

*****SPAM*** Black History Month Inspirations - Scotland & Union**

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CYNTHIA ***
WALLACE
FOR CONGRESS

Dear Steve,

Last week, in honor of Black History Month, I started highlighting trailblazers from across the counties of the 9th district who are impacting countless lives in a meaningful way. We highlighted changemakers from Mecklenburg and Robeson County last week.

Today, we highlight a few amazing leaders from Union and Scotland counties.

You can learn more about them from my [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts.

UNION COUNTY:

Former Mayor Frank Dees: Mayor Dees knows a thing about redemption. Before being elected in 2005 as the first African American mayor of Marshville, North Carolina, he served 10 years in prison for committing a crime in his youth. He turned his life around through faith and volunteering. In 2019 he became the first Black town manager of Marshville. He's written a book about his life experiences and serves as an inspiration to hundreds of people as he speaks about his life motivating them to move past their mistakes.

Councilwoman Surluta Anthony: In 2013, Surluta was elected the first African American woman to the Monroe City Council. Ms. Anthony has supported and mentored many candidates in the 9th Congressional District as she's on the top of anyone's list of Union County people to reach out to. In response to George Floyd's murder, Ms. Anthony spearheaded the development of a new City Council Committee titled "An Open Conversation of

Racism".

SCOTLAND COUNTY:

NC State Representative Garland Pierce: Representative Pierce was elected to the NC House of Representatives District 48 in 2004 and represents Hoke and Scotland Counties. He serves as the Minority Whip and helps Democratic leadership secure the votes it needs in the House. He is the pastor of Bright Hopewell Missionary Baptist church. After his re-election in November 2020, he was appointed to six NC House committees.

Commissioner Betty Gholston: Commissioner Gholston's life is a series of firsts. She was the first Black woman elected to the Wagram town board, Scotland County Board of Education, and her current role on the Scotland County Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Gholston's deep public service experience included 12 years with the Wagram town board and 12 years on the Board of Education. In 2019 she received the highest award from the NC Governor's office, the Order of the Long Leaf Pine. She currently serves as vice-Chair of the Board of Commissioners.

Thank you for all the wonderful feedback.

Please read more about these folks on my social media platforms! Don't hesitate to shout out other history makers in response!

Warm Regards,
Cynthia



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