

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.

IN OUR COMMUNITY

STATE OF BLACK EMERGENCY COMMEMORATING THE 56TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON Martin Luther King Center 401 South 8th Street Wednesday, August 28, 2019

Addressing issues that hinders the empowerment of black people A day of prayer, love, unity and strength Free and open to the public! Doors open at 4:30 p.m. Starts at 5:00 p.m.

OUTside

Looking IN

OUR VOICE



OSCAR H. BLAYTON

GUEST EDITORIAL "Why Lady Liberty weeps" BY OSCAR H. BLAYTON PAGE 4

BRUNSWICK COUNTY



BERNEST HEWETT

OUR CHILDREN OF COLOR WILL SEE VERY LITTLE BLACK LEADERSHIP

BY BERNEST HEWETT CONTRIBUTING WRITER Brunswick County, it has happened again with the Brunswick County school system! Highly qualified administrators have been moved, and the system is slowly doing away with Black leaders in the school system. Our children of color will see very little Black leadership, and this will have a great effect on how they grow

Please see BRUNSWICK/Page 2

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 92/No. 34

AUGUST 22, 2019 - AUGUST 28, 2019

FIFTY CENTS

NC NAACP PRESIDENT CONCERNED ABOUT TRUMP'S NEW PICK FOR NC COURT

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

After realizing that his initial pick for the federal judicial seat in North Carolina's Eastern District, Raleigh Attorney Thomas Farr will not be confirmed. Pres. Donald Trump has nominated a conservative UNC-Chapel Hill law school professor instead, and, while both Republican North Carolina U. S. senators praise the choice, the president of the NC NAACP has expressed his concerns and may be gearing up to fight this nomination as well.

Rev. Dr. T. Anthony Spearman, president of the NCNAACP, called Professor Richard Myers, Trump's new nominee, announced just last week, a "...thoroughly good gopher

for injustice."

Rev. Spearman and others in the progressive movement are alarmed that in the past two and a half years since Trump has taken office, the U.S. Senate, under the leadership of Republican Senate majority leader, Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY), has confirmed over 160 nominees to the federal bench, including two to the U. S. Supreme Court.

Couple that with the fact that McConnell defiantly blocked several nominees from Democratic President Barack Obama while he was in office and progressives like Spearman are geared up go fight every Trump nominee that is presented.

As of now, Professor Myers, a registered Republican, is on that list.

Born in Kingston, Jamaica, Myers' family moved to Wilmington in his youth. Graduating from UNC-Wilmington, he worked as a reporter for a Wilmington newspaper 1991-95, and earned his law degree from UNC-Chapel Hill in 1998, later joining the law school there.

Myers eventually clerked for conservative Judge David Sentelle on the D. C. Court of Appeals. Sentelle, a North Carolina native, according to NCNAACP Pres. Spearman, had a close association with conservative U. S. Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC) and was seen as a federal jurist conservatives could count on.



PROFESSOR RICHARD MYERS

Please see MYERS/Page 2



Federal bureau helping predatory lenders instead of protecting consumers

BY CHARLENE CROWELL FOR TRICEEDNEYWIRE.COM

For most people, life feels better when there is something to look forward to. Whether looking forward to graduation, the arrival of a new baby, or retirement that affords a few years to just enjoy life - these kinds of things make going through challenging times some-

NEWS ANALYSIS

how more manageable.

For payday loan borrowers and consumer and civil rights activists, this August 19 was supposed to be the end of payday lending's nearly inevitable debt trap. No longer would consumers incur seemingly endless strings of loans that lenders knew they could not afford. Nor would lenders have unlimited and automatic direct access to borrower checking accounts; only two debits could be drawn on an account with insufficient funds. The days of unrestrained busi-

Please see CROWELL/Page 2



NC SUPREME COURT TO HEAR RACIAL JUSTICE ACT CASES

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

In 2013, the NC General Assembly repealed the NC Racial Justice Act (RJA), a law signed by then Gov. Beverly Perdue in 2009 that converted death sentences for convicted murderers to life in prison without parole if they could present evidence proving that their sentencing was the result of racial discrimination in jury selection.

The RJA was initially enacted because of mounting evidence prosecutors across North Carolina were

Please see RJ ACT/Page 2

Cop who killed Eric Garner fired at last

Garner's last words, 'I can't breathe', became national outcry against police brutality

BY HAZEL TRICE EDNEY OF TRICEEDNEYWIRE.COM

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - Daniel Pantaleo, the New York City cop who held Eric Garner in an illegal choke hold as he pleaded, "I can't breathe", was finally fired and stripped of his pension benefits this week - five years after Garner's plea became a protest chant and rallying cry for thousands against police misconduct, profiling and brutality across the nation.

"As Mr. Garner balanced himself on the sidewalk on his hands and knees, Deputy Commissioner of Trials Rosemarie Maldonado found that Officer Pantaleo 'consciously disregarded the substantial and unjustifiable risks of a maneuver explicitly prohibited by the department.' She found that during the struggle, Officer Pantaleo 'had the opportunity to readjust his grip from a prohibited chokehold to a less-lethal alternative,' but did not make use of that opportunity," Commissioner James O'Neill

said at a press conference on Monday. He continued, "From the start of this process, I was determined to carry out my responsibility as Police Commissioner unaffected by public opinions demanding one outcome over another. I examined the totality of the circumstances and relied on the facts. And I stand before you today confident that I have reached the correct decision...In this case, the unin-

Please see FIRED/Page 2



ERIC GARNER

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

ISSN 0049-7649 - AN
INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
Dedicated to R.S. Jervay,
Founder of R.S. Jervay Printers,
1901 and T.C. Jervay, Sr.,
Founder of The Wilmington
Journal, An offspring of
the Cape Fear Journal, 1927
Published Weekly At
412 South Seventh Street,
Wilmington, NC 28401
By Wilmington Journal, Inc.
P.O. Box 1020,
Wilmington, NC 28402
Periodical Postage Paid At
Wilmington, NC 28402
(910) 762-5502
Fax: (910) 343-1334,
Email: wilmjourn@aol.com
Website:
www.wilmingtonjournal.com
Single Copy 50 Cents
Subscription Rates
All Subscriptions \$32 Yearly,
Except Foreign, \$37 Yearly,
Payable in Advance. (Taxes
Included for NC Residents)
Address all communications and
make all checks and money
orders payable to:
The Wilmington Journal,
P.O. Box 1020,
Wilmington, NC 28402

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The Wilmington Journal cannot
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are considered advertisements.
Community and religious briefs are
designated for public service
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open to the public.

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
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BRUNSWICK

Continued from Page 1

and develop. When this hap-
pens and they get through
school and begin to have to
deal with people who have
done this to them and find
that the injustice of this act
is then turned toward them,
the hatred starts all over
again and a whole genera-
tion of racial division starts
again. Why? Are we so
much different, or has race
fueled a place in your hearts
so that God's command-
ments are just an excuse?
When one commits unjust
acts toward those who pray,
he or she will find that God
will deal with him or her.
You can't hide. This system
has become more and more
against the public education
system and moving toward a
private school system.

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



MYERS

Continued from Page 1

Myers also worked as an
assistant U.S. attorney for the
U.S. Justice Dept., focusing on
white collar crime.

"I believe he will serve the
Eastern District honorably,
and I look forward to the
Senate's consideration of this
well qualified nominee," Sen.
Burr said in a statement.

Sen. Tillis also lauded
Myers.

RJ ACT

Continued from Page 1

finding ways to block quali-
fied African Americans 2.5
times more than Whites
from juries in capital cases,
even though doing so violat-
ed federal law.

The result was that Black
defendants were being con-
victed by all-White juries on
the basis of race, regardless
of what the evidence in the
case showed. However, the
Republican-led NC General
Assembly, along with then
GOP Gov. Pat McCrory,
repealed the RJA in 2013,
rejecting solid evidence that
racism was prevalent in cap-

"Professor Myers' extensive
experience serving in the
Department of Justice, prose-
cuting white collar and vio-
lent crime, as well as his well
deserved reputation as one of
our state's best legal scholars
provide him with the back-
ground and qualifications
required to serve the Eastern
District with distinction. I
look forward to advancing his
nomination through the
Senate Judiciary Committee."

However, Rep. G. K.
Butterfield (D-NC-1) wants to

know more about Myers.

"The Eastern District
deserves diversity on the fed-
eral bench," Butterfield said
in a statement. "There has
never been an African
American judge in the dis-
trict, despite having a minori-
ty population greater than
30%. President Obama
attempted on two occasions to
achieve racial diversity in the
Eastern District, but on both
occasions the nominations
were blocked by Republican
Senators."

ital punishment cases.
On August 26th and 27th
of next week, the NC
Supreme Court will hear
arguments in six death
penalty cases wherein the
death sentences were con-
verted by the RJA to life sen-
tences, only to be converted
back to death sentences
once the law was repealed.
In 2012, the first four
death penalty cases consid-
ered under the RJA were
converted to life in prison.
Three of the cases involved
all-White juries. Neverthe-
less, because of
procedural errors, new
hearings were supposed to
take place, but, once the RJA
was repealed, there were no

new hearings, and the death
sentences were reinstated.

Next week, North
Carolina's High Court will
consider whether to rein-
state the life sentences or
grant the new hearings that
never took place.

The remaining two cases
will argue that, because
those death row defendants
did file claims under the
RJA before it was repealed,
they are also entitled to
present evidence of racial
discrimination in their jury
selections and thus should
have their death sentences
commuted to life without
parole.

"The court must answer a
key question for North

Carolina," said David Weiss,
a staff attorney with
Durham's Center for Death
Penalty Litigation, one of
several law firms that repre-
sents the RJA defendants.
"Will our state abide by its
constitution and confront
the evidence that race has
played an unacceptable role
in death penalty trials, or
will we throw the evidence
away without a hearing and
send the message that per-
vasive racial bias doesn't
matter, even in life-and-
death trials?"

"Jury discrimination is
one of the key civil rights
issues of our time," said Jin
Hee Lee, Senior Deputy
Director of Litigation for

the NAACP Legal Defense
and Educational Fund,
which filed a brief in sup-
port of the RJA cases.
Founded by Thurgood
Marshall, LDF becomes
involved in cases when they
present a chance to advance
racial justice. Lee contin-
ued, "It threatens the
integrity of our justice sys-
tem and our democracy
when we allow Black citi-
zens to be illegally barred
from jury service. We hope
North Carolina will give the
evidence in these capital
cases the serious considera-
tion it deserves and take
needed steps to end race
discrimination in North
Carolina's death penalty."

expressed serious issues
with the Bureau's anti-con-
sumer shift.

"[T]he Bureau's proposed
repeal of the 2017 rule would
eliminate an important fed-
eral floor that would protect
consumers across the coun-
try, including from interstate
lending activity that is chal-
lenging for any individual
State to police," wrote the
AGs. "Extending credit with-
out reasonably assessing bor-
rowers' ability to repay their
loans resembles the poor
underwriting practices that
fueled the subprime mort-
gage crisis, which eventually
led to an economic tailspin
and enactment of the Dodd-
Frank Act."

A 2019 CRL research
report found that every year,
payday and car-title loans
drain nearly \$8 billion in fees
from consumer pockets.
Although 16 states and the
District of Columbia have
enacted rate caps that limit
interest to no more than 36%,
34 states still allow triple-
digit interest rate payday
loans that together generate
more than \$4 billion in costly

fees. Similarly, car-title loans
drain more than \$3.8 billion
in fees annually from con-
sumers in the 22 states where
this type of loan is legal.

Texas leads the nation in
costly payday loan fees at \$1.2
billion per year. Overall, con-
sumers stuck in more than 10
payday loans a year repre-
sent 75% of all fees charged.
Car-title loan fees take
\$356 million out of the pock-
ets of Alabama residents,
and \$297 million from
Mississippi consumers. And
among all borrowers of these
loans, one out of every five
loses their vehicle to repos-
session.

This spring before a
Capitol Hill hearing, Diane
Standaert, a CRL EVP and
Director of State Policy sum-
marized the choices now
before the nation:
"Policymakers have a choice:
siding with the vast majority
of voters who oppose the pay-
day loan debt trap or siding
with predatory lenders
charging 300% interest
rates."
As Spike Lee advised years
ago, "Do the right thing."

CROWELL

Continued from Page 1

nesses recklessly selling pay-
day and car-title loans as
short-term financial fixes
that grew to become long-
term debt was set for a shut-
down.

Let's say these borrowers
were looking forward to
financial freedom from the
endless cycle of loan
renewals and costly fees gen-
erated by triple-digit interest
rates. In practical terms, the
typical, two-week \$350 pay-
day loan winds up costing
\$458 in fees.

But just as seasons and cir-
cumstances can and do
change, under a different
administration, the Con-
sumer Financial Protection
Bureau (CFPB) has func-
tioned more recently to help
predatory lenders than to ful-
fill its statutory mission of
consumer protection.

Last summer, then-CFPB
head Mick Mulvaney, joined
the payday loan industry to
challenge and win a delay in
the implementation of the

long-awaited payday rule.
Mulvaney also withdrew a
lawsuit filed by the CFPB
against a payday lender
ahead of his arrival.

Months later in in a West
Texas federal court, U.S.
District Judge Lee Yeakel
granted a 'stay', the legal
term for a court-ordered
delay, to allow the current
CFPB Director the chance to
rewrite the rule adopted
under the Bureau's first
Director. Even earlier and
under Acting CFPB Director
Mick Mulvaney, a lawsuit
filed by CFPB against a pay-
day lender was withdrawn.

In response to these and
other anti-consumer develop-
ments, consumer advocates
chose to observe the August
19 date in a different way:
reminding CFPB what it was
supposed to do on behalf of
consumers.

"[S]ince its 2017 leadership
change, the CFPB has repeat-
edly failed to support the
August 19, 2019 compliance
date the agency established
for these important provi-
sions," wrote Americans for
Financial Reform Education

Fund, National Consumer
Law Center, Public Citizen,
and the Center for
Responsible Lending (CRL).
The August 12 joint letter to
Director Kraninger called for
"timely implementation" of
the rule's payment protec-
tions. While the CFPB contin-
ues to push for a stay of the
rule's ability-to-repay
requirements, it has failed to
offer any basis for its anti-
consumer effort.

It took years of multiple
public hearings, research,
public comments, and a care-
ful rulemaking process
before Director Cordray,
delivered a rule that would
provide financial relief from
one of the nation's most
heinous predatory loans.

Similar sentiments were
expressed to the CFPB by 25
state attorneys general (AGs)
whose jurisdictions included
California, Illinois,
Maryland, Michigan, New
York, North Carolina,
Oregon, Virginia, and the
District of Columbia. In writ-
ten comments on CFPB's
plan to rewrite the payday
rule, these state officials also

expressed serious issues
with the Bureau's anti-con-
sumer shift.

"[T]he Bureau's proposed
repeal of the 2017 rule would
eliminate an important fed-
eral floor that would protect
consumers across the coun-
try, including from interstate
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lenging for any individual
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FIRED

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tended consequence of Mr.
Garner's death must have a
consequence of its own.
Therefore, I agree with the
Deputy Commissioner of
Trials' legal findings and rec-
ommendation. It is clear that
Daniel Pantaleo can no longer
effectively serve as a New
York City police officer."

They were the long awaited
words of activists across the
country as well as Garner's
family, which includes five
children and Garner's mother,
Gwen Carr, who has become a
familiar face as she fought for
justice for her son who was 43.

In response to O'Neill's
announcement, Carr told
reporters she is not finished.
She says there are other New
York officers who were pres-
ent but did nothing to prevent
her son's death who should
also be fired. The viral video
of the killing shows several
other officers at the scene.

"We have other officers that
we have to go after. You have
heard the names. We know the
wrongdoing that they have
done," Carr said. "So I would
like the press to put it out
there, show the pictures, say
the names, do the roll call
because they all need to lose
their jobs."

"But I'm still out here, I'm
out here for the long run. You
come out here against me, I'm
out here," she said. "And you
cannot scare me away. Yeah
Pantaleo, you may have lost
your job, but I lost a son."

Garner said the words 11
times, "I can't breathe", before
collapsing on the sidewalk in
Staton Island July 17, 2014.
Pantaleo and other officers
had approached him for sell-
ing loose cigarettes on the
street.

After the police press con-
ference, activist Al Sharpton,
president/CEO of the New
York-based National Action
Network, spoke alongside
Garner's family, saying the fir-
ing is to be commended, but it
is "nothing to celebrate
because Pantaleo will go
home a terminated man but

this family had to go to a
funeral."

Sharpton says he will con-
tinue to press for a law ban-
ning chokeholds instead of
there being just a departmen-
tal policy against them.

Monday's announcement
comes nearly two weeks after
Deputy Commissioner of
Trials Rosemarie Maldonado,
who oversaw Pantaleo's
departmental trial last May
and June, recommended that
Pantaleo be fired, in part,
because she said he was
"untruthful" during his inter-
views with investigators
about Garner's death. She
wrote in a report obtained by
the New York Times on
Sunday that Pantaleo's
denials that he used a choke
hold were "implausible and
self-serving".

The report also said that
Pantaleo's "use of a chokehold
fell so far short of objective
reasonableness that this tribu-
nal found it to be reckless - a
gross deviation from the stan-
dard of conduct established
for a New York City police offi-
cer."

Medical experts testified
that the pressure place on
Garner's neck by Pantaleo
"caused internal hemorrhag-
ing in Mr. Garner's neck and
was a significant factor in
triggering the acute asthma
attack which contributed to
his death," Maldonado wrote.

Garner's daughter, Emerald
Snipes, also at the press con-
ference, vowed not to stop
fighting for justice - not only
concerning her father - but
concerning what has become

an epidemic of high-profiled
police injustices again Black
people around the nation.

"It took five years for the
officer to be fired," Snipes
said. "I will do everything in
my power to never see another
Eric Garner."

Pantaleo's lawyers say they
will appeal the firing decision,
perhaps keeping the case alive
for more years. Regardless,
O'Neill is hoping for a peace-
ful outcome after the long
wait.

"Today is a day of reckon-
ing but can also be a day of
reconciliation," he said. "We
must move forward together
as one city, determined to
secure safety for all - safety for
all New Yorkers and safety for
every

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TODAY'S NEWS IS TOMORROW'S BLACK HISTORY

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL
IS A RECORDER OF BLACK HISTORY

STATE BRIEFS



GOV. COOPER VETOES ICE LAW

[RALEIGH] Wednesday Gov. Roy Cooper vetoed a measure passed by the NC House this week that would

require NC sheriffs to honor detention requests from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for illegal immigrants. The state Senate passed the law in June. Sheriffs in Durham, Wake, Guilford and other counties refused to hold immigrant suspects for ICE agents, saying it was against the law. Republican lawmakers threatened to punish

those sheriffs who didn't comply. If Cooper had allowed the law to stand, sheriffs could be removed from office for not obeying.

NC DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION TO LAY OFF HUNDREDS OF WORKERS

[RALEIGH] Hundreds of temporary and contractual workers are now facing pink

slips from the NC Department of Transportation, due to the high costs of repairing roads after hurricane damage and settling a large lawsuit. More than 1,000 positions are on the block, including construction inspectors, contractors and pot hole laborers. A spokesman says the layoffs will be temporary, with most expected to be rehired next

year.

FOREST OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCES 2020 RUN FOR GOVERNOR

[WINSTON-SALEM] Republican Lt. Gov. Dan Forest has now officially entered the GOP primary for governor, joining Rep. Holly Grange of Wilmington. During a speech at the Winston-Salem Fairgrounds

a week ago, Forest said as governor, he would create "a new vision" for North Carolina that would reject socialism, identity politics and abortion rights. Forest seeks to unseat Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper.

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS

The great march on Galveston

Attorney Benjamin Crump threatens to bring national civil rights and mental health advocates to Galveston if Sept. 15 deadline not met to release body camera footage

BY JEFFREY L. BONEY, NNPA NEWSWIRE CONTRIBUTOR

Back on August 3rd, Donald Neely was arrested by Galveston police after he allegedly committed the crime of criminal trespassing at a commercial property located at 306 22nd Street, and after allegedly being warned not to trespass on the property several times before.

It was not the arrest of Neely that caused a stir, it was the way in which he was detained that has caught the attention of people across the country, including many civil rights activists and attorneys. This action caught the immediate attention of several witnesses, who took the pictures and shared them on social media.

News of the arrest spread like wildfire, after a couple of shocking photos appeared on social media showing two White, uniformed Galveston Mounted Patrol Officers escorting Neely, who is Black, down the middle of 23rd Street in Galveston like a runaway slave; handcuffing him with his hands behind his back and leading him by rope down the street like a captured animal as they rode their individual horses down the street.

Neely, 43, suffers from mental illness. According to Neely's family, he has suffered from mental illness for over a decade and had been homeless based off their last known interaction. The family had not seen him in roughly four years, but saw the disrespectful and dehumanizing photos of him circulating online.

According to a statement released by the Galveston Police Department, they state that "when a police car was not immediately available, he (Neely) was escorted by mounted police officers about four blocks to a nearby staging area."

National civil rights attorney Benjamin Crump held a major press conference on August 12th, calling on the Galveston Police Department to release the body camera footage of the incident to be able to determine whether Neely's civil rights may have been violated.

"This isn't 1819. This is 2019, Galveston, Texas," said Crump. "The Galveston Police Department should have no problem releasing the body cam video, so we can see with our own eyes the content of the character of these two officers; based off of how they talked to and how they treated this unarmed Black citizen who suffered from mental illness."

Nearly 170 years ago, the federal government passed the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, which gave individuals known as "slave catchers" the legal mandate to go anywhere in the country to locate and prosecute runaway slaves and return them to their slave masters.

These slave catchers were usually individual citizens who were paid to catch runaway slaves, and some were members of local law enforcement. Nevertheless, the majority of these slave catchers were known to ride horses, as well as use ropes and chains to secure the runaway slaves, making them walk behind or beside their horses until they reached their destination.

Fast forward to 2019, and we see that the slave catcher model has reared its ugly head once again; this time in Galveston.

One of the people who received a copy of the picture and shared it on social media, is a former Galveston resident named Erin Toberman, who is White and whose father was a police captain.

At the press conference, Toberman spoke to reporters and made some strong and salient points about the incident.

"I'm a White woman and I have nothing but respect for law enforcement and I know how hard their job can be, because my father was a police Captain," said Toberman. "Members of law enforcement have always told me that if I see something, I should say something. Well, I saw something and I said something, but now I'm being told that I shouldn't have said anything or said anything. That isn't right."

Crump said that once Galveston Police Department releases the video and they can determine the content of the character of the officers involved to be in line with what the police department is saying, they will leave, but until then they do not plan on leaving the city.

"We are not going anywhere," said Crump. "As a matter of fact, if you don't release the video in 30 days, we are going to invite other civil rights advocates, mental health advocates and human rights advocates, and we will have a great march on Galveston. We are going to march down the same street that you dragged Donald Neely down by rope."

State Senator Borris L. Miles released a statement regarding the Galveston Police Department Mounted Patrol incident, stating:

"I condemn Officer P.

Brosch and A. Smith for their actions during this arrest and for unnecessarily subjecting Mr. Neely to that public humiliation. I applaud Galveston Police Chief Vernon Hale for his swift response and apology to Mr. Neely. I ask him to consider disciplinary actions against those two officers and to institute department-wide sensitivity training to ensure that officers, present and future understand why this was wrong, why it was inhumane and why it was downright

racist."

Crump set the deadline date to release the video for September 15. In the meantime, both the Texas Rangers and the Galveston County Sheriff's Office are investigating the controversial arrest. In expressing their seriousness about the release of the video, Crump led attendees in a chant to demand its release, chanting, "Say No Mo'...Release the Video."

According to the Galveston Police Department, the body cameras were functional and

were live during the encounter with Neely, so now it boils down to the actual release of the footage.

Galveston Police Chief Vernon Hale and Galveston City Manager Brian Maxwell, both made statements expressing their belief that the officers may have used poor judgment regarding the incident and the officer's handling of Neely.

"Although this is a best practice in certain scenarios, I don't think it was the best practice at this point in time,"

said Chief Hale.

Chief Hale has stated that his department has ended the use of this practice effective immediately. However, this is not good enough for Neely's family, his attorneys and for many community advocates who have been riveted by this incident.

Time will tell if the Galveston Police Department will comply with Crump's demands and inquiring minds want to know what exactly they will hear and see once the footage is released.

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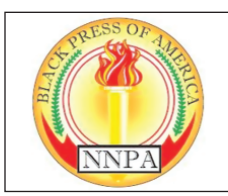
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ON AIR



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OUR VOICE

GUEST EDITORIAL

Why Lady Liberty weeps

There is a sickening stench about Ken Cuccinelli. Ken Cuccinelli is Donald Trump's newly appointed acting director of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, and his type of stench is not one that assaults the nose, rather it is a noxious affront that assaults one's dignity.

Cuccinelli's main function in his new position is to act as Donald Trump's gatekeeper to bar America's doors to people of color. His job description requires a belief in the notion that America is a land for white prosperity and any non-white presence - if not of service to white supremacy - is a trespass.

The Trump Administration recently came under fire when Cuccinelli announced that it would implement its "public-charge rule," declaring that anyone seeking immigration to the United States would be deemed undesirable if they could not satisfactorily prove their self-sufficiency - the effect being to bar poor people.

Some commentators have described this rule as Draconian and point out that it would have barred Cuccinelli's poor ancestors from entering America as well. And one reporter reminded him that the Statue of Liberty welcomes "your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free." Oblivious to the meaning of the words of the poem inscribed on the plaque at the base of the great statue, Cuccinelli insisted that their intent was "Give me your tired and your poor who can stand on their own two feet, and who will not become a public charge."

When asked to explain his revised version of the famous poem, Cuccinelli said, in essence, the poem was meant for white people. In his words: "That poem was referring back to people coming from Europe..."

Cuccinelli's remark gives proof to the fact that white supremacy can only flourish when fertilized with the manure of bigoted ignorance.

The Statue of Liberty was conceived by Édouard René de Laboulaye of France to commemorate the end of slavery in the United States. The original concept was to have Lady Liberty holding a broken shackle and chain in her left hand. But due to powerful Americans objecting to this reference to slavery, the final version of the statue replaced the chains with a tablet inscribed with "July IV MDCCCLXXVI," the date of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and placed the broken chains beneath her feet.

By the time the statue was installed in New York Harbor in 1886, Reconstruction in the South was over, and America had turned its back on the plight of African Americans suffering from injustice and oppression. Little, if any, reference was made at that time to the anti-slavery message of the statue.

By then, America had moved so far away from being concerned about the welfare of African Americans that one African American newspaper expressed derision at the notion of American liberty. In November 1886, The Cleveland Gazette stated in its editorial:

"Shove the Bartholdi statue, torch and all, into the ocean until the same 'liberty' of this country is such as to make it possible for an industrious and inoffensive colored man in the south to earn a respectable living for himself and family, without being ku-kluxed, perhaps murdered, his daughter and wife outraged, and his property destroyed. The idea of the 'liberty' of this country enlightening the world, or even Patagonia, is ridiculous in the extreme."

Despite Cuccinelli's assertions, Ellis Island did not officially open as an immigration station until Jan. 1, 1892. And the words of Emma Lazarus' famous poem were not placed on the base of the statue until 1903 - 17 years after the Statue of Liberty was unveiled.

Given the history of this country, it is not difficult to understand why Cuccinelli believes America is reserved for white people and the Statue of Liberty was meant only for them. But we must always keep in mind that people like Ken Cuccinelli drag this nation further into the mire of despotism as they seek the "blessings of liberty" only for themselves and those who look like them.

Cuccinelli's political path includes election to the Virginia state senate beginning in 2002 and as Virginia attorney general in 2009. During his career, he tried to eliminate birthright citizenship, proposed making it a firing offense to speak Spanish on the job and distributed lapel pins to his staff at the Attorney General's Office that were decorated with a state seal adopted by Virginia and used on Confederate battle flags after the state seceded from the Union in 1861.

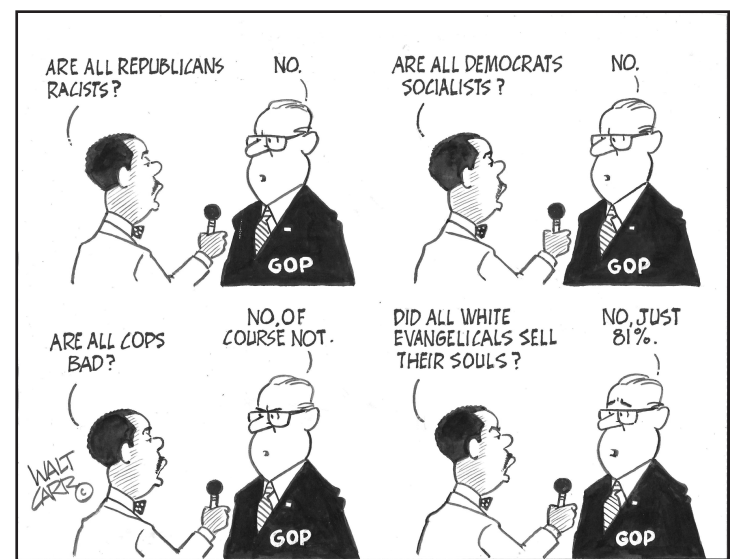
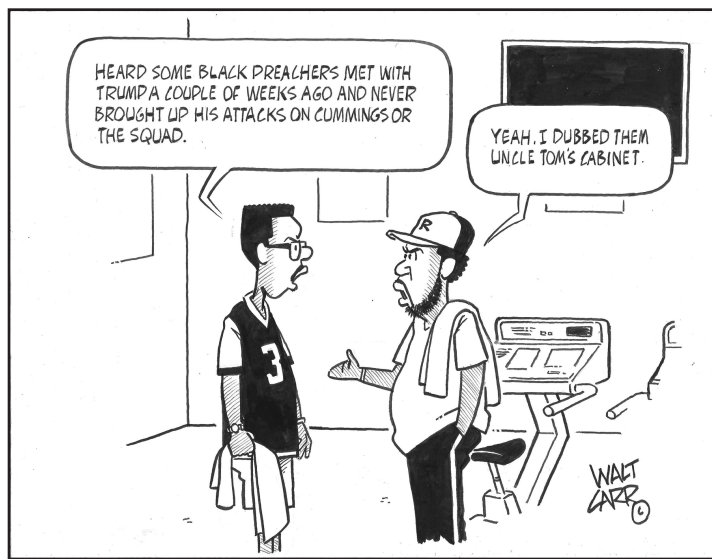
The stench of bigotry enveloping Ken Cuccinelli is so strong that, according to reports, U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell advised Donald Trump not to nominate him for any post that requires Senate confirmation. To this day, Cuccinelli remains acting director of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, holding that office without Senate confirmation.

I have been exposed to the stench of racism and bigotry all my life, and as a Virginian, I have endured Ken Cuccinelli's stench for almost two decades. Now, thanks to Donald Trump, all America is experiencing that stench as well.

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

**The Black Press:
USE It or LOSE It!**

Visual Voice



YOUR VOICE

INSIDER TRADING

On Monday, global markets tumbled on fears that President Trump's latest tariffs on China will cause a world-wide economic slowdown. Then, on Tuesday, markets surged on news that Mr. Trump had postponed his latest tariff threats. Time and time again, the president makes announcements that are certain to sway markets in one direction or the other; only to reverse himself shortly thereafter.

So I ask: Who was informed of Mr. Trump's moves before they became public? Are his

family members and friends trading on that insider information? What about other administration officials? Is this how Mr. Trump is buying loyalty from his subordinates and Republican members of Congress?

I wonder.

Jeffrey Zalles
Southport, NC

FORKED-TONGUE OR OSTRICH-LIKE LEADERS?

Approximately 20 years ago, there was mounting frustration while driving daily on

Hwy 17 in the Leland area. Wetlands were being drained but developers had to pay only a minor penalty for the illegal act. Fifteen years ago, as a member of the Brunswick County Planning Board, there was a sense of pride in hearing that Brunswick County was the 14th fastest growing county in the nation. Developers had to submit plans for internal housing patterns, changes in traffic patterns, and funding (bond) for these changes. The plans included potential pathways for the Skyway Bridge (now Cape Fear Crossing). There is now a sense of disgust

because local and state politicians who failed for years to select a fourth pathway over the Cape Fear River are talking "out of both sides of their mouth" (forked-tongue). If they want area growth to continue, then they must take their "heads out of the sand" (ostrich-like) and make plans NOW to build a new bridge. A harrying trip from my home town following Hurricane Florence convinced me that a new bridge beside the old bridge is not the answer.

William Flythe
Southport, NC

MATTERS OF OPINION

REALITY CHECK

Connecting African communities at the Ethiopian Embassy

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

As a Malcomite and a strong believer in Pan-Africanism, I immediately accepted an invitation from two friends, historical interpreter Marquett Milton and anthropologist Johnny Coleman II, to join them in attending an event at the Ethiopian Embassy in Washington, DC. Its title, "Connecting Communities Together: African Heritage, Pan African Leaders and H.I.M Haile Selassie Birthday Celebration," definitely grabbed my attention.

Tefera Alemayehu, a dynamic, young Ethiopian with commanding skills in communications and community service, played a key role in bringing it about. His organization, the Network of Family Service Professionals

(NFSP) joined CALDAN Communications in launching an annual event three years ago that "connects African communities, including people of African descent from around the world."

Their celebration on July 23, 2019, the 127th anniversary of the birth of Emperor Selassie, did just that by allowing over 200 attendees, including

several of the Emperor's direct descendants, to share cultural values through music, dance, fashion, food and verbal presentations. The latter included a warm welcome from H.E. Fitsum Arega, Ethiopia's Ambassador to the United

States and brief remarks by Dr. Frank Smith, founder of the African American Civil War Museum (The Importance of Museums in Preserving History and Culture), Dr. Silvester Okere (Anthropology of Africa), Hawi Awash (African Future and the Rule of Youth), Tiffany Lancaster (African Origins and Their Socio-Economic and Political Participation of Diaspora Women), and Dr. Yohannes Zeleke (Africa and Tourism).

Other highlights included an African Cultural and Fashion Show by ET Entertainment, a presentation on Caribbean History and Culture by Ras Wayne Rose, PhD and a slideshow featuring legendary Pan-African leaders such as Kwame Nkrumah, Winnie Mandela, Steven Biko, Brother Malcolm X, Marcus

Garvey and Emperor Selassie.

My special highlight was the passionate, powerful, inspiring, knowledge-expanding keynote address by H.E. Arikana Chihombori-Quao, the African Union's Ambassador to the United States. Her address, which included the memorable observation that "Colonialism is alive and well in Africa," demonstrated a strong belief that Africa's need for unity is not an option. It's the only way that the continent can establish its rightful place in the international arena. When she finished someone should have said "Let us all say Amen."

A. Peter Bailey, whose latest book is *Witnessing Brother Malcolm X, the Master Teacher*, can be reached at apeterb@verizon.net.

TO BE EQUAL

It's time to fight Right-Wing Domestic Terrorism the way we fight other forms of Terrorism

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

"The big thing is we need to change the way we in the United States are viewing these incidents with right-wing extremist terrorism. Stop dismissing this as crazy gunmen, or hate crimes, or that some person just snapped. There is an ideology behind the attack. The attack needs to be called out as terrorism." - Daryl Johnson, former Department of Homeland Security analyst

Just over a decade ago, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the FBI produced a report entitled "Rightwing Extremism: Current Economic and Political Climate Fueling Resurgence in Radicalization and Recruitment."

The report warned of the rise of radicalized right-wing groups and individuals and the threat of political violence.

But instead of heeding its warnings, Congress erupted in a frenzy of denial and defensiveness. The conclusions of the report were distorted and misrepresented. Instead of taking the threat seriously, the ranking member of the House Homeland Security Committee, called for hearings to investigate DHS and the report.

Members took particular offense to the suggestion that divisive issues like abortion were being used as recruiting tools. Weeks after Congress shut down any response to the report, an anti-abortion extremist murdered physician George Tiller at his church.

In the years since outraged Congress members blocked any official response to the threat, right-wing extremists have been responsible for the vast majority of extremist-related murders in the United States. Right-wing extremists were responsible for every single extremist killing in the U.S. in 2018, "from Pittsburgh to Parkland," according to the Anti-Defamation League.

The white supremacist massacre of 22 people in El Paso two weeks ago was the most deadly right-wing terrorist attack since 1995, when Timothy McVeigh killed 168 people in the Federal Building bombing in Oklahoma City. The suspect published a white nationalist manifesto on an internet message board just before the shooting. He told police he was targeting Mexicans, and

drove 11 hours from his largely-white hometown near Dallas to majority-Latino El Paso.

He has not been charged with a hate crime.

And, while federal authorities are investigating the shooting as a domestic terrorism case, domestic terrorism is not codified as a law that can be prosecuted.

Sen. Martha McSally of Arizona has proposed such a law, saying, "For too long we have allowed those who commit heinous acts of domestic terrorism to be charged with related crimes that don't portray the full scope of their hateful actions."

The Patriot Act, passed in the immediate aftermath of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, gives the federal government multiple resources to combat international terrorism but little authority to investigate domestic terrorism.

Mary McCord, former acting assistant attorney general for national security, pointed out in a recent essay that the most common international terrorism charge is providing material support to a foreign terrorist organization. "Charges of 'material support' to a terrorist organization are not available to prevent domestic attacks" she wrote, "because the United States does not designate American groups as ter-

rorist organizations.

"None of the 68 entries on the State Department's list is a white-supremacist group."

But the United States could designate foreign white supremacist groups as terrorist organizations.

"If the State Department put any of these groups on the list, the FBI could deploy undercover agents to chat with their members online, and would-be domestic terrorists in the United States would have to think twice about engaging with them."

In addition to a federal domestic terrorism statute and the designation of foreign white supremacist groups as terrorist organizations, former Department of Homeland Security analyst Daryl Johnson, who authored the 2009 report, offered several recommendations in a recent interview: Collect statistics on domestic terrorism, and allow those statistics to drive resources for programs to combat it.

Commit to long-term undercover investigations. Train state and local law enforcement about right-wing extremists groups.

Make grants available for countering right-wing extremism. Educate the public on their role, how to report suspicious

New Hanover County

New Hanover County seeking applicants for boards and committees to provide opportunities for citizens to participate in county government, the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners is seeking interested citizens to apply for appointment to the following:

New Hanover County Adult Care Community Advisory Committee
New Hanover County Board of Examiners of Electricians
Category: Independent Electrical Contractor
New Hanover County Board of Mechanical Examiners
Categories: Mechanical Contractor, NC Registered Mechanical Engineer
New Hanover County/ City of Wilmington Community Relations Advisory Committee
Categories: At-Large, Education Community

Community Briefs

New Hanover County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council
Categories: At-Large Business Community, Faith Community, Under Age 18
New Hanover County Nursing Home Advisory Committee
New Hanover County Risk Management Advisory Committee
Parks Conservancy of New Hanover County, Inc. Board of Directors
New Hanover Regional Medical Center Board of Trustees
Applicants must reside in New Hanover County. Applications can be obtained at the Board of Commissioners Office, located at the New Hanover County Government Center, 230 Government Center Drive, Suite 175, by calling 910-798-7149, or on the county's boards & committees web page at Commissioners.NHCgov.com. Applications are due August 30, 2019 for consideration by the Board at the September 16, 2019 meeting.

The New Hanover NAACP monthly meeting is Thursday, August 22nd, 7:00 p.m. at St. Stephen AME Church, 501 Red Cross Street, Wilmington. Featured speaker will be Rae Hunter-Havens, Director of New Hanover Board of Elections. Information on the upcoming Candidate Forum in September and other important state and community issues will be on the agenda, as well as upcoming New Hanover NAACP branch events and activities. Members and friends are encouraged to attend. For more information, call 910-508-9414 or email nhnaacp@gmail.com.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

GET THAT DEED AND FLIP THOSE KEYS!

Soooo, you want to quit your job?

Over the last few weeks, I have run into a few cases where families that are working on action plans to purchase their 1st home are saying "I CAN'T TAKE IT AT MY JOB ANYMORE!" ... I've also got messages from some that they have already quit and had no job lined up to go directly into.

Well, family let's talk about this. At the end of the day, I know no job is worth ongoing mental and physical distress so I would never tell anyone what and what not to do in this case. However, I will tell you what the carnage will be if you do quit your job and in what manner; it might hinder you from buying if you do quit.

So let's look at 3 different hypothetical scenarios.

(1) What if you had a job as a CNA and quit your job and immediately went to work as a cashier at Food Lion. The 1st thing the lender will want to know is why did you quit your job as a CNA and went into a job that required no extensive training, no testing, and no certifications. You

will have to show that making this decision made some kind of reasonable sense in order for them to still



Brenda Dixon

lend you money. Maybe doing the CNA work started affecting your own health, your back, your shoulders from lifting, rotating and pulling on clients. Maybe you have young kids and the office changed your hours and said you had to work with clients overnight and had no one to watch your kids. Maybe the office said they lost some of their client accounts and your hours was about to be drastically cut. Would some of these things make sense to the lender?

(2) What if you had what most people would consider a GOOD JOB at a place like GE, PPD or Corning and you decided to quit and you didn't have another job of any kind lined up to go into. What kind of explanation could you give whenever you did find another

job within a period of time. What if that time to find another was over 2 months. What if the job you did find paid way less, did not have any good benefits nor had many chances of advancing. What if you only been on this job for less than a year and you are doing something on this new job that was a totally new skill you had to learn. What if you haven't been there long enough to know if like it or plan to stay. What if the Employer is not willing to say they plan on keeping you on because they don't know yet if they like your workflow. Would that make a lender take a pause in giving you over \$100,000 to buy a house?

(3) What if you're ready to quit your job because you are doing the work of 3 people and feeling like Kunta Kinte and ready to chop your own dang foot off and RUN FREE! You learned a valuable skillset at this job and feel you can go start a business of your own doing the same thing as doing at the job but could set own hours and make way more money.

What would the lender say about that? Would they feel as secure of you making that mortgage payment every month because there is no more weekly paycheck like clockwork and now you got to hustle and make a name for yourself to get some customers from your gig... Oh, family, I know by now you are getting the point. IF YOU MUST, THEN DO WHAT YOU GOT TO DO... Know that in time everything can be leveled out again. Just know and be mindful that every action triggers a reaction and you want to be smart and make sure it makes sense with that move. At the end of the day, before that lender will say LOAN APPROVED, it has to make REAL GOOD sense to them, believe that.

Until next week, please share this article with at least 3 people and tell them to also reach out for their Free personalized Action Plan to OWN in the next 18 months or less!

Brenda Dixon, Dixon Realty Since 1991, 27 yrs. F/T expertise. Brenda@getthat-deed.com.

Mental Health Awareness matters

Cierra's Interlude

BY CIERRA MAYES
TEXAS METRO NEWS
WRITER

With so much going on in the world today, there are many real-world issues that are in need of our focus. One of these issues happens in our everyday lives: mental health. There is so much awareness that needs to be brought to mental health that goes unnoticed. Many of these issues began from trauma caused in one's life.

If we took the time to address these problems, we would be able to avoid many wrong doings of others in our community and around the world. Everyone has that one

friend they don't see eye to eye with sometime. For many people, I know that friend can be anxiety. Anxiety happens to everyone whether you realize it or not.

It can become a bigger issue when it's affecting your everyday life and you believe what you're feeling is true. Anxiety, bipolar disorder, depression, eating disorders, PTSD, and more, are all things that can be controlled. Depression is another issue that is triggered from one's trauma. It is important that if you face one of the many issues, you seek help.

There are many who are willing to help those that are affected. Raven Fairley, a graduate student from the

University of Missouri, with a focus in sports management, has created a platform that focuses on the mental health issues of professional athletes. Even though she focuses on professional athletes, she is willing to help anyone in need.

"The Silent Injury" is an organization Ms. Fairley created to share with others the importance of mental health. Growing up in a sport household where her grandfather, father, and uncle had always been involved in sports, sports was something that she knew about and kept her focus towards. She says the reason she wants to focus on professional athletes is because they are the ones that have issues

that go unnoticed. "Injury depression is real. I've experienced up close with a lot of my guy friends in football and basketball.

"When they get injured, they wonder if they're going to be back on the field, or while they're out, who's going to take their spot, and 'when I get healed, am I going to have my spot back?' For them, they're not only in physical pain, but mental pain as well," she said. Mental health awareness in athletes is definitely an issue that should be addressed.

High profile cases such as the O.J. Simpson trial and Aaron Hernandez case are prime examples. Many play-

ers have their mind focused on playing sports professionally, and if it doesn't happen some began to think negative thoughts about what they are doing and other options for their future. The environment you are raised in plays a big role in anyone's mental health.

For athletes, if you have your family depending on you to make it, it can hurt that player mentally if a pro career doesn't materialize. Ms. Fairley said. "Just seeing in the Black community that we don't necessarily acknowledge mental health issues, we just kind of push them off to the side, really caught my interest.

We always hear "just pray about it" and just kind of brush it under the rug. Even though mental health issues are becoming a problem in the media, it has always been an issue." Besides athletes, our favorite celebrities, and those we aspire to be [like], go through rough times also.

More people are open to talk about their mental health now more than ever because many have created that space for one to talk about their problems. Raven Fairley's organization is set to launch at the end of 2019.

Cierra Mayes is an intern at I Messenger Media LLC. She is a graduate of North Texas University.

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Tribute To Mrs. Beulah Green Jones "Blessed and Beautiful"



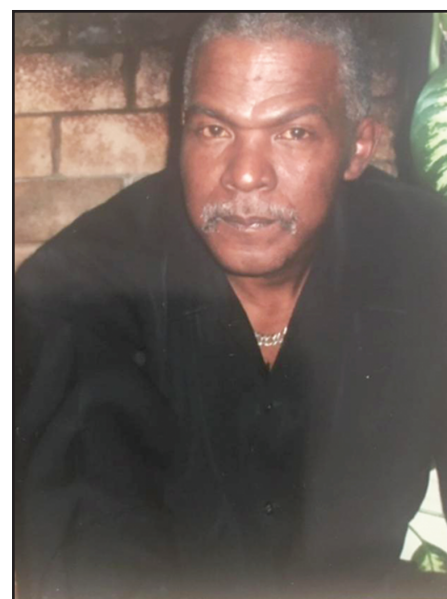
Thursday, August 22, 1935 was a "Peaceful Day" when our "Mother" came into the world. She enjoyed her parents, siblings, friends, community and hobbies in her lifetime.

She was radiant, joyful, good-humored, sunny, full of knowledge, blessing to herself and others, beautiful in her thoughts, actions and steps.

August 3, 2011 was a "Peaceful Day" when our "Mother" went from an earthly treasure to be a heavenly treasure. She is still All of the above. Blessed in Christ

Eulace, Derrick, Barbara and Darryl

In Loving Memory Of



Michael M. Emerson
12/4/1953 - 8/25/2009

My brother may be gone, but he will never be forgotten. He's always in my thoughts and forever in my heart. He's still very deeply loved. Still, very deeply missed.

Your sister, Diane



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Lottie Johnson

Lottie Johnson died August 7, 2019. Memorial services were held on Saturday, August 17, 2019 at the Willie L. Shaw Jr. Memorial Chapel.

Lottie was born February 2, 1938 in Wilmington, North Carolina. She was the daughter of the late Nathaniel and Eula Johnson. Her spiritual walk with Christ began at an early age. She graduated from Williston High School here in Wilmington, North Carolina. Lottie was a kind and loving person and somewhat of a fire cracker. She loved people and she loved her family. Lottie lived her life to the fullest. In addition to her parents, Lottie was preceded in death by her sister, Delores Chappell and her brother Earl Johnson.

Lottie leaves to cherish her memories: her nieces, Bernadette Dixon (Kenneth) of Jacksonville, NC, LaTonya Richardson of Jacksonville, NC, Renee Walker of Jacksonville, NC and Lashell Johnson of Wilmington, NC; her nephews, Michael Johnson of Wilmington, NC and Lonnie (Lucky) Chappell of Jacksonville, NC; a host of cousins with two special cousins, Beaulah Murphy and Demetira McClean both of Wilmington, NC. She was a friend to so many! A Service of John H Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Clifford Earl Waddell, Sr.

Clifford Earl Waddell, Sr., died August 8, 2019. Funeral services were held on Thursday, August 15, 2019 at Warner Temple A.M.E. Zion Church. Burial followed in Calvary Memorial Cemetery. Clifford, son of the late

William Waddell and Betty Rhodes was born on December 8, 1943. Clifford was educated in the New Hanover County School System, attending Williston High School. Clifford joined the United States Navy. He served his country for twenty plus years and was honorably discharged. Following his Naval career, Clifford was employed with General Services Administration in the Federal Building. Clifford was married to Dorothy Waddell who preceded him in death in 2012. He loved his children and spending time with his family. Sometimes they wondered if he loved his cats more than family. Clifford, a hard-working man, believed that if you wanted something, you should work for it even if it would take years to accomplish your goal. He instilled many wonderful things in his children. Clifford was very persistent in his children living up to his expectations. He always instructed them to be careful in whatever they did. Clifford enjoyed playing his keyboard and listening to his albums. We loved him dearly and he will be truly missed. In addition to his parents and his wife, Clifford was preceded in death by his brother, William Pridgen.

Clifford leaves to cherish fond memories: his children, Clifford Earl Waddell, Jr. of Raleigh, NC, Evelyn Yvonne Constance of Fayetteville, NC and Evelyn Nicole Pridgen of Wilmington, NC; eight grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; one brother, Kenneth Waddell (Glivia) of Wilmington, NC; two sisters, Marie Price (Chester G.) of Delaware and Geraldine "Ikie"

Brown of Wilmington, NC; sister-in-law, Eunice Pridgen of Kelly, NC; a host of other relatives and friends. A Service of John H Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Alexander Leroy James, Jr.

Alexander Leroy James, Jr., died August 10, 2019. Funeral services were held on Saturday, August 17, 2019 at Mount Holly Baptist Church, Wrightsboro. Burial followed in Moore's Cemetery.

Alexander, affectionately known as "Frog", was born November 14, 1952 to the late Alexander "Buddy" and Mamie James in Wilmington, North Carolina. He was preceded in death by his wife, Annie Louise James and sister, Ann James. Frog was educated in the New Hanover County School System. Most of his employment career involved using heavy equipment, as he was good with mechanical things. He was an avid baseball player who could guarantee a home run when he stepped up to the plate. He had a gentle and kind heart and a commitment to his family. Those who knew him will miss him dearly and will smile in his memory when they ponder the extraordinary ways that he would express himself.

His cherished survivors include: two sisters, Janet James and Shirley Benford; brothers, Curtis, Jerome, Ronnie and Woody James, George "CC" Kelly and Tony McCoy; step-children, Iva Scott Joyner "Missy" (Vincent) and Clarence Scott "Booby" (Irene); uncle, David Johnson (Mae); aunts, Earline, Della, Annie (Snead), Betsy (Pete) and Gwendolyn; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends. A Service of John H Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

James Henry "Pete" Stevenson

James Henry "Pete" Stevenson died August 10, 2019. Funeral services were held on Friday, August 16, 2019 at Little Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, Supply, NC. Burial follow in the Galloway Cemetery.

Deacon James Henry "Pete" Stevenson, age 93 was born on December 8, 1925 to the late Jerry William Stevenson and Lillie Bellamy Stevenson in Supply, North Carolina. "Pete" as he was affectionately called, received an eight grade education in the Royal Oak community school. He had great wisdom and a love for learning. He often quoted sayings his father shared with him and he possessed a wealth of community history. "Pete grew up farming and helping his father in the pulpwood business, which he later acquired and continue to operate the business for many years. His desire to continue learning carried over into his every day life's living. He was a self-taught mechanic. For many years he was employed at J M Parker & Sons of Supply as a lumberman. He later worked as a longshoreman, and finally, a burial ground custodian until he was no longer able to work. On November 28, 1952, he married the love of his life, Elizabeth Murphy Stevenson who preceded him in death on March 3, 2019. The love they had for one another was undeniable. This union had no children of their own, but they mentored and loved many children within the community.

In his youth, "Pete" joined Little Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church. He later was ordained as a deacon and served faithfully until his health declined. His favorite scripture quote was Jeremiah 23:1-2

In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by his siblings, Madie Green, Leon "Happy" Stevenson, Mabel Cox, Thomas Stevenson, Burnice Stevenson and William Stevenson. A beloved stepmother, Pearl S. Stevenson, and a special nephew, Reverend Leo Stevenson. "Pete had a kind heart and loved his family dearly. He loved to share history of the family with them. He had many fun days sitting and laughing with his nieces and nephews under the tree at his home. He will forever be in our hearts.

He leaves to cherish his memories: two sisters, Jessie McCoy and Jeanette Smith (Harry Lee), a brother, Jerry Lee Stevenson (Rochelle), a goddaughter, Patricia Rourk, a special niece, Phyllis Bryant (Ricky), two sisters in law, Alice Stevenson and Macie Draughton, a great niece, Beverly Stanley (Derek), special friends, Albert Parker and Tressie Gore. A host of other nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. A Service of John H Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Louise McKoy McNeil

Louise McKoy McNeil died August 12, 2019. Funeral services were held on Saturday, August 17, 2019 at St. Andrew A.M.E. Zion Church. Burial followed in Oak Grove Cemetery.

Louise was born November 27, 1932. She was preceded in death by her parents, James and Mary Bell McKoy; her husband, James McNeil; children, Irving, James, Brenda, Mary, Louise and Ellis McNeil; grandson, Antonio McNeil; siblings, James, Fannie, Margaret, Leroy, Richard, Harry Lee, Isaac, Rebecca, Maggie, Rudolph and Daisy. Louise was educated in the New Hanover County schools and was gainfully employed by New Hanover County for 23 years. She gave her life to Christ at an early age and was a faithful member of St. Andrew A.M.E. Zion Church for over 60 years, serving on the Senior Usher Board and other committees for years until her health began to decline. She was a member of Class Number 6. Louise loved her family, her cats, Gray Baby and Pauly, was loyal to her friends and had an awesome green thumb. She possessed a kind and loving spirit and was a survivor who will truly be missed.

Her survivors include: daughters, Diane Moore and Delores Wilson; grandchildren, Renee Baldwin, Angela Riley (Kevin), William Roundtree and Michael Carr; great-grandchildren, Alexandria Rountree and Xavier Baldwin; sisters, Amelia Batts, Barbara Perry and Catherine Smith; brothers, Larry Lee and Norman Burnett; special cousins, Velma Burnett, Earla Davis and Ethel Walker; special friends, Harriett Johnson, Elaine Bordeaux, Linda Coleman, Linda Mischo and Tracy Moore; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends. A Service of John H Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Levy Grady, Jr.

Levy Grady, Jr., died August

12, 2019. Funeral services were held Saturday, August 18, 2019 at First Baptist Church-Armour. Burial followed in First Baptist Church Cemetery.

Levy, affectionately known as "Buddy" and "Skee-Bo", was born on June 8, 1953 in Brunswick County, to Eva Mae Grady and the late Levy Grady, Sr. Levy was married to Augusta Lorine Grady. To this union were two sons, and one daughter, were born. In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by two sisters, Linda Grady and Cheryl Grady; brother, Elijah Grady; nephew, Steven S. Grady; mother-in-law, Augusta Brown and father-in-law, Hezekiah Brown. Levy attended school I Brunswick County Schools. He was employed at Carolina Pole until his retirement. Buddy loved racing and going to the race track. In his spare time, Buddy was a mechanic and loved to work in cars. He also loved to spend time with his family reminiscing and being the joyful soul he was.

Buddy leaves to cherish his memory: his wife, Augusta Lorine Grady; sons, Johnnie Brown (Kimberly) of Acme, NC and Michael Grady; daughter, Tanya Grady-Joyner (James) of Wilmington, NC; six grandchildren, whom he instrumentally reared; his mother, Eva Mae Grady; brothers, Steven Grady (Natasha) and Rodney Grady of Leland, NC; sisters, Shirley Cisco (Rick) of Charlotte, NC, Sandra Mason of New York, Elizabeth Brown and Pamela Grady both of Wilmington, NC; uncles, Johnny Grady (Martha Jane), James Grady and Wilson Grady (Julia); sisters-in-law, Avertina Everette, Earthe Jordan (Chris), Oglatha Brown, Thelma Bryant and Darlene Bowers; brother-in-law, Hezekiah Brown, Jr. (Romana); a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends, including special friends, Robert McKoy, Jr., Chris Chadwick and Bootnie Dixon. A Service of John H Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Walter Dixie Ballard

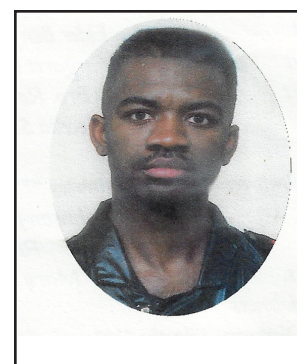
Walter Dixie Ballard died August 13, 2019. Funeral services were held Monday, August 19, 2019 at Davis Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church. Burial followed in the Johnson Chapel Church Cemetery.

Walter was born October 5, 1937, to the late William Henry and Rebecca Hatcher Ballard. He received salvation at an early age and was a faithful member of Johnson Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church, Leland, North Carolina until his health failed. While at Johnson Chapel Church he was a member of the Trustee Board and also served on the Steward Board. Walter was a kind hearted person who was always opening his home up for someone to lay their head or grab a bite to eat. He worked with the Navassa, NC Planning Board and was also the owner and operator of Ballard and Sons Maintenance; both for over twenty-five years.

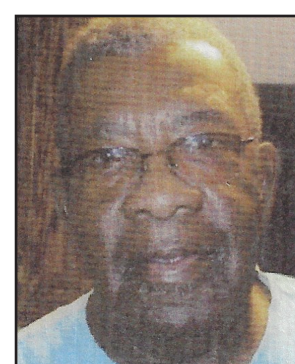
He leaves to cherish his memories: his wife of 49 years, Eliza

Jacklyn Ballard of the home; two sons, Derrick Ballard of the home and Michael Hill (Robin) of Northwest, NC; one adopted son, Phillip Dixon of Leland, NC; two daughters, Deloris Sanders of Northwest, NC and LaTonya Doughty (Thomas) of Glen Burnie, Maryland; one adopted daughter Sandra Randolph (Ricky) of Wilmington, NC; one sister, Willa Ballard of Leland, NC; two brothers, Marvin Ballard (Earlese) of Leland, NC and Terry Carnell Troy (Marilyn) of Leland, NC; ten grandchildren and twelve great-grands; three sisters-in-law, Geneva Ballard, Gladys Mapson and Helen Mapson, all of Leland, NC; special nephew, Reginald Ballard of Leland, NC; special cousins, Rebecca Paschall of Leland, NC and Pearl Munn of Riegelwood, NC; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends, including special friends, Joe Pollock of Wilmington, NC and Tony Robinson of Hallsboro, NC. A Service of John H Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

In Memory Of



Rudolph Burnett, Jr.
August 11, 2006



Rudolph Burnett, Sr.
August 11, 2007

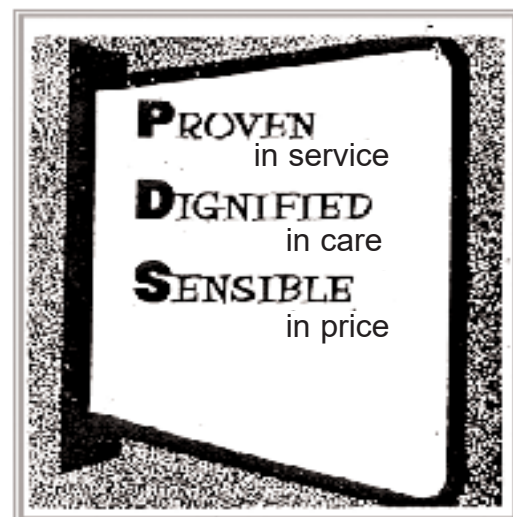
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Velma Burnett and family

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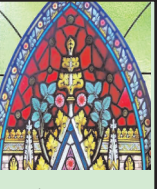


Jennifer A. Terrell & Javoke S. Terrell

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New Hanover County

East Coast Community Choir (formerly Barry Smith and Company) will host their Family and Friends Day Concert "50 Shades of Praise" on Saturday, August 24th at 6:00 p.m. at St. James AME Church, 3425 Castle Hayne Rd. Mt. Zion Baptist (Whiteville, NC), New Hope Freewill Baptist Combine Choir (Leland, NC), Anointed Sisters of Praise of St. James AME Church and others will be on the program.

Religious
Briefs

Myrtle Grove First Born Holiness Church, 6601 Carolina Beach Rd., will celebrate their pastor's 8th anniversary on Friday, August 23rd at 7:30 p.m. Guest Elder Steven Bradley & Congregation Ekklesia Unity Holy Church. Saturday, August 24th at 6:00 p.m. Gospel Explosion featuring Sister Swandella Nixon, Tiffany Crawford (Praise dancer), Antioch Male Chorus, Maretta Freeman-Wilson, Heavenly Voices and Kia Barnhill-Martin. Sunday, August 25th, Bishop Tommy Nesbitt & Congregation Christian Hope Christian Church. For more information call 910-791-6564.

New Jerusalem MBC will hold their Family & Friends Day (Homecoming Services) on Sunday August 25th at 3:00 p.m. The guest will be First Baptist Church of Southport.

Columbus County

Lee's Chapel AMEZ Church, 42 Blacksmith Rd., will celebrate their Homecoming on Sunday, August 18, 2019 at 11:00 a.m., dinner at 2:00 p.m. and the afternoon service will be at 3:00 p.m. The speaker will be Rev. Dr. Dorian Daniels along with his choir and church family from St. Andrews A.M.E. Zion Church.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

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TELL SOMEBODY

"Saved By Grace"

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast." Ephesians 2:8,9

"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world." Titus 2:11,12 We are saved by grace.

Salvation is a wonderful thing to have, and not to be taken lightly. We are saved by grace. What is grace? Grace is the unmerited favor of God that looks beyond our faults and sees our needs. Grace knows all about our past, but still sees our potential. Grace opens the door of salvation to every man regardless of who he is and what he has done.

Grace gives every man a chance to be saved! Grace refuses no man and makes salvation possible for every man. Jesus said in John 6:37b, "And him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. Jesus also said in Matthew 6:13, "But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." Luke 3:6 says, "And all flesh shall see the salvation of God." Acts 2:21 states, "And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." Romans 10:13 also

states, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." We are saved by grace.

Grace and faith work hand in hand. Romans 12:3 says,



Sylvia Hooper

"For I say through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God has dealt to every man the measure of faith."

Grace is the primary prerequisite for obtaining salvation, because of what is stated in Hebrews 11:6. "But without faith, it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

There is nothing we have done or can do to deserve salvation, that is why we need grace. Salvation cannot be purchased with filthy lucre, because it is not for sale. Salvation is a gift of God explained in John 3:16. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but

have everlasting life."

Romans 6:23 says, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." We are saved by grace!

Not of works, lest any man should boast. This is called self righteousness. Works alone are not sufficient to secure the salvation of a lost soul. Yes, faith without works is dead. James 2:20 Works without faith and grace will cause one to boast in himself and not in the Lord. Works without acknowledging the grace of God has no eternal value. Yes, there will be an earthly reward, because God is not mocked, and whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. If your works are to be seen of man, then when they say thank you, that is your reward. God is good and kind to all men, and will bless you for anything you do to help someone, but to have an eternal reward, one must have faith in the eternal name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Many memorials have been built and constructed for the purpose of remembering those who have done good works in the form of buildings, lands, and monuments. They will be remembered for awhile, but only what we do for Christ will count in the end when we stand before God the righteous judge. We are

saved by grace.

For in addition to good works, God also requires that we live holy. We are required to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts. Titus chapter 2 also tells us we should live soberly (take our salvation seriously, by living righteously before God and men, and reflecting a godly character and conversation in this present world.) We are saved by grace! Thank God for His Amazing Grace!!1 Tell Somebody!!!

Mrs. Sylvia B. Hooper is a native Wilmingtonian, married to Pastor Johnson A. Hooper, First Lady of Faith Outreach COGIC, Jacksonville, N.C. She is a mother of three wonderful children and a proud grandmother! She is a Licensed Evangelist with COGIC, International. She is the President of P.W.E. Pastors Wives Empowerment Conference, an annual event held in honor of Pastors and ministers Wives. This support group's focus is to Encourage, Embrace and Empower Elect Ladies to be all they can be in Christ Jesus, while providing support to their husbands, who are Gospel preachers and pastors. Her heart's desire is to please the Lord, rescue the perishing, comfort the dying, and live a life that gives God glory!

A WORD FROM THE LORD

Pray for forgiveness

Forgiveness is required by God in all of our relationships (black and white)

God's Word is conclusive and definitive on the subject of attitudes that affect one's relationships with God. One of the fundamental principles of prayer is forgiveness.

A unforgiving spirit neutralizes one's ability to get an answer from God. Neutralize

means to counterbalance or counteract the effect of; render prayer ineffective.

(PWS) have several Greek words translated unforgiving: "(.....unmerciful; without pity; unwilling to show mercy; ruthless. It is the absence of consideration or feeling for others. What matters is one's own pleasure and rights, not the pleasure and rights of others. Incapable of giving in, of being appeased or



Rev. Naconiel Fullwood

purified; to be forgiving. This word describes a person who is unwilling to make peace or come to an agreement. ... trucebreakers, irreconcilable, merciless, breakers of promises and agreements, untrustworthy, faithless, treacherous, and untruthful."

Romans 1:31. They refuse to understand, break their promises, and are heartless and unforgiving. [NLT]

Tim. 3:3 Unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good. {NKJV}

Mark 11:25-26. And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have (any thing) aught against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

Practical Word Studies in the New Testament (PWS) says: "Forgiveness (granting pardon. The word means to be gracious to a person; to cancel a debt; to pardon him for some wrong done. The believer must put on the garment of forgiveness; he must be forgiving."

Notice the condition or restriction Jesus places on prayer without forgiveness: Jesus is saying in these two verses that it is useless, and unproductive, to pray with a unforgiving spirit. We have, and I want you to note this, a command, charge, and mandate from the Lord Jesus, to

forgive a person regardless of the circumstances or if refuse you refuse, just don't pray because God will not forgive you of your sins. Forgiveness is a relationship function. My relationship with God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ is hinged upon forgiving others. The word hinge is defined as a point or circumstance on which subsequent events depend. You receive the consequence.

(You've Got To Get This!) If You Do Not Forgive, God Will Not Forgive You. I am trying to make this as plain and simple as possible. Some people just don't get it. The Word of God is conclusive and definitive on this subject of forgiveness, untold numbers of people will die and go to hell because they refused to forgive. Note: If God says to forgive then, that is what he means.

You have in you the capacity to forgive. Do not depend on your feelings, but the activation of your will to do it. Hinge also means to make something (forgiving) dependent on something else (forgiveness and a relationship with God).

The Amplified says: And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him and let it drop (leave it, let it go), in order that your Father Who is in heaven may also forgive you your [own] failings and shortcomings and let them drop. Shortcomings Mark 11:25-26).

(POSB) " This is a critical condition in prayer, a condition that is stressed time and again by Jesus. Note it is while a person is actually praying, "when ye stand praying" that he must forgive. It does no good to pray unless he does forgive. When praying there must always be forgiveness of those who have wronged us. Hard feelings or anger against a person is sin. It is evidence that we have not truly turned from sins and are not really sincere in seeking forgiveness. Note the stress Jesus puts upon the condition of receiving forgiveness in prayer. No request for forgiveness is grant unless a man has completely forgiven

all others."

Matt. 6:14-15. For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Jesus made several astounding statements in His sermon on the mount, things they had never heard before that were in conflict with what the religious leaders were teaching such as: Matthew 5:44. Ye have heard that it hath been said, thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy.

But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.

Jesus knew He had stunned His listeners when He said that they must forgive others if they expect God to forgive them, so reiterating on verse 12, "And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors." Notice what was being said in the prayer, Father in heaven forgive me of my sins, as I forgive those who sin against me; Father in heaven don't forgive me of my sins until I have forgiven those who have mistreat me. Jesus now clarifying in verses 14-15, the astounding statement He made concerning forgiveness.

(PWS) The word "trespass" means to stumble; to fall; to slip; to blunder; to deviate from righteousness and truth. No one is exempt from these therefore Jesus said since I know you will fail and need forgiveness, then you must forgive first to be forgiven Matthew 18:21-22. Then came Peter to him and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive Him? Till seven times?

Jesus said unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.

To be continued next week Pray That You May be Healed and Delivered
Reverend Naconiel Fullwood currently the pastor of MRDRC Ministries (Miracle, Restoration, Deliverance, Revival Center Ministries Inc.) located in Wilmington, NC.

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