

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

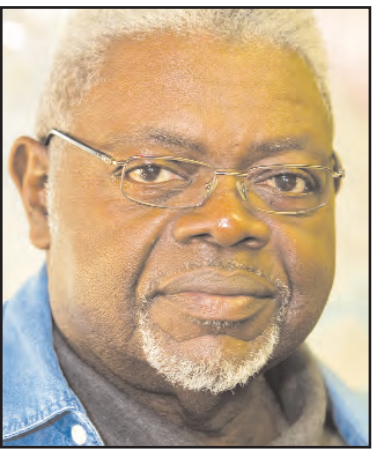
OUR VOICE



DR. BENJAMIN CHAVIS

GUEST EDITORIAL "Insurance giant prioritizing profits over patients" BY DR. BENJAMIN CHAVIS PAGE 4

BRUNSWICK COUNTY



BERNEST HEWETT

The real life

BY BERNEST HEWETT CONTRIBUTING WRITER

My grandfather used to tell stories about the hard times he had as a young man with a family, trying to make a living (sharecropping, digging ditches, trading labor for food, pulling logs for eleven cents a day, etc.). In those days, after you got paid you would have to stand in line to buy your goods from the store, and, if a White person came in, he or she would be called ahead of you, even though you were there first. If it were a store owned by a farmer with whom you sharecropped, you would be allowed to charge your items, but, when

Please see BRUNSWICK/ Page 2

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 94/No. 26

JULY 1, 2021-JULY 7, 2021

\$1.00



NORTH CAROLINA LEGISLATIVE BUILDING

State Senate to join House in outlawing "critical race theory"

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Now that they've passed their version of the proposed 2021-22 state budget, Republican legislative leaders are gearing up to join their State House counterparts in outlawing critical race theory (CRT). Or at least what they "think" is critical race theory.

FACT - according to Vox, "...critical race theory, created four decades ago by legal scholars, is an academic framework for examining how racism is embedded in America's laws and institutions. It is just now receiving widespread attention because it has morphed into a catchall category, one used by Republicans who want to ban anti-racist teachings and trainings in classrooms and workplaces across the country."

Indeed, beyond the drive in GOP-led legislatures across the nation to quickly pass so-called "election integrity" laws, under the erroneous accusation that the presidential results of the November 2020 elections were somehow corrupted, nothing else has grown more legislative legs than the push to outlaw what Republicans "think" is leftist indoctrination in the nation's public schools regarding American and state racial history.

Here in North Carolina, House Bill 324, the Ensuring Dignity and Nondiscrimination/Schools Act, passed by the State House in May, and now pending in the State Senate, states that it would "...demonstrate the

General Assembly's intent that students, teachers, administrators, and other school employees recognize the equality and rights of all persons and to prohibit public school units from promoting certain concepts that are contrary to that intent."

Further on in the measure, it is stated that public schools "shall not promote...one race or sex is inherently superior to another race or sex," or that "...an individual, solely by virtue of his or her race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously."

And the bill doesn't stop there. According to HB 324, now pending in the State Senate, public schools "shall not promote that ...an individual, solely by virtue of his or her race or sex, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex. Any individual, solely by virtue of his or her race or sex, should feel discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress. That the belief that the United States is a meritocracy is an inherently racist or sexist belief, or that the United States was created by members of a particular race or sex for the purpose of oppressing members of another race or sex."

The act, when passed by the State Senate, becomes effective July 1, 2021.

So even though the term or phrase "critical race theory" is never used in the legislation, conservatives and Republicans have decided to label anything that speaks to the racial history

of the United States or negative conditions and treatment of people of color today as critical race theory.

Thus, teaching how the White supremacy of 1898 Wilmington still has roots in racial bias in the Port City today would now be illegal. Teaching how racial segregation historically hurt Black public school students in North Carolina, and continue to do so today, would now be illegal.

Furthermore, of course, not hiring Nikole Hannah-Jones to teach at UNC-Chapel Hill's Hussman School of Journalism and Media after she authored the controversial 1619 Project would not be illegal under HB 324, but certainly go against conservative orthodoxy.

Teaching from the 1619 Project about how important American institutions were born in the cradle of slavery and racism...that would be illegal, and is already in several other states like Texas and Idaho.

Indeed, Black Republican Lt. Gov. Mark Robinson and Republican Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger have already blasted both the Charlotte and Durham public school systems for promoting critical race theory to their students.

And GOP budget writers have deliberately not funded the establishment of Black historical monuments for the proposed state Capitol grounds, saying that now is "not the time."

The question now is: When Republicans in the NC Senate ratify HB 324, will Gov. Roy Cooper sign it?



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



THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL
 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
 Payable in Advance. (Taxes
 Included)
 Address all communications and
 make all checks and
 money orders payable to:
 The Wilmington Journal,
 P.O. Box 1020,
 Wilmington, NC 28402

WE ACCEPT

DISCOVER
 Chief Operating Officer
 Mary Alice Jervay Thatch
 Publisher/Editor
 Johanna Thatch Briggs
 Assistant Editor
 George Miles
 Copy Editor/Circulation
 Cash Michaels
 Reporter/Editorial Staff
 John Davis
 Photographer
 DeShon Briggs
 Distributor
 Joshua Allen
 Distributor

Opinions expressed by
 columnists in this newspaper
 do not necessarily represent
 the policy of this paper.
 The Wilmington Journal cannot
 accept yard sale and dinner sale
 announcements as briefs.
 These are considered advertise-
 ments. Community and reli-
 gious briefs are designated for
 public service announcements,
 which are free and open to the
 public.
 All news must be submitted
 two weeks in advance by
 Fridays at 5 p.m.
 There is no charge for
 submitting briefs, news and
 photos. All briefs will run for a
 maximum of two weeks.
 Please send news near the
 event date. Briefs/news cannot
 be taken over the phone.
 Photos and stories may also be
 emailed to us at wilmjourn-
 news@aol.com. News, but not
 photos, may be faxed to us at
 910-343-1334. Photos may be
 picked up after appearing in the
 paper. The publisher is not
 responsible for the return of
 unsolicited news, pictures or
 advertising copy unless
 necessary postage
 accompanies the copy on a
 self-addressed envelope.

HUB/MWBE Certified by State
 of North Carolina
 Member of the National
 Newspaper Publishers
 Association, Inc.
 Member of North Carolina
 Black Publishers Association

STATE BRIEFS

ST. AUG'S FORGIVES COVID-19 DEBT
 [RALEIGH] About 800 students at HBCU St. Augustine's University are happy, not only that the pandemic seems to be over, but that, thanks to over \$9 million in federal Coronavirus

AID, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding, many of their unpaid balances to the school from the most recent semesters, have been paid off. Now students at St. Aug., and other historically Black colleges and universities across the state, can also continue their studies without the weight of pressing bills from the pandemic. Shaw University used \$1 million in CARES Act funding to pay for summer school for hundreds of students.

UNCW PROFESSOR TARGETED FOR CONTROVERSIAL POSTING
 [WILMINGTON] Dan Johnson, an associate professor at UNC - Wilmington, recently posted the phrase, "Blow up Republicans" on his Facebook page. As a result, the UNCW chancellor and Board of Trustees have now gotten into the act, apparently forcing Johnson to apologize. Critics say what Johnson posted was constitutionally protected speech,

and civil libertarians should be weary of not challenging overbearing investigations into such.
NC NAACP ALLEGES RACISM BY STATE AUDITOR AND SENATOR
 [ROCKY MOUNT] State NAACP President. Rev. Dr. T. Anthony Spearman is alleging racism against Democrat State Auditor Beth Wood and Republican state Senator Lisa Barnes regarding who he insists are false allegations of corruption in the

predominately Black Rocky Mount City government. Woods was chided for probing an alleged \$48,000 in utility bills owed by Councilmember Andre Knight. That debt was reported forgiven by the Black city manager. Knight has vigorously denied the allegations, calling them "a lie." Sen. Barnes is sponsoring SB 473, basically targeting Knight's alleged corruption.

COMPILED BY
 CASH MICHAELS

What does Chauvin sentence signal for future police shooting Blacks cases?

BY CASH MICHAELS
 OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

AN ANALYSIS

Because of Minnesota's sentencing guidelines, the most prison time former Minnesota police officer, Derek Chauvin, could have expected to have been given for the May 25, 2020 second degree murder, third-degree murder and manslaughter of unarmed North Carolinian, George Floyd, was 40 years.

The Chauvin case, the first of four connected to Floyd's slaying, was watershed in terms of the aggressive prosecution, but in the opinion of many, including some of Floyd's family, the 22.5 year sentence rendered by presiding District Court Judge Peter Cahill on June 25 didn't go far enough to send a message to racist and abusive police officers that unnecessary brutality against unarmed Black citizens is no longer to be tolerated by the criminal justice system but will be punished to the fullest extent of the law.

"Derek Chauvin will spend a significant portion of his life behind bars ... so that seems to be appropriate," Ayesha Bell Hardaway, assistant professor at the Case Western Reserve University School of Law told the Insider, an online magazine. "I'm hesitant, as some may be inclined to, to think that it means anything significant



DEREK CHAUVIN



GEORGE FLOYD

about police reform in this country." Indeed Chauvin, a relatively young 45 years of age, could be walking the streets of Minnesota again in just 15 years with good behavior, critics say. Given that Chauvin displayed no mercy or consideration for George Floyd's life when he handcuffed him and then jammed his knee against his neck and kept it there for over nine minutes, until the life drained out of the

Black man, many critics believe he deserved the maximum punishment under Minnesota law. "What kind of message are you sending to our country?" Brandon Williams, Floyd's nephew, asked at a family press conference after the sentence was handed down. "What kind of message are you sending to the younger kids like Gianna (Floyd's young daughter), that you can kill a man in cold blood and get

a slap on the wrist?" The message that was sent, many activists agree, is that similar police abuse cases will continue to require maximum pressure from family members, their attorneys and the community on the criminal justice system to deliver requisite justice when a sworn officer acts beyond the scope of their oath, ultimately taking a life in the process. That axiom is certainly clear here in North

Carolina, where the Andrew Brown, Jr. police killing case in Pasquotank County continues to be an open wound for the family and community. "If we're being honest with ourselves..." said former President Barack Obama after the Chauvin guilty verdict in April, "... we know that true justice is about much more than a single verdict in a single trial." Still, in the minds and hearts of others, including members of George Floyd's family, while Derek Chauvin didn't get the maximum sentence allowed, he did get enough for them to move forward.

"It will certainly give him something to think about, the devastation that he caused for our family and what we had to relive during that trial," Roger Floyd, George Floyd's uncle in Raleigh told WRAL-TV last week.

"As a family, we're doing so much better," he added. "We're getting there one day at a time, and I think this [sentence] will somewhat close the chapter on this aspect of it."

Derek Chauvin still faces federal civil rights violation charges. Passage of H.R. 7120, the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, is still pending in the U. S. Senate.

BRUNSWICK

Continued from Page 1

the crop was sold or harvested, the farmer would get his money first and then you got what was left, most of the time very little.

This is the real life my people (Black people) had to endure to survive. This is only part of the hard times that happened in our lives. Slavery was a part of our history that shaped our lives. It is this America history and the idea upon which laws and bills were written. It is this history which lets people know what the past looked like and what we need to do so that we don't repeat the same mistakes and help sustain a White society that's full of hatred for people of color just because of the color of their skin. We are supposed to be a society of people who came up through the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights. These documents were composed from the wisdom of people trying to make a better United States for all and wherein all people are created equal under the law and God Almighty.

Why then do we not want our children in schools to know about our true history? Why is telling the truth about what history did to our people and Native Americans unacceptable? Why is there such a rush to do away with the wrong that was done in history to people by White racists who thought they could rule with an authoritative style, even when it was a free world?

We now find ourselves with elected officials who don't want our children to know from where they came and what they need to know so that we don't go back to a divided government with conflicts everywhere. Wake up, America! If you don't know your past, how do you know how to find to get peace and freedom? We can't live in the past, but we can use the past to live by! We will never go backward as a people. God has brought us too far, and His blessings have raised us to a level of humanity that equals every man, woman, or child! Tell your elected officials not to stop the teaching of slavery, the Civil War, or any of our history in our schools!

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

POWER1220AM WENC
 Whiteville, North Carolina

Godwin Communication, LLC

Godwin Communications passion is to inspire people through good radio programming that uplift, motivate and empower people to achieve greatness.

Our local station WENC has served Columbus County and surrounding areas since 1974. We are committed to providing the highest quality of service.

Our goal is to introduce a wholesome format with positive connotations to assist the spiritual growth of our listeners. We feel this goal is attainable because of our coverage.

Our station broadcasts National News and Sports from the NBC and NC Network. The coverage of WENC is Southeastern North Carolina and Northeastern South Carolina, which includes Bladen, Horry, Roberson, and Columbus counties

Interested in Career Opportunities at Godwin Communications, Give us a Call.

Godwin Communications, LLC
 108 Radio Station Rd
 Whiteville, North Carolina 28472
 Tel: (910) 642-2133
 Website: www.power1220am.com
 Email: aneshia@embarqmail.com



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





STORM SEASON IS COMING. **LET'S GET READY NOW.**

We are preparing for the next big storm now – strengthening our system, upgrading equipment and investing in new grid technology. We continue to focus on improving response and restoration times by identifying potential issues in advance and installing technology that will allow us to reroute power to avoid outages.



If you see a downed power line or other safety hazard, call 1.800.PowerOn, or report it online.



Sign up online for phone or email alerts, or text REG to 57801 for text alerts.

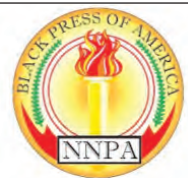


There are three ways to report an outage: Text OUT to 57801, call 1.800.PowerOn, or report it online.

For additional tips, please visit:
[DUKE-ENERGY.COM/STORMSAFETY](https://www.duke-energy.com/stormsafety)



BUILDING A SMARTER ENERGY FUTURE®



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

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

OUR VOICE

GUEST EDITORIAL

Insurance giant prioritizing profits over patients

(NNPANewsWire.com)

In the past year, a reckoning has happened across the country. What Black people and other communities of color have known for years, our White brothers and sisters are starting to learn. Our country is plagued with systemic racism that runs through industries across the nation. Most concerning is the deep roots it has within the American healthcare system. It's time that we shine a light on this and stop letting insurance companies get away with it.

Health insurance companies have a long-proven pattern of exploiting and discriminating against people of color in this country. As I wrote in an op-ed in The Hill in April 2020, "Minority and low-income Americans suffer from a significant lack of access to quality health care. They are also more likely to not have health insurance and are often hit with surprise medical bills they cannot afford." Now, insurance companies are at it again by prioritizing their own profits rather than the health and well-being of all Americans.

One of the most recent acts of insurance company greed happened with UnitedHealthcare, the nation's largest insurance provider. Just recently, the insurance giant announced it would no longer cover patients' nonurgent visits to the emergency room retroactively. Yes, you read that correctly. An American insurance company is no longer going to cover American patients who incorrectly self-diagnose and seek emergency treatment.

With a year of one public health crisis after another, UnitedHealthcare is creating an extra barrier to entry for patients accessing care. As pointed out by the American College of Emergency Physicians, there is a fear that "the change will cause patients to avoid using emergency rooms because they will be responsible for their hospital bills when UnitedHealthcare rejects them." Because many patients were already fearful of visiting the hospital during the COVID-19, there was a rise in cases of "out-of-hospital cardiac arrest and associated poor health outcomes," as reported in Health Affairs by researchers from the M.I.T. Sloan School of Management and unsurprisingly, this rise was particularly seen in low-income neighborhoods.

As with most corporate decisions, the effects of this policy will inevitably affect our nation's most vulnerable populations the most. In fact, according to a 2017 University of Maryland School of Medicine study, Black Americans use the emergency room more often than any other racial group.

To put that simply, UnitedHealthcare's policy is directed at those who visit emergency rooms, and Black Americans are the most likely demographic group to visit the emergency room. A coincidence? I doubt it.

Patients should not be expected to correctly self-diagnose their health issue before visiting the emergency room.

Patients look to medical professions to diagnose and treat health problems; putting the burden back onto patients is unacceptable.

While the policy was scheduled to take effect on July 1, 2021, public backlash led to UnitedHealthcare's new stance that it should not go into effect until "the end of the national public health emergency period." The reality is that for the Public Health Emergency (PHE) period is set to expire on July 20, 2021, if it is not renewed. So, the delay announcement was really just for show, and may not do anything in terms of ending this policy.

UnitedHealthcare should not get away with this. We must speak out and advocate for those who do not have a platform to speak for themselves. Those with chronic conditions, from low income and minority communities deserve to seek emergency health care without fear of racial discrimination and indebting themselves or their families.

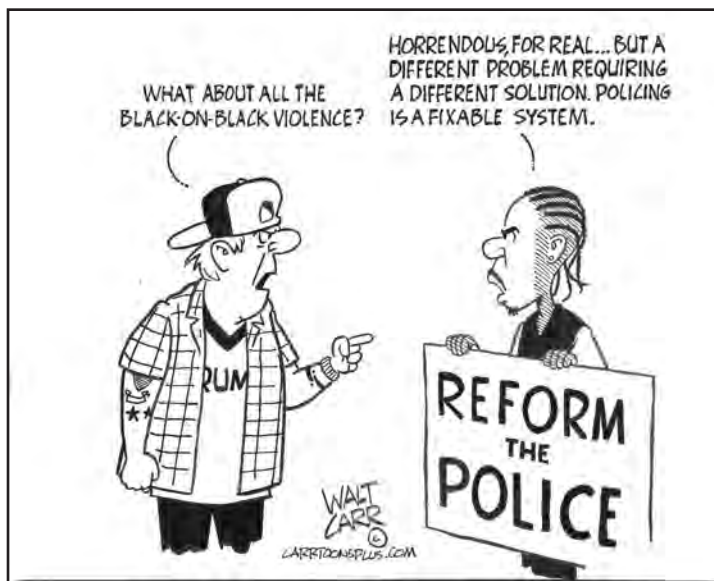
Benjamin F. Chavis Jr. is president and chief executive of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) based in Washington, DC.

THE
BLACK PRESS:

USE It or

LOSE It!

VISUAL VOICE



MATTERS OF OPINION

It's official

(TriceEdneyWire.com)

And it's long overdue!!! Juneteenth has been officially recognized and designated a national holiday!! On June 15th, the U.S. Senate unanimously approved the measure and on June 16th, the House of Representatives overwhelmingly did the same. This bill was signed into law by President Biden on June 17th, and codified an event long observed among African Americans. OUR celebration has been expanded into the consciousness of the entire nation.

I am genuinely unable to fully grasp the emotions of those blessed with the news of freedom. Whatever their age, they had spent their entire lives in bondage – the legal property of "inhuman" beings.

I imagine that freedmen could finally see freedom of movement without a note from the "massa" (which most of the slave patrollers couldn't read anyway). I imagine the thoughts of the men believing that they would no longer be subject to beatings or, for maximum humiliation, sexually abused

at the whim and will of a "massa" who could react brutally with the slightest provocation.

I imagine thoughts of the women who were relieved of the nightly fear of being raped and sexually abused by "massa" or any other white man so inclined. I can imagine the mothers who believed they no longer had to live with the fear that, without notice or warning, "massa" or "missus" could contrive to sell their child to another slave holder – separating mother and child forever.

I can see men and women, so allowed to marry, no longer in fear of separation from their mates or loss of their children. They no longer had to admonish their children to be good little pick-a-ninnies so as not to anger "massa" or "missus" and risk being sold-off. Little children could envision a time when, before they

grew old enough to be sent to the field, they would no longer be treated as pets or playthings of "massa's" children.

They could all imagine themselves in their natural state – FREE!!!

While impossible to replicate their emotions with the news of freedom, I can fully understand the frustration of the descendants of enslaved persons who are harassed in their movements by "Karens" who illegally and arbitrarily decide in which spaces they belong or being beaten/killed by police at the slightest provocation. Events related to Sandra Bland, Breonna Taylor or Darnella Frazier, the teenage witness to George Floyd's murder, inform Black women that they are equally threatened in and outside of their communities. After all these years, Black parents must still give their children "the lecture" about surviving police violence in the streets.

We have been given a holiday to celebrate, but it must not distract us from the fact that little has changed in how brutally we can be treated and the work remaining to end that violence. The 2020 General Election has shown our evolving understanding

that our present and future welfare depends upon the free exercise of our votes.

Few among us should question the contradiction in Republicans voting unanimously with the Democrats to approve the Juneteenth Holiday while voting unanimously against the Democrats in opposition to expanding the right to vote. They have told us with their actions that it's okay for us to party, but not to participate. I do, and we must, totally reject this idea.

Like all stakeholders in this commemoration, I celebrate, but we must not allow celebration to blind us to the work that remains. After 156 years, this new holiday provides us the opportunity to reset, refocus, and eliminate the remaining obstacles to full citizenship. If we realistically assess where we've been and choose to be as a people, Juneteenth offers the opportunity for reconciliation, social healing, and real movement toward equality and national unity.

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.

RAINBOW COALITION

Time for a new "Good Neighbor Policy"

(TriceEdneyWire.com)

"America is back," President Biden announced repeatedly in meeting with allies in Europe. The question, of course, is back for what? Biden has sensibly insisted that we must "build back better" at home and abroad. Our neighbors to the south in Latin America offer a clear opportunity to show that is true.

Now more than ever, it is time for a new Good Neighbor Policy toward Latin America. Donald Trump had little interest in Latin America, other than labeling its refugees as terrorists, drug dealers and rapists. He reversed the initial steps President Barack Obama took to move to better relations with Cuba. He doubled down on crippling sanctions, illegal under international law, on Venezuela, and pushed to overturn the president of the country. Biden has both an opportunity and an imperative to offer better relations. Latin America has been battered by the economic collapse accompanying the pandemic.

Poverty has soared as has the death toll of the coronavirus, over 500,000 dead in Brazil alone. Now elections promise to bring a new generation of progressive leaders

to power across the hemisphere. Peru has led the way with the election of Pedro Castillo, running on a populist agenda accusing the mining barons of "looting" and promising to invest in health care and education. In Brazil, the left is poised to take over from an incompetent and corrupt right-wing government, now exposed for fraudulently conspiring to throw the leader of the opposition, Lula, in jail.

In Chile and Colombia, the left looks to be rising in the wake of the right-wing regimes failure. At the same time, China's influence has expanded, as it has become a leading trading partner and investor in the hemisphere. The recovery of Latin American economies will depend in no small measure on the sale of commodities to China, such as beef from Uruguay, copper from Chile, oil from Colombia and soya from Brazil. Today, Brazil sends 30 percent of all exports to China, including 80 percent of its soybean crop and 60 percent of its iron ore. Nineteen countries have

already joined Xi Jinping's signature Belt and Road Initiative, a \$1 trillion transcontinental network. Biden now must choose how to react to these developments. He must resist the easy course of trying to revive a new Cold War with China in the region and using that as an excuse to undermine progressive governments and side with the plantation and industrial oligarchs that have so dominated these countries for too long. The opportunity is to launch a new chapter of what Franklin Roosevelt termed the Good Neighbor Policy.

Let's join China in a competition defined not by battleships and coups but by investments in infrastructure and by increased trade. As the region's neighbors, we have a big stake in their prosperity and their health. We should be leading the effort to provide and help distribute vaccines against the coronavirus. We should be helping governments choose their own development projects. We should be mobilizing the region to address the deepening crisis caused by the extreme weather resulting from climate change - and aid the transition to sustainable energy.

Saving the rain forests of Brazil surely is a global priority. As we've found in Central America, despera-

tion will force people to leave their homes and seek ways to save their families. Walls will not stop them, but they have no desire to leave their homes if they can survive in them. Latin America and Canada are still leading trade partners. Our own prosperity and surely our own security are interrelated with their prosperity and security. In this regard, one clear first step would be to normalize relations with Cuba and end the illegal sanctions on Venezuela which are now contributing to the immiseration of its population. Our policy toward Cuba has failed for decades.

These policies are sustained, of course, by domestic political calculations, particularly the voting blocks of Cuban and Venezuelan expatriates — many of them affluent — congregated in the key state of Florida. But Biden and Democrats are more likely to gain support in the communities with a new generation by changing course, not by continuing what clearly has failed. Biden has said repeatedly that he understands the world has changed. Surely a good place to demonstrate that is in reviving our relations with our neighbors in this hemisphere.

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

Tell them you read it in THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

TO BE EQUAL

The goals of our civil rights movement will not be realized until D.C. Statehood Is achieved

(TriceEdneyWire.com)

Congress has both the moral obligation and the constitutional authority to pass the D.C. statehood bill. This country was founded on the principles of no taxation without representation and consent of the governed, but D.C. residents are taxed without representation and cannot consent to the laws under which they, as American citizens, must live. – Eleanor Holmes Norton, Delegate to United States House of Representatives representing the District of Columbia

ty agrees. The United Nations Human Rights Committee, Organization of American States, and Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe all have recognized the injustice of D.C.'s status.

Nearly 700,000 Americans live in the District of Columbia and suffer under the daily injustice of "Taxation without Representation." They pay the highest per capita federal income taxes in the country, serve on juries, and fight and die in wars, yet they are denied full democratic rights. They are unable to



Marc Morial

bring grievances to influential federal officials, reap the benefits available to other congressional constituents, or have a say in the important issues of war and peace that confront this nation.

As a civil rights and human services organization, the National Urban League is in a unique position to see how this lack of representation directly impacts the populations we serve – most extremely over the past year. Black and brown communities suffered higher rates of infections, deaths, and unemployment due to Covid-19. Racial inequities in education, housing, employment, health care, and household wealth are worse than they

were before the pandemic struck.

Nowhere is this tragedy more evident than in the District of Columbia. D.C. residents, including essential workers and small business owners, were in dire need of the relief afforded under the CARES Act. Unlike other citizens, they did not have congressional input into the CARES Act, and they initially were denied \$755 million in critical direct relief.

Last summer, D.C. residents took to the streets in peaceful protest of racially-motivated police violence. In response to this peaceful uprising, the previous administration ordered both the National Guard and federal law enforcement to carry out a wildly disproportionate and inappropriate response, all in the interest of a photo op.

On January 6 – despite the urgent requests of D.C. Mayor Bowser – that same administration refused to call in the National Guard in response to a violent attack on the U.S. Capitol until much of the damage had already been done.

In both of these cases, D.C. officials were unable to respond effectively to urgent emergencies in their city because the District lacks statehood and the critical safety mechanisms it provides.

Despite all these events that directly impacted and harmed them, D.C. residents are not able to hold elected representatives accountable for these harms. They are not represented by a Congress member who

can vote to establish a Commission to investigate the Capitol insurrection, or to reimagine public safety through the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act.

I am grateful to Senator Tom Carper of Delaware for calling national attention to the second-class status of the citizens of the District of Columbia by introducing the Washington, D.C. Admission Act in the Senate.

I also applaud the longstanding and strong leadership on this issue by D.C. Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton who authored the first statehood bill in 1991 upon first arriving in Congress and who has remained a steady soldier in the fight for equality for the District's citizens.

Black Americans have bled and died for the right to vote in this country for centuries. The Supreme Court's decision in the landmark case *Wesberry v. Sanders* says it best: "No right is more precious in a free country than that of having a voice in the election of those who make the laws under which, as good citizens, we must live. Other rights, even the most basic, are illusory if the right to vote is undermined."

We cannot allow this denial of constitutional rights to continue right outside of Congress's front door. The goals of our civil rights movement will not be realized until D.C. statehood is achieved.

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

CRAZY FAITH MINISTRIES

All the conservatives have is race

What seems more and more clear is that the foundational principle of Conservatism is racism.

Yes, in the past they have spouted their belief in less government spending and lower taxes, but when one looks at even those talking points, they seem to be based in a belief that government spending which helps "the least of these," many of whom in this country are Black and Brown, racism is still the seedbed from which their beliefs grow.

They are mortified that in the last election, Democrats were able to mobilize their voters to use voting methods normally used primarily by wealthy, white, older people. Absentee ballots (aka voting by mail) has for a very long time been the trump card for Conservatives in tight races.

That Democratic voters took advantage of absentee voting clearly turned the tables for the 2020 election, throwing the election to Joe Biden. And the Conservatives immediately resorted to changing laws so that in future elections, it will be more difficult for Black and Brown people to vote.

In history, white people with "conservative values" have always resented, reacted against, and worked to reverse the right of Black people to vote. Conservative values seem to include an inherent belief that white people should not ever be subjected to being governed by Black people because of a belief in the inherent inferiority of Blacks to whites. In 1898 in Wilmington, North Carolina, a coup was planned and successfully executed, designed to take the right to vote away from Black people, get Black people who had won political office removed from office, and to encourage/push Black people out of the city altogether, thereby guaranteeing that white people would maintain political power.

On that fateful day in Wilmington, white supremacists murdered Black people as well in their work to overthrow the Reconstruction-era government. Whites vowed to "end Negro domination." (<https://www.zinnedproject.org/news/tdih/wilmington-massacre-2/>). The quest of those with "conservative" values seem not to have changed much.

Not all Conservatives are violent, but it seems safe to say that their values have consistently worked against supporting any policy or program which helps Black people. From public education, to health care, to affirmative action, to support of unions - conservatives have sought to keep Black people under control, "in their place." That they do not say these things out loud cannot be construed to mean that they are not beliefs firmly entrenched in the Conservative mindset.

All Conservatives have, it seems, is race. When they find that their policies are unpopular with the masses, they pull out the race card and play to the deep fears white people in this country seem to have of Black people. Even now, we see them stoking the fires of fear with pronouncements about the "racism" of Critical Race Theory and how those who support it want to teach Black children to hate white children. One has to wonder if that means they are afraid that Black children will be taught to hate as so many white children have already been taught, not by an academic theory, but by their parents and grandparents and pastors.

In addition, Conservatives are working to push the narrative that Black people are committing crimes in ever increasing numbers, causing some whites to doubt their support of the principles of the Black Lives Matter movement and instead retreat to their bunkers for fear of being annihilated by dangerous and out of control Black people.

No mention will be made of the extensive crime that is also going on in white communities.

The Conservatives, it seems, have nothing if they don't have race; the South, or Southern mindset - is still running this country. Chattel slavery did not just hurt Black life, Black families, and the opportunity for Black people to be treated as full American citizens. It also permanently damaged the minds, souls, and spirits of Conservatives who continue to live in the myth that they are superior to Blacks, even as their actions reveal a shallowness that has been fed by white supremacy for hundreds of years.

If they were to let go of race, what would they have? Unfortunately, I doubt we will ever get the answer to that question.

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

Angry Old White Civil Rights Lawyer Not Tired Yet
Suit up one more time

Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II and Rev. Jesse Jackson led a non-violent direct action at the U. S. Capitol last week. Hundreds of Black, Brown, and White sisters and brothers I worked with in West Virginia and Kentucky as an organizer for Dr. King's Poor Peoples' Campaign in 1967-68 were there. The stone-cold racist J. Edgar Hoover and buddies in the U.S. Senate had designed a Counterintelligence Program called PoCam. Its aim was to prevent Dr. King from leading several thousand Blacks, Chicanos, Appalachians, Puerto Ricans, Native Americans - a Rainbow Coalition we called it - to the hallowed grounds between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial. Most of my friends from those days have been called home. I write with a weird case of survivor's Let me quickly add my heart is full of love, hope, and amazing grace. I daily thank the creator of all life that I have survived many close calls. I know how Rev. Jackson felt when Rev. Barber called him directly to invite Rev. Jackson to Suit up one more time and bless the many Appalachians who had driven buses to the Capitol to hold Sen. Manchin's and Sen. McConnell's feet to the fire. I recall when Rev. Jackson ran for President in 1984 and 1988 campaigning in the mountains, bringing the essence of the Moral Fusion strategy with him, supporting every Union struggle in the nation, while reminding everyone that he was Black, he was Proud, and that he meant it when he got everyone chanting "I am. . . Somebody." The Third Reconstruction is the term Rev. Barber uses to define the present situation, and the Progressive Caucus in the House and many Senators are beginning to adopt the term. The numbers calling for The Third Reconstruction will grow throughout the Summer, with strong base areas in more than 40 states. The steady building of the Third Reconstruction will be Transformational, but it will not be televised. When people of all colors decide to dedicate the rest of their lives to the Anti-Racism Movement in thoughtful silence, they rarely take a selfie! They rearrange their priorities, their budgets, and the risks they take making new

friends.

The Moral Fusion Movement is rarely interpreted correctly by the great majority of white reporters. Some North Carolina reporters who covered Moral Mondays noted more and more people participated each week, more Black and White people were locked up each week, and some noted that over 100,000 people took part in the Raleigh and the



Al McSurely

State-wide rallies, including 10,000 in the predominantly white Asheville rally. Some reported that over 1,100 were handcuffed and locked up for the night for trying to instruct their representatives, and 1,100 had their charges dismissed when the Wake Superior Court found these arrests were unconstitutional.

A mistake many reporters make is to confuse Populist organizing with Fusion organizing. Populism, by definition, is racist! Populism ignores the radically different historical realities Black and White workers and farmers in the south experienced during slavery (1619-1866); during Jim Crow (1896-1954); and during the Nixon-Trumpism Backlash from 1968 to 2012 or so when he and tens of thousands of his colleagues and cousins chose to dedicate their lives to completing the Third Reconstruction. In short, Populism ignored and still ignores the ugly history of the national sell-out of the First, Second, and the first part of the Third Reconstructions. No white person can honestly say her forefathers suffered three to four centuries of slavery and Jim Crow. The economic basis of a Black-White populist coalition collapses when people who can pass as whites can jump out of it with no penalties.

Reverend Jackson and Barber led people from W. Virginia and Kentucky in the non-violent action last week. Both states refused to join the "confederacy." Dr. W.E.B. DuBois, the first Executive Director and the most effective advocate for Black People believed Harper's Ferry, W. Va. was sacred ground. Dr. DuBois greatly

admired John Brown, who was raised near the same town Dr. DuBois was a half century later. Many historians called Brown a 'Mad' (in both senses of the word) old White Man.' Dr. DuBois believed Brown's bi-racial squad's effort to seize arms for slaves made Harper's Ferry a sacred meeting place for the NAACP for years.

In the 1900's, coal was discovered in W. Va and E. Kentucky. Soon it was the house fuel of choice in the big eastern cities, as it was in England and the great cities of Europe. Mountain families had a new option. They could keep their hill-side gardens, fish their clean streams, and make a steady income hauling coal from the mines. Franklin D. Roosevelt's election in 1932 after the stock market collapsed cause him to try to run a bunch of anti-poverty programs out of D.C. Down in Harlan County, Florence Reece watched armed thugs beat up her husband, an organizer for the radical National Miner's Union that knew the only way they would win a strike was with a War. Florence Reece, in 1931, saw her husband get beat up by deputy sheriffs called in by the coal operators, wrote "Which side are you on?"

John L. Lewis, a part-time Shakespearian actor who got a kick out of challenging pompous Wall Street bosses in negotiating meetings, emerged as The Leader of the most militant, well-organized movement in the region - the United Mine Workers' Union. FDR, whose poverty war programs were not making a real dint in the depressed south, was convinced by 1936 he needed to help workers form unions, and he would make the government the referee in the negotiation process between labor and the Big Monopolists on Wall Street. Soon UMWA organizers would visit a miner's family and Talk Union for a couple hours, and soon the organizer would leave with several check off cards signed, and some underground organizers on board the Union train. FDR's National Labor Relations Board, which helped referee organizing drives. It helped that ever coal miner who knew the difference between a penny and \$10 bill, knew the Fat Men made ten bucks for every penny the miner made in the most dangerous job. The UMWA made W. Va.

The most Democratic State in the Union. In 1968, we filled two school buses of Appalachians in Williamston, W. Virginia and drove the crooked roads to DC. Dr. King had been killed, as planned, two weeks before the Poor People's Campaign was due to leave. We relied on old UMWA organizers, Click Johnson and Ken Fulcher, to provide leadership in D.C.

Today, the Third Reconstruction Movement has almost every major Union's backing. Many of you remember the 1970's song, "The Revolution Will Not Be Televised." Today our non-violent democracy forces have a narrow majority. We have the opportunity to make it a truly Transformational majority, if we keep the struggle to dismantle racism central to the non-negotiable demands: Livable Wages for All; Every new Policy must reduce Climate Change; Good Schools and Jobs for all Youth, and Stop Voter Suppression. Go to the Third Reconstruction web page. We should hire buses and load them up with all the kids we can. They will never forgive us if they miss being a part of the Restoration of Democracy in the USA. It will not be televised. I hate to tell you but there ain't going to be no Revolution. There's going to be a multi-racial, multi-faith, non-violent sustained popular education event to win 70-80% of the people to Truth and Justice. When the People are United, We will never be defeated.

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.

THE BLACK PRESS:
USE It or LOSE It!

GET THAT DEED AND FLIP THOSE KEYS!

Real estate vs. student loan debt (UPDATE)

Last week I shared the good news that FHA had loosen up guidelines on student loan debt for homebuyers. Well, it got even better as the days went on as lenders fully understood just how much of a blessing this really was.

As you know, or may not know, we found out that the FHA guidelines recently change which allows lenders to count .50% as a default payment for student loans

instead of a 1% default payment. Then we found out that if a borrower is in an Income-based repayment plan for their student loans and the verified payment shows \$0 on the plan documentation, \$0 on the credit report, and confirmed through a credit supplement, we can use the \$0 payment instead of the new .50% default payment.

OKAY, let me break this down even more. IF you had a zero payment before the

Pandemic, and have documentation to prove that, and if it is showing that on your credit report, lenders will count zero when figuring out how much money to lend you for a home. IF you get a zero payment awarded once this Nationwide forbearance



Brenda Dixon

ends, and have documentation to prove it, and zero reports on your credit as the payment, then lenders will count zero when figuring out how much money to lend you for a home. If you have been approved for a Loan Forgiveness, and your payment is zero, and you have documentation to prove it, and it is reporting zero on credit, then the lenders will count zero when figuring out how much money to lend you

for a home. This is totally different from what I said last week, and I am happy, happy about it. Oh, when I get the updates, I will share them with you. Get excited about this. We know so many that have student loan debt that is keeping them bound up from progressing as they like. This is a great opportunity for all to Get That Deed despite that student loan debt. Until next week, make sure to share this awesome news this weekend

while at the cook-outs, and gatherings. Tell everyone you know about this great news, and tell them to reach out for their free game-plan to be homeownership ready in the next 18 months or less. HAPPY 4TH JOURNAL FAMILY. STAY SAFE, AND ENJOY.

Brenda Dixon, Dixon Realty Since 1991, 30 yrs. F/T expertise. Www.getthatdeed.com. GET THAT DEED! 910-262-4836.

Summer travel brings higher gas prices; So, what's the solution?

BY STACY M. BROWN
NNPA NEWSWIRE SENIOR
NATIONAL
CORRESPONDENT

The arrival of summer usually means family reunions, barbecues, and vacations.

Unfortunately, American automobile drivers have routinely experienced higher prices at the gas pump.

A recent U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) report noted that gasoline

prices continue to climb for winter lows, averaging \$3.112 per gallon. The price is comparable with May 2019 (\$2.909) and May 2018 (\$3.039).

It is also well below levels this time of year from 2011 to 2014.

Like so many other of life's necessities, high fuel prices disproportionately affect the motorists of color.

For instance, one report noted a 60-cent per gallon price difference in the cost of fuel in

the heart of predominately Black North Philadelphia and the ritzier suburbs.

While advanced fuels and innovative technologies help consumers benefit from more fuel-efficient vehicles that drive farther and run cleaner, consumers still notice when prices rise at the pump.

Officials say demand continues to drive the higher cost of gasoline.

According to AAA, 60 percent more people are traveling

50 miles or more from home this year than last year during the height of the pandemic.

The EIA increased its forecast this month for summer gasoline demand by 100,000 barrels—or 4.2 million gallons—per day over its April forecast.

Supply is another reason for the higher prices.

“Our industry, along with the rest of the country, is recovering from impacts of the pandemic, which dramatically cut petroleum demand leading to

slowing domestic oil production,” oil and natural gas officials wrote in a recent blog post.

“Now demand is returning, and production must keep pace,” the officials noted.

In a podcast, American Petroleum Institute Chief Economist Dean Foreman pinpointed supply and demand.

“If you think of the way it's played out, the fact that we grew domestic oil production over the last decade really did break the stranglehold that OPEC and Russia together had previously over oil prices,” Foreman noted. “And the ability to control its own destiny there has just cushioned U.S. consumers. So, to the extent that oil prices rise, it could affect U.S. household costs for transportation for driving and flying.”

Because oil is traded globally, robust domestic production puts downward pressure on global crude costs and consumers benefit, oil and gas industry officials noted.

“Thus, we need policy approaches that safely develop domestic reserves, on and offshore, so that U.S. production once again impacts the global crude market,” one official wrote.

The industry believes that strong domestic production also is critically important to U.S. energy security. Thanks to rising domestic production, the U.S. in 2020 became a petroleum net exporter on an annual basis

for the first time since 1958.

“But, because of less trade and lower domestic production compared to pre-COVID levels, the U.S. returned to being a petroleum net importer earlier this year,” the official stated.

The oil and gas industry official continued:

“Put simply, when the U.S. is a net importer of petroleum, it is reliant on foreign suppliers and less energy secure.

“So, the question is, can't the U.S. just produce more oil? Historically, it has with more development – and relatively quickly as supporting prices increased, a key benefit of the U.S. energy revolution.

“But with the economic impacts of the pandemic, drilling and capital investment have remained low.

“Industry-wide capital investment in the first quarter of this year was the lowest for any quarter since 2008 (chart below). It's a global phenomenon, not limited to the U.S., making sound energy policy all the more important.”

“Now, with the pandemic's effects on the economy and domestic energy production playing out, Americans are beginning to notice the importance of planning for energy abundance and security through strong domestic production – as well as the need to ensure that we have the energy infrastructure to deliver supplies where they're needed.”



family meals

ready when you are



Visit [foodlion.com/catering](https://www.foodlion.com/catering) or stop by the deli at your local store.



Place your order by filling out the order form online or in-store.



Pick up your order from the deli at a time that works for you.



FOOD LION
CATERING

The coronavirus is still in the midst of the Black community in California

BY LISA OLIVIA FITCH
OF OUR WEEKLY NEWS

Only 45.5 percent of the state's Black community is at least partially vaccinated, according to California Department of Public Health data. This despite the fact that the virus death rate for Blacks is 9 percent higher than the statewide population.

“The vaccine is here to prevent severe illness and death from the virus,” said Sami Gallegos, press secretary for the state's COVID-19 task force. “Just because California is open, does not mean that COVID-19 has disappeared.”

Last week, California retired its Blueprint for a Safer Economy and businesses can open at full capacity, with a handful of exceptions. And Gallegos, speaking at a media briefing hosted by California Black Media, suggested caution.

Continuing to wear a mask is just common courtesy, she said. Protecting us from increased COVID-19 surges.

Gallegos joined a panel of healthcare professionals who insisted that increased vaccination numbers are necessary to reduce hospitalizations and save lives.

“Vaccines are our most effective tools,” Gallegos said. “This is our shot to improve the health of our state.”

Although Gov. Gavin Newsom chose the final winners for those inoculated residents who received cash incentives; other incentives from the state are still being offered, including \$50 gift cards. Gallegos said a final drawing will be held July 1, when the state will give away six destination packages to lucky recipients.

Despite those incentives, LA County data shows that the percentage of unvaccinated Blacks exceeds that of the general public.

“We still have to be careful and cautious,” said Dr. Jerry Abraham of Kedren Health, who noted that the national

hospitalization and death rates are just as high as they were two months ago. “It's been a difficult 17 months now, but that doesn't mean it's all over.”

Abraham said his organization has been getting out into the community and making home visits. They have encountered a host of questions and are working to dispel the variety of myths surrounding the vaccine.

“We engage, we educate and we vaccinate,” Abraham said, adding that the vaccines have gone through rigorous testing through the Food and Drug Administration; there were Black representatives in the vaccine's clinical trials, and the National Medical Association—a Black organization of doctors—has approved the vaccines through an independent review committee.

“All vaccinated persons are 100 percent protected from death due to COVID-19,” he said.

Abraham recommends that families talk up the vaccine to family members—young and old, men, women, and children, as shots are now available to those over the age of 12.

“The faster we all get vaccinated, the faster we all get back to life,” Abraham said. “June is Men's Health Month and getting vaccinated is the manly thing to do.”

If unable to travel to a vaccine site, the DPH suggests checking with healthcare providers, the local health department, or local pharmacy. Additionally, if someone cannot leave home to get vaccinated, they can indicate this on myturn.ca.gov or when calling the state's COVID-19 hotline at (833) 422-4255. If eligible, they will be connected with a local health jurisdiction to arrange for in-home vaccination services.

For more information on the latest developments in the vaccine distribution process, visit www.covid19.ca.gov or <https://www.vaccinateall58.com>.

The “Black RJ Policy Agenda” will turn racism upside down

BY MARCELA HOWELL
PRESIDENT AND CEO OF IN
OUR OWN VOICE:
NATIONAL BLACK
WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE
JUSTICE AGENDA

As the U.S. Supreme Court reviews abortion cases that could overturn Roe v. Wade, the 1973 decision that legalized abortion, there is a lot of attention being paid to abortion rights — but not enough emphasis on the full range of reproductive health and rights issues. Every pregnant Black person faces systemic racism that makes us “three times more likely to die from a pregnancy-related cause than white women.” When our children are born, we face the everyday reality of battling racism and the toll it takes on Black lives. This past year, the deadly impact of racial discrimination couldn't have been more evident as the pandemic devastated our communities, with Black and Latinx people accounting for nearly 43 percent of COVID-19 deaths. As if that's not bad enough, Black and Latinx women have paid the economic price for the pandemic, bearing the brunt of the “shecession.”

That's why more than 30

Black women's organizations and Reproductive Justice activists created the “Black Reproductive Justice Policy Agenda” — innovative, proactive solutions to address the disparities and discrimination faced by Black women, femmes, girls and gender-expansive individuals. The “Black Reproductive Policy Agenda” is a comprehensive policy approach to the systemic racism that threatens our lives.

Now, a lot of people hear “Reproductive Justice” and think birth control and abortion. But nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, Reproductive Justice (RJ) is a collective framework grounded in human rights, social justice and Black Feminist theory that centers the intersectional impact of race, class and gender in one's ability to live free from oppression — so we can create and nurture the family of our own choosing and achieve optimum mental, physical, community and economic health.

Reproductive Justice was birthed by 12 Black women in 1994, as the U.S. contemplated universal health care with-
out acknowledging or rectify-

ing the health care system in place, which was — and continues to be — riddled with deadly racism. Since then, RJ has grown into a full-fledged movement that fights not only for the right to health care — including full access to birth control and abortion — but also equity in housing, education and employment. RJ doesn't leave anything — or anyone — behind. It is the comprehensive movement we need to disrupt and dismantle the deeply ingrained, systemic racism that plagues this country.

Black women, femmes, girls and gender-expansive individuals have been marginalized for far too long. We have been fighting for our survival while others stood by and watched — or worse, while they actively participated in our oppression for their own gain. No more!

We are tired of seeing our children, brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers and loved ones senselessly killed by the very people who are sworn to protect us. We are fed up with not being safe in our homes, neighborhoods and churches. We demand more than one moment of reckoning.

The Black RJ movement has a policy agenda that will



The Black Reproductive Justice movement has a plan to dismantle white supremacy.

hold law enforcement, politicians, corporations, voters and all people living in the U.S. to account. It is an expertly informed compendium of 25 issue areas, each with effective policy recommendations. We believe that the Agenda addresses the social, economic, political and health needs of Black women, femmes, girls and gender-expansive people — so we can live our lives fully

and decide for ourselves if, when and how to have and raise our families.

We hope that Congress will embrace the Black RJ Policy Agenda and work with us to pass it so that Black women, femmes, girls, and gender-expansive people can live in full autonomy, with equality and justice for all. But we know that will only happen if every Black and Brown person demands it. For white

people — especially white feminists — who want to be good allies, this is their chance; they too should make implementing the Black RJ Policy Agenda a priority.

The Black RJ movement has a plan to dismantle white supremacy. I challenge and encourage you to join us in demanding that elected officials and policymakers embrace and implement the Black RJ Policy Agenda now.



NC DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES

FIND A SPOT TO GET YOUR VACCINE:

MySpot.nc.gov or call 888-675-4567



YOUR SHOT
AT \$1 MILLION
SUMMER CASH DRAWING
SummerVaxCash.com

**Anyone vaccinated is entered
to win. Get vaccinated after
June 10th and you're entered
TWICE.***

HOW DO I ENTER?

Residents ages 12 and up who get vaccinated with at least one dose by a North Carolina vaccine provider will be automatically entered into the drawings that will be held starting June 23.

ALREADY GOT YOUR DOSE?

Great! You're automatically entered!

BEEN WAITING TO GET VACCINATED?

Now's your chance. Call us or visit our website for more information: **1-888-675-4567** or **SummerVaxCash.com**.

SUMMER
CASH 4 COLLEGE
SummerVaxCash.com

Under 18? You're entered into four drawings to win \$125,000 for post-secondary education.

NCDHHS is an equal opportunity employer and provider. • 06/2021 *See official rules for details.

RECYCLE

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

BY SPREADING THE NEWS

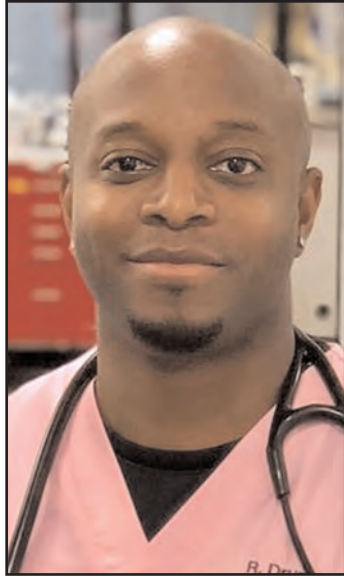
Men's health symposium focuses on equal access and safe spaces

BY JOHNNA THATCH
PEACEMAKER INTERN

On June 10, the NAACP hosted a virtual town hall meeting, focusing on the topic of men's health in the African American community. This timely discussion, which was moderated by radio personality, Joe Clair, included panelists, Derrick Johnson, President and CEO of the NAACP; African American medical professionals, Dr. Cameron Webb, Dr. Robert Drummond and Dr. Myron Rolle. Also added to the roster was the actor and mental health advocate, Kofi Siriboe, who is most known for his role in the television series, "Queen Sugar".

Opening the floor for discussion, President Johnson expressed, "Oftentimes we talk about the segmentation of healthcare based on race, but very rarely do we go as specific as talk[ing] about Black men's health." He further noted, "Many of us...don't take care of ourselves, whether it's physical health, mental health or spiritual health."

Johnson's opening remarks led the panelists into an informative and "real" dialogue specifically about African Americans and the impact of the COVID-19 crisis. Dr. Cameron Webb, who is the White House Senior Policy Advisor for COVID-19 Equity, contended that even though there is notable progress, there still is the need to make sure everyone in all communities witness



ROBERT DRUMMOND



DERRICK JOHNSON



MYRON ROLLE



KOFI SIRIBOE



CAMERON WEBB

that progress and have equal access to the resources needed. Dr. Webb further emphasized that African American men were disproportionately affected by COVID as it relates to the number of cases, hospitalizations and deaths. He said these numbers are further compounded by the fact that African American men are currently being left behind in the vaccination phase. He added that one of the reasons for disparities in vaccinations is due to "historical atrocities and contemporary atrocities" in society and the healthcare systems. He specifically alluded to the infamous Tuskegee experiment.

Dr. Robert Drummond, a physician of internal medicine, agreed with Webb, but he also added that the hesitancy for vaccines has somewhat subsided and the most pressing issue is now

access to vaccines and the lack of health literacy. He advised, "You can't make an informed consent, without being informed."

Sharing further insight to the issue, Dr. Myron Rolle, who is the Senior Neurosurgery Resident at Massachusetts General Hospital, said that there are other factors that lead to the health disparities seen in African American men during the pandemic. First, he spoke of chronic health conditions that make African American men more susceptible to the virus. Finally, he spoke of the "lifestyle modifications" that were put in place to stop the spread of COVID -particularly social distancing.

Of course, there was a general consensus among the panelists that many of these matters could simply be resolved if more African Americans would get vacci-

nated; however, it was also a general consensus that misinformation has been the key factor in African Americans being hesitant and slow to act. Dr. Webb stated that having "frank" and "natural" conversations during our everyday life would be a great beginning to getting accurate information out. Both he and Johnson spoke of barber-shops as being the perfect platform to hold the discussion. Johnson said, "The barbershop is the great equalizer regardless of your walk of life. When you walk into a Black barber-shop, everyone is equal. And that's when we have the responsibility to push facts over fear."

Another issue brought to surface, was the matter of mental health. Kofi Siriboe joined the conversation by discussing the creation of safe spaces, which will pro-

vide information that is "real" and "relative" to help combat mental health issues among African American males. He expressed, "We've got to create spaces where the solution is priority...We need more people openly talking about their experiences." President Johnson concurred, adding, "Tell people it is okay if they are not feeling mentally strong. It is okay to talk to people - talk to professionals." Dr. Webb and the other medical professionals wholeheartedly agreed that normalizing therapy and self-expression would be beneficial in matters of mental health.

Overall, the prevailing theme of the discussion whether it related to the physical, mental or spiritual health of African American men, was that there must be equal access to resources, dissemination of factual infor-

mation, and access to safe spaces in which all of these issues can be talked about and resolved. Johnson said, "We must continue to push facts and not 'fiction', and communities must continue to discuss trauma and the need for mental health support."

Wrapping the forum up with his final thoughts, Johnson emphasized, "We have to be one another's keeper, and the best way we can do that is by providing factual information, being the listening ear and a compassionate individual to understand that it may be our neighbor today, but it could very well be us tomorrow."

Carolina Peacemaker intern Johnna Thatch is a senior at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University majoring in Journalism and Mass Communication. She is from Wilmington, N.C.

Ending virtual-school oppression: Black students disproportionately punished for harmless behavior at home during Zoom classes

SPECIAL TO THE
TRICE EDNEY NEWS
WIRE
FROM THE SOUTHERN
POVERTY LAW CENTER

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - Isaiah Elliott was suspended from seventh grade for holding a toy gun in an online art class.

Ka'Mauri Harrison, 9, faced nearly two weeks of suspension for picking up a BB gun in his own bedroom - after his brother had tripped over it.

A 15-year-old girl was incarcerated for not doing her homework, which violated her parole.

All three students have at least three things in common: They were punished for normal childhood

behavior, they were in their own homes at the time of their petty offenses, and they are all Black.

As Black students shifted from the classroom to online learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, harsher disciplinary measures that had been carried out against them at school followed them home.

"Zoom suspensions followed similar patterns to in-person classroom management tactics that feed Black students into the school-to-prison pipeline," Cory Collins, a senior writer for the Southern Poverty Law Center's Learning for Justice program, points out in his story "It Was Always About Control." The story is fea-

tured in the latest edition of *Teaching Tolerance* magazine, a publication of Learning for Justice.

Prisons and schools have much in common, says Dr. David Stovall, a professor of Black studies, criminology, law and justice at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Hallway protocols, restrictive bathroom policies, surveillance cameras and metal detectors can be found in both places.

"It's something a little more insidious" than the school-to-prison pipeline, Stovall says, arguing that students "are reminded based on the discipline and curriculum policies that they're in a de facto prison in those spaces."

It's a particularly acute problem for Black students.

Nationally, Black students are nearly four times as likely to face suspension as white students, according to an analysis of public data by *ProPublica*. In Wisconsin, they are 7.5 times as likely as white students to face suspension, and roughly six times as likely in Minnesota and Connecticut.

In fact, Black students were overrepresented in every punishment measure that was evaluated in a 2018 analysis by the U.S. Government Accountability Office, regardless of poverty level or type of school.

Whether students are learning at a distance or in person, punitive policies are harming them, Collins writes, citing academic

experts and civil rights advocates. Instead, schools across the country should take a systematic approach to undoing structures that rely on compliance and punitive discipline rather than students' learning and overall well-being.

"It's a pathway that is sadly well-worn and very visible," says Miriam Rollin, the director of the Education Civil Rights Alliance, which was convened by the National Center for Youth Law. "Our system is failing kids, and we need to hold that system accountable."

Dr. Nataki Gregory, CEO of CT3, an organization that provides training that focuses on relationship building and student engagement with a view to

higher achievement, instructs school leaders to consider who benefits from a policy and who is harmed by it.

"Because the truth is there are some of these policies that just make zero sense and have nothing to do with learning," she says. "It's really just about compliance or oppression. And if that's what you're trying to bring into the school, then you have the wrong focus."

Collins wrote: "Before a Colorado school suspended Isaiah Elliott for holding a toy gun, they sent a police officer to his home. 'You put his life in jeopardy,' his mother said to the school - a school that had followed its systems and policies exactly as designed."

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

They support
your community newspaper!

Lillian F. Wilson

Mother Lillian F. Wilson, daughter of Willie Forden (dec.) and Lillie Forden (dec.) was born on September 30, 1925 in Manning, South Carolina, one of sixteen children. She married Coley Wilson (dec.) Mother Lillian was educated in the public schools in Clarendon County, South Carolina before moving to New York City, where she retired, but still remained an active union member for over 50 plus years at the Sears Towers in Midtown Manhattan.

Grandma Lillian was an avid gardener and loved the colors red and white. She was a member of the Senior Women of Faith, Hospitality and a Beloved Choir member. Her nephew, Willie Canty recalls her taking him in at just five years old and raising him as her own. He was not the only one, there were numerous family members as well as grands and great-grands she also raised. Mother Lillian never stopped going. She was a faithful tither, at every church event and especially church dinners, ready to serve. Her son-in-law Chester and great-granddaughter Chanel remained by her side and cared for her just as she cared for others. Sister Lillian was a wife (widow), a mother, a grandmother, a great-grandmother and a great great-grandmother, as well as a sweet friend and confidant. Mother Lillian was loved by her church family, her union members and many adopted family members. Mother Lillian's favorite phrases were "Go into the closet and talk to him!" and "Are you still holding to Gol's unchanging hand?"

Mother Lillian F. Wilson will be forever remembered and forever cherished. Mother Lillian was preceded in death by her husband Coley Wilson, her daughter Dorothy Taylor, her son Coley Wilson, Jr. and granddaughter Lisa Nixon. She leaves to cherish very fond memories Chester Taylor (Dorothy, dec.), Darryl Taylor (Gloria), Kim Colethea Wilson (William) of Roanoke, VA, Darrick Taylor (grandson), Danielle Nixon-Baker, Crystal Nixon, Chanel Nixon, Daniel Nixon, Tamela Taylor, Ashanti Taylor, Deshona & Deshon Taylor, Jasmine & Johnathan Taylor, Shinya Taylor, Shabeth Adams Blount, Ian Ishmael Adams, Terrell Adams and 18 great-grandchildren as well as extended grandchildren, family members and close friends. Services entrusted to Adkins-Drain Funeral Service, 515 South 8th Street,

Wilmington, N C 28401. Condolences may be shared at www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com.

Harold L. Ray Sr.

Harold L. Ray, Sr. age 51, of Princeton, WV (formerly of Southport), passed away on Sunday, June 13, 2021.

A celebration of Harold's life was held on Tuesday, June 22, 2021, at Davis Funeral Home - Bolivia.

Interment followed at John N. Smith Cemetery.

He is survived by his mother and step-father, Margaret Singleton and Harold McCoy of Bolivia; father, Austin H. Miller of Red Springs; children, Antoine L. Ray and Brian A. Ray both of Charlotte and Harold L. Ray, Jr. and Natasha N. Ray both of Greensboro; siblings, Vincent C. Singleton of Princeton, WV and Stephen Jackson of Supply, 12 grandchildren and a host of other family and friends. Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhome-nc.com.

Annie M. Hudson

Annie M. Hudson, age 95, of Wilmington, passed away Wednesday, June 16, 2021.

A graveside service was held on Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at Greenlawn Memorial Park.

Her love and memories will remain in the hearts of her daughters, Ella Young of Leland and Mae Frances Henry of Philadelphia, PA; sister, Mary Louise Berry of Darlington, SC, 3 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren and a host of other relatives and friends. Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhome-nc.com.

Inez S. Overton

Inez Green Shannon Overton, age 82, of Wilmington, passed away on Friday, June 25, 2021 at Riverside Regional Medical Center in Newport News, Virginia.

Funeral services will be held at 12:00 PM on Saturday, July 17, 2021 at Union Missionary Baptist Church.

Interment will follow at Calvary Memorial Cemetery. Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhome.com.



Honor Your

Loved One

With A

Memoriam

In

THE

WILMINGTON

JOURNAL

Call us today

at

910-762-5502

**Tell them
you read it in**



THE

WILMINGTON JOURNAL



**JOHN H. SHAW'S SON
FUNERAL HOME**



William O. Boykin, Manager

520 Red Cross Street

Wilmington, North Carolina 28401

Telephone (910) 762-2635 – Fax (910) 762-8060

Email: shawfuneralhome@msn.com

Website: www.jhshawfuneralhome.com

Serving with Dignity, Compassion, and Excellence
Helping Families Honor The Lives Of Those They Love



Generations Have Put Their Trust in Us

Davis Funeral Home is proud to remain an independent, family-owned and operated part of the community. We have been serving the families of New Hanover County and its surrounding counties since 1944. We are committed to handling every detail of the funeral service – all with compassionate and caring service at a level that exceeds all others.

Wilmington:
901 S. 5th Avenue
Wilmington, NC 28401
(910) 762-6181

Brunswick County:
1705 Southport Supply Rd. SE
Bolivia, NC 28422
(910) 253-0781

www.davisfuneralhomenc.com



Jennifer A. Terrell & Javoke S. Terrell

"Celebrating Life, Exceeding Expectations"

Adkins Drain Funeral Service

Peace of Mind for you and your family

Confidence in knowing that our professional, knowledgeable and compassionate staff is always available to help you with difficult decisions brings comfort at the time of need. Planning in advance of need brings relief from worry and stress by allowing you to...

Pre-Plan...

Arrangements that honor your personal desires

Pre-Pay....

Financial arrangements that meet your needs

Prepare....

Having personal affairs in order is a gift of love to loved ones.

Pre-funeral arrangements can be made in the privacy of your home or at Adkins-Drain Funeral Home

Whether planning in advance or at time of need
You can depend on us to be there for you.

Providing Quality Service And
Personal Assistance

Because We Care

Adkins-Drain Funeral Service
515 South 8th Street
Wilmington, N.C. 28401
Office: 910.763.7117
Fax: 910.763.7133
Email: adkinsdrain@att.net



Samuel Drain, Jr.
and Allene Drain
In Memoriam



Connie Drain Green
Funeral Director

TELL SOMEBODY

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance." Psalm 33:12

Trust - Confident expectation in something or someone

The United States of America is a blessed nation.

History shows us that there were God fearing men who used their influence openly with the intention of placing America under the divine protection of God, by putting the name of God in full public view.

In July of 1956, the 84th. Congress passed a joint resolution which was approved by

President Dwight Eisenhower. As President, he signed into law the inscription which required, "In God We Trust" to appear on American currency both paper and coin. The first paper money was printed in 1957.

The constitutionality of this law had been in question, but federal courts have consistently upheld this national motto. In God We Trust.

The Preamble to the Declaration of Independence gave honorable mention to God, our "Creator", who has endowed us with certain unalienable rights among which are Life, Liberty, and pursuit of Happiness. Proverbs 3:5,6 says, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart;

and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."



Sylvia Hooper

paving a path for our nation's prosperity. God has shed his grace and his mercy on America many times over, and we should give him the glory for his goodness toward us.

Trusting in God, and acknowledging him in prayer, praise, and worship, has made America great! Our nation's forefathers also had the wisdom and godly reverence to consider the poor, needy, widow, and the orphan. We are not without fault, and because of Jesus Christ, we are not without hope.

We as a nation can do better spiritually, socially, economically, and politically. Our strength lies in our unity. The fact remains, that countless Believers still embrace, "In God We Trust" as a statement of faith, and not just a national slogan or motto.

There is a short poem inscribed on a plaque at The Statue of Liberty which reads,

"Give me your poor, your tired, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free." Proverbs 19:17 shows that kindness to the poor, gets God's attention and his favor. "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will he pay him again." We all know our nation is not perfect in all our ways. Yet we are a nation of givers exercising kingdom principles of reciprocity (reaping and sowing) (giving and sharing). We have generously poured aid to the needy not only in America but also countless countries around the globe. We should also treat the stranger kindly with concern,

We also enjoy freedom of religion. We have so many

ways and so many opportunities to praise, worship, and serve the Lord Jesus Christ, because we believe in our hearts, without a doubt these words..... "In God We Trust." 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.

A WORD FROM THE LORD

What is the Bible says about forgiveness

What the Bible says to us about forgiveness: who are Christians. Part 1a.

God will not forgive you until you forgive others. Let me say it this way, your forgiveness from God is always depended upon you forgiven others. Let's turn now to the teaching of the infallible, eternal Word of God, which is the fountainhead of all spiritual truth and the revelation of the complete will of God for man. In this lesson we will not consider the opinion of men only what the Bible teaches about forgiveness.

Matthew 6:12-15 (KJV) 12And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. 13And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. 14For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: 15But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

The Basic Principle of Prayer: Its useless to pray if we do not Forgive (6:14-15) "Introduction-Forgiveness: note the first

word, "for." This connects these verses to the Lord's Prayer. Immediately after closing the Lord's Prayer, Jesus explained why He had said that forgiveness is conditional (Matthew 6:12). This was a necessary explanation for two reasons."

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

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

(6:14) "Forgiveness of Others: there is the promise to forgive and thereby to be forgiven. The word "trespass" means to stumble; to fall; to slip; to blunder; to deviate from righteousness and truth. Note three things."

"1. Christ takes for granted that we know that we need forgiveness. This is seen in His words, "your heavenly Father will also forgive you." We are sinners; we have transgressed God's law and we need forgiveness. Even the most mature among us fails to keep God's law perfectly. We all stumble, fall, blunder, and slip; and we do it much too often."



Rev. Naconiel Fullwood

"a. We are seldom doing to the fullest degree what we should do. We come short.

b. We are always crossing over from the path we should be following. We deviate over into the forbidden area. Thus, we desperately need forgiveness. God promises that He will forgive our trespasses if we will do one simple thing: forgive men their trespasses."

2. The greatest thing in all the world is to be forgiven our sins: to be absolved and released from all guilt and

condemnation, to be accepted and restored by God and assured of seeing Christ face to face. Forgiveness of sins means that we are freed: set at liberty in this life to live abundantly, and set at liberty in the next life to live eternally in perfection.

3. The only way we can be forgiven our sins is to forgive others their trespasses. Christ makes the promise: "Forgive men their trespasses [and] your heavenly Father will also forgive you." Forgiving men their trespasses means several very practical things."

We must examine heart in accordance to the word of God!

"And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses" (Mark 11:25).

"And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us" (Luke 11:4).

"And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him" (Luke 17:4).

"Forbearing one another,

and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye" (Col. 3:13).

2. (6:15) "Forgiveness of Others: there is the warning-refuse to forgive and be unforgiven. The believer who prays for forgiveness and holds feelings against another person is hypocritical. He is asking God to do something he himself is unwilling to do. He is asking God to forgive his trespasses when he himself is unwilling to forgive the trespasses of others. Bad feelings against a person are clear proof that a person is not right with God."

1. Bad feelings show that a person does not know the true nature of man nor of God. He does not know the true exalted perfection of God nor the real depth of man's sinful nature-how far short he is of perfect righteousness.

2. Bad feelings show that a person walks and lives in self-righteousness (that is, that he thinks that he is acceptable to God by deeds of righteousness). He feels better than others, and judges himself able to talk about and look askance at the sins of others.

3. Bad feelings show that a person has not taken the steps he must take in order to be forgiven his own sins." (POSB-C) "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole Matter:" It's the missing ingredient! 1 Corin. 13:1-3 (KJV) "1Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity (love), I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. 2And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity (love), I am nothing. 3And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity (love), it profiteth me nothing." Our Father, in heaven in Jesus name we pray that the love of God that was demonstrated in your Son Jesus Christ maybe manifested in us. Amen.

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

EXCLUSIVE:

Bill Cosby urges Black Press to 'Push Forward'

BY STACY M. BROWN
NNPA NEWSWIRE SENIOR
N A T I O N A L
CORRESPONDENT

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court's ruling to vacate Bill Cosby's conviction is not only about vindication for the comedian.

For Cosby, it is now about helping other Black men who were falsely accused.

He told the Black Press in an exclusive telephone conversation just hours after his release from a prison outside of Philadelphia.

"This is an opportunity that the Black Press, the writers, the men, and the women have now an opportunity with great intelligence, with great foresight, with great after sight, not just about Mr. Cosby, it is about what you saw, it is about what you know, and you must tell it, and you must be believed, and you have to put it in a way of level of intelligence," Cosby insisted.

He said it's important that the NAACP's Crisis Magazine also reports the truth of his case because it could assist many falsely accused African Americans who don't have the notoriety or the means to fight their cases.

The National Newspaper Publishers Association close-

ly monitored both of Cosby's trials in Pennsylvania, and not surprisingly, the reporting done by the Black Press of America proved far different from mainstream media's accounts.

For instance, the Black Press regularly reported on the egregious behavior of trial court Judge Steven O'Neill, District Attorney Kevin Steele, and several lawyers who openly coached witnesses while they were giving testimony.

The Black Press also reported that jurors in Cosby's first trial initially voted to acquit the comedian but was ordered by Judge O'Neill to deliberate further. That first trial ended in a hung jury, despite Cosby's team declining to put on a defense.

Former prosecutor Bruce Castor exclusively told the Black Press that Cosby should never have been tried because of a deal he reached with the superstar a decade prior.

Castor also called into question the credibility of Andrea Constand, the lone alleged victim in the case.

"What is happening to Bill Cosby is a travesty, a miscarriage of justice," Castor said.

The state Supreme Court backed up Castor in overturning the conviction.

"By publicly announcing that appellant William Cosby would not be charged with any crimes related to Andrea Constand — a decision apparently made, in part, to force Cosby to testify in Constand's future anticipated civil suit — former Montgomery County District Attorney Bruce Castor intended to, and in fact did, force Cosby to give up his Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination," Justice Kevin Dougherty wrote.

"Then, years later, Castor's successor used the damaging evidence Cosby turned over in the civil case to convict him of the same criminal offenses he had previously been induced to believe were off the table. I am constrained to agree with the majority that due process does not permit the government to engage in this type of coercive bait-and-switch."

Justice David Wecht further broke down the reason for overturning Cosby's conviction.

"In 2005, Montgomery County District Attorney Bruce Castor learned that Andrea Constand had reported that William Cosby had sexually assaulted her in 2004 at his Cheltenham residence. Along with his top deputy prosecutor and experienced

detectives, District Attorney Castor thoroughly investigated Constand's claim," Justice Wecht wrote.

"In evaluating the likelihood of a successful prosecution of Cosby, the district attorney foresaw difficulties with Constand's credibility as a witness based, in part, upon her decision not to file a complaint promptly. D.A. Castor further determined that a prosecution would be frustrated because there was no corroborating forensic evidence and because testimony from other potential claimants against Cosby likely was inadmissible under governing laws of evidence."

The judge continued: "The collective weight of these considerations led D.A. Castor to conclude that, unless Cosby confessed, "there was insufficient credible and admissible evidence upon which any charge against Mr. Cosby related to the Constand incident could be proven beyond a reasonable doubt."

NNPA President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., said the Black Press continues to cover the Cosby matter because of the tremendous interest of Black America to see justice done.

"Today's decision by the



Former prosecutor Bruce Castor exclusively told the Black Press that Cosby should never have been tried because of a deal he reached with the superstar a decade prior. (Photo: Getty Images / NNPA)

Supreme Court of Pennsylvania emphasizes the importance of what the NNPA has been doing about the Cosby case," Dr. Chavis exclaimed.

"As I visited Cosby in prison in Pennsylvania, I witnessed firsthand the strength of his spirit and affirmation of his innocence. Yet, it took the great work of his lawyers and the growing sentiment in the court of public review that enabled the Supreme

Court to make this historic decision.

"I know from personal experience, and it is very difficult to have an alleged criminal conviction overturned by appellate courts. But now, like what happened to the Wilmington Ten in the 1970s and 1980s, we have the Bill Cosby case today as a reminder of the systemic racism and injustice in America's criminal justice system."

RECYCLE

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

BY SPREADING THE NEWS

CLASSIFIEDS

PLACE YOUR AD

...By Phone
910-762-5502
Monday-Friday
9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
...By Fax
910-343-1334
24 Hours/7 Days
...By Email
wilmjournads@aol.com
24 Hours/7 Days

Rates: \$20.00 Per Column Inch.
All Ads Are Payable In Advance Unless You Are An Established Advertiser.

FAX & EMAIL ORDERS:

Include the following information:

- Full Name, billing address, and phone number
- Date(s) you want the ad to appear

• Name and daytime phone number of contact for any questions or clarifications

We accept



LEGAL NOTICES

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the estate of **Johnnie Wilson Permenter, 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 **1st day of October, 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 the 1st day of July, 2021
Morris Jackson Permenter, Executrix
3106 Joy Place
Wilmington, NC 28409

July 1, 8, 15, 22, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **Pasquale Patrick DiGiuseppe (21-E-913)**, 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 **October 1, 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 the 1st day of July, 2021.

Patricia C. DiGiuseppe
c/o Craige & Fox, PLLC
701 Market Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

July 1, 8, 15, 22, 2021

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the estate of **Rena Swindell Foster**, 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 **10th day of September, 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 the 10th day of June, 2021

Priscilla Ann Moore, Executor
9154 Arden Road NE
Wilmington, NC 28451

June 10, 17, 24, July 1, 2021

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the estate of **Benjamin Roland Midgett**, 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 **10th day of September, 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 the 10th day of June, 2021

Ann Elizabeth Bennett, Executrix
562 Long Leaf Acres Drive
Wilmington NC 28405

June 10, 17, 24, July 1, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified on the 19th day of October, 2020, as Administrator Of The Estate Of **James Walter Clark**, deceased, of Columbus County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the decedent or said Estate to present them to the undersigned on or before **September 10, 2021**, a date that is three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this Notice, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of any recovery. Please direct all claims to the attention of Tiffany Madison Clark, Estate Of James Walter Clark, 5252 Pleasant Plains Church Road, Whiteville, North Carolina 28472. All persons indebted to said Estate are hereby requested to make immediate payment thereto.

This the 2nd day of June, 2021.

TIFFANY MADISON CLARK,
Administrator
Of The Estate Of James Walter Clark
5252 Pleasant Plains Church Road
Whiteville, North Carolina 28472
T. SCOTT SESSIONS, Attorney For
The Estate Of James Walter Clark
The McGougan Law Firm
130 Jefferson Street
Whiteville, North Carolina 28472

June 10, 17, 24, July 1, 2021

LEGAL NOTICES

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administratrix of the estate of **Bertha T. Forden**, 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 **10th day of September, 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 the 10th day of June, 2021

Wanda Forden, Administratrix
2333 5th Ave. #5B
New York, NY 10037

June 10, 17, 24, July 1, 2021

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **Richard Wayne Cathey, III**, 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 **10th day of September, 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 the 10th day of June, 2021

Claresa Bigham Cathey, Administratrix
4177 Lake Ave.
Wilmington, NC 28403

June 10, 17, 24, July 1, 2021

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
NEW HANOVER COUNTY**

**In the Superior Court
File # 21 CVD 1642**

**James Herbert Leonard, Jr.,
Plaintiff,**

V.

**Jamelle Stafford Leonard,
Defendant**

To: Jamelle Stafford Leonard

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

You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than forty (40) days from the first running of this notice, exclusive of such date, which was June 24, 2021. and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 24th day of June, 2021.

James Herbert Leonard Jr.
201 Sunn Aire Ct. Apt. C
Wilmington, NC 28405

June 24, July 1, 8, 2021

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
NEW HANOVER COUNTY**

**In the Superior Court
File # 21 CVD 962**

**David S. McIntyre, Plaintiff,
V.
Kristie Gibson, Defendant**

To: Kristie Gibson

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

You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than forty (40) days from the first running of this notice, exclusive of such date, which was July 1, 2021. and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 1st day of July, 2021.

David S. McIntyre
3904 Tiffany Dr.
Wilmington, NC 28405

July 1, 8, 15, 2021

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. 21 JT 88**

**IN THE MATTER OF:
E.A.B. (DOB: 03-03-21)**

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

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

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

You are required to make defense to such pleading within thirty (30) days following JUNE 22, 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 ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A HEARING ON THE PETITION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS IS SCHEDULED FOR August 9, 2021, AT 9:30 A.M. or as soon thereafter as it may be heard, in courtroom 100 of the New Hanover County Courthouse, 316 Princess Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401.

This the 10th day of June, 2021.

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

June 17, 24, July 1, 2021

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER**

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT
JUVENILE SESSION
FILE NO. 15 JT 166**

**IN THE MATTER OF:
J.D.H.G.**

TO: RESPONDENT-FATHER, CARNANCION MONTIEL also known as CARNACION MONTIEL, putative father of male minor child born on April 12, 2014 in New Hanover County, North Carolina conceived with the child's mother, Reina Hernandez Gonzalez.

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

Termination of all parental rights you have to J.D.H.G.

You are required to make defense to such pleading within forty (40) days following Thursday, June 24, 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. Attorney Addison Palanza has been assigned to represent you. Counsel may be contacted at (910) 769-6884, 314 Walnut Street, Suite 100, Wilmington, NC.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A HEARING ON THE PETITION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 2021, AT 9:30 A.M., or upon a date and time set thereafter, at the Office of Juvenile Justice, 138 N 4th Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401.

This the 24th day of June, 2021.

Jennifer G. Cooke
Attorney - New Hanover Co. Dept. of Social Services
1650 Greenfield Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
(910) 798-3512
(910) 798-7833 * fax

June 24, July 1, 8, 2021

LEGAL NOTICES

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the estate of **Wendy A. Peterson**, 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 **17th day of September, 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 the 17th day of June, 2021

June A. Clarke, Executrix
4228 Province Dr.
Wilmington, NC 28405

June 17, 24, July 1, 8, 2021

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
NEW HANOVER COUNTY**

**In the Superior Court
File # 19 CVS 661**

**Zachary Chavis, Plaintiff,
V.**

**James M. Davis and Jason
K. Eason, Defendants**

To: Jason K. Eason

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: damages in excess of \$10,000 for motor vehicular negligence.

You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than forty (40) days from the first running of this notice, exclusive of such date, which was June 24, 2021. and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 24th day of June, 2021.

Elizaveta Korotkova
RODZICK LAW GROUP, PLLC
Attorney for the Plaintiff
2309 S. 17th Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

June 24, July 1, 8, 2021

Attention Attorneys and Government Agencies

**When it comes to
legal advertising,
The
Wilmington Journal
is qualified to meet all your needs
in accordance with
North Carolina General Statute
1-597.
Notice to Creditors, Notice of Bids,
Service by Publication, Divorce,
Foreclosures,
Notice of Sale, Etc.
OUR PRICES ARE
COMPETITIVE!
Contact us for special rates at
(910-762-5502)Ext. 22
or wilmjournads@aol.com**

**NCDOT TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING PROPOSAL
TO AMEND THE JUNIPER CREEK COMPLEX STATE DEDICATED
NATURE PRESERVE TO ACCOMMODATE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT ON
MAKATOKA ROAD IN BRUNSWICK COUNTY**

STIP Project B-4439

Wilmington - The public is invited to a hearing with the N.C. Department of Transportation in July to discuss the proposed amendment of the Juniper Creek Complex, State Dedicated Nature Preserve, located in Brunswick County.

The proposed project, State Transportation Improvement Program Project No. B-4439, is needed to replace a structurally deficient bridge. This amendment of the Dedicated Nature Preserve is needed to facilitate the replacement of Bridge No. 100 over Muddy Branch on Makatoka Road (S.R. 1342). The amendment would provide a total of 0.005 acre of Permanent Drainage Easement and 0.158 acre for a Temporary Construction Easement. Approximately 0.009 total acre of right-of-way is needed for replacement of the bridge.

Project details, including maps of the proposal, can be found on the NCDOT project web page: (www.publicinput.com/Juniper-Creek-Complex).

The formal presentation will begin at **7 p.m. July 22, 2021**. Interested people can attend as shown below:

- Thursday, July 22, 2021 7:00 PM (EDT)
- From computer, tablet or smartphone
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/359802421>
- By Phone: United States: +1 (786) 535-3211 Access Code: 359-802-421
- One-touch: tel:+17865353211,,359802421#

People may also submit comments by phone (984-205-6615 project code 3697), email (Juniper-Creek-Complex@publicinput.com) or mail at the address shown below by **July 28, 2021**.

For more information, contact Derek Pielech, P.E., Project Engineer, Bridge Program Manager, Highway Division 3, using the phone and email listed above.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled people who wish to participate in this virtual hearing. Anyone requiring special services should contact Diane Wilson, Environmental Analysis Unit, at 1598 Mail Service Center in Raleigh; 919-707-6073; or pdwilson1@ncdot.gov as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.

Those who do not speak English, or have a limited ability to read, speak or understand English, may receive interpretive services upon request prior by calling 1-800-481-6494.

Aquellas personas no hablan inglés, o tienen limitaciones para leer, hablar o entender inglés, podrían recibir servicios de interpretación si los solicitan llamando al 1-800-481-6494.

HERE ARE OUR CARDS ...

Whatever you're looking for, consider these local businesses

FIRST

St. Mark A.M.E. Zion Church
 114 W. Virgil St., Whiteville, NC 28472
"Pressing toward the mark of a higher calling."




Reverend Dr. Mary C. Nixon, Pastor
 3n1bailbondingco@bellsouth.net
 Motto: Philippians 4:13

Cell: (910) 540-4406
 Church: (910) 642-7327
 Hm: (910) 675-1250

EAGLE ISLAND FRUIT & SEAFOOD



"Biggest Little Store You Ever Saw"
 LIVE BAIT & TACKLE

Highway 421 North
 Wilmington, NC 28401

762-1193

Peter Grear, Attorney at Law
 272 N. Front Street, Suite 300
 Post Office Box 2279
 Wilmington North Carolina 28402-2279

Email: pgrear@grearlaw.com
 Phone: (910) 763-4671
 Facsimile: (910) 763-0925
 Toll Free (800) 222-8009



Areas of Practice:
 New Hanover, Pender,
 Brunswick, Columbus, &
 Duplin Counties

Appointments only:
For cost and details: www.grearlaw.com

- CONSUMER BANKRUPTCY
- AUTO ACCIDENTS
- WORKERS COMPENSATION
- SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY
- TRAFFIC TICKETS
- WILLS & ESTATES
- POWERS OF ATTORNEY
- DEED PREPARATION
- BUSINESS FORMATIONS
- CREDIT REPAIR (Nationwide)
- ELDER LAW

P & B COLLISION REPAIR

Phil Corbett
 Owner



8584 Slocum Trail Phone (910) 470-1138
 Atkinson, NC 28421 Fax (910) 283-5215

3-N-1 BAIL BONDING Co.



Home 910-675-1250
 Cell 910-540-4406
 Office 910-675-3840

P.O. Box 12831
 Wilmington, NC 28405
 NC LICENSE #2473
 NATION WIDE SERVICE

Owner/Operator
 Mary C. Nixon
 Bail Bonding Agent

THE BENEFIT CONNECTION
We can help you!

We specialize in:
 Health, life, disability, dental,
 group and individuals
 Roth IRAs, 401-k's, 403-b's, annuities
 Long term care and Medicare supplements
Regardless of your health or age
CALL US TODAY.



We can help you save money!
 Personal and professional
 service for over 30 years.

The Benefit Connection
 321 North Front Street
 Wilmington, NC 28401
 910.763.3777 Phone
 910.297.6997 Cell

Owen E. Metts, Sr., Licensed Agent

When experience matters, Call us today!

Monday - Friday 9 am-5 pm * 910.763.3777

We represent several insurance companies

(Coach) Columbus Pridgen Bail Bonding




Make That One Phone Call Count
 Mobile Phone: 910-616-2519
 Mobile Phone: 910-512-1372

Columbus Pridgen
 Owner/Operator

"For The right Approach Call Coach"

NOW OPEN!!

SOUTH KERR AUTO SERVICE



- On site mobile repair
- All minor and major repairs
- Foreign and Domestic
- New and used tires
- Valet service

OIL CHANGE \$34.95
 BRAKES \$40.00 + PARTS

SAM NEWKIRK

223B S. Kerr Ave.
 Wilmington, NC 28403
 910-233-7977

"Trust me for all your life insurance needs... permanent, term, universal & retirement."



CALL ME

Henry B. Brown
 Agent



2816-A South College Rd.
 Wilmington, NC 28412
 Bus.: 910-395-2300
 Home: 910-794-9359



State Farm Insurance Companies
 Home Offices: Bloomington, Illinois

Use This Space
 For Your
 Business Card
 It Pays To Advertise

In

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

For Information
 Please Call Us At
 910-762-5502

LegalShield
 Total access. Total freedom.



John Wilder
 Independent Associate
 Executive Director
 Small Business & Group
 910-297-0925 or 888-286-0168
 Opportunity Info 206-209-2022
www.Jwilder1.com

Identify Theft: America's Fastest Growing Crime!
Think you're not at risk? Unfortunately you are.

Do you...
 hand your credit card to servers at restaurants?
 sign your credit cards?
 supply personal information over the internet?
 keep your Social Security number in your wallet or purse?
 leave mail at your home or business for the postal carrier to collect?
 throw away mail with personal information without shredding it?

Have you.....
 thought about writing or revising your will?
 been audited by the IRS?
 purchased a home?
 been a defendant in a civil lawsuit?
 signed a contract of any kind?
 paid a bill you thought was unfair?
 received an inaccurate credit report?
 received a moving traffic violation you thought was unjustified?
 had any type of legal question?

LEGAL EMPOWERMENT FOR YOUR LIFE
 Your Family • Your Will • Your Money • Your Retirement • Your Car

Support the Black Press

READ

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

OWEN METTS REALTY
We can help!



OWEN METTS REALTY

We specialize in the following services:

- Buying, selling, or investments real estate
- Real estate consulting services
- Loan modifications, foreclosure counseling
- Credit and budget counseling
- HUD Register Agent
- Estate Planning

NEW LISTINGS NEEDED
DO YOU WANT TO SELL OR RENT YOUR PROPERTY?
WE MAY HAVE A BUYER OR RENTER WAITING FOR YOUR PROPERTY
DO YOU WANT TO PURCHASE PROPERTY?

Please call us first
TODAY FOR AN APPOINTMENT
 321 North Front Street • Phone: 910-763-3777
 Cell: 910-297-6997
 Email: ometts@yahoo.com
www.owenmettsrealty.com
OWEN E. METTS, SR.,
 Licensed Realtor/Broker, Certified Housing Counselor