
THE COALITION OF UNITED PROGRESSIVES CHARMECK CHRONICLE



Coalition of United Progressives CharMeck



Greetings!

We truly appreciate everyone's involvement.
This War on Oppression will only be won as one mass
movement.

Sections

- Spotlight - by DonnaMarie Woodson
 - Editorial - by Tarik Kiley
 - Announcements
 - Happenings Gallery!

Our Mission Statement

The continual unification of as many organizations as possible starting at the local level and branching out to both the state of North Carolina and then the entire nation.

Spotlight

Sarah Rector



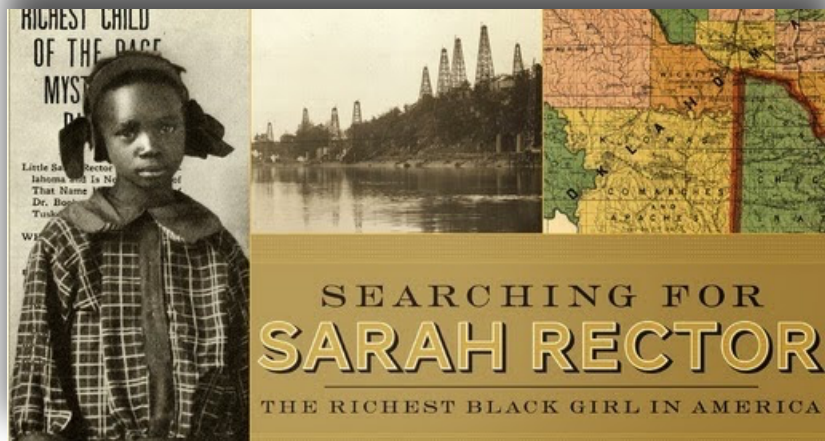
"Once Richest Colored Girl in the World"

(March 3, 1902 – July 22, 1967)

By

DonnaMarie Woodson

One of the main reasons I love being a writer is doing the research; discovering the untold stories of fascinating people for the first time.



There are so many African American stories that have never been told until a dedicated researcher dusts off our history to reveal these amazing truths. The story of Sarah Rector is absolutely one of those.

Sarah Rector received international attention at the age of eleven when *The Kansas City Star* in 1913 publicized the headline, “Millions to a Negro Girl.” From that moment Rector’s life became a cauldron of misinformation, legal and financial maneuvering, and public speculation.

Sarah Rector was born in 1902 near the all-black town of Taft, located in the eastern portion of Oklahoma, in what was then Indian Territory. She had five siblings. Her parents, Rose McQueen and her husband, Joseph Rector were descendants of African people who had been slaves owned by the Muscogee Creek Nation Creek Indians before the Civil War, and which became part of the Muscogee Creek Nation after the Treaty of 1866.

As such, they and their descendants were listed as "freedmen" on the Dawes Rolls, by which they were entitled to land allotments under the Treaty of 1866 made by the United States with the Five Civilized Tribes. Consequently, nearly 600 black children, or Muscogee Freedmen minors as they were called, were granted land allotments, and Sarah Rector was allotted 159.14 acres of land which made her the richest Black girl in all of America.

While the Rector family lived simply, the \$30 annual property tax on the young girl's land allotment proved to be a burden on them. So much so, that her father petitioned the Muskogee County Court to sell the land. However, the petition was denied due to restrictions placed on the land.

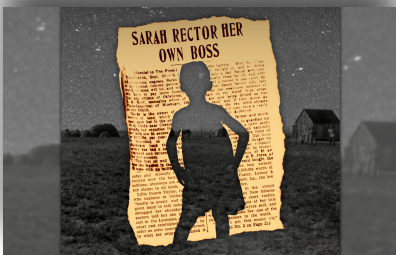


Standard Oil Fields

To keep up with the tax payments, Rector's father sold the plot to the Standard Oil Company. Then, in 1913, the independent oil driller B.B. Jones drilled a well on the property. This well led to an oil "gusher" the driller was able to harvest 2,500 barrels of oil a day. From this well alone, Sarah was able to earn a daily income of \$300.

News of Sarah Rector's newfound wealth spread far and wide, including overseas. Despite being only 12 years old, she received requests for loans, money gifts, and marriage proposals.

In 1913, The Oklahoma Legislature even made an effort to have her declared White. This allowed the young girl to reap the benefits of a higher social standing, such as riding in first-class cars and in first-class cabins on trains.

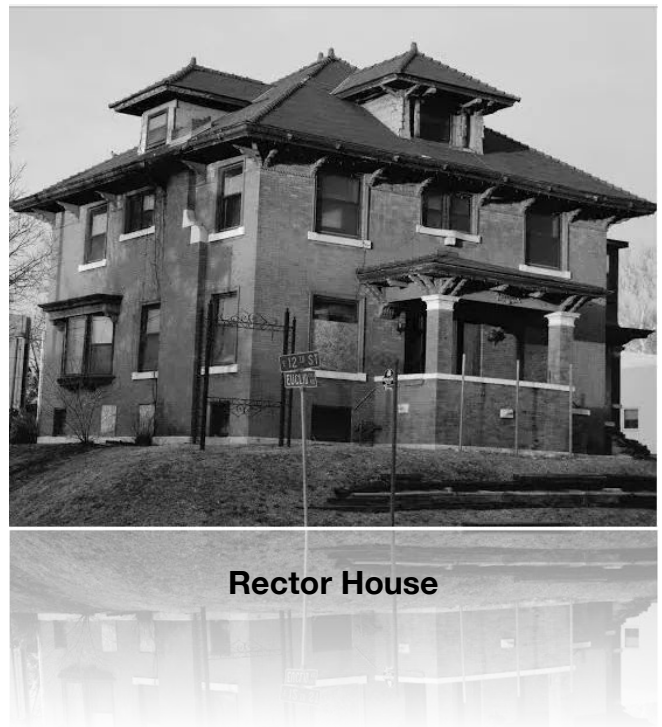


In 1914 *The Chicago Defender* published an article claiming that her estate was being mismanaged by grafters and her "ignorant" parents and that she was uneducated, dressed in rags, and lived in an unsanitary shanty.

None of the allegations were true. Rector and her siblings went to school in Taft, an all-black town where they lived in a modern five-room cottage, and they owned an automobile. That same year, Sarah enrolled in the Children's House, a boarding school for teenagers at **Tuskegee Institute** in Alabama.

By the time Rector turned 18, she was a millionaire. She owned stocks, bonds, a boarding house, businesses, and a 2,000-acre piece of prime river bottomland.

In 1920, Sarah and her family purchased a house in Kansas City, Missouri on 12th Street that is still there and known as the Rector House. *(The house has been purchased by a local nonprofit with the intention of restoration and historical and cultural preservation.)*



Rector House



SARAH RECTOR AND HUSBAND KENNETH CAMPBELL . . . Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Campbell are shown above at a social event. The late Mrs. Sarah Rector Campbell was Kansas City's first black millionairess. Campbell had a Hummobile dealership on 19th and Vine. He later moved to Chicago and became an alderman there. Source: Kansas City Call

In 1920, Sarah married her first husband, Kenneth Campbell in a small, private wedding. Only her mother and the bridegroom's paternal grandmother were present for the event. Prior to filing for divorce in 1930, the couple had three sons.

Ultimately, Sarah lived a comfortable life. She had a taste for fine clothing, cars, and threw lavish parties where she entertained celebrities such as Count Basie and Duke Ellington. Sarah and her mother were known for their fancy Cadillacs, Lincolns and a Rolls Royce limo they raced around town.

Ultimately, Rector lived a comfortable life. She had a taste for fine clothing and cars and threw lavish parties where she entertained celebrities such as Count Basie and Duke Ellington.



Sarah Rector passed away in 1967, and her remains were buried in the city cemetery of her hometown of Taft.

Ironically, her body was brought to C. K. Kerford Funeral Home. Her last stop in Kansas City was none other than the old Rector Mansion, now a funeral home. Her final resting place in the ground was back where the story begins—in Taft, in a peaceful parcel of land known as Blackjack Cemetery.

Works cited:

https://scoop.upworthy.com/sarah-rector-was-once-the-richest-black-girl-in-the-usa-and-you-should-know-her-story?mc_cid=94b5d599ae&mc_eid=9fb9417f9c

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sarah_Rector

<https://samepassage.org/sarah-rector/>

<https://martincitytelegraph.com/2020/01/19/who-was-the-real-sarah-rector-the-richest-black-girl-in-america/>

Editorial

Why is Infrastructure so Important?

By

Tarik Kiley

April 24th, 2021

Ever since President Franklin Roosevelt's, "New Deal," investment in infrastructure has been a major purview of the US federal government. Among other things, the New Deal, penned by President Roosevelt, was instrumental in alleviating the major unemployment which occurred at the time.



According to Britannica.com, "Such agencies as the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) were established to dispense emergency and short-term governmental aid and to provide temporary jobs, employment on construction projects, and youth work in the national forests...In addition, the arm of the federal government reached into the area of electric power, establishing in 1933 the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), which was to cover a seven-state area and supply cheap electricity, prevent floods, improve navigation, and produce nitrates."

Though accused of socialism, President Roosevelt's New Deal created a winning situation where he could help to build the USA's infrastructure and provide jobs to the American people as well.

Now, the Biden administration is working on infrastructure, and has sought to expand the definition of what infrastructure means to include improving America's home care system, providing for paid family leave and other benefits and helping to have the economy recover from the COVID-19 Pandemic.



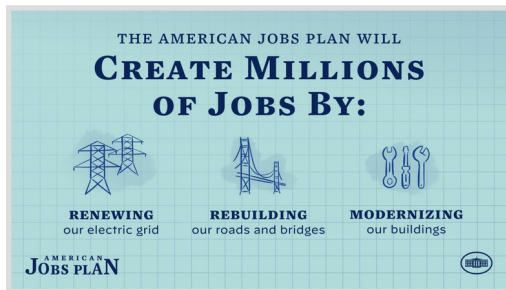
What is in Biden's "American Jobs Plan," that will help the USA to improve its infrastructure?

First, let us talk about the problems which the American Jobs Plan hopes to address. According to a fact sheet from

[whitehouse.gov](https://www.whitehouse.gov), America's infrastructure is in dire straits. According to this fact sheet the following is true:

The United States of America is the wealthiest country in the world, yet we rank 13th when it comes to the overall quality of our infrastructure. After decades of disinvestment, our roads, bridges, and water systems are crumbling. Our electric grid is vulnerable to catastrophic outages. Too many lack access to affordable, high-speed Internet and to quality housing.

The past year has led to job losses and threatened economic security, eroding more than 30 years of progress in women's labor force participation. It has unmasked the fragility of our caregiving infrastructure. And our nation is falling behind its biggest competitors on research and development (R&D), manufacturing, and training. It has never been more important for us to invest in strengthening our infrastructure and competitiveness, and in creating the good-paying, union jobs of the future.



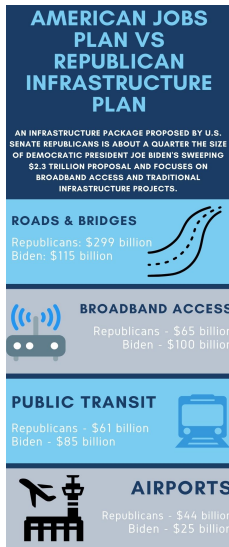
So, the Biden administration is following the logic of the New Deal with the emphasis on providing jobs coupled with investment in infrastructure. While not certain whether President Biden has been inspired by President Roosevelt, the reasoning behind their respective plans

seems to resonate as similar.

More specifically, the President Biden's plan seeks to accomplish the following:

- Invest in repairing highways and bridges, and make improvements to transit systems, airports and shipping ports.
- Develop high speed broadband for all, improve the electric grid, and bring clean drinking water to all.
- Improve veteran's hospitals, federal buildings, school buildings. Retrofit two million homes and commercial buildings.
- Raise benefits and wages for essential home care workers.
- Provide job training for jobs of the future, invest in Research in Development, secure US supply chains, and encourage the US manufacturing industry.
- Bring about high-quality jobs in safe workspaces that are healthy and allow workers to unionize.

While there is disagreement as to how much money should be spent on infrastructure investment, and how to pay for it, the average American can look around at our infrastructure and that it is in terrible condition. Roads and bridges need repair, our transit systems are woefully outdated and in need of upgrading, our manufacturing sector is failing,



and Internet broadband has become a necessity to do business in our era.

Now, at this point it should be mentioned that the Republicans are proposing a plan on infrastructure that does not invest on the same level as the American Jobs Plan. According to the New York Times, “Senate Republicans...offered a \$568 billion counterproposal to President Biden’s \$2.3 trillion infrastructure plan, laying out a marker they hoped would kick-start bipartisan negotiations to vastly scale back the president’s plan and do away with the corporate tax

increases he is eyeing to pay for it.” The Republicans proposal reduces the investment levels present in President Biden’s plan. The need which currently exists makes the case for the necessary investment.

It should also be noted here that Republicans tend to oppose spending when it does not coincide with their priorities. The Republicans feel uncomfortable with the corporate tax increase which will be used to help fund Biden’s infrastructure bill. Yet, whether the two infrastructure bills—one from the Biden administration and one from the Republican leadership—come into fruition and are reconciled, it seems pertinent and urgent for the Federal government to make a significant investment in the future of this country.

Works Cited

<https://www.britannica.com/event/New-Deal>

<https://www.cnn.com/2021/04/21/politics/infrastructure-negotiations-latest/index.html>

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/03/31/fact-sheet-the-american-jobs-plan/>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/04/22/us/politics/republican-infrastructure-plan.html>

<https://www.cnn.com/2021/03/31/politics/infrastructure-proposal-biden-explainer/index.html>

<https://www.cnbc.com/2021/04/22/senate-republicans-release-infrastructure-plan-in-counter-to-biden-proposal.html>

<https://www.politico.com/news/2021/04/21/biden-to-republicans-show-me-your-infrastructure-plan-484000>

Announcements



Democrats of N. Meck Monthly Meeting

Thursday, May 6th at 7:00 PM

Info Contact Budd Berro

democrats@demsofnorthmeck.org

ZOOM

N. Meck Progressives Meeting

Monday, May 10th at 6:00 pm

info contact: Michelle Blumenthal

n.meck.progressives@gmail.com

ZOOM

Democratic Women of Mecklenburg County

Wednesday, May 12th at 6:30 PM

ZOOM

Indivisible Southern Region

**Tough Talk: Tools for Anti-Racism Conversations with Friends
and Family**

Saturday, May 15, 2021 at 12:00 PM

Anyone on or off Facebook

Announcements



Please Join:

Congresswoman Alma Adams (NC-12)

Congresswoman Stacey Plaskett (US Virgin Islands)

Congresswoman Kathy Manning (NC-06)

Sunday, May 23, 2021 5:00 PM ET

Zoom

Please RSVP for our virtual fundraiser today

For more information, please contact

Megan Frye (443) 974-8429 or

megan@kalikassociates.com



**Please submit your group events to donnamarie93@gmail.com by the
15th of the month for inclusion in the Announcements**

Happenings Gallery!



The Executive Corner:

Executive Director - Jade X. Jackson

Rev Rodney Sadler, Joel Segal, DonnaMarie Woodson

Rev. Glencie Rhedrick

Coalition of United Progressives-CharMeck Chronicle

Editor: DonnaMarie Woodson

Contributor: Tarik Kiley