

The Triangle TRIBUNE

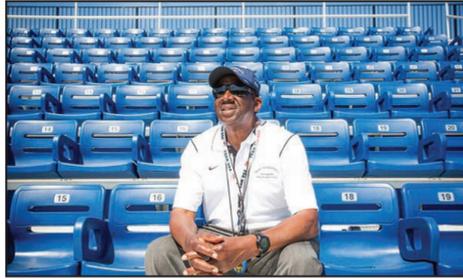
THE TRIANGLE'S CHOICE FOR THE BLACK VOICE

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After 43 years, legendary track and field coach George Williams is fired by his alma mater.



Teachers to get \$350 bonus

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RALEIGH — North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper has signed into law a K-12 educator pay bill that he says still fails to give what teachers and school staff need. The measure, one of nine bills Cooper signed last week, provides \$350 one-time bonuses by October to teachers and instructional support personnel along with their usual experience-based raises. For most teachers, that "step increase" on the salary schedule is \$1,000.

The legislation also urges the Democratic governor to use COVID-19 relief funds to provide \$600 more in bonuses to these teachers, as well as \$600 to custodians and cafeteria workers. Cooper and the Republicans who drew up the bill disagree whether the relief money can be used that way.

"I signed this bill because it funds step increases for teachers that have already been promised, but it falls outrageously short on raises we need to give teachers and all school personnel like bus drivers and cafeteria workers," Cooper said in a news release. He said he hoped the legislature would offer more when it reconvenes in September.

Democrats unsuccessfully pushed amendments to guarantee one-time bonuses of \$1,250 to teachers and instructional support, and \$1,000 bonuses to non-instructional employees. Other bills signed would fund new positions at expanding state parks, cover low-cost tuition at three University of North Carolina campuses, and allow judges to sentence some non-violent drug traffickers below mandatory minimum sentence lengths and fines.

The "First Step Act" sentencing measure was one of two criminal justice reform bills introduced last year that Cooper signed this week. The ideas regained steam in recent weeks after demonstrations nationwide and in North Carolina against racial inequality following the death of George Floyd. Cooper has more than 50 bills on his desk. He'll have to decide over the next week whether to sign them, veto them or let them become law without his signature.

Chief justice extends emergency orders for NC courts

The chief justice of North Carolina's Supreme Court is extending various emergency directives in the state's courts in an effort to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

Chief Justice Cheri Beasley said in a statement Monday that directives

Please see **BONUS/2A**

Apex hosts Black Lives Matter rally

Two local college students, Anthony Barnes Jr. (Guilford College) and Morgan Sbraccia (Charlotte) recently organized a Black Lives Matter event in Apex. About 60 people gathered in downtown to show solidarity to the Black Lives Matter movement. The event was an opportunity for youth and adults to have their voices heard on the issues of the day.

Apex Mayor Jacques K. Gilbert shares stories of his experience as a Black man in the area. MATHIAS BISHOP

Artist Tiffany Moore explains how she was doing some street art and a white man she did not know verbally attack her.

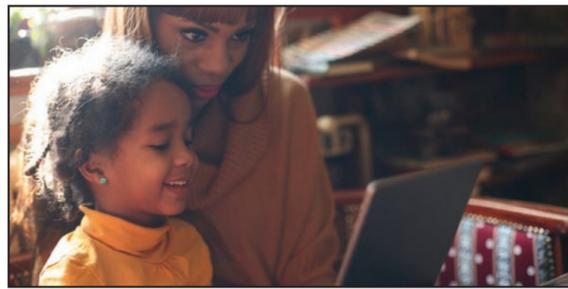
'Village' supports single-mother households in Southeast Raleigh

By Lori D.R. Wiggins
SPECIAL TO THE TRIBUNE

RALEIGH - Looking back, Tamitha Brown, young and pregnant at 18 at the time, said she had only the support of "my Mama; my rock, my cornerstone, and my ride-or-die. She has kept me going."

Even so, Brown, now 44, has long recognized the need for a community-based safety-net of support for single mothers, and believed she could use her own experience to help.

"I always wanted to make sure I could give back to my community," said Brown, who lives and works in Southeast Raleigh. "I understand the importance of having a support system and community that will support you, not just financially but emotionally and mentally, too."



Enter Seasons Village, a new nonprofit designed to support single mothers and their children in Southeast Raleigh with a holistic, two-generation approach set to zero in on educational achievement, while working to disrupt systemic discrimination. The organization also embraces capacity

NC's black residents hopeful against racism

By Greg Childress
THE POLICY WATCH

"You are going to get your ass killed." Those are the words Carl Kenney Sr. used when his son, Durham minister and author Carl Kenney Jr., joined students at the University of Missouri to protest alleged racism at the state's flagship school. Those are the words the father used when the son joined the fight against racial injustice in Ferguson, Missouri, after a police officer killed Michael Brown, an unarmed 18-year old, during a scuffle.

The younger Kenney, a Mizzou alum, had come home to Columbia, Missouri, to care for his dad who'd fallen ill. "He was constantly living in fear that his son was going to be killed for speaking out," said Kenney, who wrote about his father in "My Daddy's Promise: Lessons Learned Through Caregiving." Kenney's father died in 2015. He was 78. Throughout his lifetime, the elder Carl had seen what happened to Black people who spoke out against oppression and racial injustice.

America is changing at warp speed since George Floyd was killed by Minneapolis police. A nearly 9-minute long video show-

Please see **RACISM/2A**

Child care needs as NC reopens

By Liz Bell
EDUCATION NC

Sixty-six percent of all licensed child care facilities are now open in North Carolina, compared with 43% in April, according to the Department of Health and Human Services. As facilities reopen and parents return to work, centers will face challenges in keeping children, staff and families safe.

Starting June 22, the DHHS will report COVID-19 "clusters," defined as five or more cases at a single child care facility or school setting within 14 days "with plausible epidemiological linkage between cases." Here are answers to a few important questions:

Weren't child care centers already supposed to report outbreaks?

The cluster reporting is new at the state level, but centers were already required to report COVID-19 cases to local health departments and to parents. There are other communicable diseases that require reporting and excluding infected children. The local health department will help notify staff and families of a positive COVID-19 case and contact individuals who might need to quarantine if in close contact with the person who tested positive.

Will a center with positive cases then close?

The decision on whether to close a child care facility will be made by the local health department. According to the DHHS guidance, it might not be necessary to shut down the whole facility if the department finds that "close contacts are appropriate, and there is sufficient space to continue normal operations."

Children or staff who test positive can return to child care once they meet these conditions:

- * It has been 10 days since symptoms started.

- * It has been three days, without fever-reducing medicine, since the person had a fever.

- * It has been three days since symptoms have improved, including shortness of breath and cough.

How can I know what should be happening day-to-day?

Jacqueline Simmons, project director at the NC Child Care Health and Safety Resource Center, works with a network of local child care health consultants who provide health and safety guidance to centers across the state. She said centers should be following these guiding practices even if some of them are not required by law. Daily health screenings and excluding sick individuals from

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Tribune on



Carl Kenney Jr.

Black North Carolinians express hopes and fears against racism

Continued from page 1A ing former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin with his knee on Floyd's neck served as an epiphany for many whites.

Kenney said white acquaintances have approached him in recent weeks to discuss Floyd's death. He said they seem to be searching for absolutism for failing to believe complaints about police brutality against Blacks. "I do think there are some changes with white people around their willingness to accept that this stuff we've been crying about is real," Kenney said. "Young white people have always stood and marched with us, but now older white people are finally saying that these [racial injustices] aren't made up."

Since Floyd's death, statues of Confederate soldiers in strongholds of the Old South have begun to fall. The names of racists, white supremacists and slave owners are being erased from public buildings, other places of honor and, quite possibly, important corners of America's memory.

Even Mississippi has relented. Lawmakers there voted last week to remove

the Confederate battle symbol from its state flag. Gov. Tate Reeves signed the bill into law.

But more important, Floyd's death has sparked a national conversation about the role police play in America, along with new strategies to repair adversarial relationships between law enforcement officers and the communities of color they serve. "Basically, what African Americans have been asking for is help," Sen. Valerie Foushee, an Orange County Democrat, told Policy Watch last week. "See what's going on, see how we're being mistreated in the streets of America with [Blacks receiving] a death penalty [from police] for crimes that don't mandate the death penalty or the death penalty even when we're not committing crimes. We're being killed by those who have been sworn to serve and protect."

Golden Smith, a senior hospital account specialist in the Charlotte area and father of three, said America will never be the same in the wake of Floyd's death. "I don't think we can go back," said Smith, who played football at N.C.

State University in the early 1980s. "We have a tremendous opportunity to start correcting the ills of the past 400 years."

Now in his mid-50s, Smith, who grew up in Shelby, said he never thought America would reach the point where Blacks and whites could openly and honestly discuss racism and its impact on Black lives. "We're dealing with a system of racism," Smith said. "When it comes to white people, you can hardly blame them. You almost feel sorry for them. It's nearly impossible for them to come up in a racist system created by the government and not be tainted and not be biased and not be racist."

Smith has discussed racism with his 31-year-old son. But he admits he struggles to find the right words and the right time to talk to his 7-year-old daughter about racism. "She has all of these beautiful friends," Smith said. "White friends, Black friends, Asian friends, and she's such a sweet person and she loves her friends, and I love that innocence. At what point do you begin to tell her that life isn't what it always seems?"

N.C. gov signs bill giving \$350 bonuses to teachers

Continued from page 1A would continue to allow increased use of remote technology and limit foot traffic in courthouses.

The directives include restricting entry into courthouses for anyone who was likely exposed to the coronavirus. Only people with business in courthouses will be allowed in-

side. Other directives include increased use of teleconferencing for remote court hearings and allowing certain documents to be served by email.

"The extension of these emergency directives are absolutely crucial to ensuring that our court system continues to administer

justice while protecting the health and safety of court officials, court personnel, and the public," Beasley said in a statement. "I implore members of the public to abide by all recommended public health measures in our courthouses as we conduct court business across North Carolina."

What to know about child care as NC reopens

Continued from page 1A centers, for example, are required. Face coverings and social distancing, on the other hand, are recommended.

"It feels like 'recommended' is, 'Oh, do this if you want to,' but really 'recommended' is, 'Absolutely do it unless there's some very real reason that is preventing you from doing that, and then find another way to kind of achieve the same thing,'" Simmons said. "They're screening you but you should be screening them, too, in terms of looking for what they're doing," she said. "You want them to follow that guidance every day and be diligent."

She said parents should contact their centers to have a further conver-

sation and to ask, "What do I need to know to make my child safe in child care?" She said centers can provide more details on safe practices, such as making sure items like blankets or toys do not travel back and forth between home and the center.

What role should I play in making sure centers follow safe measures?

Simmons said it's important to have the confidence to speak up if one sees a troubling behavior, and for everyone to both act as watchdogs and look out for one another.

As time moves on, she said to be aware of "compliance fatigue," "which is just getting tired of wearing a mask, and getting tired of doing everything right. That's when errors happen."

Modeling best practices for children and remaining diligent at home is also crucial, she said.

"It's a matter of... 'Wash your hands really well. And I know you did it for 20 seconds today and it's easier to do it for 10 seconds, but do it for 20 seconds today and do it for 20 seconds tomorrow — and every day is a new day.'"

She said that if guidelines are actually being followed, parents should be comfortable sending children back to their centers. "The message for parents is child care can be a safe place if things are done right."

Liz Bell is an early learning reporter for EducationNC.

'Village' supports single mothers in SE Raleigh

Continued from page 1A single mothers and their children.

"Women of color have to deal with racism, the gender wage gap, wealth gap, and then, for the single mothers, there is the added discrimination of the motherhood penalty, high cost of child care, often a lack of paid sick days and family leave, and challenges of affordable housing for a family."

Research shows both mothers and children are adversely affected by the other's hardships, and strategies that encourage both improves a single mother's academic and professional achievement, and economic self-sufficiency, and fuels children's growth, development and academic success.

Guided by that research, as well as the unique challenges in Southeast Raleigh, Seasons Village aims to boost education to open doors to livable wages that begin to build intergenerational prosperity.

Ultimately, Seasons Village hopes to live up to its name, derived from the old adages, "Everyone goes through seasons," and "It takes a village." Using the village concept, the organization plans to eventually erect a physical village for mothers and children while mothers

pursue their education, and work towards stable, affordable housing or home ownership.

"We all know the universality of 'everyone goes through seasons in life,' but it doesn't mean that's the season we have to stay in," Shirley said.

Although launched amid COVID-19, social distancing and stay-at-home restrictions, Seasons Village already has partnered with Southeast Raleigh Promise, Southeast Raleigh Elementary School, and the YMCA that shares a campus with the school.

The organization also has reached out to and connected with about 20 single mother families, delivering educational care packages for children and special Mother's Day pamper bags for mothers and their children.

Next month, it plans to host a focus group to learn more from mothers like Brown, a secretary at Southeast Raleigh Elementary who also volunteers with Southeast Raleigh Promise.

Already, Brown said, Seasons Village has called on her and others through virtual meetings and telephone conferences to get direction on community needs and how to fill them.

"I appreciate this," she said. "I'm from this com-

munity, and I've actually lived it."

It's about building relationships "through authentic interaction and listening," said Seasons Village board member Jennifer Castillo, who works as a social worker at Southeast Raleigh Elementary, is incoming PTSA president at Southeast Raleigh High, and is the director of Student and Family Engagement for Southeast Raleigh Promise.

Castillo also is a single mom. Most often, programs and organizations "talk about parenting, but there's so much more," she said, pointing to the need to address and resolve disparities and discrimination faced by Black and Latina women and mothers, especially those who are single mothers.

"We're going to have to do more and do it differently," Castillo said. "We have to work with the women; together, we bring answers to the table."

"Everybody needs a village, but you're wasting their time and yours if you're not meeting them where they are. I'm really excited about what they're doing. There's a difference between charity and development."

Public records provision will be addressed

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RALEIGH — North Carolina legislators will take another look at a provision within a bill on Gov. Roy Cooper's desk that keeps certain police investigative records secret when they are forwarded to the state medical examiner, a top Republican said Tuesday.

A broad health measure approved last week by the House and Senate includes language sought by the Department of Health and Human Services.

It would clarify that death investigation records held by local or state law enforcement and deemed confidential under state public records law would retain that same confidentiality when they are handed to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

North Carolina Chief Medical Examiner Michelle Aurelius has said current law has made law enforcement more hesitant to share records that her office needs to determine a case of death.

But public records and prisoner advocates contend the language could make investigations into unnatural or unexpected deaths, like those occurring in police custody or at a jail, less transparent, a coalition of media outlets reported.

House Majority Leader John Bell, a Wayne County Republican, said the language was included in the bill because it was requested by DHHS, one of Cooper's Cabinet-level agencies. The language, initially introduced in another measure filed in April 2019, has received renewed attention because it was approved late at night and as calls for police reform have intensified following the May 25 death of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

"After further conversations and discussions about its unintended consequences, I am confident this will be revisited and corrected once the legislature reconvenes," Bell said in a news release. The Sen-

ate also would have to agree to act. The legislature is expected to return briefly next week, then go home until September.

Cooper hasn't commented publicly on the bill, which he can sign into law or veto. It will also become law if he doesn't act by next Monday. Opposition to the records provision became a rallying cry for dozens of people demonstrating outside the Executive Mansion in the early hours Tuesday, multiple news outlets reported. They want Cooper to veto the measure, saying the language would hurt the Black Lives Matter movement.

By late morning, a dozen protesters remained on the sidewalk across the street from the Mansion. Raleigh police confirmed through Twitter that four of the protesters were arrested on Tuesday afternoon for spray painting in the middle of the street. The demonstration ended soon afterward.

Trump administration urges end to ACA during pandemic

By Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar and Mark Sherman

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — In the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, the Trump administration last week urged the Supreme Court to overturn the Affordable Care Act.

The administration's latest high court filing came the same day the government reported that close to half a million people who lost their health insurance amid the economic shutdown to slow the spread of COVID-19 have gotten coverage through HealthCare.gov.

The administration's legal brief makes no mention of the virus.

Some 20 million Americans could lose their health coverage, and protections for people with preexisting health conditions also would be put at risk if the court agrees with the administration in a case that won't be heard before the fall.

In the case before the Supreme Court, Texas and other conservative-led states argue that the ACA was essentially rendered unconstitutional after Congress passed tax legislation in 2017 that eliminated the law's unpopular fines for not having health insurance, but left in place its requirement that virtually all Americans have coverage.

After failing to repeal "Obamacare" in 2017, when Republicans fully controlled Congress, President Donald Trump has put the weight of his administration behind the legal challenge.

If the health insurance requirement is invalidated, "then it necessarily follows that the rest of the ACA must also fall," Solicitor General Noel Francisco wrote. The Trump administration's views on what parts of the ACA might be kept or replaced if the law is overturned have shifted over time. But in legal arguments, it has always supported getting rid of "Obamacare" provisions

that prohibit insurance companies from discriminating against people on account of their medical history.

Nonetheless, Trump has repeatedly assured Americans that people with preexisting conditions would still be protected. Neither the White House nor congressional Republicans have specified how.

The new sign-ups for health coverage come from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The figures are partial because they don't include sign-ups from states that run their own health insurance marketplaces. Major states like California and New York are not counted in the federal statistics.

An estimated 27 million people may have lost job-based coverage due to layoffs, and it's unclear what — if anything — they're turning to as a fallback. People who lose employer health care are eligible for a special sign-up period for subsidized plans under the Obama-era law.



R. KELLEY

COURTESY

Unique harm of sexual abuse in black community

By Jennifer M. Gómez
THE CONVERSATION

What makes R. Kelly's alleged sexual abuse of black girls different than that of other big-name alleged perpetrators, like Woody Allen?

What are the different pressures faced by Anita Hill and Christine Blasey Ford regarding their testimonies of alleged sexual and gender mistreatment by Supreme Court Justices Clarence Thomas and Brett Kavanaugh?

As the founder of the #MeToo movement, why is Tarana Burke, a black woman, getting death threats from black men? The underlying core of these questions is: What really makes trauma traumatic?

Decades of research on trauma, or physical, sexual or psychological violence, have shown the same thing: Victimization hurts people. Sexual assault in particular can be painful to all who experience it.

However, I have found that there is a unique harm for black people and other minorities whose perpetrators are of the same minority group. Within-group violence, such as a black perpetrator harming a black victim, is a violation of this (intra)cultural trust. This violation is called a cultural betrayal.

Cultural betrayal trauma, which is simply within-group violence in minority populations, is associated with many outcomes that go beyond things that are typically studied with trauma, such as post-traumatic stress disorder. It includes some things not often thought about with trauma, such as internalized prejudice — like a black person believing the stereotype that all black people are violent.

(Intra)cultural pressure is another outcome of cultural betrayal trauma. With (intra)cultural pressure, people who experience cultural betrayal trauma are often demanded to protect the perpetrators and the minority group as a whole at all costs, even above their own well-being. With the mandate of "don't betray your race," (intra)cultural pressure punishes people who speak out about the cultural betrayal trauma they have endured.

I surveyed 179 college women online in 2015. Over 50% of these young women were victims of trauma. Just under half experienced psychological violence, 14% endured physical violence, and almost 1 in 3 were victims of sexual violence. Of the young women who were victimized, over 80% reported at least one form of (intra)cultural pressure.

This included their ethnic group suggesting that what happened to them may affect their minority group's reputation. An example of this could be a black woman who has been raped by a black man being told that she should not go to the police because it will make all black people look bad.

Controlling for age, ethnicity and interracial trauma, cultural betrayal trauma and (intra)cultural pressure were associated with symptoms of PTSD. These findings have implications for interventions.

Therapy can address the very real threats of discrimination and the necessity for (intra)cultural pressure. At the same time, these interventions can use (intra)cultural trust to promote positive mental health.

The body of research to date suggests that cultural betrayal may be a unique harm within violence in minority populations, including the black community. As such, the alleged sexual traumas perpetrated by R. Kelly and Clarence Thomas have a cultural betrayal that isn't found in Allen's alleged abuse.

Moreover, black men's death threats against Burke are (intra)cultural pressure that is laced with misogyny or sexism in the black community.

What role should higher education play in combating racism?

By Sara Weissman
DIVERSE ISSUES IN EDUCATION

As anti-racist protests continue across the nation in response to the death of George Floyd — a Black man who died after a Minnesota police officer pinned his neck to the ground — college and university leaders are asking themselves what role higher education can play in confronting racism and structural inequity in the United States.

Analysts explored the question in a wide-ranging online discussion last month in the latest installment in the Diverse Talk Live webinar series.

Donna Y. Ford, Ohio State professor of education, called it a "tragedy upon tragedy" that Floyd's killing in 2020 was the "tipping point" to talk about centuries of anti-Black racism.

She stressed the need for concrete action from universities beyond "hollow anti-racist statements." For her, that means diversifying faculty, offering diversity training with experts in equity work, improving tenure procedures to help Black scholars rise in the ranks and not penalizing Black professors for publishing work in Black journals.

With Black scholarship frequently rejected from academic publications, "damn it, where else can we publish?" she said. "Real talk. I'm sick of scholar-sh*t. I'm sick of us being rejected for high-quality work."

Ford also wants to see diversity themes incorporated into curricula, no matter the subject. Every class should "prepare your future professionals to be anti-racist," she said, and while that process might be uncomfortable, it's time to embrace a "pedagogy of discomfort."

At their best, universities have a unique power to foster activism among their students, noted Bakari Sellers, a lawyer and political analyst for CNN. He advocated for institutions to teach students about civic engagement and encourage involvement in local city councils. "These institutions of higher learning are where we cultivate the new activists and change agents of the future," he said. "Every ounce of change we've ever had was because of young people who were part of something larger than themselves ... Our greatest failure in our institutions of higher learning is we're mundane in our dreaming, and we don't set a level of expectation. We don't set a crown above these kids' heads to grow into."

For Yves Salomon-Fernández, president of Greenfield Community College, a major part of fostering that growth is not just hiring but retaining faculty of color. That involves asking how to create better pipelines for faculty of color and taking a serious look at the "qualitative experiences" of Black faculty, she said.

For Black students, "role models matter. Who the

students see in the classroom, who they see in the hallways, who they see as administrators, as influential people in their life, matter," Salomon-Fernández added.

Part of the problem is predominantly white institutions run climate studies but neglect to follow them up with solutions, said Fred A. Bonner II, endowed professor of education at Prairie View A&M University. "We get the data, but we do nothing with it," he said. "I'm over it. We need to move from climate study to climate action."

He thinks that's one of the reasons enrollment has increased for some historically black colleges and universities since the protests began; Black students don't want to have to deal with unresolved campus climate problems. At HBCUs, "we can just be ourselves," he said. "We can live in our identities. We can walk around in these Black bodies and these shells and be OK. I think these campuses give us an opportunity to do that, and they give us an opportunity to share and tell our own narratives in authentic ways."

At the same time, Ford emphasized that predominantly white institutions need to step up. "We live in the real world, and it's predominantly white," she said. "With that in mind, we need to prepare our students to not just cope ... but thrive in whatever institution of higher learning they attend."

Survey finds confusion among public about pandemic news

By David Bauder
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — For a story that has dominated the news during the past four months, a survey out Monday illustrates the difficulty that many Americans have in finding information they can believe about the coronavirus pandemic.

Three in 10 Americans say they trust President Donald Trump and his administration to get the facts straight all or most of the time when talking about COVID-19, the Pew Research Center said. "I can't think of any precedent for that," said Dan Fagin, director of New York University's Science, Health and Environmental Reporting program, and a former reporter. "There's a reason why that number is so low. Honestly, what disturbs even more is that there is 30% of the public who think they can believe the president on this."

The president, along with some other leaders, were criticized initially for not taking the threat seriously, for delivering misinformation about potential treatments and, even today, delivering mixed messages on the need for masks and social distancing.

Even though Trump was a polarizing figure before the health crisis, he had a chance to get Americans to rally behind him by offering solid, consistent information, said David Ropeik,

retired Harvard University professor and author of "How Risky Is It, Anyway? Why our Fears Don't Always Match the Facts."

He cited former New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks as an example of a leader people rallied behind in a time of crisis. "Trust is an intuitive sense of who we think is on our side, and that is why risk communication is really crucial in a time like this," Ropeik said. "That is why the federal government has blown this and many of the state governments haven't."

The Pew survey found dramatic differences in how the public assessed key sources of information on coronavirus, said Amy Mitchell, Pew's director of journalism research. A little more than half of those surveyed (53%) trusted the accuracy of information they were getting from governors or state leaders, with 44% believing the news media. Trust numbers were higher for local media sources, Pew said.

Nearly 2 of 3 Americans said they had confidence in the information they were getting from the Centers for Disease Control and other health organizations. "What is encouraging is that people do have great faith in public health experts," Fagin said. "That's why Anthony Fauci's role is so important and that it's a great blessing that he's

been involved in all of this."

Ropeik said social media has muddied the waters with misinformation. That's illustrated by Pew's finding that 71% of Americans had heard the conspiracy theory that the virus outbreak had been intentionally planned, and 36% said that is probably or definitely true. Among people who cite the president and his administration as their primary source of information about the coronavirus, 56% of Pew's respondents said they believed that theory, which is unsupported by evidence.

The survey also found evidence of a growing partisan divide in beliefs. For example, a majority of Republicans (54%) said they believed most or all of information provided by Trump, while only 9% of Democrats do. More Republicans increasingly believe the coronavirus is overblown, said Pew, which conducted an online survey between June 4-10 of 9,654 people in a panel of adults selected randomly.

While Ropeik is less confident, NYU's Fagin said he believed Trump had the ability to turn things around if he sticks with facts and models important behavior, such as wearing a mask in public and insisting on social distancing by his supporters. "What opinion leaders do can make a big difference," he said.



NASA names headquarters after first black female engineer

U.S. BLACK ENGINEER

NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine announced last week that the agency's headquarters building in Washington, D.C., will be named after Mary W. Jackson, NASA's first Black female engineer.

Jackson started her career in the segregated West Area Computing Unit of the agency's Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia. A mathematician and aerospace engineer, she went on to lead programs influencing the hiring and promotion of women in NASA's science, technology, engineering, and mathematics careers. The work of the West Area Computing Unit caught national attention in the 2016 Margot Lee Shetterly book "Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race." The book was made into a popular movie that same year and Jackson's character was played by award-winning actress Janelle Monáe.

"NASA facilities across the country are named after people who dedicated their lives to push the frontiers of the aerospace industry," said Bridenstine in the statement. "The nation is beginning to awaken to the greater need to honor the full diversity of people who helped pioneer our great nation. We know there are many other people of color and diverse

backgrounds who have contributed to our success, which is why we're continuing the conversations started about a year ago with the agency's Unity Campaign. NASA is dedicated to advancing diversity, and we will continue to take steps to do so."

Mary Winston was born and raised in Hampton, Virginia. After high school, she graduated from Hampton Institute (now Hampton University) in 1942 with a dual degree in math and physical sciences, and initially accepted a job as a math teacher in Calvert County, Maryland. She worked as a bookkeeper, married Levi Jackson and started a family before her aerospace career took off.

In 1951, she was recruited by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, which, in 1958, was succeeded by NASA. She started as a research mathematician who became known as one of the human computers at Langley. She worked under fellow "Hidden Figure" Dorothy Vaughan in the segregated West Area Computing Unit.

After two years in the computing pool, she received an offer to work in the 4-by-4 foot Supersonic Pressure Tunnel, a 60,000 horsepower wind tunnel capable of blasting models with winds approaching twice the speed of sound. There, she received hands-on experience conducting experiments. Her supervi-

sor eventually suggested she enter a training program that would allow her to earn a promotion from mathematician to engineer. Because the classes were held at then-segregated Hampton High School, Jackson needed special permission to join her white peers in the classroom.

She completed the courses, earned the promotion, and, in 1958, became NASA's first Black female engineer. For nearly two decades during her engineering career, she authored or co-authored numerous research reports, mostly focused on the behavior of the boundary layer of air around airplanes. In 1979, she joined Langley's Federal Women's Program, where she worked hard to address the hiring and promotion of the next generation of female mathematicians, engineers and scientists. She retired from Langley in 1985.

"Mary W. Jackson was part of a group of very important women who helped NASA succeed in getting American astronauts into space. Mary never accepted the status quo, she helped break barriers and open opportunities for African Americans and women in the field of engineering and technology," said Bridenstine. "Today, we proudly announce the Mary W. Jackson NASA Headquarters building."

Classified Deadline: Wednesday at 5p.m., prior to Sunday's edition

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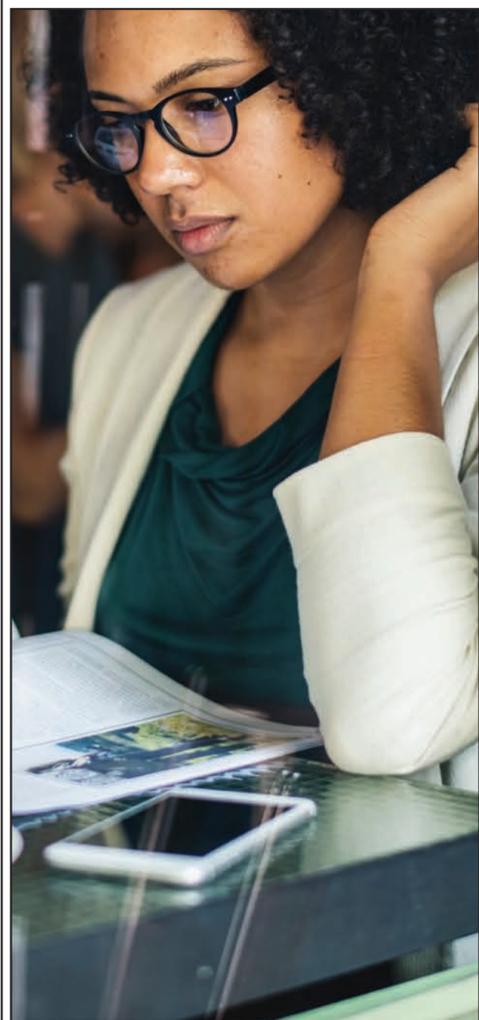


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COURTESY

Most Americans not comfortable going back to church

By Yonat Shimron
BAPTIST PRESS

WASHINGTON - A new study examining Americans' response to COVID-19 shows that with the exception of white evangelicals, a majority of Americans are not comfortable returning to in-person religious services.

The results of the survey suggest that despite political pressure to reopen houses of worship - from President Donald Trump as well as leading conservative Christians and religious liberty advocates - Americans aren't quite ready to take a seat in a sanctuary. The survey from the American Enterprise Institute showed that 64% of Americans said they were "somewhat uncomfortable" or "very uncomfortable" attending in-person worship.

Even among those who reported their congregations offered in-person worship in the past week, 56% said they chose not to go. "We're seeing among laypeople a significant amount of discomfort in going back to formal in-person religious practices," said Daniel Cox, a research fellow at AEI who led the study. "People are equivocating and uncertain about whether they feel comfortable attending."

The study, conducted in

late May and early June among 3,504 Americans, comes amid ongoing, politically charged campaigns to reopen. Last month, the president demanded that states allow places of worship to reopen "right away" and said he would override state governors who refused. Stories of church outbreaks grow. Last week, a Pentecostal church in northeastern Oregon was linked to the state's largest coronavirus outbreak to date - some 230 cases. The church held services in defiance of Oregon's stay-at-home order.

The AEI study found sharp racial and partisan disparities in Americans' response to the crisis, with Democrats more concerned about contracting COVID-19 than Republicans. While 72% of Democrats said they are at least somewhat worried about a household member becoming infected, only 43% of Republicans said the same. The only religious group comfortable with church reopenings was white evangelicals.

Some 54% of Americans said life in the United States will not return to normal until 2021. They expressed hesitation not only with worship services but said they would be equally uncomfortable attending sporting events,

eating out at a restaurant or going to a movie theater. Only 45% said they would feel comfortable going to their polling place to vote.

In the South, where cases of coronavirus have surged in the past few weeks, that ambivalence about reopening is palpable. "The ones going back are smaller churches where the gathering size is easy to control," said Chris Turner, director of communications for the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, which has some 3,200 affiliated churches, the state's largest denomination.

Midsized churches that have reopened are providing added services and asking members to reserve seats for specific times, Turner said. The state's biggest Baptist churches have largely remained online only. But Turner said even among those churches that have started to reopen, attendance has been spotty.

In Louisiana, where Gov. John Bel Edwards has paused the state's Phase 3 reopening until July 24 after a spike in coronavirus cases, many churches have transitioned to a hybrid, in-person and online model. "There's only so much you can do to alleviate a fear," said John Kyle, communications director for Louisiana Baptists.

Women 'dive into God's Word' during COVID

By Aaron Wilson
BAPTIST PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - Amanda Strauwald doesn't want things to go back to the way they were before COVID-19 - at least, not when it comes to the new perspective she has on life.

In studying the story of Gideon through an online Bible study, Strauwald said she's been reminded of how the Lord shows up in difficulties and uses weaknesses. "As COVID was stripping the world of so many of our freedoms and busyness, it was an opportunity God used to reveal idols that were in my life, slow it down, and be able to focus on the priorities of God and family," she said.

Strauwald is just one of many women who have been participating in free, online Bible studies LifeWay Christian Resources has made available during a season marked by social distancing and quarantines. Jessica Yentzer of LifeWay Women said they've been excited by the response of those who have joined LifeWay online Bible studies during this season, and sign-up numbers have only continued to grow as the weeks of social distancing have continued.

"In a time when so many

are isolated, women have been able to find spiritual community and dive into God's Word with friends and family across the country in new ways," she said. "This Bible study content, represented in these 12 online studies, has resonated in a fresh, unique way in the midst of challenging times."

Strauwald said the experience has also allowed her to grow closer to extended family and build much-needed community during a time of physical confinement. She lives in Kapa'a, Hawaii, where an ocean and several time zones separate her from family members. "Before COVID-19, I rarely talked with my sisters-in-law and hardly knew what was going on in their lives," she said.

But now, six family members - her mother, sister and three sisters-in-law - meet each week over Zoom for a LifeWay online Bible study that covers three time zones and four states. "We come from all levels of spiritual maturity," said Strauwald. "Some of us have read the Bible for years, and some have never read the Bible. But all of us are seeking God and wanting to know Him more. It's a beautiful thing."

On the other side of the country in Bowman, South

Carolina, school principal Glenda Westbury joined the online Bible study "Finding God Faithful" to revisit a message she heard a year ago when she lost her husband of 35 years. One year later, Westbury said she was looking forward to finishing the school year strong and celebrating the summer with her daughters. But COVID-19 disrupted these plans and brought with it a collection of new challenges.

Westbury said current stressors have included working from home, learning new technology, not knowing if her students are safe, fed and able to learn at home, and working with parents on an entirely new platform.

"My feelings of inadequacy were some days overwhelming," she said. "This study has reminded me that in relinquishing control, I'm not defeated. In fact, just the opposite. I'm glorifying my Father by allowing Him to take what the enemy meant for evil and turning it for good and His glory."

"It was a sweet reminder that no matter what chapter I find myself in with this journey of life, no matter how good or bad it seems, God's love and faithfulness endure again and again."

AROUND THE TRIANGLE

RALEIGH

FLEA MARKET

Black flea market is July 5, 2-6 p.m., The Loading Dock, 1053 E. Whitaker Mill Road, #115. Visit blackflea-marketnc@gmail.com.

FACEBOOK LIVE

Exchange Family Center will host a Facebook Live event titled "Raising Resilient Children" July 7 at noon. Register on zoom.us

CONCEALED WEAPON

A one-day Concealed class is July 11, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., 4410 Craftsman Dr. Visit www.ncccchp.com.

DIRECTORY

Triangle ArtWorks has launched a black artist and organization directory for the Triangle region. Visit www.triangleartworks.org.

SCHOLARSHIPS

ECPI University is offering \$4 million in new scholarships for African

American students in STEM + Health Care programs. Visit www.beaconedu.org/.

CANCELLED

Theatre Raleigh has cancelled its 2020 summer season.

CARY

WAKE DEMS

Western Wake Democrats will hold its next virtual meeting July 9 at 6:30 p.m. Visit www.meetup.com/Western-Wake-Dems.

NOMINATION

Nominate an outstanding physician leader for the 2020 Harris Memorial Award. Contact: Celeste A. Gore at cgore@thecarolinascenter.org. Deadline: July 17.

DURHAM

JUNETEENTH

A post-Juneteenth celebration is July 10, 4-9 p.m., 117 Hunt St.

PUBLIC ART

Durham is seeking public art submissions for new bus shelters. An artist info session is July 7 and 10. Visit durhamnc.gov.

MARKET

Durham's Black Farmers' Market is July 12, 1-4 p.m., 411 W. Chapel Hill St.

CANCELED

The Durham Bulls have canceled their 2020 baseball season.

CHAPEL HILL

BOOKS

Chapel Hill Public Library will no longer collect overdue book fees as of July 1.

FOOD BANK

The food bank has relocated to Eubanks Road Park-and-Ride at 2000 Eubanks Road as of July 1. The bank is open every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to noon.



COURTESY

McDonald's scholarship fund helps HBCU students return to school

PRNEWSWIRE

McDonald's recently launched a \$500,000 Black & Positively Golden Scholarship Fund to help students attending HBCUs continue their education this fall, despite impacts of COVID-19. Facilitated by the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, scholarships will be distributed for the 2020-21 academic year.

"We know that education is the key to success," said Marissa Fisher, a second-generation McDonald's franchisee with four restaurants in southeast Louisiana. "With many college students uncertain of returning to classes in the wake of COVID-19, we understand HBCU students will be most impacted. As a brand with roots that run deep in communities, McDonald's has been part of these students' lives while growing up and is the place where many received their first jobs. We

want to help ease some of the stress caused by this pandemic as they plan to return to school."

Commemorating a 20-year partnership with the ESSENCE Festival of Culture: Unstoppable Virtual Experience, McDonald's is also embarking on a collaboration with the ESSENCE Girls United HBCU initiative, powered by Black & Positively Golden. The multiweek program kicks off this fall with inspiring virtual events for student entrepreneurs. Through this program, McDonald's will also award seed capital and exclusive mentoring opportunities to select participants.

These initiatives are natural extensions of the company's longstanding commitment to advancing education, as previously demonstrated through its partnership with TCMF and its Archways to Opportunity program for restaurant

crew and managers. On a mission to supporting communities nationwide, McDonald's strives to be a catalyst of change by funding scholarships, leadership training and dream building.

"This year, donations to HBCUs are even more critical, as students continue dealing with the impacts of COVID-19 and, now, civil unrest and demands for Black equality," said Harry L. Williams, Thurgood Marshall College Fund president & CEO. "Black students, with allies from across the globe, are calling for companies to do more than issue statements and run ads. That's why TCMF is excited to further our commitment with McDonald's to help keep more Black students in college."

HBCU students can apply for a scholarship now through Aug. 3 at <https://www.tcmf.org/>.

Netflix series to dramatize Kaepernick's path to activism

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES - Colin Kaepernick is joining with Emmy-winning filmmaker Ava DuVernay on a Netflix drama series about the teenage roots of the former NFL player's activism.

"Colin in Black & White" will examine Kaepernick's high school years to illuminate the experiences that shaped his advocacy, Netflix said Monday.

"Too often we see race and Black stories portrayed through a white lens," Kaepernick said in a statement. "We seek to give new perspective to the differing realities that Black people face. We explore the racial conflicts I faced as an adopted Black man in a white community, during my high school years."

Kaepernick, born to a white mother and Black father, was adopted in Wisconsin by a white couple who moved to California when he was a child. In 2016, the San Francisco 49ers quarterback began kneeling during the na-



Left: Ava DuVernay and Colin Kaepernick.

Immediately announced. Kaepernick called it an honor to collaborate with DuVernay, whose credits include the award-winning "When They See Us," which dramatized the Central Park Five case, and the Oscar-nominated documentary "13th."

"With his act of protest, Colin Kaepernick ignited a national conversation about race and justice with far-reaching consequences for football, culture and for him, personally," DuVernay said in a statement. "Colin's story has much to say about identity and the enduring spirit of protest."

Further casting details and a release date were not

For more stories not
in the paper, visit
www.triangletribune.com.

Coach George Williams out at St. Aug's

What did I say last week, huh?

COVID-19 may have put a damper on sports overall, but HBCU sports have been hopping. Down time? What down time!

I was all set to report on the future of the MEAC this week. But right in the middle of listening to last week's press conference on the recent departure of Bethune-Cookman, what comes across our Twitter feed but a breaking news announcement that George Williams had been fired by St. Augustine's University!



BONITTA BEST

For a split second, I thought Dianne Boardley Suber had returned to haunt the place.

Suber, whose ego was the size of the entire state of North Carolina, tried to fire Williams after quickly learning that she would never be able to compete with him in popularity, prestige or power. It backfired after word got out.

For most of his 43 years at his alma mater, Williams was St. Aug's. And he, along with his prestigious track and field program, are what put the small, private, historically Black college in Southeast Raleigh on the map. Not a president. Not a professor.

Remember, Williams built championship programs and athletes without having a bona fide track field until 2011. One thing that drove Suber crazy was Williams' ability to win against the odds. The more funds she cut from his program (to put towards football, but that's another story), the more Williams found a way to win championship after championship.

The current total stands at 39, the most of any active NCAA coach regardless of division or sport. Add to that a combined 282 women's and men's indoor and outdoor individual track titles.

For me, "Pup's" One Shining Moment was as head coach of the 2004 U.S. Olympic Track and Field Team. The women and men combined for the highest medal count ever. If anybody, ANYBODY, mistakenly thought he couldn't cut it on an international stage, they were thoroughly schooled.

Ironically, in an interview with ABC-11 earlier this year, Williams hinted at a 2021 retirement. This was after his recovery from an ATV accident in Doha, Qatar, in October at the 2019 World Athletics Championships.

The 76-year-old came oh-so-close to death. He spent three weeks in a Doha hospital and even celebrated his wedding anniversary with wife Olivia there. After being transferred back to Raleigh, he was hospitalized for another month.

He looked like the Williams of old when I saw him at a home basketball game this year. Williams had his critics as athletics director. The departure stories from coaches all had a familiar theme. But as a coaching legend, there is no doubt.

It's a shame that after surviving Suber's antics, he's come full circle with a couple of jealous and petty board of trustee members who wanted him gone. They probably were devising his departure while he laid in a hospital bed.

"Coach Williams is a living legend who has dedicated his life to helping young people become better athletes and more importantly, better people. For over 50 years, developing future leaders has been at the core of everything he has done," Attorney Nicholas Sanservino said in a statement. "...Unfortunately, St. Augustine's unlawfully terminated his employment today without cause. Coach Williams will vigorously fight for his rights so he can continue to serve the students and greater community. If there was ever an individual who should be able to complete his mission on his terms, it is Coach Williams."

Sports

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The Triangle TRIBUNE

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COLLEGE CORNER



The late Alex M. Rivera looks at his portrait.

NCCU cancels Hall of Fame ceremony

COVID-19 continues to wreak havoc on HBCU sports.

North Carolina Central has canceled its 2020 Alex M. Rivera Athletics Hall of Fame induction ceremony until next year. The '21 induction class will be selected from nominations already under consideration for this year.



Strickland

NSU names AD

Melody Webb was promoted to Norfolk State's new athletics director on Tuesday. Webb replaces Marty L. Miller who is moving into a new administrative role after 15 years. "Ms. Webb will lead Spartan athletics to excellence both on and off the field of competition while also increasing NSU's visibility and competitiveness," president Javaune Adams-Gaston said.

Webb has held two positions since 2014: senior associate athletics director for administration and senior woman administrator. Prior to NSU, she was associate commissioner for business operations at the CIAA.

A&T suffers loss

North Carolina A&T lost a member of the Aggie Family when former trainer Thomas Bynum passed away recently. Bynum was 85 and a member of the Aggies Sports Hall of Fame.

"It is hard to put into words the impact Thomas Bynum had on the thousands of student-athletes, administrators and staff during his time as the athletics trainer at North Carolina A&T," said athletics director Earl M. Hilton III. "To hear and see how many former student-athletes adored him, it is easy to understand why we have such a family atmosphere at North Carolina A&T today. 'Mr. B' laid the foundation for taking care of the student-athlete. He left a legacy not only on athletics

but the university at large. It cannot be said enough, Mr. B is an Aggie legend." "Mr. B" was A&T's trainer from 1968-2000. The Chapel Hill native was honored with the Thomas "Mr. B" Sports Medicine Room in Corbett Sports Center on Sept. 8, 2005.

Aggies softball signs 2
N.C. A&T softball coach Patti Raduenz added two more recruits to her signing class.

Louisburg College transfer JaiLeana Deese batted .235 in seven games in a shortened freshman season at LC.

E.E. Smith graduate Kendall Mccauley was a dual-sport star in softball and basketball. Both teams won

state championships. Deese and Mccauley join five Aggie recruits to make up the 2021 class.

Hello. Goodbye.
Larry Strickland called it a career after 35 seasons as Howard's women's and men's tennis coach. Strickland won a combined 12 MEAC championships (5 men, 7 women), including four straight men's titles from 1987-90.

"Without a doubt, one of the greatest honors I ever received was being named to the Howard University Athletic Hall of Fame," Strickland said.

He coached over 150 scholar All-Americans and was named MEAC Coach of the Year 11 times.



Bynum



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SAU's Barco out to dispel myths

By Anthony Jeffries
ST. AUGUSTINE'S SPORTS INFORMATION

RALEIGH - A Saint Augustine's University football student-athlete is doing his part to break stereotypes about African Americans in another sport.

Zachary Barco wants to dispel the stigma that blacks can't swim. A certified lifeguard, Barco gives free lessons to anyone of all races, but his personal goal is encouraging blacks to get in the water. "When you think of activities associated with African Americans, football and basketball comes to mind, but I want to show that blacks can do anything if we put our minds to it," he said.

Barco names Cullen Jones as proof that blacks can achieve great heights in swimming. Jones swam collegiately at North Carolina State University and took home a gold medal in the 2008 and 2012 Olympics.

But far too many people of color avoid the water, according to statistics. In a 2017 report from the USA Swimming Foundation, 64 percent of black children (ages 4 to 18) have little or no swimming ability compared to 45 percent of Hispanic children and 40 percent of white children. In another study, black children are three times more likely to drown than white children.

According to several articles, the reasons for the racial disparity are cultural, social and financial such as a historical lack of pool access. More athletes of color are on the football field than in the swimming pool. "I usually see few blacks in the pool," said Barco, born in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and raised in Raleigh.

For the last eight years, Barco has been available for swim lessons, either as a lifeguard through Triangle Aquatics or in his spare time. He gets the word out through social media, mainly Twitter. This summer, he can be found at Knightdale Community Pool in Knightdale. "There are no winners or losers, only choosers," said SAU Athletics Director George Williams. "Zachary has chosen to make an impact on others. I am proud of Zachary and the department of athletics supports him 100 percent."

Barco has been swimming since he was 5 years old, but many of his friends couldn't swim, which prompted him to become a lifeguard. "I would go to the deep end and no one else would go," said Barco, who attended Southeast Raleigh High School. "I wanted to swim with my friends."

Folks who can't swim are missing out on obvious benefits like having fun and staying in shape, Barco says. New swimmers are no longer scared of the water.

For Barco, swimming helps him prepare for football. He will be a rising sophomore this season after starting at offensive guard and tackle as a freshman in 2019. "It helps me learn how to finish," he said.

Survey finds NCAA student-athletes score high in 'well-being' versus non-athletes

By Pearl Stewart

Diverse Issues in Education
Former college students with bachelor's degrees who competed in NCAA sports were more likely than non-athletes to thrive physically and socially in their lives after graduation, based on a Gallup report released last week.

The survey of 4,889 former student-athletes enrolled from 1975 to the present revealed, overall, more positive post-college experiences related to finding employment opportu-

nities, attaining advanced de-

grees and measuring higher on

Gallup's "wellbeing index" compared to 69,012 college

graduates from the same

period who did not compete in

NCAA athletics.

According to the report, "Gal-

lup's Wellbeing Index is a

widely used and globally

validated measure for assessing

whether people are leading

meaningful lives." It further

describes well-being as "a holistic

measure that encompasses

many aspects of life such as daily work and interactions, so-

cial relationships, financial se-

curity, physical health and en-

gagement in one's

community."

Jessica Harlan, senior re-

search consultant with Gallup

and author of the report, told

Diverse that the survey "can be

a great starting point for insti-

tutions to say 'here's what we

know about student-athlete

and non-athlete experiences

broadly,' and to ask 'what does

that look like at my institution

and what are the specific ex-

periences of our students and

our alumni when they reflect

on their experiences."

She added that findings may

be used by institutions that are

"looking at ways that they can

create a sense of belonging and

ensure that students feel cared

for" during the uncertain

period of COVID-19.

One of the key findings indi-

cated that NCAA student-ath-

letes were more likely to earn

an advanced degree than non-

athletes by a comparison of

39% to 32%. The difference in

this category was even more

pronounced among Black stu-

dent-athletes.

SCHOOL NEWS



COURTESY

Rushing
WAKE COUNTY

Student: Elijah Rushing
High school: Wake Forest High School
College: N.C. State

Rushing stayed very busy during his four years at Wake Forest High School, but he always made time for others. Media Specialist Heather Fields got to know him well, first as the adviser to the Beta Club academic honor society during his sophomore year.

Before long, he was stopping into the library every morning to study or just to say hi, and often would have lunch there as well with members of the Book Club.

"I'm honestly going to miss him so much," Fields said. "Elijah is super smart and driven, but he's not the kind of guy who throws that in your face. He's a quiet leader in the classroom. He spent his four years in high school challenging himself with all of the most rigorous courses. It was a lot to juggle, and sometimes I could tell he was overwhelmed. When I asked him about it, he would respond with a smile and then dive back into his work. No challenge will be too big for him as he moves onto the next chapter in his life. His focused drive and work ethic will not let him fail."

After years of hard work in AP courses, not to mention on the track and on the cross-country course, Rushing will attend N.C.

State University in the fall to study chemical engineering and mathematics. He said all his teachers over the years had an impact on him. That was certainly true once schools closed, and he still had AP courses and exams to complete.

Rushing has a long list of teachers and staff members from Wake Forest High and even going back to first grade who he credited for putting him on the path to success. There was Fields, of course, as well as clerical assistant Laura Bachinsky, media coordinator Michelle Angel and custodian Carolyn Walker, among others.

Kindness, clearly, is important to Rushing, and he tried to spread it throughout Wake Forest High. He led a project to educate students about mental illness to try to bring about understanding and remove the stigma from those who suffer from it. The project included guest speakers and other means of raising awareness.

His mother, Valerie Rushing, an instructional assistant in a special education classroom at River Bend Middle School, says she's thankful for all three of her sons who have graduated from Wake Forest, with Elijah following brothers Caleb and Joshua. She also applauded his teachers for continuing to teach after school closed. She and Elijah both expressed the disappointment shared by so many seniors about mis-

sing out on some of the traditional graduate experiences and not getting to say some of his final good-byes.

But she took the long view, "At their 10-year class reunion, they'll really have something to reminisce about."

DURHAM COUNTY
Durham Public Schools Superintendent Pascal Mubenga was named the 2020-21 Central Carolina Regional Education Service Alliance Superintendent of the Year.

Under Mubenga's leadership, DPS's enrollment grew in 2019-20 for the first time since 2014-15.

School performance improved in 2018-19, with DPS surpassing the state's average of schools meeting or exceeding growth expectations (84 percent compared to the state's 75 percent), a sharp decrease in the number of schools labeled with an "F" School Performance Grade, and a lower number of schools labeled low-performing. DPS has also reduced the teacher turnover rate and has been feeding children and families during the COVID-19 crisis through an extensive partnership between the district, the DPS Foundation, Food Insight Group, local restaurants and volunteers.



Mubenga

Sorority announces scholarship recipients

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Area Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority recently awarded \$5,650 in scholarships to four graduating seniors in Chatham and Orange County schools.

East Chapel Hill graduate Amaya Royster is the recipient of the newly established Ishna J. Hall Scholarship and will attend UNC at Chapel Hill. Royster was awarded \$2,500. Fellow ECHHS grad Miles Merriweather will attend North Carolina State and was awarded \$1,350. Brookie Currie of Orange High earned a \$1,100 scholarship and will attend Winston Salem State. Orange's Jazzmin Albemathy will attend Durham Technical Community College with a \$700 scholarship.



Royster



Currie



Albemathy



Merriweather

HBCU NEWS

N.C. CENTRAL
NCCU students compete annually for Albert Schweitzer Fellowships, which help bring medical care and assistance to low-income and underserved communities.

This year, School of Education graduate students Zhaojing Liu and Katherine Reyes-Rodriguez were among 25 North Carolina students chosen to work at Schweitzer program sites across the country.

The duo joins approximately 250 Schweitzer Fellows taking on the mission this summer. They also will be learning to effectively address social factors that impact individual health and have opportunities to hone their leadership skills. Liu and Reyes-Rodriguez, both graduate students in communication disorders, will be working to enhance the literacy skills and strengthen the cultural identity of children in a bilingual English Mandarin elementary program in a location yet to be named.

While international students who speak a variety

of native languages add diversity to the learning environment, communication can be a challenge. "As the number of English language learners increases in schools across the country, educators face the challenge of providing instruction in English to students who are learning English, while combating academic achievement gaps," Liu said. "Bilingual education is very important for students."

Liu's and Reyes-Rodriguez's proposal for bilingual creative reading curriculum led to their selection as Schweitzer Fellows. "Our goal is to address early bilingual literacy concerns that follow core curriculum guidelines to strengthen cultural identity through creative activities such as singing, dancing and acting," Reyes-Rodriguez said.

SHAW UNIVERSITY
Shaw announced last week the creation of the Center for Racial and Social Justice to enable social change by fostering engagement around civil and human rights, and social justice. The CRSJ also will support the development of healthy congregations and communities.

The center will feature a series of lectures, research activities, and academic programs that celebrate the university's rich her-

itage of racial and social justice advocacy since its founding in 1865, and advance the understanding of racial and social justice. It will introduce a series of certificate programs that promote activism, strategic thinking and leadership development to confront the nation's and world's great challenges related to racial and ethnic differences.

"Shaw University has been at the forefront of the movement to promote human and civil rights and social justice throughout its history," president Paulette Dillard said. "Creating the Center for Racial and Social Justice will honor that tradition, but, more importantly, enable Shaw and those who share our values and concerns to carry that tradition and commitment forward."

Deans Johnny Bernard Hill and Valerie Ann Johnson, both recognized scholars and activists, will serve as the interim co-directors. Both bring the resources and talents of their respective schools - Divinity and Arts, Sciences and Humanities - to this initiative. The work of the CRSJ will be conducted and supported in part through partnerships with other higher education institutions and entities committed to social justice, including the FaithHealth Ministries division of Wake Forest Baptist Health.



8 quick tips for saving money during the pandemic

STATEPOINT

Saving money is a top priority for many Americans, but it becomes even more important during times of economic turmoil. Luckily, there are many simple steps you can take to eliminate wasteful spending in your daily life.

Here are eight easy strategies to start saving more money now:

1. Track your personal expenses in a notebook or spreadsheet for 30 days. Doing this is as easy as writing down what, where, when and how much you spend on every transaction. It is only after you know what you are spending your money on that you can wisely choose where to reduce or cut.

2. Ask for discounts and use coupons when shopping for essentials. When possible, select non-branded products, which are often found at a lower price than name brand goods. But be savvy and check for a trial price or return/refund guarantee.

3. Make major purchases using credit cards that

offer product assurance guarantees and make filing disputes easy. If a product is defective or damaged, you may be able to get it repaired or replaced for free.

4. Check your bank and credit card statements or online account information for any automatic charges you are paying for services that you no longer use. A \$5 charge per month for a service that you don't need is equivalent to throwing away \$60 every year.

5. Contact service providers to confirm there are no other contract options that offer lower monthly service charges. Many companies offer varying service levels and contracts at different prices, but they won't tell you about them unless you ask. For instance, you could avoid a \$190 cable bill by paying only for the channels you most frequently watch.

6. Learn to say "no," at least sometimes, to your kids and grandkids. Spending money, mobile phone plans, car insurance, gas

money and car payments are a few things you may be supplementing for a child or grandchild that you might consider cutting out or at least reducing.

7. Set up different checking accounts for your non-discretionary and discretionary spending. Arrange for monthly bills to be paid from the first account by a bill-pay service or electronic fund transfer. Conversely, use a debit card for personal spending. With two separate accounts, you can better manage and monitor your discretionary spending.

8. Consider creating a separate savings account at a different financial institution from where you have your checking account(s) so it is harder to transfer money. You can set up a direct deposit or auto-draft from your paycheck to do this each month without any effort on your end.

These simple steps may seem small, but they can add up to big savings for you and your family.

ADOPT ME!

Rekaiaya, 11

Rekaiaya is a beautiful young girl that wishes to be adopted. She is a quiet, sweet and affectionate young lady.

She is very reserved until she gets to know you but can be very affectionate once she sees you as a safe person.

She enjoys going on



Rekaiaya

trips, shopping, singing in the church choir, dance class, getting her nails done and recently began playing softball. She is crafty and loves creating new things. She like dogs and has talked about wanting a poodle.

Rekaiaya has reservations about being adopted but has expressed that she would like a forever family that is family-centered and has other children around her age. She would like a family that supports her connections and visits

with her sister and paternal aunt.

The family needs to understand the lifelong commitment that comes with adoption and be prepared to consistently show love, support, patience and the encouragement she needs to continue to grow personally, emotionally and academically.

If you are interested in adopting Rekaiaya or other children in foster care, call 1-877-NCKIDS-1.

NC poet laureate releases album to music by Ferrell

The River Speaks of Thirst
By Jaki Shelton Green

North Carolina poet laureate and Center for Documentary Studies undergraduate, Jaki Shelton Green, has released her debut album, *The River Speaks of Thirst*, on Soul City Sounds Records. The album, available on vinyl, CD, digital and streaming platforms, includes 10 of Green's previously unpublished poems set to music and sound by producer Alec Ferrell.

"This genre means a lot to me," Green writes in the liner notes. "It takes me back to a time when I was coming into consciousness of what it meant to be black in the U.S., to bear witness." More information at jakisheltongreen.com.

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During times of crisis, crucial information about your community comes from local reporters.

Access to high quality information is essential. Especially local information. And especially now. What's happening in our communities? What's the impact? How are our local leaders responding? For answers to these questions, we rely on the hard work of our local reporters. As a result, readership of local news outlets has reached record highs.

But due to COVID-19, most local news publications are losing money, fast. Advertising has plummeted during the crisis and readers aren't subscribing fast enough to fill the void. This has led to thousands of local reporters being laid off. Just as our society faces numerous, urgent challenges.

Millions of people are in danger of losing access to the authoritative local

information they need to stay informed. That's why the Local Media Association and the Local Media Consortium are working with local news providers to build a strong future for local journalism. And that's why our long-time partner Google is purchasing ads like this in local publications across the country, as well as providing a Relief Fund to help struggling local news outlets. But those actions alone aren't enough.

Please consider supporting the local news organizations you rely on. Subscribe to them. Donate to them. And if you have a business that's able to, advertise with them. **Your support is critical to sustaining the dedicated journalists serving your communities.**

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