

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

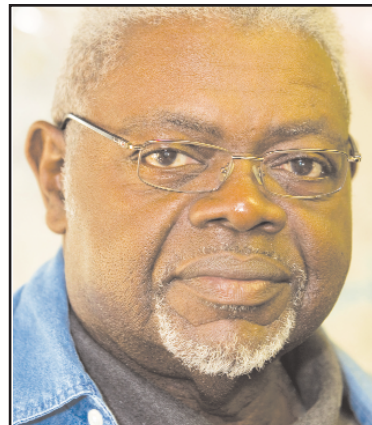
OUR VOICE



REV. JESSE JACKSON

GUEST EDITORIAL "The spirit of the Emancipation Proclamation is under attack again today" BY PAGE 4

BRUNSWICK COUNTY



BERNEST HEWETT

A LOSS

BY BERNEST HEWETT CONTRIBUTING WRITER



PHOTO BY CHRIS BREHMER JUDGE OLA LEWIS

Brunswick County, we have lost one of the greatest Black minds Brunswick County has had in today's time. She came to Brunswick County with a vision for our future generations that would cause a great change for coming generations of people (White, Black, Hispanic, etc.). She began her work here and in surrounding counties shortly after coming to this area. Her service on the bench as judge was straight up and stern. Her work in the communities around her was intense

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THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 93/No. 1

JANUARY 2, 2020 - JANUARY 8, 2020

FIFTY CENTS

Republicans outraged over judge's voter ID ruling

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

To hear Republicans tell it, U.S. District Court Judge Loretta Biggs is playing politics, legislating from the federal bench in her decision to temporarily block North Carolina's voter ID law from being implemented during the March 3, 2020 North Carolina primaries.

"After all, if 34 other states can compel their citizens to show photo identification at the polls during primaries and general elections, why can't North Carolina," Republicans ask?

"This last-minute attempt by an

activist federal judge to overturn the will of North Carolina voters must be immediately appealed by the Governor's Board of Elections," an outraged Rep. Tim Moore, Republican Speaker of the NC House, said in a statement last Friday.

There is little doubt that Moore and other North Carolina Republicans are beyond themselves about this latest unexpected legal development, primarily because there is little legally they can do about it.

On Dec. 31st, Judge Biggs released her full order, saying, in part, that "...racial discrimination

and racial polarization have historically pervaded North Carolina's political climate...and still do."

She continued that "...no voter ID will be required in the upcoming election cycle unless otherwise ordered by the Court."

Judge Biggs' action is based on the NCNAACP's December 20, 2018 lawsuit to stop Senate Bill 824, which, based on a state constitutional amendment voters passed a month earlier to approve voter photo identification in the state, was passed to legislatively establish

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U.S. DISTRICT COURT JUDGE LORETTA BIGGS

2019 - A YEAR OF BLACK RECKONING

2019 has been a year of strong political upheaval and victories in the courtroom for civil rights and racism espoused from the White House and preparations for a dynamic upcoming political year. And, of course, for only the third time in American history, a U.S. President was impeached.

THESE WERE THE HEADLINE STORIES HERE IN NORTH CAROLINA THAT TOPPED THE BLACK PRESS.

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

JANUARY

State trooper fatally shot an unarmed 28 year old Black man, Brandon Webster, at a Brunswick County truck stop. The Republican-led N.C. General Assembly started its long session, this time without the GOP super majority that allowed it previously to override Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper's veto. Meanwhile a three week federal government shutdown was affecting North Carolina farmers and hurricane relief efforts. UNC-Chapel Hill Chancellor, Carol Felt, stepped down after ordering the removal of Silent Sam pedestal. Wilmington's Black community became outraged over a proposal to turn Williston Middle School, once an historic all-Black senior high school, into an arts high school. A judge refused to certify the Ninth Congressional District election results from Nov. 2018 because of evidence on absentee ballot tampering. State Sen. Erica Smith and other Democrats announce their candidacies to unseat Republican incumbent, U.S. Sen. Thom Tillis.

Rep. Alma Adams joined Chairwoman Rep. Maxine Waters on the House Financial Services Committee. St. Augustine's University President, Dr. Everett Ward, announced his retirement after five years.

FEBRUARY

Bennett College for Women raised \$8.2 million to stave off the threat of being shut down after an accreditation fight. Gov. Roy Cooper appointed NC Associate Justice Cheri Beasley to become chief justice of the NC Supreme Court. She is the first Black female ever to do so. Virginian Gov. Ralph Northam faced withering criticism after confirming that a photo in a college yearbook was him in blackface. Former judges, law enforcement, and district attorneys petitioned the NC Supreme Court to rule North Carolina's death penalty law unconstitutional. In a victory for the NC NAACP, a Wake County Superior Court judge ruled that the voter ID amendment approved by voters in Nov. 2018 was unconstitutional

because the Republican-majority that created the amendment was "illegally constituted." The ruling was appealed. The NC State Board of Elections held hearings into the Ninth Congressional District absentee ballot fraud case and voted for a special "do-over" election.

MARCH

Under tremendous Black community pressure, the New Hanover County School Board dropped its proposal to turn Williston Middle School into an arts high school. NHC Schools investigated a "slavery game" used in a local elementary school after a Black grandmother complained. NHC Chapter of the National Black Leadership Caucus asked to have a local park renamed after Major General Joseph McNeil, one of the Greensboro Four. Congresspersons Alma Adams and G. K. Butterfield joined other Black members of Congress in demanding the release of the Mueller Report. Dr. John Marshall Kilimanjaro, publisher of the

Carolina Peacemaker in Greensboro, died.

APRIL

State Republican Party Chairman, Robin Hayes, was indicted by a federal grand jury for allegedly attempting to bribe the NC Insurance Commissioner. A massive gas explosion rocked Durham, killing one, injuring 25, just as the Bull City celebrated its 150th anniversary. Gov. Cooper appointed Reuben Young to the NC Court of Appeals. The community was outraged as State Attorney General Josh Stein refused to charge a state trooper with excessive force in the fatal shooting of Brandon Webster. Five of seven newly elected NC Black sheriffs gathered to say that leadership isn't easy.

MAY

Durham City Council passed a resolution honoring Malcolm X.

Please see 2019/Page 2

Tributes to Representative John Lewis upon word of cancer battle

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

As 2019 ended last weekend, came the sad word that civil rights icon Rep. John Lewis (D-GA) is in the process of battling Stage 4 pancreatic cancer.

"I have been in some kind of fight - for freedom, equality, basic human rights - for nearly my entire life. I have never faced a fight quite like the one I

have now," Lewis, called by some a "true American hero" and the 'conscience of the Congress,' said in a statement.

"While I am clear eyed about the prognosis, doctors have told me that recent medical advances have made this type of cancer treatable in many cases, that treatment options are no longer as debilitating as they once were, and that I have a fighting chance. So I have decided to do what I know to

do and do what I have always done. I am going to fight it and keep fighting for the Beloved Community. We still have many bridges to cross."

Noting Rep. Lewis' work with Dr. Martin Luther king, Jr. during the '60s Civil Rights Movement and his continued battles for equal and voting rights after being elected to Congress, many

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U.S. CONGRESSMAN JOHN LEWIS

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





**THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL**  
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The Wilmington Journal cannot accept yard sale and dinner sale announcements as briefs. These are considered advertisements. Community and religious briefs are designated for public service announcements, which are free and open to the public. All news must be submitted two weeks in advance by Fridays at 5 p.m.

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**BRUNSWICK**  
 Continued from Page 1

and based on building and bettering youth and adults who had problems with drugs. She believed that there should be more respect among adults, those in leadership positions and everyday people alike. She thought that children should respect adults and adults should respect children.

The Honorable Judge Ola Lewis was a positive role model for all citizens who knew her (adults and youth). She worked with people, Blacks, Whites, Hispanics, etc. who didn't think like her and people who shared her same vision of coming together for a better world. Nothing ever stopped her from steadily working toward a better world for all people.

Sister Ola, Judge Ola, Christian Ola Lewis, you have sung your last song and said you last prayer! Now let the words of your mouth and the meditations of your heart be acceptable in God's sight. Amen! Sleep on and rest in peace!

Judge Ola Lewis' body will lie in state at the Brunswick County Courthouse on Friday, January 3, 2020, from 12:00 noon until 7:00 p. m. for public viewing. Her funeral services will be held on Saturday, January 4, 2020, at the Odell Williamson Auditorium on the campus of Brunswick Community College from 2:00 p. m. until 4:00 p. m.

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

**2019**

Continued from Page 1

State Board of Elections decided Republican Jody Greene unseated incumbent Democratic Columbus County Sheriff Lewis Hatcher in November 2018 election. Republican Dan Bishop won the "do-over" primary in a special Ninth Congressional District race. Divine Nine supporters lobbied North Carolina lawmakers for increased support of HBCUs. The NC NAACP celebrated the release from prison of Dontae Sharpe, who was falsely convicted of murder 25 years ago. NC Senate budget appropriated \$2.5 million for the Freedom Monument on the State Capitol grounds.

**JUNE**

NC Senate joined the House in passing the State budget without Medicaid expansion, setting up a standoff with Gov. Cooper. Former NC NAACP President, Rev. Dr. William Barber, was convicted of trespassing at the State Legislature. Rep. G. K. Butterfield called for impeachment of Pres. Trump. A federal judge refused to allow Republican legislative leaders to intervene in NC NAACP lawsuit to stop voter ID in 2020 elections. A report stated that 60% of North Carolina's fourth graders were not reading proficiently. Concern was raised about HB 370, a bill that called for the removal of a sheriff who refused to work with ICE agents. The seven new Black NC sheriffs felt the bill was directed at them. Congresspersons Alma Adams and G. K. Butterfield joined the call for congressional reparations study.

**JULY**

In a 5-4 decision, the U.S. Supreme Court allowed North Carolina's Republican-gerrymandered voting districts to stand, saying that federal courts have no business deciding state legislative issues. Bennett College for Women President, Dr. Phyllis

Worthy Dawkins stepped down after the school exceeded its fundraising goal. Black architect, Phillip Freelon, of Durham died. Congresswoman Alma Adams called President Trump "a racist who is unfit to serve." Redistricting computer files of the late Republican mapmaker, Thomas Hofeller, were allowed as evidence in a State court case seeking to find the 2017 legislative redistricting map unconstitutional. Republican State Supreme Court Associate Justice Paul Newby criticized his Democratic colleagues on the High Court as being liberal. Pres. Trump held a raucous campaign rally in Greenville, causing the Charlotte City Council to condemn his remarks because the RNC planned to hold its 2020 convention there. State Election Board Chair, Robert Cordle, resigned after making off-color joke at a convention. A 71 year old White woman was taped calling a group of Black women "stupid niggers" in a Raleigh restaurant and then said afterwards that she did not regret it.

**AUGUST**

Seven suspects were arraigned in Ninth District absentee ballot fraud case. Gov. Roy Cooper vetoed HB 370, the law that compelled NC sheriffs to work with ICE agents. Lt. Gov. Dan Forest announced his candidacy for governor in 2020. NC NAACP expressed concern that Pres. Trump had nominated conservative UNC law professor, Richard Myers, to become a federal judge in the Eastern District. Presidential candidate, Senator Kamala Harris and NC Chief Justice Cheri Beasley appeared together at St. Joseph's A.M.E. Church in Durham. After 25 years of false imprisonment, Dontae Sharpe was freed.

**SEPTEMBER**

State Sen. Harper Peterson filed a complaint over the possible sale of NHRMC to a private company. Wilmington City Council approved naming Third

Street after Major General (retired) Joseph McNeil, one of the Greensboro Four. Three-judge panel ruled that the 2017 legislative redistricting maps were "unlawful partisan gerrymanders," and ordered them redrawn before the 2020 elections. Hurricane Dorian hit the Outer Banks hard. With Pres. Trump's help, Republicans swept District 3, 9 congressional races. House Republicans overrode Gov. Cooper's budget veto as democrats cried foul. Rep. G. K. Butterfield endorsed former Vice-Pres. Joe Biden for President. All three NC Congressional Democrats backed Speaker Nancy Pelosi's call for an impeachment inquiry into allegations that Pres. Trump tried to bribe the president of Ukraine.

**OCTOBER**

NC NAACP petitioned a federal court for a preliminary injunction to stop North Carolina's voter ID law, saying that it was racial discriminatory. Democrats filed a new lawsuit, challenging the Republican congressional voting map, but this time in State court. Talk show hostess, Oprah Winfrey, surprised a Charlotte luncheon by announcing that she was donating \$1.15 million to the UNCF fundraising event. National NAACP suspended former NC NAACP officer, Rev. Curtis Gatewood, upon allegations of sexual harassment. A new report stated that North Carolina nationally is fourth in Black teen suicides. North Carolinians joined the nation in mourning the death of Maryland Representative, Elijah Cummings. A report confirmed that Black infants in North Carolina die twice as much as Whites. Interim ECSU chancellor resigned amid a video showing him intoxicated in the street. A three-judge panel ordered new congressional maps drawn before the 2020 elections. Former Sen. Kay Hagan and Detroit Congressman John Conyers died.

**NOVEMBER**

African American candi-

date, Kevin Spears, will be the new face on the Wilmington City Council next term, after coming in second in a ten-candidate field. Wilmington Mayor Bill Saffo won a sixth term. The fortieth anniversary of the Greensboro Massacre was observed. Rep. Alma Adams supported Black media baron, Byron Allen, in his U. S. Supreme Court case against Comcast Corp. Chatham County commissioners ordered Pittsboro Confederate statue taken down, despite Elon poll showing most North Carolinians wanted it up. State Supreme Court declined review of new legislative maps. National group headed by former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder challenged new North Carolina congressional maps. NC NAACP again petitioned a federal court to stop voter ID for the 2020 elections. A lawsuit was filed to overturn a law that stopped ex-felons from voting.

**DECEMBER**

The Wilmington police chief is to retire Feb. 2020. Congressional candidates get green light to join others

filing for office. Sixteen and seventeen year olds are no longer charged as adults under new "Raise the Age" law. Sen. Kamala Harris exited presidential race due to a lack of money. Mayor Pete Buttigieg spoke at Rev. Dr. William Barber's church. All schools in the UNC System now have acceptable forms of voter photo ID. UNC paid \$2.5 million for Silent Sam Confederate statue to go to Confederate group. Democrats in Congress voted to reauthorize 1965 Voting Rights Act. UNC law professor, Richard Myers was confirmed as federal judge of North Carolina's Eastern District. Republican former Gov. Pat McCrory and Rep. State Supreme Court Justice Patricia Timmons-Goodson filed for House seat. Gov. Cooper seeks more Black teachers. All three NC Democratic congresspersons voted to impeach Pres. Donald Trump. Congressman John Lewis (D-GA) announced that he is being treated for stage four pancreatic cancer. NC Superior Court Judge Ola Lewis has died of cancer.

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Effective January 9, 2020, The Wilmington Journal's cost will be \$1.00 per copy.  
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Thank you for your continued support.  
*The Staff and Management of The Wilmington Journal*

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



**VOTER ID**

Continued from Page 1

it by law. The NCNAACP alleged that SB 824 was unconstitutional and racially biased as passed by the Republican-led NC legislature, adding that it violated Section 2 of the 1965 Voting Rights Act and the 14th and 15th amendments to the U.S. Constitution. In doing so, the group alleged that the SB 824 was very similar to the 2013 voter ID law that was ultimately ruled unconstitutional because, in the words of the federal court, it targeted African-Americans for voter

suppression with "...surgical precision." The civil rights group sued Gov. Roy Cooper and members of the State Board of Elections [SBOE], the officials tasked with implementing and enforcing the law. Realizing the shrewd legal move left them with no standing, Republican legislative leaders petitioned Judge Biggs last January to become "interveners" in the suit, but she said "no," adding that the SBOE, which opposed the NCNAACP's lawsuit initially, would suffice. However, the SBOE at the time the NCNAACP lawsuit was filed was dissolved, and Gov. Cooper had vetoed SB 824,

saying that "it was designed to suppress the rights of minority, poor and elderly voters." The GOP-led legislature still had a super majority then and promptly overrode Cooper's veto. Thus, at press time, if there is an appeal coming, it will be from either a Democratic-majority SBOE, or Democratic State Attorney General Josh Stein, whose office is tasked with defending the State in court. All of this leaves Republicans trying to pressure both Stein and the SBOE to appeal Judge Biggs' ruling or come up with some legal maneuver of which Biggs would be forced to approve.

Meanwhile, NCNAACP president, Rev. Dr. T. Anthony Spearman, along with Atty. Irving Joyner, chair of the NCNAACP Legal Redress Committee, and Attorney Caitlan Swain, of the nonprofit legal advocacy group, "Forward Together," in Durham, rejoiced during a press conference last Friday, driving home the point that, barring an appeal, voter ID is dead for the March 2020 primaries. Judge Biggs, who sits in the Middle District Court in Winston-Salem, sent notice of her coming ruling on the NCNAACP's petition for a preliminary ruling last Thursday to county BOEs because the

SBOE was planning to send information out to voters about voter ID requirements this week. Judge Biggs acted in order to stop that effort. They expect that trial in which the lawsuit will be heard will proceed and end in time, before the November 2020 elections. Voting rights advocates joined the NCNAACP in celebration. "We applaud the court's action to stop a discriminatory and poorly implemented strict photo voter ID law that would have meant long lines at the polls, election chaos for our counties and, ultimately, disenfranchised eligible voters during the high turnout 2020

Primary," said Tomas Lopez, Executive Director of Democracy NC. "Now the work must immediately begin to make sure eligible voters know that the rules governing their elections have changed again, while emphasizing that what hasn't changed is the importance of them making their voices heard in 2020." This is just one of two lawsuits the NCNAACP has pending against North Carolina's 2018 voter ID law. The other suit, this one against the legitimacy of the 2018 voter ID constitutional amendment, is pending a decision of the Republican-led State Appellate Court. A decision on that one is expected later this year.

**LEWIS**

Continued from Page 1

dignitaries took time to pay tribute to John Lewis. "Congressman John Lewis has been a fighter his entire life, fighting for the equality and civil rights of all people with unwavering faith and wisdom," said Rep. Alma Adams. (D-NC-12) "We are all praying for you

following this diagnosis. John, know that generations of Americans have you in their thoughts & prayers as you face this fight," she said in a statement. "We are all praying that you are comfortable. We know that you will be well," said House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. "If there's one thing I love about @RepJohnLewis, it's his incomparable will to fight. I know he's got a lot more of that left in him. Praying for you, my friend," said former Pres.

Barack Obama. "If there's anyone with the strength and courage to fight this, it's you, John" said former Pres. Bill Clinton. "Hillary and I love you, and we join with millions of other Americans in praying for you and your family." According to Rep. Lewis' congressional website, "He was born the son of sharecroppers on February 21, 1940, outside of Troy, Alabama. He grew up on his family's farm and attended

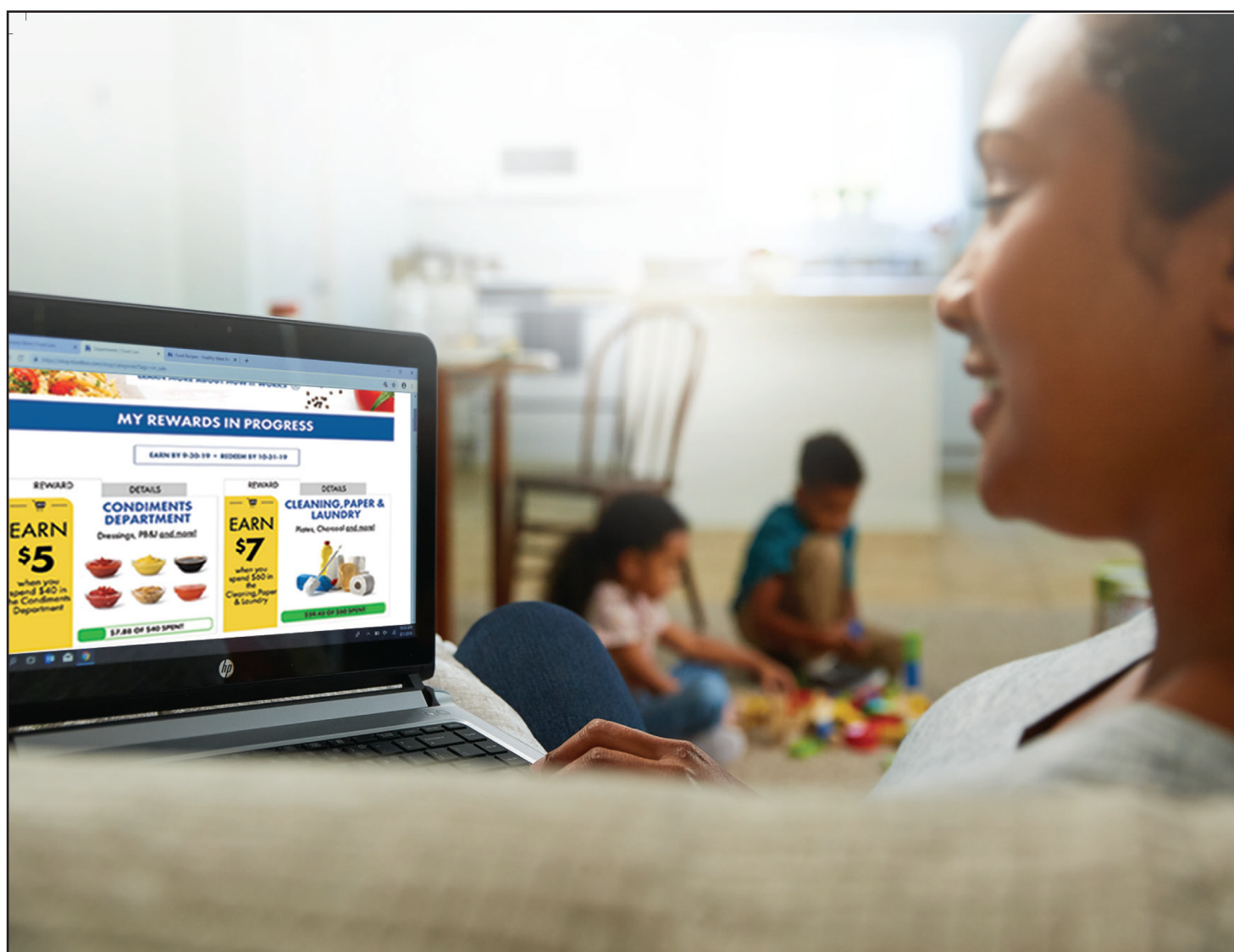
segregated public schools in Pike County, Alabama. As a young boy, he was inspired by the activism surrounding the Montgomery Bus Boycott and the words of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., which he heard on radio broadcasts." "As a student at Fisk University, John Lewis organized sit-in demonstrations at segregated lunch counters in Nashville, Tennessee. In 1961, he volunteered to participate in the Freedom Rides, which chal-

lenged segregation at interstate bus terminals across the South. Lewis risked his life on those rides, many times by simply sitting in seats reserved for White patrons. He was also beaten severely by angry mobs and arrested by police for challenging the injustice of Jim Crow segregation in the South." While still a young man, John Lewis became a nationally recognized leader. By 1963, he was dubbed one of the Big Six leaders of the Civil Rights Movement. At the age of 23, he was an architect of, and a keynote speaker at, the historic March on Washington in August 1963.

Civil Rights leader, and John Lewis led over 600 peaceful, orderly protestors across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama on March 7, 1965. They intended to march from Selma to Montgomery to demonstrate the need for voting rights in the state. The marchers were attacked by Alabama state troopers in a brutal confrontation that became known as "Bloody Sunday." News broadcasts and photographs revealing the senseless cruelty of the segregated South helped hasten the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

He was elected to Congress in November 1986 and has served as U. S. Representative of Georgia's Fifth Congressional District since then. He is Senior Chief Deputy Whip for the Democratic Party in leadership in the House, a member of the House Ways & Means Committee, and Chairman of its Subcommittee on Oversight.

While still a young man, John Lewis became a nationally recognized leader. By 1963, he was dubbed one of the Big Six leaders of the Civil Rights Movement. At the age of 23, he was an architect of, and a keynote speaker at, the historic March on Washington in August 1963. In 1964, John Lewis coordinated SNCC efforts to organize voter registration drives and community action programs during the Mississippi Freedom Summer. The following year, Lewis helped spearhead one of the most seminal moments of the Civil Rights Movement. Hosea Williams, another notable



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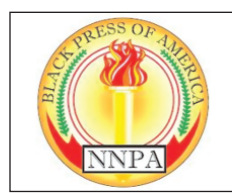
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## OUR VOICE

GUEST EDITORIAL

### RAINBOW COALITION

## The spirit of the Emancipation Proclamation is under attack again today

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

Wednesday, Jan. 1, began the new year. It also marked the anniversary of a new America. On Jan. 1, 1863, as the Civil War, the bloodiest of America's wars, approached the end of its second year, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring "that all persons held as slaves" within the rebellious states "are and henceforward shall be free." The Proclamation was limited to fit wartime necessities. It applied only to the states that had seceded from and were at war with the United States, leaving slavery untouched in loyal border states. It also exempted the parts of the Confederacy that had already come under Northern control. And, of course, the freedom it promised depended on the victory of the North. Yet, the Proclamation's effect was far more expansive than its terms.



Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.

It transformed the war into a war of freedom. As the U.S. Archives summarizes, "Every advance of federal troops expanded the domain of freedom." And of course, it dramatically aided the Union cause, with nearly 200,000 black soldiers and sailors fighting for the Union. The Proclamation was the beginning. Upon victory, Congress passed three amendments to the Constitution - the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments - designed to finish the job of transforming the country that was, in the words of Abraham Lincoln, "half slave and half free" to one in which all were guaranteed - under the Constitution - the "blessings of liberty."

The 13th Amendment outlawed slavery and involuntary servitude; the 14th began to define the rights of citizens and guaranteed equal protection under the law; the 15th prohibited discrimination in the right to vote on the basis of "race, color, or previous condition of servitude." (Ironically, the Constitution still does not guarantee the right to vote to all).

The amendments, forced upon the defeated Southern states as a condition for re-entry into the Union, launched the reconstruction that sought for a few short years to bring the country together. Newly empowered blacks joined with progressive whites to build coalitions that transformed state constitutions, guaranteeing the right to education, launching programs to provide more equal justice under the law.

Sadly, Reconstruction met with fierce reaction across the South. Segregation masters succeeded the slave masters. The Ku Klux Klan, formed by the elites of Southern communities, terrorized newly freed blacks. The right to vote was sabotaged by various tricks and traps, from the poll tax to unequally administered tests on the Constitution, to simple threat and terror. In 1896, the Supreme Court to its shame ruled that apartheid - the mythic "separate but equal" standard - was legal in the United States.

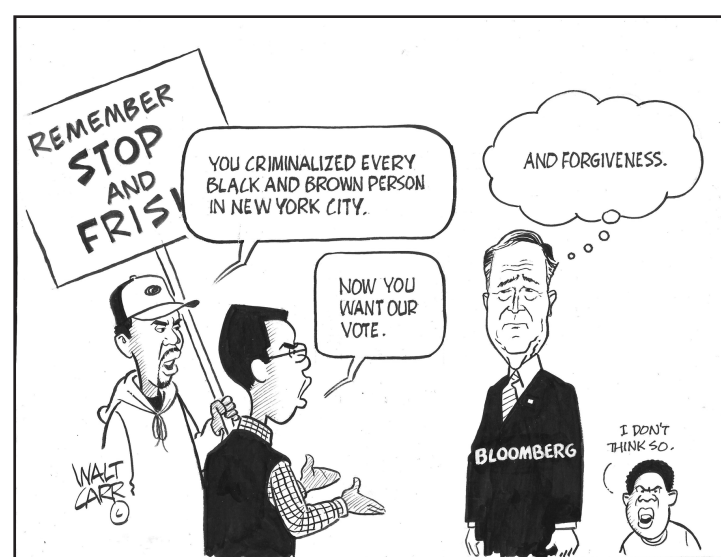
By the turn of the century, segregation was the law of the land. It took 100 years and the historic civil rights movement to overturn that reaction, and to begin to reclaim the promise of equal justice under the law and the revive the right to vote. The civil rights struggle, which united the movement of courageous citizens on the ground with the force of Lyndon Johnson in the White House, produced, among other legislation, the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act that brought America closer to its promise. Today, we once more see the stirrings of reaction against that reconstruction.

Racial division, stoked cynically from the highest offices in the land, once more is on the rise. African Americans, Latinos, Jews, Muslims, gays, women - all once more feel the rise of resentment and often of hate. The Supreme Court has gutted a critical part of the Voting Rights Act. States under reactionary governors are inventing new ways to restrict access to the vote. Will this reaction be as successful as that which undermined the promise of the Emancipation Proclamation? America, I believe, is better than that. Our democracy is stronger than it was then. We can mobilize and vote in large numbers to keep expanding the domain of freedom.

On this Jan. 1 and beyond, let us remember the Emancipation Proclamation, signed by the greatest of our presidents, a Republican, and devote ourselves to redeeming its promise.

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

## Visual Voice



## MATTERS OF OPINION

### Crime after crime

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

A few nights ago I was scrolling through thousands of unread emails trying to get caught up since I had been offline for awhile traveling and attending my brother's funeral. My mind drifting into that deep state of thought we recoil to when we lose a loved one. I figured getting online for a bit would clear my head. Suddenly I heard a beautiful sound, it was the angelic voice of Jen Houston singing a song with words by Elliott Stein called "Crime After Crime". The song's instantly recognizable melody was Time After Time, the chart-topping hit by Cyndi Lauper. The young woman singing the song gave a great review of why Donald Trump had to be impeached. Even the most loyal Trump lovers should understand.



Dr. E. Faye Williams

The words went like this. "Lying about everything; don't matter if it's small or big. Trying to solicit other countries to do election rigs. Taxes unpaid. Net worth not so high.

Money laundered. Crime After Crime; conflicts of interest like trademarks in China. (Ivanka Trump filed at least 8 last year.) Sexual harassment like grabbing vaginas. Spilling intelligence, putting spies at risk, obstructing justice. He's a thug. He's a crook. He's our President. Crime After Crime. When he's gone, well, the book, they will throw at him. Crime After Crime. He's insane. Narcissistic. Can't help himself. Crime After Crime. When he falls, well, the cops, they will be waiting. Crime After Crime. (Trump boldly says Russia, if you're listening, I hope you're able to find the 30,000 emails." (Reporter says, 'If Russia, if China, if someone else offers information on an opponent should they accept it or should they call

the FBI?" Trump says, "I think you might want to listen." To be clear, Trump goes on with, "China, should start an investigation into the Bidens." He chooses Putin instead of the CIA. Crime After Crime. Reducing his debt load by demanding lower interest rates, Secret Service to hide his quid pro quo. Hosting summits at Mar-A-Lago. He's a con man, a crook. That's our President. Crime After Crime. Pardons dangled to White House aides to break the law. Grammar mangled. He's a grifter, a crook. That's our President. Crime After Crime. He's insane. Narcissistic. Can't help himself. Crime After Crime. When he falls, well, the cops they will be waiting. Crime After Crime. Crime After Crime. Crime After Crime.

The song and video (available on Facebook) end with 45 sitting down and a prison door smoothly slamming as the melody closes out. Like a child learning their ABC's sometimes folks need a melody with catchy lyrics to learn and fully understand. The multitude of crimes, both high and low perpetuated and or facilitated by Donald Trump are staggering. Even this song with all of its verses will most likely have additional lyrics to later be worked in, or a Crime After Crime part two. America is a nation of laws, however, that very cornerstone of our democracy is full-on under attack. The real damage caused can not simply be sang away. As my dear friend, Dick Gregory would say, "wars are not fought by entertainers, wars are fought by soldiers". It is time for this government to enact the checks and balances granted to them by the Constitution. How long? We can and must do better. For those who remain unclear, I invite them to sing along to Crime After Crime.

"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.

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## The thriving system of convict labor

(Via TriceEdneWire.com)

As 2019 ticked to a close, the screamingly outrageous headlines have not slowed. Every day there is something, whether it is a flurry of presidential tweets or yet another Republican spouting off about something or other. Who would have thought, though, that amid the Christmas holiday we would learn that billionaire candidate Michael Bloomberg is using convicted prisoners to make calls for his campaign?



Dr. Julianne Malveaux

He will say he did not know. Or, that "anybody" might have made a similar mistake. After all, subcontracting is the name of the predatory capitalist game. That's how a convict labor exploiter can bid to pay \$7.25 an hour for a job that might pay \$11 or \$12 an hour on the open market. However, the prisoners will see nothing like \$7.25 an hour. Try paying these folks just a dollar an hour or so. The subcontractor, who pays the incarcerated just a dollar for a fair wage, would have to pay ten times that in the regular job sector. Someone who was not exploiting convict labor couldn't compete with the low pay prisoners are earning.

Those who own stock in these prison labor companies are getting their profits, too.

The companies who subcontract with prisons are making three or four times what they might earn if they used general labor. The use of convict labor is one of the cruelest illustrations of the evils of predatory capitalism. Predatory capitalists extract surplus resources by tilting the rules of the game to favor capital instead of labor. People who are working full time are getting pennies to the dollar in the name of "crime and punishment."

So, here's the Bloomberg story. The three-term mayor of New York contracted with a firm to make phone calls for his fledgling campaign. The women, incarcerated at a facility in Oklahoma, are obliged to say they are calling for the Bloomberg campaign. They don't have to disclose that they are incarcerated. Anyone receiving a call is given the impression that they are being called by a campaign volunteer, not an exploited worker.

Oklahoma limits the amount of money an inmate can make to \$27 a month. This money may go for things like phone calls, snacks, or other "prison comfort." If Pro Com, the company that runs the prison work, says it pays \$7.25 an hour for prison labor, but inmates can't earn more than \$27 a month, who wants to bet that these prisoners are working just four hours to reach their maximum monthly pay? Or is Oklahoma paying them a dollar or so an hour, and profiting from their work by keeping the rest of the money?

In this twenty-first century, we are mired in a 19th century predatory convict labor system. Inmates aren't only making phone calls for Bloomberg's campaign. They are also making furniture for state office buildings, processing motor vehicle requests, and being used as low-cost substitutes for workers who might be fairly paid. The worst of it is that the work inmates are doing does not guarantee them a job post-incarceration. Instead, their "experience" opens no doors for any future opportunities.

Mike Bloomberg should have known better than to subcontract with an exploitative company, but he is probably not the only one doing it. Subcontracting is the norm these days, but few ask who is doing the subcontracting. Top label designers have low-paid women stitching their garments. Call centers can contract with low paid workers in their communities, or they can save 70 percent by contracting with convict labor. This practice is not only a wake-up call for Mayor Bloomberg, it is also a wake-up call for anyone who is playing in the subcontracting space.

Lots of people like to play "woke" and economically progressive. But if your "woke" and cost-cutting ways sideline the people who work for you, then you aren't actually "woke", you are just a predatory capitalist, placing profits over people. Economic justice and profit maximization may be incompatible.

After he was outed, Mayor Bloomberg said he and his campaign did not know that Pro Com, had contracted with the convict labor providers, and he moved to sever the relationship quickly. Good for him, but Bloomberg is smart enough to ask questions before contracting - not a great move for a candidate who seems to have more money than sense.

African Americans are nearly half of those incarcerated in this country, despite being just about 13 percent of the population. This incarceration is a throwback to enslavement when Black folks got major penalties for minor offenses. The convict labor system, especially, oppresses Black people, and the Bloomberg case makes it all too apparent.

Convict labor is exploitation and an abomination. It makes black bodies a profit center for capitalistic exploitation. Companies like Pro Com must be held accountable, but so should the many others who thrive on contract labor. It is time to put an end to this exploitation. Instead of throwing billions into his long-shot campaign, why can't Michael Bloomberg spend a billion or two stopping convict labor?

Dr. Julianne Malveaux is an economist, author, media contributor and educator. Her latest project MALVEAUX! On UDC TV is available on youtube.com. For booking, wholesale inquiries or for more info visit www.julianne-malveaux.com.

Tell them you read it in THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL



# The danger of the “ethno-nationalist” state

(Via NNPA NewsWire.com)

One of the most common features of right-wing populist and fascist movements is the demand for ethnic and/or racial purity. During the course of the 20th century we saw it in its most egregious forms in colonial and white minority regimes in the global South, and in the Nazi-led persecution and, later, Holocaust against the Jews.

Ethnic regimes were largely ignored in the mainstream media of the global North until the early 1990s, even when troubling events, such as genocide in Burundi, were unfolding. It was only with the disintegration of the former Yugoslavia in the early 1990s and the Rwanda genocide (1994) that it

became more than apparent that another wave of ethnic cleansing and ethno-nationalist regimes were unfolding.

What are ethno-nationalist regimes? They are political systems that quite openly privilege the alleged rights of a given ethnic or so-called racial group. Apartheid South Africa was certainly an example of a long-running such regime. But the Rwanda genocide when right-wing Hutus went to war to openly eliminate Tutsis (and those Hutus who allied with Tutsis) using the pretext of a civil war, was yet another example.

Right-wing populist leaders such as Donald Trump in the USA, Benjamin Netanyahu in Israel and Narendra Modi in India are quintessential examples of leaders who promote ethno-nationalist regimes. Contrary to early 20th century fascists and 19th century “scientific racists,” they do not rely on the rhetoric of racial superiority or inferiority in justifying their politics. Rather they argue either the incompatibility

of different racial/ethnic groups and/or that the specific racial/ethnic group which they claim to represent has been, allegedly, aggrieved over the years.

The situation in India at this very moment is illustrating the evolving and serious dangers of ethno-nationalist regimes. The political forces around Modi and his political party—the BJP—have been promoting anti-Muslim rhetoric and practices for years. Their objective is nothing short of eliminating the secular basis of India and replacing it with a Hindu ethno-nationalist state. The recent legislation advanced by Modi and passed in Parliament that offers citizenship to refugees from neighboring countries UNLESS they happen to be Muslim demonstrates the depths of depravity of such regimes. It is, therefore, not surprising that India is exploding.

Netanyahu is a close cousin—politically speaking—of Modi’s. He and his party—the Likud—have always aimed

to eliminate the Palestinian presence from not only the occupied Palestinian territories, but from Israel itself. But it is not only the Palestinians that Netanyahu, et al. wish to eliminate. The language of the regime when it comes to other alleged outsiders is particularly provocative and echoes that of Hindu fascists in India in describing undocumented immigrants, in the case of Israel, as “infiltrators.”

Right-wing populism and ethno-nationalism have become major parts of the global political landscape. It is not only the appearance of Donald Trump; nor is it just Britain’s Boris Johnson. It has emerged, like chicken pox, in numerous places. And, if one is not careful, it can emerge even within the ranks of the oppressed when, in desperation, we sometimes seek to distinguish ourselves from some “Other.”

*Bill Fletcher, Jr. is the executive editor of global-africanworker.com and the former president of TransAfrica Forum.*



Bill Fletcher

# CRAZY FAITH MINISTRIES Where do we go from here?

On this, the dawn of not only a new year, but a new decade, the question posed by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1965 is ironically the question that many are asking today.

In 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act, a crowning achievement after more than a century of hard-fought battles to get Black people in America the right to vote. People had been beaten, arrested, and some had died, as they worked to wrest away from white people their power to keep Blacks from exercising their right to vote.

Dr. King said that the bill before the president was “born in violence” where a “stubborn sheriff...stumbled against the future.” Whites were just as determined to keep blacks out of the polls as blacks were determined to enter them.

White backlash erupted and has continued to the present day, and now, on the eve of an election that will have a more profound effect on this country and what it stands for, the right of black people to vote is again at the center of attention.

White people still do not want black people to vote. In the tradition of white supremacist arrogance, white nationalists are working strategically and methodically to keep black people in their place, which, believe the nationalists, is not in the state and federal halls of lawmakers.

Although Dr. King worked for the establishment and practice of the “beloved community,” many white people still do not want it. Dr. King asked in 1965, “where do we go from here?” In light of the work for justice for black people, would there be community or chaos?

The question seems to have been answered as, under this administration, the practitioners of chaos based on race are rearing their heads, from the president, to the attorney general, to the Republican senators, to even the Supreme Court justices. Community seems to be more a pipedream than ever before.

There is a boldness of the people in control who are fighting to stay in control. GOP operatives have admitted that voter suppression techniques will be practiced in 2020, and aggressively so. (<https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-news/trump-adviser-voter-suppression-in-2020-930453/>) After the Georgia gubernatorial race in 2016, candidate Stacey Abrams’ loss to Brian Kemp, who was the Georgia Secretary of State at the time of the election, Abrams launched a project to address the voter suppression she documented as having been key factor in the results and said late in this year that she doubts there will be fair elections in the 2020 presidential elections. (<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2019/08/19/stacey-abrams-fight-for-a-fair-vote>).

That boldness is being bolstered by a claim by white nationalists that God is behind and is supportive of what is happening in this country. Even as black, brown, poor, and other marginalized people fight for their rights as American citizens, Evangelicals on the Right are pushing identity politics front and center, even as some of them decry liberation theology, a discipline introduced to this country by the late James Cone, as an affront against the will of God. (<https://capstonereport.com/2019/08/18/akin-attacks-conservative-southern-baptist-critics-as-theological-gestapo/32939/>)

There is a group of progressive whites who are on and have been on the battlefield for the rights of black and brown people, but many feel they have been too silent, especially as concerns the lifting of the name and will of God in the fight for equality.

Bolstered by a fear that the white race might become the minority population in this country (<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/22/us/white-americans-minority-population.html>), whites in power are fighting for, it seems, their ethnic existence. They are not concerned with community as Dr. King defined and understood it. They are willing to drive the country toward complete chaos (some even threatening that there will be a civil war should the current president lose the 2020 election) in order to hold onto power. (<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/28/us/politics/trump-2020-trumpstock.html>)

The prayer is that there will be more people interested in building community than fanning the flames of hatred and fear that can only end in chaos as we enter this new year. One wonders what Rep. John Lewis (D-Georgia) thinks as he recalls the work he and so many others did to get black people the right to vote, only to see it being so severely threatened today. Getting the right to vote was critical to the work Lewis and others did, and one cannot help but recall the words of the mother of the late Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-MD) who recalled that his mother said to him before she died in 2018, “Do not let them take our votes away from us.”

On the eve of the new year, even as it seems this country is barreling toward chaos, the hope is that those who desire community and justice for all will take Mrs. Cummings’ words to heart.

We have come too far to do otherwise. *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.*



Rev. Susan K. Smith

# Looking to 2020 — Put your vote to WORK!

(Via NNPA NewsWire.com)

If you work for a living but are somewhat up in the air about who to vote for in 2020 or for that matter, if you should even bother getting to that crowded polling place, I’d like to ask that you indulge me for a minute.

Because I’ve got a story to tell you that might help with your decision. A story of working people and politicians who are working against all of us — everyday.

I’d like to go back to 1980, the year that Ronald Reagan was campaigning to the 40th president of the United States. Much of his rhetoric was designed to appeal to labor and the working men and women of this country, promising to protect jobs, to support policies that would create more jobs and put unemployed Americans back to work.

**Promises betrayed**  
The reality of his presidency and his policies came down somewhat differently.

In fact, President Reagan’s eight years in office were devastating for labor and the middle class. He was a champion of deregulation, which systematically weakened workplace safety standards and record-keeping. He specifically went after labor by appointing three management-friendly National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) members, causing the NLRB to depart from its legal obligation to actively promote collective bargaining — the constitutional right and underlying principle for the existence of unions. During his presidency, NLRB caseloads were drastically cut and the cases that did go forward went from the recent 33 percent finding in favor of employers to 75 percent favoring employers.

His economic policies shifted the tax burden away from the wealthy and onto the back of middle-class Americans.

So, why am I bringing up this sad history here in the last days of 2019?

Because Ronald Reagan, who turned his back on

organized labor and started America’s middle-class into a tailspin from which it has never recovered, has recently been voted by this administration’s hand-picked NLRB into the Labor Hall of Fame. I think that speaks volumes. Clearly, they have taken a page from the Old Gipper’s playbook. And clearly, it should serve as a dire warning of what is to come should we continue with the status quo.

**Stacked against us**  
Today, an NLRB even more conservative than President Reagan’s has moved as fast as it could to make it more difficult for unions to organize.

In December of 2017, the board overturned a rule that had made it easier to organize smaller units of workers in big factories and stores.

Another decision made it tougher for workers at fast-food restaurants and other franchised operations to unionize. What’s more, this board is further encroaching on labor by looking to slow unionization elections, a move that, as we all know too well, would give corporations more time to pressure workers to vote NO.

Here at the UAW, we saw those stalling hijinks in action in Chattanooga this summer with the effort to organize Volkswagen and give its workers a real say in their work lives.

This administration hasn’t stopped at turning the NLRB into the Chamber of Commerce. Let’s look at the Supreme Court.

Justice Neil Gorsuch was confirmed in the first few months of this administration and he delivered the conservative anti-labor edge to the Janus case almost as soon as he was installed. Gorsuch, who had close ties with groups that bankrolled Janus, cast the deciding vote in a decision that prohibited public sector unions from collecting fees from non-members.

This devastating decision reversed 41 years of precedent and overturned laws in the 22 states that have not adopted “Right-to-Work” policies. And all signs indicate that, when he is not drinking beer, the administration’s second appointee, Justice Bret Kavanaugh will be just as awful.

The Huffington Post in sizing him up as anti-labor, recounted the time when a New York manufacturer created a new spinoff company

to avoid bargaining with unionized workers. Federal regulators and a panel of appellate judges said the manufacturer broke the law and violated its employees’ rights.

There was, however, one judge who dissented in the appeals decision and sided with the employer: Brett Kavanaugh.

Say no more. **Supremely anti-labor**  
A Legal Aid lawyer put it this way, “Along with [Justice Neil] Gorsuch, [Brett Kavanaugh] is the ideal of a Koch brothers judge. He’ll be anti-labor and anti-worker.”

Of course, just as disturbing when it comes to the courts is this fact: While the Supreme Court gets the attention, it’s the lower courts that decide the bulk of the cases. In lockstep with the anti-worker overhaul of our courts, more pro-management judges have been appointed to the federal appeals courts than at any other time in our recent history, and one out of every four circuit court judges have been installed by the current administration.

And the latest anti-labor move? The nomination and seating of Eugene Scalia as Secretary of Labor, a position that historically enforces workers’ rights and U.S. labor laws. This includes laws meant to protect workers from unsafe workplaces, overtime violations, and employee misclassification. I quite honestly cannot think of anyone less likely to safeguard these protections.

Here is a highlight reel:

Back in 2006, he helped Walmart and other corporations win a lawsuit against the state of Maryland, stopping large companies from having to contribute to their employees’ health care plans or Medicaid. In 2011, he got behind Boeing’s threats to move jobs to a “Right-to-Work” state during union contract negotiations. Additionally, he defended casino boss Steve Wynn in his efforts to force casino card dealers to split their tips with pit bosses.

And here’s one for you: Scalia argued that SeaWorld had no responsibility for the violent death of one of its Orca trainers and instead blamed the victim!

**Unsafe at work**  
And finally, we must consider the current disregard for worker safety. In 2017, 5,197 workers went to work

and never returned home to their families. That is an average of 99 workers a week losing their lives while making the rich, richer. And this number can be added to the 2.8 million on the job non-fatal injuries and illnesses reported, with nearly 900,000 of them resulting in lost workdays. Current administration memorandums and executive orders have frozen new regulatory protections since the 2016 election.

Rules requiring employers to keep accurate injury and illness records and to disclose safety, health, and labor violations to qualify for federal contracts have been repealed.

Consider this: There are about 2,100 inspectors to inspect more than 8 million workplaces around the nation. That is roughly one inspector for every 59,000 workers or enough inspectors to inspect workplaces once every 150 years or so.

I ask you, what do we do with this? Is it expecting too much to go to work in the morning and come home safe to your loved ones at the end of the day?

**I’ll tell you what we do. WE VOTE!**

And we vote for candidates that support the millions of working men and women in this country. Vote to keep our jobs, to keep workers safe, to protect the right to organize and to have a voice in the workplace.

Take this voting season as an opportunity to tell your own story. The story of millions of hard-working Americans that our country so desperately needs to hear. A story of how we rose up in the face of increasing wage inequality, lack of healthcare, job security and threats to a meaningful retirement; rampant corporate greed and a shrinking middle class.

Labor also faces challenges at the ballot box despite rallying their membership base. Look no further than the Presidential election of 2000 with hanging chads, deleted registered voter rolls in the 2018 Georgia Governor’s race, and the 2018 Florida Governor’s race won by a 50% to 49% margin after a recount. All three races lost by the final vote count and all three were labor endorsed candidates.

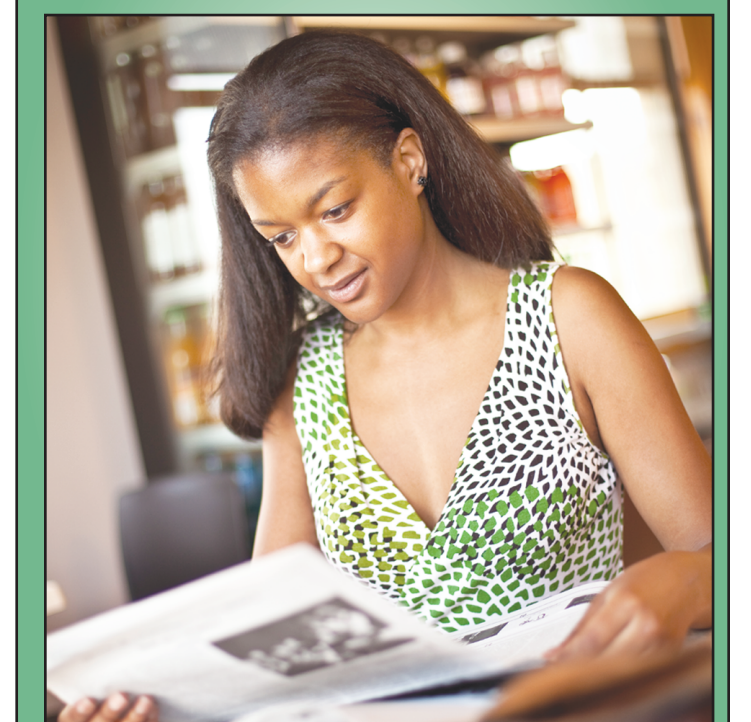
Think your vote doesn’t count? Please think again.  
*Ray Curry, Secretary-Treasurer, UAW*



**“If the lions do not write their own history, then the hunters will get all the credit.”**

**--AN AFRICAN PROVERB**

# THE BLACK PRESS: USE It or LOSE It!





## SOC Emancipation Day Program held

BY WILLIAM FLYTHE  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Save Our Community (SOC) Organization of Southport held its twenty-eighth Emancipation Day Program at Friendship Baptist Church on December 27. Norman Jones, master of ceremonies, opened the program by asking the audience to sing "Lift Every Voice and Sing". Aniyah Ray (Brown's Chapel AMEZ) read the Scripture (Exodus 3:7-12), Samantha Lindsey (First Baptist) prayed, and Sister Beatrice Flythe (Friendship) gave the welcome. Sister Pamela Ferguson (St. James AMEZ) reviewed the objectives of the organization. She noted that SOC has concentrated in recent years on sponsoring the Emancipation Proclamation Program in December; the Student Recognition Program in June, and a Bible Quiz Bowl in September.

four local churches-Davina Daley (Friendship), Josettah Ray (Brown's Chapel), Cassie Pollock (Mt. Carmel), and Pamela Ferguson (St. James)-shared information on Frederick Douglas (freedom fighter), Ida B. Wells (journalist), Coretta Scott King (civil rights activist), and Carter G. Woodson (Father of Black History Month), respectively.

The introduction of the inspirational speaker, Christina Brown, was made by her sister, Megan Brown. Christina described her academic struggles during her transition from high school to college. She gave her seven values or tips ("Ups") for success: Wake Up (positive attitude), Dress Up (smile), Listen Up (sense of direction), Stand Up (lead), Look Up (God is our armor), Reach Up (support of friends), and Lift Up (prayers). She encouraged students to take their studies seriously and hold themselves to a higher standard. So, no matter how



SOC Youth Choir led by Minister Lenda Hankins and Corbett Hankins

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

tough the road may get, keep working and striving to reach your goals.

Musical selections were pre-

sented throughout the program by the SOC Youth Choir under the direction of Minister Lenda Hankins and Corbett

Hankins. Deacon William Flythe, SOC President, shared his experience with the speaker in Sunday school, SOC, and

ROCAME. Reverend Ronald Davis (Pastor, Mt. Carmel AME Church) gave the grace and benediction.

### Mount Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church

1111 North Fifth Avenue Wilmington, NC 28401

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Ministry



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Rt. Reverend James Levert Davis - Presiding Prelate  
Reverend Artie Odom - Presiding Elder, Northern District  
Reverend Jerould Richburg - Pastor  
Mrs. Lula Davis - Stewardess Board President

### CFCC Associate Degree Nursing program ranked #1 in North Carolina for 2020

WILMINGTON, NC - The Cape Fear Community College Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program has been ranked number one in the NursingProcess.org Best Schools in North Carolina for Registered Nursing (ADN/ASN) Programs - 2020 rankings list.

The CFCC ADN program ranked first among ten RN

(ADN/ASN) programs in the state that were recognized. All 88 Schools in North Carolina offering nursing education were analyzed to develop the list of the best schools for associate degree programs in nursing.

The scores and rankings for each school were based on four broad areas, including academic quality, NCLEX-RN exam

performance, affordability, and the overall reputation of the school.

"We are proud to be recognized by NursingProcess.org for the accomplishments of our Associate Degree Nursing program. Our outstanding nursing faculty is focused on quality education and student success," said Dr. Mary Ellen Naylor, dean of health sci-

ences. "The success of our nursing students exemplifies the commitment CFCC has to prepare graduates who are committed and eager to be part of a team meeting the health-care needs of our community."

For more information about the Cape Fear Community College Associate Degree Nursing program, visit [cfcc.edu/associate-nursing](http://cfcc.edu/associate-nursing).

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[uncw.edu/presents](http://uncw.edu/presents)  
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Accommodations for disabilities may be requested by calling 910.962.3500 at least three days prior to the event. UNCW is an EEO/AA institution.



**Ella Louise Jordan**

Ella Louise Jordan died December 14, 2019. Funeral services were held on Friday, December 20, 2019 at Faith Temple COGIC. Burial followed in Oak Grove Cemetery.

Ella, the second of four children was born on November 26, 1939, to the late Joseph and Lula Bell Jordan in Wilmington, NC. Encouraging moral and spiritual values, she was reared in a Christian home and attended Myrtle Grove First Born Holiness Church. She attended New Hanover County Public Schools, graduating from Williston Senior High School in 1957. After graduation, she relocated to New York. There, she received employment at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City. There she received training as a Nurse's Assistant and Unit Clerk until 1962 when she began working at Brooklyn Jewish Hospital in Brooklyn, NY. In 1964, she joined Hudson Temple COGIC. In 1982, she moved back to Wilmington to be with her mother and secured a position as Patient Care Technician at New Hanover Regional Medical Center, serving for 15 years, 2 years of Comprehensive Care and concluding her employment history at Liberty Commons, retiring in 2000. In 2002 she began volunteering as a Desk Receptionist at NHRMC. She joined her sister, Alvenia Mims as a member of Faith Temple COGIC under the leadership of Bishop Cornelius Ellis Anderson, Sr. She served on the choir, usher board, was President of the Nurses Unit, Trustee Board, Pastor's Aide Committee and Communion Committee. She volunteered at the Division of Prisons, Women's Halfway House and served as a mentor to the ladies as they transitioned back into society. Sister Jordan loved her family and church family. In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by her sisters, Hattie Mae Bryant and Alvenia Marie Mims and her brother, Superintendent William Foster Jordan.

She leaves to cherish her memory: children, Ester Yvette Wilkerson and Leslie A. Wilkerson both of Charlotte, NC; her beloved granddaughter, Shade Latara Abston; sister-in-law, Mary Jordan of Savannah, GA; aunt, Olivia Hardy; three godsons; two goddaughters; a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Ronnie C. Newkirk**

Ronnie C. Newkirk Funeral services were held on Thursday, December 26, 2019 at Enoch Chapel Missionary Baptist Church. Burial followed in the Newkirk Family Cemetery, Burgaw, North Carolina.

Ronnie, son of the late Kenneth and Mary Helen Newkirk was born on December 24, 1956. Ronnie was educated in the Pender County Public School System, graduating from Atkinson High School. He continued his education and received his Optician License, becoming one of the only Black Opticians in the State of North Carolina. Ronnie rededicated his life to Christ this year and joined Enoch Missionary Baptist church under the guidance of Reverend Alfred Jackson. He was well loved by his family and friends. He married Angela Evans in 1996. In addition to his parents, Ronnie was preceded in death by two sisters and one brother.

He leaves to cherish fond memories, his wife, Angela Evans Newkirk of the home; his three children; his first born, Devin Graham (Betsy) of Leland, NC and Ashley and Alex, the youngest of the home; two wonderful grandchildren, Devin Jr. and Amina; one sister, Gloria Williams (Ronald) of Watha, NC; one brother, Reginald Newkirk of Jacksonville, NC; two brothers-in-law, Robert Evans (Debra) of Leland, NC and

Tony Evans (Wanda) of Atlanta, GA; one sister-in-law, of Jacksonville, NC; and a host of other relatives and friends, including his best friend, his dog, "Destiny". *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Willie Carl Redd**

Willie Carl Redd Funeral services were held Saturday, December 28, 2019 at Bethel United Holiness Church. Burial followed in Bethel Cemetery. Willie, known as Billy, son of the late James Mays and Beatrice Redd, of Wilmington, North Carolina, was born on June 30, 1941. He enjoyed his family and listening to gospel music, especially the Mississippi Mass Choir. He also enjoyed outdoor chores. Billy served in the National Guard. He leaves to cherish his memory: six children, Terrell, Keith, Terry, Arlene, Angela and John; three sisters, Lillie Pearl Harris of Salisbury, MD, Ethel McClammy and Seanetta Dixon (Joe); three brothers, Leroy Mays, Joe mays and Larry Mays (Clara), all of Wilmington, NC; a host of grand children, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Evelena Dukes Leslie**

Evelena Dukes Leslie died December 20, 2019. Funeral services were held Friday, December 27, 2019 at Ephesus SDA Church. Burial followed in Greenlawn Memorial Park.

A precious, beautiful baby girl named Evelena was born on January 5, 1931 to the late Willie Moses Dukes, Sr. and Mary Isabelle Stanley Dukes, who preceded her in death. She met and married the absolute love of her life, Clyde Rufus Leslie and remained in harmonious matrimony until his death on August 7, 1975. Evelena was an excellent wife, mother, sister, auntie coworker and friend. She did what ever needed to be done without slothfulness. She was diligent and trustworthy. She was educated in New Hanover County Schools and as life evolved delayed her education to work and raise her son. However, as a true testament to her resilience and strength she returned to her educational endeavors, in her late seventies and completed and received her GED. Evelena committed her life to Christ at an early age and eventually joined Ephesus Seventh Day Adventist Church of Wilmington, NC. She was a dependable and faithful servant of the Lord and willingly served in various roles. She sang in the adult choir, served as an usher, a finance committee member and famously on the dining room committee. In whatever capacity she was needed, she served. Evelena was very well known throughout the community. She was a most excellent chef and baker. She enjoyed cooking and was employed for over 40 years with Heironymus Seafood Restaurant where she treasured coworkers, who affectionately called her "Ms. Eve, became a part of her extended family. She enjoyed working there so much that she did not want to stop. She would always say "I'd rather wear our than rust out." Upon her retirement, the local news station, WECT, interviewed and aired a feature story about her life's work and impending retirement at the ripe old age of 85. She said, "I don't know why they want to put me on TV." She was ever so humble and never wanted anyone to make a fuss about her. Evelena was soft spoken but her life of service to the Lord, her family and friends shined brightly and loudly. She was strong willed, determined and lived her life purposefully. She loved and sacrificed for her family, church, job and friends. She was a shining example of strong work ethic, faith and love. She was preceded in death by her sisters, Mary Frances Pearson and Katherine Dukes Baity; brothers, John Dukes, Herman Dukes, Haskell

Dukes, Eddie Dukes, Thomas Dukes, George Dukes and Willie Dukes, Jr.

She is survived by: one son, Rev. Leroy Dukes (Roline); three grandchildren, Derek Dukes (Twon) of Raleigh, NC, Trenetta Kelly (Talmadge) of Leland, NC and John McMullen of Wilmington, NC; three great-grandchildren, Brittney, Trenesha and Jaylen; two sisters, Gladys L. Dukes of Wilmington, NC and Elizabeth Dukes Parker of Leland, NC; sister-in-law, Lillian Robinson, and a host of nieces, nephews other relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Brian Keith White "Sleepy"**

Brian Keith White "Sleepy" died December 26, 2019. Memorial services will be held 12:00 noon Saturday, January 4, 2019 at St. Stephen AME Church. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home*

**William Springer**

William Springer died December 30, 2019. Funeral services will be held 2:00 p.m. Saturday, January 4, 2019 at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church. Burial will follow in Pollock Cemetery. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Jaheim J. Washington**

Jaheim J. Washington, son of Elaina McRae and James J. Washington was born on September 14, 2001. He departed this earthly life on December 11, 2019. Funeral services were held on Saturday, December 11, 2019 at Davis Funeral Home.

Jaheim was educated in the New Hanover County School System, attending E. A. Laney High School and Cape Fear Community College. He loved playing his X-Box, exercising, playing pool, making everyone laugh and being around his family and friends.

He will be greatly missed. He leaves to cherish fond memories: his mother, Elaina McRae of Wilmington, NC; his father, James J. Washington of Wilmington, NC; siblings, Jaquaries J. Washington, JaHelyah Washington and Semaj B. Washington; grandparents, James Miller III (Emil Mallette), Linda Washington and Ricky Allen all of Wilmington, NC and Diria Thompson of Manhattan, NY; great grandparents, James Miller Jr. and Florence Washington of Germantown, PA; aunts, D'Asoa Washington, Lasheikka Washington Andrews and Neciy Washington; uncles, Mike Washington and Pete Washington; great-aunts, Harriett Allen, Laurice Allen, Phyllis Allen and Donna Allen; great-uncles, Terry Allen and Milton Allen; a favorite niece, Onyx Latrice Washington; a favorite cousin, Tymeel Andrews; and a host of other relatives and friends, including special friends, Olin Hobbs, Savion Wilson, Quay and Montaisha Sutton. *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.*

**Johnnie M. Fields**

Johnnie M. Fields, age 88, of Wilmington, passed away Monday, December 16, 2019. A celebration of Ms. Fields' life was held on Monday, December 23, 2019 at Warner Temple A.M.E. Zion Church. Interment followed in Duplin Memorial Gardens.

She leaves to cherish her memories, her children, Shelita Baldwin of Wilmington and Michael Cromartie of Raleigh, 6 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and a host of other relatives and friends. *Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at*

[www.davisfuneralhomenc.com](http://www.davisfuneralhomenc.com).

**Francene Bell**

Francene Thomas Bell, age 71, of Wilmington, passed away, Tuesday, December 17, 2019. A memorial service and celebration of Ms. Bell's will be conducted at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, January 4, 2020 at Davis Funeral Home, 901 S 5th Ave., Wilmington, NC 28401.

Her love and memories will remain in the heart of her children, Melissa Bell-Gunn (Martin) of Georgetown, SC and Joel V. Bell, III of Wilmington; sisters, Delores T. King and Patricia T. Brown of Wilmington; grandchildren, Joshua, Miles, Madison and Morgan 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.*

**Devoil E. Devane, Sr.**

Devoil E. Devane, Sr., age 75, of Wilmington, passed away Friday, December 20, 2019. A celebration of Mr. Devane's life was held on Thursday, December 26, 2019 at First Baptist Missionary Church. Interment followed in Greenlawn Memorial Park.

He leaves to cherish his memories his wife, Barbara A. Devane of the home; children, Devoil E. Devane, Jr., Detonell A. Devane and Shirley M. Jordan all of Wilmington, Retha M. Threatt (Stan) of Panama City, FL and Clyde J. McRae of New York, NY; siblings, George Devane (Marie), Elaine Phillips, Willie Devane, Debra Devane, Adrian Devane and Ronnie Devane all of Wilmington, Chester Devane (Sharon) of Garner and Bobby Devane (Chanel) of Mitchellville, MD; 4 grandchildren, 10 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.*

**Dorothy Thomas**

Dorothy Vernell Thomas, affectionately known as "Candie", was

called to her eternal resting place on Thursday, December 26, 2019, at Lower Cape Fear Hospice. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, December 31, 2019. Interment followed in Greenlawn Memorial Park.

Candie was born July 21, 1947 to the late Dixie Mapson, Jr., and Gladys Brown Mapson, of Leland, NC.

Candie was educated in the Brunswick County school system. She was a member of the graduating class of 1964, Lincoln High school. Academically she excelled and was promoted from grade four to six. Candie was an active member of the Lincoln Alumni.

She was employed with E. I. Dupont, where she retired after working for over 31 years. She prided herself in never being late for work.

At a very young age Candie accepted Jesus as her Lord and Savior and joined Mt. Calvary A.M.E. Church of Navassa, NC. She was an active member of Class #11. Candie faithfully served on the usher board in the capacity of the secretary.

Candie enjoyed laughter, traveling, crossword puzzles and the television game show "Jeopardy". She was the queen of punctuality, and always wanted to be ahead of time for everything.

Candie was preceded in death by her older sister, Delores G. Chatman her earthly father, Dixie Mapson, Jr., and a special lifetime friend, Frances Smith.

Candie leaves to cherish her memories her husband of 46 years, Harry L. Thomas of the home; daughter, Alycia D. Thomas (Cassell Murphy) of Navassa; son, Chivale Thomas (Natasha) of Wilmington; stepson, Adrian Thomas, Madison 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.*

**Hazel Lee Miller**

Elder Hazel Lee Miller, age 64, of Wilmington, passed away Thursday, December 26, 2019. A celebration of Elder Miller's life

will be conducted at 12:00 PM, Friday, January 3, 2020 at Union Missionary Baptist Church, 2711 Princess Place Drive, Wilmington, NC 28405. Interment will follow in Greenlawn Memorial Park. *Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhomenc.com.*

**Gail V. Jones**

Gail V. Jones, age 61, of Leland, passed away Thursday, December 26, 2019. A memorial service celebrating the life of Ms. Gail will be held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, January 4, 2020 at Davis Funeral Home, 901 S 5th Ave., Wilmington, NC 28401. *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.*

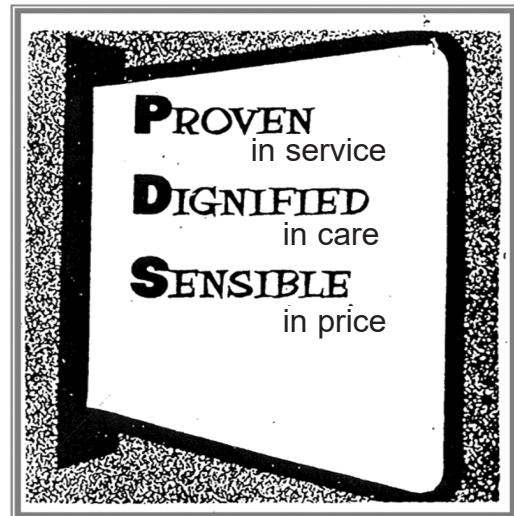
**Rev. Dr. Floyd D. Jones, Sr.**

Rev. Dr. Floyd D. Jones, Sr., age 91, of Sneads Ferry, passed away Saturday, December 28, 2019. Friends are cordially invited to a visitation with the family from 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. on Friday, January 3, 2020 at Davis Funeral Home, 901 S 5th Ave., Wilmington, NC 28401. A celebration of Rev. Dr. Jones' life will be conducted at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, January 4, 2020 at Trent River Oakey Grove Missionary Baptist Association Building, 417 Georgetown Road, Jacksonville, NC 28540. A visitation will be held one (1) hour prior to the service. Interment will follow in Interfaith Community Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that you honor his memory by contributing to the Lower Cape Fear Hospice Center, 1414 Physician Drive, Wilmington, NC 28401 or through the link below. A repast will be held from 5:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m., at the Santos Residence, 1113 Leesburg Drive, Leland, NC 28451. *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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## Family of Black doctors has social media buzzing

BY STACY M. BROWN  
NNPA NEWSWIRE SENIOR  
CORRESPONDENT

Dr. Herbert Oye is a Board Certified Endovascular and Vascular Surgeon, specializing in invasive and non-invasive treatment of vascular diseases.

Dr. Oye received his medical degree at the University of North Texas Health Science Center, according to his official biography.

His General Surgery residence was performed at Wyckoff Heights Medical Center in Brooklyn, NY, an affiliate of Albert Einstein Medical Center.

Dr. Oye completed his fellowship training in advanced vascular and endovascular surgery at the Arizona Heart Institute in Phoenix, Arizona.

Perhaps, most impressive is that each of Dr. Oye's four children followed in their

father's footsteps.

David, Monique, Michelle, and Melissa Oye, each said they were inspired by their father and all have become doctors.

"Our dad, Dr. Herbert Oye, is a Nigerian immigrant. Upon moving to the United States, he attended medical school and has worked tirelessly to build his own Vascular Surgery practice," the young physicians wrote in a statement on Facebook.

"Dad has since opened a hospital back in Nigeria and splits his time between the United States and Nigeria. We are all currently in the medical field as a second, third, and fourth year medical student and a first year Internal Medicine Resident."

Each are attending or have attended the West Virginia School of Medicine. Monique, the eldest of the family, graduated in 2018. Michelle is in



"Our dad, Dr. Herbert Oye (fourth from left), is a Nigerian immigrant. Upon moving to the United States, he attended medical school and has worked tirelessly to build his own vascular surgery practice," the young physicians wrote in a statement on Facebook.

her fourth year, while Melissa is in her third year.

David, the only son of Dr. Oye, is in his second year.

Their success has social

media buzzing.

"Sending congratulations to your amazing family of wonderful world citizens," Kathryn Stollmeyer Wright,

wrote on Facebook.

Another Facebook user, Patricia Combs, wrote: "Well done. Congratulations for excellence in your drive,

motivation, and ability to accomplish such great and momentous feat. You all are wonderful and blessed," Combs stated.

## Community Reinvestment Act changes expected to benefit low- and moderate-income communities

BY CHRISTOPHER G. COX  
PUBLISHER AND MANAGING  
EDITOR, WWW.REALE-  
SAVVY.COM

Proposed changes to the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) could lead to greatly enhanced investment in low- and moderate-income (LMI) communities around the country, according to Grovetta N. Gardineer, senior deputy comptroller for Bank Supervision Policy with the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC).

The OCC is soliciting comments on a proposal to modernize the CRA by clarifying what counts, updating where activity counts, measuring performance more objectively, and making reporting more timely and transparent.

"The CRA has a very noble goal of making sure banks meet their responsibility for lending, investing in and servicing communities where they do business, with a focus on low- and moderate-income individuals and areas," Gardineer said. "The statute remains a noble goal, but the implementation is outdated and, in many ways, ineffective."

The CRA was enacted in 1977 as a direct response to redlining, an unethical practice whereby banks and other lending institutions made it

extremely difficult, if not impossible, for residents of poor, inner-city communities to borrow money, get a mortgage, take out insurance or access other financial services. Redlining did not take into consideration an individual's qualifications or creditworthiness.

Gardineer explains that a primary reason the CRA needs updating is because the banking industry has changed fundamentally in the more than 40 years since it was implemented. "Among other things," Gardineer adds, "we did not have the internet in 1977, and interstate branching was not available."

"Banks were limited to where they had branches or where their home office was located, so they had a completely geographical approach," she continued. "With all of the tremendous technological advancements in recent years, banks now offer products and services across the country regardless of geography."

The OCC hopes stakeholders will carefully review the proposed changes and submit comments so that a final rule can be issued in the first half of 2020.

Noting that the new CRA rules would fight displacement and harmful gentrification—a high priority in many minority communities—Gardineer points out that the



Photo: iStockphoto / NNPA

The OCC hopes stakeholders will carefully review the proposed changes and submit comments so that a final rule can be issued in the first half of 2020.

OCC is making a concerted effort to work closely with such organizations as the NAACP and the National Urban League.

To that end, OCC has invested the time to meet with thousands of concerned individuals "discussing the issues that need to be addressed." Meetings are currently scheduled with Derrick Johnson, president

and CEO of the NAACP, and Marc Morial, president and CEO of the National Urban League. Another recent outreach effort to solicit public input included an Atlanta bus tour with Ambassador Andrew Young.

There are still too many underserved communities in the U.S. that are "CRA deserts," Gardineer notes. "No matter what their geo-

graphical footprint, we want banks to be able to offer a broad array of services to communities and individuals throughout the nation.

"Given the wide spectrum of individuals who we know will benefit from this rule making process," Gardineer said, "it is particularly important to the Comptroller to make sure that we spread a wide net, that we make our-

selves available and that we share our vision.

"We have really worked hard over the past two years," she concluded, "closing a loophole that allowed wealthy people to get CRA credit for investing in LMI areas. That is not what CRA was ever intended to do. And that is being directly responsive to some of the feedback we have been receiving."

## Separate, unequal, and dismal: Urban League rekindles leaders' commitments to improve public schools

BY JOZEF SYNDICATE  
THE DRUM NEWSPAPER

The Urban League of Louisiana released an equity report examining the quality of Baton Rouge public schools and identifying gaps in outcomes, access, and excellence.

Calling the findings "dismal" and "concerning," several education stakeholders were present at the McKinley Alumni Center for a press conference and panel discussion to present data from the Advancing Educational Equity for Public Schools in Baton Rouge report.

The findings are not new neither are the gaps. However, organizers said the report analyzes the data in a way that would rekindle conversations and actions around creating equity for students attending public schools within Baton Rouge.

"This report is a great rallying call for us. It's important that we continue as an education community to come together and have honest conversations and dialogue," said Dana Peterson, deputy superintendent of external affairs for the Recovery School District.

The report documents inequalities and an academic "opportunity gap" for historically disadvantaged students in the areas of student outcomes, school climate, school access, teacher quality, and discipline. It found great disparities in performance on state assessments by race and ethnicity. Also, less than 50% of Hispanic students earn any form of diploma or credential while 36.7% of white students earned a diploma with an Advanced credential, compared to 6.1% for Black students. (These find-

ings were compiled from publicly available information at [www.LouisianaBelieves.com](http://www.LouisianaBelieves.com))

According to Adam Smith, East Baton Rouge Schools' associate superintendent of schools, the district has made "significant gains." These gains include a 5% increase in student performance and an increase in the number of Black students taking Advanced Placement tests.

The report did not identify institutional or systemic barriers that have kept these results pervasive in the city and throughout Louisiana. However, the Louisiana Budget Project released a report in May identifying the impact of "highly segregated" schools.

"Louisiana and local school districts are putting themselves at a disadvantage by failing to properly address segregation in public schools," wrote LBP.

Like LBP, the Urban League found that public schools with a majority white student population have much higher teacher retention rates, higher percentages of certified teachers, and are far more likely to be rated "A" or "B" than schools with high minority populations. Data shows that in Baton Rouge, more than half (52%) of Black students enrolled in public schools attend "D" or "F" rated schools.

"We will also be the first to admit that we are not where we want to be, but we are committed to the ongoing communication and collaboration with key partners that will be essential in moving our schools forward," Smith said.

"The inequities that economically disadvantaged students and students of color are facing is concerning but we now have information ana-

lyzed in a way that allows us to begin addressing it," said Judy Reese Morse, president and CEO of the Urban League of Louisiana. She encouraged Baton Rouge leaders to "use the findings to work toward building an education system that serves all students equitably."

In a school district that is under a federal desegregation order, commitment and action towards academic equity are critical, especially as Baton Rouge faces more segregation. This report comes a week after secessionists voted to incorporate the city of St. George in an effort motivated mainly by the desire to form a separate, majority white school district.

"Louisiana and local school districts are putting themselves at a disadvantage by failing to properly address segregation in public schools," wrote LBP. "It is time we have a genuine discussion about what it takes to ensure every child has access to quality education."

Education reform leader Lisa Delpit, Ph.D., said inequality has also been the result of unequal funding, the lack of Black teachers, and ever-changing national policies that benefit white students and affluent students while harming others. As part of a panel that followed the news conference, Delpit challenged leaders to look closely at the findings at what has worked for Black students and replicate it.

"We must create new school models, programs, and an environment to foster innovation. I'm proud to know that we have plans in place to address these issues," said Peterson.

These plans include having parents, educators, and school administrators assist in establishing strategies and solutions to ensure equality, said Dana



Photo: iStockphoto / NNPA

"This report is a great rallying call for us. It's important that we continue as an education community to come together and have honest conversations and dialogue," said Dana Peterson, deputy superintendent of external affairs for the Recovery School District.

Henry, vice president of education and youth development at the Urban League of Louisiana.

Although the report did not offer specific strategies or solutions, panelists did.

Delpit admonished the community at large to get involved. "Pay attention to education policies. Stand strong about redistributing funding...and those of us who can, need to support (the schools) as often as we can."

Baton Rouge councilman LaMont Cole said panelists and organizations involved in the process—Urban League, EBR Schools, Baton Rouge Area Chamber, and New Schools—should pick a school and "get to work" giving it everything it

need to be sustained.

Excellence is never an accident," he said. "We have to choose excellence and be intentional."

Cole, who has been a principal at several schools in the city, said equality is when administrators and teachers have what they need to reach individual students where they are, give the students exactly what they need to succeed, and then, sustain it. "Choose excellence and make it happen," he repeated.

Chris Meyer, CEO, New Schools for Baton Rouge agreed. "We should expand schools that are working and intervene in schools that need it."

"We must be strategically intentional. We must be

deliberate in the breaking down of silos. As the city of Baton Rouge becomes more intentionally grounded in educational equity, we will reach our goals and will tear down silos while helping the students of Baton Rouge excel," said Pamela Ravare-Jones, Ph.D., chief administrative officer who spoke on behalf of EBR Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome.

Urban League of Louisiana officials said the organization will host follow-up community meetings. "This report is just a road map and we're going to build from here," Henry said. "We are not going anywhere; we're going to be here."



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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER**

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the estate of **John F. Healy**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **26th day of March, 2020**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 26th day of December, 2019

Gwendoline F. Healy, Executrix  
8746 New Forest Drive  
Wilmington, NC 28411

December 26, 2019, January 2, 9, 16, 2020

**NOTICE  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER**

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **Harold Lawrence Scharver** deceased, of New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **19th day of March, 2020**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 19th day of December, 2019.

Charles A. Paul III, Executor of the Estate of Harold Lawrence Scharver  
2217 Moreland Drive  
Wilmington, NC 28405  
MURCHISON, TAYLOR & GIBSON, PLLC  
1979 Eastwood Road, Suite 101  
Wilmington, NC 28403

December 19, 26, 2019, January 2, 9, 2020

**NOTICE  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER**

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **James Coleman Greiner** deceased, of New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **19th day of March, 2020**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 19th day of December, 2019.

Jeanette Burgess Greiner, Executrix of the Estate of James Coleman Greiner  
124 Lumina Ave S  
Wrightsville Beach, NC 28480  
MURCHISON, TAYLOR & GIBSON, PLLC  
1979 Eastwood Road, Suite 101  
Wilmington, NC 28403

December 19, 26, 2019, January 2, 9, 2020

**NOTICE  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER**

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **Mary Leila Andrews** deceased, of New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **19th day of March, 2020**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 19th day of December, 2019.

Robert J. Andrews, Jr., Executor of the Estate of Mary Leila Andrews  
4219 Ashley Park  
Wilmington, NC 28412  
MURCHISON, TAYLOR & GIBSON, PLLC  
1979 Eastwood Road, Suite 101  
Wilmington, NC 28403

December 12, 19, 26, 2019, January 2, 2020

**LEGAL NOTICES**

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER  
IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
JUVENILE SESSION  
FILE NO. 18 JT 208**

**IN THE MATTER OF:  
I.L. (dob: 27 March 2018)  
TO: ANY UNKNOWN FATHER**

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Termination of all parental rights you have to I.L.

You are required to make defense to such pleading within forty (40) days following **Thursday, December 19, 2019**, which date is the date of first publication of this Notice. Upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought. You have the right to attend this hearing and you have the right to be represented by counsel.

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A HEARING ON THE PETITION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020, AT 9:30 A.M.**, or upon a date and time set thereafter, at 316 Princess Street, Courtroom 100, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401.

This the 16th day of December, 2019.

Jennifer G. Cooke  
Attorney - New Hanover Co. Dept. of Social Services  
1650 Greenfield Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
PO Drawer 1559  
Wilmington, NC 28402-1559  
(910) 798-3612  
(910) 798-3772 \* fax

December 19, 26, 2019, January 2, 2020

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER  
IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
JUVENILE SESSION  
FILE NO. 19 JT 291**

**IN THE MATTER OF:  
F.W. (DOB: 08-17-2019)  
TO: ANY UNKNOWN BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF THE ABOVE CAPTIONED MALE, CHILD BORN IN CHARLOTTE, MECKLENBURG COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Termination of all parental rights you have to the above-captioned minor child.

You are required to make defense to such pleading within thirty (30) days following December 19, 2019 which date is the date of first publication of this Notice. Upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought. **YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A HEARING ON THE PETITION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS IS SCHEDULED FOR February 3, 2020, AT 9:30 A.M.** or as soon thereafter as it may be heard, in courtroom 100 of the New Hanover County Courthouse, 316 Princess Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401.

This the 12th day December, 2019.

LeeAnne Quattrucci  
Attorney for the Petitioner  
401 Chestnut Street, Suite J  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
Tel. #: (910) 795-0230  
Fax #: (910) 401-1485

December 19, 26, 2019, January 2, 2020

**LEGAL NOTICES**

**BID REQUEST**

RPC Contracting is requesting bids from any interested NCDOT Certified MBE & WBE firms for Contract DA00477 IN Currituck Co. bidding 1/15/20. There will be a pre-bid conference at 3:00 PM on Monday 1/6/20 at the office of RPC Contracting, 934 W. Kitty Hawk Road, Kitty Hawk, NC 27949. Plans and specifications are available for review at the same location or may be downloaded from NCDOT's Project Letting website at <https://connect.ncdot.gov/Letting/Pages/Division1Letting.aspx>. For more information please call 252-261-3336, ask for Jay. RPC Contracting is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

January 2, 2020

**Notice of Sale to Enforce Lien for Unpaid Storage Charges**

The name and address of the lienor:  
Smith Creek Boatyard, Inc.  
805 Cornelius Harnett Drive  
Wilmington, NC 28401

The name of the person having legal title to the property:  
Ernest B. Vick  
401 Marina Street  
Carolina Beach, NC 28428

Description of the property:  
1986 Chris Craft Catalina  
Hull ID: GGHE5101F586

Amount due for which the lien is claimed:  
As of December 17, 2019 - \$5,351.50

Place of the sale:  
Steps at the New Hanover County Court House  
316 Princess Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401

Date and hour when the sale is to be held:  
January 17, 2020  
1:00 p.m.

January 2, 9, 2020

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL SOLICITATION**

**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON NORTH CAROLINA**

**RFP PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

Sealed bids will be accepted at the Housing Authority of the City of Wilmington North Carolina (WHA Central Office), until date and time noted below.

- Bid Opening: Monday, January 13, 2020 at 4:00 pm
- Project Manual along with specifications will be available for pickup beginning on Monday, December 16, 2019 at the Central Office location at 1524 S. 16th Street, Wilmington, NC 28401.
- Fee: non-refundable charge of \$25.00 or you can Download Project Manual at no cost -- [www.wha.net](http://www.wha.net) (under Business Opportunities/RFP)
- Questions: E-mail to Chauntrell Burns no later than January 6, 2020 at 12:00 noon to [cburns@wha.net](mailto:cburns@wha.net).

Upon written request to the Contracting Officer, bids will be available after contract award. **NO BIDS SHALL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE DEADLINE DATE AND NO FAX COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

The WHA does not discriminate based on race, sex, age, color, national origin, religion, or disability in its employment opportunities, programs, services, or activities.

WHA reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

January 2, 2020

**LEGAL NOTICES**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER**

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the estate of **Emma Elizabeth Horne Arrington**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **12th day of March, 2020**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 12th day of December, 2019

Marsha Scott Arrington Ward, Executrix  
Po Box 12044  
Wilmington, NC 28405

December 12, 19, 26, 2019, January 2, 2020

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER**

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **Pauline L. Nankivell**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **12th day of March, 2020**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 12th day of December, 2019

Randall A. Searls, Executrix  
6112 Willow Glen Dr.  
Wilmington, NC 28412

December 12, 19, 26, 2019, January 2, 2019

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER**

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **Mark Perry Phillips, (19-E-1558)**, late of New Hanover County, Wilmington, North Carolina the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 701 Market Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401 on or before **April 2, 2020** or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 20th day of December, 2019

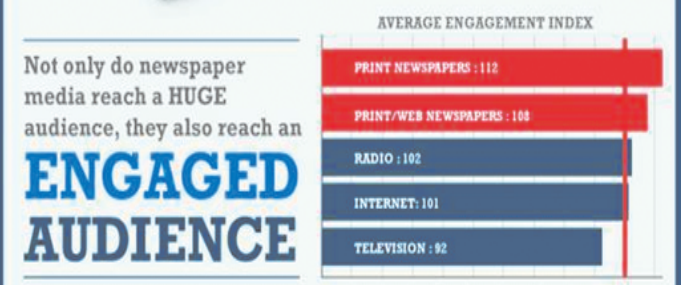
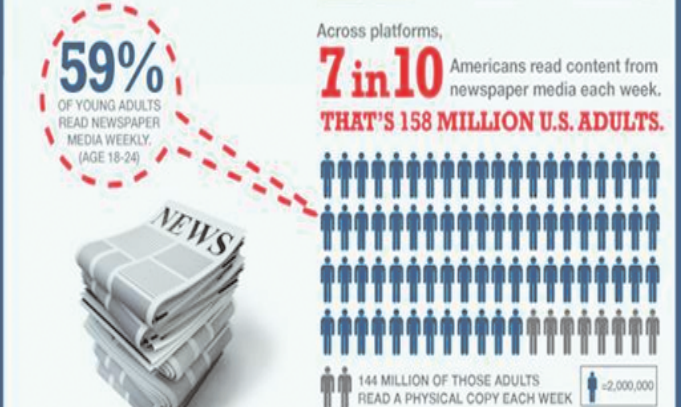
Charlotte Noel Fox, Administrator  
Craig & Fox, PLLC  
701 Market Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
910-815-0085

January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2020

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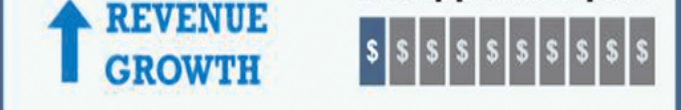
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Sources:  
Across Platforms, 7 in 10 Adults Access Content from Newspaper Media Each Week (NAA.org, March 25, 2013)  
The American Newspaper Media Industry Revenue Profile 2012 (NAA.org, April 8, 2013)  
2013 Nielsen National Cross-Media Engagement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



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