

MISSING



EBONEE SPEARS

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

OUTside Looking IN

OUR VOICE



REV. JESSE JACKSON

GUEST EDITORIAL

“Police reform was never going to be easy — But now’s the time”

**BY REV. JESSE JACKSON
PAGE 4**

BRUNSWICK COUNTY



BERNEST HEWETT

**LET US HONOR
OLA LEWIS BRAY**

**BY BERNEST HEWETT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

JUSTICE OR JUST DO? That would be the question about the Honorable Ola Lewis Bray. She did a lot for Brunswick County and the surrounding communities. She had a great and positive impact on the people of those counties to improve their lives. The impact of what she did made a difference to their family lives. In her work as a judge and community person, she worked hard at building relations that had benefits that will last a long time (drug court) and many others that have changed the way society deals with people with problems of mental health, drugs, behavior, etc. She was a strong outspoken advocate for the people at all

Please see **BRUNSWICK** / Page 2

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

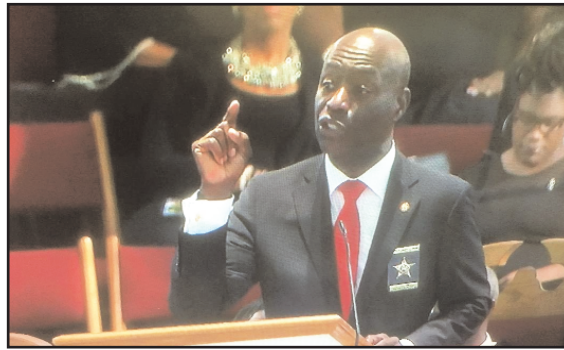
VOLUME 93/No. 24

JUNE 11, 2020 - JUNE 17, 2020

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George Floyd's casket during his memorial service in Raeford June 6, 2020.



Hoke County Sheriff Hubert Peterkin demands law enforcement be more accountable to the black community during remarks at Saturday's George Floyd memorial.



(Photo Courtesy of Adams' Congressional Office) Rep. Alma Adams (D-NC-12) takes a knee, along with Democratic colleagues Monday, in the U.S. Capitol, in silent tribute to George Floyd.

Is NC, America moving toward true racial justice?

**BY CASH MICHAELS
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL**

It has been a stunning, shocking, and poignant three weeks since the killing of George Floyd. During that time there have been numerous public demonstrations of grief, anger and social justice resolve, not just in all fifty states, but internationally, along with various declarations of unity around the mantra "Black Lives Matter," and now a raging public partisan debate about the cry to "defund the police."

Furthermore, in the midst of it all, the family of George Floyd memorialized him in

Minneapolis, Mn., to where he had moved years ago to start a new life, only to be killed on May 25, 2020, when a police officer put his knee on the Black man's neck for almost nine minutes, seen on video by millions; Houston, Texas, where Floyd, 46, grew up after his mother moved there from North Carolina; and in Hoke County, close to where George Perry Floyd, Jr. was born in nearby Fayetteville in 1974.

Last Saturday, hundreds of people from across North Carolina went to Raeford's R. L. Douglas Cape Fear Conference Center to pay their last respects to Floyd, whose body was brought there in a gold casket for a memorial viewing and later to

a local church for a private service where speaker after speaker asked, "Will America pay heed to the lessons learned from this case of injustice, or will the country ignore them as historically usual?"

Hoke County Sheriff Hubert Peterkin stood in the pulpit and declared that he was a Black man "first," then a law enforcement officer.

Then he also challenged his colleagues to admit that they were "part of the problem" when it came to strained relations with the Black community.

Please see **JUSTICE** / Page 2

Governor Cooper establishes task force to address racial inequity in the state criminal justice system

FROM THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Executive Order No. 145 sets path to eliminate systemic racial bias in criminal justice

RALEIGH: Governor Roy Cooper signed Executive Order No. 145 today, forming the North Carolina Task Force for Racial Equity in Criminal Justice. The task force will recommend solutions to stop discriminatory law enforcement and criminal jus-

Please see **TASK FORCE** / Page 2

Community organization holds GATHERING CHANGE gathering - race, faith & justice Saturday, June 13, 2020 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (EDT)

**FROM THE DESK OF
KENNETH HOUSE**

In our last gathering, we talked about everything from how we were FEELING to what we thought were important STRATEGIES necessary to move forward - from things like reaching the young people at the middle school level, to getting involved with reforming law enforcement & processes within our local police department for hiring, training, etc. Entities trying to make a difference were represented, like the Local ReEntry Council, LINC, Prison Fellowship, Resiliency Task Force, NHC Courts, NHC Schools, One Christian Network and others - with strategies ranging from community training to working with the schools to dialogue to justice-focused prayer.

In our next gathering this coming Saturday, we will try to go further. We are reaching for things, like: How can we get more of "them" to care?? What is the "menu of opportunities" that we want people to be able to choose from when they ask "what can I do to help??" Are there new leaders emerging, and if so, how can we support them?? We will also re-introduce the "Healing Communities" model for returning citizens and look for involvement/support from the faith community. And there's still a big question - what would be the best thing to do to really "right the wrong" of slavery, and how can we have sincere conversations about it?

Let's listen to each other, and explore opportunities for understanding & action - this coming Saturday at 4:00pm, a 1-hour CHANGE gathering / listening session on race, faith & justice.

CHANGE Gathering: Race, Faith & Justice Sat, Jun 13, 2020 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM (EDT)

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State high court approves racial bias challenge in jury selection

**BY CASH MICHAELS
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL**

The Republican-led NC General Assembly denied death row inmates their rights under the NC Racial Justice Act by repealing it in 2013.

Last Friday, in two majority rulings, the State Supreme Court returned those rights to those convicted inmates who sought a hearing about racial bias in the prosecution of their cases, but could not get one because of the repeal.

"The basic conclusion was that the General Assembly violated the NC Constitution when it sought to prevent [death row inmates who petitioned for hearings under [the RJA] from seeking a reduction in [their] sentences based on the racially tinged exclusion of African Americans from the jury, which convicted and sentenced [them] to death," stated Attorney Irving Joyner,

Please see **HIGH COURT** / Page 2

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



THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

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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.

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BRUNSWICK

Continued from Page 1

times. So why don't the County Commissioners name the Brunswick County Courthouse in her honor?

We have a building named after people who have done a whole lot less than she did and some who have never worked for, or in, a public setting. I think the Brunswick County Courthouse should bear her name. It would look good with the name JUDGE OLA LEWIS BRAY on it.

"Let the work she has done speak for her! Let your county commissioners know how you feel. To God be the glory!"

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

JUSTICE

Continued from Page 1

Congressman G. K. Butterfield (D-NC-1) called Floyd's death "murder by any definition, and Rev. Christopher Stackhouse preached in his eulogy that he saw "God's hand" in the massive, diverse peaceful worldwide demonstrations in response to Floyd's death.

Floyd was buried next to his mother in Houston on Tuesday after the last of the three memorials.

Meanwhile, led by the Congressional Black Caucus in Washington, D. C., Democrats in both houses of Congress Monday introduced the Justice in Policing

Act of 2020. NC Representatives, Alma Adams (D-NC-12) and G. K. Butterfield (D-NC-1), are among the over 100 members of Congress to co-sponsor what they call "...the first-ever bold, comprehensive approach to hold police accountable, change the culture of law enforcement, and build trust between law enforcement and our communities."

"Congress must take urgent action to address the epidemic of police brutality against Americans. This bill does that and acknowledges that Black lives can't wait until the next election," said Congresswoman Adams. "By passing the Justice in Policing Act of 2020, we can

begin the process of rebuilding the fragile trust in our justice system. Urgency and progress are the antidote to injustice."

In remarks delivered at George Floyd's memorial in Raeford Saturday, Rep. Butterfield said, "Over the past ten days, the Congressional Black Caucus has engaged in extensive meetings with the Democratic leadership on the importance of decisive and swift legislative action to end the pervasiveness of police misconduct. Speaker Pelosi authorized the Congressional Black Caucus to develop the first draft of a legislative response to this "police" murder and other "police" murders that we all

know so painfully well."

On Monday, led by Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), Adams, Butterfield, and other Democratic co-sponsors of the bill went to Emancipation Hall in the U. S. Capitol and took an eight minute and forty-six second silent knee in honor of George Floyd.

Eight minutes and forty-six seconds is the amount of time Officer Derek Chauvin had his knee on a dying Floyd in the street as he cried out, "I can't breathe" and "Momma."

I cannot imagine George Floyd's agony," said Rep. Adams."

Last Friday, N. C. House Democrats held a press conference where they called for

their Republican colleagues to drop partisanship, come together, and address systematic racism in the areas of criminal justice, health-care, education and economic opportunities.

Seemingly, in answer to that plea, the N. C. Senate Monday night unanimously passed \$15 million in additional funding for NC Promise, "...to guarantee \$500 in-state tuition at three North Carolina colleges - Elizabeth City State University, UNC Pembroke, and Western Carolina University.

Since the policy was enacted a few years ago by the Republican-led Senate, it has reportedly been very successful in increasing enrollment at the three schools.

TASK FORCE

Continued from Page 1

tice practices, and hold public safety officers accountable.

"We must acknowledge racial inequities in our systems of law enforcement and criminal justice, and then work to eliminate them. This task force will address policies and procedures that disproportionately burden communities of color," said Governor Cooper.

Led by Attorney General Josh Stein and North Carolina Supreme Court Associate Justice Anita Earls, the task force will convene a wide range of stakeholders including: community policing advocates, state and local law enforcement agencies, justice-involved individuals, representatives of the judicial branch, individuals from marginalized

populations and more.

The task force will develop and help implement policy solutions to address systemic racial bias in criminal justice and submit legislative and municipal recommendations on or before December 1, 2020.

Additionally, the Order creates a Center for the Prevention of Law Enforcement Use of Deadly Force within the State Bureau of Investigation to track statistics and improve training related to the use of force.

This week, Secretary of the Department of Public Safety Erik Hooks directed law enforcement agencies under the purview of DPS to ensure each division has a duty to intervene policy in place. He also directed that divisions conduct policy reviews on use of force, de-escalation techniques, arrest procedures, cultural sensitivity training and internal investigation processes. Executive Order No. 145

directs cabinet agencies and encourages non-cabinet state agencies with sworn law enforcement officers to do the same.

"We can stop the use of excessive force by police and we know what is needed to achieve racial equity, now is the time to put that knowledge to work," said North Carolina Supreme Court Associate Justice Anita Earls. "I am grateful to the Governor and the Attorney General for recognizing that the Judicial Branch has a crucial role to play in eliminating racial disparities in the criminal justice system, and I am committed to a collaborative process with meaningful community involvement to achieve those goals in short order."

"The Task Force for Racial Equity in Criminal Justice will consider and implement strategies to bring about real change in the criminal justice system. For way too long,

Black people have not been treated equitably in the United States. We have to fix that," said North Carolina Attorney General Josh Stein. "I look forward to working closely with co-chair Justice Anita Earls and the full Task Force to making North Carolina a safe place for every person, no matter who you are."

Communities of color are disproportionately affected at each stage of the criminal justice system, with national data showing the following:

- Black adults are 5.9 times as likely to be incarcerated than white adults;
• Hispanic adults are 3.1 times as likely to be incarcerated than white adults;
• Black drivers are approximately twice as likely as white drivers to be pulled over by law enforcement for a traffic stop;
• Black defendants are more likely to be jailed before trial than white defendants;

• The murders of white people are more likely to be solved than the murders of Black people;

• When Black men and white men are convicted of the same crime, Black men receive a prison sentence that is 20 percent longer;

• Black women are imprisoned at twice the rate as white women; and

• Black men are 2.5 times more likely to be killed by law enforcement than are white men, and Black women are 1.4 times more likely to be killed by law enforcement than are white women.

This task force follows Governor Cooper's Executive Order 143, which will address longstanding social, environmental, economic, and health disparities in communities of color that have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

People interested in being on the task force can visit the Governor's website to apply.

HIGH COURT

Continued from Page 1

law professor at North Carolina Central University in Durham.

The Racial Justice Act allowed those on death row to present evidence that race played a significant role in their convictions. Several studies have shown prosecutors in numerous counties across North Carolina who use illegal methods to keep Black jurors away from deciding murder cases when a Black defendant is involved, and the victim is White, so that the prosecutor can introduce racially biased evidence to an all White jury for a sure conviction.

North Carolina's High Court decided the cases of Rayford Burke and Andrew Ramsey; two death row prisoners who filed claims that prosecutors excluded Blacks from their respective juries, and, as a result, their capital case convictions were racially tinged for all White juries.

If a court, under RJA, found evidence that racial bias led to a conviction, that meant that the trail wasn't fair, and the death sentence was converted to life in prison.

However, many of the claims filed were never heard, as prescribed by the RJA because the legislature repealed the law passed in 2009 by its Democrat-led predecessor.

"The rulings also mean that death row prisoners across North Carolina who filed claims under the N. C.

Racial Justice Act before its repeal in 2013 are [still] entitled to present their evidence in court," said The Center for Death Penalty Litigation. "The justices decided the case under the State constitution, so it cannot be appealed."

"This is a momentous decision that sends a clear message: Our State's highest court will not allow North Carolina to ignore evidence that racism has infected the death penalty," said CDPL Executive Director Gretchen M. Engel. "This was also an urgently needed decision as our state and our nation confront a long history of racism. The death penalty

is the apex of a criminal legal system that has failed people of color."

Those unheard claims can now proceed to lower courts.

"This was a well reasoned decision that Justice [Anita] Earls wrote and was agreed to by every justice other than Justice [Paul] Newby," said Professor Joyner. "The systematic exclusion of African Americans from N. C. juries in capital cases is a reality that we have known about and have had to accept since 1900, and now some "death row" inmates will have a chance to obtain relief from their capital pronouncements."

Right before the rulings, N. C. Supreme Court Justice Cheri Beasley publicly acknowledged that, regrettably, there was racism in North Carolina's criminal justice system.

"In our courts, African-Americans are more harshly treated, more severely punished and more likely to be presumed guilty," she said.

Republicans, like NCGOP Executive Director Dallas Woodhouse, begged to differ about the High Court's ruling. He tweeted that the RJA "...was a way for Democrats to end executing vicious cold blooded child killers, cop killers and the worst [murderers] known

to man."

"This had little to do with race and nothing about justice," Woodhouse opined. "Dems won. Killers won. Victims lost."

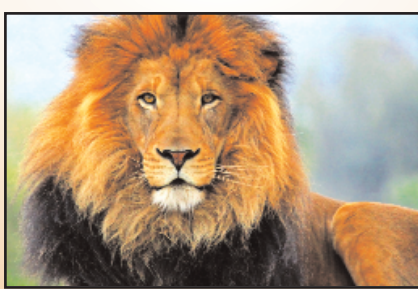
In another, unrelated court victory, Superior Court Judge Vince Rozier, Jr. indicated that he will issue a preliminary injunction against the Cooper Administration, ordering it to whatever is necessary to cut the prison population through early release or transfer in order to prevent the further spread of COVID-19 among the inmate population.

The ruling was in response to a lawsuit filed by the NC NAACP.

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



STATE BRIEFS



FORMER NCCU CHANCELLOR ALBERT WHITING DIES AT 102

[DURHAM] Dr. Albert Whiting, former chancellor of North Carolina Central University, died June 4th in Maryland at age 102.

Whiting was the fourth president of North Carolina College in Durham when he came to the school in 1966, and become its first chancellor thereafter when the college changed its name to North Carolina Central University. He served the school for 15 years, retiring in 1983. He is credited with overseeing tremendous growth of NCCU during

that time.

MAIN GOP CONVENTION EVENTS MOVED FROM NORTH CAROLINA TO FLORIDA

[CHARLOTTE] True to their word, the Republican National Committee, told by Gov. Roy Cooper that as long as COVID-19 is a problem in North Carolina, they will not be holding their national convention in

Charlotte this August, have now moved the main activities to Jacksonville, Fla. Convention business meetings will still be conducted in the Queen City, officials say. The GOP originally wanted a full 50,000 person convention, then reduced it to 19,000 with no masks or social distancing, before the governor told them to try someplace else.

RALEIGH POLICE BAN STRANGLEHOLDS AND CHOKEHOLDS

[RALEIGH] Raleigh Police Chief Cassandra Deck-Brown announced this week that officers would no longer be allowed to use strangleholds or chokeholds to subdue suspects. Previously, regulations recommended avoiding those techniques, but now, because they're widely seen

as use of deadly force, they are outright banned. Chief Deck-Brown also called for an outside panel of experts to evaluate her department's conduct during the recent demonstrations.

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS

AROUND JOURNAL LAND

ALL PHOTOS BY JOHN DAVIS

Wilmington Police Department Interim Chief Donnie Williams and other law enforcement officers lead protest march from WPD headquarters to 1898 monument last week. Once at the monument, a program was held to protest police brutality.



That same day a protest rally was held on the steps of City Hall. This rally also protested police brutality after the death of George Floyd.





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

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

OUR VOICE

GUEST EDITORIAL

RAINBOW COALITION

Police reform was never going to be easy — But now's the time

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

As the worldwide demonstrations continue two weeks after the murder of George Floyd by a Minneapolis policeman, the question is whether outrage will lead to real reforms? Fundamental reforms would begin with ending the “qualified immunity” of police, curbing the militarization of police forces, transferring funds and functions to social agencies, imposing residency requirements and finally making lynching a hate crime.



Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.

There is good reason to be skeptical. After the remarkable Black Lives Matter demonstrations across the country in 2014, very little changed. Police continue to kill more than 250 African Americans a year (of nearly 1,000 Americans each year). In most cities, racial profiling, constant harassment, routine brutality and mass arrests continue. Powerful police unions block reforms. Cynical politicians — in this case led by Donald Trump who has been tweeting “more money for Law Enforcement — fan fears. Callous officials like Attorney General William Barr deny the existence of systemic racism in our criminal justice system.

With 18,000 separate police organizations organized locally across the country, real reform is hard. There is also reason for hope. After dozens of commissions beginning with the Kerner Commission in 1967 and moving forward, we know a lot about what needs to be done. What has been missing is will, not ideas. And now, as the demonstrations reveal, Americans — black and white, young and old — are demanding change.

Democrats — led by Rep. Karen Bass, chair of the CBC, and Senators Corey Booker and Kamala Harris — have introduced The Justice in Policing Act of 2020 which calls for basic reforms. It would revise the “qualified immunity,” which has protected police from liability for excessive use of force, curb the transfer of military equipment to state and local law enforcement agencies, mandate data collection of police misconduct and a centralized registry of offenders, mandate racial training and outlaw choke holds and no-knock warrants. It would finally make lynching a hate crime, passing legislation that has been pending for over 100 years. Many of these same reforms can and should be passed at a state level, not allowing Mitch McConnell and Donald Trump to bottle up reform.

Similarly, as Campaign Zero has detailed in #8Can'tWait, local officials or city councils can simply order basic changes in police techniques: outlawing choke holds, mandating deescalation efforts, requiring warning before shooting, creating a duty to intervene against excessive force by other officers, banning shooting at moving vehicles and more. “Defund the police” has been added to the massive “Black Lives Matter” painted on the road leading to the White House in Washington. Trump, of course, has jumped on the slogan in an effort to discredit any reform.

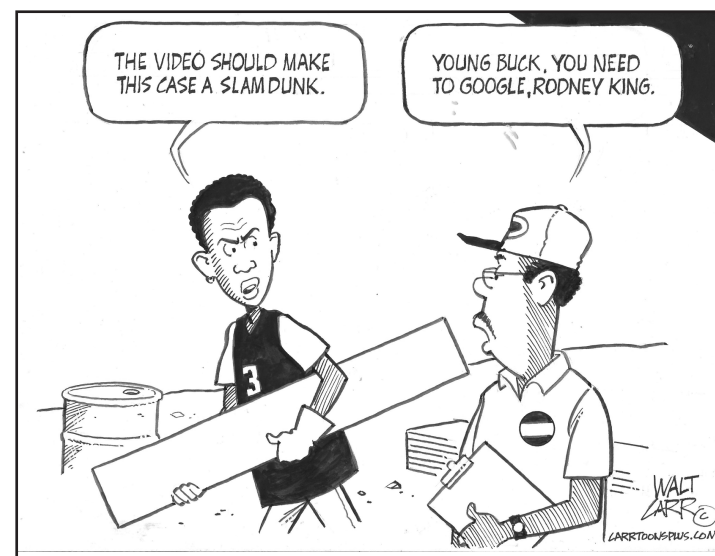
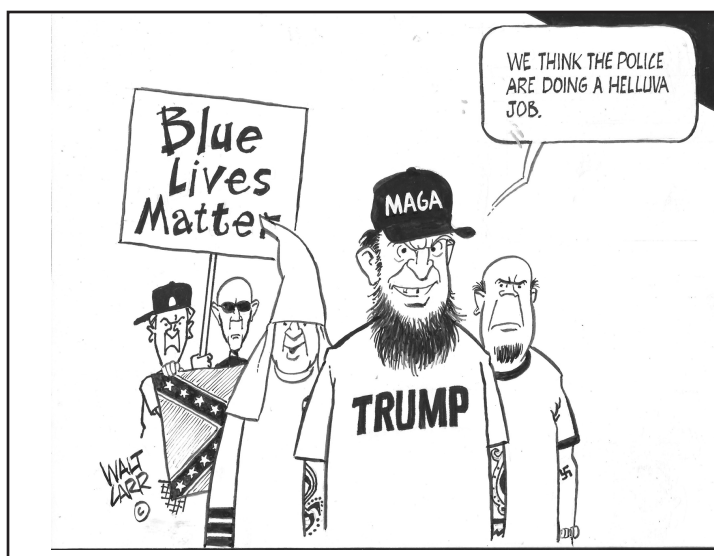
But the advocates of “defund the police” aren't fools. They understand that the police will be with us — but that their role and their functions need to be dramatically rethought. “We must end policing as we know it,” stated Lisa Bender, the Minneapolis City Council President who leads a veto-proof majority of the city council dedicated to “recreating a system of public safety that will actually keep us safe.” Defunding means transferring resources that now go to police into investments in communities in health care, schools, housing. It reflects the reality that in minority communities, particularly, overcriminalization has made virtually everyone a potential target. Police have gotten involved in areas better left to others, from school discipline, eviction enforcement, addiction and substance abuse.

Police are soldiers in the so-called War on Drugs when it is fought in poor and minority communities while deferring to public health agencies addressing opioid and drug abuse in suburban and exurban neighborhoods. Defending would include organizing community groups to help intervene to de-escalate tense situations that can lead to violence. Mayors in Los Angeles to New York have announced plans to transfer some funds from the police budget to social services, but what's required is a real commitment like that of the Minneapolis City Council to rethink public safety from top to bottom.

One part of this has to recreate real community policing. In Minneapolis, 92 percent of the police live outside the city. They are literally an outside occupying army, too often seeing the neighborhoods they patrol as alien, even enemy territory. Residence requirements that a far higher percentage of police come from the neighborhoods they patrol would dramatically change the tenor of the cops and the trust of the citizens. Real change won't be easy. The resistance will be fierce. At the national level, Senate Republicans will no doubt seek to block the reforms that pass the House. Trump will enlist the police unions to posture as a law-and-order strong man. The demonstrators must build a political force able not only to defeat those who stand in the way, but to hold those promising change accountable. What is clear is that the abuses won't stop, the police murders won't end until fundamental reforms are made.

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

VISUAL VOICE



YOUR VOICE

AS A TEACHER, MY GRADE FOR NFL COMMISSIONER ROGER GOODELL IS AN F.

Goodell said, “we were wrong for not listening to Black players complaints of racism”. In his so-called apology he never said the name Colin Kaepernick. Colin was the brave football player who took a knee during the playing of the national anthem. He explained to the press that his demonstration was to bring long-overdue attention to Black males being beaten and killed by white policemen. TRUMP called the players kneeling SOB's and said the owners should fire them. Many players took a knee, but they decided to make an example of Colin Kaepernick, so they

blackballed him thus ending his career in pro football. The owners told the generals managers and coaches not to give Colin a workout or sign him.

I question, what other mystery Black players did Goodell have secret talks with? Commissioner Goodell is paid (40) million dollars a year to carry out the directions of the team owners. Nine (9) of the 32 owners gave millions to the TRUMP campaign and inauguration party. They are Jimmy Haslam(Cleveland Browns), Edward Glazer(Tampa Bay Buccaneers), Woody Johnson(New York Jets), Shahid Khan(Jacksonville Jaguars), Stan Kroenke(Los Angeles Rams), Robert McNaair(Houston Texans), Robert Kraft(New

England Patriots), Daniel Snyder(Washington Redskins), and Jerry Jones(Dallas Cowboys). The history of Black males being severely beaten then crucified by white cops is as long as the Mississippi River. The first televised event and highest profile beating to my knowledge was Rodney King in 1991. Eric Garner was crucified in 2014 and George Floyd in 2020. In the 60s when I marched as youth vice-president of the New Hanover County NAACP branch, there was only one white person marching with us, my Catholic priest, Fr. Swift. Today many of the marchers/protesters are white and other races. Some of Dr. King's dreams are starting to happen. Romans 15:5 “May

GOD, who gives this patience and encouragement, help you live in complete harmony with each other; as it is fitting for followers of Christ Jesus.” A visionary who happens to be my favorite writer, actor, director and filmmaker, Spike Lee, made a film in 1989 called “Do The Right Thing”. I encourage all to watch it again, or for the first time, and see what was then is still now. Notice the similarities between Radio Raheem, Eric Garner, and George Floyd. If we, the people, study, boycott, work, march, fight the power; register, vote and pray together; we shall overcome.

James J. Hankins
Wilmington, NC

MATTERS OF OPINION

George Floyd's killers and the vigilantes who share their beliefs don't deserve benefit of the doubt

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

“Those who commit the murders write the reports, and hence these lasting blots upon the honor of a nation cause but a faint ripple on the outside world. They arouse no great indignation and call forth no adequate demand for justice.” — Ida B. Wells

The casual brutality of a white officer's knee squeezing the life from a helpless Black man in handcuffs, caught on a gruesome video, underlies Amy Cooper's smug tone as she announces her intention to lodge a false police complaint against a Black man who'd inconvenienced her.

“I'm going to tell them there's an African-American man threatening my life,” she announces as she is recorded by the man who'd simply asked her to leash her dog as required in that area of Central Park. Unspoken,

but understood, is her certainty that her word, the word of a white woman, would be accepted without question. She has no doubt about this, even as she glares directly into the camera that is documenting her lie.

Her certainty that a Black man's guilt will be presumed, and white lies accepted, was shared by the Minneapolis police officer who taunted George Floyd while he crushed his neck beneath his knee for eight long minutes. It was shared by the officers who stood by, passively, while Floyd begged for his life and onlookers pleaded for the assault to end. Even though they knew they were being recorded, they filed a police report that was wholly refuted

by video — they were that certain.

That certainty was shared by the white men who chased down Ahmaud Arbery and ruthlessly shot him in the street, claiming with no evidence that he was a burglar.

It has long been the agonizing truth that, without video evidence to the contrary, police who shoot unarmed Black people will always be given the benefit of the doubt. Some white officers — and self-appointed vigilantes — are so accustomed to the benefit of the doubt that even their knowledge of video evidence does not faze them.

Minneapolis has erupted in outrage. The primal scream of anguish — what Martin Luther King, Jr. called “the language of the unheard” — reverberates across the nation. We pray for those who have taken to the streets, that they will refrain from violence — and for the police who are responding,

that they exercise restraint and de-escalate tensions.

The officers who participated in the deadly assault of George Floyd were fired within 24 hours, and shortly after the National Urban League and the Urban League of the Twin Cities demanded their names, have been identified. They are Derek Chauvin, Thomas Lane, Tou Thao and J. Alexander Kueng.

These men no longer deserve the benefit of the doubt. Their word can no longer be trusted. Their records — which, in the case of Chauvin and Thao, include a disturbing number of use-of-force incidents and civilian complaints — must be thoroughly examined for evidence of the racism and inhumanity they displayed during George Floyd's deadly

MORIAL

Continued on page 5

Let's just be clear

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

Eight minutes and Forty-Six seconds. In every generation there are seminal events that alter the outcomes of the future. As I reflect on the events of the last two weeks, I am struck by the instances of humanity and inhumanity that have been demonstrated for all to see. Although they join a, seemingly endless list of African Americans who have fallen victim to blatant racism and deranged policing, I am sure that the names Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and George Floyd will be indelibly linked to a new revolution in this era of US History. I believe the events surrounding the savage disregard and premature ending of their lives will serve as a catalyst for a new awakening in the American experience.

This awakening will, of course, be resisted and challenged. Those paying attention have already heard the nitpicking and fault finding of the nay-sayers who wish to fortify and buttress the status quo of unchallenged mistreatment and brutalization of people of

color. Over their electronic platforms, these naysayers have already attempted to diminish the legitimacy of protests against the violence that was directed against George Floyd, specifically, and against African Americans and people of color, generally.

They vainly attempt to associate the destruction and looting of a small group of criminals to the broader issue of systemic racial discrimination and violence. They confuse and attempt to conjoin RIOT with REVOLUTION.

Those who number among my regular readers know that to reduce misinterpretation of my statements or to limit my intent to the boundaries of the understanding of some readers, I often provide definitions. I do so again. RIOT: a disturbance of the public peace by three or more persons acting together in a disrupting and tumultuous manner in carry-

ing out their private purposes. REVOLUTION: an overthrow or repudiation and the thorough replacement of an established government or political system by the people governed. I offer to those willing to “SEE” that these two dynamics are in opposition in their intent and objectives.

I've lived long enough to observe that most Americans will ignore those events that don't impact them directly. This has proved chiefly true when it comes to how white Americans view their darker counterparts. During the 50's and 60's, most white Americans were willing to ignore the recurring horrors inflicted upon African Americans, especially those performed in the South. It was not until they saw, through the medium of television, the dogs, water hoses, and the vicious beatings administered by the police that they felt the pangs of guilt. Until they viewed the mangled remains of the 16th Street Baptist Church and learned of the death of four little Black girls, few thoughts were given to the lives of Black children in Birmingham, Alabama.

Now we are presented with a video of four rogue policemen who, in the space of eight minutes and forty-six seconds, choke the life out of a man who was on the ground, handcuffed, and submissive. That visual of a man lamenting, “I can't breathe” and calling to his deceased “momma” just before dying has inspired a revolutionary spirit to correct such atrocities. “GEORGE FLOYD” has become a revolutionary rallying cry throughout the US and in many parts of the world where discriminatory and oppressive behaviors are entrenched.

Those of us who fight for necessary systemic change should not grow comfortable. Our job, beyond the push for change, is to keep focus on our goals and opposition. These past two weeks have also shown that forces exist that oppose the Constitutional guarantees we enjoy. Our demands for systemic change will be met with grea

E. Faye Williams is National President of the National Congress of Black Women and Host of “Wake Up and Stay Woke” on WFW-FM 89.3 Radio in Washington, DC.

MORIAL

Continued from page 4

The National Urban League and the Urban League of the Twin Cities further

demand: Arrest and criminal prosecution of the four former police officers. Immediate public release of all bodycam footage of the incident captured by MPD and Minneapolis Parks

Police. Appointment of an experienced, independent expert from outside the department to investigate the conduct of the four officers. This nation is haunted by the souls of the thousands of

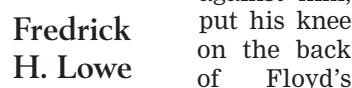
Black men and women whose killers never were brought to justice. We owe it to them to see justice done for George Floyd. Marc Morial is President/CEO of the National Urban League.

What must be done?

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

The events of the last couple of weeks have been a writer's bonanza, yet at the same time, it has been exceedingly difficult for me personally.

address. Their bullets, however, found Taylor eight times killing her as she lay in her bed. Shortly afterward, Minneapolis cop Derek Chauvin murdered George Floyd for the nonviolent crime of attempting to use a fake \$20 bill to buy a pack of cigarettes. Chauvin, who had 17 unresolved citizen complaints filed against him, put his knee on the back of Floyd's neck as he lay face down on the sidewalk handcuffed behind his back.



Fredrick H. Lowe

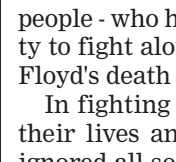
Witnesses could hear Floyd, and they begged Chauvin to let him up. Chauvin did not budge. Floyd's murder has sparked so far eight days of both peaceful and violent

protests across the country and around the world. More than 60,000 people showed up in Houston on Tuesday to honor its native son. This is unbelievable because Floyd was unknown to most of us three weeks ago. His murder has overshadowed the Covid-19 pandemic. Just before Floyd's murder, Amy Cooper was walking her dog in a section of New York's Central Park where dogs are required to be on a leash. Christian Cooper, no relation, and an avid bird watcher told Amy Cooper her dog must be on a leash. She called 911. She played the damsel in distress and lied that an African American man had threatened her, which was not true. Christian Cooper filmed the entire interaction and posted it on the Internet. What Amy Cooper did gave me chills. If cops had shown up, they may have killed or arrested Christian Cooper based only on her word. White women lying about being attacked or raped by

black men is nothing new. In the book "The Lynchings In Duluth," a White teenager claimed three Black circus workers raped her. A physician examined the teenager and determined she had not been raped. His determination did not stop a gang of white men from breaking into the jail, overpowering the sheriff, and dragging the men outside and lynching them. The lynchings occurred on June 15, 1920. Recently, Duluth, Minnesota, unveiled a monument to the men as a way of apologizing. I can write about these terrible incidents that have happened to Black men, including myself. I was severely beaten by the police after I graduated from the University of Washington. To the cops, I was not unusual. I was just another nigger. But I am asking myself more and more, "What must be done?" Written by Frederick H. Lowe of NorthStar News Today.com.

CRAZY FAITH MINISTRIES America's most deadly war is being fought right now

In an essay written by James Baldwin in 1962 entitled, "As Much Truth As One Can Bear," the author/essayist asked "How have we managed to become what we have, in fact, become? And if we are...so empty and so desperate, what are we to do about it? How shall we put ourselves in touch with reality?" It might be that, instead of "becoming," we have merely matured into who we are as a nation. We were never the embodiment of the words written in the Declaration of Independence. America was never a country which believed in and practiced equality of all people. In our maturation process, we have carried with us an unhealed spirit, because we have never attended to our racism. Thrust under and between the pages of the Bible and the United States Constitution, we have lived as though racism does not exist, although we have known that it was there, but in our denial, the droplets of our systemic societal illness have spewed and splattered over Americans - all of us, regardless of race or ethnicity - and caused a grave moral condition which has only gotten worse over time. And now, the moral and the physical viruses are meeting and clashing. While black people are fighting for an end to racism and specifically, an end to blatant state-sanctioned violence, the white power structure is fighting to hold onto its domination of both people and property. Black people, thoroughly disgusted by the murder of George



Rev. Susan K. Smith

Floyd by an ex-Minnesota police department, have spilled out into the streets - accompanied by white people - lots of white people - who have decided to leave their places of relative safety to fight alongside blacks for injustice based on race which Floyd's death made impossible to ignore. In fighting the systemic virus of racism, they are risking their lives and the lives and health of others as they have ignored all social distancing rules designed to keep the physical virus from infecting them. We do not care. We are tired. And it seems that this systemic virus has exhausted a lot of other people as well. The power structure is being challenged in a way it never expected - by both viruses. Both are deadly and both will contribute to the continual weakening of America's social structure. The "good old days" are gone, and just as life as we knew it changed after 911, life as we knew it before the dual hits of the physical and systemic virus will never return.

Law and order and white supremacy

As a young child, I was unfortunate enough to have a trace of reddish hair and relatively pale skin for a Black person - remnants of an interracial rape three generations distant in my family tree. While I measured my misfortune in personal terms - being taunted by my elementary schoolmates as "a little white boy" - the greater dilemma my physical appearance evidenced was the catastrophe of white supremacy that has plagued the entire world over the past four centuries. The rape of my African American great-grandmother by a white man was ignored by law enforcement authorities in the western North Carolina county where the crime was committed because it was not that unusual an occurrence. The rape of Black women by white men at that time and in that part of our nation occurred frequently. On the other hand, any suspicion of rape of a white woman by a Black man produced howls of rage and an execution, usually by lynching after torture. The lynching of Black folk was almost always done in the name of "law and order." Something of value to the white community had to be protected. It was this way during the days of slavery. It is this way today. And to clearly

understand how this was able to take place all these years, we must understand what law is. Law is a process of authoritative control, where certain empowered community members establish and maintain a particular public order. In the 1880s in North Carolina, that particular public order allowed white men to rape Black women with impunity while dealing a death sentence to any Black man who was believed to have assaulted a white woman. The laws were not written in the books that way, but neither are today's laws that allow armed white murderers to be taken into custody alive, while unarmed Black men are summarily executed by police for selling cigarettes without a license. Law is more than the written statutes and the constitutions. It is also the implementation and execution of written and unwritten notions of public order. If a police officer or a judge deems it in the best interest of public order to treat Blacks one way and whites another, then that is the law unless and until a higher authority steps in. That is the law, but it is not jus-



Oscar H. Blayton

tice. Americans usually are not taught the difference between "law" and "justice," and by conflating the two, we are blinded to the injustice of many laws and the manner of their execution. When the Nazis were empowered to establish and maintain their public order, it was "legal" in Germany to do the horrific things they did to Jews and members of other minority groups. But after World War II, the Nazis were no longer empowered, and under a new law of that land, their acts were declared criminal and several were hanged. Many laws in America are unjust, and many more are executed in an unjust manner. Until we confront this and acknowledge it, we will live in a land plagued with injustice. Race-based laws reigned supreme in the American South until the federal government developed the will to strip Southern states of their powers to allow the rape, murder, robbery and dehumanization of African Americans. But this was low-hanging fruit. The segregationists and race haters were so disgustingly vile that America could not hold its head up in the global community if it allowed their crimes to continue unchecked. Unfortunately, it took tragedies like the murder of 14-year-old Emmett Till for America to stop and reflect on

what was happening. But once the low-hanging fruit was plucked and the Ku Klux Klan and segregationists like Alabama Gov. George Wallace were driven back into the shadows, the cancer of white supremacy was left to fester and metastasize throughout the body politic of this nation. Today, we have the murder of George Floyd, yet another unarmed Black man, by yet another white police officer and there is a new awakening of the American conscience. Floyd's murder is a clear symptom of the out-of-control cancer of white supremacy in this country. The whole world sees it and their protests let us know that they do not like it. Americans who claim to be law-and-order advocates can now be asked: What law? What order? What justice? Why do those elected officials who claim to champion law and order go silent when a police officer breaks the law and murders a Black victim? I do not expect the "law-and-order politicians" to respond to these questions. However, fair-minded Americans should weigh those hypocrites on the scales of justice, and if they find them wanting, remove them from office. Oscar H. Blayton is a former Marine Corps combat pilot and human rights activist who practices law in Virginia.

The stuff of dreams — MLK goes right on marching

(Via NNPANewswire.com)

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." — Martin Luther King Jr.

have to worry about the safety of their sons and daughters when simply going off to the store, going out for a jog and or being stopped at a traffic light. This must end. Generations of misery George Floyd is sadly one of many, many African Americans who have been the victim of racial profiling and brutality. The larger tragedy of our society is that this criminal activity did not start with Mr. Floyd. Or with Breona Taylor or Tony McDade, who also lost their lives in the past month for similar reasons. Nor did it start with Eric Garner, killed in 2014 due to a police strangle hold — or Rodney King's brutal beating in 1991. The names and stories stretch back generations and are part of the ongoing racial disparity and injustice that permeates our system. A product of 400 years of oppression, prejudice and fear. How many stories like George Floyd's must we hear? How many lives cut tragically,



Ray Curry

brutally short? At the UAW, we have been fighting for generations against systemic racism. Think back to August 28, 1968, when more than 200,000 demonstrators took part in the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom in the nation's capital. Two men participating in that march — Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and UAW President Walter Reuther — were dedicated to breaking the color lines and fighting for equality in wages, opportunities, housing, healthcare and fair societal treatment. A wound that will not heal The 1968 March on Washington succeeded in getting those in power to sit up and take action. It was successful in pressuring the administration to initiate a strong federal civil rights bill in Congress. It was a time that gave Americans — especially minorities — hope. But how far have we come since then if we still are marching, if we are still protesting? Not nearly far enough. It is time for this country to transform from the ways of the past. To turn our backs on the prejudices, fear and hate of our past. To vote in local and federal elections for leaders that will

represent men and women of this country and no longer their self-interest. I truly worry if we cannot do this, this wound will continue to tear our nation apart. In today's marches across the country, we are seeing history repeating itself. Again, our community members are joining together, young people especially, and taking up the cause to demand change. And the UAW, with its long history of supporting and fighting for civil and human rights, is right beside them. It is not just police brutality that affects the African American community. Because of socioeconomic and environmental factors — many due to continued disparity in opportunities — when COVID-19 struck this country it hit people of color especially hard. Currently, the UAW is working with Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer's office serving on the Michigan Coronavirus Task Force on Racial Disparities. The task force

will act in an advisory capacity to the Governor and study the causes of racial disparities in the impact of COVID-19 and recommend actions to immediately address such disparities and the historical and systemic inequities that underlie them. We need real change But we cannot just talk about it. We must DO something about it. Just like we saw civil rights legislation that came out of the demonstrations in the past, this tragedy and these demonstrations and clashes will need to result in legislation and reforms passed. PASSED and ENFORCED. And while I do not want to vilify all men and women in blue — we cannot not turn away from the horror of George Floyd's death. An American citizen begging for his life on an American city street for 8 minutes and 46 seconds. This is not an on-the-sidelines hurt for me. I am an African American man born in raised in the south and now living in an urban cen-

CURRY

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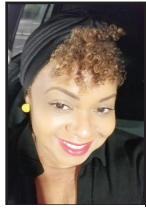
CURRY

Continued on this page

GET THAT DEED AND FLIP THOSE KEYS!

The Top 5 reasons most can't get a home loan #1 Reason--Credit

A credit profile is a window into one's financial soul. It tells so much about a person's life, about their wins, and their woes. It can tell if you rebound quickly or if the struggle is ever-present. It can vary from all 3 reporting companies and this scenario is all too common. Sometimes you will get one credit score from a credit monitoring company and think that one score is what



Brenda Dixon

the mortgage lender will use with the loan application. However, that's not how it works - instead, a mortgage lender pulls three credit scores, one from each credit bureau. The lender will use the middle credit score

to determine if you will get a loan or not. For example, if your Equifax is 657, Transunion is 618 and Experian is 634, then your middle score the lender will use is 634 because it is not the highest, nor lowest, but in between all 3. Another credit issue is a difference between scores from lender to lender. For example, you might have your credit score pulled the 20th of the month and it

might be 720, you might have it pulled again on the 25th while reviewing another mortgage company and it might be 698. Why the change? Several factors could have a play like your credit card balances changing or an unexpected medical debt or another type of collection popping up out of nowhere. Multiple pulls on your credit in a short period of time can also decrease it. It is important also not to go

30 days late on any of your bills reporting on your credit report because that could delay you by 12 months from the last time you were late and TANK your scores. Keep in mind that to receive a 100%, no money down mortgage you'll need at least a 620-credit middle score. So, while it's important to keep on top of your credit scores, especially when you're preparing to buy a home, know that they

can and do fluctuate. Just stay focused and make financial decisions wisely during this time. Until next week, please share this article with 3 people and tell them to reach out for their FREE personalized game plan towards homeownership in the next 18 months or less. Brenda Dixon, Dixon Realty Since 1991, 27 yrs. F/T expertise. Brenda@get-thatdeed.com.

NABVETS scholarship presented to Tyler Bloodworth

SUBMITTED BY DIANNE JINWRIGHT

Some of the members of the Wilmington Chapter of the National Association For Black Veterans (NABVETS) gathered at Laney High School to present Tyler Jackson Bloodworth with a Certificate of Scholarship and a \$500.00 check.

Tyler graduated from Laney HS with a 3.38 GPA and will be attending NC A&T University in the Fall of 2020, majoring in Engineering.

His Grandfather, Dan Bloodworth is a US Army Vietnam Veteran. You can reach the Wilmington Chapter of NABVETS at nabvets0042@gmail.com.



MEMBERS OF THE WILMINGTON CHAPTER OF NABVETS PRESENTING TYLER BLOODWORTH CERTIFICATE AND \$500 CHECK



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Tell them you read it in THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL



Mrs. Melvenia Benbow

Mrs. Melvenia Benbow Gibbs, 79, of Greer, South Carolina, passed on Saturday, May 9, 2020, at Manning Place. She was the daughter of the late Charlie Benbow and Caroline James.

Melvenia received her formal education in the New Hanover County School System. She was a graduate of Williston Senior High School. She was formerly employed at New Hanover Regional Medical Center for over 40 years in the Food Service Department.

God blessed her with an infectious smile that would affect everyone she encountered. She was a loving, dedicated mother who was always available for her children. She instilled Christian values in her children. Her favorite scripture was Proverbs 22:6, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

She was preceded in death by her spouse, Alonzo Wellington Gibbs; a daughter, Debra E. Benbow; a brother, Charlie Benbow, Jr., her father, Charlie Benbow, Sr.; and her mother, Carolina James.

Left to cherish many fond memories are six daughters, Terry Wise of Wilmington, NC, Alvenia (James) Parson of Newport News, VA, Sherry (Thomas) Dendy of Greer, SC, Shenita (Rev. Dr. Anthony) Josey of Clarksburg, MD, Meryle (Brad) Leonard of Mooresville, NC, and Quessie Jones of Wilmington, NC; one son, Todd Wise of Atlanta, GA; one sister, Ernestine Lewis of Wilmington, NC; fourteen grandchildren; twelve great-grandchildren; one great-great-grand-children; special friends, Jean Brinson of Leland, NC, Victoria Canty of Wilmington, NC, and the Dawkins Family of Greer, SC; and a host of other relatives and friends. *Watkins Garrett & Woods Mortuary Inc.*

Toma Tarrant

Toma Tarrant died May 29, 2020. Funeral services were held on Saturday, June 6, 2020 at Willie L. Shaw Jr. Memorial Chapel.

Toma "Peewee" was born on March 8, 1979 to Judy Bell and James Green. At an early age Toma found God. He went to John T. Hoggard High School and studied at Central Carolina Community College. He was well on his way of completing his goal of becoming one of the best barbers in the area.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother, Odessa Green; grandfather, Savanas Green; aunt, Olivia Tarrant and brother, George "Nuky" Tarrant. Toma leaves to cherish his memories: his wife, Terrika Tarrant; daughter, Taliyah Tarrant; mother, Judy Bell; father, James Ernest Green; sister, Angel Bell; brother, Terrill Bell; nephew, Davian Terrill Bell; a host of aunts, uncles and cousins. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Jacqueline Bellamy

Jacqueline Bellamy died May 31, 2020. Graveside services were held Friday, June 5, 2020 at Marsh Branch Cemetery of Winnabow, NC.

"Jackie" was the daughter of the late Mamie Jones Fullwood and William Israel Gore. She was raised and nurtured by the late Cora and Pembroke Clark. She nursed and attended to many family and community members until her demise. "Jackie" joined Kendall Chapel AME in 1952. As a member of Kendall Chapel AME, she became a steward and a Class leader for #1 which has afforded Jackie many opportunities to mentor. God has also exalted her in that respect. She attended Southport school system and graduated in 1956 being salutatorian of her class, being the second ranked academically in grade point average. "Jackie" married Joe Bellamy May 7th 1961 who is left to cherish her memories of 59 years. She briefly attended Southeastern Community College after graduation with a focus in Early Childhood Development. "Jackie" worked as a Teacher's Assistant for 6 years in Brunswick County Public Schools and 25 years as a Nurses' Assistant by taking care of the sick and elderly. She has been a "Florence Nightingale" to

many. "Jackie" became a member of the Order of Eastern Star, Rose of Sharon #555 PHA from 1968 to current. She served as Worthy Matron for Rose of Sharon from 1993 to 1998. She was appointed as a Grand Officer holding the Star Point of Ada for the State of North Carolina, Order of Easter Star, Prince Hall Affiliate from 2000 to 2002 of which she resigned that position to assume care for her husband. "Jackie" joined the Daughters of Isis, Habib Temple #159 in Wilmington North Carolina since 1998 to current. She served as Commandress from 2001 to 2003. She has worked expeditiously with Rose of Sharon #555 and Habib Temple#159 and was committed to serve. "Jackie" has been Lay President, served as delegate and alternate delegate for the North Carolina Lay and General conference, pianist and organist, Choir musical director, Missionary President, Sunday School Teacher and Leader, Treasurer as well as Mentor for her community by having made a significant positive impact and contribution to Kendall Chapel AME Church family. Some of the community that she nurtured preceding her in death are, Uncle Pembroke Clark, Aunt Cora Clark, Lawrence Clark-"Stormy", Willie Wilson-"Shorty," Alice Walls and Mamie Jones Fullwood just to name a few; also nurtured Cousin Clarence Jones, Ms. Dora Vaught and Ms. Bessie. And there's so many more whose names I am unable to recall at this time.

She is survived by her husband, Joe, one daughter, Deborah Fullwood Green and her husband Thomas; she has two beloved grandchildren, Breana Alexis and Jada Aranelle Green, "special" cousins Talmadge Jones of Marina Beach Ca., Mary Davis of Wilmington, N.C. Rossie Green of Brooklyn, New York; Frances Davis of Suffolk, Va. Bernard Bellamy of Lakeland, FL ; "special" nephew, Rudolph Bellamy Jr. (Lenora) "special" nieces, Tquana Toney and Anita Clark, "special stepson" Quincy Jones " 1/2 Pint " and a host of other maternal & paternal cousins, relatives & friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Nelson Webb, Jr.

Nelson Webb, Jr., died June 1, 2020. Memorial

services will be held 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 13, 2020 at Willie L. Shaw Jr. Memorial Chapel. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Emil Glen

Emil Glen died on June 4, 2020. Memorial Services will be held at a later date. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Arthur James, Jr.

Arthur James, Jr., died June 5, 2020. Memorial Services will be held at a later date. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Annie Mitchell

Annie Mitchell died Sunday, June 7, 2020. Graveside services will be held 11:00 AM on Saturday, June 13, 2020 at Greenlawn Memorial Park. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Diane Sweezy

Diane Sweezy died Monday, June 8, 2020. Visitation only will be held 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 13, 2020. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Carl Vernon

Carl Vernon died June 9, 2020. Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced later by John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

In Loving Memory Of



Homer W. Fennell, Jr.

Sunrise: January 20, 1943
Sunset: May 30, 2019

The family

In Loving Memory Of



Loraine Patricia Raynor "Little Mama"

Sunrise: June 7, 1943
Sunset: March 1, 2010

We love and miss you very much!

Michael Sr., Vanessa, Michael II, Sobin and Vianca Murray



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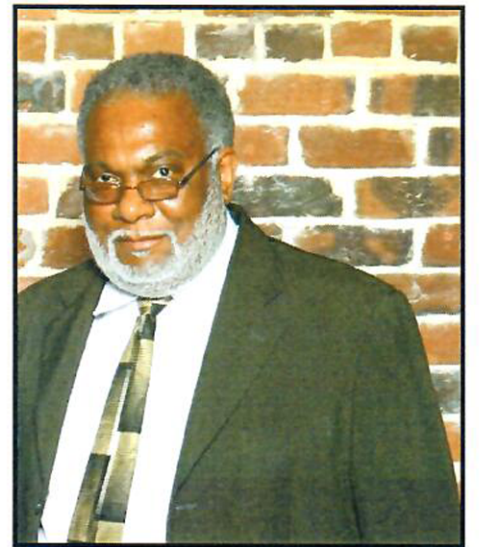
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Samuel Drain, Jr. and Allene Drain
In Memoriam



Connie Drain Green
Funeral Director



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TELL SOMEBODY

"He that hat pity on the poor lendeth unto the Lord and that which he hath given will he pay him again." Proverbs 19:17

Remember- To call to mind

Most of us were not born with a silver spoon in our mouths; and many of us have to admit we came up on the rough side of the mountain. We have first hand knowledge of what it means to be poor.

should remember the poor! But for the grace of God, there go I.....

When the Love of God is in our hearts, we cannot ignore and overlook poverty.

Proverbs 28:7 says, He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack: but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse."

"Remember the poor"



Sylvia Hooper

not even miss whatever you gave away. We cannot shut up our bowels of compassion regarding the estate of the poor.

Giving to the poor is making a spiritual investment into the lives of others and our own heavenly bank account.

repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? Or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?" Numbers 23:19

"Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble." Psalm 41:1 As Christian Believers, we need to stand up and be counted among those who are coming to the aid of the poor,

"Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my

Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me.

Poor!

Mrs. Sylvia B. Hooper is a native Wilmingtonian, married to Pastor Johnson A. Hooper, First Lady of Faith Outreach COGIC, Jacksonville, N.C.

A WORD FROM THE LORD

God Is our helper

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore (because of this reason), will we not fear, though the earth be removed."

When people are attacked either verbally or physically, it is natural to want to strike back. This is for mere men.

Our weapons are no longer carnal, with sticks and stones and verbal attacks, but mighty to the pulling down of strong holds and everything that will exalt itself against the word of God.

everything that raises itself up against the word of God. There's always a better way in God. Who are we listening to? You decide who's your lawyer.

We're not in a toy shop like a kid and overwhelmed by so

many choices to make. One choice is all we as the people of God need. God says too, in Joshua 24:14-15. After God reminded Israel of the long path that he brought them through and his protection, he graciously covered them in, beginning on the other side of the flood and then with Abraham.

Joshua 24:24 "And the people said unto Joshua The Lord our God will we serve, and his voice will be obey. We need to remember what he has done before and that when we meet the conditions, yes, he'll do it again because he does not change.

Prayer and faith works in combination to solve any problem. Our lawyer doesn't want us to take charge of the case. Jesus says, I will fight your bat-

tle. But we must ask him in faith and see the salvation of the Lord. Remember, people of God, he really hasn't changed. What He did before, He'll do it again. When we don't know what to do in any situation, Jesus says, I am your God.

Prayer and faith works in combination to solve any problem. Our lawyer doesn't want us to take charge of the case. He just needs you to read his credentials of what he has been able to

accomplish in every case presented to him. In biblical s to be engaged. He asks for you to be present in agreement to what he has presented about himself and confident that he is able to days, many times a stone acted as a reminder of covenant.

But we must ask him in faith to see the salvation of the Lord. Remember, people of God, he really hasn't changed. What He did before, He'll do it again. When we don't know what to do in any situation, Jesus says, I am your God.

himself. He has placed in us the power to choose his method and not to lean on our own understanding which is full of fear and doubt.

The promises of God are to all people, which includes you. Love is inclusive and let's not repeat what men will say for whatever reason. Men can not define you. Men cannot even define themselves.

This week's article is written by Thelma Fullwood.

The Black church faces an atypical crisis

BY LISA OLIVIA FITCH, EDITOR IN CHIEF, OUR WEEKLY NEWS

If a Tsunami happens on the other side of the world, some may be unaware and unaffected. Others may hear the news and be aware of the disaster, but still be unaffected.

But then there are those affected by the crisis and those who are deeply impacted. Relatives are lost, homes are lost, friends are lost, income is lost.

Blacks in the U.S. have been disproportionately affected during the pandemic. Although African Americans only compose 6 percent of the population in the state of California, Blacks comprise 10.6 percent of the COVID-19 deaths.

"Some of us are only two degrees away from a COVID death — we know someone who knows someone," said Dr. Erica Holmes, executive director of the Champion Counseling Center at Faithful Central Bible Church.

During a recent meeting organized by Anchor of Hope Ministries, a local, faith-

based nonprofit assisting the formerly incarcerated, Holmes stated that the Black church has historically been centered to meet the community's needs in a variety of ways.

"Often, Blacks could not access governmental services," Holmes said. "The church was the entity in the black community that met the needs of the oppressed."

After slavery and during the civil rights era and beyond, Black churches gave rise to community businesses, schools, banks insurance companies and the like.

"Black churches were 'one-stop shops' because other means of access to community services were off limits," Holmes said.

Holmes pointed to a recent Pew Research Center study that concluded that Blacks still have close ties to churches, as 47 percent of Black adults surveyed said that they attended religious services, compared to 39 percent of Latinx and 34 percent of Whites.

An additional Pew poll showed that 43 percent of Black adults say they look to their religion for guidance on right and wrong.

"It speaks to the power of the pulpit," Holmes said. "It's important for the church to have accurate information to keep their congregations safe. How are those individuals who visit the pews one, two, or three times a week impacted?"

"They are looking to you to help them understand," Holmes said. "Maybe they need to hear that the governor of California said it's not safe yet, so sit back. You must be able to address the reali-

ties of life right now." Holmes also noted a silver lining, in that the crisis brought technology to some churches.

"With this pandemic, there has been a major reorganization, but we must see the opportunities as well," she said. "Like being able to use things like zoom, Facebook and telephone trees, where members are calling at least two other members per day. Those people are interacting with people they hadn't interacted with in the sanctuary."

Additionally, persons who already had difficulties surviving day-to-day before the crisis, may have those difficulties exacerbated, Holmes explained.

"Because their equilibrium is thrown off, they can't usually find a way of coping and dealing with these new feelings," she said. "It's important for us in the faith community to pay attention to things we might see."

Holmes explained that even though church leaders are not face-to-face with members, they should still be on the watch — via phone calls or internet services — for any signs of abuse that may be triggered by the current stay-at-home order.

"Does the child have on a turtleneck shirt when it's 80 degrees outside?" Holmes asked. "Are the parents yelling at the kids in the background? These individuals don't feel that the safer at home order accurately describes their situation."

Holmes attends debriefing meetings with the County Department of Public Health each Thursday.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health



"It speaks to the power of the pulpit," said Dr. Erica Holmes, executive director of the Champion Counseling Center at Faithful Central Bible Church. "It's important for the church to have accurate information to keep their congregations safe. How are those individuals who visit the pews one, two, or three times a week impacted?" (Photo: iStockphoto / NNPA)

has guidelines for faith-based communities at http://ph.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/GuidanceFaithBasedOrgsEnglish.pdf.

Limited attendance at funerals and weddings is allowed following the guidelines. All other in-person gatherings are prohibited. Worship service must be live-streamed, recorded, or taped.

Cemeteries and crematoriums are able to provide direct burials and cremation servic-

es but without a gathering of people. Immediate family members who live together and a faith leader may gather in person at a cemetery but are encouraged to reach out directly to the funeral home to understand specific protocols and whether they provide livestream services.

"Faith leaders clearly have a key role to play in offering comfort and care to Los Angeles County at a time when illness, isolation and economic hardship come together to burden so many residents and communities,"

the department writes in its "Guidance for Faith-Based Organizations" piece. "We ask for your support and leadership in helping us mitigate those burdens by reducing the spread of COVID-19, assuring optimal care for those who become ill, and speeding community recovery."

Holmes encouraged her fellow church leaders to speak life into the current situation.

"The parishioners need to hear how the church is planning for the future," Holmes said. "What is our next step? How are we going to address the 'new normal.'"

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The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Charles Ramsaur Youngblood, 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 28th day of August, 2020...

This 28th day of May, 2020.

Bruce A. Chappell, Jr., Executor of the Estate of Charles Ramsaur Youngblood
6401 Quail Run Road
Wilmington, NC 28409
MURCHISON, TAYLOR & GIBSON, PLLC
1979 Eastwood Rd, Suite 101
Wilmington, NC 28403

May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 2020

NOTICE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Anna W. Newbold, 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 28th day of August, 2020...

This 28th day of May, 2020.

Commercial Bank & Trust of PA, Executor of the Estate of Anna W. Newbold
19 North Main Street
Greensburg, PA 15601
MURCHISON, TAYLOR & GIBSON, PLLC
1979 Eastwood Rd, Suite 101
Wilmington, NC 28403

May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 2020

NOTICE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of John Charles Hodell, deceased, of New Hanover County, North Carolina, do hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of September 2020...

This 11th day of June, 2020.

Judith Ann Hodell, Executrix of the Estate of John Charles Hodell
1480 Avenida Rincon 102
Santa Fe, NM 87506
MURCHISON, TAYLOR & GIBSON, PLLC
1979 Eastwood Road, Suite 101
Wilmington, NC 28403

June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2020

NOTICE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of French Lewis, deceased, of New Hanover County, North Carolina, do hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of September 2020...

This 11th day of June, 2020.

Gregory Neal Lewis, Executor of the Estate of French Lewis
2103 Mederia Court
Wilmington, NC 28405
MURCHISON, TAYLOR & GIBSON, PLLC
1979 Eastwood Road, Suite 101
Wilmington, NC 28403

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NOTICE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of Lucile B. Whedbee, 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 11th day of September, 2020...

This 11th day of June, 2020.

Carole W. Ellis, Executrix of the Estate of Lucile B. Whedbee
3817 Sweetbriar Rd
Wilmington, NC 28403
MURCHISON, TAYLOR & GIBSON, PLLC
1979 Eastwood Rd, Suite 101
Wilmington, NC 28403

June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

The undersigned, having qualified on the 4th day of June, 2020 as Executor of the Estate of Edward Lee Crumdy (2020-E-539), deceased, this is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against said Estate that they must present them to the undersigned at Post Office Box 1672, Wilmington, North Carolina 28402 on or before the 9th day of September, 2020...

This the 5th day of June 2020.

Thomas Crumdy
Executrix of the Estate of Edward Lee Crumdy
c/o Gwendolyn Burrell, Attorney at Law
Post Office Box 1672
Wilmington, North Carolina 28402

June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2020

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER IN THE DISTRICT COURT JUVENILE SESSION FILE NO. 18 JA 78

IN THE MATTER OF: E.B.G. (dob: 02 June 2004) TO: RESPONDENT-FATHER, JOSE BONILLA GAMEZ

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:

Adjudication of Juvenile Petition filed on April 16, 2020 alleging that E.B.G. is a dependent juvenile.

You are required to make defense to such pleading within forty (40) days following Thursday, May 28, 2020, which date is the date of first publication of this Notice. Upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought. You have the right to attend this hearing and you have the right to be represented by counsel. Attorney Jennifer Harjo has been assigned to represent you. Counsel may be contacted at (910) 343-5400, 320 Chestnut Street, Suite 201, Wilmington, NC 28401.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A HEARING TO ADJUDICATE THE JUVENILE PETITION IS SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2020, AT 9:30 A.M., or upon a date and time set thereafter, at the New Hanover County Courthouse, 316 Princess Street, Courtroom 100, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401.

This the 28th day of May, 2020.

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

May 28, June 4, 11, 2020

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER FILE NO. 19 E 1560

Deana Leigh Prestwood, having qualified as Administratrix of the Estate of Shirley Nadean Burns, deceased, late of New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 5725 Oleander Drive, Suite C-3, Wilmington, NC 28403 on or before the 21st day of August, 2020...

This the 21st day of May, 2020.

Deana Leigh Prestwood, Administratrix
c/o D. Robert Williams, Jr., Esq.
Price & Williams, P.A.
Attorneys at Law
5725 Oleander Drive, Suite C-3
Wilmington, NC 28403
(910) 791-9422 phone
(910) 791-0432 fax

May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Martha LeAnne Jeffords (20-E-459), 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 21, 2020...

This the 19th day of May, 2020.

Kevin Scott Groves
c/o Craige & Fox, PLLC
701 Market Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

May 21, 28, June 4, 7, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of Teresa Mawson (20-E-479), 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 28, 2020...

This the 22nd day of May, 2020.

Beverly Cochran
c/o Craige & Fox, PLLC
701 Market Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Laura Lee Billings (20-E-490), 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 September 11, 2020...

This the 9th day of June, 2020.

Charlotte Noel Fox
Craige & Fox, PLLC
701 Market Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

The undersigned, having qualified as Co-Administrators of the estate of Julia Ann Simpson Smith, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of September, 2020...

This the 11th day of June, 2020

Jeffrey R. Smith, Co-Administrator
215 S. 14th Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
Stephanie V. Simpson, Co-Administrator
4902 Apt. D Spring Lake Drive
Charlotte, NC 28212

June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2020

EMPLOYMENT

Director of HCV Program

The Housing Authority of the City of Wilmington is seeking to fill the Director of Housing Choice Voucher position. A copy of the full job descriptions can be accessed from the website at www.wha.net. The Housing Authority provides a generous benefit package. Salary will be commensurate with experience and education. Submit a cover letter, resume, Wilmington Housing Authority employment application and three professional references to Job Search, Attention: Human Resources Department, PO Box 899, Wilmington, NC 28402 or email to jobs@wha.net...

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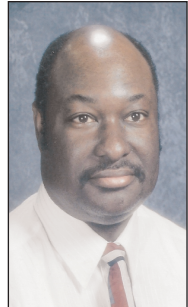

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