

2023 GCPS Black History Month Events Recap

Throughout the month of February, GCPS students, staff, and families celebrated **Black History Month**. Schools held fireside chats, historical character door decorating contests, step shows, Melanin Mondays, poetry contests, seminars, a Black leaders showcase, soul food potlucks, and so much more to connect students with the rich history and contributions of African Americans. While Black History Month 2023 has come to an end, the work and acknowledgments can continue in a variety of ways. Every day is a new opportunity to speak up and take action in each of the spaces we occupy to recognize systemic racism, build a community where each and every child feels safe and nurtured, and consciously create a more inclusive community that honors the lived experiences of African Americans.

We all have a responsibility to continue recognizing Black history.

School	Event(s)
Anderson Livsey ES	https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1yeLKQyI8Y5uCXLYauctizBbCI8hlx8UC
Beaver Ridge ES	<p>Our school is sharing Black History with our students in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Black History Q&A daily feature during our news broadcast. Students have an opportunity to win a prize. ● One of our teachers designed a Black History Month t-shirt. Students and staff have an opportunity to purchase the t-shirt. T-shirts were ordered from a small black-owned business. ● Grade Level bulletin boards will showcase different African Americans in one of the following categories- showcasing their importance to US History: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ inventors ○ athletes ○ musicians ○ artists ○ actors ○ scientists ○ leaders/heroes ○ traditions ● HBCU Educated staff will be featured throughout our morning announcements. ● Mr. John Harley, a member of The Atlanta Chapter, Tuskegee Airmen, came by to share the legacy of the first generation of African American military aviators of the Second World War with our 5th grade students.

<p>Brookwood ES</p>	<p>Black History Month Door Decorating Contest The Dance Department (Fine Arts Department) will do a cafeteria performance on Feb. 27 for all 6 lunches to celebrate BHM.</p> <p>Rho Kappa is hosting a Civil Rights Era trunk with artifacts from the time period from the Atlanta History Museum/ Videos being sent to the announcements</p> <p>Black History Month focused news show researched, written, filmed, and edited by the students on a variety of culturally significant topics</p> <p>Selection of library books in the students' reading range and interests - everything from comics to poetry.</p> <p>Various lessons in different departments emphasizing Black History: In Accounting and Introduction to Business and Technology, students viewed a variety of material highlighting successful black entrepreneurs and business ICON's.</p> <p>"To prepare for a nonfiction test, which included reading and interpreting various elements of nonfiction, students read four pieces of writing from Black History. There were found on CommonLit and are titled:</p> <p>The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass: Excerpt from Chapter 11</p> <p>What Slaves Are Taught To Think of The North</p> <p>Martin Luther King, Jr. Nobel Acceptance Speech</p> <p>Booker T. Washington vs. W.E.B. Du Bois"</p> <p>Students studied about the history and contributions of modern day contributors such as Daymond John, Founder of FUBU and a current investor on Shark Tank, Marvin Ellison, the chairman, president and chief executive officer of Lowe's Companies Inc., a FORTUNE® 50 home improvement company.</p>
<p>Dracula ES</p>	<p>Black History Month</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Black History Moment on morning announcement each day – one individual is recognized and highlighted daily. ● Black History Displays – each class creates a hallway display highlighting one Black History figure or moment that is being taught in the classroom ● Black History Art Contest – students are invited to submit a poem, musical piece, visual art piece, or essay on a Black History figure or moment. All submissions will be displayed during the last week of February and a panel of judges will determine a 1st and 2nd place award for K-2 and 3-5.

**Harmony
ES**

[HES Highlighting Black History Month](#)

In The Media Center - We are celebrating the substantial contributions Black Americans have made to our history through read alouds by award-winning black authors, book section displays for Everybody and Upper Grades, and a research challenge on a chosen Black American.

During our Jag Time, literacy enrichment groups have engaged in an interactive read aloud with books that connect to Black History. Each grade level has a different book they read aloud and discussed how the setting influenced the characters within the story. We enjoyed reading the following texts: Coming on Home Soon, Goin' Someplace Special, Freedom Summer, The Other Side and Rain Stomper across our grade levels.

Kindergarten students are researching on PebbleGo to create informational posters about famous Black Americans from history. They are also incorporating the positive characteristics many of our Black American Historians have in Morning Meetings.

First Grade students are visiting Dr. Friese in the Media Center to work on a research project where they will read about various Black Americans on PebbleGo.

Second Grade students are reading biographies of Black Americans and discussing positive character traits. They are also creating "I have a dream" posters with personal dreams for themselves, their families, and their communities. These posters will be displayed in the hallway.

In third grade, students are highlighting a famous African American from history every day during their morning meeting.

Fourth grade students are studying the American Revolution and the Declaration of Independence. They are also discussing how colonists became free from Britain. However, slaves did not become free with the Declaration of Independence. They have also discussed the role of African Americans in the American Revolution.

In fifth grade, students have been reading about Jackie Robinson and how he broke the color barrier in baseball. Students are also writing how Jackie Robinson overcame obstacles and the factors of success that enabled him to achieve greatness.

<p>Head ES</p>	<p>Several Black History displays have been set up in the Media Center. We also have bookmarks for students to color and fact sheets at the biography tables.</p> <p>The books are separated into categories: biographies for k-2, biographies for 3-5, books by Black authors, books with Black illustrators, books with Black authors and illustrators, etc...</p> <p>We also have a bulletin board set up outside of the Media Center with rotating pictures of Black leaders throughout history and current.</p> <p>Pictures</p> <p>2nd grade will be making a Bottle Biography Project. We will be part researching and then decorating the bottle and presenting the project.</p> <p>Pictures to come in a few weeks when it is done.</p>
<p>Hopkins ES</p>	<p>Grade level door decorating contest (all month) Daily Announcements of Famous African Americans/Achievements (all month) Media center Black History artifacts display (all month) Guest readers from the ISC and Cluster School principals invited to read to classes (2/8, 2/9, 2/15, 2/22, 2/23) Dress up days: Black Tee, Black Panther/Avenger, Diaspora colors, HBCU/Greek or College tee Black History Month Read-a-louds (weekly) Support a Black Business lunch "Baby Al's Chicago Dogs" (2/3) "I Have A Dream" quilt project (all month) Virtual Walkthrough of Smithsonian Museum of African American History (2/6) Soul food staff lunch (2/27) "I Have A Dream Quilt reveal" (2/28)</p>

HOPKINS BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2023				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1- World Read Aloud Day "Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt" Students work on "I have a Dream" quilt Guest Reader	2- Black Out Day (Wear ALL Black)	3 DLD Baby Al's Chicago Dogs Restaurant (pre-order by 2 Staff Soul Train Line Dancing
6- Walk Through Smithsonian Museum of African American History https://youtu.be/1Pa15uv57Gw	7- "Our Friend Martin" Video on closed circuit	8 Guest Reader	9- Read a Black History Read Aloud on Storyline at 2:20-2:30 Guest Reader	10- African Traditional Attire Day (wear Kente cloth, Dashiki)
13- Winter Break	14- Read a Black History Read Aloud on Storyline at 2:20-2:30	15- Wakanda Forever & Avenger T-Shirt Day Guest Reader	16-17 Winter Break	
20 Winter Break	21- Black Excellence Day (Represent/dress as a famous African American)	22- Hip-Hop Day (Wear urban hip hop attire)	23- HBCU & College Shirts Greek Sorority/fraternity shirts Guest Reader	24- Diaspora Day (Wear Red/ Green/ Black/G)

Lovin ES

The Cultural Awareness Team [CAT] at Lovin is promoting the celebration of Black History Month in several ways. Our first activity began on 2/1/23 with a school-wide invitation for teachers to access a Black History Month digital library to read aloud a text(s) to their class of students for "World Read Aloud Day" which happened to fall on that date. An endeavor currently underway is a display board of noteworthy figures from African-American History. Our School News Crew has been charged with sharing facts about some of these notables during our daily broadcasted morning announcements. Additionally, a book cart loaded with texts related to black history and culture (front side view and rear side view) is available and will be stationed near the front lobby of the school for staff to check out books as desired for daily use in the classroom.

Additionally for the month, the team is facilitating a school-wide Black History Month "Spirit Week" that will feature themed dress-up days for students and staff alike. During this same week, we will be hosting a Black History Knowledge Bowl for students in grades 2-5 to participate, if desired. For this knowledge bowl, students will need to study and know the answers to the 75 questions related to black history that CAT will provide. A winner will be identified and acknowledged at each grade level, along with a top [overall] winner who will be chosen from among all participants. Finally, our culminating event, occurring on February 23 will be "International Night", an evening that involves staff, students, parents/families and community stakeholders. This night will not only encompass a focus on African-American history and culture, but it will bring recognition and celebration to of all cultures represented by the Lovin community.

We are very excited to organize and witness these opportunities to highlight African-American history and culture as part of our efforts to embrace the diversity of our population.

Rockbridge ES We are having a Black History Book Tasting next week for our 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders. We have a company that is providing over 500 bags of potato chips for our event. The chips tie into the fact that George Crum, a Black man, is credited with inventing the potato chip. The company helping us is called Symphony Chips, a Black owned company.

Sterling ES



BLACK HISTORY NIGHT

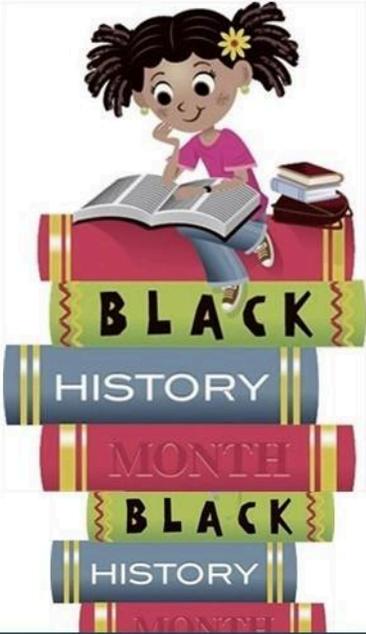
"Building on Greatness"

Thursday, Feb. 23rd

6:00 to 6:20 Wax Museum
6:20 to 6:45 Program
6:45 to 7:45 Breakout Activities

Breakout Activities

- Escape the Room
- Drummer Room
- Trivia Game Room
- Line Dance Room
- Spoken word Room
- Arts and Craft Room
- Soul Train Room
- Good Times Photo Booth
- "Sunday Dinner" in Cafe'



<p>Trip ES</p>	<p>Black History Art Tables To celebrate through art we challenge your child to create an original art piece that celebrates African and/or black culture. This can include portraits (self or of a famous person), masks, drawings, collages, writing a poem or book, quilt, building structure or symbol, etc. Students may use any medium to make their art project. Artwork will be displayed in the hall outside of the media center during the month of February.</p> <p>Door Decorating/Contest Teachers at each grade level will be assigned a category/theme. The winners will be announced at the end of February. Categories for grade levels are as follows: K: Scientists 1: Inventors 2: Musicians 3. Educators 4. Sports 5. Authors/ Poets</p> <p>Soul Food Potluck This food genre, now associated with comfort and decadence, was born out of struggle and survival. Soul food has a rich and important history that ties Black culture to its African roots, and that history is deeply reflected in the staple recipes and techniques.</p> <p>Soul Food Trivia in the Café Tuesdays/Thursdays throughout February a staff member will ask Trivia questions and give away prizes to the students with correct answers.</p>
<p>Coleman MS</p>	<p>The students, faculty and staff of Coleman Middle School are so excited to be able to host our third community showcase of the 2022-2023 school year!</p> <p>We believe input from our stakeholders is an integral part of "The Coleman Experience" for our students. We will host a showcase for each grade level on the dates and times below where students will be able to answer their grade level driving question. We hope you will be able to attend and provide feedback to the students and their projects. Please feel free to invite any of your colleagues, family, and friends. We look forward to having you in attendance. Please follow the link below to sign-up for the showcase prior to March 8, 2023.</p> <p>8th Grade: Thursday, March 9, 2023, 10:00am-11:00am Driving Question: How can we compose a cover of Civil Rights era music to inspire change in society</p>

	<p>7th Grade: Friday, March 10, 2023, 9:45am-10:45am Driving Question: How can we show populations change as they adapt to new environments?</p> <p>6th Grade: Wednesday, March 8, 2023, 10:00am-10:45am Driving Question: How can we upcycle apparel that is both climate appropriate and stylish?</p> <p>Sign-up Link: https://forms.gle/FAE53dXzKnzeDhcM6</p>
Duluth MS	<p><u>Door Decorating Contest</u> Students/teachers will participate in a door decorating contest. Classroom doors with the best decorations will win a prize.</p> <p><u>Daily Trivia of Black History Month Facts</u> Black History Month questions will be presented to the DMS students/staff in our daily announcements. Students will scan a QR code to answer questions correctly and win a prize.</p> <p><u>Movie Night</u> Duluth Middle School presents our annual Black History Month Drive-In Movie Night. Students and their families will watch a film from the comfort of their vehicle.</p>
Lilburn MS	<p>As part of our Black History Month Celebration, Lilburn Middle School student leaders hosted Dr. Calvin Watts in order to showcase their leadership, a BHM museum, and engaged in discussion about student leadership. Dr. Watts presented alongside Dr. Nicole Irish and student leaders to the student body via the morning news show. Dr. Watts communicated the importance of leadership, his experiences with an HBCU, and inspired students to excel in all that they do.</p>
Osborne MS	<p style="text-align: center;">OMS Black History Month Historical Showcase</p> <p>In honor of Black History Month, students and staff at Osborne Middle School will present a live performance including written, artistic, and musical expression to mark the contributions of noted African Americans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Showcase Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Attendees enter the gym to the sounds of an inspirational song. ○ Back in time (Song Intro) - a musical interlude setting the tone for travel back in time

- **The Ancestral Imagery**
 - A slideshow of signature moments and individuals in Black History
 - “Lift Every Voice”- performed by Ms. Treva Coates
- **What is Black History Month?**
 - Brief video explaining the origins of Black History Month
- **Historical Figures** - Student presenters will share key points of the lives of notable African-Americans.

6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Rosa Parks	Claudette Colvin	DJ Kool Herc
Mae Jemison	Toussaint Louverture	Madame CJ Walker
Ruby Bridges		Traci Thoms
Madame CJ Walker		
Josephine Baker		

- **African American Firsts** - A slideshow recognizing African Americans who were the first to pave the way in a variety of fields
 - Rosa Parks
 - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
 - Ruby Bridges
 - Thurgood Marshall
 - President Barack Obama
 - Vice President Kamala Harris
 - Dr. Mae Jemison
 - Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson
- **Historical Figures (continued from above)**
- **Choral Selection** - OMS Chorus
- **Student Presenters**

6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Student poets perform a	Student dance trio	Student perform a step

	duet		routine
	Student singers perform duet	Student dance solo	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dance Team - Lyrical dance presentation ● Choral Selection-OMS Chorus ● The Future- Student presenters speak of their futures and the African Americans who have inspired them. ● End of Program Celebration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “Feeling Good” performed by Mr. Taylor Hall ○ Celebratory dance - Ms. Ebony Harvey will lead several student dancers in an inspirational dance. 		
<p>Berkmar HS</p>	<p>On Wednesday, February 8, 2023, the Black Student Union will be hosting an Inspirational Seminar during BSU’s Black Spirit Week as we celebrate Black History Month. This month is an opportunity to showcase and celebrate the achievements that strong role models have accomplished despite the difficulties and challenges presented by history.</p> <p>Our featured speakers are Deborah Pino, founder and CEO of the Law Office of Deborah Pino Esquire, and member of the Delta Sigma Theta sorority, and Chris Hankins, President of the Beta Lambda Lambda Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi fraternity. Other appearances include our very own Dr. Linda Clark, Dr. Felicia West, Dr. Sonia Howard, Dr. T.M. Ancrum, and Dr. DeV Vaughn Huff, co-advisor of Berkmar’s Black Student Union.</p> <p>Students attending the seminar will report to the New Theater during academy time on Wednesday, February 8, 2023. The presentation will begin promptly at 9am. Five lucky students will each receive a \$10 school store voucher for attending the event.</p>		
<p>Brookwood HS</p>	<p>The Brookwood Dance Department will be presenting a Black History Month performance for the student body on Monday, Feb. 27, during all lunches in The Commons. Dancers took part in a rigorous audition process to be a part of the performance group. The 30 performers come from all levels of Brookwood's classes; some not part of the dance department.</p> <p>The performance will begin with the Dancers Strolling (an HBCU tradition of dancing) into The Commons, then the dancers will perform step, hip-hop, and short majorette pieces. They will exit with African fusion dance. The performance is roughly 3:30 minutes.</p>		

<p>Central Gwinnett HS</p>	<p>This year at Central Gwinnett High School, our BHM theme is "365 B.L.A.C.K." - <i>Black Knights!</i> We are focusing on the importance of being true to culture and our identity 'every' day -365 and not just during the month of February alone. To help accent this celebration, the acronyms B.L.A.C.K. represent the following:</p> <p>B - is for the Bold, Brilliance of a people who have had to endure painful obstacles yet continue to brightly shine! L - is for the Loyalty and Love for others and self A - is for the Accountability of our Actions C - is for our Culture, rich in the Sciences, Mathematics, the Arts and Sports. C - is for our Creator, who we honor as we serve our Community K - is for Kindness and the Kindred Spirit that binds us all together as BLACK KNIGHTS! This is our theme "365 B.L.A.C.K." Black Knights means.</p> <p>Each day of the week, students are asked to wear/dress up as the following: Mon - Famous BLACK inventor Tues - Professional Dress Wedn - "Afrocentric" Wear Thurs - "African Royal Purple" or HBCU T Shirt Day Fri - All "BLACK", Spirit Wear</p> <p>Calendar Events Include: 2/10 - Black Student Union Presents...Our Valentine's Day Skate Party 2/22 - "BEST DRESSED African Wear" Contest (Held in the Commons) 2/15 - "Spoken Word/Essay Contest" -<i>What 365 BLACK Means To Me?</i> 2/24 -</p> <p>and our grand finale..... 2/25 "R & B Music Showcase" highlighting famous black artist throughout the decades at 6:00pm/Saturday in the Theater</p> <p><i>All winners of contests will receive such prizes as AMC Movie tickets, earbuds, wrist bands, BHM bookmarks, chips, candy and even monetary gift cards!!!</i></p> <p><i>*For more information, please feel free to reach me at 770 822 6485. Thank you! Dr. G</i> Fireside chat video: https://youtu.be/3oOK3Cfm4n8</p>
<p>Dacula HS</p>	<p>Black History Month Spirit Week: 2/6-2/10</p> <p>Melanin Monday- students and faculty wear different shades of brown</p> <p>HBCU/College Tuesday- students and faculty represent an HBCU or college</p> <p>Diaspora Wednesday- students and faculty dress to represent whatever part of the African diaspora they are from</p> <p>Dress to the T Thursday- students and faculty dress to impress</p>

	<p>Blackout Friday- students and faculty wear all black to signify standing up against social injustice</p> <p>https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1POjr4JtIMZFNkrO0tiJzbc_dR_dpFZiG</p>
<p>Gwinnett Online Campus (GOC)</p>	<p>Black History Month: One way we are celebrating Black History Month at GOC is with a door decorating contest commemorating prominent figures in black history. We have students from grades 6-12 for the entire month of February.</p> <p>Pictures:</p> <p>https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1z9uGjuAs4990WFjmdqcBFzo8ougC-CIG?usp=share_link</p>
<p>Meadowcreek HS</p>	<p>Join Meadowcreek High as we honor the rich legacy of Black History through a series of month-long events.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. HBCU cheer tribute by our MHS Cheer Team 2. Living Wax Museum honoring the legacy of African-American and the Afro-Latinos 3. Black History Spirit Week 4. Black History Scholarships workshop 5. Faculty/Staff/Student book study and discussion 6. We Shall Overcome: History Musical Celebration Feb 23 7. HBCU College Fair 8. Door Decorating contest <p>Click the link below to see pictures and videos!</p> <p>https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1671PCXI5NJpEY_MUGs94ShWjE53BWgXa</p> <p>https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1671PCXI5NJpEY_MUGs94ShWjE53BWgXa</p>
<p>Seckinger HS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● National Art Honor Society collage on display in the media center ● Announcements for all screens in the school for Black artist, historical figures ● Door Decorating sponsored by BETA Club. ● Language Arts Door Decorating based on contributions of Black Americans

<p>South Gwinnett HS</p>	<p>We are celebrating Black History & Career Technical Education Month with a South Gwinnett Fireside Chat. This month we will focus on the empowering career stories from African American professionals. We will also cover how the post-pandemic era and social justice movements have changed the way we work. February 23, 2023 @ 6PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Topics</u></p> <p>*Industry Trends *Post Pandemic Developments *Impact of Social Movement *Side Hustle/Gig Economy *Career Opportunities for Minorities *Building a Personal Brand *Jobs in Cloud Management & Artificial Intelligence *Scholarships *And More</p> <p>This is open to students, faculty, staff, and the community! **<i>Guest Speaker Form: Opportunity for an assignment/extra credit. PDF attached</i></p> <p>Link to register: https://gcpsk12-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BI6VJzOQ0-NZ7dIILAbSQ</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Space is Limited- Please Share</p> <p>View flyer here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XsbrP6tw44KWeww6tSSNtMeoqZOld6Aw/view?usp=share_link</p>
<p>South Gwinnett HS</p>	<p>We are celebrating Black History & Career Technical Education Month with a South Gwinnett Fireside Chat. This month we'll focus on the empowering career stories from African American professionals. We will also cover how the post-pandemic era and social justice movements have changed the way we work. February 23, 2023 @ 6PM. You do not want to miss this event!</p> <p><u>Topics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Industry Trends ● Post Pandemic Developments, Impact of Social Movement, ● What is the Side Hustle/Gig Economy ● Career Opportunities for Minorities ● Building a Personal Brand ● Jobs in Cloud Management & Artificial Intelligence ● Career Related Scholarships ● Internships and Apprenticeship Opportunities <p>This is open to students, faculty, staff, and our community. Link to register: https://gcpsk12-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BI6VJzOQ0-NZ7dIILAbSQ</p>



BLACK HISTORY Month, 2023

The Black Resistance

"African Americans have resisted historic and ongoing oppression, in all forms, especially the racial terrorism of lynching, racial profiling, and police killings since arrival upon these shores. These efforts have been to advocate for a dignified self-determined life in a just democratic society in the United States and beyond the United States political jurisdiction." In recognition of this year's theme, South Gwinnett High School and the Snellville Youth Commission invite you to join us at South Gwinnett High School, as we spend a morning with the Rev. Wheeler Parker Jr.



“ Sometimes I think about Emmett and it feels like a nightmare that didn't really happen,” Parker said. “I could hate the people who did this to him, but I come from a religious family and we were taught not to hate. Hate destroys the hater.” ”



Event Location: South Gwinnett High School
2288 Main St E, Snellville, GA 30078
Performing Arts Theater




SGHS & SYC PRESENTS LET THE PEOPLE SEE: THE BLACK RESISTANCE SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH 9:00AM-NOON

<p>COMMUNITY MIXER 9AM-10AM</p> <p>Shop with vendors while listening to SGHS's Orchestra and walking through the art gallery.</p>	<p>SPEAKER & INTERVIEWS 10AM-11AM</p> <p>5 mins featured screening of Till. Exclusive interviews with relatives of Emmett Till, Rev. Wheeler Parker Jr, South Gwinnett High School's Principal Dorothy Jarrett, and Former GCPS student Marc Collins who portrays Rev. Parker in Till.</p>	<p>BOOK SIGNING 11:00AM- 12PM</p> <p>Please bring your pre-purchased copy of "A Few Days Full of Trouble" by Rev. Wheeler</p> <p>Rev. Wheeler Parker Jr. is the last living witness to the abduction of his 14-year-old cousin, Emmett Till, the African-American teenager whose 1955 lynching helped spark the civil rights movement.</p>
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<https://www.gcpsk12.org/SouthGwinnettHS>