

# Northside News

## Ain't None of Us Free 'Til We All Free! Happy Juneteenth!

In this issue of the *Northside News*, we salute the arts and the artists who live in this community. Thank you for creating beauty, lifting our spirits, challenging us to think, and helping us to appreciate life by sharing your vision and your gifts.

### The "Poetry Lady"

Ms. Freda is a daughter of Northside. One of her strongest childhood memories is walking hand-in-hand with her grandfather in a civil rights demonstration, sharing his pride as they made history together. She says she knew at an early age that she wanted to become a teacher; that's exactly what she became and she's been teaching all her life. To many of her elementary school students, she is known as "the poetry lady," since she has found many ways to bring poetry and song into her classroom. Poems help her to communicate a very important message about self-worth: "I utilized poems to help instill pride in our children because when we grew up, black folks didn't feel like they were worthy of anything—or worthy to have the same advantages as others."



To hear Ms. Freda recite such poems as "Harriet Tubman" and "Hey, Black Child," listen to her oral history online at [archives.jacksoncenter.info](http://archives.jacksoncenter.info)

### To be Young, Gifted and Black

The following is an excerpt from remarks made by David Mason on the occasion of the dedication of an engraved memorial to local civil rights leader Harold "Hobo" Foster at Chapel Hill's Peace and Justice Plaza on June 5, 2019. Mr. Mason reminds us that it is not just the creative talents we are given-- and Hobo was a brilliant writer, songwriter, musician, and athlete-- but what we do with them that matters:

*"It is rare that we witness so many God-given talents in one individual. What was the most remarkable thing to me, however, was the way Hobo decided to use the gifts that God had given him. He could have opted to use his abilities for fortune and fame, but he decided to use his talents in the way that God has called on all of us to do, to love one's brother or sister so much, he was willing to devote his life to them. Hobo's concern for others led him on a historical journey for justice that began here in Chapel Hill. You see, he was young, gifted and black."*



David Mason, Charley Norwood and Esphur Foster celebrate the life of their friend and brother, Hobo.

### An Eye for Design

Ms. Charley Mae Norwood is a long-time Northside resident who is known for her artistic talents. She has competed in and won several titles at the Orange County Senior Games for her jewelry and beadwork. You've probably seen her at



Heavenly Groceries working on some pieces! Ms. Charley first started beading at the Seymour Center. The Seymour Center is a wonderful place on Homestead Road that provides many interesting classes for people in Orange County who are over 60 years old. And the best part is, most of the classes are free! Ms. Charley grew to love beading through the passion and enthusiasm of her instructor. She goes to the beading class every Tuesday and has gone on to make some incredible artwork. As you can see from these pictures, Ms. Charley has a great eye for design! -- Saradine Pierre



Pictured: A beaded picture called, "Breakfast Treats" and a beaded comb.

### Quilting Community Together

Textile artist David Lyles leads a weekly quilting class at the Community Empowerment Fund office on Rosemary Street and is a great advocate of projects that bring people together to celebrate community. At the Northside Festival in late April, he hosted a community quilting project, encouraging neighbors to add a fabric piece to the quilt.



Check out the results and see if you can find:

- A cross, three hearts, two red birds on the wing.
- A blue snail; a sign of peace; two flowers.
- a tapestry of spring.



### Art is Life

Andrea Wuerth, Jackson Center education director, recently talked with Brentton Harrison, director of Blackspace in the Teen Center on Franklin Street, about the local arts scene. Here are a few selections from their conversation:

**Q: Brentton, who are some artists working locally people should know about?**

A: Honestly, the arts scene is pretty white. But there are black artists doing things out there. Chapel Hill has a budding hip hop community and there's Vibehouse 405, a recording studio above where the old Hazmat used to be. I work at Blackspace-- shameless plug--, a breathing space where black and brown youth can manifest their dreams in a society that forces them to grow up faster with more systemic pressures. A lot of young people come in to rap. Some want to learn poetry. I teach basic audio production and beatmaking. But it's not limited to those things if interest is piqued.

**Q: How does your connection to Northside inform your own artistic vision?**

A: I've learned about the history and culture and the foundations of the Northside community, which is similar to many other black communities around the country. I learn and evolve as part of the black community. There are so many local artists like Prince Taylor, Bubba Norwood, old groups like Liquid Pleasure and Doug Clark and the Hot Nuts, Shirley Weaver, Libba Cotten-- they all inspire, especially considering they lived in the Jim Crow South. There's an art to community building-- people like Harold Foster and Albert Williams. Art is life. My dad [Rev. Troy Harrison] has a gift for talking and speaking to make people understand, and he can get them fired-up. It's an ideal that's beyond the physical; it's about our spiritual, inner selves.

**Q: I've heard you talk about "artivism." What is that?**

A: It's activism and art coming together. Art is just a vessel by which you can convey a message. That vessel can look like anything, but it should be open to interpretation. Artists make things from their hearts; the act of creating art is freeing. And it can be freeing to others because you never know who's influenced by what you make.

# In Memoriam

**Corey Marvin Bynum**, son of Renee and Marvin Bynum, departed this life on June 4, 2019. Born in 1968 and raised in Hillsborough, he was an Eagle Scout and accomplished musician. A 1987 graduate of Orange High School, he attended Elizabeth City State University, served in the Army, and was trained as an electrician. His many family members remember him as a caring, loving person and celebrated his life at St. Paul's AME on June 8.

**If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.**

-Romans 14:8

**Wars come and go but my soldiers stay eternal.**

-Tupac Shakur

**Mr. Robert Greene Baldwin**, son of Charlie Lee and Rebecca Baldwin, was born in 1922 and was called home on May 15, 2019. Family and friends remembered him in a celebration of his life at St. Joseph CME Church on May 21. He served in the US Army in Europe during World War II, then moved to Washington, DC, and, later, to Connecticut, where he spent most of his life. He returned to Chapel Hill in 2009, where his brothers, Fred and Charlie, and sister, Betty Baldwin Geer, live. He was always active in the church, cherished his family, and took great pride in being a Baldwin, a family that has done much in the Northside community.

## The Art Of Protest

*On May 30, 2019, a group of neighbors met at Hargraves to voice their concerns about the plan to build a multi-story, 300-unit apartment building on the site of Breadman's on Rosemary Street. For more than four years, developers repeatedly have ignored concerns of residents and, to date, have not been able to produce a plan that comes close to neighbors' minimal demands. The struggle to be heard continues.*

### The Tree of Life (A Prayer)

"As we go into this meeting, we ask that you allow our hearts to be open and our ears to be clean. Come into this meeting and set in our hearts that we would do those things that are pleasing, not unto ourselves but pleasing unto you, that each person would have an opportunity to the tree of life."

Rev. Willis Farrington



### My community is here

So what we feel like,  
What we really feel like,  
Is that we are being pushed out.  
*Yeah!*

From an area that's been our area,  
*Yes!*

For a really long time.

*[Burst of applause.]*

- Based on the words of Latesha Foushee

### How did we get to this point?

How did we get to this point as a community? The first proposal in 2015 was a 9-story student rental. We as a community said, 'No more student housing in our neighborhood!'  
*Yeah.*

We already have enough.  
*Yeah. [clapping]*

Chancellor's Square. We've got Warehouse. We've got Rosemary Village. And we've got Shortbread. We as a community wanted more family-friendly businesses, commercial spaces that increase daytime activities. No more residential housing unless it was for the elderly or affordable.  
*That's right.*

...  
How has what we proposed in 2015 as a community been set aside? With the exception of the age restriction of 22 and above, what will prevent this from being turned into another student rental? What benefit would this project bring to our community?

*None! None. Nothing. [Loud applause]*

Ms. Kathy Atwater

### A Protest Poem

Crumbs.  
As far as affordable units you're offering.  
Ten compared to 300.  
That's nothing at all.  
Alright?  
That's nothing compared to the peace that's taken away.  
Let us take over Breadman's.  
Let us take it and make it a restaurant.  
At least our people would have somewhere to eat. *[laughter]*

-Based on the words of Andre Caldwell



## Special Events to Celebrate Juneteenth

### Black Farmers Market/Juneteenth Edition

June 23, 2019, 12-4 pm at NC Mutual Building Plaza, 411 W. Chapel Hill St., Durham, NC. There will be music, speakers and opportunities for folks to connect with groups working to sustain Black farmers and land. If you want to be a vendor, contact: blackaugustnc@gmail.com.

### "Chapel Hill Nine" at the Seymour Center (Rev. Albert Williams, David Mason, Clyde Perry and James Merritt)

June 26, 2019,  
11 am-12 pm @  
Seymour Center,  
Homestead Rd.,  
Chapel Hill.



## !!Keeping Your House A Home!!

\* **KYHAH** is a free workshop to inform neighbors of resources that are available to help long term residents stay in their homes through home repair, property tax support, and financial counseling.

\*Free legal services are available to neighbors to create *estate planning* documents (full wills, will amendments, power of attorney, living trusts) in one to two sessions.

**The workshops happen on the last Tuesday of the month from 2:00 pm- 4:00 pm.**

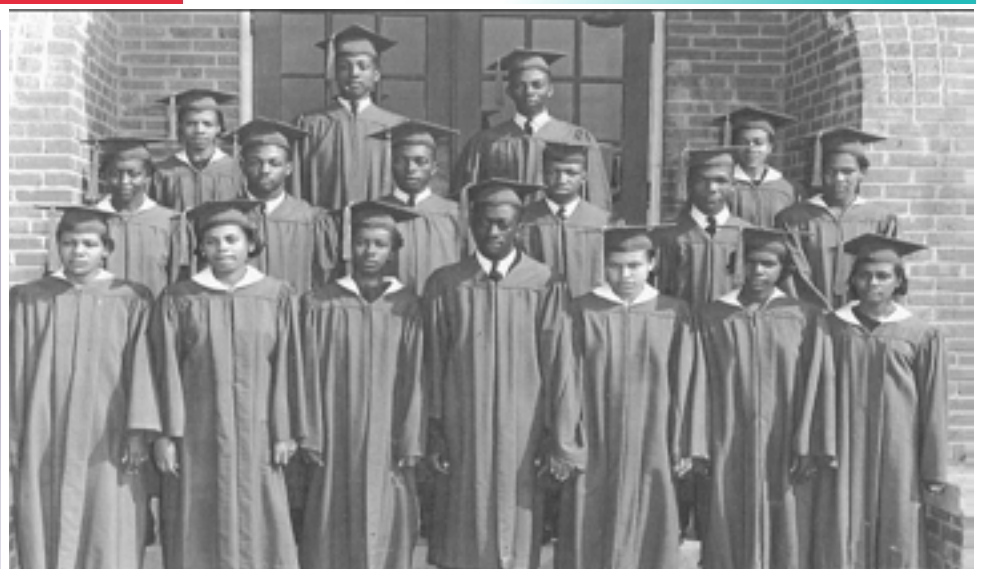
Contact Kathy Atwater, Community Advocacy Specialist, at 919-960-1670 to schedule an appointment for the workshop.

## Ask Keith

The Ask Keith column will be back next month. Ms. Keith, along with the Jackson Center, wants to take this time to honor all of this year's graduates from pre-K, kindergarten, elementary, middle school, high school, college, etc. Thanks for doing a great job! We are extremely proud of you, and we wish you all good luck now and in the future. Please send some pictures to us at the Jackson Center (contact@jacksoncenter.info) so that we can share some of them in our future newsletters. Again, we are so proud of you, and we love you!

## Northside Trivia

Can you name any members of the O.C.T.S. (Orange County Training School) class of 1940 pictured below?



## July Birthdays

July 10 - Robert Edwards

July 14 - Dan Levine

July 17 - Yvonne Cleveland & Donna Bell

*If you want your name and birthday mentioned in the Northside News, contact us at the Jackson Center.*

"Once schools were integrated, there wasn't that pride in schools like before when we were at all-black schools."  
-R.D Smith

"In 1949 a new black awareness had come about to the school body and the school administration. We said we were tired of being identified as a training school. After much debate, the new name of Lincoln High was chosen."  
- Edwin Caldwell

To read more about the history of Lincoln and OCTS, go to: [lincolnhighalumni.org](http://lincolnhighalumni.org).