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# The Triangle Tribune

THE TRIANGLE'S CHOICE FOR THE BLACK VOICE SINCE 1998

"Serving Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill"

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## August is Black *Business* Month

### Black-owned bookstore gets new life at new location

By Tracie Fellers  
CORRESPONDENT

Raleigh's Liberation Station, one of few Black-owned children's bookstores in the country, has been without a brick-and-mortar home for over a year. But owners Victoria Scott-Miller and Duane Miller are on their way to changing that by becoming part of a cohort of Black-owned businesses in southeast Raleigh's Montague Plaza.

Liberation Station, which opened its first physical location in downtown Ra-

leigh on Juneteenth 2023, moved out of the space on Fayetteville Street in April 2024. As reported by The Tribune, safety concerns and threats aimed at the bookstore were factors in the Millers' decision.

Scott-Miller told The Tribune the bookstore's next space would be a place "where we can really amplify the programming that we were already doing but just on a larger scale, so that it can be a bit more community centered and community accessible."

In a recent interview, Scott-Miller used the word

prophetic, but she wasn't referring to herself. In her words (via Instagram), Liberation Station has found its "forever home" in a 1,000 square-foot space in Montague Plaza, a hub for Black-owned businesses at 2718 Rock Quarry Road. That's more than enough space "for us to continue doing this work," she said. Scott-Miller wasn't familiar with the shopping center when she and her family were driving through southeast Raleigh in early July. They were looking at homes with an eye toward moving from

another part of town, since sons Langston, 14, and Emerson, 9, will be attending schools in the area. Rain started to pour "and we had low visibility, so we pulled over into what we didn't know was Montague Plaza," she said. In the car, she managed to see a small sign that read, "If interested, call Monte" — as in James "Monte" Montague, the real estate developer and SE Raleigh native who envisioned the 16,000 square-foot building that now bears his name.

Please see BLACK/2A



LADY IMAN PHOTOGRAPHY

Left to right: Duane Miller, Emerson Miller on dad's shoulders, Victoria Scott-Miller, Langston Miller and Pamela Scott.

### Durham City Council has 13 candidates

By Alex Bass  
alex.bass@triangletribune.com

DURHAM — The following individuals are seeking seats on the Durham City Council. The primary election is Oct. 7, followed by the general election on Nov. 4.

Quotes were gathered from the July 24 candidates' forum at the Holton Career & Resource Center. Incumbent candidates DeDreana Freeman, Mark-Anthony Middleton and Chelsea Cook did not participate but attended the Hayti Reborn town hall meeting at St. Mark AME Zion Church. Candidate Ashley Robbins did not participate in the candidates' forum.

**Ward I**  
**Candidate: Andrea Cazales**  
Affiliation: Democrat  
Website: <https://www.cazalesforcitycouncil.com/>

Quote: "Health lives in every single decision made at the city council. The truth is, when we talk about social justice, we also talk about health justice. It is very much tied to economic opportunities, as well."

**Candidate: DeDreana Freeman**  
Affiliation: Democrat  
Website: <https://www.dedreanafreeman.com/>  
Quote: N/A

**Candidate: Elijah King**  
Affiliation: Democrat  
Website: <https://www.elijahkingfordurham.com/>

Quote: "I want every single person that looks like me - man, woman and child, young or old - to be able to go into that city council chamber, look up at that deck, and say, 'I see myself. I hear myself.'"

**Candidate: Matt Kopac**  
Affiliation: Democrat  
Website: <https://mattfordurham.com/>

Quote: "If we come together as a city council, and as a broader community, and work for passionate, progressive and really practical solutions, we can do a lot more, more effectively, and grow in a way that is more affordable, in a way that is more sustainable, and in a way that helps keeps all of our residents safe."

**Candidate: Samaria McKenzie**  
Affiliation: Unaffiliated

Quote: "The median income in Durham is \$45,000 a year. That is not even enough to maintain groceries and bills for one person. We are not seeing wages go up. We are not seeing communities improve where wages do not rise."

**Candidate: Sheryl Smith**  
Voter Registration: Democrat  
Website: N/A

Quote: "We have no business still getting arrested for trying to protect our children, keep them safe, keep them in the school system, and keep them out of trouble."

**Ward II**  
**Candidate: Shanetta Burris**  
Affiliation: Democrat  
Website: <https://www.shanetta4durham.com/>

Quote: "All politics start locally. We must elect people who actually care about our concerns in this community, who are committed to taking actual steps and not talking about it. We can talk about gun violence every election cycle. What have we done about it? We have food deserts. We are creating food deserts."

**Candidate: Mark-Anthony Middleton**  
Affiliation: Democrat  
Website: N/A  
Quote: N/A

**Candidate: Ashley Robbins**  
Affiliation: Unaffiliated  
Website: N/A  
Quote: N/A

**Ward III**  
**Candidate: Chelsea Cook**  
Affiliation: Democrat  
Website: <https://chelseacockfordurham.com/>  
Quote: N/A

**Candidate: Durant Long**  
Affiliation: Democrat  
Website: N/A

Quote: "Durham is an amazing city of medicine and opportunity. Everybody comes here, and everybody seems to get some-

Please see DURHAM/2A

### NC Republicans override several Stein vetoes

By Makiya Seminera and Gary D. Robertson

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RALEIGH — North Carolina Republican lawmakers on Tuesday overrode several vetoes by Democratic Gov. Josh Stein, getting just enough votes from Stein's own party to enact some laws while falling short on others.

The votes were key tests for Republican General Assembly leaders since they narrowly lost their veto-proof majority following last fall's elections.

Both chambers enacted eight of 14 vetoed measures to further their conservative agenda, including laws that target transgender rights, allow firearms on private school property and eliminate an interim greenhouse gas reduction mandate.

The GOP is one seat shy in the House of overcoming vetoes at will. Lawmakers were able to convince anywhere from one to three House Democrats to override on some measures. "It depends on what the issue is, but on most issues, we're going to have a working supermajority," House Speaker Destin Hall told reporters after session.

Democratic leaders managed to keep intact other vetoes issued by Stein, meaning GOP goals to let adults carry concealed handguns without a permit and eliminate DEI initiatives are derailed for now.

Republicans "didn't override them all. I mean, we might come back and override them if they have the numbers," Democratic Rep. Pricey Harrison said after Tuesday's session. "It's a heck of a way to do policy."

House Democrats weren't able to uphold the governor's veto on a bill targeting transgender people when one of their party members broke ranks.

The legislation initially ran as a bipartisan measure curbing sexual exploitation of women and minors on pornography websites. But several contentious provisions were tacked on later, such as recognizing only two sexes and preventing state-funded gender transition procedures for prisoners.

Freshman Democratic Rep. Dante Pittman voted for the measure in June but on Tuesday sided with Stein's veto instead. Another Democrat, Rep. Nasif Majeed, sided with Republicans to override Stein's veto. "I had some moral issues about that, and I had to lean on my values," Majeed told reporters of the bill after the vote.

In one of their biggest victories, Democrats blocked three bills that would have restricted diversity, equity and inclusion programs across the state by staying unified in their opposition. Two of the bills would bar certain "divisive concepts" and "discriminatory practices" related to race and identity in K-12 schools, public universities and community colleges. The third bill would ban state agencies from implementing diversity, equity and inclusion programs or utilizing DEI in hiring practices.

Hall told reporters he expects the chamber will overcome the remaining vetoes, such as the DEI bills, at some point. "If people are out and the numbers are there, we're going to vote to override," Hall said.

Republican lawmakers fervently prioritized legislation on guns and immigration this session, but in some cases, they couldn't complete that agenda Tuesday. A vetoed bill allowing permitless concealed carry for eligible people over the age of 18 wasn't heard in the House. That bill already faced an uphill battle after two Republicans voted against it with Democrats last month.

Please see STEIN/2A

### Bell takes definitive stance on Hayti rezoning proposal

By Alex Bass

alex.bass@triangletribune.com

DURHAM — Durham Mayor Leo Williams said at a recent candidates forum that he could not reveal his vote on the Hayti District's Fayetteville Street Corridor Project/Heritage Square rezoning proposal. The Durham City Council will vote Aug. 4, and Williams could cast the tie-breaking vote among six other councilors.

Mayoral candidate Anjanee Bell is only one of five other mayoral candidates who took a definitive stance when asked by The Tribune.

"Leadership has to be willing to say 'no' when long-term. It is not going to benefit the people of Durham - the communities, the neighborhoods, the stories, the memories, the future," Bell said.

"There just isn't enough infor-

mation to say 'yes.' Does this project repair harm or repeat it? Does it build with people or push them out? If the answer is unclear, then the answer must be 'no.'

Candidates Pablo Friedmann, Rafiq Zaidi and Lloyd Phillips did not respond to text messages.

Bell said her stance is influenced directly by the time

Please see HAYTI/2A

Index  
News 1A  
Classifieds 4A  
Life/Religion 5A  
Sports 6A  
Focus 8A

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# Black-owned bookstore finds new home

Continued from page 1A

Scott-Miller called, they met the next day, and a week later — on July 14 — she started a GoFundMe campaign to raise the \$60,000 she says it will take for the space to be ready. The plan is to open the new Liberation Station on Juneteenth 2026. "That day is special, it's liberatory," she said.

While the fundraiser has already raised more than 45% of its goal, Scott-Miller said the family, who work together to operate Liberation Station, is committed to the effort for a year.

"We have to be fully

funded," she said. "The community has to say that they want this, that they desire this, and we have to collectively understand what we're up against ... This has to be a collective dream, which is why we're going to campaign for a year to meet our goal."

The money that's already been generated for the bookstore impresses Montague, who said about half of the 13 spaces available in Montague Plaza have been filled.

"The support is amazing that they're having," he said of Liberation Station. "It's incredible."

Scott-Miller said when

she made that first phone call to Montague, he told her he'd been waiting for her to call. When asked about that conversation, Montague said he thought Liberation Station would be a great fit for the shopping center's mix of businesses and a place that many people in the community would welcome. He felt "it would be embraced," he said.

The Millers will hold a community event to share information about the bookstore's future reopening Aug. 17, 2-4 p.m., at the Richard B. Harrison Library, 1313 New Bern Avenue.

# Durham City Council has 13 candidates

Continued from page 1A

thing — except the people

who need it most."

**Candidate: Terry McCann**  
Affiliation: Republican  
Website: <https://www.mccannford-durhamcitycouncil.com/>

Quote: "Some of our kids, when they come into our classrooms, they feel safe in our classrooms, because when they go home to their neighborhoods, they

do not know whether they are going to make it. This city has a spirit of poverty that is perpetuated in violence. We have kids who feel like they have no hope. We have families who grow up poor and feel like that is their place in life."

**Candidate: Diana Medoff**  
Affiliation: Democrat  
Website: <https://www.dianaford-durham.com/>

Quote: "This is a wealthy city, but we are not sharing the wealth equitably. We have so many talented and brilliant people in this city, but we are not working together. I have spent so many years teaching my students how to write persuasive letters to make change. I want to come forward. I want to try to be in the room where it happens and make change."



COURTESY

# Bell takes stance on Hayti zoning proposal

Continued from page 1A

she has spent on the grounds and with members of St. Mark AME Zion Church. Multiple town hall meetings and other anti-rezoning gatherings have been held at St. Mark.

"What I heard was not a sense of anti-development," she said. "What I heard was the fact that this community deserves better. Hayti deserves better."

Sterling Bay, the Heritage Square property owner, has not agreed to guarantee the St. Mark property will be protected from any construction short-term and long-term effects. Raising maximum building heights under new zoning also would not include any affordable housing.

"Any project in Hayti

must be led by people and not built over them," Bell said.

Friedmann and Zaidi alluded about their stances through others' voices and experiences at the forum but without answering The Tribune's subsequent questions directly.

Friedmann discussed the vitality of community engagement in each stage of the planning process, and chided Williams about a City Hall lobby exchange after the June 16 council meeting when the rezoning vote was delayed to Aug. 4. "You saw the Hesters (Larry and Denise) pleading with the mayor to vote 'no,'" Friedmann said.

"That's not listening to community voices." Zaidi cited content in a message he received from a high school student. "No project

shall be considered for development that does not serve the interests of the impacted population," Zaidi said were the student's words. "Nor should any people's displacement or otherwise disruptive project be allowed to proceed without the permission of that population."

Neither Phillips nor Reddick participated in the July 22 forum. Reddick, reached by telephone Tuesday, said she was unfamiliar with the rezoning proposal.

"I have to know exactly what they're trying to do with it. I have to read the policies and procedures," she said. "Until I know enough about it, then I cannot do anything about it. Nobody has told me anything."

# NC Republicans override several Stein vetoes

Continued from page 1A

House Republicans also failed to call a vote on vetoed legislation that would require several state law enforcement agencies to engage in the Trump administration's immigration crackdown by formally cooperating with federal agents.

A bill that allows certain people to carry firearms onto private school property with administrative permission passed with support of a Democrat. Another Democrat's support also pushed through a separate immigration measure expanding the offenses that would require a local sheriff to check a detained person's legal status in the country.

Enough Democrats joined Republicans in overriding Stein's veto of legislation that largely addressed activities of Duke Energy, the state's dominant electric utility. The new law in part repeals a portion of a bipartisan 2021 law that told electric regulators to work toward reducing carbon dioxide output 70% from 2005 levels by 2030. A directive in the 2021 law to meet a carbon neutrality standard by 2050 is still in place.



# Wiley Nickel exits NC Senate race as Cooper announces candidacy

By Gary D. Robertson

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CARY — A former congressman will no longer seek an open U.S. Senate seat in North Carolina next year now that fellow Democrat Roy Cooper is running for the post.

Tuesday's announcement by ex-U.S. Rep. Wiley Nickel came the day after Cooper, a former two-term governor, kicked off his own campaign to succeed retiring Republican Sen. Thom Tillis with a video message.

Cooper's past popularity, name recognition and fundraising ability made him the party's front-runner overnight.

"I've seen firsthand his steady, bipartisan leadership. He listens, he shows up, and he gets things done," Nickel said while endorsing Cooper and revealing plans to suspend his own Senate campaign. "And for so many of us, including me, he's been an inspiration to step up and serve."

Nickel had signaled interest in a 2026 U.S. Senate bid nearly two years ago, when the Raleigh-area congressman decided against seeking a second U.S. House term because he said district lines redrawn by the General Assembly made it essentially impossible to win again.

Nickel formally launched a Senate campaign in April,

focusing on unseating Tillis. But his activities were always overshadowed by what Cooper, who wrapped up eight years as governor last December, decided to do next. Well before Tillis announced June 29 that he would not seek a third term, many state and national Democrats hoped Cooper would join the race.

"We started this campaign to send Thom Tillis packing. Well, mission accomplished I guess!" Nickel quipped.

Cooper's nearly 40 years in state electoral politics, including time as a state legislator and attorney general, made him a top-tier option for what's expected to be one of the most competitive 2026 Senate contests. While Cooper could still face intraparty opposition, Nickel's departure could clear the field of significant challengers heading to his party's primary in early March.

On the GOP side, Republican National Committee Chairman Michael Whatley plans to run for the nomination, with President Donald Trump's blessing, according to two people familiar with his thinking who were not authorized to discuss the matter publicly before an official announcement.

Whatley, the former North Carolina GOP chairman, received Trump's en-

dorsement after Lara Trump, the president's daughter-in-law and a North Carolina native, passed on the seat. Another potential candidate, first-term U.S. Rep. Pat Hargan, said over the weekend he would seek reelection instead.

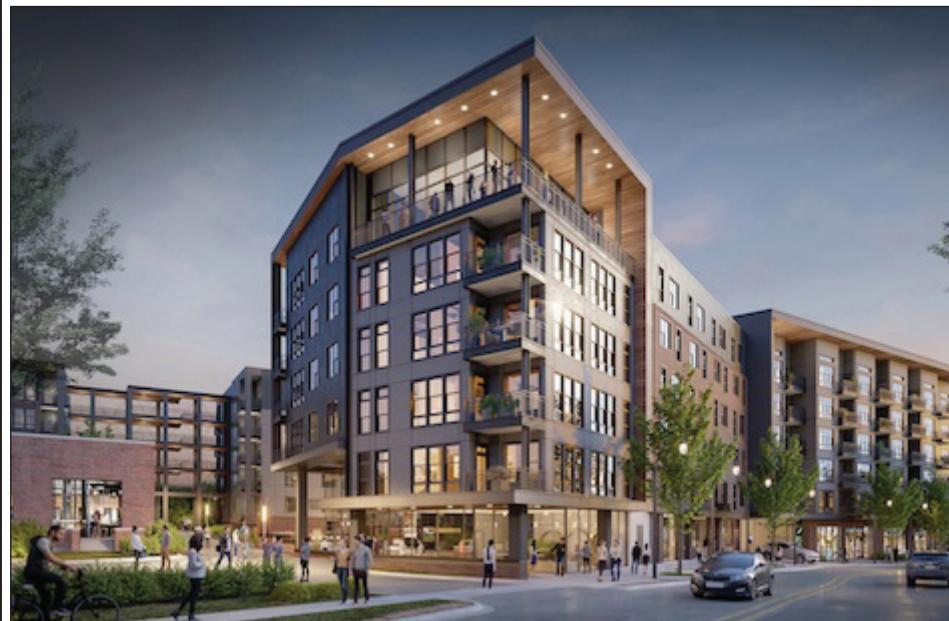
Nickel, 49, is a lawyer and former state senator whose career has included working as a White House staffer in Barack Obama's administration. In 2022, Nickel narrowly won a swing-district election over Republican Bo Hines, who had received Trump's endorsement in the GOP primary.

Nickel hinted in Tuesday's statement about future political endeavors. "Public service is a part of who I am, and you'll hear more from me soon," he said.

Tillis announced his decision not to seek another six-year term after Trump threatened to back a primary candidate against him as Tillis opposed Medicaid reductions in the president's tax break and spending cut package. To retake the majority in 2026, Democrats need to net four seats, and most of the contests are in states that Trump easily won last year.

Trump won North Carolina by about 3 percentage points, one of his closest margins of victory.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS



Wye Junction

### CHAMBER

August is National Black Business Month. The Greater Durham Black Chamber of Commerce has a full schedule of events throughout the month. Visit [www.gdbcc.org](http://www.gdbcc.org).

Tickets: [durham-chamber.org](http://durham-chamber.org).

Durham 85 has been sold to EastGroup Properties.

### MARKET

The Market at Raleigh Iron Works is Aug. 9, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., 2200 Atlantic Avenue. Local artisans and live music.

### CHAMBER

Durham Chamber will host "Mid-Year Economic Outlook, Presented by Bank of America" Aug. 5, 8 to 10 a.m., Durham Bulls Athletic Park-PNC Triangle Club, 409 Blackwell St.

### INNOVATE DURHAM

Applications for 2025-26 Innovate Durham cohort ends Aug. 11. Learn more at [dconc.gov/](http://dconc.gov/).

### SOLD!

LifeScience Logistics at

### OPENING

Wye Junction, downtown Durham's newest residential and retail complex, will open later this summer with move-ins set for fall at 701 Washington St. Over 300 luxury apartments and 26,325 square feet of retail space will grace the 1926 Fire Drill Tower.

Send business briefs to [info@triangletribune.com](mailto:info@triangletribune.com).

Have a news tip?  
Email: [info@triangletribune.com](mailto:info@triangletribune.com)



## North Carolina's 'housing wage' is up nearly two dollars since 2024

By Greg Childress  
NC NEWSLINE

A full-time worker in North Carolina must earn a minimum of \$27.14 per hour to afford a modest, two-bedroom apartment, according to a recent report by the National Low Income Housing Coalition. A year ago, the state's "housing wage" was \$25.21 per hour.

The NLIHC releases an annual report, "Out of Reach: The High Cost of Housing," which shows what people must earn to afford rents.

The housing wage is an estimate of what a full-time worker must earn to afford rent at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Fair Market Rent without spending more than 30% of their income.

Individuals and families that spend more than 30% of income on housing are considered cost burdened. Nearly half (48%) of the state's renters and 19% of

homeowners are considered cost burdened, according to the N.C. Housing Coalition.

At \$27.14 per hour, North Carolina has the 30th highest housing wage in the nation. A worker earning the \$7.25 per hour minimum wage must work 150 per week to afford a modest two-bedroom apartment.

An annual income of \$56,442 is needed to afford a two-bedroom home at the \$1,232 per month FMR. "This report is a critical reminder that we cannot reduce the affordable housing crisis down to individual choice or supply alone," Stephanie Watkins-Cruz, director of housing policy for the N.C. Housing Coalition, said in a statement.

"This report reminds us that wages are not keeping up with the cost of living and that more and more North Carolinians are experiencing the strain of cost-burden across our state."

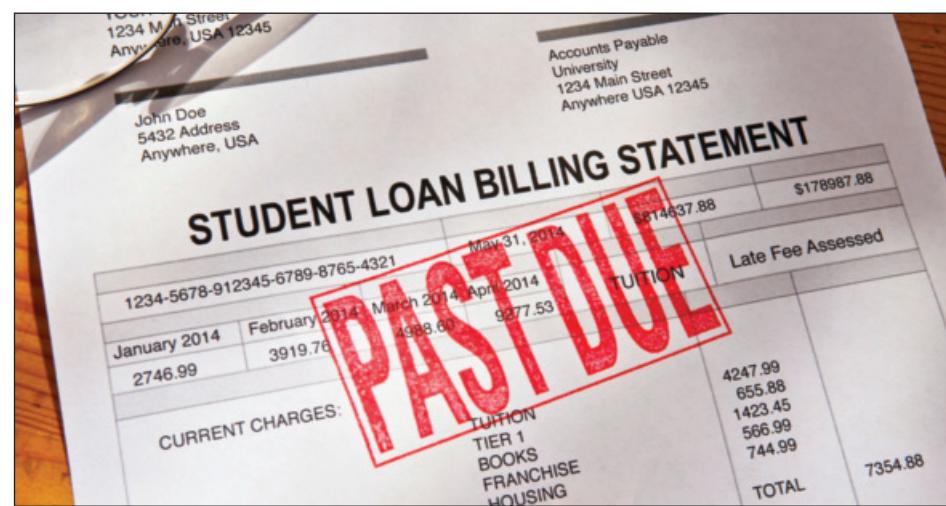
Meanwhile, the national 2025 "housing wage" is

\$33.63 per hour for a two-bedroom rental home and \$28.17 for a one-bedroom rental home. Last year, the national "housing wage" was \$32.11 per hour for a two-bedroom rental. It was \$26.74 for a one-bedroom rental.

"Housing is more than just shelter, it is foundational to well-being and dignity," NLIHC President and CEO Renee Willis said. "This year's Out of Reach report shows that, despite economic gains for some, low-income renters continue to face impossible choices between paying rent and meeting basic needs."

Willis said the report findings reinforce the conclusion that cutting federal housing investments would only deepen the housing crisis.

"Congress must protect and expand housing programs that ensure stability, opportunity, and a pathway out of poverty for millions of renters," Willis said.



## US Education Department to revive student loan interest

By Shaunee Miranda  
NC NEWSLINE

WASHINGTON — Interest accrual on the debt of nearly 7.7 million student loan borrowers enrolled in the Saving on a Valuable Education plan will resume Aug. 1, the U.S. Education Department said.

The Biden-era income-driven repayment plan better known as SAVE saw legal challenges from several GOP-led states beginning in 2024, creating uncertainty for borrowers who were placed in an interest-free forbearance amid that legal limbo. The SAVE plan, created in 2023, aimed to provide lower monthly loan payments for borrowers and forgive remaining debt after a certain period.

In February, a federal appeals court upheld a lower court injunction that blocked the SAVE plan from going into effect. The department said that it's instructing its federal student loan servicers to start charging interest Aug. 1 to comply with court orders.

When the SAVE plan forbearance ends, "borrowers will be responsible for making monthly payments that include any accrued interest as well as their principal amounts," the department said in a written announcement.

"For years, the Biden Administration used so-called 'loan forgiveness' promises to win votes, but federal courts repeatedly ruled that those actions were unlawful," Education Secretary Linda McMahon said in a statement alongside the announcement.

"Congress designed these programs to ensure that borrowers repay their loans, yet the Biden Administration tried to illegally force taxpayers to foot the bill instead."

McMahon said her department is urging borrowers under the SAVE plan to "quickly transition to a legally compliant repayment plan."

"Borrowers in SAVE cannot access important loan benefits and cannot make progress toward loan discharge programs authorized by Congress," she said.

Mike Pierce, executive director of the Student Borrower Protection Center, blasted the department's decision in a statement Wednesday.

"Instead of fixing the broken student loan system, Secretary McMahon is choosing to drown millions of people in unnecessary interest charges and blaming unrelated court cases for her own mismanagement," he said.

"Every day, we hear from

borrowers waiting on hold with their servicer for hours, begging the government to let them out of this forbearance, and help them get back on track. Instead, McMahon is choosing to jack up the cost of their student debt without giving them a way out."

The agency has taken heat for its sweeping actions in the months since President Donald Trump took office as he and his administration look to dismantle the department.

The department is also mired in a legal challenge over some of its most significant efforts so far, including laying off more than 1,300 employees earlier this year as part of a reduction in force effort, an executive order calling on McMahon to facilitate the closure of her own agency and Trump's proposal to transfer some services to other federal agencies.

These actions have been temporarily halted in court.

Meanwhile, Trump signed a massive tax and spending cut bill into law last week, part of which forces any borrower under the SAVE plan to opt in to a different repayment plan by July 1, 2028, or be automatically placed in a new, income-based repayment plan.



Bola Sokunbi is the founder and CEO of Clever Girl Finance, a personal finance education platform for women in the United States.

## Detecting fraud before it's too late to save your funds

By Megan Sayles  
AFRO STAFF WRITER

Every year, millions of Americans are victims of credit card fraud.

In 2024 alone, 62 million people had unauthorized charges on their credit or debit cards, with expenses surpassing \$6.2 billion.

As technology advances, scams are becoming more sophisticated, targeted and convincing.

Bola Sokunbi, founder and CEO of Clever Girl Finance, sat down with the AFRO to discuss the top ways to detect and address fraud before it spirals out of control.

**AFRO:** What are the most common signs of bank and credit card fraud that people often miss?

**Bola Sokunbi:** One sign people tend to overlook is small, unexplained charges.

Fraudsters will often test the waters with a tiny transaction to see if the card is active and the account holder is paying attention.

**AFRO:** How do perpetrators get access to bank or card information without access to a physical card?

**BS:** Data breaches are a big one. When a company you've been shopping with gets hacked, your information can end up on the dark web. Scammers also use public Wi-Fi to intercept information, as well as phishing links and fake websites that mimic legit ones to trick you into entering your credentials. It's not about being careless, it's about how advanced and sneaky these tactics have become.

**AFRO:** Are there certain fraud tactics or trends that have emerged in recent years?

**BS:** Yes. Scammers are getting more personal. They'll use information from social media to make scams feel more believable, like mentioning your kids or hometown. Artificial intelligence voice scams are also growing where fraudsters mimic a loved one's voices to ask for help or money. It's surreal, but it's happening, so awareness is everything.

**AFRO:** What immediate steps should be taken to detect suspicious activity?

**BS:** Don't wait. Lock your card or freeze your account immediately. Most apps let you do this in seconds. Then, call your bank or credit card company to report the fraud and file a claim. Change your passwords right away and check your other financial accounts in case there's been broader access. If the fraud is significant, file a report with the Federal Trade Commission and your local police.

**AFRO:** How should people be proactive in protecting their financial information?

**BS:** Stay curious and cautious. Use strong, unique passwords. A password manager can help with this. You should also enable two-factor authentication and check your bank and credit card accounts regularly — weekly if you can. Don't be afraid to question texts, emails or even phone calls that feel off. You're not paranoid. You're being smart.



## August is Black Business Month

**Support trusted reporting and strong community storytelling.**

During Black Business Month, consider contributing to The Triangle Tribune by donating on our website.

**The Triangle  
TRIBUNE**

*The Voice of the Black Community*

[www.triangletribune.com](http://www.triangletribune.com)



## New church plant gifts single mother with car

By Diana Chandler

BAPTIST PRESS

COLUMBUS, Ohio - Patrice Baker walked into the dealership and announced her budget for a car - "free."

She was planning a women's ministry event for Change City Church, the new pastorate of her husband and Send City church planter Darryl Baker in the Columbus suburb of Pickerington.

The sales rep, although taken aback by Patrice's budget, offered her a seat. "So, I told him about Dynetta and her situation and how amazing she is, her background story," Patrice said. "And he was actually getting a little teared up."

Dynetta McDonald, a single mother of three children ages 10 to 17, had been without transportation three years. McDonald testifies of having fled a sinful life in Georgia, having once been in love with money, having done many things for it, and having learned the hard way that when you love the world, it doesn't love you back.

She's thankful for Change City Church, where God has connected her with the spiritual mother she sees in Patrice. "She's literally my mom. I know for a fact, God says he's a mother to the motherless, a friend to the friendless and a father to the fatherless. And I know for a fact he placed Patrice Baker and Pastor Baker in my life for that reason," McDonald told Baptist Press. "Because my mom was killed when I was 9, and then I was adopted. And my adoptive mother literally died in my arms (when I was) 13. And so, for God to give me these wonderful, amazing, godly people in my life, I know for a fact that it was nothing but Him."

At the dealership, a car had just come in, but it was well over Patrice's budget. The 2016 Chevrolet Traverse LTZ had 120,000 miles on it and was listed



A Columbus, Ohio, area dealership, which requested anonymity, sold Change City Church this 2016 Chevrolet Traverse for \$5,000.



Dynetta McDonald, a single mother of three.

for just under \$13,000. The sales rep had a price in mind, but he would have to talk to his manager, who in turn would have to talk to his manager, each of whom would have to talk to Patrice.

One by one, she told them about McDonald. \$5,000. "He said this is pretty much as close to free as I can get," Patrice recalled. "I said I'll take it."

She paid for the car in full with her personal debit card, she told Baptist Press, and will not seek reimbursement from the church. "It's my personal gift," she said. "We don't use the church funds for our Grace Girls Gatherings."

In its sixth month, Change City is thriving as a church plant, Darryl said. Attendance has held steady during the summer. Husbands who formerly

shunned church now accompany their wives in worship and mentoring and discipleship groups are forming. "Change is definitely happening in our community through Change City Church," the pastor said.

Giving a car as a personal gift is nothing strange for Patrice. Giving is in her DNA, she said, taught by her parents who were huge givers themselves.

The Bakers live by the principle that God gives seed to the sower and blesses with favor those who give, she told Baptist Press.

"Now this has been all of my life, my marriage. God has truly blessed, blessed, blessed us," she said. "People look at us and think we have a lot of money, and we don't. But because we give so much, God gives back to us."

## CarePatrol helps seniors find home away from home

By Freda Freeman  
CORRESPONDENT

Jonathan Clark, of Durham, treats his clients like family. As a franchisee of CarePatrol, Clark helps families navigate what he describes as one of the most emotional and complex decisions they'll ever face: finding the right care for a loved one who can no longer stay in his home.

Growing up in a four-generational household, Clark spent a lot of time with grandparents. "I always had a passion for seniors, and I think that's where my old spirit comes from. I've always been taught to give back to society and try to help folks. When this opportunity came along, it really allowed me to focus on my passion," he said.

Clark retired after a long career with FedEx Corp., but wasn't ready to stop working completely, so he started looking for other jobs.

His search showed the geriatric industry was growing, so he went into sales, first selling power chairs or electric wheelchairs, then respiratory equipment, then stair lifts. He often met caregivers who confided that they didn't know how much longer they could take care of their ailing spouse and asked for his advice.

In his research, Clark learned about CarePatrol, a senior care advisory service that helps people 55 and older who can no longer safely live at home alone. He bought a CarePatrol franchise in 2017.



JONATHAN CLARK OF CAREPATROL COURTESY

Clark and his staff research senior care providers to let families know what their options are among assisted living, independent living and memory care facilities. They also help families explore personal care service or in-home options. They work with families in Durham, Chapel Hill, Greensboro and High Point.

CarePatrol's advisory services are free for families. The company is paid

by senior care providers when a person moves into their senior community or facility. "Normally, when I get a call, it's a medical emergency. A person's mother has fallen, she's been to hospital and can't go back home by herself.

So, I do a care discovery with the family to find out what the person's needs are, how they're going to pay for it, and then I start looking at options. I do the research, and the family makes the decision based on what we come up with," Clark said.

August is recognized as National Black Business Month, a time to celebrate and support Black-owned businesses.

Reba DeMouy, Clark's administrative assistant, said social workers often call CarePatrol when they think a family may need their services. "We let them know they are not alone. We'll hold their hand through the process. That's what CarePatrol does from the beginning to the end. ... We go with them to tour these communities, and we make sure every question that needs to be answered is answered," she said.

DeMouy said the services CarePatrol provides are particularly helpful to Black families who may not be informed about long-term care options.

"Especially in the Black community, when some of those resources aren't always available, we have that knowledge at our fingertips, we have resources that we can tap into," she said.

August is recognized as National Black Business Month, a time to celebrate and support Black-owned businesses.

## AROUND THE TRIANGLE

## RALEIGH

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES:

\* Aug. 3, 2-6 p.m. - community block party, 2623 Sanderford Road. Supplies while they last.

\* Aug. 3, 3-6 p.m. - Boots on the Ground Back to School Extravaganza, Worthdale Community Center, 1001 Cooper Road

\* Aug. 9, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. - Back to School Fun Day Bash, Mt. Peace Baptist Church, 1601 MLK Jr.

Boulevard.

## BLOCK PARTY

Advance Community Health's end of summer block party is Aug. 9, 1-4 p.m., SE Raleigh YMCA, 1436 Rock Quarry Road.

R S V P : survey.zohopublic.com.

## CONFERENCE

Women seeking encouragement are invited to the "Summer Oasis 2025: What's Love Got to Do with It? ... Everything!" seminar Aug. 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Unity Church of Raleigh, 5124 Departure Drive.

## SUMMER LOVE

Adults seeking encouragement are invited to the "Summer Oasis 2025: What's Love Got to Do with It? ... Everything!" seminar Aug. 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Unity Church of Raleigh, 5124 Departure Drive.

## DURHAM

## TRANSIT

Beginning Aug. 4, GoTriangle will offer 15-minute intervals along Routes 400 and 405 in Durham and Orange counties. Visit: gotriangle.org/service-changes.

## LUNCHEON

Sister II Sister Sorority Luncheon is Aug. 9, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., North Raleigh Hilton, 3415 Wake Forest Road. Visit www.sororityluncheon.com.

## SKATE NIGHT

Adult Skate Night is Aug. 4, 8-11 p.m., Wheels Durham, 715 N. Hoover Road. Proceeds support NCCU Mr. Alumni Campaign Scholarship Fund.

August 3-9, 2025 | 5A

## CANDIDATE MIXER

People's Alliance PAC's fall candidate mixer is Aug. 5, 6-8 p.m., Motorco Music Hall, 723 Rigsbee Ave. Renew membership at: www.durhampa.org/.

## PATCHWORK

Summer Patchwork Market is Aug. 10, noon to 4 p.m., Durham Armory, 220 Foster St. Visit: www.thepatchworkmarket.com.

## CHAPEL HILL

National Night Out is Aug. 5, 6-8 p.m., Hargraves Community Center, 216 N. Roberson St.

## ORGANIZED

Stylist Kristina Barrett will discuss how to get organized Aug. 8, 10-11 a.m., Seymour Center, 2551 Homestead Road. Register at 919-245-2026.

## CEREMONY

Ribbon cutting ceremony for FitLot at the Seymour Center, Aug. 8, 10 a.m., 2551 Homestead Road.

## MISC.

Bold.org allows students to apply for scholarships based on background, interests and goals.

## RECIPE OF THE WEEK



COURTESY

## Double the flavor with this summer favorite

## FAMILY FEATURES

## All-American Smash Burgers

Recipe courtesy of The McLemore Boys on behalf of Wonder

Servings: 4

4 Wonder Classic Hamburger Buns

2 pounds angus beef

2 large eggs, beaten

1 tablespoon McLemore Boys Sweet Rub

¼ cup sweet barbecue sauce

8 slices cheddar cheese

1 pound bacon, halved

lengthwise

mayonnaise

1 large tomato, sliced

1 head lettuce

kosher salt

black pepper

Heat griddle to high heat.

Toast buns on griddle until golden brown. Set aside.

In large bowl, combine

ground beef, eggs and sweet rub; mix evenly. Form meat mixture into eight 4-ounce balls.

Place balls on griddle and smash with spatula. Cook 5 minutes, flip and brush with barbecue sauce.

Cook 5 minutes or until burgers reach medium doneness.

Place cheese slices on burgers for last 2 minutes to melt.

Assemble bacon in 3-by-3 weave. Cook alongside burgers to desired crispiness.

To build burgers, spread buns with mayo, add first burger, then mini bacon weave, second burger, tomato, lettuce and sprinkle of salt and black pepper. Crown it with top bun and gently press.



PHOTO/BONITA BEST

Compassionate Baptist Church celebrated the conclusion of its first summer camp held at Southeast Raleigh Magnet High School.

# Deion Sanders' return lifts spirits

By Pat Graham  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOULDER, Colo. — To Colorado defensive back Carter Stoutmire, Deion Sanders is more than just a coach. He's like an uncle who's been in his life since pretty much the day he was born.

So hearing his coach's booming voice back in meetings and seeing his coach's swagger at camp this week, well, it lifted his spirits. Not just for him, but the entire team in the wake of Sanders announcing news of his private battle with bladder cancer.

"Whatever hardship trials he goes through, he always makes it through," Stoutmire said after practice Wednesday. "Seeing him back, just a breath of fresh air for the whole team."

It's been a few months since they've seen their coach after Sanders stepped away to deal with his health. He revealed Monday that doctors removed his bladder to ward off an aggressive form of cancer. He had a section of his intestine reconstructed to function as a bladder.

"Honestly, just having Coach Prime's presence back in the building is an amazing feeling," said safety DJ McKinney, whose team opens the season Aug. 29 against Georgia Tech at Folsom Field. "I feel like everybody just has a chip on their shoulder."

Namely, to work as hard as they can for him.

"I mean, it hit different for me, just because that's like family to me," Stoutmire said. "That was like real, genuine concern."

Stoutmire's father, Omar, played for the Dallas Cowboys with Sanders in the 1990s. His dad and Sanders have been longtime friends, which is why he considers him an uncle.

"First time I met him? I don't remember — he was in my birth room," Carter Stoutmire said of Sanders. "We've just got a whole lot of history, so it's hard to remember the first genuine time I really met him."

He's had a big impact, too. So much so that Carter Stoutmire was part of Sanders' inaugural high school recruiting class at Colorado.

Asked if his coach's bravado was indeed back at practice, Stoutmire simply responded, "Oh yeah. Ain't no question about that."

Upon his return to campus, Sanders tried to pick up right where he left off. Defensive coordinator Robert Livingston said he met with Sanders last week and the first thing Sanders inquired about was Livingston's family. He wanted to know about his son, Luke, who's playing baseball.

Sanders, a Pro Football Hall of Famer who also played Major League Baseball, wanted to hear all about it.

"Prime's talking about his stance and all these things, and he wants to know how that's going," Livingston recounted. "His leadership is one of one. He's the Pied Piper — the world will follow him if they just listen to him."

Livingston's first reaction to the news?

"Scared, just like everybody," he said. "We're talking about a life here. This football stuff, that doesn't really matter at the end of the day."

"He was away and we were working and just knowing that when he comes back, he's going to hit the ground running. That first staff meeting went about like you thought it would, 'Hey, we're going to do this. We're going to do that.'"

Sanders missed a series of camps in Boulder this summer due to his health. His veteran staff, which includes Pat Shurmur, Warren Sapp and Marshall Faulk, held things down.

"The conversation was never had, like 'if, then,'" Livingston said. "We knew he'd be here day one."

# The Triangle Tribune Sports

August 3-9, 2025 | 6A

## Bull City Proud!

The Durham Triple Play Junior and Senior teams clinched the championships at the 2025 Nike RBI Mid-Atlantic Regional at Thomas Brooks Park in Cary. These wins punch their tickets to the Nike RBI World Series in Vero Beach, Florida, Aug. 3-9.



The senior team



The junior team

### HBCU FOOTBALL

## Alcorn State sets a new standard in the youth movement with the '4Kasters' reporters

By Bonitta Best  
editor@triangletribune.com

Former Carolina Panther star Cam Newton proposed launching a Black College Gameday show on his 4th&1 podcast.

"If you give Cam Newton a Pat McAfee-like deal? Oh my goodness," Newton said, obviously looking for financial backers.

#### Shaw

Preseason camp begins Aug. 2 with headshots and media interviews before full practice Aug. 3, noon to 2 p.m., Chavis Park. The Bears will practice 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. during the week and noon to 2 p.m. on weekends. Aug. 7 is an off day. Camp concludes with a scrimmage Aug. 12 at 10 a.m.

#### Hampton

The Pirates have no non-conference FBS opponents and will play five HBCU teams: Jackson State, Elizabeth City State, N.C. A&T (conference member), Howard and Norfolk State. HU was picked to finish tied for 12th in the CAA.

#### N.C. A&T

Despite being picked to finish last in the CAA, new coach



"The Brave New World Of Media"

COURTESY

Alcorn State's "4Kasters" sideline reporting team.

Shawn Gibbs says it's important for the HBCU to compete in the predominately white conference.

"In the modern day, no HBCU has been able to achieve anything on that level, and we're

not afraid to say like everybody else that's what we're shooting for. If you're not trying to be the best, why are you doing it?"

Gibbs said during CAA Media Day.

"And we feel like being in the

CAA, which is one of the top conferences in FCS football, gives us an opportunity to do that."

Please see ALCORN/7A

### COLLEGE CORNER

## Former HBCU coaches to meet in November

The CIAA has launched a new initiative called the CIAA Leadership Academy. What CC likes about this academy is it will empower leaders at EVERY level of athletics.

CC gets so tired of seeing "emerging leaders" everywhere. They can't emerge if there's no one to teach 'em. Veteran leaders need to be empowered, too, dagnabit!

#### WOMEN

##### HBCU Alums

Former HBCU basketball coaches Tomekia Reed and Larry Vickers will battle in Charlotte on Nov. 3.

Reed is in her second season at Charlotte after leading Jackson State to record-setting wins. Vickers is heading into his first season at Auburn after putting Norfolk State women on the national map for nine seasons.

#### Virginia State

Florida A&M assistant volleyball coach Kaitlyn Scroggins is now Virginia State's new head volleyball coach.

#### AAMU

Alabama A&M basketball player Shelomi Sanders is one of 21 student-athletes



Spring Hill guard Steven Lyles

who signed NIL deals with Dexcom, a health care company that makes continuous glucose monitoring systems. Sanders is the daughter of Colorado football coach Deion Sanders and Pilar Sanders.

#### MEN

##### Spring Hill

Former guard Steven Lyles has signed with Selfoss Karfa, a semi-professional team in Iceland. Karfa scored over 1,000 points in four seasons. He holds the team's career steals record at 88.

Spring Hill is a member of

the SIAC, the other NCAA Division II HBCU conference.

**MLB**  
Not everything is about football or basketball. Alabama State star outfielder Kameron Douglas recently

Please see FORMER/7A

# Alcorn State's '4Kasters' set a new standard

Continued from page 6A

## SWAC

The conference has partnered with Victory Snacks for exclusively designed packaging featuring individual name, image and likeness of all 12 schools. Revenue will also go towards the 12 institutions.

"As we looked at a variety of opportunities that have been presented to us during recent weeks in this new era on intercollegiate athletics, this partnership stood out as an extremely innovative and strategic initiative that could assist with providing our membership with the resources needed to continue to elevate their athletic programs in all facets," SWAC Commissioner Charles McClelland said.

## Alcorn State

The Braves have given new meaning to the youth movement in media.

The "4Kasters" are ASU's new sideline reporters covering the upcoming football season. The four will conduct exclusive interviews with players, coaches and fans during home games.

"Alcorn has always em-

braced innovation and community," athletics director E. D'Wayne Robinson said. "With the 4Kasters, we're combining both. This initiative gives kids an incredible opportunity to grow and engage while connecting fans to the game in a whole new way."

## Walter Payton

Three HBCU players are among the 30 finalists for the Stats Perform 2025 Walter Payton Award, which honors the Division I-FCS offensive player of the year.

\* Jackson State QB JaCobi Morgan  
\* Norfolk State RB Kevon King  
\* Jackson State RB Travis Terrell Jr.

## Buck Buchanan

Three HBCU players also are among the 30 finalists for the 2025 Buck Buchanan Award, which goes to the top FCS defensive player of the year.

\* Southern DL Ckelby Givens  
\* Morgan State Erick Hunter  
\* N.C. Central DB Malcolm Reed

## Legacy Bowl

The HBCU Legacy Bowl, which showcases the top football players in a post-season all-star game, has formed a partnership with the John Madden Foundation.

## SIAC

The conference will play 23 games on ESPN platforms, beginning with the Aug. 30 matchup between Edward Waters and Savannah State.

But the most anticipated - for bragging rights between the two Division II HBCU conferences - is the Red Tails Classic Aug. 31 on ESPNU between Winston-Salem State and Tuskegee.

Virginia Union and Edward Waters battle Sept. 18 on ESPN+. Visit the-siac.com for the entire schedule.

## Turnin' Pro

\* Jackson State LB James Houston signs with the Dallas Cowboys.

## Goodbye, Hello.

\* Colby College graduate OL Bryce Leos to Howard  
\* Sacramento State QB Kaiden Bennett, Delaware State



Shelomi Sanders is Deion Sanders' daughter.

## Did you know?



Two Durham Public Schools alumni are currently playing professional soccer? The Pinto siblings are repping Charles E. Jordan High School on the national stage:

BRIANNA PINTO

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Midfielder for the North Carolina Courage (NWSL)

MALIK PINTO

Princeton University  
Midfielder for Colorado Rapids 2 (MLS Next Pro)

## Former HBCU coaches to meet in November

Continued from page 6A  
signed with the Detroit Tigers.

## Goodbye. Hello. (Basketball)

\* Virginia State G Mihjae Hayes has joined former Trojans coach Nadine Domond at Morgan State.

\* Clarion (Pa.) G Hannah Wilkerson is headed to Bowie State.

## SPORTS SHORTS

### RALEIGH

\* Boone Sports Ventures' annual 3x3 basketball tournament is Aug. 8, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., Chavis Park. Visit [www.boones3on3.com](http://www.boones3on3.com).

### DURHAM

\* All-American Women's Baseball Classic is Aug. 1-3, Durham Bulls Stadium. Visit [USABaseball.com](http://USABaseball.com).

\* 1st and Goal 365 presents Bull City Classic Jamboree, Aug. 16, 5 p.m., Durham County Memorial

Stadium. Eight Teams, four games. A portion of the proceeds go to all teams. Tickets on sale this weekend.

Send your sports announcements to: [info@triangletribune.com](mailto:info@triangletribune.com). Photos welcome.

**The best in HBCU Sports**  
[triangletribune.com](http://triangletribune.com)

**KEMET™**  
**BLACK AMERICAN WRESTLERS**

**Hi everybody!**

Sankofa 82 and I traveled back in time to the 1950s to visit World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) with the owners, the McMahon family. They were responsible for bringing wrestling to television in homes across America. Fare or not, wrestling is a multibillion-dollar business today. Because of discrimination and segregation laws Black Americans did not play a major role in this sport until the late 1990s.

**WWE BLACK AMERICAN CHAMPION WRESTLERS**

It took 48 years before the McMahon family allowed a Black American Wrestler to become a Champion in the World Wrestling Entertainment all-star lineup cast. Since the early 1950s, 4 Black men and 6 Black women have held the title. They are as follows: Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson (1998), "Booker T" Huffman Jr. (2006), Mark Henry (2011), Kofi Kingston (2019, first African), Jacqueline Moore (1998), "Jazz" Carlene Denise Moore-Begnaud (2002), Alicia Fox (2008), "Naomi" Trinity Fatu (2017), Sasha Banks (2016), and Bianca Belair (2021).

**HOUSTON HARRIS, NICKNAMED "BOBO BRAZIL"**

He was known as the "Jackie Robinson" of professional wrestling. He was also known for his "Coco Butt" which was a head-to-head butt. Whenever BoBo Brazil was on the edge of defeat he would use his head butt to render his opponent helpless - thus winning the match. BoBo Brazil was also the first Black American to be inducted into the World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) Hall of Fame.

**TELL THE TRUTH!**

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

The WWE is a real and true wrestling sporting event.

BoBo Brazil was also known as the "Jackie Robinson" of wrestling.

Ronald Simmons was the first Black male WWE champion.

Dwayne Johnson will be starring in a Marvel comic movie called Black Adam.

Sasha Banks won her match against Bianca Belair and won the WWE Championship crown.

Ethel Johnson was the first Black WWE women's champion.

**ONE MINUTE MADNESS!**

In one minute or less, unscramble words that are closely related to the world of wrestlers. The first letter of the name is in bold.

Coo tutB \_\_\_\_\_  
ahMcMno \_\_\_\_\_  
ppiihmnaCos \_\_\_\_\_  
lieeuCrghtrws \_\_\_\_\_  
heT coRk \_\_\_\_\_

**THE FIRST BLACK MALE WWE CHAMPION**

Ron Simmons is recognized by WWE as the first Black world champion in professional wrestling history.

**FIRST BLACK WWE WOMEN'S CHAMPION**

Ethel Blanche Hairston, better known as Ethel Johnson, was the first Black American female wrestler and also became the first Black American Women's Champion.

**WHO AM I?**

Match the wrestler to the year they won their title.

Bianca Belair   Dwayne Johnson  
Kofi Kingston   Jacqueline Moore

Male 1998 WWE Champion  
Female 1998 WWE Champion  
Female 2021 WWE Champion  
Male 2019 WWE Champion

**BIANCA BELAIR AND SASHA BANKS**

Bianca made history with Sasha Banks when they were the first two Black Women to headline WrestleMania 37 in 2021. The two women thrilled the crowd as they battled. Bianca won.

**DWAYNE DOUGLAS JOHNSON, "THE ROCK"**

Dwayne became a very successful and charismatic wrestler with the stage name, "The Rock". His famous line when he got ready to wreak havoc on his opponent was "CAN YOU SMELL WHAT THE ROCK IS COOKING?" Later, Dwayne Johnson became an actor and became one of the highest grossing paid actors in the film industry with "Red One" being his highest paid movie.

**JACQUELINE MOORE OR "MS. JACQUELINE"**

Jacqueline Moore goes by a variety of stage names (Ms. Jacqueline, Jacquelyn, Jackie). In 2016 she became the first Black American Woman to be inducted into the WWE (World Wrestling Entertainment) Hall of Fame. In 2004, Ms Jacqueline was the one and only woman to win the Cruiserweight Championship, as well as being a fourteen-time USWA Women's Champion.

**ANSWER KEY**

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

**ONE MINUTE MADNESS!**  
Coco Butt  
McMahon  
Championship  
Cruiserweight  
The Rock

**WHO AM I?**  
Dwayne Johnson  
Jacqueline Moore  
Bianca Belair  
Kofi Kingston

**SCAN ME**

**www.KEMETCOMIC.com**



COURTESY

2025 Legacy Honorees, standing l-r: Joanne B. Wearing, LaQuinta Parker Perry, Mary Grafton Gilmer and Beverly P. West; seated, l-r: Nike J. Wright, Fonda Kit Muhammad, Mary Tyler, Melva Washington Toomer, Rebecca Hayes Monroe, Barbara Rice Richmond and Myrtie Powell. Honorees not pictured: Danielle Allgood and Kaye Russell.



2025 Perry Scholarship Fund awardees.



Scholarship Fund Board: Standing, l-r: Jonathan Gattis II; Marilyn Dianne Clements; Warren H. Arrington Jr., parliamentarian; Joyce Perry Edwards, administrative secretary; Dr. Bernadette G. Watts; Patricia Walker; Rhonda Manns McRae; and the Rev. Michael Page.

Seated, l-r: Leatrice Smith Grafton, corresponding secretary; Allyson Perry Gattis; Alexander S. Perry, Esq.; Jemma Boler, second vice president; Dr. Dwight D. Perry, board chair; Dr. Tara Fikes, first vice chair; Monica Reid; Stilwlyn Marsh Perry Brown, program chair; and Radeyah C. Saleem, treasurer.

## Lawrence & Artelia Perry Scholarship Fund

SUBMITTED TO THE TRIBUNE

DURHAM - The Lawrence & Artelia Perry Scholarship Fund celebrated its 10th Annual Scholarship Fund Legacy Luncheon 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 the love of the late Rev. Lawrence and Artelia Marsh Perry.

**2025 LEGACY HONOREES**  
Administrative and Clerical Assistants for Faith-Based Organizations: Danielle Allgood, Mary Grafton Gilmer, Rebecca Hayes Monroe, Fonda Kit

Muhammad, LaQuinta Parker Perry, Myrtie Powell, Barbara Rice Richmond, Kaye B. Russell, Mary Tyler, Melva Washington Toomer, Carolyn Watson, Joann Wearing, Beverly P. West and Niki J. Wright.

The scholarship fund, a 501(c)(3) public charity, was established in 2011 to provide annual support for eligible students at Bennett College, Livingstone College and North Carolina Central University. Thirty thousand dollars was awarded to 15 Perry Scholarship Fund awardees, with each student receiving \$2,000.

The awardees are all

NCCU students: August Freeman, Eddie White, Eric McCallum, Imani Womack, Ja'Carla Lawrence, Kaelin Cadlett, Liney Bullock, Madison Knight, Mikayla Brown, Niya Shands, Sydney Blake Mitchell, Ta'asia Whitley, Triniti Long and Carl Dean.

Proceeds from the annual luncheons, corporation sponsorships, direct donations and sale of the book "Artelia: Portrait of an African American Matriarch" are the primary scholarship funding methods.

Visit [www.PerryScholarshipFund.com](http://www.PerryScholarshipFund.com) for more information.

## James Glass gives and receives love

By Scott Jared  
UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

The sayings of James Glass are well-documented throughout the Carolina Housing community.

One is about love. "If you say you love someone, back it up with your actions. You got to show it," he says.

Love and appreciation in abundance are what the people who nominated the housekeeping crew leader for a Massey Award expressed for him, his work and his interactions with staff and students.

Glass supervises 14 people who clean four residence halls — Connor, Joyner, Winston and Alexander. He's worked at Carolina since late 2005.

Students and staff call him "Mr. James." The nominations call him "a role model, a leader and a friend to all" who creates a sense of home for the Connor Community.

His steady, genuine kindness has a bigger effect than Glass realizes, one person wrote.

Glass is like everyone's favorite uncle. He greets them all, staff and students alike, and can tell when they're happy or struggling. Students will seek him out.

"Sometimes, I'll be working, and they just come up and stand near me until I notice them. They want to talk," he said.

"The best part about the job is taking care of the



JON GARDNER/UNC

Massey Award nominations call James Glass "a role model, a leader and a friend to all."

Glass makes sure that we respect each other and that we understand each other," Glass said, but "cleaning is No. 1. We're going to make sure this place is sanitary and ready to go."

Glass grew up in Roxboro and left home at age 12. Since those hard times, he's built a family of all sorts — his own, at church and the thousands of students he's looked after for two decades.

There's his wife, Denise, their two sons, four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren with the sixth due in September. And his puppy, Chance.

Glass is like everyone's favorite uncle. He greets them all, staff and students alike, and can tell when they're happy or struggling. Students will seek him out.

"Sometimes, I'll be working, and they just come up and stand near me until I notice them. They want to talk," he said.

"The best part about the job is taking care of the

Growing his Carolina family took time. After years in a furniture factory working with older adults, he learned to recognize when students were struggling emotionally. He starts with little statements — have a good day, it's cold outside so you'll need a jacket, flip-flops might be slippery because it's raining. Then, he may ask, "How's your day going?" If the problem seems deep, Glass will suggest talking with a resident adviser.

Despite his outgoing personality, Glass sees value in quiet times.

"If you want an answer, you have to be quiet and listen," he said. "I love going home, getting a cold Arnold Palmer, letting my dog out and sitting on the back porch." That's where this hard-working, loving man reenergizes in the quiet.

## Paperhand Puppet to perform 25th anniversary production



COURTESY

Paperhand Puppet presents its 25th anniversary show, *The Gift*, weekends beginning Aug. 15 through Sept. 28 at the Forest Theatre on UNC Chapel Hill's campus. Paperhand will bring to life a myriad of puppet styles including individually crafted giant puppets, original masks, stilts, illuminated beings and shadow puppets.

North Carolina Poet Laureate Jaki Shelton Green as well as singer and songwriter Dawn Landes contributed their writing talents to this year's production. Thirty performers will take the stage to embody a myriad of creatures such as a 60-foot wide Ocean Goddess, beavers and a giant illuminated whale. A seven-piece live band brings the production to life, creating a vibrant feast for the senses. Tickets are available at: <https://www.paperhandpuppet.org/the-gift>.

## Ms. Full-Figured Pageant



COURTESY

Pageant founder Purusha Jones-Shearin took her Durham-based event to Virginia for the Ms. Full-Figured Virginia Pageant. Visit [www.msfullfiguredpageant.com](http://www.msfullfiguredpageant.com).