



Another Great Moment...

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# The ATLANTA INQUIRER

60<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY 1960 - 2020

*"To Seek Out The Truth And Report It Without Fear Or Favor"*

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# Pillars of *The Atlanta Inquirer*

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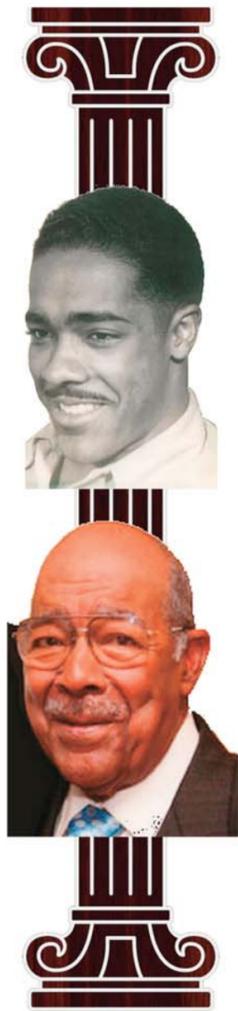
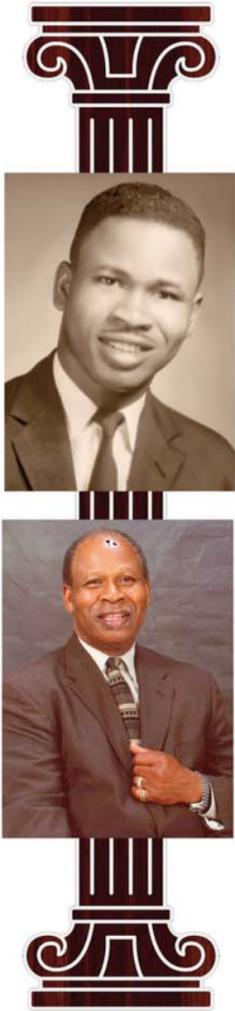


PHOTO BY JOHN B. SMITH, JR.

**BY JOHN B. SMITH, JR.**

Black student leaders and business leaders in Atlanta in the 1960s realized the necessity and positive impact that *The Inquirer* could provide to fill a void for coverage that other news outlets were not covering – that of the fast-moving and crucial campaigns of the burgeoning Atlanta Student Movement which subsequently sparked the Civil Rights Movement. During this critical time, young people, led by students from Atlanta University, Morehouse College, Spelman College, Clark College and Morris Brown College, organized sit-ins, freedom rides and other acts of nonviolent protests. Many were arrested as they protested the Jim Crow laws and customs that segregated the United States along racial lines.

Those participating in the Student Movement were barely able to attract even minimal news coverage. *The Atlanta Inquirer* began to tell the city and the world about the dangerous, courageous and history-making demonstrations. It was news that much of Atlanta and the world did not want to hear, but it was news that powerful leaders in the city and state could not ignore, thanks to *The Atlanta Inquirer*. *The Inquirer* shed light on the truth and helped lead Atlanta toward the integration of services, matriculation of minority students to traditionally “white only” schools, universities and medical schools, all without the violence that erupted in other cities across the country.

As we celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *The Atlanta Inquirer* during the month of August 2020, we devote this issue to celebrate four men, now deceased, that current publisher John B. Smith, Jr. refers to as the “Pillars of *The Atlanta Inquirer*.” These four men are, together, responsible for the success and longevity of *The Inquirer*. They served as members of *The Inquirer*’s advisory board until their deaths.

These men are John B. “J. B.” Smith, Sr.; Jesse Hill, Jr.; Herman J. “H. J.” Russell and Clinton E. Warner, Jr., MD. All of worked very closely with Black leaders like Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; Vernon Jordan; and Andrew Young in the 1960s, as they emerged in Atlanta amid struggles against discrimination and racial injustices. They worked to stage a front against segregation, racism and the discrimination of Jim Crow laws. They and others supporting the Atlanta Student Movement helped to provide bail money for those jailed for peaceful protests and sit-ins. They also helped to revolutionize housing by being catalysts in providing affordable home mortgage financing to minorities in the South. They also provided financing for many of the Civil Rights initiatives.

These and other Black businessmen, all with humble upbringings, helped set the non-confrontational tone of race relations in the Atlanta business community. They helped to ease racial tensions in Atlanta and were crucial parts of various integrated initiatives and forums in Atlanta that worked for strong race relations in the business community.

**John B. “J. B.” Smith, Sr.** was quite an ambitious young man and as the oldest child of five children, he was charged with caring for his siblings and family by chopping wood and shoveling coal to provide for his family. Born in LaGrange, Georgia, his strong work ethic was developed early while in grammar school when he won a bicycle as a newspaper deliverer for LaGrange’s *Informant* newspaper. Ironically enough, he would later be catapulted into the newspaper industry.

After graduating from Morehouse College, Smith was a math teacher and, later, department administrator in the Atlanta Public School System. This was during the turbulent period as racial integration and minority upward mobility began to unfold in the southern states. While teaching, he joined the staff of *The Inquirer* in February 1961 as a part-time advertising salesman, just months after *The Inquirer*’s founding.

Smith quickly became the Advertising Manager, then Vice President, and later Publisher and Chief Executive Officer.

Smith was appointed to many boards of directors in business and he provided good, sound leadership in every instance. He was named “Young Man of the Year” in Business and selected as one of twenty-five “City Shapers” in Atlanta Magazine. He was the recipient of the Morehouse College Alumni Award in the areas of Business, Georgia Department of Labor Black History Achievers Awards in Journalism, and was appointed in 1997 by the Mayor of Atlanta to a task force of the city’s Renaissance Program dedicated to “Building an Even Better Atlanta.” He was noted as one of Atlanta’s Most Influential in the 2004 Collector’s Edition of Who’s Who in Black Atlanta.

He represented *The Atlanta Inquirer* at the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce and the first Business Group of the Community Relations Commission. Smith also served as the Chairman of the *National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA)*, also known as *The Black Press of America*, which recently celebrated its 80th year in 2020 as an organization of several African-American

publications in the United States. Smith and *The Inquirer* were active in the *NNPA* since the early 1960s.

In 1960, **Jesse Hill, Jr.** quickly became a part of *The Atlanta Inquirer* newspaper team, advocating the Black voice and the voice of Black collegiates at the local Black colleges. Hill supported the Black Student Movement which began the drive for the civil rights movement. Within weeks, Hill became president and publisher and remained in that position until 1985, when publisher John B. Smith, Sr. took over the reins.

Hill was born in St. Louis, Missouri and, yet, was a tireless servant, advocate and champion for the City of Atlanta and its business community. His humble beginnings revolved around assisting his mother with their local Urban League and his grandfather who sold wood and coal in the winter and ice and watermelons in the summer. Hill volunteered for both the Urban League and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

After graduating from Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri with a bachelor’s degree in mathematics and physics and the University of Michigan at the Ross School of Business with a master of business administration, he moved to Atlanta, initially living at the Butler Street YMCA, the headquarters of Atlanta’s Black leadership during that period. The former “Butler Street” where the YMCA is located – between John Wesley Dobbs and Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive – was renamed in Hill’s honor in 2001 by the City of Atlanta.

Hill joined the Atlanta Life Insurance Company in 1949 as an actuary. At that time, he was the second Black actuary in the country. In 1973, he was elected president and chief executive officer, becoming the company’s third president and the first not to be a family member of Alonzo Herndon, Atlanta Life Insurance Company’s

founder. He served as chairman, for over twenty years, until his retirement in 1995. During his leadership, Atlanta Life became the largest Black-owned life insurance company in the United States.

The Hungry Club Forum was an initiative that started at the Butler Street YMCA. It was a place where white politicians could meet out of the public eye with local Black leaders, who were excluded from many of the city’s civic organizations. Through the Hungry Club and Butler Street YMCA, Hill and other Black leaders made connections with key city and state political leaders. Hill ran political campaigns for Maynard Jackson, first Black mayor of Atlanta, as well as for Congressman and later United Nations Ambassador Andrew Young.

Hill was instrumental in the formation of the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA), being a founding board member of MARTA. He served as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Non-Violent Social Change for over 15 years and also chaired the local NAACP. He was a key player in bringing the 1996 Olympic Games to the City of Atlanta and subsequently served as a member of the Board of Directors for the 1996 Olympic Games.

In 1977, Hill was the first Black president (now called the chairman) of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce (now called the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce). During his term, he worked with chamber members and government and business leaders to raise Atlanta’s profile regionally, nationally and internationally. He participated in several economic trade missions to Belgium, France, Germany and Switzerland, and also accompanied President Jimmy Carter on a trade mission to Nigeria.

He was also the first Black member of the Georgia Board of Regents and the first Black member of the board of directors of the Rich’s Department Store.

He led efforts to fully integrate the University System of Georgia; to increase Black voter registration numbers; and to expand Black access to affordable mortgages. Hill and Atlanta Life Insurance Company are given credit for increasing Black access to affordable home-mortgage financing in Georgia, Alabama, Texas, and Florida.

He helped to desegregate Atlanta Public Schools, and was involved in the desegregation of the University System of Georgia. In 1960, Hill, along with other young Black leaders of the Atlanta Committee for Cooperative Action, including Grace Towns Hamilton and Whitney Young, produced a survey of Atlanta’s Black population entitled “A Second Look: The Negro Citizen in Atlanta.” This document challenged the predominant belief in Atlanta’s white community that the city was a shining beacon for racial harmony in the South, “the City Too Busy to Hate.” As a member of the NAACP’s education committee, Hill began recruiting Black students to challenge segregation in Georgia’s colleges and universities. He met with students Hamilton E. Holmes and Charlayne Hunter to discuss plans to desegregate Georgia State College (later Georgia State University). At Holmes’s request, however, the plans were modified and efforts were focused instead at the University of Georgia (UGA) in Athens, Georgia. Holmes and Hunter were ultimately the first two Black undergraduate students admitted to University of Georgia (UGA). In addition to UGA, Hill is known for helping and leading the front to desegregate other institutions in Georgia, including Georgia Tech.

**Herman J. “H. J.” Russell**, affectionately known as H. J. to family and friends, was a renowned business entrepreneur, civic leader and philanthropist. His is a success story definitely worth noting not only in the annals of Black History but also in American History.

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# SPORTS

## Hawks Talon GC Victorious Over Heat Check Gaming In Final Game

ATLANTA—In front of an international viewing audience on August 7th, Hawks Talon Gaming Club, the official NBA 2K League affiliate of the Atlanta Hawks, beat Heat Check Gaming, the official affiliate of the Miami Heat, in two games as part of a best-of-three series. The results of the rounds were 68-59 and 79-70. As a result, Hawks Talon finished the regular season with a record of 7-9, highlighted by the team winning three of their last four games. Next week, Hawks Talon will compete in THE TICKET powered by AT&T, the NBA 2K League's third and final in-season tournament, for a chance to earn the 10th and final spot in the 2020 NBA 2K League Playoffs.

"We are proud to finish the regular season on a high note winning three of our last four games against some great competition," said Hawks Talon GC Team Manager and Head Coach Wesley Acuff. "Now, it is time for us to get locked in on winning THE TICKET. We will take what we've learned from the entire season and apply it to the tournament next week as we aim to earn a spot in the 2020 NBA 2K League Playoffs."

In the first game, Hawks Talon's BP (Michael Diaz-Cruz) led all scorers with 41 points. He also dished out eight assists and picked up two steals. LEE (Lee Lamb) added to his streak of double-double performances after totaling 12 points and 10 rebounds. LEE also added four assists and a game-high four blocks. Atlanta native ARKELE (Derrion Elmore) added six points, a career-high eight rebounds and four assists. MRSTYLEZ (Andrew Valle) tallied seven points, three rebounds and three steals, while KEL (Mykel Wilson) contributed with two points and two rebounds.

In the second game, BP recorded a double-double performance after scoring 27 points and dishing out a game-high 14 assists. Atlanta's own KEL scored 23 points, while MRSTYLEZ contributed with 16 points and five steals. LEE totaled 10 points, 15 rebounds and five steals. LEE's performance brings his franchise record for double-double performances in a single season to a total of 20. Rounding out the group was ARKELE who finished with three points, four rebounds, two steals and two blocks.

## Hawks Talon GC Hosts Stream With Billboard's Record-Breaking No. 1 Emerging Artist NLE Choppa

ATLANTA—On August 11th, Hawks Talon GC, the official NBA 2K League affiliate of the Atlanta Hawks, hosted a special livestream on the team's official Twitch channel. As part of the stream, Hawks Talon's Team Manager and Head Coach Wesley Acuff was joined by NLE Choppa, Billboard's record-breaking No. 1 emerging artist, who just last week unveiled his major-label debut, "Top Shotta", via No Love Entertainment / Warner Records.

"It was great to play NBA 2K with NLE Choppa this evening," said Acuff. "We were grateful to have an opportunity to showcase who he is as he discussed unique insights to his new album, his creative process and the game of basketball."

NLE Choppa, who hails from Memphis and was just selected to XXL's 2020 Freshman Class, mentioned how his Jamaican heritage inspired the album title for "Top Shotta". The name signifies his rapid rise amongst a new wave of heavily streamed artists, and an undeniable breakout year surpassing more than 3 billion streams. As part of the discussion, NLE Choppa, a high school graduate as of this summer, spoke to the importance of setting goals beyond the music industry.

"NBA 2K is one of my favorite video games," said NLE Choppa. "Who wouldn't jump at the opportunity to play with Coach Acuff? He's a legend, and I had so much fun!"

To stay up to date on Hawks Talon Gaming Club, visit HawksTalonGC.gg and follow the team's social channels on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

## 2020 Atlanta Walk To End Alzheimer's Kicks Off With Virtual Pep Rally

ATLANTA, GA—The Alzheimer's Association is inviting Atlanta and surrounding area residents to join the Atlanta Virtual Pep Rally set for Thursday, August 20 at 12:00 pm. This inspirational virtual event will allow past, present and future participants to learn more about the Atlanta Walk to End Alzheimer's that will take place on September 26, the world's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research.

The Atlanta Walk to End Alzheimer's which attracts hundreds each year to raise awareness and funds to fight Alzheimer's disease will look different this year. Instead of hosting a large gathering, the Alzheimer's Association is encouraging participants to walk as individuals or in small groups on sidewalks, tracks and trails across Atlanta.

Alzheimer's Association staff and volunteer event committee will be on the webinar to answer any questions about the new Walk—Re-imagined, and provide interested community members and local businesses with materials and tools to start their team.

More than 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease—the sixth-leading cause of death in the United States. Additionally, more than 16 million family members and friends provide care to people living with Alzheimer's and other dementias. In Georgia alone, there are more than 150,000 people living with the disease and 540,000 caregivers.

To register for the Atlanta Walk to End Alzheimer's Virtual Pep Rally, contact Christine Curtin at clcurtin@alz.org or 404-728-6058.

To register a team and receive the latest updates on this year's Walk to End Alzheimer's, visit: georgiawalk.org or call 800-272-3900.

*The Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's is the world's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research. Since 1989, the Alzheimer's Association® mobilized millions of Americans in the Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk®; now the Alzheimer's Association is continuing to lead the way with Walk to End Alzheimer's. Together, we can end Alzheimer's.*

*The Alzheimer's Association is a worldwide voluntary health organization dedicated to Alzheimer's care, support and research. Its mission is to lead the way to end Alzheimer's and all other dementia—by accelerating global research, driving risk reduction and early detection, and maximizing quality care and support. Visit alz.org or call 800.272.3900.*

## WNBA, Twitter Renew Partnership to Stream Regular Season Games in 2020

NEW YORK—The WNBA and Twitter today announced the schedule of 10 live regular-season WNBA games, which will be streamed on Twitter during the 2020 season as part of an extension of their partnership, marking the fourth consecutive year that the league's games will be available on the platform. The games will be available via @WNBA.

As part of its efforts to bring fans closer to live game action, the WNBA will stream a unique broadcast on Twitter hosted by alternative commentators—including basketball analysts LaChina Robinson and Ros Gold-Onwude. This live execution will be exclusive to Twitter and includes integration of Twitter content within the digital broadcast, allowing for direct fan interaction with the commentators.

"Twitter continues to be an integral part of the WNBA's media landscape and providing innovation on their platform during this unique season will elevate fan engagement to a whole new level," said WNBA Commissioner Cathy Engelbert. "This continued partnership enables our passionate supporters and fans to connect directly to our game and to experience WNBA basketball from wherever they are."

Twitter's schedule began Wednesday, Aug. 12, when Sue Bird, Breanna Stewart and the Seattle Storm took on Elizabeth Williams, Chennedy Carter and the Atlanta Dream at 10 p.m. ET. It includes seven weekend games, highlighted by a clash of three former league MVPs on Wednesday Aug. 19, at 10 p.m. ET when Diana Taurasi and the Phoenix Mercury face Candace Parker, Nneka Ogumike and the Los Angeles Sparks and a rematch of 2019 Finals participants on Sunday, Aug. 30, when Connecticut meets the defending champion Washington Mystics and reigning Finals MVP Emma Meesseman at 4 p.m. ET.

This year's schedule concludes with back to back days of games featuring the New York Liberty at the Phoenix Mercury on Saturday, Sept. 5, at 8 p.m. ET and Dallas Wings at the Washington Mystics on Sunday, Sept. 6 at 4 p.m. ET. In addition to live games, Twitter will also run WNBA highlights and features throughout the season.

"WNBA fans on Twitter are passionate about their hoops—and these hyper-engaged fans continue to fuel an increased popularity of the league," said TJ Adeshola, Head of Sports Partnerships, Twitter. "The W has been a top sports partner of ours for many years and we're pumped to offer live WNBA games, with a Twitter twist, to basketball fans across the globe. Whether it's a smooth step-back 3-pointer or compelling commentary on social justice, one thing is for sure—the conversation around WNBA players, teams and their fans is happening on Twitter."

The league's 24th season will take place in Bradenton, Florida at IMG Academy, the Official Home of the 2020 WNBA season, and will include a 22-game schedule for each of its 12 teams. In addition to Twitter, WNBA games will also be available this season on ABC, ESPN, ESPN2, CBS Television Network, CBS Sports Network, NBA TV and WNBA League Pass, as well as select regional sports networks. Regular-season play is currently scheduled to conclude on Saturday, Sept. 12, and be followed by a traditional playoffs and Finals format.

### 2020 WNBA Schedule: Live Games on Twitter

Date	Game	Time (ET)
Wednesday, Aug. 19	Phoenix Mercury at Los Angeles Sparks	10:00 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 21	Los Angeles Sparks at Atlanta Dream	7:00 p.m.
Sunday, Aug. 23	Atlanta Dream at Minnesota Lynx	4:00 p.m.
Sunday, Aug. 30	Connecticut Sun at Washington Mystics	4:00 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 3	Las Vegas Aces at Connecticut Sun	8:00 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 4	Chicago Sky at Washington Mystics	7:00 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 5	New York Liberty at Phoenix Mercury	8:00 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 6	Dallas Wings at Washington Mystics	4:00 p.m.

*The WNBA is a bold, progressive basketball league that stands for the power of women. Featuring 12 teams, the W is a unique sports property that combines competition and entertainment with a commitment to diversity and inclusion and social responsibility. Through its world-class athletes, the in-game fan experience, TV and digital broadcasts, digital and social content and community outreach programs, the league celebrates and elevates the game of basketball and the culture around it.*

*In 2020, the WNBA and the Women's National Basketball Players Association signed a groundbreaking eight-year CBA that charts a new course for women's basketball—and women's sports overall—with a focus on increased player compensation, improvements to the player experience, expanded career development opportunities and resources specifically tailored to the female professional athlete. Key elements of the agreement are supported through the league's new partnership platform, WNBA Changemakers. Inaugural WNBA Changemakers include AT&T, Deloitte and Nike. For more information, visit WNBA.com.*

*Twitter is what's happening in the world and what people are talking about right now. From breaking news and entertainment to sports, politics, and everyday interests, see every side of the story. Join the open conversation. Watch live streaming events. Available in more than 40 languages around the world, the service can be accessed via twitter.com, an array of mobile devices, and SMS. For more information, please visit about.twitter.com, follow @Twitter, and download both the Twitter and Periscope apps at twitter.com/download and periscope.tv.*



PHOTO COURTESY OF ATLANTA TRACK CLUB

## One Team ATL 5K Raises \$51,000 for National Center for Civil & Human Rights

ATLANTA—Beloved Atlanta sports mascots Freddy Falcon, Harry the Hawk and Bloop from the Atlanta Braves united for the first time in many months on Friday to present a \$51,000 check to the National Center for Civil and Human Rights. The donation comes from monies raised through the One Team ATL 5K, a virtual race held last weekend and organized by the Atlanta Braves, Atlanta Dream, Atlanta Falcons, Atlanta Hawks, Atlanta United FC and Atlanta Track Club.

On Saturday, July 11 and Sunday, July 12 more than 3,100 runners from 42 states and three countries ran 3.1 miles to celebrate Atlanta's hometown sports scene and raise awareness for social justice education. The money raised will benefit the Center's Campaign for Equal Dignity.

"The One Team ATL 5K expresses the deepest values of the National Center for Civil and Human Rights—bringing diverse people together to support justice and equality," said Jill Savitt, President and CEO of the National Center for Civil and Human Rights. "We offer our thanks to the Atlanta Track Club and all of Atlanta's

hometown teams for bringing our community together to support civil and human rights and the dignity of all people."

Atlanta Track Club organized and planned the event with representatives from each of the professional sports teams. Participants received their race number and T-shirt in the mail, along with a custom playlist from each participating team, a platform to upload and compare results and a congratulations video after they completed their race. Runners and walkers used #OneTeamATL5K to share race photos and memories on social media.

"It's been too long since Atlanta has come together for a race," said Rich Kenah, Atlanta Track Club. "And although we couldn't all run with each other, the One Team ATL 5K united this community around an important cause and Atlanta Track Club's vision of a healthier Atlanta through running and walking."

The National Center for Civil and Human Rights has been closed to the public since March 13 due to the pandemic. However, the Campaign for Equal Dignity offers free opportunities to discuss social justice, the history of

racism in the United States and provides tools for anti-racism initiatives.

*Atlanta Track Club is a nonprofit committed to creating an active and healthy Atlanta. Through running and walking, Atlanta Track Club motivates, inspires and engages the community to enjoy a healthier lifestyle.*

*With more than 30,000 members, Atlanta Track Club is the second largest running organization in the United States. In addition to the AJC Peachtree Road Race (peachtreerace.org)—the largest 10K in the world, the Publix Atlanta Marathon, PNC Atlanta 10 Miler and Invesco QQQ Thanksgiving Day Half Marathon, Atlanta Track Club directs more than 30 events per year. Through the support of its members and volunteers, Atlanta Track Club also maintains a number of community initiatives including organizing and promoting the Kilometer Kids youth running program to metro Atlanta youth, honoring high school cross country and track and field athletes through Atlanta Track Club's All-Metro Banquets and supporting the Grady Bicycle EMT program. For more information on Atlanta Track Club, visit atlantatrackclub.org.*

## Atlanta Public Schools Weekly News Tip Sheet

The following is a list of events, programs, accomplishments and/or initiatives occurring in Atlanta Public Schools (APS).

### Update on Atlanta Public Schools' Progress Toward Day One: August 24

**APS Begins Meal Distribution Program, Families Must Pre-Order Meals by Midnight on August 17 for Delivery on Day One, August 24** - APS began providing meals for all children in the community on Monday, August 10, and will provide them again on Monday, August 17 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Five-day meal bags with five breakfast meals and five lunch meals will be distributed at the 12 schools listed below. You can get those meals via walk up or drive-thru or on these APS bus routes:

- Dr. NW **BEST Academy/CSKYWLA**, 1190 Northwest
- SW **Bunche Middle School**, 1925 Niskey Lake Rd.,
- Dr., NW **Carver High School**, 55 McDonough Blvd., SE
- Hollowell Pkwy., NE **Douglass High School**, 225 Hamilton E Holmes
- wood Ave., SE **John Lewis Middle School**, 1890 Donald Lee
- SW **King Middle School**, 545 Hill St., SE
- SE **Maynard H. Jackson High School**, 801 Glen-
- wood Ave., SE **Mays High School**, 3450 Benjamin E. Mays Dr.,
- SE **Phoenix Academy (formerly Alonzo Crim High School)**, 256 Clifton St., SE
- SE **South Atlanta High School**, 800 Hutchens Rd.,
- SW **Tuskegee Airmen Global Academy**, 1626 West-
- haven Dr., SW
- SW **Washington High School**, 45 Whitehouse Dr.,

Starting August 24, all APS families must pre-order meals for each week through the MySchoolBucks online pre-order system. Those orders must be placed no later than one week before distribution. For example, you must order your meals by midnight on Monday, August 17 for bus delivery or curbside pickup at one of our school sites on Monday, August 24, the first day of school, between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Also, these 21 APS schools will participate in the Federal Eligibility Application (FEA) program this school year, which offers free and reduced meals to qualifying students. All students at FEA schools must apply to qualify for free or reduced meals by completing the online FEA form.

**District Hosted Two Fireside Chats, August 13**— Superintendent Dr. Lisa Herring and other senior administrators held two fireside chats on Thursday, August 13, focused on high schools and early education.

The high school fireside chat was at 5 p.m., on

Zoom at . The fireside chat on early education began at 6 p.m., on Zoom at . It will provide more details about the District's Take Flight: APS Kinder Experience.

For children entering kindergarten in the fall, APS is excited to offer a high-quality, hands-on, and interactive experience that helps the District's most curious and creative learners build self-esteem, social skills, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. After all, an early start is key to a brighter future. It is an opportunity to learn more about enrollment and the day-in-the-life of an APS kindergartner! The District's committed and talented teachers have developed an engaging online learning experience for young learners for the 2020-2021 school year.

Parents and caregivers should register their kindergartners for school today at <https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/kinderenroll>, and join the fireside chat on Thursday at 6 p.m. on Zoom (listed above) for a one-hour session designed to help families and children transition into a virtual kindergarten classroom.

Spanish interpretation will be available in the Zoom room for both events and they will both be broadcast on the District's (@AtlantaPublicSchools).

**Important Information for Parents/Caregivers: Student Registration Process is Ongoing**— Parents and caregivers are reminded that students should register when they are new to the District, entering grades K, 6, or 9 and whenever a change of address occurs. If none of these are applicable, and the school has up-to-date and accurate contact information, there is no need to register.

However, those needing to complete the enrollment process may do so conveniently online at [www.atlantak12.ga.us/enrollment](http://www.atlantak12.ga.us/enrollment). APS will finalize enrollments via email, so parents will not have to visit their child's school in person. If additional information is needed, APS will contact to the parent/caregiver.

**APS Facebook in Spanish**— APS recently launched a Facebook page for its Spanish-speaking families. This page will further enhance District efforts to provide families with educational and wellness resources in their native language. APS is excited that this page will allow its World Languages team to connect with families in new ways. Learn more at <https://www.facebook.com/Atlanta-Public-Schools-Espanol-213281546756369/>

*Atlanta Public Schools is one of the largest school districts in the state of Georgia, serving approximately 52,000 students across 87 schools. The District is organized into nine K-12 clusters with 58 traditional schools, 18 charter schools, six partner schools, two citywide single-gender academies and three alternative programs. To learn more about Atlanta Public Schools, follow us on social media—Twitter (@apsupdate), Facebook (Atlanta Public Schools), and Instagram (apsupdate)—or visit us online at [www.atlantapublicschools.us](http://www.atlantapublicschools.us).*

## APS Launches Special Website for Opening of the 2020-2021 School Year

ATLANTA— Atlanta Public Schools (APS) has launched a new website with information that will help parents and caregivers prepare for a strong Day One as the District moves closer to the opening of the 2020-2021 school year, August 24.

The special site helps connect visitors to District resources and provides information on academics, nutrition, technology, and much more. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to visit [www.atlantapublicschools.us/backtoschool](http://www.atlantapublicschools.us/backtoschool) to learn more about Day One, and to visit often for new updates.

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## Georgia Power Prepares for Storms

ATLANTA—As Tropical Storm Isaias tracks along the southeastern coastline, including toward Georgia, Georgia Power is actively monitoring the storm, adjusting plans for response and coordinating with emergency partners.

Georgia Power reminds customers to keep safety first during hurricane season and offers the following storm tips:

**\* Before a Storm:** Know your risks of storm surge and tropical storm or hurricane strength winds. Check your emergency kit, unplug major appliances and charge cell phones in case you lose power.

**\* During a Storm:** Take safe shelter inside a sturdy building away from windows and doors. Avoid contact with conductors of electricity - appliances, metal objects and water.

**\* After a Storm:** Never touch any downed or low-hanging wire, including telephone or TV wires that touch a power line. Never pull tree limbs off of power lines yourself or enter areas with debris or downed trees as downed power lines may be buried in wreckage.

### Tools You Can Use to Prepare for Severe Weather Year-round

**\* Outage Alerts**—Subscribe to the free Georgia Power Outage Alert service to receive personalized notifications and updates via text message.

**\* Outage & Storm Center**—Available at [www.georgiapower.com/storm](http://www.georgiapower.com/storm), customers can visit this site to sign up for Outage Alerts, report and check the status of outages, and access useful safety tips and information. Customers can report and check the status of an outage 24 hours a day by contacting Georgia Power at 888-891-0938.

**\* Outage Map**—Housed within the Outage & Storm Center, Georgia Power's interactive Outage Map provides near real-time information, allowing users to see where outages are occurring across the state and track estimated restoration times.

**\* Georgia Power Mobile App**—Download the Georgia Power mobile app for Apple and Android devices to access storm and outage information on the go.

**\* @GeorgiaPower on Twitter**—Follow @GeorgiaPower on Twitter for storm tips, outage updates, customer service and more.

**\* Emergency Plan and Kit**—Visit the Georgia Power storm page for information on how to build a family emergency plan and emergency supply kit.

### Storm Response Pandemic Preparations

Georgia Power constantly monitors changing weather conditions and is prepared to respond to service interruptions that might occur because of severe weather while taking proactive actions including special "distancing" and other precautions to help protect customers and employees from the spread of the virus.

The company's investments in Smart Grid technology and increased automation in recent years mean an increased ability to more quickly isolate outages to smaller numbers of customers and reroute power remotely for improved reliability. In addition, the company's comprehensive pandemic plans help ensure readiness of the critical personnel and facilities necessary to continue providing the safe and reliable energy customers expect and deserve.

In the field, the power restoration process includes these key steps:

**\* Assessing Condition**—Responding crews—or in major storms, damage assessment teams' work to identify trouble spots and the resources needed to fix them, which could involve coming onto customers' property. Crews will employ appropriate distancing efforts and customers are asked to keep children and pets indoors and maintain safe distances from crew members as well.

**\* Making Repairs**—Georgia Power crews focus on repairs that return power to the greatest number of customers in the least amount of time.

See Storms, Page 5



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GEORGIA JUSTICE PROJECT

## Governor Brian Kemp Signs Bipartisan Second Chance Bill

ATLANTA— Governor Kemp has signed legislation that will provide a process for rehabilitated Georgians to move beyond their criminal history by restricting and sealing certain conviction records – a process most states call expungement. SB 288 benefits not only the individuals who have demonstrated they are rehabilitated yet continue to face barriers to economic self-sufficiency and stability, but also protects employers from liability and ensures they can hire the candidate most qualified for the job. Due to both the individual benefits and the benefits to Georgia employers SB 288 had a broad base of support from community organizations and businesses.

**SB 288**, authored by Sen. Tonya Anderson (D-Lithonia) and guided through the House by Rep. Houston Gaines (R-Athens), received unanimous support in both the House and the Senate and garnered support from advocacy groups across the political spectrum. The Georgia Justice Project (GJP), leading the Second Chance for Georgia Campaign, and the Metro Atlanta Chamber (MAC) were key advocates for the passage of the legislation.

Georgia Justice Project has served Georgians who have come into contact with the criminal justice system for 35 years and was heavily involved in drafting the last major revision of Georgia's expungement law in 2013, which allowed non-convictions to be removed from someone's record. According to GJP Executive Director Douglas B. Ammar, "GJP was happy to work closely with the Metro Atlanta Chamber and the business community on this effort to expand second chances for the 4.3 million Georgians who have a criminal history and have been convicted. GJP has seen firsthand the many challenges our clients face due to their record, and the negative impact on families and communities. We are grateful that Georgia businesses recognized the importance of removing barriers to equity and economic mobility, in addition to the benefits of this change for employers and the Georgia economy."

The Metro Atlanta Chamber, which represents businesses, colleges and universities, and nonprofits across the 29 counties that make up the metro area region, orches-

trated tremendous support from the business community. Companies that wrote a letter of support include many of the state's largest companies like Coca-Cola, Home Depot, McKenney's, Newell Brands, and Verizon. Employers voiced their support for the bill as it provides significant liability protection for employers who engage in second chance hiring. Georgia employers reported that their counterparts in other states could hire applicants with a record as those individuals were able to get certain records expunged in those states. SB 288 adds Georgia to the list of now 42 states that allow rehabilitated individuals to access economic, housing, and educational opportunities by expunging certain convictions after a number of crime-free years.

Amy Lancaster-King, Director of Workforce Development, Metro Atlanta Chamber, adds, "Helping returning citizens gain employment to fill open positions is good for business and for the community. Removing barriers to employment grows tax dollars, reduces crime and recidivism costs, and helps our economy and communities thrive. The Metro Atlanta Chamber is proud to be part of the team that helped move the Second Chances bill forward."

SB 288 will become effective January 1, 2021 and will allow rehabilitated individuals to petition the court to have certain misdemeanor convictions restricted and sealed four years after the completion of their sentence, provided they have no new convictions and no pending charges. Certain offenses would be excluded from restriction and sealing, including sex crimes, crimes against children, family violence and DUI. The bill also allows individuals who have received a Pardon from the State Board of Pardons and Paroles to petition the court to restrict and seal felony convictions as long as they were not serious violent felonies or sex offenses. The bill provides significant liability protection for employers who engage in second chance hiring. Records remain available to law enforcement and prosecutors, and certain restricted charges remain available for employers who serve vulnerable populations, including children, the elderly, and people suffering from mental illness.

# EDITORIALS

## Guest Editorials

### To Be Equal BY MARC H. MORIAL

#### Harlem, the Nation's Center of African American Culture, Will Be The National Urban League's New Headquarters

"Harlem was home; was where we belonged; where we knew and were known in return; where we felt most alive; where, if need be, somebody had to take us in. Harlem defined us, claiming our consciousness and, I suspect, our unconsciousness." —Actor and activist Ossie Davis

In 1904, a few years before George Edmund Haines and Ruth Standish Baldwin founded the National Urban League, Black New Yorkers pushed out of other neighborhoods began moving into Harlem. They were soon followed by a flood of migrants escaping the violence and terrorism of the Jim Crow South. The convergence of ambitious, motivated Black people from around the country with employment opportunities created by World War I exploded into the Harlem Renaissance.

With it, came the courage "to express our individual dark-skinned selves without fear or shame," as Langston Hughes put it.

Mindful of this profound legacy and storied past, we at the National Urban League could not be prouder to announce a historic building project that will keep us in the city where we were founded, while enhancing the economic and cultural revitalization of Harlem.

The Urban League Empowerment Center, on 125th Street between Street between Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Boulevard and Lenox Avenue, will include the National Urban League's headquarters, the Urban Civil Rights Museum Experience and the National Urban League Institute for Race, Equity and Justice—along with affordable housing, office space and retail space.

The \$242 million project is one of the largest and most significant building projects in Harlem in 50 years. As a legacy civil rights and social justice organization, the National Urban League has worked for more than a century to strengthen and vitalize urban neighborhoods through community investment. I'm extremely proud that we are able to put those same guiding principles to work with our own future home.

Over the last several years, the National Urban League has turned down offers to relocate to other cities, including Philadelphia, Washington, Atlanta, Chicago, and others. New York City is where we were born, and I am proud that New York City is where we will stay. I am even more excited about the neighborhood economic development the building project represents.

The National Urban League has a long history of supporting the cultural and artistic pulse of Harlem. Opportunity, for many years our official monthly publication, employed Harlem Renaissance writers, publishing their poetry and short stories and promoting African-American literature through articles, reviews, and literary prizes.

With affordable office space for non-profit organizations like One Hundred Black Men of New York, the United Negro College Fund New York, and the Harlem-based Jazzmobile, the Empowerment Center will be a hub and a catalyst for enterprise, creativity, activism and advocacy.

We have been intentional about supporting minority-owned businesses, partnering with Black-owned BRP Companies, and committing to 30% of construction contracts for minority-owned businesses. Prominent African-American professionals, including real estate attorney Charles J. Hamilton, Jr., of Windels Marx and Dabar Development Partners founder and CEO Dawanna Williams have had lead roles in the project.

The project would not be possible without the wholehearted support of New York Governor Andrew Cuomo and his extraordinary effort to align state agencies and private sector partners to move the project forward. We also owe a debt of gratitude to New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, former Mayor Michael Bloomberg, State Assemblywoman Inez E. Dickens, State Senator Brian Benjamin, City Councilman Bill Perkins, and Margaret Anadu, head of the Urban Investment Group at Goldman Sachs.

The Urban Civil Rights Museum Experience will be New York's first museum dedicated to civil rights and one of the first in the nation to focus on the history of civil rights in the North. It also includes below-market office space for community groups and civic organizations, as well as 170 affordable housing units to be constructed with support from New York State Homes and Community Renewal.

We look forward to formal groundbreaking in the near future and completion by late 2023.

The project is supported by Empire State Development, Homes and Community Renewal, and Harlem Community Development Corporation. The development is being led by BRP, L+M Development Partners, Taconic Partners, The Prusik Group, and Dabar Development. Private funding is being invested by Goldman Sachs Urban Investment Group, Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone Development Corporation, Red Stone Equity Partners, and Santander Bank, N.A. Additional partners include New York State Office of General Services, New York City Economic Development Corporation and Settlement Housing Fund, Inc.

Marc H. Morial is President and CEO of the National Urban League.

### Another Great Moment...

BY REVEREND DR. OTIS MOSS, JR.

When President Obama won the nomination and was elected President of the U.S.A., we witnessed a new moment in American and world history. While we were rejoicing, the forces of evil and racism doubled their effort to mar, scar, demean, disclaim and defame this great moment in world history.

Two of the vicious characters in the above scandalous process were and remain Donald Trump and Mitch McConnell. They were not alone. There was an army of wrong doers and racist pandemic instigators and actors working night and day, seeking to stain and destroy this victory.

These forces are at work this very hour. They prefer Putin over democracy. They prefer the KKK over Christ. They prefer the methods of Hitler over the majesty of justice, love, truth and the "more excellent way." They prefer moments of chaos over bright mornings of faith, hope, love and human rights.

It is my firm belief and fervent commitment that we must go all the way with Biden and Harris. It is the way to slay the dragon of injustice.

This is another great moment, another awesome opportunity in American and world history. The Joe Biden/Kamala Harris ticket can and should save our democracy. But we must vote as if the future of America is at stake. I believe it is.

Dear God, "Crown thy good with Brotherhood and Sisterhood and Childhood loving care, from sea to shining sea."



### Academic Research Can't End the Pandemic Without Private Backin

BY JON SODERSTROM, Ph.D.

Scientists at Yale University and scores more research institutions nationwide are working around the clock to identify potential avenues of diagnosing, preventing, and treating COVID-19. Many of these projects are backed by the federal government's National Institutes of Health. Any one of them could lead to a game-changing insight that helps end this pandemic.

For any of these efforts to succeed, however, it will take more than government-funded laboratory research. The reality is that in the United States, medical progress depends on partnerships between academic scientists and bio-

pharmaceutical firms willing to risk millions to test whether a promising insight actually pans out.

The process of drug discovery and development in the United States follows a typical pattern: University researchers apply for federal grants to study basic scientific questions, such as how the novel virus infects a cell. If they discover something that could have an application, they may file an application to protect their intellectual property. This intellectual property can then be licensed to a private company that commits to investing the time, expense, and expertise required to try and translate the nascent discovery into a safe and effective therapy.

Bringing a new medicine would be nearly impossible without this structure. Clinical trials alone can cost hundreds of millions of dollars and take years to complete. And only about 12 percent of drugs that enter phase I clinical trials make their way to FDA approval.

University researchers have expert knowledge of the science they do in their labs. They do not typically have the expertise and institutional knowledge required to shepherd new drugs through the FDA's complex approval process. That's another benefit of the collaborative model. Private pharmaceutical companies bring such expertise, as well as facilities to produce new

technologies at scale while maintaining the highest standards of safety and efficacy. This private-sector expertise and capacity enables new medicines to get to patients as quickly as possible. The same can't be said of either universities or the federal government. After all, universities are devoted to the creation and dissemination of knowledge—not to the intricacies of pharmaceutical supply chains and FDA regulations.

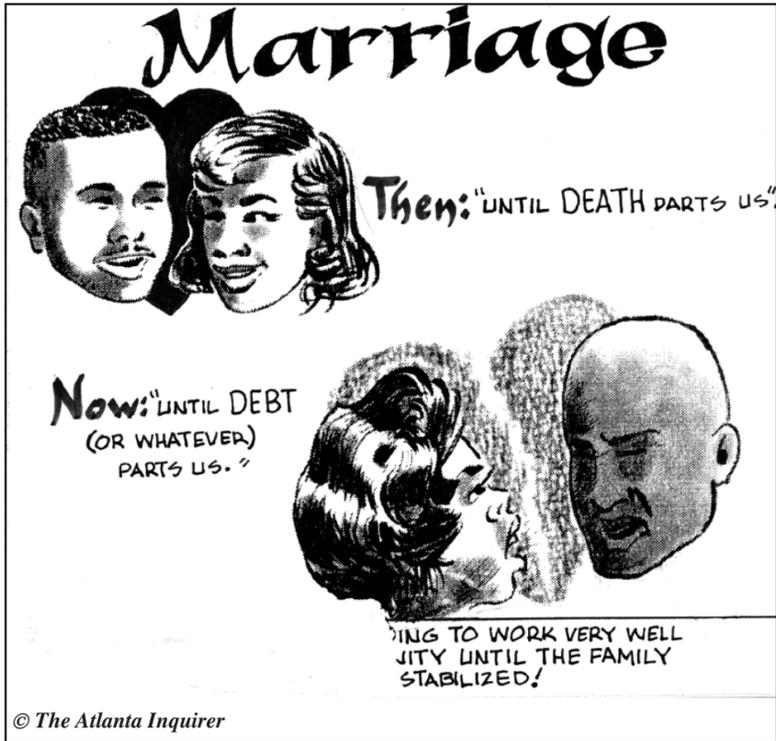
This model has yielded breakthrough therapies, like Taxol, a medicine for breast and ovarian cancer, and Tovaxin, which treats multiple sclerosis. Under license from Yale, the pharmaceutical company Bristol-Myers Squibb developed Zerit, a key component of what would become the combination therapy for HIV/AIDS. Bristol-Myers would subsequently make Zerit available at minimal cost in Africa, where it has helped save millions of lives.

Such collaboration traces its origins to the Patent and Trademark Law Amendments Act of 1980, better known as "Bayh-Dole." Over the past 40 years, the United States has emerged as the global leader in pharmaceutical innovation, responsible for two in three new medicines.

America's unique drug development model has never been more important to global health.

The pace of COVID-19 research coming from scientists in American labs has been nothing short of astounding. In partnership with the capital and expertise of the private sector, these discoveries will soon usher in global benefits.

Jon Soderstrom is the Managing Director of the Office of Cooperative Research at Yale University.



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### Brownshirts In Our Streets

BY OSCAR H. BLAYTON

The unidentified goon squads snatching people off the streets of Portland, Ore., have a chilling resemblance to a similar fascist tool of oppression that arose in Germany in the early decades of the 20th century.

The paramilitary wing of the Nazi Party, dubbed "Brownshirts" because of the color of their uniforms, first appeared within Adolph Hitler's political party in 1920 and facilitated his rise to power.

The turbulence that unsettled post-World War I Germany was used as a pretext for the appropriateness of, and necessity for, the Brownshirts. Their public posture was that they were needed to maintain order and to protect Nazi rallies and gatherings. But the Brownshirts were no more than thugs who often engaged in street fights. It soon became clear that their mission focused more on disrupting the work of opposing political parties. Their violent tactics also targeted Romani (Gypsies) organized labor and Jews.

These lawless thugs boosted Hitler to the heights of political power in Germany. But once he reached the pinnacle of power, Hitler distanced himself from the Brown-

shirts and had as many as 200 of their leaders killed in what became known as the "Night of the Long Knives" in 1934. Once the Brownshirts were out of the way, Hitler used the SS, a vicious military unit comprised of committed Nazis, to carry out his most inhumane orders.

As we watch the violence taking place in the streets of Portland, we must keep in mind what began to unfold in Germany a century ago when a twisted, mentally and morally crippled man seized power by feeding fear and hate to a confused populace.

Donald Trump, the would-be dictator, has unleashed upon the American public some of the worst people invested with police power to do his unlawful bidding. Ostensibly, Trump claims that the presence of these jackbooted thugs is appropriate and necessary to enforce the law and maintain order. But it is crystal clear that he is setting the stage for a paramilitary trashing of America's democratic safeguards. He believes that he can "cry havoc and let slip the dogs of war," and his political base will be gullible enough to support his trampling of Americans' rights as he takes our country down a path of mischief, delusion

and folly to ultimate ruin.

There are those who counsel caution and advise against alarmist accusations, believing that our democratic safeguards are too strong to suffer overthrow by a thug in the White House. But Trump has been allowed to trample democratic norms right before our eyes for almost four years. He has banned entry to this country based upon religion. He has weaponized family separation and locked children in cages as a means of terrorizing asylum seekers. He has looted the public treasury by causing the government to pay his hotels and resorts for his golfing and social outings. The list of grievances against Trump grows longer each day, and still many people back away from calling him to account.

We do not have a crystal ball to predict the future with absolute certainty, but we have reasonable knowledge, granted from all experience, that allows us to see what happens when vile, twisted men get their hands on great power.

In 1939, with fascism on the rise and men like Hitler seeking to subjugate the entire world, George Orwell, who later wrote the award-winning novel "1984," said it best in

a book review: "[W]e have now sunk to a depth at which the restatement of the obvious is the first duty of intelligent men. It is not merely that at present the rule of naked force obtains almost everywhere. Probably that has always been the case. Where this age differs from those immediately preceding it is that a liberal intelligentsia is lacking. Bully-worship, under various disguises, has become a universal religion."

Donald Trump is at war with America. He wishes to make our country into something as twisted and hateful as he is. His promise of "America First" is not meant to improve our country, but rather to disrespect all others.

There are those among us who have accepted the religion of bully-worship with its liturgical chants of hate and fear. But if we are to have hope that America has a brighter future, those of us who believe that the lives of all human beings are worthwhile must accept the duty of acting intelligently and use all of our resources to push hard towards creating a better world.

Oscar H. Blayton is a former Marine Corps combat pilot and human rights activist who practices law in Virginia.

### Move These Projects Forward and Get Americans Back To Work

BY BETTE GRANDE

With more than 40 million Americans out of a job due to the coronavirus pandemic, states are scrambling to help the unemployed and laying plans to reopen the economy.

Many of the proposed measures could take time to bring relief. In at least two states, though, governors could get thousands of people back to work right away by removing obstacles to existing energy infrastructure projects. Considering the dire economic forecasts, it would be a shame not to let them move forward.

Back in 2018, regulators in Minnesota approved a plan to replace an aging oil pipeline. Line 3, as it is known, carries crude oil from Alberta to Wisconsin, but because of its condition, operates at only half capacity. Last year, Governor Tim Walz renewed a state appeal to stop the project.

A similar delay is playing out in Michigan, where, in 2018, the state approved agreements to create a tunnel under the Straits of Mackinac, the waterway between Lakes Michigan and Huron. The tunnel is designed to house oil and gas pipelines that now sit unprotected on the bottom of the Straits. Governor Gretchen Whitmer ordered state agencies to halt action on the proposed tunnel last year. A Michigan court reversed her order, but she still faces pressure to block any forward movement on the project.

In both states, environmental concerns have played a role in holding up pipeline upgrades, but they're not well-founded. When we have less pipeline capacity, more crude oil is transported by train, and according to a recent study from the University of Alberta, greenhouse gas emissions from pipeline transportation are as much as 77 percent lower. Pipelines are also the safest way to move oil, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Enbridge, the company slated to build both the Minnesota and Michigan pipelines, had a safe-delivery record of very close to 100 percent for the decade ending in 2017.

Crucially as we head into a major recession, infrastructure projects offer a slew of economic benefits. Minnesota's Line 3 replacement would create about 6,500 local jobs over a two-year period, pay some \$167 million to local workers and generate another \$162 million in purchases at local businesses. In Michigan, Enbridge has committed to spending \$500 million on the Straits of Mackinac tunnel, including \$40 million right away.

There are also up-and-running examples of the potential economic impact, like Louisiana's Bayou Bridge, a pipeline extension completed last year. That project paid \$71 million to local landowners, plus nearly \$35 million to

Louisiana-based companies for materials used in the pipeline's construction. It also created 2,500 construction jobs.

The Dakota Access pipeline, which was similarly stalled by protestors before it was finally completed in 2017, has been a boon for the North Dakota economy. The project produced some 12,000 jobs for North Dakotans

during construction, and within its first two years of operation, the pipeline generated more than \$263 million in state tax revenue.

The coronavirus is hammering America's economy. There's no need to make things even worse by stalling perfectly safe infrastructure projects.

Bette Grande is President and CEO of the Roughrider Policy Center.

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## Alandria Lloyd, Best Selling Louisiana Author, Transplants to the ATL

BY HAL LAMAR

Atlanta, Georgia has become the new home for one of Louisiana's best selling online writers and publishers.

But Alandria Lloyd will tell anybody willing to listen that the journey up success mountain was, to quote a line from poet Langston Hughes' "Mother to Son" "no crystal stair."

When the connection was mentioned to her during a recent one-on-one interview, Lloyd could only smile.

"You're a skinny, black, ugly little girl" was a phrase she heard too much during her upbringing in the town of Hammond, which sits right between New Orleans and the state capitol of Baton Rouge. "My cousins used to say that to me," she said. "I would be teased about it all the time." Those were not the kind of words from which positive self-esteem was built. In lieu, it was a journey fraught with mistakes and missteps. Because of it, the soft-spoken and mannerable young sis-tah sought love and acceptance in all the wrong places, best illustrated in her autobiographical "I'm coming out-overcoming what tried to overtake me" (the Writers Block).

Sexually active by the time she was 9, Lloyd wound up becoming pregnant twice but losing both her girls before age 18. In what could be described as an ironic twist, she became pregnant yet a third time. To borrow an old phrase, "the third time appeared to be the charm". In 2002, a boy she named JaKobe was born. At or around the same time, she became thoroughly acquainted with God. "I thought that receiving love from my child would solve my heart issues, but to my surprise, it didn't," she writes in "Coming Out". She finally did some solace through her budding relationship with God, became absorbed in the scriptures and essentially learned to "love myself." In the AI interview, she acknowledged always having a religious undergirding while also delving into writing, which started through her keeping a journal of her troubled life. "For the first time, I was making decisions and doing things to please me," she says, referring to a similar line in her book.

She wound up creating two businesses, one as a personal development coach for women to (like me) "personally redefine themselves and live their best lives." Her other business was to set up a vehicle, allowing other women an opportunity to share their stories and impact the



Alandria Lloyd

lives of others. From that came a second book offering, "Dear Young Woman-There is Triumph after the trial", an anthology of 26 female authors sharing their lives. One, Dr. Onika Shirley of Helena-West Helena, Arkansas, overcame pent up anger, sexual abuse and the need to be non-resilient and tough, embraced religion and "let go and let God." She is now a much sought after motivational speaker, founder and CEO of Action Speaks Volume Inc. and founder of an orphanage in India and sewing school in Pakistan.

Lloyd, meanwhile, hopes her move to Atlanta will help expand her "Writers Block" publishing company which now boasts six titles, notwithstanding "Coming Out", and the authors anthology, (Part II of which was released in April of this year.)

Change AGENT: The Missing Piece  
Fasting For Change Prayer Journal,  
While I'm Waiting Devotional for Single Women.  
Letters To My Future King  
Girl Power Uncensored (co-author)

Dear Young Woman to expand. She also hopes to help 200 women become first-time authors and "continue to help women rise."

Find out more about Alandria by visiting [info@thewritersblockllc.com](mailto:info@thewritersblockllc.com)

## Atlanta Black Radio Stations, Urban League Come Together for Black Radio United for the Vote

Atlanta, GA—Atlanta Black radio stations and the Urban League of Greater Atlanta announced a campaign with the goal of registering 50,000 new voters in the metro area. The **Black Radio United for the Vote** campaign represents 10 of the top stations in metro Atlanta. The campaign will provide information on voter registration, early voting, absentee ballots, and more. Regional leaders, young activists, celebrities, and on-air talent are lending their voices to share the importance of voting in the 2020 elections.

The radio stations, the Atlanta Urban League and campaign partners will focus on the vote through November and will host a one-day monthly blitz in July, August, and September. The campaign also features a website—**MyVoteCountsGA.com**—that makes it easy to register and exercise the right to vote. Additionally, listeners are urged to complete the 2020 Census.

"This is history in the making," says Terri Avery, director of Branding and Programming at Cox Media Group. "Ten radio stations in Atlanta united for the vote says we are stronger together."

On July 23, Aug. 20, and Sept. 17, 10 stations will promote the campaign through messaging and interviews with a variety of campaign partners between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. The 10 stations include KISS, MAJIC, V103, STREETS, HOT, WAOK, PRAISE, WCLK, OG and CLASSIX.

One of Urban League's key roles for the campaign is to galvanize community partnerships to help boost the reach and impact among civil rights, community, civic, faith-based, elected officials, and business leaders.

Campaign partners are the 2020 U.S. Census, ACLU of Georgia, Atlanta Counts Census 2020, Black Man Lab, Georgia Coalition for the People's Agenda, Georgia Legislative Black Caucus, Georgia NAACP, Metro Atlanta NAACP, Millennial Civil Rights, National Action Network, National Panhellenic Council of Georgia, New Georgia Project, Operation PUSH, Russell Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, The Gathering Spot, and several elected officials. The Urban League is eager to expand partnerships to collaborate and build volunteers.

"Radio continues to be a powerful medium for educating people in our communities who want to be engaged in choosing who holds seats of power at the federal, state, and local level but are unsure of how to register, verify registration, or find vital information about early voting and polling sites," says Nancy Flake Johnson, president, and CEO of the Urban League of Greater Atlanta.

"Some voters may be discouraged by long lines and various voter suppression tactics we've faced in Georgia. This campaign is needed now more than ever to get out the vote. We are grateful to Cox Media Group and all of the participating stations for spearheading this effort."

Celebrating its 100-year anniversary in Atlanta, the Urban League recognizes Black voter participation is a key factor in ensuring federal, state, and local policies that will help, not hinder, Black people to take control of their economic success and build solid financial foundations for future generations.

The campaign is targeted to Black citizens who have not engaged in the electoral process or whose participation in the process has declined. In 2016 the national Black voter turnout rate fell for the first time in 20 years in a presidential election to 59.6%. It had reached a record high of 66.6% in 2012 when Barack Obama was on the ballot. That year, Black voter turnout surpassed the rate of whites for the first time in history. Since then, there has been a rise in voter suppression efforts right here in Georgia and in numerous other states, making it harder for Black, Latino, and Native American people to vote.

"This is one of those times when the phrase 'strength in numbers' really fits," Avery says. "As people hear about Black Radio United and the My Vote Counts Georgia campaign and spread the word, we may even exceed our goal and bring even more people into the voting process that is the bedrock of our Democracy. It's not about party. It's about patriotism. About ensuring that every citizen has a fair and equal chance to be heard at the ballot box."

*Urban League of Greater Atlanta (ULGA) is a non-profit civil rights organization dedicated to the social justice and economic advancement of African Americans founded in 1920. The ULGA is a person-to-person organization operates as a Financial Empowerment Center (FEC) that supports youth, adults and families to become financially empowered through three key tenants; 1) supporting families to become stable, meet their basic needs and personal wellness 2) supporting families to increase household income through high demand career pathways, education and small business development and 3) gain financial empowerment through financial and money management skills development, financial and credit coaching, asset, and wealth-building strategies. Celebrating 100 years of service to metro Atlanta in 2020, we are a dedicated person to person organization that focuses on social and economic justice and closing the racial wealth gap. For more information call 404-659-6580 or visit our website at [www.ulgat.org](http://www.ulgat.org).*

## State-of-the-art Fayetteville Blood Donation Site Opens as Red Cross Encourages Donations of All Blood Types

FAYETTEVILLE—To better serve the Fayetteville community, the American Red Cross is pleased to announce the grand opening of a new, state-of-the-art blood donation site. Blood and platelets will be collected at the new Red Cross Fayetteville Blood Donation Center, located at 100 Promenade Parkway in Fayetteville, starting Aug. 17.

The new donation site will offer a permanent location for donors to give blood and platelets locally and offer additional donation opportunities while providing life-saving blood products to the community. This is a community driven, stand-alone Red Cross location for the collection of platelets in the Fayetteville area. Platelets play a critical role in the treatment of millions of people fighting cancer and other chronic diseases, as well as those recovering from traumatic injuries.

This site opening comes as the Red Cross has an emergency shortage of convalescent plasma, a potentially lifesaving treatment for patients with COVID-19. The Red Cross has seen demand for convalescent plasma more than double over the last month as the number of coronavirus cases increases across the U.S. Convalescent plasma products are now being distributed faster than donations are coming in.

**Individuals who have fully recovered and received a verified COVID-19 diagnosis are urged to sign up to give convalescent plasma now by completing the donor eligibility form at [RedCrossBlood.org/plasma4covid](http://RedCrossBlood.org/plasma4covid).**

The constant need for blood donations also continues as hospitals resume surgical procedures and patient treatments that were temporarily paused earlier this spring in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanks to Amazon, those who come to give blood, platelets or plasma, including convalescent plasma, Aug. 1-Sept. 3 will receive a \$5 Amazon.com Gift Card via email.\*

**Donation appointments can be made for the coming days and weeks by downloading the free Blood Donor App, visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org), calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.**

Each Red Cross blood drive and donation center follows the highest standards of safety and infection control, and additional precautions – including temperature checks, social distancing and face coverings for donors and staff – have been implemented to ensure the health of all those in attendance. Donors are asked to schedule an appointment prior to arriving at the drive and are required to wear a face covering or mask while at the drive, in alignment with Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention public guidance.

Times and Dates for Donations:  
Monday: 11 a.m. – 7:15 p.m.  
Tuesday: 11 a.m. – 7:15 p.m.  
Wednesday: CLOSED  
Thursday: 10:30 a.m. – 6:45 p.m.  
Friday: 7 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.  
Saturday: 7 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.  
Sunday: CLOSED

The Red Cross must collect more than 13,000 donations every day to keep up with demand. Locally, on average, approximately 538 donations are needed each day from area blood donors in the Georgia Region.

Eligible donors with types O, A negative and B negative blood are urged to make a Power Red donation at the new Fayetteville Blood Donation Site. Power Red donors give a concentrated dose of red blood cells during a single donation, allowing them to maximize their impact

**How to donate blood**—Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org), call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood and platelet donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass® to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](http://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) or use the Blood Donor App.

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40% of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit [redcross.org](http://redcross.org) or [cruzrojaamericana.org](http://cruzrojaamericana.org), or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross.

\* Restrictions apply. Additional information and details are available at [RedCrossBlood.org/Together](http://RedCrossBlood.org/Together).

## Pillars

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Russell was a supporter of the Atlanta Student Movement which propelled the Civil Rights Movement. As one of the many heroes of the Civil Rights Movement, Russell worked as the Chairman of the Board of *The Atlanta Inquirer* newspaper while supporting the dream of many desiring to break down the walls of racial inequality.

Russell, the youngest of eight children, grew up in the Summerhill district, near Turner Field. Before attending David T. Howard High School, Russell worked for his father who was a plasterer. He was an accomplished tradesman by the age of 12 having learned the plastering business. The young Russell built a duplex on the parcel of land he purchased for \$125 at age 16 and used his savings to help pay his tuition at Tuskegee University. After graduating from high school, Russell earned a degree in building construction from the Tuskegee Institute (later Tuskegee University) in Alabama in 1953. Afterwards, he returned to Atlanta to begin his career.

His company, H. J. Russell & Company is ranked as one of the largest minority-owned companies in the United States. Russell worked with major Fortune 500 companies such as Georgia Pacific, Delta Airlines and The Coca-Cola Company as well as Turner Field and the Georgia World Congress Center. In addition, he helped to develop Atlanta's landscape as a partner in building the Atlanta City Hall Complex, the Georgia Dome, the Carter Presidential Center, Phillips Sports Arena and Atlanta's Mercedes Benz Stadium. H. J. Russell & Company is a diversified organization that has expanded into the areas of construction, construction management, real estate development and property management. Concessions International, LLC is a division of the H. J. Russell conglomerate consisting of food and beverage businesses in seven major airports and a partnership in the Paschal's restaurant on Northside Drive in Atlanta, Georgia, which is a cornerstone in his Castleberry Hill development project, which has helped to revitalize the southwest portion of downtown Atlanta.

He became the first Black member of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce. He, later, became the second Black president of the Chamber, after Jesse Hill, Jr. In addition, he had formerly served on the Boards of leading national corporations and organizations such as the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, Wachovia Bank, Citizens Trust Bank, Georgia Power Company, Georgia Ports Authority, National Service Industries, Central Atlanta Progress, the Butler Street YMCA, the Atlanta Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Allen Temple African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church, and the Business Council of Georgia.

He always gave back to his community and was most fond of supporting youth. He founded the Herman J. Russell Foundation, Inc., which is focused on stimulating the self-sufficiency of youth and the communities in which they live.

**Dr. Clinton E. Warner, Jr.** had been executive vice president and a member of the board of directors of *The Atlanta Inquirer* newspaper in its early years. Warner was born to educators, in Atlanta, Georgia, on the campus of Morehouse College in Graves Hall. After graduating from Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia in 1948, he pursued and earned his Doctor of Medicine (MD) from Meharry Medical School in Nashville, Tennessee in 1951, Summa Cum Laude. Warner entered private practice in Atlanta as a surgeon specializing in breast diseases.

He is known for being one of Atlanta's giants for integrating Atlanta. The late 1950s and 1960s was quite a tumultuous time for Atlanta; it marked the height of the Jim Crow era, segregating and discriminating against Blacks in public places, public vehicles, and employment. Warner

was the first Black person to purchase property and a home in then-segregated Southwest Atlanta in 1962, shattering the infamous "Peyton Road Barricade / Berlin Wall" that had been erected by then-Atlanta Mayor Ivan Allen, Jr. In December 1962, Mayor Ivan Allen Jr. ordered barricades to be built across two Atlanta streets to discourage Black citizens from purchasing homes in an adjacent all-White neighborhood. Mayor Allen's decision not only backfired but embarrassed the city and brought forth negative attention from the national media. Petitions were filed in Atlanta's courts, and protesters picketed City Hall with signs referring to Atlanta's "Berlin Wall," dividing a city. Civil Rights organizations called for boycotts of White businesses around Cascade Heights, and Black leaders publicly lambasted Mayor Allen. Peyton Road remained blocked until March 1, 1963, when a judge ruled the barriers unconstitutional. It was during this time period that national pressure and newspaper headlines sparked usage of the term "A City Too Busy to Hate," questioning Atlanta's image.

Warner's efforts and acts of resistance initiated fair housing and formed the federation for national fair housing to allow Blacks to live in houses in Southwest Atlanta. Southwest Atlanta is still considered one of the most influential populations of affluent Blacks.

During the 1960s, Warner gave health services, financial support and bail resources to Atlanta Student Movement activists during the Civil Rights struggle. He was jailed twice during protests at Atlanta's Biltmore Hotel and Heart of Atlanta Motel. Warner was a supporter of the Student Movement and the leaders of the Student Movement but was willing to sacrifice his life for the advancement of Blacks for equity in America.

Warner was one of eight plaintiffs in a 1963 lawsuit that desegregated Grady Hospital, Emory University and the Fulton County Medical and Dental Society. He later served as a member of the Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority from 1975 to 1984 and as chairman of the Hughes Spalding committee.

In 1967, he founded the first minority medical group in surgery, the Atlanta Surgical Professional Association. He was instrumental in the founding of the Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM). He was member of MSM's board of overseers (1976 to 1981), chairman of the board (1981 to 1990) and board of trustees (until 2004). He is chairman emeritus for life.

Warner served as president of the Georgia State Medical Association from 1964 to 1975 and as president and treasurer of the Atlanta Medical Association in 1962. He served as college physician and director of the McVicar Infirmary (Allied Health Services) at Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia; chairman emeritus of the Mutual Federal Bank in Atlanta, Georgia; member of board of directors of Blue Cross / Blue Shield, Inc. in Atlanta, Georgia; member of board of directors of Atlanta Life Insurance Company; professor of Preventive Medicine at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia.

Warner had been Chairman of the Board of Trustees, member of the executive committee and chief of surgery of Southwest Community Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia. During Warner's tenure and involvement, Southwest Community Hospital was the premiere medical service provider for Southwest Atlanta and Blacks in the area. Warner also had been member of the board of trustees and executive committee of the Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority, and chairman of the Hughes Spalding Committee.

Warner was honorary co-chairman of the Medical Support Group of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG) in 1996.

Warner was treasurer for United States Congressman John Lewis campaigns in 1986, 1988, 1990, 1992 and 1994. He was also treasurer of Atlanta City Councilman Clarence T. "C. T." Martin campaigns in 1990, 1994, 1998 and 2002.

## Storms

Continued from Page 3

**Ways you can help keep workers safe while they work in the field:**

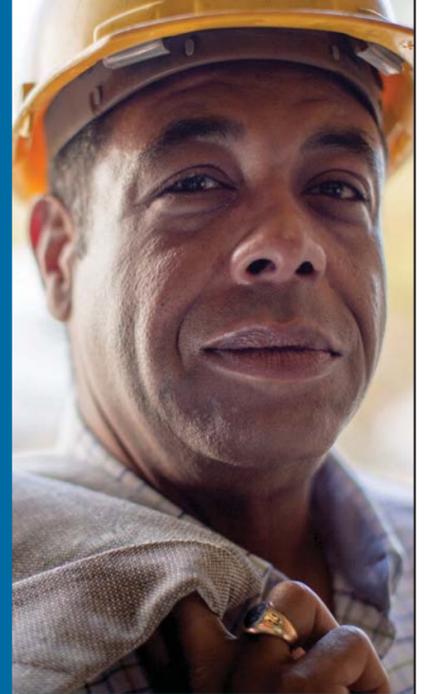
\* If you see utility crews, please stay back a minimum of six feet – much more if they are working.

\* Please, no cookies or treats for workers during this time. Give a wave or thumbs up to workers you see. They'll understand your gratitude as they work to keep the lights on.

\* Don't touch utility trucks or equipment. Electric providers are operating under modified conditions to keep workers safe, which includes additional cleaning and sanitation of tools and equipment.

Georgia Power is the largest electric subsidiary of Southern Company (NYSE: SO), America's premier energy company. Value, Reliability, Customer Service and Stewardship are the cornerstones of the company's promise to 2.6 million customers in all but four of Georgia's 159 counties. Committed to delivering clean, safe, reliable and affordable energy at rates below the national average, Georgia Power maintains a diverse, innovative generation mix that includes nuclear, coal and natural gas, as well as renewables such as solar, hydroelectric and wind. Georgia Power focuses on delivering world-class service to its customers every day and the company is consistently recognized by J.D. Power and Associates as an industry leader in customer satisfaction. For more information, visit [www.GeorgiaPower.com](http://www.GeorgiaPower.com) and connect with the company on Facebook ([Facebook.com/GeorgiaPower](https://www.facebook.com/GeorgiaPower)), Twitter ([Twitter.com/GeorgiaPower](https://twitter.com/GeorgiaPower)) and Instagram ([Instagram.com/ga\\_power](https://www.instagram.com/ga_power))

# COVID-19 VACCINE RESEARCH STUDY



## VOLUNTEER & MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Every modern vaccine and medicine we have today was first tested in clinical trials involving hundreds to thousands of people before becoming available to the public. This COVID-19 vaccine study will enroll up to 30,000 adults, and each and every person involved plays a powerful role. By choosing to volunteer, you will represent people like you – in age, gender, race, ethnicity, and the communities where you live. Involving people from all backgrounds will improve the development of this vaccine for everyone.

Joining a clinical trial is an important and personal decision. We hope it is one you will consider.

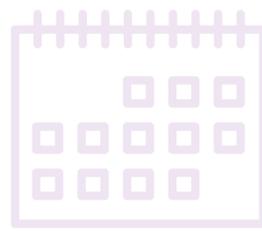
## WHAT TO EXPECT



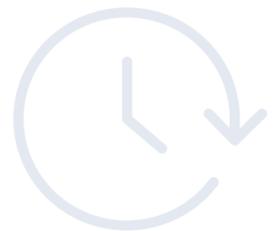
PARTICIPANTS WILL BE **RANDOMLY ASSIGNED** (BY CHANCE) TO RECEIVE THE STUDY VACCINE OR PLACEBO (INJECTION WITH NO ACTIVE INGREDIENT)



PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE THEIR **2 INJECTIONS** 3 WEEKS APART



PARTICIPANTS WILL HAVE **4 SCHEDULED FOLLOW-UP VISITS** AT THE CLINIC



PARTICIPANTS WILL TRACK THEIR HEALTH AND REPORT ANY COVID-19 SYMPTOMS FOR **2 YEARS** AFTER THEIR INJECTIONS

**CONTACT A STUDY TEAM MEMBER TO LEARN MORE**

STUDY CLINIC: Clinical Research Atlanta

PHONE NUMBER: 770-507-6867

EMAIL ADDRESS: [hello@clinicalresearchatlanta.com](mailto:hello@clinicalresearchatlanta.com)