

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



INTERIM CHIEF DONNY WILLIAMS

"Wilmington Police Chief Donny Williams"

BY WILMINGTON JOURNAL EDITORIAL BOARD PAGE 4

BRUNSWICK COUNTY



BERNEST HEWETT

FREEDOM AND JUSTICE

BY BERNEST HEWETT CONTRIBUTING WRITER

We have speeches and marches in a lot of towns and cities, people reaching out to people of color, saying, "We feel your pain. We know your fight. We believe in the cause. Let's sit down at the table and talk about race." We find that these words were spoken when Dr. King was killed, and yet, years since his death, we hear these words again. We must keep the battle going strong and keep our minds on the prize that will improve our lives. We don't need a great deal of fancy talk and instant show that will soon

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THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 93/No. 25

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Police protesters lodge seven demands to Wilmington City Council

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

The energy from the ongoing demonstrations after the police killing of George Floyd is still strong in Wilmington, with demonstrators Tuesday demanding changes in police and social service funding.

They also demanded that Wilmington Interim Police Chief Donny Williams be made permanent chief after four months in office.

Chanting "BLACK LIVES MATTER, BLACK LIVES MATTER," the Wilmington Advocacy and Protest Organization (WAPO), presented its of demands to the

Wilmington City Council Tuesday during what they called their "Occupy the City Council Meeting" protest.

WAPO protesters marched from the steps of City Hall to the Convention Center where the Council meeting was being held.

Because of crowd limitations due to COVID-19 restrictions, only a few WAPO members were allowed into the meeting, but they did present their list of demands, which included:

- 1. Five million dollars re-allocated for community led

Please see DEMANDS/Page 2



INTERIM CHIEF DONNY WILLIAMS

Wilmington Police Department responds to June 16 Protest Five arrested

COMPILED BY STAFF OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Jessica Williams, Communications Specialist of the Wilmington Police Department issued on Wednesday the following summary of Tuesday night's events:

On Tuesday, June 16, roughly 100 protesters came to the city council meeting held at the Wilmington Convention Center. Only 38 people were allowed inside, due to COVID-19 restrictions, and the remainder of the group continued protesting outside the main entrance by the Cape Fear River.

Toward the end of the meeting, Lily Nicole, who is one of the protest organiz-

Please see WPD RESPONDS/Page 2

Community leaders meet with Brunswick sheriff about policing concerns

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

In the aftermath of George Floyd's death, Brunswick County Sheriff John W. Ingram has been petitioned by community leaders and citizens to ban the further use of "knee holds and chokeholds"; review "all local and county law enforcement officer records of disciplining or charging officers that have been charged with misconduct; and "...immediately review their respective "Use of Force Continuum" to ensure that they have at least six levels of steps, with clear rules on

escalation," among other requests.

At a June 5 meeting, Carl Parker, President, Brunswick County NAACP; along with Deborah Dicks Maxwell, President, New Hanover County NAACP and District Director, Walter B. White District of the NC NAACP; and a group of other community members, met with Sheriff Ingram, and presented him their list of "six points of action" designed to forge a better relationship between the

Please see CONCERNS/Page 2



NAACP PRESIDENT CARL PARKER



REV. DANTE MURPHY

Pender NAACP calls for superintendent's resignation

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

The Pender County NAACP president wants Pender County Schools' superintendent, Dr. Steven Hill, to resign, alleging that he has tolerated White teachers' "openly" using racial slurs at Pender High School since last October but has done nothing about it.

Chapter president, Rev. Dante Murphy, who led a group of citizens and Black Lives Matter members to protest and speak out during the Pender County School Board meeting Tuesday night at Topsail High School in Hampstead, also alleged in a prior press release

The abusive use of attorneys in covering up child sexual misconduct occur-

Please see MURPHY/Page 3

Brunswick Democratic party chair, NAACP call for GOP commissioner's resignation behind "racist" comments

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Tom Sapp, Chairman, Brunswick County Democratic Party, has called for the resignation of County Commissioner Mike Forte after the Republican posted what Sapp called in a June 14, 2020, "letter to the editor" "...deplorable," and "...racist" posts on his Facebook page opining about the



BRUNSWICK DEMOCRATIC PARTY CHAIR TOM SAPP



COUNTY COMMISSIONER MIKE FORTE

Please see FORTE/Page 2

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

The Staff and Management of The Wilmington Journal



THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

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BRUNSWICK

Continued from Page 1

fade away as we find ourselves back to the same routine of unjust acts and rules that enslave us. We must go to the table and have a talk with our elected officials and let them know that there is a problem in the neighborhood and the county where I live. We need to put the problems into their hands face to face, where there is no doubt about the problems and where they are and what needs to be done about them. We need to start working on solutions. There doesn't need to be "let's put all these problems behind and let's start anew." That's not the solution to the problem. It has been brought to life. Now we need to begin to work on a solution. You can't work on a problem if you don't know where it came from or how it got started. You must know where you want to go. Our problems are overlooked and pushed under the feet of society until there is an overflow of emotions and all the wrong comes to light, and the nation sees it.

We must now work at freedom and justice. The Lord has again opened up doors for us and we must sit down and talk. Marching is good, but let's talk to the "powers that be"! Bernest Hewett is President Emeritus of the Brunswick County Branch of the NAACP.

DEMANDS

Continued from Page 1

restorative justice. 2. Citizen Review Board with subpoena power and

budget power. 3. Required therapy and anonymous access to Employee Assistance Programs (EAPs). 4. Required cultural competency and training on

local history. 5. Mandatory use of body cams when engaging with the public. 6. De-prioritize misdemeanor drug offenses 7. Instate Chief Williams

as official police chief. Despite wanted changes to the new \$35 million budget, the Council passed it without reducing any funding for the Police Department Mayor Bill Saffo said Interim Chief

Williams indicated that he needs an adequate funding level to maintain safety in the city. The Council did not address Interim Chief Williams' tenure.

WPD RESPONDS

Continued from Page 1

ers, was given the opportunity to speak even though she was not on the agenda. Due to her behavior while speaking, she was escorted out of the convention center, where she then led the rest of the crowd around to Nutt Street and blocked all parking deck exits. Officers had to escort one of

the convention center workers out of the parking deck while the crowd attempted to block the officers in with a vehicle and with their bodies. Officers were able to get the worker out safely, but the crowd was growing increasingly hostile.

The protesters attempted to block council members from leaving the building. At that time, the Wilmington Police Department Mobile Field Force was deployed to

form a protective wall to move the crowd back so council members could get out safely.

After briefly standing on Nutt St., the crowd moved over to City Hall, where they blocked 3rd St. Police gave the group several warnings over a 15-minute period, explaining why it was unlawful to sit or stand in the road, but the protesters still refused to move. Officers then arrested:

Zachary Alan Ulrich, 30. Jarod David Nizen, 22. Brandon Zachary Odeh, 25. Israel A. Sorenson, 28. Christopher S. Haynes, 31. All five individuals were charged with Impeding Traffic and Failure to Disperse on Command, and received a \$1,000 unsecured bond.

In the midst of the arrests, one individual was sprayed with OC spray (pepper spray) after shoving a New

Hanover County Sheriff's deputy. This is the only use of force the Wilmington Police Department is aware of.

Following the arrest of the 5th person, the crowd moved over to the sidewalk but were still agitated and hostile, stating they were going to stay there until all five of the people arrested returned. When the situation settled down, officers cleared the area but continued to monitor the situation.

CONCERNS

Continued from Page 1

Brunswick Black community and local law enforcement.

"This group came together in an effort to have honest and candid conversations about the events happening around our country in terms of race relations, discord and mistrust between the Black community and law enforcement, concerns of police brutality against African Americans, and ways we can work together to enact change," a Brunswick NAACP press release about the meeting said.

According to the release, Mr. Parker introduced the following statement to Sheriff Ingram:

"The Brunswick County Branch of NAACP was saddened along with the world by the untimely and unwarranted death of George Floyd. Our branch issued a press release to thank Sheriff Ingram, the NC Sheriff's Association and all local police chiefs that condemned that unconscionable death. We here in Brunswick County are angry like the rest of the Nation, but we are turning our "Anger into Action." Protesting has its place, but to create a more just and equitable system, there are other things that need to occur. Aligning with our national NAACP leadership, these are our six points of action that we ask you to act upon immediately":

• As a community body, will the towns, cities and

Brunswick County immediately identify if each governmental body has a standing Citizen's Review Board (These should be "Review" boards, not "Advisory" boards), with subpoena power? If no review board, our municipalities should identify what accountability structures they currently have in place.

• Will all the local law enforcement agencies and Sheriff's Office immediately review their respective "Use of Force Continuum" to ensure that they have at least 6 levels of steps, with clear rules on escalation?

• Will all local law enforcement agencies and Sheriff's Office immediately ban the use of "knee holds and chokeholds" and deem this practice as unacceptable in Use of Force Continuums?

• Will the Sheriff's Office immediately ask or conduct a review of NC State's Open Records Acts to determine if local law enforcement and/or sheriff officer's misconduct information and disciplinary histories are shielded from the public?

• Will the Sheriff's Office immediately review all local and county law enforcement officer records of disciplining or charging Officers that have been charged with misconduct?

• Will all local law enforcement agencies and the Sheriff's Office formally support and request that the Governor of the State of North Carolina establish a State-wide review board to examine events where Police and Sheriff Officers use deadly force and the results of such examina-

tions be tied to re-certification credentials?

• Meeting participants include - Sheriff John W. Ingram; Chief Deputy Charlie Miller; Carl Parker, NAACP; Deborah Dicks Maxwell, NAACP; Brayton Willis, NAACP, Sonya Patrick, Black Lives Matter; Dr. Jerry Oates, BC Schools Superintendent; Lynda Stanley; Jwantana Gardner-Frink; Audrey Smith; Samantha Ingram; David Boynton; Emmanuel Price; Brian Sanders; Elizabeth Bynum; Rev. Cameron Hankins; Felicia Woodard; Lamar Siler; Judge Pauline Hankins; Troy Simmons; Karla Stanley; Tiffany Fullwood; Rev. Lavar Marlow

A follow-up meeting will be scheduled for some time in July.

FORTE

Continued from Page 1

massive demonstrations in the aftermath of the George Floyd police killing.

In Forte's post, he lamented "All Whites should give their homes and wealth to a Black family"; "All Whites are racist"; "Remove historic statues because they offend" and "Defund Police Departments" as just a few of 20 apparent list unjust grievances against White people.

Commissioner Forte ended his grievance list with "ARE YOU WOKE YET?" This is an apparent snide backhand to the social justice mantra of being socially conscious, or "woke."

Brunswick Democratic Party Chair Sapp was not amused. "As you can see, it is tone deaf to the events happening around the country as well as absolutely false in many of the points listed," Chairman Sapp wrote. "What makes this posting so deplorable is the fact that the taxpayers of Brunswick County pay Mr. Forte a salary and expenses to represent the people of this county. However, if that salary was as an employee of Brunswick County, he would have likely been dismissed as have other county employees in the past few days due to their own social posts that were deemed inappropriate."

Sapp goes on. "Another sad point is that no other commissioner or Republican elected official has spoken out about this absolutely racist posting that only can do one thing, and that is to keep this nation apart. While many Americans are starting to understand the facts of systemic abuse of African-Americans in this country, one commissioner and his party continue to stand in the way of true freedom and justice for all, no matter the cost to the citizens of this country, state, and county. Of course, the same party members and others who stand

silent on Mr. Forte's posting will certainly have something to say about my comments. It will range from law and order to the adoration for a flag of a failed nation based on human bondage for economic posterity."

"Mr. Forte should resign," Chairman Sapp continued, "... and the county and state Republican party should call for the same."

Carl Parker, President, Brunswick County NAACP, issued a release late Tuesday evening supporting a petition for Commissioner Forte to "immediately step down."

"This is a disgusting level of ignorance that's painful to see coming from anyone, much less an elected official," Mr. Parker said. "No, we will not go backwards here in Brunswick County. We condemn his racist remarks and regard them as a prime example of why he neither has the maturity, wisdom, knowledge, nor common

decency to further represent the citizens of Brunswick County."

"In addition to being an affront to our community and an insult to our membership, Mr. Forte's post is in direct violation of both the Commissioners Code of Conduct and the Commissioners Code of Ethics as stated on the Brunswick County website," Mr. Parker continued. "The times we are in dictate that we not sit idly by while someone who is elected to serve ALL the citizens of Brunswick County spouts hate and division. Therefore, I urge you to join me and hundreds of other county residents in signing this petition demanding Mike Forte's resignation."

Commissioner Forte is a retired businessman from New Jersey, who moved to Brunswick County in 2005. He was elected to the Brunswick County Commission Board in 2015.

Mike Forte

Yesterday at 9:35 PM

So lets take a minute to observe what has occurred in the last 15 days... NFL, Nascar allow kneeling during the National Anthem. NFL to fly BLM flag under American flag. Demand Colon Kapernic gets a job and back-pay. Defund Police Departments. Loot and riot causing hundreds of millions in damage. Demand \$12 Trillion in reparations. Rename military bases. Ban police from college campus because it scares students. Demand Trump/taxpayers pay for looting damages. Remove historic statues because they offend. Gone with the Wind movie removed. Cops tv show removed. ALL whites are racist. Cops gunned down. Destroying property is "not violence". Judges and DA's will not prosecute. 2nd Amendment under attack including in cartoons. Remove GOD from the oath and pledge of allegiance. All whites should give their homes and wealth to a black family. Suspended accounts of conservatives on social media.

ARE YOU WOKE YET!

119

38 Comments 27 Shares

RACIST FACE BOOK PAGE

POWER1220AM WENC Whiteville, North Carolina Godwin Communication, LLC Godwin Communications passion is to inspire people through good radio programming that uplift, motivate and empower people to achieve greatness. Our local station WENC has served Columbus County and surrounding areas since 1974. We are committed to providing the highest quality of service. Our goal is to introduce a wholesome format with positive connotations to assist the spiritual growth of our listeners. We feel this goal is attainable because of our coverage. Our station broadcasts National News and Sports from the NBC and NC Network. The coverage of WENC is Southeastern North Carolina and Northeastern South Carolina, which includes Bladen, Horry, Roberson, and Columbus counties. Interested in Career Opportunities at Godwin Communications, Give us a Call. Godwin Communications, LLC 108 Radio Station Rd Whiteville, North Carolina 28472 Tel: (910) 642-2133 Website: www.power1220am.com Email: anesha@embarqmail.com

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

--AN AFRICAN PROVERB

The Reverend Barber leads "Poor People's" Virtual Assembly on June 20th

BY CASH MICHAELS
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

It is touted to be "the largest digital gathering of poor, dispossessed and impacted people, faith leaders and people of conscience..." and, led by Rev. Dr. William Barber, former President, NC NAACP. It's happening this Saturday, June 20, 2020.

"The Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival" is sponsoring the national digital event from Washington, D.C. "...to dramatize the pain and prophetic leadership of the poor..." effectively "waking the nation to the interlocking injustices facing 140 million poor and low income people, 43 percent of the nation."

The Mass Poor People's Assembly and Moral March was originally planned to be a mass gathering and procession on the streets of our nation's Capital. The COVID-19 pandemic dramatically changed those plans.

It is certainly no accident that this event is taking place during a crucial election year. Rev. Barber, president of social justice group "Repairers of the Breach," and co-chair of the Poor People's Campaign, along with Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis, Director of the Kairos Center at



THE REVEREND WILLIAM BARBER

Union Theological Seminary, says the virtual mass assembly and march is designed to "organize towards collective action to enact a moral agenda" for the nation and "...demands that [Democrats and Republicans] address the interlocking injustices of systemic racism, poverty,

ecological devastation, militarism and the distorted moral narrative of religious nationalism..."

Ultimately, both Reverends Barber and Theoharis hope that the collective energy generated by the Mass Poor People's Assembly and Moral March on Washington will

translate into a greater voice for poor people at the polls this November and beyond.

"If the rejected millions, the poor without health insurance, without living wages, without clean water, without voting protections, unite, we can move the moral and political imagi-

nation of this country and revive the heart of our democracy," they say.

The event has taken on more significance since the racial deaths of Aundrea Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd. In an "Open Letter to Our Nation's Lawmakers on Systematic Racism, the

Poor People's Campaign wrote:

We lift up those who are taking action against police brutality and all forms of violence against Black, brown, indigenous and poor people. Our collective public mourning is an expression of outrage, anguish, and pain from these multiple pandemics of police violence, policy violence, and economic violence. We are committed to ending systemic racism, poverty, militarism, climate crisis and a distorted moral narrative that denies, excuses and justifies violence against us.

"We need sweeping change. The long train of abuses demand it. Too many deaths demand it, and the protests demand it.

We demand that our politicians address the full extent of this violence - not only the police violence - that we have been suffering from for generations.

Somebody's been hurting our people for far too long. And we won't be silent anymore."

The Mass Poor People's Assembly and Moral March on Washington, a digital virtual event, will be a two hour program to be broadcast on Saturday, June 20, at 10:00 a. m. and 6:00 p. m. and again on Sunday, June 21 at 6:00 p. m. Visit June2020.org to tune in.

MURPHY

Continued from Page 1

ring within the schools.

- A lack of urgency in responding and bringing closure to several allega-

tions of misconduct occurring within the [school] system.

-A culture of intimidation and fear by administrators speaking out against racism in the district.

A spokesman for the

Pender County Board of Education indicated that an outside law firm, Blue LLC, has been hired to conduct a third-party investigation into the racial allegations, which were first reported on Facebook by a school system employee.

The Board has also requested that the Office for Civil Rights of the U.S. Dept. of Education to probe the matter as well.

Some of the signs carried by protesters at the school board meeting Tuesday night said, "What are you

teaching your child that will stop them from killing mine?"; "Black Teachers Matter! Black Students Matter and should be treated with equality!" and "You Cannot Teach Black Children + Be Silent About the Injustices Against

Them!"

On Facebook, later that night, Rev. Murphy posted, "Thanks, Pender County, for standing strong for our children. We will not stop fighting and will not allow our children to be called the "N" word by school staff."

Adams files bill outlawing police chemical agents

BY CASH MICHAELS
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

During the recent peaceful demonstrations spurred by the police killing of George Floyd, police officers in Charlotte literally trapped protesters on all sides of a parking garage and then used tear gas and pepper spray on them.

A minister caught in the melee confirms that the attack by CMPD was "unprovoked."

U.S. Rep. Alma Adams (D-NC-12), who represents Charlotte - Mecklenburg in Congress, was not pleased.

"The Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department, as

well as police departments across the country, should immediately and permanently end the use of tear gas," Rep. Adams declared shortly afterwards. "Weapons that are illegal in war should never be used on American soil, especially against our own people."

This week, Adams, still angry about both the Charlotte and the Washington, D. C. incident, wherein federal officers also used chemical agents to break up peaceful demonstrators, put her lawmaking where her mouth is, and introduced "the Right to PROTEST (Protect Real Objectors Taking Exception to Systemic Transgres-

sions) Act. "Across our country, chemical agents are being used on protesters who are predominately peaceful," Rep. Adams said in a statement. "Entire groups of protesters are being made to choke on gas, as well as being subjected to pepper balls and pepper spray, for the actions of a few protesters."

"Over the past month, protesters were often the victims of indiscriminate force. On many occasions, they couldn't breathe."

"The Right to PROTEST Act makes such indiscriminate use of chemical agents a federal crime, holding all police departments nationwide accountable. We can-

not lose the trust of the public by inflicting indiscriminate punishments without judge, jury, or trial," Rep. Adams concluded.

The bill has several important co-sponsors, including Homeland Security Committee Chairman Bennie Thompson, Congresswoman Marcia Fudge, and Rep. Carolyn Maloney.

"Troops are banned from deploying tear gas and chemical agents against enemies in war, and yet we are still using it here at home. That is unacceptable," Rep. Maloney said. "I am proud to join Rep. Adams on her bill to stop



U.S. REP. ALMA ADAMS



U.S. CAROLYN MALONEY

law enforcement from indiscriminately using these tactics on Americans

demonstrating their First Amendment rights to peacefully protest.

A VOTELESS PEOPLE IS A HOPELESS PEOPLE!
KEEP HOPE ALIVE!
VOTE, VOTE, VOTE!



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.

VISUAL VOICE



MATTERS OF OPINION

OUR VOICE

Wilmington Police Chief Donny Williams

[Editor's note - The Journal first published this editorial back in February, and since then, the Wilmington City Council has done nothing. Now, the community vocally said the same thing as part of their list of demands put before the Council Tuesday night, and the Council still did nothing. So we're republishing our February 2020 editorial in support of our community's demand.]

Let's not beat around the bush here. Donny Williams should NOT be Wilmington's interim police chief.

Donny Williams SHOULD be Wilmington's police chief, PERIOD!

We know. We know. It is standard practice for the City Council to name the assistant police chief the interim police chief when the retiring police chief finally calls it a career, as former Chief Ralph Evangelous did on Feb. 1 (and we wish him well in his retirement), but let's be real. How much time do we need to know that Interim Chief Williams is a good man, strong leader, and top cop?

Even Chief Evangelous thinks so.

"For the past year and a half, I've had the pleasure of watching Assistant Chief Williams help to lead the Wilmington Police Department. His hard work and commitment to community policing continues to be an asset to our agency. I'm confident he will continue to move this agency forward, while focusing on the safety and well being of our citizens.

"I fully support the decision of the city council," Chief Evangelous concluded.

The only other endorsement that means more is from the community, and as far as we're concerned, Chief Williams already has that.

He's a Wilmington native, with over 29 years of service to the force and the people. He knows the WPD inside and out, having served in just about every official capacity.

But beyond being an officer, a police captain, a deputy chief over Special and Criminal Investigations, and overseeing the department's largest patrol division, Chief Williams has always made time for our community's youth, working to expand the Police Activities League (PAL) enrolling over 500 young people per year.

Chief Williams meets all of the requirements of experienced and educated leadership, with a BA from Mt. Olive College in Management and Organizational Development. He is also a graduate of the Administrative Officer's Management Program at NC State University.

Williams has also completed the 75th Session of Police Executive Research Forum Senior Management Institute for Police.

And last, but certainly not least, Chief Williams oversaw the design, development, and completion of the Haynes - Laceywood Police and Fire Training Facility.

There really is no need for discussion here. We have an accomplished Wilmington native already at the wheel of our city's police department, who has knocked down the door of every requirement we could ask.

So Wilmington City Council, we all know you have a thing for the dramatic, but let's be real here. Chief Williams is just about all you could ask for to ensure that the citizens of the Port City are well protected and respected.

Let's not wait six months for doing what we all know is the right thing. Make Donny Williams Wilmington's PERMANENT police chief as soon as possible!

A better servant of the people you simply will not find!

TOO BE EQUAL

Investigate not just Ahmad's death, but the system that let his killers escape

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

"The sad truth is that Ahmad's case isn't unique at all. He is a representation of the ongoing level of distrust that a large part of our communities have in law enforcement and elected officials and the importance of placing reform like-minded people in office who will uphold the highest standards of the law for everyone, regardless of color. The anger and frustration being expressed by professional athletes and people of color all over the country stems from a centuries-long thread of violence against the black body that goes without consequence or justice." - **Former NFL player Malcom Jenkins, co-founder of The Players' Coalition**

The pattern is nauseatingly familiar.

An unarmed person of color is killed by police or by self-appointed vigilantes. Authorities accept, without question, an explanation of self-defense.

It is only after the disinfecting sunlight of public attention arouses outrage that the wheels of justice begin to turn.

And so it has been for Ahmad Arbery, a 25-year-old Georgia man shot to death while jogging in February.

The 64-year-old former police investigator and his 34-year-old son who are charged in his death told police he thought Mr. Arbery looked like a man suspected in several

break-ins in the area.

No break-ins had been reported in the area for seven weeks before the shooting.

The father and son, Gregory and Travis McMichael, armed themselves and chased Ahmad in a pickup truck

before the younger man fired the fatal shots from his shotgun.

No one was arrested. Shortly afterward, the prosecutor with jurisdiction over the case recused herself, because the elder McMichael had worked in her office. The second prosecutor, whose son worked in the same office also recused himself. But before he did, he made it clear to the police that he accepted the McMichael's claim of self-defense.

By the time the New York Times published its first account of the killing, two months had passed with no arrests. It was only two weeks later, after a video of the armed chase emerged that the third prosecutor assigned to the case said he would present it to a grand jury. That same day, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation took over the case from local police. Two days later, Ahmad's attackers were arrested.

Appallingly, the defense attorney who leaked the video said he thought it would exonerate the attackers because

Ahmaud didn't freeze when the attackers told him to stop.

It boggles the mind that in the year 2020 there are still people in positions of authority who accept, unquestioningly, the notion that a Black man who fails to heed the orders of a white man on the street deserves instant death.

It seems clear that without the national attention focused on the case, there would have been no justice for Ahmad.

And that, as much as Ahmad's death itself, is what must be investigated.

This week the Washington Post revealed that the elder McMichael was stripped of his law enforcement certification and power to arrest a year more than a year before the shooting because he repeatedly failed to complete required training. He also was he was stripped of his powers to arrest people in January 2006 because of an undisclosed infraction.

Furthermore, the Glynn County Police Department, which led the investigation before the Georgia Bureau of Investigation took over the case, has a history of corruption and scandals.

Glynn County Police Chief John Powell was indicted for perjury and witness tampering four days after the Arbery shooting. He remains on administrative leave.

The police department lost its state certification in 2018 because it did not meet basic policing standards. Only 12 percent of the police force was African American, even though African Americans

make up 26 percent of the county's population.

Last year, the county's drug task force was disbanded after a state-led investigation found extensive misconduct by Glynn County officers.

A lieutenant with a long history of violent behavior shot and killed his estranged wife in 2018 before taking his own life. The wife's family is suing the department for failing to intervene.

Without the persistence of Ahmad's family to seek justice, the corruption would have been allowed to fester.

Meanwhile, another tragic killing, the death of 26-year-old Breonna Taylor, has risen to national attention. The EMT shot to death by Louisville police executing a no-knock search warrant. The police were not wearing body cameras. Her family have sued the police and the case is under review.

The National Urban League stands in solidarity with the other civil rights and social justice advocates and activists who have called on U.S. Attorney William Barr to investigate these killings and the work of the police and prosecutors involved.

An unsigned note left at the spot where Ahmad was killed reads: "Ahmaud - I am so sorry. I should have stopped them. I am so sorry." We, as a nation, should have stopped them, and must stop it from happening again.

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

Marc Morial

Bring them down

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

The aftermath and on-going circumstances of the murder of George Floyd have given each of us reasons to give focused thought to the current state of our nation. Regardless of outlook, all have been forced to take a position on where we are and where we are going as a nation. Welcomed, yet unexpected, citizens of nations throughout the world, inspired by visuals of the brutal murder of George Floyd, have also chosen this time to address the evils of abuse and oppression that impact them.

I am pleased to see the masses gathered in cities across the world expressing, with their words and bodies, unwillingness to accept injustice for themselves and for their social/cultural neighbors. They are addressing every source of oppression - from insult to injury - as a target for change, and this change, seemingly, begins with the elimination of symbols of oppression.

This is a good place to start. Few will deny the impact of symbolism on our social constructs and interaction. The symbols of our favorite teams, organi-

zations, and schools are a source of inspiration and pride. The Pentagon is symbolic of our military strength, Mt. Rushmore edifies inspirational leadership, and the Lincoln Memorial symbolizes the successful rebuff of a traitorous uprising based upon a brutal system of human

Dr. E. Faye Williams

servitude and oppression. Recently, I have awakened to the news that symbols of oppression are being rejected world-wide.

Wikipedia reports: "As part of the worldwide George Floyd protests, members of the Black Lives Matter movement have also removed or defaced statues of other historical figures that were responsible for large-scale suffering of Black people. In Bristol, UK, protesters toppled a statue of slave trader Edward Colston, who played a prominent role in the Bristol slave trade, while BLM protesters in Ghent, Belgium, vandalized a statue of King Leopold II, who caused the death of tens of millions of Congolese."

Later, I learned that NASCAR had banned the display of the Confederate flag at its events. The Marine Corps and Navy have also banned the display of the Confederate flag on their respective installations and ships. Local political leaders are planning and removing Confederate monuments while Congress has resolved to remove statues of Confederate leaders from the Capitol's Statuary Hall and to rename military installations which honor Confederate leaders.

These actions eliminate symbols that are deeply offensive to many Americans. To African Americans, the Confederate flag and other symbols embody the hatred and brutality of slavery, and discrimination in the post-Civil War America. To patriotic Americans, symbols of the Confederacy represent edification of a traitorous and defeated enemy which, despite proximity, advocated dissolution of the US.

Some argue that these symbols are cultural icons that only represent Southern Heritage. I contend that symbols of the Confederacy represent allegiance to and support for repression of African Americans and anyone non-

white. Statues identified for removal are recent additions to the cultural landscape. As an example, Nathan Bedford Forrest, founder of the KKK, has a bust in the Tennessee Capitol which was placed in 1978. Rather than heritage, his bust symbolizes allegiance to the principles of white superiority. No other nation allows or endorses the edification of those who attempted the violent overthrow of their established government. Even post-WWII Germany has outlawed the use of symbols or propaganda that promote Nazism. Shouldn't we expect as much?

Dr. Carter G. Woodson said, "The oppressor has always indoctrinated the weak with his interpretation of the crimes of the strong." The objective of this indoctrination has always been maintaining the cultural, social and economic racial disparities of the "Old South." It is time that we bring down the symbols which provide emotional support to those who endorse those crimes.

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

VOICE YOUR OPINION!!



WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR, TODAY!

The "Love Thy Neighbor" Campaign: A plan to support 'Shutdown' federal workers in Tallahassee

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

A special Task Force comprised of civic, business, professional and faith-based leaders has organized to address the plight of hundreds of families in Tallahassee, FL, who are being heavily impacted by the partial government shutdown. Tallahassee, this is a clarion call for "Hope, Help, Healing, and Harmony!" The duration of the present government shutdown has far surpassed our original expectations. This shutdown is the longest stoppage in the history of this great country.

Our hearts, thoughts and prayers are now focused on the hundreds of workers, and exponentially, their families, and this community at large. Tallahassee, we must have a positive burden to turn the pain of our collective histories into a positive movement to unite our communities.

I want to recognize and acknowledge the many faith leaders, civic organizations, and community leaders who have stepped up to support the federal workers in Tallahassee who are struggling with the daily vicissitudes of financial, emotional and even spiritual

needs. We applaud the leadership of Mayor John Dailey, Rabbi W.J. Romberg (Temple Israel), Pastor Brant Copeland (First Presbyterian), Sue Dick (Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce), Rick Minor (Second Harvest of the Big Bend), Katrina Rolle (United Way), Dr. Larry Robinson (Florida A & M University), Kenneth Pratt (Florida Bankers Association), Roy Moore (Piggy Wiggly), Rev. Greg James (Life Church International Center) and many others who are leading and coordinating this joint effort. We realize that there are many initiatives that are supporting the workers at this time. The purpose of this "Love Thy Neighbor" Task Force is to provide a coordinated effort between and among the key agencies in Tallahassee to provide a seamless support network for the "shutdown" workers and their families.



Rev. Dr. RB Holmes

Here are the Task Force's five focus areas:

Assistance with utilities for federal workers until the government is reopened

Assistance with mortgages and car notes until the government is reopened

Work with pharmaceutical companies to provide free medicine or medication at a reasonable discount until government is reopened

Provide support for student fees and tuition for federal workers and family members until government is reopened

Help federal workers with rent, food, clothing, transportation, and basic needs until government is reopened

A major part of this "Love Thy Neighbor" Campaign is to generate funds to supplement the income of the federal workers who have not received paychecks in over a month. Our goal is to raise \$100,000 for these families in the next 90 days. The United Way, led by Ms. Katrina Rolle, will receive donations from individuals and corporations. They will also distribute the funds to eligible individuals and families. Checks should be written to "United Way of the Big Bend" with the notation on check: Love Thy Neighbor. The mailing address for The United Way

is: 307 East 7th Avenue, Tallahassee, FL, 32303 - Phone: 850-414-0844.

Finally, as we call for "Hope, Help, Healing and Harmony," we are inviting the entire Tallahassee community and the federal workers and their families to come together in a special "Love Thy Neighbor Community Engagement and Support Worship Service" to be held Sunday, February 10, 2019, 3:30 PM at First Presbyterian Church located at 110 N. Adams St., hosted by Rev. Brant Copeland, Pastor. Citizens are encouraged to attend and bring special donations (i.e., gift cards, donations, etc.)

Tallahassee, there is absolutely more to unite us than to divide us. There may be a "shutdown", but we will not "shut out" our compassion and support for our neighbors. Please join us in answering the call for "Hope, Help, Healing and Harmony!"

Reverend Dr. RB Holmes is the pastor of the Bethel Missionary Baptist Church in Tallahassee, Florida, and Chair of the "Love Thy Neighbor" Campaign. He can be reached at bethel@bethelally.org.

CRAZY FAITH MINISTRIES

Calling out the injustice of the Justice System

The buzz phrase of the president is now "law and order." It is a gaslight for his base, signaling them that they have a duty to get rid of those who are protesting for justice. He is following in the footsteps of Richard Nixon, who, before Trump, many considered to be the most corrupt president in our country's history. The current present has taken that mantle.



Rev. Susan K. Smith

As he uses that phrase, along with other triggering words and phrases such as "vicious dogs" when referring to how to shut the protesters down, it is telling that he does not utter an ounce of concern for those who have recently been accosted by police nor does he acknowledge the history of rampant state-sanctioned violence practiced by law enforcement. Police officers and white vigilantes have been basically given the freedom to reign terrorist attacks on black individuals, black families, black communities, and black businesses.

(<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/30/us/politics/trump-threatens-protesters-dogs-weapons.html>) (<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/greenwood-massacre-tulsa-oklahoma-1921-race-riot-60-minutes-2020-06-14/>)

The phrase "law and order" in effect means "shut the protesters down," but it is significant that "protesters" only applies, in the mind of many, to black people and their allies, fighting for racial justice and against police brutality. Remember that white people with assault weapons showed up in capital buildings in this country, and that the president urged governors to "talk with them" because they were angry about their rights being infringed upon by the passing of stay in place measures to help protect the spread of COVID-19. The people were angry because businesses were shut down and because they were being prevented from enjoying the luxuries of a pre-pandemic world.

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=00thGVawFuQ>) Now, the president and his allies have jumped onto the verbiage being heard now: "defund the police." They are spinning it to mean that people want police departments completely abolished (as indeed some do), and purposely stepping around the suggestion that "defund" the police more accurately means recycling some of the money given to police departments into communities which exhibit higher crime rates because of poverty and neglect.

(<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/08/us/unrest-defund-police.html>) Not only are too many communities suffocating under the abject poverty which they live on a daily basis, but they are also targeted by police who seem to know the desperation poverty breeds, causing all kinds of behaviors - many nonviolent for which individuals are harassed, arrested, and far too often, killed.

Police departments have no guardrails for their officers; they know how to harass people and they do it, knowing they are in effect protected from any violence they initiate or in which they participate. They know to say "I was in fear for my life" to justify shooting black, brown and poor people. They know how to fudge police reports so that the victim - their victims - are always in the wrong. They are protected and so they commit crimes - in the name of law and order - and get away with it.

While the police use the sentiment of being in fear for their lives, the real truth of the matter is that black, brown, and poor people are in fear of their lives on a daily basis. That claim is not an excuse used by African Americans to get away with criminal behavior. It is the truth. Although it is not wise to do it, black people run from police because the raw and unsupervised power of police is known. Nobody trusts them. The lives of the poor, unemployed, unarmed innocent people are on the line every day.

To "defund" the police departments in my mind means to take some of the money away from police departments and put it into programs and organizations and institutions which will give hope and energy to blighted communities. Black children need quality schools - like the white kids have. They need clean water - not lead-tainted water as so many have. Black communities need good jobs. Black people need adequate health care. This is not brain surgery. It is human and common sense. Any group of people who are characterized by not being able to pay their bills, purchase medicine, and provide good educations for their children is a group of people in crisis. Black people in this country have been in crisis since we were brought to this country and enslaved.

We don't need militarized police departments, ready to shoot us at the slightest change of the wind. We need to be treated as human beings, with needs like all other groups of people. We need to know that our bodies will stop being the fodder for the Prison Industrial Complex. We need to know that selling cigarettes or doing some similar transaction on the streets will not result in us being arrested and/or killed by police. We need for police to stop targeting us for minor offenses, like broken taillights or cars with bad mufflers, which too often result in us being sent to jail. We need the money they spend to harass to be revamped to help us. Making that a reality would be genuine "law and order."

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.

MALVEAUX

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suffer no consequences. We have a president who insults Black people and experiences no consequences, a president so unabashedly racist in his words, now piles on with his Juneteenth and antics. His press secretary said Juneteenth is a "very meaningful day for him." Really? The same president who thought, just three years ago, that Frederick Douglass was still alive, has now developed some knowledge and empathy for Black history, empathetic to instances of systemic racism?

While I am repulsed by the president's decision to go to Tulsa on Juneteenth, there is a silver lining to his cluelessness. The day after his announcement, there was massive news coverage about Trump's disgusting decision, and accompanying robust commentary. White Americans don't know much about Black history, but neither do many Black folks. If you didn't know about Juneteenth and the Tulsa Massacre before, you surely know about it now. The president's ill-advised decision has increased awareness about a chapter in Black history that too many want to deny. The destruction of Greenwood, a thriving Black community, because of jealousy and malice is one of the many reasons the demand for reparations is a solid one.

45 walks around with his foot in his mouth; his actions and comments after the George Floyd murder protests are clear examples. But the celebration of Juneteenth and the horrors of the Tulsa Massacre are not taught in standard history books and not well known outside the Black community. Thanks to Trump, these incidents are better known. Every slap has a silver lining.

Dr. Julianne Malveaux is an economist, author, educator, and writer.

A silver lining to a slap in the face

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

The President of the United States hit a new low when he used the military to clear DC's Lafayette Park of citizens. They were exercising their First Amendment rights of speech and assembly while the president was exhibiting a chest-thumping use of force. He brandished a Bible, something which he seems not to have read. That was his low, and he got even worse in his offensive rhetoric, especially about the murder of George Floyd and the protests of police brutality. He stooped even lower and illustrated his infamous racial insensitivity when his campaign announced that he would have his first rally since the coronavirus shutdown the nation in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on Juneteenth. June 19, 1865, was the day when enslaved people in Texas, the last enslaved Black people in the nation, learned that they were free. The Emancipation Proclamation was on January

1, 1863, but Black folk didn't learn of their freedom until two years later.

Choosing to have his first campaign rally in Tulsa on Juneteenth is a slap in the face to Black Americans. Juneteenth is a celebratory day, but there is nothing to celebrate when our bigoted President co-opts our holiday for a cheap political stunt. The Divider-in-Chief will supposedly deliver a message of "racial conciliation" in Tulsa, a site known for white hate and economic envy that left hundreds dead and thousands homeless. I'm not sure he can deliver such a message, especially when he recently said that issues of prejudice and bigotry could be solved "quickly and easily."



Dr. Julianne Malveaux

The Tulsa Massacre of 1921 took place when armed white

people swarmed Greenwood, an affluent Black area of Tulsa. They looted houses, then burned them, dripping with economic envy. A gubernatorial commission concluded that the cause of the Massacre was "too many n—s" having too much money."

Money wasn't the only thing the Black people of Tulsa had. They also had an unwavering sense of self-determination and pride. When segregation excluded Black residents from libraries, wealthy Tulsans built their own. Black people had pharmacies, hospitals, grocery and department stores, theatres, churches (one was torched in the Massacre), and schools. You could find the same professionals in Greenwood as you could in "white" Tulsa - physicians, attorneys, teachers, entrepreneurs, and more. This thriving Black community was threatening to whites, who were heavily invested in the myth of white superiority. While

Greenwood thrived, envious white folks plotted and, according to Dr. Olivia Hooker, a Tulsa survivor who died in 2018, stockpiled guns, waiting for an excuse to attack.

When 19-year-old Dick Rowland jostled 17-year-old Sarah Page in an elevator, whites were ready. They threatened to lynch Rowland, and then when armed Black men said they would prevent a lynching, it was on. Whites swarmed Greenwood, burning, killing, destroying a symbol of Black pride and entrepreneurial capacity. The people who lost their property were never made whole. Those who had insurance found their claims denied. The white mob responsible for the destruction went mostly unpunished, reinforcing the notion that you could terrorize Black people, destroy their property, and

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RAINBOW COALITION

Too many African-American children are born in shackles

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

"I can't breathe," pled George Floyd in Minneapolis and Erik Garner in New York City and Javier Ambler in Austin, Texas, before police killed them.

Amid the protests against brutality, Rayshard Brooks in Atlanta, whom police found asleep in his car, was shot twice in the back and killed.

In Austin, Justin Howell lies in critical condition in the hospital, shot during a protest by a policeman using a "less-lethal weapon." His mistake? He stood next to the demonstrator the policeman was shooting at.

And now, two young African American men, Robert Fuller and Malcolm Harsch, are found dead, hanging by their necks 50 miles from one another in California. Although the police initially dismissed the cases as suicide, they are now under investigation after a public outcry.

In the midst of a national uprising on racial justice, the possible lynching of two black men should not be swept under the carpet.

For African Americans, poverty should not be a prison and skin color should not be a cage. White supremacists disguised as police officers should not use us as target practice. So-called "qualified immunity" must not shield killers from the law. Those with a shield and a badge must be held to the highest standards.

It is time to fulfill America's promise of equal justice under the law.

As the demonstrations con-

tinue, the reality of the criminal injustice system that African Americans face every day keeps getting exposed. At the same time, the pandemic has exposed the systemic racial gaps that scar our society. Police serve as an occupying force in poor communities of color because those communities exist — often created by red-lining — worsened by savage inequality of schools and health care and job opportunity.



Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.

CNN recently detailed "Black-White Inequality in Six Stark Charts." African Americans have barely 1/10th the median wealth of white families, a wider gap than at the beginning of the century. The disparity is primarily due to the differences in home ownership, where African Americans suffer from being locked out of so many neighborhoods for so long, and inheritance, where African Americans suffer the legacy of years of slavery and segregation.

The median income of African American families, at \$41,000, is less than 60% of white families at \$71,000, another gap that has grown worse since 2000. It was only last year that African American incomes exceeded those in 2000, and that "progress" was wiped out in the pandemic.

Unemployment among African Americans generally

is twice that of whites. Today, official unemployment for blacks is at 16.7% and for whites, 14.2%. It's that close because blacks are disproportionately employed in front-line essential jobs — the postal service, mass transit, warehouses, grocery and drug stores, hospitals and nursing homes.

Poverty among African Americans, before the pandemic recession, was at 20.8%; for whites, 8.1%. African Americans are 60% less likely to have health care at work than whites.

Poverty, unemployment, low income, low savings all lead to vulnerability. African Americans are less likely to have adequate health insurance and more likely to have chronic illnesses. So African Americans, about 13.2% of the population, have suffered 23% of COVID-19 deaths.

Consider the shackles we put on too many African American children born into impoverished neighborhoods. Their mothers are less likely to have prenatal care; they are more likely to suffer death or injury at birth. They are less likely to have adequate nutrition; more likely to grow up in apartments with lead in the walls and pipes; less likely to have day care or pre-K. They go to public schools inequitable to those in the affluent suburbs. They walk dangerous streets, where police too often provide not protection but a separate threat. And if they rise above that and go to college, they graduate with far higher student debt, into a job market that will pay them less than their white peers.

GET THAT DEED AND FLIP THOSE KEYS!**The Top 5 reasons most can't get a home loan****Reason# 2: Debt vs. Income/Student loans**

This is where so many families shake out of the loan application process. The lender's focus is not only on how you pay your bills now or in the past but also on the number of bills you currently have..

At the end of the day, the lender must feel confident that you will be able to pay your existing bills and the new mortgage payment without strain. Therefore, this is where the debt/ratio calculations come in to increase the chances of the mortgage payment is paid on time. Depending on the bank and the loan program, the percentages used to calculate debt/ratio varies. To give an example of how this is done, the lender will look at your gross monthly income, multiply that by a percentage, then start deducting your existing monthly bills to see what is left over for a new mortgage payment. Let's use a gross monthly income of \$3000,

and a ratio percentage of 43%. $\$3000 \times 43\% = \1290 is all that should be paid out with all existing bills and new mortgage. So, say you



Brenda Dixon

have a \$300 car payment, and a \$25 credit card bill and \$75 furniture bill already. Then they will take the $\$1290 - 300 - 25 - 75 = \890 left that a lender will say you can afford to pay on a home loan. Let's say an \$890 payment is about a \$160,000 sale price.. You can now see how having a lot of debt already will impact how much you can get for a home purchase. Now let me tell you that student loans are also debt and it is also used in these calculations even if it is on deferment. In addition, a lot of bankers will not accept an income-based payment. Unfortunately, whether on deferment or

income-based payment, they often will access 1% of the total student loan debt you owe and deduct that from how much they will lend you. Let me tell you, that number sometimes is mind-blowing, and it blows family completely out of their chances of ownership. The most I have run into has been \$160,000 in student loan debt on an income-based repayment and so the banker accessed 1% which was \$1600. You take that example above where it was \$890 leftover, say that same person owes \$40,000 in student loan debt that is currently on pandemic deferment. The bank is going to say $\$40k \times 1\% = \400 .. Now, the bank is going to do the calculations like this, $\$1290 - 300 - 25 - 75 - 400 = \490 So now let's say a \$490 payment is for a \$70,000 sale price. You can see a big difference. The only way to help yourself if you have student loans besides paying them completely off is to get a

payment amount NOT based on income but a regular payment. The lender will accept that amount for whatever it is, but if deferred or income-based, that 1% rule will reap havoc on debt/ratio. Lastly, if you have been ordered to pay court-awarded child support, yes that too is a debt and yes, that too will be deducted to come up with your loan approval to purchase. I sure you all get the picture here and now have the info to sit down and evaluate your finances prior to going to a lender. Just like everything else, when you know what to expect, you can position yourself to achieve your goal. Until next week, please share this info with at least 3 people and let them know to reach out if want a free 1 on 1 to get a game plan to own in the next 18 months or less.

Brenda Dixon, Dixon Realty Since 1991, 27 yrs. F/T expertise. Brenda@getthatdeed.com.



Frank Weeks, Jr. January 17, 1945-June 18, 2019

**Thinking of you today, tomorrow, and every day.
One year has passed and we miss you so much.**

"Missing You"

We're missing you a little more each time we hear your name.

We've cried so many tears yet our heart's broken just the same. We miss our time together, things in common we could share. But nothing fills the emptiness now, you're no longer there. We have so many precious memories to last our whole life through. Each one of them reminders of how much we're missing you.

Your memory is our keepsake with which we never part. God has you in his keeping, and we have you in our hearts. We love you.

Love,

Your Loving Wife, Dorothy Weeks, Daughter, Felicia Weeks, Grandson, Isiah Weeks Hall & family.



**Annie Marie Brinkley
For My Mother on Father's Day**

You hear a lot of stories about children growing up without a father; without this or that, you rarely hear about the Mothers who in spite of everything, raised their children to be strong, to believe in God, to be and do their best, to work hard to make their lives worthwhile.

Lady Bug, somehow you were able to do the job of two parents, (with the help of my Big Mama and my Aunties-Strong Black Women).

It wasn't an easy job, but because of you, I have wonderful childhood memories, I am strong, I believe in myself, and I have faith in God. We had good days and bad days, I learned about hard work and sacrifice, and I learned about love too. I never felt deprived of anything, because we had a home full of love, a safe and secure childhood. This is our story, mine and yours and I made it because of you. You showed me how to choose my own path, what a wonderful way to give a daughter wings, and no matter how high I soar, I know it's because you are the wind beneath my wings.

Happy Father's Day to an extraordinary Mother.

Forever loving you,
Your grateful daughter,
Gloria Brinkley-Caldwell



Leroy Caldwell

To My Husband on Father's Day. You are such a rare and wonderful man. everything you do, you do for me and your family. you are the heart and soul of our universe, you are the strength and glue that binds us together. your gentle ways, your generous spirit, your patience and understanding, the way you love me and your family, these are the qualities that make you such a wonderful husband, father and grandfather. these are the gifts you give to us. you are the gift! when you smile you light up my world. you are truly my strength, my heartbeat and i love you truly. Happy father's day to my kind and loving husband, your wife, Gloria.



Montreal Holmes

We miss you Daddy on Father's Day. We really miss you, Daddy and we wish that you were here to hug us with your loving arms and lend a kindly ear. We know we have to understand but things seem out of place now that we can't play with you or see you smiling face. And although we are really sad to think that you're gone we know that you're in heaven with the angels playing on. We will never forget you and we just wanted to say we wish that you were here with us today on Father's Day.

We love you daddy,
Amiya, Ma'Khi and Ma'Kayla



Gregory Lewis Nixon

Gregory Lewis Nixon
Happy Father's Day In Heaven
Father's Day is nearing
The first without you here
This year we will not get to pick up the phone to say "We love you" in your ear
We think of you often
Every morning noon and night
We often think something is wrong with us,
How do we get over this,
will the heavy pain ever become light?
We've learned that the grief will always be here
It come in hard but then subsides
To say that you were our Dad,
We can say that with so much pride.
We will celebrate the memories
We'll be brave but we will surely cry
Cause if anyone deserves the "Best Dad" award, you were that guy.
So Happy Father's Day in Heaven!
We hope you feel all of our love and radiates up to you!
Thank you for being the best dad here on earth
And for being the best angel dad too!

We love and miss you
Tenee, Greg and family



What must we do to eliminate injustice and inequality?

EVERYTHING.

We know that so much has to be done for everyone to be treated as full and equal partners in society. It will take all of us, doing all we can, to make this happen. Here's what the people of Duke Energy are doing now:

- *Contributing \$1 million to organizations working for social justice and racial equity*
- *Engaging local organizations and leaders to support real solutions*
- *Listening and learning from each other, our customers and communities*
- *Standing up against racism, inequality and discrimination*

LEARN MORE AT [DUKE-ENERGY.COM/EVERYTHING](https://duke-energy.com/everything)



If I could do one thing, I'd have a daycare closer to work.

If you could do one thing for your community, what would it be? More daycare centers? More funding for Head Start? Completing the 2020 Census is a safe and easy way to inform how billions of dollars in funding flow into your community for hundreds of services. **Respond online, by phone, or by mail.**

Complete the census at:
2020CENSUS.GOV

Paid for by U.S. Census Bureau.

Shape
your future
START HERE >

United States®
**Census
2020**

Nelson Lee Webb, Jr.

Nelson Lee Webb, Jr. died June 1, 2020. Memorial services were held on Saturday, June 13, 2020 at Willie L. Shaw Jr. Memorial Chapel.

Nelson, son of the late Nelson Lee Webb and Genelsa Winford Webb was born on March 14, 1959 in Wilmington, NC. Junior was educated in the New Hanover County School System, graduating from John T. Hoggard High School in the Class of 1977. He answered his calling by serving in the United States Army as a Supply and Logistics Specialist. Nelson served honorably stateside and completed tours in Germany. After receiving an honorable discharge, he was employed by several different companies to include Rhodes Furniture, Strodt Engineering, Star News, Coca-Cola, Harris Teeter and Embassy Suites. Junior was born again and accepted Christ into his life and was a member of New Covenant Holiness Church led by Bishop Linwood Nesbit and Pastor Eria Nesbitt. He was a proud member and wasn't afraid to let anyone know that Jesus Christ was his Savior and Lord. He was a great and loving father, grandfather, brother and uncle whom we all will surely miss.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sisters, Tawana Webb and Janice Webb. He is survived by his son, Nelson Le Webb, III; rother, Sean L. Patrick (Natisha); sister, Gloria W. Oliver (William); granddaughter, Samari Webb; nephews, Mariki J. Webb (Nivia), Cory D. Webb, Malik Williams; nieces, Jessica Oliver and Nia Patrick; many cousins, other relatives and friends, including a special family friend, Ronia Burney. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Annie Mae Mitchell

Annie Mae Mitchell died Sunday, June 7, 2020. Graveside services were held on Saturday, June 13, 2020 at Greenlawn Memorial Park.

Annie Mae Mitchell, daughter of the late Mary Emma Johnson was born April 22, 1928 in Wilmington, North Carolina. Mother Mitchell was a faithful member of Macedonia FBH Church. At Macedonia she was a member of the Senior Choir: she was a blessing to all those whose lives she touched. Mother Mitchell's favorite saying was "I'm Blessed by the Best." Annie or "Baby Cakes" as she was affectionately known, obtained this nickname from her late husband of 70 years, Benjamin Franklin Mitchell. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister and friend to many.

She was so thankful for her loving and dedicated caregivers, Shannon, Treja, DaShawn and Latricia. She leaves to cherish her memories: six children, Emma Wells of the city, Barbara Johnson of New York, Peggy Gordon (Maurice) of Michigan, Benjamin Mitchell, Jr (Geraldine) of Maryland, Betty Brunson (Moses) of Virginia and Annie Baldwin of the city; nine grandchildren; seventeen great-grandchildren; eight great-great-grandchildren; one sister, Juanita Burns (Edward) of Whiteville, NC; sisters-in-law, Ethel Corbett of Georgia, Anna Lewis of Ohio, and Lottie Thomas of the city; brother-in-law, Wilbur Mitchell (Earlene) of the city; a special goddaughter, Carolyn Bennett; a host of nieces, nephews, and many friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Diane Sweezy

Diane Sweezy died Monday, June 8, 2020. Visitation only was held on Saturday, June 13, 2020. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Carl "Tinker Bell" Vernon

Carl "Tinker Bell" Vernon died June 9, 2020. Graveside services were held Sunday, June 14, 2020 at Bethel Church Cemetery.

He was born on July 25, 1950 to the late Thomas and Bertha Vernon. "Hank" or "Tinka Bell" as he was often referred to joined Crystal Spring Missionary Baptist Church at an early age. He completed his education in the Brunswick County School System. After attending college at North Carolina Central University for one year he decided to join the Navy. He spent a brief period in the Navy before returning to his beloved hometown of Northwest. He retired from Victaulic in Leland, NC in June 2013 after many years of service.

He was preceded in death by his son, Quentin Brown and his brother, Elvis Vernon. He leaves to cherish his memories three sons, Terrance Brown, Arlyn Vernon (Donnie) and Darius Vernon (Tonya); 10 grandchildren; one brother, Thomas Vernon (Eleanor); one sister, Sheila Williams; aunts, Christine Vernon, Adell Ballard, Shirley Bryant (Robert), Lorraine Bryant, Mary Lizzie Johnson (Butler), Josephine Harris (Thessalonia) and Vergie Vernon; uncle, Sylvester Ballard (Fossie); and a host of nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Bertha Patrick

Bertha Patrick died June 12, 2020. Graveside service will be held 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 20, 2020 at First Baptist Church Cemetery, Armour, NC. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Harold Andrew Butcher

Harold Andrew Butcher died June 13, 2020. Memorial services will be at a later date. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Robert Simmons

Robert Simmons died June 15, 2020. Visitation and funeral service will be 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 20, 2020 at Willie L. Shaw Jr. Memorial Chapel. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*



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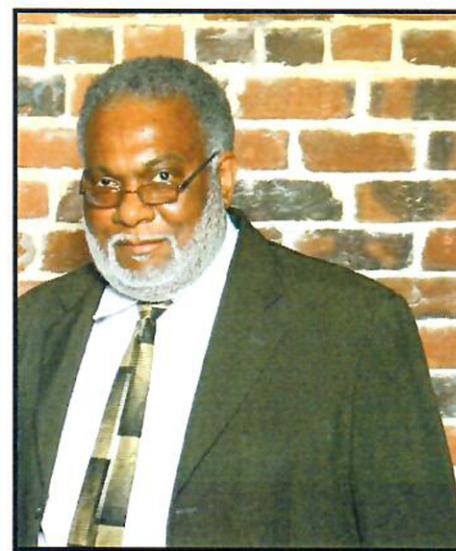
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Samuel Drain, Jr.
and Allene Drain
In Memoriam



Connie Drain Green
Funeral Director

TELL SOMEBODY

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6

"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

Fathers, your children may love and depend on mother, but they still need you. From the moment they are born, and throughout their lifetime, children need to have the security, love, and support of a father being there for them. The impact of a loving and caring father in the life of a child is far reaching. Fathers should be there when children are young and impressionable to help in the molding and shaping process of that child's conduct and character.

Father's love should be a reflection of God's love. God's love is sacrificial and unconditional. John 3:16. This type of love should be habitual and consistent, not just at a

time of emotional stirring. A father's unconditional love is vital to a child's sense of security. A godly father should strive to give his child these five things to ensure their happiness and wholeness.

1. Acceptance
 "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." John 1:12 Primarily and fundamentally, sons and daughters need to feel acceptance from their fathers. If you don't accept your son or daughter, you reject them. They may suffer in one way or another all their lives because of that basic lack of acceptance. Whether or not things work out between dad and mom, kids should not be denied a genuine expression of a father's love. When we are born of the Spirit of God, God the Father will not deny us. Our faith may not be strong, but Father God draws us with love and kindness. When we become "born again", we become a partaker of his divine nature. His unconditional love is there for us, even before we know

him. He accepts us into the family of God regardless of our past failures and mistakes. "God is no respecter of persons, but in every nation, he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness is accepted with him." Ephesians 1:6



Sylvia Hooper

2. Approval
 Fathers not only need to give children acceptance, they also need to give them approval. Children need to have the approbation of a father that confirms their identity. Without that, they may be drawn to other substitutes for acceptance, even if not favorable or positive examples. They may even suffer from identity crises that may never be resolved, simply because they have never been confirmed by a father's approval.

3. Affection
 Fathers need to give their

children affection and devotion. They should feel their parents are more devoted to them than to things. Children suffer when they do not get the proper affection from the proper source. Fathers should make great effort to show kindness to their children. "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies and kindness, humbleness of mind meekness, long-suffering." Colossians 3:12

4. Association
 Our children must have a sense of belonging. Four basic desires in man are. 1. To be 2. To beget 3. To belong 4. To possess. We all desire to belong to somebody or to something. Children want to belong to mom and dad...family. When they don't receive that sense of belonging, they may go through life struggling and trying to fit in, even where they may not belong; to achieve a sense of "belonging". Too many children turn to the wrong elements in society to fill the void left by absentee parents.

5. Authority
 A wise father will give his

children an understanding and respect for authority. A realization of true authority starts in the home. When father is provider, protector, teacher, mentor, kids realize the meaning of authority. Discipline and direction comes from one in authority. When children have no discipline in the home, they may be tempted to revert to rebellion and deny any form of authority in their lives, simply because they never understood authority.

Fathers, don't be overwhelmed by the responsibilities of fatherhood. Be an example to your son or daughter, and do whatever is necessary to assume your responsibility in rearing this child and loving him/her as God the Father has loved you. You can do all things through Christ that strengthens you. [Phil. 3:15] Young men, who become parents.....don't just be your baby's daddy, take the time and effort to be his father! There is a difference. Take an active part of their lives and validate them each and every chance you get! If you

have already practiced the privilege of 'father-hood', keep up the good work! Your labor is not in vain! Some excerpts from , Crises in the Family Prophecy Update 1991, Ed Cole. Tell Somebody ... Happy Father's Day!

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

A WORD FROM THE LORD

The true Biblical model of forgiveness for the Black Church and the Black community

The true Biblical model of forgiveness for the Black Church and the Black Community is depicted in Emanuel AME Church of Charleston SC. What we have seen demonstrated across America in the past several does not have marks of true Christian. I want to share this remarkable Christ like behavior. Published by the Gospel Herald

"Steph Curry & Viola Davis Doc Honors Shooting Victims Of Emanuel A.M.E. Church. Highlights Power of Forgiveness."

"In 2015, the United States was shocked and horrified when a 21-year-old white supremacist opened fire during a Bible study at Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina, leaving nine African-Americans dead.

Shooter Dylann Roof, now 25, shot and killed Thompson, Clementa C. Pinckney, Cynthia Marie Graham Hurd, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lee Lance, Depayne Middleton-Doctor, Tywanza Sanders, Daniel L. Simmons and Sharonda Coleman-Singleton. Roof later confessed he hoped his murderous spree would start a race war.

But what man intended for evil, God used for good.

To the shock of a watching world, forty-eight hours later, in the midst of unspeakable grief and suffering, the families of the Emanuel Nine made a stunning announcement: They had forgiven Roof for the heinous act.

Their decision to forgive Roof and to work toward reconciliation sparked a movement of kindness that impacted cities far beyond Charleston.

This June, marking the fourth anniversary of the event, executive producers Stephen Curry and Viola Davis, co-producer Mariska Hargitay, and director Brian Ivie (The DropBox) present EMANUEL.

The film will be in theaters for two nights only on June 17 and 19.

The film features intimate interviews with survivors and family members and highlights the healing power of forgiveness. The documentary powerfully weaves the history of race relations in Charleston, the significance and impact of Mother Emanuel Church, and the hope that miraculously resulted from the horrific shooting.

The film was made in direct partnership with the City of Charleston and the families affected by the tragedy. The producers will donate their share of profits from the film to the survivors of the shooting and the families of the victims."

By Jamie Aten of the Washing post
 June 16, 2019, at 3:54 p.m. EDT

"Monday marks four years since nine members of a black church were shot to death by a white supremacist in Charleston, S.C., setting off a national debate about gun violence. A new documentary about the massacre does not explicitly address gun violence or gun policy, but the powerful stories told by the survivors allow viewers to consider the implications and draw their conclusions.

"Emanuel," in theaters nationwide Monday and Wednesday, focuses on the victims' surviving family members, who stood in court just 48 hours after the shooting and offered forgiveness to the gunman, 21-year-old Dylann Roof, a self-professed white supremacist. Academy Award-winning actress Viola Davis and NBA superstar Stephen Curry served as executive producers of the film, which explores the untold stories after June 17, 2015, shooting at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church.

In an interview that has been edited for length, documentary

director Brian Ivie discussed how "Emanuel" handles the complex tensions around the familiar Christian tradition of forgiveness.

AD What first drew you to the "Emanuel" project?

I had just gotten married in June 2015, and I was on my honeymoon in New York. I walked into the bedroom, and my wife was crying. She told me nine people had been shot in their Bible study in Charleston.

Then she looked at me and said, "You don't understand, they're forgiving him. The family members are forgiving the murderer." I remember looking at her and saying, "I hope whoever tells that story doesn't skip that part." It was that moment for me - encountering this radical, scandalous forgiveness and love for the murderer - that drew me into the story. I wanted the world to know that part of the story.

What was different in this story?

It was that they loved him. It was this moment when (survivor) Felicia Sanders said something to him that changed me: "We enjoyed you."

AD When I go out and talk about the film, I'm not just talking about forgiving him because they wanted to be emotionally free from him. I'm talking about a kind of love you rarely see. Their love for the shooter was a love that said, "I will bear the full weight of the wrong," which is the highest kind of love - a love for your enemy. People, who say they are Christians, need to hear the words of Jesus: Matt. 6:14-15, (KJV) "For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly

Father will also forgive you: 15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

"The very idea that a person must forgive others in order for God to forgive him was totally new. It was a shocking concept, an eye-opener. It had to be explained.

The very idea of forgiveness is just what it says: it is forgiving. God knows that He cannot forgive an unforgiving heart. His nature of love and justice will not permit Him to indulge in sin and give license to the passions of a man's unforgiving spirit. He can forgive only where the mercy and tenderness of forgiveness are found. Therefore, Christ had to teach the basic principle of prayer-forgiveness" (POSBC) Lord help us to demonstrate your Love through forgiveness! Amen.

Stephen Curry and Viola Davis are billed as producers. Can you tell me a little bit about their involvement with the film?

Viola is a champion for justice for the oppressed, for the marginalized, disenfranchised, and for those who have no voice, so she comes at this story in that way. But Viola is also from South Carolina and is a Christian woman. So she was deeply moved and broken by the story and wanted to ensure that the world didn't forget about it. In her heart, she's an activist.

Stephen, who is known very widely as a Christian athlete and a voice for faith, wanted to align himself with a story that shared his faith in a way that he felt was compelling and authentic and not typically what you see in a lot of Christian media, which is typically very neatly packaged and doesn't feel like real life. This is the first film he'd done in Hollywood and a way for him to make a statement.

Throughout the interviews, many of the survivors and peo-

ple you interviewed had talked about the past and present challenges around race issues as well as other injustices that the mass shooting put a spotlight on. Can you talk about these?

We usually say we'll never forget things like 9/11 or the Boston bombing, or the Holocaust, but many want to forget about slavery and Jim Crow laws. It's too close for comfort.

Many white people get defensive whenever racism is brought up and say, "I'm not a racist." Racism is a systemic problem, burned into our systems of criminal justice.

I think a lot of people in the African American community feel like there's never going to be any true healing because there's never been any true repentance. White privilege is part of a legacy in our country of white supremacy.

You include a few short segments of the shooter, including him entering and exiting the church, being pulled over and later interviewed by police, and at trial. What would you say to individuals who might disapprove of footage of the shooter being used in the documentary?

People need to know that families were the first people to see the film. The movie you've seen is the movie they saw way before any other audience. We were able to go through a process of accountability so they felt personally like this was the way the story should be told, and they all loved and blessed the movie.

It's the same reason people, when they make war movies, have to show the carnage, because that's part of honoring the suffering that people went through and showing that evil itself. I wanted to expose the problem. It's what life is actually like. You see a lot of good, you see a lot of bad. There is a deep dichotomy, a deep duplicity in the human condition.

What do you hope that viewers will take away from the response of Mother Emanuel AME?

There is a sense that God is present and that he has also promised that there will be a day when there will be perfect justice and that he will wipe away every tear and that he will bring to pass the kind of world and kingdom where we won't have to have security guards at our doors. We won't have to frisk people as we hug them in our church services.

What do you think might be some ways people of faith can address gun violence?

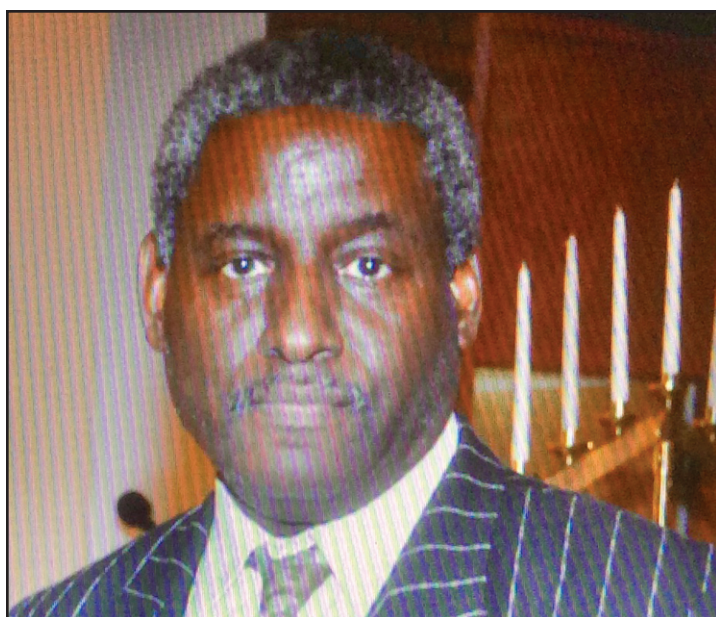
Something has to change. For the film, there wasn't enough surface area to deal with that issue head on, because it would have taken over the movie entirely. There are a lot of key nonprofits that I follow like March for Our Lives. People like Toms Shoes is leveraging his privilege and influence to try to end gun violence and try to lobby for that. I recommend connecting with organizations that are doing it and are close to the issue.

How can churches balance being welcoming with safety concerns?

Many of the family members [at Emanuel] would say they would still welcome anybody. That is a mind-bending idea. But that church also has more security.

Some people say they want to see changes in the world of mental illness and mental health. They want to see changes in gun laws, minimum age restrictions and background checks. But I think they would still say, "We want anybody to be welcome here."

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



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Racial divide of coronavirus is real, so are innovations that can help

BY ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ AND MARTHA A. DAWSON

News about the novel coronavirus, which has now claimed over 100,000 American lives, is all around us. A subtext told in this reporting is the painful story of the pandemic's devastating effect on people of color.

While coronavirus does not know boundaries of race, income, or ethnicity, its disproportionate impact on minority communities is unmistakable and points to a deeper crisis of racial disparities in health care that have persisted long before the onset of this disease.

A Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) study in Atlanta found that, in a cohort of 305 adults hospitalized with coronavirus, 83 percent were black. Similarly, in Washington, D.C., 80 percent of lives lost to coronavirus are black. Public health officials report that Latinx populations are overrepresented in coronavirus deaths, too.

There will be lessons gained from this pandemic,

giving us the insights and motivation to build on new ways to deliver care. A renewed call to confront racial inequality in health care should be at the top of the list both for policymakers, the educational system, and health care itself.

As a former member of Congress who represented Philadelphia, the nation's sixth-largest city with a minority population of over 60 percent (Schwartz), and the President of the National Black Nurses Association, a health system administrator and educator of more than 40 years (Dawson), this is a subject close to our hearts.

Last year, we participated in a convening on racial disparities in health care hosted by Better Medicare Alliance that brought together representatives from the National Minority Quality Forum, NAACP, National Medical Association, members of the Congressional Black Caucus, and other health equity leaders.

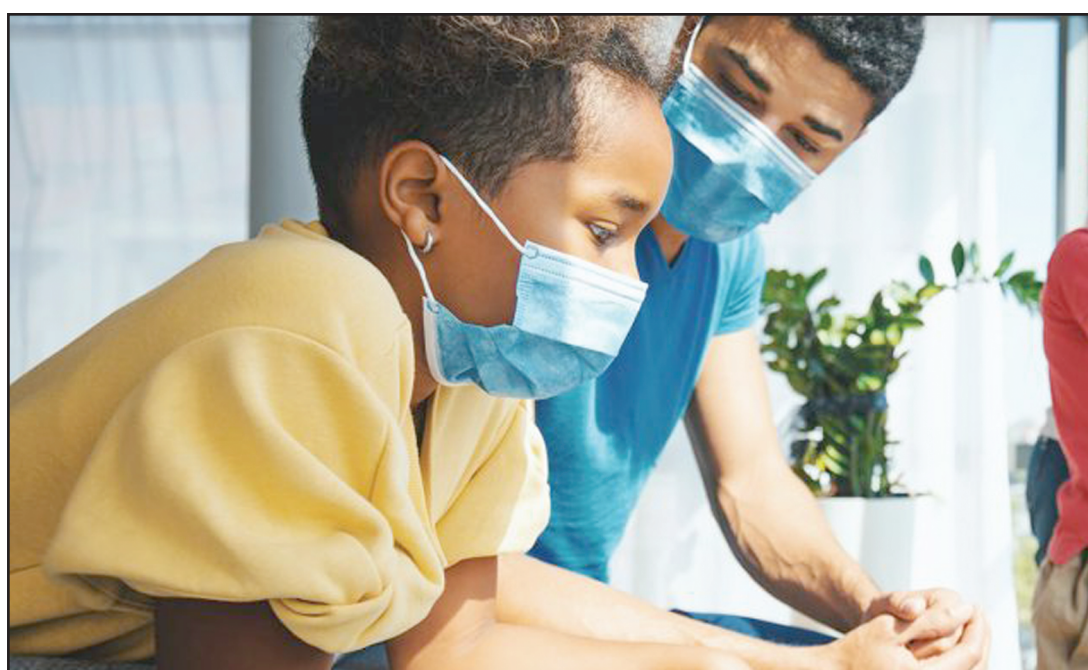
While we could not have predicted the havoc that coronavirus would wreak on our health care system the follow-

ing year, we find ourselves reflecting on the solutions discussed that can be brought to bear today.

This convening crystalized what we have already known: racial inequities elsewhere in our culture manifest today in the form of unconscious and conscious bias by health providers, lack of representation of minorities in high-level health professions, and lagging outcomes for minorities across the health care system.

Our institutions in health care are not powerless to take on these inequities — many already are. The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) explained at the convening the steps being taken to ensure greater diversity in the physician workforce, while providers like ChenMed and Oak Street Health are directly engaging minority communities and leveraging supplemental benefits to address health disparities.

We believe that Medicare Advantage — the managed care option in Medicare where more than 24 million



A Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) study in Atlanta found that, in a cohort of 305 adults hospitalized with coronavirus, 83 percent were black. Similarly, in Washington, D.C., 80 percent of lives lost to coronavirus are black. Public health officials report that Latinx populations are overrepresented in coronavirus deaths, too. (Photo: iStockphoto / NNPA)

seniors and Americans with disabilities receive coverage — highlights successful remedies for the inequities in health care that are deeply felt amid the coronavirus pandemic.

Increasing numbers of

racial minorities are choosing Medicare Advantage for their health care needs. 57 percent of Latinx Medicare beneficiaries are enrolled in Medicare Advantage and black seniors represent a higher proportion of beneficiaries in Medicare Advantage than in Traditional Medicare.

Black and Latinx seniors are more likely to be affected by health conditions that can heighten the risk of coronavirus-related complications. Black adults are 20 percent more likely to have asthma, 72 percent more likely to be diabetic, and eight times as likely to be diagnosed with HIV than white adults. Tackling these chronic conditions and slowing disease progression is essential to protecting these individuals, future generations, and their communities from future health crises.

Medicare Advantage offers promising signs — with a 29 percent lower rate of avoidable hospitalizations among beneficiaries with multiple chronic conditions, and a 73 percent lower rate of serious complications among the most clinically at-risk diabetics.

We also know that most seniors live on fixed incomes, including racial minorities who are more likely to experience poverty than white older adults. Medicare Advantage can help these vulnerable beneficiaries stay more financially secure, saving them nearly \$1,600 a year in annual health expenditures compared to Traditional Medicare.

Consider, too, the impact of hunger and food insecurity that is exacerbated amid the coronavirus pandemic. Even before this crisis took its toll, over 21 percent of black households struggled with food insecurity.

Medicare Advantage's flex-

ible benefit design offers tools to help. Nearly half of Medicare Advantage plans provide supplemental coverage for meal benefits and have stepped up in this moment of crisis to help get food in the hands of seniors in need.

These achievements do not happen by chance. They are made possible by the unique incentives built into the framework of Medicare Advantage that reward the value of health services provided, rather than the volume. This allows for a greater focus on primary care, earlier clinical interventions, supplemental benefits tailored to address social determinants of health, and lower costs to the patient and the health care system.

Medicare Advantage is not a panacea for the racial inequities that persist across our culture today, and there is more work to be done. A report that followed our convening outlines sensible recommendations for reform — from required unconscious bias and cultural sensitivity training, to more accurate and actionable data to pinpoint where and how disparities occur.

Still, these successes offer us great hope that, even in this season of crisis, innovations are taking hold that can lead to a more just future in health care.

Allyson Y. Schwartz is president and CEO of the Better Medicare Alliance. She represented Pennsylvania in the U.S. House of Representatives from 2005 to 2015.

Martha A. Dawson, DNP, RN, CNS, FACHE, is President of the National Black Nurses Association and Associate Professor of Nursing at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing.

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix 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**, 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 28th day of May, 2020.

Bruce A. Chappell, Jr., Executrix 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 Executrix 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**, 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 28th day of May, 2020.

Commercial Bank & Trust of PA, Executrix 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**, 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 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 Executrix 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**, 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 11th day of June, 2020.

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

June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2020

LEGAL NOTICES

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**, 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 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 Executrix 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** 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 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 TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **Jeffrey Christopher Rowe**, 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 **18th day of September, 2020**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 18th day of June, 2020

Edna Faye Rowe, Administrator
1013 Grathwol Drive
Wilmington, NC 28405

June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2020

MEETING NOTICE

A meeting of the Wilmington Urban Area MPO Board will be held on Wednesday, June 24, 2020 at 3pm. The meeting will be held at the Wilmington Convention Center located at 10 Convention Center Drive in downtown Wilmington.

PLEASE NOTE: The meeting will be conducted remotely pursuant to Section 4.31 of SB 704 (S.L. 2020-3). The remote meeting will be simultaneously streamed live online so that simultaneous live audio, and video, if any, of the meeting will be available to the public at the following URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88618749094>

The public may also dial in and listen to the simultaneous live audio of the remote meeting at the following dial-in number: 646-558-8656 (when prompted, enter meeting ID# 886 1874 9094).

Mike Kozlosky
Executive Director
Wilmington Urban Area
Metropolitan Planning
Organization

June 18, 2020

LEGAL NOTICES

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** 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 19th day of May, 2020.

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

May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 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** 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 22nd day of May, 2020.

Beverly Cochran
c/o Craig & 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** 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 9th day of June, 2020.

Charlotte Noel Fox
Craig & 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, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 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

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER IN THE DISTRICT COURT JUVENILE SESSION FILE NO. 20 JT 99

IN THE MATTER OF: J.J.S (DOB: 05-01-2020)

TO: ANY UNKNOWN BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF THE ABOVE CAPTIONED MALE, CHILD BORN IN WILMINGTON, NEW HANOVER COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows:

Termination of all parental rights you have to the above-captioned minor child.

You are required to make defense to such pleading within thirty (30) days following **JUNE 18, 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 ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A HEARING ON THE PETITION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS IS SCHEDULED FOR **JULY 20, 2020**, AT 9:30 A.M. or as soon thereafter as it may be heard, in courtroom 100 of the New Hanover County Courthouse, 316 Princess Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401.

This the 18th day June, 2020.

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

June 18, 25, July 2, 2020

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59% OF YOUNG ADULTS READ NEWSPAPER MEDIA WEEKLY (AGE 18-24)

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Not only do newspaper media reach a **HUGE** audience, they also reach an **ENGAGED** audience

AVERAGE ENGAGEMENT INDEX

PRINT NEWSPAPERS: 112
PRINT/WEB NEWSPAPERS: 108
RADIO: 102
INTERNET: 101
TELEVISION: 92

100 (avg)

Newspaper-generated content is so valuable it's taken and repeated, condensed, broadcast, tweeted, discussed, posted, copied, edited and e-mailed countless times throughout the day by others.

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52% trust local television

Newspapers and their websites rated **12%** higher than other media on how engaged audiences were with advertising.

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5% CIRCULATION REVENUE GROWTH

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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