

# The Northside News

A printlink for neighborhoods of change

## PEANUT FROM PINE KNOLLS

### *The Legacy of Senator Valerie Foushee*

Before Senator Valerie Foushee served as Democratic member of the North Carolina General Assembly (representing the 23rd district), she grew up in the Pine Knolls and Northside neighborhoods. She is an active and beloved member of First Baptist Church, which she fondly remembers as "a place where you would go to feel loved." The daughter of Annie Ruth Trice Paige and Melvin Paige, she was the third generation of her family to live in Pine Knolls, and has seen it change significantly over time. After Senator Foushee's parents moved to Durham, she lived with her grandmother on Southwest Lane because she had just been elected class president of the ninth grade. Her grandmother's nickname for her was "Peanut." She remembers walking along Wentworth and other neighborhood streets. There were four houses on Southwest Lane and everyone who lived there would go to Merritt Mill to get water in buckets for bathing, cooking, and drinking. At the time, young people of different neighborhoods formed different groups. The "Pine Knolls crew" was the humblest and later made its claim to fame when the Davis brothers (including our great neighbor Nate Davis, the current head of the Hargraves Community Center) started playing and excelling in sports.

Senator Foushee has a long history of activism and advocacy. She participated in sit-ins as a high school student at Phillips Jr. High, and she continued her fight for social change while attending college at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She remains a staunch advocate for Pine Knolls and Northside. In her words, "Some people don't understand the value in having a diverse community. We have absolved ourselves in Chapel Hill from addressing poverty." Her abiding commitment to raising awareness of poverty was shaped by her grandmother's displacement from the home she owned on Southwest Lane. For decades the town of Chapel Hill had neglected to extend city infrastructure to the street. When it received federal funding for community redevelopment, instead of providing access to running water for the residents already there, the town purchased the homes through eminent domain (a right of a government to take private property for public use) in order to make room for a new affordable housing development. The town also said they needed the property to build a connector between McCauley Street and Merritt Mill Road. Her grandmother was able to purchase a home in Northside, but for Senator Foushee, the historical neglect in that area "made [her] realize that people who have don't always worry about people who don't have."

To hear more from Senator Foushee, visit the MCJC Oral History Trust at <https://archives.jacksoncenter.info/> where you will also find the oral histories of many more Northside Neighbors.



Above: Ms. Kathy Atwater and Senator Valerie Foushee at the 2018 Northside Festival/MayDay Celebration!



## MR. GARLAND FOUSHEE – NORTHSIDE CENTURION

On May 17, 1918 Mr. Garland Foushee was born! This past May, he celebrated 100 years of life and some of us at the Jackson Center were honored to visit him and join in the celebration along with his three children - Marlou, Alfred, and Deborah.

We asked him, what advice he had for us as to how he lived so long?? "Treat others like you want to be treated" was his reply, plain and simple. It obviously is the key because at 100, Mr. Garland takes no medications other than one vitamin a day and is able to move around with the assistance of a walker.

His son, Alfred, also celebrated his own birthday on May 17th and at the age of 81, says he is grateful to be able to still celebrate this day along with his father.

We interviewed Mr. Garland's daughter, Marlou, because even though Mr. Garland is doing fine; 100 years is a long time to try and remember everything! Ms. Marlou shared that Mr. Garland had seven brothers and one sister, all who are now deceased. Mr. Garland's family is originally from Chatham County and moved to Chapel Hill where he graduated from Orange County Training School (OCTS) in 1938. He and his wife's names are on the monument located on the grounds of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Schools Administrative Offices (formerly Lincoln High School). Mr. Garland is also a World War II veteran, having served in the Navy.

He and his wife, Osa Mae Trice Foushee were married for 71 years and celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in 2002. Ms. Osa (as she was called by family, friends, and community members) passed in 2008. Marlou's mother told them how she and her father met. Being a very attractive young lady, she had many pursuers but Mr. Garland was the one who won her heart because of his quiet spirit and gentlemanly manners. One day as she was walking home, she passed by a group of teenage boys who were all trying to get her

attention. She looked back and saw Mr. Garland politely tip his hat. She then asked him to walk her home. He was the only one she ever dated and eventually married at the age of 18.

Mr. Garland's brother, Rev. Warren Raymond Foushee, was Pastor of St. Joseph CME Church from 1935-1964. His portrait is in the vestibule of the church. His son, Raymond Foushee, Jr. just passed in December of 2017. Mr. Garland was also chairman of the Stewards Board for almost 50 years.

Mr. Garland and Mrs. Osa taught their children to become successful in life; all attending college and pursuing professional careers. Marlou attributes their success to honoring their mother and father who worked hard to provide for their family. Mr. Garland attended DeShazor's Barber College located in Durham, NC and was a barber for many years. He also worked for the U.S. Public Health Service, among other jobs. He retired from the U.S. Forestry Science Lab and his wife, Mrs. Osa, retired from UNC Housekeeping Department.

Mr. Garland's home is located in Pine Knolls which was formerly called Knolls Development. Marlou said this used to be referred to as the country because there were only two houses, theirs and one other, on the street when they moved there. The roads were not paved and all you could hear at night were the crickets and hoot owls.

We asked Marlou what she remembers best growing up and having Mr. Garland and Mrs. Osa as parents. In reflecting back, she told us that her father has always been the source of family strength; a leader. He taught them not to spend all their money; to put some in savings; to always get on your knees and pray or have a conversation with God every day; and again to do unto others as you want done to you.

Great wisdom from a great Centurion!! Happy 100 years, Mr. Garland!

## COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NORTHSIDE NEWS

The Northside News is meant to be a vehicle for communication among Northsiders, Midway business owners, and friends across the town and county! Do you have a special photo or recipe to share? A local event to report or concern to raise? A community member we should honor or highlight in remembrance? Please contact the Center at [contact@jacksoncenter.info](mailto:contact@jacksoncenter.info) or (919) 960-1670 to submit your additions. We appreciate you!

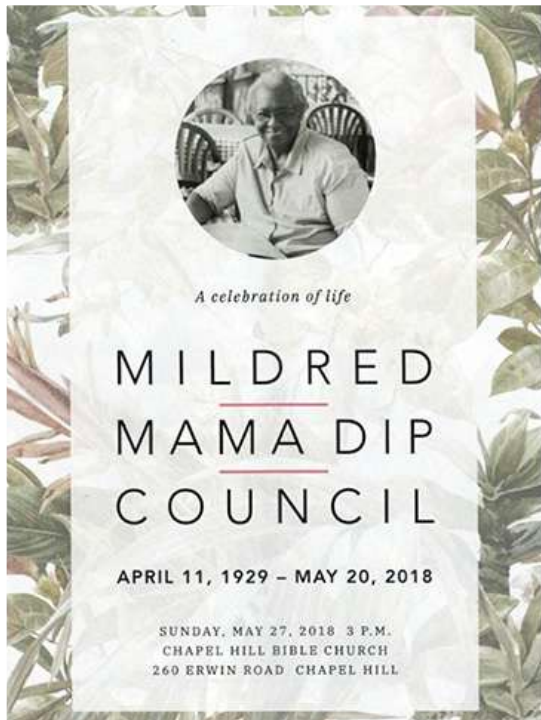
## HEART OF A HERO, LOVE OF A LEGEND

*"Loss is nothing else but change, and change is Nature's delight." —Marcus Aurelius*

The sun set on a community heroine, a friend, and a Northside neighbor last month. Mrs. Mildred Edna Cotton Council, affectionately known as "Mama Dip" and Chapel Hill's queen of cooking and community, passed on Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, leaving behind her family, her famous restaurant, and an empire of not only success, but of hope and love. Though her impact was felt nationwide, this loss is bigger than commemorating a national icon. Yes, the significance far surpasses her accomplishments—she's met a president, published cookbooks, sold winning recipes, and was awarded major local, state, and national accolades—which is incredibly hard to top.

Mama Dip was also incredibly real, a juxtaposition of considerate and cut-throat, of sternness and saccharine spirit. She stood up for rights and sat down for her beloved WWE programming. She was a champion of creating spaces for people to relax and smile, and she taught her children to laugh at themselves. She faced her fears daily but never quite shook her fear of thunderstorms. She embodied this community she served and never lost her personhood while doing it.

Mama Dip knew that it took a village to foster the kind of togetherness and goodness she left behind, values instilled by her early-widowed father Ed Cotton, and passed on to her children. One of her daughters, Spring Council, fondly remembers being sent out as a kid to check on and deliver food to senior citizens in the neighborhood. Community members have dozens of stories of the ways her generosity made a difference in their lives, like how Jane Stancill of News & Observer credits her safe pregnancy to Mama Dip's cooking. Beyond Michael Jordan's frequent visits, her 2002 meeting with former President George W. Bush, and even beyond pioneering small business ownership in the face of adversity, Mama Dip brought her whole self to the Northside/Pine Knolls community and helped to make it the



home it is.

"She was just a loving, caring, giving person," said Council, Mama Dip's daughter and family owner of Mama Dip's restaurant. With such an inconceivable capacity to love, the community is pressing onward with her memory in mind, and just like the Jackson Center, intends to carry it on with pride.

"The legacy will continue," said Council. "She's not gone. She lives through us."

That's all of us—Mama Dip's family, the Jackson Center, and the community at-large. Her spirit dwells nearby, and just like the continuation of her restaurant, we are committed to maintaining the unabating quality and authenticity that is baked, fried, and smothered into every dish, product, and community service effort for generations to come.

## ASK KEITH

Ms. Keith Edwards is a lifetime resident of McDade St. and a lifelong advocate for the community. Keith is widely known as a fighter for justice and receives calls from neighbors asking her about programs and referrals for help with household and community issues. To submit questions for "Ask Keith," call us at (919) 960-1670 or email at [contact@jacksoncenter.info](mailto:contact@jacksoncenter.info)

Do you know of any resources in Orange County that offer food support for people in the community during the summer months? Are there any exclusively for children?

The whole family can get food in Northside on N. Roberson St. Monday-Friday at **Heavenly Groceries Food Ministry** at St. Joseph C.M.E. from 3:30-4:30pm. Children ages 0-18 can receive a free lunch at **Food For the Summer** at Hargraves Community Center. **Rogers Road Community Center (RENA)** in Chapel Hill, located at 101 Edgar St, gives food to anyone in need every third Friday between 10am-4pm. Monday-Friday families can get bags of groceries at **IFC Food Bank** at 100 W. Main St. on a first come first serve basis starting at 9am or calling 919-929-6380 on Monday morning. In Hillsborough you can get free hot meals at **Fairview Baptist Church** at 600 Cornelius St, Monday-Thursday from 6-6:15pm. Look out for more resources in our July issue and don't forget to have a safe and fun July 4<sup>th</sup>!

*"I strongly encourage families to come out to the Food For the Summer sites at lunch each day to share a meal and have fun! Our staff is working to make sure there are things to do – including hosting "Free Book Wednesdays", weekly competitions, and free swim lessons at Hargraves."* Mayor Hemminger

*"If you are in desperate need of food please come out! Don't hesitate! We will give you whatever we have."* Rose Caldwell, RENA Office Manager

## ARCHIVE TRIVIA

### What made the Civil Rights Movement in Chapel Hill unique?

*Last month's answer: Because of Mildred Council's height, she was often the only one tall enough to dip her arm down to retrieve water. That is how she got her name Mama Dips!*

Think you know the answer to this month's archive trivia? Call the Jackson Center anytime after 9am to win a prize!

**THANKS TO GOD, OUR VOLUNTEERS AND THOSE WHO CARED, PINEKNOLLS COMMUNITY HOUSING PROGRAM IS SUCCEEDING. WE RECOGNIZE THE FOLLOWING:**

BARBEE CHAPEL CHURCH	KEVIN COOK, SECRETARY,
CHAPEL HILL BIBLE CHURCH	BOARD MEMBER
CHAPEL HILL/CARRBORO	MARK ROYSTER, CCB
CITY SCHOOLS	MARY JANE MEENER
CHAPEL HILL POLICE DEPT.	NCCU
CHAPEL OF THE CROSS	OLICE & CALICE THOMAS
CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY	ORANGE METHODIST CHURCH
COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM	REV. BOB SEYMOUR
DUKE UNIVERSITY	ROLAND GIDUZ, TIME WARNER CABLE
FAITH TABERNACLE CHURCH	RSVP
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH	SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH
FRED & NANCY BROOKS	SEEDS OF SHEERA
FREDDIE POWELL	TATE REALTY
GEORGE SANFORD, PRESIDENT	TED PARRISH, FOUNDER
BOARD MEMBER	THE CHAPEL HILL/CARRBORO
GLORIOUS CHURCH SERVICE	SERTOMA CLUB
HABITAT OF WAKE CO.	THE ELKS CLUB
JOCICA	THE TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL
JOHN PARRISH	UNC - CH
JONES' FUNERAL HOME	UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**SPECIAL THANKS TO THE COUNTLESS INDIVIDUALS WHO VOLUNTEERED THEIR TIME AND YARD SALE ITEMS. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK THE INDIVIDUALS WHO DONATED TO THE PROGRAM.**

SIGN DESIGNED BY SHIRLEY...

## PINE KNOLLS COMMUNITY HOUSING PROGRAM

Outside the home of Ms. Virginia Barbee at 104 Grant Street, you will see a five-foot tall, black sign resting on the side of the house. In white letters the header reads, "Thanks to God, our volunteers and those who cared, Pine Knolls Community Housing Program is succeeding ..." with a list of almost forty names and organizations.

Pine Knolls residents and community leaders Virginia Barbee and Ted Parrish started the Pine Knolls Community Housing Program in the early 90's in order to, as Ms. Barbee says, "save our houses." The Community Housing Program originally developed out of Barbee and other neighbors' commitment to tutoring youth in the community and supporting grandmothers and other older caretakers who were raising young children. Combined with the group's observations of other challenges plaguing the neighborhood, Barbee and company realized that a key piece to sustaining the future of

the Pine Knolls neighborhood was affordable housing. Thus they birthed the Pine Knolls Community Housing Program.

With various loans from local banks and the Town of Chapel Hill, in addition to individual and organizational contributions featured on the sign, the housing program acquired nine properties and was a key player in securing the land that would become Manly Estates.

The Pine Knolls Community Housing Program is a story of courage and persistence. A story of walking down Franklin Street for hours asking business after business to support the program; persisting even in the face of rejection. A story of friends, neighbors, church members, and organizations giving what they could to sustain a community.

"Courage, after all, is not being unafraid, but doing what needs to be done in spite of fear"- James L. Farmer Jr

## COMMUNITY BOARD

- 7/10 Robert Edwards
- 7/14 Dan Levine
- 7/17 Yvonne Cleveland  
Donna Bell
- 7/19 Sabrina Sidora
- 7/24 Lil Mama

## july birthdays

### FOOD FOR THE SUMMER

**Join us for FOOD and FUN! Weekdays at 12:00 pm from June 11-August 24.**

The Town of Chapel Hill is hosting their annual Food For the Summer program, which provides free meals, books, and fun activities for kids throughout Chapel Hill and Carrboro. To see all location sites for Food for the Summer, visit [www.foodforthesummer.org](http://www.foodforthesummer.org). You may also visit their website or email [foodforthesummer@ifcmailbox.org](mailto:foodforthesummer@ifcmailbox.org) for any questions.

### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**4th of July Celebration  
UNC Kenan Memorial Stadium  
Wednesday, July 4 | 7:00-10:00 pm**

Come celebrate our nation's rich history of freedom and independence. Arrive early and enjoy live music, fireworks, games, face painting, and good old-fashioned family fun! Concessions will be available for purchase.

**Food Distribution at St. John Church  
607 Pine Acres Rd, Chapel Hill, NC  
Saturday, July 7 | 11:00-12:00 pm**

On the first Saturday of every month throughout December 2018, St. John Church will be distributing pre-bagged food. Please call the church at (919) 967-2318 for further details.

THE PORCH REVIVAL TOUR'S JUNE STOP IS...

## ART PARTY ON ROBERSON ST.

June 29, 2018  
221A N. Roberson St.  
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Come enjoy a porch party with your neighbor. There will be art, food, & fun!

**CELEBRATING TRADITION IN THE FACE OF CHANGE**  
The Porch Revival Tour will be a series of resident-hosted celebrations that will take place on a porch, lawn, and/or favorite outdoor area. The goal is to create space for continued connection in our transformative community.

Sign up to host your own!  
Call George at 919-960-1670 | Email: [george@jacksoncenter.info](mailto:george@jacksoncenter.info)

