

## Community Calendar

Please call ahead to make sure your event is still happening. We will post cancellations/postponements announcements when received.

### NOW -- Volunteer Center of the Triad

The Volunteer Center of the Triad is responding to COVID-19 by bringing the volunteer community together. We have designated a portion of our website [www.volunteercentertriad.org](http://www.volunteercentertriad.org) to assist our non-profit community as their needs arise around the COVID-19 pandemic. If you are interested in volunteering, visit [www.volunteercentertriad.org](http://www.volunteercentertriad.org), click COVID-19 Response and search volunteer opportunities available.

### Now -- Feb. 28 Apply to leadership program at WFU

The Wake Forest University College LAUNCH for Leadership Program is a free, nine-month college prep program for underrepresented high school juniors in North Carolina that focuses on leadership development and social consciousness. If you know of a rising high school junior in Winston-Salem, Charlotte, or the surrounding communities that might be interested in the College LAUNCH for Leadership Program, please encourage them to apply, as we are now accepting applications for the 2021-2022 year. You may apply at <https://slate.summer.wfu.edu/apply/>.

### Now -- Feb. 28 "Freedom Sunday" streamed play

The N.C. Black Repertory Company will present a streamed film version of the play "Freedom Sunday" Feb. 12-28. Written by Cynthia Grace Robinson and directed by Jackie Alexander, the play was filmed at the Schae-

fer Center at Appalachian State University. Tickets are \$15 for the virtual performance. For more information, call 336-723-2266 or visit [www.ncblackrep.org](http://www.ncblackrep.org).

### Now -- March 1 Musical play "Douglass/Dunbar"

Willingham Theatre presents the musical play "Douglass/Dunbar" streaming online Feb. 15-March 1, which tells the stories of Fredrick Douglass, statesman and politician, and Paul Laurence Dunbar, poet and icon of the Black community. It features a variety of music including blues, classical and spiritual. It is written and directed by Ron Stacker Thompson of the UNCSA. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at [www.yadkinarts.org](http://www.yadkinarts.org). A link to view the performance will be emailed to ticket holders by 5 p.m. on Feb. 15.

### Now -- May 31 Textile art display

Delta Arts Center is exhibiting "Raw EdgesTextile Art," a display of quilts and other textile pieces made by local African American quilters, now through May 31. Delta Arts Center is located at 2611 New Walkertown Road. Call 336-722-2625 to arrange an appointment to view the exhibit.

### Feb. 25 Historically Black high schools walk-through

The Big 4 Alumni Association invites the community to take a nostalgic walk through the hallowed halls of our historically Black high schools. The Black History Month

Commemoration will air on their YouTube channel February 25 at 6 p.m. (You can search The Big 4 of Forsyth County in YouTube to find the channel.) The presentation features a look back to the founding of each school and pays tribute to the administrators, educators and coaches who demanded excellence. For information, go to <https://big4fc.org/> or call 336 972-6774.

### March 1 Book discussion with Anne Lamott

New York Times best-selling author Anne Lamott will discuss her new book, *Dusk, Night, Dawn: On Revival and Courage*, during a pre-recorded virtual event at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 4. Admission for the event is by purchase of *Dusk, Night, Dawn* (limited signed copies will be available). To purchase the book and register for the event go to: <https://www.bookmarksnc.org/event/AnneLamott>. The event is sponsored by Bookmarks.

### March 9 Author event

Authors Leesa Cross-Smith and Naima Coster will be in conversation discussing their new novels, during a virtual event at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 9. This is a pay-what-you-can event. Attendees can either make a donation to Bookmarks or purchase one or both of the featured books. Visit <https://www.bookmarksnc.org/LeesaCrossSmith-NaimaCoster>. Signed copies of both books are available when you join the Signed First Editions Club. The event is sponsored by Bookmarks.

### Minnie

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with her during her junior year she played in Florida, helping to guide her with her progress on and off the court.

"She and I kept in contact the entire time she was in Florida," said Leak. "She would text me about her season and what she was struggling with. I just kind of stayed as close to her as I could, and I have done that with all the girls that have played with me.

"With her being in Florida, I knew she was struggling with, one, she didn't want to go back, and two, she wanted to stay here and play. I just kept giving her little tips from here, so we have a

great relationship."

Leak stated he could see the improvements Griffin made physically by getting stronger in the year she was in Florida, but the most important improvement she made was her emotional growth.

"She was a different kid and her whole mentality had changed," he said.

Once the announcement was made that there was going to be a season, Leak looked at the books to see how many points Griffin needed to hit 1,000. It turns out she was only about 300 points away, meaning she would have to average around 30 points per game.

Leak says he was also surprised by how effective Griffin was on offense this year. Against Dudley and

Southwest Guilford, two strong defensive teams, Griffin scored at will against them. The head coaches from both schools told Leak that Griffin was the most complete player they have competed against in the last five years.

Griffin is only the second girls' basketball player to eclipse the 1,000-point barrier with the only other player being Cassandra Penn. Griffin says she was proud to accomplish this goal because she feels it shows the other schools in the county that they can stop looking at Parkland like they are "scrubs," "because we are knocking on y'all door ... We big ready," she said.

### Lydia

From page B2

the moment he believes. Sanctification means we are made holy by virtue of our relationship with Christ Jesus as he works through us - set apart for God's special use. Redemption is God's extended grace through Christ to sinful man to give us the benefits of wisdom, righ-

teousness, and sanctification (verses 29-30). (The UMI Annual Commentary 2020-2021, The New King James Study Bible, The MacArthur Study Bible, and The Oxford Bible Commentary).

**For Your Consideration:** What aspects of the world does God confound, shame, and bring to nothing? Why were women significant in Paul's min-

istry?

**Application:** Lydia used her house and wealth to perform the task of hospitality. Using her example, evaluate how God has equipped you and given you the opportunity to make use of your gifts. "A man's gift maketh room for him, and brings him before great men" (Proverbs 18:16).



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### Sports

From page B1

have," Green continued. "Because as a player, you're the worst person in the world when you want a different situation. But a team can say they're trading you. And that man is to stay in shape, he is to stay professional. And if not, his career is on the line. At some point, this league has to protect the players from embarrassment like that."

I find it hilarious that if a player in the NBA expresses his desire to leave a team publicly, he can be subject to a fine from the league. On the other hand, a team can shop a player however they please. Yes, I know, the team has the rights of a player when they are under contract, but that doesn't give a team the right to act with carte blanche.

"We talk all of this stuff about 'you can't do this,' 'you can't say that publicly,' 'if you say that publicly you're fined,'" he said. "Anthony Davis got fined I think \$100,000 or something like that for demanding a trade publicly, but you can say 'Andre Drummond is getting traded' publicly, and 'we're looking to trade him' publicly and he's to stay professional and just deal with it? Then when Kyrie Irving says, 'my mental health is off,' everyone goes crazy about that too. Do you not think that affects someone mentally? As much as we put into this game, to be great, to come out here and be in shape, to produce for fans every single night and most importantly, to help your team win, do you not think that doesn't affect someone mentally?"

And it's not just the NBA where you hear about situations like this.

Recently, Houston Texans' quarterback, Deshaun Watson, expressed his desire to be traded. The team traded away his best weapon and friend and seems to be in a downward spiral. He was ripped apart by the media and fans. This is precisely what Green was referring to as the double standard. After all, the players make the leagues what they are, but they are still treated as bratty children when they speak their minds.

"As players, we're told, 'No, you can't say that, you can't say this.' But teams can?" Green went on to say. "It goes along the same lines of when everyone wants to say 'ah man, that young guy can't figure it out,' but no one wants to say the organization can't figure it out. At some point the players must be respected in these situations, and it's ridiculous and I'm sick of seeing it."

I applaud Green for taking such a stance when many others have stayed silent. It's true that teams can virtually do as they wish when it comes to a player being traded, released, or benched; however, that same player is fined for not playing or for saying he wants to be traded. Many times, those players are looked at as the bad guys and the teams they play for come off as the victims, which always blows my mind.

I know there are fans out there that look at professional athletes as overpaid babies when a player publicly says anything about wanting to leave his team. A team can say and do whatever they want for the most part and the public says something like, 'the team is just making a good business move.' Why is it understandable for a team

to want to move on from a player, but not understandable for a player to want to move on from the team? Fans get mad at the millionaires, but not at the billionaires. I've always been confused on why that is.

I was glad to see many NBA players coming to defend Green's comments. Of course, there are always people who will disagree and in this case Hall of Fame player, Charles Barkley, was one of them.

"I think Draymond has to really be careful," Barkley said on "The Bill Simmons Podcast." "All that stuff is cute when you're winning. But when you're in last place, it's annoying."

"I think Draymond's got to start learning you can say what you want to when you're the champs and you're in first place. But when you're in last place, you become the guy who becomes annoying."

Green could not be more off-base by his comments. It doesn't matter what place your team is in, to speak out about an issue like this that can affect any and every player in the league. Barkley was basically saying if you're not on a winning team, you can't speak about issues in the league. That kind of thinking is almost as bad as those who say players should just "shut up and dribble."

The players from the other leagues should follow suit in their respective sports. It's only fair that the playing field becomes a little more even when it comes to trades, so the double standard is not so blatant. I normally don't agree with Green, but on this topic, he is 100 percent right in my book.

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