

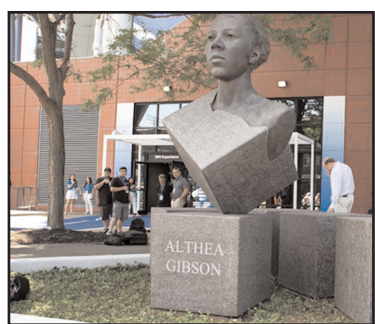
MISSING



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.

SPORTS



USTA honors Althea Gibson with powerful new sculpture PAGE 6

OUTside

Looking IN

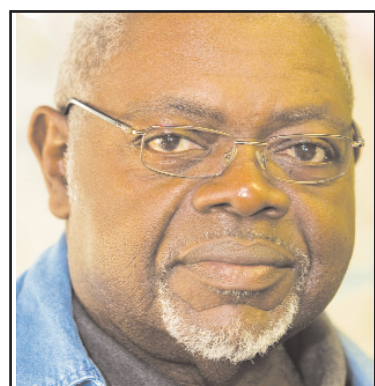
OUR VOICE



CHARLENE CROWELL

GUEST EDITORIAL "America's racial wealth gap could cost economy \$1.5 trillion" BY CHARLENE CROWELL PAGE 4

BRUNSWICK COUNTY



BERNEST HEWETT

THE MISTAUGHT

BY BERNEST HEWETT CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I was taken by surprise this week when, while delivering The Journal to a new box, I was approached by a young Black man with his companion, a young White woman, and they asked if they could talk with me a few minutes without my getting upset. I began to talk with them, and I did get upset or worse. I asked them where did they grow up and how old they are because I could not believe what was being said. The very first thing I was asked was why do Blacks talk about slavery so

Please see BRUNSWICK/Page 2

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 92/No. 35

AUGUST 29, 2019 - SEPTEMBER 4, 2019

FIFTY CENTS

Harris, Beasley reach out to voters

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

The theme at Durham's St. Joseph's A.M.E. Church's Sunday service was "Jobs, Justice and Education," commemorating the fifty-sixth anniversary of the historic 1963 March on Washington this week. It was Pastor Jonathan Augustine's second "Social Justice" Sunday since arriving at the historic church last May. Among the special guests - Democratic presidential hopeful and U. S. Senator Kamala Harris (D-CA) - the second Black woman ever to be elected to the United States Senate; NC Supreme Court Chief Justice Cheri Beasley, the first African American woman ever to serve as chief justice of North Carolina's highest court; and U. S. Senatorial candidate and N. C. Sen. Erica Smith (D-Bertie).

This was Sen. Harris' second campaign appearance in North Carolina

during a world-wind weekend that had her keynoting the 84th Annual Founders' Day Banquet for the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People Saturday evening, and then scheduled to appear at a campaign stop at a local high school in Greensboro later Sunday.

At the Saturday banquet, while Sen. Harris was preparing to tell the sold out audience that, if elected President, she would financially support Black homeowners, HBCUs and Black businesses, a group of robed Ku Klux Klan members carrying Confederate flags and guns unexpectedly rallied in front of the courthouse in Hillsborough, just a few miles away in Orange County. The group did not have a rally permit and quickly found itself outnumbered by local counter protesters.



CASH MICHAELS PHOTO NC SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE CHERI BEASLEY, PASTOR JONATHAN AUGUSTINE, AND SENATOR KAMALA HARRIS AT ST. JOSEPH'S A.M.E. CHURCH

Please see REACHING OUT/Page 2

FREE AT LAST! MORE ON PAGE 3



Freed Dontae Sharpe hugs his mother, Sarah Blakely.

After over 24 years imprisoned, Dontae Sharpe freed

BY CASH MICHAELS AND ATTY. AL MCSURELY FOR NORTH CAROLINA BLACK PUBLISHERS ASSN.

[GREENVILLE] Black man, wrongly tried and convicted at age 19 of a murder 25 years ago he did not commit, was finally released from prison last week, thanks to the tireless efforts of his mother, the NCNAACP, and activists across North Carolina.

In a Pitt County Courthouse courtroom filled with family and supporters last Thursday, Dontae Sharpe smiled wide and threw both fists up in the air when Pitt

County prosecutors, during a second evidentiary hearing in the case, declined to retry him for the 1994 shooting death of George Radcliffe, a crime of which Sharpe has always declared his innocence.

A witness, who was 14 years old at the time of the murder, testified now that she was forced by police to testify against Sharpe during his 1995 trial and was recanting that testimony now, saying that she never saw Sharpe shoot anyone. No physical evidence ever linked Sharpe to the crime.

Calling that original murder trial "a nightmare,"

Please see SHARPE/Page 2

Report claims 350 in N.C. died due to no Medicaid expansion

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

A new report may or may not capture state Republican legislative leaders' attention in their almost two month budget standoff with Gov. Roy Cooper, but it definitely strengthens his argument for the expansion of Medicaid in North Carolina.

According to the National Bureau of Economic Research, 350 people in North Carolina died "...because of the lack of affordable health care coverage" and had Medicaid, government sponsored health care for low income residents, been expanded, they may not have.

The NBER report adds that North Carolina is third in the nation per the number of deaths associated with the lack of Medicaid expansion. Florida is second, with 700, and Texas is first, with just over 700.

"[T]hese data provide new and compelling evidence that the decision to expand Medicaid has a profound affect on the life expectancy of adults living in the coverage gap," writes Alexandra Sirota, director of the nonprofit NC Budget and Tax Center. By expanding Medicaid for the needy, states are able to improve health outcomes, provide

Please see MEDICAID/Page 2

400 years in Virginia. 500 years in slavery.

BY STACY M. BROWN, NNPA NEWSWIRE CORRESPONDENT @STACYBROWNMEDIA

In August 2018, the National Newspaper Publishers Association began a series on the transatlantic slave trade.

The series started in conjunction with the annual United Nations International Day of Remembrance. With the observance of the first African landing in America, some question whether it's the 400th or 500th anniversary.

Historians point out that the 400th anniversary is the 400th year of the Anglo-centric history of Africans in the Americas.

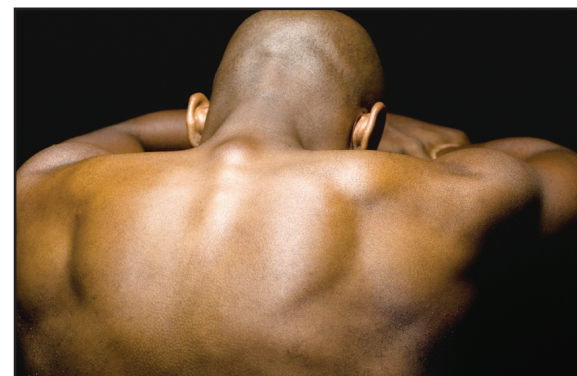
"Dating the history of Africans in North

America to 400 years ago reinforces this narrative of English superiority," Greg Carr, the Chair of the Department of Afro-American Studies at Howard University, told Time.com.

"Remembering the Spanish and indigenous sides of the history is more important now than ever as the people are closing the borders to those who are descendants from people who were here when you came," Carr said.

In his 2013 PBS documentary, "The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross," Professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr., said slavery was always an essential ingredient of the American experiment. Gates called slavery, "The supreme

Please see SLAVERY/Page 2



NNPA PHOTO People of African descent have been 'here' longer than the English colonies.

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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REACHING OUT

Continued from Page 1

Sunday morning, at St. Joseph's A.M.E. Church, Harris, considered one of the top four Democratic contenders in the 2020 primary race, and picked up on part of her message from Saturday night regarding Americans once again fighting for their freedom.

"The measure of our strength is not who we beat down, it's about who we lift up," the former California state attorney general continued, also touching on how her

faith in God has strengthened her, to thunderous applause, led by several fellow sorority sisters of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc. in attendance.

Harris later teased her old friend, Pastor Augustine, saying, "Yes pastor, I know you can't tell people who to vote for but you can tell people who to pray for."

However, before she concluded her remarks, Sen. Harris gave props to a fellow AKA sister, Chief Justice Cheri Beasley, who is running to keep her seat in 2020.

"If justice is to be real in America, one of the most important and lasting places it

will happen and take place is in the courtrooms of America, and it will be by re-electing the chief justice of the Supreme Court of the state of North Carolina," Sen. Harris said, turning to Beasley and then saying, "I'm honored to be sharing this moment with you."

During her remarks prior to Sen. Harris' comments, Chief Justice Beasley explained that in her role as "leader of the Judicial Branch of government," she essentially oversees North Carolina's court system administratively, as well as hears the same cases as her colleagues on the High Court.

"It is on parity with the governor of the state of North Carolina," Beasley said, referencing how the governor leads the Executive Branch.

The chief justice talked about the important issues the Judicial Branch has addressed under her administration, including the opioid crisis, juvenile justice, and school justice partnerships, wherein the courts are working with school systems to reduce the high number of students being referred for criminal arrests by the schools.

Beasley said those numbers have dropped dramatically

because of the school justice partnerships to make sure that predominately poor, Black and other students of color are not harnessed with criminal records that will cripple their futures.

The chief justice also spoke of the partnerships between faith-based institutions and the courts to "help make our communities successful."

"So I ask you so very much for your support, your prayers, your vote, but not just your vote, but we need to tell everybody across the State, because this is a statewide election, to support Cheri Beasley for chief justice."

MEDICAID

Continued from Page 1

better management of health conditions, and improve the quality of life for those who otherwise would lack coverage.

"By linking death records and data on program participation and health outcomes

across all states, the authors of this new report estimate the impact of Medicaid expansion on the mortality rate of near-elderly adults," Ms. Sirota maintains. "Their findings point to a 9.3 percent decline in annual mortality for this age group in those states with Medicaid expansion. The primary reason for the improvement in life expectancy is dis-

ease management while under the care of Medicaid."

On Monday, Gov. Cooper's press office accused Republican legislative leadership in the NC General Assembly of "dithering" instead of negotiating a budget compromise that would, among other things, expand Medicaid to 500,000 - 600,000 more North Carolinians, and

finally send North Carolina lawmakers home from the long legislative session.

Republicans in the State House and Senate, unable to overcome Cooper's veto of their budget, counter that they flatly refuse to expand Medicaid because most of the people it would cover are able bodied and don't need it. They, instead, plan to carve

up the much delayed \$23 billion budget into smaller bills covering teacher and state employee raises and also rainy day fund refund checks to taxpayers, daring the governor to veto those bills when passed, especially with the 2020 election coming up.

The political impasse is expected to continue well into September.

SLAVERY

Continued from Page 1

hypocrisy," and "capitalism gone berserk."

The first African to come to North America was a free man who accompanied Spanish explorers to Florida in 1513 - or 106 years before the 20 Africans who were kidnapped and brought to Point Comfort, Va., in 1619, Gates said.

"The father of our country was one of its largest slave owners," Gates said in the documentary.

"Because of the profound disconnect between principles of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution and the simultaneous practice of slavery, we've had historical amnesia about slavery," he said.

Indeed, the slave trade began in the 15th century, said Boniface Chidyausiku of Zimbabwe. It was driven by colonial expansion, emerging capitalist economies and the insatiable demand for commodities - with racism and discrimination serving to legitimize the trade, Chidyausiku said.

Chidyausiku, then the acting president of the United Nations General Assembly,

made the remarks in 2007 during the UN's observance of the 200th anniversary of the end of the transatlantic slave trade.

"Fortunes were made, and financial institutions flourished on the back of human bondage...[so] today's commemoration must encourage everyone to live up to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which says: 'All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights, and to redouble efforts to stop human trafficking and all forms of modern slavery,'" said Chidyausiku, who is now 69.

Michael Guasco, a historian at Davidson College and author of "Slaves and Englishmen: Human Bondage in the Early Modern Atlantic World," suggests it's the 500th anniversary.

"There's a Hispanic heritage that predates the U.S., and there's a tendency for people to willingly forget or omit the early history of Florida, Texas, and California, particularly as the politics of today want to push back against Spanish language and immigration from Latin America," Guasco told Time.

The fact that slavery was underway for a century in

South America before introduction in North America is not widely taught nor commonly understood, Felicia Davis of the HBCU Green Fund told NNPA Newswire.

"It is a powerful historical fact missing from our understanding of slavery, its magnitude, and global impact. The knowledge that slavery was underway for a century provides deep insight into how enslaved Africans adapted," Davis said.

Far beyond the horrific "seasoning" description, clearly generations had been born into slavery long before introduction in North America, Davis said.

"This fact deepens the understanding of how vast majorities could be oppressed in such an extreme manner for such a long period. It is also a testament to the strength and drives among people of African descent to live free," she said.

Prior to 1619, "America had a system of discrimination and prejudice against all groups who were not identified as White Anglo-Saxon native," said Walter D. Palmer, who started a Community Freedom School for children and adult learners in Philadelphia that would become the platform

on which he built his social legacy.

"By the mid-1600s, America created the slave codes," Palmer told NNPA Newswire. During the country's founding, many settlers learned from and lived close to Native Americans on the east coast, said author Cassie Premo Steele.

For example, it wasn't until resources like silver were found on what was Cherokee land that Andrew Jackson ordered the removal that became known as the "Trail of Tears," Steele told NNPA Newswire.

"Further genocides and removals took place in the West when similar resources and land were desired by white Americans," Steele said.

"Similarly, slavery was primarily an economic system that was based upon the dehumanization of Africans. Dehumanization is in some ways even worse than hate since it is a denial of the humanity of a people," she said.

The observance of the 400th anniversary of the first African landing at Point Comfort, Va., did bring about changes, according to Time.

It was the type of race-based chattel slavery system that solidified in the cen-

turies that followed was its unique American tragedy.

A letter on file at the Library of Congress from early English settler John Rolfe noted that a century before August 1619, the transatlantic slave trade had been active.

The letter noted that hundreds of thousands of Africans helped with the establishment and survival of American colonies in the New World.

According to History.com, Rolfe was correct.

History.com reported that Christopher Columbus likely transported the first Africans to the Americas in the late 1490s on his expeditions to Hispaniola.

"To ignore what had been happening with relative frequency in the broader Atlantic world over the preceding 100 years or so understates the real brutality of the ongoing slave trade, of which the 1619 group were undoubtedly a part, and minimizes the significant African presence in the Atlantic world to that point," Guasco said in a History.com interview earlier this month.

"People of African descent have been 'here' longer than the English colonies," he said.

SHARPE

Continued from Page 1

veteran Raleigh criminal

defense attorney, Joe Cheshire, of Raleigh, reviewed that trial's transcript and testified as an expert witness now that Sharpe was essentially railroaded. He said that, in his 42 years of defending people charged with heinous crimes, the racism and corruption in eastern North Carolina courts, where the largest concentration of poor and Black people live in NC, remains a major problem in the state's criminal justice system.

And last May, defense attorneys presented scientific evidence from the State Medical Examiner at the time of the murder that proved Sharpe was not the man who shot Radcliffe.

As had been worked out beforehand, the assistant district attorney for Pitt County announced that the State did not believe, given the new evidence, that it could successfully prosecute Sharpe and therefore the State "dismissed all charges" against him. A split second later an explosion of human emotion ripped the courtroom. Dontae and his mother, Sarah Blakely, hugged and cried. Deputies took him to a holding room. A few minutes later, the bailiff handed a copy of the judge's order to Sharpe. "Keep this with you," he told Sharpe. "You are free to go."

"What we saw was the court doing exactly what the law is supposed to do," said defense

attorney, Catlin Swain, after the judge decided to release Sharpe after prosecutors decided not to retry the case. Rev. T. Anthony Spearman, president of the NCNAACP and staunch supporter of the "Free Dontae Sharpe" movement, led a public prayer of thanksgiving afterward.

"The struggle for Dontae to re-enter the corrupt racist culture on the outside is the second stage of this struggle," Rev. Spearman told supporters. "We who, by the grace of God, remained free while he was imprisoned for a quarter century must immediately step up our efforts to reform the corrupt racist NC criminal justice system and give Dontae plenty of room to get his bearings before he decides how to contribute his insights to the struggle."

However, Dontae Sharpe's mother, Sarah Blakely, was just happy to have her son, after 25 years, back home.

"There's plenty of time to plan the next part of the struggle. Today, let us give thanks to God, to the legal team from the Duke Innocence Project, to Dontae for providing a strong example in moral courage and faith, to our NAACP friends, Rev. Barber and Rev. Spearman, and all the Moral Monday people who came out. To the Coalition Against

Racism and particularly to Attorney Caitlin Swain and Forward Justice. Today we

say, "Hallelujah!" The next phase of the struggle can wait a few days."

BRUNSWICK

Continued from Page 1

much?

"This is America. Slavery is a story told on television for entertainment. It couldn't really happen here. It couldn't really happen here. This is a free nation. I can go anywhere and do anything I want." At this point, my pressure was up, and I lost a battle with attitude. My question was, "What school did you attend and again where were you raised? It took me out of self reason that a 35 year old Black male would not know about slavery, when people of color, especially Blacks, are still living in the after effects of slavery. From where does he think the racially unjust laws and acts toward people of color come? We have people of color who have made it to the top of their professions. Nobody gave them anything. They worked to get there and wear many a scar (physical and mental), but we have those who lose the fight and fall by the side. For instance, there is the young man spends 20 years in prison for a crime he didn't commit. This is just a small result of the effects of slavery. We must not let our people forget from where we come so that our focus will become higher, and our minds will not be clouded with this new deal propaganda that has young people of color thinking that they act freely. There was a price to be paid for what freedom we have. This is a message for Black men, Black women, White men, White women, and all other people of color.

I am not mad, but I am upset that a school here in these United States would teach this propaganda to our young people. If you look at the news you will not have to look long before you will see the hate that comes from the effects of slavery and its trail of confusion.

This young man and his companion were educated in a private school in the state of Ohio and he has a degree in engineering.

The truth will set you free, but where do you learn the truth? Put your trust in God! Man will deceive you!

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



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STATE BRIEFS



DURHAM CONCERNED AFTER 5 SHOOTINGS IN TWO DAYS

[DURHAM] Last week, a 9-year-old boy was killed in a driveway shooting. Monday,

six people were shot and wounded in four separate incidents. Tuesday night, a man was shot and wounded on Nelson Street. Citizens are up in arms about the rash of gun violence in the Bull City. A group called Chance 2 Changed rallied Wednesday night to demand that the city do more to prevent gun violence. Last

June, Durham city Council turned down a police request for 18 more officers.

REPUBLICAN LED LEGISLATURE PASSING MINI-BUDGET BILLS TO THWART GOVERNOR

[RALEIGH] The Republican majority in the NC House and Senate are passing mini-budget bills on raises for

state employees and tax refunds for taxpayers, all in effort to get Gov Roy Cooper top cave in to approving their \$24 billion budget without the Medicaid expansion he demanded. It has now been almost two months since the governor vetoed the proposed budget bill passed in the legislature, and Republicans, without a

supermajority, could not override.

NC HOUSE APPROVES BILL TO STRENGTHEN ABSENTEE BALLOT LAWS

[RALEIGH] This week, the state House approved Senate Bill 683, which strengthens restrictions on absentee ballots in light of last year's

reported criminal abuses during the Ninth District Congressional race. The bill also permanently restores the last Saturday of early voting. Lawmakers briefly took that away last session, only to put it back after a hue and cry from the public.

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS

Judge releases Dontae Sharpe after 25 years

BY REV. T. ANTHONY SPEARMAN, PRESIDENT OF NC NAACP

As I drove to the Pitt County Courthouse last Thursday morning with my wife and sister in tow, I was engulfed by an overwhelming assurance. A winning mixture of justice and victory was in the air. The assurance seemed to emanate from the homegoing service two days before of LaMonte Armstrong, the black man from Guilford County who had been accused of the 1988 killing of Ernestine Compton, a professor at A&T University. Armstrong was convicted on August 21, 1995 and after seventeen long years in prison was released in 2012. Seven years of freedom seemed far too short. Here we were on August 22, 2019 traveling to Pitt County to observe the second evidentiary hearing of Dontae Sharpe, a black man accused of killing a white man back in February 1994, who had been incarcerated for 25 long years.

Dontae had been there before. Judges had found abundant evidence to free him before, but Pitt prosecutors, scared the flimsy frame they had built around him would be exposed, threw a blue tarp coverup over the frame they had hastily erected for the trial, and used it to deflect higher court's attention toward procedural problems, rather than the scientific evidence that proved his innocence beyond a reasonable doubt. But this time Judge Bryan Collins of Wake County was in the seat.

Our hope, as we drove to Pitt County was that this would be the day that the court would be in good working order and justice would be served. The energy in the court was electrifying. Attorneys Theresa Newman and Spencer Parris were on point. The two persons giving testimony were on point. Charlene Johnson Frazier, the state's only witness, was just 14 when she told police she saw Sharpe shoot Radcliffe, had recanted her testimony years prior and was sticking to her story and along with autopsy evidence showing that her original testimony could not be true was a great new finding. Joe Cheshire, the nationally known criminal defense attorney, shared some chilling insights. 1994 was a time before open file discovery; a time before police officers kept notes and a time before police officers were held accountable for their actions. "It was a time of trial by ambush" Cheshire said. The courthouse filled with Dontae's supporters hung on every word.

In short, it was a tremendously good day. Judge Collins ruled that Dontae Sharpe, now 44 years old, should have a new trial in the shooting

death of George Radcliffe, a crime Dontae never admitted to. When the Pitt County DA stood to announce that they would not seek a new trial, the jubilation burst forth in uproarious shouts that the Judge had warned against. It had been building up for a long time. Dontae Sharpe was set free and the bonus was that the State had no interest in ordering a new trial. Dontae Sharpe, the man of faith, exuding moral strength and spiritual faith, was free and in less than an hour he walked out onto the streets of the city of Greenville.

The protracted legal and investigatory work of the students and lawyers at Duke's Innocence Project, particularly Professors Theresa Newman and Jim Coleman, and the work of Attorneys Caitlin Swain and Daryl Atkinson, co-directors at Forward Justice Law, Policy, and Strategy Center in Durham, have exposed the frame up the original prosecutors threw together; when Dontae Sharpe shocked them by refusing to take the deal they offered before trial-freedom if he would only plead guilty to a lesser crime. Dontae's mother, Sarah Blakely, kept the case in the spotlight with the help of the NC NAACP and the Pitt County Branch NAACP. During the 25 years NC, in our name, kept Dontae locked up, his mother and her sister visited him regularly until his aunt died. His mother, Sarah Blakely has kept up her daily calls and regular visits. The family is a great source of strength and encouragement for Dontae.

I spent these years primarily in the NC triad region, pastoring churches and a handful of Black men who had also been wrongfully imprisoned and then released because of DNA evidence. I know from working with these brothers, the aforementioned LaMonte Armstrong included, that being exonerated is only the first step in a long road of rebuilding your life. During this quarter century, I became an NC NAACP leader, particularly during my friend and brother, Bishop William J. Barber's leadership, who helped many of us see our NAACP work as an effective vehicle for seeking the Justice of Jesus. As Bishop Barber reminds us, Jesus was a man of color, a Palestinian Jew, who sacrificed His short life to model for all people the need to expose frame-ups by corrupt government systems, such as the Roman system that executed Him 2,000 years ago.

With Bishop Barber, and thousands of other warriors from N.C., we built the inclusive "Moral Monday" movement, now a model for local,

state, and national justice movements. Bishop Barber was called to bring the proven effectiveness of the Moral Fusion vision to a nation, hungry for a framework that could bring diverse human beings together across bogus racial categories. When I was elected as President of the State Conference, I decided to visit Dontae. I found Dontae to have a sharp mind and a free spirit, despite his body being locked up. After being searched and led into Dontae's presence, his intellect was most striking. He took pride in setting a strong

moral and spiritual model for his mates, "in" and "out," who lacked his groundings.

I can understand how Dontae had the moral strength to refuse the deal the DA dangled in front of him, a few days before trial. You can walk out of the court room a free man, if you will lie about the killing of the white man. Most men go into prison innocent until proven guilty but Dontae walked in guilty and had to be proven innocent. What a travesty to justice.

Every day, in every criminal court in North Carolina, 97% of defendants, the vast

majority of whom are Black and Brown men, plead guilty to a lesser crime with their lawyers and the prosecutors both leaning on them at the end. Young black male defendants know they have two and a half strikes against them. First, they are young, gifted, and black. Second, they are males. And, the "half" is added when the victim was a white man.

We are determined to see Dontae scale the heights of freedom by wrapping ourselves around him to ensure the conspiracy against him end.

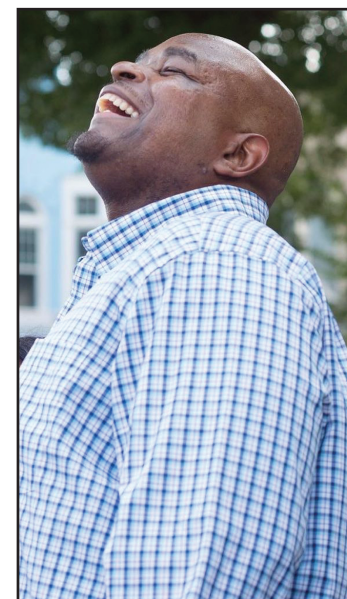


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DONTAE SHARPE REJOICES AFTER BEING FREED.

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OUR VOICE

GUEST EDITORIAL

America's racial wealth gap could cost economy \$1.5 trillion

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

America's nagging racial wealth gap has been the focus of many research reports and economic policy debates. Now new research analyzes the strong connection between disproportionate wealth and financial services and products that are either shared or denied with consumers of color.

Authored by the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI), The economic impact of closing the racial wealth gap, identifies key sources of the nation's socioeconomic inequity with its accompanying racial and gender dynamics along with family savings, incomes, and community context.



Charlene Crowell

"Black families are underserved and overcharged by institutions that can provide the best channels for saving," states the report. "For instance, banks in predominantly black neighborhoods require higher minimum balances (\$871) than banks in white neighborhoods do (\$626). Unsurprisingly, 30% of Black families are underserved by their banks, and 17% are completely disconnected from the mainstream banking system because of a lack of assets and a lack of trust in financial institutions."

Additionally, according to the MGI report, the nation's overall economy is affected by racial wealth gaps, estimating that between 2019 and 2028, the cost of economic losses to the general economy will be in the range of \$1.0-\$1.5 trillion.

Black America's "racialized disadvantage" was created through historical forces - including private business practices and public policies that together advantaged white consumers while often excluding or relegating Black Americans. For example, the National Housing Act of 1934 limited housing options for Black Americans by assigning a D-rating to neighborhoods in general decline and occupied by lower-income residents.

Fast forward to more recent times, the Federal Reserve in 2017 found that Black consumers are 73% more likely than whites to lack a credit score due to "credit redlining". This term refers to where a consumer lives to be the central determining factor in whether to approve credit, rather than the actual credit profile.

Among the MGI report's other key findings are that: Black Americans can expect to earn up to \$1 million less than white Americans over their lifetimes;

Black men with no criminal records are less likely to receive job interviews than are white men with criminal records;

The median wealth of a single Black woman is \$200, while that of a single white man is \$28,900; and

Black families are up to 4.6 times more likely to live in areas of concentrated poverty, than are white and Latino families;

Geographically, 65% of Black Americans reside in one of only 16 states. The states are also areas that score below the nation's national average of 77 state performance metrics spanning economy, education, economic opportunity, fiscal stability, infrastructure and more: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

"This study represents a critical look at the key components of wealth-building: access to community and family assets, ability to save, access to homeownership and availability of good jobs," said Tom Felner, Director of Research with the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL). "At every step it points to a widening racial wealth gap between Black families and white families."

"With today's Black homeownership rate hovering around 40%, while 73% of similarly situated whites own their homes, access to responsible mortgages remains more of a dream than a reality," added Keith Corbett, a CRL EVP.

When student loan debts and criminal incarcerations are factored into the racial wealth divide, an even more bleak scenario is disclosed.

"Incarceration is estimated to reduce annual wages by 40% - not including the lost wages during the time served - for the formerly incarcerated," states the MGI report, "reduces their economic mobility, and even increases the risk of school expulsion six times for their children....[B]lack men without criminal records are actually less likely to receive job interviews than are white men who have criminal records."

For Black women, gender brings a dual "wage penalty", according to the report. Median earnings for Black women are only 65% as much as those earned by white men, and 89% of median earnings for Black men. Black women typically borrow more in student loans, so their lower earnings bring stronger financial challenges in repayment years. As a result of these and other factors, the median wealth of a single Black woman is only \$200, while that of a single white man is \$28,900.

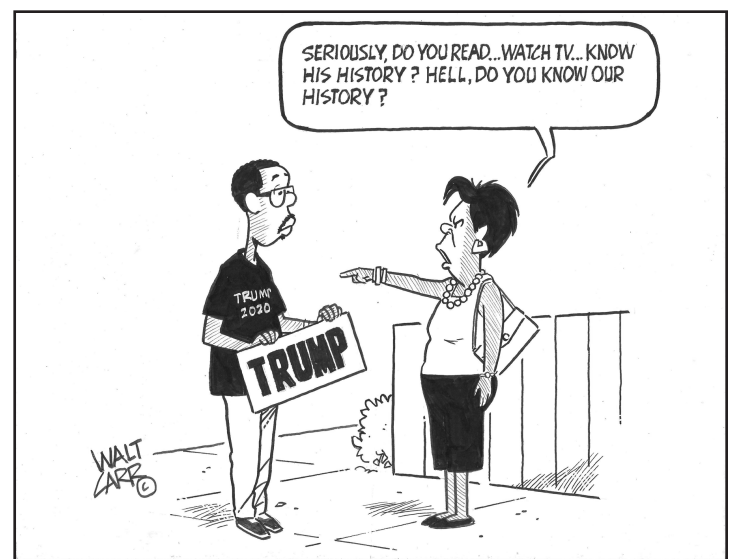
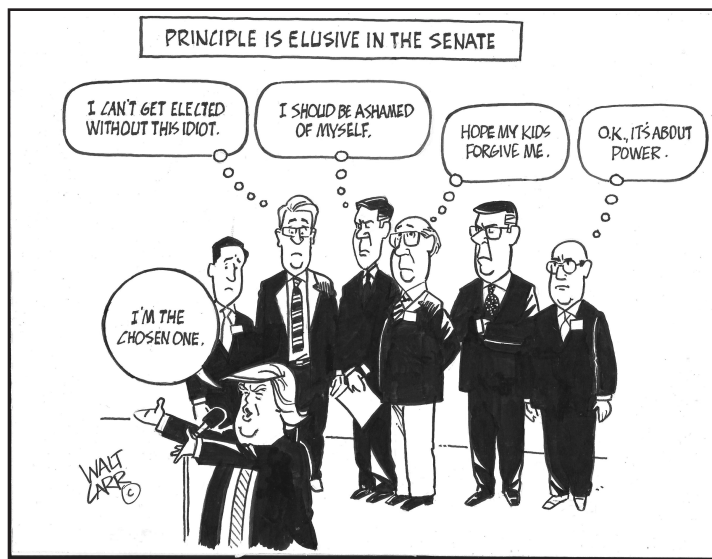
Both male and female Black college graduates are prone to support their families more so than their white college classmates. The financial assistance shared with older family members reduces the amount of disposable dollars that might have contributed more to paying down student debt or beginning financial investments like mutual funds or certificates of deposit.

"Education, while quite beneficial to those who attain it, is not an equalizer," said Aracely Panamen-o, CRL's Director of Latino Affairs. "And financial innovation and debt, even if well underwritten, can never undo historical racial discrimination that results in financial marginalization. Moving forward this situation can only be addressed through bold federal and state laws and policies that create equity of opportunity for all."

Authors of the MGI report would likely agree. "A number of simultaneous and mutually reinforcing initiatives will likely be necessary," states the report. "This work will be neither simple nor easy, but targeted, productive efforts will likely strengthen the economy, increase economic and social equity, and improve the quality of life for families."

Charlene Crowell is the Center for Responsible Lending's communications deputy director. She can be reached at Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org.

Visual Voice



YOUR VOICE

THE GOOD OLD DAYS FOR INVESTORS REDLINING, GENTRIFICATION AND REDISTRICTING

Like their ancestor, Judas Icarus, will the three New Hanover County Commissioners be paid thirty pieces of silver for selling our hospital? Watch the Christmas lights to see how the City Council and our Mayor, for life, are moving down Castle Street block by block. Their goal is to stop at 17th Street and change the zoning from residential to commercial with a new stronger building code. Increased property value means higher taxes if you can afford it, if not the next property "FOR Sale" on Castle Street may be yours. These, old south, concepts are

called redlining, gentrification and redistricting. We older people know these actions words and how they have affected our lives. Many younger people are hearing these discriminatory words for the 1st time. Are you registered?

James J. Hankins
Wilmington, NC

NO TEN-YEAR-OLD SHOULD BE AFRAID OF BEING SHOT.

Recent reports by the National Safety Council and the National Center for Health Statistics pegged the odds of an American being killed in a mass shooting at one in 11,125. That could explain why, in the face of so many active shooter incidents, gun violence isn't such a high priority for many

voters.

Of course, like most Americans, I've been appalled by each mass shooting. But as time passed, I found myself going back to being concerned about those issues that will hit closer to home. After all, the odds that I or my family will be affected by climate change, income inequality, high medical costs or a recession are so much greater.

Then I read a mother's recent post on Facebook. While shopping for shoes, ten-year-old Maisy told her mom that she didn't want a pair of light-up shoes. At first, Mom "figured it was because she's going into fifth grade and they felt childish to her." Then Maisy said, "What if there's a lockdown drill or school shooter? Light-up shoes would make me

stand out."

Schools were once safe places where students could fret about their grades without fearing for their lives. Now Generation Z is turning into Generation PTSD. As adults, parents and citizens, we owe it to kids like Maisy to treat gun violence as the priority it is and support only candidates who pledge to take action on universal background checks, an assault weapons ban, and the elimination of the types of bullets and accessories that turn guns into killing machines.

No ten-year-old should be afraid of being shot. Maisy made gun violence a priority for me. Will she make it a priority for you?

Jeffrey Zalles
Southport, NC

MATTERS OF OPINION

RAINBOW COALITION

The significance of the 1619 Project

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

On Sunday, the New York Times unveiled "The 1619 Project," a journalistic series in the Sunday magazine that seeks to tell the "unvarnished truth" about slavery and its impact on America's history. In 1619, just 12 years after the founding of the first permanent English settlement in the Americas, the Jamestown colonists bought the first slaves, 20 to 30 enslaved Africans, from English pirates.

The Declaration of Independence, penned by Thomas Jefferson, a slave owner, issued America's founding creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all

men are created equal, ... endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, ... among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

As Nikole Hannah-Jones writes in her stunning introduction in the New York Times Magazine, at 43, she is part of the first generation of Black Americans in the history of this country to be born into a society in which blacks had equal rights of citizenship. Blacks suffered under slavery for 250 years, and brutal racial apartheid for a century more. We have been legally free for just 50.

Americans prefer not to face this reality. Our history classes address it gingerly, if at all. Even as President Donald Trump and cynical politicians stoke racial divisions for political profit, we too often look away from it. Trump has recently decided to make four young, newly elected congresswomen of color a central target

of his already launched campaign for re-election, scorning them as un-American, suggesting that if they don't like America, they should go back to where they came from. This though all four are American citizens, and three were born right here.

Trump is poisonously invoking the old lie of slavery and segregation that people of color are somehow not real Americans. Yet, as Roger Wilkins wrote in his book "Jefferson's Pillow" and Hannah-Jones in her introduction, it is the freedom struggles of Black Americans that propelled the cause of equal rights for everyone. The Constitution excluded women, Native Americans and Black people, and did not provide the right to vote to most Americans.

It is the laws born out of the civil rights movement that extended the right to vote to everyone and banned discrimination; not simply on race, but

on gender, nationality, religion and disability. Without the idealistic and patriotic struggle of Black Americans, as Hannah-Jones notes, "our democracy today would most likely look very different - it might not be a democracy at all."

Recently, Ken Cuccinelli, Trump's acting director of the Citizenship and Immigration Services, sparked outrage when he brazenly reworded Emma Lazarus' famous poem found at the foot of the Statue of Liberty that reads "give us your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free..." What Cuccinelli probably had no clue about is that the Statue of Liberty was a gift to the people of the United States from the people of France and was dedicated in 1886 to celebrate the national abolition of

Please see
JACKSON page 5

I'm just asking!

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

I know you've been giving the 1619 Project some thought. How can we not be interested in what happens to Black people in America, as well as on the way to America 400 years ago when our first ancestors were



Dr. E. Faye Williams

brought from Africa to Port Comfort in Virginia. There's something ironic about being brought to a place called Port Comfort and being treated so viciously. The horrors escalated there and many of them are still happening. There are repercussions present from the whole enslavement project that was/is still sanctioned by our government. I've been noting the discussion of psychiatrists about the status of Donald Trump's mental health. It's scary, but we've been warned by psychiatrists who exercised

their duty to inform us.

As much as people sing about this being the "land of the free, and the home of the brave," the first part of that phrase is not true for Black people even if a few of us have been allowed to live comfortably without showing any responsibility for the rest of Black people who've been wounded by the circumstance of enslavement. I include all of us as not being free because I believe as Solomon Burke sang, "None of us are free, til all of us are free." I often hear people say we're the land of equal opportunity, but that is an incomplete sentence unless you add something about "except certain people that America has held in bondage for 400 years."

If this were the land of the free and equal opportunity for all, why was Jim Crow necessary and why are Black people still impacted by it? Why was there the Tulsa Massacre just as Black people built up their businesses, their wealth, their community? Why did we need Brown v. Board to give our children better educational oppor-

tunities and why didn't we have the right to learn to read before that?

Why would two duly elected Congresswomen of color have to get Donald Trump's and Benjamin Netanyahu's permission to travel anywhere? Was there a written rule that says they could only travel with a white male led group or not at all? Why does Israel get \$142 billion of our tax dollars while Black people get nothing to repair the damage deliberately done to our ancestors and ultimately to us? Didn't perpetrators know the horrible things they did to our ancestors would be handed down to us and that past denials would prevent generations to have the ability to accumulate wealth and for so many to live in poverty?

Why do we still have such a high rate of police brutality against Black people? Why are there great efforts to suppress our vote after Black people were denied any voting rights for hundreds of years? Why do we still have to face so many statues of white men who were responsible for our ancestors' enslavement and the problems

that still resonate today? Why was Colin Kaepernick punished so harshly for peacefully protesting against racial injustice? Why is white supremacy on the rise so soon after the successful term of President Barack Obama?

I'm tired of hearing people, including Black people, say about America, "This is not who we are." Really? On this 400th anniversary of our being in this country, Black people have always been treated inhumanely.

Thank you to the New York Times for taking a new look at slavery's origin and its legacy. Let us take a new look, too, so we can understand what America is as opposed to what she claims to be. Let us not be fooled by "Make America Great Again" because that implies America was once great for all of us.

Dr. E. Faye Williams is President of the National Congress of Black Women. 202/678-6788; www.nationalcongressbw.org. She's host of "Wake Up and Stay Woke" on WPFM-FM 89.3.

JACKSON

Continued from page 4

slavery. It is the figure of Libertas,

the Roman goddess of freedom. A broken shackle and chain lie at her feet as she strides forward, commemorating the abolition of slavery in 1865, an abolition that

turned out to be the first step in America becoming in fact, as well as in word, the land of the free. In telling the "unvarnished truth" of slavery, we will face the horrors of our

past, as well as the triumph of our progress. It is a telling that is long overdue.

Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr. is president/CEO of the Rainbow-PUSH Coalition.

CRAZY FAITH MINISTRIES

Good people "Got to be louder"

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., said that one's life begins to end the day we become silent on things that matter. The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands in moments of conflict and controversy."

Surely, if ever there was a time to show the measure of our commitment to the ideals of justice, it is now. The comedian Dave Chappelle, after giving a benefit concert in Dayton to support the survivors of the mass shooting that took nine lives in 32 seconds said it best: "Good people got to be louder than bad people."

The president of this nation has upset not only this country but nations all over the world. Traveling overseas, I have gotten more than a few people ask me what is happening to our country. They have shared a sense of disgust, surprise, amazement, and bemusement at the actions of Mr. Trump.

Although the media has managed to normalize Mr. Trump's behavior - while saying that what he is doing is not normal - the fact of the matter is that all of the distractions thrown at people here and abroad is managing to take the focus off what this president - along with his attorney general and the president of the Senate is doing

We all know that his tax cut - permanent for corporations but temporary for every day Americans - has caused the deficit to swell. We have all heard him say that he has no intention of cutting what wealthy Republicans hate - the so-called "entitlements," including Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security - but the fact of the matter is that he has also said that cutting or gutting those three programs would be a "fun" project should he be elected to a second term. (<https://www.vanityfair.com/news/2019/08/donald-trump-republicans-federal-deficit>)

His economic advisor, Larry Kudlow, is a proponent of "starving the beast," an idea embraced by Ronald Reagan years ago. Tax cuts, according to this ideology, provide a "market solution to search for market solutions for the problems of Medicare, education, health care, and the environment." (<https://www.forbes.com/sites/teresahilarducci/2019/08/23/trump-second-term-plan-for-social-security-starve-the-beast/#48b2fee23794>)

The plight of the people, the masses, if you will, is not a consideration. The driver of the policies is the quest for money - at the expense of the health and welfare of the very people who voted Mr. Trump into office. The quest for money blinds the eyes and hardens the hearts of those who seek only to increase their wealth; the love of money trumps the love for the lives of the people.

That reality, coupled with the disturbing rise of racial animus is putting people who are not white, wealthy males in jeopardy. David Neiwert, an expert in the area of far-right extremism, sees an alarming trend in hatred and violence that "is not going to end well." (<https://www.rawstory.com/2019/08/this-will-not-end-well-far-right-extremism-expert-warns-of-trumps-intensifying-authoritarianism/>) Basically, Neiwert says that the president's actions are leaning more and more toward an authoritarian government. It won't be long, says Neiwert, that the president declares his enemies and his critics to be "enemies of the state," and that declaration can only mean traumatic times in this country for a host of American citizens.

There are few people who are speaking up. Republicans who have heretofore heralded themselves as being patriotic and protectors of the concept of a balanced budget have been sickeningly silent. The president's demand for loyalty seems to have hypnotized people into a state of silence and inaction. But if they won't speak up, "we the people" had better: It is not clear what will happen to people who speak up, but of this I am fairly certain: if we do not organize and mobilize, if we do not register to vote and leave petty partisanship at home while we cast votes - not only in the general election but in our state and local governments as well, "we the people" will be traumatized and ignored.

To everything there is a season, and a time and a purpose under the sun, the Bible says. It seems that this is the season for us to speak up and to speak out, as well as act like we love this country - flaws and all - and are not about to let it descend into an authoritarian dictatorship. If "the good people are not louder than the bad people," the slow descent into totalitarianism will continue, and wealthy white men and their wives will scoff at "us the people" and tell us to get over ourselves.

Legend has it that Marie Antoinette, the bride of King Louis XVI in France scoffed when she learned that the French peasants - ruled over by her husband - had no bread and she said, "let them eat cake."

So will we face such disregard and disrespect if we are not louder and more determined than those now in power to make the masses suffer even as they prosper. If ever there was a time to be vocal and active, it is now.

Rev. Dr. Susan K Smith is nearing completion of a book, "On the Shores of America: Two Nations, Two Gods" and in November, her book, "Rest for the Justice-Seeking Soul" will be released by Whitaker House Publishers. To inquire about booking her, contact cassady2euca@icloud.com.

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MALVEAUX

Continued from this page

Barber and Theoharis have asked Presidential candidates to consider a debate that focuses exclusively on poverty. Many have agreed, but others have not gone on record. With more than one in five African American families living in poverty, and wages relatively stagnant, a national conversation about poverty is more than overdue.

Indeed, the other conversation is one that drills down on what international economic fluctuations mean to the average person. Economic pundits have high-level discussions about the stock market (when half of all Americans own no stock or bonds), making people think they can make no difference in economic policy. But we can make a difference when we pass laws that provide a living wage, paid sick leave, affordable health care, and more. The Poor People's Campaign and the Moral Budget give people tools to approach some of these economic issues. With his eloquence and his leadership, Barber has emerged as a national treasure and a lightning rod for economic transformation.

What will economic transformation look like? Is it possible for capitalists to make a profit and still pay their workers a living wage? It is possible to dismantle the predatory capitalism that, in the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., "thingifies" people in the name of profit? Do capitalists understand that consumers fuel this system, and paying consumers translates into more sales for them? And do predatory capitalists understand the ecological devastation they promote when they fail to embrace climate change?

Rev. Barber raises all these questions and more. For the next nine months, through June 20, 2020, he is moving around the country, addressing injustice, mobilizing people, and focusing on change. He has offered our nation a fundamental challenge. Will you answer the call for moral revival? Four hundred years after the first Black folks were brought to these shores, a call to deal with systemic racism, economic injustice, the war economy, and ecological devastation is long overdue.

Will you answer the call for moral revival

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

I cannot overstate my tremendous admiration for Rev. William Barber. Our connection goes back to North Carolina when I was the President of Bennett College, and he led the state NAACP. His daughter, Sharrelle, graduated from Bennett in the spring before I assumed the Presidency and as student body president, she served on the search committee that selected me. So he's a friend of long-standing.

When we see already-weak bonds of civility and community, both national and international, fraying, the movement to "build a moral agenda rooted in a framework that uplifts our deepest moral and constitutional values to redeem the heart and soul of our country." In the past year or so, Rev. Barber has been building national momentum and plans mass action in Washington DC on June 20, 2020. We will be in the heat of the 2020 political election, a



Dr. Julianne Malveaux

Washington DC on June 20, 2020. We will be in the heat of the 2020 political election, a

time when we must look at our nation's future and its direction. Barber's organization (which he co-leads with Rev. Liz Theoharis, is poetically called Repairers of the Breach. Its website is <https://www.breachrepairers.org/>, and it is worth checking out regularly, as updates on the 2020 march, along with other activities, will be posted.

The Barber movement is optimistic and much needed at a time when an elected leader regularly picks fights with the heads of other nations, triggers a trade war, disrespects people, even his own appointees, with vile name-calling, and drips disdain for women, especially elected Black women and other women of color. We live in a

graceless age, but Barber and Theoharis radiate grace. They are optimistic, patient, and movement building. They are inclusive, focused, and, most importantly, kind. They get this economy and its uneven distribution, but they also get race and the many ways it is foundational. The Repairers website says, "Our deepest moral traditions point to equal protection under the law, the desire for peace and among nations, the dignity of all people, and the responsibility to care for our common home." In embracing and expanding the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Revs.

MALVEAUX

Continued on this page

TO BE EQUAL

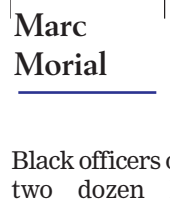
Five years after Michael Brown's Death: Despite visible progress, racial disparities persist in Ferguson

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

"The city's personal-responsibility refrain... reflects many of the same racial stereotypes found in the emails between police and court supervisors. This evidence of bias and stereotyping, together with evidence that Ferguson has long recognized but failed to correct the consistent racial disparities caused by its police and court practices, demonstrates that the discriminatory effects of Ferguson's conduct are driven at least in part by discriminatory intent in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment." - U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division, Investigation of the Ferguson Police Department, March 2015

Ferguson Police used force almost exclusively on African Americans. They regularly stopped Black drivers without probable cause. Ferguson officials circulated racist jokes on their government email accounts.

Five years later, the Ferguson has shown some signs of improvement. There are now six Black members of the City Council, compared with only one in 2014. The Police Department has gone from three



Marc Morial

Black officers out of 53 to about two dozen Black officers, including a Black chief, Jason Armstrong.

The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, which transformed the location of a burned-out into the Ferguson Empowerment Center, has just announced a new \$5 million investment to build a strip mall that will include a bank, a restaurant, a minority business incubator and a home health-care company.

Save Our Sons, the workforce development program that operates out of the Empowerment Center, has con-

nected more than 750 men with jobs in the Ferguson area since it opened in 2017. A new partnership with First Financial Federal Credit Union will provide auto loans, credit counseling, checking and savings accounts to members of Save Our Sons and other local residents.

But stark racial disparities persist not only in Ferguson but in the wider St. Louis region, both economically and in the criminal justice system.

The disparity in traffic stops in Ferguson actually has widened drastically, according to the Missouri Attorney General's office. The rate of stops of black drivers has increased by five percentage points since 2013, while it has dropped 11 percentage points for white drivers. Statewide, black motorists were nearly twice as likely as other motorists to be stopped.

Ferguson has not yet identified a Consent Decree Coordinator, according to the independent monitor appointed in 2016 as part of a settlement between the city and the Justice Department. "Although the Monitoring Team published a Workplan in the Fall of 2018, it has not received regular updates from the City with respect to progress on that plan because no sole individual within the

City is responsible for updating the Workplan and notifying the Monitoring Team about advancement in particular areas," according to the monitor's most recent report.

The economic news is even worse. According to the East-West Gateway Council of Governments, the median white household income was more than twice the median Black household income in 2017, a slightly wider gap than in 2010.

Disparity in the poverty rate in St. Louis County has grown as well, driven mainly by flat income growth for Black households versus increases in white income.

We commend the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis and its outstanding leader, Michael McMillan, for their work in tackling economic disparities in the region, and agree with his assessment that the work is a "marathon as well as a sprint." As he has said, "A concerted, dedicated effort has to be spent on changing these disparities, and that the job is not done. So we have to stay the course from the governmental, not-for-profit, corporate, business and civic communities in order to fix those wrongs."

"Marc Morial is President/CEO of the National Urban League.

"Jay-Z" did not sell out, he bought in

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

"Power without love is reckless and abusive, and love without power is sentimental and anemic. Power at its best is love implementing the demands of justice, and justice at its best is power correcting everything that stands against love." Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Jay-Z, the capitalists, has once again increased his personal fortune by buying into an institution that has also shown little regard for the fate of Black people.

When asked where we are in the protest process and the significance of kneeling, Jay-Z gave a very Trumpian response: "I think we've moved past kneeling and I think it's time to go into actionable items...No, I don't want people to stop protesting at all. Kneeling - I know we're stuck on it because it's a real thing - but kneeling is a form of protest. I support protest across the board... But now that we all know what's going on, what are we going to do? How are we going to stop it? Because the kneeling was not about a job, it was about injustice."

Translation? Jay-Z supported Kaepernick in the moment because it was the thing to do. Now there is an opportunity to get paid and as a capitalist, I'm about that paper.

In addition to helping the NFL with entertainment, Jay-Z will also consult with the NFL on matters of social injustice. Speaking of injustice...this opportunity for Jay-Z to work with the NFL only became possible after Kaepernick sacrificed his NFL career to protest against the real injustice of state sanctioned murder by the police. If Jay-Z were really down for the cause, wouldn't he have stepped to the mic and

told NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell that he will work with the NFL on the condition that "Kap" gets a fair shot at making an NFL roster? He could have used that moment and power to put real pressure on the league.

But it's not really about Shawn Carter aka Jay-Z. He is a metaphor. In the current context, Jay-Z is a distraction from the real issue... the dangers of Black capitalism. In Manning Marable's "How Capitalism Underdeveloped Black America, Marable writes, "A decisive component of this underdevelopment process within the periphery is the nonwhite elite." These elite play a very important role. They serve "...as a necessary yet dependent buffer between those who wield power and those who have none. Within popular culture, it is the non-white mouthpiece of the new order; articulating in the media and in the various aesthetic forums the ideals of the masters."

As referenced in the opening, Dr. King was clear, "Power without love is reckless and abusive...Power at its best is love implementing the demands of justice..." Jay-Z is wealthy and in some circles, wields a certain degree of power. However, given the example set by Kap's protest and sacrifice, what part of Jay-Z's deal with the NFL shows the love for the community and the demand for justice? This deal seems to be power without love, reckless and abusive.

When White capitalists team with Black capitalists, the Black community finds itself in a more precarious circumstance. The White capitalists

will leverage the indifference and duplicity of the Black capitalists against the very community that the Black capitalist claims to support. "We don't need to kneel anymore. It's time to get paid." Frederick Douglas told us very clearly, "Find out just what any people will quietly submit to (or get paid to do) - and you have found out the exact measure of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them. The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will."

By focusing on Jay-Z we are losing site of the fact that Colin Kaepernick used his platform to call attention of historic and systemic problem in America, state sanctioned brutality and murder by the police. The NFL, the government and the media used their power to corrupt the message and demonize Kaepernick, costing him his livelihood.

As was the case with Curt Flood, Muhammad Ali, Dr. John Carlos and others before him, Colin Kaepernick will eventually be remembered for taking a stand, or in this case, a knee for justice.

Jay-Z will be remembered for buying in...and by buying in, he sold out.

Dr. Wilmer Leon is the Producer/Host of the nationally broadcast call-in talk radio program "Inside the Issues with Leon," on SiriusXM Satellite radio channel 126. Go to www.wilmerleon.com or email: wjl3us@yahoo.com or www.twitter.com/drwilcon and Dr. Leon's Prescription at Facebook.com.



Dr. Wilmer Leon

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
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

A THANK YOU NOTE FROM D.B.C.

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It's your money, but caution!

PSA, PSA!! If you're trying to buy a home with a loan, especially a Government Loan or trying for downpayment grant funds and you got some money in a mattress, then KEEP IT there once you start this lending process... That lender will be asking you about EVERY deposit over a certain amount that went into your bank account. They will ask where did the money come from, Who gave it to you, and where they got it from? Did they have it in a bank account before they gave it to you? How long did they have it in a bank account before they gave it to you? Do they have bank statements to prove they had it in the bank? What did you have to promise

to get it, do you have to pay it back? Will they be willing to sign a letter saying they are giving it to you as a GIFT and not as a loan.

Oh my, and it goes on and on. You will be asking yourself "WHY did I put that money in the bank!" I wish I was lying but these explanations better be good than GOOD and all the money you have in that account is able to be SOURCED. Sourced is a fancy name for WRITTEN PROOF of where it came from. If you can't prove where you got it

from, you unfortunately likely will hear, "Application DENIED." I know you might be wondering why is it such a big deal where the money comes from for a down-payment, closing cost, etc when buying a home. Well, the reason it matters where the money comes from is because of laws concerning money laundering. Long gone are the days that drug dealers can bring a big paper bag full of stacks after stacks of cash to purchase properties. Oh yes, it uses to be a time but that is long gone. The banking industry is now heavily regulated in the processing of the loans. Now we know everybody is not out here selling drugs to have a little extra change. Even monies

for these good old hood plates, cupcakes, candy apples, etc being cash app into your bank account on a daily basis might be questioned if you taking it in like that on a regular. Oh my, just be mindful! Be SMART with that money and go GET THAT DEED!

Until next week, if you liked this article, don't be selfish, please SHARE IT with at least 3 people. Then tell them to reach out for a FREE personalized game plan to purchase their 1st home in the next 18 months or less no matter their current finances.

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ALTHEA GIBSON SCULPTURE

JOHN DAVIS PHOTOS



Althea Gibson sculpture unveiling at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in New York, New York. "At Last" her place is secure.

USTA honors Althea Gibson with powerful new sculpture

Augmented reality experience created to immerse fans in Gibson's life

FLUSHING MEADOWS, N.Y., August 26, 2019 – The USTA today unveiled a dramatic new sculpture honoring trailblazer and tennis great Althea Gibson. The sculpture, created by Eric Goulder, was unveiled outside Arthur Ashe Stadium on the grounds of the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, home of the US Open.

Gibson became the first African-American tennis player, male or female, to win the title at the U.S. National Championships (now the US Open) in 1957. She was a trailblazer of great talent and greater courage, who overcame many obstacles while compiling a career filled with firsts. In addition to breaking the color barrier in tennis (1950), she was the first African-American to win singles titles at the French Championships (1956), Wimbledon (1957) and the U.S. Nationals (1957). In 1958, she repeated both her Wimbledon and U.S. wins. With her success, she became the first African-American to be named Associated Press Woman Athlete of the Year (1957 and 1958). Gibson won 11 Grand Slam titles in all, adding six doubles crowns to her five major singles crowns. She was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 1971 and was inducted into the US Open Court of Champions in 2007.

"Althea Gibson's talent, strength and unrelenting desire to achieve made her a great champion," said Patrick Galbraith, President and Chairman of the Board, USTA. "She made tennis a better place, by opening doors and opening minds, doing so with grace and dignity. She is receiving a recognition she richly deserves."

"It's simple. She's the first African-American to break the color barrier in our sport," said former USTA Chairman Katrina Adams. "By doing so, she made it possible for every person of color after her to have a chance to achieve their goals in the sport. This is a tribute that's long overdue—period."

Created by noted American sculptor Eric Goulder, the Althea Gibson sculpture is comprised of a bust of Althea rising from a granite block placed amid a group of five other granite blocks. The bust of Althea is 3.5 times life-size and each of the five granite blocks weighs 2.7 tons. Altogether, the sculpture weighs more than 18 tons. The Althea bust is patinated bronze, made in water-based clay, molded and cast using the lost wax method. Goulder spent roughly three months on the model and three months on the large clay. The molding and casting took an additional three months. The model was

made in a 600-year-old villa in the hills surrounding Florence, Italy, that was once owned by Machiavelli and remained in his family for 150 years. The large clay and bronze cast was made in Pietrasanta, Italy, at the foundry, Massimo Del Chiaro. The granite used for the blocks comes from South Africa. It was cut and hand-flamed at Henraux S.p.A Marble and Granite Company in Querceta, Italy. The monument was shipped in six crates by boat and traveled 4,146 miles to reach its present location.

To enhance fan interaction with the piece, the sculpture also will activate an augmented reality experience. Developed by MRM/McCann, visitors will be able to activate exclusive content about Althea Gibson's life and legacy by focusing the Augmented Reality (AR) Viewfinder found within the 2019 US Open app onto the sculpture. Narrated by Billie Jean King, the additional AR experience traces Althea's humble roots, her early interest and involvement in tennis, her career and her legacy through video footage, photos and graphics. Fans can also view the AR experience anywhere by using the APP to place a full-size 3D "hologram" of the sculpture into their surroundings and relive the experience again or for the very first time.

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Alsylon C. Bailey

Alsylon Corey Bailey, son of Sylvena Fakih and Alfred Bailey was born on September 5, 1976 in Boston, Massachusetts. He passed away peacefully on August 15, 2019. A memorial service was held on Saturday, August 24, 2019 at Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses - Southport.

"Al" as he was affectionately called was raised and educated in Boston, Massachusetts, graduating from Reading Memorial High School. Following high school, he immediately went into the workforce, gaining employment with Liberty Mutual Insurance Company, in the Human Resources Department. Simultaneously, he pursued and obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Finance, from Northeastern University.

Al was one of Jehovah's Witnesses. He dedicated his life in baptism on May 27, 1995. He met his wife Jamillah at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses when they were 18 years old. They dated for three years and got married on August 15, 1998. In 2004, they relocated to North Carolina to be closer to family. Al obtained employment with Brunswick County Schools. He held different positions during his tenure with the school system, all of which he loved. On August 23, 2012, they welcomed their daughter, Corinne Olivia Bailey into the world.

Al was also very fond of music, and everyone would agree, he was the best DJ! If ever there was a party, you'd find Al behind the turn tables. Cooking was another thing he loved to do. He was widely known for his amazing jerk recipe, the best, hands down! If you wanted the recipe, he'd give you one, but would never confirm nor deny if it was his own! It was his top secret! Al was not just a great man; he was known by everyone as "the kindest person" anyone had ever met. He was an incredible husband and father. Al enjoyed all of the happiness that parenthood brought. He provided his daughter Corinne with all the love, affection and attention that only a father could give. He supplied a great spiritual foundation for her, and innumerable memories that she will cherish forever.

Al and his wife, Jamillah were everything to one another and although bitter-sweet, they were blessed to be together for their 21st Anniversary on August 15, 2019.

Only 42 years old, Al leaves a great legacy to forev-

er be cherished by: his wife, Jamillah and daughter, Corinne of the home; father, Alfred Bailey (wife Garilyn) of the US Virgin Islands; his mother, Sylvena Fakih (husband Hussein) of Charlotte, NC; mother-in-law, Louisiana Tooley; brothers-in-law, Christopher Tooley (wife Sue); Luke Tooley, Jr., Glen Lee (wife Deborah); Gary Smith (wife Sonya); sister-in-law, Sherri Tooley and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Al loved nothing more than spending time with his family and friends and he will be forever loved, is missed and will always be cherished. *Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhomenc.com.*

Charles L. Brown

Charles L. Brown, age 70, of Southport, passed away Friday, August 16, 2019.

A celebration of Mr. Brown's life was held on Saturday, August 24, 2019 at ILA Local 1838. Interment followed in Northwood Cemetery.

His love and memories will remain in the heart of his children, Maria A. Lee of Euless, TX, Tessa M. Lawrence (Richard) of Harrisburg, NC and Fallone M. Hutchens of Wilmington, NC; siblings, Dillard Delts (Teresa), Geraldine Barton, Alfred Delts (Juliet), Alford Brown (Shirley), Earl Brown (Marilyn), Ellis Brown, Della Mae Brown, Garlton Brown (Stephanie), Marsha Johnson, Bobby Brown (Mary), Margaret Brown and Darrell Brown, 8 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren and a host of other relatives and friends. *Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhomenc.com.*

Bernice Mason

Bernice Margaret Mason was the second oldest born to the late Lillian Wilkerson and Percy Wilkerson of White Plains, New York on July 12, 1924.

On May 13, 1944, she married the late Basel S. "Peter" Mason, Sr. From this union they had four children. In addition to her parents and husband, she was also preceded in death by her two sons, Harold T. Mason and Rodney A. Mason; a sister, Norma Clark and a brother, Lloyd "Sonny Boy" Wilkerson.

At an early age, Bernice made God head of her life. She was a member of Mt. Hope AME Zion Church. Prior to her declining health, she was a member of the choir, an active member of the Woman's Home and Overseas Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Zion Church and Odyssey Club.

Bernice was a lover of poetry. One of her published poems "Tomorrow" sits in the Library of Congress.

On Sunday, August 18, 2019 Bernice made her transition from earthly home to glory. A celebration of Ms. Mason's was held on Friday, August 23, 2019 at Union Baptist Church, White Plains, NY.

Cherishing her memories are: her children, Basel S. Mason, Jr. (Dana) of Ft. Lauderdale, FL and Karen Shelton of Wilmington, NC; six grandchildren, Tania, Jason, Harold, Marcus, Kiesha, Paris and Jarred; numerous great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and friends. *Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhomenc.com.*

Luci L. Adams

Luci L. Adams, age 72, of Leland, passed away Wednesday, August 21, 2019. A celebration of Mrs. Adams' life was held on Wednesday, August 28, 2019 at Hoopers Chapel Missionary Baptist Church. She is survived by her husband, Julius C. Adams of the home; children, Valerie L. White of Leland, James S. Mosely, Jr. of Leland Vonda P. Mosley of Leland, Pamela M. Adams of Orlando, FL and Lillian Sanders of Haverstraw, NY; siblings, Ida Dixon of Navassa, Layton White (Cheryl) of Guthrie, OK, Gregg White of Wilmington and Leonard White of Wilmington, 12 grandchildren, a host of great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. *Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhomenc.com.*

Michael Jacobs

Michael Jacobs, age 68, of Wilmington, passed away Thursday, August 22, 2019. Friends are cordially invited to a visitation with the family from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 29, 2019 at Davis Funeral Home. A celebration of Mr. Jacobs' life will be conducted at 1:00

p.m., Friday, August 30, 2019 at Faith Temple COGIC. Interment will follow in Greenlawn Memorial Park. *Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhomenc.com.*

Gregory S. Clemmons, II

Gregory S. Clemmons, II, age 26, of Navassa, passed away Friday, August 23, 2019. A celebration of Gregory's life will be conducted at 1:00 p.m. Thursday, August 29, 2019 at Johnson Chapel AME Zion Church. Interment will follow in King Memorial Garden Cemetery. *Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhomenc.com.*

Sylvia R. Walker

Sylvia R. Walker, age 43, of Bluffton, SC, passed away Wednesday, August 21, 2019. Friends are cordially invited to a visitation with the family from 5:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 31, 2019 at Davis Funeral Home. Funeral services will be conducted at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, September 1, 2019 at Davis Funeral Home. Interment will follow in Calvary Memorial Cemetery. *Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhomenc.com.*

Happy Birthday



**King G. Frank Dixon
February 13, 1996-
September 1, 1918**

Today is filled with memories with happiness and tears of Birthday celebrations we've shared throughout the years. And though I will always miss you The endless joy you brought Warms my heart with gratitude and fills my every thought. Whenever you are resting I hope that you can see how precious and uplifting Your memory is to me. I feel that you are with me In everything I do So I will celebrate your Birthday But I'll spend it missing you,

Love
Your children, Andrew, Shirley, Joan, Gail, Faye, Brenda, Maxine and grandchildren, Tanya Dixon Mason and Torrence Dixon



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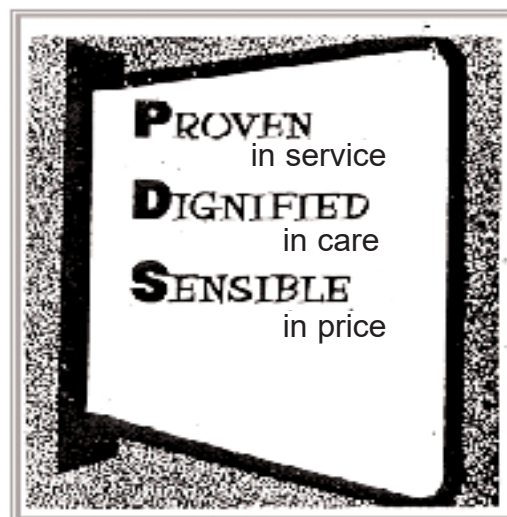
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Samuel Drain, Jr.
and Allene Drain
In Memoriam



Connie Drain Green
Funeral Director

New Hanover County

Mount Olive AME Church Social Action Auxiliary will sponsor a musical program on Saturday, September 14th at 3:00 p.m. The program will feature seven musical groups and two liturgical dance groups. For additional information contact George Hill at 910-231-3496 or Rev. Tony Mills at tmills0701@icloud.com.

St. Stephen AME Church will hold their Scholarship Banquet on Saturday, September 21st at 6:00 p.m. at Ebenezer Empowerment Center. The guest speaker will be Tony Carter. For more information contact the church at 910-762-9829.

Brunswick County

Crystal Spring Missionary Baptist Church, 4754 Blue Banks Loop Rd., will hold their Annual Ushers Anniversary on Sunday, September 8th at 3:00 p.m. Reverend Terrell Bryant, Lake's Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, Atkinson, NC choir ushers and congregation will be the special guest to render service. All ushers are asked to please dress in your usher's attire.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

N.C. Historical Highway Marker to recognize sanitation workers strike



COURTESY OF THE STATE ARCHIVES OF NORTH CAROLINA
SANITATION WORKERS ON STRIKE, ROCKY MOUNT, AUGUST 17, 1978.

RALEIGH, N.C. - Labor activism was brewing in the South in the 1970s, and North Carolina was the scene of several strikes. The continuation of that civil rights movement was felt in Rocky Mount with a sanitation workers' strike that started in July. Their efforts to win dignity and to build leaders will be recognized with a N.C. Highway Historical Marker to be dedicated Saturday, Sept. 7, 1 p.m. at the BTW Community Center, 727 Pennsylvania Ave., Rocky Mount.

Accusations against a deeply religious worker named Alexander Evans, called Preacher, was the catalyst for the workers actions. Sanitation workers had long salvaged discarded goods, and Evans distributed them to the needy in his community. That summer a supervisor asked of any of the staff had picked up a suit in a wealthy neighborhood. Evans said he had collected the suit and would bring it back the next day.

Evans was arrested and suspended from work instead. Vietnam veteran and coworker Leonard Giles recalled telling Sam Gray in human resources that if he was accused of stealing something, he wouldn't be given the chance to say anything and that he could not work like that.

"We stand. We're going to stand with Mr. Evans until he gets his stuff straight," Giles said.

The Concerned Citizens Association (CCA) and the Black Coalition, including local Southern Christian Leadership Conference chapters (SCLC), and the NAACP intervened, on Evans' behalf. He was reassigned to the parks department and assured all charges would be dropped. The strike was ended but a few days later the sanitation workers learned that charges were not dropped.

The strike was reinstated with four goals: to clear Evans of charges and restore

him to his job, to return to their jobs free from retaliation, to secure promotion of blacks into supervisory positions, and to end abusive treatment by supervisors.

The workers were not affiliated with a labor group nor trained in organizing. Local representatives of national organizations, including Naomi Green and Golden Frinks with SCLC, assisted the sanitation workers with successful marches and rallies. The N.C. Trade Union Education League and the African Liberation Support Committee also lent support to the workers strike.

Evans was convicted of misdemeanor larceny but the verdict later was overturned thanks to two young lawyers, Quentin Sumner and Antonio Lawrence, and their effective defense. Evans was promoted to sanitation driver and worked for the city until retirement.

Naomi Green and CCA leader Rev. Thomas Walker remained active in local politics. Quentin Sumner eventually was elected N.C. Superior Court judge. The strike was critical to development of local leaders and reshaped the labor movement in North Carolina and also impacted the movement for African American voting rights.

The Phoenix Historical Society is organizing the program for the marker dedication, which will include remarks from strike leader Leonard Giles, and others. A documentary about the strike produced by the city of Rocky Mount will follow the marker dedication. For information on the Highway Historical Marker Program, call (919) 814-6620.

The N.C. Highway Historical Marker Program is within the Office of Archives and History and administered by the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. The Highway Marker Program is collaboration between the N.C. Departments of Natural and Cultural Resources and Transportation.

TELL SOMEBODY

What must I do to be saved?

"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

Grace - Freely given unmerited favor and love of God Mercy - Pity, Kindness or compassion toward someone Guilty of an offense Believe - To have confidence in the truth, existence, or reliability of something although without absolute proof that one is right in doing so.

There are many, many, "things" that people "do" to be saved, which in the end have nothing to do with eternal life. Faith without works is dead, but works alone cannot save a lost soul! If works alone could save, men would boast of the things they did for themselves or by themselves. If man could harness the divine power of eternal salvation, the first thing he would do, is put a price on it. With this ability, man would fail to give God any glory at all for the great things that God has done for them!

Many people procrastinate and say that they stay away from church or organized religion until they feel they are good enough to deserve, or have done enough to earn eternal salvation. The truth is, eternal salvation cannot be earned by good works, neither can it be purchased by money. It is by the grace and mercy of God, that we are saved, through no goodness of our own. Lamentations 3:22-23 says, "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."

"Sirs, What must I do to be saved," is the question that was asked by the Phillipian jailer, who was in charge of the prison when Paul and

Silas were chained and bound for preaching in the Name of Jesus. Following a great earthquake, the foundation of the prison were shaken. All the doors were open and the bonds were loosed. When he would have killed himself because the prisoners could have fled, Paul persuaded him not to commit suicide. This act of kindness and compassion ultimately answered his question about personal salvation. "And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." Acts 16:31. You must believe.

Sylvia Hooper

"What must I do to be saved?, Was the complex question also asked by the rich, young, ruler in , Mark 10:17 "And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life? "

Jesus loved him, but told him the truth in his question from verse 18-21. The response of the rich young ruler was shown in verse 22. "And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions."

The truth of the matter is, a rich man must believe and have saving faith just like the poor man. Yes, rich men can obtain eternal life, but at some point, they must understand, that you cannot take it with you.

The rich man cannot afford to allow his possessions to

possess him. "For the love of money is the root of all evil." I Timothy 6:10

Job was a perfect and upright man. Job was rich and had great possessions, but they did not possess him. He put God first, and his eternal salvation was a top priority for him... not things and not stuff. He had a balanced mentality and a healthy attitude toward his earthly possessions. He knew that when he died, he would not take any of his wealth with him to the grave. He said in Job 1:21, "And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

The rich, young ruler had great possessions, so did Job. The difference between the two rich men, was Job had an understanding of the source of his riches. Job was tried and he was tested. He lost everything but his faith in God. He even lost his children, but he retained his integrity! He trusted God with everything he possessed. The rich young ruler trusted in the uncertainty of his riches. He did not trust in the Lord Jesus Christ. If he would have trusted in the Lord with all his heart, and not have leaned to his own understanding, the Lord would have directed him to prosper and be in health even as his soul prospered.

I Timothy 6:17 says, "Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy."

Hebrews 11:6 says, "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."

If the rich, young ruler would have trusted and believed in Jesus, he would have received a greater reward that would have increased his life both naturally and spiritually.

Peter told Jesus one day, that he and the other disciples had forsaken all to follow him. Jesus revealed to him in his response. Matthew 19:29 says, "And everyone that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life." You Must Believe. You must have faith.

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 grand-mother! 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

Prayer is the outgrowth of the word of God

One of the fundamental principles of prayer is forgiveness

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.

Peter raised the question to Jesus on how many times should he forgive his brother, the question he asked had merits. But then he proceeded to answer his own question by saying, "till seven times," and being reminded in his own heart and mind the lesson Jesus had already taught on forgiveness. Therefore he thought within himself seven times was an appropriate number of times that Jesus could agree with. But Jesus surprised Peter by saying forgiveness is unlimited.

Forgiveness is an attitude of the heart. God wants us to have a spirit of forgiveness like the commercial of the Duracell battery that keeps on going, going, and going, going, going and going. The spirit of forgiveness keeps on forgiving, forgiving, and forgiving, forgiving, forgiving and knows no limit ad infinitum. The spirit of forgiveness does not govern our lives by the standards and according to the dictates of the flesh, but is controlled by the Holy Spirit. The spirit of forgiveness is a conquest, an achievement, the activation of the will to obey God's Word to forgive regardless of the circumstance.

Most people don't forgive because they are ignorant of the nature of forgiveness. They think they can forgive through their flesh or senses. The Bible characterizes this as: "the mind of the flesh, which is sense and reasoning without the Holy Spirit,

because the mind of the flesh with its carnal thoughts and purpose is hostile to God, for it does not submit itself to God's law; indeed it cannot" (Romans 8:6a-7). [Amplified]

Forgiveness is of a superior quality. It does not belong to the flesh to operate through the senses of our flesh; to do so is to have a counterfeit forgiveness that will always be reminded of the wrong

that has been done to it. Not that something wrong has to be done either, but you simply think it has and just don't like what is being done. Now those harsh feelings of resentment, envy, anger, and bitterness began to spring up in you with a new life to be manifested.

Forgiveness belongs to your spirit man like faith, love, joy, peace, longsuffering, worship and prayer. Forgiveness is the outgrowth of God's love, the love that Paul described: "God's love is poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit Who has been given to us" (Rom.5:5b). [Amplified] I describe it as the Holy Spirit taking an exact copy of God's love, which contains in it a measure of God's forgiveness and places it in our hearts. That is the power and ability to love and forgive the unlovable.

Jesus demonstrated this kind of love for humanity when He died on the cross - the most inhumane, brutal, and cruel punishment inflicted in taking one's life. . But, listen to His reaction, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do"

(Luke 23:34). [KJV] And even now, He is our Great High Priest in the presence of God in our behalf.

Stephen was one of the first deacons chosen by the church, "a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost". He preached and taught the Word of God with such power that his religious opposition "were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake". "And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep" (Acts 6:10; 7:59-60). [KJV]

What great examples we have to model our forgiveness by Yes, the Word of God is the reference point, the standard, and the final authority on the subject.

The Word of God is also conclusive (serving to put an end to doubt, question or uncertainty) and definitive (precisely defined or explicitly, final settlement, complete, and authoritative) on the subject of behavior and conduct. Let's define these two terms: "Behavior applies to actions on specific occasions involving essentially external and sometimes superficial relationships." "Conduct applies to action in more significant relationships, considered from the standpoint of morals and ethics." The unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God and of Christ. 1 Corin. 6:9-11. "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inher-

it the kingdom of God." [KJV]

Those two verses are explicit and precise; authoritative and complete.

The Amplified of these two verses says: Do you not know that the unrighteous and the wrongdoers will not inherit or have any share in the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived (misled); neither the impure and immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor those who participates in homosexuality, Nor cheats (swindlers and thieves), nor greedy graspers, nor drunkards, nor foulmouthed revilers, nor slanderers, nor extortioners and robbers will inherit or have any share in the kingdom of God.

God is repetitive because He wants none to misunderstand the importance of this behavior of unforgiving that many times causes mental sickness and even physical death. Just drop it and watch a heavy load lift from you and freedom take its place.

Rom.5:8, (AMPC)8 "But God shows and clearly proves His [own] love for us by the fact that while we were still sinners, Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One) died for us.

No matter who you are and what lifestyle you are in; He stands with outstretched hands to all and says whosoever will let him come!

Father, we pray in the Name of Jesus, that everyone who reaches out to you, receives your forgiveness. Impart within them a new nature through the resurrection power of Jesus Christ who died and paid for their unrighteousness. Amen

Reverend Naconiel Fullwood currently the pastor of MRDRC Ministries (Mircle, Restoration, Deliverance, Revival Center Ministries Inc.) located in Wilmington, NC.

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Public Notice

The Trustee Board of St Phillip African Methodist Episcopal Church located at 815 North 8th Street, Wilmington Nc ,28401 is seeking sealed bids for their church restoration project. Sealed Bids should be sent to : Attention Board of Trustees, St. Phillip African Methodist Church, 815 North 8th Street ,Wilmington, NC 28401 by the closing date of August 31,2019. Bids post marked after this date will not be accepted. No non Post Mark Bids will be accepted.

August 8, 15, 22, 29, 2019

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

The undersigned, having qualified as Administratrix of the estate of **Kenneth Albert James**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **22nd day of November, 2019**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 22nd day of August, 2019

Rema Wynette James, Administratrix
4250 Wilshire Blvd Apt 204
Wilmington, NC 28403

August 22, 29, September 5, 12, 2019

NOTICE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **Ruth Keeno Relos**, deceased, of New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **2nd day of December, 2019**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 29th day of August, 2019.

Allison Relos Rankin, Executrix of the Estate of Ruth Keeno Relos
7 N. 8th Street
Carolina Beach, NC 28428
MURCHISON, TAYLOR & GIBSON, PLLC
1979 Eastwood Rd, Suite 101
Wilmington, NC 28403

August 29, September 5, 12, 19, 2019

NOTICE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **Ruth Keeno Relos**, deceased, of New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **2nd day of December, 2019**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 29th day of August, 2019.
Allison Relos Rankin, Executrix of the Estate of Ruth Keeno Relos
7 N. 8th Street
Carolina Beach, NC 28428
MURCHISON, TAYLOR & GIBSON, PLLC
1979 Eastwood Rd, Suite 101
Wilmington, NC 28403

August 29, September 5, 12, 19, 2019

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **Catherine Lowe**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **29th day of November, 2019**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 22nd day of August, 2019

Harvey M. Lowe, Jr., Administrator
4605 Fairview Dr.
Unit 1-314
Wilmington, NC 28412

August 29, September 5, 12, 19, 2019

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA NEW HANOVER COUNTY

THE UNDERSIGNED, Krista F. West Boone, having qualified on the 12th day of June, 2019, as Personal Representative of the Estate of **Michael Glenn West (16-E-1147)**, deceased, this is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against said Estate that they must present them to the undersigned at DAVID E. ANDERSON, PLLC, 9111 Market Street, Suite A, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28411, on or before the **25th day of November, 2019**, or the claims will be forever barred thereafter, and this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All persons, firms, and corporations indebted to said Estate will please make prompt payment to the undersigned at the above address.

This 22nd day of August, 2019.

Krista F. West Boone
Personal Representative
ESTATE OF Michael Glenn West
David E. Anderson
Attorney at Law
9111 Market St, Ste A
Wilmington, NC 28411

August 22, 29, September 5, 12, 2019

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **Virginia Agnes Boutwell (19-E-924)**, late of New Hanover County, Wilmington, North Carolina the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 701 Market Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401 on or before **November 22, 2019** or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 20th day of August, 2019

Dawn Ruth Biondi, Administrator of the Estate of Virginia Agnes Boutwell
c/o Craig & Fox, PLLC
701 Market Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
910-815-0085

August 22, 29, September 5, 12, 2019

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA NEW HANOVER COUNTY In the District Court Before the Judge New Hanover County File Number: 19CV003198

Let Notice be hereby given to Amber Spivey and Nicolas B Reyes last known of New Hanover County, NC

of a hearing on the issue of Permanent Custody to be held November 4, 2019 at 9:30am, New Hanover District Courthouse, 316 Princess Street, Wilmington NC 28401, courtroom 300 before the Honorable Jeffrey E Noecker.

August 29, September 5, 12, 2019

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

Pursuant to 55A-14-08 of the North Carolina General Statutes, notice is hereby given that the corporation named below has executed a Plan of Dissolution and Articles of Dissolution by affirmative vote of the directors and shareholders and such a Plan of Dissolution and Articles of Dissolution were filed with the Secretary of State of North Carolina. Claims against the Corporation will be barred unless proceedings to enforce such claims are commenced within five year of publication of this notice. Claims may be presented in writing to the Corporation at the following address:

Wilmington Civitan Club, Inc.
c/o Vance Meanor
4703 Marsh Wood Drive
Wilmington, NC 28409

Any claims presented for payment shall include the name and address of the claimant (or agent) and a statement of the nature and amount of the claim.

WILMINGTON CIVITAN CLUB, INC.
BY: Vance Meanor, President

August 29, 2019

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA NEW HANOVER COUNTY In the General Court of Justice Superior Court Division File No.: 19 CVS 1060

WAYNE DICKSON, Plaintiff v. JOHNNY REX BELL, Defendant

To Johnny Rex bell: Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: damages arising from motor vehicle negligence. You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than forty (40) days from the running of this notice, exclusive of such date, which was August 22, 2019 and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This the 22nd day of August, 2019.

David F. Turlington, Attorney for Plaintiff
David and Associates, PLLC
North Carolina State Bar No.: 20165
1516 Dawson Street,
Wilmington, North Carolina 28401
Telephone: (910) 251-8088
Facsimile: (910) 251-8430
Email: dturlington@davidandasociates.com

August 22, 29, September 5, 2019

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA JONES COUNTY THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION 19 CVD 787

JENNIFER PLAINTIFF v. ST. HILAIRE, TRAVIS DEFENDANT, CRAWFORD,

TO: TRAVIS CRAWFORD
Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is: Absolute Divorce

You are required to make defense to this pleading not later than forty(40) days after August 29, 2019, the first date of publication, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This the 29th day of August, 2019

Jennifer St. Hilarire
1586 Murray Circle
Kinston, NC 28501

August 29, September 5, 12, 2019

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Sources:
Across Platforms, 7 in 10 Adults Access Content from Newspaper Media Each Week (NAA.org, March 25, 2013)
The American Newspaper Media Industry Revenue Profile 2012 (NAA.org, April 8, 2013)
2013 Nielsen National Cross-Media Engagement Study (NAA.org, April 16, 2013)

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