

Raw milk sales: Allows for sale of raw milk to those in “herd share” agreements. Does not qualify for crossover deadline, progressing in Senate. Senate Bill 639.

Banning “ESG” in agricultural lending: Bars banks and credit unions from denying loans to agriculture producers based on their lack of a commitment to ESG — environmental, social, and governance factors. Passed Senate. Senate Bill 554.

Farm Act of 2025: Omnibus bill contains a variety of provisions, including a section that would limit the right to bring suit against pesticide manufacturers. Does not qualify for crossover deadline; still progressing in Senate. Senate Bill 639.

BUDGET & TAXES

State budget: \$32.6 billion to fund the state’s operations and programs, cutting vacant positions and offering small raises to state workers. Passed Senate; House will likely release and debate their own budget. Senate Bill 257.

Hurricane Helene aid: \$524 million for homebuilding, infrastructure repairs and farm aid in western North Carolina. Signed into law. House Bill 47.

BUSINESS & WORKFORCE

Unemployment benefits increase: Raises maximum weekly payment to \$450 from \$350. Passed House. House Bill 48.

CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT

Repealing Duke Energy emissions deadline: Removes 2030 carbon reduction goals for the utility company. Passed Senate. Senate Bill 261.

PFAS pollution and polluter liability: authorizes the Secretary of Environmental Quality to order a responsible party to pay for costs incurred by a public water system to address adverse effects resulting from PFAS contamination. Passed House. House Bill 569.

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More than 180 days after North Carolina voters cast their ballots, Democrat Allison Riggs was officially certified as an Associate Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court on Tuesday morning in a ceremony inside the state House chambers at the Capitol in Raleigh. Riggs, who was originally appointed to the Supreme Court in 2023 by Democratic Governor Roy Cooper to replace Justice Mike Morgan, won the November 2024 election by a razor-thin margin—just 734 votes out of more than 5.5 million cast. Despite the narrow victory, her certification path was delayed by legal challenges from her Republican opponent, Court of Appeals Judge Jefferson Griffin.

After numerous recounts, legal rulings, and voters coming forward to ensure their votes were counted, the final hurdle was cleared last week when Griffin formally conceded the race. This was just two days after U.S. District Judge Richard Myers, appointed by former President Donald Trump, ruled that thousands of previously disputed ballots must be



included in the final tally. Griffin’s concession set the stage for Tuesday’s swearing-in ceremony, where Riggs took the oath of office administered by her longtime mentor and fellow Justice, Anita Earls. The two have a deep professional history: Riggs worked under Earls at the Southern Coalition for Social Justice, a Durham-based civil rights organization founded by Earls, and later led the organization herself. During the ceremony, Earls praised Riggs not only for her legal intellect

but for her integrity and resilience: “I’ve watched her develop not just the brains for a high-powered legal career, but also the courage and heart that it took to do that hard work... We are at a moment in our democracy where it takes everyone standing up... and standing strong,” she said. In her remarks, Justice Riggs criticized Griffin’s legal campaign to overturn the election results. She condemned his efforts as a waste of taxpayer resources—as much as \$2 million—and a threat to democratic

norms. “This is a victory for North Carolina voters and the rule of law,” Riggs wrote on social media last week after a federal judge ordered her 2024 victory to be made official. “But we must keep fighting to elect judges who will put the Constitution over party and personal ambition.” Griffin’s legal challenge focused on ballots from heavily Democratic counties and was initially successful in the state Supreme Court, where he secured a 4-2 ruling from Riggs’ colleagues—four Republicans siding with him, with Justice Earls and one Republican justice dissenting. Riggs recused herself from that case. “In the last six months of this fight, many of you thanked me for my commitment and energy in this fight. It was never an option for me to give anything less,” Riggs said. Riggs’ win ensures that Democrats retain two seats on the seven-member high court, with the next opportunity to shift its ideological balance coming in 2026, when Justice Earls’ seat is up for election. Despite his defeat, Griffin will remain on the North Carolina Court of Appeals, where his term runs through 2028.

3 Memphis Police Officers Are Acquitted



Nationwide — Three former Memphis police officers — Tadarrius Bean, Demetrius Haley, and Justin Smith — have been acquitted of all state charges tied to the deadly beating of Tyre Nichols. A Tennessee jury found them not guilty of second-degree murder, aggravated assault, kidnapping, and official misconduct. A judge ordered their immediate release after the verdict. Nichols, a 29-year-old Black man who worked at FedEx and dreamed of becoming a photographer, died three days after a violent traffic stop on January 7, 2023. Police pulled him over for suspected reckless driving. Body camera footage showed officers dragging him from his car, using pepper spray and a Taser, and chasing him on foot. When they caught up, they beat him severely. Nichols was

heard crying out for his mother during the assault. According to NBC News, prosecutors argued that the force used was excessive and unjustified. A police train-

ing officer testified that the actions were “unnecessary.” The prosecution also pointed to a known pattern in law enforcement called the “run tax” — where officers punish suspects who

attempt to flee. Despite video evidence and expert testimony, the jury cleared the three men on all charges. The officers had already been convicted in a separate federal case related to the same incident. Shelby County District Attorney Steve Mulroy said he was disappointed and believed the prosecution presented strong evidence. Lawyers for Nichols’ family called the verdict a “devastating miscarriage of justice.” Civil rights groups echoed those concerns and called again for national police reform. Nichols’ death sparked nationwide protests and brought renewed attention to police brutality. His parents were later invited to President Joe Biden’s State of the Union address, where the push for accountability continued.

Southern Hospitality: Serving Kindness In NC

By Ms Jheri Worldwide

Staff Writer

The arduous labor performed by enslaved individuals made it possible for Southern planters to entertain their guests luxuriously and with apparent ease.” Planters generously welcomed neighbors and visitors, building a reputation of graciousness and generosity. This reputation is teetering in our current climate as we grow and evolve. In hopes of encouraging kindness here are a few places that display welcoming kindness and southern hospitality consistently. First we have Levi’s Soul Cafe in Bunn, NC. This is the only place I know you can get clean fresh chitterlings hot any ready to eat. There is something for everyone on the menu all made to order. The portion sizes are large and Levi welcomes everyone in with a smile. The restaurant is dedicated to his family which highlights the history of North Carolina

and salutes veterans. Next we have Press Coffee + Crepes downtown on Hillsborough Street. This is a spot where all are welcome, you can wear a neck tie or tie-dye. Service is outstanding. The manager has purple hair and there is a drink on the menu called purple rain. This is actually their third location and all are delicious with stellar service. Finally, for true southern hospitality at it’s finest I’d recommend Deborah’s in Dunn, NC. However, she’s only open two days a week which makes her largely a local favorite. Deborah is a hometown hero bringing people together on Sundays with kindness and soul food. All you can eat! Think about those little moments that make our corner of the world special. It’s the neighbor who brings over extra tomatoes from their gar-

den, the cashier who greets you with a genuine smile, or even just a friendly wave to a passing car. These small acts of kindness, they’re the secret ingredient to a happy community and we need them now more than ever. Let’s make a conscious effort to sprinkle a little extra kindness into our interactions. Hold the door open for a stranger. Offer a genuine compliment. Lend a helping hand, even if it’s just a small one. These gestures might seem like drops in the bucket, but together, they create a tidal wave of good vibes. Remember, Southern hospitality isn’t just a charming stereotype; it’s a living tradition we get to uphold and strengthen every single day. Let’s keep that North Carolina spirit shining bright, one act of kindness at a time. After all, a little bit of Southern charm and a whole lot of kindness? Now that’s a recipe for a truly delightful North Carolina.

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Business & Finance

Microsoft Lays Off 6,000, That's About 3% Of Its Workforce

Microsoft began laying off about 6,000 workers Tuesday, nearly 3% of its entire workforce and its largest job cuts in more than two years as the company spends heavily on artificial intelligence.

Hard hit was the tech giant's home state of Washington, where Microsoft informed state officials it was cutting 1,985 workers tied to its Redmond headquarters, many of them in software engineering and product management roles.

Microsoft said the layoffs will be across all levels, teams and geog-

raphies but the cuts will focus on reducing the number of managers. Notices to employees began going out on Tuesday.

The mass layoffs come just weeks after Microsoft reported strong sales and profits that beat Wall Street expectations for the January-March quarter, which investors took as a dose of relief during a turbulent time for the tech sector and U.S. economy.

"I think many people have this conception of layoffs as something that struggling companies have to do to save themselves, which

is one reason for layoffs but it's not the only reason," said Daniel Zhao, lead economist at workplace reviews site Glassdoor. "Big tech companies have trimmed their workforces as they rearrange their strategies and pull back from the more aggressive hiring that they did during the early post-pandemic years."

Microsoft employed 228,000 full-time workers as of last June, the last time it reported its annual headcount. About 55% of those workers were in the U.S.

Microsoft announced a smaller

round of performance-based layoffs in January. But the 3% cuts will be Microsoft's biggest since early 2023, when the company cut 10,000 workers, almost 5% of its workforce, joining other tech companies that were scaling back their pandemic-era expansions.

Microsoft's chief financial officer, Amy Hood, said on an April earnings call that the company was focused on "building high-performing teams and increasing our agility by reducing layers with fewer managers." She also said the headcount in March was 2% higher

than a year earlier, and down slightly compared to the end of last year.

The layoffs are hitting all parts of Microsoft's business, including the video game platform Xbox and the career networking site LinkedIn. Some laid-off workers and the executives who made the cuts took to LinkedIn to talk about them.

"This is the first time I've had to lay people off to support business goals that aren't my own," wrote Scott Hanselman, a vice president of Microsoft's developer community. "I often have trouble separating my beliefs with the system that I participate in and am complicit in. These are people with dreams and rent and I love them and I want them to be OK."

He added: "This is a day with a lot of tears."

The company didn't give a specific reason for the layoffs, only that they were part of "organizational changes necessary to best position the company for success in a dynamic marketplace."

Microsoft has said it has been spending \$80 billion in the fiscal year that ends in June on building data centers and other infrastructure it needs to develop its artificial intelligence technology, though it has also scaled back some of those projects. Those AI tools have been pitched as changing the way people work, including in Microsoft's own workplaces.

Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella told Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg at an AI event last month at Meta's headquarters that "maybe 20, 30% of the code" for some of Microsoft's coding projects "are probably all written by software."

Even if AI is increasingly helping Microsoft software engineers, however, doesn't necessarily mean it's

a chief reason for laying them off.

"When these big tech companies say that they're trimming management layers, that doesn't really sound like it's being driven by AI," Zhao said. "You're not expecting ChatGPT to replace the manager."

Instead, cutting management ranks can often reflect a broader strategy.

"As companies grow quickly, you need to add managers who can coordinate across teams or within teams," Zhao said. "But it's not until things start to slow down that people start asking questions about how necessary those roles are."

Of the laid-off employees in Washington, about 1,500 worked in person at Microsoft's offices and 475 worked remotely, according to the notice the company sent to the state employment agency. Their official last day will be in July.

After hiring sprees that started when the COVID-19 pandemic spiked demand for online services, many tech companies are still in a process of "coming back to Earth and trying to kind of rebalance some things," said Cory Stahle, an economist at Indeed, the job listings website.

And while Microsoft isn't as directly affected by President Donald Trump's wide-ranging tariffs as some of its peers, it must also think more broadly about economic conditions that could play out over the coming months and years.

"This could be an effort to think more long term," Stahle said. "If you have to go out and buy groceries and spend more on groceries and produce that are more expensive due to tariffs, you maybe don't have as much discretionary income to spend on electronics or video game systems."

USPS Brentwood Post Office Renamed To Honor Heroic Millie Dunn Veasey

By Ms Jheri Worldwide

Staff Writer

The community came together on Friday, May 9th, 2025, in a powerful demonstration of respect and gratitude for the renaming of the Brentwood Post Office in cherished memory of Mrs. Millie Dunn Veasey. The U.S. Postal Service and Congresswoman Deborah Ross hosted this momentous dedication, a fitting tribute to an extraordinary World War II veteran and a groundbreaking civil rights champion. Her donated Army uniforms are the only known examples from the esteemed 6888th Battalion at the North Carolina Museum of History in Raleigh speaks volumes of her remarkable service.

A palpable sense of reverence filled the air as attendees gathered, a clear indication of the profound admiration for Mrs. Veasey and the lasting impact of her remarkable life. Veasey served with distinction in the historic 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, the sole all-Black, all-female unit to serve overseas during World War II. Enlisting in December 1942, her journey took her from examinations at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, to basic training in Iowa and Colorado, and later to assign-



ments in Texas before her deployment to the European Theatre in early 1945. She arrived in Glasgow aboard the Queen Elizabeth.

It fills us with immense pride to recall Mrs. Veasey and her fellow uniformed sisters diligently maintaining vital connections between our soldiers and their families back home. Their work transcended mere mail delivery; it was a lifeline of morale and hope during times of immense hardship. After four months in Birmingham, England, she served as a supply clerk in Rouen, France, until her honor-



able discharge in 1945, leaving the Women's Army Corp as a staff sergeant.

Mrs. Veasey's commitment to our nation extended far beyond her military service. She became a pivotal figure in the civil rights movement through her work with the NAACP, tirelessly advocating for equality and justice. Her dedication also included four years teaching business education and English in Virginia before her return to Raleigh, where she served St. Augustine's University and ultimately retired in 1986 as

director of career planning and placement/cooperative education. She lived a full and impactful life, passing away in Raleigh on March 9, 2018, at the remarkable age of 100.

The renaming of the Brentwood Road post office stands as a proud and enduring symbol of her profound legacy. This landmark in our community will forever link the vital service of mail delivery with the inspiring contributions of a true American hero, ensuring her story and her spirit resonate with pride for generations to come.



The Art Of Jacking Up Prices



By Natasha Khan, Ruth Simon

Yahoo Finance

The business world's tariff problem is turning into a real world price problem.

From industrial giants like GE Aerospace to luxury brands like LVMH and Hermès to the telecom outfit Verizon, companies say they are making plans to pass along at least some of the cost of tariffs to consumers.

Birkin handbag maker Hermès last week said it would raise its prices in the U.S., making American buyers swallow the entire cost of tariffs on European goods. Five Below, which sells a range of goods from clothes to toys—many of which cost \$5 or less—plans to round up or down to whole numbers. For instance, a \$1.75 bottle of Sally Hansen long-wear nail color could cost \$2.

"It will not be one-size-fits-all," LVMH finance chief Cécile Cabanis said. "It can be very different depending on the brand, depending on the categories within the brand."

The decision of how much to jack up the price is as much of an art as it is a science: Pass along the tariff cost entirely to the consumer and risk turning off customers for periods that could last far beyond this moment. But if companies decide to swallow the tariffs themselves, they could destroy profits.

Some companies are holding steady for now. Hyundai Motor—which is facing a 25% tariff on imported vehicles—has pledged to keep prices steady until June lest rising sticker prices for Sonata sedans and Tucson SUVs scare buyers off.

"You may not know the price of a bag, you may not know the price of a jacket, you might not know the prices of shoes, but everybody knows the price of cars," said Hyundai Chief Executive José Muñoz. "If I simply

pass on the incremental cost to the consumer and I don't sell cars, I'm out of business."

Currently, the South Korean automaker imports about 60% of the vehicles it sells in the U.S. mainly from Korea. Muñoz wants to lower that to 30% in the coming years. He said he would re-evaluate prices in June.

Kimberly-Clark cut its profit forecast for the year in anticipation of \$300 million in new costs from the global trade war. But the maker of Kleenex tissues and Huggies diapers doesn't plan to raise prices.

"It's not as simple as, well, tariffs are in, so you price it all away, right?" Kimberly-Clark CEO Michael Hsu said. Hsu said the company is looking to change where it sources some of its products. "The problem with the sourcing is it takes longer."

But many companies, especially small ones, can't hold prices steady amid massive tariffs.

Some 47% of small businesses say they have increased prices since the beginning of the year, and 60% plan to raise prices in the next three months, according to a survey of more than 500 small businesses conducted in April for The Wall Street Journal by Vistage Worldwide, a business-coaching and peer-advisory firm.

Executives at toy maker Zuru, which manufactures in China, are examining every item to find a new price point. But there is consumer psychology to consider, said Nick Mowbray, who leads the company with his brother. He says numbers such as \$9.99, \$19.99 or \$49.99 are strategic price barriers—thresholds to which consumers are sensitive.

"Once you cross one of those, the perceived value changes dramatically," said Mowbray.

This is especially true for impulse purchases such as Zuru's self-sealing water balloon brand, Bunch O Balloons, he said. Instead of raising

prices on those products, the company is considering reducing the number of items per pack—for example, 13 balloons rather than 15. In recent days, Zuru decided to raise the suggested price of its collectible ugly monster line, Fugglers, by more than 60% to \$12.99 from \$7.99.

"Everyone is trying to build the airplane as it flies," said Mowbray.

Over at Action Holdings, a Tampa-based e-commerce company that sells grilling tools, dog harnesses and spy gear, CEO Andrew Gilliland said he is running more pricing tests each week to determine just how much he can raise prices. Right now, he has settled on an average price hike of about 10%.

But each price decision is particular. Take the grill brush with an acacia handle and a replaceable head. It sold for \$24.99 before the new tariffs.

The company tested incremental price increases up to a threshold of \$29.99 and found that people were willing to pay the highest price. Smaller increases proved less successful. "Consumer psychology is weirder at \$26.99 or \$27.99," Gilliland said. "The in-betweens don't go as well with consumers."

Hardware distributor Fastenal said it raised prices in April.

In a call with analysts earlier this month, Fastenal's then-finance chief, Holden Lewis, said it developed a pricing-review tool in response to earlier rounds of tariffs in 2018. This allows the company to provide granular information to its customers about "the whys and the wheres" of the price increases, he said. (Lewis's planned resignation was effective last week.)

"You never say this is an easy conversation, and the order of magnitude is somewhat something we haven't navigated before," Lewis said.



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Your Time Or Your Money: Which Is More Important?

By Joe Duran

Investment News

I just returned from an eye-opening family trip to Spain. I met my wife in Madrid more than two decades ago when we were both studying abroad, and while the city might be more modern, the rituals and culture remain remarkably unchanged. I have returned often over the years, but on this trip I was particularly struck by the amazing difference in perspectives on life and how the Spanish live it. We arrived in Madrid on a lovely Saturday afternoon. Driving to the hotel, my daughters noticed most of the storefronts were closed. They were surprised that most stores close between 2 and 5 p.m. so people can have lunch and recharge, rather than staying open and making money. After unpacking we sat at a street café, enjoyed a snack and watched the city slowly come to life as couples, families and friends emerged to the streets for

their evening paseo; the daily ritual of catching up by taking a stroll, having some snacks and perhaps doing a little shopping. The routine makes little sense amid the bustle of our modern world but it is nonetheless an interesting lens from which to view how we help clients live their best lives.

Allocating time is as important as allocating money

Besides money, time is the other major limited resource in life that everyone wants more of. Yet very few of us approach managing this aspect of our lives using the same discipline with which we manage our money. We financial advisers take great pride in helping clients allocate their investments as efficiently as possible, but imagine if we helped people think about how their money can get them to use their time more prudently. There's scientific evidence that using money to give people more time can make them happier too. In August 2017, researchers at Harvard



published a paper after studying the spending habits of more than 6,000 people in the US, Canada, Denmark and the Netherlands. They found that: "Despite rising incomes, people around the world are feeling increasingly pressed for time, undermining well-being. We show that the time famine of modern life can be reduced by using money to buy time. Surveys of large, diverse samples from four countries reveal that spending money on time-saving services is linked to greater life satisfaction. To establish causality, we show that working

adults report greater happiness after spending money on a time-saving purchase than on a material purchase. This research reveals a previously unexamined route from wealth to well-being: spending money to buy free time."

None of us dispute that one of the cornerstones to living richly is spending our limited time on the things we really care about. However, most of our discussions with clients focus on the wrong goals. So what can we do about it?

1. Helping people prudently spend is as valuable as helping them prudently save. Of course we advisers are rightly focused on ensuring that people don't run out of money. However, there is usually a trade-off between time and money. Focusing too much on building the biggest nest egg possible sets the wrong goal for clients. Every dollar saved might build more security, but it just as surely takes away from their life today. More money does nothing to improve your life

if you don't use it to improve your life along the way. Preventing clients from over-sacrificing today is as much a part of a great planner's job as ensuring a financial plan works in the future.

2. Priorities exist today that are as important as those in the future. Planners spend most of their time with working clients discussing their future retirement, but working folks worry the most about prioritizing all of the trade-offs they have today. They want to be there for their families, find time and money for vacations, or even carve out time in their schedules to work out. Advisers can help people make decisions right now to improve their lives immediately, but because most discussions with advisers are about sacrificing as much as possible for the future, they lose the opportunity to make trade-offs and add immediate value to people's lives today.

3. Discussing what really matters engages everybody. The biggest cost

of our industry spending so much time on math and money is that it disengages the nonfinancial person. And if we work with couples, that usually means one of the spouses is not involved in something that they should be making an integral part of their financial lives. By talking about time and how the money will support each person's priorities, you connect to the universal truths we all care about. Money might not grow on trees, but time doesn't grow at all. One of the consequences of having a country that encourages two-hour lunches and siestas is that Spain is one of the least financially successful economies in Europe. Yet you can't help but notice their focus on living and enjoying their time, instead of working and making more money, has a meaningful impact on the quality of their lives. For each of us and our clients, the balance lies somewhere in between. Our job is to help our clients live at their ideal place on that spectrum of trade-offs. May the remainder of your summer be spent enjoying what's left of it.



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Arts & Culture

Emmy Award-Winning Black Filmmaker Dante James Discusses His Upcoming Film On Liberation Theology

By Carl Kenney
UNC at Chapel Hill

Dante James is a multiple Emmy Award-winning independent filmmaker and educator. He has taught at Duke University and the University of Dayton. James won an Emmy for producing the PBS documentary series *Slavery and the Making of America*, narrated by Morgan Freeman, and has received two Emmys for his work at WETA. His documentary *Harlem in Montmartre: A Paris Jazz Story* won Best Documentary at the Pan African International Film Festival in Cannes, and his film *The Doll* was recognized as Best Dramatic Short Film at the Hollywood Black Film Festival. He executive-produced the PBS series *This Far By Faith* for Blackside Films and made films for two of Blackside's DuPont Columbia Silver Baton-winning series. In 2010, he was a guest lecturer at the University of Cape Town in South Africa.

1. Carl: What interested you in Liberation Theology?

Dante: I have always been committed to the liberation of Black people. My engagement with liberation theology began in 2002 as the executive producer for Blackside Films, PBS series *This Far By Faith*, which briefly addressed Black Liberation Theol-

ogy. I met Dr. James Cone, read his works along with Dr. Gayraud Wilmore's, and became familiar with Rev. Dr. Jeremiah Wright. Dr. Cone emphasized, "Any theology that is indifferent to liberation is not Christian theology." This resonated with me.

Dr. Cone and I had a great working relationship, and for years, I wanted to create a film solely on Black Liberation Theology. I started the project with support from Dr. Cone and Dr. Wilmore in 2017. It paused after their deaths and during the COVID-19 pandemic, but I resumed work in 2022.

2. Carl: Please describe the film.

Dante: First, I want to share that Dr. Cone supported using his book title, *God of the Oppressed*, as the film's working title. However, we have expanded it to *God of the Oppressed — Stories of Black Liberation*. The logline is that we tell the story of Black American and Black South African Christians who view Christianity as a means for justice and liberation.

More specifically, it's a feature documentary that explores the history and contemporary significance of Black Liberation Theology. It highlights the scholarship and narratives of Dr. Cone, Bishop Henry



McNeal Turner, Rev. Dr. Katie Cannon, South African Cleric Allan Aubrey Boesak, Rev. Pauli Murray, Rev. Traci Blackmon, and others, including lay Christians. Their stories are infused with spirituals, gospel, jazz, blues, poetry, art, and hip-hop as essential storytelling elements. *God of the Oppressed — Stories of Black Liberation* explores the link between Black Liberation Theology and Black Womanist Theology, ultimately defining the liberating relationships between God and the resilient Black community.

3. Carl: Many of your films were for PBS. Is this a PBS project?

Dante: No, PBS projects are constrained editorially by their funding

structure and the politics of decision-makers. I'm not criticizing PBS, but my experiences have revealed the system's limitations in exploring Black progressive, radical, or revolutionary narratives and interpretations. With my independent projects, I can explore humanity through the lens of complex Black experiences—"unfiltered."

4. Carl: Talk to me about gaining support from scholars, practitioners, and participants for your projects.

Dante: Support and guidance are essential, and conducting thorough research is critical. This helps you ask thoughtful questions and show respect for the material. Being well-

prepared is key when speaking with those who have dedicated their lives to a subject.

Understanding scholarship's impact on filmmaking is essential, particularly in developing story, character, and narrative structure. This was key to the Blackside storytelling approach. I had the privilege of working with Blackside's founder, Henry Hampton, and discussing filmmaking with pioneers like Mr. Gordon Parks and St. Clair Bourne. Respecting scholarship and the legacy of Black filmmaking is vital for securing support and participation.

Working relationships are also crucial. Fortunately, we have Kara Mathis, an exceptional researcher, associate producer, and member of the Blackside family. She will lead our exploration of Black Womanist Theology and the scholarship of Rev. Dr. Kelly Brown Douglas, Dr. Renita Weems, Dr. Emily Townes, and other Black women scholars and activists.

5. Carl: Talk to me about financial support for *God of the Oppressed*.

Dante: Across America, we are witnessing a rise in racial tensions and an increasing influence of Christian nationalism within our political landscape. Right-wing white Christians are shaping policies that undermine Black liberation, further challenging us to unite and resist.

Our grant proposals to major foundations have not received support. Liberation Theology challenges existing power structures. Consequently, mainstream foundations and PBS are reluctant to fund projects that do so. Therefore, we must invest in our narratives and continue pursuing support from progressive entities. Rev. Graylan Hagler, pastor emeritus of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Washington, D.C., and Rev. William Lamar, pastor of Metropolitan AME Church in Washington, D.C., are rallying support for the project.

Carl: Do you have any closing comments?

Dante: The film will share the stories of historical and contemporary religious leaders, icons, and everyday Black Christians willing to fight for liberation. The project seeks support from all these entities, particularly Black women, to support our exploration of Black Womanist Theology. To make a tax-deductible donation to *God of the Oppressed—Stories of Black Liberation*, please visit <https://rebrand.ly/gotodocfilm>

Carl: Thank you, Dante—best wishes for a great film.

Dante: Thank you for your interest in the project. Faith has sustained Black people for centuries. I have faith that this project will garner tremendous support.

Keith Lee Brings His Viral Food Tour to NC

By Dominique Heath
Guest Columnist

Keith Lee, the viral TikTok food critic renowned for spotlighting small, family-owned eateries, has announced his latest food tour will include stops across North Carolina. Known for his straightforward reviews delivered from his car, Lee's influence—dubbed the "Keith Lee effect"—has previously led to significant boosts in business for featured restaurants.

A Multi-City North Carolina Tour Responding to overwhelming fan recommendations, Lee plans to visit multiple cities in North Carolina, including Raleigh, Charlotte, Durham, Greensboro, and Asheville. This marks a departure from his usual focus on a single city per tour.

"It being so many spots in the Carolinas that people want us to go to, it's hard for me to just pick one," Lee explained in a recent video. "And I feel like it wouldn't do it justice to Carolina."

Stops Include Cook Out and Hibachi Papi

Among the many stops on his NC food tour, Lee paid visits to the regional fast food favorite Cook Out, as well as local sensation Hibachi Papi. His honest and detailed reviews of both spots sparked thousands of reactions on social media. Fans appreciated his take on Cook Out's famously expansive menu and praised his decision to spotlight a local business like Hibachi Papi, which has been gaining traction for its flavorful, made-to-order hibachi meals served food truck-style.

Was is the "Keith Lee Effect"?

Lee's reviews have a track record of dramatically increasing a restaurant's visibility and customer base. For instance, after a positive review, the Eggroll Company in Charlotte's Camp North End sold out six days in a row and is now expanding to a larger location.

Supporting Small Businesses

A former MMA fighter, Lee began his TikTok journey in 2020, initially posting cooking videos and family content. He started sharing



restaurant reviews in 2021, focusing on mom-and-pop establishments, particularly those that are Black-owned or family-run. Lee often has family members place takeout orders to avoid preferential treatment. His mission is to support small businesses, a value he relates to his own experiences as an independent fighter and content creator.

Lee is currently inviting suggestions from his followers for North Carolina

spots that offer great food, excellent customer service, and could benefit from increased exposure. While the duration of his North Carolina visit remains unknown, his fans eagerly anticipate the potential impact on local eateries.

As Lee continues his North Carolina tour, local restaurants have a unique opportunity to gain national attention—and perhaps even a life-changing surge in business.



HEAVY WEIGHT

I've learned over the years that life has a way of throwing unexpected twists our way. People will let you down, plans will fall apart, and sometimes, the things we hoped for never quite materialize. It's easy to carry that disappointment around like a heavy bag, each missed opportunity or broken promise adding another stone to the weight we bear. And if we're not careful, disappointment can turn into resentment – a slow poison that seeps into our hearts and clouds our joy.

I have had long-term experience with disappointment becoming resentment. The sting of being or at least feeling overlooked, the frustration of being unheard, the ache of feeling like life should have been kinder or fairer is difficult to ignore. If I'm being honest – resentment can feel justified, like a rightful reaction to the world's injustices. It has taken reaching this advanced age and looking through a more spiritual lens to realize that holding onto resentment doesn't change the past; it only robs us of peace in the present.

Yesterday's Mother's Day sermon was preached by one of our pastors who happens to be our church's first-lady, Holly Furtick. Holly is always good for a common-sense lesson with solid biblical foundation. The big take-aways for me were the 3 ways to practice holding your peace based on the premise that practice is where you learn from your mistakes.

1. Practice of prayer: You can't change a past situation with future information. We do the best we can with the information we have. Quit venting and pray.

2. Practice of practice: There is power in our patterns. Ask yourself, is something promoting peace in your life or stealing it? Does your morning practice promote peace in your life? Your peace and priorities are directly connected.

3. Practice of praise: Fix your focus on things worthy of praise. Trouble is a common denominator. Sometimes the only way to drown out the noise of the enemy is with praise.

Disappointment and resentment are the enemies of peace as are comparisons and assumptions. Obviously, there was no social media when I was growing up. I was spared the carefully curated, filtered glimpses of others' lives compared to the reality of my real life. I was also fortunate to have a mother who prepared me to deprioritize others' opinions. Mother said only I knew if I had done all I could do, if I had done my best. She also worked hard to teach her only child humility and concern for others. I was in college before I began stacking up disappointments both in myself and others but once they took hold, they grew like kudzu. This was also the time when I began to feel embarrassed, ashamed, self-loathing. It was all hidden behind an ever-expanding round happy face. I believe now that because I gave the false impression that the disappointing behavior didn't bother me, I was unconsciously giving others permission to further disappointment me without fear of accountability or retribution.

Over several decades, the disappointment became resentment. It too was masked by my full moon of a happy face. The resentment hurt deeper. It made me question relationships with some of my closest friends and family. In some ways, my responses to the resentment were more hurtful than the original disappointment. I have on occasion reflected on how I got to a place that often manifested in isolation and depression.

Resentment doesn't announce itself loudly. It creeps in, tightening its grip over time. It can show up in the way we talk, the way we engage with others – distant, guarded, dismissive. Worst of all, it can settle into our spirit, making it more difficult to feel gratitude, trust, harder to move forward.

Some of us have carried old wounds for decades – family rifts that were never healed, friendships that slowly fade to dark, betrayals we never quite forgive. It's easy to feel that letting go is excusing what happened so we hold on. Crazy thing is resentment never punishes the person who hurt us – it only punishes us.

Healing requires letting go and finding grace in the process for both the offenders and ourselves. It helps to focus on the good times. That is what lights the road to peace.

Thomas Fuller: The Enslaved Genius

By Jordan Meadows
Staff Writer

Known as "Negro Demus" and famously nicknamed the "Virginia Calculator," Thomas Fuller was an enslaved African man whose extraordinary mathematical abilities stunned both laymen and scholars on both sides of the Atlantic.

Born somewhere between present-day Liberia and Benin in 1710, Fuller was kidnapped from West Africa at the age of 14 and forcibly brought to the American colonies. He was sold into slavery to Elizabeth Cox in Alexandria, Virginia. Despite enduring the lifelong brutality and dehumanization of slavery, Fuller possessed a remarkable talent for mental arithmetic.

What made Fuller's intellect awe-inspiring was that he was completely illiterate. Unable to read or write, he was nonetheless capable of performing highly complex mathematical calculations entirely in his head, with a speed and accuracy that left even educated men with calculators astonished.

It is believed that he had learned the foundations of arithmetic in Africa prior to his enslavement. Fuller himself, with a mix of wisdom and perhaps a touch of wry humor, once said, "It is best I got no learning; for many learned men be great fools."

By the time he was in his seventies, stories of his mathematical

gifts had reached the attention of the Pennsylvania Abolition Society (PAS), which included among its members prominent anti-slavery figures such as Benjamin Rush—a physician and Founding Father. Rush was keen to gather evidence of Black excellence to counter claims of African inferiority that were used to justify slavery.

Two PAS members, William Hartshorne and Samuel Coates, decided to meet Fuller in person. Their encounter became the stuff of legend. One of their most famous tests involved asking Fuller how many seconds a man had lived who was 70 years, 17 days, and 12 hours old. Fuller replied, in just 90 seconds, with the precise number: 2,210,500,800.

When one of the men challenged his answer, saying it was too high, Fuller immediately responded, "Top, massa, you forget de leap year." Once leap years were accounted for, his answer was confirmed to be exact.

Rush later wrote about the encounter in *The Columbian Magazine*, noting not only Fuller's mental acuity but also his declining physical condition due to age and a life of grueling labor. Fuller's life and abilities became a powerful symbol for the abolitionist movement. His obituary declared that had he been given the same opportunities for edu-



cation as white men, "neither the Royal Society of London, the Academy of Sciences at Paris, nor even Newton himself, need have been ashamed to acknowledge him a Brother in Science."

His story was widely circulated and referenced by abolitionists in Europe and America alike. Rush, in his efforts to prove Blacks weren't intellectually inferior, also shared the story of James Derham, an emancipated man and the first African American to formally practice medicine in the United States.

French abolitionist J. P. Brissot de Warville echoed the sentiments in his 1792 book *New Travels in the United States of America*, where he paired Fuller's story with Derham's, writing: "These instances prove, without doubt, that the capacity of the negroes may be extended to any thing; that they have only need of instruction and liberty."

Thomas Fuller died in 1790. His mind, shaped in Africa and sharpened under slavery, became undeniable evidence of Black intellect and potential. In an age when pseudoscience and prejudice claimed the inferiority of African people, Fuller's brilliance served as irrefutable proof of the truth: genius knows no race, and brilliance thrives even in bondage, if only it is seen.



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Community

Adams Co-Introduces Bill To Protect Land-Grant HBCUs

By Cash Michaels

Contributing Writer

North Carolina Congresswoman Alma Adams (D-NC-12) co-introduced a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives on May 9th titled the Land-Grant Institution Parity Act. The goal of this measure is to protect federal funding of land-grant colleges and universities, especially 19 land-grant historically black colleges and universities, which are also commonly referred to as “1890 institutions.”

“The Land-Grant Institution Parity Act is an important step to protect funding for our land-grant HBCUs and build equity in higher education,” said Congresswoman Adams. “1890 Institutions have always punched above their weight and provided outsized benefits to their students, their research, and their communities. They know how to do more with less, but they shouldn’t have to. It’s time we ensure these institutions of excellence always receive the funding they deserve.”

Congresswoman Shomari C. Figures (D-AL-02) is a co-sponsor of the legislation.

“Earlier this year, the Trump Administration suspended funding for historically Black land-grant colleges, but did not pause the same funding for the predominately white land-grant institutions,” said Rep. Figures. “That is simply

wrong, and that decision sent a clear message about the vulnerability of programs designed to uplift underserved communities. Under this bill, funding for land-grant institutions will be treated equally and funds cannot be paused, cut, or eliminated without congressional approval. I’m committed to protecting our HBCUs and the stu-

dents that they serve.”

Under the proposed law, “...federal officials are prohibited from reducing, eliminating, or suspending funding for 1890 Institutions without authorization from Congress. This bill aims to ensure long-term stability and equity for land-grant HBCUs and other land-grant universities serving underserved

communities.”

Rep. Valerie Foushee (D-NC-04) is also a co-sponsor of the measure. Congresswoman Adams is found-

er and co-chair of the Bipartisan, Bicameral Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Caucus.

Fallen WWII Sailor Is Identified, Buried In NC

By Jordan Meadows

Staff Writer

More than eight decades after he perished in the attack on Pearl Harbor, Mess Attendant 3rd Class Neil Frye of Vass, North Carolina, was finally laid to rest with full military honors. The ceremony took place on April 3, a date that would have marked his 104th birthday, at Sandhills State Veterans Cemetery in Spring Lake.

Frye was just 20 years old when he died aboard the USS West Virginia during the surprise Japanese attack on December 7, 1941. Serving in the segregated Messman Branch of the U.S. Navy — a division largely composed of African American sailors responsible for serving meals to white officers — Frye was among the more than 100 service members who lost their lives when the ship was struck by two bombs and at least seven torpedoes, sinking to the bottom of the harbor.

His remains were exhumed in 2017 during a Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) initiative that recovered 35 caskets from the West Virginia.

However, it wasn’t until September 2024 that Frye was officially identified through a combination of anthropological, dental, and mitochondrial DNA analysis. His family had worked with the DPAA for more than a decade to confirm his identity, a journey that took them across multiple states including North Carolina, Georgia, and Virginia.

Frye’s sister, Mary Frye McCrimmon — the youngest of 10 siblings and the only one still living — remembers Neil not as a war hero, but as a caring older brother who once built her a sled and gifted her a tricycle.

The ceremony in Spring Lake was accompanied by a service at Fries Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Vass, where community members and



Navy personnel gathered to honor Frye’s sacrifice. His remains were received at Raleigh-Durham International Airport with solemn respect, and Navy service members ensured his return was marked with dignity due to a fallen hero.

Frye’s story is one of both patriotism and quiet resilience. At the time of his death, his mother had requested that he be transferred to serve alongside his brother Russell, who was also in the Navy and stationed in Rhode Island. But the transfer never came through before the West Virginia was destroyed in the harbor.

Despite the racial limitations imposed by segregation, Frye’s commitment and bravery have been recognized with several posthumous awards, including the Purple Heart Medal and the Combat Action Ribbon.

His name is inscribed on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, where a rosette will now be placed next to his name — signifying that he has been accounted for.

Though Neil Frye never married or had children, his legacy of service lives on through his family. As Mary Frye and her relatives bid him a final farewell, their decades-long pursuit for closure has now found peace.

Citizen Spotlight: Tammie Hall-Roberts, A Visionary Grounded In Community

By Ms Jheri Worldwide

Staff Writer

In a world often captivated by fleeting celebrity, it’s the steadfast dedication and impactful leadership within our own community that truly deserve recognition. This week, The Carolinian shines a light on Tammie Hall-Roberts, a dynamic force whose journey has taken her from Capitol Hill to the helm of the RDU Airport Board, all while remaining deeply rooted in a commitment to equity and opportunity.

My recent conversation with Mrs. Hall-Roberts revealed a leader shaped by a profound understanding of history, a tenacious spirit honed through personal and professional challenges, and an unwavering dedication to uplifting others. Her appointment as the first African American woman to chair the RDU Airport Board is not just a milestone, but a testament to her extensive expertise in procurement and construction, her insightful perspective, and her proven ability to foster meaningful change.

Her journey in leadership was inspired by the vibrant Black business community profiled in Ebony and Jet magazines — a real-life “Black Wall Street” — underscores her long-held belief in the power and potential within often-marginalized communities. This conviction has been a driving force throughout her career, from her early work in Arkansas to her impactful roles in both local and federal government, culminating in the prestigious Order of the Long Leaf Pine award.

One of the most compelling moments of our conversation involved



Mrs. Hall-Roberts’ experience on Capitol Hill, working for a U.S. Senator from Arkansas. A pivotal moment arose when the Senator sought her perspective on a bill that would ban affirmative action. Her thoughtful and honest articulation of the impact on underrepresented communities not only influenced his decision to withdraw his support but also forged a lasting professional bond built on mutual respect and a willingness to learn. This experience, she shared, profoundly shaped her understanding of the importance of diverse voices and the power of open dialogue.

Now, as Chair of the RDU Airport Board, Ms. Hall-Roberts is translating these values into tangible action. Recognizing the need to connect the airport’s economic engine more directly with the local community, she spearheaded the creation of

RDU’s first-ever career fair, scheduled for May 21st. This initiative brings together numerous airport contractors with job seekers, aiming to provide accessible opportunities in various sectors, from baggage handling to federal TSA roles. Despite registration closing early due to overwhelming interest, walk-ins are still welcome — a testament to the community’s eagerness for such opportunities.

“I want our community to feel as if they understand very simplistically how they can get a job opportunity here, a contract, whatever that may be,” she emphasized. This proactive approach to community engagement reflects her broader vision for RDU as a true partner, fostering economic growth and providing pathways to prosperity for local residents.

When asked for advice for Black women navigating professional spaces where their presence may be met with preconceived notions, Mrs. Hall-Roberts offered a powerful message of strategic resilience. Drawing on the wisdom of her mentor Dr. Andrea Harris, she emphasized the importance of “learning how to read the room and address accordingly,” knowing when to “have a moment” and when to “gracefully have a moment.”

“I never come in the room not understanding that there is a perspective already out there regarding my presence,” she stated. “And I learned how to flip the script... to turn the situation into one in which I’m heard and appreciate the value that I know I can bring to the table.” Her guidance extends to financial conversations, urging underrepresented businesses to build genuine

relationships with financial institutions and government entities, going beyond transactional interactions to foster trust and understanding. This transparency and proactive communication, she believes, are crucial for accessing opportunities and achieving sustainable success.

Tammie Hall-Roberts’ story is a powerful reminder that true leadership is not about titles, but about impact. Her journey, marked by resilience, wisdom, and a deep commitment to community, serves as an inspiration to us all. As she continues to lead the RDU Airport Board with vision and a dedication to inclusivity, our community is undoubtedly poised for even greater heights. She is, without a doubt, one of our own rock stars, making a tangible difference right here in North Carolina.

What’s Going on with SAU? Pt 3

By Jordan Meadows

Staff Writer

St. Augustine’s University (SAU) is grappling with a deep institutional crisis following the loss of its accreditation in December 2024. The decision came after an independent review revealed serious financial instability and a breakdown in governance, including years of budget approvals without audited financials and no clear strategy to address mounting deficits.

In response, SAU leadership has taken drastic measures—cutting staff, announcing a controversial \$70 million loan, and pursuing a real estate deal that nearly transferred control of much of the campus to a private developer. Critics argue these decisions lack transparency and fail to address the root problems. The university has also been hit with over \$18 million in legal claims from vendors and contractors.

While some point to leadership changes as a hopeful sign, others note that issues of infrastructure, debt, and misallocated funds—such as money intended to restore the historic St. Agnes Hospital—have plagued the university for years. As SAU appeals its accreditation loss, alumni, students, and community advocates remain vocal, urging a return to accountable leadership.

Octavia Rainey—a journalist, community activist, historian, and 1978 graduate of SAU—shared with The Carolinian how her time at the university shaped her life’s work and reflected on how both alumni and the broader community are responding to the recent events surrounding the school.

When asked why she believes other HBCUs haven’t stepped in to support the historic institution, she explained

that many don’t want to be associated with the public scrutiny. In their view, the issues are so widespread that they prefer not to get involved.

“I think that they could have more university support now if they had kept their business in house. You don’t put all your business out in the street... they see how negative, how explosive, this is. You don’t want to be a part of that,” Rainey said. “They don’t see us together—they see us as apart... But if we were together as one, I think it would be a whole different circumstance for us.”

SAU has received a few offers and entered negotiations aimed at securing the financial help needed to recover, including potential partnerships with other schools or businesses. However, in one major deal, State Attorney General Jeff Jackson intervened and halted the agreement because it would have given the company more than half of SAU’s stake.

“I did not vote for him to be attorney general to be over there playing with SAU. I didn’t vote for him for that. He got his hands full. He needs to deal with Trump, he needs to deal with taxes... that’s what I need to see him concentrate on... more of a shield from the federal government rather than nitpicking in local affairs,” Rainey said.

“SAU is a great university. And it deserves the opportunity to come back, to get their accreditation—to seek their funding. They deserve the opportunity,” Rainey continued. “They deserve the opportunity for a second chance. And it bothers me that you have people who don’t fight for their second chance because they believe that they can do it better. That’s not going anywhere.”

One frequently cited source of blame is the university’s board. But Rainey points out that even this

perspective lacks nuance, since the university president appoints board members—who in turn vote on the president—creating a closed loop where transparency and accountability are handled entirely within the institution.

“They also did their report to the board, which was not sanctioned by the president. That’s a different situation. The board members are brought on by the president and all of them vote on it. That’s how it’s done,” Rainey said.

One way Rainey thinks SAU could immediately help their financial burdens is by going directly to the general assembly and then to the Black caucus within it in order to get the necessary funding and show they are willing to work with legislators to get back up and running.

“It just hurts my heart that we are fighting this battle that we don’t have to fight. Where we need to be sitting down and all of us need to go to the general assembly and ask for money... Then we need to be talking to the Black legislatures... I just hope we get our accreditation.”

Whatever the future holds for SAU, it’s clear that a strong community of supporters and alumni are rooting for its success, just as they experienced during their time there. They hope to see the financial struggles resolved, institutional leaders working in unison, and the university regain its accreditation and begin welcoming more students—not just for SAU’s sake, but for the benefit of the broader Triangle community.

As Rainey puts it, they just need another chance to make things right: “I hope we get our second chance because everybody deserves a second chance. Sometimes in life, you fall down, but with the second chance and God blessings, you get back up.”



THE TIME IS ALWAYS NOW

Artists Reframe the Black Figure

THROUGH JUNE 29

ncartmuseum.org

Exhibition organized by the National Portrait Gallery, London, and presented by the North Carolina Museum of Art. Support for this exhibition is made possible, in part, by the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources; the North Carolina Museum of Art Foundation, Inc.; and the William R. Kenan Jr. Endowment for Educational Exhibitions. Research for this exhibition was made possible by Ann and Jim Goodnight/the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fund for Curatorial and Conservation Research and Travel.

Amy Sherald, *She was learning to love moments, to love moments for themselves* (large detail), 2017, oil on canvas, 54 1/8 x 43 in., Courtesy of the artist and Hauser & Wirth

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Blacks Celebrates African Descent Heritage of Pope Leo XIV

By Stacy M. Brown

Black Press USA

Black America is taking pride in a truth shaking up the Vatican and resonating through the streets of New Orleans: Pope Leo XIV—formerly Cardinal Robert Prevost of Chicago—has Black and Creole roots. The Pope's factual anthropological roots are not just symbolic. According to genealogist Jari Honora, his maternal lineage traces directly to the Black community of New Orleans' 7th Ward, with family ties to Haiti, and census records identifying his ancestors as "Black" or "Mulatto." "By the Europeans' own '1/8th' rules, we have a Black Pope," noted author Elie Mystal declared. "Anyway, Pope's grandfather is Haitian. We kind of got a Black Pope. 'End Woke' is not gonna be happy about this." Further, New Orleans historian Jari Christopher Honora also speaking to the National Catholic Reporter and Black Catholic Messenger, detailed how the pope's grandparents married in 1887 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church on Annette Street in New Orleans before migrating north. His mother, Mildred Martínez, was the first child in the family born in

Chicago. "The Holy Father's ancestors are identified as either Black or Mulatto," Honora said.

The Chicago Tribune and New York Times also reported on Pope Leo's mixed-race background and Creole lineage, noting that his election marks a defining moment in the Church's evolving identity. "As a Black man, a proud son of New Orleans, and the U.S. Congressman representing the very 7th Ward neighborhood where our new Pope's family hails from, I am bursting with pride today," said Rep. Troy Carter. "This is history! The first American Pope, with Creole and Haitian roots, rising from the streets of New Orleans to the Vatican. As a Xavier University alum, I know how deeply faith and resilience run in our community. We celebrate this moment—with joy, with prayers, and with pride." Former New Orleans Mayor Marc Morial called Leo XIV's background "universal," saying, "Here's an American whose ministry was in Peru, who has roots in the American South and also ancestry in the American Black community." Leo XIV is a member of the Augustinian Order, named after the African theologian St. Augustine of Hippo. His election came from a conclave



in which two other leading contenders—Cardinal Peter Turkson of Ghana and Cardinal Fridolin Ambongo Besungu of the Democratic Republic of Congo—were also men of African descent.

But Leo XIV stood apart—not just as the first pope from the U.S. but as one known for his outspokenness on racial justice, immigrant rights, gun reform, and the abolition of the death penalty. TIME Magazine reported that his selection represented a Vatican rebuke of efforts by wealthy Americans and political operatives aligned with Donald Trump to influence the papal outcome. Known in Rome as "The Latin Yankee," Leo XIV used his verified X account (@drprevost) to amplify criticism of Trump-era immigration policies, often reposting commentary from respected Catholic figures. The New York Post reported that his last post before his election was a retweet of Catholic journalist Rocco Palmo slamming Trump's alliance with El Salvador's President Nayib Bukele over migrant deportations. Back in 2017, the Roman Catholic leader also reposted a message quoting Chicago Archbishop Blase Cupich, calling Trump's refugee bans "a dark hour of US history."

Though Trump offered lukewarm congratulations from the White House driveway, his far-right allies were quick to lash out. Laura Loomer tweeted, "WOKE MARXIST POPE," calling Pope Leo "just another Marxist puppet in the Vatican." But outside the MAGA echo chamber, in Black communities across the globe, the emotion is pride. "The pope is Black," journalist Clarence Hill Jr. said bluntly. And that means something in the Black neighborhoods of Chicago and the Creole corridors of New Orleans. Many said it means representation, resilience, and the reshaping of history at the highest level of the Catholic Church. "We celebrate this moment—not because it erases the struggles of our past, but because it affirms that our faith, our heritage, and our presence matter," Rep. Carter said. "This is history, and it belongs to all of us." The Reverend Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. affirmed, "On behalf of the Black Press of America as the authentic voice of 50 million African Americans and millions more throughout the African diaspora, we join to celebrate Pope Leo XVI, a world leader of African descent who speaks truth to power with courage and grace."

Lincoln Park Holiness Church Honors Mothers with Heartfelt Celebration



Pictured: The Mothers of Lincoln Park Holiness Church with Pastor William Eli Ratcliff.

On a beautiful Mother's Day morning, Lincoln Park Holiness Church was filled with joy, love, and gratitude as the congregation gathered to celebrate the incredible women in their lives. Titled "A Tribute to Mothers," the event featured moving tributes, soul-stirring music, and a spirit of worship that glorified God for the gift of mothers.

The youth of Lincoln Park opened the celebration with heartfelt reci-

tations that honored the strength, grace, and love of motherhood. Special performances touched every heart, including "A Mom Like You" by the Lincoln Park Youth, dance performances accompanied by music "I Remember Mama" and "For Every Mountain" by The Awesome Angels, and "Because You Loved Me" by The Lovely Lilies.

Each mother in attendance received a thoughtful gift, a small token of appreciation for the im-

measurable love they pour into their families and community.

As praises went up and hearts reflected on the blessings of motherhood, the church family gave all glory to God for these remarkable women who embody His love every day.

Please visit Lincoln Park's website at <https://www.lincolnparkchurch.com/> for sermons and other information regarding our ministry and community service.

Practical Biblical Principles

BEHOLD YOUR MOTHER

Read: 1 Samuel 1:6-18

By John L. Caldwell, Pastor
New Jerusalem Baptist Cathedral
Some of the last words spoken from the drying mouth of Jesus as He endured the cross were some of the most beautiful, compassionate, and loving words ever spoken. It was at this moment that our Lord transmitted the responsibility of Motherhood from Himself to one of His closest friends, John (The Revelator).

This act was a gift to John allowing Mary, the mother of Jesus, to continue her role as a mother to John. No one knows for sure why Jesus picked John to become a son to Mary. "Mother behold thy son; Son, behold thy mother!" (John 19:26-27).

This unusual action on the part of Jesus insured that His mother would be continually taken care of when He is gone. Jesus also made a very powerful spiritual point, which is often overlooked, in that by putting His mother in the care of a close friend instead of one of His bloodline brothers, our Lord implied that His spiritual family superseded His biological family. Those who do the Father's will are Jesus' mother and brother. (Mark 3:34-35).

Being a mother is a very powerful spiritual journey in addition to being a physical caretaker of a young life. Nothing living gets into this world without coming through a mother. There are mothers in God's salvation plan, who may never birth a child. These are the mothers who care takes and lend a helping hand to a child or children, who are in need of caretaking. We speak

here also of single women who do mothering work for the child or children not her own. Sponsoring children who live far off as well as supporting orphanages. This makes a Mother God's right hand, so to speak. God planned man's salvation through a mother.

There are several great examples in scriptures which focuses on the love and caretaking of a God-fearing mother.

In the Book of Exodus we have Jacobed, the mother of Moses, who went out of her way to preserve the life of her new-born son, in spite of the fact that she was endangering her own. Here God uses a faithful mother, who unknowingly, provided a future for the Jewish nation. It was here also a mother trusted in God in something she could not control.

In the Book of 1 Samuel 1, we find the woman, Hannah, who grieved in that she didn't have or couldn't have any children. In a social sense, this woman felt cursed and had bitterness in her soul (1 Sam 1:10). This woman was desperate and longed to be a mother, being that she was a second wife to a man who really loved her (1 Samuel 1:6-7). She finally went to God in Prayer (1 Samuel 1:11). Here we see a praying, holy mother's pain can be a part of God's plan. God finally answered her prayer request for a son, who became Samuel, and a great prophet of God.

In 1 Kings 3 we read of two harlots who were each mothers of a child. They were arguing before king Solomon about who is the real mother of a surviving child. The two women sleeping in the same

house, one rolled over and smothered her baby while asleep. This mother exchanged her dead child for the other mother's live child. When morning came one mother recognized that the baby next to her was not hers. They came before Solomon the wise king with this issue. Solomon listened to their arguments and then ordered a sword to be brought to him. He sought to cut the living child in half one half for each mother. The real mother hurriedly spoke up and requested that the live child be given to the lying mother. Here we see the real mother giving up her cherished motherhood to save the life of her only child that may no longer be hers. Proving the love of a true mother.

In 2 Timothy 1 we hear Paul reminding young Timothy to be mindful and stir up the scriptures his grandmother and mother taught him as he was growing up (2 Timothy 1:5; 3:14-15). Here we hear of a mother and grandmother who took it upon themselves to teach their child (children) the word of God. A mother, conscious of her motherhood, and responsibility will teach her child (children) the scriptures introducing them to God.

The virtuous woman spoken of in Proverbs 31 is a super woman by today's standards. She does it all. Motherhood, a businesswoman, a counselor, a supporting wife, a missionary, and a woman of faith (Proverbs 31:30-31).

Behold the woman! Where do you as a mother fit in today? God's plans call for all mothers to fit into His plan for salvation until Jesus returns.

Obituaries

OBITUARY FOR ROBERT LOUIS HEIGHT SR.

Bobby Height, Sr. was born in Raleigh, North Carolina on Sunday, September 3, 1944. He was the first son of the late George Sylvester Height and Elsie Bumpers Height. He joined his heavenly father on Sunday, May 4, 2025, at 7:42 a.m. at the Levine & Dickson Hospice House at Aldersgate in Charlotte, North Carolina.

In preparation for fulfilling a favorite quote of his by Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, "Whatever you do, strive to do it so well that no man living and no man dead, and no man yet to be born can do it better," Bobby graduated in 1962 from Ligon Senior High School in Raleigh, NC and earned a Bachelor's degree in Health & Physical Education from Shaw University in Raleigh, NC in 1966. Bobby was a proud member of the Delta Gamma Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated and a standout on Shaw's basketball and baseball teams. In 1973, he earned a Master's in Physical Education from North Carolina Central University.

Coach Rick High of Raleigh, NC stated, "Raleigh lost a treasure, particularly the Rochester Heights and Biltmore Hills area. Robert Louis Height was a multi-talented athlete coached by the legendary Coach Pete H. Williams. During his high school career, he was considered one of the best all around baseball



players in the state." Coach High went on to say, "While attending Shaw University, Bobby played both basketball and baseball, and was selected All CIAA in both sports, ultimately being inducted into the Shaw University Athletic Hall of Fame in 1990."

Bobby was a man of exceptional character, deeply committed to uplifting those around him through mentorship, teaching, and unwavering kindness. His passion for sports was evident in his outstanding athletic achievements, including Hall of Fame honors and a professional baseball career. As a dedicated coach and educator, he shaped the lives of countless young athletes, instilling in them the values of teamwork and perseverance. Bobby's devotion to his family was unparalleled—his love and guidance as a husband, father, grandfather,

uncle, and cousin created a legacy of warmth and inspiration. His resilience as a heart transplant survivor and his advocacy for organ donation showcased his selfless nature. Whether as a mentor, an athlete, a teacher, a friend, or a survivor, Bobby's influence was far-reaching, leaving an indelible mark on all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Bobby was preceded in death by his younger brother, Attorney Larry Sylvester Height.

Bobby is survived by his wife and faithful caregiver, Brenda Bullock Height of Charlotte, NC; his daughter, Bridget Height-Williams of Charlotte, NC; his son, Bobby Height II (Erica) of Atlanta, GA; his granddaughter, Jade Evelyn Williams of Durham, NC; a stepmother, Elaine Height of Wendell, NC; special Goddaughters, Kookie Morgan (Calvin) of Raleigh, NC and LaTara Bullock Smith (Lance) of Atlanta, GA; other adopted and bonus granddaughters whom he cherishes: Madison and Makayla Morgan, and Indya Andrews; sisters-in-law: Eva B. Jones and Barbara B. Engram; a brother-in-law, James Lovelace Bullock (Bethel); and numerous loving cousins, nieces and nephews whom he loved dearly.

Bobby will be greatly missed for his humor, loving and friendly demeanor. However, we bow to God's will and will forever cherish the fond and loving memories he left to all who knew him.

Jim Dent, Black Golfer, Dies At Age 85

Johnny Goodman.
He finally earned his PGA Tour card through qualifying school in 1970, and while he never won on tour, he kept a full schedule of at least 22 tournaments for the next 16 years. His best result was in the 1972 Walt Disney World Open Invitational, when he trailed Jack Nicklaus by two shots going into the final round. Nicklaus shot 64 and won by nine.

Dent won the Michelob-Chattanooga Gold Cup Classic in 1983, a Tournament Players Series event for players who were not fully exempt — the tour had gone to the all-exempt tour that year instead of the majority of the field going through Monday qualifying.

Dent never met any of the qualifying criteria to play in the Masters, but he made the cut in eight of the 11 majors he played — six at the PGA Championship, five at the U.S. Open.

He was best known for his prodigious length, and Dent won the inaugural World Long Drive Championship in 1974.

After turning 50, he won 12 times on the PGA Tour Champions. Al Gei-

berger said after Dent shot 64 to win his first Champions event, "Jim Dent ought to be outlawed (for) the way he can hit the ball."



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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

States of Resistance: A Way Forward

By Jamie Stiehm

Creators

Resistance: a watchword for our times.

The state of Wisconsin is showing us how, above all 49 others. In Washington, a senator and congressman heeded the call.

To inspire us, first Wisconsin stood up to the Trump-Musk blitzkrieg in a state Supreme Court race. Elon Musk spent \$20 million to back a right-wing Republican.

That obscene outside sum landed as an insult on the state where the Progressive Party was born. Liberal Susan Crawford won going away, by 10 points.

Not even close, Elon. Mars makes a better habitat for you than Madison, Wisconsin. Washington is walking wounded from a chainsaw you so proudly used to cut more than 100,000 federal workforce jobs. Very nice.

Voter resistance to Musk caused national waves and gave a ray of hope to Democrats for the 2026 midterms. Wisconsinites knew a lot was on the line to show money isn't everything in politics.

Then came the Milwaukee judge who defied Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents in her courtroom. They showed up to arrest a man, with no judicial warrant.

Judge Hannah Dugan, displeased at the bald show of force, is charged with aiding an undocumented immigrant to "escape" from the building. To arrest a judge in handcuffs is wrong, a threat to a coequal branch of government.

Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers (D) also challenged President Donald Trump's regime. Tom Homan, Trump's border boss, hinted at arresting Evers, too, for efforts to ensure state employees knew their rights.

The governor's calm, clear statement on his "chilling" concerns about the rule of law is a study in rational resistance. (The struggle over borders is not new to Wisconsin. Dred Scott, an enslaved man who was taken to Wisconsin, a free territory, made for the most infamous Supreme Court case ever, in 1857. The court ruled that Black people could never be citizens, even if free, and lit a match for the Civil War.)

Sen. Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.) took direct action to stand up for the right of due process.

On his own, he boarded a plane to El Salvador to visit a Maryland resident, Kilmar Abrego Garcia, who was abducted here and imprisoned there for no reason, at our taxpayer expense.

The Supreme Court ordered the president to "facilitate" his freedom in a 9-0 ruling. Abrego Garcia is a sheet metal worker with a family, including a young son with autism.

Trump ignored the high court. So now what?

Texas Democrat Al Green, 77, a fierce civil rights champion, knows the art of resistance. He's the ponytailed congressman who shook his cane — over cutting Medicaid — at Trump during a 99-minute rant.

"Still I rise," he says often.

Green moved for Trump's impeachment in the first term and plans to do so again.

"(Trump) is testing to see if there are people who have the courage to put him in check," Green declared on the House floor. "We have to stop him. ... The moment of truth is upon us."

Green urges peaceful protest against abuse of presidential power.

The conscience of the Senate — and the House — is speaking out.

Nothing is given in this moment when it comes to government and human rights. The president and the Constitution are getting a divorce.

A silence fogs society — the parts that are still breathing. Publicly funded arts, humanities and news are hit especially hard.

Trump's White House fired the Library of Congress leader overnight, with a curt email. Dr. Carla Hayden is the last person who deserved that.

Citizens are facing "times that try men's souls," as American revolutionary Thomas Paine put it. There is never a convenient time for a rude awakening.

Tomorrow will be like yesterday, so we thought: Democracy's rules and habits will endure at the end of the day.

We never foresaw we'd fall so fast from grace in the world's eyes.

Yet here we are. Time is not on our side — the collective "we" in the constitution.

Nonviolent resistance is not easy, meek nor mild. But it works.

Quakers invented the practice, then used it against slavery; suffragists took it to the streets; the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. preached it to advance racial justice.

Pieces of resistance: a way forward.



THE CONSTITUTION & THE GOLDEN RULE

Our Constitution is the golden rule. What a gift it is to have a good and mentally healthy philosophy of life. It is especially good when what we order our lives by is inclusive—not just of what we want for ourselves, but also what we want for all others. There are many documents or pledges that we make to structure and order our lives. In my case, there are many. My mother and other teachers of her ilk demonstrated beliefs that I have emulated.

One such example that she modeled for me was the belief that, in her classroom, she was responsible for each child—no excuses, no exceptions. If a child was failing, she was failing as a teacher. I never heard her blame parents or a community for what a child was not learning. She was an example of individualized learning and searched her students for their learning style—before these terms were popular.

My mother never said, "We don't have because your father doesn't,"—no excuses. She was responsible for our eating, health, education, and shelter. She put me in places where I had to learn the codes for my life. The church was a big one. The Baptist concept and the Bible were—and are—a guide for what I was to believe and how I was to behave if I was going to call myself a Christian. No excuses.

In school, I learned about the Constitution, the balance of the three branches of government, and especially the Preamble to the Constitution. I took a verbal vow when I got married and a personal vow when I became a teacher and later, a therapist. Some things were written for me, but they were mine to accept—though sometimes I know my kids wish it weren't so, especially my boys. But the neighbor's children, and later their girlfriends or guy friends, became like my children too.

They've often said, "But aren't you supposed to be on my side?" My answer has always been, "And I am—when I think you're right. But never when you're wrong." I didn't get in that line and pick up that other perspective before I left Heaven.

I say all this to lead up to this: I saw where a kid took her own life because bullies at school told her they were going to have her family deported by reporting them to ICE. I will say this: it breaks my heart. If I didn't believe that we have to be careful about what we say, I'd say more. But I'll just say—it saddens me and disappoints me that even one child would think herself responsible for the deportation of her family, enough to see suicide as the solution.

I don't know this child, and I don't even remember where she was

from, but I feel responsible that we live in a world where this can happen. Who didn't notice? Who did she not trust enough to talk this out with—just one person who could have given her hope?

I'm not going to blame her family, her community, her school, or her church—because I think we are all collectively responsible. Due to what is happening in America today, and the irresponsibility of the Republicans in Congress, on city councils, school boards, and in society in general, I see a collective mindset of "me, not we" that is defining America by the mindset of one man.

We have a Constitution and laws in place that disallow another country from giving him a \$400 million plane—but there's a clause that may allow Congress to vote that he can accept it. I think that clause needs to be taken out of the Constitution. That proves it is not perfect. No longer can we count on individuals to have the moral character to say "no."

In every profession now, we see some who will accept a gift from a parent, a church member, someone wanting to do business with a leader—and gift them with things to curry favor. I think Donald is in office to show us how dangerous "thinking me" is to us all.

When our government is doing things to human beings that no individual would want done to themselves, we are all in danger of committing emotional suicide—and becoming that little girl. Yes, there are protesters in large numbers, but not enough. How do I know? Because he's still doing what he's doing—and so far, getting away with it. Until this madness has stopped, we haven't done enough. We haven't spoken enough.

So, what do we do? Can I admit that I don't have the answers? But I do have an inkling. My spirit keeps returning to things that motivate me. One is the scripture that says, "If my people, who are called by my name, would humble themselves, cease their wicked ways, and pray—I will heal the land." (My paraphrase—check out the perfect version.)

The other is: treat others the way you want to be treated.

I think when we don't, those are all wicked ways.

When the child who killed herself is pitied, but we don't personally feel the weight of her decision enough to consider all children our children—that's wicked.

When we sit back and watch thousands of people get fired or deported and don't see them as all of us—that's wicked.

When we see someone dirty, without a coat or a place to stay, and we don't become a collective Good Samaritan—that's wicked.

I could go on and on with other examples. Let's suffice it to say—we have a Constitution that says that when the government is being neglectful in how it treats us, that's a government worthy of being overturned—by goodness.

I'm not suggesting a January 6 riot. That was wicked. I'm talking about a revolution of the heart, mind, and behavior. I'm saying that goodness is a light—and that when we let it shine from within us, it's an energy that, with the heat of God, can dispel the darkness.

Today, I uphold the Constitution by living it. And on this day, I figure out the best way to treat someone else the way I want to be treated.

By the way—if four Black policemen beat another Black man to death, exoneration is not the answer. The young man is still dead.

Classifieds

CHATHAM COUNTY

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice,
Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 25E000173-180
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 16th day of April 2025, as EXECUTOR of the Estate of ELIZABETH ANN BALLARD, Deceased, of Chatham, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of July, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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

This the 24th day of April, 2025.
Daniel L. Rogers Jr., Executor
c/o Patrick Law, PLLC
3805 University Drive, Suite A
Durham, North Carolina 27707
4/24, 5/1, 5/8, and 5/15/2025

DURHAM COUNTY

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice,
Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 24E001865-310
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 28th day of March 2025, as EXECUTOR of the Estate of SIDNEY GRAYDON ARMSWORTHY, Deceased, of Durham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 16th day of August, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This, the 15th day of May 2025.
Frank Graydon Armsworthy
Executor
216 Utley Bluffs Drive
Holly Springs, NC 27540
5/15, 5/22, 5/29, and 6/5/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 8th day of May, 2025, as Executor of the Estate of KENNETH MCCOY LORD, Deceased, of Durham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 18th of August, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This, the 15th of May, 2025.
Satrira R. Lord, EXECUTOR
ESTATE OF KENNETH MCCOY LORD
c/o Richard G. Long III, Attorney
Walker Lambe, PLLC
Post Office Box 51549
Durham, North Carolina 27717
5/15, 5/22, 5/29, and 6/5/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
File Number 25E000406-310
Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of LEONARD J. COHEN, late of Durham, Durham County, North Carolina, the undersigned hereby notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned or her attorney on or before the 18th day of August, 2025, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 15th day of May, 2025.
Felicia Cohen, Executor
Estate of Leonard J. Cohen,
Case No. 25E000406-310
4411 Manor Village Way, Apt # 104
Raleigh, NC 27612
c/o Eugene T. Linkous, Jr.
Attorney At Law
210 Duncan Hill Road
Post Office Box 2807
Hendersonville, NC 28793-2807
5/15, 5/22, 5/29, and 6/5/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice,
Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 25E00384-310
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 29th day of April 2025, as EXECUTOR of the Estate of FRANCES ATKINS, Deceased, of Durham, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 18th day of August, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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

This the 15th day of May, 2025.
Angela Yilling, Executor
c/o Christopher Hill, Attorney
Marcus Hill Attorney at Law
311 E. Main Street.
Durham, NC, 27701
5/15, 5/22, 5/29, and 6/5/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice,
Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 25E000398-310
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 28th day of April 2025, as ADMINISTRATOR of the Estate of MARTHA ANN COOK, Deceased, of Durham, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 18th day of August, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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

This the 15th day of May, 2025.
Christie Windsor, Administrator
c/o Christopher Hill, Attorney
Marcus Hill Attorney at Law
311 E. Main Street.
Durham, NC, 27701
5/15, 5/22, 5/29, and 6/5/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice,
Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 24E002351-310
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 28th day of March 2025, as Administrator CTA of the Estate of BILLIE DEAN GARRARD, Deceased, of Durham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 16th day of August, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This, the 15th day of May 2025.
Lorraine Ragsdale
Administrator CTA
Estate of Billie Dean Garrard
c/o Shirley M. Diefenbach, Attorney
Walker Lambe, PLLC
240 Leigh Farm Rd, Ste 100
Durham, North Carolina 27707
5/15, 5/22, 5/29, and 6/5/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice,
Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 24E002418-310
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 22th day of April 2025, as Executor of the Estate of NORMA PARKER THOMAS, Deceased, of Durham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 16th day of August, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This, the 15th day of May 2025.
Sandra Thomas Davis, Executor
Estate of Norma Parker Thomas
c/o Shirley M. Diefenbach Attorney
Walker Lambe, PLLC
240 Leigh Farm Rd, Ste 100
Durham, North Carolina 27707
File No. 24E002418-310
5/15, 5/22, 5/29, and 6/5/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice,
Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 25E000512-310
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 6th day of May 2025, as EXECUTOR of the Estate of F. LUCILLE CASEY A/K/A FAYE LUCILLE CASEY, Deceased, of

Durham, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 18th day of August, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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

This the 15th day of May, 2025.
Karen Ann Casey, Executor
c/o Marion Law Office, PLLC
2741 University Drive
Durham, NC 27707
5/15, 5/22, 5/29, and 6/5/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice,
Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 25E000437-310
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 29th day of April 2025, as EXECUTOR of the Estate of RONALD GENE LATTA, SR., Deceased, of Durham, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 18th day of August, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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

This the 15th day of May, 2025.
Matyre Latta Knight, Executor
c/o Attorney George Ligon, Jr.
Post Office Box 1106
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602
Phone: 919-833-7992
Fax: 919-833-9381
5/15, 5/22, 5/29, and 6/5/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice,
Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 25E000595-310
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 5th day of May 2025, as ADMINISTRATOR CTA of the Estate of JOHN EDGAR WALLACE SR., Deceased, of Durham, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of August, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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

This the 8th day of May, 2025.
Edward Nathaniel Wallace
Administrator CTA
420 Berrys Creek Rd.
Beaufort, NC 28516
5/8, 5/15, 5/22, and 5/29/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of HERMAN DOUGLAS EVANS, SR., deceased, late of Durham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at the address below on or before August 6, 2025, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment.

This is the 8th day of May, 2025.
Herman Douglas Evans, Jr., Executor
Estate of Herman Douglas Evans, Sr., Durham County Case No. 25E000497-310
c/o Tovah M. Mitchell, Attorney
Mitchell Law Group, PLLC
2530 Meridian Parkway, Suite 100
Durham, NC 27713
(919) 466-9120
5/8, 5/15, 5/22, and 5/29/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The undersigned having qualified as Executor of the Estate of MARILYN RUTH KEARNS, a/k/a MARILYN R. KEARNS, Deceased, late of Durham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate to Exhibit them to the undersigned at the office of IDOL LAW, PLLC, PO Box 51759, Durham, North Carolina 27717, on or before the 12th day of August, 2025, or this Notice will be in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment.
This is the 8th day of May, 2025.
Daniel Joseph Kearns, Executor
Estate of Marilyn Ruth Kearns a/k/a Marilyn R. Kearns, Deceased
Robert A. Idol, Esquire
IDOL LAW, PLLC
Attorney at Law
PO Box 51759
Durham, NC 27717
(919)401.5151
5/8, 5/15, 5/22, and 5/29/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

IDOL LAW, PLLC
Attorney at Law
PO Box 51759
Durham, NC 27717
(919)401.5151
5/8, 5/15, 5/22, and 5/29/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified before the Clerk of Superior Court of Durham County as Successor Public Administrator of the Estate of JOHN L. RUCKER, 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 8th of August, 2025, (three months 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 8th day of May, 2025.
Robert E. Levin, Successor Public Administrator of the Estate of John L. Rucker, Deceased
P.O. Box 51429
Durham, NC 27717
5/8, 5/15, 5/22, and 5/29/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against STEVEN ANDREW MACALUSO; deceased of Durham County, North Carolina, are hereby notified to present them to Rosegelle Aldojisa Macaluso, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Steven Andrew Macaluso, Durham County File Number 25E000374-310 on or before August 8, 2025 in care of the undersigned attorneys at their address, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms, and corporations indebted to Steven Andrew Macaluso, please make immediate payment to the Estate of Steven Andrew Macaluso.

This the 8th day of May, 2025.
Matthew A. Freeze, Esq.
NC Bar #54185
Monk Law Firm, PLLC
1365 Broadcloth Street, Suite 201
Fort Mill SC 29715
TEL: 704-369-9977
FAX: 866-281-4930
5/8, 5/15, 5/22, and 5/29/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice,
Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 25E000328-310
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 13th day of March 2025, as ADMINISTRATOR of the Estate of THOMAS ALTON PARKER, II, Deceased, of Durham, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of August, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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

This the 8th day of May, 2025.
Sean Thomas Parker, Administrator
4903 Governor Sanford St.
Efland, NC 27243
5/8, 5/15, 5/22, and 5/29/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice,
Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 25E000565-310
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 28th day of April 2025, as EXECUTOR of the Estate of DOROTHY JONES FERRELL, Deceased, of Durham, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of August, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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

This the 1st day of May, 2025.
Wanda F. Hutson, Executor
2725 Umstead Rd.
Durham, NC 27712
5/1, 5/8, 5/15, and 5/22/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice,
Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 25E000370-310
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 4th day of April 2025, as ADMINISTRATOR of the Estate of CHRISTINE GENTRY,

Deceased, of Durham, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of August, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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

This the 1st day of May, 2025.
Melvin T. Drew, Administrator
3620 Portico Lane
Durham, NC 27703
5/1, 5/8, 5/15, and 5/22/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
File Number 24E001704-310

The undersigned, Alan William Chappell, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of HILDA VINSON CHAPPELL, deceased, late of Durham County, notifies all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before 4th day of August, 2025, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 1st day of May, 2025.

Alan William Chappell c/o Vail Gardner, Attorney for the Estate
Vail Gardner Law
739 9th St. #621
Durham, NC 27705

5/1, 5/8, 5/15, and 5/22/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice,
Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 25E000413-310
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 23rd day of April 2025, as EXECUTOR of the Estate of GURBAXSH SINGH VIRK, Deceased, of Durham, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of August, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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

This the 1st day of May, 2025.
Paramjit Buttar, Executor
Trusts and Estates Law Group
4141 Parklake Avenue, Suite 310
Raleigh, NC 27612

5/1, 5/8, 5/15, and 5/22/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
File Number 25E000493-310

The undersigned, Paula Perry Murphy, having duly qualified as Executor of the Estate of James Anthony Germolec, 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 August 1, 2025 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 1st day of May, 2025.

Paula Perry Murphy, Executor
C/O Ronald G. Coulter, Attorney
3400 Croasdaile Drive Ste 205
Durham, NC 27705
1-919-246-5775
5/1, 5/8, 5/15, and 5/22/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice,
Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 25E000508-310
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 17th day of April 2025, as ADMINISTRATOR of the Estate of LORRAINE VIOLA STITH, Deceased, of Durham, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of August, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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

This the 1st day of May, 2025.
Thomas A. Stith III, Administrator
604 Balsam Fir Drive
Cary, NC 27519
5/1, 5/8, 5/15, and 5/22/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
File Number 25E000489-310

The undersigned having qualified as Executor of the Estate of PATRICK AUGUSTINE O'KEEFFE,

a/k/a PATRICK A. O'KEEFFE, a/k/a PATRICK AUSTINE OKEEFFE, Deceased, late of Durham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate to Exhibit them to the undersigned at the office of IDOL LAW, PLLC, PO Box 51759, Durham, North Carolina 27717, on or before the 4th day of August, 2025, or this Notice will be in bar of their recovery.

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

This is the 1st day of May, 2025.

Jeremiah J. O'Keeffe, Co-Executor
Martin W. O'Keeffe, Co-Executor
Estate of Patrick Augustine
O'Keeffe, a/k/a Patrick A. O'Keeffe, Deceased
Robert A. Idol, Esquire
IDOL LAW, PLLC
Attorney at Law
PO Box 51759
Durham, NC 27717
(919)401.5151
5/1, 5/8, 5/15, and 5/22/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice,
Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 25E000485-310
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 10th day of April 2025, as ANCILLARY ADMINISTRATOR of the Estate of SHIRLEY M. CHAMBLEE, Deceased, of Durham, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of August, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This the 1st day of May, 2025.
Donald E. Shamblee
Ancillary Administrator
140 Underwood Road
Murfreesboro, NC 27855
5/1, 5/8, 5/15, and 5/22/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
File Number 25E000433-310

The undersigned having qualified as Executor of the Estate of MARTHA G. RILEY, a/k/a MARTHA KERR RILEY, Deceased, late of Durham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate to Exhibit them to the undersigned at the office of IDOL LAW, PLLC, PO Box 51759, Durham, North Carolina 27717, on or before the 4th day of August, 2025, or this Notice will be in bar of their recovery.

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

This is the 1st day of May, 2025.
Martha Riley McCracken, Co-Executor
Homer L. Riley, Jr., Co-Executor
Estate of Martha G. Riley, a/k/a Martha Kerr Riley, Deceased
Robert A. Idol, Esquire
IDOL LAW, PLLC
Attorney at Law
PO Box 51759
Durham, NC 27717
(919)401.5151
5/1, 5/8, 5/15, and 5/22/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice,
Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 25E000422-310
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 31st day of March 2025, as EXECUTOR of the Estate of WILLIS E. GREENSTREET, Deceased, of Durham, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of July, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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

This the 24th day of April, 2025.
James E. Fisher, Executor
4811 Hightgate Dr.
Durham, NC 27713
4/24, 5/1, 5/8, and 5/15/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
File Number 25E000421-310

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against SHIRLEY ANN CLAYTON, DECEASED, of Durham County, NC, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before July 23, 2025, or this notice

Classifieds

along with the appropriate general statute will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the deceased are asked to make immediate payment. This the 24th day of April, 2025. All correspondence should be to the Robin Hugues, Administrator c/o Florence A. Bowens, Attorney, P.O. Box 51263, Durham, NC 27717.

4/24, 5/1, 5/8, and 5/15/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
File Number 25-E-000386-310

Having qualified as the Executor of the Estate of MICHAEL DALE NASH, deceased, late of Durham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to present them to the undersigned in care of Mark R.A. Horn, Esq., Moore & Van Allen PLLC, 100 North Tryon Street, Suite 4700, Charlotte, North Carolina 28202-4003, on or before the 24th day of July, 2025, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 24th day of April, 2025. Abigail K. Hedges, Executor of the Estate of Michael Dale Nash 4/24, 5/1, 5/8, and 5/15/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice, Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 25E000488-310
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 11th day of April 2025, as EXECUTOR TRUSTEE of the Estate of CAROL ELIZABETH GLASGOW FRAZER, Deceased, of Durham, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of July, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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

This the 24th day of April, 2025. Lori Gaddy, Executor Trustee PO Box 262 Creedmoor, NC 27522 4/24, 5/1, 5/8, and 5/15/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice, Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 25E000427-310
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 15th day of April 2025, as EXECUTOR of the Estate of RICHARD LITTLE, JR. A/K/A RICHARD STARK LITTLE, JR. A/K/A RICHARD S. LITTLE, JR., Deceased, of Durham, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of July, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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

This the 24th day of April, 2025. Jonathan Little, Executor c/o The Law Office of Anne Page Watson, PLLC, 3400 Croasdaile Drive, Suite 205, Durham, NC 27705 4/24, 5/1, 5/8, and 5/15/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice, Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 25E000420-310
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 15th day of April 2025, as EXECUTOR of the Estate of ARTHUR DANIEL GRAY, SR., Deceased, of Durham, North

Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of July, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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

This the 24th day of April, 2025. Tammy Gray Cohn, Executor c/o Richard F. Prentis, Jr 4 Consultant Pl. Durham, NC 27707 4/24, 5/1, 5/8, and 5/15/2025

WAKE COUNTY

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice, Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 25E000089-910
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 21st day of February 2025, as ADMINISTRATOR of the Estate of NTINGINYA SEIFF MUSISA, Deceased, of Wake, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 18th day of August, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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

This the 15th day of May, 2025. Mary James Hando, Administrator 3321 Joann Dr. Raleigh, NC 27603 5/15, 5/22, 5/29, and 6/5/2025

MICHIGAN AUTO LAW, PC, JOSHUA R. TEREBOLO P72050 30101 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills, MI 48334. CASE NO. and JUDGE 24-057505-NI HON. MICHAEL J. NOLAN. ORDER REGARDING ALTERNATE SERVICE STATE OF MICHIGAN 40TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT 255 CLAY STREET, LAPEER, MI 48446

JOLETTE MICHELLE COUSINEAU c/o Plaintiff's Attorney. Michigan Auto Law, PC, 30101 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills, MI, (248) 353-7575, jterebolo@michiganautolaw.com, Plaintiff v. GEORGE KAMAU MUNYOTTAH, Defendant THE COURT FINDS: Service of process upon the defendant, GEORGE KAMAU MUNYOTTAH cannot reasonably be made as provided in MCR 2.105 and service of process may be made in a manner that is reasonably calculated to give the defendant actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard. IT IS ORDERED: Service of the summons and complaint and a copy of this order shall be made by the following method(s). First class mail to 2725 Alpha Drive, Raleigh, NC 27603. Tacking or firmly affixing to the door at 2725 Alpha Drive, Raleigh, NC 27603. Certified Mail/Return Receipt: 2725 Alpha Drive, Raleigh, NC 27603, Other: Publication in the Carolinian Newspaper for 3 consecutive weeks in accordance with MCR 2.106(D)(1) For each method used, proof of service must be filed promptly with the court. /s/ Michael J. Nolan, March 4, 2025 Judge signature and date THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF MICHIGAN 5/15, 5/22, and 5/29/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

COMPLAINT TO ENFORCE POSSESSORY LIEN ON MOTOR VEHICLE
In The General Court Of Justice District Court Division

Small Claims
File No. 25CV014875-910
B&C AUTOMOTIVE INC, Plaintiff vs.UNKNOWN OWNER, VIN: 5WKBE2420N1072930, Defendant

TO UNKNOWN OWNER:
TAKE NOTICE the petitioner has filed with the clerk a petition in proper form indicating that the petitioner has a valid lien against a 2021 Freedom/Trailor, ID No. 5WKBE2420N1072930 and that the petitioner shall have the right to sell to the highest bidder the motor vehicle listed on June 17, 2025 at WCCH, 316 Fayetteville St., 3rd Floor, Raleigh, NC 27601, at 1:30 p.m. You are required to make a defense to such pleading before such date and time.

This the 15th day of April, 2025. B&C AUTOMOTIVE INC, Plaintiff 105 Hester Street Knightdale, NC 27545 c/o PO BOX 46882 Raleigh, NC 27510 5/15, 5/22, and 5/29/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
File No. 25CV010852-910
LEANDRA CHANTEL ARGUE, Plaintiff v. KELLEN GERARD ARGUE, Defendant

TO DEFENDANT: TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action, by the Plaintiff herein, the nature which is as follows: COMPLAINT FOR ABSOLUTE DIVORCE. You are required by law to appear and make defense to such pleading no later than 30 days after the first publication of this notice. If you fail to do so, Plaintiff will seek the relief sought herein, and a Judgment for Absolute Divorce may be entered.

This, the 8th day of May, 2025. Leandra Chantel Argue, Plaintiff 301 Little Lawson Lane, Apt 216 Cary, NC 27519 5/8, 5/15, and 5/22/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice, Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 25E001202-910
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 25th day of March 2025, as EXECUTOR of the Estate of RHODERICK THOMAS WILLIAMS, JR., Deceased, of Wake, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of August, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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

This the 1st day of May, 2025. Thomas Miles Williams, Executor 615 Peace St. Unit 408 Raleigh, NC 27605 5/1, 5/8, 5/15, and 5/22/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice, Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 24E004227-910
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 27th day of March 2025, as CO-EXECUTORS of the Estate of BETTY RALSTON MOORE A/K/A ELISABETH RALSTON MOORE, Deceased, of Wake, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of August, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to said

Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 1st day of May, 2025. Elisabeth Moore Whitener, Co-Executor 1766 Candle Ridge Ln Bolivia, NC 28422 Peter A. Moore Jr., Co-Executor 2226 Whitman Rd Raleigh, NC 27607 5/1, 5/8, 5/15, and 5/22/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
In the General Court of Justice, District Court Division
File No: 25CV001577-910

[CHILD CUSTODY PROCEEDING] SHAQUETTA B. TURNER, Plaintiff v. SHANIYA D. TAYLOR and ANDRE L. HARVEY JR., Defendants. To SHANIYA TAYLOR mother of H.W.H born on 4/4/2022, in Halifax County, NC. TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. A hearing date of 7/16/2025 has been scheduled. The nature of the relief sought against you is an award of permanent legal custody of the aforementioned child to Shaquetta B. Turner. You are required to make defense to such pleading with the Wake County Clerk of Court no later than 6/11/2025 said date being forty (40) days from the first publication of this notice. Upon your failure to do so, the parties seeking relief against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought. This, the 1st day of May, 2025. Katherine S. Moye, JusticeMatters, Inc., Attorney for Plaintiffs, P.O. Box 58058, Raleigh, NC, 27658, 919/794-7511, Ext. 9. The Carolinian: 5/1, 5/8, 5/15, 2025.
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
File No. 18CVD010358-910
REGINALD HOPKINS, Plaintiff v. TONSHALA MARCUS, Defendant

TO DEFENDANT: TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action, by the Plaintiff herein, the nature which is as follows: COMPLAINT FOR ABSOLUTE DIVORCE. You are required by law to appear and make defense to such pleading no later than 30 days after the first publication of this notice. If you fail to do so, Plaintiff will seek the relief sought herein, and a Judgment for Absolute Divorce may be entered.

This, the 1st day of May, 2025. Reginald Hopkins, Plaintiff 2945 Glade Aster Ct. Raleigh, NC 27608 5/1, 5/8, and 5/15/2025
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice, Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 23E0006165-910
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 13th day of March, 2025, as Administrator CTA of the ESTATE OF GERALDINE THORPE LANE, Deceased, of Wake County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of July, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This, the 24th day of April, 2025. Ronnie Bertell Harris c/o Attorney George Ligon, Jr. Post Office Box 1106 Raleigh, NC 27602 Phone: 919-833-7992 Facsimile: 919-833-9381 4/24, 5/1, 5/8, and 5/15/2025

ORANGE COUNTY

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
ORANGE COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the General Court of Justice, Superior Court Division
Before the Clerk

File Number 25E000050-670
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 27th day of January 2025, as EXECUTOR of the Estate of BERNICE I. KIRSTEN,

Deceased, of Orange, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of August, 2025 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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

This the 8th day of May, 2025. Jane Benson, Executor 12 Norfolk Rd. Litchfield, CT 06759 5/8, 5/15, 5/22, and 5/29/2025

D/M/WBE

SUBCONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS WANTED

T. A. Loving Company (NC General Contractor License No. 325) is seeking certified DBE, MBE, and WBE subcontractors and suppliers for the **US Hwy 17 Drummer Kellum Water & Sewer Extensions** project for the **City of Jacksonville** which bids on **May 15, 2025, at 3:00 PM**. Plans and specifications for this project are available at the following locations: T. A. Loving Company; 400 Patetown Road; Goldsboro, NC 27530 * City of Jacksonville; Engineering Division of Public Services; City Hall; 815 New Bridge Street; Jacksonville, NC 28540.

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, hauling, asphalt paving, striping, traffic control, erosion control, seeding, linework/pipe installation, and bypass pumping. Please contact **Jeff Price** (jprice@taloving.com) if you are interested in submitting a proposal on any portion(s) of this project. Contact via phone 919-734-8400; fax: 919-736-2148; or email. All quotations will be accepted up to the closing time of the bid date. T. A. Loving Company is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

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

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 **Briarcliff/Ridgefield Neighborhood Water Line Replacements** project for **Orange Water and Sewer Authority** which bids on **May 27, 2025, 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 * Orange Water and Sewer Authority, Administrative Offices; 400 Jones Ferry Road; Carrboro, NC 27510 * Accent Imaging website.

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, hauling, asphalt paving, striping, traffic control, erosion control, seeding, linework/pipe installation, CIPP, and flatwork. Please contact **Dustin Downie** (ddownie@pui-nc.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 the 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.

D/M/WBE

SUBCONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS WANTED

T. A. Loving Company (NC General Contractor License No. 325) is seeking certified DBE, MBE, and WBE subcontractors and suppliers for the **Collection System Rehabilitation and Replacement** project for the **Town of Mount Olive** which bids on **May 20, 2025, at 2:00 PM**. Plans and specifications for this project are available at the following locations: T. A. Loving Company; 400 Patetown Road; Goldsboro, NC 27530 * Town of Mount Olive, Town Hall; 114 East James Street; Mount Olive, NC 28365 * McGill Associates, PA; 5 Regional Circle, Suite A; Pinehurst, NC 28374 * QuestCDN website.

Potential subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to surveying, hauling, asphalt paving, striping, traffic control, erosion control, seeding, linework/pipe installation, jack & bore, bypass pumping, CIPP, flatwork, manhole rehab, and manhole lining. Please contact **Jeff Price** (jprice@taloving.com) if you are interested in submitting a proposal on any portion(s) of this project. Contact via phone 919-734-8400; fax: 919-736-2148; or email. All quotations will be accepted up to the closing time of the bid date. T. A. Loving Company is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

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

NFL Pauses Diversity Accelerator Program

(AP)—The NFL will not hold its accelerator program aimed at increasing diversity among coaches at the upcoming spring meetings as the league plans to make changes to the program before bringing it back next year.

The latest event in the program, which began in 2022, was scheduled to have coaching candidates of diverse backgrounds meet with team owners at league meetings next week in Minnesota.

NFL chief administrative officer Dasha Smith said the program will come back in May 2026.

"This will allow us to reimagine the program, reflecting on the feedback and engaging with stakeholders so we can ensure a successful program in the future," she said in a statement Tuesday. "We're steadfast in our commit-

ment to strengthen our talent pipeline and create an environment that reflects the diversity of our fan base. The NFL strives to be a unifying force, and we are confident the next evolution of our efforts will take us one step closer to that goal."

The NFL recently held an accelerator program for general manager candidates at league meetings in December, a three-day candidate development program at the scouting combine and the ninth-annual women's forum.

Among the people who have gone through the accelerator program and eventually got top jobs are New York Jets head coach Aaron Glenn and former Tennessee general manager Ran Carthon.

Smith said the league intends to combine the coaching and front office

accelerator programs and remains committed to increasing diverse hirings for key leadership positions.

"We believe diversity of thought and background is essential to our success, and it's reflected in the policies, programs, and partnerships that help us attract, develop, and retain top talent at every level on and off the field," she said.

The NFL currently has seven minority head coaches and seven minority general managers. Commissioner Roger Goodell reiterated the league's commitment to diverse hiring at the Super Bowl.

"I believe that our diversity efforts have led to making the NFL better," he said in February in New Orleans. "It's attracted better talent. We think we're better if we get different perspectives,

people with different backgrounds, whether they're women or men or people of color."

We make ourselves stronger and we make ourselves better when we have that."



Sports

Celebrating Charlotte's Champion Boxer Kelvin Seabrooks

By Jordan Meadows

Staff Writer

On last Thursday evening in Charlotte, the Independent Picture House was filled with celebration as family, friends, and sports fans gathered for “A Night with Kelvin Seabrooks – Charlotte’s Only World Champion.”

The event served as a heartfelt tribute to the life and legacy of Kelvin Seabrooks, International Boxing Federation bantamweight champion, and brought together not only his close supporters but also a remarkable lineup of legendary athletes who came to honor the man affectionately known as “Champ.”

Born on March 10, 1963, Seabrooks began boxing at age 11 through the local Police Athletic League. A naturally gifted fighter, he went on to win four North Carolina Golden Gloves championships and earned a bronze medal at the 1980 Olympic trials. Although he was unable to compete in the Moscow Olympics due to the U.S. boycott, his professional boxing journey was just getting started.

In 1987, Seabrooks claimed the IBF world bantamweight title with a dramatic fifth-round knockout of Miguel Maturana in Cartagena, Colombia. He defended the title twice—first in a controversial decision over Frenchman Thierry Jacob, and then with a convincing fourth-round stoppage of Filipino contender Ernie Cataluna. He eventually lost the title to the legendary Orlando Canizales in 1988 and retired from the sport in 1995.

Pastor Timothy R. Clark, Seabrooks’ manager and friend since kindergarten, said, “He defended his title four times and won a bronze medal at the 1980 Olympics. He also fought in one of the last 15-round bouts in boxing. This celebration should be three times bigger, but we’re going to enjoy this moment and show him how much we love him.”

Seabrooks’ accomplishments aren’t just for himself and his supporters—they also represent hope for the millions of kids in Charlotte and across North Carolina who need a



role model to look up to.

“It’s a blessing,” Seabrooks said. “I started boxing to keep me off the street and to stay out of trouble. At the same time, I wanted to be a role model for the kids—I’m all about the kids. So, I do what I have to do so that they see a model to follow.”

Seabrooks told The Carolinian that the most memorable moments of his career were his world title fights—both the ones he fought for and the ones he lost—because they were his biggest bouts and made history.

He also shared that the person who inspired him most, both growing up and throughout his career, was his brother Bobby, who introduced him to sports.

“Being from North Charlotte, this is a blessing,” Seabrooks said. “Back in the day, the area was pretty rough. So, coming from where I’m from, accomplishing what I did... it just shows you can become what you want to become.”

Seabrooks spoke about another Charlotte boxer who came before him—Bernard Taylor. Taylor had an outstanding amateur career, amassing a record of 481–8 and earning a gold medal at the 1979 Pan American Games and a silver in the 1975 Games. He also held the NABF featherweight and USBA junior lightweight titles.

Seabrooks said that while Taylor’s

presence added to the competition in a city where the odds of making it were already slim, he was also a major influence and motivator in Seabrooks’ pursuit of a world championship.

Since retiring, Seabrooks has remained deeply involved in his community. As a retired security guard with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, he now trains young boxers and gives motivational talks to students. He is in the process of launching his nonprofit organization, the Kelvin Seabrooks Sports & Education Center, Inc., which will offer mentorship, tutoring, and recreational programs to help youth build skills and succeed.

In recognition of his impact both in and out of the ring, the City of Charlotte officially declared May 10th as “Kelvin Seabrooks Day.”

Seabrooks was joined at the event by several iconic athletes, many of whom also hail from the Carolinas. Among them was James “Bonecrusher” Smith, a native of Magnolia, NC, and the 1986 WBA heavyweight champion. Smith famously knocked out Tim Witherspoon in the first round with only seven days’ notice, and later became the first man to take Mike Tyson the full 12 rounds.

Also in attendance was Cedric “Mean Man” Mingo, a two-time world featherweight champion and

longtime friend and sparring partner of Seabrooks. Mingo, who began boxing during his military service, turned a childhood dream into a decorated professional career. With a record of 30–9–1, he earned a place in the Carolinas Boxing Hall of Fame in 2006 and is honored every February 17th with Cedric “Mean Man” Mingo Day in his hometown of Lancaster, SC.

Other notable attendees included

former heavyweight champion “Merciless” Ray Mercer, former NBA star Al Wood, former professional boxer Eddie Blue, and former NFL player Donnell Woolford—all present to pay tribute to Seabrooks’ storied career.

The evening concluded with a screening of an independent documentary created for the event. The film highlighted Seabrook’s upbringing, rise through the boxing ranks, championship victories, and his cur-

rent efforts to uplift the next generation.

As caterers served food and old friends exchanged stories, the evening became more than a celebration—it was a moment of reverence. Reverence for the battles won both inside and outside the ring, for the communities touched, and for the enduring legacies built not only through titles, but through mentorship, service, and persistence.

Michael Jordan Is Joining NBC

NEW YORK (AP) — Michael Jordan is joining NBC Sports as a special contributor to its NBA coverage when the 2025-26 season begins.

NBC made the announcement on Monday morning during its upfront presentation at Radio City Music Hall previewing the networks offerings during the upcoming television season.

“I am so excited to see the NBA back on NBC,” Jordan said during

a video message. “The NBA on NBC was a meaningful part of my career, and I’m excited about being a special contributor to the project. I’m looking forward to seeing you all when the NBA on NBC launches this October.”

NBC returns to carrying the NBA after a 23-year absence. It had NBA rights from 1990 through 2002 and carried all six of Jordan’s championships as a member of the Chicago Bulls.

This is the first time Jordan has joined a network. His appearances and comments during the 2020 “The Last Dance” documentary about his career and the end of the Bulls dynasty in 1998 created plenty of headlines.

“Michael’s legacy both on and off the court speaks for itself,” NBC Sports President Rick Cordella said. “We’re incredibly proud to have him join our coverage.”

NiJaree Canady Makes \$1M NIL Deal

(AP) — NiJaree Canady smiled broadly as she held up a gaudy championship belt with the Big 12 logo in the center.

Texas Tech’s star pitcher had dominated the conference tournament, throwing 16 2/3 shutout innings in three games to claim the Most Outstanding Player award.

Her smile was as much from relief as joy. Moments before that, she had described the challenges she has faced since her decision to transfer from Stanford shifted the college softball landscape.

Canady led an upstart Stanford squad to the Women’s College World Series semifinals her freshman and sophomore years. After last season, when she was named the USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year, she entered the transfer portal.

She shunned the traditional powers and signed a \$1 million NIL deal to head to Texas Tech — a massive sum



for a softball player that drew some unwanted attention.

“So, I definitely feel like there were a lot of things said about the whole entire thing and of course, like media and stuff,” she said. “I feel like that added just — a weight to the situation.”

Her father, Bruce Canady, said things got crazy.

“A whole lot of pressure was put

on her,” he said. “It got to the point where we thought we had had a stalker. Just a lot was going on. But, you know, Tech’s a good place. It’s a good place. They’ve got her in a good environment.”

Canady said her father and her faith were among the key aspects that helped her deal with the challenges.

“I got through it,” she said. “And there were days where it honestly was very hard, just looking back.”

She’ll take another step when the 12th-seeded Red Raiders (45-12) host Brown (33-15) on Friday in the Lubbock Regional.

That Canady was even in the portal was a bit of a shocker. She had been successful and had built deep friendships at Stanford.

“Extremely hard,” Bruce Canady said. “I mean, we’re the type of parents that push education. But then you get a lifetime opportunity ... then you just have to go with it.”

Congratulations Shaw University Class of 2025

