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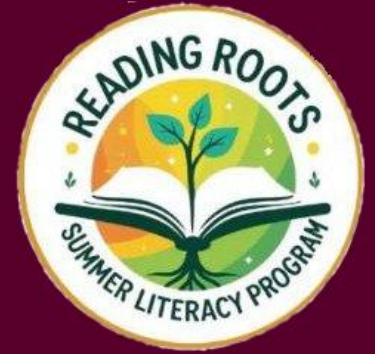
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A New Era of Mental Health and Mental Illness

By: Christian Newman



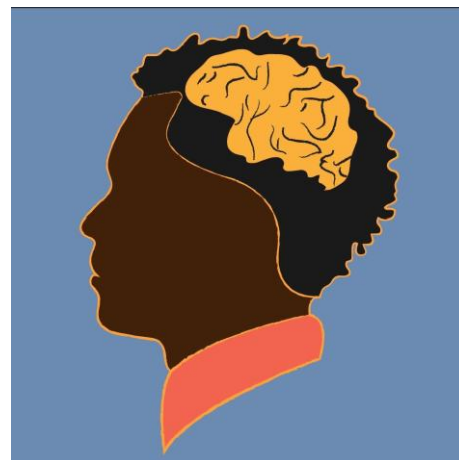
Christian Newman
*WC Magazine
Health Editor*

Mental Health refers to our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. For generations, mental health has been dismissed due to historical oppression, cultural expectations, mistrust of the healthcare system, lack of access to mental health resources, and stigma. However, the rise of digital platforms, education on the importance of mental health, and a shift towards holistic medicine are assisting our communities with a growing understanding of how Mental Health affects our daily lives.

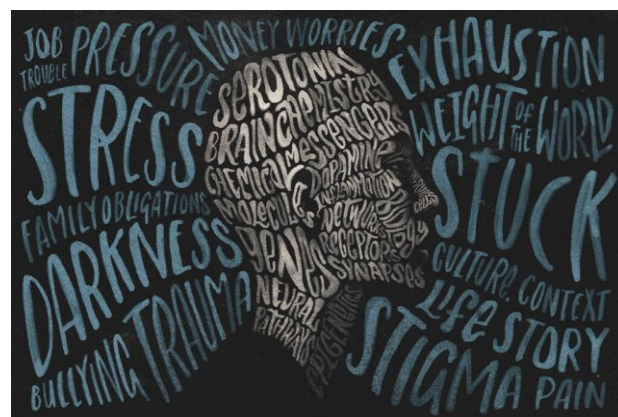
Biological factors, life experiences, trauma, family history, our environment, and the social support we receive influence our mental health.

When our mental health declines, one may experience persistent sadness, mood swings, excessive worry, difficulty concentrating, or unfortunately thoughts of self-harm.

Furthermore, Mental Illness focuses on diagnosable conditions that affect one's emotions, behavior, cognition, or functionality. Mental Illness can range from temporary to long-term and from mild to severe. Did you know that Mental Illness affects 1 in 5 people each year? Personally, I've suffered from anxiety and depression throughout my life. I've had firsthand experiences on the highs and lows of life. As a former Division 1 collegiate soccer player, my coaches even pulled me aside and let me know they noticed a shift in my behavior. I had to learn quickly to seek professional help and address the underlying issues within my life. I also took an Adult Psychopathology course in the spring of my senior year of college at Furman University to provide a foundation in addressing mental health challenges in adulthood. Foremost, the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, DSM-5, is a reference book used by healthcare professionals to classify mental health conditions. The DSM-5 is important regarding mental health because of its consistent assessments, treatment plans, research, and public understanding. Throughout this issue, I will be discussing the TOP FOUR mental illnesses within our Black Communities and the current treatments correlated to each prevalent disorder. Depression involves persistent changes in mood and behavior that significantly impair one's ability to function in their daily life. Symptoms include fatigue, change in appetite, feelings of worthlessness, or suicidal thoughts. According to the DSM-5, at least five of these symptoms must be present for at least for a diagnosis. Depression affects over 280 million people and is the leading cause of disability worldwide. Different types of depression



*Above Info Courtesy of The City
Club of Cleveland*



*Above Info Courtesy of the
City Club of Cleveland, OH*

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Preserving a Legacy While Celebrating Our Community

By Priscilla Wyman Fuller, WCM Contributing Editor



On Saturday, July 19th, the **Whitemore Racepath Historical Society (WRHS)** celebrated the historical accomplishment of the late Mr. W.P. and Mrs. Bernice Johnson, both former educators, of Conway, SC. The celebration included the placing of a historical plaque on their home at 1706 Wright Blvd in Conway. The event was well attended after having to be rescheduled the day before due to inclement weather.

Dr. Frank Gause, Faculty member of Coastal Carolina University, read a proclamation from the City of Conway, and various members of the community spoke about the achievements of the Johnsons. **Charles Johnson**, **Willa Johnson Dewitt**, and other family members spoke of their parents and grandparents' history.

Rev. Cheryl Moore Adamson, President of **WRHS** spoke about how the Johnsons had assisted her when she was in college. Mr. Johnson became a Principal at Finklea High School in Loris, SC, after teaching in the school system from 1930 to 1946. Mrs. Johnson also had a long career in education at Whitemore High School in Conway, SC.

As attempts to dilute our history are being made, we must unite in recognizing our community members.





WHITTEMORE RACEPATH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Whittemore Racepath Historic Society was established in 2021 for the purpose of addressing disparities that exist throughout Horry County and to create initiatives/programs to address these issues: education, economic development, housing, historic preservation, as well as youth and senior programs. Our mission is to preserve, revitalize, and maintain historical sites of meaning to African American communities throughout Horry County, South Carolina as well as to showcase African American cultural heritage and the contributions of Whittemore Alumni throughout the United States.



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A New Era of Mental Health and Mental Illness

By: Christian Newman

Cont'd from Page 2



Christian Newman
WC Magazine
Health Editor

include: Major Depressive Disorder, Persistent Depressive Disorder, Postpartum Depression, and Disruptive Mood Dysregulation Disorder. Depression is an ongoing issue within the Black community due to discrimination, stress, grief, lack of access to culturally competent care, and socioeconomic status. Efforts that will combat these issues are community-based programs, more Black mental health therapists, and growing awareness through platforms. Additional treatment includes psychotherapy, medications such as selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors, lifestyle interventions such as exercise and a healthy diet, and in severe cases electroconvulsive therapy. Untreated

depression can get worse because this disorder will affect every area of one's life. Medical studies report that prolonged depression can also reduce life expectancy. Remember you don't have to suffer alone, and you deserve to feel better, so seek early treatment for better recovery from Depression. Anxiety is the feeling of fear, worry, or uneasiness typically about a certain event with an uncertain outcome. We all experience anxiety daily whether it's an upcoming job interview, negative thinking, health concerns, social interactions, or financial challenges. There are a multitude of stressors that affect our daily lives, and our bodies often use our sympathetic, "fight or flight" response, to combat these perceived threats. Symptoms of anxiety include but are not limited to constant worry, palpitations, shortness of breath, and overthinking. So when does Anxiety become a Mental Health disorder?

According to the DSM-5, anxiety disorders involve excessive fear that affects one's daily life for six months or more, and when this uncontrollable worry feels out of proportion. Different types of anxiety include Generalized Anxiety Disorder, Social Anxiety Disorder, Panic Disorder, and

Specific Phobia. Anxiety disorders often coexist with depression and affect 300 million people worldwide. Treatment for anxiety includes Cognitive Behavior Therapy, medications such as short-term benzodiazepines or beta-blockers, lifestyle approaches such as meditation or quality sleep, acupuncture, and my favorite spiritual support. Many Black individuals, including myself, delay anxiety treatment which can lead to burnout or masked emotions. Therefore, if you're experiencing anxiety for extended periods, please seek resources such as: Therapy for Black Girls, Therapy for Black Men, Beach Counseling and Wellness Group of SC, or the Black Mental Health Alliance. Substance Use Disorder is a relapsing mental illness in which an individual can't control or stop their use of alcohol, drugs, or any other substance even if there are negative consequences to their health. Substance abuse is an ongoing epidemic that changes brain function and causes compulsive behaviors. Additional symptoms include using more of the substance when no longer needed, persistent cravings for the substance, continued use despite interpersonal problems, lower tolerance to the substance, and avoiding withdrawal from the substance.



Above Info Courtesy of The
National Alliance on Mental Illness



Above Info Courtesy of
Black Health Matters

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“Not My Babies” Concerning Birthright Citizenship

By Steve Williams, Formerly of The Georgetown Times



August 2025

One of the messages I learned from Irving Washington's character, Rip Van Winkle, is that he embodies the desire to escape the responsibilities and challenges of using his voice, symbolizing a wish to sleep through life's trials and tribulations. The story of Rip Van Winkle may be juxtaposed with yet another classic children's story by Hans Christian Anderson – The Emperor's New Clothes. Ironically, both of these time-tested stories were written around 200 years ago. Perhaps they're time-tested because they have a moral to teach us.

One teaches us the consequences of living our lives passively, and the other teaches us the consequences of living our lives actively. One symbolizes the characteristics of "burying our heads" in the proverbial sand to shut the world out. And the other represents the attributes of "go along, to get along." Although we're aware that the emperor is buck naked, we don't want to split from the consensus. I know what you're thinking; you're thinking members of our current Congress missed this moral lesson in grade school – and you're right. However, this article is not about them; instead, it's about you.

If you choose to be indifferent to the systematic erosion of decades of hard-won social, civil, and political rights, you are like Rip Van Winkle, sleeping through a revolution. By the time you finally wake up, it may be too late to change the status quo.

You've likely heard the saying, "Those who don't know their history are doomed to repeat it." The ongoing debate over birthright citizenship as outlined in the 14th Amendment, which was championed by **Joseph Hayne Rainey** and other Black legislators in 1868, was intended not just for African Americans, but for all Americans born in the United States. However, the current administration seems to reveal its biases by not recognizing Latino Americans born here as legitimate recipients of the protections under the 14th Amendment.



Disguised as a campaign to deport dangerous immigrants who are "known criminals," authorities are actually deporting innocent immigrants who were born here and have lived here their entire lives.

This travesty reminds me of a famous quote from a prominent Lutheran pastor in Germany, Martin Niemöller. In the 1920s and early 1930s, he sympathized with many Nazi ideas and supported radically right-wing political movements. But after Adolf Hitler came to power in 1933, Niemöller became an outspoken critic of Hitler's interference in the Protestant Church. He spent the last eight years of Nazi rule, from 1937 to 1945, in Nazi prisons and concentration camps.

Niemöller is perhaps best remembered for his postwar statement, which begins, "First they came for the socialists, and I did not speak out—because I was not a socialist. Then they came for the trade

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“Not My Babies” Concerning Birthright Citizenship

By Steve Williams, Formerly of The Georgetown Times



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unionists, and I did not speak out—because I was not a trade unionist. Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—because I was not a Jew. Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me."

If we look at the situation today, it is evident that history is repeating itself. Over the past ten years, one could say, "First, they undermined the Civil Rights Act of 1965, and I did not speak out because I was not Black. Then, they stripped away the right for women to have control over their own bodies, including the right to choose abortion, and I did not speak out because I was not a woman. After that, they rounded up millions of undocumented and documented Latinos and deported them to inhumane prisons around the world, and I did not speak out because I was not Latino. Finally, they tore innocent babies, born in America, away from their Latino parents and deported them, even though the children had been living here all their lives, and I did not speak out because they were not my babies."

On December 3, 2022, President Donald J. Trump stated, "We should terminate all rules, regulations, and articles, even those found in the Constitution." While his supporters dismissed this remark as mere hyperbole, but he's as serious as diphtheria. If we don't speak out now, we risk losing hard-earned rights (whether obtained legislatively, constitutionally, via Executive Order, or the Supreme Court) these rights were never given to us, rather, earned through the blood, sweat, and tears of millions who sought to make this nation a "more perfect union." Such rights include but are not limited to a woman's right to vote, Medicaid, Head Start, SNAP, IDEA, the Affordable Care Act (ACA), the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), FEMA assistance, Title IX, Social Security, the Fifth Amendment, and more.

He is already considering the possibility of running for a third term, and many members of Congress and the Supreme Court are finding ways to enable him to bypass the Constitution to achieve this. However, today, Marilyn Hemingway, the Chief Executive Officer of the Gullah Geechee Chamber of Commerce, reminds us of the last line from Martin Niemöller's prophetic words: "Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me."

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A New Era of Mental Health and Mental Illness



Christian Newman
WC Magazine
Health Editor

By: Christian Newman
Cont'd from Page 7

The DSM-5 indicates substance use disorders can range from mild, moderate to severe and if one experiences symptoms for 12 months they meet the criteria for this diagnosis. The opioid crisis is a serious concern within our communities as patients are even presenting to medical facilities primarily to seek pain medications. Treatment includes: 12-step programs such as Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous, medications such as methadone, disulfiram, or nicotine replacement, and inpatient or outpatient rehab programs.

Substance Abuse Disorder reportedly affects 20 million people in the United



Above Info Courtesy of Washington
University School of Medicine



Above Info Courtesy of BBC,
Sharon Weinberger

States and out of this monumental number only 15% receive treatment. The harsher legal consequences, lack of insurance, misdiagnoses, and higher substance use exposure to underserved neighborhoods are still affecting our Black communities today. The good news is that recovery is possible and there are culturally competent resources that are readily available. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, PTSD, is a severe trauma-related mental illness that occurs after exposure to a threatened death, sexual violence, or serious injury. Other common causes of PTSD are war exposure, childhood abuse, natural disasters, and sudden loss of a loved one. This mental illness causes disturbing emotions related to the traumatic experience that persist for more than a month. PTSD is the feeling of being in “survival mode” 24/7. Key features of PTSD include re-experiencing the trauma, avoidance of the trauma, negative changes in mood, and hyperarousal. Anyone can experience PTSD and it’s becoming more prevalent within Black communities. Racial profiling, clinicians overlooking our past trauma, and cultural stigma all contribute to the real-world impact of a delay in care regarding PTSD. Treatment for PTSD includes Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, medications such as Effexor or Prazosin, journaling, learning specific triggers, and peer groups. Did you know Black veterans have higher rates of PTSD but display lower rates of treatment engagement? Post Traumatic Stress Disorder is a mental illness that requires a safe space to process trauma and it’s important to seek assistance as soon as possible.

Ultimately, Mental Health influences our relationships, impacts our productivity, shapes how we handle life’s challenges, supports personal growth and reduces the risk of mental illnesses. Depression, Anxiety, Substance Use Disorder, and PTSD are highly prevalent within our Black communities. Each of these mental illnesses are manageable with the right tools. The most important treatment for mental illness is finding a support group to improve healing, health outcomes, and your identity. Seeking help when something feels off is a sign of strength, not a weakness! For more information please visit:

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William Whaley

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"The 'Caught Green Handed' recognition is presented monthly to a Horry County resident caught in the act of recycling" stated **Esther Murphy**, Director of Recycling and Corporate Affairs for the Solid Waste Authority. "It's the Solid Waste Authority's way of recognizing and thanking citizens who have made the effort to recycle. Through their recycling efforts, natural resources are saved and the amount of waste being landfilled is reduced." **Mr. Whaley**, regular recycler at the **Carolina Forest Recycling Convenience Center**, was surprised and honored to receive this recognition.

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By Steve Williams, Formerly of The Georgetown Times



The fastest woman in the world is on her way to Los Angeles, California, passing through Georgetown, South Carolina. As a columnist, I've penned hundreds of stories and articles, but if there was ever a time to update one of my pieces, it's now. This article serves as an update to an article I wrote in June 2024, which itself was an update to a piece from September 2023. If I live long enough, I'll likely have to write two or three more updates about this remarkable individual, who truly deserves them.

When choosing a title for this article, I considered naming it "You Can Always Better Your Best." However, to grab your attention, I opted for "The Fastest Woman in the World." To fully appreciate what this remarkable individual has accomplished, it's important to revisit some points I made in my writings from 2023 and 2024, especially for those who may not closely follow her career.

In 2023, I wrote an article titled "She's Soaring to Higher

Heights the Right Way." In it, I described her as a young woman who has not used her celebrity status to seek unwanted attention. She does not abuse her body with drugs, avoids using crude or crass language, respects her family and community, and has a strong love for God, practicing her faith actively. She is deeply talented and is dedicated to continually improving herself. I am talking about track and field star Melissa Jefferson (now known as Melissa Jefferson Wooden), who was born and raised in Georgetown County.

Two years ago, I wrote about Melissa Jefferson, who was then 23 years old and one of the fastest women in the world. As of last week, she proudly holds the title of the fastest woman in the world. Last weekend in Eugene, Oregon, Melissa Jefferson Wooden ran an impressive world-leading time of 10.65 seconds in the women's 100-meter race. She outpaced Kenya White and Alisha Hobbs, who finished with times of 10.84 and 10.92 seconds, respectively.

Before this achievement, the world record for the fastest woman in the world was held by her friend and mentor, Sha'Carri Richardson, who ran a time of 10.65 seconds a few years ago. The fastest time ever recorded in the women 100m race is 10.49 seconds set by the late Florence Joyner (also known as FloJo). However, at the rate Melissa's improving, FloJo's record is not out of reach for Melissa. Since Melissa has now set a new record, she is currently the frontrunner for the title of the fastest woman in the world. There's an old saying which says - "Heavy is the head that wears the crown." But this does not apply to Melissa as one coach described her as - "confident, determined, assertive, poised, and wears her crown well."

SHE'S GOING TO L.A.



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By Steve Williams, Formerly of The Georgetown Times



Cont'd From Page 16



Ironically, unlike the NBA, NFL, and WNBA—where million-dollar athletes often engage in trash talking and bravado to tear their fellow athletes down for personal gain—Melissa received significant support from Sha'Carri Richardson and others. This encouragement helped elevate her to new heights.

In 2023, Melissa struggled to break the 11-second barrier in the 100m race. However, after training with Sha'Carri Richardson and Twanisha Terry in 2024, she successfully broke the 11-second barrier seven times, ultimately achieving her Olympic bronze-winning time of 10.92 seconds.

When discussing the 2024 Olympics in Paris, it's important to note that competing in college or local track meets is very different from performing on the world stage, where many people might doubt your ability to compete with the best athletes. However, as we all know, Melissa has already shown that she can deliver under pressure.

How did she achieve it? It wasn't through steroid use, drug abuse, or trash-talking, but rather her desire to be the best version of herself. We've all heard the saying that "practice makes perfect," but to be completely honest, that's not entirely true. Practice does not guarantee perfection; every athlete, no matter how much they practice, will occasionally go through what is commonly referred to as a "slump." This is true whether your name is Willie Mays, Tom Brady, Michael Jordan, or LeBron James.

What has enabled Melissa to perform at her best over the last two years? Surprisingly, the answer can be summed up well by a quote from former President Calvin Coolidge, who served a century ago. Coolidge stated that nothing in this world can replace persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful people with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent. Ultimately, persistence and determination are the true keys to success.

Melissa's persistence and determination surpassed her talent and propelled her to greater heights. While others focused on gaining more clicks on social media, sharing unsolicited opinions on podcasts, or seeking commercial endorsements to improve their status, Melissa dedicated herself to hard work. She put in consistent effort, not just day by day but hour by hour, striving to be her best.

In 2024, her best performance was 10.91 seconds. She could have easily rested on her achievements, as this time earned her an Olympic bronze medal in the 100m and a gold medal as part of the 4x100m relay team. For the Georgetown native, these accomplishments were more than just career milestones; they represented the culmination of years of hard work and critical decisions.

Since winning the Olympics and qualifying for the 2024 Games, Melissa has rolled up her sleeves and gone to work, carefully planning and tracking her progress. One of her coaches mentioned that before setting the current world record, Melissa had written "10.68" in her journal.

The season being discussed is 2025. Melissa had the kind of year that most athletes dream of. At the 2024 Olympics, she became the first athlete from Coastal Carolina University to win an Olympic medal, earning bronze in the 100m and gold as part of the 4x100m relay team. This year also marks the inaugural season of Grand Slam Track, which offers a new platform for her to shine. She is already signed on as a racer in the league, which will provide high-level competition and greater visibility for athletes.

"Honestly," one writer remarked about Melissa, "who is more likable than this young lady? We are fortunate to have her guiding other young runners in how to succeed." Having met Melissa Jefferson, as many of you have, I feel proud of her—not just because she hails from Georgetown, but because she carries herself with such grace and dignity.

Continued on Page 33

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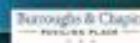
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Praise
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WC Magazine 2025 Summer Jobs Program and Summer Literacy Initiative Welcome New Direction with New Outcome

By Marjorie C. McIver and April Garner Davis, WCM Contributors

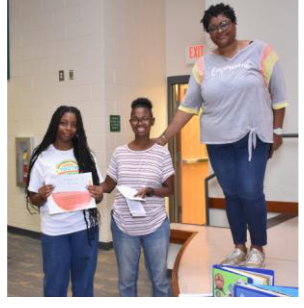


More than 150 attendees participated in the **2025 WCM Summer Jobs Program** and the **Reading Roots (newly adopted name) Summer Literacy Program** Closing Ceremony on **Saturday, August 2, 2025**, within the old, *historical Whittemore Park Middle School Auditorium*. A total of 40 youth combined complete the programs and received certificates of completion along with monetary awards.



WCM 2025 Youth Summer Jobs Program

The primary purpose of this year's summer jobs program was to expose the youth to lessons on how to elevate their chances of becoming employable and to introduce them to the career fields they want to pursue in the future. Seventeen participants ages 13-18 were enrolled in the Youth Summer Jobs program and celebrated the completion of the newly created Employability Skills 101 course which included virtual sessions on the topics of Employability Skills, Personal Finance, Professionalism and Work Ethics, and Exploring Career Interests. Students also enjoyed field trips to various businesses and organizations to explore careers. During the six-week program, program participants were engaged with knowledgeable business professionals who presented on these topics, completed brief pre-session activities that aligned with the virtual sessions, and toured, worked, or job shadowed with community employers or non-profit partners to learn more about the professions they aspire to enter after high school and college. *WCM Live Co-host, April Garner Davis*, created the new structure and curriculum for this year's summer jobs program, organized student recruitment, coordinated the marketing and digital presence on social media and the WCM website, and conducted outreach and extended invitations to the virtual facilitators, employers and community partners to participate in the career exploration week activities.



Community Partners for the 2025 Summer Jobs program included *Sharolyn Dewitt, CPA (Personal Finance Session)* and *Tonya Robinson of Diva Unlimited Empowerment Coaching and Styling (Professionalism and Dressing for Success)* who conducted virtual sessions on their topics. In the final two weeks of the program, the students were assigned to field trips based on the careers they aspire to enter after high school or college. These major employment areas included Law, Business (Entrepreneurship), Culinary, Medicine and Healthcare, Early Child Development, Engineering, and Computer Science/Information Technology. Career Exploration Week partners were *Dr. James Adamson, Conway Medical Center, Dr. Thomas Jackson III and Mercedes-Benz of Myrtle Beach, Keith Skinner and the staff of Your Neighborhood Child Development Center, Labria Strong and Shaquasia Coleman of The Juice Crush, Dr. Willie Gregg, III, DVM, PhD. Of Banfield Pet Hospital in Atlanta, Ga., Zion Hill-Wilks, Tuskegee graduate and rising Vet School candidate, Tiffany Hunt-Williams, Dr. Julie Hartman and staff of Loris Animal Hospital, Corintha Bellamy and Dane Hanna of The Shepherd's Table in Conway, SC, Home and Freedom Home Health Care, McIver & Graham, Attorneys-at-Law, Ozell Newman and the staff of Santee Cooper, Dr. Tracy Nelson-Christia and Dr. Anna D'Addario of McLeod Hospital Carolina Forest, Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church in Conway, SC, Vincent Myers and William Clay of Horry Georgetown Technical College; Winston McIver, Jr. of Waccamaw Primary Care; and Betty Gause of the James R. Frazier Community Center. Etta Greene-Carter of Horry County Adult Education* hosted the closing event in her new education space and shared with participants and the community the many opportunities that exist through Horry County Adult Ed and the importance of education in the trades.



Some of The Community Partners Present

The Reading Roots Summer Literacy Program

The Summer Literacy group came face-to-face and interacted with 10 different authors this summer: **Lorna A. Rainey and Steve Williams** (at the Rice Museum in Georgetown, SC), **Glennette Tilley Turner** (Shared through a telephone conversation with the campers), **Joseph McGill** (at the Horry County Museum), **Ron Daise and Sara Makeba Daise** (Hobcaw Plantation), **Issac Bailey, Dr. Tracy Bailey** (Horry County Library), **Dr. Winston D. McIver, Jr.** (who visited the camp and shared his new book), and storyteller, **Ernestine "Tina" Wyatt**, the great-great-great grandniece of Harriet Tubman, who also visited the camp and shared the story of Harriet. A host of other speakers also visited and shared their professions and college experiences: **Laila Bromell, Logan Abrya McIver, Lunden Amaya McIver, Michele Burgess, Jonas Best, Maceo Norment, Zenobia Harper, Andrew Sands, Jo Ella McQueen and Terri Daniels-Lacey**. The Summer Literacy youth, ages 5 to 15, shared in a short program highlighting some of the experiences and things they learned. **Zion Moore** gave the Welcome; **Felix Ortiz** read the Scripture; **Antonio Ortiz** led the group recitation of the Serenity Prayer; **Darius Blye** rendered an original prayer; a musical selection, "Yes, Jesus Loves Me," was sung by **Jamariah Brown**; and **Blake Prawl** led the recitation of Life Skills learned during the summer. **Feliz Ortiz and Jamariah Brown** served as emcees of the Literacy segment. and **Blake Prawl** led the recitation of Life Skills learned during the summer. **Feliz Ortiz and Jamariah Brown** served as emcees of the Literacy segment.

Continued on Page 24



Cont'd From Page 23

After reading their individual books, the youth completed a packet of related activities and created a final audio-visual project. The projects were presented during the program: **Maliyah Floyd** gave an oral presentation of the life of Harriet Tubman as **Alyssa Prawl, Blake Prawl, Dakota Green, and Jordan Floyd** shared a cooperative learning experience, a slave cabin, hand-made by the presenters. The slave cabin was surrounded by African dolls made by **Alyssa Prawl, Dakota Green, and Jamariah Brown**. **Jordan Floyd** created the log drawings, and **Blake and Alyssa Prawl** designed the cabin out of a shoe box. To compliment this presentation, **Ja'Riyah Kelly** sang an animated tribute to Harriet Tubman.

The following youth presented their project: Five-year old **Bailee Prawl** presented her **All About Me** booklet; **Darius Blye**, his poster and oral presentation on the book, **Lamar Takes a Trip**; **Felix Ortiz** shared a PowerPoint presentation on **John Lewis: Carry On**, and **Prince Green** shared his research poster on Lewis; **Jamariah Brown** shared her poster and her hand-made doll of **Ruby Bridges**, and **Ja'Riyah Kelly** shared her research poster on the book, **Hidden Figures**; **Jordan Floyd** read his research paper on **Nelson Mandela**; **Devin McGowan** of Columbia, SC, shared his poster on the book, **The Watsons Go to Birmingham**; **Zion Moore and Antonio Ortiz** share their poster on **First in the House - Joseph H. Rainey**, The **Muhammads of Charleston, SC**, **Tariq** shared his PowerPoint presentation on Joseph H. Rainey; **Karimah** shared her book, **An Apple for Harriet**, and **Samya Muhammad**, shared an animated PowerPoint of **Hidden Figures**.



Continued on Page 25



By Marjorie McIver and April Garner Davis, WCM Contributor

Cont'd From Page 24



A full boxed lunch was prepared for the attendees. Thank you to **Bonnie Eaddy and Connie Manigo** for preparing the boxes. We also thank Bonnie for helping to prepare some of the lunches for the campers. Campers also received a full breakfast and full lunch each day, and books, materials, and supplies throughout the camp.

The **2025 Literacy Initiatives coordinators and teachers** were **Marjorie C. McIver, Gwendolyn Alston, and Pamela Jones**. Literacy consultants were **Jo Ella McQueen, Zenobia Harper, and Hana McIver Sands**. **Zenobia and Jo Ella** assisted with the field trips. **Edward McQueen** of the **World Community Magazine** was the community partner. Additional committee members were Marlo Frazier and Aprell Floyd Brown. Our financial contributors for the summer programs were **Jerry and Zenobia Harper, Angela Graham McIver (McIver & Graham,**

A Successful Outcome !!

Attorneys-at-Law), Dr. Winston McIver, Jr. (Waccamaw Primary Care), and Dr. Taurean Hodges (Inlet Premier Dental & Cosmetic Surgery).

Twenty-five youth received certificates and stipends from the literacy program, based on attendance, focused work put into their experience, and their final project and presentation. Each camper took away a pictorial scrapbook of their summer experiences.

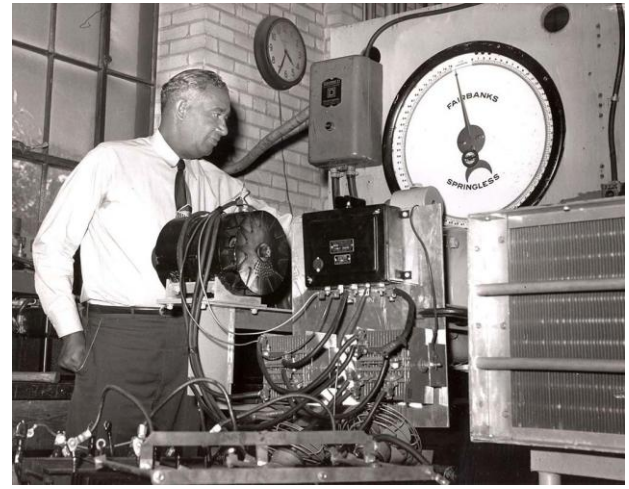




Samya A. Muhammad

Fredrick McKinley Jones

Have you ever wondered who invented the first mobile refrigerated vehicle? Yes, well let me tell you about an amazing black inventor named Fredrick McKinley Jones. He was born May 17, 1893 and taught himself the science of engineering and had many important inventions. The most recognized invention he made was a refrigerator machine that had a purpose of transporting food, medicine, and blood in World War II. Not only did he invent the refrigerator machine, he also invented an air conditioner for military hospitals, a refrigerator for military kitchens, a self-starting gas engine, a number of inventions for movie projectors and movie theater equipment that gave tickets and gave change back. Mr. Jones died on February 21, 1961 but his inventions have a huge impact on how we transport our food.



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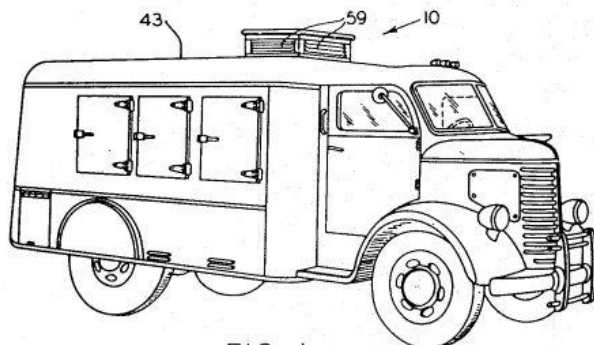
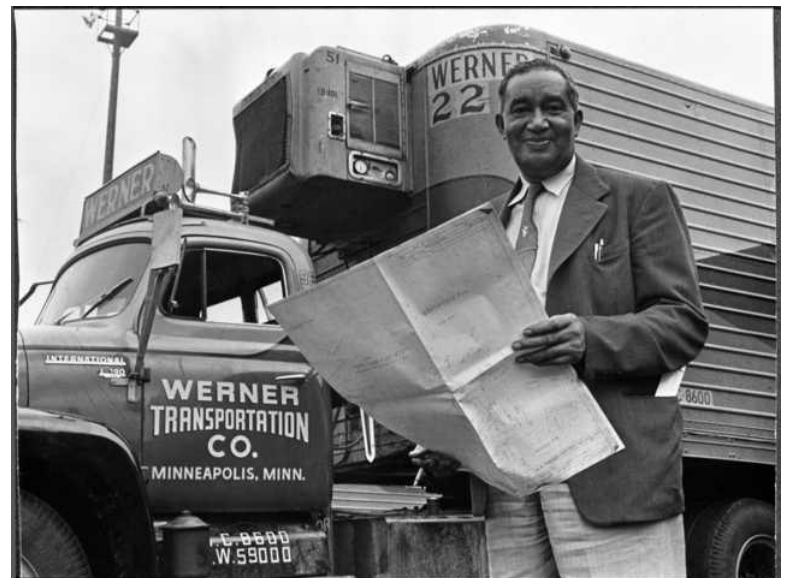


FIG. 1.



Protect



Collect



Recycle



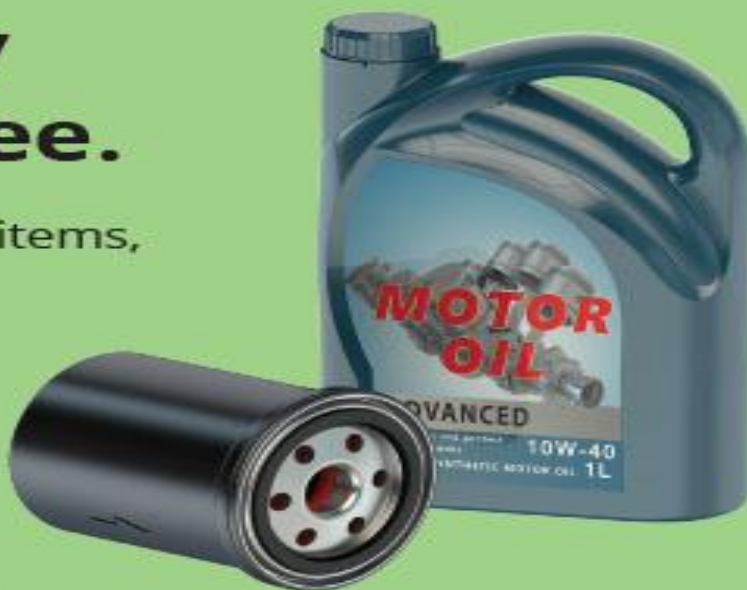
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By Priscilla Wyman Fuller, WCM Contributing Editor

In this new column, various things that occur in our community that will impact our community will be discussed. You, as a reader, may not agree with my perspective, but here you have an opportunity to express your opinion as I have expressed mine.



Priscilla W. Fuller
WCM Contributor

The Conway community has grown tremendously since the time I grew up. I see the growth of numerous businesses and countless homes being developed. That is a good thing to keep the town growing, but where are our voices leading a voice about WHAT GOES INTO our community? There are various mechanisms that are available, but are we utilizing them in our community? The City Council meetings, the Planning Board meeting, and meetings with elected officials. All of these are methods to let our voices be heard. Increased taxes on homes and other regulations are being put in place without your input. All of us pay taxes, which are utilized for development. We are justified to say that we have a voice on how those funds are being used and where those funds are used. We are so important to the process, but oftentimes our voices are just complaints to each other. Vote and Demand more of the people we elect for any public office. They are elected to represent the community. Let us demand that they do that !

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- ❖ Nutrition
- ❖ Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- ❖ Youth Employment Training Services (YETS)
- ❖ Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP)
- ❖ Summer Foods (Horry County Only)

Waccamaw WEOC, Inc. also operates the following programs:

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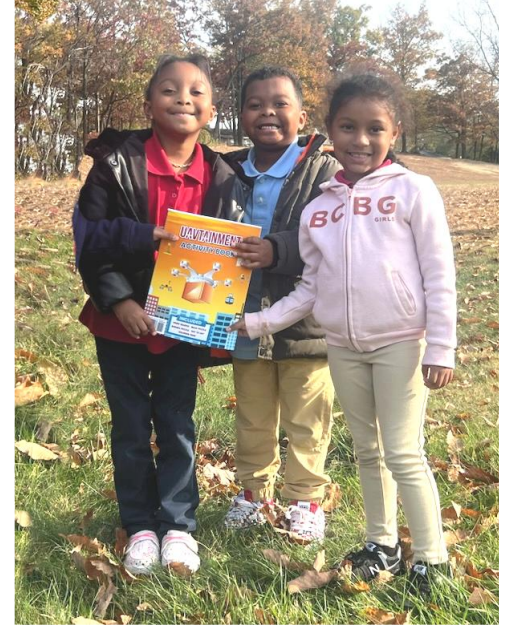
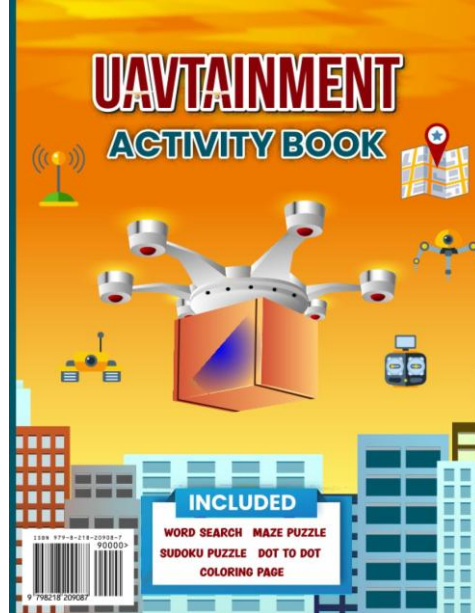




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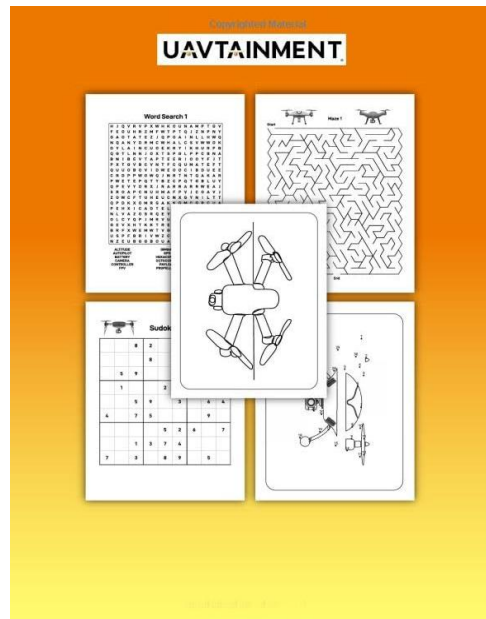
UAVTAINMENT ACTIVITY BOOK: Explore the World of UAVs with Fun and Games!

by *A. McQ*



 **Sudoku 2** 

	6		8		2	
8	7				1	5
	2			7		4
	9	2			1	5
		8	7	2		
	4		5	3	6	2
2		9			4	8
4	1		9		8	
7		5	3		4	



Back Cover of Book

Word Search 1

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G	A	O	T	A	T	E	Z	J	Q	P	O	A	I	N	L	L	H	W
N	Q	A	N	Y	D	R	M	C	W	H	A	L	C	S	V	W	W	O
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N	Z	E	U	B	G	G	B	O	U	A	F	S	D	I	Z	V	I	Z

ALTITUDE	GIMBAL	QUADCOPTER
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This activity book is perfect for kids aged 6-12 and makes a great gift for any child who loves UAVs and entertainment. Whether your child is a beginner or an experienced drone enthusiast, they are sure to enjoy the fun and engaging activities in this book. So why wait? Get your copy of UAVTAINMENT today, and let the fun begin **AVAILABLE NOW AT [Amazon.com/UAVTAINMENT ACTIVITY-BOOK](https://www.amazon.com/UAVTAINMENT-ACTIVITY-BOOK)**

Scientists Say This Popular Vegetable May Raise Your Risk of Type 2 Diabetes

August 2025



The study, which was published in [*The BMJ*](#), analyzed the diets and health of more than 205,000 people enrolled in three longitudinal studies in the U.S. As part of those studies, participants answered questions on their diet for more than 30 years. That included details on how often they ate certain foods, including French fries, whole grains, and baked, boiled, and mashed potatoes. The participants also reported any new health diagnoses they received during the study period.

During the study, nearly 22,300 people reported that they were diagnosed with type 2 diabetes. When they crunched the data, the researchers discovered that people who ate three servings a week of French fries had a 20% higher risk of developing type 2 diabetes. But those who ate their potatoes baked, boiled, or mashed didn't have a significant type 2 diabetes risk.

Meet the experts: Seyed Mohammad Mousavi, Ph.D., is lead study author and a postdoctoral research fellow at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health; Katherine N. Balantekin, Ph.D., R.D., assistant professor at the University at Buffalo Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences

The researchers *also* discovered that people who ate whole grains like whole grain pasta, bread, or farro, instead of baked, boiled, or mashed potatoes, had a 4% lower risk of developing type 2 diabetes. Those who swapped French fries for whole grains had a 19% lower risk of type 2 diabetes.

“Our study found a clear dose-dependent relationship between French fry intake and type 2 diabetes risk—meaning the more you eat, the higher the risk climbs,” says Seyed Mohammad Mousavi, Ph.D., lead study author and a postdoctoral research fellow at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. “Surprisingly, the increase starts with even less than one serving per week. By the time consumption hits three servings a week, the risk is about 20% higher.”

Why might this be the case and does this mean you should avoid potatoes going forward? Here's the deal.

Why might potatoes increase your type 2 diabetes risk?

It's important to stress that the study did not find that eating French fries or potatoes will give you type 2 diabetes. Instead, there's a link between people who have a regular potato habit and type 2 diabetes, especially among those who like to eat fries.

The researchers didn't look into why this link exists, but there are a few theories. “While potatoes are nutrient-dense, frying them to make French fries makes them an energy-dense food that is high in saturated fat and low in dietary fiber, both of which have been shown to increase risk for type 2 diabetes,” says Katherine N. Balantekin, Ph.D., R.D., assistant professor at the University at Buffalo Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences.

Fries have a lot of calories and fat and eating them regularly could lead to weight gain, Mousavi says. Gaining weight may in turn lead to insulin resistance, a key factor in type 2 diabetes. Still, he points out that “doesn't fully explain the link.”

“French fries are often deep-fried at high temperatures in unhealthy oils,” Mousavi explains. “This can promote inflammation, impair insulin sensitivity, and lead to blood sugar spikes. So, it's likely a combination of factors—both the added calories and the metabolic effects of how fries are prepared.”

What you eat alongside those fries may also be an issue, Balantekin says. “People tend to consume French fries alongside other energy-dense and nutrient-poor foods, such as hamburgers, chicken fingers, and hot dogs, which will contribute to an overall lower diet quality,” she says. While eating those foods in moderation is likely fine, consistently eating a nutrient-poor diet can raise your risk of type 2 diabetes, Balantekin says.

One thing worth pointing out, per Mousavi: Many of the fries in the study were cooked in oils that are no longer used. “More follow-up is needed to see how modern cooking methods compare,” he says.

Why are whole grains better for type 2 diabetes risk?

It likely comes down to how these are digested. “Whole grains—like oats, quinoa, and whole wheat bread—digest more slowly and are packed with fiber, vitamins, and plant compounds that help keep blood sugar stable,” Mousavi says.

Continued on Page 35



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THE FASTEST WOMAN IN THE WORLD

By Steve Williams, Formerly of The Georgetown Times

Cont'd From Page 20



Success leaves clues, which means you can learn from those who have achieved success in life. The renowned motivational speaker Earl Nightingale once stated, "All of us are self-made individuals, but only successful people acknowledge it. Those who are not successful often blame circumstances and others, but they rarely take the time to look within themselves."

When evaluating our lives, we must look not only within ourselves but also toward the future. As I mentioned at the beginning of this article, I am confident that this will not be my last update on this remarkable young lady. In Romans 4:17, the Scripture states, "We must call for things that be not, as though they were." With this faith, I have updated a poster and poem I wrote in her honor last year, and I am proclaiming her presence and victory in the 2028 Olympics. Here is the updated version. She's going to Los Angeles and she's going first class. She'll be carrying the luggage of a city, a state,



and a country on her back, trying not to let us down. She's going to L.A., and she's going in style. She'll spread her wings and soar - perhaps bringing back a medal or two. But even if she doesn't, we'll celebrate her for sure.

Not so much for her victory, but for helping us live once again, in unity. For making us think on whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are true, and whatsoever things are lovely. For putting those things behind us that are so divisive. For showing us the virtues of beauty, of love, and grace, even if it's only for two weeks. For reminding us that we are Still - these United States.



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Christopher DiNucci

*June 2025
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The Horry County Solid Waste Authority recently recognized Myrtle Beach resident **Christopher DiNucci** as the “Caught Green Handed” recipients for the month of **June**.

“The ‘Caught Green Handed’ recognition is presented monthly to a Horry County resident caught in the act of recycling” stated **Esther Murphy**, Director of Recycling and Corporate Affairs for the Solid Waste Authority. “It’s the Solid Waste Authority’s way of recognizing and thanking citizens who have made the effort to recycle. Through their recycling efforts, natural resources are saved and the amount of waste being landfilled is reduced.” **Mr. DiNucci**, regular recycler at the **Lake Arrowhead Road Recycling Convenience Center**, was surprised and honored to receive this recognition.

*For more information on recycling, please contact
The Solid Waste Authority at 843.347.1651.*

Scientists Say This Popular Vegetable May Raise Your Risk of Type 2 Diabetes

Cont'd from Page 32

On the other hand, potatoes are quickly broken down into sugar in the body, especially when they're fried or eaten in large amounts, he says. "So, swapping fries or even mashed potatoes for whole grains may help reduce blood sugar spikes and improve long-term health," Mousavi explains.

The fat and fiber in meals that tend to go with fries may also be an indirect factor, according to Balantekin. (Fat can lead to weight gain, which is a risk factor for type 2 diabetes, while fiber can help manage blood sugar levels.)

"Most people eat potatoes prepared with a lot of fat and without the skin, which is going to decrease the fiber content," she says. "In contrast, whole grains are naturally low in saturated fat and high in fiber."

Is it OK to eat potatoes?

The study didn't suggest that you should never eat potatoes again. Instead, it may be worth looking at how your potatoes are prepared and how much of them you eat.

"Potatoes can be part of a healthy diet, but they shouldn't be your main source of carbohydrates," Mousavi says.

"Unlike potatoes—especially when fried—whole grains have consistently been linked to better long-term health, including lower risks of weight gain, type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and even early death. That's why whole grains are generally the better everyday choice."

If you love potatoes, Balantekin says you're fine to keep on enjoying them. "Try baking or boiling them instead of frying, and be mindful of how often you eat them," she says. "It's all about balance and making thoughtful choices."



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Wilhemena "Yank" Jackson

Wilhemena "YANK" Jackson was born **December 16, 1945** in Conway, S.C. to James Langston and Mary Page. She attended and graduated from Conway High School. Wilhemena dedicated many years of her life as a Home Health Aide. She departed this life on **June 23, 2025**. Wilhemena was preceded in death by her parents, James Langston and Mary Page; brothers, Rev. James Langston, Ernest Langston, and Billy Bee Langston; sisters, Sadie Langston and Evangelist Ernestine Solomon; son, Manuel Jackson Jr.; grandson, Kyree Javon Coleman; sister-in-law, Edna Langston; special friend James Leroy Pickett. *Wilhemena leaves to cherish her memories her daughters, Tammy Townes, Terry Jackson and Tracy Pooler (Cleon); siblings, Lethia Smith (Paul), Mary Langston, Shirley Jackson and sister-in-law, Sue Langston; daughter-in-law Denetria Jackson; grandchildren, Arlene Jackson (Travis Rogers), Yazzmeaan McKnight, Thomas Singletary, Jr., Curtis Coleman, Shanyce Degree, Katasia Campbell-Pooler, DeVontae Jackson, Dezire Jackson, Destiny Jackson, Leon Pooler, Chanel Jackson; sixteen great grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews and family and friends.*



1945 - 2025

Genice Johnson

Genice Johnson was born on **June 18, 1957**, in Conway, South Carolina to the late David Howard Johnson and the late Magalene Dozier. The sun would set for Genice one last time on **Wednesday, July 30, 2025**.



1957 - 2025

She attended the public schools of Horry County, graduating from Whittemore High School. Genice worked for several years at Horry Cleaners. Along with her parents, Genice is preceded in death by her brother, Reginald Glisson. *Her memory lives on with her daughters, Teresa Johnson of Columbia, South Carolina and LaQuashia Johnson of Conway, South Carolina; four grandchildren, Brittany Johnson of Conway, South Carolina, Davante Carter of Japan, Saquan Johnson of Conway, South Carolina, and DouQuayla Carter of Georgia; five great-grandchildren, Jamir Carter of Conway, South Carolina, King Woods of Georgia, Camryn Woods of Conway, South Carolina, Cash Woods of Conway, South Carolina, and Saquan Johnson, Jr. of Atlanta, Georgia; special grandchild, Nageria Richardson of Conway, South Carolina; eight siblings, Angela Grissett of East Orange, New Jersey, Nell Johnson of Conway, South Carolina, David Johnson of East Orange, New Jersey, Dennis Johnson of Conway, South Carolina, Kay Johnson of Conway, South Carolina, Sandra Washington of Concord, North Carolina, Lonita Johnson of Conway, South Carolina, and Carol Bush of Ohio; cherished nieces, Kala Johnson and Jonaizhia Graham; cherished nephew, Cory Johnson; along with a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.*



Ernestine R. McCollough

Ernestine Roberts McCollough, the daughter of the late James and Joe Allean Cochran-Roberts, was born on **September 8, 1956**, in Marion County, South Carolina. She departed this life on **Sunday, July 6, 2025**. Ernestine was educated in the public schools of Marion County, where she graduated from Rains Centenary High School, Class of 1974. Ernestine joined in Holy Matrimony with Jackie Robinson McCollough on January 21, 1978, and two children were born to this union. Ernestine was preceded in death by siblings, James Edward Roberts, John Roberts, Winford Roberts, Vernell Siegel and Rose Jackson; in-laws, Caleb McCollough, Lucille Thomas McCollough, Henry Thomas, Kenneth Thomas, Mary Brown, and Caleb McCollough, Jr. *Ernestine leaves to cherish her loving memories, her husband of forty-seven years, Elder Jackie R. McCollough of the home; her son, Robert A. (LaCora) McCollough of Atlanta, GA; her daughter, Pastor JaShawna T. (Bishop Antoine) Bellamy of Whiteville, NC; grandchildren, Minister Antoine Bellamy, Jr., Ro'Nesha McCollough, Justin Bellamy, Destiny Day, Mariah Spain, and Jammel Warren; four sisters, Bernice Powell and Earlean Williams of Conway, SC, Gerlean Kelly of Dillon, SC, and Joyce Hamlin of Florence, SC; a sister-in-law, Marian Carmichael of Lumberton, NC; a brother-in-law, Charles (Evelyn) McCollough of Bennettsville, SC; a godson, Kentrel Grate of Longs, SC; a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.*



1956 - 2025



Henry Baker

Henry Harold Baker was born into this world on **July 16, 1943**, in Conway, South Carolina, and grew up in the St. Paul Community. He was the son of the late Mr. Jamie and Mrs. Nettie Gowans Baker. He departed this life on Friday, **August 1, 2025**. One sister, Patricia Baker Felton, and one grandson, Charles Lamar Chestnut, preceded him in death. He leaves to cherish his sweet memories *two daughters, Mrs. Stacy Baker McCray (Sandy) and Mrs. Nikki Baker Samuels (Robert); one son, Mr. Brian Baker; and one special daughter, Teressa Holmes; five sisters, Hattie Mae Williams, Betty Booth, Shelveadean Asbury (Tommy), and Ruth Frinks; five brothers, Jamie Baker, Lloyd Baker, Johnny Baker (Rosie), Willie Baker, and Donald Baker (Jackie); two sisters-in-law, Virginia Rhodes and Naomi Tucker; 23 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.*



1943 - 2025



Fennie M. Livingston

Mrs. Fennie Mae Livingston, daughter of the late Joe Lewis and Melvina Lewis, was born **November 25, 1933**, in the Wampee Community. She departed this earthly life on **July 22, 2025**, at home. Fennie attended Popular Training School and accepted Christ as her personal savior. She became a member of Chesterfield Missionary Baptist Church, where she remained until her death. Fennie was married to the late James Leroy Livingston. She was preceded in death by her husband, parents, and her twin children, Levon and Devon Livingston. Siblings, six brothers: Curtis, Gardener, Kaiser, Homer, Lee, and Doug Lewis; and six sisters: Annie Reese Hemingway, Theda Bell Pickett, Lydianna Ford, Mamie Lee Dewitt, Della Vereen, and Essie Bellamy. *Fennie leaves a legacy of love and cherished memories to four daughters: Virginia Collier, Fannie Carolina, Phyllis Livingston, and Omelia Frinks, all of Longs. Four sons: James Livingston Jr. of Longs, SC, James Joseph (Pat) Livingston of Conway, SC, Taft Livingston of Loris, SC, and Ellis (Corolla) Livingston of Little River, SC. Twenty-three grandchildren, forty-three great grandchildren, eleven great-great grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, family, and friends.*



1933 - 2025



Jeffero Small

Jeffero Riley Small, affectionately known as Jeff, was born on **November 17, 1954**, in the Plantersville community of Georgetown, South Carolina. He was the son of the late Margree Morant Small and the late Herbert Small, Sr. On **Monday, July 21, 2025**, Jeff transitioned into eternal life. His parents, and siblings Herbert Small Jr. and Brenda Grice, preceded him in death. Jeff attended the public schools of Georgetown County, South Carolina, and graduated from Choppee High School in 1973. Jeff was united in holy matrimony to Cynthia Gardenia Canty on May 31, 1994. This union was blessed with one daughter, China White, and grand-pup, Benji. *Jeff leaves to cherish his memories, wife, Cynthia; daughter, China White; stepchildren, Rita White and Jay White; siblings, Georgia Watts (Gerald), Kirby Small (Barbara), Herman Small (Sybena), Al Grice (Raquel), Bernard Grice, Levon Grice, Linda Grice, Cora Grice, Dorethia Grice and Winnie Grice; aunt, Lourise Morant; grandchildren, Naaja Young, Deija Young, Najada White, Daria Williams, Javier White and Saori White; sisters-in-law: Martha Gore (Thad) and Mary "Cookie" Canty-Goings (Eric); brother-in-law, James "Beaver" Canty; special friends, Michael Myers, Elouise Bryant, Pat Spivey, and Wilbur McCrae; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.*



1954 - 2025



Floyd Gause

Floyd Carl Gause, affectionately known as "Knot," was born on **May 22, 1958** in Conway, SC, to the late Elroy and Lula Belle Gause. Floyd made his transition on **July 3, 2025**, after battling a short illness. Floyd, the



1958 - 2025

youngest of the Gause clan, was educated by the Horry County School District. Upon graduating from North Myrtle Beach High School, Knot enlisted in the United States Military. Floyd was preceded in death by his parents, Lula B Gause and Elroy Gause; his siblings, Charlie Gause, Martha Ann Vereen, Paul Gause, Calvin Gause, William Gause, Mageline Jolley, Nancy Patterson, Lula E. Cox (JT), Elijah Gause, Samuel Gause, and Barry Gause. *Floyd leaves to cherish his memories his son, Marquis (Magdalena) Gause; his grandchildren, Bryson, Cody, Kayden, Teagan, Maci, and Mason Gause; brothers, David (Dawn) Gause, and James Gause; sisters, Betty Gause, Lucille Myers, Thelma Gause, Beverly Gause and Helen Gail Keel; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. You know that you can eat! The Gause women know how to cook, and the Gause men know how to eat! Uncle Knot, your job is done. You loved, you played, you worked, and now you rest.*



Joseph E. Parker

Joseph Edward Parker, affectionately known to many as "Bruh," passed away peacefully in Conway, South Carolina, at the age of 73. Born in Baltimore, Maryland, on **April 17, 1952**, Joseph was the beloved son of the late Bessie Webb and Freddie Parker, Sr. He departed this life on **July 6, 2025**.



1952 - 2025

After his military service, Joseph returned home and became a city bus driver, faithfully serving his community for over 20 years. His career was cut short after a tragic stabbing incident, but Joseph, in true warrior fashion, never let hardship steal his spirit. *He is survived by his loving children: LeQuinton Parker of Atlanta, GA, and Latonia King (Tilden) of Columbus, GA; grandchildren Christopher Parker, Quenton Thomas, Kadeja Watts (Shajuan), Cameron Weaver, Jonathan Washington (Aria); and his cherished great-grandchildren Chace Parker, Ryder Washington, and Romi Washington. Joseph also leaves behind his devoted sisters: Iris Middleton, Vanessa Epps (Floyd), and special sister Stephanie McCrary, along with a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends who will deeply miss his strength, laughter, and unshakable spirit.*



Joyce S. Keith

Joyce Simmons-Keith was born on **January 16, 1949**, in Myrtle Beach, SC. Joyce was the daughter of Carrie Mae Johnson. Joyce was a devoted mother, sister, daughter, and wife. Joyce was raised in the heart of Myrtle Beach, SC, and attended Whittemore High School, where she excelled in her studies and graduated with her High School diploma in 1967. She departed this life on **July 23, 2025**. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, James Keith, Jr. and her parent, Carrie Mae Simmons-Johnson and brother Larry Williams, both of Myrtle Beach, SC. *She is survived by her sisters, Carolyn Wilson and Linda Holoman both of Myrtle Beach, SC; her son, Morris R. Keith (Jovian) Commerce City, Co; faithful daughter Teresa Keith (Myrtle Beach, SC) her cherished grandchildren, Jalen Keith-Logan, of Myrtle Beach, SC, Stephon Keith (Francine) of Commerce City Co., James Keith of Commerce City, Co., Tiara Keith of Commerce City, Co., Nico Keith of Commerce City, Co., Xaniyah Riley-Keith of Commerce City, Co., Paris Radway-Keith of Commerce City, Co., and one great grandchild Micah Keith of Commerce City, Co., Her extended families; Simpson, Smalls, Frazier, Chestnut, Brenda Williams etc. and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins.*



1949 - 2025

Special friends Barbara Jean Smalls, Lynell Hytower-Servance and family, Linda Dickerson- "T'nochie", Mr. Lester Brown and family, and many loving members of Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church.



Julia Johnson

Mrs. Julia Worthan Johnson was born on **May 7, 1956**, in North Carolina to the late Cornelius and Ella Worthan Vaught. She entered eternal rest on **Saturday, June 28, 2025**, in Charlotte, North Carolina. Julia attended the



1956 - 2025

Chestnut Consolidated School in North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Sister Julia joined the Macedonia AME Church in North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. She accepted Jesus Christ at an early age and made Him her personal Savior. She was a dedicated mother to her children, a loving sister to her siblings, and a devoted friend to all her nieces, nephews, and friends. Along with her parents, Julia was preceded in death by three brothers, Larry Vaught, Cornelius (Lucille) Vaught, and Charles W. Worthan; and one sister, Cora Bessent. *Julia leaves precious memories to her husband, James Johnson; two daughters, Princess Edge of Charlotte, North Carolina, and Alesha Edge of Hopewell, Virginia; one son, Albert Edge, Jr. of Hopewell, Virginia; one sister, Louise (Nathaniel) Edge; one brother, Jerry (Doris) Vaught, both of North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; six precious grandchildren, Omari, Trinity, Gabrielle, Brooklynn, Rain and ZyTear; two special friends, Vickie Stephens and Carrie McCoy.*



Leroy Bryant

Mr. Leroy Johnnie Bryant, son of the late James Bryant and Nell Drakes, was born on **May 21, 1954**, in Green Sea, South Carolina. He departed this life on **Saturday, July 5, 2025**, at Grand Strand Regional Medical Center in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.



1954 - 2025

Leroy, affectionately known as Bubba, attended Brunswick County Schools where he remained an active part of the community serving in many ways. Leroy was preceded in death by his parents, James Bryant and Nell Drake; his sister, Gloria Bryant; and longtime partner, Helen McCray.

He leaves behind to remember his example of exemplary diligence towards life and any challenge that comes, to his children, Melinda McCray of Trenton, NJ, Sabrina McCray of Charlotte, NC, Stephanie (Rohan) Solomon of Little Rock, SC, Raheem McCray, of Atlanta Georgia, and Tyquan (Jasmine) Ash of Carey, NC; two very special children, Rolland Ash of Seoul, South Korea, and Neisha Ash of North Myrtle Beach, SC; his grandchildren, Yoshamel Gerald, Emmanuel Gerald, Glorious Gerald, Sincere McCray, Alkhazed Gerald, Queen Gerald, Javan McCray, Queen Gerald, Jaquel Davis and Aaliyah Nicole Ash; countless friends and family will feel the void of his absence.



Lela Bellamy

Mrs. Lela Mae Bellamy was the daughter of the late Step and Frances Bellamy. She was born on **August 29, 1921**, in Longs, South Carolina. She was married to the late Paul Harvey Bellamy. Lela Mae attended Horry County Public Schools and worked on



1921 - 2025

the farm with several members throughout the community. She departed this life on **July 26, 2025**. She was willing to help anyone in their time of need. Lela Mae was the oldest living member of the Longs community and the only remaining child of her parents. She rededicated her life to Christ and became a member of the Freemont Missionary Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by her parents; her son, Paul Bellamy Jr.; and two grandchildren, Cortney Valentine and Tonie Lee Smith. *Lela Mae leaves to cherish fond memories her six daughters, Eunice (Shack) Valentine, Minnie Pearl Smith, Nancy Mae Bellamy, Pretricia Bellamy, Teresa Bellamy, and Mary Alice Bellamy, all of Longs, South Carolina; two sons, Paul (Nancy) Bellamy of Longs, South Carolina and Wendell (Joann) Bellamy of Tabor City, North Carolina; she also leaves 23 grandchildren, 60 great-grandchildren, 34 great-great grandchildren, and one great-great-great grandchild; a host of nieces, nephews, and family members whom she affectionately loved.*



John Edward Lutz

On July 17, 2025, John Edward Lutz passed away due to complications related to Alzheimer's, a few weeks prior to his 79th birthday. He resided in Little River/Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Born on **August 5, 1946,** in Bronx, New York, and growing up in Westfield, New Jersey, John came to Maryland as a student at Mount St Mary's College in Emmitsburg, graduating with a B.A. degree in accounting (1968) and passing the CPA exam. Since his college years, John lived a number of places around metro Baltimore but especially loved his home on the North Point Peninsula of Baltimore County. *John is survived by his wife of 43 years, Debbie, son David and his wife Laura and their three daughters, Autumn, Amanda, and Alaina, stepdaughter Melissa and her husband Chuck and daughters Mayson and Caden, her husband Benaiah, and great granddaughter Fiadh. He was preceded in death by his son, Kevin. A kind and gentle man, John will be missed by many family members and friends that he cherished so much. Sorrow does not last forever, but memories do.*



1946 - 2025



Shirley Wallace

Shirley Mae Grove Wallace peacefully passed away on **July 23, 2025,** at her home in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. She was born on **February 28, 1939,** in Georgetown, SC, to the late Albert J. Marshall Sr. and Mary Frances Grove Ellis. She attended Howard High School in Georgetown, SC. When she moved to Myrtle Beach, Shirley graduated from Whittemore High School in Conway, SC. She is preceded in death by the following: Albert J. Marshall Sr., Mary Frances Grove Ellis, Martha Rhue, Jordan Morrell Wallace, Wesley Grove "Sonny" Ellis, Albert J. Marshall Jr., James "Ricky" Ellis, David Wallace Sr., Truman P. Morrell, Annie Jo Green, Joseph Ellis III, Pecolia Grove, and a host of other family members and friends. *Her memory will live through her children, David L. Wallace, Jr., Stanley R. Wallace, Mary A. Wallace, and Patrice O. Francis; grandchildren, Ezra D. Wallace, Lance V. Wallace, Kayna (née Quena) S. Wallace, Dr. Desmond D. Wallace, Brittany A. Wallace, David (Melissa) Wallace III, Dominique Wallace, and Marquis Wallace; great-grandchildren, Jordan W. Woodberry, Alexi J. Williams, Jose R. Alicea III, Zoe M. Wallace-Ocasio, Dante D. Garvin, Aniyah Romero, Zani A. Headen, Adara N. Cooley, Lincoln J. Wallace, and Jamiah Wallace; siblings, Joseph (Sallie) "Tonga Lee" Ellis Jr. and family, Henry "Otis" Ellis and family, and Maxine Ellis (sister-in-law/Wesley G. Ellis) and family; special friends, Amelia Grissett, Bea Shipman, Serena McGee, Rosa Lee Dozier, and Barbara Johnson.*



1939 - 2025



Mary Gadson

Mary Ethal Brown Gadson was born on **August 26, 1940,** to the late Inez Thompson and Mack Brown in Georgetown, South Carolina. She graduated from Howard High School in Georgetown, South Carolina in 1958. Following her graduation, she moved to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina where she became a domestic worker; She departed this life on **July 25, 2025.** She was preceded in death by three sons, Lynwood Gadson, Benjamin Gadson and Jahsiri (Chris) Moyenda of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; three brothers, John Brown, James Brown, and Abraham Brown of Georgetown, South Carolina; five sisters, Margrett Thompson Vereen of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, Shirley Myers, Aleathin McZeke, Mary Sumpter, and Marie Brown all of Georgetown, South Carolina; two grandchildren, Daja Sherron and Nyru Williams. *Those left to cherish her memory are one daughter, Linda Gadson; one son, Timothy (Sissy) Gadson, both of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; 14 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Most notably, her cousin, Mosela (Bobby) Johnson of Georgetown, South Carolina, Hattie Myers of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, and dear friend, Deacon John King.*



1940 - 2025



William A. Friend, IV

William Alfred Friend, IV, affectionately known as Will or Billy, departed this life on **July 5, 2025,** surrounded by love and family. Born on **August 1, 1970,** in the Bronx, New York, Will was the beloved son of the late Elizabeth LaCaruba and the late William Alfred Friend, III. He was also blessed with the love and guidance of a devoted bonus father, Paul LaCaruba. Will graduated from Henry Hudson Regional High School in Highlands, New Jersey, in 1989. On October 14, 2017, he married the love of his life, Shunnika Goings-Friend. He was a proud and loving father to four sons: Matthew Healy, Joshua Friend, Jeremiah Friend, and James Damon. *Will is survived by his devoted wife, Shunnika; his sons; his brother, Robert Friend; his sister, Kimberly Cumiskey; and his brother from another mother, Mike Moore (Tocha). He is also survived by his sister-in-law, Nicole Goings, and his brother-in-law, Eric Goings (Nina). He leaves behind a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, extended family, and many beloved friends. He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Bonnie Friend.*



1970 - 2025



Ricky Thomas

~A Time to be Born~ **Ricky Lee "Rick" Thomas** was born on **March 10, 1979** in Whiteville, North Carolina to Barbara J. Powers Thomas and Leroy Thomas, Sr. He departed this life on **July 28, 2025.** ~A Time to Play~Rick ~A Time to



1979 - 2025

Learn~Rick attended South Columbus Schools. A Time to Work~Rick was a long shore fisherman for many years in New Jersey. He was also employed with Palmetto Goodwill. ~A Time to be Fruitful~Rick loved his girls Brooklyn, Emma, Kendell, and granddaughter, Audrey. ~A Time to Meet Again~Rick will be greeted in heaven by his grandmothers, Velma Lee Powers and Sadie Bell Thomas; his grandfather, Lloyd Thomas; great uncle, Bo; and cousin, Timmy. ~A Time to be Remembered~*Ricky leaves to cherish his memories his mother, Barbara; father, Leroy, Sr.; his brothers, Leroy (Varachakka) Thomas and Jr., Atticus Gabriel Flowers; his sister, Lisa Jean Thomas; his girlfriend of the home, Anna Alvarez along with her two sons, Jose and Santi; one niece, Brittany Latta; four nephews, Joseph, Gary, Jason, and Ahmar; close friend, Johnny; a host of aunts, uncles, great nieces, great nephews, family and friends.*



Grace Madison Long

Grace Madison Long, born **May 25, 2006,** left this life **July 29, 2025.** Left to remember Grace as the loving, laughing, and friendly, lady she was are: *her mother, Karen, Florence, SC; older brother, Justice, Nashville, TN; older sister, Jennifer Gwen (fiance Payton Hodges), Florence, SC; younger brother, Graham, Florence, SC; grandmother, Glenda Long, Salisbury, NC; uncles and aunts, Fred and Mary Long, Cleveland, NC; Andy and Gayla Long, Salisbury, NC; and cousins Amanda (Matt), Jeff (Brandi), Eli, Abe (Ariana), Madison, Calleigh, and Skylar* Preceding her in death was her beloved Pop, Fred D. Long, Jr., Salisbury, NC.



2006 - 2025



McKiever

Walter Gerald Williams

Walter Gerald Williams was born on **April 8, 1961.** He departed this life on **July 27, 2025.**



1961 - 2025



McKiever

Samelia Tyechia Huggins

Samelia Tyechia Huggins

"Stanka," as she was affectionately called, was the daughter and oldest child of the late Eugene Bellamy, Sr., and Carol M. Huggins Bellamy, was born on **November 15, 1984**, in Conway, South Carolina. She was educated in the Horry County Public Schools and graduated from Conway High School in the Class of 2003. She departed this life on **Friday, July 11, 2025**, and took our mother, daughter, sister, aunt, niece, cousin and friend into eternal rest. *She leaves to cherish her memories, her mother, Carol M. Huggins Bellamy; the joys of her life, her two sons: Jy'Quail Nyterrior Wilson and Jymere Naheem Singleton; her sister, Shantanika F. Bellamy, her brother, Eugene (Raven) Bellamy, Jr., and her sister-cousin, Kiana (Raheem) Robinson. Also left to cherish her memories are her nieces and nephews: Madison A. Bellamy, Jamell Z. Lucas, Micah A. Bellamy, and Malachi A. Bellamy, and her best friend, Ebony Richardson. Additionally, she has three maternal aunts: Mavis (James) Phillips, Audrey Spain, and Robin (Juan) Flores; five paternal aunts: Rose Graham, Dorothy (Lefogran) Sherman, Estelle (George) Robinson, Brenzell (Glendell) Hunt, and Jannett Aklin; five maternal uncles: James Huggins, Lee Mark (Janice) Huggins, Rodney Huggins, Myles Huggins, and Nelson Huggins, Jr.; two paternal uncles: James (Betty) Bellamy and Harvey (Gwen) Bellamy; and one maternal and paternal great aunt: Dorothy Doctor and Charlotte Sherman left to cherish her memories along with a host of cousins, other relatives, and friends.*



1984 - 2025



Florrie Louise Gore

Mrs. Florrie Louise Gore was born on **August 17, 1949**, in the Wampee community of Horry County, South Carolina, to the late Orie Johnson Willard and Eva Keel Willard. She departed this life on Sunday morning, **July 27, 2025**, surrounded by family. Florrie was preceded in death by her loving parents, seven brothers-Franklin, Sylvester, Joe Lace, Monroe, Ronnie, Orie, and Douglas, two sisters, Esterlene McCray, Patricia Willard and one grandson-Ernest "Jay" Inman III. *Left to rejoice in her memory and honor her legacy is her beloved husband of 43 years, Collins Gore, whose love and partnership stood as a testament to God's faithfulness. She is further survived by her son, Ralph Willard of Longs, SC; her two daughters, Mary (Marzaron) Livingston of North Myrtle Beach, SC, and Sandra (Terrance) Smith of Fayetteville, NC; her siblings, Shirley Bellamy of Little River, SC, Phillip (Sadie) Willard of Longs, SC, Catherlene (Alston) Ford of Little River, SC, Edward (Lucille) Willard of Longs, SC, and Erick Hodge of Longs, SC. Also left to treasure her memory are fifteen grandchildren, twenty great-grandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, extended family members, church family, and dear friends.*



1949 - 2025



Reverend Wayne Spain

Pastor Wayne Spain, son of the late James and Mary Hutchinson Spain, was born on **April 23, 1958**, in Conway, S.C. Wayne was educated in Horry County and later worked as a teacher's aide with Horry County Schools for 25 years. Wayne attended Benedict College. Ministries. Wayne also worked at McKiever Funeral Home as Chaplin for his lifelong friend George Williams. On **Wednesday, July 16, 2025**, Wayne joined his parents, his twin sister Wanda and brothers Carl, William and Roosevelt, home sweet home at last. *He leaves to cherish his memory two sisters, Mazie (Charles) Brown, Gloria Spain, six brothers, Sandor (Marilyn) Spain, David (Rosemay) Spain, Malcolm Spain, Teddy (Charlene) Spain, Douglas Spain, Robert (Susan) Spain, Adopted family Phoebe Reese, Jeff Alston, Anderson Hasty, James C. Johnson and Edward McKenzie. Our sisters in love Gloria W. and Emma Spain. Mrs. Janie M. Friday and her family adopted Wayne as a part of their family. Wayne had a host of children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and extended family and close relatives and friends that he loved dearly.*



1958 - 2025



Dennis Chestnut

Dennis Harold Chestnut, son of the late Gaston Leroy Chestnut and Ruth Carolyn Livingston, was born on **December 18, 1961**, in Conway Hospital, Conway, SC. He departed this life on Saturday, **June 28, 2025** at Grand Strand Regional Medical Center, Myrtle Beach, SC. He was affectionately known as "Big Cheese" and was a 1980 graduate at North Myrtle High School, Little River, SC. He is preceded in death by his parents, Gaston and Ruth; two brothers, Grover and Tim Chestnut; and granddaughter, CaMari Chestnut. *He leaves to cherish his loving memories. Three daughters; Jevante (Kito) Okunola, Palmyra, NJ; Shavona Chestnut, Conway, SC; Catilla (Diamond) Wynn, Conway, SC. Six grandchildren; Shania, Desta, Zindzi, Brendan, Kito II, Mozel. Three sisters; Annette Felton, Hertford, NC; Theora M. (Raeford) Chestnut and Margo D. Chestnut, both Longs, SC. Three brothers; Anthony (Delores) Chestnut, Patterson, NJ; Joe C. (Larissa) Chestnut, Conway, SC; Ellis B. (Patricia) Chestnut, Little River, SC; nephew, Rupert Chestnut, Longs, SC, reared in the home. One aunt, five uncles. He shared a special bond with Lytisha, Toledashea (Theontre), Antoinette and Wescott. Host of cousins and special friends; Willis Robinson, Randy Woods, and Tony Gore. Dennis shared a deep and unbreakable bond with his sister Theora, who cared for him through his illnesses. We say "Thank you and we love you dearly for caring for our Dad!"*

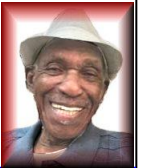


1961 - 2025



Mack Neil Gagam

Mack Neil Gagam Jr., beloved son of the late Rebecca Poinsett Gagam and Mack Gagam Sr., was born on **May 30, 1940**. He passed away peacefully at Oak View Nursing Home in Conway, South Carolina, on **July 11th, 2025**, at **6:00 AM**. Born in Murrells Inlet, South Carolina, Mack was educated in Horry County, attending Whitmore Elementary and High School. Mack was previously married to Pauline Green of Little River; SC. Pauline now resides in Durham, North Carolina, with her son, Troy Mike Gagam, and daughter-in-law, Gina Bell Gagam. *Mack leaves to cherish his memory: Children: Nathaniel Lee Brown Gagam (Trevose, PA), Troy Mike Gagam (Durham, NC), Michael Green Gagam (Lewisburg, Glenn "Mickey" Green Gagam (Arlington, TX), Keisha Denise Gagam (South Carolina) Dedra Dowel Gagam (Ft. Lauderdale, FL); Nine Grandchildren: Two Great-grandchildren: Nieces and Nephews: Many, all of whom loved and respected him deeply. Special thanks go to cousin Sean "Sherwin" Gagam and his wife Zee, who lovingly cared for Mack during his later years. Their compassion and patience, especially during the difficult days, did not go unnoticed and will forever be appreciated by the family. Mack considered Sean to be his son also.*



1940 - 2025



Edward Thomas Davis

On **Friday, July 4, 2025**, our beloved **Edward Thomas Davis**, affectionately known as "Speedy," departed this life. He was born on **September 11, 1940**, in Conway, SC to the late Willie Thomas Davis and Nellie Bernice Graham Davis. Edward was educated in the public schools of Horry County and became a proud graduate of Whittemore High School, Class of 1958. He went on to attend South Carolina State University. Edward was a faithful member of Cherry Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Conway, SC. *He leaves to cherish his memory: his loving and devoted wife of 56 years, Stella L. Davis and his two children, Edwin (Maxine) Davis of Indian Trail, NC and Tonya (Michael) Pickett of Myrtle Beach, SC; One child, Vernessa Pertell, preceded him in death. He also leaves behind three grandchildren, Myah (Kenneth) Davis and Asia Davis, both of Indian Trail, NC and Myles Pickett of Myrtle Beach, SC. Though Speedy was an only child, he also leaves behind three very special, lifelong friends who were like brothers; Dr. James Lee, Joice grate and Mr. Ralph Vaught. He also has a host of Nieces, nephews, in-laws, cousins and friends who love him and will miss him dearly.*



1940 - 2025



Freddy Lee Brown

Freddy Lee Brown was born on **May 3, 1948**, in Georgetown, South Carolina to the late Belton and Vernell Moore Brown. He attended the Horry County Public School System and graduated from Whittemore High School in 1967. He joined in matrimony with Louise Pertelle on June 30, 1979, and to that union Chenita Monique Brown was born. He departed on **July 22, 2025**, while at Angel Oaks Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. *He leaves to cherish his memories, his loving and devoted wife Louise Pertelle Brown. Two daughters Beverly Brown-Myers of Maryland and Chenita Monique Brown of Conway, SC. Three sons Stacey Grier of Connecticut, Craig Michael Pertelle of Arizona and Christopher Maurice Pertelle of Virginia. Ten grandchildren: Justin Myers-Butler, Jace Christian Myers, Stacey Grier, Jr, Tracey Grier, Shaunice Elizabeth Hamilton, William Golden, Tyrell Pertelle, Khalia McCray, Christian Pertelle and Kylas McCray. Three great-grandchildren: Bentley Austin Dillon, Tyrell Pertelle Jr. and Blair Isabella Beniquez. Two sisters Juanita Dawes and Thelma Brown. Three brothers, Calep Brown (Diane), Henry Brown, Omar Salaam (Umar), five brothers-in-law, two sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, cousins and a host of friends, including Danny Steele.*

**1948 - 2025****Gerlean Patricia Kelly**

Gerlean Patricia Kelly was born on **December 10, 1948**, in Marion, South Carolina, to the late James and Allene Roberts. She peacefully transitioned on **August 1, 2025**, in Dillon, South Carolina. Gerlean was preceded in death by her husband, Sam N. Kelly; her parents, James and Allene Roberts; her son, Henry O. Kelly (Tashema); grandsons, Emmitt Kelly and Jamil E. Kelly; brothers, James Edward Roberts and Winford Roberts (Deloris) John Roberts; and sisters, Vernell D. Segal, Rose M. Jackson, and Minister Ernestine McCullough (Jackie). *She is survived by her daughter, Deborah J. Moore (Wallace) of Marion, SC; grandchildren, Phillip Kelly (Mary) of Lagoons, Germany, Shakira M. Caesar (Bernard) of Columbia, SC, Timellia Johnson of Atlanta, GA, Mahogany J. Kelly of Bucksport, SC, Wallace D. Moore of Marion, SC, and Dajuan P. Moore of Atlanta, GA. Her great-grandchildren are Kamron Caesar, Brayden Caesar, Landon Kelly, Alarick Kelly, Armonie Kelly, Kyree Kelly, and Althea Kelly. Her legacy continues through her sisters, Bernice Powell (Arthur) of Conway, SC, Earlean Williams of Conway, SC, and Joyce A. Hamlin (Roy) of Florence, SC, along with numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and extended family.*

**1948 - 2025****Jonnie Lee Johnson**

Mr. Jonnie Lee Johnson was born on **September 23, 1955**, to the late Randolph and Anna Johnson in Horry County, South Carolina. He peacefully departed this life on **July 9, 2025**. Jonnie received his education through the Horry County School system. It was there that he met and later married the love of his life, the late Dorothy Johnson. He is preceded in death by his beloved wife, Dorothy Johnson, three brothers, and two sisters. *Jonnie leaves to cherish his memory his son, Jammie Lymont (Tiffany) Weaver; three grandchildren, Damien, Keirra, and Marquie; and two great-grandchildren, Keanu and Kalani. He is also survived by two brothers, Jonathan (Florene) Canty and Danny Johnson; and four sisters, Elsie (George) Welfare, Lillie (Reggie Bellamy) Johnson, Anna Johnson, and Toney (Eric) Taylor. He leaves behind his devoted mother-in-law, Bernice (Leroy) Huggins; three sisters-in-law, Geneva, Deloris, and Margaret; and one surviving brother-in-law, Johnnie (Deborah) Robinson. Two brothers-in-law preceded him in death. Jonnie had a special bond with his nieces Heather (Mark) Pyatt and her children, Da'wan, Lamar, and London, as well as Tasha Cobb and her son, Ayden. He will also be remembered by other nieces, nephews, extended family members, and friends.*

**1955 - 2025****Kenneth Staley, Jr.**

Born on **April 20, 1943**, **Kenneth Staley, Jr.** departed this life on **July 18, 2025** in Loris, SC at the age of 82. Kenneth was the last surviving child of Kenneth and Jeanette Staley. Educated in Horry County Public Schools, Kenneth graduated from Finklea High School. He went on to attend Morris College in Sumter, SC. Shortly after leaving college, Kenneth moved to Baltimore, MD, where he met the love of his life, Barbara Friend. Kenneth and Barbara retired to his hometown of Loris, SC in 2005. Kenneth was preceded in death by his lovely wife, Barbara Friend Staley, and his siblings: Grady Staley, Lois Buchanan, Herman Staley, Joe Staley, Geraldine Perry and James Staley. *He leaves to cherish his memory, his children: Kennethia Abdullah (Shasanta), Kenneth Daron Staley (Aisha), Kendrick Staley, Keina Staley and dear nephew Marlo Bumbray, grandchildren: Khari Lee, Kimani Lee, Ashia Abdullah, Malika Abdullah, Anaiyah Lewis; great-grandchildren: Khalil Lee, Kaleb Lee, Kehlani Lee, a devoted aunt Beatrice Meekins and a host of family, church family and friends.*

**1943 - 2025****Herman Brown, Jr.**

Herman Brown, Jr. was born on **June 19, 1944**. He departed this life on **July 24, 2025**. *He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Alice Brown, daughter, Monique McKenzie and son Rodney Brown.*

**1944 - 2025****Queenie Bell Johnson-Jones**

Queenie Bell Johnson-Jones was born on **September 30, 1930** to the late Joe and Jessie Mae Johnsonn. On **July 19, 2025**, she departed this life. She was educated in the Horry County School System. Queenie married Mack Jones. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her grandson, Kevin; sisters, Janie, Helen, Edna and Ethel and one brother, Billie Joe. *She leaves to cherish fond memories: her seven children; Cutie Bell West of Augusta Georgia, Frances (William) Parrish, Deacon Rico (Iee) Johnson, Evelyn M. Johnson, Mivhael L. (Emily) Johnson, all of Conway, SC. Pamela V. Johnson of Augusta, GA and LaSonja D. (Trey) Grace of Conway, SC; 22 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; 12 great-great-grandchildren; three sisters, Sutta Langston od Hepzibah, GA, Catherine Miller of Killeen, TX, and Reverend Doris Brazil of Hepzibah, GA; 10 nieces; 7 nephews; one special friend, Mary Langston; a host of other relatives, extended families and many friends.*

**1930 - 2025****Martha Kitty Davis**

Martha Sheral Davis (a.k.a. Kitty) 73, of Longs, SC, passed peacefully on **12 July 2025** surrounded by family. Kitty was born on **28 December 1951**, in Charlotte, NC and was preceded in death by her parents and three brothers. *She is survived by her son, Jeremy Miller of Elgin, Illinois (wife Melissa), her grandchildren Evan and Olivia, her sister Jozzett Helle of Albemarle, North Carolina, and her Nephew Richard Helle of Chambersburg, PA (wife Sonya and children Elizabeth, Nathan, Samuel, Lydia and Jeremiah).*

**1951 - 2025****Audrey Sheletta McCray-Heise**

Ms. Audrey Sheletta McCray-Heise, age 67, was born on **June 10, 1958**. She died **July 7, 2025**, in Columbia, S.C., following an illness. She was the daughter of the late Oscar and Lillie Mae Johnson-McCray. *She is survived by her children: Braylin McCray and Leanora McCray, both of Columbia, S.C.; siblings: Harold Johnson, Timothy (Sadie) Myers, Aaron McCray and Levester (Glenda) McCray, all of Conway, S.C., and Leanora Myers-Crute of Maryland, and Donna (Clyde) McCray-Shaw of North Carolina, and Bobby Allen McCray of Columbia, S.C.*

**1958 - 2025**



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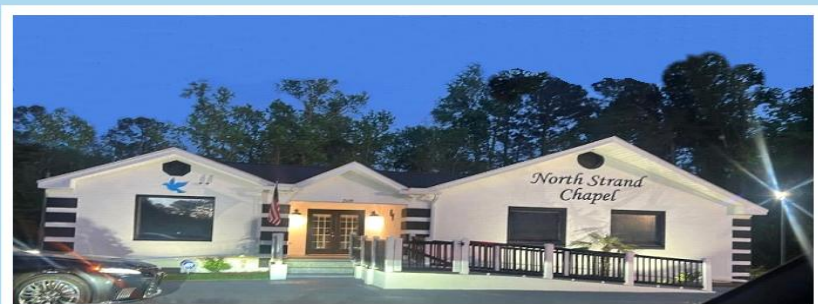
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