

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



EUGENE CORNELIUS

GUEST EDITORIAL "Without more help, Black-owned businesses might not survive the pandemic" BY EUGENE CORNELIUS PAGE 4

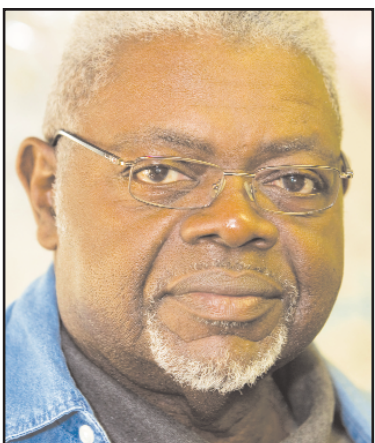
COMMUNITY



REV. D. K. FERGUSON

CORONA SOUL FOOD ROUNDTABLE PAGE 8

BRUNSWICK COUNTY



BERNEST HEWETT

TWO THINGS

BY BERNEST HEWETT CONTRIBUTING WRITER

My attention has been brought back to two problems that really need to be pushed in the communities, especially the communities of color. One is the United States Census, and the other is voter registration. With the virus going around and the "stay at home" policy that is in effect, attention has been drawn away from these two important items.

Please see BRUNSWICK/Page 2

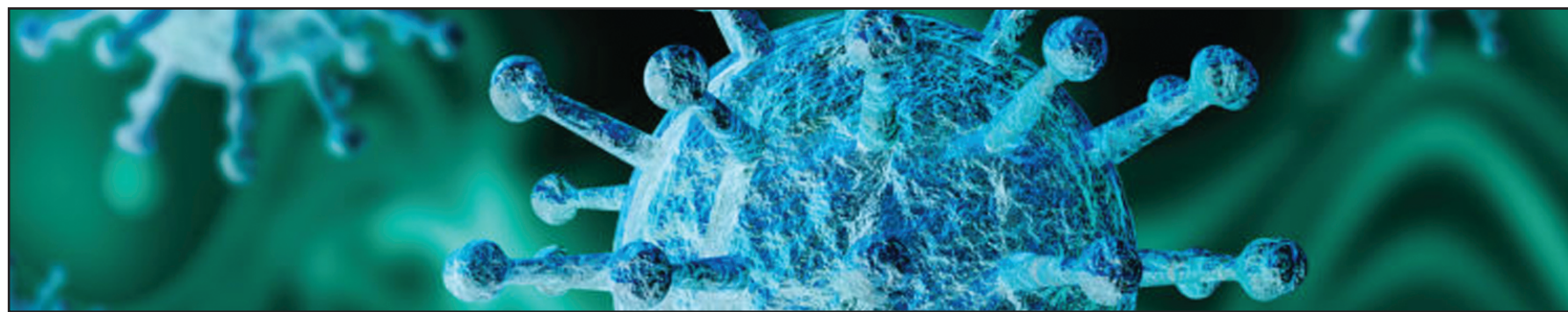
THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

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COVID-19 UPDATE

Governor proclaims May 3-9 Hurricane Preparedness Week Urges residents to update emergency kits and plans, especially considering COVID-19

Governor Roy Cooper has proclaimed May 3-9 Hurricane Preparedness Week in North Carolina and reminded residents that now is the time to prepare for the 2020 hurricane season. Hurricane season runs from June 1 through November 30. "North Carolina knows all too well the damage and disruption that hurricanes can bring, but being prepared can help people fare better and recover quicker," said Gov. Cooper. "Especially with COVID-19 affecting everyone's daily lives, now is the time to make sure you and your family are ready this hurricane season."

Gov. Cooper urges families to use this week to discuss their emergency plans, update their emergency supplies, and review their homeowners and renter's insurance policies. This year, it's also important to consider how the COVID-19 virus might alter your typical preparedness for hurricane season. When considering your evacuation planning during the COVID-19 pandemic, a plan to stay at a hotel, or with friends or family who live farther inland are better options than relying on a large emergency shelter. Be sure to include items in your preparedness kit like hand sanitizer,

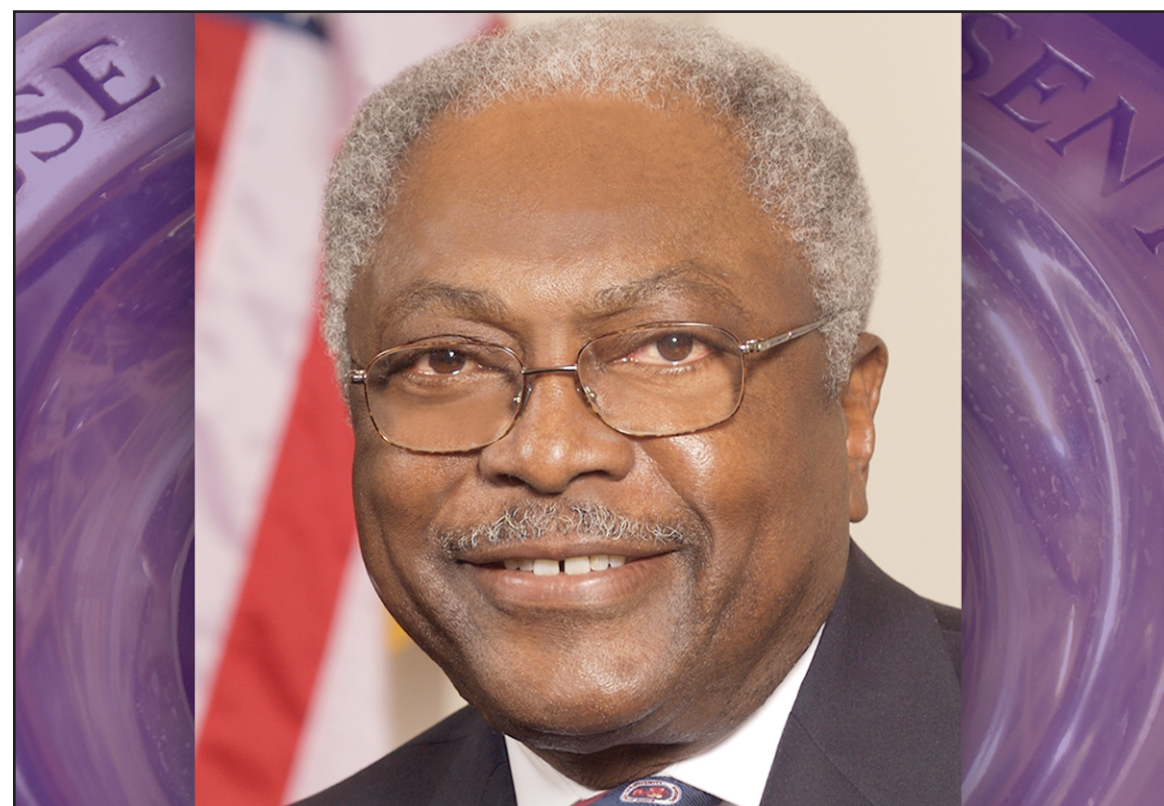
face masks, copies of your health insurance cards and documents and your medications. If you do evacuate, be sure to check in with family members, or an emergency contact, to let them know where you are. "North Carolina is getting ready for hurricane season even in the midst of a pandemic," said North Carolina Emergency Management Director Mike Sprayberry. "We have responded to simultaneous disasters in the past and will work with our local

Please see GOVERNOR/Page 2

New Hanover County continues community COVID-19 testing, additional resources available

NEW HANOVER COUNTY, NC - New Hanover County's expanded community-wide testing for COVID-19 began last week, and the county was able to perform 191 diagnostic tests free-of-charge to help residents know if they currently have COVID-19. Of the 191 tests, five people tested positive for the virus and 186 tested negative. This community diagnostic testing is being provided by New Hanover County to anyone in the community who is experiencing symptoms, regardless of insurance. Residents

Please see NH COUNTY/Page 2



UNITED STATES CONGRESSMAN JIM CLYBURN NNPA GRAPHIC

Rep. Jim Clyburn will lead House Oversight Committee on coronavirus

BY STACY M. BROWN NNPA NEWSWIRE SENIOR CORRESPONDENT @StacyBrownMedia

House Majority Whip Jim Clyburn (D-South Carolina) will chair a newly established oversight panel with broad authority to oversee the federal response to the coronavirus.

During an exclusive live broadcast, Clyburn told National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., that House Speaker

Nancy Pelosi decided to impanel a committee after she recalled a similar body selected by President Harry S. Truman after World War II. "Speaker Pelosi called me several weeks ago, and we got into this discussion about what we need to do and how we needed to make sure that this is done in such a way that it will meet with our vision of making sure that the greatness of

Please see CLYBURN/Page 2



KENNETH EDMONDS

Kenneth Edmonds, The Carolina Times Publisher, passes

SPECIAL FROM NCBPA

DURHAM-Kenneth William Edmonds, Editor-Publisher of The Carolina Times, died on Saturday, May 2, 2020, at the age of 66. Edmonds succeeded his mother, Ms. Vivian Edmonds, in 2002, and carried on the legacy of his grandfather, Louis Austin.

Kenneth attended the local public schools in the Durham and Chapel Hill-Carrboro school systems, where he excelled in basketball and, after the ninth grade, attended prep school at Laurinburg Institute and majored in journalism at East Carolina University.

Please see EDMONDS/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



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JOURNAL

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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 advertise-
ments. Community and reli-
gious 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
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responsible for the return of
unsolicited news, pictures or
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necessary postage
accompanies the copy on a
self-addressed envelope.

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Newspaper Publishers
Association, Inc.
Member of North Carolina
Black Publishers Association

BRUNSWICK

Continued from Page 1

They are very important, espe-
cially to people of color. Both
determine what benefits we
receive from our government
for community development
grants, public school pro-
grams, laws, etc. We must
become aware of our rights as
American citizens who love
our freedom! It is crucial that
we keep up with both of these
subjects (Census and voter reg-
istration) so we can become
free citizens in a society that
seems to become more and
more of a totalitarian nation.

If you have not registered to
vote, it's time to do so right now
if you want to vote in
November election, and, if you
have not filled out a census
form, get to a computer as soon
as possible or get into contact
with your county government
center. This is very important
to your freedom as a United
States citizen. We are losing
day by day! Our forefathers
fought for the right to be count-
ed as a person and the right to
vote, but we have lost that fight
within ourselves! We cannot
take it for granted that the bat-
tle is over: This current admin-
istration in government has
proven this.

Don't stop fighting! Don't
give up! We must overcome!!

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

GOVERNOR

Continued from Page 1

partners to do so again if
needed."

The most dangerous
threats from hurricanes
and tropical storms are
flooding and storm surge.

During this hurricane sea-
son, North Carolina is intro-
ducing Know Your Zone, a
tiered evacuation system that
highlights areas most vulner-
able to storm surge from hur-
ricanes and tropical storms,
and other hazards. If it
becomes necessary, local offi-

cials will order evacuations
using pre-determined zones
created by coastal counties.
The Know Your Zone lookup
tool is a new color-coded inter-
active map you can use to
determine the evacuation
zone where you live, work, or
are visiting based upon street
address.

Having flood insurance is
one of the best ways to pre-
pare for flooding.

"Homeowners with flood
insurance experience faster
recoveries," said Director
Sprayberry. "Flood insurance
is key to recovering quicker
and with more resilience."

NH COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

can call 910-798-6800 to speak
with a Public Health nurse
and then be scheduled for a
COVID-19 test (interpreters
are available).

At this time, diagnostic
testing takes place
Wednesday through Friday,
beginning at 1 p.m. each day,
and will be available
through May 22. Residents
who are tested will get a posi-
tive or negative result in
just a few days after being
tested.

The screening and testing
process is simple and quick:

1. Call our Coronavirus
Call Center at 910-798-6800
(lines are open Monday-
Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.).
2. Speak with a Public
Health nurse, share your
symptoms, and then be
scheduled for a COVID-19

test.

3. Arrive at the site (locat-
ed in the lot next to the
Schwartz Center in down-
town Wilmington) and drive
through or walk up for a
nurse to perform the nasal-
swab COVID-19 diagnostic
test. You will not have to pay
for testing, or show proof of
insurance or residency.

"Most people are in and
out of the testing site in just
a couple minutes - so the
process is quick and simple,"
said Public Health
Preparedness Coordinator
Lisa Brown. "After being
tested, a public health nurse
will call each person within
48 to 72 hours to share their
test results. Our team then
conducts contact tracing for
positive cases, to provide
education and guidance to
others who may have been
exposed and to help prevent
the spread of the virus in
our community as much as

"Preparing for an emer-
gency is an easy and simple
way to help protect you and
your loved ones when a dis-
aster strikes," said Public
Safety Secretary Erik A.
Hooks. "By having an emer-
gency supply kit with
enough non-perishable food
and water to last each per-
son three to seven days,
you'll be ready for aftermath
of a storm when you may be
without power, water or
other essential services."

Essential items for your
emergency kit include:

- Food/water for
every member of your fami-

ly for several days

- Copies of insurance
cards/papers and identifica-
tion sealed in a watertight
plastic bag
- First-aid kit
- Weather radio and
batteries
- Prescription medi-
cines
- Sleeping bag or
blankets
- Changes of clothes
- Hygiene items such
as toothbrush, toothpaste,
soap and deodorant
- Cash
- Pet supplies includ-
ing food, water, leashes, bed-

ding, muzzle and vaccina-
tion records

- Hand sanitizer
- Face masks

During storms, people
should stay tuned into a
trusted local news source
and keep a battery-powered
radio nearby for weather
and evacuation informa-
tion. They also need to heed
the warnings of state and
local officials and evacuate
quickly when told to do so.

More information on hur-
ricanes and overall emer-
gency preparedness can be
found on the ReadyNC web-
site at www.ReadyNC.org.

possible. These combined
efforts are important steps
to give us greater visibility
and information into where
this virus is and isn't in our
community as businesses
reopen and residents begin
to move around more."

View a video of the entire
process in English and
Spanish, and learn more
about screening and testing
at health.nhcgov.com.

As of May 5, there have
been a total of 97 cases of
COVID-19 in New Hanover
County, with 59 people
recovered and three deaths

Food Assistance for
Families

North Carolina has been
approved for the new
Pandemic Electronic
Benefit Transfer (P-EBT)
Program to help families
who receive free and
reduced lunch at schools to
purchase groceries, since

school has been canceled for
the remainder of the year.
Families will receive
approximately \$371 in total
P-EBT benefits per child,
provided in two install-
ments in the coming weeks.
Unused benefits will
rollover each month, but
must be used within 365 days.

Families do not need to
apply for the P-EBT pro-
gram. Families eligible for
P-EBT who are already
receiving Food and
Nutrition Services will
receive the additional bene-
fit on their existing EBT
card. P-EBT eligible families
who are not currently
enrolled in Food and
Nutrition Services will be
mailed an EBT card in the
coming weeks and will
receive a letter from the NC
Department of Health and
Human Services explaining
how to activate and use their
card. Any child that receives

free and reduced lunch qual-
ifies for the P-EBT program;
legal status of children or
family is not sought out or
considered for the P-EBT
program.

The P-EBT Program will
assist more than 15,000 chil-
dren in New Hanover
County who receive free or
reduced school lunch. For
more information and to
view frequently asked ques-
tions, visit NCDHHS.gov, or
call 1-800-662-7030.

As of May 5, there have
been 97 lab-confirmed cases
of COVID-19 in New
Hanover County. For more
information about COVID-
19 in New Hanover County,
visit Health.NHCGov.com,
call our Public Health
Coronavirus Call Center at
910-798-6800, and follow the
county's trusted social
media pages: Twitter,
Facebook, Instagram, and
Nextdoor

CLYBURN

Continued from Page 1

this country is accessible
and affordable for all,"
Clyburn told Chavis.

"This pandemic has opened
up some fault lines in this
great country, and primary
among them is healthcare.
Healthcare is not accessible
and affordable to all, and this
pandemic has shown that to
be the case."

Clyburn continued:

"America's greatness has
always been because it's
been able to repair its
faults. Speaker Pelosi said
she'd given a lot of thought
to what happened as this
country was moving toward
World War II and Truman
told the Senate about the 116
committees who after World
War I looked at all of the
profiteering, the price gaug-

ing, and the kind of fraud
that these fly-by-night
groups had done."

Clyburn noted that
healthcare and other fraud
has run rampant during the
current novel coronavirus
pandemic and, more than
ever, African Americans are
being victimized.

"This pandemic is vising
family after family after
family. We know from all of
the data that it is being vis-
ited more harshly and more
prevalent among African
American communities,
and some Latino communi-
ties all over the country,"
Clyburn stated.

The new panel is expected
to enjoy far-reaching power
to investigate how the tril-
lions of dollars already
approved by Congress for
coronavirus relief are being
used, Clyburn added.

It will be able to issue sub-

poenas, review America's
preparedness for the crisis,
and examine decisions
about the crisis within the
administration.

The panel will probe the
"efficiency, effectiveness,
equity and transparency" of
taxpayer funds used to
respond to the crisis and will
investigate reports of waste,
fraud, and abuse of funds
being spent, according to the
establishing resolution.

It will also be able to study
the economic impact and dis-
parate impacts of the crisis
on different communities.

"This is about trans-
parency and accountabili-
ty," stated Clyburn during
the live stream titled, "Black
America and COVID-19:
Saving and Empowering
Black Lives."

Clyburn also talked with
Chavis about the NNPA's
Coronavirus Task Force

and Resource Center, the
first media-related entity in
the United States to declare
a "State of Emergency for
Black America" as the fatal-
ities among Black
Americans have continued
to rise alarmingly across
the nation.

Using social media to
increase public awareness
about COVID-19, the NNPA
continues to encourage the
use of the hashtags:
#SaveBlackLives, and
#NNPA Corona virus
TaskForce.

Clyburn, a 14-term U.S.
Congressman and the dean
of the South Carolina con-
gressional delegation has
spent his career working to
improve and empower the
lives of African Americans.
Former President Barack
Obama once noted that
Clyburn is "one of a handful
of people who, when they

speak, the entire Congress
listens."

As Assistant Democratic
Leader in the 112th
Congress, the number three
ranking Democrat in the
House, Clyburn is the lead-
ership liaison to the
Appropriations Committee
and one of the Democratic
Caucus' primary liaisons to
the White House.

He plays a prominent role
in messaging and outreach.

The Clyburn-Chavis
interview can be viewed at
[www.facebook.com/black-
pressusa](http://www.facebook.com/blackpressusa)

"This pandemic is visit-
ing family after family after
family. We know from all of
the data that it is being vis-
ited more harshly and more
prevalent among African
American communities,
and some Latino communi-
ties all over the country,"
Clyburn stated.

EDMONDS

Continued from Page 1

He began working for *The
Carolina Times* in his youth,
at age 4 or 5, as he assisted
his grandfather by serving
as "Keeper of the Keys." He
remarked that his grandfa-
ther would misplace his keys
around the house, the office,
the post office, and other
places that he frequented.
Kenneth's first job was to
keep up with them as they
moved around Durham. He
saw firsthand through the
life, work and sacrifices that
Louis and Stella Vivian
Walker Austin faced as they
sought to bring about a more
equitable and just communi-
ty in Durham.

Kenneth held numerous
positions at the paper,
including selling newspa-
pers outside the office and
later in the neighborhoods,
which gave him keen
insights into the lives of
those featured weekly in
"The Times." He progressed
at the paper, and his first
writing assignment was
writing obituaries and, even-
tually editorials. His photog-
raphy also graced the news-
paper, and, eventually, he
began laying out the paper
and exploring the business
side of the profession.

The Carolina Times was
founded as *The Standard
Advertiser* in 1921 by Charles
Arrant, who died in 1922. In
1927 Louis E. Austin, origi-
nally from Enfield, NC, pur-
chased the paper and re-
named it *The Carolina
Times*. Austin transformed
the paper into the most
important voice for Black
North Carolinians during
the 1930s. Mr. Austin edited
and published *The Carolina
Times* from 1927 until his
death in 1971.

He was succeeded as pub-
lisher by his daughter, Mrs.
Vivian Edmonds. She car-
ried on the tradition of pub-
licizing racial inequities and
fighting for racial equality in
North Carolina and through-
out the United States.
Austin's grandson, Kenneth
Edmonds, became Editor-
Publisher at his mother's
retirement and continued
the legacy of printing "The
Truth Unbridled", which is
the newspaper's motto.

Kenneth brought the
newspaper into the age of
digital technology and ush-
ered in an era of a new rele-
vance to the publication with
the inclusion of national
wire service stories, as well
as incorporated color pho-
tography in the pages of *The
Carolina Times*. Though he
made these improvements,

Edmonds was always mind-
ful of a statement his mother
once made, "I'm trying to
work my way out of a job."
She made that comment in
the hopes that someday the
playing field for all
Americans, economically as
well as socially, could be lev-
eled.

Her son, took up that ban-
ner and continued printing
weekly to not only point out
the need for continued
African-American progress,
but chronicle the Durham
Black community's contin-
ued movement in that direc-
tion.

The Carolina Times,
under Mr. Edmonds, contin-
ued its membership in the
National Newspaper
Publishers Association, as
well as the North Carolina
Black Publishers
Association. Even though
his responsibilities at "The
Times" were pressing, he
still accepted the position of
Treasurer of the North
Carolina Black Publishers
Association, a position he
handled admirably at the
time of his death.

He was also a life member
of the National Association
for the Advancement of
Colored People (NAACP) and
enjoyed fellowship with St.
Joseph's African Methodist
Episcopal Church since his

childhood.

Born on Dec. 5, 1953 to the
late educator, Woodrow
"Woody" W. Edmonds, and
educator and editor, Vivian
L. Austin Edmonds, Kenneth
leaves to cherish his mem-
ories his loving and devoted
son, Christian Edwards, and
cousins, Bernard Austin and
Vivian Austin.

"Although considered soft
spoken by some, Kenneth
William Edmonds, had a way
of making a point that got
the attention of everyone in
the room. His carefully
thought out points were a
significant voice in the direc-
tion for Black Newspapers in
North Carolina," said Paul R.
Jervay, Jr., NCBPA Media
Services Specialist, who
often conversed with
Edmonds regarding issues,
as well as advertising con-
cerns from around the state.

Dr. Benjamin Chavis,
President and CEO of the
National Newspaper
Publishers Association offered
the following comment, "At
the age of 14 in 1962, I started
to drive my parents' car in
Oxford, N.C., and in that same
year, Mr. Louis Austin, the dis-
tinguished publisher of *The
Carolina Times* Newspaper in
Durham, N.C. gave me my
first job as a weekly writer and
researcher on the civil rights
issues impacting Black

Americans across the state of
N. C. The Austin family, like
the Jervay family, was the
heartbeat of the courageous
Black Press freedom-fighting
publishers. Kenneth

Edmonds, the grandson of
Louis Austin, carried on the
family tradition of being a
bold steadfast advocate of the
empowerment of Black
American families and com-
munities as the third-genera-
tion publisher of *The Carolina
Times*. Our responsibility
today is to respectfully mourn
the passing of Kenneth
Edmonds, but also we must use
this moment to rededicate our
support for the continuation of
The Carolina Times in
Durham and to strengthen the
Black Press across America."

"It is difficult to sum up
the life, legacy and work of
Kenneth W. Edmonds.
However, we are comforted
by the exemplary life of this
servant leader, who leaves
behind a legacy of excellence
that can never be undone. He
will be genuinely missed, but
his spirit will live on today
and forever," concluded
NCBPA President, Mary
Alice Jervay Thatch.

Funeral arrangements for
Kenneth Edmonds are under
the direction of Fisher
Memorial Funeral Parlor
and are incomplete at press
time.



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

State Supreme Court delivers key ruling for Black jurors in capital cases

BY CASH MICHAELS
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Never before in North Carolina judicial history have trial judges taken accusations of racial discrimination against Black jurors seriously. If a White prosecutor had a Black juror struck from a prospective jury primarily on the basis of race through peremptory challenge - which is illegal - the trial judge traditionally did little to investigate, and the Black juror was removed.

The Black defendant usually had to try and prove it,

with little help from the trial judge.

However, as of May 1, in North Carolina, all of that has changed.

In a 6-1 decision, the North Carolina Supreme Court ruled that trial judges must take a harder look as to the reasons why, when they see Black jurors summarily dismissed from juries by prosecutors.

The landmark 1986 US Supreme Court ruling *Batson v. Kentucky* made it unconstitutional to remove jurors solely based on their race through peremptory challenge during jury selec-

tion.

In North Carolina's 2020's *State of NC v. Hobbs, Jr.*, the NC Supreme Court ordered the lower courts to make sure that prosecutors weren't getting away with illegally racially shaping the juries they wanted because trial judges refused to do their due diligence.

Civil rights and defense attorneys are extremely pleased with the Hobbs decision, calling it "historic."

"What's most important is the message that courts across North Carolina must

vigorously investigate the reasons jurors of color are excluded, not simply rubber stamp the prosecutor's strikes," said James E. Coleman, Jr., John S. Bradway Professor of the Practice of Law, Director of the Center for Criminal Justice and Professional Responsibility, and Co-Director of the Wrongful Convictions Clinic at Duke Law School. "This decision is a good starting point in addressing North Carolina's shameful record of denying African Americans their civil right to serve on juries. These

issues will continue to come up. As they do, my hope is that the state supreme court will continue to take this civil rights problem seriously by enforcing and strengthening legal protections against race discrimination."

In the 2014 Cedric Hobbs, Jr. murder case, the trial judge inappropriately allowed a Cumberland County prosecutor to dismiss three Black jurors from Hobbs' jury "...without fully considering the evidence that race was a key factor in their strikes," cites the Center for Death Penalty Litigation in Durham.

Two studies have determined that qualified Black jurors are struck from North Carolina juries more than twice the rate of qualified White citizens. The Hobbs ruling not only forces trial judges to pay attention to how many disproportionate times quali-

fied Black jurors are stricken from a particular county's jury pool, but also, if state appellate courts are paying attention to claims of juror racial discrimination.

"For a long time, our courts have stood by as scores of Black citizens have been denied the basic civil right to serve on a jury," said David Weiss, Senior Staff Attorney at the Center for Death Penalty Litigation. "The North Carolina Supreme Court has just said that has to change."

Cedric Hobbs, Jr. is now serving life without parole for robbery and murder. Because of this new ruling, he may see a new trial.

The lead opinion for the State Supreme Court was written by Justice Anita Earls, one of the High Court's six Democratic justices.

The only dissenting opinion was that of Republican Paul Newby.

A BUNCH OF SAVINGS

for

MOTHER'S DAY

Mother's Day Flowering Hanging Baskets \$7.99 with MVP card. While Supplies Last.

This is our *home*
That's *Ours*
FOOD & LION



THE MOST LOYAL LISTENERS ON HE 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

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OUR VOICE

GUEST EDITORIAL

Without more help, Black-owned businesses might not survive the pandemic

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

Black communities in the United States not only represent a disproportionate share of casualties from coronavirus, but they have also been deeply affected by the economic impact of the disease. Longstanding racial discrimination in economic and housing policy has increased their risk for exposure to the virus, as well as the resulting financial crisis.

The economic effects of the pandemic on Black communities can be explained by several factors. Almost half of Black-owned businesses are in industries - such as administrative and support services, health care and social assistance and retail - that are bearing the brunt of this pandemic. These industries not only pose a health risk because of the interaction between workers and customers, but they are also especially vulnerable to lower consumer demand due to social distancing measures.

Over 90 percent of small businesses in majority Black communities hold cash reserves of fewer than 14 days, so they are more likely to run out of operating funds when customers stay at home. And the most recently available Federal Reserve data shows that Black business owners are denied loans at twice the rate of white owners, so they are more likely to have trouble finding capital to survive the pandemic.

In the face of large-scale shutdowns caused by the COVID-19 crisis, there is a clear need for policies to support small business. But the spending programs passed by Congress thus far have ignored the challenges of capital access facing Black-owned firms.

During the first round of funding provided for small businesses, borrowers seeking Paycheck Protection Program loans were required to work with banks already participating in the US Small Business Administration's (SBA) primary loan program, thereby excluding firms that worked with smaller community banks. Moreover, Congress allocated just \$10 million to the Minority Business Development Agency. According to the Center for Responsible Lending, these conditions may have prevented 95 percent of Black-owned businesses from receiving loans.

The second round of small business funding assistance specifically set aside \$60 billion for community banks and credit unions that are traditionally a key source of capital for minority-owned firms. However, the measure did not stipulate that minority-owned businesses would have priority access to those funds.

Addressing these short-term lending gaps is crucial to ensuring that Black-owned businesses will stay in business long enough to survive the pandemic. But we must also plan for a long-term recovery that emphasizes inclusion. This will require us to remove historic inequities through targeted support for Black-owned businesses and Black workers.

We can begin by taking three key steps:

•First, federal and state governments should enact robust credit enhancement programs for minority borrowers. These programs provide incentives for banks to lend to businesses in low- and middle-income areas, allowing more firms to remain open and refrain from laying off workers. In states with existing loan programs that provide credit enhancement, treasury officials should make loans more flexible, easier to access and increase loan guarantees. In others, where credit enhancement programs do not yet exist, treasury officials should create loss reserve funds and collateral support mechanisms, as well as a marketplace to pair pre-qualified lenders with borrowers in need of working capital. State governments can also authorize one-to-one matches for philanthropic funding to expand the pool of available capital.

•Second, credit enhancement programs should also be used to support place-based investment, with a priority on housing and infrastructure in low-income areas. For example, officials can increase loan guarantees to support construction of housing for individuals earning from 80 percent to 200 percent of the local average median income, or offer special collateral guarantees for minority-owned businesses with revenues under \$5 million to invest in long-term assets.

•Third, place-based investments should emphasize environmental quality in low-income and minority communities through special support for projects with higher air and water quality standards -including the remediation of outdated water infrastructure. Using federal and state loan guarantees to fund these investments will simultaneously support improvements to the health of minority populations and reduce their vulnerability to future health crises.

As we look beyond the pandemic, these steps are crucial for ensuring the American dream is within reach of minorities across the country. By addressing fundamental inequities in our economic system, we can begin to pave a new avenue toward a more prosperous future.

Eugene Cornelius Jr. is senior director for the Milken Institute Center for Regional Economics. He previously served as a senior official in the U.S. Small Business Administration. This commentary first appeared on CNN.com.

Visual Voice



MATTERS OF OPINION

REALITY CHECK

Looking for answers?

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

For eight straight days, I forced myself to watch the "press conferences" presented by Number 45 (aka Donald J. Trump). The show was supposed to provide an update on the status of the destruction caused by COVID-19. My objective was not to get any valuable information from Number 45; I focus on how the journalists at the show responded to his daily dose of misinformation and, much too often, untruths.

Eventually, I found myself as disgusted with the journalists as with the president. They would ask question after question as though they were really at a serious

"press conference" rather than at a performance by a narcissistic man who uses the words "fantastic" and "incredible" more often than the previous dozen presidents combined. It was evident that Number 45 was conducting a political rally rather than a "press conference." He used the occasion to deliver political messages and guidelines to Trumpettes throughout the country. If the attending press corps had been serious they would have sat quietly

A. Peter Bailey

as Number 45 delivered his spiel. When he stopped and inquired about questions, not a single journalist present should have responded. Since the event was supposed to provide an update on COVID-19, they should have directed their questions only to healthcare professionals who were present. If no such person was present they should have left Number 45's performance and found other healthcare professionals who could provide concrete information about the deadly virus.

By not doing so and treating the "press conference" as serious, they for all practical purposes actively participated in Number 45's charade. To some degree they were

aiding and abetting the Trumpettes who worship Number 45 as the quintessential white American male. In my opinion, he is what at least 90% of male Trumpettes admire or aspire to be.

It was very revealing to see so many members of the press corps from prominent press giants such as the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post, MSNBC, CNN, etc. willingly participate in Number 45's charade. I say willingly because surely they are not ignorant.

A. Peter Bailey, whose latest book is witnessing Brother Malcolm X, the Master Teacher, can be reached at apeterb@verizon.net.

Stop excluding people of color in environmental policies

(Via NNPA NewsWire)

Protecting the environment should be about protecting people, regardless of the color of their skin, their ethnicity or race, where they live or how much money they make. The fight to save our planet should be about ensuring a long and successful sustainable future - for everyone.

The deadly destruction wrought by the coronavirus pandemic has laid bare the harsh inequities in American society, disproportionately ravaging Black America and other communities of color, as well as individuals who were on the social margins long before the crisis.

The inequities have surfaced in obvious ways, including early data released by states showing that the virus is killing African Americans at disproportionately high rates, a disturbing trend that illustrates the substandard availability of health care in Black America.

The inequities have also surfaced in subtle ways, such as policy decisions that fail to reflect the needs and day-to-day realities of low-income communities and communities of color. The irony is that many of these policies are well-meaning. But in some cases, they also have had troubling unintended consequences.

Consider the area of environmental policy. Protecting the environment should be about protecting people, regardless of the color of their skin, ethnicity or race, or where they live or how much money they make. The fight to save our planet should be about ensuring a long and successful sustainable future - for everyone.

Yet, there are many in the mainstream environmental movement who continuously overlook the needs and realities faced by some of our most underserved and vulnerable communities. That includes the mainstream environmental advocacy community's push to enforce plastic bags bans in favor of

reusables, despite the fact that cardboard paper and other reusables pose a clear public health risk - especially for workers on the front lines of the pandemic response.

Why, for example, is it smart public policy to insist that grocery workers be exposed to reusable bags, when research shows these bags can be repositories of the COVID-19 virus? The majority of these essential workers are low-income people of color who are disproportionately bearing the brunt of the COVID-19 crisis, dying from the

Dr. Benjamin Chavis Jr.

deadly disease at twice the rate of white people.

Additionally, in New York, it is well-documented that a statewide plastic bag ban also disproportionately hurts Black and Latino-owned businesses and shoppers. Though there is an exemption in this ban for recipients of benefits like WIC and food stamps from paying the five-cent tax on paper bags, working-class people of color and low-income New Yorkers still must pay.

Some stores have been charging for both plastic and paper, and in some cases, more than five cents a bag. Five cents might not seem like much. But five cents (or more) per bag adds up, especially when one is living paycheck-to-paycheck, or, as is more likely at this moment, not working at all due to the financial toll of the COVID-19 crisis.

Some environmentalists have argued that opponents of the bag ban are trying to capitalize on the COVID-19 crisis by recommending a suspension of any bag regulations. Again, it appears that some mainstream environmentalists only use research data to support policies that reflect their privileged vantage point without respect to the impact of those policies on the underprivi-

leged.

I coined the term environmental racism in 1982 while involved in the Warren County, NC protests against the digging of a PCB landfill in the heart of a poor Black agricultural community. At that time there were some who thought that environmental issues were should not be considered as civil rights or as racial justice issues. There was in the past, and it continues in the current public discourse, a kind of arrogance by the privileged who think they know what is best for the underprivileged.

Today as the environmental justice movement has grown into a global campaign for change led by grassroots activists and leaders from people of color communities throughout the world, we all now know much more about the intersection between the issues of racial justice and environmental justice.

I recall vividly back in the late 1980's when I co-authored and published the landmark study for the United Church of Christ Commission for Racial Justice: Toxic Waste and Race in the United States, the established environmental movement was unnerved that people of color would dare to do empirical research and define our own reality with respect to exposures to environmental hazards. Our national study proved that there was a deliberate link between race and the placement of toxic waste facilities in America.

In adherence to a blind devotion to a privileged ideology, some who call themselves environmentalists often neglect to take into consideration the day-to-day concerns of millions of low-income and Americans of color living in urban centers that are also communities that house hazardous sanitation sites, incinerators, rail yards, power plants and other environmental threats.

Some mainstream environmental groups consistently insist on pushing for policies that make life harder for people of color and poor communities, arguing that the hard-

ship - if they recognize it at all - is a necessary price to pay in order to achieve their overall goals that those of privilege have exclusively envisioned as the standard for all others to obey.

As the pandemic continues, we need to let go of high-minded ideological arguments and do everything possible to protect workers on the front lines - including grocery clerks and those who make deliveries. Some states have temporarily lifted their bans or eradicated them altogether. A number of grocery stores are bringing back plastic bags and telling customers not to bring their own reusable bags.

Due to the crisis, New York has twice extended non-enforcement of its plastic bag ban in the face of a lawsuit that challenges its constitutionality. This is not enough. The state should give essential workers and shoppers alike a sense of protection during the pandemic and bag the plastic ban altogether.

More often than not, these life-changing decisions are being made without the consultation or input from the affected communities of color. Close to 40 years later we still remain on the outside of these conversations, continuously overlooked by many in the mainstream environmental movement as well as in local and state governments.

There is an obvious divide between the members of the mainstream environmentalism movement and the environmental justice community, primarily made up of urban Black and brown people. Until both parties can come together and pay the necessary attention to the pervasive environmental concerns that our communities endure on a daily basis the rift will only deepen, if not completely fracture. Exclusion of people of color will not solve the nation's or the world's environmental challenges.

Dr. Benjamin Chavis is president and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association.

Looking for answers?

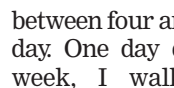
(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

This coronavirus that has us sheltering in place has taken some through many different emotions. Some have experienced fear, concern, stress and many negative feelings. There're some who've used this time to do positive things that carry with them hope and good feelings about what they've been able to do for themselves and for others.

I encourage you to try looking on the bright side of what's going on in your life. I'll tell you first what I do. Every day several times each day I say a prayer for someone or something and I immediately feel better. I take a walk outside and just observe the beauty of the flowers, the sky and environment in general. I find there's always something out there that makes me smile. Even though I have on my mask and gloves, I bow my head each time I come near anyone just to let them know I see them and I acknowledge their humanity. I can't always

tell if they acknowledge my recognition of them, but I feel good knowing I have acknowledged them.

There're so many things one can do so as not to sit around and bemoan the fact that this virus may have changed our lives forever. It's so important to be physically and mentally active. In my case I walk between four and five miles per day. One day during the past week, I walked 5.2 miles. Imagine how excited I was about that extra .2 miles! That may not sound like such a big deal, but I knew how long it had taken me to get there! I put that in my success column. You don't have to do all the big things immediately. Try a gradual approach to whatever it is you set as a goal. In my case, I'm ready to set a new walking goal.



Dr. E. Faye Williams

That helps to keep my mind off negative things I might be thinking if I just sat around saying "Poor me."

Often when you are looking for answers, you can find them within yourself. Get the attention off yourself while thinking of something else. Read a good book-one that you can't put down until you're finished. Call a friend to share what you've just read. If you tell the story of what you've read in an exciting manner, it's possible you can get your friend's mind off the negative and proceed to do just what you're doing.

Don't tell yourself you can't do certain things. Learn to do the thing you've been saying you can't do. Gather facts instead of sitting around in fear. Get involved in an online seminar or learn a new language. There're so many great things you can do. In my case, along with Bishop Joe Simon, I'm soliciting unregistered voters. Along with members of the National Congress of Black Women, we're teaching people how to register online.

It's easy. Help by steering people who aren't registered to <https://www.usa.gov/register-to-vote>. 2. Tell them to check Voting and Elections and follow the prompts. 3. If they have a problem call 877/805-8447. There'll be someone to assist them.

There's another easy project you can do to help while taking your mind off your fears. Adopt a nursing home. Call the director and find out what products would be helpful for you to donate. Ship the products without ever having to go to the nursing home. If you're looking for answers, whatever you do, instead of sitting around in fear, think solutions by making a list of at least 10 things you're capable of doing. Select from the list and do as many as you can. Don't just sit around in fear.

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

are too many who resist gathering and reporting data by race, facetiously claiming we are all "one nation." And the myth of "one nation" holds if data are not collected.

When the threat of the coronavirus has receded, perhaps a year or so from now, we will be able to measure who carried the higher burden of this coronavirus. But we already know that Black folks are dying, losing their jobs, or being exposed to the virus because of the jobs they hold (as an example, Black women are 6 percent of the labor force but 20 percent of medical support staff). We don't need detailed statistical analysis to conclude that poorer, urban, Black and brown communities are hardest hit.

What do you have to lose? Your job, and maybe even your life. The lack of leadership 45 has exhibited during this pandemic disqualifies him for a second term. And those disproportionately impacted who choose to vote for 45, choose to vote against their own interest.

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.julianmalveaux.com.

CRAZY FAITH MINISTRIES Christian Nationalists in the time of the coronavirus

That racism exists in spite of a "good God," a God who made everything from nothing, and who declared that all He created was "good" is mind-boggling and puzzling to those who believe in a sovereign God who has control over everything.

White supremacy seems to have evolved only because people with white skin in this country and who were wedded to a desire to enslave people of African descent needed a berth on which to sit. Prejudice against people of color had long existed in Europe, and the lesson that white people were superior was a part of the white mind for some time.

The Pilgrims and then the Puritans brought their racial bias with them to the new world, and used their belief not only in their superiority as white people but also their belief that God had commissioned white people to create a new nation for white people. They then felt completely supported by God as they attacked and eliminated much of the Native American population they found on these shores when they landed.

With the burgeoning new economy, however, using and enslaving people of African descent, religious whites had to find a way to weave God into the ethos of the slavocracy. They went so far, some of them, to suggest that the God of black people was not the same God who had created white people. Some "theologians" suggested that the God created black people before the God of white people came along, and that the snake that seduced Eve in the Garden of Eden was actually a black man. That narrative, along with the use of the "Ham Doctrine," helped white supremacists to create a "theology" which was really ideology. Some kind of way, their belief in the inferiority of black people had to be taught as being the doing of God.

Their "good God" allowed enslavement of black people, allowed sexism, and turned his head to the annihilation of the Native American nation which existed in this country. And their "good God" is still on his (their God is certainly male) throne, sanctioning the racist attitudes and actions of white "Christians" who feel nothing as they oppress black, brown, and Asian people, as well as Muslims, immigrants, and Jews, in spite of their support of Israel.

Christian Nationalists believe their duty is to take America "back" to a time when its people practiced "Biblical principles," conservative beliefs which have little to nothing to do with the message of the Gospel of Jesus. They claim to preach the Gospel of "the Lord Jesus Christ," but a careful reading of and listening to their rhetoric reveals that they quote Jesus very little, but instead quote Paul - so much so that one might say they practice not "Christianity," but instead, the "religion of Paul."

They believe that religion - which they are calling Christianity - is not about agape love and the building of community but is rather about the building and keeping of power - and they use big dollars to achieve that goal. Jesus the Christ is more a figurehead than a deity to be respected and emulated; many have as much distaste for the Christianity of Jesus as they do for democracy. From the time of Constantine, when Jesus was weaponized and converted to a warrior-deity until now, their religion has moved farther and farther away from the Gospel of Jesus. (<https://www.alternet.org/2020/03/how-the-coronavirus-has-exposed-the-religious-rights-racism/>)

They do not believe that "all people are created equal," and many consider efforts to level the playing field so that all Americans have equal footing in attaining the American dream as being misplaced. They are not in favor of public education, (Jerry Falwell once said that he wanted to see the day when there would be no more public schools, but instead schools run by Christians.) They still blame the poor for being poor and they in effect believe that white people - per the Bible - were created to have dominion over the earth and over the people of the earth.

That being the case, while it might be disturbing and troubling to hear some say, as regards hundreds of thousands of people dying from the coronavirus that "everybody has to die," and to further say that older people ought to be willing to die to save the economy, it is not divorced from their belief system. They believe in the rightness of their ideology - which they call Christianity; they see nothing wrong with what and how they believe. They believe they are called to make this country live according to "Biblical principles," which seemingly include being all right with racism, sexism, homophobia, Xenophobia, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, and all the rest of the "isms" which many find so repulsive and troubling.

The God of Christian Nationalists is not the God whose son advised us all to take care of each other, who said that "inasmuch as we do (or do not) do good for the least of these, we do (or do not) do it to/for Jesus. Christian Nationalists, it seems, have no time for such words, though they come from the Christ they say they follow.

And that divide - between "them" and "the rest of us" is one of the reasons why so many are confused, wondering where God is, who have always wondered where God is in the time of trouble. The God of Christian Nationalists, it seems, is more supportive of partisan politics than of any community of believers. And unfortunately, their movement is not losing steam, not even in this time of horrific pain, suffering, and death.

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.

WILMER

Continued from this page

testing regime. Cases in South Korea are dropping. The US cannot manufacture sufficient quantities of PPE since American companies have offshored their manufacturing to China and Trump will not command the private sector to manufacture PPE through the Defense Production Act. The US government no longer keeps an ample supply of PPE on hand since Americans have bought into the bad idea of "less government" and the private sector does not want to compete with a well-stocked government in times like this. COVID-19 is exposing that this manufacturing system is broken.

Tyson Foods executives have said that the closure of food-processing plants due to COVID-19 is "breaking" the supply chain. American farmers are plowing under crops. Dairy farmers are dumping thousands of gallons of milk and millions of animals will be depopulated because of the closure of meat processing facilities while jobless claims

increase by 4.4 million. 26 million Americans have lost their jobs to COVID-19 and food banks are going empty. And you call this exceptional?

The U.S. can launch the \$13 Billion USS Gerald Ford aircraft carrier with a \$400K toilet problem but can't get meat, milk and eggs to market in the midst of starving Americans, a crashing economy and a pandemic. COVID-19 has pulled the covers off of the entire charade called American exceptionalism.

Baldwin told us, time catches up with kingdoms and empires and crushes them. You better check your clocks and watches. God sent Noah the rainbow sign, no more water; COVID-19 this time.

Dr. Wilmer Leon is the Producer/ Host of the nationally broadcast talk radio program "Inside the Issues" on SiriusXM Satellite radio channel 126. Go to www.wilmerleon.com or email: wj13us@yahoo.com. www.twitter.com/drleon and www.facebook.com/Dr.Leon'sPrescription

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What do you have to lose? Your health or your job

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

A little less than four years ago, the president tried to get Black votes with the question, "What do you have to lose." The coronavirus offers a bleak answer: Trump was notified of the danger of the pandemic in January, but didn't begin to address the issue until late February. Hospitals ran short on supplies like gowns, masks and tests. Governors had to ask, then plead with the president for ventilators and other supplies. And in the beginning, the president dismissed the seriousness of the virus, claiming it would "go away." And after weeks of "staying in place" and wearing masks, the daily death toll has not yet stabilized.

Of course, the Black community, along with Native Americans and Latinos, are hardest hit because of differences in spatial location, income, and age. With some of the nonsense Trump has spouted, one might also think that he is deliberately targeting the Black community for damage. What do we have to lose? Our jobs or our lives.

Consider the United States Postal Service (USPS), which has been a staple employer in the African American community. Back in the day, my mom used to talk about "Ph.D.s working at the post office," because

academic employment was scarce and segregated, and the Post Office paid decently. Many a Black family made it to the middle class with postal wages. And now the president is declaring war on the USPS.

Why? 45 has incorrectly said that fees for mailing packages are "too low," that USPS is subsidizing internet companies (he means Amazon) with low package fees. But studies have shown that the prices paid for mailing packages more than cover their actual costs. Twenty-one percent of the USPS' roughly 625,000 employees are African American, and nearly 17 percent are other people of color. Might this be one of the reasons that 45 keeps lashing out at the USPS? He says that unless the USPS raises its fees for package delivery, he will deny the USPS any COVID-19 aid. I'm not suggesting that his animus toward the USPS in general, and Jeff Bezos and Amazon in particular, is precisely because so many people of color work for the Post Office. Still, I do not think that his attitude toward Black people is unrelated to his



Dr. Julianne Malveaux

ire at the USPS.

What do we have to lose? Some Black women have found their lives at risk because Trump's touting of hydroxychloroquine as a "game-changing" coronavirus cure. People with lupus also need hydroxychloroquine for their disease, but Trump's unseemly huckstering a drug that is not likely to cure the coronavirus has created shortages for hydroxychloroquine. Black women get lupus twice as frequently as white women, and we get it younger and with more complications than white women. Because lupus is more likely to hit Black women at an earlier age, Black women also risk complications from pregnancy because of lupus.

Did Trump enthusiastically embrace hydroxychloroquine because Black women are more likely to get the disease, and he wanted to punish us? Does he have investments in hydroxychloroquine-producing companies? You don't have to believe in conspiracies to recognize the disproportional impact the shortages of hydroxychloroquine have had on Black women.

These impacts of disparate impact are one of the many reasons that race matters and that data on health, income, employment, wealth, and other factors must be collected and reported by race. At the same time, there

are too many who resist gathering and reporting data by race, facetiously claiming we are all "one nation." And the myth of "one nation" holds if data are not collected.

When the threat of the coronavirus has receded, perhaps a year or so from now, we will be able to measure who carried the higher burden of this coronavirus. But we already know that Black folks are dying, losing their jobs, or being exposed to the virus because of the jobs they hold (as an example, Black women are 6 percent of the labor force but 20 percent of medical support staff). We don't need detailed statistical analysis to conclude that poorer, urban, Black and brown communities are hardest hit.

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COVID-19 and America - The fire this time

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

Time catches up with kingdoms and crushes them, gets its teeth into doctrines and rends them; time reveals the foundations on which any kingdom rests, and eats at those foundations, and it destroys doctrines by proving them to be untrue. - James Baldwin "Down At The Cross", 1963

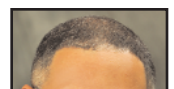
The foundation of "America" and its "greatness" was built upon some interesting principles or precepts; "manifest destiny", "American exceptionalism", "White man's burden" and "American internationalism" to name a few. They have become the foundation and rationalization for a belief system. The basic tenet of that belief system is that the development and expansion of American empire was inevitable if not divine. Former President Reagan called America, "the shining city upon a hill". Undergirding this is the cooptation of Christianity and the sickness known as "white supremacy".

As children, Americans are indoctrinated into the mythology of America. We pledge allegiance to "...one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." Baldwin dispelled that myth "...the country is celebrating one hundred years of freedom one hundred years too soon." Jack "Jackie" Roosevelt Robinson told us long before "Kap" took a knee, "I cannot stand and sing the anthem. I cannot salute the flag; I know that I am a black man in a white world."

Former Senator John McCain (R-Ariz.) told us that "The United States is safer and

more prosperous in a more democratic world and should take the lead in advancing this cause." The problem with his logic is that you can neither foster nor promote democracy by causing innocent people to suffer through sanctioning their countries or through the barrel of a gun.

America can't bring democracy to Venezuela by supporting coups to overthrow democratically elected presidents, Chavez' and M a d u r o .



Dr. Wilmer Leon

America cannot bring democracy to Bolivia, Brazil and Honduras by supporting undemocratic right-wing governments that repress, threaten and jail their socialist opponents. This is not democracy; this is hypocrisy.

America cannot advance democracy around the world when it weaponizes the cause of the current global pandemic, COVID-19.

How can a country that weaponizes a global pandemic be seen as a "shining city upon a hill"? It is immoral if not criminal for the U.S. to increase sanctions through its "maximum pressure campaigns" against Venezuela, Iran, Cuba and Palestine. America's maximum pressure is negatively impacting the flow of food, PPE, medicine and other supplies into these countries, making it exponentially more difficult for their governments to fight the pandemic.

As U.S. allies in Latin America are struggling to fight the novel coronavirus with lim-

ited financial and human resources, the U.S. is pressuring them to expel Cuban doctors. At the "request" of Donald Trump, Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro has removed more than 8,000 Cuban doctors and other health professionals from Brazil. Ecuadoran President Lenin Moreno has sent 400 doctors back to Cuba. Bolivia has sent 700 doctors back to Cuba after the US forced the resignation of socialist President Evo Morales in November. The health agreement between Cuba and El Salvador has also been cancelled at Trump's "request". Even though the US did not introduce the COVID-19 contagion into these countries, weaponizing it for political purposes to bring about regime change is the same as germ warfare and should be considered a crime against humanity.

America claims to be sanctioning these countries and others in the name of freedom, democracy and the American way. The families being destroyed by COVID-19 because the U.S. is applying its "maximum pressure campaign" on their governments for their "liberty" must, as Dr. King said, "... see Americans as strange liberators."

The science to date tells us that this pandemic was detected in China in late 2019. Chinese health authorities warned the WHO of the pandemic on January 7, 2020. It hit Europe before the CDC confirmed the first case in the US on January 20, 2020. The Trump administration ignored the warnings. Trump largely disbanded the Global Health Security and Biodefense unit in the NSC in May 2018. This made it more difficult for the US to mount a

coherent response. Trump can't get out of his own way to solve this problem and Republicans in Congress are afraid to challenge him. Party allegiance "trumps" loyalty to the American people. All Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY) can focus on is approving the next wave of conservative judges. Meanwhile, COVID-19 is exposing that the political system is broken.

Americans have been told that its health care system is the best in the world. People come from all over the world to avail themselves of its wonders and cures. That's only true, if one can afford them. COVID-19 has exposed the fact that most Americans, even with health insurance, will be saddled with serious medical bills. According to Business Insider, "the total average charge per COVID-19 patient requiring an inpatient stay (6 days) is \$73,300 and the total average estimated allowed amount per commercially insured patient is \$38,221."

There are 27 million Americans without insurance. Yet, democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden said he would veto a "Medicare For All" bill if it crossed his desk as president. COVID-19 is exposing that our political process is broken.

The CDC cannot produce a trustworthy COVID-19 testing kit, so the US government cannot test enough Americans to clearly understand the size of the problem. South Korea has identified 29 Korean manufacturers and exporters specializing in COVID-19 diagnostic devices and developed a robust

WILMER

Continued on this page



**In Loving Memory Of
Mrs. Edna Price Pearce
December 25, 1904
May 10, 1995**

Sadly missed by your daughter,
Linda A. Pearce
Happy Mother's Day



**A Mother's Day Memory Of
Mae Rachel Freeman**

A woman who was a lot of things,
for a lot of people. For us,
she was "Mom".

Children, Rodney,
Darnell, Sharon, Elise and Missy



**Retha Barnhill
January 10, 1908**

Mom,
So many sayings, such as time
heals, are so wrong. I never
passed the Easter in 1994, when
you had the slight stroke. Always
as I grew and also grew closer to
you, appreciated you and all you
had done for me my whole life, liv-
ing and respecting, also loving our
friendship as we grew older. I will
grieve until life is over, not only
because you're not with me in life
anymore, but how you left this life.
There is no time made to heal my
heart or missing you was no one
like you. My mom, my love.

Your daughter,
Brenda

Prov. Chapter 1, Verse 7 "The fear
of the Lord is the beginning of
knowledge."



Nannie E. Mapson

To a beautiful woman on
Mother's Day
You are so very
special and dear to us.
You have guided us to
become the persons we are
today. You have loved us
unconditionally.
So we thank you for being a
great and wonderful mother.
A remarkable woman.
We love you.
Happy Mother's Day!
Your children and
grandchildren



Zenobia Mapson Rhea

A thoughtful daughter
A loving mother
A caring sister
A remarkable woman
You are deeply loved
and missed

Happy Mother's Day
In Heaven

The Mapson Family

**Joselia Davis
Priscilla Bell
Chaquandia Bell
Lameka Zanders
Stephanie Mapson**

God bless you with
the beautiful day
you deserve for
being the
special women you
are.

Happy
Mother's Day!

The Mapson Family



Matilda Moseley Kirby

Mama

We are so blessed to have
had a mother who taught us
some of life's biggest lessons
like--
Treat people right and share
kindness wherever it is
needed!
Mama, we're trying to live
up to your example!
Thank You Til!!

Much, Much, Much Love,
Kojo, Gloria, and Junebug



Annie Marie Brinkley

I Knew A Woman

I knew a woman of faith, strength and beauty,
I watched her for years, I want to be like her.
A woman who walked this earth with a stride
that said, "I have arrived". A woman who
loved the people around her with such power
that seemed to melt away their troubles.
That woman was my role model, my hero,
that woman was my best friend.
I Love and Miss that woman every day and
I always will.
I am Proud to be that woman's daughter,
yes that woman was my Mother, and that
woman was and always will be the
Wind beneath My Wings.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY, LADYBUG!
I LOVE YOU.

Your Daughter,
Gloria Brinkley Caldwell



Eleanor Caldwell

For You Mama

Your heart was always filled with
peacefulness. The way you comforted and
encouraged our family was a gift from God.
You were always there for us and you always
tried to make everything right in our worlds.
We knew what it meant to feel secure.
Now whenever life starts to get us down,
we think of your strength and love and that
warm sense of Peace surrounds us again.
You were a very important part of our lives and
you always will be. You are forever in
our thoughts and in our hearts.
You were a blessing to us and
we are blessed because of you.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY, MAMA!

We love you,
Chris, Roy, Ida, Matthew and Jessie



Annie Maggie Brinkley



Tempie (TC) Brinkley



**Panthea
(Pansy) Brinkley**



Bertie Brinkley Fillyaw

Bertie B.....

Remembering your laugh,
Remembering your love,
Remembering
your friendship,
and keeping your
legacy alive -
With All Our Love!!

Your girls,
Linda, Diana, Poopie,
and Pat
Grands and
great-grands too!



Dorothy B. Waring



Sylvia Brinkley



Earline L. Brinkley

The special people in our lives are never really gone, they have a cherished
place in our hearts where they will always be remembered.

We come from a long line of women who have always been workers and
survivors, women of color and courage, women of spunk and spirituality,
women whose faith kept them going, women who lifted up their eyes to God
in prayer because they knew He would answer even in their darkest hours,
women of honor and pride, women of wisdom and ideals, women of peace
and passion, women of strength and courage, women of laughter and love.

For all that you were, for all that you are, for all that you have done,
and for all that you do to Bless and Inspire others, we celebrate You.

To All Women, To All Mothers
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
Love, The Family



WE HONOR AND LOVE YOU



Martha Ruth Taylor Dixon

A Mother
 Making others happy
 Offering support and advice
 Thinking of ways to be helpful
 Holding on, but never too tight
 Explaining all the differences
 between right and wrong
 Rejoicing in her child after
 nurturing all day

Happy Mother's Day
 Love,
 Torrence Dixon
 Tanya Dixon-Mason



**Happy Mother's Day
 Lula Waddell Clemons
 "MaMa Lula"
 April 5, 1913 - March 1, 1998**

Lord, are there roses in your garden on the shores of jubilee
 Would you pick a dozen of your best and deliver them for us?
 For you see, today is mothers' day the angels came and took our grandmother home.
 So if there are roses in your garden on the shores of Jubilee.
 Would you pick a dozen of your best and deliver them for us?
 Would you take them to our grandmother and tell her that we love her.
 Tell her that we miss her in oh so many ways
 But we have joy in knowing we'll meet again someday
 And we'll pick roses together on the shores of Jubilee.

Love,
 Grandchildren: Patricia A. Waddell, Eleanor M. Waddell, Richard B. Waddell, III, Carolyn Waddell-Mack, Atty. Gwendolyn Waddell-Burrell (Gary)
 Great-Grandchildren: Reginald E. Waddell, Rodney L. Waddell, Richard Waddell, IV, Samuel T. Waddell, Jillian N. Waddell, E. Michelle Waddell, Jordan C. Waddell (Meagan), Krystal L. Mack, Gordan E. Burrell, Shearese Berry
 Great-Great-Grandchildren: Rodja, Ja'Mez, Ja'Qurion, Zoei, ZaTori, Kailynn and Mackenzie



**Happy Mother's Day
 Vivian White-Waddell
 August 21, 1932 - May 15, 2006**

There was magic in our Mother's touch,
 And sunshine in her smile.
 There was love in everything she did
 To make our lives worthwhile.
 Our mother was a precious gift from our glorious Lord above,
 but the Lord chose to take her and give her all His love.
 We miss her more than anything, especially this time of year.
 There's something about Mother's Day that always brings a tear.
 But as another Mother's Day arrives, mother, we celebrate it in memory of you
 Because in us your spirit survives and that love comes shining through.
 We will miss you until we breathe our last, and our love for you will never fade
 It is for Mother's Day, future and past that such magical memories are made.

Love Always,
 Children: Patricia A. Waddell, Eleanor M. Waddell, Richard B. Waddell, III, Carolyn Waddell-Mack, Atty. Gwendolyn Waddell-Burrell (Gary)
 Grandchildren: Reginald E. Waddell, Rodney L. Waddell, Richard Waddell, IV, Samuel T. Waddell, Jillian N. Waddell, E. Michelle Waddell, Jordan C. Waddell (Meagan), Krystal L. Mack, Gordan E. Burrell, Shearese Berry
 Great-Grandchildren: Rodja, Ja'Mez, Ja'Qurion, Zoei, ZaTori, Kailynn and Mackenzie



**Happy Mother's Day
 Gladys Locke**

It's been ten years since we spent Mother's Day together.
 God sent his Angels to come get you to spend the rest of your Mother's Days with Him in heaven.
 So Mom have a special and Happy Heavenly Mother's Day. I will always miss and love you.

From your daughter
 Lizzie Locke Johnson



**Happy Mother's Day
 Retha Barnhill
 Sunrise: January 10, 1908**

My mother,
 As times moves on,
 I am missing you more and more,
 everything about you, our joyous times together; our conversations, the secrets we shared, our meaningless arguments.
 Truly "there's no me without you."
 The way you left this world has devastated my existence.
 Everyday was Mother's Day to me, only one like you.
 A unique kinship.
 I never looked at your grave that day.
 In Heartache,
 Your daughter, Brenda
 and your son Arnold,
 who proceeded you.

Proverbs: Chapter 1: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge verse 7 so are the ways of every one that is greedy of gain; verse 19 which taketh away the life of the owners (even their own mothers)



**Mrs. Ezmas Marscine Carmichael, Ms. Ezmas Juanita Carmichael,
 Mrs. Julia C. Johnson, Ms. Wanda F. Carmichael and Victoria Sweat**

Mother's Day will be a special day in heaven because our Mothers, Grandmothers, Aunts and Sisters are together.

If only we could hear our Mothers pray, sing, talk or laugh again,
 how happy we would be but those memories have been engraved into our hearts.
 Shirley Caesar sings-"I remember Momma" so do we. Each had their own type of smile, their way of helping all of us to enjoy each other, respect our elders, trust in God and try to do the right things.
 Up above my head, I do hear singing in the air, so I do believe there is a heaven somewhere and we will see them again. All we ask Dear God is that you will allow us to serve you so that we can all join hands again,
 no more departure, holding hands forever.
 There is never a Motherless Mother's Day because even if they cannot speak to us they are still in our hearts.
 Rest in Peace, Moms!!!
 Happy birthday Ezmas Marscine on the 13th and Ezmas Juanita on the 22nd.

Submitted by the family



Corona Soul Food Roundtable

BY BEVERLY SMALLS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Monday Zoom and conference caller Corona Virus Roundtable focused on minority-owned business maintenance and development ideas.

Also joining the group was Charlotte minister, the Rev. D.K. Ferguson, former pastor of Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church.

"I still call the Port City my second home," Rev. Ferguson said prior to sharing words of inspiration and empowerment.

Quoting the New Living Translation Bible's Hebrews 11:13, he reminded listeners to be mindful that God is in control.

The testing of faith and the

ability to overcome as, "heroes of faith," were stressed during his conversation.

Ferguson also cited food deserts and technology skills digital divides in minority neighborhoods as evidence of long-term ignored issues now a highlight of the COVID 19 devastation.

It has, "pulled the covers off and exposed disparities," linked to black and brown communities, he said.

The inability to safely secure fresh food and access to nearby grocery stores has an especially negative effect during the national and state calls to shelter in place to reduce the spread of disease.

Limited access to computers and nonexistent technolo-

gy skills also creates a problem for seniors and others to worship God in the online connections for regular church services.

"We need to push further to get things done," Ferguson said.

Terry Jackson, PhD was a main contributor for the Zoom format focus on minority owned small businesses.

Stating that many small businesses in need of federally mandated funds to survive their limited number of customers and contracted services declines did not receive the stimulus money through banks.

"We need to ask for commercial lenders, not retail bankers," Jackson said of minority entrepreneurs and

start-up small business owners.

African-Americans are thirteen percent of the population, and only four percent are business owners, he said.

"There are 2.6 million African-American businesses, and 2.5 million have no employees," Jackson said.

Many are individual contractors who do not provide jobs for others in their communities.

Health care, beauty and barber, and dine-in restaurants are some of businesses hit hardest by the COVID 19 socio-economic changes.

Jackson suggested that now is the time to think and plan differently.

He suggested small business owners and others be

aware of new opportunities to apply for unemployment, and to spend time taking free online courses to improve knowledge and management skills.

"We need new approaches, more collaborations, get over our egos," Jackson said.

He reminded participants of needs and strategies for family financial planning that can positively affect future generations.

Exploitation issues linked to landlords and bad loan operators who might take advantage of the current national economic plight were also discussed.

Rev. Ferguson suggested that everyone should be thanking essential workers and those who are aiding in



REV. D.K. FERGUSON

making life better the during the Corona Virus era.

Health care workers, cashiers, pastors, teachers and many others, "should be thanked and praised for doing great things for God and community," he said.

Baldwin Branch MBC COVID-19 Virtual Walking Challenge

Pastor Rev. Dr. Louie Boykin challenged the members of the congregation of Baldwin Branch MBC to out walk him in the month of April. Realizing the importance of following the stay at home orders of the governor it was a blessing that exercising was deemed essential. The need for some normalcy in these time of uncertainty is very important. Everyone has a cell phone and athletic shoes so it was something that all could participate in. This challenge gave the members an opportunity to virtually stay connected and was beneficial physically as well as spiritually. It also created purpose, excitement, and kept the competitive fires burning. The participants used the Nike Run Club app and walked a total of 2,536.8 miles. Everyone was a winner and the overall winner was Dr. La'Chandra "Candy" Parker 267.3 miles. Pastor Boykin walked 132.3 miles.

DA BRANCH FITNESS CHALLENGE RESULTS [FINAL]

1. Candy Parker 267.3 mi.
2. Renee Johnson - 243.3 mi.
3. Annie Walker - 244.8 mi.
4. Mona Mccollum - 201.8 mi.
5. Gregory Faines - 170.1 mi
6. Mac Melvin - 143.38 mi.
7. Katrina Boykin - 150.8 mi.
8. Louie Boykin - 132.3 mi.
9. Tankeisha Graham - 120 mi.
10. Rifa Harrison - 100.4 mi.
11. Yvonka Marlin - 101.1 mi.
12. Danaysia Powell - 89.75 mi.
13. Bernadine Davis - 85.52 mi.
14. Malik Cromartie - 56.77 mi.
15. Joel Melvin - 47.66 mi.
16. Jessica Council - 44.94 mi.
17. Whitney Boykin - 43.84 mi.
18. Ebony Murchison - 40.86mi.
19. Tori Corbett - 35.8 mi.
20. Natasha Cromartie - 33.14 mi.
21. Tyrone Parker 30.97 mi.
22. Dvora Shaw - 29.31mi
23. Lisa Melvin - 21.75 mi.
24. Dean Jessup - 15.18 mi.
25. Tiffany Gillespie - 10.19 mi.
26. Rifa McMillian - 8.57 mi.
27. Gayronza Lennon - 6.53 mi.
28. Sharon McDowell - 4.53 mi.
29. Michelle Mckoy - 4.41 mi.
30. Jona Mckoy - 3.54 mi.
31. Jason Graham - 3.24 mi.
32. Crystal Melvin - 3.04 mi.
33. Asante Jones - 1.02 mi.
34. Patsy Cromartie - .94 mi.

CONGRATS EVERYONE!

DA BRANCH FITNESS CHALLENGE CATEGORY WINNERS!

CHAMPION

CANDY PARKER

CLERGY

Rev. Mac Melvin

WOMEN

Renee Johnson

MEN

Gregory Faines

YOUNG ADULT

Danaysia Powell

SENIOR

Mona Mccollum

NEWCOMER

Natasha Cromartie

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Margaret Simmons

Margaret Simmons died April 22, 2020. Graveside services were held on Friday, May 1, 2020 at Pollock Cemetery in the Scotts Hill Community.

Margaret was born on August 3, 1923. She was a mother, grandmother, teacher and leader who led not by showing but by example. Her heart was her church, St. Andrew AME Zion Church. She was preceded in death by her husband, Walter Simmons, Sr., son, Walter L. Simmons, Jr., baby boy Simmons and Owen Nixon.

She is survived by:" her children: Thomas Nixon (Delores), Louis A. Simmons (Jacqui), Maggie S. Johnson, Lanita J. Simmons (DIL) and Dr. Willie J. Simmons-Canty, ED D; grandchildren, Walter G. Simmons, Walita L. Reed, Annie S. McNeil, Lesley J. Williams, Tyrone C. Johnson, Thomas L. Simmons Canty, III, LaTarsha Canty Holley, Pamela M. Nixon (GDIL), Sandra N. Lamb, Angela N. Boyd (Andre), Walter T. Nixon (Karen), Thomas M. Nixon (BJ), Ronald N. Nixon, LaCardie M. Simmons and LouTea C. Bonds; 19 great-grandchildren; 14 great-great-grandchildren, other relatives and many friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Dave Ray Ellerby

Dave Ray Ellerby died April 28, 2020. Graveside services were held on Monday, May 4, 2020 at Greenlawn Memorial Park.

Dave was born on November 21, 1951 in Wilmington, NC to Naomi Ellerby and the late John T. Ellerby. He was also preceded in death by two sisters, Johnsie Bowman and Wanda Howard. Dave graduated from John T. Hoggard High School in the Class of 1970. He continued his education at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington where he received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science. He worked at Babcock and Wilcock for a number of years and retired from Corning, Inc. after 30 years of service. Dave, also known as "DayRay" to his friends and family loved to read, listen to music and watch television. His favorite teams were the Carolina Panthers and UNC-Tar Heels. He enjoyed spending time with his son, taking walks and pouring his vast knowledge into him. He called his granddaughters his midgets. His granddaughter Kamilya held a very special place in his heart and NyAsia when she would dress up got his compliment, "oh you look good

today". He was blessed to enjoy the first year of his youngest grandchild's life. All of his hour grand children held a special place in his heart.

He is survived by one son, David D. Ellerby (Aislin); mother, Naomi Ellerby; grandchildren, Pharaoh Morse, NyAsia Hansley, Kamiya McDonald and Amina Naomi Lolaitia Ellerby; sisters, Joanne Hollis, Doris McMillian, Deborah Thompson, Joan Vates and Keesha Ellerby; brother, Oliver Don Ellerby (Marilyn); very special recognition to his ex-wife and life-long friend, Lola B. Ellerby; his son's friends whom he adopted as his sons, Antwan Roland, David Walker, Terrence Roland, George McCallister, Kenneth Chaney and Brandon Gibbs; a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Terence "Scoot" Grady

Terence "Scoot" Grady died April 23, 2020 at his home in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Memorial services were held Saturday, May 2, 2020 at Willie L. Shaw Jr. Memorial Chapel.

He graduated from North Brunswick High School in the Class of 1988, in Leland, NC. Terence was employed with New Hanover County Schools before relocating to Pennsylvania. There he drove busses for Hersey Park for numerous years and later Paint and Glass Industries. Terence was preceded in death by his father, Alonzo Grady, Jr. and his brother, Alonzo Grady, III.

He leaves to cherish his precious memories: his daughter, Jessica Shame Grady of Raleigh, NC; mother, Doretha Cole Counts of Leland, NC; five brothers, Kevin Cole (Brenda) of Leland, NC, Donnell Cole of Bridgeport, CT, Harvey Gardy of Leland, NC, William Grady (Carolyn) of Riegelwood, N and Michael Grady (Amanda) of Maple Hill, NC; two sisters, Trudy Cole of Navassa, NC and Latanya Grady of Leland, NC; 5 uncles; 5 aunts; special friend of the family, Sandra Davis of Leland, NC; a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Rosemary Anita Richardson

Rosemary Anita Richardson died April 24, 2020. Memorial services were held on Friday, May 1, 2020 at Perkinsville Missionary Baptist Church, Leland, NC.

Rosemary was born February 26, 1960 to Mary K.

Richardson and the late Robert Edward Quick. She was preceded in death by her brother, Samuel J. Richardson, Jr. and her step-father, Samuel J. Richardson, Sr. Anita as she was affectionately known, was a graduate of E. A. Laney High School and went on to attend North Carolina Central University. For 28 years Anita worked for the New Hanover County Department of Social Services until retirement. In November of 2019, she became a member of Perkinsville Missionary Baptist Church. Our fondest memories are seeing Anita come into Perkinsville each Sunday with her family following closely behind her. She was a caring and affectionate person who loved children dearly especially her only daughter, GiGi and her nieces and nephews.

Anita is survived by her mother, Mary K. Richardson; daughter, Jeneya "GiGi" Richardson; sister, Cheryl Richardson Mishoe (Henry); nieces, Andrea "Amae" Richardson, Amy Dais, Kimora Davis; nephews, Shaquan Davis, Michael Davis; great niece, Grayson McNair; great-nephews, Gavin McNair, Grant McNair and Graden "Snook" McNair; great-aunt, Niece Keaton; special cousins, Valonda Richardson of Dalla, TX, Tia Waddell of Richmond, A, Jetia Pressey of Hampton, VA; special friends, Cindy Reed, Kimberly Boucher and Kathleen McLaurin. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Louise Taylor

Louise Taylor, formerly of Wilmington, NC passed away peacefully on March 25, 2020 at the age of 102 in Douglasville, Georgia where she was living with her son, Michael Jackson and family.

She was the daughter of the late James Taylor and Lucy Jane Taylor Everett and step daughter of the late James R. Everett. Louise attended public school in Wilmington, NC and was a member of Price Cathedral AME Zion Church in her youth and young adulthood. In later years she became affiliated with other churches. For many years, she was a domestic worker and was well-liked by her employers and they were pleased with the way she took care of their homes and children. Years later, she moved to Brooklyn, New York and became a nurse's aide. After retirement, she returned to Wilmington, NC, lived in the family home and became active in the church. She also took an interest in the sick and elderly, and participated in numerous volunteer activities.

Louise is survived by her

devoted son, Michael (Cherrie); dedicated nieces, Bernice and Coletta Garner of Lanham, MD; loving nieces, Mildred Ampah (John) of Las Vegas, NV, Irene Giles of New York City and Shirley Worley of Brooklyn, NY; a special cousin, James Southerland of Wilmington, NC and other cousins of the extended Southerland Family in Brunswick County, NC. *A Courtesy of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Alfred Mitchell

Alfred Mitchell died on Monday, May 4, 2020. Graveside services will be held 12:00 noon on Thursday, May 7, 2020 at Oak Grove Cemetery. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Malissa J. Bellamy

Malissa J. Bellamy, age 88, of Bolivia, passed away Saturday, April 25, 2020. Graveside services were held Saturday, May 2, 2020 at Northwood Cemetery.

Her love and memories will remain in the hearts of her children, Verida Sarratt (Larry) of Huntersville, Michael Bellamy (Ellen) of Albuquerque, NM, Norfrette Bellamy of Southport and Bridget Bellamy of Bolivia; sisters, Violet Gill of Fayetteville, Rebecca Smith of Southport and Anna Clemmons of Boiling Spring Lakes, 5 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren and host of other relatives and friends. *Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC*

28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhomenc.com.

Margaret Cole

Margaret Cole, age 85, of Riegelwood, passed away, Friday, May 1, 2020. Services will be held at a later date.

Her love and memories will remain in the heart of her husband, Aaron Cole of the home; children, Mary L. Cole of Riegelwood, Helen Hall of Springfield, MA; godson, Robert Scott of Atlanta; special cousin, Foster Daniels of Reigelwood, grandchild, Angela Hall and a host of other relatives and friends. *Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhomenc.com.*

Dora J. DeVane

Dora Jane DeVane, age 77, of Wilmington, passed away Thursday, April 30, 2020. Arrangements are incomplete. *Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhomenc.com.*

James Delts

James Delts died in Lansing, Pennsylvania. Graveside services will be 12:00 noon on Saturday, May 9, 2020 at Dark Branch Cemetery, Winnabow, NC. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*



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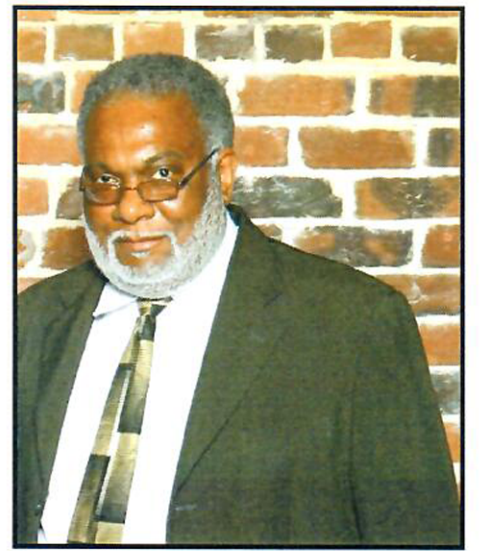
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Samuel Drain, Jr.
and Allene Drain
In Memoriam



Connie Drain Green
Funeral Director



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.

Javoque & Jennifer Terrell

TELL SOMEBODY

"And God spake all these words, saying I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage." Exodus 20:1 "Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." Exodus 20:12

Mother- One who gives birth to or raises and nurtures a child; A female parent; A woman who holds a position of authority or responsibility Honor - Recognition of one's right to great respect

"Men may work from sun to sun, but a woman's work is never done!", Old Proverb

Mother's Day is a national holiday observed on the second Sunday in May of each year for the appointment of honoring mothers. Looking at the history of Mother's Day, we find that Mother's Day was first proclaimed in 1870 in the United States. Julia Ward

Howe called for it to be observed each year at the national level in 1872. The original idea behind Howe's Mothers Day was a call for Pacifism and disarmament by all the women. Later, Anna Jarvis, followed by her daughter, launched a quest to get wider recognition for Mother's Day. As the custom for Mothers Day celebration spread, its focus shifted from pacifism and reform movement to a general appreciation, and admirations of mothers. Later, on May 14, 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed a bill proclaiming Mother's Day as a national holiday celebrated on the second Sunday in May.

Here we are today, still observing Mother's Day on the second Sunday in May. While commercialization has taken over the initial concept of Mother's Day, many sons and daughters look forward to making phone calls, attending church with mothers, writing letters, and even sending gifts, cards, and flowers to their mothers to recognize their

right to respect at this time of year.

While history credits both Julia Ward Howe and Anna Jarvis with initiating the concept of Mothers Day celebrations, we still must refer to the



Sylvia Hooper

Word of God where we see the original concept of "motherhood" was and still is, God's ideal! In Genesis 3:20, scripture shows us that the first woman recorded in history biblically speaking is Mother Eve, because she was the mother of all living. In Genesis 4:1, after Eve conceived and bore her first child, a son named Cain, she said, "I have gotten a man from the Lord." Being the first "mother", we must take note of her knowledge, spiritual insight, and understanding, that while Adam, her husband, gave her the seed for that first baby, the Lord God,

being the Creator and giver of Life, was the source of her blessing and the fruit of her womb."

When God created Eve, he gave her a womb, and built her with the capacity to conceive, carry to term, and give birth to a child, a living soul. He also embraced her with enough strength, and courage to nurture, nourish, and love her child, as only a mother could do. Motherhood is one of the high callings of God, that comes straight from the heart of God.

When God gave his Law to his servant Moses for the people of God, in Exodus chapter 20, each and every law was given for their own good and posterity. When he referenced to bringing them out of the land of Egypt, and out of the house of bondage, today's church can relate to our deliverance out of sin and bondage into the kingdom of His dear Son, Jesus Christ. In Exodus 20:12, God said, "Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God

giveth thee." God's Word is eternal and His promise is true. Numbers 23:19 says, "God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? Or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?" We should all take heed to this commandment, that we may enjoy a long and fulfilled life.

If God has placed a special woman in your life who has birthed, raised, or nurtured you, why not seize the opportunity to honor her in some special way? Life is short and in order to live and die with no regrets, we must seek to hear and obey God's Word to the best of our ability. When your mother is dead and gone, God will remember what he promised and will bless you for your obedience to His Word and faithfulness to Him. If she is still alive, do yourself a favor and love and honor her, because God said to do it! He will make it good! Tell Somebody ..Happy Mother's Day!!!

Prayer_ Father , we pray for

all mothers who have birthed, raised, or nurtured biological or spiritual sons and daughters. We pray your blessings upon each and every one of them....For Your Glory! In Jesus's Name.. Amen.

"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

Faith is a spiritual language! Part 1

All scripture are from the KJV unless posted

A system of words formed from the word of God or the kingdom of God from such combinations and patterns, used by people of the Old and New Testament to express and communicate their confidence in God. Faith is the Language of our heavenly Father, it's the language of His Son Jesus Christ, it's the language of the Holy Spirit, it was the language of the early Church and it is of necessity our language today. The special vocabulary and usages of a spiritual language, the Biblical language of the children of God. A characteristic style of a spiritual language, about, indicating, or constituting a distinctive character or quality, or disposition; typical. A distinguishing feature or attribute, of a Christian. Hebrews 11:6, "Without faith, it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

Faith is a spiritual principle: "a basic truth or law. A fixed or predetermined mode of action. A basic, or essen-

tial, quality or element determining intrinsic nature or characteristic behavior. A fundamental source or basis of something."

Let's defined faith according to the Word of God: Hebrews 11:1, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.2 For by it the elders obtained a good report. Genesis chapter 1, we hear these resounding words fifteen times, and God said, and God said, and God said, and the universe came into existence through the language of faith!

Hebrews 11:3, "Through faith, we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear."

In these critical times of this pandemic, we the people of God should not be acting like the ungodly world who has no hope, who are playing the blame game. Remember when God allowed the plagues to come upon Egypt when they rejected the Word of the Lord from Moses. Be honest do you know anyone who could have handle this pandemic, no not one, it has devastated every nation! Its

a spirit, you can't see it, smell it, taste it, or feel it until after it has invaded your body. Is there an unwritten message in this pandemic to the world and the church that need to be addressed, how many pastors and members of their congregation have lost their lives. How many health care workers lost their lives in the battle trying to save lives or how many have taken their own lives because of the fear of this unseen enemy that's taken thousands of lives. What is the solution? Have faith in God! Most people in the church don't even know what faith is, because they haven't been taught (faith is not your emotional high that you get when choir sing or when the preacher preach, faith is a relationship function!



Rev. Naconiel Fullwood

God wants you and I to have His faith and He made it very simple for us to receive it: Romans 10:8-13, 17, 8 But

what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; 9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.10 For with the heart, man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth, confession is made unto salvation.11 For whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.2 For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. 17 So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God. These verses depict faith as a process: which means a series of actions, changes, functions that brings about a result.

Here are a few faith nuggets: Faith activates the blessings in our lives that God promise in His word, Faith supersedes our five senses, Worship is a faith action, praise is a faith action, given your tithes is a faith action. Faith is the way of life for the

believers, which connects them to the spirit realm (God).

The Godkind of faith is the only faith that pleases God or that causes God to respond or act on our behalf. Eph. 4:4-6," There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. V. 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:"

Faith disregards the circumstances and only believes and speaks what the word of God says. Faith is the character of the believer! "2Corn.5:7. 7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)" 2Corin.4:13,"13 We having the same spirit of faith, according to as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak; Faith is the language of the children of God, voice or Words spoken in agreement with the written word of God and demonstrated with the corresponding action. Correspond means to be in

agreement, harmony, or conformity; being consistent or compatible in action. To be similar, parallel, equivalent, or equal in character; quantity, origin, structure, or function (the Godkind of faith or the faith of God). James 2:17,(AMPC)17 So also faith, if it does not have works (deeds and actions of obedience to back it up), by itself is destitute of power (inoperative, dead).

Here is a faith action: Jere.33:2-3, 2 Thus saith the Lord the maker thereof, the Lord that formed it, to establish it; the Lord is his name;3 Call unto me, and I will answer thee and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not. God has authorized us, in these verses to call Him and He said I will answer you and show off on your behalf. Do you believe it? Go ahead, call Him right now in your way or words; He's waiting. Thank you, Lord, for answering our prayers! Amen.

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

The role of the Black Church during a pandemic

BY PASTOR JAMAL BRYANT SENIOR PASTOR OF NEW BIRTH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

I recently came across an article on NewsOne.com that highlighted a furor on several social media platforms regarding whether wealthy pastors are contributing enough to COVID-19 relief efforts.

Admittedly, some of the social media memes and tropes were amusing and of course, some were outright mean-spirited, sophomoric and disrespectful but that's the complex mosaic of the social media space and if you're the public square at all, you have to be able to stomach the bitter and the sweet.

As I processed the article and the dialogue it generated, my personal and pastoral PTSD was kicked into overdrive recalling the pummeling my church (New Birth) and I took just a few weeks earlier when we announced that we'd formulated a partnership with a telemedicine firm and a community health clinic to provide coronavirus testing to our community. Without bothering to do

any due diligence, we were labeled as "opportunists," "vultures," "ungodly" and worse.

And while it is always painful to be insulted and castigated, it hurts even more when it's the African American community leading the campaign of misinformation. Of course, New Birth and I were confident in our intent and execution of the testing initiative and fortunately, local affiliate C BS 46, cleared the issue up nicely and we're moving forward.

Rather than get lost in trying to salve healing wounds, I believe our focus should turn to the larger question of what exactly the role of the church should be, not only in this season of a global pandemic but as the core societal anchor of the African American community.

I've preached many times that 93 percent of what Jesus did was outside of the walls of the church as he healed, fed, evangelized and organized.

Admittedly, if you were to honestly assess the 21st century church, that dynamic has been completely flipped. Far too many churches and pastors are concerned with what happens inside of the build-

ing and not concerned or active enough with affecting the greater community, and those who need to be ministered to beyond the opulence and comfort of gleaming wood floors and the immaculate stained glass.

We indeed have a conundrum. Should the church be doing more? Yes; and if you look closely many churches are doing plenty.

I am blessed to pastor at New Birth, where we have the capacity and more importantly, an engaged, committed church family who take seriously our mandate to love, lead and live like Christ. Our goal is to be a church that does 93 percent or more of our ministry beyond the walls of our beautiful sanctuary.

In a little over a year, we have provided meals for furloughed federal workers; we have provided 5 000 pairs of free shoes for school-aged kids in the DeKalb/Atlanta community; we have bailed out first time, nonviolent offenders; and married 30 couples free of charge in two mass weddings.

Even as we are all in the chaos and calamity of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have decided that even if church

has stopped, ministry doesn't.

Consequently, we are providing free groceries to 1000 families each week and we have entered a partnership with local hotels to provide free lodging and meals to our beleaguered doctors, nurses and allied health professionals.

This is the work of the church and it is not only having a major impact in the community; it is helping to attract souls to Christ and members to our church. To God be the glory for over 300 new members who have joined New Birth since we suspended our in-person worship a month ago.

I am proud of what we are doing at New Birth but there are plenty of other churches who have stepped up in a major way even if they are less heralded, barely noticed and never celebrated.

It is disheartening to see so much misinformation gain momentum and to see the church chastised and rebuked in haste and seemingly at will.

The church is needed now more than ever and as we emerge from this recent Easter holiday, I am praying for my comrades of the gospel and I am hopeful that we as a



PASTOR JAMAL BRYANT

people will be less antagonistic towards the body of Christ and that God will resurrect our hopes, restore our compassion and revive our love and interdependency on one another.

These times are challenging, stressful and unprecedented; it calls for all of us to raise our game and our consciousness in the hopes that we will emerge as a stronger, better connected community.

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LEGAL NOTICES

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

Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **Kimberly Ann Neuschafer (20-E-428)**, late of New Hanover County, Wilmington, North Carolina the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 701 Market Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401 on or before **August 7, 2020** or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 5th day of May, 2020.

Amy Neuschafer
c/o Craig & Fox, PLLC
701 Market Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

May 7, 14, 21, 28, 2020

**NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION
OF BOB KING AUTOMALL LLC**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to 57D-6-11 of the North Carolina General Statutes, that **BOB KING AUTOMALL, LLC**, a North Carolina limited liability company (the "Company"), has elected to dissolve and has filed Articles of Dissolution with the North Carolina Secretary of State.

YOU ARE HEREBY REQUESTED, if you have a claim against the Company, that you present it to the Company in accordance with the terms of this notice as follows:

1. Notify the Company in writing of your claim setting forth the name and address of the claimant (or agent) and a detailed statement of the nature and amount of the claim (a "Claim").

2. Mail your Claim to the following address:
BOB KING AUTOMALL LLC
5115 New Centre Drive
Wilmington, NC 28403-1629

3. **UNLESS A PROCEEDING TO ENFORCE THE CLAIM IS COMMENCED WITHIN FIVE (5) YEARS AFTER THE PUBLICATION DATE OF THIS NOTICE YOUR CLAIM WILL BE BARRED BY LAW.**

BOB KING AUTOMALL LLC

BY: Martha S. King
Sole Member and Sole Manager

May 7, 2020

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
NEW HANOVER COUNTY
In the General Court of Justice --Superior Court
Division
20 CVS 155**

**MATTHEW CHAD MARTIN,
PLAINTIFF
v.
WESLEY LAWRENCE ROBERTSON,
DEFENDANT**

To Wesley Lawrence Robertson: Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: damages arising from motor vehicular negligence.

You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than forty (40) days from the first running of this notice, exclusive of such date, which was May 7, 2020 and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This the 5th day of May, 2020.

DAVID AND ASSOCIATES, P.L.L.C.
David F. Turlington
DAVID F. TURLINGTON
Attorney for the Plaintiff
1516 Dawson Street
Wilmington, North Carolina 28401
Telephone: 910/251-8088
Facsimile: 910/251-8430
North Carolina Bar Number: 20165
Email: dturlington@davidandasociates

May 7, 14, 21, 2020

LEGAL NOTICES

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

Having qualified on the 16th day of April, 2020, as Administrator of the Estate of **JOHNNY A. BENNETT, Deceased**, late of New Hanover County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the decedent to exhibit them to the Executor, Connie Lynn Bennett, at 4300 Tillson Road, Wilmington, NC 28412, on or before the **29th day of July, 2020**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the estate should make immediate payment.

This 22nd day of April, 2020.

CONNIE LYNN BENNETT, ADM.
Attorney for the Estate:
J. Wesley Casteen, Esq., CPA
Carolina Legal Counsel
P.O. Box 12028
Wilmington, North Carolina 28405
Telephone (910) 256-3364

April 30, May 7, 14, 21, 2020

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **Robert S. King**, deceased, of New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **16th day of July, 2020**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 16th day of April, 2020.

Martha S. King, Executrix of the Estate of Robert S. King
6398 Quail Run
Wilmington, NC 28409
MURCHISON, TAYLOR & GIBSON, PLLC
1979 Eastwood Rd, Suite 101
Wilmington, NC 28403

April 16, 23, 30, May 7, 2020

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER
In Re the Estate of Grenaldo Ricardo Grant Frazier, Deceased**

Having qualified as Personal Representative of the Estate of **Grenaldo Ricardo Grant Frazier**, Deceased, late of New Hanover County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, corporations and/or other legal entities having claims against the estate to present them to the undersigned at the address given below on or before **07/16/2020**—or same will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment.

On this day, April 16, 2020.

Darlene Frazier
Personal Representative
c/o Sherman Law, P.C.
by Scott G. Sherman,
Attorney for the Personal Representative
3965-B Market Street
Wilmington, NC 28403

April 16, 23, 30, May 7, 2020

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER
File No. 19 E 1098
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE
OF: KAREN JUDITH EMME
Decedent.**

Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **Karen Judith Emme**, late of 701 Market Street, Wilmington, New Hanover County, North Carolina 28401, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 1904 Eastwood Road, Ste 310A, Wilmington, North Carolina 28403, on or before the **1st day of August, 2020**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 30th day of April, 2020.

Jennifer Duskie, Personal Representative of the Estate of Karen Judith Emme, deceased.

April 30, May 7, 14, 21, 2020

LEGAL NOTICES

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

Having qualified on the 21st day of April, 2020, as Executor of the Estate of **JOHN W. SAWYER, Deceased**, late of New Hanover County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the decedent to exhibit them to the Executor, Ann A. Sawyer, at 7225 Lounsbury Court, Wilmington, NC 28405, on or before the **5th day of August, 2020**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the estate should make immediate payment.

This 30th day of April, 2020.

ANN A. SAWYER, EXECUTOR
Attorney for the Estate:
J. Wesley Casteen, Esq., CPA
Carolina Legal Counsel
P.O. Box 12028
Wilmington, North Carolina 28405
Telephone (910) 256-3364

May 7, 14, 21, 28, 2020

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
NEW HANOVER COUNTY
In the Superior Court
Before the Clerk
New Hanover County File
Number: 20-SP-0128**

CHARLOTTE NOEL FOX, Administrator for the Estate of LUBERTA HIGGINS, Petitioner, vs. REGINALD DWAYNE HAYES, DENISE HIGGINS HAYES, DENNIS HIGGINS, REGINALD LEON HAYES, FELICIA LAVETTE HIGGINS LAW, MARICE DEMITRE LAW, DEMECIA L. HAYES, BENNIE HIGGINS, ALESIA ANN HIGGINS, THELMA FARRIOR MURPHY AND UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF LUBERTA HIGGINS, Respondents.

To Unknown Heirs of the Estate of Luberta Higgins:

TAKE NOTICE that a special proceeding seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows:

A Petition to Determine Ownership of Surplus Proceeds resulting from New Hanover County Foreclosure Proceeding 19-SP-105.

Pursuant to N.C.G.S § 45-21.32, Petitioner seeks ownership of all surplus proceeds resulting from a foreclosure action (19-SP-105) to apply to the satisfaction of the debts and other claims against the Estate and the costs of administration; and after satisfaction of the debts and other claims against the Estate and costs of administration, distribute to the heirs.

You are required to file a written response by Wednesday, June 17, 2020, and upon your failure to do so any order entered by the Court shall be binding as if you were personally before the Court and any payment or distribution made by the Administrator under orders of the Court shall have the effect of fully discharging such personal representative and any sureties on the personal representative's official bond to the full extent of such payment or distribution as ordered.

This, the 7th day of May, 2020.

CRAIGE & FOX, PLLC
Charlotte Noel Fox
N.C. State Bar No. 32678
Administrator of the Estate of Luberta Higgins
701 Market Street
Wilmington, North Carolina 28401
Telephone: (910) 815-0085
Facsimile: (910) 815-1095

May 7, 14, 21, 2020

LEGAL NOTICES

BID REQUEST

RPC Contracting is requesting bids from any interested NCDOT Certified MBE & WBE firms for Contract C204344-SR 1329 Woodville Rd. Grading, Drainage, Paving & Culverts in Perquimans Co. bidding on 5/19/20. There will be a pre-bid conference at 3:00 PM on Monday 5/11/20 at the office of RPC Contracting, 934 W. Kitty Hawk Rd., Kitty Hawk, NC. Plans and specifications are available for review at the same location or may be downloaded from NCDOT'S Project Letting website at <http://connect.ncdot.gov/letting/Pages/Central.aspx>. For more information please call 252-261-3336, ask for Jay. RPC Contracting is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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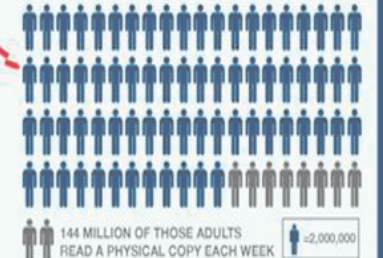
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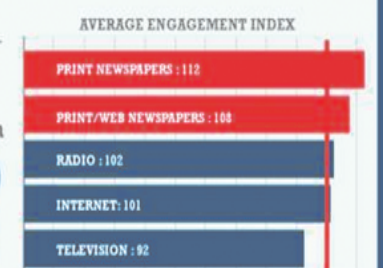
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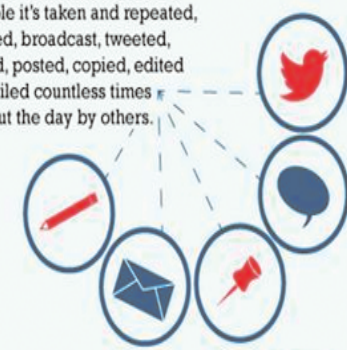
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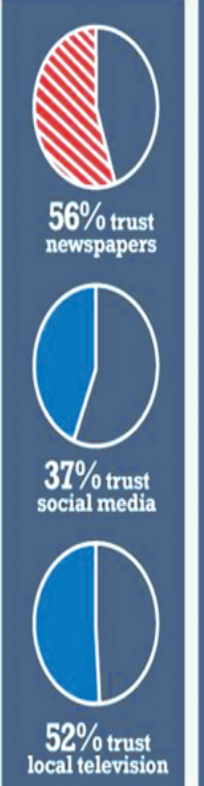
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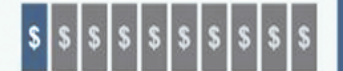
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Sources:
Across Platforms, 7 in 10 Adults Access Content from Newspaper Media Each Week (NAA.org, March 25, 2013)
The American Newspaper Media Industry Revenue Profile 2012 (NAA.org, April 8, 2013)
2013 Nielsen National Cross-Media Engagement Study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



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