

NEW KENT

NAAACP NEWS



President's Corner: Building Unity in New Kent

Unity is the foundation of any thriving community, and here in New Kent, we have a unique opportunity to set an example for what it truly means to stand together. Our county is rich in history, culture, and potential; but we can only realize that potential when we move forward as one. Whether you're a long-time resident or a new neighbor, each of us brings something valuable to the table. It's time to lean into that strength and recognize that our differences don't divide us- they make us stronger.

Helping each other grow means listening with compassion, supporting without hesitation, and showing up consistently- especially during difficult times. From our schools to our small businesses, from our places of worship to our government offices, we can all do our part to uplift those around us. The NAACP is committed to being a resource for everyone in our community. We are here to advocate, to educate, and to extend a hand where it's needed. But we can't do it alone- we need your voices, your talents, and your commitment to make real progress.

Transparency is key. We must be honest about the issues our neighbors face, whether it's economic hardship, lack of representation, or systemic barriers. Let's bring these issues into the light so we can work toward real, lasting solutions. When we take time to understand what each person is going through, we create space for healing, trust, and unity.

Finally, we must confront and reject any form of selfishness or prejudice that aims to divide us. There's no room for racial bias or exclusion in a community that wants to thrive. The time is now to break down walls and build bridges. Let New Kent be a model of inclusion, understanding, and true neighborly love. Together, we can shape a future that honors the dignity of every individual and celebrates the power of unity.

Joe Crump
NAACP President New Kent

Investing In The Future

We need your help supporting scholarships for the young people of New Kent. Our students are the future leaders, teachers, entrepreneurs, and changemakers of this community, and they deserve every opportunity.

The NAACP is committed to helping our youth access higher education, but we can't do it alone. We are asking our community to come together: join our local branch, get involved, and consider making a donation. Every dollar given goes directly toward scholarships and programs that uplift and empower our next generation.

Whether you're an individual, family, business owner, or part of a local organization, your support helps open doors for young minds who are ready to make a difference. Let's show our students that we believe in them. Let's invest in their dreams. and let's work together to build a future where every child in New Kent knows they are supported, valued, and equipped to thrive.



April's Black History Month Fact

Black History cannot be confined to just one month, especially not the shortest month of the year. The legacy, struggle, triumph, and brilliance of those who came before us deserve to be honored, shared, and celebrated year-round. History doesn't pause when the calendar flips, neither should our remembrance of it.



If you come across a moment in Black History that inspires you, moves you, or teaches you something powerful, please feel free to email me at: joecrumpnaacp@gmail.com.

I welcome every story, every voice, every truth.



NK NAACP

The New Kent NAACP is a very active organization in our community. Our members volunteer with the New Kent Food Pantry, Grace Village Thrift Shop in Lanexa and New Kent Relay for Life. We love to support local events like the New Kent Farmers Market. Our members are also active parishioners at churches throughout the county.

Thomas Fuller was born in 1710 in what is now Liberia and Benin. Enslaved and brought to America in 1724, he became known as "Negro Tom" and "The Virginia Calculator." Despite the cruelty and injustice of slavery, and the fact that he was illiterate, Thomas possessed an extraordinary gift for mathematics. His owner, Elizabeth Cox of Alexandria, Virginia, could not hide the brilliance that shone through his calculations.

Word of Fuller's incredible mathematical abilities spread along the East Coast, and even across the Atlantic to Germany and France. His genius helped ignite the flames of the abolitionist movement—proof that brilliance knows no bounds, not even the chains of slavery.

His obituary read: "Had his opportunity of improvement been equal to those of thousands of his fellow-men, neither the Royal Society of London, the Academy of Sciences at Paris, nor even a Newton himself, need have been ashamed to acknowledge him a Brother in Science."

Since Fuller was a slave he was denied the right to learn to read or write, so he never read an article about his extraordinary abilities. It's up to us to ensure these stories are told, remembered, and honored. Not just for a month — but for all time.

NAACP Unification

Written By: PENNY JETT CRUMP

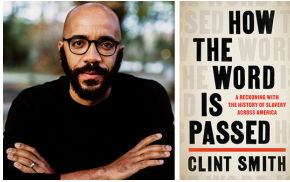
Being more than words, let us become an action. Chasing a dream stop,

Pray and seek his words. One thing to remember focus on one shared action and break into small groups

I will share my reading for today.

Ecclesiastes 4:9

Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their labor.



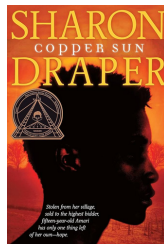
Book Review



Published June 2021, Clint Smith's **"How the Word is Passed"** takes its readers on a tour of historical landmarks while examining the legacy of slavery in modern day America.

John Green (The Best Selling Author of the Anthropocene Reviewed) stated, "...It is both a searching historical work and a journalistic account of how these historic sites operate today. Its both carefully researched and lyrical. I mean Smith is a poet and the sentences in this book just are piercingly alive. And it's both extremely personal—it is the author's story—and extraordinarily sweeping. It amplifies lots of other voices. Past and present. Reading it I kept thinking about that great Alice Walker line 'All History is Current'.

"There are two chapters dedicated to locations in Virginia and I was amazed at the amount of history I did not know. In a time where our history is being erased, our past hardships romanticized- we have to continue to seek knowledge of our own and spread our stories, our triumphs to the next generation.



Sharon Draper's award winning historical fiction **"Copper Sun"** takes readers on a journey from Africa to the Carolina's and finally to freedom, from the viewpoint of a 15 year old girl .

Draper was inspired to write this novel after taking a trip to Ghana. As she crawled thru the "door of no return" she knew she had to tell the story of so many that had passed that way into a life of slavery.

Sharon Draper calls this the "book of her heart, book of her spirit" and it is bound to touch your heart and move your spirit as well

Upcoming Events

We are thrilled to announce that tickets are now on sale for our upcoming Freedom Fund Banquet ! This is one of the most anticipated events of the year, bringing together members of the New Kent community to celebrate progress, unity, and the ongoing fight for justice and equality.

Tickets are only \$30 and cover the entire evening-from the powerful program to the delicious dinner and meaningful fellowship. Your support helps fuel the mission of the NAACP and allows us to continue making a real difference right here in our local neighborhoods.

This event isn't just a banquet-it's a celebration of our shared history, our resilience, and our hope for the future. It's a chance to come together in understanding and excitement, to honor those who have paved the way, and to uplift the work still ahead of us.

We encourage everyone-friends, families, churches, schools, and local businesses-to attend and be part of this powerful evening. Let's come together as one New Kent and show what community truly looks like. Get your tickets today and help us make this year's banquet unforgettable!

Please email Mrs. Joyce Williams for ticket info:
joywil47@gmail.com

We are also planning an event at the Quinton Community Park on June 14th in celebration of Juneteenth. More details will be out soon.

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