

## WERA's First Virtual Dinner - Nov 20, 2020 - 5:30 to 7:00-PM

### West End Revitalization Association (WERA)

PO Box 661, Mebane NC 27302

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Original Website: [www.wera-nc.org](http://www.wera-nc.org)

Say your personal grace and proceed to enjoy your meal! 😊

**THEME: "Collaborative Partners Removing Social and Physical Barriers"**

**Reminder Our Veterans, Active Duty Service Persons, and Families**

	
<p><b>Cecil Corbin-Mark, Deputy Director &amp; Director of Policy Initiatives at WE ACT for Environmental Justice. Harlem, NY (Died Oct 15, 2020 at Age 51)</b></p>	<p><b>Community Cemetery (Black, Indigenous, Latinx) West End Community Burial Sites 200 Years – Slavery to Present West Holt Street Mebane, NC</b></p>

**Welcome - WERA Family and Collaborative Partners..... Evon Connally**

**Song – "A Change is Gonna Come" (Sam Cooke) by Brian Owens <https://youtu.be/cEXhZ8PwM-Y>**

**Scripture – Amos 7:7-8 "Set a Plumbline"..... Brenda Wilson and Virginia Douglas**

**7**This is what He showed me: Behold, the Lord was standing by a wall true to plumb, with a plumb line in His hand. **8**"Amos, what do you see?" asked the LORD. "A plumb line," I replied. "Behold," said the Lord, "I am setting a plumb line among My people Israel; I will no longer spare them:

**Prayer - Indigenous – Jason Keck (Choctaw) from Occaneechi Saponi Tribe, Alamance County and Caswell County, NC**

**Prayer – Pastor Jason Gaskin, Storied Church, United Methodist Church, Mebane, NC**

### **Program Highlights:**

- 1) Introductions – Name, City, State, Organization, and WERA Affiliation (brief :-)**
- 2) Memorial Tribute for Cecil Corbin-Mark – by Attorney Omari M Wilson, OM Wilson Law Firm, and Ayo B Wilson, NCAAT's Operations Coordinator – Durham, NC.**

3) **Funding, Partnership, Projects, and Progress:**

- ❖ **Funding:** Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, Winston-Salem, NC (since 1997); WE ACT for Environmental Justice, Harlem, NY; Windward Fund, Washington, DC; MOSIAC Momentum; Union for Concerned Scientists, Cambridge, MA; Dr. William and Gloria Evans, Bena, VA (*William was born in the West End Community over 85-years ago*).
- ❖ **Partnerships:** Melfield United Church of Christ-Food Pantry, Haw River, NC; Alamance County – NAACP; Occaneechi Saponi Tribe -Alamance County and Caswell County; Alamance Community Remembrance Coalition for Wyatt Outlaw (*lynched 1870*) & Equity Justice Initiative; Neighbors for Better Neighborhoods, Winston-Salem; Shaw University, Raleigh, NC; Haw River Assembly; NC Conservation Network; National Wild Life Federation/Environmental Justice; North Carolina Environmental Justice Network; Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition: LAMC, North Charleston, SC; National EJ Forums; National Black EJ Network; and more.
- ❖ **Projects:** Mini-grants for COVID-19 masks/PPE/Sanitation to Mebane Police & Firefighters, Alamance County Rescue, Burlington Housing Authority, Charles R. Drew Medical Clinic, White Oak Minor Nursing House, Dental Hygienists, and more; Laptop Grants for WERA board & local partners; Implementation of WERA Community-Owned and Managed Research (COMR) Model with National Citizen Science Association/Environmental Justice Working Group; American Public Health Association/Environmental Justice Working Group; Duke University Environmental Law Clinic; School of Public Health at University of Maryland-College Park; Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources at NCSU; Office of Environmental Justice at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- ❖ **Progress:**
  - **Taskforce Model: Black, Indigenous, and Latinx Communities Matter! Meetings – for safe drinking water and sewer connection services in Alamance County and Orange County. **EMAIL 11-20-20** “*As I said at the Task Force meeting, these are my best attempt to reflect what the areas shown on the CDBG applications submitted by the City with support from the West End Revitalization Association. Those pre-digital age maps show areas but there are some details I could not pick out. I attempted to follow streets and streams as my boundaries in identifying the West End, East End, White Level, Perry Hills, Buckhorn communities but I am sure that there are errors that need to be corrected. If you want to give me feedback on how to improve this map, I will be happy to make corrections and redistribute for further review and approval for distribution to a larger audience. If there is a date you have in mind for larger distribution, please let me know so I can plan accordingly. Thank you in advance for all of your time in this matter.* Sincerely”, **Cy Stober, AICP**, Development Director, City of Mebane, NC, and Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) in Alamance County and Orange County, NC**
  - **Supported “Indigenous People Day Proclamation by City of Mebane” Oct 12, 2020**

▪ **Media Coverage links:**

**Grist News** – Quotes Omega Wilson WERA, Nov 11, 2020: “**Here’s what it will take for Biden and Harris to deliver on environmental justice**”, <https://grist.org/justice/heres-what-it-will-take-for-joe-biden-and-kamala-harris-to-deliver-on-environmental-justice/>

**Grist News** – Features WERA Omega and Brenda Wilson, Nov 3, 2020: “**Moby Dick is a perfect parable for what’s at stake in the 2020 election**”, <https://grist.org/justice/moby-dick-is-a-perfect-parable-for-whats-at-stake-in-the-2020-election/>

**E&E News** – Quotes Omega Wilson, WERA’s COVID-19 Hazardous and Medical Waste initiative, Aug 19, 2020: “**PANDEMIC - The medical waste crisis that didn't happen — yet**”, <https://www.eenews.net/stories/1063712043>

**NC Policy Watch** – Op-Ed Omega Wilson WERA on Climate/COVID-19/CAFOs/Hurricanes/Workers, “**For the sake of public health, our leaders must prioritize environmental justice and climate action**”: <http://pulse.ncpolicywatch.org/2020/10/29/for-the-sake-of-public-health-our-leaders-must-prioritize-environmental-justice-and-climate-action/>

**Times-News Burlington-NC (Gannett)** – Quotes Omega and Brenda Wilson’s Letter Editors “Walk-In Your Mail-In Ballots”, Oct 14, 2020, “**Local election officials, voters await fate of rejected mail-in ballots**”, <https://www.thetimesnews.com/story/news/2020/10/14/election-officials-voters-wait-fate-rejected-mail-ballots/3643370001/>

**Raleigh News & Observer:** - Nov 20, 2020: “**Alamance County brings new felony charges against leader of march to polls**”, <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/QgrcJHsBnjDXSrfnQknMdghfNhggcpwCzZq>

**PODCAST:** Oct 6, 2020 - Episode 11 Omega Wilson | Every Story Matters. Pastor Jason Gaskin, <https://podpoint.com/storied-church/episode-11-omega-wilson>



**WERA 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dinner Nov. 1997 (face-to-face): Governor Robert Scott accepting “Set A Plumb-Line” from Omega Wilson (WERA Enviro-Artist Kojo E. Wilson)**

**WERA Board Members**

Evon Connally, Board Chair – White Level Community  
Donald Tate – West End Community / Rachel Hester – West End & Buckhorn Communities  
Patricia Torain – Buckhorn & Perry Hill Communities  
Joe Johnson – West End Community / Chatarsha V. Garner – West End Community  
George Wilson – Kimrey Road in Hawfields Community  
Omega Wilson, President / Project Manager – West End Community  
Brenda Wilson & Virginia Douglas - Volunteers - West End & Indian Trail Communities

**Memorial Chairs:**

***Marilyn H. Snipes – West End,  
Herman Cousin – Buckhorn / Perry Hill Communities  
Patricia Torain – Buckhorn / Perry Hill Communities***

**DONATE**

**West End Revitalization Association - WERA**

***Organized - 1994, Incorporated as 501(c)-3 Non-Profit - 1995***

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Mebane, NC 27302

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**WERA Social and Environmental Justice Award 2016 - Alamance NAACP**

**Eat, Drink, and Celebrate Healthy for *Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year!!!***