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The Triangle TRIBUNE

THE TRIANGLE'S CHOICE FOR THE BLACK VOICE

"Celebrating Our 24th Year"

VOLUME 24 NO. 21 WEEK OF MAY 29, 2022 $1.00

3 St. Aug's student-athletes named Arthur Ashe Scholars.

Method community residents express concern over Bus Rapid Transit

By Mecca Fowler

CORRESPONDENT

RALEIGH – Residents and supporters gathered at the Method Pioneer Building last week to discuss the City of Raleigh's plans to build new transit lanes among four Bus Rapid Transit corridors within Wake County. The plan calls for building approximately 20 miles of lanes. The Western Boulevard Corridor will connect downtown Raleigh with downtown Cary, according to Wake County reports.

Some residents in the Method Road community believe that this development could force long-time homeowners out of their homes and do harm to the environment. La'Meshia Whittington, with the North Carolina Black Alliance organization, spoke about the effects this type of project can have on Urban Heat Islands.

Whittington says the city is designing the BRT when they have

Please see **METHOD/2A**

GOP may change opinion

By Gary D. Robertson

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RALEIGH — North Carolina Senate Republicans are strongly considering legislation that would expand Medicaid coverage to hundreds of thousands of additional low-income adults. Such legislation would mark a key step in an extraordinary turnabout by GOP members in the chamber set against expansion for a decade.

A draft bill yet to be formally filed also would include several other medical, health care coverage and insurance reforms, according to a summary of the bill obtained by The Associated Press. Many of these proposals, including expansion, have been discussed in a House-Senate health care study committee that's met several times since February.

"Senate Republicans continue to have discussions about how to address the rising costs of health care and how to increase access in the state," Lauren Horsch, a spokesperson for Senate leader Phil Berger, said Monday. Horsch confirmed the summary's authenticity but could not say if and when legislation would be filed during the General Assembly's annual work session, which began last week and likely will end around July 1.

The measure's showpiece would be Medicaid expansion, which Republicans were cool to or outright against for several years after the 2010 federal Affordable Care Act authorized the coverage for people earning too much money for traditional Medicaid coverage. North Carolina is one of a dozen states that have not expanded Medicaid.

But Berger said last fall he was now open to expansion, in part because he was now convinced the federal government's 90% share of expenses for expansion enrollees would not soon be eliminated. More Republicans also are intrigued by the idea because the 2021 federal COVID-19 relief law would give North Carolina $1.5 billion over two years to treat traditional Medicaid patients if it accepts expansion. Horsch said

Please see **NC/2A**

Cheri Beasley and parents launch Parents for Beasley

COURTESY

U.S. Senate Democratic candidate Cheri Beasley joined parents from across North Carolina Tuesday to launch Parents for Beasley, a group dedicated to supporting Beasley for U.S. Senate and to uplift issues impacting families in this election.

"Parents are struggling – from the outrageous cost of child care to the infant formula shortage. As a mom, I know nothing is more important than ensuring our children are safe and healthy. And as senator, I will always fight for policies that support children and families, including making the expanded Child Tax Credit permanent, expanding access to affordable child care, and implementing a national paid family leave policy," Beasley said.

Durham GOP's DPS candidate slate soundly defeated

By Greg Childress

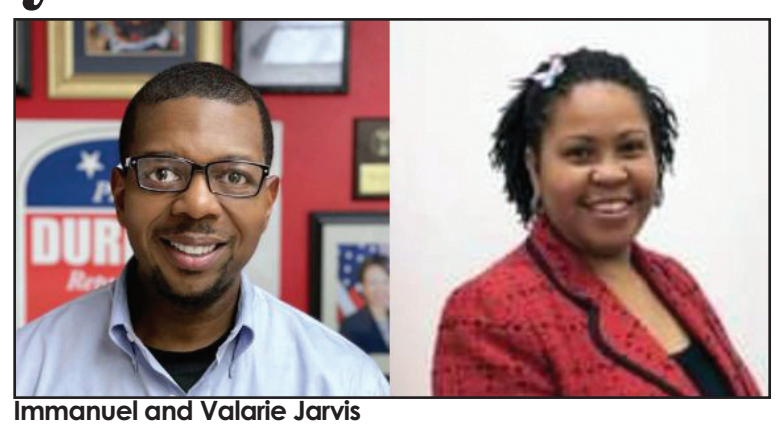
THE POLICY WATCH

Five Republicans vying to win control of Durham's progressive school board were soundly defeated in the primary election. Four of the five finished last in their respective races.

Durham's progressive incumbents – Natalie Beyer, Matt Sears and Bettina Umstead – won three of the five seats up grabs. Voters added two newcomers: Emily Chavez and Millicent Rogers. The three incumbents and Rogers are registered Democrats. Chavez is registered unaffiliated.

The winners will serve on the board.

None of the GOP candidates who ran together under the banner "Better Board, Better Schools" in the nonpartisan election seriously challenged the progressive candidates. The concerted attempt to elect a slate of GOP candidates was always a long shot in Durham County, where Democratic



Immanuel and Valarie Jarvis

voters outnumber Republicans by more than 5 to 1. "I don't know why they thought we would be vulnerable," Sears said. "I think it will be interesting to look at their campaign finance reports when they are final to see if they thought that money could buy seats."

Republicans in Durham and elsewhere have sought to cash in on voters' discontent over lengthy, pandemic-related school closures, mask mandates, unfounded claims about critical race theory and other wedge issues. And nationally, conservatives have their sights set on the November election and are betting on those wedge issues to help erase slender Democratic majorities in the House and Senate.

Valarie Jarvis, the wife of Immanuel Jarvis, chairman of the Durham County Republican Party, fared best among the "Better Board, Better Schools" candidates. She finished second in a three-way race for

Please see **DPS/2A**

Auto repair scams increase

By Charlene Crowell

SPECIAL TO THE TRIBUNE

New research reveals how costly car repairs are now ballooning into a new form of predatory lending. And just like other forms of financial exploitation, consumers are feeling duped and deceived about related costs and the length of time it takes to pay off these bills.

Authored by Stop the Debt Trap, a multimember consumer coalition, the report shares how national auto repair brands like AAMCO, Big O Tires, Grease Monkey, JiffyLube, Meineke, Midas and Precision Tune Auto Care are steering people to a predatory lender that engages in a variety of questionable practices and charges up to 189% interest – even in states where triple-digit interest is illegal.

"A car repair can be a devastating expense, and financially fragile families don't need predatory lenders amplifying the damage," said Elyse Hicks, consumer policy counsel at Americans for Financial Reform, a member organization with Stop the Debt Trap. "For most people, having a car that runs well is essential to their daily economic life and to managing a family."

Transportation Alliance Bank, one of a few rogue banks that lend their charters to help unscrupulous businesses evade state consumer lending laws, is the research report's focus. The report details how TAB operates with its financial partner, EasyPay Finance, a subsidiary of Duvera Billing Services. Even in states that do not allow triple-digit interest rates, this financial alliance is making high-cost loans through stores nationwide, including auto mechanics and furniture. In other states, EasyPay extends credit directly in its own name, often as a retail installment sale.

EasyPay Finance's website acknowledges its lending through TAB Bank in multiple states, many of which also have significant consumers of color: Alabama, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, New

Plase see **AUTO/2A**

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North Carolina Medicaid expansion gets serious attention from GOP

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Berger has seen the omnibus proposal described in the summary but declined to say whether he supports it.

The bill summary says the expansion proposal would cover adults making up to 38% above federal poverty guidelines, likely covering at least 600,000 people. Right now, about 2.7 million North Carolina residents are enrolled in Medicaid. Some current enrollees who have remained on the rolls during the pandemic would ultimately be covered by expansion.

The bill says the state's 10% share of expansion expenses would be paid through a new assessment on hospitals. Expansion would end if Congress increased the state's share. The program also would include a work requirement for expansion recipients — a mandate that in other states has been struck down by federal courts and blocked elsewhere by President Joe Biden's administration.

It's unclear whether the absence of a work mandate would be a deal-breaker for House Republicans, which had pushed an expansion bill in 2019 containing such a requirement. House Speaker Tim Moore said last year that at the time, he did not see support within the House Republican Caucus for expansion.

Talking to reporters last week, Moore said he "would be surprised" if a Medicaid expansion agreement could be reached with the Senate before the work session ended. A House co-chairman of the health care study committee has said he did not expect any action on panel recommendations until the fall, so a Senate proposal would certainty attempt to accelerate the process.

Any bill would have to pass both chambers before heading to Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper, who has sought expansion repeatedly since taking office in early 2017. His budget-adjustment proposal released earlier this month contains it again. "I believe that we're getting closer than ever to an agreement," Cooper said May 11. "I do appreciate that Republican leaders are taking this seriously."

The measure also would permit nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives and nurses with other advanced specialties to practice without a physician's formal supervision. The legislation also would require health insurers in the state to cover telehealth services, and in-network health facilities would have to alert consumers when out-of-network providers are scheduled to provide care.

Durham GOP's DPS slate soundly defeated

Continued from page 1A

Durham's District 4 school board seat Beyer won with nearly 49% of the vote, according to final but unofficial election results.

A day after her reelection, Beyer told Policy Watch that she welcomes the Democratic process and diverse voices weighing in on Durham schools but is disappointed by "Better Board, Better Schools" representatives' remarks disparaging public schools. "It was particularly heartbreaking to see teachers come to the polls and be told by a "Better Board, Better Schools" representative how bad our schools are and how much they're failing children," Beyer said. "These folks [teachers] are dedicated and are working tirelessly to serve students every day and to address systemic issues in a state that has historically underfunded its schools."

Sears expects to see more GOP attempts to gain ground in one of the state's Democratic strongholds, noting a rowdy school board meeting in April with "Free the Smiles" advocates protesting pandemic-driven mask requirements. A bill approved by the Republican controlled General Assembly called the "Free the Smiles Act" would have allowed parents to opt-out of such requirements. Gov. Roy Cooper vetoed the measure.

"As we look to be a progressive community and be a place that loves and respects everyone, we will support our students in the ways they are not supported in places like Florida, and I think that will continue to drive the minority GOP residents [in Durham] to be noisy in our community but continue to be unsuccessful in stopping the progress we want to see here," Sears said.

Method residents express concern over bus transit

Continued from page 1A

not addressed the environmental justice and health issues faced by the Method community, which is a UHI.

These occur "when cities replace natural land cover with dense concentrations of buildings, pavements, and other surfaces that absorb and retain heat," according to EPA.gov.

Low-income communities of color tend to be the most affected and experience the burden of parts of the proposed bus routes that will run through the Kentwood, Heritage Park, Arbor Creek, and Method neighborhoods.

Whittington discussed how houses will be torn down for these bus routes and the need to protect the Method community, the oldest mostly Black community still intact in North Carolina.

Zainab Baloch, a former Raleigh mayoral candidate, spoke about the impact of the project on the local Islamic community.

The Islamic Association of Raleigh sits in western Raleigh and hosts over 75 different nationalities of Muslims. She said a project like this could cause a major disruption.

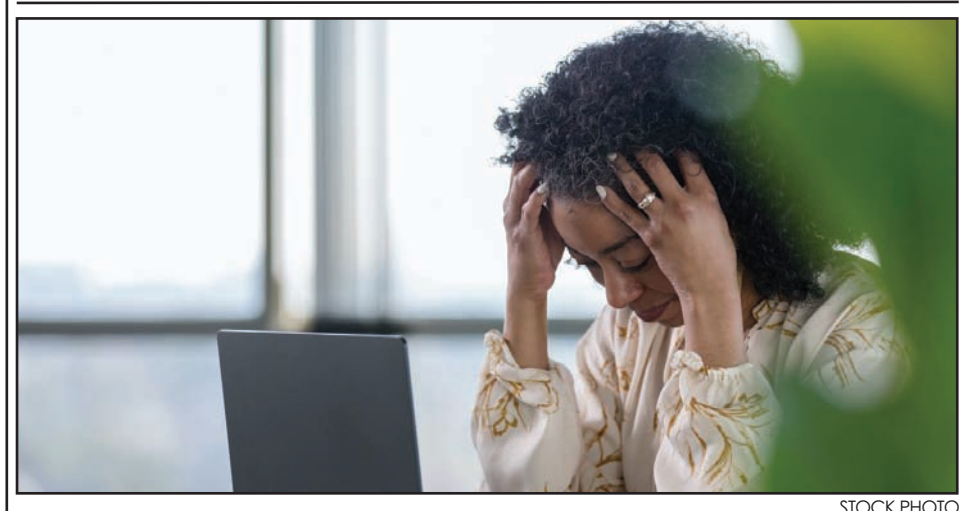
"We don't just worship here. This is the area where people from all around North Carolina come to get Halal food," Baloch said. "To be able to get your groceries that you are not able to find anywhere else because the institutions that we live in – Walmart, Target – doesn't have food for us if we choose to adhere to certain religious practices."

The Western Boulevard Corridor Study first started the planning phase in 2019.

The study's purpose was to provide a strategy for the successful introduction of BRT along the route. To build a conceptual land use plan, the research looked at the corridor's land use capacity and urban shape.

The planning commission began the review of the transit overlay district on April 21 and will continue that review this week, Baloch said. The public hearing opened at the City Council meeting on April 5 and will resume during the June 7 evening City Council meeting at the Raleigh Municipal Building.

People for and against this development will have a chance to speak. The City Council will consider the final study report and associated changes to the 2030 Comprehensive Plan, known as CP-10-21, during an in-person public hearing.



STOCK PHOTO

More diversity is needed in medical clinical trials.

Knowing Alzheimer's Disease is the first step

By Word In Black

Loretta Woodward Veney's mother was 77 years old when she was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. She would misplace items in the early stages. By the time the disease reached its peak, her mother had forgotten that she was a parent and could no longer remember how to sit.

It was difficult finding a doctor to address the early warning signs at first. Veney remembers locating a neurologist to run tests on her mother's brain.

"She had only been there once," Veney says of their visit to the specialist. "When the door opens and he comes in, he looks like the last place he wants to be is in that room with us."

During that visit, they learned that her mother was in the beginning stages of dementia. The doctor wrote a prescription for medicine that would slow down the progression of the disease. But Veney felt a disconnect with the doctor and how he treated them. "We left never to return again," she said.

Gaps in communication in the doctor's office are behind some of the disparities that Black Alzheimer's patients experience. In 2021, the National Institute on Aging found that the current clinical trial system excludes Black patients by limiting criteria for who is eligible to participate in studies.

Veney's first time hearing about clinical trials was through an organization that she joined in 2012 called Us Against Alzheimer's. "I became one of the co-moderators on their Facebook support group, and it was only then that I started to learn about clinical trials," she said.

She interacted with people whose parents and spouses were participating in studies. Looking back, she would have wanted her mother to be a part of some effort to enhance the quality of medication and service.

"My grandparents would have said 'no,' and they would never do it just because of the Tuskegee thing," Veney said. "My mother certainly was of the mindset that you should learn everything you can about the drugs before you take them and then see. She would have been amenable to at least listening."

New studies show that Black patients are more open to participating in a clinical trial if they know or trust the person sharing the information. Veney says it's helpful that we understand our participation in research can help save lives in the future.

"You're really helping the current generation – the next generation make medicine better."

If you're interested in learning more about clinical research studies in your area:

https://www.alzheimers.gov/clinical-trials.

Costly auto repairs driving consumers into a financial ditch

Continued from page 1A

Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas. In these and other states, EasyPay may be operating under either the state's lending statute or its retail installment loans act.

As a result, hundreds of complaints from across the nation have been filed with the Better Business Bureau, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, and Ripoff Reports. In one of the most egregious consumer complaints in the report, a consumer maintained that a $1,500 repair bill exploded into a debt in excess of $7,000 and now appears as a past due item on a credit report:

"Duvera Financial has been reporting my account as past due monthly although this account is in the collection phase. I have complained previously about predatory lending practices such as excessive calls and being harassed about a debt that I did not agree to. The interest rate and continuous fees were not explained to me properly, and I feel that this lender should not be in business. The bill of $1500 has ballooned to over $7000. In this climate, those fees are ridiculous. In addition, the account is being reported as open and past due which is incorrect. Please remove this account from my credit report."

Another CFPB complaint came from a Chicago military service member who already has remitted a total of $2,300 through 23 payments on a $1,500 loan. Even so, he still owes $1,300, due to its 151% interest.

Other consumer complaints identified additional auto repair finance issues:

* Credit applications taken over the telephone or required to be completed on smartphones, with no written copies for consumers

* Deceptive promises of full interest rebates if paid in 90 days, with numerous obstacles that prevent consumers from avoiding interest or knowing their payoff balance

* Unauthorized electronic debits that were different from the agreed payment or continued after a payment plan was fulfilled

* Rude and unhelpful customer service and/or administrative errors that lead to missed payments, fees, and loss of the interest-free option.

"Auto repair shops should stop driving their customers into a financial ditch," said Rochelle Sparko, director of North Carolina Policy at the Center for Responsible Lending, a member of the Stop the Debt Trap coalition. "The FDIC should stop TAB Bank, and other banks they supervise, from sponsoring this exploitative scheme."

Charlene Crowell is a senior fellow with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org.

Durham campaign manager successfully unseats two incumbents

STAFF REPORTS

DURHAM – Winning over 60% of the votes in two countywide races each, Cassandra Stokes, a double Eagle earning both her undergraduate and law degrees from North Carolina Central University, led the way towards two wins in this month's primary election as the campaign manager for Kevin Jones for District Court Judge and Aminah Thompson for Clerk of Superior Court.

Stokes began managing Thompson's campaign in 2021, challenging 20-year incumbent Archie Smith. She became manager of Jones' campaign early this year to challenge well-known incumbent Pat Evans.

Thompson, Jones, and Stokes all knew they were in for a fight and what was at stake. Earning three major political endorsements from the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People, the Durham People's Alliance, and The IndyWeek, both Jones and Thompson proved to be formidable opponents.

Obtaining a resounding 65.3% of the votes for Clerk of Superior Court and 72.5% of the votes for District Court Judge, and no challenger on the November ballot, Thompson will be the first African American elected to this position and Jones will succeed the current Chief District Court Judge.

COURTESY

Left to right: Jones, Stokes and Thompson

Stokes successfully managed county Commissioner Wendy Jacobs' campaign for reelection in 2020 and has found herself navigating through the rough and tumble landscape of Durham politics ever since. Stokes is thankful for the support of Durham voters.

"Everything we worked and prayed for in this season has or is coming to pass," she said. "I'm so grateful for the relationships and trust we have built, and I'm excited to see both candidates get to work."

COURTESY

Vaping is as dangerous to oral health as regular cigarettes.

Dentists: Vaping increases risk of disease and gum problems

By Nadia Ramlagan
N.C. NEWS SERVICE

North Carolina dentists are noticing an uptick in problems with teeth and gums among people who vape. Experts say vaping can cause as much damage to oral health as traditional cigarettes.

In addition to sore gums, grinding the teeth and tooth decay, dry mouth and cavities are especially common among people who use vape products, said Dr. Anbec DeShield-Mayes, owner of Best-Mouth Dental in Greensboro.

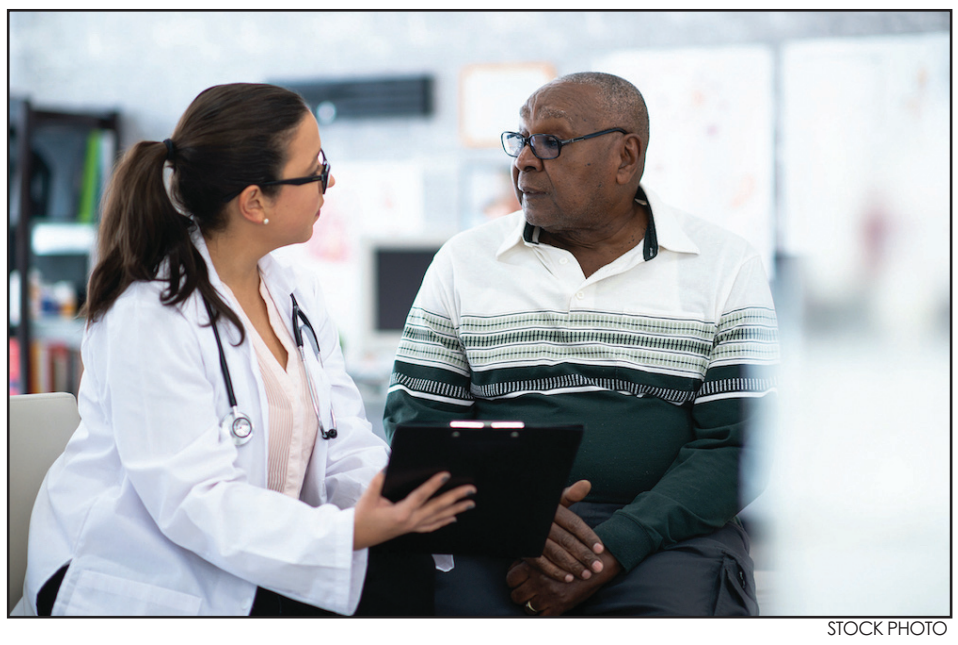
"We try to give them things to help rehydrate their teeth," she said. "We tell them to drink plenty of water, brushing twice a day, flossing. These are things that I'm seeing with my patients that I'm finding out now are new 'vapers,' or have switched from smoking to vaping."

Studies have shown that heavy vaping among young people potentially could increase risk for periodontal disease later in life, and also can cause mouth and tongue ulcers. The American Dental Association has adopted an interim policy calling for a total ban on vape products that aren't approved by the Food and Drug Administration for tobacco cessation purposes.

Deshield-Mayes, immediate past president of the North Carolina Dental Society Third District, said seemingly minor issues can lead to more serious oral health problems if not treated. She said it's important that people see a dentist about every six months, and potentially more frequently if they're heavy smokers or e-cigarette users.

"If you have a cavity or you have dry mouth, your gums kind of shrink, and they pull away from the teeth," she said. "So then I see signs of recession or receding gums."

Last year, the American Dental Association called for best practices aimed at screening more patients for vaping and marijuana use. More than 60% of dentists nationwide say they already ask their patients about the use of vape products.



STOCK PHOTO

Hospitals suffering from health care worker shortage

By Dair McNinch
UNC MEDIA HUB

While the health care industry was experiencing a nationwide labor shortage well before COVID-19 broke out, the challenges introduced by the pandemic have exponentially exacerbated the issue and forced it into the public eye. In a survey conducted by Morning Consult in September 2021, nearly 1 in 5 American health care worker had quit jobs since the beginning of the pandemic. More recently, Elsevier Health reported in March that 18% of health care workers planned to leave the profession by 2025.

Factors contributing to this exodus range from the pandemic's strain on the system's resources, the greater workloads and responsibilities for staff without proportionate compensation, and the emotional burnout that the last few years of these conditions have created.

Across North Carolina, health care staff of all types say this combination of factors has created a snowball effect that they're unsure of how long they'll be able to withstand. "There's been a longstanding shortage of nurses that predates the pandemic, which has been discussed in just about every forum there is," said Dr. Josie Bowen, an emergency medicine physician in Charlotte. "I think that the pandemic has revealed and uncovered it in a more mainstream way."

According to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, U.S. nursing schools denied 80,000 qualified applicants from graduate programs in 2019 because of budget constraints and a lack of faculty, classroom space and clinical sites. In addition, the American Health Association found that more than half of all nurses in 2017 were 50 or older, and 30% were 60 or older.

Nurses, however, aren't alone in this. In 2019, an estimate from the Association of American Medical Colleges reported the U.S. had nearly 20,000 fewer doctors than the country's health care needs required.

Bowen said the effects of the shortage and the pandemic have had dangerous consequences on many hospitals' efficiency with processing, evaluating, and treating patients. "If you're in the emergency department and you already have, let's say, 15 nursing vacancies, but now you have three times the volume of patients for what your facility was designed to be able to undertake," Bowen said. "That could create a situation that could challenge the quality and safety metrics for an emergency department."

Bowen says the emotional burnout is largely driven by how medical staff are expected to consistently provide the same quality of care under increasingly demanding conditions. "We went into health care to be able to provide compassionate and quality care to our patients with empathy," Bowen said. "And when we're consistently stretched thin and inadequately resourced, it just becomes intolerable for some over time and therefore many choose to leave."

Bowen refers to this concept as "the death of a thousand cuts." And not only is the pandemic's increase in the volume of patients stretching staff thin, it's also constrained health care systems' resources and their ability to properly compensate and retain workers.

Hospitals have been forced to rely on travel nurses and other contract health care workers in order to staff their facilities. But contract work is more expensive and higher paying than what established employees make, increasing hospital costs and further inhibiting retention efforts.

Melissa Allen, project and operations director at WakeMed's Cary Hospital, believes that this growing reliance on contract workers in health care will be what many hospitals might not be able to survive. "The expenses around contract staffing, that's going to be a breaking point for a lot of hospitals," Allen said. "They're not going to be able to sustain that and it be reasonable."

BUSINESS BRIEFS

JAY WENNINGTON | UNSPLASH

Triangle Resturant Week is from June 6-12

POP-UP
Sweets and Treats Pop-Up is May 29, noon to 4 p.m., Azia B's Beauty Studio, 7400 Six Forks Road.

REAL ESTATE
The National Association of Real Estate Brokers will host its regional real estate conference June 3-5 at the Hilton Raleigh North Hills, 3415 Wake Forest Road.

RESTAURANT WEEK
Annual Triangle Restaurant Week is June 6-12 in Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill, Apex, Morrisville, Cary and Holly Springs. Visit www.trirestaurantweek.com.

JOB EXPO
NC TECH will host a virtual tech job expo June 8, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Visit www.nctech.org.

Send business briefs to info@triangletribune.com.

The HBCU Transformation Project.

Can $60 million transform HBCUs or is it just the tip of the iceberg?

By Mirtha Donastorg
THE PLUG

For Jim Shelton, going to Morehouse College shaped the trajectory of his life.

"The reality is that other than what my parents did with me, there's been no other developmental experience that's been more important than my years at Morehouse," Shelton, who serves as the chief investment and impact officer at the philanthropic platform Blue Meridian Partners, told The Plug.

Yet it was not this experience that drove him in 2020 to want to help HBCUs through the impacts of the pandemic. "I had been looking at the data around economic and social mobility, which is Blue Meridian's mission, and in the data it revealed that when you looked at comparable information, HBCUs were outperforming their reasonable peer institutions on economic and social mobility, and that they were a powerful platform [not just] for improving economic and social mobility for individuals, but also for the communities surrounding the colleges," he said.

This fact, coupled with the painfully clear need for HBCUs to transform fully into 21st century institutions, has inspired a new $60 million initiative aptly called the HBCU Transformation Project. Led by the United Negro College Fund, the Thurgood Marshall College Fund and the Partnership for Education Advancement with the funding from Blue Meridian, the initiative aims to create robust digital and physical infrastructures at HBCUs as well as effective wraparound student services so they do not get left behind. "We want these institutions to be sustainable," TMCF President Harry Williams told The Plug about the impetus behind the Transformation Project. "We want them to be here another 150 years."

Through Blue Meridian, a group of high net worth individuals and foundations co-invested the initial $60 million. The Schusterman Family Philanthropies are an outsized donor in the Transformation Project, though Shelton did not specify how much. The Project has three main objectives: to do deep institutional transformation work, to provide shared services that can benefit institutions, and to share the lessons and best practices that can improve outcomes for all HBCUs.

The initiative was announced in March with an inaugural group of 20 HBCUs. The eventual goal is to impact every HBCU. "When you talk about sustainability, you want to talk about the processes in which you're recruiting students to your school," Alabama State President Quinton Ross Jr. told The Plug. "Then, in that recruitment is how you retain them and get them to persist and go all the way to graduation."

One of the ways the Transformation Project is approaching enrollment and retention is by expanding access to coaching services for HBCU students through a partnership with the nonprofit InsideTrack. Around $3 million is slated to go towards this initiative. During the initial yearlong pilot in 2021, InsideTrack and the UNCF reached out to more than 4,000 HBCU students who had left without finishing. Of those, around a quarter responded yes or no to the coaching offer. Ultimately, 343 students ended up re-enrolling in school.

With this next phase of the coaching program, the services will be offered to a broader group of people. Over the next four years, InsideTrack will provide one-on-one success coaching services for 10,000 potential HBCU students, as well as 4,000 HBCU students enrolled in their first or second year, and 3,000 students who left and have not finished their degree.

"Our excitement is really being able to not only get them back in school but proactively keep others in school and also help students thinking about which institution makes sense for them," Malika Clinkscales, associate vice president for Partner Success at InsideTrack, told The Plug.

But $60 million cannot solve all the problems that plague HBCUs. "Understanding that our institutions are historically and presently under-resourced, $60 million is the tip of a massive iceberg of investment that we need to drive the change that we want in this space," UNCF's Ed Smith-Lewis told The Plug.

Mirtha Donastorg is a corps member with Report for America and The Plug's HBCU Innovation Reporter.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF BERKELEY
PHILLIP OBIE,

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
FOR THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
CASE NO.: 2022-CP-08-00931

PLAINTIFF,

vs.

RONALD WILEY, his heirs or assigns, and all persons claiming any right, title, estate interest in or lien upon the real estate described in the Complaint herein; also, all other persons unknown claiming any right, title, interest, or lien upon the real estate described in the Complaint herein; any unknown adults, any unknown infants, or persons under a disability being as a class designated as John Doe and any persons in the military service of the United States of America being as a class designated as Richard Roe,

DEFENDANTS.

LIS PENDENS
(Quiet Title and Confirm Tax Sale)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an action has been commenced and is now pending in the Court upon Complaint of the above-named Plaintiff against the above-named Defendants to quiet title to the below-described property. The premises covered and affected by the said action at the time of the filing of this Notice is described as follows:

All that certain piece, parcel, or lot of land situate, lying and being in 1st St. Stephen Parish, Berkeley County, SC, containing **4.62 acres, more or less,** as will be more fully shown as **Tracts "A-3" & "A-4"** on a plat prepared by William H. Dennis, RLS, dated August 27, 1996, and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Berkeley County, S.C., in **Plat Cabinet M at Page 88-A.**

Saving & excepting therefore, however, all that certain piece, parcel or lot of land containing **1.09 acres, more or less,** conveyed to George Morris by Lois Eggleston by Deed dated June 19, 2007, and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Berkeley County, S.C., **in Book 6675, at Page 43.**

Also, saving and excepting therefrom, however, all that certain piece, parcel or lot of land containing **.67 acre, more or less,** conveyed to George Morris by Lois Eggleston by a Deed dated September 10, 2007, and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Berkeley County, S.C., **in Book 6929, at Page 204.**

Total property being conveyed herewith is 2.86 acres, more or less.

BEING the same property conveyed to Phillip Obie by Virginia R. Hamilton, Delinquent Tax Collector for Berkeley County, South Carolina, by Tax Deed dated April 24, 2017, and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Berkeley County, South Carolina, on May 8, 2017, in **Book 2458, at Page 289, et seq.**

TMS #: 036-03-00-061
April 21, 2022

NOTICE OF FILING COMPLAINT
(Quiet Title and Confirm Tax Sale)

TO THE DEFENDANTS ABOVE NAMED:
YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the original Summons and Complaint in the above-entitled action were filed in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Berkeley County, South Carolina, the object and prayer of which is to quiet title to real property located in Berkeley County, South Carolina, and other relief as set forth in the Complaint

SUMMONS
(Quiet Title and Confirm Tax Sale)

TO: THE DEFENDANTS ABOVE-NAMED:
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Complaint in this action, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your Answer to the said Complaint on the Plaintiff or his attorney, George B. Bishop, Jr., P.A., 223 East Main Street, Post Office Box 848, Moncks Corner, South Carolina 29461, within thirty (30) days after service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service, and if you fail to do so, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the undersigned attorney, on behalf of the Plaintiff herein, will seek the agreement and stipulation of all parties not in default for an Order of Reference to the Master-in-Equity for Berkeley County, South Carolina, stipulating that said Master-In-Equity may enter a final judgment in this case.

YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that should you fail to answer the foregoing Summons, the Plaintiff will move for a general Order of Reference of this cause to the Master-in-Equity for this County, which Order shall, pursuant to Rule 53(a) of the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure, specifically provide that the said Master-in-Equity is authorized and empowered to enter a final judgment in this cause.
April 21, 2022

NOTICE NISI

TO THE DEFENDANTS HEREIN, NAMES AND ADDRESSES UNKNOWN, INCLUDING ANY THEREOF WHO MAY BE MINORS, IN THE MILITARY SERVICE OR UNDER OTHER LEGAL DISABILITY, IF ANY, WHETHER RESIDENTS OR NON-RESIDENTS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, AND TO THE NATURAL, GENERAL, TESTAMENTARY GUARDIAN OR COMMITTEE, OR OTHERWISE AND TO THE PERSON WITH WHOM THEY MAY RESIDE, IF ANY THERE BE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that BRIAN B. WEST, Attorney at Law, of Moncks Corner, South Carolina, has been appointed Guardian ad Litem in the above entitled action by Order and that such Order will become absolute thirty (30) days after the last publication of the Notice of Appointment herein unless such of the Defendants as may be heirs, devisees, distributees, administrators, executors, guardians and all those persons who may be minors, incompetents, in military service, under any legal disability, or other persons claiming by, through or under the deceased persons above named, or someone in their behalf in the meantime procure to be appointed Guardian ad Litem for them, and that such Order is on file in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Berkeley County, Berkeley County Courthouse, Moncks Corner, South Carolina.

s/George B. Bishop, Jr.
GEORGE B. BISHOP, JR.
South Carolina Bar No. 702
223 East Main Street
Post Office Box 848
Moncks Corner, SC 29461
gbishopjr@yahoo.com
May 10, 2022 Attorney for Plaintiff

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS All persons, firms and corporations having claims against DELORES SANKEY EATON deceased, are notified to exhibit them to ERIC R. EATON, as Executor of the decedent's estate on or before August 15, 2022, at P.O. Box 1204, Mebane, NC 27302 or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above-named Executor.

Publication Date: May 29, 2022.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
IFB No. 22-034

TV Studio Upfit in Durham County Admin II Building

Bids will be received by the County of Durham Purchasing Division of Finance, 201 East Main Street, 7th Floor, Room #703, Durham, North Carolina 27701, until 2:00 P.M. Eastern Time, on June 23, 2022, for the TV Studio Upfit in Durham County Administration II Building. The work contemplated will include procurement, installation, and programming of the stand-alone TV Studio in the Durham County Admin II Building.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Wednesday, June 1, 2022, at 10:00 A. M., Eastern Time, at Durham County Admin I Building, 200 East Main Street, 1st Floor, Room 103, Durham, NC. All bidders who intend to bid are encouraged to attend.

A non-mandatory Site Visit will be held immediately following the Pre-Bid Conference on June 1, 2022, at Durham County Admin II Building, 201 East Main Street, TV Studio Room, 4th, Durham, NC.

Instructions for submitting bids, specifications, a complete description of the work involved, and the apparatus, supplies, materials, and equipment for this bid, can be examined at the office of Studio Equipment Designer – J&A Engineering, Jim Gillis, 770-817-4220, jgillis@jaengineering.net; or Project Manager – O'Brien Atkins Associates, PA, Josh Brady, 919-941-9000, jbrady@obrienatkins.com, and at the following locations:

City of Durham Equal Opportunity and Equal Assurance Office
Eric.miller@durhamnc.gov

NC Institute of Minority Economic Development
info@theinstitute.org

Construct Connect
content@constructconnect.com

Questions concerning administrative matters should be directed to Hilda W. Williams, Senior Procurement Specialist, at (919) 560-0054.

A hard copy of the Plans, Specifications and other contract documents may be obtained by those qualified and who will make a bid, upon a deposit of **$100.00** for each set issued to Contractors. Deposit checks shall be made payable to the name of "O'Brien Atkins." Contractors may secure document sets after 8:30 A.M. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday at the office of O'Brien Atkins, 5001 S. Miami Boulevard, Durham, NC 27703, 919-941-9000. The full deposit shall be returned to those Contractors who return the Specifications and Plans in good condition within ten (10) days after the date set for receiving bids. Plans and Specifications are to be returned to the office of O'Brien Atkins, 5001 S. Miami Boulevard, Durham, NC 27703. **Document can be issued electronically at no cost if preferred.**

Contractors who bid must be licensed to do work in the State of North Carolina under the Act to Regulate the Practice of General Contracting. The Contractor's North Carolina License number shall be designated on the outside of the envelope containing the bid.

A 5% bid security is required with each bid that equals or exceeds $300,000.00.

Bids will be evaluated and the Contract will be awarded in accordance with statutory public contract requirements as supplemented or altered by the Minority/Women Business Enterprise Utilization Ordinance of the County of Durham (MWBE).

The County reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids, waive informalities, and/or accept such bid as appears in its judgement to be in the best interest of the County.

Publication Date: May 29, 2022

HOME IMPROVEMENT

LEGAL NOTICE

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
IFB No. 22-035

Low Voltage & Audio Visual Systems – Durham County Detention Facility Renovation – Phase 1

Bids will be received by the County of Durham Purchasing Division, Durham County, 201 East Main Street, 7th Floor, Durham, North Carolina 27701, until 2:00 P.M. Eastern Time, on June 28, 2022. The work contemplated will include providing equipment & installation of Low Voltage & Audio Visual Systems for the Durham County Detention Facility Renovation.

A **Virtual Pre-Bid Conference** will be held on Tuesday, June 7, 2022, at 10:00 A. M. Eastern Time. All bidders who intend to bid are encouraged to attend virtually.

A **Site Visit** will be held on Tuesday, June 7, 2022, at 2:00 P. M. Eastern Time. Located at 219 S. Mangum Street, Durham. All bidders who intend to bid are encouraged to attend.

Instructions for submitting bids, specifications, a complete description of the work involved, and the apparatus, supplies, materials, and equipment for this bid, can be examined at J&A Engineering, LLC, Jorge Gomez, 4994 Lower Roswell Rd., Suite 1, Marietta, GA 30068, Office: 770.817.4220 ext. 201, Cell: 404.545.6867, and at the following locations:

City of Durham Equal Opportunity and Equal Assurance Office
Eric.miller@durhamnc.gov

NC Institute of Minority Economic Development
info@theinstitute.org

Construction Connect
content@constructconnect.com

Questions concerning administrative matters should be directed to Candy Harmon, Procurement Specialist, at (919) 560-0741.

A hard copy of the Plans, Specifications and other contract documents may be obtained by those qualified and who will make a bid, upon a deposit of $200.00 for each set issued to Contractors. Deposit checks shall be made payable to the J&A Engineering, LLC. Contractors may secure document sets after 8:30 A.M. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday at the office of **J&A Engineering, LLC,** Jorge Gomez, 4994 Lower Roswell Rd., Suite 1, Marietta, GA 30068, Office: 770.817.4220 ext. 201, Cell: 404.545.6867. The full deposit shall be returned to those Contractors who return the Specifications and Plans in good condition within ten (10) days after the date set for receiving bids. Plans and Specifications are to be returned to the office of the J&A Engineering, LLC, Jorge Gomez, 4994 Lower Roswell Rd., Suite 1, Marietta, GA 30068, Office: 770.817.4220 ext. 201, Cell: 404.545.6867. Document can be issued electronically at no cost if preferred.

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Bids will be evaluated and the Contract will be awarded in accordance with statutory public contract requirements as supplemented or altered by the Minority/Women Business Enterprise Utilization Ordinance of the County of Durham (MWBE).

The County reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids, waive informalities, and/or accept such bid as appears in its judgement to be in the best interest of the County.

Publication Date: May 29, 2022

Iron Academy purchases 11-acre property

All men's Christian school envisions 24/7 Kingdom Campus

STAFF REPORTS

RALEIGH – Iron Academy has announced the purchase of an 11-acre property, with plans to expand classrooms, experiential learning capacities, athletic facilities, STEM lab, and more. The all-men's Christian school was founded in 2013 for grades six to 12 on a shared campus on Edwards Mill Road in Raleigh.

Iron Academy is known for small class sizes, an intense focus on discipleship, exceptional gender-specific education, leadership training, and physical activity. The school purchased the property for $2 million.

"We are excited about the growth of our school and humbled by God's provision," founder and CEO Alan Hahn said. "The purchase of this property allows us to expand our offerings for students and opens up opportunities for the entire body of Christ here in the Triangle."

Hahn, along with the Iron Academy Board of Directors, has been planning the purchase and subsequent expansion for the past year. The property is home to Iron Academy and three churches, and was previously owned by Mount Olivet Baptist Church.

In a recent congregation-wide meeting, the church voted to sell the property to

Iron Academy. "We have watched Iron Academy grow and are wholeheartedly behind the vision and mission of the school," wrote the Mount Olivet Leadership Team. "We see how they are

building young men every day, and how they align with our driving vision of Faithful Foundations Building Lasting Legacies. The thought that this property can be even more influential in building honorable young men of God and serve as a meeting place for Christian athletes, church plants, and the spreading of God's word absolutely excites us."

While learning facilities and campus beautification are in the plans, there is a more expansive vision for the property within walking distance to Rex Hospital and Crabtree Valley Mall. Iron Academy has a vision that can meet those needs: A 24/7 Kingdom Campus. The vision includes, but is not limited to:

- STEM labs
- Library
- Additional classrooms
- Gymnasiums for basketball, volleyball, and indoor soccer
- Outdoor fields for soccer, rugby and Frisbee golf
- Indoor facilities for archery, fencing, wrestling, and more
- Amphitheater
- Meeting spaces

"While Iron Academy's name will be on the property deed, we believe we've been called to a higher purpose," Hahn said. "With this purchase and our vision for a 24/7 Kingdom Campus, we'll be able to offer facilities for church plants, Christian athletic organizations, and more. We envision a bustling campus that meets the facilities needs of Christians and Christian organizations for years to come."

Beth Moore's new memoir will tell the story

By Bob Smietana

RELIGION NEWS SERVICE

For the past few years, Bible teacher and bestselling author Beth Moore has been one tweet away from disaster. Moore, perhaps the best-known ex-Southern Baptist in the country, will recount her Twitter battles, her split with her former denomination and, more importantly, her lifelong journey with Jesus, in a new memoir "All My Knotted-Up Life," due out next year.

News of the memoir was first reported by Cathy Lynn Grossman of Publishers Weekly. Tyndale publisher Karen Watson told PW that the memoir will be a "southern literary reflection on an unlikely and winsomely remarkable life."

Among the characters in the memoir will be Moore's tobacco-chewing great-grandmother Miss Ruthie, known for her floor-length silver locks. "My whole family — well, for the most part — is like this. Spitting in a can, all spool-headed, one minute. Sleek and lovely and mesmerizing the next," Moore writes in the memoir, according to Publishers Weekly.

For decades, Moore was beloved among Southern Baptists and other evangelicals for bestselling Bible studies and sold-out Living Proof events for women, named for Moore's ministry. She ran afoul of Southern Baptist leaders for her criticism of Donald Trump during the 2016 election, especially after the Access Hollywood tapes surfaced of the candidate making lewd remarks about women — and seemed to be met with shrugged shoulders by evangelical leaders.

"I expected Donald Trump to be Donald Trump," she said during a 2021 speaking engagement in Nashville, Tennessee. "That was not a shock to me. I did not expect us to be us."

That criticism led to a backlash from pastors and churches, who stopped buying Moore's Bible studies, which were published by Lifeway Christian Resources at the time. Her ministry lost millions in the years after Trump's election. Then Moore posted what she thought was an innocuous comment on Twitter about speaking at a Mother's Day church service, which sparked a national controversy over the role of women in the church. That debate overshadowed other issues in the Southern Baptist Convention, including the denomination's reckoning with sexual abuse in churches.

"We were in the middle of the biggest sexual abuse scandal that has ever hit our denomination," Moore told Religion News Service in March 2021. "And suddenly, the most important thing to talk about was whether or not a woman could stand at the pulpit and give a message."

Eventually Moore would cut ties with Lifeway and leave the SBC. She now attends an Anglican church and frequently tweets about her experiences as a newcomer to a liturgical tradition.

Still, she told RNS in 2021, she was grateful for the role SBC churches played in her life, saying that her home church was a "safe place" during a difficult childhood.

"I love so many Southern Baptist people, so many Southern Baptist churches, but I don't identify with some of the things in our heritage."

AROUND THE TRIANGLE

RALEIGH

EXHIBIT

Unmasking Brain exhibit showcases art from brain injury survivors through May 29, ArtSpace, 201 E. Davie St.

CEREMONY

A memorial garden dedication at the Boys & Girls Clubs is May 31, 5 p.m., The Teen Center, 721 N. Raleigh Blvd.

CANCER

Free skin cancer screening is June 3-4, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., 420 Fayetteville St., first come, first served.

FESTIVAL

International Food Festival is June 4, noon to 10 p.m., City Plaza, 400 Fayetteville St. Visit www.NCVibes.com.

DURHAM

FUNDRAISER

Urban Ministries of Durham has launched a new campaign to provide housing for Durham's homeless individuals and families. Learn more at letshousedurham.org.

MEMORIAL

The county will honor veterans and fallen heroes May 30, 9 a.m., Old Durham Co. Courthouse, 200 E. Main St.

HUNGER

World Hunger Day is June 4, 3-5 p.m., Durham Central Park, 501 Foster St.

CONSTRUCTION

Construction for 500 E. Main St. development begins June 6, which will impact traffic at Durham Co. Human Services Bldg. on 414 E. Main St.

CHAPEL HILL

PROGRAM

Child Care Services Association has developed a new ECE Apprenticeship Program for early childhood educators. Applications open June 1. Visit www.teachecnationalcenter.org.

FESTIVAL

Beats & Eats Music Festival is June 4, 6-9 p.m., Southern Village Green. Proceeds benefit Ronald McDonald House. Tickets at bidpal.net/.

Make family reunions meaningful

FAMILY FEATURES

During the coming months, families are likely to spend more time together. Reunions that have been postponed during the pandemic will finally take place, and once those long-awaited hugs have been exchanged, everyone can settle in for some overdue catching up.

However, the time many families spent apart over the past couple of years means important conversations may have been put on hold. A family reunion is a perfect opportunity to share stories, reminisce and discover what matters most to the people who matter most to you.

Sitting down with loved ones to talk about their lives can be richly satisfying. Learning about memorable events, favorite activities and valuable lessons they have learned can help bring you closer to loved ones and get to know them in a different way. It can also help you create a meaningful tribute to a loved one when the time comes.

Finding a way to start talking with a loved one may be the most difficult part, but once the conversation starts, it may be hard to stop. Consider these tips from RememberingALife.com, an online resource from the experts at the National Funeral Directors Association to get the conversation started.

* Start by sharing mutual stories. If you've taken a vacation together or shared a cherished experience, discuss that first to get the conversation going. If your family member is hesitant, share your own stories first so he feels more comfortable.

* Ask questions. One of the easiest ways to start and maintain a conversation is by asking questions. If you're not sure what to ask, try inquiring about your loved one's proudest achievement, the best advice received, a favorite memory or greatest inspiration. A visual prompt like a photo album, souvenir or memento can also be a conversation starter. If you're comfortable with the idea, also ask how he would like to be remembered when gone.

* Take notes. Either during or after your conversation, make note of the important memories shared. If it won't make your loved one uncomfortable, make an audio recording of your discussion so you can listen again later. These notes and recordings may become treasured heirlooms for future generations.

* Treat your talk as a beginning. Use it as a springboard for more conversations, during which you can openly talk about any number of things, from reflecting on the past to planning for the future. Designed to be a fun and easy way to help get the discussion started, the NFDA created "Have the Talk of a Lifetime" conversation cards featuring thought-provoking questions. The things you discuss may be helpful when your family must make important decisions about how you wish to remember and honor your loved one after he dies.

* When the time comes, make it meaningful. These shared conversations may help your family plan a meaningful funeral or life tribute event for your loved one that honors his life while giving you, your family and other friends a chance to reminisce and say goodbye. When the time comes, memorialization can be an important step in the journey toward healing.

When you're preserving your family's legacy, resources such as RememberingALife.com can provide helpful information about memorialization and other end-of-life matters.

BOOK

Durham native and U.S. Navy sailor writes children's book

STAFF REPORTS

Lt. Myer Krah played football at Hillside High and led the Hornets to a state championship.

GUAM – The U.S. Naval Academy is a world away from Guam, but one alumnus is putting the English degree he earned in Annapolis to use.

Lt. Myer Krah, Class of 2016, wrote and published "Mrs. Coco's Lemon Trees" with his wife and fellow alum, Tiana, Class of '15. The children's book is an adaptation of a local folktale describing how the island of Guam evolved into its current shape. The authors share with readers that a fish has eaten the island at both bays and must be stopped before it disappears.

"This book highlights the beauty of Guam, the type of animals that live here and retells the folktale in a fun way," says the lieutenant assigned to Maritime Prepositioning Ships Squadron 3.

The creative writing project involves the entire family. The book's main characters, Avery and Azai, are named for Krah's sons.

The USNA parenting team is already partnering on other projects, all while staying involved in their community. In Guam, Myer can sometimes be found in local classrooms, reading his and other books to young students. In addition, he stays involved in his hometown of Durham.

"I established a college scholarship program for students at my high school as a way to give back to hardworking athletes who excel in the classroom," said Hillside High School's former defensive captain who led the team to the state championship in 2010.

While reading and writing in his free time, Krah spends his days – nights and weekends – as the force protection officer for MPSRON 3. Maritime prep-

NCFC soccer sponsors Black festival

At first, I thought it was spam. But after a closer look, it really was an email from the North Carolina Football Club announcing Juneteenth events at WakeMed Soccer Park next month. JUNETEENTH!

To understand the shock, you first have to know that the NCFC is owned by Steve Malik. Malik is good friends with developer John Kane and the two are in partnership to bring a $1.9 billion entertainment district to south Raleigh. Kane's name is despised among many in Raleigh's low-income Black neighborhoods where gentrification is rampant.

BONITTA BEST

When Malik bought the NCFC in 2015, it was called the Carolina Railhawks. He added a women's soccer franchise two years later, now called the North Carolina Courage.

I covered the Railhawks for a short period, and while everyone was nice and talked of catering to a diverse fan base, I don't remember anything done to support the Black community on the level of next month's two-day Juneteenth festival.

Which begs the question: What are Malik and Kane up to?

At least Club personnel had the good sense to involve Black people who know what they're doing. They have partnered with Black Dollar N.C., the Black Flea Market and Our Stop Shop.

You've probably attended one of Our Stop Shop's Black Business Expos on N.C. State's Fairgrounds. Founder Rah-mah Pelzer-Elue helps small Black business owners showcase their products to a bigger audience. Pelzer-Elue will host the June 18 festival before the 7 p.m. soccer match.

Black Dollar and the Black Flea Market will co-host June 19's festival. Johnny Hackett, creator of Black Dollar N.C., an online directory for North Carolina Black businesses, said although he will have a separate Juneteenth event in downtown Raleigh, he wanted to help out.

"Having us as an overseer to the event is kind of why they were interested in us," he said. "They asked a lot of questions, and we did want to support them and make sure that it's done the right way."

In addition to artist performances and business vendors, the NCFC is producing Juneteenth merchandise designed by both the women's and men's soccer teams that can also be bought online. Some of the proceeds will go to the three co-hosts.

Courage forward Jorian Baucom will hand-paint three pairs of Nike's Air Force 1 sneakers with a Juneteenth design for auction. Those proceeds will go to the Black Women's Player Collective, a nonprofit that helps Black girls advance in sports through education, mentorship and community development.

"I'm extremely excited to be a part of designing merchandise for Juneteenth as well as being able to send such a powerful statement through my artwork," Baucom said. "Celebrating the emancipation of slavery, as well as emphasizing Black culture, is something we truly centered on when creating this collection."

Maybe there is no ulterior motive. Maybe the NCFC and Courage players are "woke" enough to just want to celebrate Juneteenth. And if the small businesses gain some new customers, well, that's a good thing, right?

Hackett said he was unaware of any controversy over being involved with the project.

"For me, a lot of people just get upset about certain things," he said. "If they complain about something, then they better be out on the frontlines like we are."

COLLEGE CORNER

3 Falcons are Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholars

The 2021-22 CIAA Female and Male Scholar Athlete of the Year Awards go to Lincoln (Pa.) senior Bryanna Brown and Virginia Union senior Hayden Garcia.

Brown graduated with a 3.95 GPA; on the court, she averaged 17 points per game, was voted CIAA player of the year and led the Lady Lions to their first CIAA championship.

Garcia graduated as the 2022 Salutatorian with a 4.01 GPA. He also was a top golfer and helped the Panthers to the Northern Division title.

WOMEN

St. Augustine's

WAUG-LD, the university's TV station, had its license renewed by the FCC for the next eight years. The station returned to the air this year for the first time since 2018, and plans to expand its local programming.

"The reimagining of our television station is critical to the strategic communication of our university initiatives," president Christine Johnson McPhail said. "The time to tell our story is now."

SAU is also investing $1 million in upgrades to its master control room and television studio.

Volleyball player Janina Mayers and track sprinter Jaria Hoyte are two of three Falcons to be named 2022 Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholars by Diverse Issues in Higher Education.

Mayers graduated with a 4.0 GPA in exercise science. Hoyte graduated with a 3.90 GPA in sport management.

N.C. A&T

The Aggies are seeking a new women's and men's track and field coach. Duane Ross is leaving for Tennessee just after the Aggies self-reported a violation of an ineligible player in the Big South Outdoor Championships.

A&T was forced to forfeit any points the student-athlete earned. The result is the women dropped to second place and High Point University was declared the winner.

MEN

N.C. Central

Senior Marvin Jones and junior Jaelyn Blanc will compete in this weekend's NCAA East Regionals at Indiana University.

St. Augustine's

Quarterback D'Ontre Gilliard is the third Falcon to be named an Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholar. Gilliard graduated with a 3.51 GPA in computer information systems.

In sad news, alumnus Rederick "Reggie" Henderson died earlier this month. The 1961 graduate had a stellar high school coaching career in Rocky Mount.

Please see **SCHOLARS/7A**

HBCU BASKETBALL

St. Augustine's alumnus a star in Canada

By Bonitta Best

editor@triangletribune.com

Former Falcon standout Joel Kindred was recently named the National Basketball League of Canada most valuable player of the year and the NBL Canada most improved player of the year.

Kindred, who plays for the KW Titans, is the league's top scorer and all-around player with 21.2 points, 5.1 rebounds and 3.6 assists per game.

"This is one of the league's best two-way players, a young man who won this award for his work on both the offensive and defensive ends of the court," said Audley Stephenson, NBLC vice president of basketball operations. "He took the toughest defensive assignment every single night, and still managed to be a top scoring force in the league."

COURTESY

Gray

Kindred has made a stellar career overseas, playing in Spain and other countries. He graduated from SAU in 2014 and was the 2011-12 CIAA rookie of the year.

N.C. A&T

Men's basketball has added five more recruits to its 2022 class. "Something we talked to this class about was, 'Do you want to do something special?' coach Will Jones said. "That's the question I asked all these guys in letting them know the journey that we're on as a university and as a basketball program. They have a chance to go into the (Colonial Athletic Associa-

Please see **SAU/7A**

HBCU BASEBALL

Coppin State rallies for MEAC championship

By Bonitta Best

editor@triangletribune.com

MEAC

Howard's softball season ended against Mississippi State, 6-3, in the NCAA Regionals. The Lady Bison finish 31-24.

In baseball, Coppin State rallied for eight runs in the ninth inning to defeat top-seed Delaware State, 18-12, in the championship game. The Eagles (24-28) receive an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament. The Selection Show is May 30, noon, on ESPN2.

SWAC

In softball, Prairie View A&M saw its season end against Minnesota in the NCAA Tournament. The Lady Panthers finish 20-30.

Graduate student Shemar Page is a semifinalist for the 2022 Dick Howser Trophy, one of baseball's most pres-

Please see **MEAC/7A**

Collegiate gymnastics provides a platform for social expression

By Lois Elfman

DIVERSE ISSUES IN EDUCATION

In a dynamic floor routine during the most recent collegiate gymnastics season, Minnesota sophomore Mya Hooten included a piece of choreography between tumbling passes — she pounded her chest and gave a Black Power salute. In a fun, flirty and original routine, she delivered a message about social justice, racial justice, and Black women empowerment.

Collegiate gymnastics has exploded in popularity in recent years as young women of color lead in routines that generate praise and inspire conversations. "Every single individual and all-around champion at NCAAs this year was a woman of color," said Rutgers gymnastics coach Umme Salim-Beasley.

Salim-Beasley says younger girls are seeing the fun of the sport when they watch collegiate

Please see **SOCIAL/7A**

3 Falcons are Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholars

Continued from page 6A

Shaw

Coach Adrian Jones tweeted that he's still looking for a punter. So, if you have any skills, contact Jones.

Bowie State

Linebackers coach Kyle Jackson has been promoted to defensive coordinator. He also was the recruiting coordinator. Jackson takes over the position held by Antone Sewell who is now at Alabama State.

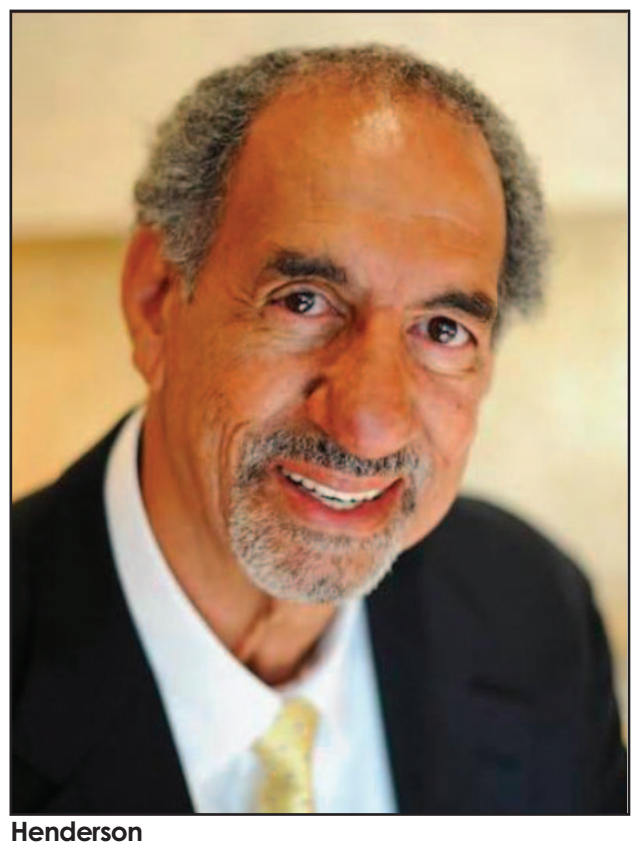
"Coach Jackson is a person that I had the opportunity to coach and watch him develop over the years," head coach Damon Wilson said. "He has worked at multiple universities, combined with his body of work at Bowie State, he is the perfect person for the job."

Miles College

Former graduate student Kingston Davis has signed with the United State Football League's New Jersey Generals.

"This is a great opportunity to play, and I'm elated to be a part of it," Davis said.

"I've got to get in and learn the plays, learn the offense as soon as possible. Hopefully, I'll be able to come in and contribute right away."



Henderson

COURTESY

N.C. A&T men's basketball

COURTESY

Dunlap

St. Aug's alumnus a double star in Canada

Continued from page 6A

tion) together for the first time. This is the group that I want to take into the CAA."

* Tyrese Elliott is a 6-foot-2 guard, three-star recruit and the 11th-best player in Georgia. He averaged 16 points per game and shot 45% from 3-point range.

* Kam Woods played at Northwest Florida State Junior College and was ranked among the top 100 JUCO players in the nation.

* Love Bettis is another JUCO guard from Florida. He averaged 11.5 points per game and shot 93.7% from the free throw line.

* Arizona State transfer Will Felton attended Millbrook High School for three seasons before transferring to Hargrave Military Academy. He led the team to a 31-2 record, averaging 15.6 points and 8.1 rebounds per game.

* Cal-Irvine transfer Austin Johnson is a 6-foot-9 center that averaged 5.8 points and 6 rebounds per game. He also blocked 2.4 shots.

Claflin

Brian Dunlap has been hired as Claflin's new men's basketball coach. Dunlap previously coached at Harris Stowe State University for five seasons, compiling an 81-56 overall record and three AMC Tournament championships.

"This young man took over a program a few years back … and he built a successful program," Claflin athletic director Tony O'Neal said. "Everybody talks about building a great team. Legacies are built on great programs."

Elizabeth City State

North Carolina Central assistant coach Andre Gray is Elizabeth City State's new interim men's basketball coach. Gray replaces Shawn Walker who was released earlier in the month.

"Chancellor Dixon and I thank Andre for taking on this interim role to keep the team moving forward," interim athletic director James DuBose said. "He has been honing his recruitment, player development, academic advising, and game planning skills for several decades, and his experience is a welcome addition to the team."

COURTESY

Howard's softball team

Coppin State rallies for MEAC championship

Continued from page 6A

tigious awards. Page is hitting .327 with 29 runs scored, seven doubles, six triples, two home runs and 24 RBIs.

As a pitcher, he has a 2.69 earned run average.

SWAC BaseballAwards

Player/Hitter/Newcomer of the Year
Corey King, Alabama State

Pitcher of the Year
Shemar Page, Grambling State

Relief Pitcher of the Year
Brenton Fisher, Bethune-Cookman

Freshman of the Year
Terry Burrell III, Grambling State

Coach of the Year
Jose Vazquez, Alabama State

Minnesota sophomore Mya Hooten gives a Black Power salute.

Collegiate gymnastics provides a platform for social expression

Continued from page 6A

gymnastics. As they progress, these girls may realize elite gymnastics is not the track for them, but collegiate gymnastics may be a great fit. "There is a lot more access to seeing gymnastics," she said.

UCLA sophomore Chae Campbell says she had been training on an elite Olympic track, but an injury put an end to that quest. She turned her attention toward collegiate gymnastics and focused on UCLA in her mid-teens. "Competing in college was one of my main goals," Campbell said. "As I got older, I discovered what college had to offer. With UCLA there was something unique and different, and it wasn't like any other college program. They had a star quality; they weren't just doing the moves. Their showmanship and performance qualities were unique."

Viral videos have made a difference in the exposure of college gymnastics, Hilliard says. The biggest changemaker was UCLA graduate Katelyn Ohashi. A few years ago, Hilliard and Ohashi were doing a gymnastics clinic together when Ohashi said she needed to choreograph another floor routine that would go viral. "She was thinking in her head about her next routine, which blew up when she did Tina Turner," Hilliard said. "She was choreographing her routine with this in mind. I have to give it to Val Kondos Field. She came from the world of dance and performing, so she understood performance gymnastics."

There is still room for improvement, in terms of coaching diversity, as only a handful of African American head and assistant coaches are in Division I gymnastics. But the launch of new programs could bring more opportunities to the increasingly popular sport.

UCLA graduate Hallie Mossett is the assistant coach at Long Island University, a program that launched in 2020. "I'm thankful that I'm able to be part of building the culture of a program that does celebrate everyone and is really inclusive," Mossett said. "I love to see our progress that we make every single competition.

Earlier this year, Fisk University became the first HBCU to launch a gymnastics program. Corrine Tarver has been named head coach, and she is recruiting to compete next season. "Since announcing the first HBCU women's gymnastics program, we have seen an amazing outpouring of support," Fisk President Vann Newkirk Sr. said.

When Salim-Beasley was a young gymnast in the club world, she performed what the judges were looking for. American gymnasts were generally trying to mimic European style gymnastics to score well. Expressing your personality wasn't the plan.

As a young gymnast, it was hard not to conform, but Mossett always wanted to stand out. Even as a student-athlete, she choreographed routines for her teammates. Her final year competing, she wanted to have a floor routine that embraced her culture.

"I started lying on floor, I had a flexibility pose, but I did have a Black Power fist," she said. "I hadn't seen anyone else do that before. I wouldn't say it was nerve-racking, but it was definitely different. I embraced that challenge, and I'm so happy I was able to do that and hopefully inspire some more of the viral routines that embraced Black Power."

Today, much has changed. "College gymnastics is a very different outlook," said Salim-Beasley, who says many of the floor routines gymnasts at Rutgers perform come from their own ideas. "College judges are looking for personality. They've been very accepting to letting gymnasts perform in the way they want to perform."

Barbershop conversations spark fatherhood talk

Barbershop Buzz kicked off the countdown to the 2022 Fatherhood Conference next month in Raleigh with several barbershop conversations throughout the state.

MATHIAS BISHOP

Shop owner Kentrell Perry, left, and Mark Atwater share their thoughts about fatherhood.

How to prepare for multi-generational housing

By Shanta Jackson
SPECIAL TO THE TRIBUNE

Jackson

In a multigenerational household, children, parents, grandparents or other family members share a living space. There are many reasons this may be a beneficial arrangement, but it's helpful to create a space where everyone feels comfortable. Here are just a few things about multi-generational living that can be helpful for you.

Understand costs and financial arrangements

Costs and financial arrangements will change depending on the age of the family members living with you. For example, if an adult child moves back in after college, you may decide to charge them rent. But if your mother moves in needing regular assistance, her finances will become your responsibility.

Set ground rules and boundaries

Similarly, you'll want to set ground rules and boundaries with the family members moving into your house. For example, if you have adult children with families moving in, set boundaries around the times you're able to babysit. For children home from college, you may create ground rules about guests in the house.

Ensure privacy

A critical need for family members of any age in your household is privacy. This will be easy to offer if you can provide a secondary housing structure such as a backyard cottage or attached apartment. If you're sharing rooms in your home, create ways to ensure that you and the family members living with you have private spaces and times.

Share household tasks

For family members able to help out around the house, communicate regularly about shared household tasks. What are they responsible for buying? Will everyone purchase their own groceries or will the whole family share? Who cleans the house, and how can you equitably share household duties?

Shanta Jackson is a REALTOR with Jackson Realty Group. She can be reached at shantasells@yahoo.com.

Beta Phi Chapter takes an assault on illiteracy

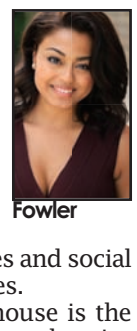
Beta Phi Chapter identified a need for elementary-age children who were returning to school after a year of virtual learning due to the pandemic. The fraternity sought out to strengthen the students reading comprehension and composition skills. Members created a weekend reading program for third graders who would be taking the end-of-grade tests for the first time. The Star Studded Reading Program, under the leadership of Jason Redmond, met monthly from February to May.

COURTESY

MOVERS AND SHAKERS

WakeEd Partnership

Sidney Fowler has been named the new director of marketing and communications. Fowler will oversee all communications, marketing content, website updates and social media strategies.



Fowler

Brickhouse

Lesley Brickhouse is the new summer teacher intern. She will work with the director of programs to help manage WakeEd's SummerSTEM and Career Accelerator programs.

DRIVE

Teach For America Executive Director Monique Perry-Graves has been appointed to Gov. Roy Cooper's DRIVE task force. DRIVE stands for Develop a Representative and Inclusive Vision for Education.

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@triangle-tribune.com. Photos welcome.

SCHOOL NEWS

Wake County student highlight: Omar Adam, Athens High

COURTESY

Adam is an outstanding senior who has hardly set foot in school all year. Instead, he does his learning on the job at the Embassy Suites Raleigh-Durham/RTP in Cary, where he is one of eight students with disabilities participating in Project SEARCH.

Project SEARCH is a unique, one-year school-to-work program specifically for Wake County public school high school students with disabilities whose goal is competitive employment. Students start with a morning vocational lesson, then begin working in the hotel from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., with one break for lunch. The day concludes with a reflection period. The goal is to get students ready for continued employment after graduation. The program is in its third year. Most of the 14 previous graduates are currently employed, says Project SEARCH instructor Brandi Pittman.

Adam, who is deaf and has cognitive disabilities, stands out for the joy and pride he takes in his work. "Omar always has a smile on his face, a huge greeting for everyone, and is genuinely excited to come to Project SEARCH and work each day," Pittman said. "He has consistently shown above-par work ethic and always has a positive attitude. He is always willing to try new jobs and to work extra hard when asked to do more by his supervisors."

Adam has learned jobs all over the hotel, though he particularly likes working in the kitchen. "I learned how to make the beds as a room attendant and double check all of my work," he said through American Sign Language interpreter Laura Kirks. "I learned how to cut up all the vegetables and peel carrots. I like cutting vegetables and cooking chicken on the grill. I learned how to go to work on time, and I learned the importance of having a good attitude."

Adam's family moved from Somalia to the United States when he was 8 in hopes of finding more resources and opportunities for a student with disabilities.

"He learned a whole new language, new customs, new requirements at school, as he had not been in school previously, and a whole new life," Pittman says. He also has had two bouts with Bell's Palsy. "

Project SEARCH is just the kind of program Adam's family came to America to pursue. His father, Abdiaziz Warsame, says they learned about the program from Adam's teacher at Athens Drive High. "We wanted Omar to learn life skills and get training outside of the school," Warsame said. "We want him to be prepared to work. Omar has to be busy. He wants to keep learning new skills and not just stay at home."

One key work skill Adam has learned from Project SEARCH is how to effectively communicate with co-workers. He uses gestures and body language, as well as texts and photos on his phone. And Pittman says many of Adam's coworkers have also learned sign language so they can communicate with him. "Omar is an absolute pleasure to work with," said Embassy Suites Executive Chef Matt Thompson. "He has a versatile skill set and is very thorough, along with his infectious smile and positive attitude."

After graduation, Adam hopes to find similar supported employment, and he may take a class at Wake Tech to continue to hone his skills in the kitchen. "Omar is living proof that you can overcome a lot with hard work and a great attitude," Pittman said. "I'm excited to see what the future holds for him."

It's always a good time to grill the perfect burger

STAFF REPORTS

Bacon, Egg, Avocado Burger

Ingredients:

8 slices bacon, thick-cut
1-1/2 pounds ground beef, lean
2 avocados, pitted, and thinly sliced
4 lettuce, large leaves
1/2 red onion
2 tbsp Worcestershire sauce
1 tbsp steak seasoning
4 hamburger buns
3 tbsp butter, salted
4 slices cheddar cheese
4 large eggs

Directions

Preheat an outdoor grill at medium-high heat and lightly oil the grate. Butter each half of hamburger buns.

Place bacon in a heavy skillet and cook over medium-high heat, turning occasionally, until crisp, 10 to 12 minutes. Drain bacon slices on paper towels. Set the skillet aside, reserving grease.

Mix ground beef, Worcestershire sauce, and steak seasoning together in a large bowl; do not overmix. Form into four patties. Make a thumbprint in the middle of each patty to keep it from shrinking as it cooks.

Grill patties on the preheated grill until preferred doneness, about 6 minutes per side. An instant-read thermometer inserted into the center should read at least 160 degrees F (71 degrees C). Top each burger with two slices bacon and a cheddar cheese slice; close the grill lid until cheese is melted, about 1 minute. Remove patties from the grill.

Place buns on the grill, buttered-side down, and cook until browned, about 1 minute. Remove from the grill. Place one patty on the bottom half of each bun.

Reheat the bacon grease in the skillet over medium-high heat. Crack eggs into the hot skillet and fry until whites are cooked but yolk is still runny, about 4 minutes. Immediately place 1 egg on top of each patty. Top with lettuce, onion, avocado, and remaining buns.

KEMET™

BLACK CELEBRATION OF MEMORIAL DAY

Hi everybody!

Happy Memorial Day, especially to all the veterans out there! This American holiday is always observed on the last Monday of May. Memorial Day honors the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Like my father King Zusa, they bravely fought to protect the homeland.

BLACK HISTORY BEHIND MEMORIAL DAY

Today, Memorial Day honors veterans of all wars, but its roots began with the Civil War. It was originally called Decoration Day, which was founded in 1865 by a group of Black Americans who wanted to honor the soldiers that died in the Civil War. Three thousand Black school children carried bouquets of flowers, marched and sang that day. Members of the famous 54th Infantry Regiment and other Black Union Regiments attended the ceremony.The birth of the "First Decoration Day" was born. Americans began to see this holiday as not just one for Civil War Veterans but for veterans of all wars, so it was renamed "Memorial Day".

TELL THE TRUTH!

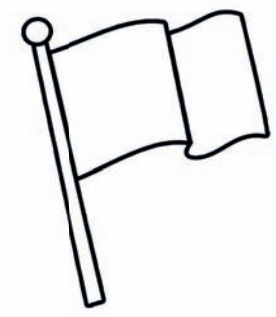
Print the letter T on the line if the statement is True or F if the Statement is False.

____ Memorial Day is always celebrated on the first Monday in May.

____ The First Decoration Day was later known as Memorial Day.

____ The 85th MA Infantry was the first Black American Union regiment.

____ Blacks celebrated the First Memorial Day in May 1865.



COLOR ME RED, WHITE AND BLUE!

WORD SCRAMBLE MEMORIAL DAY

The first letter is in bold.

eAmrcai _____

aFlg _____

dFreoem _____

rHeeso _____

ayM _____

oMriemal _____

WAYS TO CELEBRATE MEMORIAL DAY

Attend a Memorial Day event.
Plan a family picnic to celebrate.
Decorate the outside of your home with flags.
Send a letter to families of fallen troops.
Listen to the Hamilton soundtrack. The edited version is a great history lesson for all ages.
Watch the movie "Glory".
Color your own flag.
Make a red, white and blue dessert.

POPUP: DID YOU KNOW?

The 1989 movie "Glory" told the story of the 54th Massachusetts Infantry.

54TH MASSACHUSETTS INFANTRY REGIMENT

This regiment is famous for having fought in many battles as part of the Union Army during the American Civil War. The 54th, along with the 1st Kansas Colored Volunteer Infantry Regiment, were organized in the northern states during the Civil War. The courage and sacrifice of the 54th Infantry is remembered and honored today. The most famous enlistees in the 54th were Charles and Lewis Douglass, two sons of the abolitionist Frederick Douglass.

KEMET

www.KEMETCOMIC.com

ANSWER KEY

WORD SCRAMBLE
America
flag
freedom
heroes
May
memorial

TELL THE TRUTH!

F
T
F
T

7 On-Trend Kitchen Upgrades

FAMILY FEATURES

Designers from coast to coast are cooking up fresh ideas for kitchen upgrades. This year's hottest trends bring numerous fresh aesthetic approaches while functionality also plays a leading role in top design ideas.

If you are planning a kitchen upgrade, take inspiration from these on-trend elements spotted by the design experts at Wellborn Cabinet:

Unique Tile

In recent years, backsplash tile has taken a more prominent role in kitchen design and has continued to grow in popularity to the point where tile is now a full-stop focal point. From eye-catching colors and patterns to texture that brings new dimension, kitchen tile can make a big statement. In fact, bold tile is not just limited to the backsplash. Patterned tile is an on-trend option for adding character to your flooring and dressing up commonly under-designed spaces like the window jamb with a practical material, like tile, that is easy to clean and maintain.

Multiple Appliances

Function is front and center in residential kitchen design this year, and homeowners' growing demands to go big on appliances is proof. From double ovens to extra dishwashers, homeowners are committing to more useful features. There are even some kitchens that boast two refrigerators, which may be a nod to the way grocery shopping habits shifted during the pandemic, with fewer, but larger, trips to the store.

Walk-Through Pantries

Whether you are capitalizing on the mystique of a "hidden" room or attracted to the idea of a more seamless aesthetic, a walk-through pantry can be a stunning and functional solution. With a walk-through pantry, you can add extra space to an existing pantry to create a better flow to your floor plan. Available in a variety of widths and heights, Wellborn Cabinet's Walk-Through Pantry blends naturally into the rest of your cabinetry to create visual continuity. Integrated magnetic door catches add stability and keep doorways securely closed.

Wood Finishes

After years of painted cabinets and woodwork dominating kitchen design, wood grain finishes are making a comeback. The look is cozy and inviting, and with a wide span of stain options, it is equally possible to take the look ultra-modern or veer toward a more traditional style. Outside of cabinetry, there is plenty of room to incorporate the warmth of wood, such as butcher-block counters or exposed beams.

Green, Blue and Earth Tones

Jewel-inspired hues had their moment, but this season's color scheme is more about subtle shades that meld with neutrals for lighter, brighter spaces that feel airier and more spacious. Greens, in particular, pair well with an array of wood finishes, whether cabinetry, countertops or furnishings. Integrating greens, blues and other nature-inspired colors allows you to bring earthy serenity to a bustling and busy room, and this motif lends itself well to a design that creates a cohesive connection with adjacent outdoor living space.

Clever Storage Solutions

The kitchen is a busy place prone to clutter, and this season you will find multiple examples of practical solutions showing up in showcase kitchens. The features that can make your kitchen chores easier and neater come in all shapes and sizes. For example, discreet knife blocks tucked into drawers, drawer dividers for maximum customization and sliders that make it easy to empty the trash and recycling bins.

Marble Countertops

Marble is not necessarily a new trend, but this year's attention is on slabs of marble with eye-catching veins that make counters really pop. For a fresh take on marble, forgo the typical white, gray or black styles in favor of color. Standout gold veining or even full slabs with stunning greens, blues and reds can make a statement. If budget is an issue, or you are worried about too much of a good thing, consider using a bold slab on a smaller space, like the island, rather than outfitting the entire kitchen.

Find more on-trend ideas to upgrade your kitchen at Wellborn.com.