

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

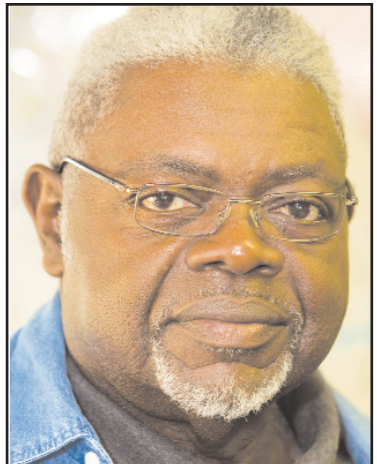


REV. JESSE JACKSON, JR.

GUEST EDITORIAL "Dr. King called on us to express the better angels of our souls"

BY REV. JESSE JACKSON, JR. PAGE 4

BRUNSWICK COUNTY



BERNEST HEWETT

RETURNING NEXT WEEK

BY BERNEST HEWETT CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Wilmington Journal family extends condolences to the family of Bernest Hewett. Funeral services will be held today, Thursday, January 23, 2020 for James Bernard Hewett at 12:00 noon at Zion Hill Baptist Church, 2100 Zion Hill Road Bolivia, North Carolina.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

CALL US

AT

910-762-5502

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 93/No. 4

JANUARY 23, 2020 - JANUARY 29, 2020

FIFTY CENTS

IS HIGH POVERTY REAL? The Reverend Dr. Barber insists "YES!"

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

During this week of commemorating the life and legacy of slain civil rights leader, The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a man of God, many say is today's embodiment of all for which Dr. King stood and maintain that poverty in America is the number one issue facing the nation.

"Brother William Barber is the closest thing we have to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in American culture," Harvard University African-American scholar, Dr. Cornel West, once said.



REV. DR. WILLIAM BARBER



JOHN HOOD

Please see POVERTY / Page 2



Douglass Academy, the tuition-free K-5 charter school at 6th & Red Cross Sts., proudly had students, parents, teachers, and staff participating in the Martin Luther King March through downtown Wilmington on January 20. Nikki Chaney, Headmaster of Douglass Academy, commented, "We are so proud to participate in the Martin Luther King March! Dr. King is an inspiration and hero to us all." She continued, "Douglass Academy is changing the world one great education at a time. We like to dream big and no one dreamed bigger than Martin Luther

King!" Douglass Academy is one of four charter schools managed by The Roger Bacon Academy, Inc. founded in 1999 by education pioneer Baker Mitchell. The other schools include Charter Day School in Leland, Columbus Charter School in Whiteville, and South Brunswick Charter School in Southport with a combined enrollment of over 2,100 students in K-8. All four are tuition-free, charter schools that welcome all students, regardless of income, ability, or address. To learn more or enroll online, please visit EnrollRBA.com PHOTO COURTESY DOUGLASS ACADEMY

Can Blacks reach economic parity after the 2020 election?

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

As the Democratic race for President heats up, billionaire candidate, Mike Bloomberg, has proposed a \$70 billion five-year investment strategy, covering one hundred disadvantaged communities of color across the country, if elected. The former mayor of New York would also create a Neighborhood Equity and Opportunity Office in the White House to monitor progress. "The crimes against Black Americans still echo across the centuries, and no law can wipe that slate clean," Bloomberg told those gathered in Tulsa, Oklahoma's former "Black Wall Street" Sunday, site of the 1921 race riots. "Not here in Tulsa or anywhere else, but I believe that this is a country where anything is possible, and I believe that we have the power to

Please see PARITY / Page 2

Is Dr. King's dream being denied or deferred? Disparities in housing perpetuate racial wealth gap

BY CHARLENE CROWELL FOR TRICEEDNEYWIRE.COM

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - Once again, the only federal holiday honoring a person of color has been celebrated across the nation. The 38-year span of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life continues to be remembered and revered. Since his tragic death, time has shown he was also prophetic.

"Change does not roll in on the wheels of inevitability but comes through continuous struggle," said Dr. King. "And so, we must straighten our backs and work for our freedom. A man can't ride you unless your back is bent."

From voting rights to desegregation in public

accommodations, transportation and employment, Dr. King's Baptist cadence resonated with a generation to champion what was wrong, and to also speak up for what is right. In that noble pursuit, he came in 1964, the youngest person to become a Nobel Peace Prize Laureate.

Yet in 2020, much of the hard-won rights championed by Dr. King championed are under attack by the very governments charged to enforce both laws and regulations. Especially for Black America, rollbacks of much-needed programs jeopardize access to basic life needs such as nutrition, safe water, legal justice, and housing itself.

The irony is that the enactment of the historic 1968 Fair Housing Act followed less than a week after Dr. King's assassination in Memphis.

Hence, as we honor Dr. King, we are also called to continue progressive efforts to better include all of the Americans whom historically have been locked out or left out when it comes to housing: people of color, women, families, people with different physically challenged and all who still suffer the insidious nature of housing discrimination.

As the number of homeless Americans now number more than 560,000, Congresswoman Maxine Waters, Chair of the U.S. House Financial Services Committee (HFSC) has added homelessness and homeless prevention to her committee's 2020 priorities.

Please see KING / Page 3

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



THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

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

WE ACCEPT



Shawn Jervay Thatch Chief Operating Officer
Mary Alice Jervay Thatch Publisher/Editor
Johanna Thatch Briggs Assistant Editor
George Miles Copy Editor/Circulation
Cash Michaels Reporter/Editorial Staff
Edward Crumdy Accounts Executive
John Davis Photographer
DeShon Briggs Distributor
Joshua Allen Distributor

Opinions expressed by columnists in this newspaper do not necessarily represent the policy of this paper. 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. There is no charge for submitting briefs, news and photos. All briefs will run for a maximum of two weeks. Please send news near the event date. Briefs/news cannot be taken over the phone. Photos and stories may also be emailed to us at wilmjournnews@aol.com. News, but not photos, may be faxed to us at 910-343-1334. Photos may be picked up after appearing in the paper. The publisher is not responsible for the return of unsolicited news, pictures or advertising copy unless necessary postage accompanies the copy on a self-addressed envelope. Member of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, Inc. Member of North Carolina Black Publishers Association

POVERTY

Continued from Page 1

"There are 140 million poor and low wealth people in this country," Rev. Dr. Barber, Co-chair of the "Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for a Moral Revival," says, based on a recent poverty audit, done by the Institute of Policy Studies, a Washington, D. C. progressive think tank, entitled, "The Souls of Black Folk." "Sixty-six million [are] White; twenty-six million are Black. One third of all live in the South, four million in North Carolina [alone]." The former head of the NC NAACP adds one more startling U. S. poverty statistic. Thirty-nine million are children. Rev. Barber faults U. S. government policy for massive poverty.

However, John Hood, conservative syndicated columnist and Chairman of the Raleigh-based conservative think tank, the John Locke

Foundation, isn't buying it. In a recent column, entitled "Child poverty falls dramatically," published in the online conservative publication Carolina Journal, Hood states, "...our political conversation about poverty is based on a fact that most political actors think is true but really isn't: that a persistently high share of the population lives in poverty."

Hood goes on to allege that both progressives and conservatives maintain that poverty is high in the United States, albeit for different reasons, but both are "mistaken."

While noting that "there are, of course, desperately poor people in North Carolina and the rest of America," Hood maintains that "...no good policy ideas can come from believing there are massive numbers of people who...continue to live below the poverty line."

Hood cites all of the "free health care, free housing, free food and other public assis-

tance other than cash" that families in poverty can take advantage of, but "the official poverty measure leaves out." Hood charges that the poor take advantage of "significant off-the-books income" not reported in their income tax returns. He also alleges that "for poverty rates over time, government statisticians significantly oversee the effects of inflation."

Citing a recent study, Hood alleges that "a more realistic inflation adjustment" shows the poverty rate dropping dramatically from 19.5% in the early 1960s to just 3.3% in 2018. A child poverty?

Hood cites another recent study showing it at just 3.7%, adding, "...America children are doing better than ever." However, in his eagerness to disprove the pervasiveness of poverty nationally, Rev. Barber counters, he overlooks the consistent forces and conditions that not only cause economic inequality, but perpetuate it.

"My Brother Hood is once

again proving Dr. King's point that too often people in this nation want to give," Rev. Barber says.

Barber notes that John Hood says nothing about how government policy allows corporate greed to go virtually unpunished or spends trillions on warfare and militarization, while cities and rural areas crumble under the weight of neglect and lack of ample investment.

He points to how huge corporations like Amazon don't pay a penny in taxes thanks to big tax breaks and cuts, thus depleting the social safety net for the needy through the scaling back of anti-poverty programs.

"Over 60 million people work every day for less than a living wage," Rev. Barber adds. "This is a result of policy."

For instance, the cost of housing has skyrocketed across the country beyond the ability of many families to afford, given how wage growth continues to stagnate. Black families are steadily

falling victim to gentrification, where they can no longer afford to live in their own neighborhoods.

Rev. Barber has also lamented the fact that helping the poor has not been an issue in the 2020 presidential campaign, especially during the Democratic debates.

Barber and the Poor People's Campaign are in the midst of a 25-state tour protesting poverty in the nation, that will culminate with a Washington, D. C. mass march and rally in June calling for an end to poverty and racism and greater access to affordable health care, education and housing.

Rev. Barber concludes that John Hood is essentially using some of the same "falsehoods" against the poor with which Dr. King had to contend over 50 years ago, that the poor are responsible for their own plight and that mass poverty and low wealth are not real.

"All of these are not true," Barber says.

PARITY

Continued from Page 1

build a future where color and capital are no longer related."

How African-Americans are responding to Bloomberg's proposal is too early to tell. As NY mayor, he was a strong proponent of racist "stop and frisk" police policies, for which he has apologized publicly recently.

However, one thing is clear, and that is that here in North Carolina, African-Americans, like elsewhere across the nation, are strugg-

ling to maintain economic parity with their White counterparts

To start, even though this information was first released in August 2018, there's little reason to believe that much has changed since then, let alone within the past two years.

In prosperous Wake County, the average White family earns \$33,000 more annually than a comparable Black household. In Mecklenburg County, Black families bring home approximately \$32,455, only 44.3 percent of comparable White median income there.

Nationally, according to a 2017 report by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve, "In 2016, White families had the highest level of both median and mean family wealth at \$171,000 and \$933,700 respectively. Black families' median and mean net worth is less than 15% of White families, at \$17,600 and \$138,200 respectively."

Ironically, other ethnic groups of color, including

Hispanics and Native Americans, have higher median incomes and mean family wealth than Blacks.

"For hundreds of years, America systematically stole Black lives, Black freedom and Black labor," Bloomberg said in his prepared remarks, "and the impact of that theft over a period of centuries has meant an enormous loss of wealth for individuals and families across generations,

a kind of compound interest in reverse. Well, it's past time to say, 'Enough' and to damn well do something about it!"

The key to Mike Bloomberg's \$70 billion proposal is investing in Black businesses and homeownership. Could the Bloomberg plan help Black North Carolinians? In the months ahead, Black Democratic primary voters will decide.



THE MOST LOYAL LISTENERS ON THE PLANET

- FACT: 68% OF AMERICANS LISTEN TO CHRISTIAN GOSPEL MUSIC IN THE PAST MONTH
- FACT: 71% OF CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN GOSPEL MUSIC LISTENERS ARE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 25 - 54
- FACT: CHRISTIAN MUSIC HAS GROWN 33% IN THE PAST 5 YEARS
- FACT: MOST ADVERTISERS HAVE NO IDEAL WHO LISTENS TO CHRISTIAN BASED RADIO STATIONS

ADVERTISE WITH US

YOUR ARE NOT BUYING A COMMERCIAL YOU'RE BUYING AN AUDIENCE

CALL OR COME BY NOW FOR A FREE MEDIA KIT

(910) 833-7118

2392 Carolina Beach Rd. Suite 203

Wilmington, NC 28401



Godwin Communication, LLC

Godwin Communications passion is to inspire people through good radio programming that uplift, motivate and empower people to achieve greatness.

Our local station WENC has served Columbus County and surrounding areas since 1974. We are committed to providing the highest quality of service.

Our goal is to introduce a wholesome format with positive connotations to assist the spiritual growth of our listeners. We feel this goal is attainable because of our coverage.

Our station broadcasts National News and Sports from the NBC and NC Network. The coverage of WENC is Southeastern North Carolina and Northeastern South Carolina, which includes Bladen, Horry, Roberson, and Columbus counties

Interested in Career Opportunities at Godwin Communications, Give us a Call.

Godwin Communications, LLC
108 Radio Station Rd
Whiteville, North Carolina 28472
Tel: (910) 642-2133
Website: www.power1220am.com
Email: ameshia@embnqmail.com



UNCW HOMECOMING

CELEBRATE DECADES OF TRADITION

FEBRUARY 7-9

Please join us for our Homecoming celebration, featuring a series of cultural events like the Homecoming Fashion Show and Welcome Mixer on Friday, Feb. 7, Day Party and Stompin' With the Greeks Step Show on Saturday, Feb. 8 and the signature African American Graduate Association Luncheon on Sunday, Feb. 9.

Meet up with old friends and create new connections. Special thanks to the Upperman African American Cultural Center, AAGA, and other alumni for making all these experiences possible.

For more information on all Homecoming events, visit uncw.edu/homecoming

An EEO/AA Institution. Accommodations for disabilities may be requested by contacting the Upperman African American Cultural Center at 910.962.3832 at least three days prior to the event.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2020

KENAN AUDITORIUM, UNCW
601 S COLLEGE RD.
WILMINGTON, NC 28403

DOORS OPEN AT 6PM | SHOW STARTS AT 7PM
STUDENTS: \$10 | GENERAL ADMISSION (ADV): \$15
\$20 AT THE DOOR

PROCEEDS TO SUPPORT STAMPED SCHOLARSHIPS AND TO HELP UNCW AFFRIC IN DEVELOPMENT

THE BLACK PRESS USE IT

OR LOSE IT!

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

-----AN AFRICAN PROVERB

STATE BRIEFS



GOP CANDIDATE FOREST SAYS PLANNED PARENTHOOD 'CREATED TO DESTROY BLACK RACE' [FAYETTEVILLE] The Republican candidate for

governor says that Planned Parenthood "was created to destroy the entire black race." That's what Lt. Gov. Dan Forest told a group of black ministers Monday during a prayer breakfast speech for the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. The organization was started by Margaret Sanger, who is known for being a pioneer in birth control. But research shows Sanger was

also supported by Mrs. Coretta Scott King, W.E. B. DuBois and Mary McLeod Bethune. SEN. LOWE ENDORSES JOE BIDEN FOR PRESIDENT [RALEIGH] The chairman of the 39-member NC Legislative Black Caucus has officially endorsed former Vice Pres. Joe Biden for president. State Sen.

Paul Lowe (D - Forsyth) is the second North Carolina black elected official to come out in support of Biden. Congressman G. K. Butterfield did do several months ago. In a statement, Sen. Lowe says the country is deeply divided, and he believes that Biden can bring it back together. The North Carolina primary is March 3rd.

JUDGE SIGNS CONSENT ORDER ON LEANDRO CASE [RALEIGH] A Superior Court judge signed a consent order Tuesday in the long-running Leandro school equity case, laying out an agreed to course of action to ensure that every North Carolina child gets a constitutionally mandated "sound, basic education. The consent order is based on the WestEd

report, which called on the state legislature to spend upwards of \$1 billion to improve public schools across North Carolina, especially in poorer counties. COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS

KING

Continued from Page 1

"Homelessness affects the very fabric of our communities," noted Ms. Waters. "When I speak to families in my district who are dealing with homelessness, I see the toll this housing insecurity is taking on them, including their children, who can't concentrate in school because they're sleeping in a car at night... We need to do more if we are going to address the rental housing and homelessness crisis: we need to preserve the affordable housing that we have, and we need to increase investments in programs that develop new housing or provide rental aid. We know what the solutions are to this problem; we just need the political will and resources." While lawmakers debate the appropriate federal commitment to affordable housing, consumers are increasingly financially challenged to keep a roof over their heads. For the past 30 years, the National Low Income Housing Coalition has annually published Out of Reach,

that tracks the cost of rental housing across the nation. According to its 2019, report, the average monthly fair market rent for a two-bedroom or one-bedroom rental home is \$1,194 and \$970 for a one-bedroom unit. "[L]ow wages, wage inequality, racial inequities and a severe shortage of affordable rental homes leave too many vulnerable people unable to afford their housing," states the report. An average renter must work 52 hours per week to afford a modest two-bedroom apartment. Consumers seeking to transition from renters to homeowners face another daunting challenge. According to the National Association of Realtors in December 2019, the median existing-home price for all housing types in October was \$271,300, up 5.4 percent from November 2018 (\$257,400), as prices rose in all regions. That means a 10 percent down payment for a median-priced home would require \$27,130. Moreover, a 20 percent down payment, which would remove the added cost of private mortgage insurance would be double in cost

- \$54,260. According to calculations by the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL), nationwide it would take 14 years for a prospective homebuyer earning the national median income to save a 10 percent down payment for a median-priced home. But for Black and Latino households earning the median income, the number of saving years expands to 21 and 17 years respectively to amass a 10 percent down payment on that same-priced home. "When the president asks, what do African-Americans and minorities have to lose? How about affordable, quality housing and a shot at the American dream," queried Congressman Emanuel Cleaver in a January 9 Politico article. Ample research documents how far the nation has yet to travel when it comes to housing, homeownership, and the still-widening racial wealth gap. A new report released days before the 2020 King holiday, States with the Most Racial Progress (January 2020) by WalletHub.com names and ranks states with the best and worst disparities in

housing segregation, as well as wealth and employment. This research found that DC (District of Columbia), Illinois, Louisiana, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin were each among the 10 states with the worst housing segregation. When wealth and employment were ranked by state, these same states along with Minnesota were also among the worst ranks of the nation. "Volumes of research have shown that when people from diverse backgrounds are together in school, neighborhoods, or workplaces everybody wins," said Meera E. Deo, a law professor with Thomas Jefferson School of Law and one of the report's authors. "Making the unfamiliar more familiar means everybody wins." "An obvious advantage of living in an ethnically diverse city is increased intergroup contact," added co-author Kelln Li, a Ph.D. and assistant professor of sociology at California State University's Dominguez Hills campus. "Such interaction might happen at various layers of the city: among students in school, or neighbors

living on the same street." "Thanks to this opportunity to get to know people who are unlike us, research has shown reduced prejudice, stereotypes, or negative attitudes across people of different ethnic or cultural background," concluded Dr. Li. Comments by the St. Louis Fed Center for Household Financial Stability would appear to have reached similar conclusions through its independent findings as well. "We find that families who are thriving tend to be white, college-educated and/or older," said the St. Louis Fed. "We find that families who are struggling tend to have one or more of these characteristics: black or Hispanic; no four-year college degree; and/or younger. We also find that many families across the board are striving for more economic security." For these reasons and others, it does not make sense for the Trump Administration to suspend rules and data mapping tools that alert communities to potential fair housing violations. Yet on January 6 HUD proposed suspending its Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) rule

that provides HUD program participants with a planning framework and data tools to enable them to take meaningful actions to overcome historic patterns of segregation and foster inclusive communities free from discrimination. This year, it would be prudent to ask, 'What happened to the Dream Dr. King had to make America's promises of freedom, justice, and equality - true for all peoples?' And its corollary, 'What are we prepared to do about it?' Discrimination in housing is not a thing of the past, it is ongoing and real," observed Nikitra Bailey, an EVP with the Center for Responsible Lending. "Low-income communities and communities of color now more than ever need the government to provide them with critical tools to combat discrimination in housing and the insidious harms that result. Instead we have seen HUD, under the current Administration, do the opposite." Charlene Crowell is the Center for Responsible Lending's communications deputy director. She can be reached at charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org.

UPDATE

Effective February 6, 2020,

The Wilmington Journal's cost will be \$1.00 per copy. Local subscriptions will be \$45.00 per year. Out-of-town subscriptions will be 50.00 per year.

TO SUBSCRIBE, PLEASE CALL US AT 910-762-5502

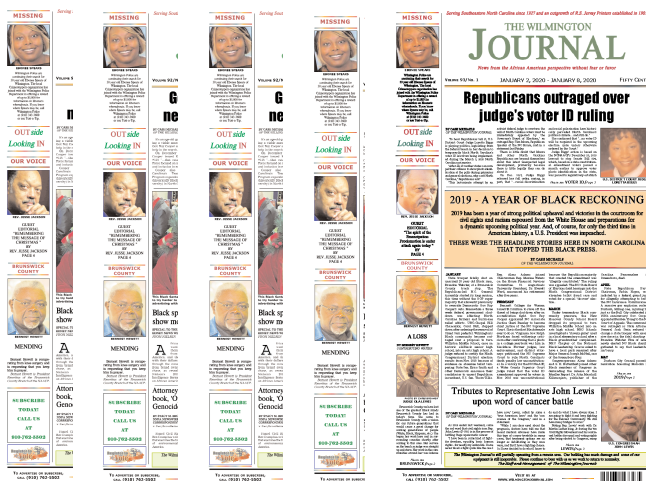
These price changes are necessary because of the increase in mailing and production fees.


Thank you for your continued support. The Staff and Management of The Wilmington Journal

RECYCLE

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL BY SPREADING THE NEWS

Pass along your old WILMINGTON JOURNAL newspapers for others to enjoy.





The Wilmington Journal was founded on the principle of the Black Press Credo. The Black Press believes that America can best lead the world away from racial and national antagonism when it accords to every person, regardless of race, color or creed, full human and legal rights. Hating no person in the firm belief that all are hurt as long as anyone is held back.

The Wilmington Journal welcomes letters from its readers. All letters are subject to editing. We will not publish pseudonymous letters. All correspondence must include a home address and a daytime phone number. All correspondence must be signed, unless it is e-mailed. Letters may be sent to our Physical Address: 412 S. 7th Street, 28401 or our Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1020, 28402. We also accept letters via e-mail at wilmjourn@aol.com or via fax at (910) 343-1334.

OUR VOICE

GUEST EDITORIAL

RAINBOW COALITION

Dr. King called on us to express the better angels of our souls

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

Schools across the country celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Day today. At every level, students learn about King, the movement he helped lead and the teachings and legacy he left behind.

There are dramatic readings of his words. Many schools show his historic "I Have a Dream" speech at the Lincoln Memorial, a speech given before hundreds of thousands. Even in Key West, Florida, students at the local Montessori school hang handmade posters with quotes from King written in crayon. "Everyone can be great," reads one. "Civil rights should be equal," reads another. "We should remember that everything Hitler did was legal," reads a third.



Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.

I had the privilege of being with Dr. King on his last birthday. He had breakfast at home with his family. Then he came to work at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference headquarters. He was organizing the Poor People's Campaign, which he hoped would be the climax of the third chapter of the Civil Rights Movement, the struggle for economic justice.

He met with organizers from across races and regions — from members of the Latino community, to Native Americans, women and men, young and old. His mission was to build a national movement of poor people who would march on Washington, calling on the nation to revive the War on Poverty, a war that was being lost in the jungles of Vietnam, as billions were squandered in that misbegotten war that might have been used to make America better.

Later that day, King's staff surprised him with a cake and a celebration, bringing a smile to his face. But King was tireless in his mission. He seemed to sense that he had little time and there was so much yet to be done.

Dr. King's commitment provides a wonderful example for all of us, but particularly for the young. He did not order an army; he inspired people to act and to volunteer. He amassed no fortune. He did not hold high office. Yet, by the wisdom of his teaching, the justice of his cause, the intensity of his commitment, he helped transform America, leading it out of the shame of segregation and toward a more perfect union.

Dr. King believed that everyone could be great because everyone could serve. He was utterly committed to challenging injustice and to nonviolence as the only sane way to bring change. He believed that everyone had a decency within them, that by challenging injustice and at the same time, appealing to the humanity of the oppressors, change was possible. And the civil rights movement that he helped lead proved that to be true.

Today, Dr. King's example is more important than ever. Inequality has reached new extremes. We have a president that purposefully rouses racial and ethnic fears and divisions. Politics has become bitter, partisan, and increasingly marked by extreme and often hateful rhetoric. We are spending more and more on the Pentagon — already the largest military budget by far in the world — and cutting back on programs for the vulnerable, everything from food stamps, to Medicaid, to public housing and aid for poor schools and students. We end up with guided missiles and misguided young people — a tragic waste.

Today, a new Poor People's Campaign is building, organizing lines of race, region, and religion. It has been marching on state legislatures and now is increasing pressure on Washington. It is not about right or left, but about right and wrong. Dr. King called on us to express the better angels of our souls. Now, as we celebrate his life, we would do well to put his lessons into practice.

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

Visual Voice



YOUR VOICE

WHAT WOULD DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. SAY AND DO ABOUT THE IMPEACHMENT TRIAL OF TRUMP?

I am a 74 year old vocational education teacher, freedom fighter and writer who followed Rev. King's nonviolent movement from his beginning and read/listened to most of his speeches, sermons and books. To the Democratic

Senators he would say" like a good physician, I did not come to give facelifts and tummy tucks, but to treat the people with serious medical problems. Stand up and bravely represent the people who elected you." He would say to the greedy and spineless Republicans Senators. "some things are so precious that they are worth dying for; if a man/woman has not found that something, he or she is

not fit to live." Rev. King's strongest words will be to U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts. "the constitution gave you and you alone the power to conduct a fair trial. You must conduct a trial that your children, grandchildren and other generations from now will respect your decisions and honor the rule of law.

Dr. King, the drum major, would organize the largest

peaceful march on Washington D.C. from day one to the end of the court trial. This Noble Peace Prize winner and father of three children would remind us of our responsibilities during this TRUMP revolution by looking at each of us in our eyes and ask, "Are you registered?"

James J. Hankins
Wilmington, NC

MATTERS OF OPINION

Sure glad to be Black!

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

When you think about the harsh treatment Black people have experienced, and still experience in this country, when you think of 400 years of Black people being enslaved, having gone through Jim Crow, segregation, lynching and every indignity you can think about, don't you at least say to yourself, "I'm sure glad I'm Black?"

I say that because I watch the news religiously, and listen to all sides of this Trump thing. I look at everybody involved, and none of the crooks or accused crooks look like you or me! I know some of our ancestors suffered severe and outrageous beatings and other sinful indignities, but we've never heard of any of them engaged in conduct like that attributed



Dr. E. Faye Williams

to Donald Trump, Mike Pence, Rudy Giuliani, William Barr, Robert Hyde, Devin Nunes, and all of those unsavory characters who meet at the Trump Hotel Bar! You can take note that none of them look like you or me!

Despite a few bad apples among us from time to time, none of them are major players in this plot to get dirt on the Bidens or subvert national interests.

Rachel Maddow interviewed Lev Parnas who described what can only be called a serious mob operation! If just one half of what Parnas has shared with us is true, we are living in a very dangerous country, and I'm sure glad to be Black!

I read about Darryl Scott (one of us) and others trying to pull a fast one down at Virginia Union University in Richmond by trying to entice people to be present to honor Donald Trump and Jared Kushner on the sacred day America observes Dr. Martin Luther King Day! The hook was to offer money—lots of it to unsuspecting Black people

who didn't know the real purpose of the event! Yes, I admit that was a bad act, but even that does not rise to the level of what Black people (Red, Yellow and Brown people, too) have seen on the news every night. I know Darryl is friends with Trump and his supporters—but what he tried to do is small time compared with what Trump's friends from another mother have done and are now trying to cover up.

Black people, for once, can be glad to be Black. I know I am. I pray that my good white friends are wishing they could be Black, Brown, Red or Yellow, too because we've never committed any act remotely close to the current crimes we're seeing. All white people aren't involved, and I congratulate them; but think about their new, uncomfortable feeling every time they turn on their televisions observing only white people, many with whom they identify and support, mixed up in this corruption. Those of us who are fortunate enough to be Black know well what daily recriminating, negative news feels like.

Imagine how it feels to those whites whose new reality is that our current national disgrace is not shared.

Imagine having these accusations directed at you or those who reflect your values. The leader of this mob has been impeached, but, unlike typical consequences for those of us who are non-white, for all the witness verified, condemnable acts, unless there is a miracle of justice, 45 won't even be convicted. Many of the Senators elected to represent all of us have already indicated that they will turn a blind eye to the voluminous evidence that would change the mind of a normal, objective person.

At least for the next few days non-white people can watch and live without the fear or threat of being maligned and condemned for involvement in this national travesty.

"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.

Will a woman be president in 2020?

(Via TriceEdneWire.com)

In a most unusual endorsement, the New York Times has endorsed both Senators Elizabeth Warren (MA) and Amy Klobuchar (MN) for the Democratic nomination for President. Apparently, the Editorial Board of the Times disagrees with Senator Bernie Sanders (VT), who allegedly told Warren

that a woman could not win the Presidency. I'd love to see the right woman in the White House, but I've been among the many who have wondered openly if, in a polarized and sexist United States, a woman can win both the nomination and the Presidency.

Though polls are not a definitive measure of who will win an election, Warren and Klobuchar tend to poll more weakly than the men in the race — Vice President Biden, Sanders, and former Mayor Pete Buttigieg. Have we come such a long way since 2016 that a woman is electable? Can so-called progressive men who want to get

45 out of the White House overcome their gender bias to vote for a woman?

Clearly, the Times not only thinks a woman can win, but in endorsing two women for the Democratic nomination, they are saying that women are the best of the Democrats in the race. And, in the past two years, we've seen signs that women are gaining politically. The women's sweep of the 2018 elections certainly bodes well for women. At the same time, is gender a sufficient qualification for the Presidency? Three years after the first flawed but overwhelmingly successful Women's March in 2017, the realignment of the March "movement" has illustrated cracks in the foundations of feminism.

These flaws perhaps go back to the scuffle over who should get the vote first between our nation's first feminists like Elizabeth Cady Stanton and civil rights activists like Frederick Douglass. In resenting the fact that Black men got the vote before white women, those early feminists used extremely disparaging language against Black men, using terms like "savage" to describe these men did not deserve to vote.

Can anybody say "intersectionality"? Or to make it more clear, use the words of

Sojourner Truth and say, "Ain't I A Woman." The women's march movement fell apart because women were not on the same page. Accusations against Tamika Mallory and Linda Sarsour, two of the co-chairs of the March caused much discussion and rancor, so much so that the second Women's March attracted a fraction of the people who showed up to the first one. And the third March was operated on a different model. It did not equal the excitement or momentum of the first March, although there were many more local marches and other activities associated with the marches.

Women can't "come together" unless they acknowledge our differences, as well as our similarities. Thanks to Tarana Burke and folks like Professor Kimberly Crenshaw, some Black women are openly addressing issues of race and class in feminism. But I've heard few white women, either politicians or intellectuals, deal with issues of racism in the women's movement. Is there really "a women's movement"? There are women's issues, and women's marches, and an exhilarating display of anti-Trump sentiment three years ago (don't forget that 53 percent of white women voted for that

man), but when do women come together?

In other words, gender is not a qualification for higher office. And if the women endorsed by the New York Times do not fully explore the concept of intersectionality and speak on it, they will likely sideline some votes, even though many others would vote for Bubba the Fool to get rid of 45. Both Warren and Klobuchar are exciting candidates. Warren's progressive ideas endear her to the left, and Klobuchar's more moderate approach to social and economic challenges appears to others. The Times did a good job of contrasting the two women.

But can either win the Presidency? When then one-term Senator Barack Obama ran for President, I liked him very much but didn't think a Black man could succeed in this racist nation. Thankfully, I was wrong. Can a woman win in 2020? I'm hoping the best candidate will win, and the best candidate may well be a woman.

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



VOICE YOUR OPINION!!
WRITE A LETTER
TO THE EDITOR, TODAY!

TOO BE EQUAL

MLK's legacy even more relevant as hate crimes continue to rise

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

"The ultimate weakness of violence is that it is a descending spiral, begetting the very thing it seeks to destroy. Instead of diminishing evil, it multiplies it. Through violence you may murder the liar, but you cannot murder the lie, nor establish the truth. Through violence you may murder the hater, but you do not murder hate. In fact, violence merely increases hate." - Martin Luther King, Jr.

broken just as we prepare to honor the nation's best-known victim of a hate crime.

The Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University, San Bernardino, found that hate crimes were at their highest level since September 11, 2001, in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, with the Jewish community being the most frequent target in all five of the cities.



Marc Morial

"These data reflect several trends, including an escalating tribalism, where various prejudices like anti-Semitism, xenophobia and homophobia, among others, are widely shared across a diverse grouping of people," Brian Levin, the report's lead author, said. "Next, local demographic changes in densely populated cities means more people are coming into contact with each other right at a time when fearful stereotypes are increasingly become the kindling for violent behavior."

In the wake of the shooting and stabbing attacks on Orthodox Jews in New York and New Jersey, far-right

trolls hoping to exacerbate racial tensions have been posing online as Jews to post racist screeds against African Americans.

Online sleuths who traced the racist plot back to the website 4chan - a site that author Elad Nehorai called "a radical breeding ground: - found slur-ridden comments like "You are throwing high-quality octane fuel" on the "fire" of Jewish-Black relations, "Let's see some riots," and "If you break the Black-Jewish alliance, it's all over for the Jews."

MORIAL

Continued on this page

CRAZY FAITH MINISTRIES

When there's a demagogue in the House

Whether or not people want to admit it, there is a demagogue in the house, the White House, to be exact, a man who believes that he can do whatever he wants, be it legal or illegal.

He is subverting our democratic institutions, or it might be more accurately said that he is dismantling them, piece by piece, and he is running roughshod over the United States Constitution, daring any of his Republican sycophants to go against him - and they are falling, lock-step, into line

He is attacking the freedoms Americans have held dear - including freedom of the press and of religion, even as he says he is a proponent of religious freedom. He gets his cues, apparently, from talking heads on Fox News and feels free to share classified information with dinner guests at Mar-a-Lago. (https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/trump-turns-mar-a-lago-club-terrace-into-open-air-situation-room/2017/02/13/c5525096-f20d-11e6-a9b0-ecce7ce475fc_story.html)

He has abused his power as president but dares anyone to prove it and insists he has done nothing wrong. He has made alliances with other demagogues, whom he seems to admire, even as he has alienated American allies. His lies are as bold as they are dangerous; he ignores experts on foreign and domestic policy. He is threatening to end or seriously minimize programs that help millions of Americans (https://www.forbes.com/sites/teresaghillarducci/2019/08/23/trumps-second-term-plan-for-social-security-starve-the-beast/#39359b2a3794) and is still obsessed with ending the Affordable Care Act. (ACA).

There is a demagogue in this country before. There have been demagogues in this country before. Senator Joseph McCarthy is perhaps the most well-known, but there have been others. (https://www.thenation.com/article/trump-racism-american-tradition/) But this experience with the current president is a little more troubling because the guardrails that have always been in place to thwart the progression of demagogic ideas and practices are not working.

Rev. Susan K. Smith

This man has thoroughly sucked the GOP into his toxic straw. He is not the first president to have abused is power. The beloved President Franklin D. Roosevelt took advantage of crises in this country to expand his power, Lyndon Johnson likewise abused his power as he escalated the war in Vietnam, and George W. Bush used the tragedy of 911 to augment his power. Men aspiring to the presidency, including George Wallace and Huey Long were as rancid in their racism as is the current president.

But there were guardrails in place to protect America's democracy, guardrails which we see crumbling before our eyes. The impeachment process is being turned into a "how can you treat this president so unfairly" debacle, even as evidence of his problematic moral and allegedly criminal behavior continues to mount. It is singularly astounding to watch the GOP defend his actions, regardless of how heinous they are and how dangerous they appear to be to the security of this country.

He is not acting alone. He is being shown the ropes - what to do and what not to do - in order to keep his hold on power. His supporters love him. That he stokes dangerous divisions along racial and religious lines is of no concern to them. But he is not the first to have exhibited this behavior. The difference is that he is being enabled in his behavior, and it is troubling to see.

There is a demagogue in the House. What will we do to save this country and the masses of people who stand to suffer if he is not stopped?

On this day of celebration of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King holiday, we remember that he struggled with, and wondered about, how to make a community out of chaos. We still do not have the answer. 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.

MORIAL

continued from this page

It's instructive to note that the goal of white nationalists is to drive a wedge between marginalized groups. And vital that we actively and forcefully resist these efforts.

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere," Dr. King wrote in Letter from a Birmingham Jail. "We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly." The National Urban League, as one of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation Racial Equity Anchor Institutions, is proud to celebrate the fifth annual National Day of Racial Healing on Tuesday, the day after Martin Luther King, Jr., Day. he day is a call to action to mobilize communities, organizations, and individuals across the United States in support of truth, racial healing and transformation. More than 70 events around the nation are scheduled, and you can follow the conversation on social media using the hashtag #HowWeHeal.

As one of the Anchor Institutions, we stand side-by-side with racial justice and organizations representing Latinos, Asian-Americans, Native Americans and other ethnic and religious communities - tied together, as Dr. King said, in a single garment of destiny. As disheartened as we may be by the rising level of hate crimes, and as disgusted as we may be to read the words of online trolls, we must guard against meeting hate with hate. Friedrich Nietzsche wrote, "Whoever fights monsters should see to it that in the process he does not become a monster."

The monster of racism feeds on hatred. The only way to kill it is to starve it.

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

In honoring King's legacy, we must commit to the work that cost him his life

(Via NNPAnewsWire.com)

Two years before his death, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King wrote that "there is no way merely to find work, or adequate housing, or quality-integrated schools for Negroes alone." We could only achieve these goals, he said, by pursuing them for all people - regardless of their race, gender, class or creed. Dr. King's belief in universal programs as the key to our nation's shared prosperity has long been central to the African American tradition. For centuries, Black men and women have struggled to guarantee human rights and economic security-not just for themselves, but for everyone. Their perseverance in this universal cause has resulted in the greatest strides towards progress that this country has ever made.

ized without Black leadership and struggle. Social Security and Medicare, key pillars of our safety net, were won by working-class movements in which African Americans played a central role. Millions upon millions of elderly people have been rescued from poverty thanks to their efforts.

The elites who would rather see us divided have tried to limit these victories every step of the way. At times, like during the early Jim Crow years, they resorted to open violence, hoping to terrorize us into submission. More recently they have relied on the less visible but no less real violence of budget cuts and austerity. But because of the overwhelming popularity of policies in which everyone has a stake, they have not been able to do away with these hard-earned achievements for good.

This history provides a lesson: rather than adopting a narrow focus on the differences between us, the best way to advance the age-old struggle for racial justice and freedom is through universality.

African Americans are 50% more likely than our white sisters and brothers to be uninsured. This together with the stresses of economic hardship leaves us with worse health outcomes by almost any measure. We suffer from higher



Nina Turner

rates of hypertension, diabetes, asthma, and maternal mortality. The only way out of this public health crisis is through a Medicare for All system that provides every single person with access to the kind of care that the rich take for granted as their birthright.

We are 25% less likely to graduate from college yet have more student debt than anyone else. Black women like myself are the most indebted of all. I have served as a City Councilwoman and a State Senator and like millions of others still have monthly student loan payments. Free public higher education and the cancellation of student debt would enable millions of African Americans to get the education they want but currently cannot afford.

We are twice as likely to be unemployed, and the jobs we do have are more likely to pay starvation wages. This is the reason why the poverty rate among African Americans is so much higher than the national average. There is no better anti-poverty program than a federal jobs guarantee and labor laws that make it easier to unionize.

A Green New Deal would make desperately needed investments in our communities and go a long way towards addressing the environmental racism African Americans in urban and rural areas alike endure. A national housing program would benefit African Americans who, because of the history of redlining and segregation, are

disproportionately renters, living month to month at the whims of predatory landlords and forces of gentrification.

The list goes on and on. Those who benefit from the status quo will tell us that these are radical ideas that the American people will never accept. But we should remember that the abolition of slavery was a radical idea until it was not. Social Security and Medicare were radical ideas until they were not. The integration of public schools was a radical idea until it was not. For people in my hometown of Cleveland, Ohio, public goods that alleviate the stress caused by economic insecurity are not pie in the sky proposals. They are much deserved and long overdue.

More than fifty years after Reverend King's death, we have yet to achieve the basic level of economic security for all that he understood to be a precondition for true racial justice. But as the great civil rights leader Ella Baker put it, "We who believe in freedom cannot rest until it comes." This year, we have an opportunity to take a step in that direction. So, in the months to come let us dedicate ourselves to bringing people together around a vision that works for all of us. If we do, we can finally create the foundation for a truly just and free society.

Nina Turner is a former Ohio state senator and the national co-chair of Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders' presidential campaign.

Redefining suffrage, unerasing Black women

(Via NNPAnewsWire.com)

Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman, Ida B. Wells, Shirley Chisholm, Rosa Parks. These household names, spanning a couple of centuries, qualify for the Suffrage Hall of Fame. Almost a buzz word synonymous with the Year of the Woman, in 2020 the centerpiece of suffrage will be marked by the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment granting women's voting rights. Referred to as a bold justice movement, suffrage will be celebrated as America's march to full democracy.

many Black women led suffrage campaigns, the 19th Amendment put white women on an empowerment tract to electoral engagement. Interestingly, the suffrage movement, festooned in the symbolic co-lor white, is often portrayed through a narrow window uncomplicated by the strictures of race and power that framed the Amendment then and now.

Look no further than the historical landscape of that moment. Congressional approval of the Act in 1919 was the same year as the infamous Red Summer, a tumultuous white supremacist reign of terror and lynching in Black communities across the country. One year after the 19th Amendment was adopted in 1921 racist mobs set ablaze Tulsa, OK, decimating what was revered as Black Wall Street.

The Year of the Woman battle cry is perversely at odds with Black women's unbroken quest for liberation. Although lauded today as the most reliable and consistent voting bloc for democratic change, we've historically endured being marginalized, dismissed and erased. Black women's demand to



Gwen McKinney

be equal and heard extends beyond the century run-up to the 19th Amendment. It was intersectional and linked with abolition of slavery, anti-lynching battles, literacy drives, sharecropper land rights campaigns and the establishment of a radical Black press that was led by many Black women suffragists.

Our suffrage quest continued through the Civil Rights Era and passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 which finally, for the first time, delivered the franchise to Black people in the South.

Rewind centuries earlier. Our demand to self-govern predates the formation of this republic, beginning in 1619 when the first Africans, snatched from their ancestral home, landed on these shores. Those nameless suffrage pioneers joined with their men to resist and carry the torch for all people - Native Americans, Chinese immigrants and even Irish indentured servants - denied fundamental liberty. Then and now, we wage claims to own our bodies, voices and choices.

We build on that truth by redefining suffrage beyond the limited act of casting a ballot. For Black women, the narrative is rooted in telling herstory, unerasing the achievements of yesterday and the possibilities for the future.

This centennial year is an appropriate time to redefine universal suffrage through the prism of triumphs and tragedies. Trust Black women must be more than a cliché.

Unerased Black Women promises to create brave spaces and in alliance with Black newspapers across the country, unfurl a frank public conversation about Suffrage, Race, and Power.

Through a digital destination, we'll turn our ear to a beating heart of resilience, resistance, words and deed. Daughter of slaves, descendants of warriors, writers, journalists, teachers, mentors, activists - universal suffragists all - have something to say.

Frances Ellen Watkins Harper. Anna Julia Cooper. Mary Ann Shadd. Harriet Jacobs. Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin. Mary McLeod Bethune. Fannie Lou Hamer. Ella Baker. Gertrude Bustill Mossell. Charlotta Bass. Marvel Jackson Cooke.

Most of these women can't claim household name status in the traditional suffrage roll call. But their noble stories will be unerased.

Stay tuned as suffrage, redefined, meets our truth.

Gwen McKinney is campaign director of an initiative, "Suffrage. Race. Power: Unerased Black Women," that will launch in March.

THE BLACK PRESS: USE It or LOSE It!

Tell them you read it in THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL



New Hanover County

Forever In Our Hearts Banquet for Clara "NaNa" Everett will be held on Saturday, February 8th at 6:00 p.m., 130 N. Front St., Wilmington, NC. The event is a red, black and gold semi-formal affair. Please contact Twalla Clemmons at 910-617-1299 for tickets.

The New Hanover NAACP monthly meeting is Thursday, January 23rd, 7:00 p.m. at St. Stephen AME Church, 501 Red Cross Street, Wilmington. The meeting will include information on the 2020 Moral March on Raleigh and The Historic Thousands on Jones Street Peoples' Assembly Saturday, February 8th, beginning at 10am. The HKonJ Peoples' Assembly coalition is made up of more than 125 North Carolina NAACP branches, youth councils and college chapters from across the state and members of over 200 other social and justice organizations. Other important state and community issues will be on the agenda as well as upcoming New Hanover NAACP branch activities and events. Members and friends are encouraged to attend. For more information, call 910-508-9414 or email nh-naacp@gmail.com.



Community Briefs

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

CFCC to host Career and College Promise Information Session for high school students

Cape Fear Community College will host a Career and College Promise (CCP) Information Session for interested high school students and their parents on Tuesday, February 18 at 6:00 p.m.

The Career and College Promise program allows qualified high school juniors and seniors to enroll in tuition-free community college courses. Qualified students can get a jump start on their college classes or train for a career by taking courses in CFCC's University Transfer or Career and Technical degree programs.

The information session will cover the following topics for those interested in

the program for the 2020-2021 academic year:

- CCP Pathways (available courses)
- CCP Admission Requirements
- Application Deadlines
- Registration Process

The information session will be held at the CFCC North Campus in the McKeithan Center's BB&T Auditorium.

RSVP at cfcc.edu/ccp-rsvp

For more information, contact CFCC's Career and College Promise Coordinator, Colene Kelly at (910) 362-7115 or ckelly@cfcc.edu. More information may also be found at cfcc.edu/ccp.

GET THAT DEED AND FLIP THOSE KEYS!

I got 20 on it!

Oh if I was a betting woman, I would put a fist full down on this because one thing I know is when starting the loan process, these Top 20 will definitely play a factor in your outcome. Inquiring minds on the other side of that mortgage application want to know and they WILL know...

So let's dive right in shall we:

1) EVER owned a home or not within the last 3 years? 2) Are you a Veteran or Disabled Vet? 3) Single? Married? How many people in the household? 4) Have you applied for any new credit in the last 12 months? 5) Are any of your credit scores 600 or above? 6) Have any unpaid Judgments, repossessions or non-medical collections? 7) In the last 12 months, have you been on time (not 30 days late) on every account reporting on your credit report? 8) Have any student loans? Do you know how

much is owed and are you paying monthly, or in deferment, or still in school? 9) Have any credit cards? If yes, Is your current charge balances no more than 30% of the High Limit? Make a list of all Credit cards, the amounts of high limits, and the current charges on each card. 10) Ever co-signed for someone, are they making that payment on time? 11) Have you been at your current address at least 2 years? Ever gone 30 days late on rent during this time? 12) How long at current Full-time job, is it 2 years or more? How long in the same line of work? 13) Collect Disability Income? 14) Receiving or paying any court-awarded child support? 15) Are you in the Healthcare,



Brenda Dixon

School System, Public servant or Military? 16) Are you Retired? 17) Are you self-employed, if so did you file the last 2 years' tax returns and showed a profit? 18) Do you have any unpaid IRS or State Tax debt or liens? 19) Do you have a 401K? 20) What areas do you want to buy in?

...Yes, ALL of these types of questions and MORE will be asked of you by the lender. Therefore it would greatly benefit you to write down the answers to these questions and do a little self-evaluation. You may not know what answers would be looked upon favorably, but you will get an idea if you may need to do a little work. One thing for sure is that the lender will be looking to see IF: You make GOOD financial decisions for your family. That you have planted roots and not moved from job to job and from rental to rental and been a good steward over your current credit before ask-

ing them for over \$100,000 to add to the mix. They want to know are you stable in all your ways or are you a little shaky... If you are looking at some of your answers and saying, Ummmmmm, well you can bet on them saying the same blessed thing. You have time to get it all in line tho. With a plan of action, EVERYTHING is obtainable.

Until next time, share this article with at least 3 people and with Realtors you know that loves helping people. For anyone that desires homeownership, reach out for your Free personalized game plan to purchase 1st-home in the next 18 months or less no matter the current finances. For any Realtor that wants to know more about how to lock arms and let's bless the masses, just reach out.

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

NC Sorosis Night Department funds CFCC scholarships with proceeds from the Silent Auction at the Annual Wilmington Antique Show & Sale

Wilmington, NC – The Cape Fear Community College Foundation recently received \$1,000 from the NC Sorosis Night Department for student scholarships.

The gift came from the proceeds from a silent auction at the annual Wilmington Antique Show and Sale held January 17-19, 2020 at the Wilson Center, the show's fiftieth anniversary. The NC Sorosis Night Department uses the proceeds from this event to provide scholarships and assistance to local organizations and families.

The \$1,000 scholarship from the NC Sorosis Night Department will be awarded annually to CFCC female students returning to college to pursue a technical/vocational program.

"We are extremely grateful for this contribution and inspired by this outpouring of



Pictured from left to right are Veronica Godwin, CFCC Foundation; Lauren Janney Wolf, CFCC Foundation; Jackie Dempsey, NC Sorosis Night Department; Gloria Ezzell, NC Sorosis Night Department; Libby Covil, NC Sorosis Night Department; and Teresa Lee, NC Sorosis Night Department

generosity from the NC Sorosis Night Department," said Veronica Godwin, executive director of the Cape Fear Community College Foundation. "This new scholarship will make dreams attainable for so many here at CFCC."

North Carolina Sorosis is the oldest federated Woman's

Club in North Carolina. Founded in 1895, the club has played a significant role in the betterment of the Wilmington community. In 1980, the NC Sorosis Night Department was formed as a sister club NC Sorosis to allow graduating members of NC Junior Sorosis who worked during the day the opportunity to

remain active. It began small, with just 12 original members, four of whom are still active in the group.

For more information about the Cape Fear Community College Foundation, or establishing a scholarship, please contact the CFCC Foundation at (910) 362-7207 or visit cfcc.edu/foundation.

uncw presents

The Second City
Jan. 28
@7:30 p.m.



AILEY II
Feb. 5
@7:30 p.m.



UNCW Presents serves the local community by shining a spotlight on the intellectual life of the campus through inclusive, distinctive and diverse cultural programming. From the comedic stylings of The Second City to the power movements of Ailey II, our 28th season has something for everyone.

uncw.edu/presents
910.962.3500



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.

Lyon to run for a seat on NHC Commission

Community leader and retired AT&T Regional Director of External Affairs, John Lyon, announced his candidacy, and filed to run, for New Hanover County Commissioner on December 19, 2019.

Lyon stated - "In talking with my friends and colleagues, be they Republican, Democrat or Independent, it was near unanimous that their expectations of County Commissioners is for them to focus on the continuous, gradual growth of our local economy and to be a wise steward of our available tax dollars. And with those two concepts as the cornerstone of my platform, I plan to combine my wide-ranging business background with my personal background of community involvement to continue to make New Hanover County a place where businesses and people are proud to call home, a place where they want to live, work and play."

Lyon brings with him extensive background in economic development having served on the board of Wilmington Business Development, as well as having been an ally member of the North Carolina's Southeast regional economic development organization, with the purpose of recruiting, and retaining, businesses to the area. And his personal involvement in service to our community is vast as he currently sits on the UNCW Cameron School of Business Advisory board, the Cape Fear Council Boy Scout board, the Communities in Schools of Cape Fear board, is treasurer of the Carrington Woods HOA, serves as Vice President of the local Penn State Alumni Chapter, and is a member of the Downtown Wilmington Rotary club and St. Andrews-Covenant Presbyterian



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

JOHN LYON
NEW HANOVER COUNTY COMMISSIONER 2020 CANDIDATE

Church. Prior to this current involvement, he was on the statewide board of Communities in Schools of North Carolina, the boards of both the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce and the Burgaw Area Chamber of Commerce, as well as the Cape Fear Junior Achievement board where he served as chairman.

Lyon went on to state that "To have sustainable economic growth in the region, we need to realize that all decisions made by the County Commissioners are intertwined. Potential/existing businesses, as well as our citizens, have high expectations regarding those decisions starting with great local and higher education systems. They are looking to see continuous improvement of our basic transportation infrastructure along with activism regarding our film and

tourism industries. They want to ensure the health and safety of our community with strong first responder departments, safe water legislation, vibrant community service organizations, and a first-class hospital that will continue to grow while meeting the ever-expanding health needs of the community. Bottom line, they are looking for County Commissioners who have the experience and desire to take their fiduciary responsibilities seriously in making these intertwined decisions that will be impacting the citizenry on a daily basis. And my background blends well to fulfill those expectations."

John and his wife Kathy (who is an organist at both Messiah Lutheran Church and St. Mark Catholic Church) live in Wilmington and have 3 grown children and one grandchild.

Census officials kick off \$250 million ad campaign in Washington

BY STACY M. BROWN
NNPA NEWSWIRE SENIOR
CORRESPONDENT

The U.S. Census Bureau unveiled its \$500 million “Shape Your Future. Start Here,” 2020 ad campaign on Tuesday, January 14, in Washington, D.C.

Nearly \$38 million – or approximately 16 percent – of the paid media budget is earmarked toward African American and black audiences.

The “Shape Your Future. Start Here,” tagline is geared to helping underscore the notion that people can shape their future by responding to the 2020 Census.

At a news conference at Arena Stage in Washington, D.C., Census officials revealed that they would have more than 1,000 ads that target a range of demographics in 13 different languages. Those ads are projected to reach 99 percent of U.S. households.

“The 2020 Census is here and like we say in the ad: ‘Across America, we all count,’” Steven Dillingham, director of the Census Bureau, stated at the news conference.

“The 2020 Census is your census, and its success depends on you. It’s a once-in-a-decade chance to inform how billions of dollars in funding are allocated for critical public services like hospitals and health care clinics, schools and education programs, roads and bridges, and emergency response for the next 10 years,” Dillingham stated.

He continued: “Through advertising, public events, partnerships and digital and traditional media, we are embarking on a nationwide effort to let everyone in the country know about the upcoming 2020 Census and encourage them to respond online, by phone or by mail.

“And we are extremely committed to reaching those people who are historically undercounted.



Photo: iStockphoto / NNPA

“Through advertising, public events, partnerships and digital and traditional media, we are embarking on a nationwide effort to let everyone in the country know about the upcoming 2020 Census and encourage them to respond online, by phone or by mail,” said Steven Dillingham, director of the Census Bureau.

The communications campaign includes television and radio commercials, digital, social media and print advertising and messaging on billboards and at bus stops.

The Census’ massive public education effort encourages participation among multicultural and hard-to-count populations with ads in English and 12 other languages: Arabic, Chinese, French, Haitian Creole, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog and Vietnamese.

During the conference, several samples of the video advertisements were previewed.

In one video, children were featured teaching adults how to count their forms. The ad aims to curb the routine

undercounting of children.

In another ad that’s specifically geared to African Americans called “The Mural,” Census officials highlight a desire for an accurate count in the black community.

“Taking the 2020 United States Census impacts how funding flows in our communities for many programs and services,” the ad notes. “Because when a community comes together, anything is possible.”

The ads will run on television, radio, the internet, newspapers, magazines, billboards, and various special events.

Bureau officials said there are three main phases of the campaign: Awareness, Motivation, and Reminder. The first began on Tuesday,

January 14, the day of the news conference, and will run through March.

The Motivation phase will highlight how easy it is and the benefits of completing the Census, which can be done online, by telephone or through the mail.

During the Reminder phase, officials plan to mount a campaign that points out the urgency to count everyone with as many as 500,000 census takers and other employees swarming the nation seeking to collect data from all residents.

Census officials emphasized the importance of digital for the campaign.

About 29 percent of the paid media portion of the ad budget is allocated toward digital and social media channels; only television, at

39 percent, has a larger allocation. Johnson noted that as many as 65 percent of people are expected to complete the Census online this year.

The 2020 Census is billed as the most extensive collection of statistical information on everyone who lives in the United States and is required by the U.S. Constitution.

Responses to the 2020 Census will shape how more than \$675 billion in federal funding is distributed to local communities.

The U.S. Census Bureau’s goal is a complete and accurate count and, utilizing paid media is a critical component of the campaign, officials stated.

In spreading ad dollars, the U.S. Census Bureau has decided against advertising in the Super Bowl this year after previously running ads in 2010 and

2000. “It isn’t an efficient spend of taxpayers’ dollars,” Alex Hughes, a census program director at VMLY&R, which is handling the campaign, told reporters.

“The work, research and dedication that has gone into this campaign is unmatched to that of any previous censuses,” stated Kendall Johnson, executive director of the communications contract for the Census Bureau.

“Our outreach is multifaceted with a heavy focus on increasing response among groups that are historically undercounted. And it’s based on the most extensive research ever conducted to understand both what motivates people to respond to the census and what prevents them from responding,” Johnson stated.



If I could do one thing, I'd tell the world she counts.

Communities are as rich and diverse as their needs. That’s why completing the 2020 Census matters. It’s a safe and confidential step toward having an impact on how public funds flow through our communities. That could mean more resources in your area for special needs. It’s within your control.

Learn more at:
2020CENSUS.GOV

Paid for by U.S. Census Bureau.

Shape
your future
START HERE >

United States®
Census
2020

Lenovo releases FY2018/2019 Diversity & Inclusion Report

Harvard Law School's first deaf-blind graduate joins the company as a D&I Consultant

MORRISVILLE, NC - Lenovo, a leader in innovation and developing transformative products, services and solutions, recently released its 2018/2019 Diversity & Inclusion Report. One key highlight is Haben Girma, Harvard Law School's first deaf-blind graduate joining the team as the first external D&I consultant helping to better integrate the needs of the disability community into its products and workplace. Girma, an advocate for equal opportunities for people with disabilities, is an African American and first-generation immigrant that has earned President Obama naming her a White House Champion of Change, the Helen Keller Achievement Award and a spot on the Forbes 30 Under 30 list.

The report demonstrates the company's continued investment in their employees to foster growth and development that leads to better decisions, better products and better business results. "We are proud of our progress in diversity and to be a part of recasting the model for multinational companies," said

Yolanda Lee Conyers, chief diversity officer and president, Lenovo Foundation. "We are committed to continuing our work of advancing greater diversity in all its forms across our workforce and to foster a sense of belonging with inclusive practices."

The report revealed in the last 12 months, 66 unique nationalities were hired across 61 markets, 100 different languages are spoken by Lenovo employees, five unique nationalities are represented among their top 14 executives in the Lenovo Executive Committee and 97 percent of their business managers are native residents to the markets they work in.

Lenovo also succeeded in achieving their goal of impacting one million people through the benefit of philanthropy and volunteerism around the world. In October 2018, Lenovo launched The Lenovo Foundation to invest in STEM education programs, increase access to diverse populations and empower employees to improve their communities. As a result of their commitment, The

Foundation awarded 16 mini-grants to organizations around the world such as an organization in Kenya that was outfitted with a new computer lab to serve a disconnected community.

In an effort to continue to progress and advance diversity and inclusion, Lenovo partnered with The Atlantic magazine to host their first ever Inclusion in the Workplace conference, bringing influencers and thought leaders in the community together to share insights and best practices for increasing inclusivity in business. In addition, the company launched two new employee resource groups in the US, with plans to further expansion that focuses on new professionals and early-career employees, and individuals with disabilities and caretakers and allies of the disability community.

"We have many achievements and milestones to celebrate, and meeting our goals requires constant focus and is a continual journey," said Conyers. "We are taking steps to make sure our workforce reflects the best insights, creativity and experiences reflect

ive of our customers and society."

About Lenovo
Lenovo (HKSE: 992) (ADR: LNVGY) is a US\$45 billion Fortune Global 500 company and a global technology leader in driving Intelligent Transformation through smart devices and infrastructure that create the best user experience. Lenovo manufactures one of the world's widest portfolios of connected products, including smartphones (Motorola), tablets, PCs (ThinkPad, Yoga, Lenovo Legion) and workstations as well as AR/VR devices and smart home/office solutions. Lenovo's data center solutions

(ThinkSystem, ThinkAgile) are creating the capacity and computing power for the connections that are changing business and society. Lenovo works to inspire the difference in everyone and build a smarter future where everyone thrives. Follow us on LinkedIn, Instagram, Weibo, read about the latest news via our StoryHub at <https://news.lenovo.com> or visit our website at <https://www.lenovo.com>.



YOLANDA LEE CONYERS
CHIEF DIVERSITY OFFICER AND
PRESIDENT OF THE LENOVO FOUNDATION

Building
your
tomorrow,
today.



You know the future you want. And you're working hard to make it happen. At PNC, we're here to support you and help make things easier along the way. That's why we offer Virtual Wallet® — to help you stay on top of your finances in a digital world. Or Home Insight®, to help you find and finance your future home. Find out how the tools and technology we offer can help you continue to build your tomorrow, today.

Learn more at pnc.com/tech

Make today the day.™  PNC BANK



PNC, PNC HomeHQ, PNC Home Insight and Home Insight are registered service marks of The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. ("PNC"). PNC has pending patent applications directed at various features and functions of Home Insight Planner. All loans are provided by PNC Bank, National Association, a subsidiary of PNC, and are subject to credit approval and property appraisal. Virtual Wallet is a registered trademark of The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc.

©2020 The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. All rights reserved. PNC Bank, National Association. Member FDIC

VISIT US AT

www.wilmingtonjournal.com

to view our E-Edition



New Hanover County

Central Missionary Baptist Church, 702 Red Cross St., will sponsor an Extravaganza Musical Program on February 9th at 3:00 p.m. choirs and different types entertainment from in and around the city will appear on the program. Gifts will go to twenty chosen individuals.



Religious Briefs

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

St. Stephen AME celebrates 155 Years



ST. STEPHEN AME CHURCH

BY LESLIE I. SAMPSON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Located at 501 Red Cross Street in Wilmington, St. Stephen African Methodist Episcopal Church will be 155 years old this year. Pastor Thomas O. Nixon has decided the church will celebrate its anniversary all year long instead of just one Sunday in October.

The official kick-off to this year-long celebration began with a 10 am Worship Service held on Sunday, January 5, 2020. The month of January has been designated as "Honoring our Pillars", in which the church will honor its members who are 85 years of age and older. In February, the church will honor those African-American trailblazers in Wilmington and New Hanover County who paved the way for others in Law Enforcement, Sports, Education and other areas. Different events are planned for each month thereafter, the goal being not only to celebrate its Anniversary, but also to show support to local organizations for the outstanding work

they are engaged in throughout the community. This will also afford St. Stephen the opportunity to say thanks to the greater New Hanover County and beyond for their support over the years.

St. Stephen was established in May 1865 when 642 members of the Front Street Methodist Church exited the church seeking the freedom to worship freely and to receive the teachings and preaching of a minister of color. In 1866, the congregation was deeded property by the City of Wilmington for the northwest corner of North Fifth Avenue and Red Cross Street. In the early twentieth century, President William H. Taft addressed the African American community from St. Stephen during a visit to Wilmington. Many other dignitaries have visited the church, to include Mary McLeod Bethune.

St. Stephen's year-long celebration will conclude at 10:30 pm on Thursday, December 31, 2020 (New Year's Eve) with a Community-Wide Worship Service. All are welcome!! For more information, please contact St. Stephen at 910 762-9829.

SENIOR CITIZENS' FELLOWSHIP

Jesus Is Calling

BY FANNIE ALLEN AND SHEILA ROSS
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

It was a bitter cold day but we trust the one who blesses us with whatever weather he gives us and we are thankful to be able to be a part of God's creation. We the Senior Citizen Fellowship met at our usual time at the MLK Center and as usual we were happy to see each other and catch up with what's going on. Our meeting was called to order by our vice president Mrs. Mary Green. Mrs. Margie Robinson was the devotional leader today. We opened by singing "He's Done So Much

For Me." The Lord's Prayer was done unison and then we sang, "Jesus Is All The World To Me." Mrs. Robinson was thanked for our devotion and Mrs. Janice Gordon then led us in meditation. Approach this day with awareness of who is the boss. As you make plans for the day, remember that it is I who made your life. Don't try to figure out what is happening, simply trust me and thank me in advance for the good that will come out of it all. God says I know the plans I have for you Jeremiah 29:11. Strive to trust me in more and more areas of your life. Anything that tends to make you anxious is a growth

opportunity. Instead of these challenges, embrace them, eager to gain all the blessings. I have hidden in the difficulties. If you believe that I am sovereign over every aspect of your life, it is possible to trust me in all situations. Trust is like a staff you can on as you journey uphill with me. Lean on, trust and be confident in me with all your heart and mind. Psalm 52:8. Mrs. Gordon was thanked for the great meditation. We then had expressions, which are always encouraging. There were no visitors today. Minutes from the last meeting were read by Mrs. Mildred Ellerby. Roll

call and callers were then done. Mrs. Doris Almoctor was the winner with 8. Everyone was given a hand of thank you. We were asked to visit and pray for our sick and shut in. Prayer is what we all need. Announcements were read and then we were blessed with laughter by Mrs. Mary Martin. Thank you. After the meeting we had time for bingo. Seniors love bingo. We had fun looking for numbers. Ms. Carrie Anderson thank you for calling. We stood together and sang, "Bind Us Together." Prayer was given by Mrs. Margie Robinson. There were 33 in attendance.

TELL SOMEBODY

"Lift Up Your Eyes"

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth." Psalm 121:1,2

Disaster - Sudden calamitous event bringing great damage, loss, destruction
Tragedy - Sudden misfortune

When trouble comes, and tragedy strikes, we need to know where to go to find help in the time of need. Christians are not immune to trouble and trials. We are in this world, but not of the world, knowing that God sends the rain on the just and the unjust. Our Christian character and integrity are put to test when trouble and trials come our way. After all is said and done, the final question is, are we going to trust God or not. Some think it foolish to look to the Lord in the time of misfortune and calamity, and they equate faith with a "pie in the sky"

mentality. But there is great wisdom and common sense reality in putting our trust in the Lord our God, because no matter what resources He may use to come to our aid, God is our Source!



Sylvia Hooper

Life "happens" to us all, and sooner or later, we will determine that there is nothing too hard for God, and if God don't help us, there is no help! If God don't heal us, we won't be healed! If God don't deliver us, we won't be delivered! In times like these, the godly must exercise their faith in God, and trust Him like never before!

These are the days in which we see cases of wars, rumors of wars, Homeland security issues, family members forsaking one another, and familiar friends walking away during times of trouble. Because

of socio economic instability, financial scandal and multiplied disaster, we even see important government assistance programs standing on shaky ground. The love of many is waxing cold. Need we say more? It is time to lift up our eyes unto the hills from whence cometh our help!

"Behold, as the eyes of the servants look unto the hand of their masters, and the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress; so our eyes wait upon the Lord our God, until that he may have mercy upon us." Psalm 123:2

"Mine eyes are ever toward the Lord; for he shall pluck my feet out of the net." Psalm 25:15

We must lift up our eyes in order to be encouraged. As we look all around us the things we see are getting worse, and the problems are growing greater. Some men's faith is failing them, many are fearful and unbelieving; while some men are literally losing hope. But, if we lift up our eyes, we will be able to recognize the exceeding

greatness of his power. Psalm 145:3 says, "Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable." It's time to Lift Up Our Eyes! Tell Somebody!!!

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

A WORD FROM THE LORD

The true reason for our celebration, as Christians, should be to recognize the greatest gift of all, Jesus, the Christ who has been given to humans. It can certainly become a memorable occasion, if we are willing to give true and real meaning to his coming into the earth realm. It is worth all. It was with such a dramatic entrance and should have stamped in our hearts how great a Savior's love and compassion is. God was willing to come in the likeness of sinful flesh to give himself as a gift to the world, humanity. With all the hype about Christmas, purchasing, of food, clothing and participation in other exciting activities, one would wonder why all the sadness that accompanies the galore and festivities among other things. But all are not joining in. Christ has come to give us life and that more abundantly. But amidst all the folly, many people who are less fortunate are more depressed and cast down during this season of joy than perhaps at any other time of the year. Wherein we should be able to enjoy a true celebration of Christ birth, we should also remember those who have no desire or resources to do so. Many people do remember and share their prosperity

with others at this time while so many others forget.

After all is said and done, we have hope in the Jesus' birth, who lived for over 30 years among us. Though he was not received with love, but rather suspension and hate, he proved himself to be a friend, when he purchased our freedom from guilt and shame on the cross.

Now, we can receive from God just by using his gift of faith. This will be the most wonderful ticket (entrance) to a new and great life. It gives joy to all, but we don't get to know that joy unless we trust the gift giver enough to reach out and accept it. You will join the billions of people all over the world who say, I wish I had made up my mind much sooner. You will be able to truly sing the Christmas hymn, "Joy to the World, the Lord is Come, Let earth receive her King". All need to know this joy.

Luke records it so vividly in Chapter 2:9-14. 9 And, lo, the angle of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of

the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. 10. And the angel said unto them, fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. 12. And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13. And suddenly there was the angel and a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

The question now becomes, are you willing to come to the Christ as a mother would be to a precious child of her own to give him her life for his if it would save him? That's what the Savior offers us, because no one else could, though he did it willingly. In this fallen world that we live in, many people seem to fall through the cracks, but Jesus has said in Matthew 11:28 Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is

light." The key word is to take (accept) what Jesus offers and he'll walk you through the process.

We were not created to live in dire want. It happens because of sin and its consequences. We, however, can overcome. We don't have to stay in any position we find ourselves in. Jesus paid for your recovery as his gift to you that is more precious than silver or gold. He stands waiting for you because all have been invited to come to him for rest because we all have sinned and come short.

If these words have touched your heart, they can also make your heart glad. How beautiful the gift of a new and precious start with Jesus by your side. He will guide you through to eternal life in him. If so, pray this prayer. Dear Jesus, the Christ, I bring all my sins to you and repent. Take my life and make me what I should be in you. Thank you for I receive you as my Savior.

Find a church and follow his word and you will grow! The reason for the season is YOU!

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

Tell them you read it in
THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL



Attend the
religious institution
of your choice this week

HERE ARE OUR CARDS...

Whatever you're looking for, consider these local businesses

FIRST



Green Thumb Floral Boutique
910-762-2188
www.greenthumbfloral.com

St. John A.M.E. Zion Church
584 Pecan Road, Dudley, NC 28333
Church Motto: "Working in the Vision as the Mission Goes Forth"




Reverend Dr. Mary C. Nixon, Pastor
Email: stjohndudley@gmail.com
Motto: Philippians 4:13

Cell: (910) 540-4406
Home: (910) 675-1250
Hm. Fax: (910) 675-3840

EAGLE ISLAND FRUIT & SEAFOOD

"Biggest Little Store You Ever Saw"
LIVE BAIT & TACKLE

Highway 421 North
Wilmington, NC 28401

762-1193

Peter Grear, Attorney at Law
272 N. Front Street, Suite 300
Post Office Box 2279
Wilmington North Carolina 28402-2279

Email: pgrear@grearlaw.com
Phone: (910) 763-4671
Facsimile: (910) 763-0925
Toll Free (800) 222-8009

Areas of Practice:
New Hanover, Pender,
Brunswick, Columbus, &
Duplin Counties



Appointments only:
For cost and details: www.grearlaw.com

- CONSUMER BANKRUPTCY
- AUTO ACCIDENTS
- WORKERS COMPENSATION
- SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY
- TRAFFIC TICKETS
- WILLS & ESTATES
- POWERS OF ATTORNEY
- DEED PREPARATION
- BUSINESS FORMATIONS
- CREDIT REPAIR (Nationwide)
- ELDER LAW

MARCHELL CARMICHAEL
910-262-2819
MONDAYS 12-7
TUES-SAT 10-7



WINE
AFRICAN ATTIRE
LADIES CLOTHING
MEN'S CLOTHING
LADIE'S SHOES
HANDBAGS
JEWELRY
WAIST TRAINERS
FRAGRANCES

RENT SPACE FOR SMALL EVENTS

2390 CAROLINA BEACH RD
103 (BESIDE THE DMV)
WILMINGTON NC 28401

Use This Space
For Your Business Card
It Pays To Advertise In
THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL
For Information
Please Call Us At 910-762-5502



3-N-1 BAIL BONDING Co.
Home 910-675-1250
Cell 910-540-4406
Office 910-675-3840
P.O. Box 12831
Wilmington, NC 28405
NC LICENSE #2473
NATION WIDE SERVICE


Owner/Operator
Mary C. Nixon
Bail Bonding Agent

"Triple H Shoes & Accessories"
Featuring
"Stacy Adams Shoes and Men's Clothing"
Crossroads Shopping Center
890-2A South Kerr Avenue
Wilmington, NC 28403
(910) 769-1380

Mention this Ad at time of purchase to receive 15% off your entire purchase!!

Shop at 'Triple H' for:
~Stacy Adams Dress Shoes
~Stacy Adams Suits
~Steve Harvey Suits
~Kangol Hats
~We also have Vest Sets, Linen Sets, Walking Sets, Short Sets, Clergy Shirts, Dress Shirts, Casual Shirts, Banded Collar Shirts, Neck Ties, Bow Ties, Belts, Socks & Jewelry Accessories for Men. Additionally - Boy's Suits & Boy's Dress Shoes.
Open Mon-Sat (10am-6pm)

THE BENEFIT CONNECTION
We can help you!
We specialize in:
Health, life, disability, dental, group and individuals
Roth IRAs, 401-k's, 403-b's, annuities
Long term care and Medicare supplements
Regardless of your health or age
CALL US TODAY.



We can help you save money!
Personal and professional service for over 30 years.

The Benefit Connection
321 North Front Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
910.763.3777 Phone
910.297.6997 Cell

Owen E. Metts, Sr., Licensed Agent

When experience matters, Call us today!
Monday - Friday 9 am-5 pm * 910.763.3777
We represent several insurance companies

LegalShield
Total access. Total freedom.





John Wilder
Independent Associate
Executive Director
Small Business & Group
910-297-0925 or 888-286-0168
Opportunity Info 206-209-2022
www.Jwilder1.com

Identify Theft: America's Fastest Growing Crime!
Think you're not at risk? Unfortunately you are.
Do you...
hand your credit card to servers at restaurants?
sign your credit cards?
supply personal information over the internet?
keep your Social Security number in your wallet or purse?
leave mail at your home or business for the postal carrier to collect?
throw away mail with personal information without shredding it?

Have you.....
thought about writing or revising your will?
been audited by the IRS?
purchased a home?
been a defendant in a civil lawsuit?
signed a contract of any kind?
paid a bill you thought was unfair?
received an inaccurate credit report?
received a moving traffic violation you thought was unjustified?
had any type of legal question?

LEGAL EMPOWERMENT FOR YOUR LIFE
Your Family • Your Will • Your Money • Your Retirement • Your Car

(Coach) Columbus Pridgen Bail Bonding

Make That One Phone Call Count
Mobile Phone: 910-616-2519
Mobile Phone: 910-512-1372

Columbus Pridgen
Owner/Operator

"For The right Approach Call Coach"

NOW OPEN!!
SOUTH KERR AUTO SERVICE



- On site mobile repair
- All minor and major repairs
- Foreign and Domestic
- New and used tires
- Valet service

OIL CHANGE \$34.95
BRAKES \$40.00 + PARTS

SAM NEWKIRK
223B S. Kerr Ave.
Wilmington, NC 28403
910-233-7977


"Trust me for all your life insurance needs... permanent, term, universal & retirement."



CALL ME
Henry B. Brown
Agent



2816-A South College Rd.
Wilmington, NC 28412
Bus.: 910-395-2300
Home: 910-794-9359



State Farm Insurance Companies
Home Offices: Bloomington, Illinois

OWEN METTS REALTY
We can help!



We specialize in the following services:
• Buying, selling, or investments real estate
• Real estate consulting services
• Loan modifications, foreclosure counseling
• Credit and budget counseling
• HUD Register Agent
• Estate Planning

OWEN METTS REALTY

NEW LISTINGS NEEDED
DO YOU WANT TO SELL OR RENT YOUR PROPERTY?
WE MAY HAVE A BUYER OR RENTER WAITING FOR YOUR PROPERTY
DO YOU WANT TO PURCHASE PROPERTY?

Please call us first
TODAY FOR AN APPOINTMENT
321 North Front Street • Phone: 910-763-3777
Cell: 910-297-6997
Email: ometts@yahoo.com
www.owenmettsrealty.com
OWEN E. METTS, SR.,
Licensed Realtor/Broker, Certified Housing Counselor