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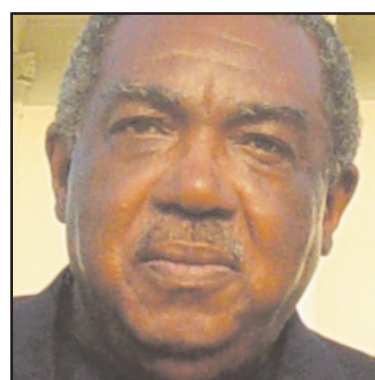
EBONEE SPEARS

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

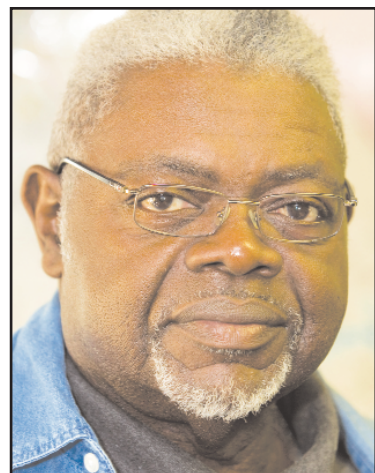
OUR VOICE



A. PETER BAILEY

GUEST EDITORIAL "We as Black Folks Must Use Our Common Sense in 2020 and Beyond" BY A. PETER BAILEY PAGE 4

BRUNSWICK COUNTY



BERNEST HEWETT

LIVES LOST

BY BERNEST HEWETT CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Another young Black man (Jaquan Brooks) has been killed through street violence and three young Black men have been charged in the shooting death. Now four families have been upset from a regular daily lifestyle. A community has been moved by this senseless act of violence. We must begin to find ways to get these young people a sense of community pride, good jobs, training, some skills that will lead to a good productive life and, most of all, respect for human life. We are losing our young men to a society that would rather see our race disappear off the face of the earth, but our race has fought through slavery, unjust laws, and illegal hangings. Jim Crow, and many more acts from unjust people. We have survived and now stand alongside every other American. Now we must begin to find ways to get our young people back on track. God has given, and we have received. Let's keep praying and trying to improve our standards for a better living. We shall overcome only through hard work and prayer.

Berneest 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

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FIFTY CENTS

THE TRUMP IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY: What is it about and why should you care?

BY CONGRESSWOMAN FREDERICA S. WILSON (D-FLA.)

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - It's an historic week on Capitol Hill during which hearings on the impeachment inquiry into President Donald Trump will move from behind closed doors to must-see TV.

Millions of Americans who have not had the time or a desire to read the more than 2,000 pages of testimony from the confidential briefings released by the House Intelligence Committee will finally get to see what the fuss has been all about.

So, what is it all about, why the initial closed-door depositions, and why should you care?

President Trump is being accused of urging Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky in a telephone conversation to investigate alleged corruption by former Vice President Joe Biden and his son, Hunter, and to also look into debunked conspiracy theories that Ukraine

interfered with the 2016 presidential election, both for his own political benefit. To gain leverage against Zelensky, Trump for a time withheld a \$391 million aid package to push the foreign leader to do his bidding.

This gross abuse of power, which put at risk Ukrainian lives and our own national security, was first brought to light by a whistleblower whose initial allegations have since been corroborated by an unimpeachable group of high-level State Department officials who have devoted their careers to public service and American democracy. More important, they have first-hand knowledge of the shakedown.

This next phase comes after weeks of false accusations by GOP lawmakers that they were being squeezed out of a fact-finding process that they also claimed lacked transparency. The witnesses' initial testimonies were delivered in a



CONGRESSWOMAN FREDERICA S. WILSON

Please see INQUIRY / Page 2

85 percent of Blacks want Trump impeached

57 percent of Latinos agree in poll

41 percent of Whites agree in poll

BY RICHARD PRINCE

SPECIAL TO THE TRICE EDNEY NEWS WIRE FROM JOURNAL-ISMS

Eighty-five percent of African-Americans say President Trump should be impeached, the highest of any ethnic group, according to the latest NBC News-Wall Street Journal poll.

Fifty-seven percent of Hispanics feel the same way, the poll shows.

However, only 41 percent of Whites do, according to the survey, meaning that the common conclusion that the country is evenly divided on the impeachment issue is possible only because of the intense anti-Trump feeling among people of color.

"A year out from the 2020 election, we don't have 2020 vision, but the general dynamics of the race are coming into focus: a sitting president below 50 percent, who receives credit on the economy, speaks his mind for better or worse, but who most Americans do not trust and who is facing an impeachment inquiry that a majority of Americans support," a summary of the poll said.



U. S. Rep. Al Green (D-Texas) was the first member of Congress to publically state that President Trump should be impeached The Washington Post reports. He announced his sentiment on May 17, 2017, according to a statement on his Congressional website.

"Taken together, these suggest a tough road ahead for Donald Trump. . . ."

Jeff Horwitt, a senior vice president at Hart Research and Associates, which conducted the survey for the two news organizations, told Journalisms that the sample sizes for Asian Americans and Native Americans were too small to be valid.

He gave the racial breakdown as follows: Impeach/Not impeach

- *** White - 41 percent/54 percent
*** African-American - 85 percent/9 percent
*** Hispanic - 57 percent/40 percent

"The raw number of interviews among all adults are 117 African Americans and 99 Hispanics," Horwitt messaged.

The poll was conducted from Oct. 27 to 30, among 900 adults of all races, with additional interviews to get to 414 interviews among Democratic primary voters, the survey takers said.

The results for Blacks and Latinos clearly contradict Trump's frequent boasts that people of color

Please see IMPEACH / Page 2



REV. TYRONE SHEDRICK BYRD

Lumberton minister passes at age 47

BY DOUGLAS MCMILLAN JR. CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Reverend Tyrone Shedrick Byrd, age 47, "a preacher's preacher" and a Bible scholar, was called from labor to reward on Friday morning, November 8, 2019, at New Hanover Medical Center in Wilmington, N.C. The Reverend Byrd was the pastor of the historic 148 year old Sandy Grove Baptist Church in Lumberton, N.C., where he had served for 18 years.

A native of Timmonsville, S. C., he was the son of the late Maxzella Byrd, Sr. and the late Alease Benjamin Byrd and was born March 10, 1972, in

Please see BYRD / Page 3

Why the Allen v. Comcast Supreme Court Case is important to Blacks

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

According to at least one North Carolina legal expert, Black billionaire entertainment mogul, Byron Allen's \$20 billion racial discrimination lawsuit case against cable giant, Comcast Corporation, is about much more than the former comedian's being able to further line his pockets after purchasing eleven television stations, a regional sports network, and the Weather Channel.

There are tens of thousands of Black-owned small businesses here in North Carolina alone, along with millions more across Black America, who vitally depend on contracts with White-owned companies and government agencies.

If you're Black and are denied an apartment lease you believe, primarily, though not exclusively because of your race, the ultimate decision in this case will affect your ability to prove that in a court of law.

What the U. S. Supreme Court, which heard the case Wednesday, ultimately decides could have

extraordinary ramifications for them, and civil rights overall, in proving future racial, gender and sexual orientation discrimination cases.

Thus, the case is much bigger than Allen or Comcast and is seen as an uphill battle for Allen.

Allen's attorneys argue that Comcast, which owns numerous cable systems across the nation, as well as NBC Universal, NBC Television and MSNBC on cable, has refused for eight years to

Please see COMCAST / Page 3

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



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INQUIRY

Continued from Page 1

secure, confidential setting to prevent them from comparing notes and preserve the integrity of their depositions.

Now the public will have an opportunity to hear from them directly and make their own decisions about their credibility.

Republicans have for weeks complained about the process but have had little to say about the actual substance of the inquiry because of unassailable facts.

*** Fact one: President Trump asked a foreign government to dig up dirt on

the Bidens, who are American citizens, in exchange for money that Congress had already appropriated for Ukraine to defend itself against Russia.

*** Fact two: He admitted on national television that he and Zelensky had discussed the Bidens.

*** Fact three: During a White House briefing, Trump's acting chief of staff, Mick Mulvaney, acknowledged on national television that the aid had been withheld in part until Ukraine investigated the theory that Ukraine, not Russia, hacked the Democratic Party emails in 2016. "And that is absolutely

appropriate," Mulvaney said.

Don't believe the hype. It is not only not appropriate; it's extortion.

Like every member of Congress, Trump has taken an oath to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution. Yet since day one in office he has broken that promise. He has in fact made more than 13,000 false or misleading claims from the mundane, such as the size of his inauguration day crowd, to the insane, like the one about former President Barack Obama initiating the policy of separating children from their families at the border. He has even lied about me.

The president has little to no respect for the rule of law nor any for those who do. Indeed, he believes he is above the law, which to our nation's detriment, his Republican allies reinforce daily.

Former national security advisor John Bolton has likened the pact Trump tried to make with Zelensky to a "drug deal" and it has been deeply dismaying to witness Republican lawmakers figuratively contort themselves in an effort to sell it to the American public. Clearly, they all stepped away for popcorn during that infamous scene in the movie Scarface, when Tony Montana was advised to

"never get high on your own supply." The trope is not exclusive to drug dealing and Republicans on Capitol Hill have clearly entered an alternate reality.

Donald Trump is set to become the third president in our nation's history to be impeached by the House. It may not immediately push him out of office, but it hopefully will yank him and his allies back into the real world where no one is above the law and drive home a lesson at the polls that there's a price to pay for those who believe that they are. A blue wave in 2020 could make the one in 2018 seem more like a ripple.

IMPEACH

Continued from Page 1

support him.

Trump made a typical claim in July when he insulted the majority-Black city of Baltimore. "What I've done for African Americans, no president, I would say, has done. Now, I'll say this: they are so happy, because I get the calls," he told reporters as he left for a speech in Virginia that was boycotted by Black state lawmakers, as Daniel Dale reported July 30 for CNN. "They are so happy at what I've been able to do in Baltimore and other Democratic-run, corrupt cities."

Trump continued later: "The African-American people have been calling the White House. They have never been so happy [at] what a president has done. Not only the lowest unemployment in history for African-Americans, not only opportunity zones for, really, the biggest beneficiary the inner city, and not only criminal justice reform. But they're so happy that I pointed out the corrupt politics of Baltimore. It's filthy dirty. It's so horrible. And they are happy as hell."

At a rally in New Mexico in September, Trump claimed, "We are working night and day to deliver a future of limitless opportunities for our nation's Hispanic-American citizens.

... Nobody loves the Hispanics more. We love our Hispanics, get out and vote," Bess Levin reported Sept. 17 for Vanity Fair.

Trump also said, "At the center of America's drug

crisis, this is where the Hispanics know it better than anybody. People said, 'Oh, the Hispanics won't like a wall.' I said, 'I think they are going to love it.' You know why? Because you

understand it better than other people, but at the whole center of this crisis is the drugs that are pouring in, and you understand that when other people don't understand it.' ..."

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STATE BRIEFS



REP. ADAMS SUPPORTS ALLEN IN COMCAST CASE

[WASH., D.C.] Congresswoman Alma Adams [D-NC-12] issued this statement right before the Byron Allen versus Comcast Corp. case was argued before the U.S.

Supreme Court Wednesday. "Today, the United States Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in the matter of Comcast Corp. v. National Association of African American-Owned Media - a case that implicates the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1866," said Congresswoman Alma Adams. "This law is the foundation of all civil rights protections and represents the first time the United States began to live up to its promise to be a beacon of liberty for all

people." "I oppose any and all attempts to weaken this law in any shape or form. To do so would further open our society to the intolerable discrimination that limits opportunity for too many, particularly African-Americans and other people of color. I urge the Court to rule narrowly in this case, and not threaten the freedoms and liberties that all Americans, of all races and colors, rightfully expect from their government."

CIVIL RIGHTS GROUP SUE ALAMANCE COUNTY COURT OFFICIALS

[BURLINGTON] The ACLU of North Carolina, ACLU and the Civil Rights Corp. filed a federal class action lawsuit this week against the Alamance County chief district and senior resident Superior Court judges, magistrates and sheriff for violating the constitutional rights of three defendants who were subject to a cash bail when they were jailed. The suit

maintains that poor people who are constitutionally presumed innocent until proven guilty cannot afford the cash bond imposed. The suit maintains that rich people have no problem getting out of jail, while the poor cannot.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT PLANS TO RUN FOR LT. GOV

[RALEIGH] State Supt. of Public Instruction Mark Johnson, a Republican, has decided after one term that

he's had enough, and now wants to serve as North Carolina's next lieutenant governor: The current occupant of that office, Dan Forest, is running to unseat Gov. Roy Cooper in the 2020 elections, thus leaving the office open for Johnson and six other Republicans to vie for it. Five Democrats also plan to file for the office once the filing period begins on December 2nd.

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS

BYRD

Continued from Page 1

Florence County, S.C. He was a graduate of West Florence High School and Francis Marion University, Florence, S.C., where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in economics and did further studies at Shaw University Divinity School. Rev. Byrd was licensed

and ordained to the gospel ministry by Savannah Grove Baptist Church of Effingham, S.C. and was called to lead the Sandy Grove Baptist Church family in July 2001. He held membership in the Progressive National Baptist Convention, General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, NAACP, and

Crown Masonic Lodge #383. He was the former Vice Moderator of the Lumber River Baptist Association, and a former member of Robeson County Social Services Board. In addition to his ministerial assignment, he had agricultural and timber interests in the operation of Byrd Family Farms. Rev. Byrd was a former employee of Bacote-Eaddy Funeral Home.

A rare opportunity was extended to Rev. Byrd to bring the main address at the November 2018 Annual Session of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., which he accepted and received a standing room only reception.

He is survived by his wife, Lachricia Edwards Byrd, of Greeleyville, S.C.; one daughter, Jordan Madison Byrd; one sister, Jeronell

Byrd Sawyer (Mack), of Spartanburg, S.C.; two brothers, Jenarry Byrd (Nikita), of Monks Corner, S.C.; Maxzella Byrd, Jr., of Timmonsville, S.C.; numerous aunts and uncles and a host of other relatives and loved ones.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, November 15, 2019, at 12:00 noon at the Sandy Grove Baptist Church, Martin Luther

King Drive, Lumberton, N.C. Viewing and family hour will be at 11:00 a. m. Also, services will be held on Saturday, November 16, 2019, 12:00 noon at the Savannah Grove Baptist Church, Alligator Road, Effingham, S. C. Viewing and family hour will be at 11:00 a.m. Bacote-Eaddy Funeral Home, Timmonsville, S. C., is in charge of arrangements.

COMCAST

Continued from Page 1

license lifestyle cable and digital channels owned by his Los Angeles based Entertainment Studios Networks (ESN) to run on its system, even though Comcast has licensed \$25 billion worth of programming from predominantly White entertainment companies, including 80 "lesser-known" channels since 2010.

Allen, recalling that one Comcast executive originally told him they didn't want to "...create anymore Bob Johnsons (the Black founder of BET)," alleges that racial discrimination is the reason, because he has met every requirement Comcast has put forth for his channels to qualify for carriage.

Comcast counters that it has a stellar record of diversity in all areas of its business

practices, denies all claims of racial bias, and charges that Allen's ESN, "...lacked sufficient commercial promise."

Allen replied that Verizon, AT&T U-verse and Direct TV are carrying his channels, so apparently they don't think so.

When Allen's attorneys sued in federal court in 2015, they cited a Reconstruction era law, 42 USC Section 1981 (otherwise known as 1866 Civil Rights Act), originally designed to protect freed enslaved Africans at the end of the Civil War as key.

"All persons within the jurisdiction of the United States shall have the same right in every state and territory to make and enforce contracts, to sue, be parties, give evidence and to the full and equal benefit of all laws and proceedings for the security of persons and property as is enjoyed by White citizens..."Section 1981 says,

in part.

Today, Section 1981 gives teeth to outlawing employment discrimination.

Attorney Irving Joyner, Chair of the NCNAACP Legal Redress Committee, and expert on civil rights litigation, says the Allen/Comcast case will test the "vitality" of Section 1981 like never before.

"The issue has to do with whether a litigant is required to prove "intentional" discrimination or must merely show that the "effect" of the challenged action discriminated against a specific person of color: A decision that intentional discrimination is required would limit the reach of the law but would be consistent with other similar decisions that the Supreme Court has issued in past interpretations of discrimination laws, Joyner, who is also a professor at NCCU School of Law in Durham, says.

"For example, in the voting rights context, the Court ruled that intentional discrimination was required to establish a violation of the 1965 Voting Rights Act. This decision was remedied when Congress amended the Act to authorize a finding of discrimination based upon the "effect" of the offensive conduct.

In other words, racial discrimination was the broader ultimate impact, based on a motivational factor.

The fact that the case was heard before the conservative-majority U.S. Supreme Court Wednesday in Comcast Corp. v. National Association of African American-Owned Media (Allen) , in addition to lawyers from Pres. Trump's U. S. Justice Dept. siding with Comcast against Allen, even to the point of arguing part of Comcast's defense before the High Court is further trou-

bling, says Professor Joyner and other legal experts, because it shows the Trump Administration's zeal for dismantling traditional civil rights protections.

"You have one of the biggest media companies in the world, which has been beating up Donald Trump for racism...", "Allen told Black Enterprise magazine,"... and now they are saying, we will work together to maintain institutionalized racism in America, in this amicus brief they delivered."

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, American industry's biggest lobbyist, is also weighing in on behalf of Comcast, saying, "...Choices made in the workplace can be "inherently subjective," and now they are saying, we will work together to maintain institutionalized racism in America, in this amicus brief they delivered."

Conservatives want the court to mandate that racial discrimination must be proven to be the full 100% reason why a contract is denied to a Black-owned company, known legally as the but-for causation factor, which most legal experts agree is nearly an impossible standard to prove without a defendant company voluntarily admitting to it.

Thus, the ability of African Americans to be able to prove that race is a motivational factor, not a but-for factor, in being denied a business contract, is at stake.

Attorney Antoine Marshall, of Raleigh, a candidate for the NC House and graduate of Wake Forest University Law School, identifies the danger of Allen's losing his Supreme Court case.

"If Allen loses and the Supreme Court finds that

plaintiffs must prove but-for causation, it could prevent many cases from going forward. It would require a "smoking gun" in the pleading for a plaintiff to bring his case forward. And we know that no company or entity would be dumb enough to state "I'm doing this because you're Black!" so it can avoid discrimination claims by stating any vague plausible business decision as the reason. "It's not because you're lack, but we feel our customers wouldn't respond to the channels you're offering."

Atty. Marshall continued, "If Allen wins, he doesn't win his \$20billion suit. No, his case is sent back to District Court where now he gets to go through discovery (depose witnesses, get records of communications, etc.) to try to prove a racial animus component vital to his case, because, as of right now, he doesn't have any evidence of racial discrimination aside from raw contracting numbers."

Allen's legal battle against Comcast and also Charter Communications around the same issue has previously been dismissed by at least one federal court due to lack of evidence of intentional racial discrimination.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals finally gave Allen a ruling he liked, saying that he need only prove that racial discrimination was only a factor in Comcast's denying him a contract, the direct opposite of what Comcast and Trump's Justice Dept. argued before the U. S. Supreme Court.

The Congressional Black Caucus and major civil rights organizations, including the NAACP, which was originally a defendant in the suit because it originally supported Comcast, are not so much supporting Byron Allen's case, but rather, what they see as an attack on Section 1981, and are urging Comcast to withdraw its defense, fearing the worst.

The High Court's decision could be released early next year.

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New Hanover County

Althea Gibson Tennis Complex, 3405 Park Avenue, will hold an Upcoming Junior Tennis Tournament "Holiday Smash Junior L6 Tournament" on Friday, December 6 (begins at 4pm) Divisions: BG 10U-18U singles and doubles. Deadline: Tuesday, December 3rd. Questions: Call Tari Ann Toro-Steinmetz at 910-341-4631.

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 nhcnaacp@gmail.com.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

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Brunswick County Health Services offering high-dose flu vaccine

Bolivia, NC – Brunswick County Health Services is offering flu vaccines, including the high-dose flu vaccine which is recommended for people 65 years old or older. The high-dose vaccine contains four times the antigen—the part of the vaccine that helps your body build up protection against flu viruses—than the regular flu vaccine. The higher dose of antigen is intended to help older people build better immunity against flu.

It is estimated that each year approximately five to 20

percent of U.S. residents get the flu, and more than 200,000 individuals are hospitalized for flu-related complications. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends annual flu vaccinations for everyone six months of age and older. Children younger than five years old and adults 65 years old or older, pregnant women, and people with underlying medical conditions are all at increased risk of severe illness or complications from the flu.

"Getting vaccinated is the

most important thing you can do to protect both yourself and your family from the flu," Health and Human Services Executive Director David Stanley said.

To help prevent the spread of influenza and other viruses, cover your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing. Wash hands frequently or clean them with hand sanitizer when water is not available. Avoiding crowds, limiting travel and working from home when possible can all also help prevent the spread of illness.

The flu shot clinic at Brunswick County Health Services runs Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1-4 p.m. No appointment is needed.

Regular flu shots are \$40 while the high-dose vaccine is \$59. Health Services accepts cash, checks, credit cards, Medicaid, Medicare, Aetna, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Cigna, Medcost, Tricare and United Healthcare.

For more information, contact Health Services at 910.253.2250.

Home heating safety tips from Brunswick County

BOLIVIA, N.C. – As the winter season approaches, Brunswick County Fire Marshal's Office would like to remind residents to use caution with operating portable space heaters as they present potential fire hazards.

According to a National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) report on U.S. Home Fires Involving Heating Equipment issued last year, heating equipment is the second-leading cause of U.S. home fires and the third-leading cause of home fire deaths. More than half (53 percent) of all home heating fire deaths resulted

from fire that began when heating equipment was too close to things that can burn, such as upholstered furniture, clothing, mattresses or bedding.

Between 2011 and 2015, portable and stationary space heaters accounted for more than two of every five (43 percent) U.S. home heating fires and five out of six (85 percent) home heating fire deaths.

The following are important home heating safety and fire preparedness tips and recommendations:

Proper placement of space heaters is critical. Heaters must be kept at least three feet

away from anything that can burn, including papers, clothing, rugs, and furniture.

Never leave a space heater unattended. Turn it off when you're leaving a room or going to sleep, and don't let pets or children play too close to a space heater.

Plug space heaters directly into a wall outlet. Do not use an extension cord or power strip, which could overheat and result in a fire. Do not plug any other electrical devices into the same outlet as the heater.

Place space heaters on level, flat surfaces. Never place heaters on cabinets, tables, fur-

niture, or carpet, which can overheat and start a fire.

Always unplug and safely store the heater when it is not in use.

Test your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide alarms at least monthly.

Place a smoke alarm on every level of your home outside sleeping areas and in each bedroom.

Keep your bedroom door(s) closed when sleeping.

Prepare and practice an escape plan – know at least two ways to get out of a room, crawl low under smoke and plan where to meet outside.

New Hanover County seeking applicants for boards and committees

NEW HANOVER COUNTY, NC – 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:

Cape Fear Museum Advisory Board
Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority/WAVE

New Hanover County Adult Care Home

Community Advisory Committee

New Hanover County Board of Mechanical Examiners

Categories: Mechanical Contractor, NC Registered Mechanical Engineer

New Hanover County Consolidated Human Services Board

Category: Psychiatrist
New Hanover County Non-Agency Funding Committee Category:

Seniors/Elders
New Hanover County

Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee

New Hanover County Risk Management Advisory Committee

New Hanover County Tourism Development Authority

Categories: Chamber of Commerce, Kure Beach Hotel Owner/ Manager, Tourist Attraction, Wrightsville Beach Hotel Owner/Manager

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 798-7149, or on the county's boards & committees

web page at commissioners.nhcgov.com.

Applications are needed by December 2, 2019 for consideration by the Board at the December 16,

2019 meeting.



NCDOT AND SCDOT TO CONDUCT TWO CORRIDOR PUBLIC MEETINGS FOR THE CAROLINA BAYS PARKWAY EXTENSION BETWEEN CAROLINA BAYS PARKWAY (S.C. 31) AT S.C. 9 IN HORRY COUNTY S.C. AND U.S. 17/SHALOTTE BYPASS IN BRUNSWICK COUNTY N.C.

**NCDOT STATE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
PROJECT NO. R-5876**

**SCDOT STATE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
PROJECT NO. P029554**

The N.C. Department of Transportation and S.C. Department of Transportation will jointly hold two open-house public meetings to present information and maps of potential corridors currently being evaluated for the Carolina Bays Parkway Extension project. The project would extend Carolina Bays Parkway (S.C. 31) from its current terminus at S.C. 9 in Horry County, SC to U.S. 17 Shallotte Bypass in Brunswick County, NC. The purpose of the project is to improve the transportation network by enhancing mobility and connectivity for traffic moving in and through the project area.

December 3, 2019

4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Sea Trail Convention Center
75A Clubhouse Road
Sunset Beach, NC 28468

December 4, 2019

4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

VFW Post 10804
111 State Highway 57 North
Little River, SC 29566

NCDOT and SCDOT project team members and representatives of the NV5 Consultant Team will be available to provide information and answer questions regarding the project. The opportunity to submit written comments and questions will be provided at the meeting or before January 10, 2020. Please note that no formal presentation will be made at these meetings.

Maps to be presented at the meetings will be available for viewing or download on the project website www.ncdot.gov/projects/carolina-bays-parkway, and comments may be submitted online using the project's public engagement page www.publicinput.com/Carolina-bays-pkwy.

For additional information please contact Krista Kimmel P.E., NCDOT Design Engineer by email or phone khkimmel@ncdot.gov / 910-341-2000 or Leah Quattlebaum P.E., Pee Dee Regional Production Engineer by email or phone quattlib@scdot.org / 803-737-1751.

NCDOT and SCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who wish to participate in this meeting. Anyone requiring special services should contact Diane Wilson (NCDOT), by email pdwilson1@ncdot.gov or by calling 919-707-6073, or Betty Gray (SCDOT), by email grayb@scdot.org or by calling 803-737-1395, prior to the meeting so that arrangements can be made.

Persons who do not speak English, or have a limited ability to read, speak or understand English, may receive interpretive services upon request prior to the meeting by calling 1-800-481-6494 (NCDOT) or 803-737-1395 (SCDOT).

Aquellas personas que no hablan inglés, o tienen limitaciones para leer, hablar o entender inglés, podrían recibir servicios de interpretación si los solicitan antes de la reunión llamando change to al 1-800-481-6494 (NCDOT) o 803-737-1395 (SCDOT).

13TH ANNUAL PRE-KWANZAA CELEBRATION

DEC 4

Dec 4th | Warwick Ballroom| Doors Open At 6:30 p.m. | Begins at 7 p.m
| Limited Seating | RSVP REQUIRED | Sign Up at uncw.edu/upperman

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

WILLA BRIGHAM

TWO-TIME Emmy Award Winning Host of WRAL's Television Show, "Smart Start Kids"



FEATURING
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Accommodations for disabilities may be requested by contacting Manuel Lloyd at 910.962.2480 or lloydmc@uncw.edu. UNCW is an EEO/AA institution.

Tell them you read it in



THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Modifying your savings strategy as your life evolves

Make sure you're still saving enough as your situation changes.

(Via NNPA NewsWire.com)

What did your life look like when you started saving for your goals? Since then, maybe you've gotten married, moved, or bought a car. All these events may change how you think about your savings.

Learn how you can modify your savings plan to fit your changing needs.

What can you save for?

Did you buy a home recently? Thinking about starting a family? This can change how you need to save. For instance, the cost of raising a child could be close to \$13,000 a year, according to a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) report. While that's just an estimate, if you're planning on having children, think about how you can save

ahead of time.

According to a study by Magnify Money, nearly one-third of households have \$1,000 or less in savings. Setting yourself up for the future begins with asking yourself what you should be saving for outside of monthly payments, and how much you can reasonably save with each paycheck.

Start with increases and automatic transfers

Making the most of your savings strategy can be as simple as increasing the monthly amount you put toward your savings goal, as long as your adjusted budget allows for it.

There is a variety of ways you can make sure you're doing this. Try using monthly automatic transfers from your checking to your savings

account. You can also set up a payroll allotment, which automatically takes money from your paycheck and drops it into a designated savings account. The idea behind using automatic transfers and payroll allotments is that what you don't see, you're not likely to miss. Plus, you can use the money you put in savings to cover emergencies, a home repair, school tuition, and even retirement. If you want to separate out your savings based on different needs, consider different account options.

Change your spending habits so you can save differently

If you go through a change that impacts your finances, saving isn't the only area to shift. You can also think about

your daily, monthly, and yearly expenses. Add up everything that you spend on:

- Prepared foods
- Meals out
- Entertainment, such as movie tickets
- Cable/TV/streaming services
- Gym memberships

Identifying the ways that your money is being spent is a step towards determining the areas that you can save. Prioritize the things you spend money on that you value most. Try giving up those that you feel don't contribute that much to your quality of life, and keep the ones that do. Having a savings strategy doesn't mean you have to give up all fun.

Remember, saving isn't just about having a spending plan — you need to follow through.



PHOTO: NNPA

Making the most of your savings strategy can be as simple as increasing the monthly amount you put toward your savings goal, as long as your adjusted budget allows for it.

The Hands on Banking® website offers great advice and templates for people who want to start using a spending plan

to keep better track of their money.
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How to build an emergency fund

Why an emergency fund is worth it — and how to start growing yours.

(Via NNPA NewsWire.com)

The Federal Reserve Board reported recently that 40% of people in the U.S. said they would have trouble covering a \$400 emergency. Now think back to the last time you had an emergency or unexpected expense. Maybe it was a car repair or medical bill or even paying all your bills until you found a new job. Were you confident you had enough money to cover it?

Setting aside hundreds or thousands of dollars for an emergency — and not using it — can seem like a challenge when you have bills and other responsibilities. But building an emergency fund can be done in phases over time, and you can make small changes now to get start growing your fund. Every dollar you save now can help cushion when the next emergency happens.

1. Open and set up automatic deposits to a savings account.

First come up with an amount you can afford to

save and put toward an emergency fund every month. Consider saving this money in a separate account to help you stay focused on building those savings and avoid spending it. Automatic deposits can make saving easy. For help figuring out what to pay first, check out resources from the Hands on Banking® financial education program.

2. Reduce your spending.

If you need to change your spending so you have enough money to put aside, start by reviewing your expenses — large and small. For example, the total cost of dining out may be larger than you think. With the average household spending \$3,365 a year on eating out, cutting just two meals out a month (meals on average cost \$12), saves around \$288 a year. Another quick way to cut spending is to cancel any memberships and subscriptions you use infrequently or don't need. Reviewing and cutting your expenses doesn't have to be a sacrifice, but rather a chance to adjust your spending and

saving in line with your priorities.

3. Find ways to make extra cash.

There may be opportunities for easy income in your garage, closet, or old storage areas: consider selling old — and unwanted — stuff for a quick stack of cash that you can put in your emergency fund savings account. Online auction sites and marketplaces can help sell your stuff or just use the traditional yard sale. Other work opportunities, whether extra hours or one-off projects, can help bring in extra money to build your emergency fund plus support other financial goals.

4. Save "extra" money.

Have you received a tax refund, gift, bonus, or raise recently? Consider putting that extra cash into your savings account. Remember — keeping it out of reach of your checking account means it's harder to spend and there's a higher chance of saving it.

5. Create a savings challenge



Have you received a tax refund, gift, bonus, or raise recently? Consider putting that extra cash into your savings account. Remember — keeping it out of reach of your checking account means it's harder to spend and there's a higher chance of saving it.

You might have started with a smaller savings goal so your fund could grow little by little. Challenge yourself to make a bigger deposit like \$50 next month instead of the \$25 you deposit on a monthly basis. Then make the same goal again in a few months or

even increase it a little. Any amount you contribute is a step in the right direction.

By their nature, emergencies happen when you don't expect them, but planning for them just in case can help you handle them. That's why an emergency fund is there. If

you do have to tap into your emergency savings, that's what it's for, but get back on track by committing to building it right back up.

<https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/cesan.pdf>
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you are
empowerful

Redemption: Cyntoia Brown finds her voice

BY NSENGA K. BURTON,
PH.D.
NNPA NEWSWIRE
ENTERTAINMENT AND
CULTURE EDITOR

To say Cyntoia Brown's life has been complicated is an understatement. Brown is a young, black woman sentenced as an adult to life in prison when as a teenager, she killed Johnny Mitchell Allen, a 43-year-old man, who had solicited her for sex. Brown maintained she killed Allen in self-defense after he purchased her from a pimp and later appeared to be reaching for a gun to kill her. Prosecutors insisted Brown robbed and murdered Allen in cold blood.

Brown was supposed to spend 51 years in prison before she could even be considered for parole but her precarious case caught the attention of criminal justice reform activists, A-List celebrities and eventually Bill Haslam, the Governor of Tennessee.

Upon learning of the details surrounding Brown's case and calling on a higher power, the former governor granted Cyntoia Brown full clemency August 7, 2019, releasing the 31-year-old from the Tennessee Women's prison. Brown who once had given up hope after losing all of her appeals, had been granted "mercy" in a socio-political climate that readily demonstrates anything but mercy or empathy towards black women.

Brown, who strengthened her relationship with Jesus, found a God-fearing husband and the importance of education while in prison, set about to making her new lease on life count by continuing to do what she calls "God's work" and share her story in order to help others.

One of the many ways Brown is sharing her story is through her book, *Cyntoia Brown: My Search for Redemption in the American Prison System* (Simon and Schuster).

Brown's book offers a detailed look at Brown's life behind bars and her traumatic childhood, which Brown

attributes to the unfortunate direction of her early life. When speaking with Brown, it is clear she is getting used to her newfound freedom and has not had the privilege of thinking too far into the future.

Her answers to the questions are short and to the point and focused on the past and the here and now. When asked what motivated her to write a book, Brown states matter-of-factly, "God."

"I prayed and felt that it [writing the book] was necessary. God gives us testimony so we can share them and not so we can sit on them," Brown offers. The discussion of time is a constant in Brown's answers.

She is a young woman who has gone from having nothing but time with a life sentence, to a new world where everyone wants some of her time.

Brown has a clear understanding that time is of the essence and she has to capitalize on new-found fame and empathy if she is going to help young girls struggling in their young lives just as she had when turned out as a child.

How might her life have been different if she knew at a young age there was more for her? "I know that a lot of people have been through what I've been through, so I felt it was necessary for people to see representations of their own experiences," Brown says. "They need to know there is help out there for them."

Help that evaded Brown at every stage of her early life. Brown, whose birth mother drank during her pregnancy, giving up for adoption at age 2. Her adoptive mother provided a stable home, but Brown didn't get the treatment or help she needed to address her issues with fetal alcohol syndrome and abandonment, leading to her life as a runaway.

As a runaway, Brown was drugged, beaten and sex trafficked by a pimp named, "Kutthroat."

Brown, who received therapy and treatment to help cope

with her traumatic childhood while in prison, found writing the book took her to some "dark places."

"I thought I had done a lot of processing of my childhood, but once I was working with (co-author Bethany Mauger) and she was asking me questions, I had to go back into those moments and that was kind of tough some times," Brown says quietly. "This is Bethany's first book too," she adds letting me know they both underestimated the effect going into those dark corners would have on their lives.

Brown had endeavored to write this book many times while in prison but couldn't do it. She would start and stop. Start and stop again. The disappointment of losing all of her appeals and not having the judges find any mercy or compassion for her and all she endured as a child wreaked havoc upon her mind.

Always a believer [in Christ], Brown kept praying and asking for what she wanted and was not getting it, which was difficult to understand. Brown credits relinquishing control of her life to God with the freedom that would eventually come. "After I realized I had to give God complete control over my life, that's when things started changing," including her ability to write her book.

"I was at a church service and the minister had come around and was anointing everyone and she said God said write the book. I went back to the cell and I called my husband and I said what do you think? He said write the book," she shares. "I started writing the book and it started flowing out of me. Within three months I had a manuscript."

Brown's story has been covered all over the news, social media outlets, criminal justice reform spaces, college campuses – you name it and #FreeCyntoiaBrown has been a topic of discussion.

When asked, what will people get from her book they haven't already gotten from the media and she responds,



Although she speaks energetically about God, change and submission to God's will, Brown shies away from questions about movies or what movie star should play her in a movie about her extraordinary life.

"The full truth." "For one, everything in the interview is very surface level, cleaned up and it's not entirely correct," she states. "You're going to get the full truth. It goes a lot deeper than anything you've seen in an article. So many people have told me after reading the book, they got to experience it," says the first-time author. It refers to the traumatic life she lived up until being sentenced to life after fighting for her life. "So many things affected me from the time in school, to the time in the facilities and you really get to walk through that journey with me."

Readers will be able to fully step into the shoes of Brown and understand all of the things that had to happen for society to lock up and throw away the key on the life of a 16-year-old black girl who had seen the worst life has to offer from her begin-

ning in the womb.

Despite the horrific acts that transpired in Brown's young life, she is aware that some people think she should still be in jail and should not be forgiven. Brown who believes everyone is "entitled to their opinion," knows she has to focus on telling her story to help the girls who are currently in the same position as she was as a teenager.

When asked what advice she would give to girls mired in the same dire circumstances she faced, she simply states, "I want them to know there is another side of life."

The criminal prison reform advocate adds, "There were so many times when I felt there was nothing and nobody out here to help me. But, you have to allow yourself to be helped to get to the point to see there's better for you and it's possible. Know who you are in God. Know that he's looking out for you

even when you can't see it," says Brown, a free woman who has clearly found her voice.

Although she speaks energetically about God, change and submission to God's will, Brown shies away from questions about movies or what movie star should play her in a movie about her extraordinary life.

Brown grows quiet, and says she has no idea. "I haven't even thought about that," she says, giving voice to the fact freedom is still new for her.

The here and now appears to be her safe place and criminal justice reform is where her attention resides. Brown's sense of urgency is wrapped in her obedience to God, the need to help save others from the painful path she took as a child, the desire for redemption and the recognition that time waits for no one.

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Mildred Evans Spencer

Mildred Evans Spencer was born March 4, 1923 to the late William Evans and Mary Nixon Evans in Wilmington, North Carolina. She departed her life, Saturday, October 19, 2019 at the Lower Cape Fear Hospice and Life Care Center, Wilmington. She was preceded in death by siblings: Kenneth Evans, Robert Evans, William "Tom" Evans, George "Andy" Spicer, Margaret Young and Barbara Taylor.

Mildred accepted Christ as her personal Savior and was a longtime member of Mt. Ararat A.M.E. Church where she served in various capacities including Steward, Trustee, Church Treasurer, Missionary Member and Lay Member.

She leaves to cherish her memory: a son, George "Billy" Evans; two grandsons, Quentin and Roderic; four great grandsons; seven great great grandchildren; one sister, Louise Williams, Wilmington, NC; one sister-in-law, Mary Evans, Petersburg, VA; special devoted niece, Mildred A. Evans of the home; devoted friends, Reverend Dr. Teresa Lawrence, Shirley Bolden, Mattie Gillespie, Dolores Callender and George Williams; a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held at Noon on Wednesday, October 23, 2019 at Mt. Ararat A.M.E. Church. Burial in Mt. Ararat A.M.E. Church Cemetery. *Services entrusted to Adkins-Drain Funeral Service, 505 South Eighth Street, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401. Condolences may be shared at www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com.*

Timothy H. "Diddy" Robbins, Sr.

Timothy H. "Diddy" Robbins, Sr., transitioned from his earthly tabernacle to God's Heavenly Mansion on Saturday, November 2, 2019. Homegoing celebration was held Wednesday, November 6, 2019 at Summerville AME Zion Church. Burial followed in the Williams' Cemetery.

He was born August 16, 1933 to the late Reverend John Ivery Robbins, Sr. and Lila Brown Robbins in the Phoenix Community of Leland, NC. He joined Summerville AME Zion Church during his adolescent years and remained an active member until his death. He truly loved his church and served diligently as, Christian Steward, Pastor Steward, Sunday

School Scholar, Class Leader, and Lead Vocalist in the choir. Timothy never met a stranger and no matter where he was, he never failed to talk about God.

Timothy attended school in Brunswick County, NC. After school, he worked as a supervisor at Royster Fertilizer Co., U.S. Agricultural, and General Wood Company. Becoming bored after retirement, he worked at Cape Fear Community College until retiring again.

Timothy was married to the late Helen Anderson Robbins. Years later, he married Mattie Blanks who also preceded him in death. In addition to his parents and his wives, Timothy was preceded in death by his 5 brothers, Lonnie M. Robbins, Rev. Strossie A. Robbins, Sr., Tyler F. Robbins, Samuel L. Robbins, and Ulysses G. Robbins; and 2 sisters, Helen A. Robbins Davis and Geraldine R. Stackhouse. He was a loving father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle and friend. He enjoyed meeting his friends for breakfast at Hardee's, Bojangles, and McDonald's.

Timothy leaves to cherish his precious memories: children, Timothy Robbins, Jr., Teresa Robbins (Wayne), Sharon Robbins, Michelle R. Hilliard (Ronnie), Edgar Robbins (Vida) and Sabrina R. Tatum; stepson, Rodney Blanks (Diane); step-daughter, Teresa Brown; fifteen grandchildren; twenty-three great-grandchildren; special grandson, Wayne Robbins, Jr.; special granddaughters, Carissa Robbins and Tyeecsha Robbins; special nephews, Albert Lee Robbins, Thomas D. Hooper, Sr., Willie Davis, Jr., Richard D. Davis, Carnell Robbins, Castile Robbins and Willie Robbins; special nieces, Lila Bryant, Glatha Daniels, Helen Davis, Sherry A. Davis, Ella Clemmons, Sheila Grady, Marjorie D. Jones, Patricia R. Hedgebeth and Joyce R. McLeod; special grand-nephew, Ian Davis; favorite cousin, Mildred Jacobs; special "under the tree" friends, Johnnie Ballard, Thaddeus Williams and Lacy Ballard; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, loved ones, and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Paula Denise Greene

Paula Denise Greene made her transition to be with the Lord on November 3, 2019. Funeral service for Paula was held Saturday, November 9, 2019 at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church. Burial fol-

lowed in the Pollock Cemetery, Scotts Hill Community.

She was born October 23, 1964 to Harold Greene and the late Vivian Davis. Paula attended the public schools in the New Hanover County School System.

She leaves to cherish her precious memory: the love of her life, Terry Hill; her son, Anthony Ray McDonald, Jr.; her father, Harold Greene; 3 stepchildren; 7 grandchildren; her sister, Mashariki Greene; 2 brothers, Reginald Greene and Vernard Greene; a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Lonnie McGraw, Jr.

Lonnie McGraw, Jr., transitioned on November 4, 2019. The seventh of eleven children born to the late Lonnie McGraw, Sr. and Mrs. Francena Aiken McGraw, Lonnie was born June 9, 1940 in Allendale, SC. His home-going service was held Saturday at the Willie L. Shaw, Jr. Memorial Chapel, Shaw Funeral Home.

Lonnie held many jobs, including working at the Wilmington Hilton at Riverside, where he worked for fifteen years. While working at the Hilton, Lonnie met and later married his wife Mildred.

In addition to his parents, Lonnie was also preceded in death by two children, Lonnie III and Katrena; a stepson, Michael McCray and two sisters, Mary Fields and Frances Bunting. He leaves to cherish his memories: his wife and caregiver, Mildred D. McGraw; his granddaughters, Avion, Laniqua, Lauriel and Kevana; grandsons, Lonnie IV, Lonnie V and Zayvion; stepdaughters, Yolanda, Malinda and Traci; stepson, Gendell; sisters, Hattie, Sadie, Ernestine and Jestine; brother, Herbert; nieces, Lenita Williams, Stephanie Determan (Mike) and Angie Nicholson (Carl), Charmine Washington, Kisha Baker (Mike), Monica Jeter and Adria Fisher; nephews, Reggie McGraw, Brian McGraw (Tina), Herbert Smith, Harry Elder (Dorothy), Cory Willis (Claudia), Ronald McGraw (Dru) and Makeda Atkinson; and a host of other relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Connie B. Johnson

Connie B. Johnson departed this life November 5, 2019. Funeral Service will be held 12:00 noon, Friday November

15, 2019 at Faith Temple C.O.G.I.C. Burial will follow in Greenlawn Memorial Park. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Ronald Butcher, Jr.

Ronald Butcher, Jr., departed this life November 7, 2019. Memorial service will be held 1:00 p.m., Saturday, November 16, 2019 at the Willie L. Shaw, Jr. Memorial Chapel, Shaw Funeral Home. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

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. *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 was held on, Saturday, November 9, 2019 at Oceanview Missionary Baptist Association.

Jaquan was born August 7, 1987 in Supply, North Carolina. He was better known as "Hood" by his friends and family. He accepted Christ at an early age and joined Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church.

Jaquan attended school in the Brunswick County Public School system and was the founding member of National Black Leadership Caucus Brunswick Chapter. He had a huge heart and would stop whatever he was doing to help elders. Kids also had a very special place in Jaquan's heart.

Jaquan will be remembered for his infectious smile and his dedication to his family, friends and the neighborhood kids.

He leaves to cherish his memory his children, Jelond, Jaquan, Jaliah, D'Angelo and Gizelle, and a host of brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews and other family and friends. *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 was held on Saturday, November 9, 2019 at Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church.

He is survived by his parents, Carl and Gwen Oates of Faison and brother, Dr. Jerry Oates (Sonya) of Leland.

Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhome.com.



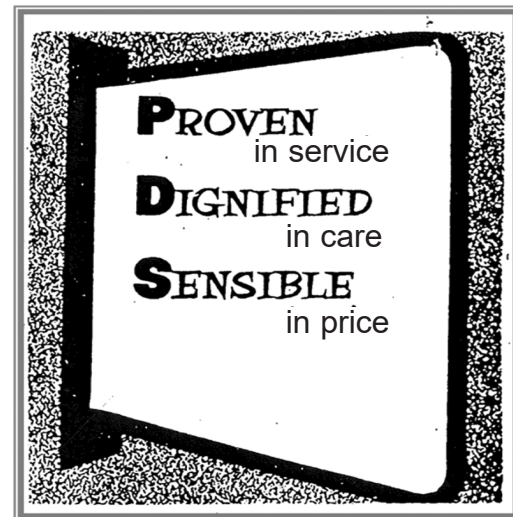
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