically barred from obtaining those loans. At the same time, the proposed rule would maintain prohibitions on applicants who are cur-

rently incarcerated or are found to have previously defrauded the government based on SBA cross-checks with available databases would remain ineligible for SBA-guaranteed loans.

"America is about possibilities and second chances - and that includes justice-involved individuals who are working hard to rebuild their lives through entrepreneurship," said Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman. "SBA's proposed rule would help returning citizens have better access to capital to start and grow their businesses and ensure our economy and society can benefit from their pursuit of the American dream of business ownership."

What You Need To Know About Bank Failures

NEW YORK (AP) — Recent turmoil in the banking industry may have you worried about your money.

Shares of PacWest, a small regional bank based in Los Angeles, plunged almost 40% Thursday after the company confirmed it may put itself up for sale. Anxiety over potential bank runs has sent shares of smaller banks tumbling. A bank run is when large numbers of people withdraw their money from a bank all at once.

Since March, three regional banks have failed — Silicon Valley Bank, Signature Bank and First Republic Bank.

If the recent bank collapses have you worried about the safety of your money, here's what you need to know:

IS MY MONEY SAFE?
Yes, if your money is in a U.S. bank insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. and you have less than \$250,000 there. If the bank fails, you'll get your money back.

Nearly all banks are FDIC insured. You can look for the FDIC logo at bank teller windows or on the entrance to your bank branch.

Credit unions are insured by the National Credit Union Administration.

If you have over \$250,000 in individual accounts at one bank, which most people don't, the amount over \$250,000 is considered uninsured and experts recommend that you move the remainder of your money to a different financial institution, said Caleb Silver, editor in chief of Investopedia, a financial media website.

If you have multiple individual accounts at the same bank, for example a savings account and certificate of deposit, those are added together and the total is insured up to \$250,000. (Read on for more about how joint accounts are protected.)

Federal officials have been taking steps to make sure other banks aren't impacted.

"People who have their money in insured accounts have nothing to worry about," said Mark Hamrick, senior economic analyst at Bankrate.com. "Simply make sure that deposits fall within the guaranteed limits, whether it's FDIC or the credit union equivalent."

Customers of banks that have been sold will have access to their money from the new owner, according to the FDIC. For example, JPMorgan Chase acquired First Republic Bank when it failed earlier this week and customers are able to access all of their money from JPMorgan.

ARE THERE RED FLAGS I SHOULD LOOK FOR WITH MY BANK?

If you are worried about your bank closing in the near future, there are some things you can watch out for, according to Silver:

- Watch the stock price.
- Keep an eye on the quarterly and annual reports from your bank.
- Start a Google alert for your bank in case there are news stories about it.

You want to make sure you pay close attention to the way your bank

is behaving, Silver said.

"If they're trying to raise money through a share offering or if they're trying to sell more stock, they might have trouble on their balance sheet," said Silver.

Public companies, including banks, do sell shares or issue new ones for various reasons, so context matters. First Republic did so this year when the hazards it faced were well known, and it kicked off an exodus of investors and depositors.

SHOULD I LOOK FOR ALTERNATIVES?

If you have more than \$250,000 in your bank, there are a few things you can do:

- Open a joint account
- You can protect up to \$500,000 by opening a joint account with someone else, such as your spouse, said Greg

McBride, chief financial analyst at Bankrate.

"A married couple can easily protect a million dollars at the same bank by each having an individual account and together having a joint account," McBride said.

— Move to another financial institution

Moving your money to other financial institutions and having up to \$250,000 in each account will ensure that your money is insured by the FDIC, McBride said.

— Do not withdraw cash

Despite the recent uncertainty, experts don't recommend withdrawing cash from your account. Keeping your money in financial institutions rather than in your home is safer, especially when the amount is insured.

"It's not a time to pull your money

out of the bank," Silver said.

Even people with uninsured deposits usually get nearly all of their money back.

"It takes time, but generally all depositors — both insured and uninsured — get their money back," said Todd Phillips, a consultant and former attorney at the FDIC. "Uninsured depositors may have to wait some time, and may have to take haircut where they lose 10 to 15% of their savings, but it's never zero."

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE FOR INSURED MONEY TO BE AVAILABLE IF A BANK FAILS?

Historically, the FDIC says it has returned insured deposits within a few days of a bank closing. The FDIC will either provide that amount in a new account at another insured bank or issue a check.

Classifieds

WANTED WBE, MBE & DBE BIDS

for the following job:

Town of Wake Forest

Bid# 0002-2023 Street Resurfacing Project 2023

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@stwc.org

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.

NOTICE TO SUBCONTRACTOR BIDDER PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUEST

FOR THE

**Raleigh-Durham Airport Authority
Park Economy 3 Expansion - Package 1**

Balfour Beatty / Metcon is seeking to pre-qualify contractors to submit bids for the furnishing of labor, material, and equipment for the following project: **Park Economy 3 Expansion - Package 1**. Balfour Beatty / Metcon has been selected as the Construction Manager at Risk (CMR) for the project and will receive bids from and contract with the principal contractors for the execution of the work. The preliminary budget for this project is approximately \$120,000,000 (all packages). **Minority Owned Small Business (MSB) participation and Women Owned Small Business (WSB) participation goals will be set for each individual bid package. Refer to the bid manual documents once issued for information on your specific package.**

Similar project experience will be considered during prequalification. **Anticipated Bid Date will be November 8, 2023.** This is not a request for bid, however, only subcontractors who have completed a prequalification package, and been deemed prequalified for this project, will be considered for a bid on this project. Submittals for prequalification forms may be hand delivered, mailed, or submitted electronically. **Deadline for prequalification submission is 14 days prior to Bid Date.** The CMR and Authority reserve the right to reject any and all Pre-qualifications. Contracting method will be through Competitive Public Bid in accordance with Chapter 143 of the NC General Statutes. For further information or questions, please contact **Page Martin at 919-233-5001**, or by email at: page.martin@bbus.com.

Updated prequalification documents can be accessed through the Balfour Beatty plan room under "RDU Park Economy 3 Expansion PKG 1 - PREQUALIFICATION" at the below link:

<https://app.buildingconnected.com/public/5430e7a75cdc2e0300dd757d>

Mailed or hand delivered submittals shall go to the following address:

**Page Martin
Balfour Beatty Construction
406 S McDowell St Suite 200
Raleigh, NC 27601**



NCDOT TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETING REGARDING APROPOSAL TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS TO N.C. 65 AND N.C. 68 INTERSECTIONS NEAR STOKESDALE IN GUILFORD AND ROCKINGHAM COUNTIES

STIP Project No. R-5823



STOKESDALE - The public is invited to a meeting with the N.C. Department of Transportation on Sept. 25 to discuss proposed improvements to intersections along N.C. 65 and N.C. 68 in Guilford and Rockingham counties.

Project details, including maps can be found on the NCDOT project web page: <https://publicinput.com/NC65-NC68Improvements-Guilford>. The information will be presented at the meeting allowing for one-on-one discussions with engineers. There will not be a formal presentation.

The meeting will be held **Sept. 25 at Stokesdale Town Hall, 8325 Angel Pardue Road, Stokesdale**. The public is invited to attend at any time between **5 and 7 p.m.**

People may also submit comments by phone at 984-205-6615 (project code 4912), email at US274-IntersectionImprovements@publicinput.com, or mail at the address shown below by **Oct. 9, 2023**.

By Mail:
Chris Smitherman
NCDOT Highway Division 7
Project Delivery Team Lead
P. O. BOX 14996
Greensboro, NC 27415

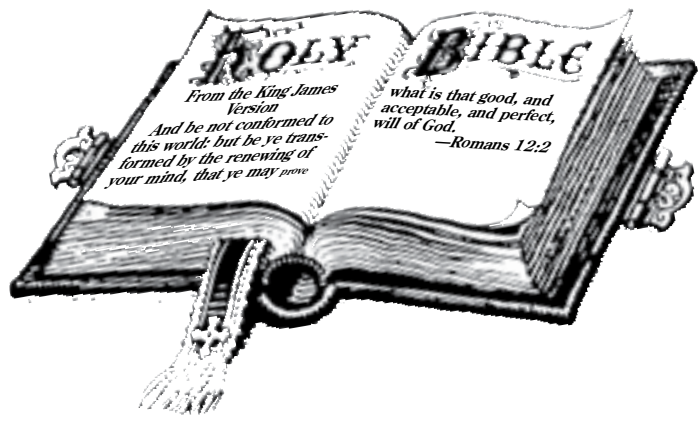
NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled people who wish to participate in this meeting. Anyone requiring special services should contact Alecia Hardy, Environmental Analysis Unit, at 1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1598, 919-707-6072 or ext-arhardy@ncdot.gov as early as possible so arrangements can be made.

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

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

Church

SERMON of the WEEK



OH, GIVE THANKS

Sermon by: Mother Belinda McKoy

"O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, Whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;" Psalm 107:1-2 KJV.

If we look at the world today and what's going on with the natural eye, it is easy for us to complain. We find so much to complain about that we tend to overlook the goodness of the Lord. Gas prices are high, food costs are high, housing prices are high, car prices are high, mass shootings, etc. I could go on and on, but for what purpose?

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28 KJV

If we could only realize that if we are called according to His purpose, it doesn't matter what it looks like; it's working for our good.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

The 107-150 Psalm is considered the Fifth Book of Psalms. These Psalms praise God's works, tell us about the blessings of righteous living, thank God for His deliverance, and tell us that being faithful and obedient is the best sacrifice we can make to God.

Psalms 107 began with the statement, "O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth forever." We ought always be willing to give God thanks because He is good and his mercy endureth forever. The second verse, which is critical, states, "Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;"

When you are redeemed, you are delivered from something. Every person is a slave to sin; only through the price Jesus paid on the cross is a sinful person redeemed from sin and death. When we accept Christ as our personal savior, we become redeemed and are thankful. We know and understand that God is Good and His mercy endureth forever.

I have been redeemed and bought with a price. If anybody asks you, what's the matter with me? Tell them I've been redeemed.

If we are redeemed, if you have been delivered, if you have been rescued, if you are saved, you ought to give thanks. We, the delivered, should be the ones crying loud that God is Good and His mercy endureth forever.

Oh, that men would praise the Lord for his goodness and his wonderful works to the children of men!

O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

If I could tell David's story, we

know that at some point in David's life, he found himself in different situations, good and bad. One thing David did not forget to do was give God thanks. David always recognized where his help came from. Let's end with some of David's verses of praise from Psalms; "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."

"The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein;"

"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid."

"Oh, that men would praise the Lord for his goodness and for his wonderful works to the children of men!"

"O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever."

"I will bless the Lord at all times, and his praise shall continually be in my mouth."

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord which made heaven and earth."

"If it had not been for the Lord who was on our side... Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

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

Practical Biblical Principles

STRIVING FOR A CROWN

Read: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; 10:1-13
St. Paul preached on many Christian themes as he attempted to lead the Corinthian Church away from divisions and strife which was alive within the church. Paul put a lot of emphases upon personal morality and integrity so as to get the people focused upon themselves and see the error of their unchristian behavior.

Paul preached to the unmarried and widows about what God expects from them when evil influences are challenging the status of being married and staying chaste to godly morals. He spoke of the need to be sensitive and conscious of others who do not have as much knowledge about godly things and not to allow one's superior knowledge to become a stumbling block for those who have less godly knowledge about certain things in life. Paul spoke also of the need to practice self-denial and not brag about what you think you know, causing others around you to feel inferior. Paul spoke on the need to be a servant to others, as needed, but strive to serve all men and not be prejudice. These are but a few of the subjects Paul preached about prior to dealing with the major issue of the division in the church when The Lord's Supper/Communion was served.

Paul then preached about our sermon subject for today, which is 'Striving for a Crown' (1 Corinthians 9:24). Here St. Paul emphasized the need for all to flee idolatry. This subject leads Paul into the subject of the Lord's Supper. There were those in the church eating meat which was sacrificed and offered to idol gods of the Gentiles (1

Corinthians 10:21).

A parallel subject which was taught along with the ungodly communion activities was the issue of Head Coverings in the church at Communion time. Paul tells the church on this issue imitate me as I imitate Christ (1 Corinthians 11:2-3). "Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonors his head." But every woman who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head. For it is the same as having her head shaved (1 Corinthians 11:7-8). In Jewish culture, the covering of the head signified the sin, shame, and unworthiness of the individual in the presence of God. It is believed having no hat on in church allows God to see the righteousness of Christ in a person.

The previous godly themes Paul preached and taught as part of the preparations for 'striving for a crown.' It was evidence to all who heard Paul's preaching that one cannot get a crown for the previous issues served as stumbling blocks to those who had a desire to run. From a spiritual perspective, such divisions in the church kept individuals from running a successful race to receive the crown which awaits them at the end of their race.

Separating the spiritual from the natural, Paul put forth this personal challenge, "And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown." Therefore, I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus, I fight not as one who beats the air. But I discipline my body and bring it into subjec-

tion, lest when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified."

Paul is saying the price (the crown) to be paid in the Christian life is that of disciplining one's mind, because the world is at war for dominion of the mind. When Paul states, "Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty," he is saying, it is with confidence in my Lord that I will gain the victory in the race as I make study of the Word, in addition to being equipped by the Spirit through prayer."

Paul was implying and pointing out the fact that the Corinthian church was not studying or had stopped studying the word, nor were they seeking the lead of the Holy Spirit in their daily life.

Paul referred to some historical facts which the Jews were familiar with. For we must never forget, dear brothers, what happened to our people in the wilderness long ago. God guided them by sending a cloud that moved along ahead of them; and HE brought them all safely through the waters of the Red Sea... And by a miracle God sent them food to eat and water to drink there in the desert. They drank the water Christ gave them. HE was there with them as a mighty Rock of spiritual refreshment. Yet after all this most of them did not obey God, and HE destroyed them in the wilderness (1 Corinthians 10:6-7). Is being disobedient and an idol worshiper worth God not owning us in the end?

J. L. Caldwell, Pastor
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Obituaries

Douglas Anthony Blackman

By Adria Jervay
Publisher of The Carolinian

It's not everyday that you meet a superhero, and Douglas Anthony Blackman was one of the most humble superheroes I've ever met.

Unlike in the movies, Blackman was human and he did human things. It was those human things that made him such a hero. His empathy and courage to care about other people publicly was a rare power.

He once told me a story about what motivated him to build his auto service empire. It began with his life in Sanford.

Growing up in a segregated southern town could easily tarnish one's opinion of African-Americans. Thankfully, Anthony Blackman's parents were not inclined to continue that "southern tradition."

Blackman grew up in a home that did not condone segregation. His parents taught their children that people were people, but that was not the prevailing thought during that time, in that era, nor in his extended family.

In an interview with The Carolinian, Blackman said, "I had parents that said NO, we are not going to look at it that way. And we didn't. We didn't in high school and we didn't in college. We didn't after we got out. They said that we had a debt to repay and I've worked hard to do that."

This was not lip service. Anthony Blackman is known throughout the Triangle as a consummate giver. He has won numerous awards for his philanthropy and community engagement, but that is not why he does it.

In addition to his parents' influence, during his college years Blackman met a young boy who changed his life forever. That eight-year-old boy's name was Tommy Lee Morgan, Jr.

Blackman met Tommy while working at a tire service shop in Southeast Raleigh. The ironic thing about that is he was surrounded by Black men, in the Black side of town, and found such value in the experience that he built an auto service empire from it. His plan was to take Tommy Lee with him.

Blackman recalls, "Tommy Lee was so brilliant. Back in the '80s he figured out the routines that Pac Man would



go through. He could walk away from the game, come back and pick up right where he left off."

"The school system would tell you that he was challenged, but his challenges were having to wear the same clothes every day and children picking on him."

Blackman and Tommy Lee became close over the years. At every opportunity Blackman would give what he had to Tommy Lee. Food, clothes, shoes, time; whatever was needed.

Tommy Lee's parents were heavily into drugs at that time so life was beyond difficult for him.

Seeing firsthand the hardships of Tommy Lee changed Blackman's life.

"Until you have had an experience like that, where you can witness the life of a young man like that you can't really understand it," Blackman recalls.

"You say you do. You say you sympathise with it, but you really can't. Every day of his life was a challenge."

Some years later, after Tommy

Lee grew up, Blackman learned that he had died. It struck such a blow to his heart to hear that he didn't get a chance to save his friend.

"If he could have hung on to the point when I got my own store I could have really trained him to have a job for the rest of his days," said Blackman.


That young man sparked a tidal wave of giving in Blackman's life. Google has pages and pages of stories about the generosity of Anthony and Beth Blackman. The barrage of awards and acknowledgements for their humanitarian efforts is overwhelming and beautiful at the same time.

This level of selfless giving is rarely seen in local companies, but the Blackmans are driven by love and social conscience.


The world lost a good one when we lost Douglas Anthony Blackman. I suppose it was hard living with such a huge heart inside such a small body.

You are, and will forever be missed my friend!


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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

What would happen if we chose "us" for once. Do we even know what that looks like? Here's a sneak peak, it does not look like Joe Biden. We voted him into office, and he promised to give us nothing of value or merit. He kept his word and that is what we got. Nothing.

Correction. We did get something. We got to watch our small businesses dwindle and turn into ashes like Thanos snapping his fingers after acquiring all of the "infinity stones". Whatever money and wealth gained, were wiped clean and entrepreneurship had a noose placed around its neck and hung publicly. The former president is indicted for challenging vote results, but that useless distraction averted our eyes away from a manipulated supply chain that was intentionally snapped to create a false demand and force inflated prices to wipe out our wealth.

For decades, people trying to climb out of the lower class have begged for livable wages. Corporations began to pay "essential workers" more money for remedial work, only to have inflation create such a massive wealth gap, that even though they are paid more, they can afford even less. This created a climate of such hopelessness that far too many have abandoned the idea of working.

We got to watch the complex of historically black neighborhoods lighten. The BLM signs did not represent the understanding that black lives mattered, as much as it bedazzled the people with lack of reading comprehension. If properly understood, the context would have been properly calibrated. Where those signs have gone up, black people were moved out. I challenge you to find a place where BLM signs have gone up and the housing is still affordable. Good luck!

If the average cost to rent a home is two thousand dollars in a run down neighborhood, that equates to twenty four thousand dollars a year in just rent. If you only earn eleven dollars an hour, your weekly earnings would not cover the cost. Pay phones no longer exist and you are required to have a phone number if you are expected to be gainfully employed. You also need an address. How many homeless people, who are willing to work, aren't able to simply because they do not have a physical address associated with them. Paying under the table is illegal, and with the tens of thousands of armed IRS agents employed to squeeze our pockets like the Sheriff of Nottingham, you have to account for every dollar earned or face stiff and severe penalties.

Price gouging for gas at the pump is legal. There is no reason why anywhere in America, gas prices should reach \$4.99 per gallon. There is no reason why a gallon of milk is \$7.99. At some point it may be better suited if we went to the bank to get a loan and buy our own dairy cow. But as far too many have found out while trying to get a loan, the interest rates all but guarantee that you will spend all of your productive adult life indentured, trying to pay off the interest and the debt.

Perhaps the real tragedy is, when the plantation master beckons us to support him, and we do. He will absolutely never give us our freedom nor will whoever inherits his power. But his plantation is all we know. So we will vote straight ticket again. Another 4 years will result in no significant progress while literally everyone else will move up and move on while we politically and economically bury ourselves.

You know this to be true because politicians have become so complacent and elitist, that most of them won't even come and talk to you, before and definitely not after elections. Your phone is blown up with calls for your vote, but try and call them and see if their number on file even works.

If you're looking for a solution, I do not have one to offer. How do you stop a groupthink mob that does not want to think; which is why they follow a group blindly? Sometimes, to figure out what we want, it is easier to define what we do not want.

What we do not want are puppets telling us Biden's politics are our answer by reminding us if we don't side with him, then we ain't Black. It is remarkable that I can defy God, be openly pagan, identify as whatever I chose, but the minute I begin to think and challenge status quo rhetoric and results, you somehow lose your pigment. Who knew that thinking was a trait that belongs to every race and ethnicity that isn't Black. Maybe that is why the thinking people have laws to protect them, lead major industries and have true influence besides singing, rapping, and dancing. They also don't need athletes and entertainers to be their compass because they are smart enough to figure it out for themselves.

It is time for us to stop pretending that we do not see the flood coming. In spite of what the internet tries to project, it is impossible to cancel reality.

Talk To Us

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

Is having more information beneficial or detrimental to our community? There are things that have become 'norms' in our society that should not be acceptable. No one in our communities should be hungry, homeless, unemployable or uneducated.

Do you think that we as a community are complicit in the disenfranchisement of our people simply because we don't want to know how the sausage is made?



FUNdraising Good Times



\$125 MILLION HBCU AND COMMUNITY GAME CHANGER

Miles College is inviting everyone to the table and working to ensure that as they grow their facilities and programs they work in concert with their neighbors. They don't want to become an oasis: they want to create partnerships that will encourage investments in Fairfield and the revitalization of the community. Over the past four years they have raised more than \$100 million towards their \$125 goal. These funds ensured safe continuation of the college experience throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. They provided investments in technology infrastructure, facilities upgrades, STEM (Science Technology, Engineering and Math) and social work programming, a Black Male Teacher Initiative, eGaming, and faculty development. The remaining \$25 million will change the college's landscape with renovation of historic Williams Hall, the first building on campus. Funds will also be used for scholarships and tuition assistance, academic programs and endowment. This phase of the campaign also includes raising predevelopment funds for 41 acres of campus property that is ready to be developed. The goal is to create "The Village" which is envisioned as home to an Innovation Center and Multi-Purpose Facility along with commercial development for the campus and the city of Fairfield. Earlier this month campaign chair Mike Suco, President and CEO of Coca-Cola United Bottling Company toasted the college with the raising of small bottles of Coca-Cola. "This campaign will change the future of our region with an increase in graduates prepared to lead in business, government, community, and family life." Campaign Co-Chair, Leroy Abrahams, Executive Vice President and Head of Community Affairs at Regions Bank, greeted the full room of College supporters with his take on the uniqueness of the campaign. "What makes this campaign unique is the college's vision for inclusionary growth. Miles College wants to expand its academics and facilities and at the same time help catalyze improvements for the surrounding community of Fairfield." We were delighted to be at the campaign announcement and are even more delighted to serve as counsel to this campaign. The team at Miles College is a joy to work with. They have what it takes to be successful in fundraising and partnership building. College President Bobbie Knight, J.D., the board chair Bishop Clarence Kelby Heath, and the campaign leaders are all respected across the community and committed to the campaign's success. They are "we" thinkers, not "me" thinkers and they are moving the campaign forward despite the well-known challenges that so many HBCU's face when it comes to fundraising. They are focused on what they can do and strategically using the resources they have. They are doing it, and you can too.

let me remind or educate you. When 911 occurred, a prominent lady preacher comments were, "It happened because abortion and homosexuality is running rampant in America". My thoughts: so slavery wasn't heinous enough for tragedy? Stealing a people's lands and imprisoning the Japanese wasn't something God condemned. New Orleans went underwater because they practiced voodoo. Okay, so bombing churches, and killing little girls who went to church on Sunday and didn't get home for Sunday dinner was something that God ignored. Morocco and Libya are Muslim countries, so earthquakes and storms are God's wrath because they aren't Christian. God just ignores white supremacy, segregation, discrimination, and lynchings because of what...? He doesn't see them, doesn't care, or that it isn't bad enough? It's amazing to me that we just ignore the part of the Bible that tells us not to judge. The part where Jesus told the Pharaohs that they wanted to kill him because they didn't get the message of the Ten Commandments and added their own rules to gain power. He said they didn't follow the Commandments themselves and wanted to kill him because God sent him to explain what they really meant. They wanted to stone a woman to death for committing adultery, but they were not without sin. They wanted to walk on the other side of the road to avoid a seriously sick/ injured man, but the Samaritan who stopped and got him help they were prejudiced against because he was a Samaritan and they didn't want Jesus to stop and give good news to the women at the well because she was a woman, and a Samaritan and mistaken because she thought continuously changing male companions was getting her love. Martha thought Mary should be in the kitchen helping her rather than sitting with the men as Jesus taught, and even today, there's a "religious" organization that thinks women can't be called to teach his word. They just don't get the Jesus who talks that.

We are supposed to treat others the way we want to be treated. He didn't say if they look like us, or go to our church, or call themselves Christians, or haven't had an abortion, or aren't homosexual, or are educated, or have money, or live in a certain neighborhood, etc. He didn't put conditions on it or say "Go ahead and interpret that anyway you want to..." He said, "Just do it." You know what else? When Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life/light, no man cometh to the Father except by me..." He wasn't saying, "When you get to heaven, I'm going to be standing by the door like on that television show you love so much, so choose the door I'm standing by...Yes, that's the way." No, he said, my way is the words I've taught you. My way is the way I treat people. My way is the behavior I've shown you. My way is the way I treat children. My way is the way I treat my friends. My way is not the government's way. It's God's way, and when you learn and actualize this in the life you live on Earth, guess what? You are doing it My way, and that's how your soul gets back to God. So get wisdom and understanding. Pray for those who don't treat you right, and keep on moving on from them. So yes, I'm praying for Libya, and Morocco, and Haiti, and California, and the West, and the Republicans, and the Democrats, and the Church, and for people and myself because I have decided to be on the path of the way. And as the song says, "I'm doing my best to make it in." Love ya'll.

A Different Voice

By Dorothy Shaw Thompson



HE'S THE WAY, FOLLOW HIM

Almost couldn't think of what to write today, and then there it was, Brad's cousin posted "Pray for Libya." It reminded me of stuff floating in the air about Morocco, Haiti, 911, and Martin's and Malcolm X's assassinations. Jesus wasn't an arrogant teacher. He was compassionate, caring, loving, and only judgmental of the so-called "righteous". Too many times we forget that being a Christian is following Jesus, not misinterpreting his gospel to suit our righteous indignations and fear. If you don't get where I'm coming from, maybe you don't know people who think they can interpret God's words to mean "I'm saved and you are not". So you haven't heard that God's wrath is showing up in countries other than ours because they don't believe what we believe or look like us, or have a constitution like ours.

My question is, what part of the world do you live in and what Bible are you reading? Okay, so maybe you've not talked to people that I've heard on my phone or listened to on television or had sermons on Sunday or whose history I've read. So



"Someday this will all be yours, son... Get a good lawyer!"

Classifieds

DURHAM COUNTY

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF REBECCA CORRY GROB

FILE NO. 2023 E 001094

All persons, firms, and corporations having claims against REBECCA CORRY GROB, deceased, of Durham County, North Carolina are notified to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before December 3, 2023 or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 31st day of August, 2023.

Jacob Ashman Grob, Administrator
1809 Marys Meadows Lane
Palm Harbor, FL 34683
c/o Daniel B. Finch
Envisage Law
2601 Oberlin Road, Suite 100
Raleigh, NC 27608
8/31, 9/7, 9/14, and 9/21/2023
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 20-E-1293

The Undersigned, having qualified as EXECUTOR of the Estate of FRANCIS ALBERT FREE, JR., late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said decedent 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, Susan Free, Executor
c/o Vail Gardner Law, PLLC
732 9th St. #621
Durham, NC 27705

8/31, 9/7, 9/14, and 9/21/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of JEWEL KAY KING aka JEWEL KING KING aka KAY KING KING aka KAY K. KING of Durham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 1st day of December, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms, corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This is the 31st day of August, 2023.

Carol King Finch, Executrix,
c/o Richard F. Prentis, Jr., Stubbs
Cole Law Firm, 4 Consultant Place,
Durham, NC 27707
H-S: 8-31, 9-7, 9-14 & 9-21, 2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as the personal representative of the estate of MARY JANE FLOWERS, late of Durham County, NC, Marylu Flowers-Schoen, the undersigned, does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 311 E. Main St., Durham, NC 27701, on or before December 1, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the estate will please make prompt payment to the undersigned.

This, the 18th day of August, 2023.

Marylou Flowers-Shoen, Executrix
Christopher Hill
Attorney for the Estate
Law Office of Marcus Hill
311 E. Main St.
Durham, NC 27707
(919) 688-1941

8/31, 9/7, 9/14, and 9/21/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as the personal representative of the estate of THOMAS A. SPRAGENS JR., late of Durham County, NC, Lynn H. Spragens, the undersigned, does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 311 E. Main St., Durham, NC 27701, on or before December 1, 2023, or this notice will be

pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the estate will please make prompt payment to the undersigned.

This, the 31st day of August, 2023.

Lynn H. Spragens, Executrix
Christopher Hill
Attorney for the Estate
Law Office of Marcus Hill
311 E. Main St.
Durham, NC 27707
(919) 688-1941

8/31, 9/7, 9/14, and 9/21/2023
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-1017

The Undersigned, having qualified as ADMINISTRATOR of the Estate of HARRY LEONARD MILES, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said decedent 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, Wilbur L. Beck, Jr., Administrator
5114 Yadkin Rd., Suite 114
Fayetteville, NC 28303
8/31, 9/7, 9/14, and 9/21/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of JULIA FIELDS MORTON of Durham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 1st day of December, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms, corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This is the 31st day of August, 2023.
Oris Lee Morton, Jr., Executor
c/o Richard F. Prentis, Jr.,
Stubbs Cole Law Firm
4 Consultant Place
Durham, NC 27707
8/31, 9/7, 9/14, and 9/21/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

ALICE MURIEL LEBOEUF Clerk of Superior Court 23 E 993 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Alice Muriel Leboeuf, late of Durham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at Law Office of Ken Hirsh, 1821 Hillandale RD, Suite 1B-344, Durham, North Carolina 27705, on or before the 15th day of December, 2023 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

/s/ Cecile Leboeuf Warner,
Executor of the Estate of Alice
Muriel Leboeuf, deceased.

This the 31st day of August, 2023.

Kenneth J. Hirsh
Law Office of Ken Hirsh
1821 Hillandale RD STE 1B-344
Durham, NC 27705

8/31, 9/7, 9/14, and 9/21/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk

FILE NO. 23-E-821

IN RE: ESTATE OF HELEN HOLLAND

THE UNDERSIGNED having qualified co-Executors of the Estate of Helen Holland, Deceased, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Durham County, do hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the said Decedent to present them to the undersigned on or before November 30, 2023, said date being at least three months from the date of the first publication or posting of this Notice as indicated below, or the same will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate, please make immediate payment.

This Notice is given pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 28A-14-1.

This the 31st day of August, 2023.

ESTATE OF HELEN HOLLAND Kenneth Wade Holland, co- Executor

344 Warren Court
Chapel Hill, NC 27516
Lantz Ray Holland, co-Executor
106 Chase Avenue
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
M. Wayne Holland, co-Executor
3601 Holland Way
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
c/o Taylor Avioli
NARRON WENZEL PA
5400 Glenwood Ave., Suite 201
Raleigh, NC 27612

8/31, 9/7, 9/14, and 9/21/2023
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 21-E-1688

The Undersigned, having qualified as ADMINISTRATRIX of the ANTONIO MAYE, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said decedent 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.

Linda Dean, Administratrix
2836 Beechwood Drive
Durham, NC 27707

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-510

The Undersigned, having qualified as EXECUTOR of the Estate of JAMES BLANCHES, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said decedent 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.

Joseph A. Ravella, Executor
202 Red Mountain Rd.
Rougemont, NC 27572

9/7, 9/14, 9/21, and 9/28/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

All persons, firms, and corporations having claims against JANET HILL LYNCH, deceased, of Durham County, North Carolina are notified to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before December 7, 2023 or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of 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 decedent 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
110 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 decedent 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
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF SHIRLEY PERRY BYRD

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against SHIRLEY PERRY BYRD, late of Durham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit them to Susan Byrd Bazemore as Executor of the decedent's estate on or before December 15, 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 14 day of September 2023.

Susan Byrd Bazemore, Executor
c/o Gregory Herman-Giddens, Atty.
Trust Counsel
1414 Raleigh Rd., Ste. 203
Chapel Hill, NC 27517

9/14, 9/21, 9/28, and 10/5/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified before the Clerk of Superior Court of Durham County as Public Administrator of the Estate of CRYSTAL DAWN LUMPKIN, this is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the Estate to send them, duly itemized and verified, to P.O. Box 51429, Durham, NC 27717, on or before the 13th day of December, 2023 (90 days after the date of this Notice) or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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

This the 14th day of September, 2023.

Robert E. Levin
Public Administrator of the
Estate of Crystal D. Lumpkin,
Deceased
P.O. Box 51429
Durham, NC 27717

9/14, 9/21, 9/28, and 10/5/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk

File Number 23-E-1143

The Undersigned, having qualified as ADMINISTRATRIX of the Estate of LIZZIE BETHENNA COOPER BUIE, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 16th 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 14th day of September, 2023.

Danita Buié, Administratrix
162 Ridge St.
Reidsville, NC 27320

9/14, 9/21, 9/28, and 10/5/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk

File Number 23-E-486

The Undersigned, having qualified as ADMINISTRATOR of the Estate of EVANS EDWARD THOMPSON JR, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 16th 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 14th day of September, 2023.

Evans Edward Thompson III
Administrator
7158 Via Vico
San Jose, CA 95129

9/14, 9/21, 9/28, and 10/5/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as the personal representative of the estate of Bryce Hayward, late of Durham County, NC, Robert Stine, the undersigned, does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 311 E. Main St., Durham, NC 27701, on or before December 21, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the estate will please make prompt payment to the undersigned.

This, the 21st day of September, 2023.

Robert Stine, Executor
c/o Christopher Hill
Attorney for the Estate
Law Office of Marcus Hill
311 E. Main St.

Durham, NC 27707
(919) 688-1941

9/21, 9/28, 10/5, and 10/12/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The undersigned, Vernon Mack, having duly qualified as Executor of the Estate of Michael Mack, 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 December 21, 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 21st day of September, 2023.

Vernon Mack, Executor
C/O Ronald G. Coulter, Attorney
3400 Croasdaile Drive, Ste 205
Durham, NC 27705
1-919-246-5775

9/21, 9/28, 10/5, and 10/12/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as the personal representative of the estate of Timothy Monell, late of Durham County, NC, Daniel Jenkins, the undersigned, does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 311 E. Main St., Durham, NC 27701, on or before December 21, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the estate will please make prompt payment to the undersigned.

This, the 21st day of September, 2023.

Daniel Jenkins, Administrator
c/o Christopher Hill
Attorney for the Estate
Law Office of Marcus Hill
311 E. Main St.

Durham, NC 27707
(919) 688-1941

9/21, 9/28, 10/5, and 10/12/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division Before the Clerk

File Number 23-E-1167

The Undersigned, having qualified as EXECUTOR of the Estate of MARY B. BOCKKINO, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 21st 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 21st day of September, 2023.

Stephen B. Bocckino, Executor
7340 Abrom Drive
Durham, NC 27713

9/21, 9/28, 10/5, and 10/12/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division

Before the Clerk

File Number 23-E-1147

The Undersigned, having qualified as ADMINISTRATOR of the Estate of AUDREY DAWN KOUROS, late of Durham County, North Carolina, hereby wishes to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at the below listed address on or before the 21st 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 21st day of September, 2023.

Christopher Thomas Kouros
Administrator
1186 Willow Pond Lane
Leland, NC 28451

HARNETT COUNTY

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
HARNETT COUNTY

ORDER DIRECTING SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE
FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF
THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND
FOR THE COUNTY OF ADA

Case No. CV01-23-12802
DAVID LEROY NIBJRICK,
Petitioner,

vs.
AMANDA NICOLE NIMRICK,
Respondent.

Based on Petitioner's Motion for Service by Publication and it satisfactorily appearing that the Respondent, Amanda Nicole Nimrick, is deliberately evading personal service and specifically is attempting to avoid service within the meaning of Idaho Code §5-508, the Petitioner having filed a Petition for Divorce stating a cause of action involving the Respondent; and

IT FURTHER APPEARING that a Summons has been filed and that personal service cannot be made upon the Respondent at her last known and current address of 260 Advance Dr., Lillington, NC 27546;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the service of the Summons, and notice of any other filings by Petitioner filed prior to issuance of this Order in the above action, be made upon Respondent by publication in THE CAROLINIAN, a newspaper of general circulation in Hamett County, North Carolina, and the newspaper most likely to give notice to the Respondent. The Summons be published in said newspaper once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Petitioner, through counsel, shall mail a copy of the Petition, Summons, and any other filings in this matter to Respondent at her last known address. Petitioner shall also email a copy and may notify the Petitioner Via Facebook if she has an account.

Attorney for Petitioner, David LeRoy Nimrick

Regan Charlton, ISB #9235
Johannes S. A. Claus, III, ISB

#8907 CHARLTON LAW, LLC
405 S. 8th Street, Suite 365
Boise, Idaho 83702
Ph. 208-345-5426

Email: regan@charltonlawllc.com
iCourt: efile@charltonlawllc.com
9/21, 9/28, 10/5, and 10/12/2023

WAKE COUNTY

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

Classifieds

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
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
In the General Court of Justice,
District Court Division,
File No: 23CV020633-910

[CHILD CUSTODY PROCEEDING]
GLESY MARTINEZ ANTUNEZ,
Plaintiff v. SANTIAGO HERNANDEZ
MENDOZA, Defendant.

To Defendant, biological father of AMHM born to Plaintiff on 11/19/2020. TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above entitled action. A hearing date of October 31, 2023, has been scheduled. The nature of the relief sought against you is an award of permanent legal custody of the aforementioned child to Plaintiff. You are required

to make defense to such pleading with the Wake County Clerk of Court no later than October 25, 2023, said date being forty (40) days from the first publication of this notice. Upon your failure to do so, the party seeking relief against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought. This, the 14th day of September, 2023.

Katherine Moye, JusticeMatters, Inc., Attorney for Plaintiff, P.O. Box 58058, Raleigh, NC, 27658, 919/794-7511, Ext. 9.

9/14, 9/21, and 9/28/2023
NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
In The General Court Of Justice
District Court Division
File No. 22CV014645

JOSEPHINE EMMANUEL
OPARAOCHA, Plaintiff VS.
BENSON CHUKWUDI AGU,
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 October 31, 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 21st day of September 2023.

Josephine Oparaocha, Plaintiff
5016 Babbling Brook Drive
Raleigh, NC 27610

9/21, 9/28, and 10/5/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF LIZZIE JUSTICE
DATE OF BIRTH: JUNE 17, 1948

The decedent, Lizzie Justice, who lived at 10620 Dehijuston Ct., Raleigh, North Carolina, 27614 died June 20, 2023.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Albert Justice, Executor of Estate, at 1117 Carlisle Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27610, 919-231-3177 or to both the probate court and the named/proposed personal representative by 12-21-2023, 90 days after the date of publication of this notice.

This, the 21st day of September, 2023.

Albert Justice, Executor
1117 Carlisle Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27610
9/21, 9/28, 10/5, and 10/12/2023
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
File Number 23E004207-910

The Undersigned, having qualified as ADMINISTRATOR of the Estate of NATHAN ROGERS, 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 21st 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 21st day of September, 2023.

Naomi S. Feaste, Administrator
5812 Quitman Trail
Raleigh, NC 27610
9/14, 9/21, 9/28, and 10/5/2023

FORECLOSURE

NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
23 SP 393

Under and by virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust executed Sarah Blakenship, which was dated June 22, 2016 and recorded on June 22, 2016 in Book 7959, Page 260, Durham County Registry, North Carolina.

Default having been made of the note thereby secured by the said Deed of Trust and the undersigned, Satterfield Law, PLLC, having been substituted as Trustee in said Deed of Trust, and the holder of the note evidencing said default having directed that the Deed of Trust be foreclosed, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at the courthouse door of the county courthouse where the property is located, or the usual and customary location at the county courthouse for conduction the sale on September 28, 2023 at 10:00 AM, and will sell to the highest bidder for cash the following described property situated in Durham County, North Carolina, to wit:

Being all of Lot 20 as shown on plat entitled "Jubilee Land Subdivision", recorded in Plat Book 143, Page 124, Durham County Registry, to which plat reference is hereby made for a more particular description. See also plat book 139, Page 170, Durham County Registry.

This property is commonly known as 2804 Jubilee Lane, Durham, NC 27707


Third party purchasers must pay the excise tax, and the court costs of Forty-Five Cents (\$0.45) per One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) pursuant to NCGS 7A-308(a)(1). A cash deposit (no personal checks) of five percent (5%) of the purchase price, or Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00), whichever is greater, will be required at the time of the sale. Following the expiration of the statutory upset bid period, all the remaining amounts are immediately due and owing.

Said property to be offered

pursuant to this Notice of Sale is being offered for sale, transfer and conveyance "AS IS WHERE IS." There are no representations of warranty relating to the title or any physical, environmental, health or safety conditions existing in, on, at, or relating to the property being offered for sale. This sale is made subject to all prior liens, unpaid taxes, any unpaid land transfer taxes, special assessments, easements, rights of way, deeds of release, and any other encumbrances or exceptions of record. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the current owner(s) of the property is/are Sarah Blakenship.

An Order for possession of the property may be issued pursuant to G.S. 45-21.29 in favor of the purchaser and against the party or parties in possession by the clerk of superior court of the county in which the property is sold. Any person who occupies the property pursuant to a rental agreement entered into or renewed on or after October 1, 2007, may, after receiving the notice of sale, terminate the rental agreement upon 10 days' written notice to the landlord. The notice shall also state that upon termination of a rental agreement, the tenant is liable for rent due under the rental agreement prorated to the effective date of the termination.

If the trustee is unable to convey title to this property for any reason, the sole remedy of the purchaser is the return of the deposit. Reasons of such inability to convey include, but are not limited to, the filing of a bankruptcy petition prior to the confirmation of the sale and reinstatement of the loan without the knowledge of the Trustee. If the validity of the sale is challenged by any other party, the Trustee, in their sole discretion, if they believe the challenge to have merit, may request the court to declare the sale to be void and return the deposit. The purchaser will have no further remedy. Daron D. Satterfield, Attorney for Substitute Trustee Satterfield Law, PLLC 307 Meadowlands Drive, Suite 101 Hillsborough, NC 27278 (984) 229-8584, phone (919) 287-2696 faxPublication Date: 9/14 & 9/21/2023


ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
The North Carolina Department of Adult Correction has the following contract in Wake County out for bid: C- C11611 Repair Randall East Stair . The bid opening is scheduled for: Wednesday, 10/18/2023 . To obtain the Notice to Bidders, any Pre-Bid Requirements, and any Addenda visit: <https://evp.nc.gov/solicitations/details/?id=a9016187-323c-ee11-bdf4-001dd804ec4b>

Right Build Varnedoe Joint Venture
NOTICE TO SUBCONTRACTORS
OUTREACH EVENT/Pre-Bid Announcement
Raleigh- Durham Airport Authority
Modular Operation Center
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID: Sealed proposals will be received by Right Build International, from prequalified subcontractors for the Raleigh Durham International Airport's: Modular Operation Center at 2:00pm on Tuesday, October 24th, 2023 (Tentative Bid Day) (Refer to Bid Manual for specific bidding procedures). Bids not meeting these requirements will not be accepted. Bids will be opened and read at a location that will be determined at a later date. An Outreach/Pre-bid conference will be held from 3:00pm - 5:00pm Tuesday, October 3rd, 2023 in the RDU Boardroom at 1000 Trade Dr, Morrisville, NC 27560 *Conference Room RDUC 100A & 100B* copies of project documents are available through Accent Imaging production@accentimaging.com. Please contact Dayshon Bynum dbynum@rightbuildint.com to obtain a digital copy of project documents.

NOTICE TO SUBCONTRACTOR BIDDER PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUEST FOR THE
Raleigh-Durham Airport Authority
Utility Relocation Enabling Package
Balfour Beatty is seeking to pre-qualify demolition and abatement, clearing and erosion control, and site electrical contractors to submit bids for the furnishing of labor, material, and equipment for the following project: **Utility Relocation Enabling Package**. Balfour Beatty has been selected as the Construction Manager at Risk (CMR) for the project and will receive bids from and contract with the principal contractors for the execution of the work. The preliminary budget for this project is approximately \$750,000 (all packages). **Minority Owned Small Business (MSB) participation and Women Owned Small Business (WSB) participation goals will be set for each individual bid package. Refer to the bid manual documents once issued for information on your specific package.**
Similar project experience will be considered during prequalification. **Anticipated Bid Date will be November 8, 2023.** This is not a request for bid, however, only subcontractors who have completed a prequalification package, and been deemed prequalified for this project, will be considered for a bid on this project. Submittals for prequalification forms may be hand delivered, mailed, or submitted electronically. **Deadline for prequalification submission is 14 days prior to Bid Date.** The CMR and Authority reserve the right to reject any and all Pre-qualifications. Contracting method will be through Competitive Bid in accordance with Chapter 143 of the NC General Statutes. For further information or questions, please contact Victor Malcolm at 919- 233-5001, or by email at: vmalcolm@bbus.com.
Updated prequalification documents can be accessed through the Balfour Beatty plan room under "RDU Utility Relocation Enabling Package - PREQUALIFICATION" at the below link:
<https://app.buildingconnected.com/public/5430e7a75cdc2e0300dd757d>
Mailed or hand delivered submittals shall go to the following address:
Victor Malcolm
Balfour Beatty Construction
406 S McDowell St Suite 200
Raleigh, NC 27601

D/M/WBE
SUBCONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS WANTED
Pipeline Utilities, Inc. (NC General Contractor License No. 325) is seeking certified DBE, MBE, and WBE subcontractors and suppliers for the Chilled Water Extension to Whichard & Graham project for East Carolina University which bids September 26, 2023, at 2:00 PM. Plans and specifications for this project are available at the following locations: Pipeline Utilities, Inc.; 2204-F Associate Drive; Raleigh, NC 27603.
Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, demolition, clearing and grubbing, hauling, asphalt paving, striping, traffic control, erosion control, seeding, landscaping, linework, electrical, bypass pumping, dewatering, flatwork, SCADA, HVAC and directional drill. Please contact Dustin Downie (ddownie@taloving.com) if you are interested in submitting a proposal on any portion(s) of this project. Contact via phone 919-772-4310; fax: 919-772-3261; or email. All quotations will be accepted up to bid closing time of the bid date. Pipeline Utilities, Inc. 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.

NOTICE TO SUBCONTRACTOR BIDDER PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUEST FOR THE
Raleigh-Durham Airport Authority
Parking Garage 1 & 2 Restoration
Balfour Beatty / Metcon is seeking to pre-qualify general trades and concrete restoration contractors to submit bids for the furnishing of labor, material, and equipment for the following project: **Parking Garage 1 & 2 Restoration**. Balfour Beatty / Metcon has been selected as the Construction Manager at Risk (CMR) for the project and will receive bids from and contract with the principal contractors for the execution of the work. The preliminary budget for this project is approximately \$750,000 (all packages). **Minority Owned Small Business (MSB) participation and Women Owned Small Business (WSB) participation goals will be set for each individual bid package. Refer to the bid manual documents once issued for information on your specific package.**
Similar project experience will be considered during prequalification. **Anticipated Bid Date will be November 8, 2023.** This is not a request for bid, however, only subcontractors who have completed a prequalification package, and been deemed prequalified for this project, will be considered for a bid on this project. Submittals for prequalification forms may be hand delivered, mailed, or submitted electronically. **Deadline for prequalification submission is 14 days prior to Bid Date.** The CMR and Authority reserve the right to reject any and all Pre-qualifications. Contracting method will be through Competitive Bid in accordance with Chapter 143 of the NC General Statutes. For further information or questions, please contact Trent Johnson at 919- 233-5001, or by email at: tjohnson@bbus.com.
Updated prequalification documents can be accessed through the Balfour Beatty plan room under "RDU PG 1 & 2 Restoration - PREQUALIFICATION" at the below link:
<https://app.buildingconnected.com/public/5430e7a75cdc2e0300dd757d>
Mailed or hand delivered submittals shall go to the following address:
Trent Johnson
Balfour Beatty Construction
406 S McDowell St Suite 200
Raleigh, NC 27601

WANTED WBE, MBE & DBE BIDS
for the following job:
City of Wilson
Project # 2023-42
Gillette Athletic Complex Parking Lot Improvements
Soccer Fields 7 & 8
Wilson Co. Bid Date: Oct. 3rd
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 stwcpcorp.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.

Opportunities Live In
The Pages Of
The Carolinian
since 1940




ALL-ELECTRIC
ESCALADE IQ

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