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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 19, 2021

Speakers to bring experiences from Rocky Mount Green Book locations

Rocky Mount, N.C. – The Maria V. Howard Arts Center at the Imperial Centre for the Arts and Sciences will hold a series of programs as an extension of its exhibit, “Navigating Jim Crow: The Green Book and Oasis Spaces in North Carolina.” The exhibit will be displayed until Aug. 13 and highlights Green Book listings specific to Rocky Mount.

When African-Americans traveled during the Jim Crow era, they often were turned away from staying at certain hotels and eating at particular restaurants. The Green Book was published yearly from 1937-1967 and listed black-owned businesses and black friendly businesses across the country.

On Monday, July 26 at 6:30 p.m., Vannette Pittman Woods will speak about her experiences growing up in her family business, the Lincoln Park Motel and Restaurant. Mrs. Pittman Woods will be joined at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, July 28 by Angela Bryant. The two will read from “Ruth and the Green Book,” and lead a discussion geared toward children. At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 29, Bryant will talk about her family’s business, the Wright’s Motel and Chick Shack.

All programs will be held at the Imperial Centre. Call 972-1175 for more information.

About Rocky Mount

The city of Rocky Mount, located in the Coastal Plains of North Carolina, was incorporated in 1867 and lies in Edgecombe and Nash Counties. Rocky Mount is a two-time All-America City on the Tar River. Serving as the Gateway to Eastern North Carolina, the city's 875 employees serve approximately 58,000 residents daily.

The city’s mission is to advance community well-being, safety and quality of life by delivering excellent public services and actively collaborating with the community toward a fulfilling and inspired future for its citizens. As a publicly owned utility, the city of Rocky Mount is committed to safe, reliable service for its customers and operates in Nash and Edgecombe counties, providing customers with electricity, natural gas, water, wastewater (sewer), refuse, recycling and/or stormwater services. To learn more, visit www.rockymountnc.gov for news and updates.

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