

Shutdown

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FNS applications based on the USDA guidelines. However, FNS funds will be issued based on the guidelines below:

*FNS applications submitted and processed in January 2019 and classified as "expedited" will have funds issued via the EBT card. FCDSS will process "expedited" applications first, followed by non-expedited applications. Note: "Expedited" households are determined by families with a \$150 or less in income or families that

total household expenses exceed the household income. We are waiting for guidance on when these funds will be issued.

*We are waiting on further guidance from the USDA on the issuance of FNS funds for new applications submitted between Jan. 21 and Jan. 30 that are classified as "non-expedited." Please contact (336) 703-3800 if you have any questions concerning your application status. Please refer to the list of food banks and pantries if you are experiencing a crisis at www.co.forsyth.nc.us/dss/.

Piedmont Advantage Investment Solutions wins two silver awards for marketing and production

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Piedmont Advantage Investment Solutions, available through CUSO Financial Services, L.P. (CFS), is pleased to announce the receipt of two prestigious CUSO Financial Service Silver Awards.

Piedmont Advantage Investment Solutions received a Silver Impact Award for Branch Marketing, which is presented for top campaigns demonstrating exceptional results by engaging new member-clients through marketing campaigns. The organization received a bronze award in this cate-

gory in 2017.

The credit union also won the Silver Rookie of the Year Award, which is presented to investment programs that joined CUSO Financial Services between January 1, 2016 and March 31, 2017 with the highest gross dealer concession (GDC) per \$1 million of financial institution deposits.

"At Piedmont Advantage Investment Solutions, we believe in putting members first. These awards serve to highlight the success we have had in communicating the benefits of our financial wellness and investment solutions to our

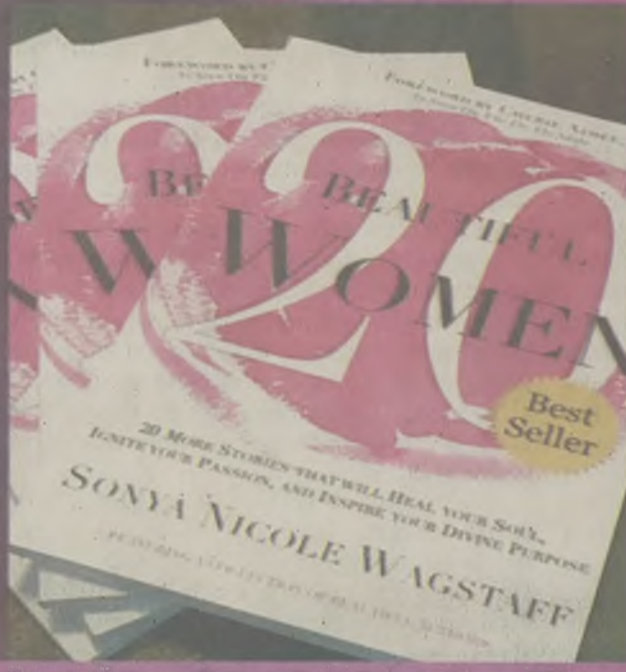
members," said James P. Grenon, Member Financial Wellness Program Manager.

"We believe these awards and the success of the programs illustrates our knowledge and commitment to serve current and prospective members, regardless of their life stage, with investment options that help them achieve financial security."

In addition to financial planning and investment solutions, Piedmont Advantage Credit Union also offers consumer and business loans, deposit services and online banking services.

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WGU North offers \$50,000 in scholarships for adults

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK — WGU North Carolina, an affiliate of the national nonprofit online Western Governors University, is offering an incentive for busy adults making resolutions to earn a college degree in the new year: \$50,000 in scholarships. Students who apply to WGU through March 31, 2019, are eligible to apply for the New Year, New You Scholarship, which will award up to \$2,000 per student to 25 qualified stu-

dents in North Carolina.

The decision to go back to school can be an excellent way to transition into a new career or upskill to earn a promotion. In fact, data compiled by the Economic Policy Institute showed that college graduates, on average, earned 56 percent more than high school grads in 2015. That was up from 51 percent in 1999 and is the largest such gap in EPI's figures dating to 1973.

Each New Year, New You Scholarship will be awarded at the rate of \$500

per six-month term, renewable for up to four terms. Students enrolling in any of WGU's bachelor's or master's degree programs are eligible to apply for the scholarship. This scholarship is open to new students who have been officially admitted to WGU. While many scholarships are available through the program, applications are competitive. Awards will be based on a candidate's academic record, readiness for online study, and current competency, as well as other considerations.

Nonprofit and fully online, WGU offers more than 60 bachelor's and master's degree programs in business, K-12 teacher education, information technology, and health professions, including nursing. WGU's learning model, competency-based education, is ideal for busy adults, allowing them to study and learn on a schedule that fits their lives. Students work through course materials with consistent, one-on-one faculty support, advancing as soon as they demonstrate that

they have mastered the subject matter. Tuition ranges from \$3,225 to \$3,800 per six-month term depending on the degree program.

"As an accredited, nonprofit university offering competency-based education, we offer an affordable and viable option for students to proceed at their own pace toward a bachelor's or master's degree," said WGU North Carolina Chancellor Catherine Truitt. "The New Year, New You scholarships will help new students join the

nearly 3,000 adults in North Carolina who are currently enrolled in WGU and who are working toward their education and career goals."

For more information on the New Year, New You Scholarship, and any additional WGU scholarships, visit <http://www.wgu.edu/scholarships>. For more information on WGU North Carolina, visit <https://www.wgu.edu/north-carolina.html>.

Little-Known Facts about MLK

BY STACY M. BROWN
NNPA NEWSWIRE CORRESPONDENT

As the nation commemorates Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s holiday, some may find interesting tidbits of little-known or talked about facts and details of the slain civil rights champion.

When he was born on Jan. 15, 1929, King's name at birth was actually was Michael.

His father, a pastor at Atlanta's Ebenezer Baptist

Church (where the younger King would later also pastor), traveled to Germany and "was inspired by the teachings of the leader of the Protestant Reformation, Martin Luther," recalled Michael

Hart, a Christian conservative and host of the syndicated "Michael Hart Show."

"As a result, King Sr. changed his own name as well as that of his 5-year-old son," Hart said, stating a fact backed by multiple published records.

Not much was made of the fact that King was a very gifted student, which allowed him to skip grades 9 and 12 before enrolling in Morehouse College at the age of 15, Hart added.

King's father and maternal grandfather also attended Morehouse.

"Although King was the son, grandson and great grandson of Baptist ministers, he initially had no desire to enter the ministry," Hart said.

Another lesser-known fact about King centers on his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. When he delivered that monumental and historic dissertation in Washington, it wasn't the first time.

The civil rights leader first delivered that speech during the "Prayer Pilgrimage for Freedom" on May 17, 1957. At the time, King also delivered his first national address on voting rights before a crowd estimated between 15,000 and 30,000.

King's assassination in Memphis was not the first attempt on his life.

He narrowly escaped an attempt a decade before on Sept. 20, 1958 in Harlem where he was signing copies his new book, "Stride Toward Freedom."

Izola Ware Curry approached King and asked if he was Martin Luther King Jr. After he said yes, Curry responded that, "I've been looking for you for five years," and plunged a seven-inch letter opener into King's chest.

The tip of the blade came to rest alongside his aorta, and King underwent hours of emergency surgery. Surgeons later told King that just one sneeze could have punctured the aorta and killed him.

King was in Memphis in April 1968 to support the strike of the city's black sanitation workers, and in a speech on the night before his assassination, he told an audience at Mason Temple Church:

"Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now ... I've seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you but I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land. And I'm happy tonight. I'm not worried about anything. I'm not fearing any man. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord."

Less than 24 hours later on April 4, 1968 at 6:01 p.m. central time as he stood on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel, King was shot and killed by James Earl Ray.

King would have been 90 this year.



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr

Submitted photo