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Ketanji Brown Jackson Wore A Symbol Of Silent Rebellion At Trump's Inauguration

by Phenex S. Halley



While all eyes were on President Donald Trump during his second inauguration, the country's first Black female Supreme Court Justice caught the eye of Black America with one statement piece that has deeper meaning than you may know.

Sitting beside the other members of the Supreme Court, Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson was dressed in her traditional black robes, but what stood out more than anything was her jewelry. Jackson was

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25+ Places to Visit and Learn About Black History in North Carolina



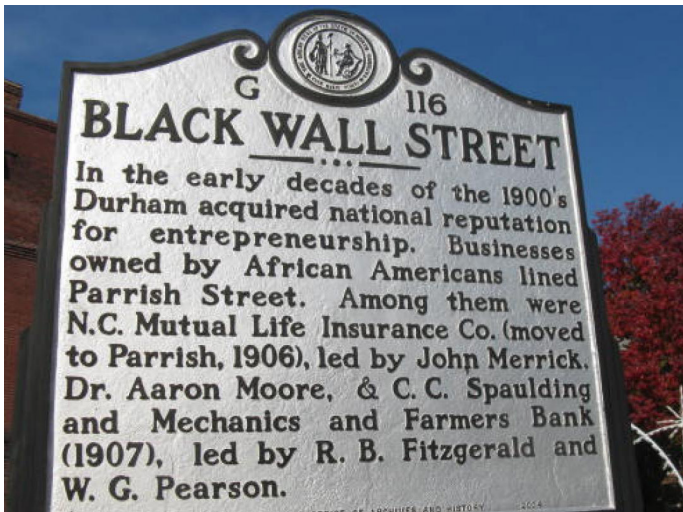
Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum



International Civil Rights Center & Museum



Magnolia House, Greensboro, N.C.



Black Wall Street, Durham, N.C.

Black history in North Carolina, like most things in life, is better understood at the loca-

tions where important events transpired. From Underground Railroad sites to Civil Rights land-

marks and hubs of African-American business, this guide features some inspiring places for you to

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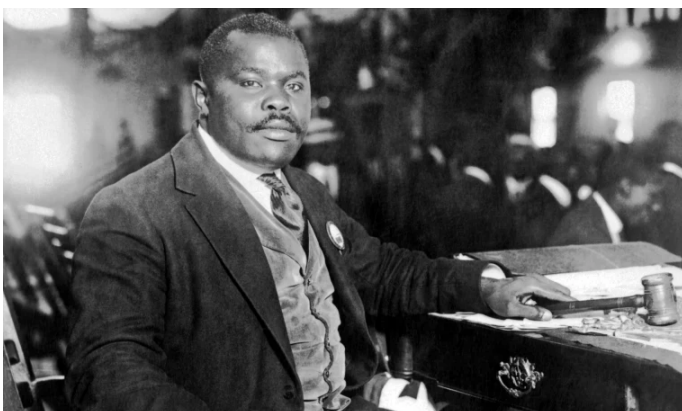
Biden posthumously pardons Black nationalist Marcus Garvey

President Joe Biden has posthumously pardoned Black nationalist Marcus Garvey, who influenced Malcolm X and other Black civil rights leaders and was convicted of mail fraud in the 1920s

by Colleen Long



Malcom X



Martin Luther King, Jr.

As his presidency winds to a close, President Biden issued a posthumous pardon for Marcus Garvey,

a notable Black nationalist who inspired figures like Malcolm X, Nelson Mandela, and later generations

of Black Panther Party activists. The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King said of Garvey,"He was the first

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NEWS
NOTES

‘Stay tuned’: Civil rights groups prepare to take on Trump’s DEI ‘distortion campaign’

by Gerren Keith Gaynor



Marc Morial, National Urban League

Al Sharpton, National Action Network

Leaders from the National Urban League and other advocates say they aren’t taking President Donald Trump’s latest executive orders targeting DEI and the enforcement of discrimination laws lying down.

Civil rights leaders are still grappling with the weight of President Donald Trump’s swift and sweeping executive orders eliminating diversity, equity and inclusion and rolling back decades-old policies meant to guard Black and brown Americans from racial discrimination. But while many are contemplating and strategizing, it’s clear that civil rights groups aren’t going to take the orders lying down.

“Stay tuned,” Marc Morial, president of the National Urban League, told theGrio when asked about legal action the organization and others are expected to take in the future.

During a “Demand Diversity” roundtable of civil rights leaders convened by the National Urban League, Janai Nelson, director-counsel at the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, telegraphed that there would be litigation on behalf of civil rights groups to combat Trump’s executive actions, which included orders reversing the federal government’s stance on enforcing the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits racial, gender and religious discrimination.

The civil rights lawyer called Trump’s actions an “assault on core principles of our democracy” and said Black and brown communities “must reclaim the meaning of the 14th Amendment,” which is at the core of the Civil Rights Act and has been successfully used by white litigants in recent years to unravel racial equity programs in both

the federal government and private sector. The Trump Justice Department went as far as to order its Civil Rights Division to freeze all pending civil rights litigation.

Last week, House of Representatives Minority Leader Rep. Hakeem Jeffries vowed that Democrats, along with civil rights groups, would take the attacks on DEI “head-on.”

Morial, the former mayor of New Orleans and an attorney, said there are “fundamental flaws” in Trump’s orders, and that he “cannot do by executive order what he seeks to do.” He explained, “You cannot alter the Civil Rights Act of ’64 by an executive order when there’s been 60 years of court decisions and a federal statute that undergird how these laws are implemented.”

The civil rights leader described Trump’s orders — including one seeking to end the constitutional right to birthright citizenship — as “an overreach in terms of the use of presidential power.” He continued, “It’s very important that this conversation that we’ve been having about democracy is at the center of this. This is not the president going to Congress. This is a president trying to do these things unilaterally.”

Despite the real implications of Trump’s targeting of DEI and seemingly anything related to race, Morial dismissed the Trump administration’s first-week actions as being nothing more than a “distortion campaign.” He referenced a poll con-

ducted by The Harris Poll and Black Economic Alliance that found that a majority of Americans — nearly 80% — across racial, ideological, and generational lines support DEI; in that they believe corporate America should “reflect the racial diversity of America,” support businesses taking steps to ensure that diversity and agree that racial diversity in the business sector “leads to greater profitability and innovation.”

“There’s a distortion campaign that he’s running and that they’re running ... that somehow these offices promoted some kind of preferential treatment. You can’t even find any evidence that supports any of that,” said Morial, who accused Trump of trying to “undo” a “consensus” on civil rights that has traditionally been bipartisan.

“It’s been stronger under Democrats, but even [President Richard] Nixon had a program of Black capitalism. Even Nixon signed Voting Rights Act extensions,” he recalled.

Regardless, civil rights leaders say they are up for the battle against the Trump administration.

“The landscape may seem uncertain, but the legal grounds upholding equal opportunity remain firm. As civil rights advocates, we are prepared to challenge attempts to undermine these essential liberties and continue to champion a nation where every person’s contribution is welcomed and valued,” said Maya Wiley, president and CEO of the

Public Notice for Request for Proposal (RFP)
Standby Generator Maintenance Services

The City of Greensboro Water Resources Reclamation and Supply Division is looking for a reliable contractor to provide preventive maintenance of 12 diesel generators and fuel systems for both Water Supply and Water Reclamation facilities. Proposals are due to the City no later than 5pm, Monday, February 17, 2025. Packet located at www.greensboro-nc.gov/water under Available Contracts.

NC A&T Ranks Top 10 In ‘Best Online Programs 2025’ On U.S. News & Report’s List

Way to go, Aggie! by Sharelle Burt



North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University received a high ranking on the U.S. News & Report’s “Best Online Programs” list as a leader of online learning in higher education, according to a press release provided to BLACK ENTERPRISE.

Three undergraduate and six graduate programs made the list – two making the top 10 – and two others entering the top 30 nationwide. The Greensboro-based HBCU has programs focused on veterans, coming in at number six among the online master’s in information technology programs for vets, and the bachelor’s veteran program ranking at number 21, tied with Penn State. The master’s in education programs for veterans fell to the 26th place, while the MBA program ranked at 42.

Some of the regular programs tied with some of the top schools in the nation, including information program tied in 10th place along with Rice and Boston Universities, online undergrad programs listed at 39 with 11 other schools, online MBA programs tied in 72nd place

with two other universities, and the master’s in education tied for the 85th place with 11 other listed colleges and universities. An on-line bachelor’s in business program ranked with eight other schools in 87th place.

Assistant Vice Provost of Distance Education and Extended Learning, Dr. Tonya Amankwatia, celebrated the accomplishment as the home of the Aggies is “committed to ensuring that quality education is accessible to learners” everywhere. “Our distance education offerings are a vital part of this mission, and the rankings are a testament to the dedication of our faculty, advisors, and staff,” Amankwatia said.

“Together, we are creating flexible, supportive, and transformative learning experiences that empower learners and help them thrive in a rapidly evolving world.”

As online learning continues to grow in a hybrid environment, on-line programs have proven to have benefits outside a physical classroom, providing students with accessibility and flexibility to sustain a

fulfilling work-life balance. In addition to flexibility, the online financial benefits are highlighted as being cheaper, while still giving learners the advantage of being competitive in the job market. While A&T enrolled a record 14,311 on-campus students in fall 2024, the number of online students or a mixture is just as impressive, growing by 550.

Online-only learners leaped to more than 1,700, a 5.5% increase from the 2023-2024 academic school year.

The sign of growth comes at a great time as the historic school prepares to celebrate the 65th anniversary of the A&T Four before Black History Month, according to The Rhino Times. On February 1, 1960, four freshmen – retired Air Force Major Gen. Joseph McNeil, Jibreel Khazan, formerly Ezell Blair Jr., the late Franklin McCain Sr., and the late David Richmond Jr. – had a hand in launching the civil rights movement by sitting in at a white-only lunch counter at the downtown Greensboro Woolworth’s and waited for service.

< 25+ Places/NC Black History, from page 1 >

visit.	(Gibsonville)	Pope House Museum (Raleigh)
Black History Month in February results in increased traffic to these sites, but we hope you'll keep these landmarks in mind throughout the year. Such important parts of America's story should not be limited to simply one month.	Chicamacomico Life-Saving Station (Rodanthe)	Princeville (Edgecombe County)
Whether you're a new resident, a frequent visitor, or a local, we're leaving no detail behind. If you live in North Carolina and are wondering, "Are there any African American museums near me?" we think this NC travel guide will help you out!	Halifax Underground Railroad Trail (Halifax County)	St Phillips Moravian Church (Winston-Salem)
For the guide, we've alphabetically arranged these important places in Black history in North Carolina.	Harriet Jacobs Trail (Edenton)	Somerset Place State Historic Site (Creswell)
	Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture (Charlotte)	Underground Railroad Museum (Washington)
	The Historic Magnolia House (Greensboro)	Young Men's Institute (Asheville)
	Historic Stagville (Durham)	
African American Heritage Tour (New Bern)	Hood Huggers International Tours (Asheville)	Gastonia's African-American Museum of History & Culture at Loray Mill is one of the newer places to learn about Black history in North Carolina. Open since February 2019, this museum honors African Americans who have contributed to the Gaston County community.
African-American Museum of History & Culture (Gastonia)	International Civil Rights Center & Museum (Greensboro)	These influential contributors include business leaders, artists, and more change-makers who've made an impact on Gaston County.
Airborne and Special Operations Museum (Fayetteville)	Montford Memorial (Jacksonville)	African-American Music Trail (Various) a mural dedicated to Black History in Goldsboro NC
Black Wall St (Durham)	Nina Simone Plaza (Tryon)	
Bull City Laughs (Durham)	North Carolina Museum of History (Raleigh)	
Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum	Oliver Nestus Freeman Roundhouse Museum (Wilson)	

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adorned in a beautiful cowrie shell necklace and matching earrings. Although the shells typically symbolize currency and wealth in African culture, Jackson's choice to wear the necklace on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's holiday and the inauguration of Trump suggests there's something deeper to it all.

The history of the cowrie shell dates back centuries. According to the National Museum of African American History and Culture, the earliest record of cowrie shells were found in 14th century Africa. During this time, historians believe they were used as a form of currency, being traded for goods.

When Africans were kidnapped by European slave catchers slowly transformed the symbolism of the

shells from strictly about wealth and power to now a form of protection for captured Africans brought to the new world,

Historians now believe cowrie shells were worn by enslaved Africans as a form of protection against the evil that awaited them in the Americas, according to the Smithsonian. They're often seen as conduits of African ancestral wisdom and used in divination practices and spiritual ceremonies.

The cowrie shell also has deep ties to womanhood. According to The Met, the shell's "resemblance to the female vulva and alternatively to a squinting eye is thought to underlie a magical association with fertility and with protection from the evil eye, respectively.

Given the historic and spiritual symbolism of the cowrie shell, it would at least be ironic that Justice Jackson chose such an adorning jewelry choice for a historic day. Trump, who has previously been found liable for sexual assault and has a documented history of discrimination against people of color, namely Black people, was sworn back into office on MLK Day, a coincidence that many find disturbing.

Jackson has not confirmed her intentions behind wearing the cowrie jewelry, but for any Black person watching Jackson sit in her black robe on MLK Day, you can speculate the type of statement she wanted to make.

< Marcus Garvey, from page -1 >

man on a mass scale and level to give millions of Black people a sense of dignity and destiny."

Why it matters: The pardon—an action that has been presented to multiple administrations—comes more than a century after Jamaican-born Garvey was convicted of mail fraud on June 21, 1923.

Garvey's case is one that supporters have long claimed was politically motivated and aimed at

discrediting his growing popularity among Black Americans amid lynchings and racial violence.

Garvey was among five people granted pardons on Sunday, a day before President Trump's inauguration.

What they're saying: Tony Pierce, a partner at Akin Gump who has worked pro bono with Marcus Garvey's family for years, told Axios he was ecstatic when he learned

about the pardon.

"The family has been advocating for this since the 1980s, and I first got involved during the Bush administration," he said. "To see it all come to fruition now is an incredible feeling."

"A pardon or exoneration is the country saying it got something wrong. And in this case, it's saying it got something wrong in the 1920s. That's significant."

Publisher's View



Zack Linly, Newsone
Guest Columnist

Opinion: Absurd White Folks Are Crying 'Reverse Racism' Over Kendrick Lamar's Super Bowl Halftime Show



In today's episode of White People Getting Upset When They're Not The Default Target Audience, Kendrick Lamar's performance during the Super Bowl LIX halftime show has caused a lot of controversy across social media, but while most Black people appear to be having a relatively mundane debate about how good the 13-minute set was or wasn't — as well as how deep the messaging was or wasn't — white people, especially of the MAGA variety, are crashing out with what appears to be their collective Caucasian question:

What about me?

That's right — white people have largely (and predictably) responded to K-Dot's performance by centering themselves either by questioning why white people weren't included on stage or by balking because they weren't included culturally.



Even relatively progressive (or liberal at least) media outlets like The Inquisitr have authors writing diet white teary nonsense like this:

In the last few years, all the Super Bowl performances have been Black or artists of color, though the entourage looked like America with dancers from all ethnicities. Kendrick Lamar, however, pushed the envelope a little too far without any white performer. This looked too much like reverse racism. These

details irked the internet and people were quick to show their annoyance on X.

Calling out Kendrick Lamar and saying DEI would only take you so far, people also mentioned that had the tables been turned and a white performer had only white dancers, the retaliation and criticism would have been immense. They are not wrong though. This looked like a deliberate attempt to pass on some message which no one was taking.

Really? So, by not including a white DEI hire in his halftime show performance, Kendrick "pushed the envelope a little too far?"

Look, I've written about this before: "For all of American history, white people have been overwhelmingly represented in every pillar of our popular culture. From TV to film to broadcasting, let's be clear on one thing: No racial demographic has ever been more catered to than white people."

It's only within the last decade or so that diversity has been a priority in entertainment, and not a day of that progress has gone by without white people collectively kicking and screaming about it. And those same white people were fine watching programming that didn't feature a single non-white face for generations. It never even seemed to occur to them that they were the only racial group that enjoyed virtually limitless representation. Once they see themselves excluded, though, they recognize the disparity right away.

Again, the issue isn't only that white people weren't featured on that stage — it's also that the performance, in general, wasn't designed with them in mind.

NFL audiences tend to be largely comprised of white football fans who are less likely to be familiar with Lamar's music, so a lot of white folks, especially those of a certain age, didn't know the songs. But worse than that, they couldn't connect with the message, and the fact that some even questioned why there were no white performers shows that. After all, why would they be included in imagery that featured Black people wearing red, white and blue forming the American flag, which many have noted was likely meant to symbolize America being built on the backs and blood of Black people?



Also, come on, y'all, Serena Williams C-walking on that stage was for us, not them.

White people are accustomed to being the default target audience for anything mainstream culture-related, and that would certainly include anything that would be featured on a Super Bowl stage. Things in the entertainment world have changed, and they're just going to keep crying about it in hopes that the pendulum swings back their way at the expense of everyone else.

That's what their anti-woke nonsense is all about, and they show it every time.

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The Shout-Out Line

(336) 660-8166

Good morning, this past weekend hispanic groups in Greensboro along with their allies protested against Trump's mass deportation effort of undocumented immigrants seeking American citizenship. There were hundreds of protesters chanting, carrying protest signs, blowing car horns, waving flags and marching over several blocks on Gate City Boulevard. The protest caused major disruption in traffic. Speakers spoke of Trump's lies and false characterization of them as a pretext to justify treating them differently than others seeking the legal process to citizenship. Many spoke to the fact that they are hard working law abiding people who contribute significantly to the American economy. They expressed frustration with immigration agents being directed to raid churches and schools without warrants and in violation of the law. I was touched by their passion and fear. What type of monster outlaw government would invade the sanctuary of our churches and schools of minors and small children to harrass, terrorize and intimidate. Well, the person who is a bully and criminal that occupy the White House. Its a sad day in American and unfortunately, most Americans want realize it until they get bit in the ass.....

Shout-Out

Hello, Just want to send a shout-out to your readers on this, Black History Month, to ask them to make an intentional effort to support Black businesses throughout our community and the Triad Area. When we support Black businesses we are supporting investments in the future of our communities and the long term success of our community. These businesses often face systemic barriers and when we intentionally seek out and support Black businesses, we contribute to dismantling those barriers and directly and indirectly impact on our personal efforts to push back against those race based barriers and we help enrich the cultural and economic health and well-being of our communities. I suggest that each one of us make a Black History Month resolution to patronize Black businesses and by doing so we help us help ourselves.

Shout-Out

Hello, and best blessings. Whatever is troubling you at any time in your life, remember the answer isn't found in smoking, drinking or over eating but in JESUS. He's your savior and comforter. Pray and trust in Jesus and he will help guide you and lead the way. Peace and love to all, everyone stay blessed.

Shout-Out

Good afternoon. Well Trump said if elected he would be a dictator on day one. This is one promise he has not lied about and a promise kept. Its easy to understand. Its in his own self interest rooted in greed and financial gain. Without any checks and balances from his Republican colleagues controlling the U S House and Senate, He and Elon Musk can raid the US treasury. Look out Social Security. Thats where the big money is. You go Trump. You are now finally the Commander -In Thief.

Shout-Out

Hello, G-times. Everyone says love hurts, but that is not true. Loneliness hurts. Rejection hurts. Losing someone hurts. Envy hurts. Everyone gets these things confused with love, but in reality love is the only thing in this world that covers up all pain and makes someone feel wonderful again. Good morning!

Shout-Out

Good afternoon, Its time for a wake up call to all of those who have not gone to their doctor, clinic or local pharmacy to get a flu shot. The flu is literally spreading like wildfire in North Carolina and throughout the country. Emergency room visits are filled up in Greensboro and over a 100 people have died throughout the State so far. The flu cases are on the rise more this year than last year because of the lower vaccination rates. Its not to late to get the flu shot. We're only mid-way through the winter. The threat is real. My brother got it, the flu, during the week of New Year and it almost took him out of here. The flu shot is one way you can protect yourself. The flu is bad every year, but this year is no joke. Its one of the worst yet!



REP. ADAMS’ STATEMENT RECOGNIZING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Washington, DC- Today, Congresswoman Alma S. Adams, PhD, Democratic Chairwoman of the Bipartisan Congressional Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Caucus, released the following statement recognizing the beginning of Black History Month:

“For over 400 years, Black Americans have made countless contributions to our nation’s cultural and social fabrics, even when we were not viewed as equal under the law. From Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglas to Martin Luther King and Shirley Chisholm, our people have fought hard for our seat at the table over the past four centuries. Unfortunately, this Black History Month, that seat is under assault.

“The Trump-Vance Administration’s growing attacks on diversity in our federal government, the rebuff of diversity pledges and programs by corporations and institutions of higher education, and the uncertainty of federal funding for HBCUs and other minority serving institutions have left our community and so many others vulnerable to backsliding on the 400 years of progress that we have made.

Page 8, US Rep. Alma Adams/ Black History Month

REPS. ADAMS, DAVIS, FOUSHEE, ROSS INTRODUCE RESOLUTION HONORING GREENSBORO FOUR

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Yesterday, Congresswoman Alma S. Adams, Ph.D. (NC-12), Dean of the North Carolina Democratic Congressional Delegation, introduced a resolution recognizing the Greensboro Four for their contributions to American History. Fellow North Carolina representatives Deborah Ross (NC-02), Don Davis (NC-01) and Valerie Foushee (NC-04) joined as original cosponsors of the resolution.

“For six months these four students sat at the counter, waiting to be served, and were denied service because of the color of their skin,” said Congresswoman Adams (NC-12). “The determination of the Greensboro Four, and Bennett women who helped them organize, inspired other student activists around the country, creating a movement that paved the way for the Civil Rights Act of 1964. I am proud to introduce this legislation today honoring these activists and their contributions to the Civil Rights Movement.”

“Especially at this perilous moment for our country and for our democracy, it is imperative that we remember the courage of previous generations of Americans who stood against oppression and injustice, often at great personal cost,” said Congresswoman Deborah Ross (NC-02). “The Greensboro Four were inspiring trailblazers whose courage and sacrifice should never be forgotten. They helped to make America a more fair, just, and equal country. This month and every month, we have a powerful responsibility to highlight their contributions and teach our children about their fight for justice in North Carolina. I’m proud to cosponsor this resolution to honor their legacy.”



Photo by Tom Lipscomb

(L-R) Civil Rights Museum Board Member Hurley Derrickson, Museum Co-Founder, Melvin “Skip” Alston, Board Co-Chair Deena Hayes, Museum Co-Founder Earl Jones, One of the Greensboro Four, Joseph McNeil (seated). Civil Rights Museum presented McNeil an award at the Black & White Ball on February 1, 2025.

Trump's Broken Promises Pile Up as Day-One Pledges Falter

by Stacy M. Brown



Donald Trump's return to the presidency has already been marked by a long list of broken promises, many of which were either unfeasible or outright illegal. From his campaign trail to his first days back in the White House, Trump has struggled to deliver on his ambitious—and often controversial—pledges.

On his first day in office, Trump vowed to lower grocery prices, promising they would “come down dramatically and fast.” Yet, in a subsequent interview with *Time* Magazine, he admitted the challenge was far greater than he anticipated. “It’s very hard,” Trump conceded, acknowledging that lowering prices would take time. His administration’s efforts, however, have not led to any significant relief. Internal sources revealed that Trump directed department heads to brainstorm solutions, but they reportedly failed to produce viable ideas.

Meanwhile, Trump has actively worked to raise prescription drug prices. He reversed a Biden-era policy that capped and reduced drug

costs, drawing criticism for prioritizing pharmaceutical companies and billionaires over American families.

Other Day One promises included ending the war in Ukraine—a conflict that remains unresolved—and overturning Biden’s so-called “electric vehicle mandate,” which never existed. Analysts have called this a blatant case of posturing, as Trump repeatedly attacks initiatives that are either fabricated or exaggerated.

Trump also pledged to override the Constitution to end birthright citizenship. Legal experts and constitutional scholars have widely dismissed this as beyond the president’s authority. Similarly, his executive order attempting to ban transgender individuals from federal protections was deemed legally unenforceable.

Trump’s promises extended into military matters, where he claimed he would ban critical race theory (CRT) from being taught. However, CRT is not a component of military training, rendering this another hollow declaration. His vow to solve

America’s opioid crisis on Day One also went unfulfilled while the nation continues to grapple with record-high overdose rates.

The president also promised to impose a 25% tariff on Canada and Mexico, two of the United States’ largest trading partners. While this measure, much like his Border Wall declaration from 2016, hasn’t been enacted yet, Trump has signaled plans to move forward with it by February 1, a move critics warn could destabilize key economic relationships.

Among other broken Day One promises, Trump pledged to ban sanctuary cities by sending a bill to Congress—a bill that was never drafted. He also promised to “ban the Green New Deal,” even though the U.S. never adopted the progressive climate policy in the first place. His claims of restoring energy independence also fell flat, as U.S. energy production had already reached historic highs under the Biden administration.

While Trump failed to deliv-

US Rep. Alma Adams Statement On Black History Month, from page - 7

“We help make this country great every day of every month of every year. Black History is American History, but this Black History Month we cannot simply celebrate our history. We must also stand up and fight to preserve Black History, four hard-won centuries of progress, and our seat at the table for future generations of Black Americans.”



On February 1, 2025, the Burlington -Graham Chapter of Jack and Jill of America , Inc. visited the International Civil Rights Center and Museum and Greensboro's historic Magnolia House. (Top photo, Civil Rights Museum). (Bottom photo, Magnolia House).



(1st Photo L-R) Museum Co-Founder Earl Jones, CBS News television host Nate Burleson, Museum Boardmember Hurley Derrickson and Museum Managing Director, John Swaine). (2nd Photo, one of the Greensboro 4, Joseph McNeil). On February 1, CBS news interviewed Joseph McNeil at the historic Woolworth Lunch Counter highlighting his role in history and the significance of the International Civil Rights Center and Museum.



The Gist

The Greensboro Gist

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PUBLIC NOTICE

GoBORO Transit Plan

The Greensboro Metropolitan Planning Organization invites you to review and comment on the draft **GoBORO Long Range Transit Plan** document. GoBORO is a strategic initiative designed to enhance public transportation in the Greensboro area and help Greensboro work towards a car-optional future.

The final draft plan is now available for public review and comment. We encourage you to complete the survey to provide your input. At their March 12, 2025, the MPO Transportation Advisory Committee will consider approving the plan and recommending it for adoption by the Greensboro City Council. Public comments on the plan are due by **11:59 PM, Sunday March 9, 2025.**

For more information, or to submit comments visit www.guampo.org E-mail guampo@greensboro-nc.gov or call (336) 373-2903. Anyone in need of auxiliary aids or interpretive services to review the material may call (336) 373-2903.



< Marcus Garvey’s Pardon from page 4 >

Calls for Garvey’s pardon have persisted for decades, with historians, lawmakers, and activists citing his transformative impact on Black pride and economic self-determination.

Last month, a group from the Congressional Black Caucus, led by Rep. Yvette Clarke (D-N.Y.), sent a letter urging Biden to pardon Garvey.

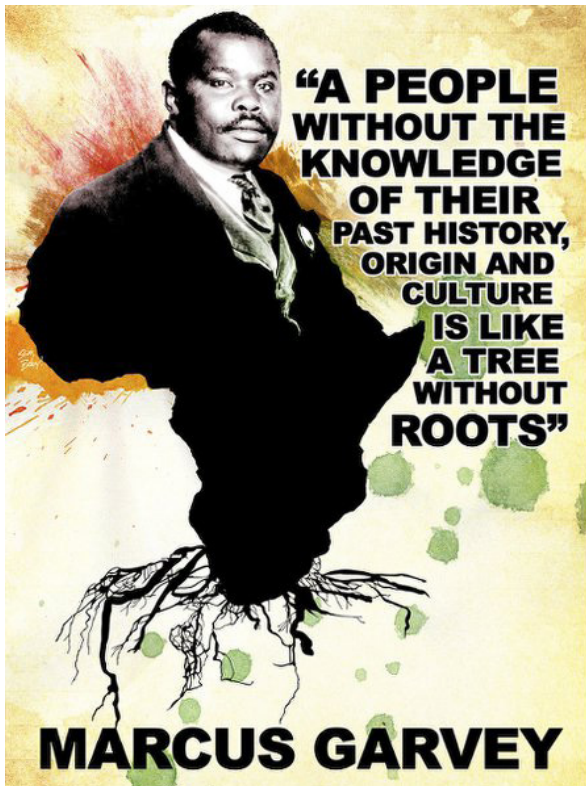
Garvey’s 91-year-old son, Dr. Julius Garvey, has also publicly urged Biden to grant the pardon, which he and others have sought since 1987.

Advocates have said a pardon would correct a century-old injustice.

“His name needs to be cleared,” Dr. Garvey, a retired cardiothoracic and vascular surgeon, told Axios earlier this month.

Garvey’s exoneration symbolizes a broader recognition of how systemic forces have historically been used to suppress Black leaders and movements. His story highlights the

resilience of marginalized communities in the face of structural oppression.



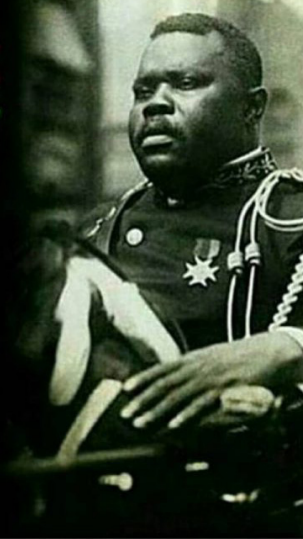
The bottom line: Pierce said this moment is a vindication not only for the Garvey family but also for those who believe in justice and

the importance of revisiting historical wrongs.

Did you know that

MARCUS GARVEY

- united 6 million Black people between 1916 and 1926
- built HUGE Black businesses
- had a fleet of ships in 1920
- employed over 1,000 Black people in New York City alone
- created the red, black and green flag we use today
- and much, much more...



“It’s no coincidence that this comes as we prepare to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s birthday,” Pierce noted. “Dr. King once described Garvey as ‘the first man of color in the history of the United States to lead and develop a mass movement.’ This is more than a legal victory—it recognizes Garvey’s monumental contribution to civil rights.”

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Legal Beat

Rep. Hakeem Jeffries says DEI is actually rooted in the Constitution

by gerren Keith Gaynor



Though President Donald Trump's sweeping executive orders eliminating diversity, equity and inclusion, or DEI, has seemingly gutted racial equity for the foreseeable future throughout the federal government (with a snowball effect in the private sector), Democrats continue to push back.

Party members have vowed to keep fighting for critical programs that Black and brown communities rely on and, more importantly, to call for the enforcement of the law that still prohibits discrimination.

"No president in the United States of America can change the constitution or change law — like the 1964 Civil Rights Act ... through executive action or executive order," said House of Representatives Minority Leader Rep. Hakeem Jeffries, D-N.Y., said on Thursday during his weekly press conference. He vowed that Democrats would take the attacks on DEI "head-on" along with civil rights groups.

Jeffries, the first Black American to serve as leader of any national party in Congress, said he expects there to be "an avalanche of righteous litigation" to combat Trump's anti-DEI policies and some of his other executive orders. He also explained how America and its constitution are founded on the ideals of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

"The motto of the United States

of America is E pluribus unum: Out of many, one. That's diversity," said Jeffries.

Jeffries continued, "The 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution, one of the most important amendments in our country, provides equal protection under the law. That's equity." He added, "In this country, we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America ... and in that pledge, we promise one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for All ... that's inclusion."

The minority leader said diversity, equity, and inclusion are "American values," adding, "It's about economic opportunity. It's about merit for everyone, based on what you know, not who you know."

On day one of his administration, President Trump signed an executive order reversing President Joe Biden's order to advance racial equity throughout every federal agency through actions like data collection and implementation of programs to address racial disparities in employment, health, housing, and more. Trump later signed another order rescinding enforcement of anti-discrimination laws under the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

"He doesn't think that the best and the brightest include a large swath of people who don't look like him, who don't come from where

he comes from, who don't go to the same schools, who don't go to the same social clubs that he goes to," Democratic strategist Joel Payne told theGrio.

He continued, "If you're opposed to the things that they are claiming that they're opposed to, what you're essentially saying is the idea that folks who come from non-traditional backgrounds can't possibly be qualified to do the things that people who come from traditional backgrounds are qualified to do."

Payne said he doesn't believe a majority of voters elected Trump to declare war on DEI but instead for "common sense and cheaper eggs." He said it's imperative that Democrats take back control of the narrative and "put that message in front of voters" in the next election cycles. That begins this year, when there will be crucial governor races in Virginia and New Jersey. The outcome of those elections could signal where the public stands with either Republicans or Democrats.

Payne said, "What we're seeing from Donald Trump ... he is not actually delivering on what he was sent to Washington to do." He continued, "People wanted him to address an issue like immigration. They did not want him to turn communities, and neighborhoods and people against each other. Yes, people wanted him to do something about the economy.

MWBE

Minority/Women
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INVITATION FOR BID

Chiller Replacement at the Greensboro Public Health #20257

MWBE ESTABLISHED GOAL: 10% MWBE ASPIRATIONAL GOAL 15%

PROJECT OVERVIEW

- ✓ Guilford County Purchasing Department seeks Proposals from individual or firms interested in providing services for Chiller Replacement for the Greensboro Public Health located at 1100 East Wendover Avenue, Greensboro, North Carolina.

SCOPE OF WORK

- ✓ The contractor is to provide all required labor, tools, material and equipment for replacement of the existing 170 ton air-cooled screw chiller with a new 160 ton air-cooled scroll chiller. The work of the project includes, but is not limited to, demolition of the existing chiller, humidification sprayers and associated pump and piping,

Respondents or their sub-contractors must be licensed to perform all fields of required work in North Carolina. Participation of minority-owned and women-owned business is encouraged. It is prohibited to pay a fee, commission, percentage, or brokerage fee to any person or firm contingent upon or resulting from award of a contract of this project.

DEADLINES:

- ✓ Pre-Proposal Zoom: February 11, 2025 at 10 am
- ✓ Proposal Bid Due Date : February 27, 2025 at 2 pm

zoom

Meeting ID: 161 218 6245 | Passcode: 706764

Guilford County Vendor Self-Service
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PREQUALIFYING FOR BID PACKAGES (BP#) – BUDGET ESTIMATE (BE)

BP# 0220 TEMPORARY ROADS AND PARKING – BE \$750,000

BP# 0241 ABATEMENT AND DEMOLITION – BE \$450,000

Note: Bid Packages may be added and/or deleted at the discretion of the Construction Manager.

How Ronald McNair Overcame Racism To Become A Space Shuttle Challenger Astronaut

McNair refused to allow the Jim Crow South to limit his ambitions.

Editor Newsone



Tuesday, January 28, 2025 marked the 39th anniversary of the ill-fated Space Shuttle Challenger explosion, in which all seven space travelers on the NASA spacecraft died shortly after liftoff from Cape Canaveral in Florida on Jan. 28, 1986.

The mission included Ron McNair, a pioneering Black scientist who overcame the racism of the Jim Crow South to become the first HBCU graduate to be an astronaut and the second African American person in space.

The unusually cold weather on that morning was blamed for the explosion. The lower than normal temperatures caused the failure of two rubber O-rings that sealed the joints between the sections of the rocket booster.



The crew member who received a disproportionate amount of attention was Christa McAuliffe, a 37-year-old New Hampshire teacher. She got a seat on the shuttle through NASA's Teacher In Space program.

McNair's achievements weren't easy considering the fact that he grew up in an era when all the odds against Black excellence were even higher than they are today.

The South Carolina native was born in Lake City, about 80 miles east of Columbia, to an auto mechanic father and a mother who was a school teacher.

The child prodigy started reading at age 3 and entered the second grade two years later. As a youngster, he refused to allow Jim Crow restrictions to limit his thirst for knowledge. His older brother, Carl McNair, recalled an incident in which 9-year-old Ronald defied the ban on African Americans borrowing books from the local public library.

Carl McNair told NPR News in 2011 that his younger brother went to the library because he wanted to study science but couldn't find advanced books from sources available to African Americans.

"When he was 9 years old, Ron, without my parents or myself knowing his whereabouts, decided to take a mile walk from our home down to the library," Carl said. "So, as he was walking in there, all these folks were staring at him — because they were white folk only — and they were looking at him and saying, you know, 'Who is this Negro?'"

When he refused to leave, the

librarian called the police and their mother, the elder brother said. Ultimately, he was allowed to borrow the books.

McNair attended and graduated from North Carolina A&T University because white colleges in South Carolina at that time wouldn't accept Black students who wanted to study physics or engineering. After graduating from the historically Black college, he went on to the elite Massachusetts Institute of Technology and graduated in 1976.



North Carolina A&T University School of Engineering named in honor of Ron McNair

In 1978, NASA selected McNair as one of its 35 new astronauts from 8,000 applicants. There were two other African Americans in that group: Frederick Gregory and Guion Bluford, the latter of whom in 1983 became the first Black person to travel in space.



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Sacred Soul

The poignant voices of gospel music seem to rise from the soil of eastern North Carolina. The genre's lineage is as rooted to the land as the crops growing in its fields.

by Mark Kemp, Our State Magazine



One by one, the five young women of Faith & Harmony file to the front of the room, all sweetness and light in matching hot pink dresses, their hair done up in braids or bleached white as fleece. Within minutes, they're calling out to God.

"Praise Him!" singer Christy Moody shouts, and the four others respond in kind. Drums clatter, a bass line bounces, and a pianist pounds away on his keyboard. Moody ratchets up the intensity. She's jumping now, the others following her moves in a sort of choreographed chaos. "Praise the Lord!" Moody calls out, and again, the others respond: "Praise Him!"

Toward the end of the song, the fluorescent space inside American Legion Post No. 39 on the southern edge of Greenville is an ocean of outstretched arms roiling like waves in a turbulent storm. Handheld fans and elaborate Sunday hats flutter like gulls following a trawler. Tears smear mascara on faces lined by age and hardship.

Faith & Harmony is here today to celebrate the 56th anniversary of The Spiritualaires, a legendary Pitt County gospel group. One of its founding members, the late Johnny Ray Daniels, was married to Dorothy Vines of neighboring Greene County. She led another acclaimed group,

The Glorifying Vines Sisters, who came out of the Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church of Farmville in the late '50s.

In eastern North Carolina, the Daniels and Vines families are gospel royalty. Among the 10 ensembles performing today, you'd be hard-pressed to find anyone who's not related to a fellow musician. Faith & Harmony — granddaughters of Dorothy and Johnny Ray — are just the latest in a rich bloodline of vocal groups whose mix of country, soul, and rhythm and blues taps into a spiritual tradition stretching back to the field hollers that their enslaved ancestors brought over from Africa.

Plopped in a folding chair, watching singer after singer pour their hearts and souls into music that's inextricably connected to the eastern North Carolina soil, my mind drifts back 45 years: I'm in my freshman year at East Carolina University, driving out of Greenville on NC Highway 903 in Pitt County and headed into the agricultural sprawl of Greene County. By my side is my college sweetheart, Sharon, who was raised amid this expansive farmland, spent summers pulling tobacco for extra cash.

She rolls down the window. "See that little church?" she says, pointing to a tiny white clapboard

building way out in the middle of a field. Faint shouts of sacred soul music drift into the car. "They'll still be singing when we come back by later this evening."

It's my first time hearing African American gospel music in its element. Oh, I'd seen black-and-white TV footage of Mahalia Jackson belting out "How I Got Over" at '60s civil rights events. But hearing this music amid fields of tobacco leaves swaying in the wind, I feel it: the scratchy guitars and pounding drums, the deeply moving organ swells, the heavenly harmonies. These are ancient, primal sounds, the bedrock of every other kind of music that I've ever loved.

Back inside the American Legion building, scents of fried chicken waft from a kitchen area, pulling me into the present again. Next to a brick fireplace displaying photos of local military heroes, women dish out Sunday dinner in between performances by other groups, including Dedicated Men of Zion, fronted by Johnny Ray Daniels's son, Anthony — father and uncle to the members of Faith & Harmony. And when I step out into the darkness five hours later, the extended Daniels and Vines families are still singing.

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