

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**

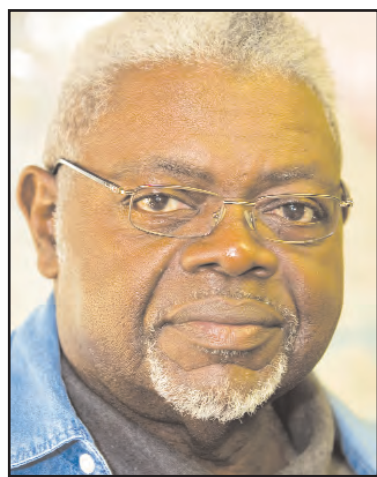
OUR VOICE



MARC MORIAL

GUEST EDITORIAL
"A century later, Tulsa Massacre exemplifies America's reluctance to confront its legacy of White Supremacism"
BY
MARC MORIAL
PAGE 4

**BRUNSWICK
COUNTY**



BERNEST HEWETT

**NOT ABOVE
THE LAW**

BY **BERNEST HEWETT**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I read a letter in one of the newspapers last week that was written by the chairman of the Republican Party here in Brunswick County. In that letter he said the Brunswick County district attorney was above the law. I find this letter to the paper very upsetting and quite unethical. The DA and I have had talks and sat at the table of problems more than one time, so I have no personal problem with him.

Please see
BRUNSWICK/Page 2

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

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REPRESENTATIVE ZACK HAWKINS

Bill to give HBCUs additional funding

BY **CASH MICHAELS**
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Once again there's an effort to fully fund UNC System HBCUs (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) through the NC General Assembly.

Sponsored by Representatives Zack Hawkins (D-Durham), James Gaillard (D-Nash) and Ricky Hurtado (D-Alamance), HB 966, if passed, is "AN ACT TO ALLOCATE ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS IDENTIFIED AS HISTORICALLY MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTIONS, TO ESTABLISH THE HISTORICALLY MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTIONS ADVISORY BOARD, AND TO ADD CERTAIN INSTITUTIONS TO THE NORTH CAROLINA TEACHING FELLOWS PROGRAM.

The proposed bill identifies UNC System HBCUs as HMSIs (Historically Minority - Serving Institutions).

Accordingly, the bill states that, because of "historical and continued inequality in funding provided to constituent institutions of the University of North Carolina HMSIs and to pro-

vide enhancement funding for the purpose of ensuring these institutions are comparable and competitive with other constituent institutions in all facets of their operations and programs, there is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina the sum of twenty million dollars in additional recurring funds to be allocated to each of the following constituent institutions for 10 fiscal years, beginning with the 2021-2022 fiscal year until the 2030-2031 fiscal year:

- 1) North Carolina Central University
 - 2) North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
 - 3) Fayetteville State University
 - 4) Winston-Salem State University
 - 5) Elizabeth City State University
 - 6) University of North Carolina at Pembroke
- UNC-Pembroke serves primarily a Native American population.

The bill goes on to state that the "...funds may be used for scholarships, faculty recruitment, course development and general operational support.

The proposed measure also establishes an HMSI Advisory Board made up of 17 members,

seven appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the State Senate, three of which shall be legislators; seven by the NC House Speaker; three appointed by the governor, with one of those designated as chair.

Nine of those appointed "...shall have attended or graduated from one of the historically minority-serving constituent institutions" of the UNC System.

The purpose of the HMSI Board will be to "...study strategies and actions that can be taken to increase the rate of enrollment, retention, and graduation..." of UNC System HMSIs, among other duties, and "...submit its preliminary findings and recommendations to the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina and to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee no later than December 15, 2022, and shall submit a final report to the Board of Governors and the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee no later than March 15, 2023. The Board shall terminate on March 15, 2023, or upon the filing of its final report, whichever occurs first."

The act would become effective July 1, 2021, if enacted into law.

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



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BRUNSWICK

Continued from Page 1

However, he is not above the law, and he will have to take responsibility for his own actions. He is a man in a very important position of county government. but the district attorney is not above the law, and, because the chairman of the Republican Party is the leader of the Party here in Brunswick County, he should not state this kind of fake news.

The judgment of one's actions is of the mind of what one sees or thinks personally! Righteousness is the judgment of God! We are easy to make people's folly as right or wrong.

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



STATE BRIEFS



WAKE SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRMAN ALSO INTERIM WARREN COUNTY SUPT JULY 1

[RALEIGH] A former candidate for N.C. Superintendent Of Public Instruction, and current chairman of the Wake County School Board, has added another moniker to his resume. As of July 1st, Keith

Sutton will also be the interim superintendent of Warren County Public Schools. Sutton says he is willing to assume the post permanently if asked, and leave the Wake County Public School Board. Sutton adds that he wants to help Warren County Public schools transition out of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as focus on summer plans and focus on improving academic performance.

Warren County Public Schools enroll 1700 students.

BLACK GOP LT. GOVERNOR RECORDS MESSAGE FOR BANKRUPT NRA

[RALEIGH] Never mind that the nation is still experiencing mass shootings because of lax gun laws, and never mind that the National Rifle Association - the strongest gun lobby in the world - claims that it is virtually bankrupt, even though its leaders live lavishly off of members dues. The Black Republican Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina, Mark Robinson, still saw fit to record a fundraising/member-ship video for the notorious

NRA, where he compared efforts at gun control to Jim Crow laws, and "represent an effort rooted in racism that seeks to leave people of color "disarmed and defenseless." Robinson added that White liberal "bigots" like Nancy Pelosi and President Joe Biden "work with the Klan to take guns away from Black Americans," while the NRA "is fighting to arm" Blacks.

As always, there is little to no evidence proving what Lt. Gov. Robinson is alleging.

HURRICANE SEASON IS OFFICIALLY HERE

[WILMINGTON] As of Tuesday, June 1st, hurricane season for 2021 is officially underway, and ends Nov. 30th. At least 6 to 10 hurricanes are expected, with at least 3 to 5 of them to become major storms with wind of 111 mph or higher. As always, pay attention to weather forecasts and breaking news tracking the storms so you and your family can get to safety.

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS

Attorneys for Nicole Hannah-Jones demand tenure resolution

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Attorneys for heralded Black scholar and NY Times journalist, Nicole Hannah-Jones, have now drawn a line in the sand.

In a May 27, 2021 letter sent to General Counsel Charles Marshall, UNC-Chapel vice chancellor, the flagship school of the UNC System has until Friday, June 4, to offer tenure to Hannah-Jones or face a federal lawsuit.

The threat comes after Hannah-Jones, Pulitzer Prize winner for commentary in the controversial New York Times The 1619 Project, in addition to other prestigious awards, was denied the customary tenure offer to become a Knight Chair at the UNC Hussman School of Journalism and Media.

In the May 27, 2021 letter from the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and the law firms of Levy Ratner, and Ferguson Chambers and Sumter, Hannah-Jones' attorneys reveal the actual timeline of events leading up to the denial of tenure (otherwise known as lifetime employment).

If the allegations contained wherein are true, the UNC Board of Trustees may have a difficult time explaining why Hannah-Jones was treated differently from the previous Knight Chairs.

According to the letter, "...every Knight Chair at UNC since 1980 has been granted tenure upon appointment, [and] many of whom, like Ms. Hannah-Jones, were practicing journalists at the time of their appointments."

One of the keys to the dis-

pute is that the offer was made to Hannah-Jones by the Hussman School late last year and was scheduled for ratification by the UNC-Chapel Hill Trustee Board in November 2020. The board met then but never dealt with the matter, which was considered odd.

According to the four page letter, up until that point, both the Hussman School's review committee and faculty had unanimously recommended tenure for Hannah-Jones. A sign-off also came from UNC-Chapel Hill Provost Robert Blouin and Chancellor Kevin M. Guskiewicz.

Based on all of the above, by the time the November 2020 UNC Trustee Board meeting occurred, Hannah-Jones had already begun the process of securing a permanent residence in Chapel Hill, expecting to begin work at the University in January 2021.

No explanation as to why the UNC Trustee Board failed to approve Hannah-Jones' tenure contract was given to her. When the UNC Trustee Board met again in January and did not take up the issue, Hannah-Jones knew something was wrong.

"In late February 2021..." the attorneys' letter continues, "...Ms. Hannah-Jones was told that she would be offered a five year contract instead of being granted tenure. Having already made significant personal and professional arrangements to join the UNC faculty in reliance upon the promise of tenure, and without a full understanding of the reasons for this major reversal, Ms. Hannah-Jones reluctantly accepted the fixed-term contract. It is here where Hannah-Jones' attorneys make the



NICOLE HANNAH-JONES

charge that the UNC Trustee Board "...was motivated by a desire to suppress her research, writing and speech related to the story and legacy of American slavery and its continuing ramifications in entrenched racial inequalities and racial injustices in America, as exemplified by the 1619 Project."

After making it clear that UNC officials are legally prohibited from doing such, the attorneys add, "In taking an adverse employment action to chill Ms. Hannah-Jones' expression of First

Amendment protected speech, UNC has engaged in unlawful viewpoint discrimination..." in addition to race-based employment discrimination and retaliation.

Ultimately, Hannah-Jones' attorneys threaten a federal lawsuit to be filed on Friday, June 4 if the UNC Trustees don't replace the five year fixed term offer with unconditional tenure.

There has been no official reaction to the lawsuit threat by press time, and the board is not scheduled to meet before then.

There has been uniformed outrage from students and faculty at UNC-Chapel Hill over the alleged circumstances of Hannah-Jones' hiring. The outrage has been shared by journalists and celebrities across the nation.

Political conservatives, especially in the NC General Assembly, all admit that they don't support Hannah-Jones' previous work, but they also hasten to add that they had nothing to do with denying her tenure.

Her attorneys are seeking all correspondence between North Carolina lawmakers and UNC Trustee Board members to see if that is true.

At least some negative emails about Hannah-Jones have been uncovered, and that's from the UNC Hussman School of Journalism and Media's namesake - Walter Hussman, conservative publisher of the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, who donated \$25 million to UNC-Chapel Hill previously. In several emails uncovered by The Assembly online magazine, Hussman purportedly wrote to Hussman School top officials and at least one UNC Board of Trustees Board member, "I worry about the controversy of tying the UNC journalism school to the 1619 project," in a late December email, later adding, "Based on [Hannah-Jones] own words, many will conclude she is trying to push an agenda, and they will assume she is manipulating historical facts to support it. If asked about it, I will have to be honest in saying I agree with the historians."

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OUR VOICE

GUEST EDITORIAL

A century later, Tulsa Massacre exemplifies America's reluctance to confront its legacy of White Supremacism

(TriceEdneyWire.com)

"I will never forget the violence of the white mob when we left our home. I still see Black men being shot, Black bodies lying in the street. I still smell smoke and see fire. I still see Black businesses being burned. I still hear airplanes flying overhead. I hear the screams," she said. "I have lived through the massacre every day. Our country may forget this history but I cannot." — 107-year-old Viola Fletcher, survivor of the 1921 Tulsa race massacre

They killed an estimated 300 people. They inflicted serious injury on more than 800 people. They burned more than 1,250 homes to the ground, along with every church, school and business. They left 10,000 people homeless, and wreaked about \$200 million in property damage in today's dollars.

Not a single one of the murderous white mob that obliterated the affluent Black neighborhood of Greenwood, Oklahoma, ever was prosecuted. Every insurance claim filed by a Black property owner was denied.

Though it was covered extensively in newspapers at the time, the Tulsa race massacre, which happened 100 years ago this week, was nearly lost to history. Someone ripped an article about the arrest that triggered the massacre, along with half the editorial page, from the only copy of the May 31 Tulsa Tribune to be microfilmed. Even most Black residents of Tulsa never heard about the massacre when they were growing up. Oklahoma school began including it in their curriculums only last year.

A century later, the Tulsa massacre is one of history's clearest examples of America's deep-seated reluctance to confront the legacy of white supremacy, and of the intense, enduring economic scars Black Americans bear to this day.

The effort to suppress history that makes white Americans uncomfortable didn't begin or end with the Tulsa massacre. The Jim Crow south of my childhood was steeped in the mythology of the Lost Cause — the erroneous claim that the Civil War was not fought over slavery, but against the encroachment of Federal power.

A more recent manifestation is the alarmist backlash against the 1619 Project, the New York Times' Pulitzer Prize-winning examination of slavery's role in shaping the American present. The University of North Carolina board of trustees went so far as to defy the recommendation of the university's dean, chancellor, and faculty and deny tenure to Nicole Hanna-Jones, the journalist who conceived the project.

Critical race theory, a decades-old academic concept which suggests that racism is embedded in American law and public policy, is white supremacy's latest bugbear. The idea that America's social and economic inequities are the result of deliberate policy choices — rather than differences in effort and ability — is a dangerous one for those invested in preserving the status quo. As Adam Serwer writes in *The Atlantic*, it suggests that different policy choices could produce a more equitable society.

It may be this fear, rather than the more commonly-cited factor of shame, that motivated suppression of the Tulsa race massacre. To acknowledge that the wealth of Greenwood was taken by force is to acknowledge that a massive debt is owed.

The violence that raged for 24 hours in Greenwood ostensibly was triggered by an accusation — likely false, according to the 2001 report of the Tulsa Race Massacre Commission — that a 19-year-old Black shoeshiner assaulted a 17-year-old white elevator operator. But many observers at the time suggested that white resentment of Black prosperity was the primary cause of the attack.

The *Chicago Defender* reported in June 1921:

Letters had been sent to prominent men of the Race demanding that they stop extending the bounds of the district within which they were segregated. A rumor has been extant for some time to the effect that it was the desire of white industry or of private citizens to appropriate the lands which the Race had gained possession of. Since the area had become a segregated district to them, the value had increased and white speculators saw a chance for immense profits if they could only drive the inhabitants out.

According to the 2001 Commission report, "At the time, many said that this was no spontaneous eruption of the rabble; it was planned and executed by the elite. Quite a few people — including some members of this commission — have since studied the question and are persuaded that this is so, that the Tulsa race riot was the result of a conspiracy. This is a serious position and a provable position — if one looks at certain evidence in certain ways."

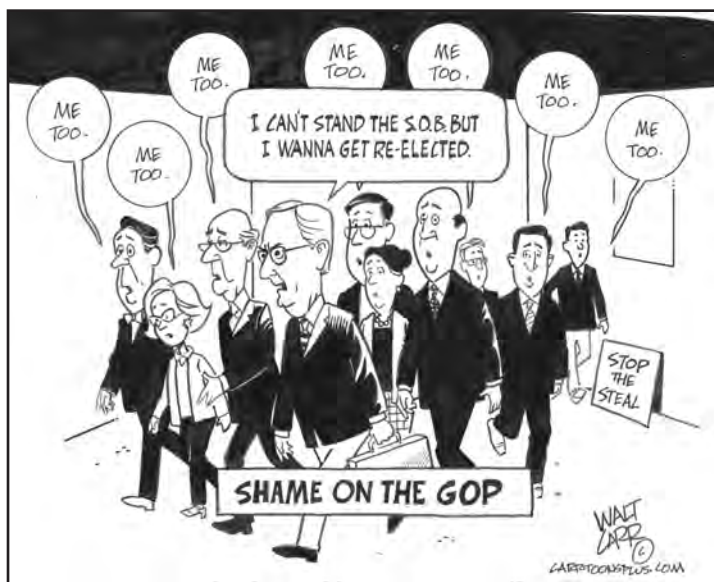
Whatever the true motivation, white Tulsans moved quickly to exploit the economic devastation and terror of Greenwood residents, swooping up their land for a pittance. A city committee proposed converting the land to commercial use, emphasizing the desirable racial segregation that would result:

We further believe that the two races being divided by an industrial section will draw more distinctive lines between them and thereby eliminate the intermingling of the lower elements of the two races, which in our opinion is the root of the evil which should not exist.

In its 2001 report, the Commission recommended payment

Please see **MORIAL** on this page

VISUAL VOICE



MATTERS OF OPINION

Tulsa

(TriceEdneyWire.com)

"Those who have no record of what their forebears have accomplished lose the inspiration which comes from the teaching of biography and history." — Carter G. Woodson

These words, from one of the most renowned and impactful African American historians, were not specific to the city of Tulsa, but accurately describe how many African Americans related to Tulsa, at least until HBO's limited series *Watchmen*. Absent the superhero and science-fiction aspects, *Watchmen* introduced the brutal history of the Tulsa Race Massacre to significant numbers of Americans — both Black and white.

Far too few African Americans knew/know that, before 1921, Tulsa, Oklahoma, was the center of a thriving cultural and financial Black community. Prosperity was so widespread that Tulsa was known as the "Black Wall Street." That prosperity came to a dramatic end on May 31 and June 1, 1921 when white Tulsa attacked Black Tulsa — residential and business — with a ground assault

and bombing from private aircraft. The attack left 35 square blocks burned or destroyed, and uninhabitable to about 10,000 of its former residents, about 6,000 Blacks were interned in large facilities, 800+ people hospitalized, and estimates of 300 Black people killed. Property damage was estimated at more than \$1.5 million in real estate and \$750,000 in personal property (equivalent to \$32.65 million in 2020).

In 1996, 75 years after the massacre, the Oklahoma Commission to Study the Tulsa Race Riot of 1921 was formed. The commission's final report, published in 2001, states that the city had conspired with the mob of White citizens against Black citizens.

It is appropriate to mourn the victims of the Tulsa Race Massacre, but, more importantly, its Centennial Observance gives us the opportunity to honor and celebrate the strength and

resilience of our survivors. "I am here seeking justice," said Mother Viola Fletcher, one of the oldest living survivors of the massacre. Fletcher said, "I am here asking my country to acknowledge what happened in Tulsa in 1921." Tulsa survivors Mother Viola Fletcher and Hughes Van Ellis testified to members of Congress. Ms. Lessie Randle, 106, also testified virtually.

Fletcher said, "I hear the screams. I have lived through the massacre every day. Our country may forget this history, but I cannot." said Mother Viola Fletcher. "I will never forget the violence of the white mob when we left our home. I still see Black men being shot, Black bodies lying in the street. I still smell smoke and see fire. I still see Black businesses being burned. I still hear airplanes flying overhead. I hear the screams. I have lived through the massacre every day."

Proudly, on June 1, 2021, I'll join celebrities, organizational leaders, and concerned citizens from over the world visiting historic Tulsa sites. We will celebrate the resilience of the people and the legacy of the few remaining survivors.

I will represent the National Congress of Black Women and present an award to Ms. Lelia Foley-Davis, the first Black woman mayor in the nation. She remains a long-time leader in Oklahoma. We will also recognize Ms. Fletcher. It was a blessing to witness the strength of her testimony before Congress.

Pastor Robert Turner of the historic Vernon A.M.E Church and I serve on the National African American Reparations Commission. His church still stands after 100 years, but Black Tulsa has never really recovered from the devastation. The massacre is another clear example of Black wealth stolen by racism and racist violence.

Despite these challenges, "We have a wonderful history behind us. ... If you are unable to demonstrate to the world that you have this record, the world will say to you, 'You are not worthy to enjoy the blessings of democracy or anything else.'" — Carter G. Woodson

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

Bombing America

Centennials are usually celebratory affairs. Marking the passing of 100 years since a significant event, by its nature, can occur only once. For this reason, it is no surprise that people take these opportunities to conduct parades, give speeches and enjoy a hearty, self-administered pat on the back.

But when the significant event 100 years in the past is one of mass murder and a glaring manifestation of the race hatred that has been endemic in America since its founding, centennials take on a different significance.

Revisiting a horrific event such as the 1921 race massacre in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on its 100th anniversary brings with it a need for reflection that does not generate self-congratulation. Rather, it requires a measurement and evaluation of the quality of progress — or lack of progress — in improving race relations and ensuring equal justice for all people that is promised in the Constitution.

For months, in anticipation of the Tulsa race massacre centennial, accounts of that slaughter have been viewed through different lenses. While African Americans have called for closer scrutiny and a more in-depth examination of the wildly racist bloodbath that was nothing less than a mass lynching, they were met with resolute denials of proven facts by powerful conservatives in state and local government.

This is not surprising to Blacks, Asians, Native Americans and other people of color in America, who have witnessed attempts to obliterate the memories of the absolute inhumanity demonstrated by the colonializing and enslaving class of invading Europeans.

For people of color, these efforts to wipe out the truth of history create an existential crisis, a crisis that has existed for more than 400 years.

One of the aspects of the Tulsa race massacre that has been shrouded with denial is the fact that the Greenwood community in Tulsa suffered aerial bombardment. Recent accounts of the massacre acknowledge that multiple airplanes flew over Greenwood, dropping explosives onto the Black victims below. But this fact was denied for years by members of Tulsa's white community.

However, the recent discovery of a 10-page, typewritten eyewitness account by Buck Colbert Franklin, a lawyer and the father of famed historian John Hope Franklin, stated that a dozen or more airplanes dropped explosive devices on the Greenwood community. B.C. Franklin's account is now housed in the National Museum of African American

History and Culture. Those defenders of the myth of a just America long argued that it was a moral impossibility that a city government would participate in the aerial bombing of Americans in an American city. But facts are stubborn things and they do not abide the corruption of history.

Almost to the day, 64 years after the Tulsa race massacre, a municipal government dropped another bomb on Americans in another American city.

On May 13, 1985, the Police Department of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, bombed a residential home occupied by members of a Black politically active group known as MOVE. This incident, known as the MOVE bombing, was sanctioned by the Philadelphia city government and resulted in the murder of six adults and five children. In addition to the destruction of the targeted home, 61 neighboring houses in the Black neighborhood were destroyed by the ensuing fire and more than 250 people were left homeless. It is reported that the city's firefighters were held back from using their high-powered water cannons until the fire had raged for an hour and a half.

Ramona Africa, one of the two survivors of the attack, reported that police fired at MOVE members trying to escape their burning house. There have been three inci-

dents of Americans suffering aerial bombardment on American soil. The most well-known is the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, resulting in loyal Japanese Americans being unjustly interned in concentration camps and stripped of their property. The other two instances are the 1921 Tulsa race massacre and the 1985 MOVE bombing, neither of which resulted in any arrests or negative consequences for the perpetrators.

Walter White, an African American NAACP undercover investigator who could pass for white, traveled to Tulsa after the massacre to survey the carnage and damage to property and wrote a scathing report. He concluded:

"What is America going to do after such a horrible carnage-one that for sheer brutality and murderous anarchy cannot be surpassed by any of the crimes now being charged to the Bolsheviks in Russia? How much longer will America allow these pogroms to continue unchecked? ... Perhaps America is waiting for a nationwide Tulsa to wake her. Who knows?"

We cannot assume that this type of atrocity could never happen again because, in America, there is no such thing as a moral impossibility.

Oscar H. Blayton is a former Marine Corps combat pilot and human rights activist who practices law in Virginia.

MORIAL

Continued from this page

of reparations to survivors and descendants of survivors but 20 years later they have not

been paid.

Hughes Van Ellis, who was an infant at the time of the massacre, testified before a House Judiciary Subcommittee earlier this month.

"We were made to feel that our struggle was unworthy of justice, that we were less than the whites, that we weren't fully Americans," he said. "We were shown that in the United States, not all men were equal

under the law. We were shown that when Black voices called out for justice, no one cared.

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

Don't let Senate Republicans keep us from learning the truth about the attack on the Capitol

(TriceEdneyWire.com)

Republicans in the U.S. Senate are a threat to our democracy. Here's the latest proof: Republicans are using the Senate's filibuster rules to stop Congress from creating a commission to investigate the deadly Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol. The filibuster has a long and dishonorable history. It was used over and over to block passage of civil rights laws. Now it is being used to undermine democracy in another way.

On one level, we all know what happened on Jan. 6. A violent mob of Donald Trump supporters tried to stop Congress from affirming the victory of President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris. They wanted to overturn the results of the election and keep Trump in power.

That mob had blood on their minds. And they ended up with blood on their hands. Fortunately, they didn't get a chance to hang Mike Pence or kill Nancy Pelosi or other members of Congress they were targeting. But five people died that day. And more than a hundred Capitol Police officers were wounded. One lost an eye, one lost fingers, some suffered brain injuries. Many are traumatized by a battle they didn't expect they would have to fight. We also know what fueled

the rage of that mob: Trump's big lie. The lie that Trump won the election and had it stolen from him and his supporters by Black voters and corrupt election officials. Everyone who spread that lie, helped to light the fuse and fan the flames that exploded on Jan. 6.

Those who committed violence must be charged, tried, convicted, and sent to prison. And the whole enterprise—those who incited violence and those who planned it—must be thoroughly investigated. People must be held accountable. The best way to do that was with a bipartisan commitment to finding the truth.

Thanks to online activists and journalists, we are learning more about what happened that day. Regular people are helping identify those who committed violence, and the Justice Department is bringing criminal charges against them. Rep. Jamie Raskin and his colleagues have been holding hearings about the threat of violent white supremacy and the involvement of extremist militias on Jan. 6.

But there is much we don't know. Why was the Capitol so

poorly defended? Were rioters helped by sympathetic Trump supporters at the Pentagon and in law enforcement agencies? Did they have help planning their attack from members of Congress or congressional staff?

Sen. Mitch McConnell, the leader of the Senate Republicans, is trying to protect Republicans running for election in 2022 from having to confront the truth. And while wounded police officers and family members of an officer who died that day went from office to office asking Republican senators to support a commission, McConnell was calling in favors to stop it from happening.

Some other congressional Republicans have been spitting in the faces of those officers and family members by downplaying what happened that day. One even said the rioters were just visiting the Capitol like tourists. How many tourists bring a gallows and lynching noose with them? How many smash down doors and windows in their attempt to get their hands on members of Congress?

We cannot let this happen again. History tells us that the best predictor of an eventual successful coup is a recently failed one. Militia groups and other extremists are out there planning more violence, fantasizing about starting a new civil

war. If we're going to stop them, we must learn the whole truth about Jan. 6. We must hold people accountable. Senate Republicans abused the filibuster to stand in the way of a Jan. 6 commission, and they will do it again to block voting rights and other civil rights legislation that has the support of a majority of Americans and a majority of the Senate. Now, Democrats must use the power voters gave them and change the rules. Democracy has always been fragile. It has always had enemies. Past generations have improved and preserved it through their vigilance. The future of our nation as a multiracial, multiethnic democratic society depends on us being vigilant now. Let your voice be heard.

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, and he has taught at Princeton and the University of Pennsylvania.



Ben Jealous

CRAZY FAITH MINISTRIES Losing trust in sacred institutions

If there is anything that the emergence of and adherence to Trumpism has done, it has been the revelation of some ugly truths about America, her institutions, and her beliefs.

The actions of followers of the former president have revealed the depth of their racism which has been as troubling as it is dangerous. It is troubling because I, for one, had held onto a trust of America's systems, even though I knew that racism has always informed and infected every aspect of American life.

I believed that the military held itself to a higher standard, though, and that it demanded its leaders to love the country they fought for more than a need to hold onto their racist beliefs. Even though I knew racism existed in the military and that Black soldiers were treated abominably in too many instances, I trusted that the powers that be demanded that the officers in the military be held to a higher standard, thereby providing a guardrail of support for our men and women who were serving.

But the actions and words of former Army General Michael Flynn, who also served for a time as the National Security Advisor to the former president, has shaken me into a somber reality, not just because of what he has said and done, but also, and maybe more importantly, because the military brass has not done anything to sanction him and call him out for what sound like treasonous statements. (https://www.marketwatch.com/story/ex-trump-adviser-michael-flynn-says-myanmar-like-coup-should-happen-in-u-s-11622426143)

And the apparent participation of military personnel - some active and some retired - in the January 6 insurrection has likewise shaken something loose in my capacity to believe in the institutions of this country. (https://www.npr.org/2021/01/21/958915267/nearly-one-in-five-defendants-in-capitol-riot-cases-served-in-the-military)

The fact that members of the military - including high-ranking officers - are on the battlefield to destroy this country has admittedly shaken me to my core, and the reason for their disrespect for this government - their white supremacist beliefs - has done more to undo my faith and trust in America's institutions than I ever imagined possible.

When did it become OK for a military officer to openly advocate for the overthrow of the government? While it is troubling, it seems obvious that many of our "fighting men and women" have fought for this country in spite of not being pleased about the presence of Black people - on or off the battlefield. But when did the military adopt a culture of silence as one of its own has actively pushed for this country's government to be overthrown?

Are the children of Black and Brown Americans who are in the military safe? As they fight to protect and defend this country, are they ironically fighting to protect, defend, and perpetuate white supremacy?

The cult-like behavior of so many white people has been troubling. It feels like they are not going to stop their angry and aggressive behavior until this country falls into the grip of a civil war - which many of them seem to want. (https://www.bu.edu/articles/2019/are-we-headed-for-another-civil-war/) What they seem to want is the former president to take back power - in effect, stealing the presidency - so that things can "get back" to where white supremacists believe they should be. Aided by white evangelicals and white members of mainline Protestant denominations, members of the military are acting as though their determination to save and preserve white supremacy and white dominance in this country is a mandate from God.

I had held the military as a sacred institution - led, guided, shaped, and formed by a commitment to the highest values. It was comforting on a very deep level - but that comfort was misplaced. There was no way the military could be so honorable if one considered the wretched way it has historically treated Black soldiers, while in the military and when they've completed their tours. The uniforms and the medals cannot hide the rotten core of white supremacy which, it seems, is a definitive component of the military as well as of this country.

On this Memorial Day, I find myself making myself understand and accept that the ideals I thought American soldiers were fighting for were not limited to our rights as Americans and our right to exist as a sovereign nation. They were also fighting to preserve America's white supremacist government. I have written that the God of white and Black people is not the same.

Neither is the country of Black and white people, and that is a painful and uncomfortable truth.

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

THE BLACK PRESS: USE It or LOSE It! [Image of a woman reading a newspaper]

Angry Old White Civil Rights Lawyer Not Tired Yet

Solidarity with our cousins in Tulsa. And reparations for heirs of Wilmington Fusionists, murdered, beaten, robbed and defrauded by N.C. White Supremacists and their co-conspirators

Readers and Leaders of Wilmington's 125-year-old Fusion Movement should pass Resolutions of Solidarity with our cousins in Tulsa, as they fight the same race riot preemptive narrative used by their White Power Structure which was also employed in Wilmington. Once the race riot Frames the narrative, it takes years to expose and erase. We called our official study the Race Riot Commission!

The Prototype for Tulsa, and dozens of other racist Massacres after Jim Crow became the law of the land in 1896, was the pre-meditated murders of a still unknown number of Black people from Wilmington on November 10, 1898. The bi-racial Manly brothers who wrote and published the Daily Record, barely escaped. What if their popular Fusion newspaper come out the next morning, with Blazing Headlines like Arrest Aycock, Daniels, Carr; and Other Conspirators for Violent Attack on Official Government? Or Demand Immediate Military Reinforcements? Or Collect Damages from Conspirators?

lecture. He told us he did not call it a "riot." He said he was not interviewed for the Report. He said he knew I had sued UNC in Chapel Hill, and he got a kick out our winning a case when we exposed how the University owned slaves and paid them nothing. Dr. Franklin also liked our approach on the small Saponi Band who hunted and farmed along the current NC-VA border, the Occaneechi. He told us his father was a civil rights lawyer and a Choctaw Indian. Rev. Barber said his father was a Tuscarora Chief in the Coastal Plains near Little Washington.



Al McSurely

I remember worrying Dr. Barber was going to forget to invite Dr. Franklin to be the main speaker at the Wilmington 1898 Conference. It was a stupid white man worry. I later learned Dr. Barber and Dr. Franklin had some sort of spiritual unity, probably before we met for lunch. Dr. Franklin had already agreed to do anything he could to help make the 1898 Conference a success. I also learned Dr. Franklin wanted to compare notes with me about how his Tulsa family might get around Statute of Limitations problems. I had been researching how Atlanta Dentist Lewin Manly, the son of Alex Manly, might be a powerful Plaintiff to challenge the NC Statute of Limitations. Dr. Franklin told me how his father owned the B.C. Colbert Law Practice in downtown Greenwood and he admired his father greatly, a proud Choctaw Indian from Oklahoma.

THE BIG LIE of JIM CROW

Most people who know anything about the 1898 Wilmington Massacre admit there is a direct link between the 1896 U.S. Supreme Court decision in Plessy v. Ferguson and, two years later, the pre-meditated murders, armed robberies, armed beatings, armed robberies, and unarmed fraudulent deed manipulation in the

New Hanover Court House of thousands of fusionist property owners on and in the wake of the November 10, 1898 Massacre. Only Black people were killed that day. Armed theft of property and reputations of White and Black Fusionists, and targeting of biracial Fusionists was, however, the Order of the Day.

The 1896 Plessy decision codified a BIG LIE, that everyone knew was a LIE. No one, including the eight Justices who voted for the LIE, knew that no State or County could afford to Build Two School Systems with equal budgets and expenditures for every student. No Railroads were going to build four parallel tracks, or run two equal passenger trains, one for "white" and one for "colored." Like the sore Republican losers who have swallowed the BIG LIE, Plessy endorsement of Jim Crow set loose a Double-Speak that still haunts us today. This racist double-bind doctrine undermined the successful Moral Fusion Movement Alex Manly and his brother promoted and reported in their Daily Record in the largest city in North Carolina at the time. We also had-and still have a Harbor that allows large ships to dock next to the Wall, like New York's Harbor can dock ships next to Wall Street, the heart of world trade. The Fusion Movement had to be stopped. Black and White Fusionists and their Daily Newspaper were about to get their hands on some big economic levers!

On November 10, 1898, a disciplined white militia, recruited and indoctrinated with white supremacy Lies spewed daily by Gov. Aycock, Julian Carr, Jonathan Daniels, and other conspirators fire-bombed the main anti Jim Crow moral fusion Lincoln Republican Daily Record. With a Gatling machine gun, overwhelming fire power, and pre-arranged NO military reinforcements for the Fusionists from Federal and State militias, the Proud Boys of the day, with their Red Shirts of mass insurrection, murdered every Black person within the range of their guns.

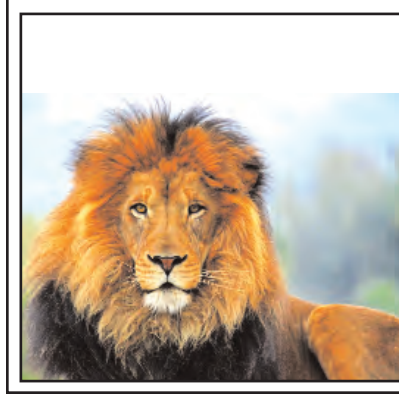
On June 1, 1921, a quarter-century after Plessy's BIG LIE double-speak that the Absolute requirement of Equal

Protection under the law, is comfortable living with a LIE that as long as you build two School Systems, two Railroad Systems; two Public Library Systems; two Public Toilets; two Public Parks; two Public swimming pools, etc., you can segregate Black and White people. No self-respecting lawyer; historian, moral leader or human being could live with this LIE.

Conclusion

We are getting back our sea legs after the Pandemic. We are restoring the Wilmington Journal building as the historic Center of the vibrant Black Community. We need to tap into new moral fusion intergenerational interest in exposing the weaknesses of the remnants of a cult of mentally and emotionally unstable white men, so insecure we should assume they will never leave their cult of whiteness. November 10, 2021 is on Wednesday, a week before Thanksgiving weekend. While we send our Resolutions of Solidarity to our cousins in Tulsa, we could also invite their leaders to visit Wilmington and help us plan our November 10 events to center on Reparations. Wilmington' Remembering and Reckoning should start with Reparations. When we settle on Reparations, then and only then, should we even think about Reconciliation.

Att. McSurely worked in the Civil Rights Movement from 1960 to 1968, when his family's home was dynamited in Eastern Kentucky. Margaret Herring and he were charged with overthrowing the Government of Kentucky by building moral fusion alliances with Appalachian coal miners and Black voters. He became a lawyer after 15 years of apprenticeship to Bill Kunstler, Arthur Kinoy, and Morton Stavis while they fought off charges of sedition and contempt. He earned his law degree from NCCU Law School and has been suing racist institutions ever since. He has worked closely with his friend, Bishop William J. Barber II. Five years ago, he married O'Linda Watkins, President of Moore County NAACP Branch.



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

GET THAT DEED AND FLIP THOSE KEYS!

The families and I won!

It was an evening to remember at Genesis Block, Wilmington's community collaborative to advance minority and women-owned businesses, that graduated its first group of entrepreneurs last Thursday evening. Get That Deed, LLC were amongst the first nine cohort of businesses to go through the Back on the Block Minority Accelerator which began this January. For 16-weeks the Accelerator gave us extensive, high-level training with invaluable networking opportunities, and access to various capital to advance our businesses. Genesis Block held a graduation ceremony, with a shark tank/demo day competition, and I was honored, and excited to be named the winner that evening. I shared during a timed 4-minute presentation that to date, just by running off of passion, Get That Deed have helped 89 families collectively purchase over \$16 Million in affordable housing real estate. That we currently have 16+ families under contract, and 15+ more families with approvals in hand actively looking for afford-

able housing. I also gave a preview of our 'what's next' to increase our efforts in the community. Winning the competition awarded me a suite of volunteered professional services from local experts ranging from HR, Finance, Marketing/Sales, Technology, and Operational support. Having these new resources will definitely help me to help even more to achieve the Dream of home ownership. Gaining homeownership will create financial stability, wealth, inheritance, and legacy for these families. I'm looking forward to what's to come.

I salute my other eight Minority Accelerator cohorts, #TeamTsunami, for completing the program and we all really have seen the difference in our business models.

We were graced with the lovely WECT Frances Weller as our MC for the event, and Chef Keith Rhodes delivered a passionate and inspirational keynote address for the Back on the Block Minority Accelerator businesses, and guest stating it all begins and ends with EXCELLENCE!

The business accelerator program is aimed at advancing minority- and women-owned businesses and is part of a three-year plan to get 40 companies through the accelerator each year. Genesis Block's founders say they hope to create 120 minority- and women-owned businesses that generate 400 jobs and \$15 million in economic activity.

This truly was a night of salute, celebration, and high expectations, and we were not disappointed. At the end of the event, Genesis Block Co-founder Girard Newkirk said: "Now it's getting back to the grind, it's applying all the tools, all of the education and entrepreneurship training that they learned in the accelerator, and go apply it in the marketplace." That is exactly what we intend to do. Until next week, share this article with at least 3 people and tell them to reach out for free gameplan to own in the next 18 months or less.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

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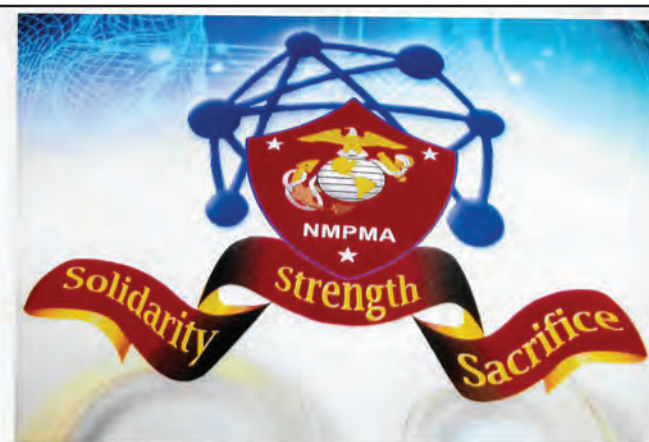
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