

The Triangle TRIBUNE

THE TRIANGLE'S CHOICE FOR THE BLACK VOICE

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North Carolina Central women open HBCU basketball practice in the Triangle.



Wake County schools begin reopening process

STAFF REPORTS

Wake County public schools begins its reopening process next week. Below is information for parents, teachers, staff and caregivers provided by the school system.

Wake County will conduct regular screenings for symptoms and provide ongoing self-monitoring throughout the school day. Students and employees who are sick or not feeling well must stay home.

Students are required to have a health screening at home before riding school transportation, and when arriving to school. If a student begins to feel sick while on campus, shows signs of illness, or becomes sick during the day, they must immediately tell an employee. A parent or guardian will be expected to promptly pick them up from school.

HOME HEALTH SCREENING REQUIREMENT

All students should have their temperature taken every day at home before coming to school. Students must stay home if: * they have tested positive for COVID-19 and have not met the criteria for returning to school;

Please see WAKE/2A

Black people and Medicare

By Freda Freeman
CORRESPONDENT

DURHAM - Medicare annual enrollment is open now through Dec. 7, and AARP and UnitedHealthcare want Black people to better understand the different options and their benefits.

To that end, UnitedHealthcare recently hosted A Better You, an online educational event, designed to educate Blacks to take a proactive approach to their health.

"Every element of this program is particularly crafted around the African American experience, our cultural celebration, and the recognition that the ultimate power of wellness integrates the mind, the body, and the spirit," said Rita Tolbert, UnitedHealthcare medical educator.

Twenty percent of baby boomers, people born from 1946 through 1964, have five or more chronic illnesses, such as high blood pressure and diabetes, and the average Medicare member takes four to five medications each month. These numbers are higher in communities of color.

"As African Americans, we are truly aware of the health disparities that still exist between different racial and ethnic groups, but at UnitedHealthcare, we're striving for health equity. That's when everyone has the same opportunity to be the healthiest they can be regardless of their race, age, education, ethnicity, or socio-economic status," Tolbert said.

UnitedHealthcare serves 1 out of 5 people who are on Medicare. For more than 10 years, the insurance company has held free events across the country to educate diverse groups.

"Some of the ways we're addressing these disparities is through programs and services that reflect our members' unique needs and ethnic backgrounds," Tolbert said, adding, "During this pandemic, we're not deterred, in fact, we're more resolved given how it has consumed our communities of color."

During the program, health advocates urged Blacks to exercise and make nutritional food choices. Ernestine Shepherd, an 84-year-old former bodybuilder, demonstrated some of her workout routines, and The Persuasions encouraged people to get moving by dancing.

Tolbert explained the basics of Medicare during a question and answer session. It is a federal health insurance program that covers individuals, not

Please see MEDICARE/2A

No 'Scandal' here, unless you don't vote



Actress and activist Kerry Washington and her husband, Nnamdi Asomugha, visited Durham last weekend to encourage residents to get out and vote. The couple also stumped for the Joe Biden/Kamala Harris campaign. Early voting continues through Oct. 31.

North Carolina young voters ready to change the world

By Lori D.R. Wiggins
CORRESPONDENT

RALEIGH - Meredith College senior Dani Bahena Bustos, 21, knows the issues that loom large in Election 2020, and she knows how they affect her, her family, and others. She knows the candidates and their records on where they stand. And she also knows the upcoming election is one of democracy's most important.

It doesn't even matter that, as a DACA recipient, Bahena Bustos can't vote. She's still on the front lines, helping her younger sister who was born in the United States navigate her first trip to the ballot box to vote for those who can't. And she's raising her voice out loud by posting videos and volunteer phone-banking to encourage and lead other young voters to the polls on or before Nov. 3.

"I'm pretty much on the ballot," said Bahena Bustos, pointing to issues of the environment and racial inequality. "My livelihood pretty much depends on this election. I'm being directly affected because my family is on the line. I have no choice but to get involved; I could not be involved, and I cannot imagine why anyone wouldn't vote."

Bahena Bustos is among an unprecedented number of Black and brown young people in North Carolina who understand the power of their generation as a growing political



COURTESY

More young voters have early voted this month.

force, and are embracing their role to educate, motivate, and mobilize themselves and their peers. They recognize themselves as a crucial cog in a national movement of young voters poised at ground zero to determine the outcome of both the presidential race and state senate battle, as well as steer the winners of other state and local offices.

"Young people's interest in civic engagement and voter participation is very high right now," said Simon Rosenberg, a national political strategist who is a leading interpreter of the country's changing demographics, and the emerging importance of the millennial and Gen Z vote. Citing a Harvard University poll, Rosenberg said the youth presence taking center stage in 2020 mirrors that of President Barack Obama's 2008 election: the "biggest youth turnout in the modern era of politics." It was the highest youth turnout since 1984.

The Center for Information

and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement reports 83% of youth polled say young people have the power to change the country; 60% feel they are part of a movement that will vote to express its views; and 79% say COVID-19 helped them see politics affects their everyday lives.

In North Carolina, more than 740,000 new voters under the age of 30, representing 42% of the state's 7.1 million registered voters, up from 13% in 2016, comprise the state. Those kinds of numbers rank North Carolina No. 2 among states where young voters may have a significant influence in this year's presidential election, and No. 4 for the Senate race, according to CIRCLE's Youth Electoral Significance Index.

Mirroring a national trend, more than 50,000 voters age 18-29 already have voted in North Carolina by mailing in or dropping off absentee ballots, according to early voting data,

Please see VOTERS/2A

NC resumes absentee ballot count

By Jonathan Drew
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

North Carolina issued new guidance Monday for counties to proceed with dealing with more than 10,000 deficient absentee ballots, which have been in limbo because of ongoing court battles over a witness requirement for voting by mail.

The State Board of Elections issued a directive telling counties to immediately resume notifying voters whose ballots arrive with a range of deficiencies on how to fix the problem or start the process over. The memo tells counties that voters who mail in ballots without a witness signature must fill out a new ballot and have it witnessed again. But the state board said counties can allow voters to fix more minor problems such as a missing witness address by returning a signed affidavit.

County boards should immediately begin contacting voters whose ballots were set aside due to pending court battles and enter information about the ballots into a state database, according to an email sent Monday by the board's general counsel, Katelyn Love. The state board had told counties on Oct. 4 to set aside ballots with various deficiencies and take no further action pending proceedings in a tangle of state and federal lawsuits over absentee ballot rules. A key issue was implementation of a state law requiring that absentee voters have another adult witness their ballot and sign the outer envelope.

The state board was sued by voting rights advocates over absentee requirements, prompting a late September revision that eased rules for fixing ballots with incomplete witness information. But state and national Republican leaders then went to court to challenge the revisions, arguing that those would dilute the voices of voters who had already cast ballots under prior rules that were stricter. As of Friday, the state board estimated there were at least 10,700 absentee ballots with problems that needed to be fixed, but those voters couldn't be contacted because of freezes put in place due to the court fights, according to court documents. The number of affected ballots could be much higher because counties had been instructed not to enter the deficient ballots into the state database.

Under Monday's update

Please see BALLOTS/2A

Index

News 1A Sports 1B
Focus 5A Religion 3B
Classifieds 4B
Life 5B

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Blacks urged to learn about Medicare and other health care options

Continued from page 1A families. If you are a U.S. citizen or legal resident (for at least five years), you are eligible if you are 65 or older; under 65 with a qualifying disability; or any age with end-stage renal disease/kidney failure or Lou Gehrig's disease/ALS.

Medicare is a complex program that many people find difficult to navigate. UnitedHealthcare conducted a survey in 2013 that found at least 1 in 5 older adults describe Medicare as confusing. Tolbert hoped to change that by explaining what it does and does not cover.

It kicks in after a person pays out-of-pocket expenses like premiums, deductibles, co-pay or co-insurance. When Medicare was created in 1965, there were two parts (A and B) which help pay for hospital stays and related

costs like X-rays and lab work; durable medical equipment that includes wheelchairs, walkers, and oxygen tanks; and when your doctor visits you in the hospital. Part B also covers preventative services - mammograms, diabetes screening, yearly flu shots, wellness visits, and depression screening.

Part A is premium free if you or your spouse paid Medicare taxes for at least 10 years while working. There is a monthly premium for Part B that is based on a person's income, Tolbert says.

However, these plans do not pay for everything. Those on Medicare may enroll in additional supplemental Medicare or Medicare-related plans, such as Plan D, which covers prescription medications. Medicare Advantage (Part C), which is provided by private insurance com-

panies, covers hospital costs, doctor visits, and outpatient care. Financial assistance may be available for persons with need. To find out just what these various plans cover and how much they pay, visit medicare.gov or call 1-800-Medicare (1-800-633-4273).

In addition to the annual open enrollment period, in which members may change their coverage plans, there is an initial enrollment period that is your first chance to enroll in Medicare and choose the coverage you want.

Your initial enrollment period is a seven-month period, beginning three months before your birthday and ending three months after.

A person is automatically enrolled if already receiving Social Security benefits or Railroad Retirement Board benefits.



NC resumes processing deficient absentee ballots

Continued from page 1A to the absentee ballot rules, problems that can be fixed by returning an affidavit — but without starting a new ballot over — also include a witness or voter signature in the wrong place, a missing voter signature or a failure of the witness to print his or her name. Counties must notify voters of such problems and send them a form known as a cure certification by mail or email. Counties are told to call the voters if their number, but not their email, is on file.

U.S. District Judge William Osteen ruled last

week that the state could not accept absentee ballots returned without a witness signature. He declined, however, to force the state to shorten the period during which county boards can accept mail-in ballots after Election Day that were postmarked by Nov. 3. The state board made the deadline Nov. 12, lengthening the period from three to nine days, as part of the late September settlement.

A court fight over how long mail-in ballots can be accepted is still pending in a federal appeals court. A state appeals court declined to intervene Monday

on the absentee ballot deadline.

North Carolina Attorney General Josh Stein, a Democrat whose office represents the state Elections Board, said on Twitter that letting county boards move forward with processing deficient ballots will help "make sure every eligible vote counts."

But state Senate leader Phil Berger, a Republican who had gone to court over the election board's late September rule revisions, blamed Democrats for the situation, saying: "The chaos over the past month was entirely avoidable."

Wake County schools begin reopening process

Continued from page 1A * they have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19 and have not met the criteria for returning to school;

* they have a temperature of 100.4°F or higher. In addition, students must be free of any symptoms potentially related to COVID-19 to be on a school campus. At this time, these symptoms include one or more of the following:

- * Fever or chills
- * New cough (unrelated to allergies)
- * New shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- * New loss of taste or smell

SCHOOL BUS HEALTH SCREENING REQUIREMENT Through a one-time health screening attestation form, parents/guardians commit to screening their students at home every day before they go to the bus stop or board a school bus.

Parents/guardians attest that they will not send their student to school if they have been diagnosed with COVID-19, have been exposed to someone diagnosed with COVID-19, are experiencing a symptom of COVID-19, or are running a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher.



Against many parents and caregivers objections, Wake County begins reopening its schools next week.

Submit the one-time form online, or download a PDF of the form, at www.wcpss.net/busform.

All students riding a bus or vendor transportation must wear a face covering unless they have an approved accommodation for medical reasons. After arriving at school, all bus riders will be asked the symptom screening checklist questions and have their temperature taken at school before being allowed to enter the building.

CAMPUS HEALTH SCREENING REQUIREMENT When arriving at school, all students will be instructed to use designated entrances to undergo a health screening. The process contains two parts: a symptom screening checklist and an on-site temperature check using a touchless thermometer.

Individuals dropping off a student should not leave until the student has passed the health screening process.

Students who are feeling unwell or have a temperature of 100.4°F or higher will be escorted to the school's Care Center. Employees will contact their parents/guardians to immediately pick them up.

STUDENTS WHO LEAVE AND RETURN TO CAMPUS

If students plan to leave campus for any reason and return later in the school day, they should get a dated health screening pass before leaving the building so they will not have to go through the health screening again when they return. Anyone with a dated pass will not need additional screening before reentering a WCPSS facility on that day.

North Carolina young voters ready for change

Continued from page 1B Rosenberg said. Together, they're not just bigger. They're bolder. They have an independent streak, too. In fact, Politico reports more 18-to-23-year-olds than in other generations participated in 2018, their first mid-term election. They're "more combative, willing to engage in confrontation, and unwilling to wait for change."

Rosenberg attributes the surge in youth interest in all aspects of civic engagement to several things, including fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic that disrupted the lives of young people - including those already in work life - and illuminated for them the connectivity between the role of government and civil society.

In addition, youth were hugely impacted, he said, by the spring's anti-racism and social justice protests, waking up in them the need to participate; and climate change is an undeniable concern that is more ingrained in their lives and language than older generations.

It has sparked spontaneity and ingenuity and innovation, Rosenberg said. "Homegrown North Carolina

groups have sprung up and are doing their own work, and a lot of this organizing is being done peer-to-peer," he said, pointing to texting and social media influencers who help shape and model conversations online. "The things that they're doing are really innovative and interesting. There's organized and sophisticated stuff happening."

Added: Bahena Bustos: "Young people are really energized right now, and not only are we really informed on the issues and educated about voting... most of us grew up on the internet, so we're naturally being exposed to a lot of information and points of views and people," she said. "When we're hearing about the current administration banning transgender people from the military, we know what that person looks like because it's someone we know from social media or TV, and they become someone I have a connection with."

"We're covering a lot of ground. I've heard a lot less apathy. One election is not going to change everything, but we'll get there, and I think a lot of people are keenly aware of that right now."



Hannah Carson, 90, quickly turned in her absentee ballot.

Some states allow ballots if voters die before Election

By Christina A. Cassidy
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — At 90 years old and living through a global pandemic, Hannah Carson knows time may be short.

She wasted no time returning her absentee ballot for this year's election. As soon as it arrived at her senior living community, she filled it out and sent it back to her local election office in Charlotte. If something were to happen and she doesn't make it to Election Day, Carson said she hopes her ballot will remain valid. "I should think I should count, given all the years I have been here," she said.

In North Carolina, a ballot cast by someone who subsequently dies can be set aside if a challenge is filed before Election Day with the county board of elections.

Questions over whether ballots will count if someone votes early but dies before Election Day are especially pressing this year, amid a coronavirus outbreak that has been especially perilous for older Americans. People 85

years and older represent nearly 1 in 3 deaths from COVID-19 in the U.S. As an election looms, the odds against older people who contract the virus are on the minds of the elderly and their family members.

Seventeen states prohibit counting ballots cast by someone who subsequently dies before the election, but 10 states specifically allow it. The law is silent in the rest of the country, according to research by the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Even though a law might require such ballots to be rejected, it's likely that some could still count depending on when the person dies and when election officials find out about the death. "The law may say that the ballot of a person who dies in that situation can't be counted, but it is a hard law to follow," said Wendy Underhill, head of elections for the National Conference of State Legislatures. When someone dies close to an election, it takes time for death records to be updated, and there is a narrow window between when a ballot is

cast and counted. Studies have shown that voter fraud is exceptionally rare. There are numerous safeguards built into the system to ensure that only voters eligible to vote can do so and that they cast only one ballot. Election officials say that when fraud does happen, people are caught and prosecuted.

"There have been umpteen examples of some group claiming a whole bunch of people casting ballots after they died," said Justin Levitt, an election law expert who has studied voter fraud in depth. "These things don't pan out."

In most cases, claims of dead voters are based on poor information or a faulty analysis that fails to account for the many people who share the same name and birthdate, Levitt said. In an exceptionally small number of cases, there is fraud. Levitt said this typically involves someone wanting to honor the wishes of a loved one who recently died and either knowingly or not commits a crime by filling out that ballot.

N Carolina doctors help patients register to vote

By Nadia Ramlagan
N.C. NEWS SERVICE

RALEIGH — Some medical schools, clinics and community health centers in North Carolina are now giving patients the option to register to vote, check to see if they are registered to vote or request a mail-in ballot. The nationwide initiative, known as "Vot-ER" aims to boost voter registration in hospital and clinic waiting rooms.

Dr. Alistair Martin, an emergency room physician at Massachusetts General Hospital and a faculty member for the Center for Social Justice and Health at Harvard Medical School, said the medical schools at

Duke University and the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill have registered hundreds of people to either vote or request a mail-in ballot using iPad kiosks and flyers with a scannable barcode patients can access using their smartphone.

"Voting is now a public issue because of COVID-19," Martin contended. "Who better than health care providers like physicians, nurses, other health care workers to help guide patients to vote?"

Martin added across the country, voter registration rates are down, largely due to the pandemic's shutdown of public places

such as the DMV or community outreach events where people are most likely to get registered. Health care providers can visit vot-er.org to order a healthy-democracy kit.

He said the effort has put voting on the radar of health care providers, who are less likely to make heading to the polls a priority. "Not a lot of folks know this, but health care providers like physicians vote at 10% lower rates than the average population," Marin noted.

Martin added the health of communities is linked to civic engagement. He pointed out 80% of what

Please see DOCTORS/3A



North Carolina doctors help patients vote

Continued from page 2A

constitutes an individual's health is made up of factors called social determinants such as access to healthy food, education, and clean air and water.

"These factors have a huge impact on what it means to be healthy in this country," he stressed. "And the running thread, the thing that connects all of these issues that we refer to as the social determinants of health, is civic engagement."

Martin said so far, health-care providers have helped more than 2,800 North Carolinians get started on their voter registration or mail-in ballot request process.



Earl Ijames stands in the front yard of his Raleigh home. COURTESY

New approaches to farming breathe life into rural NC communities

By Drew Wayland
UNC MEDIA HUB

Eunice Hill came to Edgecombe County so Sly could fly. Sylvester 'Sly' Hill Sr. is her husband, an aerospace engineer from northern Virginia with a knack for tinkering, building and small details. At the end of a long gravel road just off Highway 33, the couple lives in a little brown farmhouse surrounded by herb gardens, animal pens, bee hives and an overgrown runway for the single-seat aircrafts Sly builds by hand.

Inside, they display a veritable herboristeria of plants, herbs and medicinal tinctures collected by Eunice over the 12 years they've called Edgecombe home. "We're not your typical farmers," says Eunice, 59.

The Hills are part of a community of Black farmers in the Rocky Mount area who are doing atypical work to breathe life back into Black agriculture in the South. Friends of theirs, such as Dallas Robinson and Earl Ijames, are focusing on history and education to help change the local perceptions about Black farming.

This past summer on the Hill Family Farm was a little different. A year ago, there might have been as many as 250 children on the farm on any given day, learning to feed Pancho the Mediterranean donkey, or observing as Sly delivers the kids of a mother goat. This was called the Youth Agricultural Summer Program, a skills-learning opportunity for low-income students and those with learning disabilities to earn extra credit toward their high school diplomas.

In the wake of a generational pandemic, Eunice and Sly must tend to the animals on their own again. "Having the children out here, it brought so much life to this place," said Eunice, gesturing out toward empty fields. The vegetables are still being grown and harvested, but the heart of the farm is missing.

Eunice says that the Youth Agricultural Program doesn't make them

any money, but the children are a worthy investment for the future. "It's important for us to make this a community of love and healthy living," she said. She learned the value of these things growing up in Puerto Rico, where, "you could go walk 10 minutes out of town and pick a dozen mangoes from a tree that everybody got to enjoy."

Sharing, and helping others who have less than yourself, is part of Eunice's faith and her core philosophy. From 2012 to 2015, she traveled around the country with the United Church of Christ, starting community gardens at parishes from Miami to Milwaukee. She even built a vegetable garden at the home church of President Barack Obama in Chicago. She loved this work, but in 2015 she lost her job and had to return to Edgecombe County for good.

It wasn't long after that she got a call from the Enfield Middle School exceptional children coordinator, asking if she would take some exceptional students on her farm, to teach them life skills for extra credit. The decision to welcome so many strangers into their home was not an easy one. But Eunice prayed. Sly tinkered. And in the end they opened their arms to a community of children, many of them Black and indigenous, and Hispanic girls and boys who have been left behind in the local school system.

A little closer to Raleigh, on the eastern edge of Wake County, most people know Earl Ijames as 'the palm tree guy.' Ijames is a farmer, a horticulturist and a historian, a man whose love for the land and its trees is only surpassed by his passion for uncovering the hidden truths of the past. He works as a curator for the North Carolina Museum of History, and in the past has worked as an archivist, a bookseller in Wendell, and as a salesman of native palm trees across the state.

"Trees tell important stories, especially in North Carolina," Ijames said.

"Case in point being the origin of the term 'Tar Heel.' How many people know the truth behind that story? That it comes from the history of the longleaf pine tree and the legacy of enslaved people working these forests to extract tar pitch...before it was a rallying cry for white soldiers, it was a derogatory name."

Stories like these are why Ijames has worked to save the Carolina longleaf pine from extinction. His garden is full of pine saplings, seeds that he hopes can keep the legacy of those enslaved people alive in the landscape itself. He is adamant that the teaching of history, especially Black history, has been warped so far from the truth that even contemporary historians often argue on false premises.

"There's so many moments in history, from the Civil War to the Emancipation Proclamation to, yes, the Black Panthers, that are talked about through the lens of whatever narrative became dominant at the time...there are these forces of resistance, of struggle, that were passed off as aggression or just plain washed away by white folks writing the stories of the time."

Ijames' father was a member of the Black Panther Party in Winston-Salem during the 1960s and '70s. He can remember his father and other Black Panthers walking children to school, providing them with lunch money, and encouraging young people to vote.

"I used to be kind of an angry person," said Ijames, referring to the discrimination his family faced. "But I can't go around angry at people about something that, even if I go in and get all my guns and go try to do something about it, there's nothing I can really do. But vengeance is the Lord's. And the Lord told me good living is the best revenge."

He gestures to his land, his family and the refurbished Victorian house he lives in among the pines. "And you tell me, ain't this seem like good living to you?"

BIDEN HARRIS



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Workers climb out of the excavation site as work continues on a potential unmarked mass grave from the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre. SUE OGRICK/AP

Tulsa digs again for victims of race massacre

By Ken Miller
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — A second excavation began Monday at a cemetery in an effort to find and identify victims of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre and shed light on violence that left hundreds dead and decimated in an area that was once a cultural and economic mecca for African Americans.

"I realize we can tell this story the way it needs to be told, now," said Phoebe Stubblefield, a forensic anthropologist at the University of Florida and a descendant of a survivor of the massacre who is assisting the search, told The Associated Press. "The story is no longer hidden. We're putting the completion on this event."

The violence happened on May 31 and June 1 in 1921, when a white mob attacked Tulsa's Black Wall Street, killing an estimated 300 people and wounding 800 more while robbing and burning businesses, homes and churches.

"People, they were just robbed; white people coming in saying Black people had better property than they had and that was just not right," said Stubblefield, whose great-aunt Anna Walker Woods had her home burned and property taken. "Burning, thieving, killing wasn't enough. They had to prevent Black people from recovering."

Personally, professionally, spiritually I have an investment in this."

The two locations to be searched are in Oaklawn Cemetery in north Tulsa, where a search for remains of victims ended without success in July, and near the Greenwood District where the massacre took place.

The earlier excavation was done in an area identified by ground-penetrating radar scans as appearing to be a human-dug pit indicative of a mass grave. It turned out to be a filled-in creek, said Mayor G.T. Bynum, who first proposed looking for victims of the violence in 2018 and later budgeted \$100,000 to fund it after previous searches failed to find victims.

The massacre — which happened two years after what is known as the "Red Summer," when hundreds of African Americans died at the hands of white mobs in violence around the U.S. — has been depicted in recent HBO shows "Watchmen" and "Lovecraft Country."

Bynum, who is 43, said he didn't learn of the massacre until about 20 years ago during the mayoral campaign of his uncle Bill LaFortune, and his grandparents confirmed the events.

"That's a very common thing in Tulsa. That's how you learned about it, not through books or the media or in school," Bynum said. "People didn't start talking about this event in Tulsa until about 20 years ago."

Bodies, if discovered, will not be disturbed, Bynum

said. The excavation would stop, and investigators would "do what they need to do to identify them and determine a cause of death," Bynum said. Efforts would also be made to find any descendants, a project that could prove difficult, according to Bynum. "A hundred years after the fact, the descendants are scattered all around the world. Tracking down the descendants could take years," he said.

One site to be searched, known as the Original 18, is where old funeral home records indicate up to 18 Black people who were massacre victims were buried. The other site is where a man named Clyde Eddy said in the 1990s that, as a 10-year-old boy, he saw Black bodies being prepared for burial shortly after the massacre, but was told to leave the area.

Archaeologists have identified two additional possible sites, said state archaeologist Kary Stackelbeck, who is leading the investigation. "We have multiple areas that we have identified as having merits for investigation," based on the 2019 radar scans, Stackelbeck said. "We just have to ask for grace and patience" during the search.

The latest search is scheduled to last about a week, but could be extended, according to Stubblefield.

"I'm fully prepared to find human remains," she said. "The questions are just whether they're the remains we're looking for."

Help available for those facing eviction, utility disconnections

STAFF REPORTS

DURHAM — The Durham County Department of Social Services is now accepting applications for the N.C. Housing Opportunity and Prevention of Evictions Program to assist eligible low- and moderate-income renters experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19.

This new program seeks to promote housing stability during the ongoing pandemic by providing rent and utility assistance to prevent evictions and utility disconnections.

The funding for HOPE is provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant-Coronavirus funds and the U.S. Department of Treasury Coronavirus Relief funds. These funds have been provided to North Carolina and are

being administered by the N.C. Office of Recovery and Resiliency, and will be distributed through community partner agencies' Durham County Social Services. NCORR is a division of the North Carolina Department of Public Safety.

WHO WILL BENEFIT
* Low- to moderate-income residents whose income is 80% of the area median income or lower and are behind on their rent and/or utilities when they apply. Residents can apply for utility assistance, rent assistance or both. Rent assistance is paid directly to the landlord on behalf of the applicant. This includes overdue and future rent payments for up to six months. At least one month's rent must be overdue at the time of application.
* Utility payments will be

made directly to the utility provider for up to six months of past due essential utilities, such as electricity, water, sewer/wastewater, natural gas and propane.

* To begin the application process, residents are to call 2-1-1. Durham callers will be screened for eligibility and referred to the Department of Social Services to complete the application process. Applicants may also visit: nc211.org/hope.

* The Department of Social Services will be responsible for awarding the federal funds to qualifying households in the Durham community.

Residents may apply to the HOPE Program for COVID-19 rental assistance, however they cannot receive payments from more than one federally funded program.

BOOK

Your Next Level Life
By Karen Arrington
The Tiny Press,
\$14.99 PB

The winner of the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Instructional Literary Work asks black women, "how big do



you want to live?" in her latest book, "Your Next Level Life."

Channel your black girl magic: If you're feeling stuck or trapped by other people's expectations of what you can achieve, it's time to stop playing small and start redefining what success can mean for you. It's time to get that upgrade.

Arrington, founder of the

Miss Black USA Pageant, creator of the Next Level Women's Summit, and mentor to thousands of confident, successful, young Black women, is your guide to getting to your next level in life.

Leave a legacy of black excellence: With the seven simple rules, you'll learn how to bring your career, income, and lifestyle to that next level.

SCHOOL NEWS



Jayda Coleman

WAKE COUNTY

Jayda Coleman has been named the student body president at Wake Young Women's Leadership Academy. The senior is also an early college student at St. Augustine's University.

"I want to promote my goal of giving a voice to students to ensure their involvement in decision making within school policies, and will work to ensure that their school and representatives are truly in support of them and their success," Coleman said.

DURHAM COUNTY

As a response to the COVID-19 pandemic and Durham Public Schools subsequent shift to virtual learning this fall, the DPS Hub Farm has been partnering with Northern High School's Culinary Arts program to grow, harvest, and deliver fresh produce to 30 students and their families each week.

This project is a continuation of a three-year partnership between Hub Farm and the Culinary Arts program for farm-to-table initiatives.

The DPS Hub Farm, man-

aged by Hannah Ball-Damberg, Ashley Meredith and Melissa Amoabeng, harvests and packs fresh vegetables and ingredients for NHS Culinary Arts students. NHS teacher Chef Peter Brodsky coordinates home delivery of the ingredients and weekly cooking labs over Zoom to engage Culinary III students in food preparation and recipes utilizing the Hub Farm's produce.

Brodsky and Ball-Damberg collaborate on facilitating these weekly virtual classes, whose topics include technical skills and curricular standards such as knife skills, food safety, and cooking methods; food history and cultural relevance; and sustainable vegetable production. "Even when we're learning at home, we're able to prepare our students for a great future," said Julie Pack, DPS executive director of Career-Technical Education and Magnet Programs. "This is an example of our innovation, providing hands-on experiences for our students even at a distance."

Hub Farm produce is harvested on Tuesdays and

delivered to students (contactless) on Wednesdays. The Zoom cooking class follows on Thursdays. "The Hub Farm is a hidden jewel for Durham Public Schools," said Ball-Damberg. "We're excited to be continuing our mission in a different way."

Durham families can experience the lessons for themselves with DPS's first Virtual Cooking Night on Oct. 28, 6 to 7 p.m. Chef Brodsky and his students will teach families how to make sweet potato dumplings, or gnocchi, for a seasonal fall dinner. Participants will pick up local sweet potatoes at the Hub Farm or the DPS Fuller Building downtown (along with flour and eggs if needed) and join the class over Zoom. Families may find more details on the DPS website.

The Hub Farm is a Durham Public Schools-owned 30-acre farm, forest, and aquatic educational center in Durham. Its mission is to improve the academic achievement and well-being of DPS students through experiential outdoor learning.

HBCU NEWS

ST. AUGUSTINE'S

St. Augustine's University will celebrate the life of President Irving Pressley McPhail Oct. 27, 10 a.m., in the campus Chapel. Limited seating. The service will be livestreamed on Facebook.

N.C. CENTRAL

The NCCU Department of Mass Communication has joined forces with PAN Communications, a leading integrated marketing and public relations firm, to encourage career development and diversify employment opportunities for mass communication students.

The PAN Portal Network began at Syracuse University in 2016 to align with PAN president and CEO Philip A. Nardone Jr.'s role as an adjunct professor at his alma mater.

NCCU joins the portal with three other schools: North Carolina A&T State, Elon and Syracuse.

"This is a tremendous opportunity for the students in our public relations concentration," said department chair Calvin Hall, Ph.D. "It will supplement the high-quality classroom instruction they receive with top-notch professional mentorship."

The goal of the program is to offer tangible advice and resume support before graduation, assist students in job searches in the virtual world, and educate them about the variety of opportunities that exist in a communications career. Students participating in the PAN Portal Network are graduating seniors in the communications programs of each college or university.

The students and PAN mentors interact via video-conference on each school's designated PAN Portal Days taking place through Nov. 5. The program will involve more than 150 students this fall semester, with additional students participating in the spring.

NCCU's award-winning department of mass communication has more than 250 students enrolled. The department soared past other colleges and universities at the Southern Regional Press Institute competition in Savannah, Georgia, bringing home numerous awards.

The student newspaper, The Campus Echo, was recognized during the 2019 North Carolina College Media Association Conference.

MOVERS AND SHAKERS

KIDZNOTES

Renowned cellist, singer-songwriter Shana Tucker has been named executive director of Kidznotes, which provides free instruments and lessons to underprivileged students attending Title I schools. In addition to being a talented artist and writer, Tucker is staunch advocate for diversity, equity, inclusion and transformative arts.



Tucker

Commission has named Marcus Manning as its next executive director. As the nonprofit's second-ever executive director, Manning is charged with carrying out the DSC's mission. He will lead efforts

to create economic and social impact in Durham by strengthening its sports culture, expanding access to sports for Durham residents, and attracting and cultivating sporting events of all levels that support local businesses and jobs.

DSC

The Durham Sports

Manning was most recently the director of athletics and recreation at Centenary College of Louisiana, leading 17 varsity programs, 26 staff members and over 250 student-athletes. During his tenure, Manning was the lead administrator for lacrosse, soccer, softball, and Gold Dome capital projects.

Are you or someone you know a Mover and a Shaker? Drop us a line at [Movers and Shakers, c/o The Triangle Tribune, 5007 Southpark Drive, Suite 200-G, Durham, NC 27713, or email us at info@triangletribune.com.](mailto:info@triangletribune.com)

Don't settle for a life of invisibility and mediocrity. Set ambitious goals, reach for bigger opportunities, and know that you are brave enough to get what you deserve.

The rules of success in "Your Next Level Life" will show you how to:

- * create all the money you need
- * position yourself like a star
- * connect with other powerful women

Give a gift of confidence: For anyone looking for inspirational gifts for women in their lives, "Your Next Level Life" is unlike other self-help books for women.

It's a guide to opportunity that recognizes and celebrates the true magic of ambitious black women. "Your Next Level Life" is

where Gay Hendricks' The Big Leap meets Shonda Rhimes' Year of Yes. If you liked personal development books like "Believe Bigger" and "Don't Settle for Safe," you'll love "Your Next Level Life: 7 Rules of Power, Confidence, and Opportunity for Black Women in America."



COURTESY

Katherine Keaton

Middle Creek High student earns top Girl Scout award

STAFF REPORTS

RALEIGH - Katherine Keaton of Girl Scouts - North Carolina Coastal Pines has become a Gold Award Girl Scout, a designation she earned by creating the Social Justice Club at Middle Creek High School in Cary. The club connects students with volunteer and activism projects in their community, hosts discussions and events with partner organizations, and creates service projects of their own choosing.

These events included a privilege walk during which event attendees were able to take a step back and examine the different types of privilege they might benefit from.

The Gold Award is earned by a high school Girl Scout who works to address an issue she's passionate about in a way that produces meaningful and lasting change.

Whether it's on a local,

national or global level, Gold Award Girl Scouts provide innovative solutions to significant challenges.

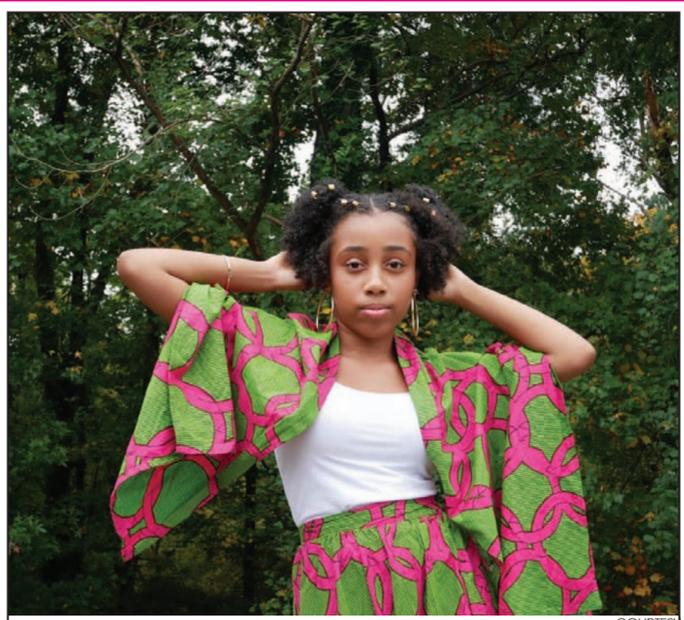
"Gold Award Girl Scouts don't just change the world for the better, they change it for good, and Katherine embodies everything this achievement stands for," said Lisa Jones, chief executive officer, Girl Scouts - N.C. Coastal Pines. "Katherine addressed an issue that's important to her -social justice -for her Gold Award, and we congratulate her on this momentous accomplishment."

Katherine is the daughter of Markita and Michael Keaton, and a senior at Middle Creek High. She has been in Girl Scouts for 10 years and is in Girl Scout Troop #1241, led by Cathy O'Sullivan and Leah Farr. In addition to Girl Scouting, she is the captain of Creek Squad Step Team, a

swim and Mathnasium instructor, and a member of numerous honor societies.

By earning the Girl Scout Gold Award, Keaton has become a community leader. Her accomplishments reflect leadership and citizenship skills that set her apart. Earning the Gold Award is no easy feat as a girl demonstrates significant leadership, planning, networking and organizational skills as girls spend, on average, one to two years working to complete the project.

Girls must follow the steps of identifying an issue, investigating it thoroughly, getting help and building a team, creating a plan, presenting the plan, gathering feedback, taking action, and educating and inspiring others. Girls and families interested in learning more about the Girl Scout Gold Award can visit www.nccoastalpines.org.



COURTESY

Ali Stewart of Raleigh was named Teen Miss Curly USA last week at the Miss Curly Self eSTEAM Pageant. The event is an opportunity to recognize and appreciate the beauty of culture, kinks, curls and frizz.



JOIN THE GDBCC!
HELP BUILD A STRONG & SUSTAINABLE BLACK BUSINESS ECOSYSTEM

The Greater Durham Black Chamber of Commerce (GDBCC) exists to support the growth and development of the Black entrepreneur, the Black business, and the Black Business ecosystem. Join us to help us carry out our mission.

Membership Fees
 Nonprofits - \$100/year
 Small Businesses - \$125/year
 Government Department - \$750/year
 Large Corporation - \$1000/year
 Sustainer - \$5000+/year

Like our Page and Follow us:



 @thegdbcc

To join the GDBCC, visit our website at www.gdbcc.org/join and fill out the form. We will follow up with an electronic invoice via QuickBooks. If you have any questions, please email us at thegdbcc@gmail.com.

www.gdbcc.org/join



WHATEVER YOUR REASON, GET BEHIND THE MASK.

One of the easiest ways you can fight the spread of COVID-19 is to wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Whatever your reason, get behind the mask.

For more information, visit covid19.ncdhs.gov



NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

COLLEGE HAPPENINGS

DUKE UNIVERSITY
A \$16 million grant from The Duke Endowment will amplify Duke University's efforts to recruit diverse faculty and develop programming that enhances an inclusive environment, President Vincent E. Price announced last week.

As part of Duke's Diversity, Inclusion, and Antiracism Initiative, the grant allocates \$10.5 million toward recruiting and retaining diverse faculty, and \$5.5 million to support programming to increase the university community's understanding of historical and current racism, to combat racism and to create a more inclusive environment.

"Increasing faculty diversity is a critical component of our efforts to

advance racial equity at Duke, and this grant will help us recruit and support the faculty leaders of tomorrow," said Price. "We are very grateful for the support of The Duke Endowment as we work to build an even brighter future for Duke."

Through a model developed by Duke's Office of Faculty Advancement, the university will provide funds to schools seeking to recruit underrepresented faculty.

In addition, the office will enable training programs and resources for search committees to ensure that their searches are rigorous and inclusive.

A second component will be the recruitment of diverse faculty in specific scholarly areas. Managed

by an interdisciplinary committee appointed by the provost, this approach will connect faculty across schools, promoting community and intellectual synergies.

Additional university funding and private philanthropy will add to The Duke Endowment award.

In addition to seeking to recruit more diverse faculty, the funding will help Duke create a more inclusive environment for faculty, students and the broader university community through a variety of education programs. This will include the enrichment of curricula in its schools, and enhanced community building among underrepresented faculty.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

NETWORKING
Better Business Bureau of Eastern N.C. will host a virtual community networking event Oct. 29, 4-5:30 p.m. via Zoom. Register at www.bbb.org.

RALEIGH CHAMBER
* Oct. 29, 9 to 10:30 a.m. - new president and CEO of Blue Cross and Blue Shield North Carolina, Tunde Sotunde, is the

guest speaker at the next C-Suite Perspectives. Register at www.raleighchamber.org.

StrEATery
Downtown Smithfield Development will expand its third StrEATery to Fridays and Saturdays through Oct. 30, 6 to 9:30 p.m. Visit www.downtownsmithfield.com.

GRANTS
Deadline for grant applications by the newly formed N.C. Black Entrepreneurship Council to assist minority businesses ends Nov. 2 at 5 p.m.

Send business briefs to info@triangletribune.com.



Kendra, Kai and John McAdory, members of McAdory's Marchers, who walked in Apex. The team has raised over \$2,000.

Alzheimer's fundraiser raises over \$300,000

STAFF REPORTS
RALEIGH - Thousands of area residents participated in this year's Walk to End Alzheimer's - Triangle. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, participants walked as individuals and small groups on sidewalks, tracks and trails across the Triangle area, raising more than \$342,000 to support the care, support and research programs of the Alzheimer's Association. Donations are still being accepted through Dec. 31 at act.alz.org/triangle.

"Many thanks to our Walk participants, volunteers,

sponsors, and the Triangle community for their hard work and efforts in making this year's event a success in spite of the obstacles this year has brought to our community," said Lisa Roberts, executive director of the Alzheimer's Association - Eastern North Carolina Chapter. "We appreciate everyone creatively taking their own steps against Alzheimer's disease and to raise critical funds for research and local support services."

Mark Fortier-Edward Jones Team was the top fundraising team, raising

more than \$21,600. Led by Mark Fortier's team, the Triangle Walk has 178 local Edward Jones teams that have collectively raised over \$85,500. Other top fundraising teams include Sigma Kappa NCSU (\$16,288) and The Hill Gang (\$15,135).

More than 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease - the sixth-leading cause of death in the United States. Additionally, over 16 million family members and friends provide care to people living with the disease and other dementias.

St. Aug's alumnus debuts first film on Amazon Prime

STAFF REPORTS
RALEIGH - "Freshman Friday," the feature-length directorial debut of award-winning actor and filmmaker Robert X. Golphin, premiered on Amazon Prime Video last week.

Set on the campus of a fictional historically black college, the comedy centers on a sheltered young man's world being turned upside down by an array of colorful characters, as he prepares for his first dance of his higher academic journey.

The film features an ensemble cast including NAACP Theater Award winner Jerrel O'Neal and singer-songwriter Brian McKnight Jr. (son of R&B legend Brian McKnight). Principal photography took place in Raleigh, primarily on St. Augustine's campus. Golphin, producers Stephen and Gary Slates of Slates Squared Entertainment, and others involved with the production are Falcon alums.

Many other cast and crew are also products of multi-



Golphin

ple HBCUs. "The release of 'Freshman Friday' is bitter-sweet," Golphin said. "Just a couple of days after its premiere, my alma mater announced the death of its president, Dr. Irving Pressley McPhail, from COVID-19 complications. It is my hope that my film not only entertains viewers but also serves as a tribute to everyone, past or present, who's

part of the SAU family, as well as HBCUs at large."

Golphin also released the lauded festival short "Essential" this summer. Some of his acting credits include Denzel Washington's "The Great Debaters," "The Underground Kings" and HBO's "The Wire."

The trailer for "Freshman Friday" can be viewed on our website.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK



A delicious breakfast-inspired dessert

FAMILY FEATURES

Breakfast for dinner may be a widely accepted practice for many families, but breakfast for dessert can be a new option for your loved ones when a sweet craving strikes.

This maple pecan dessert pancake from James Beard Award winner Ellie Krieger's "Whole in One" is cooked in a skillet with a maple-sweetened egg batter and can be served warm or chilled. It feels like a homey, sweet pancake when served warm. Chilled, it becomes more of a flan-like tart with its custardy batter and caramelized sugars. Visit milkmeansmore.org for more family dessert inspiration.

Maple Pecan Dessert Pancake
Servings: 8

1 cup pecan pieces, divided
4 large eggs
1/3 cup whole milk
1/4 cup pure maple syrup
1/4 cup light brown sugar
1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 pinch salt
1 tablespoon unsalted butter
1 teaspoon confectioners' sugar

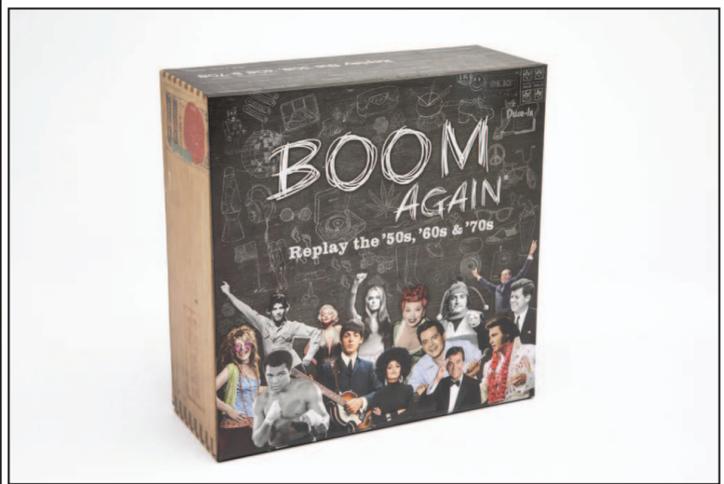
Preheat oven to 400 F. In small bowl of food processor, process 1/2-cup pecans until finely ground. Transfer to bowl. In processor, pulse remaining pecans to

coarsely chop. In medium bowl, whisk eggs, milk, maple syrup, brown sugar, cinnamon and salt. Stir in finely ground and coarsely chopped pecans.

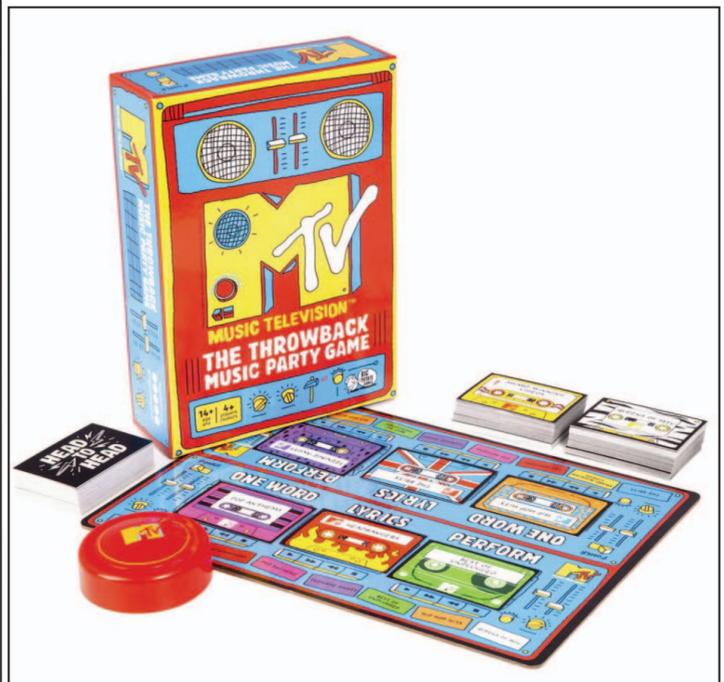
In 10-inch ovenproof skillet over medium-low heat, heat butter. Add batter to pan. Cook without stirring until edges begin to set, 5 minutes, then transfer to oven and bake until completely set and golden brown - 10 minutes.

Pancake will puff up in oven then fall into place as it cools.

Allow to cool in pan 10 minutes, then sprinkle with confectioners' sugar and cut into eight wedges. Serve warm or chilled.



BOOM AGAIN



MTV Throwback

Gifty new and unusual pandemic-proof holiday games for entire family

By Leanne Italie
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — The pandemic has proven there's no shortage of games to keep families, couples and kids amused. The classics are ever-present, but a range of new or off-the-beaten-track gift entries are available.

A sampling:
TRAGOS: It's a party card game focused on Latino pop culture that comes in a variety of sets, including one out in November that's

digital only and costs \$3.99. It's the Tragos Stay Home Pack and includes such activities as showing off your best moves to Bad Bunny's "Yo Perreo Sola" dance, and taking your best shot at duplicating Cardi B's coronavirus howl. Half the proceeds go to The Immigrant Worker Safety Net Fund.

DO YOU LOOK LIKE YOUR CAT?: What kind of cat are you? This card memory game matches cat cards with human cards.

Collect the most pairs to win. A booklet is the final arbiter of which felines go with which humans. On pre-order for Dec. 10. And, yes, there's a dog version, too, now widely available.

BOOM AGAIN: Designed for two players or two teams, this trivia quiz game speaks directly to the generations that grew up in the '50s, '60s and '70s. It features over 2,200 questions drawing from advertising slogans and jingles, politics

Please see HOLIDAY/5B