

NORTHSIDE NEWS

NEW BEGINNINGS ISSUE

The beginning of a new year-- and, in this case, a new decade-- is for many a time to reflect on the past and look toward the future. In 2019, Northside neighbors worked together, planting and nourishing the spirit of this place in a way that bodes well for the future: We welcomed new families into newly-created affordable housing. We told our stories and recorded them so that future generations will know their history. We celebrated, sang, danced and communed together. We honored the memories and legacies of many people who built and nourished this community their entire lives. And in their spirit, we look towards the new year and the new decade with hope. Together we can continue to strengthen the traditions and the ties that bind us to one another.

Neighbors share their thoughts on renewal and new beginnings...

Paris Miller recently moved back to Northside with her husband, Gerald Foushee, and son, Jordan Amir Foushee. The Foushee family goes back five generations here and their legacy can be found everywhere, including at the rock wall, where James Foushee and other Northsiders planned the protests that launched the local civil rights movement. Paris, who calls herself a “bridge builder,” is very committed to continuing the legacy through activism and advocacy and by raising a son who knows his history. Paris writes: *For the last 4 years we’ve been bombarded with the phrase ‘fake news,’ and for centuries both locally and nationally we’ve combated ‘fake history,’ distorted narratives that continue to uphold white supremacy, terror and inequity. Truth matters and history matters. So, I pray for a renewed commitment to centralizing marginalized voices and histories in an effort to unearth the truth and reality of who we are as a people, community and nation. We must stand in our collective truth in order to move forward, heal and thrive. In that truth lie the possibilities of new beginnings...*



Ms. Patricia “Pat” Jackson and Mr. Boyd Jackson are about to move to a very special house on S. Merritt Mill Road. Northside legend Ms. Esphur Foster has called their new home “one of Black Chapel Hill’s pillars,” and it holds memories of many generations of the Jackson family. Mrs. Marian Cheek Jackson, namesake of the Jackson Center, was raised there, and she raised Mr. Boyd there. As soon as renovations are completed, Mr. Boyd and Ms. Pat will be back in their old neighborhood full-time, close to the neighbors, the school and the church they grew up with. Their daughter and grandson moved into Northside. For the Jacksons, a new chapter is beginning and a legacy is continuing. Ms. Esphur writes: “I hope you will join me in welcoming the Jacksons back to the neighborhood!”



Ms. Quintella Hanks recently moved to Lindsay Street where she shares a home with her sister, Kathy Atwater. As Ms. Quintella tells it: *I retired from working over 33 years in New Jersey and wanted to return home, and with God’s help, I did! I moved back to the Northside of Chapel Hill in March 2018 where I was introduced to members of the community with much kindness. I love the fact that Northside bands together to keep its history and its neighborhoods alive. My desire is to learn more of its history and be a helping hand in the community that I live in.*

A New Face at the Jackson Center

When you meet the Jackson Center’s new Director of Housing Justice, she’ll most likely tell you, “Just call me ‘Phyllis.’” **Ms. Phyllis Joyner** joined the Jackson Center staff on January 6 and has hit the ground running. Born and raised in Durham where she attends Russell Memorial Church, a sister church to Northside’s St. Joseph CME, she wants the community to know: “It is an honor and a privilege to have the opportunity to use my God-given skills and talents for a community that aligns with my values, my experiences and the life I’ve lived.” She’s lived in different places, but this area is “home.” “Home for me is where love never dies. And it’s where my faith is renewed and restored.” Her understanding of the importance of home will guide her as she works for housing justice in Northside, Pine Knolls, and Tin Top. Please stop by the Jackson Center and say “hi” to Phyllis.



Spiritual New Beginnings

Rev. Robert “Peter” Campbell grew up in Northside but later moved to Rogers Road when that community promised new beginnings for many African-American families who were still prevented from moving into most other neighborhoods in segregated Chapel Hill. In his oral history, Rev. Campbell tells of a new beginning of the spiritual sort that set him on a different path, one that has led to a life dedicated to environmental justice and the building of a thriving Rogers-Eubanks community:

I was kind of what you call a church hopper. I had a friend who had a church down in Apex. So I would drive all the way down to Apex. And one Saturday I worked real late, got home real late. And I was trying to rush out to get to church. And there was this premonition-- “Why are you driving to this church? The same God you’re trying to serve is also the head of the church you just went by Faith Tabernacle on Rogers Rd.” I turned around, came back, walked right to the third pew. And I remember one Wednesday night I made it to Bible study. [W]hat I do is kind of influenced by that rekindling.

And a number of pastors will say, “You need a scripture to help you motivate and to steer you to reach for the future.” And it was in the book of Proverbs, where it says, “A man’s gift makes room for him and brings him before great men.” A young lady [once] said [to me], “You have a gift of gab. You listen to what people say and you respond.” ... That’s my gift: to gather as much information about the environment. How can we help preserve our environment? How do we help preserve the better quality of life through the environment in which we live? And so there was a lot of spirituality behind what I do. God has called us to be stewards, that we have the responsibility to replenish the earth. We have to be good stewards.

To listen to Rev. Campbell’s oral history, go to: jacksoncenter.info/archives

The Boys and Girls Club After School Program: Building Community Every Day

At the end of every school day, a group of kids emerges from the school bus in front of the Craig/Gomains Community Center. They settle in, get a snack, do their homework, and make themselves at home. Usually, UNC students show up to help out, to do crafts, read or shoot hoops. Director Charlotte Makoyo knows each kid well. She knows how to get their attention and their respect. And they know she has high expectations, enforces the rules, and cares about them. Ms. Charlotte knows their parents and families, too. The kids also clearly know each other well and get along like a family, with all that entails. If you stop by, you'll see: This is what community looks like!

Two after school program volunteers talk about their experiences:

I feel I was able to impact the children, yet, in reality, the kids had a greater impact on me. Their unbridled joy and enthusiasm to learn reminded me of what a gift education is. Each day I volunteered I felt I was able to learn something new, about Northside, about myself, and about the necessity of social justice in the classroom.

- Marguerite Leek

From the first time I walked in I was greeted with numerous squeals and "sit next to me's" from the children.

Over time they called me by name--or tried to--, and I knew theirs as well. One child loved to tell me about their day and family, and I was lucky enough to meet their family at the holiday party we threw for the children. Almost immediately I saw the strong community among the children, and by the end of the semester I believe I had become a part of it, too. It seemed natural for them to be there for one another.

- Kate Shurtleff



In Memoriam



Robert Barnes, known to many in the community for his work at the Inter-Faith Council, passed away on November 15, 2019. His colleagues knew him as kind and compassionate, with a unique patience for people who had difficulty adhering to rules or who needed special care. He valued relationships and was able to connect with anyone. No matter what struggles people brought with them to IFC, he could look beneath the surface and honor their humanity. He will be remembered and missed.



Charles "Puff" Stanley Gear passed away on December 1, 2019. Born in 1959 in Chapel Hill, he attended local schools and continued his education at a training school in Durham. He spent much of his time volunteering at numerous organizations including the Campus Y, funeral homes and various churches in the community. Family was very important to him. He attended First Baptist as a child, then Second Baptist in Chapel Hill and later joined his family in attendance at Barbee's Chapel Harvest Word where a memorial service was held in December to honor his life.

2020 MLK Day Celebrations

1/17: Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (Orange County) featuring Danita Mason-Hogans, 10:30-11:30 am, Passmore Center, 103 Meadowlands Drive, Hillsborough (919) 968-2070. More info: <http://bit.ly/2Qiw4k3>

1/18: Youth-Led Special Event (Town of Carrboro), 1-3 pm, Century Center, Carrboro.

1/19: The 35th Annual University/Community MLK Memorial Banquet & Awards Ceremony N.C. Chief Justice Cheri Beasley will be the keynote. She is the first African-American woman to serve in this position 5-8 pm, Friday Center. More info and tickets:\$30 <https://unc.live/2QjkMfj>

1/20: MLK Day of Service 2020 (NCCU Office of Community Engagement and Service), 9 am-12 pm, 1450 S Alston Avenue, Durham. More info: <http://bit.ly/2Qjc5C0>

1/20: MLK Park Ribbon Cutting (Town of Carrboro), 3 pm, 1120 Hillsborough Rd, Carrboro. More info: <http://bit.ly/2ZL48bD>

1/22: MLK Lecture and Awards Ceremony 7 pm, Memorial Hall. Tickets are free and available at the Carolina Performing Arts and Memorial Hall ticket office. Dr. Michael Eric Dyson, author, radio host and Georgetown University sociology professor, will deliver the keynote. More info: <https://diversity.unc.edu/programs/mlk/>

February Birthdays

February 1 Barbara Wall,
Carlotta Lindsay
February 3 Pearl Cole
February 5 Lola Merritt
February 9 Carolyn Briggs
February 11 Janell Riggsbee
February 15 Seneta King
February 16 Calvin Smith
February 24 Della Pollock
February 25 Brentton Harrison

"So often we don't act because of fear. We don't know what will happen when we turn the rock over. But if we have faith--even just a little bit, like a mustard seed--you can make a mountain fall."

-David Lyles

Share Your Love with a Song

The Jackson Center's Annual
Singing Telegram Fundraiser

February 11 - 14 2020

\$25 for a personalized video or sponsored telegram to a neighbor
\$50 for a live performance to Chapel Hill/Carrboro /Durham
\$75 for a live performance at peak times (see order form)
\$100+ just to support great community-building work :)

Contact us at the Jackson Center
phone: 919-960-1670
or
<http://bit.ly/jcnxtyr>

Ask Keith

Q:Who do you call when EZ Rider is not available? Is there an affordable taxi service in Chapel Hill?

A: There are a few people you can call when EZ Rider is not available. If you are near a bus stop you can always access the free bus rides on Chapel Hill Transit. Also, if you call Chapel Hill Transit at 919-485-7433 you can tell the phone operator your location, and they will be able to direct you to the stop closest to your home.

Tarheel Taxi is a local taxi service that is affordable and in the neighborhood. Their headquarters are located at 110 N. Graham St, Chapel Hill, NC. You can reach them at 919-933-1255. If you are at UNC Hospital, and need a ride home, the hospital has a contract with Tarheel Taxi to provide free rides home from the hospital. They will take you as far as you need to go, free of charge. They have even gone as far as Georgia!

If you have a smartphone or are with someone who has a smartphone, you can also download Lyft or Uber. These are ride sharing apps that can be affordable depending on your location.

If there is anyone else who has knowledge of another way of transportation other than those mentioned, please let us know.

Thank you for this important question, and we wish everyone a Happy New Year!

A Recipe for a Prosperous New Year

For many locals, the best way to ring in the new year is with collard greens and black-eyed peas (green = money; peas = coins). Just in case you missed out, here's a recipe from the St Joseph CME Church's *Soul in a Bowl* cookbook from Northsider Betty Geer's collard greens.

Ms. Betty Geer's Collard Greens

1 package of smoked turkey meat, preferably turkey necks
2 cups water
8 cups chopped greens
2 tablespoons or so of olive oil



Put water and smoked turkey meat into a large pot. Cook with lid on until the meat is flaking or almost falling off the bone. Chop the greens and place them into the pot with the turkey meat. Let the greens come to a good boil without a lid on the pot. Stir the greens and replace lid. Keep the greens at a boil with a lid on the pot, stirring occasionally. Turn the heat down slowly until simmering; the greens should cook for 30-45 minutes. Season with olive oil.

COMING SOON!!!



Sankofa
African American
Museum on Wheels

JANUARY 19 & 20, 2020

Doors open at 12 noon

ROGERS EUBANKS COMMUNITY CENTER
101 EDGAR ST., CHAPEL HILL 27516

MORE INFO: (919) 918-2822 OR CONTACT THE JACKSON CENTER.

The Ghanaian term, Sankofa, tells us to "use the wisdom of the past to build the future." This exhibit epitomizes the meaning of the term by educating, enlightening, and empowering young and old alike with living history. Sankofa is a must see!!!

Saint Paul Village Community Walk & 5K Run

Benefitting St. Paul Village

Saturday, March 7, 2020, 9 am
McDougle Middle School

Early Bird: \$20 Individual, \$40 Family - by 2/01/20
After 2/01/20: \$25 Individual, \$45 Family
Registration: Online at www.stpaulamechapelhill.org or pick up your registration form at the Jackson Center, 512 W. Rosemary St. TODAY!
Any Questions? Contact:
919-967-3961 or saintpaulvillage5k@gmail.com