

MISSING



EBONEE SPEARS

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

OUTside Looking IN

OUR VOICE



REV. JESSE JACKSON  
GUEST EDITORIAL  
"The right to vote is the foundation of democracy"  
BY  
REV. JESSE JACKSON  
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SONYA PATRICK

Women Changing History: Face of Activism, Sonya Patrick

BY BEVERLY SMALLS  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Wilmingtonians in multiple age groups did not know the larger than life Confederate statuary art could or would ever be removed from major thoroughfares of Third and Market, and Third and Dock streets.

Sonya Bennetone Patrick did declare that such downtown Wilmington Civil War love notes should be erased from the public square. Her thoughts and protests supported by many Millennials, GenerationZ citizens and others link to changing views

Please see  
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THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 94/No. 12

MARCH 25, 2021-APRIL 1, 2021

\$1.00



REPRESENTATIVE KELLY M. ALEXANDER JR.



REPRESENTATIVE TERRY M. BROWN JR.

Literacy test for Blacks still in N.C. Constitution

BY CASH MICHAELS  
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

As you read this, if you're an African-American voter in North Carolina, North Carolina's Constitution requires you to take a literacy test before you cast your next ballot.

Don't worry, federal law has long rendered this "requirement" null and void in North Carolina law, so don't expect anyone in or out of uniform at your local voting precinct attempting to force you to prove you can properly "...read and write any section of the Constitution in the English language."

However, at the same time, and what's still most troubling about this, is that, try as they might, State lawmakers just don't seem to be able to get the literacy test requirement officially scratched from the State's Constitution.

In fact, if the majority of North Carolina voters in November 2022 don't agree to get rid of the requirement once and for all, it will remain on the books. It will be toothless, but it will stay.

On March 22, Charlotte-Mecklenburg N. C. House Representative Kelly Alexander, Jr., a Democrat, filed the bipartisan House Bill 337 - Constitutional Amendment to Repeal Literacy Test.

"It's just an insult to the African-American citizens of North Carolina, and to any right thinking citizens," Rep. Alexander told Washington Monthly.

"An act to amend the Constitution of North Carolina to repeal the literacy test requirement..." which would effectively repeal Section 4 of Article VI of the North Carolina Constitution, which states, "Every person presenting himself for registration shall be able to read and write any section of the Constitution in the English language."

Section 2 of the proposed House Bill 337 adds that the question "shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the State at the statewide general election to be held on November 8, 2022, which election shall be conducted under the laws governing elections in the State. Ballots, voting systems, or both may be used in ...."

HB337 continues, "The question to be used in the voting systems and ballots shall be: [ ] FOR [ ] AGAINST"

"Constitutional amendment to repeal the requirement that every person presenting himself for registration shall be able to read and write any section of the Constitution in the English language."

This is the part to which Black voters need to pay particular attention because it is here where this measure could fall on its face, as it apparently has before.

"If a majority of votes cast on the question are in favor of the amendment set out in Section 1 of this act, the State Board of Elections shall certify the amendment to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State shall enroll the amendment so certified among the permanent records of the office. If a majority of votes cast on the question are against the amendment as set out in Section 1 of this act, the amendment shall have no effect."

So, you're understandably asking yourself, why hasn't North Carolina gotten rid of this clearly unconstitutional state Constitutional Amendment long before now?

The back story is fascinating. It was 1899 when the N. C. General Assembly passed the controversial constitutional amendment.

Section 4 of Article VI of the N. C. Constitution was deemed appropriate by the U. S. Supreme Court in 1959 because of the

very broad way it was written (see Lassiter v. Northampton County Board of Elections). That allowed local boards of elections to use the requirement differently when it came to Black and White voters.

When the 1965 Voting Rights Act effectively declared North Carolina's literacy test voting requirement, the state was in no hurry to officially remove it from its books.

Finally, in 1969, someone in the State Legislature decided the Constitutional requirement needed to go and put the question before North Carolina's voters in a referendum, but 56% disagreed.

During the 2017-18 long session of the NC General Assembly, the State House unanimously passed HB 148, but it died in the Senate Rules Committee.

During the 2019-20 session, again, even with bipartisan support in the House, the measure did not make it out of the House Rules Committee.

Democrats are frustrated that a question so obvious seems so intractable. State Republicans, who have been in charge of the General Assembly since 2011, seem more embarrassed than anything else that they can't rid North Carolina's Constitution of this ugly Constitutional blight on their watch, even it's clear their party is engaged in numerous voter suppression schemes in light of the November 2020 election.

Tracking what happens with House Bill 337, if it ever gets to a statewide referendum in November 2022, what do North Carolina voters do with it, remains the open question.

"Passing this bill with bipartisan support and letting the people of North Carolina have the final say is needed now more than ever to show that our State is moving forward and truly believes in progress," says bill co-sponsor Rep. Terry Brown (D-Mecklenburg).

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



# Civil rights groups' issue solidarity statement on wave of hate crimes against Asian community; other communities of color

BY HAZEL TRICE EDNEY

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - More than 207 national civil rights organizations have released a unified statement condemning the recent wave of hate crimes against the Asian community; including last week's massacre in Atlanta where eight people were murdered. Six were women of Asian descent.

The March 23 statement, signed by many Black civil rights organizations, including the NAACP, the National Urban League and the National Action Network, marks a new precedent for communities of color uniting behind each other during a season of rising race hate crimes.

"White supremacist violence against communities of color continues to escalate, especially in recent years. The deadly shootings in the Atlanta area on March 16 follow an alarming 150 percent increase in violence and harassment against Asians and Asian Americans, with women reporting incidents at twice the rate as men, since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is no coincidence that the horrific attack targeted women of color working low-wage jobs, as women of color are the most likely to suffer the consequences of racism, misogyny, and white supremacy," the statement says.

The statement continues, "The civil and human rights community condemns these misogynistic and racist attacks and is united with our local allies in demanding community-centered responses to better support Asian women and elders, who have been disproportionately impacted by the increase in violence. These responses must include increased culturally informed support for survivors and the broader community; mean-



The National Action Network, headed by the Rev. Al Sharpton, is among 207 organizations that issued the anti-hate statement.

ingful physical and mental health care access, including for all immigrants; and economic assistance that focuses on those who need it most."

Among other civil and women's rights organizations on the list of 207 signatories to the letter are the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, the lead organization, which has a diverse membership of 220 national organizations.

Other organizations that signed the statement are African Communities Together; American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), Anti-Defamation League; Association of Asian Pacific Community; Center for the Study of Hate & Extremism at California State University, San Bernardino;

Chinese American Citizens Alliance; National Center for Civil and Human Rights; National Council of Negro Women; National Federation of Filipino American Associations; National Organization for Women; People For the American Way; Planned Parenthood

Federation of America

Poverty & Race Research Action Council; Voice of Vietnamese Americans; and YWCA USA.

The statement - without naming names - specifically speaks against politicians who participate in hate speech that has likely led to the increased violence. One example of that might be former President Donald Trump's calling the Coronavirus the "China virus" among his other descriptions, blaming the Asian community for the pandemic.

"Our leaders must take steps to acknowledge and address the impact of hateful rhetoric, violence, and vitriol that have been directed at Asian Americans, especially over the past year. They must ensure that Asian American communities, including local organizations, have the resources to effectively support people targeted for hate," the statement says. "When political leaders who seek to deepen divisions and their enablers dehumanize communities of color and sow hatred through rhetoric and policy, they embolden

white supremacists to commit horrific violence. This is unacceptable. We must all unite to demand accountability. Hate has no place in our country, and we cannot allow this bigotry to continue unaddressed."

Among other points made in the statement concerning the danger of the rising hate:

- The Office of the Director of National Intelligence issued a report on March 1 warning Congress about the rising threat of white supremacists, and in particular, lone offenders.

- Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas testified on March 17 that domestic extremism "poses the most lethal and persistent ter-

rorism-related threat to the homeland today."

- Asian Americans Advancing Justice-Atlanta and Georgia NAACP issued a collective statement: A Community-Centered Response to Violence Against Asian American Communities.

- National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum issued a call to President Biden for Emergency Safety and Relief for Asian American and Pacific Islander Communities.

Separately, the Rev. Al Sharpton and his National Action Network, held press conference March 18, alongside Asian American Leaders, New York Mayoral candidates and "advocates to decry the rise in hate attacks against the Asian Community."

THE WILMINGTON  
JOURNAL

ISSN 0049-7649  
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER  
Dedicated to R.S. Jervay,  
Founder of R.S. Jervay Printers,  
1901 and T.C. Jervay, Sr.,  
Founder of The Wilmington  
Journal, An offspring of  
the Cape Fear Journal, 1927  
Published Weekly At  
412 South Seventh Street,  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
By Wilmington Journal, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1020,  
Wilmington, NC 28402  
Periodical Postage Paid At  
Wilmington, NC 28402  
(910) 762-5502,  
Fax: (910) 343-1334,  
Email: wilmjourn@aol.com  
Website:  
www.wilmingtonjournal.com  
Single Copy \$1.00  
Local Subscriptions \$45 Yearly,  
Out of Town \$50 Yearly,  
Foreign \$55 Yearly  
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Included )  
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P.O. Box 1020,  
Wilmington, NC 28402

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## PATRICK

Continued from Page 1

of local history.

The Confederate statues were removed in the wake of protests about the 2020 George Floyd death at the knee of Minneapolis Policeman Derrick Chauvin. City of Wilmington officials deemed the "temporary removal," due to public safety hazards.

The new racism-related accountability culture reached the Port City, and Patrick's chairmanships of the New Hanover County Black Leadership Caucus, and the regional Black Lives Matter organization produced results.

Lower Cape Fear residents could not have known the popular recreation area, Hugh MacRae Park would be effectively denounced due to white supremacist views and activities connected to its namesake. Patrick declared a change in name was necessary for public land owned and maintained with taxpayers' dollars. She led in a movement that resulted in renaming the recreation area "Long Leaf Park."

The local activist also has the distinction of being North Carolina's first African American elected as Chairperson for the 7th Congressional District of the Democratic Party. Her oversight designations include Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, Johnston, New Hanover, Pender, and Sampson counties, and a portion of Harnett.

A native Wilmingtonian, Sonya Jackson Patrick attended local public schools during the 1970s and 80s. She was familiar with school integration woes and successes, and heard about the segregated South.

The daughter of Isaiah and Mary Ida Jackson has paternal links to Wrightsville Sound, and maternal lineage to the 1800s and Bellamy Mansion. Her ancestors were also members of the Civil War US Colored Troops.

Patrick's mother was the first African American Budget Department Manager for the local mall Belk Store. Previously hired as the second black in the upscale downtown Belk Berry Department Store, Mrs. Jackson was also a cultural change agent.

Sonya was reared in a Christian household with a heritage of Baptist ministers. She grew up in the historic Central Baptist Church where the 1898 minister, the Rev. J. Allen Kirk played a prominent role in the, "Riot of 1898," according to UNC system archives.

Sonya attended the private Episcopal HBCU (Historically Black College/University), Saint Augustine College in Raleigh. In 1985 she completed an undergraduate degree in Computer Science, and owns a local business, VIP Associates.

Years ago her attention was drawn to the work of Winnie Mandela who main-

tained leadership of the movement against Apartheid in South Africa while husband, Nelson was imprisoned.

"Learning the structure of any institution or organization, including government, leads to understanding agendas, how changes can be made," Patrick said.

As young Democrats, she and her late husband Ricky attended district meetings and conventions.

Those early interactions led to connections with well known Party principals. Mel Williams, Mike McIntyre, Pamela D. Campbell, Sandra Spaulding Hughes, Bev Purdue, the late Senator Luther Jordan, and Kenneth Davis prepare them for future social justice activities.

Amid giggles she recalled an Aunt, better known as Apostle Willie Rhames, from a small Pentecostal church prophesying after observing her campaign activities for President Obama. "She said, 'You are going to be in politics.' But you know how they talk, and I paid little attention to it," Patrick said.

One week later Helen Worthy, a Party leader called asking her to become chairperson of the mostly white Democratic Women's regional groups. A shocked Patrick accepted and has organized all nine regional units. When she became chairman only four of nine groups were functioning.

Patrick is now focused is on renewing conversations

and actions regarding reparations for African Americans. Efforts have faltered after major wins in 2014, she said.

One possible rectifying example could provide scholarships to any NC college or university for descendants of family units interrupted or banished during the local 1898 insurrection, she suggested.

Rebuilding Black businesses, supporting the Black Church, the Black Press and other entities negatively affected in 1898 are other ideas.

Sonya Patrick used her community contacts and organizational skills for a successful 2021 Wilmington Journal capital campaign. Her work to preserve the African-American owned newspaper is attributed to her respect of history, and a mission to support important community resources in the NC 7th Congressional District.

On March 30 the Black Lives Matter, and National Black Leadership Caucus organizations will participate in a virtual Louisville public meeting on the Breonna Taylor, "No Knock Warrant," shooting by police. (For information about the virtual Taylor meeting, or any of Patrick's organizations contact:

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**HOLD ON TO YOUR VACCINATION CARD**

[WILMINGTON] Many of us are finally getting our second COVID-19 shots of either the Pfizer or the Moderna vaccines, and

have the cards nurses gave us afterward. Experts caution to make sure you hold on to those cards. They tell when, where and what kind of vaccine you've received, as well as how many doses (if you've receive the single shot Johnson & Johnson), your card should reflect that. You may need those cards to prove your vaccination status down the road, like if you plan to fly, for instance. Keep them in a

safe place.

**WHITE CREEDMOOR COMMISSIONER VERBALLY ATTACKS BLACK CITY WORKER, GETS BANNED FROM BUILDING**

[CREEDMOOR] A White Creedmoor city commissioner is now banned from City Hall after she admittedly went to the office of a Black city administrator and verbally assaulted her

to the point where the police chief had to step in. Commissioner Georgana Kicinski has actually agreed with her colleagues, who voted to ban her from City Hall except in case of an official meeting. She voted with the board to also censure her for her behavior. The Black city administrator is seeking a restraining order, and says the censure and an apology isn't enough.

**GOV. COOPER EASES COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS**

[RALEIGH] By executive order, Gov. Roy Cooper Tuesday announced that he is relaxing restrictions put in place to manage the COVID-19 pandemic throughout the state for the past year. Those restrictions, along with increased vaccinations, have helped to trend the prevalence of the coronavirus down. Now retail store, barbershops

and salons can operate at 100% capacity. Restaurants, gyms and pools can operate at 75%, and 100% outdoors. Bars, arenas and conference centers can operate at 50%. All businesses will still mandate masks, and the 6 foot apart rule.

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS



REV. WILLIAM BARBER IS SPECIAL GUEST AT EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH IN ATLANTA WHERE SENATOR RAPHAEL WARNOCK IS PASTOR.

**GOP-led legislature moves to counter federal voting law**

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

If passed by the Democrat-led U.S. Congress, H. R. 1 (also known as the "For the People Act") will allow no-excuse mail-in voting, automatic voter registration, and mandate at least 15 days of early voting.

"Since the January election, some 250 voter suppression bills have been introduced by state legislatures all across the country from Georgia to Arizona, from New Hampshire to Florida, using the big lie of voter fraud as a pretext for voter suppression," said Sen. Raphael Warnock [D-GA] during his first speech on the Senate floor since being elected, endorsing H. R. 1, which has been passed in the U. S. House of Representatives.

It would also counter most of the so-called "election integrity" measures Sen. Warnock referenced, being passed by a plethora of Republican-led state legislatures across the country, measures, critics say, that target Black, young and other voters who are not likely to choose the Republican Party in future elections to come.

"It is the single most dangerous piece of legislation before Congress," Sen. Ted Cruz [R-TX] told Fox News recently. "What I call ...the corrupt politicians act."

"If Democrats pass H. R. 1, it's going to be absolutely devastating for Republicans in this country," a Georgia Republican strategist recently told ABC News.

Apparently North Carolina's legislative Republicans got the memo because beyond the one "election integrity" bill they've filed this session so far (more are expected), this week they've also filed House Joint Resolution 330 - "expressing North Carolina's opposition to any federal action infringing upon the State's constitutional authority to manage, control and administer elections."

The joint resolution goes on to state that the U.S. Constitution "vests power in the states" to employ their own election law, and that the federal government does not "delegate" that power.

The proposed resolution then calls out H. R. 1, "...a bill introduced in the United States Congress [that] would obliterate the constitutional arrangement between states and the government of the United States by usurping the constitution power of states [to control elections] by prohibiting various practices and mandating others, such as forcing states to conduct an election over an extended period of time, prohibiting states from maintaining voter rolls free from error and obsolete information, and forcing states to accept an elector who does not register to vote in advance, mandates related to mail voting, prohibitions against regulating ballot harvesting, and scores of other intrusions into the power of state to [control]...their elections..."

Section 1 of the joint resolution then makes it clear that H. R. 1 is not welcome in North Carolina.

"The members of the North Carolina General Assembly oppose any attempt by the federal government to usurp, or otherwise interfere with, the State's legislative sovereign authority over the [control] of elections."

House Joint Resolution 330 has lots of bark, but legally has little bite, which is why Republicans are so desperate to stop it. As in years past, the federal government does have the right to protect the voting rights of all U. S. citizens, especially if it sees a history of violations on the part of states in the past.

Given North Carolina's notorious past of federal court decisions decrying its discriminatory voter ID and unconstitutional redistricting policies, it is no surprise that H. R. 1, if it becomes law, would not be welcomed by Republicans here.

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## OUR VOICE

### GUEST EDITORIAL RAINBOW PUSH COALITION

## The right to vote is the foundation of democracy

(TriceEdneyWire.com)

The right to vote is the essential foundation of democracy. Yet today, across America, there is a systematic campaign by one party to curtail the right to vote, targeted particularly at minorities and the young. As the Brennan Center for Justice reports,

Republicans have introduced more than 250 legislative bills in 43 states that would make voting more difficult. The campaign is propelled by the big lie spread by Donald Trump that the 2020 presidential election was stolen from him. Republicans claim to be intent on restoring people's confidence in the election system.

In fact, Trump's lies were refuted by state Republican election officials, by federal courts, many presided over by Trump-appointed judges, and by Trump's own attorney general. Republican senators and legislators and elected state officials do not question the legitimacy of their victories. Yet they are now using Trump's big lie as the rationale for suppressing the right to vote. Many of the legislative changes are surgically targeted to impact Black and minority voters.



Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.

In Georgia, for example, Republicans are pushing legislation to limit early in-person voting days, to end no-excuse mail voting (except for voters over 65, who tend to vote Republican), and to limit the hours that mail ballot drop boxes will be open. They even seek to end Sunday in-person voting in the weeks leading up to the election, to curtail the "souls to the polls" efforts by Black churches to encourage civic participation.

Georgia election officials notoriously cut the number of polling stations, particularly in Fulton County, where Black voters are concentrated. That forced voters to wait for hours in long lines to cast a vote.

That, of course, made it more difficult for workers and those who were ailing to vote. Now to make it even harder, Republican legislators seek to prohibit volunteers from giving water and food to those waiting in line. Lines themselves are a national disgrace. The ban on water and food is an offense against basic decency. Sadly, in America, the right to vote has always been contested.

The Founders limited the right to vote to male property owners; neither women nor, needless to say, slaves could vote. It took massive struggles — and eventually a Civil War — to end slavery and gain the right to vote for African Americans. But almost immediately, across the South, the Confederate establishment erected Jim Crow laws to enforce segregation and devised a range of tactics — from poll taxes, to rigged exams to plain violent intimidation — to keep African Americans from voting.

One of the first objectives of the civil rights movement was passage of the Voting Rights Act, mandating federal protection of the right to vote, and prior federal review of changes that would discriminate against African Americans. Today's Republicans — the modern-day Confederates — are brazen in their efforts to ensure that only the "right" people vote. The gang of five right-wing justices on the Supreme Court gutted the Voting Rights Act, opening the floodgates to discriminatory state restrictions.

The election in 2022 will be the first post-census election since the gutting of the Voting Rights Act. And Republicans are once more intent on making it harder for minorities to vote. The U.S. House of Representatives passed essential legislation — H.R. 1, the For the People Act — to provide federal standards to elections to federal office. H.R. 1 (labeled S1 in the Senate) would provide for automatic voter registration and same-day voter registration. It would mandate a minimum of 15 days for early voting, with polls open at least 10 hours per day so that workers might have a chance to vote. It would limit purges of voting rolls.

The new law would require nonpartisan citizen commissions to do redistricting after a new census. It would require super PACs and "dark money" operations to disclose their donors. It would provide matching grants for small donations, reducing the force of big money in our elections. These are simply common-sense standards for a clean election system.

Yet Republicans furiously denounce them, and Senate Republicans promise to filibuster against the act, blocking its passage unless Democrats can unify around suspending the filibuster in order to allow the majority to pass it. Over the last years, America has become increasingly polarized politically. But democracy — and the right to vote — must be above partisanship.

There ought to be universal support for creating an election system that makes voting easy, limits big money and requires nonpartisan redistricting. It is shameful that the efforts to suppress the vote of African Americans and others that were perfected under segregation are being revived in a new guise in the 21st century. Americans must mobilize to demand that the Senate pass H.R. 1 to protect the right to vote.

And whether it passes or not, African Americans, Latinos, the young should see the efforts to suppress their vote as the insult that it is. And we should mobilize to vote in large numbers — overcoming whatever barriers are put in our way — to reaffirm our democratic rights, and to hold accountable those who would try to trample them.

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

## VISUAL VOICE



## MATTERS OF OPINION

### TO BE EQUAL

### #StopAsianHate:

## Racism, misogyny and easy access to guns are a deadly combination

(TriceEdneyWire.com)

"I can't remember ever having experienced racism separate from sexism. When I turn into a lane too slowly on the streets of Los Angeles, I am not surprised if someone rolls down the window to call me a 'c--- b---.' When I reject or ignore sexual propositions from white men, some come back at me with racial slurs and even threats. Even the perception that I will not fight back if I am attacked racially is a form of racism intersecting with sexism. This is the lived reality for too many Asian American women." — Sociologist and author Nancy Wang Yuen



Marc Morial

This week our nation suffered another deadly shooting spree inspired by misogyny and racism, enabled by irresponsibly lax firearm regulation. A self-described "sex addict" seeking to rid himself of "temptation" fatally shot eight people at Atlanta-area massage parlors, six of them women of Asian descent. The initial response of investigators, who downplayed the role of race in the killings, revealed a disturbing ignorance of the nation's history of sexualized racism and violence. Even the agency investigat-

ing the shootings appears to be steeped in anti-Asian sentiment. Not only did its spokesman express empathy for the shooter, saying he was "at the end of his rope" and was having "a really bad day," but that same sheriff's deputy has made anti-Asian social media posts and promoted a racist t-shirt.

The suspect purchased a gun just hours before the killings; Georgia requires no waiting period for firearms sales. The state has earned an "F" from the Giffords Law Center on its on their annual scorecard of gun laws in all 50 states. Easy access to firearms — most background checks take about 100 seconds, according to Giffords' executive director — is especially deadly in a climate of rising hate crimes and record levels of white supremacist propaganda.

Just last week, Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University reported that hate crimes targeting Asian people rose by nearly 150 percent over the last year, stoked by former President Trump cynically seeking a scapegoat for his tragic mishandling of the coronavirus pandemic.

White supremacist propaganda in the form of flyers, stickers, banners and graffiti doubled in 2020, reaching the highest level ever recorded by the Anti-Defamation League.

Stop AAPI Hate, a national coalition addressing anti-Asian discrimination during the pandemic, received nearly 3,800 reports of hate incidents over the last year, ranging

from verbal harassment to workplace discrimination to physical assault. When women are the targets, racial slurs are often accompanied by crude references to sex.

"Killing Asian American women to eliminate a man's temptation speaks to the history of the objectification of Asian and Asian American women as variations of the Asian temptress, the dragon ladies and the lotus blossoms, whose value is only in relation to men's fantasies and desires," Sung Yeon Choimorrow, executive director of the nonprofit National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum, said.

The National Urban League rejects the objectification, fetishization and stereotyping of women of color. Our hearts are with the families who lost their loved ones, including Delaina Yaun, mother of a 13-year-old boy and an 8-month-old baby girl; Paul Andre Michels, an Army veteran and business owner; Xiaojie Yan, owner of the spa where she was shot; and Daoyou Feng. Police have not released the names of the other four victims, but our prayers are also with them and Elcias R. Hernandez-Ortiz, who was wounded.

Last month, the National Urban League and other civil rights and social justice groups outlined a comprehensive set of actions to combat anti-Asian hate and violence. These include:

Enacting comprehensive hate crime laws at both the state and local levels and

ensuring that law enforcement agencies fully implement and enforce them;

Uniform Crime Reporting agencies need to standardize and include more details in their documentation of hate crimes;

Local law enforcement and state agencies should fully comply with the Hate Crimes Statistics Act, and efforts should be made to include detailed data on the Asian American and Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander communities;

A public campaign to push back on hate speech promoted by government officials and those running for office; and

Greater investment in linguistically and culturally competent community resources.

After four years of policy, rhetoric and messaging at the highest levels of government that fanned the flames of bigotry and inspired acts of violence against communities of color, the pandemic has brought us to a crossroads. It exposed America's racial fault lines in nearly every indicator — health care, economic stability, justice, and democracy — and forced the nation to confront its legacy of white supremacy. We must seize the opportunity to create lasting change by emerging from this crisis a stronger nation determined to achieve a more perfect union for all its people.

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

## Prophetic politics and Black America: "What will you do unto the least of these?"

(NNPANewswire)

If it were not for the Black Church in America, our long struggle for freedom, justice, equality, equity, and empowerment would not have made the progress that has been accomplished over the past 500 to 400 years. I speak in the tradition of my Presbyterian great-great grandfather, The Reverend John Chavis (1763-1838) in North Carolina and The Reverend Nat Turner (1800-1831) in Virginia.



Dr. Benjamin Chavis Jr.

Depending on when you define the beginning of the international Transatlantic Slave Trade will give you a deeper insight on why the religious, political, and historical perspectives of people of African descent still matter in the United States and across the African Diaspora in 2021.

The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in his theological genius, courage, and prophetic utterances, challenged all of us when he clearly stated, "An injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." Black church leaders uphold the tradition

of speaking truth to power:

It is, therefore, a reaffirmation of my faith in the oneness of God and the oneness of humanity that I must join to publicly support my African American clergy leaders in Washington, DC and across the nation who dare to remind even some of our own local African American elected officials that we all should stand for helping those among us who are less fortunate, poor, homeless, malnourished, imprisoned, returning-from-prison, and destitute.

To that end, a group of distinguished African American clergy leaders and other community leaders on March 9, 2021 sent an urgent letter of concern to The Honorable Vincent C. Gray, DC Ward 7 City Councilmember and former Mayor of Washington, DC. I consider Vincent Gray a friend that I have admired over the past years.

The ministers expressed their strong objection to an effort that Councilmember Gray is leading to terminate the contract of the service provider currently running the short-term housing program at The Horizon in Ward 7.

As the letter points out, that program has been delivering an essential service to families in desperation and facing homelessness. And the social service provider that the city

entrusted to provide this essential service, CORE DC, has been lauded by city officials as a dedicated and ideal partner.

It is therefore troubling that anyone would want to end this, particularly since the program is a bedrock of stability for those most in need, as well as a transformative centerpiece of Washington, DC Mayor Muriel Bowser's effective fight against poverty in the nation's capital city.

The ministers argue that Councilmember Gray's effort has nothing to do with the exemplary services CORE DC continues to provide. Instead, the ministers say this is all driven by Councilmember Gray's opposition to a completely unrelated project involving the federal government's plan to contract CORE DC to provide critically needed reentry services for men returning home from periods of incarceration in federal prison.

We hope that is not, in fact, what's unfolding, particularly at a time when a pandemic has exacerbated the desperation of individuals who are on the economic margins of society, but the ministers are nevertheless adamant in their plea.

"The effort to dismantle this program is troubling enough on its own," the ministers write. "But it is even

worse in light of the fact that you have openly — and at times inexplicably — taken a hostile stance against CORE DC regarding the organization's plans to open another facility in Ward 7, a residential reentry center for returning citizens."

I am hopeful and prayerful that Councilmember Gray will respond affirmatively and will heed the requests of church and community leaders to support CORE DC and The Horizon residential facilities in Ward 7 to continue to offer critical needed services to DC's homeless and those returning citizens from prisons and jails.

There will always be political differences among elected officials. Yet, differences of opinion about public policies among elected officials should never rise to the occasion to permit a turning of backs on the poor and the homeless. In other words, those who are privileged to make decisions that will impact the quality of life of others should always be concerned about the least of those among us.

All of the major metropolitan areas in the United States are facing the challenges of homelessness and poverty. While we live in the richest

CHAVIS

Continued on page 5

VOICE YOUR OPINION!  
WRITE A LETTER TO  
THE EDITOR TODAY

## Thin line

(TriceEdneyWire.com) -

I am not an outdoors-person, but I am naturally curious and pay attention to my surroundings. Being observant satisfies my curiosities and affords me better understanding of how we creatures behave and interact.

In my youth, I can remember going outside and seeing numerous shiny lines in the garden, on steps, and, sometimes, windows and doors. I, first, ignored those lines, but, eventually, asked my mother what they were. She said they were the trails left by slugs foraging through our garden, often ruining our vegetables. She explained that table salt could kill them. I did not like slugs then and I do not like them now.

Thinking abstractly, those slimy slugs have become analogous to Donald J. Trump, his acolytes, and their willingness to destroy the fabric of this nation's democracy for self-aggrandizement and to create an environment of racial superiority. Like the slugs of our garden, their initial damage may be minimized, but, left unchecked, their damage can be significant.

After January 20th, I intended to leave Trump and his administration in the dust heaps unpleasant memories, but disclosures of his gross mismanagement, disregard for the public welfare, and connection to churning of sediments of racial discord deserve comment. Moreover, emerging evidence of Trump's attempt to replicate



Dr. E. Faye Williams

the permanent, autocratic strongmen he admires (Putin, Kim, and Erdogan) requires a challenge to the potential destruction of our nation's democratic principles and viability of our institutional constructs.

Although gone, Trump has left thousands of disciples willing to act seditiously to overthrow our current government in his behalf. He has opened a floodgate of racism and intolerance that will not close, and he has been the founder of "Institutional Lies," which with his other infractions, cause suffering among those

he targets.

January 6, 2021 is testament to the influence Trump has over a radical right populace willing to supplant our 250-year democracy in favor of an evolving dictatorship. One should not breathe a sigh of relief yet. January 6th failed to interrupt government process, but, among the Trump faithful, there remains a willingness to immediately reinstate him to the seat of power.

If you listen without your crazy filters, you will hear highly placed Trump loyalists present thoughts that are only to be said "quietly." A chief example is Senator Ron Johnson from Wisconsin. Tone deaf and blind to the obvious violence, Johnson expressed collaborative belief systems with January 6th terrorists in opposition to Black Lives Matter demonstrators of this past summer. I welcome anyone to explain his statements without using the lens of race.

Few need to be reminded of Trump's lies throughout the COVID pandemic. The number of lives lost to these lies can only be speculated, but it is doubtful that State and local governments and individual citizens would

have responded as negligently without the endorsement of the president.

Despite Trump's protestations of inaccuracy, a report from the Director of National Intelligence confirms that Russia was a principal actor in efforts to support Trump in 2016 and 2020 and discredit the Biden campaign. Willing actors (Ex: Rudi Giuliani) were used to spread Russian, anti-Biden dis-information and promote a lack of confidence in the election process.

Too many Trump transgressions have emerged for us to believe we are done with him. Like the slug, his slime tells where he's been, but we have no real knowledge of where he's going, and what he plans to do. Increased voter suppression activities may give us a hint. He holds sway over too many people for us to relax.

His obvious trail of slime reminds us that, although gone, he and his acolytes are eager to leave a trail of discord and destruction for us to fall victim to.

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

## CRAZY FAITH MINISTRIES The disenchantment with democracy

Before the "former guy" won the presidential election in 2016, I was sitting in a country club, waiting for a friend to show up. Full disclosure: he was a member of the country club, not me.

I was sitting at a table near four white women, obviously out for an afternoon with the girls. Our tables were very close to each other and they were talking loud enough for me to hear them. In retrospect, they may have been talking loud intentionally, to make sure I heard them.

They were going on and on about Donald Trump. He had apparently mesmerized them. They talked about how Obama had ruined the country, and about how they were sure he was a Muslim. With what sounded like genuine sadness, they talked about how "their" country had slipped to a place from which it would never recover, and they talked about how they loved Mr. Trump and about how he was "so patriotic."

I was flummoxed, not about their disdain about Mr. Obama, although I did not see the ruination of the country that they did. No, what I was taken aback by was their declaration that he was such a patriot. I had to do a quick search of all I had learned about him - but nothing in my memories corresponded or led to a conclusion about his patriotism. Yes, he talked about making America first, but I was not sure what that really meant. For these women, however, he was not only a patriot but one to be highly respected.

The would-be president had avoided the military draft five times - four times as a college student, and one time after graduation for a physical impediment: bone spurs. (<https://www.businessinsider.com/donald-trump-avoided-the-military-draft-which-was-common-at-the-time-vietnam-war-2018-12>) During his presidency, he insulted families of soldiers killed in Niger, including La David Johnson (<https://www.vanityfair.com/news/2017/10/donald-trump-grieving-military-family>) and insulted the Gold Star parents of Humayun Khan, who was killed in action. (<https://www.vanityfair.com/news/2017/10/donald-trump-grieving-military-family>) He insulted the late Sen. John McCain by disparaging his military service, including being a prisoner of war, saying he didn't consider McCain a hero and explaining that he liked soldiers who didn't get captured. (<https://www.votevets.org/press/gold-star-mother-responds-to-trump-comments-on-the-khan-family>) (<https://www.npr.org/2019/03/21/705598385/among-false-claims-trump-attacked-mccain-for-failing-veterans>)

I thought patriots were those who respected the United States military because they fought to save democracy, but what is clear is that though the "former guy" and many of his adorers, their conception of "our country" is not necessarily that for which the soldiers fought. It seems that "our country" to them, should be an authoritarian government, led by one man, with the traditional characteristic features of democracy - i.e., the three branches of government - all collapsed into the hands of one totalitarian leader.

The disenchantment with democracy that is being felt in this country is not isolated to the United States; governments all over the world are choosing autocratic governments over democracy. The question is, why? In a survey taken by the Pew Research Center, 51 percent of people living in democracies are disenchanting with their government because of the state of the economy, the surge of immigrants, and troubling health care. (<https://www.pewresearch.org/global/2019/04/29/many-across-the-globe-are-dissatisfied-with-how-democracy-is-working/>) There is also disgust with what is perceived domination of the government by "the elite," and, in this country, a belief that "the deep state" is the enemy of the people.

What is confusing, however, is that the people who said they loved democracy had no issue with "the former guy" who was systematically dismantling of this nation's institutions. They were mostly silent as he erased America's footprints off of the path of global solidarity by breaking relationships with its allies and sociopolitical institutions like the World Health Organization (<https://www.cnn.com/2020/05/29/trump-says-the-us-will-cut-ties-with-world-health-organization.html>) and the Paris Climate Agreement (<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/06/01/climate/trump-paris-climate-agreement.html>) was why Americans would go along with his agenda.

How can one be a patriot, and how can a country be a democracy if the leader is systematically tearing it down in plain sight?

Authoritarian governments have long been the preference of many world leaders. Even the founders of this country disapproved of "too much" involvement "by the people" in running the government. Their presence and their voice would disrupt the balance of power which the founders worked deftly to form and to protect. ([https://medium.com/@steven\\_weeney/we-are-watching-the-hijacking-of-the-united-states-and-the-united-kingdom-bebe26c8680](https://medium.com/@steven_weeney/we-are-watching-the-hijacking-of-the-united-states-and-the-united-kingdom-bebe26c8680)) People, it seems, do not like too much diversity or too much liberalism. In this country, the fact that we are an ethnically diverse nation bothers some lawmakers and citizens to their very cores. What they want is familiarity and a return to a time when things and people could be controlled, kept in their place, and frightened by the power wielded against them to keep them quiet.

Cable news hosts are saying that democracy persisted, but the truth is that democracy is hanging on by a thin thread. This government seems like it is on the down side of a hill it has been climbing for some time, and when they/we get down that side of the hill, what we see and experience will be much different from the life we have learned to appreciate.

We will echo the song of the Israelites, we will be in a strange land, and we, too, will weep when we remember Zion.

© Copyright Susan K Smith. Please consider purchasing my latest book, *With Liberty and Justice for Some: The Bible, the Constitution, and Racism in America*.

## CHAVIS

Continued from page 4

nation in the world, we cannot afford to lose sight of our mutual civic and moral responsibilities to be our "brothers' and sisters' keepers."

The following biblical scripture reference should apply to all urban public policymakers: "What you do unto the least of these, you do also unto me." That is why I use the term "prophetic politics" as the act of political decision-making as a reaffirmation and practice of one's faith and commitment to serve all of humankind fairly and justly.

The Black Press of America grew out of the

Black Church 194 years ago with the publication of Freedom's Journal in New York City in 1827 by John Russwurm and The Reverend Samuel Cornish. We knew back then as we know today that we must continue "to plead our own cause" to demand freedom and equality. This also means that we are obligated to plead with each other to treat one another fairly and equitably as well.

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. is President and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) and Executive Producer and Host of The Chavis Chronicles (TCC) on PBS TV stations across the U.S. and can be reached at [dr.bchavis@nnpa.org](mailto:dr.bchavis@nnpa.org).

## A very bad day

(TriceEdneyWire.com)

I have bad days, even very bad days, as we all do. Example. I woke up late on a day when I had an 8 am meeting. Most days, I'm up before 6, but this day I just blew it. So I'm in a rush, and the new pair of pantyhose runs at the touch of my unmanicured nail. Gotta find a new pair. Go out to my car. No gas. Call an Uber. They late.

When I get to my appointment, a scant 5 minutes late, I am met by the assistant of an anal man who says he has to reschedule because I am too late (5 minutes!) to accommodate. So I decide to get a coffee at Starbucks and meander to my lunch meeting, a few blocks away.

But when I check my cell, I realize that my lunch meeting is canceled. I make my way home, frustrated and annoyed. A very bad day. I don't go buy myself a 9-millimeter gun or drive by a bunch of places where the white men who have frustrated me are employed. I don't kill a bunch of people. I don't tell anyone there is some sexual obsession that drove me to insanity.

Instead, I do what I often do when I am frustrated. I get

some ice cream, preferably butter pecan, and take a small spoon to the big pint. Maybe I have a unique cognac. Or, I call out for some bbq brisket and fried Brussel sprouts. Worst case scenario, I sit in front of my fireplace and shed a few tears for my man, recently departed, who always talked me out of frustration.



Dr. Julianne Malveaux

I cannot understand why Cherokee County Captain Jay Baker, the spokesperson for the law enforcement group that captured the depraved murderer, would describe his actions as "a very bad day." Of course, he has since apologized and was removed from his spokesperson duties. And of course, his boss has described his words as the source of "much debate and anger."

I guess Jay Baker just had "a very bad day". But not as bad a day as Delania Ashley Young, 33, Xiaojie Tanm 49, Do you Feng, 44, Paul Michels, 54, and four others experienced. It was a white boy bad day that left eight people dead. This rude

recounting of a massacre is the essence of White supremacy. You make it all about you. Eight people are dead, six of the Asian American women.

And you had a bad day! Let me tell you about bad days. Vincent Chin, a Chinese American engineer, ran into some depraved white Chrysler employees on June 22, 1982. They blamed him, and folks like him, for the job cuts that Chrysler imposed due to Japanese imports (Chinese, Japanese, not the same thing). Chin was beaten to death, and his murderers got a \$3000 fine and 3 years probation. The message - Asian lives don't matter. Or, more intersectionally, "other" lives don't matter.

Racist hate has racial dehumanization as its roots. You can't lynch Black people unless you think they are something less than human. You couldn't do that to your mother or brother or sister. You can't sexualize and shoot Asian American women unless you think they are less than human. Would you shoot your aunt or cousin to satisfy your sexual dysfunction?

George Floyd had a "very bad day" when Derek Chauvin killed him with a nearly 9-minute knee to the neck.

Sandra Bland had a "very bad day" when a rabid Brian Encina decided to arrest her for both a minor traffic offense and for her unwillingness to bow down in front of him. Twelve-year-old Tamir Rice had a very bad day when, just seconds after sighting him, the much-maligned Timothy Loehmann (fired from another Ohio police department) executed him.

Dylan Roof, the deranged white man who shot up Emanuel African Episcopal Church in Carolina church and killed nine people, had such a bad day that the men who arrested him took him to Burger King to get a sandwich. In other words, your bad day can result in my murder. Your sexual dysfunction becomes my problem. Your gross ignorance puts me at risk because I am a woman - Black, Brown, Asian, Native American. There is a genderized component to American racism, and this genderized component makes it okay for an intellectually vacuous law enforcement official to describe a vicious massacre as "a very bad day". Bad for who?

Dr. Julianne Malveaux is an economist and author. She can be reached at [julianne@malveaux.com](mailto:julianne@malveaux.com).

## Black farmers and COVID relief

(TriceEdneyWire.com)

If you ever begin to doubt that elections matter, think about Black farmers.

The new COVID relief law takes significant steps to address decades of shameful discrimination against Black farmers by the federal government. And that would not have happened without voters putting Joe Biden and Kamala Harris in the White House and giving Democrats a majority in the Senate.

The discrimination is well-documented. So is its devastating impact on Black farming families.

Consider a few statistics. One hundred years ago, there were more than 925,000 Black-run farms. By 2017, that number had dropped by more than 95 percent. Today less than two percent of farmers in the U.S. are Black, and 98 percent of farmland is owned by white landowners.

Part of the problem is state laws that often force the sale of inherited farmland for pennies on the dollar. But this is not a problem confined to the Confederate states or the Jim Crow era. This is largely a problem of intentional discrimination by employees of the federal government.

Bigoted bureaucrats and discriminatory policies at the U.S. Department of Agriculture and its Farmers Home Administration lending

agency abused Black farmers for decades. Black farms were falsely classified as unproductive. Farmers were unfairly denied loans that they were entitled to receive. The government stalled and buried their complaints about discrimination. Land was taken and given to white farmers.



Ben Jealous

Senate Democrats reported recently that Black farmers in the South have lost more than 12 million acres of farmland since the 1950s.

In 1982, the U.S. Civil Rights Commission said that the Farmers Home Administration's unresponsiveness "hindered the efforts of Black small farmers to remain a viable force in agriculture." During the 1990s, many farmers were cut out of meaningful help they should have gotten from lawsuit settlements.

Official neglect and mistreatment of Black farmers continued into the 21st Century: one study found that from 2006 to 2016, the federal government was six times as likely to foreclose on a Black farmer as on a white one. Money handed out by the Trump administration to survive the trade war he started,

and to help farmers deal with the pandemic, mostly bypassed Black farmers.

Last fall, Sens. Cory Booker, Elizabeth Warren and Kirsten Gillibrand introduced the Justice for Black Farmers Act. It was designed to address and correct the discrimination that "caused Black farmers to lose millions of acres of farmland and robbed Black farmers and their families of hundreds of billions of dollars of inter-generational wealth."

And then the 2020 elections created powerful opportunities for Black farmers. During the first week of the Biden-Harris administration, the Department of Agriculture halted debt collection and foreclosure for thousands of farmers behind in federal loan payments, many of them Black. Newly elected Sen. Raphael Warnock—thank you, Georgia voters!—introduced the Emergency Relief for Farmers of Color Act, which became part of the COVID relief legislation known as the American Rescue Plan.

That measure, passed by Congress and signed into law by President Biden includes \$10 billion to support agriculture. About half of that is set aside to help Black farmers through debt relief, education, training, and land acquisition. The law includes \$4 billion in direct aid to get farmers out of debt. And it includes \$1 billion to create

and fund a commission to deal with the longstanding discrimination and inequity in USDA programs.

And Senator Booker has reintroduced last year's bill, which would include a program for getting land into the hands of Black farmers, other farmers of color, and other "underserved producers."

These long-overdue steps toward reversing generations of wrongdoing are not just the result of a single election. They are the fruit of decades of organizing by Black farmers and their advocates to document and challenge racist discrimination and injustice. And to get Black people and their allies to vote.

Organizing and elections can change the world. Together we are making—and remaking—history. Let's keep it up!

Ben Jealous serves as president of People For the American Way and People For the American Way Foundation. Jealous has decades of experience as a leader, coalition builder, campaigner for social justice and seasoned nonprofit executive. In 2008, he was chosen as the youngest-ever president and CEO of the NAACP. He is a graduate of Columbia University and Oxford, where he was a Rhodes Scholar. He has taught at Princeton and the University of Pennsylvania.

## Cameron Art Museum to host virtual telethon on April 24 to raise funds for Boundless, a new sculpture commemorating United States Colored Troops

Cameron Art Museum (CAM) will host a virtual telethon on Saturday, April 24 from 9 am – 3 pm on Facebook Live: (<https://www.facebook.com/CameronArtMuseumraise>) to raise funds for Boundless, new public sculpture by North Carolina artist Stephen Hayes commemorating the United States Colored Troops (USCT). The telethon will feature an interview with Stephen Hayes, as well as remarks from supporters, historians, re-enactors, and those involved with the project. CAM's goal is to raise \$75,000 in funds for the project, which will go directly towards paying for the material for the sculpture. Donors can participate by purchasing pavers to be installed permanently at the site or making a tax deductible donation at any level.

Located on the site of the Battle of Forks Road on the

grounds of CAM, this life-size bronze sculpture features the life casts of 11 African American men connected to the Battle of Forks Road and its story – USCT descendants, re-enactors, veterans, and local community leaders. Josiah Patrick, one of the young men in the sculpture, is a descendant of four USCT soldiers.

CAM stands on the site of the Battle of Forks Road, a Civil War skirmish whose victory was won by the USCT and led to the fall of the Confederacy's last seaport. Many of the African American soldiers who fought here were native to this area, and after the war, many stayed to build community. These 1,600 USCT soldiers fought for the United States, but they also fought for their freedom and the abolishment of slavery. Their

impact is significant, yet the story is virtually unknown.

Artist Stephen Hayes says, "As a black man in America, you see the imagery of a Black person in chains, being whipped, begging, kneeling and helpless. This project is important to me because, as a creator, I get to change that narrative—by giving Black soldiers a sense of honor and pride."

The USCT Project is timely and necessary, as our nation looks closely at issues of race and systemic racism. This project, with its goal of engaging the community and addressing race and racism through programming that contextualizes Stephen Hayes's USCT sculpture with local history, will benefit Wilmington, NC, a city struggling to reconcile a tragic past of white supremacy.

Durham-born artist Stephen Hayes is the recipi-



**CAMERON ART MUSEUM TO HOST VIRTUAL TELETHON ON APRIL 24**

ent of the 1858 Prize for Contemporary South Art and teaches at Duke University. He is known for his figurative work, specifically depicting

the African American experience. Hayes's work has been featured at the National Cathedral, Winston Salem State University, Duke

### Give Now

Call us at (910) 395-5999 or visit  
[USCTPublicSculpture.org](http://USCTPublicSculpture.org)

*Boundless*

A New Work by Artist Stephen Hayes  
Commemorating the United States Colored Troop  
Unveiling Date: November 13, 2021

*The South was fighting for the Confederacy.  
The North was fighting for the Union.  
The USCT were fighting for their freedom.*

Former slave James Bayles enlisted in the 5th United States Colored Troops in Yorktown, VA, in 1864. He was wounded at the Battle of Forks Road in Wilmington, NC, where 1,600 brave USCT fought for freedom. Learn their story this fall at Cameron Art Museum.

Image Credit: Photo by PRSNC

University, CAM Raleigh, Rosa Parks Museum, African American Museum of Philadelphia, and Harvey B. Gantt Center, among others.

## CFCC receives \$70,000 from Step Up for Soldiers to fund veteran scholarships

Wilmington, NC – Step Up for Soldiers recently awarded \$70,000 to the Cape Fear Community College Foundation to be used for student veteran scholarships.

Founded in 2004 by its current president, Tom Russell, Step Up for Soldiers is dedicated to supporting members of the Armed Forces. "We wanted to give back to the soldiers and their families. Family and education are very important to us," said Russell.

Step Up for Soldiers has benefited the veteran community in many ways, including installing wheelchair ramps and modifying dozens of homes for disabled veterans; running a food bank program; sponsoring the Southeast North Carolina Veterans Day Parade; holding a children's fishing tournament annually; building and maintaining the Fallen Soldier Memorial and the

Kramer House; and sending packages to frontline troops.

"This is such a powerful gift to those who have sacrificed so much for our country and their families," said Shane Fernando, Vice President of Advancement and the Arts. "This scholarship will change the lives of many students in our community who are returning to civilian life."

"The gift Step Up for Soldiers awarded to CFCC will be a great help to deserving veteran students and their families for years to come," said CFCC Coordinator of Veterans Affairs Jason Bocchino. "Mr. Russell recognizes how important higher education, workforce training, and achieving future growth is for a veteran. This generous group is committed to assisting veteran students in building a future for their families after their military careers."




PHOTO PROVIDED BY CFCC

(L-R) CFCC's Veterans Affairs Coordinator, Jason Bocchino; Vice President of Advancement and the Arts, Shane Fernando; Director of Philanthropy, Logan Thompson, and Senior Director of Financial Aid, Rachel Cavanaugh receive a donation from Tom Russell, President of Step Up for Soldiers (Center)

*The Daily Record*  
SURE TO REMAIN ERSATILE MEN


# A People's History of Wilmington

**Virtual Discussion Series**




**Prince Morrow: A Lost Story of Black Wilmington**  
Thursday, March 25, 3:30 p.m.

The well-known musician and researcher Rhiannon Giddens, winner of a Grammy and a MacArthur "Genius" grant, will discuss one of the most fascinating Black figures of 19th-century Wilmington, an enslaved Muslim scholar named Omar ibn Said. Giddens wrote an opera about Said that was performed to great acclaim at the 2020 Spoleto Festival in Charleston. The discussion will range between unknown history and creative transformation. \*Time different from other weeks in the series.




**Cape Fear Rag: The Forgotten Jazz Roots of Wilmington, North Carolina**  
Thursday, April 8, 6:30 p.m.

North Carolina writer and historian Larry Reni Thomas grew up on the north side of Wilmington. His 1993 book, *The True Story of the Wilmington 10*, was among the first to focus attention on the injustices of 1971. Thomas, a well-known radio announcer, hosts Sunday Night Jazz on WCOM-FM, Chapel Hill-Carboro. This talk may surprise local historians with its revelations regarding the contribution that Wilmington made to the evolution of what is called "America's only indigenous art form."



**On the Record: Recovering the First Black Daily in the South**  
Thursday, April 15, 6:30 p.m.

Award-winning writer John Jeremiah Sullivan and Third Person co-founder Joel Finsel will discuss the findings of the Daily Record Project, a local initiative dedicated to finding, digitizing and studying the few extant copies of the *Wilmington Daily Record*, the pioneering Black newspaper at the center of the 1898 massacre and coup. This presentation will include never-before-seen artifacts and documents related to those events, which continue to cause ripples in our city and nation.



**Voices from the Ashes: Black Wilmington Culture of the Early 20th Century**  
Thursday, April 22, 6:30 p.m.

Richard Yarborough, a distinguished professor of African American literature at UCLA, is also a great-nephew of the opera singer Caterina Jarboro, who was born in Wilmington in 1898. He has spoken perceptively about her life and work, as well as those of Charles Chesnut, David Bryant Fulton and other crucial figures of Wilmington's cultural history. UNCW associate professor Helena Spencer will facilitate the discussion and share some of her research on the legendary singer.

**For more information, visit**  
[uncw.edu/engagement/peopleshistory](http://uncw.edu/engagement/peopleshistory)

Co-sponsored by the Third Person Project, UNCW Equity Institute, Office of Community Engagement and Applied Learning, Department of English and Department of History. UNCW is an EEO/AA institution. Accommodations for disabilities may be requested by contacting 910.982.3500 at least 5 days prior to the event.

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
UTILITIES COMMISSION  
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. P-100, SUB 137D

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of Petition of the North American Numbering Plan Administrator on Behalf of the North Carolina Telecommunications Industry for Relief of the 910 Numbering Plan Area

NOTICE OF AREA CODE RELIEF PLAN FOR 910 NPA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on December 23, 2020, the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA) filed with the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) a recommendation made by representatives of the telecommunications industry to provide relief for the 910 area code in North Carolina. The Petition provides notification to the Commission that the 910 numbering plan area (NPA or area code) serving the south eastern area of North Carolina, including the cities of Fayetteville, Wilmington, and Jacksonville, is projected to exhaust its central office (CO) codes (or NXX codes) by the second quarter of 2023 and is in need of relief. The NANPA notes that absent NPA relief, the supply of CO codes in the 910 NPA is projected to run out during the projected exhaust quarter. This has created a need to introduce another area code in the geographic area now covered by the 910 area code to ensure the availability of telephone numbers in the future.

Industry representatives have recommended an all-services overlay as the relief plan for the 910 area code. Under the recommended plan, a new area code would be assigned to cover or "overlay" the entire geographic area using the existing 910 area code boundary lines. This would result in two area codes for the same geographic area. When telephone numbers in the 910 area code run out, new residential and business telephone numbers for the area would be assigned from the new area code.

Implementation of an all-services overlay requires mandatory 10-digit dialing for local calls, including calls within the same NPA; however, the 910 NPA will be transitioned to mandatory 10-digit dialing by July 15, 2022, as a result of the national implementation of 988 as the three-digit abbreviated dialing code to reach the national suicide prevention and mental health crisis lifeline as ordered by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

Persons desiring to send written statements to the Commission on the Petition should submit their statement on or before Friday, April 9, 2021, and should include any information that those persons wish to be considered by the Commission in this matter. Interventions or statements should be addressed to the Chief Clerk, North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300.

Statements may also be faxed to (919) 733-7300 or, preferably, submitted electronically on the Commission's website as a Consumer Statement using this website address: <https://www.ncuc.net/contactus.html>. Consumer Statements should be filed in Docket No. P-100, Sub 137D.

The Public Staff of the Utilities Commission, through the Executive Director, is required by statute to represent the using and consuming public in proceedings before the Commission. Statements to the Executive Director should be addressed to:

Christopher J. Ayers  
Executive Director - Public Staff  
4325 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300  
Fax: (919) 733-9565

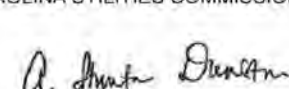
The Attorney General is also authorized by statute to represent the using and consuming public in proceedings before the Commission. Statements to the Attorney General should be submitted electronically online to:

The Honorable Josh Stein  
Attorney General - State of North Carolina [www.ncdoj.gov/contact-doj/](http://www.ncdoj.gov/contact-doj/)

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 18th day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION



A. Shonta Dunston, Deputy Clerk

**Curtis Wheeler**

Curtis Wheeler died March 13, 2021. Graveside service was held on Saturday, March 20, 2021 at Calvary Memorial Cemetery.

Curtis was born on June 8, 1982 to Curtis Hall and Willie Mae Williams. He was the oldest of here brothers. Curtis was preceded in death b his grandmother, Martha Wheeler who he loved dearly. He leaves a long-lasting impression in all who knew and loved him. Curtis, better known to everyone as "Lil Bo", loved cooking, fishing, football and his BMW. Once he graduated from high school, he went on to get his barber license, attended welding school and also obtained his associate in accounting.

He leaves to cherish his precious memories: his mother, Willie Mae Williams of Wilmington, NC; father, Curtis Hall of Currie, NC; brothers, Raheem Robinson, Curtis Hall, Jr., and Michael Chavis; aunts, Margaret Fields, Sandra Johnson and Edith Hall; uncles, Fred Wheeler, Earnest Johnson, Jr., Roderick Hall, Ernest Hall and Stanley Hall; nephew, Bryson Robinson; niece, I'Nayah Wheeler; special cousins, Shaquanta Smythe, Derrick Oliver and Antione Oliver; goddaughter, A'Jourei Galloway; other relatives and friends, including special friends, Anthony, Igkesias, Reggie and Que Black. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Robert Shorter, Jr.**

Robert Shorter, Jr., died March 13, 2021. Funeral service was held on Saturday, March 20, 2021 at the Willie L. Shaw, Jr. Memorial Chapel.

Robert, son of Robert Shorter, Sr. and Latrasha Allen was born on September 20, 1990. Junior was educated in the New Hanover County School System. He was well known in the neighborhood as a caring, concerned friend to most and a fierce protector of his family and friends to all. He was a jokester and loved poetry and rapping. He lived his life out loud and had an infectious laugh and a carefree spirit. He was known by many and loved by most. He affectionately called himself June the Goon and June Bug. But, to his close family he was Junior.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Jamel Shorter and Roshad Bonte' Jenkins. He leaves to cherish his memories: four children, Jakeelah Kelly, Zymira, Zymir and Na'Zariyah Shorter; his mother, Latrasha Allen (Sinclair) his father, Robert Shorter, Sr.; sisters, Danielle McClammy (Gil) and Cyasia Shorter; brothers, Demetric and William Jenkins and Rokeem and

Rotez Shorter; grandmothers, Mrs. Alice Davis and Ms. Lula Mae Shorter; great-grandmother, Mrs. Bettie L. Jenkins; aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and a host of other relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Preston Coker**

Preston Coker died on March 16, 2021 Funeral service was held on Saturday, March 20, 2021 at the Willie L. Shaw Jr. Chapel.

Preston Coker, Jr., son of the late Sallie Mae Coker Stokley and Preston Washington Coker, Sr. was born on September 27, 1938. Preston was educated in the New Hanover County School System graduating from Williston Industrial School. He worked in the construction field as a brick mason and tied steel. Preston enjoyed playing the harmonica, singing, drawing, reading and trading comic books. He also served as a Bible School teacher. He was married to Lula Johnson Coker who preceded him in death. In addition to his parents and wife, Preston was also preceded in death by his son, Anthony Troy Coker; brothers, Willie Lee Coker, Buddy Washington Coker, Robert James Coker and Elvis Leroy Coker and niece, Tanya Coker.

Preston leaves to cherish fond memories: three daughters, Cynthia Coker Morris, Veronica L. Coker and Ruth D. Coker all of Wilmington, NC; one son, Lareno O. Coker of Wilmington, NC; a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren; one brother, Wilbert V. Coker of Lake Waccamaw, NC; one sister-in-law, Fannie Burton (Jeff) of Tennessee; one aunt, Mrs. Mary E. Savage of Detroit, MI; nieces, Ladoris Rush and Sarah Coker both of Wilmington, NC; several great-nieces and great-nephews; many, many cousins, including, Mrs. Darlene Rivers (Anthony) of Detroit, MI, Mrs. Penny Bryant (Eugene) of Wilmington, NC, Mrs. Denice Tucker and Family of Virginia Beach, VA and Michael Singleton of Wilmington, NC; a host of other relatives and friends including a very, very, special friend and pastor, Pastor John Haynes. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Gardner Lee Kealon, Sr.**

Gardner Lee Kealon, Sr., died March 16, 2021. Funeral service was held on Sunday, March 21, 2021 at The House of Repentance, Leland, NC.

Gardner, son of the late Zadie Olivia Kealon was born on January 14, 1942. He grew up in North Carolina and attended East Arcadia High

School. He relocated to New York in 1964. On March 13, 1965, Gardner joined in holy matrimony to Shirley Ann Holmes. Through this union, five children were born. In 1972, the family returned to North Carolina. Gardner worked at Harrison Wright (Anso and Mastec) for forty years until he retired, where he was affectionately called "Champ." Gardner, along with his wife Shirley opened The House of Repentance Ministries in 1999. where he served as deacon until his death. Gardner was preceded in death by his wife of 53 years, Shirley Holmes Keaton and his sibling, Lloyd Ellis Kealon.

He leaves to cherish his memory: daughters, Kecia Kealon Samuel (Curley Jr.) of Castle Hayne, NC, Chandi Kealon and Davri Kealon of Wilmington, NC; sons, Gardner Lee Kealon, Jr. (Victoria of Hampstead, NC and Kirby Lamont Kealon (Zorana) of Castle Hayne, NC; 16 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; siblings, Amanda Kealon and Eugene Kealon (Carolyn deceased) of Kelly, NC, Horace Kealon (Carolyn) and Gene Irving Kealon (Annette deceased) of Brooklyn, NY; godson, Christopher Crawford; goddaughter, Bethany Hankins Iwunda; special niece, Nicole Holmes Hancock of Farmville, VA and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Billy Brown**

Billy Brown died March 17, 2021. Graveside service was held on Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at the Brown Batts Cemetery, Hampstead, NC. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Rita Williams**

Rita Williams died March 17, 2021. Graveside service will be held 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 27, 2021. Visitation will be from 5:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.. on Friday. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Gerald Morris**

Gerald Morris died March 19, 2021. Graveside service will be held 1:00 p.m. on Friday, March 26, 2021 at Pine Forest Cemetery. Visitation is from 5:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. on Thursday. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

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## TELL SOMEBODY

## “A Clarion Call For Prayer”

God is calling his people to a lifestyle and a lifetime of prayer. Phillipians 4:6 says, “Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.” He knows all about our trials and our struggles; and he does not want us to worry about a thing! Yes, he knows about our frustrations that come with trying to fix a failing economy; and in the midst of it all, he is ready, willing, and able to hear and answer our call.

Our nation and world problems are too enormous for one man, be he the President of the United States, or the Prime Minister of France, King or Queen of England. Kings,

queens, presidents, chancellors, should bow before God Almighty in prayer, seeking wisdom and guidance to bless and benefit the people they serve in leadership. Yes, things are bad, but we are not without HOPE. If it's going to be done, God is going to have to do it! “For with God, nothing shall be impossible.” Luke 1:37 says, “With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.”

As God's people, we realize that though we are in the

world, we are not of this world, and we have a responsibility to be a part of the solution, not just the “problem.” Our job is to live a life that is pleasing in His sight, and to pray until something happens! As a nation, without prayer we are powerless to survive, and cannot defeat our enemies. On the other hand, prayer changes things! Somebody's got to Pray! We are all in this world together: God have mercy on us all. Jesus said in Luke 18:1, “And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint.”

**If My people**  
“But know that the Lord has set apart him that is godly for himself: the Lord will

hear when I call unto him.” Psalm 4:3 Psalm 107:2, “Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy.” We have a responsibility to rally to the call of God upon us to intercede in prayer for the needs of our nation and world.

**Which are called by my name**

“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.” I Peter 2:9, Our calling is high, holy, and heavenly! We were called out of darkness to do his will and to walk in the light of his Word. We were

called according to his purpose, to do his will on earth as it is in heaven. (Romans 8:28)

**Shall Humble themselves and Pray**

James 4:10, “Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.” Humility in prayer prepares us to be in the presence of the Lord. Isaiah 57:15b, “I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.”

**And Seek My Face**

“Seek ye the Lord, while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near...Isaiah 55:6 “And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your

heart.” Jeremiah 29:13 This is a promise of God, which will not fail, and which cannot lie. God said it. That settles it!

“And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.”

*Tell Somebody!!!*

“Mrs. Sylvia B. Hooper is a native Wilmingtonian, married to Pastor Johnson A. Hooper. Pastor of Faith Outreach COGIC, Jacksonville, N.C. She has a heart for women's ministry, starting with young women and girls ages 12 - 18, and also branching out to women of all ages. Her life's mission includes the desire to rescue the perishing, comfort the dying, and save the lost all in the name of Jesus to the glory of God the Father.”



Sylvia Hooper

## Disney+ Streaming Service places restrictions on ‘Classics’ with racist stereotypes

BY STACY M. BROWN  
NNPA NEWSWIRE SENIOR  
NATIONAL  
CORRESPONDENT

DISNEY+ has announced they are restricting the viewing of “Dumbo,” “The Aristocats” and “Peter Pan” from its platform because of their racist stereotypes.

The network will set its app to prevent children under seven from watching those shows.

“The crows and musical numbers pay homage to racist minstrel shows, where White performers with blackened faces and tattered clothing imitated and ridiculed enslaved Africans on Southern plantations,” Disney officials noted about “Dumbo” on its streaming platform.

“The leader of the group in Dumbo is Jim Crow, which shares the name of laws that enforced racial segregation in the Southern United States,” the statement continued.

As for Peter Pan, the once-beloved character whom the late Michael Jackson mim-

icked, Disney+ officials noted, “the film portrays Native people in a stereotypical manner that reflects neither the diversity of Native peoples nor their authentic cultural traditions.

“It shows them speaking in an unintelligible language and repeatedly refers to them as ‘redskins,’ an offensive term.”

They added that “Peter and the Lost Boys engage in dancing, wearing headdresses and other exaggerated tropes.”

As for the Aristocrats, Disney+ officials said, “The Siamese cat Shun Gon is depicted as a racist caricature of East Asian peoples with exaggerated stereotypical traits such as slanted eyes and buck teeth.”

“He sings in poorly accented English voiced by a White actor and plays the piano with chopsticks.”

While the programming is restricted against being shown to small children, others will still be able to watch after viewing a new disclaimer that notes that the program includes “negative depictions and/or mistreat-



Disney+ joins a host of other companies that have acknowledged a racial and cultural awakening since the May 2020 death of George Floyd, a Black man killed by a White police officer in Minnesota.

ment of people or cultures. These stereotypes were wrong then and are wrong now.”

Disney+ officials also defended their decision not to remove the “offensive” films altogether.

“Rather than remove this content, we want to acknowledge its harmful impact, learn from it and spark conversation to create a more inclusive future together,” the company wrote.

Warnings will also tag other shows like “The Lady and the Tramp,” and “Swiss Family Robinson.”

Disney+ joins a host of other companies that have acknowledged a racial and cultural awakening since the May 2020 death of George

Floyd, a Black man killed by a White police officer in Minnesota.

The owners of the Dr. Seuss books announced earlier this month that it would no longer publish six of its books because of racist imagery. The company noted that the books “portray people in ways that are hurtful and wrong.”

New York Times columnist Charles Blow also highlighted what he viewed as the incentive Looney Tunes character “Pepe Le Pew.”

Blow tweeted that the character was indicative to young boys that non-consensual

behavior toward women was ok.

“Let’s see. 1. He grabs/kisses a girl/stranger repeatedly, w/o consent and against her will. 2. She struggles mightily to get away from him, but he won’t release her. 3. He locks a door to prevent her from escaping,” Blow tweeted.

In a column preceding his tweet, Blow wrote that “racism must be exorcised from culture, including, or maybe especially, from children’s culture. Teaching a child to hate or be ashamed of themselves is a sin against their innocence and a weight against their possibilities.”

## Congress members urge vaccination during Black Press Week

BY STACY M. BROWN  
NNPA NEWSWIRE SENIOR  
NATIONAL  
CORRESPONDENT

House Majority Whip James Clyburn (D-S.C.) and Congressman Dwight Evans (D-Penn.) praised President Joe Biden’s \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan and urged African Americans to get vaccinated.

“Protect your children and your grandchildren, protect those who you come in contact with,” Congressman Clyburn stated during the annual National Newspaper Publishers Association Fund’s (NNPAF) Black Press Week.

“Take the shot. It’s safe to do,” the congressman declared during an interview with Real Times Media President and CEO Hiram Jackson.

He noted that some would experience side effects of some sort, but each of the three vaccines offers a 95 percent rate of effectiveness.

“If you have a 95 percent chance – I would play the lottery every day if I had a 95 percent chance of winning,” exclaimed Clyburn, who received the NNPAF’s Newsmaker of the Year Award.

Black Press Week began opened with an enthusiastic welcome from NNPAF Chair and Marshall Broadcasting Group CEO, Pluria Marshall Jr., who introduced the theme, “Black Business Challenges, Responsibilities and Opportunities Amidst COVID-19 Pandemic.”

Like Clyburn, Evans also

championed both the vaccination and the American Rescue Plan, which this month provided \$1,400 stimulus payments to most Americans.

“The Biden-Harris administration determined that we had to first crush the virus and get shots in the arms of the people,” Evans stated.

“Small businesses, particularly Black-owned, are the backbone of the economy. The American Rescue Plan recognizes that and makes grants and loans available to small businesses, including the Black Press, and that is a major step. President Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris have shown the kind of leadership and understanding the needs of getting this economy back – if not better.”

The American Rescue Plan allows for the first \$10,200 of unemployment payments tax-free, and those who receive food stamps will see a 15 percent increase in those benefits through September.

Families whose children’s schools have remained closed are also in line to receive EBT benefits through the summer.

The legislation sends \$350 billion to state and local governments, including \$20 billion to help low-income households cover back rent and utility bills and \$14 billion for vaccine research, development, and distribution.

It also contains a provision that allows families with minor children to claim a more considerable tax credit this year.

Those who qualify would

receive a child tax credit of \$3,600 for each child under six.

Families will also receive \$3,000 for each under age 18, up from the current credit of up to \$2,000 per child under age 17.

Food stamp recipients will receive a 15 percent increase through September, and \$15 billion will go to the Emergency Injury Disaster Loan Program, which provides long-term, low-interest loans from the Small Business Administration.

Severely impacted small businesses with fewer than ten workers will receive priority for some of the money. Additionally, more people will qualify for higher premium subsidies through the

Affordable Care Act while \$8.5 billion is earmarked for rural hospitals and health care providers.

Evans said the Biden-Harris administration, which is touring the country to discuss the American Rescue Plan’s importance, believes the Black Press is essential in getting the word out.

“I understand the significance of the Black Press to building back better,” Evans remarked.

“The Black Press is a major player in this rebuild. And when you talk about the Black Press in terms of the economy, there’s no way in the world you can talk about building back better without the participation of the Black Press. The president and the vice president fully understand how the Black Press plays in this equation.”

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APRIL 30

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**LEGAL NOTICES**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Having qualified on the 23rd day of February, 2021, as Administrator CTA of the Estate of **LYNN REYNOLDS SMYTHE**, Deceased, late of New Hanover County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the decedent to exhibit the same to the Administrator CTA, Vivian M. Jarvis, at 1114 Slocum Trail - Atkinson, NC 28421, on or before the **2nd day of June, 2021**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the estate should make immediate payment.

This 24th day of February, 2021.

Vivian M. Jarvis, Adm. CTA  
Attorney for the Estate:  
J. Wesley Casteen, Esq., CPA  
Carolina Legal Counsel  
P.O. Box 12028  
Wilmington, North Carolina 28405  
Telephone (910) 256-3364

March 4, 11, 18, and 25, 2021

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **Kimberly Kismet Vincent (21-E-344)**, late of New Hanover County, 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 **June 11, 2021** 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 11th day of March, 2021.

Chantel Lane  
c/o Craig & Fox, PLLC  
701 Market Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401

March 11, 18, 25, April 1, 2021

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

The undersigned, having qualified as executrix of the estate of **Paul J. Bailor, Jr.**, 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 June, 2021**, 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 11th day of March, 2021

Patricia Moroz, Executrix  
264 Shannon Dr.  
Wilmington, NC 28409

March 11, 18, 25, April 1, 2021

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

The undersigned, having qualified as executor of the estate of **Gerald Weiss Teachey Williamson**, 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 June, 2021**, 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 11th day of March, 2021

Stuart Everett Brewington,  
Executrix  
704 Bladen St.  
Wilmington, NC 28401

March 11, 18, 25, April 1, 2021

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **Patricia Slachetka (21-E-383)**, late of New Hanover County, 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 **June 18, 2021** 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 18th day of March, 2021.

Mary Margaret Washeleski  
c/o Craig & Fox, PLLC  
701 Market Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401

March 18, 25, April 1, 8, 2021

**LEGAL NOTICES**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Having qualified on the 23rd day of February, 2021, as Administrator of the Estate of **PATRICIA MAE SMYTHE**, Deceased, late of New Hanover County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the decedent to exhibit the same to the Administrator, Vivian M. Jarvis, at 1114 Slocum Trail - Atkinson, NC 28421, on or before the **2nd day of June, 2021**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the estate should make immediate payment.

This 24th day of February, 2021.

Vivian M. Jarvis, Administrator  
Attorney for the Estate:  
J. Wesley Casteen, Esq., CPA  
Carolina Legal Counsel  
P.O. Box 12028  
Wilmington, North Carolina 28405  
Telephone (910) 256-3364

March 4, 11, 18, and 25, 2021

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

The undersigned, having qualified as executor of the estate of **Gary Jones Collins**, 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 June, 2021**, 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 18th day of February, 2021

Gary Jones Collins, II, Executrix  
812 S 14th St.  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
March 18, 25, April 1, April 8, 2021

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER In Re the Estate of Thomas Redin Morris, Deceased**

Having qualified as Personal Representative of the Estate of **Thomas Redin Morris**, Deceased, late of New Hanover County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, corporations and/or other legal entities having claims against the estate to present them to the undersigned at the address given below on or before **June 18, 2021** or same will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment.

On this day, March 18, 2021

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

March 18, 25, April 1, 8, 2021

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **Kevin Null (20-E-335)**, late of New Hanover County, 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 **June 18, 2021** 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 18th day of March, 2021.

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

March 18, 25, April 1, 8, 2021

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **LIBBY JOHNSON**, late of New Hanover County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms or corporations having claims against the Estate to present them to the undersigned on or before **June 2, 2021**, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms or corporations indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 4th day of March 2021.

EVA JOYCE KOLAJO, c/o/ Nicole Henderson, Law Offices of Nicole Henderson, PLLC 19109 West Catawba Ave. Suite 200, Cornelius, NC 28031

March 4, 11, 18, 25, 2021

**LEGAL NOTICES**

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

The undersigned, Rick E. Graves, having qualified on the 15th day of February, 2021, as Executor of the estate of **William Tommie Hill (21-E-0243)**, deceased, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said that they must present them to the undersigned at Graves May PLLC, c/o Attorney Rick Graves, 5700 Oleander Dr., Wilmington, North Carolina, 28403, on or before the **1st day of June, 2021**, or the claims will be forever barred thereafter, and this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 24th day of February, 2021

Rick E. Graves, Executrix Estate of William Tommie Hill  
Rick Graves  
GRAVES MAY PLLC  
5700 Oleander DR.  
Wilmington, NC 28403

March 4, 11, 18, 25, 2021

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

The undersigned, having qualified as executrix of the estate of **Shirley S. Apperson**, 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 June, 2021**, 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 11th day of March, 2021

Debra J. Thumann, Executrix  
2964 Pullen Drive  
Leland, NC 28451

March 11, 18, 25, April 1, 2021

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

The undersigned, having qualified as executor of the estate of **Leatha Brown Griffith**, 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 **25th day of June, 2021**, 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 25th day of March, 2021

Robert Whitney, Executrix  
321 Springdale Dr.  
Wilmington, NC 28405

March 25, April 1, 8, 15, 2021

**MEETING NOTICE**

A meeting of the Wilmington Urban Area MPO Board will be held on Wednesday, March 31, 2021 at 3pm. As a precaution during the COVID-19 pandemic and pursuant to Sec. 4.31 of SB 704 (S.L. 2020 3), the meeting will be conducted remotely from the Wilmington Convention Center, 10 Convention Center Drive, in Wilmington, NC. The meeting will be simultaneously streamed live online at <https://zoom.us/join> or by dialing-in to 646-876-9923 and entering Meeting ID 824 9175 3769. Public comments may be submitted in advance by emailing [wmpo@wilmingtonnc.gov](mailto:wmpo@wilmingtonnc.gov) or by leaving a message at (910) 341-3258 before 5pm on March 30th. Public comments will be played or read aloud by staff during the meeting. Per the adopted Public Participation Plan, public comments shall be limited to three minutes each.

Mike Kozlosky  
Executive Director  
Wilmington Urban Area  
Metropolitan Planning  
Organization

March 25, 2021

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**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. 18 JT 168-170**

**IN THE MATTER OF: N.D. (DOB: 03/19/2018) J.M. (DOB: 10/14/2014) J.D. (DOB: 04/07/2009)**

**TO: RESPONDENT: EARL MILLER, LEGAL FATHER OF THE ABOVE CAPTIONED FEMALE AND MALE CHILDREN BORN IN WILMINGTON, NEW HANOVER COUNTY AND DURHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA TO TIRA DAVIS.**

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

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

You are required to make defense to such pleading within forty (40) days following March 11, 2021 which date is the date of first publication of this Notice. Upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought. You have the right to attend this hearing and you have the right to be represented by counsel and can apply for court appointed counsel.

Attorney Brian Moore was previously appointed to represent Earl Miller, and he can be reached at 705 N. Front Street, Wilmington, NC 28401 or (910) 362-1100.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A HEARING ON THE PETITION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS IS SCHEDULED FOR April 19, 2021, AT 9:30 A.M. or as soon thereafter as it may be heard, at the Division of Juvenile Justice, 138 N. 4th Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401.

This 4th day of March, 2021.

Karen F. Richards  
Staff Attorney - New Hanover County  
Department of Social Services  
1650 Greenfield Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
(910) 798-3526

March 11, 18, 25, 2021

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Department of Social Services  
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March 11, 18, 25, 2021

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Sources:  
Across Platforms, T 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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