



SPORTS

Bank of America hosts golf camp for Triangle youth.



COMMUNITY FOCUS

Durham Public Schools students earn major college scholarships.

The Triangle Tribune

THE TRIANGLE'S CHOICE FOR THE BLACK VOICE SINCE 1998

"Serving Raleigh, Cary, Durham and Chapel Hill"

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« 52 WEEKS OF BLACK BRILLIANCE »

First Female Undertaker: Henrietta S. Bowers Duterte

WIKIPEDIA
Henrietta Smith Bowers Duterte (pronounced Dew-tier) was the first female undertaker in the United States. Born a free woman in Philadelphia in 1817, she was one of 13 children born to John Bowers and Henrietta Smith Bowers. Henrietta Bowers' father became the sexton of the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas. Bowers grew up in Philadelphia's "Seventh Ward," one of the city's most prominent African American neighborhoods. Seventh Ward was where scholar and activist W.E.B. DuBois lived and wrote

"The Philadelphia Negro." Henrietta Bowers was a tailor who made capes, coats, and cloaks for the city's middle and upper classes. In 1852, she married Francis Duterte, a Haitian-born local coffin maker. They had several children, but none survived infancy. Francis Duterte was a member of the Moral Reform Retreat, a local organization that supported the abolition of slavery and equal rights for women. After the death of her husband in 1858, she defied the gender restrictions of her era by assuming control over her late husband's business. In doing so, she became the first female un-

dertaker in the nation. She conducted business in her own name. Like her husband, Henrietta Duterte worked to abolish slavery. She became an agent of the Underground Railroad, often hiding runaways in coffins or disguising them as part of funeral processions to ensure their safe passage through the city. She also supported the African American community through philanthropic projects. By the time of her passing in 1903 at 83, the company had become one of the city's most successful African American businesses, taking in about \$8,000 per year by burying



Henrietta S. Duterte with one of her children who died in infancy. Both Blacks and whites. Her nephew continued to operate the business until his death in 1927. She is interred in Eden Cemetery, the oldest black-owned cemetery in Pennsylvania. ###



St. Joseph AME Church is in the heart of the Hayti community.

Hayti Promise town hall questions displacement of community residents again

By Kylie Marsh
Kylie.marsh@triangletribune.com
DURHAM - The Hayti Promise Community Development Corporation wants to pave a path forward for the Fayetteville Street Corridor. However, the organization has a steep hurdle to overcome. The HPCDC recently hosted a town hall with Durham City Council member Matt Kopac at St. Mark AME Zion Church. "We can't move forward as a com-

munity in any situation without really understanding and reckoning with our past," Kopac said. "Ultimately, the essence of community is about many people coming together as one. When you have diverse communities like Durham, you have diversity of opinions." Angel Iset Dozier was one of several community members that organized to create Durham's Equitable Engagement Blueprint in 2018, which sought to include historically margin-

alized communities and residents in future decision-making. She is also a former communications manager at the Hayti Heritage Center. The Blueprint includes five questions that ensure community engagement is equitable. "Now we're looking at the application of the Equitable Engagement Blueprint and whether or not the city is doing what they said they were doing." Please see **HAYTI/2A**



More affordable homes coming to Raleigh and Durham

STAFF REPORTS
More affordable homes are on the way for Raleigh residents, with the city council approving support for 491 new rental homes across five developments. These homes add to Raleigh's affordable housing supply, helping residents find safety and stability. They will be located near jobs, public transit, and everyday services like grocery stores and schools. The city is supporting these projects through its Rental Development Program, which provides low-interest loans and works with federal tax credits and other financing to help make affordable housing possible. In December, five projects were selected to receive nearly \$9.9 million in total support. The five approved developments are:
* Brook Haven (60 homes)
* Eagle Trace (90 homes)
* Evoke Living at New Bern (73 homes)
* Heritage Park Phase 1A (112 homes)
* The Willow (156 homes)
Raleigh's Affordable Housing Plan sets a goal to increase housing options and keep Raleigh affordable for more people. Visit: <https://raleighnc.gov/housing/services/affordable-rental-development>.

Durham approves \$4.5M for housing
The Durham City Council recently approved a \$4.5 million funding plan to support the development and preservation of affordable housing units impacting hundreds of families across the city. This strategic investment is part of the effort led by the city's Housing & Neighborhood Services Department to address Durham's ongoing need for affordable housing by supporting both new construction and the preservation of existing units. This funding also extends to providing case management services for low-income residents. Funding has been awarded to several community partners committed to advancing affordable housing solutions, including Housing for New Hope, Surber Development, Durham Bragtown Walk LLC, Durham Children's Initiative and L'Arche North Carolina. "Across Durham, these projects represent real progress - more homes and more opportunities for residents to find safe, fair and affordable housing," said Sarah Viñas, director of the Housing & Neighborhood

Please see **MORE/2A**

Breastfeed Durham hosts pregnancy expo and family festival

By Kylie Marsh
Kylie.marsh@triangletribune.com
DURHAM - Durham is dubbed "the City of Medicine" but lacked a "baby-friendly" hospital until 2024. "...And that made me feel really angry," Love Anderson, one of the founders of Breastfeed Durham told The Tribune.

At the time, robust lactation support was only available in Chapel Hill. The World Health Organization's Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative began in 1991 to promote and support breastfeeding on a structural and institutional scale. The program established 10 steps of the best practices backed by research to increase

breastfeeding. Through BD's efforts and coalition building, Durham was proclaimed a Breastfeeding Family Friendly Community in 2024. Breastfeed Durham was established in 2018 as a nonprofit to help create equitable lactation support and nutrition justice. Please see **BREASTFEED/2A**

Hayti Promise town hall questions displacement

Continued from page 1A

Dozier said at the meeting. "I don't see any evidence that anyone is familiar with the Equitable Engagement Blueprint."

"I don't think I could tell you off the top of my head what the five steps are," Kopac responded but added that when he served on the Environmental Services Board, he was in support of the work to get the Blueprint off the ground.

Dozier's question was twofold, asking about the council's previous decision to award the HPCDC \$10 million sourced from American Rescue Plan Act Funds. Kopac said he has met with HPCDC leaders but also community members who opposed the decision.

"I don't know that for folks who were there in the room at that time, how the Equitable Blueprint was used to make a decision about the awarding of the funds to the CDC," he said. "The intention was for it to continue with the same organization. When we were evaluating that, did we then walk through the steps of the Blueprint to evaluate whether that had been followed? We did not."

Resident Mary Molina asked if the council considers the people most im-

acted by its decisions when making decisions. Kopac said sometimes the views from the most engaged citizens are not necessarily reflective of the broader public opinion.

"The folks who may show up in a room on one particular evening may have a strong opinion, but it's trying to assess what the broader impact is in the community, even if it isn't reflective of what the folks who are most passionate," he said. "In an ideal world, in my view, I would prefer not to have an encampment cleared if folks don't have a place to go, which we don't," council member Kopac said.

Resident Joseph Fleming said Duke University has a "tremendous amount of land," which could possibly provide a space for people to stay. He also connected the historic displacement of Hayti's residents to the threat of displacement today.

"We have the same type of people - and I'm not even just talking about the racial structure, I'm talking about the economic stratification right now - who were displaced then, and about to be displaced right now, if not have already been," he said. "What are we going to do? We build structures and say there's going to be a certain per-

centage for a certain type of economic stratification to be able to live there: a small percentage. The rest are based on market value. Where are they going to go?"

Kopac said the city doesn't have much control over privately owned land, like Duke's lawns, but also suggested to city staff to explore the prospect of a "sanctioned encampment," where people can go while they wait for more stable, brick and mortar housing. He said the city has explored using wooden pallets to establish makeshift housing, and he has personally "researched converting shipping containers" into "air-conditioned, comfortable" units.

However, he said that addressing the lack of housing solely with public dollars "gets very expensive."

"If we wanted to provide all of the affordable housing needs our community had today, it's been estimated to cost an upward of a billion dollars," he said. "But that would fall on the property taxpayer in order to fund that, which would provide its own form of displacement pressure."

(Read the rest of the story on our website.)

More affordable housing for Raleigh and Durham

Continued from page 1A

Services Department. "We're proud of the momentum this investment builds and look forward to continuing this work alongside our community partners, who make this progress possible."

The approved projects are expected to develop and preserve 270 units of affordable housing and provide 135 households with housing stabilization services. Visit: <https://www.durhamnc.gov/5414/Housing-Neighborhood-Services>.

Breastfeed Durham hosts expo and family festival

Continued from page 1A

"I felt like everybody knew somebody who had lost a Black baby that year," Anderson said. "I had high school students who also had kids, and I really wanted to pay it forward for them and my grandchildren."

As a biracial woman, Anderson experienced bias from people whenever she breastfed her dark-skinned child. "We wanted to make sure that we were going to create a breastfeeding friendly community that was for Black women," Anderson said.

Following the George Floyd uprisings in 2020, Black women told the team they felt unsafe breastfeeding. "Most of the time, the reason people are asked to cover up when breastfeeding is discrimination, including gender discrimination," she said.

According to the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services' 2024 Infant Mortality Report, 315 Black infant deaths per 1,000 live births statewide, compared to 266 deaths for each 1,000 white births occurred.

The World Health Organization recommends that exclusively breastfeeding is the best for infant opti-



KYLIE MARSH

The WHO recommends exclusively breastfeeding for infant optimal growth and development.

mal growth and development. The benefits between the parent and infant are mutual, Anderson said.

"Milk directly from the breast or chest is antimicrobial, it's antibacterial, it improves your immune system, it helps decrease blood pressure," Anderson said. "But it's really hard to do that if you're back at work; if you have separation."

North Carolina boasts leadership in lactation equity, as Carrboro was the first town to achieve the designation of being a BFFC, and Durham was the first county to do so.

Breastfeed Durham's Family and Pregnancy

Expo engaged families with over 30 vendors, public and nonprofit resources for healthcare, legal aid, housing and more at Hillside Park. It was sponsored by Carolina Birth and Wellness, Durham County Department of Public Health, Durham County Early Childhood Coordinator and Family Care, PA.

"...We'd done a fundraiser every year that was a gala inside a place that's fancy, we raised money," Anderson said. "It's not really who we are, and given everything that's happened in the nation this year, getting together in fancy dresses didn't feel like the right thing to do."



FILE PHOTO

North Carolina public defenders under pressure

By De'Zaria Lucas

SPECIAL TO THE TRIBUNE

Robert Padovano has worked as a public defender for 34 years representing indigent defendants in court.

Based in Johnston County, Padovano has led his own public defender's office for the past 11 years. He voluntarily centers his work on representing people who rely on the court system to provide them with legal counsel.

United States public defenders like Padovano are overloaded.

"I do think public defenders and court-appointed lawyers are overloaded right now. I am in Johnston County, where we do have a public defender's office," he said.

Padovano's office has seven to eight assistant public defenders and private attorneys. He said they do not have to seek out-of-county lawyers to pick up "conflict cases," which is rare.

Padovano said they all have too many cases to be as effective as they should.

"I, personally, am currently representing approximately 140 court-appointed clients at

this moment," he said. "I receive (on average) four to eight new cases each week and dispose of roughly the same number."

According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics report, the U.S. Supreme court extended the right to counsel for indigent defendants to state criminal prosecution.

Wake County District Attorney Lorrin Freeman has seen a lot of these cases during her 12 years, although she does not have personal experience like Padovano. Freeman describes the differences she has seen between public defenders and court-appointed attorneys.

"I do think that the fact that when there is a public defender's office, and they have readily available to them computers and training and other resources provided by the state, that gives them an advantage over some court-appointed lawyers who may be solo practitioners trying to manage their caseloads," she said.

Padovano said the heavy caseloads impact how quickly the cases are disposed of. The priority is the people who are in jail. "People who are out of

jail will frequently have to return to court several times, over several months, just to get court time. Also, it has become extremely difficult getting into the jail to meet with clients," he said.

Tucker Charns, a regional defender in Durham, said she is "certain heavy caseloads on the defense side impact how quickly a case moves through the system." She said it starts with the pre-trial and how some districts are short of attorneys, and clients may wait weeks for counsel.

According to the report, "Defense Counsel in Criminal Cases," roughly 82% of felony defendants in the U.S.'s 75 largest counties were represented by publicly-funded attorneys, including public defenders and assigned counsel. Only 18% hired private attorneys or represented themselves.

There are over 26,000 lawyers in North Carolina, and nearly half of N.C. counties qualify as a legal desert, meaning the county has less than one lawyer per resident.

De'Zaria Lucas is a mass communications student at North Carolina Central.

Villages at Hayti breaks ground to much fanfare

By Kylie Marsh

kylie.marsh@triangletribune.com

DURHAM - Construction has begun on the Villages at Hayti.

Amidst crashing sounds from bulldozers and excavators, the official groundbreaking ceremony took place Wednesday at the 20-acre site along Merrick Street.

The Villages is a mixed-income and mixed-use development of 252 apartments for workers earning 30% to 80% of area median income.

The groundbreaking begins the first phase of construction, which includes a mix of 81 one-bedroom, 113 two-bedroom, and 58 three-bedroom apartments owned by the Durham Housing Authority. The project has been long awaited by the Hayti community.

Monument of Faith Pastor Clarence Laney gave context to the significance of the development.

"Many of you know what urban renewal really meant: the clearing of our community in the name of progress," he said. "Today, we are here because somebody held on."

The Villages will be "a testament that Durham's full story is still being written, and that the people of Hayti hold the pen."

DHA former interim CEO Anthony Snell referenced poet Langston Hughes' work, "A Dream Deferred." "That dream is deeply embedded in this community," Snell said. "Today, we are here as a result of that dream."

The Durham Housing Authority is the Bull City's largest provider of affordable housing, he said.

The site is the former location of Fayette Place, a public housing community that was demol-



ished in 2009. It remained vacant for years.

Durham Community Partners, a community body overseeing the design and intention behind the development, included key leaders associated with Durham CAN, Hayti Reborn Community Advisory Council, W.G. Pearson Center, North Carolina Central University, Grant Street Ladies and the Hayti Heritage Center.

"I am so proud that we could at least begin that dream for the community that is still here, that remember those days years ago that you fought for," Mayme Webb-Bledsoe, chair of the DHA Board of Commissioners, said.

The project is made possible through multiple funding streams, including a \$95 million affordable housing bond, which, at the time it was approved in 2019, was the largest in the state's history.

"People started watching, and it set precedence for the state of North Carolina and all over the country," Mayor Leonardo Williams said. "I always say Tyquan deserves the same amenities and quality of life as Thomas, and that's what we're doing."

He also said the city contributed \$17 million in additional funds for the Villages at Hayti.

The development is 100% funded through the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, thanks to the North

Carolina Housing Finance Agency. Twenty-six units are specifically designated as mobility-impaired units for people with disabilities or individuals experiencing homelessness.

Other development partners are BLWall Consulting, Gilbane Development Company, North Carolina Central, Harmony Housing Affordable Development, Inc., and F7 International Development.

Bob Tenger, development director for the site, said the project reminds him of the African proverb, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."

"There's no one person that could have said they could've got us to the point we are today," he said.

James Montague, president of F7 International Development, emphasized the significance of Durham's strong community. Coming from Southeast Raleigh's Southgate neighborhood, Montague said the community advisory councils had been disbanded.

"...which took away the voice of the people in the community that so much needed to be heard," he said. "That's why every street that you go in Southeast Raleigh that used to be the Black side of town and the hood, they got million-dollar houses now."

"I can assure that's not happening here," he said. "Durham is different."

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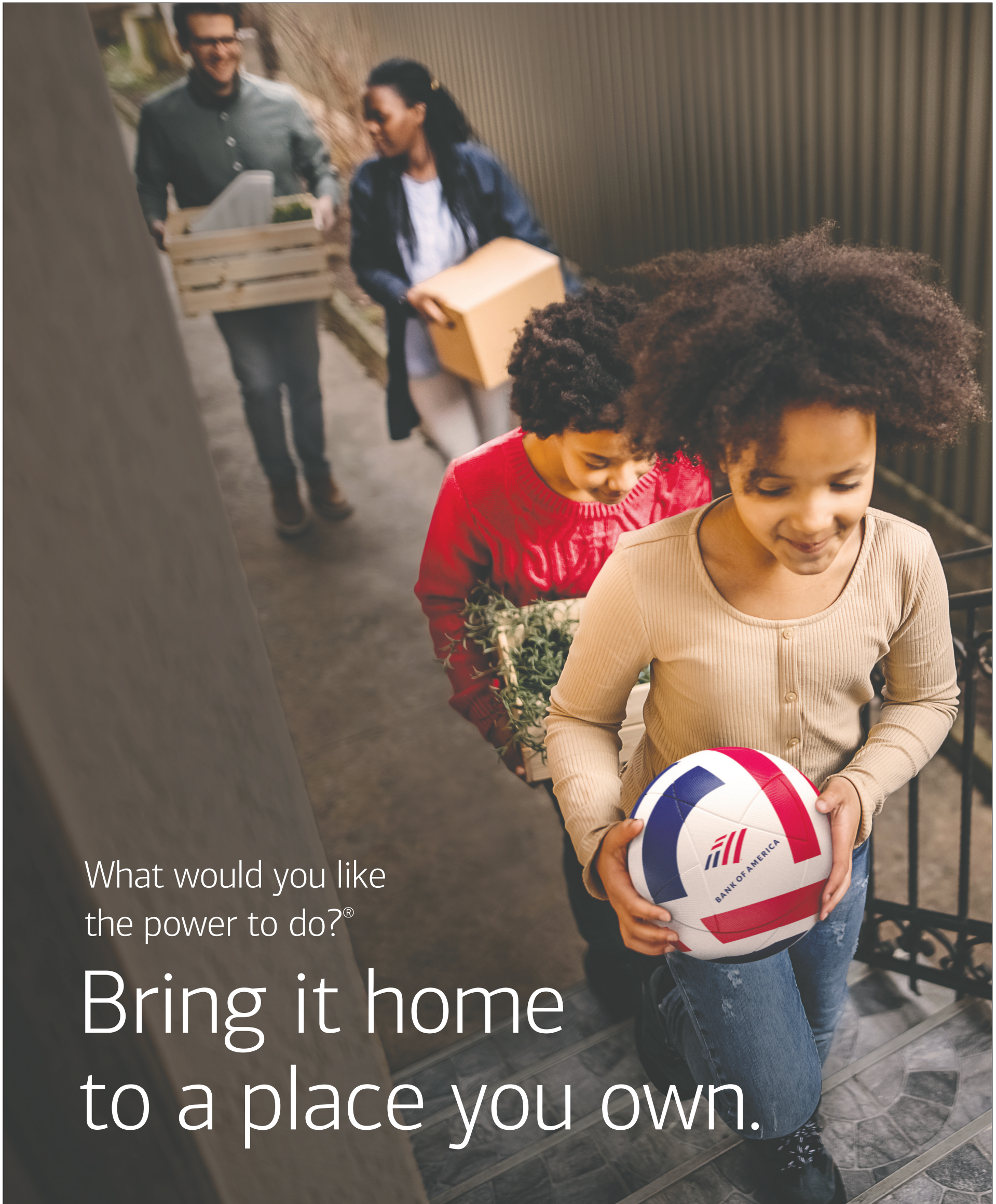
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GETTY IMAGES/BIG CHEESE PHOTO

Church hats remain one of the most enduring symbols of Black church culture.

Women's hats still testify in the Black church

By Rev. Dorothy S. Boulware

WORD IN BLACK

In Black church tradition, women and hats have long stood at the intersection of faith, culture and dignity. What may appear to outsiders as fashion is, for many, an act of reverence — a visible expression of inward devotion shaped by scripture, history and lived experience.

The most-often cited biblical passage comes from 1 Corinthians 11, which addresses the covering of women's heads in worship. While interpretations vary across denominations, many Black churches have embraced the practice as a sign of honor and respect in the presence of God. Over time, that theological framework merged with cultural expression, giving rise to what is now widely known in the Black community as the "church hat" tradition.

Black women's church millinery also traces back to the post-Emancipation era, when formerly enslaved Black men and women sought to redefine themselves in public and sacred spaces. Clothing became a language of freedom. For Black women, in particular, dressing for

church was a way to assert dignity in a society that routinely denied it.

Back then, Sunday worship offered one of the few spaces where Black women could freely express themselves. Hats signaled care, creativity and self-worth. In communities where resources were limited, a well-kept hat could transform an outfit and, more importantly, affirm identity.

The larger ones were often greeted with the inquiry, "trying to catch God's eye?" according to artist Clara Nartey, who gave her well-known 2020 creation that same title.

"I learned that wearing a hat is a form of creative expression. Enslaved Africans were not allowed to dress the way they wanted," Nartey said. "The only times they got to express themselves in clothes was when they got the rare occasion to congregate at church."

In a world that has frequently sought to diminish Black women's presence, the act of dressing with care and distinction for worship asserts worth.

Sunday worship "was just as much a form of social gathering," Nartey said. "To Black women, making and wearing elegant hats

was a fusion of fashion and faith. Their tall hats have a striking resemblance to African headdresses."

Fashion stylist Michael Andre Settles, owner of Michael Andre Clothier in the metro Baltimore area, is well aware of the importance of hats to a woman's overall look. He says he can judge which woman is suited for a particular hat when he first sees it.

"When a woman is well dressed, she stands apart; the hat is a crown, heads turn, and she is remembered," Settles said. "When a woman feels extraordinary, everyone feels it."

As churches continue to navigate changing times, the future of the hat tradition will likely reflect the same adaptability that has sustained the Black church itself. It may look different from one generation to the next, but its meaning — rooted in reverence, dignity and community — endures.

And on Sunday mornings, before a word is preached, that meaning is already on display. It sits in the pews, tilts in greeting and nods in agreement with the sermon. It is lifted in praise and bowed in prayer. We have seen it and, more importantly, understand it.

AROUND THE TRIANGLE

RALEIGH HAT SHOW

The Hat Show Contest is May 17, 3-6 p.m., Top Greene African American Cultural Center, 401 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. Call 919-996-6580.

FESTIVAL

Brier Creek Food Truck Festival is May 17, 5-8 p.m., 8010 Arco Corporate Drive.

COMMUNITY SHRED

A free shredding event is May 19, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., The Green Chair Project, 1853 Capital Boulevard.

FOSTER CARE

Foster care information night is May 19, 6:30-8 p.m., Greater Life Ministries, 1113 S. Bloodworth St. Public is invited.

NEIGHBOR

The next "Who is my Neighbor?" series is May 19, 5:30-8 p.m., Pullen Memorial Baptist Church, 1801 Hillsborough St. Register: onrealm.org.

DURHAM FESTIVAL

Durham Greek Festival is May 16-17, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church, 8306 Hwy 751.

GARDENING

The next Hattie Meadows Gardening School class is May 23, 10 a.m. to noon, Stanford L. Warren Library, 1201 Fayetteville St. Call 919-560-7290.

GALA

Male Educator's Rec-

ognition Gala is May 23, 3 p.m., Living Waters Christian Family Life Center, 1104 Lynn Road. Tickets: www.zeffy.com.

CELEBRATION

Sacred Fire: A Durham Pentecost Celebration is May 24, 5 p.m., Durham Central Park, 501 Foster St.

CHAPEL HILL LIBRARY

Chapel Hill Library will be closed May 18-19 for a spring refresh.

FESTIVAL

Orange-Chatham African American Cultural Festival is May 23, 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Lincoln Center, 750 S. Merritt Mill Road.

Add some homegrown flavor

By Melinda Myers

SPECIAL TO THE TRIBUNE

Fill your crudité platters with vegetables grown in your own garden and containers. Arrange the raw vegetables neatly on a platter or board and add a homemade dip seasoned with fresh herbs. Your family and guests are sure to enjoy the selection and fresh flavor.

Look for opportunities to grow and share your favorite vegetables at gatherings with friends and families. Many vegetables work well in containers and small compact varieties make it easy to include them in just about any size garden.

Create an attractive display with seasonal bite-sized vegetables that are easy for guests to enjoy. Snap peas, radishes and carrots are most readily

available during the cooler months of spring and fall.

As the season progresses, include broccoli and cauliflower florets. Try growing some purple varieties like purple magic broccoli, purple crush and amethyst purple cauliflower. Blanch them in cold water to bring out the color.

By mid to late summer, you'll have tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers to include. Grow some colorful cherry tomatoes like sunset torch with excellent flavor and unique yellow with orange striped fruit. The compact patio choice yellow and fantastico red cherry tomatoes are the perfect size for containers and fit in any size garden.

Plan to grow a few small peppers like pick-n-pop, lunchbox, just sweet and yum yums or include slices of your favorite sweet peppers. Make room in

your garden to grow a few miniature cucumbers like Persian and green light with thin skins and crispy mild flavor.

Fill the voids in your platter with seasonal and colorful fruit like grapes, raspberries and strawberries. Add a little crunchy, flavorful food confetti to the mix with homegrown microgreens. Sunflower microgreens remain firm and have a nutty flavor that is similar to the seeds. Spice things up a bit with radish greens and add welcome color with red cabbage and bull's blood beet greens.

Your microgreens are ready to harvest in just 10 to 14 days after planting.

Also use them to add some of your own homegrown flavor when you have to purchase vegetables at the farmer's market or grocery store.

3 ways pharmacists can help maximize your GLP-1 experience

FEATURES IMPACT

Roughly 1 in 8 American adults takes GLP-1 medications for diabetes or weight loss, and the number continues growing, according to a recent KFF Health poll. People considering these drugs understandably have many questions, ranging from which GLP-1 would be best, what side effects might they experience and whether their insurance will cover it.

The health care professional who prescribes GLP-1s is a key source of information, but another vital partner is the medication expert on your health care team: your pharmacist.

"GLP-1s are more complicated than your typical antibiotic or medicines like cholesterol drugs, and they require particular expertise to manage effectively," said Martin Torres, director of pharmacy, University of California, Irvine. "With their medication management expertise, pharmacists are particularly equipped to counsel people on GLP-1s. Our guidance can help people maximize benefits and minimize the risks."

GLP-1s are intended to be taken long-term, so it's helpful to consult with the pharmacist at your medical center or clinic. The health-system pharmacists who



work collaboratively with doctors in these settings can serve as ongoing guides on your GLP-1 journey.

Here are three ways they can support you.

*** Managing Costs:** Health-system pharmacists are an important resource for helping figure out how to pay for your medications. If you have insurance, they can help determine which GLP-1s your plan covers, and which will suit you best. If your plan doesn't cover these drugs or you lack insurance, pharmacists can help you find alternative payment options, such as a drug-maker coupon or medication-support program.

*** Effective and Safe Usage:** Figuring out the optimal dose and frequency for each patient typically takes time. Many people also experience side ef-

fects. Pharmacists can help you manage the risks and maximize the effectiveness of your GLP-1 in several ways.

*** Lifestyle Changes:** Health-system pharmacists are also resources for lifestyle counseling to make the most of your GLP-1. There's a common misconception that GLP-1s simply melt away fat. Rather, by reducing cravings, they help people eat less, and that can open the door to developing healthier eating and activity habits.

Pharmacists can provide a wealth of information on the effects of lifestyle modifications. The strategies for healthy eating and physical activity they share can help make these a routine part of your life for long-term success.

To learn more about how health-system pharmacists can impact your health, visit yourpharmacist.org.



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New NCCU coach gets second chance

Olivia Gaines is getting a chance at redemption.

After leading the SIAC's Allen University to a 36-19 overall record in two seasons and 29-14 in conference play, Gaines was fired in March.

According to WIS News, the university released an email stating, "The priority remains providing a positive and competitive environment for our student athletes both on and off the court."

Take that for what it's worth.

Gaines was officially introduced to Eagleland at Tuesday's press conference. She sounded ready to lead a program that has never won a regular season title or advanced to a tournament final. North Carolina Central's last conference championship was in 2007 as a DII member of the CIAA.

"North Carolina Central is where I really wanna be," said Gaines who played under South Carolina coach Dawn Staley. "I think I can do really, really well here. ... You guys all believed in me. You believed in the vision. ... I want to change it back to a winning program."

Gaines is the third DII coach hired to lead the Eagles in the DI era. Former coach Joli Robinson, who coached at NCCU for 16 seasons (1996-2012) led the transition from DII to DI before getting the boot in a no-win situation.

NCCU was in a five-year transition period with no conference home. Those five independent seasons for both women's and men's basketball were brutal.

Vanessa Taylor was hired in 2012. Taylor had a successful track record at Johnson C. Smith, including a CIAA Tournament championship, but her selection had its share of critics. Some people wanted an alumna with a DI background.

Taylor's coaching philosophy of recruiting only high school student-athletes wasn't popular either, particularly as the transfer recruiting process was becoming more popular. Her contract was not renewed after a 33-113 record.

Next came Trisha Stafford-Odom in 2017 from DII Concordia University Irvine.

Bad. BAD. B-A-D hire in so many ways on so many levels that had little to do with basketball. Stafford-Odom was fired in September 2023. She compiled a 55-108 record.

Associate head coach Terrence Baxter was named interim and after a decent season in which the team finished above .500, was named permanent. It was downhill from there. Baxter went 18-41 the last two seasons.

Gaines is looking for quicker results.

"I don't want to take a long time to win basketball games, I really don't," she said. "I don't want to get too big, but I'm just telling y'all the truth. I'm just not used to losing as a player or as a coach. So I'm going to stand on business - be all gas and no brakes."

NCCU women's program hasn't been running on high octane in a long time. Some of it was coaching but it also was a lack of funding. Baseball had more scholarships than women's basketball before it was eliminated as a sponsored sport.

Gaines knows NCCU doesn't have the NIL funds to compete for certain players, but there are plenty of fish to be caught with the right bait.

"Especially in the state of North Carolina, anything that we can get in our tax bracket, I want to get," she said. "... I'm going to aim to get kids who actually want to be here."



BONITTA BEST

The Triangle Tribune Sports

May 17-23, 2026 | 6A

GOLF



BANK OF AMERICA

Local children with Boys and Girls Clubs in the Triangle hone their golfing skills during a free Golf With Us clinic hosted by Bank of America.

Bank of America hosts free golf clinic for Triangle youth

STAFF REPORTS

Former UNC basketball standout Tyler Hansbrough joined 60 children from local Boys & Girls Clubs and YMCA of the Triangle at Bank of America's free Golf

With Us clinic last month. Hansbrough and local golf teaching professionals shared golf tips and life lessons at TriGolf as kids took turns practicing their swing, putting and chipping

like the pros. "On the court, I always believed in hard work, discipline and pushing yourself to get better, and it's no different on the golf course. Golf teaches you pa-

tience, focus, and resilience — lessons that translate to success in every part of life," Hansbrough said. "I was excited to partner with Bank of America to intro-

Please see **CLINIC/7A**

COLLEGE CORNER

CIAA revamps staff, adds new hires

The CIAA is restructuring once again with new hires and promotions.

* Eddie Weatherington promoted to deputy commissioner of governance and operations

* Marcus Clarke promoted to deputy commissioner of business development

* Nany Cruz promoted to chief operating officer and marketing and finance manager

* Matisse Lee promoted to senior associate commissioner for communications and marketing

* AJ Purcell appointed marketing and client relationship specialist

* Janelle Sample named direc-

tor of marketing, graphic and media design

* Jamilyn Wallace named director of sports media and creative services

At the CIAA Membership Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, Fayetteville State's Faith Kiplimo was voted 2026 CIAA female scholar athlete of the year, and Winston-Salem State's Jamieson Alston earned male scholar athlete of the year honors.

WOMEN

N.C. Central

The Eagles set a school record

Please see **CIAA/7A**



COURTESY

N.C. Central freshman Sanaa Carter

HBCU FOOTBALL

NCCU opens HBCU GO season at TSU

By Bonitta Best
 eb11ar@triangletribune.com

N.C. Central

The Eagles at Texas Southern opens HBCU GO's football schedule Aug. 29 at 7 p.m. Coach Trei Oliver's only loss to a SWAC team was against Mississippi Valley State in 2021.

Former offensive lineman Noah McKinney has signed with the CFL's San Antonio Toros.

Shaw

Coach Lamar Manigo has hired former NCCU linebacker Wallace Cooper as special teams coordinator and linebackers coach.

NCAA

Mississippi Valley State will join Florida A&M in a postseason ban. Like the Rattlers, MVSU was hit with Level 2 penalties by the NCAA after falling below the 930 APR level for two straight years. Of course, MVSU hasn't played in a postseason football game since 1984 with a future NFL superstar named Jerry Rice on the

roster.

Alabama A&M, which scored 897, avoided a postseason ban with a waiver. The Bulldogs will be limited to practice times and denied a 2027 spring game.

Johnson C. Smith

After several quarterback departures, the Golden Bulls snagged a major player in UCLA QB Parker McQuarrie. Smith will be McQuarrie's third school. He transferred from New Haven to UCLA.

CFL

* J.C. Smith/Ft. Valley State QB Kelvin Durham will join McKinney on the San Antonio Toros' roster.

Circling No More

The Circle City Classic in Indianapolis will no longer showcase HBCU football, ending a 41-year run. Citing declining attendance, the game will be replaced with high school football and girls' flag football.



Former UCLA QB Parker McQuarrie

Bank of America hosts free golf clinic for youth

Continued from page 6A
duce young kids in the Triangle region to 'Golf with Us' while giving back to this community which has always been home."

Golf with Us invites kids ages 6-18 to access tee times for \$5 or less at several Triangle-area courses through a free one-year membership to Youth on Course. Free enrollment is open until June 15 at BofA.com/GolfwithUs.

The Bank will also provide financial support for continued golf instruction through the PGA of America REACH Foundation, the 501(c)(3) charitable foundation of the PGA of America dedicated to impacting the lives of youth, military and underserved communities through access to the game of golf.



BANK OF AMERICA

NBA All-Star Bob McAdoo to receive trailblazer's ward

STAFF REPORTS

NBA Hall of Famer Bob McAdoo will be honored with the Trailblazer Award by the International Civil Rights Center & Museum in Greensboro.

The annual gala on July 18 recognizes persons who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to social progress by opening doors to minorities for new opportunities for success. The event is dedicated to raising crucial funds for the Museum's ongoing mission to promote civil and human rights.

The occasion commemorates the historic Greensboro Sit-Ins, which began on Feb. 1, 1960. It is timed to mark the successful racial integration of the F.W. Woolworth's lunch counter on July 25, 1960, six months later.

McAdoo is a Greensboro native whose extraordinary journey from the hallways of Ben L. Smith High School to the pinnacle of professional basketball represents the very best of what determination, discipline and striving for excellence can achieve.

Like the principles that distinguished the Civil Rights Movement, these qualities can render extraordinary success.

Born on Sept. 25, 1951, McAdoo came of age in Greensboro during one of the most transformative periods in American history. Not only was the game of basketball advanced during these years but so was the social landscape of a city that sat at the very epicenter of the Civil Rights Movement.

After high school, McAdoo took his talents to UNC at Chapel Hill, where he starred under legendary coach Dean Smith. Selected by the Buffalo Braves in the 1972 NBA Draft, McAdoo quickly established himself as one of the most dominant forces the game had ever seen — earning three consecutive NBA scoring titles in 1974, 1975 and 1976, along with the NBA Most Valuable Player Award in 1975, and five NBA All-Star selections.

He later captured back-to-back NBA championships with the Los Angeles Lakers in 1982 and 1985 before taking his extraordinary talents to Europe, where he became one of the first American NBA stars to elevate the international game and open doors for generations of players who followed. In 2000, McAdoo was inducted into the Naismith

Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

Yet what makes McAdoo the fitting recipient of the Civil Rights Trailblazer's Award extends far beyond his championships and accolades. He competed at the highest levels when racial barriers in professional sports were present, carrying the pride of Greensboro on his shoulders throughout a legendary career.

He integrated himself into spaces that were not always welcoming, excelled on the world's most coveted stages, and consistently demonstrated that talent and character know no racial color.

His decades of mentorship, community engagement, and service to young athletes reflect a man who has never forgotten where he came from or the responsibility that comes with the high platform on which he stands.

"Bob McAdoo is one of Greensboro's greatest sons, and his story is inseparable from the story of this city and its enduring spirit of courage and excellence," said Hurley Derricks, a personal friend who was a high school basketball teammate and a member of the museum's Board of Directors.



CIAA revamps staff, hires new staff for expansion

Continued from page 6A

in the Division I era with an overall single-year NCAA APR score of 992. The benchmark for teams is 930 before violations kick in.

APR means Academic Progress Report. NCCU also had nine programs to earn a perfect 1,000 single-year score and two programs were perfect over a four-year period for the 2024-25 academic year.

"This was a banner year for NCCU athletics and its commitment to academic excellence," said Kwadjo Steele, NCCU associate athletic director for student-athlete support. "It shows what's possible when investment meets alignment."

The nine perfect teams are women's and men's cross country, women's and men's golf, women's and men's tennis, women's basketball, softball and volleyball. Women's tennis and men's golf have multiple perfect-year scores.

In golf, freshman Sanaa Carter finished second in the women's individual race at the PGA WORKS Collegiate Championship last week, setting another program record in the DI era. She lost to Texas Southern's Thaiz Amezcua by one stroke. As a team, the Eagles tied with Chicago State for fourth.

Shaw
The Bears' tennis season ended with a 5-0 loss to Indiana (Pa.) in the DII Region Tournament. Shaw ends



COURTESY

NCCU men's tennis championship rings
the season 14-7 overall, 11-0 CIAA.

MEN
N.C. Central
Coach LeVelle Moton and staff have been busy. Welcome to Eagleland.

* Gaston College transfer forward Jozohn Price

* Maryland Eastern Shore transfer guard Trey Brown

* Brunswick Community College guard Alius "Junior" Bowser

In tennis, the team's season ended with a 4-1 loss to Chattanooga in the UTR Sports NIT Championship. On a happier note, the players received their 2025 HBCU national championship rings.

Shaw
The Bears are down only one permanent head coach after men's coach Wykevin Bazemore had the "acting" tag removed.

In soccer, the program has joined Conference Carolinas as an associate member starting in 2027.

Morgan State

Associate head basketball coach Chretien Lukusa will participate in the inaugural NABC Flight School May 20-22 at Nike's Philip H. Knight Campus in Oregon. This exclusive, invitation-only selection is for rising and aspiring college basketball coaches.

"I'm extremely honored to receive this invitation and grateful for the opportunity to learn, grow and connect with some of the top coaches and leaders in college basketball," he said. "I'm looking forward to representing MSU and building relationships with coaches and administrators across the country."

Goodbye. Hello.
* District of Columbia F Oliver Spence to Morgan State

* Rutgers G Makylah Moore, UMES
* Catawba Valley CC guard Joshua Moore, Winston-Salem State

The Best in HBCU Sports
triangletribune.com

BLACK FUNERAL TRADITIONS & THE CHURCH

Hi Everyone!

Sankofa 82 and I have traveled the United States and discovered that there is such a rich cultural heritage of Black churches and Black owned funeral homes. Because enslaved people were not allowed to gather in groups, it was equally as difficult to hold a church service as it was to host a funeral. But yet Black people found a way to worship together as well as bury their loved ones.

BURIAL SOCIETIES

In the north, Blacks who were not slaves formed "burial societies" through their churches. Burial societies were organizations where you paid into a policy weekly, in hopes that by the time of your death your funeral expenses would be fully paid. This helped to give rise to the funeral home business. Black funeral parlors were some of the first businesses to be set up by Black American entrepreneurs.

BLUESTONE CHURCH

One of the first churches was the African Baptist or "Bluestone" Church. This church was founded on the William Byrd plantation near the Bluestone River in Virginia. This was the first organized Black church in Virginia. Africans adapted to christianity easily because it preached many of the same beliefs that they followed in Africa. The christian belief about "life after death" was also appealing because it offered the promise that they would someday unite with their ancestors again.

ONE MINUTE MADNESS

In one minute, unscramble the words. The first letter of the word is in bold.

ruBali tiesScoeI _____

stnoeBleu urhChc _____

liCvl tghiRs _____

wiseL ralFuen Hemo _____

canArif istBtpa _____

ARTHUR "A.G." GASTON FUNERAL HOME

Gaston established a funeral home chain with 13 branches, an Insurance company, a Savings and Loans Company, a Business College, and Gaston Motel. Gaston, as well as other Funeral Directors, were community leaders. When Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. came to Birmingham it was Gaston that put up the \$5,000 for King to help bail him out of jail. Although King was bailed out, it was not before he finished writing his famous "Letter From A Birmingham Jail." Many funeral directors used their hearse and limousines to chauffeur King and his entourage around the city. They also used their funeral homes to lodge Civil Rights leaders. Funeral homes throughout the south were safe havens for Civil Rights leaders and workers.

FIND THE ANSWER

Answer the question by putting the correct letter on the line provided.

A John Marrant, 1755-1791
B Aspire to inspire before we expire
C worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry, mission
D A "repast" (repast)
E Black and sometimes white
F It is considered a sign of respect
G First African Baptist Church of Savannah, GA., 1777
H Supported meetings, rallies, marches, people

What color is typically worn to a funeral? _____

Why do people wear black to a funeral? _____

What is the post-funeral meal often called? _____

What is a possible quote said at a funeral? _____

What role did the civil rights movement play in the Black church? _____

Who was the first Black pastor? _____

What is the name of the first Black church? _____

What are the five purposes of the church? _____

R. S. LEWIS FUNERAL HOME

This Memphis, Tenn. funeral home has been around more than 100 years. The business was started by Robert Lewis Sr. in the 1900s. He also built Memphis' first large Black baseball park and helped many Black players who came during segregation. Also it was his funeral home that had the honor of handling Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s remains.

ANSWER KEY

TELL THE TRUTH
F, T, F, T, T, T

ONE MINUTE MADNESS
B
Burial Societies
Bluestone Church
Civil Rights
Lewis Funeral Home
African Baptist

FIND THE ANSWER
E, F, D, B, H, A, G, C

SCHOOL NEWS

Durham Public Schools students earn scholarships

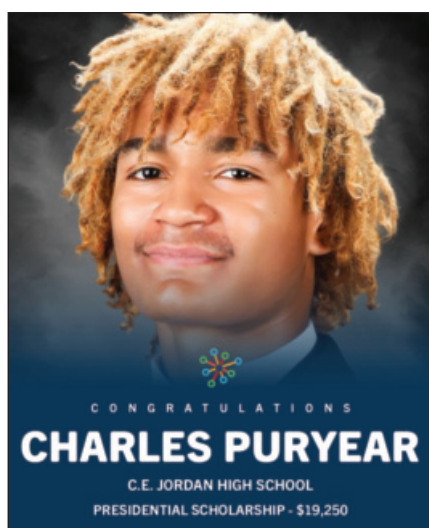


Durham School of the Arts senior De'Asya Walker was awarded the HU Capstone Scholarship and HUNEE to attend Howard University, totaling \$34,000. Walker will major in accounting, continuing a journey built on determination and perseverance. She never gave up on her dream of attending college and is the first on her father's side of the family to do so.



Jordan High senior Vanessa Armstrong was awarded the Academic Honors Scholarship and Achievement Honors Scholarship to attend the Savannah College of Art and Design, totaling \$84,000.

An accomplished student-athlete, Armstrong has balanced excellence in the classroom while competing on both the varsity volleyball and varsity softball teams.



Jordan High senior Charles Puryear was awarded the Methodist University Presidential Scholarship worth \$19,250. A dedicated student-athlete, Puryear played on the varsity baseball team.



Jordan High senior Ken'Nae Johnson was awarded the Nova Southeastern University Dean's Scholarship totaling \$23,000.

As a first-generation college student, Johnson is making history for her family and opening doors for future generations through hard work, perseverance and determination.

N.C. Central Class of 2026 urged to lead with purpose and courage



COURTESY

An estimated 1,062 students earned degrees, including 579 bachelor's, 394 master's and 89 Juris Doctorates. Graduates engaged in 30,805 hours of community service worth an estimated \$1,031,659.

Perry Scholarship Fund Legacy Luncheon

SUBMITTED BY BERNADETTE G. WATTS

DURHAM - The Lawrence & Artelia Perry Scholarship Fund will sponsor its 10th Annual Scholarship Fund Legacy Luncheon on May 23 at the Washington Duke Inn.

The Legacy Luncheon was established to honor persons in Durham and the vicinity who walk in the pathways of faith, family, history, and love of the late Rev. Lawrence Perry and Artelia Marsh Perry (the axiom of the Scholarship Fund.)

2026 LEGACY HONOREES
 Seventeen veterans with notable military and community service: James R. Alston, Donald R. Barbee, Rev. Charles C. Barnes Sr., Douglas Boyd, Stilwyn Perry Brown, Joseph W. Burwell, Larry E. Campbell,

Patricia Ann Harris, Rev. Arthur E. Haskins, George L. Hasty, Paula Freeman Mangum, Jackie Robinson, Adrienne Blake Sutton, Commissioner Stephen J. Valentine, Esq., James D. "Butch" Williams, Esq., Ernest Jerome Witherspoon and Pastor Antonio Robert Wood.

The Lawrence & Artelia Perry Scholarship Fund was established in 2011 to provide annual support for meritorious, eligible students at Bennett College, Livingstone College and North Carolina Central University.

The scholarship fund awardees also will be presented and recognized. This year's scholarship goal is to award at least 18 high school and college/university students \$2,000

each for a total of \$36,000. Proceeds from the annual luncheons, corporation sponsorships, direct donations and sales of the book, "Artelia: Portrait of an African American Matriarch" by Dr. Joyce Perry Edwards, are the primary fundraising methods.

The L&APSF Board of Directors invite you to join in this celebration by purchasing a luncheon ticket for \$50 or by purchasing an ad in the Legacy Souvenir Journal. Mail a check or money order to: L&APSF, P.O. Drawer 2131, Durham, NC 27702. Tickets may also be purchased online at: www.PerryScholarshipFund.com by May 18.

For additional information, call 704-639-43360 or email: info@PerryScholarshipFund.com.

Cafe Orleans/Quizine celebrates with community

Cafe Orleans/Quizine Orleans recently celebrated its one-year anniversary at 1425 Promise Beacon Circle with local vendors and the Southeast Raleigh community.



BLACK CHAMBER OF RALEIGH



Read us online
 for the latest in Black news
triangletribunenewspaper.com