

NORTHSIDE NEWS

November/December 2018

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The Marian Cheek Jackson Center For Saving and Making History

The Community Mentor Team Gives Thanks

Happy Thanksgiving everyone! At the November meeting of the Community Mentor Team at the Jackson Center, we took a few moments to talk about what we are thankful for. Yvonne Cleveland began by giving thanks for the mentors: "The work of educating kids about local history wouldn't work without you and your stories." Northside Community Mentors, who go into local classrooms and tell personal stories about the neighborhood, segregation, and the civil rights movement, shared the view that the work with kids in our schools is rewarding even if it sometimes means getting up early or taking a few hours out of a busy schedule.

Pat Jackson seems tireless, a dedicated mentor full of energy and enthusiasm. Though she is officially retired, her schedule is full. Ms. Pat told the group, "I am thankful to God that at this time I'm available to do this work."

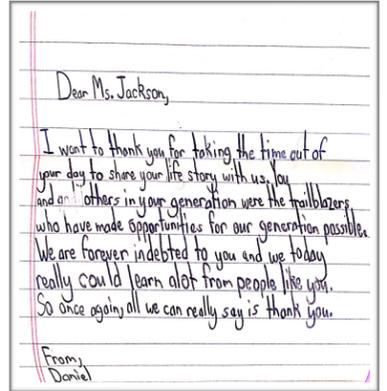
Gwen Atwater told the story about a visit to a middle school for an oral history workshop. After spending an hour answering question after question about her experiences growing up under segregation and teaching kids in the Chapel Hill schools, she remembers how the kids swarmed around, thanking her for coming and asking her for hugs. "They were so respectful and loving. They wanted hugs, so I stood at the door and hugged every last one of them." After teaching more than thirty years in Chapel Hill, Ms. Gwen developed relationships with many of the students she taught, and some continue to keep in touch. She added that she was thankful to have the strength and energy to continue doing education work.

Stan Foushee agreed: "I am thankful for health and strength to give back. You can get pulled thin, but if you have the ability to do it, you should be thankful and not complain. We have to be thankful that we are able to give back." Ronnie Bynum expressed gratefulness for the community mentors that made a difference in his life. When he told his grandma that his teacher wasn't calling on him in class, she gave him some advice: sit up front so everyone can see your hand. It worked. And there were other mentors. "I remember growing up in Carrboro and seeing people like the Reverend Williams and Stan Foushee and R.D. Smith. Knowing they are part of the community gave me someone to look up to. I am thankful for the mentors in my life."



To find out more about the Community Mentor Team, contact the Jackson Center or go to <https://jacksoncenter.info/our-work/youth-education/our-community-mentor-team/>. Consider joining us on the last Tuesday of every month at 6 pm at the Jackson Center.

Gifts that Keep on Giving



Thanksgiving is a perfect time to share some of the thank-yous kids have written to our Community Mentors: "Thank you so much for talking to us about segregation. I really love talking to an elderly person about how the world was in their time. I remember when I visited my neighbor that's around eighty years old. I learned a lot. But last year, she passed away. I haven't had the joy of listening to elders' stories. You gave me that joy again. Thank you so much for that." David

"I enjoyed learning from someone who had real experiences in the Civil Rights Movement instead of learning from a textbook." Quentin

"Thank you so much for coming into our class and taking your time to talk to us! I definitely enjoyed hearing you speak, and will never forget it. I felt like you took me to the Civil Rights Movement. You are a true inspiration!" Zoe

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." MLK, Jr.

Thankful for Home



In this conversation between former UNC student Alexander Stephens and third generation Northside resident, Ms. Keith Edwards, Ms Keith talks about being thankful for growing up in Northside.

The entire conversation can be found in the MCJC Oral History Trust at <https://archives.jacksoncenter.info/items/show/173>

AS: What were one or two of your best memories from your home growing up?

KE: The love. The sense of feeling safe. Being at peace whenever I left the neighborhood and I came back to the neighborhood and was walking down the street and I saw my house, I felt security. I saw a family. I saw my whole life. All I had to do was just get close to the house.

I don't care if I had gotten into a scrape with someone at the community center — my leg might've been bleeding or I might've fallen down or whatever — when I got close to home I was okay.

And some houses were run down and looked like the wind was just going to blow them away, but it didn't matter because that was just a house, and it was what you knew that was inside that house that kept you going.

It made you the person who you were and who you were going to become. When you saw your house, you just wanted to take your arms and wrap them around it and say thank you, because your mother and father were there. And even if you didn't have a mother or a father, you had somebody there as a parent. That was just the greatest feeling in the world.

Grace, Love and Sweet Potatoes

Sweet Potato Pie is one of those southern comfort dishes that makes me bubble over in merriment, like most folks do with cake batter or cookie dough. I hold the simple baked goods in high regard-- simple things executed well with much grace and love. This recipe is from my mother, whose Sweet'tater pie isn't always the stuff of legend. However, it always hits a special place of comfort and a deep rooted seed of childhood.

Brentton Harrison

Sweet Potato Pie by Bernice Harrison

- 4 large sweet potatoes
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup of white sugar
- ½ cup of brown sugar
- 2 teaspoons of cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon of nutmeg
- 2 tablespoons of white flour
- 2 pre-made pie crusts

Preheat oven to 350 F. Boil sweet potatoes with the skin on until soft. Drain potatoes and peel off the skin (under cool running water).



Mash potatoes in a large bowl. Mix in eggs. Add white sugar, brown sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg, and flour. Taste for sweetness. Pour the mixture into the 2 pre-made pie crusts. You can sprinkle with sugar to caramelize the top. Bake for 45 mins. Make sure it has a little wiggle in the middle!

Learning Across Generations workshops are available for your school or a school near you!

Check out the possibilities at: www.jacksoncenter.info/our-work/youth-education



OH WHAT FUN!

please join us for our
HOLIDAY PARTY

THURSDAY 13 DECEMBER

5:30 - 7:30 PM AT THE MARIAN CHEEK JACKSON CENTER
IF YOU CAN, BRING A DISH OR DESSERT FOR OUR
COMMUNITY POTLUCK. WE WILL PROVIDE THE DRINKS.
512 W ROSEMARY ST.

Winter Weather Tips and Quick Ways to Weatherize Your Home

Now that the cold season is here, temperatures are going to continue to drop and homes are going to get colder. In order to protect yourself and your home from these low temperatures, here is a quick list on how to weatherize your home.

- Disconnect your hoses from outside faucets and turn off the water to prevent pipes from freezing and causing damage.
- Check to make sure the chimney is clear of any nests from birds, squirrels, or other small animals before you use it.
- Invest in or make good use of thick curtains. They are good for keeping heat in and keeping the cold out.
- During the day leave the curtains open so that you are able to let sunlight in and warm your home with natural solar heat.
- Wrap the windows in plastic or bubble wrap to keep cold air out.
- Get a door sweep to place under each exterior door. You can get stick-on door sweeps at a local hardware store or online.
- To prevent losing heat through the floor, cover it with rugs.
- Refrain from placing large furniture in front of radiators to prevent them from absorbing heat, and avoid placing furniture in front of or on top of vents.
- Close the doors to unused rooms to contain heat in a smaller area of your home.
- Keep extra water and canned food in storage just in case of emergencies.

In Memory

Sheila Alston, a beloved member of the Northside community, passed away on October 1, 2018. Sheila attended Northside Elementary and was part of the Class of 1971 at Chapel Hill High. She began her career in law enforcement, first as a police officer in Carrboro, then Atlanta, Georgia. She later worked for the airline industry in California and the Triangle area. An outgoing "people person" with a distinguished sense of style and fashion, she was also a fun, loving grandmother and great-grandmother and was close with many friends and family members in this area and beyond. A funeral service celebrating her life was held at First Baptist Church on October 9.

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

Q: What are your favorite holidays this time of year?

A: Thanksgiving is a day for family and friends to come together to give thanks for all that we have received. We celebrate Christmas because it is the birth of Jesus our savior. Through Him, we offer each other gifts from our hearts for this precious gift that was given to us through Him. For the New Year, we celebrate a new year coming in and hope that that year will be better than the last year.

Just a reminder! For the holidays these stores will be offering pre-cooked holiday meals this year: Harris Teeter, Carrboro – (919) 942-8564; Food Lion, Carrboro – (919) 932-1589

Ask Keith will be back in the New Year, but please keep your questions coming!

Community Board

Chapel Hill-Carrboro Holiday Parade

Saturday, 10AM
December 8, 2018
FREE

Franklin Street

Filled with floats, marching bands, reindeer, elves and Santa Claus, it is sure to put you in a festive mood. For more info, visit www.chapelhillholidayparade.com.

St. Paul AME Church 42nd Annual Christmas Cantata

Sunday, 4PM
December 9, 2018
FREE

101 Merritt Mill Rd.

Join in this annual event. Consider becoming a patron and making a \$25 contribution. Contact the church for more information. 919-967-3961
[Suggested: Become a patron for \$25]

Eboné Soul Strutters Winter Recital

Friday, 6-9PM
December 14, 2018
FREE

Hargraves Community Center

The Eboné Soul Strutters entertain you with new dances for the holidays. Everyone is invited!

Northside Trivia

This month's question:
What are the 3 most popular holiday songs of all time?

Answer to last month's question:
Tina Turner once sang at Northside's Starlight Supper Club on Rosemary Street.

How it works: If you think you know the answer, call the Jackson Center at (919) 960-1670 any time from 9-5 to win a Northside button! Whoever ends the year with the most buttons will be our Northside News Trivia Champion and receive a trophy!

December and January Birthdays

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| 12/4 Corey Edwards | 1/17 Alva Burnette |
| 12/16 Jarrett Dawson | 1/18 Norma Alston |
| 12/18 Addie Wilson | 1/21 Clarence Farrar |
| 12/27 Paris Miller | 1/21 Dennis Farrington |
| 1/6 Vimala Rajendran | 1/23 George Barrett |
| 1/7 Hudson Vaughan | 1/25 Lula Bell Norwood |
| 1/14 Lillian Alston | 1/30 Rev. Willis Farrington |

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