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The Triangle Tribune

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"Serving Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill"

VOLUME 27 NO. 36

Week of September 7 - September 13, 2025

\$1.00

Mom makes baby food with no 'fillers' or 'junk'

By Freda Freeman
Correspondent

Camille Hardy wants all children to eat food the way God intended: natural and free of extra sugar, additives, preservatives and other "hidden" ingredients. However, when her son was born, she couldn't find "clean" food in grocery stores, so she started making her own.

"In 2020, I became a mom for the second time, and once my son transitioned to eating solids, I just didn't find anything in

the markets that I was satisfied with feeding him, so that's where the journey began. I started cultivating different recipes, making his food from scratch and looking for viable clean sources to get his food from," she said.

In 2023, Hardy, of Leesburg, Virginia, started Chunky Vegan, a farm-to-table food company that makes organic plant-based meals for infants and toddlers. Hardy said her recipes are made using nutrient-dense food that is grown by local farmers and

backed by nutritionists, pediatricians and botanists. Before launching her business, Hardy spent 18 months in research and development, making sure the food was gentle enough for babies and honing the flavor to make it taste good.

Hardy is not only intentional about how her food is sourced and prepared but also how it's packaged. She uses glass jars instead of plastic pouches or containers to prevent contamination or microplastics leaking into the food. The

food can be refrigerated for up to four days or frozen for longer. A premium product because of how the food is sourced, prepared and packaged, a 6-ounce jar sells for \$12.

The name Chunky Vegan is a play off public perception that vegans are often skinny and emaciated. Hardy wants people to know they can have a healthy, chubby baby who is vegan.

Corene Johnson, of Los Angeles and mother of three, said feeding her

Please see **MOM/2A**



COURTESY

Chunky Vegan has plenty of happy customers.



ALEX BASS

Durham Rescue Mission client Joey Brown.

Durham Rescue Mission Dental Clinic reopens five years after the pandemic

By Alex Bass
alex.bass@triangletribune.com

DURHAM - An unjust burden of shame because of lapsed dental care induced by affordability is no laughing matter.

After five years, the Durham Rescue Mission Dental Clinic - at the Samaritan Health Center, 507 E. Knox St. - is smiling again. The facility that closed at the beginning of the 2020 pandemic reopened in March. Beyond providing free care for current and

previous DRM clients, growing partnerships are increasing access to cleanings, fillings and extractions for underserved communities.

"When empathy is leading the care, that is where healing starts for people," said Jennifer Grocki, who volunteers weekly at the clinic, open three Fridays per month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Grocki, trained as a dental assistant, aspires to attend dental school and has adorned the

clinic's two treatment rooms with her own artwork. "Crack jokes, not teeth," is one display's message.

Grocki connected with Wendy Creel through the Triangle School of Dental Assisting, owned and operated by Creel. The school's students provide hands-on support to the clinic's attending dentists and dental hygienists serving seven to 10 patients each Friday.

Please see **DENTAL/2A**



COURTESY

The Robinsons unveil their honor at the N.C. Central School of Business.

NCCU School of Business unveils renamed Innovation Lab after alumni

NCCU News Communications

DURHAM - The North Carolina Central University School of Business has officially named the Shelron Wilson Robinson & Gerald Robinson Innovation Lab, a space designed to prepare students for the challenges of modern business through hands-on learning, collaboration and real-world problem solving.

The Innovation Lab will also serve as a resource for local businesses, corporations and nonprofits who can partner with students to receive project support and execution while contributing to the development of future business leaders.

The lab was made possible through a \$500,000 contribution from Shelron Wilson Robinson '79, and her husband, Gerald Robinson, a retired Microsoft executive.


Their generosity has transformed a vision into reality, creating an environment where students gain the skills, confidence and opportunities to compete and lead in today's marketplace.

The launch was marked by an intimate celebration filled with friends, family, faculty, staff and School of Business alumni.

Attendees explored the lab's flexible design, advanced technology and collaborative spaces, all built to connect classroom theory with applied experience.

"The Innovation Lab represents exactly what we want for our students at NCCU to have opportunities that prepare them for meaningful careers," said Anthony Nelson, Ph.D., dean of the School of Business. "By giving all university students a space to apply what they learn in the classroom to real-world challenges, we not only keep them engaged but also ensure they leave here ready to lead. This lab is about more than innovation;


Please see **NCCU/2A**




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Mom makes baby foods with no fillers and junk

Continued from page 1A children Chunky Vegan is setting them up for a healthier life.

“Chunky Vegan makes it very simple because her ingredients are just so simple. Everything is so flavorful, and it’s still good for you. It helps my anxiety knowing that my children are eating certain ingredients, and it shows them the importance and benefits of eating these things,” she said.

Shaye Brooks, of Sterling, Virginia, feeds her 16-month-old son Chunky Vegan because he was diagnosed with laryngomalacia, or a “soft larynx,” which is irritated when stomach acid flows back up into his esophagus.

“The doctor said what agitates it is an acid that causes acid reflux. I felt like this food would be a better option for him because it’s organic, doesn’t have any extra preservatives and less chance of irritating his esophagus,” she said.

As a food advocate, Hardy educates parents through a blog on her website, social media and community outreach, partnering with schools, day care centers and farmers markets.

“I want to be an advocate for pediatric nutrition and



COURTESY

Camille Hardy

also educate parents. If I can get one baby off loaded sugar, high preservative, chemically treated anything to switch to a natural food option that actually fuels their body instead of taxes it, that gives me personal joy. To see healthy babies that can thrive, I feel that is my cal-

ling God gave me,” she said.

Chunky Vegan is sold in local markets in the Northern Virginia area and online. Hardy is looking to partner with markets, health and wellness stores, and pediatric offices to expand distribution to North Carolina.

DRM dental clinic reopens five years after pandemic

Continued from page 1A

“A lot of the residents live here or have direct transportation here,” Creel said. “This is where they are comfortable.” Being comfortable requires intentional relationship building, too.

Joey Brown began as a DRM client and has served the Mission as an intake manager since December. He said there is a reason why Creel is so effective. “You’ve got to be able to reach my heart and comfort me on the inside,” Brown said.

Then, the next steps can be realized. “She helped me with being able to move forward, getting care, and referring me to a place that can offer me something better - beautiful teeth,” he continued.

Creel said Medicaid will

cover a partial every seven years. “Who knows how long those benefits are going to be around,” she said. “Let’s utilize what we can while we can.”

Grocki ensures patients have access to literature, including the document, “How Your Oral Health Affects Your Overall Health.” This printed sheet says about 90% of systemic illnesses have some connection, roots and or symptoms to dental health. “They can understand the immune response and how this bacteria can lead to high blood pressure,” Grocki said.

Creel hopes the clinic, staffed exclusively by volunteers, can begin offering Thursday services. She espouses a vision of how many patients could be served if just 52 dentists

would volunteer for one week per calendar year.

“We’re getting them out of pain, controlling infection and making them smile again,” said Dr. Joseph Leahy, a weekly clinic caregiver. “As long as you get people who want to do that, it will keep going. You’ve got to get out of your office, go to some place and work. Serve people that will get service no other way.”

Thomas McKiernan, a recent Elon graduate and prospective dental school student, is using the 2025-26 academic cycle as a “growth” year, including shadowing dentists like Leahy. His own abundant life perspective gives him purpose.

“It’s my responsibility to help those who did not have those opportunities,” McKiernan said.



GREG CHILDRESS

Camelot Village in Chapel Hill flooded during Tropical Storm Chantal.

Tropical Storm Chantal flood victims get extended hotel stays

By Greg Childress

NC NEWSLINE

Orange County residents displaced by Tropical Storm Chantal got a reprieve last week when county commissioners put up \$20,000 to extend their stays at local hotels.

Funding for the residents was due to run out Aug. 29, but commissioners agreed to take the money from the county’s Social Justice Reserve Fund to extend hotel stays.

The money will be administered by the Orange County Department of Social Services. It may also be used to help residents pay for expenses such as rental application fees, security deposits and essential household items.

Commissioners could add more money to the pot if needed. That will be determined after a committee overseeing community donations totaling \$83,500 meets to decide how to spend that money.

“Then we’ll meet again on Sept. 4, and we’ll have an update by then in case we need to move more money,” County Commissioner Jamezetta Bedford said.

Before commissioners agreed to spend the

\$20,000, several speakers told them that the amount is not enough to take care of residents who lost everything in the storm. “This money, that’s going to the hotel or that’s money that’s going to landlords for rental application fees,” said C.R. Clark, a volunteer with Triangle Tenant Union. “Where is the funding that is going to directly support these people as they move on with their lives and get set up in new homes?”

Clark noted that federal Individual Assistance Grants for people displaced from homes due to natural or man-made disasters won’t reach residents until October. “So, what is going to happen to these folks in the next month, in a month plus, as we have people who still don’t have housing lined up?” Clark said.

Heather Gibbs, a former resident of flood-prone Camelot Village, said she didn’t know about the flooding problem at the townhome community until she went to sign her lease.

Gibbs shared that she has several disabilities, which makes such housing inappropriate for her and others with mobility is-

sues. “I would not live there again,” Gibbs told commissioners. “I can’t go through that again.”

Quinten Simmons, a Camelot Village resident who uses a wheelchair, said he almost lost his life in the July flood before being rescued by neighbors.

“Even when it’s not flooding, every time it rains, the paranoia just kills you, because you don’t know when it’s gonna flood,” Simmons said.

Devin Gilgor, a volunteer with Triangle Mutual Aid, said \$20,000 won’t fix the flooding problem in places like Camelot Village. “We are housing vulnerable people in a flood setting, and someone’s going to die,” Gilgor said.

Residents lost documents needed to get new driver’s licenses, birth certificates and to rent apartments. Gilgor said the county and town must do more to help replace those items.

“I would like for one of you up there to try to go to the DMV and get your license without any form of ID, no birth certificate, no Social Security card,” Gilgor said.

NCCU School of Business unveils renamed Lab

Continued from page 1A

it is about equipping our students to persist, to graduate and to thrive well beyond our campus.”

For Shelron Robinson, the idea of supporting the lab began during her visit to campus in February 2024 for the School of Business ribbon cutting.

“I was overwhelmed by how beautiful the building was,” she said. “I thought, I’d really like to do that. I’d like to be a part of that. And that has been a vision of mine since that time. When I shared it with Gerald, his exact words were, ‘Why does this have to be a vision? Why don’t we make it a reality?’”

Gerald Robinson emphasized the importance of opportunity and the lab’s role in preparing students for both success and setbacks.

“We both had opportunities in life, sometimes ones we didn’t even recognize at the time. That’s why this is so important, to give students a place where they can succeed, but also where they can fail in an environment that encourages them to turn failure into success,” he said.

The Robinsons’ gift reflects their shared belief that those who have been given much have a responsibility to give back.

Their vision for the lab is rooted in closing digital divides, fostering innovation, and ensuring that NCCU students graduate ready to create solutions for communities and industries alike.

“The Shelron Wilson Robinson and Gerald Robinson Innovation Lab reflects the very heart of NCCU’s strategic plan. Soaring to New Heights: Vision 2030. By giving students access to high-impact, applied learning experiences, it strengthens academic excellence while preparing our Eagles for meaningful careers,” said Ontario Wooden, Ph.D., provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs. “Just as importantly, it extends our commitment to innovation and community impact, ensuring that NCCU remains a leader in developing solutions that uplift both our students and the communities we serve.”



BRANDON BELL/GETTY IMAGES

An aerial view of rebuilt homes amid vacant lots where homes once stood in the Lower Ninth Ward in New Orleans.

A smaller, whiter, less affordable New Orleans

By Joseph Williams

WORD IN BLACK

Twenty years after Hurricane Katrina drowned New Orleans, the waterlines from the once-in-a-generation storm are still visible. Not on the shotgun houses that were gutted or bulldozed, nor on the gleaming, glass-and-steel high-rise towers looming over downtown.

The floodlines linger in numbers: census data showing a declining Black population; skyrocketing rents driving out the working class; vacant lots dotting neighborhoods that never came back and the families who never did either.

Two decades after the costliest natural disaster in United States history slammed into the Gulf Coast — killing some 1,400 people, with hundreds still unaccounted for — the official story of New Orleans is one of resilience. Its boosters say Crescent City has been reborn, with booming tourism, bustling restaurants and polished infrastructure.

But beneath the marketing slogans, the football championship games in the Superdome and Mardi Gras revelry, Katrina’s scars remain. The Big Easy, experts say, is smaller, whiter and less affordable. Poverty is as entrenched as

ever, and the gulf between the haves and have-nots has widened.

The storm “definitely shifted the culture of the city,” said Allan Hyde, a sociologist at Georgia Institute of Technology. Hyde studied post-Katrina demographic changes in New Orleans and how its Black evacuees ended up scattered across the Sun Belt, settling for good in places like Houston, Atlanta and Dallas.

“Some folks couldn’t afford to move back, even if they wanted to, because things got so expensive” once the city, the govern-

Please see **SMALLER/3A**

A smaller, whiter, less affordable New Orleans

Continued from page 2A

ment, and homeowners began cleanups and renovations, Hyde said. "Some people were reluctant to go back. Maybe their house wasn't destroyed, but they couldn't work," because the storm shut down or washed away their employer.

Hurricane Katrina was a Category 3 storm that became a Category 5 disaster. The levees crumbled, and 80% of the city was submerged. But the storm surge did not hit all New Orleanians equally. It swept hardest through the poorest, Blackest neighborhoods, revealing the fault lines of segregation and disinvestment.

The Lower Ninth Ward, a historically Black neighborhood hemmed in by industrial canals, became a national symbol: houses splintered, lives scattered, entire blocks emptied. Families with cars and cash got out. Those without were left clinging to rooftops or herded into the Superdome.

The water receded, but the city that emerged was not the same. The recovery promised to rebuild. Instead, it remade. More than 134,000 occupied homes — about 70% of the city's housing stock — were damaged or destroyed. Public housing complexes, once home to thousands of poor and working-class Black families, were demolished, replaced with mixed-income developments that offered fewer units and higher rents.

At the same time, developers and out-of-town buyers scooped up ruined properties for pennies, flipping them into trendy rentals or second homes. For evacuees trying to re-

turn, the math rarely worked.

By 2010, the city's Black population had fallen by nearly 100,000 people compared to before the storm. Meanwhile, living in New Orleans became more expensive. Between 2004 and 2013, median rents jumped 33%, far outpacing income growth. Affordable apartments vanished, and the neighborhoods that once anchored Black culture — Tremé, Central City, the Lower Ninth — became prime territory for gentrification.

Katrina did not just break the levees. It redrew the map of who belongs in New Orleans and who does not.

The storm was a natural disaster. The recovery was man-made. And Hyde doesn't think Katrina will be the last storm to transform the city.



The HBCU student crisis Democrats can't ignore

By Kevin Harris and Richard McDaniel
NEW YORK AMSTERDAM NEWS

A crisis is happening on HBCU campuses. Black men account for only 26% of HBCU students, the lowest level in nearly 50 years. The South, where 89% of HBCUs are located, has the lowest Black male college enrollment rate at just 33%. At Howard University, only 19% of students are Black men. Nationwide, Black male enrollment has plummeted from 38% in 1976 to just 26% today.

These aren't just numbers. They represent a generation of Black men being locked out of economic mobility. For Democrats, economic mobility, or the lack thereof that is felt by many working-class voters, has cost us votes and pushed winnable elections out of reach. A case in point would be the 2024 presidential campaign, which saw Donald Trump secure 24% of the Black male vote. This number is even more concerning because it says nothing about our inability to reach the millions of Black men who didn't bother to cast a ballot at all. Democrats cannot win elections if these trends continue.

Many HBCUs are working aggressively to address the Black male college crisis. Alabama A&M just welcomed its largest freshman class in years, with 42% of that class being male. Morgan State University has launched a Presidential Task Force to address Black male enrollment. Others are similarly focused on the crisis, but HBCUs shouldn't shoulder this responsibility alone.

If smart policy truly is smart politics, then Democrats would be wise to make this issue a central plank of our agenda to regain power. Black men need to hear from us directly. Addressing the Black male college pipeline crisis and the broader barriers against Black male economic mobility should be a central agenda item as Democrats plot strategy for the 2026 and 2028 national elections.

This crisis is about more than college degrees. This crisis underscores the overall lack of economic mobility for many Black men, whether they choose to attend college or would rather explore careers in the trades or entrepreneurship. No matter the path they'd like to choose, Black men don't see Democrats as fighting for them — and that must change.

As HBCU alumni and Democratic strategists, we see this as more than an education issue: it's a political emergency Democrats are dangerously ignoring.

First, Democrats must acknowledge the pipeline crisis starts early. We've experienced this firsthand. One of us attended Howard and struggled to adjust after matriculating in an underfunded southern public school system. The other got into Morehouse on academic probation after considering trade school. We each had to contend with how to pay tuition with no college trust fund to rely on, despite the best efforts of our hardworking single-parent mothers. We were able to get by, but similar economic barriers systematically filter out Black males who can't afford tuition or need jobs right away.

Democrats should continue to carry the mantle of debt-free college and remember that HBCUs have proven themselves at producing the highest return on investment for economic mobility for Black people. As we call for debt-free college, Democrats should also fight to ensure HBCUs are fully funded. These are things we stand for as a party, but Democrats need to be more direct in communicating that support to Black men.

We should become the champions of helping HBCUs expand their missions to increase economic opportunity for Black men. With funding, HBCUs can offer multiple pathways to economic mobility, not just traditional degrees. Why can't Black men get HVAC certifications at Morehouse as well as entrepreneurship training?

Democrats should also promote policies supporting HBCUs expanding their reach outside the South. Recent reports indicate officials in Boston and San Francisco are actively working to bring HBCU satellite campuses north to strengthen the pipelines for Black college enrollment. These efforts, along with affordable online degree programs, can help center HBCUs as key strategic pillars to win back lost ground with working class Black men.

Kevin Harris and Richard McDaniel are veteran Democratic strategists with more than 100 political campaigns between them, including the past five presidential elections. They co-host "Maroon Bison Presents: The Southern Comfort Podcast."



STOCK

How federal cuts will impact school meals in North Carolina

By Analisa Sorrells Archer
EDUCATION NC

With a new school year underway, cafeterias are once again filled each day as students move through the line to receive breakfast and lunch. But a flurry of policy changes at the state and federal levels are impacting the delivery of school meals, including who has access to free meals.

During the 2023-24 school year, the most recent available data, North Carolina schools served 73.1 million breakfasts and 128 million lunches, the vast majority of which were provided for free to students from low-income families. Research shows that school meals have many benefits, including alleviating food insecurity, supporting good nutrition and increasing student achievement.

The federal budget reconciliation bill, signed into law by President Donald Trump on July 4, cuts federal funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program by \$186 billion through 2034. That's about 20% — the largest cut in SNAP history.

Some of these cuts stem from a major restructuring in how SNAP is funded. Historically, the federal government has fully funded the cost of SNAP food benefits, the money households use to buy food, while states pay half of the costs of administering the program. Under this law, beginning in October 2027, most states will be required to pay 5% to 15% of food benefits based on their SNAP payment error rates. The bill also increases states' responsibility for admin-

istrative costs from 50% to 75%.

According to estimates from Gov. Josh Stein's office, North Carolina may owe an additional \$420 million annually to fund its share of SNAP benefits. This is on top of increasing administrative costs, which are fully funded by counties in North Carolina rather than the state. According to a memo from the National Association of Counties, North Carolina counties are projected to owe an additional \$96 million to cover the increase in administrative costs. If the state and counties cannot pay that, SNAP would end entirely. The program provides food assistance to 1.4 million North Carolinians.

In addition to alleviating hunger, SNAP also plays a crucial role in supporting jobs and local economies across the grocery, agriculture, manufacturing and transportation industries. According to a June letter sent to congressional leadership, signed by Stein and 22 other governors, "If states are forced to end their SNAP programs, hunger and poverty will increase, children and adults will get sicker, grocery stores in rural areas will struggle to stay open, people in agriculture and the food industry will lose jobs, and state and local economies will suffer."

The law also includes nearly \$1 trillion in cuts to Medicaid, a program that provides health coverage to eligible low-income individuals, including children in low-income families. Stein's office estimates that 520,000 North Carolinians could lose their health insurance due to changes in Medicaid.

Cuts to SNAP and Medi-

caid impact one of the fundamental ways that students access free school meals: direct certification. School districts are required to conduct regular direct certification processes to automatically enroll students in free school meals based on their household's participation in other programs — without collecting household applications. This involves matching student enrollment records with databases for SNAP, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations. North Carolina also allows for direct certification for free or reduced-price meals via Medicaid records.

While direct certification will continue, fewer students will be directly certified for free or reduced-price school meals as participation in SNAP and Medicaid declines. Students in households that lose access to SNAP or Medicaid will lose their automatic access to free or reduced-price school meals and SUN Bucks, a U.S. Department of Agriculture program that provides \$120 per eligible child in grocery benefits that can be used in the summer months when schools are out.

Instead, families will have to submit applications to remain eligible for free school meals. After previously receiving free school meals automatically, some families may be unaware that they need to complete an application. Others may face barriers in submitting applications, such as limited English proficiency or challenges providing a record of their

Please see **SCHOOL/8A**

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DURHAM COUNTY In the General Court of Justice, District Court Division File No. 25CV000669-340. MORIAH ASHLEIGH WILLIAMS V. EFRAIN MADRIGAL-CERON.

Defendant: Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: A complaint for Temporary and Permanent Custody. You are required to answer the petition no later than 40 days from the first publication of this notice published originally on the 17th day of August, 2025, exclusive of such date, and upon your failure to answer or defend the Complaint within said time period, the relief being sought will be granted. This, the 11th day of August, 2025. Jeffrey Scott Thompson, Attorney for Plaintiff 103 S. Main Street, Louisburg, NC 27549.



LEGAL NOTICE Boiler Replacement – Durham County Detention Center RFP No. 26-011

The County of Durham will receive sealed proposals for qualified Contractor(s) to establish a contract to provide the demolition of two steam boilers and the installation of two new steam boilers at the County Detention Center on **October 2, 2025** at 2:00 P.M Eastern Time, in the Durham County Purchasing Division of Finance, 201 East Main Street, 7th Floor, Room 703, Durham, North Carolina 27701. **No proposals will be accepted after the official time and date.**

PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE:

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held at **10:00 A.M. Eastern Time, on September 17, 2025**, located in the Durham County Purchasing Division's Conference Room, 201 East Main Street, 7th Floor, Room 703, Durham, North Carolina 27701.

SITE VISIT: The site visit will be held at the County Detention Center located at **219 South Mangum Street Durham, NC 27701**, after the pre-bid conference. This site visit will be the only one scheduled, once completed no other visits will be scheduled. Limited parking can be provided in the Service Yard adjacent to Pettigrew Street, street parking is available at this location also. Contractors will be required to present identification to a Detention Center representative before accessing the facility, contractors will be given an escort badge that will need to be worn at all times.

An electronic copy of this Request for Proposal (RFP) can be obtained from Durham County's eBid System located under Bid Opportunities at <https://www.dconc.gov/county-departments/departments-f-z/finance/bid-opportunities>. Proposers can download a copy of the solicitation and all addenda without registering in the system. However, in order to **automatically** receive email notifications of solicitations and addenda issued by the Purchasing Division, Proposers **MUST** register in the eBid system.

The County reserves the right to accept or reject, in whole or in part, such proposals as appears in its judgment to be in the best interest of the County.



LEGAL NOTICES



LEGAL NOTICE

DURHAM COUNTY HOMELESS DAY SHELTER AND SERVICES PROGRAM RFP No. 26-012

The County of Durham will receive sealed proposals for qualified Contractor(s) to establish a contract to provide a Pilot Day Shelter and Services Center for those experiencing homelessness on September 25, 2025, at 2:00 P.M Eastern Time, in the Durham County Purchasing Division of Finance, 201 East Main Street, 7th Floor, Room 703, Durham, North Carolina 27701. **No proposals will be accepted after the official time and date.**

An electronic copy of this Request for Proposal (RFP) can be obtained from Durham County's eBid System located under Bid Opportunities at <https://www.dconc.gov/county-departments/departments-f-z/finance/bid-opportunities>. Proposers can download a copy of the solicitation and all addenda without registering in the system. However, in order to **automatically** receive email notifications of solicitations and addenda issued by the Purchasing Division, Proposers **MUST** register in the eBid system.

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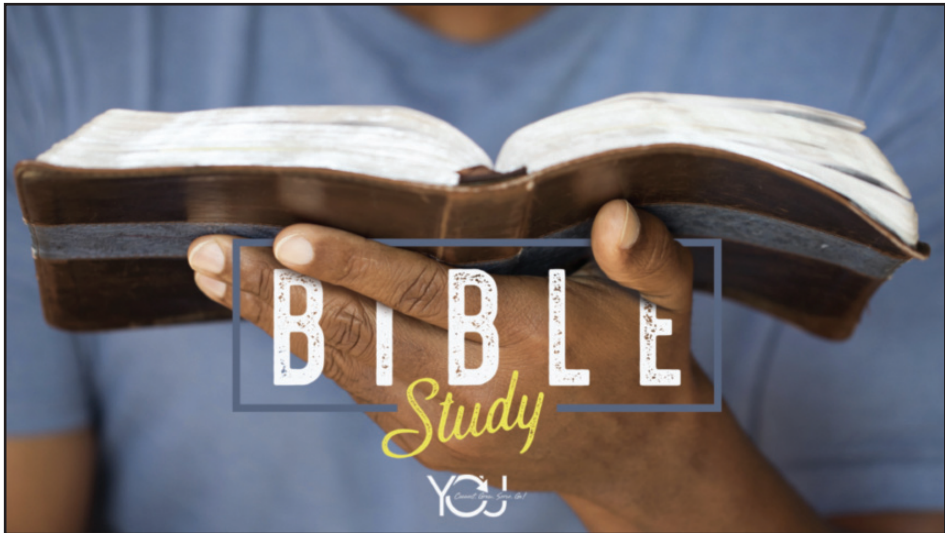


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Live with integrity

BY LIFEWAY CHRISTIAN RESOURCES

This week's Bible study is adapted from the YOU curriculum.

Bible Passage: 1 Peter 3:8-17

Discussion Questions:

* How does this counter-cultural way of living reflect the heart of Christ to those around us?

* How would you explain to someone your reasons for hoping in Jesus?

* How can your response to suffering demonstrate your hope in Christ to those around you?

Food for Thought:

Have you every scrolled through social media and been embarrassed by what you saw another Christian post? Maybe you saw the head of the usher board at a concert in a compromising position. You may have read a church leader's post ranting and full of malice and gossip.

Paul encourages men and women to live out sound teaching and Christian principles. Paul writes that our works should be done with integrity (Titus 2). This means that when we look around, we should see fellow believers display integrity consistently in every area of their lives.

For the follower of Christ, integrity is not an option; it is required in every aspect of life. Integrity comes

from the same root word for integer: a whole and complete number. A person of integrity is one person; he is the same through and through.

Read 1 Peter 3:8-17. The setting for Peter's words to believers living in Asia Minor (which roughly corresponds to modern day Turkey) was one of suffering. Followers of Christ were often subject to various levels of abuse, from discrimination all the way to sporadic harassment. Persecution sanctioned by the governing authorities was not occurring at the time of this writing, but Peter seemed to anticipate that it was right around the corner.

Peter painted a winsome picture of behavior in verses 8 and 9. Living with humility and compassion, expressed in an attitude of nonretaliation, is a positive witness to the Gospel. Speaking a blessing even after being insulted is the life to which God has called us. Some of our best evangelism is through our lifestyle, especially when it is consistent in hard situations.

In verses 10-12, Peter drew heavily on Psalm 34 as an expression of the blessed life. Would you like to live a good life? Don't use your words to deceive people. Would you like to see good days? Stop doing what is wrong and replace it with goodness and right-

eousness.

One of the marks of adulthood is the capacity to distinguish between hurt and harm. A mature person understands that being hurt is not always the same as being harmed. While verse 13 may be a statement that typically good behavior is rewarded, it is more likely that Peter wanted to affirm for his readers that since God is against evil and approves righteousness, Christians can claim a promise.

Here is the gist of it: If you live life before God in integrity, no ultimate "harm" will come to you. There will be an eternal reward for your goodness.

Living with integrity involves the kind of behavior that is above reproach. Of course, this doesn't mean that your good behavior will immunize you from ever being criticized. Definitely not.

Frivolous and unjustified accusations were lodged against the early believers, such as Peter's audience. Notice that Peter didn't say "if you will be accused" but "when you are accused." In maintaining integrity even in the face of criticism, your steadfastness may not go unnoticed by some who are voicing the criticism.

Always remaining true to Christ, especially in hardship, makes a difference, both in this life and the next.

Durham native brings art to the masses

STAFF REPORTS

Internationally acclaimed artist Sydnéi SmithJordan, a Durham native whose work has appeared in exhibitions across the United States and Europe, has launched her most ambitious project to date: The Legacy Link Mobile Art Studio.

The 32-foot converted RV is a traveling classroom designed to deliver art as a tool for healing, connection and storytelling directly into communities.

Known for her bold "pop fusion" style melding oil paint with collage, fabric, glass and metal, the Cape May area resident has long used her practice to surface overlooked narratives in history — from Negro League baseball players and Tuskegee Airmen to notable American women and a growing series honoring veterans.

With The Legacy Link, she brings that mission beyond gallery walls, offering interactive workshops that empower individuals of all ages to explore creativity as a form of restoration and dialogue.

"Art has always been more than a career for me, it's been a lifeline," SmithJordan said. "The Legacy



COURTESY

Artist Sydnéi SmithJordan and Whoopi Goldberg.

Link is about sharing that same possibility with others: the chance to heal, to preserve memory and to find joy through creativity. Wherever this studio parks, I hope it leaves behind not just artwork but a renewed sense of connection."

SmithJordan's international reach includes exhibitions in Italy, France, Spain, Switzerland and Germany. In recognition of her

contributions, ArtTour International Magazine named her among the "Top 60 Masters" and most recently honored her as an "Art Titan," a rare designation shared by only a handful of other artists worldwide.

To bring The Legacy Link to your town, email SmithJordanarts@gmail.com or call 609-972-0674.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK



STOCK

School Day Fuel

FAMILY FEATURES

Servings: 12

From packing lunchboxes to after school snacking and evening meals, school days can get hectic in the kitchen - in a hurry. Saving valuable time is of the essence for busy families looking to stave off hunger without sacrificing nutrition or flavor.

To help make delicious yet nutritious meals a reality all day long, consider this potato pizza puffs for fuel after school. For recipes that fuel families throughout the school year and beyond, visit Culinary.net.

Potato Pizza Puffs

Recipe courtesy of Potatoes USA

Prep time: 10 minutes

Cook time: 8 minutes

1 medium (5.3 ounces) Wisconsin russet potato
2 cups cold water
3 whole garlic cloves, crushed (optional)
1 sheet frozen puff pastry dough
nonstick cooking spray
½-cup Parmesan cheese, grated
1 ½-cups mozzarella cheese
½-cup pepperoni
1 tablespoon Italian seasoning
1 cup marinara sauce

Wash and scrub potato thoroughly. Pat dry and thinly slice into 1/8-inch rounds. Place sliced potatoes in saucepan and cover with cold water. Add crushed garlic cloves to the water, if desired.

Parboil potatoes 5 minutes until slightly tender. Thaw puff pastry and roll out slightly with rolling pin. Cut into 12 equal strips.

On foil-lined tray generously sprayed with nonstick cooking spray, sprinkle with Parmesan and Italian seasoning, then shingle 3-4 par-cooked potato slices with 3-4 pepperoni slices. Top slices with mozzarella followed by puff pastry strip. Push edges of pastry down onto foil to slightly "seal" puffs, keeping contents within pastry.

In air fryer set at 400 F, bake 7-8 minutes. Wait for cheese to cool before removing puffs from tray. Gently peel potato pizza puffs off foil. Serve with marinara sauce.

AROUND THE TRIANGLE

RALEIGH

TOWN HALL

Raleigh Town Hall is Sept. 8, 6:30-8 p.m., Martin Street Baptist, 1001 Martin Street.

CONVOCATION

Shaw 2025 Opening Convocation is Sept. 9, 11 a.m., Boyd Chapel, 118 E. South Street.

CAMPOUT

Family Campout 2025 is Sept. 12-14, Lakeside Retreats, 4521 Mial Plantation Road.

FREE CUTS

7 Cutz Above presents free cuts for kids with special needs ONLY Sept. 13, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., 3800 Glenwood Ave., Suite 150.

HEALTH FAIR

Community Health Fair is Sept. 13, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Food Lion, 1100 Raleigh Boulevard.

SUMMIT

Youth Food Security Summit is Sept. 13, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., for ages 13-14, Chavis Memorial Park. Register: go.ncsu.edu/yfss.

FOOD TRUCKS:

* Raleigh Food Truck Rodeo is Sept. 13, noon to 6 p.m., downtown Fayetteville Street.

* Night Crawl Food Truck Rodeo is Sept. 13, 5-11 p.m., 4204 Willow Oak

CLINIC

School Health Assessment Clinic is Sept. 13, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Roberts Park, 1300 E. Martin St.

OVERSTOCK

Raleigh Consignment & Children's Boutique Overstock Liquidation Sale is open to the public Sept. 14-16. Visit www.dcskids.com.

COLLABORATION

Community Cares Collaborative will host a "Non-profit Sustainability & Grand Readiness" meeting Sept. 19, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., White Memorial Presbyterian Church, 2000 McDonald Lane. Call 919-996-6100.

CARY

FESTIVAL

Cary Film Festival is Sept. 11-14, The Cary Theater. Tickets: thecarytheater.com.

PICNIC

HOPE NC's Picnic in the Park is Sept. 13, noon to 2 p.m., Ed Yerha Park Picnic Shelter.

DURHAM

TAXES

Durham Low-Income Homeowners Relief Program is now open. Apply at DCONC.gov/DDS.

MARKET

The next Black Farmers' Market is Sept. 7, 1-4 p.m.,

Durham Tech, 1637 E. Lawson St.

MEN

Empowered Parents in Community is hosting an interest meeting for Black men and fathers Sept. 7, 4:530 p.m. Visit EPIC-NC.org.

CONCERT

Kenny Sharp will perform a free concert Sept. 10, 6:30 p.m., American Tobacco Campus, 300 Blackwell St.

FORUMS

Fayetteville Street Corridor Planning Group is hosting three candidate forms, Sept. 10-12, 6 p.m., Phoenix Event Center, 810 Fayetteville, Suite 101.

FESTIVAL

2025 Briggs Ave Community Garden Fall Festival & Plant Sale is Sept. 13, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 1314 Briggs Avenue.

VEGFEST

Triangle Vegfest returns Sept. 14, noon to 5 p.m., Durham Central Park, 501 Foster St.

COFFEE & CULTURE

United Arts Wake County presents Coffee & Culture breakfast Sept. 16, 8 to 9:30 a.m., Marbles Kids Museum, Venture Hall. Visit: unitedarts.org/events.

MEAC starts 2-0 against SWAC

HBCU football rivalry week was everything and more.

No, not the rivalries between teams but between conferences. Yes, the SIAC, CIAA, MEAC and SWAC recently formed an alliance to sustain HBCU athletics - and this is a good thing - but when the teams hit the field, it's all about bragging rights.

The MEAC is 2-0 against the SWAC so far, which has quieted those obnoxious SWAC fans a bit. North Carolina Central took good care of Southern in the MEAC-SWAC Challenge and Howard kicked a last-second field goal to de-

feat 2023 HBCU Champion Florida A&M - to the shock of many.

Over in Division II, the SIAC took 3 of 5 from the CIAA.

Shaw was no match for pre-season favorite Albany State, and neither was

Morehouse against Johnson C. Smith. Look for the Golden Bulls to take no prisoners this season. The only way to shut folks up about their late-season collapse is to "just win, baby," as the late NFL coach Al Davis used to say.

Benedict, surprisingly, had little trouble with Fayetteville State in a 10-0 shutout.

On Sunday, Virginia Union took care of business against SIAC defending champion Miles College, racking up over 550 yards of offense, and tying the weekend rivalry series at 2-2. All that was left was the Red Tails Classic between Winston-Salem State and Tuskegee as the tie-breaker.

Rams fans should be encouraged. The game was a back-and-forth thriller. The Golden Tigers broke a 17-all tie with a field goal with five minutes left that turned out to be the game winner. But WSSU matched them blow for blow.

And in nonrivalry news, South Carolina State's late-game win over Wofford proved the Bulldogs won't be giving up their MEAC title without a fight.

A Good Loss?

Coaches hate to lose, and most could care less about a "good loss," but several teams were impressive despite the "L."

While all the attention in Week 0 was focused on Michael Vick and Norfolk State, Delaware State and DeSean Jackson had a more impressive debut against Delaware. The Hornets trailed by just four midway the third quarter before UD put the game away in the fourth.

DSU running back Marquis Gillis certainly turned some heads, rushing 17 times for 121 yards. Gillis almost outran Delaware's team total of 134 yards.

Clark Atlanta is going to give Albany State a run for the SIAC title if it keeps playing the way it did against Valdosta State. The game was tied until a VSU field goal with 2:47 left. CAU drew close enough to attempt a 45-yard field goal. Blocked.

And speaking of Valdosta, former coach Tremaine Jackson got his first win at Prairie View A&M.

A blocked field goal sent North Carolina A&T home with a loss against Tennessee State, but the Aggies looked nothing like those wasted years under former coach Vincent Brown.

This weekend should tell us more. Valdosta State heads to JCSU and Virginia State takes on rival Norfolk State. The Trojans knocked off Barton College, 35-7. If they upset the Spartans, and it has been done in the past, the thrill will be gone in Spartanland.

Morgan State meets Towson, which spoiled Vicks' debut. Coach Damon Wilson has yet to live up to the hype after leaving Bowie State in 2022. The Bears' last two conference records ended at 3-2. They can't seem to get out of the bridesmaid's dress.

The Triangle Tribune Sports

September 7-13, 2025 | 6A



ALEX BASS

Left to right: Coach Edwin Campbell, Tydreke Powell and Keysaun Eleazer.

SE Raleigh football college commits set tone in classroom and community

By Alex Bass

Alex.bass@triangletribune.com

RALEIGH - Keysaun Eleazer is on a mission in deeds instead of words.

"It was part of my plan when I first got to Southeast - to help to change the culture," said Eleazer, Southeast Raleigh High School's 6-foot-6 edge rusher bound for Stanford next fall.

Eleazer's words preceded the Bulldogs' 50-21 season-opening win at Enloe, where he totaled 10 tackles (six solo) and four hurries.

For Eleazer, fellow senior commits Robert McCullough (Campbell) and Tydreke Powell (Gardner-Webb), and junior running back Christian Freeman (N.C. State), the culture change transcends building

upon the program's growing wins total over the last four years. In 2022, when this year's seniors were freshmen, Southeast Raleigh won four games - twice as many as in 2021. The Bulldogs won five and seven games in 2023 and 2024, respectively.

The process to higher yielding end products begins well before each after

school practice. "Do things as you are taught at home," Powell said. Southeast Raleigh coach Edwin Campbell added to Powell's fundamental focus. "If you cannot do it right from 7:25 to 2:25, then I know you will mess up on 3rd-and-4," said Campbell, who graduated from the school in 2007.

Please see **SE RALEIGH/7A**

HBCU FOOTBALL

Back to the drawing board for NCCU, Shaw

By Bonitta Best

editor@triangletribune.com

Tickets are on sale for the CIAA Football Championship Nov. 15 at Durham County Memorial Stadium. Visit theciaa.com.

N.C. Central (1-1) vs. Old Dominion (0-1)

Coach Trei Oliver was quick to assure fans that the season is not over.

"It's just one game," Oliver said after last weekend's loss to New Hampshire. "There is plenty more football to play."

The Eagles get an even bigger test this weekend at FBS Old Dominion. The Monarchs are coming off a 27-14 loss at No. 20 Indiana.

ODU head coach Ricky Rahne is not taking the FCS Eagles lightly.

"This is a very good team," Rahne said. "...This team (NCCU) doesn't have the illusion that this week, we get to play bigtime football. They play bigtime football every week. ... Their quarterback is experienced and a very good leader. This will be a big challenge."

For Oliver, the New Hampshire loss wasn't the step forward he was hoping for.

"We didn't make the plays we made in Week 1 (against Southern)," he said. "...We will get it corrected. I like where we are as far as our attitude is concerned, but we've got to make plays."

The Eagles return home next Saturday to face CIAA opponent Fayetteville State. The teams haven't met since 2012.

* **Notes:** Three Eagles made NFL 53-man rosters: CB/KR Brandon Codrington to Buffalo Bills; OL Corey Bullock to Balti-



DONALD WATSON/SHAW UNIVERSITY

Linebacker Darry Felix (6) was the lone bright spot for Shaw.

more Ravens; and OL Torricelli Simpkins to New Orleans Saints.

Shaw (0-1) - bye week

The Bears lost more than a game last weekend. All-CIAA

preseason linebacker Quewon Hillard left the field in the second quarter with his arm in a sling. Hillard was transported to Durham Regional Hospital ac-

Please see **BACK/7A**

COLLEGE CORNER

Six deserving inductees into Shaw Hall of Fame

The SIAC bounces the ball first with its Basketball Media Day on Sept. 24. Unlike the other three NCAA HBCU conferences, the SIAC doesn't allow the public to its event.

The CIAA's media day is Oct. 7 in Baltimore, Maryland. Visit theciaa.com.

WOMEN

N.C. Central

It's the ladies' turn to release their nonconference basketball schedule. NCCU plays 14 games, starting the season Nov. 3 at North Carolina. Other tough nonconference opponents on the road are Wake Forest, Old Dominion, South Carolina and Oklahoma.

But, as with the men, the only matchup CC wants to see is Dec. 2 against N.C. A&T at McDougald-McLen-

don Arena.

In volleyball, new coach Jonathan Paulk has the Eagles at 2-2 after back-to-back wins over UNC Wilmington and Gardner-Webb. The team hasn't been at .500 this early in the season since 2020 when it won its first two matches against South Carolina State.

"One of the biggest differences I've seen is our energy," setter Loren Johnson said. "Before, our culture was kind of like, 'we are just coming to play,' but now we are playing to win."

NCCU participates in the Georgetown/George Washington Event Sept. 5-6 against both schools and Temple.

Shaw

With football on a bye



Top, l-r: Raheem Smith, Anthony Stye and Bethesda Kearney; bottom, l-r: Latasha Shipman-Ganus, Michelle Moore and Ronald "Flip" Murray.

week, Sept. 6 is a good time to see the debut of new volleyball coach Jailynn Hunt. The Bears take on Sweet Briar College before hitting the road for three straight matches.

Virginia State

Lacrosse has joined the Gulf South Conference as an affiliate member beginning with the 2026 season.

Please see **SIX/7A**

SE Raleigh college commits set standard

Continued from page 6A
“You kind of stick out like a sore thumb if you don’t do what you are supposed to do in the classroom.”
Campbell beams when talking statistics, particularly when noting that for Eleazer, the numeric value of four hurries is surpassed by the defender’s grade point average. Freeman ran for two touchdowns and 121 yards, while fellow junior James Adams ran for three and 120 yards versus the Eagles. The backfield mates are competing, too, at a level beyond four - in the classroom. Freeman, with his college plans set, is committed to lending

helping hands. “Colleges will continue to come and watch me play,” Freeman said. “That just gives me an opportunity to be a leader for other athletes.”
Southeast Raleigh athletic director Joe Embree, who began a student-athlete complete leadership council at the school last year, noted that football student-athletes make up 20% of the council. Among Embree’s proudest experiences in his first year leading the athletic department was the field day student-athletes hosted at Southeast Raleigh Elementary School. “They are pillars of our community,” Embree said. “They can see them-

selves in the little kids.”
The Bulldogs earned their best gridiron finish ever in 2003, when the program reached the 4AA state semifinals. Campbell was a freshman at the school. The coach recalled the program’s shared conference championship and is now looking for an outright title.
Southeast Raleigh Principal Eddie Harden, who was Campbell’s high school position coach, is more interested in the player off the field. “Their character shines more than anything else,” he said. “The kids will show you that you are living your ‘why.’”

Six deserving inductees into Shaw Hall of Fame

Continued from page 6A
The CIAA doesn’t sponsor lacrosse.

MEN
N.C. Central
Football coach Trei Oliver asked for prayers for good friend Reggie Lucas, head coach of Wake Forest High School. Lucas’ wife, Ericka Lucas, was shot hours before last weekend’s game. According to media reports, she

was not the intended victim.

Shaw
The 2025 Athletics Hall of Fame Class has been revealed, and every inductee is so deserving. The ceremony is Oct. 16, 7 p.m., Spaulding Gymnasium. Visit shawu.edu for tickets.
* Raheem Smith, men’s basketball
* Anthony Styne, baseball
* Bethesda (Thornton)

Kearney, volleyball
* Latasha “Ship” Shipman-Ganus, women’s basketball
* Michelle Moore, bowling
* Ronald “Flip” Murray, men’s basketball

Virginia State
The men’s lacrosse team has joined the Peach Belt Conference as an associate member and will be added to the conference schedule in 2026.

Back to the drawing board for NCCU and Shaw

Continued from page 6A
ross from Durham County Memorial Stadium.
ASU’s defense held Shaw to 189 yards of total offense while the Golden Rams amassed 487 yards. Three ASU runners had more rushing yards than the entire Shaw team, led by Tiant Wyche’s 14 carries for 137 yards and two touchdowns. Preseason all-conference quarterback Isaiah Knowles threw for a touchdown and ran for two more.
Shaw linebacker Darryl Felix led the game with 14 total tackles, 11 solo.
The Bears travel to Ferrum College Sept. 13 at 1 p.m.
CAA
North Carolina A&T battled Tennessee State to the

wire in the John Merrick Classic. The Aggies had a chance to send the game into overtime, but TSU’s Lathun Snipes blocked the ball to thwart coach Shawn Gibbs’ first win as head coach.
“Our kids fought their hearts out today,” Gibbs said. “They put forth the effort. ...We lost the game. That’s my fault.”
The Aggies travel to Central Florida Sept. 6. The game will be streamed on ESPN+.
Jackson State running back Ahmad Miller rushed for 172 yards on just 10 carries to help the Tigers defeat Hampton, 28-14, in the season opener for both teams. The win extends JSU’s streak to 11.
Pirates RB Isaiah Freeman led his team with 94

yards. Hampton hosts Elizabeth City State Sept. 6 on Alumni Day.
Player of the Week
Actually, make that Unit of the Week. Virginia Union’s offensive line allowed the offense to amass 556 total yards to defeat SIAC defending champion Miles College. The Panthers’ running game was brutal with 375 of the total yards.
NFL
Twenty-three HBCU players made the NFL’s 53-man rosters. Even more earned a spot on practice squads, which isn’t chump change.
Goodbye. Hello.
* UCLA QB Nick Billups to Lane College

SPORTS SHORTS

RALEIGH
* Carolina Youth Basketball Clinic for ages 5-17 is Sept. 10, 6 p.m., Carolina Pines Community Center. Call 919-996-6836.
DURHAM
* The Durham Bulls Youth Athletic League’s Saturday Soccer clinics run

14, Pleasant Park. Learn more at rdusportsleagueapps.com/tournaments.
* RDU Classic Kickball Tournament is Sept. 13-

Sept. 20 to Nov. 8. Register at dbyal.com.
Send your sports announcements to: info@triangletribune.com. Photos welcome.



Amonii Lovejoy from Alabama State earned a spot on the Atlanta Falcons cheer team.

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BACK TO SCHOOL ACTIVITY SHEET

Hi everyone!

It's that time of year again! I'm ready for school! How about you?! I do not want COVID shutting down our schools again. Let's make sure to stay COVID SAFE by washing our hands, and being on alert for covid symptoms.

REMEMBER THE FIRST!

On November 14, 1960 Ruby Bridges became the first Black American child to integrate a previously all white southern elementary school. At only six, Ruby became a symbol of the Civil Rights movement.

WHO GOT ON A BUS, SAT DOWN AND CHANGED HISTORY...

A Black American civil rights activist, Rosa Parks did! On December 1, 1955, she broke the law by refusing to give up her seat for a white passenger. This sparked a protest of support. Eventually, the law was changed!

SCHOOL UNSCRAMBLE

The first letter of the word is in bold.

LIRAYRB

RDAIENG

NBOEOTKO

ABKACKPC

IECSECN

SBU

POPUP TRIVIA!

What happens when you listen to music? ...

Scientists say music helps to improve your mood, memory, concentration and sleep!

LET'S CRAFT

Follow the directions to make a surprise!

Step 1: Start with a square piece of paper.
Step 2: Fold the top corner to the bottom corner.
Step 3: Now fold the triangle in half by folding the left corner to the right corner.
Step 4: Unfold it.
Step 5: Fold both corners of the triangle down at an angle like the picture. These are the ears.
Step 6: Fold the top corner to the back, so the head is not pointy.
Step 7: Fold the bottom corner back also unless you prefer a pointy chin.
Step 8: Now draw on the eyes and nose. Now you have your simple origami dog!

FLASH TO THE PAST!

Meet Selena Sloan Butler! She was the first Black American to establish the National Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers Association. It helped advocate for Black children in segregated communities.

POPUP QUESTION!

What percent of your brain is made up of water?

WHY IS SCHOOL SO IMPORTANT?

Not only does school play a big role in a child's development but it also offers many opportunities for all ages.

THE FIRST BLACK PRINCIPAL IN AMERICA

Jackson Coppin, who was a former slave was appointed as the principal of the Oberlin Academy after the departure of Ebenezer Bassett. She became the first African American woman to become a school principal.

SCAN ME

WWW.KEMETCOMIC.COM

© 2025 by Joe Young

YOU BETTER BE INSIDE THIS HOUSE BEFORE THE STREET LIGHTS GO OUT!
- A MOTHER BACK IN THE DAY

BACK TO SCHOOL, 9/10/25 #219 WWW.JOEYOUNG.ORG KEMET ACTIVITY SHEETS © 2025 BY JOE YOUNG

Chicken Hut named recipient of National Preservation Grant



Durham's The Chicken Hunt at 3019 Fayetteville St. is one of 50 restaurants selected to receive a Backing Historic Small Restaurants grant by the National Trust for Historic Preservation with American Express.

The initiative highlights small, independently-owned restaurants that serve as cultural and culinary landmarks in their communities. The Hut will receive \$50,000 for renovations, upgrades and long-term growth.

African American Cultural Festival

The gorgeous weather was the star of the show for the annual African American Cultural Festival. Thousands attended the downtown event showcasing the best in Black excellence.



The AACF is a family affair.



What would a festival be without facepainting?

How federal cuts will impact school meals

Continued from page 3A income.

A return to applications also requires school nutrition departments to dedicate significant staff time and resources to collecting paperwork, conducting income verification, entering data and following up with families.

A 2019 study commissioned by the USDA found that many school food authorities reported being "overwhelmed" during the early part of the school year due to their focus on collecting and processing school meal applications.

Hope Village at Method is Open!



CASA

Hope Village at Method will be home to clients of The Hope Center at Pullen, young adults aging out of foster care. The apartments will afford them the time and space to learn skills as they grow into adulthood.

SCHOOL NEWS

Tech products to help you kick off the new school year right

STATEPOINT

As a new school year gets underway, it's time to zero in on the tech products that can help your students ease into their academic routines and succeed in the classroom.

Here are some of the greatest products on store shelves today that can transform a student's relationship to school subjects ranging from STEM and language arts to music and physical education.

*** Math made magical:** Put the best tools in the hands of your math wizard with the fx-991CW Class-Wiz, the latest enhancement to Casio's scientific calculators. With an all-new quadruple-graded LCD display, your student will be able to easily find their cursor while writing and modifying expressions. All of the calculator's functions can be accessed through a convenient Math Catalog, which also hosts 47 scientific constants and 40 measurement conversions.

*** Note-taking made simple:** When it comes to synthesizing information, there really is no replacement for writing things



down by hand. Now, there's a simple way to take notes the "old-fashioned way" while getting all the benefits of digitization. With a smart pen, your student's handwritten notes are compatible with all their devices. These notes are also editable, searchable and highlightable, taking the fuss out of studying for exams and organizing materials for essays.

*** Music made beautiful:** Bring life and light to your young music student's world with the CT-S1. The sleek minimalist design and uplifting sound of this Casio keyboard will allow them to focus solely on the music, develop their

unique style and energize and encourage them to play more. With a simple interface and a color palette to suit every aesthetic, the functionality and design of the CT-S1 is all about the individual musician.

*** Sports made supportive:** Student-athletes can hone their skills in their sport of choice with new technology. From smart footballs that track spiral velocity and throw distance to connected soccer balls that measure trajectory, speed and spin, today's tech tools on the field function like a coach available to offer detailed, accurate feedback 24/7.

Backpack Buddies



COURTESY

Logan Thomas, CEO of the nonprofit Logan's P.A.L.S., donated backpacks to the Walnut Creek Elementary School Backpack Buddies program, which helps to feed students over the weekend by supplying them with backpacks filled with staples on Fridays.