SPAM Black History Month Inspirations



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Reply-To <info@cynthiawallaceforcongress.com>

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Dear Steve,

Happy Black History month! While February is a short month, it's fitting that we pause and recognize those trailblazers who are impacting countless lives in a positive way. As a student, I always enjoyed Black History Month and the people that I learned (or re-learned) about. I found their stories of accomplishment inspirational and wanted to also make as great an impact as they had.

Many times we look back at the trailblazers who are no longer with us, but this year, I'd like to take a moment to recognize people here in NC's 9th Congressional District who are living and making history right now. They won't all be recognizable names or elected officials, but they're making an impact every day.

Each week through the month of February, I will be showcasing a few inspiring change makers across all eight counties of NC-09. You can also learn more about them from my Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts.

MECKLENBURG COUNTY:

Mayor Vi Lyles: Mayor Lyles was the first black woman elected Mayor of Charlotte in 2017. Prior to her election as mayor, she spent many years working for the city of Charlotte as budget analyst, budget director, and assistant city manager, and she also served 4 years on Charlotte City Council from 2013 – 2017, where she was voted mayor pro tem for two years. Her victory inspired many of us in Charlotte, across NC, and across the country.

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Connie Green-Johnson: After retirement Connie Green-Johnson settled in NC and got involved politically in Mecklenburg organizing her precinct and serving on local boards. In 2012, when she saw a long-sitting County Commissioner who spewed hate wasn't being challenged she filed for office and ran against him! She didn't stop there, and in 2016 she made sure NC House District 105 didn't go unchallenged laying the groundwork for the seat to be flipped just 2 years later.

ROBESON COUNTY:

Mayor Ed Henderson: In 2017, Ed Henderson was elected the first black mayor of the town of Red Springs in Robeson County winning by only 35 votes proving that every vote counts! He was sworn in the same year as Mayor Lyles and Fayetteville mayor Mitch Colvin marking Black History in several District 9 cities in the same year! Prior to his election, Mayor Henderson was on the Red Springs Town Council and the chair of the Robeson County Democratic Party.

Commissioner Pauline Campbell: In 2018, after a long tenure of working for Robeson county government, Pauline Campbell became the first Black woman to sit on the Robeson County Board of Commissioners. She's a swift mover as she was selected Vice-Chair of the County Commission in early 2021.

This is a first in a series of emails about only a few of the folks making history across the 9th Congressional district. Next week, I will feature leaders from Anson, Scotland and Union Counties.

Please read more about these folks on my social media platforms!

Warm Regards,

Cynthia

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