



Historic Civil Rights Commemorations Task Force Chapel Hill Nine Recommendation



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HCRC Task Force

HCRC Task Force
Sep. 2017—June 2018



- Engage community
- Develop timeline

CH Nine Subcommittee
June—Oct. 2018



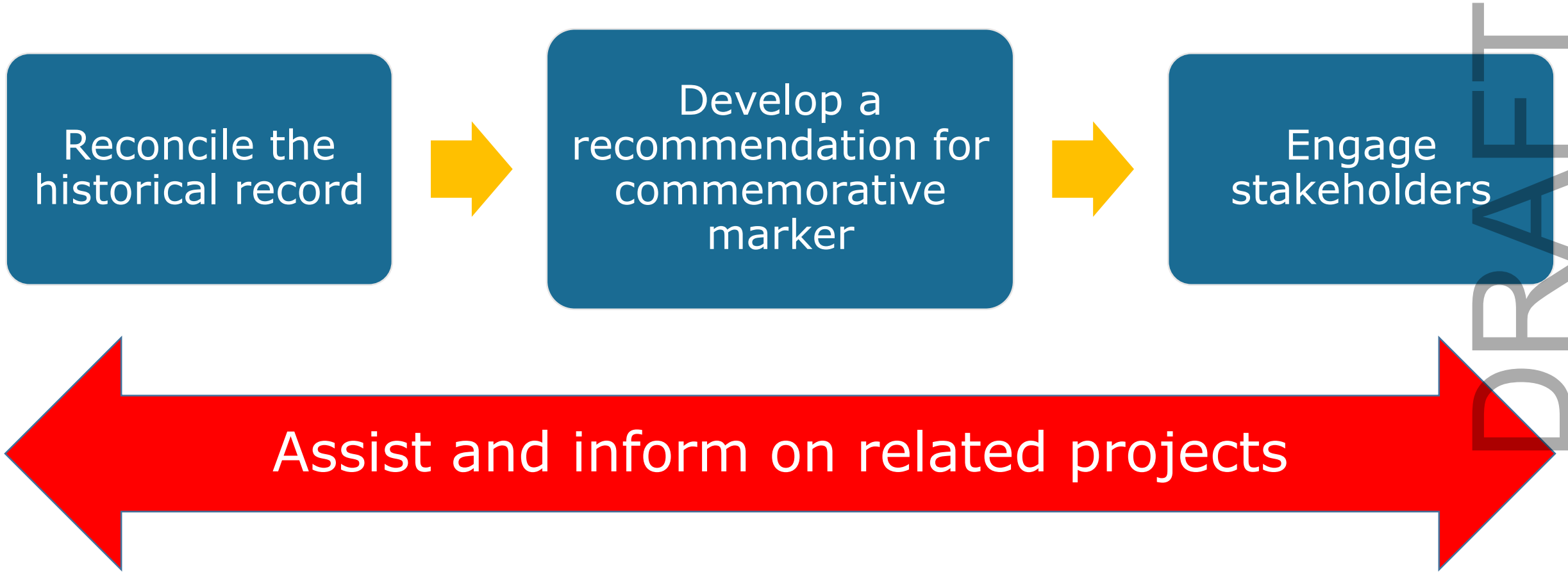
- Reconcile history
- Develop marker recommendation

Implementation
Nov 2018—Feb. 2020

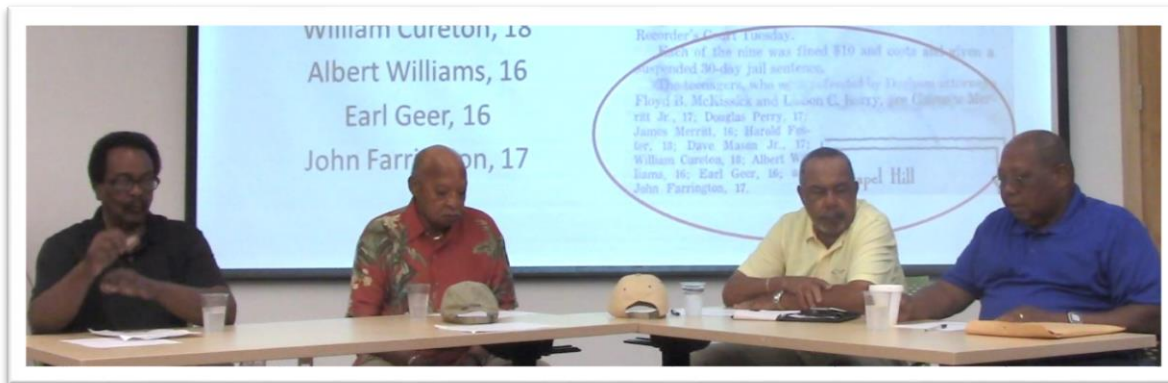


- Share & Engage
- Honor history makers
- Commemorate significant events

CH 9 Subcommittee Goals



Reconcile Historical Record



- Intensive review secondary sources, oral histories, & primary source documents
- Interview living members of Chapel Hill Nine
- Reach agreement with historians, community

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Findings

In Racial Demonstrations

Teenagers Stand Trial Tomorrow

Nine Negro teenagers charged with trespass in last week's spontaneous sitdown demonstrations at Colonial Drug Store will be tried Tuesday morning in Chapel Hill Recorder's Court.

Legal counsel for the youths will be Floyd B. Durham Negro attorney also representing Chapel Hill families in integration suit.

Colonial Drug Store attorney Carswell, who signed warrants against the demonstrators retained attorney wards as private

The nine teenagers, 11 Negro boys who were arrested last week after the sitdown at the drug store

Again

s Arrested Here Demonstration

Geer, 16.

Another teenager, John Farrington, has been charged along with the eight. But Police Chief William D. Blake said the warrant had not been served on him yesterday.

auspices of conducting the

The Negro drug store Monday and Mr. Carswell

Young Chapel Hill Negroes Protest At Lunch Counters

By Dwayne Walls

The sitdown strike in protest segregated lunch counter service erupted in Chapel Hill last week with Lincoln High

staged their demonstration shortly after noon yesterday at Howard Johnson's restaurant on the Durham Boulevard.

Their strike was short-lived,

18-year-old Lincoln senior Harold Foster, said the demonstration would be resumed next week with adult Negro leadership.

said the group organized Tuesday



Negro Teenagers Are Found Guilty Of Trespassing

Nine Negro teenagers charged with trespass as the result of a spontaneous sit-in demonstration at Colonial Drug Store last month were found guilty in Chapel Hill Recorder's Court Tuesday.

Each of the nine was fined \$10 and costs and given a suspended 30-day jail sentence.

The teenagers, who were defended by Durham attorneys Floyd B. McKissick and Lawson C. Barry, are Clarence Merritt Jr., 17; Douglas Perry, 17; James Merritt, 16; Harold Foster, 18; Dave Mason Jr., 17; William Cureton, 18; Albert Williams, 16; Earl Geer, 16; and John Farrington, 17.

Chapel Hill

Recommendation

Install a commemorative marker

This history should be permanently commemorated for the benefit of the whole community and future generations.

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Recommendation

Text & Photos

On this site on Sunday, February 28, 1960, nine young men from Lincoln High School entered what was then the Colonial



Harold Foster (18)
William Cureton (18)
John Farrington (17)

Earl Geer (16)
David Mason Jr. (17)
Clarence Merritt Jr. (17)

James Merritt (16)
Douglas "Clyde" Perry (17)
Albert Williams (16)

Recommendation

Materials & Permanence

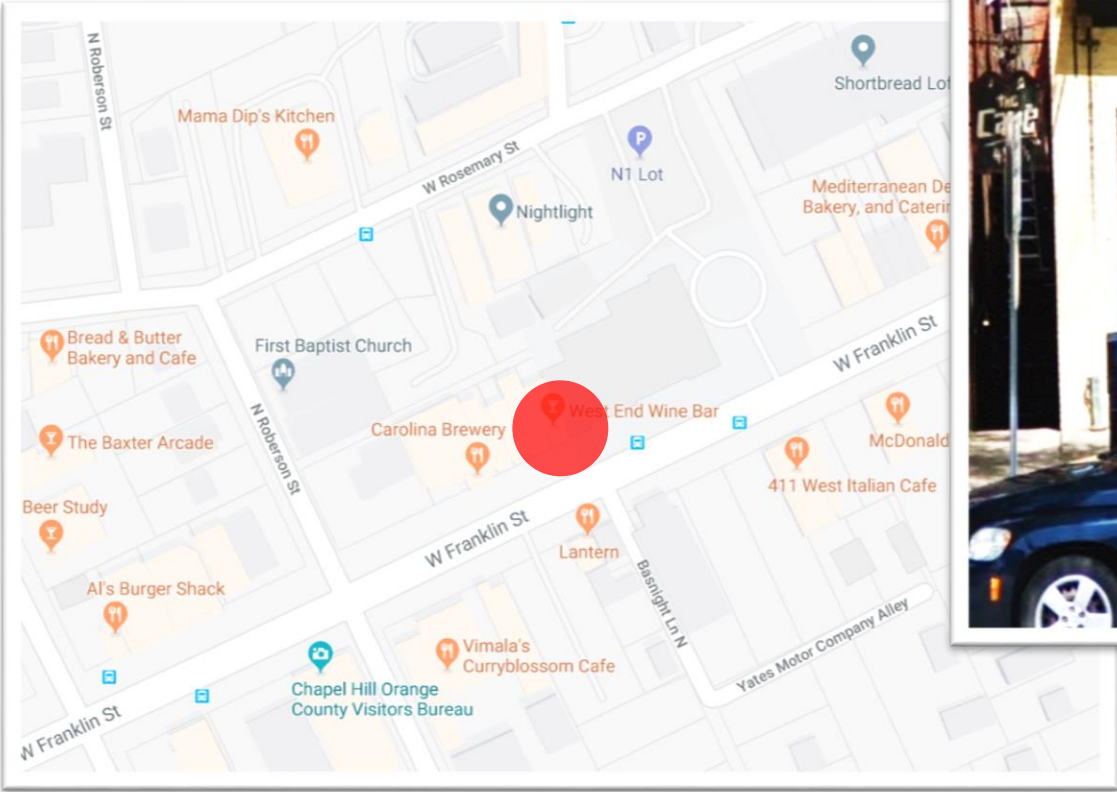


“In the hallways of Lincoln High School, after school at M `n N’s Grill, and late at night on the **Rock Wall**, black teenagers were talking, reflecting on the protest movement that was spreading across the state, and reaching decisions, both personal and collective, about how to act.”

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Recommendation

Location



Recommendation

Stakeholders



WEST END ENTERTAINMENT
601 W MAIN ST, SUITE E
DURHAM, NC 27701
919.636.8543



October 12, 2018

Town Council
Town of Chapel Hill
405 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Dear Council Members,

I am writing in support of the Chapel Hill Nine Committee's proposed commemorative marker honoring the first sit-ins in Chapel Hill.

In 1960, 450 West Franklin Street was home to Colonial Drug Co., the site of the first sit-in protesting the segregated lunch counter housed inside the drugstore. As the current owner of the building and the business, West End Wine Bar, now located at 450 West Franklin Street, I fully support the commemoration of this event with the proposed marker.

The general manager of my companies has met with members of the Chapel Hill Nine Committee to learn about the concept behind the commemorative marker, its proposed location, and initial design concept. The proposed plan has my full support and the support of the general manager, Olivia Gray.

We are honored to be part of this process and proud for this location to be recognized as the site of such an important historical event for the Town of Chapel Hill and its community.

Kind Regards,



Jared Resnick
Owner

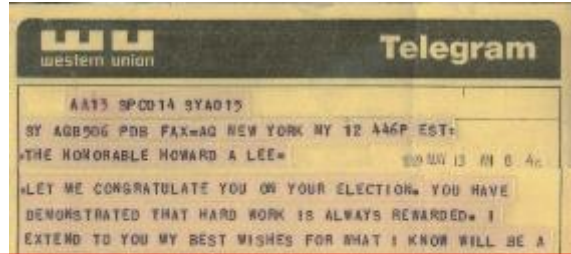


Olivia Gray
General Manager

West End Entertainment, LLC
601 West Main St, Suite E, Durham, NC
919-636-8543 | olivia@westendwinebar.com

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Share & Engage



Local History Trading Cards

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Share & Engage

THE SPARK
February 1
The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) is founded at a meeting at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZING
Throughout the Spring
The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) is founded at a meeting at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

MAY 3-9
The African American students of Chapel Hill sit in at the Woolworth's lunch counter.

1960

SUMMER SPARK REIGNITES
After a summer of sit-ins at other locations, Lincoln High School students sit in at the Woolworth's lunch counter in Chapel Hill.

1961

SCHOOL DESEGREGATION
Chapel Hill High School is desegregated.

1962

VIOLENT BACKLASH
Students are attacked and injured during the desegregation process.

1963

FREEDOM FOR CHRISTMAS
Students organize a campaign to desegregate the Woolworth's lunch counter.

1964

CIVIL RIGHTS ACT
The Civil Rights Act is passed by Congress.

1965

LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL
Lincoln High School is desegregated.

1966

1968

ELECTION OF HOWARD LEE
Howard Lee is elected as the first African American mayor of Chapel Hill.

1969

KAREN PARKER
Karen Parker, the first African American woman to graduate from UNC, is shown in a portrait.

"RIOT" AT CHAPEL HILL HIGH SCHOOL
A riot occurs at Chapel Hill High School during the desegregation process.

SEPTEMBER 1
The desegregation of schools is announced.

1960 - 1969
A period of significant social and political change.

Visual timeline

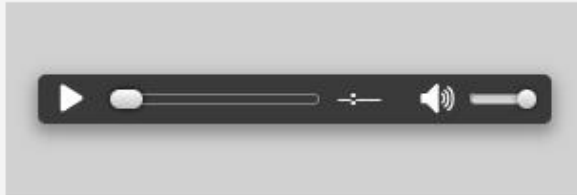
Share & Engage

SPOTLIGHT: QUINTON BAKER



In 1963, CORE leader Floyd McKissick asked Quinton Baker, one of his most trusted organizers, to go to Chapel Hill and teach effective non-violent tactics

Quinton Baker Oral History



Quinton Baker, Pat Cusick, and John Dunne: "Gay youths, Black & white, led North Carolina fight"



Online & Interactive

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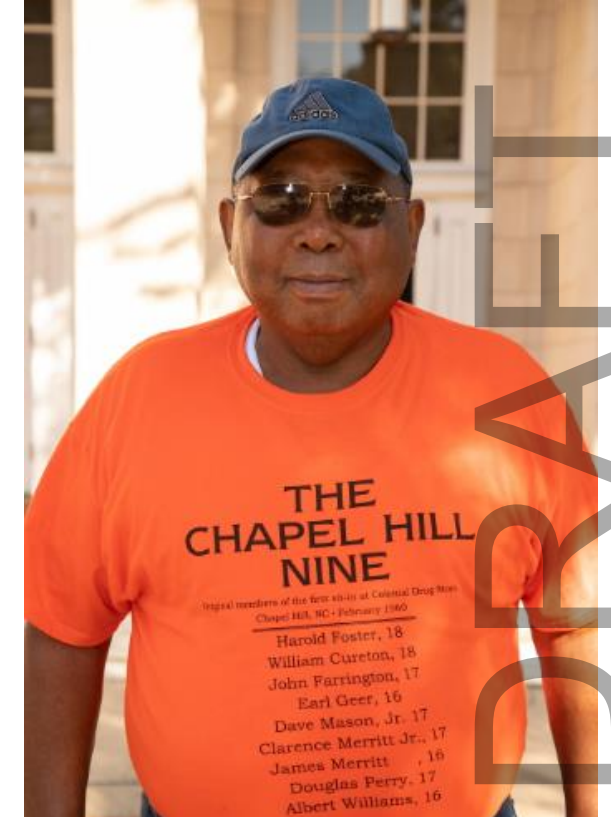
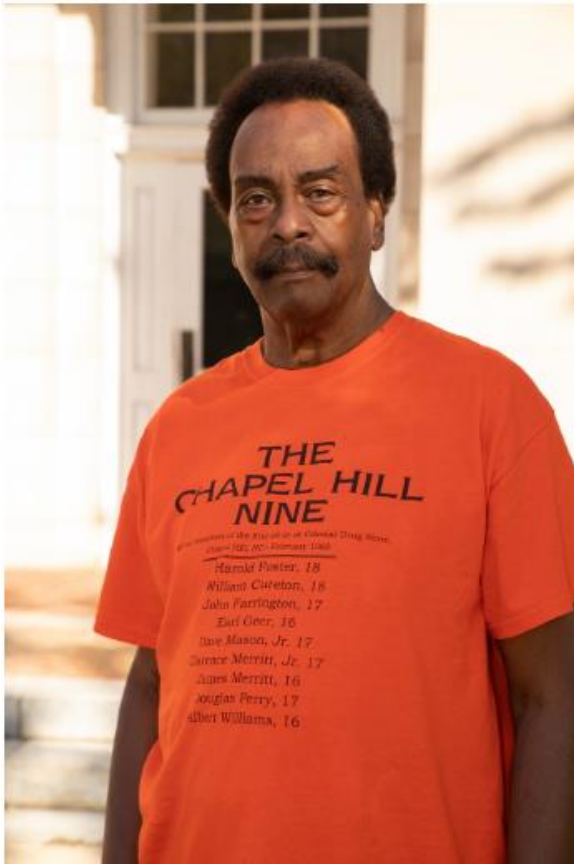
Share & Engage



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Chapel Hill Nine video

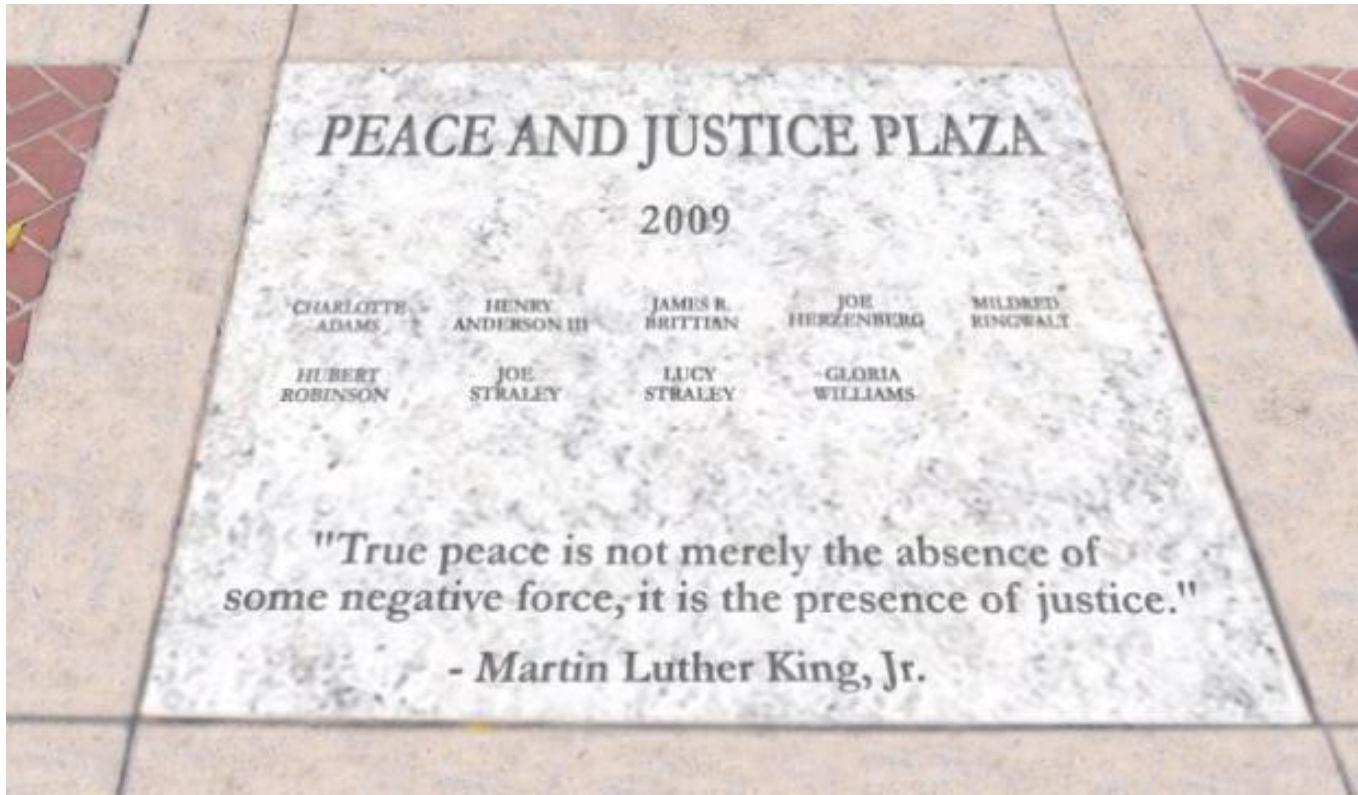
Honor History Makers



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History In Transit

Commemorate



Peace and Justice Plaza • Historical Marker

Remember

We were troublemakers.
We *questioned* authority and
challenged it head on. . . .
we were *disobedient* to that
extent, disobedient to those
who told us to be obedient,
but obedient to our own
consciences as it were.

–Harold Foster



Recommended Council Action

That the Council:

- Accept the recommendation for commemorative marker
- Refer implementation to Town Manager and staff
- Dissolve subcommittee

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