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West End rises to meet an epidemic challenge 🧑‍🚒

West Side Connect [ewright@qcitymetro.com]

Sent: Friday, March 20, 2020 4:53 PM

To: [Steve Johnston](#)



From the Publisher

Happy Friday:

Today some of our Morning Brew readers are seeing a new product -- West Side Connect -- a newsletter dedicated to covering the people, businesses, issues that relate to Charlotte's Historic West End. It's part of the work we're doing under a Knight Foundation grant.

While West Side Connect will specifically cover the neighborhoods and businesses that make up the Beatties Ford Road corridor, anyone may [sign up to receive this newsletter](#).

For those who don't [sign up](#), we'll not send it to your email again. Today's sneak peak is just that -- a chance to let our readers know that QCity Metro is on the move.

Stay healthy.

Glenn H. Burkins, Publisher
UNIVERSITY PARK



Virus impacts bottom line for West End Businesses

The businesses that make up Charlotte's Black Wall Street -- a stretch of Beatties Ford Road heavily populated by Black-owned retail and service companies -- are feeling the economic effect of coronavirus.

Though they provide vital goods and services, fewer walk-in customers and forced closures are having an immediate adverse impact. West Side Connect talked to four business owners about their experiences and what they're doing to hang on. [Read more...](#)

FIVE POINTS



At JCSU, only a handful of students remain

A week after announcing coronavirus protection measures, including shutting down dorm rooms and shifting classes online, Johnson C. Smith University still feels like a busy college campus with one notable exception: there's hardly a student in sight.

Student Government Association President Shakoya Brown, SGA member Crystal Howard and Phillip Beckford, a residence assistant, talked about life after the shutdown, how they're keeping safe and their plans for successfully completing the rest of spring semester. [Click here to read more...](#)

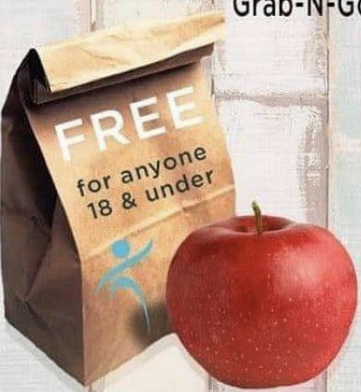
GREATER WEST SIDE

Community resources to combat COVID-19

As the West side braces for the full effects of the coronavirus pandemic, community organizations and concerned residents play an important role in protecting our vulnerable neighbors: seniors, those with compromised immune systems and low-income residents. WestSide Connect has compiled a list of organizations based or operating in the West End that are providing assistance. Readers are asked to email ewright@qcitymetro.com with organizations we missed.

FOOD

The Dooby Shop School of Cosmetology, 2107 Beatties Ford Rd. M-F 4-6 pm. Free, hot, healthy meals for any CMS student 18 and under. They can pick up meals for as many people in the household as needed (provide names). Call a day in advance for orders over 10. Contact Terese Hutchison, doobieshop@aol.com or text 704-497-1697.



School Closure "Grab-N-Go" Food Distribution
Begins: Monday, March 16
11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Grab-N-Go lunch and breakfast items provided

- The Exchange Church
635 Pressley Rd. Suite E Charlotte, NC 28217
- Simpson-Gillespie United Methodist Church (Starts March 18)
3545 Beatties Ford Rd. Charlotte, NC 28217
- The Grove Charlotte
5735 W T Harris Blvd. Charlotte, NC 28217
- Nations Ford Community Church
5910 Nations Ford Rd. Charlotte, NC 28217
- Urban Promise East
6701 Idlewild Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
- Urban Promise South
6210 Old Pineville Rd. Charlotte, NC 28217
- Urban Promise West
2225 Freedom Dr. Charlotte, NC 28208

Project Bolt. Gemini Boyd is providing drop-off dinner meals for youth. Call (980) 395-8643 or email info@project-bolt.com with name, address and number of children in the household and Boyd will coordinate minimal contact delivery.

For seniors and families in Lakeview and surrounding community: Porch drop-offs of fresh vegetables starting Wednesday 3/25. Contact Leondra Garrett at leondragarrett@yahoo.com or call (980) 428-2855. Looking for

volunteers.

The Deborah Company International provides a food pantry for seniors in need. Call Myra Patterson-Stewart at 704-488-3147 for an appointment on Monday or Tuesday 4pm - 7pm. Must schedule an appointment. 9147 Trinity Road.

Grab-n-Go food distribution 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at Simpson-Gillespie United Methodist Church, 3545 Beatties Ford Road, and Urban Promise West, 2225 Freedom Drive. For any student under 18.

St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church, 1600 Norris Ave provides bag lunches for kids in Druid Hills and Dillehay Court. Contact stlukeclt.org, (704) 375-9650.

Little Rock A.M.E. Zion church has box lunch from 11:30-3 M-F. Meals for homeless every Saturday 11:30-1 pm. 401 N. McDowell St., (704) 334-3782.

SENIOR SERVICES

All of Us or None will provide volunteer services and outside errands for seniors in the Historic West End. Contact Kristie Puckett, 704-352-9392.

[Click here for more...](#)

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

[Mecklenburg County coronavirus updates: ABC stores close early and other news you need to know](#)

[List of Charlotte Black-owned restaurants for take-out and delivery](#)

[JCSU responds to coronavirus with campus shutdown](#)

EVENTS: March 20-April 2

Please be advised that due to the threat to public health, most events have been postponed or canceled.

3/20

Mini-Food Truck Friday, Blue Blaze Brewery, 528 S Turner Ave. Soul Miner's Food Truck will have vegetarian delights available for take-out from 4-7 p.m.

3/21

Mini-Food Truck Fest, Blue Blaze Brewery, 528 S Turner Ave. Soul Miner's Food Truck will have vegetarian delights for take-out from 2-6 p.m.

3/22

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 10 a.m. Watch services streamed online at <https://friendship.churchonline.org/>.

3/29

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 10 a.m. Watch services streamed online at

<https://friendship.churchonline.org/>.

4/1
POSTPONED The Dooby Shop’s Community Cleanup at Beatties Ford Road and LaSalle Street, first Saturday of the month, has been postponed TBD.

Got an event you'd like to post? [Click here to get started.](#)

Give us feedback

Got a story idea for West Side Connect? What about an event you want to share with your neighbors? Perhaps your westside church is hosting a revival or special event. Or maybe you want to advertise or get involved in some other way. Drop us a line at editor@qcitymetro.com.

 [Forward to a friend](#)

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