

MISSING



EBONEE SPEARS

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

OUTside

Looking IN

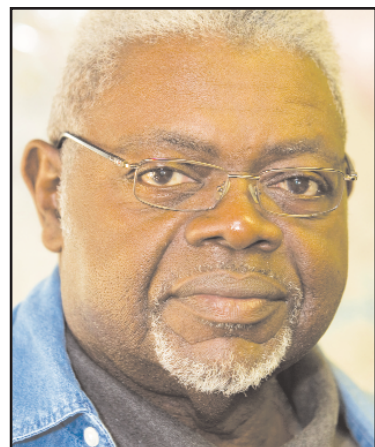
OUR VOICE



DR. JULIANNE MALVEAUX

GUEST EDITORIAL
 "The homelessness crisis - We are better than this"
 BY
 Dr. Julianne Malveaux
 PAGE 4

BRUNSWICK COUNTY



BERNEST HEWETT

HONOR VETERANS

BY **BERNEST HEWETT**
 CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Veterans' Day is coming, and it's time we give our veterans the honor they deserve. We must remember that veterans come in all races, and they are women and men. These veterans served in all kinds of conditions and hardships for the United States to declare freedom for all for whom the United States asked them to fight. They fought without hesitation or second thought. We should make sure we show them we stand and support them for their service. The aftermath of war and conflict runs deep and long in their lives. Some are fine and live productive lives, but others carry the stains of war and will carry them for the rest of their lives. Let's reach out to them and help them acquire healing and freedom. It has not been cheap! Somebody has had to pay! Let's see that the cost has not been paid in vain!

The man who fights for the spoils should enjoy them! His or her pride will make America great!

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

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 92/No. 47

NOVEMBER 7, 2019 - NOVEMBER 13, 2019

FIFTY CENTS

Lawsuit for Black media inclusion to be heard by US Supreme Court Nov. 13

Case against Comcast viewed as most important to be heard by high court this term

BY **BARRINGTON M. SALMON**

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - In the 26 years that he's been building his media empire, comedian and businessman Byron Allen has seen firsthand the panoply of ways that African-American and non-white media entrepreneurs have been shut out of the game by their powerful White counterparts and other gatekeepers.

Allen, 58, a respected global business leader, sits atop a burgeoning media giant, Entertainment Studios, which includes nine digital cable networks, 43 syndicated TV shows, 21 regional sports networks, The Grid, the Weather Channel - which he

bought for \$300 million - and other media properties said to value about \$1 billion.

Despite his successes, Allen, in his lawsuit, argues that Comcast refused to carry any of his company's channels because of his race. He filed suit in 2015 after being approached by Obama administration officials which asked if Comcast and Charter Communications were good corporate citizens.

"I didn't just tell them no, I said hell no," Allen has recounted in numerous interviews. "They said how do you figure? Well, the industry spends \$70 billion in licensing cable

networks. \$70 billion and African American-owned media get zero. And that's not fair: They said we hear that a lot. They asked what I'm willing to do. They said people were afraid to speak up because of repercussions and I said I'll speak up and do it in a way that it wouldn't be a problem again. So, I filed a lawsuit."

Allen sued Comcast in federal court for \$20 billion and Charter Communications for \$10 billion. Judges on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals siding with him twice; that's when Comcast petitioned to Supreme Court. Justices will hear the case on November 13, 2019.

All he seeks, Allen has said repeatedly, is economic inclusion, a chance to sit at the table and have an influential in determining the narrative and controlling the images that Black people see on their TV screens, tablets, cell phones or other devices.

"Comcast, which makes billions of dollars annually from African-American subscribers, has taken the position that a plaintiff must show that racial discrimination was the only, 100 percent "but for" reason not to do business with African Americans," Allen said in an August 20 guest column in Deadline. "In other words, Comcast argues that an African

Please see **LAWSUIT**/Page 2



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROY LEWIS/TRICE EDNEY NEWS WIRE

Dr. Frank Smith presents D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser with the first replica of a statue of Abraham Lincoln signing the Emancipation Proclamation. The giant statue will sit outside of the renovated and expanded museum facing the memorial to Black Union Soldiers across the street.

Groundbreaking for expanded African American Civil War Museum prepares Historic DC Corridor for national and international visitors

BY **HAZEL TRICE EDNEY**

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - In the 400th year since the first enslaved Africans reached the shores of America, a groundbreaking in the nation's Capital has begun a monumental \$45 million expansion of a facility to honor Black veterans of the Civil War - slaves and descendants of slaves - who literally fought their way to freedom.

"You all know that we started this African American Civil War Museum for two purposes - one was to correct a great wrong in history, which pretty much ignored the contributions of African-

American soldiers ending slavery and keeping America united under one flag," Dr. Frank Smith, executive director and founder of the African American Civil War Museum, told a packed house in D.C.'s historic Shaw neighborhood Oct. 17.

Smith continued the brief history lesson before the rapt audience: "When the Civil War started, African-Americans had no pathway to citizenship in the United States. We were defined in the Constitution as being chattel slaves. And every court decision from that point up to the Civil War rein-

Please see **MUSEUM**/Page 2

North Carolina Appellate Court hears NC NAACP "illegal constituted General Assembly" case

BY **CASH MICHAELS**
 OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

It was last February when Wake Superior Court Judge Bryan Collins delivered perhaps one of the most shocking rulings in recent North Carolina history:

"An illegally constituted General Assembly does not represent the people of North Carolina and is therefore not empowered to pass legislation that would amend the State's constitution," he ruled when he threw out the 2018 ratified voter ID, and cap on State income tax amendments that had been passed in the 2018 midterm elections.

The ruling was music to the ears of plaintiffs, the NC NAACP, which had sued to stop the amendments. The civil rights organization had effectively argued North Carolina's 2017 legislative maps were illegal because they had been drawn by an unconstitutional racially gerrymandered NC legislature, which did not have the authority, the NC NAACP said, to place the amendments on the ballot.

In effect, does a constitutionally illegal state legislature have the right to rewrite the NC Constitution?

Outraged Republican legislative leaders, feeling that Judge Collins had no right to rule on their constitutional legitimacy, appealed the ruling to a

Please see **ILLEGAL**/Page 3

Legislative "long" session isn't over yet

BY **CASH MICHAELS**
 OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

As you read this, the NC House and Senate sessions, which began on Jan. 9, have adjourned.

However, that doesn't mean the 2019 long session of the NC General Assembly is over: In fact, according to a joint resolution, legislators are expected back on Nov. 13, reportedly to work on redrawing congressional redistricting maps, as

ordered by a three-judge Wake Superior Court panel.

That is now creating a continuing hardship on Democratic state senators, particularly African American Senate lawmakers, who may have to jet-tison holiday plans with family.

"The sad thing is you can't predict any of the times we're going to be there such that we can plan for family stuff," a Democratic senator opined. "My kids are grown, but I really feel bad for

younger legislators who didn't get a chance to spend the summer with their kids."

"And now we're approaching fall and winter holidays, and heck, we don't know when we're going to adjourn."

Most people forget that the "short" session of the NC General Assembly did not adjourn for

Please see **SESSION**/Page 2

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

The Staff and Management of The Wilmington Journal



THE WILMINGTON
JOURNAL

ISSN 0049-7649 - AN
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1901 and T.C. Jervay, Sr.,
Founder of The Wilmington
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Published Weekly At
412 South Seventh Street,
Wilmington, NC 28401
By Wilmington Journal, Inc.
P.O. Box 1020,
Wilmington, NC 28402
Periodical Postage Paid At
Wilmington, NC 28402
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Fax: (910) 343-1334,
Email: wiljournal@aol.com
Website:
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SESSION

Continued from Page 1

good until December 29, 2018, and that's because Republicans called one of several special sessions to deal with the four of six constitutional amendments that were passed in the midterm elections.

There is no hard and fast deadline for completing the maps, and yet, the December 2 filing for the March 2020 primaries is literally right around the corner, meaning that the court may have to push the primaries back some to accommodate the legislative redistricting and

LAWSUIT

Continued from Page 1

American-owned business must show not only that the defendant considered race (which the statute forbids), but that the professed, hypothetical race-neutral reasons that could have motivated the defendant are false."

He said he is concerned that if the Supreme Court favors Comcast, the impact will make it much harder for him and 100 million other Americans to secure economic inclusion now or in the future.

Allen, chairman, founder and CEO of Entertainment Studios notes in his lawsuit the importance of Section 1981 of the Act, which says that all people should have "the same right ... to make and enforce contracts ... as is enjoyed by white citizens."

He has expressed confidence that he'll win in the Supreme Court but the decision by the Trump administration's Department of Justice to file an amicus (friend of the court) brief in support of Comcast and their reasoning for doing so has raised the stakes consid-

erably and ratcheted up concerns by Civil Rights organizations, legal scholars and other interested parties of the potential harm to African Americans and others who have been protected by this law for the past 153 years.

"This is an extremely consequential case. This law was the first action the nation took to give Black people access to economic power," said political commentator and author Dr. Avis Jones-DeWeever. "A White supremacist organization and the DOJ - which has inserted itself into this case - wrote a brief that would kill our ability to fight discrimination."

"It's a big deal. The extent to which we can put pressure on Comcast, we must do so, so they agree to settle the case."

Cori Harvey, a Florida-based attorney who specializes in business law, economics and entrepreneurship, said the case could be consequential.

"This could represent a significant lowering of the barrier to justice," Harvey told Trice Edney News Wire. "It's a fundamental question of who has access to legal recourse. The defendant has information

needed such as if anything happened in emails, correspondence, etc. The plaintiff is in the dark. There's power in darkness in shielding the defendant."

"This represents a redistribution of power from the plaintiff to the defendant. He'll be able to get access to emails, correspondence ... this forces them (Comcast) to deliver into the public sphere information previously hidden. The Ninth Circuit gave Mr. Allen a shot. It forces Comcast to open secret chambers. That doesn't happen too often. The ability to shield and hide equals power. This leaves Comcast exposed and vulnerable."

Comcast officials have dismissed Mr. Allen's claims, saying race had nothing to do with rejecting Allen's channels, noting that they had low ratings and were of low quality. Comcast spokesperson Sena Fitzmaurice responding to a reporter's query said: "This case arises from a frivolous discrimination claim that cannot detract from Comcast's strong civil rights and diversity record or our outstanding record of supporting and fostering diverse programming

from African American-owned channels. We have been forced to appeal this decision to defend against a meritless \$20 billion claim but have kept our argument narrowly focused. We are not seeking to roll back the civil rights laws - all we are asking is that the court apply Section 1981 in our case the same way it has been interpreted for decades across the country."

A slew of Civil Rights organizations, the National Association of Black Journalists, presidential candidates Sens. Kamala Harris and Cory Booker plus eight of the 55 members of the Congressional Black Caucus, have signed on as friends of the court.

Kristen Clarke, president and executive director of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, said on Twitter "Section 1981 of the Civil Rights Act of 1866 is literally one of the nation's oldest civil rights statutes. We are proud to stand with @NAACP@NAACP_LDF & @civilrightsorg in calling on the #SCOTUS to reject Comcast's attempt to cut the heart of this historic law.

@LawyersComm."

Clarke described the case elsewhere as "the most important civil rights case to be heard by the Supreme Court in term. A negative ruling stands to all but shut the courthouse door on a vast number of victims of discrimination all across the country."

Los Angeles Urban League President and CEO Michael Lawson said what Comcast is doing is a clear violation of a clear violation of the 1866 act which prohibits racial discrimination in business dealings.

"We are appalled by your decision to challenge and destroy the federal civil rights statute of 1866 in the U.S. Supreme Court and do so in partnership with the Trump Administration's Department of Justice," Lawson said in a recent letter sent to Comcast chairman Brian Roberts and senior executive vice president David Cohen. "If you choose to continue your attempt to eviscerate this civil rights law, we will have no choice but to call for a boycott of everything Comcast, effective immediately."

MUSEUM

Continued from Page 1

forced our position and our status in society. We don't get a chance to fight for our freedom until Lincoln gets himself caught up in a war that he can't win without doing something about slavery. And so he ended up enlisting two hundred thousand Blacks in the Union Army. The nation paid no attention to these soldiers until we built a monument to them."

Just across the street from the museum, which is housed in the historic Grimke School building on Vermont Avenue North West, is a bronze memorial, a statue of three soldiers standing guard. The statue is surrounded by a wall with the carvings of 209,145 names of those who served among the United States Colored Troops.

That museum and memorial - fixtures in the U Street community for the past 21 years - are about to undergo a \$45 million expansion project that will accomplish the second purpose for which the museum was built. In addition to providing greater space for artifacts and programs to honor the Black soldiers, it is expected to create an economic boom in the once depressed area as people come from across the nation to visit the historic spot.

"We wanted to find a way to get tourism into this community. We get 20 million tourists in the city every year," said Smith, a former Ward 1 councilman, who envisioned and founded the museum in 1992. "They spend \$6 - \$10 billion dollars every year Downtown. So it's pretty easy if we can find a way to get them here and spend some of that money up here in this neighborhood," he said.

D. C. Mayor Muriel Bowser and her staff, helping with the ground breaking, led the way to the new beginning for the project after several pauses due to stormy political waters and budget problems

over the years. The grand opening is finally set to take place in the fall of 2020.

"Our former Ward 1 councilmember is making sure that we not only grow as a city, but that we grow together as a city and that we preserve the rich history that we've been blessed with. And this Memorial is certainly a testament and a commitment to how we do that for our city and for our nation. So, Frank, you deserve tremendous applause and appreciation from all of us," Mayor Bowser said.

Among the plans for the development:

*** The African American Civil War Museum will move out of its current building into a second much larger building next door.

*** The 133,000 square foot project will include 12,000 feet for the world headquarters of architectural giant Torti Gallas, which will set up office with more than 100 employees and partners in the building that the museum is vacating. Torti Gallas also is the architectural firm behind the entire project.

*** There will be approximately 70 housing units with 20 percent of them at "below market" price, according to Bowser, who said affordable housing in the area had been among her chief concerns as she established a long-term vision projecting 50-100 years.

*** The new influx of Torti Gallas employees, construction workers, and other retail employees into the neighborhood; plus the tourist draw to the newly renovated museum and new neighborhood residents are expected to bring the economic boom. Among those applauding in the audience was Virginia Ali, co-founder of the historic Ben's Chili Bowl restaurant right down the street.

*** Adding to the historicity of the project, Dr. Smith said a statue of President Abraham Lincoln signing the Emancipation Proclamation will be erected in front of the museum, look-



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROY LEWIS/TRICE EDNEY NEWS WIRE

Principals and visionaries of the expanded African American Civil War Memorial symbolically dig in the shovels. Pictured are Sarosh Olpadwada, economic developer; James Turner ANC, Dr. Frank Smith, museum director and founder; Mayor Muriel Bowser; Councilperson Brianna Nadeau; Grant Epstein, project developer; Torti Gallas, developer tenant; Patrick Smith, economic developer; and neighbors Maya Hendricks 11 and Mason Hendricks 6.

ing across the street at the monument. "It'll be the only one in the nation's capital," he said, awarding the first heavy replica of the statue to Mayor Bowser.

John Torti, president of Torti Gallas, said he not only looks forward to redesigning and renovating the two buildings, but he has dreamed of being a resident of such a neighborhood.

"For me, personally, I've always wanted to have an office in the city. I've always wanted to walk to work," he said. "I've always wanted to have a space that represents the kind of redevelopment and rebuilding and transformation that our firm represents. I've always wanted to come to work in a building that people like Frank Smith work in. In 50 years of being an architect, my dream has come true with Grimke."

As with any new development, amidst all the pleasantries and congratulations, there are yet controversy and questions.

Dr. Smith forthrightly

addressed the issue of gentrification as well as how crime in the Shaw neighborhood had to be dealt with as the neighborhood has gradually changed over the years.

"When I first started working up here, I, as a councilmember, people were scared to walk around up here," he said. He said nearby Howard University "started busing the kids back and forth to the dormitories. They were scared to let them walk around in the street. People need to have a place to live where they can walk through the community; where they can go to school. So, I'm not apologetic about that. We have to fight to make our communities better. We all want to live in better communities. We just have to fight to stay there. That's the only way we're going to progress in America."

Responding to Smith, current Ward I Councilmember Brianna K. Nadeau, having worked on the project for 15 years, described, in part, how the gentrification issue will

be dealt with.

"Dr. Smith talked about a phenomenon of gentrification here in this neighborhood. And one of the things that we have to keep doing in areas that are becoming gentrified is ensure that we solidify the history and the memories of things that were here and build things that acknowledge the African American community," Nadeau said. "This is critical because there are people who've lived here in this corridor their whole lives who don't recognize it anymore and don't think the things that are being built are for them. But this is being built for them. This is being built for all of them. For those who've been here a long time, for those who will come and need to understand the history. And I want us to be together in that moment and to understand the gravity of that. And just really appreciate it and congratulate each other because everybody in this room played a part in getting this."

approval process. No one knows how long State lawmakers may take, once they come back late next week.

"They don't care," a frustrated Democratic senator said of the Republican majority.

However, once they do finish this year, the 2019 long session of the NC General Assembly will come to an end...right?

Wrong. State lawmakers have been told that they must come back Tuesday, January 14, 2020, to finish any outstanding business from this session.

In fact, among the reasons cited in the recent joint resolution to extend the 2019 regular session was "bills

returned by the Governor with his objections...solely for the purpose of considering overriding of the veto upon reconsideration of the bill."

Democratic lawmakers who have spoken "off the record" are beyond frustrated with Republican leadership because the way it looks now, the long legislative session of 2019 actually won't be completed until sometime in January 2020...maybe...all because the GOP is trying to figure out a way to trick enough weary Democratic senators to either be late or absent so that Republicans can finally override Gov. Cooper's veto of their budget

proposal over the absence of Medicaid expansion and ratify it into law.

Democrats maintain that's exactly what happened in the State House they were led to believe that no vote would be taken on September 11 pertaining to the veto, and Republicans were able to override Cooper's veto with a depleted number of Democratic House members present.

More than seven Democrats - the number needed to swing over and vote with Republicans for the veto override - were absent from the chambers then, creating a subsequent ruckus that actually made national news.

Now Senate Republicans only need one Senate Democrat to vote with them for the override, but Senate Democrats have vowed that that is just not going to happen. Last Thursday, on Oct. 31, the day Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger [R-Rockingham] vowed would be adjournment day, State senators were called into session, and then Republicans recessed five times in hopes that, at least, one Democrat would fail to make it back to his or her seat in time for a call vote on the veto, but, to the GOP's dismay, no matter where they were, Senate Democrats made it back, standing firm not to hand

Republicans another victory. "It literally meant chasing down members," one Senate Democrat said afterward.

Senate Democrats were warned that a vote could happen days earlier, but when it didn't, they knew anything could happen before the Oct. 31 adjournment and were ready.

Senate Pro tem Berger even floated the notion publicly that Gov. Cooper had threatened Senate Democrats that, if they didn't hold tight, he would find primary opponents against them.

"That was a lie," an angry, resentful Senate Democrat said of Berger's apparent pressure tactic.

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STATE BRIEFS



ELECTION ROUNDUP

WILMINGTON - African American candidate Kevin Spears will be the new face on the Wilmington City Council next term after coming in second in a ten-candidate field. Spears, 36, came in second to Councilwoman Margaret Haynes with 14.4 percent per unofficial returns Tuesday evening. Incumbent Neil Anderson came in third, but only by six votes over incumbent Paul

Lawler. A recount may be in the offing. All races will be finalized by Nov. 15th.

Mayor Bill Saffo won a sixth term in office, defeating challenger Devon Scott by less than 700 votes. Voter turnout for Tuesday's municipal election was just 19 percent.

In nearby areas, Carolina Beach elected its first female mayor, LeAnn Pierce, as well as Lynn Barbee and Jay Healy to the Town Council.

In noteworthy statewide contests, Durham Mayor Steve Schewel won a second term with 83% of the vote. And Charlotte Mayor Vi Lyles, the Queen City's first

African American female mayor, was easily selected to a second term with 77% of the vote.

FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF GREENSBORO KLAN MASSACRE

[GREENSBORO] It was Nov. 3rd, 1979, when demonstrators held a "Death to the Klan" rally in a public housing complex, when suddenly cars showed up, and a number of Ku Klux Klan members and American Nazis brandished weapons, and engaged in a shootout that left five members of the Communist Workers Party dead, and ten injured. The

shootout lasted just 88 seconds, but forty years later, is infamously known as the Greensboro Massacre. A subsequent investigation proved that Greensboro police actually vacated the area before the Klan attack. After two criminal trials, no KKK member was ever convicted.

GOP-SPONSORED STATE READING PROGRAM FAILS TO SUCCEED

[RALEIGH] It's back to the drawing board for Republican legislative leaders who created the "Read to Achieve" program in 2012 for the purpose of having more students reading at grade level at the end of

third grade. But according to the recent 2019 National Assessment of Educational Progress, the program has failed to raise reading levels in North Carolina. In fact, reading scores are now lower than before the program was instituted. Thus far, North Carolina has spent \$150 million on the program, a pet project of NC Senate Pres. Pro-Team Phil Berger.

NC FREEDOM PARK BREAKS GROUND NEXT MONTH

[RALEIGH] After years of planning and discussion, ground will be broken at the intersection of Wilmington

and Lane streets between the Governor's Mansion and the Legislative Building for a park and monument honoring North Carolina's historic African Americans. The North Carolina Freedom Park will be the first park dedicated to African Americans in the state government complex. The park was designed by the late architect Phil Freelon. Construction is expected to take a year, which means it should be open for families from across the state and nation in 2021.

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS

ILLEGAL

Continued from Page 1

three-judge panel of the N. C. Appellate Court, and last

week, both sides argued their respective views.

An attorney for Republican lawmakers maintained that it would be impractical to undo every

law North Carolina lawmakers passed subsequent to being ruled racially gerrymandered by a federal court, and doing so would open a floodgate of litigation against other legislation passed by the GOP supermajority at that time.

However, an attorney representing the NC NAACP countered that they are not targeting every law passed, but rather, just the legisla-

ture's right to place the six constitutional amendments on the 2018 ballot for ratification by voters, four of which passed, and two of which were being challenged.

While Republicans argued that, if the federal court which ruled the legislature unconstitutionally elected wanted new elections, it could have ordered new elections. Nevertheless, the NC

NAACP attorney countered that the federal court did see the need for a new election but couldn't order one because there wasn't time to reasonably hold one.

The three-judge panel was comprised of two Republicans and one Democrat. Regardless of the decision, the case is likely to be appealed to the NC Supreme Court, which has a 6-1 Democratic majority.

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GUEST EDITORIAL

The homelessness crisis - We are better than this

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

I was returning from an errand when the skies opened up. The punishing rain came down with such vigor that despite an umbrella, the bottom inches of my pants were soaked. With my wash and wear hair, and just half a block more to walk, I shrugged the rain off, until I saw a woman sheltering herself from the rain in a narrow but covered side entrance to a church. The opening could not have been more than 4 feet wide, and sister was easily five feet tall. She had wedged herself, somehow, into the space and was lying horizontally with a newspaper over her head. From across the street, I could see her beautiful dark chocolate skin, but also her disheveled clothing, and no layers to shelter her from the rain. Watching her reminded me that we are going into the season of high risk for those who have no shelter. Many can make it during the warmer months sleeping comfortably outside, but as temperatures drop and precipitation increases, thousands are vulnerable because they have no shelter.



Dr. Julianne Malveaux

When we elect a clown, expect a circus. Too many urgent national concerns are being swallowed by this man who lacks the gravitas to behave as President. The man who calls his colleagues "scum," who attacks Black people, especially Black women, with impunity, who dodges the Constitution every chance he gets, who might spark a major crisis by stomping over oversight, and who might cause a government shutdown later this year if he doesn't get his way.

And then there are the human needs that are being ignored. According to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, during a "point in time" survey on a night in January 2018, more than half a million homeless people were counted. (https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/2018-AHAR-Part-1.pdf). While there are flaws in this methodology, it is as close as we can get to a scientific measurement of the homeless. There are half a million people, mostly men, mostly white, but way too many African Americans. African Americans are 13 percent of the population and 40 percent of the homeless. The homeless are primarily concentrated in California, New York, Florida, and Texas, but you can find them in almost any community. Two-thirds of the homeless are sheltered on a given night, but a third are sleeping on the streets, on park benches, in alleys, under awnings. To quote the late great Congressman Elijah Cummings, "we are better than this."

Nearly 40,000 of these homeless are veterans. Nearly 40,000 are youth. Their homelessness flies in the face of our values as a country. Those who have served our country should not have to sleep on the streets. Those who have not have had a chance at life should not find their chances on a park bench. This is not just about homelessness. It is about an economic crisis that has made affordable housing difficult to obtain, with jobs and economic security even more difficult to obtain. While 45 crows about our healthy economy, the Fed has lowered interest rates because it is concerned about the health of the economy.

And low unemployment rates belie the absolute angst that millions of our fellow citizens are experiencing.

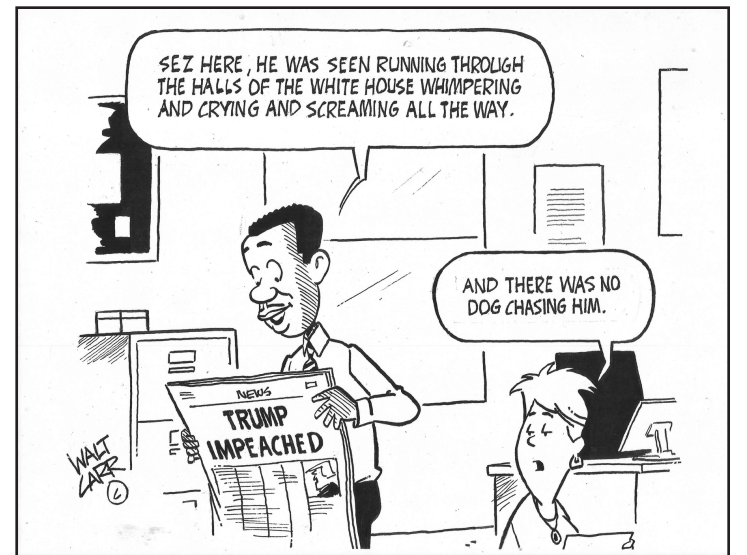
The homeless data are daunting enough, but there is also hidden homelessness. Too many - 4.4 million - are living in other people's houses because they have no homes of their own. While there is nothing wrong with "doubling up" families when it is voluntary, involuntary doubling up is a prescription for disaster. Compound this with the number of young people who are "couch surfing" because they have no place to go. I've met young people who are living in storage units because they have no homes, managing their sanitation needs in gyms and hotel bathrooms. Some of these folks have full-time jobs that pay so little that they can't afford housing. We are better than this.

The specter of homelessness is incompatible with the rhetoric of economic progress and economic expansion. From San Francisco, where people with tents live underneath freeways, to Washington, DC, where homeless people sleep on streets that appear to be prosperous, to New York City, where some of the homeless have mental health issues, and nowhere to go. Our compassion compass is off because we are so focused on shenanigans that we have ignored people.

Still, about 552,000 people were shelter-challenged when HUD executed their "point in time" survey.

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist. Her latest project MALVEAUX! On UDCTV is available on youtube.com. For booking, wholesale inquiries or for more info visit www.juliannealveaux.com.

Visual Voice



YOUR VOICE

YES WE CAN

In 2008, an articulate, intelligent, altruistic, community organizer, Barack Obama had the audacity to run for president of the United States. He won two terms and

changed the U.S. to a better country. IN 2019 another community organizer with similar traits as President Obama ran for a seat on the Wilmington City Council. He won and will do all within his power to improve job growth,

safety, low-cost housing, education, equality and programs for youth. For the next four years this young man will be introduced as "The Honorable City Council Member Kevin Spears."

A special thanks to all who voted for my friend and leader. Let all of us pitch in and help him take our city through a positive metamorphosis.

James J. Hankins
Wilmington, NC

MATTERS OF OPINION

Dean of the House

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

It's often true that the good die young, but last Sunday, one of our most distinguished elder statesmen, Congressman John Conyers, died at 90 years of age in his beloved Detroit. Many of the stories that came from major press and media were not always kind to him, and what they often said is the greatest reason for our writing our own stories. No one should be convicted by allegations alone. When we judge somebody, we should judge them by the totality of their life.



Dr. E. Faye Williams

Congressman Conyers served with high distinction in the United States Congress for 50 years. He had a great career being a servant to our people. He stood firmly for us on health care, reparations, voting rights, voter registration procedures, civil and

human rights and more. He was the longest serving Congressman we in the African American community ever had. His time was well spent. He was the only member of the House Judiciary Committee who participated in the impeachment inquiries against both President Bill Clinton and President Richard Nixon. At the time he voted for the impeachment inquiry of Richard Nixon, Mr. Conyers said, the impeachment of Mr. Nixon was necessary "to restore to our government the proper balance of constitutional power and to serve notice on all future presidents that such abuse of power will never be tolerated again."

He did not vote for the impeachment of Mr. Clinton because he believed as many of us believed that the personal relations between Mr. Clinton and Ms. Monica Lewinsky did not merit impeachment. He saw it as an extramarital affair, but not an impeachable offense. I agree with his assessment. Unfortunately, he left the Congress rather than defend himself against allegations of

wrongdoing.

I worked with him briefly when he was Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee. I was not on his payroll. I worked as a volunteer because I knew how important his work was. He was a critic of the Iraq War, as well as the USA Patriot Act.

We always knew where he stood on important issues of our times. We never had to witness his walking down the middle of the road on issues that greatly impacted Black people. Rev. Al Sharpton once said, "When you walk down the middle of the road, you get hit from both sides." We always knew where Congressman Conyers stood. His legacy of so many years of doing the right thing when it comes to justice will never be overridden by allegations brought forward in his last few years of life. Everyone with whom I have spoken in recent days remember the overwhelmingly good things he did to advance our causes. His work was recognized by many. In 2007, he received the NAACP's most distinguished medal—the Spingarn Medal. He was Dean of the House

of Representatives and by the end of his last term in office, he was the only remaining member of Congress who had served since Lyndon Baines Johnson was President. He served our country during the Korean Conflict. He was a co-founder of the Congressional Black Caucus. He also sponsored a bill to make the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. a federal holiday.

When I ran for the United States Congress in Louisiana, Congressman Conyers was supportive of me. He not only sent a donation to my campaign, but he held a fundraiser for me in Detroit. When I had challenges with the Clinton Administration, he was there for me. He'd call on me to assist with his young son whenever he brought him to Washington. He was my neighbor and my dear friend for many years. Those are the things I remember.

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

RAINBOW PUSH COALITION

The Medicare for all debate is long overdue

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

Affordable health care for all is now at the center of the presidential debate. Two of the top three contenders for the Democratic presidential nomination — Elizabeth Warren and Bernie Sanders — support Medicare for All. The third — Joe Biden — and those hoping to take his place as the leading centrist in the race — Pete Buttigieg and Amy Klobuchar — have attacked the plan to contrast their candidacies from Sanders and Warren.



Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.

Donald Trump, who wants to eliminate the Affordable Care Act itself, and has already added some 10 million people to the ranks of the uninsured, scorns it as "socialism," just as earlier Republicans libeled Social Security and Medicare itself when they were under consideration.

In 1984 and 1988, I made a single-payer Medicare for All plan central to my presidential campaign. As a policy, it has always made the most sense. The question has always been whether the politicians had the nerve to weather the fierce attack that

insurance and pharmaceutical drug companies will unleash against the proposal and any candidate who supports it, and whether voters would be scared off by the attacks.

Sanders brought Medicare for All back into the national political debate in his remarkable run for the Democratic nomination in 2016 against Hillary Clinton. The National Nurses Association and others have helped build a movement out of that momentum. Sanders has "written the bill," and in the House, Rep. Pramila Jayapal has introduced a detailed complement to the Sanders bill. Elizabeth Warren, who signed onto the Sanders bill, now has produced a clear plan on what Medicare for All would cover, and how it would be paid for.

The basic principles and values are clear and widely popular. Health care should be a right, not a privilege. No one should go without the care they need because they cannot afford it. No one should go bankrupt simply because they get sick.

Yet our current health care system offends each of those principles. We spend almost two times per capita on health care as other advanced nations. If you have a lot of money or a strong union, you can get excellent health care. For the rest, care is rationed by

money. Twenty-four million go without insurance, up 10 million under Trump. Another 65 million are underinsured, one serious illness away from bankruptcy. Health care costs are the leading cause of bankruptcy.

Medicare for All is popular at first look. Then the insurance and drug companies and the opponents unleash their arguments: government will mess it up, it will raise your taxes, it will take away your current insurance. Presented with that information, people's doubts grow.

So most of the opponents fly under a false flag: they lay on the arguments against Medicare for All, but claim they support health care as a human right and support some version of a public option, giving people the illusion of choice. The reality is that those plans will still leave millions without coverage and many millions more underinsured.

Warren came under particular attack in the debates and the media for not detailing how she would pay for her plan (Sanders has been clear on his plan). Now Warren has answered her critics. Her plan covers the cost of Medicare for All by raising taxes on the very wealthy — largely a 3 percent surcharge on the wealth of billionaires — and by requiring big companies to pay almost what they now pay for providing

health care to their workers.

Her plan would save some \$7 trillion of the \$59 trillion it costs to provide health care to all over a decade, according to the Urban Institute, by reducing overhead, eliminating insurance company profits, reducing monopoly and negotiating bulk discounts for drugs like every other advanced nation does. She would eliminate co-pays and premiums, returning \$11 trillion to the pockets of working people, what she hails as the largest middle-class tax cut in history.

Once voters learn that under Medicare for All they can always keep their doctor, they won't be faced with co-pays or premiums, and they will be guaranteed comprehensive health care, support begins to build back up.

Now Sanders and Warren have doubled down on their argument. Warren now puts it to Biden and the other critics: "Every candidate who opposes my long-term goal of Medicare for All should put forward their own plan to cover everyone, without costing the country anything more in health care spending, and while putting \$11 trillion back in the pockets of the American people," she writes. "If they are unwilling to do that, they should con-

JACKSON

Continued on page 5

VOICE YOUR OPINION!

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR TODAY

JACKSON

Continued from page 4

cede that they think it's more important to protect the eye-popping profits of private insurers and drug companies and the immense fortunes of the top 1 percent and giant cor-

porations."

It's over three decades since I sounded the call for Medicare for All. Since then, health care costs have soared faster than wages, more companies have found ways to avoid covering more workers and more people have died or gone bankrupt because they couldn't pay for

the care they needed.

Now with Sanders and Warren, the debate is joined again. The naysayers say that Medicare for All isn't popular; that voters love their insurance companies. Sanders and Warren say voters love their doctors but are getting savaged by the drug and insur-

ance companies. In the coming primaries, voters will have the opportunity to sort out what makes sense and what does not, and to show what is popular and what is not. This is a debate that is long overdue.

Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr., is the founder of Rainbow Coalition.

CRAZY FAITH MINISTRIES

People trying to Out-God God

It is wearying and troubling that so many Christian churches or individuals who call themselves Christian have such a hard time practicing the basic tenet of Christianity, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

It is way too common for people who say they love Jesus to act in ways that seem completely antithetical to that basic instruction.

It is always disappointing to see people who profess Christianity act so poorly. I recently read that Martin Luther encouraged civic leaders to "burn down Jewish synagogues, expel the Jewish people from their lands, and murder those who continued to practice their faith within Christian territory." In her book *Searching for Sunday*, the late Rachel Held Evans wrote that Luther said, "The rulers must act like a good physician, who when gangrene has set in proceeds without mercy to cut, saw, and burn flesh, veins, bone, and marrow." Luther's beliefs were later used by Nazis as religious justification for the Holocaust, she noted.

Too often, I have seen Christian congregations spew the most vile hatred and discrimination toward people whom they deem as being unworthy of being in their worship space. Years ago, a young man who had contracted HIV/AIDS lay on his deathbed as the disease took its course. He was shriveled up like a pretzel and was in excruciating pain. His church had treated him horribly and when I walked in his hospital room, I could see terror cloud over his eyes. Everyone - especially people in his Christian church - had told him he was bad, that God didn't love him, and that he was going to hell. I asked him to indicate, by blinking his eyes once for "yes" and twice for "no," if he believed God loved him and his blinking eyes answered, "no."



Rev. Susan K. Smith

I was incensed. How in the world could a religious body make anyone feel so isolated and rejected? But Christians have always done that. In ancient times, Christians destroyed pagan temples and their adherents were given a choice: become Christian or die. As Puritans systematically killed Indigenous Americans in the 1600s, they felt no need to feel guilty or afraid, but rather, touted that what they were doing was God's will. Almost always they credited "Almighty God" as the inspiration for their murderous acts.

Evangelical Christians felt no compulsion to practice racial discrimination and felt no guilt with the fact that so many innocent black people were lynched without proof of their having done anything wrong. Some believed that the fight for racial equality was against the will of God. Many of them believed - and still do - that it was God's will that there be a white world and a black one and many of them declared that it was most certainly not God's will that black people be considered equal to whites.

In spite of the words of scripture which said that everything that was made (and everyone) was made by God, Christians have been content to redact those words and shape Christianity into a religion that reflects their cultural views. They have worked to out-God God.

The complaint comes to mind as the current administration and its US Supreme Court is wrestling with whether or not members of the LGBTQ+ community should be protected in their jobs by anti-discrimination laws. (<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-court-lgbt/us-supreme-court-divided-on-lgbt-employment-protection-gor-such-could-be-key-idUSKBN1WN0D>) Some Catholic bishops are making the case that they should not be, as are other Protestant religious leaders. (<https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2019/08/lgbt-rights-america-arent-resolved/596287/>) The very nerve of Christians to ignore what God says for "believers" to do - to love justice, do mercy and walk humbly with God" is infuriating. Instead of being an institution which brings comfort, grace, and peace to all people, Christianity bears the mark of supporting bigotry and hatred - in God's name.

It does not yet appear what this nation shall be when this administration is over. Even before this political season, the Christian world has defied the commandments of God and has substituted a white supremacist belief system on a way of living taught by the Christ which gained its power from the practice of agape love.

Too many Christians, it seems, don't believe that God knew what God was doing during creation; too many seem to think that many who walk this earth do not deserve to be alive or be treated with dignity and honor.

That would be the result of people trying to out-God God. *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.*

TO BE EQUAL

The loss of legends Cummings and Conyers highlights the importance of Congressional Black Caucus

(Via TriceEdneWire.com)

"The three of us - Stokes, Chisholm and I - came to Washington determined to seize the moment, to fight for justice, to raise issues too long ignored and too little debated. We were described by the media as militant, aggressive new leaders determined to make changes in the way black members of Congress had been viewed in the past." -- U.S. Rep. William Lacy Clay, Sr., Co-Founder of the Congressional Black Caucus

In recent days America lost two influential African Americans who served as high-ranking members of the Congressional Black Caucus, John Conyers and Elijah Cunningham. Their loss has served to reaffirm the importance of the CBC and the election of dedicated public servants who will John Conyers, who represented the Detroit area in Congress for more than 50 years, was one of the founding members of the CBC. Conyers was part of a wave of civil rights activists who arrived in Congress in the 1960s, determined to change the status quo. In 1968, Rep. Charles Diggs of Michigan convened an informal group called the Democracy Select Committee.

"The sooner we get organized for group action, the more

effective we can become," Diggs said.

By 1971, the number of the number of Black members of Congress had risen from nine to 13, and the Committee members decided to formalize their organization, and the Congressional Black Caucus was formed.

The group immediately butted heads with then-President Richard Nixon, who refused to meet with the members. The interpreted his refusal as a broader rejection of the interests of all Black Americans, and responded by boycotting Nixon's State of the Union Address. "We now refuse to be part of your audience," Rep. William Lacy Clay, Sr., wrote in a letter to the President.

The CBC was responsible for the anti-apartheid Free South Africa Movement that brought worldwide attention to the human rights abuses of the racist South African state. The longest civil disobedience movement in U.S. history, it led to the enactment of the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986, which imposed sanctions against South Africa and set precondi-



Marc Morial

tions for lifting the sanctions that would apartheid. President Ronald Reagan's veto of the legislation was overridden in the 20th Century.

The National Urban League has maintained a long and productive partnership with the CBC since its inception. As noted in the official House of Representatives history:

The legislative agendas of African-American Members in the post-1970 era reflected the diversity of their committee assignments and the range of interests within the general membership of Congress. Most sought to advance a broad progressive legislative agenda supported by advocacy groups such as the National Urban League and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)—extending voting rights protections, improving educational and economic opportunities, fostering urban renewal, and providing access to better health care.

While the CBC has enjoyed much closer and better relationships with Presidents since landing on Nixon's infamous "Enemies List" in the 1970s, the group has clashed with the current occupant of the Oval Office.

A few months after his inauguration, members delivered a 130-page rebuke of his policies on criminal justice,

voting rights, education, health care and other issues.

Many CBC members boycotted President Trump's 2018 State of the Union Address following his disparaging comments about African and Caribbean nations. Those who attended wore kente cloth to show solidarity with Africa.

Today, CBC membership stands at 54 after the loss of Elijah Cummings, the largest number in history. Four of the House of Representatives' Standing Committees are chaired by CBC member: Bobby Scott, Education and Labor; Maxine Waters, Financial Services; Bennie Thompson, Homeland Security; and Eddie Bernice Johnson, Science, Space and Technology. CBC Member Jim Clyburn holds the position of House Majority Whip, the number-two-ranking office in the chamber.

As the current administration continues working to dismantle civil rights protections and deny the vote to people of color, the work of the CBC is more important than ever. In honor of the legacy of Elijah Cummings and John Conyers, we must continue to support the CBC's mission and recognize its leadership.

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

Black teen suicide reaches historic highs

(Via NNPA NewsWire.com)

African American teenagers in the United States historically have had lower suicide rates than their white counterparts - until now.

A new study analyzing suicide among American teens by a team led by researchers at the McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research at New York University have uncovered several troubling trends from 1991 to 2017, among Black high school students in particular.

Researchers discovered that between 1991 and 2017, there has been an increase in the number of African American teens who said they had attempted suicide in the past year. Suicide rates for teenagers of other races and ethnicities either remained the same or decreased over that period.

The researchers did not cite a reason for the trend.

Bill Prasad, a licensed professional counselor with Contemporary Medicine Associates in Bellaire, Texas, cited what he believed are some reasons.

"Lack of accessibility to mental health care, the inability to pay for medications and healthcare coverage, the lack of acceptance of mental illness among some members of the black community, and the availability of firearms," Prasad stated.

Prasad was not among the researchers involved in the study.

Frank King, the so-called "Mental Health Comedian," called the problem a "cultural phenomenon."

"Young people in these groups are less likely to share their issues surrounding depression and thoughts of suicide with friends and family than youth in other racial and ethnic groups," King stated.

Among the answers is

starting the conversation on depression and suicide in high-risk groups," he said.

"A partial answer is giving young people permission to give voice to their experiences and feelings, without recrimination, such as 'If you were stronger in Christ this wouldn't be happening,' or 'What do you have to be depressed about, we've given you everything. Your father and I started our life with nothing,' and so forth," King stated.

Researchers in the NYU study noted that suicide is the second-leading cause of death for teens from all demographics. They found that only accidents kill more young people than suicide.

The study also revealed that, in 2017, approximately 2,200 teens between the ages of 15 and 19 died by suicide.

Researchers gathered information provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention from 198,540 high school students from 1991 to 2017.

Among high school students of all demographics, 1 in 5 said they were thinking about suicide, and 1 in 10 said they had made a plan to end their lives.

CNN Health reported that the study is in line with earlier research that has shown African American boys, especially younger boys between the ages of 5 and 11, have experienced an increase in the rate of suicide deaths.

In black children ages 5 to 12, the suicide rate was found to be two times higher compared with white children, according to CNN Health.

The study authors found "an increased risk in reported suicide attempts among

African-American teens between 1991 and 2017, and boys saw an increase in injuries related to those attempts. That might mean that black teens were using more lethal means when attempting suicide."

They found a decline in attempts overall among teens who identified as white, Hispanic, Asian American, or Pacific Islander.

"As an African American woman, suicide is prominent in our community for two reasons: we often do not know how to handle it amongst our families, and the pressures on our culture are rising," said Sabriya Dobbins of Project Passport LLC, a company that encourages getaway retreats centered around three mental wellness areas: reflection, community and personal.

" Oftentimes when a black family member says they want to take their life, the family may resort to church, belittle their response and tell them to stop overreacting, or simply assume it is not a big deal," Dobbins stated.

"African American families are taught to be tough and to hold it together because it is already 'us against the world.' We are taught to put our heads down and work hard to get those degrees and move up in our careers.

"This causes expectations to be too high, then depression and anxiety are heightened. Not only are black youth trying to satisfy their families and be strong, but they are trying to fight their way through a world that is not always accepting. A world where they are dying in alarming numbers in senseless crimes. It is a double edge sword."

Parents should be on the lookout for risk factors, such as a recent or severe loss like death or divorce, said Dr. Fran Walfish, a Beverly Hills

family and relationship psychotherapist, author of *The Self-Aware Parent*.

Dr. Walfish also counts as a regular expert child psychologist on CBS Television's "The Doctors," and she co-stars on WE TV's, "Sexbox."

"Parents should take heed when they observe specific warning signs like changes in behavior, including difficulty concentrating, difficulty focusing on school or following routine activities, researching ways to kill oneself on the internet, increasing the use of alcohol or other drugs, and acting recklessly," Walfish stated.

Included among other signs are changes in personality, appearing withdrawn, isolating to their room, irritability, extreme mood changes that are more than typical moodiness, exhibiting rage or talking about seeking revenge, Walfish added.

Other alarms include changes in sleep patterns, insomnia, oversleeping, nightmares, talking about dying, going away, or different types of self-harm, she said.

"Teaching problem-solving and conflict resolution skills, building a strong connection to family, friends, and community support are ways to help," Walfish stated.

"Restrict access to highly lethal means of suicide, such as firearms, and provide access to effective mental health care, including substance use treatment. Talk to your child. Many people are fearful that talking to their children about suicide will increase their risk of suicide. This is a myth," Walfish said.

How to get help: In the US, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255, or 1-800-432-8366. You can also visit <http://teenlineonline.org>.

Stacy M. Brown is a NNPA Newswire Senior Correspondent.



Tell them you read it in
THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

THE BLACK PRESS:
USE It or LOSE It!

New Hanover County

Chapter 885, the Vietnam Veterans of America is co-sponsoring a "Town Hall" style meeting with AARP on Thursday, November 14th, from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Post 10 conference room on Pine Drive, Wilmington. Veteran Service Agents from Chapter 885 will be available to answer immediate questions, as well as Chapter members to answer general questions. NAFV will also have a representative present. Any questions re the event itself can be addressed to Donna Gonsalves at the Chapter office on Princess St., ph 910-762-4288.

Community Briefs

The New Hanover NAACP monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, November 21st, 7:00 p.m., at St. Stephen AME Church, 501 Red Cross Street, Wilmington. Information on plans for the MLK Breakfast in January 2020 and other important state and community issues will be on the agenda as well as upcoming New Hanover NAACP branch activities and events. 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

UNCW's Brittany Philbert receives statewide recognition from housing professional organization

WILMINGTON (November 4, 2019) - Brittany Philbert, assistant director of residence life at UNCW, has received the "Outstanding Mid-Level Professional Award" from the North Carolina Housing Officers.

"I was touched and truly honored to even be nominated by my department, let alone to win," said Philbert '23 Ed.D., who joined the UNCW housing community more than two years ago.

According to NCHO, the Outstanding Mid-Level Professional Award is presented to recipients who demonstrate significant commitment to the field and have 3 to 7 years of professional employment in housing and residence life.

Philbert has 11 years of experience overall, and previously worked at Arizona State University, Florida State University, the University of Dayton and Kean University. She co-founded the organization HwB: The Black Housing Professionals Network. She also is a member of the Association of College and University Housing Officers-International and the Southeastern Association of Housing Officers. She uses her professional connections and the training she's involved in



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
BRITTANY PHILBERT

through these organizations to inform and support UNCW Housing and Residence Life's mission to "foster inclusive communities that promote student learning and success."

"As a supervisor to our residence coordinators, I view my role as providing them with the leadership and resources needed to carry out this mission," Philbert said. "I hope to continue to create new ways of reaching diverse students in ways we have not before. UNCW is growing and our student demographics are changing. I think Housing and Residence Life is perfectly situated to ensure our students feel welcome, have the tools to achieve success and connect to the university in a meaningful way."

GET THAT DEED AND FLIP THOSE KEYS!

Bad debt: Settle or pay in full?

"The decision is ultimately yours but here are a few things to consider before you make your final decision." This week we start a new series, "Got to Pay to PLAY!"

Collections, judgments, and then more collections, OH MY! If you need your credit scores to go up, you have to make a plan of action...



Brenda Dixon

Let's start with these 5 to get the ball rolling: 1) Commit to Action: Whether it is to confirm the debt, to negotiate the payment or settle it, taking action will help get the problem solved much faster than avoidance... 2) Know your rights: You are protected under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA)... 3) Confirm your debt: Don't start making payments until you confirm the debts. If you believe the debt in your name was an error or fraud, the first thing to do is see if you're truly responsible for repaying the debt. Even one payment on a debt can mean

you assume responsibility... 4) Look at how old the debt is: It's not uncommon for debt collectors to seek payment on old debt where the statute of limitations has expired. The statute of limitations is the number of years someone can sue you for a debt... 5) Check your funds / Pay the Debt: You've done the research, confirmed the debt and now the next step is seeing how much you can afford to pay a lump sum or per month toward the debt...

In the next few weeks, I will unpack all of these with greater details so you will see just how very important they

are in your decision to settle or pay in Full. So much has changed on the way credit scores are generated and you really need to be in the know and you shall be.

Until next time, share this article with at least 3 people. For anyone that desires homeownership, reach out for your Free personalized game plan to purchase your 1st-home in the next 18 mths or less no matter the current finances. Yes, it is possible.

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

UNCW public health students collaborate with D.C. Virgo to host health fair

WILMINGTON (November 4, 2019) - Public health students at UNCW are collaborating with D.C. Virgo Preparatory Academy to hold a health fair for D.C. Virgo students, parents, staff and community members. The "Super Health Fair" will be held at D.C. Virgo Nov. 16 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Students in UNCW's "Health Program Implementation" class are offering education for the event to provide D.C. Virgo students the opportunity to interact with college students. Attendees can also learn about various health topics,

including screen time, outdoor safety, asthma, car safety, healthy eating, mental health/bullying, hygiene, diabetes, tobacco, oral health, physical activity and blood pressure. The class is taught by Leah Mayo, coordinator for the NC Public Health Training Center & Center for Healthy Communities at UNCW.

"The planning of the

health fair has given students the opportunity to learn more about the community, resources available, and to partner with other agencies to serve as vendors at the event," Mayo said.

Mayo hopes this applied learning experience will be valuable to these students as future health educators, as they will likely be tasked with planning and executing events like health fairs for

future employers. Orchestrating the event allows them to use the skills they've learned in their past and current coursework for a real-life situation.

UNCW students and Wilmington community members are encouraged to attend. Education and activities offered will prove valuable to anyone looking to increase their health awareness and awareness of local services and accessible resources, as well as become motivated to make positive health behavior choices. Free refreshments and raffle prizes will be offered.



STEM program celebrates 40 years of programs for area youth

WILMINGTON Over 40 years ago, the Region O Council for the Advancement of Minorities in Engineering (better known as ROCAME pronounced "rock-a-me") was organized to provide educational enrichment programs with a focus on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

ROCAME was established by regional education and industry leaders in 1979 to promote engi-

neering and technology and encourage minority students to enroll in challenging courses to prepare them for careers in technical areas. In the 40 years since its inception, thousands of middle school and high school youth in Brunswick, Columbus, New Hanover and Pender Counties have participated in the program.

Today, ROCAME continues to provide hands-on

technology based-enrichment, leadership development, programs, scholarships, and opportunities for minority youth to focus on higher education and careers in science, technology, engineering, and math. Tony Carter, ROCAME Board President

stated, "As a volunteer organization, ROCAME is successful in part because of support and participation by industry and education leaders, engineers,

teachers, students, and parents." He added, "We are grateful for community support and recognize the continued need for ROCAME programs to expand and prepare future generations of students for STEM careers."

ROCAME's 40th Anniversary Celebration will take place Saturday, November 16th at the Burney Center located on the campus of UNCW. The event begins at 6:00 p.m.

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Register for a free Playwriting and Performance Workshop following the show!
To register, visit bit.ly/gooneyb

For tickets, call 910.962.3500 or visit uncw.edu/presents

Accommodations for disabilities may be requested by calling 910.962.3500 at least 3 days prior to the event. UNCW is an EEO/AA institution.

Mazie Pringle Nelson

Mazie Pringle Nelson departed this life October 19, 2019. Funeral service was held Saturday, October 26, 2019 at Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church (8th & Walnut Sts.). Burial followed in Calvary Memorial Cemetery. She was born October 24, 1924 to the late George and Carrie Pringle in Pinewood, SC. She was married to the late Harvey Nelson, Sr. They were blessed with eleven children. Three sons preceded her in death, Harvey, Jr., Kenneth and Alexander (Terry). She served as a Mother and a Missionary in Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, where she attended faithfully until her health declined. She had a giving heart and was a natural comedian. She taught her daughters to be women of integrity and strength; her sons to be dependable; and her generations of grandchildren the value of family.

Mrs. Maize lost her husband early in her marriage; leaving her to be both, a mother and a father to her children. Psalm 27, Psalm 23, Psalm 34 and John 14 were her favorite scriptures. She could often be heard saying "thank you Jesus", even during her final hours.

She leaves to cherish her memories, 5 daughters, Bettie Sands (Maurice), Mazell Huggins, Ruth Williams, Ernestine Nelson, Carolyn Nelson; 3 sons, Ervin Nelson (Yvonne), Larry Nelson, and Jeffery Nelson (Monica); daughters-in-law, Margaret Nelson and Ramona Nelson; 28 grandchildren; 57 great-grandchildren; fourteen great-great grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews and lifelong friends. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Jettie "Pearl" Dailey Watson

Jettie "Pearl" Dailey Watson, daughter of the late Jessie and Elnetta Dailey was born April 8, 1942. She departed this earthly life October 23, 2019. Funeral service was held Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at New Covenant Holiness Church. Burial followed in Greenlawn Memorial Park. She moved to Hartford, CT at an early age. While living in Hartford, she met her late husband, James Watson, Sr. and relocated to Baton Rouge, Louisiana. In 1973, Jettie moved back to North Carolina where she remained until her untimely demise. Jettie retired from the Holiday Inn after over 30 years of service. She was a member of Mount Moriah United Holy Church, where she served as Church Mother, Devotion Leader, member of the Gospel Choir, Sunday School and Bible Study.

In addition to her parents and her husband, Jettie was preceded in death by her son, Ronald Dailey on November 27, 2018.

She leaves to cherish her memories; 3 sons, Larry Dailey (Wanda) of Georgia, James Watson (Eva) and Brian Watson, all of Wilmington, NC; 4 daughters, Velma Dailey (Juanita) of Wilmington, NC, Katherine Davis (Cedric) of Las Vegas, NV, Clara Watson of Leland, NC and

Pamela Murry of Wilmington, NC; 13 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren; 2 sisters, Betty Robinson of Wilmington, NC and Eula Brown of Hartford, CT; 2 brothers, Bennie Dailey of Massachusetts and Bobby Bruton of New Jersey; a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends, including a very special and dear friend, Mary Tyson. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Earl Bernard Williams "Big Earl"

Earl Bernard Williams "Big Earl", son of the late Earl Frank and Yvonne Earline McClain was summoned home to eternal rest on October 25, 2019 in Wilmington, NC. He was born February 4, 1971 in Wilmington, NC. Funeral service was held Thursday, October 31, 2019 at the Willie L. Shaw Memorial Chapel, Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Earl was educated in the public schools of New Hanover County, meeting and securing many friendships before obtaining his General Education Development Diploma. "Big Earl" loved to play chess, make chicken salad and tell stories with family and friends. He never met a stranger. He was always helping someone with anything at anytime with his kind heart. One of his favorite things to talk about was his love for football and his playing for the "Jervay Bulldogs". Family was everything to him Having hands on with his younger nieces and nephews was a joy to his heart.

Earl leaves to cherish his memories; daughter, Samaj Thomas; 2 sisters, LaShon McClain and Earline McClain; 2 uncles, Freddie Taylor, Sr. and Nathaniel Davis (Nappy); three nephews, O'Brien Hester, Jamar McClain and Qua'Shon Nixon; 4 nieces, LaCrystal McClain, Andrea Hines, Nigeria Hines and Zayla McClain; 11 great nieces and nephews. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Timothy Robbins

Timothy Robbins departed this life November 2, 2019. Funeral service was held Wednesday, November 6, 2019 at Summerville AME Zion Church, Leland, NC. Burial followed in the Williams Cemetery, Leland, NC. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Paula D. Greene

Paula D. Greene departed this life November 3, 2019. Funeral service will be held 12:00 Noon Saturday, November 9, 2019 at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church. Burial will follow in the Pollock Cemetery, Scotts Hill, NC. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Lonnie McGraw, Jr.

Lonnie McGraw, Jr. departed this life November 4, 2019. Visitation will be held 5:00 p.m. Saturday, November 9, 2019. (Prior to the Funeral Service) Funeral Service will be held 5:30 p.m. Saturday, November 9, 2019 at the Willie L. Shaw, Jr.

Memorial Chapel, Shaw Funeral Home. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Connie Johnson

Connie Johnson departed this life November 5, 2019. Funeral Arrangements are incomplete and will be announced later by John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Walter M. Ransome

Walter M. Ransome, age 87, of Wilmington, passed away Wednesday, October 23, 2019. A memorial service was held on Saturday, November 2, 2019 at Davis Funeral Home.

He leaves to cherish his memories his daughter, Ruth McGee of Wilmington and his sister, Lillian Johnson of Camden, New Jersey. 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.

Myrtle L. Grady

Myrtle L. Grady, age 76, of Castle Hayne, passed away Thursday, October 31, 2019. A celebration of Ms. Grady's life was held on Wednesday, November 6, 2019 at Davis Funeral Home. Interment followed in Shoulders Branch Cemetery.

She leaves to cherish her memories her children, Karen Grady, Pamela Isaac and Gregory Best all of Castle Hayne; sister, Helen Akers (Warren) of Philadelphia, PA; sister, Virginia Williams of Pottstown, PA, 7 grandchildren, 1 great-grandchildren and a host of other family 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.

Jaquan D. Brooks

Jaquan D. Brooks, age 32, of Shallotte, passed away Thursday, October 31, 2019. A celebration of Jaquan's life will be conducted at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, November 9, 2019 at Oceanview Missionary Baptist Association, 8221 Ocean Hwy W, Sunset Beach, NC 28468. A visitation will be held one (1) hour prior to the service. 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.

Nicholas L. Oates

Nicholas L. Oates, age 40, of Wilmington, passed away Sunday, November 3, 2019. A memorial service will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 9, 2019 at Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church. The family will receive friends from 12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. ***The family request casual attire. 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.



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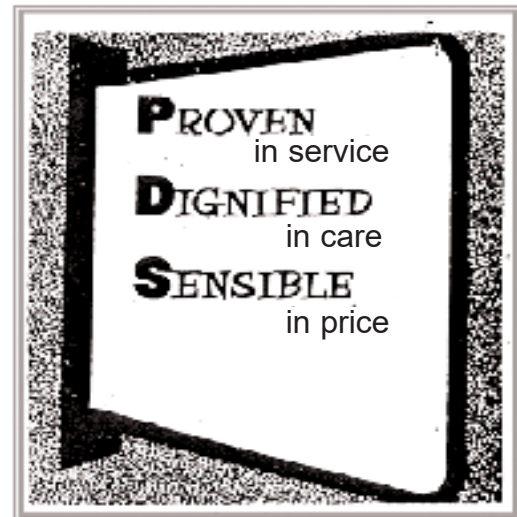
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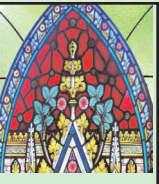


Connie Drain Green
Funeral Director

New Hanover County

St. Andrew AME Zion will be holding free community Thanksgiving dinner on Saturday, November 16th from 12:00 p.m.- 2:00 p.m.

St. Stephen AME Church will celebrate the community service of Deborah Dicks Maxwell on Saturday, November 9th at 1:00 p.m. Contact Florence Warren at 910-520-0432 or Magdalene Johnson at 910-799-2825 for more information. St. Stephen will hold its Fall Revival, Wednesday, November 20th- Friday, November 22nd, 7:00 p.m. nightly. Bishop Linwood Nesbitt will be the revival preacher.



Religious Briefs

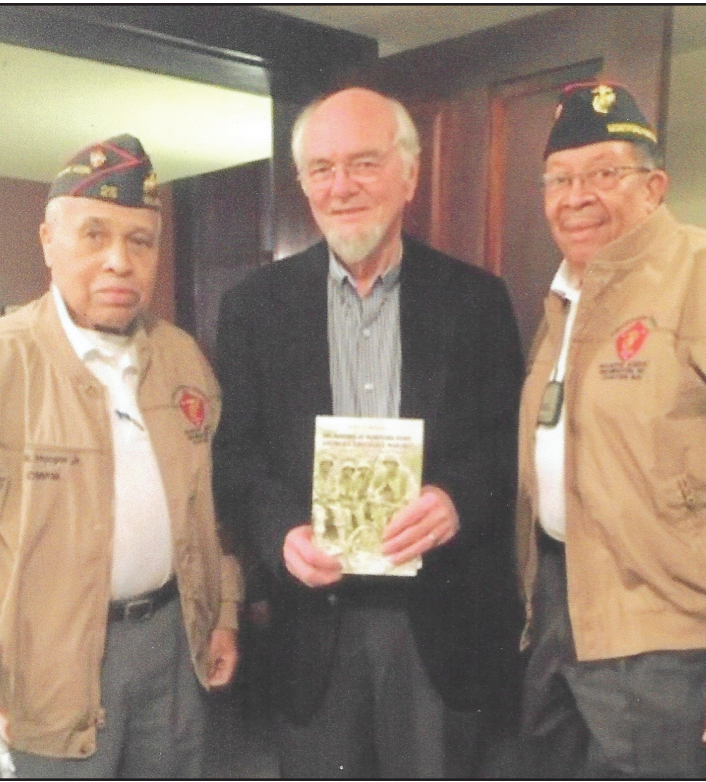
Brunswick County

New Hope Freewill Baptist Church of Leland, NC will hold their Annual Fall Revival from November 6-8, 2019, 7:00 p.m. nightly. The theme is: "Revive Us Again"-Psalm 80: 18. Guest Revivalist each night is Pastor Charles H. Jacobs, Jr., Pastor of First Baptist Missionary Church, Reigelwood, NC. Guest choirs are: Wednesday-East Community Choir; Thursday-St. John Missionary Baptist Choir; Friday-First Baptist Missionary Baptist Choir

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

"The Marines of Montford Point"



L-R, F.M. HOOPER, JR., MELTON MCLAURIN AND JOHN WILDER AT LATIMER HOUSE MARCH 21, 2019

BY F.M. HOOPER, JR.
AND JOHN W. WILDER
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

The book talk presentation "The Marines of Montford Point" by Professor Melton A. McLaurin was attended by a large audience at the Latimer House in Wilmington, NC on March 21, 2019.

Two members of the National Montford Point Marines Association Wilmington NC Chapter #25, F.M. Hooper, Jr. and John Wilder attended the event. F.M. Hooper, Jr., is an original Montford Point Marine who trained at the segregated Montford Point Camp in Camp Lejeune, NC.

Professor McLaurin spoke to a packed house who were very inquisitive about the training and the conditions the Black Marines had to endure while undergoing recruit training. F.M. Hooper, Jr., answered some questions about his experiences at

Montford Point Camp.

During the Colonial period, several African Americans served in the Marines. After the US Marine Corps was reestablished in 1798, African Americans were no longer allowed to serve in its ranks. President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed an Executive Order that created advances for African Americans in the defense industry there by opening up opportunities in the segregated armed services. On August 26, 1942, African Americans began to receive training at Montford Point Camp, Camp Lejeune, NC. This date August 26, 1942 is now known as "Montford Point Marines Day." Approximately 20,000 marines were trained by 1949. After President Harry S. Truman signed Executive Order 9981 the Marine Corps was desegregated and all marines went to boot camp in San Diego, CA or Parris Island, SC in 1950.

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SENIOR CITIZENS' FELLOWSHIP

Good news and the grave

BY FANNIE ALLEN
AND SHEILA ROSS
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

What a great day the Lord has made and allowed us to fellowship at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church. We love meeting and greeting. The meeting was called to order by President Mrs. Gladys Taylor. She said it is great being here it's like Sunday morning. We opened by singing, "Yield not to temptation." Mrs. Margie Robinson was our prayer warrior for the day. Next we sang,

"Pass me not." Mrs. Margie Robinson was our devotional leader today. We had expressions, which are encouraging. We are living to dream that God has for us. We had one visitor Kay Emerson. The minutes were read by Mrs. Mildred Ellerby.

Elder Sharon Pollock was the meditation speaker for the day. Everyone needs to hear some good news once and a while. We all struggle in one way or another. We all like to hear good news. The women who went to the grave of Jesus

expected bad news but they got great news. Jesus has risen from the grave and is alive. In spite of all the sadness at grave yards there is hope for us we get to meet Jesus. The resurrection of Jesus is great news. Good news brings assurance to us today. Jesus brings assurance to us today. There is too much at stake not to have assurance today. Jesus is the Son of God. We can follow Jesus He is alive. Hope has been reborn. Darkness has turned into light, death has lost its sting- John 11:25-26. Elder

Pollock was thanked for a great message.

Callers were given a thank you for calling our members. Sick report was given by Ms. Annie Haskins. She asked us to visit the sick and to continue praying for them. Announcements were given and laughter from Mrs. Mary Martin. Everyone was thanked for their participation in the meeting. Our circled was formed and we sang, "Bind us together." The Lord's Prayer was done in unison. There were 50 in attendance.

TELL SOMEBODY

"Lord open our eyes"

II Kings 6:16 - 17 a "And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.. And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see.

Blindness - Unable to see: without sight
Unwilling or unable to perceive or understand
Fear - Concern , anxiety, or distressing emotion caused by impending danger, evil, pain

When one is naturally or physically blind, he is without sight and unable to see , what is right before them, whether it be impending danger or much needed help.

When one is spiritually blind, he is also without sight or vision. He may be unable or unwilling to perceive or to understand, what is obvious to others observing the same situation.

In II Kings chapter 6, the servant of Elisha the prophet was full of anxiety, and distress because he awoke to find the city in which they dwelled surrounded by a host

of horses and chariots sent by the King of Syria who was very upset with him for helping Israel in time of war.

The servant of the man of God saw the impending danger and was very concerned. It looked as if there was no hope to be found, and no help to be seen. The prophet Elisha knew that his God was a very

present help in the time of trouble. The man of God had natural and spiritual vision, and he was not afraid. His spiritual eyes were already open. Therefore he had faith, hope , and did not fear. He had the faith to pray, and not faint in his day of adversity. He prayed for his servant, " Lord open his eyes that he may see."

When we look at the national and world scene, we see political, upheaval, and economic instability. These chaotic and tumultuous times can be a source of great fear, panic and anxiety ,if

there is no spiritual vision or hope in God's Word. Many believers are suffering from spiritual blindness. They are making decisions based on fear rather than facts. Deception is one of the consequences our society must face, when so many people have lost sight of truth; because of blind faith , blind trust, or blind ambition. We must not judge others, but we must pray for them who have been deceived by asking God, to open their eyes , that they may see the salvation of the Lord with us.

Many servants of the Lord are facing private battles, and distressing situations that appear to be hopeless. Perhaps, we need to ask the Lord to Open our Eyes to shield and protect our faith from wavering, from the things we see, or the reports we are hearing. Let us who are going through encourage ourselves with the same words spoken by the prophet Elisha to his servant. "Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them."

God is still moving by his Spirit. Miracles, signs and wonders are happening every

day. We just rarely hear about them! Be encouraged with Exodus 14:14, "The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace." "Fear not, stand still and see the salvation of the Lord with you." "Lord, we pray, that you will open our eyes that we may see." Tell Somebody !!!

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

A WORD FROM THE LORD

Christian Philosophy versus World Philosophy #3

Colossians 2:4,&8 (KJV) 4 "And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with enticing words. 8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ". In last week's lesson we emphasized the importance or necessity of being born again into the family of God the Father through His son Jesus Christ by the spirit of God. We also discussed, thinking like God, which means having the mind of Christ. That means having the Word of God in the center of our heart that produces the God kind of life. The apostle Paul describes it in Ephesians 4:22-24 (KJV) 22 "That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; 23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; 24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness".

In this week's lesson, the apostle Paul warns us about False Teaching: that we as Christians must resist the seduction and deception of the devil. "The word "beguile" (paralogiztai PWS: 321) means to mislead, delude, deceive, cheat, seduce, and lead someone astray". Note how the seduction takes place: by "enticing words" "(pithanologia PWS: 1296), that is, by words that are persuasive, appealing, eloquent, flowery, and attractive". It is imperative that you and I as Christians must study the Word of God: 11 Timothy 2:15-16 (KJV) 15 "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 16 But

shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness".

We must study to be true students of God's Word. There is no other way to stay in the path of Christ Jesus and remain to His teaching. By studying, we set our hearts upon diligently and prayerfully seeking the will of God. Note: it is the will of God that is to be the believer's ultimate concern. A believer is a foolish individual, if he does not seek the will of God,



Rev.
Naconiel
Fullwood

God? Through Faith in Jesus Christ and in Him alone! Romans 5:1-2 (KJV) 1 "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: 2 By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God".

What is the Philosophy of the World? (anti- God and anti- Bible) The Philosophy of the World is the rejection of the Bible as the infallible Word of God and God as Creator of this vast universe and Jesus Christ as the only way wherein mankind can have peace with God: Notice what the Bible says about these Kinds of persons: Psalm 14:1-2 (KJV) 1 "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable

works, there is none that doeth good. 2 The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God" (education, Degrees, position, wealth, fame, religion). Notice these verse are reiterated in Psalms 53:1-2 (KJV) 1 "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. Corrupt are they, and have done abominable iniquity: there is none that doeth good. 2 God looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, that did seek God". Anytime God says something several times, it demands our attention. This demands our fullest, keenest, whole hearted concentration, and worship of Him in spirit and in truth. Individuals and organized churches are falling away from Biblical principles and following into false doctrine fast.

Romans 1:18-22 (KJV) 18 "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; 19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. 20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: 21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools" This is the Philosophy of the world being described over and over again.

Galatians 5:19-21 (KJV) 19

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