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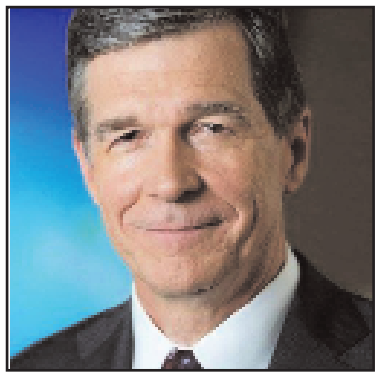


EBONEE SPEARS

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

OUTside Looking IN

OUR VOICE



GOV. ROY COOPER

GUEST EDITORIAL "Helping our Communities During the COVID-19 Outbreak" BY GOV. ROY COOPER PAGE 4

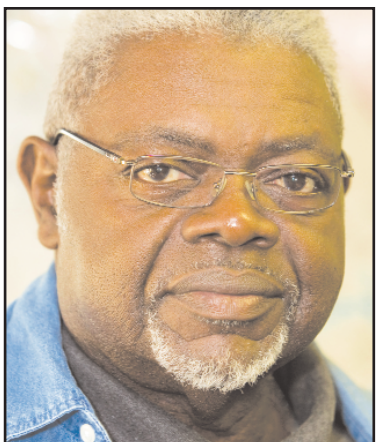
COMMUNITY



ERNEST SIMPSON

SENIOR MUSICIAN PLAYS ON PAGE 6

BRUNSWICK COUNTY



BERNEST HEWETT

A SERIOUS VIRUS

I find that most people are not taking this coronavirus seriously enough! We see all the changes taking place, stores having problems supplying certain goods, offices closing, hospitals stopping visitors, businesses putting up six-foot-apart signs, enforcing

Please see BRUNSWICK/Page 2

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 93/No. 17

APRIL 23, 2020 -APRIL 29, 2020

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COVID-19 UPDATE

NC NAACP files second suit demanding release of nonviolent prisoners due to coronavirus

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

The NCNAACP this week filed a second suit against Gov. Roy Cooper, Secretary of Crime Control and Public Safety, Erik Hooks, and other state officials, seeking declaratory and injunctive relief and petition for writ of mandamus.

"The over 34,000 adults and hundreds of youth incarcerated in this state live in close proximity and often unsanitary facilities. They cannot engage in the social distancing that experts and Governor Cooper have ordered the rest of us to undertake in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19," the April 20 suit states.

"When more mass outbreaks in North Carolina prisons occur, the people locked in those prisons will have no choice but to rely on a system that is unequipped to handle a novel deadly virus that has overwhelmed healthcare systems around the world. Given these dire circumstances, North Carolina public health experts have urged that "reducing the prison

population is a critical measure that must be acted on immediately."

Normally, approximately 2,000 inmates are released from North Carolina correctional facilities a month, the suit maintains. Thus far, in light of the coronavirus pandemic, Cooper and Hooks have only committed to releasing 400.

Release of only approximately 400 people will not allow for the social distancing needed to ensure the people in DPS custody will be safe during the pandemic, and Governor Cooper and Secretary Hooks have not announced a plan to release significantly more.

"In the face of widespread and avoidable loss of life, plaintiffs ask this court for declaratory and injunctive relief, requiring defendants to comply with their obligations under Article I, Section 27 of the North Carolina Constitution to ensure that no person incarcerated in North Carolina prisons is subject to cruel or unusual punishment."

Please see NC NAACP/Page 2

Afraid to go to doctor and be exposed to COVID-19? Try Telehealth

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, the NC Department of Health and Human Services, and NC Medicaid are reaching out to the African-American community, recommending that it begin using "Telehealth," a new method using a computer, smartphone or telephone to keep scheduled appointments, and speak with your health provider, for those who are afraid to leave home and possibly expose themselves to the virus at their doctor's office.

"We know that communities of color are being harder hit by COVID-19 than others," NCDHHS Secretary Mandy Cohen told her agency via video this week, urging them to pay particular attention to the 38% disproportional

Please see TELEHEALTH/Page 3

The Wilmington NC Chapter of Links, Incorporated takes a collaborative approach to inform about COVID-19



DR. KHADIJIA TRIBIE REID



DR. LEKESHIA JARRETT

SPECIAL TO THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness..." a quote from Charles Dickens' A Tale of Two Cities certainly is applicable to today's environmental challenges. In response to COVID-19, the Wilmington NC Chapter of Links, Incorporated is taking actions to help our local, national and international communities.

Under the visionary leadership of our Chapter President, Karen Clay Beatty, and on behalf of our local chapter, Ms. Beatty spearheaded an effort to get more COVID -19 information to our underserved communities. She arranged an interview regarding COVID -19, with WECT TV News Anchor, Frances Weller, and Dr. Khadijia Tribie Reid and Dr. Lekeshia Jarrett, who are

both members of the organization. The Links, Incorporated has several focus areas to help with disparities in the African American and communities of color. Our focus during this initiative were on our Health and Human Services, and National Trends and Services areas. Our goal was to make the overall community aware of how COVID 19 is affecting the African American community in a disproportionate manner statistically, and to propose possible resolutions to this dilemma. Doctors Reid and Jarrett did just that by dispelling myths regarding African Americans and the COVID-19 virus.

Dr. Reid discussed how pediatrics has been affected by COVID-19, and informed the audience that "the mortality rate in North Carolina is twice as high in African American babies

Please see LINKS, INC./Page 2



SONYA PATRICK, CHAIR CORONA SOUL FOOD ROUNDTABLE

Corona Soul Food Roundtable

BY BEVERLY SMALLS CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The local unit of the North Carolina Black Leadership Caucus hosts a weekly virtual online discussion about Covid 19.

Mondays at 3 pm the NCBLCA discussions chaired by Sonya Patrick schedule key leaders from state government, county and city municipalities, and educational institutions.

Judge James Faison began the discussions with words of inspiration advising participants that faith still works.

"We must change, adapt and remain efficient," he said.

Please see SOUL FOOD/Page 2

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

The Staff and Management of The Wilmington Journal



THE WILMINGTON
JOURNAL

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BRUNSWICK

Continued from Page 1

the shopping distance apart while in the store. These are all over the United States and the world. This virus is serious, and there is no end in sight right now. Nobody, not even Trump and his committee, seems to be able to give a straight answer about the virus. We must begin to make plans on how we can survive this virus while it lasts, and what is most important, what we can do after it is supposed to be over? We can't stick to the idea that it will be like it was before the virus started. There are going to be changes, and great ones at that!

We must keep praying and not let this cause us to lose our faith in God! Then we must begin to make plans for new conditions in our lives and the changes this virus is going to make. Like it or not, this virus has changed the world! It has shut down much of the United States, but, when it is over, we will be able to stand! God will make a way! Plan well!

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

NC NAACP

Continued from Page 1

The suit goes on to say that COVID-19 is a "death sentence and that, "due to

the severe shortage in testing, the true scope of COVID-19

infections inside the DPS 52 adult prisons and 4 Youth Development Centers across the state remains

unknown. Neuse Correctional Institution has seen the state's biggest outbreak. There DPS has confirmed 239 infections in a population of over 700. After citing which articles

of the North Carolina Constitution the state is violating by not immediately removing nonviolent inmates from the prison population, the lawsuit petitions the court to take any

and all steps necessary to prevent the continued exposure of those in prison to COVID-19, including ensuring [the state's] compliance with the relic ordered."

SOUL FOOD

Continued from Page 1

This week Dr. Phillip Brown, New Hanover Regional Medical Center's Chief Physician said he was encouraged by the flattening of the Corona Virus Curve. "We are seeing less severe illness, and less deaths," Dr. Brown said.

Crediting local citizens' cooperation with frequent hand washing and social distancing guidelines, Dr. Brown also offered skepticism.

"It's not time to return to normal yet." Citing the Health Information Privacy Act, he responded to questions about contact tracing and identifications linked to Corona Virus local cases.

The physician said information about specific cases and individual identifications are given to the county's public health department.

Those officials determine

if or when identified sufferers, or contact tracing information should be known by the public, he said.

New Hanover County Commissioner Jonathan Barfield also participated and commended area residents and health department staff for ongoing community efforts to keep the public safe.

County Health Department staff are supporting families in need of essential items that might not come to mind as readily as food drives.

"Health Department staff have begun a drive to collect diapers," Barfield said and reminded listeners that unemployed parents have many critical ongoing needs during the pandemic.

Karen Beatty, of the Links, Inc requested and received information for organizations interested in taking diapers to the New Hanover County Health Department on South 16th St.

Commissioner Barfield said he is also trying to get race-related demographic statistics and analyses regarding Corona Virus within counties' African American populations.

HELP.NHC.com was suggested as a site for gaining some details about the county trends.

City Councilman Clifford Barnett said city officials and agencies are currently following plans developed by the county commission. "I am concerned about the number of people we see out," Rev. Barnett said.

He emphasized the need to stay safe by practicing social distancing, and not having house parties.

Gov. Roy Cooper's political director, Stephanie Pignes participated in the Zoom, and telephone conference call meeting. She referenced Cooper's economic impact study for underutilized businesses.

Ideas for helping those small businesses survive

and move forward, "post pandemic," is a major focus Pignes said.

The governor and staff are also outlining plans for keeping the incarcerated and general public safe during the pandemic, she said.

A NC Democratic Party Minority Affairs representative, Shaunta Anthony also participated in the virtual roundtable discussion and stressed needs for community empathy. She suggested listeners, "love our neighbors as ourselves."

New Hanover County Schools' representative, Tanya DeShields Jordan said the local system is being sure all children have the devices they need to keep up with academic needs, and the nutrition they were accustomed to before the school year was suspended.

"Our counselors are not only encouraging students to stay engaged academically, we also want parents to remain as advocates for

their children," Jordan said.

Zoom talk about possible closures and cutbacks for small and minority-owned businesses suggested a possible positive outlook.

Corona-related changes might link to an opportune time for developing creative business models, according to UNC Wilmington's Terry Jackson, PhD.

Combining small businesses that complement each other, and learning about the benefit of requesting loans from commercial bankers rather than retail bankers are a few of the tips Jackson hopes to begin discussing with area small business owners.

To participate in the 3 pm Mondays Roundtables through Zoom enter:

<https://zoom.us/j/2105389948>

Conf. Call, 1-301-715-8592; Meeting ID 2105389948.

(Note-Kenneth Chestnut announced that the July Ocean City Jazz Festival has been cancelled.)

LINKS, INC.

Continued from Page 1

than it is for white babies, in particular to babies that are less than 1 year old, and that black babies are twice as likely to die." She also shared a personal story related to COVID-19 and how an African American patient and family friend were treated recently during a health crisis. She ended her interview with this advice: "Wear your mask in public. It is a serious recommendation, and everyone should be wearing a mask out in public." Dr. Jarrett practices with adults. She focused on the myth of predisposing conditions for African Americans, and the disproportionate effects of COVID-19 on underserved communities. Dr. Jarrett said "Things happening in the African American communi-

ty related to health has been occurring for a long time, and has no relation to COVID-19." She went on to say, "There is no genetic predisposition to COVID -19." Dr. Jarrett emphasized the importance of following the current CDC guidelines regarding COVID-19.

In addition to the interview, our Chapter President was also invited to and agreed to participate in a series of "Soul Food Roundtable Discussions" with community leaders and medical experts regarding COVID 19, as well as meeting with the African American Business Council (within the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce), during this pandemic period of the virus, to discuss and strategize how to support the small businesses who have been impacted due to COVID-19. She in turn shared some of the informa-

tion and resources with other organizations in the Wilmington NC community (see resources noted below). She knows the value in collaborating with various publics to address the myriad of concerns and disparities for African Americans.

Available Resources:
Coronacommunity.org
VolunteerNC.org
NCDHHS.org
211.org (to find help, food banks, resources, etc.)

Coronavirus.gov (re: tips on how to slow the spread)
Pahotline@ncem.org (small business owners)
Health.nhcgov.com (re: Governor Cooper's restrictions)

Corona Virus Call Center:
(910)797-6800 - M - F 8:00 a.m. - 5 p.m.

In response to COVID-19, the Wilmington NC Chapter of Links, Incorporated has employed other strategies,

for example during our "Stay At Home," we composed a letter to our participants in our Freeman Elementary School of Engineering GIRLS Program to express our concern for our GIRLS and their families. This GIRLS Program was created by our chapter and works with underserved students at Freeman School. Our chapter is providing masks for our GIRLS. We are also working on additional resources, including providing educational resources for our GIRLS and their families. Our International Trends Committee shipped textbooks to Belize so children would be helped, and have access to reading materials during COVID 19. In addition, our 1st VP Edith Ward and 2nd VP Angela H. Metts are working on additional strategies for helping to inform our community. We

will continue to collaborate either virtually, or by teleconference in response to the global pandemic of COVID -19.

The theme of Links, Incorporated is "Transforming Communities, Fulfilling our Purpose." With COVID-19 as our primary focus during this very unprecedented and unsettling time for our community, we are collaborating with other organizations to do our part to assist in getting information that has a transformative message out to our communities. We hope our chapter is transforming our communities from "the worst of times" to "the best of times." In the meantime, please #SocialDistance, #WashYourHands, #WearAMask, #StaySafe and #StayHealthy for everyone's health and well being.

REGISTER TO VOTE: PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IS IN NOVEMBER



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

STATE BRIEFS



GOV. COOPER SEEKING TO EASE RESTRICTIONS OF STAY-AT-HOME ORDER

[RALEIGH] In the midst

of neighboring Southern states, like Georgia, relaxing their restrictions on public mobility, Gov. Roy Cooper has said he is working now on plan on how to ease his stay-at-home order for North Carolina. He cautions that his modifications "must be made in a responsible...staged way. The governor said he also plans to announce what then future

of schools will be. Public schools have been closed until May 15.

CHIEF JUSTICE BEASLEY DIRECTS MAGISTRATES TO CONTINUE PERFORMING MARRIAGES

[RALEIGH] North Carolina Supreme Court Chief Justice Cheri Beasley has

emergency ordered all magistrates in the state to continue performing marriage ceremonies, but do so according to new social distancing restrictions. That means magistrates can limit the number of people attending the ceremony, and can even determine the scheduling. Magistrates perform 25,000 marriages a year in North Carolina.

1,000 REOPEN NC PROTESTORS MARCH IN RALEIGH

[RALEIGH] Approximately 1,000 protestors from across the state came to Raleigh Tuesday, demanding that Gov. Roy Cooper withdraw his stay-at-home orders that have closed businesses, and put hundreds of thousands out of work during the coronavirus plague.

The overwhelmingly white crowd denied the science behind the social distancing restrictions, even confronting a group of nurses on the steps of the state Archives at one point. Health experts say it is too soon to lift restrictions until more testing is done.

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS

TELEHEALTH

Continued from Page 1

tionate cases and deaths in the Black community.

Telehealth is seen as a way to make sure that African-American patients receive the timely observation they need, especially during this health pandemic. It has become a vital tool

when it comes to connecting rural patients with their doctors.

Telehealth is available through mobile apps such as MD Live, FaceTime, WhatsApp video chat and

Skype and video conferencing platforms, such as Zoom or WebEx.

Patient portal message and telephone calls without video are also considered "Virtual Health" visits. Just

call your doctor's office and inquire about using Telehealth for your next appointment.

African-Americans notably have not used Telehealth out of concerns for confidentiality and privacy, but health officials assure that the practice is secure.

Patients can receive therapy, mental health and some development disability services through Telehealth, and, if Medicaid patients fear that they may be sick, they are advised to stay at home, call either their doctor or 1-877-490-6642 for

advice. If you feel that you have COVID-19 symptoms, again, stay at home, but keep yourself away from your family if you're experiencing shortness of breath, difficulty breathing chest pain or pressure, and call 911.

Telehealth is covered by Medicare, Medicaid and Blue Cross-Blue Shield of NC.

"Technology is evolving quickly, and our ability to assist our most vulnerable citizens through creative uses of this tool has vastly increased," NCDHHS staff wrote in a report to the NC General Assembly in 2018.

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OUR VOICE

GUEST EDITORIAL

Helping our communities during the COVID-19 outbreak

Over the past few weeks, COVID-19 has completely changed our way of life. My top priority as your Governor is keeping the people of our state healthy and protected from this virus.

Unfortunately, we already have thousands of people with known positive tests contract the disease and more than 100 people have died as a result. Our prayers are with the many people battling the virus and with the families of those who were not able to survive it.

Last month, I issued a Stay at Home Order for the state to minimize the certain devastation this pandemic will cause. As we continue to beat back this virus, I need some help from you.

We're continuing to learn new things about this virus and its devastating and disproportionate effects on communities of color. Too often, a crisis like this shines a light on discrimination and disparities that have been with us all along.

Our state public health experts are well aware of these unacceptable inequities and are working hard to make things better. That means helping to prevent and treat underlying health conditions like hypertension, high blood pressure and diabetes that allow the COVID virus to cause greater harm in communities of color. That means continuing to fight for Medicaid expansion and closing the coverage gap and more.

Because there is no vaccination and the virus can be contracted without physical contact right now, I need you to stay at home. Staying home is the most powerful weapon you have to keep you and your family safe and it's the tool that will ultimately allow us to defeat this virus.

This means staying at home unless you absolutely need to leave for work and keeping 6 feet of distance from other people if you are out for essentials like groceries or medicine.

We know that many of you will have to leave home if you are doctors, nurses, or heroic service industry workers risking your lives to feed our families and staff essential businesses. We are thankful for you and have put in place rules to keep your workplaces as safe as possible.

We also know that missing in-person church services and being apart from friends and loved ones during this time is extremely difficult. But staying home will save lives. As strange as it was, I participated in my church's Easter service virtually with my family. I believe God was present there and at every home.

Staying home and keeping social distance prevents a spike in cases that could overwhelm our medical system and ultimately spread throughout your family. We need your family healthy and we need our hospitals to be available for people who become very ill.

I want to remind you that social distancing does not have to mean social isolation. This is the time to be kind to one another and check in with our families and neighbors by voice call, video, social media or text.

If you feel the stress and need to talk to someone, the Emotional Support Help Line at 866-342-6892 is toll-free, day or night.

Also dial 2-1-1 anytime so you and your family can find resources near you. You can also text COVIDNC to 898211 to get general updates about action our state is taking to fight COVID-19. I'm grateful for the non-profits, churches, schools and other community groups that have stepped up to help people in need right now.

While I'm asking you to stay at home, I'm doing everything in my power to ease the burden. I've ordered many service providers across the state to stop disconnection of residential utilities and expand internet access. I've made unemployment insurance more widely available, and we're getting help to small businesses.

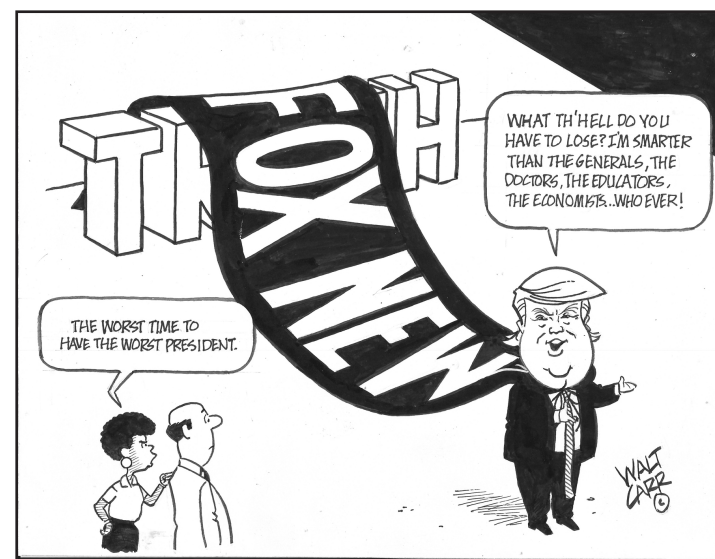
My team and I are committed to slowing the spread, making sure healthcare is there for our communities and fighting for the resources we need to get through this crisis.

North Carolinians are strong, and we are resilient. While we have not faced a challenge like this virus in our lifetime, we have overcome other major disasters. Thank you for what you're doing to keep your community safe. I am confident that if we all do our part, our friends, neighbors and our entire state will come out of this stronger on the other side.

This is an op-ed written by Governor Cooper on the state's response to COVID-19.

Tell them you read it in
THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Visual Voice



YOUR VOICE

A DIEHARD ATHEIST AND BORN-AGAIN CHRISTIAN WERE ROOMMATES IN COLLEGE

Like most good friends they tried to change each other for the better. The atheist asked the Christian, can you see, touch or hold God in your hand? The Christian said no. The atheist follows up question was then how do you an otherwise intelligent person know God is real. The Christian said because I can "feel him". One day the Christian found the atheist crying and rolling on the floor in deep pain. He asks him what is wrong? The athe-

ist said I have a bad toothache. The Christian asked can you see or hold it in your hand? The atheist said no. The Christian asked so how do you, an otherwise intelligent person, know your toothache is real? The Atheist screamed because "I can feel It". There are many State republicans Governors, U.S. Congressmen and women who, when Mitch McConnell blows the trumpet, are kneeling and kissing TRUMP'S ring. They value their dark/ under the table money over your life. The World Health Organization told TRUMP'S representatives in December 2019 about

the deadly Coronavirus. The reprehensive told TRUMP by classified intelligence briefings and "EYE'S ONLY" written reports it is in the air and spreading all over the world. Trump was praying (smile) it would not come to the USA and hurt his reelection, so he kept it quiet for months. If we, USA, would have started our distancing and quarantine in January, how many lives do you think could have been saved? You have a choice "six feet apart wearing a mask or doing your own thing and ending up six feet underground". As for me and my household, we will keep our six-foot distance and stay

out of crowds until the doctors and scientists find a treatment or vaccine to help lessen the effects of Coronavirus. I am asking all my family members, friends and ex-students to only take medicine prescribed by your doctor. The street-level drug dealers and TRUMP have three things in common. Money is their GOD, they failed science in the 5th grade and can't even spell the name of the deadly drugs they are pushing. ARE YOU REGISTERED?

2
James J. Hankins

MATTERS OF OPINION

TO BE EQUAL

The Urban League fights for you

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

"Until government is able to stand up the benefits that are included in the CARES Act and Families First Act, people in the meantime have to live, that's really the challenge. The Urban League and other non-profits are here to support people and get them connected to what they need. People have to know they can call a number and someone on the other end is going to care what they're experiencing." -- Urban League of Greater Atlanta President and CEO Nancy Flake Johnson.

It's hard to believe the toll the coronavirus pandemic has taken on the economy, and even harder to describe. At least 22 million Americans have filed for unemployment compensation in the last four weeks. It's the largest and fastest

string of job losses since the nation began keeping records in 1948.

The unemployment rate has soared to 20 percent, the highest rate since the Great Depression.

This economic devastation occurs against a backdrop of heartbreaking loss. More than 30,000 Americans have died of COVID-19, and African Americans are more likely to die than any other group.

I've often described Black America as the caboose on the nation's economic train. Whether the train slows down or speeds up, we're still running behind. And now the train is off the rails.

That's why that Urban

League Movement's role as economic first responders is more important than ever before. And I'm proud of the way our movement has risen to the challenge. Across the country, Urban League affiliates are an integral part of regional responses to the health and economic crisis in their communities.

It's all part of the National Urban League's coronavirus response initiative, The Urban League Fights for You. From distributing groceries to connecting job-seekers with opportunity to advocating in Congress for racial equity in the Rescue Plan, Urban Leaguers are leading the way.

In addition to offering many of their standard programs remotely, many affiliates have crafted unique responses to the pandemic.

The Urban League of Greater Madison is connecting laid-off workers with

newly-available jobs. Because of the affiliate's extensive experience in workforce development, the COVID-19 Workforce Recovery Initiative, is able to quickly and efficiently match employers with increased demand to workers with the necessary skills and requirements.

The Urban League of St. Louis has already fed more than 1,000 families through its drive-up grocery giveaway, which is ongoing. The affiliate is accepting donations of food, toiletries and funds for rental assistance.

The Louisville Urban League is keeping up the community's spirits on social media with "Louisville versus Da Rona," a challenge in which young people can win cash prizes by showcasing

MORIAL
Continued on page 5

Will the Coronavirus widen the Achievement Gap?

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

The coronavirus has upended our way of life, especially in urban America, where social distancing has replaced the laughter of children playing on the street, the excitement of preparing for graduation and prom, and the frenzy of last-minute test preparation. Instead, educators are being forced to think creatively about how to efficiently deliver instruction to their students, especially since they can have no physical contact with them.

Many of them are more than up to the task. Dedicated educators are emailing and snail mailing homework assignments and lesson plans, collaborating on assignments by telephone, engaging with colleagues using all kinds of technology. And many of them, the best of them, miss their students and continue to work as collaboratively as they can.

But the digital divide matters with much of our education, work, and communication taking place remotely. Andrew Perrin, a researcher at the Pew Research Organization, has studied the digital divide. He notes that

while African Americans, Hispanics, and white Americans have nearly equal access to smartphones (about 80 percent of each population), whites are more likely than African Americans and Hispanics to have desktop or laptop computers. This differential access has implications for students and the achievement gap.

While anyone can access the Internet through a smartphone, some learning is better facilitated with a larger screen. The computer access gap is likely to be reflected in the achievement gap.

African American and Hispanic households are less likely to have home-based broadband than whites are. The broadband issue is significant when some classes are being streamed, or when people need to use electronic connections like Zoom, Microsoft Teams, or Cisco WebX, that require more bandwidth than

students may have. Furthermore, the closure of libraries hits the African American harder than others because African Americans are more likely than either job search, but others are likely there for educational purposes.

There's more. Parents who don't have the luxury to stay at home may also not be able to take the time to help with homework. We know that African Americans, especially African American women, are more likely to work in lower-paying service jobs, and may find it grueling, to help with homework after a long day's work. Instead, they may get verbal thanks, but not the hazard pay they deserve.

Some institutions and individuals are stepping to the plate, asking friends, churches, and others for help in finding computers, purchasing internet access for students, developing partnerships with corporations, and more. While these efforts are necessary and appreciated, a systemic approach to the achievement gap and the way the coronavirus may have exacerbated it, makes sense.

There are opportunities to address the digital divide and

the achievement gap through coronavirus relief money. About \$3 billion in emergency education aid will be available to state governors, and according to Politico, Education Secretary Betsey DeVos says governors can use the money as they will. She suggests they use it for online learning. Governors should use some of these dollars to narrow the achievement gap by targeting those who are on the wrong side of the digital divide. That will make it clear that even during a time of crisis, we can still concern ourselves with equity issues, particularly as they affect young people.

Every child will have her education altered by adjustments made because of the coronavirus. Race, class, income, and access (and all are correlated) will determine how the changes impact the learning function. Young people who may have already been behind, with verbal and mathematical deficiencies, may find their gap widening. Whether educators are dealing with college and graduate students,

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MORIAL

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what they're doing to beat the coronavirus. Using the hashtag #LouisvilleVsDaRona, posts can include poetry, singing, comedy, skits, dancing, cooking or any way youths are passing the time while social distancing.

The Tallahassee Urban League is working with the Tallahassee Housing Authority to provide hot meals about 300 schoolchildren a day. Urban League President and C.E.O. Curtis Taylor says it's about more than nourishment: "We want to do everything we can to let our kids know that we are here for them," he said.

The Tacoma Urban League is using video conferencing to help small business owners apply for loans under the Paycheck Protection Program, and providing free Lyft rides to grocery stores and worksites. The Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle is helping pay laid-off workers' rent. The Urban League of Central Carolinas

hosted a virtual job fair. The list of how Urban Leaguers are leading the response goes on and on. These are just a few examples. Follow @NatUrbanLeague and @MarcMorial on social media, and visit nul.org for more info. *Marc Morial is President/CEO of the National Urban League.*

CRAZY FAITH MINISTRIES

The audacity of arrogance

I get perturbed now and then when privileged people attempt to compare the problems they encounter in life with the problems encountered by people in this country who are marginalized, either because of race, ethnicity, gender, or religion.

They too often point to the struggle of black people in this country to achieve not only civil but human rights. They use the words of Dr. Martin Luther King - and others - to illustrate their struggle. White people in general have done this, but even more particularly, white women, and white members of the LGBTQIA community. It always riles me because at the end of the day, white members of those communities still manage to marginalize black people. They use the words of our heroes and generals to get their point across, and leave us in the dust as they sure forward.

But my perturbation went to a new level last week when Trump Advisor Stephen Moore compared the protests of those who are objecting to social distancing to the action taken by Rosa Parks. (<https://nymag.com/intelligencer/2020/04/trump-advisor-compares-coronavirus-protesters-to-rosa-parks.html>) Moore, who has made a slew of remarks regarding the lives of women, blacks, immigrants and more - said that the gun-toting protestors were akin to Rosa Parks because they were fighting for justice. In their minds, the government putting "shelter in place" rules is an assault on their right to assemble. And so ...assemble they did - showing up in state capitols in states where Democratic governors are pushing back on the president's statements and non-actions, demanding that the cities be reopened so that business can go back to what it was.

Moore said, "I call these protestors modern-day Rosa Parks. They are protesting against injustice and loss of liberties."

The comparison is so skewed that it actually defies refutation. Gun-toting protestors, primarily white, gathering in crowds in defiance of the rules put in place to save and protect humanity are nowhere close to being on the same page or being mentioned in the same breath as Rosa Parks. And they know it - or do they?

But what this arrogant and ignorant point of view made me wonder is, "do they really believe what they said? Do they really think that rules put in place to save human lives from a deadly virus is the same as protesting years of discrimination based solely on race?"

It is insulting, to say the least, to hear anyone make such a bold assertion. Has white privilege and white supremacy damaged the capacity of people to think clearly or to have the capacity even to care about what they are saying?

If this is about protecting liberty, one has to wonder what the response would be of Moore and these protestors if black people toting guns showed up on the capitol steps demanding justice. Would their actions likewise be compared to Rosa Parks, or would they face immediate resistance from "law enforcement," eager to protect the liberties of those whom they believed the black protestors were threatening?

I wish white supremacists could be forced to consider historically what the white supremacist social, political, and economic systems have done not only to black people, but to all people of color. I wish they could be forced to hear the stories of how white supremacists, believing their ideas came from and were supported by God, totally damaged the lives of so many innocent people, who, contrary to these protestors, really have had their liberty constrained and denied.

Rosa Parks was a warrior who defied white arrogance; she does not need me to defend her and her legacy; it stands on its own.

But these gun-toting "patriots" have managed to insult a broad swath of people who suffer from the loss of liberty every single day. Their appearances this week were political and were meant to intimidate anyone who would challenge them.

They do not understand that people who have been fighting oppression all their lives are not afraid of their guns and laugh, actually, that they believe the way to fight the invisible virus is with an AK-47. No, people of color are not intimidated. Angry, privileged white people have been using guns to mow us down since we've been in this country.

But their using the name of a woman who represented millions of black people who were not protesting episodic discomfort and a temporary cessation of comfort goes beyond the pale.

They do not understand the fight for true liberty and justice. Their appearance with their guns made that abundantly clear.

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.

VOICE YOUR OPINION!!



WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR, TODAY!

MALVEAUX

Continued from page 4

whether they are dealing with those precious preschoolers, or college-bound high school students, the success of the fall 2020 semester will require planning and some remediation. Since it is clear that Internet access is essential

for both youngsters and adults, doesn't it make sense to provide every school-age child with a fully loaded laptop? Doesn't it make sense for cities, especially, to be fully wired with broadband? What does it take to make education a national priority? Reverend Jesse Jackson, founded the RainbowPUSH Coalition and appointed me

President of the education branch of the organization, PUSH Excel Board. In a Board call, he raised the question, perhaps rhetorical, of whether the coronavirus will widen the achievement gap. Any crisis that hits this country will both illustrate and exacerbate inequality. The issue is not whether coronavirus widens the achieve-

ment gap. The issue is what we can do about it. The first step is to urge governors to be mindful of the achievement gap when they apportion their share of that emergency education aid. For more information please visit www.julianmalveaux.com or email booking@julianmalveaux.com.

PRESS ROOM:

NFL & Players Coalition commit \$3 Million+ to communities of Color in support of COVID-19 Relief

(Via NNPANewswire.com)

NEW YORK – The NFL, through its Inspire Change platform and the Players Coalition, today announced a donation of \$3,050,000 to seven markets that have been significantly impacted by COVID-19.

Recipients of the funds include health systems, individual hospitals, and non-profit organizations in Atlanta, Ga., Baltimore, Md., Chicago, Ill., Detroit, Mich., Florida, Louisiana, and Washington, D.C.

While the COVID-19 pandemic is affecting our communities nationwide, reports show that communities of color, specifically African American communities, have seen disproportionately high rates of devastating impacts. As part of the multi-year, ongoing collaboration of NFL players, clubs and owners to address racial inequality and social injustice, the Players Coalition recommended the organizations which were then approved by the broader Player-Owner Social Justice Working Group. These emergency donations come from the NFL's dedicated social justice investment. Beneficiaries were selected based on rates of impact and community needs. "We know that during this difficult time, our minority and low-income communities

are struggling disproportionately with the impact of COVID-19," said Players Coalition co-founder and Working Group member Anquan Boldin. "Communities in Detroit, Chicago, Baltimore and more are getting hit hard right now, and we want to do our part in ensuring these areas have even the basic needs. We are glad we can partner with the NFL to support the organizations who are on the ground providing for these families."

"This is a difficult time for our nation, and it is important for us to continue to find ways to support those that need it most," said NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell. "We have an opportunity to direct financial resources to the hardest hit populations. This pandemic is having a tragic effect on communities of color and through Inspire Change and our relationship with the Players Coalition, we are pleased to be able to help where we can."

"It's especially critical to provide extra support for our minority communities who don't always have access to the basic necessities," said Players Coalition Task Force member and Working Group member Kelvin Beachum. "We are thankful we can give to the hospitals and organizations in COVID-19 hot spots that are

supporting our minority communities and fighting to save lives during this pandemic."

More than \$50 million has been donated to date in support of COVID-19 relief by the greater NFL family, now including the NFL's Inspire Change social justice contribution. Inspire Change supports NFL players, clubs, and non-profit grant partners in their efforts to reduce barriers to opportunity with a focus on education and economic advancement, police-community relations, and criminal justice reform.

Please see below for the full list of beneficiary organizations. The NFL's COVID-19 relief efforts will continue with this week's Draft-A-Thon during the NFL Draft on ESPN, NFL Network and ABC starting April 23, 2020 at 8 p.m. ET.

The following organizations will receive COVID-relief funding from the NFL's social justice initiative:

- Cities**
- Atlanta, GA**
- Grady Hospital
- The YMCA of Metro Atlanta
- The Atlanta Community Foodbank
- The Giving Kitchen
- Love Beyond Walls
- Baltimore, MD**
- LifeBridge Health (Sinai Hospital of Baltimore, Northwest Hospital, Carroll Hospital and Levindale)
- Franciscan Center**
- Maryland Food Bank
- Baltimore Community Foundation
- Chicago, IL**
- Advocate Christ Medical Center
- John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital
- Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center
- Mount Sinai Hospital
- Enlace CHICAGO
- Breakthrough Urban Ministries
- Acclivus Inc
- Detroit, MI**
- Henry Ford Hospital
- Detroit Medical Center (DMC)
- We the People of Detroit
- Capuchin Soup Kitchen
- Neighborhood Services Organization
- City of Detroit Rapid Response Fund
- Washington, D.C.**
- United Medical Center
- DC Dream Center
- Capital Area Foodbank
- Mana Food Center
- States
- Florida**
- Feeding South Florida COVID-19 Response Fund
- Guardian of the Glades
- Florida Community Health Centers
- Louisiana**
- University Medical Center
- Community Foundation of North Louisiana
- Krewe of Red Beans:
- Second Harvest Food Bank
- Fueling the Fight Fund

The political and healthcare system is broken and corrupt in America

(Via NNPANewswire.com)

History is bound to repeat itself. Look at what went wrong in 1918 (Spanish Flu). Then do the opposite," says the History Channel.

President Woodrow Wilson was the American President in 1918, when 675,000 Americans died as a result of the Spanish Flu and over 20 to 50 million people died around the world. This pandemic happened 100 years ago, and a lack of leadership from the federal government helped the flu spread like wildfire.

President Woodrow Wilson took no decisive measures with a coordinated federal plan and gaps were filled at the state and local level. There was a general lack of preparedness and the public health infrastructure was inadequate with no leadership and organization. Public officials lied, made up facts and 25% of the military personnel who had the flu, infected the citizens around the country.

The flu started in March 1918 and the second wave came in the fall, when the majority of Americans died. This mysterious strain of the flu happened during the end

of World War I and moving lots of men and materials in crowded conditions contributed to the spread of the virus. America and nations around the globe refused to lockdown their countries and the flu spread rapidly.

"The chaotic culture of the Trump White House contributed to the crisis. A lack of planning and a failure to execute, combined with the president's focus on the news cycle and his preference for following his gut rather than the data cost time and p e r h a p s lives," says Eric Lipton of the NY Times. The 1918 pandemic lasted 1 year and there were 3 different waves where the majority of people died.

In order for the 2020 pandemic to end in America, the entire country must be shut-down in every state and the president must place large-scale orders for masks, protective equipment, critical hospital equipment, ventilators and community leaders educating their constituents. This is not a time for "happy

talk." The Coronavirus Task Force must enforce the quarantine with military forces and local police.

China started its lockdown on January 23, 2020 and by the beginning of March, the country was starting to open back up. They were able to get infected cases to low levels, and the United States must follow the same course of action. The population practiced social distancing and the government was able to test on a wide scale.

At this point, America's testing process has failed, with testing of less than 1% of the population completed. There is no vaccine and more healthcare workers are getting infected with the virus with no time off. Before the country can be opened, there must be widespread testing and a national database of cases to prevent the spread of the virus.

With over 500,000 thousand Americans infected with the virus, and the most citizens to die in any country — over 20,000 — the political and healthcare system is broken. Instead of the pandemic slowing down, it is speeding up and rapidly growing.

In the African American community, the coronavirus



Roger Caldwell

**THE BLACK PRESS:
USE It or LOSE It!**

NCDHHS to provide additional food benefits for more than 800,000 children impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic

Governor Roy Cooper announced today that North Carolina has been approved for the new Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) program, to help families purchase food for children impacted by school closings due to COVID-19. NCDHHS is working to operationalize the program and families will begin to receive this benefit in coming weeks.

"So many families are in need, especially with so many

out of work right now. This approval helps people get assistance faster to feed their families," said Governor Cooper.

The program provides a benefit on an EBT card to North Carolina families whose children are eligible for free and reduced lunch at school. Families will receive \$250 in P-EBT benefits per child, provided in two installments, with the possibility of an additional benefit if North Carolina

schools are closed beyond May 15. Families will be able to use the P-EBT benefit to purchase food items at EBT authorized retailers, including most major grocery stores.

Families will not need to apply for the P-EBT program. P-EBT eligible families already receiving Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) benefits will receive an additional benefit on their existing EBT card. P-EBT eligible families not already enrolled in FNS

will be mailed a new EBT card in the next few weeks. Families who receive a new EBT card will receive a letter from DHHS in the mail explaining how to activate and use their card.

"As our schools closed, many families across the state worried about where their next meals would come from—and we knew we had to take action," said NC Department of Health and Human Services Secretary

Mandy Cohen, M.D. "The P-EBT program will provide extra help buying groceries for the families of the more than 800,000 children who normally receive free and reduced lunch at school."

North Carolina is one of the first four states to receive federal approval from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to provide P-EBT benefits, which are entirely federally funded. The new P-EBT program is

in addition to other services families may be participating in. As announced previously on March 30, 2020, all families that receive Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) will receive the maximum amount allowed for March and April 2020 for their household size. Families are encouraged to continue utilizing feeding programs at local school and community meal sites for free, nutritious meals for children.

Senior musician plays on

"God is trying to draw us together ...," Ernest Simpson

BY BEVERLY SMALLS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Ernest Simpson says he has been banging piano keys since age eight.

For more than fifty years his craft was perfected in an old fashion way, "playing by ear."

"I never had a teacher," Simpson said. "I always watched people."

His older brother, James bought a piano and that purchase triggered a career in scores of churches of the lower Cape Fear region and beyond.

In 1988 Simpson became one of the youngest participants in gospel singing legend, James Cleveland's California Gospel Music Workshop Of America.

As a child Ernest had watched hands of relatives on the black and white keys, and

those of pianists in his beloved Pender County worship place.

Moore's Creek Missionary Baptist played a major role in Simpson's development as a musician.

He was considered to be a type of child wonder with unique piano skills.

Being the kid who was taken to many churches by his mom, Helen Jones Simpson, area worshippers saw an unusual gift.

"A lady from Philadelphia named Nina Tablet was visiting and heard me play at Macedonia AME in Burgaw," Simpson said. "She suggested I should attend the James Cleveland Gospel Music Workshop of America in Los Angeles."

Moore's Creek Missionary Baptist minister, the Rev. John Keel, the congregation, and others backed the idea with

words and funding.

Simpson spent two weeks in the California-based workshops, and as one of the youngest participants mingled among the nation's most famous and gifted performers and music lovers.

He recalls having many community encouragers.

"My former first grade teacher 'Miss Carrie Newkirk' was one of the people I'd watch. She worked with the glee club."

Other Christian music lovers like "Miss Mildred Spencer," and "Miss Daisy Bell Murphy" were also early mentors, he said.

Lakes Chapel Baptist Church in Atkinson was one of the first places he played for.

When he was eleven, he watched the late Roman Wilson's techniques as he had to learn to play, "Hear Comes

The Bride," for a wedding in Roanoke Rapids.

Now at age 61, he works as the musician for at least four churches.

The first Sunday is for Moore's Creek Baptist; second Sunday, Bethel AME; third for Canetuck Missionary Baptist; and fourth and fifth Sundays for Central Baptist.

Simpson has been busy working and traveling with choirs up and down the Atlantic coast for decades.

Thirty two years were spent playing piano and electronic keyboard for the New Pike Creek AME Church Choir.

On break now due to the Corona Virus Pandemic, he focuses attention on Lionel Richie's song, "Jesus Is Love."

"God is trying to draw us together, and get our attention back and focused on Him."



ERNEST SIMPSON
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

RECYCLE

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

BY SPREADING THE NEWS



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POWER THROUGH
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Walter Lee Dry, Sr.

Walter Lee Dry, Sr., 86, departed this life March 27, 2020 in Spring Hill, FL. The second oldest child of the late King Solomon Dry and Bessie Theresa Mouzon Dry was born July 26, 1933 in Wilmington, NC.

At the early age of 16, he graduated from Williston Industrial High School. He was an active member of St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church in his home town. Walter started his career in the Clinical Laboratory field in 1950 in the US Air Force where he was trained to be a laboratory technician. After leaving the Air Force he was hired at the VA Medical Center in Bronx, NY in 1955 as a Clinical Laboratory Technician.

During his employment with the VA, he designed, built and rebuilt several laboratories for licensing and laboratory recertification. He also built a Toxicology Laboratory in Mt. Vernon, NY (Omega Laboratories). Walter was recruited to become a Consultant for Westchester County Health & Human Services Dept. to design and build three laboratories.

In January of 1989, he retired from the VA Medical Center, Bronx, NY, as Administrative Officer (GS-11) of the Pathology and Laboratory Service (Affiliation: Mt. Sinai Medical School).

Walter was recruited to serve as an EEO Investigator for the Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Equal Opportunity, Washington, D.C. He served in this position from January 1989 until December 1999 resolving 80% of over 300 cases he investigated.

In his role as a Consultant, Facilitator and Instructor, he lectured and conducted several training classes in the Florida area, such as "How to Avoid Discrimination Complaints" and "Prevention of Sexual Harassment in the Workplace". He also represented many clients to resolve EEO Complaints.

Leadership Positions

Secular: Community
Citizen's Advisory Committee, Oak Hill Hospital, Brooksville, FL
Hernando County Sheriffs Charities Board (YES Program)
Human Rights Coalition of Hernando County, Chairman & Co-Founder (1998-2020)
NAACP Life Member (1996)
Salvation Army of Hernando County, Chairman (2012-2020)
HC Bowling Association: Board of Directors, USBC (2005-2017)
Professional Bowler (PBA): 1981-1989
USBC Certified Lanes Inspector: 2005-2017
Hernando County Millennium Festival (Co-Chairman 1999-2000)
Hernando County Health Care Advisory Board (1990-1994)
Hernando County Health Care Facility Board (1995-1999)
United Way of Hernando County: Board of Directors & Past President (1999-2014)
United Way of Florida: Board of Governors Past Treasure & Chairman (2004-2007)

Spiritual: United Methodist Church
United Methodist Church of Spring Hill (1987-2020)
Lay Leader (2002-2005) (2013-2014)
"Retired"
Church Council (Chairman) (2010-2012)
Religion & Race Committee (Chairman) (1997-2002)
Administrative Board (2002-2005)
Gulf Central District United Methodist Church
Board of Directors of United Methodist Cooperative Ministries (2005-2017)

District Lay-Leader (2005-2012)
Board of Directors of United Methodist Men (2005-2012)
North Central District United Methodist Church

Director: Lay Servant Ministries (2017-2019) "Retired"
Florida Conference United Methodist Church
Conference Board of Pensions & Health Benefits (2012-2020)
Lay Servant (2005-2020)
Lay Servant Ministries Instructor (2005-2020)
Episcopacy Committee (Vice Chairman) 2008-2017
JFON (Justice for our Neighbors) (Chairman) (2010-2014)
Board of Lay Ministry (Vice Chairman) (2008-2012)
Property Task Force Team
Annual Conference Planning Committee

General (Worldwide) Conference United Methodist Church
Member of World Methodist Council (500 Members) (2011-2016)
Delegate to the World Methodist Conferences (2011-Durban, S.A. & 2013-London England)
Delegate to UMC General Conferences & South East Jurisdictional Conference (2008-2012)
General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns (GCCUIC) (2008-2012)
(Vice Chairman of the Personnel Committee) (Chairman of the By-Laws Committee)

As you can see from his extended lifetime achievements, serving others was his daily motto and also favorite quote. He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. He lived his life with honor, dignity and love for his church, family, neighbors and friends.

He was joined in holy matrimony to Glenda I. Dry on July 24, 1965 in Burlington, NC. He had two children, Walter Dry, Jr. (deceased), and Andrea Dry (Kissimmee, FL) and two devoted grandsons, Reggie and Andre Lett (Kissimmee, FL).

He is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Betty Irene Richard (Adolph) and Mrs. Lottie Edwards Clinton (Robert), all of Wilmington, NC; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and many friends.

Oscar Brown

Mr. Oscar Brown was born to the late Sylvester and Ida Brown on June 24, 1924 in the Scotts Hill Community of Wilmington, North Carolina. He peacefully entered into eternal rest on Wednesday, April 8, 2020.

Oscar was educated in the New Hanover County school system. He was employed by Civil Services (Camp Lejeune) for many years until his retirement.

Oscar was a longtime member of St. Stephens for many, many years. In addition to his parents, Oscar was preceded in death by his wife, Julia Lee Brown, his two daughters Mendal Green and Jackie Brown; one brother, Carlton Brown, four sisters Odessa Spicer, Lonnie Brown, Ethel Brown, Emily Green; and two grandchildren Iesha Green and Terry Green.

Oscar leaves to cherish his memories, four sons; Marvin Brown (Kathy), Oscar Brown, Jr., Reginald Brown (Sharon) all of Wilmington, NC, and Daryl Brown (Tia) of Raleigh, NC; two daughters Marilyn Beatty (Donald) of Leland, NC; and Caroline Smith of Wilmington, NC; 21 grandchildren; 34 great grandchildren; three great-great grandchildren; one sister Doretha McIntyre of Brooklyn, NY; two special nieces Angela Walker, Mercedes Spicer; one special nephew Wyonne Green; and a host of nephews, nieces, cousins and plethora of dear friends too numerous to name.

Graveside services were held on Wednesday, April 15, 2020 at Pollock Cemetery, Scotts Hill Community, Wilmington, North Carolina. Services entrusted to Adkins-Drain Funeral Service, 505 South Eighth

Street, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401. Condolences may be shared at www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com.

Derrick Davis

After a long battle with Cancer, Derrick Davis of Wilmington, North Carolina, departed this life on Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020. He was born on June 22, 1956 to the late Cuff and Alberta Davis, in Brooklyn, New York. Derrick "D.D." attended public schools in New York and New Hanover County. Following high school, he entered in the U. S. Military, serving in the Navy honorably. Funeral services were held on Saturday, April 18, 2020, at Adkins-Drain Funeral Service. Interment followed in Masonboro Cemetery.

Throughout his life, Derrick had a passion for boxing and martial arts. He also spent several years working as a brick mason with his cousin Leroy Hardy.

Biblical, historical and current events captured Derrick's undivided attention, as he could talk about these topics for hours. Derrick had a genuine love for his two granddaughters, Jayda, whom he called "J Bone" and Da'Riah whom he called "Brick". He spent quality time watching movies, taking walks and enjoying the fun times with both of them.

Derrick left his footprints on the hearts of many, through laughter, talking and "real talk". He never met a stranger. His spirit was unforgettable. Derrick developed many nicknames through his unique character; to his family, he was known as "D.D.", his nieces and nephews called him "uncle Umar", New Yorkers called him "Rabbit" and his southern friends affectionately called him "New York. Derrick lived his life to the fullest!

He was preceded in death by his parents, Cuff and Alberta Davis and his brother, Cuff Davis, Jr. He leaves to cherish his memories one son, Derrion Robbins (Mother Sharon Robbins) of Fayetteville, N. C.; one daughter, Tanasha Davis (Mother Michelle Hayes) of Wilmington, N. C.; two granddaughters, Jayda Davis and Da'Riah Robbins of Wilmington, four sisters, Eardine Battle (Otis) of Wilmington, N. C., Michelle Getward of Durham, N. C., Monique Moye (Ruben) of New York, N. Y. and Cora Bufford (Paul) of Durham, N. C.; one aunt, Olivia Hardy of Wilmington, N. C. Twelve Nieces and Nephews; Twenty-nine great-Nieces and Nephews; two great-great nephews; special mentor and friend, Bertha Todd of Wilmington; special cousins, Lydia Wilson of Virginia; Special loved ones, Andrea Rose of Bronx, N. Y., Shavon Robbins of Hollywood, CA., Michael Hayes, Sr. (Queen Yania) of Wilmington, N. C., Lonnie and Sonny. A service of Adkins-Drain Funeral Service, Inc., 515 So. 8th Street, Wilmington, N. C. 28401. Condolences may be shared at adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com.

Irving Everett

Irving Everett died April 7, 2020. Graveside services were held Saturday, April 18, 2020 at Salem Cemetery, Delco, NC.

Mr. Irving Palmore Everett, son of the late John Everett and Maggie Freeman Everett was born on April 13, 1942. Irving loved the outdoor lifestyle. Planting and maintaining his garden was his favorite things to do. He had a green thumb and kept his plants and yard looking good at all times. Every chance he could get to cook on the grill, despite the weather, he

was the grill master. Irving was employed with Field Crest Mill in Greenville, North Carolina and retired after 42 years of service.

He leaves to cherish fond memories: his wife of 34 years, Dorothy L. Everett; one son, Darryll K. Everett of Tennessee; one daughter, Kalena D. Everett of Maryland; one grandson that he loved dearly, Solomon D. Everett; two sisters, Willie Patrick of Delco, NC and Bernice Sutton of Riegelwood, NC; two brothers, Roscoe Everett of Delco, NC and LeRoy Everett of Wilmington, NC; a nephew Jerome Hooper who in his words was a "little brother"; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

James Edward Jones "Jimmy Marshall"

James Edward Jones "Jimmy Marshall" died April 10, 2020. Graveside services were held on Friday, April 17, 2020 at Calvary Memorial Cemetery.

James, son of the late Mamie Marshall and James Marshall was born on June 10, 1950 in Wilmington North Carolina. James, known to everyone as "Jimmy Marshall" graduated from Williston Senior High School. Following graduation, he entered into the US Army (82nd Airborne). Jimmy was a Vietnam Veteran and later became a Merchant Seaman. He graduated from Cape Fear Technical College as an electrician. Jimmy gained employment with New Hanover County and retired from the New Hanover County Maintenance Department. He later started his own business and serviced people all over Wilmington and the surrounding areas. Jimmy made his presence known from the ball diamond to the hardwood courts where he mentored inner city youth of all ages. He made a huge impact on a lot of kid's lives today! Jimmy was a lifetime member of First Baptist Church and he recently transitioned to Galilee Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Reverend John O. Veasey, Jr. He won many souls to Christ and prided himself in being the best door keeper, "Usher" on

this side of heaven. It was always a pleasure to see him enter the sanctuary serving the Lord in his bright colored professionally tailored suits. Jimmy was faithful in attending bible study and was a firm believer in Christ. He was married to Gloria Jean Cobia who proceeded him in death. Together they had seven beautiful children. He leaves to cherish very fond memories: his children, Rodney Cobia (Ambrosia), Latessia Smith (Oriental), Natessia Doughty (Derrick), Nakia Cherry (Sylvester), James Jones (Navisa), Candy Jones (Alvin) and Shanena Jones; grandchildren: Arrielle Jones, Jermaine Jones, Derrick Jones, Rodney Cobia Jr., Jalise Cobia, Shaquilla Jones, Darius Doughty, Gloria Jones Tiyona Jones, Kimia Cobia, Zarrah Cobia, Jaquan Jones, Da'Mek Jones, Orianna Smith, Treyvon Doughty, Zionna Cobia, Ziare Cobia, Precious Jones-Sharpe Aaliyah Jones, Madison Jones, and Neriah Jones; several great-grandchildren; three sisters, Deborah Nixon (Frank), Rosalind Marshall and Karen Weems (Lamont); two brothers, Ray Marshall and Rangiloe Marshall (Ashley); mother-in-law, Sally Cobia; brothers-in-law, Michael Cobia (Frankie), Ricky Cobia (Cassandra), and Reggie Cobia (Alfredia); sisters-in-law, Glenda McLaurin and Linda Cobia; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

John Michael Freeman

John Michael Freeman died April 11, 2020. Graveside services were held 1:00 P.M. Wednesday, April 15, 2020 at Oak Grove Cemetery.

John Michael "Mike" Freeman was born on June 2, 1948 in Wilmington, North Carolina to the late Olivia Campbell Freeman and Mac Calvin Freeman. Mike was educated in the New Hanover County School System, graduating from Williston High School in the

Please see OBITUARIES/ Page 8

In Memory Of



Mrs. Ezmas Marscine Carmichael

On April 22, 2020, it was 32 years ago that we were last able to see that precious smile on her face. It was always there unless someone messed with her grands or great grand children then the facial expression gradually changed to indicate 'Back up'. Yet she would use discipline whenever necessary but always make sure that we knew that we are being loved but needed to correct our behavior. She taught us to trust in God, be kind and show respect to our neighbors.

Mom, your name is used very often and the memories of things you have done to help us brings smiles and will last a lifetime. Mom, you earned your rest, we loved you but God loved you best.

When we see you and all the loved ones that have gone on ahead of us and the family chain will be united, never to be broken again. Rest on till we meet again!

Love always, Your family

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Message Regarding the Coronavirus Outbreak:

We're taking the Coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak very seriously, as our top priority is keeping the families we serve and our staff members safe. We are still here to serve our families and we're doing everything we can to keep our facility and equipment clean and sanitized. The National Funeral Directors Association also is giving us further information about how we can prevent the spread of this virus in our community.

We encourage you to stay informed about this virus and how to stay safe. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website is a great place to start:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Current Restrictions
WILMINGTON LOCATION: Per New Hanover County restrictions, the maximum number of guest allowed during a visitation or funeral service will be 10 people.
BRUNSWICK COUNTY: Per the executive order from Governor Roy Cooper, the maximum number of guest allowed during a visitation or funeral service will be 50 people.

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