

MISSING



EBONEE SPEARS

Wilmington Police are continuing their search for 30 year old Ebonee Spears of Wilmington. The local Crimestoppers organization has joined with the Wilmington Police Department in offering a reward of up to \$5,000 for information on Ebonee's whereabouts. If you know where Spears may be, call Wilmington Police at (910) 343-3600 or use Text-a-Tip.

OUTside Looking IN

OUR VOICE



DR. BENJAMIN CHAVIS

GUEST EDITORIAL "Criminal justice reform long overdue for Black America" PAGE 4

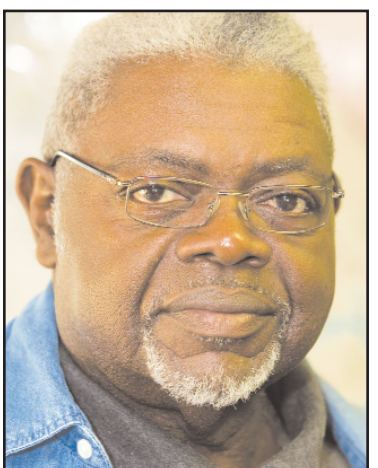
COMMENTARY



ATTY. OSCAR BLAYTON

Two years until the 2020 elections Time to get to work PAGE 4

BRUNSWICK COUNTY



BERNEST HEWETT

STORMS DESTROY

BY BERNEST HEWETT

This year, for the first time in my life, I find that Brunswick, Pender, Columbus, New Hanover and Roberson counties have had bad luck with the storms coming so close together. The winds and water have destroyed houses, stores, and farms, leaving people without homes, cars, food

Please see BRUNSWICK/ Page 2

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 91/No. 48

NOVEMBER 29- DECEMBER 5, 2018

FIFTY CENTS

BARBER, SPEARMAN WARN: DON'T TRUST LAWMAKERS ON VOTER ID

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

As the NC General Assembly reconvened in yet another special session Tuesday, two prominent North Carolina civil rights leaders warned not to trust any new laws establishing photo voter identification emanating from it, despite a constitutional amendment passed by voters recently mandating it.

"Don't you compromise on our rights [Democrats]," warned Rev. Dr. William Barber, President of Repairers of the Breach, and Co-chairman of the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Revival, during a protest demonstration across the street from the Legislative Building on Jones Street in Raleigh Tuesday.

"Let them do it only with extremist Republican votes, because if you do, [Democrats, Gov. Cooper] you become complicit in discrimination."

Barber, like several other speakers there, called the NC General Assembly "unconstitutionally constituted" because the federal courts have ruled that they were previously elected by unconstitutionally racially gerrymandered voting districts.

"They cheated," Barber summed up.

Dr. Barber indicated that voter photo ID, as "...extremists who call themselves Republicans," are intending to pass, "...has already proven to be unconstitutional in the courts" because it targets African-Americans for voter suppression "with surgical

Please see VOTER ID/ Page 3



CASH MICHAELS PHOTO

Dr. Barber makes a point during remarks at protest outside of the NC Legislative Building Tuesday, as NCAACP President Rev. Dr. T. Anthony Spearman approves.

Marian Wright Edelman stepping aside from Children's Defense Fund

BY STACY M. BROWN NNPA NEWSWIRE CORRESPONDENT @STACYBROWNMEDIA

Marian Wright Edelman, a trailblazer, freedom fighter and champion of causes that affect the nation's young, has announced that she's stepping aside from the Children's Defense Fund, an organization she founded 45 years ago.

"Dear colleagues, supporters, partners and friends, after 45 years as President of the Children's Defense Fund (CDF), I have decided to transition into a new role as President Emerita in the Office of the Founder," Wright wrote in a letter posted on the organization's website.

"I will step away from CDF's day-to-day responsibilities and will focus all my energies towards building a lasting movement for children to end child poverty and inequality through servant leadership development at key spiritual retreats and convenings at CDF's Haley Farm and continue to provide a moral compass for CDF," she said.

Born on June 6, 1939, in Bennettsville, South Carolina, Edelman was the youngest of five children and credits her father with instilling in her an obligation to right wrongs.

When African Americans in Bennettsville were not allowed to enter city parks, Arthur Wright, her father, built a park for African American children behind his church, according to her biography on The History Makers website.

A graduate of Spelman College and Yale Law School, Edelman became the first African American female admitted to the Mississippi State Bar while working as director of the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund office in Jackson.

She also became nationally recognized as an advocate for Head Start, according to her biography.

In 1968, Edelman moved to Washington, D.C., and subsequently became counsel to the Poor People's Campaign that was organized by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

She founded the Washington Research Project (WRP), where she focused on lobbying Congress for child and family nutrition programs and expanding the Head Start program. In 1973, the Washington Research Project became the Children's Defense Fund (CDF), the United States' leading advocacy group for children.

As president of the CDF, Edelman has worked to decrease teenage pregnancy, increase Medicaid coverage for poor children, and secure government funding for programs such as Head Start.

Edelman also has served as the Director of the Center for Law and Education at Harvard University and is the first African American female to have been on the board of directors of Yale University.

She's written many articles and books, including the autobiographical New York Times best-seller, "The Measure of Our Success: A Letter to My Children and Yours."

To get just a sense of what Edelman has meant to her countless admirers, one need only look at the tributes that have flooded social media before and since her announcement this week.

Most of the tributes contained motivational



MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN

thoughts shared by Edelman over the years.

"Never work just for money or power, it won't save your soul or help you sleep at night," and "Education is a precondition to survival in America today," were among the many Edelman quotes that various social media users posted in her honor.

Other classic quotations by Edelman that social media users posted included, "Don't assume a door is closed; push on it. Do not assume if it was closed yesterday that it is closed today;" and "You're not obligated to win. You're obligated to keep trying to do the best you can every day."

The mission of CDF has never been more important than it is today during these perilous times for children and for the nation," Edelman said this week.

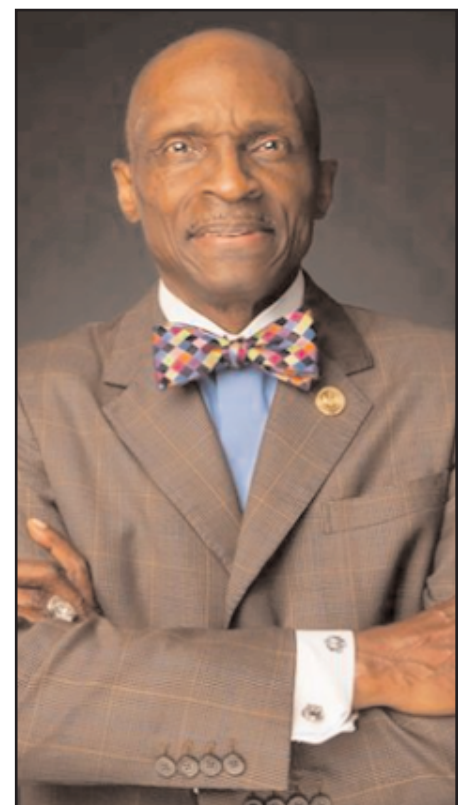
"Though we face unprecedented challenges and threats to the safety and well-being of America's children, we refuse to go backwards. No matter who holds the reins of political power, CDF will move forward in our mission to Leave No Child Behind and ensure that every child has a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage into adulthood," she said.

Edelman said she's proud of CDF's groundbreaking work over the past 45 years and the significant progress the organization has made for millions of children and families.

However, she said, there is still much work to be done.

"I look forward to supporting the Board of Directors in the search for a new President to lead CDF into its next chapter; someone who is committed to taking on the challenges children face today and those that will emerge in the future," Edelman said.

"I am confident that CDF will not miss a beat during this transition and as the national search commences for a new CDF President. On December 31, 2018, CDF's Chief of Staff, Max Lesko, will become National Executive Director overseeing CDF's day-to-day operations and reporting to the Board of Directors."



REV. T. ANTHONY SPEARMAN

Progressives rally forces against Farr judicial nomination

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

With strong signals that the Republican led US Senate may very well vote to confirm President Trump's re-nomination of Raleigh Attorney Thomas Farr, 64, to the federal bench as early as today, everyone from progressive activists like the NC NAACP to the Congressional Black Caucus to North Carolina's Democratic Congressional Delegation have mobilized to stop the

Please see PROGRESSIVES/ Page 2

AT PRESS TIME The Wilmington Journal is still partially operating from a remote area. Our building has much damage and some of our equipment is still inoperable. Please continue to bear with us as we work to return to normalcy. The Staff and Management of The Wilmington Journal



THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

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All news must be submitted two weeks in advance by Fridays at 5 p.m. There is no charge for submitting briefs, news and photos. All briefs will run for a maximum of two weeks.

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BRUNSWICK

Continued from Page 1

and a place of comfort for their families. These storms have wiped out a lifetime for some and destroyed a course, or plan, of life for others. We find that most of the people's lives are coming together and trying to pull others with them, even though they have little for themselves. We see and hear all the hate being produced in our society. We still get our joy from giving and sharing with others. This being a fact of life and the spirit of the people around us, we must not let race, ethnic background, color, or personal agendas change this spirit that has begun in a time of need.

God has brought us together through times of trouble. Now let us stay together through the good times that are coming. We must be true to the cause of our people, "God's children," and keep His word in our hearts. We need help. Feed the hungry! Help the sick! Pray with the brokenhearted! Give counsel to the unsaved!

Bernest Hewett is President Emeritus of the Brunswick County Branch of the NAACP.

RECYCLE THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL BY SPREADING THE NEWS

PROGRESSIVES

Continued from Page 1

vote.

Two bus loads of NCNAACP activists from across North Carolina, led by State conference president, Rev. Dr. T. Anthony Spearman, traveled to Washington, D. C. Wednesday to lobby senators on Capitol Hill to either vote against Farr's controversial judicial nomination to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina or let the nomination die with this outgoing Congress.

Farr was already approved ten months ago by the Senate Judiciary Committee, but, concerned about the midterm elections, Trump pulled the nomination temporarily. Now that the elections are over, observers expect Sen. McConnell to try to get as many of Trump's judicial nominees confirmed as possible, with Farr heading the list.

What makes Farr's nomination to the lifetime post so controversial is his documented history as an election campaign attorney for the late conservative U.S. Senator Jesse Helm (R-NC) during the 1990's. Farr is alleged to have helped engineer a Republican so called "ballot security" program in 1990 that attempted to suppress the Black vote statewide when Helms was first challenged by Black candidate, former Charlotte Mayor Harvey Gantt.

In addition, all three of North Carolina's Democratic congress per-

sons, Alma Adams (13th), David Price (4th), and G.K. Butterfield (1st), wrote a letter to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) Monday, asking him to "cancel all votes" on the Farr nomination and "allow his nomination to expire in the 115th Congress..." because of troubling questions about Farr's alleged racial past.

"Mr. Farr's hostility to African-American political participation does not end with his time with Senator Helms," the letter to McConnell stated. "Mr. Farr was also responsible for advising the North Carolina General Assembly while it drew federal congressional districts that packed African-American voters into Districts 1 and 12, a move the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed was unconstitutional. Additionally, in 2013, Mr. Farr defended North Carolina's discriminatory voter ID law, which targeted African-American voters "with almost surgical precision," according to the U.S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals. The Eastern District of North Carolina is comprised of 44 out of the North Carolina's 100 counties and has had the nation's longest judicial vacancy, but, even though the district also has a Black population of over 25 percent, it has never had a Black judge. In fact, Pres. Obama nominated two Black female candidates for the post before he left office, but North Carolina's Republican U.S. Sen. Richard Burr 'blue slipped' or blocked the nominations from getting Senate consideration.

Both Burr and Thom Tillis, North Carolina's junior Republican senator, not only back Farr enthusiastically, but defend him vigorously, saying that the "left's attacks" on Farr are "unwarranted."

Allowing Farr to become a federal judge, not only because of his history with Helms, but his later efforts on behalf of the NC Republican Party to establish voter ID and racial gerrymandering, would be unthinkable, says Dr. Spearman.

"Tom Farr in the Eastern District with the legal authority to decide the fate of African-Americans - hear me somebody - is tantamount to Adolf Hitler's wreaking havoc among our Jewish sisters and brothers and Saul, who later became the Apostle Paul's, breathing out cruelty to Christians," Spearman told reporters last March after going to Washington to protest after Pres. Trump first nominated Farr.

When he went to D.C. earlier this year, Spearman was hopeful that Republican senators, Susan Collins, of Maine, Jeff Flake, of Arizona, and Tim Scott, of South Carolina, might buck their party and join the 49 Senate Democrats in voting against Farr's nomination.

On Tuesday, a number of national civil rights leaders, including former NCNAACP president, Rev. Dr. William Barber, joined the Congressional Black



ATTORNEY THOMAS FARR

Caucus and the North Carolina Democratic Congressional Delegation in calling for the U.S. Senate not to confirm Attorney Thomas Farr.

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"If the lions do not write their own history, then the hunters will get all the credit."
 --AN AFRICAN PROVERB

STATE BRIEFS



COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS

DURHAM CONGRESSMEN ALLEGE ICE ENTRAPMENT

[DURHAM] Two North Carolina congressmen who represent parts of Durham

allege that agents with the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency (ICE) lied to a Mexican immigrant who was living at a local church, convincing him that he should leave the church, and travel to Morrisville in order to deal with his ordered deportation. When the man, Samuel Oliver-Bruno, left the church, Friday, he was arrested by ICE, and taken away. In a statement, Congressmen David Price [D-NC-4] and G. K. Butterfield [D-NC-1] noted

that Bruno had been living in the United States for over 20 years, and had been following the law per his legal petition. He had come back to the US because his wife was ill, and his son depended on him.

FORMER WAKE REGISTER OF DEEDS, CONVICTED OF EMBEZZLEMENT, SUES FOR PENSION

[RALEIGH] The current Wake Register of Deeds calls it, "...hubris incarnate, man-

ifested audacity laced with temerity." But former Wake Register of deeds, Laura Riddick, maintains that even though she is now a convicted felon, having pled guilty in August to stealing nearly \$1 million from her public office over a seven year period, and spending it on lavish trips, she is still entitled to her full pension, and resents having to forfeit over \$120,000 of her pension in the process. Riddick is suing the state Treasurer's Office to retain

her pension.

TATA DEFENDS TRUMP'S MILITARY TROOPS AGAINST ASYLUM SEEKERS

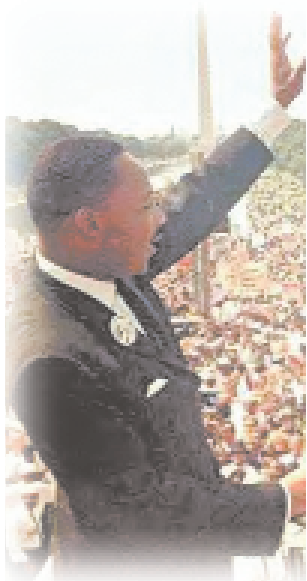
[WASHINGTON, D.C.] Former NC Dept. of Transportation Secretary Anthony Tata - who is also a retired brigadier general - defended Pres. Donald Trump's ordering 5200 military troops to the Mexican border to repel Honduran refugees seeking asylum in

the United States from crossing the border. ON "Fox and Friends" on Sunday, Tata was asked his reaction. "President Trump is a man of his word, he said he was going to be tough on the border and he is tough on the border," Tata replied. Later that afternoon on Twitter, Trump thanked Tata for his support. Tata, who once endorsed Sarah Palin for president, served as NC Transportation Secretary under Gov. Pat McCrory for two years.

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

—SALUTES—

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



On January 10, 2019, *The Wilmington Journal* will publish a special edition honoring our Drum Major, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. To reserve your advertising space Call (910) 762-5502 The deadline for reservations is January 7, 2019

VOTER ID

Continued from Page 1

precision."

Barber added that, even though voters approved the voter ID amendment to the North Carolina Constitution, that means little if it contradicts the federal Constitution. The same elected officials who vote for voter ID in the South, are the same, Dr. Barber said, who vote against women, expanding health care, living wages, labor rights, public education, the LGBTQ community, and immigrants.

"So voter ID isn't just about Black people, but about

America itself," Dr. Barber maintained. "This is a fight about all of us, and when you touch Black people, you touch all of us. That means all of us must stand together!"

"We've fought and won before....we'll fight and win again!"

Like other speakers on program, Rev. Barber also warned that lawmakers should be devoting most of the estimated two weeks this special session is expected to take towards helping flood victims still recovering from the devastation of Hurricane Florence.

"We are drifting back towards 'Jim Crow,'" Rev. Dr. T. Anthony Spearman, President

of the NCNAACP told the crowd, accusing the Republican led NC General Assembly of "...intentionally disenfranchising voters of color to ensure political gain..." for White supremacists.

Spearman called it "...the height of fraud."

"Every time the Berger-Moore all-White caucus comes up with a trick to disenfranchise our rights, we will use it to make North Carolina bullet-proof against the voter suppression tricks of the White caucus, the NCNAACP leader vowed.

"We will not retreat! We MUST not retreat," Dr.

Spearman exclaimed to cheers. "We WILL be heard! We MUST be heard!"

At press time Tuesday neither chamber of the NC General Assembly had passed any voter ID legislation. Senate President pro tem Phil Berger told reporters Monday that lawmakers would take their time with passage, seeking input from Democrats and citizens.

Tentatively, the Republican majority wants voter ID legislation that allows for college identification to be used, in addition to driver licenses and free ID cards issued by the N. C. Dept. of Motor Vehicles.

FOOD LION

NO ONE SHOULD GO HUNGRY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

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Join us in celebrating Christmas and Kwanzaa in The Wilmington Journal's December 20th edition! For info call us at 910-762-5502!



THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL
 The Wilmington Journal was founded on the principle of the Black Press Credo. The Black Press believes that America can best lead the world away from racial and national antagonism when it accords to every person, regardless of race, color or creed, full human and legal rights. Hating no person in the firm belief that all are hurt as long as anyone is held back.

The Wilmington Journal welcomes letters from its readers. All letters are subject to editing. We will not publish pseudonymous letters. All correspondence must include a home address and a daytime phone number. All correspondence must be signed, unless it is e-mailed. Letters may be sent to our Physical Address: 412 S. 7th Street, 28401 or our Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1020, 28402. We also accept letters via e-mail at wilmjourn@aol.com or via fax at (910) 343-1334.

OUR VOICE

Criminal justice reform long overdue for Black America

As a member of the infamous Wilmington Ten case in North Carolina from 1972 to 2012, I witnessed firsthand why the criminal justice system in the United States needed to be thoroughly reformed. We had been unjustly sentenced in 1972 to a combined total of 282 years in prison for standing up for equal quality education for Black students in the public school system in Wilmington, NC in 1971.

For 40 long years, until North Carolina Governor Beverly Perdue signed "Pardons of Innocence" documents for each member of the Wilmington Ten, the issues of unjust and disproportionate mass incarceration, bail reform, racism in the judiciary, prosecutorial misconduct, and reentry challenges were not matters of partisanship, but were matters of fundamental civil and human rights.

Thanks to the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the United Church of Christ (UCC), the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression (NAARP), Amnesty International and millions of people across the U.S. and throughout the world, we finally received a modicum of justice with the Pardons of Innocence being issued on December 31, 2012.

In the wake of the recent 2018 Midterm Elections, there now appears to be a more bipartisan interest and commitment in the achievement of significant criminal justice reform in America. Earlier this year, the House of Representatives finally passed the First Step Act with bipartisan support. The legislation establishes the initial steps for criminal justice reform at the federal level. Just last week, even President Trump announced his support of the First Step Act. However, what the U.S. Senate will do is still an open question.

The U.S. Congress should expedite passing the First Step Act as well as other criminal justice reform legislation. For Black America in particular, this remains an urgent and crucial public policy objective.

Of the current 2.2 million people incarcerated in the nation's prisons and jails, a disproportionate number are African Americans and other people of color. According to a 2018 Pew Research Study, in 2016 African Americans represented 12 percent of the U.S. adult population but 33 percent of the sentenced prison population. The ACLU reports that African American men are six times more likely to be incarcerated as White men in the U.S.

According to the NAACP's Criminal Justice Fact Sheet, African American women are imprisoned at twice the rate of White women. The Federal Bureau of Prisons reported in 2018 that 38 percent of prison inmates are African American.

But we need to do more than merely stating the statistics of criminal justice that bear witness to the racial, social, and economic inequities and injustices. We need solutions. We need more research about the successful programs and projects that can prevent mass incarceration while we emphasize the urgency for criminal justice reform legislation at both the federal and state levels. We also need more effective programs for the hundreds of thousands of incarcerated people preparing to reenter society without the counterproductivity of recidivism.

I have served on panel discussions amicably with Mark Holden, general counsel of Koch Industries, who also supports the First Step Act, a bill grounded in evidence-based and data-driven practices that we know keep communities safe and provide people with the second chances they need to lead productive lives. The bill specifically provides programs to help reduce the risk that prisoners will recidivate upon release from prison. Mark and I are on the same page on the issues of reentry and the need to reduce systemic reincarceration.

In fact, Koch Industries has been funding criminal justice reform efforts for more than a decade and was one of the first major corporations in the U.S. to "ban the box" by removing questions about criminal history on its employment applications. Other corporate leaders should also "ban the box."

Earlier this year at the NNPA's Mid-Winter Conference, we were pleased to welcome Brother Lamont Carey, a former prison inmate, noted author and founder of Contact Visits, a nonprofit 501(c) 3 organization that he established to assist people preparing to reenter society from prison. It was reassuring to see how Lamont was able to break free of the stigma of incarceration and make a positive and productive contribution to help others transform their lives, families and communities.

Lastly, on the related issue of bail reform: There are nearly a half million people, most of whom are people of color, who are sitting in jail today only because they cannot afford to post a monetary bail. Google and Koch have also teamed up to raise awareness about the necessity for bail reform in America. They believe that individuals accused of a crime should not be required to provide bail unless deemed a threat to public safety or a flight risk, because freedom should not hinge on a person's financial worth.

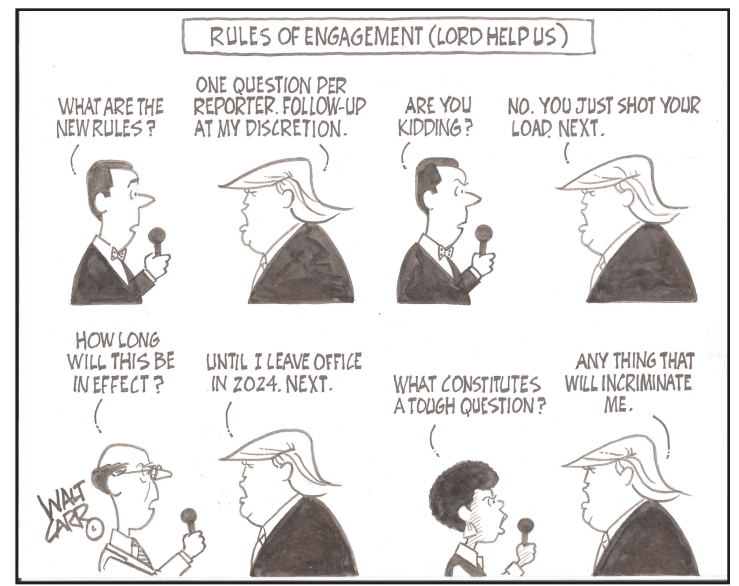
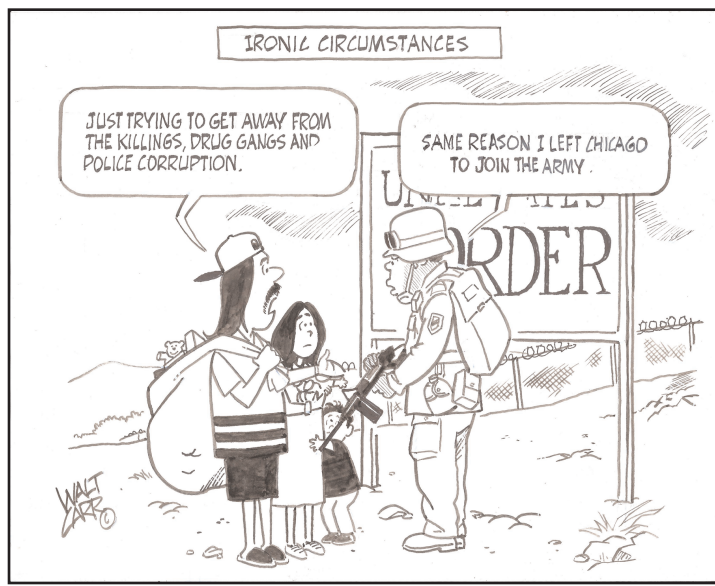
The time is now for action, not more partisan debate. No more postponements. No more excuses. The U.S. Congress should pass the First Step Act. We want equal justice.

Criminal justice reform for Black America is long overdue.

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. is President and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) and can be reached at dr.bchavis@nnpa.org.



Dr. Benjamin Chavis Jr.



MATTERS OF OPINION

Scandal

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

For several years many of us were consumed by the night on which the popular television program called Scandal, starring Kerry Washington, came on television. Well, it seems that the program was our preparation for what's going on in our country today. Unfortunately, it didn't prepare us for some of the things that happened.

In Georgia, we've just witnessed one of the worst cases of voter suppression to prevent Stacy Abrams and other Democrats from having a fair chance in their election bids. Brian Kemp both ran for governor against Stacy and made the rules to favor him when he disqualified over one million voters and scandalously decided the rules of the race.

As soon as the key parts of the election are over, #45

decided to fire Attorney General Jeff Sessions after continuously humiliating him when he actually did the right thing in recusing himself from handling the Mueller Investigation. It's clear that firing Sessions was strictly for the purpose of undermining the work of Robert Mueller and his team. Shortly after firing Mr. Sessions, we learned that #45 had made an attempt to prosecute Comey and Clinton -- two persons he claimed to be his enemies. It's obvious that Number 45 had corrupt intent when he fired James Comey, and he knows that Hilary Clinton was far more favorable to more people than he was when she received more votes than he did, I guess he didn't like that so he has railed against her since he's been in office--second only to his blaming President Barack Obama for everything!

Once Mr. Sessions was out, Number 45 quickly brought in Matthew Whitaker to become Acting Attorney General. Many brilliant lawyers have agreed that Mr. Whitaker did not meet constitutional requirements to hold

such a position because he had not been Senate confirmed. Add to that all of the biased comments Mr. Whitaker had made about the Mueller Investigation at various times proving that he could not be fair in his judgments. We need to know how and why he became the U.S. Attorney General. One can only assume Whitaker was brought on to undermine the investigation.

Moving on with scandals, Number 45 dismissed the CIA's report on Saudi Arabia and proclaimed what's obviously his all-out support of Saudi Arabia over our Intelligence community.

It's hard to believe, but he actually picked a fight with retired esteemed Four-Star Admiral William McRaven who was the architect of the Osama bin Laden successful raid. He attacked the Admiral for not capturing bin Laden earlier, despite the fact it was not his job! This criticism comes from a President who claims to love the military so much, and who claims to have done so much for the military. Now, we learn he is afraid to go to a war zone to visit soldiers

who live in those war zones.

There were more scandals from Number 45. He jumped into a disgraceful criticism of the 9th Circuit Court, charging the circuit was made up of Obama appointees, and therefore unfair to him. So, that led Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, John Roberts, to inform #45 that "We do not have Obama judges or Trump judges, Bush judges or Clinton judges. What we have is an extraordinary group of dedicated judges doing their level best to do equal rights to those appearing before them. That independent judiciary is something we should all be thankful for." That should have been obvious to a sensible president! Unfortunately, we haven't had one of those lately!

Number 45 is still erasing all the goodwill that his predecessor, President Barack Obama, built around the world. When will our system allow us to end these daily scandals?

Dr. E. Faye Williams is National President of the National Congress of Black Women; host of "Wake Up and Stay Woke" on WPFW-FM 89.3 in Washington, DC.



Oscar H. Blayton

Most readers will be familiar with this scenario. A white politician that you have not heard from in two years starts to show up at Black churches, glad-handing the pastors, reciting for the congregation his or her accomplishments that you've never heard of and reminding you to vote for him or her in the upcoming elections.

It's a scenario that is played out in most political districts where Blacks make up a significant portion - but not the majority - of the electorate. We know very little about these absentee politicians except that they are "the lesser of two evils" - the choice offered to those Black folk allowed to vote, since the end of the Reconstruction.

The question is: Why are we consistently faced with only being able to choose between the lesser of two evils each election cycle? Or put another way: "Why can we not have more options when selecting who will represent us?"

The answer is that we do have more options. We simply must constantly stay politically "woke" and not wait until the last minute to

pay attention to who the potential candidates are. Politicians interested in running in 2020 already are lining up at the starting gate. People aspiring to become the next president of the United States already have advance people in Iowa and other key states in preparation for the primary elections. Those eying congressional seats, state and local offices are organizing their political teams in order to hold on to those offices or to unseat an incumbent.

2016 has shown us that if we do not get engaged, we are in danger of being saddled with a lying racist, bent on erasing all of the gains people of color have made during the last five decades.

2018 has shown us that when people organize, they can overcome many of the obstacles that are strewn in our paths to equal justice and the freedoms promised to us by the U. S. Constitution. 2018 also has shown us that there are those who would deny people of color justice and freedom by blocking us from our guaranteed right to vote.

The Georgia governor's race shone the light on how bigots and racists will go to any lengths to tilt the vote in their favor by removing voters from the rolls and by making it more difficult for voters to get to the polls to cast their ballots. Republican Brian Kemp ran for governor

of that state while refusing to step down as its secretary of state, the office that oversees elections in Georgia. Over the years, Kemp systematically removed Black voters from the rolls through various questionable means, giving himself a clear advantage by increasing the percentage of would-be voters who were white.

There are those who will try to cheat us out of our rights, including our right to vote. There are those who will try to steal elections in the way that Trump did in 2016 with the help of Russian interference. These people can be stopped, however. They can be stopped by you and by me. They can be stopped by your parents and your voting-age children - and by your aunts and uncles and cousins and friends.

The way we stop them is by looking for people qualified to run for office in federal, state and local elections and helping them to win. These people can be found among your parents and your voting age children - and your aunts and uncles and cousins and friends. They must be identified and then encouraged to run for office. And when they run, we must support them. We must support them with our time, our labor and with our money. There may not be many of us that can give much of any of these things, but we can each give something.

If we make more of an effort, we can get more elected officials of the type we want and deserve. The proof is in the pudding. 2018 saw a record number of women of color elected, and it is expected that these women will work to steer America back on the correct course to fulfilling the promises of our Constitution.

According to the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University, women of color now will occupy:

- 38 seats in Congress
- 9 statewide elective offices
- 456 state legislative seats

and 10 mayors' offices in some of the nation's 100 largest cities.

We, as people of color, are in a pitched battle for our rightful place in this nation. And it is a battle that we will not win if we do not enlist as many people as possible in the fight. If we do not identify, enlist and support candidates who champion our best interests, then we deserve the callous and unjust treatment that we receive from elected officials who do not respect us.

The clock is running and so are the same tired old politicians. It is time we bring some serious champions into the fight.

Oscar H. Blayton is a former Marine Corps combat pilot and human rights activist who practices law in Virginia.

Tell them you read it in



THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

New Hanover County

The New Hanover NAACP Winter Meeting and Officer Installation will be held Thursday, December 13th at 6:00 p.m. at the Temple of Truth & Light, 2166 Kent Avenue, Wilmington. There will be a potluck supper prior to the meeting and installation. Members and friends attending are encouraged to bring either a hat, scarf, or gloves to donate to those in need. For more information, call 910-508-9414 or email nhnaacp@gmail.com.



Community Briefs

The New Hanover County Board of Education's Special Meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 29, 2018, has been cancelled. The New Hanover County Board of Education will hold a Special Meeting on Thursday, December 6, 2018, at 5:00 p.m., in the Board of Education Center, located at 1805 S. 13th Street. The only item on the agenda is a Closed Session pursuant to NCGS 143.318.11 (a) (1) and 115c-402.

Policies for briefs, news, & photos on page 2.

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

Vacancy on CFCC Board of Trustees

The New Hanover County Board of Education is accepting letters of interest and resumes for a vacancy in one of the four positions appointed by the Board of Education to serve on the Cape Fear Community College Board of Trustees. The term of office is until June 30, 2019. Regular meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of every other month at 4:00 p.m., in the Board Room at Cape Fear Community College.

Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and

resume to:

The New Hanover County Board of Education
6410 Carolina Beach Road
Wilmington, NC 28412
Attention: Tabitha Adams
Tabitha.Adams@nhcs.net

The deadline to submit the required documentation is noon on Tuesday, December 18, 2018. Please include in your letter of interest the reason(s) why you aspire to be appointed and the skill(s) you will bring to the office. The Board will review the documentation and select candidates to interview.

HOMETOWN NEWS FROM BRUNSWICK COUNTY

Listening to music can be relaxing

Once I complete my household duties for the day, it's then time for me to relax but not by watching TV. I like relaxing with songs that our grandparents would enjoy. That feeling of comfort comes as I listen to music because soon it will be time for the children to come home from school.

Verniece Stanley



Singing and music started with early settlement of England. It is easy to think there was singing and musical instruments on the ships that were handmade. Music is an art of organizing tones. We may produce a sequence of sounds and have some degree of rhythm, melody, and harmony. This could be the

beginning of a person's skills to have musical ability. They could possibly become outstanding persons in the field of music.

The bell is a metal instrument usually cup shaped and it has a metallic tone. This bell is used to indicate the time by striking on the hour. It is useful in the home.

We can go back as far as the 18th century to the shofar/shophar. It is a trumpet made of a ram's horn. It is blown for warning and was used by the Germans. The sound was recognized in the community.

An ophicleide is a musical wind instrument made of brass and has a bent tube. It has keys and is used in many of today's parades. There is also a wind instrument made of brass called a French horn. There is also the trumpet. Some have devices that produce a sound similar to that of an

animal horn. The saxophone is a wind instrument also and has a single reed mouth piece and keys for the fingers. It is used for musical entertainment.

The art of dancing is a series of rhythmical motions and steps that go with the music. One can dance and listen to music at the same time for short or long periods of time. This could come from a favorite record that refreshes old memories and brings to mind past experiences with old classmates, etc. Music will always have its place in the hearts of American citizens.

Jazz originated in the Southern states and was first played by Africans. The dance and music were known to become very popular. Clapping hands is more enjoyable when it is done in a group. We enjoy the orchestra and are able

to recognize the sound of a guitar, drum or organ. It makes it an enjoyable situation for a group of old and young.

Verniece E. Stanley is a native of Brunswick County. She grew up on a farm but wanted more excitement in life. She graduated from high school in Brunswick County in 1948 and graduated from Fayetteville State Teachers' College in 1952. She taught school in Brunswick County for nine years. She moved to Baltimore, Maryland, married, and taught school for twenty-five more years. She received her master's degree from Morgan State College in Baltimore City. She retired and moved back to Bolivia, N. C. where she enjoys writing articles for The Wilmington Journal and is an active member of the NAACP Board.

46th Old Wilmington by Candlelight Tour

(November 20, 2018)- For many, Thanksgiving is the start of the holiday season; however, for the 12 sites on the 46th Old Wilmington by Candlelight Tour, December 1st & 2nd, preparations have long been underway.

At the Latimer House, headquarters of the Lower Cape Fear Historical Society, volunteers and staff have been preparing to transform the fully furnished Victorian mansion into a turn of the 20th century Christmas. "Last year we received a donation of clothing belonging to the Latimer's granddaughters, who were Edwardian beauties, and we were able to learn more about the Latimers during the Edwardian period, 1900-1914. Since the Edward Latimer house, where these girls grew up, is on the tour this year, it

seemed fitting that we highlight this period in the house's history," Rachel Rhine, Manager of Operations explained. The Latimer House's decorators were also excited to feature a time where more ready-made ornaments and electricity would have been common. Fans of Downton Abbey will also appreciate the volunteers' turn of the century costumes, supplied by Debbie Scheu.

While the Latimer House always serves as major feature of the tour, another home on the tour is creating the most excitement. The Mitchell-Anderson house, 1740, the oldest house in Wilmington, will be on this year's tour. Saved and restored in the 1970s by Mr. and Mrs. Wright, founders of the Historic Wilmington Foundation, the home has been

transformed into a modern office and has undergone another recent restoration. "It is a fantastic example of adaptive re-use, maintaining a historic building while changing its purpose. This will be the first time we have the home on the tour," states Rhine. It's neighboring Anderson Cottage, festooned in holiday garland, will also be on the tour.

The tour will feature three historically African American churches that show a rich architectural and religious history over a hundred year period: Chestnut Presbyterian, 1858, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 1871, which will be celebrating its 150th anniversary next year, and Shiloh Missionary Baptist, originally build in 1871 and rebuilt in 1960.

Along with festive decora-

tions, attendees can expect live music at the Latimer House, Mitchell-Anderson House, and all three churches. The society is also reviving an old tradition- Caroling by Candlelight. "The tour kicks off the Wilmington holiday festivities and how better to start the tour than with caroling? Our Candlelight Choir will start at the Latimer House on November 30th at 6:00 p.m. and carol through the streets ending at City Hall. We welcome the public to join us for a festive evening" declared Rhine. When asked what her favorite part of the tour is, Candlelight Tour Chair Linda Snider explained "When children enter these rooms and their faces just light up- that's magical to see."

Proceeds from the Old Wilmington by Candlelight Tour benefit the Lower Cape

Fear Historical Society, Inc. Incorporated in 1956, the mission of the Lower Cape Fear Historical Society is to disseminate knowledge of the region's rich historical significance. In addition to maintaining the Latimer House as a historic site interpreting life in the Victorian Era, the historical society maintains a local history archives and plans educational programming throughout the year. To purchase tickets, please visit lcfs.org.

Candlelight Tour will be Saturday December 1st 4:00-8:00 p.m. and Sunday December 2nd 1:00 -5:00 p.m. Caroling by Candlelight Friday November 30th, 6:00 p.m. is free to the public.

This year's sites are:

- 1- The Latimer House - 126th South 3rd Street, 1852
- 2- Latimer House Slave

Quarters- 215th Orange St, 1838

3- Edward Latimer House - 208 South 3rd Street, 1882

4- Mitchell/Anderson House - 102 Orange Street, 1740

5- Dr. Anderson Cottage - 104 Orange Street, 1870

6- Front Street Inn - 215 South Front Street, 1924

7- St. Mark's Episcopal Church - 601 Grace Street, corner of Grace and 6th st. 1871

8- Chestnut Street Presbyterian Church - 714 Chestnut Street, 1858

9- Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church - 719 Walnut Street, 1871, rebuilt 1960

10- McNamee House - 202 North 15th Street, 1917

11- Launey/Tester House - 1711 Princess Street, 1912

12- Jodie Wrenn Rippy Studio - 705 Colonial Drive, 2006

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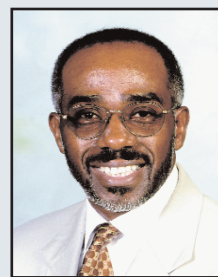
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