



2022 NEWSLETTER

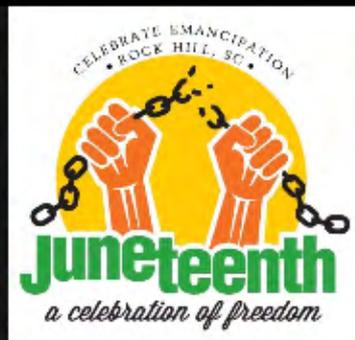
JUNETEENTH



ROCK HILL



Juneteenth Rock Hill



Join us for a Celebration of Freedom!



Friday, June 17, 2022

Food Truck Friday Kickoff

Fountain Park

300 E Main St 29730

6:00pm

Saturday, June 18, 2022

Freedom Fest

Mt. Prospect Baptist Church

339 W Black St 29730

11:00am - 2:00pm

Sunday, June 19, 2022

Sunday Service

Mt. Prospect Baptist Church

339 W Black St 29730

11:15am



juneteenthrockhill.com

MEET OUR PERFORMERS



Eloveation



Carlo Dawson



Tanzella Barber



Eric Brown



Lady V Poetry



Vision Elite Royalty

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

I am elated and honored to serve as the Juneteenth Rock Hill, Inc. President over the past year and I am excited that we will be celebrating face to face. I proudly follow in the footsteps of the past presidents Dr. Love Mills-Byrd, Mrs. Carlo L. Dawson, and Ms. Tamika Poag. Each of these women was committed to paving the way to educate the community on the American history of Juneteenth.

The celebration of Juneteenth recognized as the official end of slavery in America is a national holiday. This holiday is the opportunity to celebrate freedom as well as the rich past, present, and future of African Americans. The Rock Hill community is embracing a tradition of supporting diversity. Juneteenth is an opportunity for individuals in our community to unify by recognizing a high school senior who plans to major in education through the Dr. Ann Cain Scholarship and participating in this celebration of freedom.

I am privileged to work with community leaders who share my passion for imparting knowledge and observing the rich heritage and contributions of African American culture. The Juneteenth Rock Hill Board's accomplishments would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of our board members. Thank you to this group of committed citizens of Rock Hill who truly believe in the mantra, "Whatever it takes." I couldn't ask for a better group of people to work with.

The Juneteenth Rock Hill Board is thankful for the partnerships with the City of Rock Hill, event sponsors, participants, volunteers, and all stakeholders who have supported Juneteenth 2022.

We hope you will join us for the eighth year of this historic event! Expect to learn, grow and have fun during our three-day Juneteenth Rock Hill Celebration. This celebration includes Juneteenth Food Truck Friday at Fountain Park, the Juneteenth Freedom Fest Saturday, and worship service at Mount Prospect Baptist Church on Sunday. While attending these FREE family-friendly events celebrate the Dr. Ann Cain Scholarship recipient, enjoy live entertainment, buy arts and crafts, participate in children's activities, and experience so much more.

Thank you for your support as we move forward in Freedom!

Yours in Freedom,

Seberina Barber Myles



ROOTS OF JUNTEENTH

Juneteenth is a national holiday that falls on June 19 of every year, celebrating the abolition of slavery and the emancipation of enslaved African-Americans in the state of Texas. On September 22, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, an executive order that freed all enslaved people in the Confederate states during the Civil War. The proclamation went into effect on January 1, 1863, but it was not widely and fully enforced until two years later on June 19, 1865, when Union soldiers traveled to Galveston, Texas to inform the inhabitants about the end of the Civil War and General Order No. 3 which announced the freedom of over 250,000 slaves in Texas and nationwide. This moment in history marked the end of bondage and the beginning of the road to freedom and equality.

In 1980, Texas became the first state to establish Juneteenth as a state holiday and now forty-five states recognize the emancipation celebration as a state holiday. In 2008, the South Carolina legislature established June 19 as the official “Juneteenth Celebration of Freedom Day” to commemorate and celebrate the freedom and contributions of African-Americans in the state and nationwide.

The Juneteenth celebration in Rock Hill started at Mt. Prospect Church in the late 1990s with educator and community leader, Zora Holmes, who was involved with the church in developing the Juneteenth program. Dr. Ann Cain was also an educator and church leader who catalyzed the development of York County’s Juneteenth program to what it is today. Leadership of the program was passed down to area native and member of the African American Cultural Resource Committee of Rock Hill, Dr. Love-Mills-Byrd. The committee collaborated with the Juneteenth program and “Juneteenth Rock Hill” became the official board in 2015, celebrating the first city-wide Juneteenth collaboration that year.





Dr. Anne Cain Scholarship Award

Dr. Ann Cain was a beloved professor of education at Winthrop University who wrote books about teaching and dropout prevention. Dr. Cain began her career as an elementary school teacher in segregated schools after she graduated from Allen University in Columbia, Sc in 1954. After the schools integrated in the 1960s, she taught students from diverse backgrounds for over 50 years. Dr. Cain taught first grade for many years before becoming an assistant principal. Dr. Cain later earned a doctorate in education from the University of South Carolina in 1980.

Dr. Cain was a leader in establishing York County's Juneteenth programs. She spent most of her life teaching Christian education and leadership at Mount Prospect Baptist Church in Rock Hill, SC. She taught hundreds of students and was in the forefront of integrating schools. Dr. Cain died in 2014 at 81-years-old.

To honor her legacy, a \$1,000 scholarship is awarded to an African American high school senior in the Rock Hill School District pursuing a bachelor's degree in education by the Juneteenth-Rock Hill, Inc. board annually.

2022 Scholarship Recipient

Olivia L. Ratliff is the daughter of Carl and Pamela Ratliff. Olivia is a proud Rock Hill native and attends Hermon Presbyterian Church. She attends school at Rock Hill High School where she is the Student Body President. Olivia is an accomplished musician as she plays the Bass in various ensembles. She is also involved in tennis, track, Model UN, and she is a Teacher Cadet at Castle Heights Middle School. In the fall, Olivia plans to attend North Carolina A&T State University as a Math Education Major.



A TRUE AGENT OF CHANGE



Rev. Walter Banks White was born in Rock Hill, SC, and grew up in the Boyd Hill community. He served as an elementary school principal impacting lives and fostering change throughout the Rock Hill community. The summer that Rev. White graduated from college in 1959 with a social studies degree, the administration offered him a position in Fort Mill to fill a vacancy as a fifth-grade elementary school teacher. Rev. White decided to take the position because he wanted to care for his wife of five years and their growing family. He worked in Fort Mill for nine years and Charlotte for one year.

Rev. White was assigned to Sunset Park Elementary School in 1973. A diligent worker who was determined to make changes in the district, he worked evenings as Director of Adult Education at Rock Hill High (before integration). At the end of the summer of his first year teaching at Sunset Park Elementary School, Rev. White helped to write a regional textbook used by junior high school students. His collaboration with junior high and high school teachers continued to expose his intellect and educational talents which resulted in school leadership offering him a principalship at the end of that summer.

Upon his arrival at Sunset Park, Rev. White realized that the facility was in poor condition. For example, the building was leaking, but he felt comfortable going to the district administration to make requests for repairs and improvements.

The Executive Assistant to the Superintendent assisted with items of need and quickly became an ally with the Sunset Park Elementary School administration. When the rooms needed painting, Rev. White and others would pitch in to paint. Rev. White believed if the teachers were happy, they would work to make the students happy. Happy students were more likely to experience academic growth, and that growth would keep the parents happy. The ultimate objective was to get the students to learn.

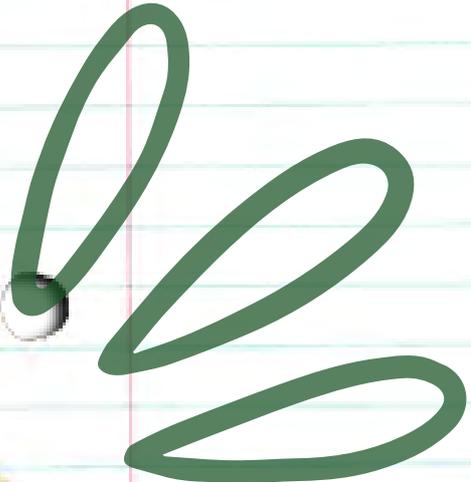
Rev. White's approach worked. The Director of Elementary Education and other educators started calling because they wanted to know how State test scores improved from the bottom to third from the bottom in one year. Rev. White was eventually able to incorporate new school activities like band, a school newsletter, TV media for news reports, a student government, and more. Parents approached him to go to another school, but he chose to stay at Sunset Part Elementary School for thirteen wonderful years.

An instrumental figure in providing students with meaningful life experiences, Rev. White has been able to leave an impressive legacy in the field of education and encourage younger generations to study, to do well, to love one another, and to love the Lord.



Niyesha McDaniel

**Coloring Contest
Artist**



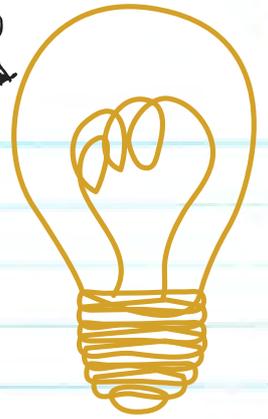


CELEBRATE EMANCIPATION
• ROCK HILL, SC •



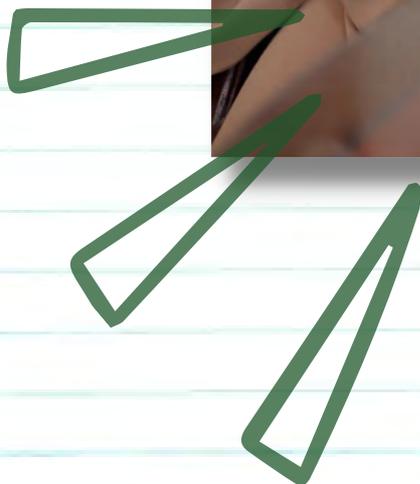
VICE PRESIDENT
KAMALA HARRIS

MEET THE CREATOR



Kristen Wright

Newsletter Design & Layout





MEET THE BOARD



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Seberina Miles
Celebration Chair:
Tamika Poag
Treasurer:
Dana Williams
Secretary:
Jeanette Gilliam
Board Members:
Stacey Anderson
Marie Cheek
Sandra Oborokumo
Clifford Smith
Willie Ware

Left to right: Tamika Poag, Stacey Anderson, Seberina Myles, Dana Williams, Jeanette Gilliam, Sandra Oborokumo - Not pictured: Willie Ware, Marie Cheek, Clifford Smith

2022 SPONSORS

Headline Sponsor \$10,000.00

Platinum Sponsor \$5,000.00

Gold Sponsor \$3,500.00

Silver Sponsor \$1,000.00

Bronze Sponsor \$500.00

Copper Sponsor \$250.00

Friend of Juneteenth \$100.00



2022 SPONSORS

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Rock Hill SC Parks, Recreation & Tourism (Rock Hill
Accommodations Tax/ Tourism Commission)

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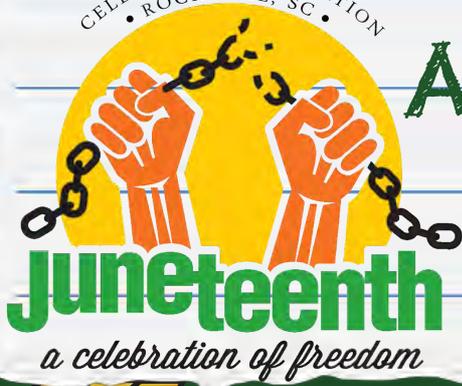
Stacey and Joye Anderson

Friends of Juneteenth

Seberina Myles | Board Member
Tamika Poag | Board Member
Dana C. Williams | Board Member
Judy and Sigmon Huitt
Winthrop University's Department of Mass Communication



CELEBRATE EMANCIPATION
• ROCK HILL, SC •



A SPECIAL THANKS TO...

Mayor John Gettys
Juneteenth Rock Hill Performers
Juneteenth Rock Hill Vendors
Juneteenth Rock Hill Board Members
Niyasha McDaniel-Coloring Contest Artist
Kristen Wright-Newsletter Design & and Layout
The City of Rock Hill

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