

# Northside News

## Welcoming the 2023 Jackson Center Summer Fellows



From left to right: Aashna, Nya, Jilian, Leslie, Steph

**Aashna Singh** is a junior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she studies Global Studies and City/Regional Planning. Originally from Maryland, she has studied economic segregation and gentrification in Shaw (Washington, D.C.) and Montgomery County, Maryland. This work founded her interest in housing justice and community-centered urban planning. She is also involved in UNC’s Community Justice, Abolition, and Antiracism collective, which agitates for abolition of the carceral state in Chapel Hill, Carrboro, and beyond. She is passionate about community justice based in solidarity and in her free time, enjoys sewing, writing poetry, and looking for new music to listen to.

**Jilian Palmer** is currently pursuing her Master of Divinity at Duke University with a concentration in Black Church Studies and Theology, Medicine, and Culture. She was raised in Winston-Salem, NC and received her undergraduate degree in Psychology at Clemson University. She recently relocated from Charleston, SC where she lived for 6 years. She received her Master of Public Health degree from the Medical University of South Carolina in 2017 and has since worked in the areas of racial justice and community engagement. Jilian is passionate about the intersection of faith, race, politics, and healthcare. She looks forward to learning more about community organizing and housing advocacy with the Jackson Center.

**Leslie Arenas-Ramirez**, a rising Junior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, is currently pursuing a degree in American Studies and Biology with a minor in Latino Studies. Their American Studies major focuses on American Indian and Indigenous Studies. They will work and collaborate with various community partners to plan for the 2023 Good Neighbor Initiative and assist with the Learning Across Generations program. Leslie is looking forward to preserving and celebrating the Northside neighborhood and meeting new people in the community. In her free time, she enjoys binge-watching TV shows, traveling, and trying out new cafes!

**Nya Smythe** is a rising senior at UNC studying Anthropology and Arabic. Her interests are sociocultural oral histories and silences in the black community; hence, the Southern Legacies: Descendants Project led her to Jackson’s Center public history program. Her goal is to be a good neighbor by conducting and consolidating oral interviews, gaining proficiency in digital metadata, and organizing community gatherings. In her free time, she enjoys playing board games, watching psychological thrillers, and spending time with her family and close friends in her hometown, Fayetteville, North Carolina.

**Steph Pierson** is a rising senior at UNC studying History and Hispanic Studies. She originally got involved at the Jackson Center her sophomore year with oral history and Learning Across Generations. This summer, they will be continuing this work and also helping out with the Heavenly Groceries program. They are really excited to deepen their connections with staff, Summer Fellows, and volunteers at the Jackson Center and also with Northside community members. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, running, and biking, and she’s really passionate about community building and outdoor accessibility for marginalized folks.

## Neville House Open House

On Saturday, June 3rd, the Jackson Center hosted its first ever Open House at the historic Neville House at 107 Cobb Street in Carrboro. I was fascinated by the house’s history when I heard about it: the home, built in 1945, was one of the four in Northside constructed by John Wesley Campbell, a local Black stone mason with a deep connection to the community. While the house is newly renovated, his stonework has been preserved throughout — down to the crescent moon and star Campbell masoned as a signature.

For some context: this open house was two days before my first day as a summer fellow at the Jackson Center, so Nya (another summer fellow) and I were both in the dark about the tasks we were about to be assigned. Shortly after introductions, we were both given a handful of flyers for the open house and asked to canvass the surrounding streets to invite neighbors by! Her and I bonded during this, and we enjoyed meeting all the neighbors we spoke to.

When I saw the grill being fired up, I realized this wasn’t the typical open house I was familiar with, with potential buyers coming and going. Neighbors showed up, bringing dishes to share (Ms. Odessa’s apple fritters were to-die-for!!!) and were eager to meet their potential new neighbors. The families touring the home became much more than just potential buyers; they stayed back long after their tours had ended, bonded with neighbors, and became familiar with the close-knit Northside community they would be joining. Every person that passed by was recognized and urged to come inside and grab a plate. I was unfamiliar to many of the people there, but have honestly never felt so eagerly welcomed by new faces. Small talk didn’t last long either; before long, I became intensely involved in a semi-serious discussion on deer and stray cats in the neighborhood.

My role as a student has largely felt extractive of the resources and history in Chapel Hill. I honestly wouldn’t be surprised if neighbors weren’t welcoming to a new (clearly student) face, but I wish I had known how quickly I’d become familiar enough with neighbors that they were poking fun at me (an eagerly accepted form of love). I met so many people that day alone, so I can’t wait for the community this summer will bring me.

Summer Fellow Aashna Singh



Aashna Singh, Michael Jones, George Barrett, Ms. Belinda Caldwell, Christine Abernathy, Hudson Vaughn, Ms. Odessa Wilson, Mr. Paul Caldwell



Nya Smythe and Mr. Paul Caldwell taking a selfie with George Barrett and Ms. Belinda Caldwell behind them

## Orange County Community Remembrance Coalition 1869 Soil Collection

I had the great pleasure of serving as co-chair of the OCCRC 1869 Soil Collection Committee alongside Danita Mason-Hogans. Bringing this work forward has truly been a community effort, so I want to thank the 1869 Soil Collection committee members, Blue Ribbon students, volunteers and all who helped clean the soil and make the program a success.

My favorite quote is from Ida B. Wells, “The way to right wrongs is to turn the light of truth upon them.” Honoring the Black lives lost and telling the truth of this nation’s legacy of slavery and racial terror lynching is critical now more than ever, especially during a time when there are attacks and bans on AP African American History courses. It’s important to acknowledge what happened if we want to address the systemic racial disparities that our communities face today.

Amir was a volunteer and participant of the event and instead of me simply giving my reflection, I thought it would be nice to hear from him too:

My name is Jordan Amir Foushee, and I helped my Mom with the soil cleaning and setting up the soil coalition ceremony that attendees participated in. Learning this history as an 11 year old is very hard because of how scary it is. The thought of someone finding their family member or friend hanging from a tree was very sad and upsetting. I kept thinking how absurd and cruel it was that someone would do something like that. I saw participants of the soil ceremony crying as they reflected on the stories of the victims. I’m glad that this work is taking place. This history should be available for people to learn because knowing what happened in the past is important. If I don’t know the past, then I can’t understand what’s going on now.

## Bubba Norwood's Beats

June is African American Music Appreciation Month and our community has a rich and diverse musical legacy. From the Weaver Gospel Singers to Doug Clark and the Hot Nuts, Northside's musical legacy runs the gamut from spiritual songs of praise to raucous party anthems.

Bubba Norwood, who graduated from Lincoln High School in 1961, had a legendary career as a drummer, performing with Ike and Tina Turner for nearly a decade and holding down the rhythm section for other greats such as Little Richard, Marvin Gaye, and Curtis Mayfield.



Scan the QR codes with a phone or tablet and enjoy a look back at the 1960s as a more modern performance.

Ike and Tina Turner on the TNT show in 1965:



With the late great John Dee Holeman Music Maker Relief Foundation show in Chapel Hill in 2012:



## Aging in Community Update

The LINKing Generations students and Northside Residential Fellows had an incredible semester that culminated in supporting the Northside Festival, hosted by the Marian Cheek Jackson Center. Throughout the event, students had the opportunity to support engagement between their peers and members of the Northside community, fostering a sense of connection and understanding between generations. Students distributed sunglasses and other party favors and provided support for behind-the-scenes tasks in between dancing in the streets and playing with neighborhood kids.



For one of their last meetings, students met with Pastor Mike Jones for a thought-provoking discussion on housing justice. They covered issues like housing policies and retaining long-term community residents. Pastor Mike encouraged students to get involved with recruitment efforts and events aimed at debunking myths around home ownership. As the semester comes to a close, we bid farewell to Julie and Jillian at the NRF house and welcome Ayah, a returning resident, as well as two new residents to the community!



Partnerships in Aging Intern Kendra Oliver-Derry

## 2023 Northside Census

The Marian Cheek Jackson Center is collecting responses for the 2023 Northside Census. We do this every 2 years to collect accurate demographic information to help us assess the impact of our housing work. Our census takers may stop by your house starting in late July to survey your household. **It is also very helpful for us if you could fill out the survey in advance through this form: <https://forms.gle/u1WPnwZGzAdoGK8X9>**

Your information will be kept CONFIDENTIAL and our report will only include aggregated, non-identifiable results.

Our organization works to preserve the future of Chapel Hill and Carrboro's historically Black neighborhoods through innovative housing strategies to retain long-term residents and attract new homeowners. For more information about the MCJC, visit [jacksoncenter.info](http://jacksoncenter.info). Questions about the Census? Email [aashna@jacksoncenter.info](mailto:aashna@jacksoncenter.info)!

## Ode to Juneteenth

Hummingbird  
Hummingbird  
Spread the word  
To any who haven't already heard

Your beating wings are the colorful drum  
to the sweet freedom song you hoven-hum  
Stay on stay on until thy kingdom come

Hummingbird  
Hummingbird  
Set them free  
Unshackled from the pain and misery

The price of your big bill was nectar filled  
The gray weeds amongst New Bern trees  
were tilled  
The song in '63 began to build  
General order No. 3 fulfilled

Hummingbird  
Hummingbird  
Sing with thee  
With the boundless joy of the summer sea

Look how waterfall-eyes rain crystal tears  
When wondrous words uncover dark ears  
And unchain hearts and souls from abject fear  
Now the smog from the battles start to clear  
And smoke from barbecues start to appear

Ty Chapman

## CRESCENT MAGNOLIA TOWNHOME



### PROPERTY DETAILS:

- Located off Waterstone Drive in Hillsborough by Durham Tech Orange County Campus
- 1 bedroom, 1 bath unit available for a resident aged 55+
- Energy-Efficient, Green-Certified Home
- Accessible design to support aging in place
- Waterstone HOA membership and, for an additional fee, Waterstone pool access

### LOCAL AMENITIES:

- Greenspace and gazebo on the property and close to Cates Creek Park, River Park, Murray Street Park, and Gold Park
- Nearby public transportation
- Close to Downtown Hillsborough
- Conveniently located close to UNC Hospital Hillsborough
- Short drive to Jerry M. Passmore Senior Center, Orange County Public Library, and Hillsborough Urban Gardens

### MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Aged 55+ and have lived or worked in Orange County for at least the past 12 months
- Income is at least \$28,365 annually and less than 80% Area Median Income
- Debt to income ratio is not more than 15%
- Do not currently own a home or have not owned a home in the past 3 years

### APPLICATION PERIOD: JUNE 24 - JUNE 29, 2023

- Online applications will be available at [www.orangehabitat.org](http://www.orangehabitat.org) when applications open
- Completed applications are due by June 29th, 2023 at 5pm EST

For questions, please contact:  
[applications@orangehabitat.org](mailto:applications@orangehabitat.org) or (919) 932-7077

[jacksoncenter.info](http://jacksoncenter.info)

## In Memoriam



**Lt. Charlie Ross Burnette**  
May 12, 1935 ~  
May 18, 2023



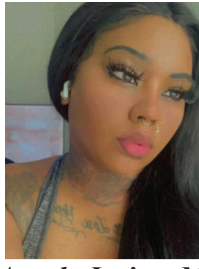
**Mrs. Mary Louise (Banks) Taylor**  
September 11, 1930 ~  
May 20, 2023



**Mrs. Mary Ella (Sanders) Locklear**  
January 16, 1930 ~ June 3, 2023



**Thomas Santonio Smith**  
December 24, 1973 ~  
June 2, 2023



**Ms. Angela Letitea Moore**  
March 8, 1994 ~  
June 4, 2023



**Mrs. Loretta Edwards**  
July 4, 1932 ~  
June 2, 2023

## First Baptist & Manley Estates Accepting Applications

805 South Merritt Mill Rd  
Affordable housing for seniors 62+  
Call 919-968-9778 or come in to reserve a home  
Apply online here: [https://www.firstbaptistmanley.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/2019\\_Application\\_RPM\\_NC-residency.pdf](https://www.firstbaptistmanley.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/2019_Application_RPM_NC-residency.pdf)  
512 West Rosmary St. | 919-960-1670

## July Birthdays

July 1 - Janie Johnson  
July 1 - Susan Headen  
July 17 - Donna Bell  
July 17 - Yvonne Cleveland  
July 17 - James Degraffenreid  
July 17 - Fred Weaver  
July 23 - Ruby Locklear  
July 26 - Chaitra Powell